



Vasiliki Xiradaki

About me

I graduated from the University of Birmingham in 2024 with a first-class degree in Electronic and Electrical Engineering and I am currently working as a **Digital IC Design Engineer** at **EnSilica**. I have more than 3 years of experience working in the semiconductor industry and have been the recipient of several technical awards and scholarships.

My inspiration

During university I secured a placement year with an IC design company, EnSilica. **I was able to experience first hand how innovation in electronics turns into real-world impact.** I was fascinated by the projects I was working on, which included a beam forming IC for satellite communications, and I was also constantly inspired and encouraged by my colleagues to expand my knowledge in the field.

What stood out to me the most was how unlike some other disciplines, in electronics you can design, build, test and see something working in your hands. That **combination of theory, creativity, and tangible results** made it clear that this is the right path for me.



My strengths

I am strong in analytical thinking and problem solving skills which are essential for the pursuit of a career in engineering. I am curious by nature, and quite stubborn when it comes to troubleshooting. I like asking "why?" and "what if?" and very rarely give up searching for better solutions if I know they can be achieved.

Beyond technical skills, I value collaboration and communication. Being able to work within a team, and explain complex ideas clearly are just as important as technical skills.

Fascinating tech

The rapid advancement of semiconductor technology has been extraordinary. One example that fascinates me is the rise of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite constellations for global broadband. In the past decade, we've seen the deployment of large-scale satellite networks that use sophisticated electronic systems and chips, which fundamentally change how sat-coms works. This is only one example of how electronics can literally connect the world, by bringing internet access to remote locations, and enabling connectivity for global communications.

What excites me about the future

What excites me about the future of semiconductors is their role in sustainability. More efficient power electronics and RF systems don't just improve performance — they reduce energy consumption at scale. **It's exciting to know that engineers can directly contribute to building a more connected and more sustainable world.**

My aspirations

I would like to continue expanding my technical skills in IC design in order to be able to **contribute to technologies that have a tangible global impact.** I am also interested in eventually taking on technical leadership roles, where I can both drive innovation and support the development of young engineers, just as I was supported at the start of my career.



Be curious and be patient with yourself. Electronics can feel challenging at first because it combines maths, physics, programming, and practical skills. Try to get hands-on experience as early as possible. Build small projects, join university societies, apply for placements or internships, and don't be afraid to ask questions.

Most importantly, don't be discouraged if something doesn't work the first time. Troubleshooting is not a sign you're bad at engineering, it is engineering. Persistence, curiosity, and willingness to learn will take you much further than knowing everything at the start.