

**Dr John AHLGREN (PhD EE 2015)** is currently a Staff Software Engineer and Machine Learning specialist at Facebook, London, United Kingdom.

He got inspired by his PhD advisor Dr Kelvin Yuen, and ended up studying an EE PhD at CityU. Ahlgren was encouraged and empowered to think independently, and to pursue his own ideas. He thought that asking the right questions and learning from others could lead one into the right direction and change one's life. As a software engineer now, he thinks that he can do the same to inspire and empower other people.

According to Ahlgren, the CityU EE department “pursues promising research directions and empowers its students to grow”. Having hands-on experiences in a variety of different academic and industry settings before graduation enables students to leave their comfort zones and makes them adaptable to different work environments later in life. Ahlgren recalls that his PhD research at CityU EE helped him the most, and had made a big contribution to his current career.

“Empowerment, resiliency and dexterity” is how he would describe his PhD days in CityU. Everyone should explore their possibilities and pursue their dreams.