Ravi Shankar

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Open source contributions:

Mozilla:..

- **Mozillian** since the summer of 2015. Occasional contributor to Firefox and Seamonkey, where I've patched simple Javascript bugs.
- **Active contributor** to the Servo browser engine (project by Mozilla, currently being written in Rust), primarily concentrating on plugins, understanding DOM and improving the code structure. Some of my contributions:
  - Worked with my mentor and fixed a channel, which enabled communication between Firefox's devtools and Servo's workers.
  - Sorted the declaration statements in the entire codebase (according to Rust's styling rules) using my AST plugin and a simple Python script.

Personal projects:..

- **Biographer**: A command-line based private diary written in Python, which allows users to write their everyday stories and view them later. It makes use of a simple shifting cipher to encrypt/decrypt the contents in $O(n)$ time. I've also written a Rust library for it, which uses FFI and concurrency to reduce the searching time by a factor of ≈ 230.
- **Carrot**: An MVC-based webapp which lets organizations to notify their users of the changes made to their webapp(s) by using a simple <script> tag embedded on their webpage, which gets data from our server through the JSONP technique. It was made in a hackathon where I teamed up with another guy and developed the app within 12 hours.
- Various Python scripts written mostly for solving problems in our coursework, our aircraft design project and other routines, which reduced a great deal of time for the fellow undergrads.

Programming skills:

Languages: Python, Rust, C, Javascript, Bash, HTML5 and LaTeX

Technologies: Git, Mathematica, some Django and Angular JS

Volunteer contributions:

- Reviewer of Q&A at Physics Stack Exchange for the past two years
- Gave multiple talks about Python in college
- Volunteer at "Mozboot" sessions (conducted by Mozilla) in college

Achievements:

- Blogger for the past two years (started off with Wordpress, and landed in Github pages)
- Full-time coder since the summer of 2014
- Reached level 3 in Project Euler and ranked #135 among the Indian users within 3 months
- Completed a wide variety of online courses in MOOC platforms
- ... also, learned to juggle and play bansuri when I'm away from my keyboard

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[Company] Recruitment team   September 24, 2015
[Company], Inc.

Dear [Name],

I'm sure you already have enough information about me from my CV, but let me explain a few more aspects which I'd like you to know.

Over the past 3 years, I've pursued various sciences including physics, aeronautics and computer science. It was only last year, when I realized the fact that all those sciences cease to develop in the absence of "code", which was also when my field of interest moved into the art of coding.

I believe that programming languages don't really determine someone's skill in coding, since one can always switch to another language with the help of Stackoverflow. I really hope you believe the same if you think I haven't learned a particular language.

I'm a problem solver, a quick learner and a *perfectionist* with a keen eye for detail. That doesn't mean that I solve problems *quickly*. I always try to generalize things up to cover all cases of a particular problem, and looking for such an algorithm does consume time, but I'll find it eventually. That explains why time-based tests can't really evaluate my skill.

I love an environment where I can enjoy learning, so that I can enhance my coding skills along the way. I think [Company] already provides such an environment, and so this would be a great opportunity for me. I'm very happy about your reply, and I assure you of my enthusiasm to contribute my best to the development of [Company].

Thank you for taking time to consider this application and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Yours faithfully,

Ravi Shankar