As I sat inside my office in my brand new job at HP, solving an internal search content issue for the fourth time that month, I found myself going through the motions and wondering why I found so little joy in the better paying job I had so coveted, and then, in a moment of sudden inspiration, I knew: I had stopped facing new challenges. I had stopped learning.

During the course of my undergraduate studies I was fortunate enough to count with the mentorship of PhD Gildardo Sánchez Ante with whom I chose to undertake a research internship at the University's state of the art Motion Capture laboratory. The purpose of the research was to determine the accuracy and precision of the equipment in order to determine if a partnership with local hospitals would be beneficial for the diagnose of patients with certain types of disabilities.

Towards the end of my undergraduate studies I got the chance to develop a licence plate recognition software, a project that I particularly enjoyed due to the fact that I was able to combine previous knowledge and research for practical purposes. I concocted a cross breed between backpropagation neural networks and kohonen maps with the purpose of examining the effect that a set of prerecorded associations between letters and numbers (in the kohonen map) would have in the learning speed and accuracy of the neural network. The result, although not quite significant in the long run was positive to accelerate the learning curve and thus, help the system provide reliable results in fewer learning iterations. However, the net effect that it had on me was much greater, since it gave me a realistic sense of what applying cutting edge knowledge into a software development process entailed and also a good taste of that characteristic sensation of kindling inside one self that only comes from curiosity and then stems into discovery and achievement. I knew then that this was an experience I wanted to repeat throughout my career.

Upon my graduation I was able to obtain a job in the area of software development at HP, working in the internal search department which is the intranet search for the 300, 000 HP employees globally. At first I was doing development in Java and I soon realized that the workloads between the software development department and the QA department were cyclic and alternated, so I decided to volunteer to help ease their workload while it was at its peak since it coincided with my workload being at it lowest and I got to learn things such as test case development, software testing automation and tools like Jmeter for web load testing and Quality Test Pro for automation.

I continued to strive towards learning within HP and decided to get more involved in the indexing process of the Internal Search tool where I was introduced to the Python programming language and soon fell in love with it and decided to learn on my own. Within a year of my first introduction to Python I was put in charge of all the python development for Internal Search and given the title of "Python expert" within the team.

As I prevailed through my path of learning new skills and facing new challenges at work I was offered a position as an Integration Consultant, which came with a better paycheck and fewer headaches from technical difficulties and thus, I happily accepted. I soon came to realize, however, that it also came at the price of the kindle within to slowly go out due to a lack of challenge and new learning. It was at this time that I left HP and decided I needed to take a step back and think very carefully the path towards which I wanted to steer my career.

During my hiatus from work I was involved in an accident that resulted in a surgery and a six month rehabilitation period that made my absence from the work force longer than I had originally expected but it also gave me the perspective that comes from staying still in a world where normally everything seems so urgent and one is always busy and during this time I decided that it was time for me to go back out there and try to make a difference in the world so I got a job at a startup company called Messoft, developing software for small businesses while at the same time I started a long process of searching for learning opportunities that would be challenging and motivating for me.

Close with academic interests and why I chose Advanced Software Engineering at Sheffield