

BILLY KURNIAWAN HALIM

bkhalim@ucsd.edu | (206) 372-2539 | [linkedin.com/in/billykurniawanhalim](https://www.linkedin.com/in/billykurniawanhalim) | github.com/billykurniawan | billykurniawan.github.io

November 30, 2019

Hiring Manager

Reddit

420 Taylor Street San Francisco, CA 94102 United States

Dear Hiring Manager of Reddit:

I am thrilled to express my interest in the Software Engineer Internship position at Reddit posted on University of California San Diego's Handshake system. As a senior computer science student at University of California San Diego, I believe my huge passion for software developing, as well as my adaptiveness, technical skills, and self-learning capabilities, will make me a good fit to be an intern candidate at Reddit.

My latest experience in the software engineering field was mainly working with Tokopedia, the biggest e-commerce company in Indonesia. I worked along with seventeen other coworkers in the TopAds tribe, a division specifically made to handle the products' advertising system in Tokopedia. Aside from several side small projects, there were four notable products that I have developed in Tokopedia. Most of these products were internal tools, mainly focusing on helping the connection between the tech and product team as well as allowing the developers in the tribe to debug the problem in the existing system. The biggest project that I did was integrating the whole advertising system to CircleCI, increasing the efficiency of the system deployment by 50%. Working in Tokopedia was a major milestone in my career path. Being plunged into an enormous size of code, the interaction with my mentor and coworkers had given me valuable insights on how to tackle an enterprise-scale problem in an efficient and effective way. I believed that this experience will be a valuable asset for me in my future career path.

Aside from my internship experience, I always seek to expose myself for new opportunities that will push me to learn something new. I was a part of an Electric Injera Cooker Research conducted by Engineering Without Borders. The main goal of the project was to create an efficient and less expensive electric injera cooker that is sustainable in Ethiopia's environment. I modified an electric circuit by throwing some unnecessary resistors and diodes. I also researched material alternatives for the injera cooker. In late January, I tested out my research findings and found out that I had successfully increased the electric injera cooker's efficiency by 6% and reduced its production cost by 10%. Not long after the prototype testing, I presented myself to a new challenge by working as a research apprentice in Apple Picker Robot Research in Robotic Sensor Network Laboratory I educated myself a lot about machine learning algorithm from this opportunity. My duty ranged from exporting the annotations of apple tree images as a JSON file to passing these JSON files to the robot's machine learning software. I had never regretted my decision to move to this research as I believe exposing myself to challenges will always be a positive aspect of myself.

As a technology enthusiast, I also love to bring myself to competitions. I was a part of Association for Computing Machinery's Software Design Competition and also a part of MinneHack 2019. Along with my team, I have successfully developed a mobile volunteer searching application "Where To?", aiming at helping students find the right organization for them to volunteer, and also web pesticide record manager application "Pesticide Tracker" that migrates the process of filing pesticide usage by farmers from paper form to an online form. Competing in these competitions has played a major role in my teamwork skill and problem-solving skills. Moreover, it has built my confidence in working with something I have never worked before. My first encounter with XML and React.js was in fact through this competition and I found out that I have no problem learning new languages under time pressure. I believe this confidence that I have will be a huge asset for me in the professional field.

I believe how I develop to be myself today is the result of my grind to self-learn and put myself in new challenges constantly. Although I believe I have a ton of relevant experience in the software engineering field, working as a Software Engineer Intern at Reddit will be a new challenge that I have never gone through before. But, I believe all the skills and mentality within me will present me as a great candidate for the position. I would appreciate an opportunity to speak with you further regarding my qualifications and regarding the position. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if there is additional information I can provide. I am looking forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Billy Halim