



NATIONAL CENTER FOR SUPERCOMPUTING APPLICATIONS (NCSA)

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Urbana, IL 61801

July 3, 2021

I know Bo Pan since Spring 2020 semester at the Zhejiang University – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) Institute (ZJUI) – a joint Institute between College of Engineering at the University of Illinois, US, and Zhejiang University, China. I am a faculty at UIUC, and I teach on ZJUI campus every other semester. Students attending this Institute follow two programs simultaneously and receive two undergraduate degrees. For the first two years, introductory computer engineering courses are taught by the UIUC faculty visiting ZJUI campus in Haining, China. In the junior year, students from ZJUI spend one or two semesters at UIUC where they enroll in more advanced undergraduate courses. In the senior year, they continue taking courses offered by the ZJUI faculty as well as the UIUC faculty visiting ZJUI campus. The students are selected for this program based on their Gaokao exam, China's version of SAT, and the Institute accepts exceptionally strong candidates. With a few exceptions, these students are in the top 1%-5% of the undergraduate computer engineering students at UIUC.

Mr. Pan is in the third cohort of students going through this new program. He was a student in ECE 120: Introduction to Computing class that I taught in Spring 2020. Mr. Pan performed very well in this class, completing all assignments with great care and earning top grade. His laboratory assignments were done with a great attention to details, going beyond the course level. His questions during the lectures were thoughtful and dwelled deep into the subject matter. Through my classroom interactions with Mr. Pan, I can see that he possesses intellectual curiosity and ability to analyze and solve complex problems well above an average student even for the very selective ZJUI cohort.

In Spring 2021, Mr. Pan was also an undergraduate teaching assistant (TA) in my ECE 120 course. As a TA, he did a great job with all the tasks assigned to him; he was productive, proactive, never taking shortcuts, focusing on the work to be done, and focusing on executing all tasks on time and with great care. He took a great pride in doing his work, and he was very helpful to the teaching staff and greatly appreciated by the students. I would definitely rehire him as a TA.

I observed Mr. Pan growing academically throughout his years of study at ZJUI and I can state that he is one of the best students I have had a pleasure to work with. Mr. Pan has a great potential for an advanced graduate study and I highly recommend him for the graduate program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'V. Kindratenko'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Dr. Volodymyr Kindratenko
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