

Nov. 25, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Hasan Said Unal is one of the top ranked (approximately 10/200) 4'th year students of Middle East Technical University (METU), Electrical-Electronics Engineering Department (METU-EEE). I was the instructor of Hasan in EE201/2 (Circuit Theory I and II) and EE306 (Random Processes) courses. I can certainly say that I know him well enough to comment on his skills, character and academic potential.

Standing in his class: He is currently among top 10 students of his class. This is a remarkable, since almost all students of our department have science high schools background and naturally inclined towards academic/scientific pursuits. This enables the department to raise the level of undergraduate education. Unfortunately, this also creates a highly competitive environment and being a top student is a remarkable success on its own. (If you are not familiar with the department, you may consider our department as the equivalent of UC Berkeley of USA in the areas of Electrical and Electronics Engineering. Also see the department information below.)

Academic Potential: Hasan is an exceptionally talented student even among top students. He is more inclined towards the analytical topics. His mathematical depth and skills stand out. I see him as an exceptionally talented student who can think deeply about problems and come up with new approaches or solutions.

I see him as a curiosity driven person. That is, he is not equally good performing in all pursuits. If you examine his course records, you can see that he is receiving lower grades when topics lack certain depth as in the technology courses such as undergraduate analog electronics (amplifier design techniques with BJT's etc.) or machinery courses (DC motors, brush mechanism etc.) He performs much better (realizes his potential) in theoretical courses, signals and systems, circuit theory etc. He carries a very strong potential to conduct high level research especially in the areas where he can use his skills.

Readiness: Hasan has taken several courses in linear system theory, signal processing, communications, random processes etc. I certainly see him ready-to-attack research problems.

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Motivation: Hasan is highly motivated towards a research career. His character and goals are also more aligned towards a research career.

On His Character: Hasan is a very nice person. He is gentle and polite and has excellent manners. You can also consider him for TA positions without any doubts.

I see Hasan as **a true top achiever** even among top achievers and **highly recommend him without any reservations.**



Prof. Cagatay Candan

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Departmental Info:

Middle East Technical University (METU) Electrical and Electronics Engineering department is consistently ranked among the top engineering departments of Turkey (among top 3) for the last 30 years. Our department and university is listed among top engineering departments/schools in the world at several international listings conducted by Times Higher Education, QS rankings etc. at the ranking level of 500 – 600. The department is 64 years old and composed of ~50 faculty members and admits ~200 undergraduate students every year. The competing departments for the top department position in our field are much smaller and admit much fewer students. It can be surely said that our department is considered as the main source for EE related research and development workforce. Students admitted to our department are selected through a nationwide conducted exam. Top students (in the first ~1000 out of ~300,000 engineering applicants) are admitted. The mission of the department is to provide *sufficient depth and breadth in almost all disciplines of electrical engineering* so as to prepare the students for the rapidly evolving careers in electrical engineering. (<http://eee.metu.edu.tr/undergraduate-program>)