**Howard DaCosta**

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University of Murcia: Cybersecurity and Data Science Lab

To whom it may concern,

I would like to join the CyberDataLab for the summer of 2023. Cybersecurity has always been an interest of mine, so much so that I took a class in Computer Systems Security, where I surveyed the landscape of adversarial attacks and mitigations for operating systems, web, and mobile systems. Combined with data science, which is becoming increasingly important as more and more surfaces across industry are used to collect data, I think any work being done at this group is poised to make a wide-ranging impact.

As a first year Masters of Engineering student and having recently completed my undergraduate career at MIT, I have gained a wealth of theoretical and practical knowledge through classes and internships. These experiences have given me a strong basis for design intuition, engineering, and teamwork. Specifically, I have gained exceptional programming skills in Python and a high aptitude for research and building systems from the ground up, both of which would help me immensely working at the CyberDataLab. Additionally, the knowledge I’ve acquired in the classroom really shines through in my professional experience, where I have built many significant projects for the likes of NetApp, BlackRock, and Google.

I am applying to the internship as part of MIT’s MISTI-Spain Program, which seeks to partner MIT students with international internships.  If I can intern here this summer, I will find an MIT faculty advisor and apply for funding through MIT’s resources.  However, if this group can provide any support (ie. stipend, flight, housing); it would be greatly appreciated as MIT’s funds are limited.  More information about the MISTI Spain program can be found [here](http://misti.mit.edu/student-programs/location/spain); you can also contact the Managing Director of the Program, Alicia Goldstein Raun at [aliciag@mit.edu](mailto:aliciag@mit.edu).

The accompanying resume can provide, in greater detail, my background and what I can offer to this group as an intern. Thank you again for your time and consideration!

Best,

Howard DaCosta