In the recent years only a few areas of science have influenced the everyday life of humanity to the extent that Computer Science has. No wonder it interests people like me who can see through the GUI and speculate on the way a program or an algorithm works. Computer Science enriches me by engaging my mind in thought-provoking problems while still creating something useful.

I have explored many areas of Informatics. Numerous high school programming competitions have enhanced my skills in algorithmic programming. As I have been eager about the web ever since I was 10, I have gradually acquired experience with creating complex web applications. I also developed several decent desktop applications using Object Pascal and Java - a full-featured webpage editor, for instance. However, the skill which I value the most is the general 'instinct' I use while solving a computer-related (not necessarily programming) problem I have never met before.

My active participation in the online community brought me the opportunity to work part-time in a middle-sized web-developing agency at the age of 15. I carried out the job of a system administrator of a Linux-based web server system which hosted the web portal of Slovak News Agency, the largest news agency in Slovakia, and Birdz.sk - one of the most popular Slovak teenage websites. Although I quit the job after 6 months because of the stress and excessive workload, I learnt a lot about the processes in a real IT company and handling responsibility. I operated in the same company as a web developer for another two years. Furthermore, I have acquired organisational experience, too: last year I helped with preparation of an international Model United Nations conference. As "Head of IT" I was responsible for the technical administration of the conference, which took place in the Slovak Parliament in November 2010.

My efforts have been rewarded in various competitions. I participated in the national finals of the European Union Contest for Young Scientists with my study entitled "Working with video using web technologies" and won second place in the Junior Internet competition with my IT community website. During high school years I also took part in national correspondence competitions in Mathematics, which I help to organise nowadays.

Although I find many fields of Computer Science interesting for their own sake, it is the wide range of applications of Computer Science that fascinates me the most. I love the feeling of creating something genuinely useful, which improves one's life to some extent. This feeling influenced my extended essay in IB Diploma which provided a real-world solution, in a form of a web application, to a challenging question: "What is the most user-friendly way of providing an interactive translation of websites?" Moreover, I am now working on vocablr.com – an online educational platform that will ease the learning of new vocabulary. This drive for creating something useful is also the reason why I am looking forward to investigating topics such as artificial intelligence and machine learning in greater depth at university level. I am going to participate in online courses on these subjects given by Stanford lecturers at ai-class.com and ml-class.com, too.

Nevertheless, I have some interests not related to Computer Science, too and I have been successful in these as well - I won the entrepreneurial competition Innovation Camp 2010 in Slovakia and attended European finals. Furthermore, I have been practising traditional Karate for 8 years and have reached the brown belt. Finally, I am a keen guitar player.

I am looking for a course covering the theoretical foundations of Computer Science as well as all the aspects of latest cutting-edge technologies. Such a course would naturally follow my interests and guide me into their more advanced realms. It could allow me to contribute to a better world in the future, either as an academic researcher, or an entrepreneur.

#oco#mato nichta#peto vanya#natali#becky#mato hamas#zuzka#juro tomasik#dalimil#alec carter