Stanford University regards the diversity of its graduate student body as an important factor in serving the educational mission of the university. We encourage you to share unique, personally important, and/or challenging factors in your background, such as work and life experiences, special interests, culture, socioeconomic status, the quality of your early educational environment, gender, sexual orientation, race or ethnicity. Please discuss how such factors would contribute to the diversity (broadly defined) of the entering class, and hence to the experience of your Stanford classmates.

My ambitions in the field of computer science are influenced by being a woman in a male-dominated field, as well as my interests in sociology and social justice. Being a woman in computer science has pushed me to be a continual advocate for diversity in talent and in opinions. I am purposeful in promoting inclusive team dynamics, and in considering different perspectives. While being a part of an underrepresented group in tech has made me aware of how tech can be a marginalizing force, my interests in sociology and social justice provide meaningful context that help me understand how tech can play a more equitable role in today’s society. I bring a perspective to the table that is not only highly technical, but also ethical. I raise questions not only about the impact of algorithms on the general population, but also on marginalized groups. My interdisciplinary approach to holding tech accountable is what makes me both a unique computer scientist and a valuable classmate.