"Every person is born with an innate flair, the moment your realize it you become a great person". It was at high school, that my fascination for electronic gadgets coupled with a desire to be a skilled programmer, prompted me to choose Computer Engineering as the major for my Bachelor's Degree.

During my undergraduate studies, I realized that the curriculum was exhaustive enough to give anyone an in-depth theoretical background of every subject, but as an Engineer is it enough? I needed to have something extra in my repertoire. In pursuit, I started involving myself in many projects like 'Time Table Editor' and 'Online Adaptive Tests' and also got myself the tag of Database Associate', IBM Certified (DB2 Universal Database V8.1 Family) but my crowning achievement was to be my final year project at the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, the institute for the academic elite of the country. I started my preparation for the entrance exam by studying JAVA and updating myself with the latest in Network Security as this was to be the theme of my project. After passing this first hurdle and another two rounds of rigorous interviewing my dream was realized.

At IIT, as a part of a four-member team we were allotted a project titled "A Framework for cascading payments in P2P". The idea was to build a prototype framework for online payment in P2P systems using Gnutella. Our project proposal was also accepted by the Red Hat Scholarships program, which is the first ever open source program of its kind.

While working on my final year project at the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai , the feed back from my project guide instilled me with confidence with respect to my programming skills and Computer Science fundamentals. This realization backed up with an excellent organizational talent acquired through active participation in extra-curricular activities like, organizing the "Cric Superselector" event (model based on the Superselector of ESPN), my winnings in intercollegiate events like 'Junkyard Wars' and 'Kwiz Arena'(Technical Quiz), and also my voluntary services for 'The National Asssociation for the Blind' followed by many more, all these brought me to the conclusion that I wanted pursue something that had a blend of both disciplines, Computer Science and Management.

The answer to it was a Graduate Program in Information Systems. An information system is defined as "A structured, interacting, complex of persons, machines, and procedures designed to produce information which is collected from both internal and external sources for use as a basis for decision-making in specific contract/procurement activities". The advent of applications like high-speed transfer of images, video telephony and teleconferencing, coupled with the availability of extremely fast processing elements, has virtually led to an information explosion. Hence development of such highly efficient computer systems to manage large volumes of data is extremely crucial for intelligent decision-making.

Hence now on the threshold of completing my Bachelor's degree, I thirst for such a program that would help me to acquire a higher level of knowledge, leadership skills and problem solving ability to tackle the most diverse and intricate problems. I realize that a Masters degree in Information Systems Management will enrich me by transforming me into a complete professional and providing me with the raw materials necessary to get a winning edge over others.

Having spoken my academic interests and other abilities, I would now like to talk a bit about myself. I come from a family that gives a lot of emphasis to education. My father and grand father both being engineers, have provided me with the best of the guidance to help me grow as an individual. My hobbies too are as varied as my interests. I love reading books on Paranormal Science and also performing magic tricks for my friends and family.

My passion in Paranormal Science was aroused when I attended a seminar on 'Miracle Sciences' at school. But at that point of time, the topic was conceptually beyond my grasp. The 'grandfather paradox' seemed like a fairy tale. But after years of reading, books and articles by prominent scientists like Carl Sagan, Kip Thorne and Ronald Malett I got a grasp of the subject. This prompted to write a technical paper on the same, which covered the theoretical possibilities, practical limitations, available and proposed technologies to build a Time Machine. I was selected to present this paper at ISAAC'03, PROTOCOL'03 and TECHTRIX'03 which are intercollegiate tech fests organized by the IEEE and Computer Society of India (CSI).

In the near future, my aim is to attain an advanced education in Information Systems through a Masters Degree Program. It will provide me the intellectual stimulation, guidance and creative energy to work on the cutting edge of technology in today's computing field. In pursuit of these goals, I decided to apply to the MISM program at Carnegie Mellon University and hence turned down an offer, received through campus recruitment from Tata Consultancy Services, one of the biggest and most prestigious companies in India. I learned from the University website that the MISM department is noted for its "hands-on" approach to graduate education, complemented with a strong theoretical program. I look forward to working with your distinguished faculty and interacting with students from diverse cultures for a global outlook.

My long-term goal is to put my footprints in the field of System Designing through contribution of original ideas and translating those ideas to develop high end applications and products. In this endeavor, I hope to contribute significantly to the human society by improving the quality of life and standard of living.