A1

IIT

Abstract

URL Repo: https://github.com/scottyp1989/scottyp1989.github.io.git
Website: https://scottyp1989.github.io/

Scott Percival-S3966885
S3966885@student.rmit.edu.au

Contents

Assessment Criteria

Personal information 5%

Name: Scott Percival

Student ID: S3966885

Student Email:
s396685@student.rmit.edu.au

Nationality: Australian

Languages Spoken: English

Highest Education: Cert IV in IT networking (2006)

About me:

Born 1989 in Sydney, Australia. I was released onto this world alongside The Simpsons, Lethal weapon 2 and the release of Gameboy in Japan and North America. I have lived in Sydney my entire life, predominately in the outer Western Suburbs of Sydney in a region called the Hawkesbury. I currently both work in IT and now study in IT as-well but we'll get back to that later in the assessment.

 Outside of work and study, I live a rather simple and peaceful life especially post covid. Like many I have a range of hobbies and interests the most notable, well at-least the most interesting to me would be Sci-fi. I love all thing Sci-Fi's I love, games, movies, shows whatever. I think it fairer to say I love all things space in general. On clear nights I love looking up at the night sky and just looking at the star imagining the possibilities. I think that why I love IT as-well. What draws me to theses interests is the vastness of them, the unknown, the possibilities. I believe in a brighter future for humanity, and I believe to get to that brighter future, we need to look to technology, and we need to look to space.

What is your interest in IT?

I have a diverse interest in IT including IOT, Data analytics, BI and project management. In general, I love learning how to solve problems with technology and how to use technology to solve problems. IT is heavily integrated into my life. Example I have a smart device in every room. One thing that really interest me in IT is the possibilities and the innovation that comes with it. If you told many people 20 years ago, what we do today with AI they wouldn't you. AI is starting to up everywhere, from, from self-driving cars to our own personal assistants like Alexa.

What interests me most about IT at-least in a practical sense is that I love helping people. IT allows me to do not just personally but professionally. I am the default go to IT support for all my friend and family. I have helped mum and her husband business start and grow in way I never would been able to if I wasn't interested in IT. Professionally not only have I helped many end users and stop but I have also help companies on a whole save money, protect their data and be make them more productive. IT doesn't just allow me to help it also allows me to connect with those I help in ways I never would be able to if I didn't have an interest in IT.

When did your interest in IT start?

I love technology since my first video game which would have been something on the Atari. As a hobby my interest in IT start when I was about 12 and my mum brought home our first computer. My brother would use it for hours often appearing so entertained even when he wasn't playing games. It intrigued me. Unfortunately, my brother wasn't too forthcoming regarding how to do anything he was doing on the computer. Therefore. I had to teach myself.

With every step of learning something new there was then another problem/hurdle to overcome which only fuelled my interested. I still remember the first PC game I brought, "Red faction". I remember it because it ultimately took me close to 10 years to play it. It wouldn't work with the family PC. I would after hours of problem solving, learn about minimum hardware requirements and how our PC didn't cut it. This in part eventually lead to not just buying but building my first gaming pc several years by myself. You'd think that where the story about my first game ends. However, I still couldn't play that game, by the time I built it, that graphic card driver at the time had a compatibility issue which results in the game not working on my PC. That didn't deter me though many years later I did play it using the CD I originally brought it on, on a PC I had built myself. Since those early days my perspective of IT is that it two sides of the same coin, a problem and a solution and the solution is often worth challenging the problem.

Was there a particular event or person that sparked your interest? Outline your IT experience (if any).

Before I had an interest in pursuing IT as a career. I had always wanted to be a lawyer, studying corporate law most likely. What sparked my interest in IT at-least professionally was a teacher named Colin in my year 10 equivalent course. He taught our computer class among others and saw my passion and aptitude for IT. He saw how quickly I learnt whatever he taught in computer class so one day he pulled me aside and suggested I do cert 3 or 4 in IT. With his inspiration and guidance, I did a cert IV in IT networking about a year later.

Over 15 years later I have and still work in IT. I started as basic helpdesk in a call centre and as of last week I am now a Senior Systems Administrator and project Coordinator. I have diverse range of experiences in IT from Level 1 support to procuring, designing, and maintaining the very infrastructure used to support the entire company. I've work on an ERP implementation. I have worked and now even lead several digital transformation projects such as Migrating to 365. I have even helped in a small way on a R&D project that led to our company building a device that goes done 100's of metre of borehole and analyses the pipes coating condition using lasers and cameras and allows the technician and customer to view the data in real time.

Why did you choose to come to RMIT?

To be honest, I didn't. I chose OUA based on the suggestion of my manager and some colleagues. It was the OUA student advisor who recommended RMIT. It only been 2 weeks so far, but I've enjoyed my time as a student at RMIT so far. I think I can learn a lot from the lecturer and the tutors as-well as from other students. It seems to be a very inclusive University with a wide range of tools and services to help someone study. Which is what I needed. I am doing intro to IT to test the waters before committing to a degree. I never been an academic person as my mum loves to say, "He not academic but he is not dumb" and it true to a degree. I am very kinaesthetic and visual learner and, in my experience so far most of my academic interaction hasn't catered too well to those styles. I think RMIT will be different.

What do you expect to learn during your studies?

While ultimately if I commit to the degree, it will be predominately about a means to acknowledge the skills and experience I've accumulated in the past 15 years from a job seeking perspective. I am hoping to learn a lot too. Through all the different things I have done, do or will do in IT, I have discovered passions for data analytics, BI and project management so while I am studying now to try my hand at well studying. I am hoping to learn more about those areas to help make the transition into the next stage of my career smoother. Not sure how much of this course will cover those areas but having seen the outline of this course I am still interested in learning more about ethics, cyber security and AI and even may be inspired to finally dabble in some home IOT projects.

Ideal Job: Senior Project Manager

Link:
https://www.seek.com.au/job/57256863?type=standout#sol=9e99d2d0847dafd905eec2cd24ef9192
3b4ff299

Snapshot Link: https://scottyp1989.github.io/media/jobsnapshot.pdf

A description (in your own words) of the position, and particularly what makes this position appealing to you.

A senior project manager overseeing a large-scale project for an NSW government body specifically in the education industry. The project would see automation of a large collection of VET data to streamline grant and funding processes. This position would involve designing the project management plans to implement and complete this project.

What make this position appealing is magnitude of project. Looking at the description of the project, this is a massive undertaking by an NSW government department to modernize how their grant and funding process functions. This isn't just helping a business; this is helping our government help others. Potentially school and other learning organization which in turn would help the community. This would an opportunity to help 100's if not 1000's of people by successfully implementing this project. It would be the most challenging thing I ever done If I was given the opportunity and probably one of the most rewarding. Having the skills and experience required to be eligible for this role would mean I was successful in the career path I have chosen for myself.

A description (in your own words) of the skills, qualifications and experience required for the position.

To be a good fit for this role someone would need the following skills, qualification, and experience for the position:

- A minimum of bachelor's degree in relevant field such information technology or business
- A secondary degree or tertiary qualification in a different relevant area or specifically relating to project management would probably be advantageous
- Extensive prior career experience as a project manager
- Specific experience with managing n just projects but major projects that would involve process and change management across a multitude of business areas
- Experience with implement projects specially based around technology/IT
- Extensive experience using project methodologies such as Prince/PMBok
- Experience with deliverables that focus on policy, technology, and costing
- Experience with project that automated business process and systems would likely be advantageous
- Qualification directly related to Prince2/ PMBok would likely be advantageous

- Strong Leadership Skills would be advantageous for any project management role
- Ability to deliver under time restraints.
- Strong Risk management skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Strong Documentation processes
- Strong Analytical skills
- Strong Stakeholder management skills

A description (in your own words) of the skills, qualifications and experience you currently have.
Below are my current skills, qualification, and experience that I think may be relevant to position

- Strong Analytical skills
- Strong problem-solving skills
- Experience being a part of projects that delivered business operational and process changes
- Experience leading digital transformation projects for an organization
- Moderate stakeholder management skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Familiarity with a range of Technologies
- 15 years of experience working in IT
- Currently studying Intro to IT likely moving into a bachelor of IT or Information systems.

A plan describing how you will obtain the skills, qualifications and experience required for the position, building on those you have now. This need not be greatly detailed, (and will probably change significantly over time anyway) but try to be as specific as you can.

For starters I would start by increasing my relevant tertiary qualification by studying a Bachelor of Information Technology or more ideally a Bachelor of Information Systems (not the same thing at some universities). I would explore the possibilities of doing courses that specifically dealt with project management hopefully covering methodologies such as Prince2/PMbok). I would also continue to work on new projects at my current role as there are several on the horizon. This would give me more project exposure.

My current career path is presently heading toward more of a system/business analyst role and initially I think I would continue down that role. Learning how to bridge the gap between technology and business I think would be instrument in ultimately managing a large complex project. Once I get my degree, I would try to get a job at a bigger company that had more complex needs than my current employer. Hopefully in a business analyst role that would see me hopefully be a part of and lead various ICT projects. I'd then leverage that skills and experience into a Full-time project manager role with a continue focus on ICT based projects. Continuing working my and undertaking larger and more complex projects until I had the experience needed to apply for such a role.

Once I was on the business analyst/Project management path I would continually look for ways to strength my relevant skills, perhaps joining organization say as the international institute of business analysis. Expanding my skills and experience out to various project methodologies such as Agile, lean, Kanban to name a few.

Profile 20%

Myers-Briggs test

Personality type: Defender (ISFJ-T)

Traits: Introverted – 62%, Observant – 60%, Feeling – 52%, Judging – 58%, Turbulent – 71%

Role: Sentinel

Strategy: Constant Improvement

Brief description of Type:

In their unassuming, understated way, Defenders help make the world go round. Hardworking and devoted, people with this personality type feel a deep sense of responsibility to those around them. Defenders can be counted on to meet deadlines, remember birthdays and special occasions, uphold traditions, and shower their loved ones with gestures of care and support. But they rarely demand recognition for all that they do, preferring instead to operate behind the scenes.

More information: https://www.16personalities.com/isfj-personality

learning style test.

Results: Kinesthetics learner

Description:

If you are a kinesthetics learner, you learn by touching and doing. You understand and remember things through physical movement. You are a "hands-on" learner who prefers to touch, move, build, or draw what you learn, and you tend to learn better when some type of physical activity is involved. You need to be active and take frequent breaks, you often speak with your hands and with gestures, and you may have difficulty sitting still.

More information: https://arden.ac.uk/what-type-learner-are-you

Big Five Personality test:

Results:

Factor	Factor label	Raw score	Score percentile
I	Extroversion		25
II	Emotional stability		26
III	Agreeableness		45
IV	Conscientiousness		62
V	Intellect/Imagination		59

Big five personality trait scores calculated by openpsychometrics.org

More info: https://openpsychometrics.org/tests/IPIP-BFFM/results.php?r=2.4,2.4,3.7,3.6,4#_I

What do the results of these tests mean for you? (one Paragraph)

While mildly insightful. In my opinion most of these tests are more akin to astrology than science. In astrology it often 12 different ways of essentially saying the same thing and I don't think these results are much different.

In that saying that I did identify with various elements of some of the results. I also saw a lot in there that I don't necessarily agree with. For example. In the Myers Briggs result said ISFJ-T people don't like to cut corners in the work environment that is just plain wrong half my career has been finding effective and meaningful way to cut corners, it not about being lazy or not putting in the effort I am certainly not afraid of hard work, but I am a big believer in working smart not hard.

How do you think these results may influence your behaviour in a team? (one Paragraph)

To be honest at best I think it will cause everyone including myself to reflect on what they think their traits are verse what the tests "revealed" about themselves. Which may drive changes within themselves so they can fit the version of how they perceive themselves and how they want to be seen in the team. Ultimately the rest are limited, and I am hopeful everyone will take them with a grain of salt.

How should you take this into account when forming a team? (one Paragraph)

I won't. The only value these tests have are the possible self-reflection that may cause in the individual. I do not think they be considered when forming a team, but I think they may be insightful once a team is formed. The team can discuss how they feel about their own results what if anything they felt about accuracy of it, if it will drive any changes or observation in themselves.

At the end of the day people have layers, people are not defined by one element of themselves (or one test). These tests do not allow for the level of complexity that is every single human being. Not in a schizophrenic way but each of us have multiple version and personalities based on a lot of variables, such as mood, hormones, our energy levels, how confident or not we're feeling at any given moment. the amount of sleep we got. Depending on those variables I can be two completely different versions of myself. A confident individual who can embrace a leader role in a team setting or I can be a self-conscious follower all too eager to sit back and play a supporting role.

Project Ideas 30%

Overview (100 words)

Name of Idea: Bangforbuck
What is it: Price Comparison Tool

With inflation rising now more than ever Australian consumers need a convenient way to make better purchasing decisions to ultimately save money. Everything is becoming more expensive, even lettuce has been as high as $10 recently.

This is where Bang for buck can help. It would be an Australian price comparison tool firstly available as a website to all Australians. It would utilize a combination of data scraping bot/script while also working directly with retailers we have partnered up with to collect data. The data we'd aim to collect would include details on products such as price, stock, location and descriptions and features of and bring it all to one easy to navigate platform. The idea would be to enable users to not just compare prices and find stock local or online but eventually to even view price history, read reviews and rating by other users.

Some of the most exciting future features planned for Bang for buck and what would really set it apart from its competition is it would have an app available on both android and IOS, that app would be able to scan products using QR/OCR technology to identify the product on the app and find other nearby prices, to ensure the consumer is getting the best deal even when in store. It would also strive to have an AI supported Shopping list to help find you the best deal across specific product such as a brand and model but across the category. For example, the highest rated (or cheapest) carton of lager beer available from a store within 10-minute drive of your home.

Motivation (100) words)

My initial motivation this idea is because these days I do what I can to try and save money on my purchases while also ensuring what I purchase is at-least a half decent quality (bang for buck). As a result, I often spend hours researching a product before purchasing or hours finding the best price for it. I often find I am asking myself if the time I spent doing that worth the money I saved? Worth the product I got over the product I would have just picked if I didn't? I don't think I'm alone in that. I'm not alone. There is a site called Oz bargain. An Australian forum/community dedicated to finding and sharing bargains/coupons/sales on all kind of products and services. It gets over a million visitors a month

When I looked at doing this idea for my assessment project, I had decided against it for two reasons
1) In my research on this idea, I found out there was several price comparisons tools out there. There is at-least a 2/3 fully functioning that covered the roughly the same retail categories I had envisioned bang for buck targeting. Some of them had the same features my initial idea has as-well E.G https://www.pricehipster.com.au, https://www.getprice.com.au/
2) I wasn't even alone in this very course for a price comparison idea. Another student in Class D had a similar idea. Her idea was about a grocery price comparison tool and would utilize user input to identify the prices and stock levels of products

However, I spent some time reflecting on the idea and I also ended up spending a little bit of time using some of those sites. looking at how they function and what their revenue models are and how they collect their data. I ended up having some inspiration and I reformed my idea and believe I have come up with a model and features that make it original and innovative compared to the current and future competitors. I believe the existing competition show there is a demand for a simple, accurate and convenient price comparison tool available for Australia consumers and I believe bangforbuck could be it.

Description (500 words)

Bang for buck would start as website only price comparison tool, available to anyone who registered an account. Collecting data via data scrapping retail website and by partnering directly with Australia retailers, bang for buck would collect data on 1000's of products available in Australia including information on price, stock location and product details. The aim would not just to be provide the users with the current cheapest price on a product but also show the history price of the product. In addition, we want to offer them the convenience of finding product close to them for the best price by including stock levels of the products.

Bang for buck revenue would work as follow

1. Utilize ads encouraging our partnered retailers to advertise using out platform
2. Offer cheap subscriptions service to our user base giving them the option to pay a small free to upgrade their account to avoid seeing AD firstly and secondly giving them access to special coupon codes with our partnered retailer to get a discount on their products.
3. We would collect revenue by selling analytics and data of our platform back to retailers we've partnered up with.

Bang for Buck would endeavour to be completely transparent with our user base on our revenue models so they can make informed decisions. To enable these partnerships with retailers we're going to have to create value of the platform to them by giving them access to another sales channel and by giving access to data they can be used in their marketing/advertising. Bang for Buck also requires revenue to continually grow and improve as a platform to further drive value to our users and partners.

What would be the features of Bang for buck?

- Easy to view price comparison list.
- Where applicable a list of Quantity of product available for a product at a local store (e.g does your closest Kmart have that cheap fan you want to buy)
- Price History, this wouldn't be available at first, but we would record all prices on our platform and make it available to all users
- Price Alert, users would be able to specific price alerts on specific products
- Customized Home view as a subscribed user they would have a home page when logged in we would allow them to pick product categories (specific or broad, i.e electronics or Butter) and feed that home page with the best details out platform has found that may be relevant to that
- a feature of enabling users to find the best product for their users' criteria and budget by including rating and reviews of the product on the platform by other users, as-well as linking and partnering with external rating sites truly giving our users the best bang for buck.

- Our Platform will have a forum, this will allow users to discuss a range of topics one and other. We will run surveys and what not in those forums to work with our retailers to push for sales on specific products etc to drive great value to our users
- Create Andriod and IOS apps for the platform. The apps will eventually utilize QR/OCR technologies so that in store (or online) our users can scan and item and compare the price of the product in store with the price of the same product elsewhere and hopefully even the price of similar products elsewhere
- A Shopping List/assistant function. Eventually Using AI and Algorithms to assist our users make the best purchasing decision. A user would be able do own shopping list say basic groceries. They would input "butter, bread, milk, eggs, coffee, rice, chicken, toilet paper". Based on a criteria of preferences given by the user the system would work out best options for that user and make recommendation that they need to buy A, B, C from say their local Coles, which is 5 minute walk and need to by X, Y,Z from Woolworths. If they wish to spend the at-least save the most amount of money or buy these products from Aldi if they wish to primary save the most amount of time.

Other price comparison website exists. Our features however and our model are what make bang for buck truly unique and separate it from the competition. The later shopping list/assistant feature is specially originally and innovative I believe.

Tools and Technologies (100) words)

List of tools and technology needed

- Web server, most likely running on a lamp stack, most likely in the cloud via provider like Microsoft azure or Amazon AWS
- CDN such as cloudfare or akami for reduced latency, improved availability, security and intelligence
- A content management system like wordpress to help design and build the website
- Database to collect huge amount of data our website will store most likely SQL. For users, for the data we collect from retailers and the web crawler for scrapping data from websites.
- Web scrapping script/bot designed to quickly scrap data off websites probably programmed in python
- A tool like Android studio and java to build our android app for the site
- A tool like Xcode and use swift to build our IOS app
- Communication and collaboration tools like Office 365
- API tools and technology for potentially integrating with our partner retailers to retrieve the data
- Text Editor for the code like Atom or notepad ++
- Front end development, HTML, CSS, Javascript
- Back End. PHP, asp or asp.net, java, ruby on rails, python.
- Git for development and version history control to enable our team to effectively build the application together.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of skills needed to create Bang for Buck.

- Business development management skills to build relationship with the retailer partners
- Marketing skills to promote the website and app
- Front End development skills to help code the site
- Back-end development skills to help build the foundation and functionality of the site
- Project management skills to help drive the project forward and turn it from an idea to reality
- android development skills if we're to design a native android app for our web application
- IOS development skills if we're to design an IOS android app for our web application
- Database Administrator skills to help maintain and build our database
- Cloud implementation skills to develop
- AI Skills to create the AI shopping list

Outcome (100 words)

Assuming the project success. It would solve the problem by providing a simple and accurate platform for the Australian consumer to make better purchasing decisions and ultimately save money. If it picked up by many users, it has the potential to drive changes within Australia retail market and encourage retailers to be more transparent about their products and the costs associated with them potentially leading higher quality products and more money in Australian pockets. If the "final version" of Bang for buck was completed including the Mobile Apps and the AI powered Shopping list/assistant functionality it would provide Australian consumer a new way of identifying the best bang for buck products for them

References:

(Akami n.d; Arden University n.d; Devmountain n.d; Google 2021; Hutchens 2022; Marshall 2022; NERIS Analytics Limited 2022; Open-Source Psychometrics Project n.d; Ozbargain 2022; Singhal 2022)

Akami n.d, *What is a CDN*, akami.com, akami.com, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://www.akamai.com/our-thinking/cdn/what-is-a-cdn>.

Arden University n.d, *What type of Learner are you?* , Arden University, arden.ac.uk, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://arden.ac.uk/what-type-learner-are-you>.

Devmountain n.d, *How to create an IOS App: 5 steps to make it Happen*, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://devmountain.com/blog/how-to-create-an-ios-app/>.

Google 2021, *Build Your First Andriod App in Java*, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://developer.android.com/codelabs/build-your-first-android-app#0>.

Hutchens, G 2022, *Some people benefit from rising inflation, but millions don't. What's your situation?*, Abc.net.au, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-05-15/some-people-benefit-from-rising-inflation-but-millions-dont/101067364>.

Marshall, A 2022, *Why is there a lettuce shortage? Australians warned prices won't come down any time soon*, ABC Rural, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2022-06-08/lettuce-shortage-continues-and-fruit-and-vegetable-prices-rise/101133906>.

NERIS Analytics Limited 2022, *ISFJ-Personality*, NERIS Analytics Limited, 16personalities.com, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://www.16personalities.com/isfj-personality>.

Open-Source Psychometrics Project n.d, *Results Summary*, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://openpsychometrics.org/tests/IPIP-BFFM/results.php?r=2.4,2.4,3.7,3.6,4%23_I>.

Ozbargain 2022, *Advertise on OzBargain*, OzBargain, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://www.ozbargain.com.au/wiki/help:advertise#:~:text=OzBargain%20reaches%20over%20a%20million%20visitors%20every%20month>.

Singhal, P 2022, *Frontend VS Backend*, Geekforgeeks, geeksforgeeks.org, viewed 15 July 2022, <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/frontend-vs-backend/#:~:text=HTML%2C%20CSS%2C%20and%20JavaScript%20are,implemented%20by%20front%20End%20developers>.