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Personal Statement

My interest in the computer sciences and information security started when I chanced upon a book titled Social Engineering: The Art of Human Hacking by Christopher Hadnagy. Although the book focuses on the social engineering aspects of infiltrating a victim's computer, I was more intrigued by how Hadnagy's depth of understanding of computers allowed him to find numerous technical exploits to compromise his victims' data. From then on, I was convinced that I had to delve into the computer sciences, to understand and exploit the most useful invention of our generation. Since then, I have actively studied the computer sciences by borrowing programming books, attending courses on Coursera and learning concepts in information security from the very generous website <http://opensecuritytraining.info/>

Working in a tech start-up or founding my own tech start-up is what I envisioned myself to be in the future. With this internship, I am looking to gain valuable technical experience that would help me fulfill my vision. Anything related to software technologies of today interests me. These includes web programming, information security, data analytics etc., so I am open to any kind of tech start-up. Aside from improving my technical competency, I also wish to learn the business aspects of running a start-up. Having worked as a customer support assistant in Pearson Education, I have found it enjoyable to be able to build strong relationships with customers by empathizing with their product pain points to help better serve them. A business cum tech role would suit me the ideally but I am open to playing a more tech focused role within your company.

Of relevant working experience, I have been working in a local HR (Human Resources) tech start-up StaffAny (<https://www.staffany.com/>) part-time during my university semesters since Aug 2018. StaffAny strives to help managers do away with cumbersome excel spreadsheets to organize their scheduling and staff payroll by providing an all in one platform tech solution. Initially, I was more involved in product testing, helping with product release by testing the weekly product updates and fixing bugs. However, I have since transitioned to a software engineering role and helped build robust product features on our web application and mobile product. Also, as a senior engineer within the company, I have also helped to orientate new technical members of StaffAny team by conducting crash courses on the product and mentored less experienced members. As a side project for the company, I am also working on integrating automated UI (User Interface) tests with our mobile product. Currently, I'm still working part-time and will be extending to full-time during my study holiday.

Apart from working in StaffAny, I have also engaged in several coding projects. Coded over the span of 10 weeks in a team of 2, PartyCards is a simple web application with the frontend coded in the ReactJS framework and the backend coded in the ExpressJS framework. It serves as a platform that allows multiple users to play their favorite card games like Big 2, Bridge, Bluff and Hearts. I have also led a team of 5 people in a project to build a Java desktop application RecruitBook as part of a university software engineering module. RecruitBook is a useful application for job agents to better organize their list of available job offers and prospective job candidates. RecruitBook supports a Graphical User Interface (GUI) coded in JavaFX, where users can interact with it quickly via a Command Line Interface in the GUI to add, modify and rank entries.

With my experience in programming in JavaScript and Java, I am confident I will be able to design, build and deploy applications on the web, mobile and desktop platforms for your company. As I am interested in learning the ropes of business administration, I am open to helping with business development, sourcing for potential customers and researching about competitors. Thank you for your time considering my application and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to your start-up!

Education

Aug 2017 - Present	National University of Singapore Bachelor of Computing (Honours) in Information Security (Course details in Appendix A)	Singapore
Jan 2013 - Dec 2014	Anglo - Chinese Junior College <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education Advanced Level• Subjects: Mathematics (A), Physics (B), Chemistry (B), Economics(B), General Paper(B)	Singapore

Work Experience

Aug 2018 - Present	StaffAny <i>Software Engineer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked part-time during university semesters as a quality assurance engineer, responsible for testing product updates and diagnosing bugs that occur before product releases.• Transitioned to software engineering role during study holiday in December 2018 and assisted in building of product features.• Engineered automated tests for the company product on the mobile platform.	Singapore
May 2017 – Aug 2017	Pearson Education South Asia Private Limited <i>Customer Support Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Served as a primary point of contact with customers and helped customers place book orders.• Managed customer complaints and helped to escalate customer inquiries whenever necessary.	Singapore
May 2015 – Mar 2017	Singapore Armed Forces <i>Artillery Operator</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked in a detachment/section of 8 people whose main function is to deploy an artillery gun.• Recorded the fastest deployment timings for our Detachment Proficiency Test and won the Top Gun award in our unit.• Achieved the second highest score in the history of our gun unit for our FATEP (Field Artillery Training Evaluation Program) as a battery.	Singapore

Scholastic Achievements/Extracurricular Activities

Jan 2013 - Dec 2014	Anglo - Chinese Junior College Concert Band <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Served as Quartermaster, assisting with the logistic administration of the band.• Achieved Certificate of Distinction, the highest merit in the Singapore Youth Festival 2013 which is a national concert band competition.	Singapore
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- Served as Band Major (Chairperson) of the band from 2011 to 2012 and organized day to day activities as well as maintain discipline within the band.
- Achieved Silver Award in Singapore Youth Festival 2009 and Gold Award in Singapore Youth Festival 2011.
- Awarded the top performer in the band as an extra-curricular activity.

Skill Sets & Proficiency

Programming	C	Proficient
	C++	Proficient
	Java	Proficient
	Python	Intermediate
	Perl	Basic
	Shell Scripting	Basic
	Intel x86	Basic
Scripting	JavaScript	Proficient
Markup	XML	Basic
Frameworks	React Native	Proficient
	ReactJS	Proficient
	Express	Intermediate
Web	HTML, CSS	Proficient
Database	PostgreSQL DBMS	Proficient
	SQL	Proficient
Server Management & Network	Server Setup/Maintenance	Intermediate
Operating Systems	Linux	Proficient
	Windows 9x, 2000, XP, Vista, 7, 8, 10	Proficient
Multimedia	Camtasia Studio	Intermediate
	Adobe Photoshop CS6	Basic
Non-technical Skills	Project Management	Basic
Office Productivity	Microsoft Word, PowerPoint	Proficient
	Microsoft Excel,	Intermediate

Language Proficiency

Spoken	English – fluent; Mandarin – fluent
Written	English – competent; Chinese – average

Degree: Bachelor of Computing (Honours) in Information Security
Cumulative Average Point: 4.71 / 5.00

Year	Level	Course Description	Grades
Aug – Nov 2017	Year 1/Semester 1	Programming Methodology	A-
		Discrete Structures	S
		Calculus for Computing	A
		Quantitative Reasoning	A
		Everyday Life of Chinese Singaporeans: Past & Present	A-
		Roots and Wings – Personal and Interpersonal Communication Effectiveness	CS
Jan – May 2018	Year 1/Semester 2	Data Structures and Algorithms	A-
		Computer Organization	A
		Linear Algebra	A
		Information Systems Innovations in Organizations & Society	A
		Einstein's Universe and Quantum Mechanics	A-
Aug – Nov 2018	Year 2/Semester 1	Software Engineering & Object-Oriented Programming #	A-
		Introduction to Information Security	A
		Independent Software Development Project (Orbital) #	CS
		Effective Communication for Computing Professionals	S
		Probability and Statistics	B+
		Asking Questions	CS
Jan – May 2012	Year 2/Semester 2	Design and Analysis of Algorithms	IP
		Database Systems	IP
		Introduction to Computer Networks	IP
		Introduction to Operating Systems	IP
		Cyber Security	IP

The **Software Engineering & Object-Oriented Programming** module focuses on designing and programming a Java desktop application using widely accepted standards of software engineering principles. The project requires teams of 5 people to work on morphing an existing application program that serves as an address book to a software product that serves a different purpose.

The **Independent Software Development Project (Orbital)** is an optional, self-driven and hands-on summer project course where students are required to work on an independent software project in teams of 2 people. Software products are to be built entirely from scratch, using any technologies the product requires.

NUS Grading Scale:

A+ & A (5.0); A- (4.5); B+ (4.0); B (3.5); B- (3.0); C+ (2.5); C (2.0); D+ (1.5); D (1.0); F (0)

S = Satisfactory; U = Unsatisfactory

CS = Completed Satisfactorily; CU = Completed Unsatisfactorily

EXE = Exempted; IC = Incomplete; IP = In Progress; W = Withdrawn