Statement Of Purpose

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<u>Undergraduate Major</u>: Computer Science

<u>Program Applying</u>: MS in Computer Science

As someone who harbored a deep interest in science and technology since a young age, it was only when I was introduced to Computer Science that I identified where my real passion lay. While the names of Tim Berners-Lee and James Gosling are still oblivious to many, I have carefully studied a lot about their contribution to Computer Science which eventually made me quite passionate about the subject. The most appropriate aspect of my academic journey, therefore, is my undergraduate coursework where I opted for Computer Science Engineering as the preferred specialization. However, in a field as dynamic as Computer Science, it is necessary to keep pace with the trends and acquire knowledge of the evolving technologies. I feel that if given a chance to pursue a Master's Degree program in Computer Science from Lamar University, I would be able to fill the knowledge gaps, hone my technical acumen, and contribute immensely to this industry on the whole.

Besides taking a keen interest in academic coursework, I was more inclined towards project work as it helped me enhance my practical skill set. One of the noted projects I worked on during the undergraduate degree program was 'Video Conferencing using HTML5'. This project concerned creating a video-specific chatting application with platforms functional on a minimum of two devices, at once. The main motivation behind the same was to create a chat application which only made use of client-side resources like JavaScript and HTML5. This project involved learning more about jQuery Framework, Windows and Linux Server, Tomcat web server, speech recognizer, and a host of other tools. Besides enhancing my technical acumen, I was also able to polish my teamwork, leadership and problem-solving skills.

Post completion of my studies, my first professional stint was at Virtusa Consulting Services, as an Associate Engineer. I cracked the job as a part of the campus placement program, and was fortunate to have been a part of the organization as it helped me understand the intricacies of the IT sector in a more cohesive manner. During my association with this company, I was given the responsibility of working on optimized business solutions, and vivid IT-specific technologies. I had the opportunity to work with technologies like as AWS, Cloud,.Net, and Angular at Virtusa Consulting Services, and I was able to design and create highly available and scalable infrastructure using AWS for the application. I was eventually promoted to Engineer-Technology and given a full-stack support development responsibility.

After Virtusa, I joined FactSet Systems as a Full Stack Developer where I got opportunity to work for the finance domain. In FactSet I have gained experience in interacting directly with the client's

business analysts during requirement gatherings. I was able to grasp the entire business process very quickly and address client's requirements regarding business criticality in stringent timelines. I am able to take up leadership of the project when the team lead was on a long leave, ensuring the successful release of the project. During my professional stint, I realized that there was more to the field than I could comprehend, and steady career progression is possible only through advanced learning. Thus, it would not be wrong to say that my career experiences, played an important role in shaping up my willingness for pursuing higher education.

Apart from the academic credentials and work experience, I also have certain extracurricular aspects to talk about. Besides being an avid coder, I was also actively invested in different **Cloud** workshops for learning more about the domain. I would also like to highlight my leadership skills which came to fore primarily during my undergraduate degree program and my professional tenure at FactSet where I led a project team to quite remarkable results. I also took time to fulfill my social responsibilities with active participation in books, food, and clothes distribution events for the underprivileged.

With such diverse experience and solid education background, I believe that for a person like me, mainstream application designing followed by development is the role to be in. Therefore, post completion of an MS degree, I want to venture into a reputed organization as a full stack developer or a software development engineer and make contributions to improve existing technologies, amplify customer satisfaction levels, and minimize the downtime and overhead costs. The long-term goal, however, is to pursue specialization certifications in the Computer Science domain and gain additional academic laurels for understanding the basics of entrepreneurship. It is my aspiration to start my own company that delivers innovative technology solutions and plays a part in revolutionizing the global technological landscape.

The MS in Computer Science from Lamar University would be an ideal platform for me to prepare myself for achieving my goals. The comprehensive coursework taught by the prominent faculty members will fast-track my career growth. The well-designed program presented with a proactive approach and supplemented by experiential learning experiences will ensure hands-on experience, aligning me practically to the curriculum. The small class size would ensure improved student-teacher dynamics, personalized attention, and smoother peer-group interactions. Further, I would make tremendous gains in my overall personality and competencies by enhancing my leadership, communication, presentation, and interpersonal skills. While the challenges and rigors of a competitive international curriculum are evident, I feel that with my strong educational foundation and work experience, I would be able to sail through the hurdles and emerge successful.

The MS in Computer Science at Lamar University will empower me and revitalize my confidence to help me emerge with the skills I require to steer myself towards my goals. I hope my application is duly considered and look forward to joining your esteemed academia.