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# Graduate Statement of Purpose

Technology always comes from humanity, which is at the heart of Nokia's brand messaging, has been my favorite quote for over 10 years. It has always been my dream to build a robot to benefit humans in their daily activities, both physical and mental. I was excited to see the news about Nao robot, used by French and Japanese nursing houses to accompany elders in exercising and with their daily lives. After over three years working in the semiconductor industry, I have acquired solid hardware knowledge and developed sound interpersonal and project management skills. I believe now is the right time to utilize my knowledge and creativity to make a lasting contribution and solve tomorrow's challenges, joining the amazing evolution of Artificial Intelligence technology. I am confident that Stanford, the world's leading university with high reputation in academics and industry, will be my best next step to achieve my goal.

After graduating from Stanford, I joined Lam research, a leading semiconductor equipment company, as a process engineer for 3 years. As process engineer, I have developed strong problem solving abilities by decomposing an issue into basic steps and troubleshooting it by means of logical thinking and sound experimental design. In one project, we worked to improve our current hardware design and develop a new simulation package to further advance our tool performance and ensure consistency in the production environment. I worked as the project lead in charge of all experiment design and data analysis; I coordinated with software engineers to build models for a user-friendly simulation package, as well as hardware engineers to brainstorm new hardware designs. The most challenging part of this project was providing ideas and making decisions for software and hardware development, which are not my expertise. I studied all the background knowledge so I would have a complete understanding of issues, and I reviewed the designs again and again to conduct systematic verification experiments. After one year of development, we successfully beat our competitor and won the deal, and I also received the Certificate of Completion for IC Fabrication awarded by Lam Research Corporation.

In order to pursue my dream of working on the development of interactive humanoid robots and prepare myself for a Master's degree in computer science, I studied the basic programming language of Python and Javascript. I endeavored to bring programming into my daily life by writing code to process data and building small games to learn beyond course content. I can still remember how excited I was when I first saw my own game run successfully. It is this feeling that has consistently driven me not to give up on the toughest of problems. I am currently taking an online course from Stanford in Machine Learning, in addition to pursuing the Fundamentals of Computing Certification from Rice University. Starting from winter 2016, I will take the Software Development and Programming Certification from the UC Berkeley Extension.

In addition to living in the United States, I have also held an internship at IMEC in Belgium and studied at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology as an exchange student. With these experiences, I have learned appreciate different cultures even more, and this has become my source of creativity and inspiration. Combined with the training acquired from my previous study and work, I am well prepared to study computer science at Stanford University.

After researching the Master's program, I was happy to find that the curriculum comprises fundamental training and practical-orientation courses. In my first year of study, I plan to enhance my knowledge of the principles of software engineering while also studying programming languages to prepare for an internship. I will then seek an internship in the education technology industry. In the second year, I will take more practical-orientation courses and courses in Psychology as well. I believe Psychology will benefit me greatly while developing projects in Artificial Intelligence. In addition, I want to work at the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (SAIL). After graduating, I will dedicate myself in the industry and work on Artificial Intelligence. I not only want to create great technology, but I also want to ensure its best utility is available to humankind. It is also my ultimate objective to apply what I have learned to help elderly people have higher quality lives.

Through repeated discussions with friends and careful research, I have learned that your Institute in computer science is highly reputable in both the academy and industry. A recent research project from Humanoid Robotics deals with a pair of SupraPeds able to improve the stability of humanoid robots while navigating to traverse cluttered and unstructured environments. This remarkable research made me realize that your department emphasizes the link between academic theory and technology industry practice. I believe this is why your school is always in the leading position in the field of computer science. Your in-depth practical-orientation coursework, research in a wide range of domains from mobile computing to machine learning, and strong relation to local companies give students the opportunity to explore the culture of Silicon Valley and build a career path. I am confident that exposure to this environment will cultivate my professional knowledge, enhance my skillsets, and fulfill my urge to make a lasting contribution in Artificial Intelligence.

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