
Statement of Purpose
MIT Media Lab

Please allow me to be upfront, direct and honest. This SOP may or may not be like the rest of the SOPs being submitted. By now, I'm assuming you already have a pretty good information about who I am, what I've done and some basic idea of what I want to do from the answers I have given and the documents I've submitted. But let me assure you, that what is apparent, is just the tip of the iceberg.

I am a guy who survives on information. I'm a thinker for I love seeing and uncovering the clockworks behind anything and everything, be it any mechanism, phenomenon or person. I'm a hardcore doer when I believe what I do will create an impact somewhere and somehow. One of my dearest friend is 'Chaos'. I do see beauty in the rules with the invisible code of chaos hiding behind the menacing face of order. I'm a spiritual guy as well. I believe everything is connected and is infinite. And because of my tastes and preferences, I've never been a guy satisfied with just a single field. To me, it's always about finding the hidden forces and working with it to deliver better and efficient solutions. I have pursued projects full of mechanics and sensors during my final year Mechanical Engineering and even a social cause project during the gap year. I believe in being multi-disciplinary, any time, every time. Or is it called anti-disciplinary?

I did my Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical engineering but I was never truly satisfied with the knowledge of just that single field. Yes, I got to know how machines are made, how they work, what are their driving forces, how to fabricate them in workshop, etc. but I never really understood how can I really create new machines in the upcoming decades with immense computing power and machine learning. Because with exponentially increasing computing power, I must know how to incorporate it in the machines to get the best of both worlds. And therefore, I want to attend Graduate School. I feel extremely optimistic while applying for this course at MIT because MIT Media Lab stands for being anti-disciplinary! Instead of focusing on any core field, it is celebrated being multi-disciplinary and/or anti-disciplinary at MIT! Hence, to me, it delivers the power I've always wanted, the power of experimenting with seemingly any technology and learning it from the very best in the field. I could pick up LiDAR sensor and give it shot with a project, or I could pick up Google Project Tango, or just anything and I wouldn't have to worry about "Will there by anyone I could find to work with if I choose this equipment?"

I am extremely interested in studying in one of the 3 research groups at MIT Media Labs which are Signal Kinetics, Responsive Environments and Tangible Media. These 3 being at

the core of my interest areas, I could learn greatly the technologies I want to and leverage them to create exponential impact.

I haven't done any official research term at any place. However, I myself have been a bootstrapped entrepreneur for almost 18 months now, from just before I completed my Bachelor of Engineering. In my 18 months of journey, I've had myriad experiences starting from being an unknown guy, to a community member, to a business mentor, to a jury member and so on. As of today, I'm considered as one of the community leaders of my city. And these experiences have taught me a great many things and shaped in many ways who I am today. So, if it's considered as research, then yes, I have a research experience of 18 months on entrepreneurship and on myself. I personally believe, one's journey is never upward, it's always inward.

It'd be a common statement to say that I'm proud of all my achievements and yet I shall say it, I'm proud of all my achievements right from winning a State Level Math Fair with my team while I was in 9th grade to having 2 provisional patents and to giving up those patents to go open source. But as it is asked here, particularly, I'm proud of three achievements amongst all, I guess, that shall suggest that I can be a good asset, if not great, in learning the cutting-edge technologies and teaming up with people in implementing them to bring results.

1. I was selected for Class 4 of MIT Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp 2016. Unfortunately, I could not attend it because I could not afford the fees (USD 6000). The MIT Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp is an intensive, week-long new ventures leadership program that gives bootcampers a taste of drinking from the firehose that all MIT students experience. It is a nexus connecting entrepreneurs from around the world to the entrepreneurship and innovation eco-system surrounding the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
2. My project on Smart Restaurant System was shortlisted for government incubation support as one of the 200 applications. My application for Grand Challenges competition was shortlisted in Vibrant Gujarat Startup Summit Competition 2016 after preliminary evaluation by Government Approved Nodal Institution i.e. Venture Studio for potential Incubation Support under the 'Scheme for assistance for Startups/Innovations' launched by Government of Gujarat in 2015.
3. I was invited as a Jury Member for Innovative Product and Marketing Competition (IPMC) 2017 at SNK School, Rajkot. Students of grade 11 and 12 propose and develop a social impact project and create its prototype in time frame of 2 months.

You can find out more about me and my portfolio at: <https://www.jaysonganatra.com/>