

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), I am writing this after a week of coming back from the campus, this was to allow me some time to reflect back on the whole experience. While I was there for the 3 weeks, I could not really appreciate the greatness and awesomeness of the place due to the amount of workload we had. Now that I am back and able to share the experience with my family and friends, to talk about all that happened, I am able to sink in to the MIT experience.

I would like to start to talk about the people that we have encountered, from our classmates to the lecturers and even the guest speakers. Firstly, our classmates where from all walks of life and country, surely many different personal stories and experiences from each of them, but was not able to talk to all of them. Now thinking about it, is there a student handbook that we can get our hands on? As for the lecturer, who taught us, they were highly capable people, and able to navigate the class to ensure maximum impact, I feel like MISI's lecturer are also up to the same calibre. MIT also brought in guest speakers for an hour to share about their experience and thought surrounding their work, these sessions are priceless, because by myself I would have never been able to be in the same room as them, not to mention they were from different industries. The compilation of experience and advice, is something that I will be able to reflect on and fall back to when necessary.

I feel the culture in MIT is different, just to be in the place where the research done is pushing the limits of our knowledge and expanding it is just some else. I manage to wonder around the campus, and stumble to labs with this wording written on them "Optics and Quantum Electronics Group", "Nanomechanical Technology Laboratory", and even had a "Laboratory of Nuclear Science" on campus. If anyone that is familiar with and up to date with the latest trend of science, will know Quantum and Nano, are the latest fields in science. I am sure there are many amazing labs that was not discovered. My point here being, the culture is one of being proactive, progressive and never stop learning.

To summarize, this short 3 weeks experience, has charmed me to perhaps go back to MIT in the future for studies. For myself, I am not sure that I have been to another place, quite like this. Truly like what Dr. Sanjay Sarma said in his talk "MIT technology is indistinguishable from magic" and now that magical experience is now part of my life experience. Thank you MISI for opportunity to be at MIT for just that duration.

(i) Three positive Key highlights that you will take away from your three-week IAP experience.

1. The experience of working with various people from around the world
2. The experience and advice, given by the guest speakers
3. Knowledge of using Python and Llamasoft

(ii) Suggest up to 3 points of improvement (for recommendation in next years IAP) - or indicate Nil

1. Offer Python as optional
2. One more industry visit, to make it to One per week
3. A summary of how the top 3 teams achieve their Fresh Connection, as I feel there is extreme value in recapping.

IAP Write Up
Edmund Chong - PSCM

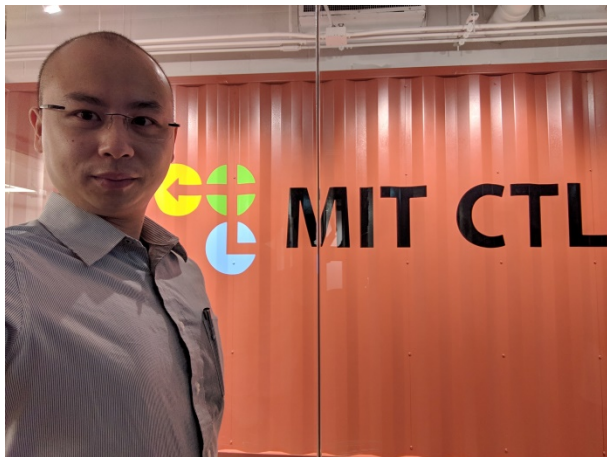
My Pictures:



Picture 1: Selfie with MIT's Great Dome



Picture 2: At the CAVE lab

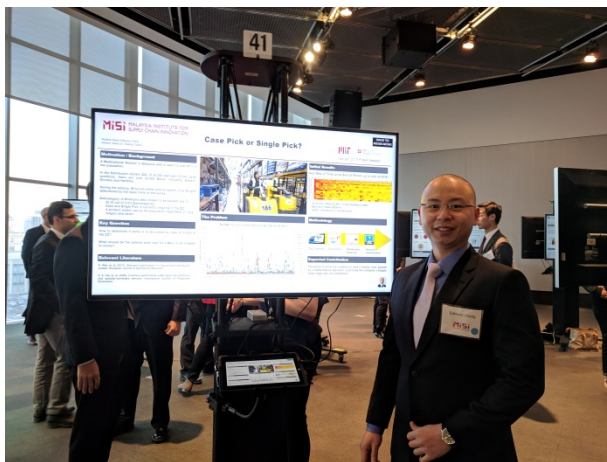


Picture 3: Selfie with the MIT CTL logo

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Picture 4: Selfie with some fellow MISI students



Picture 5: With my thesis project poster



Picture 6: Taken during Industry Visit at Amazon Robotics