Simon Staal

✉ simonstaal10@gmail.com   📞 +44 7464 101 976   🔗 https://simon-staal.github.io

⚙ https://github.com/simon-staal   📍 Amsterdam, NL   in https://www.linkedin.com/in/simon-staal/

EDUCATION

09/2019 – 06/2023	**MEng Computer Engineering (EIE)** *Imperial College London*	London, UK

- Graduated valedictorian with First Class Honours, obtaining the highest average across all streams in the Electrical Engineering department (85.21% overall).
- Obtained the 2023 Siemens Memorial Medal and 2021 Head of Department Prize for top academic performance, and on the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Dean's List for academic excellence.
- Awarded the Dennis Gabor prize for "outstanding contributions to student life, and professionalism in all their activities".
- Modules of interest: Computational Optimisation (91.20%), Hardware and Software Verification (89.00%), Advanced Computer Architecture (86%), Algorithms and Complexity (100%), Instruction Set Architecture and Compilers (86%), Programming for Engineers (94%)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

11/2023 – present	**Graduate Software Engineer** *Optiver*	Amsterdam, NL

Accepted return offer to join Optiver's graduate program, including a 2-month tech and trading training course, and two 5-month rotations, which were spent in Options Execution and Options Pricing Automation and Infrastructure. Exceeding expectations in performance reviews.

04/2022 – 09/2022	**Software Engineering Industrial Placement** *Optiver*	Amsterdam, NL

Spent one month in the Options Execution team scaling out Optibook, a simulated exchange used in training and recruitment, and the remaing time in Risk Tech re-designing Optiver's instrument download pipeline. Both projects were highly successful, and pushed to production.

07/2021 – 09/2021	**Robotics Program Internship** *Amazon*	London, UK

Worked with Amazon's reliability maintenance engineering robotics program team on a UK/EU project to update processes associated with their robotics stations.

11/2020 – 05/2023	**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** *Imperial College London*	London, UK

Provided learning support for various programming-focused modules. Responsibilities included providing qualitative feedback on code quality and delivering lectures on how to best use features of modern C++ when working on a large software project.

SKILLS AND AWARDS

Technical Skills
Languages:
- *Advanced:* C++(17/20) | Python
- *Intermediate:* Bash | SQL | F# | Kotlin | Node.js

Other:
- Experienced with Linux development and Git
- Strong understanding of networks and profiling

Awards
- Siemens Memorial Medal & Book Prize (2023)
- Dennis Gabor Prize (2023)
- EIE 2nd Year Head of Department Prize (2021)
- Dean's List for Academic Excellence (2021, 2022, 2023)
- Australian Institute of Physics SA Bragg Certificate (2019)
- AMT Australian Mathematics Competition Distinction (2018)
- Charles Gillham Memorial Prize for Physics (2018)
- Da Costa Scholarship for Best Academic Performance (2017)

VOLUNTEERING

Departmental Representative
Imperial College Electronic and Information Engineering

10/2021 – 08/2023 | London, UK

- Elected by my cohort as the 3rd Year Wellbeing Representative, and the entire course as the Academic Department Representative during my final year.
- Gathered data on student issues through surveys and one-on-one discussions, and co-ordinated with other representatives to raise these problems to the department.
- Planned and implemented various changes to the course structure, adjusting credit allocation and degree content to improve fairness of assessments and more accurately reflect technical ability.
- Overhauled the module feedback system for 3rd and 4th Year modules to provide future students better resources to select modules, and future representatives a more maintainable system.