



**“W**hile serving National Service, I realised first-hand the importance of a strong SAF in the defence and security of our nation. This, coupled with my inclination towards science and technology, piqued my interest in a career as a defence engineer. During my sophomore year in university, I visited the DSTA career booth at the SPMS job fair to learn more about the role that DSTA plays in harnessing technology for the defence and security of Singapore. I also secured the opportunity to intern at DSTA’s Networked Systems Programme Centre from July to December 2015, where I was involved in a project that required me to conduct data and time series analysis.

The rigorous theoretical physics and mathematics courses by SPMS helped build a strong foundation for my analytical and quantitative skills. I was able to understand the issues at hand and draw qualitative insights from data with the use of programming languages such as Python and R, and data analytics programs such as RapidMiner, IBM SPSS Statistics and Tableau. The analytics programs helped me discover trends and correlations from the data, which is easily interpreted through visualisation graphs.

Through my hands-on experience during the internship, I built up confidence and greatly broadened my skillset. In 2015, I attended Xchange – a networking session hosted by NTU, where I interacted with the hiring managers from DSTA. It was at the session that I managed to secure an interview with the organisation before graduation.

Now an engineer at DSTA’s C4I Development Programme Centre, I am involved in developing sense-making capabilities for maritime security. DSTA is an organisation that places strong emphasis on staff development. In the ten months that I have been here, I have attended the Basic Systems Engineering and Management Programme – an in-house milestone course conducted by DSTA Academy to hone my business and engineering competencies. I feel a sense of pride and achievement knowing I can put these skills to good use and contribute to the defence and national security of Singapore.”

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