Tell us about your interest in engineering or what you hope to achieve with a degree in engineering. Describe what appeals to you about Cornell Engineering and how it specifically relates to your engineering interest or aspirations.\*

Ever since I can recollect, ‘Technology’ and me have been inseparable twins. I had this insatiable desire to understand how things work, what was the thought behind somethings creation, what was the motivation for its evolution etc. Fortunately I was blessed with an environment at home that encouraged me to pursue this – parents who very patiently explained everything and mother who would often overlook my destructive exploits. As most inquisitive children, I went through the cycles of dismantling existing gadgets and creating some of my own. Every success was greatly inspiring.

However, I found my true love, when I was introduced to programming in grade 7. This gave vent to my creative hormones like nothing had till then. The best thing about writing codes is that every day is a new challenge, a new evolution. The sheer joy of going through that cycle of evolving a logic, writing a code, multiple cycles of compiling-debugging, and finally getting the output. It is such an adrenalin rush, that nothing else really compares to it.

When I was in grade 9, I interned at a company that organized exhibitions. A part of the exhibitions are the Business to Business (B2B) meetings. With a very simple use of spreadsheets, supplemented with mail merge, I automated the process. Additionally, I was able to give a company specific print out of meeting schedules. This was the first time I was able to use my innovation to solve a real-life problem and it proved to be a huge confidence booster.

More recently in grade 11, I coupled the recently introduced GOTO (x,y) with a clear screen command to generate a graphic shooting game. The adulation that I received from my teacher and peers was very inspiring. More importantly, it instilled me with a belief that I already had the tools to attempt more complex things.

Probably it was this confidence, that has led me to the project I am currently working on. Delhi, like most cities in the world is struggling with traffic and limited infrastructure issue. Specially, parking space is at a premium and often becomes an issue at the destination. I am developing a software that can manage advance booking for Parking Slots.

Therefore, coding is what I am extremely passionate about and want to keep doing as long as is feasible. Continuing to study it and further specialize in Artificial Intelligence is my eventual aim. And in my quest, I cannot think of anything better than Cornell. That Cornell is world renowned Ivy League Institute helps. That it was amongst the first University to recognise the impact of computers and set up a department devoted for its study shows future foresight. But more importantly, the research being progressed at Cornell specially regarding Machine learning, AI and specifically the work being done with computational mathematics are areas that really excite me. Additionally, the sheer thought of one day being a part of the ‘Big Red Hacks’ is very alluring. All in all, I feel Cornell has the value sets and environment that can complement my endeavours and help me to realise my goals.

Therefore, opting for pursuing Computer Science at Cornell, was a very obvious and straight forward decision for me. It is something that I have yearned for and I do look forward for a favourable decision.