



Amazon

Summer 2016

Please give a brief description of your duties.	What value do you feel you added to the organization during your internship?	Did this internship meet your expectations? Why or why not?
<p>I work in the S&OP team, Supply Chain department, where I helped my team create and automate various metrics using SQL, Python and R. I also built a simple model for Simulation team to improve their prediction accuracy, which was successfully adopted in production.</p>	<p>First, I helped Amazon S&OP team build many indicators to measure the accuracy and automation performance of Amazon supply chain. Managers in Europe and here now use my report and metrics to evaluate the predictions and manually change it if necessary, which highly improves the S&OP team working efficiency. Second, I built a simple fill rate model for Simulation team to improve the simulation accuracy. The A/B testing shows that my model significantly improves simulation accuracy. Right now they are doing more tests and going to use it in production.</p>	<p>Some part of it meets my expectation. For example, I have chance to see the world's most complex supply chain system and know how Amazon optimize their inventory. I have also learnt how Amazon evaluate their predictions, plans and how to improve it. So the expectation from a business perspective has been achieved. However, at the technical side, I haven't fully used my knowledge and skills here. All I practiced is SQL, though what I truly want is to use statistical knowledge to build models. Such functions often varies a lot team by team, and unfortunately, with a lot of research scientists here, I didn't have chance to practice them, so my expectation for technical side is not reached.</p>



Would you recommend this internship to another student? Why or why not?	If you could change one thing about your internship experience, what would it be and why?	Please provide any additional information regarding your internship that you feel students should know.
<p>Yes. Amazon has developed so quickly and there are improvements, progress every day. Even if you haven't got many chances to do what you like, you can still learn a lot from many smart people and the best business minds. The business operation of Amazon is really amazing. From a long-term perspective, these will be much more helpful if you don't want to do coding all your life.</p>	<p>I would change my role or team here. BIE is a great role in Amazon since it connects both business side and data science. It's more focused on model application rather than purely writing algorithms. However, the function of this role varies team by team, some teams are doing purely reporting, which is not what I like. Therefore, I would either change my role to data scientist to build models, or switch to a team where BIEs can do more models.</p>	<p>Amazon has a lot of positions. Even for the same role, different departments may have very different job descriptions. For internship, it's totally based on team. So be sure to talk to your manager about what you would do here before start it. If you feel you don't like it, maybe just switch to another team.</p>