

Nathan H. Leung

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Summary

Hi, I'm Nate. I taught myself how to code before college, and I entered the University of Michigan in the fall of 2018, where I discovered interests in math, economics, and personal writing.

College was a serious step up from what I was used to in high school, so one especially late night my second semester, while working on a problem set in the math atrium — I decided I had enough. I needed a break from school.

I began planning a gap year in Barcelona and reaching out to old web design clients from high school for contract software work. Those plans went out the window, though, when I miraculously landed an internship at Google for the coming summer.

So, when school let out in May, I flew out to San Francisco and moved into a place in the Mission District instead. I soon realized that much of what I was looking for in my gap year — the unparalleled personal and cultural growth that comes from living alone in an iconic, bohemian city; a hungry market for entrepreneurial software engineers — was right where I was in San Francisco.

In August, I officially disenrolled from my sophomore year of classes. I got my travel fix in September, zooming across America and visiting Los Angeles, Ann Arbor, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago as part of a ten-state excursion, before heading back to San Francisco by way of 52 hours on Amtrak.

In October 2019, shortly after the founders completed YC S19, I turned down my Google return offer and joined Jupiter as their first hire. Outside of establishing a strong engineering organization and codifying our guiding development philosophies and practices, I've spent the last few months building end-to-end systems with TypeScript, React, Kotlin, gRPC, and Kubernetes.

I write about leaving college and living in San Francisco at natecation.com.

Education

University of Michigan, GPA: 3.87/4.00, **CS GPA: 4.00/4.00**

Ann Arbor, MI

Intended Bachelor's Degree

2018 - 2019 (on leave)

- Took classes in math, computer science, philosophy, economics, personal writing
- Most frequent grade on transcript is A+
- 4.0 computer science GPA, survived honors real analysis (MATH 297)
- Executive board member of StartUM student startup incubator, developer on Michigan Daily student newspaper web team, member of MRun club running team

Work Experience

Jupiter ... startup founded in 2019 out of Y Combinator (*jupiter.co*)

San Francisco, CA

Employee #1, Software Engineer (full time)

October 2019 – Present

- Migrated existing frontend code from JavaScript to TypeScript, reducing runtime bugs and increasing confidence in nontrivial refactorings
- Designed customer-facing web app from scratch in Figma and created an isomorphic shared component library to implement the design (currently also used in our React Native mobile app)
- Set up Bazel and a self-hosted NPM registry to speed up builds and encourage code sharing
- Implemented CD via Netlify, Terraform Cloud, and CircleCI for consistent, reliable releases across our frontends, infrastructure, and Docker images respectively
- Wrote IaC for Kubernetes architecture with Envoy edge proxy and SSL termination

Google ... startup founded in 1998 by University of Michigan grad (*google.com*)

Mountain View, CA

Software Engineering Intern (full time)

May 2019 – September 2019

- Received Google's secret coding challenge while searching and ended up being hired through it (n8c.co/google-internship)
- Matched with a team building a virtualization solution for Nest and Google Home (smart speaker/smart home) devices to enable automated firmware tests that otherwise would have to be conducted manually
- Built infrastructure (Borg/protobuf), full-stack in Java (Apps Framework/gRPC) and TypeScript (Angular) for a service status dashboard, revealing insights such as most commonly virtualized devices, rate of virtual device creation errors, and gross usage

Honors and Interests

- **Honors:** Wissahickon High School *summa cum laude*, cross-country captain, National Merit Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction (13 exams, all 5s), three-day out-of-school suspension, tried Michigan honors math program for one semester, college dropout
- **Interests:** Distance running (4:36 mile PR), hiking the Wissahickon Green Ribbon, cycling the Schuylkill River Trail, jogging through Golden Gate Park, country music, essays, Twitter, Matt Levine's *Money Stuff*, taking public transit, flying on weekdays