



September 20th, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse Bhanu Teja for the position he is seeking. I have had the distinct pleasure of serving as Bhanu's academic advisor for over a year, during which time I have closely observed his exceptional academic and professional growth. Our association began in 2023 when Bhanu was a student in my Human-Robot Interaction class at Kent State University, and I later had the privilege of working with him as a Teaching Assistant in the Introduction to Intelligent Robotics course.

In his role as a Teaching Assistant, Bhanu demonstrated remarkable leadership and technical expertise. He led engaging laboratory sessions that focused on applying key concepts of electronics—using platforms such as Arduino, Raspberry Pi, Pico, and components like IMUs, OLEDs, LiDAR, encoders, as well as protocols such as I2C and SPI—to the programming and control of robots. His ability to make complex topics accessible and practical for students significantly enriched their learning experience. Moreover, his initiative in designing and building 20 TurtleBot Mini robots for student use had a tremendous impact, boosting both student engagement and comprehension of robotics. This innovative contribution exemplifies Bhanu's commitment to excellence and his capacity for creative problem-solving.

Bhanu is one of the most diligent and hardworking students I have had the pleasure of mentoring. His dedication to learning and his hands-on approach to applying theoretical knowledge sets him apart. Notably, he was the top student researcher in the CAED CROSS project at the ATR Lab, where he demonstrated his ability to conduct meaningful research in the field of robotics.

Based on my experience and observations, I have no reservations in endorsing Bhanu Teja for this position. His passion for robotics, combined with his technical acumen and commitment to education, make him an outstanding candidate. I am confident that he will continue to excel and make meaningful contributions in his future endeavors.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions. I can be most easily reached by e-mail (jkim72@kent.edu)

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JH Kim", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jong Hoon Kim, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Director of ATR Lab

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