

# Vasisht Ravikumar

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25 OCTOBER 2022

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I've always been somebody who was fond of numbers, graphs and statistics. But well before I knew I could turn this into a career, the pandemic of 2020 hit and the world was frozen in time amongst four walls. During that time, I chose a hobby for myself - I used the daily outbreak data to create an Excel spreadsheet. I then used this data to calculate  $r_0$  value (the rate at which the virus is transmitted), create macros and plot curves to visualize my analysis. This is when I realized that my childlike wonder for numbers had given birth to a new phase in my life. As I started networking amongst my peers, this fondness for mathematics evolved into a passion for Data Analytics as a career choice.

Once the first wave of Covid cases died down, I was fortunate enough to get a chance to work as a club cricket scorer. During this stint, I was able to extract a lot of data from the matches that I scored for and create graphs and tables using MS Excel. While doing so, I experienced several instances where I came across unclean data. I then had to find ways to clean it. I used this problem to further my understanding of the Excel software. Later, I advanced to become a contract scorer for New Zealand Cricket (NZC). Scoring for NZC was not just a prestigious feat personally, but it also taught me how to handle real time problems whilst a live, international world cup match was going on. It taught me how to multitask and handle multiple stakeholders at the same time.

Post this experience, I began developing my skill set further in SQL, PowerBI, Google Sheets and Microsoft Excel through various means of self-learning materials. I completed an SQL certification to further solidify that process. I also completed a few projects in SQL using Postgres and tried my hand at data cleaning with MS Excel. I also chartered a learning roadmap for myself for the upcoming future, which included major milestones such as expertise in R and Python.

As someone looking for a break into the field of data analytics, Google sounds like a quintessential place as it is known for its data processing prowess. This apprenticeship program, tailored at not only training but also providing hands on experience to the candidates is the need of the hour and I believe it will be an amazing opportunity for me to begin my data analytics journey. The skills I have mentioned before capture what I am capable of. But what I truly embody is a balance I bring to the team. Any work place thrives on the balance between what the employee can do for the organisation in its path to progress and how the organisation can help in the employee's growth. This is a balance that I consider to be paramount and hope to showcase it if given the opportunity to be a part of this prestigious program.

**VASISHT RAVIKUMAR**