

Faizan Khalid Mohsin

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Dear Professor Wei Xu,

I would like to apply for your practicum since I am very interested in clinical trials, statistical genetics and longitudinal studies; in fact, I have done two research projects with longitudinal data. In addition, I will be taking the introduction to clinical trials and categorical data analysis courses this semester, survival analysis in the winter semester and the advanced course in clinical trials during the summer, all which will help me with your project.

Throughout my past years of study, I have demonstrated an outstanding level of academic achievement and shown a particular strength in statistical research, demonstrating extensive analytical, computational and quantitative skills. I have been consistently engaged in conducting long-term and short-term research projects, where I have been able to apply my critical thinking and learn quickly and independently new concepts, techniques and skills. I am a hard worker with the desire to continue learning and improving. Through my many research presentations, I have also achieved excellent visualization and oral communication skills which can be seen as I won the best undergraduate research presentation award at the Statistical Society of Canada's annual student conference. As the lead researcher of several research projects, as well as through my many leadership experiences, I have developed the ability to work both independently and in a team.

I am a highly creative individual, always thinking out of the box to find the best and the most creative solutions to problems. Through research, industry workshops and forecasting competitions, I have had the opportunity to apply what I have learned and think out of the box, to solve real world problems. For example, in the case study competition on "What predicts sustainability of Canadian charities?" which my team won, we used a novel clustering method to segment our data. We first used principle component analysis to reduce the extremely high dimensionality of our data and then used the principal components as the input to our k-means clustering to segment the successful Canadian charities into different groups, obtaining a very insightful segmentation of the charities.

In my third research project I analyzed the effects the Wellspring Exercise Program on cancer fatigue and quality of life of cancer patients. Our data set had a lot of missing data, as such; we first used multiple imputation by chained equations and then linear mixed models. We found there to be an association between the personalized exercise program, and in the improvement of patients' cancer fatigue scores.

These projects have helped improve my critical and creative thinking, and given me a lot of experience in research. I am a proactive, innovative and highly motivated student. I would like to thank you for considering my application and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Faizan Khalid Mohsin