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MIT Lincoln Labs 244 Wood Street Lexington, MA 02421 July 22, 2021

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am applying for the "Laser Modeling and Analysis" position (Req ID: 33585) in the advanced technology group. I found this position after speaking with Rory Perkins who I was put into contact with by my undergraduate research advisor at UCLA. During our conversation he described the variety of cutting edge research and achievements done by the Lincoln Labs. I feel that I could learn an incredible amount working at Lincoln labs and I hope that we can work together in a mutually beneficial relationship.

During my time as an undergraduate I took as many classes in as diverse set of subjects as possible, from pure mathematics to electrical engineering and CS, even taking 6 classes one quarter (double the usual course load at UCLA) to finish my double degree on time. Instead of languishing during COVID I adapted and continued to grow my skill set in a way that was convenient for remote study, emphasizing programming, plasma simulations, and data analysis.

As a student researcher in the Basic Plasma Science Facility at UCLA I was frequently tossed in the deep end, being asked to solve problems in areas I had never taken classes in. I developed strong self sufficiency, able to analyze specifically I was being asked to do, learn the basics of that field, ask important questions, and get the job done. Using these techniques over the years I learned how to design basic circuits, how to use TCP/IP network sockets, interface hardware and software using different microcontrollers and microprocessors, learn numerical methods, understand some advanced topics in plasma theory, and program in many languages that I had previously not had formal education on (Python, C, Matlab, mySQL). I am confident I will be able to tackle a diverse set of projects and tasks while exponentially increasing my skill set and usefulness over time.

Thank you for taking the time to review my application. I'm thrilled about the prospect of working with you at the Lincoln Labs. If possible, I'd love to discuss the prospect of working with you further in an interview.

Sincerely,

Charlie Sowerby

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