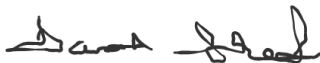February 20, 2023

To whom it may concern:

I had the pleasure of working with James Wolpe during his data science internship in the summer of 2022 from May to August at Velocity Global. James took on the important task of starting exploratory and modeling work on a new data science lead scoring project, and I am glad to report his efforts were a success.

James demonstrated tact and competence in a number of domains—both technical and interpersonal. The data science problem he analyzed involved proposing a new methodology for identifying sales leads likely to develop to qualified leads. This naturally required meetings with stakeholders in the sales and marketing organization, and as is often the case when developing data science projects, can be difficult due to conflicting or changing requirements from stakeholders that must be balanced as the project evolves. James handled these meetings with patience and professionalism. He eagerly incorporated feedback but also ensured the data science was not compromised. I was particularly impressed with his thoroughness and desire to validate the proposals empirically on the real data to ensure a solid foundation for data quality. His diligence proved important for identifying and preventing several instances of potential data leakage in the machine learning model.

From a technical perspective, the project required work with a range of technologies—from ETL and data cleanup in SQL to feature building, imputation, and model selection in Python and R. James displayed curiosity and willingness to engage the full range of these techniques. These traits will serve him well given the demands for data scientists to employ a wide variety of tools and methods and the necessity to adapt and learn the latest software libraries.

It is without reservations that I can endorse James and wish for his future contributions and success.

Sincerely,

David Shaub

Principal Data Scientist

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