ACADEMIC STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Research Position (Ph.D.) – Fall 2022

Jerrin Bright
Web: https://jbright.tech/

Since my pre-teen days, I have been continually stimulated by Robotics, explicitly robots that navigate autonomously. I was so besotted with exploring how these systems function and with replicating them. In the following years, I learned how important it is to innovate and understand technological gaps in the society and bridge them. I intend to bridge the technical gaps, using autonomous systems for human necessities and to improve lifestyle.

I have been pursuing my bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering since 2018, focusing on Robotics, Mechatronics, and Artificial Intelligence at Vellore Institute of Technology, India. With a zeal to learn, I joined the Robotics Club at my university in 2019 and competed in various competitions steered by my club authorities. After a year, in 2020, I started an Intelligent Vehicle and Space Exploration Team working on autonomous systems, won more than twenty awards in competitions. I, together with my team, started using the stage we created to mould and inspire budding engineers, exposing them to Robotics. This team that I developed will always be my notable achievement that I cherish.

Simultaneously, I started working with several internationally recognised universities to hone my skills, which includes McMaster University, Canada; Arizona State University, USA; Indian Institute of Science, India and Yuan-Ze University, Taiwan. I have also worked with organisations such as Aero2Astro, India, and BrainMagic, India. I have always aspired to pursue research and create new systems concentrating on Autonomy and Perception. By that notion, I have always worked honestly towards the remarkable goal of research and development and my journey has been based on it.

I have worked with several Non-Government Organizations to support the destitute and downtrodden through various welfare programs. The National Service Scheme (an Indian government-sponsored flagship for public service programme conducted by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India) I worked with had a phenomenal record of engaging in coastal clean-ups, slum clearance and orphanage upliftment by promoting various social welfare measures. Then I joined the Madras Scientific Research Foundation, and went on teaching unprivileged children Rudimentary Design and Coding. Meanwhile, I joined the Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers, Robotics and Automation Student Chapter to offer technical support to the Student Chapter at my university.

From my childhood days, I was always intrigued with writing and painting. I always enjoyed transfiguring my interests and imagination into possible realities. My daily diary and art books from my school days are testament to the same. I have a record of representing my district and school in painting competitions. In 2020, I started writing blogs to aid Artificial Intelligence enthusiasts. In a span of five months, I succeeded in writing more than ten blogs. I authored my first research paper in 2020 and won the best research paper award for it. I am also involved in two more first-authored research papers based on robotics and automation.

With all these learning, experiences, and skills, I am now aiming to take a step closer to my life's significant mission of aiming to do research predominantly on Autonomous Systems. Accordingly, with confidence, I apply for a research-based study (Direct Ph.D) position under your supervision for the fall of 2022 hoping to indulge in intensive research on Autonomous Systems.