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The Principal Investigator
Translational Imaging Laboratory
Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging

Subject: Endorsement for Mr. Niraj Mahajan

I am pleased to support the internship application of Niraj Mahajan.

As can be seen from his resume, Niraj is one of the gifted students who is attending the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB), Computer Science and Engineering Department. I myself have been at IITB for over two decades, both as a student and as a faculty member, and I note that the entry barrier to our program is extremely high.

I have had the chance to mentor Niraj last summer on a project related to the development of a screening tool for mental health. The project aims to develop a mobile modular open-source platform for early detection of autism risk by non-specialist health-workers in low resource settings. By the very nature of the task, the non-specialist health workers may inadvertently set the application (“app”) to a “jinxed” state. Niraj contributed to a “backup tool” to recover the survey data from the master application. The data was pushed to a “cloud” backend server, and Niraj helped automate the deployment of the backend on LAMP Servers, and redefined the parameters of installation. Finally, one of the tasks on the app uses an offline convolutional neural network based model. While Niraj has not yet done a course on Deep Learning, he did study the process of moving the network from an offline desktop model to an Android-based solution.

Given this background, I think Niraj would be a great asset in your research efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to write to me. I strongly recommend his application.

Sharat Chandran

Professor

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