

**Chris Denniston**  
7949 Reinhardt Lane, Prairie Village, Kansas  
66208  
United States  
☎ +1 (913) 908 6148  
✉ [cdm4@mail.umkc.edu](mailto:cdm4@mail.umkc.edu)

**John Hopkins University, Department of  
Computer Science**  
3400 N Charles St  
Baltimore, MD 21218

February 15, 2016

Dear Sir or Madam,

I was very excited to learn that John Hopkins University is offering undergraduate research positions, especially in positions involving machine learning. I have been very interested in the idea of machine learning and would love a position where I could further my knowledge and help with useful research.

My top three choices all involve Machine Learning in some capacity because that's the field I would like to pursue for my graduate studies. My first choice would be "Machine Learning methods for Measuring (Disease) Activity Using Smart Phones: Application to Parkinson's" because I am interested in the application of Machine Learning and Data Science to the health care field. Because of similar interests my second choice is "Early Detection of Adverse Events", which interests me in particular because the idea that caused me to want to pursue Machine Learning in the first place was the idea of predicting future events based on large amounts of data. My third choice would be "Computer Vision for Surgical Data Science" because I think this would further my computer vision skills and allow me to work with a large, important data set.

I believe I would make a useful candidate because I have taken a class in Machine Learning at the University of Missouri - Kansas City, as well as done some other projects for my company using some of the statistical modeling methods I learned in this class. I also have been the Software Lead of the University of Missouri - Kansas City robotics club which has strengthened my C++ skills and software design skills. This has been further strengthened by working as a Backend Intern at Payit, Inc where I write new Java code but have a lot of say in the architecture of the programs. While on the robot team I also have had a chance to use some OpenCV computer vision to solve some problems the robot has faced, which I believe would also be helpful to the research.

I am very excited to hear from you because I think this position would fit well into my future plans of pursuing research in the field of Machine Learning, and I think the projects seem highly useful to the world.

Thank you for your consideration,

**Chris Denniston**