

I am applying to the Ph.D. program of the Department of Physics at the University of Minnesota. I intend to pursue graduate studies for laying down the foundation for a successful career in theoretical physics research. Apart from my extensive research experience and advanced coursework, my diverse background has strongly motivated me to consider Ph.D. research as a prospective career move.

I believe that my enthusiasm for exploring science and maths has roots in my early upbringing. My parents always inspired me to work for achieving excellence by providing me with all the relevant resources and teaching facilities. I remember their emphasis on viewing a career as an opportunity to achieve remarkable feats which let me nurture my dream of higher studies throughout my undergrads. I was also motivated upon seeing my cousin's passion towards research after completing her demanding Ph.D. in applied mathematics. This proximity to the research and academic awareness in my family has strongly shaped my career choices.

In addition to this, my surroundings have a significant impact on my development. Since high school, I have always been in a competitive academic environment. It instilled the habit of persistence, diligent work and endeavour for excellence which helped me in securing admission in one of India's top undergraduate programs. Here, at IIT Bombay, I got to interact with students with varied cultural and social backgrounds. I worked with some of the finest students during my tenure in the IIT Bombay student satellite team. Interacting with them taught me the skills of productive management of projects and coursework, collaborative work and leadership. These have helped me enormously to succeed in my research work.

I strongly believe that my personal development has greatly influenced by my peers. The graduate studies, with wider collaborative interactions, offer a unique opportunity for me to accelerate this development. To this end, the University of Minnesota with its esteemed cohort of students and faculties is a perfect place for me to grow. I am sure that the fruitful interactions with students from 100+ different countries at the University of Minnesota will widen my cultural and social perspectives. I am also looking forward to connect with students from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds by engaging with bodies like the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence.

I think that my diverse experience and skills will let me bring a unique perspective to my research. At the same time, the vibrant environment of UMN will be key to my personal development.