

## SAHIL PARESH POONATAR

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Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to express my sincere interest for the position of Specialist, at Merck. Having been working as an <sup>o</sup> in the CAS Data Science Team at the Pune Data Science Hub India, for nearly a year, with my Master's in Computer Science and ML specialization from Georgia Tech near completion and my US citizenship in tow, I am eager to contribute my skills and domain expertise to this position and this company.

In my time at MSD, I have gained unparalleled knowledge of the tools used, the work culture, and the Pharma domain. Supporting the Payer Value and Access Team, with Austin T Yoder and Fabio Do Amaral, has given me incredible insight on the kind of work Merck values and the data sources this team has access to. I successfully worked on multiple projects that have deepened my understanding of Merck's mission. The following are some of the responsibilities taken up and achievements made by me,

- Predicted and prepared for the consequences of Sotatercept's ICER evaluation
- Automated code for standardizations across multiple data sources
- Built the market access landscape for LAG-3, an mCRC therapy
- Actively participated in the Hiring Committee and currently an On-boarding Mentor for new talent in the team
- A founding member of the Simulation and Synthetic Data projects under Senthil Murugan

Notably, I have already begun performing the responsibilities outlined in the job application, making me an ideal candidate for the role. I have built Python-based agent-based models to simulate market conditions and social interactions. Furthermore, I have collaborated effectively with multiple cross-functional teams, collecting requirements, developing scope and timelines and communicating them to stakeholders.

My Master's in Computer Science with a specialization in Machine Learning from Georgia Tech will be completed by Summer 2024 and I have a Bachelor's degree in Biotechnology from the National Institute of Technology, Warangal. I also have nearly two years of data science and research experience including an opportunity to teach second-year MBA students Business Analytics, Machine Learning, Data Storytelling, and Data Visualization.

What sets me apart is my unique educational background, familiarity with Merck's ways of working, aptitude for this domain, and resolute commitment to delivering the highest quality output. Merck's dedication to unwavering ethics and integrity and improving lives across the globe sets it apart from other companies in the pharmaceutical sector. As mentioned previously, my education track, right from the start, was chosen specifically to one day provide value to a company like Merck. I would welcome the chance to further discuss how my skills and experiences align with the goals of this company. I'm grateful for the opportunities this company has already given me, and I look forward to the possibility of contributing to Merck's continued success in this new position.

Sincerely,

Sahil Paresh Poonatar