October 28, 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to recommend Riya Senthil for the Biomedical Engineering program in your university. I have known Riya for more than a year as her mentor and guide. Under my guidance, she has successfully completed two data science projects: 1) Predicting Breast Cancer and 2) Predicting Recessions. While working on the projects, she has demonstrated excellent programming and presentation skills in addition to familiarity in Python. She is hard-working, self-motivated, and truly passionate about making progress in Cancer research. Pursuing the Biomedical program in your university will help her realize her goals.

Riya is very passionate about using data science and computing techniques to improve outcomes in Cancer Screening and to reduce radiologist errors in diagnosis. Her passion has been shaped by her own experience of witnessing bad outcomes of delayed or wrong Cancer diagnosis. She was quite interested in picking up skills at this early age in order to help her achieve the goal. I encouraged her also to focus on getting used to other datasets besides Tumor diagnosis. She liked the problem of predicting recessions and immediately started to work on the problem and has learned a lot in the process.

While I mentored her, I was impressed by her ability to learn Python which was mostly self-taught. Furthermore, she took efforts to understand the meaning behind predictors, why and how they are related to the target outcomes. In my interactions, she was able to clearly explain the methodologies that she has learned: Logistic Regression and Decision Trees to solve classification problems and the confusion matrix. She also made a poster presentation to me and demonstrated her excellent presentation skills.

I truly believe we will see solid progress in overall Cancer diagnosis by having passionate and self-motivated like Riya in this field who bring in diverse viewpoints. Therefore, I strongly urge you to consider her for your program. If you need additional information, please email me at badrinath@gwu.edu.

Sincerely

Badrinath Kottimukkalur

Assistant Professor of Finance