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24 June, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend Vivek Khimani for machine learning engineer position that he applies to in the future. I am Jay Pavagadhi, currently serving as CEO at Olak. Prior to that, I have worked in critical capacity at Apple, Microsoft, Yahoo, and Nvidia for over 10 years. I have been part of various efforts to augment state of the art for many popular products including Yahoo Mail, Bing, Outlook, Azure and Siri.

Vivek has been remotely working as a machine learning researcher with Olak, Inc. since March 2020. In the span of three months, Vivek has worked on building a complete pipeline for our Autofill engine to replace the rule-based system with novel deep learning techniques. Autofill Engine is a core component of Olak's Autofill offering for browser extensions and mobile apps which helps users automatically fill repeated information on web forms. Since the beginning, Vivek independently worked on almost all the components of the pipeline including data curation, cleaning, model building, testing, and deployment - to name a few. Through his work, Vivek improved the performance of the existing rule-based Autofill engine by almost ~20%. Not only did Vivek build the model, but he also effectively pruned the weights and optimized the system to be able to efficiently run on low powered devices and deployed it as a fully client-side offering for browser extensions. He is currently working on further optimizing it for broader use cases.

I am certain, Vivek is one of the greatest assets for any engineering team to have. He is extremely reliable, responsible, and always committed to his work. Despite being enrolled in the online college classes and working on other projects, he managed his time extremely well to finish the work as expected. Moreover, he has a solid theoretical and technical understanding of the field, which helps him to come up with creative solutions for any problem. As Vivek is also active as a machine learning researcher with multiple organizations, he is always passionate about exploring and experimenting with the latest state-of-art works. Despite running into various problems while building the system, he was never hesitant to try different approaches, and come up with the best solution. In fact, one of his greatest qualities is to be never satisfied with the existing solution and constantly looking for ways to further improve it. Lastly, as Vivek is passionate about building practically usable systems, he understands the problem, comes up with an initial solution, and keeps iterating on it until it exceeds the existing system's performance and worthy of replacing the default offering. His background in software development and the ability to quickly learn and adapt to new tools is another major reason to recommend him for ever-evolving machine learning positions.

Therefore, I am confident that Vivek is an ideal candidate for any engineering positions and it has been a pleasure working with him over the past three months.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jay N. Pavagadhi".

Jay Pavagadhi,
Chief Executive Officer,
OLAK INC.
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