

Intellectual Merit Criterion

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit

Excellent

Explanation to Applicant

Academic background of dual-degree and extensive publication/research record strengthens student's ability to complete the proposed research interests. Proposed research is innovative and has the possibility to be a great stepping stone for the field of ML and NLP. Recommenders show strong support of candidates abilities, past and future.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts

Excellent

Explanation to Applicant

Student shows strong experience and future interests in Broader Impacts through teaching and diversity initiatives. Open-source contributions are an innovative way of showing broader impacts. Research is of interest to a larger community and has the ability to make aspects of speech processing more equitable in minority groups in society.

Summary Comments

Recommended due to extensive research experience unique to the academic path taken by the applicant. Candidate, while young, is on the correct trajectory for a qualified future-faculty candidate by balancing research, service, and teaching.

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Explanation to Applicant

Natural Language Processing is an active area of research and the application details research internship and proposed research effort that has a strong likelihood of success.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts

Excellent

Explanation to Applicant

The research implications to several other disciplines are very strong. This applicant is likely to make impacts beyond computer science as demonstrated.

Summary Comments

This application references several undergraduate publications, many of which list the applicant in first position on the paper. This is a very strong application.

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Explanation to Applicant

Nelson has several previous works published in top-tier venues exploring various aspects of NLP models. The proposal builds on that experience and goes further into how to evaluate and interpret NLP models using the properties of the data they are built from, and will result in a dataset/tool for the community to use.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts

Excellent

Explanation to Applicant

Nelson has excellent previous contributions to multiple open-source projects and has thought about how to encourage more people to pursue data science and machine learning.

Summary Comments

Nelson has an already strong publication record pursuing interesting problems in interpretability and generalizability of NLP models and the proposal will further pursue those aims.