Dear Sir or Madame,

I am writing to you today to apply for the traineeship in data at ABN Amro. I would like to state my interest in joining the company, as this is not just a well-known, respectable, and international bank. I am amazed at the fact that ABN is giving more and more opportunities to recent graduates like me and that it is always advocating for diversity in cultures and specialization in teams. I have friends working there, and they are extremely happy with the work environment and the growth opportunities. I have been applying for some time now, and it would be a dream come true to be part of ABN.

I recently finished the MSc in Data Science at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). My previous background is in Business Administration (BA), from which I graduated last year. During my BA studies at UvA, I enjoyed the finance and economics courses, which gave me a deep understanding of both fields. On top of that, I have always been interested in the problems that companies face regarding data integration, analysis, and performance.

During my master's, I had the opportunity to work on amazing projects. I have experience in forecasting tasks for which visualization is essential. In the course Applied Forecasting in Complex Systems, my team and I completed a forecasting project for which we had to implement machine learning models. These models were used to create visualizations, extract insights, and make predictions from complex data sets. We accomplish this using the R programming language. Together, we reported a detailed investigation of forecasting for more than a thousand different products. My team and I decided to investigate the impact of relevant features such as prices, days of the week, or certain events on the forecast for all the products. I oversaw the communications and coordination within the team and important tasks like scraping the data, building the models, and creating steps for validation.

Furthermore, I have experience with SQL for creating databases that were later used for analytical purposes with Python. The integration of these alongside visualization tools like Tableau is my favorite part of the analytics world. I worked on a project to analyze the most relevant KPIs (human, financial, and economic) of a company. First, a database had to be created in SQL, and then the direct connection with Tableau gave me the chance to present incredible visualizations.

Most importantly, my time at the hospital UMC gave me the chance to work in a new field and implement state-of-the art solutions for the healthcare industry. I am currently working on publishing my work at UvA. I only used Python and made use of machine learning and deep learning to investigate if it is possible to determine the primary tumor of a brain metastasis. During these last 6 months, I worked with strict deadlines and weekly reporting, updating and asking questions to 3 different supervisors.

This experience, along with my time as a data analyst at Prorences, was useful in making me realize I would not like to be part of academia and that I prefer the corporate world over it. During my time at Prorences, I oversaw the monitoring, cleaning, analyzing, and visualizing of all their data. I used Python to extract the most relevant information from CVs and SQL to build a database.

Finally, I would like to transition into a position that gives me the chance to grow professionally by solving business cases analytically and being part of an international and multi-disciplinary team in which I transform data into actionable goals and reports, and I think ABN is the best place for this.

Kind regards,

Alvaro Millan Ruiz