August 27, 2021

Songhao Li

550 Memorial Drive

Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Applied Academics LLC:

I am a Master of Finance student at the MIT Sloan School of Management writing to apply for your Quantitative Researcher posiion. I had the chance to find this career opportunity from MIT Career Centra; I am impressed by the content of the position that I can focus on research and innovation. Also, your creative and enthusiastic environment would be a great place for me to learn and enjoy. I offer a proven track record of skills listed below that would allow me to make a positive impact on your team:

* **Quantitative research capacities:** past experiences in multiple quantitative research projects from different perspectives (hedge fund, quant asset manager, sell-side securities) build up my strong research capabilities and insight. At PanAgora, working on two research projects within a fast-paced 10-week internship, I successfully constructed robust and risk-neutral investment signals with significant alpha returns in both projects.
* **Coding and programming proficiency:** Proficient in Python and C++, I can efficiently quantify financial problems and express in a coding environment and code up object-oriented programs tools to manage big projects. At PanAgora I designed efficient web scraping programs and cleaned large datasets, before analyzing them and constructing alpha strategies.
* **Analytical, mathematical, and statistical skills:** Finishing demanding mathematical and statistical courses with outstanding GPA in top-tier universities (CUHK, Oxford, MIT), my strong academic background has laid me a solid analytical foundation. Applying some of the most complex reinforcement learning algorithms to build investment strategies at Huatai Securities in China, I showcased my capacities to analyze and apply sophisticated models quickly and skillfully.
* **Communication skills and teamwork spirit:** I feel comfortable with professional communications, and I believe positive interactions add value toward both personal and collective achievement. During last winter I led an MIT research team and worked with a Fidelity financial solutions team to explore a new investment topic; at PanAgora I was engaged in a diverse collaboration environment and constantly work with research teams, IT teams, and data vendors.

I am confident that I would be a good fit for your team because I could combine my quantitative, analytical, and interpersonal skills with passion for quantitative research. I would humbly appreciate an interview to further discuss my passion and qualifications. Thank you for considering my application, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Songhao Li