

August 17, 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to apply for the CCS Student Travel Grant to attend the 2017 CCS conference.

At the time of writing, I am a second year master student at ShanghaiTech University, China, working with Professor Hao Chen from UC Davis on security problems in machine learning. Our paper *MagNet: a Two-Pronged Defense against Adversarial Examples*(#600) is accepted by 2017 CCS main conference. In this paper, we proposed a simple yet effective defense against deep learning adversarial examples using autoencoders. I am the first author of the paper and I hope to attend the conference and present our paper.

Attending the conference would allow me to exchange ideas with top researchers around the world. Our research project will surely benefit from conference feedbacks. CCS crowd will also benefit from getting exposed to the trending topics of deep learning security. Personally, CCS conference is an important step for me academically in that it will be my first presentation at a major conference during my graduate study. Therefore, this experience will be invaluable for my future career. Apart from these, I hope to learn from the great conference talks and will try to make connections that may lead to future collaborations.

As a student from China, my travel expenses are high, but our project has no external funding to cover my conference expenses. Therefore, financial assistance from the conference would be decisive to my attendance.

The estimate of travel expenses is as follows:

Expenses	Amount(\$)	Remark
Air fare	1500	Round-trip, Shanghai - Dallas
Hotel	995	USD 199 per day, 5 days
Registration	900	-
Total	3395	

I hope the committee will consider my application and I look forward to joining you in Dallas.

Sincerely,

Dongyu Meng