October 05, 2025

Dear Admission Committee,

My name is 周方健/James Zhou, and I am applying for the Master of Economics program at Finance and Economics Department, Graduate School of Business, Columbia University.

In my undergraduate study at Renmin University of China majoring in Economics, I built a solid foundation in quantitative analysis and research writing. In my free time, I enjoy reading top-tier journals such as American Economic Review, Econometrica, Quarterly Journal of Economics to stay updated with the latest advancements in Economics. This habit strengthens my ability to connect theory with empirical applications.

Targeting a career in economic research / Econometric, I have developed practical skills including Python, R, SQL, Statistics, Econometrics, Stata, MATLAB, Data Visualization (Tableau/Power BI), LaTeX, Git.

I am particularly drawn to Finance and Economics Department, Graduate School of Business, Columbia University due to its strong academic environment and research-oriented approach. I believe the rigorous training at your program will help me contribute to and benefit from your academic community.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,  
周方健/James Zhou  
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