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DAAD scholarship letter of motivation

Dear madam/sir,

With this letter, I would like to support my application for DAAD scholarship and express my interest in studying master program in the field of Data Science at German universities. In addition, I'm going to emphasize reasons for choosing such specialty and show relationships between it and my current experience.

First motivation to study data analysis appeared during the period of my graduate-level education. It took place between 2013 and 2017, when I had completed bachelor's degree program in the field of Mathematical support and administration of information systems at Peter the Great St.Petersburg Polytechnic University. This program was focused on applied mathematics, programming and database systems. In the same time, it contained introduction into variety of other computer science disciplines, including data science, which was covered by courses such as "Intelligent systems design", "Structures and algorithms of computer data processing" and "Parallel programming". After completing these courses, I have decided that data science is a good way to find an application to the fundamental mathematical basis obtained during my studies at the university and Laboratory of Continuous Mathematical Education.

Another part of my inspiration of immersion in a specified area of science is related to my recent achievements. The relevance of data science and machine learning, as a more general field, follows from widespread shortage of professionals in the context of continuous data growth. This lack can be seen from huge amount of different competitions conducted by top-level IT-companies for students and young specialists. As for me, I have participated in several such competitions and even was awarded. Namely, I took the first place in machine learning challenge at Junction 2017, the largest annual hackathon in Europe, with the project refers to computer vision, data processing and neural networks. Furthermore, in the same 2017 I won the first Russian governmental hackathon "Make your university 20.35" with the project of recommendation system, which is able to offer further path of education.

Both mentioned projects are close to data science, but the most significant experience in data mining and knowledge retrieval I have got from "BioHack 2018", bioinformatics annual hackathon held by EPAM-systems software company and St.Petersburg Bioinformatics Institute. At BioHack our team was trying to solve a problem of prediction 3d chromosome organization offered by The Pasteur Institute, France and our solution was marked by special prize from Bioinformatics Institute. This problem is a complex task of data science activity, because it requires processing of huge amount of data and making some predictions based on it. This event introduced me into a world of real data science problems and became the main reason of writing this letter.

Germany's contribution to data science is one of the most substantial in the Europe and in the world. My country can not offer universities with program suitable to my academic and professional interest. That can not be said about Germany, with its famous universities which were chosen by me: Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, RWTH Aachen University and The Beuth University of Applied Sciences Berlin, which offer Data Science master programs. Every

organization previously mentioned have its own strengths, except of their prestige. For example, LMU are always at the forefront of scientific research, because their curriculum offers courses like “An overview of recent researches in the field of data science” to students. At the same time RWTH Aachen University has strong connection to world academic society (a lot of partnership agreements with other universities all over the world). And the last one university pointed because of its understanding of multidiscipline nature of data science. The BHT Berlin’s master program is a joint project of several faculties and has extensive industry connections.

Second reason of choosing Germany hide in my international studying experience. I am convinced, that studying aboard and in foreign language can help you to grow like a scientist and a specialist. So, during my university study I have participated in student exchange program with Leibniz University Hannover. After visiting few lections and seminars I decided, that German academic style is suitable for me and I can achieve some impressive results after completing whole German master course.

To make a conclusion, I think, that I am truly motivated to study in Germany and worthy to get the DAAD scholarship for postgraduate education. My confidence stems from my achievements, complementing graduate program with honors (average point score is 4.92 of 5) and sufficient level of English (B2 IELTS certificate), which allow me to live in foreign country, visit classes and make an inference to Data Science in German university.

I am grateful for considering my application and looking forward to a reply.

Sincerely,

Maksim Kleverov.