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To whom it may concern,

I am a first-year PhD student in Statistics at Rice University. Although I am open-minded about the specific line of research that I want to pursue for my thesis, I am excited to see how my knowledge in Statistics can be transferred to tackle problems in Biomedical Science and particularly in cancer research. This was one of the reasons why I chose Rice to do my PhD – it is just next to the Texas Medical Center. MD Anderson is the world’s largest institute in cancer research and is closely connected to Rice through a joint PhD program in Biostatistics. I believe that a summer internship at MD Anderson will be an excellent opportunity for me to broaden my perspective and learn from leading experts in the field.

I believe I possess the knowledge and technical skills that are relevant to your opportunity. On the statistical side, I am well familiar with machine learning and data mining. I have done several projects on this topic, one of which was in the final year of my undergraduate studies at Imperial College London and was awarded a prize for being the best project. Recently, I completed a group project on machine learning with applications to asteroid data at Rice University. I also have solid experience with time series analysis. Prior to starting my PhD, I had a journal paper on the prediction of stock prices in South East Asian countries. I have taken a course in survival analysis at Imperial College London, and I am currently taking bioinformatics and statistical genetics. At the moment, I am also working with Prof. Marek Kimmel on probabilistic models for population dynamics. On the computational side, I have 7 years of experience with R programming. I used Matlab for my publication and I am currently learning Python on Coursera.

I am aware that strong communication skill plays a central role in any working environment. I had 2 years of teaching and research experience at the Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City. Currently, I am serving as a teaching assistant for “STAT 310: Probability and Statistics” at Rice, and I am responsible for weekly office hours and recitations. I have also learned how to effectively collaborate with other researchers through taking part in publications and projects.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need more information. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Hoai Nam Nguyen