**Master of Engineering - Artificial Intelligence**

**University of California Los Angeles**

**Personal Statement**

Back in junior high school, I was inspired to become an outstanding scientist and entrepreneur after reading the biography of Steve Jobs. It was the time that I realized technologies related to computer science and engineering can have a significantly positive impact on our daily life. Although the goal had been built since my adolescence, I had no clear idea how to take practical actions to approach my dream. It was not until I met Professor Yu-Chiang Frank Wang, who gave me useful advice in my third year of undergraduate, I got rid of the confusion about future plans and started delving deep into the field of deep learning and computer vision.

From then on, in addition to participating in the special project with Professor Wang, I have been diligent in taking diverse courses. In the “Machine Learning” course, I learned the foundation of machine learning algorithms, which established my sufficient background information on artificial intelligence. In the “Robot Vision” class, I obtained knowledge about traditional computer vision and implemented “land and road detection” in the final project, which reinforced my competence in the self-driving car industry. Moreover, it was the “Deep Learning for Computer Vision” course that introduced various advanced computer vision applications such as image generation and object detection. I was so fascinated by these applications since the approaches can effectively solve many real-world problems. Due to the abovementioned experience and further discussion with my senior peer, I have determined to broaden my horizons by pursuing my graduate degree in the United State.

To hone my ability to work independently and collaboratively, I joined several research projects with professors. The lessons I learned from the projects are not only professional knowledge but also positive attitudes to face stress and frustration. Since my senior year, I have been working as a research assistant for the industry-academia cooperation project on Fisheye Face Recognition. At first, my unfamiliarity with how to identify and resolve the core problems has often resulted in harsh criticism from my supervisor. I was overwhelmed by stress and was afraid to take part in meetings. However, I soon realized that dodging problems would put me several steps behind my goals; therefore, I actively consulted the experience of senior peers and solicited guidance from the supervisor to address the issues that I encountered. Gradually, I turned the challenge into an opportunity for self-learning and advancement.

Since then, I have pinpointed potential problems accurately and leveraged systematic and efficient approaches to tackling them. Most importantly, I was able to look at every meeting as an opportunity to gain important insights and rectify my mistakes. Furthermore, I was recommended by my supervisor to deliver a speech about my research experience to undergraduates, which is an obvious recognition of my progress. This experience has fostered my forward-looking mindset and armed me with the ability to turn stumbling stones into building blocks whenever I came across obstacles.

Despite my background in electrical engineering, I have actively participated in a variety of marketing planning and business proposal contests to enrich my studies. As a leader and a team player, I excelled in mobilizing teamwork to yield fruitful outcomes. From freshman year to junior year, I had been the leader of the dance team of our department. Aside from leading more than a dozen students to deliver a performance in front of hundreds of audience, I also gained vital skills such as assigning tasks, allocating resources, maintaining open communication, developing team cohesion, and settling disputes. All of which further strengthened my problem-solving and decision-making abilities. Throughout my academic journey, I took part in many course projects that relied on team efforts to construct the website, perform the decentralized blockchains, and so forth. In the process, I became adept at communicating effectively with team members, converting my ideas into action, and listening carefully to the opinions of others. I gained a great sense of accomplishment from joining forces with others to put forth exceptional project performances.

In conclusion, I am confident that I am an extremely persevering and creative person who enjoys stepping out of my comfort zone. I hope that studying artificial intelligence at the University of California, Los Angeles will help strengthen my knowledge of the subject and find me a successful career in the future in a field related to my topic.