HAJIM
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
& APPLIED SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER

Philip Guo
Assistant Professor of Computer Science

December 13, 2015

Dear Faculty Search Committee:

I am applying for the position of tenure-track assistant professor in human-computer interaction, with a focus on interactive systems for engineering-related productivity and learning. I have already spoken with Professors **[redacted]** about my enthusiasm for UCSD CogSci.

I am a human-computer interaction researcher with a computer science background in programming languages and software engineering. My research strives to make the current generation of programmers and data scientists more productive, and also to train the next generation in a scalable way. The systems that I have built so far make data scientists more productive in their data-centric programming workflow, bring the benefits of face-to-face tutoring to people who are learning programming online, and help people learn better from online resources such as MOOCs. The impact of these systems include over a dozen publications, technology transfer to startup companies and nonprofits, and **over 1.5 million people in over 180 countries** using my Python Tutor code visualization and social learning platform (pythontutor.com). This uniquely large user base enables me to deploy and evaluate new kinds of interactive systems at a scale that is not feasible in traditional lab settings.

I am now starting my second year as an assistant professor of computer science at the University of Rochester. I have built tremendous momentum during my first year as a faculty member (2014–2015): forming a research group with 12 students (2 Ph.D., 4 masters, 6 undergraduates), publishing 6 papers as a PI, and obtaining 4 sole-PI grants to fund my research agenda: the NSF CRII (CISE Research Initiation Initiative award), a Google Faculty Research Award, a gift from Microsoft Research, and a University Research Award. My performance over the past year has shown that I can lead a research group, obtain funding, and mentor students to publish papers.

To fully achieve my professional goals at this time, I would like to move to a well-established department with a strong HCI presence and greater potential for cross-disciplinary collaboration. On a personal note, *[personal information details redacted]*

Sincerely,

Philip Guo

P.S. I would like my application materials to remain confidential.