**PUC Minas**

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To whom it may concern,

I hereby recommend my former student, Felipe Ferreira Mendes, for admission into stricto sensu graduate programs in the area of Data Science, as well as Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence. Felipe demonstrates solid technical training, keen analytical reasoning, and an academic and professional trajectory that make him a highly qualified candidate to deepen his studies in any of these areas, where he will certainly be able to contribute with dedication, rigor, and capacity for innovation.

I was a professor at FUMEC University between 2016 and 2020, a period during which I had the pleasure of teaching Felipe the courses Theoretical Foundations of Computation (TFC) and Compilers, both taken in 2017. In these courses, Felipe showed notable performance, obtaining a score of 89 in TFC and 85 in Compilers, always demonstrating great dedication, intellectual maturity, and excellent logical reasoning. He was, without a doubt, an excellent student.

During his undergraduate studies, Felipe also participated as a scientific initiation scholarship holder/FAPEMIG in the project entitled "Observatory of Public Information and Knowledge Access", coordinated by Prof. Dr. Rodrigo Moreno Marques, in the second semester of 2017, totaling 400 hours of activities. This experience reinforced his interest in applied research, consolidating his critical analysis and scientific production capacity. Furthermore, he participated in the research group LAIS – Advanced Information Systems Laboratory, of which I was also a member, and was part of the research project "Recommendation of New Collaborations between Researchers through the Lattes Curriculum", under the coordination of Prof. Dr. Orlando Abreu Gomes.

Also in 2017, Felipe presented the banner "Automatic sentiment analysis in social networks" at the Post-Graduation, Research and Extension Seminar – Culture and Interdisciplinarity, coordinated by Prof. Dr. Luiz Cláudio Gomes Maia, who, it is worth noting, was also my master's and doctoral advisor. I emphasize that, as attested by Prof. Luiz Maia himself, Felipe participated with regularity and interest in the research project activities with PROPIC/FUMEC, demonstrating commitment, scientific curiosity, and solid teamwork ability.

Currently, Felipe works as a Data Engineer at ArcelorMittal, where he has been for almost ten years. During this period, he had the opportunity to collaborate with several former students of mine, who always provided excellent feedback on his posture, technical competence, and collaborative spirit.

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At ArcelorMittal, Felipe actively participated in the conduction of projects with international Research and Development (R&D) teams, coordinating efforts for the efficient delivery of data models and solutions. His work included collaboration with multicultural teams in diverse work environments, ensuring effective communication and alignment of objectives. Felipe also developed and implemented databases, analyses, and collection methods aimed at optimizing the efficiency and statistical quality of the datasets and the models that consume them, in addition to offering technical support for projects and in solving incidents.

Among his technical skills, his mastery of cloud computing (Azure), Databricks, Azure Machine Learning, Unity Catalog, Azure Data Factory, API Management, Azure Virtual Network (VNET), Data Lake and LakeHouse structuring, Azure DevOps CI/CD, and Azure IoT Hub stands out. Felipe has solid experience in Python, Databricks, Azure Data Factory, and Microsoft Azure Machine Learning, applying this knowledge in an integrated and efficient manner to build robust and scalable data solutions.

In addition to his consolidated professional experience, Felipe completed a specialization in Data Science at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) and now expresses interest in deepening his knowledge by entering a master's program in the same area.

Having followed his academic and professional trajectory, I can affirm with conviction that Felipe possesses all the desirable qualities in a candidate for graduate programs: analytical rigor, ethics, proactivity, critical thinking, scientific curiosity, and a collaborative spirit. I am certain that his presence will contribute significantly to any research group he joins, both for his technical competence and his exemplary attitude and capacity for teamwork.

For any additional information, please contact me: +55 31 98040-2103 or joaopauloaramuni@gmail.com

Sincerely,

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October 21, 2025
Belo Horizonte – MG – Brazil