YUQING LIU
75 Saint Alphonsus St, Boston, MA 02120 • 929-217-1305 • cheerecho.l@gmail.com
Date: January 24, 2019
Apply Position: SCMP Summer Internship 2019 (Graphics)

Dear Hiring Manager:
Coming from backgrounds in data journalism and visualization, I employ data as vehicles for information delivery. Because well-crafted editorial designs are essential for detail-heavy stories, I also utilize efficient yet simple data visualizations to present easy-to-digest information and create interactions with the content creators.

I am trying to capture every moment to hone my skills in data analysis and programming. This took me to the Lede Program which offers two-semester hands-on training in using data, code and algorithms to enhance storytelling at Columbia Journalism School. I got substantial data processing experience in the Lede Program. After this intensive program, I have a strong feeling to strengthen my design and visualization skills, that's why I continue to study Information design and Visualization in graduate level at Northeastern. I love data visualizations based on a philosophy of simplicity and functionality. My projects include both interactive and static visualizations. It is true that aggregating and cleaning up the messy data is challenging, the most inspiring part for me is to try different ways to present information with simplicity and functionality. Those projects gave me a better understanding of how to turn data into narrative and functionality is as important as aesthetics, simplicity emphasizes the stories while eliminating distractions.

I believe my experience and education make me a good fit for the newsroom internship at SCMP. Experience in the industry, especially in SCMP, a highly esteemed organization, is highly valuable. I care the story about people, especially the underprivileged or underrepresented. I really appreciate your stories with data and graphics, allowing readers in charge of the pace and paths throughout the stories, and their exchanges with the content create intimate relationships that are unachievable in print designs. It would be great honor for me to work with your award-winning graphics team. I will bring a winning combination of technical skills and intellectual curiosity to the role of graphics intern with SCMP Graphics team.

Creating graphics is fascinating to me because data visualization must constantly learn to create better solutions in order to connect users with information. I am ignited by this challenge, and confident that my technical skills and thirst for mastering new languages and frameworks combine to make me an excellent candidate for this position. I look forward to discussing my qualifications with you further in an interview. Thank you for your consideration and time.

Best regards,
Yuqing Liu