To whom this may concern,

I am very glad to write this letter of recommendation for my Go friend Yangchichen (Charlie) Shen in support of his application to your school.

If you have been following the news, you may have come across the news of Google’s AlphaGo’s historical defeat of the Korean Go player Lee Sedol in the only game that human intelligence still held an upper hand against the artificial intelligence. Since I am the current #1 ranking Go player in the world, if everything goes as people anticipate, I will be defending the human intelligence in the near future.

I came to know Charlie when I participated in the Xiamen Go Conference, one of the most important Go competitions. Charlie was one of the aspiring Go player from the local club I mentored as a side activity of the event. He is only 5 years of my junior, with a humble manner and very sharp mind. It was always a pleasant experience playing practice games with him. He would constantly pick my brain and was able to challenge me occasionally. His club is one of the best in the province with the provincial Champion Mr. Zihao Chen.

It was not until afterwards did I learn that he is the son of Mr. Yiqi Shen, a very well-respected philanthropist and one of the most influential figures in the Go sport. Mr. Shen serves as the Chairman of Xiamen Go Association, the hosting organization of the Xiamen Go Conference. He is also the Vice Chairman of Fujian Provincial Go Association. His organizations are behind a number of the major Go competitions that attract the Go champions from around the world. Mr. Shen also sponsors the provincial Champion Mr. Zihao Chen personally, paying his expenses to participate in competitions internationally.

Charlie and I had a lot of common topics. He told me about his strong interest in artificial intelligence and his ambition to create a robot that can defeat people like me. It is a very plausible goal in life. However, he needs to have a good education before he reach there. This is why I recommend full-heartedly his acceptance to your esteemed school.

Sincerely,

Jie Ke