HUAWEI TECH. Investment Co., Ltd.

9th Floor, Tower 6, The Gateway, No.9 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

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Reference and Sponsor Letter

HUAWEI TECH. Investment Co., Ltd.
9th Floor, Tower 6, The Gateway, No.9 Canton Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong

28/09/2023

To:
Department of Electronic Engineering
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Prof. Qiuqiang Kong

Dear Prof. Kong,

We wholeheartedly endorse your application to the ITF funding scheme TCFS Category A - Platform Research Projects of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Your platform project titled **Audio Understanding with Large Language Models** will be crucial to Hong Kong's technological innovation in artificial intelligence. We are thrilled to support this promising project.

Audio understanding techniques are essential for building music products, live-streaming products, virtual assistants, transcription services, and audio-controlled devices. As the rapid progress in the field of large AI models, it's an inevitable trend to integrate audio understanding and generation into large language models. A better audio understanding system will advance the frontiers of science and industrial applications, helping all sectors of society use AI models more effectively. Given your extensive expertise — notably in working as research scientist for ByteDance — and your award of the IEEE SPS Young Author Best Paper in 2023, we have full confidence in the successful execution and completion of this project.

HUAWEI TECH. Investment Co., Ltd. (Huawei) would like to sponsor an amount of 419,200 HKD to this project and provide necessary support for research, development, and platform testing. On some common research topics, Huawei has amassed years of insights and is eager to contribute to problem-solving where needed. Before the launch, Huawei can help your team test the novel approaches to enhance its robustness and performance. We deeply believe our collaboration will make significant progress in audio representation learning and multi-modal LLMs.

We look forward to the success of your application and eagerly await the completion of your project. We will certainly enjoy using your platform and will be glad to actively promote it, ensuring it makes a substantial impact!

Dr. GENG Yanhui
Director, Hong Kong Research Center

(Company Seal)