**Message to Hiring Manager**

Dear Hiring Manager,

Currently a second-year PhD student in statistics, I am interested in developing methods informed by applied research. My current research project proposes a statistical model to find causal effects in spatial data while accounting for spatial confounding, which can benefit environmental and climate research and, more broadly, any data with spatial correlation. As I start to think of real-world applications for my research, I have come to realize that I would like my future career to have positive impacts on the world, and I would like to be part of something larger than myself. A place like Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory perfectly fits my personality, work style, values, and goals.

By summer 2024, I will have completed my coursework, including five core, fundamental statistical inference classes, three advanced theory and computation courses, and three electives (Bayesian inference, Causal inference, and Data integration). These classes give me a solid foundation to learn more advanced theory and methods. Besides knowledge in statistical inference, I have strong coding skills, mainly in R and Python. I do programming almost daily, and my research project requires me to build models from scratch, using only the most basic packages. I have also done data analysis projects that require me to do data cleaning, exploratory data analysis, and regression analysis using ready-made packages.

Outside statistics and coding, I have other relevant research skills, including writing, editing, presentation, and critical thinking, largely resulted from my previous academic training in musicology. Having spent nearly a decade studying musicology (2007–2016) and now working in statistics, I am confident that I can bring a wide range of skills to any team I am assigned to and to assist with various stages of research.

Even though I am eager to work with others side by side at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, with two children (aged 6 and 9), it is infeasible for me, both financially and logistically, to move across the country for a summer internship. I sincerely hope that the internship can be done remotely.

In short, I am interested in continuing working with Bayesian methods, causal inference, and spatial-temporal data, but I am also open to assist with any research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. I am eager to learn from others and be part of a team that does meaningful and impactful research. I look forward to having a conversation with you on what I can contribute to Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Sincerely,

Shih-Ni Prim