August 31, 2016

To whom it may concern:

I gladly write this reference letter for Walton Lee and his accomplishments as an intern at IBM's Software Group during the summer of 2016. It has been a pleasure supervising Walton Lee during his three-month internship and I believe his experience over this past summer has helped him grow substantially not only as a software developer but also as a critical thinker and capable teammate.

Over the course of his internship, Walton completed a variety of projects that demonstrated his passion for problem solving and data science. Working closely with the data analytics team, Walton wrote a variety of extensions to the SPSS modeler application, ranging from visualization software to image classifiers. Having limited prior experience with R, the requisite language for many of his projects, he quickly picked up the language and adopted many of its more nuanced paradigms to complete his assignments more efficiently. When given complex tasks with minimal direction, Walton would draw upon his past experiences in various computer science fields such as Machine Learning and Algorithms to overcome various challenges. When asked to develop an advertisement classifier for SPSS modeler, Walton came up with his own algorithm to identify unordered blocks of text as sentences, allowing for more accurate analysis of promotional images.

In addition to his ability to work independently, Walton has also demonstrated he is capable of working well in a team environment. When sharing his work with his peers, he welcomes any criticisms and suggestions for improvements. Able to compromise and willing to ask others for help, Walton will also not hesitate to help out his coworkers, having assisted both fellow interns and full-time workers with technical matters. When he and a group of other interns were asked to plan and conduct research for a suicide prevention platform, Walton did not hesitate to offer his own creative and technical insight while still taking into consideration the expertise of the other interns.

Over his time at IBM, Walton was able to apply his talents in a professional environment. He is a cheerful individual who takes pride in what he does, having left detailed documentation of his work to ensure its lasting impact. I therefore highly recommend Walton for any software development or data science position, as I am confident he will be a strong asset to any team.

Sincerely,

Samson TAI
IBM Distinguished Engineer
CTO, IBM Hong Kong