

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to provide my recommendation for Jan Sirui Chen for any technical role at your organization. I had the distinct pleasure of supervising Jan as a Teaching Assistant (TA) for my “Security of Large Language Models” seminar at the Technical University of Munich (TUM), a course comprising 40 students, including Master students.

Jan was not merely a teaching assistant; he was a force multiplier for the course. His initiative and expertise were so exceptional that I must highlight two key accomplishments that far exceeded the responsibilities of a typical TA role:

1. Independent Research, Preparation of Course Materials, and Student Instruction: Jan independently developed and delivered a comprehensive two-hour lecture on Large Language Models. He invested over 30 hours of his own time to create extensive material to ensure Master level students, most of whom were new to the topic, could grasp the complex fundamentals of LLM architecture, training, and more. He demonstrated exceptional execution, remarkable proactivity, and deep technical understanding.
2. Direct Impact on Academic Rigor: His lecture was not just supplementary; it was integral to the course’s success. It provided the crucial foundational knowledge of LLMs that enabled students to engage meaningfully with advanced LLM security research topics. The quality of the subsequent student papers on LLM security was directly elevated by the clarity and depth of his teaching, supporting around 40% of the students achieving high marks for this seminar. He received unsolicited positive feedback from multiple Master students on his ability to break down complex concepts even for students with no prior knowledge of LLMs.

Jan earned this role in an impressive manner. He is the first third-semester Bachelor’s student I have ever selected as a TA for a graduate-level course. He won this position through sheer intellectual curiosity and expertise, overcoming initial reservations, by achieving the highest possible grade in the same seminar in the previous semester, and through prolonged, deep technical discussions that demonstrated a passion and knowledge of AI that is rare at any level of study.

Jan possesses a unique blend of deep intrinsic learning, the ability to communicate complex ideas with clarity, and a proactive drive that creates tangible results. He doesn’t just complete tasks; he identifies opportunities for impact and builds solutions that elevate everyone around him.

I am confident that he will be a valuable high-impact contributor to your team and give him my highest possible recommendation.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark Huasong Meng

Research Fellow
Chair for Software Engineering & AI
TUM School of Computation, Information and Technology
Technical University of Munich
Bildungscampus 2, Heilbronn, Germany
mark.meng@tum.de