Dear those whom may concerned,

I am Chih-Yu Chang, currently a Research Assistant at the Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, Taiwan's leading research institute. During my master's studies in Applied Statistics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, I developed a deep interest in leveraging statistics, optimization, and machine learning to address real-world challenges in industry. As a research assistant in the Industrial and Operations Engineering department, I worked extensively with Professor Raed Al Kontar on Contextual Bayesian Optimization and LLM-informed Bayesian Optimization for manufacturing applications. These experiences have solidified my motivation to pursue a PhD focused on statistics, optimization, and machine learning, with an emphasis on real-world applications.

I find strong alignment between your group's research and my current interests. As optimal design becomes increasingly critical in manufacturing, Bayesian optimization serves as a powerful statistical tool to address these challenges. My current focus is on developing robust, trustworthy, and efficient BO frameworks, particularly by integrating recent advances in statistical modeling with LLMs. Unlike heuristic-based approaches, I aim to build a more reliable and interpretable framework that meets industrial needs. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to this area by applying my expertise in sequential decision making, statistics, and machine learning.

Sincerely,
 Chih-Yu Chang