Ke-Cheng Hsu (Clio)
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Jessie Zhang
Robert Walters Hong Kong
Re: Trade Assistant – Hedge Fund (LFE0PH-5035D739)

Dear Jessie,

I am writing to apply for the Trade Assistant – Hedge Fund role in Central (ref. LFE0PH-5035D739). I am a Ph.D. candidate in Economics at HKUST (expected June 2027; available as early as February 2027), a Hong Kong permanent resident with the right to work in Hong Kong, and professionally fluent in English. I am drawn to multi-asset trade support because it rewards accuracy, ownership, and process improvement—validating trades, reconciling systems, monitoring positions and P&L, resolving breaks, and automating workflows with Python and AI.

Academic excellence and fast learning are how I approach new desks and products. I completed a B.Sc. in Mathematics and Economics with a minor in Actuarial Mathematics at HKUST (CGA 3.9/4.3; Dean's List; Academic Achievement Medal, top 1%), an M.Phil. in Economics (CGA 4.1/4.3), and I am finishing a Ph.D. in empirical industrial organization. I routinely learn new instruments of analysis and new code stacks quickly, and I use AI tools daily for coding and workflow improvement with outputs verified by tests. I do not claim years of middle-office tenure; I do bring the ability to learn product conventions, booking rules, and system workflows carefully and then execute them reliably.

That discipline maps to trade capture and control. In my sole-authored job market paper on Taobao apparel return policy, I cleaned and linked a large transaction panel, checked consistency across orders, prices, insurance, and returns, and built tested Python / R / C++ pipelines so numbers match between raw files and final tables before I trust them. A counterfactual menu with a moderate restocking fee raises social welfare by about 2 million RMB (roughly a 5% gain) and seller profit by about 1.2 million RMB relative to status-quo policies. With Professors Kohei Kawaguchi and Kei Kawai, I reconciled bookstore point-of-sale records spanning tens of billions of observations and delivered weekly figures on a fixed deadline. Earlier research modeled a bank crisis on an interbank lending network, so cash-flow and position logic in financial networks is familiar territory.

Clear communication matters when breaks need swift resolution with counterparties and desks. As a lecturer and teaching assistant at HKUST (4.53/5 and 4.72/5), and as Teaching Assistant Coordinator in the Business School, I explain technical issues plainly and keep written materials consistent before release. I would welcome the chance to support multi-asset trading operations and help automate and streamline trade-support processes. My resume is attached. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ke-Cheng Hsu (Clio)