Hello Data Analytics team or Finance/Accounting dept.,

I would appreciate your consideration for a *Data Analyst* or *Staff Accountant* position at your company.

I help my employer utilize its data and manage its money, in the most efficient manner possible:

- I love the profession I have chosen; and I would like to help your analytics team to address its data analysis and financial recordkeeping challenges.
- To expand my capabilities, I have completed additional courses since attaining my BS degree in Finance.
- In various capacities, I have used at least a dozen ERP systems and G/L accounting programs.

Beyond financial accounting, I have a passion for managerial (cost) accounting and data analytics. In other words, I am looking to *analyze vital business data* rather than *process recurring accounting transactions*.

- To facilitate this "pivot," I am enrolled in online training courses. Please click over to <u>Microsoft</u>
 <u>Professional Program in Data Science</u> and <u>Microsoft Excel for the Data Analyst</u> for a partial description of the coursework.
- During college, I learned two programming languages, while today I create *Excel* macros using *VBA* scripts. I have rudimentary knowledge of *MS Access* and was exposed to two other database programs. I've long known that *SQL* was a powerful tool for data management; but only recently did I have the opportunity to study it.
- Expanding my skills into data analytics seems like a logical career progression. I am enjoying the subject matter and am excited about what I might soon do with these new skills.

I may be qualified to help your team in several capacities, such as:

- Inventory management and cost accounting
- Financial forecasting and trend analysis
- Commissions analysis and processing payroll
- Cash balance optimization and bank account recons
- Website metrics and social media analytics
- Other projects or special tasks that I am unaware of

I have been a liaison in three positions, interfacing between Accounting-Finance and the Legal, IT, or Marketing team. While I am primarily looking to "analyze data," I could help your finance-accounting-bookkeeping team as well, given how that is a big part of my past experience.

Additional information can be downloaded from my Dropbox and GitHub accounts; including:

- Excel and PowerPoint work samples
- A résumé that is ATS-compliant (chronological, simple formatting, typical section headings)
- Course certificates and commendation letters

Thank you for your time and interest.

Sincerely, Allan M. French Mountain View, CA 94040



Allan M. French

Mountain View, CA 94040

DATA ANALYST • STAFF ACCOUNTANT

▶ Numbers Crunched • Beans Counted • Data Wrangled ◀

With a passion for analyzing data and developing software solutions, I am pivoting from *financial accounting* and *corporate finance* into *data analytics* and *managerial (cost) accounting*.

SOFTWARE KNOWLEDGE

Data Analysis, Cash Management, Payroll

Excel (incl. pivot tables, VBA macros, lookups; 10+ yrs)

Allocadia cloud-based budgeting software

ADP Pay eXpert ("Payex")

NovaTime online timecard system

Bloomberg terminals (for financial research; 5 years) MS Access and 2 legacy database programs (limited)

Preliminary exposure to **SQL**, **Python**, **Azure**, and **Jupyter** (*details in Education block*)

Corporate ERP / Small Business Accounting

Sage MIP Fund Accounting (2½ years) Oracle Financials (Procurement module)

Sage MAS-90 (a.k.a. "Sage 100 ERP," for 6 years)

SAP (Accounts Payable module)

Microsoft Dynamics GP (recent training)

QuickBooks (both Pro and Enterprise editions)

Plus **six others** (*legacy applications and proprietary software*)

Additional Tools

GitHub, Dropbox, SharePoint, FTP, Box, and Slack
Adobe Acrobat (customized templates and forms)

Two legacy computer programming languages
Basic HTML website coding skills

PowerPoint, Word, Publisher, Windows, and Outlook Lacerte and CCH TaxWise professional tax software

ACHIEVEMENTS & DUTIES

Data Analysis and Visualization Projects

- Transitioned a marketing team from an Excel-based budgeting tool, to a *cloud-based "MRM" solution*.
- Extracted customer records from QuickBooks Pro, cleaned-up the dataset, and prepared it for catalog mailing campaign; client later reported that non-deliverable mailings were down substantially.
- Designed an Excel-based CRM tool for contact management.
- Developed and presented a *PowerPoint slideshow* on personal income tax preparation, for job seekers at a networking event; and created a slideshow to screen for coworkers, as part of an office celebration.
- Created a *macro-driven "client services database"* in Excel, for a local nonprofit organization.

Leadership and Communications:

- Served as a *liaison between Accounting and other departments*, twice officially and once unofficially; *trained or mentored* colleagues on at least four occasions.
- Invited to serve (pro-bono) on the *board of directors* of two nonprofit organizations, and served one of them.
- Discovered and reported a software error in the Profile Summary section of the LinkedIn website. It caused
 incorrect information to be saved into some members' profiles. (Has been corrected; request YouTube
 video URL, to see error for yourself!)
- Charter member of "Money Talks" chapter of Toastmasters public speaking club, 1995-1996.
- Written *over 105 monthly newspaper columns*, published by the largest nonprofit organization of its kind (with circulation of around 3,000); expository writing samples available upon request.

Fixed Assets, Inventory, and Expenses:

- Within consolidated invoices, allocated expenses among 21 business units.
- Capitalized fixed assets; integrated add-on *fixed asset management* module into QuickBooks Enterprise system, and taught colleagues how to use it.
- Audited and reconciled raw materials inventory (billed-vs-actual), for a medical devices manufacturer.
- Categorized historical fixed asset data, for depreciation expense calculations.

Cash, Investments, and Payroll:

- Calculated mutual fund share prices, created pro-forma financials, and provided fund performance statistics to ratings agencies and the SEC, during 6 years with an investment management company.
- Prepared bank recs for 20 real estate properties, involving 85 cash accounts among 3 banks, for 2½ years.
- Onboarded the new hires and managed the payroll of 70 employees in two states, for a business services firm; also developed an HRIS recordkeeping system for them.
- Created solution to ascertain *cash burn rates* and forecast *cash reserves*, to minimize under-invested funds.

Financial Statements and Taxes:

- Analyzed *financial statements* and gauged potential *credit risk* of large general contractors.
- Filed sales/use tax returns and prepared 571-L business property statements, for clients of small CPA firm.
- Prepared personal income tax returns for elderly and low-income individuals, as a pro-bono service.

EDUCATION & RECOGNITION

Education and Certification:

- Additional courses taken since attaining BS degree, including 5 in the latest 11/2 years (both academic and software). Also, several Master degree courses at University of Phoenix and Golden Gate University.
 - ▶ Recent and ongoing training on data analytics and managerial (cost) accounting, via EdX and Coursera online learning platforms. Relevant software tools include Python, SQL, Azure Machine Learning Studio, and Jupyter Notebook, as well as Microsoft Power BI and advanced Excel topics. (Cover letter has weblinks to further details.)
 - ► Was exposed to two legacy database programs in the past, plus *Microsoft Access* more recently. Selftrained on MS Dynamics GP several years ago, using college-supplied course materials; exposure to current version is ongoing, via LinkedIn Learning.
- California CTEC "Registered Tax Preparer," 2011-2013; certified "Microsoft Office Excel Specialist"; Red Cross "CPR and AED Certified," 1/2016-1/2018.
- Bachelor degree in Finance / Business Administration, California State University, Chico.

Employer Satisfaction:

- Presented with a Special Achievement Award "in recognition of the manner in which you have completed your
- Thank-you note e-mailed by former supervisor: "The time you saved me tonight is greatly appreciated."
- Served clients in 17 contract positions for 5 staffing agencies; 5 seasonal clients/employers requested to re-engage; received letters of reference from 3 employers; and 3 temp jobs were extended or renewed.
- While one particular role was not mission-critical, it made life easier for 17 other people. "Knowing that someone [else] is doing the PRs takes a weight off my shoulders."
- A finance manager's reference letter states that "the true character of a person is shown when they are given a job that no-one wants to do, and they do it well."

EMPLOYMENT

Key Employers

American Century Investments ($6\frac{1}{4}$ years)

Hewlett-Packard Company (contracting, 1 tax season)

VMware (2 quarterly contracts)

Guidant Cardio-Vascular and Tyco Healthcare

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory (2½ year span)

Applied Materials (contracting, 1 year)

Commercial Surety Bond Agency (internship)

US Geological Survey (3½ years)

C.J. Olson Cherries (consulting, 3 year span) Housing For Independent People (2½ years)

Dates and Details Upon Request

Notable Job Titles

Mutual Fund Portfolio Accountant and MIS Liaison Staff Accountant or Bookkeeper (on multiple occasions) Personal Income Tax Preparer (pro-bono) A/P Internal Auditor and Payables Accountant Legal Dept. Finance Coordinator and A/P Liaison

Fixed Assets - Payroll - HRIS Accountant Marketing Dept. Budgeting Specialist and A/P Liaison **Excel Solutions Architect** (on multiple occasions)