

**Matthew Kim**  
**2137 Alemany Blvd**  
**San Francisco, CA 94112**  
**(949) 436-1220**

June 27, 2012

Yelp.com Data-Mining Engineer Internship Application  
Cover Letter

It is refreshing to see that the Yelp online application is so simple and accepts cover letters and LinkedIn profiles. That is not brown nosing, but sincere relief after a glut of online applications and countless retyped CVs. It is frustrating as a freshly graduated student to be forced to sell oneself based on sparse experiences without a respectable way to account for potential as an employee and engineer. So I'd like to explain here, somewhat anecdotally, why I am perfectly qualified to be a data-mining intern for Yelp.

I will be the first to admit that my background, on paper, is not the most impressive when it comes to programming and information technology experience; these are topics that I have had to explore largely outside of academics. The first part of my academic career was oriented towards the social sciences. However after rediscovering a passion for the quantitative, I completed the curriculum for the undergraduate program in mathematics over the past two semesters, and will be working on a MA this coming fall. I came into the math program a few semesters behind most other students, but have quickly established myself as a top student. Even though I have been able to accelerate my initiation into mathematics, I still have much to learn obviously. But I think that this demonstrates a proven ability to learn new technical and conceptual material quickly through self-motivation and a capacity to create navigable paths through information.

Currently, I am conducting rather informal research on Wavelets, data compression, and signal processing through the NSF grant of one of my professors. However, my other primary interests going into the MA will be statistical data analysis and algebraic statistics.

Sincerely,

Matthew Kim  
Matthew Kim