



## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

### DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Dear members of the selection committee,

I am delighted to recommend Mr. Atif Ahmad for a spring 2015 research internship with the NASA DEVELOP National Program. Atif completed his MS degree in Applied Mathematics at CSULB in spring 2013 with a GPA of 3.53.

Atif has excellent mathematical skills in both the computational and the abstract analytical areas of mathematics. He is bright, dedicated, and highly motivated. Atif was my student in fall 2011 in our principal graduate course in numerical analysis, Math 576. This course is both computationally demanding and highly proof-intensive, examining in detail the mathematical foundations of many numerical methods used in science and engineering applications. Atif's computational work was excellent and his proofs consistently demonstrated his strong ability to formulate and clearly communicate sound mathematical arguments. His questions in class and during office visits revealed both his careful preparation and his determination to understand each topic thoroughly. Atif approached his studies with a strong sense of responsibility and professionalism. His assignments were always punctual and of high quality. His scores on exams were also consistently high, resulting in an A grade in Math 576. Atif went on to give a strong A performance on the graduate Numerical Analysis Comprehensive Exam, for which I was one of the evaluators. The passing of comprehensive exams in two disciplines is the crowning achievement of our masters program.

In addition to his excellent analytical skills, Atif is well-suited to work with a research team in the sciences and engineering. He has genuine curiosity and approaches problem-solving with eagerness and tenacity. Although he is quite capable at working independently, I would expect him to work well with others. He is patient, polite, and respectful of others.

I am confident that Atif Ahmad would be an excellent choice for your research internship program. His excellent mathematical and analytical skills, his dedication and drive, his genuine curiosity, and his patient and respectful manner, all would enable him to have a productive and successful experience in your research environment. I recommend him highly. Thank you for your consideration of his application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce J. Chaderjian".

Dr. Bruce J. Chaderjian, Professor of Mathematics