

Hello Uber! This is the cover letter accompanying my application for the “Back End Software Engineer - Driver” position in San Francisco.

I’m looking for entry level software development work. I have a math background and more recently I picked up full-stack development through my own projects.

You might notice I don’t have a lot of resume-worthy work experience since I graduated, so I’ll address that first. I graduated from UC Davis with a M.S. in Applied Mathematics two years ago. I left the math PhD program All-But-Dissertation after 8 years; my field of study was computational linear algebra, and I developed a model reduction algorithm based on Krylov-subspace methods, used in simulation for large-scale integrated circuits. My grad school experience was isolating, and upon my graduation I found myself totally unprepared for anything except maybe teaching at the high school or community college level, and not really accustomed to working with other people. I hadn’t had much communication with my adviser and I didn’t socialize much with people in the math department. I left that experience really lonely, lost and depressed. After graduating I moved in with my parents in Oakland, and for the last two years I have been figuring out what I want to do with my life and catching up, after having existed for 8 years in the social bubble that was the town of Davis. I’ve mostly taken on volunteer work, some of which involved software development. It took a while but I feel ready to enter the professional workforce now.