

Lausanne, 23 February 2024

Recommendation letter: Ernesto Bocini

To whom it may concern:

I am writing you this letter of recommendation in support of Ernesto Bocini.

Ernesto participated in the 2023 edition of my class “Applied Data Analysis” (CS-401) [1], which is an introductory data science class offering to students all the skills required in order to conduct a full-fledged data science project from start to finish. The class consisted of two large practical homework assignments (done in groups of five), a substantial project (also done in groups of five), weekly quizzes (done individually), and a final exam (done individually). The class is worth 8 ECTS credits and is generally considered to be extremely work-intensive. Doing well in this class can be considered a strong sign that a student brings to the table an extensive skill set, from extensive knowledge on the basics of data science all the way to reliable advanced skills (we use Python in this class, alongside data science-specific libraries).

Ernesto obtained an excellent grade of 5.5 (best possible grade: 6; worst possible grade: 1), which placed him among the top 28% of students (out of 605). The final product of the course project of Ernesto’s group, an engaging data story, was nominated by the teaching team as one of the top 10 projects of the semester (out of over 100). Ernesto is thus among the best data science students our School has to offer.

Given his performance, I am convinced Ernesto will do very well in an internship.

Sincerely,



Robert West

[1] Syllabus available at <https://epfl-ada.github.io/teaching/fall2023/cs401/>

About the author: I am a tenure-track assistant professor in the School of Computer and Communication Sciences at EPFL, where I lead the Data Science Lab, working on problems in artificial intelligence, natural language processing, and computational social science. Previously, I obtained a PhD in computer science from Stanford University, a Master’s degree from McGill University, and a *Diplom* from Technische Universität München.