

Peter M. Solfest  
7608 Peltier Lake Drive  
Lino Lakes, MN 55038  
phone: (651) 325-8903  
email: pmsolfest@gmail.com

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2015

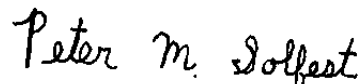
To whom it may concern,

I have recently graduated with a master's degree from Michigan Tech in applied mathematics after completing a B.S. in physics and mathematics. Upon achieving this, I entered a Ph.D. program at the University of MN, but have since decided that this degree program did not fit my long term interests. I uncovered the position for Data Assimilation Specialist at MathJob.com, and that I would be a great fit for the position given my educational background and strong personal interest in space science.

I will contribute to DeVine Consulting utilizing my entire educational background. My B.S. and M.S. in applied mathematics has provided me with extensive experience developing and implementing numerical algorithms in Matlab. Furthermore I have experience with BASH scripting, C and Python programming for both educational and personal projects. Beyond my technical qualifications, I have had a life long fascination with space science - following it closely as well as having had the opportunity as an intern at NASA.

My educational background in mathematics will allow me to approach this position with the technical skills required while my undergraduate in physics and personal fascination with space will provide a strong foundation for the scientific principles necessary to understand the data. Furthermore, having taught throughout my education along with compiling reports throughout my education will allow me to effectively communicate with all audiences. Thank you for your time and consideration, and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter M. Solfest". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Peter M. Solfest

# Peter Solfest

7608 Peltier Lake Drive, Lino Lakes, MN 55038

pmsolfest@gmail.com

phone: (651) 325-8903

## Summary

Recent graduate with a strong background in applied and computational mathematics, and a solid understanding of physics. Pursuing a career which leverages these skills while continuing to develop them.

## Education

- **Michigan Technological University** Houghton, MI  
*M.S. in Applied Mathematics; GPA: 4.00* Aug. 2012 – June 2014  
– Advisor: Dr. Jiguang Sun
- **Michigan Technological University** Houghton, MI  
*B.S. in Physics and Applied/Computational Mathematics; GPA: 3.94* Aug. 2008 – Apr. 2012  
– Graduated Summa Cum Laude

## Research Experience

- **Senior Research (BS degree)** Houghton, MI  
*Computational analysis of spectra arising from Mo doped Tungstenite* 2011 - 2012  
– Advisor: Dr. John Jaszczak
- **Lunar and Planetary Space Academy** NASA - Goddard, MD  
*Instrumentation development for space based Gamma Ray Spectroscopy* Summer 2011  
– Mentor: Dr. Ann Parsons
- **Yap Research Group** Michigan Tech  
*Boron Nitride Nanotube (BNNT) synthesis and application* Summer 2010

## Work Experience

- **Research Assistant** University of Minnesota  
*Dept. of Computer Science* July 2014– Mar. 2015  
– Advisor: Dr. Yousef Saad  
– Responsibilities: software development, prepare progress reports
- **Calculus Instructor** Michigan Tech Dept. of Mathematics  
*Calculus 1 and 2* Jan 2013 – June 2014 (4 semesters)  
– Responsibilities: Lecture, Grade, lead study sessions, write exams  
– Calc 1 (Spring 2013 - Spring 2014), Calc 2 (Summer 2014)
- **Lab TA** Michigan Tech  
*Introductory Mechanics, Electronics, Mathematica* Aug 2009 – Apr. 2012  
– Responsibilities: grade labs; lead lab sections; assist students with Mathematica  
– Mathlab (Aug 2009 - Apr 2011), Mechanics (Aug 2010 - Dec 2011), Electronics (Jan 2012 - May 2012)

## Skills

- **Software:** GNU Octave, Linux, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, BASH, Mathematica, git
- **Programming Languages:** MATLAB, C, Python, Java

## Achievements

- **Outstanding Teaching Award** Michigan Tech Dept. of Mathematics  
*Graduate Level* 2014
- **Co-Recipient of Ian W. Shepherd award** Michigan Tech Dept. of Pysics  
*"presented each year to the most outstanding physics graduate(s)"* 2012
- **Departmental Scholar** Michigan Tech Dept. of Pysics  
2011