

Dear Mark,

With Gaël it was the first time I had a student (collaborator) that was only a programmer. Fortunately, it happened that his thesis turned out to be only computational, the kind of things Gaël likes and knows, and I was really satisfied with the result, but I would have liked Gaël felt also concerned with the physics and mathematics used to solve the problems we were considering.

If what you need is a programmer, then Gaël can do the job quite well.

But he will need help for whatever maths and physics is used.

Juan Rodriguez-Carvajal was in the jury of Gaël's PhD. He certainly knows better than I if Gaël's qualifications fit with the position requirements.

Here follows a reference letter. I don't know if this was what you were expecting from me.

Regards,

Jorge

=====

Jorge Navaza
MEM , IBS Grenoble
France

23 April 2012.

To whom it may concern:

Gaël was my PhD student from October 2008 till September 2011. He developed a graphical interface for docking macromolecular atomic models into EM reconstructions, taking into account all point groups and helical symmetries. He wrote this interface in PYTHON, with VTK as the graphical language. This interface was conceived to launch the scientifically relevant applications, already existing, that performed symmetry manipulations, docking, normal mode analysis and other tasks.

As a programmer he is undoubtedly gifted. In particular, he found an efficient way to communicate graphics and results from the calculations, which allowed computing correlations in real time as the models moved within the EM maps. Although his background in applied

mathematics and physics is poor, he was able to incorporate any well-documented (or thoroughly explained) application to his interface. His program, called VEDA, can be downloaded from <http://mem.ibs.fr/VEDA>.

Gaël's profile exactly corresponds to a "Master's degree in computing with experience working in a scientific environment and collaborating effectively with scientists" (mainly biologists), as specified in "qualifications and experience" in the description of the position for the Computing for Science group at ILL.

=====