



Professor Charles E. Leiserson

32 Vassar Street, #32-G768

Cambridge, Massachusetts USA 02139-4307

January 1, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Rishabh Kabra for graduate school. Rishabh took my class 6.172 *Performance Engineering of Software Systems* during the fall semester of 2012 and received an A. This class is an intensive lab offering in MIT's computer science department consisting of open-ended projects to optimize software performance. Students can easily bypass this class, because there is an easier class satisfying the same departmental laboratory requirement. Consequently, only the top MIT computer-science undergraduates (about 15%) elect to take this class. Rishabh's overall performance placed him in the top 20% of the students taking 6.172, making him certainly one of the top 5% of the MIT computer-science undergraduates overall.

Besides demonstrating technically proficiency, Rishabh excelled at the group work required in the class. He collaborated effectively in each of the four teams to which he belonged, and he seemed to be a natural leader among his peers. At the end of the term, his team placed second overall in the class's capstone tournament.

As a whole, Rishabh's background and education have prepared him well for pursuing a rigorous mathematical program. His chosen MIT coursework in discrete mathematics, algorithms, linear algebra, probability, and statistics have grounded him in the mathematical foundations of his engineering focus. Numerous other engineering classes — especially *Advanced Topics in Data Processing*, *Introduction to Machine Learning*, and *Computer Systems Engineering* — have undoubtedly contributed to his quantitative abilities. His reports and presentations also demonstrated good communication skills.

I believe that Rishabh's future research goals will be served well by his interests in applied mathematics and statistics. I strongly recommend him for graduate school in any mathematical discipline.

Sincerely,

Professor Charles E. Leiserson

Professor of Computer Science and Engineering

Margaret MacVicar Faculty Fellow