My name is Yassine El Maazouz, I am a first year Ph.D. student in the department of Statistics at UC. Berkeley. I received my undergraduate degree in Mathematics from École Polytechnique in France. Born and raised in Morocco, I joined École Polytechnique after receiving my *Baccalauréat* degree in mathematics in 2014.

My research interest lie in the intersection of probability theory, arithmetic statistics and algebra in general. I find it fascinating how many fields in mathematics influence and interact with each other. I am particularly interested in the circle of ideas that make use of probability to study algebraic and arithmetic objects. I think that a deep understanding of mathematical objects requires that we look at them from various points of view.

In addition to Mathematics, I enjoy playing football/soccer and running. My hometown is a small town in the Atlas Mountains, so naturally I like hiking and camping. I am also interested in classical music as both a listener and amateur pianist. One of my favorites is Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*, for some reason it reminds me of the peaceful and very quiet mountains from my childhood.

I am extremely grateful and honored to receive the EWJ Gateway Fellowship at International House for this year. Thank you very much for the generous support.

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