



Avijit Gangopadhyay
Professor of Oceanography
School for Marine Science and Technology
University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth
836 S Rodney French Blvd New Bedford, MA 02740
Ph: 508-910-6330 Fax: 508-910-6374
Email: avijit.gangopadhyay@umassd.edu

January 6, 2021

Letter of Recommendation for Dr. Anass El Aouni

It is indeed a great pleasure to recommend Dr. Anass El Aouni for a Researcher position (competition No. 19/03) on the topic "Modeling, data processing for the ocean or the atmosphere". He has indicated two possible Laboratory affiliations: One with the GIPSA-lab and another with the Lab-STICC. I have known Dr. El Aouni for over a year now. I had first seen him while I was visiting Morocco on an academic trip in 2018, and met his mentor, Dr. Hilmi. Recently, we have been working on a research paper on seasonal and inter-annual variability of the upwelling system along the coast of Morocco. So, I have seen him closely as a researcher.

Dr. El Aouni did his PhD on the topic of 'Lagrangian coherent Structures and physical processes of coastal upwelling.' He has chosen to pursue this idea and extend it to interdisciplinary (mostly biological) framework during his research at GIPSA-lab and/or Lab-STICC. He has identified a number of established senior researchers in both labs who would be ideal to mentor him in the beginning. His proposed research statement is very forward looking and futuristic. The idea of applying the LCS framework and using FTLE for identifying and understanding theoretical and computational aspects of coherent structures in the upwelling regions is appealing, and a systematic effort in such direction will be worthwhile. Anass is well prepared to lead such an effort. He is also interested to investigate the possibility of assimilating coherent structures in numerical models for improved predictions, which is also very time-appropriate.

During our research discussions, I realized how sharp Anass is, and how inquisitive and detailed his questions were. He was never hesitant to ask a question. He is also very forthcoming in his writing papers, which is a big plus for any researcher. He is a driven individual and strives for excellence. He is also very methodical in practice, and this is clearly evident in the research approaches and detailed work plan for next five years that he is proposing for the research program.

Dr. El Aouni is a bright young scientist with a very curious mind. He has a very open mind and appreciates what opportunities are ahead of him. He works really hard and gets to things in detail. He is also a great team player; I have seen him interact with other researchers in our small team quite well.

I am really very pleased to highly recommend Dr. Anass El Aouni for a Researcher position at the CNRS laboratories. I am sure this will be mutually very productive for Dr. Aouni and CNRS researchers.

Sincerely,

Avijit Gangopadhyay
Professor of Oceanography
Department of Estuarine and Ocean Sciences
(Former Dean of the School for Marine Science and Technology)