IRL

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Abel Jansma

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SUMMARY

Physicist with 5 years of experience developing open source science & software in an interdisciplinary setting, leveraging machine learning, causal analysis, and HPC computing on large molecular data sets.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher | Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences

Sep 2023 - Present

- · In the group of Jürgen Jost, I work on higher-order information theory and quantum machine learning.
- Also affiliated with Quantum Informatics at the University of Edinburgh.

Research Associate | University of Edinburgh

Oct 2022 - July 2023

- I used machine learning and causal discovery to construct hypergraphs of gene interactions and discovered novel and rare cell identities in populations of up to 100k transcriptomes.
- Lead R&D of the STATOR software package, in an interdisciplinary team that combines fundamental research with practical applications in biomedicine.

Information Officer | SciPost

Oct 2017 - July 2018

• Expanded the editorial board, profiling and contacting potential new editors.

Junior Editor | SPUI25

Feb 2017 - July 2017

• Co-organised and presented monthly academic & cultural events for a broad audience.

Distillation Engineer | Mediamatic

Sep 2016 - Feb 2017

• Designed, built, and demonstrated a bespoke 30 litre vacuum still for artistic and olfactory research.

EDUCATION

PhD in Biomedical AI | University of Edinburgh

Sep 2018 - Dec 2022

- Supervised by Chris Ponting (Institute of Genetics and Cancer), Luigi Del Debbio (Higgs Centre for Theoretical Physics), and Ava Khamseh (School of Informatics).
- Completed APTS programme in mathematical statistics at the universities of Cambridge and Oxford.

MSc Theoretical Physics | University of Amsterdam

Sep 2015 - July 2018

- Thesis: E_8 symmetry structures in the Ising model (with Bernard Nienhuis)
- Visited the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen from Feb to Aug 2016 to study nonequilibrium physics and the
 physics of machine learning.

BSc Physics and Astronomy | University of Amsterdam

Sep 2012 - July 2015

• Graduated with Honours/Cum Laude and a minor in Computational Science.

Propedeuse in Art and Technology | HKU university of the Arts

Sep 2011 - July 2012

· Work exhibited at various musea, galleries and festivals in the Netherlands, Germany, and Finland.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND TALKS

- High order expression dependencies finely resolve cryptic states and subtypes in single cell data Jansma et al. 2023
- The Information Theory of Higher-order Interactions Dutch Institute for Emergent Phenomena, Institute for Advanced Study, 2023. (invited talk)
- Synergy and Shannon Information: The information theory of higher-order interactions DEMICS23, 2023 (invited talk).
- Higher-Order Interactions and Their Duals Reveal Synergy and Logical Dependence beyond Shannon Information A. Jansma, *Entropy*, 2023 (https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.04440)
- A Compositional Game to Fairly Divide Homogeneous Cake A. Jansma 2023 (https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.02281)
- Complex networks in the mouse brain: Higher-order gene regulation and Boolean logic IGC Biomedical Genomics meeting, 2021 (talk).
- Cybergenetic in-and-outeractions: Searching for Strange Loops in Mouse Brains Mathematical Quantum Physics Seminar, University of Innsbruck, 2021 (invited talk).
- Higher-order Interactions on Information Lattices Mathematical Quantum Physics Seminar, University of Innsbruck, 2021 (invited talk).
- Model-free estimation of higher-order interactions CSHL Biology of Genomes conference, 2021 (poster).
- Complex Gene Regulation: Higher-order interactions in single-cell expression data European Mathematical Genetics Meeting, 2021 (long talk).
- Complex Gene Regulation: Higher-order interactions in single-cell expression data CSHL Network Biology conference, 2021 (poster).
- A maximally noncommittal physicist looks at genetic interactions IGC Biomedical Genomics meeting, 2020 (talk).

AWARDS

Protocol Fellowship | Ethereum Foundation

Nov 2022 - March 2023

- · Collaboration with the Robust Incentives group and the Institute for Categorical Cybernetics (CyberCat).
- Analysed the compositional game theory of agents in complex cryptographic systems.

Technology Scholarship | ASML

Sep 2015 - Sep 2017

• Selected as one of 25 graduates nationwide for a two-year professional development programme, focused on leadership in technology.

VOLUNTEERING

Co-host | Computational Biology Journal Club

Feb 2019 - March 2020

• Hosted at the MRC Institute of Genetics and Cancer.

Beekeeper | Anna's Tuin en Ruigte

Oct 2017 - July 2018

• Beekeeper at a public permaculture garden.

Reader | VoorleesExpress

Nov 2016 - Nov 2017

• I read books to children whose parents were not able to.

Committee member | BetaBreak

Dec 2014 - Jan 2016

Moderated and organised public debates on the role of science and technology in society at Amsterdam Science Park.

Languages

Natural Dutch (native), English (fluent), German (fluent), French (basic)

Programming Python, R, Nextflow, bash, Git, Haskell, Mathematica, Processing (Java), Arduino (C++)