

Olga B. Botvinnik

Curriculum Vitae

University of California, San Diego
2880 Torrey Pines Scenic Dr
La Jolla, CA 92037
✉ olgabot@ucsd.edu
🌐 <http://olgabotvinnik.com>
📌 [olga-botvinnik](#)
🐦 [olgabot](#)
📱 [olgabot](#)

Last Updated: January 16, 2017

Research Interests: Molecular and cellular heterogeneity of biological systems

Education

- 2012–**Ph.D. Candidate, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
Present Thesis: Computational analysis of single-cell alternative splicing. Advisor: Gene Yeo
- 2012 **M.S., Bioinformatics and Biomolecular Engineering**, *University of California, Santa Cruz*, Santa Cruz, CA.
Advisor: Nader Pourmand
- 2010 **S.B., Biological Engineering**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.
- 2010 **S.B., Mathematics**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.

Research Positions

- 2013–**Gene Yeo Laboratory**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
Present Led machine-learning analyses of single-cell motor neuron differentiation mRNA-seq data, in collaboration with wet-lab researchers. Independently developed several software packages written in Python for alternative splicing analyses
- 2012–2013 **Research Rotations**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
Worked in Profs. Trey Ideker, Gene Yeo, and Pavel Pevzner's laboratories
- 2012 **Nader Pourmand Laboratory**, *University of California, Santa Cruz*, Santa Cruz, CA.
Analyzed single-cell response of breast cancer drug resistance to paclitaxel
- 2010–2011 **Jill Mesirov Laboratory**, *Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT*, Cambridge, MA.
Created REVEALER algorithm to unveil candidate oncogenic activators
- 2010 **Sebastian Seung Laboratory**, *MIT Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences*, Cambridge, MA.
Computed directionality of neurons in electron microscopy of rabbit retina
- 2009 **David Gifford Laboratory**, *MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory*, Cambridge, MA.
Tested whether information flow can predict gene lethality in genomic networks

- 2008 **Sean Eddy Laboratory**, *Howard Hughes Medical Institute Janelia Farm Research Campus*, Ashburn, VA.
Used Hidden Markov Models to improve protein homology search with robust null models
- 2007 **Martha Bulyk Laboratory**, *Brigham and Women's Hospital, Division of Genetics*, Boston, MA.
Analyzed DNA binding specificities of mouse homeodomain transcription factors

Awards

Fellowships

- 2014 NumFocus John Hunter Technical Fellowship for Open Source Science
- 2013–2016 National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship

Honors

- 2016 100 Awesome Women In The Open-Source Community You Should Know, sourced.com
- 2013 Fannie and John Hertz Foundation Fellowship Finalist
- 2012 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship: Honorable Mention
- 2012 University of California Regents Scholarship
- 2009 Bernard M. Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership Program
- 2008 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Janelia Farm Research Summer Scholar

Publications

Journal Articles

- [1] Curtis A Nutter, Elizabeth A Jaworski, Sunil K Verma, Vaibhav Deshmukh, Qionglin Wang, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Mario J Lozano, Ismail J Abass, Talha Ijaz, Allan R Brasier, Nisha J Garg, Xander H T Wehrens, Gene W Yeo, and Muge N Kuyumcu-Martinez. Dysregulation of RBFOX2 Is an Early Event in Cardiac Pathogenesis of Diabetes. *Cell Reports*, 15(10):2200–2213, 2016.
- [2] Jong Wook Kim*, **Olga B Botvinnik***, Omar Abudayyeh, Chet Birger, Joseph Rosenbluh, Yashaswi Shrestha, Mohamed E Abazeed, Peter S Hammerman, Daniel DiCara, David J Konieczkowski, et al. Characterizing genomic alterations in cancer by complementary functional associations. *Nature Biotechnology*, 2016. * These authors contributed equally to this work.
- [3] Kris C Wood, David J Konieczkowski, Cory M Johannessen, Jesse S Boehm, Pablo Tamayo, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jill P Mesirov, William C Hahn, David E Root, Levi A Garraway, et al. MicroSCALE screening reveals genetic modifiers of therapeutic response in melanoma. *Science Signaling*, 5(224):rs4, 2012.
- [4] A Goncareenco, P Grynberg, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Geoff Macintyre, and Thomas Abeel. Highlights from the Eighth International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) Student Council Symposium 2012. *BMC Bioinformatics*, 2012.
- [5] Naomi Galili, Pablo Tamayo, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jill P Mesirov, Margarita R Brooks, Gail Brown, and Azra Raza. Prediction of response to therapy with ezatiostat in lower risk myelodysplastic syndrome. *Journal of Hematology & Oncology*, 5(1):1, 2012.

- [6] Naomi Galili, Pablo Tamayo, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jill P Mesirov, Jennifer Zikria, Gail Brown, and Azra Raza. Gene Expression Studies May Identify Lower Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome Patients Likely to Respond to Therapy with Ezatiostat Hydrochloride (TLK199). *Blood*, 118(21):2779–2779, 2011.
- [7] Michael F Berger, Gwenael Badis, Andrew R Gehrke, Shaheynoor Talukder, Anthony A Philippakis, Lourdes Pena-Castillo, Trevis M Alleyne, Sanie Mnaimneh, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Esther T Chan, et al. Variation in homeodomain DNA binding revealed by high-resolution analysis of sequence preferences. *Cell*, 133(7):1266–1276, 2008.

Books

- [1] P Compeau and P Pevzner. *Bioinformatics Algorithms Volume 1*, volume 1 of *An Active Learning Approach*. Active Learning Publishers LLC, 2 edition, 2015. Contributed text, figures, problems and code solutions, primarily to “Chapter 4: How Do We Sequence Antibiotics?”.

Conference Posters

- [1] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Yan Song, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Jia L Xu, and Gene W Yeo. Single-cell alternative splicing analysis using Expedition reveals splicing dynamics during neuron differentiation. In *RNA Society*, Kyoto, Japan, June 2016.
- [2] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Yan Song, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Leen Jamal, and Gene W Yeo. Novel computational metrics for population-wide differences in alternative splicing in single cells. In *Stem Cell Genomics California Institute of Regenerative Medicine Retreat*, La Jolla, CA, Apr. 2016.
- [3] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Yan Song, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Leen Jamal, and Gene W Yeo. Single-cell alternative splicing analysis using Expedition reveals splicing dynamics during neuron differentiation. In *Single Cell Analysis Investigators Meeting*, Bethesda, MD, Apr. 2015.
- [4] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jonathan Kim, Wendy Lee, Paola Castro, and Nader Pourmand. Single-cell differential expression pipeline. In *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)*, Long Beach, CA, June 2012.
- [5] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Pablo Tamayo, and Jill P Mesirov. Discovery of novel candidate oncogenic activators with REVEALER. In *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)*, Vienna, Austria, June 2011.

Talks

- 2016 **Festival of Genomics California**, *San Diego Convention Center*, San Diego, CA.
- 2016 **Fluidigm User Group Meeting**, *City of Hope Hospital*, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2016 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Bootcamp**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Dr. You or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Ph.D..
Slides: slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/dr-you-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worry-and-love-the-phd
- 2016 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Ph.D. Program Recruitment**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.

- 2015 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Bootcamp**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Dr. You or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Ph.D..
Slides: slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/dr-you-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worry-and-love-the-phd
- 2015 **San Diego Bioinformatics User Group**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Open-source software for single-cell and other large-scale transcriptomic datasets.
Slides: <http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/format/slides/gist/olgabot/2ee1087d74df46c842df/> (same as below)
- 2015 **CodeNeuro**, *New Museum*, New York, NY.
Slides: <http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/format/slides/gist/olgabot/2ee1087d74df46c842df/>
- 2015 **AmpNeuro**, *Amplifying Neuroscience Symposium*, La Jolla, CA, Open-source software for single-cell and other large-scale transcriptomic datasets.
Slides: <http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/format/slides/gist/olgabot/ba6970fbfa2babd79f55/>
- 2015 **Bioinformatics Exchange**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
- 2015 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Ph.D. Program Recruitment**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
- 2014 **RNA Club**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
- 2014 **Bioinformatics EXPO**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
Best Talk, 2nd place
- 2014 **PyData**, *401 Park Ave. South*, New York, NY.
Presentation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQksDvF12_8. Slides:
<https://github.com/olgabot/pydata2014biodata>

Teaching, Outreach, and Leadership

- 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, *Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories*, Cold Spring Harbor, NY.
Developed and led bioinformatics coursework of *Single Cell Analysis Course* including alignment, machine learning, Python, and basic command line tools to an audience largely with little to no programming experience. Course materials available at <http://github.com/YeoLab/single-cell-bioinformatics>
- 2016 **Guest Instructor**, *Quantitative Methods in Genetics and Genomics*, La Jolla, CA, .
Taught three weeks of `git`, RNA-seq and analysis methods to graduate-level UCSD course of 30 students, mostly with limited programming experience. Course materials available at <http://github.com/biom262/biom262-2016>
- 2015–2016 **Speaker and Co-Organizer**, *CodeNeuro*, New York, NY and San Francisco, CA.
Presented `flotilla` software, taught “coding for neuroscientists” tutorial (<http://github.com/codeneuro/gitgoing>), and advanced data analysis tutorial
- 2015–2016 **President and Co-Founder**, *Graduate Bioinformatics Council*, La Jolla, CA.
Founded graduate student council organization for UCSD Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Program. Advocated for student voices, organized “town hall” meetings, social hours, fellowship peer review, and led a team of eight vice presidents and representatives.
- 2015 **Guest Instructor**, *Quantitative Methods in Genetics and Genomics*, La Jolla, CA, .
Taught “data cleaning” and plotting course using Python to graduate-level UCSD course of 10 students, mostly with limited programming experience.
- 2013–2016 **Volunteer**, *San Diego Science and Engineering Festival*, San Diego, CA.
Developed and demonstrated bioinformatics modules to all ages at UCSD Bioinformatics booth.

- 2013–2014 **Instructor**, *Bioinformatics Algorithms*, Coursera.org.
Developed interactive curriculum for online Bioinformatics Algorithms Coursera class and textbook. Advisors: Pavel Pevzner and Phillip Compeau
- 2011–2012 **Mentor**, *We Teach Science*, San Jose, CA.
Weekly algebra tutoring to an 8th grader
- 2011–2012 **Guest Instructor**, *Pacific Collegiate School*, Santa Cruz, CA.
Created bioinformatics modules to engage students in tying genotype to phenotype for high school AP Biology
- 2012 **Co-Chair**, *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology Student Council Symposium*, Long Beach, CA.
- 2012 **Instructor**, *Minority Access to Research Careers*, Santa Cruz, CA.
Taught inquiry-based stem cell bioinformatics curriculum to undergraduate researchers
- 2011 **Volunteer**, *Science Club for Girls*, Cambridge, MA.
Co-led after-school biology science club for a class of 16 2nd graders
- 2009–2011 **Choreographer**, *MIT DanceTroupe*, Cambridge, MA.
Taught beginner to intermediate hip-hop choreography to fellow students
- 2008–2010 **Publicity Chair**, *MIT DanceTroupe*, Cambridge, MA.
Designed posters and T-shirts to publicize and promote DanceTroupe concert attendance
- 2008 **Social Chair**, *Baker House*, Cambridge, MA.
Organized social events for students, including a popular “Dormal” event with catered dinner and jazz performances

Software

All software is written in Python and open source, licensed under the 3-clause BSD license.

- anchor** Categorizes alternative splicing data into “modes”—bimodal, unimodal, or uniform. <http://github.com/YeoLab/anchor>
- bonvoyage** Transforms 1d splicing profiles into 2d space to maximize interpretability of change in signal. <http://github.com/YeoLab/bonvoyage>
- flotilla** All-in-one package to perform machine learning analyses on large-scale molecular profiling datasets such as gene expression and alternative splicing. <http://github.com/YeoLab/flotilla> (72 stars on GitHub)
- kvector** Counts k -mers in DNA or RNA as k -mer vectors, transforms position weight matrices (PWMs) to k -mer vectors. <http://github.com/olgabot/kvector> (2 stars on GitHub)
- outrigger** Fast *de novo* alternative exon detection and quantification. <http://github.com/YeoLab/outrigger> (9 stars on GitHub)
- qtools** Submit jobs to the supercomputer cluster from within Python. <http://github.com/YeoLab/qtools> (11 stars on GitHub)
- poshsplice** Annotates alternative splicing events with biological features such as translated protein product. <http://github.com/olgabot/poshsplice> (2 stars on GitHub)
- prettyplotlib** Painlessly create beautiful matplotlib plots. <http://github.com/olgabot/prettyplotlib> (1,159 stars on GitHub)

seaborn Contributor, wrote clustered heatmap classes and function.
<http://github.com/mwaskom/seaborn>)3,602 stars on GitHub)

wasabiplot* Plot coverage and junction reads for any bam file and any region. *Derivative of SashimiPlot, and thus under the GNU General Public License (GPL).
<http://github.com/olgabot/wasabiplot>