

# Gino Prasad

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Cancer Genomics | Machine Learning | Bioinformatics | Computer Vision | Data Science

## Education

### PhD, Computer Science (Bioinformatics): UC San Diego

Summer 2023 - Spring 2027

Academic Advisor: [Vineet Bafna](#), Professor of Computer Science, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology

GPA 4.0/4.0

- **Focus:** Applied Machine Learning for Cancer Genomics
- **Relevant Courses:** Bioinformatics Algorithms, Population Genomics, Deep Learning, Generative AI modeling, Recommender Systems

### Bachelor of Science, Bioinformatics and Computer Science: UC San Diego

Fall 2020 - Spring 2023

Major: Bioinformatics (B.S.), Minor: Computer Science

GPA 3.97/4.0

- **Relevant Courses:** Bioinformatics Lab, Molecular Sequence Analysis, Probability & Statistics, Linear Algebra, Data Structures, Algorithms

## Experience

### Cancer Genomics / Machine Learning Researcher

Jun 2022 - Current

UC San Diego Bafna Lab

- Developed **Computer Vision** Models for FISH (Fluorescence in Situ Hybridization) Spatial Transcriptomics Data.
- Predicts **tumor amplification status** (ecDNA/HSR) in Cancer Cell Lines and Patient Tissue Images.
- **Technical Skills:** Tensorflow, OpenCV, Numpy, Pandas, Python, Linux, Git.
- Web development for [AmpliconRepository](#), a Public Web Database of Oncogene Amplifications using NGS data.
- **Technical Skills:** Cloud Computing, Statistical Analysis, Database querying using MongoDB and Python's SQLite3.

### Machine Learning Research Assistant

Jun 2022 - Jun 2023

UC San Diego School of Medicine

- Built a **Convolutional Neural Network** for Spatial Transcriptomics Image data, to perform **nuclear segmentation**.
- Used a **U-Net Architecture** to predict nuclei boundaries, bypassing the need for DAPI staining.
- **Technical Skills:** Tensorflow, Keras, NumPy, Pandas, Pytorch, PyLab, Python, Linux, Git.

### Computational Bioinformatics Research Assistant

Oct 2021 - Jun 2022

UC San Diego Yeo Lab

- Developed computational applications for **long-read Oxford Nanopore Sequencing Data** analysis.
- Created an Error Correction Pipeline for **RNA-seq Analysis** using the [Nanorevisor Deep Learning](#) Library.
- **Technical Skills:** Python, Bash, STAR, Minimap2, Samtools, Linux, Pandas.

### Software Engineering Intern

Jun 2021 - Aug 2021

Dotdash

- Designed front-end software for Dotdash, the largest digital publisher in the US, managing sites like Investopedia and Verywell Health.
- Developed cross-platform web applications in a collaborative environment using Agile/Scrum.
- **Technical Skills:** JavaScript, Vue, HTML, SASS, Maven, Database Querying, APIs.

### Phage Genomics Research Initiative

Oct 2020 - Jun 2021

UC San Diego Pogliano Lab

- Created a [BLAST parser website](#) using Google App Engine and Python ([GitHub](#)), used by the UCSD professor and class.
- Queries the NCBI BLAST data to perform comparative genomic analysis of Bacteriophage genes with unknown functions.
- **Technical Skills:** Flask, Python, HTML, Google Cloud App Engine.

## Journal Publications

Luebeck et al. (2024), AmpliconSuite: Analyzing focal amplifications in cancer genomes.

*Cancer Genetics*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cancergen.2024.08.015>

Mah et al. (2024), Bento: A toolkit for subcellular analysis of spatial transcriptomics data.

*Genome Biology*, <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13059-024-03217-7>

Chapman et al. (2023), Circular extrachromosomal DNA promotes inter- and intratumoral heterogeneity in high-risk medulloblastoma.

*Nature Genetics*, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41588-023-01551-3>

Prichard et al. (2023), Identifying the core genome of the nucleus-forming bacteriophage family and characterization of Erwinia phage RAY.

*Cell Reports*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2023.112432>

Dehkordi et al. (2023), OM2BFB: Detecting and elucidating Breakage Fusion Bridge structures in cancer genomes using Optical Mapping data.  
*bioRxiv*, <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.12.12.571349>

Lv et al., Spatial-Temporal Diversity of Extrachromosomal DNA Shapes Urothelial Carcinoma Evolution and Tumor-Immune Microenvironment.  
**Submitted to *Nature Genetics***

Rajkumar, Prasad et al., Accurate Prediction of ecDNA in Interphase Cancer Cells using Deep Neural Networks.  
**In Preparation (Co-First Author Publication)**

## Skills

<b>Programming</b>	Python (PyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Pandas, NumPy), R, C++, Cloud Computing, Bash, Linux, Git, JavaScript, Java, SQL.
<b>Machine Learning</b>	Experience With <b>Transformer Architectures</b> , <b>Convolutional Neural Networks</b> , and <b>ResNet Autoencoders</b> .
<b>Web Development</b>	Developed applications with MongoDB, Django, Flask, Vue, and Google Cloud App Engine (GCP).

## Mentoring


2023 - 2024	<b>Data Science Capstone Mentor</b> , Mentored 3 Data Science undergrads in a Computer Vision capstone competition to semantically segment cell imaging data using deep learning.	<i>UC San Diego</i>
2023 - 2024	<b>Early Research Scholars Program Mentor</b> , Mentored 2 Computer Science undergrads in a project to extract mutational signatures from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) genome sequencing data.	<i>UC San Diego</i>

## Achievements

Oct 2024	<b>Cancer Grand Challenge eDynamic Conference</b> , Presented a Computer Vision Model for Cancer Imaging	<i>Cancer Grand Challenge (NCI)</i>
Oct 2024	<b>Cancer Grand Challenge Future Leaders Speaker</b> , Presented on AI applications in Cancer Research	<i>Cancer Grand Challenge (NCI)</i>
June 2023	<b>Summa Cum Laude Honors</b> , Awarded for Exceptional GPA.	<i>UC San Diego</i>
April 2023	<b>Undergraduate Research Conference</b> , Presented on Computer Vision methods for FISH Imaging.	<i>UC San Diego</i>
May 2022	<b>Muir Caledonian Honors Society Member</b> , Awarded for Exceptional GPA.	<i>UC San Diego</i>
Jul 2020	<b>UCSD BioScholars Honors Society Member</b> , Awarded membership based on academic achievement.	<i>UC San Diego</i>

## Personal Projects


### Autotune Implementation Using Phase Vocoder

 [github.com/GinoP123/AutotunePV.git](https://github.com/GinoP123/AutotunePV.git)

*May 2023*

- Created an autotuner from scratch using Phase Vocoder and Yin pitch prediction.
- Able to autotune any audio clip to a specific major or minor scale using Hann window functions.
- Examples of popular songs autotuned [here](#).

### Custom Search Engine for Linux File System

 [github.com/GinoP123/FileSearch](https://github.com/GinoP123/FileSearch)

*Jul 2022*

- Created a keyword-matching search engine with caching fully from scratch using dynamic programming.
- Added learning capability by including popularity and relevance weights.
- I personally use this tool all the time, and find it a huge time-saver for navigating in Linux.