

How to be employable

Hint: have an online presence

Olga Botvinnik

Twitter, Github: @olgabot

blog.olgabotvinnik.com

June 18th, 2017

Outline

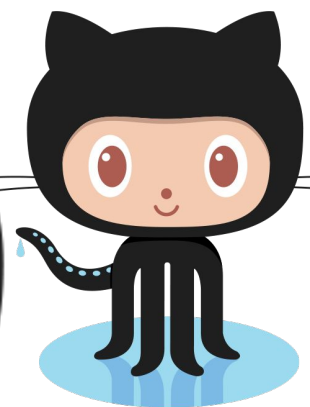
- Open source = magic
 - Github
- Social media
 - LinkedIn
 - Twitter
 - Personal Website/Blog

Who am I?

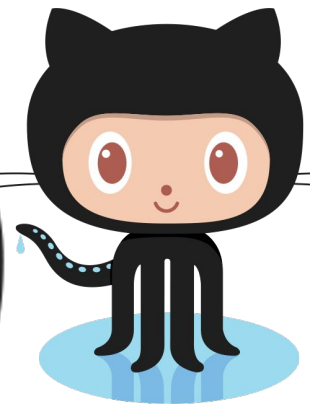
- UCSD PhD Bioinformatics '17
- Contributor to open-source (wrote `prettyplotlib` python package, contributor to `seaborn`, `scipy`)
- Currently Bioinformatics Scientist/Data Scientist at the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub in San Francisco
 - Major project: Human Cell Atlas

OPEN SOURCE

GitHub

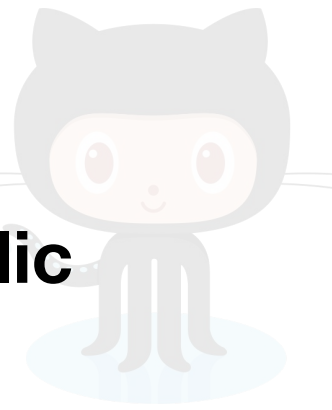


GitHub



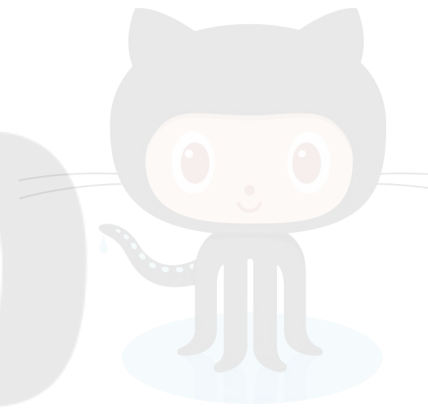
- “Social coding”
- Many open source projects are hosted here, including Python packages
- Can have unlimited private repositories!
- Software jobs often want code samples, so they will look at your code on Github!
 - “Github is your resume”
 - Every job interview I had commented on my GitHub profile, and were especially happy that I had tests :)

Your projects on GitHub



- As much as you can, work on your code in **public repositories**
- For excellent project templates, check out: github.com/audreyr/cookiecutter
- Github projects give you several benefits:
 - Pre-built Python package with the correct structure so you can focus on the code and not the packaging
 - Free use of Travis-CI, a “continuous integration” service which runs your tests every time you push code to Github (travis-ci.org)
 - Free use of codecov, which checks your test coverage (codecov.io)
 - Online documentation, very useful for both you and your collaborators (“github pages,” readthedocs.org)

Collaborating on GitHub



- You *will* find bugs in open source code
- Be a good citizen: if you fix the bug for yourself, fix it for everyone. Or at least report it to the project devs.
 - My **scipy** contribution was a documentation fix!
- Contributing to other projects exposes you to other styles of coding and improves your own code (true story)
- Use **forks**, **branches** and **pull requests** for the commonly used **GitHub flow** model:
<https://guides.github.com/introduction/flow>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Why should you care about social media?

- Anytime someone meets you, they **will** google your name
 - If that doesn't work, they'll do "your name San Diego"
- Having at least SOME online presence is much better than none
- You will get jobs much easier if people can find out more about you than just your LinkedIn profile

How to have an online presence:
Bare minimum

Linked



TM



- “Facebook for jobs”
- Recruiters will contact you, before you even finish graduate school!
 -if you have the right things on your profile
- Besides your regular resume type things on your profile, there’s a few key points

Crafting a fantastic LinkedIn profile:
why?



Crafting a fantastic LinkedIn profile: your title

- Don't let “Student” be the first thing in your title
- If you are doing data science-like data analysis, put “Data Scientist”
- If you're doing algorithm development, put “algorithm developer” or something to that extent

Olga Botvinnik

Bioinformatics PhD Student and Data Scientist

Greater San Diego Area | Biotechnology

Crafting a fantastic LinkedIn profile: your summary



Summary

I am currently a Graduate Research Assistant at UCSD School of Medicine. I recently completed my M.S. in biomedical sciences, and I am in search for a research assistant position in the biotechnology and/or pharmaceutical industries. My ideal position will allow me to synergize my assistance in research

Too long!

endocrinology, immunology, and cell biology. I am looking forward to place these skills into service of a research group and achieve project goals to improve scientific fields and human health. I also have a special interest in science education and mentoring.



Summary

On the right track, could say more

sciences.

Crafting a fantastic LinkedIn profile: your summary

Brief academic description of you so far.

Research interests: scientific buzzwords

Specialties Olga Botvinnik's Summary

Program

[Other, e

Double majored in Biological Engineering and Mathematics at MIT. Worked as a Bioinformatics technician at the Broad Institute in Cambridge, MA. Earned MS in Bioinformatics from UC-Santa Cruz in 9 months (instead of usual two years). Joined Prof. Gene Yeo's laboratory to work on single-cell mRNA-seq transcriptomic analyses, focusing on alternative splicing and RNA binding proteins.

Research interests: single-cell sequencing, genomics, transcriptomics.

Specialties: Cluster computing (PBS, SGE), Hidden markov models (HMMs), Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA), machine-learning algorithms, information theory, image analysis, graph theory, network analysis, clustering, dimensionality reduction.

Programming Languages: Python/BioPython, C, Java, Perl, R/Bioconductor, MATLAB, bash, and LaTeX.

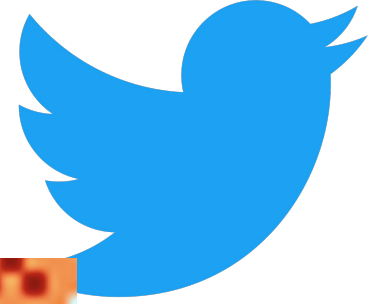
Graphic Design: Adobe Illustrator, OmniGraffle Pro.

Crafting a fantastic LinkedIn profile: your connections

- Recruiters will try to contact you to be your “connection” first because then they don’t have to pay LinkedIn’s fees
- Without going overboard, connect with other people (that you know) in your field
 - Fellow meetupers
 - People you know from before (college, jobs, etc)
 - People you meet at networking events
- By seeing who you are connected to, recruiters will have a better sense of who you are

How to have an online presence:
Bonus points

Extra points for online presence: Twitter



Julia Evans
@b0rk Follows you

programming and exclamation marks.
❤️ @recursecenter, @bangbangcon

📍 Montreal
🌐 jvns.ca
📅 Joined June 2007
🕒 Born on July 26

[Tweet to](#) [Message](#)

👤 94 Followers you know

📷 388 Photos and videos

Tweets **Tweets & replies** **Media**

★ Pinned Tweet

Julia Evans @b0rk · 18 Jul 2016
how to be a wizard programmer

- ① ASK QUESTIONS. As long as there are people around you who know things you don't, ask them how to do things. Dumb questions. Scary-to-ask questions. Your questions will get less dumb fast.
- ② Run into problems your coworkers don't know the answer to.
- ③ DECIDE JUST BECAUSE OTHER PEOPLE DON'T KNOW A THING IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN'T. FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO THE THING ANYWAY ✖
this is very hard and sometimes requires knowing unknown unknowns. But sometimes it works.

The more programming I do, the more thing I run into where

- I don't know
- Google doesn't know
- my colleagues don't know

Twitter can help you attend conferences for free!

PyData NYC 2013



Olga Botvinnik
@olgabot

@enthought I'd love to go to #pydata nyc and promote Enthought and #prettyplotlib but the \$ is steep. Could you help me out?

This led to Travis Oliphant, the author of Numpy and CEO of Continuum Analytics (Anaconda Python distro) to contact me about Continuum's diversity fellowships for PyData

Strata Silicon Valley 2014



Olga Botvinnik
@olgabot

Anyone wanna pay for a poor bioinformatics/computational biology grad student to go to @strataconf? spoiler alert: this grad student is me

This led to the Strata outreach committee contacting me and arranging a free pass in exchange for live-tweeting

PyCon 2014: applied for fellowship directly

Extra points for online presence:

Personal website/blog

- No programming:
 - Wordpress.com
 - squarespace.com
 - wix.com
- With programming (gets you bonus points because it'll be a github project!)
 - Check out this list: staticgen.com
 - Julia used Octopress








Extra points for online presence: blog



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Search



How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love PyCon

APR 18TH, 2014 12:00 AM

Ok, I'll admit it. I was pretty nervous about going to PyCon. I was giving a [talk](#), I was only going to know a couple of people there, I was going for an entire week, and it was going to be in a city where they speak a language of which I only know about two words. Also, I was a bit unsure of what to expect in terms of the social climate (especially given that the only other non-academic tech conference I've been to has been DEFCON, which is not exactly known for being low on sexism).

I shouldn't have worried, though. PyCon was phenomenally awesome! I met a million amazing people and the talks were exceptionally well done. Everyone was incredibly friendly and outgoing, so much that I rarely found time *not* to talk to people! I have to say that PyCon is easily the best conference I've ever been to (even better than last year's CogSci, which was also pretty great). Here's a recap.

[Read on →](#)

Python Koans With the IPython Notebook

APR 9TH, 2014 12:00 AM

Short version: As a proof of concept, I converted the Python koan `about_strings` (which you can find [here](#), for Python 2.x, for Python 2.x, or IPython notebook. Here's the notebook on github.

general (4)

programming (15)

sipb (3)

software (8)

Tag Cloud

android array computation berkeley blogging classes cocoa code computer science conference data docstring education elitism emacs email experiment for loops git gmail gpg guide gutenbach hackathon hacking homebrew imap inheritance instances internet ipython ipython notebook

Down

Jess Hamrick used github pages and pelican for posting

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