

# Nicholas Attila Kovacs

BIOINFORMATICIST & DATA SCIENTIST

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## To: Finch Therapeutics

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## About Me

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I am a US citizen that will defend my bioinformatics PhD from Georgia Tech in October 2018. I have a BS in biochemistry and as a graduate student, have found that I love coding, doing data analyses, making figures, and presenting. My PhD dissertation concerns the atomic interaction network analysis of ribosomal structures from species across the tree of life, which led me to divulge evolutionary insights on the evolution of protein folding using computer science and statistics. I want to work at a medium-sized biotech company where I can wear many hats and work alongside interdisciplinary scientists so that I can continue growing as a computational biologist and data scientist.

## Why Finch Therapeutics?

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Finch Therapeutics is a medium-sized biotechnology company at the interface of biology, drug-discovery, and data science. Finch Therapeutics has 114 employees, according to LinkedIn, that strive to develop drugs that intentionally manipulate the microbiome in patients with gastrointestinal diseases. The data scientists at the company use machine learning to analyze metagenomic, clinical, and other biological datasets to propose new scientific hypotheses for the development of therapeutics.

## Why Me?

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The position of Computational Biologist I: Data Scientist sounds perfect for me since it would expose me to many facets of biology as I continue branching out into data science. I think I would be a very a good fit for this position for the following reasons:

- **PhD in computational biology or a related field**  
PhD in Bioinformatics from Georgia Tech
- **Proven track record of statistical analysis of datasets in the life sciences**  
Atomic interaction network analyses and biomolecular interaction classification projects available on GitHub
- **Proven ability to design and code new algorithms**  
Adept python programmer with extensive GitHub profile
- **Familiarity with big data visualization, especially with R or python matplotlib**  
Projects using PySpark and matplotlib on GitHub
- **Ability to work independently**  
NSF project designed, written, and completed independently
- **Eager to work collaboratively in a team and to both give and receive feedback to support professional development for self and others**  
6 co-authored publications with experimental and computational scientists and engineers. TAed for 6 semesters for the senior, undergraduate biophysical chemistry lab
- **Ability to perform complex analyses in a time sensitive fashion**  
8 publications in high-impact journals in 5 years, while taking 9 classes, and TAing 9 semesters
- **Strong organizational and communications skills**  
Well organized repositories on GitHub. 6 oral and 2 poster presentations as PhD candidate
- **Passion, humility, and excitement for doing whatever it takes to drive research forward**  
Passionate, energetic, and self-deprecating humorous personality
- **Experience in the fields of microbiology, evolution, genomics, immunology**  
Dissertation on molecular structure evolution, class projects on microbial pathogen genomics

- **Experience with machine learning**

Machine learning project examples on GitHub

- **Experience executing computational analysis of metagenomic or genomic datasets**

NGS projects available on GitHub

- **Familiarity with cloud computing, in particular AWS EC2, CFN**

AWS projects available on GitHub

- **Previous experience developing database architecture**

Database projects on available on GitHub

Sincerely,

**Nicholas Attila Kovacs**

*See attached: Resume*