Nicholas Attila Kovacs

Structural Bioinformaticist

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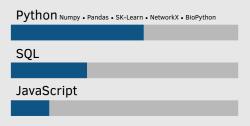
Overview Molecular Modeling Scientific Structural Bioinformatics Machine Learning

Network

Science

Programming

Visualization



Projects

Ribosomal PPI Evolution: Ribosomal protein-protein interface classification Ribosomal Protein Folding Evolution: Inferred protein folding evolution from the structure of ribosomal proteins PyRo: Python module for analyzing Ribosomal mmCIF files

CS 7280 • Network Science: Atomic network analysis of rRNA evolution BIOL 7210 • Computational Genomics: Built a genome browser from the analysis of raw NGS reads

Education

Dec 2018 PhD, Bioinformatics Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA

(Expected)

May 2012 **BS, Biochemistry** Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA

Experience

Aug 2013 - PhD Candidate, Graduate Research Assistant Georgia Inst. of Tech.

Dec 2018 Adviser: Dr. Loren Williams

Thesis: The History of Proteins Revealed by Data Mining the Ribosome

- **Hypothesis**: The ribosome is a molecular fossil; its strucuture can be mined to unravel the evolution of life
- Tools: Python, PyMOL, Adobe Illustrator, JavaScript
- Funding: NASA Astrobiology Institute
- Support: Data analysis for experimental labmates

Mar 2017 - **East Asia and Pacific Institutes Fellow** National Taiwan University Mar 2018 **Project**: The Evolution of Proteins in Eukaryotes

Tools: Python, PyMOL

- Funding: National Science Foundation East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes
- · Independently wrote grant to conduct international research
- Awarded stipend, living allowance, and airfare to Taipei, Taiwan

Jan 2017 - **Petit Scholar Mentor** Georgia Inst. of Tech.

Dec 2017 • Mentored undergraduate in laboratory project

Awarded travel and materials allowance

Aug 2013 - PhD Candidate, Graduate Teaching Assistant Georgia Inst. of Tech.

Dec 2016 Course: Macromolecular Structure - 2 semesters

• CHEM 6572, Graduate-level

• Trained $\sim\!25$ students on the use of molecular modeling software

Course: Biochemistry Lab II - 7 semesters

- · CHEM 4582, Undergraduate-level
- Instructed biophysical chemistry laboratory course of 8 students

Publications (selected)

- Kovacs, N.A., Petrov, A.S., Lanier, K.A., Williams, L.D. 2017 "Frozen in Time: The History of Proteins", *Mol. Biol. Evol.* **34**, 1252-1260
- Gómez Ramos, L. M., Degtyareva, N. N., **Kovacs, N. A.**, Holguin, S. Y., Jiang, L., Petrov, A. S., Williams, L. D. 2017 "Eukaryotic Ribosomal Expansion Segments as Antimicrobial Targets" *Biochemistry* **56**, 5288–5299
- Petrov, A. S., Gulen, B., Norris, A. M., **Kovacs, N. A.**, Bernier, C. R., Lanier, K. A., Williams, L. D. 2015 "History of the ribosome and the origin of translation" *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **112**, 15396–15401

Presentations (selected)

Jun 2017 Astrobiology Graduate Student Conference Charlottesville, VA
Title: The History of Proteins

Apr 2017 Graduate Research Symposium Atlanta, GA

Title: Eukaryotic Ribosomal Protein Evolution Awarded 3rd place

Dec 2016 Search for Life: From Early Earth to Exoplanets Quy Nhon, Vietnam

Title: Frozen in Time: The History of Proteins