Tarik Abdulaziz Aljuaie

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EDUCATION

M.S. in Biotechnology, Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, Johns Hopkins University – Baltimore, MD August 2023 – May 2025

- GPA: 3.97/4.0
- Coursework: Cellular Signal Transduction, Advanced Cell Biology, Molecular Biology, Practical Computer Concepts for Bioinformatics, Epigenetics, Gene Organization & Expression, Advanced Practical Computer Concepts

B.Sc. in Microbiology, College of Science, King Saud University – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia September 2017 – June 2022

- GPA: 3.86/4.0
- Graduation Project: Detection of resistance genes in Salmonella enterica serovar Arizonae
- Coursework: Microbial Genetics, Environmental Microbiology, Immunology

EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant - Urologic Oncology

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine – Baltimore, MD May 2024 – February 2025

- Analyzed RNA-Seq data from LNCaP prostate cancer cell lines to assess gene expression differences
- Performed quality checks and aligned reads to the reference genome
- Used R to conduct differential expression and gene ontology analysis; generated data visualizations including heatmaps and volcano plots

Graduate Teaching Assistant - Advanced Cell Biology

The Johns Hopkins University – Baltimore, MD September 2024 – May 2025

- Held weekly office hours to assist graduate students with course material and assignments
- Graded quizzes, midterms, discussion posts, and research papers
- Led and facilitated classroom discussions to enhance student understanding of core concepts

Laboratory Technician - Food Safety Department

Central Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory, Ministry of Environment, Water & Agriculture – Riyadh, KSA October 2022 – July 2023

- Diagnosed Salmonella and Campylobacter using morphology, serology, and VITEK/VIDAS systems
- Followed ISO 6579 (Salmonella) and ISO 10272 (Campylobacter) protocols under ISO 17025 standards

PROJECTS

Capstone Project - Genetic Variation Search Tool

Advanced Practical Computer Concepts for Bioinformatics, Johns Hopkins University

- Designed and developed a web-based bioinformatics tool to explore gene-phenotype relationships using ClinVar data (GRCh38 assembly)
- Built a MySQL relational schema to manage genes, variants, phenotypes, references, and clinical significance data
- Parsed and loaded large-scale tab-delimited data using Python; optimized SQL queries and indexing for performance
- Implemented a Python backend (CGI & Jinja2) with a dynamic HTML interface and JavaScript-based user interaction
- Integrated MONDO API using JavaScript to fetch and display real-time phenotype descriptions
- Added pagination, duplicate filtering (GROUP_CONCAT), and optimized query to improve usability and runtime

SKILLS

Data & Bioinformatics Tools:

R, RNA-Seq Analysis, Differential Gene Expression, Gene Ontology, Data Visualization (ggplot2, heatmaps, volcano plots), Shell scripting, Python, MySQL, JavaScript, Web Development (HTML/CSS), Apache Server Configuration

Laboratory Techniques:

PCR, DNA/RNA Extraction, Cell Cultures, Bacterial Cultures, PFGE

Professional Skills:

Critical Thinking, Time Management, Teamwork, Communication, Independent Learning