# Aarthi Venkat, Ph.D.

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Information aarthivenkat.github.io avenkat@broadinstitute.org

**EDUCATION** Yale University

> Ph.D. in Computational Biology & Bioinformatics May 2024 Dec 2021 M.S. in Computational Biology & Bioinformatics

The University of California, San Diego

Jun 2019 **B.S.** in Bioengineering: Bioinformatics

Research Experience

### Eric and Wendy Schmidt Center Postdoctoral Fellow

Sept 2024-Present

Last update: April 1, 2025

Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard, Drs. Marinka Zitnik & Nir Hacohen

• Bridging systems immunology with modern geometric deep learning toward transfer learning across biological scales and contexts

# Computational Biology & Bioinformatics Ph.D. Student

Aug 2019-Jul 2024

Yale University, Dr. Smita Krishnaswamy

• Developed geometric representation learning methods to characterize cellular and molecular behavior in diverse, co-led collaborations

#### Applied Science Research Intern

Sept 2021-Dec 2021

Google Brain, Drs. Lucy Colwell & Farhad Hormozdiari

- Performed ML-guided biological sequence design with Google Genomics, UCSF
- Achieved top performance for CRISPR RNA guide efficacy and expression prediction

#### Bioinformatics Research Assistant

Oct 2016-Sept 2019

La Jolla Institute for Immunology, Dr. Ferhat Ay

- Characterized 3D structure of malaria-related parasite genomes from Hi-C sequencing
- Corrected Toxoplasma qondii misassembly with Hi-C and long-read sequencing

#### Computational Biology Research Assistant

Sept 2018-Aug 2019

Institute for Genomic Medicine, Dr. Theresa Gaasterland

• Performed bioinformatic analysis of primary congenital glaucoma exomes

#### Genome Informatics Intern

Jun 2018-Sept 2018

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Regeneron Genetics Center

- Integrated loss-of-function variant and target annotation for over 500,000 exomes
- One of 7 selected out of 250+ interns to present at company-wide annual event

### **Data Analytics Intern**

Jun 2017-Sept 2017

Auris Health, Research & Development

• Built cloud-based pipeline to facilitate high-performance analysis of endoscopic robot

Publications \*§ Denote equal contribution.

Links to full publications available on my website: https://aarthivenkat.github.io

- [1] C Garcia\*, A Venkat\*, DC McQuaid\* ... S Krishnaswamy§, MD Muzumdar§. Beta cells are essential drivers of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma development. In Revision at Nature Communications.
- [2] A Venkat\*, S Youlten\*, BP San Juan\* ... S Krishnaswamy§, CL Chaffer§. AAnet resolves a continuum of spatially-localized cell states to unveil tumor complexity. In Revision at Cancer Discovery.
- [3] A Venkat, S Leone, S Youlten, E Fagerberg, J Attanasio, NS Joshi, S Krishnaswamy. Mapping the gene space at single-cell resolution with gene signal pattern analysis. Nature Computational Science (2024).

- [4] A Venkat\*, J Chew\*, F Cardoso Rodriguez, CJ Tape, M Perlmutter§, S Krishnaswamy§. Directed scattering for knowledge graph-based cellular signaling analysis. ICASSP (2024).
- [5] A Venkat\*, M Carlino\*, B Lawton\* ... S Krishnaswamy<sup>§</sup>, D Krause<sup>§</sup>. Single-cell analysis reveals transcriptional dynamics in primary parathyroid tissue. Genome Research (2024).
- [6] A Venkat, D Bhaskar, S Krishnaswamy. Multiscale geometric and topological analyses for characterizing and predicting immune responses from single-cell data. Cell Trends in Immunology (2023).
- [7] D Bhaskar\*, DS Magruder\*, M Morales, E De Brouwer, **A Venkat**, F Wenkel, J Noonan, G Wolf, N Ivanova, S Krishnaswamy. *Inferring dynamic regulatory interaction graphs from time series data with perturbations*. LoG Conference (2023).
- [8] S Leone, A Tong, G Huguet, A Venkat, G Wolf, S Krishnaswamy. Graph Fourier MMD for Signals on Graphs. SampTA (2023).
- [9] A Tong\*, M Kuchroo\*, S Gupta, **A Venkat** ... CL Chaffer§, S Krishnaswamy§. Revealing dynamic temporal regulatory networks driving cancer cell state plasticity with neural ODE-based optimal transport. In Review.
- [10] M Damo, N Hornick, A Venkat ... NS Joshi. PD-1 prevents pathogenicity of effector CD8 T cells that infiltrate skin under homeostatic conditions. Nature (2023).
- [11] M Amodio, SE Youlten, **A Venkat**, BP San Juan, CL Chaffer, S Krishnaswamy. Single-cell multi-modal GAN reveals spatial patterns in single-cell data from triple-negative breast cancer. Cell Patterns (2022).
- [12] KA Connolly, M Kuchroo, A Venkat ... NS Joshi. A reservoir of stem-like CD8+ T cells in the tumor draining lymph node preserves the ongoing antitumor immune response. Science Immunology (2021).
- [13] Y Su\*, **A Venkat**\*, Y Yadav, L Puglisi, S Fodeh. Twitter-based analysis reveals differential COVID-19 concerns across areas with socioeconomic disparities. CBM (2021).
- [14] J Xia, A Venkat, ML Reese, KG Le Roch, F Ay, JP Boyle. Third generation sequencing revises the molecular karyotype for Toxoplasma gondii and identifies emerging copy number variants in sexual recombinants. Genome Research (2021).
- [15] EM Bunnik, A Venkat\*, J Shao\*, KE McGovern ... F Ay<sup>§</sup>, KG Le Roch<sup>§</sup>. Comparative 3D Organization in Apicomplexan Parasites. PNAS (2019).

#### Presentations

- Learning cellular and molecular mechanisms of pancreatic cancer Connecting the Dots Broad Institute Symposium (2024)
- Mapping the gene space at single-cell resolution with gene signal pattern analysis Yale Department of Genetics Symposium Poster Presentation (2023)
- Mapping the gene space at single-cell resolution with gene signal pattern analysis Gruber Science Fellowship Symposium Poster Presentation (2023)
- Learning directed and hyperbolic embeddings Graph Signal Processing Workshop Oral Presentation (2023)
- PHATE reveals cell state transformation in Tercen biomedical data analysis platform CYTO Oral Presentation (2023)
- Mapping the gene space at single-cell resolution with gene signal pattern analysis AAI Immunology Poster Presentation (2023)
- Elucidating mechanisms of endocrine-exocrine signaling in pancreatic cancer Yale Single Cell Symposium Oral Presentation (2022)
- Manifold-based gene density estimates reveal immune signaling in meningioma ISMB Conference Poster Presentation (2021)
- Archetypal analysis of antigen-specific T cell responses across conditions CSHL Systems Immunology Conference Poster Presentation (2021)

• Leveraging the Power of Human Genetics through Knockout Discovery Regeneron Oral Presentation & Poster (2018)

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

# Teaching Assistant, Computational Genomics

Nov 2022, Dec 2023

Cold Springs Harbor Laboratory Workshop

• Designed and presented single-cell workshops for 20-40 PhD-level researchers

# Teaching Fellow, Deep Learning Theory and Applications

S 2021, S 2024

Yale University, Computer Science

• Held recitations, designed and graded homework, exams, and projects for undergraduate and graduate students

# Teaching Assistant, Machine Learning for Single-cell Analysis May 2020, Jan 2021 Yale University, Department of Genetics & Yale SEAS

• Co-taught 100+ researchers across all levels in tools for single-cell analysis

# Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Biomedical Data Science $\,$ Jun 2020 and Health Informatics

Yale Center for Medical Informatics

• Assisted in Python for biomedical data analysis for researchers across all levels

# Genetics Undergraduate Tutor / Instructional Assistant

F 2017, F 2018, S 2019

UC San Diego Biological Sciences

- Developed material for weekly recitation sessions, office hours, and exam preparation
- Received Excellence in Teaching Award for top performance (100% positive reviews)

# FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

## **GSA** Conference Travel Fellowship

Jun 2023, Mar 2024

Yale University

#### Yale Gruber Science Fellowship

Aug 2019

Yale University

• Most prestigious award offered by Graduate School of Arts and Sciences to incoming science PhDs in recognition of outstanding accomplishments and promise

# Honors and Awards

#### **Public Communication Certificate**

2023

Poorvu Center for Teaching & Learning, Yale University

• Certificate for skills developed in oral and written communication

#### OHER Award Finalist for Yale Research Excellence 2022

Yale School of Medicine, Office of Health Equity Research

• Received for "Twitter-based analysis reveals differential COVID-19 concerns across areas with socioeconomic disparities"

#### Outstanding Academic Achievement in Bioengineering

2019

The University of California, San Diego

• Highest performance in graduating class in Bioengineering: Bioinformatics

#### Excellence in Teaching Award

2019

The University of California, San Diego

• Highest performance evaluation for teaching assistance in Genetics

# Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors

2018, 2019

The University of California, San Diego

• Awarded to engineering students displaying high academic acheivement and personal, professional integrity

# Muir College Caledonian Honors

2018, 2019

The University of California, San Diego

 Awarded to engineering students displaying high academic acheivement and personal, professional integrity Provost Honors 2015-2019

The University of California, San Diego

• Received 12 times for high academic achievement

# ACADEMIC SERVICE

Invited Reviewer Computational & Structural Biotechnology Journal	2025
Broad Summer Research Program Selection Committee	2025
Program Committee Member for ISMB/ECCB 2025	2025
Foundation Models in Genomics Panel Moderator @ Broad	2024
Invited Reviewer RECOMB 2024	2024
Invited Reviewer Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine	2023
Student Advisory Board, Poorvu Center for Teaching & Learning	2023

• Developed curriculum and policy incorporating AI literacy and DEI principles

#### Networking Chair, Yale Gruber Science Fellowship

2022, 2023

• Hosted networking talks, panels, and discussion to foster Gruber scientific community

### Student Representative, Graduate Student Assembly

2023

• Advocated for CB&B graduate students to improve Yale healthcare literacy and policy

### Reviewing Editor, Yale Journal of Biology & Medicine

2023

 Managed manuscripts for Big Data issue, including inviting reviewers and making editorial decisions

# Social Services & Insurance Counseling, HAVEN Free Clinic

2022, 2023

• Provided healthcare guidance and resources to uninsured New Haven residents

# Cancer Biology Training Program, Yale School of Medicine

2021-2023

- Completed certificate in cancer biology through additional translational coursework
- Shadowed Dr. Pamela Kunz and discussed clinical relevance of in silico cancer research