

Anna Cavalla

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Driven, practical and sociable bioinformatician (R & Python) with 6 years' experience in world-class research institutions and commercial enterprises. Expertise in cancer & Alzheimer research, coding, data visualisation, and communication; thrives in a collaborative environment.

Career History

Eli Lilly, bioinformatician: Aug 2018–Jan 2019

- **App building:** rapidly learnt R Shiny to build an app to identify novel genetic targets.
- **Big data analysis:** found and incorporated publicly available transcriptomic datasets for Alzheimer disease genes into arresting visualisations within the app.
- **Poster presented at conference:** first author on poster identifying Alzheimer risk genes.
- **Collaboration:** defined a company standard with my team for recording analyses.

UBC (*Vancouver*), trainee bioinformatician and Master's student: Sept 2016–April 2018

- **Genomics thesis:** analysis in R of 600 human lymphoma genomes, identifying common mutations and assessing mutational burden as a function of a histone methyltransferase.
- **Epitranscriptomics:** co-created the Wikipedia page for epitranscriptomic sequencing.
- **Problem-based class:** pipeline building to solve problems using bioinformatics [84%].
- **Hackathon:** worked with a global team to write tutorials for R clustering packages.
- **Packages & classes:** tidyverse, ggplots, statistical methods for high-dimensional biology.
- **Presentation skills:** regularly presented
 - research progress to 15-person lab group.
 - recent papers on eg. sequence aligning algorithms, deep learning, neural networks, text mining.

Healx (*technology startup*), junior bioinformatician and science writer: Jan 2016–Aug 2016

- **Science communication:** wrote a blog to communicate scientific theory of rare diseases to a lay audience of patients and their families, and charities.
- **Biological data visualisation:** built interactive rare disease maps in Cytoscape depicting disease–drug–gene networks.

Nature Reviews, copy editor: Dec 2014–Sept 2015

- **Eye for detail:** corrected inaccuracies, inconsistencies, and scientific ambiguities in scientific review articles for a globally renowned journal.
- **Pressured environment:** turnover period of an article often as low as two days.
- **Project management:** assisted in the project management of the editing process.
- **Intelligent prioritisation:** multiple articles always on the go at different stages.
- **Client liaison point:** kept client authors up to date with the progression of their work.

Geistlich (*Switzerland*), translational regenerative biology lab associate: Oct 2012–Jan 2014

- **Initiative and organisation:** arranged and undertook a course in collaboration with Bern University working with stem cells.
 - **Technical laboratory expertise:** designed, optimised and performed cellular assays.
 - **Responsibility:** in sole charge of cell culture and upkeep of detailed accurate lab reports.
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Technical proficiencies

Skilled: R, MS Office

Knowledge of: Python, SQL, PHP

Education

Degree: University of Manchester, Biochemistry BSc 2i

2009–2012

A levels: Hills Road College, Cambridge; Maths A, Further Maths A, Biology A, Chemistry A

06–08

Interests: Netball, linguistics, North Korea, pub quizzes and travel