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RESEARCH Interests Computational biology, Probabilistic graphical models, Causal inference, Computational statistics, Machine learning

EDUCATION

# Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zürich, Switzerland

Ph.D. Student, Computational Biology Group

Feb 2016 - Mar 2020

- Advisor : Prof. Niko Beerenwinkel
- Committee: Prof. Peter Bühlmann, Prof. Randall Platt, and Prof. Rainer Spang
- Focus: Perturbation screens, Causality, and Statistics

M.Sc. in Computational Biology and Bioinformatics

Sep 2013 - Oct 2015

- $\bullet\,$  Advisor : Prof. Niko Beerenwinkel
- Supervisor : Dr. Fabian Schmich
- Thesis : Pathway reconstruction from combinatorial gene knockdowns exploiting siRNA off-target effects

### PES Institute of Technology, Bangalore, Karnataka, India

B.E. in Biotechnology

Sep 2008 - Jun 2012

• Graduated with Honors

Research Experience

# Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zürich, Switzerland

 $Ph.D.\ Student,\ Computational\ Biology\ Group$ 

Feb 2016 - Mar 2020

Advised by Prof. Niko Beerenwinkel

Focus on developing statistical and computational methods for discerning various genetic interactions from high-throughput perturbation data. Previously worked on using combinatorial perturbations resulting from siRNA off-targets to improve inference of underlying causal pathways. Currently working on discovering mutation-specific synthetic lethal targets from large-scale pan-cancer perturbation screens. Additionally, ongoing collaboration with Dr. Manoj Mahimkar (ACTREC) on integrating methylation profiles and diverse molecular and clinoco-pathological data in Gingivobuccal cancers.

Research Assistant, Computational Biology Group

Feb 2015 - Oct 2015

Advised by Prof. Niko Beerenwinkel and supervised by Dr. Fabian Schmich

Explored the feasibility of pathway reconstruction from combinatorial knockdown data exploiting siRNA off-target effects.

Mosaicoli - iGEM ETHZ 2014 Team

Apr 2014 - Oct 2014

Advised by Prof. Sven Panke, Prof. Jörg Stelling, and Prof. Yaakov Benenson

Won best model award among graduate teams. Developed mass action kinetics based multi-module whole cell model. Estimated and fitted parameters to experimental data which furthered development of a diffusion model, which was validated experimentally.

Research Assistant, Computational Systems Biology Group

Feb 2014 - May 2014

Advised by Prof. Jörg Stelling and supervised by Dr. Mathias Ganter

Worked on metabolic model reconstruction of *P. falciparum* and generated a refined consensus model by merging two genome-scale metabolic models for *P. falciparum* beyond the common namespace.

Patents

MDM2 inhibitor response prediction method and use of MDM2 inhibitors. 2019. Patent Pending.

Publications

S. Srivatsa\*, H. Montazeri\*, G. Bianco, M. Coto-Llerena, S. Piscuoglio, CKY. Ng, N. Beerenwinkel, "Discovery of synthetic lethal interactions from large-scale pan-cancer perturbation screens", *In revision*, Preprint bioRxiv: 10.1101/810374.

- H. Montazeri, M. Coto-Llerena, G. Bianco, E. Zangeneh, S. Taha-Mehlitz, V. Paradiso, <u>S. Srivatsa</u>, A. de Weck, G. Roma, M. Lanzafame, M. Bolli, N. Beerenwinkel, M. von Flüe, LM. Terracciano, S. Piscuoglio, CKY. Ng, "APSiC: Analysis of Perturbation Screens for the Identification of Novel Cancer Genes", *In review*, Preprint bioRxiv: 10.1101/807248.
- T. Ringel, N. Frey, F. Ringnalda, S. Janjuha, S. Butz, S. Cherkaoui, S. Srivatsa, M. Pirkl, G. Russo, G. Rogler, L. Villiger, N. Beerenwinkel, N. Zamboni, T. Baubec, G. Schwank, "Genome-scale CRISPR screening in human intestinal organoids identifies drivers of TGF- $\beta$  resistance", Cell Stem Cell (2020), doi: 10.1016/j.stem.2020.02.007.
- S. Srivatsa, J. Kuipers, F. Schmich, S. Eicher, M. Emmenlauer, C. Dehio, N. Beerenwinkel, "Improved pathway reconstruction from RNA interference screens by exploiting off-target effects", Bioinformatics (2018), doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/bty240.
- C. Wang, F. Schmich, <u>S. Srivatsa</u>, J. Weidner, N. Beerenwinkel, A. Spang, "Context-dependent deposition and regulation of mRNAs in P-bodies", eLife (2018), doi: 10.7554/eLife.29815.
- V. Ayyappan, A.K. Talukder, K. Sasmal, <u>S. Srivatsa</u>, K. Melmaiee, P. Achuthrao, B. Kingham, Z. Liu, V. Kalavacharla, "Chromatin Immunoprecipitation-Sequencing (ChIP-Seq) to understand the genome-wide hierarchy of H4K12ac and H3K9me2 acquisition in common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) and mung bean (*Vigna mungo* L.).
- \*Equal contribution

#### Presentations

- S. Srivatsa, J. Kuipers, F. Schmich, S. Eicher, M. Emmenlauer, C. Dehio, N. Beerenwinkel, "Improved pathway reconstruction from RNA interference screens by exploiting off-target effects", Oral presentation at ISMB 2018, Chicago, USA.
- S. Srivatsa, J. Kuipers, F. Schmich, N. Beerenwinkel, "Improved pathway reconstruction from RNA interference screens by exploiting off-target effects", Poster presentation at BC2 2017, Basel, Switzerland.
- S. Srivatsa, F. Schmich, J. Kuipers, N. Beerenwinkel, "Pathway reconstruction from combinatorial gene knockdowns exploiting siRNA off-target effects", Poster presentation at RECOMB 2016, Santa Monica, USA.
- S. Srivatsa, M. Ganter, R. Van Heck, J. Stelling, "Metabolic model reconstruction and evaluation of *Plasmodium falciparum*", Poster presentation at 4th Conference on Constraint-Based Reconstruction and Analysis 2015, Heidelberg, Germany.

## Professional Experience

#### InterpretOmics, Bangalore, India

Jul 2012 - Dec 2012

Bioinformatics Analyst

Designed and built a detailed pipeline for analysis of histone modified ChIP-Seq data. Analysed ChIP-Seq data focusing on H4K12ac and H3K9me2 in common bean and mung bean.

#### GVN Institute of Oncology, Trichy, India,

Jan 2012 - Jun 2012

Research Intern

Analyzed time series imaging data from 13 live patients from a hospital in South India with various liver diseases. Designed an effective system to characterize various liver disorders based on model parameters.

## Philips Research, Bangalore, India,

Aug 2011 - Dec 2011

Research Intern

Designed a two compartment model describing the transport of amino acids across the blood-brain barrier in Phenylketonuria patients.

#### TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

Supervised and mentored two graduate students during their lab rotations in the Computational Biology Group, ETHZ.

Teaching assistant for Statistical Models in Computational Biology (636-0702-00L), ETH Zürich Taught by Prof. Niko Beerenwinkel

Developed exercises and performed academic tutoring for three semesters. Also presented lectures on Nested effects models and Statistical Phylogenetics.

Teaching assistant for sophomore Linear Algebra, PES Institute of Technology Taught by Asst. Prof. Renna Sultana

Developed study material including solutions for exercises from Introduction to Linear Algebra by Gilbert Strang.

Honors and Awards SystemX travel grant for ISMB 2018

Jul 2018

Scholarship for International students, ETH Zürich

2014 - 2015

Prof. MRD Scholarship, PES Institute of Technology

2012

- for securing rank 2/95 in Dept. of Biotechnology

Distinction Award, PES Institute of Technology

2008 - 2012

- for excellence in Undergraduate Studies for all 8 semesters

State level Bio-Quiz, Runner up, Bangalore, Karnataka

May 2011

Intel CBSE Science Exhibition, National Level Finalist, Delhi, India

Aug 2006

Computer Skills

- Current programming languages: R, Python
- Previous experience: MATLAB, Perl, C, MySQL, Shell scripting
- Tools : Git, Travis, Vim, LATEX

Relevant Courses

- Machine Learning
- Data mining
- Multivariate statistics
- Introduction to causality
- Computational Systems Biology
- Cell Biology and Genetics

- Advanced computational statistics
- Introduction to Mathematical Optimization
- Applied Regression
- Biostatistics
- Biochemistry
- Molecular Biology