

# Ashley D'Souza

■ akd6@rice.edu ■ 512-258-8189

■ Home: [ashdza.github.io](https://ashdza.github.io) ■ Github: [github.com/ashdza](https://github.com/ashdza) ■ LinkedIn: [goo.gl/58fLVD](https://goo.gl/58fLVD)

## Education

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### Rice University

2017 - present  
Houston, TX

- Computer Science, graduating May 2021, GPA: 3.21

### Westwood High School

2013 - 2017  
Austin, TX

- GPA: 4.0/4.0 (5.58/5.0 weighted), National Merit Scholar, Graduated May 2017

## Conference Presentations

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### PyoFuel: Using Python and Pathway Tools to engineer synthetic biofuel

*Sole Author*

[more](#)

Dec 2016  
Colorado

- Int'l. Soc. for Computational Biology / 2016 Rocky Mountain Bioinformatics Conference (poster session)

## Projects

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### Lentil - A Musician's Feedback Service

*Independent Project*

[repo](#)

[demo](#)

2018 - present

- Design and implement a web-based musician feedback service (ReasonML, React, GraphQL, Postgres)
- Musicians submit recordings of performances and receive pointed feedback from others

### Physics Sunset

*Independent Project*

[repo](#)

[demo](#)

2017

- Design and implement a browser-based interactive graphical simulation of a physics problem (ReasonML)

### Disease Transmission Analysis

2018

- Design and implement a rooted-directed minimal spanning tree algorithm (Python)
- Analyze genetic + epidemiological data from 2011 disease outbreak to infer the disease transmission tree

### DNA Sequence Alignment

2018

- Design and implement dynamic programming solutions to DNA sequence alignment problems (Python)
- Align human and fruit-fly protein sequences to identify the PAX domain within the "eyeless" gene

### Phylogenetic (Evolutionary) Trees

2018

- Infer evolutionary tree, given DNA sequences for leaf taxa and plausible mutations (Python)

### Hidden Markov Models and Part-of-Speech Tagging

2018

- Implement statistical learning of HMM using training corpus of pre-tagged sentences (Python)
- Implement Viterbi algorithm to assign part-of-speech tags to new sentences using trained HMM

### Chef Arduino

*Independent Project*

[repo](#)

2010 - 2011

- Conceive, design, build, and program an Arduino-based robot to test properties of food samples

## Software Development Skills

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### Programming Languages & Frameworks

2013 - present

- Proficient: Python, Java, ReasonML/OCaml, React
- Basic: C, Racket, Pyret, Elm, Html, Numpy, Hasura's Postgres + GraphQL

### Software Design

2013 - present

- Systematic Program Design - Designing Data & Functions, EdX course based on HtDP2
- Functional programming with types (ReasonML, Java 8+, Python 3.5+)

### Software Testing

2017 - present

- Test-driven development, unit & property-based tests, Python: Pytest, Java: JUnit 5 & QuickTheories

## Work Experience

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### UT Austin, College of Natural Sciences, Vertebrate Interactome Lab

*Summer Research Intern*

2016  
Austin, TX

- DNA extraction, splicing, & recombineering of the DHX35 gene using E. coli
- Conducted computational Flux Balance Analysis on cyanobacteria engineered for biofuel

## Organizations and Activities

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- CSters: Women in Computer Science, Rice University 2017 - present
- CS Club, Rice University 2017 - present
- Society of Women Engineers (SWE), Rice University 2017 - present
- SASE: Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers, Rice University 2017 - present
- Club Tennis, Rice University 2017 - present
- Music: sing, record, perform, take lessons [soundcloud](#) [youtube](#) 2007 - present
- PyLadies: Austin community of women Python programmers, team programming, presentations 2015 - 2017