Ashley D'Souza

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Education

Rice University 2017 - present
Houston, TX
- BS Computer Science & BA Cognitive Science, graduating May 2021, GPA: 3.40

Westwood High School 2013 - 2017
Austin, TX
- GPA: 4.0/4.0 (5.58/5.0 weighted), National Merit Scholar, Graduated May 2017

Work Experience

Rice University, T.L.L. Temple Neuroplasticity Laboratory *Research Assistant* 2019-present
Houston, TX
- Computational neuroscience project studying speech vs. non-speech perception

UT Austin, College of Natural Sciences, Vertebrate Interactome Lab *Summer Research Intern* 2016
Austin, TX
- DNA recombineering of DHX35 gene in E. coli, and computational Flux Balance Analysis on cyanobacteria

Conference Presentations

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)

Software Development Skills

Programming Languages & Frameworks 2013 - present
- Proficient: Python, Java, ReasonML/OCaml, React
- Basic: C, Racket, Pyret, Elm, Html, Hasura's Postgres + GraphQL

Software Design 2013 - present
- Systematic Program Design - Designing Data & Functions, EdX course based on HtDP2
- Typed functional programming, Object-Oriented Design

Software Testing 2017 - present
- Test-driven development, unit & property-based tests, Python: Pytest, Java: JUnit 5 & QuickTheories

Projects

Lentil - A Web-Based Musician's Feedback Service *Independent Project* repo demo 2018 - present
- Musicians submit performances and receive pointed feedback from others (ReasonML, React, Postgres)

Physics Sunset *Independent Project* repo demo 2017
- Design and implement a browser-based interactive graphical simulation of a physics problem (ReasonML)

Disease Transmission Analysis from Outbreak Data 2018
- Infer disease transmission tree from disease outbreak genetic + epidemiological data using RDMST (Python)

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 (NLP) 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

Impact of Language on Perception *Independent Project* repo 2016
- Analyzed the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis and its implications in multiple perceptual categories

Chef Arduino *Independent Project* repo 2011
- Conceive, design, build, and program an Arduino-based robot to test properties of food samples

Organizations and Activities

- 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