

C. Titus Brown

(As of October 2013.)

EDUCATION

Reed College, Portland, OR; Mathematics; B.A., 1997

California Institute of Technology, Davidson Lab (graduate student);
Developmental Biology; PhD., 2007

California Institute of Technology, Bronner-Fraser Lab (postdoc);
Developmental Biology and Bioinformatics; 2007-2008

APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Microbiology & Molecular Genetics / Computer Science and Engineering
Michigan State University, 2008-present.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Burroughs-Wellcome Fund Computational Biology Fellowship (1999-2004).
Withrow Award for Teaching Excellence in Computer Science (2008-2009).
Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory Summer Fellow (2013).
Michigan State University / College of Natural Science Teacher-Scholar Award (2013).

GRANTS

12. USDA, \$129,889 (100%); 10/1/13-9/30/16. Collaborative proposal with WUSTL. "Improvement of the Chicken Reference Genome."
11. NSF, \$273,419 (20%); 9/2013-9/2016. co-PI, "Supporting Efficient Discrete Box Queries for Sequence Analysis on Large Scale Genome Databases."
10. NIH R25, \$162,000 (100%); 7/2013-7/2016. PI, "Analyzing Next-Generation Sequencing Data." Renewal.
9. NIH R01, \$699,231 (100%). 5/2013-5/2016. PI, "BIGDATA: Low-Memory Streaming Prefilters for Biological Sequencing Data."
8. USDA, \$2,989,032 (5.8%). 1/2013-1/2017. co-PI, "The Genetics of Johne's Disease."
7. NSF OCI Supplement to BEACON STC, \$200k (100%); 1/1/2013-12/31/2013. PI, "Materials and Workshops for Cyberinfrastructure Education in Biology."
6. USDA (Grad Fellowships), \$238,000 (15%). 1/2012-11/2017. co-PI, "Integrated genomics training program."
5. DOE, \$659,587 (5%). 9/2011-8/2012. co-PI, "Ribosomal Database Project."
4. NIH (R25 education), \$104,000 (100%); 7/2011-6/2014. PI, "Analyzing Next-Generation Sequencing Data."
3. USDA, \$99,000; 2/2009-12/2011 (100%). PI, "Positional Candidate Genes for Resistance to Marek's Disease by Screening for Marek's Disease Virus Meq-regulated Genes."
2. NSF, \$50,000; 9/2009-8/2011 (100%). PI, "RV1: MSB: Collaborative: Symbiont Separation and Investigation of the Novel Heterotrophic Osedax Symbiosis using Comparative Genomics."
1. USDA, \$690,000; 12/2009-11/2013 (100%). PI, "Easily accessible Web-based tools for analyzing next-generation sequencing data from agricultural animals."

Note: ▷ highlights the most important papers, in my opinion (personal contribution/impact).

SUBMITTED
MANUSCRIPTS

These are not the k-mers you are looking for: efficient online k-mer counting using a probabilistic data structure. Zhang Q, Pell J, Canino-Koning R, Howe AC, **Brown CT**. preprint arXiv:1309.2975. In review, PLoS One.

Illumina Sequencing Artifacts Revealed by Connectivity Analysis of Metagenomic Datasets. Howe AC, Pell J, Canino-Koning R, Mackelprang R, Tringe SG, Jansson J, Tiedje JM, **Brown CT**. preprint arXiv:1212.0159. (1 cit.)

▷ *A Reference-Free Algorithm for Computational Normalization of Shotgun Sequencing Data.* **Brown CT**, Howe AC, Zhang Q, Pyrkosz AB, Brom TH. preprint arXiv:1203.4802. (12 cit; Google Scholar incomplete.)

PEER REVIEWED
PUBLICATIONS

*Full publication list at: <http://scholar.google.com/citations?user=O4rYanMAAAAJ>
November 2013: 3237 citations total; h-index of 22, i10-index of 25.*

▷ *Tackling soil diversity with the assembly of large, complex metagenomes.* Howe AC, Jansson J, Malfatti SA, Tringe SG, Tiedje JM, **Brown CT**. Accepted at PNAS, 2/2014. preprint arXiv:1212.2832. (1 cit.)

The Ribosomal Database Project: Data and Tools for High Throughput rRNA Analysis. Cole JR, Wang Q, Fish J, Chai B, McGarrell D, Sun Y, Brown CT, Porras-Alfaro A, Kuske C, Tiedje JM. Accepted, Nucleic Acid Res, Nov 2013.

Genomic versatility and functional variation between two dominant heterotrophic symbionts of deep-sea Osedax worms. Goffredi S, Yi H, Zhang Q, Klann J, Struve I, Vrijenhoek RC, **Brown CT**. Accepted, ISME Journal, October 2013.

Best practices for scientific computing. Wilson GV et al. preprint arXiv:1210.0530. Accepted PLoS Biology, October 2013. (17 cit.)

FunGene: the Functional Gene Pipeline and Repository. Fish JA, Chai B, Wang Q, Sun Y, **Brown C**, Tiedje JM and Cole JR (2013). Front. Microbiol. 4:291. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2013.00291

The genome and developmental transcriptome of the stronglylid nematode Haemonchus contortus. Schwarz EM, Korhonen PK, Campbell BE, Young ND, Jex AR, Jabbar A, Hall RS, Mondal A, Howe AC, Pell J, Hofmann A, Boag PR, Zhu XQ, Gregory TR, Loukas A, Williams BA, Antoshechkin I, **Brown CT**, Sternberg PW, Gasser RB. Genome Biol. 2013 Aug 28;14(8):R89.

The sea lamprey has a primordial accessory olfactory system. Chang S, Chung-Davidson YW, Libants SV, Nanlohy KG, Kiupel M, **Brown C.T.**, Li W. BMC Evol Biol. 2013 Aug 17;13(1):172. doi: 10.1186/1471-2148-13-172.

Integrated Analyses of Genome-Wide DNA Occupancy and Expression Profiling Identify Key Genes and Pathways Involved in Cellular Transformation by a Marek's Disease Virus Oncoprotein. Meq. Subramaniam S, Johnston J, Preeyanon L, **Brown CT**, Kung HJ, Cheng HH. J Virol. 2013 Aug;87(16):9016-29. doi: 10.1128/JVI.01163-13.

A thermogenic secondary sexual character in male sea lamprey. Chung-Davidson, Y.-W., Priess, M.C., Yeh, C.-Y., Brant, C.O., Johnson, N.S., Li, K., Nanlohy, K.G., Bryan, M.B., **Brown, C.T.**, Choi, J., Li, W. Journal of Experimental Biology. 2013 Jul 15;216(Pt 14):2702-12. doi: 10.1242/jeb.085746. (1 cit.)

Sequencing of the sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus) genome provides insights into vertebrate evolution. Smith JJ et al. Nature Genetics, Apr;45(4):415-21, 421e1-2. doi: 10.1038/ng.2568. Epub 2013 Feb 24. (26 cit.)

Draft Genome Sequences of two Campylobacter jejuni Clinical Isolates, NW and D2600. Jerome JP, Klahn BD, Bell JA, Barrick JE, **Brown CT**, Mansfield LS. Journal of Bacteriology, 194 (20), 5707-5708. (2 cit.)

▷ *Scaling metagenome sequence assembly with probabilistic de Bruijn graphs.* Pell J, Hintze A, Canino-Koning R, Howe A, Tiedje JM, **Brown CT**. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, published online before print July 30, 2012, doi: 10.1073/pnas.1121464109. (24 cit.)

Standing Genetic Variation in Contingency Loci Drives the Rapid Adaptation of Campylobacter jejuni to a Novel Host Jerome JP, Bell JA, Plovianich-Jones AE, Barrick JE, **Brown CT**, Manfield LS. PLoS One 6 (1), e16399, Jan 24 2011. (20 cit.)

Exploring the future of bioinformatics data sharing and mining with Pygr and Worldbase Lee C, Alekseyenko A, **Brown CT**. in *Proceedings of the 8th Python in Science conference (SciPy 2009)*, G Varoquaux, S van der Walt, J Millman (Eds.), pp. 62-67. (4 cit.)

Diverse syntrophic partnerships from deep-sea methane vents revealed by direct cell capture and metagenomics.

Pernthaler A, Dekas AE, **Brown CT**, Goffredi SK, Embaye T, Orphan VJ. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2008 May 13;105(19):7052-7. Epub 2008 May 8. PMID: 18467493. (139 cit.)

The genome of the sea urchin Strongylocentrotus purpuratus.

Sea Urchin Genome Sequencing Consortium.

Science. 2006 Nov 10;314(5801):941-52. PMID: 17095691. (432 cit.)

High regulatory gene use in sea urchin embryogenesis: Implications for bilaterian development and evolution.

Howard-Ashby M, Materna SC, **Brown CT**, Tu Q, Oliveri P, Cameron RA, Davidson EH. Dev Biol. 2006 Dec 1;300(1):27-34. Epub 2006 Oct 18. PMID: 17101125. (30 cit.)

Gene families encoding transcription factors expressed in early development of Strongylocentrotus purpuratus. Howard-Ashby M, Materna SC, **Brown CT**, Chen L, Cameron RA, Davidson EH. Dev Bio 2006 300 (1), 90-107 (83 cit.)

Identification and characterization of homeobox transcription factor genes in Strongylocentrotus purpuratus, and their expression in embryonic development Howard-Ashby M, Materna C, **Brown CT**, Chen L, Cameron RA, Davidson EH. 2006 Dev Bio 300 (1), 74-89. (65 cit.)

Sea urchin Forkhead gene family: phylogeny and embryonic expression Tu Q, **Brown CT**, Davidson EH, Oliveri P. 2006 Dev Bio 300 (1), 49-62. (86 cit.)

Paircomp, FamilyRelationsII and Cartwheel: tools for interspecific sequence comparison.

Brown CT, Xie Y, Davidson EH, Cameron RA.

BMC Bioinformatics. 2005 Mar 24;6:70. PMID: 15790396 (28 cit.)

Anaerobic regulation by an atypical Arc system in Shewanella oneidensis.

Gralnick JA, **Brown CT**, Newman DK.

Mol Microbiol. 2005 Jun;56(5):1347-57. PMID: 15882425 (48 cit.)

▷ *Evolutionary comparisons suggest many novel cAMP response protein binding sites in E. coli.*

Brown CT, Callan CG Jr.

Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2004 Feb 24;101(8):2404-9. PMID: 14983022 (46 cit.)

Patchy interspecific sequence similarities efficiently identify positive cis-regulatory elements in the sea urchin. Yuh CH, **Brown CT**, Livi CB, Rowen L, Clarke PJC, Davidson EH. 2002 Dev Bio 246 (1), 148-161. (82 cit.)

New computational approaches for analysis of cis-regulatory networks.

Brown CT, Rust AG, Clarke PJ, Pan Z, Schilstra MJ, De Buysscher T, Griffin G, Wold BJ, Cameron RA, Davidson EH, Bolouri H. Dev Biol. 2002 Jun 1;246(1):86-102. PMID: 12027436 (104 cit.)

A genomic regulatory network for development.

Davidson EH, Rast JP, Oliveri P, Ransick A, Caestani C, Yuh CH, Minokawa T, Amore G, Hinman V, Arenas-Mena C, Otim O, **Brown CT**, Livi CB, Lee PY, Revilla R, Rust AG, Pan Z, Schilstra MJ, Clarke PJ, Arnone MI, Rowen L, Cameron RA, McClay DR, Hood L, Bolouri H. Science. 2002 Mar 1;295(5560):1669-78. PMID: 11872831. (1050 cit.)

A provisional regulatory gene network for specification of endomesoderm in the sea urchin embryo.

Davidson EH, Rast JP, Oliveri P, Ransick A, Caestani C, Yuh CH, Minokawa T, Amore G, Hinman V, Arenas-Mena C, Otim O, Brown CT, Livi CB, Lee PY, Revilla R, Schilstra MJ, Clarke PJ, Rust AG, Pan Z, Arnone MI, Rowen L, Cameron RA, McClay DR, Hood L, Bolouri H. Dev Biol. 2002 Jun 1;246(1):162-90. PMID: 12027441 (227 cit.)

The Earthshine Project: update on photometric and spectroscopic measurements. E. Palle, P. M. Rodriguez, P. R. Goode, J. Qiu, V. Yurchyshyn, J. Hickey, M.-C. Chu, E. Kolbe, C. T. Brown, and S. E. Koonin. Solar Variability and Climate Change Advances in Space Research 34, 288 (2004).

The earthshine spectrum P. M. Rodriguez, E. Palle, P. R. Goode, J. Hickey, J. Qiu, V. Yurchyshyn, M.-C. Chu, E. Kolbe, C. T. Brown, and S. E. Koonin. Solar Variability and Climate Change Advances in Space Research 34, 293 (2004).

Sunshine, Earthshine and Climate Change: II. Solar Origins of Variations in the Earth's Albedo. P.R. Goode, E. Palli, V. Yurchyshyn, J. Qiu, J. Hickey, P. Montaqis-Rodriguez, M.-C. Chu, E. Kolbe, C.T. Brown, S.E. Koonin. Journal of the Korean Astronomical Society, 35, 1 (2003).

Earthshine and the Earth's albedo: 1. Earthshine observations and measurements of the lunar phase function for accurate measurements of the Earth's Bond albedo J. Qiu, P. R. Goode, E. Palle, V. Yurchyshyn, J. Hickey, P. M. Rodriguez, M.-C. Chu, E. Kolbe, C. T. Brown, and S. E. Koonin. J. of Geophys. Res.-Atmospheres 108, 4709 (2003). (33 cit.)

Earthshine and the Earth's albedo: 2. Observations and simulations over three years E. Palle, P. R. Goode, V. Yurchyshyn, J. Qiu, J. Hickey, P. M. Rodriguez, M.-C. Chu, E. Kolbe, C. T. Brown, and S. E. Koonin. J. of Geophys. Res.-Atmospheres 108, 4710 (2003). (43 cit.)

Earthshine observations of the earth's reflectance P. R. Goode, J. Qiu, V. Yurchyshyn, J. Hickey, M.-C. Chu, E. Kolbe, C. T. Brown, and S. E. Koonin Geophys. Res. Lett. 28, 1671 (2001). (66 cit.)

Visualizing Evolutionary Activity of Genotypes in Evita; with M. Bedau. Adaptive Systems, 1998. (51 cit.)

A Comparison of Evolutionary Activity in Artificial Living Systems and in the Biosphere; Snyder E, Brown CT, Bedau M, Packard N. in the Proceedings of the 4th Europ. Conf. on Artificial Life, July, 1997. (60 cit.)

Abundance Distributions in Artificial Life and Stochastic Models: "Age and Area" revisited, Adami, C., Brown, C.T., Haggerty, M.R. Proc. of 3rd Europ. Conf. on Artificial Life, June 4-6, 1995, Granada, Spain, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Springer Verlag (1995), p.503. (16 cit.)

Evolutionary Learning in the 2D Artificial Life System “Avida”

Adami C, Brown CT. Proc. of “Artificial Life IV”, MIT Press, p. 377-381 (1994). (173 cit.)

INVITED ARTICLES
AND REVIEWS

Metagenomics: the paths forward. Brown CT and Tiedje JM. Handbook of Molecular Microbiology II: Metagenomics in Different Habitats. Wiley-Blackwell 10 Nov 2011.

Computational approaches to finding and analyzing cis-regulatory elements. Brown CT. Methods Cell Biol. 2008;87:337-65. Review. PMID: 18485306 (7 cit.)

Reproducible Bioinformatics Research for Biologists. Preeyanon L, Pyrkosz AB, and Brown CT. Chapter in Implementing Reproducible Computational Research, V. Stodden and R. Peng, ed. Forthcoming in Dec 2013.

REPORTS AND
EDITORIALS

Cephalopod genomics: A plan of strategies and organization. Albertin et al., Standards in Genomic Sciences 7 (1), 175. (2 cit.)

Changing computational research. The challenges ahead. Neylon, C., Aerts, J., Brown, C.T., Lemire, D., Millman, J., Murray-Rust, P., Perez, F., Saunders, N., Smith, A., Varoquaux, G. Source Code for Biology and Medicine 7 (1), 2 (2012). (3 cit.)

Meeting report: the terabase metagenomics workshop and the vision of an Earth microbiome project. Gilbert, J.A., Meyer, F., Antonopoulos, D., Balaji, P., Brown, C.T., Brown, C.T., Desai, N., Eisen, J.A., Evers, D., Field, D. Standards in genomic sciences, 3(3) 243 (2010). (41 cit.)

ONLINE
COMMENTARIES,
BLOGS, AND SOCIAL
MEDIA

Personal/professional blog at: ivory.idyll.org/blog/. A few selected posts (click on links): “Our approach to replication in computational science”, “Thoughts on Assemblathon 2”, “The future of khmer (2013)”.

Twitter: @ctitusbrown

BioMedCentral invited blog post: “Version control for scientific research”

SELECTED
INVITATIONS AND
MEETINGS

April 2013 - NIH NHGRI Education and Training committee.

March 2013 - Invited speaker at National Center for Atmospheric Research Software Engineering Assembly.

March 2013 - NSF/Moore Foundation meeting on Cyberinfrastructure for Marine 'Omics.

September 2012 - Invited speaker at Extremely Large Databases 2012 (XLDB 2012).

June 2012 - NSF BIO Centers meeting on Cyberinfrastructure Needs in BIO.

PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES

iPlant Scientific Advisory Board member.

Software Carpentry Advisory Board member.

NIH Committee Member for Cloud Computing and the Human Microbiome.

Cephalopod Genome Sequencing Consortium Steering Committee, 2012-present.

Member of the Editorial Board for Open Research Computation, Frontiers in Livestock Genomics.

Xconomist.com, invited member, Advisory Board (Michigan chapter).

BEACON NSF STC, Thrust Group co-leader (responsible for reviewing proposals, organizing activities), 2010-present.

Course director, 2010-present, Next-Generation Sequence Analysis for Biologists, KBS, MSU.

Course faculty, 2006-2008, Embryology Course, Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory.

Founder, Caltech Bioinformatics Journal Club; biology-in-python mailing list.

Faculty advisor, Metagenomics Journal Club at MSU.

Development and maintenance of several open source bioinformatics tools, including Cartwheel server for comparative sequence analysis, khmer k-mer software, and screed; github.com/ctb/.

Active in open source testing community: twill, figleaf, pony-build.

Reviewer for National Science Foundation; Developmental Biology, BMC Bioinformatics, BMC Genomics, Genome Biology, Bioinformatics, PLoS One.

TEACHING AND WORKSHOPS	<p>Open Problems in Bioinformatics, CSE/MMG graduate seminar course (2008-2009)</p> <p>Database-Backed Web Development, CSE 4xx (2008-, yearly)</p> <p>Introduction to Computational Science for Evolutionary Biologists, CSE 801 (was 891) (2010-, yearly).</p> <p>Analyzing Next-Generation Sequencing Data, research workshop (2010-, yearly).</p> <p>Software Carpentry workshops: Scripps Research Institute (11/2012), U. Arizona (4/2013)</p> <p>Instructor at Marine Biological Laboratory course on Strategies and Techniques for Analyzing Microbial Population Structures, 2012 and 2013.</p> <p>Co-instructor for Workshop on Microbial Bioinformatics, 10/2013, Caltech.</p> <p>Lead instructor for Workshop on mRNAseq for Biologists, and Workshop for Advanced Bioinformatics Developers, 11/2013, The Centre For Genome Analysis, Norwich, UK.</p>
FORMER STUDENTS	<p>Jiarong Guo (MS in Fisheries and Wildlife, 2010). Thesis topic: Phylogenetic analysis of annotations for uncultured bacteria.</p> <p>Jason Pell (PhD in Computer Science, 2013). Thesis topic: Efficient algorithms for the analysis of sequencing data.</p>
CURRENT STUDENTS	<p>Jiarong Guo (MMG PhD student, 2010-2015 (expected))</p> <p>Elijah Lowe (CSE PhD student, 2008-2014 (expected))</p> <p>Likit Preeyanon (MMG PhD student, 2008-2014 (expected))</p> <p>Qingpeng Zhang (CSE PhD student, 2008-2014 (expected))</p> <p>CS Welcher (CSE PhD student, 2012-2017 (expected))</p>
POSTDOCTORAL TRAINEES	<p>Adina Chuang Howe (now postdoc at Argonne National Labs)</p> <p>Kanchan Pavangadkar (now student advisor at MSU)</p>
REFERENCES	<p><i>(Contact details available upon request.)</i></p> <p>Dr. Ewan Birney, Associate Director of the EMBL-EBI.</p> <p>Professor Jonathan Eisen, University of California at Davis.</p> <p>Professor Paul W. Sternberg, California Institute of Technology.</p> <p>Professor Billie J. Swalla, University of Washington at Seattle.</p>