Benjamin D. Porter

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin (B.S. in Computer Science)

2017 - 2021

• Turing Scholars Honors Program

RELEVANT COURSEWORK (H denotes an honors course)

Algorithms/Data Structures (H), Discrete Mathematics (H), Integral/Multivariable Calculus

EXPERIENCE

Research Intern - Parasol Laboratory, Texas A&M University

Summer 2016

- Applied sampling-based motion planning to predict ligand binding sites on a protein surface
- Implemented metrics in C++ using Parasol Motion Planning Library (PMPL) to gauge candidate binding sites' favorability, parsing protein database files and writing metrics to text files
- Proposed future application of metrics to a neural network approach
- Personal webpage: https://parasol.tamu.edu/people/bporter
- Faculty advisor: Dr. Nancy M. Amato

PERSONAL PROJECTS

Pest Control - Team Lead

Nov. 2016 - Apr. 2017

- Developed a video game with the Unity engine in a team of four for the SkillsUSA game design contest
- Implemented mechanic to allow the player to walk on surfaces, facilitated effective communication between art and development teams

Random Writing Generator (data structures coursework)

Sept. 2017

• Used Markov chains in Java to generate pseudo-random text from a source text

Image Manipulator (data structures coursework)

Sept. 2017

• Implemented algorithms in Java to manipulate the pixels in an image (removing red shades, de-noising, blurring, etc.)

Truth Table Generator

Sept. 2017 - present

• Java parser to evaluate propositional logic expressions and produce output of truth tables in the form of a LATEX tabular environment

HONORS

Leo and Catherine E. Schein Memorial Scholarship

Fall 2017

• Endowed scholarship from the Department of Computer Science for distinguished undergruaduates in the Turing Scholars program

SKILLS

Proficient: Java, Unity3D Familiar: C++, C#, Git, LATEX Exposure: Python, web frontend

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Competitive programming and Association of Computing Machinery

INTERESTS

Machine learning, game design, computational biology, CS education

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES/HONORS

UIL Computer Science competitor

National Merit Semifinalist