

# Olga B. Botvinnik

## Curriculum Vitae

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Studying the “dark matter” of genomes since 2017. PhD in single-cell RNA-sequencing. “Grand unified theory of cells,” hashing, sequencing weird creatures, STEM outreach. MIT, Broad Institute, UCSC, UCSD. Open science/data/source.

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### Education

- 2017 **Ph.D., Bioinformatics and Systems Biology**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.  
Dissertation: Computational analysis of single-cell alternative splicing
- 2012 **M.S., Bioinformatics and Biomolecular Engineering**, *University of California, Santa Cruz*, Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2010 **S.B., Biological Engineering**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.
- 2010 **S.B., Mathematics**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.

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### Experience

2017–**Chan Zuckerberg Biohub**, *Data Sciences*, San Francisco, CA, Bioinformatics Present Scientist.

Investigated biological datasets via machine learning algorithms using a hodgepodge of tools such as Git/GitHub, Python (**scikit-learn**, **pandas**, **jupyter notebook** and friends), AWS, Docker, workflow management languages (Nextflow [github.com/nextflow-io/nextflow/](https://github.com/nextflow-io/nextflow/)), mentored junior scientists and bioinformaticians as part of a fast-paced, diverse, and integrated team.

Projects:

- Analyzed large single-cell transcriptome of mouse organs in collaboration with 50+ domain experts to create *Tabula Muris* resource dataset ([github.com/czbiohub/tabula-muris](https://github.com/czbiohub/tabula-muris)), paper published in *Nature*
- Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team in creating the first single-cell atlas of a nonhuman primate
- Developed “sencha” ([github.com/czbiohub/sencha](https://github.com/czbiohub/sencha)) tool to partition RNA-seq reads into protein-coding and noncoding RNA
- Led cross-species analyses projects to study “dark matter” of transcriptomes using subsampled *k*-mers from translated RNA-seq reads in a reduced amino acid alphabet, to find putative homologous genes across millions of years of evolution
- Spearheaded weekly internal “Cupcakes & Coding” sessions, alternating between facilitating tutorials taught by junior programmers to share coding knowledge, and pair programming sessions ([github.com/czbiohub/cupcakes](https://github.com/czbiohub/cupcakes))
- Pioneered weekly “BioinformaticsBeyonce” Twitch channel showcasing open source bioinformatics tools and research ([twitch.tv/bioinformaticsbeyonce](https://twitch.tv/bioinformaticsbeyonce))

2010–2011 **Jill Mesirov Laboratory**, *Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT*, Cambridge, MA, Bioinformatics Research Assistant.

Created REVEALER algorithm to unveil candidate oncogenic activators, published in *Nature Biotechnology*. Contributed to papers published in *Science Signaling* and *Journal of Hematology & Oncology*.

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## Research Training

2013–2017 **Gene Yeo Laboratory**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.

Led machine-learning analyses of single-cell motor neuron differentiation mRNA-seq data, in collaboration with wet-lab researchers. Independently developed several software packages written in Python for alternative splicing analyses

2012–2013 **Research Rotations**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.

Worked in Profs. Trey Ideker, Gene Yeo, and Pavel Pevzner’s laboratories

2012 **Nader Pourmand Laboratory**, *University of California, Santa Cruz*, Santa Cruz, CA.  
Analyzed single-cell response of breast cancer drug resistance to paclitaxel

2010 **Sebastian Seung Laboratory**, *MIT Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences*, Cambridge, MA.  
Computed directionality of neurons in electron microscopy of rabbit retina

2009 **David Gifford Laboratory**, *MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory*, Cambridge, MA.  
Tested whether information flow can predict gene lethality in genomic networks

2008 **Sean Eddy Laboratory**, *Howard Hughes Medical Institute Janelia Farm Research Campus*, Ashburn, VA.  
Used Hidden Markov Models to improve protein homology search with robust null models

2007 **Martha Bulyk Laboratory**, *Brigham and Women's Hospital, Division of Genetics*, Boston, MA.

Analyzed DNA binding specificities of mouse homeodomain transcription factors

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## Awards

### Fellowships

2017 University of Washington eScience Institute - Moore/Sloan Data Science and Washington Research Foundation Innovation in Data Science Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined)

2014 NumFocus John Hunter Technical Fellowship for Open Source Science

2013–2016 National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship

### Honors

2016 100 Awesome Women In The Open-Source Community You Should Know, sourced.com

2013 Fannie and John Hertz Foundation Fellowship Finalist

2012 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship: Honorable Mention

2012 University of California Regents Scholarship

2009 Bernard M. Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership Program

2008 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Janelia Farm Research Summer Scholar

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## Publications

### Journal Articles

- [1] Sachin J Shah, Peter N Barish, Priya A Prasad, Amy L Kistler, Norma Neff, Jack Kamm, Lucy M Li, Charles Y Chiu, Jennifer M Babick, Margaret C Fang, Yumiko Abe-Jones, Narges Alipanah, Francisco N Alvarez, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jennifer M Davis, Gloria D Castenada, CLIAHub Consortium, Rand M Dadasovich, Xianding Deng, Joseph L DeRisi, Angela M Detweiler, Scot Federman, John R Haliburton, Samantha L Hao, Andrew D Kerkhoff, Renuka Kumar, Katherine Malcolm, Sabrina A Mann, Sandra P Martinez, Rupa Marya, Eran Mick, Lusajo L Mwakibete, Nader Najafi, Michael J Peluso, Maira S Phelps, Angela O Pisco, Kalani Ratnasiri, Luis A Rubio, Anna B Sellas, Kyla D Sherwood, Jonathan Sheu, Natasha Spottiswoode, Michelle Tan, Guixa Yu, Kirsten N Kangelaris, and Charles Langelier. Clinical features, diagnostics, and outcomes of patients presenting with acute respiratory illness: a comparison of patients with and without covid-19. *medRxiv*, 2020, <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/early/2020/05/06/2020.05.02.20082461.full.pdf>.
- [2] Botvinnik, Olga B and Vemuri, Venkata Naga Pranathi and Logan, Phoenix Aja and Nafees, Saba and Brown, C. Titus and Karkanias, Jim. Sencha directly translates RNA-seq reads to enable functional prediction of transcriptomic ‘dark matter’ across species. *In preparation*, 2020.
- [3] Tabula Muris Consortium. Single-cell transcriptomics of 20 mouse organs creates a Tabula Muris. *Nature*, pages 1–25, Oct. 2018, <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/early/2017/12/20/237446.full.pdf>.
- [4] Yan Song\*, **Olga B Botvinnik\***, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Jia L Xu, and Gene Yeo. Single-cell alternative splicing analysis with expedition reveals

splicing dynamics during neuron differentiation. *Molecular Cell*, 2017. \* These authors contributed equally to this work.

- [5] Curtis A Nutter, Elizabeth A Jaworski, Sunil K Verma, Vaibhav Deshmukh, Qiongling Wang, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Mario J Lozano, Ismail J Abass, Talha Ijaz, Allan R Brasier, Nisha J Garg, Xander H T Wehrens, Gene W Yeo, and Muge N Kuyumcu-Martinez. Dysregulation of RBFOX2 Is an Early Event in Cardiac Pathogenesis of Diabetes. *Cell Reports*, 15(10):2200–2213, 2016.
- [6] Jong Wook Kim\*, **Olga B Botvinnik\***, Omar Abudayyeh, Chet Birger, Joseph Rosenbluh, Yashaswi Shrestha, Mohamed E Abazeed, Peter S Hammerman, Daniel DiCara, David J Konieczkowski, et al. Characterizing genomic alterations in cancer by complementary functional associations. *Nature Biotechnology*, 2016. \* These authors contributed equally to this work.
- [7] Kris C Wood, David J Konieczkowski, Cory M Johannessen, Jesse S Boehm, Pablo Tamayo, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jill P Mesirov, William C Hahn, David E Root, Levi A Garraway, et al. MicroSCALE screening reveals genetic modifiers of therapeutic response in melanoma. *Science Signaling*, 5(224):rs4, 2012.
- [8] A Goncarenco, P Grynberg, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Geoff Macintyre, and Thomas Abeel. Highlights from the Eighth International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) Student Council Symposium 2012. *BMC Bioinformatics*, 2012.
- [9] Naomi Galili, Pablo Tamayo, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jill P Mesirov, Margarita R Brooks, Gail Brown, and Azra Raza. Prediction of response to therapy with ezatiostat in lower risk myelodysplastic syndrome. *Journal of Hematology & Oncology*, 5(1):1, 2012.
- [10] Naomi Galili, Pablo Tamayo, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jill P Mesirov, Jennifer Zikria, Gail Brown, and Azra Raza. Gene Expression Studies May Identify Lower Risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome Patients Likely to Respond to Therapy with Ezatiostat Hydrochloride (TLK199). *Blood*, 118(21):2779–2779, 2011.
- [11] Michael F Berger, Gwenael Badis, Andrew R Gehrke, Shaheynoor Talukder, Anthony A Philippakis, Lourdes Pena-Castillo, Trevis M Alleyne, Sanie Mnaimneh, **Olga B Botvinnik**, Esther T Chan, et al. Variation in homeodomain DNA binding revealed by high-resolution analysis of sequence preferences. *Cell*, 133(7):1266–1276, 2008.

#### Books

- [1] P Compeau and P Pevzner. *Bioinformatics Algorithms Volume 1*, volume 1 of *An Active Learning Approach*. Active Learning Publishers LLC, 2 edition, 2015. Contributed text, figures, problems and code solutions, primarily to “Chapter 4: How Do We Sequence Antibiotics?”.

#### Conference Posters

- [1] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Yan Song, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Jia L Xu, and Gene W Yeo. Single-cell alternative splicing analysis using Expedition reveals splicing dynamics during neuron differentiation. In *RNA Society*, Kyoto, Japan, June 2016.

- [2] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Yan Song, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Leen Jamal, and Gene W Yeo. Novel computational metrics for population-wide differences in alternative splicing in single cells. In *Stem Cell Genomics California Institute of Regenerative Medicine Retreat*, La Jolla, CA, Apr. 2016.
- [3] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Yan Song, Michael T Lovci, Boyko Kakaradov, Patrick Liu, Leen Jamal, and Gene W Yeo. Single-cell alternative splicing analysis using Expedition reveals splicing dynamics during neuron differentiation. In *Single Cell Analysis Investigators Meeting*, Bethesda, MD, Apr. 2015.
- [4] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Jonathan Kim, Wendy Lee, Paola Castro, and Nader Pourmand. Single-cell differential expression pipeline. In *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)*, Long Beach, CA, June 2012.
- [5] **Olga B Botvinnik**, Pablo Tamayo, and Jill P Mesirov. Discovery of novel candidate oncogenic activators with REVEALER. In *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)*, Vienna, Austria, June 2011.

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## Talks

- 2019 **The Identity and Evolution of Cell Types**, *European Molecular Biology Laboratory*, Heidelberg, Germany, Reference-free comparative transcriptomics.  
Slides: [speakerdeck.com/olgabot/reference-free-comparative-transcriptomics](https://speakerdeck.com/olgabot/reference-free-comparative-transcriptomics)
- 2019 **Data Intensive Biology Summer Institute (Invited speaker)**, *University of California, Davis*, Davis, CA, Single-cell RNA-seq: To Infinity and Beyond!.  
Slides: [osf.io/gdzuy/](https://osf.io/gdzuy/), Video: [youtu.be/hAqa8DztxSU](https://youtu.be/hAqa8DztxSU)
- 2018 **Biological Data Science**, *Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories*, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, Fast approximate cell type identification via MinHash sketches of k-mers in single cell RNA-seq.  
Slides: Google slides
- 2018 **Current Progress in Biotechnology Seminar Series (Invited speaker)**, *University of California, Davis*, Davis, CA, If you liked it, you should have put a Seq on it: Job-seq and lessons learned.  
Slides: [slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/if-you-liked-it-you-should-have-put-a-seq-on-it](https://slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/if-you-liked-it-you-should-have-put-a-seq-on-it)
- 2017 **Open Data Science Conference**, *San Francisco Hyatt Regency*, San Francisco, CA, Co-evolution of algorithms and data in biology.  
Slides: [speakerdeck.com/olgabot/co-evolution-of-algorithms-and-data-in-biology](https://speakerdeck.com/olgabot/co-evolution-of-algorithms-and-data-in-biology)
- 2016 **Festival of Genomics California**, *San Diego Convention Center*, San Diego, CA.
- 2016 **Fluidigm User Group Meeting**, *City of Hope Hospital*, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2016 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Bootcamp**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Dr. You or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Ph.D..  
Slides: [slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/dr-you-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worry-and-love-the-phd](https://slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/dr-you-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worry-and-love-the-phd)
- 2016 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Ph.D. Program Recruitment**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.

- 2015 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Bootcamp**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Dr. You or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Ph.D..  
Slides: [slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/dr-you-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worry-and-love-the-phd](http://slideshare.net/olgabotvinnik/dr-you-or-how-i-learned-to-stop-worry-and-love-the-phd)
- 2015 **San Diego Bioinformatics User Group**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Open-source software for single-cell and other large-scale transcriptomic datasets.  
Slides: <http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/format/slides/gist/olgabot/2ee1087d74df46c842df/> (same as below)
- 2015 **CodeNeuro**, *New Museum*, New York, NY, Flotilla: Data-driven conversations in biology.  
Slides: <http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/format/slides/gist/olgabot/2ee1087d74df46c842df/>
- 2015 **AmpNeuro**, *Amplifying Neuroscience Symposium*, La Jolla, CA, Open-source software for single-cell and other large-scale transcriptomic datasets.  
Slides: <http://nbviewer.jupyter.org/format/slides/gist/olgabot/ba6970fbfa2babd79f55/>
- 2015 **Bioinformatics Exchange**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
- 2015 **Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Ph.D. Program Recruitment**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
- 2014 **RNA Club**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.
- 2014 **Bioinformatics EXPO**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA.  
Best Talk, 2nd place
- 2014 **PyData**, 401 Park Ave. South, New York, NY.  
Presentation: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQksDvF12\\_8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQksDvF12_8). Slides: <https://github.com/olgabot/pydata2014biodata>

## Teaching, Outreach, and Leadership

- 2015–2017 **Principal Cellist**, *UCSD Chamber Orchestra*, La Jolla, CA.  
First cellist out of six. Led cello section during rehearsals.
- 2016–2017 **Teaching Assistant**, *Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories*, Cold Spring Harbor, NY.  
Developed and led bioinformatics coursework of *Single Cell Analysis Course* including alignment, machine learning, Python, and basic command line tools to an audience largely with little to no programming experience. Course materials available at <http://github.com/YeoLab/single-cell-bioinformatics>
- 2016 **Guest Instructor**, *Quantitative Methods in Genetics and Genomics*, La Jolla, CA, .  
Taught three weeks of `git`, RNA-seq and analysis methods to graduate-level UCSD course of 30 students, mostly with limited programming experience. Course materials available at <http://github.com/biom262/biom262-2016>
- 2015–2016 **Speaker and Co-Organizer**, *CodeNeuro*, New York, NY and San Francisco, CA.  
Presented `flotilla` software, taught “coding for neuroscientists” tutorial (<http://github.com/codeneuro/gitgoing>), and advanced data analysis tutorial
- 2015–2016 **President and Co-Founder**, *Graduate Bioinformatics Council*, La Jolla, CA.  
Founded graduate student council organization for UCSD Bioinformatics and Systems Biology Program. Advocated for student voices, organized “town hall” meetings, social hours, fellowship peer review, and led a team of eight vice presidents and representatives.
- 2015 **Guest Instructor**, *Quantitative Methods in Genetics and Genomics*, La Jolla, CA, .  
Taught “data cleaning” and plotting course using Python to graduate-level UCSD course of 10 students, mostly with limited programming experience.

- 2013–2016 **Volunteer**, *San Diego Science and Engineering Festival*, San Diego, CA.  
Developed and demonstrated bioinformatics modules to all ages at UCSD Bioinformatics booth.
- 2013–2014 **Instructor**, *Bioinformatics Algorithms*, Coursera.org.  
Developed interactive curriculum for online Bioinformatics Algorithms Coursera class and textbook. Advisors: Pavel Pevzner and Phillip Compeau
- 2011–2012 **Mentor**, *We Teach Science*, San Jose, CA.  
Weekly algebra tutoring to an 8th grader
- 2011–2012 **Guest Instructor**, *Pacific Collegiate School*, Santa Cruz, CA.  
Created bioinformatics modules to engage students in tying genotype to phenotype for high school AP Biology
- 2012 **Co-Chair**, *Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology Student Council Symposium*, Long Beach, CA.
- 2012 **Instructor**, *Minority Access to Research Careers*, Santa Cruz, CA.  
Taught inquiry-based stem cell bioinformatics curriculum to undergraduate researchers
- 2011 **Volunteer**, *Science Club for Girls*, Cambridge, MA.  
Co-led after-school biology science club for a class of 16 2nd graders
- 2009–2011 **Choreographer**, *MIT DanceTroupe*, Cambridge, MA.  
Taught beginner to intermediate hip-hop choreography to fellow students
- 2008–2010 **Publicity Chair**, *MIT DanceTroupe*, Cambridge, MA.  
Designed posters and T-shirts to publicize and promote DanceTroupe concert attendance
- 2008 **Social Chair**, *Baker House*, Cambridge, MA.  
Organized social events for students, including a popular “Dormal” event with catered dinner and jazz music performances

## Software

All software is written in Python and open source, licensed under the 3-clause BSD license, except where noted.

- anchor** Categorizes alternative splicing data into “modes”—bimodal, unimodal, or uniform. <http://github.com/YeoLab/anchor>
- bonvoyage** Transforms 1d splicing profiles into 2d space to maximize interpretability of change in signal. <http://github.com/YeoLab/bonvoyage>
- dobby** Dobby is a free and open source package for converting and managing plate reader fluorescence outputs, cDNA concentration files, ECHO pick lists, and creating sample sheets for Illumina sequencing. <http://github.com/czbiohub/dobby>
- flotilla** All-in-one package to perform machine learning analyses on large-scale molecular profiling datasets such as gene expression and alternative splicing. <http://github.com/YeoLab/flotilla> (72 stars on GitHub)
- hermione** Compare multiple distributions with horizon plots (also known as ridge plots) <http://github.com/czbiohub/hermione> (6 stars on GitHub)
- kvector** Counts  $k$ -mers in DNA or RNA as  $k$ -mer vectors, transforms position weight matrices (PWMs) to  $k$ -mer vectors. <http://github.com/olgabot/kvector> (5 stars on GitHub)
- outrigger** Fast *de novo* alternative exon detection and quantification. <http://github.com/YeoLab/outrigger> (9 stars on GitHub)



**qtools** Submit jobs to the supercomputer cluster from within Python.  
<http://github.com/YeoLab/qtools> (11 stars on GitHub)

**poshsplice** Annotates alternative splicing events with biological features such as translated protein product. <http://github.com/olgabot/poshsplice> (2 stars on GitHub)

**prettyplotlib** Painlessly create beautiful matplotlib plots.  
<http://github.com/olgabot/prettyplotlib> (1,159 stars on GitHub)

**pyhomer** Utility functions to work with output from the HOMER motif finding program.  
<https://github.com/olgabot/pyhomer>

**seaborn** Statistical visualization library. Contributor, wrote clustered heatmap classes and function. <http://github.com/mwaskom/seaborn> (3,602 stars on GitHub)

**wasabiplot\*** Plot coverage and junction reads for any bam file and any region. \*Derivative of SashimiPlot, and thus under the GNU General Public License (GPL).  
<http://github.com/olgabot/wasabiplot>

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## Mentees

2019 **Saba Nafees**, *Chan Zuckerberg Biohub*, San Francisco, CA, Undergraduate Intern.

2018 **Gerry Meixong**, *Chan Zuckerberg Biohub*, San Francisco, CA, Undergraduate Intern.

2014–2017 **Jessica Lettes**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, Undergraduate Student.

2013 **Natalia La Spada**, *University of California, San Diego*, La Jolla, CA, High School Summer Student.