

# Caleb Charpentier

PHD STUDENT · BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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## Education

### Virginia Tech

PHD STUDENT - ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

- Advisor: Dr. Josef Uyeda

Blacksburg, VA

August 2022 - present

### Southeastern Louisiana University

B.S. IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES | MINOR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

- Undergraduate Mentor: Dr. April Wright

Hammond, LA

August 2018 - May 2022

## Professional & Research Experience

- 2020 **Undergraduate Research Volunteer**, O'Mara Lab, Department of Biological Sciences, Southeastern Louisiana University
- 2019-2022 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Wright Lab, Department of Biological Sciences, Southeastern Louisiana University
- 2020-2022 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Schwartz Lab, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Rhode Island
- 2023 **Graduate Research Assistant**, Uyeda Lab, Department of Biological Sciences, Virginia Tech

## Publications

### PUBLISHED

Porto, D. S., Tarasov, S., **Charpentier, C.**, Lapp, H., Balhoff, J. P., Vision, T. J., Dahdul, W. M., Mabee, P. M., & Uyeda, J. (2023). rphenoscate: An R package for semantics-aware evolutionary analyses of anatomical traits. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 14, 2531–2540. <https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.14210>

Mohannad Elhamod, Mridul Khurana, Harish Babu Manogaran, Josef Uyeda, Meghan Balk, Wasila Dahdul, Yasin Bakis, Henry Bart, Paula Mabee, Hilmar Lapp, James Balhoff, **Caleb Charpentier**, David Carlyn, Wei-Lun Chao, Charles Stewart, Daniel Rubenstein, Tanya Berger-Wolf, and Anuj Karpatne. 2023. "Discovering Novel Biological Traits from Images using Phylogeny-guided Neural Networks". *29th SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*

**Caleb Charpentier**, April Wright. 2022. "Revticulate: An R framework for interaction with RevBayes". *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.13852>

## Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

- 2022-  
Present **NSF GRFP Fellowship**, National Science Foundation
- 2021-2022 **Hammond Garden Club Scholarship**, Hammond Garden Club
- 2019-2020 **Hammond Garden Club Scholarship**, Hammond Garden Club
- 2018 **Burger King McLAMOR Scholarship**, The Burger King Foundation  
**AT&T First Generation Scholarship**, The AT&T Foundation  
**30+ Priority Scholarship**, Southeastern Louisiana University  
**TOPS Honors Award**, Southeastern Louisiana University

## Presentations

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**Charpentier, Caleb;** Linscott, Mason; Uyeda, Josef. 2024. *Simulating the Evolution of 3D Forms for Automated Character Construction*. 2024 Virginia Tech Department of Biological Sciences Research Day. Blacksburg, Virginia.

**Charpentier, Caleb;** Bradley, John; Linscott, Mason; Maga, Murat; Porto, Arthur; Thompson, Matthew; Uyeda, Josef. 2023. *TraitBlender: An Open Pipeline for Simulating Biological Image Data*. 2023 NSF HDR Ecosystem Conference. Denver, Colorado.

**Charpentier, Caleb,** Uyeda, Josef. 2023. *Automated Character Construction with Knowledge-Guided Deep Learning*. Evolution 2023. Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**Charpentier, Caleb,** Wright, April. 2021. *Revticulate: An R framework for Bayesian Phylogenetics*. SouthEast Regional IDEa Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico.

**Charpentier, Caleb,** Wright, April. 2021. *RevR: An Integration of Bayesian Phylogenetics with the R Programming Environment*. Louisiana Biomedical Research Network 19th Annual Meeting. Virtual.

## Teaching Experience

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2020 **Calculus and Algebra Tutor**, Center for Student Excellence, Southeastern Louisiana University

2021-2022 **High School Mathematics Tutor**, Varsity Tutors, Online

2021-  
Present **Python & R Programming Tutor**, Wyzant, Online

Fall 2022 **Principles of Biology Laboratory (BIOL\_1115)**, Graduate Teaching Assistant

## Outreach & Professional Development

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### SERVICE AND OUTREACH

2019 **Ruaha Carnivore Project Kids for Cats Program**, Outreach Volunteer, Southeastern Louisiana University Lab School

2019 **Math Science Upward Bound**, Teaching Assistant, Southeastern Louisiana University

### DEVELOPMENT

**Biogeography R Workshop** - This workshop acted as a think tank for using R to address questions in biogeography. Here, I contributed code and used my RevTiculate package to do a joint FDB-DEC analysis to determine the phylogeny of Dicynodonts (a group of non-mammal therapsids). December 11-16, 2023.

**2023 NSF HDR Ecosystem Conference** - This was a meeting of the different institutes of NSF's Harnessing the Data Revolution Ecosystem. We discussed how artificial neural networks are increasingly being used for automated scientific discovery, and how machine learning can better be adopted into our respective fields, including issues surrounding the interpretability, scalability, and reproducibility of it in our research. I additionally presented a poster with my TraitBlender pipeline, a tool that can be used for assessing the assumptions made when using deep learning for automated character construction. October 16-18, 2023.

**Evolutionary Biology Graduate Student Workshop** - This was a week-long workshop at Mountain Lake Biological Station where we worked on our NSF-style grant writing skills and on framing our research questions in relation to big, open problems in ecology and evolutionary research. July 29 - August 5, 2023.

**Image Datapalooza 2023** - This was a 3.5 day hackathon-style workshop where we developed new biological datasets for computer-vision competitions with the Imageomics Institute. Foundational progress was made on the TraitBlender pipeline for simulating images of imagined organisms under predetermined evo-devo processes. August 14-17, 2023.

**NSF Workshop on High-Dimensional Data Visualization** - The workshop was a meeting of domain scientists and data visualization experts to help better understand how domain scientists actually use and visualize dimensional reduction methods in their work. We had useful discussions about the theoretical implications of using dimensionality reduction for knowledge discovery versus knowledge compression, and a paper is currently being written from the discussions. June 13-15, 2023.

**Imageomics All-Hands Meeting** - This meeting was about discussing the current projects associated with the Imageomics

geomics Institute and how the institute as a whole can move forward. This meeting helped me to better understand some of the communication problems that were happening between the biologists and computer scientists in the institute, and helped to guide my research interests for my dissertation. March 21 - 24, 2023.

**Phenoscape TraitFest** - This workshop was about using computer vision technologies and biological ontology software, such as the Phenoscape Knowledgebase, to better understand traits. During the workshop, I developed a small pipeline to rapidly annotate landmarks from images of mammal teeth: ([https://github.com/calcharp/TraitFest\\_ml-morph](https://github.com/calcharp/TraitFest_ml-morph)). Jan 23-26, 2023.

## SOFTWARE

**TraitBlender** - A pipeline for generating museum-specimen style images of imagined organisms that evolve under chosen evolutionary/developmental processes (<https://github.com/calcharp/TraitBlender>)

**rphenoscape** - An R package for semantic-aware evolutionary analyses of anatomical traits (<https://github.com/uyedaj/rphenoscape>)

**Revticulate** - A package for interacting with the Rev language via R (<https://github.com/revbayes/Revticulate>)

**SISRS** - A Python-based pipeline for identifying phylogenetically informative sites from next-generation whole-genome sequencing of multiple species (<https://github.com/SchwartzLabURI/SISRS>)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The Society for the Study of Evolution