Willow Ross Carretero Chavez

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Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

B.Sc. in Biology — GPA: 4.7

Expected Dec 2024

- Coursework: Fundamentals of Programming, Math for CS, Topics in Systems and Computational Biology

Professional Experience

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

Undergraduate Researcher @ Sinskey Lab

Sep 2024 — Present

- Assisted in production and purification of SARS-CoV2 virus-like particles in human cell lines

Seattle, WA Google

Software Engineering Intern

Jun 2024 — Aug 2024

- Implemented horizontal scaling of gRPC proxy between Kubernetes control plane and cluster networks in Golang, collaborationg with the Kubernetes Cloud Provider SIG
- Refreshed the Spanish translation of the open source Comprehensive Rust tutorial

Software Engineering Intern

May 2023 — Aug 2023

- Designed and implemented extensions to the Kubernetes Addon Manager (KAM) in Golang to accelerate Kubernetes addon development and deployment
- Reduced KAM queries per second by up to 20% across the Google Kubernetes Engine fleet

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

Undergraduate Researcher @ Jensen Lab

Sep 2022 — Dec 2022

- Expanded a novel method of chemo-enzymatic retrosynthesis using Python and RDKit
- Presented a poster at the 2022 ML for Pharmaceutical Discovery and Synthesis Consortium

Undergraduate Researcher @ Sinskey Lab

Feb 2021 — May 2021

- Executed cell nanodrop, ddPCR, qPCR, and ELISA assays for DNA and protein quantification

Wayfair Boston, MA

Software Engineering Co-Op

Jan 2022 — Aug 2022

- Used diverse enterprise software tools (Docker, Kafka, Google BigQuery, Kubernetes, DataDog) as part of a large team of software engineers and data analysts
- Created multiple microservice APIs using Java, Python, FastAPI, and PostgreSQL

D. E. Shaw Research

New York, NY (Remote)

Early College Intern

May 2021 — Aug 2021

- Ran free energy perturbation (FEP) molecular dynamics simulations of ligand-receptor systems
- Created novel method of FEP network generation in Python using integer linear programming

Kufareva Lab @ UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy

Chula Vista, CA

Volunteer, Staff Research Associate

Jul 2018 — Aug 2018, Feb 2019 — Dec 2020

- Wrote toolkit to verify, validate, and visualize Boolean models of cell signaling networks
- Analyzed mass spectrometry phosphoproteomic (TMT-MS²) data using R
- Implemented new method of protein binding pocket similarity scoring using MolSoft ICMScript

Publications

Carretero Chavez, W., Krantz, M., Klipp, E. et al. kboolnet: a toolkit for the verification, validation, and visualization of reaction-contingency (rxncon) models. BMC Bioinformatics 24, 246 (2023).

Skills

- Fluent in English & Spanish,
- Kubernetes, Docker
- Knows when to ask for help

- can converse in French
- Linux and shell scripting
- Driven by results and data
- Python, Java, Golang, R, Rust Git, GitHub Actions, CI/CD
- Fast learner and curious