

Christopher Tastad | Resume

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Education

Bioinformatics, MS

University of Minnesota, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

Minneapolis, MN

2020

Biochemistry, BS

University of Minnesota, College of Biological Sciences

Minneapolis, MN

2011

Skills

Languages: R, BASH, Python, L^AT_EX, SQL, HTML, CSS, XML, JSON

Platforms: Linux (Ubuntu, RHEL, CentOS), git, Nginx, Apache, HPC, AWS, PostgreSQL, Docker, Oracle, WordPress

Statistics: Hypothesis testing, Simple/Multiple/Poisson Regression, Hidden Markov Model, A/B Testing, Contingency Testing, ANOVA, Survival Analysis, K-means, PCA, K-nearest neighbor

Genomics: 10x single cell, samtools, bwa-mem, bedtools, Seurat, VarScan2, Excavator, DNACopy, parallel

Benchwork: DNA/RNA/protein isolation and analysis, western blotting, PCR, ELISA, luciferase, immunostaining, histology, epigenetic analysis, FACS, mammalian cell culture

Experience

Computational Biologist

University of Minnesota Dept. of OBGYN, Starr Lab

Minneapolis, MN

May 2019 — Present

- Executed full rewrite of cancer gene web app: deployed new ETL framework, reduced codebase, removed need for SQL database.
- Applied bioinformatic focus into copy number variation on a largest of its kind single-cell sequencing human cancer dataset.
- Developed pipeline to automate analysis process from raw data to figures, incorporating HMM and FastCall algorithms.

Graduate Research Assistant

National Marrow Donor Program, Bioinformatics

Minneapolis, MN

Jan 2016 — July 2017

- Employed scientific method as an investigator in a corporate R&D department with a focus in hematological cancers.
- Took both basic and clinical approach to investigation in cell therapy, immunology, and organ transplant genetics.
- Aided development of initiative around IP generation using existing company technology and 13 million patient database.

Biorepository Technician

National Marrow Donor Program, Research Repository

New Brighton, MN

Sept 2014 — Jan 2016

- Conducted specimen processing in high-throughput clinical laboratory facility, processing 1000s of samples per day.
- Managed 300k patient database and long-term storage for FDA and Clinical Trials Network samples using GLP.
- Contributed to larger registry activities maintaining Be The Match patient-donor sample receiving, storage, and typing.

Co-founder

Face to Face Organics LLC.

St. Anthony, MN

July 2012 — Jan 2014

- Co-founded a personal care products start up that connected social activism with our product and its use.
- Deployed company's operating software stack on limited budget with minimal upfront cost or sustained overhead.
- Established company systems around e-commerce, CRM, distribution, logistics, accounting, sales tracking, and inventory.

Research Associate

The Stem Cell Institute, Asakura Lab

Minneapolis, MN

Dec 2007 — Jan 2013

- Performed basic science research with a focus in skeletal muscle development, receiving 4 co-authorships.
- Well versed in full spectrum of molecular biology, histology and cell biology wet lab techniques and diagnostics.
- Authored significant writing efforts for group manuscripts and major grant awards, including a successful R01 bid.

Teaching Assistant

University of Minnesota, CBS BIOL2004

St. Paul, MN

Sept 2009 — May 2012

- Led teaching lab that included an integrative, research-focused curriculum, highlighting significant independent discovery.
- Consistently called on by course instructor for consultation in the improvement of course materials and curriculum.
- Received highest rating among all course TAs as indicated by students in post-semester evaluations for 2012 year.