# Dave Ting Pong Tang

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2015 January 21

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## Summary

I entered the field of bioinformatics in 2005 when I started my honours project investigating the extent of lateral gene transfer in *Staphylococcus*. It was then I was introduced to sequence alignments, phylogenetics, and Unix and Perl. Upon completion of my honours degree, I was unsatisfied with my computational skills and invested five months as a work experience trainee in the lab of Brian Dalrymple. I worked closely with Wes Barris, a systems administrator at that time, who was instrumental in helping me improve my Unix and Perl skills. After my work experience I was hired in the same lab to provide bioinformatic assistance to the International Sheep Genomics Consortium and to assist in the annotation of non-coding RNAs for the Bovine Genome Consortium. I next joined the lab of Sean Grimmond as a Laboratory Information Management System developer for the GUDMAP project. I developed various tools and maintained all the data generated by the University of Queensland GUDMAP team.

In 2010, I decided to pursue a PhD degree as a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher in the lab of Piero Carninci. I worked on analysing high-throughput sequencing data and received training in various aspects of genomics and transcriptomics. I was active as a PhD student and organised the Student Journal Club, the Chat With Guest sessions, and was involved in organising a conference and workshop. I'm passionate about bioinformatics and maintain a blog where I write about my bioinformatic and research experiences, and provide technical posts to assist people with their bioinformatic analyses.

#### Personal

 $\begin{array}{c|c} DOB & 1983 \; March \; 31^{st} \\ Birth \; place & Hong \; Kong \end{array}$ 

Nationality | Australian and British National (Overseas)

### Education

2010–2015 PhD Candidate, Vrije University, the Netherlands. PhD thesis: High-throughput sequencing and transcriptomics: data analysis and methods de-

velopment of large expression data sets.

2001–2005 BSc (Honours) in biochemistry and microbiology, University of Queensland,

Australia. Honours thesis: Using a supertree approach to detect laterally trans-

ferred genes within Staphylococcus.

### Past Scientific Positions

2010-2015	Research Associate in the lab of Piero Carninci at RIKEN Yokohama, Japan
2008 – 2010	Research Assistant in the lab of Sean Grimmond at The University of Queens-
	land, Australia
2006 – 2008	Research Assistant in the lab of Brian Dalrymple at the Commonwealth Sci-
	entific and Industrial Research Organisation, Australia
2005 - 2006	Research Assistant in the lab of Mark Ragan at the University of Queensland,
	Australia

## Research Interests

- Genomics and transcriptomics; in particular the study of non-coding RNAs and transposable elements expression.
- The application of bioinformatics, in particular machine learning and data mining methods, to biological problems.
- Open science and reproducible research.

## **Bioinformatic Skills**

- Data analysis of high-throughput sequencing data from various \*Seq protocols.
- $\bullet$  Knowledge and the ability to use various bioinformatic databases, repositories, and tools.
- The application of biostatistics to the analysis of high-throughput sequencing data.

## Computer Skills

- Operating systems: Linux/Unix (RHEL/CentOS and Ubuntu), OS X, and Windows.
- Programming/scripting languages: Perl, R, SQL, bash, PHP, JavaScript, Python, and C.
- Pre Web 2.0: CGI, PHP, HTML, MySQL, Apache2, and JavaScript.
- Open science and reproducible research tools: git, GitHub, WordPress, Jekyll, and R Markdown/Markdown.

## Honours and Awards

2010	CSIRO Chairman's Medal
2008	CSIRO Partnership Excellence Award

## Workshop and Course Attendances

2014	RIKEN/KI doctoral course: Employing Genome-wide Technologies for Func-
	tional Regulation in Development and Disease
2013	AMATA conference ECR workshop
2013	Coursera data analysis course from Johns Hopkins University
2013	BrainTrain courses and workshops
2013	RIKEN/KI doctoral course: Epigenomics: Methods and Applications to Dis-
	ease and Development
2012	SISSA summer school on dopaminergic neurons
2012	RIKEN/KI doctoral course: Functional Regulation in Development and Dis-
	ease
2011	UQ winter school in mathematical and computational biology
2011	RIKEN/EBI bioinformatics roadshow

## Academic and Administrative Experience

2015	MODHEP workshop presenter on analysing CAGE data
2013 – 2014	Organiser of the Chat with Guest sessions at RIKEN CLST DGT
2013 – 2014	Organiser of the Student Journal Club at RIKEN CLST DGT
2013	Organising committee for the BrainTrain conference
2013	Organiser of the BrainTrain workshop: Identifying regulatory elements in the
	genome

#### **Hobbies and Interests**

Sports (especially basketball), cycling, bioinformatics blogging, self study, and computer games.

## Academic References

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#### **Publications**

- [1] **Tang**, **Dave** and Piero Carninci. The regulated expression of repetitive elements across human cell types and tissues. *In preparation*, 2015.
- [2] Tang, Dave, Ana Maria Suzuki, Raffaella Calligaris, Stefano Gustincich, and Piero Carninci. Deep transcriptome sequencing of whole blood samples from Parkinson's disease patients. In preparation, 2015.
- [3] Y. Hasegawa, **Tang, D.**, N. Takahashi, Y. Hayashizaki, A. R. Forrest, et al. CCL2 enhances pluripotency of human induced pluripotent stem cells by activating hypoxia related genes. *Sci Rep*, 4:5228, 2014. URL: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24957798.
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