# Dave Ting Pong Tang

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2016 February 15<sup>th</sup>

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# Summary

I am currently a post-doctoral researcher at the Telethon Kids Institute, working on the analysis of human whole exome sequencing data sets. One of the main goals of my current research is to develop new methodologies and pipelines that can contextualise genetic variants with respect to various phenotypes of interest. Prior to this position, I was a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher in the lab of Piero Carninci, primarily working on the analysis of high-throughput transcriptome sequencing data sets. As part of this work, I developed methods to identify sequencing artefacts and studied different classes of non-coding RNAs. My ultimate goal is to further our understanding of how the non-coding aspect of the human (and mammalian) genomes plays a role in governing biological function.

I am passionate about bioinformatics and maintain a blog where I write about bioinformatics and topics associated with bioinformatics, such as biology, statistics, and computer science. I am always on the lookout on new things to learn and I am fully in support of the open science and reproducible research movement.

## Personal

DOB | 1983 March 31<sup>st</sup> Birth place | Hong Kong

Nationality | Australian and British National (Overseas)

#### Education

2010–2015 PhD Candidate, Vrije University, the Netherlands. PhD thesis: High-throughput sequencing and transcriptomics: methods development and data analysis 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 transferred genes within Staphylococcus.

#### Past Scientific Positions

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

## Research Interests

- Investigating the potential role of DNA variants in relation to biological function and disease.
- 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.

## **Bioinformatic Skills**

- Data analysis of high-throughput sequencing data from DNA-Seq, RNA-Seq, CAGE-Seq, sRNA-Seq, and ChIP-Seq.
- Knowledge and the ability to use various bioinformatic databases, APIs, repositories, and tools.
- The application of biostatistics for 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, bash, JavaScript, HTML, SQL, and PHP.
- Open science and reproducible research tools: git, cloud computing (AWS), WordPress, Jekyll, Docker, and R Markdown/Markdown.

#### Honours and Awards

2010	CSIRO Chairman's Medal
2008	CSIRO Partnership Excellence Award

# Workshop and Course Attendances

2015	UQ winter school in mathematical and computational biology
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
2012	Session chair for the Patients and Medicines forum
2012	Presenter at the RIKEN OSC bioinformatics course

## **Hobbies and Interests**

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

## **Academic References**

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## **Publications**

- [1] 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.
- [2] Tang, D. T., C. Plessy, M. Salimullah, A. M. Suzuki, R. Calligaris, S. Gustincich, and P. Carninci. Suppression of artifacts and barcode bias in high-throughput transcriptome analyses utilizing template switching. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 41(3):e44, Feb 2013. URL: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23180801.
- [3] A. Saxena, **Tang**, **D**., and P. Carninci. piRNAs warrant investigation in Rett Syndrome: an omics perspective. *Dis. Markers*, 33(5):261–275, 2012. URL: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22976001.
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