

Declan Bennett

Curriculum vitae

Education

- 2016 **BSc. Biotechnology**, *NUI Galway*, Galway, 2.1.
Modules: Biochemistry, Microbiology, Industrial Processes, French, Genetics, Pharmacology and Business
- 2017 **MSc. Biomedical Genomics**, *NUI Galway*, Galway, 1.1.
NGS data analysis, Bioinformatics, Programming, Statistical Computing in R, Medical Genomics and Probabilistic Models

Research Experience

Master Thesis

- Title *Inferring the somatic mutation rate from population NGS data*
- Supervisor Prof. Cathal Seoighe
- Description The somatic mutation rate was estimated using overlapping paired-end exome sequencing data. This estimated rate was then treated as a quantitative trait and used as the basis of an association study, in order to uncover genetic loci associated with an elevated somatic mutation rate in multiple human populations

BSc Final Year Project

- Title *A neurocognitive analysis of genes that are both associated with memory formation and schizophrenia*
- Supervisor Dr. Derek Morris

Achievements

- 2017 **Winner of the inaugural Roche prize for best MSc Biomedical Genomics research project.**

Experience

- October 2017 – Present **Bioinformatics Internship**, Supervisor: Prof Cathal Seoighe, NUI Galway, Investigation of genes in cancer under selection for downregulation via NMD. Investigation of transcription-associated strand asymmetry in highly expressed ASE haplotypes..
- April 2015 – July 2015 **Research Assistant**, *Laboratoire de Biotechnologie et Chimie Marines*, Vannes, France.
Performing biochemical analysis of highly proliferative red seaweed, *Solieria Chordalis*.
- May 2013 – Apr 2014 **Electrical trade assistant**, *Electrical Energy*, Sydney, NSW, Australia.
Installation of high-voltage insulated switch gear
Managing cable installation

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Skills

- In depth knowledge of Next Generation Sequencing technologies
- Extensive experience in statistical programming languages and genome association analysis toolsets mainly R and plink
- Familiar with shell scripting and working at the command line
- Experience in Python scripting language
- Comfortable working with unix based operating systems
- Significant report writing and presentation experience
- Strong data analysis and visualisation skills developed through taught modules and research
- Strong collaboration and team working skills demonstrated throughout my studies and at work
- Adaptable and flexible individual who is highly motivated and excited by new opportunities/challenges - happily applied myself in a variety of distinct roles
- Active decision maker and strong attention to detail
- Excellent work ethic and commitment to quality
- Ability to take own initiative when necessary

Computer skills

category 1 R, Python
category 2 Microsoft office
category 3 Bash scripting

category 4 Unix environment
category 5 High performance computing
category 6 Plink

Interests

Cycling Avid road cyclist
Music Amateur guitar and piano

References

Prof Cathal Seoighe

Established Professor of Bioinformatics
School of Mathematics, Statistics and
Applied Mathematics
National University of Ireland, Galway
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