Ethan Alexander García Baker

ethan@broadinstitute.org ethanagbaker.com

SUMMARY

Graduate (PhD) student in the Department of Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh. Interested in gene regulatory networks, biomedical data science, and development and application of high-throughput methods for spatial biology.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Biology

September 2017 - Present

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA

Advisor: Aviv Regev, Ph.D.

Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience

September 2013 - April 2017

Magna Cum Laude

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Thesis: Characterizing anticipatory control of autonomic regulatory processes in conscious animal models: a neuroinformatic approach

Supervisor: Billy J. Yates, Ph.D.

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy of Science

September 2013 - April 2017

Magna Cum Laude

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

PUBLICATIONS

- Ethan A.G. Baker, J.L. Wegrzyn, U. Sezen, T. Falk, P. Maloney, D. Vogler, A. Delfino-Mix, C. Jensen, J. Mitton, J. Wright, B.Knaus, H. Rai, R. Cronn, D. Gonzalez Ibeas, H.Vasquez-Gross, R. Famula, J. Liu, L.Keuppers, and D. Neale. Comparative transcriptomics among four white pines. G3. 2018. doi: 10.1534/g3.118.200257
- 2. N. M. Patel, **E.A.G. Baker**, S.R. Wittman, I.C. Engstrom, G.H. Bourdages, A.A. McCall, D.M. Miller, Bill. J. Yates. Cardiovascular adjustments during anticipated postural changes. Physiol Rep. 6 (1), 2018.
- 3. Baker, Ethan Alexander García, Goodwin, S., McCombie, W.R., and Ramos, O.M. SiLiCO: A Simulator of Long Read Sequencing in PacBio and Oxford Nanopore. *BioRxiv*. (2017) doi: 10.1101/07690

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2019 RNA Society Travel Award
- 2017 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP)
- 2016 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship Honorable Mention
- 2016 Chancellor's Undergraduate Research Fellowship (Spring)
- 2016 University Honors College Travel Grant
- 2016 Office of Undergraduate Research Travel Grant
- 2015 Brackenridge Undergraduate Research Fellowship (Fall)
- 2015 William Shakespeare Fellowship, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
- 2013 Honors College Full Tuition Scholarship, University of Pittsburgh

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher, Regev Lab

August 2018 - Present

Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA, USA

Development of machine learning methods and computational models for spatially-resolved single cell datasets.

Computational Genomics Intern, Gerstein Lab May 2016 - August 2016

Departments of Computer Science and Molecular Biology & Biochemistry Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA

Developed pipelines for genome-wide enhancer discovery and annotation via massively-parallel peak calling in STARR-seq datasets. Applied pipelines to very large (4-5x existing datasets) datasets from the emerging Enhancer-seq assay to build enhanced gene regulatory networks and map regulatory regions.

Undergraduate Researcher, Yates Lab

January 2014 - April 2017

Department of Otolaryngology

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Developed computational strategies to process mass quantities of neural recording data to build a computational model of neural pathways implicated in anticipatory autonomic regulation. Conducted neurophysiological study on the rostral ventrolateral medulla to determine mechanisms of anticipatory regulation of blood flow in response to vestibular stimuli.

Bioinformatics Analyst

September 2015 - February 2017

Department of Developmental Biology

Childrens Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, Pittsburgh, PA

Processed and managed bioinformatic data pipelines, perform variant discovery, functional annotations, and expression analyses. Developed analysis pipeline for variant calling for single-cell RNA-seq data. Designed figures for inclusion in publications.

Research Intern William Shakespeare Fellow

August 2015-September 2016 June 2015 - August 2015

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, USA

Recipient of highly competitive fellowship to conduct independent research in computational genomics of cancer and psychiatric disorders under Dr. W. Richard McCombie. Worked to develop bioinformatic and bench approaches to better characterize the mechanics of next-generation sequencing library failure to build better genomic diagnostic tools.

Student Research Specialist

May 2014 - December 2014

Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA

Assembled and analyzed transcriptomes of various white pine species. Performed the first comparative transcriptomic analysis in the white pines to identify conserved gene families. Identified genes corresponding to resistance to disease and climate change under positive selection as targets for breeding programs.

SKILLS

Bioinformatics: genome and transcriptome assembly, functional annotation, clustering, phylogenetic analysis, sequence alignment, variant discovery (GATK), quality control, single-cell transcriptomics, in-silico read simulation, cluster management

Statistics: R and Minitab

Programming Languages: Python, MATLAB, R, UNIX shell, Java, Perl (basic)

Applications: LATEX, Jekyll, Git, Jupyter, Octave, ggplot2, matplotlib

Operating Systems: UNIX, Linux, Mac OS X, Windows

Laboratory Techniques: electrophysiology experimental design in large animal

models, NGS library preparation, TUNEL assays, gel electrophoresis

Language: English (native), Spanish (intermediate fluency)

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Poster in RNA 2019, Krakow, Poland

June 2019

A Deep Learning Assisted Screen for RNA Localization

2. Poster in Advances in Genome Biology and Technology (AGBT), Orlando, FL February 2016

Comparative analysis of PacBio libraries reveals non-stochastic biases in sites of DNA nicking

3. Poster in Advances in Genome Biology and Technology (AGBT), Orlando, FL February 2016

New approaches to rescue poorly performing PacBio libraries by quantifying and repairing single stranded DNA nicks

4. Poster in Plant and Animal Genome (PAG) XXIV, San Diego, CA January 2016

Comparative Transcriptomics Among Four White Pine Species

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Guest Speaker, Upper Saint Clair High School, Upper Saint Clair, PA November 2015

Taught 9th grade biology course about next-generation sequencing, genomics, and bioinformatics.

Introduction to Genomic Data Science

September 2016

Began development of supplemental activities for high school biology students introducing elementary concepts of data science, particularly in relation to genomics, data visualization, and bioinformatics.