Fan Zhang, PhD

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Harvard New Research Building

**Employment**

**Harvard Medical School (HMS)** Boston, MA

Research Scientist (Dr. Soumya Raychaudhuri) Jan. 2017 – Present

**Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT/Brigham and Women's Hospital** Boston, MA

Associate Scientist Jan. 2019 - Present

Research Associate Jan. 2017 – Jan. 2019

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)** Worcester, MA

Teaching Assistant Aug. 2013 – Dec. 2016

**Chinese Academy of Sciences** Shenzhen, China

Research AssociateMay 2012 – June 2013

**Education** 

**Ph.D.** **Bioinformatics**, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), MA Dec. 2016

Dissertation: Statistical Methods for Characterizing Genomic Heterogeneity in Mixed Samples

Advisor: Dr. Patrick Flaherty (Genomics Lab, now in Statistics Dep. in UMass Amherst)

**M.S.** **Bioinformatics** (with Full Fellowship), Jilin University, China June 2012

Dissertation: Prediction of Drought-Resistant Genes in Arabidopsis thaliana using Microarray Data

Advisor: Dr. Yanchun Liang

**B.S.** **Computer Science** (with Honors), Jilin University, China July 2009

Ranking: Top 1%

**Publication** 

1. **Zhang, F.\***, Wei, K.\*, Slowikowski, K.\*, Fonseka, C.Y.\*, Rao, D.A.\*, Kelly, S., Goodman, S.M., Tabechian, D., Hughes, L.B., Salomon-Escoto, K., Watts, G.F.M., Jonsson, A.H., Rangel-Moreno, J., Pellett, N.M., Rozo, C., Aprezzese, W., Eisenhaure, T.M., Lieb, D., Boyle, D.L., Mandelin A.M.,, Boyce, B.F., DiCarlo, E., Gravallese, E.M., Gregersen, P.K., Moreland, L., Firestein, G.S., Hacohen, N., Nusbaum, C., Lederer, J.A., Perlman, H., Pitzalis, C., Filer, A., Holers, M.V., Bykerk, V.P., Donlin, L.T., Anolik, J.H., Brenner, M.B., Raychaudhuri, S, the Accelerating Medicines Partnership RA/SLE. Defining Inflammatory Cell States in Rheumatoid Arthritis Joint Synovial Tissues by Integrating Single-cell Transcriptomics and Mass Cytometry. ***Nature Immunology****,*2019.
2. Korsunsky, I., Fan, J., Slowikowski, K., **Zhang, F.**, Wei, K., Baglaenko, Y., Brenner, M., Loh, P., Raychaudhuri, S. Fast, sensitive, and flexible integration of single cell data with Harmony. 2019. **In review.**
3. Kuo, D.\*, Ding J.\*, Cohn, I., **Zhang, F.**, Wei, K., Rao, D., Rozo. C., Sokhi U.K., Accelerating Medicines Partnership RA/SLE Network, DiCarlo, E.F., Brenner, M.B., Bykerk, V.P., Goodman, S.M., Raychaudhuri, S., Batsch, G., Ivashkiv, L.B., Donlin, L.T. HBEGF+ macrophages identified in rheumatoid arthritis promote joint tissue invasiveness and are reshaped differentially by medications. ***Science Translational Medicine****,*2019.
4. ﻿Arazi, A.\*, Rao, D.A.\*, Berthier, C.C.\*, Davidson, A., Liu, Y., Hoover, P.J., Chicoine, A., Eisenhaure, T.M., Jonsson, A.H., Li, S., Lieb, D.J., Browne, E.P., Noma, A., Sutherby, D., Steelman, S., Smilek, D.E., Tosta, P., Apruzzese, W., Massarotti, E., Dall'Era, M., Park, M., Kamen, D.L., Furie, R.A., Payan-Schober, F., Buyon, J.P., Petri, M.A., Putterman, C., Kalunian, L.C., Woodle, E.S., Lederer, J.A., **Zhang, F.**, Hildeman, D.A., Nusbaum, C., Wofsy, D., Kretzler, M., Anolik, J.H., Brenner, M.B., The Accelerating Medicines Partnership in RA/SLE network, Hacohen, N., Diamond, B. The immune cell landscape in kidneys of lupus nephritis patients. ***Nature Immunology***, 2019*.* In Press.
5. **Zhang, F.**, Wang C., Trapp, A., and Flaherty, P. A scalable deterministic global optimization algorithm for sparse mixed-membership matrix factorization. ***arXiv***1610.06145. New Advances in Statistics and Data Science, ***ICSA Book Series in Statistics***, Springer, August, 2018. In Press.
6. **Zhang, F.**, and Flaherty, P. Variational inference for rare variant detection in deep, heterogeneous next-generation sequencing data. ***BMC Bioinformatics***, *18*(45), 2017
7. He, Y., **Zhang, F.**, and Flaherty, P. RVD2: an ultra-sensitive variant detection model for low-depth heterogeneous next-generation sequencing data. ***Bioinformatics****, 31*(17), 2785-2793, 2015
8. **Zhang, F.**, Chen, S., Zhang, H., Zhang, X., and Li, G. Bioelectric signal detrending using smoothness prior approach. ***Medical engineering & physics****, 36*(8), 1007-1013, 2014
9. Geng, Y., **Zhang, F.**, Yang, L., Zhang, Y., and Li, G. Reduction of the effect of arm position variation on real-time performance of motion classification. In *Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (****EMBC****), 2012 Annual International Conference of the IEEE* (pp. 2772-2775).IEEE, 2012
10. Liang, Y., **Zhang, F.**, Wang, J., Joshi, T., Wang, Y., and Xu, D. Prediction of drought-resistant genes in Arabidopsis thaliana using SVM-RFE. ***PloS one****, 6*(7), e21750, 2011
11. Wang, J., **Zhang, F**., Wang, Y., Fu, Y., Xu, D., and Liang, Y. Identification of Salt Tolerance Genes in Rice from Microarray Data using SVM-RFE. *The 3rd International Conference on Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (****BICoB****)*, New Orleans, (pp. 30-35), 2011

**Selected Talks**

1. **Oral Talk. Single Cell Biology Keystone Symposia,** Breckenridge, CA, Jan. 2019

Integrating single-cell transcriptomics and mass cytometry to define cell states in rheumatoid arthritis**.**

1. **Keynote Speak**. ***IV European Conference “Genomics of Complex Diseases: New Challenges***”. Pfizer-University of Granada-Junta de Andalucia Center for Genomics and Oncological Research (GEYNO), Granada, Spain. Oct. 2018

Functional genetics and genomics to define rheumatoid arthritis.

1. **Invited Talk**. ***Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies (FOCIS)***, San Francisco, CA. June 2018.

Defining inflammatory cell states in rheumatoid arthritis joint synovia tissues by single-cell technology.

1. **Invited Talk**. ***American College of Rheumatology (ACR)****,* San Diego, CA. Nov. 2017.

Technology in precision medicine: data analysis and integration of high dimensional data from rheumatoid arthritis joint tissue**.**

1. **Oral Talk**. ***Immunogenomics***, HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, Huntsville, AL. Oct. 2017.

A novel computational method to resolve cellular heterogeneity in disease tissues.

1. **Oral Talk**. Accelerating Medicines Partnership (AMP) RA/SLE Face-to-Face, Houston, TX, Feb. 2017.

Disease relevant signatures identification in rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

1. **Invited Talk**. Computational Biomedicine, **Boston University** and **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute**, 2016

From data to the clinic: statistical methods for characterizing genomic heterogeneity in mixed samples.

1. **Oral Talk**. Bioinformatics & Computational Biology seminar at **WPI**, 2016

Variational inference for rare variant detection in deep, heterogeneous next-generation sequencing data.

**Posters** 

1. **Zhang, F.,** Wang, C., Trapp, A.C., Flaherty, P. A global optimization algorithm for sparse mixed membership matrix factorization. ***Conference of Reproducibility in Personalized Medicine Research***. Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, 2016.
2. Saddiki, H., **Zhang, F.**, Trapp, A.C., Flaherty, P. A Deterministic Global Optimization Method for Variational Inference. ***Workshop at Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS)***, 2016.
3. **Zhang, F.,** and Flaherty, P. Variational inference for rare variant detection in deep, heterogeneous next-generation sequencing data. ***New England Statistics Symposium (NESS)***, Yale, CT, 2016.
4. **Zhang, F.,** and Flaherty, P. Variant detection model with improved robustness and accuracy for low-depth targeted next-generation sequencing data. The 22th Annual International Conference on ***Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB)***. Boston, MA, 2014.
5. **Zhang, F.,** and Flaherty, P. Variant detection model with improved robustness and accuracy for low-depth targeted next-generation sequencing data. The 18th Annual International Conference on ***Research in Computational Molecular Biology (RECOMB).*** Pittsburgh, PA, 2014.

**Professional Skills**

**Computation/Statistics**: Bayesian statistics, mixture modeling, convex and global optimization, and deep learning based canonical correlation analysis

**Genomics data analysis**:

* Single-cell RNA-seq, ATAC-seq, mass cytometry data analysis and integration
* Rare variant detection in time-series next-generation sequencing (NGS) DNA-seq data

**Genome analysis toolkits:**

* RVD2, GATK, Harmony, Seurat, Monocle, SAMTools, Mutect, Strelka, TopHat, Cufflinks, etc.

**Programming**: Proficient in Python and R, and shell scripting in Linux.

**Grant Writing Experience** 

Contribute to the proposal for NIH grants:

* Accelerating Medicines Partnership (AMP) co-leading Systems Biology Group

NIAID/NIAMS Grant 1UH2AR067677-01 PI: Dr. Soumya Raychaudhuri

* A genome-wide survey of point mutations modulating methotrexate

PhRMA Foundation Informatics Grant 2013080079 PI: Dr. Patrick Flaherty

**Teaching Experience** 

Teaching Assistant, Biomedical Data Analysis, WPI Mar. 2016 – May 2016

Teaching Assistant, Biomedical Engineering Design, WPI Aug. 2015 – Oct. 2015

Teaching Assistant, Biomedical Data Analysis, WPI Mar. 2014 – May 2014

**Student Supervision** 

Joseph Mears, Bioinformatics Analyst in 10X genomics, Dartmouth College student Aug. 2018 – Present

Gaurav Luthria, Text mining in single-cell RNA-seq annotation, Harvard PhD student Aug. 2017 – Dec. 2017

Jeanie Lim, Workshop on RNA-Seq data analysis, UMass Amherst Summer 2016

Yifan Zhao and Tete Zhang, NGS data analysis pipeline, WPI Master student Summer 2015

**Awards & Honor**

Full Fellowship for Graduate Student, Jilin University Sep. 2009 – Aug. 2012

Outstanding Graduate Student, Jilin University (Top 1%) Sep. 2011

Graduate Student Entrance Scholarship, Jilin University Sep. 2009

“Outstanding Star” of Software Engineering for Undergraduate, IBM Mar. 2007

**Professional Affiliations** 

**Member,** American College of Rheumatology (ACR) Sep. 2017 – Present

**Member**, International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB) April. 2014

**Member**, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Sep. 2013 – Present

**Scientific Activities**

Ad Hoc Reviewer, Cancer Letters 2019

Ad HocReviewer, Arthritis Research & Therapy 2018

Ad Hoc Reviewer, Journal of Computational Statistics 2018

Reviewer, NESS (New England Statistics Symposium) 2018

Ad HocReviewer, Scientific Reports 2016