

Maurice HT Ling



Dr Maurice HT Ling obtained his BSc(Hons) in Molecular and Cell Biology from The University of Melbourne, Australia, in 2004; and BSc in Computing from the University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom, in 2007; before obtaining his Ph.D. in Bioinformatics from The University of Melbourne, Australia; in 2009. He is a bioinformatician who is currently working on looking at evolutionary biology and various aspects of life. His main techniques are experimental evolution and simulations, such as artificial life simulation, to access evolutionary perspectives; and using existing published data. He has developed various computational algorithms and tools as part of this research. He has a diversity of other interests, including professional and social aspects of science and education; and studies this area using auto-ethnographical and auto-biographical methods. Maurice is also an associate

editor of the Computational Genomics section of *Frontiers in Genetics* (ISSN 1664-8021), *Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology* (ISSN 2296-4185), and *Frontiers in Plant Science* (ISSN 1664-462X); as well as a review editor in STEM Education section of *Frontiers in Education* (ISSN 2504-284X).

Drawing inspiration from Professor Ringertz of Karolinska Institute who said the following to Dr. Barbara McClintock in her citation for Nobel Prize in 1983, “your work is encouraging because it shows that great discoveries can still be made with simple tools”; Maurice is a firm proponent of research opportunities for students and encourages students to aim for a research publication from their work. As such, almost half of Maurice’s publications are from student projects ranging from high-school students to undergraduates.

On the professional society front, Maurice co-founded Python User Group (Singapore), and is instrumental in inaugurating PyCon Asia-Pacific as one of the 3 major Python conferences worldwide, together with PyCon US and EuroPython. He also co-founded the Society for Synthetic Biology (Singapore) as well as serving as Honorary Director for Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Network Ltd (UEN 201225997K), which is registered in Singapore as a legal entity to manage the routine operations of Asia Pacific Bioinformatics Network (APBioNet). On the commercial side, he co-founded the first synthetic biology startup in Singapore, AdvanceSyn Pte. Ltd., as Director (Technology). In his free time, he likes to read, enjoy a cup of coffee, write poems and his personal journal, or philosophize on various aspects of life. Maurice’s portfolio can be accessed at <https://mauriceling.github.io>.