

## Summary

I am a Computational Biologist with years of experience in **Data Mining and Machine Learning** for both **Bioinformatics and Health-Informatics** applications. I analyze gigabytes of data and write algorithms to mine in these huge data for meaningful information and tie the results back to the biology.

## Education

- 8/12 - 8/17 **Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology (Computational Biology)**, Department of Cell Biology, Microbiology and Molecular Biology, University of South Florida (USF), Tampa, Florida. Advisor: Dr. Sameer Varma
- 9/03 - 9/08 **B.Sc. in Materials Science and Engineering**, Department of Material Science and Engineering, Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran.

## Research Interests

Computational Biology, Bioinformatics, System Biology, \*omics Data Analysis, Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Data Analysis, immuno-oncology, Computational Oncology, Health-Informatics, Precision medicine, Machine Learning (Deep Learning), Data Mining, Big Data, Statistical Modeling, Network Analysis, Bayesian Inference, Statistical Mechanics

## Work and Research Experiences

- 4/18 - present **Bioinformatics Staff Scientist** at M2Gen-Moffitt Cancer Center, *Tampa, Florida*
- M2Gen is a health-informatics solutions company focused on accelerating the discovery, development and delivery of precision medicine. M2Gen partners with pharmaceutical companies as well as the nation's leading cancer centers via the Oncology Research Information Exchange Network (ORIEN, 19 Cancer Research Institutes <http://oriencancer.org/>).
- Developed scalable pipelines for NGS upstream and downstream data analysis (RNAseq and Whole Exome Sequencing (WES))**
- Processing raw WES via the Sentieon and RNAseq via STAR, STAR-Fusion and RSEM on AWS machines supported by DNAnexus
  - Variant calling and annotation
  - Development of QC Metrics and Classifiers for QC of raw and processed NGS data by statistical and machine learning methods (Gender Prediction, Tumor-Normal concordance, RNA-WES concordance, Tissue of origin prediction)
  - Automated QC pipeline development via integration with DNAnexus' API in the cloud to create QC reports of WES and RNAseq
  - Pipeline development for Copy Number Variant detection (CNVKit)
  - Internal Tandem Duplication (ITD) detection (Pindel) and Microsatellite instability (MSI) analysis (MSIsensor) on WES data for a specific cohort of patients
  - Multi-omics analysis for downstream analysis as well as QC control considering effect of latent variables such as cancer types, preservation methods and batch effects
  - Pan-cancer classification and exploration for gene signatures, using gene expression and gene mutation data
  - Testing different hypothesis for pharmaceutical companies and ORIEN members (on immuno-oncology cohorts)
- 1/18 - 3/18 **Data Scientist** at WellCare, *Tampa, Florida*
- Customer retention predictive model development and evaluation by using machine learning methods (Gradient boosting, Logistic regression and Random forest,)
  - All-cause mortality predictive models based on members' age, gender and common laboratory tests by machine learning methods (Gradient boosting, Random forest, Logistic regression)

- 7/17 - 1/18 **Research Assistant** at Morsani College of Medicine, Dep. Molecular Medicine, USF (Dr. George Blanck), *Tampa, Florida*  
 - Pipeline development for detecting cancer-associated germline mutations(TCGA WES raw data)
- 2/15 - 3/15 **Graduate Research Assistant** at Microbiology Lab at USF, *Tampa, Florida*  
 - Motif co-occurrence analysis on proteome of *S. aureus*, *B. subtilis* and *E. coli*.
- 8/12 - 8/17 **Graduate Research Assistant** at Computational Biophysics Lab at USF, *Tampa, Florida*  
 - Developing mathematical and computational models using machine learning (SVM) and graph theory to elucidate dynamic allostery in proteins  
 - Investigating the effect of different MD force fields on simulating the D-band Length of type I collagen.
- 8/11 - 8/12 **Research Assistant** at Bioinformatics Research Center at Isfahan University of Medical Sciences *Isfahan, Iran*  
 - Molecular docking of drug like ligands into G-protein coupled receptors (GPCR) specifically human adenosine receptors
- 8/10 - 8/11 **Research Assistant** at Isfahan University of Technology, *Isfahan, Iran*  
 - Modeling of freezing behavior and structures of cobalt nanoclusters by MD simulation
- 2/10 - 8/10 **Data Analyst** at Dadeh Pardaz Esfahan, *Isfahan, Iran*  
 - A comparative performance analysis of the genetic algorithm and backward propagation in neural network predictive models
- 8/8 - 8/10 **Data Analyst** at Mobarakeh Steel Company, *Isfahan, Iran*  
 - Developing models to predict mechanical properties of steel products by Bayesian Neural Networks

## Technical Skills

Prog. Lang.	Python, R, Matlab, Julia, C++, C#, Bash scripting, SQL, Cloud-app development
Software	Python (Numpy, Pandas, scikit-learn, H2O, PySpark, Keras, TensorFlow, Scipy, StatsModels, Jupyter, seaborn), R (pamr, limma, fgsea, sva, tidyverse), MATLAB (neural networks, genetic algorithm and optimization, bioinformatics, parallel computing, symbolic math, curve Fitting). $\text{\LaTeX}$
Bioinformatics	Biopython, bowtie2, Pysam, samtools, BCFtools, bedtools, maftools bcbio-nextgen (bwa, freebayes, GATK), Sentieon, CNVKit, DNAnexus, GDC, UCSC genome browser, IGV, cbiportal
Computational Biology	Gromacs, LAMMPS, Pdynamo, AutoDock, Schrödinger, CAChe, Moldock, Modeller and Materials Explorer

## Teaching Experiences

Biology of Human, Biology 1 lab, General Genetics

## Honors and Awards

Media Coverage of My Last Publication, eurekaalert.org, sciencedaily.com

Machine learning techniques may reveal cause-effect relationships in protein dynamics data

3rd Best Poster Presentation in *Intelligent Systems For Molecular Biology (ISMB)*, 2016 Orlando

Summer Scholarship, 2013, USF

Best researcher in R&D Metal Forming Branch of *Mobarakeh Steel Company*, 2010, Iran.

## Publications

**Book Chapter**, more than 8400 Downloads

- **M. Botlani**, M. R. Toroghinejad, "Application of Bayesian Neural Networks to Predict Strength and Grain Size of Hot Strip Low Carbon Steels", *Artificial Neural Networks - Industrial and Control Engineering Applications, Intech, Austria* , 2010.

**Journal Papers**

- **M. Botlani**, G. Blanck, "Systematic analysis of germline mutations of tumor suppressor genes impacting earlier age of onset in 11 cancer types. *In preparation*.
- **M. Botlani**, A. Siddiqui, S. Varma, "Machine Learning Enabled Approach to Incorporate Multi-State Information in Molecular Modeling of Dynamic Allostery: A Case Study of the PDZ2 Domain", *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 2018.
- P. Dutta, A. Siddiqui, **M. Botlani** and S. Varma, Inter-monomer Rearrangements in Allosteric Stimulation of Nipah Virus Host Binding Protein. *Biophys. J.*, 2016.
- S. Varma, **M. Botlani**, J. Hammond, H.L. Scott, J.P.R.O Orgel and J.D. Schieber, "Effect of Intrinsic and Extrinsic Factors on the Simulated D band Length of Type I Collagen", *Proteins*, 2015.
- C.N. Krute, R. K. Carroll, F.E. Rivera, A. Weiss, R.M. Young, A. Shilling, **M. Botlani**, S. Varma, Bill J. Baker and Lindsey N. Shaw, "The Disruption of Prenylation Leads to Pleiotropic Rearrangements in Cellular Behavior in Staphylococcus aureus", *Molecular Microbiology*, 2014.
- P. Dutta, **M. Botlani**, S. Varma, "Water Dynamics at Protein-Protein Interfaces: A Molecular Dynamics Study of Virus-Host Receptor Complexes", *J. of Phys. Chem. B*, 2014.
- S. Varma, **M. Botlani** and R.E. Leighty, "Discerning intersecting fusion-activation pathways in the Nipah virus using machine learning", *Proteins*, 2013.
- **M. Botlani**, M. R. Toroghinejad, "Application of Bayesian MLP Networks and RJMCMC to Predict the Grain Size of Hot Strip Low Carbon Steels", *J. Ser. Chem. Soc.*, 2010.
- **M. Botlani**, M. R. Toroghinejad, A. R. Key Yeganeh, "Modeling the Yield Strength of Hot Strip Low Carbon Steels by Artificial Neural Network", *J. of Mat. and Des.*, 2009.
- **M. Botlani**, M. R. Toroghinejad, A. R. Key Yeganeh, "Modeling the Yield Strength of Hot Strip Low Carbon Steels by Artificial Neural Network", *ISIJ*, 2009.

#### Conference presentations

- **M. Botlani**, S. Varma, "Machine learning enabled approach to determine correlations in ensemble shifts: a case study of the PDZ2 domain" *Biophys. Soc. Meet., New Orleans*, 2017.
- **M. Botlani**, A. Siddiqui, S. Varma., "Quantifying Conformational Ensemble Changes in Proteins Using Inverse Machine Learning", *Intelligent Systems For Molecular Biology(ISMB), Orlando*, 2016.
- **M. Botlani**, S. Varma, R.E. Leighty, "Discerning intersecting fusion-activation pathways in the Nipah virus using machine learning", *Biophys. Soc. Meet., San Francisco*, 2014.
- S. Varma, **M. Botlani**, R.E. Leighty, P. Dutta, "Using machine learning to understand the allosteric regulation of biomolecules", *Gordon research conference, Maryland*, 2014.