Niels Hanson

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Profile

 Recent Ph.D. graduate looking for a career in Quantitative Analytics, Data Science, or Software Development

Education

Ph.D. Bioinformatics

University of British Columbia 2011–2015

B.Sc. Computer Science (Minor Statistics)

University of British Columbia 2006–2011

University of British Columbia

Coursework

 Machine Learning, Data Visualization, Numerical Methods, Algorithms, and Software Development

Technical Skills

- Proficient in Java, C++, R, Python, JavaScript, PHP, Go, and SQL
- · Object-oriented software design
- Large-scale data processing using Hadoop, Apache Spark, and AWS
- · HPC programming with Intel Phi-cards
- Data Analysis with ggplot2, dplyr, RMarkdown, NumPy, pandas, scikit-learn, and D3.js

Projects

- D3.js Visualizations. Variety of visualizations in the D3.js framework for analysis of genomic data (http://goo.gl/fLntUc)
- R-Package: fastLSA. Implementation of the fastLSA correlation method in C and Open-MP (http://goo.gl/5QPM82)
- De-Confusion Tables. An interactive R shiny app. Final project. Developing Data Products. John Hopkins University Coursera Class. July 2014 (http://goo.gl/FI78Qh)

Selected Publications

- Kim, Konwar, Hanson, et al. Koonkie: An Automated Software Tool for Processing Environmental Sequence Information using Hadoop. ASE BigData. Harvard (2014)
- Hanson et al. Metabolic pathways for the whole community. BMC Genomics (2014)
- Hanson, et al. MetaPathways v2.0: A master-worker model for environmental PGDB construction on grids and clouds. IEEE CIBCB, Hawaii (2014)
- Konwar, Hanson, et al. MetaPathways: a modular pipeline for constructing pathway/genome databases from environmental sequence information. BMC Bioinf. (2013)

Experience

Bioinformatics Ph.D. Candidate 2011–2015
Hallam Lab, University of British Columbia

- Developed MetaPathways, a Python and C++ pipeline for biological sequence data
- Implemented a Master-worker distributed algorithm to manage a large collection of HPC worker grids
- Enabled sequence-homology search in Hadoop through critical improvements to the YARN scheduler
- Analytically involved in all areas of research; author on 10+ peer-reviewed publications

Teaching Assistant

2014

Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA

- Conducted tutorials on biological sequence analysis for 60+ post-docs, graduate students, and professors
- Statistical topics: Predictive Models, SVMs, Hierarchical Clustering, Dimensionality Reduction
- General data-literacy topics: data preparation, analysis, visualization, and report generation using R, ggplot2, dplyr, and RMarkdown

Software Developer

2011

Microbiology and Immunology, UBC

- Developed a LAMP stack and JavaScript based web application cataloging thousands of bacterial strains
- Ensured accurate requirements via user observation and interviews
- Enhanced the user experience by implementing advanced Boolean search, user histories, and predictive search autocomplete

Bioinformatics Intern

2010

Eichler Lab, University of Washington

- Developed a genome visualization and analysis software platform for autistic human genomes
- MySQL back-end database and object-oriented Java MVC-based GUI enabled the visualization of millions of genetic variants predicted via a Hidden Markov Model
- Designed efficient visualization layout algorithms allowing the rapid display and query of genomic alterations in less than a second

Interests

- Data Analysis, Information Visualization, Machine Learning, Statistics, Software Design
- Photography, Cooking, Badminton, Triathlons