::: aside

CONTACT

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upon request

Senior Scientist | Genomics

Twist Bioscience

San Francisco, California

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United States Citizen

PATRICK CHERRY

PhD scientist skilled in data visualization, statistical modeling, bioinformatics, biological data science, next-generation sequencing (NGS), and tool-building. I've coded reproducible and rigorous pipelines for high-throughput experimental designs and multi-omic analyses for communication to technical and non-technical audiences. I've launched best-in-class oncology reference standards, and invented new molecular methods for DNA and microbe manipulation. Originally trained in Molecular Biology, I am passionate about advancing data science and bioinformatics to improve human health.

EDUCATION

2019 | 2013

PhD

University of Colorado School of Medicine — Aurora/Denver, Colorado

- Ph.D. in Molecular Biology
- Advisor: Jay Hesselberth, PhD.
- Thesis: RNA Terminus chemistry affects the decay events that target *HAC1* mRNA during the Unfolded Protein Response

2013 | 2009

BA

Hendrix College — Conway, Arkansas

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, with Distinction
- Advisor: Andres Caro, PhD. Senior Capstone Project showing key stress response gene expression changes to oxidative stress in liver cells
- Minor in Mathematics; PI: Lars Seme; Project: Newton's method as a fractal chaotic dynamical system

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Last updated on 2024-04-26.

Data-driven CV made in R using pagedown.

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I currently split my time between wet lab and computational activities. I have worked in a variety of roles

Current | 2022

Senior Scientist, Genomics

Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- Tech Lead of multiple NPIs and custom OEMs; invented and launched products to yield millions of dollars in new revenue, including: *Pan-cancer cfDNA* (v1 & v2), *CNV Controls*, *RNA Fusion Controls*, *Fragmentome Controls*, and RNA-seq
- Built positive team culture; mentored and promoted a report from Senior Research Associate to Scientist; coached reports who served as Tech Leads on new product introductions, increasing revenue. Delivered quality science on deadline by managing research assistants
- Original research and presentations unveiled novel products and underwrote multiple patents for product configuration and biochemical approaches. Gained new customers in RNA standards space with the design and implementation of high-throughput RNA synthesis and pooling
- Analyzed public databases and feedback from alpha testers to optimize design of multiple products; routinely craft custom data analysis pipelines in R and Python; documented analyses using `Rmarkdown`, `Quarto`, and `Jupyter`; maintain git repo of dockerized bioinformatic QC packages for Pan-cancer cfDNA product line
- Generated actionable data for new technology evaluations of a new NGS platform with custom experiments and bioinformatic analyses in Python, R, and SQL to enable faster gene QC in Production. Launched a time-saving gene synthesis change into production, supported by original experimental data. Boosted colleagues in publication-ready plots by coding and distributing on company GitHub the internal package `twistcolorpal`, which automatically styles plots and sets up database connectors to `SQL` / Snowflake for parameterized `dbplyr` querying. Regularly use R, tidyverse, Python, Polars, AWS `s3`, `Spark`, `PySpark`, and `Sparklyr`, locally and on Databricks. Regularly implements and runs automated code tests

Current | 2021

Scientist, Genomics

Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- Tech Lead of *Pan-Cancer Reference Standard*, an ISO-13485 synthetic positive control with 458 unique variants among 84 cancer-associated genes at six QC'd VAFs, plus a WT control; launched in Nov of 2021
- Invented, validated, and deployed to production multiple widely-used primer removal methods for DNA standards and high-complexity synthetic dsDNA pools
- Devised and validated precise high-throughput DNA quantification process for accurate pooling. On-boarded droplet digital PCR (ddPCR) system into production; designed and validated custom ddPCR assays for use in production
- Led multiple iterations of custom NGS analysis; refined the QC approach and thresholds for ensuring a contamination-free production process; extensively used data visualization to communicate complex data to cross-functional teams
- Made extensive use of UMI sequencing and created novel method to rigorously quantify library conversion efficiency to evaluate products and reference materials

2021 | 2019

Scientist I, NGS & NPI-Build

Zymergen, Inc. — Emeryville, California

- Achieved a 95% success rate for obtaining a genetic edit by designing and implementing multiple automated high-throughput methods for a non-model microbe: transformation, counterselection, and NGS genotyping
- Determined best methods for genetic manipulation, propagation, and archiving of a non-model microbe through design & execution of complex experiments on lab automation with and without LIMS sample tracking
- Boosted NGS core genotyping success by 45% using data-driven decision making and teaching; guided demanding and diverse internal customers on complex NGS experiments
- Applied statistical methods to screen and optimize a genetic engineering protocol for newly-on-boarded microbe; delivered robust process while working on New Product Introduction team
- Delivered on microbe improvement KPIs by designing and building hundreds of plasmids using modern molecular techniques like Gibson and Golden Gate

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2019 | 2014

Doctoral Research
University of Colorado School of Medicine — Aurora/Denver, Colorado

- Wrote, revised, & published two academic papers on RNA repair & yeast genetics
- Engineered and characterized genetic bypass of essential genes in budding yeast; on-boarded CRISPR/Cas9 for efficient and precise gene knock-in
- Expressed, purified, and used wild-type and mutant recombinant protein in *E. coli* to carry out an RNA modification enzymatic assay
- Optimized custom RNA-seq library protocol; independently planned, executed, troubleshooted RNA modification detection
- Routinely conducted northern blotting, targeted depletion, primer extension, splinted ligation, and other esoteric DNA and RNA experiments

I worked on a few projects during my PhD, and the RNA repair project led me to custom 5'-OH RNA-seq libraries, which inspired my fascination with transcriptomics and bioinformatics.

2013 | 2012

Undergraduate Research Assistant
Lab of Dr. Andres Caro, Hendrix College — Conway, Arkansas

2012 | 2012

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship
Lab of Dr. Michael Shiloh, UT Southwestern Medical Center — Dallas, Texas

2011 | 2010

Research Assistant
Lab of Dr. Joy Sturtevant, Louisiana Health Sciences Center — New Orleans, Louisiana

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

3/7/23

Methylation-mediated adapter removal on nucleic acid sequences
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- US 63/317,466

11/12/21

Expansion of cfDNA for Libraries
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- US Prov. Pat. Ref No 823.102

4/9/21

Libraries for mutational analysis
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- US Prov. Pat. Ref No 823.101

3/25/21

Method for counterselection in microorganisms
Zymergen, Inc. — Emeryville, California

- US 2021_0087586 A1

Working at Twist and Zymergen on new product research requires confidentiality, but public evidence of accomplishments often comes in patent applications. The Legal teams know me well for being a helpful expert in the process.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

4/22/22

Characteristics and specificity of the wild-type / 0% VAF reference material
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- Patrick Cherry & Mike Bocek

12/21/21

Twist Pan-cancer synthetic reference materials technical guide
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

- Patrick Cherry & Mike Bocek

I communicate my results clearly, both in writing and in live presentations. I enjoy writing research papers, but my career has required more tech notes and app notes recently.

2019

Multiple decay events target HAC1 mRNA during splicing to regulate the unfolded protein response

eLife

• Cherry, P., Peach, S., & Hesselberth, J.

2018

Genetic bypass of essential RNA repair enzymes in budding yeast

RNA

• Cherry, P., White, L., York, K., & Hesselberth, J.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

I give audience-centered presentations by adapting on the fly and over time to the venue and occasion. I like to *transfer knowledge* by giving methods/best practices talks whose slides can also serve as documentation.

2/6/24

Twist pan-cancer reference standard V2: Enhanced precision and reduced errors in ctDNA analysis

Advances in Genome Biology and Technology — Orlando, Florida

• Lydia Bonar, *Patrick Cherry*, Michael Bocek, Shawn Gorda, Derek Murphy, and Esteban Toro

11/19/23

High sensitivity detection of specific ultra low-frequency somatic mutations for minimal residual disease (MRD) monitoring

International Society of Liquid Biopsy Annual Congress — Madrid, Spain

• Tina Han, Tong Liu, Michael Bocek, *Patrick Cherry*, Shawn Gorda, Nairi Pezeshkian, Dan Nasko, Po-Yuan Tung, Derek Murphy, and Esteban Toro

4/16/23

Twist pan-cancer synthetic RNA fusion control for assay development

American Association for Cancer Researchers — Orlando, Florida

• Patrick Cherry, Jason Corwin, Yu Cai, Kit Fuhrman, Jean Challacombe, Derek Murphy, Esteban Toro

4/19/23

High sensitivity detection of specific ultra low-frequency somatic mutations for minimal residual disease (MRD) monitoring

American Association for Cancer Researchers — Orlando, Florida

• Tong Liu, Michael Bocek, *Patrick Cherry*, Shawn Gorda, Jean Challacombe, Derek Murphy and Esteban Toro

4/19/23

An end-to-end workflow for accurate methylation detection

American Association for Cancer Researchers — Orlando, Florida

• Lydia Bonar, Kristin Butcher, Michael Bocek, Holly Corbitt, Bryan Hoglund, Cibelle Nassif, *Patrick Cherry*, Derek Murphy, Jean Challacombe, Esteban Toro

4/10/23

Colorado RNA Club Industry Session

Colorado RNA Club — Boulder, Colorado

2/7/23

Use of synthetic CNV fragments to mimic copy number alterations for ctDNA reference standards

Advances in Genome Biology and Technology — Hollywood, Florida

• Jason Corwin, *Patrick Cherry*, Shawn Gorda, Michael Bocek, Jean Challacombe, Derek Murphy, Esteban Toro

2/7/23

Methylation Controls to detect for methylation level quantification in the Twist Targeted Methylation Sequencing workflow

Advances in Genome Biology and Technology — Hollywood, Florida

• Kristin Butcher, Michael Bocek, *Patrick Cherry*, Jean Challacombe, Esteban Toro

5/26/22 **Efficient, high sensitivity detection of oncogenic variants with UMIs and target enrichment**
European Human Genetics Conference — Vienna, Austria
• Michael Bocek, Lydia Bonar, Jean Challacombe, Richard Gantt, *Patrick Cherry*, Rebecca Liao, Derek Murphy and Esteban Toro

4/12/22 **Twist pan-cancer synthetic reference materials for cell-free DNA (cfDNA) assay development**
American Association for Cancer Researchers — New Orleans, Louisiana

3/17/22 **Twist reference material products: current methods and future applications**
Twist R&D Symposium — South San Francisco, CA

4/5/22 **Pan-cancer Reference Standard: Methods in Automation & Future Needs**
Twist Automation Group Meeting — South San Francisco, CA

2/15/22 **Pan-cancer Reference Standard: Methods & Lessons from NPI & QC**
Twist R&D Meeting — South San Francisco, CA

7/13/21 **Molecular Methods Meet the Standards: Or how I learned to stop worrying and love UV-quantification**
Twist R&D Meeting — South San Francisco, CA

6/16/20 **R use at Zymergen**
Z-Tech Talk — Emeryville, CA

4/20/20 **Data-driven troubleshooting of NGS experiments**
Data Science Talk — Emeryville, CA

3/27/20 **NGS Sample Preparation Deep-Dive**
NGS Technical Talk Series — Emeryville, CA

4/10/21 **Colorado RNA Club Industry Session**
Colorado RNA Club — Boulder, Colorado

2019 **RNA terminus chemistry potentiates decay events that target HAC1 mRNA during the unfolded protein response**
Thesis Defense Seminar — Aurora, Colorado

2019 **RNA modification and decay regulates the unfolded protein response**
Rocky Mountain Yeast Meeting Poster — Fort Collins, Colorado

2018 **What the unfolded protein response teaches us about RNA decay**
Bolie Scholar Talk, Molecular Biology Program Retreat — Winter Park, CO

2018 **Genetic bypass of essential yeast RNA repair enzymes**
Rocky Mountain Yeast Meeting Poster — Golden, Colorado

2017 **RNA processing regulates the unfolded protein response**
CSHL: mRNA Processing Meeting Talk — Cold Spring Harbor, New York

2017 **Genetic bypass of essential yeast RNA repair enzymes**
Molecular Biology Program Update Talk — Aurora, Colorado

2017 **Genetic bypass of essential yeast RNA repair enzymes**
Rocky Mountain Yeast Meeting Poster — Boulder, Colorado

2016 **RNA processing regulates the unfolded protein response**
RNA Club Talk — Boulder, Colorado

2016 **RNA Healing and Destruction**
Molecular Biology Program Update Talk — Aurora, Colorado

2016 **RNA processing regulates the unfolded protein response**
Rocky Mountain Yeast Meeting Poster — Fort Collins, Colorado

2015 **Turnover of endonucleolytic products of No-Go mRNA decay**
RNA Stability Meeting — Estes Park, Colorado

2015 **RNA 5?-kinase-mediated co-translational mRNA decay**
Molecular Biology Program Update Talk — Aurora, Colorado

2015 **RNA 5?-kinase-mediated co-translational mRNA decay**
Rocky Mountain Yeast Meeting Poster — Aurora, Colorado

2014 **RNA 5?-kinase-mediated co-translational mRNA decay**
Rocky Mountain Yeast Meeting Poster — Boulder, Colorado

2013 **Coordinated upregulation of antioxidant protection and mitochondrial DNA biosynthesis in liver cells by oxidative stress**
Senior Undergraduate Capstone Research Talk — Conway, Arkansas

TRAINEES & DIRECT REPORTS

Current | 2022 **Derek Cai, BS, University of California San Diego, Research Associate I**
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

Current | 2021 **Lydia Bonar, MS, Johns Hopkins University, Scientist**
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

2022 | 2021 **Alonzo Lee, BS, University of California Santa Cruz, Scientist**
Twist Bioscience — South San Francisco, California

2021 | 2020 **Kaisle Hill, BA, University of California Berkeley, Senior Research Associate**
Zymergen, Inc. — Emeryville, California

2017 **Rachel A Jones, MS, University of Arizona, Postdoctoral Fellow**
University of Colorado School of Medicine — Aurora/Denver, Colorado

2016 **Laura K White, MS, Biotechnology, Johns Hopkins University, Postdoctoral Fellow**
University of Colorado School of Medicine — Aurora/Denver, Colorado

2016 | 2014 **Haven Himmighoefer, Undergraduate, University of Colorado Denver**
University of Colorado School of Medicine — Aurora/Denver, Colorado

2015 **Leslie Aranda, Undergraduate, University of California Riverside**
University of Colorado School of Medicine — Aurora/Denver, Colorado

While I've not held a role with a "manager" title, all Scientist positions I've accepted have had formal report management responsibility. I take managing and mentoring seriously and emphasize trust, learning, and growth with my reports.