Rika Chan

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RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCES

Mansfield Lab, Barnard College

New York, NY

Researcher

Sep 2024 - Present

- Processed and integrated 20,000+ cells and 18,000+ genes across 3 embryonic stages, identifying 20+ novel markers of brown adipocyte differentiation.
- Developed a computational pipeline combining RNA velocity, CellRank, and composite kernels to reconstruct lineage trajectories and identify terminal brown adipocyte states with upstream progenitors.
- Compared CosMx and Visium spatial transcriptomics platforms, assessing efficiency and resolution; integrated data using Tangram deep learning, enhancing detection of spatially localized progenitors.
- Co-authored a manuscript published on bioRxiv and submitted to Developmental Biology, contributing experimental and computational analyses.

Empirical Reasoning Center, Barnard College

New York, NY

Student Fellow

Mar 2023 - Present

- Mentored 50+ students across 10+ disciplines in advanced data analytics, quantitative reasoning, and statistical methodologies, enhancing their ability to design experiments, analyze data, and interpret results.
- Instructed students in R, Python, Stata, ArcGIS, and QGIS, creating tailored learning paths, interactive tutorials, and fostering peerto-peer collaboration to strengthen technical proficiency and applied computational skills.
- Partnered with faculty and staff to develop campus-wide data support strategies, expanding access to statistical resources and promoting integration of data-driven analysis across the curriculum.

Uhlemann Lab, Columbia Irving Medical Center

New York, NY

Researcher

Jan 2024 - Aug 2024

- Analyzed whole-genome sequencing (WGS) data from 10+ liver transplant patients to investigate bacterial adaptation and evolution in immunocompromised hosts.
- Developed and executed 5+ custom Bash scripts for quality control, species classification, and detection of mobile genetic elements, improving workflow efficiency and reproducibility.
- Synthesized genomic datasets into actionable insights with potential clinical relevance and presented findings at the Barnard College Summer Research Institute through data visualizations and oral presentation.

RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

scViewer: Single-cell analysis made easy

New York, NY

Developer

- Designed support for .h5ad uploads up to 10GB, incorporating efficient memory management to handle high-dimensional data at
- Implemented core single-cell analysis tools within the interface, including a quality control pipeline, multiplet detection, dimensionality reduction (UMAP/PCA), clustering, differential gene expression, and customizable visualizations. These features allow users to conduct end-to-end analyses directly within the app.
- Created an intuitive graphical interface to enhance accessibility, lowering technical barriers and fostering broader adoption of singlecell transcriptomics analysis across disciplines.

EDUCATION

Barnard College, Columbia University

New York, NY

B.A. Computational Biology

Graduation Date: May 2026

SKILLS

Computer: R, Python, Bash, HTML/CSS, Swift, bioinformatics (scRNA-seq, bulk RNA-seq, ATAC-seq, ChIP-seq, trajectory inference, gene regulatory networks), machine learning (ESM, CNNs), and data visualization/analysis tools (ArcGIS, QGIS, Tableau, Stata, Microsoft 365).