

# Vanessa Sochat

*vsoch.github.io*

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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*Software engineer that learns quickly, and works with passion and urgency. Expertise includes:*

- Container technologies and registries
- Open source community advocacy
- Converged Computing / Cloud DevOps
- Scientific workflows
- Continuous Integration
- Binary Analysis
- Web interfaces and APIs
- Machine Learning

## EXPERIENCE

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### **Computer Scientist, Livermore Computing:** *Lawrence Livermore National Lab, Livermore CA*

February 2021 – present

- Expertise in converged computing, batch orchestration between cloud and HPC
- Lead developer of the [Flux Operator](#) for Kubernetes and the [Flux RESTFul API](#)
- Lead developer for the [Metrics Operator](#) to run and assess performance of HPC apps in Kubernetes
- Leading HPCIC for developer tooling, cloud initiatives, annual survey, and workflows
- Continuing to host and produce the [Developer Stories podcast](#) and Singularity associated tools
- Designed, ran, and wrote up experiments to compare ABI compatibility tools

### **Software Engineer, Research Computing:** *Stanford University, Stanford CA*

Sept 2016 – January 2021

- Systems engineer and architecture, infrastructure and standards development, and specialized technical consultation to better ensure reproducibility of scientific computational analyses and workflows
- Implemented [Snakemake Google Life Sciences](#) executor backend using several Google Cloud APIs
- Host and producer of [Research Software Engineer Stories podcast](#)
- Designed the [Scientific Filesystem](#) for organization and discovery of scientific applications
- Developer of [Singularity Hub](#), [Singularity Registry](#), and original developer for [Singularity](#) containers
- Lead of open source project [The Experiment Factory](#) for reproducible behavioral experimentation
- Implemented and serviced image processing pipelines for the School of Medicine.
- Complete list of work available at <https://vsoch.github.io/work>

### **PhD Candidate, Poldrack Lab:** *Stanford University, Stanford CA*

June 2011 – Aug 2016

- Designed and developed a Dockerized infrastructure, [expfactory.org](#), to deploy web-based experiments
- Conceptualized and implemented open source software, [Wordfish](#), for generating custom NLP pipelines
- Created an [interactive, reproducible workflow](#) to for genomic, behavioral, and brain imaging analyses
- Identified [optimal parameters](#) for comparison of statistical brain maps using classification framework
- Imagined and created web viewers for brains using [nodeJS](#), a [neuroimaging data model](#), and [FileReader](#)
- Built clinical [web application](#) to explore anatomical and genomic features associated with brain tumors

- Built model and [database](#) to classify artifact in functional MRI using regularized logistic regression
- Created complicated analysis pipelines in a HPC environment to analyze thousands of brain images

### **Data Technician, Laboratory of Neurogenetics:** *Duke University, Durham NC*

May 2009 – May 2011

- Coded and deployed image processing pipelines in HPC environment using python, bash, and Matlab
- Wrote custom tools to check the quality of brain images, organize data, and interact with participants
- Responsible for creating and administering a battery with over 30 cognitive paradigms using Qualtrics

### **Founder, Goggles Optional Podcast:** *Stanford University, Stanford CA*

Nov 2013 – present

- Developed and currently maintain infrastructure for a weekly science podcast with over 50K downloads
- Weekly responsibility to generate episode content, update databases, and publish

### **Student Director, Informatics Concentration for MD Students:** *Stanford CA*

May 2013 – May 2015

- Organized quarterly sessions for approximately 30 medical students interested in informatics
- Set up social media groups and advertising for MD student recruitment

### **Teaching Assistant, Biomedical Image Analysis and Interpretation:** *Stanford CA*

Jan 2013 – May 2014

- Created new course content for 10 lectures, including interactive slides and class handouts
- Single handedly developed two new projects, including a database of “cookie tumor” images
- Taught weekly section meetings, and gave two full lectures on machine learning and neuroinformatics

## SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

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### **Computer Experience**

<i>Languages:</i>	Go, Python, shell, Groovy, R, JavaScript, Matlab, web
<i>Databases:</i>	MySQL, PostgreSQL, neo4j, couchdb, Big Query, sqlite3
<i>Infrastructure:</i>	Kubernetes, Docker, Singularity, VirtualBox, Vagrant
<i>Visualization:</i>	D3, canvas, Shiny (R), Photoshop, Illustrator, Maya, Blender

### **Data Analysis**

<i>High Performance Computing:</i>	Flux Framework, MPI, SLURM, SGE, HTCondor
<i>Data Structures</i>	JSON, xml/RDF, yaml, hcl

### **Web Development**

<i>Frameworks:</i>	FastAPI, Django, Jekyll, Flask, Wordpress, nginx, wasm, uWSGI
<i>Cloud Technology</i>	Google Cloud, AWS, IBM Cloud
<i>Continuous Integration</i>	GitHub Actions, CircleCI, Travis
<i>Version Control</i>	GitHub, GitLab, Bitbucket, Gogs

## EDUCATION

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### **PhD, Biomedical Informatics:** *Stanford University, Stanford CA*

Sept 2011 – Aug 2016

- Stanford Graduate Student Fellowship (Albion Walter Fellow)
- Microsoft Graduate Women's Scholar (2012)
- National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship

### **BA in Psychology and Neuroscience:** *Duke University, Durham NC*

Aug 2005 – June 2009

- Magna Cum Laude, Dean's List, Member of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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Gina Turco, Christie Chang, Rebecca Y. Wang, Griffin Kim, Emily H. Stoops, Brianna Richardson, **Vanessa Sochat**, Jennifer Rust, Rose Oughtred, ..., Anastasia Baryshnikova. May 2023. Global analysis of the yeast knockout phenome. *Sci. Adv.* 9, eadg5702. DOI:10.1126/sciadv.adg5702

**Sochat, Vanessa**, Matthieu Muffato, Audrey Stott, Marco De La Pierre, and Georgia Stuart. 2023. “Automated Discovery of Container Executables” 11 (1): 6. <https://doi.org/10.5334/jors.451>

**Sochat, V.**, May, N., Cosden, I., Martinez-Ortiz, C. and Bartholomew, S., 2022. The Research Software Encyclopedia: A Community Framework to Define Research Software. *Journal of Open Research Software*, 10(1), p.2. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/jors.359>

**Sochat et al.**, (2021). Collaborative Container Modules with Singularity Registry HPC. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 6(63), 3311, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.03311>

**Sochat, V.** 2021. “The 10 Best Practices for Remote Software Engineering.” May 1, 2021. *Communications of the ACM*, May 2021, Vol. 64 No. 5, Pages 32-36. 10.1145/3459613  
<https://cacm.acm.org/opinion/articles/252174-the-10-best-practices-for-remote-software-engineering/fulltext>.

D.S. Katz, M. Gruenpeter, T. Honeyman, L. Hwang, M.D. Wilkinson, **V. Sochat**, H. Anzt, C. Goble  
A Fresh Look at FAIR for Research Software. *arXiv* (2021). 2101.10883. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.10883>

Mölder F, Jablonski KP, Letcher B, Hall M, Tomkins-Tinch C, **Sochat V**, et al. Sustainable data analysis with Snakemake [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]. *F1000Research* 2021, 10:33  
(<https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.29032.1>)

**Sochat, V.** (2020). AskCI Server: Collaborative knowledge base. In Practice and Experience in Advanced Research Computing (PEARC '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 514–517. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3311790.3399616>

**Sochat, V.,** (2020). GridTest: testing and metrics collection for Python. Journal of Open Source Software, 5(51), 2284, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.02284>

**Sochat, V** (2019). Singularity Compose: Orchestration for Singularity Instances. Journal of Open Source Software, 4(40), 1578, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.01578>

**Sochat, V** (2019). Container Tree: Software to Model Container Filesystems, Packages, and Inheritance. Journal of Open Source Software, 4(37), 1418, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.01418>

**Sochat, V** (2019). WatchMe: Software for Reproducible Monitoring and Data Collection. Journal of Open Source Software, 4(37), 1388, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.01388>

**Sochat, V** (2018). Containershare: Open Source Registry to build, test, deploy with CircleCI . Journal of Open Source Software, 3(28), 878, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.00878>

**Sochat, V** (2018). HelpMe Command Line Helper Utility . Journal of Open Source Software, 3(26), 775, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.00775>

**Sochat V,** (2018). The Scientific Filesystem. GigaScience, giy023, <https://doi.org/10.1093/gigascience/giy023>

**Sochat V,** (2018). The Experiment Factory: Reproducible Experiment Containers. Journal of Open Source Software, 3(22), 521, <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.00521>

**Sochat V,** Prybol CJ, Kurtzer GM (2017) Enhancing reproducibility in scientific computing: Metrics and registry for Singularity containers. PLoS ONE 12(11): e0188511. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0188511>

**Sochat V,** (2017), Singularity Registry: Open Source Registry for Singularity Images, Journal of Open Source Software, 2(18), 426, doi:10.21105/joss.00426

Kurtzer GM, **Sochat V,** Bauer MW (2017) Singularity: Scientific containers for mobility of compute. PLoS ONE 12(5): e0177459.

**Sochat V,** Eisenberg IW, Enkavi AZ, Li J, Bissett PG and Poldrack RA. The Experiment Factory: standardizing behavioral experiments. Front. Psychol. 2016.

Durnez J, Degryse J, Moerkerke B, Seurinck R, **Sochat V,** Poldrack R, Nichols T. Power and sample size calculations for fMRI studies based on the prevalence of active peaks. bioRxiv, 2016.

**Sochat V,** Gorgolewski KJ, Koyejo O, Durnez J, Poldrack RA. Effects of thresholding on correlation-based image similarity metrics. Frontiers in Neuroscience. 2015.

**Sochat V,** AuthorSynth: a collaboration network and behaviorally-based visualization tool of activation reports from the neuroscience literature. Frontiers in Neuroinformatics. 2015.

Poldrack, R, Laumann T, Koyejo O, Gregory B, Hover A, Chen MY, Gorgolewski KJ, Luci J, Joo SJ, Boyd R, Hunicke-Smith S, Simpson Z, Caven T, **Sochat V**, Shine J, et al. "Long-Term Neural, Behavioral, and Physiological Phenotyping of a Single Human: The MyConnectome Project" Nature Communications. 2015.

**Sochat V**, Supekar K, Bustillo J, Calhoun V, Turner JA, et al. A Robust Classifier to Distinguish Noise from fMRI Independent Components. PLoS ONE. 2014.

S. Finlayson, **V. Sochat**, L. Szabo, L. Yancy Jr. A Rapid Learning System for Personalized Glioblastoma Treatment Planning. Abstract presentation at the AMIA Annual Symposium, Washington DC, USA. 2013.

## TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

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**Sochat V**, Milroy D, Fox D, (2024, February). "Kubernetes and HPC: Bare Metal Bros ," FOSDEM HPC, Big Data, and Data Science Devroom, Brussels, Belgium.  
<https://fosdem.org/2024/schedule/event/fosdem-2024-2590-kubernetes-and-hpc-bare-metal-bros/>

Gharaibeh, A, **Sochat V**, (2023, October). "On-Demand Systems and Scaled Training Using the JobSet API ," Kubecon America, Chicago, 2023.

**Sochat V** (2023, September). "Open Source Introspection," 2023 UC Open Source Symposium Keynote

**Sochat V**, Misale, C (2023, May). "Cloud and HPC Convergence: Flux for Job Management on Kubernetes", HPC Knowledge Meeting 2023  
<https://hpckp.org/talks/cloud-and-hpc-convergence-flux-for-job-management-on-kubernetes/>

**Sochat, V**, Sill, Alan (2023, April 24) "The hpc.social project" EasyBuild users meeting.  
<https://www.youtube.com/live/lysx3e8pDPs>

**Sochat, V**, Woźniak, Michał (2023, April 21) "Enabling HPC and ML Workloads with the Latest Kubernetes Job Features." Accepted talk for Kubecon, Amsterdam.

Invited Speaker for UC Boulder CS Colloquium (2022, 7 April). <https://youtu.be/2Oet0hGOy7U>  
[https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/cs\\_colloquium\\_vanessa\\_sochat\\_on\\_the\\_software\\_complexity\\_puzzle](https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/cs_colloquium_vanessa_sochat_on_the_software_complexity_puzzle)

**Sochat, V** (2022, April 8) "The Software Complexity Puzzle" Invited Speaker for UC Boulder CS Colloquium.  
[https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/cs\\_colloquium\\_vanessa\\_sochat\\_on\\_the\\_software\\_complexity\\_puzzle](https://calendar.colorado.edu/event/cs_colloquium_vanessa_sochat_on_the_software_complexity_puzzle)

**Sochat, V** (2022, March 7 ) "The Research Software Engineer Movement (repeat)" Open Planetary Foundation.

**Sochat, V** (2022, January) "The Research Software Engineer Movement" Speaker for EasyBuild Users Meeting.

**Sochat, V** (2021, September) "The Stories We Tell Ourselves" Keynote for SeptembrSE, International Research Software Engineering Conference.

**Sochat, V** (2020, September) "Singularity Container on Google Cloud Platform (GCP) Tutorial" Co-host for Google HPC Days, [https://cloudonair.withgoogle.com/events/singularity\\_containers\\_on\\_gcp\\_tutorial](https://cloudonair.withgoogle.com/events/singularity_containers_on_gcp_tutorial).

**Sochat, V** (2020, September) "Extensions to Schema.org for structured, semantic & executable research

documents” Invited panelist, Stencila Community Webinar  
<https://stenci.la/blog/2020-09-20-register-now-for-stencila-community-call-thur-24-sept-2020/>.

**Sochat, V** (2020, September) “Research Software Directories, What, Why, and How?” Series of Online Research Software Events (SORSE) 2020 Talks and Discussion,  
<https://sorse.github.io/programme/discussions/event-013/>.

**Sochat, V** (2020, July) “The Research Software Encyclopedia” Invited talk, Research Software Engineers Community Workshop, 2020, PEARC20, <https://us-rse.org/events/2020/2020-07-pearc20>.

**Sochat, V** (2020, July) “The Singularity Executor: A Contributor Overflow Exception” Invited talk, Apache Airflow Summit 2020, <https://airflowsummit.org/speakers/vanessa-sochat/>.

**Sochat V**, (2020, June) “Singularity Containers” Invited talk, Dataverse Community Meeting,  
<https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/dcm2020/people/vanessa-sochat>.

**Sochat V**, (2020, January 10) “Research Software Engineering: A Future at Stanford” Keynote: Campus IT Plan Research Summit, Stanford CA, <https://itcommunity.stanford.edu/events/campus-it-plan-research-summit>.

**Sochat V**, (2019, December 19) “Research Software Engineers: A New Career” Lightning Talk: IT Unconference, Stanford CA, <https://itcommunity.stanford.edu/unconference>.

**Sochat V**, (2018, April 4) “The Scientific Filesystem” Invited Speaker: Containers in HPC Symposium at UCAR, Boulder CO, <https://sea.ucar.edu/conference/2018/containers>.

**Sochat V**, (2018, March 7) “Introduction to Singularity” Invited Speaker: CyVerse Container Camp: Container Technology for Scientific Research, University of Arizona, Tuscon AZ.

**Sochat V**, (2017, July 11). “Reproducibility and Containers: The Perfect Sandwich” Invited Speaker: Practice & Experience in Advanced Research Computing, New Orleans LA. <https://www.pearc17.pearc.org/speakers>

**Sochat V**, (2017, February). “Singularity Containers for Scientific Compute” Talk Stanford Genomics Cluster User Group, Stanford CA, USA.

**Sochat V**, (2015, October). “Building Tools for Neuroimaging: the intersection of high performance computing, web technology, and fun in graduate school.”, Talk for Research Computing Group, Stanford CA, USA.

**Sochat V**, (2015, March). “Brain Maps Like Mine content-aware image comparison and retrieval for interactive visualization and meta-analysis of brain statistical maps”, Research in Progress Talk, Stanford CA, USA.

**Sochat V**, (2014, June). “Introduction to Machine Learning,” SIMR Summer Research Program, Stanford CA, USA.

**Sochat V**, (2014, May). “Machine Learning for Images,” Biomedical Imaging Analysis & Interpretation Lecture, Stanford CA, USA.

**Sochat V**, (2013, May). “Neuroinformatics,” Biomedical Imaging Analysis and Interpretation Lecture, Stanford CA, USA.