

Sarah A. Christensen

119 E. MAPLE STREET · HINSDALE, IL 60521 · SAC2@ILLINOIS.EDU · 630.408.9024

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

PhD Candidate in Computer Science Advised by Mohammed El-Kebir and Tandy Warnow

August 2016 – Present

- My research is in the intersection of theoretical computer science and computational biology; in particular, I develop efficient algorithms to support biological and oncological research.
- Cumulative GPA: 3.95/4.0; Chirag Fellowship (2016-2018), State Farm Doctoral Award (Spring 2018), C.L. and Jane Liu Award (Spring 2018), Ira & Debra Cohen Graduate Fellowship (Spring 2019).

AMHERST COLLEGE

Amherst, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Arts with Distinction

September 2009 – May 2013

- Major: **Mathematics**; Cumulative GPA: 3.83/4.0; Major GPA: 3.97/4.0
- Member of The Phi Beta Kappa Society; Top 10% of graduating class

WORK & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

MCKINSEY & COMPANY

New York, New York

Summer Associate

May 2020–July 2020

- Collaborated with clients and vendors to build climate change modelling capabilities that predict various asset risks.

KALLYOPE

New York, New York

Computational Genetics Research Intern

August 2018–December 2018

- Designed a novel graph algorithm to efficiently delineate correlated regions of the human genome within finite populations. Implemented a parallelized version of the algorithm in C++. Accepted talk at ASHG with journal publication forthcoming.

CORNERSTONE RESEARCH

New York, New York

Economic Consulting Senior Analyst

July 2013 – July 2016

- Structured open-ended analytical tasks, synthesizing the results into intuitive visual exhibits. Presented results at client and expert meetings. Managed junior analysts in data collection and econometric analysis.

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Boston, Massachusetts

Research Assistant in the Division of General Medicine

May 2012–August 2012

- Analyzed the cost-effectiveness of deploying a new assay technology in antenatal clinics using Monte Carlo simulations.

YALE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

New Haven, Connecticut

Research Assistant to Professor Alison Galvani

May 2011–August 2011

- Performed meta-analysis on key influenza transmission model parameters to assess robustness of modeling predictions.

PUBLICATIONS

- Christensen S., Kim J., Chia N., Koyejo O., El-Kebir M. (2020) Detecting Evolutionary Patterns of Cancers using Consensus Trees. *Proceedings of the European Conference on Computational Biology (ECCB)*.
- Yu X., Le T., Christensen S., Molloy E.K., Warnow T. (2020). Advancing Divide-and-Conquer Phylogeny Estimation using Robinson-Foulds Supertrees. *Proceedings of the 20th International Workshop on Algorithms and Bioinformatics*.
- Christensen S., Leiserson M.D.M., El-Kebir M. (2020). PhySigs: Phylogenetic Inference of Mutational Signature Dynamics. *Proceedings of the Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing (PSB)*.
- Christensen S., and McManus J. (2019) Universal LD Blocks in the Human Genome. Accepted platform talk at the 69th Annual Meeting of *The American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG)*. Houston, Texas.
- Christensen S., Molloy E.K., Vachaspati P., Warnow T. (2019) TRACTION: Fast Non-Parametric Improvement of Estimated Gene Trees. *Proceedings of the 19th International Workshop on Algorithms and Bioinformatics*.
- Christensen S., Molloy E.K., Vachaspati P., Warnow T. (2018) OCTAL: Optimal Completion of Gene Trees in Polynomial Time. *Algorithms for Molecular Biology*.
- Christensen S., Molloy E.K., Vachaspati P., Warnow T. (2017) Optimal Completion of Incomplete Gene Trees in Polynomial Time using OCTAL. *Proceedings of the 17th International Workshop on Algorithms and Bioinformatics*.
- Ciaranello AL, Myer L, Kelly K, Christensen S, Daskilewicz K, et al. (2015) Point-of-Care CD4 Testing to Inform Selection of Antiretroviral Medications in South African Antenatal Clinics: A Cost-Effectiveness Analysis. *PLoS ONE*.