

Daniel Ariad, PhD

Data Scientist · Bioinformatics · Physics · Algorithmics · Machine Learning

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Summary

Data scientist with a background in physics and bioinformatics. Combines physics-based approaches with data science to solve complex biological problems. Proven record of developing innovative machine learning solutions for early cancer detection and reproductive medicine. Skilled in statistical analysis, scientific programming, algorithm development, and modeling complex systems. Holds a Ph.D. from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Completed extensive postdoctoral research at Indiana University Bloomington and Johns Hopkins University.

Professional Experience

Senior Data Scientist | PrognomiQ Inc, San-Mateo, CA, USA

Jul 2024 – Dec 2025

- Identified key biomarkers for early lung cancer detection and translated findings into data-driven recommendations for R&D product development.
- Integrated clinical data with proteomic and metabolomic measurements to uncover sources of technical bias and implement model improvements that enhanced the accuracy and reproducibility of machine-learning classifiers.
- Developed and validated machine learning models (logistic regression, random forest, XGBoost) leveraging multi-omics data from mass spectrometry, Luminex, ELISA, and RNA-seq.
- Automated model training, evaluation, and deployment workflows using the AWS SDK for Python (boto3), enabling reliable and repeatable execution at scale.

Bioinformatics Data Scientist | PrognomiQ Inc, San-Mateo, CA, USA

Oct 2022 – Jul 2024

- Formulated a methodology based on fragmentomics and methylation patterns to estimate the proportion of cell-free tumor DNA in liquid biopsies, enhancing early cancer detection capabilities.
- Spearheaded a comprehensive analysis of the company's genomics dataset, assessing the reproducibility of measurements and the detection boundaries of tumor signals.
- Developed a DBSCAN-inspired clustering approach to identify tumor-related peptides from library-free data-independent acquisition proteomics.
- Enhanced cancer diagnostic models by customizing scikit-learn machine-learning frameworks, with identified biomarkers guiding diagnostic product development. Additionally, developed variant-calling approaches to identify cancer-associated genetic alterations.

Postdoctoral Researcher | Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA

Mar 2020 – Oct 2022

- Specialized in developing diagnostic solutions for reproductive medicine. More specifically, I identified the basic mechanisms responsible for chromosomal abnormalities in early embryonic development and conceived diagnostic tests to detect them.
- Developed machine learning classifiers to distinguish between meiotic and mitotic aneuploidies and to infer sex-specific recombination patterns.
- Formulated Bayesian statistical models for classification, tailored for extremely low-coverage whole-genome sequencing data from preimplantation genetic testing for aneuploidy.

Postdoctoral Researcher | Indiana University Bloomington, Bloomington, IN, USA

Mar 2019 – Mar 2020

- Modeled the formation of flat bands in twisted bilayer graphene at low magnetic fields.
- Built a classifier to predict phases of matter and phase transitions in disordered Graphene, leveraging high performance clusters.

Graduate Researcher | Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel

Oct 2013 – Nov 2018

- Engaged in cutting-edge research to address fundamental questions in quantum and many-body physics, demonstrating a capacity for innovative thinking and problem-solving.
- Formulated models to study phases of matter and the properties of quantum vortices in topological superconductors, using quantum field theory and tight-binding models with advanced gauge techniques.
- Demonstrated the ability to articulate complex scientific concepts through high-impact research publications and collaborative projects.

Master's Researcher | Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel

Oct 2009 – Jul 2012

- Conceived numerical methods for studying plasma dynamics in space, integrating theoretical physics with practical computational applications.
- Built mathematical models and developed algorithms to interpret space observation data from the spacecraft Voyager II, contributing to the understanding of solar wind interactions with the interstellar medium.

Education

PhD in Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Oct 2013 – Nov 2018

Beer-Sheva, Israel

MSc in Astrophysics

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Oct 2009 – Jul 2012

Beer-Sheva, Israel

BSc in Physics

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Oct 2006 – Oct 2009

Beer-Sheva, Israel

Selected publications, Preprints and Patents _____

- **Daniel Ariad**, Manuel Viotti, Rajiv McCoy. “Methods for distinguishing aneuploidies in non-invasive prenatal testing”. Patent Application number: PCT/US2023/081262; Patent number: WO 2024/129354 A1; Publication date: June 20, 2024.
- **Daniel Ariad**, Svetlana Madjunkova, Mitko Madjunkov, Siwei Chen, Rina Abramov, Clifford Librach, Rajiv C. McCoy. “Aberrant landscapes of maternal meiotic crossovers contribute to aneuploidies in human embryos” Genome Research. 2024 Jan 1;34(1):70-84, bioRxiv:10.1101/2023.06.07.543910
- **Daniel Ariad**, Manuel Viotti, Rajiv McCoy. “Methods and related aspects for analyzing chromosome number status”. Patent Application number: US 18/035,811; Patent number: US 2023/0307130 A1; Publication date: September 28, 2023.
- **Daniel Ariad**, Stephanie M. Yan, Andrea R. Victor, Frank L. Barnes, Christo G. Zouves, Manuel Viotti, Rajiv C. McCoy. “Haplotype-aware inference of human chromosome abnormalities”. PNAS November 16, 2021 118 (46), bioRxiv:10.1101/2021.05.18.444721; Appeared on the PNAS cover
- **Daniel Ariad**, Yshai Avishai and Eytan Grosfeld. “How vortex bound states affect the Hall conductivity of a chiral $p \pm ip$ superconductor”. Phys. Rev. B 98, 104511 (2018), arXiv:1603.00840; Appeared on PRB Kaleidoscope
- **Daniel Ariad**, and Eytan Grosfeld. “Signatures of the topological spin of Josephson vortices in topological superconductors”. Phys. Rev. B 95, 161401(R) (2017), arXiv:1301.0538
- **Daniel Ariad**, Eytan Grosfeld, and Babak Seradjeh. “On the effective theory of vortices in two-dimensional spinless chiral p-wave superfluid”. Phys. Rev. B 92, 035136 (2015), arXiv:1407.2553
- **Daniel Ariad**, and Michael Gedalin. “The role pickup ions play in the termination shock”. Journal of Geophysical Research: Space Physics 118.6 (2013): 2854-2862

Technical Skills _____

Programming Languages	Python, Julia , Bash, C++, SQL, HTML, CSS, PHP and Assembler.
Python Packages	pandas, numpy, scipy, scikit-learn, pytorch , matplotlib, pysam, cyvcf2 and gmpy2
Sequencing assays	DNA-seq, RNA-seq, Epigenomics , Microarrays, Single-cell RNA-seq and Mass Spec-Based Proteomics.
Bioinformatics tools	BWA, Samtools, Cell Ranger, Nextflow , Bedtools, GATK and Scanpy.
Genomic databases	1000 Genomes Projects , GTEx, TCGA and COSMIC.
Productivity	Latex, Git , Confluence, Slack, Zoom and JIRA.
Healthcare	Real-world data (RWD), Electronic Health Record (EHR) , ICD-10, CPT, and HCPCS.

Service and Outreach _____

2020 – 2024 **Reviewer of manuscripts for Nature Portfolio Journals** – Nature, Nature Communication, Cell Discovery

2015 – 2018 **Journal Referee for the American Physical Society** – Physical Review Letters, Physical Review B