

# Lillian Petersen

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## EDUCATION

**Harvard University** | Class of 2024 | Applied Math & Molecular Biology | GPA: 3.99/4.0

Relevant Classes: Machine Learning    NLP    Algorithms    Statistics & Inference  
Systems Programming    Vector Calculus    Linear Algebra    GWAS  
Cellular Biology    Epigenetics    Immunology    Microscopy

## PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Python C++ R git vim unix PyTorch Systems Programming Parallel Computing LaTeX

## EXPERIENCE

**Buenrostro Lab, Harvard** | 2023 | Engineering Transcription Factors *Cambridge, MA*

- Fine-tuning protein language models on transcription factor effector domains to enable the creation of more potent transcription factors for therapeutic use.

**Liang Lab, HSPH** | 2021-2023 | Genetic Analysis of Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome *Boston, MA*

- Created the largest to-date GWAS meta-analysis for polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS).
- Created GWAS meta analyses of 138 inflammation biomarkers, enabling huge advancements in the genetic understanding of inflammation.
- Studied how inflammation mediates the relationship between PCOS, obesity, and sex hormones.
- Paper in submission

**CATALOG DNA** | 2021 | Building a DNA platform for data storage & computation *Boston, MA*

- Computationally analyzed CATALOG's DNA data encoding scheme to enable more reliable DNA-based data storage.

**McVicker Lab, Salk Institute** | 2019 | Understanding Dysfunctional Gene Regulation *San Diego, CA*

- Computationally studied methods of gene activation using HiC, ATAC-seq, and RNA-seq data.
- Reproduced the Activity-by-Contact model of gene activation, then applied this model to study oncogene activation in Leukemia patients.

**Descartes Labs** | 2017-2018 | Early Warning System for Crop Failures *Santa Fe, NM*

- Created an early warning system to predict crop yields in every country in Africa 3-4 months before the harvest using satellite imagery.
- I processed 15 terabytes of daily satellite imagery, conducted a thorough validation, and have presented this work around the world.
- Peer-reviewed publication: doi.org/10.3390/rs10111726

**Independent Research** | 2017 | Effect of Climate Change on Crop Yields *Los Alamos, NM*

- Predicted crop yields to 2100 for every US county based on historical relationships between yields and heat extremes. Predictions are for three crop types and two emissions scenarios.
- Peer-reviewed publication: doi.org/10.3390/cli7030040

## HONORS & AWARDS

Regeneron STS First Place | Cameron Impact Scholar | 3 ISEF Placements | ACM Cutler-Bell Prize

## PRESENTATIONS

ASHG Annual Meeting | Poster Presenter | 2022    AGU | Invited Oral Presenter | 2018  
CGIAR Data in a Crisis Climate | Panelist | 2020    CGIAR Annual Meeting | Oral Presenter | 2019 & 2018  
USAID | Hour Seminar | November 2018    USDA | Hour Seminar | May 2018  
FEWS NET | Hour Seminar | December 2018    IFPRI | Brown Bag Seminar | May 2018

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

*Real-Time Prediction of Crop Yields From MODIS Relative Vegetation Health: A Continent-Wide Analysis of Africa*  
*Impact of Climate Change on Twenty-First Century Crop Yields in the U.S.*