

Austin Che

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Education

MIT : Sep. 2008 Cambridge, MA
Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Thesis: Engineering RNA Logic with Synthetic Splicing Ribozymes
Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1721.1/47786>
Advisor: Tom Knight

MIT : Feb. 2004 Cambridge, MA
S.M. Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Thesis: Fluorescence Assay for Polymerase Arrival Rates
Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1721.1/16618>
Advisor: Tom Knight

STANFORD UNIVERSITY : Jun. 2001 Stanford, CA
B.S. Computer Science with Honors and A.B. Psychology. Graduated with Distinction
Thesis: Designing and Implementing Kiwi: A Secure Distributed File System over HTTPS
Advisor: Monica Lam

Work

GINKGO BIOWORKS : 2008–Present Founder
Founded a synthetic biology company focused on simplifying the engineering of biology.
Current operational responsibilities include organism engineering, pipeline development,
and treasurer.

OPENWETWARE : 2005–2008 Board member
Helped start and maintain a successful wiki devoted to sharing biological knowledge.

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY iGEM COMPETITION : 2003–2008
2006: Organized, recruited, and advised the award-winning MIT iGEM team
2003: Helped with first IAP class.
Wrote first version of the Registry of Standard Parts: <http://partsregistry.org>

MIT : 2002–2008 Residential Computing Consultant
Help students in the dorm to solve computer and network issues

STANFORD COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT : Summer 2000 SURF Fellow
Research work on distributed file systems

HEWLETT-PACKARD : Summer 1999 Intern
Worked in ANSI C++ Compiler Group, making C++ compiler more ANSI C compliant
and porting C++ compiler to IA-64

STANFORD DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING GROUP : 4/1999–9/2000 Consultant
Answered questions from students and faculty related to Unix systems

NETIQ CORP. : Summer 1996 Developer
Developed software and application documentation for an early stage startup

EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR GIFTED YOUTH : Summer 1993–1995 Intern
Designed lessons for computer-based math/physics program for kids

Teaching

MIT SEED PROGRAM : Spring 2008 Instructor
<http://openwetware.org/wiki/SEED>. Designed and taught a 10-week synthetic biology lab course for high school seniors.

MIT MITES PROGRAM : Summer 2003–Summer 2007 Instructor
 Introduced a summer biology class to the MITES program. MITES is an intensive 6 week residential program for high school students.

MIT EECS : Fall 2006 Teaching Assistant
 TA for MIT course 6.021J – Quantitative Physiology: Cells and Tissues.

HARVARD MCB100 : Fall 2005 Teaching Fellow
 Introduced 11 students to experimental methods while working on projects related to synthetic biology.

MIT EDUCATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM : Spring 2004 Instructor
 Taught a class on synthetic biology to high school students (10 weeks, 2 hour/week).

STANFORD COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT : 9/2000–3/2001 Section Leader
 Lead a section of about 10 students for the beginning programming class (CS106)

TECHNICAL COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM : 9/2000–12/2000 Instructor
 Taught public speaking for the Stanford School of Engineering.

STANFORD EDUCATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM : 1999–2000 Instructor
 Created and taught several classes to high school students on paradoxes, parapsychology, and nano-computing.

Conferences

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY 4.0 : Oct 10–12, 2008 Hong Kong
 Poster: Engineering RNA Logic with Synthetic Splicing Ribozymes

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY 3.0 : Jun 24–26, 2007 ETH Zurich
 Poster: Engineering Splicing Ribozyme: From Ribozymes to Transzystors

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY 2.0 : May 20–22, 2006 Berkeley
 Poster: Engineering Synthetic *trans*-Splicing Ribozyme Systems

E-DUCATION WITHOUT BORDERS : Feb. 19–21, 2005 United Arab Emirates
 Paper and Presentation: Remote Biology Labs

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY 1.0 : June 10–12, 2004 MIT
 Conference Organizer, Poster: Mindless Module Manipulations for Monkeys

Honors

6.270 MIT autonomous robot competition, 1st place and best design award: 2006
 National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship: 2003
 MIT Presidential Fellowship: 2001
 Computer Science Department Best Honors Thesis (Ben Wegbreit Award): 2001
 Member Psi Chi: 2001
 Siebel Scholar: 2000
 Member Tau Beta Pi (chapter president): 1999
 National Merit Finalist: 1997
 National AP Scholar: 1997
 High School Class Valedictorian: 1997