

# HOLLY M. JACKSON

Academic Curriculum Vitae

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## EDUCATION

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### University of California, Berkeley

2023 –

PhD Computer Science | Advisor: [Prof. Ben Recht](#)

### Columbia University

2022 – 2023

MA Human Rights Studies

- Thesis: *The On-Campus Israel Lobby: How the Suppression of Palestinian Activism on US College Campuses Is a Multi-Million Dollar Foreign-Funded Industry*, advised by [Prof. Mahmood Mamdani](#)

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2018 – 2022

BS Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

- Minor in Applied International Studies

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Journal Papers

- [H. Jackson](#), “*The New York Times* distorts the Palestinian struggle: A case study of anti-Palestinian bias in US news coverage of the First and Second Palestinian Intifadas,” *Media, War & Conflict*, prepublished June 6, 2023; DOI: 10.1177/17506352231178148.
- J. Dambrogio\*, A. Ghassaei\*, D. S. Smith\*\*, [H. Jackson\\*\\*](#), M. L. Demaine, G. Davis, D. Mills, R. Ahrendt, N. Akkerman, D. van der Linden, and E. D. Demaine, “Unlocking history through automated virtual unfolding of sealed documents imaged by X-ray microtomography,” *Nature Communications*, vol. 12, no. 1184, 2021.
- [H. Jackson](#), P. Jofré, K. Yaxley, P. Das, D. de Brito Silva, and R. Foley, “Using heritability of stellar chemistry to reveal the history of the Milky Way,” *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, vol. 502, no. 1, pp. 32–47, 2021.
- P. Jofré, [H. Jackson](#), and M. Tucci Maia, “Traits for chemical evolution in solar twins,” *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, vol. 633, no. L9, 2020.

### Conference Papers

- J. Bhatia, [H. Jackson](#), Y. Tian, J. Xu, and W. Matusik, “Evolution Gym: A Large-Scale Benchmark for Evolving Soft Robots,” in *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, M. Ranzato, A. Beygelzimer, Y. Dauphin, P. Liang, and J. W. Vaughan, Eds., vol. 34. Curran Associates, Inc., 2021, pp. 2201–2214.
- [H. M. Jackson](#), “Topological Optimization of a Cuboct Truss Structure Using a Genetic Algorithm,” in *58th AIAA/ASCE/AHS/ASC Structures, Structural Dynamics, and Materials Conference (AIAA SciTech)*, 2017.

### Theses

- [H. Jackson](#), “The On-Campus Israel Lobby: How the Suppression of Palestinian Activism on US College Campuses Is a Multi-Million Dollar Foreign-Funded Industry,” Master’s thesis, Columbia University, 2023.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### MIT History Department, Cambridge, MA

February 2022 – August 2022

Undergraduate Researcher | Supervisor: [Prof. Pouya Alimagham](#)

- Researched bias against Syria, Yemen, and Iran in American media using computational methods.

- MIT Geometric Data Processing Group**, Cambridge, MA June 2021 – December 2021  
Undergraduate Researcher | Supervisors: [Prof. Justin Solomon](#) & [Dr. Oded Stein](#)
- Developed a segmentation algorithm for approximate piecewise developable surfaces.
- MIT Computational Fabrication Group**, Cambridge, MA February 2021 – June 2021  
Undergraduate Researcher | Supervisor: [Prof. Wojciech Matusik](#)
- Co-developed a benchmark suite and computational pipeline for soft robotic evolution.
- MIT Media Lab, CSAIL, and Libraries**, Cambridge, MA July 2016 – March 2021  
Research Assistant | Supervisors: [Prof. Erik Demaine](#) (CSAIL) & [Prof. Neil Gershenfeld](#) (CBA)
- Co-developed an algorithm to virtually unfold 3D CT scans of unopened historical documents.
- Diego Portales University, Astronomy Nucleus**, Santiago, Chile June 2019 – January 2021  
Research Assistant | Supervisor: [Prof. Paula Jofré](#)
- Generated phylogenetic trees to map the chemical evolution of stars in the Milky Way based on their elemental makeup.
- Adobe Research**, San Francisco, CA May 2020 – August 2020  
Software Engineering Intern | Supervisor: [Dr. Noam Aigerman](#) (Creative Intelligence Lab)
- Developed adaptive B-splines using deep learning methods.
- NASA Ames Research Center**, Mountain View, CA June 2015 – August 2017, Summer 2018  
Intern | Supervisor: [Dr. Kenny Cheung](#) (Coded Structures Lab)
- Developed genetic algorithms for the automatic generation of programmable 3D truss structures. Created prototypes and performed physical stress testing.
  - Developed systems for robotic assembly of truss structures.

## TALKS

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- Anti-Palestinian bias in media coverage**  
UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism October 2023
- Ethics of artificial intelligence**  
Youth and the Future of AI Conference February 2022
- A large-scale benchmark for evolving soft robots**  
NeurIPS Poster Session December 2021
- Virtually unfolding sealed locked letters**  
Utrecht University Medical Imaging Conference June 2021  
Rijksmuseum Technical Art History Series May 2021  
MIT Digital Humanities Speaker Series April 2021  
Private Conference at the Museum voor Communicatie June 2018  
MIT MacVicar Day March 2017
- Building an evolutionary tree of the Galaxy**  
Max Planck Institute of Astronomy November 2020
- Genetic algorithms for programmable 3D truss structures**  
AIAA SciTech Forum January 2017

## SELECTED AWARDS

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- 2022 MIT EECS Undergraduate Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence

2020 Adobe Research \$10,000 Women-in-Technology Scholarship Recipient  
2015 White House Science Fair Exhibitor  
2014 Broadcom MASTERS National Science Fair \$25,000 Grand Prize

## TEACHING

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### Graduate Student TA and Grader

Columbia CSOR 4231, Analysis of Algorithms I

Fall 2022

- Held office hours. Graded assignments and exams.

### Undergraduate TA and Recitation Instructor

MIT 6.006, Introduction to Algorithms

Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

- Planned and taught biweekly recitation section for 30 students. Developed recitation materials and problem sets. Hosted office hours and review sessions for entire class.
- Rated 6.9/7.0 in Spring 2022, 6.6/7.0 in Fall 2021.
- One of few undergraduates selected from A-level students to TA the class.
- Nominated by professors and awarded MIT EECS undergraduate teaching award in Spring 2022.

### Guest Instructor

MIT Book and Letter Making Lab

January 2022

- Guest lecturer on day one of the course presenting on virtual unfolding technologies.

## REVIEWING

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### Journal Reviewing

- Media, War & Conflict: 2023

### Conference Reviewing

- IEEE-RAS International Conference on Soft Robotics (RoboSoft): 2023

## SELECTED PRESS

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### A large-scale benchmark for evolving soft robots

[Scientific American](#), [IEEE Spectrum](#), [WIRED](#), [MIT News](#)

December 2021

### Anti-Palestinian bias in American media

[Mondoweiss](#)

March 2023

[TRT World](#)

May 2021

### Virtually unfolding sealed locked letters

[Scientific American](#)

April 2021

[The New York Times](#), [WIRED](#), [NPR](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [MIT News](#), [CNN](#),

March 2021

[The Economist](#), [The Guardian](#), [New Scientist](#)

### Building an evolutionary tree of the Galaxy

[MIT News](#)

December 2020

### Genetic algorithms for programmable 3D truss structures

[IEEE Women in Engineering Magazine](#)

June 2018

[NASA Ames TechBytes Newsletter](#)

Winter 2017