

IDAN GABDANK

Livermore, CA 94550 | 650.861.2774 | idangabdank@gmail.com | www.linkedin.com/in/gabdank

OBJECTIVE

Experienced leader in program management, computational biology, and data-driven decision-making, with a proven ability to oversee cross-functional teams, drive product development under design control, and optimize research operations. Extensive experience in NGS-based technologies, laboratory informatics, and regulatory-compliant workflows. Adept at driving complex R&D programs from concept to commercialization by leveraging structured decision-making, risk management, and stakeholder engagement.

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- **Program & Project Management:** Certified PMP, Stanford Manager Academy, Agile methodologies (Jira), risk management, and structured decision-making frameworks.
- **Portfolio Strategy & Decision Support:** Expertise in portfolio assessments, risk evaluation, and strategic prioritization.
- **Cross-Functional Leadership:** Proven ability to lead interdisciplinary teams, collaborate with executives, and drive organizational alignment.
- **Stakeholder Engagement & Communication:** Adept at presenting insights to executive leadership, facilitating strategic discussions, and aligning cross-functional goals.
- **Data Modeling & Ontology:** Proven expertise in creating and managing complex data models and standards reflective of Next Generation Sequencing experimental artifacts, cross reference and compliance with LIMS, and utilizing ontologies to structure scientific data.
- **Technical & Data Science Proficiencies:** Computational pipeline development (WDL), Cloud computing, Containerization (Docker), Data modeling & integration (JSON), Software development (Python), CI/CD, FAIR data principles.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Stanford University School of Medicine | Department of Biomedical Data Science | Stanford, CA

Senior Biocuration Scientist

Mar 2025 – Present

- Managed data wrangling and curation for innovative cutting-edge single cell and CRISPR screen experiments within the Billion Cell Project funded by CZI, ensuring standardized data processing and quality control across high-throughput experimental datasets.
- Integrated AI tools and automated cloud-based pipelines for data validation and curation, streamlining quality assurance processes and reducing manual oversight requirements while maintaining data integrity standards.

National Human Genome Research Institute | Division of Genome Sciences | Bethesda, MD

Program Director

Aug 2024 – Mar 2025

- Managed a \$30 million research portfolio across 50+ grants, focusing on computational methods and advancing strategic R&D priorities.
- Developed data-driven portfolio assessments to mitigate risks, evaluate research impact, funding allocation, and long-term value.
- Partnered with NIH leadership to define investment strategies, assess competitive positioning, and guide funding decisions.
- Created executive reports and dashboards to communicate portfolio trends, risk factors, and strategic insights.

- Led cross-functional collaborations with researchers, federal agencies, and industry partners to optimize portfolio execution.
- Organized and facilitated workshops, webinars, and strategic meetings with key stakeholders.
- Served as a key member of teams overseeing the Human Genome Reference Program (HGRP) and Computational Genomics and Data Science (CGDS) Program.

Stanford University School of Medicine | Department of Genetics | Stanford, CA

Director of Data Science

Sep 2021 – Jul 2024

- Provided strategic oversight and facilitated coordination of a multi-institutional research consortium (Impact of Genomic Variation on Function Consortium, a five-year international program encompassing more than 75 laboratories with a total funding of more than \$185 million), aligning genomics initiatives with business objectives.
- Designed and implemented decision-support frameworks to optimize project selection, enhance strategic planning, and ensure data-driven decision-making.
- Managed a cross-functional team of 6, aligning program objectives with broader organizational priorities. Reduced team's turnover by 39% through structured performance management and employee engagement initiatives.
- Led the iterative development of the data portal code, successfully reducing the mean time for resolution by 34% through improved prioritization and issue management.

Computational Pipelines Teams Lead

Mar 2020 – Mar 2022

- Managed a team of 4 software developers and engineers, overseeing the development and implementation of platform-independent and reproducible uniform processing pipelines for analysis of a wide range of high-throughput next generation sequencing (NGS) data types that included results of WGBS, Hi-C, DNase-seq, ATAC-seq, CHIP-seq, and RNA-seq.
- Collaborated with senior management to set strategic goals, define resource allocation, and manage budgets in line with The Encyclopedia of DNA Elements (ENCODE) Consortium's mission. ENCODE Consortium was a twenty-year international program with a total funding of more than \$200 million.
- Conducted regular performance evaluations and provided constructive feedback to enhance team capabilities, resulting in two team members being promoted to the next level of software developers.

Data Wranglers Teams Lead

Oct 2018 – Jan 2022

- Supervised a multidisciplinary team of 6 geneticists, biologists, and bioinformaticians, ensuring effective training and professional growth.
- Led the development and maintenance of the data model for the ENCODE data portal, capturing critical experimental artifacts and variables. The data portal served more than 20K users/month.
- Played a key role in the acquisition and processing of high-throughput NGS data generated by more than 30 ENCODE Consortium laboratories.
- Contributed to Global Alliance for Genomics and Health (GA4GH) standards development and to the International Human Epigenome Consortium (IHEC) data harmonization efforts.

Senior Data Wrangler

Jul 2015 – Sep 2018

- Facilitated the Managed data submission and standardization for multiple research projects, ensuring compliance with consortium-wide guidelines.
- Designed and implemented cloud-based analysis pipelines for high-throughput genomic data, optimizing reproducibility and scalability.
- Developed novel and efficient data curation algorithm, preventing unintended sequencing data duplication in the database.

EDUCATION

- **Postdoctoral Fellowship** Stanford University School of Medicine, CA, USA. Jul 2011 – Jun 2015
- **PhD Bioinformatics** Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. Sep 2001 – Jun 2011