

# Walker Mellon

walkermellon@gmail.com

Phoenix, AZ

(928) 503-0762

[Portfolio](#)

---

## EDUCATION

**Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ**

December 2024

Master of Science, Data Science, Analytics and Engineering (Computational Models and Data)

Thesis: Leveraging Comparative Phylogenetic Methods for Evolutionary Medicine

**W. P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ**

December 2023

Bachelor of Science, Computer Information Systems

Bachelor of Science, Economics

Thesis: Cancer Across Vertebrates

---

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Co-Director, ACE Scholars, Arizona Cancer Evolution Center, Tempe, AZ**

September 2024-Present

- Lead and oversee interdisciplinary undergraduate research and training for 40+ students
- Mentor and coach team leads driving projects from conception to publication

**Research Assistant and Team Lead, Arizona Cancer Evolution Center, Tempe, AZ**

August 2021-Present

- Lead multiple undergraduate research teams
- Encourage development of teammates' professional, interpersonal, and research skills.

**Undergraduate Researcher, Daymude Lab, Tempe, AZ**

August 2022-May 2024

- Assisted in development of CancerSim2, an 3D agent-based cell model of cancer
- Conduct data analysis and visualization of CancerSim2 outputs

**Co-Founder and Lead Developer, [Progggy](#)**

January 2024 - Present

- Current development of Retrieval Augmented Generation and LLM application aimed to provide peer-reviewed medical information in a clinical setting to assist prognosis

**Graduate Researcher, Master's Opportunity for Research in Engineering**

January 2024-May 2024

- Developed and presented project titled "Validating CancerSim2: A Comparative Study of Adaptive Therapy in Mice Experiments"

---

## COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

**Member, Cancer Education Organization, Arizona State University**

October 2023- Present

- Educate public about the disease of Cancer and Cancer Prevention

**Volunteer, ASU Open Door, Arizona State University**

February 2025

- Teach children about cells, cancer, and DNA at ASU event open to the public

---

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Awards:** Global Impact Award, BioDesign Fusion 2024

**Talks:** Cancer Prevention and Control Program Seminar at the University of Arizona Cancer Center, BioDesign Fusion 2022 Rapid Fire Presenter, BioSci 2022 Lightning Talk Presenter

**Posters:** Systems Approach to Cancer Biology 2025, MathOnco 2023, Biodesign Fusion, SOLS Undergraduate Research Symposium, BioSci, Fulton Forge

### Publications and Preprints:

- *Leveraging Phylogenetic Comparative Methods in Evolutionary Medicine* (Mellon et al)
- *Cancer Prevalence Across Vertebrates* (Compton et al), Cancer Discovery
- *Germline Mutation Rate Predicts Cancer Mortality Across 37 Vertebrate Species* (Kapsetaki et al), Evolution, Medicine, and Public Health
- *Life History Traits and Cancer Prevalence in Birds* (Kapsetaki et al), Evolution, Medicine, and Public Health

---

## SKILLS

**Languages and Frameworks:** R, Phytools, dplyr, tidyverse, ggplot2, MASS, Java, JavaScript, jQuery, CSS, C++, HTML, React, Bash, Golang, Python, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, TensorFlow, PyTorch, SQL, LaTeX, MATLAB, noSQL, Hadoop, REST, SAS, PostgreSQL, pgAdmin, langchain

**Software and Services:** Tableau, Advanced Excel, Visio, Adobe Illustrator, GitHub, Docker, Weaviate, VirtualBox, Trello, ollama, anaconda, Amazon AWS (EC2, Lightsail)