

ACM XRDS: On Constructing the Tree of Life

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The Winter 2013 issue of [XRDS: Crossroads](http://xrds.acm.org), the ACM magazine for students features [the latest in wearable computing](http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2544049&CFID=442640581&CFTOKEN=69531558), such as wearable brain computer interface, human motion capturing and tracking how we read, the augmented reality and airwriting. ♦ In this issue there is a fascinating insider's look at what a Google technical interview is all about. [Check it out!](http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2544049)

I contributed a column on constructing, interpreting and visualizing phylogenetic trees, diagrams of relatedness between organisms, species, or genes that show a history of descent from common ancestry. As more and more life sciences data are freely available in public databases, some of the analyses that would have been performed in well-equipped research laboratories just few years ago are nowadays accessible to any interested individual with a commodity computer. Such a shift was only possible due to unprecedented technological and theoretical advancements across a broad spectrum of science and technology. ♦ [Check it out!](http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2544056)