CSE 427 Computational Biology

Lecture 1: Introduction
Goal for CSE427

• Learn how to collaborate with biologists and doctors to solve a biomedical problem using computational approaches
• We don’t need to define the problem or propose an important problem
  • Our collaborators (biologists/doctors) will do it.
• Computational approaches
  • Algorithm: dynamic programming, graph shortest distance
  • Machine learning: LSTM, GPT, Graph neural network
• Learn how to communicate
  • How to understand and formulate a biomedical problem
  • How to explain and present our computational solution/results to others
A concrete example

• Biologists: I have lots of protein-protein interaction data. I would like to find which protein is the most important one.

• Translate to computer science language
  • Protein-protein interaction: a network of protein nodes
  • Which protein is important: find a machine learning method that can identify important nodes in a network

• Our goal: understand biomedical problem and find the appropriate computational solution
Goal for CSE427

• Understand the biomedical problem
  • A data structure perspective: understand the data first
• Find an off-the-shelf computational tool (comp bio course)
  • Comp bio research: propose/develop new computational solutions for existing biomedical problems that do not have an off-the-shelf computational solutions.
• Advanced comp bio research: propose/identify new biomedical problems that can be addressed by emerging computational solutions (GPT can solve new biomedical problem)
• CSE427 offers a tradition from comp bio course to comp bio research
Grading

• No exams, no quizzes
• Three homework assignments (60%)
  • HW1 20%, HW2 20%, HW 3 20%
• Submit to Gradescope
• Written assignments only, no programming.
• Discussion and attending five research showcase lectures (20%)
  • 1/18, 1/30, 2/8, 2/20, 3/5
• Literature review (20%)
Research showcase

- Five lectures by Allen School PhD students working on comp bio projects at Allen School
- Learn more about research opportunities in the Allen School
- 45-minute presentation
- Discussion
Literature review

- Pick just one paper and fully understand it
- Paper publish in biomedical journals (e.g., Nature communications). Not a machine learning paper.
- Candidate papers from Allen School Comp bio faculty (Su-In Lee, Sara Mostafavi, Sheng Wang)
- Submit a one-page review by the end of the quarter
  - How to understand a research paper
  - Significance: why is this problem important?
  - Novelty: what is the difference between this paper and others?
  - Approaches: Rigorous of the approach and technical contribution
  - Limitation: your thoughts on the paper
Course logistics

- Lecture time: Tuesday and Thursday 10-11:20am
- Course mailing email: cse427a_wi24@uw.edu
Instructor and TAs

- **Instructor**
  - Sheng Wang (joined Allen School as assistant professor in Jan 2021)
  - [https://homes.cs.washington.edu/~swang/](https://homes.cs.washington.edu/~swang/)
  - swang@cs.washington.edu
  - Office hour: Wed 12-1pm (zoom)

- **TA:**
  - Zixuan Liu (zucksliu@cs.washington.edu)
    - Office hour: Friday 10:30am - 11:30am
  - Tong Chen(chentong@cs.washington.edu)
    - Office hour: Mondays 10:30am - 11:30am
  - Zoom: [https://washington.zoom.us/j/93658958689](https://washington.zoom.us/j/93658958689)
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<td>3/7</td>
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Introduce yourself

• Which year?
• Biology background
  • Protein, gene
  • Transcription, translate
  • Single cell, genomics, protein-protein interaction network
• Machine learning background
  • Clustering, classification
  • Random walk, LSTM
  • BERT, GAN, VAE
• Statistics and probability background
Question: How do we divide biology into subfield?
We will cover...
Subfield of biology are divided based on the scale.
A rich hierarchy of biological subsystems at multiple scales: genotypic variations in nucleotides (1 nm scale) -> proteins (1–10 nm) -> protein complexes (10–100 nm), cellular processes (100 nm) -> phenotypic behaviors of cells (1–10 μm), tissues (100 μm to 100 mm), -> complex organisms (>1 m).

Translation of genotype to phenotype by a hierarchy of cell subsystems

Translation of genotype to phenotype by a hierarchy of cell subsystems

How a computer scientist study comp bio?
Understand the input and output first

Biologists: which input should I use for this problem? Gene expression? Tissue images?

Computer scientists: Given the input we have, which method should we use to solve this problem?
Disentangle the process of solving comp bio problems

Step 1. Understand the data structure of input and output
Step 2. Develop methods based on the data structure
Step 3. Validate on existing data (cross-validation)
Step 4. Find new biology (literature evidence)
Data structure for each scale: protein

Gene (1 nm)

Protein complexes (function) (10-100nm)

Cell (1-10 μm)

Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm)

Complex organism (>1 cm)

A sequence of amino acids/nucleic acids -> A sequence of word/character
NLP methods (edit distance, LSTM, BERT)

Computational challenge: modeling the order in the sequence
Next generation sequencing (NGS)

- What is NGS?
  - A fast and cheap experimental technology that can produce the entire DNA sequence of a person within a single day.

Dr. Frederick Sanger
Nobel prize in Chemistry (1958, 1980)
Next generation sequencing (NGS)

- What is NGS?
  - A fast and cheap experimental technology that can produce the entire DNA sequence of a person within a single day.
  - Good to know the technique details, but the algorithm are more important for CS people.
  - In human, DNA is a **3 billion-long string of As, Cs, Gs and Ts**

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  • A fast and cheap experimental technology that can produce the entire DNA sequence of a person within a single day.
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• Important Question:
  • what algorithms should we develop for DNA sequence? (this technique emerged in 1994 and became commercially available since 2005)
  • Storage? Privacy? Compression?
Common comp bio question: measure the similarity between two samples

• Measure the similarity between two DNA sequences (or two patients)
• Always think about it from two perspectives:
  • Algorithmic perspective: string match, Knuth-Morris-Pratt KMP String Matching Algorithm
  • Machine learning perspective: LSTM, RNN, CNN, Language model
Principle for computer scientists to work on a biomedicine problem

- **Step 1. Understand the data structures of input and output**
- **Step 2. Find similar problem in algorithm and ML classes**
  - Text string match -> DNA string match
- **Step 3. Transfer that method to biology**
- **Step 4 (optional, PhD student research). Improve that method based on the unique property in bio data**
  - Text strings are often short (a sentence only has ~20 words) and have clear structures (word, phrase, sentence, paragraph)
  - How to segment DNA sequence? DNA sequences are very long.
- **Step 5 (optional. Suggest future research direction to biologists)**
  - Ask the biologist. Can you segment the DNA sequence using some experimental techniques? If so, I have more powerful methods to analyze them.
Data structure for each scale: network

Gene (1 nm) → Protein complexes (function) (10-100nm) → Cell (1-10 μm) → Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm) → Complex organism (>1 cm)

A network of proteins/genes -> Social network
Graph analysis methods (random walk, pagerank, graph neural network)

Computational challenge: interaction, synergistic effect
Yeast two-hybrid (Y2H)

- What is Y2H?
  - A molecular biology technique that can discovery protein-protein interactions (PPIs) and protein-DNA interactions.
- What is PPI?
  - A graph. Each node is a protein (about 20K nodes in human). Each edge is an interaction between two proteins.
Yeast two-hybrid (Y2H)

- What is Y2H?
  - A molecular biology technique that can discover protein-protein interactions (PPIs) and protein-DNA interactions.
- What is PPI?
  - A graph. Each node is a protein (about 20K nodes in human). Each edge is an interaction between two proteins.
- Analogy in other applications?
  - Facebook social network. Each user is a protein. User-user friendship relationship is an interaction between two proteins.
- **Important Question:**
  - what algorithms should we develop for Y2H and PPIs?
  - One interesting question in almost any bio subdomains.
    - How to measure the similarity?
What computational questions should we work on for Y2H and PPIs?

- Measure similarity between two proteins in the network
- Measure similarity between two users in the facebook
- Always think about it from two perspectives:
  - Algorithmic perspective: shortest distance (Dijkstra’s algorithm)
  - Machine learning perspective: random walk, random walk with restart, graph neural network, graph embedding
Data structure for each scale: cell

Gene (1 nm)

Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm)

Cell (1–10 μm)

Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm)

Complex organism (>1 cm)

A cell by gene matrix -> vector/matrix (high-dimensional, no spatial information)
Dimensionality reduction methods (PCA, t-SNE, variety of embedding methods)

High-dimensional, noisy, large-scale
Single cell RNA sequencing (scRNA-seq)

- What is scRNA-seq?
  - A technique that can measure the gene expression vector of each cell
- What is the data structure?
  - A 2D array. Rows are cells. Columns are genes.
  - Lots of rows (millions of cells)
  - ~20k columns for human
- Analogy in other applications?
- What is the research question here?
Data structure for each scale: tissue

Gene (1 nm) → Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm) → Cell (1–10 μm) → Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm) → Complex organism (>1 cm)

Tissue image → image analysis
Image analysis (segmentation, detection, CNN)

Image analysis, lack of high-quality annotations
Medical imaging technology

- What is the data structure?
- One image for a small part of the tissue
- Analogy in other applications?
- Image analysis
- **What is the research question here?**
  - Machine learning: image segmentation (which region is tumor), image classification (tumor v.s. healthy)

Tumor tissue image
Data structure for each scale: organism

Gene (1 nm) → Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm) → Cell (1-10 μm) → Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm) → Complex organism (>1 cm)

Disease mechanisms -> Multimodality
Integration of information from sequences, networks, images and matrixes

Multi-modality and heterogeneous
Computational methods for biology at different scales

Gene (1 nm)

Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm)

Cell (1-10 μm)

Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm)

Complex organism (>1 cm)

Focus of CSE 427

Genetics

Systems biology

Cellular biology

Medical imaging

Computational medicine
Real world research question: how to measure the similarity between two patients

- We will have
  - DNA sequences of these two persons
  - A protein-protein interaction network
  - Gene expression matrix of cells in each person
  - Tissue image
  - Other datasets…
- Which of these data should we use?
- How should we integrate these multiple datasets?
CSE427 syllabus

1-6 Lecture: Genetics
   - Gene (1 nm)

7-15 Lecture: Systems biology
   - Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm)

16-19 Lecture: Cellular biology
   - Cell (1–10 μm)

20 Lecture: Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm)
   - Complex organism (>1 cm)

- Lecture 16-19
- Lecture 7-15
- Lecture 1-6
Computational methods for biology at different scales

Gene (1 nm)

Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm)

Cell (1-10 μm)

Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm)

Complex organism (>1 cm)
A concrete example: The Cancer Genome Atlas Program

Oomics characterizations
- Mutation
- Copy number
- Gene expression
- DNA methylation
- MicroRNA
- RPPA
- Clinical data

Samples
- BRCA
- BLCA
- COOAD
- GBM
- HNSC
- KIRC
- LAML
- LUAD
- LUSC
- OV
- READ
- UCEC

Genes/loci

Thematic pathways

Image source: Paradoja7.com
DNA sample analysis by 23andMe

DNA sample
How did they do this?

DNA sample → Sequencing machine → ~2000 dollars → Your entire genome sequence *.fastq file

Our job as a computer scientist: analyze *.fastq file
Process raw data using sequence alignment (dynamic programming)

Unaligned reads

Aligned Reads

Reference Genome

Count

Gene A

Reference Annotation

Gene A: 6

Gene B

Counts:

Gene B: 4

source: https://bioconnector.github.io/bims8382/r-rnaseq-airway.html
What does a fastq file look like?

Very large! ~300000000 lines
Quality: ASCII chars

What should we do? Map each short sequence (we call it read) to the entire human genome
What does a fastq file look like?

Reference genome: “average” human genome.
Most widely used human genome GRCh38: derived from 13 thirteen anonymous volunteers
Processed data

countData

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<td>exp_1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>exp_2</td>
<td>treatment</td>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
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Sample names: 
ctrl_1, ctrl_2, exp_1, exp_2

source: https://bioconnector.github.io/bims8382/r-rnaseq-airway.html
Clustering analysis using dimensionality reduction

source: https://bioconnector.github.io/bims8382/r-rnaseq-airway.html
Heatmap for visualization

source: https://bioconnector.github.io/bims8382/r-rnaseq-airway.html
Cell: a town

- Cell is a town. It has many factories and one library.
- Library (nucleus)
  - The most important part of this town
  - Contains genetic information in the cell
- Many factories
  - Retrieve receipts from library and then produce different kinds of goods
  - Goods are proteins

source: https://www.asec.purdue.edu/game/lesson1.html
Nucleus: a library

- Books in the library (DNA)
  - Genetical material that determines physical characteristics of the cell and ultimately the organism
  - Books are always in the library. We can only make copy of it and send the copy to factories.
- Copy from books (messenger RNA (mRNA) )
  - Retrieve instructions from nucleus (only copy, not remove)
  - A “copy” of the information contained in the sequences of DNA
  - This copy is transported to a separate region of the cell (e.g., factory) where proteins are made
- Copy machine (transcription)
  - mRNA takes the instructions within the nucleus and bring it to the factory
  - Turning the instructions into a product in the factory (translation, cytoplasm)
Translation: a factory

• Factory gets information from library
• Nucleic acids
• Factory generates goods based on the information
  • Goods are proteins (amino acid language)
  • Essential for the cell and our human body.
Summarization

• A town has one library and many factories. Factory gets instructions from library and use introduction to produce goods.

• A cell has one nucleic and many other components. mRNA sends information from nucleic to each component. Each component uses it to produce proteins.
Each individual has a slightly different version of the DNA sequence
DNA: “Blueprints” for a cell

- Genetic information encoded in long strings of double-stranded DNA (Deoxyribo Nucleic Acid)

- DNA comes in only four flavors: Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine, Thymine
  - In human, DNA is a 3 billion-long string of As, Cs, Gs and Ts

- DNA acts as the “brain” of the cell, telling the cell how to properly grow and work
Cell

Cell, nucleus, cytoplasm, mitochondrion
Nucleotide

Nucleotide, base, A, C, G, T, 3’, 5’

to previous nucleotide

to base

5’

3’

to next nucleotide

Let’s write “AGACC”!

Adenine (A)

Guanine (G)

Thymine (T)

Cytosine (C)
“AGACC” (backbone)
“AGACC” (DNA)

Adenine (A)  Guanine (G)

Thymine (T)  Cytosine (C)
Problem 1. Dynamic Programming (10 points).

With the following scoring function: MATCH: 5 MISMATCH: -10 GAP: -5
Consider the task of finding the optimal global alignment of the following
two sequences: ATC and ATATCTC. Construct the dynamic
programming table.

Answer:

Problem 2. Amino acid sequence (10 points).

Translate the following sequence to the sequence of amino acids.
AUG-AAG-CCG-AGU-GUA-UGA

Answer:

Problem 3. UniProt database (10 points).

UniProt database (https://www.uniprot.org/) is where you can find the
sequence of a specific gene. Please use the UniProt database to find the
amino acid sequence of the gene KMT2A_HUMAN and the gene
KMT2A_MOUSE.
Write down the first 50 amino acids of KMT2A_HUMAN (5 points) and
the first 50 amino acids of KMT2A_MOUSE (5 points) here.

Answer:
DNA packaging (DNA is 6 feet long!)

Histone, nucleosome, chromatin, chromosome, centromere, telomere

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9kQpYdCnU14
What will the data look like?
Two .fastq files. Lines correspond to each other

DNA sequences (reads) are aligned to the reference genome and converted into ligation events

```bash
bowtie2 -p 20 -x hg38index -U hicExp1_R1_fastq.trimmed > hicExp1_R1.hg38.sam
bowtie2 -p 20 -x hg38index -U hicExp1_R2_fastq.trimmed > hicExp1_R2.hg38.sam
```
Data structure and computational problem

source: SRHiC: A Deep Learning Model to Enhance the Resolution of Hi-C Data
Computer vision-based solution

source:https://www.boredpanda.com/google-ai-amazing-image-enhancement/
Graph-based solution

source:https://www.boredpanda.com/google-ai-amazing-image-enhancement/
Genes & proteins

gene, transcription, translation, protein

Double-stranded DNA

5’ TAGGATCGACTATATGGGATTACAAAGCATTTAGGGA...TCACCCTCTCTAGACTAGCATCTATATAAAACAGAA 3’
3’ ATCCTAGCTGATATACCCTAATGTTTCGTAAATCCCT...AGTGGGAGAGATCTGATCGTAGATATTTTGTCTT 5’

transcription

Single-stranded RNA

AUGGGAUUACAAAGCAUUUAGGGA...UCACCCUCUCUAGACUAGCAUCUAAUAAA

translation

protein
Amino acid: 3 RNA letters required to specify a single amino acid

There are 20 standard amino acids

- Alanine
- Arginine
- Asparagine
- Aspartate
- Cysteine
- Glutamate
- Glutamine
- Glycine
- Histidine
- Isoleucine
- Leucine
- Lysine
- Methionine
- Phenylalanine
- Proline
- Serine
- Threonine
- Tryptophan
- Tyrosine
- Valine
The genetic code

- Mapping from a codon to an amino acid

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<td>UAU UAC</td>
<td>UGU UGC</td>
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<td>UUG UUA</td>
<td>UGG</td>
<td>Leucine</td>
<td>SR</td>
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<tr>
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<td>CUU CUC CUA CUG</td>
<td>CCU CCC CCA CCG</td>
<td>CAU CAC</td>
<td>CGU CGC CGA CGG</td>
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<td>AGU AGC AGA AGG</td>
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<td>GCU GCC GCA GCG</td>
<td>GAU GAC GAA GAG</td>
<td>GGU GCC GGA GGG</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Valine</td>
<td>Alanine</td>
<td>Aspartic acid</td>
<td>Glycine</td>
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</table>
Translation

- Always start from Met
Errors?

- What if the transcription / translation machinery makes mistakes?

- What is the effect of mutations in coding regions?
Synonymous mutation

G C U U G U U U A C G A A U U A G

Ala   Cys   Leu   Arg   Ile

G C U U G U U U A C G A A U U A G

Ala   Cys   Leu   Arg   Ile

G C U U G U U U G C G A A U U A G

Ala   Cys   Leu   Arg   Ile
Missense mutation

G C U U G U U U A C G A A U U A G

G C U U G U U U A C G A A U U A G

G

G C U U G U U U A C G A A U U A G

Ala Cys Leu Arg Ile

G C U U G G U U A C G A A U U A G

Ala Trp Leu Arg Ile
Nonsense mutation

Ala  Cys  Leu  Arg  Ile

Ala  STOP
Frameshift

GCUUGUUAACGAAUUAAG

Ala  Cys  Leu  Arg  Ile

GCUUGUUAACGAAUUAAG

Ala  Cys

GCUUGUUAACGAAUUAAG

Ala  Cys  Tyr  Glu  Leu
Goal for today

- Human genome project
- Dynamic programming
- Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm
History of Molecular Biology

1859
Darwin: “On the Origin of Species”

1865
Mendel: Laws of segregation of alleles

1871
Miescher: Isolation of the DNA molecule

1953
Watson, Crick, Wilkins, Franklin: Structure of double-helix of the DNA

1990
Human Genome Project: Begin

2003
Human Genome Project: Complete
Human Genome Project

The February 2001 cover of Nature

Science

Most important scientific discovery in the 20th century.

1990: Start

2000: Bill Clinton:

2001: Draft

2003: Finished

2021: now what?

3 billion basepairs

$3 billion
Sequencing Growth

Cost of one human genome

- 2004: $30,000,000
- 2008: $100,000
- 2010: $10,000
- 2011: $4,000
- 2015: $1,000
- 2020: $1,000

How much would you pay for a smartphone?
Uses of Genomes

- **Medicine**
  - Mendelian diseases
  - Cancer
  - Drug dosage (eg. Warfarin)
  - Disease risk
  - Diagnosis of infections
  - ...

- **Ancestry**
- **Genealogy**
- **Nutrition**
Sampling of traits reported in 23andme

- Ability to match musical pitch
- Asparagus odor detection
- Back hair (men only)
- Bald spot (men only)
- Bunions
- Cilantro Taste Aversion
- Early Hair Loss (men only)
- Fear of Heights
- Fear of Public Speaking
- Ice Cream Flavor Preference
- Misophonia
- Mosquito Bite Frequency
- Photic Sneeze Reflex
- Sweet vs. Salty
- Toe Length Ratio
- Unibrow
- Wake-Up Time
- Widow's Peak
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- Ability to match musical pitch
- Asparagus odor detection
- Back hair (men only)
- Bald spot (men only)
- Bunions
- Cilantro Taste Aversion
- Early Hair Loss (men only)
- Fear of Heights
- Fear of Public Speaking
- Ice Cream Flavor Preference
- Misophonia

23andMe’s New Trait Report Puts a Cherry on Top of Your Ice Cream Preference

June 28, 2019 By 23andMe under Health and Traits

- UniBrow
- Wake-Up Time
- Widow's Peak
Biological discovery: data-driven + literature evidence

You Scream, I Scream, We all Scream for Ice Cream

By using a statistical model and data from more than 980,000 23andMe research participants, our scientists were able to identify 739 genetic markers associated with preferring vanilla ice cream to chocolate. Pulling those genetic markers together with non-genetic factors – such as age and sex – we developed a model to estimate the likelihood of preferring vanilla ice cream to chocolate.

Obviously your ice cream flavor preference is influenced by far more than genetics – culture and environment for instance – but as with other types of food preferences, your genetics is the cherry on top. A person’s preference may be related to their sense of smell. Indeed many of the genetic variants we found associated with ice cream preference are in or near olfactory receptor genes, like OR10A6 and OR5M8. Those genes contain instructions for proteins that help detect odors. While you’re eating, your brain combines information from odors and your taste buds to perceive flavor.
Sampling of diseases reported in 23andme

- Type 2 Diabetes
- Age-related macular degeneration
- Celiac Disease
- Late-Onset Alzheimer's Disease
- Parkinson's Disease
Complete DNA Sequences

More than 1000 complete genomes have been sequenced
Evolution
Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution --

Theodosius Dobzhansky
That is why we want to compare sequences

Partial CTCF protein sequence in 8 organisms:

- **H. sapiens**: -EDSSDS-ENAEPDLDDNEDEEEPAVEIEPEPE---------PQPVPAPA
- **P. troglodytes**: -EDSSDS-ENAEPDLDDNEDEEEPAVEIEPEPE---------PQPVPAPA
- **C. lupus**: -EDSSDS-ENAEPDLDDNEDEEEPAVEIEPEPE---------PQPVPAPA
- **B. taurus**: -EDSSDS-ENAEPDLDDNEDEEEPAVEIEPEPE---------PQPVPAPA
- **M. musculus**: -EDSSDSEENAEPDLDDNDEEEEPAVEIEPEPE--PQPQPPPPPPQPVPAPA
- **R. norvegicus**: -EDSSDS-ENAEPDLDDNDEEEEPAVEIEPEPEPQPQPQQPQPQPQPVPAPA
- **G. gallus**: -EDSSDSEENAEPDLDDNDEEEETAVEIEAEPE---------VSAEAPA
- **D. rerio**: DDDDDDSDEHGEPDLDDIDEDEDEDDL-LDEDQMGLLDQAPPSVIPIPAPA

- Identify important sequences by finding conserved regions.
- Find genes similar to known genes.
- Understand evolutionary relationships and distances (D. rerio aka zebrafish is farther from humans than G. gallus aka chicken).
- Interface to databases of genetic sequences.
- As a step in genome assembly, and other sequence analysis tasks.
- Provide hints about protein structure and function.
That is why we want to compare sequences

Partial CTCF protein sequence in 8 organisms:

- **H. sapiens**
  - EDSSDS-ENAEPDLDDNEDEEPEAIEPEPE----------PQPVPAPA

- **P. troglodytes**
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- **D. rerio**
  - DDDDDDSDEHGDQDDLDDEEDEDEDD-LDEDEMGLLDQAPPVPIP-APA

**D. rerio**

**G. gallus**

**P. Troglodytes**

**C. lupus**
Comparing Human, Chimp, and Mouse Genomes

- 95% of the chimp genome is mapped to identical sequence in the human genome.

The white areas indicate areas that do not map well to the other genome.
Comparing Human, Chimp, and Mouse Genomes

- 34% of the mouse genome is mapped to identical sequence in the human genome.

From http://cbse.soe.ucsc.edu/research/comp_genomics/human_chimp_mouse
Evolution at the DNA level

SEQUENCE EDITS

REARRANGEMENTS

Deletion

Mutation

Inversion

Translocation

Duplication
The Simplest String Comparison Problem

**Given:** Two strings

\[ a = a_1a_2a_3a_4...a_m \]
\[ b = b_1b_2b_3b_4...b_n \]

where \( a_i, b_i \) are letters from some alphabet like \{A,C,G,T\}.

**Compute** how similar the two strings are.

What do we mean by “similar”?

**Edit distance** between strings \( a \) and \( b \) = the smallest number of the following operations that are needed to transform \( a \) into \( b \):

- mutate (replace) a character
- delete a character
- insert a character

riddle → ridle → ripple → triple
Dynamic Programming (DP)

- Dynamic programming is used to solve optimization problems, similar to greedy algorithms.

- DP problem can always be decomposed to a series of subproblems with the same structure.
  - Define proper subproblems.

- Ensure the subproblem space is polynomial.

- Define a table (matrix), called DP table, to store all the optimal score for each subproblem.

- Need a traversal order: Subproblems must be ready (solved) when they are needed, so computation order matters.

- Determine a recursive formula: A larger subproblem is typically solved as a function of its subparts.

- Remember choices or the solution of each subproblem.
Dynamic Programming (DP)

- Once dynamic programming is setup, computation is typically straight-forward:
  - Systematically fill in the table of results (and usually traceback pointers) and find an optimal score.
  - Traceback from the optimal score through the pointers to determine an optimal solution.

- Example: Fibonacci Numbers
  - The Fibonacci sequence is recursively defined as $F(0) = F(1) = 1$, $F(n) = F(n-1) + F(n-2)$ for $n \geq 2$. 
Local and Global Alignment

- Sometimes we need to choose whether we want to align the entire sequence.

\[
\begin{align*}
A & T & A & C & G & T & C & T \\
- & - & A & C & G & T & - & -
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
A & T & A & C & G & T & C & T & T \\
A & - & - & C & G & - & - & - & T
\end{align*}
\]

Local alignment: Smith-Waterman algorithm
Global alignment: Needleman-Wunsh algorithm

- They both contain four align positions and four gaps. Which one should we choose?

- **Criteria**
  - Do we want to check the whole sequence or a local region?
  - Is there a big length difference between two sequences?
  - Are the sequences distantly related during evolution?
  - Is your job about finding motifs, conserved domains?
What does a fastq file look like?

Reference genome: “average” human genome.
Most widely used human genome GRCh38: derived from 13 thirteen anonymous volunteers
Key difference

- Sometimes we need to choose whether we want to align the entire sequence.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{A} & \quad \text{T} & \quad \text{A} & \quad \text{C} & \quad \text{G} & \quad \text{T} & \quad \text{C} & \quad \text{T} & \quad
\text{A} & \quad \text{T} & \quad \text{A} & \quad \text{C} & \quad \text{G} & \quad \text{T} & \quad \text{C} & \quad \text{T} \\
\text{-} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{A} & \quad \text{C} & \quad \text{G} & \quad \text{T} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{A} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{C} & \quad \text{G} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{-} & \quad \text{T}
\end{align*}
\]

We don’t want to punish the gap at the two ends!
We need to assign a score for each alignment

The score of an alignment is equal to the sum of the score contributed by each position.

Several rules must hold:
• Each position on sequence 1 can only be aligned to one position on sequence 2
• No crossing rule:
Sequence alignment

AGGCTATCACCTGACCTCCAGGCCGATGCCCT
TAGCTATACGGACCACGGTGCTGATTGCCCAGAC

---AGGCTATCACCTGACCTCCAGGCCGATGCCCT---TGCCC---
TAGGCTATCACGACCACGGTGCTGATTGCCCAGAC

TAGCTATCACGACCACGGTGCTGATTGCCCAGAC
What is a good alignment?

AGGCTAGTT, AGCGAAGTTTT

AGGCTAGTT- AGCGAAGTTTT 6 matches, 3 mismatches, 1 gap

AGGCTAGTT- AGCGAAGTTTT 7 matches, 1 mismatch, 3 gaps

AGGC-TA-GTT- AG-CGAAGTTTT 7 matches, 0 mismatches, 5 gaps
## Scoring Function

- **Sequence edits:**
  - Mutations: AGGACTC
  - Insertions: AGGGCCTC
  - Deletions: AGG . CTC

### Scoring Function:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Match</td>
<td>+m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mismatch</td>
<td>-s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gap</td>
<td>-d</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Score: \[ F = (\# \text{ matches}) \times m - (\# \text{ mismatches}) \times s - (\# \text{ gaps}) \times d \]
How do we compute the best alignment?

Every non-decreasing path from (0,0) to (M, N) corresponds to an alignment of the two sequences, and vice versa.

(exercise)

X: AGTGACCTGGGAAAGA------C...
Y: AG--TGC--CC-TGGAAACCCT...
How do we compute the best alignment?

Too many possible alignments:

$$>> 3 \min(M,N)$$
Alignment is additive

Observation:

The score of aligning $x_1 \ldots x_M$ to $y_1 \ldots y_N$ is additive

Say that $x_1 \ldots x_i$ aligns to $y_1 \ldots y_j$

The two scores add up:

$$F(x[1:M], y[1:N]) = F(x[1:i], y[1:j]) + F(x[i+1:M], y[j+1:N])$$
Dynamic Programming

- Consider subproblems for $i \leq M$ and $j \leq N$
  - Align $x_1 \ldots x_i$ to $y_1 \ldots y_j$

- Original problem is one of the subproblems
  - Align $x_1 \ldots x_M$ to $y_1 \ldots y_N$

- Each subproblem is easily solved from smaller subproblems
  - We will show next

- Then, we can apply Dynamic Programming!!!

Let $F(i, j) =$ optimal score of aligning

\[
\begin{align*}
  x_1 & \ldots x_i \\
  y_1 & \ldots y_j
\end{align*}
\]

F is the DP “Matrix” or “Table”

“Memorization”
Scoring Function

- Sequence edits: AGGCCTC
  - Mutations: AGGACTC
  - Insertions: AGGGGCCTC
  - Deletions: AGG . CTC

Scoring Function:

- Match: +m
- Mismatch: -s
- Gap: -d

Score  \( F = (\# \text{ matches}) \times m - (\# \text{ mismatches}) \times s - (\# \text{ gaps}) \times d \)

Alternative definition: minimal edit distance

“Given two strings \( x \), \( y \), find minimum \# of edits (insertions, deletions, mutations) to transform one string to the other”
Dynamic Programming (cont’d)

Notice three possible cases:

1. $x_i$ aligns to $y_j$
   
   $x_1 \ldots x_{i-1} \quad x_i$
   
   $y_1 \ldots y_{j-1} \quad y_j$

   $F(i, j) = F(i-1, j-1) + \begin{cases} 
   m, & \text{if } x_i = y_j \\
   -s, & \text{if not}\end{cases}$

2. $x_i$ aligns to a gap
   
   $x_1 \ldots x_{i-1} \quad x_i$
   
   $y_1 \ldots y_{j-1} \quad -$

   $F(i, j) = F(i-1, j) - d$

3. $y_j$ aligns to a gap
   
   $x_1 \ldots x_i \quad -$
   
   $y_1 \ldots y_{j-1} \quad y_j$

   $F(i, j) = F(i, j-1) - d$
Dynamic Programming (cont’d)

How do we know which case is correct?

Inductive assumption:

\[ F(i, j - 1), F(i - 1, j), F(i - 1, j - 1) \text{ are optimal} \]

Then,

\[ F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} 
F(i - 1, j - 1) + s(x_i, y_j) \\
F(i - 1, j) - d \\
F(i, j - 1) - d 
\end{cases} \]

where

\[ s(x_i, y_j) = \begin{cases} 
m, \text{ if } x_i = y_j \\
-s, \text{ if not} 
\end{cases} \]
Example

F(i, j) = optimal score of aligning $x_1, ..., x_i$ to $y_1, ..., y_j$

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$F = \begin{array}{cccccc}
\text{x} & = & \text{ACGCTG} & \text{match:} & +2 \\
\text{y} & = & \text{CATGT} & \text{mismatch, gap:} & -1
\end{array}$
x = ACGCTG     match:     +2
y = CATGT     mismatch, gap: -1
Example

\[ s(-, C) = -1 \]

\[ \begin{array}{c|cccccc}
   & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\
\hline
   0 & 0 & -1 \\
   1 & A & & & & & \\
   2 & C & & & & & \\
   3 & G & & & & & \\
   4 & C & & & & & \\
   5 & T & & & & & \\
   6 & G & & & & & \\
\end{array} \]

\( x = \text{ACGCTG} \quad \text{match: } +2 \)
\( y = \text{CATGT} \quad \text{mismatch, gap: } -1 \)
x = ACGCTG    match: +2
y = CATGT    mismatch, gap: -1

```
x  = ACGCTG
y  = CATGT

\text{match: } +2\text{, mismatch, gap: } -1
```

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\(s(-, C) = -1\)
\[ x = \text{ACGCTG} \quad \text{match:} \quad +2 \]
\[ y = \text{CATGT} \quad \text{mismatch, gap:} \quad -1 \]

![Alignment table and diagram](image)

The alignment table shows the alignment of the sequences \( x \) and \( y \). The gap penalty is set to \(-1\). The score \( s(A,-) \) is indicated as \(-1\) at the position where \( A \) aligns with the gap. The alignment is indicated by arrows and the scores are calculated based on the alignment.
x = ACGCTG    match: +2
y = CATGT    mismatch, gap: -1

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\[ s(C, \cdot) = -1 \]

\[ s(C, -) = -1 \]
x = ACGCTG    match:    +2
y = CATGT    mismatch, gap: -1

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Example:

\[ x = ACGCTG \]
\[ y = CATGT \]
x = ACGCTG  match:  +2
y = CATGT  mismatch, gap: -1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>C</th>
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**Diagram:**
- Purple arrow from i=0 to j=0 indicating no match.
- Yellow box summarizing scoring rules:
  - **s(A,C) = -1**
  - **s(A,-) = -1**
  - **s(-,C) = -1**
  - **s(-,-) = -2**

**Example:**
- x = ACGCTG
- y = CATGT

**Results:**
- Match: +2
- Mismatch and gap: -1
Example

$x = ACGCTG \quad \text{match: } +2$

$y = CATGT \quad \text{mismatch, gap: } -1$

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\[
x = \text{ACGCTG} \quad \text{match: } +2
\]
\[
y = \text{CATGT} \quad \text{mismatch, gap: } -1
\]
$x = \text{ACGCTG}$ \quad \text{match:} \quad +2

$y = \text{CATGT}$ \quad \text{mismatch, gap:} \quad -1

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\[\text{Time} = O(MN)\]
Finding alignments: trace back

Arrows = (ties for) max in $F(i,j)$; 3 LR-to-UL paths = 3 optimal alignments

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Finding alignments: trace back

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The arrows indicate the traceback path, which leads back to the starting point.
The Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm

1. **Initialization.**
   a. \( F(0, 0) = 0 \)
   b. \( F(0, j) = -j \times d \)
   c. \( F(i, 0) = -i \times d \)

2. **Main Iteration.** Filling-in partial alignments
   For each \( i = 1 \ldots M \)
   For each \( j = 1 \ldots N \)
   \[
   F(i, j) = \max \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
   F(i - 1, j - 1) + s(x_i, y_j) & \text{[case 1]} \\
   F(i - 1, j) - d & \text{[case 2]} \\
   F(i, j - 1) - d & \text{[case 3]} 
   \end{array} \right.
   \]
   \[
   \text{Ptr}(i, j) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
   \text{DIAG,} & \text{if [case 1]} \\
   \text{UP,} & \text{if [case 2]} \\
   \text{LEFT,} & \text{if [case 3]} 
   \end{array} \right.
   \]

3. **Termination.** \( F(M, N) \) is the optimal score, and from \( \text{Ptr}(M, N) \) can trace back optimal alignment
**Global Alignment vs. Local Alignment**

**Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm**

- **Initialization**: \( F(0, 0) = 0 \)
- **Iteration**: 
  \[
  F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} 
    F(i-1, j) - d \\
    F(i, j-1) - d \\
    F(i-1, j-1) + s(x_i, y_j)
  \end{cases}
  \]
- **Termination**: Bottom right

**Smith-Waterman Algorithm**

- **Initialization**: \( F(0, j) = F(i, 0) = 0 \)
- **Iteration**: 
  \[
  F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} 
    0 \\
    F(i-1, j) - d \\
    F(i, j-1) - d \\
    F(i-1, j-1) + s(x_i, y_j)
  \end{cases}
  \]
- **Termination**: Anywhere
Performance

- Time: $O(NM)$
- Space: $O(NM)$
**Global Alignment**  vs.  **Local alignment**

**Needleman-Wunsch algorithm**

**Initialization:**  \( F(0, 0) = 0 \)

**Iteration:**
\[
F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} 
F(i - 1, j) - d \\
F(i, j - 1) - d \\
F(i - 1, j - 1) + s(x_i, y_j) 
\end{cases}
\]

**Termination:**  Bottom right

**Smith-Waterman algorithm**

**Initialization:**  \( F(0, j) = F(i, 0) = 0 \)

**Iteration:**
\[
F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} 
F(i - 1, j) - d \\
F(i, j - 1) - d \\
F(i - 1, j - 1) + s(x_i, y_j) 
\end{cases}
\]

**Termination:**  Anywhere
- What if we only penalize the gap at the beginning
- What if we only penalize the gap at the end
Motif: probabilistic representation of a sequence

https://bmcgenomics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12864-017-4023-9/figures/1
Position weight matrix (PWM) for this motif (width $W=10$)

$$f = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix}
3 & 4 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 5 & 5 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\
2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0
\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ C \\ G \\ T \end{bmatrix}$$
For example, given the following DNA sequences:

<p>| |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GAGGTAAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCCGTAAGT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAGGTTGGA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACAGTCAGT</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAGGTATAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TGTGTGAGT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAGGTAAGT</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The corresponding PFM is:

\[
M = \begin{bmatrix}
A & 3 & 6 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 7 & 2 & 1 \\
C & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\
G & 1 & 1 & 7 & 10 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 5 & 1 \\
T & 4 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 10 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 6 
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

Therefore, the resulting PPM is:[1]

\[
M = \begin{bmatrix}
A & 0.3 & 0.6 & 0.1 & 0.0 & 0.0 & 0.6 & 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\
C & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.0 & 0.0 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.2 \\
G & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.7 & 1.0 & 0.0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.5 & 0.1 \\
T & 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.2 & 0.6 
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

\[
M = \begin{bmatrix}
A & 0.3 & 0.6 & 0.1 & 0.0 & 0.0 & 0.6 & 0.7 & 0.2 & 0.1 \\
C & 0.2 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.0 & 0.0 & 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.2 \\
G & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.7 & 1.0 & 0.0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.5 & 0.1 \\
T & 0.4 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.2 & 0.6 \\
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

The probability of the sequence \( S = \text{GAGGTAAC} \) given the above PPM \( M \)

\[
p(S|M) = 0.1 \times 0.6 \times 0.7 \times 1.0 \times 1.0 \times 0.6 \times 0.7 \times 0.2 \times 0.2 = 0.0007056.
\]
Computational methods for biology at different scales

Gene (1 nm) → Protein complexes (function) (10-100 nm) → Cell (1-10 μm) → Tissue (100 μm to 100 mm) → Complex organism (>1 cm)
What does a fastq file look like?

Very large! ~300000000 lines
Quality: ASCII chars

What should we do? Map each short sequence (we call it read) to the entire human genome
What does a fastq file look like?

Reference genome: “average” human genome.
Most widely used human genome GRCh38: derived from 13 thirteen anonymous volunteers
### countData

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### colData

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Sample names: **ctrl_1, ctrl_2, exp_1, exp_2**
Data structure and computational problem

source: SRHiC: A Deep Learning Model to Enhance the Resolution of Hi-C Data
Finding alignments: trace back

Arrows = (ties for) max in $F(i,j)$; 3 LR-to-UL paths = 3 optimal alignments

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Arrows indicate the paths of optimal alignments.