Justification & Course Overview

This course will introduce computational tools and techniques for analyzing biomolecular (DNA, RNA, protein) sequences, structures, and quantitative data arising from biological experiments. The students will also learn about the major databases and repositories of bioinformatics information. No background in Computer Science will be expected. However, knowledge of basic molecular biology and ability to run statistical and software tools will be useful.

Prerequisite Knowledge

Introductory course in Molecular Biology, Genetics, and Cell Biology.

Topics

- Fundamentals of Biology, Statistics, the Internet, and Bioinformatics
- Databases and Software Packages: GenBank, SwissProt, BioPerl.
- Sequence Alignment, Multiple Sequence Alignment: BLAST, CLUSTAL
- Sequencing, Assembly & Applications: VELVET
- Pattern Discovery: PROSITE, Pfam,
- Transcriptomics, Gene Regulation: RegulonDB, MAS, GeneSpring
- Ontology and Pathways – Databases and Analysis: GO, KEGG
- Genomics, Proteomics, Comparative Genomics: GreenGenes
- Phylogenetic Analysis: PHYLIP, PAUP
- Molecular Structural Analysis – RNA & Proteins: RASMOL, DALI
- Genetics and Genome-Wide Association Schemes
- Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms and SNP Databases
- Advanced Topics: RNAi, Alternative Splicing, Epigenetics, Microbiomes

The course will contain a lab component to learn Bioinformatics analysis tools.

Texts and References

[Recommended]

[References]
- Biological Sequence Analysis, Durbin, Eddy, Krogh & Mitchison, Cambridge Press.

Course web page: http://www.cs.fiu.edu/~giri/teach/BioinfF18.html