Domain-level Reaction Enumerator

Karthik Sarma, Casey Grun, and Erik Winfree.

Overview

This package predicts the set of possible reactions between a set of initial nucleic acid complexes. Complexes are comprised of strands, which are subdivided into "domains"—contiguous regions of nucleotide bases which participate in Watson-Crick hybridization. The enumerator only considers reactions between complexes with complementary domains. At this point, only unpseudoknotted intermediate complexes are considered.

This document describes basic usage of the software, automatic generation of API documentation, and running of unit tests. API documentation is found in the docs subdirectory.

This package is written for Python 2.7; Python must be installed and in the user's path in order to run the program.

Usage

```
positional arguments:
  input_filename
                        Path to the input file (same as --infile)
optional arguments:
  -h, --help
                        show this help message and exit
  --infile INFILE
                        Path to the input file (same as listing the input
                        filename after all arguments)
  --outfile OUTPUT_FILENAME
                        Path to the output file (default: use the input
                        filename, + '-enum', then add an extension based on
  -i INPUT_FORMAT
                        Parse the input file using this format; one of: enum,
                        pil, json. (default: guess from the extension of
                        --infile)
  -o OUTPUT FORMAT
                        Write the output file using this format; one or more
                        (comma-separated) of :pil, crn, enjs, json, legacy,
                        test, sbml, graph. (default: guess from the extension
                        of --outfile)
```

```
Condense reactions into only resting complexes
                      (default: False)
                      Compute reaction rates (default: True)
-r
-d
                      Dry run---read input, write output; do not enumerate
                      any reactions. (default: False)
--max-complex-size MAX_COMPLEX_SIZE
                      Maximum number of strands allowed in a complex (used
                      to prevent polymerization) (default: 6)
--max-complex-count MAX COMPLEX COUNT
                      Maximum number of complexes that may be enumerated
                      before the enumerator halts. (default: 200)
--max-reaction-count MAX_REACTION_COUNT
                      Maximum number of reactions that may be enumerated
                      before the enumerator halts. (default: 1000)
--release-cutoff RELEASE CUTOFF
                      Maximum number of bases that will be released
                      spontaneously in an `open` reaction. (default: 6)
--bfs-ish
                      When searching for bimolecular reactions, look to the
                      oldest complexes first. (default: False)
--profile
                      Enable statistical profiling
```

Usage Examples

Load the file system.pil, write results to system-enum.pil:

```
enumerator.py system.pil
```

Load the file system.pil, then generate system-enum.crn, system-enum.pil, and system-enum.sbml:

```
enumerator.py -o crn,pil,sbml system.pil
```

Load the file system.pil, then write the results to output.sbml:

```
enumerator.py system.pil --outfile output.sbml
```

Input formats

There are 2 input formats available, which may be specified using the -i option:

• Standard input format (.enum) – This is a simple format that is specific to the enumerator. A simple example of the format is included below. The format has three types of statements:

- domain statements declare individual domains, as follows: domain name : specification, where:
 - * name is the name of the domain (e.g. a, 1, th, etc.)
 - * specification is either the length of the domain (e.g. a number of bases, or just long or short) or a sequence (e.g. NNNNNNN or ATTACG or even a mixture of specific and degenerate bases AANATCY)
- strand statements group domains into strands, as follows: strand name : domains, where:
 - * name is the name of the strand
 - * domains is a space-separated list of domains
- complex statements group strands into complexes and assign them a secondary structure, as follows:

```
complex name :
strands
structure
```

where:

- \ast name is the name of the complex
- * strands is a space-separated list of strands
- * structure is a domain-wise description of the structure in dotparenthesis notation
- Pepper Intermediate Language (.pi1) PIL is a general-purpose format for describing domain-level secondary structures. The Pepper Intermediate Language (PIL) follows the basic constructions of the Pepper language, but disallows some features (sequence constraints, components, etc.). Each PIL line should consist of a directive of one of the following forms:
 - sequence <name> = <sequence> declare a new domain
 - strand <name> = = strand comprised of domains
 - structure <name> = <list of strands> : <secondary structure>
 declare a complex comprised of several strands
 - kinetic <input structures> -> <output structures> declare a reaction between several structures

Here is a simple example of the standard input format:

```
# This file describes the catalytically generated 3 arm junction
# described in Yin et. al. 2008
```

domain a : 6

```
domain b : 6
domain c : 6
domain x : 6
domain y : 6
domain z : 6
strand I : y* b* x* a*
strand A : a x b y z* c* y* b* x*
strand B : b y c z x* a* z* c* y*
strand C : c z a x y* b* x* a* z*
complex I :
. . . .
complex A :
.(((..)))
complex B :
.(((..)))
complex C :
.(((..)))
complex ABC :
A B C
```

Output formats

There are 6 output formats available, which may be specified using the -o option:

- Graphical results (json/enjs) produces a file which can be rendered into a graphical, interactive network by the DyNAMiC Workbench package and exported to SVG. This file is also a valid JSON file and may be suitable for consumption by other tools.
- Pepper Intermediate Language (pil) produces a representation of the network, including reactions, in the Pepper Intermediate Language
- Chemical Reaction Network (crn) produces a list of simple reactions between chemical species
- Systems Biology Markup Language (sbml) produces a representation using the Systems Biology Markup Language, an industry standard format

for modeling biological and chemical networks. SBML can be consumed by a reaction simulator, such as $\overline{\text{COPASI}}$

- Legacy (legacy) produces output in the format of Brian Wolfe's old enumerator
- Graph (graph) produces an EPS file showing the reaction network, laid out using Graphviz

Building documentation

API Documentation is built from comments in the source using Sphinx; Sphinx must be installed. Then you can run:

make docs

from within the main directory to build HTML documentation; you can find this documentation at docs/_build/html/index.html. Additional output formats are available, and can be generated by moving to the docs/ subdirectory and using make. Type make within the docs/ subdirectory to show a list of available output formats. Once you've generated the documentation, it will be available in the folder docs/_build/{format}.

This document, and the architecture documentation, are generated from Markdown with Pandoc in PDF or HTML format; Pandoc must be installed; then you can use make README.pdf or make README.html, or similarly make architecture.pdf or make architecture.html.

Running unit tests

Unit tests for the project are written using Nosetests. Nosetests must be installed. Then you can run:

make tests

from within the main directory to run unit tests.