

Algorithms for Bioinformatics

Francesco Penasa

February 17, 2020

What is the role of algorithms in Biology/Bioinformatics? Procedure that solves a problem

1. solve practical problems.
2. model a phenomenon + simulation.
3. consider the biological system a computational device.

Types of problem we will work on

1. strings: sequences on alphabet
2. alignment

1 Turing Machines

simple explanation of turing machines
turing.org.uk/book/update/tmjavar.html

2 Problems

2.1 Alignment

DNA: AGTC

1. Compare sequences for different *organism*.
2. Align them with a **query**, to find the active regions (or active parts) relevant for this sequence.
(example: **BLAST**)
3. Global alignment (pairwise alignment): include the sequences completely.
4. Local alignment (pairwise alignment): include the sequence partially.

1st: ACGTCCCATG

2nd: TCGCCCTG

global → 0CG1CCC2TG 0==mismatch 1==insertion 2==deletion

local → CGCCCTG i'm happy with this and i don't care about what is not aligned.

The algorithm used maximizes a **score**.

How to define the score?

1. insertion
2. deletion
3. mismatch
4. match

with this we already moved to the **model a phenomenom** part. The actual number differ wrt the phenomenom and wrt the time it happens (the first insertion is different than the second). This issue of define the score lead us to the definition of **score Matrices**