

<Intro Par>

The area of genetic sequencing has been enjoying a period of exponential growth for several decades now. Breakthroughs in chemistry, as well as significant improvements in sequencing equipment, have led to a rapid decline in the cost of sequencing an organism's genetic data. At the same time, the increasing power of computing machinery and the decreasing cost of storage have encouraged the ever-greater accumulation of data in a large variety of areas. These two pressures have made, and will continue to make, the sequencing of DNA from large numbers of organisms more accessible. Already, there are projects in various stages of completion which aim to sequence hundreds, or even thousands, of genomes from a single species or clade. While these developments are beneficial to the fields of biology and genomics, they do present new challenges and highlight shortcomings in the existing models used to represent genetic data. The current standard in genomics is to use the genome of a single organism as a reference for its species. The increasing prevalence of multiple complete genomes per species leads to a desire for more than one reference sequence per species. Older models in computational genomics do not have the power required to adequately handle multiple reference genomes. It is now seen as desirable to create a pan-genome, a single representation of all available gene sequences from a species which can be viewed as a single entity. The SplitMEM algorithm is designed to take multiple genomic lines and convert them to a compressed de Bruijn graph pan-genome representation, which will enable the isolation of common features in the genomes so that characteristics of the entire species or clade can be identified while gene sequences specific to an individual organism can be de-emphasized.

In most modern networks there is a stable, generally deterministic, data structure in place to handle requests. Unfortunately by definition these deterministic systems are very predictable and because of their predictability they can be abused. Users who understand the nature of the network can overload the system with a series of time consuming requests which eventually bog down the network. These denial-of-service, D.O.S., attacks can occur for a variety of reasons ranging from breaching security to gaining an advantage in competitive gaming. In general D.O.S. attacks rely on knowing how the network will respond to a every unique request. In theory if they could not predict a networks reaction they could not D.O.S. the network. Knowing this the problem now becomes creating a data structure that has unpredictable timings for any given input, while still performing at a near optimal speed. This new data structure must be able to perform the same operations as the original system, while also non-deterministically, i.e. randomly, altering itself. This new system should be able to resist all attackers, even attackers who know the algorithm and the previous i/o values used.

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