# Computer Lab 2 Bioinformatics

#### Linköpings Universitet, IDA, Statistik

### 2021/11/18

Kurskod och namn: 732A51 Bioinformatics

Datum: 2021/11/15—2021/11/22 (lab session 18 November 2021)

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Instruktioner: This computer laboratory is part of the examination for the

Bioinformatics course

Create a group report, on the solutions to the lab as a **.PDF** file. Be concise and do not include unnecessary printouts and figures produced by the software and not required in the assignments.

All R code should be included as an appendix into your report.

In the report reference ALL consulted sources and disclose ALL collaborations.

The report should be handed in via LISAM

(or alternatively in case of problems e-mailed to hao.chi.kiang@liu.se),

by 23:59 22 November 2021 at latest.

Notice there is a final deadline of 23:59 31 January 2022 after which no submissions nor corrections will be considered and you will have to

redo the missing labs at the next course opportunity.

The report has to be written in English.

Some questions are marked with an asterisk.

From these at least one must be done, according to your choice.

## Question 1: DNA sequence acquisition and simulation

In this exercise you will perform statistical analysis of three nucleotide data sets. First download the sequences from GenBank and save them in a fasta file. For this use the provided R script, 732A51\_BioinformaticsHT2018\_Lab02\_GenBankGetCode.R. This is a dataset of the RAG1 gene sequences from 33 lizard species. You are encouraged to read in detail the references in the script as they indicate many useful tools. Explore the dataset using the tools provided by the ape and seqinr packages. Take note of the lengths of all the sequences and the base composition.

#### Question 1.1

Simulate an artificial DNA sequence dataset. It should contain 33 sequence. The lengths of the sequences should be the same as in the lizard dataset, i.e. for each real sequence simulate an artificial one. The simulation rule is as follows, each nucleotide is to be independently and randomly drawn from the distribution given by the base composition (frequencies) in the true lizard sequences. Save your dataset in a fasta format file. Remember to give unique names to your sequences. Report on the base composition in your simulated data.

#### Question 1.2\*

Simulate a second artificial DNA sequence dataset. It should contain 33 sequence. The lengths of the sequences should be the same as in the lizard dataset, i.e. for each real sequence simulate an artificial one. First simulate a phylogenetic tree with 33 tips in phylo format (i.e. ape). Plot your resulting tree. For simulating the tree explore the functions of the ape, TreeSim or other R packages. Choose a simulation function and model yourself.

Now simulate sequences on this using e.g. phangorn::simSeq(). Choose the sequence length yourself, but try to make it so that it will be comparable with the original lizards dataset. You need to also specify the Q matrix—the transition rate matrix. Choose one yourself, however try to make the stationary distribution equal to the base composition (frequencies) of the lizard sequences (look at EG Ch. 14.3.3). If you cannot obtain such a transition matrix, choose some another one. Save your dataset in a fasta format file. Remember to give unique names to your sequences. Report on the base composition in your simulated data. Comment on if it is what you expect.

HINT: It could be useful to read https://sites.google.com/site/eeob563/computer-labs/old-labs/lab-2 and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Models\_of\_DNA\_evolution#F81\_model\_(Felsenstein\_1981)

## Question 2: Sequence analysis

#### Question 2.1

Report some basic statistics on each sequence dataset: individual base composition, GC content, CG, AT content. Also translate your sequences into protein sequences (see Lab 1) and report on the amino acid composition. In your simulated sequences, how many times did you observe a stop codon inside your sequence? Does this occur in your true sequences? Comment.

#### Question 2.2

Try to fit a Markov chain to your three datasets from Question 1. What Markov chain order would you expect to obtain for your two simulated datasets? What order do you obtain for the true lizard sequences? Comment

Explore R packages (or other software) to find a package to fit the Markov chain. The R package markovchain can be your starting point. If your chosen software does not support multiple samples from the chain, think how to deal with this, e.g. concatenate the sequences or estimate separately for each sequence and propose a way to pool the results.

Think of the assumptions behind the analyses and how your data could be or is violating them. You do not need to correct for the violations but should report them.

#### Question 2.3\*

Align your sequences using software of your choice (a starter for R: https://stackoverflow.com/questions/4497747/how-to-perform-basic-multiple-sequence-alignments-in-r, you can also look what Biopython, BioPerl offer, use the Clustal family of programs or something else of your choice).

Choose a distance measure between sequences, calculate for each alignment the distances between all pairs of sequences. Then, plot heatmaps visualizing the distances. Comment on what you can observe.

## Question 3: Phylogeny reconstruction

#### Question 3.1

Construct (using algorithm and software of your choice) phylogenetic trees from the three multiple alignments (or distance matrices) done in Question 2.3. You might want to look at the functions offered by ape, phangorn (https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/phangorn/vignettes/Trees.pdf) or go for some completely different software. Plot the inferred trees. Are the two based on the simulated data similar to expected?

Perform a phylogenetic bootstrap analysis and report the bootstrap support for the individual clades, you can look at ape::boot.phylo().

#### Question $3.2^*$

Compare your inferred trees and also your simulated one. Apart from visualizing the trees one may calculate various indices related to them and distances between the trees. Explore what indices and metrics the ape, distory, phangorn, phyloTop, TotalCopheneticIndex or treespace R packages offer, choose some and report the results in a meaningful way. You might have to save your tree to drive and then read in it using e.g. ape's tree reading functionality.