Bioinformatics I

WS 15/16

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Theoretical Assignment - Overlap and Layout

Theoretical Assignment - Overlap graph figure

Theoretical Assignment - Computing all overlaps using suffix tree

Finding all overlaps is basically a APSP (All-pairs-suffix-prefix) problem. Solving such a problem with a suffix tree approach has a time complexity of $O(n + k^2)$ where n is the total length of all strings and k is the count of strings. First all reads will be concatenated with a separation character between all reads and a terminal character at the end. Now it is rather simple to check, whether the prefix of one read matches with the suffix of another read. This can be done using the suffix tree since we know that each prefix starts with an separation character (one could put one separation character at the beginning of the string to make this statement true) and every suffix ends ether with the separation character or the terminal character. Since one has to go trough the whole concatenated string and compare the prefix of each read with the suffix of every other read, this approach has a total runtime complexity of $O(n + k^2)$.

Bonus - Challenges of your Project

One of the biggest challenges during our project was the framework we chose, Vaadin. We were not able to get it working of all computers we used. So in the end it was just one of us, who was able to work on the front-end layer. That slowed us down a lot. If we would start this project again from the scratch, Django would be a better choice. This framework comes with a development server and, therefore, would maybe make developing together easier. In the end we wasted a lot of time with Eclipse/Vaadin/Eclipse+Vaadin problems. Another challenge was the database schema for POODLE. We, especially Benjamin, talked a lot with people from Silke Wiesner's group at the MPI for Developmental Biology and that resulted in several schema changes during our project time.