

Branch: master bioinfo-algo / Ch2 / notes.md

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History



# How do we sequence Antibiotics?

## The Discovery of Antibiotics

Alexander Fleming discovered the penicillium mold which killed the Staphylococcus bacteria. How do we sequence antibiotics?

## How do bacteria make antibiotics

Tyrocidine B1 is 10 amino-acid long sequence.

UGGCCAUGGCGCCCAGAACUGAGAUCAAUAGUACCCGUAAUUAACGGGUGA DNA makes RNA makes Protein

DNA replicates with help of DNA polymerase. DNA is transcribed into RNA with help of RNA polymerase. RNA is translated into proteins by ribosomes.

Transcription is simply replacement of T with U. RNA is translated into amino acid sequence via genetic code. Each 3-mer in RNA, called codon, is converted into one of 20 amino acids.

3 stop codons -> UGA, UAA, UAG

Assignment => Translate RNA string to amino acid string

## Dodging the Central Dogma

Lipmann demonstrated that tyrocidines and gramicidins are non-ribosomal peptides (NRPs), which are synthesised not by ribosomes but instead by a protein called NRP synthetase.

## Sequencing antibiotics by shattering them into pieces

Many NRPs are cyclic making them difficult to sequence.

Mass spectrometer helps in sequencing of peptides. Assume integer masses.

A mass spectrometer can break tyrocidine B1 into two different linear fragments. Experimental setup.

Generating a theoretical spectrum from a known peptide is easy, but we want to solve the reverse. We want to construct an unknown peptide from its experimental spectrum. This is the cyclopeptide sequencing problem. In general case, the problem could have multiple solutions.

## A Brute force algorithm for

