Models and algorithms for genome comparison and sequence alignment

Géraldine Jean







Towards a modern analysis of omics data of the Ocean - mission Microbiome: CEODOS and AtlantEco expeditions

May 15-18th, 2023, Valparaiso-Chile

Computer scientist in computational biology

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- Mainly doing theoretical work

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Comparative genomics of protoploid Saccharomycetaceae

The Génolevures Consortium¹

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doi:10.1038/setare10414

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Multiple reference genomes and transcriptomes for Arabidopsis thaliana

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Genetic differences between Arabidopsis thalians accessions underlie the plant's extensive phenotypic variation, and until now these have been interpreted targely in the context of the annexisted reference accessions. Bed-0- Here we report the sequencing, assembly and annexisten of the genomes of 38 natural A, thalians accessions, and their transcriptoms.

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ABSTRACT

Background in proteomics, the interpretation of mass spectra representing peptides carrying multiple complex modifications is still challenging, currently limited by the

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Not working with environmental data (yet);)

omes and bidopsis thaliana

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http://www.iw.katie.L.Hildebrand⁵, Rune Lyngsoe⁶, dré Kahles³, Regina Bohnert³, Géraldine Jean³, Kemen⁹, Christopher Toomajian³, Paula X. Kover¹⁰,

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General Interests



Using methods from **algorithms on strings** and **graph theory** to study...

- **Comparative Genomics**
 - Rearrangement scenario/distance
 - Sequence alignment

Next-Generation Sequencing Problems

- Sequence alignment
- De novo assembly of repeats

Mass spectrometry

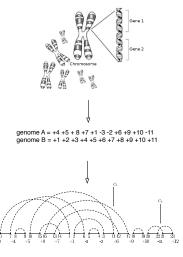
- De novo analysis of the spectrum for identification of unknown metabolite
- Peptide identification and protein inference

Scientific Context

1. Biological objects

genomes, genes, RNA sequences, spectrum...

- 2. Combinatorial objects string, tree, graph, permutation...
- 3. Algorithmics tools
 - 3.1 Computational complexity analysis
 - 3.2 algorithm development: approximation algorithms, FPT algorithms, heuristics...



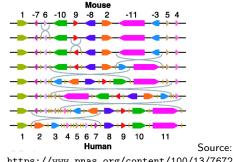
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Focus

- Evolution through Genome Rearrangements
 - Is it interesting (and possible) to have such distances between MAGs?
 - Can we compare these distances to other types of distance?
- RNA-seq read alignments with PALMapper
 - Does the sequence I use exist in the database? is it certified?
 - How can we align considering SNPs?

Definition

- Genome = ordered sequence of genes
- GR = large-scale (=gene level) evolutionary events modifying the genome (thus the genes order)
- Studying evolution through GR:
 - take 2 species (=2 genomes)
 - infer minimum number of GR between them (=distance)



https://www.pnas.org/content/100/13/7672

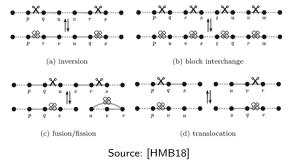
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Definition

Heavily studied problems [FLR+09] from 90's:

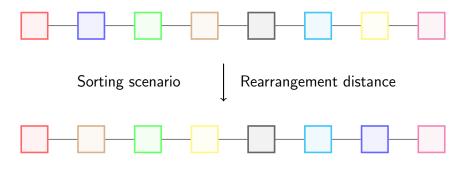
- different genomes: linear, circular, multichromosomal, with or without gene duplications, strand information or not...
- different genome models: (signed) permutations, (signed) strings, paths and cycles in graphs...
- different GR: inversion, transposition, double cut and join (DCJ)...



Evolution through Genome Rearrangements (GR)

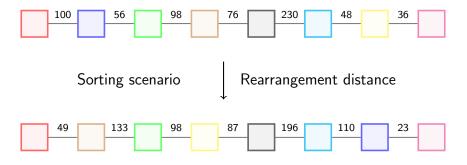
GR on both gene order and intergenic regions Université

- Standard models not realistic enough [BKBT16, BGKT16]
- Systematic underestimate of the distance



GR on both gene order and intergenic regions Université

- Standard models not realistic enough [BKBT16, BGKT16]
- Systematic underestimate of the distance
- Genes separated by intergenic regions of different sizes
- Intergenic regions should be considered for computing rearrangement distances



Results



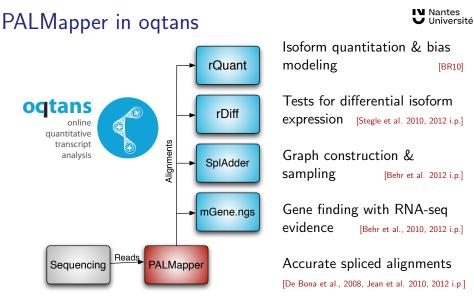
Original paper [FJT17]

- Same content of genes without duplication and unique operation (DCJ)
- Already "difficult" even for this simplistic model
- Extended work (collaboration U. Campinas -Brazil) [OJF⁺21, BJF⁺20, OJF⁺20b, BJF⁺19, OJF⁺20a]
 - different gene contents
 - unbalanced intergenic sizes
 - different sets of operations

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Context



Accuracy of downstream analysis drastically depends on accuracy of read mapping

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Motivations



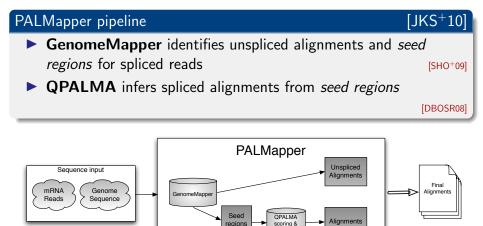
- Improve alignments by using more information:
 - Accurate splice site models
 - Intron length model
 - Quality scores model

Idea: Use a machine learning method to infer an optimal scoring function

- Align reads efficiently:
 - Use a genomic mapper to find seed regions
 - Restrict the length of the genome to align against

Idea: Adapt dynamic programming algorithm to RNA-seq specificities

RNA-seq Read Alignments with PALMapper



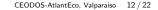
alignment

Optimized

parameters

for spliced

alignments



Scores for

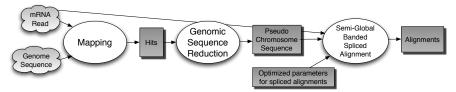
potential

splice sites

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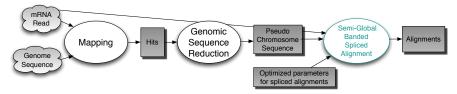


Spliced alignments with PALMapper



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Dynamic Programming Algorithm

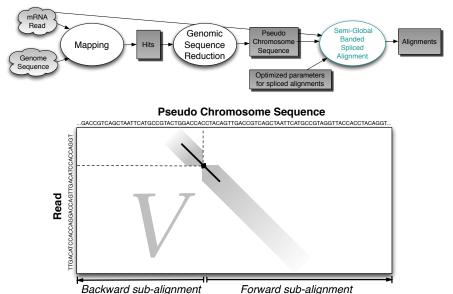


The seed position inferred from the seed region guides a dynamic-programming-based alignment algorithm:

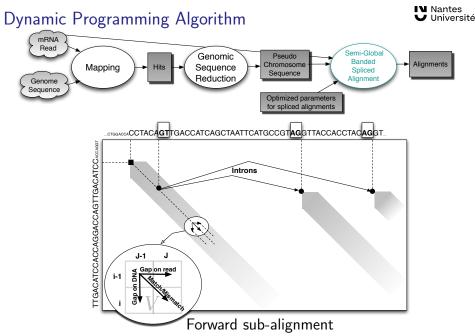
| Semi-Global | Banded | Spliced |
|--|---|--|
| Align the whole read with a portion of the pseudo chromosome | Limit the number of gaps from the perfect alignment | Allow long gaps corresponding to introns |
| sequence | perfect alignment | inti |

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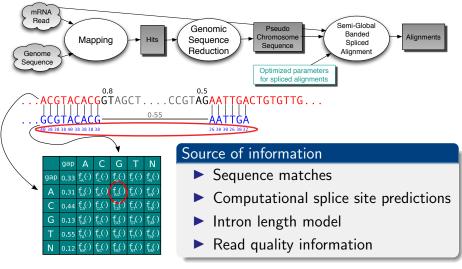
Dynamic Programming Algorithm



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QPALMA extended scoring model



Quality scoring $M : (\Sigma \times \mathbb{R}) \times \Sigma \to \mathbb{R}$

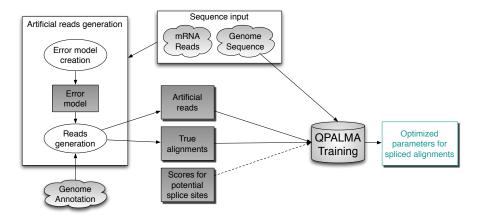
[DBOSR08]

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QPALMA extended scoring model

Estimation of QPALMA scoring model via a large margin approach similar to SVMs



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Significant Speed Gain: QPalma vs. Palmapper

- Full sequencing run of *C. elegans* RNA-Seq data of 24 × 10⁶ reads of 36-nucleotide length
- Evaluation of predicted introns

| | TopHat | TopHat sen. | QPALMA | PALMapper |
|--------------------|--------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Recall | 0.39 | 0.62 | 0.65 | 0.65 |
| Precision | 0.86 | 0.76 | 0.88 | 0.88 |
| Running Time (min) | 216 | 544 | 12000 ¹ | 186 |
| | | | | |

TopHat [TPS09]. ¹The running time for QPALMA was extrapolated.

Variant-Aware alignments



Motivation:

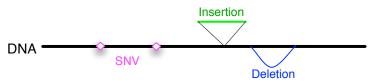
- Many reads may not have an alignment (errors, polymorphisms, RNA-editing)
 idea: Detect commonly occuring RNA/DNA differences and use during the alignment
- Genome of interest is unknown but a close relative is available
- Aligning against several close genomes is needed
 idea: Get variants between the genomes and use them during the alignment

Variant-Aware alignments



PALMapper strategy:

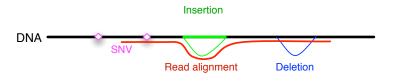
- Construct super-sequence graph containing all variants
- Use dynamic programming to align against all possible paths



Variant-Aware alignments

PALMapper strategy:

- Construct super-sequence graph containing all variants
- Use dynamic programming to align against all possible paths



 Strategy used in paper [DZM⁺14] about DNA methylation in A. thaliana



Conclusion

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Thank you ! Gracias ! Merci !



El Morado January 2019



El Morado May 2023

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