Computational Systems Biology

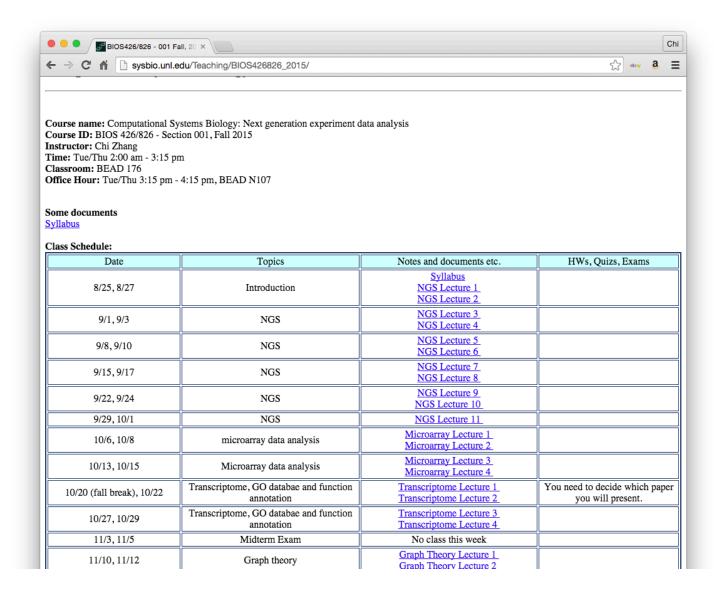
BIOS 426/826 – Section 1 Fall 2015

Chi Zhang

- **Time:** Tue/Thu 2:00 am 3:15 pm
- Classroom: BEAD N176
- Office Hours: Tue/Thu 3:15 pm 4:15 pm,
 BEAD N107 or email me for other time.
- My email is czhang5@unl.edu
- My office is N107 in BEAD

Course website

http://sysbio.unl.edu/Teaching/BIOS426826_2015/



Teaching materials

- No text book
- Most materials are from various articles.
- Slides will be posted online for downloading.

Course Objectives

- To introduce the field of Computational Systems Biology.
 - next-generation sequencing data analyzing
 - Transcriptome data analyzing
 - Network modeling
 - Data mining technology
- To sharpen students' skills on independent learning.
- To help students conduct research in their field.

Tentative Schedule

•	Week	Content
•	1 st	Introduction
•	2 nd	Next-generation seq data analysis
•	3 rd	Next-generation seq data analysis
•	4 th	Transcriptome and epigenetics (RNA-seq)
•	5 th	microarray data analysis
•	6 th	microarray data analysis
•	7 th	Transcriptome
•	8 th	Transcriptome
•	9 th	Transcriptome
•	10 th	Go database and gene function annotation
•	11 th	Midterm Exam (no class)
•	12 th	Graph theory
•	13 th	PPI network
•	14 th	PPI network and Gene network
•	15 th	Network dynamics and Data Integration
•	16 th	Final Exam presentation

Home works and Exams

•	Home work assignments (~10)	40%
•	Mid-term exam (1)	20%
•	Final exam (1)	20%
•	Oral Presentation (1)	10%
•	In-class activities	10%

Homework Assignments

- Simple questions or using a software.
- Save your answer in the MS Word format or PDF, and turn in them via email.
- Handwritten answers will not be accepted.
- To use a software tool, please describe: where you downloaded the software, how you installed the software, what operating system you used, how you used this software, and what results you obtained. Use screen captures to get snap shots of your results, and submit them in your answer.
- If you make a program to answer the questions, please submit your source code files with your answers.

Homework Assignment (1)

- Your Name
- Do you have a computer? Or do you have chances to use a computer?
- If yes, what operating system does this computer have? (MS Windows, Mac OS, UNIX/Linux)
- Do you have permission to install a software on this computer?
- Do you have experience in programming? If yes, what programming language did you use? (C/C++, Fortran, Perl, Python, Ruby, VB etc.)
- Do you know how to use R? If no, how difficult is it for you to master this software? (easy; need time and help; very difficult; impossible for me to master it)

(due by 11:59PM, August 31, 2015)

Midterm

- A take-home open-book exam
- Questions to answer.
 - 1. Around ten questions to you.
 - 2. Those questions are relevant to our class but there are no direct answers from our slides.
 - 3. You can try any method to finger out the answer except to ask any other people.
 - 4. For some questions, if you can make a program to solve them, you will get extra points for your source codes.

Oral Presentation

- Find an research article for yourself.
- Make slides and present this article in class.
- You need to decide which article you want to talk before Oct. 22nd.
- This article must be a research article, which uses some computational methods for systems biology.
- This article will be used for the oral presentation and final exam.

Final Exam

- Based on the paper you selected for oral presentation, you will write a proposal.
- Present your proposal in class (10 minutes).

What to do?

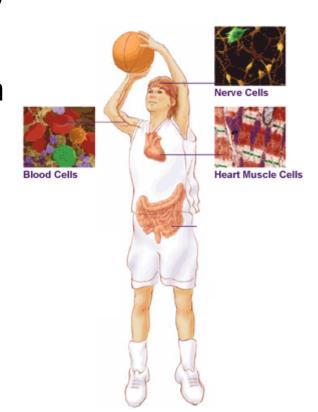
- To search for a paper.
- To decide when you want to give a talk.
- To check course website periodically to see if I upload any information for you.

Overview and Rationale

- Why do we study systems biology?
- How?

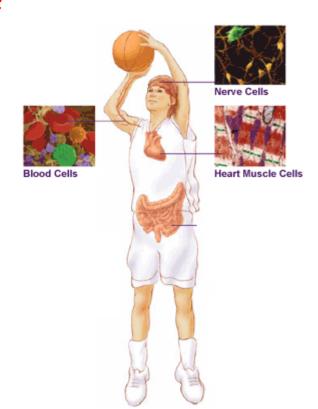
Why are cells different?

- The trillions of cells in human body are organized into >200 major tissue types, each customized for a particular role, for example
 - Red blood cells carry life-giving oxygen to every corner of your body.
 - Nerve cells sling chemical and electrical messages that allow you to think and move.
 - Heart cells constantly pump blood, enabling life itself.

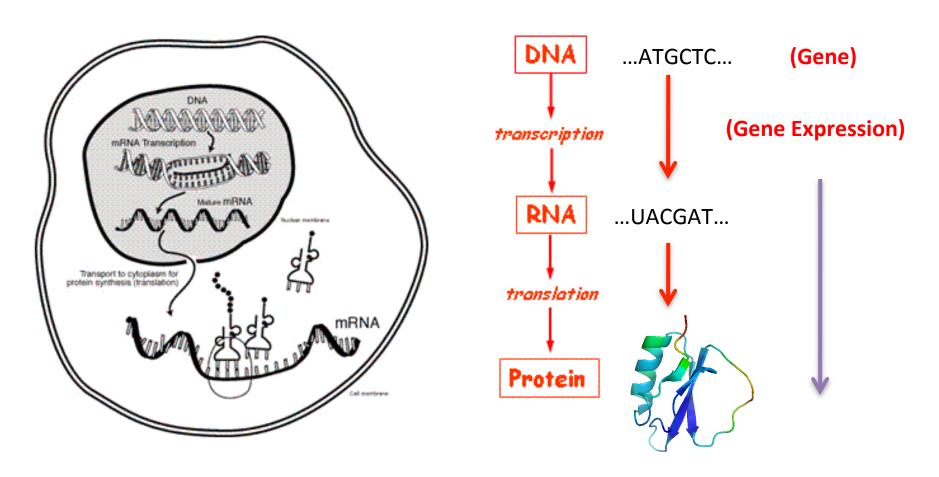


Why are cells different?

- Q: Since the cells contain the same genetic information (3 billion DNA based pairs), what make them different?
- A: The ~25,000 genes in our DNA are like a tool kit, are used (i.e., expressed) by different cells in different ways at different time.
- Gene expression is regulated by different cells.

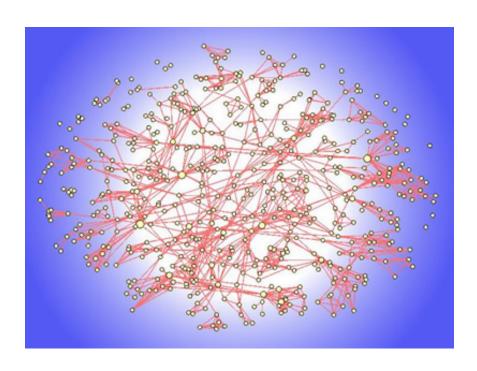


Flow of Genetic Information

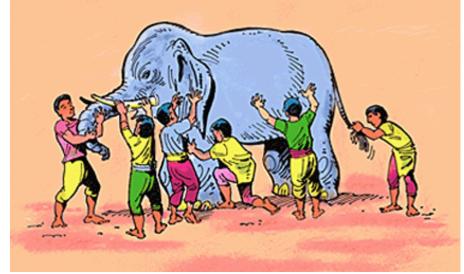


Gene expression is the process by which information from a gene is used in the synthesis of a functional gene product.

System as a Whole



Gene regulation network: who regulates those genes expression.



How to measure?

- Good news: High throughput experiments
 - Microarray
 - Next generation sequencing
- Bad news: Challenging to extract useful information from the massive data (omic data)

