## Computer Applications

 forBiological and biochemistry

Introduction
"Discovery is to see what everyone else has seen, but think what no one else has thought."

## Albert Szent-Györgyi

## (The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, 1937 )

"By inventing elegant software tools, we can help biologists see and think."
"Invention $\rightarrow$ Discovery"
Kun-Mao Chao


## What is Bioinformatics?

The field of science in which biology, computer science and information technology merge into a single discipline

## Biologists

collect molecular data:
DNA \& Protein sequences, gene expression, etc.

> Bioinformaticians Study biological questions by analyzing molecular data

## Computer scientists

(+Mathematicians, Statisticians, etc.)
Develop tools, softwares, algorithms to store and analyze the data.

What can we do with sequences of information?


What is a Database?

A structured collection of data held in computer storage; esp. one that incorporates software to make it accessible in a variety of ways; transf., any large collection of information.
database management: the organization and manipulation of data in a database.
database management system (DBMS): a software package that provides all the functions required for database management.
database system: a database together with a database management system.

## What is a database?

- A collection of data
- structured
- searchable (index) -> table of contents
- updated periodically (release)
- cross-referenced (hyperlinks)
-> new edition
$\rightarrow$ links with other db
- Includes also associated tools (software) necessary for access, updating, information insertion, information deletion....
- Data storage management: flat files, relational databases...


## Database: a << relational »> example

Relational database (《 table file »):

|  | Teacher | Accession number | Education |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amos | 1 | Biochemistry |
|  | Dan | 2 | Genetics |
|  | John | 3 | Scientology |
| Course | Year | Involved teachers |  |
| Advanced Pottery | 2000; 2001 | 1; 2 |  |
| Ballet for Fat People | 2001; 2002 | 2; 3 |  |

## Distribution of sequences

- Books, articles
- Computer tapes
- Floppy disks
- CD-ROM
- FTP
- On-line services
- WWW
- DVD

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Patterns of nucleotide substitution in pseudogenes and functional genes. Gojobori T. Li WH. Graur D. MeSH Terms: Base Sequence; Codon; DNA/genetics*; Evolution* ... Cited by 116 - Web Search
[citation Extent of protein polymorphism and the neutral mutation theory M Nei, D Graur - Evol. Biol, 1984
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Is the guinea-pig a rodent?
D Graur, WA Hide, WH Li - Nature, 1991 - ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
The guinea-pig (Cavia porcellus), traditionally classified as a New World hystricomorph rodent, often shows anomalous morphological and molecular ... Cited by 86 - Web Search

Phylogenetic position of the order Lagomorpha(rabbits, hares and allies)
D Graur, L Duret, M Gouy - Nature, 1996 - ncbi.nlm.nih. gov
Ever since they have been classified as ruminants in the Old Testament (heviticus41.6. Deuteronomy 14:7) and equated with hyraxes in the vulgate ... Cited by 78 Web Search

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