

## Introduction to Bioinformatics — PERL programs from text

### Case Study 1.1 Translation of a DNA sequence to an amino acid sequence using the standard genetic code

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
#translate.pl -- translate nucleic acid sequence to protein sequence
#               according to standard genetic code

# set up table of standard genetic code
"ttt"=> "Phe",  "tct"=> "Ser", "tat"=> "Tyr",  "tgt"=> "Cys",
"ttc"=> "Phe",  "tcc"=> "Ser", "tac"=> "Tyr",  "tgc"=> "Cys",
"tta"=> "Leu",  "tca"=> "Ser", "taa"=> "TER",  "tga"=> "TER",
"ttg"=> "Leu",  "tcg"=> "Ser", "tag"=> "TER",  "tgg"=> "Trp",
"ctt"=> "Leu",  "cct"=> "Pro", "cat"=> "His",  "cgt"=> "Arg",
"ctc"=> "Leu",  "ccc"=> "Pro", "cac"=> "His",  "cgc"=> "Arg",
"cta"=> "Leu",  "cca"=> "Pro", "caa"=> "Gln",  "cga"=> "Arg",
"ctg"=> "Leu",  "ccg"=> "Pro", "cag"=> "Gln",  "cgg"=> "Arg",
"att"=> "Ile",  "act"=> "Thr", "aat"=> "Asn",  "agt"=> "Ser",
"atc"=> "Ile",  "acc"=> "Thr", "aac"=> "Asn",  "agc"=> "Ser",
"ata"=> "Ile",  "aca"=> "Thr", "aaa"=> "Lys",  "aga"=> "Arg",
"atg"=> "Met",  "acg"=> "Thr", "aag"=> "Lys",  "agg"=> "Arg",
"gtt"=> "Val",  "gct"=> "Ala", "gat"=> "Asp",  "ggt"=> "Gly",
"gtc"=> "Val",  "gcc"=> "Ala", "gac"=> "Asp",  "ggc"=> "Gly",
"gta"=> "Val",  "gca"=> "Ala", "gaa"=> "Glu",  "gga"=> "Gly",
"gtg"=> "Val",  "gcg"=> "Ala", "gag"=> "Glu",  "ggg"=> "Gly"
);

# process input data

while ($line = <DATA>) {
    print "$line";           # read in line of input
    chop();                 # transcribe to output
                            # remove end-of-line character
    @triplets = unpack("a3" x (length($line)/3), $line); # pull out successive triplets
    foreach $codon (@triplets) {
        print "$standardgeneticcode{$codon}"; # print out translation of each
    }                       # end loop on triplets
    print "\n\n";          # skip line on output
                            # end loop on input lines}
}

# what follows is input data
__END__
atgcatccctttaat
tctgtctga
```

## Case Study 1.2 Assembly of overlapping fragments

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
#assemble.pl -- assemble overlapping fragments of strings

# input of fragments
while ($line = <DATA>) {          # read in fragments, 1 per line
    chop($line);                 # remove trailing carriage return
    push(@fragments,$line);      # copy each fragment into array
}
# now array @fragments contains fragments

# we need two relationships between fragments:
# (1) which fragment shares no prefix with suffix of another fragment
#     * This tells us which fragment comes first
# (2) which fragment shares longest suffix with a prefix of another
#     * This tells us which fragment follows any fragment

# First set array of prefixes to the default value "noprefixfound".
#     Later, change this default value when a prefix is found.
#     The one fragment that retains the default value must be come first.

# Then loop over pairs of fragments to determine maximal overlap.
#     This determines successor of each fragment
#     Note in passing that if a fragment has a successor then the
#     successor must have a prefix

foreach $i (@fragments) {        # initially set prefix of each fragment
    $prefix{$i} = "noprefixfound"; # to "noprefixfound"
}                                 # this will be overwritten when a prefix is found

# for each pair, find longest overlap of suffix of one with prefix of the other
#     This tells us which fragment FOLLOWS any fragment

foreach $i (@fragments) {        # loop over fragments
    $longestsuffix = "";         # initialize longest suffix to null

    foreach $j (@fragments) {    # loop over fragment pairs
        unless ($i eq $j) {      # don't check fragment against itself
            $combine = $i . "XXX" . $j; # concatenate fragments, with fence XXX
            $combine =~ /([\S ]{2,})XXX\1/; # check for repeated sequence
            if (length($1) > length($longestsuffix)) { # keep longest overlap
                $longestsuffix = $1; # retain longest suffix
                $successor{$i} = $j; # record that $j follows $i
            }
        }
    }
    $prefix{$successor{$i}} = "found"; # if $j follows $i then $j must have a prefix
}

foreach (@fragments) {          # find fragment that has no prefix; that's the start
    if ($prefix{$_} eq "noprefixfound") {$outstring = $_;}
}
$test = $outstring;             # start with fragment without prefix
while ($successor{$test}) {     # append fragments in order
    $test = $successor{$test}; # choose next fragment
    $outstring = $outstring . "XXX" . $test; # append to string
    $outstring =~ s/([\S ]+)XXX\1\1/; # remove overlapping segment
}
$outstring =~ s/\n/\n/g;        # change signal \n to real carriage return
print "$outstring\n";          # print final result

__END__
```

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```
the men and women merely players;\none man in his time\nAll the world's\ntheir entrances,\nstage,\nAnd all the men and women\nThey have their exits and their entrances,\nworld's a stage,\nAnd all\ntheir entrances,\nand one man\nin his time plays many parts.\nmerely players;\nThey have
```

**Problem 1.7.** An alternative, concise, version of the program to assemble overlapping fragments (see Case Study 1.2)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

$/ = "";
@fragments = split("\n",<DATA>);

foreach (@fragments) { $firstfragment{$_} = $_; }

foreach $i (@fragments) {
    foreach $j (@fragments) { unless ($i eq $j) {
        ($combine = $i . "XXX" . $j) =~ /([\S ]{2,})XXX\1/;
        (length($1) <= length($successor{$i})) || { $successor{$i} = $j };
    }
    undef $firstfragment{$successor{$i}};
}

$outstring = join "", values(%firstfragment);
while ($test = $successor{$test}) { ($outstring .= "XXX" . $test) =~ s/([\S ]+)XXX\1/\1/; }

$outstring =~ s/\\n/\\n/g; print "$outstring\\n";

__END__
the men and women merely players;\\n
one man in his time
All the world's
their entrances,\\nand one man
stage,\\nAnd all the men and women
They have their exits and their entrances,\\n
world's a stage,\\nAnd all
their entrances,\\nand one man
in his time plays many parts.
merely players;\\nThey have
```

## Box 4.1 A PERL program to draw dotplots

```
#!/usr/bin/perl -w
#dotplot.pl -- reads two sequences and prints dotplot

#format of input data: (if any input line contains a #, the program
#                       will ignore the # and everything to the right)
#   line 1   title of dotplot
#   line 2   two integers specifying window and threshold
#   line 3   title of first sequence
#   lines 4 through a line ending in *   first sequence
#   next line title of second sequence
#   following lines, until a line ending in *   second sequence

# read input

$/ = "";
$_ = <DATA>; $_ =~ s/#(.*?)\n/\n/g; # kill comments (introduced by #)
#                               #         at right of each line

# split input into lines and parse them
$_ =~ /^(.*?)\n\s*(\d+)\s+(\d+)\s*\n(.*?)\n([A-Z\n]*)\s*\s*\n(.*?)\n([A-Z\n]*)\s*/;

#extract title, window size and threshold
$title = $1; $nwind = $2; $thresh = $3;

#extract sequences
$seq1 = $4; $seq2 = $5; $seq2 = $6; $seq2 = $7;

#collect sequences by deleting end-of-line characters
$seq1 =~ s/\n//g; $seq2 =~ s/\n//g; $n = length($seq1); $m = length($seq2);

# print postscript header

print <<EOF;

/s /stroke load def /l /lineto load def /m /moveto load def
/r /rlineto load def /n /newpath load def /c /closepath load def
/f /fill load def
1.75 setlinewidth 30 30 translate /Helvetica findfont 16 scalefont setfont
EOF

# print matrix

$dx = 500.0/$n; $mdx = -$dx; $dy = 500.0/$m;
if ($dy < $dx) {$dx = $dy;} $dy = $dx; $xmx = $n*$dx; $ymx = $m*$dx;

print "3 510 m ($title window = $nwind threshold = $thresh) show\n";
printf "0 0 m 0 %9.2f l %9.2f %9.2f l %9.2f 0 l c s\n", $ymx,$xmx,$ymx,$xmx;

# loop through both sequences recording runs of identical characters

for ($k = $nwind - $m + 1; $k < $n - $nwind; $k++) {
    $i = $k; $j = 1; if ($k < 1) {$i = 1; $j = 2 - $k;}

    while ($i <= $n - $nwind && $j <= $m - $nwind) {
        $_ = (substr($seq1,$i - 1,$nwind) ^ substr($seq2,$j - 1,$nwind));
        $mismatch = ($_ =~ s/[^\x0]//g);
        if ($mismatch < $thresh) {
            $xl = ($i - 1)*$dx; $yb = ($m - $j)*$dy;
            printf "n %9.2f %9.2f m %9.2f 0 r 0 %9.2f r %9.2f 0 r c f\n",
                $xl,$yb,$dx,$dy,$mdx;
```

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```
    }
    $i++; $j++;
  }
}

print "showpage\n";          # end postscript file

# material following __END__ is the input data to the program

__END__
ATPases lamprey / dogfish          #TITLE
15 6                               #WINDOW, THRESHOLD
Petromyzon marinus mitochondrion  #SEQUENCE 1
ATGACACTAGATATCTTTGACCAATTTACCTCCCAACA
ATATTTGGGCTTCCACTAGCCTGATTAGCTATACTAGCCCCTAGCTTA
ATATTAGTTTCACAAAACACCAAAAATTTATCAAATCTCGTTATCACACACTA
CTTACACCCATCTTAAACATCTATTGCCAAACAACCTTTTCTTCCAATAAAC
CAACAAGGGCATAAATGAGCCTTAATTTGTATAGCCTCTATAATATTTATC
TTAATAATTAATCTTTTAGGATTATTACCATATACTTATACACCAACTACC
CAATTATCAATAAACATAGGATTAGCAGTGCCACTATGACTAGCTACTGTC
CTCATTGGGTTACAAAAAACCACAGAGCCCTAGCCCACTTATTACCA
GAAGGTACCCAGCAGCACTCATTCCCATATTAATTATCATTGAAACTATT
AGTCTTTTTATCCGACCTATCGCCCTAGGAGTCCGACTAACCGCTAATTTA
ACAGCTGGTCACTTACTTATAACAACCTTTGTAATA
ATTCTGTCATTTCAATTTCAATTATTACCTCACTACTTCTTCTATTA
CTAACAATTCTGGAGTTAGCTGTTGCTGTAATCCAGGCATATGTATTATT
CTACTTTTAACTCTTTATCTGCAAGAAAACGTTT*
Scyliorhinus canicula mitochondrion #SEQUENCE 2
ATGATTATAAGCTTTTTTGATCAATTCCTAAGTCCCTCCTTTCTAGGA
ATCCCACTAATTGCCCTAGCTATTTCAATTCCATGATTAATATTTCCAACCAACC
AATCGTTGACTTAATAATCGATTATTAACCTCTCAAGCATGATTTATTAACCGATTATT
TATCAACTAATAACAACCATAAATTTAGGAGGACATAAATGAGCTATCTTATTTACAGCC
CTAATATTTATTTTTAATTACCATCAATCTTCTAGGTCTCCTTCCATATACTTTTACGCCT
ACAACCTCAACTTTCTCTTAATATAGCCTTTGCCCTGCCCTTATGGCTTACAACGTATTA
ATTGGTATATTTAATCAACCAACCATTGCCCTAGGGCACTTATTACCTGAAGGTACCCCA
ACCCCTTTAGTACCAGTACTAATCATTATCGAAAACCATCAGTTTATTTATTGACCATTA
GCCTTAGGAGTCCGATTAACAGCCAACCTAACAGCTGGACATCTCCTTATACAATTAATC
GCAACTGCGGCCTTTGTCCTTTTAACTATAATACCAACCGTGGCCTTACTAACCTCCCTA
GTCCTGTTCCCTATTGACTATTTTAGAAGTGGCTGTAGCTATAATTCGAAGCATACGTATTT
GTCCTTCTTTAAGCTTATATCTACAAGAAAACGTATAA*
```

## Box 5.4 A PERL program to draw binary trees

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
#drawtree.pl -- draws binary trees (root at top)
#usage:  echo '(A,((B,C),D),(E,F));' | drawtree.pl > output.ps

print <<EOF;

/n/newpath load def /m /moveto load def /l /lineto load def
/rm /rmoveto load def /rl /rlineto load def /s /stroke load def
1.0 setlinewidth 50 100 translate 2 2 scale
/Helvetica findfont 10 scalefont setfont
EOF

$tree = <>; chop($tree);
s/[.,;]//g;          # Simplify notation from full Newick
$_ = reverse($tree); s/[()]//g;

$x = 0; $y = 0;
while ($nd = chop()) {
    print "$x $y m ($nd) stringwidth pop -0.5 mul 0 rm ($nd) show\n";
    $xx{$nd} = $x; $x+=20; $yy{$nd} = $y;
}

while ($tree =~ s/\(?([A-Z])([A-Z])\)?/$1/) {
    print "n $xx{$1} $yy{$1} m\n";
    ($yy{$1} > $yy{$2}) || {$yy{$1} = $yy{$2}}; $yy{$1} += 20;
    print "$xx{$1} $yy{$1} l $xx{$2} $yy{$1} l $xx{$2} $yy{$2} l s\n";
    $xx{$1} = 0.5*($xx{$1} + $xx{$2});
}
print "n $xx{$tree} $yy{$tree} m 0 20 rl s showpage\n";

$rx = 2*$x + 30; $yt = 2*$yy{$tree} + 146;
print "%BoundingBox: 40 95 $rx $yt\n";

\begin{center}
\textbf{Box \arabic{count15}.\arabic{count11}}
A PERL program to draw helical wheels}
\end{center}

\begin{verbatim}
#!/usr/bin/perl
#helwheel.pl -- draw helical wheel
#usage:  echo DVAGHGQDILIRLFKSH | helwheel.prl > output.ps
# or     echo 20DVAGHGQDILIRLFKSH | helwheel.prl > output.ps
#         the numerical prefix sets the first residue number

# The output of this program is in PostScript (TM),
#         a general-purpose graphical language

# The next section prints a header for the PostScript file
print <<EOF;
%!PS-Adobe-
297.5 421. translate 2 setlinewidth 1 setlinecap
/Helvetica findfont 20 scalefont setfont 0 0 moveto
EOF

# Define fonts to associate with each amino acid
$font{"G"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"A"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"S"} = "Helvetica";
```

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```

$font{"T"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"C"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"V"} = "Helvetica";
$font{"I"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"L"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"F"} = "Helvetica";
$font{"Y"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"P"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"M"} = "Helvetica";
$font{"W"} = "Helvetica";      $font{"H"} = "Helvetica-Bold"; $font{"N"} = "Helvetica-Bold";
$font{"Q"} = "Helvetica-Bold"; $font{"D"} = "Helvetica-Bold"; $font{"E"} = "Helvetica-Bold";
$font{"K"} = "Helvetica-Bold"; $font{"R"} = "Helvetica-Bold";
$_ = <>;                                # read line of input
chop(); $_ =~ s/\s//g;                  # remove terminal carriage return and blanks
if ($_ =~ s/^\d+//)                      # if input begins with integer
    {$resno = $1;}                       # extract it as initial residue number
else {$resno = 1}                         # if not, set initial residue number = 1
$radius = 50;                             # initialize values for radius,
$x = 0; $y = -50; $theta = -90;          # x, y and angle theta
# print light gray spiral arc as succession of line segments, 10 per residue
$npoints = 10*(length($_) - 1);
print "0.8 0.8 0.8 setrgbcolor\n";       # set colour to light gray
print "newpath\n";                        # draw spiral arc
printf("%8.3f %8.3f moveto\n", $x, $y);

foreach $d (1 .. $npoints) {              # 10 points per residue
    $theta += 10; $radius += 0.6;         # increase radius and theta
    $x = $radius*cos($theta*0.01747737); # calculate new value of x
    $y = $radius*sin($theta*0.01747737); # and y
    printf("%8.3f %8.3f lineto\n", $x, $y);
}
print "stroke\n";

# print residues and residue numbers

$radius = 50;                             # reinitialize values for radius,
$x = 0; $y = -50; $theta = -90;          # x, y and angle theta
print "0 setgray\n";                      # set colour to black

foreach (split ("", $_)) {                # loop over characters from input line
    print "/$font{$_} findfont ";         # set font appropriate
    print "20 scalefont setfont\n";     # for this amino acid
    printf("%8.3f %8.3f moveto\n", $x, $y); # move to current point
    print " ($resno$_) stringwidth";     # adjust position to centre residue
    print " pop -0.5 mul -7 rmoveto\n";  # identification on point on spiral
    print " ($resno$_) show\n";          # print residue number and id
    print "% $theta $resno$_\n";
    $theta += 100; $radius += 6;         # set new values of angle, radius
    $x = $radius*cos($theta*0.01747737); # compute new values of x
    $y = $radius*sin($theta*0.01747737); # and y
    $resno++;                             # increase residue number
}
print "showpage\n";                       # postscript signals to
print "%BoundingBox:";                   # print
$x1 = 297.5 - 1.05*$radius;              # x
$x2 = 297.5 + 1.05*$radius;              # and
$yb = 421. - 1.05*$radius;               # y
$yt = 421. + 1.05*$radius;               # limits
printf("%8.3f %8.3f %8.3f %8.3f\n", $x1, $x2, $yb, $yt);

print "%EOF\n";                           # and wind up

```