Wong Lim Soon

Dear CBL Members,

Here are the updates for September/October 2008.

1/
Let us welcome the following new students & RAs in CBL who joined us in
Sept/Oct:

Ken's: Zhang Zhizhuo.
Limsoon's: Zhang Jie.
Thiagu's: Joshua Chin.

2/
Let us congratulate the following CBL students who successfully completed or passed their
dissertations:

Geoffrey Koh, "Pathway Models Decomposition and Composition Techniques for Parameter
Estimation", PhD thesis passed September 2008. Supervisor: P. S.
Thiagarajan and David Hsu. He is currently a Research Fellow in A*STAR's Bioprocessing
Technology Institute with Dong-Yup Lee.

Stanley Kwang Loong Ng, "Computational identification of novel microRNAs using intrinsic
RNA folding measures", PhD thesis passed Sept 2008.
Supervisor: Santosh Mishra & Limsoon Wong. Stanley is currently a Research Fellow at
A*STAR's Singapore Immunology Network with Ee Chee Ren. You may not have seen Stanley's
often, as he worked as a Research Scientist at A*STAR's BioInformatics Institute during
his studies.

Edward Wijaya, "Integrative methods for discovering generic cis-regulatory motifs", PhD
thesis passed October 2008. Supervisor: Ken Sung. He is currently doing hispostdoc at CBRC
with Paul Horton in Japan.

Vinsensius B. Vega, "Inferring regulatory signal from genomic data", PhD thesis submitted
September 2008. Supervisors: Ken Sung & Phil Long. You may not have seen Vega often, as he
works as a Research Scientist at A*STAR's Genome Institute of Singapore.

This brings the number of PhD theses completed/awarded in computational biology in our
school to 9 this year. You can read their theses at http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/
~cbl/theses.html.

3/
I am also glad to inform you that the SOC-Brown concurrent degree program in computational biology has been established/approved on 14 Oct 2008. This program makes it possible to "fast track" a computational biology student through our undergrad program on to the master program at Brown.

4/
A number of papers have been published this month. In particular, Ken has a large bumper crop!

A. Nigham and D. Hsu. Protein conformational flexibility analysis with noisy data. Journal of Computational Biology, 15(7):813--828, September 2008.

W. H. Lee, W. K. Sung. RB-Finder: An Improved Distance-Based Sliding Window Method to Detect Recombination Breakpoints. Journal of Computational Biology, 15(7):881-898, September 2008.

W. H. Lee, C. W. Wong, W. Y. Leong, L. D. Miller, W. K. Sung. LOMA: A fast method to generate efficient tagged-random primers despite amplification bias of random PCR on pathogens. BMC Bioinformatics, 9:368, September 2008.

E. Wijaya, S. M. Yiu, N. T. Son, R. Kanagasabai, W. K. Sung. MotifVoter: A novel ensemble method for fine-grained integration of generic motif finders. Bioinformatics, 24(20):2288-2295, October 2008.

H. Xu, C. L. Wei, F. Lin, W. K. Sung. An HMM approach to genome-wide identification of differential histone modification sites from ChIP-seq data. Bioinformatics, 24(20):2344-2349, October 2008.

Wing-Kin Sung. Constructing a Galled Phylogenetic Network. Encyclopedia of Algorithms, Springer, 2008.

Wing-Kin Sung. Indexed Approximate String Matching. Encyclopedia of Algorithms, Springer, 2008.

Wing-Kin Sung. Maximum Agreement Supertree. Encyclopedia of Algorithms, Springer, 2008.

Guimei Liu, Limsoon Wong. Effective Pruning Techniques for Mining Quasi-Cliques. Proceedings of European Conference on Machine Learning and Principles and Practice of Knowledge Discovery in Databases (ECML/PKDD), part II, pages 33--49, Antwerp, Belgium, 15-19 September 2008.

Mengling Feng, Jinyan Li, Limsoon Wong, Yap-Peng Tan. Negative Generator Border for Effective Pattern Maintenance. Proceedings of 4th International Conference on Advanced Data Mining and Applications, pages 217--228, Chengdu, China, 8-10 October 2008. (Best Paper Runner-Up at ADMA2008)

Melvin Zhang, Hon Wai Leong. Gene Team Tree: A Compact Tree Representation of All Gene Teams. Proceedings of RECOMB Workshop on Comparative Genomics (RCG), pages ??--??, Paris, France, 13-15 Oct 2008.

5/
We also hosted a number of events, including:

1st NUS-University of Tokyo Joint Workshop on Computational Systems Biology.
Organizer: P. S. Thiagarajan.
29-30 September 2008 at Block COM1, #02-VC Video Conference Room.

Tea with SOC Computational Biology Programme Students.
Host: Ken Sung, Chuan Hock Koh, and Tan Pinye.

17 September 2008 @ 6.15pm in SR10, COM1.

Systems Biology Club Meeting.
4 September 2008 @ 5pm in Room #05-41, TLL.
Talk 1: Comparative Genomics in Cyprinids - Finding the Gene Needles in Genomics Haystacks. Speaker: Laszlo Orban, Temasek Lifesciences Lab.
Talk 2: Pathway Model Decomposition and Composition Techniques for Parameter Estimation. Speaker: Geoffrey Koh, Bioprocessing Technology Institute, A*STAR.

Forthcoming event:

CS Seminar: Computational Methods for Prediction of Alternative Promoters and Transcription Factor Binding Sites.
Speaker: Junwen John Wang, University of Hong Kong.
10 November 2008 @ 2pm in SR3 (COM1-02-12).

6/
Here are some announcements that you might be interested in:

Positions at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.
Received from Chris Sander, 10 October 2008.
http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~wongls/bp/openings/mskcc-oct08.pdf

Positions at Tel Aviv University.
Received from Ron Shamir, 24 September 2008.
http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~wongls/bp/openings/shamir-sept08.pdf

Positions at BD Technologies.
Received from Perry Haaland, 9 September 2008.
http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~wongls/bp/openings/bd-singapore-sept08.pdf

A workshop on protein structure and function prediction at NTU:
http://www3.ntu.edu.sg/birc/workshopoct08/

If I have left out any thing, please let me know.

Cheers,

Limsoon