

Adventures of a Logician-Engineer: A Journey Through Logic, Engineering, Medicine, Biology, and Statistics

Limsoon Wong



Talk at IBB, University of Tehran, Nov 2008

Plan



- Understanding query languages
- Engineering data integration systems
- Optimising disease treatments
- Recognizing DNA feature sites
- Discovering reliable patterns

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Understanding Query Languages



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Nested Relational Calculus (NRC)



The complex object types are:

$$s, t ::= \text{bool} \mid b \mid s \times t \mid \{s\}$$

The expression constructs are:

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{x^s : s} \quad \frac{e_1 : s \quad e_2 : t}{(e_1, e_2) : s \times t} \quad \frac{e : s \times t}{\pi_1 e : s \quad \pi_2 e : t} \\[10pt] \frac{}{\text{true} : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{}{\text{false} : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{bool} \quad e_2 : s \quad e_3 : s}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : s} \\[10pt] \frac{}{\{ \}^s : \{s\}} \quad \frac{e : s}{\{e\} : \{s\}} \quad \frac{e_1 : \{s\} \quad e_2 : \{s\}}{e_1 \cup e_2 : \{s\}} \\[10pt] \frac{e_1 : \{s\} \quad e_2 : \{t\}}{\cup \{e_1 \mid x^t \in e_2\} : \{s\}} \quad \frac{e : \{s\}}{\text{empty } e : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{e_1 : s \quad e_2 : s}{e_1 = e_2 : \text{bool}} \end{array}$$

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Explanation

- $\pi_1 e$ stands for the first component of the pair e
Eg: $\pi_1(o_1, o_2) = o_1$
- $\cup\{e_1 \mid x \in e_2\}$ stands for the set obtained by combining the results of applying the function $f(x) = e_1$ to each element of e_2
Eg: $\cup\{\{x, x+1\} \mid x \in \{1,2,3\}\} = \{1,2,3,4\}$

Examples

- Relational projection
 $\Pi_2(R) := \cup\{\{\pi_2 x\} \mid x \in R\}$
- Relational selection
 $\sigma(p)(R) := \cup\{\text{if } p(x) \text{ then } \{x\} \text{ else } \{\} \mid x \in R\}$
- Cartesian product
 $\otimes(R, S) := \cup\{\cup\{\{(x, y)\} \mid x \in R\} \mid y \in S\}$

Conservative Extension Property



A language \mathcal{L} has conservative extension property if

for every function f definable in \mathcal{L} ,
there is an implementation of f in \mathcal{L} such that

for any input i and corresponding output o ,
each intermediate data item created
in the course of executing f on i to
produce o has nesting complexity no
more than that of i and o

Expressive Power of NRC



- Proposition 1 (Tannen, Buneman, Wong, ICDT92)
**NRC has the same expressive power as
Schek&Scholl, Thomas&Fischer, etc.**
- Theorem 2 (Wong, PODS93)
**NRC has the conservative extension property at
all input/output types**
- Corollary 3
**Every function from flat relations to flat relations
expressible in NRC is expressible in FO(=)**

Theoretical Reconstruction of SQL



Expressions of $\mathcal{NRC}(\mathbb{Q}, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \leq)$ are those of \mathcal{NRC} plus the following

$$\frac{e_1 : \mathbb{Q} \quad e_2 : \mathbb{Q}}{e_1 + e_2 : \mathbb{Q}} \quad \frac{e_1 : \mathbb{Q} \quad e_2 : \mathbb{Q}}{e_1 \cdot e_2 : \mathbb{Q}} \quad \frac{e_1 : \mathbb{Q} \quad e_2 : \mathbb{Q}}{e_1 \div e_2 : \mathbb{Q}}$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \mathbb{Q} \quad e_2 : \mathbb{Q}}{e_1 - e_2 : \mathbb{Q}} \quad \frac{e_1 : \mathbb{Q} \quad e_2 : \{s\}}{\Sigma\{|e_1 \mid x^s \in e_2\} : \mathbb{Q}} \quad \frac{e_1 : \mathbb{Q} \quad e_2 : \mathbb{Q}}{e_1 \leq e_2 : \text{bool}}$$

Semantics. $\Sigma\{|e_1 \mid x \in e_2\} = f(o_1) + \dots + f(o_n)$, where f is the function $f(x) = e_1$ $\{o_1, \dots, o_n\}$ is the set e_2 .

Example Aggregate Functions



- **Count the number of records**
 $\text{count}(R) := \Sigma\{|1 \mid x \in R\}$
- **Total the first column**
 $\text{total}_1(R) := \Sigma\{| \pi_1 x \mid x \in R\}$
- **Average of the first column**
 $\text{ave}_1(R) := \text{total}_1(R) \div \text{count}(R)$
- **A totally generic query expressible in SQL but inexpressible in FO(=)**
 $\text{eqcard}(R, S) := \text{count}(R) = \text{count}(S)$

Expressive Power of $\text{NRC}(\mathcal{Q}, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \geq^{\mathcal{Q}})$

- Proposition (Libkin, Wong, DBPL93)
 $\text{NRC}(\mathcal{Q}, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \geq^{\mathcal{Q}})$ captures “standard” SQL
- Theorem 4 (Libkin, Wong, PODS94)
 $\text{NRC}(\mathcal{Q}, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \geq^{\mathcal{Q}})$ has the conservative extension property at all input/output types
- Corollary 5
Every function from flat relations to flat relations is expressible in $\text{NRC}(\mathcal{Q}, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \geq^{\mathcal{Q}})$ iff it is also expressible in SQL

Bounded Degree Property

A language \mathcal{L} has bounded degree property if

for every function f , on graphs, definable in \mathcal{L} , and
for every number k ,

there is a number ϵ such that

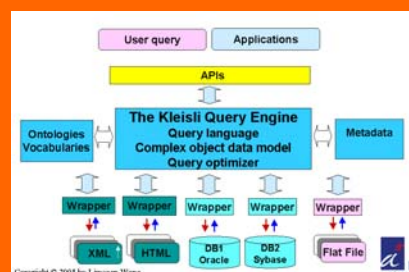
for any graph G with $\deg(G) \in \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$,
it is the case that $\epsilon \geq \text{card}(\deg(f(G)))$

That is, \mathcal{L} cannot define a function that produces
complex graphs from simple graphs

Expressive Power of $\text{NRC}(Q, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \geq^Q)$

- Theorem 6 (Dong, Libkin, Wong, ICDT97)
 $\text{NRC}(Q, +, \cdot, -, \div, \Sigma, =, \geq^Q)$ has the bounded degree property
- Corollary 7
 - Transitive closure of unordered graphs cannot be expressed in SQL
 - Parity test on cardinality of unordered graphs cannot be expressed in SQL
 - Transitive closure of linear chains cannot be expressed in SQL
 - ...

Engineering Data Integration Systems



Integration: What are the problems

A US DOE “impossible query”, circa 1993:

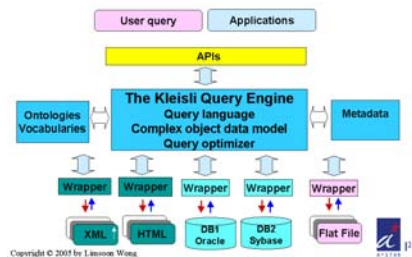
For each gene on a given cytogenetic band, find its non-human homologs.

source	type	location	remarks
GDB	Sybase	Baltimore	Flat tables SQL joins Location info
Entrez	ASN.1	Bethesda	Nested tables Keywords Homolog info

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Integration Solution: Kleisli



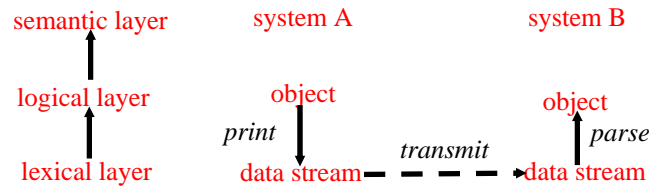
Buneman, Davidson, Hart, Overton, Wong, VLDB95
Wong, ICFP00

- Nested relational data model
- Self-describing data exchange format
- Thin wrappers & lots of them
- High-level query languages
- Powerful query optimizer
- Open “database” connectivity & API
- Nested relational data store

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Self-Describing Data Exchange Format



- Logical & lexical layers are important aspects
- “Print” & “parse” to move between layers
- “Transmit” to move between systems
- Clear separation ⇒ generic parsers & “printers”

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GenPept: E.g. of Poor Format



```

LOCUS       T41727             577 aa             F14             03-DEC-1999
DEFINITION  F-box domain protein Pef3p - fission yeast
ACCESSION   T41727
PID         g7490661
VERSION     T41727 GI:7490661
DESCRIPTION p1r: locus T41727;
            summary: #length 577 #weight 66338 ...
KEYWORDS    .
SOURCE      fission yeast.
  ORGANISM  Schizosaccharomyces pombe
            Eukaryota; Fungi; Ascomycota; ...
REFERENCE   1 (residues 1 to 577)
  AUTHORS   Lys, M., Wood, V., Rajendran, M.A., ...
  TITLE     Direct Subcellular
  JOURNAL   Submitted (??-JUN-1999) to the EMBL Data Library
FEATURES             Location/Qualifiers
     source          1..577
                     /organism="Schizosaccharomyces pombe"
                     /db_xref="taxon:4896"
     Protein         1..577
                     /product="F-box domain protein Pef3p"
ORIGIN
1 maaqqqkalk sktqqylskr hfedaltfif ktieqpept ...
  
```

- Deeply nested structure
- No separation of logical vs. lexical layers
- Specialized parser is a must

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Kleisli's Data Exchange Format



logical layer	lexical layer	remarks
Booleans	True, false	
Numbers	123, 123.123	Positive numbers
	~123, ~123.123	Negative numbers
strings	"a string"	String is inside double quotes
records	(#l ₁ : v ₁ , ..., #l _n : v _n)	Record is inside round brackets
sets	{ v ₁ , ..., v _n }	Set is inside curly brackets

- Lexical layer matches logical layer
- Mirrors nested relational data model
- Avoids impedance mismatch
- Easier to write wrappers

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GenPept: In a Better Format



```
(#id: 7490651,
 #title: "F-box domain protein Pef3p - fission yeast",
 #accession: "T41727",
 #common: "fission yeast.",
 #organism: (#genus: "Schizosaccharomyces",
 #species: "pombe",
 #lineage: ["Bakaryota", "Fungi", "Ascomycota", ...]),
 #feature: [{(#name: "source", #start: 0, #end: 576,
 #anno: [(#anno_name: "organism",
 #descr: "Schizosaccharomyces pombe"),
 (#anno_name: "db_xref", #descr: "taxon:4890")])],
 (#name: "Protein", #start: 0, #end: 576,
 #anno: [(#anno_name: "product",
 #descr: "F-box domain protein Pef3p")])}],
 #sequence: "MSNTQVEALKKIKQLSERKFEALIFITKIDSEPTID...")
```

- Boundaries of different nested structures are explicit
- Logical vs. lexical layers no longer mixed up
- Specialized parser no longer needed

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Data Integration Results

- **Using Kleisli:**
 - Clear
 - Succinct
 - Efficient
 - **Handles**
 - heterogeneity
 - complexity
- ```

sybase-add (#name:"GDB", ...);
create view L from locus_cyto_location using GDB;
create view E from object_genbank_eref using GDB;
select
 #accn: g.#genbank_ref, #nonhuman-homologs: H
from
 L as c, E as g,
 {select u
 from g.#genbank_ref.na-get-homolog-summary as u
 where not(u.#title string-islike "%Human%") &
 not(u.#title string-islike "%H.sapien%")} as H
where
 c.#chrom_num = "22" &
 g.#object_id = c.#locus_id &
 not (H = { });

```

## Optimising Disease Treatments

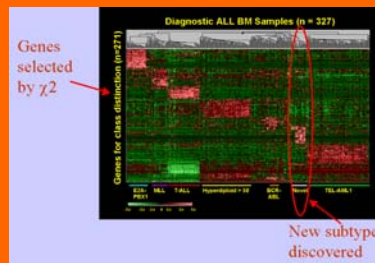
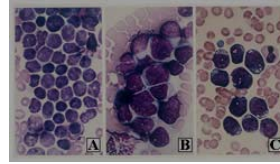


Image credit: Yeoh et al, 2002

## Childhood ALL

- Major subtypes: T-ALL, E2A-PBX, TEL-AML, BCR-ABL, MLL genome rearrangements, Hyperdiploid >50,
  - Diff subtypes respond differently to same Tx
  - Over-intensive Tx
    - Development of secondary cancers
    - Reduction of IQ
  - Under-intensive Tx
    - Relapse
- 
- The subtypes look similar
  - Conventional diagnosis
    - Immunophenotyping
    - Cytogenetics
    - Molecular diagnostics
  - Unavailable in most ASEAN countries



Single-Test Platform of  
Microarray & Knowledge Discovery

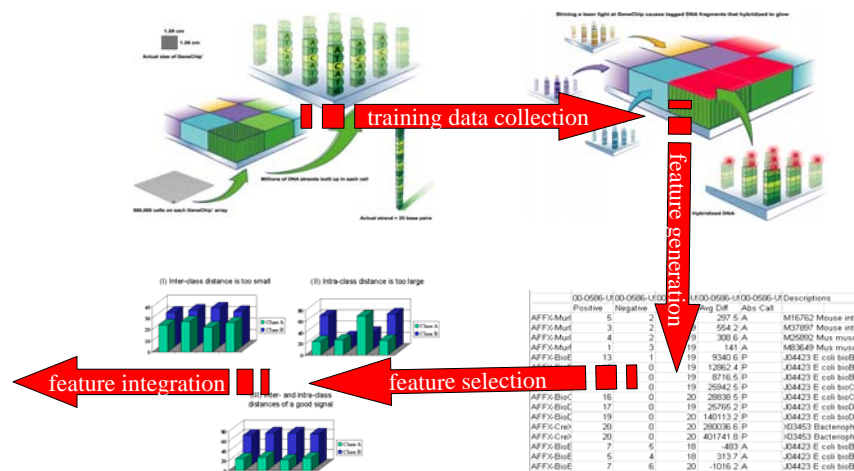
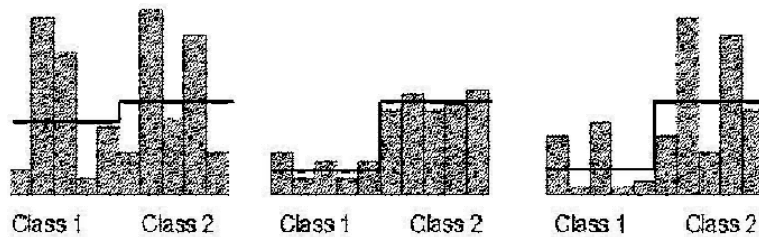


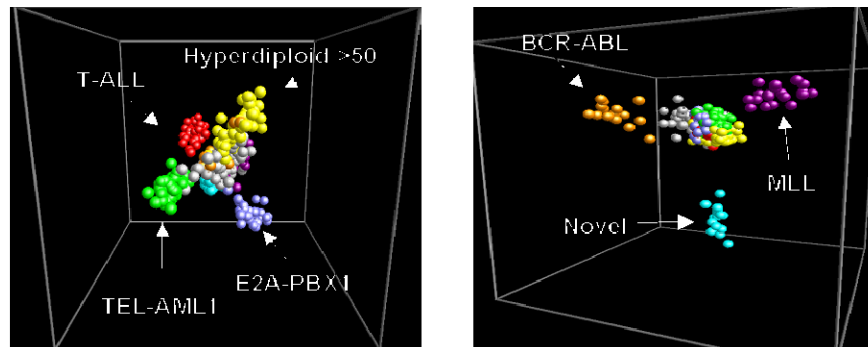
Image credit: Affymetrix

## Signal Selection Basic Idea

- Choose a signal w/ low intra-class distance
  - Choose a signal w/ high inter-class distance
- ⇒ An invariant of a disease subtype!

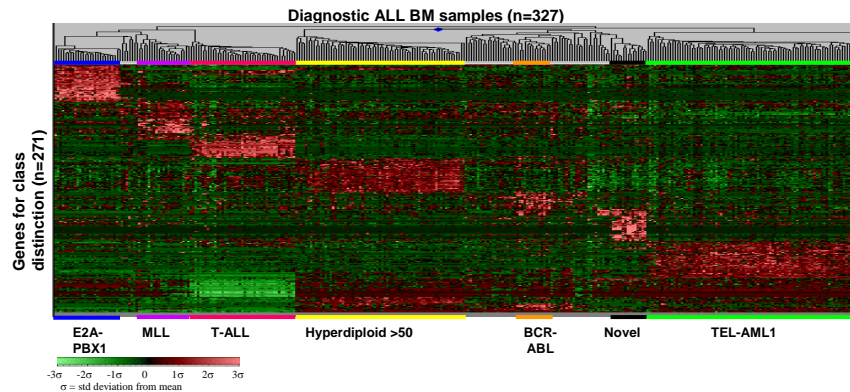


## Multidimensional Scaling Plot for ALL Subtype Diagnosis



Obtained by performing PCA on the 20 genes chosen for each level

# Gene Expression Profiles for ALL Subtype Diagnosis



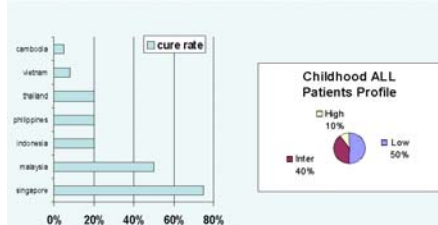
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## Impact



### Childhood ALL in ASEAN Countries (2000 new cases per year)



Our optimized Tx:

- high intensity to 10%
- intermediate intensity to 40%
- low intensity to 50%
- costs US\$100m/yr

Conventional Tx:

- intermediate intensity to all
- ⇒ 10% suffers relapse
- ⇒ 50% suffers side effects
- ⇒ costs US\$150m/yr

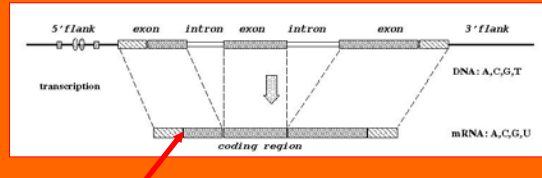
• High cure rate of 80%  
• Less relapse  
• Less side effects  
• Save US\$51.6m/yr

Yeoh et al, *CANCER CELL*, 2002

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## Recognizing DNA Feature Sites



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## A Sample cDNA



```

299 HSU27655.1 CAT U27655 Homo sapiens
CGTGTGTGCAGCAGCCTGCAGCTGCCCCAAGCCATGGCTGAACACTGACTCCCAGCTGTG 80
CCCAGGGCTTCAAAGACTTCTCAGCTTCGAGCATGGCTTTTGGCTGTCAGGGCAGCTGTA 160
GGAGGCAGATGAGAAGAGGGAGATGGCCTTGGAGGAAGGGAAGGGGCTGGTGCCGAGGA 240
CCTCTCCTGGCCAGGAGCTTCTCCAGGACAAGACCTTCCACCCAACAAGGACTCCCT
.....iEE
EE
EE

```

- What makes the second ATG the TIS?

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## Approach

- Training data gathering
- Signal generation
  - k-grams, distance, domain know-how, ...
- Signal selection
  - Entropy,  $\chi^2$ , CFS, t-test, domain know-how...
- Signal integration
  - SVM, ANN, PCL, CART, C4.5, kNN, ...

## mRNA → protein



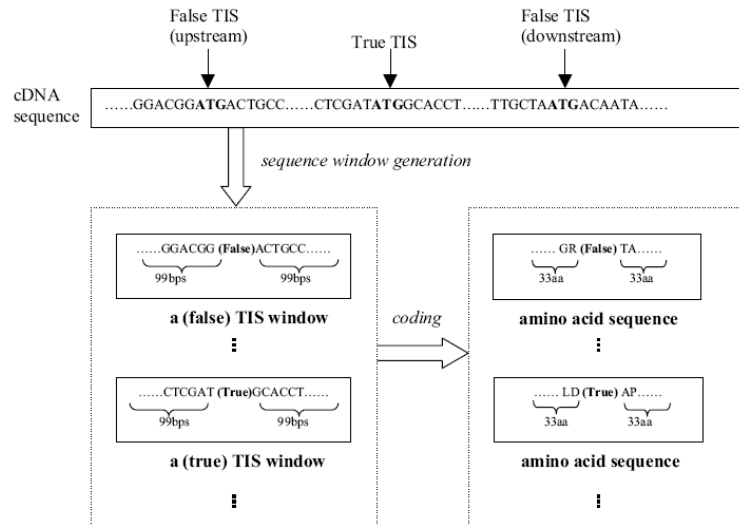
Codon 1  
A  
T  
Codon 2  
E  
Codon 3  
L  
Codon 4  
R  
Codon 5  
S  
Codon 6  
stop  
Codon 7

How about using k-grams  
from the translation?

| First | U            | C            | A            | G            | Last |
|-------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------|
| U     | Phe <b>F</b> | Ser <b>S</b> | Tyr <b>Y</b> | Cys <b>C</b> | U    |
|       | Phe          | Ser          | Tyr          | Cys          | C    |
|       | Leu <b>L</b> | Ser          | Stop (Ochre) | Stop (Umbre) | A    |
|       | Leu          | Ser          | Stop (Amber) | Trp <b>W</b> | G    |
| C     | Leu          | Pro <b>P</b> | His <b>H</b> | Arg <b>R</b> | U    |
|       | Leu          | Pro          | His          | Arg          | C    |
|       | Leu          | Pro          | Gln          | Arg          | A    |
|       | Leu          | Pro          | Gln          | Arg          | G    |
| A     | Ile <b>I</b> | Thr <b>T</b> | Asn <b>N</b> | Ser          | U    |
|       | Ile          | Thr          | Asn          | Ser          | C    |
|       | Ile          | Thr          | Lys          | Arg          | A    |
|       | Met <b>M</b> | Thr          | Lys          | Arg          | G    |
| G     | Val <b>V</b> | Ala <b>A</b> | Asp <b>D</b> | Gly <b>G</b> | U    |
|       | Val          | Ala          | Asp          | Gly          | C    |
|       | Val          | Ala          | Glu <b>E</b> | Gly          | A    |
|       | Val          | Ala          | Glu          | Gly          | G    |



## Amino-Acid Features



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## Amino-Acid Features

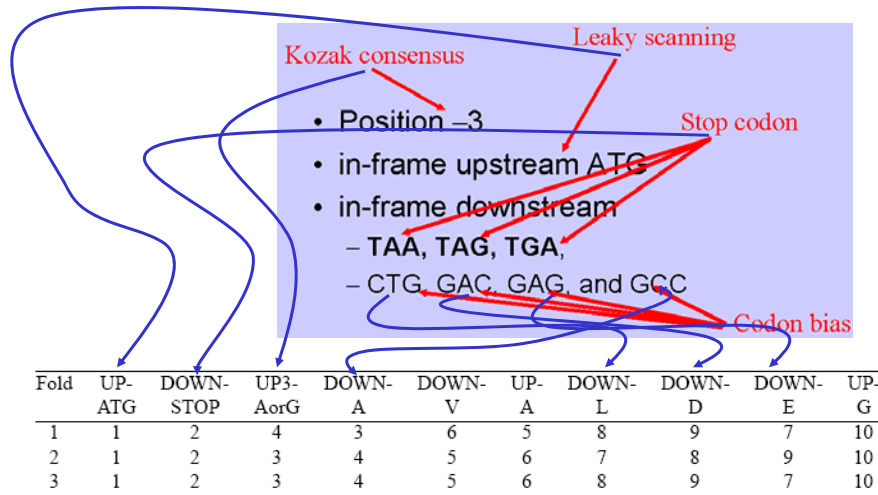


| New feature space (total of 927 features + class label)           |                                                                         |                                                  |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 42 1-gram amino acid patterns                                     | 882 2-gram amino acid patterns                                          | 3 bio-knowledge patterns                         | class label |
| UP-A, UP-R, ..., UP-N, DOWN-A, DOWN-R, ..., DOWN-N (numeric type) | UP-AA, UP-AR, ..., UP-NN, DOWN-AA, DOWN-AR, ..., DOWN-NN (numeric type) | DOWN4-G, UP3-AorG, UP-ATG (boolean type, Y or N) | True, False |
| Frequency as values                                               |                                                                         |                                                  |             |
| 1, 3, 5, 0, 4, ...<br>⋮                                           | 6, 2, 7, 0, 5, ...<br>⋮                                                 | N, N, N,<br>⋮                                    | False<br>⋮  |
| 6, 5, 7, 9, 0, ...<br>⋮                                           | 2, 0, 3, 10, 0, ...<br>⋮                                                | Y, Y, Y,<br>⋮                                    | True<br>⋮   |

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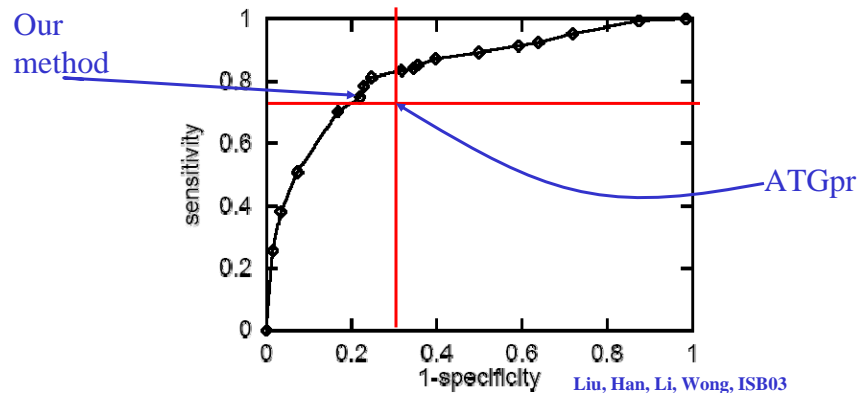
## Amino Acid K-grams Discovered By Entropy



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## Validation Results on Chr X and Chr 21

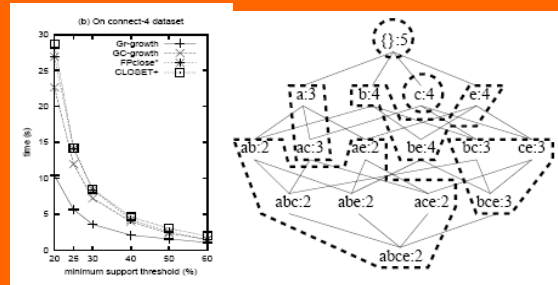


- Using top 100 features selected by entropy and trained on Pedersen & Nielsen's

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## Discovering Reliable Patterns



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## Discovering Invariants



- Conservative extension property
  - Bounded degree property
  - Logical layer of self-describing exchange formats
- } Insights of an expert
- 
- Diagnosis patterns of ALL subtypes
  - Signals for protein translation initiation
- } Identified using existing machine learning methods

• Next Goal: Improve capability of machines to discover useful invariants

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- **Optimising disease treatments**
  - Huiqing Liu, Jinyan Li, Allen Yeoh
- **Recognizing DNA feature sites**
  - Huiqing Liu, Fanfan Zeng, Roland Yap, Hao Han, Vlad Bajic
- **Discovering reliable patterns**
  - Jinyan Li, Haiquan Li, Mengling Feng, Guozhu Dong, Pei Jian