

Elements of Bioinformatics, Autumn 2011, Exercises 3

Assignment: Write an essay of 2-4 pages on Profile Hidden Markov Models.

Profile Hidden Markov Models are described in Chapter 5 of Durbin et al "Biological sequence analysis", Cambridge University Press, pages 100-133; the chapter can be found from the course folder room C127.

Pay attention to

1. extracting the most important aspects,
2. exactness of presentation, and
3. correctness of language.

Return your essay to Esa Pitkänen (firstname.lastname@cs.helsinki.fi) by Mon 21.11 at 10am at the latest.

Hints:

- There is no way to compress as chapter of 34 pages into 4 pages or less so that every bit of information is retained. You should be bold in compressing and selecting material.
- A good way to approach writing a summary is to try to identify the main idea from each paragraph, typically expressible in one sentence, and make your summary based on the sequence of main ideas. Even then it may be not all paragraphs contain important enough information to make it to you summary.
- In general the first sections contain more general material and the latter sections more specific material. A good summary would reflect this structure as well.