Bioinformatics

➤ The combination (or marriage) of biology and information technology.

It is a recently developed science using information to understand biological phenomenon.

It involves the computational tools and methods used to manage, analyse and manipulate volumes and volumes of biological data.

It may also be regarded as a part of the computational biology

Letter is concerned with the application of quantitative analytical techniques in modeling and solving problems in the biological systems.

It is an interdisciplinary approach requiring advanced knowledge of computer mathematics and statistical methods for understanding of biological phenomena at the molecular level.

History of Bioinformatics

- It was first introduced in 1990s
- It dealt with the management and analysis of the data pertaining to DNA, RNA and protein sequences
- It includes many other types of biological data. most important ones are listed below
- ✓ Gene expression profiles
- ✓ Protein structure

Contd...

- ✓ Protein interaction
- ✓ Microarrays (DNA chips)
- ✓ Functional analysis of biomolecules
- ✓ Drug designing

Broad coverage of bioinformatics

· Functional genomics:

identification of genes and their respective functions

Structural genomics:

predictions related to functions of protein

Comparative genomics:

understanding the genomes of different species of organisms

Contd...

DNA microarrays:

designed to measure the levels of gene expression in different tissues, various stages of development and in different diseases

Medical informatics:

involves the management of biomedical data with special references to biomolecules, in vitro assays and clinical trials

Components of bioinformatics

1. Creation of databases:

- Involves the organizing, storage and management of the biological data sets
- Databases are accessible and submit new entries. Protein sequences data bank for molecular structures

2. Development of algorithms and statistics:

- Involves the development of tools and resources to determine the relationship among the members of large data sets.
- Comparisons of protein sequence data with the already existing protein sequences

3. Analysis of data interpretation:

 Includes DNA, RNA and protein sequences, protein structure, gene expression profiles, and biochemical pathways

Bioinformatics and the internet

- It is an international computer network
- It involves a group of computers that can communicate (usually over telephone system) and exchange data between users.
- Internet protocol(Ip) determines how the packets of information are addressed and routed over the network.
- To access the internet, computer must have the correct hardware, appropriate software and permission for access to network.

Applications of bioinformatics

- Sequence mapping of biomecules(DNA, RNA and proteins)
- Identification of nucleotide sequences of functional gene
- Finding of sites that can be cut by restriction enzymes
- Prediction of functional gene products

Contd...

- To trace the evolutionary trees of genes
- For the prediction of 3-dimensional structure of proteins
- Molecular modelling of biomolecules
- Designing of drugs for medical treatment
- Handling of vast biological data which otherwise is not possible
- Development of models for the functioning various cells, tissue and organs.