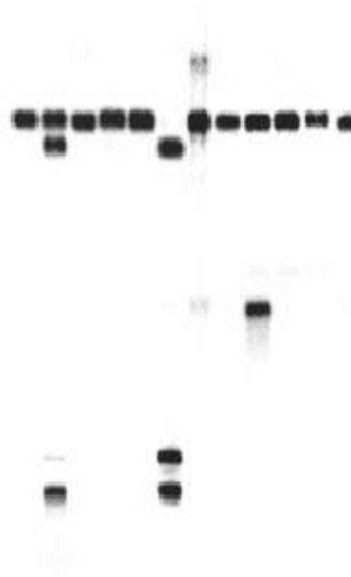




Bioinformatics application in Drug Discovery

The “old” biology



The most challenging task for a scientist is to get good data

The “new” biology

BIOINFORMATICS



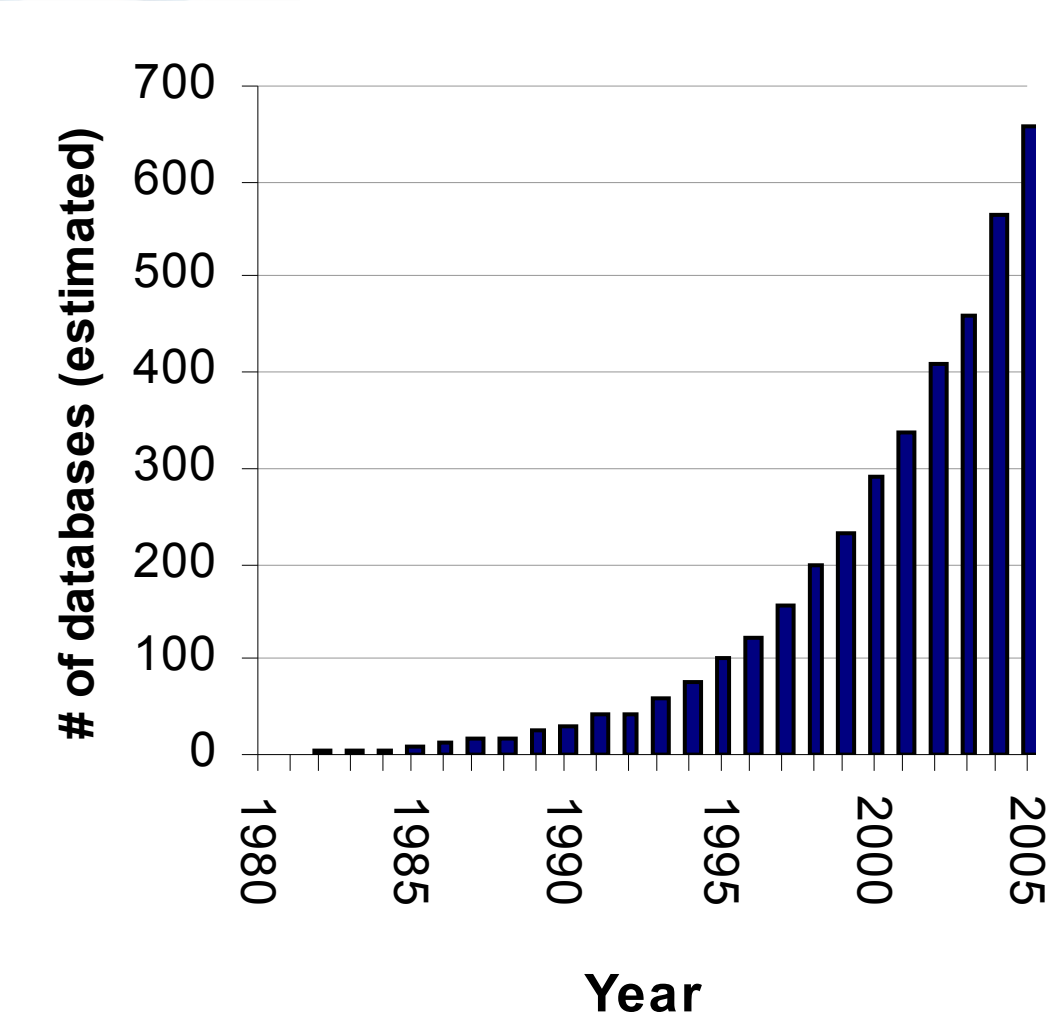
The most challenging task for a scientist is to make sense of
lots of data

P. Paulsharma Chakravarthy

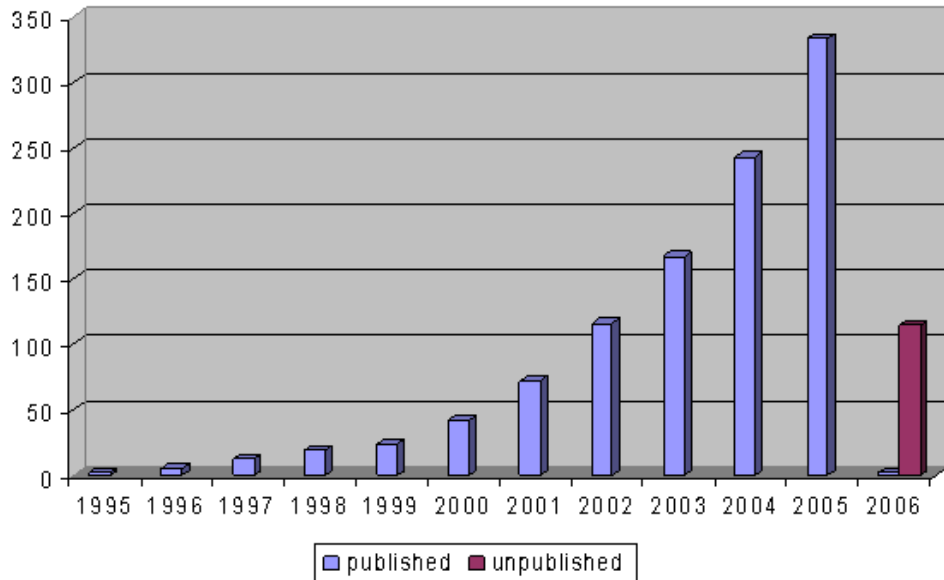
Old vs New - What's the difference?

- Miniaturize – less cost
- Multiplex – more data
- Parallelize – save time
- Automate – minimize human intervention
- Thus, you must be able to deal with large amounts of data and trust the process that generated it

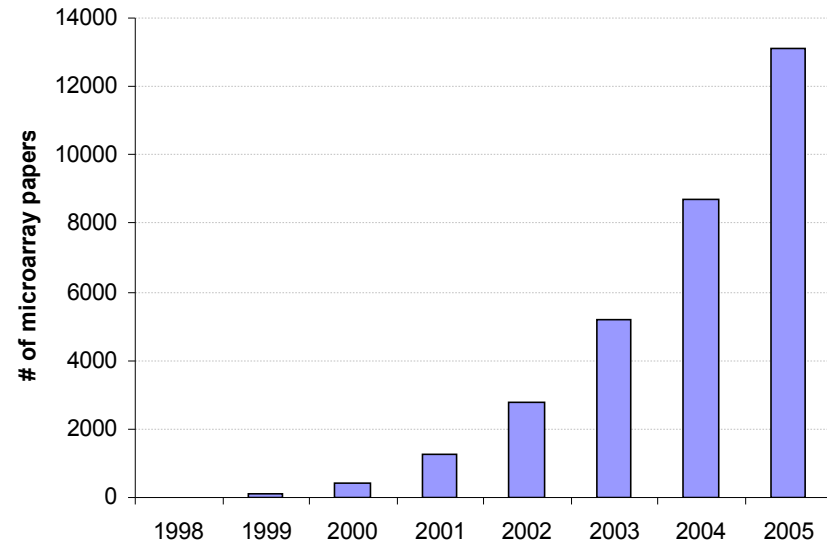
Data is being collected faster and in greater amounts



Completely Sequenced Genomes January 2006



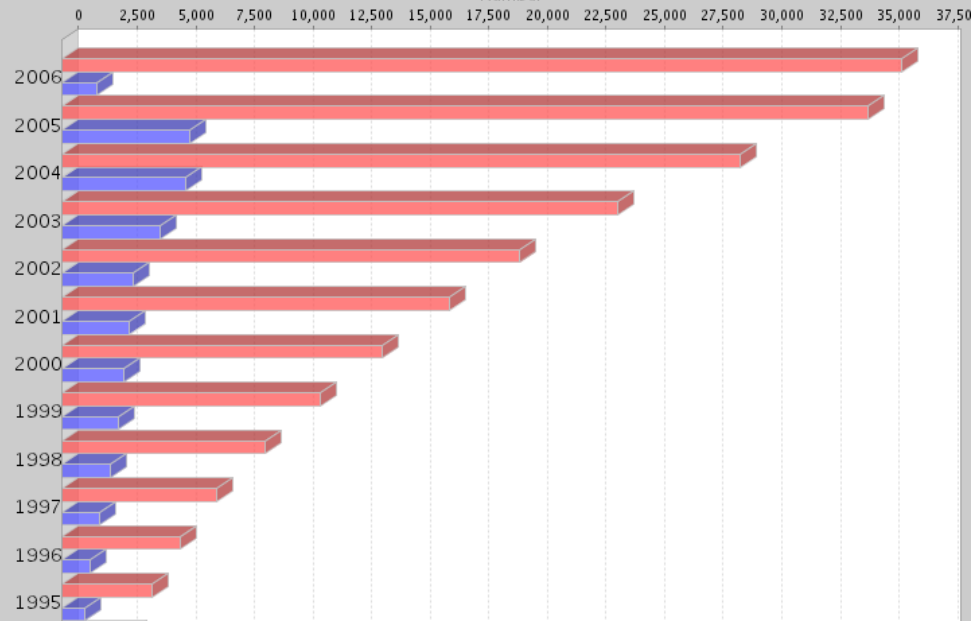
Growth in microarray publications



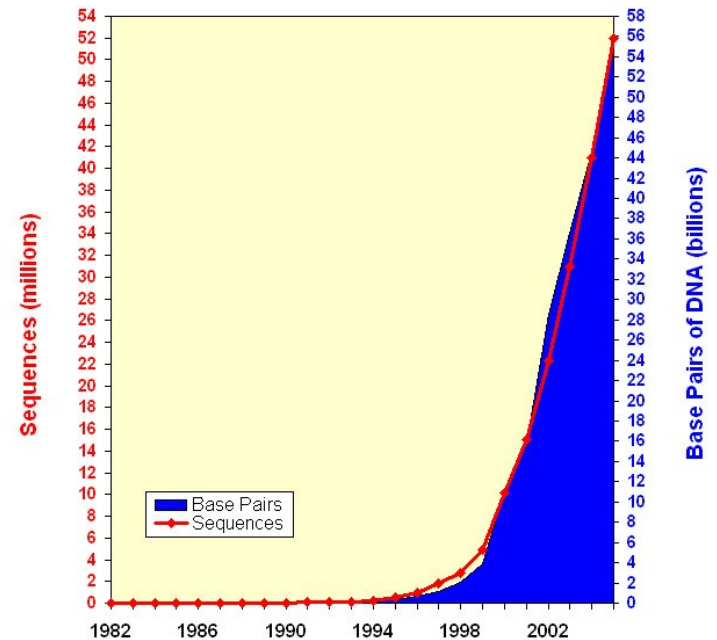
Yearly Growth of Total Structures

number of structures can be viewed by hovering mouse over the bar

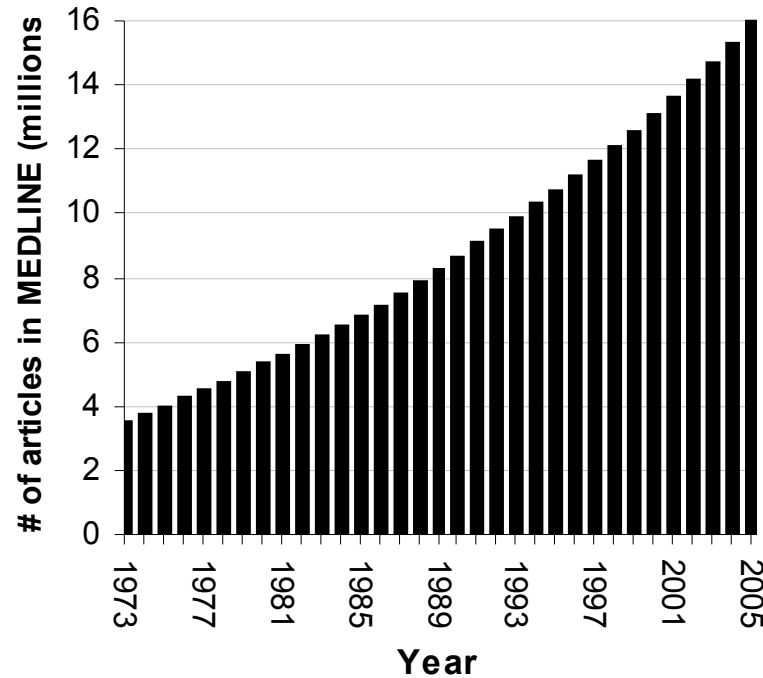
Number



Growth of GenBank (1982 - 2005)



Growth in information & knowledge



>4,800 Journals

>16,000,000 records

672,000 new papers in 2005
(~1,840 per day)

Bioinformatics Tools

The processes of designing a new drug using bioinformatics tools have opened a new area of research. In order to design a new drug one needs to follow the following path.

6. Identify target disease
7. Study Interesting Compounds
8. Detection the Molecular Bases for Disease
9. Rational Drug Design Techniques
10. Refinement of Compounds
11. Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships (QSAR)
12. Solubility of Molecule
13. Drug Testing

Bioinformatics Tools

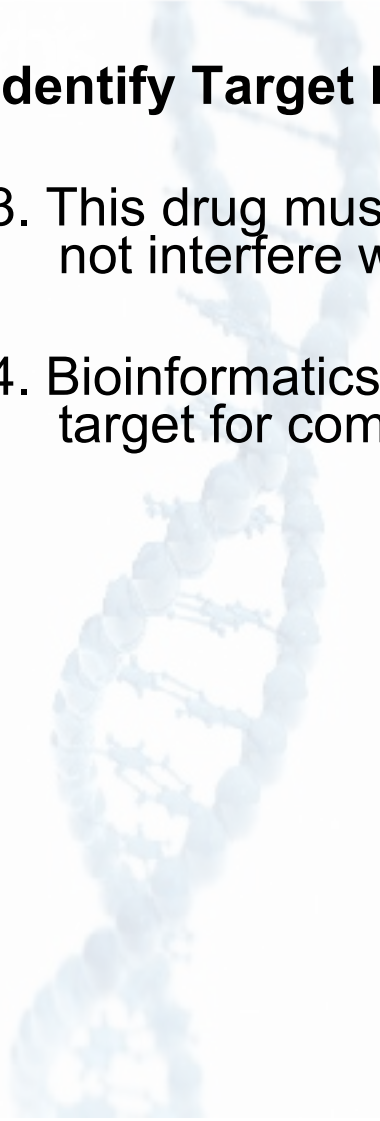
Identify Target Disease:-

1. One needs to know all about the disease and existing or traditional remedies. It is also important to look at very similar afflictions and their known treatments.
2. Target identification alone is not sufficient in order to achieve a successful treatment of a disease. A real drug needs to be developed.

Bioinformatics Tools

Identify Target Disease:-

3. This drug must influence the target protein in such a way that it does not interfere with normal metabolism.
4. Bioinformatics methods have been developed to virtually screen the target for compounds that bind and inhibit the protein.



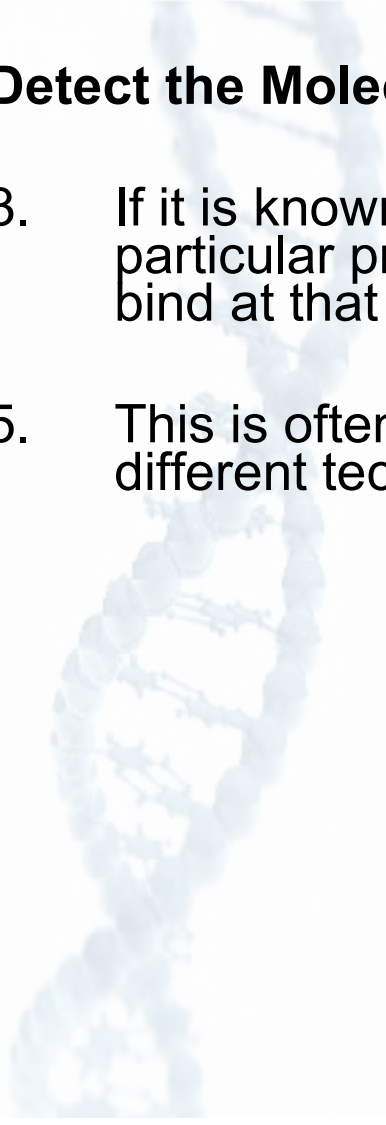
Study Interesting Compounds:

1. One needs to identify and study the lead compounds that have some activity against a disease.
2. These may be only marginally useful and may have severe side effects.
3. These compounds provide a starting point for refinement of the chemical structures.

Bioinformatics Tools

Detect the Molecular Bases for Disease:-

3. If it is known that a drug must bind to a particular spot on a particular protein or nucleotide then a drug can be tailor made to bind at that site.
5. This is often modeled computationally using any of several different techniques.



Detect the Molecular Bases for Disease:-

- Traditionally, the primary way of determining what compounds would be tested computationally was provided by the researchers' understanding of molecular interactions.
- A second method is the brute force testing of large numbers of compounds from a database of available structures.

Bioinformatics Tools

Refinement of compounds:-

- Once you got a number of lead compounds have been found, computational and laboratory techniques have been very successful in refining the molecular structures to give a greater drug activity and fewer side effects.
- Done both in the laboratory and computationally by examining the molecular structures to determine which aspects are responsible for both the drug activity and the side effects.

Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD)

- Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD) is a specialized discipline that uses computational methods to simulate drug-receptor interactions.
- CADD methods are heavily dependent on bioinformatics tools, applications and databases. As such, there is considerable overlap in CADD research and bioinformatics.

Virtual High-Throughput Screening (vHTS):-

1. Pharmaceutical companies are always searching for new leads to develop into drug compounds.
2. One search method is virtual high-throughput screening. In vHTS, protein targets are screened against databases of small-molecule compounds to see which molecules bind strongly to the target.

Bioinformatics Supports CADD Research

Virtual High-Throughput Screening (vHTS):-

3. If there is a “hit” with a particular compound, it can be extracted from the database for further testing.
4. With today’s computational resources, several million compounds can be screened in a few days on sufficiently large clustered computers.
5. Pursuing a handful of promising leads for further development can save researchers considerable time and expense.
e.g.. ZINC is a good example of a vHTS compound library.

Bioinformatics Supports CADD Research

Sequence Analysis:-

3. In CADD research, one often knows the genetic sequence of multiple organisms or the amino acid sequence of proteins from several species.
4. It is very useful to determine how similar or dissimilar the organisms are based on gene or protein sequences.
5. With this information one can infer the evolutionary relationships of the organisms, search for similar sequences in bioinformatic databases and find related species to those under investigation.
6. There are many bioinformatic sequence analysis tools that can be used to determine the level of sequence similarity.

Bioinformatics Supports CADD Research

Homology Modeling:-

3. Another common challenge in CADD research is determining the 3-D structure of proteins.
2. Most drug targets are proteins, so it's important to know their 3-D structure in detail. It's estimated that the human body has 500,000 to million proteins.
3. However, the 3-D structure is known for only a small fraction of these. Homology modeling is one method used to predict 3-D structure.

Bioinformatics Supports CADD Research

Homology Modeling:-

4. In homology modeling, the amino acid sequence of a specific protein (target) is known, and the 3-D structures of proteins related to the target (templates) are known.
5. Bioinformatics software tools are then used to predict the 3-D structure of the target based on the known 3-D structures of the templates.
6. **MODELLER** is a well-known tool in homology modeling, and the **SWISS-MODEL** Repository is a database of protein structures created with homology modeling.



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▶ What does NCBI do?

Established in 1988 as a national resource for molecular biology information, NCBI creates public databases, conducts research in computational biology, develops software tools for analyzing genome data, and disseminates biomedical information - all for the better understanding of molecular processes affecting human health and disease. [More...](#)

Whole Genome Association

The NCBI Whole Genome Association (WGA) resource provides researchers with access to genotype and associated phenotype information that will help elucidate the link between genes and disease. For more information, click here to see the the [WGA](#) resource page and click here to read the [press release](#).

NCBI Citations

Two papers authored by researchers at NCBI are among the top 40 most cited articles for 2005 according to ScienceWatch's "Hottest Research of 2005" list. The papers describe NCBI's

Hot Spots

- ▶ [Assembly Archive](#)
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- ▶ [Coffee Break, Genes & Disease, NCBI Handbook](#)
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567	PubMed: biomedical literature citations and abstracts	?	4	Books: online books	?
429	PubMed Central: free, full text journal articles	?	4	OMIM: online Mendelian Inheritance in Man	?
none	Site Search: NCBI web and FTP sites	?	none	OMIA: Online Mendelian Inheritance in Animals	?
253	Nucleotide: sequence database (includes GenBank)	?	13	UniGene: gene-oriented clusters of transcript sequences	?
125	Protein: sequence database	?	none	CDD: conserved protein domain database	?
none	Genome: whole genome sequences	?	24	3D Domains: domains from Entrez Structure	?
3	Structure: three-dimensional macromolecular structures	?	5	UniSTS: markers and mapping data	?
none	Taxonomy: organisms in GenBank	?	none	PopSet: population study data sets	?
none	SNP: single nucleotide polymorphism	?	1324	GEO Profiles: expression and molecular abundance profiles	?
35	Gene: gene-centered information	?	none	GEO DataSets: experimental sets of GEO data	?
22	HomoloGene: eukaryotic homology groups	?	none	Cancer Chromosomes: cytogenetic databases	?
none	PubChem Compound: unique small molecule chemical structures	?	none	PubChem BioAssay: bioactivity screens of chemical substances	?



Thanks You

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