# Algorithms for analysing and predicting RNA 3D structures

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### Bioinfo team at LRI / Paris-Sud

Main themes :

- RNA structural bioinformatics
- Computational systems biology
- Biological data integration
- Evolution









Computer science issues: Algorithmics and combinatorics, Database integration, Machine learning, Simulation

### **RNA structural bioinformatics**



Game theory for coarse-grained 3D structure prediction [Boudard et al. PloS one 2015, Bioinformatics 2017] http://garn.lri.fr



Structure- sequence alignment including pseudoknots [Rinaudo et al. WABI 2012] [Wei WANG's thesis Dec. 2017, with Y. Ponty] https://licorna.lri.fr/



Mining for recurrent motifs in RNA structures

[Djelloul et al. RNA 2008] [Reinharz et al., submitted]



### **RNA** structural bioinformatics



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### **RNA structure:** canonical interactions

ET

#### which folds in type A helices



[Tertiary motifs in RNA structure and folding, J. Doudna et al., Angew Chem Int Ed Engl. 1999]



[Base stacking annotation, F. Major & P. Thibault, presented at the RNA ontology consortium workshop, RNA society meeting, Seattle WA, June 19-20 2006 ]

# **RNA structure: non canonical interactions**

Leontis-Westhof (LW) nomenclature



[The Non-WC base pairs and their isostericity matrices, Leontis et al., NAR 2002]

### Leontis Westhof (LW) nomenclature



[The annotation of RNA Motifs, N.B. Leontis & E. Westhof, Conference Review 2000]

### Leontis Westhof (LW) nomenclature



RNA graph = graph with bounded degree, whose vertices and edges are labeled.



Group I intron (detail). [The interaction Networks of structured RNAs, A. Lescoute & E. Westhof, NAR 2006]

### **RNA tertiary motifs**



**Ex: Kink-turn** 

They are mostly composed of noncanonical interactions

They can mediate the 3D folding of the molecule, they can also be sites for chemical synthesis.

# RNA tertiary motifs

- Knowing the RNA tertiary motifs is essential to understand how the molecule folds into its 3ary structure.
- Problem : how to detect these motifs (including unknown motifs) automatically ?
  - Local motifs : [Djelloul, Denise RNA 2008]
  - Interaction networks : this presentation

### **RNA** interaction networks

An interaction network connects two distinct secondary structure elements (SSEs)



2D diagram of an *A-minor motif typel/ll* which connects a terminal loop and an helix.



[Reblova et al. 2011]

How to define an interaction network? (from a 'graph theoretical' approach)

### • Hints:

- An interaction network connects two secondary structure elements (SSEs)
- An interaction network is recurrent : at least two occurrences in a non redondant set of RNAs.
- The **context** is important (flanking interactions and nucleotides)
- An interaction network can be modular, *i.e.* it can contain smaller interaction networks.

### Validation:

• **Distinct occurrences** of a same interaction network**must have similar 3D shapes**.



How to define an interaction network? (from a 'graph theoretical' approach)

• **Definition**, in two steps :

Interaction graphs

Recurrent interaction networks (RINs)

### Interaction graphs



• Let G be the graph of two SSEs with all their inner interactions and mutual interactions.

### Interaction graphs



 Let G' be the subgraph of G obtained by removing the vertices which have only backbone interactions.

### Interaction graphs



• The set of **interaction graphs** is the set of the largest connected subgraphs of G'.

### Comparing two interaction graphs



Compute the largest common connected subgraphs

- wich contain at least two red edges.
- and where each vertex belongs to a cycle.
- (There may be several such subgraphs)

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### **Recurrent interaction networks**

# This is what we call a **recurrent interaction network (RIN)**.



Compute the largest common connected subgraphs

- wich contain at least two red edges.
- and where each vertex belongs to a cycle.
- (There may be several such subgraphs)

### Overview



### **Computational issues**

• The problem of finding a largest common connected subgraph of two graphs is *NP-hard*.

• We developed an *ad hoc* algorithm for this purpose.

• It takes time!

### **AN OVERVIEW OF THE RESULTS**

### Data and statistics

- All non-redondant structures in RNA3DHub (<u>http://rna.bgsu.edu/rna3dhub</u>) version 2.92, September 2016, at 3.0 Å resolution.
- Some statistics:
  - 845 structures extracted from the PDB, containing 912 RNA chains identified as non-redundant
  - 1426 pairs of SSEs connected by long range interactions
  - 337 recurrent interaction networks (RINs) fund; from 2 to 257 occurrences of each.

### The 337 RINs with their inclusion relations



### The first 12 RINs (with #occurrences)























### First RIN: 257 occurrences

### The smallest 'standard' pseudoknot motif



# (Part of) the pseudoknot mesh



# RIN 78 : 12 occurrences

From a structural point of view, the motifs whose occurrences can be found in non homologous molecules are particularily interesting.



### (Part of) the A-minor mesh



### The A-minor mesh



### **Combination of networks**

A-minor Type I Ribose Zipper



### RIN 17:102 occurrences



A-minor type I/II

In many non homologous molecules : ribosomes, ribozymes, riboswitches, group II introns, ribonuclease P







### A new RIN: RIN 56, 25 occurrences



# Conclusion

- The first fully automated method for de novo retrieving and clustering RNA recurrent interaction networks.
- New RINs found, and a full map of the modular network of RINs : inclusion relations, combination of RINs for forming new RINs.
- Online database which will be periodically updated.
- Perspective: using RINs for predicting tertiary interactions from secondary structures.

# Thanks!

- Collaborations :
  - Interaction motifs :
    - McGill University : Vladimir Reinharz, Jérôme Waldispühl
    - Université de Strasbourg / CNRS : Eric Westhof
    - Ecole Polytechnique (+ McGill) : Antoine Soulé
    - Université Paris-Sud : Mahassine Djelloul
  - Game theory for structure prediction :
    - Université de Versailles St Quentin : Alexis Lamiable (+ Paris-Sud), Dominique Barth, Franck Quessette, Sandrine Vial
    - Ecole Polytechnique /INRIA : Julie Bernauer
    - Université Paris-Sud : Mélanie Boudard (+ Versailles), Johanne Cohen
  - Structure-sequence alignment :
    - Ecole Polytechnique / CNRS: Yann Ponty
    - Université de Versailles St Quentin : Dominique Barth
    - Université Paris-Sud : Philippe Rinaudo, Wei Wang, Matthieu Barba