Design of geometric molecular bonds, à la Reed-Solomon

Workshop on coding techniques for synthetic biology University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign



David Doty Department of Computer Science University of California, Davis

Experimental background: Structural DNA nanotechnology

a.k.a. DNA carpentry



Paul Rothemund Folding DNA to create nanoscale shapes and patterns Nature 2006

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scaffold DNA strand (M13mp18 bacteriophage virus)

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DNA stacking interactions between blunt ends



Stacking at edges of DNA origami



Stacking at edges of DNA origami



Stacking at edges of DNA origami









unintended translations can result in overlap between large subset of patches











Design of geometric molecular bonds, à la Reed-Solomon

How to engineer large sets of specific molecular bonds that do not bind (strongly) in unintended ways

Mathematical model

macrobond: subset of *n* x *n* square



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macrobond: subset of *n* x *n* square









 any nonzero translation of macrobond has "small" overlap with untranslated original



 any translation of macrobond has "small" overlap with other macrobonds



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macrobond 1



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macrobond 1 macrobond 2



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Orthogonal macrobond design problem



n x *n* square such that:

• $\neq \mathbf{0}: |S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \le d$ • $\neq j$ and all translations $\mathbf{v}: |S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \le d$



• *n* = width of square



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- *n* = width of square
- *k* = # of patches in macrobond

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• *d* = maximum overlap between macrobonds

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0 1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9 10

10 9

8

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- *n* = 11 k = 8d = 2
- *n* x *n* square such that:
- n = width of square
- *k* = # of patches in macrobond
- *d* = maximum overlap between macrobonds
- find macrobonds $S_1, \dots, S_m \subseteq n \ge n$ square such that:

•
$$\neq \mathbf{0}: |S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$$

 $\neq j$ and all translations **v**: $|S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$



n = 11 7 k = 8 5 d = 2 4 3 2



- *n* x *n* square such that:
- n = width of square
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 - for all $i: |S_i| = k$

•
$$\neq \mathbf{0}: |S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$$

• $\neq j$ and all translations **v**: $|S_i \cap (S_j + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$

Orthogonal macrobond design problem



- $\neq 0: |Si \cap (Si+v)| \leq d$
- *n* x *n* square such that:
- n = width of square
- *k* = # of patches in macrobond
- *d* = maximum overlap between macrobonds
 - for all $i: |S_i| = k$
 - for all *i* and all translations $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$: $|S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$
 - $\neq \mathbf{0}: |S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$
 - $\neq j$ and all translations **v**: $|S_i \cap (S_j + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$



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- *n* x *n* square such that:
- n = width of square
- *k* = # of patches in macrobond
- *d* = maximum overlap between macrobonds
 - for all *i*: $|S_i| = k$
 - for all $i \neq j$ and all translations **v**: $|S_i \cap (S_j + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$

k = 8

d = 2

- $\neq \mathbf{0}: |S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$
- $\neq j$ and all translations **v**: $|S_i \cap (S_j + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$



10 9

8

7 6

43

0

0 1

3

Δ

2

5 6 7

8

9 10

k = 8

d = 2

- \neq j and all translations v: $|Si \cap (Sj+v)| \leq 20$
- $\neq 0$: $|Si \cap (Si+v)| \leq d$
- *n* x *n* square such that:
- n = width of square
- *k* = # of patches in macrobond
- *d* = maximum overlap between macrobonds
 - for all *i*: $|S_i| = k$
 - *m* is "large" \neq **0**: $|S_i \cap (S_i + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$
 - $\neq j$ and all translations **v**: $|S_i \cap (S_j + \mathbf{v})| \leq d$

Fundamental theorem of algebra: any degree d polynomial p(x) = c_dx^d + c_{d-1}x^{d-1} + ... + c₁x + c₀ over field F has at most d roots (values x where p(x) = 0) unless all c_i = 0



d = 4

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 If n is prime, addition and multiplication of integers modulo n defines a field F



d = 4





• Works for k = n



- Works for k = n
- Let $p(x) = c_d x^d + c_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$,



- {0,1,...,n-1}
- Works for k = n
- Let $p(x) = c_d x^d + c_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$,
 - each $c_i \in \{0, 1, ..., n-1\}$



$$n = k = 11$$
 $d = 3$

• {0,1,...,n-1}

• 0

- Works for k = n
- Let $p(x) = c_d x^d + c_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$, • $c_d \neq 0$



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- Let $p(x) = c_d x^d + c_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$, • $c_{d-1} = c_0 = 0$
- One macrobond for each possible choice of coefficients c_d,...,c₀:





- nd-1
- {0,1,...,n-1}
- 0
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 - $m = \text{total number of macrobonds} = (n-1)n^{d-2} \approx n^{d-1}$

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• $p(x) = a_d x^d + a_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ $q(x) = b_d x^d + b_{d-1} x^{d-1} + \dots + b_1 x + b_0$





• Translate macrobond derived from p by vector $\mathbf{v}=(-\delta_x,\delta_y)$ (both < n): gives polynomial $p'(x) = p(x + \delta_x) + \delta_y$.



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 - binomial theorem says x^{d-1} coefficient (i.e., b_{d-1}) is $a_{d-1} \neq d\delta_{x} a_{d-1}$
 - But $d_{a_d} \not\equiv 0 \mod n$, so $(d\delta_x a_d \equiv 0 \mod n) \Rightarrow (\delta_x = 0)$


- 0 mod n, so $(d\delta xad \equiv 0 \mod n) \Rightarrow (\delta x = 0)$
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 - binomial theorem says x^{d-1} coefficient (i.e., b_{d-1}) is a_{d-1} + dδ_xa_d
 Also, binomial theorem says constant coefficient (i.e., b₀) is =0 1δ_x^{d-1} + ... + a₁δ_x¹ + a₀ + δ_y ≡ b₀ mod n $a_d \delta_x^d + a_{d}$



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 - binomial theorem says x^{d-1} coefficient (i.e., b_{d-1}) is $a_{d-1} + d\delta_x a_d$ Also, binomial theorem says constant coefficient (i.e., b_0) is = 0 ${}_1\delta_x^{d-1} + ... + a_1\delta_x^{-1} + a_0 + \delta_y \equiv b_0 \mod n$ $a_d \delta_x^d + a_{d}$





- b0 mod n
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 - binomial theorem says x^{d-1} coefficient (i.e., b_{d-1}) is $a_{d-1} + d\delta_x a_d = 0$
 - Also, binomial theorem says constant coefficient (i.e., b_0) is $\dots + a_1 \delta_x^{-1} + a_0 + \delta_y \equiv b_0 \mod n$ $a_{d}\delta_{v}^{d} + a_{d-1}\delta_{v}^{d-1} +$
 - So $\delta_y = 0 \mod n$, i.e., $\delta_y = 0$

 $\equiv b_{d-1} \mod n$





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$$a_d \delta_x^{\ d} + a_{d-1} \delta_x^{\ d-1} + \dots + a_1 \delta_x^{\ 1} + a_0 +$$

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`=0

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- Translate macrobond derived from *p* by vector $\mathbf{v} = (-\delta_x, \delta_y)$ (both < *n*): gives polynomial $p'(x) = p(x + \delta_x) + \delta_y$. $\equiv b_{d-1} \mod n$
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 - may be moot with particular DNA origami examples
- Allow smooth transition from initial misaligned binding to intended alignment
- Lower bounds

Acknowledgements

Andrew Winslow



2015 Arkansas self-assembly workshop





