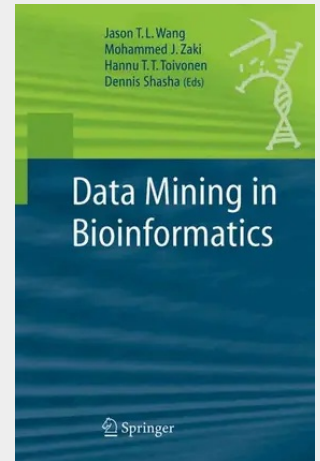


Data Mining in Bioinformatics

8. 1. 1 Protein Subcellular Location The life sciences have entered the post-genome era where the focus of biological research has shifted from genome sequences to protein functionality. With whole-genome drafts of mouse and human in hand, scientists are putting more and more effort into obtaining information about the entire proteome in a given cell type. The properties of a protein include its amino acid sequences, its expression levels under various developmental stages and in different tissues, its 3D structure and active sites, its functional and structural binding partners, and its subcellular location. Protein subcellular location is important for understanding protein function inside the cell. For example, the observation that the product of a gene is localized in mitochondria will support the hypothesis that this protein or gene is involved in energy metabolism. Proteins localized in the cytoskeleton are probably involved in intracellular trafficking and support. The context of protein functionality is well represented by protein subcellular location. Proteins have various subcellular location patterns [250]. One major category of proteins is synthesized on free ribosomes in the cytoplasm. Soluble proteins remain in the cytoplasm after their synthesis and function as small factories catalyzing cellular metabolites. Other proteins that have a target signal in their sequences are directed to their target organelle (such as mitochondria) via posttranslational transport through the organelle membrane. Nuclear proteins are transferred through pores on the nuclear envelope to the nucleus and mostly function as regulators. The second major category of proteins is synthesized on endoplasmic reticulum (ER)-associated ribosomes and passes through the reticuloendothelial system, consisting of the ER and the Golgi apparatus.

Provides systematic treatment of the application of data mining in bioinformatics, in a manner that is accessible to a computer-literate reader who understands the basics of genetics as well as to computationally interested biologists. Of particular interest to researchers in data mining and bioinformatics. The book is aimed at computer scientists, so necessary biology is explained as needed. Finally, problems are provided at the end of several chapters in case readers want to use the book as a text.



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