

Homework 2016

Deadline 20 December 2016

Exercise 1. Write an algorithm that lists all the permutations on n elements. Analyse the complexity of your algorithm in terms of input and output.

Exercise 2. We have seen in class the definition of two distances for comparing phylogenetic binary trees, the Robinson-Foulds distance (RF) and the maximum agreement subtree ($MAST$). Given two phylogenetic binary trees on the same set of n leaves, T_1, T_2 , we recall the definition of these distances below :

1. $d_{RF}(T_1, T_2) = |BP(T_1) \Delta BP(T_2)|/2$ where $BP(T)$ is the set of the bipartitions of T_1 induced by each one of the edges.
2. $d_{MAST}(T_1, T_2) = n - MAST(T_1, T_2)$ where $MAST(T_1, T_2)$ is the largest cardinality of a set of leaves for which the subtrees induced in T_1 and T_2 are homeomorphic (*i.e.* all degree 2 nodes except of the root are contracted).

What is the maximum and the minimum value that the RF and the MAST distance can have? Provide an example of two phylogenetic binary trees reaching these extreme cases.

Exercise 3. In a cophylogeny context we saw in class the event-based model for reconciling two phylogenetic binary trees. This models allows the identification of four type of events : (i) cospeciation, (ii) duplication, (iii) host-switch, (iv) loss. Given two phylogenetic binary trees is it always possible to find a reconciliation without host-switches? Without duplications?