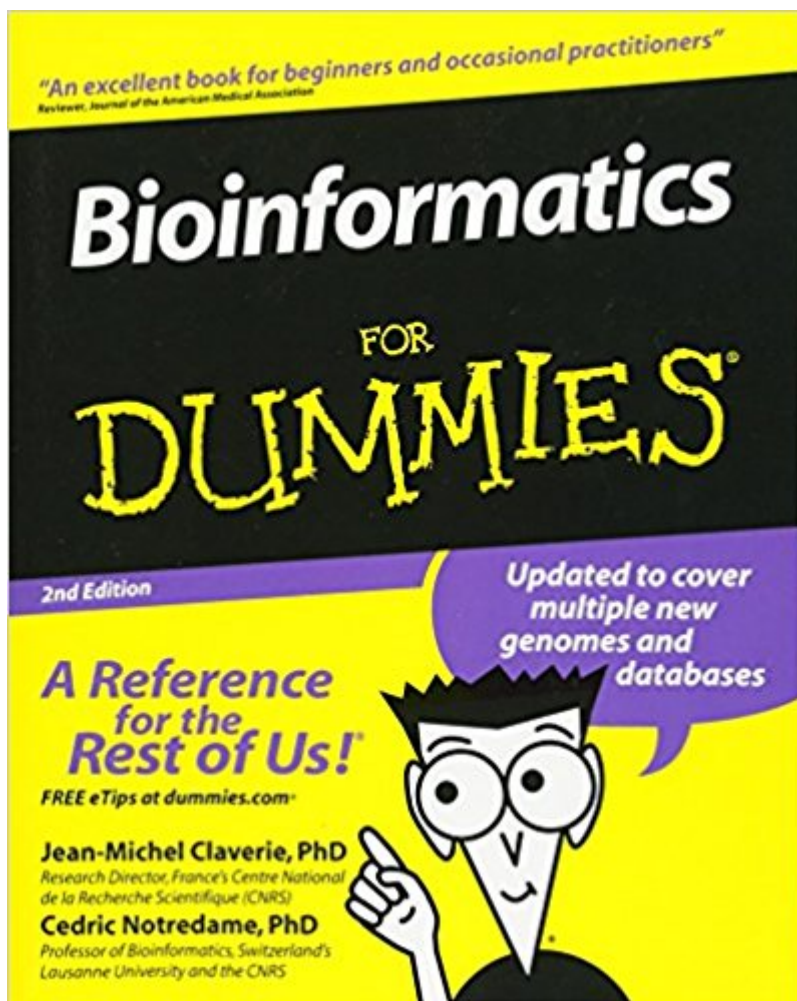




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# Bioinformatics For Dummies



## Synopsis

Were you always curious about biology but were afraid to sit through long hours of dense reading? Did you like the subject when you were in high school but had other plans after you graduated? Now you can explore the human genome and analyze DNA without ever leaving your desktop! Bioinformatics For Dummies is packed with valuable information that introduces you to this exciting new discipline. This easy-to-follow guide leads you step by step through every bioinformatics task that can be done over the Internet. Forget long equations, computer-geek gibberish, and installing bulky programs that slow down your computer. You<sup>™</sup>ll be amazed at all the things you can accomplish just by logging on and following these trusty directions. You get the tools you need to:

- Analyze all types of sequences
- Use all types of databases
- Work with DNA and protein sequences
- Conduct similarity searches
- Build a multiple sequence alignment
- Edit and publish alignments
- Visualize protein 3-D structures
- Construct phylogenetic trees

This up-to-date second edition includes newly created and popular databases and Internet programs as well as multiple new genomes. It provides tips for using servers and places to seek resources to find out about what<sup>™</sup>s going on in the bioinformatics world. Bioinformatics For Dummies will show you how to get the most out of your PC and the right Web tools so you<sup>™</sup>ll be searching databases and analyzing sequences like a pro!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

• (Spixiana, July 2004) "...will be of enormous practical assistance

to anyone getting to grips with bioinformatics tools in the course of their research..." (Briefings in Bioinformatics, June 2003) --This text refers to the Digital edition.

Search databases and analyze sequences like a pro Get the most out of your PC and the Web with the right tools Explore the human genome and analyze DNA " without leaving your desktop! All it takes is the basics of molecular biology and the wealth of information in this friendly guide. You'll discover the online tools and useful tips you need to ask the right questions, analyze sequences, and compare results. It's a plain-English introduction to the field! Discover how to Do biological research online Use gene-centric databases Visualize proteins in 3-D Interpret and analyze sequences Produce and publish results

The content of the book is fine, it is an easy to read beginners introduction to the basic tools of the trade. However, the content is already hopelessly out of date. All online resources referenced in the book have had SIGNIFICANT modifications to their user interface, making the screenshots and detailed step-by-step instructions more confusing than helpful. Not sure there is a practical way around that difficulty. With a bit of understanding how these databases work and what you are actually trying to do you can figure it out.

I am a couple years into a PhD in bioinformatics, but this is the book I started with. I knew some biology and some computer science, but I still found a lot of the databases, etc. confusing and the field has a decided lack of simplified documentation (though it is getting better).Of course, bioinformatics is a pretty broad topic and no book could possibly cover everything.If you do not know any biology at all you probably should also get a basic text on genetics/molecular biology (or read them at the NCBI web site books section for free). You don't need anything in depth to read the dummies book, just at the level of an introductory biology book. Hint: DNA to RNA, RNA to Protein. And you want to know why proteins are similar because proteins with similar amino acid sequences often have similar chemical properties and therefore similar functions, so if you know what one protein does you can guess what a protein like it probably does.:-)And despite the name of the book the authors are REAL bioinformaticists (T-Coffee rocks!)

There is a lot of the book related to giving you details of particular sites to go to -- to perform various tasks. And there is details on exactly the screens you will see how you should fill them out. I found a LOT of that information to be dated and incorrect.I found the information about the basic

Bioinformatics tasks to be relevant and accurate, but many of the details given were not of much use, due to the reason given above.

I bought this for a class and the guide itself is great if you want a real short introduction to things like multi-sequence alignments and navigating around NCBI but that's about all. Poor job getting any new bioinformatics person into the realm of programming (especially in Python). I suppose it's a starting point for anyone who knows nothing about the world of bioinformatics but you will definitely want to buy other guides to complement it.

Great for a quick reference. I do really like this book. The only thing I simply cannot understand is why do shipment is more expensive than the very book. I do know that costs for international shipping have to take a while, but simply I think i could bought more books rather than transportation.

I'm SO pleased with this book. I've done some bioinformatics (classes and workshops), but this book really helped me get a grasp on the things I was missing. There's a lot of info and tutorial styles writing in it. They use a few examples all throughout the book and you can easily follow along or use your own information. I'm a mid level user who wants to do more, and this has given me lots of ideas I didn't know were out there. This field moves so fast, that it's nice to get a quick start. I highly recommend this book.

As a Phd student in biology, this book offers great reference for bioinformatics in a clear and smooth manner. it explains briefly the concept behind few notions and then shows you how to search, interpret the data you receive. no previous knowledge of bioinformatics is necessary to have this book. the only problem is that several websites either change/close their website or change the application format and it becomes hard to follow the book instructions. however it is a very important tool for researchers.

This is a pretty good book.

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