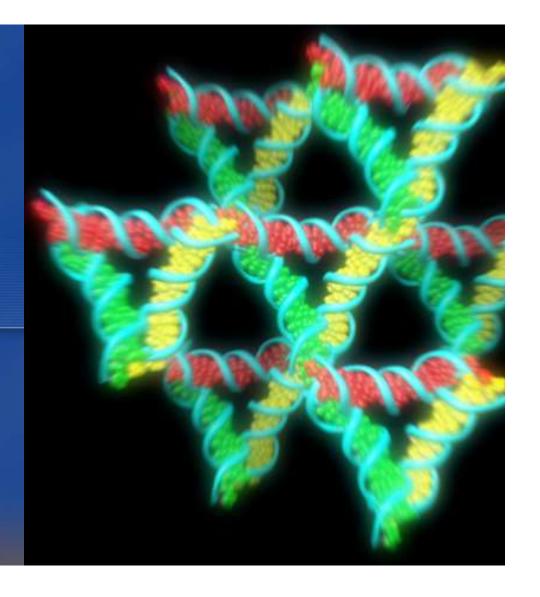
Molecular Programming

Luca Cardelli

University of Oxford

2018-10-10, ECSS Gothenburg

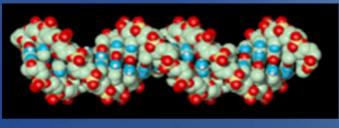


Objectives

- The promises of Molecular Programming
 - · In Science & Medicine
 - · In Engineering
 - · In Computing

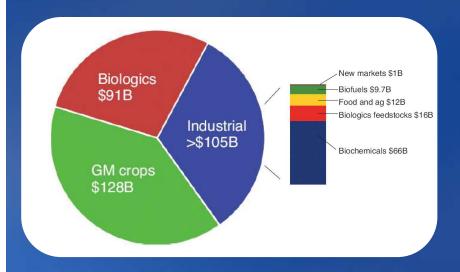


- The current practice of Molecular Programming
 - · DNA technology
 - · Molecular languages and tools
 - Molecular algorithms

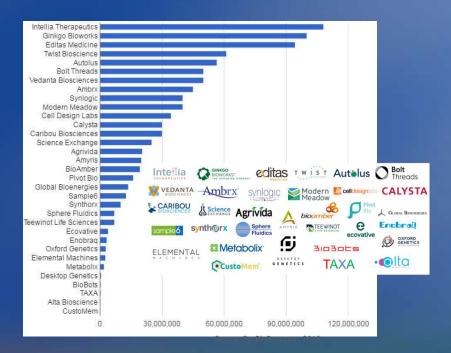


Synthetic Biology Market

Annual revenue from GMOs in the US exceeds \$324Bn



33 Programming Biology companies raised \$900M in 2016



Some (ongoing) successes stories



- (\$4Bn) Reprogram a patient's own blood cells to recognise and destroy specific cancers.
- 90% remission in terminally ill leukemia patients



- (\$300M) Reprogram
- Antimalarial

to synthesise chemicals tion (with Sanofi) flights (with Total)



• Supply custom organisms for bio fabrication



- Grow meat, leather (\$100Bn market) in the lab
- Proofs of concept already in production

Hacking Yoghurt

Tuur van Balen - Hacking Yoghurt - genetically modify your yoghurt in your own kitchen



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co8NOnErrPU

Molecular Programming

A technology (and theory of computation) based on information-bearing molecules of historically biological origin (DNA/RNA) non necessarily involving living matter

Molecular Programming: The Hardware Aspect

Smaller and smaller things can be built

Smaller and Smaller Very few Moore's cycles left!

First working transistor
John Bardeen and Walter Brattain, Dec. 23, 1947

First integrated circuit Jack Kilby, Sep. 1958.

50+ years later

Jan 2010 25nm NAND flash
Intel&Micron. ~50atoms
Jun 2018 7nm (54nm pitch)
TSMC, Intel, Samsung, GlobalFoundries - mass production

Single molecule transistor

Observation of molecular orbital gating *Nature*, 2009; 462 (7276): 1039

Molecules on a chip





Scanning tunneling microscope image of a silicon surface showing 10nm is ~20 atoms across



Molecular Transistor



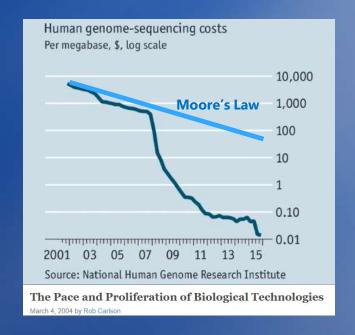
Placement and orientation of individual DNA shapes on lithographically patterned surfaces. Nature Nanotechnology 4, 557 - 561 (2009).

Race to the Bottom

Moore's Law is approaching the single-molecule limit

Carlson's Curve is the new exponential growth curve in technology

In both cases, we are now down to molecules



The SmidgION: A portable DNA sequencer that runs on an Iphone

Oxford Nanopore



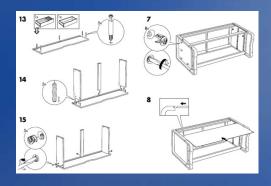
Building the Smallest Things

- · How do we build structures that are by definition smaller than your tools?
- · Basic answer: you can't. Structures (and tools) should build themselves!
- By programmed self-assembly

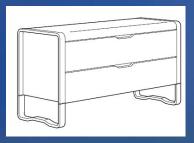


Molecular IKEA

- Nature can self-assemble.Can we?
- "Dear IKEA, please send me a chest of drawers that assembles itself."
- We need a magical material where the pieces are pre-programmed to fit into to each other.
- · At the molecular scale many such materials exist...







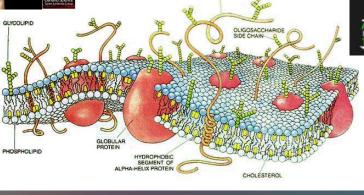
http://www.ikea.com/ms/en_US/customer_ser vice/assembly_instructions.html

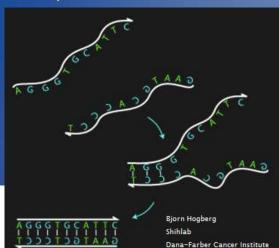
Programmed Self-Assembly

Proteins DNA/RNA



Membranes





Molecular Programming: The Software Aspect

Smaller and smaller things can be programmed

We can program...

- Information
 - · Completely!

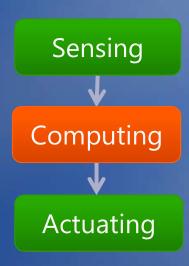




We can program...

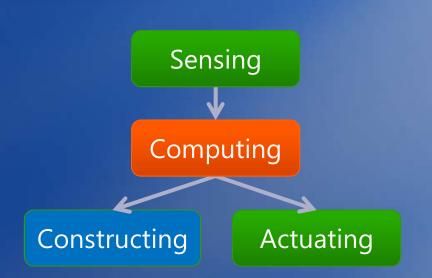
- Forces
 - Completely! (Modulo sensors/actuators)





We can program...

- Matter
 - · Completely and directly! By self-assembly.
 - · Currently: only DNA/RNA.

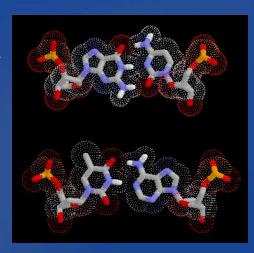




· But DNA is an amazing *material*

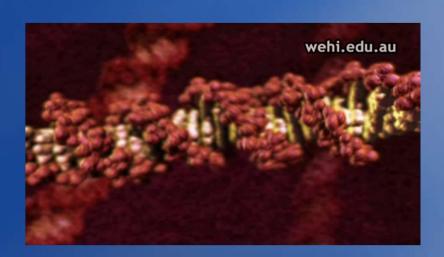
It's like a 3D printer without the printer! [Andrew Hellington]

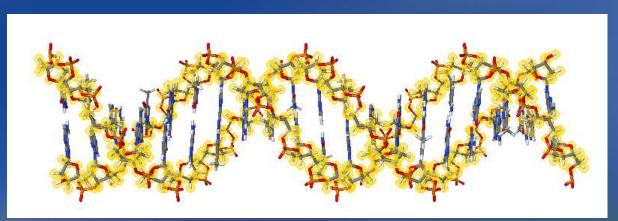
DNA



G-C Base Pair Guanine-Cytosine







Sequence of Base Pairs (GACT alphabet)

Interactive DNA Tutorial

(http://www.biosciences.bham.ac.uk/labs/minchin/tutorials/dna.html)

DNA Specs

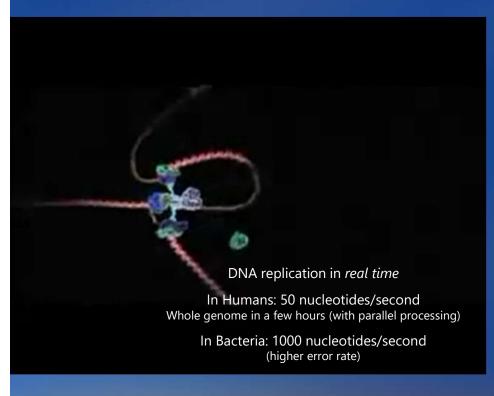
- DNA in each human cell
 - · 3 billion base pairs
 - · 2nm thick = 4 silicon atoms!
 - · 0.34nm per basepair = 2/3 silicon atom!
 - 2 meters long copied in parallel at each cell division!
 - 750 megabytes
 80% functional, but only 1.5% protein coding
 - folded into a 6μm spherical nucleus = 140 exabytes (million terabytes)/mm³ => all the data on the internet fits in a shoebox!
- DNA in each human body
 - · 10 trillion cells
 - · 133 Astronomical Units long
 - · 7.5 octabytes (replicated)
- DNA in human population
 - · 20 million light years long

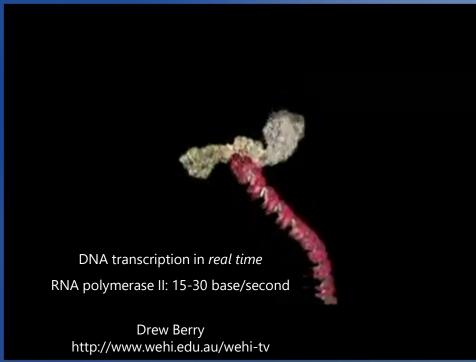




Andromeda Galaxy 2.5 million light years away

DNA Benchmarks

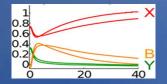




One molecule to rule them all

- There are many, many nanofabrication techniques and materials
- · But only DNA (and RNA) can:
 - · Organize ANY other matter [caveats apply]
 - Execute ANY kinetics [caveats: up to time scaling]
 - · Assemble Nano-Control Devices
 - · Interface to Biology









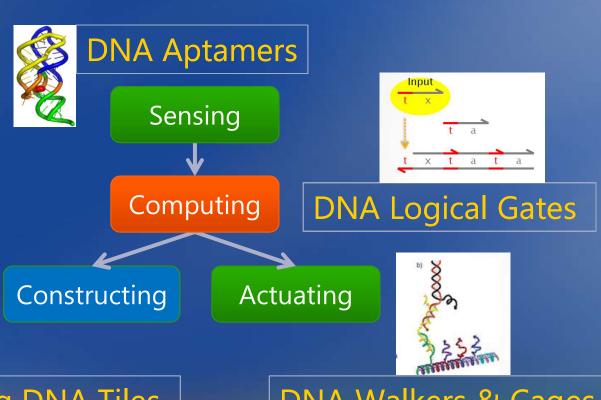
H.Lodish & al. Molecular Cell Biology 4th e

The rebranding of DNA Computing

- Non-goals
 - · Not to solve NP-complete problems with large vats of DNA
 - · Not to replace silicon
- Bootstrapping a carbon-based technology
 - To precisely control the organization and dynamics of matter and information at the molecular level
 - · DNA is our engineering material
 - · Its biological origin is "accidental" (but convenient)
 - · It is an information-bearing programmable material
 - · Other such materials will be (are being) developed

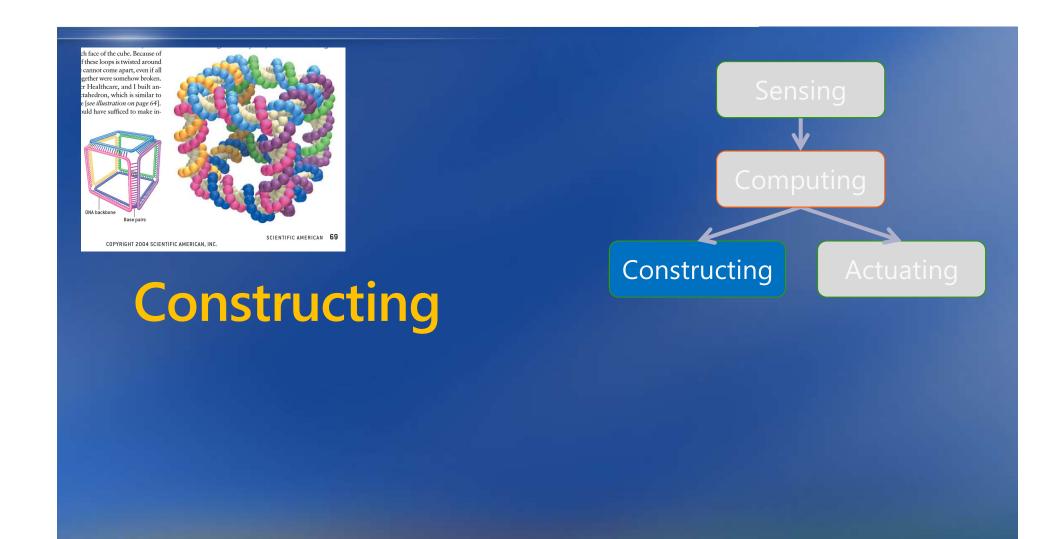
Building Nano-Control Devices

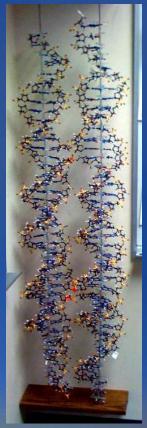
All the components of nanocontrollers can already be built entirerly and solely with DNA, and interfaced to the environment

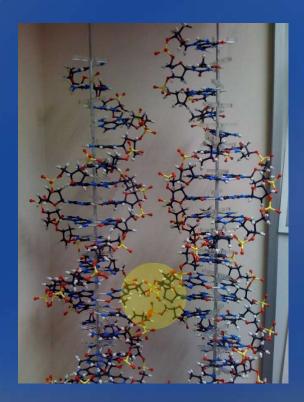


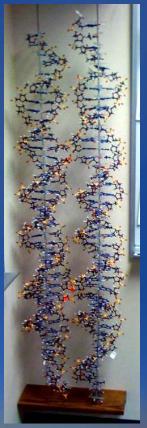
Self-assembling DNA Tiles

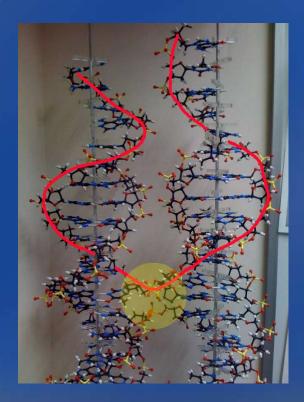
DNA Walkers & Cages

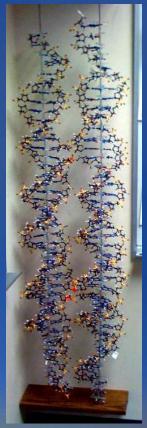


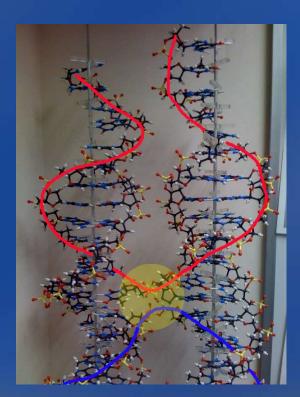


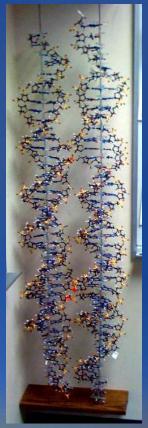


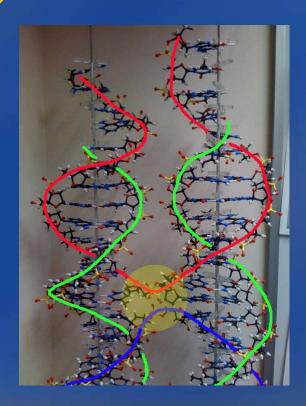


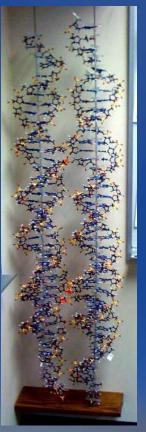


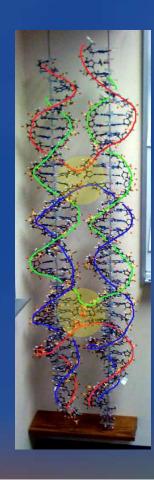










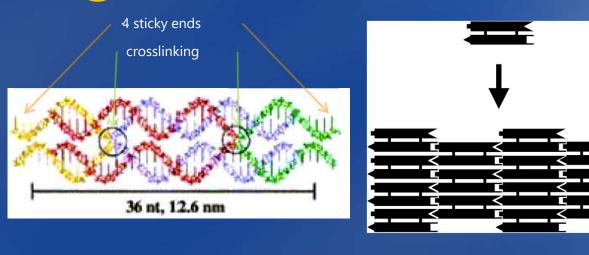


In nature, crosslinking is deadly (blocks DNA replication).



In engineering, crosslinking is the key to using DNA as a construction material.

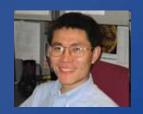
DNA Tiling



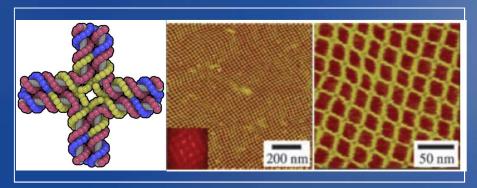


Construction and manipulation of DNA tiles in free space

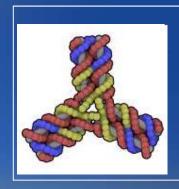
2D DNA Lattices

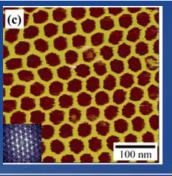


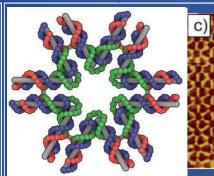
Chengde Mao
Purdue University, USA

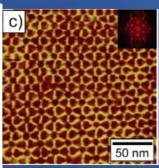


N-point Stars





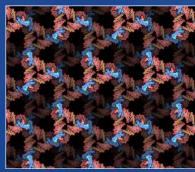




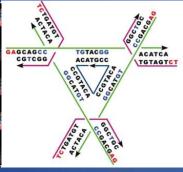
3D DNA Structures



Ned Seeman NYU

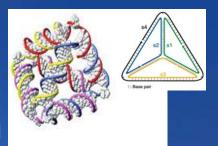


3D Cyrstal





Andrew Tuberfield Oxford



Tetrahedron

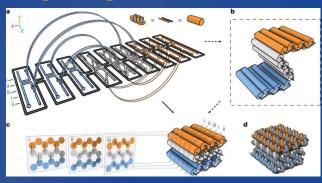


Friedrich Simmel Munich

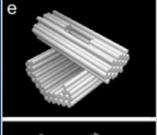


Robotic Arm

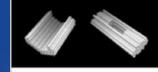
CADnano

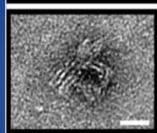


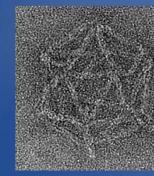
Folding DNA into Twisted and Curved Nanoscale Shapes















https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ek-FDPymyyg

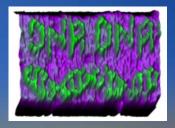
S.M. Douglas, H. Dietz, T. Liedl, B. Högberg, F. Graf and W. M. Shih Self-assembly of DNA into nanoscale three-dimensional shapes, Nature (2009)

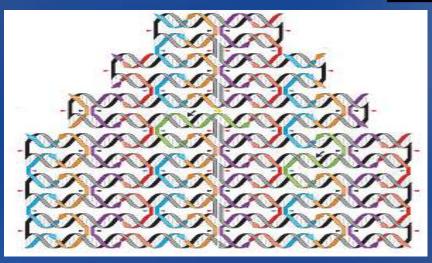
DNA Origami

Folding long (7000bp) naturally occurring (viral) ssDNA via lots of short 'staple' strands that constrain it



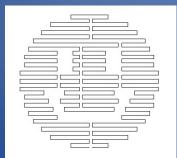
Paul W K Rothemund California Institute of Technology





PWK Rothemund, *Nature* 440, 297 (2006)

Black/gray: 1 long viral strand (natural DNA) Color: many short staple strands (synthetic DNA)





DNA Circuit Boards

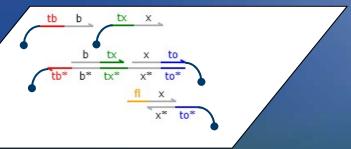
- DNA origami are arrays of uniquelyaddressable locations
 - · Each staple is different and binds to a unique location on the origami
 - It can be extended with a unique sequence so that something else will attach uniquely to it.



Some staples are attached to "green blobs" (as part of their synthesis) Other staples aren't

 More generally, we can bind "DNA gates" to specific locations

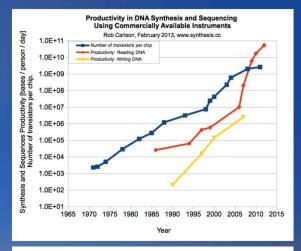
- · And so connect them into "DNA circuits" on a grid
- · Only neighboring gates will interact



DNA Storage (Read/Write)

Information-rich physical structures can be used for storage.

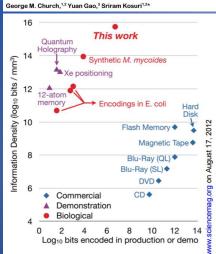
DNA has a data density of 140 exabytes (1.4×10²⁰ bytes) per mm^3 compared to state-of the art storage media that reaches ~500 megabytes (5×10⁸ bytes) per mm^3 DNA has been shown to be stable for millions of years



The Pace and Proliferation of Biological Technologies

March 4, 2004 by Rob Carlson





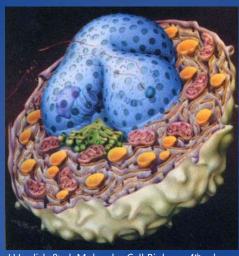
We have machines that can read (sequence) and write (synthesize) DNA. The Carslon Curve of "productivity" is growing much faster than Moore's Law.

Cost of sequencing is decreasing rapidly (\$1000 whole human genome), while cost of synthesis is decreasing very slowly. [Rob Carlson, www.synthesis.cc]

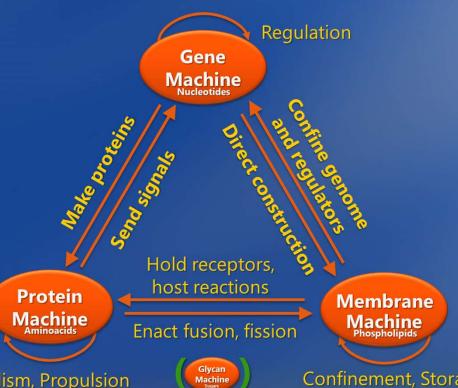
Molecular Programming: The Biological Aspect

Biological systems are already 'molecularly programmed'

Abstract Machines of Biology



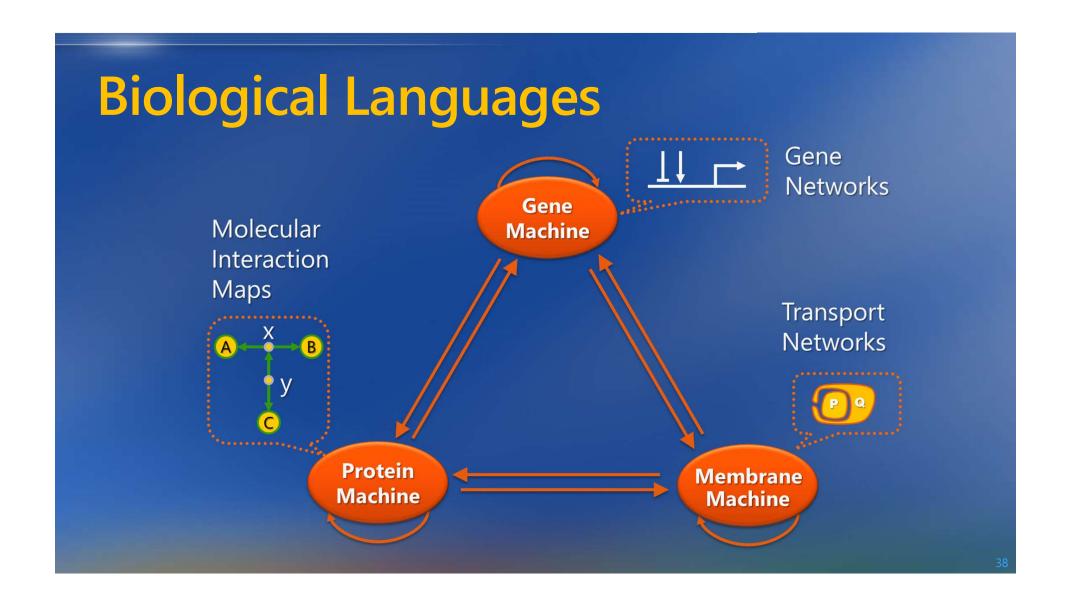
H.Lodish & al. Molecular Cell Biology 4th ed.



Metabolism, Propulsion Signaling, Transport

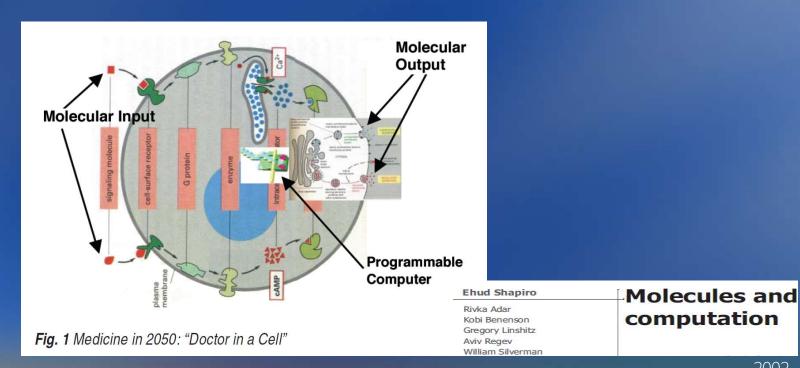


Confinement, Storage Bulk Transport



Interfacing to Biology

A doctor in each cell



But ...

· Biology is programmable, but (mostly) not by us!

- Still work in progress:
 - · Gene networks are being programmed in synthetic biology, but using existing 'parts'
 - · Protein networks are a good candidate, but we cannot yet effectively design proteins
 - · Transport networks are being investigated for programming microfluidic devices that manipulate vesicles

Molecular Programming: The Execution Aspect

How do you "run" a molecular program?

Programming Language: Chemistry

- A Lingua Franca between Biology, Dynamical Systems, and Concurrent Languages
- Chemical Reaction Networks
 A + B → C + D (the program)
- Ordinary Differential Equations
 d[A]/dt = -r[A][B] ... (the behavior)
- Rich analytical techniques based on Calculus and more recently on stochastic models

Chemical Programming Examples

specification

Y := min(X1, X2)

Y := max(X1, X2)

program

$$X1 + X2 -> Y$$

max(X1,X2) = (X1+X2)-min(X1,X2)

(but is not computed "sequentially": it is a form of concurrent computation)

chemical reaction network

Chemical Reaction Networks

- Finite list of chemical reactions over a finite set of species
 - · N.B.: "abstract" species, not specific atoms/molecules that physically exist
- Computationally Powerful
 - · Turing-complete up to an arbitrarily small error
- Full Turing Completeness
 - · When including complexation (polymerization), which DNA enables (complexation encodes an actual infinity of chemical reactions by finite means)

How do we "run" Chemistry?

- Chemistry is not easily executable
 - · "Please Mr Chemist, execute me this bunch of reactions that I just made up"
- Most molecular languages are not executable
 - · They are descriptive (modeling) languages
- How can we execute molecular languages?
 - · With real molecules?
 - That we can design ourselves?
 - · And that we can buy on the web?

DNA Strand Displacement

An "unnatural" use of DNA for emulating any system of chemical reactions

Domains

- Subsequences on a DNA strand are called domains
 - · provided they are "independent" of each other



- Differently named domains must not hybridize
 - · With each other, with each other's complement, with subsequences of each other, with concatenations of other domains (or their complements), etc.

Short Domains

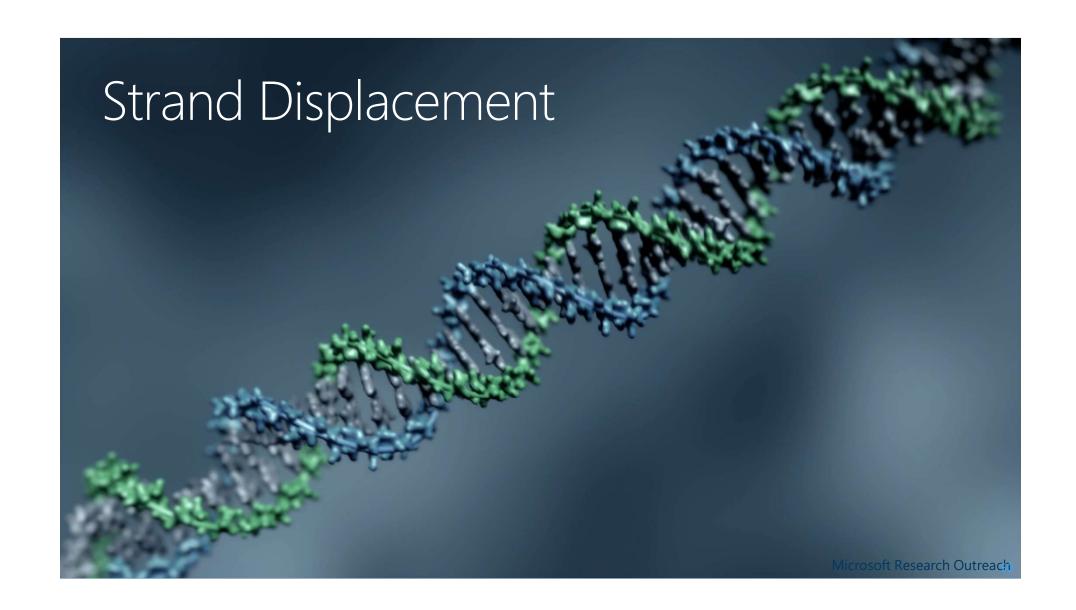


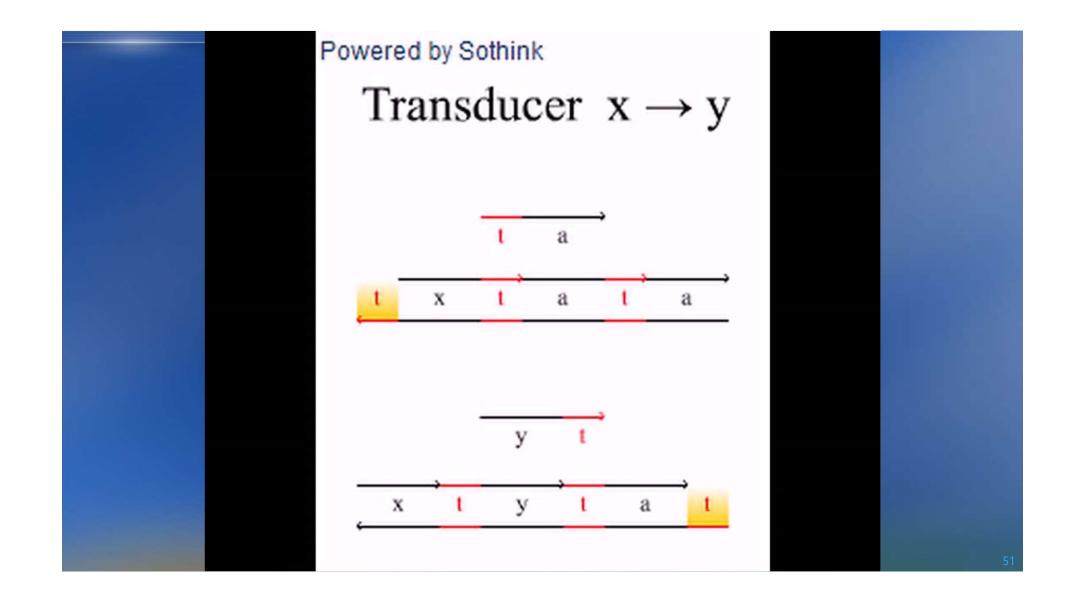
Reversible Hybridization

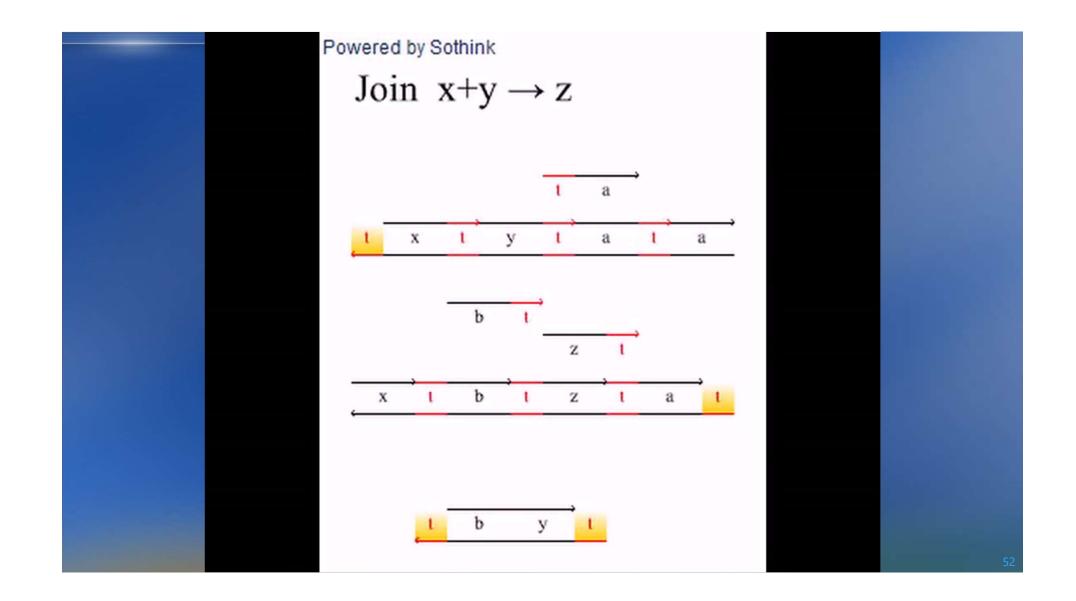
Long Domains



Irreversible Hybridization





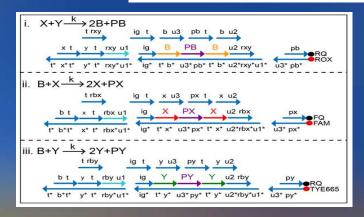


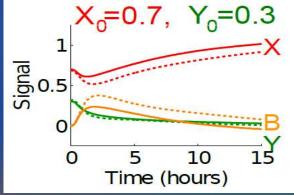
DNA Implementation of the Approximate Majority algorithm

nature nanotechnology

Programmable chemical controllers made from DNA

Yuan-Jyue Chen, Neil Dalchau, Niranjan Srinivas, Andrew Phillips, Luca Cardelli, David Soloveichik ™ & Georg Seelig ™



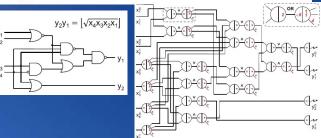


Large-scale Circuits (so far...)

3 JUNE 2011 VOL 332 SCIENCE

Scaling Up Digital Circuit Computation with DNA Strand Displacement Cascades

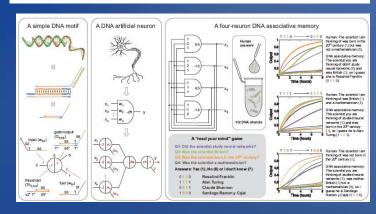
Lulu Qian¹ and Erik Winfree^{1,2,3}*



368 | NATURE | VOL 475 | 21 JULY 2011

Neural network computation with DNA strand displacement cascades

Lulu Qian¹, Erik Winfree^{1,2,3} & Jehoshua Bruck^{3,4}



Scaling up: DNA Circuit Boards

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 24 JULY 2017 | DOI: 10.1038/NNANO.2017.127

nature nanotechnology

A spatially localized architecture for fast and modular DNA computing

Gourab Chatterjee¹, Neil Dalchau², Richard A. Muscat³, Andrew Phillips^{2*} and Georg Seelig^{3,4*}



The first computational circuit boards made of DNA

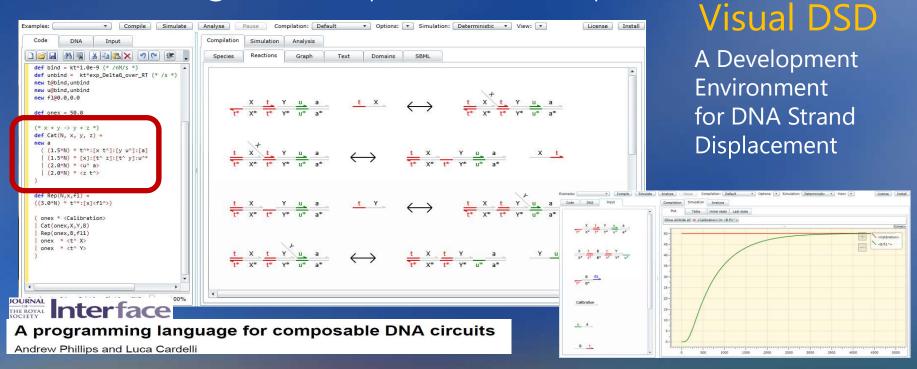
https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/blog/researchers-build-nanoscale-computational-circuit-boards-dna

Physical Execution

A wetlab pipeline for Molecular Programming

Computer Aided Design

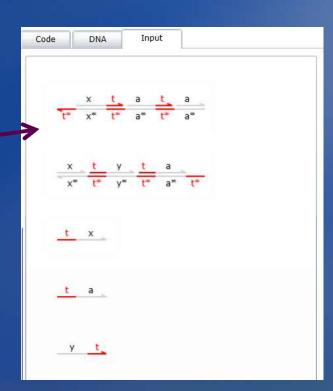
MSRC Biological Computation Group



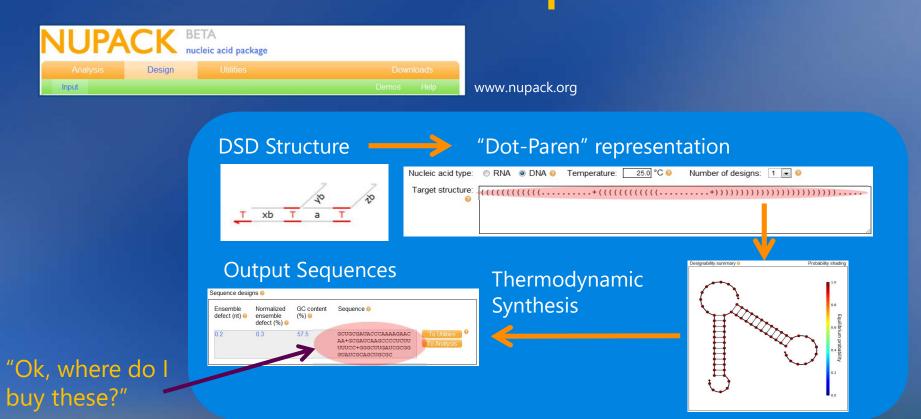
Output of Design Process

- Domain structures
 - · (DNA sequences to be determined)

"Ok, how do I run this for real"

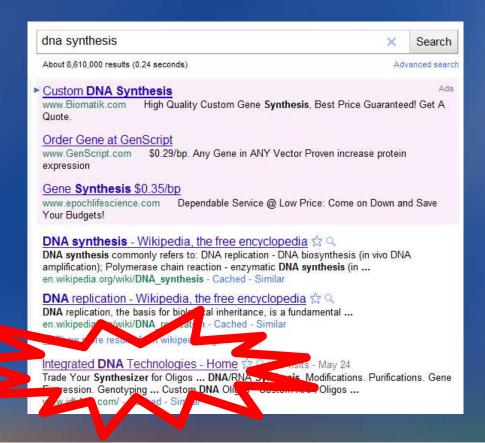


From Structures to Sequences





"DNA Synthesis"



From Sequences to Molecules

Copy&Paste from nupack



Molecules by FedEx



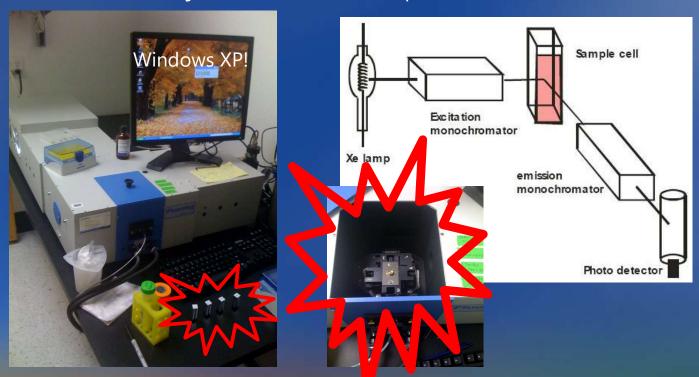
"Ok, how do I run these?"

Add Water

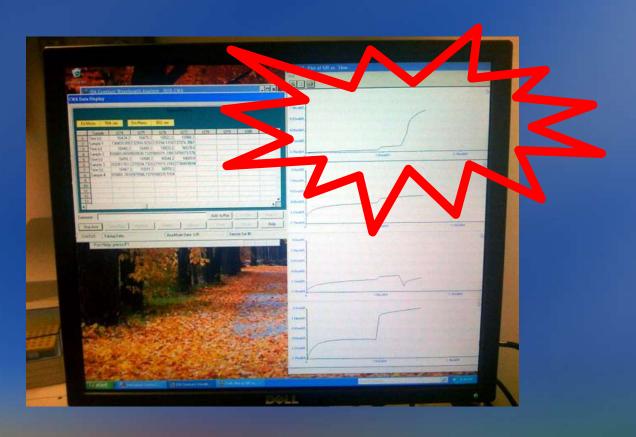


Execute (finally!)

· Fluorescence is your one-bit 'print' statement



Output



Debugging

A core dump

DNA strand length polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis

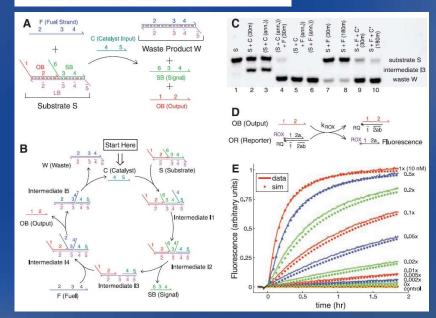


Various processing stages

Calibration scale

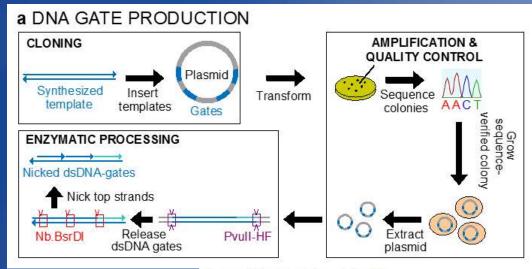
Delivery!

Engineering Entropy-Driven Reactions and Networks Catalyzed by DNA David Yu Zhang, et al. Science 318, 1121 (2007); DOI: 10.1126/science.1148532



Plasmidic Gate Technology

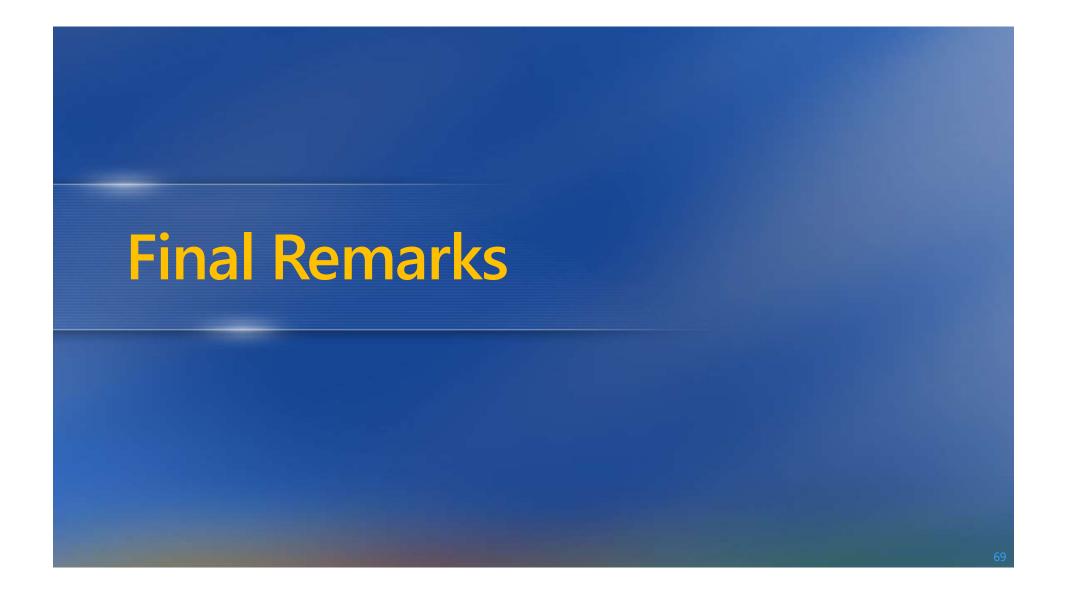
- Synthetic DNA is length-limited
 - Finite error probability at each nucleotide addition, hence ~ 200nt max
- Bacteria can replicate plasmids for us
 - Loops of DNA 1000's nt, with extremely high fidelity
 - Practically no structural limitations on gate fan-in/fan-out



Programmable chemical controllers made from DNA

Yuan-Jyue Chen¹, Neil Dalchau², Niranjan Srinivas³, Andrew Phillips², Luca Cardelli², David Soloveichik⁴, and Georg Seelig^{4,5}

Only possible with two-domain architecture



State of the art

· Building a full software/hardware pipeline for a new fundamental technology

Mathematical Foundations [~ concurrency theory in the 80's]

• Programming Languages [~ software engineering in the 70's]

Analytical Methods and Tools [~ formal methods in the 90's]

Device Architecture and Manufacturing [~ electronics in the 60's]

- To realize the potential of Molecular Programming
- "With no alien technology" [David Soloveichik]
- We have some good strategies. Device design is now largely a 'software problem' but with a significant 'engineering scaleup and integration' problem

A Brief History of DNA

Turing Machine, 1936



Transistor, 1947

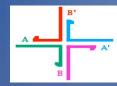


Computer programming

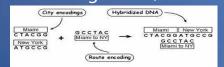
DNA, -3,800,000,000



Structural DNA Nonotech, 1982



DNA Algorithm, 1994



Systematic manipulation of information

Systematic manipulation of matter

Molecular programming

20th century

21th century

Resources

- DNA Computing and Molecular Programming Conference – incarnations since 1995
 http://www.dna-computing.org/
- Molecular Programming Project (Caltech U.W. Harvard UCSF)
 http://molecular-programming.org/ (2008-2018 NSF Expeditions in Computing)
- Georg Seelig's DNA Nanotech Lab at U.W. CS&E http://homes.cs.washington.edu/~seelig/
- Biological Computation Group at Microsoft https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/group/biological-computation/

