

# CMSC 423: Introduction to Biology and Bioinformatics

Part 3

- Part 1: The Central Dogma
- Part 2: DNA Sequencing
- Part 3: Bioinformatics Applications



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# Bioinformatics

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*For the journal, see [Bioinformatics \(journal\)](#).*

**Bioinformatics** /ˈbaɪ.oʊ.ɪnfərˈmætɪks/ ( listen) is an [interdisciplinary](#) field that develops methods and [software tools](#) for understanding [biological](#) data, in particular when the data sets are large and complex. As an interdisciplinary field of science, bioinformatics combines [biology](#), [computer science](#), [information engineering](#), [mathematics](#) and [statistics](#) to analyze and interpret the biological data. Bioinformatics has been used for *in silico* analyses of biological queries using mathematical and statistical techniques.<sup>[*[clarification needed](#)*]</sup>



# Brief History of Bioinformatics

- **1950-1970:** Before desktop computers and DNA sequencing, early bioinformatics focused on studying proteins
- **1970-1980:** Shift from protein to DNA analysis
- **1980-1990:** Parallel advances in biology and computer science
- **1990-2000:** Use of the internet and Human Genome Project drive progress
- **2000-2010:** Introduction of next-generation sequencing causes exponential growth of data

Jeff Gauthier, Antony T Vincent, Steve J Charette, Nicolas Derome, A brief history of bioinformatics, *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, Volume 20, Issue 6, November 2019, Pages 1981–1996, <https://doi-org.proxy-um.researchport.umd.edu/10.1093/bib/bby063>

# The Human Genome Project

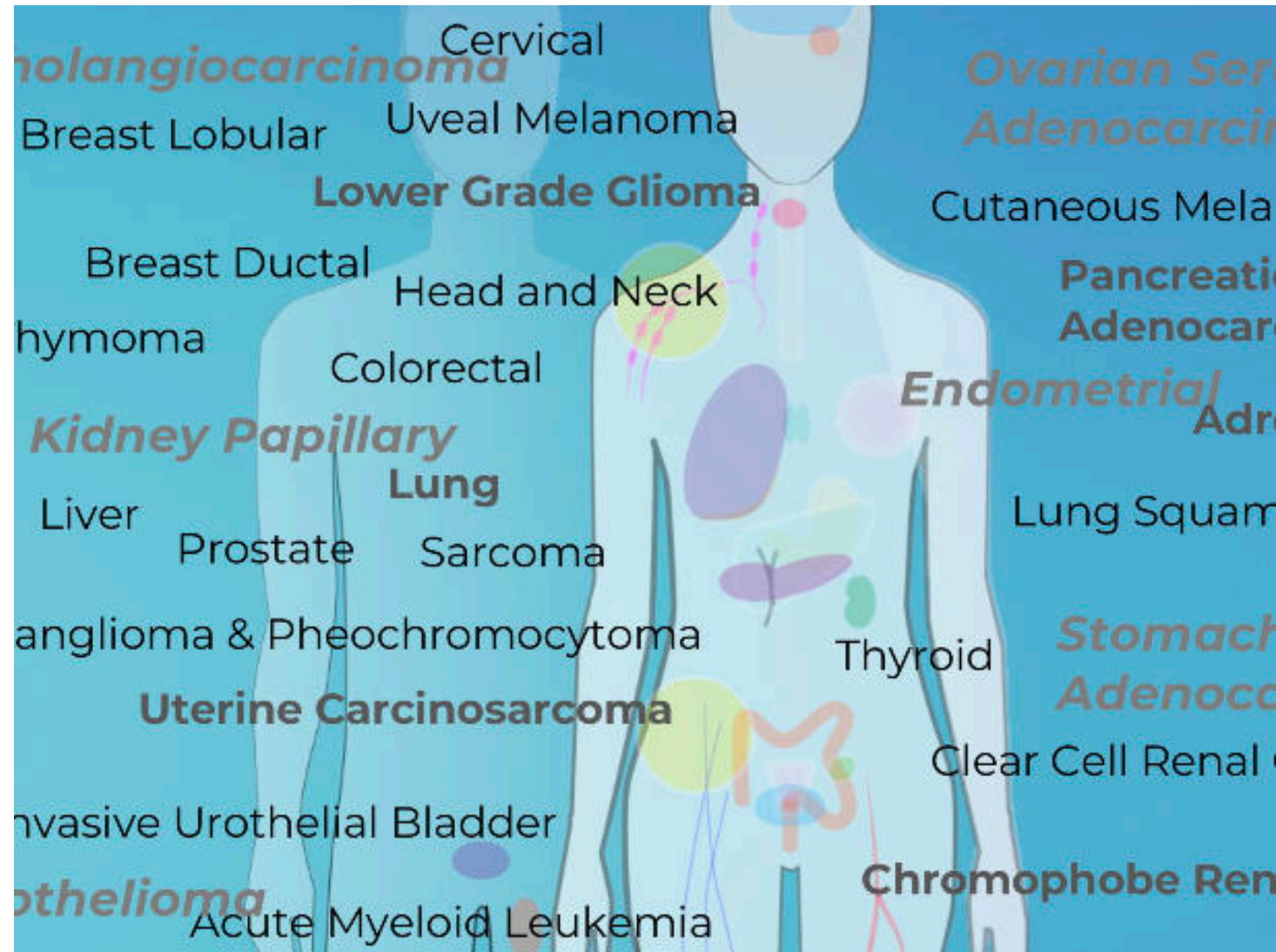
- Started in 1990, Completed in 2003
- Sequenced the 3 billion DNA letters in the human genome
- Covers about 99 percent of the human genome's gene containing regions



<https://www.genome.gov/human-genome-project>

<https://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/331/6017/546.2/F2.medium.gif>





## DIVERSITY IN THE HUMAN MICROBIOME

The Human Microbiome Project has examined bacteria on 242 people. Some of the microbes living in and on the human body:



*Propionibacterium acnes* lives on the skin and nose of most people



*Bacteroides* is the most abundant genus in the gut of almost all healthy subjects



*E. coli* is present in the gut of the majority of healthy subjects but at very low abundance



*Streptococcus* dominates the oral cavity



*Staphylococcus epidermidis* colonizes external body sites



*Lactobacillus* species are predominant in the vagina

SOURCE: Human Microbiome Project





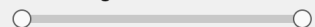
DOCS HELP LOGIN

## Dataset

ncov

global

## Date Range



2019-12-07

2020-08-21

## Color By

Region

## Tree Options

Layout

RECTANGULAR

RADIAL

UNROOTED

CLOCK

Branch Length

TIME DIVERGENCE

Show confidence intervals

Branch Labels

clade

Search Strains

Second Tree

Select...

## Map Options

Geographic resolution

country

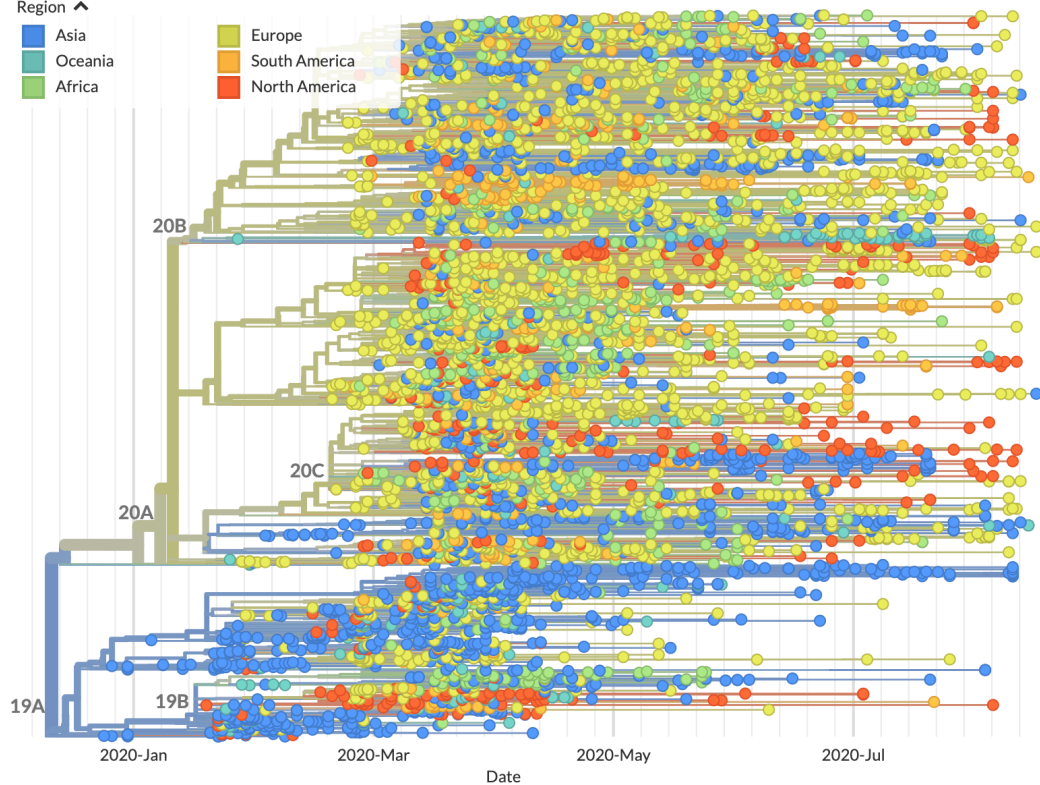
Show transmission lines

## Phylogeny

Region

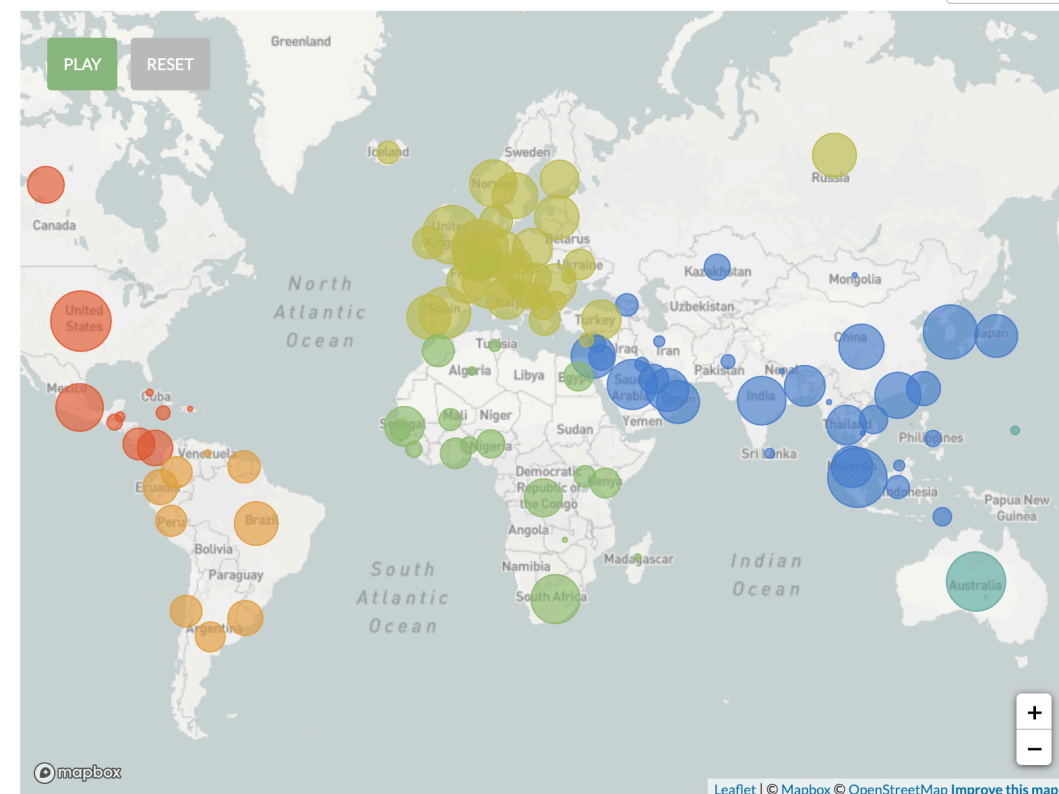
Asia  
Oceania  
Africa

Europe  
South America  
North America



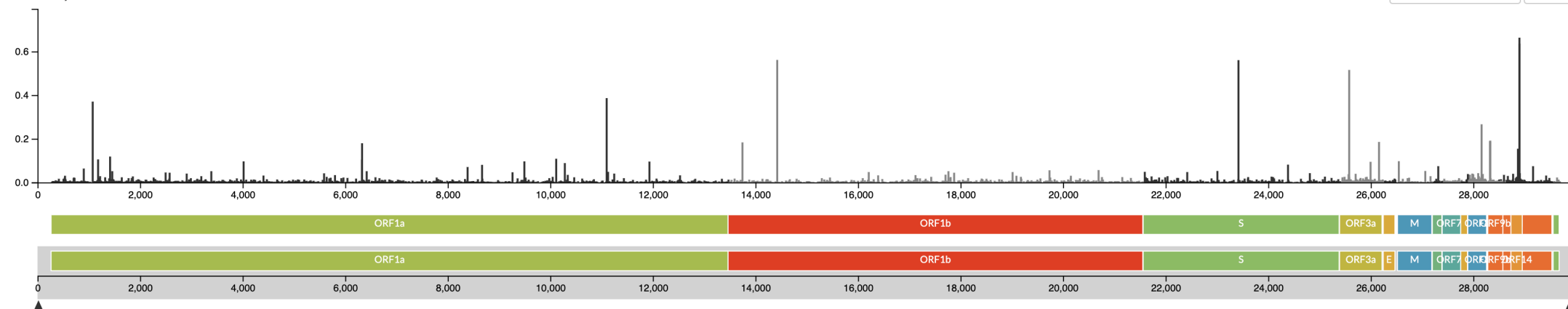
## Geography

RESET ZOOM



## Diversity

ENTROPY EVENTS AA NT



<https://nextstrain.org/ncov/global>