INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

SCOPE OF THE JOURNAL

The *IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics (TCBB)* is a new quarterly that will publish archival research results related to the algorithmic, mathematical, statistical, and computational methods that are central in bioinformatics and computational biology; the development and testing of effective computer programs in bioinformatics; the development and optimization of biological databases; and important biological results that are obtained from the use of these methods, programs, and databases.

Submission of Manuscripts for Review

Submitting Materials

The IEEE Computer Society is now employing a secure, Web-based manuscript submission and peer-review tracking system called Manuscript Central. Please note that first-time users must create a new account. We will no longer accept hard copy submissions. To submit a manuscript, please visit http://cs-ieee.manuscriptcentral.com/. This site contains detailed instructions on usage and submission requirements.

Note: The information below is a *summary* of our detailed guidelines found at the *TCBB* author center. All authors are responsible for understanding these guidelines before submitting their manuscript. For further information on both our submission and peer review guidelines, authors are strongly encouraged to refer to *TCBB's* author center at http://www.computer.org/mc/tcbb/author.htm before submitting a manuscript.

Manuscript Specifications

TCBB manuscript types and submission length guidlines are as follows:

- *Regular papers* - 35 double-spaced pages, single column (including reasonably sized figures and references)*
- *Comments* - 4 double-spaced pages, single column (including reasonably sized figures and references)

*Special Issue papers must adhere to the same page limit as regular papers. Please contact our Peer Review Supervisor (swerner@computer.org) for more information regarding Special Issue papers.

A double-spaced page is defined as an 8.5" x 11" page with 12-point type and 24-point vertical spacing, containing approximately 250 words. Margins should be one inch all around (for top, bottom, right, and left).

Submissions *must* include all of the following: abstract, keywords, illustrations, and bibliography. An abstract should be 100 to 200 words for regular papers, no more than 50 words for comments, and should clearly state the nature and significance of the paper. Abstracts must not include mathematical expressions or bibliographic references. Keywords should be taken from the taxonomy found at http://www.computer.org/mc/keywords/keywords.htm. Keywords should closely reflect the topic and should optimally characterize the paper. References should appear in a separate bibliography at the end of the paper, with items referred to by numerals in square brackets. Figures and tables must be sized as they are to appear in print. Figures should be placed exactly where they are to appear within the text. We ask that authors embed the figures in order to provide a smoother review process for the editors and reviewers. Figures not correctly sized will be returned to the author for reformatting. The IEEE Computer Society accepts supplemental materials for review. Please visit http://computer.org/author/transguide/SuppMat.htm for further information.

For further style or formatting information, consult the IEEE Computer Society Style Guide (http://computer.org/author/style/), or direct questions to the *TCBB* Transactions Assistant (tcbb@computer.org).

Submission Policies and Copyright Information

Papers are accepted for review with the understanding that the same work has been neither submitted to, nor published in, another journal. Concurrent submission to other publications and these Transactions is viewed as a serious breach of ethics and, if detected, will result in immediate rejection of the submission. Papers previously published in conference proceedings, digests, preprints, or records are eligible for consideration provided the editor-in-chief is informed at the time of submission and that they have undergone substantial revision. Please refer to the IEEE policies on authorship (section 6.4.1.A) and duplication publication and self-plagiarism (sections 6.4.1.B(f) and (h)) to ensure your article meets all criteria for submission (www.ieee.org/about/whatis/policies/p6-4.xml).

The author is responsible for obtaining copyright releases and corporate and security clearances prior to submitting material for consideration. It is the IEEE's policy (Policy 6.16) to assume all clearances are granted when a paper is submitted. For more information about our Copyright policies or to get a copy of the Copyright Transfer form, please visit http://computer.org/copyright.htm.

Review Process

The length of the review process varies between papers, and many factors affect the time it takes to review a paper. The time it takes for an Associate Editor to be assigned and for qualified referees to be located who are available to handle the review of a paper depends on the complexity and the type of material submitted for review. *TCBB* makes a concerted effort to keep the review time to a minimum that is consistent with keeping *TCBB's* reputation for quality and integrity. Each submission placed into review is sent to at least three reviewers, making one submission correspond to roughly three review requests. Based on this information, the review process may take approximately six months to be completed.

FINAL MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

When your paper is accepted for publication, you will be provided with a guide and checklist to help you meet the final submission requirements (http://computer.org/author/transguide/electronicsub.htm). Note that all papers in IEEE Computer Society Transactions are edited electronically; therefore, electronic materials are required for all final submissions. Please note that if your manuscript fails to comply with page length requirements, it will be returned for revision and reformatting.

Information about purchasing **reprints** can be found at http://www.computer.org/author/reprint.htm.

For additional information, please visit the IEEE Computer Society Web site or contact the *TCBB* Transactions Assistant.

ABOUT THE COVER IMAGE: Example illustrating the computation of T_i in (Case a). A possible occurrence for the pattern up to arc p_{i-1} is indicated by bold black arcs in (S,A) and the corresponding mapping is indicated by dotted lines. To determine possible matches for pattern arc p_i it is sufficient to know the matches a_C for $p_{\text{anchor}(i-1)}$ and a_r for p_{i-1} of this occurrence. If a_S "relates correctly" to a_C and a_n i.e., cross(a_C, a_r, a_S), then it is a possible match for p_i. In this example, possible matches for p_i are indicated by gray arcs. Figure courtesy of Jens Gramm of the Wilhelm-Schickard Institut für Informatik, Universität Tübingen, Sand 13, D-72076 Tübingen, Germany. See article, page 174.