



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

BioLegato: A Programmable, Object-Oriented Graphic User Interface

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University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Canada



GenomeCanada



Microbial Genomics for Biofuels and
Co-Products from Biorefining Processes



GenomePrairie

Bioinformatics Team



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

Intellectual critical mass

Continuity of expertise

Synergies

Faculty

Brian Fristensky

Bioinformaticists

**Graham Alvare
Justin Zhang**

PhD Student

Abiel Roche

Research Associate

Natalie Bjorklund
Biostatistician TBA

Undergraduate Students

Dale Hamel

BioLegato - Outline

The Object-Oriented World View

The BioLegato Concept

End user applications as Objects

A programmable GUI that calls external programs

Point and click data pipelining

PCD - Pythonesque Command Definition

Definition

Implementation

Pluggable Canvases

BioLegato

Why a Duck?

The Object-Oriented World View



Common wisdom: "If it looks like a duck, and waddles like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it's probably a duck."

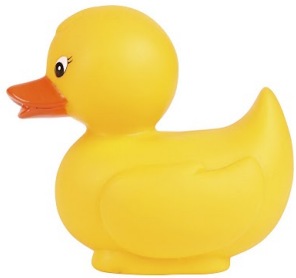
OO: If you want a duck, then design it to look like a duck, and waddle like a duck, and quack like a duck.

BioLegato - The OO World View

1. A class is a formula for creating an object
2. Everything is an Object
3. Objects have Data and Methods
4. You can make new classes by reusing and extending an existing class

Class: BIRD
Data: Wing, Feathers
Methods: Waddle

Reuse and extend BIRD to
to create new BIRD classes



Class: DUCK
Data: Wing, Feathers, **Bill**
Methods: Waddle, **Quack, Fly, Swim**



Class: PENGUIN
Data: Wing, Feathers, **Bill**
Methods: Waddle, **Honk, Swim**

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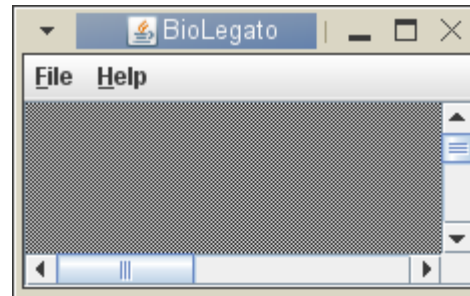
Implementation

Pluggable Canvases

The BioLegato Concept

- **Unique concept in software design.***
- **Almost no functionality is written into the program itself.**
- **Menus, and a choice of canvas to display data, are read when the BioLegato launches.**
- **ANY program can be run from BioLegato:**
 - **Locally-installed programs or scripts in any language**
 - **Remote web services called by a program or script**

Empty BioLegato interface: null menus, empty canvas



* Inspired by GDE/SeqLab of Steven Smith

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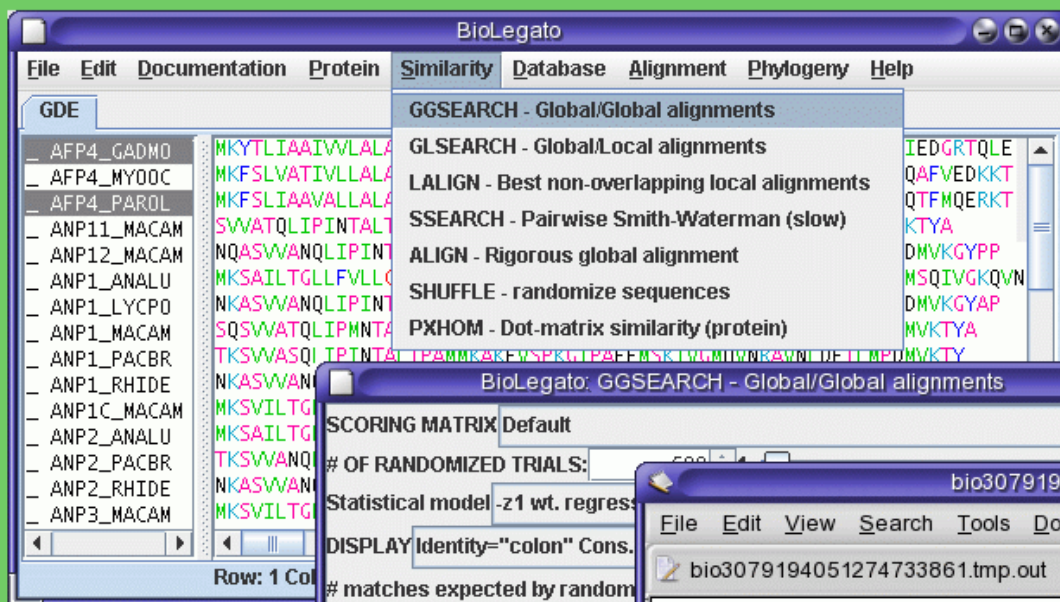
PCD - Pythonesque Command Definition

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BioLegato executes external programs

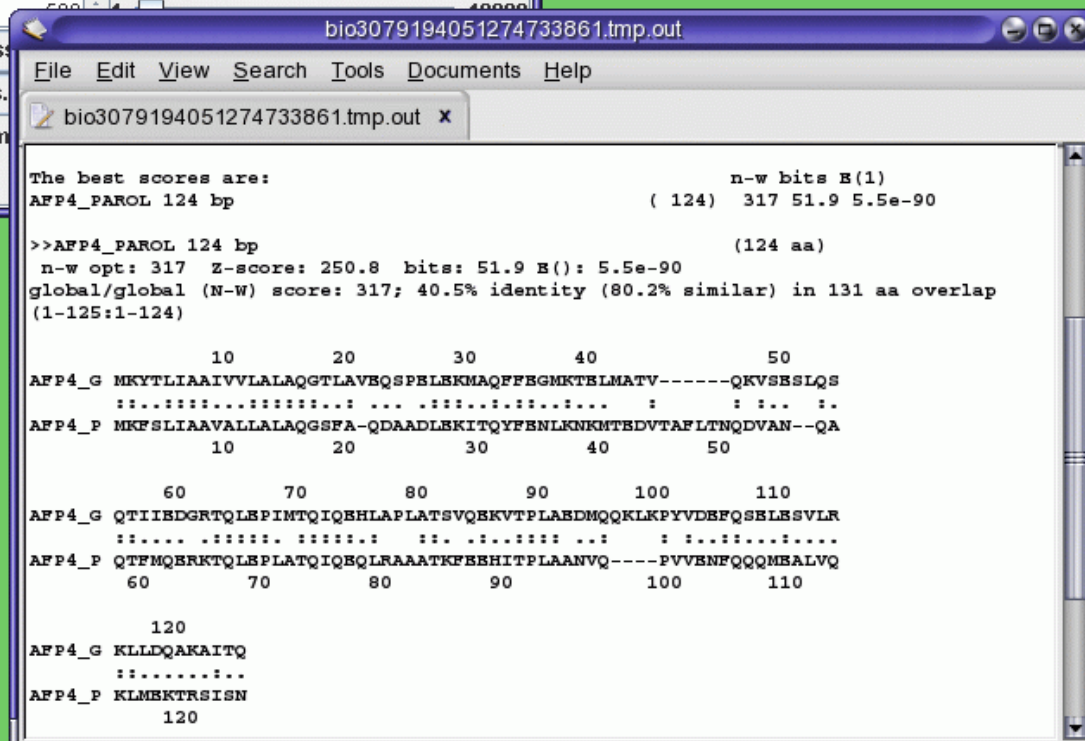


2. Choose program

3. Set parameters

1. Select sequence(s)

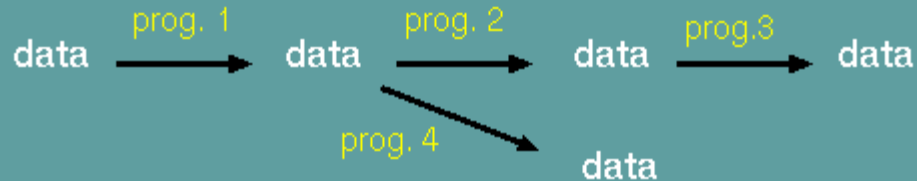
4. biolegato runs program and produces output



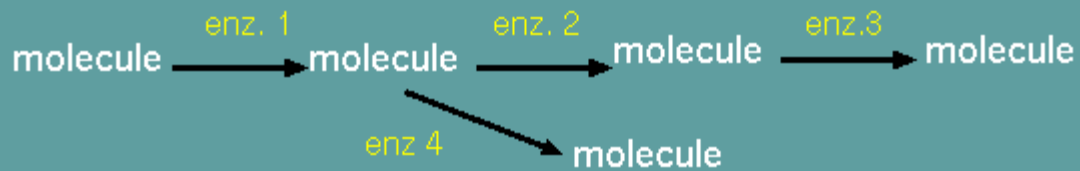
Complex behavior from a simple rule

PROGRAMS ARE LIKE ENZYMES

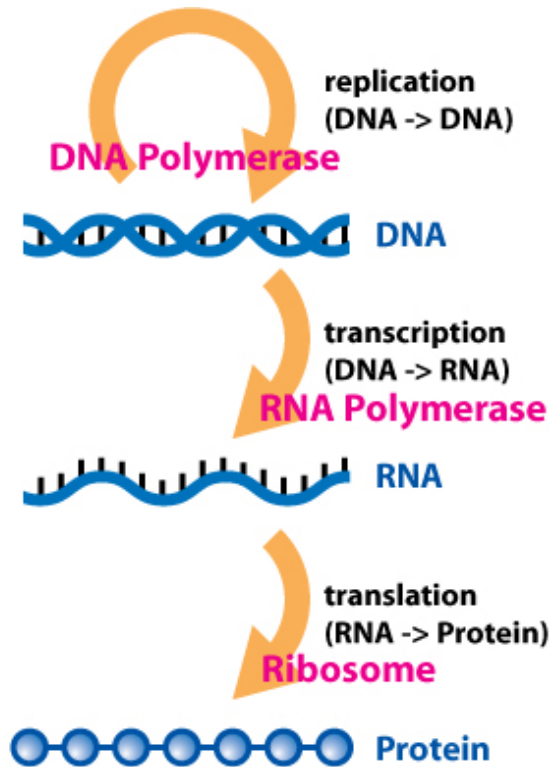
COMPUTER: input $\xrightarrow{\text{program}}$ output



CELL: substrate $\xrightarrow{\text{enzyme}}$ product

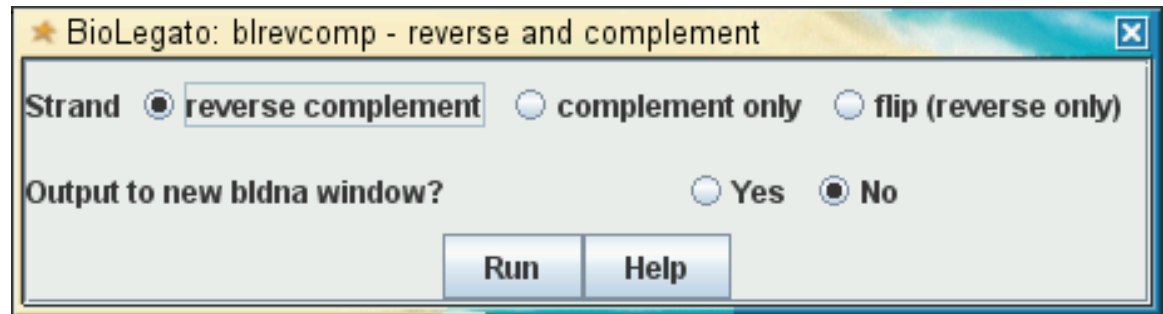


DNA --> RNA --> protein; disk-->RAM->bytecode



PCD - GUI scripting language

```
name          "blrevcomp - reverse and complement"
var "in1"
  type        tempfile
  direction   in
  format       flat
var "strand"
  type        chooser
  label       "Strand"
  default     0
  choices
    "reverse complement"  "-r"
    "complement only"    "-c"
    "flip (reverse only)" "-f"
var "out1"
  type        tempfile
  direction   out
  format       flat
var "gdeoutput"
  type        chooser
  label       "Output to new bldna window?"
  default     1
  choices
    "Yes"      "(echo '' > %out1%; bldna %in1%.blrevcomp; $RM_CMD -f %in1%.blrevcomp) &"
    "No"       "mv %in1%.blrevcomp %out1%"
panel
  var "Run"
    type        button
    label       "Run"
    shell       "blrevcomp %STRAND% %in1% %in1%.blrevcomp; $RM_CMD %in1%; %GDEOUTPUT%"
    close       true
  var "Help"
    type        button
    label       "Help"
    shell       "$BIRCH/script/gde_help_viewer.csh null/$BIRCH/doc/BioLegato/blrevcomp.html"
    close       false
```

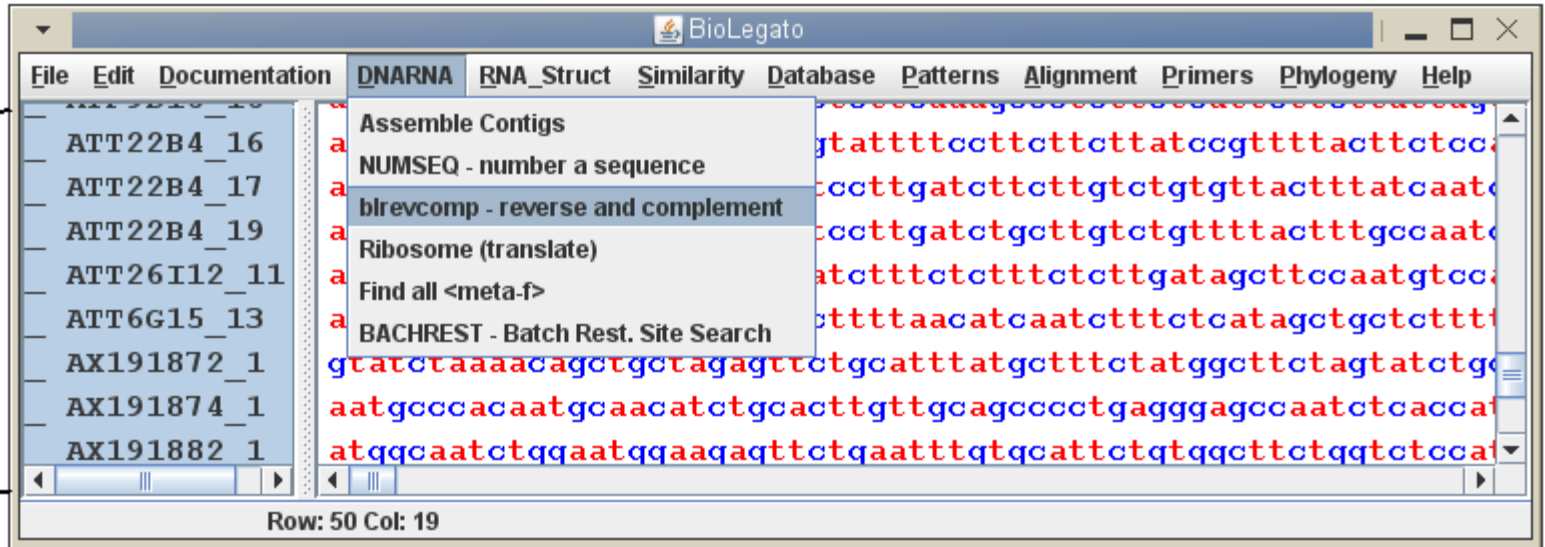


BioLegato - Objects have data and methods

Menus read at runtime as either PCD code, or Java

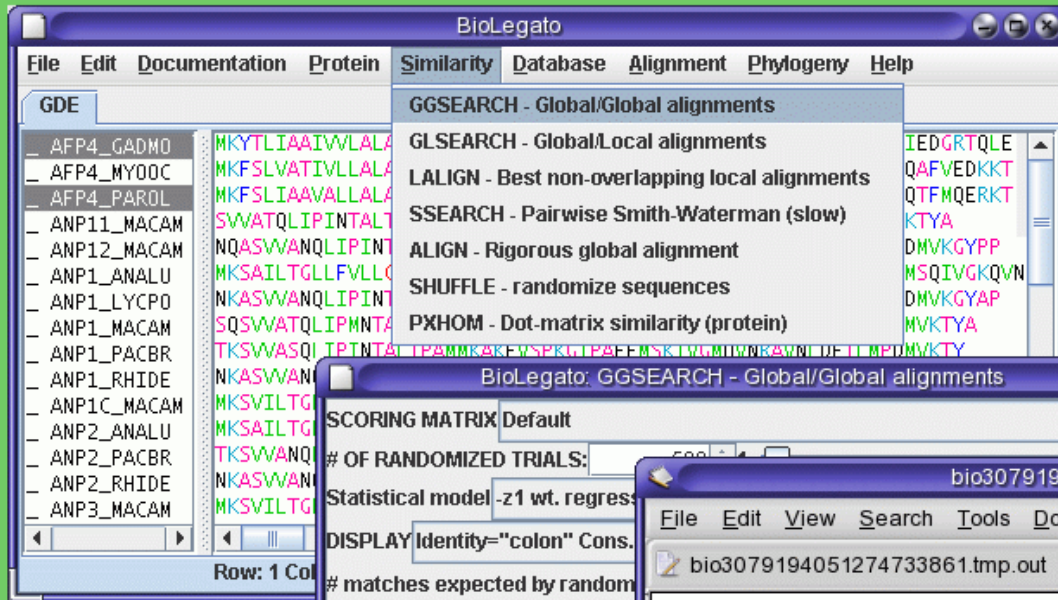
Menus
(Methods)

Canvas
(Data)



Canvas read at runtime as a Java plugin

BioLegato executes external programs

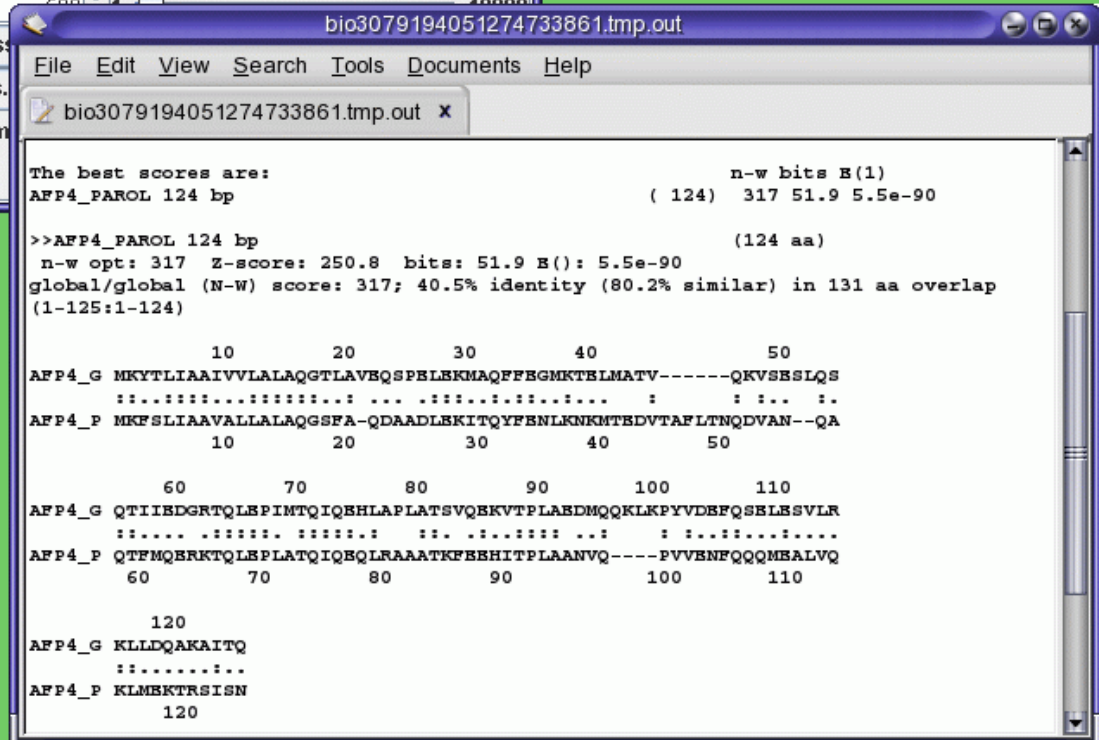


2. Choose program

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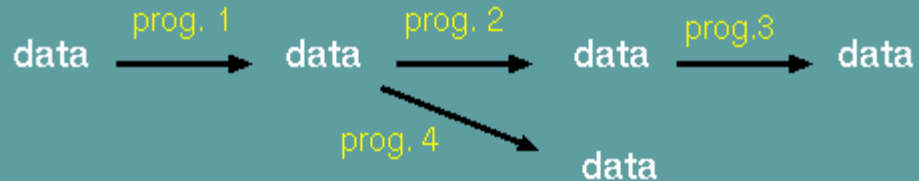
Implementation

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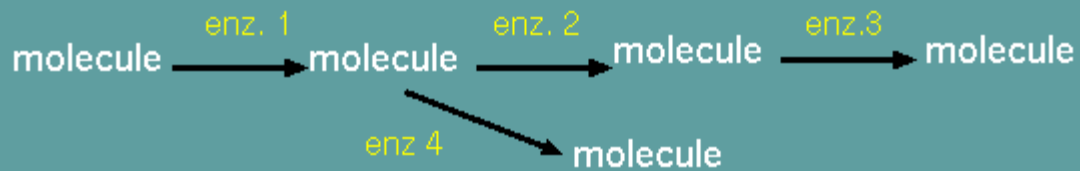
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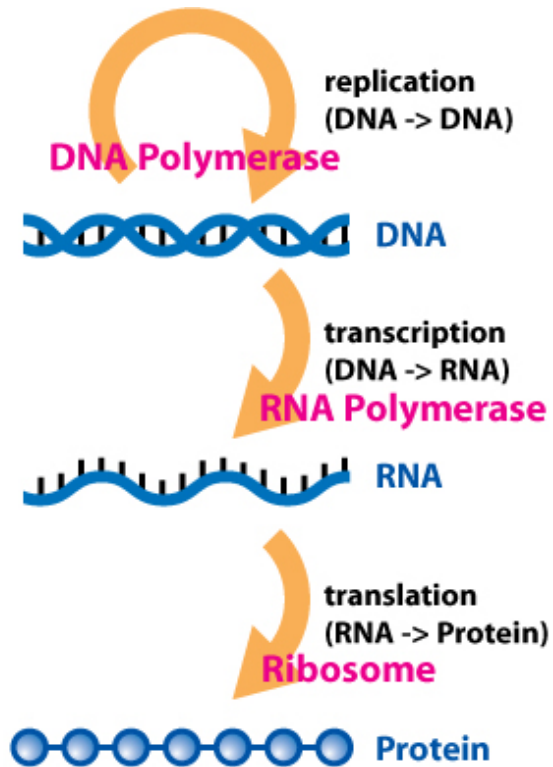
COMPUTER: input $\xrightarrow{\text{program}}$ output



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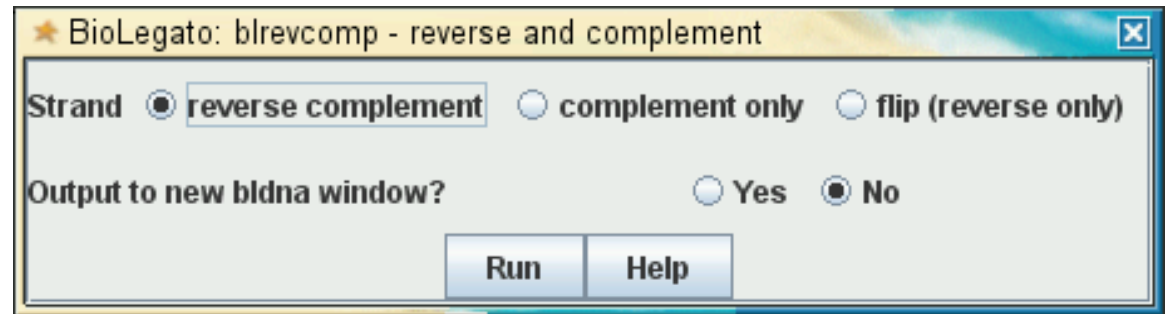


DNA --> RNA --> protein; disk-->RAM->bytecode

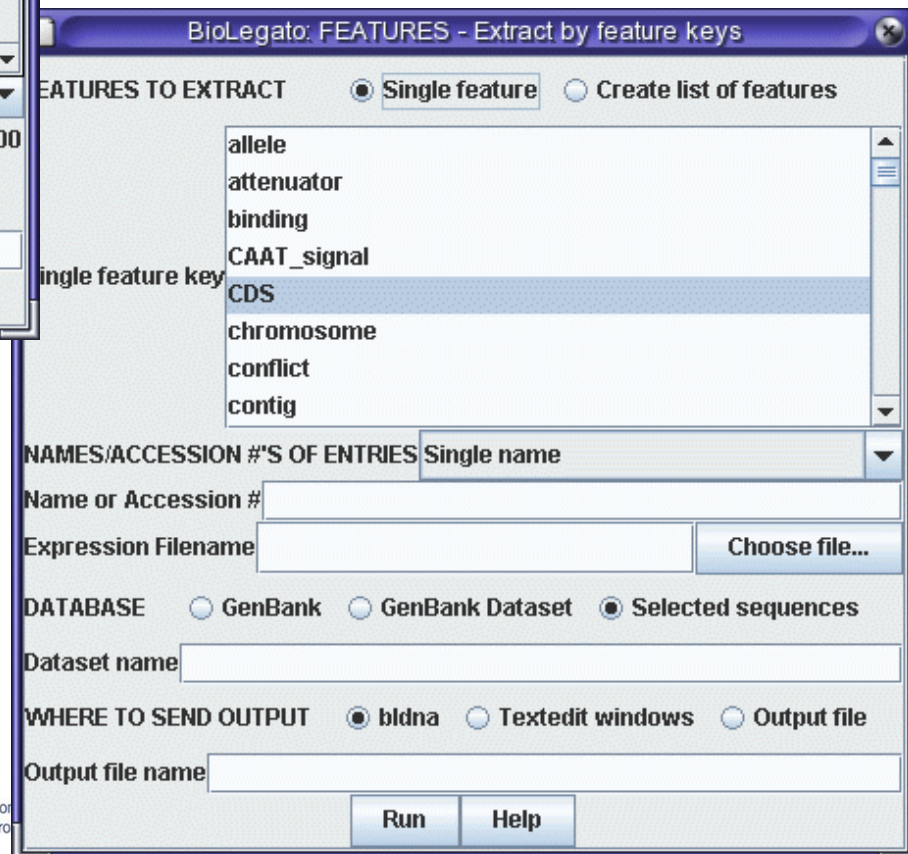
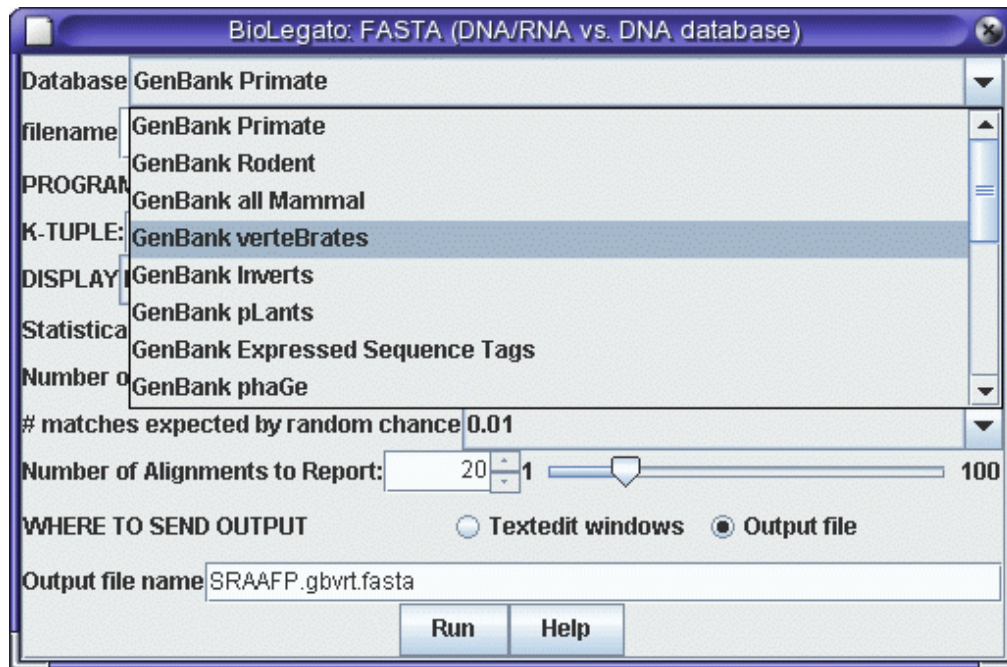


PCD - GUI scripting language

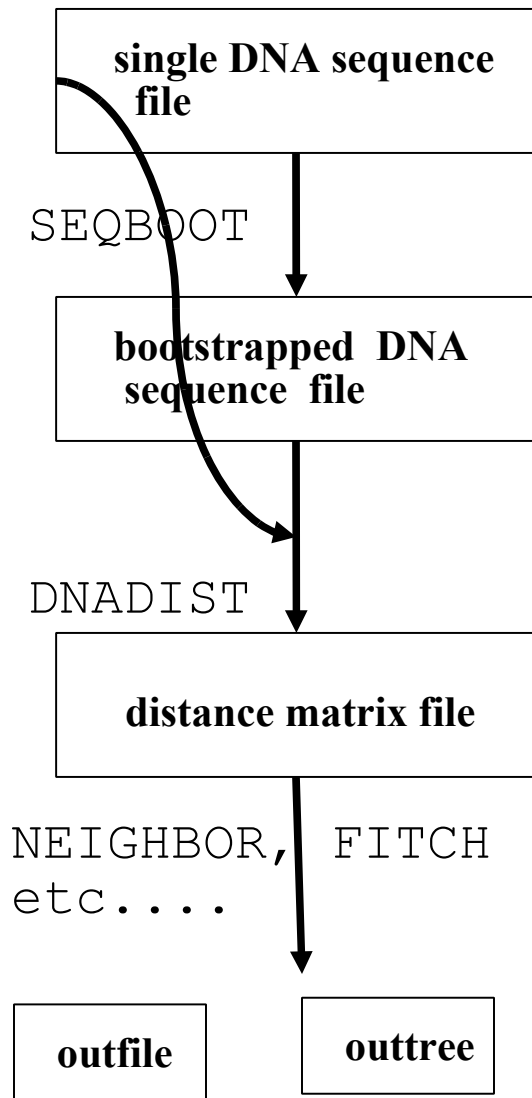
```
name          "blrevcomp - reverse and complement"
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  type        chooser
  label       "Strand"
  default     0
  choices
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  choices
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    "No"       "mv %in1%.blrevcomp %out1%"
panel
  var "Run"
    type        button
    label       "Run"
    shell       "blrevcomp %STRAND% %in1% %in1%.blrevcomp; $RM_CMD %in1%; %GDEOUTPUT%"
    close      true
  var "Help"
    type        button
    label       "Help"
    shell       "$BIRCH/script/gde_help_viewer.csh null/$BIRCH/doc/BioLegato/blrevcomp.html"
    close      false
```



Examples of menus



Setting parameters for a workflow



The screenshot shows the **BioLegato: DNA Distance methods** software interface. The window title is "BioLegato: DNA Distance methods". The interface includes the following settings:

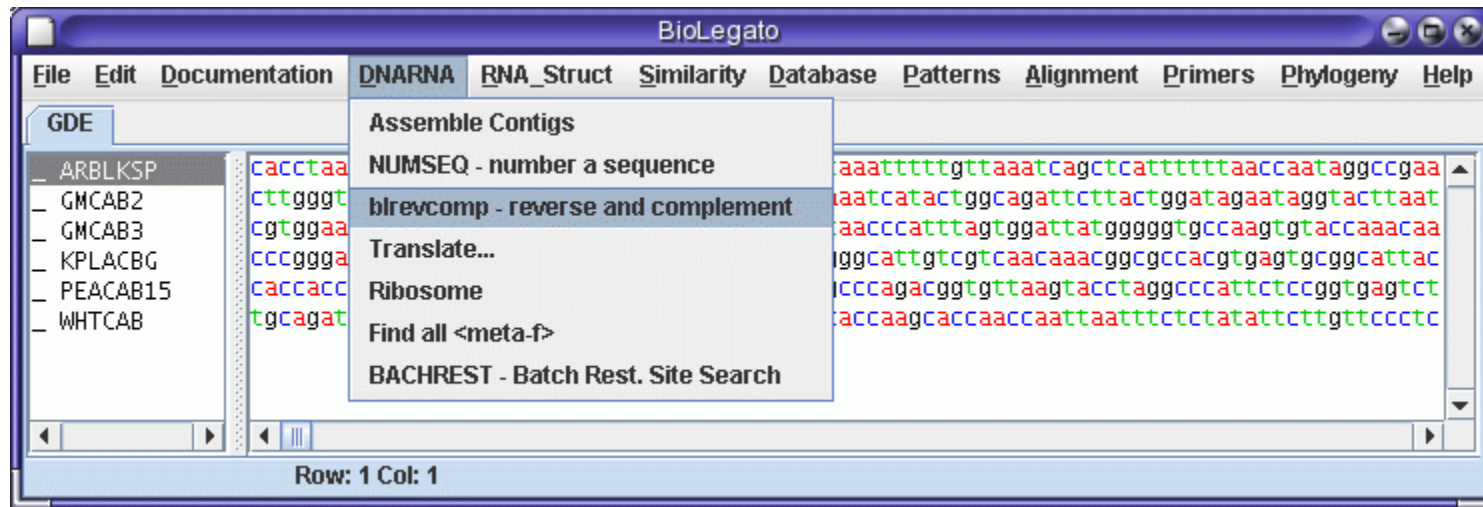
- DISTANCE MATRIX METHOD:** F84
- TRANSITION/TRANSVERSION RATIO:** 2.1
- RESAMPLING (SLOW!):** none
- Bootstrap random number seed:** 12,345
- Number of bootstrap replicates?:** 100
- Block size (Bootstrap only):** 1
- Percent of sites to sample:** 100
- TREE CONSTRUCTION METHOD:** FITCH, Fitch-Margoliash
- POWER (FITCH,KITCH only):** 2.0
- ALLOW NEGATIVE BRANCH LENGTHS? (FITCH,KITCH only):** Yes No
- SEQUENCE # OF OUTGROUP:::** 1
- DO SUBREPLICATES?:** Yes No
- DO GLOBAL REARRANGEMENTS? (FITCH,KITCH only):** Yes No
- JUMBLE THE SEQUENCE ORDER?:** Yes No
- Jumble random number seed:** 2,735
- Number of times to jumble:** 1
- SHOW PROGRESS REPORT:** none on screen to .log file
- PRINT SEQUENCE DATA TO OUTFILE?:** Yes No
- WHERE TO SEND OUTPUT:** Tree editor Drawing program Output files
- raw filename (no extension):** dnadist

Buttons for **Run** and **Help** are visible at the bottom.

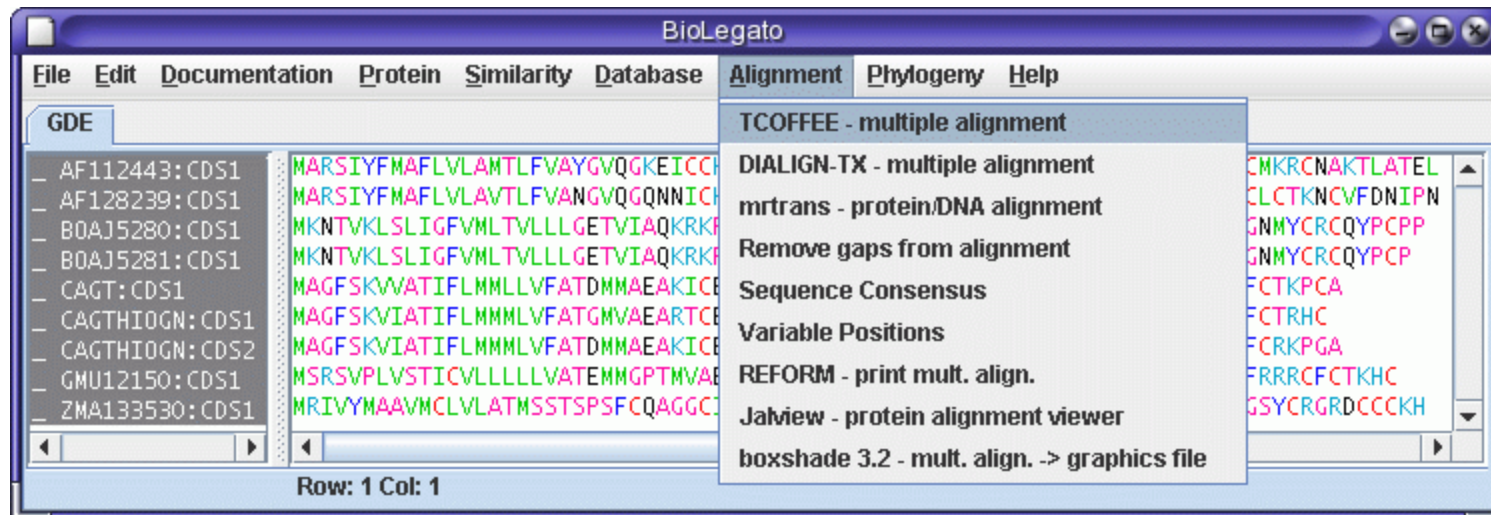
BioLegato - menus + canvas = new GUI

A GUI that will run just about any program for any kind of data can easily be made by writing new menus and choosing a canvas.

- **bldna -**
- **menus for DNA programs**
- **multiple alignment canvas**



- **blprotein -**
- **menus for protein programs**
- **multiple alignment canvas**



BioLegato - rapid deployment of new GUIs

GENOGRAPHER

birch - application launcher

DRAWTREE

TCOFFEE

ATV

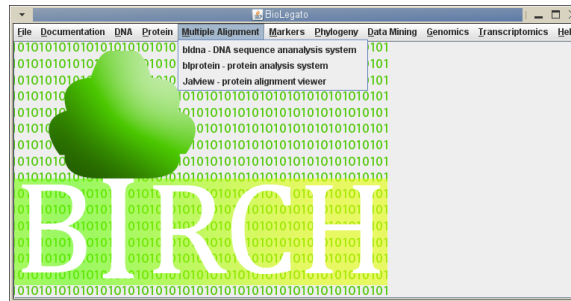
SEQUIN

BLREVCOMP

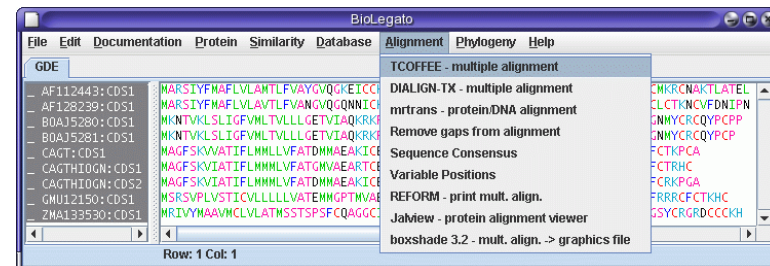
NUMSEQ

RIBOSOME

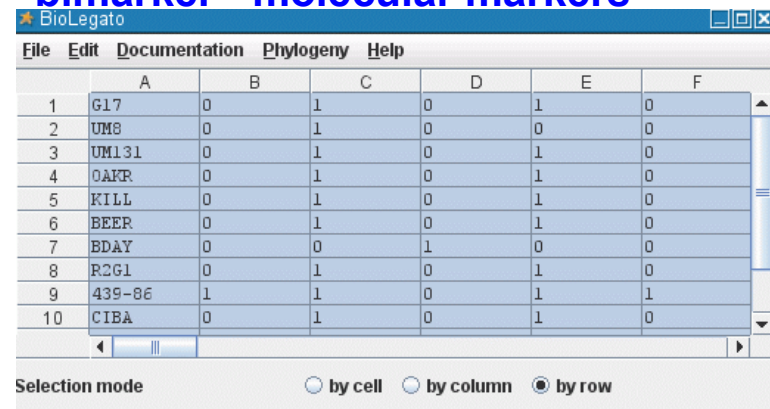
TMEV



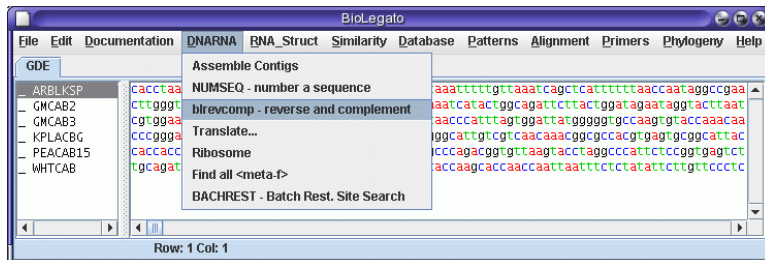
blprotein - protein sequence analysis



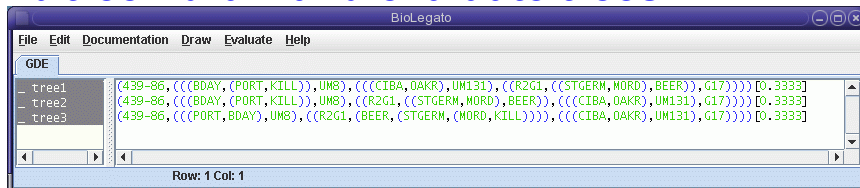
blmarker - molecular markers



bldna - DNA sequence analysis



bltree - draw and evaluate trees



WEIGHBOR

MRBAYES

ARTEMIS

DIALIGN

CN3D

GLSEARCH

FASTXY

BACHREST

DIGEST

PRIMERS

SHUFFLE

DOLLOP

CLUSTALW



BioLegato - Point and click data pipelining

Genomic sequence

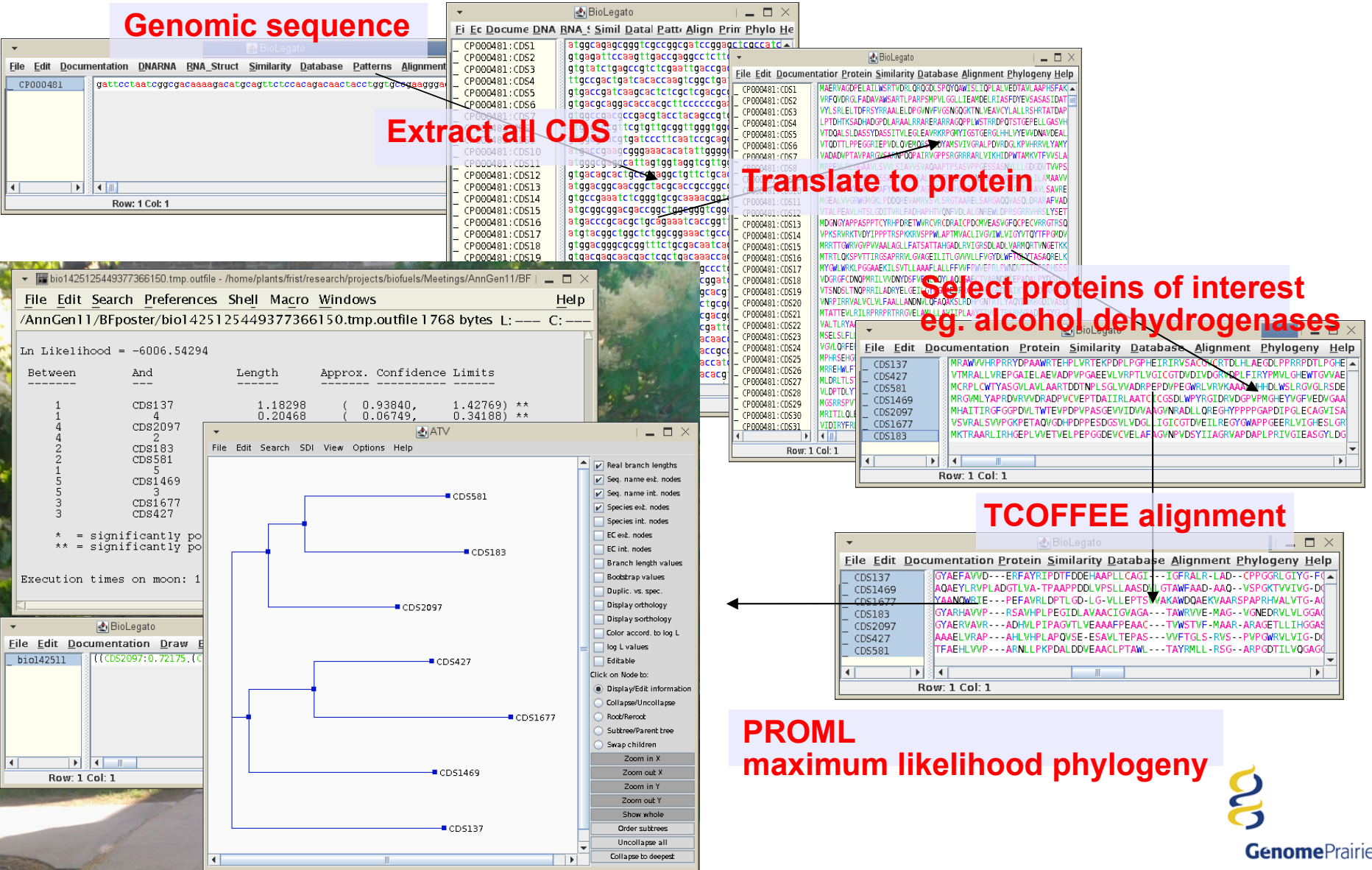
Extract all CDS

Translate to protein

Select proteins of interest
eg. alcohol dehydrogenases

TCOFFEE alignment

PROML
maximum likelihood phylogeny



The screenshot displays the BioLegato software interface with several windows open. The main window shows a genomic sequence with annotations for CDS (Coding DNA Sequences). A secondary window displays the translated protein sequences. A third window shows a list of selected proteins, including alcohol dehydrogenases. A fourth window shows a TCOFFEE alignment of the selected proteins. A fifth window shows a PROML maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree. A sixth window shows a table of sequence statistics. A seventh window shows a detailed view of a specific protein sequence.

Between	And	Length	Approx. Confidence	Limits
1	CDS137	1.18298	(0.93840, 1.42769)	**
4	CDS2097	0.20468	(0.06749, 0.34188)	**
2	CDS183			
2	CDS581			
1	5			
5	CDS1469			
3	CDS1677			
3	CDS427			

Bioinformatics - BioLegato Database Client

BioLegato lets us quickly build a database client tailored for the project.
Most databases just let you view and query the data.
BioLegato lets you select data, and run programs on it.

Custom Database Client for the MGCB2 project

- bldb -**
- menus for project-related programs
 - table canvas

		species_name	strain	Sy
1		cellulolyticus	11B	NUL
2		cereus	03BB102	NUL
3		subtilis	JH642	NUL
4		saccharolyticus	DSM 8903	NUL
5		NULL	T88	NUL
6		amalonaticus	Y19	NUL
7		acetobutylicum	ATCC 824	NUL
8		beijerinckii	NCIMB 8052	NUL
9		butyricum	5521	NUL
10		cellulolyticum	H10	NUL
11	45	Clostridium kluyveri	DSM 555	NUL
12	50	Clostridium perfringens	ATCC 13124	NUL
13	51	Clostridium phytofermentans	TSDg	NUL

Example: Compare pathways between two species

In the database client, select two species to compare

Choose pathway and click RUN

BioLegato calls the KEGG [3] API to create a custom KEGG map, highlighting enzymes present only in either species, or both

Click on an enzyme to display KEGG info

File	Tasks	Add	Help
1	Search NCBI	species_name	strain
2	Get sequence(s) from Genbank	cellulolyticus	11B
3	Search Wiki	cereus	03BB102
4	Cat canvas	subtilis	JH642
5	Compare pathways	saccharolyticus	DSM 8903
6	Show environment	NULL	T88
7	Compare metabolites	beijeirincii	HCIMB 8052
8	Extract	butyricum	5521
9	Enzyme list	cellulolyticum	H10
10			
11	45	Clostridium	kluyveri
12	50	Clostridium	perfringens
13	51	Clostridium	butyfermentans

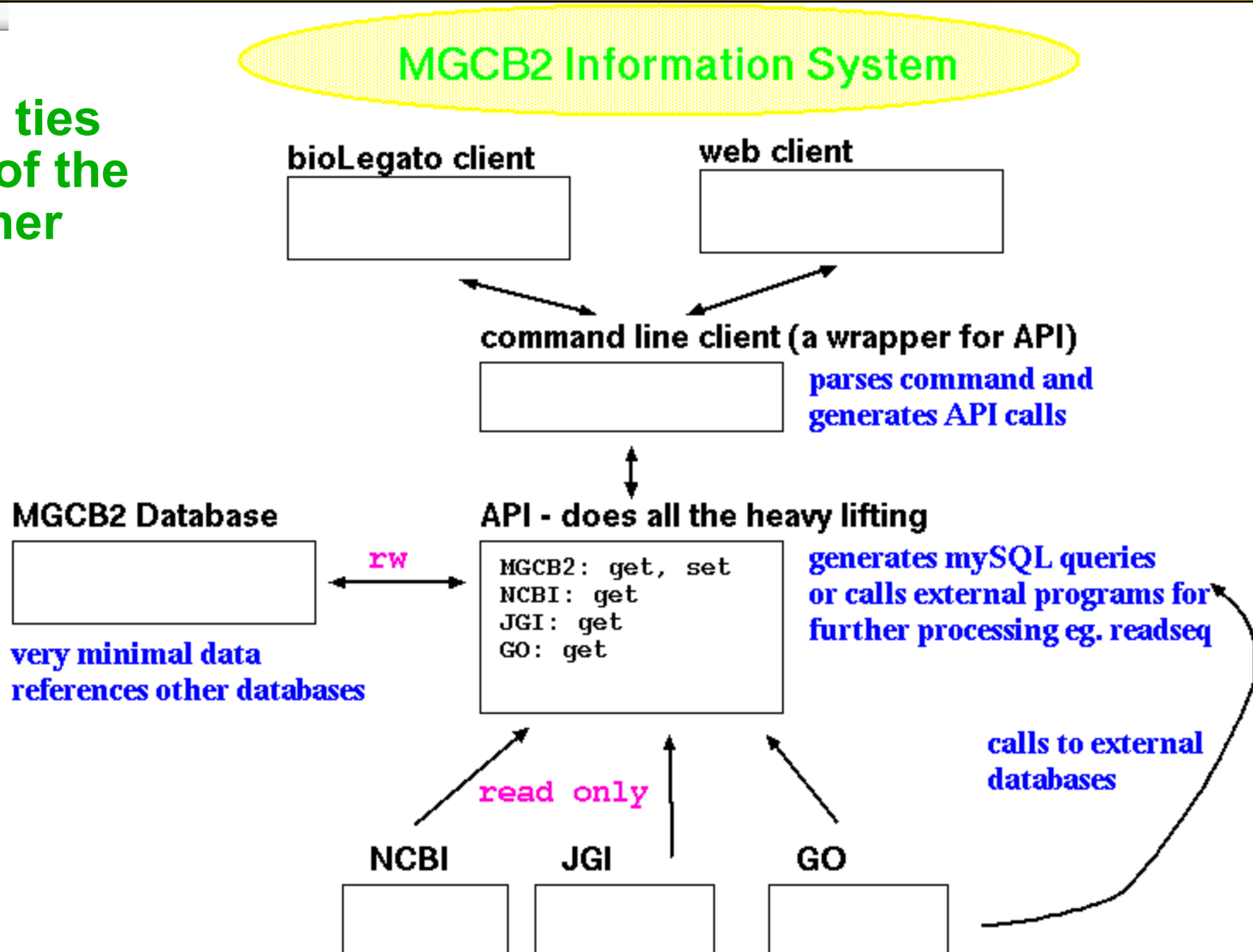
KEGG PATHWAY: Glycolysis / Gluconeogenesis - Reference pathway

KEGG ORTHOLOGY: K00163 - Mozilla Firefox

Entry	K00163	KO
Name	aceE	
Definition	pyruvate dehydrogenase E1 component [EC:1.2.4.41]	
Pathway	ko00010 Glycolysis / Gluconeogenesis ko00020 Citrate cycle (TCA cycle) ko00290 Valine, leucine and isoleucine biosynthesis ko00620 Pyruvate metabolism ko00650 Butanoate metabolism	
Module	M00307 Pyruvate oxidation, pyruvate => acetyl-CoA	
Class	Metabolism; Carbohydrate Metabolism; Glycolysis [PATH:ko00010] Metabolism; Carbohydrate Metabolism; Citrate cycle [PATH:ko00020] Metabolism; Carbohydrate Metabolism; Pyruvate metabolism [PATH:ko00620] Metabolism; Carbohydrate Metabolism; Butanoate metabolism [PATH:ko00650] Metabolism; Amino Acid Metabolism; Valine, leucine and isoleucine biosynthesis [PATH:ko00290]	

Bioinformatics - Database

The database ties components of the project together



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PCD – Pythonesque Command Definition Language

- “Pythonesque” scope indentation scheme
- Context-free grammar with indentation control
- Visually relates data via. scope tabulation
- Avoids problems from Python by using fixed spacing rules
- Allows for data clustering and data structures
- Flexible as to what data can be stored
- Very easy to learn
- Human readable
- Any basic data structure can be represented in PCD (e.g. hashes, arrays – NOT JUST MENUS!)

PCD – High level grammar

Non-terminal symbols

$\langle \text{sections} \rangle ::= \langle \text{block} \rangle \langle \text{new_line} \rangle \langle \text{sections} \rangle$
 $::= \langle \text{block} \rangle$

$\langle \text{block} \rangle ::= \langle \text{field} \rangle \langle \text{new_line} \rangle \langle \text{indent}+1 \rangle \langle \text{block} \rangle$
 $::= \langle \text{value} \rangle$
 $::= \langle \text{field} \rangle \langle \text{value} \rangle$

$\langle \text{field} \rangle ::= \langle \text{type_symbol} \rangle \langle \text{statement} \rangle$
 $::= \langle \text{statement} \rangle$

$\langle \text{value} \rangle ::= \langle \text{statement} \rangle$

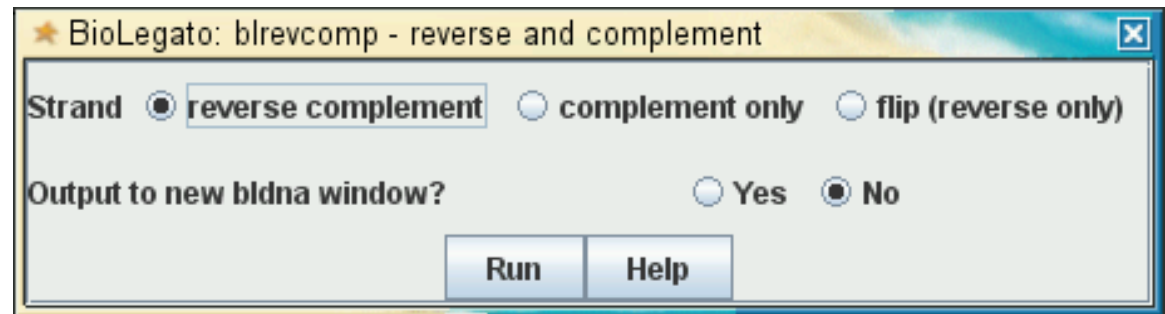
$\langle \text{statement} \rangle ::= " \langle \text{quoted_string} \rangle "$
 $::= \langle \text{number} \rangle$
 $::= \langle \text{identifier/keyword} \rangle$

....

$\langle \text{comments} \rangle ::= \# \langle \text{space} \rangle \langle \text{comment_line} \rangle$

PCD - GUI scripting language

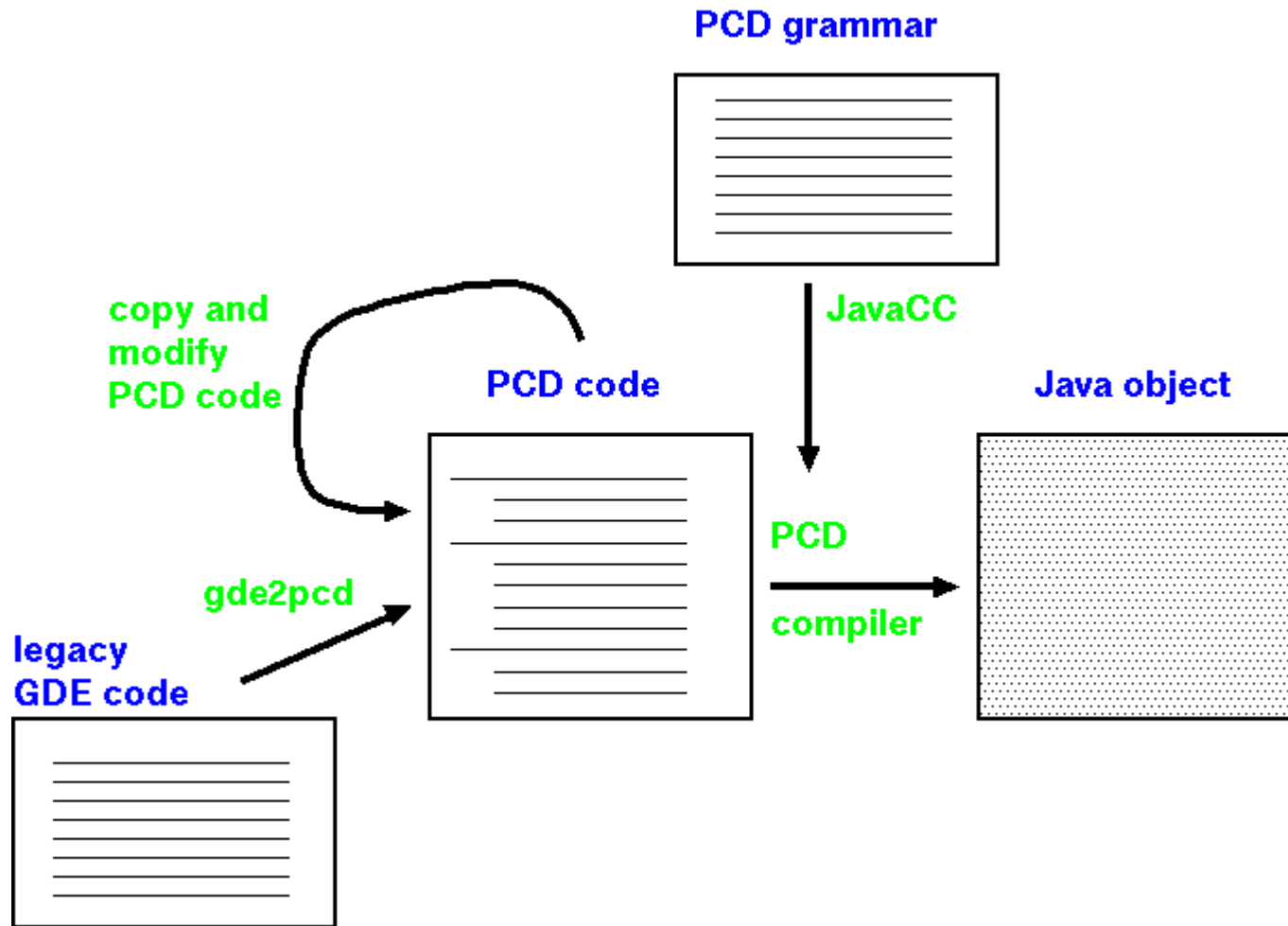
```
name          "blrevcomp - reverse and complement"
var "in1"
  type        tempfile
  direction   in
  format       flat
var "strand"
  type        chooser
  label       "Strand"
  default     0
  choices
    "reverse complement"  "-r"
    "complement only"    "-c"
    "flip (reverse only)" "-f"
var "out1"
  type        tempfile
  direction   out
  format       flat
var "gdeoutput"
  type        chooser
  label       "Output to new bldna window?"
  default     1
  choices
    "Yes"      "(echo '' > %out1%; bldna %in1%.blrevcomp; $RM_CMD -f %in1%.blrevcomp) &"
    "No"       "mv %in1%.blrevcomp %out1%"
panel
  var "Run"
    type        button
    label       "Run"
    shell       "blrevcomp %STRAND% %in1% %in1%.blrevcomp; $RM_CMD %in1%; %GDEOUTPUT%"
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  var "Help"
    type        button
    label       "Help"
    shell       "$BIRCH/script/gde_help_viewer.csh null/$BIRCH/doc/BioLegato/blrevcomp.html"
    close      false
```



PCD – Implementation and application

- **Parser written in JavaCC using an LL(1) (Left recursion lookahead top-down) parser**
- **Allows Java override, where JMenuItem objects can be read in as plugins**
- **Takes advantage of keywords and scope to try to prevent parsed syntax errors.**
- **Very easy to modify menu items – requires almost no experience to understand already written menu items**
- **Can execute shell commands and pipe the output into the parser (dynamic PCD)**
- **BIRCHShell – cross-platform shell interpreter**
- **Everything above is written in Java**

PCD – Implementation and application



BioLegato - Canvas

- **Plugins written in Java (modular)**
- **The canvas stores and displays data**
- **Canvases can be put inside anything (because they are represented as JComponents), even other canvases**
- **Canvases will be able to interact with each other in a future version (currently in alpha stage)**
- **Simple low overhead plugin system can load plugins anywhere in any code**

BioLegato - To Do List

- **Inheritance**
- **Relations between classes**
- **More canvases**
- **More widgets eg. menu bars, buttons, side-panels**
- **Provenance**
- **Workflows**
- **Collaborations**
 - **New BioLegato instances eg. geology, astronomy, imaging, agriculture, medicine, chemistry....**

BioLegato/BIRCH

BioLegato is distributed with the BIRCH bioinformatics system

<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~frist>

- **Solaris**
- **Linux**
- **Mac OSX**
- **Windows (2nd Quarter 2012)**