**BE700 A1: AI and Systems Biology of Disease**

**FALL 2024**

**Tu,Thu 9-10.45AM (MORNING)**

**We are fully committed to deploying AI responsibly and safely in the service of social justice, inclusion, fairness, reducing social inequalities and diversity.**

**Instructor:** Professor Simon Kasif

**Time: Tu -Thu 9– 10.45AM**

**Approved by Petition as BME and Bioinformatics Elective. Also available to HIGH PERFORMING seniors with interest in AI and relevant background.**

**Course Outline:**

The class will include many personalized group sessions with the instructor.

Prerequisites: **Senior or Graduate Student Standing** in BME, Engineering, Bioinformatics, CS, DS, Physics, Biology, Medicine, Public Health, Chemistry. **For disciplines, different from BME and Bioinformatics such as medicine, biology, chemistry, physics, engineering or computer science permission of instructor is required**

AI and data science are playing an increasingly important role in biomedical sciences and engineering. This course will teach students to apply or develop AI and machine learning concepts to probe into the **systems biology** of disease and **personalized medicine.** We will also cover applications in synthetic biology. The projects in previous semesters were focused on COVID-19, cancer, aging and diabetes. In the AI area, the emphasis would be on machine learning!

If you are a senior with a high GPA please write to Professor Simon Kasif ([kasif@bu.edu)](mailto:kasif@bu.edu)) (prior to registration). Seniors with this profile have done exceptionally well in this class.

The course will cover computational frameworks such as **biological networks** (including metabolic, regulatory and signal transduction networks), gene expression analysis, proteomic analysis, next-generation sequencing, **AI and** **machine learning (ML)**, elementary genetics, **pathway modeling and analysis** and other omics technologies to focusing on clinical problems such as cancer, diabetes, inflammation, aging and personalized medicine. We also covered biomedical basics such as the hallmarks of cancer and aging. The emphasis is towards developing diagnostics, prognostics or drug development. **But our real goal is the conceptual understanding of the integration of AI, Systems Biology, Synthetic Biology.**

There are no exams and grading is based on **bi-weekly homework, reading research papers, class presentations and a team project.** The main aim of this course is to cover general concepts in biological computing that provide the foundation of thinking computationally about anomalous behavior in biological systems relevant to disease mechanisms, **systems biology of disease,** diagnosis, prognosis, **personalized medicine** or **network based drug design**. The course also aims to teach students to work in research teams and develop the skills to plan and coordinate a scientific project. This semester we will have covid-19 projects in class.

During the semester we will also have guest lectures.

For information please contact:

Professor Simon Kasif: kasif@bu.edu

**Goals**

The main aim is to prepare students to use **AI/ML methods to understand biological systems, analyze biomedical data, design biomedical experiments and produce new technologies in this space.** This involves developing a familiarity with current high-throughput omics technologies, probing the complex systems biology of disease using advanced biotechnologies: storing, querying, reprogramming and manipulating massive amount of data, performing AI analysis of clinically relevant integrative data, producing AI models of systems across scales, capturing anomalous behavior in biological networks and making and validating predictions made by these network models and AI methods.

**Tentative Syllabus**

This course will cover many of the widely used techniques used for networks and analysis, systems biology and network modeling of biological systems in the context of disease anomalies, focusing on detecting dis- regulated networks in disease and identification of novel drug targets, drug repositioning and diagnostics.

The class may have invited speakers covering disease biology, machine learning, AI and network analysis algorithms.

Previous semesters the class included topics such as cancer, aging, wellness, diabetes, COVID-19 drug repositioning and bacterial biology.

No exams: reading assignments, write-ups of papers and class presentations, lab homework (applying machine learning tools, final group project.

We will accommodate students from biology without programming experience. They will be able to use widely available tools.

Thus, different homework (presentation, and write-up) criteria would be applied to graduate students, undergraduate students and students from outside engineering (e.g. biology or chemistry). We will try to form groups from different disciplines for projects.

**AI, Machine Learning, Network Analysis Methodologies**

Lecture 1: Introduction to Machine Learning and AI (more generally)

**Supervised Learning Methods**

Lecture 2: Nearest Neighbor Methods

Lecture 3: Introduction to Decision Trees

Lecture 4: Perceptron Learning and Support Vector Machines

Lab Sessions WEKA1, WEKA2 and Reporting Accuracy (ROC, AUC, FDR, Precision-Recall)

**Un-Supervised Learning Methods**

Lecture 4. Clustering / Bi-clustering lecture Spectral Graph Clustering Methods, SVD, PCA (principal component analysis)

\*\* advanced topic \*\*: Semi-supervised learning and network learning

Lab Session (Using Gene Pattern)

Lecture 5: Using WEKA, a machine learning environment,

Lecture 6. Principles of General Algorithm Design for Learning and Optimization

Lecture 7. Ensemble Learning and Wisdom of the Crowds

Lecture 8: Language Models, Generative AI and ChatGPT

**Learning in Networks**

**Graphical Models**

Lecture 1: Probabilistic network (graphical models), Mutual Information, Learning Probabilistic Networks (models for biological systems)

Lecture 2: Causality and Network Discovery Algorithms Lab Session: Applications to Synthetic and Systems Biology

**Neural Network Models**

Lecture 3. Backpropagation Learning in Neural Networks

Lecture 4. Principles of learning in Deep Neural Networks: stochastic gradient descent, large scale optimization and more.

Lecture 5. Hopfield Networks and other energy models

Lecture 6: Language Models

**Computational Systems Biology of Disease**

**Introductory Cancer Lectures**

Lecture 1: Introduction to Cancer: Cancer Hallmarks

Lecture 2: Cancer expanded: One Renegade Cell or a Systemic Process?

Lecture 3a: Biological Regulatory Networks from E.coli to Human Tissue

Lecture 3b: Broad Introduction to Transcriptional Regulation Networks in Cancer and Signaling Networks in Cancer

Lecture 4: Personalized Medicine: Subtypes of Cancer and Clinically Significant Cancer Phenotypes: Survival and Drug Response

Lecture 5: Genomics and Cancer: mutations, copy number variation, epigenomics.

Lecture 6: Advanced: Epigenomics of Stem Cells and Cancer Stem Cells.

Lecture 7: Diabetes

Lecture 8: Aging and Aging Genes: Aging Hallmarks

**Biological Networks**

Lecture 1: Introduction to Networks and Graphs

Lecture 2: Regulatory Networks in Bacteria and Human tissues

Lecture 3: Protein-Protein Interaction Networks (scale free networks) (Yeast, Human)

Lecture 4: Signal Transduction Networks.

Lab Session: Gene Ontology and DAVID Lab Session:

Bayes Networks tools, Dynamic Network Simulations, Rudimentary Generative Learning

**Personalized Medicine and Network Signatures of Disease**

Introduction to Biomarkers

Lecture 1: Pathways Signatures

Lecture 2: Network Signatures

Lecture 3: Genomic Signatures and Cancer: mutations, copy number variation, epigenomics.

Lecture 4: Cancer Data Analysis Subtypes of Cancer Drug Response Signatures Survival / Metastasis Signatures

Network Signatures for Diabetes, Aging and Cancer

Lecture 5: Detailed Classification with Microarrays, RNA SEQ, Single Cell RNA seq, classification with genomic markers

Lecture 6: Introduction to TCGA (Cancer Atlas)

Lab Session: working with Cytoscape and GenePattern



Lab Session: working with Gene Network Enrichment Analysis

**Personalized Medicine and Drugs**

Drug Response Signatures using supervised learning NCI-60 CMAP

**Project Planning and Execution (instead of exam)**

Applying machine learning to current problems.

COVID-19 DRUG REPOSITIONING, AGING, CANCER, DIABETES

**Optional topics:**

**Metabolic Diseases**

Metabolic Networks & Insulin Signaling, Diabetes

**Inflammation (immune response)**

Innate Immune Response

Adaptive Immune Response

Lab Session: working with GNEA (detection of inflammation at the molecular network level)

**Aging**

Conserved Signaling Networks and Longevity

Lab Session: working with Aging Mouse Models

**Additional Labs (as needed)**

Probability

Bayes Law, Conditional and Joint Probabilities

Stat. (basic tests, permutation tests, ranked tests)

Gene Pattern: permutations / diagnostic genes and classification

Accuracy/AUC

DAVID and Gene Set Enrichment:

GSEA

WEKA 1 WEKA 2

Gene Network Analysis and Enrichment: GNEA

Bayes Networks / Graphical Models, Network Discovery

Algorithms (THE DREAM COMPETITION)