

2020 Computing: Can computers help to explain biology?

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Abstract

The road leading from computer formalisms to explaining biological function will be difficult, but Roger Brent and Jehoshua Bruck suggest three hopeful paths that could take us closer to this goal.

It doesn't require vast prophetic vision to identify developments in computers and information technology that will greatly affect the practice of biology. By 2020 we expect that biologists will use computers, numerous 'omic' data types (ref.

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v440/n7083/full/440416a.html>