Seminar

Discovery and Design of Genetic Factors for Microbial Function and Fitness in Complex Environments

The ability of an organism to survive and operate in any environment—even one as simple as a controlled bioreactor—is a multigenic trait. Many of the genes that confer fitness and desired activity are poorly characterized and their possible epistatic interactions opaque. Here we describe a series of high-throughout, sequence-based, genetic-manipulation technologies for characterizing the gene-based contributions to fitness and activity with sufficient resolution to assign function roles and design improved strains. We will describe how we deploy these technologies to characterize diverse microbes from environments spanning cellulosic bioreactors, ground water, soil and the human gut. We will show how we use this information in some cases to design strains for better biomanufacturing or environmental activity. We will also show how the DOE Systems Biology Knowledgebase is beginning to accelerate the analysis and sharing of these methods and results.

Adam P. Arkin
Professor
Dept of Bioengineering
UC Berkeley, and
Sr. Faculty Scientist at LBNL

Friday, December 14, 2018
2:30 PM
Laufer Center lecture hall 101
Host: Gabor Balazsi

Refreshments following the lecture
Laufer Hub 110