De Bruijn Graph (DBG) Assembly

(find and work with a partner)

- 1. Given the 4 bases (A,C,G,T) and a positive integer k, how many k-mers exist?
- 2. Given a genome of length n, what is the maximum number of unique k-mers present in the genome?
- 3. List all the k-mers of the string S = ZABCDABEFABY, for k = 3.
- 4. Draw the de Bruijn graph for the given S and k above.

- 5. How many Eulerian walks exist for the de Bruijn graph above? For each walk, write down the resulting string (output assembly).
- 6. Can I have a graph with just one semi-balanced node? Why or why not?
- 7. To form a graph with an Eulerian *cycle*, we can draw an edge between the two semi-balanced nodes so that each node is now balanced. To find an Eulerian cycle, note that if the edges of *any* cycle are removed from the graph, the resulting connected component(s) also have Eulerian cycles. Why is that?

Here is the de Bruijn graph for the sequence a_long_long_long_time, with perfect 5-mer coverage.



For the three scenarios below, which k-mer was over/under represented, or had an error? How does this impact the Eulerian path?







Examples from Ben Langmead, John Hopkins