



上海交通大学

SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY



# Chapter 8

# Multiple sequence alignment

Chaochun Wei

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# Contents

## 1. Reading materials

## 2. Multiple sequence alignment

- basic algorithms and tools
- how to improve multiple alignment



# Reading materials

## Book

Durbin, R., Eddy, S., Krogh, A., and Mitchison, G. (1998).  
Biological Sequence Analysis. Cambridge University Press.  
Chapter 5, 6  
(Errata page: [http://selab.janelia.org/cupbook\\_errata.html](http://selab.janelia.org/cupbook_errata.html))



# Multiple Alignment

- ④ **What can one learn from a multiple alignment?**
- ④ **How can a multiple alignment be used?**
- ④ **How is a good multiple alignment obtained?**

Q9GPZ8_DICDI/51-243	..PEVGKKAT	EESIEELMNQ	IGDT...QML	FVTAGMGGGT	GTGGAAVIAS
FTSZ_ARATH/74-267	..PLLGEQAA	EESKDAIANA	LKGS...DLV	FITAGMGGGT	GSGAAPVVAQ
Q9XJ33_CYACA/92-292	..PEAGRVA	EESKEDIAKA	LQGG...DLV	FVTAGMGGGT	GTGAAPIVAD
FTSZ_MYCKA/9-202	..PEVGRXAA	EDAKDDIEEL	LRGA...DMV	FVTAGEGGGT	GTGGAPVVAS
FTSZ_CORGL/9-202	..PEVGRASA	EDHKNEIET	IKGA...DMV	FVTAGEGGGT	GTGAAPVVAG
Q9RWN5_DEIRA/4-197	..PKVGEEAA	VEDRDRIKEY	LDDT...DML	FITAGMGGGT	GTGSAPVVAE
FTSZ_MYCPU/11-202	..PEVGKAA	EESIVEIKEK	LKGA...DMV	IITSGMGGGT	GTGASPIIAK
FTSZ_PORGI/17-211	..PEVARRAA	EASEADIRKI	LDDG.HTRMV	FVTAGMGGGT	GTGAAPVIGR
Q9S344_9BACT/15-205	..PARARQAA	EETLDDIKGM	LNDG..TKMA	FITAGMGGGT	GTGAAPVIAR
FTSZ_AQUAE/8-201	..PEVGEEAA	LEDIDKIKEI	LRDT...DMV	FISAGLGGGT	GTGAAPVIAK
Q19490_CAEEL/49-246	..YTIGKELI	DVVMDRVRL	TERCQSLQGF	LIFHSFGGGT	GSGFTSLVME
TBA1_SCHPO/53-250	..YTVGKEMI	DSVLERIRRM	ADNCSGLQGF	LVFHSFGGGT	GSGGLGALLE
O36040_SPIVO/27-224	..NTIGKEVI	DLVLDRIKRL	ADDCSGLQGF	IMFHSFGGGT	GSGGLGALLE
Q9UVR1_9ZYGO/30-229	..YTEGAELL	DQVLDTIRQD	VERCDLLSGF	QLCHSIAGGT	GSGMGSLMLQ
Q20823_CAEEL/45-245	..YEQGAEIV	DKVLSVIRRE	AEAADSLEGF	QLIHSLGGGT	GSGGLGSLIS
TBBP_DROME/46-243	..HTDGAAIL	DQVLENTRE	VESVDSLQGF	QLLHSIGGGT	GSGGLTSLIME
TBG_EUPAE/46-244	..YTDAEKVQ	DEILEMIDRE	ADGSDSLEGF	VLTHSIAGGT	GSGFGSYLLE
TBG_CHLRE/46-247	..YTQGEAVQ	ETLLDMIDRE	AEYCDSLEGF	NMCHSIAGGT	GSGMGSYMLE
TBG1_DROME/46-247	..YSQGEKLQ	EEVFDIIDRE	ADGSDSLEGF	ILCHSIAGGT	GSGMGSFIME
Q94771_9TRYP/46-249	..YEMGDTVQ	ETLFDMIERE	AENSADSLEGF	VLTHSIAGGT	GSGMGSYLLE
TBG_USTVI/46-246	..YAAGERVY	EEVMEMIDRE	AEGSDSLEGF	MLLHSIAGGT	GSGGLGSYLLE
TBG_SCHJP/46-247	..YAHAEKIF	EDIVDMIDRE	AEGSDSLEGF	SLLHSIAGGT	GSGGLGSYLLE
O15812_DICDI/46-244	..YKQGESFY	DDIFDMIDRE	ADGSESLEGF	LLTHSISGGT	GSGMGSYILE
O00849_TETHH/46-246	..YQEANKIQ	DDLLDMIDRE	ADTSDSF EAF	LLIHSIAGGT	GSGVGSYLLE
TBG_CAEEL/47-249	..YCQGQEVQ	EKIMDIIIRE	AENTNNDGI	LFTHSVSGGT	GSGTGSLLE
TBG_ENTHI/45-242	..YYTTEKMS	.EIEEIIDRE	VEHCDSLEGF	FFCHSICGGT	GSGGLGSKIME
TBG_YEAST/48-246	..YDIGTRNQ	DDILNKIDKE	IDSTDNFEGF	QLLHSVAGGT	GSGGLGSNLLE
TBG_CANAL/75-282	..YKYGTEEE	ETLLNLIDRE	VDKCDNLSNF	QLFHSVAGGT	GSGVGSKMLE
Q9NI44_9TRYP/49-280	..MEYGDKYI	DSITETVREQ	VERCDSIQSF	LIMHSLSGGT	GAGLGTRVLG
TBD_HUMAN/46-242	..SVHGPRHE	ESIMNIIRKE	VEKCDSFSGF	FIIMSMAGGT	GSGLGAFVTQ

Q9GPZ8_DICDI/51-243	..PEVGKKAT	EESIEELMNQ	IGDT...	QML	FVTAGMGGGT	GTGGAAVIAS
FTSZ_ARATH/74-267	..PLLGEQAA	EESKDAIANA	LKGS...	DLV	FITAGMGGGT	GSGAAPVVAQ
Q9XJ33_CYACA/92-292	..PEAGRVA	EESKEDIAKA	LQGG...	DLV	FVTAGMGGGT	GTGAAPIVAD
FTSZ_MYCKA/9-202	..PEVGRXAA	EDAKDDIEEL	LRGA...	DMV	FVTAGEGGGT	GTGGAPVVAS
FTSZ_CORGL/9-202	..PEVGRASA	EDHKNEIET	IKGA...	DMV	FVTAGEGGGT	GTGAAPVVAG
Q9RWN5_DEIRA/4-197	..PKVGEEAA	VEDRDRIKEY	LDDT...	DML	FITAGMGGGT	GTGSAPVVAE
FTSZ_MYCPU/11-202	..PEVGKKAA	EESIVEIKEK	LKGA...	DMV	IITSGMGGGT	GTGASPIIAK
FTSZ_PORGI/17-211	..PEVARRAA	EASEADIRKI	LDDG.H	TRMV	FVTAGMGGGT	GTGAAPVIGR
Q9S344_9BACT/15-205	..PARARQAA	EETLDDIKGM	LNDG...	TKMA	FITAGMGGGT	GTGAAPVIAR
FTSZ_AQUAE/8-201	..PEVGEEAA	LEDIDKIKEI	LRDT...	DMV	FISAGLGGGT	GTGAAPVIAK
Q19490_CAEEL/49-246	..YTIGKELI	DVVMDRVRL	TERCQSL	QGF	LIFHSFGGGT	GSGFTSLVME
TBA1_SCHPO/53-250	..YTVGKEMI	DSVLERIRRM	ADNCSGL	QGF	LVFHSFGGGT	GSGLGALLE
O36040_SPIVO/27-224	..NTIGKEVI	DLVLDRIKRL	ADDCSGL	QGF	IMFHSFGGGT	GSGLGALLE
Q9UVR1_9ZYGO/30-229	..YTEGAELL	DQVLDTIRQD	VERCDLL	SGF	QLCHSIAGGT	GSGMGSLMLQ
Q20823_CAEEL/45-245	..YEQGAEIV	DKVLSVIRRE	AEAADSLE	GF	QLIHSLGGGT	GSGLGSL LIS
TBBP_DROME/46-243	..HTDGAAIL	DQVLENTRE	VESVDSL	QGF	QLLHSIAGGT	GSGLTSLIME
TBG_EUPAE/46-244	..YTDAEKVQ	DEILEMIDRE	ADGSDSLE	GF	VLTHSIAGGT	GSGFGSYLLE
TBG_CHLRE/46-247	..YTQGEAVQ	ETLLDMIDRE	AEYCDSLE	GF	NMCHSIAGGT	GSGMGSYMLE
TBG1_DROME/46-247	..YSQGEKLQ	EEVFDIIDRE	ADGSDSLE	GF	ILCHSIAGGT	GSGMGSFIME
Q94771_9TRYP/46-249	..YEMGDTVQ	ETLFDMIERE	AENSDSLE	GF	VLTHSIAGGT	GSGMGSYLLE
TBG_USTVI/46-246	..YAAGERVY	EEVMEMIDRE	AEGSDSLE	GF	MLLHSIAGGT	GSGLGSYLLE
TBG_SCHJP/46-247	..YAHAEKIF	EDIVDMIDRE	AEGSDSLE	GF	SLLHSIAGGT	GSGLGSYLLE
O15812_DICDI/46-244	..YKQGESFY	DDIFDMIDRE	ADGSESLE	GF	LLTHSIAGGT	GSGMGSYILE
O00849_TETHH/46-246	..YQEANKIQ	DDLLDMIDRE	ADTSDSF	EAF	LLIHSIAGGT	GSGVGSYLLE
TBG_CAEEL/47-249	..YCQGQEVQ	EKIMDIIIRE	AENTNNLD	GI	LFTHSVAGGT	GSGTGSLLE
TBG_ENTHI/45-242	..YYTTEKMS	.EIEEIIDRE	VEHCDSLE	GF	FFCHSICGGT	GSGLGSKIME
TBG_YEAST/48-246	..YDIGTRNQ	DDILNKIDKE	IDSTDNF	EGF	QLLHSVAGGT	GSGLGSNLLE
TBG_CANAL/75-282	..YKYGTEEE	ETLLNLIDRE	VDKCDNLS	NF	QLFHSVAGGT	GSGVGSKMLE
Q9NI44_9TRYP/49-280	..MEYGDKYI	DSITETVREQ	VERCDSIQ	SF	LIMHSLAGGT	GAGLGTRVLG
TBD_HUMAN/46-242	..SVHGPRHE	ESIMNIIRKE	VEKCDSF	SGF	FIIMSMAGGT	GSGLGAFVTQ

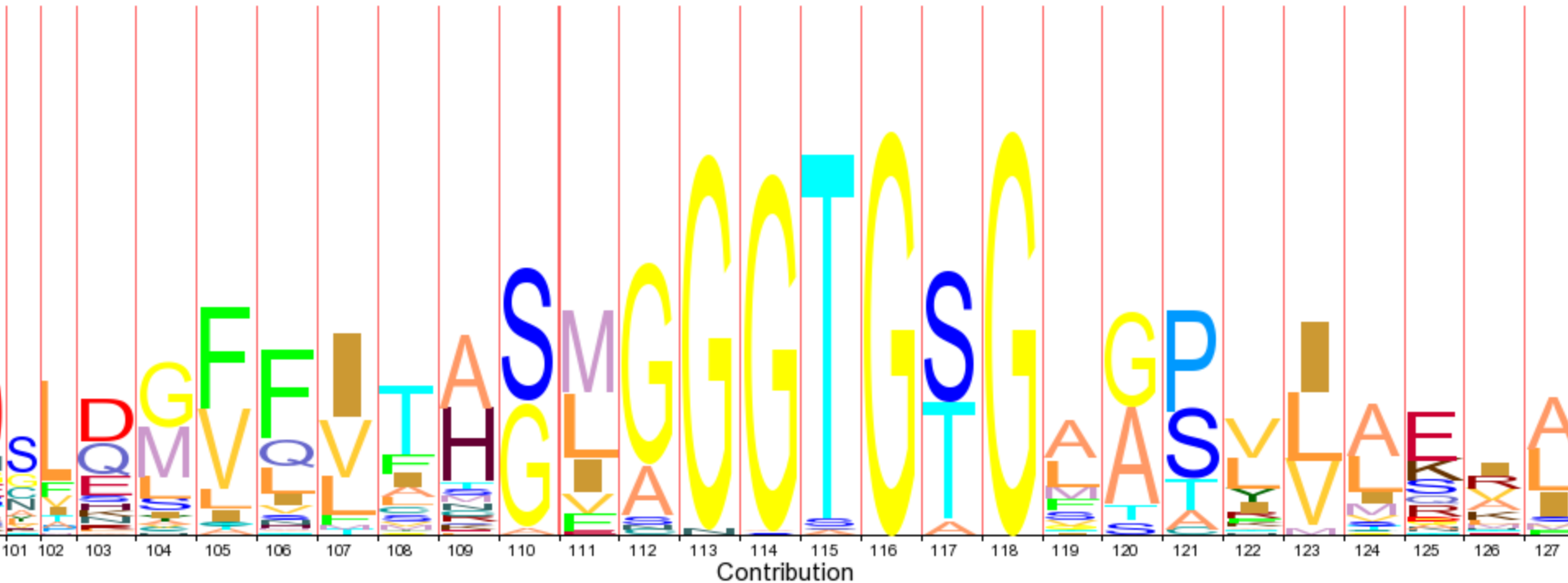


# What can one learn from a multiple alignment?

- ④ **Some regions tend to be more highly conserved than others**
- ④ **Gaps are often clustered**
- ④ **May be conservation of types of residues (eg. hydrophylic/hydrophobic) even if the residues themselves are variable**
- ④ **Can plot conservation to get an overview of how it varies**



# Logo of a section of the tubulin protein family







# How can a multiple alignment be used?

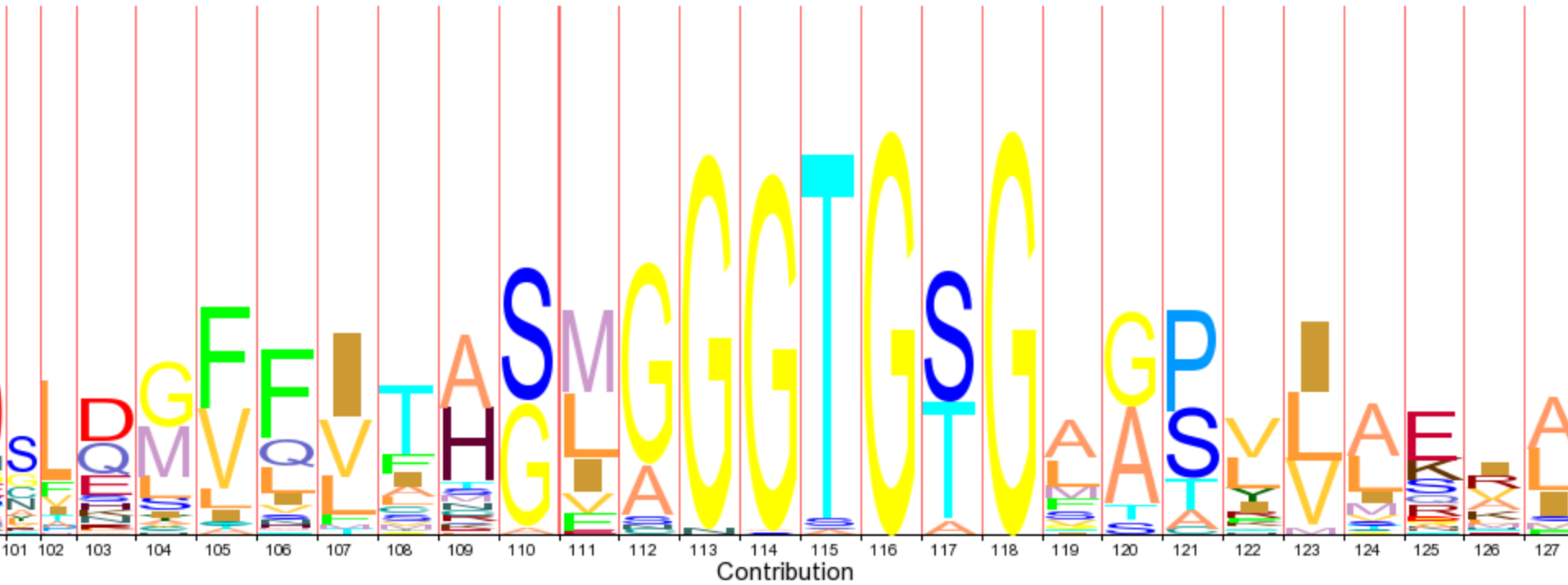
## • Insights into protein structure/function

- Highly conserved positions/regions mostly likely required for function
- Indels and hydrophilic regions usually on surface

## • Better, more sensitive searches

- Uses more information about protein's features to identify homologs
- Position-specific scoring function





FTSZ\_AQUAE/8-201

Q19490\_CAEL/49-246

..PEVGEEAA

LEDIDKIKEI

LRDT...DMV

FISAGLGGGT

GTGAAPVIAK

..YTIGKELI

DVVM DRVRL

TERCQSLQGF

LIFHSFGGGT

GSGFTSLVME

\* \*

\*

\*

\*\*\*\*

\*

\* \*



# Scoring multiple alignments

- Common to use “sum of pairs” using the standard pairwise scoring
- An alignment of residue  $X$  in the query with the position  $Y$  of the alignment that contains the set  $Y_i$  of residues gets:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Score}(X, Y) &= \sum_i s(X, Y_i) \\ &= \sum_i \ln[P(X, Y_i)/P(X)P(Y_i)] \\ &= \sum_i \ln[P(X|Y_i)/P(X)]\end{aligned}$$



# Sum-of-Pairs scoring (cont)

Score( $X, Y$ ) =  $\sum_i \ln[P(X|Y_i)/P(X)]$

we can pre-compute the score for any  $X$

➔ “Profile” for a multiple alignment

Important Point: highly variable position tend toward 0 for all scores, while highly conserved positions maintain the  $s(X, Y)$  scores, increasing their contribution to the Score

# Profile analysis: Detection of distantly related proteins

(amino acid/sequence comparison/protein structure/globin structure/immunoglobulin structure)

MICHAEL GRIBSKOV\*, ANDREW D. MCLACHLAN†, AND DAVID EISENBERG\*

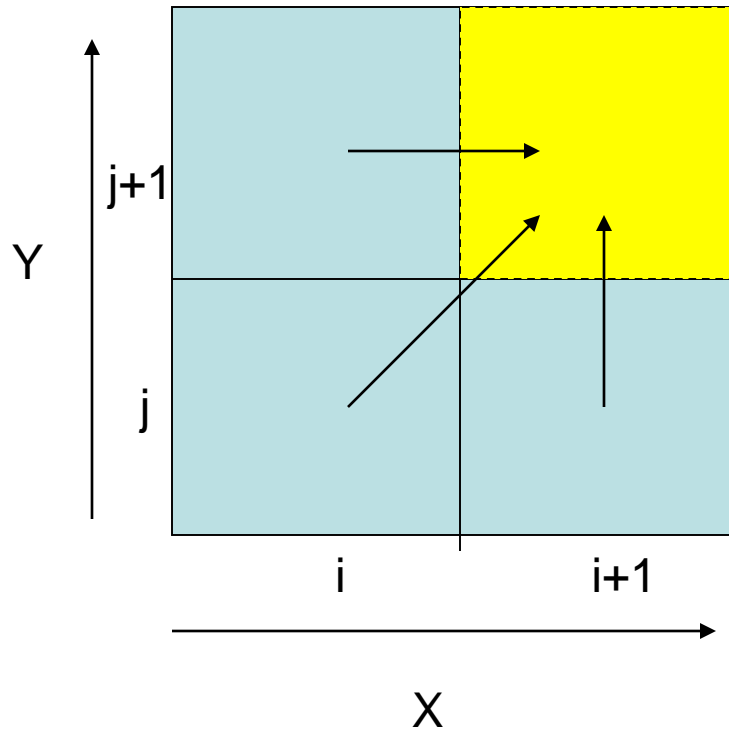
b

POS	PROBE	CONSENSUS	PROFILE																				
			A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	N	P	Q	R	S	T	V	W	Y	+/-
1	EGVVL	V	3	-2	3	4	0	4	-1	3	-1	4	4	1	1	1	-2	1	2	6	-6	-2	9
2	LLSP	L	2	-2	-2	-1	3	0	-1	3	-1	6	5	-1	3	0	-1	3	1	4	1	-1	9
3	VVVV	V	2	2	-2	-2	2	2	-3	11	-2	8	6	-2	1	-2	-2	0	2	15	-9	-1	9
4	KEAT	A	6	-2	5	6	-5	4	1	0	5	-2	0	3	3	3	1	3	6	0	-6	-4	9
5	APLP	P	6	-1	0	1	-2	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	8	2	0	2	2	3	-5	-4	9
6	GGGG	G	7	1	7	5	-6	15	-1	-3	0	-4	-3	4	3	2	-3	6	4	2	-11	-7	9
7	SSQE	D	4	-1	7	7	-6	7	2	-2	2	-3	-2	4	3	6	1	6	2	-1	-6	-5	9
8	SSTP	S	4	4	2	2	-4	4	-1	0	2	-3	-2	2	7	0	1	10	6	0	-2	-4	9
9	VLVA	V	5	0	-1	-1	3	1	-2	7	-2	7	6	-1	1	-1	-3	0	2	10	-5	-1	9
10	KRRS	R	0	-1	1	1	-5	0	2	-2	8	-3	1	3	3	3	10	5	1	-2	7	-5	9
11	MLII	I	0	-2	-3	-2	7	-3	-3	11	-1	11	10	-2	-2	-1	-2	-2	1	9	-3	1	9
12	SSTTS	S	4	6	2	2	-3	5	-1	0	2	-3	-2	3	4	-1	1	12	6	0	0	-4	9
13	CCCC	C	3	15	-5	-5	-1	2	-1	3	-5	-8	-6	-3	1	-6	-3	7	3	3	-13	10	9
14	KSQR	K	1	-2	3	3	-6	1	3	-2	7	-3	0	3	3	5	7	4	1	-2	2	-5	9
15	AAGS	A	10	3	4	3	-5	8	-1	-1	1	-2	-1	3	4	1	-2	7	4	2	-6	-4	9
16	TSDS	S	4	3	5	4	-5	6	0	0	2	-3	-2	4	3	1	1	9	6	0	-3	-4	9
17	GGSQ	G	5	1	6	5	-6	9	1	-2	1	-3	-2	4	3	4	0	6	3	0	-6	-6	9
18	YFLS	F	-1	2	-4	-3	9	-3	0	4	-3	6	3	-1	-3	-3	-3	1	-1	2	7	7	9
19	TTRL	T	1	-2	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	3	1	7	2	1	-2	9
20	FF.L	F	-2	-3	-6	-4	10	-4	-1	6	-4	9	6	-3	-4	-4	-3	-2	-1	3	7	8	4
21	SS.D	S	3	2	5	4	-4	5	0	-1	2	-3	-2	4	3	1	1	8	2	-1	-2	-3	4
22	S.SS	S	2	3	1	1	-2	3	-1	0	1	-2	-1	2	2	0	1	8	2	0	1	-2	4
23	. . . G	G	2	0	2	1	-2	4	0	0	0	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	2	1	1	-3	-2	4
24	. . . D	D	1	-1	4	3	-2	2	1	0	1	-1	-1	2	1	2	0	1	1	0	-3	-1	4
25	. . . G	G	2	0	2	1	-2	4	0	0	0	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	2	1	1	-3	-2	4
26	. AGN	A	6	0	4	3	-4	6	1	-1	1	-2	-1	5	2	2	-1	3	3	1	-5	-3	4
27	YNYT	Y	0	5	0	-1	5	-1	2	1	-1	0	-1	4	-3	-2	-2	0	3	0	3	6	4
28	EDDY	D	2	-2	9	8	-3	3	4	-1	1	-3	-2	5	-1	4	-1	1	1	-1	-6	0	9
29	LMAL	L	3	-5	-3	-1	6	-1	-2	6	-1	10	10	-2	0	0	-2	-1	0	6	-1	0	9
30	YNAW	N	4	1	3	2	0	2	3	-1	1	-1	-1	8	0	1	-1	2	1	-1	-1	2	9
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
48	SGNS	S	4	3	5	3	-4	7	0	-2	2	-4	-3	6	3	1	0	10	3	0	-2	-4	9
49	SSNY	S	2	5	2	1	1	2	1	0	1	-2	-2	5	1	-1	0	8	1	-1	3	1	9



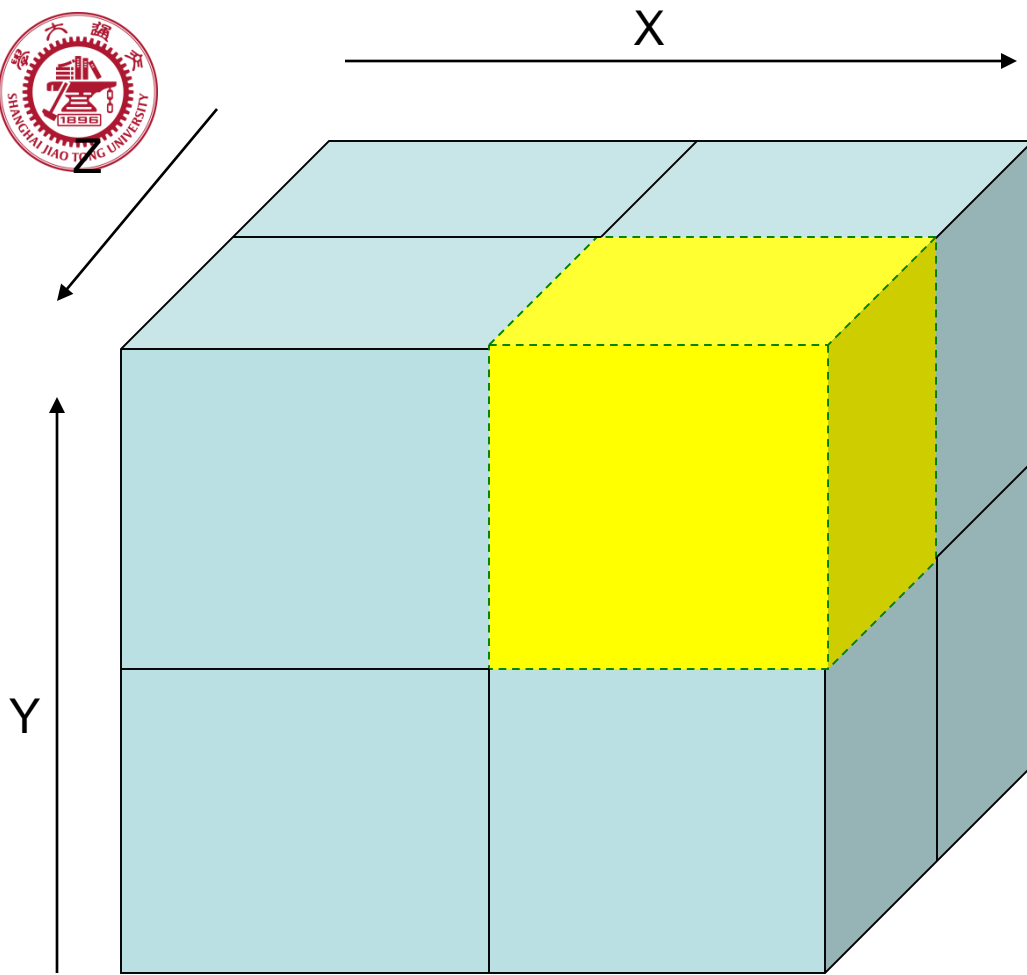
# How is a good multiple alignment obtained?

- Can extend dynamic programming (DP) method (Smith-Waterman or Needleman-Wunch) to  $N > 2$  sequences



$$\max \begin{cases} X & X & -- \\ Y & -- & Y \end{cases}$$





The seven neighboring cells are the seven possible paths for the optimal alignment

$$\max \left\{ \begin{array}{c} X \ X \ X \ X \ \text{--} \ \text{--} \ \text{--} \\ Y \ Y \ \text{--} \ \text{--} \ Y \ Y \ \text{--} \\ Z \ \text{--} \ Z \ \text{--} \ Z \ \text{--} \ Z \end{array} \right.$$



# DP on multiple sequences

- ⊗ **Can extend standard DP to N sequences by using N-dimensional matrix, filling in optimal scores for each element using a defined scoring system, such as sum-of-pairs**
- ⊗ **Problem: complexity is  $O(L^N)$  for N sequences of length L**



# Impact of Computational Complexity

- ⊗ **Suppose your algorithm can run on  $N=10$  sequences of length  $L=1000$ .**
- ⊗ **You then get 1000 times as much of the limiting resource.**
- ⊗ **How many sequences can you now run on, as a function of the complexity  $O(..)$  of that limiting resource?**



Initially  $N=10$  and  
 $L=1000$

Then increase limiting  
resource by 1000-fold

Assuming overhead  
costs and all other terms  
are negligible.

Algorithm Complexity	New problem size
$O(N)$	10,000
$O(N \log N)$	$\sim 2,000$
$O(N^2)$	316
$O(N^3)$	100
$O(L^N)$	?



Initially  $N=10$  and  
 $L=1000$

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Assuming overhead  
costs and all other terms  
are negligible.

Algorithm Complexity	New problem size
$O(N)$	10,000
$O(N \log N)$	$\sim 2,000$
$O(N^2)$	316
$O(N^3)$	100
$O(L^N)$	11



Making multiple sequence alignment more efficient. MSA program uses pair-wise alignments to define “search space” in which to apply DP to find optimal alignment. Doesn't have to fill in entire N-dim matrix, only those sections that can contribute to the optimal alignment. Uses branch-and-bound to determine the alignment space to be considered.

*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*  
Vol. 86, pp. 4412–4415, June 1989  
Biochemistry

# **A tool for multiple sequence alignment**

(proteins/structure/evolution/dynamic programming)

**DAVID J. LIPMAN\*†, STEPHEN F. ALTSCHUL\*†, AND JOHN D. KECECIOGLU‡**

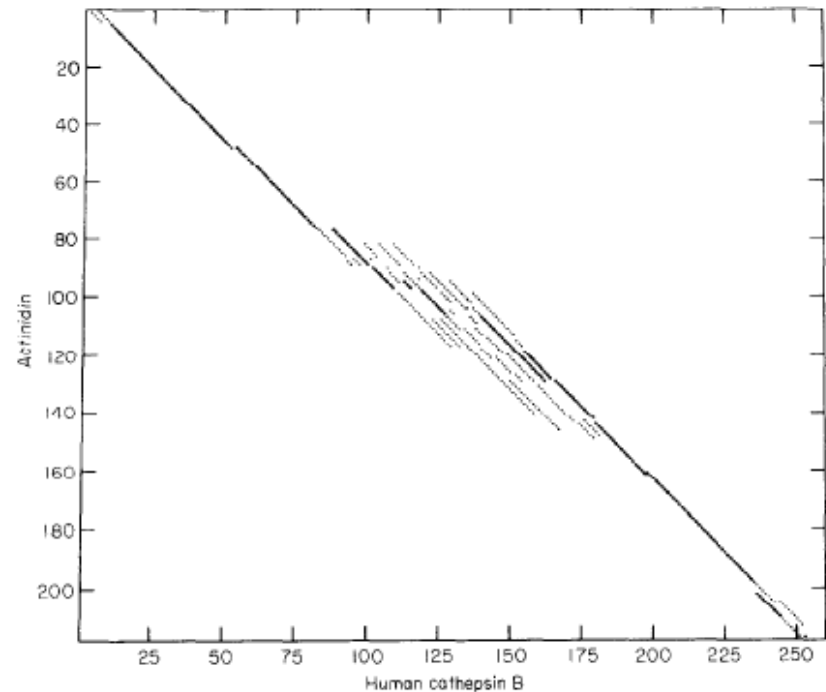
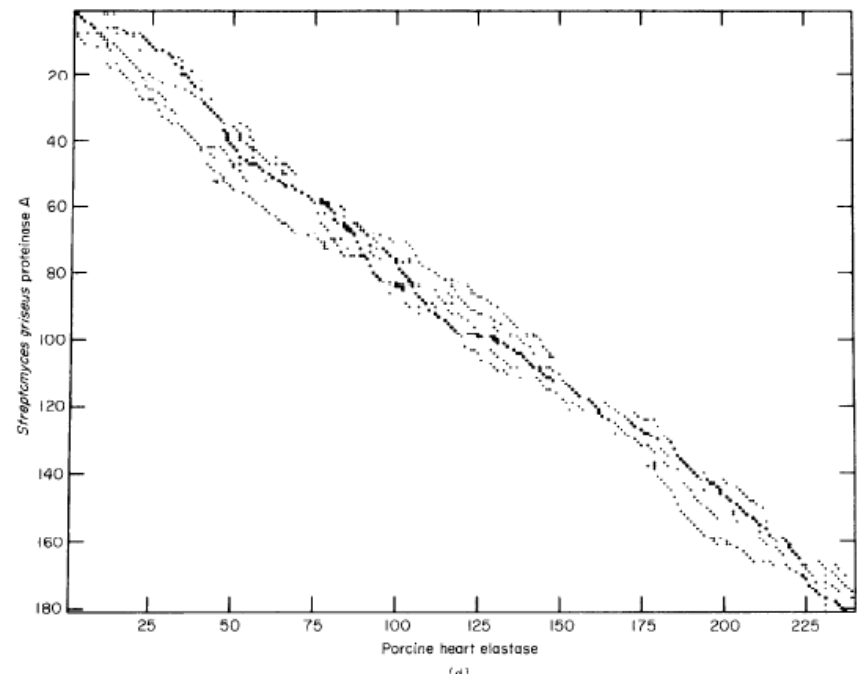


Determining and displaying sub-optimal alignments. Can be used to set boundaries for MSA

$$M(x,y) = \text{Forward}(x,y) + \text{Backward}(x,y)$$

Can show all cells within some % of optimum score. Can be used to define boundaries for multi-sequence optimization.

Zuker, M (1991) JMB 221:403-420



(a)



# How is a good multiple alignment obtained?

- **Can standard dynamic programming (DP) method (Smith-Waterman or Needleman-Wunch) to  $N > 2$  sequences**
  - **$O(L^N)$  limits applicability**
- **Need good heuristic that returns near-optimal alignments in reasonable time/space**



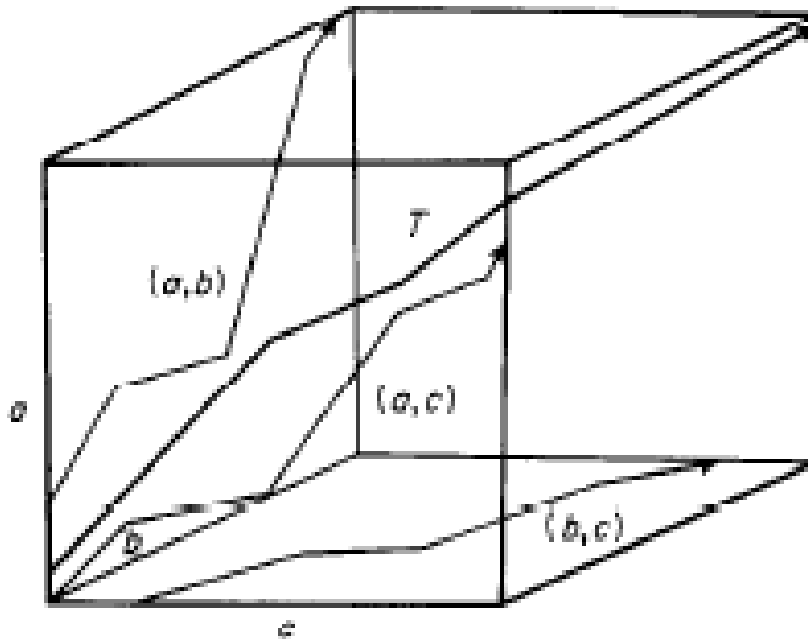


# “Progressive Alignment”

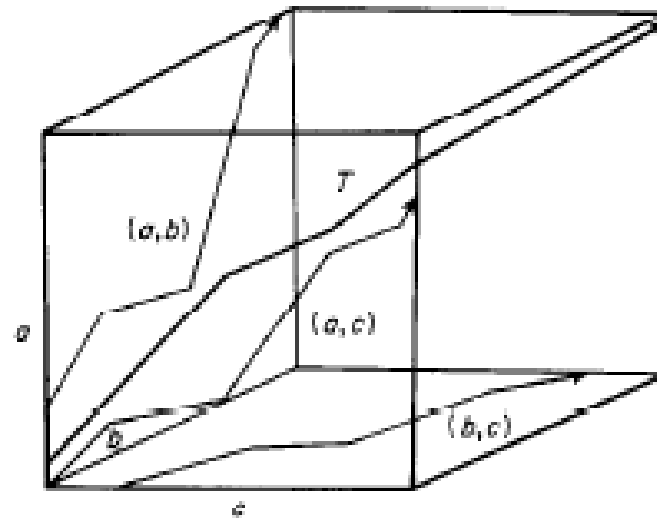
- ⊗ **Always do pairwise alignments**
- ⊗ **Use DP to get optimal alignment of pairs**
- ⊗ **Once a pair is aligned, that alignment is fixed in subsequent steps**
- ⊗ **Some programs allow for the revising of previous steps, optimization of total score**



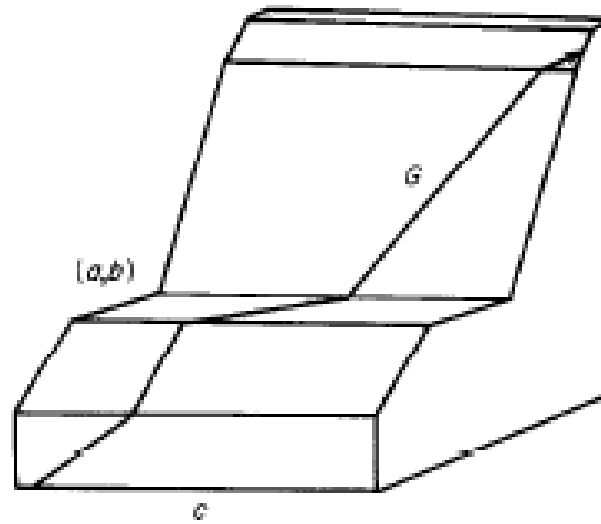
Three sequences (a,b,c) with optimal alignment  $T$  and pairwise alignments (a,b), (a,c), (b,c)



(a)



(a)



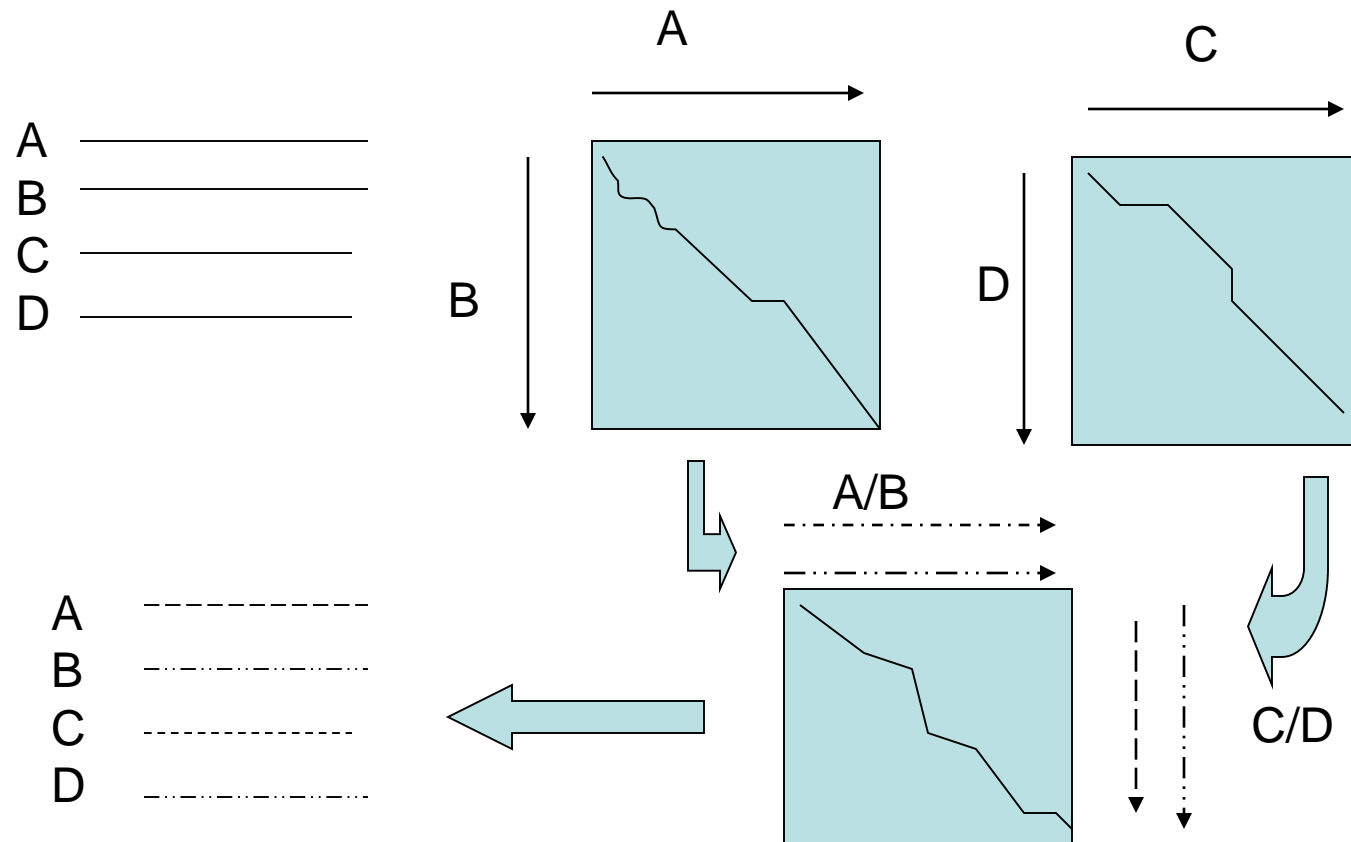
(b)

Subbiah and Harrison, (1989) J Mol Biol. 209:539-48.

# CLUSTAL W: improving the sensitivity of progressive multiple sequence alignment through sequence weighting, position-specific gap penalties and weight matrix choice

Julie D.Thompson, Desmond G.Higgins\* and Toby J.Gibson\*

European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Postfach 102209, Meyerhofstrasse 1, D-69012 Heidelberg, Germany





# Overview of ClustalW:

1. Get pairwise “distances”
2. Determine tree
3. Follow order of tree to do pairwise alignments

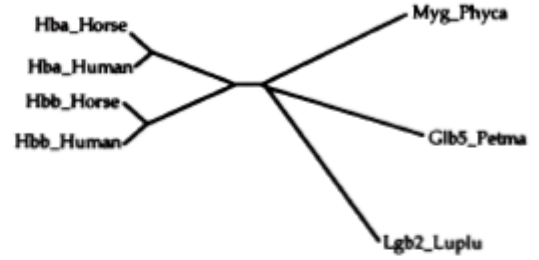
After each step the alignment is fixed. This generates a complete multiple alignment of the sequences using optimal pairwise alignments (with DP) at each step.

Scoring is SoP with heuristic Modifications (next slide).

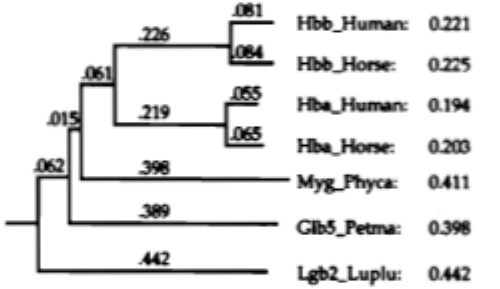
Pairwise alignment:  
Calculate distance matrix

Hbb_Human	1	-					
Hbb_Horse	2	.17	-				
Hba_Human	3	.59	.60	-			
Hba_Horse	4	.59	.59	.13	-		
Myg_Phyc	5	.77	.77	.75	.75	-	
Gib5_Petm	6	.81	.82	.73	.74	.80	-
Lgb2_Luplu	7	.87	.86	.86	.88	.93	.90
		1	2	3	4	5	6

Unrooted Neighbor-Joining tree



Rooted NJ tree (guide tree) and sequence weights



Progressive alignment:  
Align following the guide tree

```

-----VELDPEEKAVPEALPKVWV--VDVVOGHALGRLLVVVFPTQVFFRSPGDLST
-----VQLDPEEKAAVLAALMDKVS--REIVOGHALGRLLVVVFPTQVFFRSPGDLSH
-----VLSADKTFVKAAMKVDAGAGETGAALESDGFVFPATKVFVFFFDLS--
-----VLSADKTFVKAAMKVDAGAGETGAALESDGFVFPATKVFVFFFDLS--
-----VLSGDNQLVLEVKAKVHALVAGBOODILRLFKRKHPTLAKKFDKPKKLT
FIVDTQGVAPLAAEKTKIRANAPFVSTETSGVDILVFFFTVFAAQVFFPKVGLTT
-----GALVSPQAAVKSHEEFKAVKPEKTEFFILVLEIDFAEKDFFSFLKOTSE
          ..
PDAVMQSPVVKAKGKVKVZGFSDGAEHLDD----HLGOTFAVLSKLSLCKLRLVLSERFRL
PQAVMQRKVKAKGKVKVLESFGQGVFHLDD----HLGOTFAALSSELCCKLRLVLSERFRL
----HGSAQVKGSKKVDALTRAVLRVD----DMPHLSALSLSLHAKLRLVLSVRFKL
----HGSAQVKGSKKVGODALTRAVLHLD----DLGALSLSLSLHAKLRLVLSVRFKL
KAKGKASLDLKKQGVTVLFGALGATLCKQD---EHLAKLFLVLAQSEATQKIKLTKLRF
ADQKKAADVQNSAARIIEAVNDVAVSHDDT--EKMDELRLDLGKSEAKSPQVLSQTFKV
VF--QNSVILQAAGKVFVGLVTEANPOLQVTGVVVTVDTLKHLSQVRYKSG-VQDANFYV
          ..
LGRVLCVLAERPKGKEFTPFVQAAYQKVVAGVAKALAKKTH-----
LGRVLCVLAERPKGKEFTPFELQAAYQKVVAGVAKALAKKTH-----
LSKCLLVTLAARPAEFTFPAVEASLDEKFLASVSTVLTSEKYL-----
LSKCLLSTLAVLFPNDFTFAVEASLDEKFLASVSTVLTSEKYL-----
ISSEAIINVLSEKSPGDFQADACQAKKALKLFRKDIKATKELQYQG
LAAVIADTVAAQ-----DADPFELASMEICILLNAY
VKRAILKTIKRVGAAMSELSKSPFTLADKLVLEKQNSDAA-----
  
```



**Sequence weighting:**  
Based on shared tree lengths, avoids problems from overly biased samples

```

1  peeksavt|al
2  geekaav|l|al
3  padktnv|kaa
4  aadktnv|kaa
      |
      |
5  egewql|vl|hv
6  aaekt|k|rsa
  
```

Without sequence Weights:

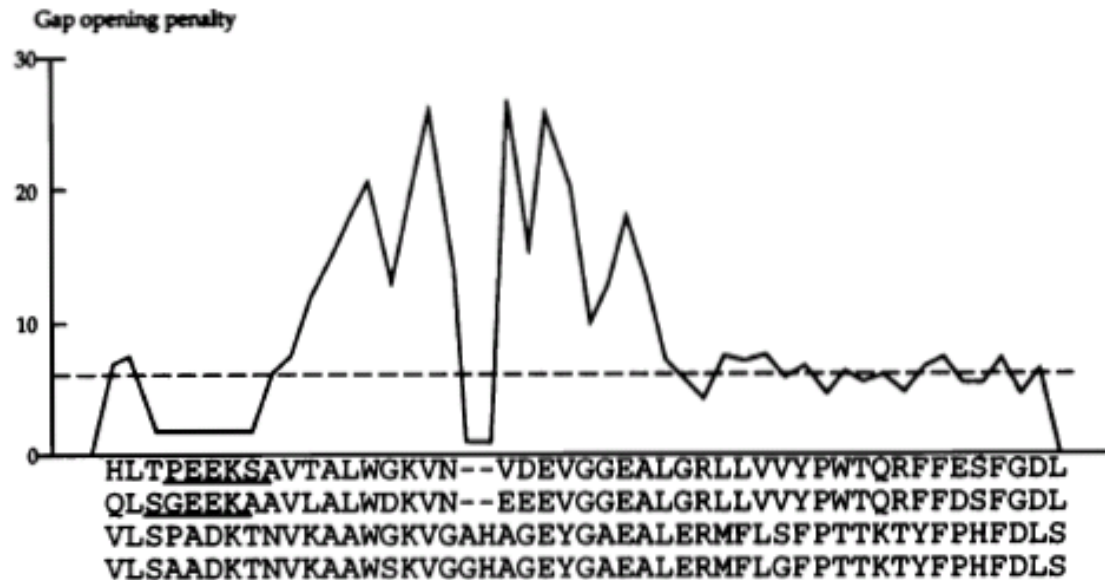
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Score} &= M(t, v) \\
 &+ M(t, l) \\
 &+ M(l, v) \\
 &+ M(l, l) \\
 &+ M(k, v) \\
 &+ M(k, l) \\
 &+ M(k, v) \\
 &+ M(k, l) / 8
 \end{aligned}$$

With sequence Weights  $W_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Score} &= M(t, v) * W_1 * W_5 \\
 &+ M(t, l) * W_1 * W_6 \\
 &+ M(l, v) * W_2 * W_5 \\
 &+ M(l, l) * W_2 * W_6 \\
 &+ M(k, v) * W_3 * W_5 \\
 &+ M(k, l) * W_3 * W_6 \\
 &+ M(k, v) * W_4 * W_5 \\
 &+ M(k, l) * W_4 * W_6 / 8
 \end{aligned}$$

## Gap penalty adjustment:

Increases/reduces gap opening penalty depending on local alignment features; New gaps cluster with previous ones, and in hydrophylic regions





# Thought Exercise

- Consider two sets of proteins:  $\{A,B,C\}$ ,  $\{X,Y,Z\}$
- Within each set, any pair of proteins is ~15% identical which puts them in the “twilight zone” where is it difficult to determine if they are homologs or not (or equivalently their E-values are ~1)
- Set  $\{A,B,C\}$  proteins are unrelated
- Set  $\{X,Y,Z\}$  proteins are homologous
  - What differences do you expect in their alignments?
  - How would the multiple alignments differ between the two?



# Multiple Alignment Lecture 2

## Improved Progressive Alignments

- Faster
- More accurate
- Consistency objective

## Alternative scoring systems

Position-specific scoring (Profiles)

Probabilistic modeling: Profile-HMMs



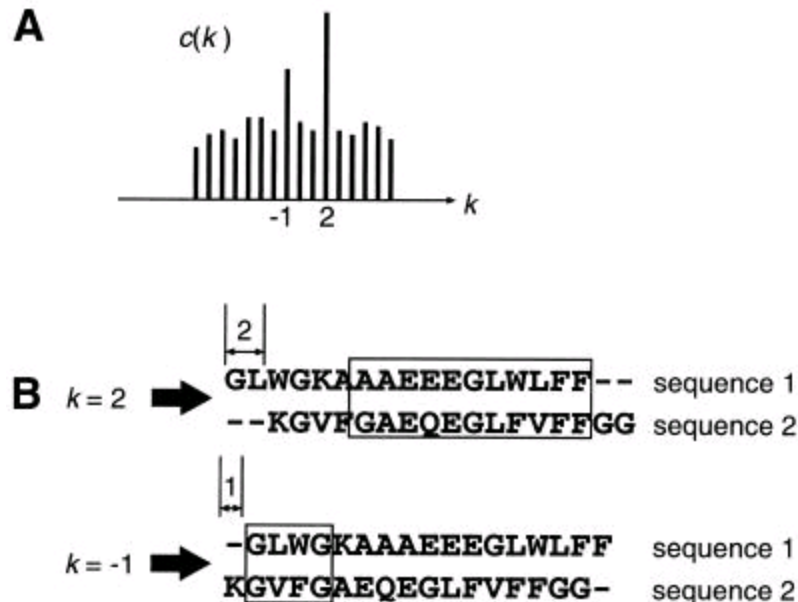
# More recent improved methods

## Faster and/or more accurate

- *See recent reviews by:*
  - *Edgar and Batzoglou, Current Opin. Struct. Biol. (2006) 16:368-373*
  - *Notredame, PLoS Comp Biol. (2007) 3:e123*
- FFT for speed; combine local and global alignments; iterative refinements; use additional types of information (such as structure) if available; maximize consistency with pairwise alignments

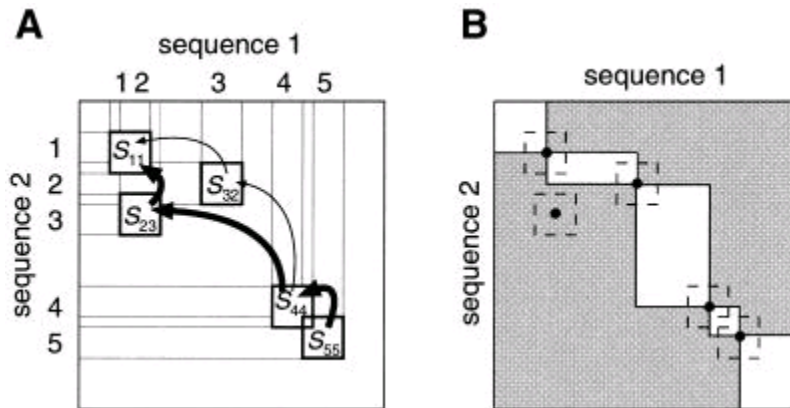
# MAFFT - multiple alignment using Fast Fourier Transform, Katoh et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 30:3059-3066 (2002)

- Recode aa sequence into lists of properties (eg. volume, polarity)
- Considering all possible shifts of ungapped sequences, identify the shifts with high similarity
- Can be computed in  $O(L/nL)$  time instead of  $O(L^2)$





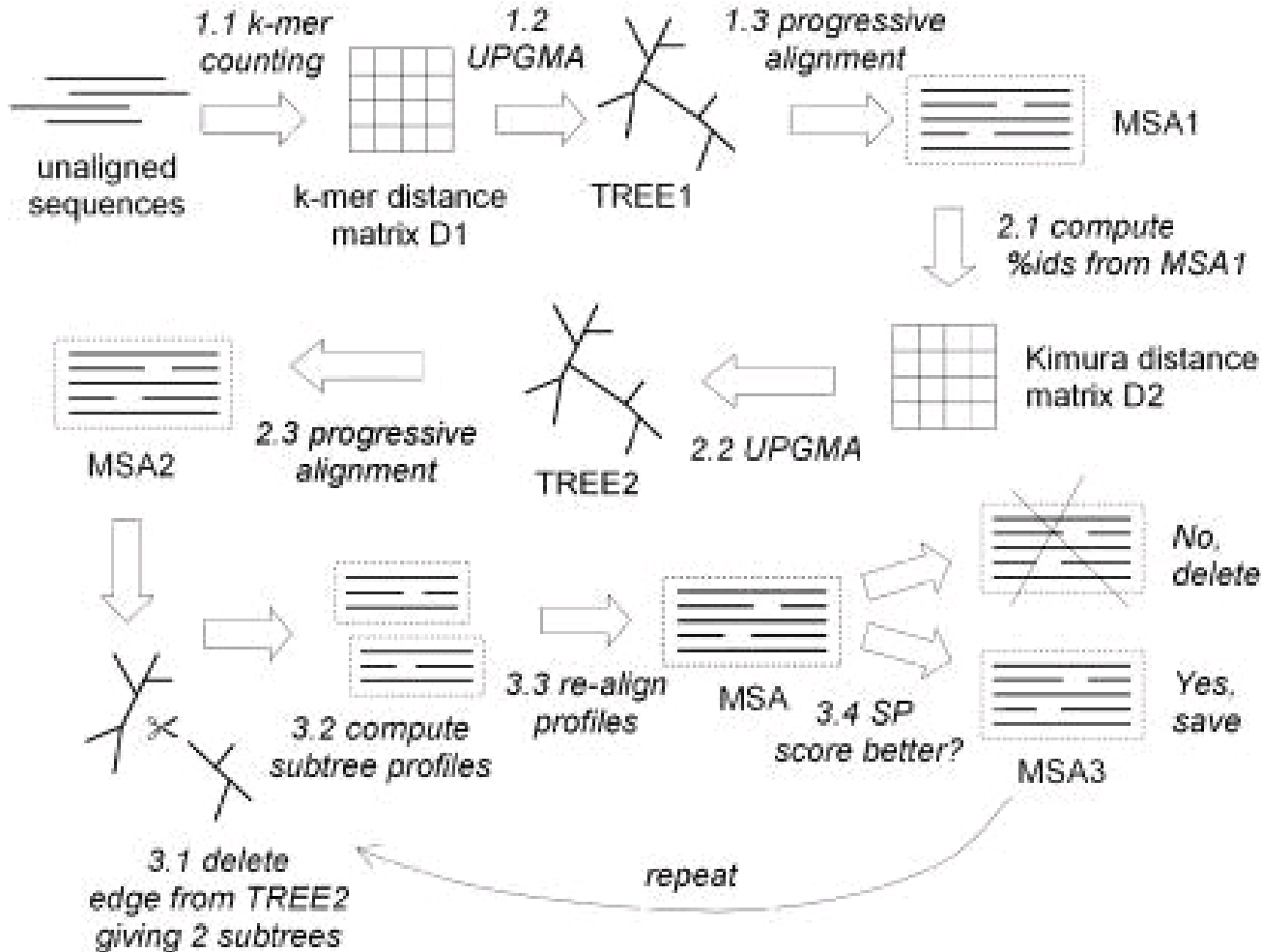
- Gives locally aligned, ungapped segments
- Can be “stitched” together with DP to give global alignment



- The order of pairwise alignments is still based on a guide tree
- The whole process can be iterated to refine the alignment
  - At each iteration the alignment from the previous iteration is used for the guide tree, and the overall alignment can be broken into pieces that are optimized separately



# MUSCLE: a multiple sequence alignment method with reduced time and space complexity, RC Edgar, BMC Bioinformatics, 2004, 5:113



If only first 2 steps:  
 $O(N^2L + NL^2)$

If third refinement  
step is included:  
 $O(N^3L)$

Avoids first step,  
all-by-all alignment  
from ClustalW, which  
is  $O(N^2L^2)$



# An alternative scoring system (objective function)

- Maximize consistency in multiple alignment with each of the optimal pairwise alignments
- Basic idea: given three sequences A, B, C  
Pairwise alignments of A:B and B:C  
infers an alignment of A:C  
How well does that match the pairwise alignment of A:C ?  
Goal: Find most consistent multiple alignment.

# Outline of T-Coffee

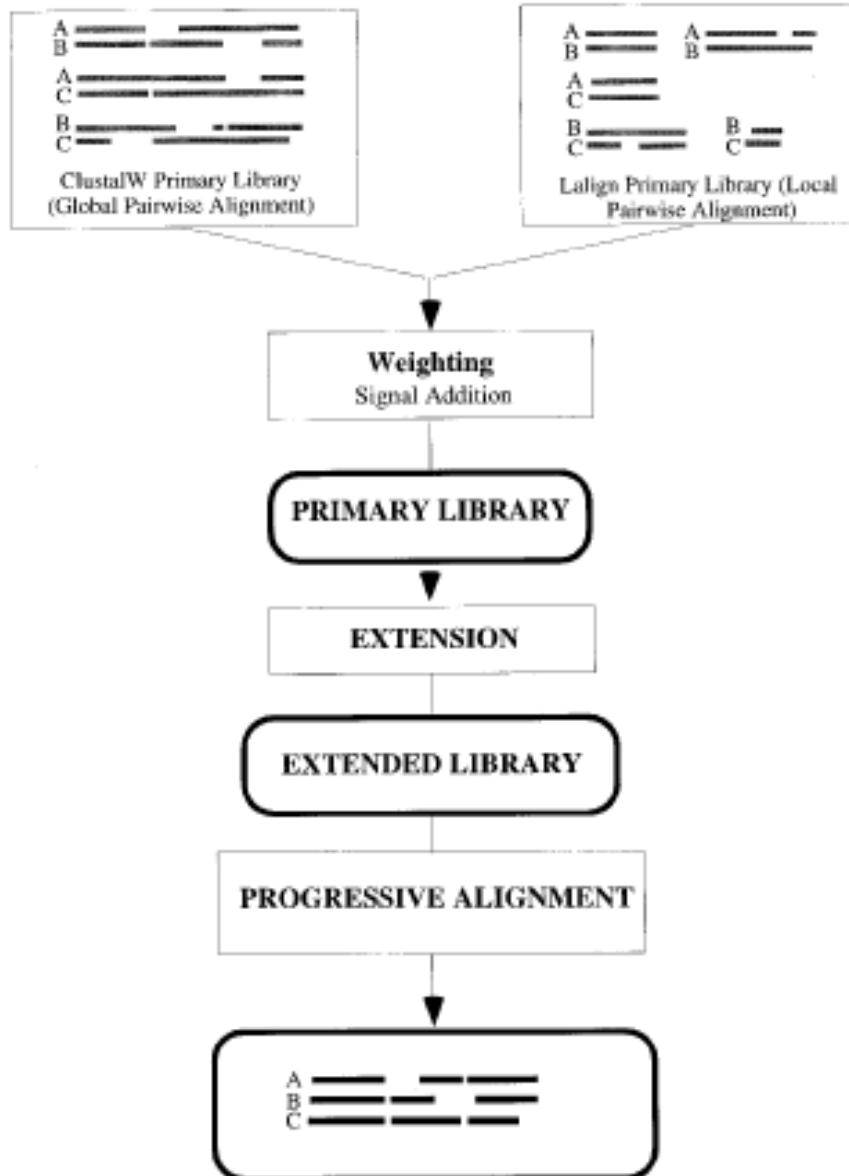
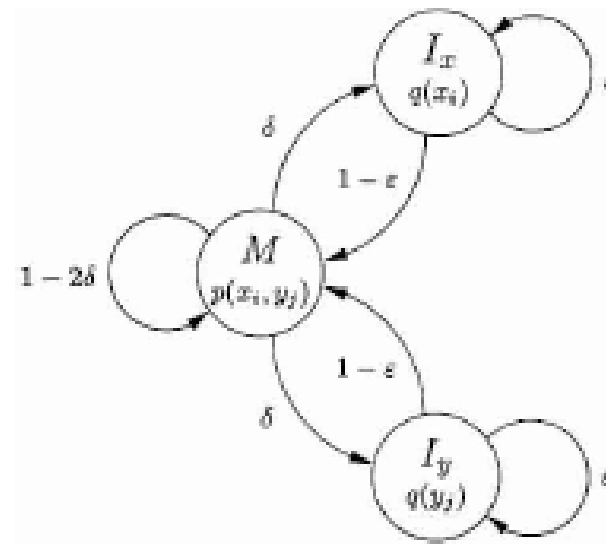


Figure 1. Layout of the T-Coffee strategy; the main steps required to compute a multiple sequence alignment using the T-Coffee method. Square blocks designate procedures while rounded blocks indicate data structures.

# ProbCons: Probabilistic consistency-based multiple sequence alignment

Chuong B. Do, Mahathi S.P. Mahabhashyam, Michael Brudno and Serafim Batzoglou

*Genome Res.* 2005 15: 330-340



**Figure 1.** Basic pair-HMM for sequence alignment between two sequences,  $x$  and  $y$ . State  $M$  emits two letters, one from each sequence, and corresponds to the two letters being aligned together. State  $I_x$  emits a letter in sequence  $x$  that is aligned to a gap, and similarly state  $I_y$  emits a letter in sequence  $y$  that is aligned to a gap. Finding the most likely alignment according to this model by using the Viterbi algorithm corresponds to applying Needleman–Wunsch with appropriate parameters. The logarithm of the emission probability function  $p(\cdot, \cdot)$  at  $M$  corresponds to a substitution scoring matrix, while affine gap penalty parameters can be derived from the transition probabilities  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$  (Durbin et al. 1998).



# ProbsCon details:

1. Pairwise alignment probabilities for all pairs of sequences; forward-backward using a similarity matrix (BLOSSUM62)
2. Find maximum *expected accuracy* alignment; i.e. alignment with maximum number of expected correct aligned pairs
3. Probabilistic consistency transform; find highest accuracy alignment of X:Y by  $\sum_z \sum_k P(x_i:z_k)P(y_j:z_k)$
4. Guide tree determination based on expected accuracy
5. Progressive alignment based on expected accuracy

Refinement can be done at the end if desired





# Revisit the scoring system issue

- ⊙ **Sum-of-Pairs (SoP) assumes a single similarity matrix is appropriate for all positions – the same as for pair-wise alignments**
- ⊙ **Want to have a position specific scoring matrix (PSSM) – Profiles implement this using SoP**
- ⊙ **HMM-profiles provide probabilistic scoring that is position specific**

# Profile analysis: Detection of distantly related proteins

(amino acid/sequence comparison/protein structure/globin structure/immunoglobulin structure)

MICHAEL GRIBSKOV\*, ANDREW D. McLACHLAN†, AND DAVID EISENBERG\*

b

POS	PROBE	CONSENSUS	PROFILE																				
			A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	M	N	P	Q	R	S	T	V	W	Y	+/-
1	EGVVL	V	3	-2	3	4	0	4	-1	3	-1	4	4	1	1	-2	1	2	6	-6	-2	9	
2	LLSP	L	2	-2	-2	-1	3	0	-1	3	-1	6	5	-1	3	0	-1	3	1	4	1	-1	9
3	VVVV	V	2	2	-2	-2	2	2	-3	11	-2	8	6	-2	1	-2	-2	0	2	15	-9	-1	9
4	KEAT	A	6	-2	5	6	-5	4	1	0	5	-2	0	3	3	3	1	3	6	0	-6	-4	9
5	APLP	P	6	-1	0	1	-2	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	8	2	0	2	2	3	-5	-4	9
6	GGGG	G	7	1	7	5	-6	15	-1	-3	0	-4	-3	4	3	2	-3	6	4	2	-11	-7	9
7	SSQE	D	4	-1	7	7	-6	7	2	-2	2	-3	-2	4	3	6	1	6	2	-1	-6	-5	9
8	SSTP	S	4	4	2	2	-4	4	-1	0	2	-3	-2	2	7	0	1	10	6	0	-2	-4	9
9	VLVA	V	5	0	-1	-1	3	1	-2	7	-2	7	6	-1	1	-1	-3	0	2	10	-5	-1	9
10	KRRS	R	0	-1	1	1	-5	0	2	-2	8	-3	1	3	3	3	10	5	1	-2	7	-5	9
11	MLII	I	0	-2	-3	-2	7	-3	-3	11	-1	11	10	-2	-1	-2	-2	1	9	-3	1	9	
12	SSTS	S	4	6	2	2	-3	5	-1	0	2	-3	-2	3	4	-1	1	12	6	0	0	-4	9
13	CCCC	C	3	15	-5	-5	-1	2	-1	3	-5	-8	-6	-3	1	-6	-3	7	3	3	-13	10	9
14	KSQR	K	1	-2	3	3	-6	1	3	-2	7	-3	0	3	3	5	7	4	1	-2	2	-5	9
15	AAGS	A	10	3	4	3	-5	8	-1	-1	1	-2	-1	3	4	1	-2	7	4	2	-6	-4	9
16	TSDS	S	4	3	5	4	-5	6	0	0	2	-3	-2	4	3	1	1	9	6	0	-3	-4	9
17	GGSQ	G	5	1	6	5	-6	9	1	-2	1	-3	-2	4	3	4	0	6	3	0	-6	-6	9
18	YFLS	F	-1	2	-4	-3	9	-3	0	4	-3	6	3	-1	-3	-3	-3	1	-1	2	7	7	9
19	TTRL	T	1	-2	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	3	1	7	2	1	-2	9
20	FF.L	F	-2	-3	-6	-4	10	-4	-1	6	-4	9	6	-3	-4	-4	-3	-2	-1	3	7	8	4
21	SS.D	S	3	2	5	4	-4	5	0	-1	2	-3	-2	4	3	1	1	8	2	-1	-2	-3	4
22	S.SS	S	2	3	1	1	-2	3	-1	0	1	-2	-1	2	2	0	1	8	2	0	1	-2	4
23	. . . G	G	2	0	2	1	-2	4	0	0	0	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	2	1	1	-3	-2	4
24	. . . D	D	1	-1	4	3	-2	2	1	0	1	-1	-1	2	1	2	0	1	1	0	-3	-1	4
25	. . . G	G	2	0	2	1	-2	4	0	0	0	-1	-1	1	1	1	-1	2	1	1	-3	-2	4
26	. AGN	A	6	0	4	3	-4	6	1	-1	1	-2	-1	5	2	2	-1	3	3	1	-5	-3	4
27	YNYT	Y	0	5	0	-1	5	-1	2	1	-1	0	-1	4	-3	-2	-2	0	3	0	3	6	4
28	EDDY	D	2	-2	9	8	-3	3	4	-1	1	-3	-2	5	-1	4	-1	1	1	-1	-6	0	9
29	LMAL	L	3	-5	-3	-1	6	-1	-2	6	-1	10	10	-2	0	0	-2	-1	0	6	-1	0	9
30	YNAW	N	4	1	3	2	0	2	3	-1	1	-1	-1	8	0	1	-1	2	1	-1	-1	2	9
.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
48	SGNS	S	4	3	5	3	-4	7	0	-2	2	-4	-3	6	3	1	0	10	3	0	-2	-4	9
49	SSNY	S	2	5	2	1	1	2	1	0	1	-2	-2	5	1	-1	0	8	1	-1	3	1	9



# Profile HMMs

*J. Mol. Biol.* (1994) 235, 1501–1531

## Hidden Markov Models in Computational Biology Applications to Protein Modeling

Anders Krogh<sup>1†</sup>, Michael Brown<sup>1</sup>, I. Saira Mian<sup>2</sup>  
Kimmen Sjölander<sup>1</sup> and David Haussler<sup>1‡</sup>

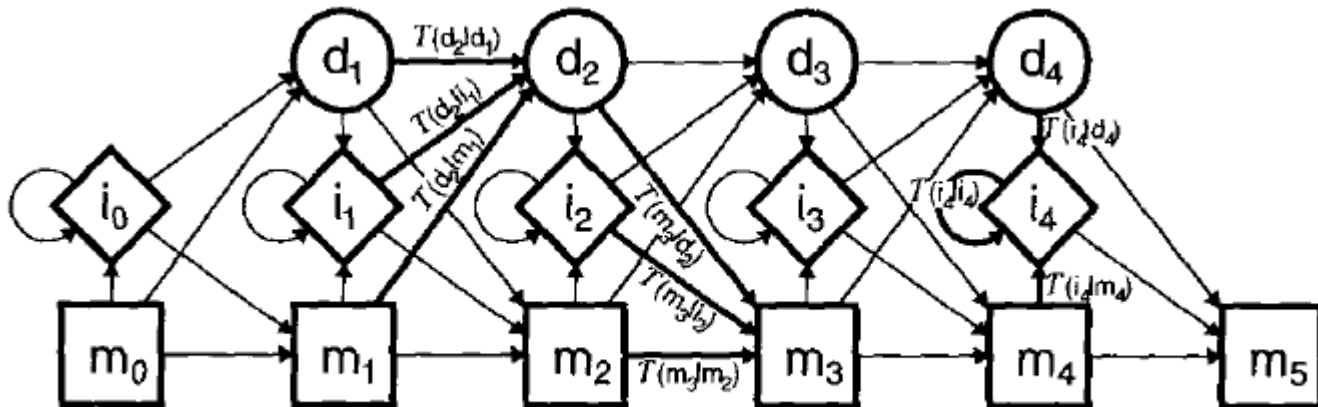
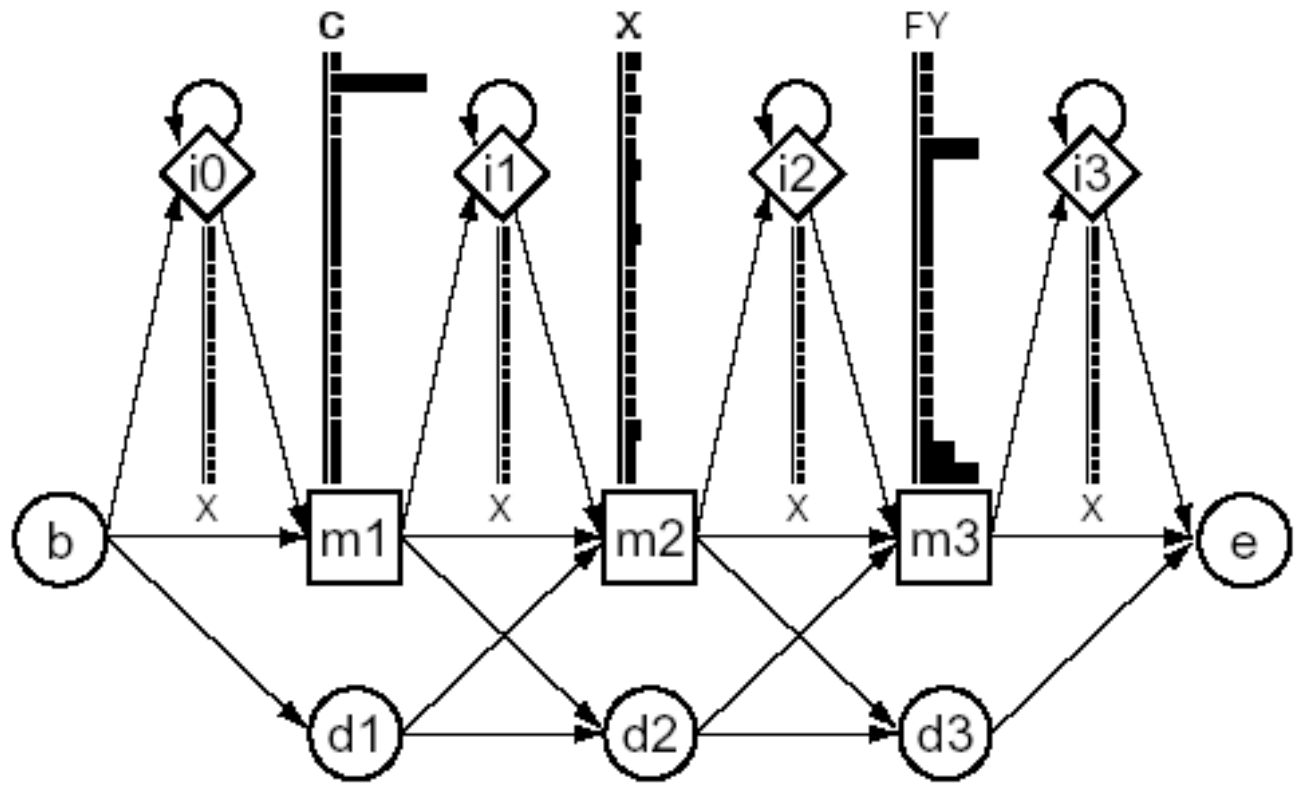


Figure 1. The model.



1	2	3
C	A	F
C	G	W
C	D	Y
C	V	F
C	K	Y



Review: "Profile hidden Markov models"  
 by Eddy SR. *Bioinformatics*. 1998;14(9):755-63.



## HMM-Profiles:

- Given an alignment, can estimate parameters
  - Emission Probabilities
  - Transition probabilities
    - Pfam database of HMM-profiles  
[www.sanger.ac.uk/Software/Pfam/](http://www.sanger.ac.uk/Software/Pfam/)
- Given an HMM and another sequence, can find best alignment by Viterbi (i.e. DP)
- Can iterate between those steps (EM):  
start with unaligned sequences and end up with an alignment and a model that represents the family

Limitations: over-fitting from small sample sizes  
use of priors can help  
choice of model architecture, refinement  
weighting of sequence contributions



# Parameters obtained from an alignment

- All of the transition and emission probabilities can be obtained from the alignment just by “counting” how often each occurs
- Need a large sample size to estimate all of the parameters accurately
- Can add pseudocounts to avoid 0's
  - Laplace “add 1” rule is common
- Can use more complex priors (Dirichlet) that differ for different residues and even mixtures of Dirichlet priors

Find best alignment of a sequence to an HMM

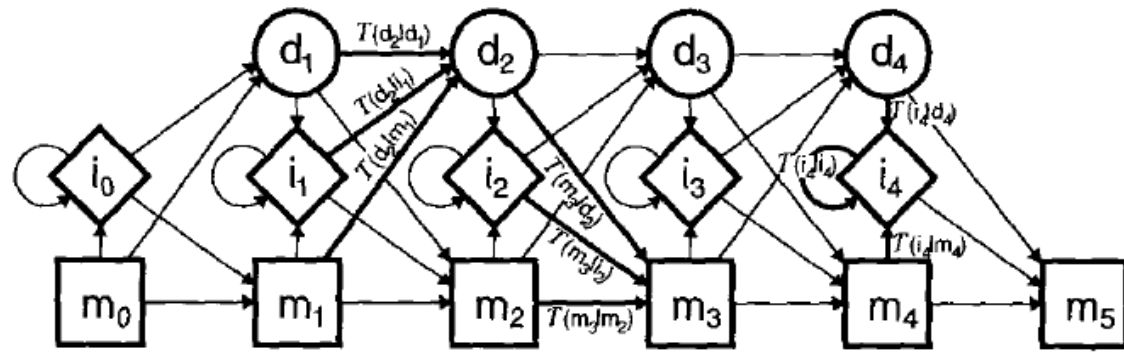


Figure 1. The model.

## Viterbi algorithm

$$V_j^M(i) = \log \frac{e_{M_j}(x_i)}{q_{x_i}} + \max \begin{cases} V_{j-1}^M(i-1) + \log a_{M_{j-1}M_j} \\ V_{j-1}^I(i-1) + \log a_{I_{j-1}M_j} \\ V_{j-1}^D(i-1) + \log a_{D_{j-1}M_j} \end{cases}$$

$$V_j^I(i) = \log \frac{e_{I_j}(x_i)}{q_{x_i}} + \max \begin{cases} V_{j-1}^M(i-1) + \log a_{M_{j-1}I_j} \\ V_{j-1}^I(i-1) + \log a_{I_{j-1}I_j} \\ V_{j-1}^D(i-1) + \log a_{D_{j-1}I_j} \end{cases}$$

$$V_j^D(i) = \max \begin{cases} V_{j-1}^M(i-1) + \log a_{M_{j-1}D_j} \\ V_{j-1}^I(i-1) + \log a_{I_{j-1}D_j} \\ V_{j-1}^D(i-1) + \log a_{D_{j-1}D_j} \end{cases}$$

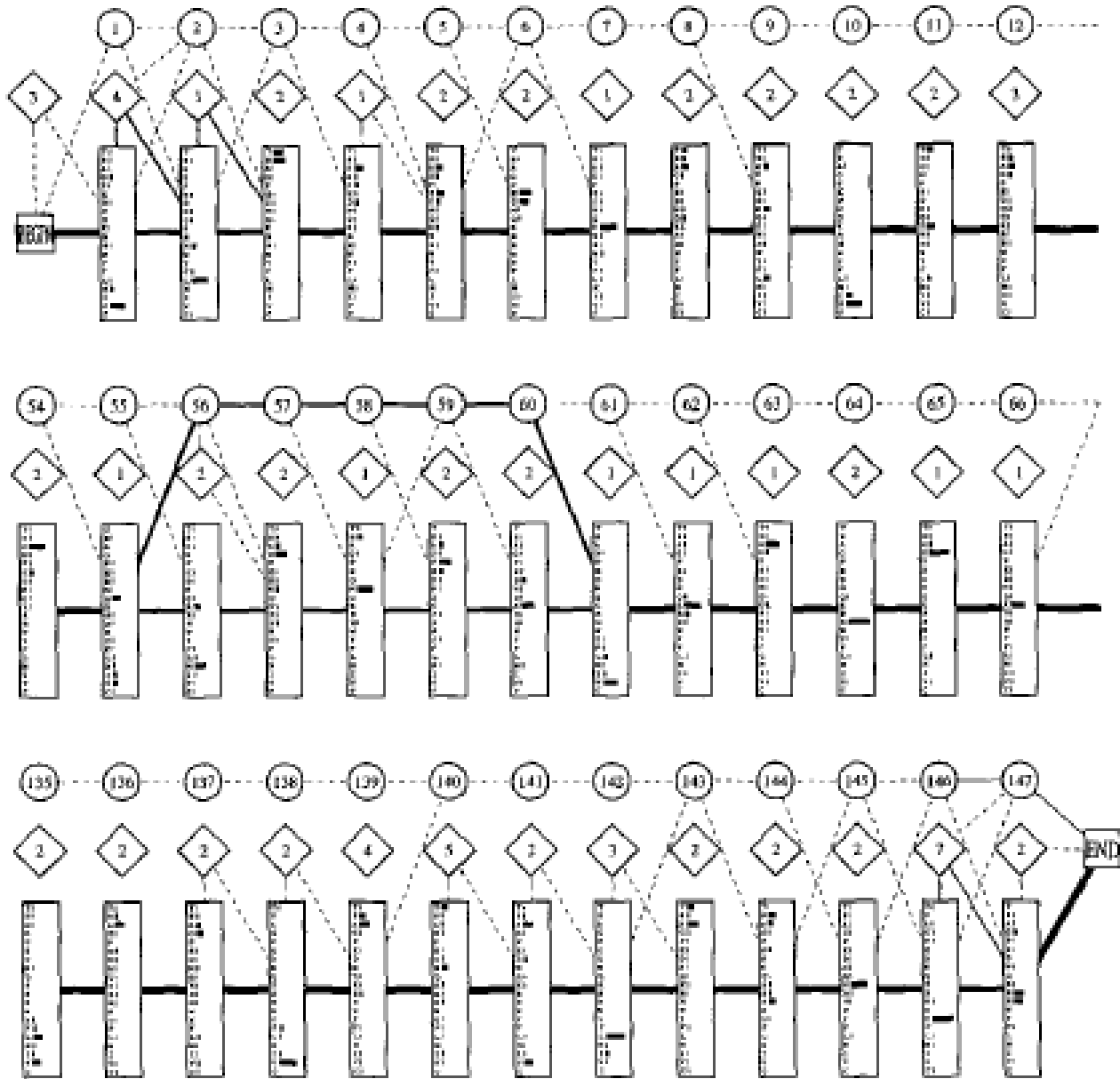


Figure 8. Parts of the final globin model. The position numbers are shown in the delete states.



Find probability that a sequence is “generated” by an HMM

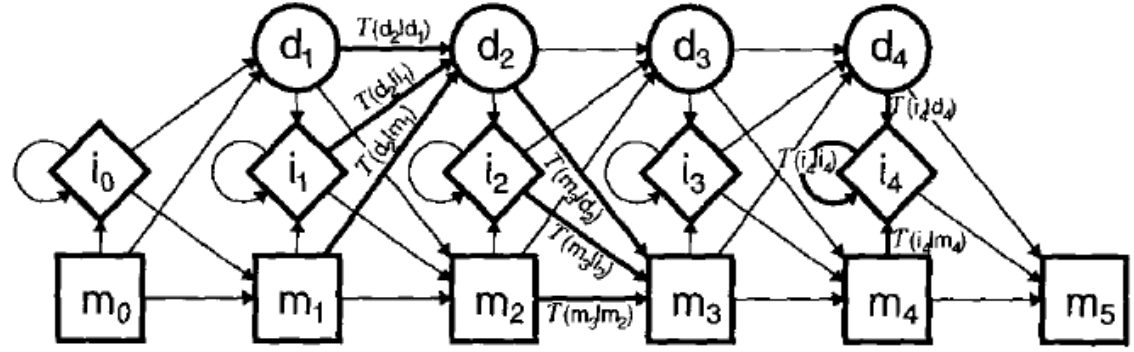


Figure 1. The model.

### Forward algorithm

$$F_j^M(i) = \log \frac{e_{M_j}(x_i)}{q_{x_i}} + \log \begin{cases} a_{M_{j-1}M_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^M(i-1)) \\ + a_{I_{j-1}M_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^I(i-1)) \\ + a_{D_{j-1}M_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^D(i-1)) \end{cases}$$

$$F_j^I(i) = \log \frac{e_{I_j}(x_i)}{q_{x_i}} + \log \begin{cases} a_{M_{j-1}I_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^M(i-1)) \\ + a_{I_{j-1}I_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^I(i-1)) \\ + a_{D_{j-1}I_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^D(i-1)) \end{cases}$$

$$F_j^D(i) = \log \begin{cases} a_{M_{j-1}D_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^M(i-1)) \\ + a_{I_{j-1}D_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^I(i-1)) \\ + a_{D_{j-1}D_j} \exp(F_{j-1}^D(i-1)) \end{cases}$$



# Acknowledgement

Most of the slides in this chapter were provided by Prof. Gary Stormo.