

# Sequence Comparison MSA (Part 2)

---

**patterns/motifs**

曹志伟

# Recap

---

- ❑ **Biological Databases**
- ❑ **Sequence analysis**
- ❑ **Sequence comparisons**
  - local and global alignment
  - Substitution matrices
- ❑ **BLAST and its uses**
  - Query sequence database;
  - How different BLAST variants allow searching different types of sequences
  - Why apparent significance from BLAST depends on the size of the database
- ❑ **MSA:**
  - building up a family of related sequences from a set of pairwise alignments

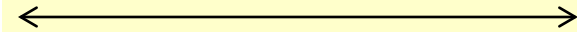
# 是否有consensus?

## □ Multiple Sequence Alignment

	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....
	665	675	685	695	705
Sp1	ACTCPYCKDS	EGRGSG----	DPGKKKQHIC	HIQGCGKVYG	KTSHLRAHLR
Sp2	ACTCPNCKDG	EKRS-----	GEQGKKKHVC	HIPDCGKTFR	KTSLRAHVR
Sp3	ACTCPNCKEG	GGRGTN----	-LGKKKQHIC	HIPGCGKVYG	KTSHLRAHLR
Sp4	ACSCPNCREG	EGRGSN----	EPGKKKQHIC	HIEGCGKVYG	KTSHLRAHLR
DrosBtd	RCTCPNCTNE	MSGLPPIVGP	DERGRKQHIC	HIPGCERLYG	KASHLKTHLR
DrosSp	TCDCPNCQEA	ERLGPAV--	HLRKKNIHSC	HIPGCGKVYG	KTSHLKAHLR
CeT22C8.5	RCTCPNCKAI	KHG-----	DRGSQHTHLC	SVPGCGKTYK	KTSHLRAHLR
Y40B1A.4	PQISLKKKIF	FFIFSNER--	GDGKSRIHIC	HL--CNKTYG	KTSHLRAHLR

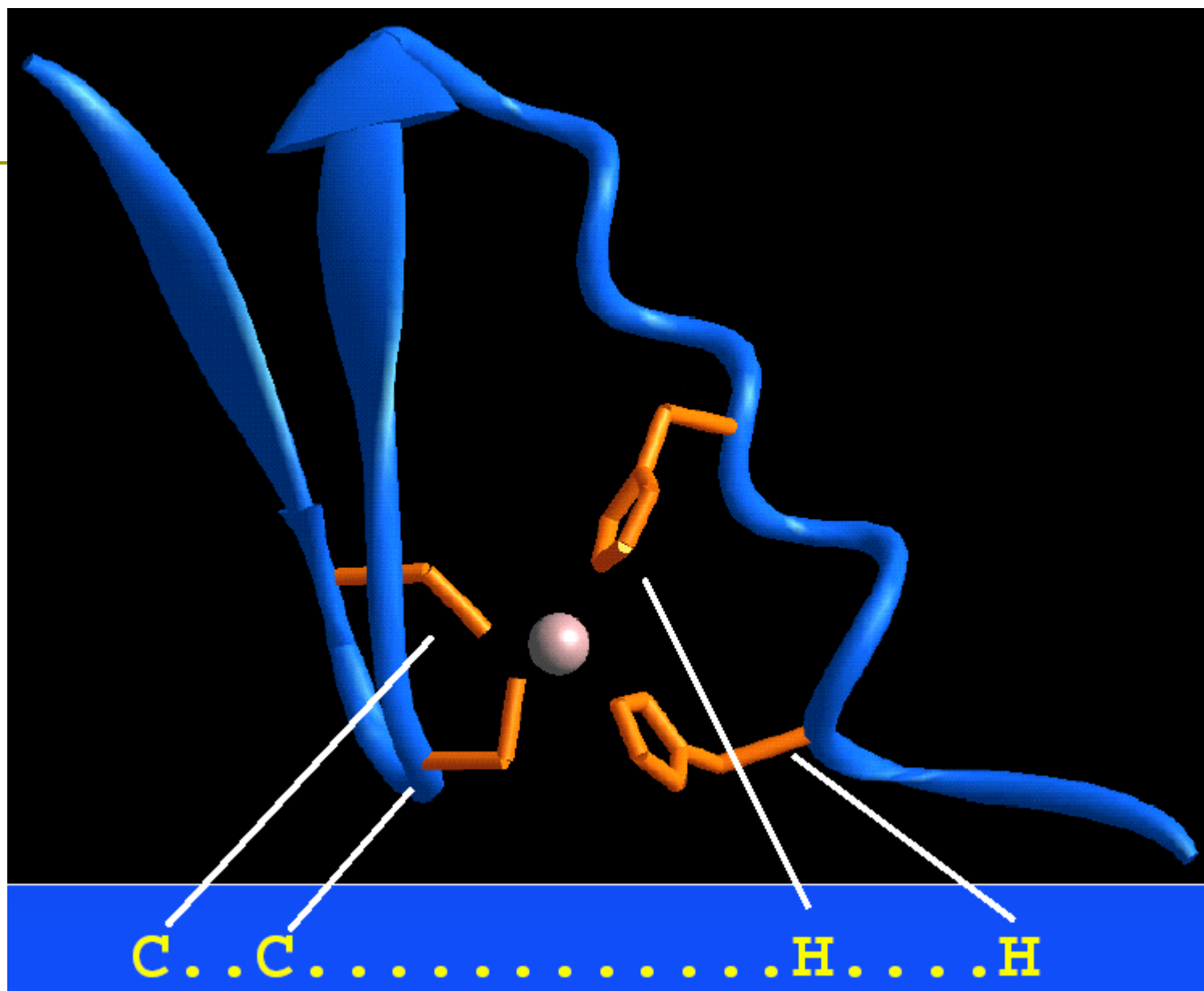
## C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> Zinc finger motif

	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....	.... ....
	665	675	685	695	705	715
Sp1	ACTCPYCKDS	EGRGSG----	DPGKKKQHIC	HIQGCCKVYG	KTSHLRAHLR	WHTGERPFMC
Sp2	ACTCPNCKDG	EKRS-----	GEQGKKKHVC	HIPDCGKTFR	KTSLRLAHVR	LHTGERPFVC
Sp3	ACTCPNCKEG	GGRGTN----	-LGKKKQHIC	HIPGCCKVYG	KTSHLRAHLR	WHSGERPFVC
Sp4	ACSCPNCREG	EGRGSN----	EPGKKKQHIC	HIEGCCKVYG	KTSHLRAHLR	WHTGERPFIC
DrosBtd	RCTCPNCTNE	MSGLPPIVGP	DERGRKQHIC	HIPGCERLYG	KASHLKTHLR	WHTGERPFLC
DrosSp	TCDCPNCQEA	ERLGPAGV--	HLRKKNIHSC	HIPGCCKVYG	KTSHLKAHLR	WHTGERPFVC
CeT22C8.5	RCTCPNCKAI	KHG-----	DRGSQHTLHC	SVPGCCKTYK	KTSHLRAHLR	KHTGDRPFVC
Y40B1A.4	PQISLKKKIF	FFIFSNER--	GDGKSRIHIC	HL--CNKTYG	KTSHLRAHLR	GHAGNKPFC



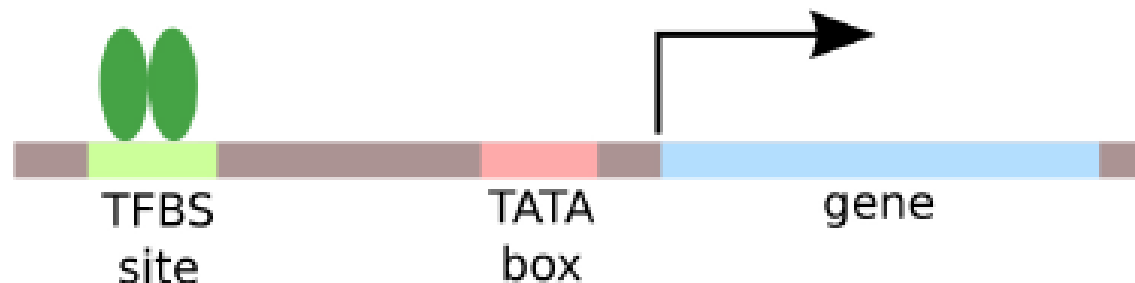
## Prosite pattern

**C-x(2,4)-C-x(12)-H-x(3)-H**



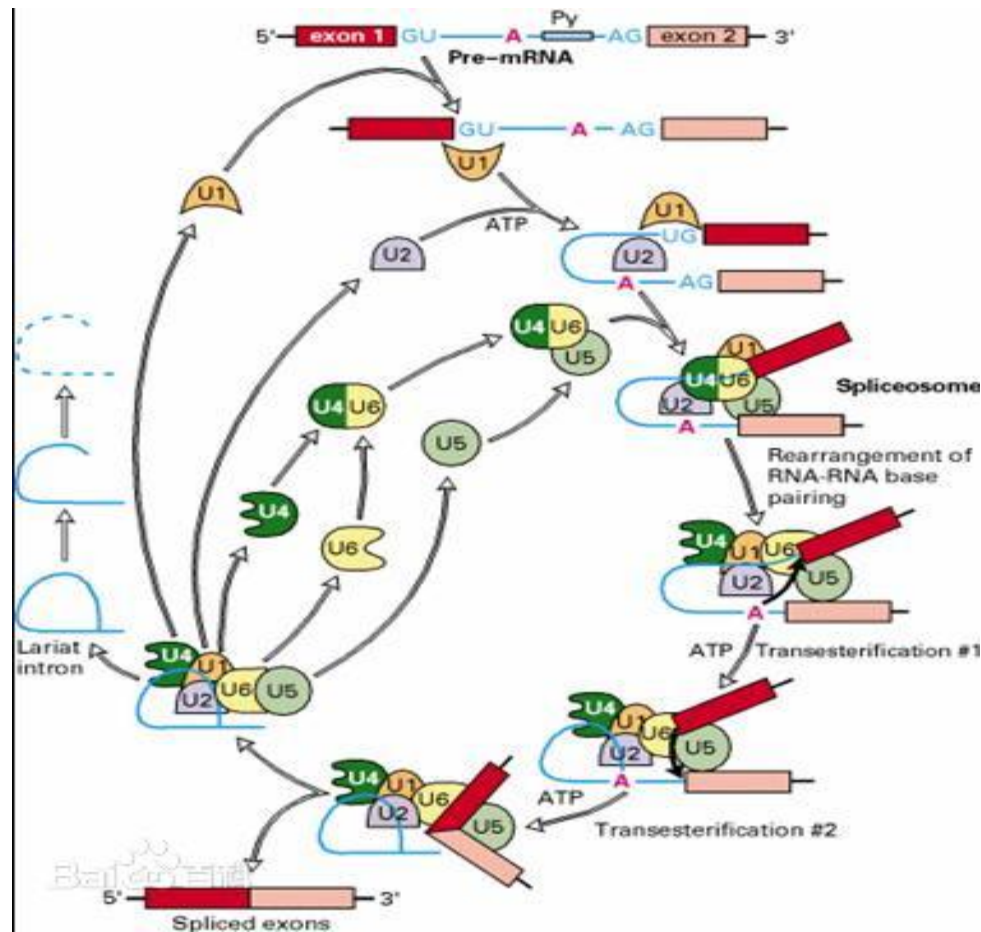
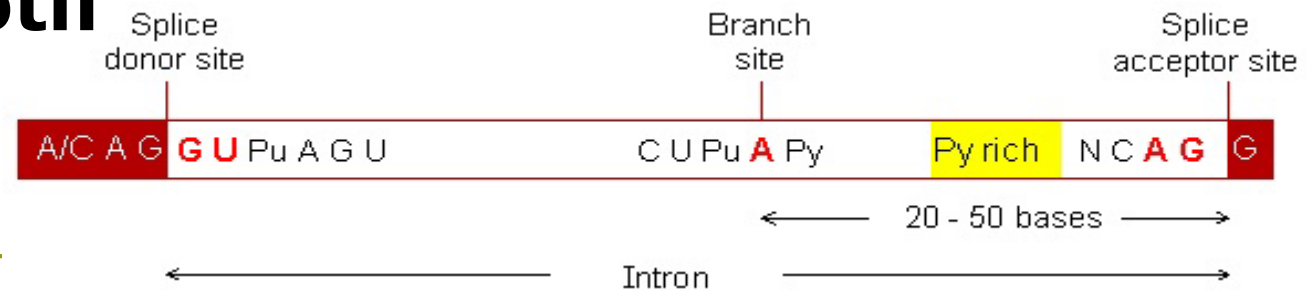
## DNA regulatory binding motifs I

We often consider promoters and other elements in DNA sequences that serve to regulate gene expression



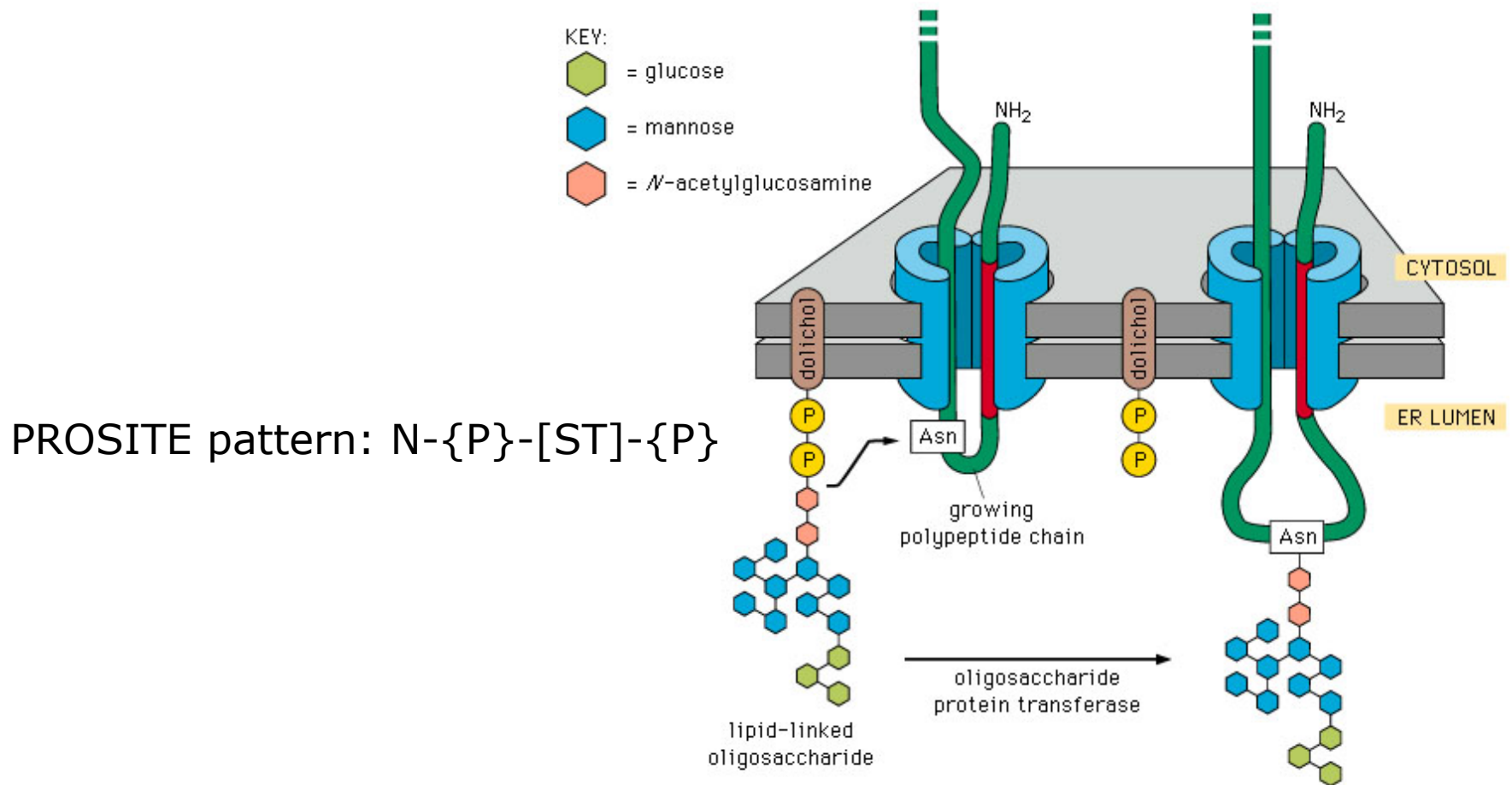
The transcription factor binding site sequence influences binding affinity and regulatory strength. The cartoon above fits the *GAL4* transcriptional activator and many others.

# RNA motif



# Protein motif

**Many eukaryotic proteins translated at the rough endoplasmic reticulum are subject to N-linked glycosylation**





# Some key terms

---

## □ Motif

- Common elements shared by a group of sequences.
- Indicative of functional or evolutionary relationship.
- Eg. N-Glycosylation site, N- $\{P\}$ -[ST]- $\{P\}$

---

## □ Pattern

- “A consistent, characteristic form, style, or method, as a composite of traits or features characteristic of an individual or a group.”  
(dictionary.com)
- A physical expression of a motif.
- Many forms of expression.

- 
- Profile: A quantitative description of a pattern or motif
  - using a position dependent scoring system
  - patterns : formal, qualitative description of sequence motifs,
  - profiles : quantitative models.

---

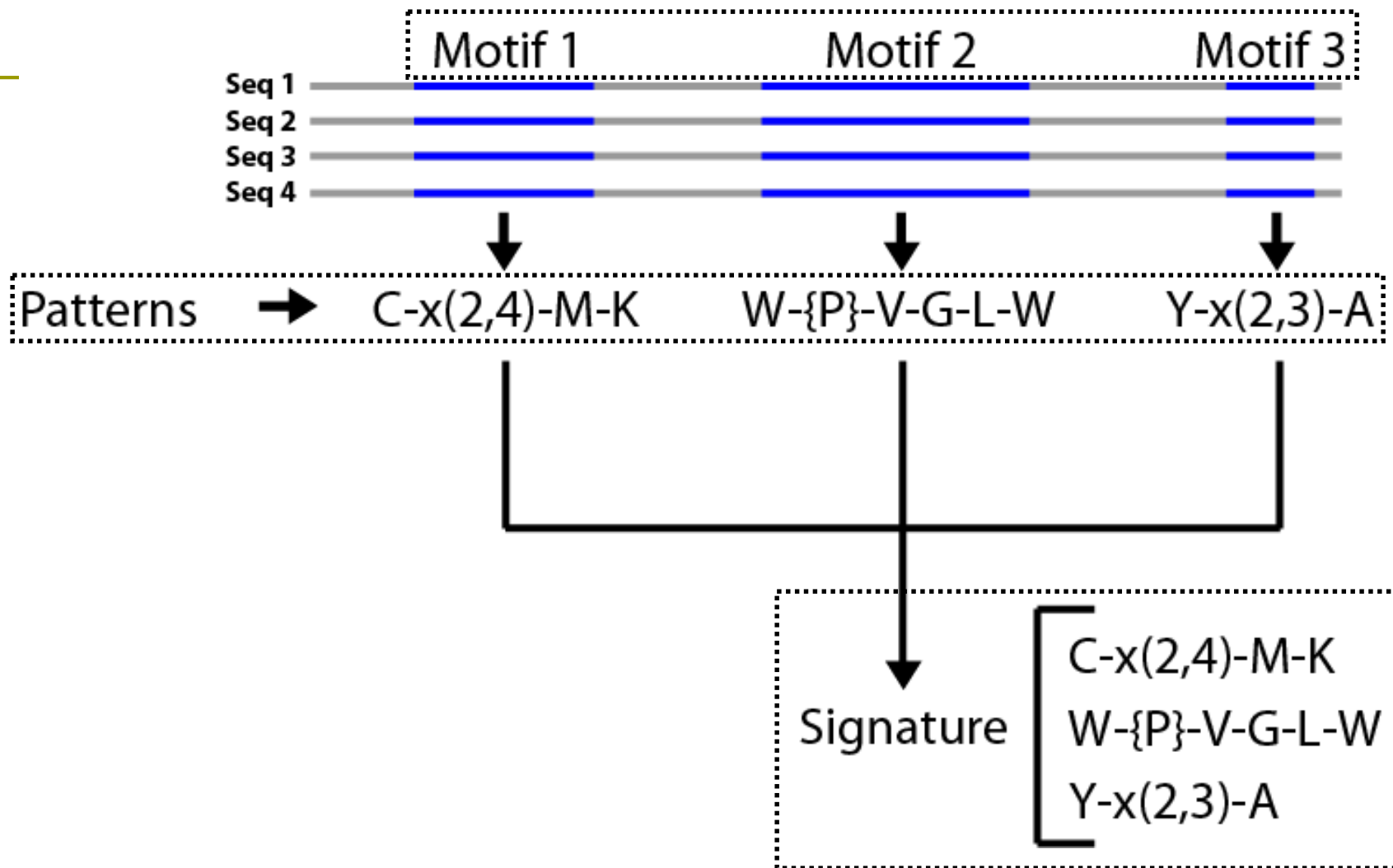
## □ Signature/Print

- A set of patterns that defines a group of sequences having a certain common characteristic.
- Bacterial Rhodopsin (2 patterns)
  - R-Y-x-[DT]-W-x-[LIVMF]-[ST]-T-P-[LIVM](3)
  - [FYIV]-x-[FYVG]-[LIVM]-D-[LIVMF]-x-[STA]-K-x(2)-[FY]



A single point is not  
indicative of identity.

But many points  
allow for  
identification.



# Types of Patterns

---

## □ DNA

- Restriction Endonuclease sites
- DNA binding motifs
- Transcription Factor binding sites
- Splicing site motifs
- Other signals

## Examples of specific transcription factors<sup>[79]</sup>

Factor	Structural type	Recognition sequence	Binds as
<b>SP1</b>	Zinc finger	5'-GGGCGG-3'	Monomer
<b>AP-1</b>	Basic zipper	5'-TGA(G/C)TCA-3'	Dimer
<b>C/EBP</b>	Basic zipper	5'-ATTGCGCAAT-3'	Dimer
<b>Heat shock factor</b>	Basic zipper	5'-XGAAX-3'	Trimer
<b>ATF/CREB</b>	Basic zipper	5'-TGACGTCA-3'	Dimer
<b>c-Myc</b>	Basic-helix-loop-helix	5'-CACGTG-3'	Dimer
<b>Oct-1</b>	Helix-turn-helix	5'-ATGCAAAT-3'	Monomer
<b>NF-1</b>	Novel	5'-TTGGCXXXXXGCCAA-3'	Dimer

(G/C) = G or C  
 X = A, T, G or C



---

## □ Protein

- Sequence motifs

  - Zinc finger

  - SH2 domains

- Structural patterns

## □ Structural motif != sequence motif

- structural motifs do not need to share similar sequence in order to adopt similar structure

# Motif...

---

- How should we describe them?
- How can we know whether or not a given sequence fits a given motif?
- How can we discover new motifs?
- How can we detect our new motif in sequence databases?
- How can we test a new sequence against known motifs?

# Representations

---

- ❑ Regular Expression (RE)
- ❑ Prosite Patterns
- ❑ Profiles (PSSM)
- ❑ Hidden Markov Models (HMM)

# PROSITE

---

- ❑ PROSITE is an online resource describing protein domains, families and functional sites as well as **patterns and profiles**
- ❑ PROSITE patterns are **regular expressions** to describe a set of sequences.

# Pattern notation for PROSITE entries

---

Notation	meaning
A	The amino acid A
[ABC]	any one of A or B or C
X	any amino acid at all
{AB}	any amino acid except A or B
A(2)	AA (A repeated exactly 2 times)
<del>A(2,5)</del>	<del>A repeated between 2 and 5 times</del>
x(2,5)	xx OR xxx OR xxxx OR xxxxx

## Additional comments

- The one-letter abbreviation for amino acids is used in all PROSITE patterns
- Adjacent amino acids in PROSITE notation are separated by a hyphen (-). This is how gaps are represented in an MSA.
- How would you represent gaps in an MSA using PROSITE patterns?

# Consensus... try to write

---

## Sequence

1	D	D	G	W	K	-	-	A	L
2	D	G	G	R	-	V	Q	A	L
3	D	G	G	I	L	V	Q	A	Y
4	E	G	G	I	K	V	Q	A	L
5	E	G	G	I	K	V	Q	A	L

consensus

---

# Problems in deriving consensus

Sequence									
1	D	D	G	W	K	-	-	A	L
2	D	G	G	R	-	V	Q	A	L
3	D	G	G	I	L	V	Q	A	Y
4	E	G	G	I	K	V	Q	A	L
5	E	G	G	I	K	V	Q	A	L
consensus	D	G	G	I	K	V	Q	A	L
vote	3/5	4/5	5/5	3/5	3/5	4/5	4/5	5/5	4/5

➤ Fits the pattern [DE]-[DG]-G-[WRI]-[KLVQ](1,3)-A-[LY]

➤ Does not tell us anything about the frequency of occurrence

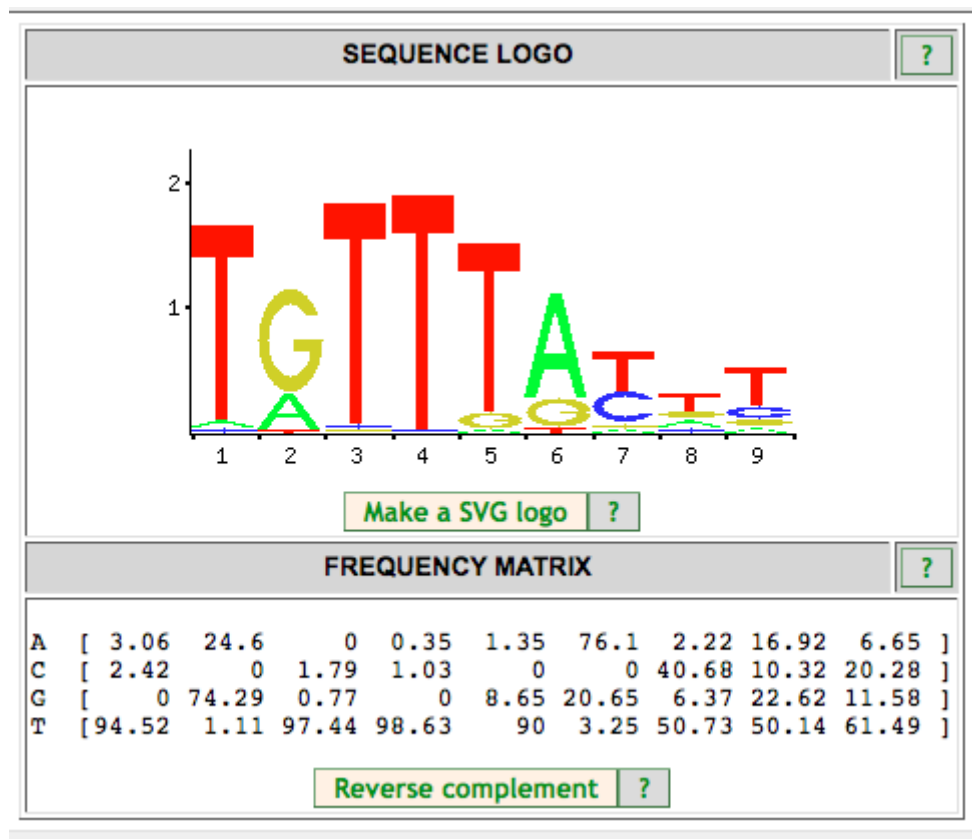


# Limitations of consensus

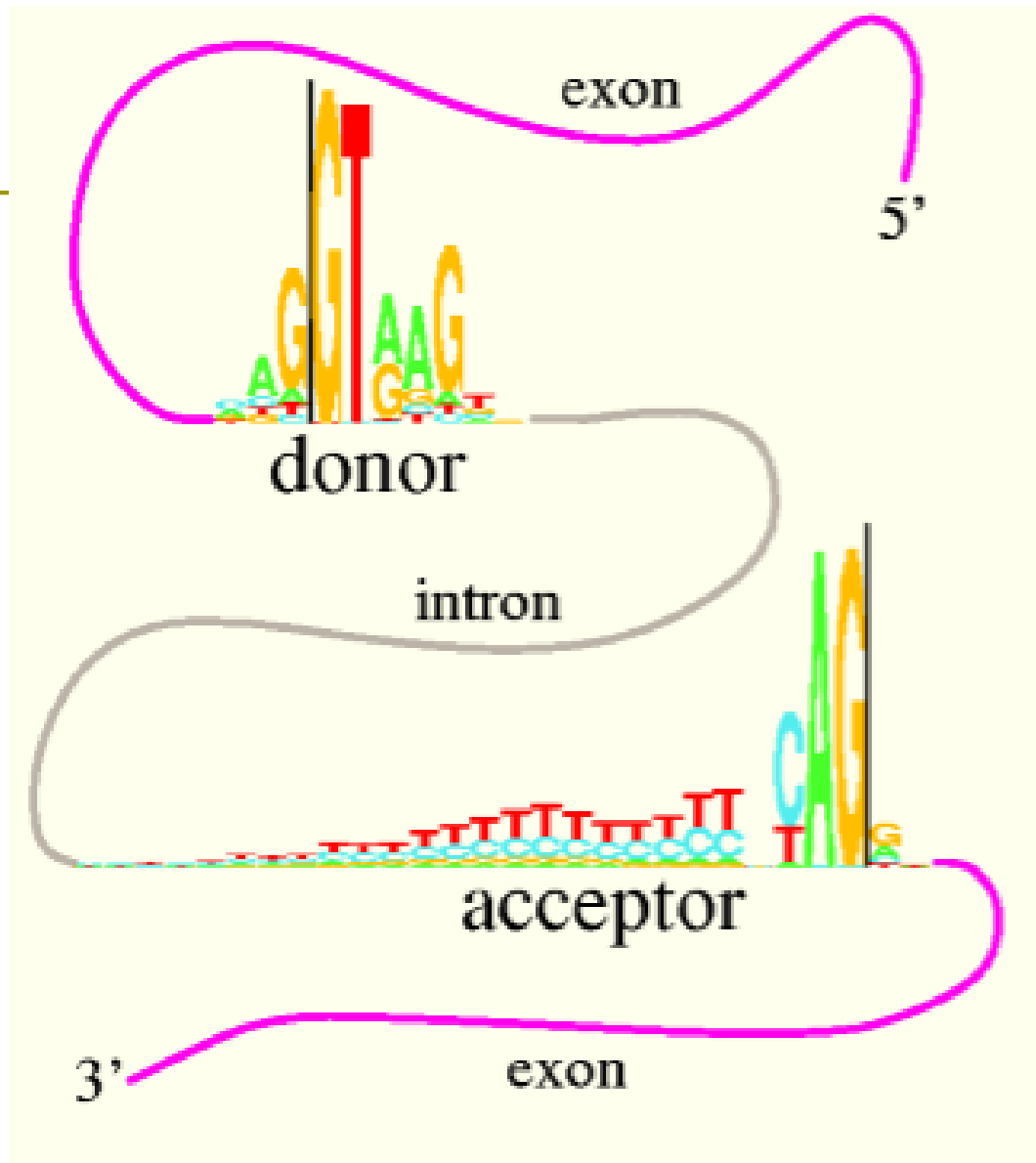
---

- ❑ What if the consensus is weak?
  - Minority, even large minorities
- ❑ What if the consensus is nonexistent?
  - Suppose any amino acid can be at a particular position?
  - A degenerate consensus sequence can handle this in many cases, such as the HindII example above.
- ❑ How can a consensus handle variable-length gaps?
- ❑ Consensus sequences are most useful for highly conserved sequence patterns

# Position Frequency Matrix (PFM)

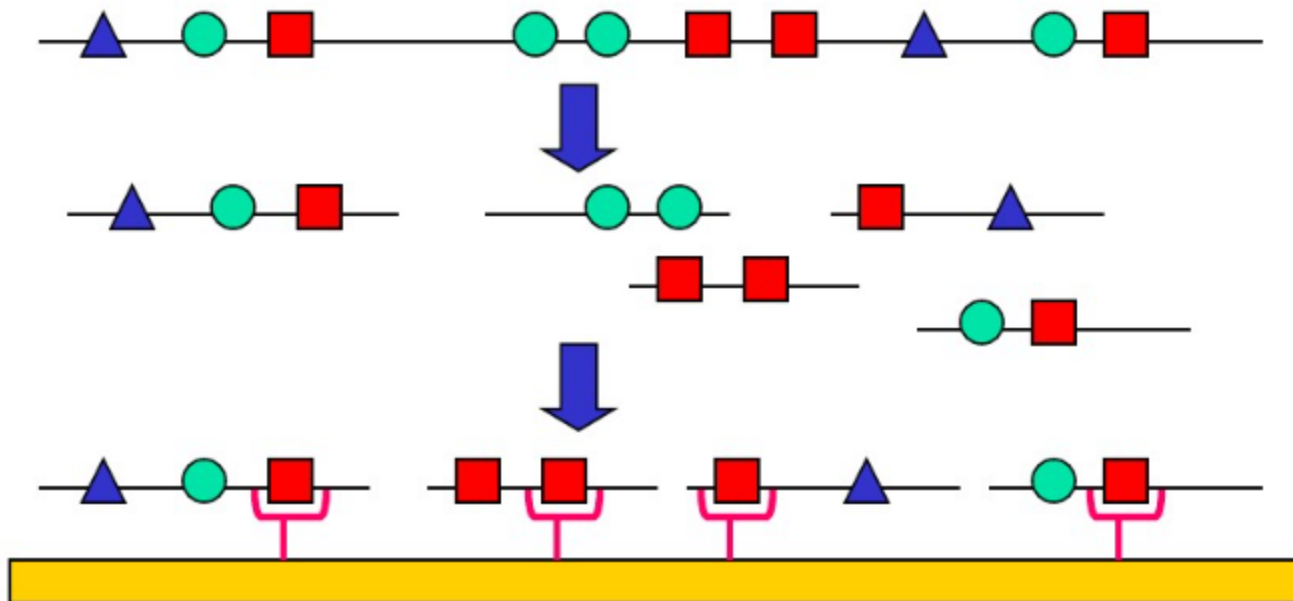


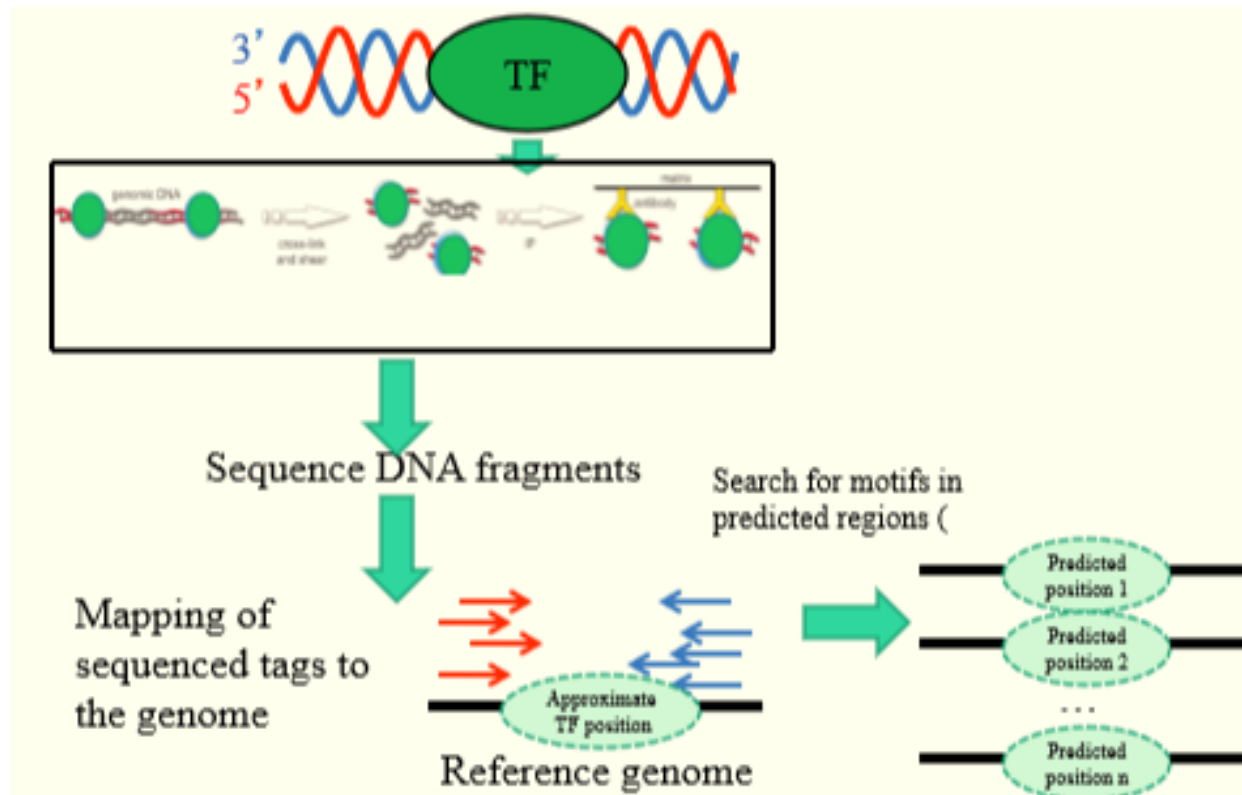
JASPAR: A TF binding site profile database



## HOW TO PROVE A MOTIF (chip-seq)

- Detect the interaction between protein (transcription factor) and DNA.





# Sequence alignment has its limitations

---

- Substitution matrices (BLOSUM, etc.) represents each change as independent of position
  - For example, a Ser -> Ala substitution is given the same penalty no matter where it occurs
- We can see that this is not always a good representation of reality
  - E.g., sometimes a Ser -> Ala substitution may destroy the function of a protein.
  - In that case, should it have the same penalty in sequence alignment as an ordinary Ser -> Ala substitution?

□

TTGACA  
TCGACA  
TTGACA  
TTGAAA  
ATGACA  
TTGACA  
GTGACA  
TTGACT  
TTGACC  
TTGACA

*Consensus  
Pattern*



**TTGACA**

*Positional  
Weight  
Matrix (PWM)*



nucleotide	alignment position					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
A	0.1	0	0	1	0.1	0.8
C	0	0.1	0	0	0.9	0.1
G	0.1	0	1	0	0	0
T	0.8	0.9	0	0	0	0.1

# Position Specific Scoring Matrix (PSSM)

---

- ❑ In the real world of protein sequences:
  - we might not want to use a strict consensus
  - we might not want to use a yes/no criterion like patterns
  - we might not have enough observations to describe all possibilities well by a PFM
- ❑ What do we do?
  - Rather than using frequencies, we would like to use likelihoods of occurrence at each position.



# PSSM

---

- ❑ Position-specific table or matrix containing comparison information for **aligned sequences**.
- ❑ **Columns** represent **positions** in sequences
- ❑ **Rows** contain **score** for alignment of positions with each residue
- Used to find sequences **similar to alignment rather than one sequences**

# Summary

---

- ✓ Interesting biology is encoded in sequence motifs
- ✓ Position matters within sequence motifs
- ✓ Because position matters, pairwise alignment has a hard time detecting motifs.
- ✓ Patterns can be used to define motifs qualitatively
- ✓ Profiles can be used to score motifs quantitatively
- ✓ PSSM can be used to quantitatively score motifs at specific sites
- ✓ Motifs can be used to search sequence Databases
- ✓ Sequences can be used to search pattern and profile databases

## 课堂作业

---

- 网上自学，**PSSM** 构建原理
- 浏览 **Prosite** 网站