

# Multiple sequence alignments and phylogenetic trees

# Multiple sequence alignment (MSA)

B9SI54 | B9SI54\_RICCO\_263\_570  
 Q01I60 | Q01I60\_ORYSA\_160\_476  
 C5Y8S2 | C5Y8S2\_SORBI\_153\_466  
 B4FRR6 | B4FRR6\_MAIZE\_154\_469  
 D7U4G4 | D7U4G4\_VITVI\_82\_394  
 D7M270 | D7M270\_ARALY\_263\_574  
 Q8L7Q7 | PME64\_ARATH\_283\_601  
 D8QSM2 | D8QSM2\_SELML\_242\_541  
 A9TZ89 | A9TZ89\_PHYPA\_262\_575  
 D8SH72 | D8SH72\_SELML\_209\_529

```

-----DAVVAAD-----GSGQFKTIGEALNSYKLNTK--GWYVIYVKAGVYNEHVFIS
--TLRAHATVCNAPSPATTQRCDYSTVQAAIDAAPNHTA--GHFVIKVAAGIYKENVVIP
---IRPDATVCK--PNSGAEP CGYSTVQAAVDAAPNYTA--GHFVIAVAAGTYKENIVIP
---IRPDATVCK--PNSGVKPCGYSTVQAAVDAAPNHTAGAGHFAIAVGAGTYKENVVIP
--SPQPNATVCKG-----GDGCYKTVQEAVNAAAPDNDS--SRKFVIRIQEGVYEETVRVP
-SGLKEDVTVC KD-----GKCGYKTVQDAVNAAAPEDNG--MRKFVIRISEGVYEENVVIP
-SGLTEDVTVC KN-----GGKDCYKTVQEAVDSAPDTNR--TVKFVIRIREGVYEETVRVP
-----SVV-----VGKSGSFKTIQE AID SAPSNSK--ERFSIYIQEGIYDERIYVS
---SPSVTVDI-----YSAFSSIQRAVDLAPDWST--QRYVIYIKTGVYNEVVRIP
ASLISPSAIVSRT--PDQPQLTIFTSIQAAVDHAPNHCT--ARYVIYIKAGVYAENVVRIP
      .                : . : :      * : :                : * :      * * * : :
  
```

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```

RILT NVMYGDGIDRTIISGSKHTM-DGLPAYRTATVAVLGDGFVCKSMTIQNSATSD-K
YEKTNILLVGDGIGATVITASRSVGIDGIGTYETATVAVIGDGFRAKDITFENGAGAGAH
YEKTNILLMGE GMGATVITASRSVGIDGLGTHETATVAVIGDGFRAKDITFENSAGARAH
YEKANILLMGE GMGATVITASRSVGIDGLGTYETATVDVIGDGFRAKDITFENSAGAGAH
LEKKNVVF LIGDGMGKT VITGSLNVGQPGISTYNSATVGVAGDGFMA SGLTMENTAGPDEH
FEKKNVVF LIGDGMGKT VITGSLNAGMPGITTYNTATVGVVGDGFMA HDLTFQNTAGPDAH
FEKKNVVF LIGDGMGKT VITGSLNVGQPGMTTFESATVGVLDGDFMARDLTIENTAGADAH
DSKSMIMLVGAGARKTIIISGNNYVR-EGVTTMDTATVLVAGDGFVARDLTIRNTAGPELH
KQKTNLMFLGDGTDKTIITGSLSDSQPGMITWATATVAVSGSGFIARGITFQNTAGPAGR
LQKSMLMFVGDGMDKTIIRGSM SVSKGGTTTFASATLAVNGKGF LARDLTVENTAGPEGH
      : : * *      * : * . .      * :      : * : * * . .      : * . . * *      :
  
```

# Software to generate MSAs

- MAFFT  
(very good, very fast)  
<http://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/software/>
- Clustal Omega  
(very good, very fast)  
<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>
- PRANK  
(extremely good, very slow)  
<http://wasabiapp.org/software/prank/>

# File formats: FASTA (holds any sequence data)

label (1 line)      sequence (multiple lines)

>human  
MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNATGVVRSPFEYPQYYLAEPWQFSMLAAYMFL LIVLGFPINFLTLY  
VTVQHKKLRTPLNYILLNLAVADLFMV LGGFTSTLYTSLHGYFVFGPTGCNLEGFFATLG  
YNPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMLTTICCGKNPLGDDEASATVSKTETSQVAPA

>domestic\_cat  
MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNKTGVVRSPFEYPQYYLAEPWQFSMLAAYMFL LIVLGFPINFLTLY  
VTVQHKKLRTPLNYILLNLAVADLFMV FGGFTTTLYTSLHGYFVFGPTGCNLEGFFATLG  
YNPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMLTTLCCGKNPLGDDEASTTASKTETSQVAPA

>chimpanzee  
MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNATGVVRSPFEYPQYYLAEPWQFSMLAAYMFL LIVLGFPINFLTLY  
VTVQHKKLRTPLNYILLNLAVADLFMV LGGFTSTLYTSLHGYFVFGPTGCNLEGFFATLG  
YNPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMLTTICCGKNPLGDDEASATVSKTETSQVAPA

# File formats: Clustal (holds an alignment)

CLUSTAL O(1.2.1) multiple sequence alignment

human  
chimpanzee  
domestic\_cat

sequences

MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNATGVVRSPFEYPQYYLAEPWQFSMLAAYMFLIIVLGFPINFLTLY  
MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNATGVVRSPFEYPQYYLAEPWQFSMLAAYMFLIIVLGFPINFLTLY  
MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNKTGVVRSPFEYPQYYLAEPWQFSMLAAYMFLIIVLGFPINFLTLY  
\*\*\*\*\*

human  
chimpanzee  
domestic\_cat

VTVQHKKLRTPLNYILLNLAVADLFMVLGGFTSTLYTSLHGYFVFGPTGCNLEGFFATLG  
VTVQHKKLRTPLNYILLNLAVADLFMVLGGFTSTLYTSLHGYFVFGPTGCNLEGFFATLG  
VTVQHKKLRTPLNYILLNLAVADLFMVFVGGFTTTLYTSLHGYFVFGPTGCNLEGFFATLG  
\*\*\*\*\*:\*\*\*\*\*

human  
chimpanzee  
domestic\_cat

YNPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMLTTICCGKNPLGDDEASATVSKTETSQVAPA  
YNPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMLTTICCGKNPLGDDEASATVSKTETSQVAPA  
YNPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMLTTICCGKNPLGDDEASTTASKTETSQVAPA  
\*\*\*\*\*:\*\*\*\*\*

consensus indicators:

\* = no variation

: = highly similar amino acids

. = somewhat similar amino acids

# File formats: Phylip (holds an alignment)

# of sequences  
↓  
3 168

sequence length  
↓  
168

labels  
↓  
human  
chimpanzee  
domestic\_c

sequences  
↓

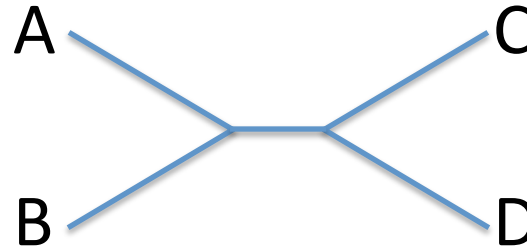
MNGTEGPNFY	VPFSNATGVV	RSPFEYPQYY	LAEPWQFSML	AAYMFLLIVL
MNGTEGPNFY	VPFSNATGVV	RSPFEYPQYY	LAEPWQFSML	AAYMFLLIVL
MNGTEGPNFY	VPFSNKTGVV	RSPFEYPQYY	LAEPWQFSML	AAYMFLLIVL
GFPINFLTLY	VTVQHKKLRT	PLNYILLNLA	VADLFMVLGG	FTSTLYTSLH
GFPINFLTLY	VTVQHKKLRT	PLNYILLNLA	VADLFMVLGG	FTSTLYTSLH
GFPINFLTLY	VTVQHKKLRT	PLNYILLNLA	VADLFMVFGG	FTTTLYTSLH
GYFVFGPTGC	NLEGFFATLG	YNPVIYIMMN	KQFRNCMLTT	ICCGKNPLGD
GYFVFGPTGC	NLEGFFATLG	YNPVIYIMMN	KQFRNCMLTT	ICCGKNPLGD
GYFVFGPTGC	NLEGFFATLG	YNPVIYIMMN	KQFRNCMLTT	LCCGKNPLGD
DEASATVSKT	ETSQVAPA			
DEASATVSKT	ETSQVAPA			
DEASTTASKT	ETSQVAPA			

# Tools exist to convert from one sequence format to another

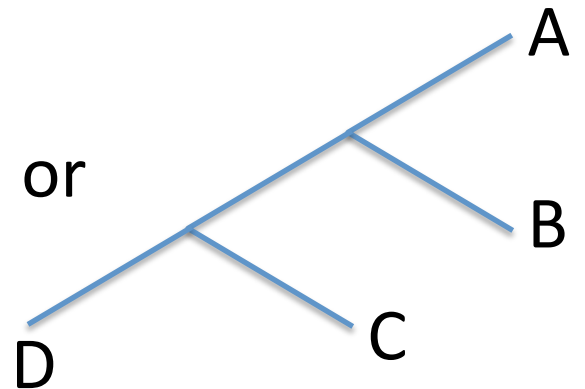
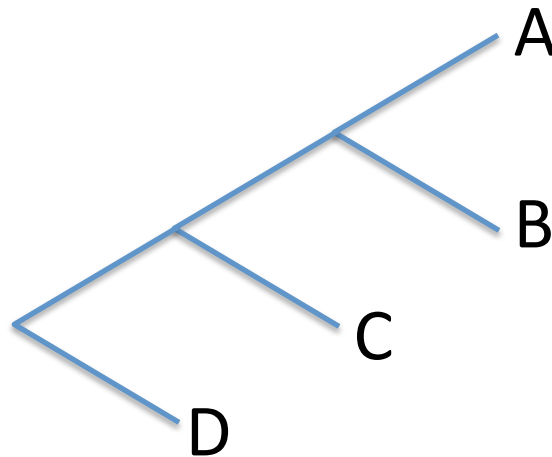
- Online:  
<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/sfc/readseq/>
- In a script:  
Use biopython SeqIO

# Storing trees: The Newick format

$((A,B),(C,D))$



$((A,B),C),D)$





# What does this tree look like?

$(A, ((B, C), (D, E)), F)$

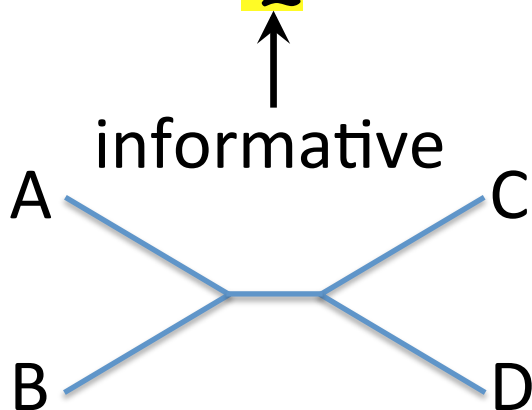
# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

A	M	N	G	T	E	G
B	M	N	G	Y	E	R
C	M	Q	G	Y	D	K
D	M	Q	G	T	D	I

↑  
uninformative

# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

A	M	N	G	T	E	G
B	M	N	G	Y	E	R
C	M	Q	G	Y	D	K
D	M	Q	G	T	D	I



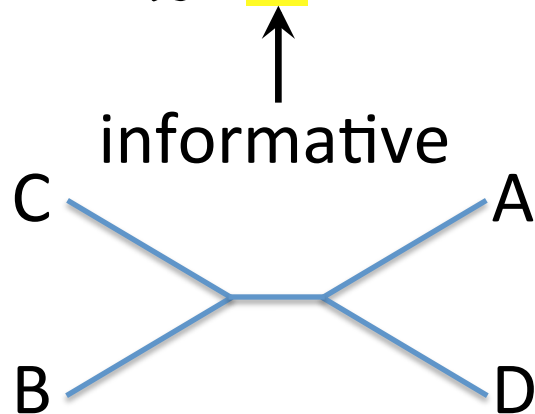
# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

A	M	N	G	T	E	G
B	M	N	G	Y	E	R
C	M	Q	G	Y	D	K
D	M	Q	G	T	D	I

↑  
uninformative

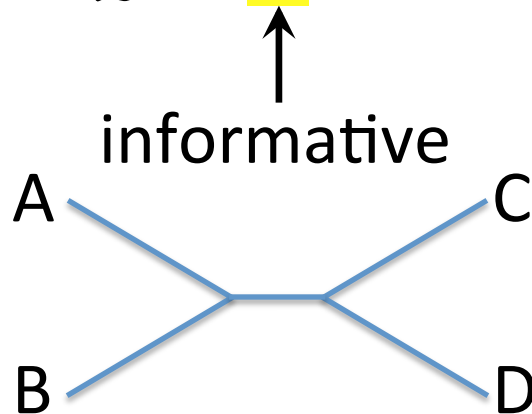
# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

A	MNGTEG
B	MNGYER
C	MQGYDK
D	MQGTDI



# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

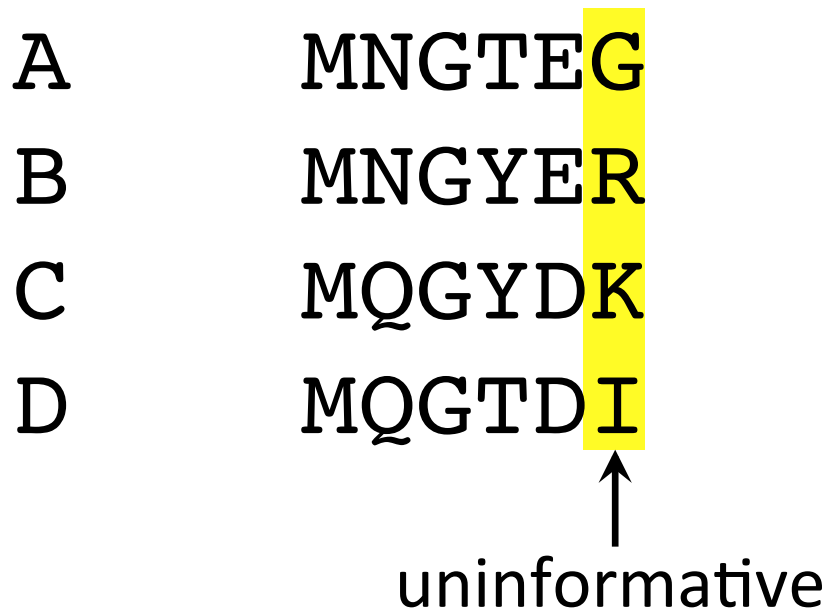
A	MNGTEG
B	MNGYER
C	MQGYDK
D	MQGTDI



# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

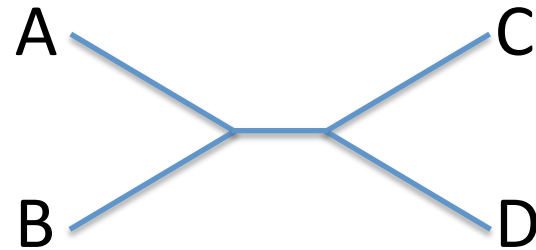
A	MNGTEG
B	MNGYER
C	MQGYDK
D	MQGTDI

↑  
uninformative

The diagram shows a sequence alignment with four rows labeled A, B, C, and D. The sequences are MNGTEG, MNGYER, MQGYDK, and MQGTDI. A vertical yellow highlight covers the sixth column, which contains the characters G, R, K, and I. An upward-pointing arrow is positioned below the 'I' in row D, pointing to the highlighted column. The word 'uninformative' is written below the arrow.

# Not all sites in an alignment contain information about the tree topology

A	MNGTEG
B	MNGYER
C	MQGYDK
D	MQGTDI



by majority rule

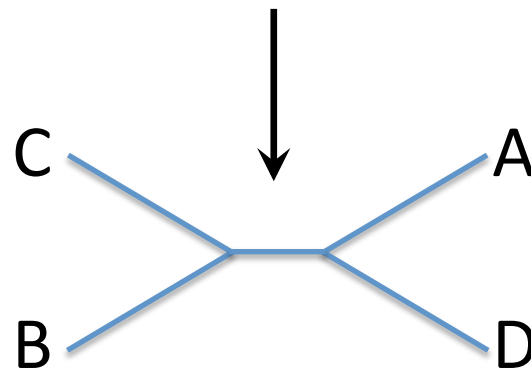
How confident are we in a given tree topology?



# Bootstrap: a method to assess confidence in tree topology

Randomly re-sample columns from the alignment, count frequency of topologies

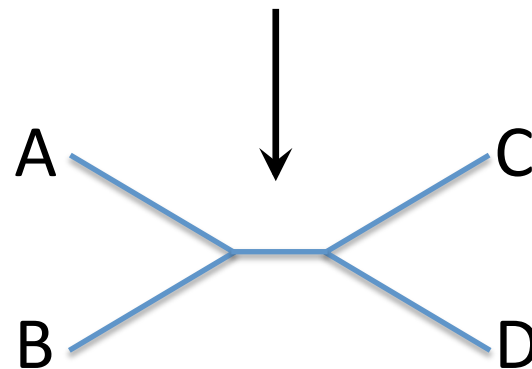
A	MNGTEG	→	A	GMGTMG
B	MNGYER		B	GMRYMR
C	MQGYDK		C	GMKYMK
D	MQGTDI		D	GMITMI



# Bootstrap: a method to assess confidence in tree topology

Randomly re-sample columns from the alignment, count frequency of topologies

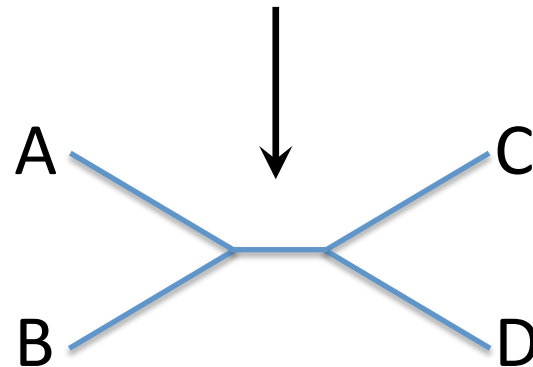
A	MNGTEG		A	NMNTMG
B	MNGYER	→	B	NMNYMG
C	MQGYDK		C	QMQYMG
D	MQGTDI		D	QMQTMG



# Bootstrap: a method to assess confidence in tree topology

Randomly re-sample columns from the alignment, count frequency of topologies

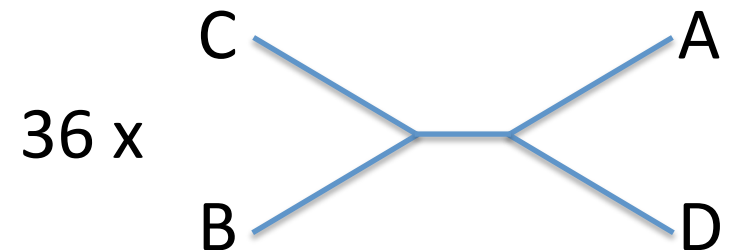
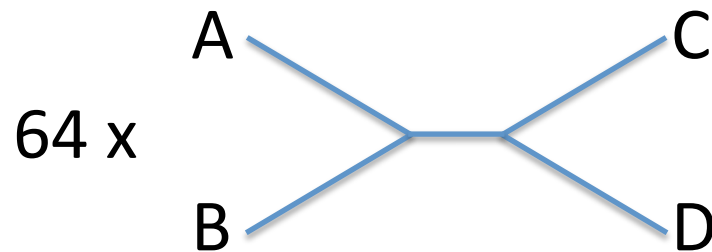
A	MNGTEG		A	MTNGEG
B	MNGYER	→	B	MYNREG
C	MQGYDK		C	MYQKDG
D	MQGTDI		D	MTQIDG



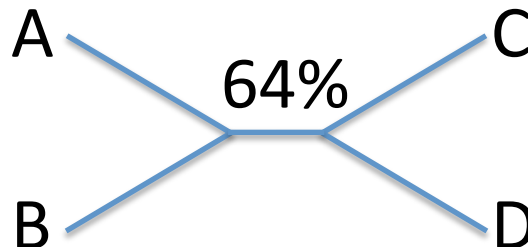
# Bootstrap: a method to assess confidence in tree topology

Randomly re-sample columns from the alignment,  
count frequency of topologies

Bootstrapped trees (100 x):



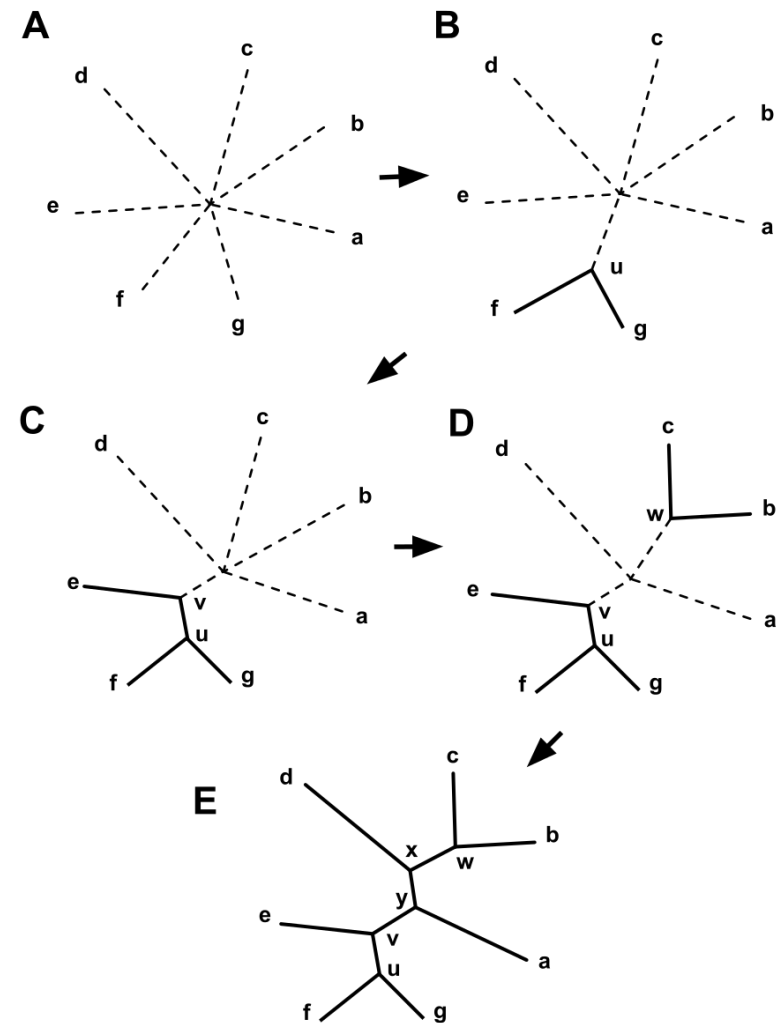
Final result:



# Tree-building methods:

## 1. Neighbor-joining

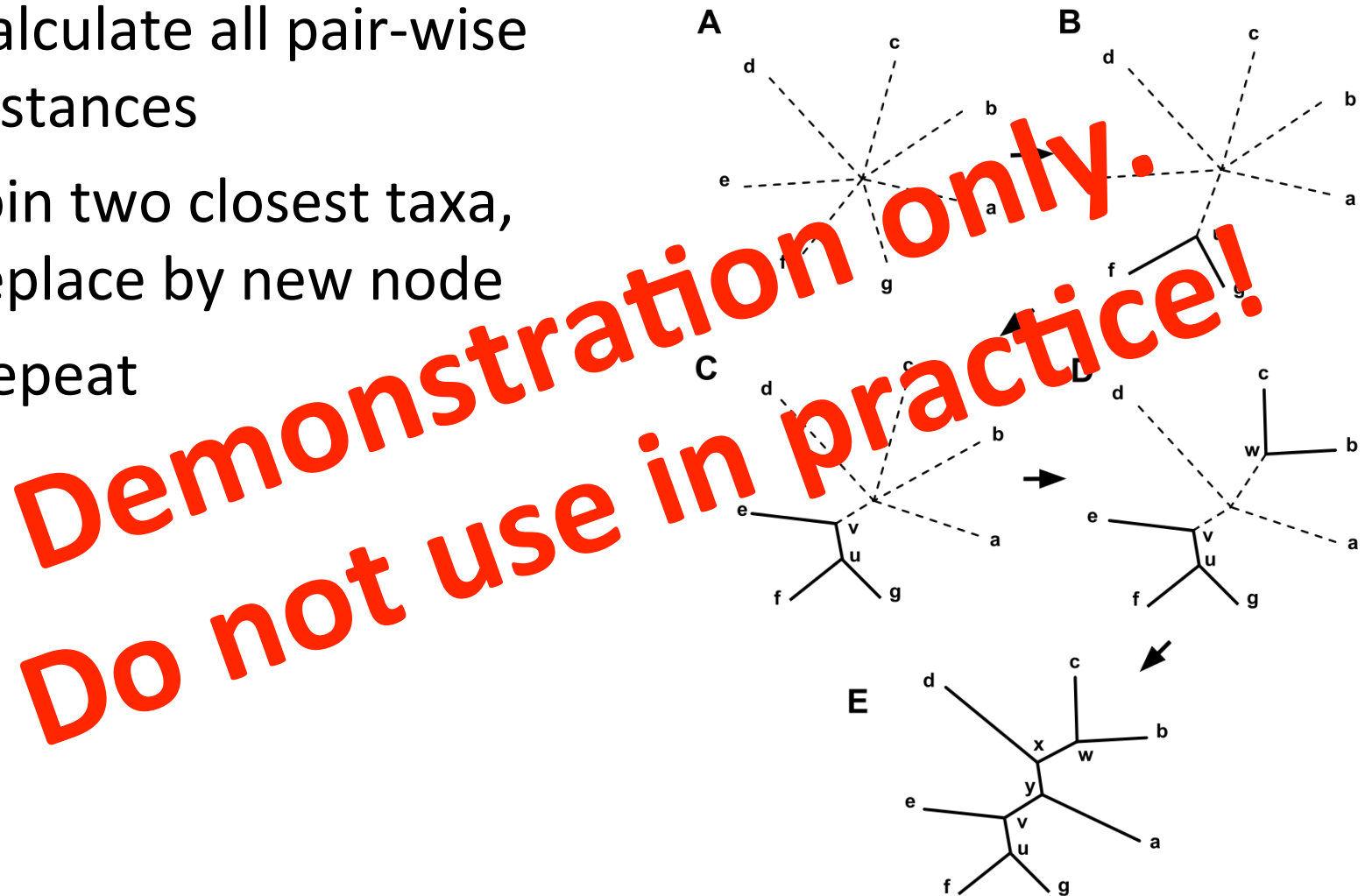
- Calculate all pair-wise distances
- Join two closest taxa, replace by new node
- Repeat



# Tree-building methods:

## 1. Neighbor-joining

- Calculate all pair-wise distances
- Join two closest taxa, replace by new node
- Repeat



# Tree-building methods:

## 2. Maximum likelihood

- Builds likelihood model of molecular evolution
- Finds tree that maximizes:  
 $\text{Pr}(\text{sequence data} \mid \text{tree})$
- Commonly used software:  
RAxML, FastTree2

# Tree-building methods:

## 3. Bayesian

- Builds likelihood model of molecular evolution
- Calculates:  
 $\text{Pr}(\text{tree} \mid \text{sequence data})$
- Commonly used software:  
MrBayes, BEAST