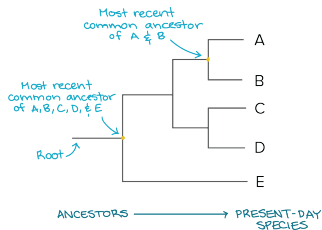


# Phylogenetics



**Taxonomy:** the science of classifying organisms

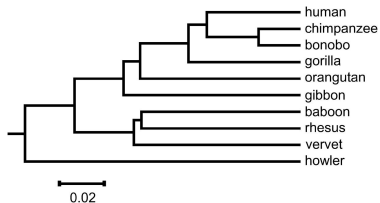
**Phylogenetics:** describes the evolutionary relationship between species

**Speciation:** A population of organisms becomes separated.

Over time, these evolve into separate species that do not cross-breed.

# UPGMA

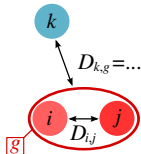
## Unweighted Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Mean



- average linkage: mean distance between elements of each group
- generates **rooted** trees
- generates **ultrametric** trees:
  - distances from the root to every branch tip are equal
- $O(n^3)$  unoptimized

$$\frac{1}{|\mathbb{A}| \cdot |\mathbb{B}|} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{A}} \sum_{y \in \mathbb{B}} d(x, y)$$

# UPGMA algorithm



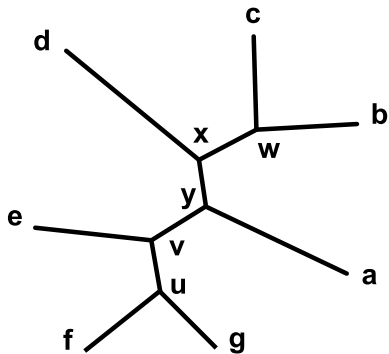
Consider a distance matrix  $D$ , and  $n$  groups containing one item/leaf each:

1. Choose the  $i$  and  $j$  with the smallest  $D_{ij}$
2. Create a new group  $ij$
3. Connect  $i$  and  $j$  to a new node in the tree that correspond to the new group
4. Set the branch length to  $\frac{D_{ij}}{2}$  (ultrametric)
5. Calculate the distance between the group and all existing groups ( $n_i$  = number of elements):

$$D_{(ij),k} = \left(\frac{n_i}{n_i + n_j}\right)D_{ik} + \left(\frac{n_j}{n_i + n_j}\right)D_{jk}$$

6. Replace the  $i$  and  $j$  columns with the new group
7. If there is only one item left stop, otherwise go to 1

# Neighbour joining



- 🌲 most widely-used distance based method for phylogenetic reconstruction
- 🌲 trees are unrooted
- 🌲 does not assume a molecular clock
- 🌲 does not produce ultrametric trees
- 🌲 UPGMA: constructs a larger cluster C by merging two nearest clusters A and B
- 🌲 neighbour joining: distance from A and B to other clusters should be as large as possible
  - look for nodes that are **close to each other** and **far from everything else**
    - subtract the averaged distances to all other leaves
    - compensate for long edges
- 🌲  $O(n^3)$  unoptimized

# Neighbour joining algorithm

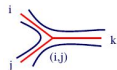
## Consider a distance matrix $D$ :

$$u_i = \sum_{j:j \neq i}^n \frac{D_{ij}}{n-2}$$



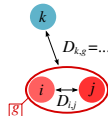
$$v_i = \frac{1}{2}D_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}(u_i - u_j)$$

$$v_j = \frac{1}{2}D_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}(u_j - u_i)$$



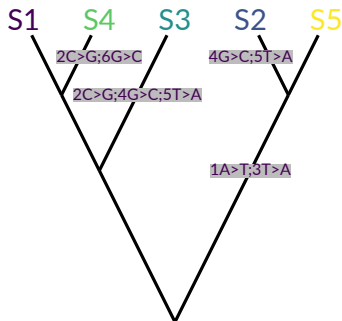
$$D_{(ij)k} = \frac{D_{ik} + D_{jk} - D_{ij}}{2}$$

1. Calculate the “average” distance to other nodes/clusters for each leaf
2. Choose  $i$  and  $j$  to minimize  $D_{ij} - u_i - u_j$   
(Nodes that are close to each other, and far from everything else)
3. Join  $i$  and  $j$  to create a new node  $(i,j)$  and calculate the new branch lengths
4. Compute distance between leaves and the new group
5. Replace the  $i$  and  $j$  leaves with the new node  $(i,j)$
6. Continue until two nodes remain



# Evaluating trees

S1	ACTGTG
S2	TCACAG
S3	AGTCAG
S4	AGTGTC
S5	TCAGTG



- 🌲 Label internal nodes, e.g. Hamming distance (number of changes)

A candidate tree:

- 🌲  $L(T) = 9$  changes
- 🌲 How can we make this tree more parsimonious?

A better tree:

- 🌲  $L(T) = 8$  changes

An equally good tree:

- 🌲  $L(T) = 8$  changes

# Small parsimony: computational problems

## Small parsimony

- 🌲 given a tree  $T$ , calculate  $L(T)$
- 🌲 for small trees we can calculate by hand
- 🌲 impractical for larger trees with many leaves

## Algorithmically:

- 🌲 iterate over positions in the alignment
- 🌲 at each position, find internal nodes that require a mutation to explain the data found in the children

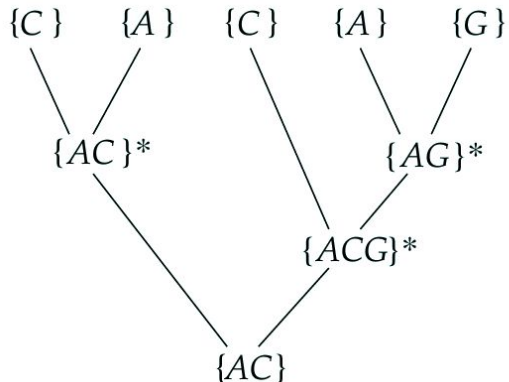
## Fitch algorithm

- 🌲 dynamic programming
- 🌲 compute parsimony score for a column of the sequence alignment
- 🌲 repeat the process for each column
- 🌲 substitutions have the same cost

## Sankoff algorithm

- 🌲 dynamic programming
- 🌲 allows us to calculate the cost of changes in a given tree

## Fitch algorithm: example 1



For each leaf  $v$ :

$$S_v = \{v_c\}$$

For any internal node  $v$ :

$$S_v = \begin{cases} S_u \cap S_w & \text{if } S_u \cap S_w \neq \emptyset \\ S_u \cup S_w & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- 🌲  $L(T) = 3$
- 🌲 Repeat the process for each column
- 🌲 Changes have the same cost



# Sankoff algorithm

Count the smallest number of possible (weighted) changes needed on a given tree

## Cost for the leaves

- 🌲 0 for the observed letter
- 🌲 infinity otherwise

## Calculate costs for internal nodes

- 🌲 for each node, compute the minimum cost  $S_a$  for each character  $i$  to occur at that node

## Use a cost matrix

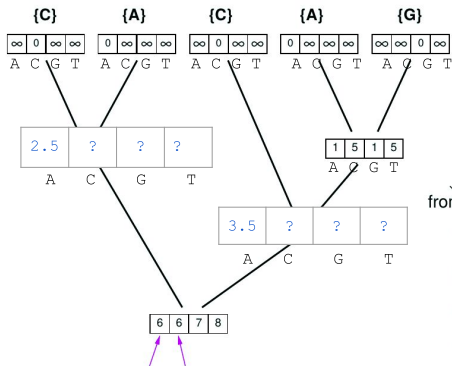
- 🌲 we used a fixed cost for Fitch's algorithm
- 🌲 for Sankoff, we use a cost matrix

{C}				{A}				{C}			
∞	0	∞	∞	0	∞	∞	∞	∞	0	∞	∞
A	C	G	T	A	C	G	T	A	C	G	T

$$S_a(i) = \min[c_{ij} + S_L(j)] \\ + \min[c_{ik} + S_R(k)]$$

- 🌲  $L$  and  $R$  are left and right children nodes
- 🌲  $c_{ij}$  is the cost for changing from state  $i$  to  $j$

# Sankoff example



cost matrix:

from \ to	A	C	G	T
A	0	2.5	1	2.5
C	2.5	0	2.5	1
G	1	2.5	0	2.5
T	2.5	1	2.5	0

$S_i?$

$i = A$

$j = A, C, G, T$

$k = A, C, G, T$

$$S_a(i) = \min[c_{ij} + S_L(j)] \\ + \min[c_{ik} + S_R(k)]$$

- Limitation: implicitly assumes that rate of change along branches is similar

# Parsimony: computational problems

🌲 we know how to score a tree for parsimony (*small parsimony*)

🌲 how can we find the best tree?

(*large/maximum parsimony*)

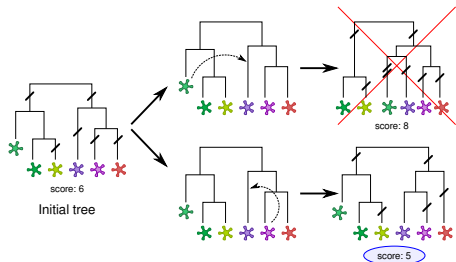
- optimization problem

🌲 enumerating trees is unfeasible

- $O(n!)$ : factorial growth with the number of leaves (e.g. sequences)
- not feasible to score all of them
- heuristic approach
- tree searching methods

Sequences	Unrooted trees
3	1
4	3
5	15
10	> 2 000 000

# Exploring tree space



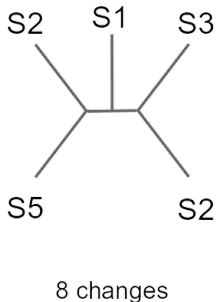
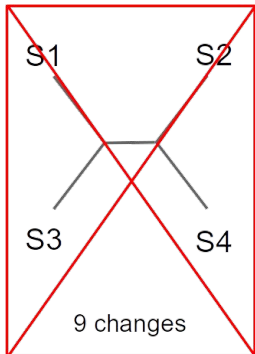
## Exact methods

- 🌲 exhaustive search
- 🌲 branch and bound algorithms
  - reduce search space
  - eliminate candidate solutions that will not reach an optimal solution

## Heuristics

- 🌲 sequential/stepwise addition
- 🌲 branch swapping methods
  - we can rearrange trees by breaking and reattaching branches
  - efficient to re-score because Sankoff algorithm is recursive

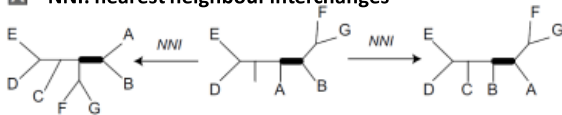
## Branch and bound



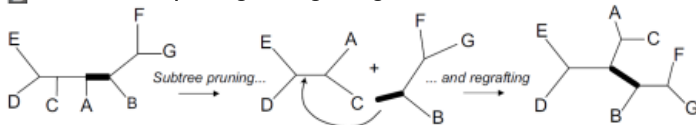
- 🌲 this was our best five-tip tree  
 $L(T) = 8$  (8 changes)
- 🌲 once we find that, we don't have to look at trees based on the four-tip tree with 9 changes
- 🌲 reduces search space
- 🌲 always finds the optimal

# Heuristic: branch Swapping

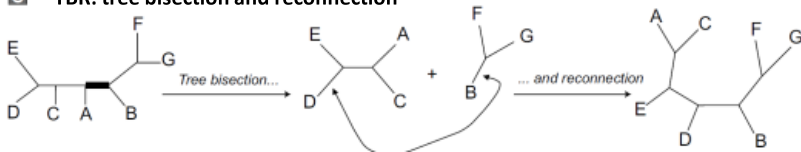
## **A** NNI: nearest neighbour interchanges



## **B** SPR: subtree pruning and regrafting



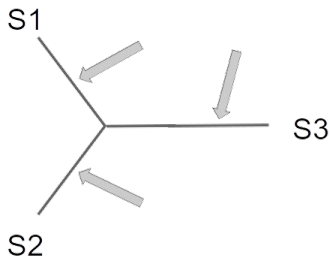
## **C** TBR: tree bisection and reconnection



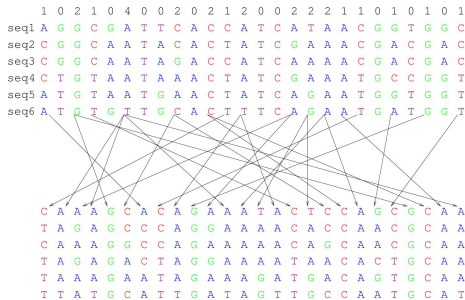
## Heuristic: sequential addition

- assume the tree is unrooted for simplicity
- we can add S4 in three places

S1	ACTGTG
S2	TCACAG
S3	AGTCAG
S4	AGTGTC
S5	TCAGTG



# Bootstrapping

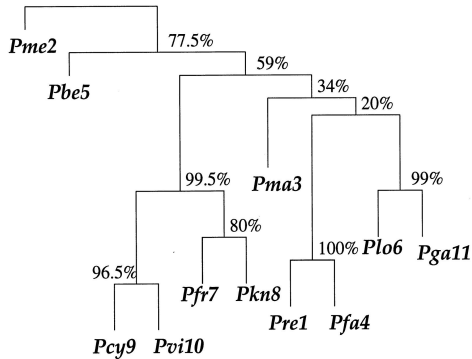


- 🌲 **general approach:** assess accuracy of an estimator using simulated data
- 🌲 re-sample columns in an alignment of sequences to create new alignments
- 🌲 re-apply the same phylogeny reconstruction method





# Bootstrapping



- 🌲 repeat bootstrapping (at least 100 times)
- 🌲 count occurrence of nodes in bootstrap trees
- 🌲 if we see the branching point often, it is more reliable
- 🌲 **rule of thumb:** accept bootstrap values from 90–100 %