Pairwise sequence alignment

Jiankui He SUSTC, Shenzhen, China





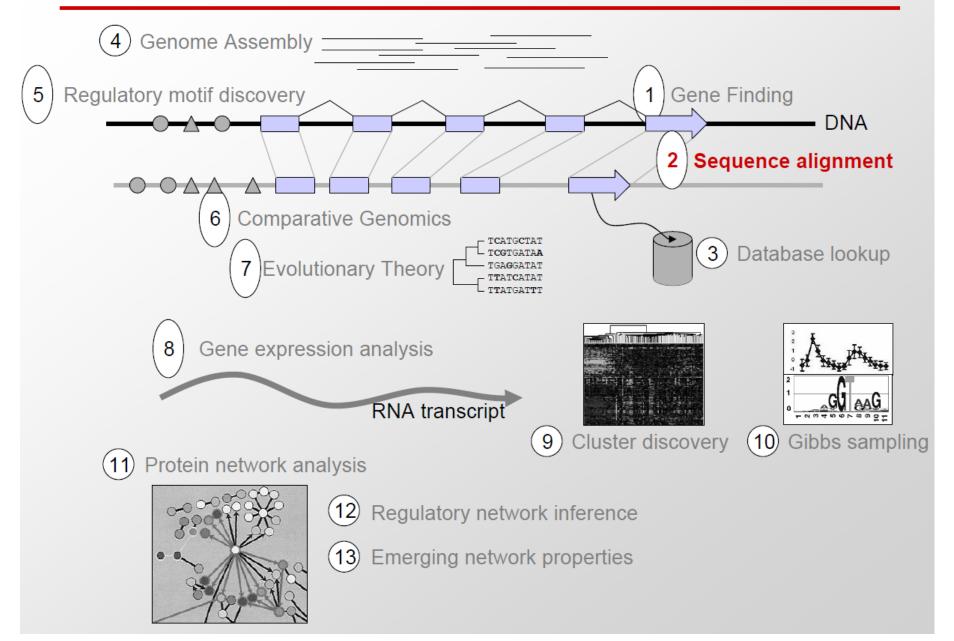
Image by Nicolas Bouvier; courtesy of Genevieve Almouzni, Curie Institute, Paris, France

PPT adopted from John Hopkins Universi

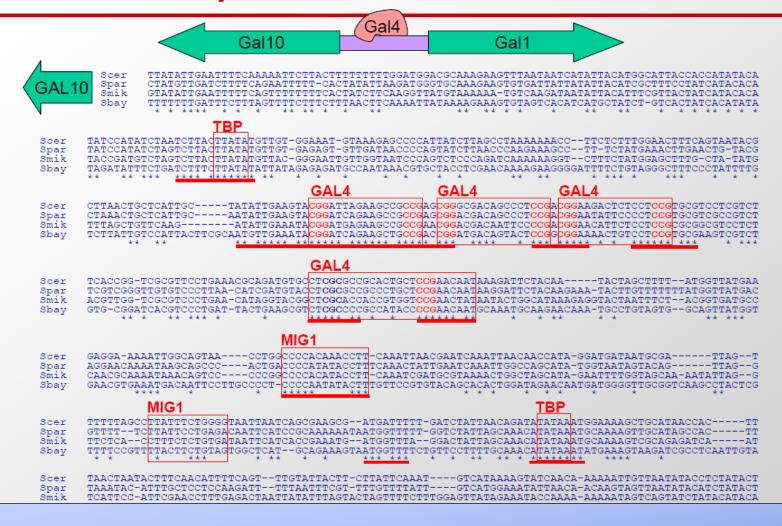
Schedule

- Class I: lecture
- Class II: homework, programming
- Class III: Demo

Challenges in Computational Biology



Evolution preserved functional elements!

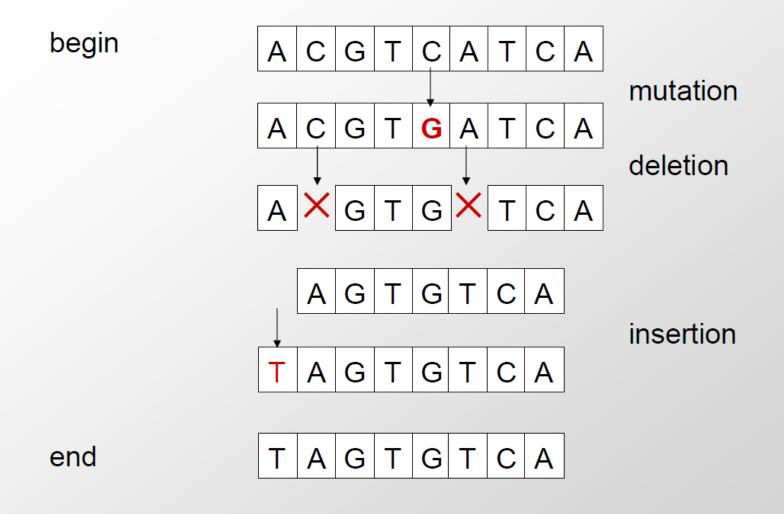


We can 'read' evolution to reveal functional elements

Today's goal:

How do we actually align two genes?

Genomes change over time



Goal of alignment: Infer edit operations

begin



end

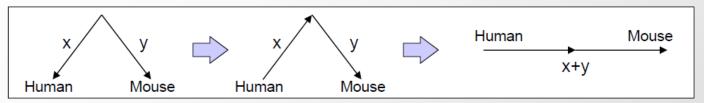
Importance of sequence comparison

Discovering functional and evolutional relationships in biological sequences:

- Similar sequences → evolutionary relationship
- evolutionary relationship → related function
- Orthologs → same (almost same) function in different organisms.
- "→" should be read usually implies

From Bio to CS: Formalizing the problem

- Define set of evolutionary operations (insertion, deletion, mutation)
 - Symmetric operations allow time reversibility (part of design choice)

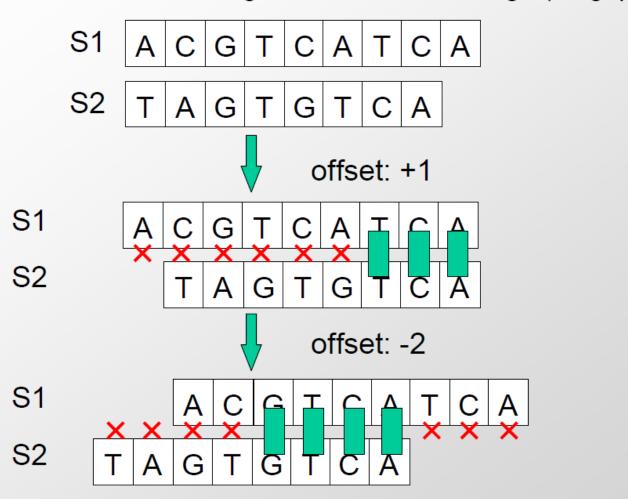


- Define optimality criterion (min number, min cost)
 - -Impossible to infer exact series of operations (Occam's razor: find min)



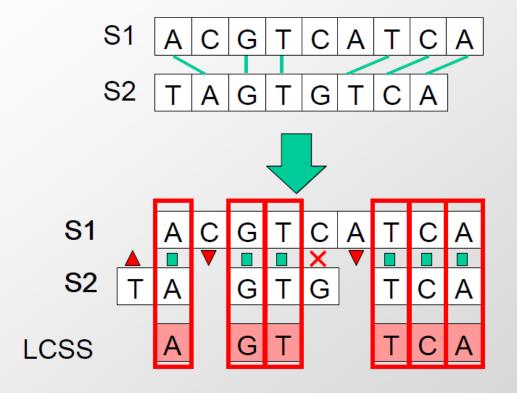
Formulation 1: Longest common substring

- Given two possibly related strings S1 and S2
 - What is the longest common substring? (no gaps)



Formulation 2: Longest common subsequence

- Given two possibly related strings S1 and S2
 - What is the longest common subsequence? (gaps allowed)



Edit distance:

- Number of changes needed for S1→S2
- Uniform scoring function

Formulation 3: Sequence alignment

- Allow gaps (fixed penalty)
 - Insertion & deletion operations
 - Unit cost for each character inserted or deleted
- Varying penalties for edit operations
 - Transitions (Pyrimidine⇔Pyrimidine, Purine⇔Purine)
 - Transversions (Purine ⇔ Pyrimidine changes)
 - Polymerase confuses Aw/G and Cw/T more often

Scoring function: Match(x,x) = +1 Mismatch(A,G)= $-\frac{1}{2}$ Mismatch(C,T)= $-\frac{1}{2}$ Mismatch(x,y) = -1

	Α	G	Т	С
Α	+1	-1/2	Υ_	-1
G	-1/2	+1	-1	7
Н	-1	-1	+1	-1/2
O	-1	-1	-1/2	+1

Transitions:

A⇔G, C⇔T common (lower penalty)

Transversions:

All other operations

purine pyrimid

Etc... (e.g. varying gap penalties)

How can we compute best alignment

- Given additive scoring function:
 - Cost of mutation (AG, CT, other)
 - Cost of insertion / deletion
 - Reward of match
- Need algorithm for inferring best alignment
 - Enumeration?
 - How would you do it?
 - How many alignments are there?

Can we simply enumerate all possible alignments?

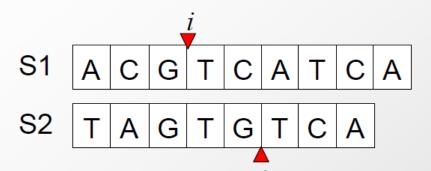
Ways to align two sequences of length m, n

$$\binom{n+m}{m} = \frac{(m+n)!}{(m!)^2} \approx \frac{2^{m+n}}{\sqrt{\pi \cdot m}}$$

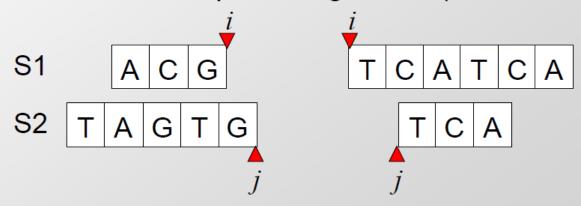
For two sequences of length n

n	Enumeration	Today's lecture
10	184,756	100
20	1.40E+11	400
100	9.00E+58	10,000

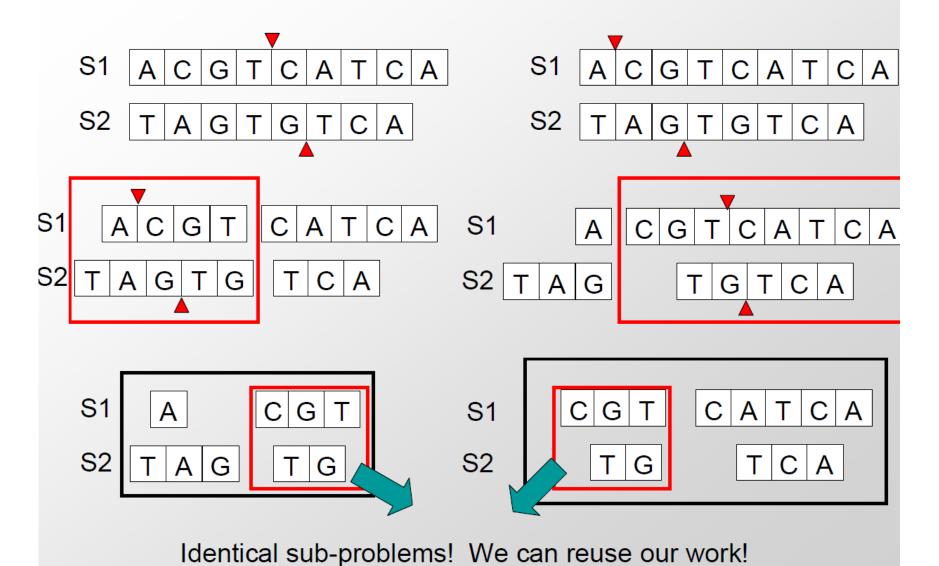
Key insight: score is additive!



- Compute best alignment recursively
 - For a given aligned pair (i, j), the best alignment is:
 - Best alignment of S1[1..i] and S2[1..j]
 - + Best alignment of S1[i..n] and S2[j..m]
 - Proof: cut-and-paste argument (see 6.046)



Key insight: re-use computation



Solution #1 – Memoization

- Create a big dictionary, indexed by aligned seqs
 - When you encounter a new pair of sequences
 - If it is in the dictionary:
 - Look up the solution
 - If it is not in the dictionary
 - Compute the solution
 - Insert the solution in the dictionary
- Ensures that there is no duplicated work
 - Only need to compute each sub-alignment once!

Top down approach

Solution #2 – Dynamic programming

- Create a big table, indexed by (i,j)
 - Fill it in from the beginning all the way till the end
 - You know that you'll need every subpart
 - Guaranteed to explore entire search space
- Ensures that there is no duplicated work
 - Only need to compute each sub-alignment once!
- Very simple computationally!

Bottom up approach

Identity score

Let (x,y) be an aligned pair of elements of two sequences (at least one of x,y must not be a gap).

$$id(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } x = y \\ 0 \text{ if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

Score of an alignment = sum of scores of aligned pairs

TGK - G
AGKVG
$$0+1+1+0+1=3$$

60 % identical

Identity score = number of matched elements / length of alignment

Gap penalties

Consider two pairs of alignments:

ATCG ATTG	and	AT - CG $ATT - G$	They have the same identity score but alignment on the left is
ATC T A ATT T T TA	and	AT - C - T A AT T T T TA	more likely to be correct

- The first problem is corrected by introducing "gap penalty".
- Second problem is corrected by introducing additional penalty for opening a gap.

Example

Score the above alignment using identity score; gap penalty = 1 Gap opening penalty = 2

$$AT - CG$$

 $ATT - G$

1+1-2-1-2-1+1=-3

Problems with identity score

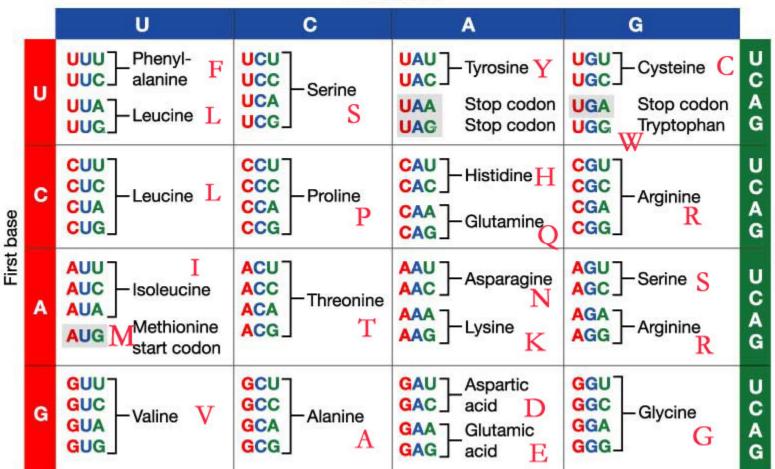
• In the two pairs of aligned sequence below there are mutations at the first and 6th position and insertion (or deletion) on the 4th position. However while V and A share significant biophysical similarity and we often see mutation between them, W and A do not often substitute one for the other.

```
VGK – GI... WGK – GI... AGKVGL... AGKVGL
```

• What if I mutated to V and then back to I should this have the same score as when I was unchanged?

If we will like to use the score to estimate evolutionary distances it would be important to take into account possibility of such double mutation.

Second base



Third base

Scoring Matrices

An amino-acid scoring matrix is a 20x20 table such that position indexed with amino-acids so that position X,Y in the table gives score of aligning amino-acid X with amino-acid Y

Identity matrix – Exact matches receive one score and non-exa matches a different score (1 on the diagonal 0 everywhere else) Mutation data matrix – a scoring matrix compiled based on observation of protein mutation rates: some mutations are observed more often then other (PAM, BLOSUM). Not used:

Physical properties matrix – amino acids with similar biophysical properties receive high score.

Genetic code matrix – amino acids are scored based on similarities in the coding triple.

Principles of Dynamic programming

- Need to figure out how to use solution to smaller problems for solving larger problem.
- We need to keep a reasonable bound on how many sub-problems we solve
- Make sure that each sub-problem is solved only once

Dynamic programming algorithm for computing the score of the best alignment

For a sequence $S = a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$ let $S_j = a_1, a_2, ..., a_j$ S,S' – two sequences

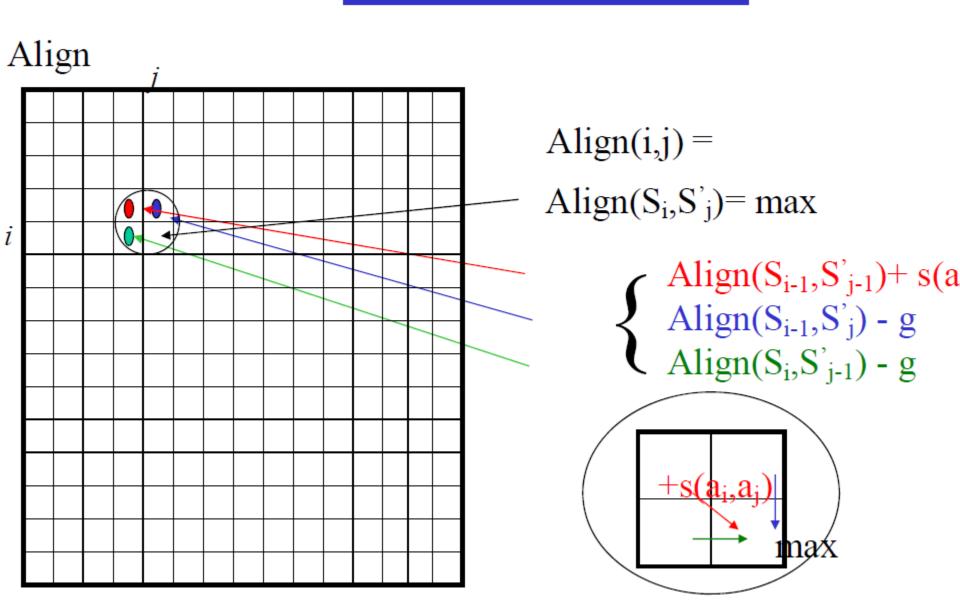
Align(S_i, S_j') = the score of the highest scoring alignment betwee S_i^1, S_j^2

 $S(a_i, a'_j)$ = similarity score between amino acids a_i and a_j given by a scoring matrix like PAM, BLOSUM

g – gap penalty

$$\begin{aligned} & Align(S_{i},S_{j}^{'}) = max \; \left\{ \begin{array}{l} Align(S_{i-1},S_{j-1}^{'}) + \; S(a_{i},\; a_{j}^{'}) \\ & Align(S_{i},S_{j-1}^{'}) - \; g \\ & Align(S_{i-1},S_{j}^{'}) - g \end{array} \right. \end{aligned}$$

Organizing the computation – dynamic programming table



Example of DP computation with g = 0; match = 1; mismatch=0 Maximal Common Subsequence

initialization

	`	A	T	T	G	C	G	С	G	C	A	T	_
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
A	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
T	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				
G	0	1	2										
C	0	1											
T	0	1											
T	0	1											
A	0	1											+1 if match else (
A	0	1											#1 11 match else (
C	0	1										\Box	1 1 1
C	0	1											max
A	0	1											III da

Example of DP computation with g = 2 match = 2; mismatch = -1

Initialization (penalty for starting with a gap)

1		A	T	Т	G	С	G	C	G	С	A	T	
\	0	-2	-4	-6	-8	-10	-12	-14	-16	-18	-20	-22	
$\mathbf{A}^{\ }$	-2	\ ²	0	-2									
T	-4	9	4										
G	-6			6									
C	-8												
T	-10												
T	-12												+2 if matched
A	-14												
A	-16												
C	-18												1 -2)
C	-20												max
A	-22												-2

The iterative algorithm

```
m = |S|; n = |S'|
for i \leftarrow 0 to m do A[i,0] \leftarrow - i * g
for j \leftarrow 0 to n do A[0,j] \leftarrow -j * g
for i \leftarrow 1 to m do
      for j \leftarrow 1 to n
          A[i,j] \leftarrow \max
                               A[i-1,j] - g
                               A[i-1,j-1] + s(i,j)
                               A[i,j-1]-g
return(A[m,n])
```

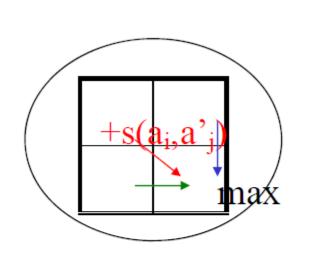
Complexity of the algorithm

- Time O(nm); Space O(nm) where n, m the lengths of the two sequences.
- Space complexity can be reduced to O(n) by not storing the entries of dynamic programming table that are no longer needed for the computation (keep current row and the previous row only).

From computing the score to computing of the alignment

Desired output:

Sequence of substitutions/insertion/deletions leading to the opscore.



ATTGCGTTATAT AT- GCG- TATAT

Red direction = mach

Blue direction = gap in horizontal sequence Green direction = gap in vertical sequence

$$a_1, a_2, \dots, a_i$$

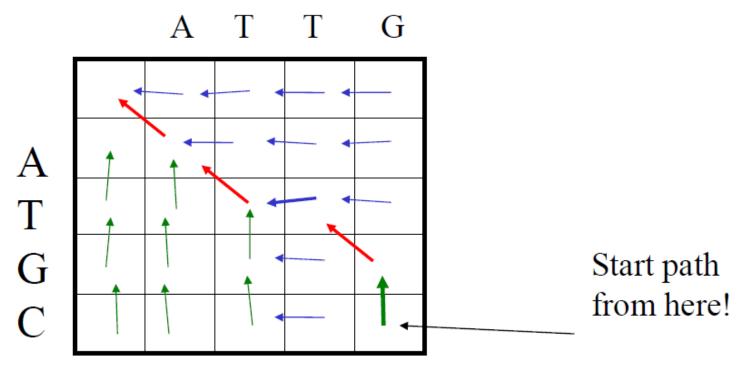
 a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_i

$$a_1, a_2, ..., a_i$$
 - $a'_1, a'_2, ..., a'_i$

$$a_1, a_2, \dots a_i$$

 a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_j

Recovering the path



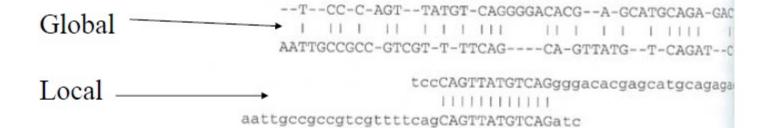
ATTG-

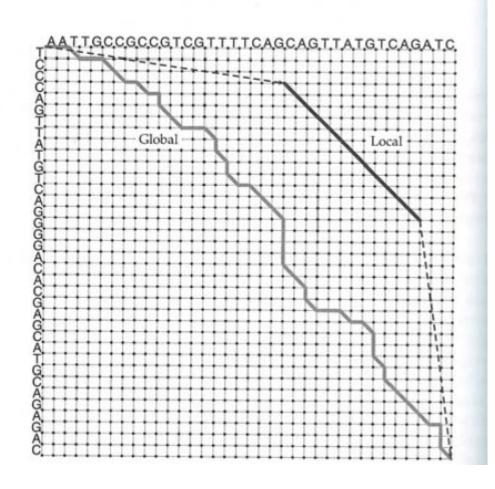
AT-GC

If at some position several choices lead to the same max value, the path need not be unique.

Local alignment

- The alignment techniques considered so far worked well for sequences which are similar over all their length
- This does not need to be the case: example gene from hox family have very short but highly conserved subsequence – the so called hox domain.
- Considered so far global alignment methods (that is algorithm that try to find the best alignment over whole length can miss this local similarity region





Local alignment (Smith, Waterman)

So far we have been dealing with global alignment.

Local alignment – alignment between substrings.

Main idea: If alignment becomes to bad – drop it.

Set p and g so that alignment of random strings gives negative score

$$a[i,j] = \max \qquad \begin{cases} a[i-1,j-1] + s(a_i, a_j) \\ a[i-1,j+g] \\ a[i,j-1] + g \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

Finding the alignment: find the highest scoring cell and trace it back

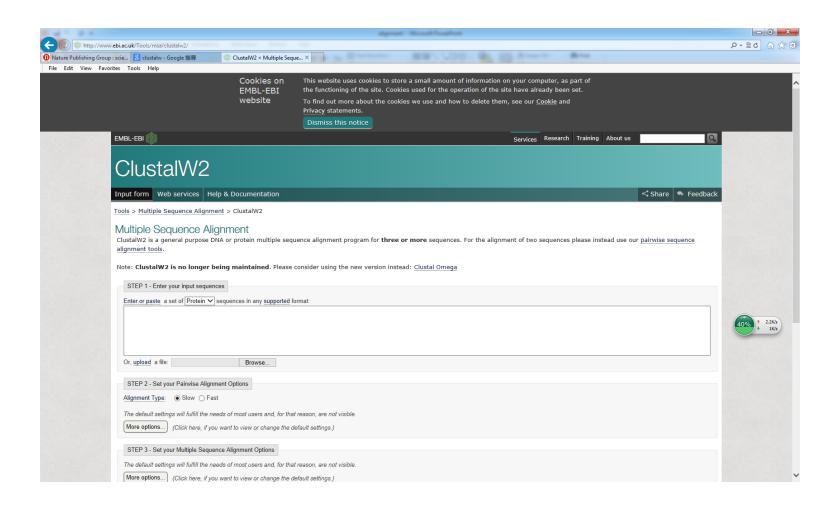
Example

- *Sequence 1 = ACACACTA
- *Sequence 2 = AGCACACA

$$s(a, b) = +2$$
 if $a = b(\text{match}), -1$ if $a \neq b$ (mismatch)

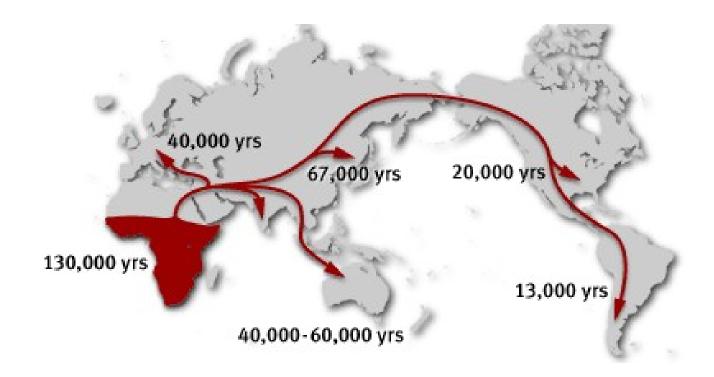
Sequence 1 = A--CACACTA Sequence 2 = AGCACAC--A

ClustalW



Example: out of Africa





- Evidence
 - Fossile
 - DNA sequence analysis

Homework

 Insulin is a peptide hormone, produced by beta cells of the pancreas, and is central to regulating carbohydrate and fat metabo lism in the body.

>gi|386828|gb|AAA59172.1| insulin [Homo sapiens]
MAWMRLLPLLALLALWGPDPAAAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAEDLQVGQVELGGGPGAGSLQPLAL
EGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN

>gi|82749718|gb|ABB89743.1| preproinsulin 1 [Rattus losea] MALWMRFLPLLALLVVWEPKPAQAFVKQHLCGPHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKSRREVEDPQVPQLELGGSPEAGDLQTLAL EVARQKRGIVDQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN

>gi|402892452|ref|XP_003909428.1| PREDICTED: insulin isoform 4 [Papio anubis] MALWMRLLPLLALLALWGPDSVPAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAEDPQVGQVELGGGPGAGSLQPLAL EGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN

>gi|344307503|ref|XP_003422420.1| PREDICTED: insulin-like isoform 1 [Loxodonta africana] MALWTRLLPLLALLAVGAPPPARAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREVEDTQVGEVELGTGLQPFPAEAPKQK RGIVEQCCTGVCSLYQLENYCN

Identity score of insuling

4					_
₽	ANTH (A)	4	3		ت
	ţ.	ţ.	±2	₽	42
	ħ	ħ	±	₽	Ę.
	₽	₽	₽	₽	¢,
	₽	₽	₽	₽	47

Demo

- Write your own program, and demo in class
- A .fasta file will be provided to test your program
- Your program must be able to read fasta files

Score	Criteria
100	 wrote a alignment program demon in class correctly calculate the identity score
80	 wrote a alignment program demon in class
0	1, no programming or copy other's program

Extra

- Write a similar program to estimate the si milarity of two articles.
- Estimate the similarity of your program with h others' program.