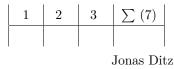
Bioinformatics I

WS 15/16

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Blatt 11

(Abgabe am 1. Februar 2016)

- 1. Theoretical Assignment Coverage statistics
- 1a.
- 1b.
- 1c.
- 2. Theoretical Assignment Application of the arrival statistic for unitigs
- 3. Theoretical Assignment On distances

3a.

Consider a tree T constructed with D and the four nodes $i, j, k, l \in T$. Since D is ultrametric, the following four inequalities have to hold:

$$\begin{aligned} &d(i,j) \leq \max \left\{ d(i,k), d(j,k) \right\} \\ &d(i,j) \leq \max \left\{ d(i,l), d(j,l) \right\} \\ &d(k,l) \leq \max \left\{ d(i,k), d(i,l) \right\} \\ &d(k,l) \leq \max \left\{ d(j,k), d(j,l) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

W.l.o.g we can assume that d(i,k) = d(j,k) = d(i,l) = d(j,l). With that assumption we can rewrite the inequalities as

$$d(i,j) + d(i,j) \le d(i,k) + d(j,l)$$
$$d(k,l) + d(k,l) \le d(i,l) + d(j,k)$$

And also the following inequality is valid:

$$d(i, j) + d(k, l) \le max \{d(i, k) + d(j, l), d(i, l) + d(j, k)\}$$

As one can see, that is the Four-Point-Condition (4PC) and a metric fulfill 4PC if and only if it is additive. So D is a tree metric \square

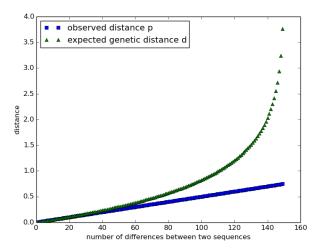


Figure 1: Behavior of observed distance p and expected genetic distance d of two non-saturated sequences. Both sequences are of length 200.

To show the back direction one consider the four elements $A, B, C, D \in X$ of a taxa X and the following distance matrix:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} & B & C & D \\ A & 7 & 6 & 5 \\ B & & 3 & 6 \\ C & & & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

One can see in the script of this lecture that D is a tree metric. But the Three-Point-Condition (3PC) is not fulfilled as can be easily shown. To fulfill 3PC the following inequality has to be valid:

$$d(A, B) \le \max \{ d(A, C), d(B, C) \}$$

but

$$7 \not\leq \max\left\{6,3\right\}$$

So D does not fulfill 3PC and thus D is not ultra metric. \square

3b.

There are different methods to estimate the (evolutionary) distance between two sequences. The easiest one is to simply calculate the Hamming distance. This is called the observed or p-distance. p-distance is just suitable for closely related species, since it is not able to detect superimposed mutations, i.e. mutations that happened at a position that was already mutated, previously. A correction for observed distance was formulated by Jukes and Cantor. The Jukes-Cantor transformation corrects the p-distance to take, among others, superimposed events into account. This correct distance is called the expected genetic distance d. An important note is that JC transformation does not work for sequences that are saturated w.r.t. each other. So Figure 1 shows the relationship between d and p for non-saturated sequences of length 200. As one can see the observed distance p is constantly underestimating the genetic distance for more distant sequences. Especially, if both sequences are close to be saturated, the difference between d and p shows that

p cannot give a reliable result. So for sequences/species that are evolutionary close to each other both measurements d and p give almost the same result. But the further away the last common ancestor of both sequences the larger is the difference between observed distance and expected genetic distance.