

Codon substitution models

the instantaneous rate matrix, Q , is very big: 61×61

phenomenological codon models: just a few parameters are needed to cover the 3721 changes between codons!

| From codon below: | to codon below: | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | TTT (Phe) | TTC (Phe) | TTA (Leu) | TTG (Leu) | CTT (Leu) | CTC (Leu) | GGG (Gly) |
| TTT (Phe) | — | $\kappa\pi_{TTC}$ | $\omega\pi_{TTA}$ | $\omega\pi_{TTG}$ | $\omega\kappa\pi_{TTT}$ | 0 | 0 |
| TTC (Phe) | $\kappa\pi_{TTT}$ | — | $\omega\pi_{TTA}$ | $\omega\pi_{TTG}$ | 0 | $\omega\kappa\pi_{CTC}$ | 0 |
| TTA (Leu) | $\omega\pi_{TTT}$ | $\omega\pi_{TTC}$ | — | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TTG (Leu) | $\omega\pi_{TTT}$ | $\omega\pi_{TTC}$ | $\kappa\pi_{TTA}$ | — | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CTT (Leu) | $\omega\kappa\pi_{TTT}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 | — | $\kappa\pi_{CTC}$ | 0 |
| CTC (Leu) | 0 | $\omega\kappa\pi_{TTC}$ | 0 | 0 | $\kappa\pi_{TTT}$ | — | 0 |
| ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↓ | ⋮ ↘ |
| GGG (Gly) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | — |

* This is equivalent to the codon model of Goldman and Yang (1994). Parameter ω is the ratio d_N/d_S , κ is the transition/transversion rate ratio, and π_i is the equilibrium frequency of the target codon (i).

Illuminating the darkness in molecular evolution

