

Alignment-wide estimates

- Using standard MLE approaches it is straightforward to obtain point estimates of $dN/dS := \beta/\alpha$
- Can also easily test whether or not $dN/dS > 1$, or < 1 using the likelihood ratio test (LRT)
- Codon models also support the concepts of synonymous and non-synonymous distances between sequences using standard properties of Markov processes (exponentially distributed waiting times)

WNV NS3

Model	Log L	# p	dN/dS	LRT	p-value
<i>Null</i>	-7745.48	49	1		
Alternative	-6413.5	50	0.009 [0.007-0.011]	2512.6	~0

Very strongly conserved

HIV-1 env

Model	Log L	# p	dN/dS	LRT	p-value
<i>Null</i>	-2078.3	40	1		
Alternative	-2078.2	41	1.122 [0.94-1.33]	0.33	~0.6

Not significantly different from neutral

SARS-CoV-2
spike

Model	Log L	# p	dN/dS	LRT	p-value
<i>Null</i>	-9311.0	176	1		
Alternative	-9292.0	177	0.54 [0.48-0.61]	37.94	~0

Very strongly conserved