

# Generalizing the model

1.

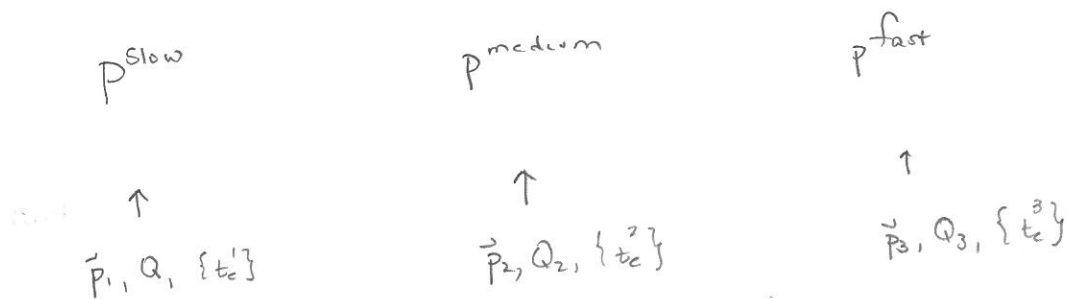
Features of {GTR model : independence assumption  
GM} gains you data, but likely unrealistic  
identically distributed

If aligned sequences are long, perhaps unrealistic to use same parameters on each site.

A common way to address this is with a MIXTURE MODEL

Simple Example: Fix T.

Suppose you have 3 classes of sites (slow, medium, fast evolving) and choose GTR parameters for each of them. Compute the expected pattern frequency arrays



Additionally, choose weighting or mixture parameter  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  ( $k=2$ )

then the joint frequency array is

$$P = \alpha_1 P_1 + \alpha_2 P_2 + (1 - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2) P_3$$

Each  $P_i$  is called a MIXTURE COMPONENT and the number of parameters

to infer is  $3(3+5+2n-3) + 2$   
 $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 # component  $\vec{P}$   $Q$  b.i. # of components - 1

The  $\alpha_i$  are called the weights or mixing parameters

Note that for a fixed binary tree on  $n$  taxa that if a mixture uses  $K$  components, then the number of numerical parameters to be inferred increases roughly by a factor of  $K$ . i.e. increases a lot.

For both biological and practical reasons, mixture models with fewer parameters are used in practice. Some examples include:

•  $GTR+I \equiv GTR + \text{Invariant site model}$

Two classes of sites: those that are free to mutate (GTR)

those that are variable due to perhaps functional constraints (I)

Parameters: GTR:  $\vec{p}_A, Q$

$$3+6=9$$

I:  $\vec{p}_I$

$$= 3$$

$$= 1$$

weights: 5

Excluding branch lengths, this is an 13-parameter model. i.e. 4

Additional parameters.

A variation sets  $p_I = p_Q$ , i.e. assumes the base distribution is the same over all sites, both variable and invariant.

• GTR + rate variation

(discrete)

Lots of variation

Assumes  $k$  classes of sites but that the mutation rate is

scaled depending which class you are in.

Example: GTR + rate variation  $k$  classes

# of classes chosen by user.

3.

Numerical parameters (excluding branch lengths on  $T$ ) are

- GTR parameters  $\vec{p}, Q$  used for all sites
- classes weights  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k$   $\sum s_i = 1$   
 $s_i > 0$  distribution of sites to classes
- rates  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k$   $r_i > 0$  scaling rate for  $i$ -th class

The pattern frequency array is

$$P = s_1 P_1 + s_2 P_2 + \dots + s_k P_k$$

where  $P_i$  is the expected pattern freq array for the  $i$ -th class

$P_i$  is computed using  $\vec{p}, \underbrace{r_i Q}_{\text{scaled version of } Q, \text{ with scaling factor the rate } r_i}$  and branch lengths  $\{t_e\}$

$r_i \geq 1, r_i < 1, \text{ etc.}$

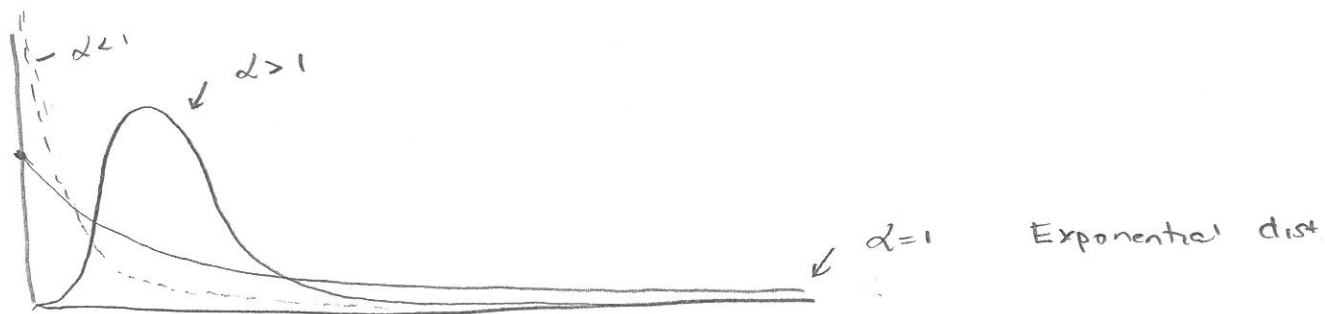
visual effect.

Discuss how to use such a model for simulations...

Variations: Instead of choosing the rate functions at random, choose them from a distribution. In practice, the  $\Gamma$ -distribution is used or in reality the discrete- $\Gamma$ .

Gamma distributions in phylogenetics is a 1-parameter family of distributions with the unknown parameter called  $\alpha$  = shape parameter.

The densities for various values of  $\alpha$  are shown



Notice all  $r_i > 0$  are possible rates and the shape of the density says

Something about the probability of various rates

See R demo and discuss meaning.

These models are frequently called RATES-ACROSS-SITES models.

In software, a RAS model  $GTR + \Gamma$  is implemented as a

$GTR + \text{discrete } \Gamma$ . i.e.  $GTR + d\Gamma(4)$

Z. Yang 1994 PAWL

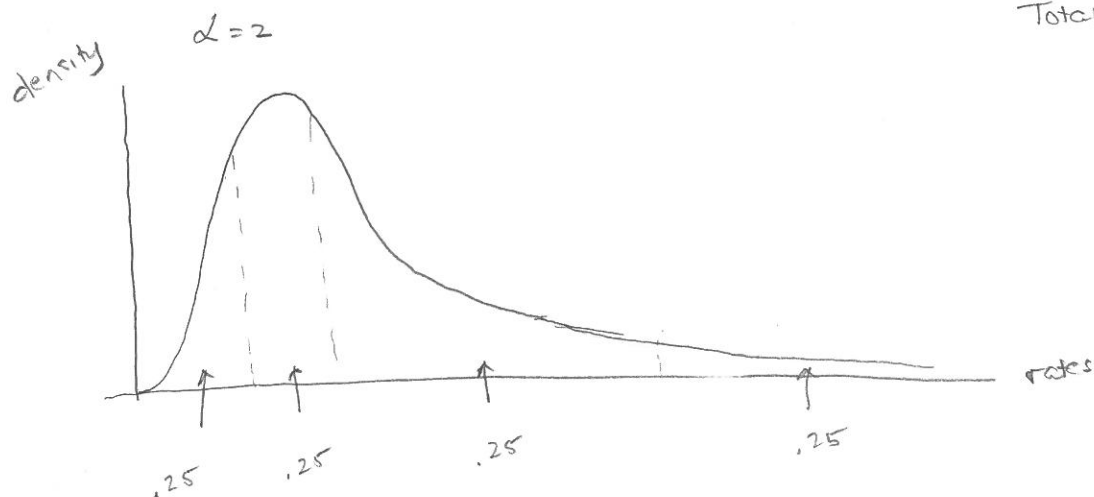
$\uparrow$   
# of categories

discrete.

Example:  $GTR + d\Gamma(4)$

Suppose the user choose 4 categories

and GTR parameters  $\hat{p}, Q$  are known as is the  $\Gamma$ -shape parameter  $\alpha$ .



Break the density curve into 4 regions, each of which has area .25

$\Rightarrow$  probability = .25

In each of the four regions, find the mean  $r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4$ , then

if a site is chosen to be in class  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ , the Markov matrix

on a branch of length  $t$  is given by

$$M = e^{Q r_i t}$$

i.e. scale  $Q$  by  $r_i$  and  $t$ .

and the expected pattern frequency array is

$$P = s_1 P_1 + s_2 P_2 + s_3 P_3 + (1 - (s_1 + s_2 + s_3)) P_4$$

$\uparrow$   
 $r_1$

$\uparrow$   
 $r_2$

$\uparrow$   
 $r_3$

$\uparrow$   
 $r_4$

$\vec{P}_i, Q$  for all 4  
classes.

Other variants are of course possible.

The most widely used model in practice is

GTR + I +  $\Gamma$

secretly GTR + I + d $\Gamma$ (4)

Porting comments:

In a GTR + I +  $\Gamma$  model, a site belongs to 1 category so

that rate applies to that site in all parts of the tree. There are  
no speed ups or slow downs for that site in different parts of the tree.

Looking at the  $K = 4$  categories together, the metric trees they  
infer are all scalings of 1 tree.