Expected mutation counts from four-fold degenerate sites.

The third nucleotide in codon acc is four-fold degenerate since aca, acc, acg, and act all encode threonine.

We count the number of *mutations* on branches of the tree, not the final alignment: in tree at right there are three c→g mutations although more than three sequences have the mutation.

acg acg acg acc acc acc acc acc

Actual counts of mutations at each site.

In tree at right, there is one count of the indicated c→g mutation, which induces an alanine to glycine mutation. The fact that the actual counts are less than the expected counts suggests this mutation is deleterious.

