

# Sequence Alignment

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- Rationale Behind
- Scoring System
- Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm
- Smith-Waterman Algorithm
- Situation Today

# Why is it useful

- Homology search
- Genetic diversity
- Active sites, Reading frames

# Keeping Scores

- mathematically describe similarity
- selecting weights
  - BLOSUMXY
  - mathematical (log likelihood)

# Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm

```
def s(a, b):  
    # we choose simple scoring mismatch and gap penalty is -1  
    if a == b:  
        return 1  
    return -1  
  
def needleman_wunsch(seq1, seq2):  
    # sets up m*n zero matrix  
    matrix = [[0] * (len(seq1) + 1) for i in range(len(seq2) + 1)]  
  
    for i in range(len(seq1) + 1):  
        matrix[0][i] = -i  
    for i in range(len(seq2) + 1):  
        matrix[i][0] = -i  
    # fill the matrix according to the penalty scheme  
    for i in range(1, len(seq2) + 1):  
        for j in range(1, len(seq1) + 1):  
            matrix[i][j] = max(  
                matrix[i - 1][j - 1] + s(seq1[j - 1], seq2[i - 1]),  
                matrix[i - 1][j] - 1,  
                matrix[i][j - 1] - 1  
            )
```

# Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm

```
# backtrack the matrix
matched_sequence1 = ""
matched_sequence2 = ""
i, j = len(seq2), len(seq1)
while i > 0 and j > 0:
    score_current = matrix[i][j]
    diagonal = matrix[i - 1][j - 1]
    up = matrix[i][j - 1]
    left = matrix[i - 1][j]
    # now we check how the current score was created
    if score_current == diagonal + s(seq1[j - 1], seq2[i - 1]):
        matched_sequence1 += seq1[j - 1]
        matched_sequence2 += seq2[i - 1]
        i -= 1
        j -= 1

    elif score_current == up - 1:
        matched_sequence1 += seq1[j - 1]
        matched_sequence2 += "-"
        j -= 1

    elif score_current == left - 1:
        matched_sequence1 += "-"
        matched_sequence2 += seq2[i - 1]
        i -= 1

return (matched_sequence1[::-1], matched_sequence2[::-1])
```

# Smith-Waterman Algorithm

- took 10 years to develop
- minor change

$$matrix[i][j] = \max \begin{cases} matrix[i-1][j-1] + s(x, y) \\ matrix[i-1][j] - 1 \\ matrix[i][j-1] - 1 \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

# Smith-Waterman Algorithm



# How is it done in practice

- Both algorithms are  $O(mn)$  and provably correct
- Genome of organisms are really long
- Poses a challenge → Heuristics
  - BLAST
  - FASTA