



# IQ-TREE

Efficient software for phylogenomic inference

Stable release 1.6.12 (August 15, 2019)

[Download v1.6.12 for macOS](#)

Latest release 2.2.2.6 (May 27, 2023)

[Download v2.2.2.6 for macOS](#)

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## IQ-TREE has been developed by 12+ contributors:

From ANU:



James Barbetti



Thomas Wong



Robert Lanfear



Bui Quang Minh



Nhan Ly-Trong



Piyumal Demotte

From international:



Michael Woodhams



Olga Chernomor



Arndt von Haeseler



Dominik Schrempf



Heiko A. Schmidt



Diep Thi Hoang

Past members:

Lam Tung Nguyen

Jana Trifinopoulos

## IQ-TREE Intro MOLE 2024

*Slides from Bui Quang  
Minh*

*(Edited by Blake Fauskee)*

# Why IQ-TREE?

**Next generation sequencing data represent both a blessing and a curse:**

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- Curse: Many model assumptions become increasingly distant from the truth due to growing data complexity.

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**With IQ-TREE we aim to:**

- Analyze ultra-large data sets.
- Provide many (if not most) “useful” models of sequence evolution.

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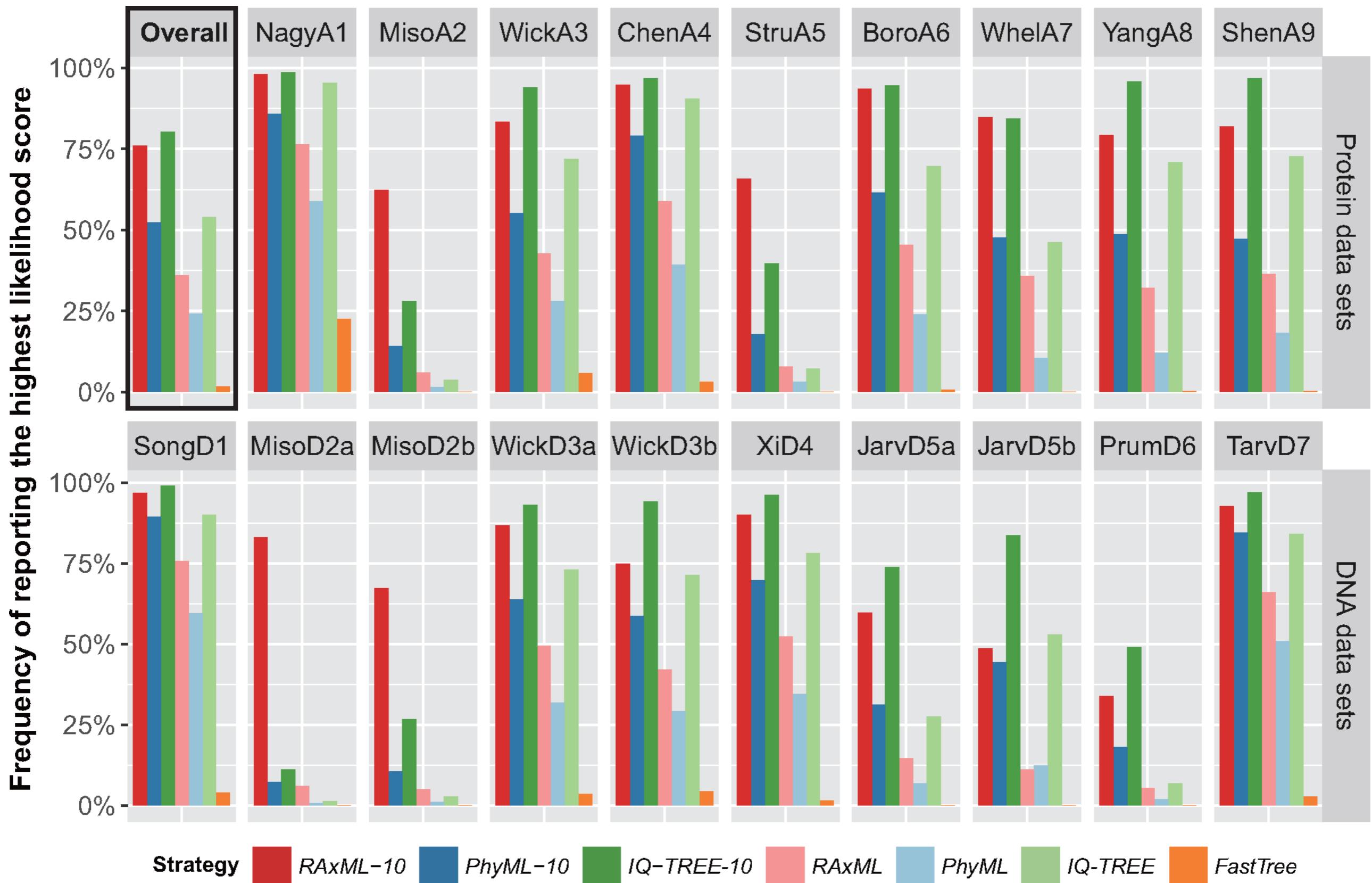
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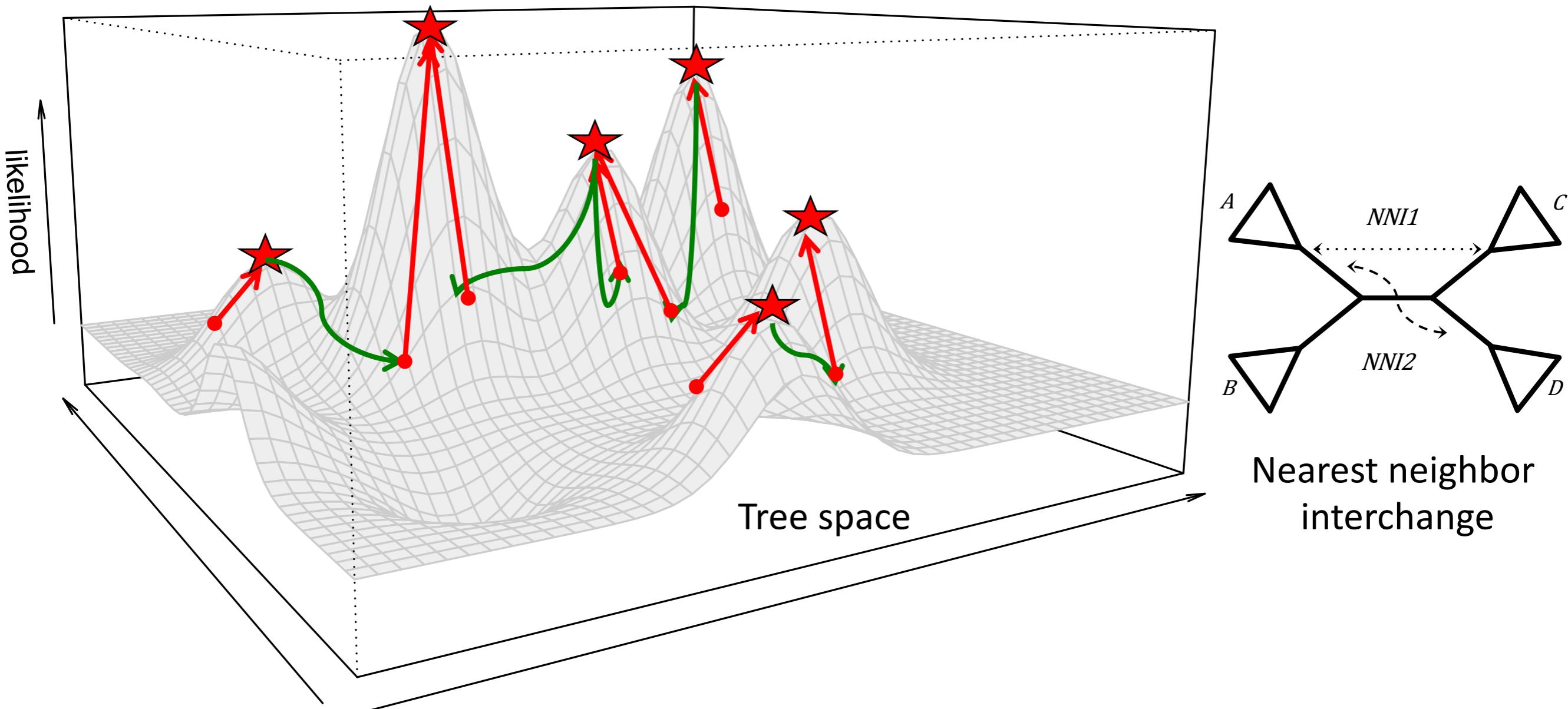
With IQ-TREE we aim to:

- Analyze ultra-large data sets.
- Provide many (if not most) “useful” models of sequence evolution.
- **But still, there are RAxML, PhyML out there, why do I need IQ-TREE?**
  - We better have at least 2 software independently developed for similar purpose. Only then, the pros and cons (sometimes bugs) can be identified. This creates a *friendly* competition, which helps to advance the field!
  - Same as having MrBayes, RevBayes, BEAST for Bayesian inference.

# An independent benchmark by Zhou et al. (2018)



# IQ-TREE: A new stochastic algorithm



- \* 100 starting trees (99 parsimony, 1 NJ)
- \* Keeping a “population” of 20 best trees
- \* Stop if unsuccessful for 100 consecutive down-hill + up-hill moves

Lam-Tung Nguyen Heiko Schmidt Arndt von Haeseler



# IQ-TREE: A stochastic tree search algorithm

L.T. Nguyen, H. Schmidt, A. von Haeseler



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Maximum parsimony  
(Population of starting trees)

Aoraki / Mt Cook

Mt Tasman



# IQ-TREE: A stochastic tree search algorithm

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Maximum parsimony

Hill-climbing NNI

Aoraki/Mt Cook

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# IQ-TREE: A stochastic tree search algorithm

L.T. Nguyen, H. Schmidt, A. von Haeseler



- Maximum parsimony
- Hill-climbing NNI
- Downhill (random) NNIs

Aoraki/Mt Cook

Mt Tasman



# IQ-TREE: A stochastic tree search algorithm

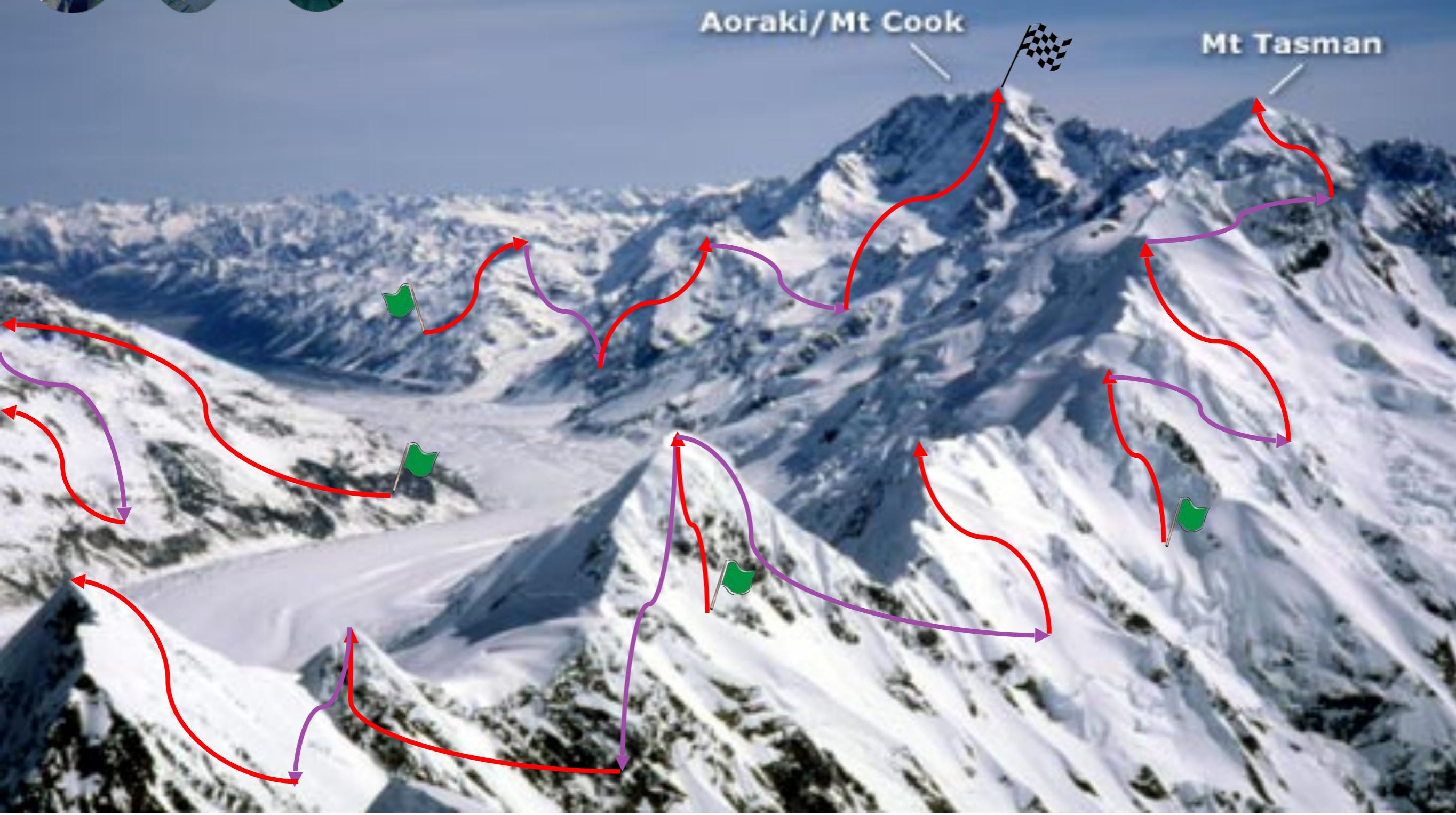
L.T. Nguyen, H. Schmidt, A. von Haeseler



Maximum parsimony

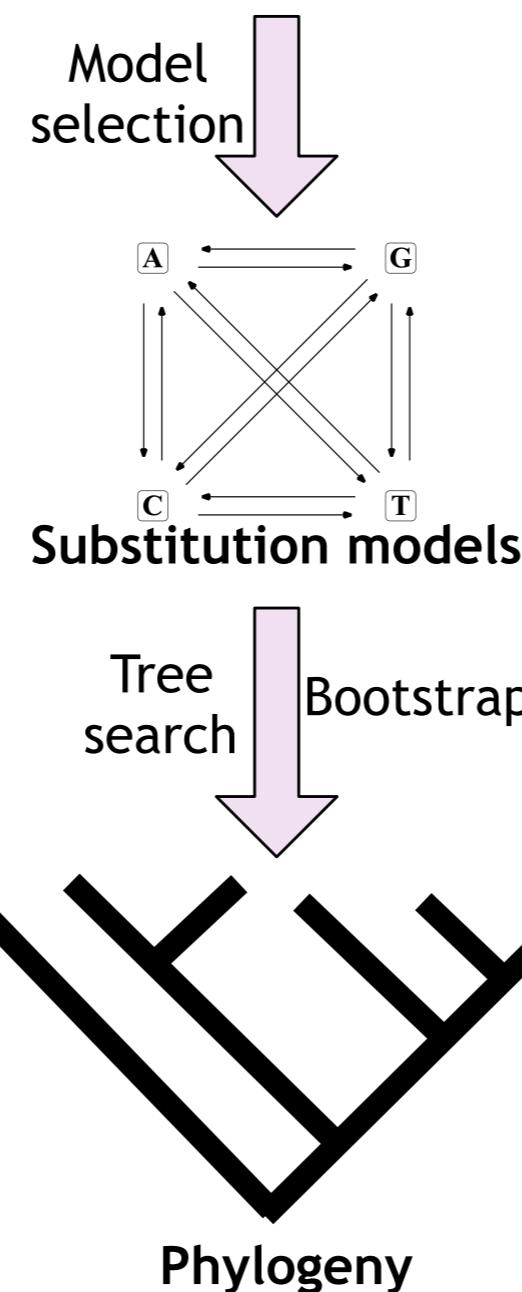
Hill-climbing NNI

Downhill (random) NNIs

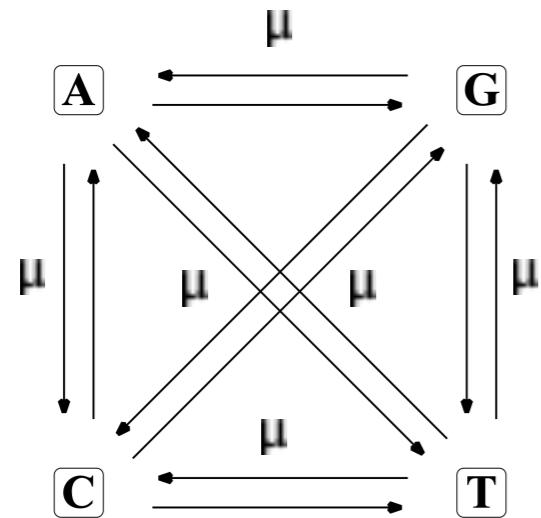


# Typical phylogenetic analysis

Sequence alignment			
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----



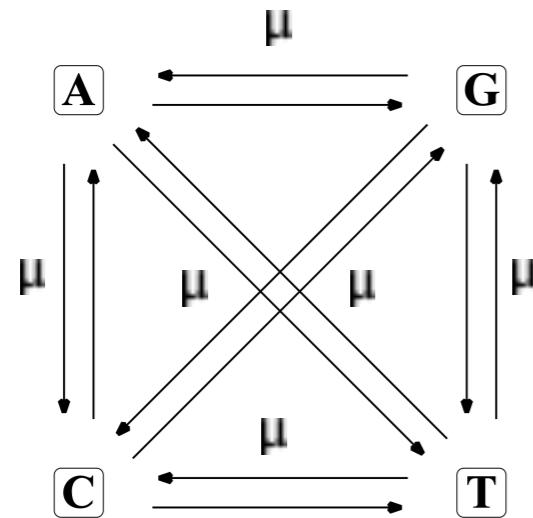
# Models of sequence evolution



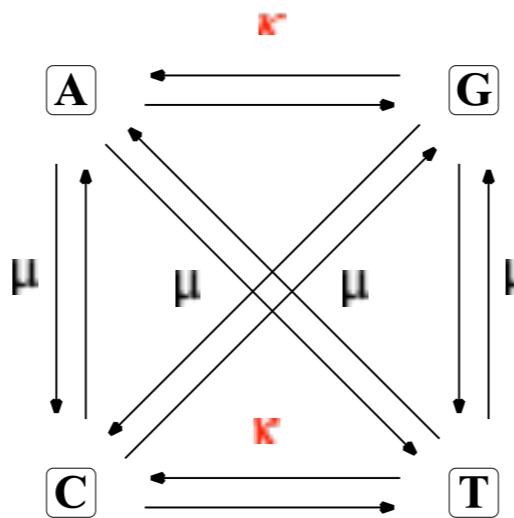
JC

(Jukes & Cantor 1969)

# Models of sequence evolution

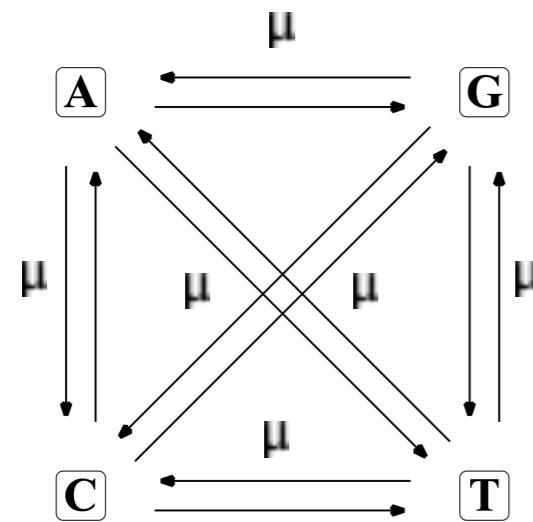


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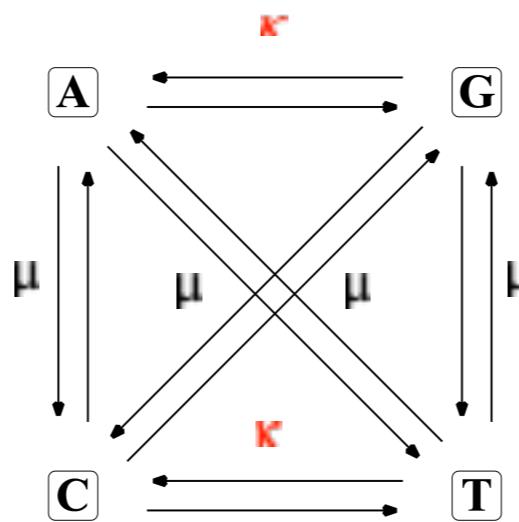


HKY  
(Hasegawa, Kishino,  
Yano 1985)

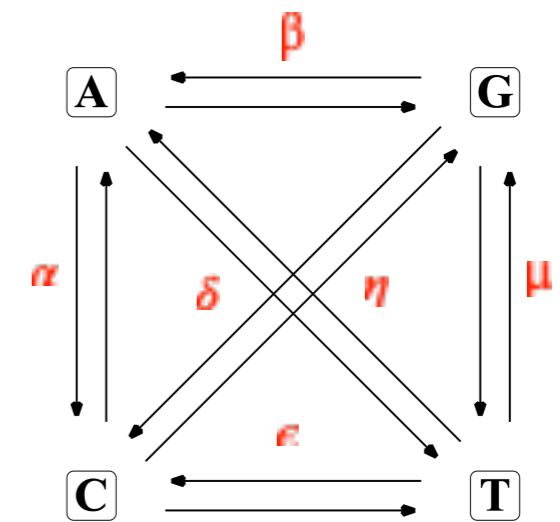
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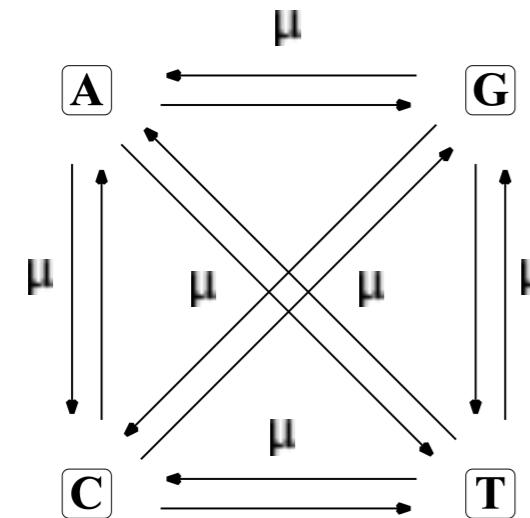


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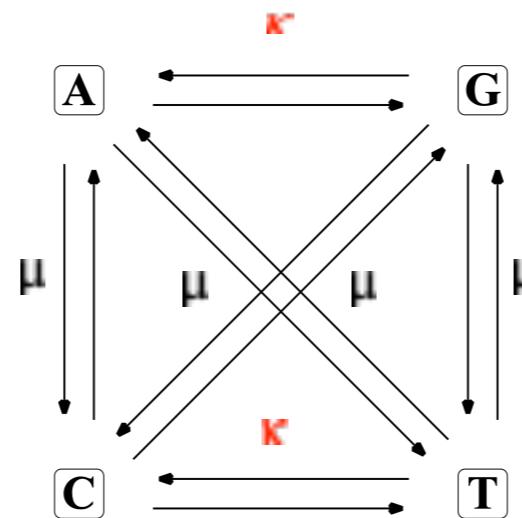


GTR  
(General Time  
Reversible, 1986)

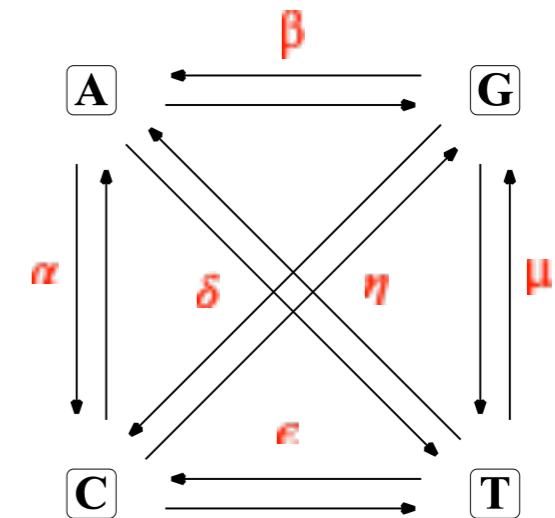
# Models of sequence evolution



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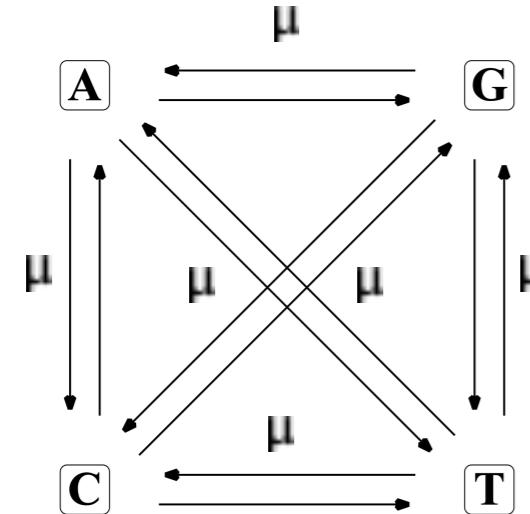


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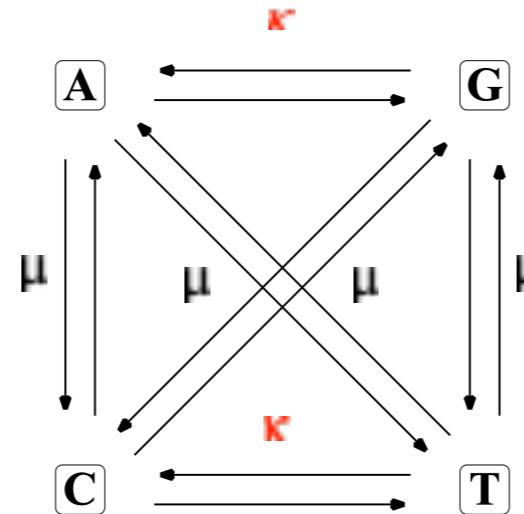
**Rate heterogeneity:** alignment sites evolved at different rates. Some slow, some fast.

Rate model	Explanation
+I	Some sites are <i>invariable</i> (zero rate), e.g. due to selective force.
+G	Site rates follow a <i>Gamma</i> distribution.
+I+G	Some sites are invariable, the rest follow a Gamma distribution.
+R	Sites fall into several categories from slow to fast rates. No assumption of rate distribution (free-rate model).

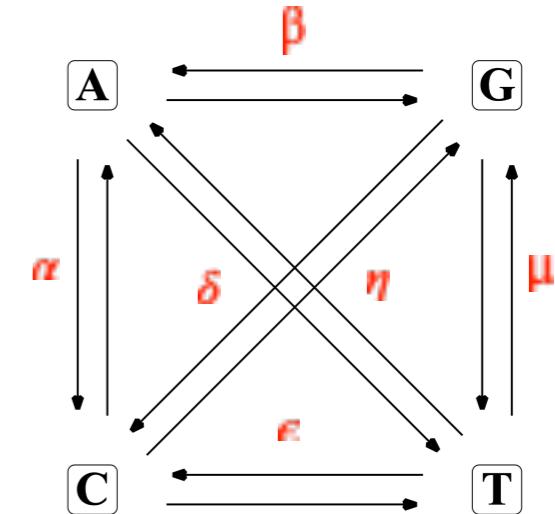
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A model = substitution model + rate heterogeneity, e.g. “GTR+G”

# Model selection

## 12.1 DNA models

### 12.1.1 Base substitution rates

IQ-TREE includes all common DNA models (ordered by complexity):

Model	df	Explanation	Code
JC or JC69	0	Equal substitution rates and equal base frequencies ( <a href="#">Jukes and Cantor, 1969</a> ).	000000
F81	3	Equal rates but unequal base freq. ( <a href="#">Felsenstein, 1981</a> ).	000000
K80 or K2P	1	Unequal transition/transversion rates and equal base freq. ( <a href="#">Kimura, 1980</a> ).	010010
HKY or HKY85	4	Unequal transition/transversion rates and unequal base freq. ( <a href="#">Hasegawa, Kishino and Yano, 1985</a> ).	010010
TN or TN93	5	Like HKY but unequal purine/pyrimidine rates ( <a href="#">Tamura and Nei, 1993</a> ).	010020
Model	df	Explanation	Code
TNe	2	Like TN but equal base freq.	010020
K81 or K3P	2	Three substitution types model and equal base freq. ( <a href="#">Kimura, 1981</a> ).	012210
K81u	5	Like K81 but unequal base freq.	012210
TPM2	2	AC=AT, AG=CT, CG=GT and equal base freq.	010212
TPM2u	5	Like TPM2 but unequal base freq.	010212
TPM3	2	AC=CG, AG=CT, AT=GT and equal base freq.	012012
TPM3u	5	Like TPM3 but unequal base freq.	012012
TIM	6	Transition model, AC=GT, AT=CG and unequal base freq.	012230
TIMe	3	Like TIM but equal base freq.	012230
TIM2	6	AC=AT, CG=GT and unequal base freq.	010232
TIM2e	3	Like TIM2 but equal base freq.	010232
TIM3	6	AC=CG, AT=GT and unequal base freq.	012032
TIM3e	3	Like TIM3 but equal base freq.	012032
TVM	7	Transversion model, AG=CT and unequal base freq.	012314
TVMe	4	Like TVM but equal base freq.	012314
SYM	5	Symmetric model with unequal rates but equal base freq. ( <a href="#">Zharkikh, 1994</a> ).	012345
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## 12.6 Rate heterogeneity across sites

IQ-TREE supports all common rate heterogeneity across sites models:

RateType	Explanation
+I	allowing for a proportion of invariable sites.
+G	discrete Gamma model ( <a href="#">Yang, 1994</a> ) with default 4 rate categories. The number of categories can be changed with e.g. +G8.
+GC	continuous Gamma model ( <a href="#">Yang, 1994</a> ) (for AliSim only).
+I+G	invariable site plus discrete Gamma model ( <a href="#">Gu et al., 1995</a> ).
+R	FreeRate model ( <a href="#">Yang, 1995; Soubrier et al., 2012</a> ) that generalizes the +G model by relaxing the assumption of Gamma-distributed rates. The number of categories can be specified with e.g. +R6 (default 4 categories if not specified). The FreeRate model typically fits data better than the +G model and is recommended for analysis of large data sets.
+I+R	invariable site plus FreeRate model.

# Model selection

JC	GTR
JC+G	GTR+G
JC+I	GTR+I
JC+I+G .....	GTR+I+G
JC+R2	GTR+R2
...	...
JC+R10	GTR+R10

Which model  
is best?

# Model selection

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JC+R10	GTR+R10

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## Problem:

More complex models always  
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# Model selection

JC  
JC+G  
JC+I  
JC+I+G .....  
JC+R2  
...  
JC+R10

GTR  
GTR+G  
GTR+I  
GTR+I+G  
GTR+R2  
...  
GTR+R10

Which model  
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**Problem:**

More complex models always  
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**Solution:** Penalize a model  $M$  by the number of its parameters ( $k$ )

1. Akaike information criterion (AIC):

2. Bayesian information criterion (BIC):

where  $n$  is the number of alignment sites.

Select the model with **smallest AIC or BIC score**.

The default in IQ-TREE is BIC, but you should state that in the publication!

# Model selection

JC	GTR
JC+G	GTR+G
JC+I	GTR+I
JC+I+G	GTR+I+G
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...	...
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2. Bayesian information criterion

where  $n$  is the number of alignments

Select the model with smallest  $AIC$

**ModelFinder: fast model selection for accurate phylogenetic estimates**

Subha Kalyaanamoorthy<sup>1,2,6</sup>, Bui Quang Minh<sup>3,6</sup>,  
Thomas K F Wong<sup>1,4,6</sup>, Arndt von Haeseler<sup>3,5</sup>  
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TPM3u	5	Like TPM3 but unequal base freq.	012012
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## Mixture models

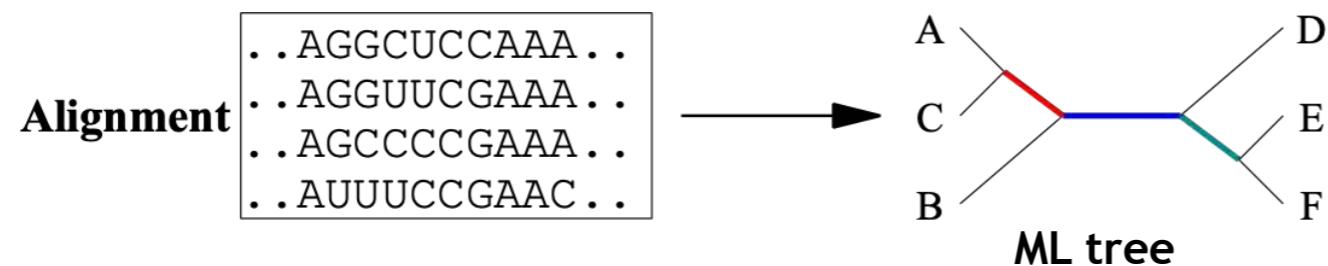
*Does not assign alignment sites to a specific model*

*Rather, assigns each alignment site a probability/ weight of belonging to each mixture class (models)*

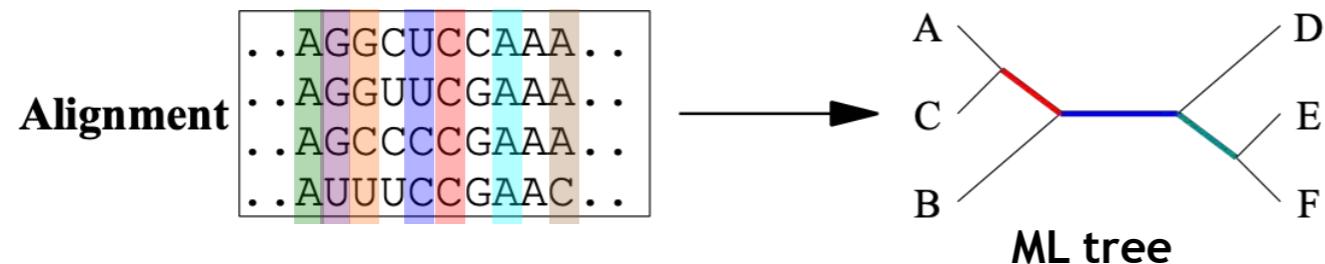
```
iqtree -s example.phy -m "MIX{JC, HKY}"
```

*Gamma-distributed site-rate heterogeneity is an example of a mixture model*

# Bootstrap: How reliable are branches of the tree?



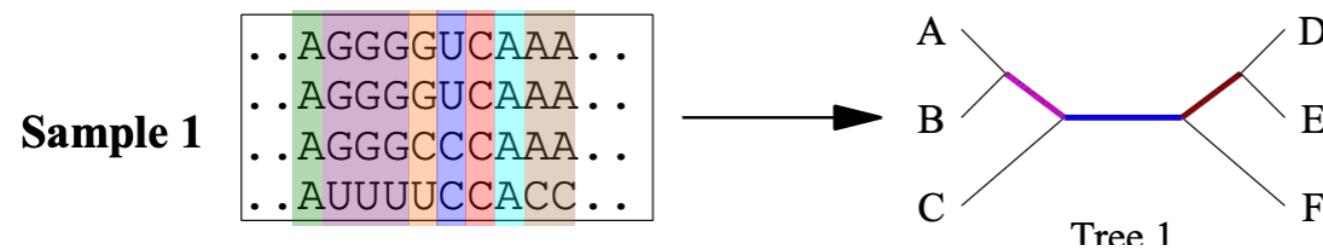
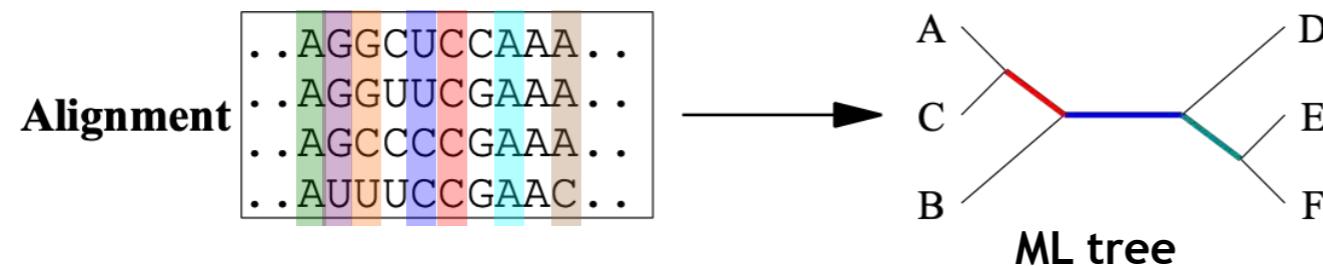
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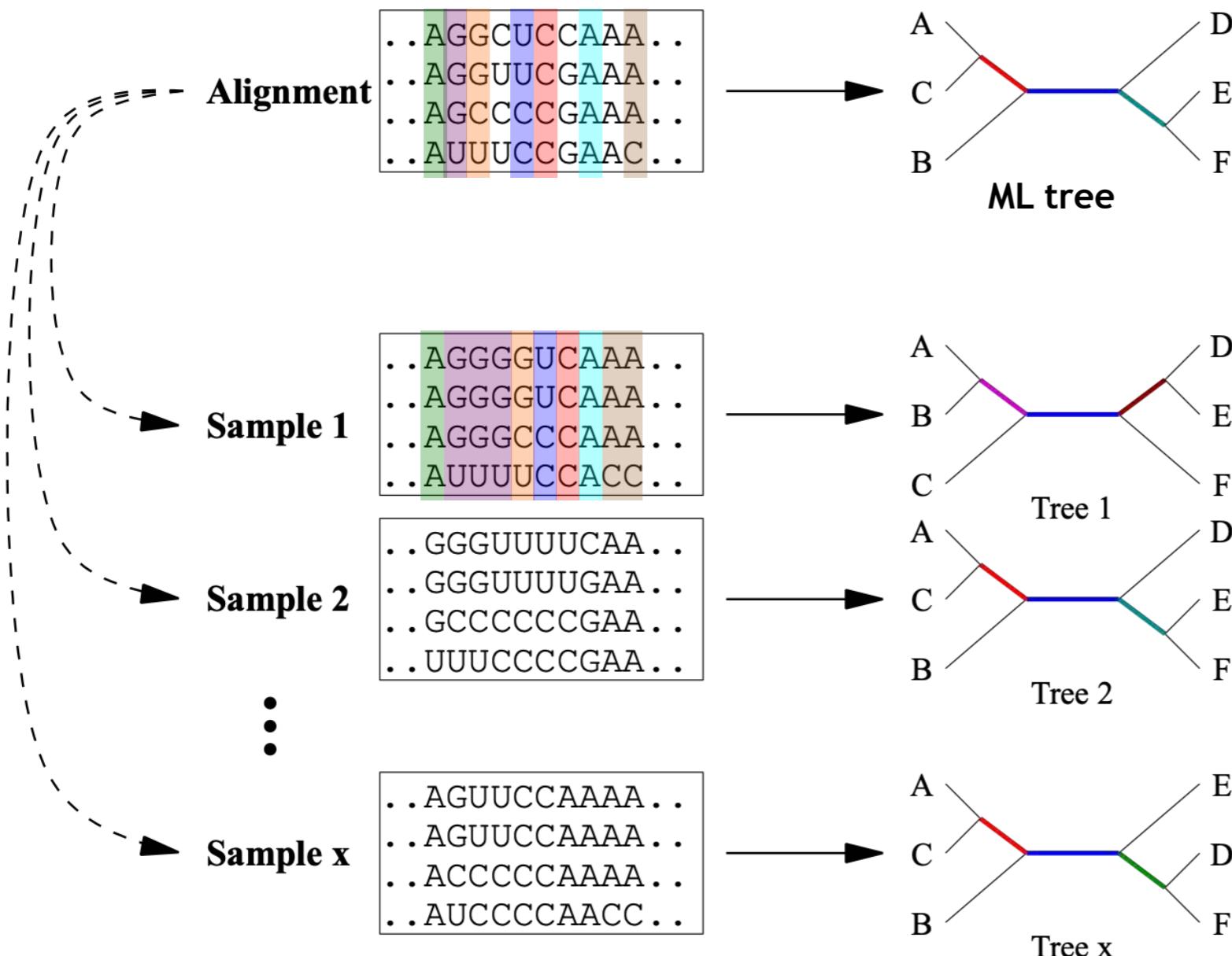
**Sample 1**

..A	GGGGGU	CAAA	..
..A	GGGGGU	CAAA	..
..A	GGGGCCC	CAAA	..
..A	UUUUUCC	ACC	..

# Bootstrap: How reliable are branches of the tree?

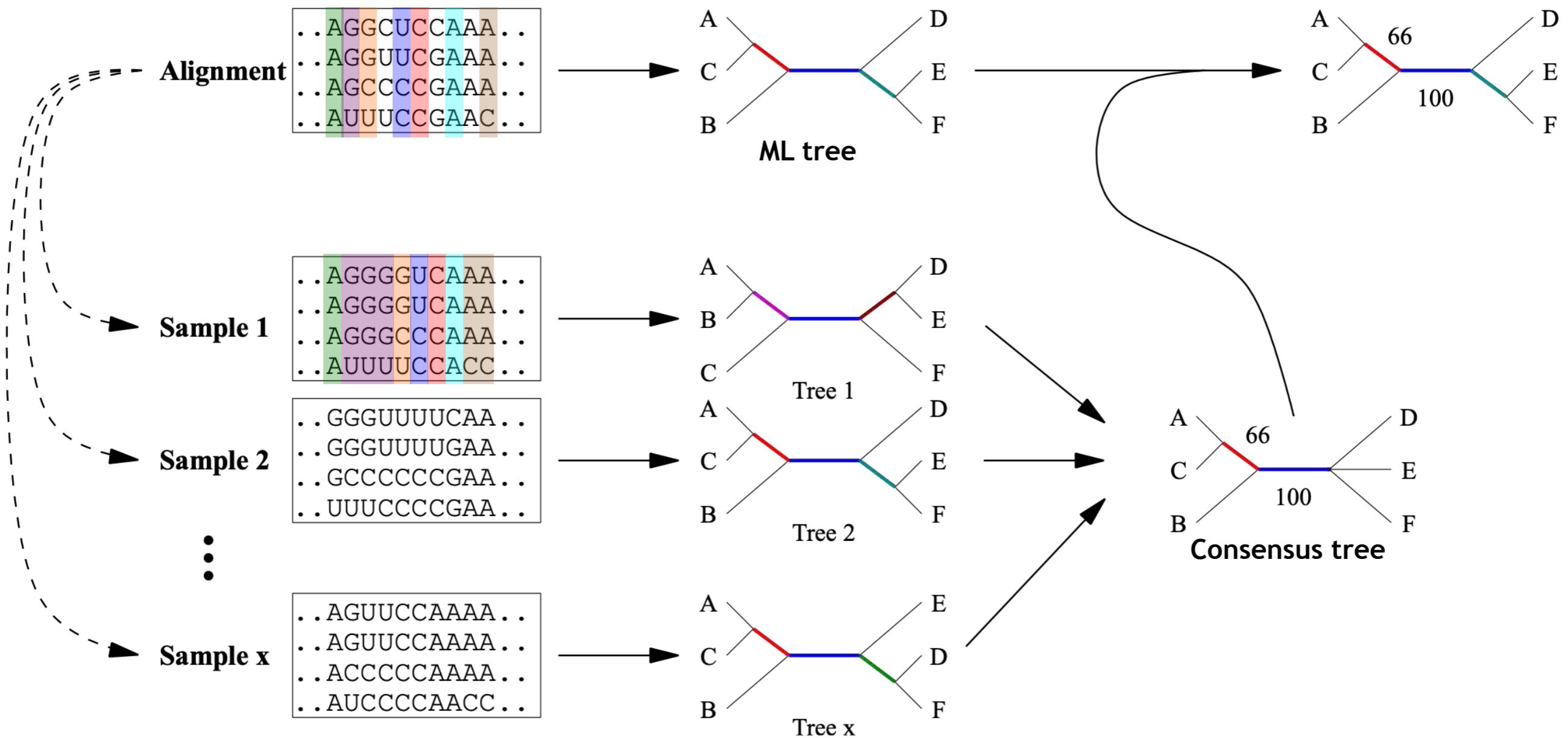


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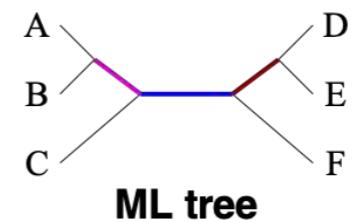
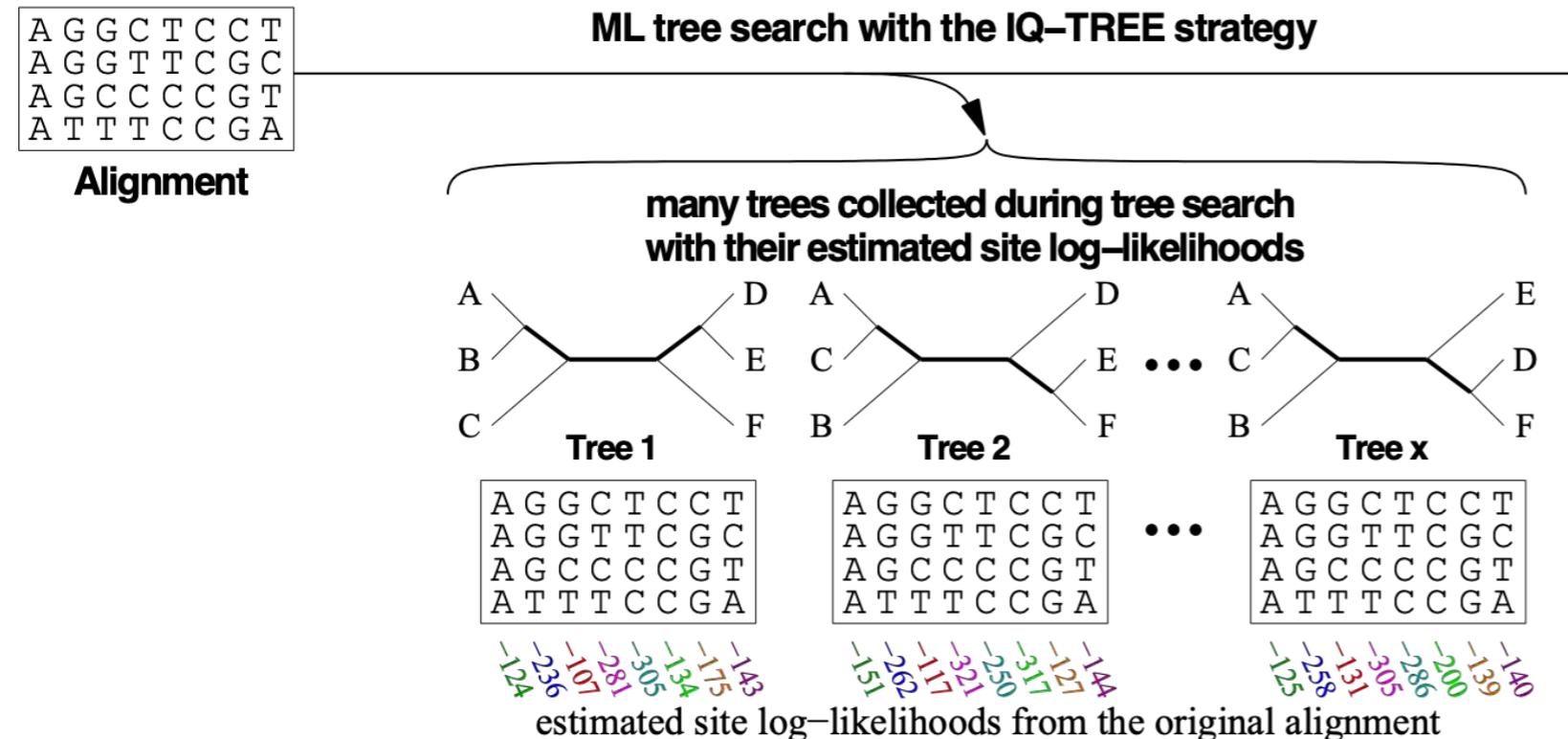


# Bootstrap: How reliable are branches of the tree?

Generally time and resource heavy

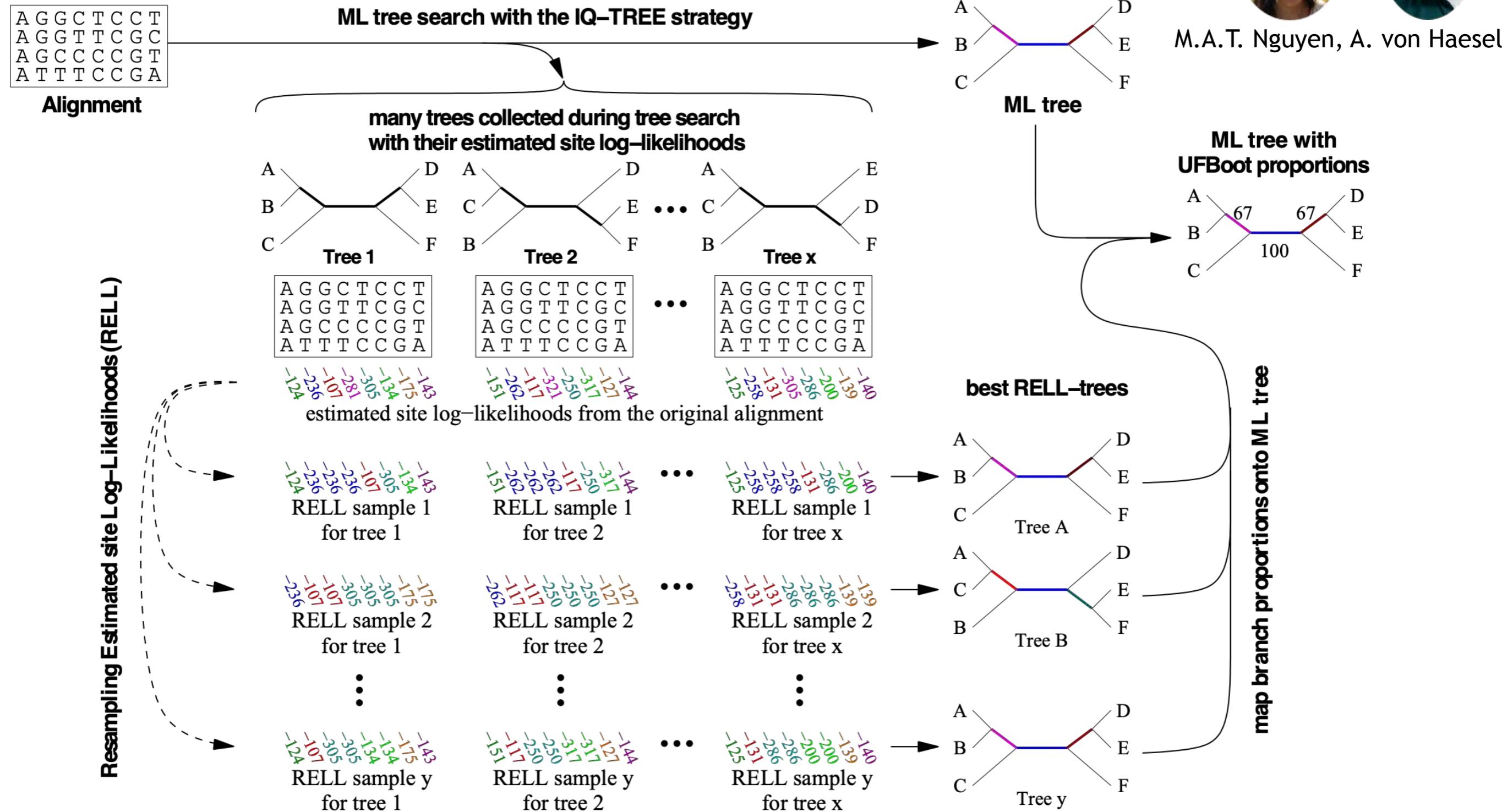


# UFBoot: Ultrafast bootstrap approximation



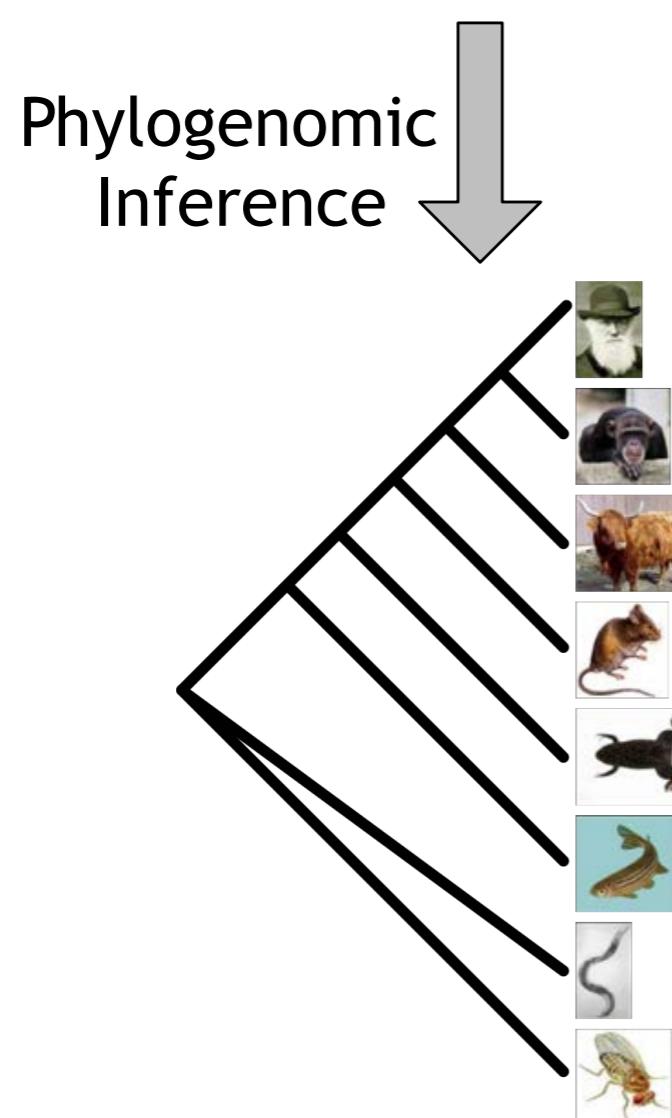
M.A.T. Nguyen, A. von Haese

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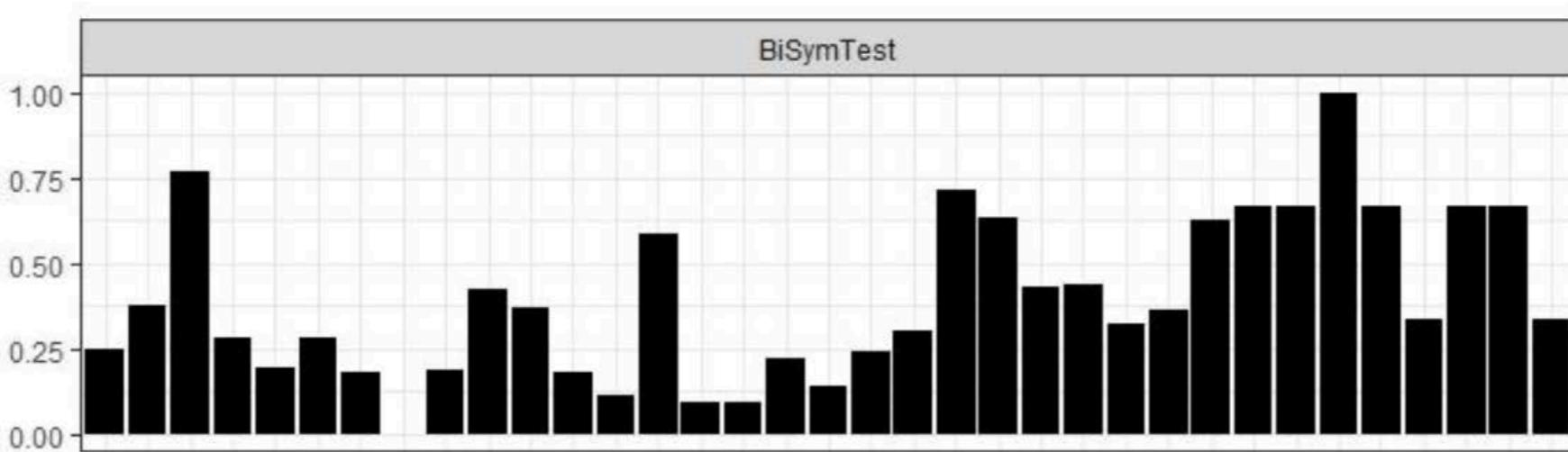
# Genome-scale data: Concatenation methods

Supermatrix				
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG	
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTCCTCTTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG	
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAG	
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----	
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG	
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----	



*Species tree of life*

# “Data-model gap” is increasing!

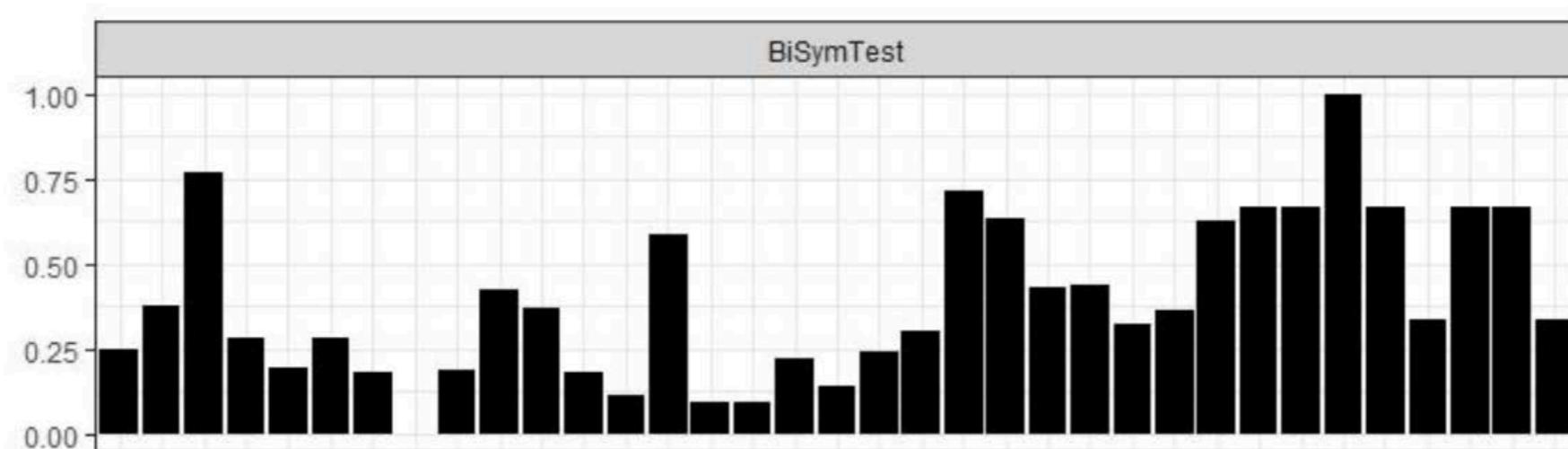


Level of model violations in 35 phylogenomic datasets (<https://doi.org/10.1101/460121>)

1. Resulting trees tend to be biased towards the genes that violated model assumptions.
2. Bootstrap supports tend to 100% as #genes increases.

Model violation → Systematic bias

# “Data-model gap” is increasing!



Level of model violations in 35 phylogenomic datasets (<https://doi.org/10.1101/460121>)

1. Resulting trees tend to be biased towards the genes that violated model assumptions.
2. Bootstrap supports tend to 100% as #genes increases.

Model violation → Systematic bias

1. Remove “bad” loci
2. Use more realistic models

# Partition model

*Substitution  
models*

Supermatrix			
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	TTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----

JC      HKY+R2      ...      GTR+I+G4

# Example partition file (turtle.nex)

```
#nexus
begin sets;
charset ENSGALG0000000223.macse_DNA_gb = 1-846;
charset ENSGALG0000001529.macse_DNA_gb = 847-1368;
charset ENSGALG0000002002.macse_DNA_gb = 1369-2040;
charset ENSGALG0000002514.macse_DNA_gb = 2041-2772;
charset ENSGALG0000003337.macse_DNA_gb = 2773-3738;
charset ENSGALG0000003700.macse_DNA_gb = 3739-4623;
charset ENSGALG0000003702.macse_DNA_gb = 4624-6168;
charset ENSGALG0000003907.macse_DNA_gb = 6169-6648;
charset ENSGALG0000005820.macse_DNA_gb = 6649-7224;
charset ENSGALG0000005834.macse_DNA_gb = 7225-7920;
charset ENSGALG0000005902.macse_DNA_gb = 7921-8490;
charset ENSGALG0000008338.macse_DNA_gb = 8491-9282;
charset ENSGALG0000008517.macse_DNA_gb = 9283-9822;
charset ENSGALG0000008916.macse_DNA_gb = 9823-10368;
charset ENSGALG0000009085.macse_DNA_gb = 10369-11298;
charset ENSGALG0000009879.macse_DNA_gb = 11299-11895;
charset ENSGALG00000011323.macse_DNA_gb = 11896-12795;
charset ENSGALG00000011434.macse_DNA_gb = 12796-13242;
charset ENSGALG00000011917.macse_DNA_gb = 13243-14223;
charset ENSGALG00000011966.macse_DNA_gb = 14224-14691;
charset ENSGALG00000012244.macse_DNA_gb = 14692-15444;
charset ENSGALG00000012379.macse_DNA_gb = 15445-15963;
charset ENSGALG00000012568.macse_DNA_gb = 15964-16593;
charset ENSGALG00000013227.macse_DNA_gb = 16594-17895;
charset ENSGALG00000014038.macse_DNA_gb = 17896-18456;
charset ENSGALG00000014648.macse_DNA_gb = 18457-18954;
charset ENSGALG00000015326.macse_DNA_gb = 18955-19551;
charset ENSGALG00000015397.macse_DNA_gb = 19552-20145;
charset ENSGALG00000016241.macse_DNA_gb = 20146-20820;
end;
```

# Partition model

Supermatrix				
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	-----	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----	-----

*Substitution  
models*

JC

HKY+R2

...

GTR+I+G4

**Model of  
branch lengths**

Universally  
shared

**Gene trees**



Proportionally  
linked

Recommended for typical analysis,  
confirmed by Dunchene et al. (2018)  
<https://doi.org/10.1101/467449>

Unlinked

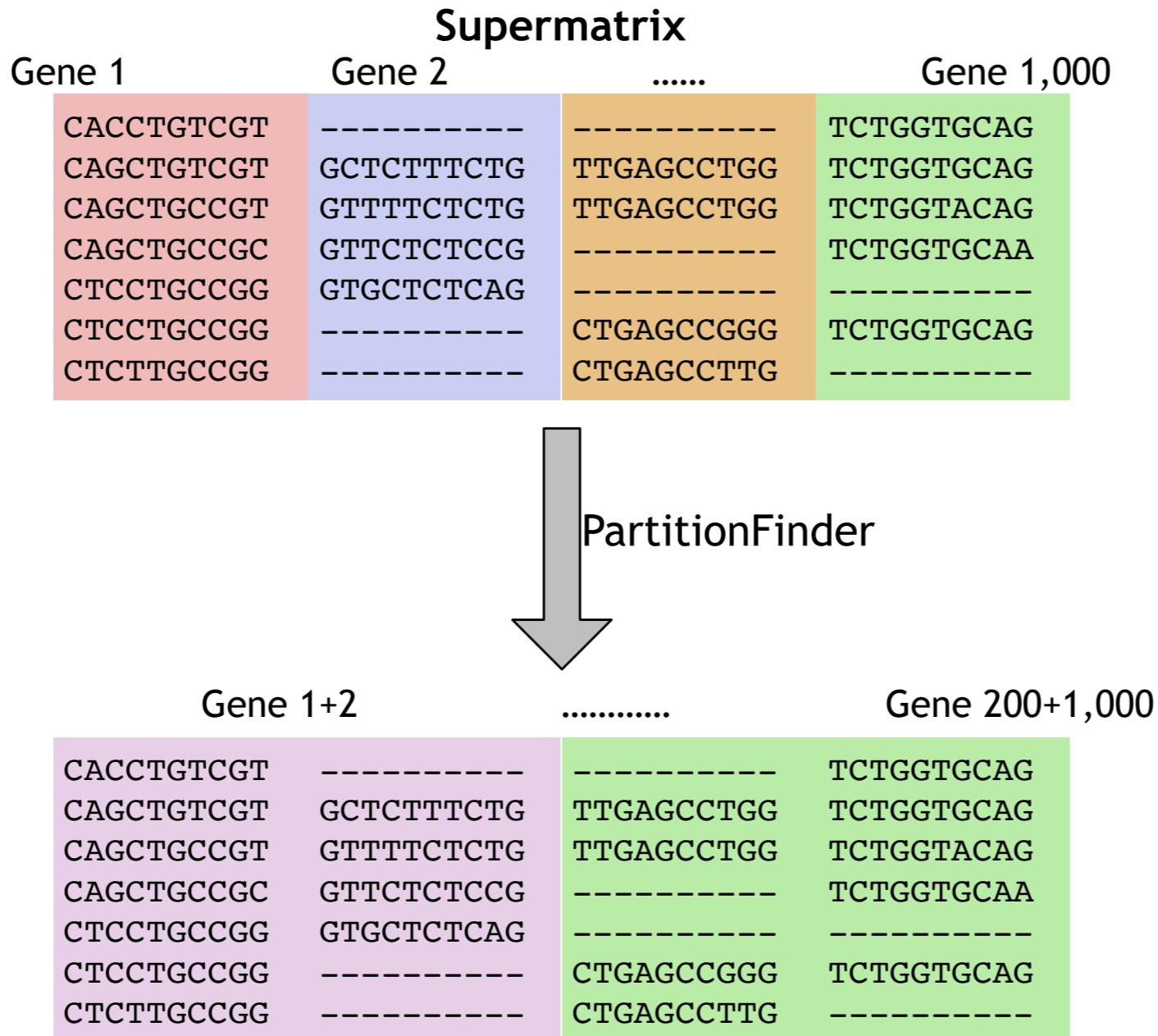


# How to reduce potential model overfitting?

Supermatrix			
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----

*Model overfitting: Model too complex relative to data  
Poor predictive performance*

# How to reduce potential model overfitting?



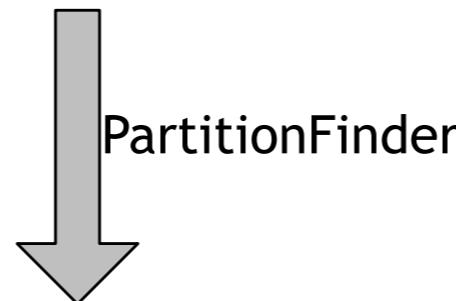
*Substitution  
models*

HKY

GTR+I+G4

# How to reduce potential model overfitting?

Supermatrix			
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----



Gene 1+2	.....	Gene 200+1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG

**PartitionFinder algorithm**  
(Lanfear et al. 2012):

1. Evaluate to merge all pairs of genes.
2. Choose the pair with the best score.
3. If score improves, merge two genes and repeat steps 1-3.
4. Otherwise, stop.

**Relaxed clustering algorithm**  
(Lanfear et al. 2014):

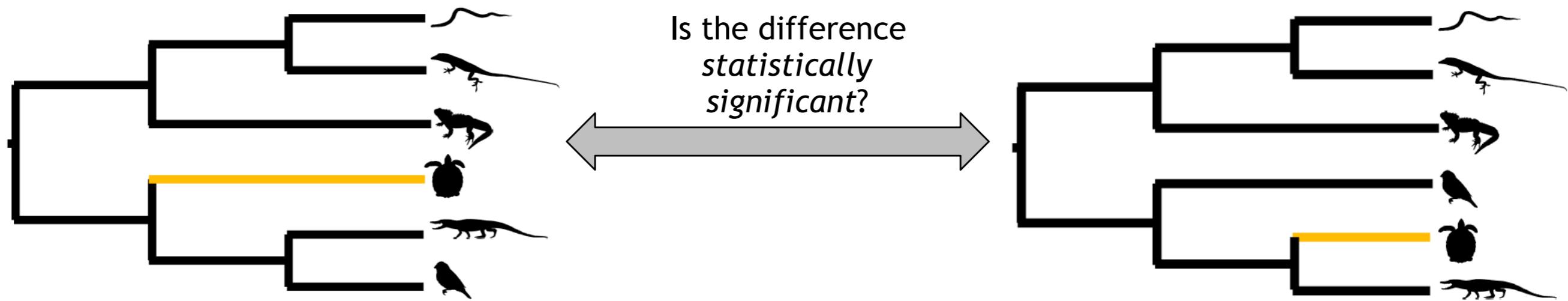
In step 1: only examine the top k% of most “promising” pairs.

*Substitution  
models*

HKY

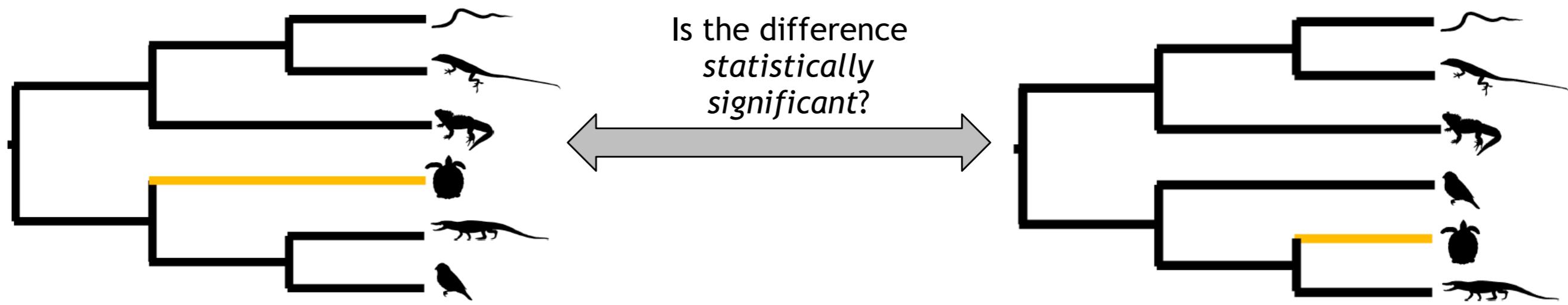
GTR+I+G4

# Tree topology tests



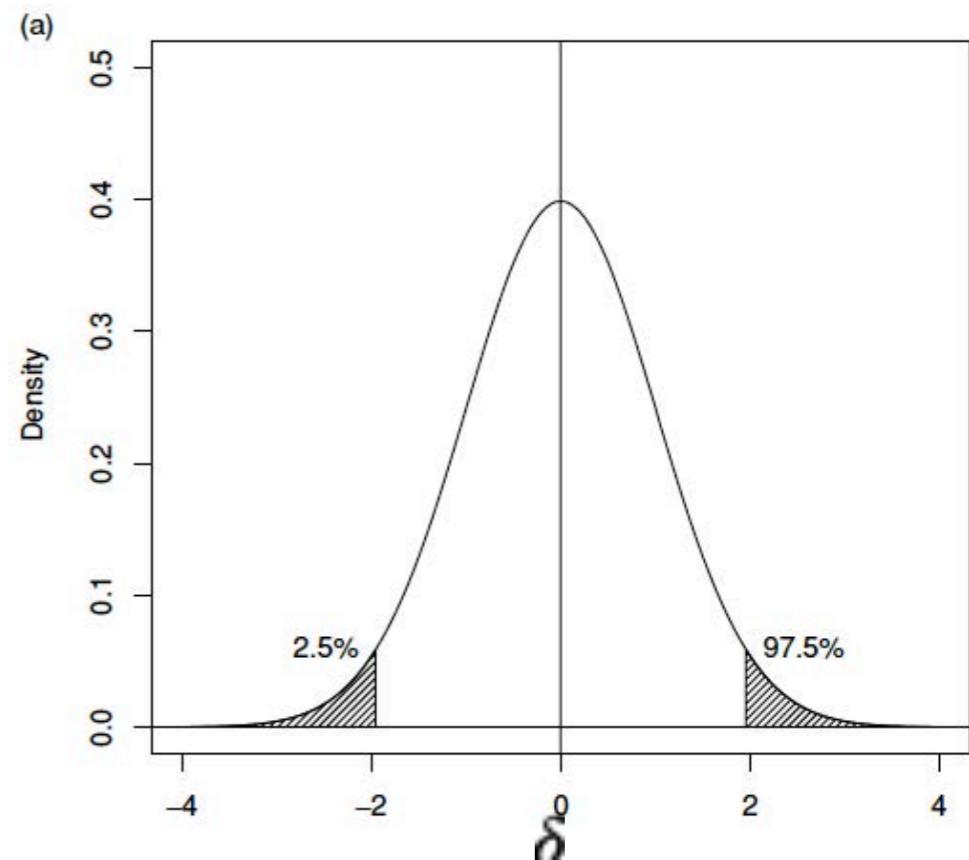
$$\delta = \log\left(\textit{likelihood}(T_1)\right) - \log\left(\textit{likelihood}(T_0)\right)$$

# Tree topology tests



δ Testing two trees (Kishino & Hasegawa, 1989):

1. Statistic: .
2. Generate distribution of from many “random” data (e.g. by 1000 bootstrap resampling).
3. Compare the statistic between original and random data to obtain *p-value*.
4. If **p-value < 0.05**: YES! two trees are significantly different.
  - If *p-value*  $\geq 0.05$ : NO! they are not.

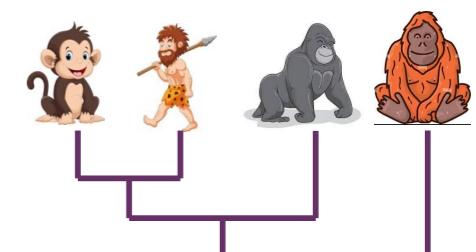


# Mixture Across Sites and Trees (MAST) model

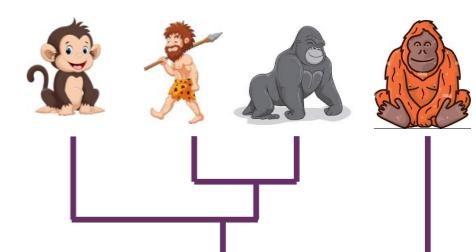
Concatenated alignment

S1 :	A	A	-	T	A	A	A	T
S2 :	T	A	A	C	C	T	T	T
S3 :	T	A	T	A	A	G	T	T
S4 :	A	C	-	A	C	A	A	A

$$L_1^1 \quad L_2^1 \quad L_3^1 \quad L_4^1 \quad L_5^1 \quad L_6^1 \quad L_7^1 \quad L_8^1$$



$$L_1^2 \quad L_2^2 \quad L_3^2 \quad L_4^2 \quad L_5^2 \quad L_6^2 \quad L_7^2 \quad L_8^2$$



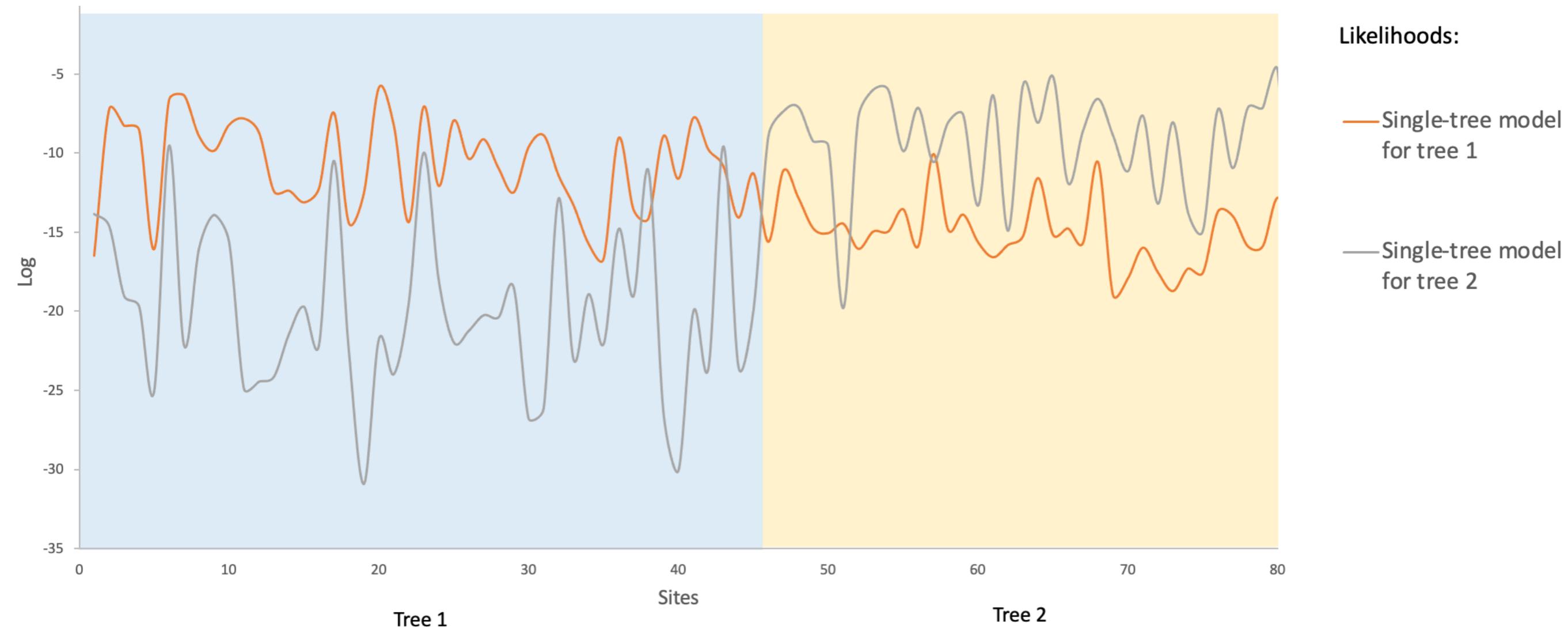
Likelihood for site  $i$ :  $L_i = w_1 L_i^1 + w_2 L_i^2$

where  $w_j$  represents the portion of sites belonging to tree  $j$

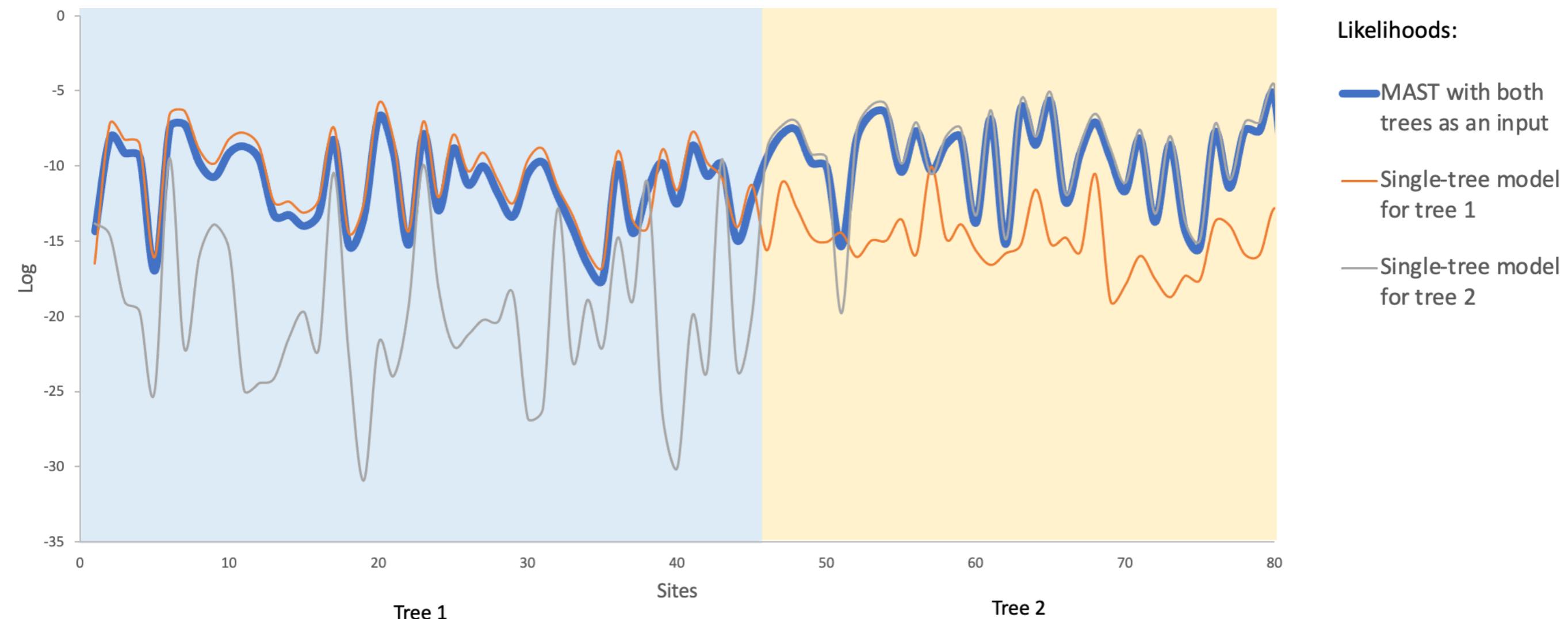
Log-likelihood of the trees:  $\sum_i \log(L_i)$

**iqtree2 -s ALN\_FILE -te TREES\_FILE -m GTR+G+T**

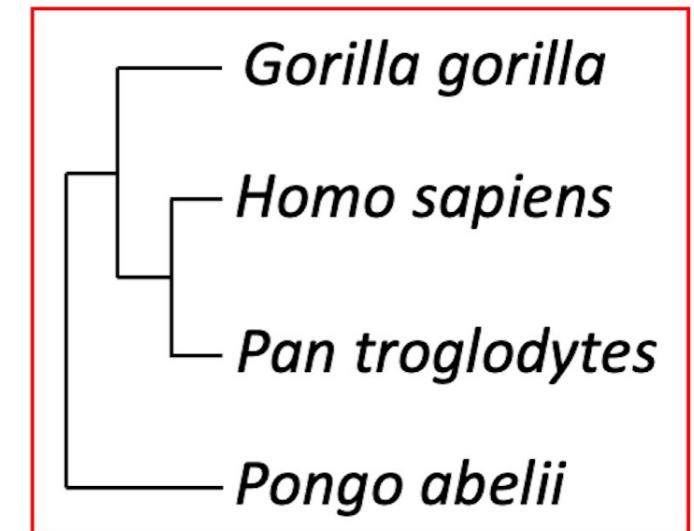
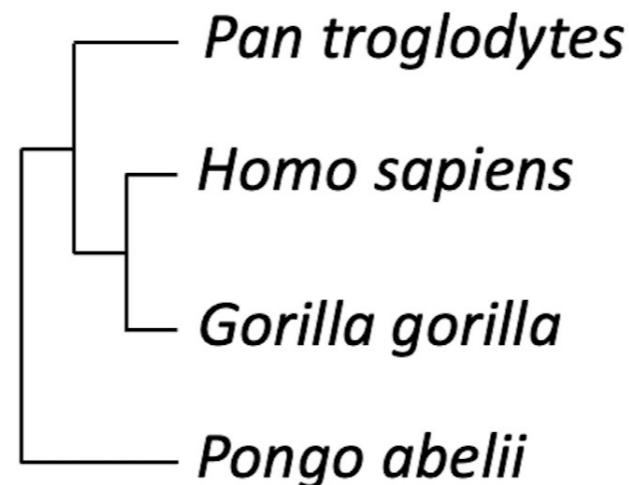
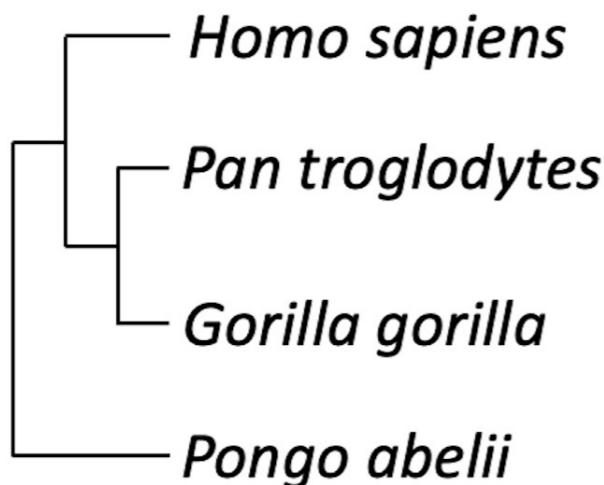
# Toy example: Site log-likelihood



# Toy example: Site log-likelihood



# The classical example of Human, Chimp, Gorilla



$T_{A1}$

Gene tree frequencies: 19.8%

**MAST model weights:** **17.9%**

$T_{A2}$

20.1%

**17.4%**

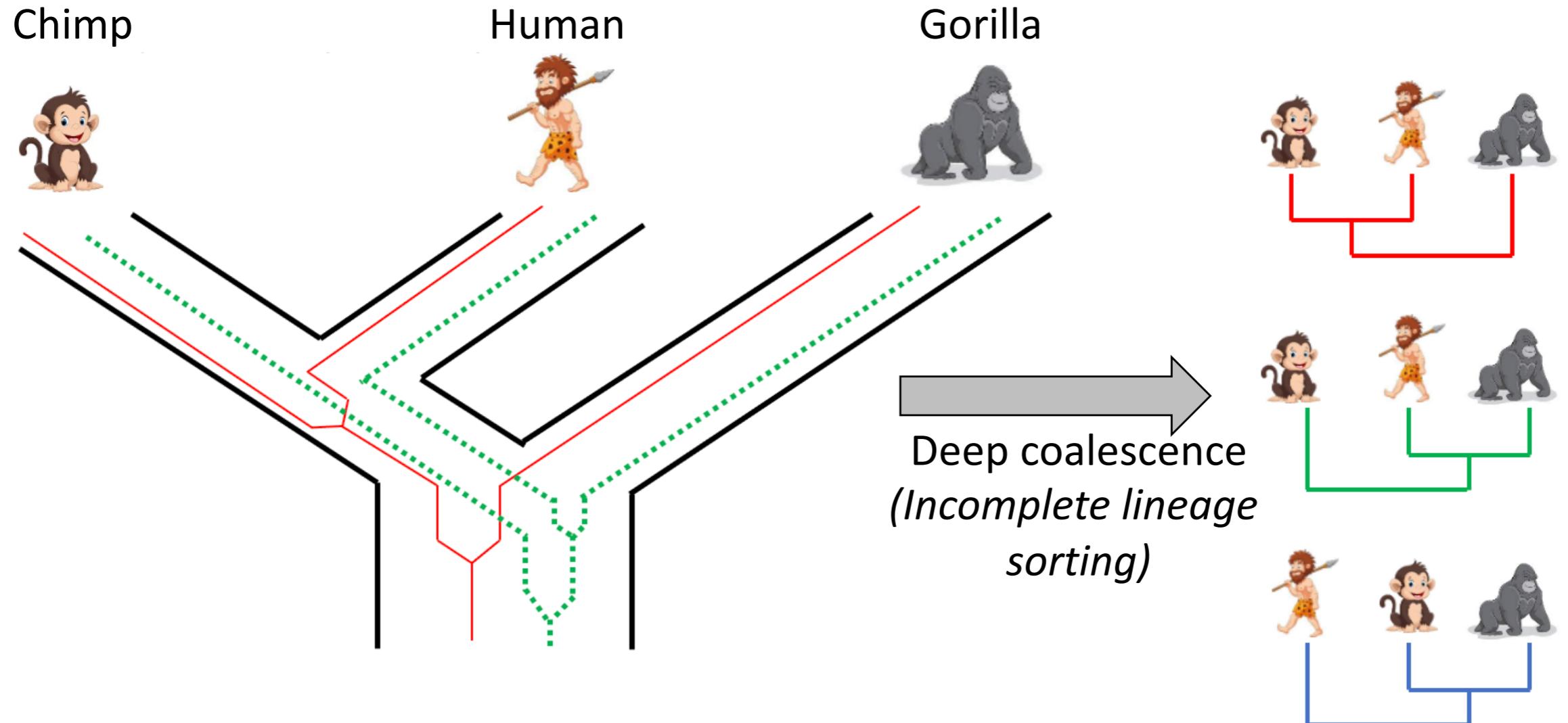
$T_{A3}$

60.1%

**64.7%**

Data: 1,595 genes; 1,618,506 bp ([Vanderpool et al. 2020](#))

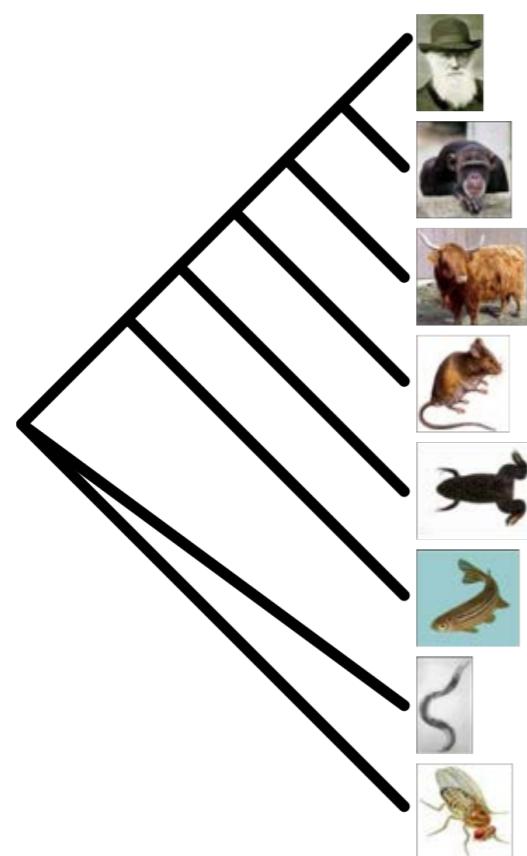
# Gene trees discordance due to deep coalescence



# Concatenation methods: Limitation

Supermatrix			
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----

Phylogenomic  
Inference

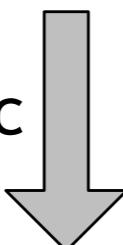


*Species tree of life*

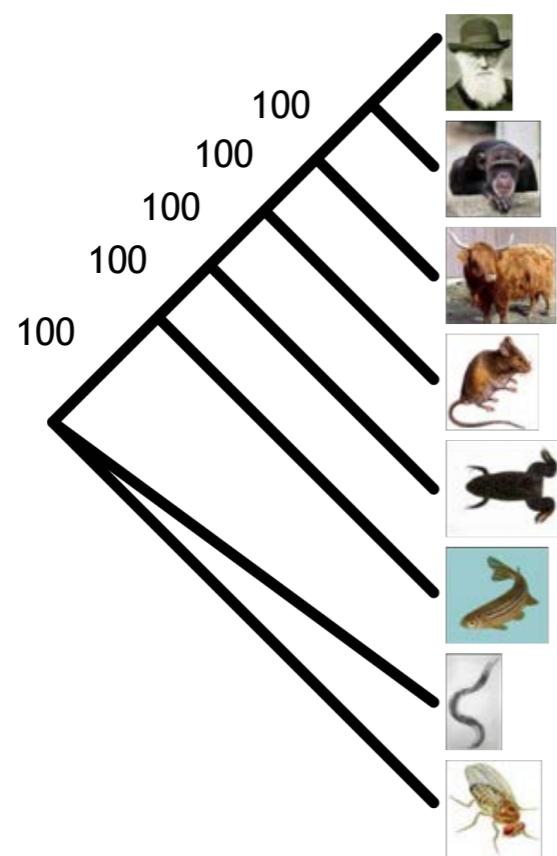
# Concatenation methods: Limitation

Supermatrix				
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG	
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG	
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG	
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA	
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----	
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG	
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----	

Phylogenomic  
Inference



Bootstrap supports and Bayesian posteriors  
tend to 100% as #genes increases!

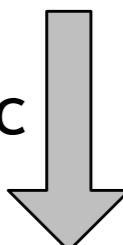


*Species tree of life*

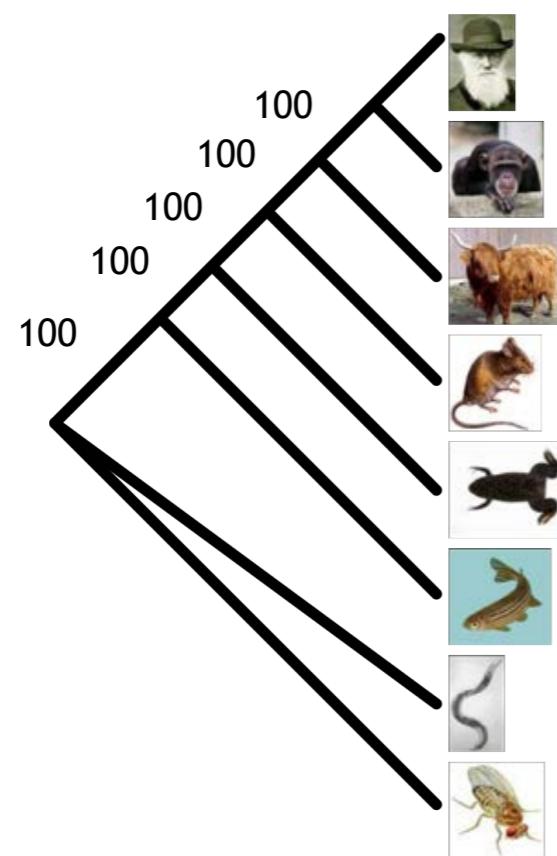
# Concatenation methods: Limitation

Supermatrix			
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----

Phylogenomic  
Inference

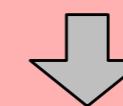


Bootstrap supports and Bayesian posteriors  
tend to 100% as #genes increases!



*Species tree of life*

Concatenation assumes a single tree across  
all loci



Potential systematic bias

Felsenstein (1985):

which not. Where the method of inferring  
phylogenies is one with undesirable sta-  
tistical properties such as inconsistency,  
the bootstrap does not correct for these.

## Special Issue

*Syst. Biol.* 71(4):917–920, 2022

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# On the Need for New Measures of Phylogenomic Support

 ROBERT C. THOMSON<sup>1,\*</sup> AND  JEREMY M. BROWN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Life Sciences, University of Hawai'i, 2538 McCarthy Mall, Edmondson Hall 216, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA; and <sup>2</sup>Department of Biological Sciences and Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA*

\*Correspondence to be sent to: School of Life Sciences, University of Hawai'i, 2538 McCarthy Mall, Edmondson Hall 216, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA;  
E-mail: thomsonr@hawaii.edu.

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Associate Editor: Bryan Carstens

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 ROBERT C. THOMSON<sup>1,\*</sup> AND  JEREMY M. BROWN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Graduate School of Life Sciences, University of Guelph, Guelph, N1G 2W1, ON, Canada

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biological

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DOI:10.1093/sysbio/syaa068

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Honolulu, HI 96822, USA;

## An Evolving View of Phylogenetic Support

CHRIS SIMON\*

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 75 N. Eagleville Road, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06268-3043, USA

\*Correspondence to be sent to: Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 75 N. Eagleville Road, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06268-3043, USA; E-mail: [chris.simon@uconn.edu](mailto:chris.simon@uconn.edu).

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## On the Need for New Measures of Phylogenomic Support

 ROBERT C. THOMSON<sup>1,\*</sup> AND  JEREMY M. BROWN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>College of Life Sciences, University of the South, 2520 McGugin Hall, Box 1216, University, AL 36082, USA

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biological

onolulu, HI 96822, USA;

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## Comparing Likelihood Ratios to Understand Genome-Wide Variation in Phylogenetic Support

GENEVIEVE G. MOUNT<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup> AND  JEREMY M. BROWN<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences and Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, 202 Life Science Bldg, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, USA;

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biology, Utah State University, 5305 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322, USA; and <sup>3</sup>Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and Department of Integrative Biology, University of California Berkeley, 3101 Valley Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

\*Correspondence to be sent to: Department of Biology, Utah State University, 5305 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322, USA;

E-mail: [gmountt@gmail.com](mailto:gmountt@gmail.com).

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## On the Need for New Measures of Phylogenomic Support

 ROBERT C. THOMSON<sup>1,\*</sup> AND  JEREMY M. BROWN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*College of Life Sciences, University of the Ryukyus, 2520 Motohama, Uehara, Okinawa 900-2116, Japan*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Biological*

*Honolulu, HI 96822, USA;*

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## Comparing Likelihood Ratios to Understand Genome-Wide Variation in Phylogenetic Support

GENEVIEVE G. MOUNT<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup> AND  JEREMY M. BROWN<sup>1</sup>

*Syst. Biol.* 71(4):929–942, 2022

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DOI:10.1093/sysbio/syab008

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*ty, 202 Life Science Bldg, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, USA;*

*and <sup>3</sup>Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and Department of*

*Building, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA*

*05 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84322, USA;*

cepted 22 February 2022

## Gene Tree Discord, Simplex Plots, and Statistical Tests under the Coalescent

ELIZABETH S. ALLMAN<sup>1</sup>, JONATHAN D. MITCHELL<sup>1,2</sup>, AND JOHN A. RHODES<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99709, USA; and <sup>2</sup> Unité Bioinformatique Evolutive, C3BI USR 3756, Institut Pasteur & CNRS, Paris, France*

\*Correspondence to be sent to: *Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99709, USA;*  
E-mail: [j.rhodes@alaska.edu](mailto:j.rhodes@alaska.edu).

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Associate Editor: Robert Thomson

# New Methods to Calculate Concordance Factors for Phylogenomic Datasets

Bui Quang Minh <sup>1,2</sup> Matthew W. Hahn,<sup>3,4</sup> and Robert Lanfear<sup>\*,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research School of Computer Science, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Department of Ecology and Evolution, Research School of Biology, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, Australia

<sup>3</sup>Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

<sup>4</sup>Department of Computer Science, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

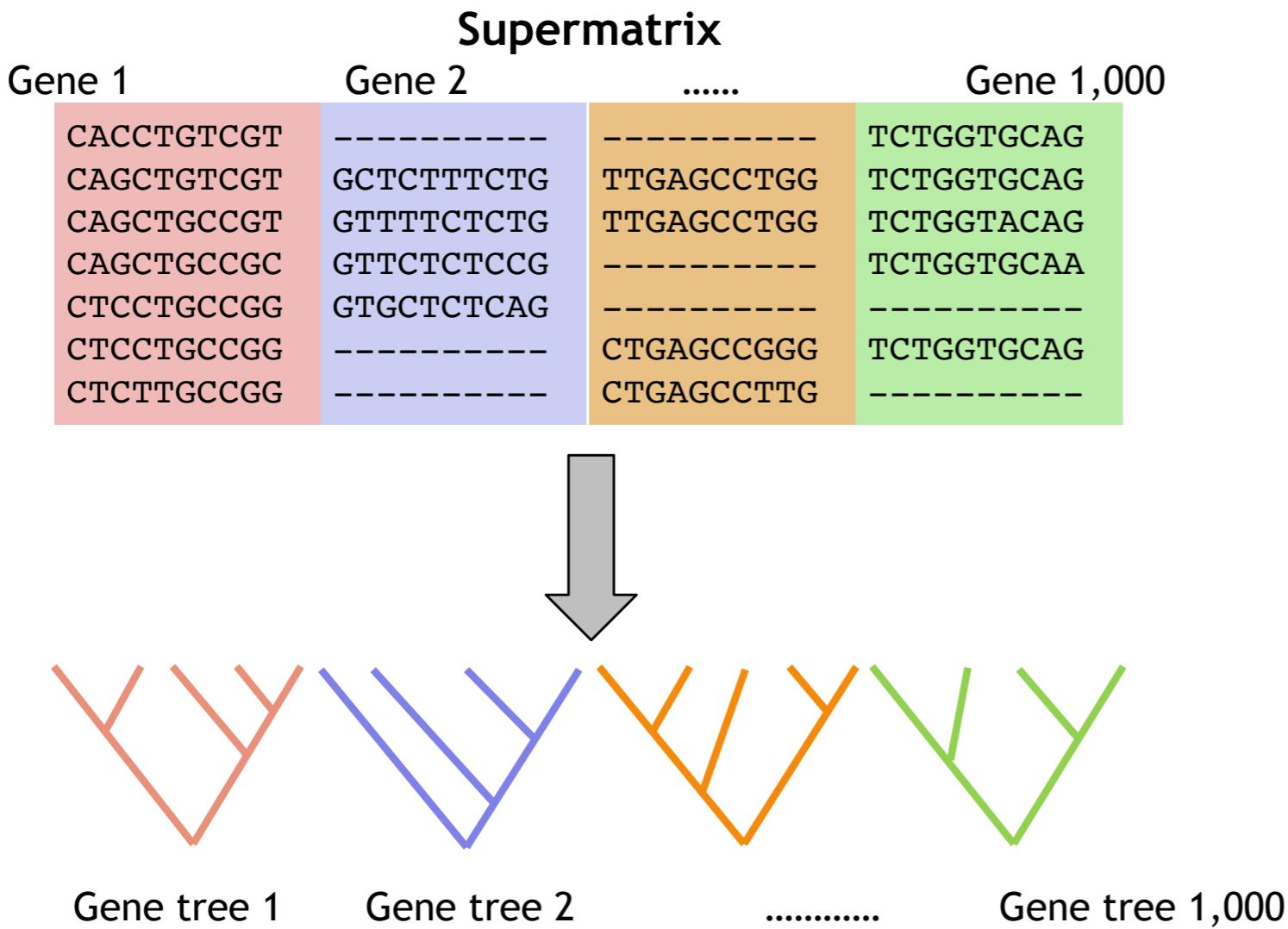
**Correspondence to:** \*Corresponding author: E-mail: rob.lanfear@anu.edu.au.

**Associate editor:** Michael Rosenberg

# Coalescent/reconciliation methods

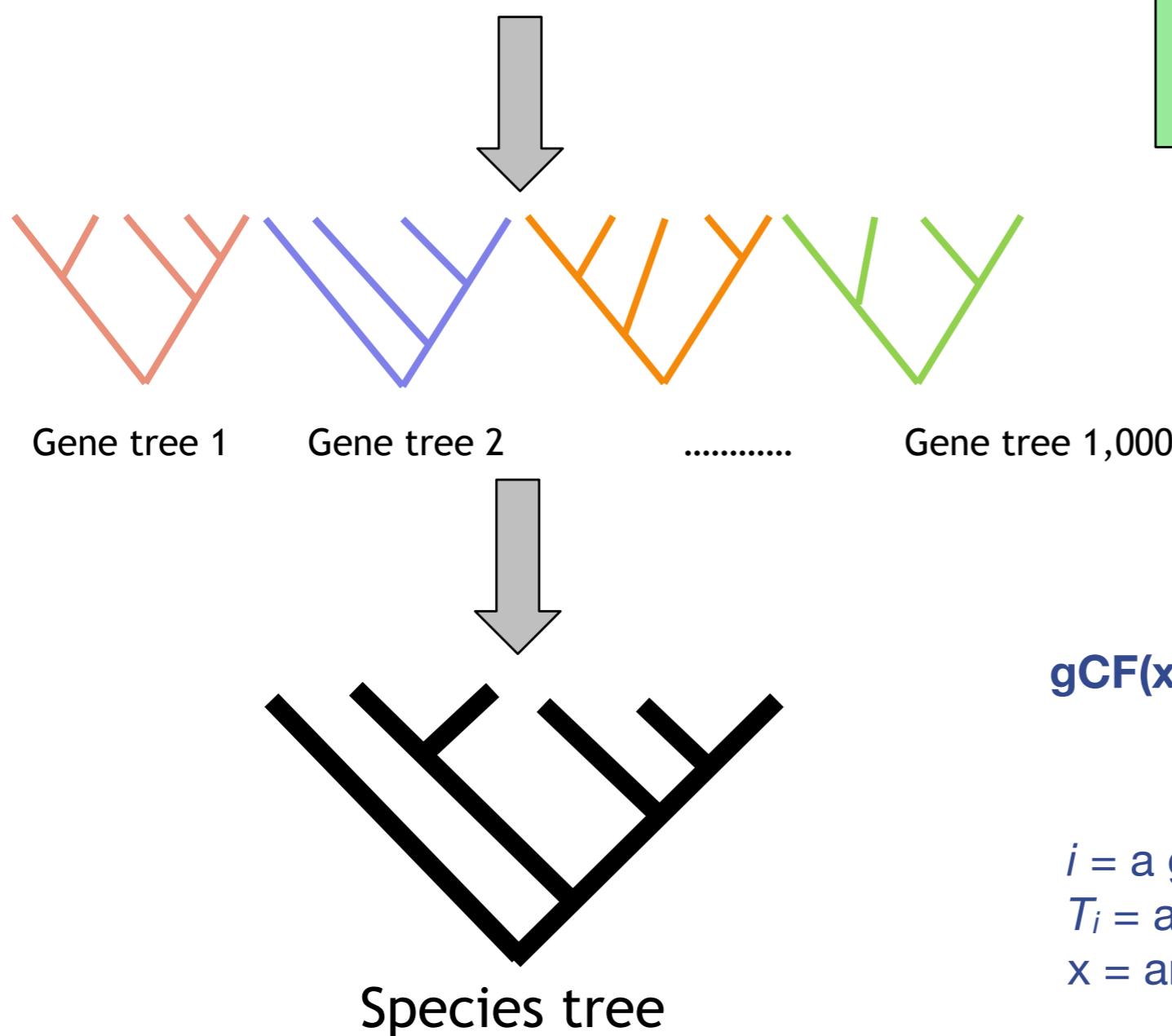
Supermatrix			
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CAGCTGCCGT	TTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTG	-----

# Coalescent/reconciliation methods



# Coalescent/reconciliation methods

Supermatrix				
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000	
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG	
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG	
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTTTCTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG	
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA	
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----	
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG	
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----	

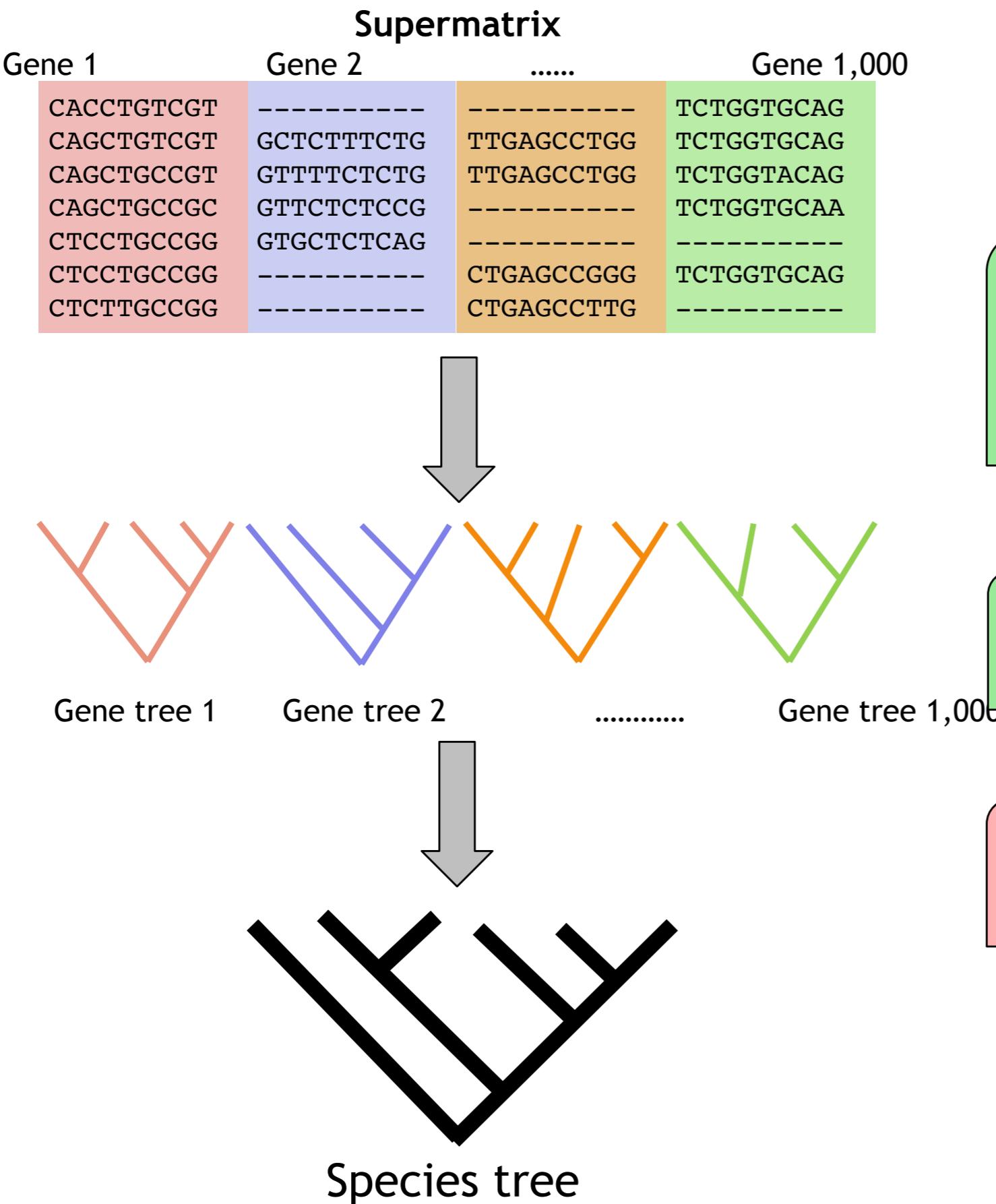


**Gene Concordance Factor (gCF):**  
How often a branch in species tree is found among gene trees?  
 $0\% \leq gCF \leq 100\%$

$$gCF(x) = \frac{\{ i : T_i \text{ is concordant with } x \}}{\{ i : T_i \text{ is decisive for } x \}}$$

$i$  = a gene  
 $T_i$  = a gene tree  
 $x$  = an internal branch in the species tree

# Coalescent/reconciliation methods



**Gene Concordance Factor ( $gCF$ ):**  
How often a branch in species tree is found among gene trees?  
 $0\% \leq gCF \leq 100\%$

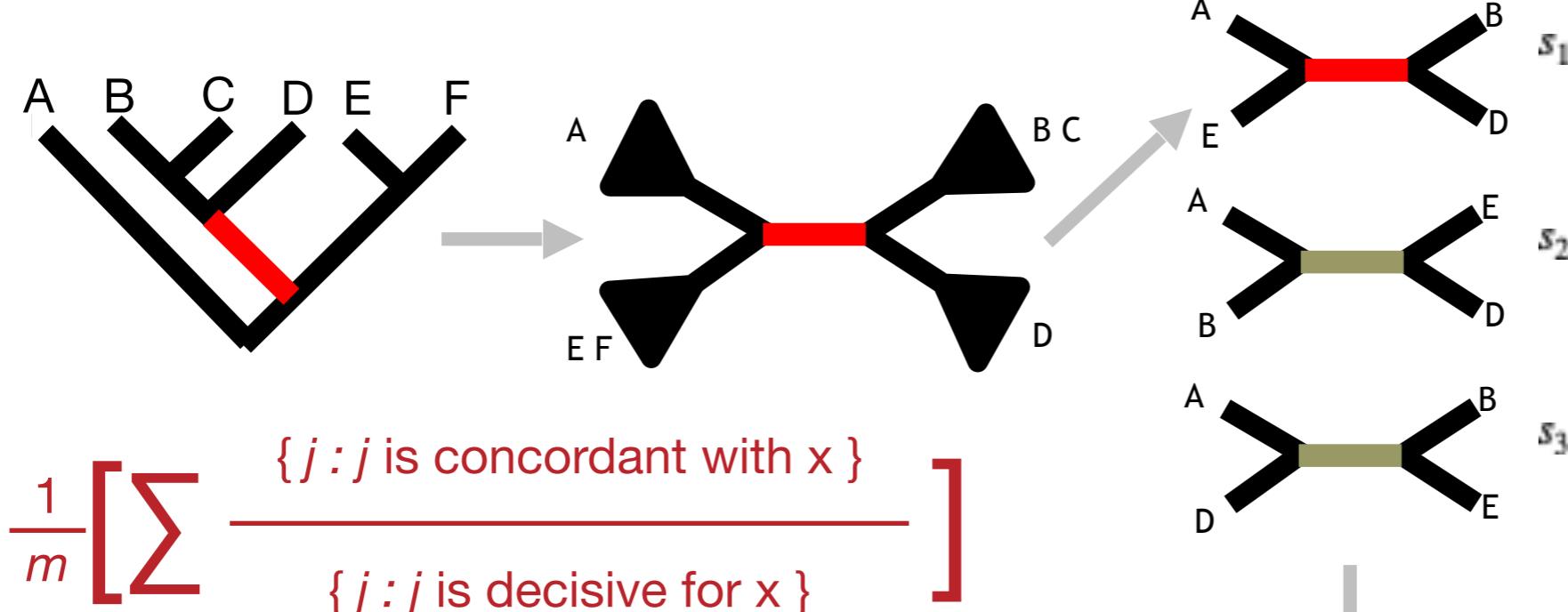
Implementation in IQ-TREE  
fully accounts for missing data

**Problem: Uncertainties in gene trees!**

# Site Concordance Factor (sCF)

Supermatrix					
Gene 1	Gene 2	.....	Gene 1,000		
CACCTGTCGT	-----	-----	TCTGGTGCAG		
CAGCTGTCGT	GCTCTTCTG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTGCAG		
CAGCTGCCGT	GTTCCTCTCG	TTGAGCCTGG	TCTGGTACAG		
CAGCTGCCGC	GTTCTCTCCG	-----	TCTGGTGCAA		
CTCCTGCCGG	GTGCTCTCAG	-----	-----		
CTCCTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCGGG	TCTGGTGCAG		
CTCTTGCCGG	-----	CTGAGCCTTG	-----		

**Site Concordance Factor (sCF):**  
 How often a branch is  
 “supported” by alignment sites?  
 $33.3\% \leq sCF \leq 100\%$



*j* = a site

*x* = an internal branch in the species tree

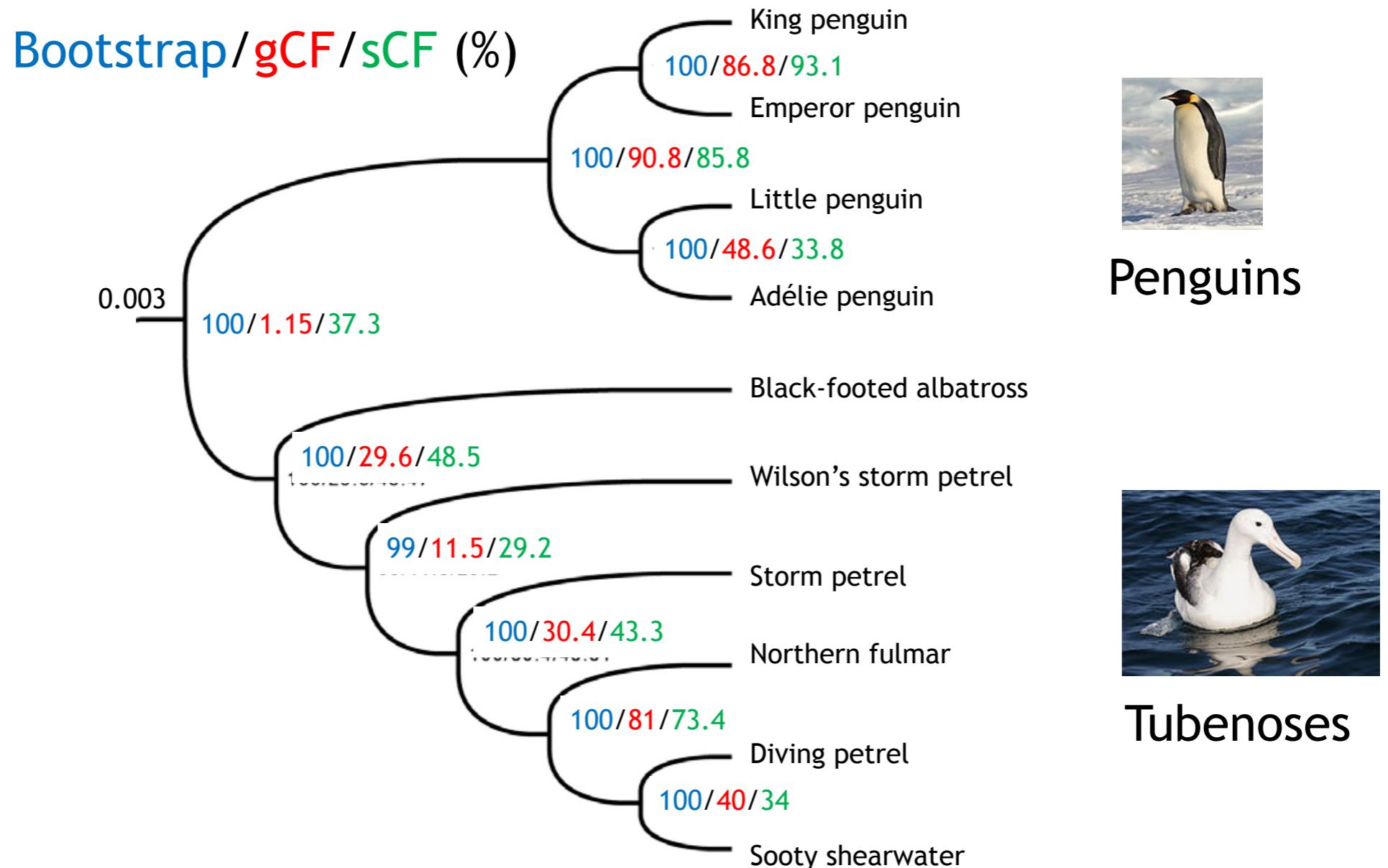
*m* = num of quartets to sample

sCF(*x*) is the **mean** qCF(*x*) over *m* random quartets

$$qCF(\text{quartet}) = \frac{s_1}{s_1 + s_2 + s_3}$$

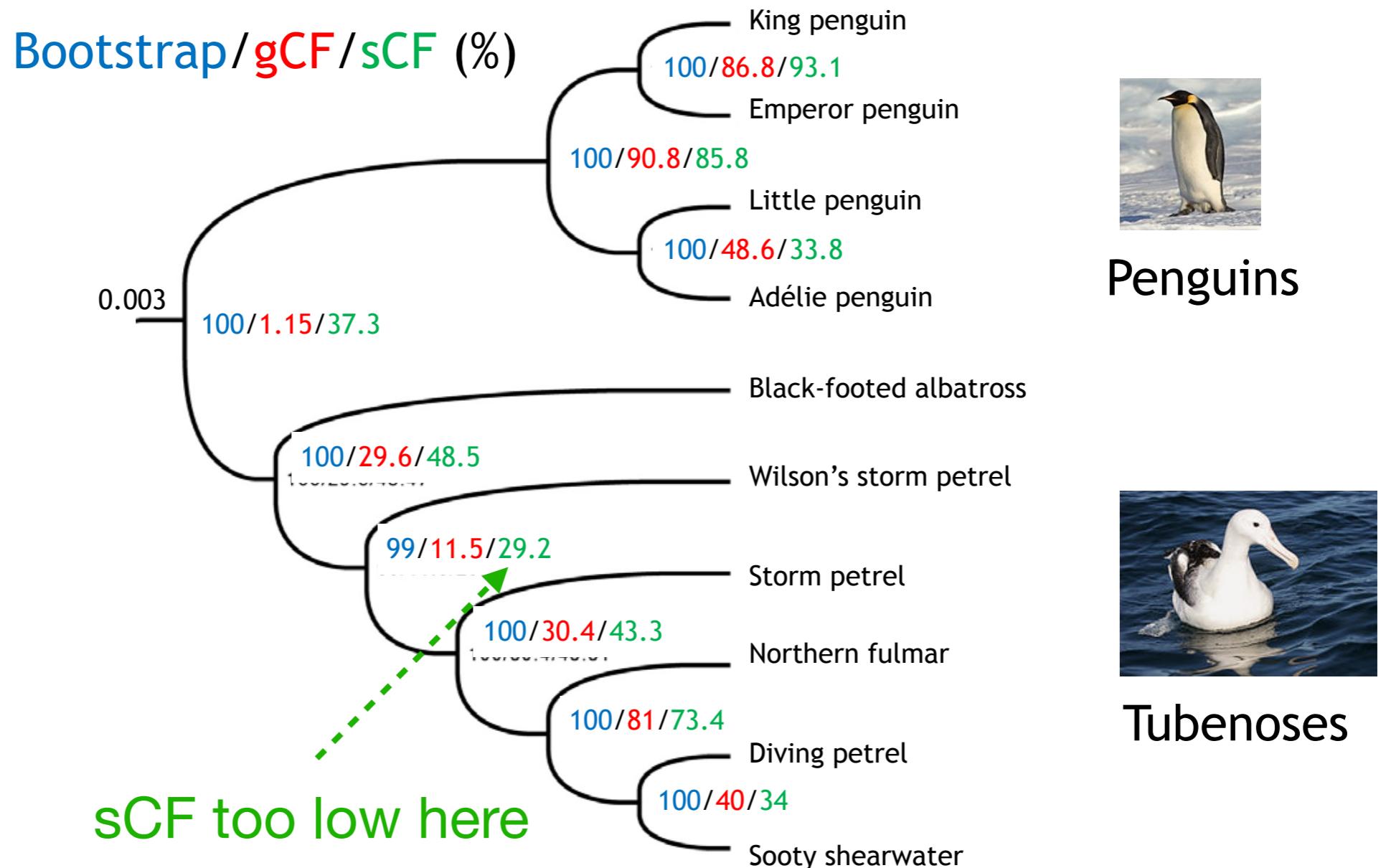
# An example birds data set (Reddy et al., 2017)

88 genes



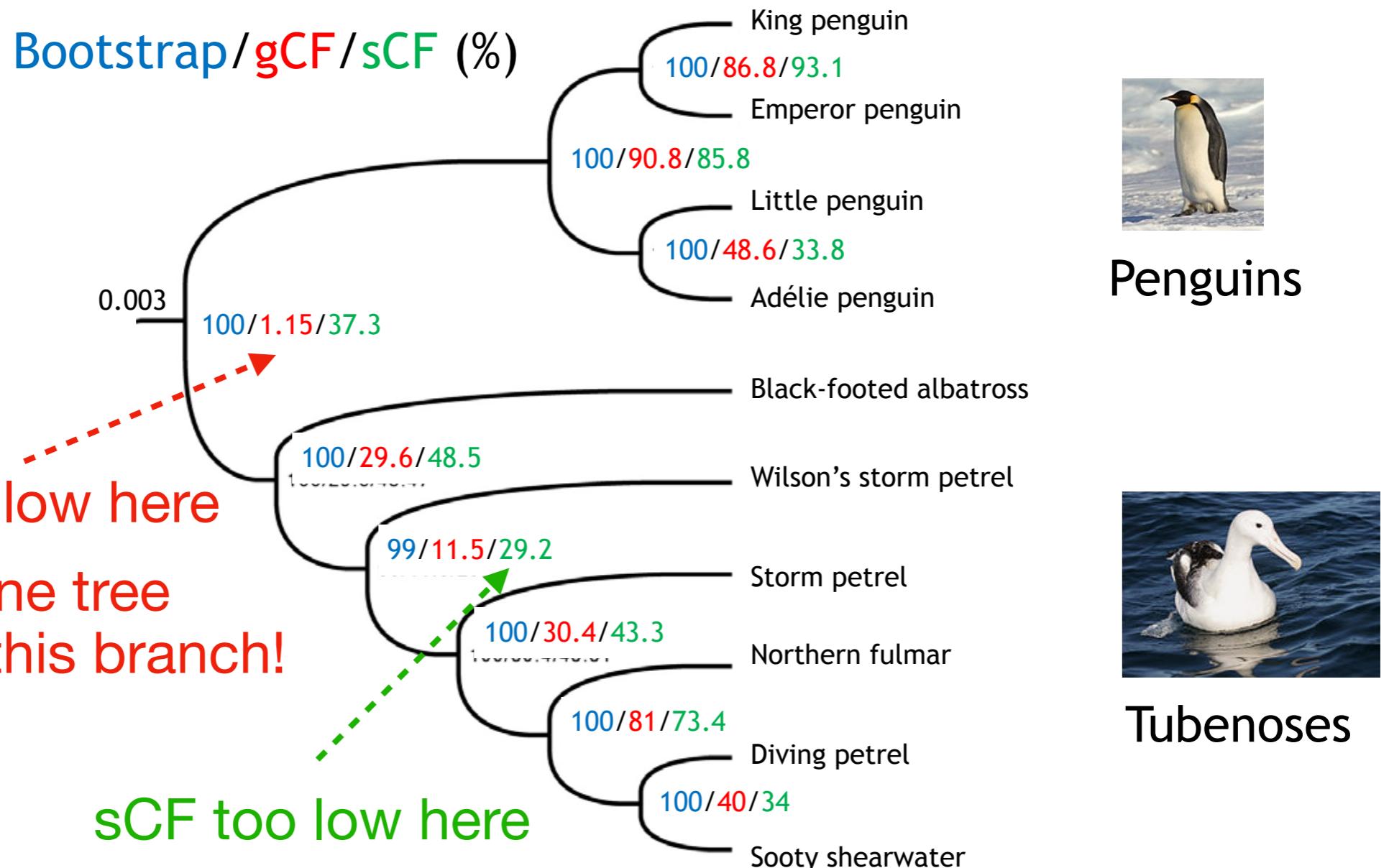
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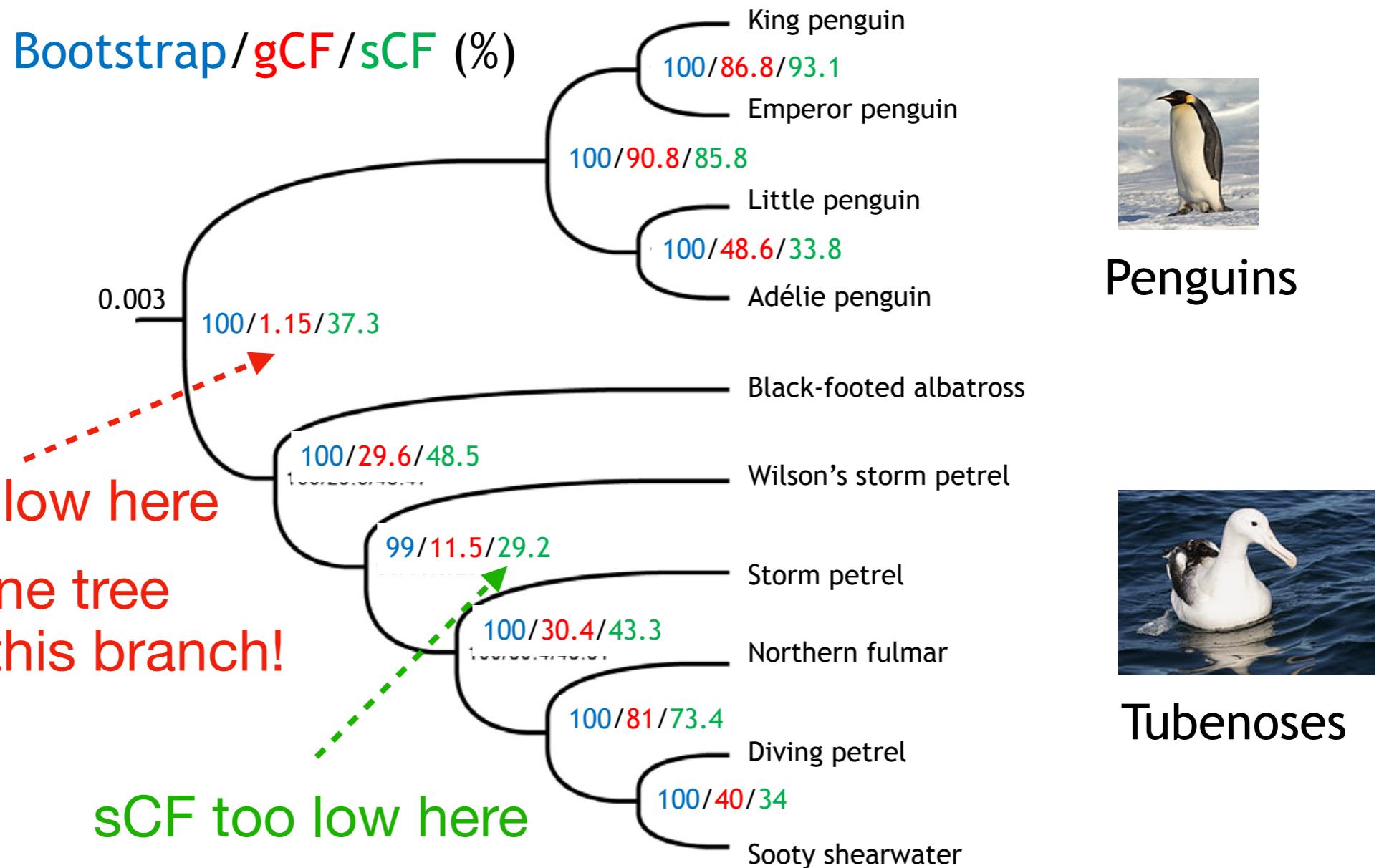
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# An example birds data set (Reddy et al., 2017)

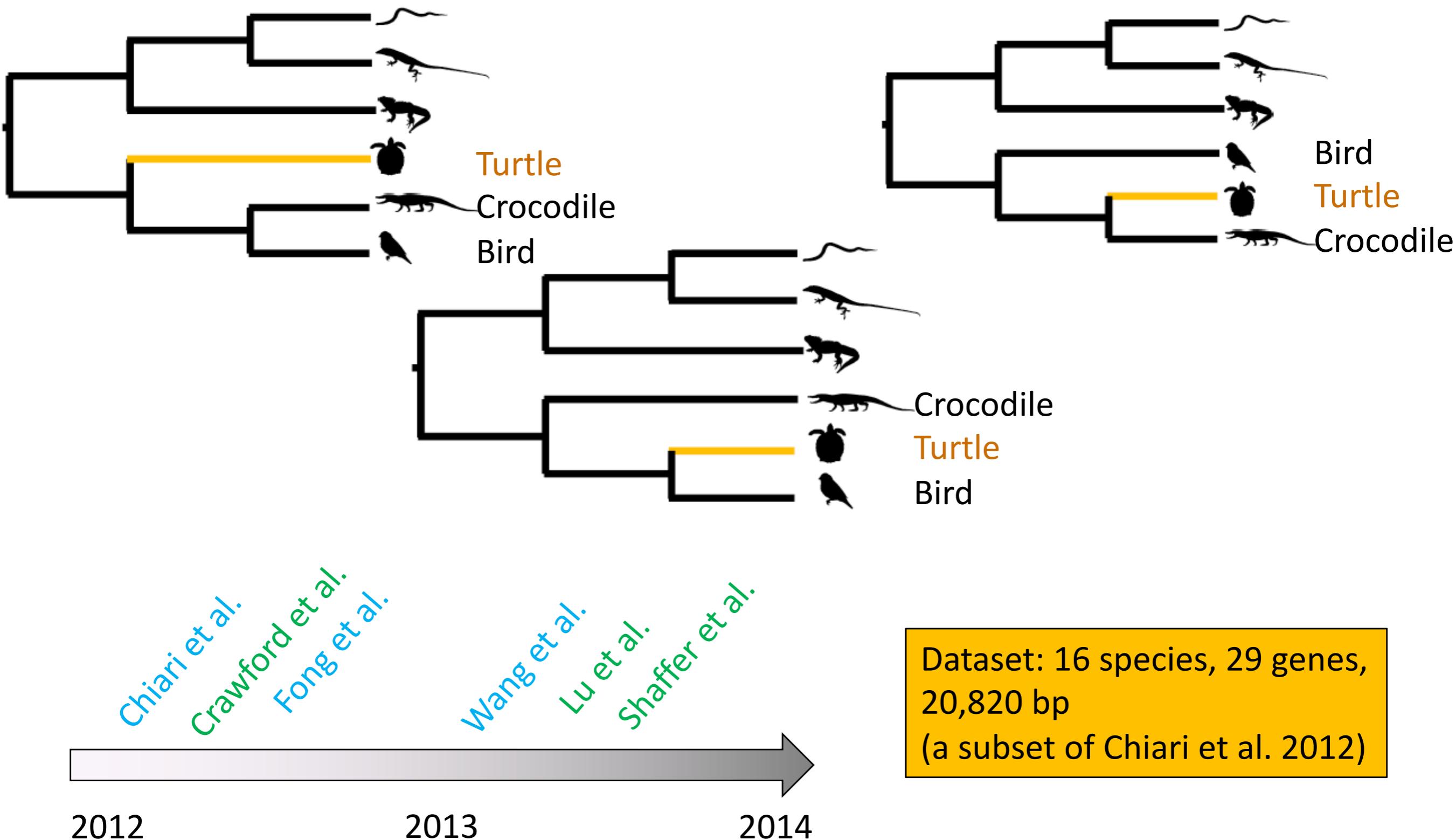
88 genes



Generally:

Use Caution when gCF  $\approx 0$ , or sCF  $\leq 33.3\%$ , even with 100% BS prop.  
Feel good when gCF and sCF  $\geq 50\%$

# Dataset for IQ-TREE lab: Where is Turtle in the tree?



2012

2013

2014

Different studies led to different trees!

Dataset: 16 species, 29 genes,  
20,820 bp  
(a subset of Chiari et al. 2012)

Thanks Jeremy Brown

# IQ-TREE lab

1. Input Data
2. Inferring the first phylogeny
3. Applying a partition model
4. Choosing the best partitioning scheme
5. Tree Topology Tests
6. Tree Mixture Model
7. Identifying the most influential genes
8. Removing influential genes
9. Concordance factors

[Link to Lab on course website](#)

[Link to “quiz” on course website](#)