

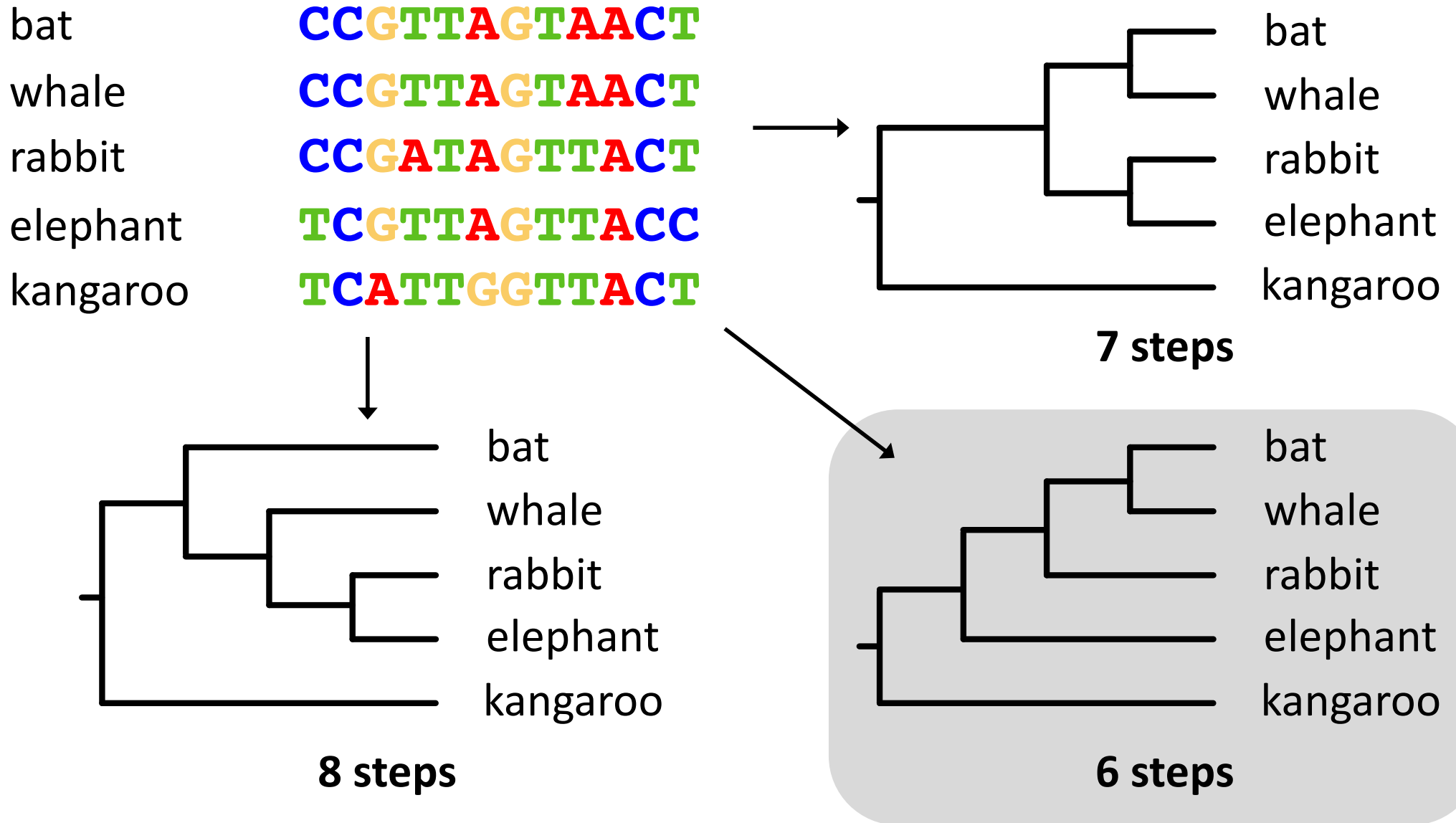
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Lecture 1.4

# **Phylogenetic Methods**

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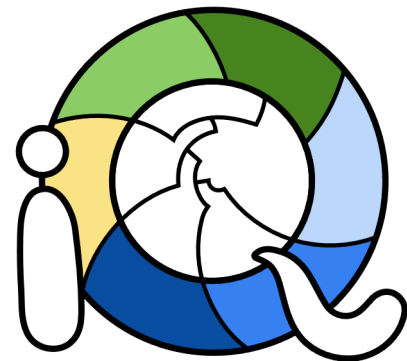
# Maximum parsimony



# Popular phylogenetic methods

1. Maximum parsimony
2. Distance-based methods
3. Maximum likelihood
4. Bayesian inference

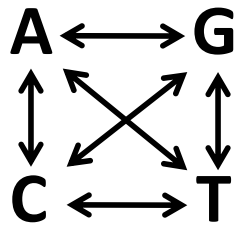
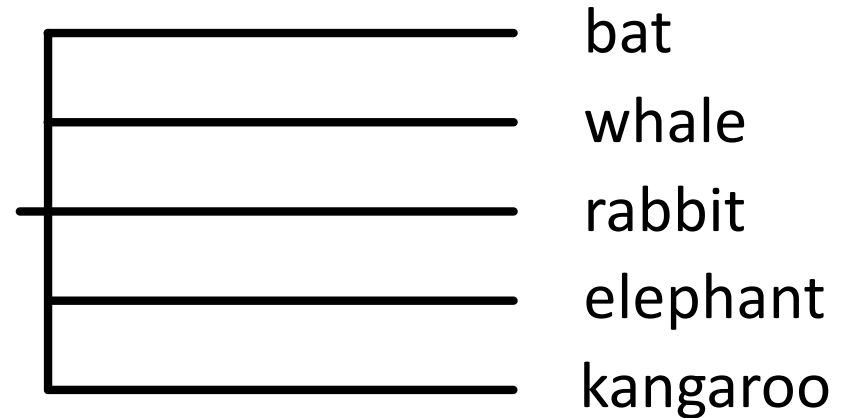
Model-based methods



# Distance-Based Methods

# Neighbour joining

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT

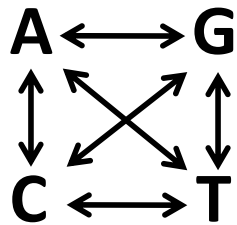
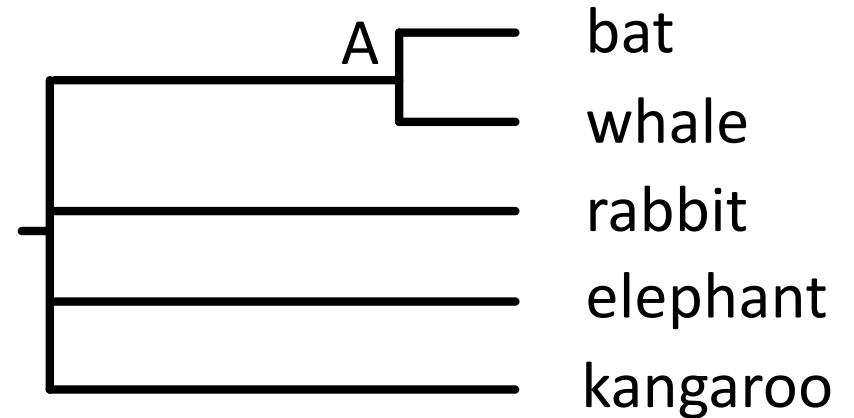


	bat	whale	rabbit	elephant	kangaroo
bat	–				
whale	.15	–			
rabbit	.20	.25	–		
elephant	.35	.40	.35	–	
kangaroo	.55	.60	.55	.55	–

**Clustering  
algorithm**

# Neighbour joining

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT

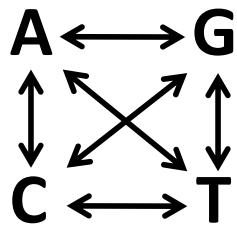
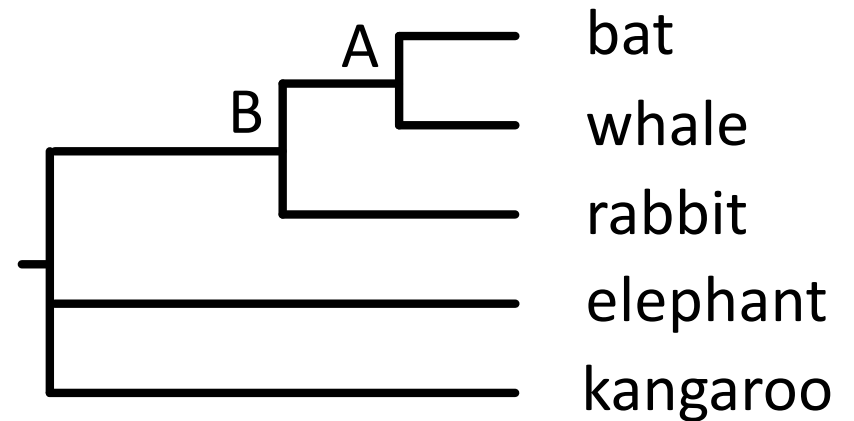


	bat	whale	rabbit	elephant	kangaroo
bat	-				
whale	.15	-			
rabbit	.20	.25	-		
elephant	.35	.40	.35	-	
kangaroo	.55	.60	.55	.55	-

**Clustering  
algorithm**

# Neighbour joining

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT



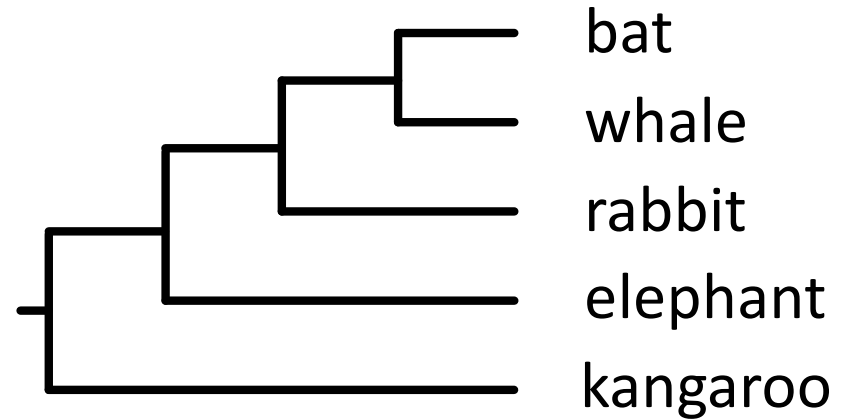
	A	rabbit	elephant	kangaroo
A	-			
rabbit	.15	-		
elephant	.30	.35	-	
kangaroo	.50	.55	.60	-

**Clustering  
algorithm**

# Neighbour joining

---

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT





# Distance-based methods

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- **Clustering algorithms**
  - Unweighted pair group method with arithmetic mean (UPGMA)
  - Neighbour joining
- **Tree searching using optimality criteria**
  - Minimum evolution
  - Least-squares inference

# Strengths and weaknesses

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- **Strengths**

- Very quick
- Deals with multiple substitutions and long-branch attraction

- **Weaknesses**

- Loss of information in pairwise comparisons
- Unable to implement sophisticated evolutionary models

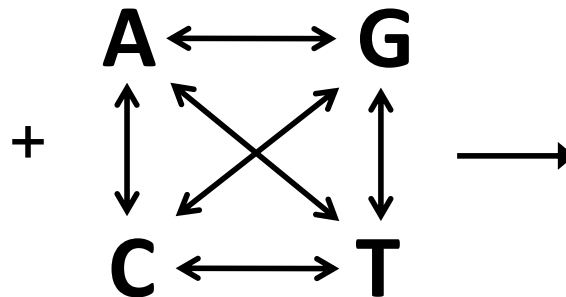
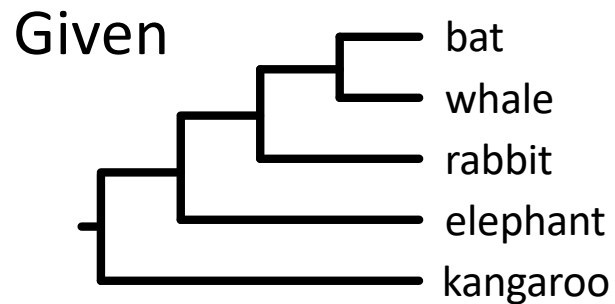
Maximum Likelihood

# Maximum likelihood

Likelihood of hypothesis  $H =$

$$P(D|H)$$

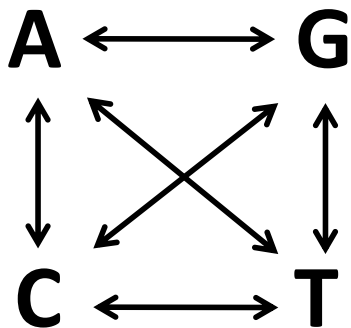
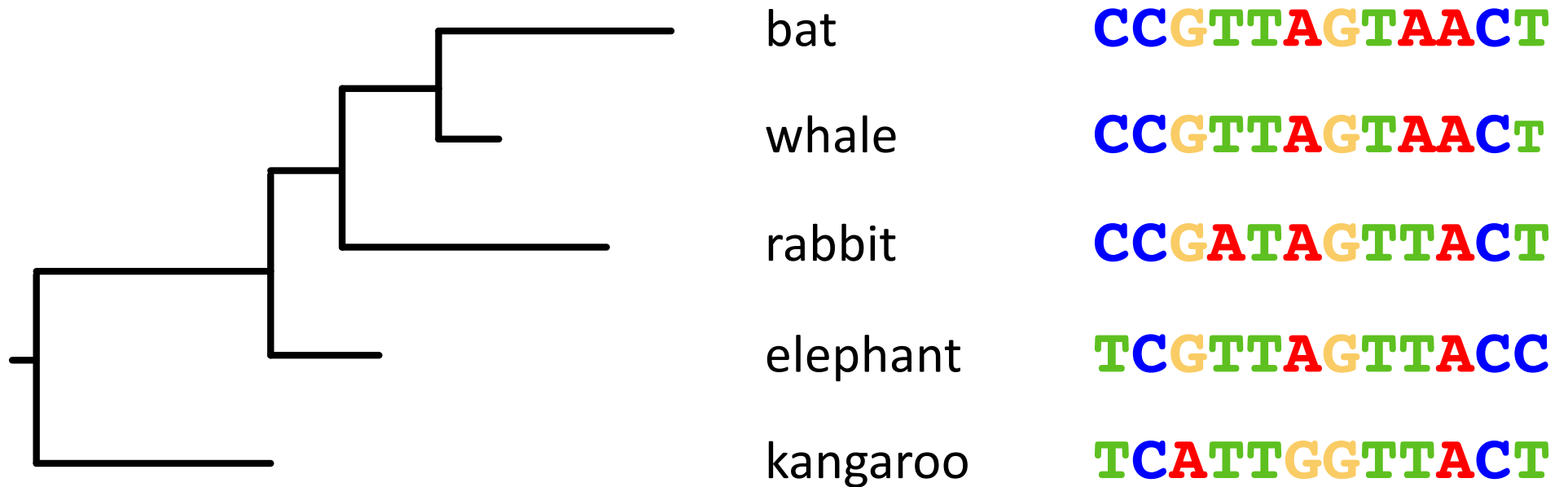
Probability of the data, given the hypothesis



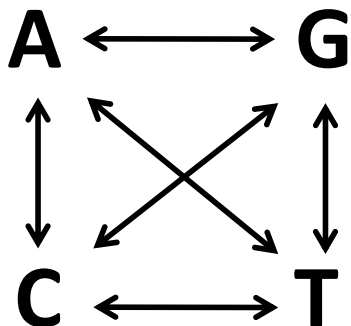
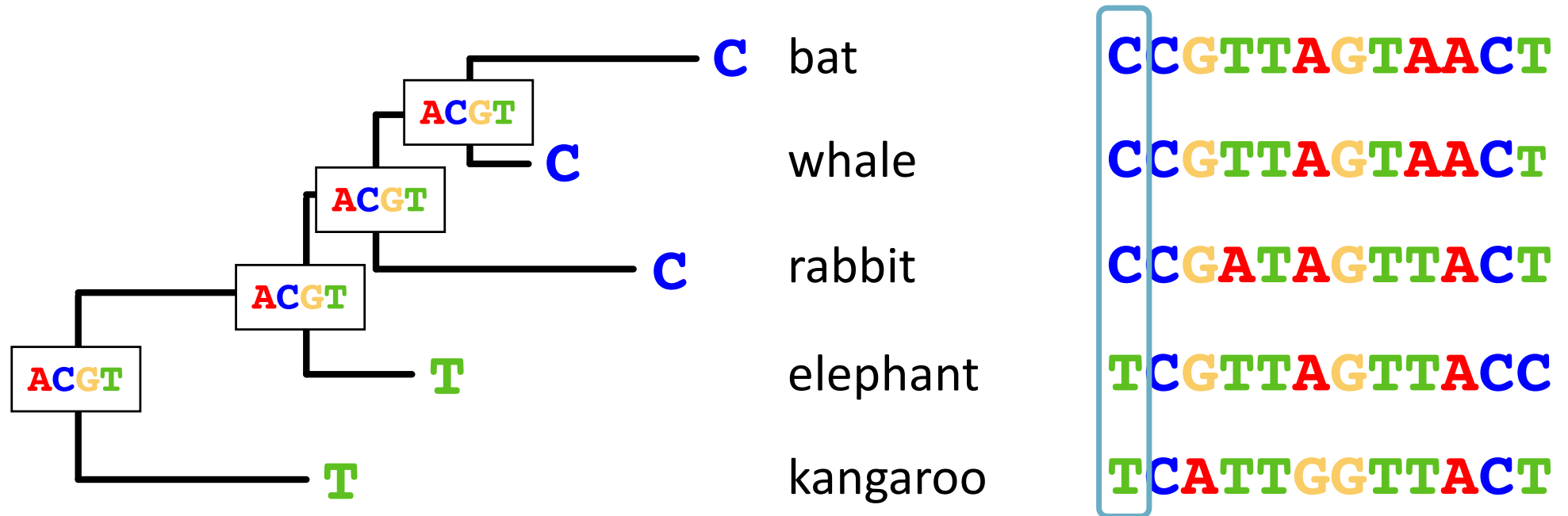
Probability of?

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT

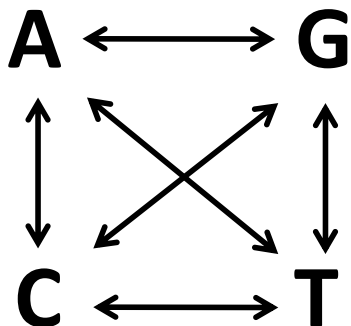
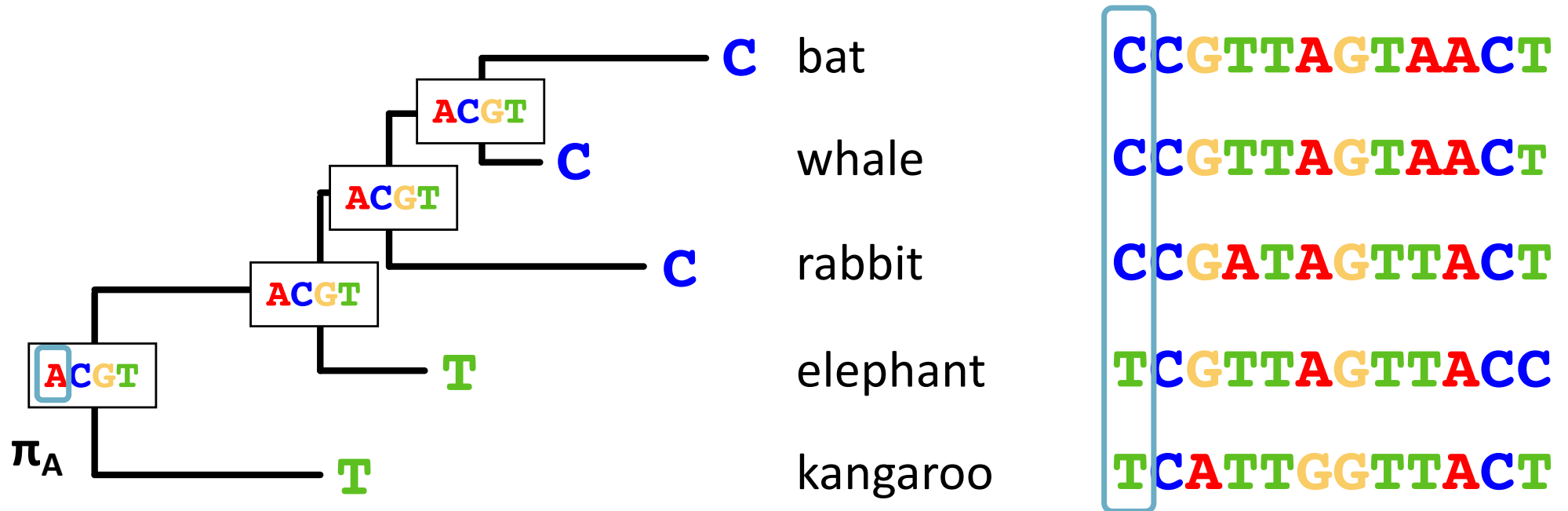
# Maximum likelihood



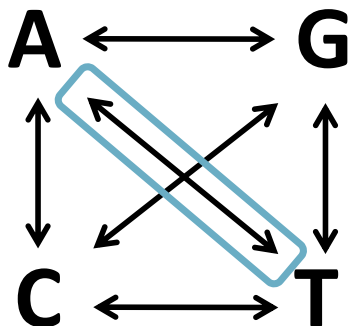
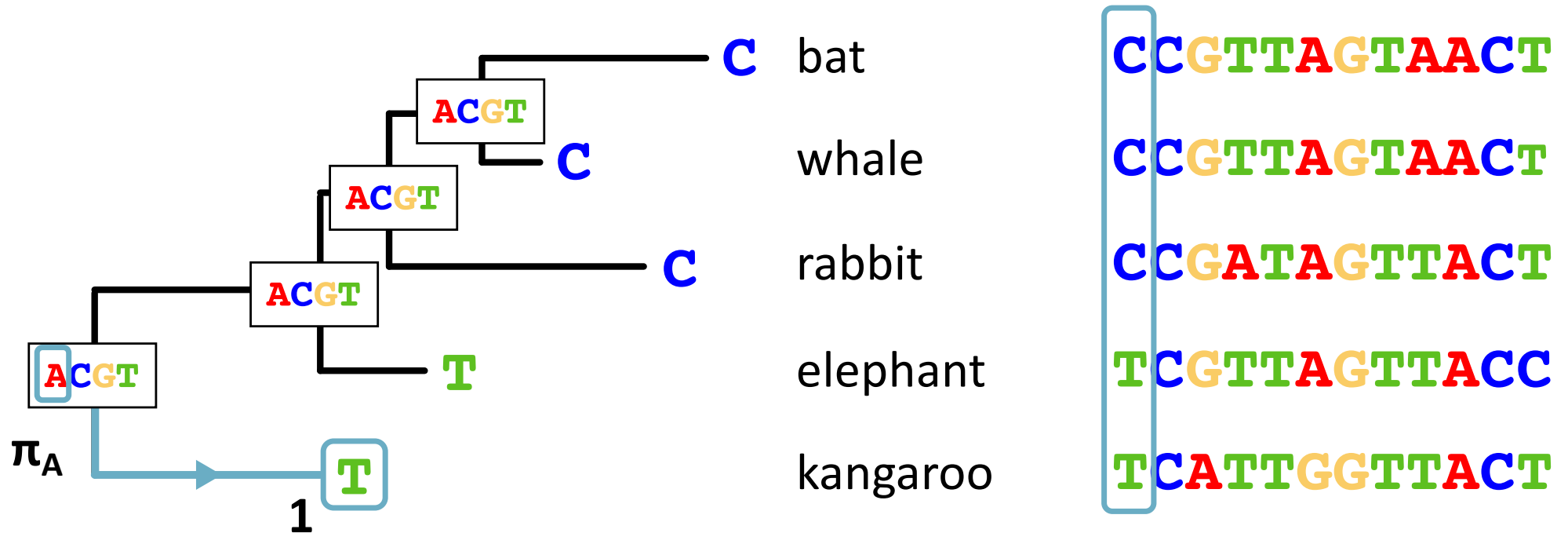
# Maximum likelihood



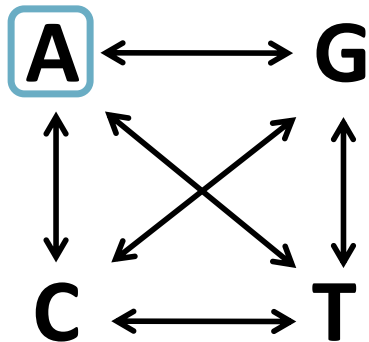
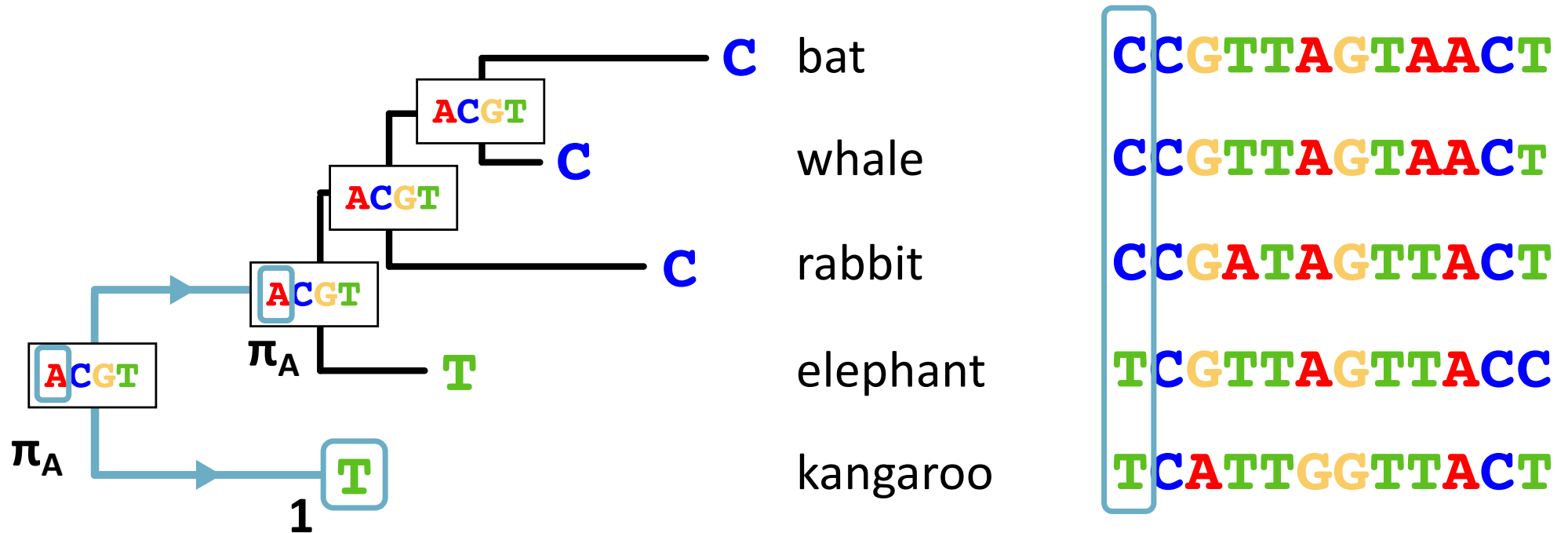
# Maximum likelihood



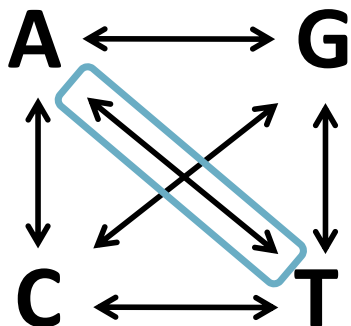
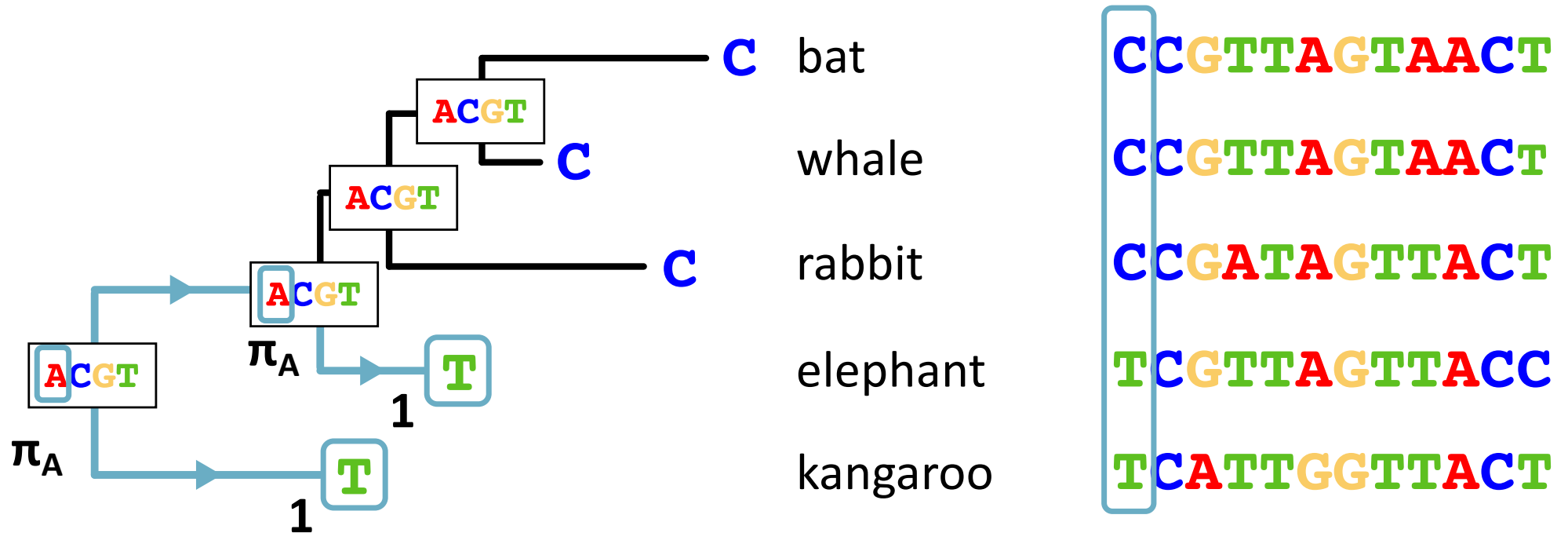
# Maximum likelihood



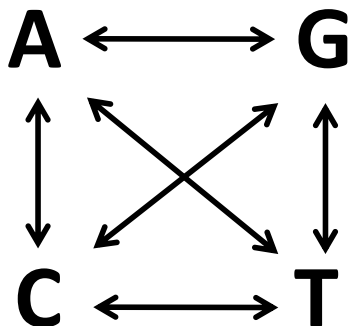
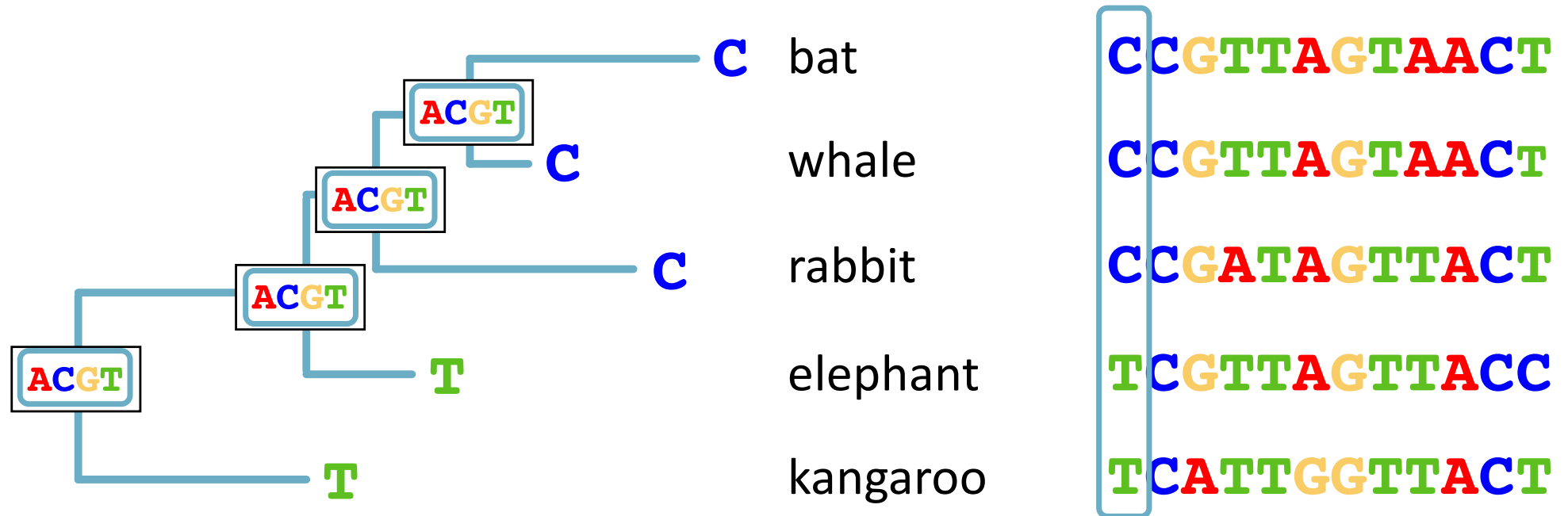




# Maximum likelihood

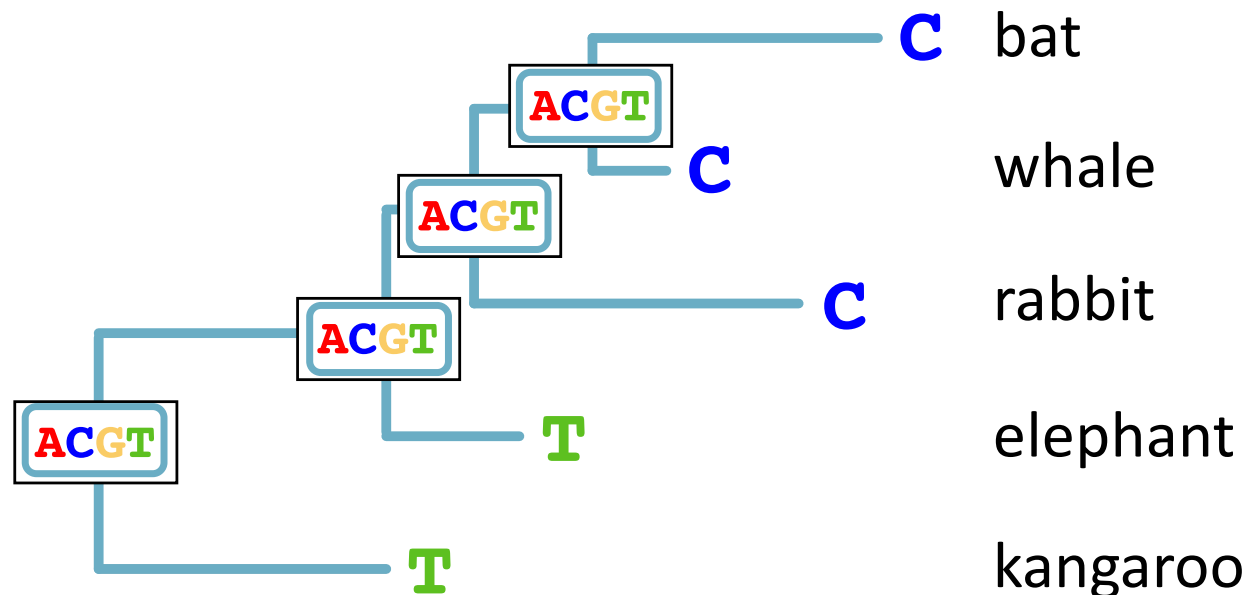


# Maximum likelihood

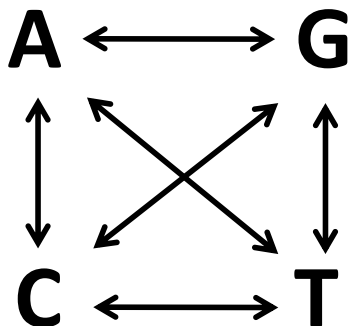


Likelihood is summed over all possibilities

# Maximum likelihood



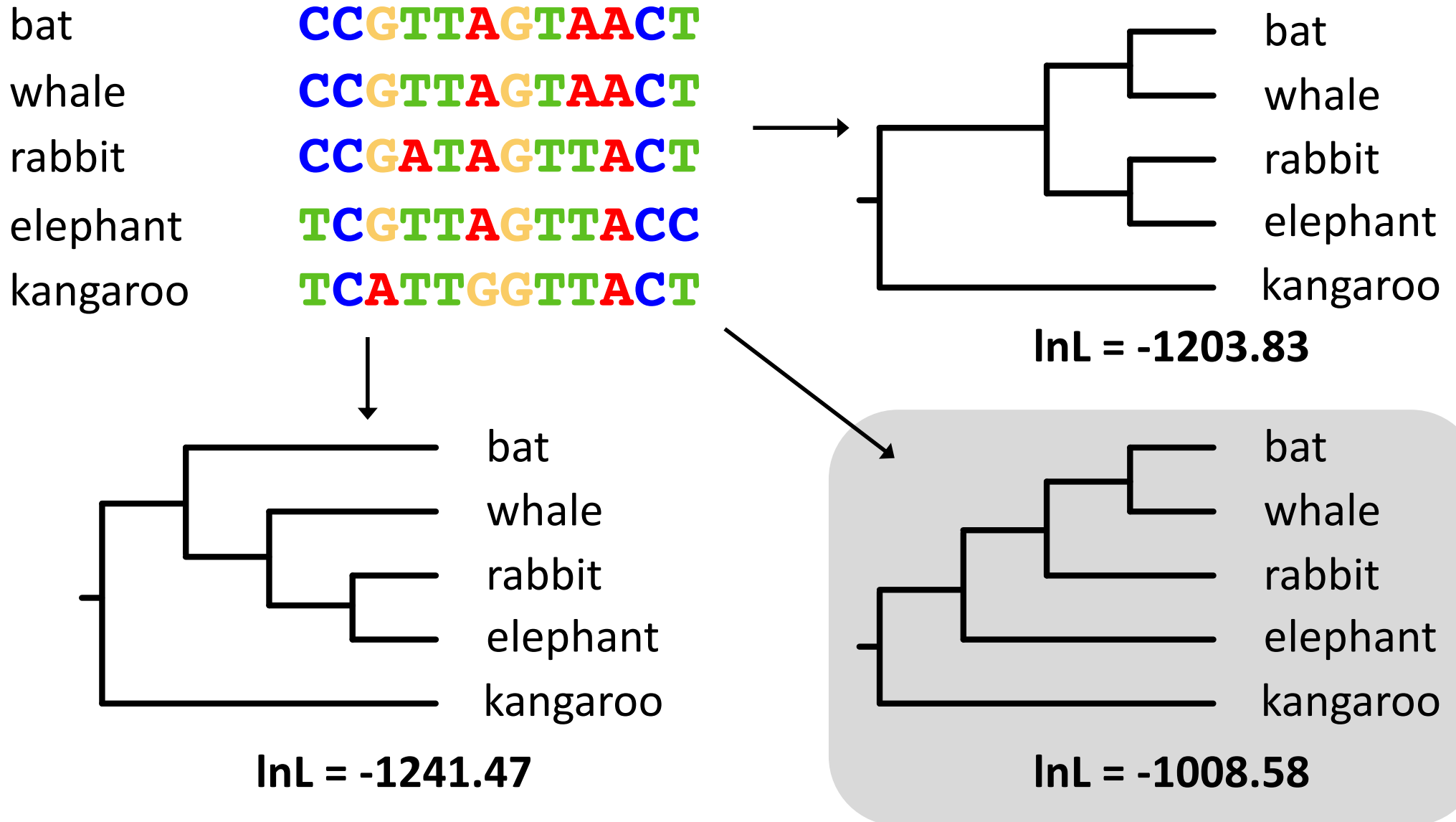
CCGTTAGTAACT  
CCGTTAGTAACT  
CCGATAGTTACT  
TCGTTAGTTACC  
TCATTGGTTACT



Likelihood is multiplied across all sites

Very low probability of observing  
any particular alignment

# Maximum likelihood



# Likelihood optimisation

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- Search through the space of possible trees (including branch lengths) and model parameter values
- Calculate the likelihood for these
- Find best tree and model parameter values
- Multivariate optimisation

# Finding the best tree

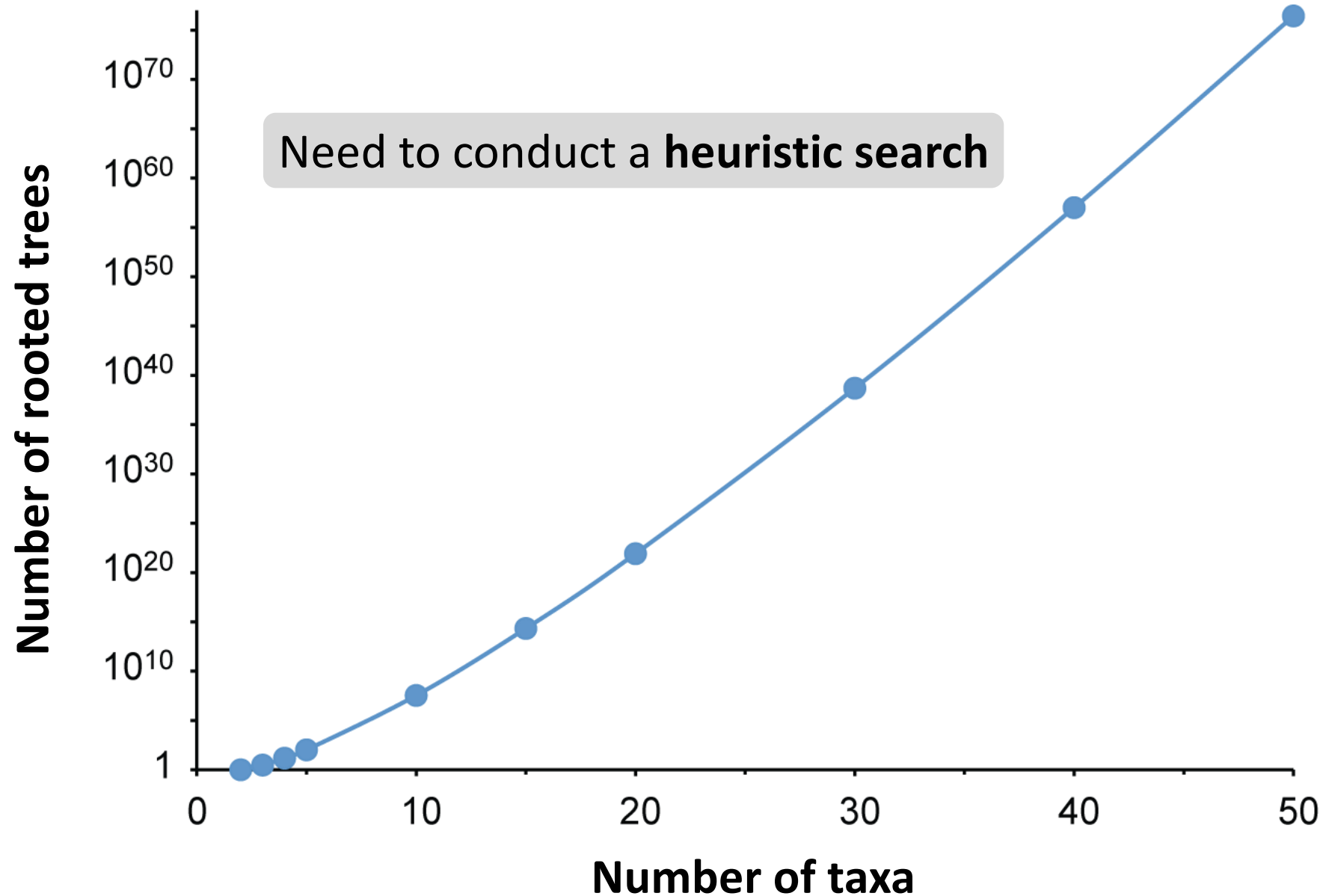
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- For  $n$  taxa, the number of possible unrooted trees ( $B_n$ ) is:

$$B_n = 1 \times 3 \times 5 \times \dots \times (2n - 5) = \prod_{i=3}^n (2i - 5)$$

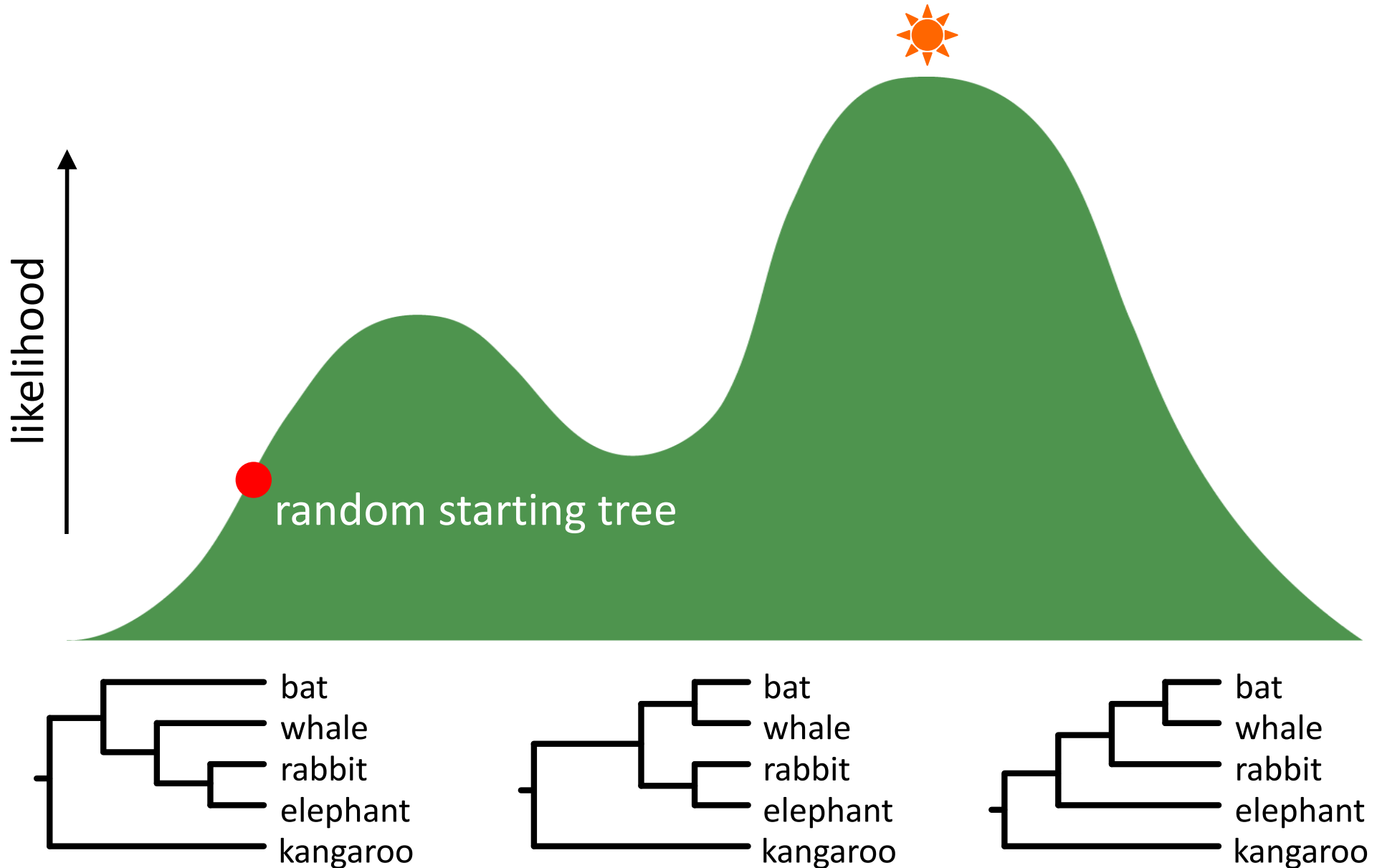
- For example:
  - 4 taxa  $\rightarrow$  3 trees
  - 5 taxa  $\rightarrow$  15 trees
  - 10 taxa  $\rightarrow$  2,027,025 trees

# Finding the best tree

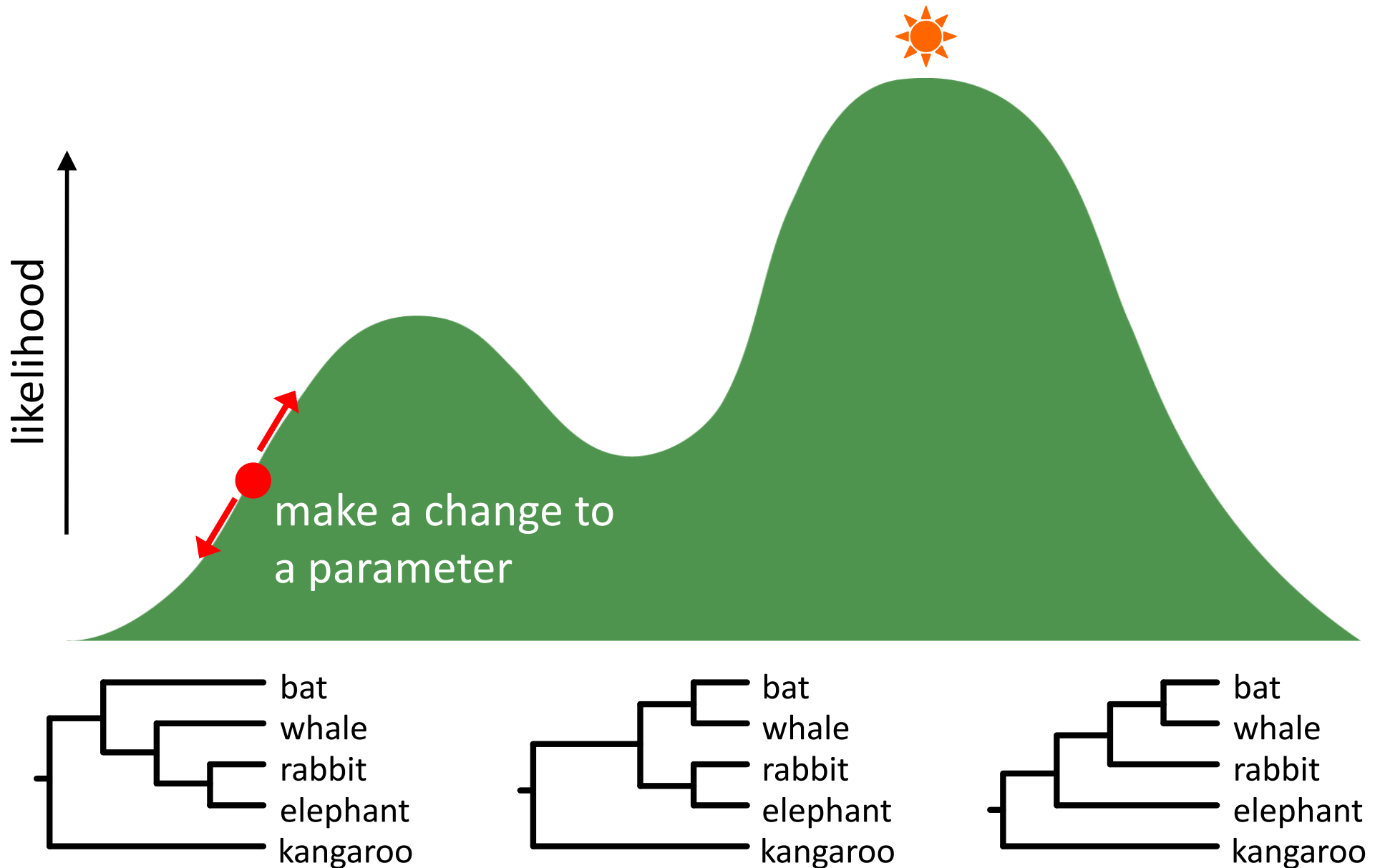




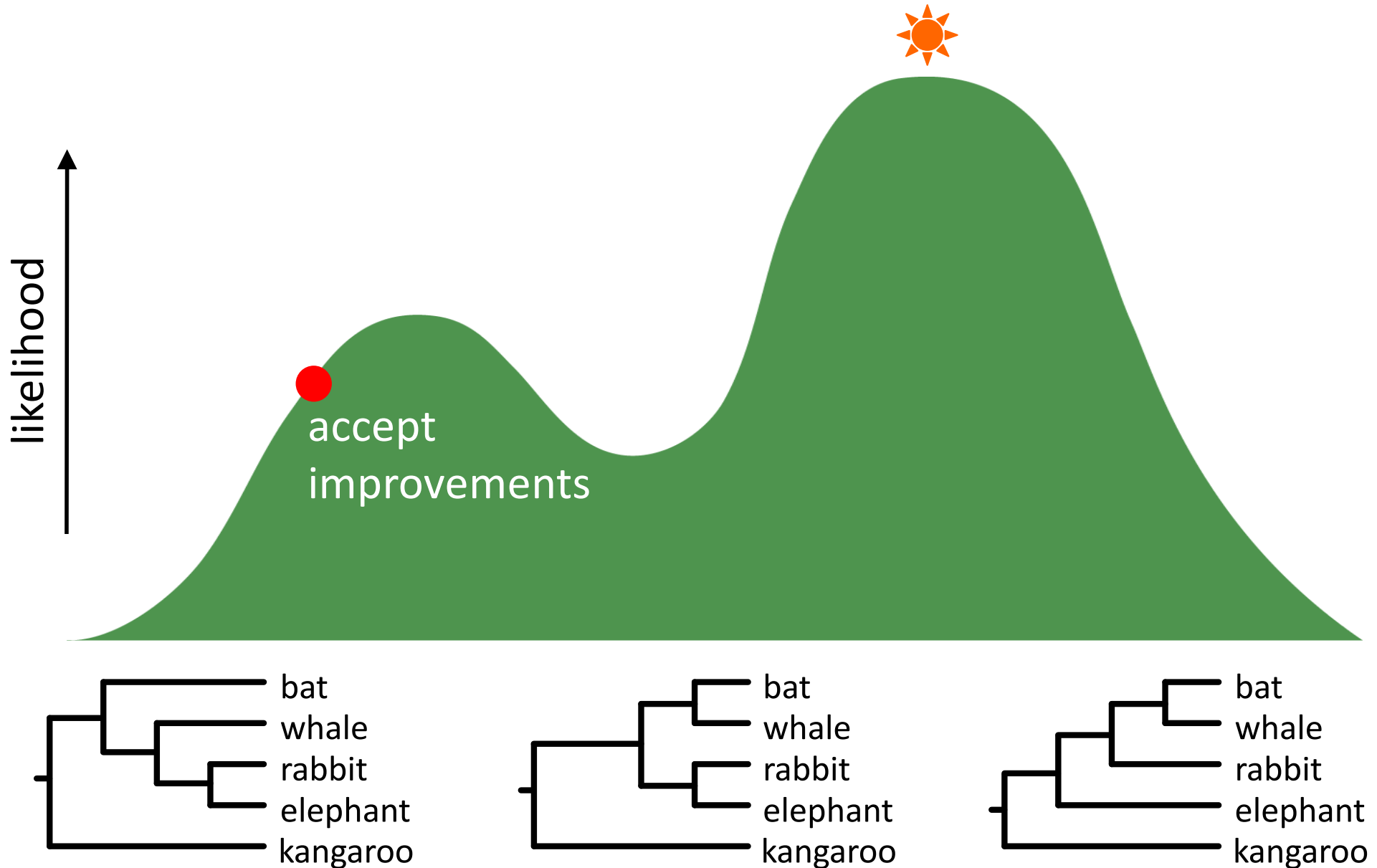
# Heuristic search



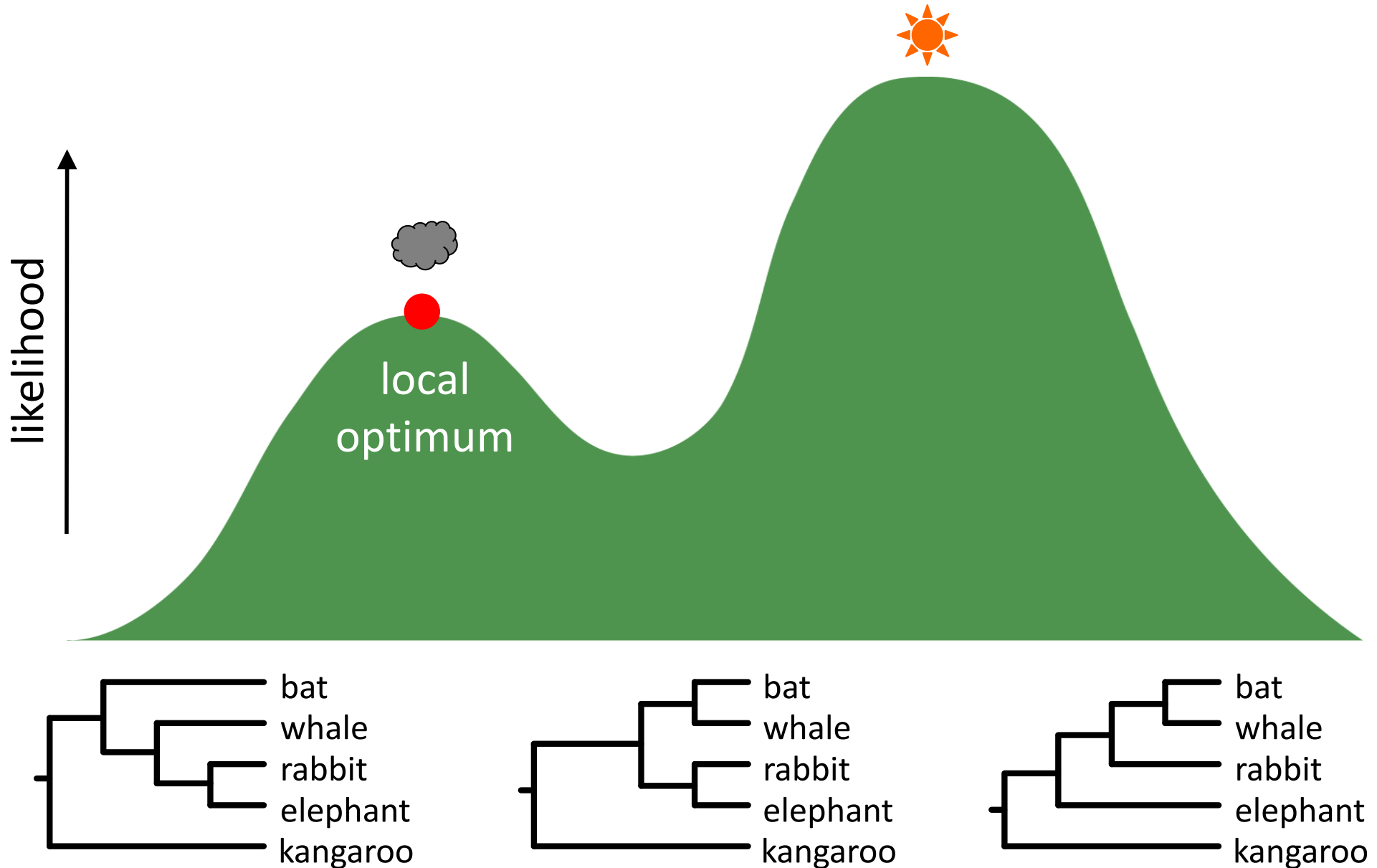
# Heuristic search



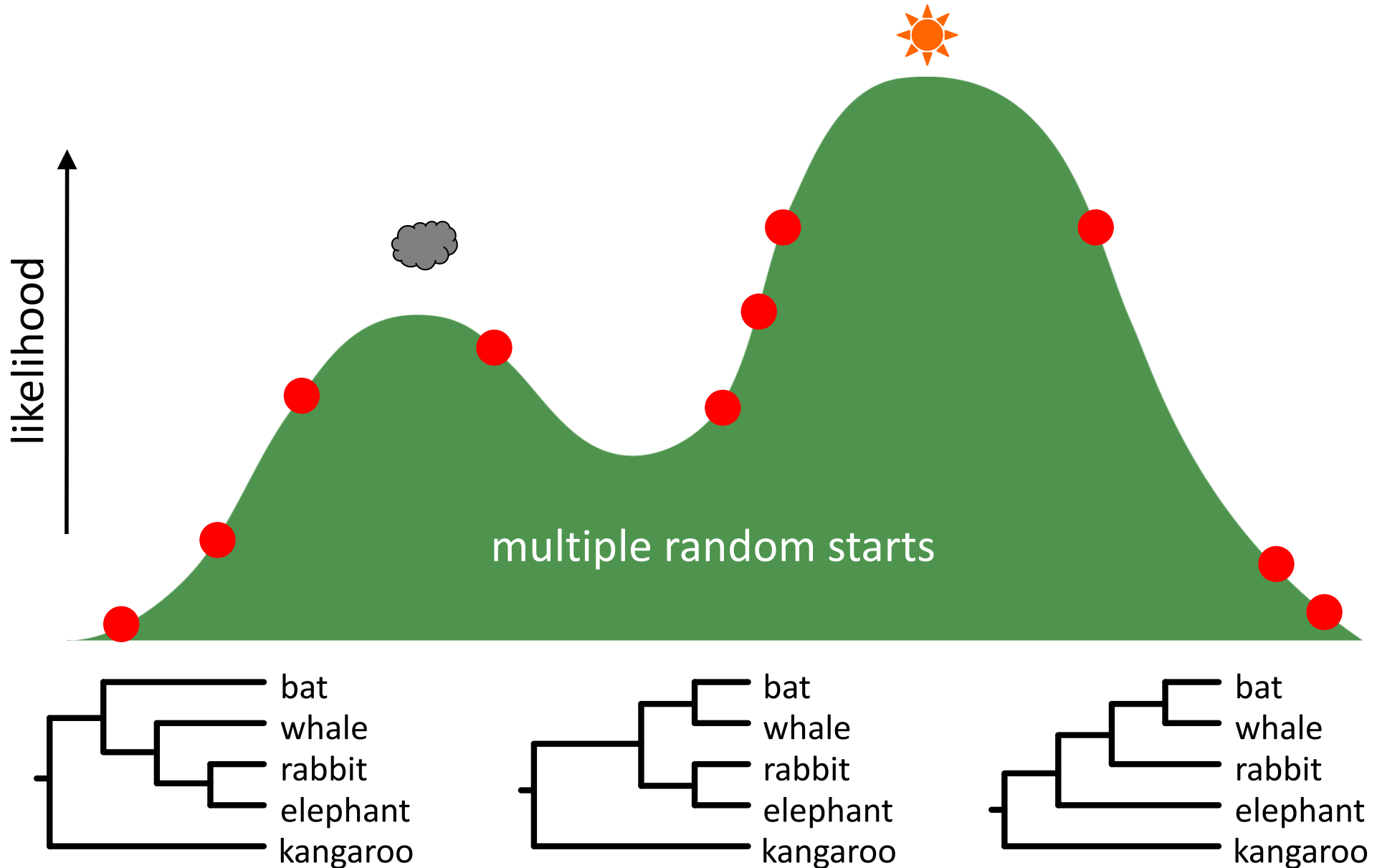
# Heuristic search



# Heuristic search



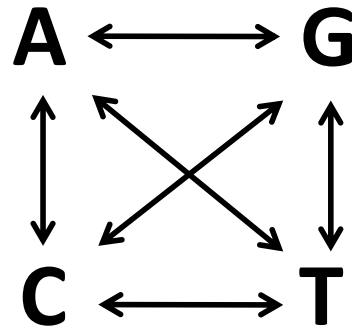
# Heuristic search



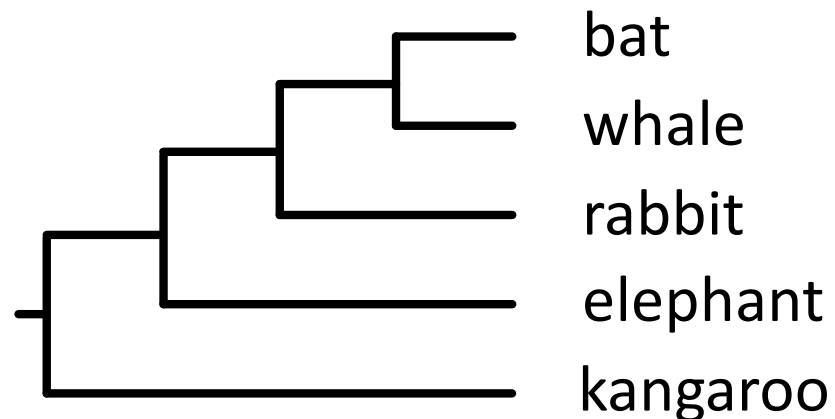
# Maximum-likelihood estimates

---

A single set of maximum-likelihood estimates of model parameters



A single maximum-likelihood tree



# Strengths and weaknesses

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- **Strengths**

- Rigorous statistical method
- Deals with multiple substitutions and long-branch attraction
- Robust to violations of assumptions

- **Weaknesses**

- Generally not feasible to implement very parameter-rich models
- Searching tree space can be difficult

# Software

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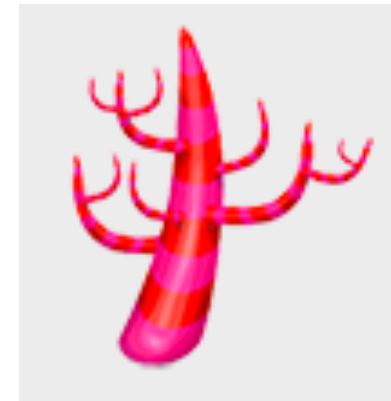
**RAxML**



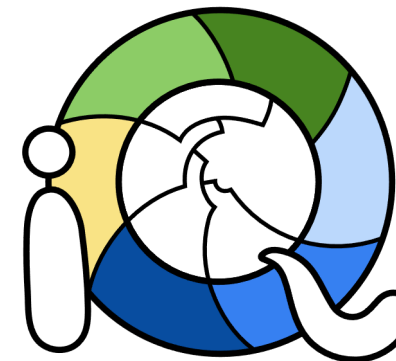
**PhyML**



**MEGA**



**PAML**



**IQ-TREE**



# Bootstrapping

# Nonparametric bootstrap

- Uncertainty in the estimate of the tree is inferred indirectly using **bootstrapping analysis**
- “pull oneself up by one's bootstraps”
- Bootstrapping analysis can be used in various phylogenetic methods:
  - Maximum parsimony
  - Distance-based methods
  - Maximum likelihood



# Bootstrapping

---

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCA TTGGTTACT

Randomly sample sites (with replacement)

bat	T
whale	T
rabbit	A
elephant	T
kangaroo	T

# Bootstrapping

---

bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT

bat	TG
whale	TG
rabbit	AG
elephant	TG
kangaroo	TG

# Bootstrapping

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bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT

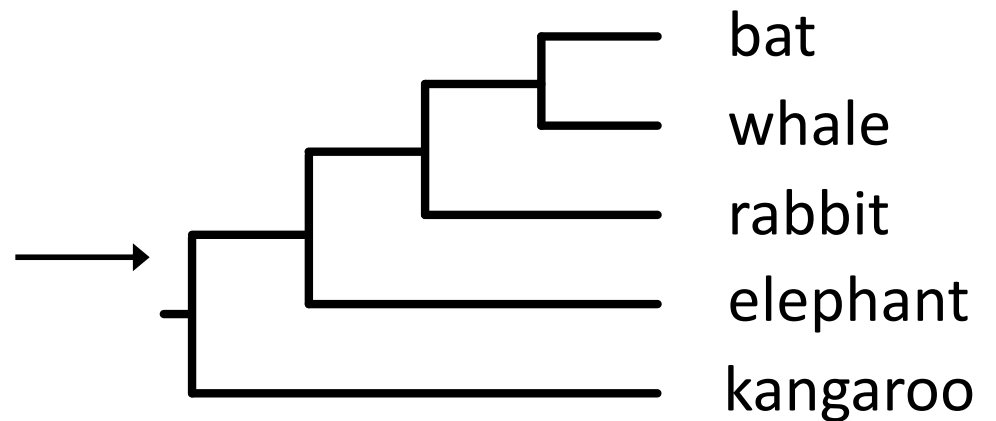
bat	TGCCCTTAGCAC
whale	TGCCCTTAGCAC
rabbit	AGCCCATAGCAC
elephant	TGCTCTCAGCAT
kangaroo	TGCTCTTAACGT

# Bootstrapping

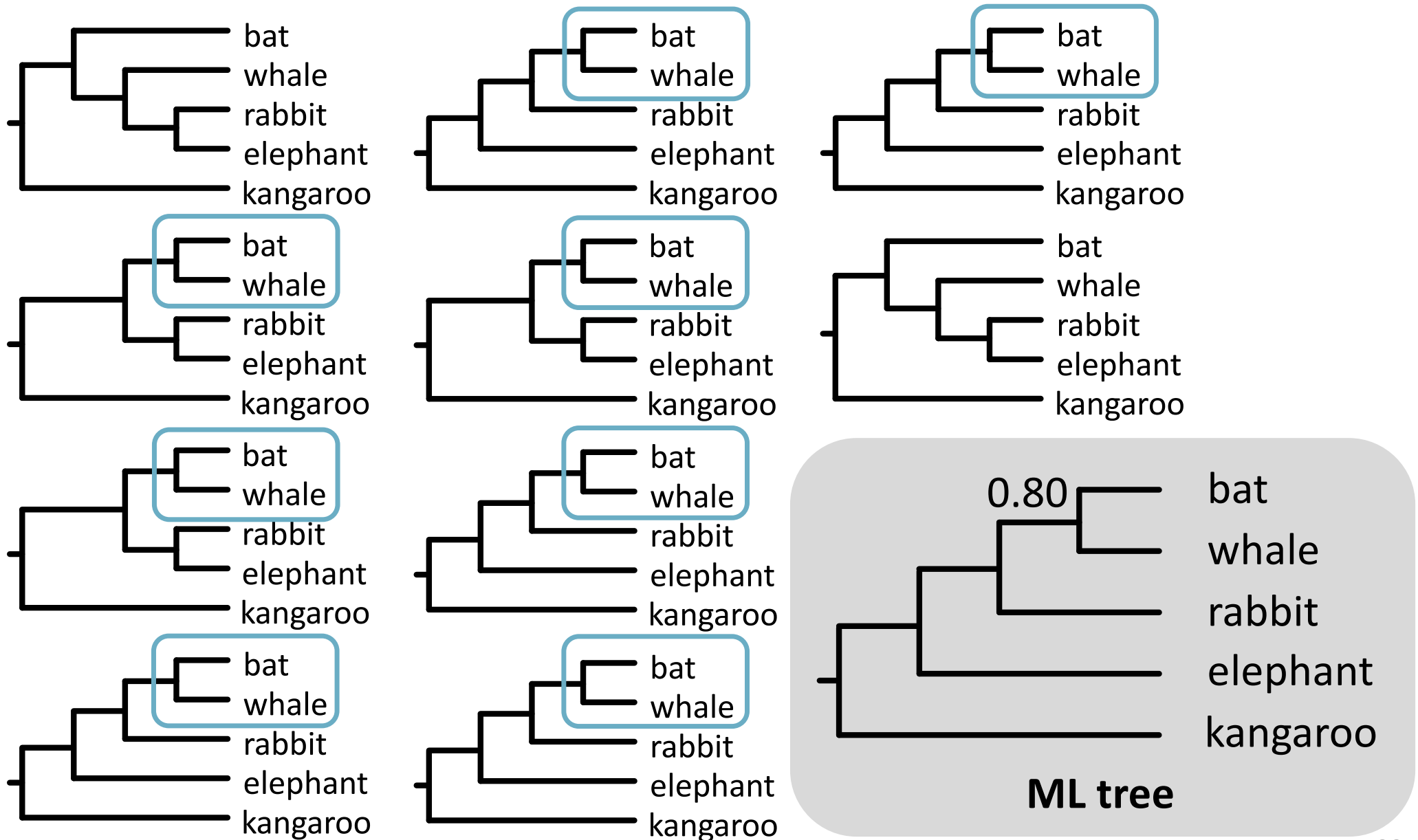
bat	CCGTTAGTAACT
whale	CCGTTAGTAACT
rabbit	CCGATAGTTACT
elephant	TCGTTAGTTACC
kangaroo	TCATTGGTTACT

Repeat 1,000 times

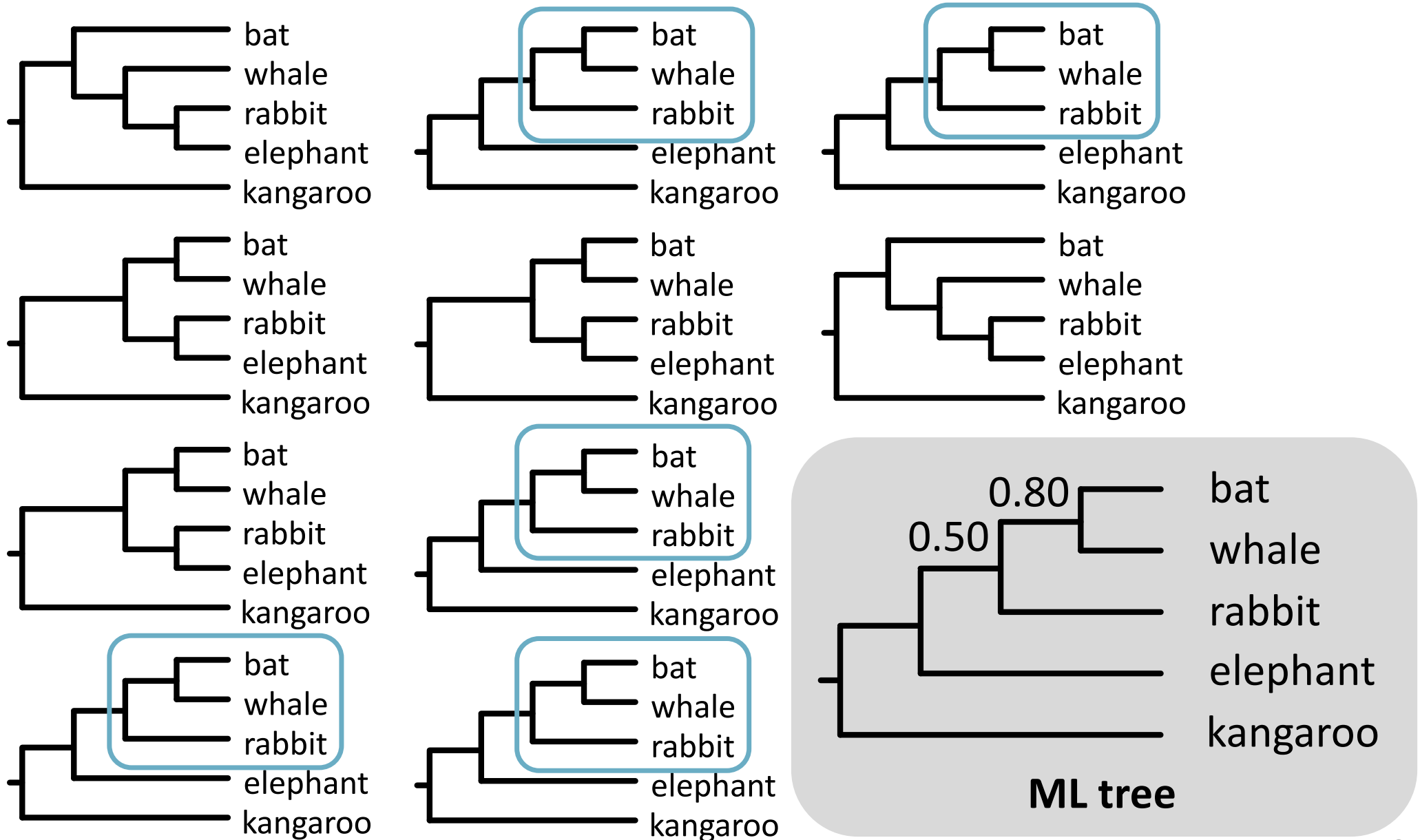
bat	TGCCCTTAGCAC
whale	TGCCCTTAGCAC
rabbit	AGCCCATAGCAC
elephant	TGCTCTCAGCAT
kangaroo	TGCTCTTAACGT



# Bootstrapping



# Bootstrapping





# Interpreting bootstrap values

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- **Felsenstein (1985)**

bootstrapping provides a confidence interval that contains the *phylogeny that would be estimated from repeated sampling of many characters from the underlying set of all characters*

- Bootstrap values are **measures of repeatability**

- High when the data set is large
- Not meaningful when analysing genome-scale data

# Methods in practice

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- **Maximum parsimony**
  - Commonly used to analyse morphological data
  - Rarely used to analyse molecular data
- **Distance-based methods**
  - Popular in some fields of research
  - Used to analyse very large data sets with many taxa
- **Maximum likelihood**
  - Widely used, lost some ground to Bayesian methods but is experiencing a resurgence

# Useful references

- **Molecular phylogenetics: principles and practice**  
Yang & Rannala (2012) *Nature Reviews Genetics* 13: 303–314.

