

MCB5472  
Computer methods in  
molecular evolution  
  
Lecture 4/7/2014

### Old Assignment

Write a script that takes all phylip formatted aligned multiple sequence files present in a directory, and performs a bootstrap analyses using maximum parsimony.

Files you might want to use are [A.fa](#), [B.fa](#), [alpha.fa](#), [beta.fa](#) from last week's assignment, and [atp\\_all.phy](#). BUT you first have to **align** them and convert them to **phylip format**\* AND you should replace gaps with "?"

(In the end you would be able to answer the question "does the resolution increase if a more related subgroup is analyzed independent from an outgroup?)

- clustalw2 is one program frequently used to convert formats
- `system("clustalw -infile=$file.fa -convert -output=PHYLIP");`

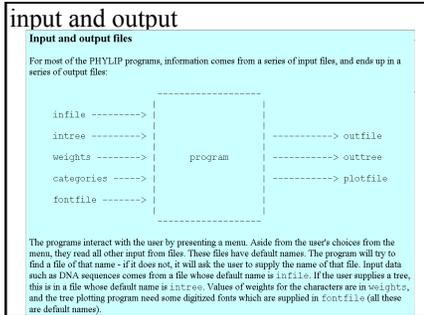
**Phylip** written and distributed by Joe Felsenstein and collaborators (some of the following is copied from the PHYLIP homepage)

PHYLIP (the *PHY*logeny *I*nferece *P*ackage) is a package of programs for inferring phylogenies (evolutionary trees).

PHYLIP is the most widely-distributed phylogeny package, and competes with PAUP\* to be the one responsible for the largest number of published trees. PHYLIP has been in distribution since 1980, and has over 15,000 registered users.

Output is written onto special files with names like "outfile" and "outtree". Trees written onto "outtree" are in the [Newick](#) format, an informal standard agreed to in 1986 by authors of a number of major phylogeny packages.

Input is either provided via a file called "infile" or in response to a prompt.



### What's in PHYLIP

Programs in PHYLIP allow to do parsimony, distance matrix, and likelihood methods, including bootstrapping and consensus trees. Data types that can be handled include molecular sequences, gene frequencies, restriction sites and fragments, distance matrices, and discrete characters.

Phylip works well with protein and nucleotide sequences  
Many other programs mimic the style of PHYLIP programs. (e.g. TREEPUZZLE, phym1, protml)

Many other packages use PHYLIP programs in their inner workings (e.g., SEAVIEW)

PHYLIP runs under all operating systems

Web interfaces are available

### Programs in PHYLIP are Modular

For example:

**SEQBOOT** take one set of aligned sequences and writes out a file containing bootstrap samples.

**PROTDIST** takes a aligned sequences (one or many sets) and calculates distance matrices (one or many)

**FITCH** (or **NEIGHBOR**) calculate best fitting or neighbor joining trees from one or many distance matrices

**CONSENSE** takes many trees and returns a consensus tree

.... modules are available to draw trees as well, but often people use `figtree` or `njplot`.

[The Phylip Manual](#) is an excellent source of information.

Brief one line descriptions of the programs are [here](#)

The easiest way to run PHYLIP programs is via a command line menu (similar to clustalw). The program is invoked through clicking on an icon, or by typing the program name at the command line.

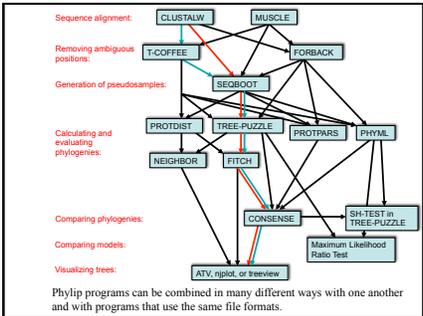
```

> seqboot
> protpars
> fitch
  
```

If there is no file called infile the program responds with:

```

[gogarten@carrot gogarten]$ seqboot
seqboot: can't find input file "infile"
Please enter a new file name>
  
```



### Example 1 Protpars

example: `seqboot`, `protpars`, `consense` on `atp_all.phy`

NOTE the bootstrap majority consensus tree does not necessarily have the same topology as the "best tree" from the original data!

threshold parsimony,  
gap symbols - versus ?  
(in vi you could use :`gs/-/?/g` to replace all - ?)  
outfile  
outtree compare to distance matrix analysis

create \*.phy files

the easiest (probably) is to run clustalw with the phylip option:  
For example [here](#):

```
#!/usr/bin/perl -w
print "!! This program aligns all multiple sequence files with names *.fa in
# found in its directory using clustalw, and saves them in phylip format.n";
while(defined($file=glob"**.fa")){
    @parts=split(/./,$file);
    $file=$parts[0];
    system("clustalw -infile=$file -outfile=$file -output=PHYLIP");
    #if you only want to convert file use
    #system("clustalw -infile=$file -convert-output=PHYLIP");
    ;
}
# cleanup:
system("rm *.dnd");
exit;
```

Alternative for entering the commands for the menu:

```
#!/usr/bin/perl -w
system ("cp A.phy infile");
system ("echo -e 'y\n9\n'|seqboot");
exit;
```

echo returns the string in \ , i.e., y\n9\n.  
The -e options allows the use of \n  
The | symbol pipes the output from echo to seqboot

## New Assignment

"Given a multiple fasta sequence file", write a script that for each sequence extract the gi number and the species name, and then rewrites the file so that the annotation line starts with the gi number, followed by the species/strain name, followed by a space. (The gi number and the species name should not be separated by or contain any spaces – replace them by \_). This is useful, because many programs will recognize the number and name as handle for the sequence (e.g., clustalw2 and phylml)

Assume that the annotation line follows the NCBI convention and begins with the  
> followed by the gi number, and ends with the species and strain designation given in []  
Example:  
>gi|229240723|ref|ZP\_04365119.1| primary replicative DNA helicase; intein [Cellulomonas flavigena DSM 20109]  
\*An example multiple sequence file in the unofficial NCBI formatted annotation line is [here](#).

## Bayes' Theorem



Reverend Thomas Bayes (1702-1761)

$P(\text{model}|\text{data}, I) = P(\text{model}, I) \frac{P(\text{data}|\text{model}, I)}{P(\text{data}, I)}$

**Posterior Probability** represents the degree to which we believe a given model accurately describes the situation given the available data and all of our prior information. I

**Prior Probability** describes the degree to which we believe the model accurately describes reality based on all of our prior information.

**Likelihood** describes how well the model predicts the data

**Normalizing constant**

## Illustration of a biased random walk

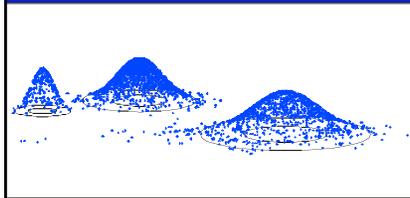


Figure generated using MCRobot program (Paul Lewis, 2001)

## Alternative Approaches to Estimate Posterior Probabilities

Bayesian Posterior Probability Mapping with MrBayes (Huelsenbeck and Ronquist, 2001)

**Problem:** Stimmer's formula  $p_i = \frac{L_i}{L_1 + L_2 + L_3}$  only considers 3 trees (those that maximize the likelihood for the three topologies)

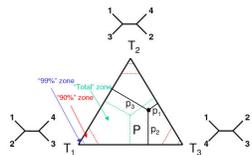
**Solution:** Exploration of the tree space by sampling trees using a biased random walk (implemented in MrBayes program)

Trees with higher likelihoods will be sampled more often

$$p_i = \frac{N_i}{N_{\text{total}}}$$

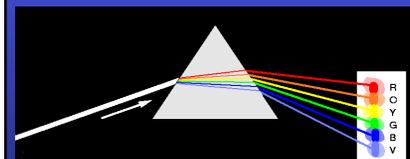
where  $N_i$  - number of sampled trees of topology  $i$ ,  $i=1,2,3$   
 $N_{\text{total}}$  - total number of sampled trees (has to be large)

## ml mapping



From: Olga Zhaxybayeva and J Peter Gogarten. *BMC Genomics* 2002, 3:4

## Decomposition of Phylogenetic Data



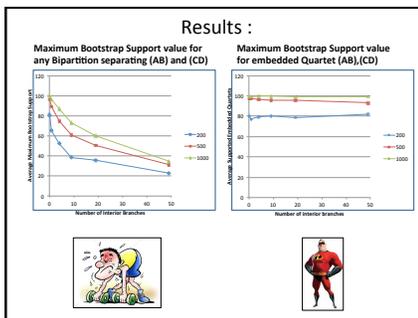
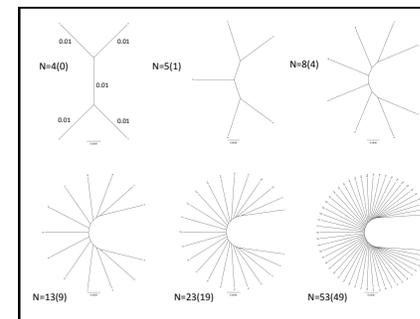
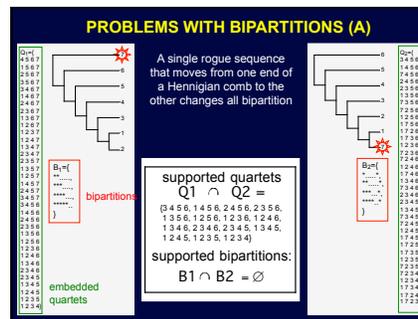
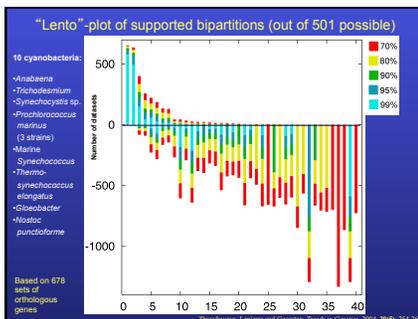
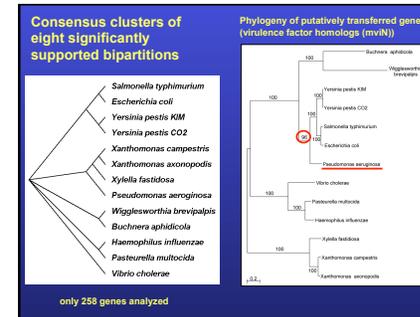
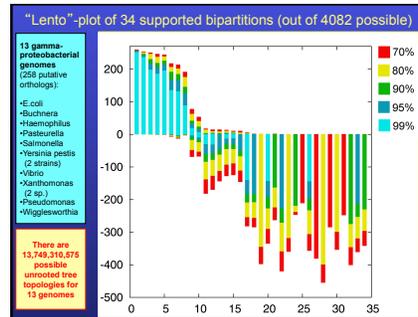
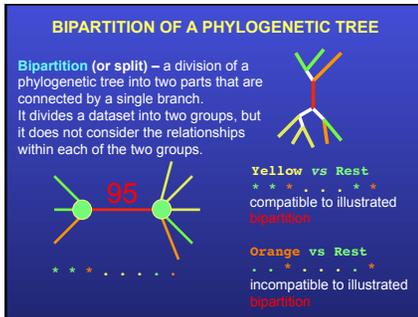
Phylogenetic information present in genomes

Break information into small quanta of information (bipartitions or embedded quartets)

Analyze spectra to detect transferred genes and plurality consensus.

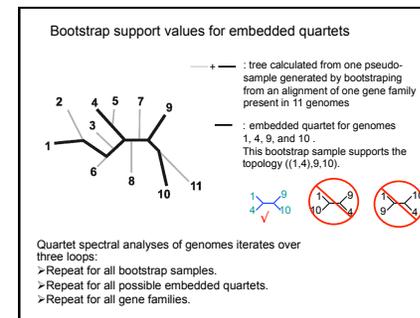
## TOOLS TO ANALYZE PHYLOGENETIC INFORMATION FROM MULTIPLE GENES IN GENOMES:

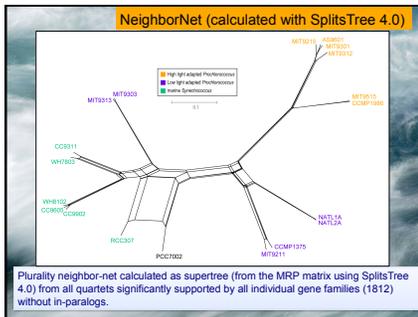
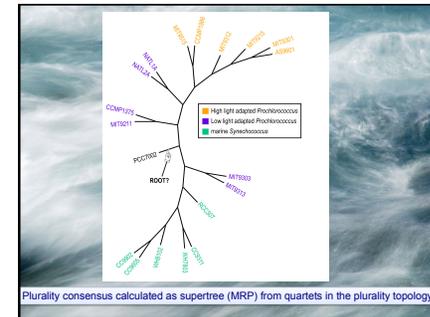
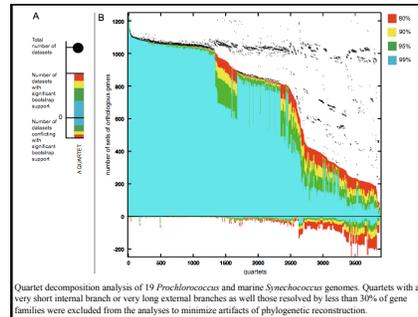
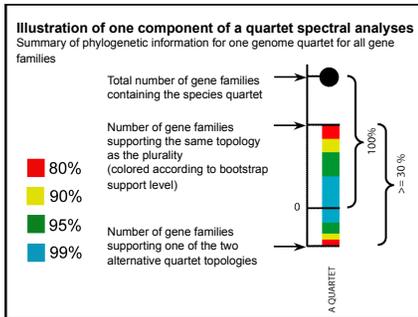
**Bipartition Spectra (Lento Plots)**



### Bipartition Paradox:

- The more sequences are added, the lower the support for bipartitions that include all sequences. The more data one uses, the lower the bootstrap support values become.
- This paradox disappears when only embedded splits for 4 sequences are considered.





### Neutral theory:

The vast majority of observed sequence differences between members of a population are neutral (or close to neutral). These differences can be fixed in the population through random genetic drift. Some mutations are strongly counter selected (this is why there are patterns of conserved residues). Only very seldom is a mutation under positive selection.

The neutral theory **does not** say that all evolution is neutral and everything is only due to genetic drift.

### Nearly Neutral theory:

Even synonymous mutations do not lead to random composition but to codon bias. Small negative selection might be sufficient to produce the observed codon usage bias.

### How do you define evolution?

**Richard Goldschmidt 1940**  
hopeful monsters  
Mutationism **HGT/WGD!**  
Punctuated Equilibrium  
Few genes / large effect  
Vilified by Mayr; celebrated 1977 Gould & Evo-devo

**Ernst Mayr 1942**  
NeoDarwinian Synthesis  
Natural Selection  
Gradualism  
Many genes/small effect  
Dario – "Fisher right"

**Motoo Kimura 1968**  
Neutral Theory  
Genetic Drift is main force for changing allele frequencies

Slide from Chris Pires

### Duplications and Evolution

Susumu Ohno 1970  
Evolution by gene duplication  
1R and 2R hypothesis  
"Junk DNA" 1972

Ohno postulated that gene duplication plays a major role in evolution

Small scale duplications (SSD)  
Whole genome duplications (WGD)

- **Polyloid:** nucleus contains three or more copies of each chromosome
- **Autopolyploid:** formed within a single species  
Diploids **AA** and **A'A'**  $\rightleftharpoons$  **Polyloid AAA'A'**
- **Allopolyploid:** formed from more than one species  
Diploids **AA** and **BB**  $\rightleftharpoons$  **Polyloid AABB**

Slide from Chris Pires

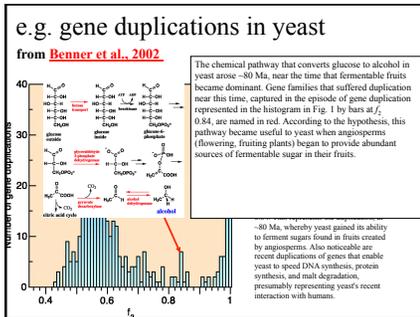
### What is it good for?

**Gene duplication** events can provide an outgroup that allows rooting a molecular phylogeny.

Most famously this principle was applied in case of the tree of life – the only outgroup available in this case are ancient paralogs (see [http://gogarten.uconn.edu/cvs/Publ\\_Pres.htm](http://gogarten.uconn.edu/cvs/Publ_Pres.htm) for more info).

However, the same principle also is applicable to any group of organisms, where a duplication preceded the radiation (**example**).

Lineage specific duplications also provide insights into which traits were important during evolution of a lineage.



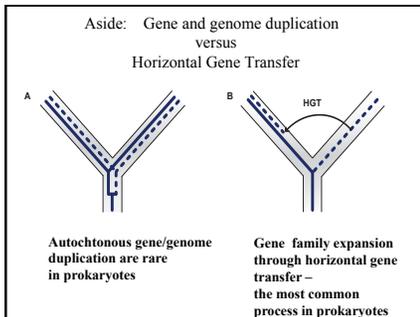
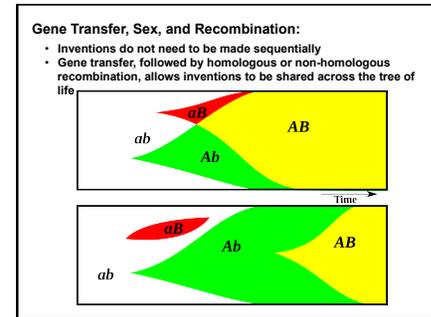
### the gradualist point of view

Evolution occurs within populations where the fittest organisms have a selective advantage. Over time the advantages genes become fixed in a population and the population gradually changes.

Note: this is not in contradiction to the theory of neutral evolution. (which says what?)

Processes that MIGHT go beyond inheritance with variation and selection?

- Horizontal gene transfer and recombination
- Polyploidization (botany, vertebrate evolution) see [here](#) or [here](#)
- Fusion and cooperation of organisms (Keffir, lichen, also the eukaryotic cell)
- Targeted mutations (?), genetic memory (?) (see [Foster's](#) and [Hall's](#) reviews on directed/adaptive mutations; see [here](#) for a counterpoint)
- Random genetic drift
- **Gratuitous complexity**
- Selfish genes (who/what is the subject of evolution??)
- Parasitism, altruism, **Morons**.
- **Evolutionary capacitors**
- **Hopeless monsters** (in analogy to Goldschmidt's **hopeful monsters**)



### Horizontal Gene Transfer (HGT) and the Acquisition of New Capabilities

- Most important process to adapt microorganisms to new environments. E.g.: Antibiotic and heavy metal resistance, pathways that allow acquisition and breakdown of new substrates.
- Creation of new metabolic pathways.
- HGT not autochthonous gene duplication is the main process of gene family expansion in prokaryotes.
- Also important in the recent evolution of multicellular eukaryotes (HGT between fish species and between grasses).

**Selection acts on the Holobiont (= Host + Symbionts)**

- To adapt to new conditions, new symbionts can be acquired, or existing symbionts can acquire new genes through HGT.

### Gene Transfer in Eukaryotes

Published online 7 April 2010 | Nature | doi:10.1038/nature09100

**A genetic gift for sushi eaters**

Seaweed-rich diet leaves its mark on gut microbes.

**Transfer of carbohydrate-active enzymes from marine bacteria to Japanese gut microbiota**

Jan-Hendrik Hehemann<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Gaëlle Correia<sup>1,2</sup>, Tristan Barbeyron<sup>1,2</sup>, William Helbert<sup>1,2</sup>, Mirjam Czjzek<sup>1,2</sup> & Gurvan Michel<sup>1,2</sup>

Some Japanese people may be able to digest the seaweed used in sushi thanks to genes from marine bacteria.

N. Young/ISTOCKphoto

**Bacterial parasites on red algae**

Porphyra – also known as nori.

M.O. Guiry

**HGT** → Human gut symbiont

### Gene Transfer in Eukaryotes – Example 2

**Highlights**

- Key genes for C<sub>4</sub> photosynthesis were transmitted between distantly related grasses
- These genes contributed to the adaptation of the primary metabolism
- Their transmission was independent from most of the genome

Curr Biol. 2012 Mar 6;22(5):445-9. Epub 2012 Feb 16.

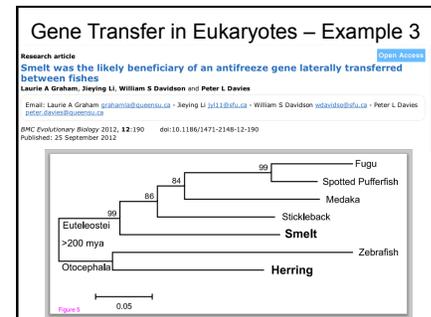
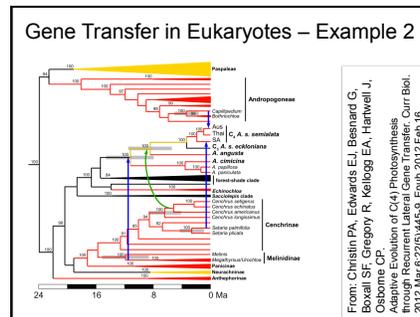
**Adaptive Evolution of C(4) Photosynthesis through Recurrent Lateral Gene Transfer.**

Christin PA, Edwards EJ, Besnard G, Boxall SF, Gregory R, Kellogg EA, Hartwell J, Osborne CP.

**C<sub>4</sub> Photosynthesis: Need a Gene? Borrow One!**

Eric H. Roalson Current Biology Vol 22 No 5 R162

Horizontal gene transfer has been increasingly documented between eukaryotes, but a new study suggests a much larger role for horizontal gene transfer in physiological adaptation through the transfer of photosynthetic pathway genes.



**HGT as a force creating new pathways**

**HGT as a force creating new pathways – Example 1**  
*Acetoclastic Methanogenesis*

- Unique to subset of Archaea
- Energy production via reduction of multiple carbon substrates to CH<sub>4</sub>
- 900 Million metric tons of biogenic methane produced annually.
- Over 66% of biogenic methane is produced from acetate, mostly by *Methanosarcina* genera.

From: Galagan et al., 2002

Fourier and Gogarten (2008) Evolution of Acetoclastic Methanogenesis in *Methanosarcina* via Horizontal Gene Transfer from Cellulolytic Clostridia. *J. Bacteriol.* 190(3): 1124-7

**Clostridia acetogenic pathway**

*Methanosarcina* acetoclastic pathway

HGT

Figures drawn with Metacyc (www.metacyc.org)

**HGT as a force creating new pathways – Example 2**  
**Oxygen producing photosynthesis**

Q-type RCs: Purple bacteria, Oxygenic photosynthesis

Fe-S-type RCs: Green sulfur bacteria

Fusion

Photosystem II, Photosystem I

Cyanobacteria and Chloroplasts

Hohmann-Mariotti MF, Blankenship RE. 2011. Annu. Rev. Plant Biol. 62:515-48

**A heterologous fusion model for the evolution of oxygenic photosynthesis based on phylogenetic analysis.**

Ancestral PSII reaction center

Ancestral PSI reaction center

Purple bacteria and green non-sulfur bacteria

Helio bacteria and green sulfur bacteria

Fusion

Photosystem II

Photosystem I

Cyanobacteria and Chloroplasts

Xiong J et al. PNAS 1998;95:14851-14856

PNAS

**HGT as a force creating new pathways – Example 3**  
**Acetyl-CoA Assimilation: Methylaspartate Cycle**

Acetate, Alcohols, Polyhydroxybutyrate

Fatty acids → acetyl-CoA

Lysine, leucine

malate → oxaloacetate → citrate

isocitrate → 2-oxoglutarate

glutamate → Poly-γ-glutamate, Proteins, γ-Glutamylcystein

glutamate → methylaspartate → Osmoadaptation

succinyl-CoA → glyoxylate

propionyl-CoA → 3-methylmalyl-CoA → mesaconyl-CoA

mesaconyl-CoA → mesosuccinyl-CoA

Khomyakova, Bükmez, Thomas, Erb, Berg, Science, 2011

**Comparison of different anaplerotic pathways**

Citric acid cycle and Glyoxylate cycle

Ethylmalonyl-CoA pathway

Methylaspartate cycle pathway

Bacteria, Eukarya and some Archaea

Photobacteria, streptomycetes

haloarchaea

**HGT as a force creating new pathways – Example 3**  
**Acetyl-CoA Assimilation: methylaspartate cycle**

Biosynthesis

acetyl-CoA

oxaloacetate → citrate

malate

acetyl-CoA

2-oxoglutarate

glutamate

methylaspartate

glutamate fermentation, Bacteria

glyoxylate

succinyl-CoA

propionyl-CoA

3-methylmalyl-CoA

mesaconyl-CoA

Propionate assimilation

Acetate assimilation, Bacteria

mesosuccinyl-CoA

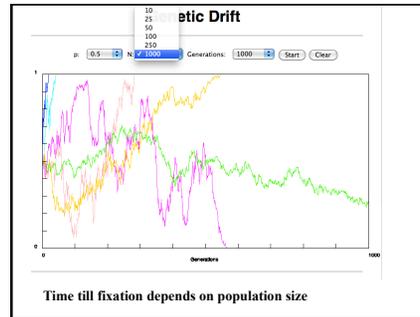
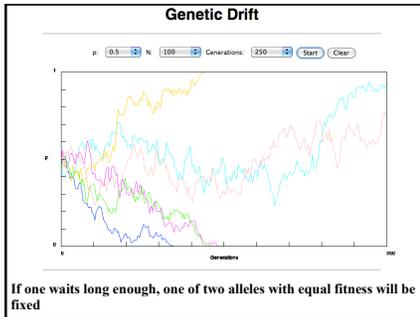
Khomyakova, Bükmez, Thomas, Erb, Berg, Science, 2011

**selection versus drift**

The larger the population the longer it takes for an allele to become fixed.

Note: Even though an allele conveys a strong selective advantage of 10%, the allele has a rather large chance to go extinct.

Note#2: Fixation is faster under selection than under drift.



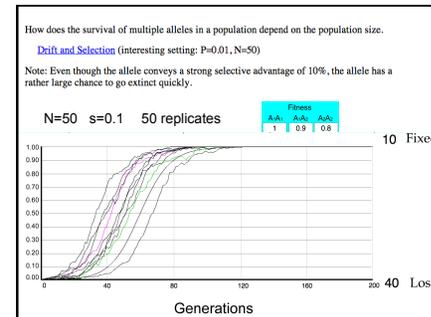
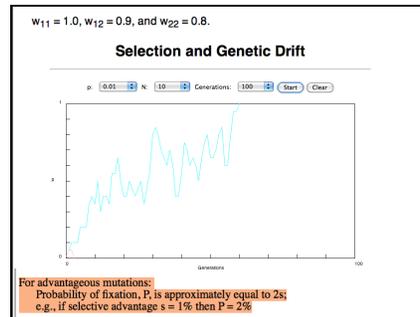
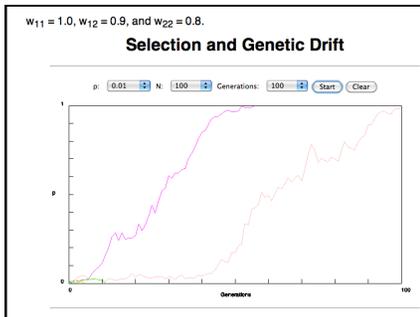
$s=0$

Probability of fixation,  $P$ , is equal to frequency of allele in population.  
 Mutation rate (per gene/per unit of time) =  $u$  ;  
 freq. with which allele is generated in diploid population size  $N = u \cdot 2N$   
 Probability of fixation for each allele =  $1/(2N)$

Substitution rate =  
 frequency with which new alleles are generated \* Probability of fixation =  
 $u \cdot 2N \cdot 1/(2N) = u = \text{Mutation rate}$

Therefore:  
 If  $s=0$ , the substitution rate is independent of population size, and equal to the mutation rate !!!! (NOTE: Mutation unequal Substitution! )  
 This is the reason that there is hope that the molecular clock might sometimes work.

Fixation time due to drift alone:  
 $t_f = 4 \cdot N$  generations  
 $(N_e = \text{effective population size; For } n \text{ discrete generations } N_e = n/(1/N_1 + 1/N_2 + \dots + 1/N_n))$



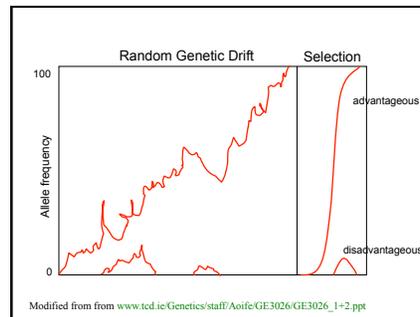
$s > 0$

Time till fixation on average:  
 $t_f = (2/s) \ln(2N)$  generations  
 (also true for mutations with negative "s" ! discuss among yourselves)

E.g.:  $N=10^6$ ,  
 $s=0$ : average time to fixation:  $4 \cdot 10^6$  generations  
 $s=0.01$ : average time to fixation: 2900 generations

$N=10^4$ ,  
 $s=0$ : average time to fixation: 40,000 generations  
 $s=0.01$ : average time to fixation: 1,900 generations

=> substitution rate of mutation under positive selection is larger than the rate with which neutral mutations are fixed.



**Positive selection ( $s > 0$ )**

- A new allele (mutant) confers some increase in the **fitness** of the organism
- Selection acts to favour this allele
- Also called adaptive selection or Darwinian selection.

NOTE: **Fitness** = ability to survive and reproduce

Modified from from [www.ted.ie/Genetics/staff/Aoife/GE3026/GE3026\\_1+2.ppt](http://www.ted.ie/Genetics/staff/Aoife/GE3026/GE3026_1+2.ppt)

## Advantageous allele

Herbicide resistance gene in nightshade plant

*Solanum nigrum* (nightshade) *peba* gene:

Normal sequence:  
 ... R L I Y Q Y A E Y R N S ...  
 ... CGA TTT ATC TTC CAA TAT GCT **AAC** TTC AAC AAC TTC ...

Atrazine-resistant mutant:  
 ... CGA TTT ATC TTC CAA TAT GCT **GAT** TTC AAC AAC TTC ...  
 ... R L I Y Q Y A E Y R N S ...

Modified from [www.ted.ie/Genetics/staff/Aoife/GE3026/GE3026\\_1+2.ppt](http://www.ted.ie/Genetics/staff/Aoife/GE3026/GE3026_1+2.ppt)

## Negative selection ( $s < 0$ )

- A new allele (mutant) confers some decrease in the fitness of the organism
- Selection acts to remove this allele
- Also called purifying selection

Modified from [www.ted.ie/Genetics/staff/Aoife/GE3026/GE3026\\_1+2.ppt](http://www.ted.ie/Genetics/staff/Aoife/GE3026/GE3026_1+2.ppt)

## Neutral mutations

- Neither advantageous nor disadvantageous
- Invisible to selection (no selection)
- Frequency subject to 'drift' in the population
- **Random drift** – random changes in small populations

## Types of Mutation-Substitution

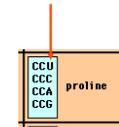
- Replacement of one nucleotide by another
- **Synonymous** (Doesn't change amino acid)
  - Rate sometimes indicated by  $K_s$
  - Rate sometimes indicated by  $d_s$
- **Non-Synonymous** (Changes Amino Acid)
  - Rate sometimes indicated by  $K_a$
  - Rate sometimes indicated by  $d_n$

(this and the following 4 slides are from [mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt](http://mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt))

## Genetic Code – Note degeneracy of 1<sup>st</sup> vs 2<sup>nd</sup> vs 3<sup>rd</sup> position sites

UUU phenylalanine	UCU serine	UAU tyrosine	UCU cysteine
UUC alanine	UCC serine	UAC tyrosine	UGC cysteine
UUA leucine	UCA serine	UAA stop	UGA stop
UUG leucine	UCG serine	UAG stop	UGG tryptophan
CUU leucine	CCU proline	CAU histidine	CBU arginine
CUC leucine	CCC proline	CAC histidine	CBU arginine
CUA leucine	CCA proline	CAA glutamine	CGA arginine
CUG leucine	CCG proline	CAG glutamine	CGG arginine
AUU isoleucine	ACU threonine	AUU asparagine	AUU serine
AUC isoleucine	ACC threonine	AUA asparagine	AUG serine
AUA isoleucine	ACA threonine	AAU asparagine	AGA arginine
AUG methionine	ACG threonine	AAA lysine	AGG arginine
GUU valine	GCU alanine	GAU aspartic acid	GGU glycine
GUC valine	GCC alanine	GAC aspartic acid	GGC glycine
GUA valine	GCA alanine	GAA glutamic acid	GGG glycine
GUG valine	GCG alanine	GAG glutamic acid	GGG glycine

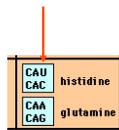
## Genetic Code



Four-fold degenerate site – Any substitution is synonymous

From: [mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt](http://mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt)

## Genetic Code



Two-fold degenerate site – Some substitutions synonymous, some non-synonymous

From: [mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt](http://mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt)

## Genetic Code

Degeneracy of 1<sup>st</sup> vs 2<sup>nd</sup> vs 3<sup>rd</sup> position sites results in 25.5% synonymous changes and 74.5% non-synonymous changes (Yang & Nielsen, 1998).

First Position	Second Position				Third Position
	U	C	A	G	
U	UUU phe UUC phe UUA leu UUG leu	UCU ser UCC ser UCA ser UCG ser	UAU tyr UAC tyr UAA stop UAG stop	UCU cys UGC cys UGA stop UGG trp	G A U G
C	CUU leu CUC leu CUA leu CUG leu	CCU pro CCC pro CCA pro CCG pro	CAU his CAC his CAA gln CAG gln	CBU arg CBU arg CGA arg CGG arg	A G U C
A	AUU ile AUC ile AUA ile AUG met	ACU thr ACC thr ACA thr ACG thr	AUU asp AUA asp AAU asp AAA lys	AUU ser AUG ser AGA arg AGG arg	U C G A
G	GUU val GUC val GUA val GUG val	GCU ala GCC ala GCA ala GCG ala	GAU asp GAC asp GAA glu GAG glu	GGU gly GGC gly GGG gly GGG gly	U C A G

From: [mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt](http://mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt)

## Measuring Selection on Genes

- Null hypothesis = neutral evolution
- Under neutral evolution, synonymous changes should accumulate at a rate equal to mutation rate
- Under neutral evolution, amino acid substitutions should also accumulate at a rate equal to the mutation rate

From: [mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt](http://mentor.lscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/eemb102/lecture/Lecture7.ppt)

## Counting #s/#a

Species1	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ser
	TGA	TGC	TGT	TGT	TGT
Species2	Ser	Ser	Ser	Ala	Ggt
	TGT	TGT	TGT	TGT	GGT

#s = 2 sites  
#a = 1 site

#a/#s=0.5

To assess selection pressures one needs to calculate the rates (Ka, Ks), i.e. the occurring substitutions as a fraction of the possible syn. and nonsyn. substitutions.

Things get more complicated, if one wants to take transition transversion ratios and codon bias into account. See chapter 4 in Nei and Kumar, Molecular Evolution and Phylogenetics.

Modified from: [mentor.iscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/emb102/lecture/Lecture7.pdf](http://mentor.iscf.ucsb.edu/course/spring/emb102/lecture/Lecture7.pdf)

## Testing for selection using dN/dS ratio

dN/dS ratio (aka Ka/Ks or ω (omega) ratio) where

dN = number of non-synonymous substitutions / number of possible non-synonymous substitutions

dS = number of synonymous substitutions / number of possible non-synonymous substitutions

dN/dS > 1 positive, Darwinian selection

dN/dS = 1 neutral evolution

dN/dS < 1 negative, purifying selection

## PAML (codeml) the basic model

$$\omega = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if the two codons differ at more than one position,} \\ \pi_j, & \text{for synonymous transversion,} \\ \omega\pi_j, & \text{for synonymous transition,} \\ \omega\pi_j, & \text{for nonsynonymous transversion,} \\ \omega\omega\pi_j, & \text{for nonsynonymous transition.} \end{cases}$$

The equilibrium frequency of codon  $j$  ( $\pi_j$ ) can be considered a free parameter, but can also be calculated from the nucleotide frequencies at the three codon positions (control variable CodonFreq). Under this model, the relationship holds that  $\omega = d_N/d_S$ , the ratio of nonsynonymous/synonymous substitution rates. This basic model is fitted by specifying model = 0 NSites = 0, in the control file codeml.ctl. It forms the basis for more sophisticated models implemented in codeml.

## dambe

Three programs worked well for me to align nucleotide sequences based on the amino acid alignment.

One is **DAMBE** (works well for windows). This is a handy program for a lot of things, including reading a lot of different formats, calculating phylogenies, it even runs codeml (from PAML) for you.

The procedure is not straight forward, but is well described on the help pages. After installing DAMBE go to HELP -> general HELP -> sequences -> align nucleotide sequences based on ...->

If you follow the instructions to the letter, it works fine.

DAMBE also calculates Ka and Ks distances from codon based aligned sequences.

Alternatives are

- [tranalign](#) from the [EMBOSS](#) package, and
- [Seaview](#) (see below)

## dambe (cont)

The screenshot shows the DAMBE software window with the 'Align Nucleic' menu option highlighted. The menu includes options like 'Align Nucleic', 'Sequences', 'View Sequ', 'Get Rid of', 'Delete seq', 'Work on C', 'Work on A', 'Work on G', 'Work on T', 'Work on C', 'Work on G', 'Work on T', 'Change seq', 'Get Compl', and 'Seq. Analysis'.

## Codon based alignments in Seaview

Load nucleotide sequences (no gaps in sequences, sequence starts with nucleotide corresponding to 1<sup>st</sup> codon position)

The screenshot shows the Seaview software window with a codon-based alignment of nucleotide sequences. The 'Select view as proteins' option is selected, and the alignment is displayed in a color-coded format.

## Codon based alignments in Seaview

With the protein sequences displayed, align sequences

The screenshot shows the Seaview software window with a protein-based alignment of nucleotide sequences. The 'Select view as nucleotides' option is selected, and the alignment is displayed in a color-coded format.

## PAML (codeml) the basic model

$$\omega = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if the two codons differ at more than one position,} \\ \pi_j, & \text{for synonymous transversion,} \\ \omega\pi_j, & \text{for synonymous transition,} \\ \omega\pi_j, & \text{for nonsynonymous transversion,} \\ \omega\omega\pi_j, & \text{for nonsynonymous transition.} \end{cases}$$

The equilibrium frequency of codon  $j$  ( $\pi_j$ ) can be considered a free parameter, but can also be calculated from the nucleotide frequencies at the three codon positions (control variable CodonFreq). Under this model, the relationship holds that  $\omega = d_N/d_S$ , the ratio of nonsynonymous/synonymous substitution rates. This basic model is fitted by specifying model = 0 NSites = 0, in the control file codeml.ctl. It forms the basis for more sophisticated models implemented in codeml.

## sites versus branches

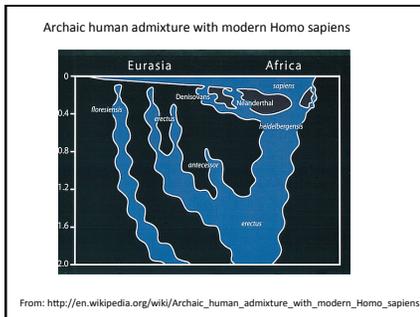
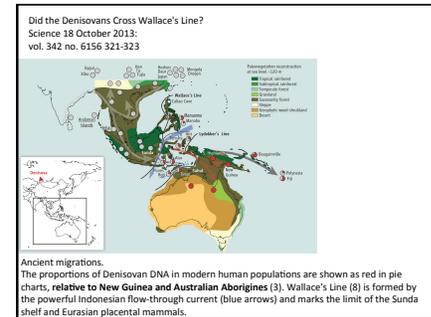
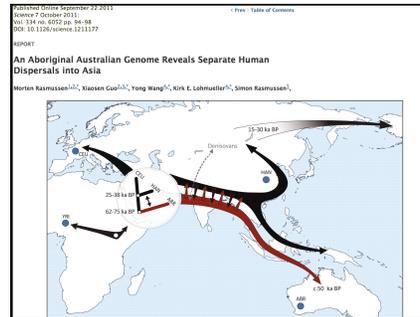
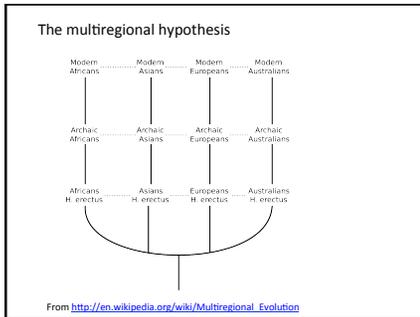
You can determine omega for the whole dataset; however, usually not all sites in a sequence are under selection all the time.

PAML (and other programs) allow to either determine omega for each site over the whole tree, *Branch Models*, or determine omega for each branch for the whole sequence, *Site Models*.

It would be great to do both, i.e., conclude codon 176 in the vacuolar ATPases was under positive selection during the evolution of modern humans – alas, a single site does not provide much statistics ....







For more discussion on archaic and early humans see:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denisova\\_hominin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denisova_hominin)  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/31/science/gains-in-dna-are-speeding-research-into-human-origins.html>  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0002929711003958>  
<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2012/08/31/3580500.htm>  
<http://www.sciencemag.org/content/334/6052/94.full>  
[http://www.sciencemag.org/content/334/6052/94/F2\\_expansion.html](http://www.sciencemag.org/content/334/6052/94/F2_expansion.html)  
<http://haplogroup-a.com/Ancient-Root-A-JHG2013.pdf>