
Multiple Alignment

Outline

- Dynamic Programming in 3-D
 - Progressive Alignment
 - Profile Progressive Alignment (ClustalW)
 - Scoring Multiple Alignments
 - Entropy
 - Sum of Pairs Alignment
-

Generalizing the Notion of Pairwise Alignment

- Up until now we have only tried to align two sequences to one another. What about more than two?
- Alignment of 2 sequences is represented as a 2-row matrix
- In a similar way, we represent alignment of 3 sequences as a 3-row matrix

```
A T _ G C G _  
A _ C G T _ A  
A T C A C _ A
```

- Score: more conserved columns, better alignment

Outline - CHANGE

- Dynamic Programming in 3-D
 - IN “Multiple Alignment: Greedy Approach” it is not clear which sequences are being merged. Before this slide create an extra slide giving a geometrix interpretaion explaining that every 3-D multiple alignment has corresponding pairwise alignments
 - Wrong tree in Step 2 (cont'd)
 - Cryptic second sentence in ClustalW: Example”
Next slide is also cryptic
-

Alignments = Paths in...

- Align 3 sequences: ATGC, AATC, ATGC

	A	--	T	G	C
--	---	----	---	---	---

	A	A	T	--	C
--	---	---	---	----	---

	--	A	T	G	C
--	----	---	---	---	---

Alignment Paths

0	1	1	2	3	4
	A	--	T	G	C

x coordinate

	A	A	T	--	C
--	---	---	---	----	---

	--	A	T	G	C
--	----	---	---	---	---

Alignment Paths

- Align the following 3 sequences:

ATGC, AATC,ATGC

0	1	1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---	---	---

x coordinate

	A	--	T	G	C
--	---	----	---	---	---

0	1	2	3	3	4
---	---	---	---	---	---

y coordinate

	A	A	T	--	C
--	---	---	---	----	---

	--	A	T	G	C
--	----	---	---	---	---

-

Alignment Paths

0	1	1	2	3	4
	A	--	T	G	C
0	1	2	3	3	4
	A	A	T	--	C
0	0	1	2	3	4
	--	A	T	G	C

x coordinate

y coordinate

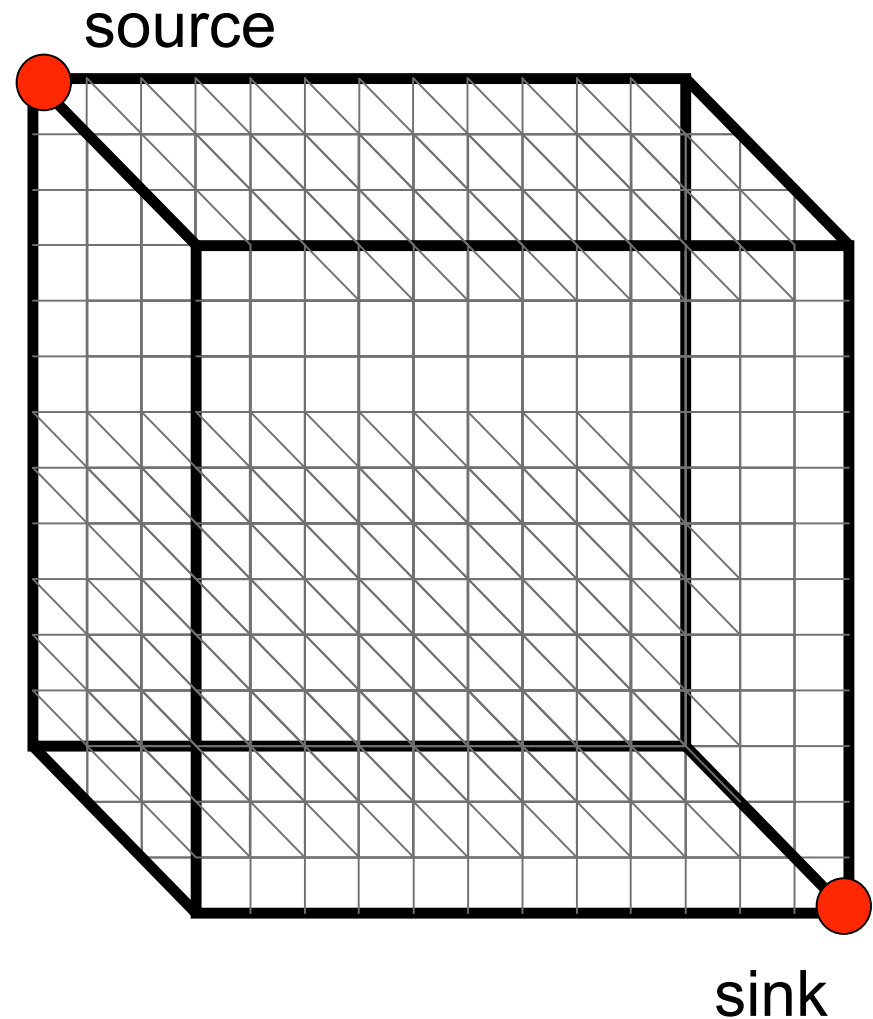
z coordinate

- Resulting path in (x,y,z) space:

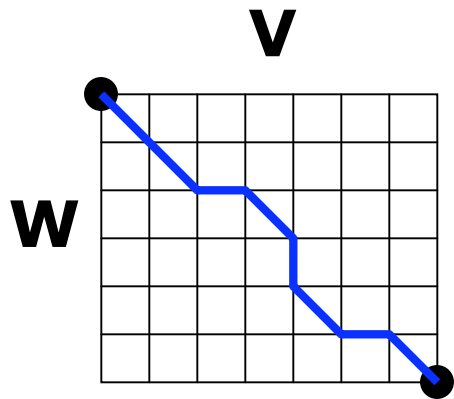
$(0,0,0) \rightarrow (1,1,0) \rightarrow (1,2,1) \rightarrow (2,3,2) \rightarrow (3,3,3) \rightarrow (4,4,4)$

Aligning Three Sequences

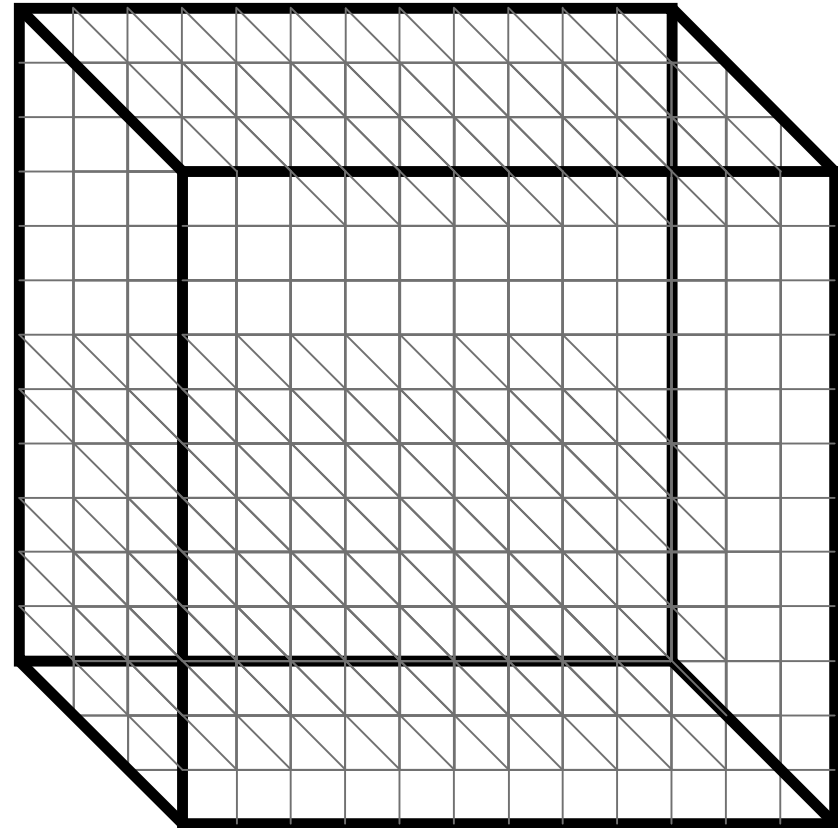
- Same strategy as aligning two sequences
- Use a 3-D “Manhattan Cube”, with each axis representing a sequence to align
- For global alignments, go from source to sink



2-D vs 3-D Alignment Grid

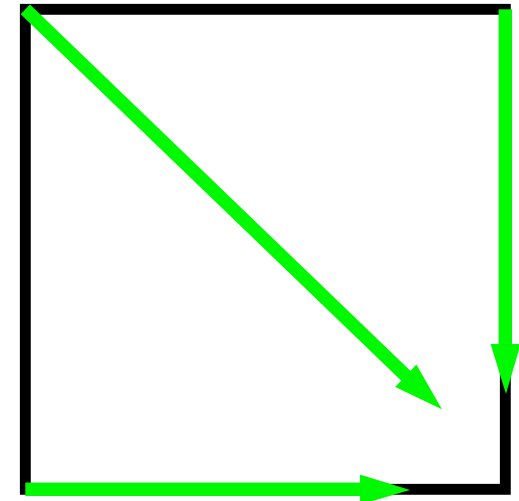
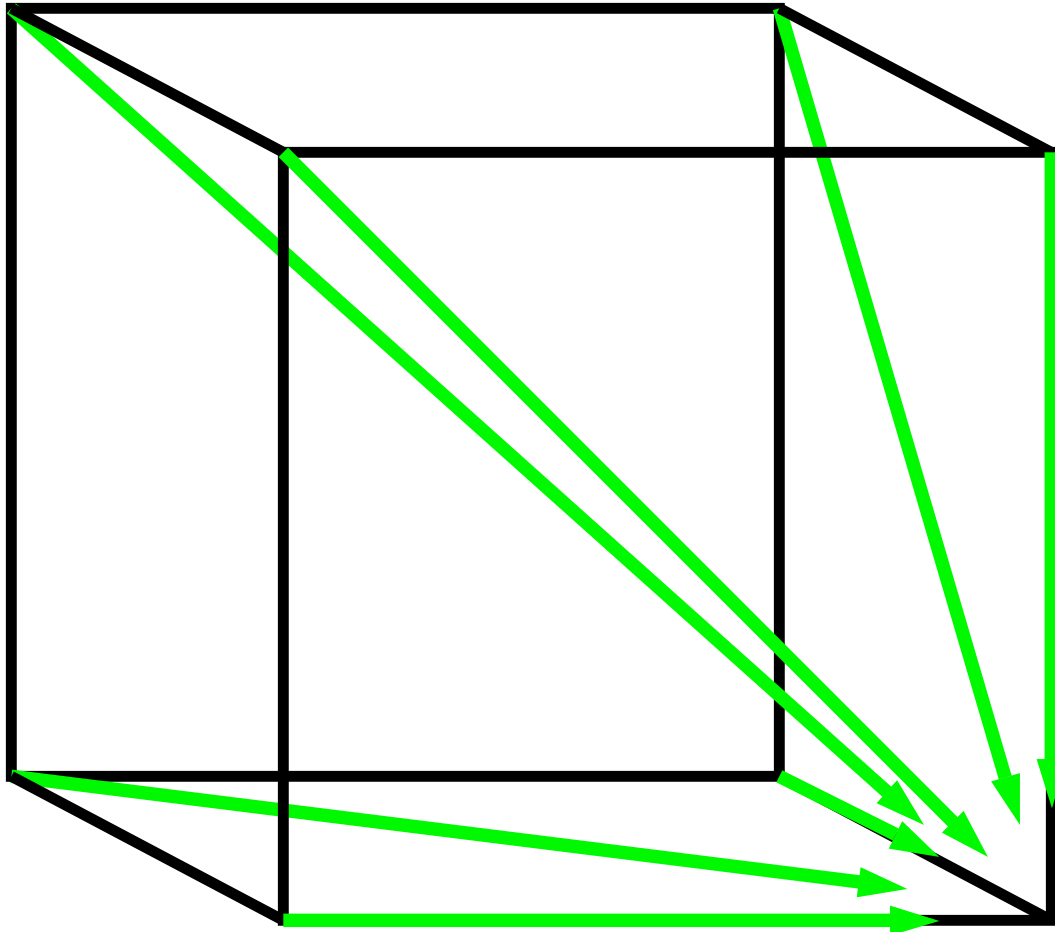


2-D edit graph



3-D?

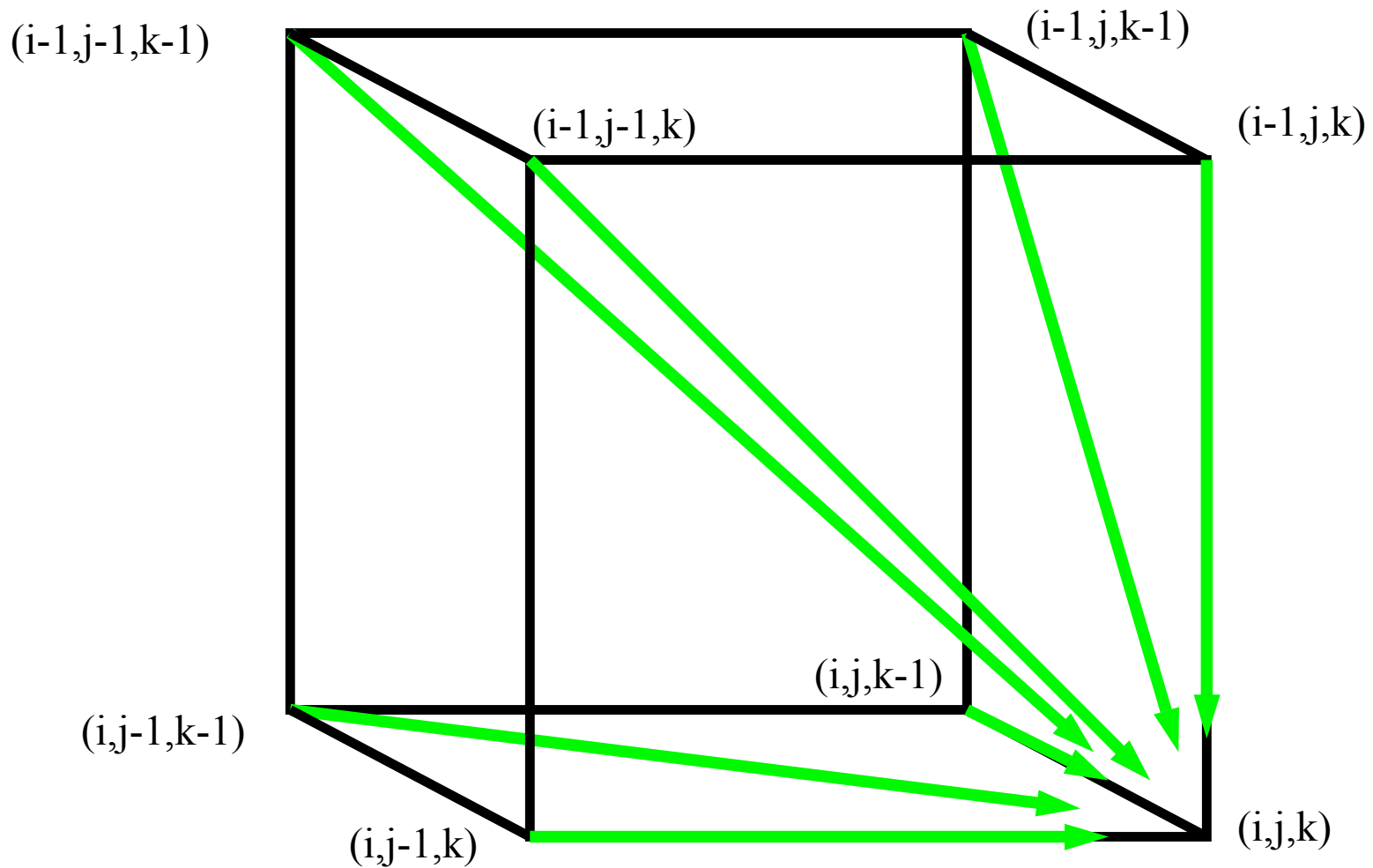
Architecture of 3-D Alignment Grid



In **2-D**, 3 edges
in each unit
square

In **3-D**, 7 edges
in each unit cube

A Cell of 3-D Alignment Grid



Multiple Alignment: Dynamic Programming

- $s_{i,j,k} = \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s_{i-1,j-1,k-1} + \sigma(v_i, w_j, u_k) \\ s_{i-1,j-1,k} + \sigma(v_i, w_j, -) \\ s_{i-1,j,k-1} + \sigma(v_i, -, u_k) \\ s_{i,j-1,k-1} + \sigma(-, w_j, u_k) \\ s_{i-1,j,k} + \sigma(v_i, -, -) \\ s_{i,j-1,k} + \sigma(-, w_j, -) \\ s_{i,j,k-1} + \sigma(-, -, u_k) \end{array} \right\}$
 - cube diagonal: no indels
 - face diagonal: one indel
 - edge diagonal: two indels
- $\sigma(x, y, z)$ is an entry in the 3-D scoring matrix

Multiple Alignment: Running Time

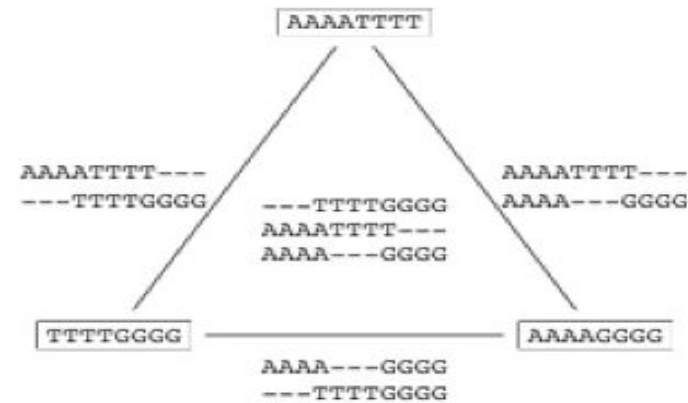
- For 3 sequences of length n , the run time is $7n^3$; $O(n^3)$
- For k sequences, build a k -dimensional Manhattan, with run time $(2^k-1)(n^k)$; $O(2^k n^k)$
- Conclusion: dynamic programming approach for alignment between two sequences is easily extended to k sequences but it is impractical due to exponential running time

Inferring Multiple Alignment from Pairwise Alignments

- From an optimal multiple alignment, we can infer pairwise alignments between all sequences, but they are not necessarily optimal
 - It is difficult to infer a “good” multiple alignment from optimal pairwise alignments between all sequences
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Combining Optimal Pairwise Alignments into Multiple Alignment

Can combine pairwise alignments into multiple alignment



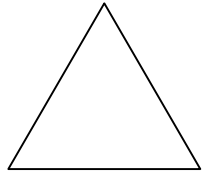
(a) Compatible pairwise alignments

Can **not** combine pairwise alignments into multiple alignment



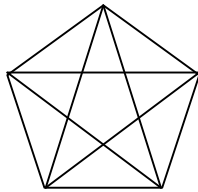
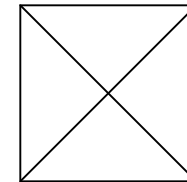
(b) Incompatible pairwise alignments

Inferring Pairwise Alignments



3 sequences, 3 comparisons

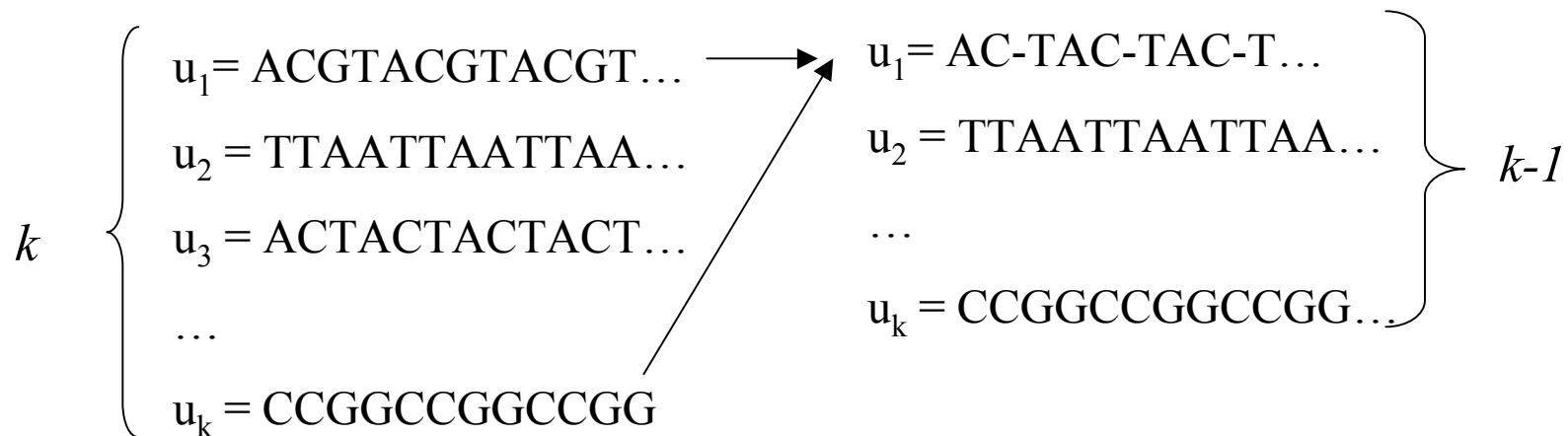
4 sequences, 6 comparisons



5 sequences, 10 comparisons

Multiple Alignment: Greedy Approach

- Choose most similar pair of strings and combine into a consensus, thereby reducing alignment of k sequences to an alignment of $k-1$ sequences. **Repeat**
- This is a heuristic greedy method



Greedy Approach: Example

- Consider these 4 sequences

<i>s1</i>	GATTCA
<i>s2</i>	GTCTGA
<i>s3</i>	GATATT
<i>s4</i>	GTCAGC

Greedy Approach: Example

(cont' d)

- There are $\binom{4}{2} = 6$ possible alignments

s2 **GTC**TGA

s4 **GTCAGC** (score = 2)

s1 **GATTC**A--

s4 **G-T-CA**GC (score = 0)

s1 **GAT-TCA**

s2 **G-TCTGA** (score = 1)

s2 **G-TCTGA**

s3 **GATAT-T** (score = -1)

s1 **GAT-TCA**

s3 **GATAT-T** (score = 1)

s3 **GAT-ATT**

s4 **G-TCAGC** (score = -1)

Greedy Approach: Example

(cont' d)

s2 and s4 are closest; combine:

s2	GTC T G A	} s2,4 GTCTGA (consensus)
s4	GTC A G C	

There are many (4) alternative choices for the consensus, let's assume we randomly choose one

new set becomes:

s1	GATTCA
s3	GATATT
s2,4	GTCTGA

Greedy Approach: Example

(cont' d)

set is:

*s*₁ GATTCA
*s*₃ GATATT
*s*_{2,4} GTCTGA

scores are:

*s*₁ **GAT-TCA**
*s*₃ **GATAT-T** (score = 1)
*s*₁ **GATTC--A**
*s*_{2,4} **G-T-CTGA** (score = 0)
*s*₃ **GATATT-**
*s*_{2,4} **G-TCTGA** (score=-1)

Take best pair and form another consensus:

*s*_{1,3} = GATATT (arbitrarily break ties)

Greedy Approach: Example

(cont' d)

new set is:

s1, 3	GATATT	}	→	{	s1, 3	GATATT	(score=-1)
s2, 4	GTCTGA				s2, 4	G-TCTGA	

scores is:

Form consensus:

s1, 3, 2, 4 = GATCTG

(arbitrarily break ties)

Progressive Alignment

- *Progressive alignment* is a variation of greedy algorithm with a somewhat more intelligent strategy for choosing a consensus
- Progressive alignment works well for close sequences, but deteriorates for distant sequences
 - Gaps in consensus string are permanent
 - Simplified representation of the alignments
- Better solution? Use a profile to represent consensus

ATG-CAA	A	3	0	0	0	0	2	1
AT-CCA-	T	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
ACG-CTG	G	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
	C	0	1	0	1	3	0	0
		A	T	G	C	C	A	A

ClustalW

- Popular multiple alignment tool today
 - Several heuristics to improve accuracy:
 - Sequences are weighted by relatedness
 - Scoring matrix can be chosen “on the fly”
 - Position-specific gap penalties
-

ClustalW (cont' d)

- Often used for protein alignment
 - 'W' stands for 'weighted'
 - Different parts of alignment are weighted.
 - Position/residue specific gap penalties.
 - Three-step process
 - 1.) Pairwise alignment
 - 2.) Build Guide Tree
 - 3.) Progressive Alignment
-

Step 1: Pairwise Alignment

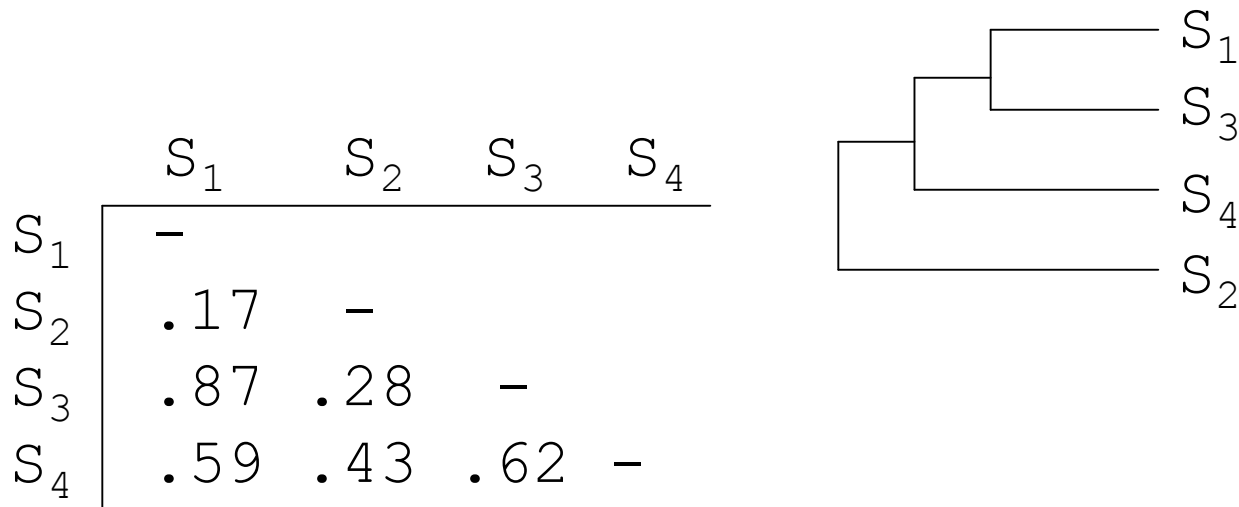
- Aligns each sequence against each other giving a distance matrix
- Distance = exact matches / sequence length (percent identity)

	S ₁	S ₂	S ₃	S ₄	
S ₁	—				
S ₂	.17	—			
S ₃	.87	.28	—		
S ₄	.59	.33	.62	—	(.17 means 17 % identical)

Step 2: Guide Tree

- Create Guide Tree using the distance matrix
 - ClustalW uses the neighbor-joining method
 - Guide tree roughly reflects evolutionary relations
-

Step 2: Guide Tree (cont' d)



Calculate:

s_{1,3} = consensus(s₁, s₃)

s_{1,3,4} = consensus(**s_{1,3}**, s₄)

s_{1,2,3,4} = consensus(**s_{1,3,4}**, s₂)

Step 3: Progressive Alignment

- Align the two most similar sequences
- Following the guide tree, add in the next sequences, aligning to the existing alignment
- Insert gaps as necessary

Sample output:

```

FOS_RAT      PEEMSVTS-LDLTGGLPEATTPESSEEAFTLPLLNDPEPK-PSLEPVKNISNMELKAEPFD
FOS_MOUSE   PEEMSVAS-LDLTGGLPEASTPESEEAFTLPLLNDPEPK-PSLEPVKSISNVELKAEPFD
FOS_CHICK    SEELAAATALDLG-----APSPAAAEFAFALPLMTEAPPVPPKEPSG--SGLELKAEPFD
FOSB_MOUSE  PGPGPLAEVRDLPG-----STSAKEDGFGWLLPPPPPPP-----LPGFQ
FOSB_HUMAN  PGPGPLAEVRDLPG-----SAPAKEDGFSWLLPPPPPPP-----LPGFQ
.           . : ** . :.. *:. * * . * **:
```



Dots and stars show how well-conserved a column is.

ClustalW: Example

- Each sequence has a weight; groups of related sequences have lower weight
 - Sum the score matrix entry for all pairs and weight each pair by the sequences' weight
-

ClustalW: Example (cont' d)

- Scoring alignments of sequences 1x2 and 3x4

1: peeksav**tal**

2: geekaav**lal**

3: egewg**lv**lhv

4: aaek**tk**irsa

Score:

$w(1)*w(3)*M(t,v) +$

$w(1)*w(4)*M(t,i) +$

$w(2)*w(3)*M(l,v) +$

$w(2)*w(4)*M(l,i)$

ClustalW: Scoring Alignments

- Distance between sequences determines which scoring matrix to use
 - 80 - 100% → Blosom80
 - 60-80% → Blosom60
 - 30-60% → Blosom45
 - 0-30% → Blosom30

Multiple Alignments: Scoring

- Number of matches (multiple longest common subsequence score)
 - Entropy score
 - Sum of pairs (SP-Score)
-

Multiple LCS Score

- A column is a “match” if all the letters in the column are the same

AAA
AAA
AAT
ATC

- Only good for very similar sequences
-

Entropy

- Define frequencies for the occurrence of each letter in each column of multiple alignment
 - $p_A = 1$ or $p_A = 0.75$, $p_T = 0.25$
- Compute entropy of each column

$$- \sum_{X=A,T,G,C} p_X \log p_X$$

Entropy: Example

$$\text{entropy} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ A \\ A \\ A \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \underline{\text{Best case}}$$

$$\underline{\text{Worst case}} \quad \text{entropy} \begin{pmatrix} A \\ T \\ G \\ C \end{pmatrix} = - \sum \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{1}{4} = -4 \left(\frac{1}{4} * -2 \right) = 2$$

Multiple Alignment: Entropy Score

Entropy for a multiple alignment is the sum of entropies of its columns:

$$\sum_{\text{over all columns}} \sum_{X=A,T,G,C} p_X \log p_X$$

Entropy of an Alignment: Example

column entropy:

$$-(p_A \log p_A + p_C \log p_C + p_G \log p_G + p_T \log p_T)$$

A	A	A
A	C	C
A	C	G
A	C	T

- Column 1 = $-[1 * \log(1) + 0 * \log 0 + 0 * \log 0 + 0 * \log 0]$
= 0

- Column 2 = $-[(1/4) * \log(1/4) + (3/4) * \log(3/4) + 0 * \log 0 + 0 * \log 0]$
= $-[(1/4) * (-2) + (3/4) * (-.415)] = +0.811$

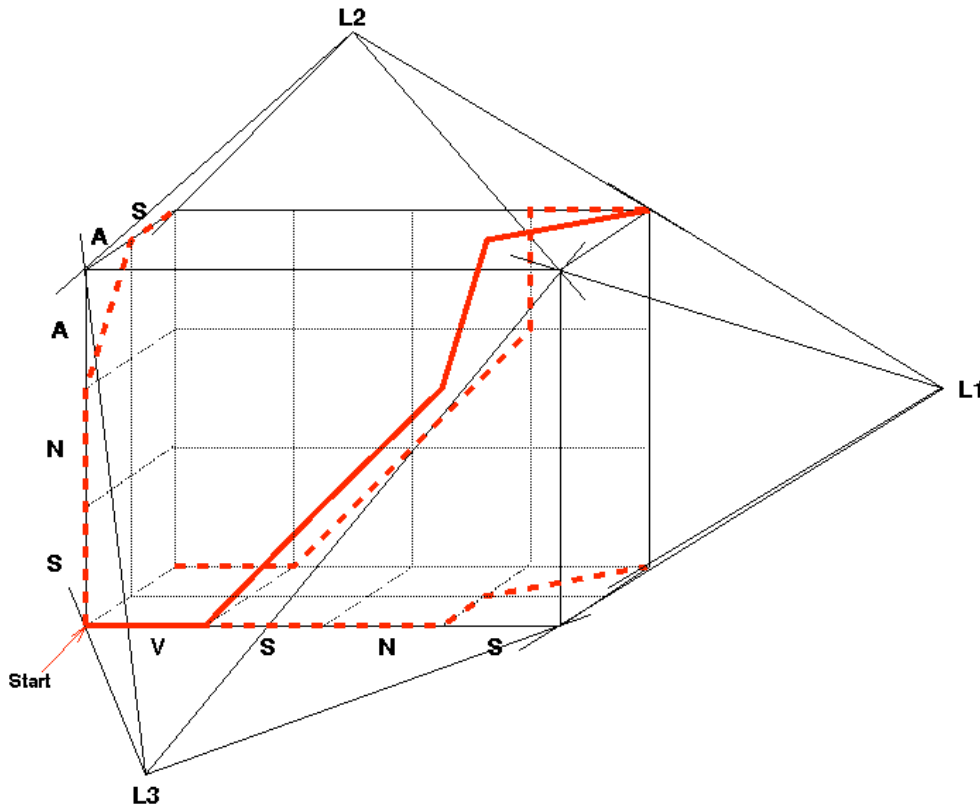
- Column 3 = $-[(1/4) * \log(1/4) + (1/4) * \log(1/4) + (1/4) * \log(1/4) + (1/4) * \log(1/4)]$
= $4 * -[(1/4) * (-2)] = +2$

- Alignment Entropy = $0 + 0.811 + 2 = +2.811$

Inferring Pairwise Alignments from Multiple Alignments

- From a multiple alignment, we can infer pairwise alignments between all sequences, but they are not necessarily optimal
 - This is like projecting a 3-D multiple alignment path on to a 2-D face of the cube
-

Multiple Alignment Projections



A 3-D alignment can be projected onto the 2-D plane to represent an alignment between a pair of sequences.

All 3 Pairwise Projections of the Multiple Alignment

Sum of Pairs Score (SP-Score)

- Consider pairwise alignment of sequences

$$a_i \text{ and } a_j$$

imposed by a multiple alignment of k sequences

- Denote the score of this suboptimal (not necessarily optimal) pairwise alignment as

$$s^*(a_i, a_j)$$

- Sum up the pairwise scores for a multiple alignment:

$$s(a_1, \dots, a_k) = \sum_{i,j} s^*(a_i, a_j)$$

Computing SP-Score

Aligning 4 sequences: 6 pairwise alignments

Given a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 :

$$\begin{aligned} s(a_1 \dots a_4) = \sum s^*(a_i, a_j) = & s^*(a_1, a_2) + s^*(a_1, a_3) \\ & + s^*(a_1, a_4) + s^*(a_2, a_3) \\ & + s^*(a_2, a_4) + s^*(a_3, a_4) \end{aligned}$$

SP-Score: Example

s_1 ATG-C-AAT
 · A-G-CATAT
 s_k ATCCCATTT

To calculate each column:

$$s'(a_1 \dots a_k) = \sum_{i,j} s^*(a_i, a_j) \leftarrow \binom{n}{2} \text{ Pairs of Sequences}$$

