

# Inferring phylogeny

Introduction • Distance methods • Parsimony method

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## Today's topics

- Overview of phylogenetic inferences
- Methodology
- Methods using distance data
  - UPGMA, Neighbor-joining, minimum evolution
- Methods using discrete data
  - Maximum parsimony
  - Maximum likelihood
  - Bayesian inference

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## Milestones of molecular evolution studies

1800: Genetics: Gregor Mendel (1856-1863); Origin of species: Charles Darwin (1859)

1900: Emergence of cladistics: Willi Hennig et al.; Discovery of DNA structure: James Watson & Francis Crick (1953); First comparison of amino acid sequence (insulin) among different species: Fred Sanger et al. (1955); First example of molecular systematics: Vince Sarich & Allan Wilson (1967) on human evolution

2000: The blooming of evo devo studies; Technical breakthrough in the 1990s: computer speed, methodological improvement; Technical breakthrough in the 1980s: PCR, DNA sequencing, etc.

Nature (1968) 217: 624

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## Contributions to molecular evolution

**The patterns of evolution**  
Cladistics and phylogenetics:  
Willi Hennig (1913-1976)

**The mechanisms**  
The neutral theory of molecular evolution:  
Motoo Kimura (木村資生, 1924-1994)

**The models and methodological concerns**  
The uses of parsimony, maximum likelihood methods in phylogenetics:  
Joseph Felsenstein  
Genome Science and of Biology, University of Washington, Seattle

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## Reconstructing phylogeny

- The concepts of trees
- The data used to construct phylogenetic trees
  - Morphological data
  - Molecular data
- Homology of characters in data matrices
  - Sequence alignment

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## The basics of evolutionary trees

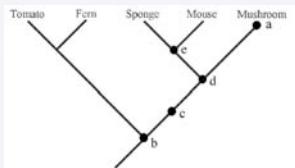
- The tree shapes

Are these two trees different?

Baum et al. (2005) Science 310:976

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## Most recent common ancestor (MRCA)



Which is the MRCA of a mushroom and a sponge? d

Which is the MRCA of a mouse and a fern? b

Plant Moleculer Evolution

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## Types of data

- Character and character types
  - Quantitative and qualitative characters
  - Binary and multistate characters
- Assumptions about character evolution
  - Substitution models
  - Step matrix



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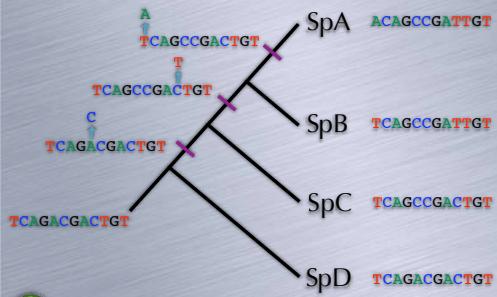
## Distance method

- UPGMA (Unweighted Pair Group Method using Arithmetic averages)
- Transformed distance method
- Neighbor-Joining method
- Minimum evolution



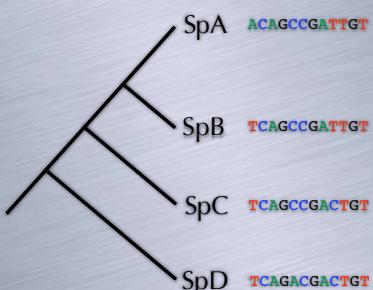
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## Evolution of DNA sequences



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In distance method, sequences were grouped based on their similarity, we need to measure the differences among sequences



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## Measuring genetic distance

- How different are the two sequences we have?
  - The ways of measuring nucleotide substitution
  - Simplest way
  - Hamming distance =  $n/N \times 100\%$

SpA	ACAGCCGA-TGT	2/12 = 16.6%
SpB	TCAGCCGA-TGT	
SpC	TCAGGCCACTGT	
SpD	TCAGACGACTGT	



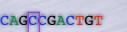
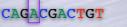
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## Measuring differences between sequences

- The common ways
  - Direct counting
  - The probability of substitution at certain nucleotide site change from  $i$  to  $j$ .
- Nucleotide substitution models
  - Jukes & Cantor(1969)'s one parameter model
  - Kimura(1980)'s two parameter model
  - F81 (Felsenstein, 1981)
  - HKY85 (Hasegawa et al., 1985)
  - Generalized time reversible model (GTR)

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## The probability of nucleotide substitution

SpC   
SpD 

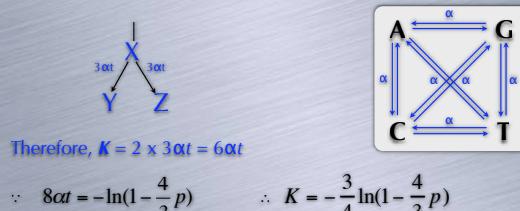
- In order to know the probability of the sequences to be different ( $p$ ), we can calculate the probability of the sequences being the same ( $I_{(t)}$ ) first.
- Let's start with Jukes-Cantor model

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We can just use another estimator,  $K$ , the number of substitutions per site since time of divergence between the two sequences



where  $p$  = the observed proportions of different nucleotides between the two sequences

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## Example of calculation

If there are 80 transitions and 20 transversions between two sequences (length=1000bp), the number of substitutions per site  $K$  can be estimated:

Under J-C model,

$$K = -\frac{3}{4} \ln(1 - \frac{4}{3}p) = 0.10732 \quad (p=0.1)$$

Under Kimura 2P model:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} \ln(\frac{1}{1-2P-Q}) + \frac{1}{4} \ln(\frac{1}{1-2Q}) \quad (P=0.08, Q=0.02) \\ = 0.10943$$

where  $P$  = the proportions of transitions and  $Q$  = the proportions of transversions.  $p$  is the proportion of total substitution.

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## Overview of Distance method

1. Transform the data matrix into distance table

sequences	sequences							distances						
	sites													
1	T	T	A	T	T	A	A	2	3	3	4	5	6	7
2	A	A	T	T	T	A	A	3	5	4				
3	A	A	A	A	A	T	A	4	5	4	2			
4	A	A	A	A	A	T			1	2	3			

2. Use this new data matrix to evaluate/construct the tree

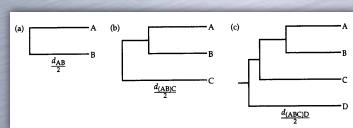
(Page &amp; Holme 1997)

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## UPGMA

OTU	A	B	C	OTU	(AB)	C
B	$d_{AB}$			C	$d_{(AB)C}$	
C	$d_{AC}$	$d_{BC}$		D	$d_{(AB)D}$	$d_{CD}$
D	$d_{AD}$	$d_{BD}$	$d_{CD}$			

where  $d_{(AB)C} = (d_{AC} + d_{BC})/2$  and  $d_{(AB)D} = (d_{AD} + d_{BD})/2$



(Graur &amp; Li 2008)

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### Example

	dog	bear	raccoon	weasel	seal	*	sea lion	cat	monkey
dog	0	32	48	51	50	48	98	98	148
bear	32	0	26	34	29	33	84	136	
raccoon	48	26	0	42	44	44	92	152	
weasel	51	34	42	0	44	38	86	142	
* seal	50	29	44	44	0	24	89	142	
* sea lion	48	33	44	38	24	0	90	142	
cat	98	84	92	86	89	90	0	148	
monkey	148	136	152	142	142	142	148	0	

Felsenstein (2004) 19

### Example

	dog	bear	raccoon	weasel	seal	*	sea lion	cat	monkey
dog	0	32	48	51	50	48	98	98	148
bear	32	0	26	34	29	33	84	136	
raccoon	48	26	0	42	44	44	92	152	
weasel	51	34	42	0	44	38	86	142	
* seal	50	29	44	44	0	24	89	142	
* sea lion	48	33	44	38	24	0	90	142	
cat	98	84	92	86	89	90	0	148	
monkey	148	136	152	142	142	142	148	0	

	dog	bear	raccoon	weasel	SS	cat	monkey
dog	0	32	48	51	49	98	148
bear	32	0	26	34	31	84	136
raccoon	48	26	0	42	44	92	152
weasel	51	34	42	0	41	86	142
* seal	49	31	44	41	30.5	142	
* sea lion	48	33	44	38	24	89	142
cat	98	84	92	86	89.5	0	148
monkey	148	136	152	142	142	148	0

Felsenstein (2004) 20

### Example

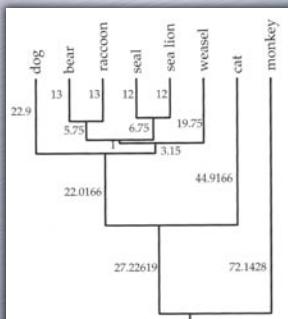
	dog	bear	raccoon	weasel	SS	cat	monkey
dog	0	32	48	51	48	98	148
bear	32	0	26	34	31	84	136
raccoon	48	26	0	42	44	92	152
weasel	51	34	42	0	41	86	142
SS	49	31	44	41	30.5	142	
cat	98	84	92	86	89.5	0	148
monkey	148	136	152	142	142	148	0

	dog	BR	weasel	SS	cat	monkey
dog	0	40	51	49	98	148
* BR	40	0	38	37.5	88	144
weasel	51	38	0	41	86	142
* SS	49	37.5	41	0	89.5	142
cat	98	88	86	89.5	0	148
monkey	148	144	142	142	148	0

Felsenstein (2004) 21

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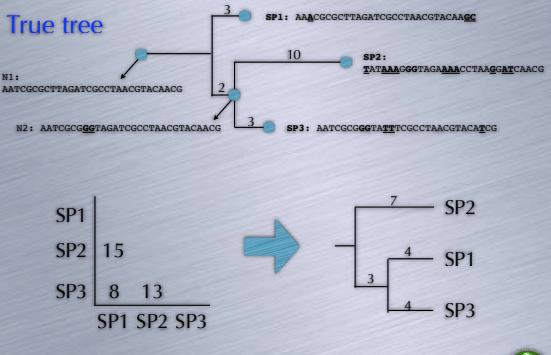
### UPGMA tree



Felsenstein (2004) 22

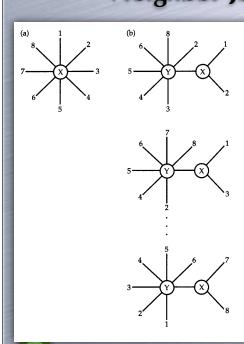
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### True tree



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### Neighbor-Joining (NJ) method



- Saitou & Nei (1987); Studier & Keppler (1988)
- NJ does not assume a clock and approximates the minimum evolution method

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## NJ procedure

1. For each tip, compute

$$u_i = \sum_{j:j \neq i}^n \frac{D_i}{(n-2)}$$

2. Choose the  $i$  and  $j$  for which  $D_{ij} - u_i - u_j$  is smallest

3. Join  $i$  and  $j$ , compute the new node  $(ij)$  to every other nodes

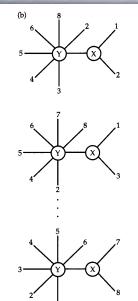
$$D_{(ij),k} = \frac{(D_{ik} + D_{jk} - D_{ij})}{2}$$

4. Delete tips  $i$  and  $j$  and make new table with the new node  $(ij)$

5. Continue till resolve the tree



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## Limitation on distance methods

- All nucleotide sites change independently.
- When evolutionary rates vary from site to site, than the data set needs to be corrected
- The substitution rate is constant over time and in different lineages.
- The base composition is at equilibrium.
- The conditional probabilities of nucleotide substitutions are the same for all sites and do not change over time.



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## Discrete methods

- Maximum parsimony (高度簡約原理)
- Maximum likelihood (最大似然性原理)
- Bayesian inference (貝葉氏導出式分析)
- Others



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## Parsimony methods

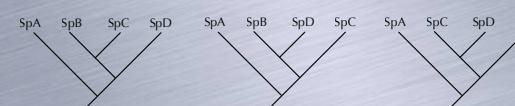
- The goal is to find the most parsimonious tree
- The criteria are to calculate the changes of character states, i.e. the *evolutionary steps*
- First, we have to know the way to evaluate a given tree



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## A simple data matrix w/ discrete characters

SpA: TCAAGACGATTGTCAGACCAATTG  
SpB: TCAGTCGACTGTCAAACCCATTG  
SpC: TCGGTCAAATTGTCAAACGATTTG  
SpD: TCGGTCAAATTGTCAAACGATTTG

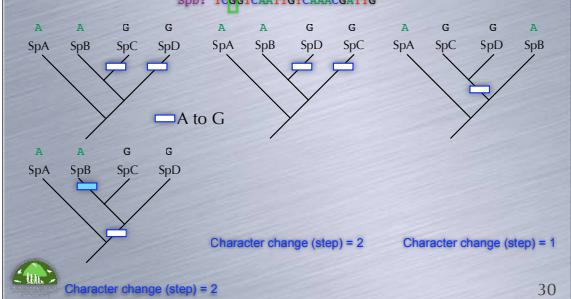


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## A simple data matrix w/ discrete characters

For position no. 3

SpA: TCAAGACGATTGTCAGACCAATTG  
SpB: TCAGTCGACTGTCAAACCCATTG  
SpC: TCGGTCAAATTGTCAAACGATTTG  
SpD: TCGGTCAAATTGTCAAACGATTTG

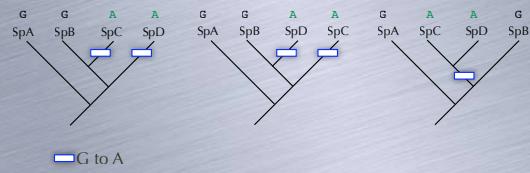


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## A simple data matrix w/ discrete characters

For position no. 7

SpA: TCA GAC GAT TGC CAG ACC A TTG  
SpB: TCA GTC GCT GCG CAA ACC CA TTG  
SpC: TCG GT CAA ATG TC AA AC G AT TG  
SpD: TCG GT CAA ATG TC AA AC G AT TG



Character change (step) = 2

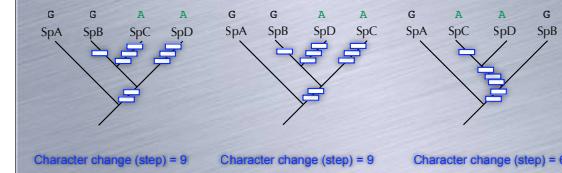
Character change (step) = 2

Character change (step) = 1

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## A simple data matrix w/ discrete characters

SpA: TCA GAC GAT TGC CAG ACC A TTG  
SpB: TCA GTC GCT GCG CAA ACC CA TTG  
SpC: TCG GT CAA ATG TC AA AC G AT TG  
SpD: TCG GT CAA ATG TC AA AC G AT TG



Character change (step) = 9

Character change (step) = 9

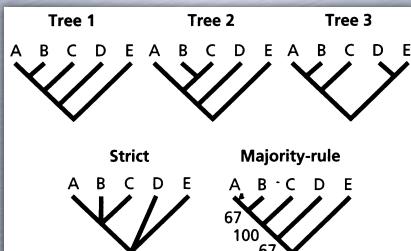
Character change (step) = 6



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## Consensus trees

Finding the underlying information among trees



(Page & Holmes 1993)

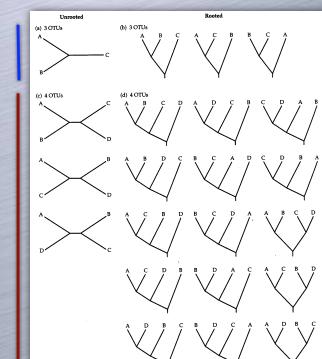
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**So, how many trees out there are we dealing with?**

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3 taxa

4 taxa



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## Tree searching

• The number of unrooted trees:

$$N_{unrooted} = \frac{(2n - 5)!}{2^{n-3}(n - 3)!}$$

• The number of rooted trees:

$$N_{rooted} = \frac{(2n - 3)!}{2^{n-2}(n - 2)!}$$

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Taxon number	All possible unrooted tree number
3	1
4	3
5	15
6	105
7	945
8	10,395
9	135,135
10	2,027,025
11	34,459,425
12	654,729,075
13	13,749,310,575
14	316,234,141,225
15	7,905,853,580,625
16	213,458,046,676,875
17	6,190,283,353,629,375
18	191,898,783,962,510,625
19	6,332,659,870,762,850,625
20	221,641,095,476,699,771,875
21	8,200,794,532,637,891,559,375
22	319,830,986,772,877,770,815,625
23	11,113,070,457,687,988,603,440,625
24	563,862,029,680,583,509,947,946,875
25	25,373,791,355,626,257,947,657,609,375 <b>&gt;10<sup>29</sup></b>
...	etc.

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## Note

- Say a computer can evaluate  $10^6$  trees per second.
- If we want to evaluate all of the trees for 25 taxa, we will need  
 $x = 10^{29}/10^6/60/24/365 = 3.17 \times 10^{15}$  年 (三千兆年)

We got to have some ways to approximate the true tree.

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## Ways to solve time paradigm

- Skip unnecessary calculation
- Change the tree searching ways

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## The procedure can be simplified

**SpA:** T C A G A C G A T T G T C A G A C C A T T G  
**SpB:** T C G G T C G A C T G T C A G A C C A T T G  
**SpC:** T C A G T C G A T T G T C A - A C G A T T G  
**SpD:** T C A G T C G A T T G T C A - A C G A T T G  
**SpE:** T C A G T C G A T C G T C A - A C G A T T G

Parsimonious  
uninformative

Parsimonious  
informative

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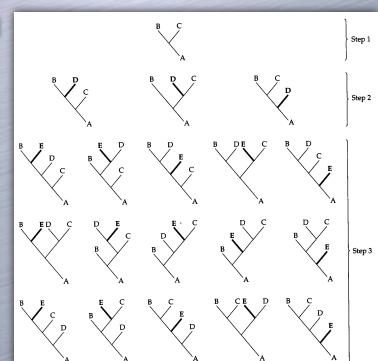
## Searching for optimal trees

- Exhausted search
- Branch-and-bound method
- Heuristic approach
  - Stepwise/closest/random addition
  - Star decomposition
  - Branch swapping

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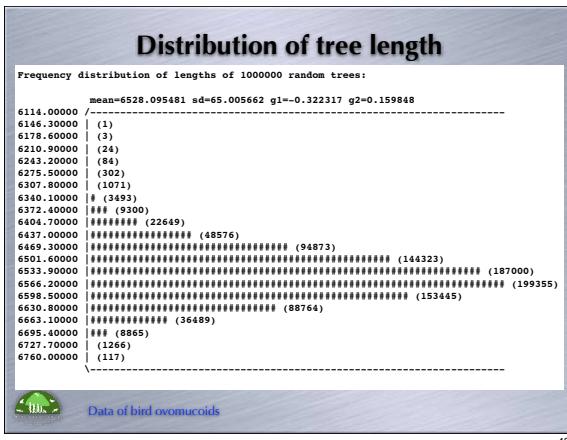
## Exhausted search



Page & Holmes (1998) Molecular evolution

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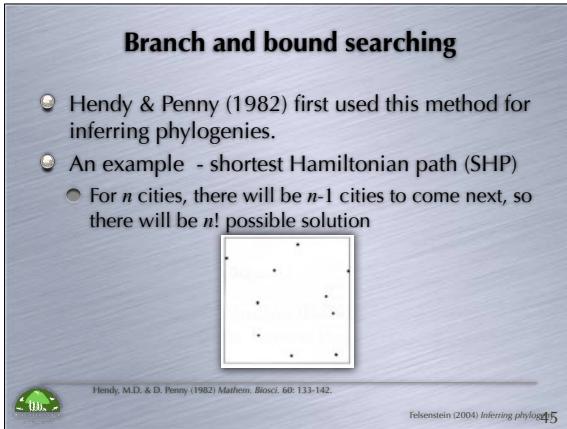
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Tree-island profile:

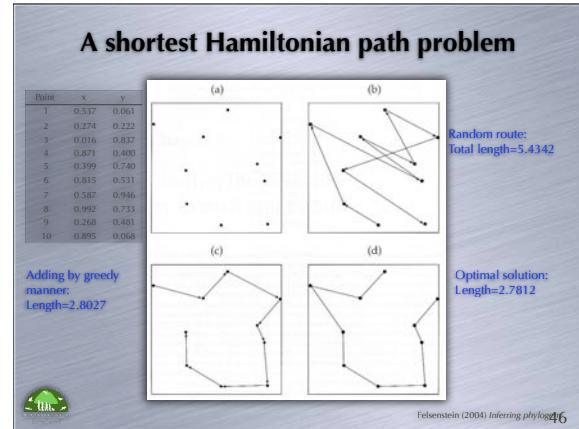
Island	Size	First tree	Last tree	Score	First replicate	Times hit
1	101	1471	1571	3890	3	1
2	69	4961	5029	3890	10	1
3	1	14236	14236	3890	30	1
4	5	14237	14241	3890	31	1
5	1236	1	1236	3891	1	2
6	96	8816	8911	3891	20	1
7	256	9524	9779	3891	23	2
8	960	10424	12201	3891	32	2
9	254	15202	15228	3891	33	1
10	3085	15870	18954	3891	37	1
11	1488	1911	3398	3892	5	1
12	26	4048	4073	3892	7	2
13	211	4074	4284	3892	8	1
14	96	5935	6030	3892	12	1
15	156	7211	7366	3892	14	2
16	236	7287	7605	3892	15	2
17	1053	8557	9719	3892	18	1
18	291	9780	10070	3892	24	1
19	576	10071	10646	3892	25	1
20	96	10987	19095	3892	39	1
21	576	4289	4560	3893	9	1
22	905	5030	5934	3893	11	1
23	96	8720	8815	3893	19	1
24	612	9512	9523	3893	21	1
25	32	18955	19866	3893	38	1
26	18	19083	19100	3893	40	1
27	339	1972	1910	3894	4	2
28	64	7403	7466	3894	17	1
29	3589	14737	14739	3895	26	1
30	234	1237	1470	3895	2	1
31	49	3399	3447	3895	6	1
32	44	15826	15869	3895	35	1
33	1180	6031	7210	3896	13	1

Data of bird ovomucoids

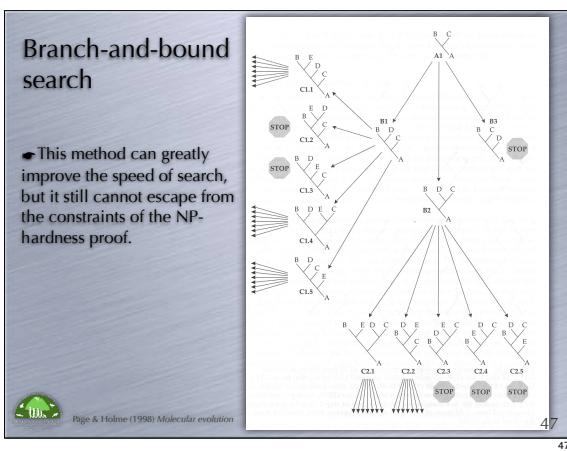
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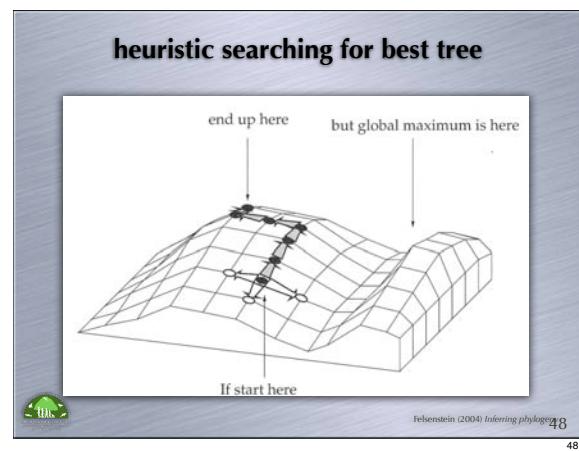
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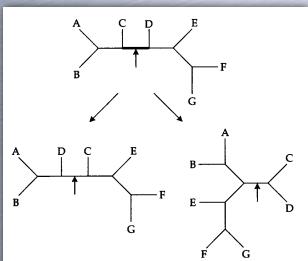


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## Heuristic approach- Branch swapping: NNIs



Nearest-  
neighbor  
interchanges  
(NNI)

Swofford et al. (1996) Molecular Systematics 49

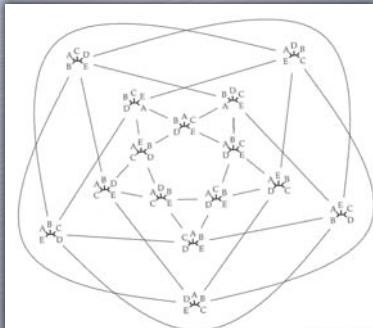
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## How greedy should we be?

- In a tree with  $n$  tips, there will be  $n-3$  interior branches.
- In all,  $2(n-3)$  neighbors will be examined for each tree.
- Should we do NNI for each of the best trees, or stop at some point, or should we start from scratch more often?

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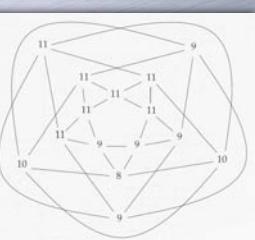
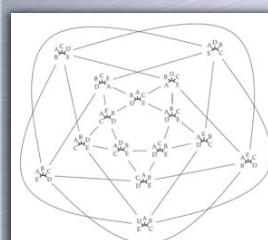
## The space of all 15 possible unrooted trees



Felsenstein (2004) Inferring phylogeny 51

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## The space of all 15 possible unrooted trees

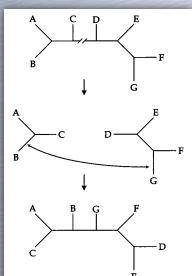


NNI is to moving in this graph

Felsenstein (2004) Inferring phylogeny 52

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## Heuristic approach- Branch swapping: TBR



Tree bisection and  
reconnection (TBR)

In a  $n_1+n_2$  species in the tree, there will be  $(2n_1-3)(2n_2-3)$  possible ways to reconnect the two trees.

Swofford et al. (1996) Molecular Systematics 53

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## Browsing tree space

- Rearrangement
- Random starting point strategy to avoid being trapped in "tree island" (Maddison 1991)
- Parsimony ratchet
- Parsimony ratchet uses a re-weighted subset of characters as a starting point to browse the tree space, and tries to find as many tree islands as possible by using adjacent-tree searching method. (Nixon 1999)

Maddison, D.R. (1991) Syst. Zool. 40: 315-328.  
Nixon, K.C. (1999) Cladistics 15: 407-414.

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## Parsimony ratchet

- Described by Nixon (1999), and available in various programs (NONA, WINCLADA, PAUPRat, etc.).
- Parsimony ratchet uses a re-weighted subset of characters as a starting point to browse the tree space, and tries to find as many tree islands as possible by using adjacent-tree searching method.

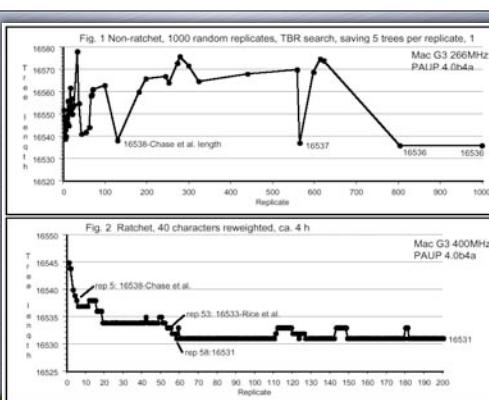
Nixon, K.C. (1999) Cladistics 15: 407-414.

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## Parsimony ratchet procedure

- Generate a starting "Wagner" tree
- Randomly select a subset of character (5-25%) and add 1 weight score
- Performing TBR branch swapping, keep 1 tree
- Reset the weighting to original
- Performing branch swapping, keep the best tree
- Return to step 2, repeat the iteration (step2-6) 50-200 times

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Nixon, K.C. (1999) Cladistics 15: 407-414

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## Notes on parsimony ratchet

- It seems to improve the effectiveness of tree searching
- It can be used with any objective function based on character data: compatibility, distance matrix, and likelihoods.
- The strategy can be modified

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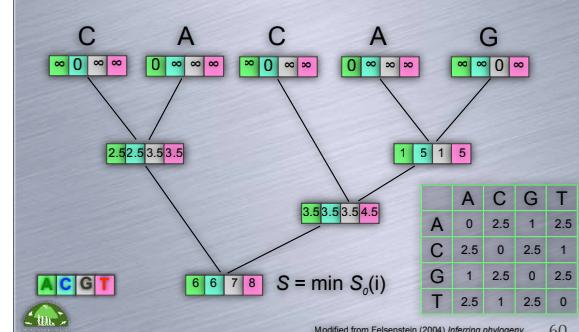
## Weighted parsimony method

- Incorporating simple nucleotide models into MP analysis
- Transition vs. transversion scores

	A	C	G	T
A	0	2.5	1	2.5
C	2.5	0	2.5	1
G	1	2.5	0	2.5
T	2.5	1	2.5	0

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## The Sankoff algorithm applied to the tree



Modified from Felsenstein (2004) *Inferring phylogeny*

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# How do we know the tree we got is right?

The evaluation

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## Evaluating trees

- Character properties (CI, RI)
- Examining how "clean" is the data on a given tree
- Confidence level of trees
- Comparisons between obtained trees
  - Partition distance
  - Kishino-Hasegawa test
  - Distance test
  - Likelihood ratio test
- Bootstrap/jackknife (internal support)
- Bremer support (for parsimony)



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## Properties of characters

- Consistency index (CI) of each character is:

$$\text{character CI} = m_i / s_i$$

- Tree CI for all characters in a specific tree:

$$\text{tree CI} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n m_i w_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i s_i}$$

$m_i$  = 所有可能演化樹中的特徵的最少可能演化步驟 (minimum conceivable steps)  
 $s_i$  = 特定演化樹中的特徵的演化步驟  
 $w_i$  = 特徵的權重 :  $n$ 為特徵數

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## Properties of characters

- Retention index (RI) of each characters is:

$$\text{character RI} = \frac{M_i - s_i}{M_i - m_i}$$

$m_i$  = 所有可能演化樹中的特徵的最少可能演化步驟 (minimum conceivable steps)  
 $M_i$  = 所有可能演化樹中的特徵的最多可能演化步驟 (maximum conceivable steps)  
 $s_i$  = 特定演化樹中的特徵的演化步驟



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## Example: calculating CI & RI

Tree 1	
Taxon1	0 0 0
Taxon2	0 0 0 1
Taxon3	1 1 0 1
Taxon4	1 1 1 1
Taxon5	1 1 0 1



Character(1) CI=1/1=1  
 Character(1) RI=(2-1)/(2-1)=1

$$\text{TreeCI} = \frac{1+1+1+1}{1+1+1+1} = 1$$

Character CI=1/2=0.5  
 Character RI=(2-2)/(2-1)=0

$$\text{TreeCI} = \frac{1+1+1+1}{2+2+1+1} = 0.67$$

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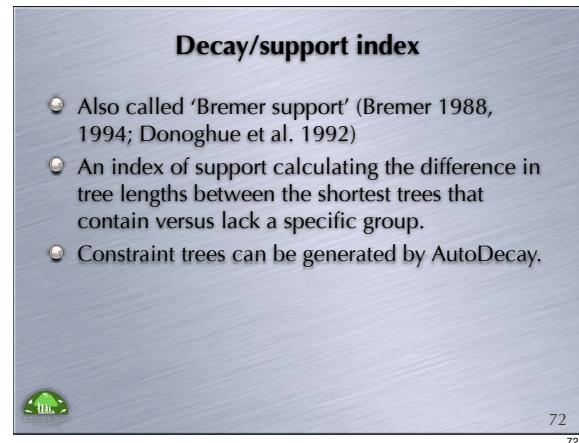
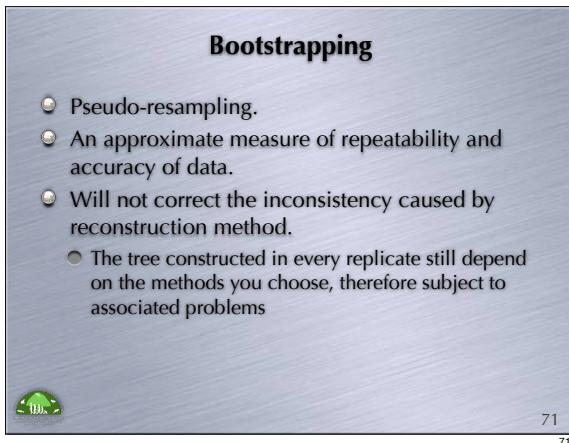
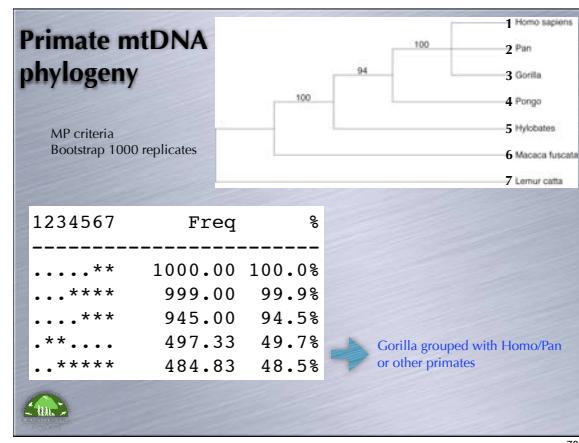
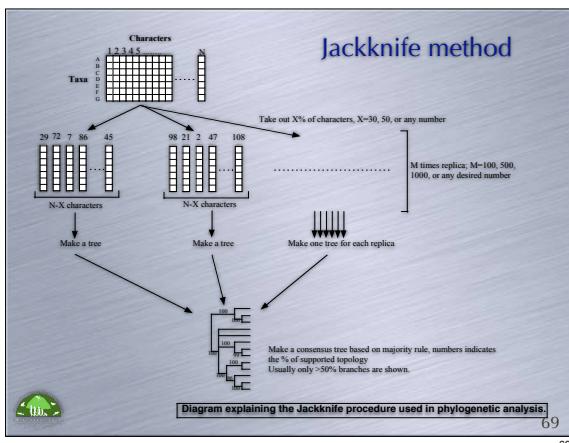
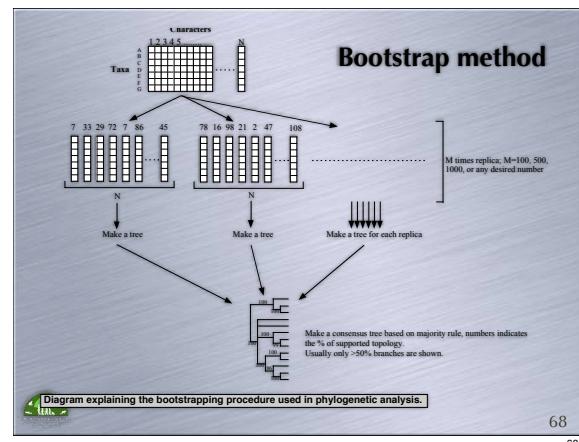
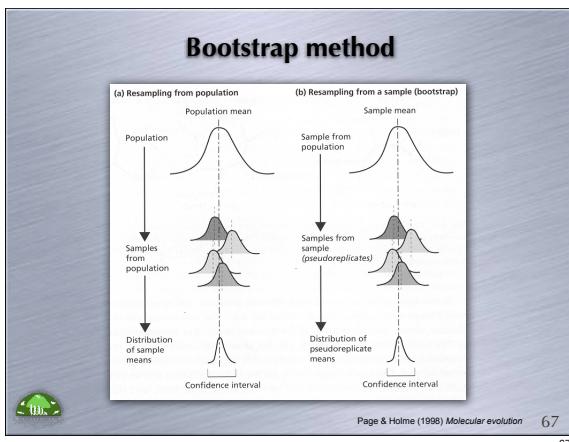
## Evaluating trees

- Character properties (CI, RI)
- Confidence level of trees
- Comparisons between obtained trees
- Bootstrap/jackknife (internal support)
- Bremer support (for parsimony)



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## Method of calculation

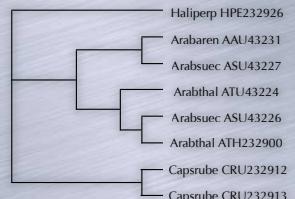
- 1. Obtain most parsimonious tree(s) (MP)
  - Generate a strict consensus tree
- 2. Obtain all trees one step longer (MP + 1)
  - Generate a strict consensus tree
  - If branch is not supported, Decay index = 1
- 3. Obtain all trees one step longer (MP + 2)
  - Generate a strict consensus tree
  - If branch is not supported, Decay index = 2
- 4. Obtain all trees one step longer (MP + 3)
  - Generate a strict consensus tree
  - If branch is not supported, Decay index = 3



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## Bremer Support (decay index)

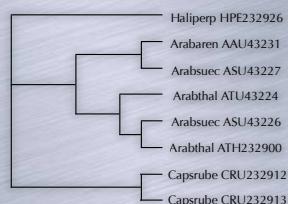
- the number of extra steps it takes to collapse a group
- example: 1 MP tree, 110 steps



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## Bremer Support (decay index)

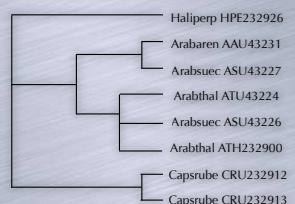
- 3 trees <= 111 steps



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## Bremer Support (decay index)

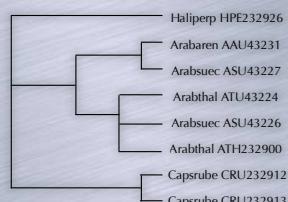
- 3 trees <= 111 steps



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## Bremer Support (decay index)

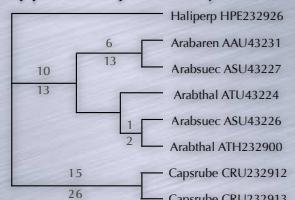
- 5 trees <= 117 steps



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## Bremer Support (decay index)

- Can not be larger than the branch length
- No direct connection to branch length otherwise
- Quantification of support in a parsimony framework



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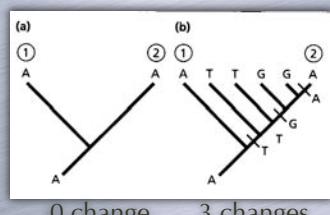
## Methodological concerns

- Sampling problem
- Performance of phylogenetic methods under computer simulation



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## Effects of sampling



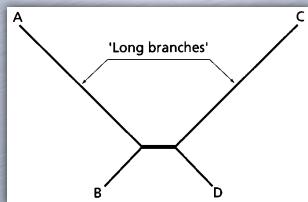
Makes No.2 a fast evolving taxon

(Page & Holmes, 1998)

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## Long branch attraction

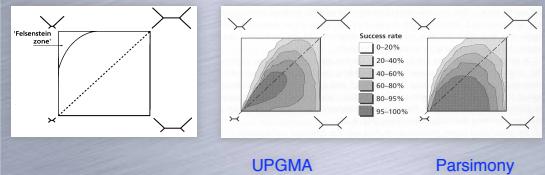
Joe Felsenstein (1978, *Syst. Zool.* 27: 401-410)



Page & Holme (1998) *Molecular evolution*

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## Simulation analysis



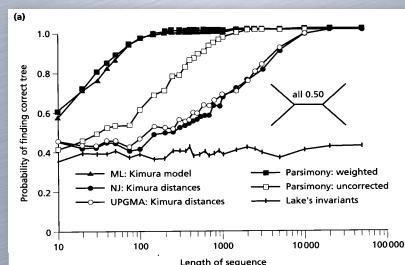
UPGMA

Parsimony

Page & Holme (1998) *Molecular evolution*

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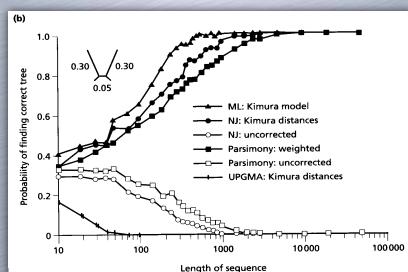
## Equal rate of evolution



Page & Holme (1998) *Molecular evolution*

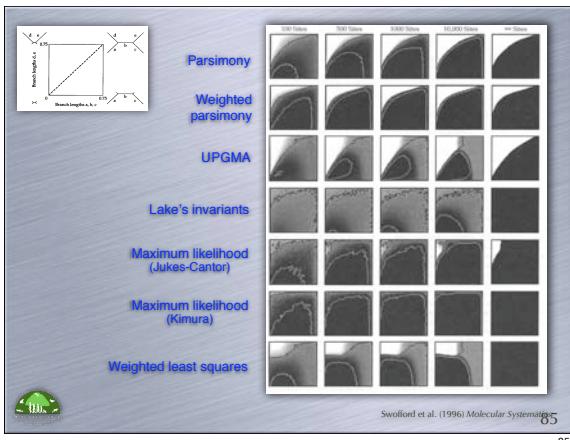
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## Unequal rate of evolution



Page & Holme (1998) *Molecular evolution*

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## References of phylogenetics

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