# Patterns, Profiles and Multiple sequence alignments

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To read:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiple\_sequence\_alignment http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hidden\_Markov\_model

Extra

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HMMER
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HHpred\_/\_HHsearch
http://www.ploscollections.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pcbi.0030123
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/turorials/BLAST

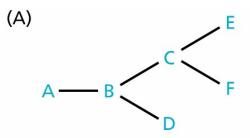
#### How to obtain MSAs

- Exact solution is impossible for a handful of sequences (2<sup>N</sup>-I alternatives)
- Popular methods include:
  - ClustalW

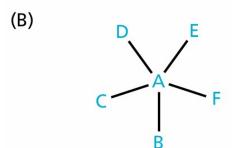
$$2^{N} - 1$$

- T-coffee
- kalign
- PSIBLAST

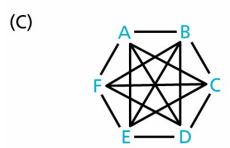
# Some scoring in MSAs



 $score = S_{AB} + S_{BC} + S_{BD} + S_{CE} + S_{CF}$ 

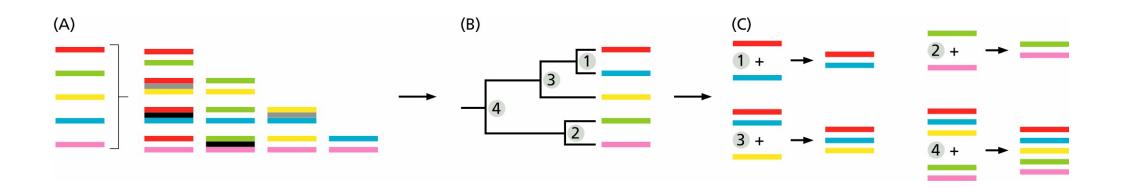


 $score = S_{AB} + S_{AC} + S_{AD} + S_{AE} + S_{AF}$ 

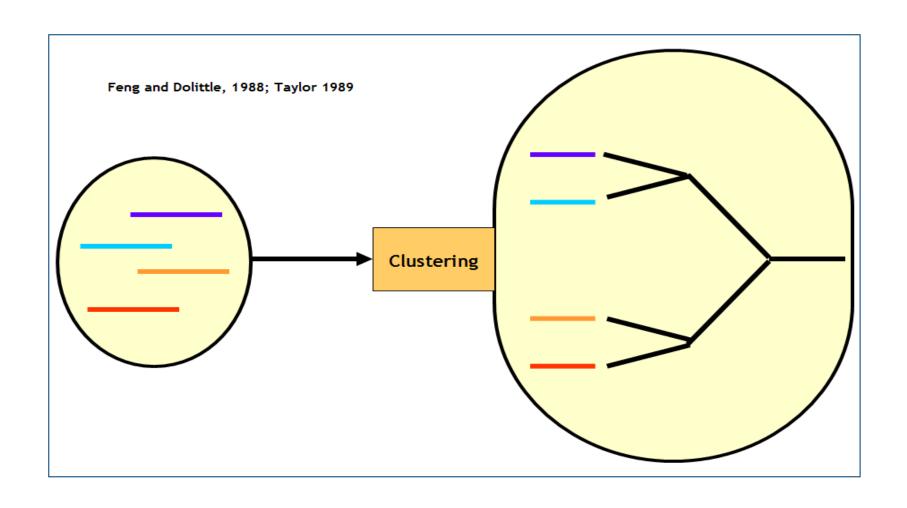


$$score = S_{AB} + S_{AC} + S_{AD} + S_{AE} + S_{AF} + S_{BC} + S_{BD} + S_{BE} + S_{BF} + S_{CD} + S_{CE} + S_{CF} + S_{DE} + S_{DF} + S_{EF}$$

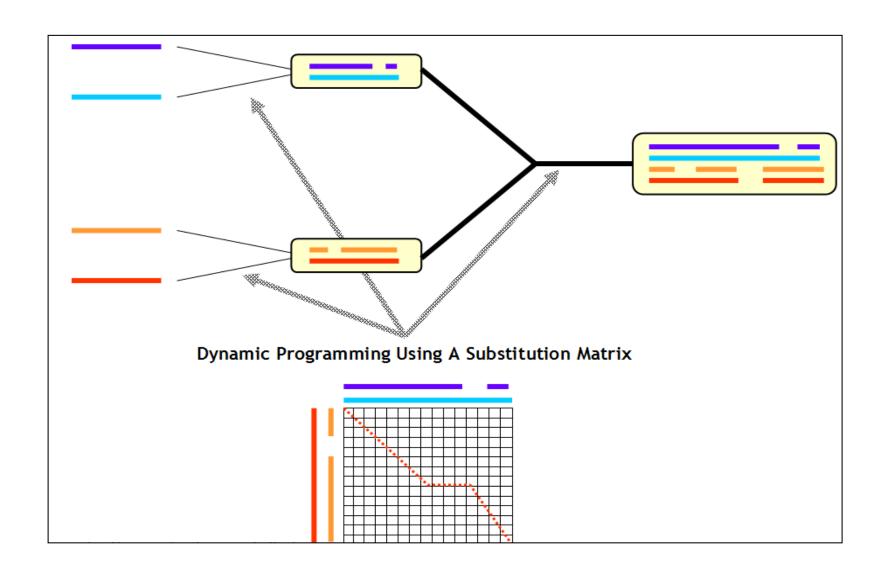
### A progressive MSA



#### ClustalW



#### ClustalW



## The gap scoring problem

```
1234567

1 AC−EFGH

2 ACD−−GH

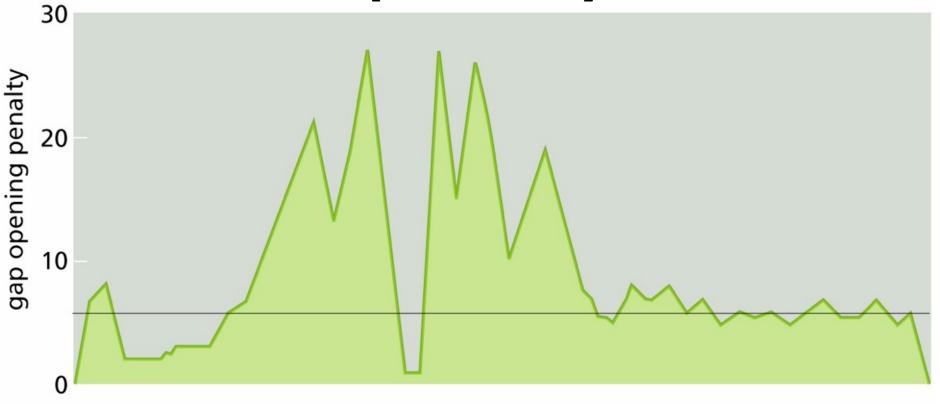
3 AC−−GH

4 ACDEFGH

+ ACDWEFGH

5 ACDWEFGH
```

## ClustalW gap-opening penalty

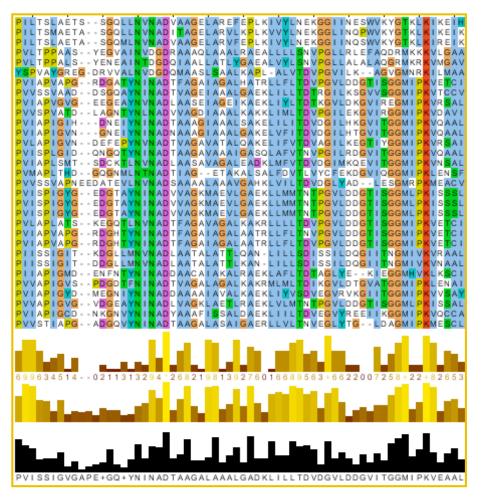


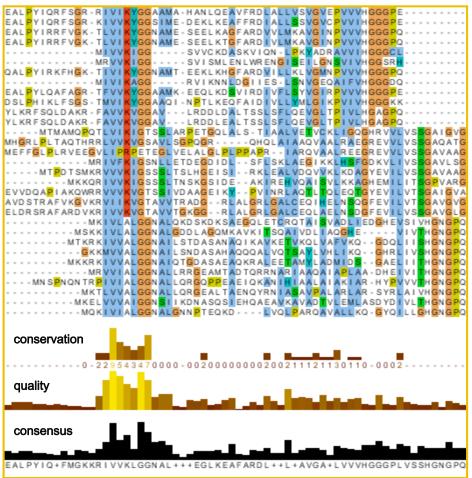
HLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVN--VDEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTQRFFESFGDQLSGEEKAAVLALWDKVN--EEEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTQRFFDSFGDVLSPADKTNVKAAWGKVGAHAGEYGAEALERMFLSFPTTKTYFPHFDLVLSAADKTNVKAAWSKVGGHAGEYGAEALERMFLGFPTTKTYFPHFDL

## Multiple sequence alignments

 Some information that can be obtained from a multiple sequence alignment

### Multiple sequence alignments (good ones look pretty !!)



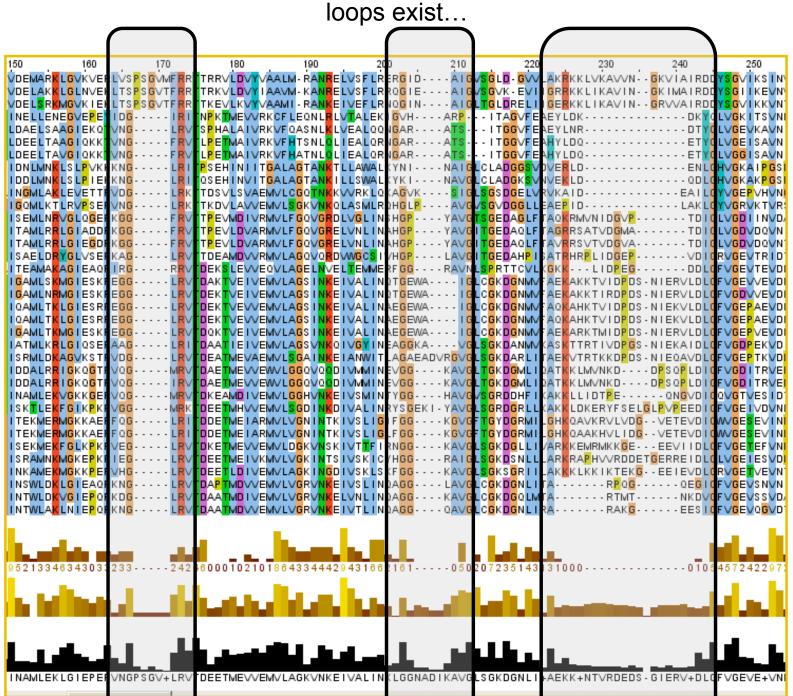




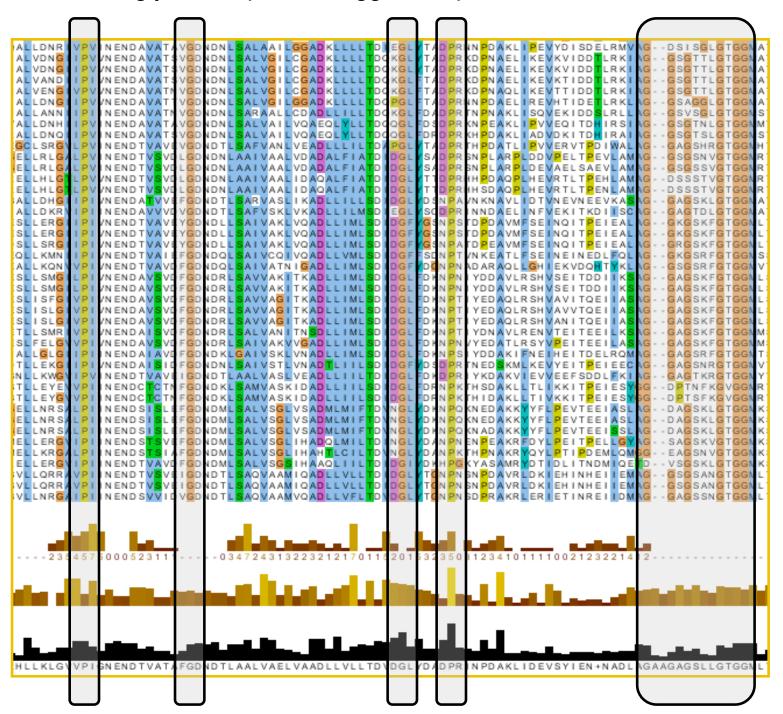


#### Features found in MSA:

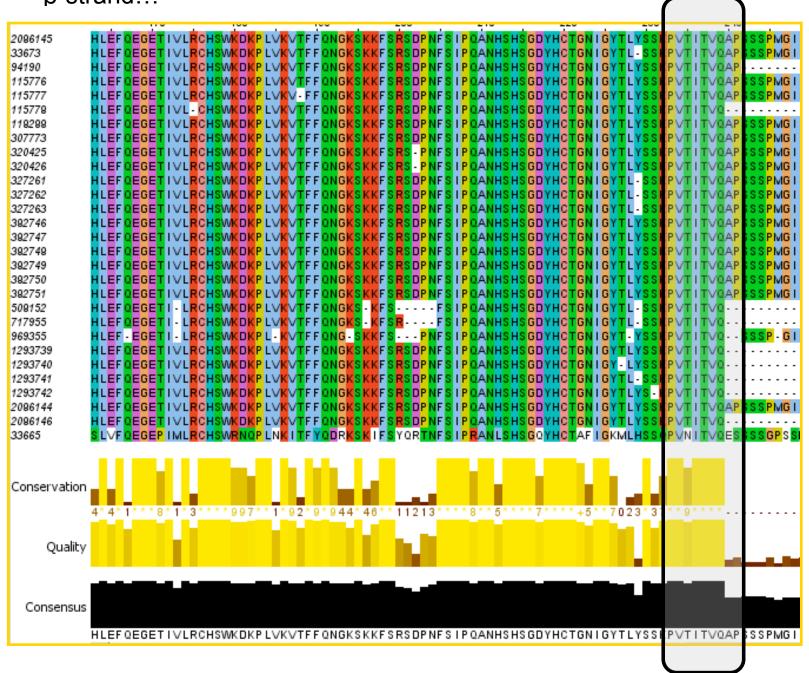
The position of insertions and deletions suggests regions where surface loops exist...



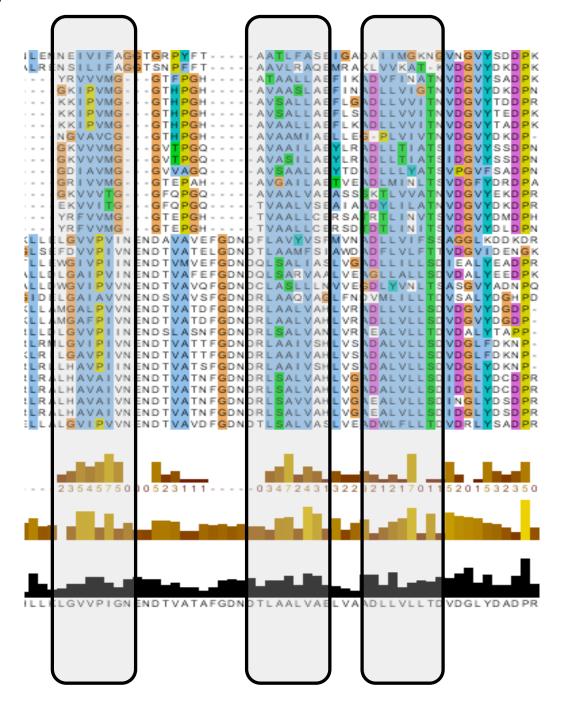
#### Conserved glycine or proline suggests a $\beta$ -turn.



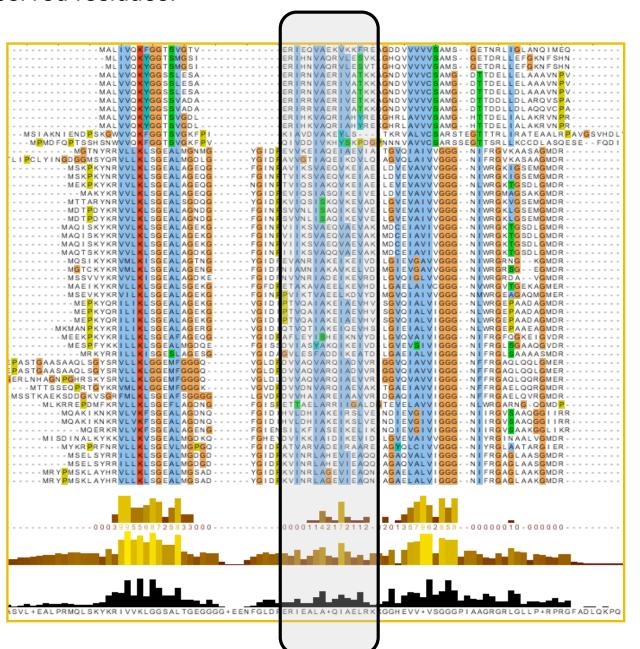
Residues with hydrophobic properties conserved at i, i+2, i+4 (etc) separated by unconserved or hydrophilic residues suggests a surface β-strand...



A short run of hydrophobic amino acids (4 or 5 residues) suggests a buried  $\beta$ -strand...

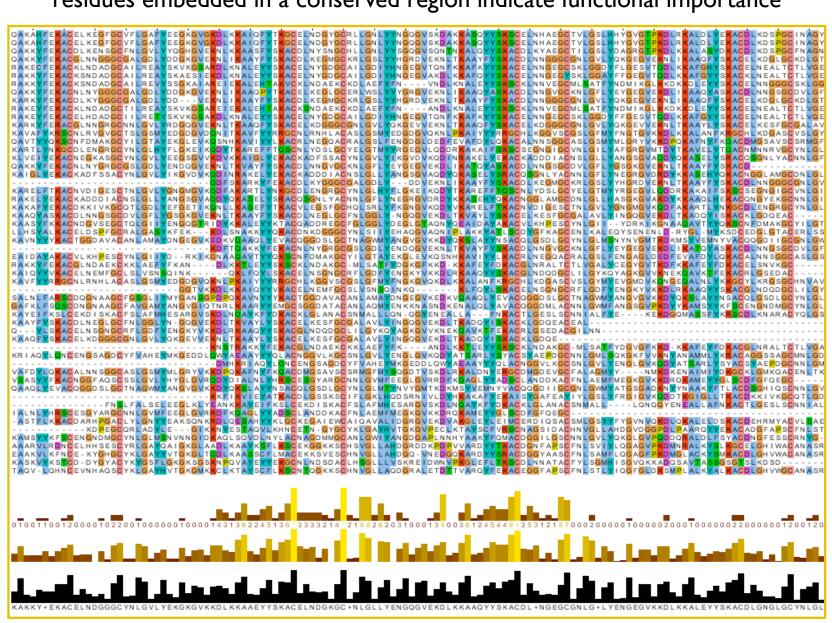


Pairs of conserved hydrophobic amino acids separated by pairs of unconserved or hydrophilic residues suggests an α-helix with one face packed in the protein core. Similarly, an i, i+3, i+4, i+7 pattern of conserved residues."

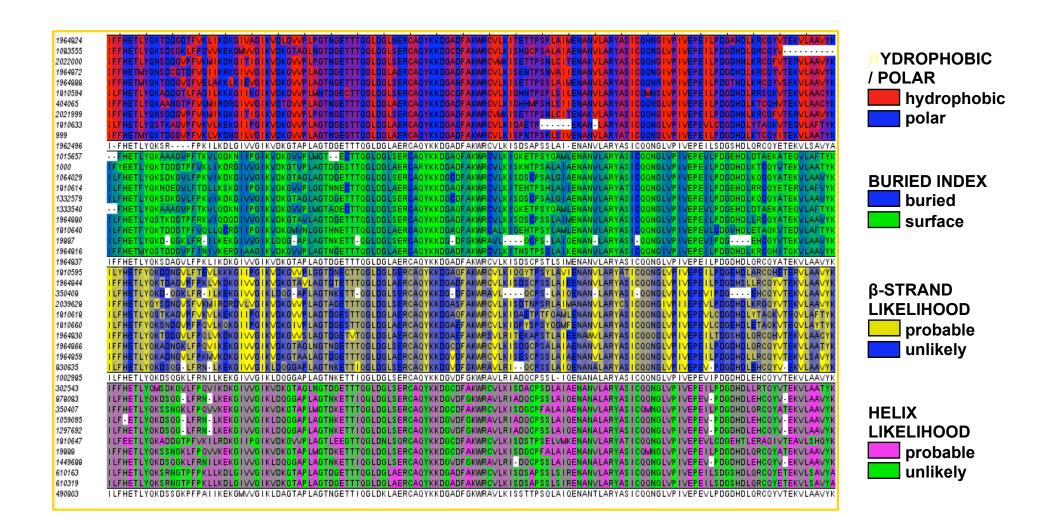


Cysteine is a rare amino acid, and is often used in disulphide bonds (pairs of conserved cysteines)

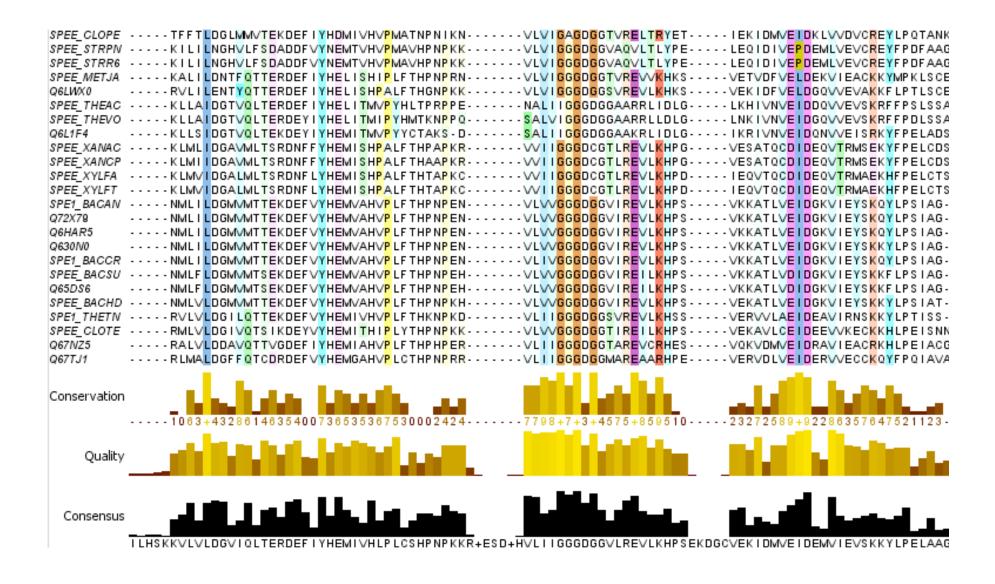
Charged residues (histidine, aspartate, glutamate, lysine, arginine) and other polar residues embedded in a conserved region indicate functional importance



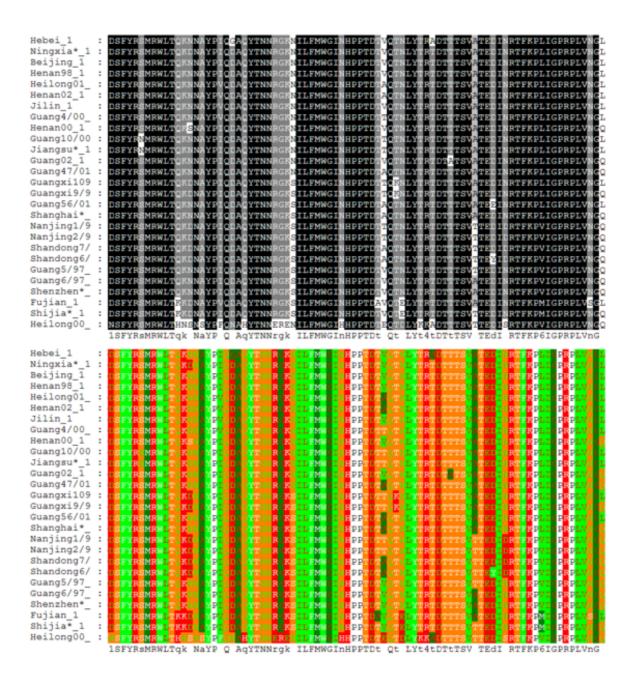
#### Coloring your alignments



#### Coloring your alignment



Alignment of 27 avian influenza <u>hemagglutinin</u> protein sequences colored by residue conservation (top) and residue properties (bottom)



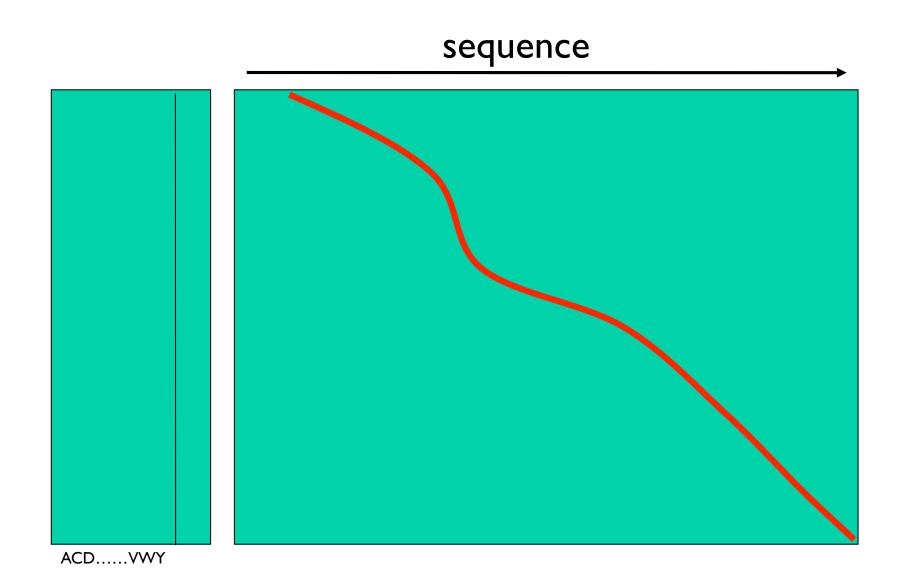
#### **PSSMs**

- How to use evolution to detect (more) homologs?
  - Iterated sequence search
  - Patterns
  - Profiles (PSSMs, PSIBLAST)
  - HMMs

### Searching with PSSMs

- PSSMs are profiles
  - without gap information
  - Without substitution table information
- Dynamic programming can be used
  - Identical algorithm as for Smith-Waterman
- Profile alignment vs. single sequence
  - Better alignments
  - Better detection

#### Profile-sequence alignment



### Average profiles

- Gribskov, McLachlan and Eisenberg 1987
  - No underlying probabilistic model, but rather assigned position specific scores for each match state and gap penalty
  - The score for each consensus position is set to the average of the standard substitution scores from all the residues in the corresponding multiple sequence alignment column
  - Gap costs

## The "average" profile method

- Score for each residue is average score for that residue with all sequence in MSA
- Average score over all replacements:

### Non-probabilistic or

```
HBA_HUMAN ...VGA--HAGEY...

HBB_HUMAN ...V----NVDEV...

MYG_PHYCA ...VEA--DVAGH...

GLB3_CHITP ...VKG----D...

GLB5_PETMA ...VYS--TYETS...

LGB2_LUPLU ...FNA--NIPKH...

GLB1_GLYDI ...IAGADNGAGV...

*** *****
```

The score for residue 'a' in column I

$$\frac{5}{7}s(\nabla,a) + \frac{1}{7}s(F,a) + \frac{1}{7}s(I,a)$$

s(a,b): standard substitution matrix

#### Average profiles – example

- One position contains
  - 50% ILE ; 30% THR ; 20% VAL
- Calculate the score for ILE in this position
- Use the PAM250 Matrix
  - **■** |-|=5
  - I-T=0
  - **■** I-V=4
- Calculate
  - 0.5\*5+0.3\*0+0.2\*4=3.3
- Integer

### Average Profiles

They also set gap penalties for each column using a heuristic equation that decrease the cost of a gap according to the length of the longest gap observed in the multiple alignment spanning the column

## Problem With Average profiles

- If we had an alignment with 100 sequences, all with a cysteine (C), at some position, the probability distribution for that column for an "average" profile would be exactly the same as would be derived from a single sequence
- Doesn't correspond to our expectation that the likelihood of a cysteine should go up as we see more confirming examples

### Similar Problem With Gaps

```
HBA_HUMAN ...VGA--HAGEY...

HBB_HUMAN ...V----NVDEV...

MYG_PHYCA ...VEA--DVAGH...

GLB3_CHITP ...VKG-----D...

GLB5_PETMA ...VYS--TYETS...

LGB2_LUPLU ...FNA--NIPKH...

GLB1_GLYDI ...IAGADNGAĠV...

*** *****
```

Scores for a deletion in columns 2 and 4 would be set to the same value

More reasonable to set the probability of a new gap opening to be higher in column 4

### The amino acid frequency can be used for scoring

$$f_{u,b} = \frac{n_{u,b}}{N_{seq}} (EQ6.1)$$

$$m_{u,a} = \sum_{b} f_{u,b} s_{a,b} (EQ6.2)$$

# Higher scoring for more conserved positions

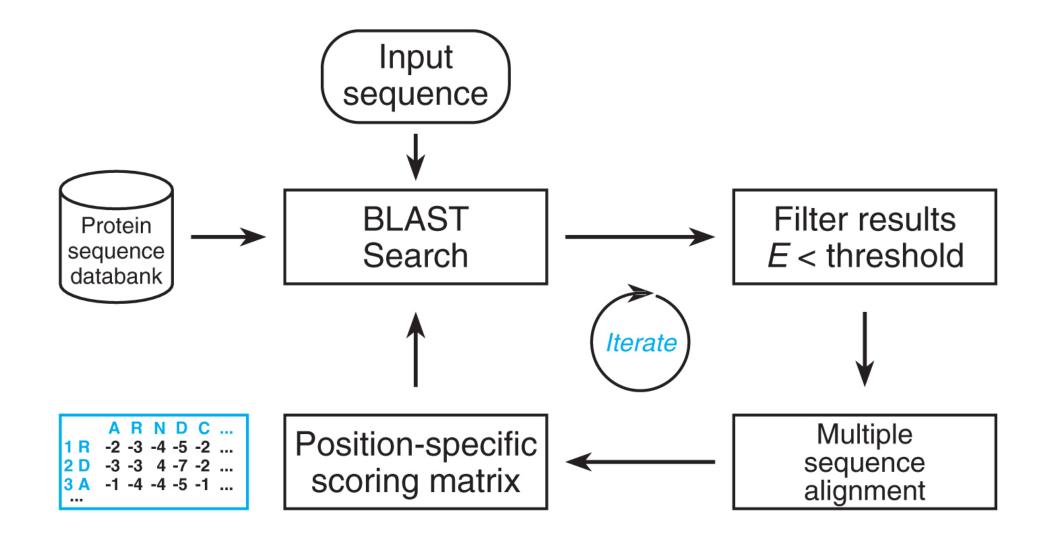
$$m_{u,a} = \sum_{b} \frac{\ln(1 - f'_{u,b})}{\ln(1/(N_{seq} + 1))} s_{a,b} (EQ6.3)$$

$$m_{u,a} = \log \frac{q_{u,a}}{p_a} (EQ6.4)$$

### PSI-BLAST algorithm

- Input a single protein sequence and compares it to a protein database, using BLAST
- The program constructs a multiple alignment, and then a profile,
- The profile is compared to the protein database, again seeking local alignments.
- PSI-BLAST estimates the statistical significance of the local alignments found.
- Finally, PSI-BLAST iterates, by returning to step (2), an arbitrary number of times or until convergence.

#### Psiblast



#### **PSI-BLAST**

- Advantages
  - Fast (40 times faster than DP)
  - Significant better than DP
  - Good E-value estimates
- Disadvantages
  - Not optimal alignments

#### **PSI-BLAST**

- Important parameters
  - E-value cutoff
  - Number of iterations
  - Low complexity sequence filtering

#### PSI-BLAST in a nutshell

- With a protein sequence as query, use BLAST to search a protein sequence database.
- Collapse significant local alignments (those with E-value less than or equal to a set threshold h) into a multiple alignment, using the residue of the query sequence as alignment-column placeholders.
- Abstract a position-specific score matrix from the multiple alignment.
- Search the database with the score matrix as query.
- Iterate a fixed number of times, or until convergence.

## PSI-BLAST live example

Sequence; sissrvksvlllglqnaelaqkvgttqqsieqlengktrprflpelasailgvsvdwllngt

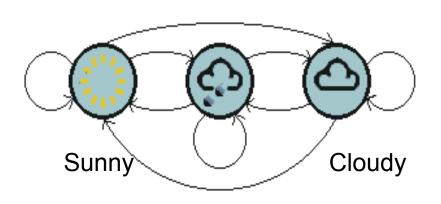
Server:

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/blast/

Run against Swissprot (faster)

### **Markov Chains**

Rain



		Sun	Cloud	Rain
weather yesterday	Sun Cloud Rain	0.5 0.375 0.125	0.25 0.125 0.625	0.25 0.375 0.375

weather today

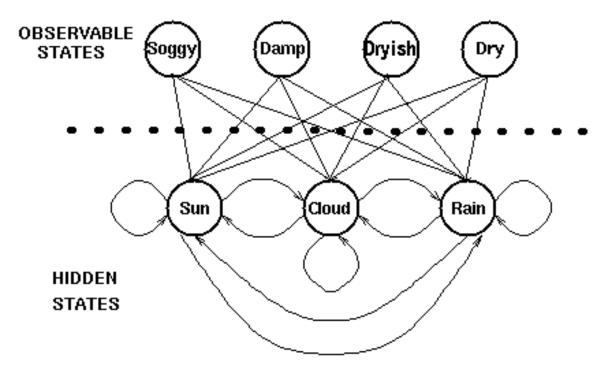
**States**: Three states - sunny, cloudy, rainy.

**State transition matrix**: The probability of the weather given the previous day's weather.

	Sun	Cloud	Rain
(	1.0	0.0	0.0

**Initial Distribution**: Defining the probability of the system being in each of the states at time 0.

#### Hidden Markov Models



Hidden states: the (TRUE) states of a system that may be described by a Markov process (e.g., the weather).

Observable states: the states of the process that are 'visible' (e.g., seaweed dampness).

### Components of HMM

Seaweed

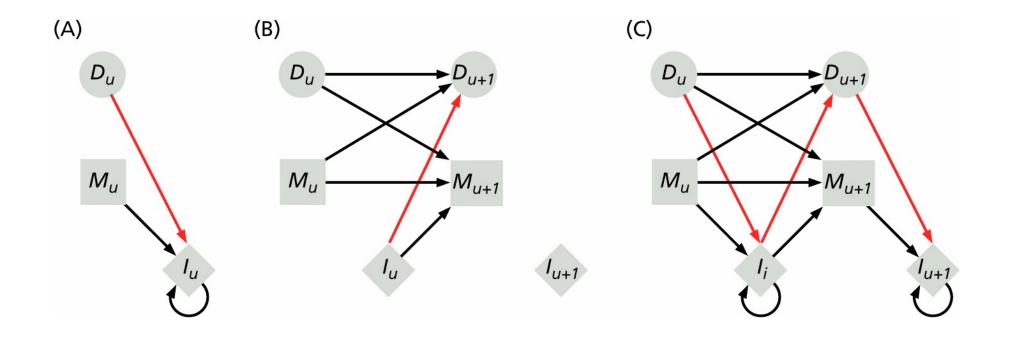
		Dry	Dryish	Damp	Soggy	\
weather	Sun	0.60	0.20 0.25	0.15	0.05	}
	Cloud	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	
	Rain	0.05	0.10	0.35	0.50	- [

Output matrix: containing the probability of observing a particular observable state given that the hidden model is in a particular hidden state.

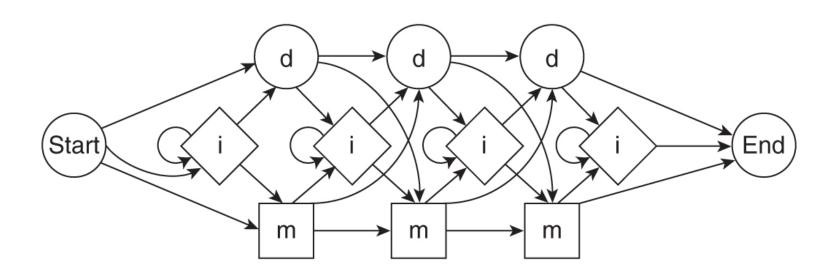
**Initial Distribution**: contains the probability of the (hidden) model being in a particular hidden state at time t = 1.

**State transition matrix**: holding the probability of a hidden state given the previous hidden state.

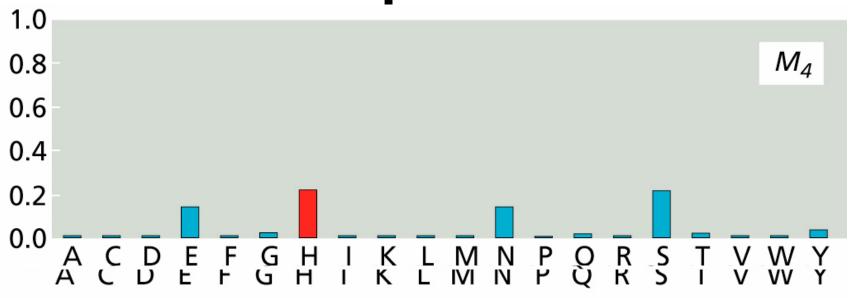
## Profile HMMs



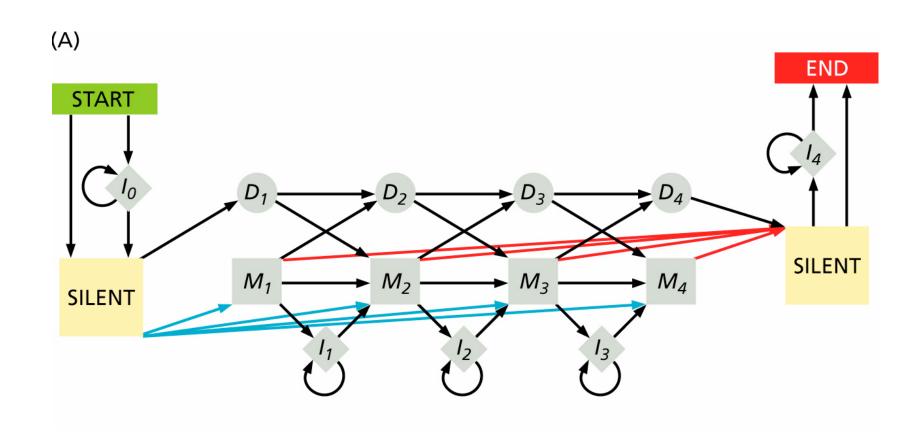
# A profile HMM



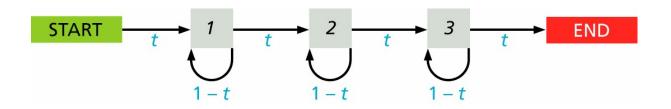
## Emission probabilities

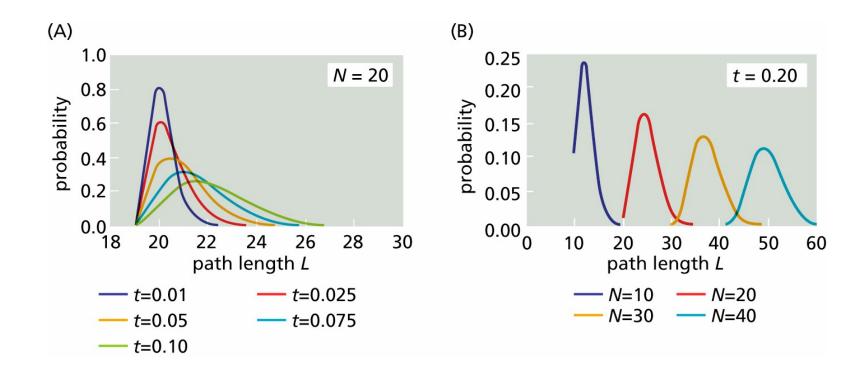


### A local HMM



#### Length dependency of HMMs





## Scoring an HMM

- The most probable path (Viterbi)
- Scoring for all paths (forward/backward)

## Training an HMM

- Using unaligned sequences
- Baum-Welch expectations maximization
  - Estimating the number each emission and transition is used
- Starting with rough estimates

#### Profile HMMs: Effectiveness

- Advantages:
  - Expressive profiling method
  - Transparent method: You can view and interpret the model produced
  - Very effective at detecting remote homologs
- Disadvantages:
  - Slow full search on a database of 400,000 sequences can take 15 hours
  - Have to avoid over-fitting and locally optimal models