Computational Biology

Lecture 6

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General gap penalty function

- Using a general γ gives an $O(mn^2+nm^2)$ algorithm.

- Can we still achieve our old $O(mn)$ time bound?

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What was the problem?

- For each additional gap, we have a different additional score.

- We had to accommodate for every possible gap length.

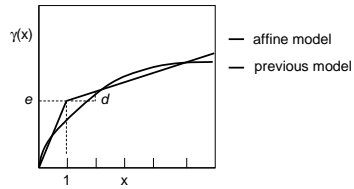- Restrict the possibilities. Use an affine gap function to approximate the general one.

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Affine gap penalty function

γ(x)

— affine model
— previous model

$$\gamma(x) = e + d(x - 1) \quad x \geq 1.$$

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How can this help

- Any gap length greater than one is penalized linearly.

- Need to distinguish only between 1 and more than 1.

- If 1
  – penalize by e.

- If $x > 1$
  – penalize linearly by increments of d.

- Use more than one matrix to detect that, depends on where we stopped last time.

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Looking for additivity

- Break the alignment into 3 kinds of blocks:
  – Two aligned characters
  – Consecutive gaps aligned with x
  – Consecutive gaps aligned with y

```
A|A|C|---|A|ATTCCG|A|C|T|AC
A|C|T|ACC|T|------|C|G|C|--
```

- Score is additive across block boundaries, this is true regardless of the gap penalty function.

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Methodology

- Instead of reasoning on the last column in an alignment, we reason on the last block.

- For each pair (i,j), keep the best score for $x_1...x_i$ and $y_1...y_j$ that end with a particular block.

- We need three matrices
  - A for block type 1
  - B for block type 2, gaps aligned with x
  - C for block type 3, gaps aligned with y

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Modified Needleman-Wunsch for affine gaps

$$A(i, j) = s(i,j) + \max \begin{cases} A(i-1, j-1) \\ B(i-1, j-1) \\ C(i-1, j-1) \end{cases}$$

$A(i,j)$ is the start of block of type 1, so it aligns x_i with y_j no matter what.

$$B(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} A(i-1, j) - e \\ B(i-1, j) - d \\ C(i-1, j) - e \end{cases}$$

B for block type 2, only need to vary i. First gap penalized $-e$, i.e. after block type 1 and 3, otherwise $-d$.

$$C(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} A(i, j-1) - e \\ B(i, j-1) - e \\ C(i, j-1) - d \end{cases}$$

C for block type 3, only need to vary j. First gap penalized $-e$, i.e. after block type 1 and 2, otherwise $-d$.

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Initialization

- $A(0,0) = 0$
- $A(i, 0) = ?$ $-\infty$ not block type 1
- $A(0, j) = ?$ $-\infty$

- $B(0,j) =$ $-\infty$ not block type 2
- $B(i,0) = ?$ $-e - d(i-1)$ $1 \le i \le m$

- $C(0,j) = ?$ $-e - d(j-1)$ $1 \le j \le n$
- $C(i,0) = ?$ $-\infty$ not block type 3

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Simplification

$$A(i, j) = s(i,j) + \max \begin{cases} A(i-1, j-1) \\ B(i-1, j-1) \\ C(i-1, j-1) \end{cases}$$

$$B(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} A(i-1, j) - e & \ldots \mid - \mid x \mid \ldots \\ B(i-1, j) - d & \ldots \mid y \mid - \mid \ldots \\ C(i-1, j) - e \end{cases}$$

works
if $s \leq e + d$

$$C(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} A(i, j-1) - e & \ldots \mid x \mid - \mid \ldots \\ B(i, j-1) - e & \ldots \mid - \mid y \mid \ldots \\ C(i, j-1) - d \end{cases}$$

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Multiple sequence alignment

- Align k sequences in the best way

- What is the score (assume additive)?
  - In each column, we have k characters.
  - Scoring function takes k arguments.
  - Need $O(2^k)$ entries (at least gap/non-gap)!

- Practical scoring function: Sum of Pairs (SP-score)
  - Let $score_{ij}$ be the score of the induced alignment for sequences x_i and x_j, i.e. the score of the alignment obtained by isolating x_i and x_j and ignoring columns with only gaps.
  - SP-score = $\Sigma_{i<j} score_{ij}$

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SP-score function

- Example: three sequences x, y, and z
  - SP = score(x, y) + score (x, z) + score (y, z)

- Nice properties
  - This is independent of the order of characters in a column
  - It rewards similarities and penalizes differences.

- Assume additive
  - score(x, y) = $\Sigma_i s(x_i, y_i)$, $s(-,-) = 0$

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Example

- w = ATG, x = ATG, y = A, z = T

  ```
  ATG
  ATG
  A--              A-
  -T-              -T
  ```

- Score = 3 -3 -3 -3 -3 -4 = - 13

- The *induced* alignment between a pair of sequences is not necessarily an optimal one, e.g. y and z.

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Dynamic Programming

- k sequences of length n_i each.

- k dimensional array A of length $n_i + 1$ in each direction.

- $A(i_1, \ldots, i_k)$ holds the score of the optimal alignment involving $x_1[1...i_1], \ldots, x_k[1...i_k]$.
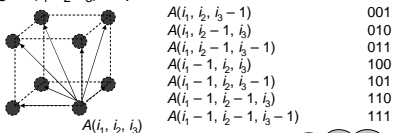
- A now requires $O(n^k)$ space.

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Dynamic Programming (cont.)

- Now each entry in A depends on $2^k - 1$ entries (note: $k = 2 \Rightarrow 3$) (why?)
  – e.g. $A(i_1, i_2, i_3)$ depends on:

$A(i_1, i_2, i_3 - 1)$	001
$A(i_1, i_2 - 1, i_3)$	010
$A(i_1, i_2 - 1, i_3 - 1)$	011
$A(i_1 - 1, i_2, i_3)$	100
$A(i_1 - 1, i_2, i_3 - 1)$	101
$A(i_1 - 1, i_2 - 1, i_3)$	110
$A(i_1 - 1, i_2 - 1, i_3 - 1)$	111

  $A(i_1, i_2, i_3)$

- Computing the SP-score in each case requires $O(k^2)$ time.

  Multiple sequence alignment is NP-complete

- Total running time is $O(k^2 2^k n^k)$

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Heuristic: Star Alignment

- Star alignment is a special case of tree alignments.

- What is a tree alignment?

- Given a tree with k nodes representing k sequences, a multiple alignment of the k sequences *consistent* with the tree is such that the induced alignment between x_i and x_j is optimal if there is an edge (x_i, x_j).
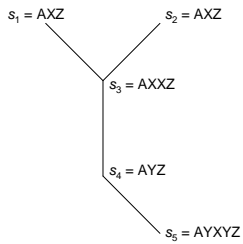

Example

$s_1 = AXZ$ $s_2 = AXZ$

$s_3 = AXXZ$

$s_4 = AYZ$

$s_5 = AYXYZ$

A multiple alignment consistent with the tree

```
s₁  A  X  -  -  Z
s₂  A  -  X  -  Z
s₃  A  X  X  -  Z
s₄  A  Y  -  -  Z
s₅  A  y  X  X  Z
```

Tree alignment

- Given a tree, is it always possible to obtain a multiple alignment consistent with the tree?

  – YES

- How?

Algorithm: step 1

– Pick x_i and x_j such that (x_i, x_j) is an edge and align them optimally.

– set $X = \{x_i, x_j\}$, the set of aligned sequences.

Algorithm: step 2

– Pick $x_k \notin X$ and $x_l \in X$ such that (x_k, x_l) is an edge.

– Align x_k and x_l optimally.

– *Once a gap always a gap*: For each gap added to x_l in this alignment, add a corresponding gap to sequences in X. For each gap already in x_l, add a corresponding gap in x_k (if needed).

– $X = X \cup \{x_k\}$

Algorithm: step 3

– Repeat step 2 until all sequences are in X.

Example revisited

```
                    (s₁,s₃)    (s₂,s₃)    Join
                    AX-Z       A-XZ       AXXZ
s₁ = AXZ    s₂ = AXZ   AXXZ    AXXZ       AX-Z
                                          A-XZ

        s₃ = AXXZ   (s₃,s₄)    Join
                    AXXZ       AXXZ
                    AY-Z       AX-Z
                               A-XZ
                               AY-Z
        s₄ = AYZ
                    (s₄,s₅)    Join
                    AY--Z      AXX-Z
        s₅ = AYXYZ  AYXXZ      AX--Z
                               A-X-Z
                               AY--Z
                               AYXXZ
```
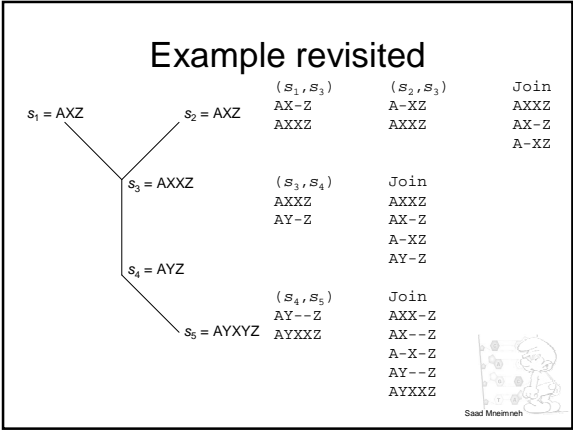
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Star Alignment

- Special case where tree is a star

- Which sequence should be the center of the star?

- The sequence x_i such that
$$M = \Sigma_{j \neq i}\ OPT(x_i, x_j)$$
is maximized.

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Star alignment algorithm

- Pick x_i to maximize $M = \Sigma_{j \neq i}\ OPT(x_i, x_j)$

- Find the optimal alignments between x_i and all x_j.

- Join the alignments using once a gap always a gap technique.

- Running time = $O(k^2 n^2)$ for alignments +
  $O(k^2 L)$ for gap updates,
  where L is the length of the alignment
  - each time a sequence is joined, at most k sequences of length at most L must be updated => $O(k.kL) = O(k^2 L)$

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Example

x_1 = ATTGCCATT
x_2 = ATGGCCATT
x_3 = ATCCAATTTT
x_4 = ATCTTCTT
x_5 = ACTGACC

x_1 maximizes M

```
x₁ ATTGCCATT      x₁ ATTGCCATT      ATTGCCATT--
x₂ ATGGCCATT      x₄ ATCTTC-TT      ATGGCCATT--
                                    ATC-CAATTTT
x₁ ATTGCCATT--    x₁ ATTGCCATT      ATCTTC-TT--
x₃ ATC-CAATTTT    x₅ ACTGACC--      ACTGACC----
```

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