Advanced Sequence Alignment

```
CLUSTAL O(1.2.1) multiple sequence alignment


Cat        MAPWTRLLPLLALLSLWIPAPTRAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKARREAED  60
Pig        MALWTRLLPLLALLALWAPAPAQAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKARREAEN  60
Human      MALWMRLLPLLALLALWGPDPAAAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAED  60
Dog        MALWMRLLPLLALLALWAPAPTRAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKARREVED  60
           ** * *********:** * *: ****************************:***.*:


Cat        LQGKDAELGEAPGAGGLQPSALEAPLQKRGIVEQCCASVCSLYQLEHYCN     110
Pig        PQAGAVELGG--GLGGLQALALEGPPQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN     108
Human      LQ------------GSLQPLALEGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN      98
Dog        LQVRDVELAGAPGEGGLQPLALEGALQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN     110
           *           *.**   ***.  **********:*:*******.***
```
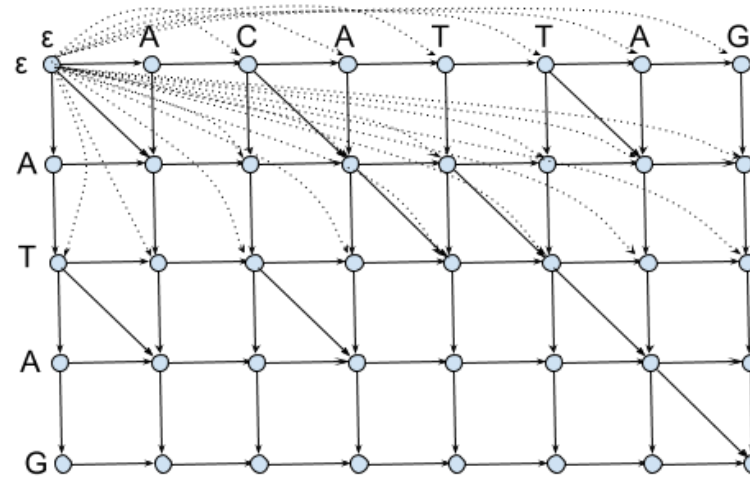
- Problem Set #4 is posted.

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Recall Local Alignment

$$s_{i,j} = max \begin{cases} 0 \\ s_{i-1,j-1} + \delta(v_i, w_j) \\ s_{i-1,j} + \delta(v_i, -) \\ s_{i,j-1} + \delta(-, w_j) \end{cases}$$

Notice there is only this small change from the original recurrence of a Global Alignment

- The *zero* is our *free ride* that allows the node to restart with a score of 0 at any point
  - What does this imply?
- After solving for the entire score matrix, we then search for $s_{i,j}$ with the highest score, this is (i_2, j_2)
- We follow our back tracking matrix until we reach a *score* of 0, whose coordinate becomes (i_1, j_1)

Smith-Waterman Local Alignment

Key idea: Adding *"free-rides"* from the source to any intersection

A Local Alignment Example

```
        j=0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   11   12
i=       -    G   C   T   G   G   A   A   G   G   C    A    T
0    -   0    0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0    0    0
1    G   0
2    C   0
3    A   0
4    G   0
5    A   0
6    G   0
7    C   0
8    A   0
9    C   0
10   T   0
```

Match = 5, Mismatch = -4, Indel = -7

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A Local Alignment Example – continued

	j=0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
i=	–	G	C	T	G	G	A	A	G	G	C	A	T
0 –	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 G	0	$S_{1,1}$											
2 C	0												
3 A	0												
4 G	0												
5 A	0												
6 G	0												
7 C	0												
8 A	0												
9 C	0												
10 T	0												

$$S_{1,1} = \max \begin{cases} S_{0,0} + s_{G,G} = 0 + 5 = 5 \\ S_{1,0} + w = 0 - 7 = -7 \\ S_{0,1} + w = 0 - 7 = -7 \\ 0 \end{cases} = 5$$

Match = 5, Mismatch = -4, Indel = -7

A Local Alignment Example – continued

```
     j=0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9  10  11  12
i=     -   G   C   T   G   G   A   A   G   G   C   A   T
0  -   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0
1  G   0   5   S₁,₂
2  C   0
3  A   0
4  G   0
5  A   0
6  G   0
7  C   0
8  A   0
9  C   0
10 T   0
```

$$S_{1,2} = \max \begin{cases} S_{0,1} + s_{G,C} = 0 - 4 = -4 \\ S_{1,2} + w = 5 - 7 = -2 \\ S_{0,2} + w = 0 - 7 = -7 \\ 0 \end{cases} = 0$$

Match = 5, Mismatch = -4, Indel = -7

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A Local Alignment Example – continued

j=0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
i=	–	G	C	T	G	G	A	A	G	G	C	A	T
0	–	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	G	0	5	0									
2	C	0	0	$S_{2,2}$									
3	A	0											
4	G	0											
5	A	0											
6	G	0											
7	C	0											
8	A	0											
9	C	0											
10	T	0											

$$S_{2,2} = \max\begin{cases} S_{1,1}+s_{C,C} = 5+5 = 10 \\ S_{2,1}+w = 0-7 = -7 \\ S_{1,2}+w = 0-7 = -7 \\ 0 \end{cases} = 10$$

Match = 5, Mismatch = -4, Indel = -7

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A Local Alignment Example - continued

	0	G	C	T	G	G	A	A	G	G	C	A	T
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G	0	5	0	0	5	5	0	0	5	5	0	0	0
C	0	0	10	3	0	1	1	0	0	1	10	3	0
A	0	0	3	6	0	0	6	6	0	0	3	15	8
G	0	5	0	0	11	5	0	2	11	5	0	8	11
A	0	0	1	0	4	7	10	5	4	7	1	5	4
G	0	5	0	0	5	9	3	6	10	9	3	0	1
C	0	0	10	3	0	2	5	0	3	6	14	7	0
A	0	0	3	6	0	0	7	10	3	0	7	(19)	12
C	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	3	6	0	5	12	15
T	0	0	0	10	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	17

Match = 5, Mismatch = -4, Indel = -7

- Once the matrix is filled in we find the best alignment
- Rather than using the score of the last entry as we did for a global alignment, we search for the entire matrix for the maximum entry (*O(m n)* steps)

A Local Alignment Example - continued

	0	G	C	T	G	G	A	A	G	G	C	A	T
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G	0	5	0	0	5	5	0	0	5	5	0	0	0
C	0	0	10	3	0	1	1	0	0	1	10	3	0
A	0	0	3	6	0	0	6	6	0	0	3	15	8
G	0	5	0	0	11	5	0	2	11	5	0	8	11
A	0	0	1	0	4	7	10	5	4	7	1	5	4
G	0	5	0	0	5	9	3	6	10	9	3	0	1
C	0	0	10	3	0	2	5	0	3	6	14	7	0
A	0	0	3	6	0	0	7	10	3	0	7	19	12
C	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	3	6	0	5	12	15
T	0	0	0	10	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	5	17

Match = 5, Mismatch = -4, Indel = -7

- From the largest score attained, then backtrack from there until a beginning "0" is reached to find the alignment.

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A Local Alignment Example - continued

```
G C T G G A A G – G C A T
        |   | |   | | |
        G C A G A G C A C T
```

6 matches: 6 × 5 = 30
1 mismatch: -4
1 indel: -7
Total: 19

Scoring Indels: Naive Approach

```
ATCTTCAGCCATAAAAGATGAAGTT          Reference
ATCTTCAGCCAAAGATGAAGTT             3 base deletion relative to the reference

ATCTTCAGCC---AAAGATGAAGTT          version 1
ATCTTCAGCCA---AAGATGAAGTT          version 2
ATCTTCAGCCA--A-AGATGAAGTT          version 3
ATCTTCAGCCA-AA--GATGAAGTT          version 4
ATCTTCAGCCA-A-A-GATGAAGTT          version 5

ATCTTCAGCCATATGTGAAAGATGAAGTT      4 base insertion
```

- A fixed penalty σ is given to every indel:
  - -σ for 1 indel,
  - -2σ for 2 consecutive indels
  - -3σ for 3 consecutive indels, etc.
- Can be too severe penalty for a series of 100 consecutive indels
  - large insertions or deletions might result from a single event

Affine Gap Penalties

- In nature, a series of *k* indels often come as a single event rather than a series of *k* single nucleotide events:

```
AT___GC              A_TG__C
ATTGAGC              ATTGAGC
```

This is more
likely. Explained
by one event

Normal scoring would
give the same score
for both alignments

This is less likely.
Requires 2
events.

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Accounting for Gaps

- Gaps- contiguous sequence of indels in one of the rows
- Modify the scoring for a gap of length x to be:

$$-(\rho + \sigma x)$$

where $\rho + \sigma > 0$ is the penalty for introducing a gap:

ρ = gap opening penalty

and σ is the cost of extending it further ($\rho + \sigma >> \sigma$):

σ = gap extension penalty

because you do not want to add too much of a penalty for further extending the gap, once it is opened.

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Affine Gap Penalties

Gap penalties:

- -ρ - σ when there is 1 indel
- -ρ - 2σ when there are 2 indels
- -ρ - 3σ when there are 3 indels, etc.
- -ρ - x·σ (-gap opening - x gap extensions)

Somehow reduced penalties (as compared to naïve scoring) are given to runs of horizontal and vertical edges

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Adding Affine Gap Penalties to our Graph

- To reflect affine gap penalties we have to add "long" horizontal and vertical edges to the edit graph.
- Each such edge of length x should have weight -ρ - x·σ
- There are many such edges!
- Adding them to the graph increases the running time of the alignment algorithm by a factor of n (where n is the number of vertices)
- So the complexity increases from $O(n^2)$ to $O(n^3)$

Adding Two More Tables

- Affine Gap penalties can be more easily expressed in terms of 3 recurrences

Keep track of these intermediate values in two new tables

$$t_{i,j} = \max \begin{cases} t_{i-1,j} - \sigma \\ s_{i-1,j} - (\rho + \sigma) \end{cases}$$

Continue Gap in *w* (deletion)
Start Gap in *w* (deletion): from middle

$$u_{i,j} = \max \begin{cases} u_{i,j-1} - \sigma \\ s_{i,j-1} - (\rho + \sigma) \end{cases}$$

Continue Gap in *v* (insertion)
Start Gap in *v* (insertion):from middle

$$s_{i,j} = \max \begin{cases} s_{i-1,j-1} + \delta(v_i, w_j) \\ t_{i,j} \\ u_{i,j} \end{cases}$$

Match or Mismatch
End deletion: from top
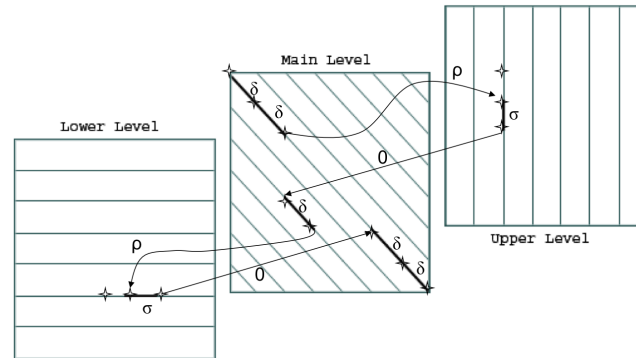End insertion: from left

A 3-level Manhattan Grid

Gaps in w (t-table)

Matches/Mismatches (s-table)

Gaps in v (u-table)

- The three recurrences for the scoring algorithm creates a 3-layered graph.
- The top level creates/extends gaps in the sequence *w*.
- The bottom level creates/extends gaps in sequence *v*.
- The middle level extends matches and mismatches.

Switching between 3 Layers

- Levels:
  - The main level is for diagonal edges
  - The lower level is for horizontal edges
  - The upper level is for vertical edges
- A jumping penalty is assigned to moving from the main level to either the upper level or the lower level (-ρ - σ)
- There is a gap extension penalty for each continuation on a level other than the main level (-σ)

Multiple Alignment versus Pairwise Alignment

- Up until now we have only tried to align two sequences.
- What about more than two? And what for?
- A faint similarity between two sequences becomes significant if present in many
- Multiple alignments can reveal subtle similarities that pairwise alignments do not reveal

Generalizing Pairwise Alignment

- 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

Three-D Alignment Paths

- An alignment of 3 sequences: ATGC, AATC, ATGC

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

x coordinate

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

y coordinate

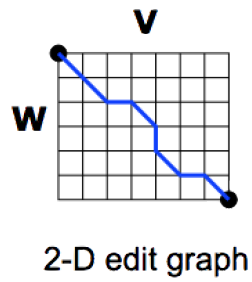| 0	0	1	2	3	4
	--	A	T	G	C

z coordinate

- Resulting path in (x,y,z) space:
  $(0,0,0) \rightarrow (1,1,0) \rightarrow (1,2,1) \rightarrow (2,3,2) \rightarrow (3,3,3) \rightarrow (4,4,4)$
- Is there a better one?
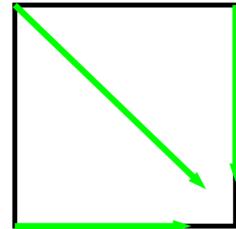
Aligning Three Sequences

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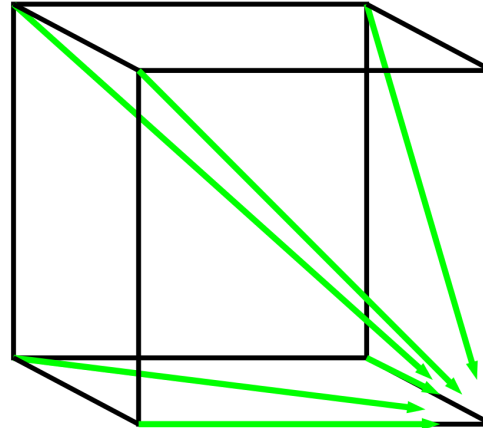- For global alignments, go from source to sink

2-sequence vs 3-sequence Alignment

V

W

2-D edit graph

3-D edit graph

A 2-D cell versus a 3-D Alignment Cell
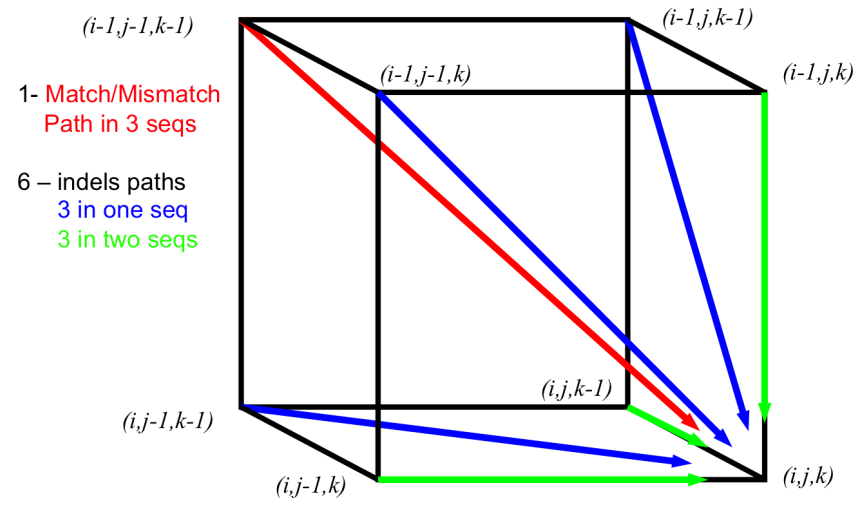

In **2-D**, 3 edges
lead to each
interior vertex

In **3-D**, 7 edges lead to
each interior vertex

- 2-D *[(i-1,j-1), (i-1,j), (i,j-1)]* → *(i,j)* (3 directions)
- 3-D *[(i-1,j-1,k-1), (i-1,j,k), (i,j-1,k), (i,j,k-1), (i,j-1,k-1), (i-1,j,k-1), (i-1,j-1,k),]* → *(i,j,k)* (7 directions)
- N-D (2^N -1 directions)

Structure of a 3-D Alignment Cell

1- Match/Mismatch
   Path in 3 seqs

6 – indels paths
   3 in one seq
   3 in two seqs

(i-1,j-1,k-1)
(i-1,j,k-1)
(i-1,j-1,k)
(i-1,j,k)
(i,j,k-1)
(i,j-1,k-1)
(i,j-1,k)
(i,j,k)

Multiple Alignment: Recursion Relation

- $s_{i,j,k} = \max \begin{cases} s_{i-1,j-1,k-1} + \delta(v_i, w_j, u_k) & \text{cube diagonal:} \\ & \text{no indels} \\ s_{i-1,j-1,k} + \delta(v_i, w_j, \_\,) \\ s_{i-1,j,k-1} + \delta(v_i, \_, u_k) & \text{face diagonal:} \\ s_{i,j-1,k-1} + \delta(\_, w_j, u_k) & \text{one indel} \\ s_{i-1,j,k} + \delta(v_i, \_\,, \_\,) \\ s_{i,j-1,k} + \delta(\_, w_j, \_\,) & \text{Lattice edge:} \\ s_{i,j,k-1} + \delta(\_, \_, u_k) & \text{two indels} \end{cases}$

- $\delta(x, y, z)$ 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

Multiple Alignment Induces Pairwise Alignments

Every multiple alignment induces pairwise alignments

```
x:      AC-GCGG-C
y:      AC-GC-GAG
z:      GCCGC-GAG
```

Induces:

```
x: ACGCGG-C;   x: AC-GCGG-C;   y: AC-GCGAG
y: ACGC-GAC;   z: GCCGC-GAG;   z: GCCGCGAG
```

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Inverse Problem

Do Pairwise Alignments imply a Multiple Alignment?

- Given 3 arbitrary pairwise alignments:

```
x: ACGCTGG-C;   x: AC-GCTGG-C;   y: AC-GC-GAG
y: ACGC--GAC;   z: GCCGCA-GAG;   z: GCCGCAGAG
```

- Can we construct a multiple alignment that induces them?

                    NOT ALWAYS

- Why? Because pairwise alignments may be arbitrarily inconsistent
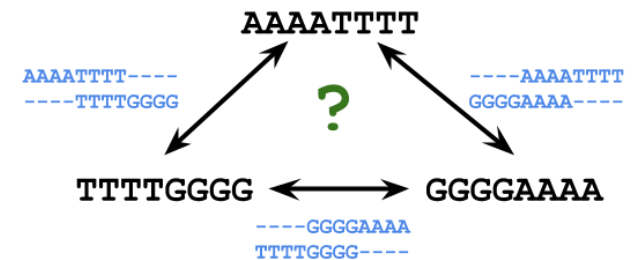
Combining Optimal Pairwise Alignments

- In some cases we can combine pairwie alignments into a single multiple alignment
- But, in others we cannot because one alignment makes a choice that is inconsistent with the overall best choice

```
    AAAATTTT--------            ----AAAATTTT----
    ----TTTTGGGG----    -OR-    --------TTTTGGGG
    --------GGGGAAAA            GGGGAAAA--------
```

- Is there another way?

Multiple Alignment from Pairwise Alignments

- From an optimal multiple alignment, we can infer pairwise alignments between all pairs of sequences, but they are not necessarily optimal
- It is difficult to infer a "good" multiple alignment from optimal pairwise alignments between all sequences
- Are we stuck, or is there some other trick?

Multiple Alignment using a Profile Scores

- We used profile scores earlier when we discussed Motif finding

```
        -  A  G  G  C  T  A  T  C  A  C  C  T  G
        T  A  G  –  C  T  A  C  C  A  -  -  -  G
        C  A  G  –  C  T  A  C  C  A  -  -  -  G
        C  A  G  –  C  T  A  T  C  A  C  –  G  G
        C  A  G  –  C  T  A  T  C  G  C  –  G  G

    A   0  5  0  0  0  0  5  0  0  4  0  0  0  0
    C   3  0  0  0  5  0  0  2  5  0  3  1  0  0
    G   0  0  5  1  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  2  5
    T   1  0  0  0  0  5  0  3  0  0  0  0  1  0
    -   1  0  0  4  0  0  0  0  0  0  2  4  2  0
```

- Thus far we have aligned sequences against other sequences
- Can we align a sequence against a profile?
- Can we align a profile against a profile?

Aligning Alignments

A more general version of the multi-alignment problem:

- Given two alignments, can we align them?

```
x: GGGCACTGCAT
y: GGTTACGTC--     Alignment 1
z: GGGAACTGCAG

w: GGACGTACC--     Alignment 2
v: GGACCT-----
```
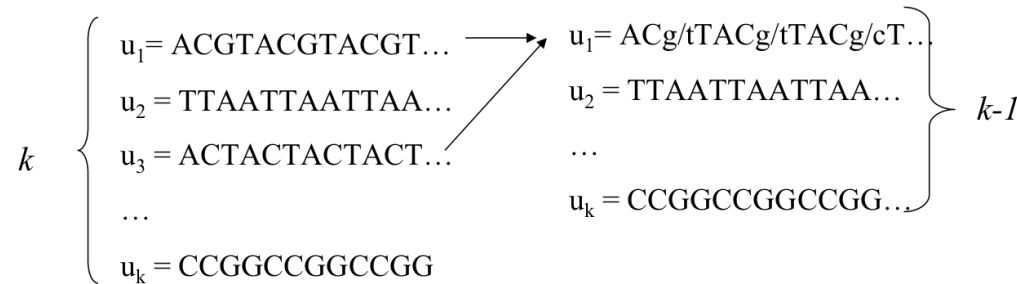
- Idea: don't use the sequences, but align their profiles

```
x: GGGCAC=TGCAT
y: GGTTAC=GTC--
z: GGGAAC=TGCAG      Combined Alignment
   ||   || | |
w: GG==ACGTACC--
v: GG==ACCT-----
```

Profile-Based Multiple Alignment: A Greedy Approach

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

$$k \begin{cases} u_1 = \text{ACGTACGTACGT...} \\ u_2 = \text{TTAATTAATTAA...} \\ u_3 = \text{ACTACTACTACT...} \\ ... \\ u_k = \text{CCGGCCGGCCGG} \end{cases} \longrightarrow \begin{cases} u_1 = \text{ACg/tTACg/tTACg/cT...} \\ u_2 = \text{TTAATTAATTAA...} \\ ... \\ u_k = \text{CCGGCCGGCCGG...} \end{cases} k\text{-}1$$

Example

- Consider these 4 sequences

$$S_1: \quad \text{GATTCA}$$
$$S_2: \quad \text{GTCTGA}$$
$$S_3: \quad \text{GATATT}$$
$$S_4: \quad \text{GTCAGC}$$

- with the scoring matrix: {Match = 1, Mismatch = -1, Indel = -1}

Example (continued)

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

```
s₂:   GTCTGA                       s₁:   GATTCA--
s₄:   GTCAGC (score = 2)           s₄:   G-T-CAGC (score = 0)

s₁:   GAT-TCA                      s₂:   G-TCTGA
s₂:   G-TCTGA (score = 1)          s₃:   GATAT-T (score  = -1)

s₁:   GAT-TCA                      s₃:   GAT-ATT
s₃:   GATAT-T (score  = 1)         s₄:   G-TCAGC (score = -1)
```

- The best pairwise score, 2, is between s_2 and s_4

Example (continued)

- Combine s_2 and s_4:

```
s₂:  G T C T G A
     | | |   |           →        s₂,₄:  G T C t/a G a/c
s₄:  G T C A G C
```

- Giving a set of three sequences:

```
s₁  :    G  A  T  T  C  A
s₃  :    G  A  T  A  T  T
s₂,₄:    G  T  C  t/a G a/c
```

- **Repeat** for $\binom{3}{2} = 3$ possible pairwise alignments

```
s₁  :  GAT-TCA
s₃  :  GATAT-T (score  = 1 + 1 + 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 - 1 = 1)


s₁  :  GAT-TCA
s₂,₄:  G-TCtGa (score  = 2 - 2 + 2 - 2 + ½ - 1 + ½ = 0)


s₃  :  GATAT-T
s₂,₄:  G-TCtGa (score  = 2 - 2 + 2 - 2 + ½ - 1 - 1 = -1½)
```

Progressive Alignment

- Progressive alignment is a variation of a greedy profile alignment algorithm with a somewhat more intelligent strategy for choosing the order of alignments.
- Progressive alignment works well for close sequences, but deteriorates for distant sequences
    - Once a gap appears in a consensus string it is permanent
    - Uses profiles to compare sequences
- CLUSTAL OMEGA

Clustal Omega

- A popular multiple alignment tool commonly used today
- 'W' stands for 'weighted' (different parts of alignment are weighted differently).
- Three-step process

  1. Construct pairwise alignments
  2. Build Guide Tree
  3. Progressive Alignment guided by the tree
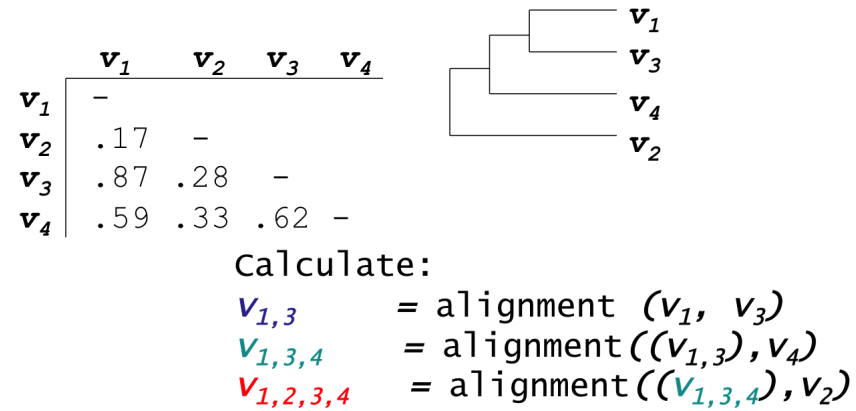
Clustal Omega's First Step

Pairwise alignment

- Align each sequence against all others giving a similarity matrix
- Similarity = exact matches / sequence length (percent identity)

$$
\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 & v_1 & v_2 & v_3 & v_4 \\
\hline
v_1 & - & & & \\
v_2 & .17 & - & & \\
v_3 & .87 & .28 & - & \\
v_4 & .59 & .33 & .62 & - \\
\end{array}
$$

(.17 means 17 % identical)

ClustalW's Second Step

- Create Guide Tree using the similarity matrix
  - ClustalW uses the neighbor-joining method
    (we will discuss this later in the course, in the section on clustering)
  - Guide tree roughly reflects evolutionary relations

$$
\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 & v_1 & v_2 & v_3 & v_4 \\
\hline
v_1 & - & & & \\
v_2 & .17 & - & & \\
v_3 & .87 & .28 & - & \\
v_4 & .59 & .33 & .62 & -
\end{array}
$$

```
Calculate:
v₁,₃        = alignment (v₁, v₃)
v₁,₃,₄      = alignment((v₁,₃),v₄)
v₁,₂,₃,₄    = alignment((v₁,₃,₄),v₂)
```

$v_{1,3}$ = alignment (v_1, v_3)
$v_{1,3,4}$ = alignment$((v_{1,3}),v_4)$
$v_{1,2,3,4}$ = alignment$((v_{1,3,4}),v_2)$

ClustalW's Third Step

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

```
FOS_RAT       PEEMSVTS-LDLTGGLPEATTPESEEAFTLPLLNDPEPK-PSLEPVKNISNMELKAEPFD
FOS_MOUSE     PEEMSVAS-LDLTGGLPEASTPESEEAFTLPLLNDPEPK-PSLEPVKSISNVELKAEPFD
FOS_CHICK     SEELAAATALDLG----APSPAAAEEAFALPLMTEAPPAVPPKEPSG--SGLELKAEPFD
FOSB_MOUSE    PGPGPLAEVRDLPG-----STSAKEDGFGWLLPPPPPPP----------------LPFQ
FOSB_HUMAN    PGPGPLAEVRDLPG-----SAPAKEDGFSWLLPPPPPPP----------------LPFQ
              .    . :   **  .      :..  *:.*   *   . *              **:
```

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

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Next Time

- Other approaches to sequence alignment
- Divide-and-Conquer Alignment
- Other Dynamic Programming problems