## Alignment

### Importance of alignment

- The most important basic question about a gene or protein is <u>whether it is related</u> to any other gene or protein!
- Relatedness for two proteins suggests:
  - That they are homologous
  - They may have a common function
- Analysis of DNA and protein sequences identifies domains or motifs that are shared among a group of molecules.
- Analysis is accomplished by *Sequence alignment*.
- Protein alignment is more informative than DNA alignment.

## **Types of Alignment**

- 1- Global Alignment:
  - Aligning the *entire* length of two sequences.
- 2- Pairwise (local) alignment:
  - Aligning *part* of the sequence with an *entire* length.
  - A subset of the two sequences are aligned.

## **Types of Alignment**





#### **Global Alignment**



**Local Alignment** 

### Definitions

#### • Homology:

- It is the state of having the same or similar relation, relative position or structure
- Homologous sequences share a common evolutionary ancestry
- Two homologous sequences (either amino acid or nucleotide sequences) usually share significant identity
- Two types of homologous proteins:
  - Orthologous:
    - Are homologous sequences in different species that arose from a common ancestral gene during speciation
    - Have similar biological functions
  - Paralogous:
    - Are homologous sequences that arose by a mechanism such as gene duplication
- Definition of homology is based on alignment scores
- Homologous ≠ same function

### Definitions

#### Identity:

 Is the extent to which two amino acid (or nucleotide) sequences are invariant

#### • Similarity:

- Aligned residues are similar but not identical
- Share similar biochemical properties
- Similar pairs are structurally or functionally related

### How do you align sequences?

- Visually? ..... NO! very difficult!
- Computer algorithm? .....YES!!

# Introduction to sequence alignment

#### Hamming Distance:

- Counts mismatches in two strings
- Assumes we align the *ith* symbol in the first sequence to the *ith* symbol in the 2<sup>nd</sup> sequence.

**Example:** Compute the hamming distance?

A T G C A T G C T G C A T G C A ZERO Matches!!!

hamming distance=8

#### But...

 If we align the sequences differently you'll have six matching positions

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

SIX Matches!!!

### Good alignment?

Alignment 1

 A
 T
 G
 C
 A
 T
 G
 C

 T
 G
 C
 A
 T
 G
 C
 A

Alignment 2 A T G C A T G C -- T G C A T G C A

The alignment that matches as many symbols as possible is the good alignment.

#### Example:

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

**Alignment Game** (maximizing the number of points):

- Remove the 1st symbol from each sequence
  - 1 point if the symbols match, 0 points if they don't match
- Remove the 1st symbol from one of the sequences
  - 0 points

A T G T T A T A A T C G T C C +1

A T G T T A T A A T C G T C C +1+1

**A T - G T T A T A A T C G T C C** +1+1

A T - G T T A T A A T C G T C C +1+1 +1

A T - G T T A T A A T C G T C C +1+1 +1+1

A T - G T T A T A A T C G T - C C +1+1 +1+1

A T - G T T A T A A T C G T - C C +1+1 +1+1

A T - G T T A T A A T C G T - C - C +1+1 +1+1

A T - G T T A T A A T C G T - C - C+1+1 + 1+1 = 4

# What is the sequence alignment?

matches insertions deletions mismatches



Alignment of two sequences is a two-row matrix:

1<sup>st</sup> row: symbols of the 1<sup>st</sup> sequence (in order) interspersed by "-"

2<sup>nd</sup> row: symbols of the 2<sup>nd</sup> sequence (in order) interspersed by "-"

We can see that letters may: Match: The two letters are the same Mismatch: The two letters are different Indel (INsertion or DELetion): One letter aligns to a gap in the other string.

## Alignment

- An **alignment** of sequences "v" and "w":
- a two-row matrix
- such that the first row contains the symbols of v in order
- the second row contains the symbols of w in order
- space symbols may be interspersed throughout each string.
- Two space symbols are not aligned against each other.

#### Longest Common Subsequence

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

Matches in alignment of two sequences (ATGT) form their Common Subsequence

Longest Common Subsequence Problem: Find a longest common subsequence of two strings.

- **Input:** Two strings.
- **Output:** A longest common subsequence of these strings.

#### Is this a useful alignment



- What will happen if aligning two sequences with different length.
- The answer is to introduce gaps in the shortest sequence
- The alignment with highest score is optimum!!!

#### Summary

 Pairwise alignment is the process of lining up two sequences to achieve *maximal levels identity*.



## What is an algorithm?

An algorithm is a procedure or formula for solving a problem. Developed by Mohammed ibn-Musa al-Khwarizmi (201H – 271H).

#### Global alignment optimum algorithm

- It is also called **Needleman-Wunsch** algorithm.
- Also used in Google search engine!
- Used to calculate the <u>optimum</u> alignment (means the maximum score = good alignment).
- It is a kind of Dynamic programming. Solving large problem by dividing it to small problems.
- It is composed of three steps:
  - initiation
  - Filling
  - Trace-back
- Align these two sequences: CGCA & CACGTAT

### **Step 1: Initiation**

 Design a scoring metric (these numbers vary and you can set your own scoring metrics):

Match =1Mismatch =0Gap (indel) penalty =-1

#### Step 1: Initiation

#### Make a matrix and add gap for each sequence



#### Step 2: Iteration (filling the matrix)

Each cell has three possibilities:

- To introduce a gap horizontally (in the first seq).
- To introduce a gap vertically (in the second seq).
- To calculate if they match or mismatch and add to the diagonal cell.

The <u>highest score</u> is added and recorded the <u>direction</u> from which cell it came.

- MEANING .. the cell has three possible candidate sums:
- The top neighbor has score -1 and moving from there represents an indel, so add the score for indel: (-1) + (-1) = (-2)
- The left neighbor also has score -1, represents an indel and also produces (-2).
- The diagonal top-left neighbor has score 0. The pairing of C and C is a match, so add the score for match: 0+1 = 1
- > The highest candidate is 1 and is entered into the cell

 $s_{i-1, j}$  + weight of edge " $\checkmark$ " into (i, j) $s_{i, j-1}$  + weight of edge " $\rightarrow$ " into (i, j) $s_{i-1, j-1}$ + weight of edge " $\checkmark$ " into (i, j)



#### Step 2: Iteration (filling the matrix)

-1 + (-1) = -2-1 + (-1) = -20 + (1) = 1 $\geq$  -2, -2, 1



Match = 1 | Mismatch = 0 | Gap (indel) penalty = -1

#### Step 2: Iteration (filling the matrix)

Match = 1 | Mismatch = 0 | Gap penalty = -1



#### Step 3: Trace-back rules

- Start from the bottom right corner of the square.
- Add gap in the <u>first</u> (horizontal) sequence if arrows are located <u>horizontally</u>.
- Add gap in the <u>second</u> (vertical) sequence if arrows are located <u>vertically</u>.
- Align the two sequences if the arrow is diagonal.

#### Step 3: Trace-back

#### CACGTAT CGC--A- C A C G T A T



Step 3: Trace-back (A Second answer)

С

A C G T A

Т

#### CACGTAT --CGCA-



Step 3: Trace-back (A Third answer)



#### Deduce the alignment

		т	G	G	т	G
	0	-2	-4	-6	-8	-10
A	-2	-1	-3	-5	-7	-9
т	-4	-1	-2	-4	-4	-6
с	-6	-3	-2	-3	-5	-5
G	-8	-5	-2	-1	-3	-4
т	-10	-7	-4	-3	0	-2

### Different gap penalty meaning



Terminal gaps is preferred over gap introduction.

#### Gap penalty value could change

- When comparing two protein coding genes, then penalizes gap high because of the frameshift problem.
- When comparing genes for noncoding RNA, we could set gap penalty lower (because gap is worse than mismatch).
- If you search for sequences that are strict match to your query, then set the penalty gap to high value.
- If you search for similarity between distantly related sequences, then set gap penalty to low value.

## Local alignment (Smith-Waterman Algorithm)



### Why using local alignment (Smith-Waterman Algorithm)

- It allow searching for certain sequences within large sequence.
- To identify pattern within protein sequence
- To identify transcription binding site
- To identify regulatory elements within a genome
- Local alignment looks for optimal partial (subsequence) matches.

### **Roles for local alignment**

- It is exactly as Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm
- *Negative value* is replaced by zero (0).
- Align these two sequences using Smith-Waterman algorithm. ATCG & TC

Match	= 1
Mismatch	= 0
Gap (indel) penalty	= -1

#### Align these two sequences using Smith-Waterman algorithm

Match = 1 Mismatch = 0

Gap (indel) penalty = -1



#### Which Alignment is Better?

Alignment 1: score = 22 (matches) - 20 (indels)=2.

GCC-C-AGT--TATGT-CAGGGGGGCACG--A-GCATGCAGA-GCCGCC-GTCGT-T-TTCAG---CA-GTTATG--T-CAGAT

• Alignment 2: score = 17 (matches) - 30 (indels)=-13.

---G----C---C--CAGTTATGTCAGGGGGCACGAGCATGCAGA GCCGCCGTCGTTTTCAGCAGTTATGTCAG----A----T-----

#### Which Alignment is Better?

Alignment 1: score = 22 (matches) - 20 (indels)=2.

GCC-C-AGT--TATGT-CAGGGGGGCACG--A-GCATGCAGA-GCCGCC-GTCGT-T-TTCAG---CA-GTTATG--T-CAGAT

• Alignment 2: score = 17 (matches) - 30 (indels)=-13.

---G----C--CAGTTATGTCAGGGGGGCACGAGCATGCAGA GCCGCCGTCGTTTTCAGCAGTTATGTCAG----A----T----local alignment

## Scoring matrices for amino acid sequences



#### **Scoring Gaps**

- We previously assigned a fixed penalty  $\sigma$  to each indel.
- However, this fixed penalty may be too severe for a series of 100 consecutive indels.
- A series of k indels often represents a single evolutionary event (gap) rather than k events:

two gaps	GATCCAG
(lower score)	GA-C-AG

GATCCAG a single gap GA--CAG (higher score)

#### From Pairwise to Multiple Alignment

- Up until now we have align two sequences only.
- A faint (and statistically insignificant) similarity between two sequences becomes significant if it is present in many other sequences.
- Multiple alignments can reveal subtle similarities that pairwise alignments do not reveal.



#### Generalizing Pairwise to Multiple Alignment

- Alignment of 2 sequences is a 2-row matrix.
- Alignment of 3 sequences is a 3-row matrix

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

• Our scoring function should score alignments with conserved columns higher.

• Alignment of ATGC, AATC, and ATGC

A		Т	G	С
A	A	Т		С
	A	Т	G	С

• Alignment of ATGC, AATC, and ATGC

0	1	1	2	3	4
	A		Т	G	С

	A	A	Т		С
--	---	---	---	--	---

	A	Т	G	С

#symbols up to a given position

• Alignment of ATGC, AATC, and ATGC

0	1	1	2	3	4
	A		Т	G	С
0	1	2	3	3	4
	A	A	Т		С

	A	Т	G	С
--	---	---	---	---

#symbols up to a given position

• Alignment of ATGC, AATC, and ATGC

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

0	1	1	2	3	4
	A		Т	G	С
0	1	2	3	3	4
	A	A	Т		С
0	0	1	2	3	4
		7		C	C





#### Multiple Alignment Induces Pairwise Alignments

Every multiple alignment induces pairwise alignments:

AC - GCGG - CAC - GC - GAGGCCGC - GAG

ACGCGG-C AC-GCGG-C AC-GCGAG

Homology

## Types of Homology

<u>Homologs</u>: genes (or proteins) related to another. It can be orthologue or paralogue.

Orthologs: genes (or proteins) in different species. Important in predicting function.

**Paralogs:** genes (or proteins) in the same species. They have new functions.

## Example

- Hemoglobin has
  - a quaternary structure characteristic of many multi-subunit globular proteins.
- It is composed *mainly* of:
  - Hem (non-protein) + protein which is 4 subunits:
  - 2 subunits (α) and 2 subunits (β).





## Identity

### DNA/Protein sequence identity

 Two protein sequences with more than 25 % identity (over 100 amino acids) are homologues

 Two DNA sequences with more than 70 % identity (over 100 nucleotides) are homologues

- Homologous sequences have
  - A common ancestor (proteins and DNA)
  - A similar 3D structure (proteins)
  - Often a similar function (proteins)

## Why 25 % for proteins?

- When two proteins have less than 25% identity
  - They can be homologous or non-homologous
  - Within this range of identity, it's impossible to say which is true
- This range of identity is called the "Twilight Zone"

%Sequence Identity



## How to Establish Homology

• Compare your query (nucleotide or protein) with stored data in databases (such as NCBI or Uni-Prot).

• Example:

- If the results of your search identify a Protein B to be 40% identical to your protein
- Then, you can conclude that A and B are probably homologous if they are very similar
- If you know the structure or the function of B, then A and B probably have the same structure

#### Homology, Similarity, and Identity

- Identity is a measure made on an alignment
  - Sequence A can be "32 % identical to" Sequence B
- Similarity is a measure of how close two amino acids are to identical
  - For instance, isoleucine and leucine are similar
- Homology is a property that exists or does not exist
  - Sequence A IS or IS NOT homologous to Sequence B
  - Sequence A cannot be "40% homologous to" B
- Homology is established on the basis of measured similarity or identity

## **In-silico Biology**

- When establishing that two proteins (A and B) are homologous, you can extrapolate everything you know from one to the other.
- It's like making a virtual experiment.
- This is in-silico biology!



## HomoloGene Database

SNCBI Resources 🖸 How To 🖸

All Databases • Search Conserved Domains Biotechnology Information dbGaP dbVar Epigenomics b NCBI NCBI Home **Popular Resources** EST Resource List (A-Z) PubMed Gene ter for Biotechnology Information advances science and health by providing access to biomedical Genome rmation Bookshelf All Resources GEO DataSets PubMed Central GEO Profiles Chemicals & Bioassays I Mission Organizat HomoloGene GSS PubMed Health Data & Software GTR HomoloGene BLAST DNA & RNA MedGen Nucleotide Domains & Structures MeSH alyze data using NCBI software NCBI Web Site Genome Genes & Expression s: Get NCBI data or software NLM Catalog SNP Learn how to accomplish specific tasks at NCBI Genetics & Medicine Nucleotide ns: Submit data to GenBank or other NCBI databases OMIM Gene Genomes & Maps PMC Protein PopSet Homology PubChem Literature **Genotypes and Phenotypes** Grandma Proteins NCBI Announcements Data from Genome Wide Association Sequence Analysis studies that link genes and diseases. NCBI YouTube channel: A million views Taxonomy See study variables, protocols, and and counting! analysis. Training & Tutorials Jan 16, 2015 As of December 31, 2014, we have II 1 2 3 6 Variation 5 passed the 4 million mark for lifetime

Sign in to NCBI



#### Download

Display Settings: I HomoloGene

#### HomoloGene:134343. Gene conserved in Eukaryota

#### Genes

Genes identified as putative homologs of one another during the construction of HomoloGene.



#### Proteins

Proteins used in sequence comparisons and their conserved domain architectures.

SH NP 001419.1 434 aa NP 001207708.14 34 aa List of genes P 001083147.1 34 aa in different P 776474.2 34 aa organisms P 001020559.1 34 aa P 075608.2 The more 34 aa P 036686.2 number, the 34 aa best. P 990451.1 34 aa P 989144.1 34 aa **Any link** P 997887.1 32 aa goes to gene P 722722.1 00 aa page P 317672.2 33 aa NP 001022349.1 465 aa NP 014056.3 81 437 aa SH NP 015042.1 437 aa

Download , Links

Proteins list. Click on any to go to GenBank format of its protein Send to: ⊙

S	NCBI				moloGene iscover Homologs		Help		
DME S	EARCH SITE MAP	PubMed	All Databa	ises	Human Genome		GenBank	MapViewer	BLAST
Homo	loGene Downlo	ader	Sea	rch HomoloGene ▼ for	Dow	vnload	Go 3		
Homol	ogene:134343 Goo	urkdi y	ota						
Dow Incluc Incluc	Inload Protein Protein Protein MRNA Genomic	<ul> <li>sequences (in FAS</li> <li>stream of gene</li> </ul>	TA format)			Sele	ct mRNA	1	
Selec Sele	t which sequences sect All Unselect /	should be included All							
	Species	Gene	mRNA	Protein					
	H.sapiens	ENO1	NM_001428.3	NP_001419.1					
	P.troglodytes	ENO1	NM_001220779.1	NP_0012077	Make sur	e that a	ll organisn	ns are ticke	ed
	M.mulatta	LOC694593	XM_001083147.2	XP_001083147.1			Ŭ		
	B.taurus	ENO1	NM_174049.2	NP_776474.2				2	
	M.musculus	Gm5506	NM_001025388.1	NP_001020559.1					
	M.musculus	Eno1	NM_023119.2	NP_075608.2					
	R.norvegicus	Eno1	NM_012554.3	NP_036686.2					
	G.gallus	ENO1	NM_205120.1	NP_990451.1					