Lecture 7 Phylogenetic Analysis

Additional Reference

Molecular Evolution: A Phylogenetic Approach Roderic D. M. Page and Edward C. Holmes

Uses of Phylogentic Analysis

- Evolutionary trees
- Multiple sequence alignment

Evolutionary Problems

- i) The fossil record suggests that modern man diverged from apes about 5-6 million years ago. Modern Homo sapiens emerged between 100,000-60,000 years ago
- ii) DNA and sequence alignment by Paabo support this.
- iii) Work based on mitochondrial DNA by Wilson et al suggest the modern man emerged only 200,000 years ago with the divergence into different races 50,000 years ago
 - 1. mitochondrial DNA circular
 - 2. maternal inheritance
 - 3. 10x faster mutation rate than nuclear DNA









Nucleotide Sequences

- i) Different from amino acid sequences due to redundancy in the genetic code (ie several codons can code for a particular amino acid.
- ii) Most substitutions in the 3rd position are synonomous (UC* is the RNA coding for serine – the corresponding DNA would be AG*). Since evolution should depend on function and this is conferred by the amino acid sequence, it has been suggested that the "molecular clock" should be based on the substitution rate in the third position of the codon. In fact, in the fibrinopeptides, this is as high as the amino acid substitution rate.



Markov Chains

Assume that we have a process that has discrete observable states $x_1, x_2, ...$ When we monitor this over time we get a sequence of the states occupied $q_1, q_2, ...$ where $q_i = any$ of $x_1, x_2, ...$

This sequence is a Markov Chain. Note that while there can be an infinite number of states, the Markov chain has a countable number of elements.

Markov Chains

Another property of a Markov process is that "history does not matter". This means that the state assumed at time t+1 depends on the state assumed on t (not on any other previous state). This is called the Markov property. Let X = {X_n, n = 1, 2, ...} be a discrete time random process with state space S whose elements are s₁, s₂, ... X is a Markov chain if for any n 0, the probability that X_{n+1} takes on any value s_k S is conditional on the value of X_n but does not depend on the values of X_{n-1}, X_{n-2}, ... The one-time-step transition probabilities

$$p_{ik}(n) = Pr\{X_n = s_k \mid X_{n-1} = s_i\} \ j,k=1,2,\dots \ n = 1,2,\dots$$

Since X_0 is a random variable called the initial condition, $p_j(0) = Pr\{X_0 = s_j\} \ j{=}1,2,\ldots$

Markov Chains

•Transition matrix – put the p_{ik} into a matrix P.

•A sequence of amino acids can be thought of as a Markov chain.

•Stationary Markov process – the probabilities $p_{jk}(n)$ do not depend on n, that is they are constant. Another way of saying this is an initial distribution π is said to be **stationary** if $\pi P(t)=\pi$.

•Irreducible – every state can be reached from every other state

Application of Markov processes to evolutionary models

- i) The PAM matrix has its substitution probabilities determined from closely related amino acid sequences, it assumes that the substitutions have occurred through one application of the transition matrix (i.e. no multiple substitutions and a given site) and assumes that evolutionary distance results from repeated application of the same PAM matrix.
- ii) A better evolutionary model is needed. (text p 140-144) This requires the use of a continuous Markov process rather than a discrete Markov chain. This still has the Markov property.

Application of Markov processes to evolutionary models

A time homogenous Markov process for the stochastic function X(t) consists of a set of states Q={1,2,...,n}, a set of initial state distributions $\pi = (\pi_1, ..., \pi_n)$, and transition probability functions

$$\mathbf{P}(t) = \left(\begin{array}{c} p_{1,1}(t) \dots p_{1,n}(t) \\ \vdots \\ p_{n,1}(t) \dots p_{n,n}(t) \end{array}\right)$$











Definitions

-A directed graph is *acyclic* if it does not contain a cycle. (i.e. (i,j), (j,k), and (k,i) all belong to E.
-A *tree* is a undirected, connected, acyclic graph.
-A *rooted tree* has a starting node called a *root*.
-The *parent node* is immediately before a node on the path from the root.

-The *child node* is a node that is follows a node.



Definitions

-An *ordered tree* is a tree where the children of internal nodes are numbered.

-A *binary tree* is a tree where each node has at most two children. Otherwise it is *multifurcating*.



How do you tell if two trees are the same?

If you can convert one tree into another without breaking any branches they are topologically equivalent.

Phylogenetic Trees

Phylogenetic trees or *evolutionary trees* are *binary* trees that describe the "relations" between species.

Trees consist of *nodes* or *vertices* and *taxa* or *leaves*.

Phylogenetic Trees

To understand the data, we must understand some of the methods behind phylogenetic trees or evolutionary trees

- i) Clustering methods
- ii) Maximum likelihood methods
- iii) Quartet puzzling



• measuring evolutionary change on a tree

If the leaves of a tree each signify a sequence, the sum of the weights of the edges gives the evolutionary distance between the two sequences.

• molecular phylogenetics

Convert information in sequences into an evolutionary tree for those sequences.

Cluster methods vs. search methods

There are two basic methods for constructing trees.

Cluster methods use an algorithm (set of steps) to generate a tree. These methods are very easy to implement and hence can be computationally efficient. They also typically produce a single tree. A big disadvantage to this method is that it depends upon the order in which we add sequences to the tree. Hence, there could be a different tree that explains the data just as well.

Search methods use some sort of optimality criteria to choose among the set of all possible trees. The *optimality criteria* gives each tree a score that is based on the comparison of the tree to data. The advantage of search methods is that they use an explicit function relating the trees to the data (for example, a model of how the sequences evolve). The disadvantage is that they are computationally very expensive (NP complete problem).

How do we compare different tree methods?

- Efficiency How fast is the method?
- power –How much data does the method require?
- consistency Will the tree converge on the right answer give enough data?
- robustness Will minor violations of the method's assumptions result in poor estimates of phylogeny?
- falsifiability Will the method tell us when its assumptions are violated?

How do assign weights for the edges of our trees?

- *Distance methods* first convert aligned sequences into a pairwise distance matrix then input that matrix into a tree building method. The major objections to distance methods are that summarizing a set of sequences by distance data loses information and branch lengths estimated by some distance methods might not be evolutionarily determinable.
- *Discrete methods* consider each nucleotide site (of some function of each site) directly.

Distance Methods Two distance methods are neighbor joining and minimum evolution. Minimum evolution finds the tree that minimizes the sum of the branch lengths where the lengths are calculated from the pairwise distances between the sequences. Linear programming or least squares methods can be used to do this. Neighbor joining is a clustering method that is computationally fast and gives a unique result. This can use something like the *four-point condition* and clusters the closest elements.

Discrete Methods

The two major discrete methods are **maximum parsimony** and **maximum likelihood**. Both these are search methods.

i) With *maximum parsimony* we try to reconstruct the evolution at a particular site with the fewest possible evolutionary changes. The **advantages** of parsimony are that it makes relatively few assumptions about the evolutionary process, it has been studied extensively mathematically, and some very powerful software implementations are available. The major **disadvantage** to using parsimony is that under some models of evolution, it is inconsistent , that is if more data is added the wrong result might occur.

Discrete Methods

ii) The *maximum likelihood approach* looks for the tree that makes the data the most probable evolutionary outcome. This approach requires a explicit model of evolution which is both a strength and weakness because the results depend on the model used. This method can also be very computationally expensive.

Types of metrics

For the *four point condition* or *additive metric*, given the leaves i, j, k, and l

 $d(i,j) + d(k,l) \leq d(i,k) + d(j,l) = d(i,l) + d(j,k)$

For an ultrametric metric the *ultrametric* or *3-point condition* holds

That is given the leaves i, j, and k

 $d(i,j) \leq d(i,k) = d(j,k)$

Ultrametric trees Clustering methods attempt to repeated cluster the data by grouping the closest elements together. They are used for phylogeny and gene expression microarray analysis. The *pair group method* (PGM) is a technique where the pairs are repeatedly amalgamated. The *unweighted paired group method with arithmetic mean* (UPGMA) is used to cluster molecular data where

sequence alignment distance between sequences has been

determined in a distance matrix.





UPGM a b c d e a b c d e a b c d e a c d d 10 for for d a 0 6 for for <th colspan="4" for<="" th=""><th> IA Example We have five singleton clusters {a}, {b}, {c}, {d}, and {e} from the set C = {a,b,c,d,e} Get the distances from the distance table (left) a) Find the closest two clusters, namely, clusters {c} and {d} with d_{min} = 2 b) f = {c,d} and C= {a,b,e,f} c) f is the root for c and d d) Define new distance table Repeat 3 </th></th>	<th> IA Example We have five singleton clusters {a}, {b}, {c}, {d}, and {e} from the set C = {a,b,c,d,e} Get the distances from the distance table (left) a) Find the closest two clusters, namely, clusters {c} and {d} with d_{min} = 2 b) f = {c,d} and C= {a,b,e,f} c) f is the root for c and d d) Define new distance table Repeat 3 </th>				 IA Example We have five singleton clusters {a}, {b}, {c}, {d}, and {e} from the set C = {a,b,c,d,e} Get the distances from the distance table (left) a) Find the closest two clusters, namely, clusters {c} and {d} with d_{min} = 2 b) f = {c,d} and C= {a,b,e,f} c) f is the root for c and d d) Define new distance table Repeat 3
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				UP	GN	IA Exa	amp	ole		
The old distance table					The new distance table					
	a	b	c	d	e		a	b	e	f
a	0	6	10	10	10	a	0	6	10	10
b	6	0	10	10	10	b	6	0	10	10
c	10	10	0	2	6	e	10	10	0	6
d	10	10	2	0	6	f	10	10	6	0
e	10	10	6	6	0					









Farris Transform

- Sometimes the data will satisfy an additive metric and not a ultrametric. This will yield a tree with the incorrect topology if UPGMA or WPGMA is used.
- The *Farris Transformed Distance Method* converts the data for an additive, non-ultrametric metric so that it satisfies the ultrametric. Then UPGMA or WPGMA can be used to yield a tree with the correct topology

Farris Transform

If we have a phylogenetic tree with root r and leaves (taxa) 1,...,n and $d_{i,j}$ is the distance between two nodes, then we have the transformed distance

You must assume a root r. This can be the leaf that is farthest from all the others. Unfortunately, depending on the root selected the method might not give the right topology.

















Neighbor Joining and Minimum Evolution

- Compute the Neighbor Joining Tree and see if any local rearrangement produces a shorter tree.
- Not guaranteed to give the minimum evolution tree.



- Related to cluster analysis but removes the assumption of ultrametric data
- Does not assume data comes close to fitting an additive tree (need to use an appropriate model of evolution).
- Keeps track of nodes on tree
- Considers only closest pairs and not all possible pairs in each step of star decomposition.





Neighbor Joining

Step 1: We calculate the net divergence r (i) for each OTU from all other OTUs

r(A) = 5+4+7+6+8=30r(B) = 42 r(C) = 32 r(D) = 38 r(E) = 34 r(F) = 44























Quartet Puzzling

- Chose one quartet tree.
- Pick the taxa to add
- Use all neighbor relations (other than the one deciding the quartet tree used) to find weights on branches
- Add the taxa to the branch with the lowest penalty.

Minimum Evolution

- Given an unrooted metric tree for n sequences, there are (2n-3) branches each with branch length e_i.
- The sum of these branch lengths is the length L of the tree.
- The minimum evolution tree is the tree which minimizes L

Minimum Evolution

- similar to parsimony
- But length comes from pairwise distances between the sequences (not from fit of nucleotide sites)
- Use linear programming or least squares to find optimal solution.



















Maximum Likelihood

- Goal: Construct a phylogenetic tree from DNA sequences whose likelihood is a maximum. (Felsenstein 1981)
- Procedure
 - Start with a given topology and use the maximum likelihood method to optimize branch lengths
 - Make local modifications to the topology and re-optimize the branch lengths
 - New taxa are added one by one, optimizing branch lengths and topologies each time
 - Assumes an evolutionary process that is a reversible Markov process
 - Very computationally expensive to use















