# Phylogenetic Reconstruction and Applications

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#### collaborations with

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#### The problem

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- The problem
- Additive trees

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- The problem
- Additive trees
- Iterative algorithms

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- The problem
- Additive trees
- Iterative algorithms
- Global (variational) algorithms

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# Phylogenetic Tree of Life



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#### Darwin's tree of life



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## A simple evolutionary model

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# A simple evolutionary model

Simulate the evolution changing randomly binary sequences with a certain mutation rate per site and branching at Poisson times

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mutation

back mutation

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#### Algorithms for Phylogenetic reconstruction

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#### Algorithms for Phylogenetic reconstruction

Distance based

Characters based

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#### Algorithms for Phylogenetic reconstruction

Distance based Infer the tree using the distance matrix only UPGMA Neighbor Joining Fitch Weighbor FASTME

Characters based

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#### Algorithms for Phylogenetic reconstruction

Distance based Infer the tree using the distance matrix only UPGMA Neighbor Joining Fitch Weighbor FASTME

Characters based

Compare different sequences character by character Parsimony MrBayes

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# **Definition.** A distance matrix is additive if there exists a tree on which, for each pair of taxa X, Y, $d_{X,Y}$ is the sum of the length of the branches connecting X and Y

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## Four Point Condition

#### Definition.

A distance is additive iff for any four taxa A,B,C,D it is

$$d_{A,B} + d_{C,D} < d_{A,C} + d_{B,D} = d_{A,D} + d_{B,C}$$
  
or  
 $d_{A,C} + d_{B,D} < d_{A,B} + d_{C,D} = d_{A,D} + d_{B,C}$   
or  
 $d_{A,D} + d_{B,C} < d_{A,C} + d_{B,D} = d_{A,B} + d_{C,D}$ 

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# Four Point Condition



$$d_{A,B} + d_{C,D} < d_{A,C} + d_{B,D} = d_{A,D} + d_{B,C}$$

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# Four Point Condition



$$d_{A,B} + d_{C,D} < d_{A,C} + d_{B,D} = d_{A,D} + d_{B,C}$$

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UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# **Iterative Algorithms**

#### UPGMA

- connect the two nearest taxa XY
- compute the distance between the new taxa and the other taxa
- iterate till there remain only 3 taxa

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UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# **Neighbor Joining**

UPGMA works for ultrametric trees but not for additive trees in general ultrametricity  $\leftrightarrow$  constant evolutive speed



ultrametricity: for any three leaves a, b, c

 $d_{a,b} \leq \max(d_{a,c}, d_{b,c})$ 

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UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# **Neighbor Joining**

UPGMA works for ultrametric trees but not for additive trees in general ultrametricity ↔ constant evolutive speed



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UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# **Neighbor Joining**

Define the matrix *D* as

$$D_{X,Y} = d_{x,y} - r_X - r_Y$$

where

$$r_X = \frac{1}{N-2}\sum_Y d_{X,Y}$$

- connect the two taxa which minimizes D<sub>X,Y</sub>
- compute D between the new taxa and the other taxa
- iterate till there remain only 3 taxa

Saitou and Nei 1987

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UPGMA Neighbor Joining



UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# Properties of NJ

Theorem (Saitou and Nei) If the tree is additive then NJ reconstruct the correct tree. Main ingredient: if X.Y minimizes D then X,Y is a cherry

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UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# Properties of NJ

- Theorem (Saitou and Nei) If the tree is additive then NJ reconstruct the correct tree. Main ingredient: if X.Y minimizes D then X,Y is a cherry
- Stability Theorem (K. Atteson 1997) If the distance estimates are at most half of the minimal edge length of the tree away from their true value then Neighbor-Joining will reconstruct the correct tree

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UPGMA Neighbor Joining

# Properties of NJ

- Theorem (Saitou and Nei) If the tree is additive then NJ reconstruct the correct tree. Main ingredient: if X.Y minimizes D then X,Y is a cherry
- Stability Theorem (K. Atteson 1997) If the distance estimates are at most half of the minimal edge length of the tree away from their true value then Neighbor-Joining will reconstruct the correct tree
- Neighbor Joining runs in  $O(N^3)$  time

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

# Pauplin Formula

If a distance is additive than the total length of the corresponding tree is given by

$$P = \sum_{\{X,Y\}} 2^{-t_{X,Y}} d_{X,Y}$$

where  $t_{X,Y}$  is the number of nodes between X and Y

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

## Pauplin Formula

$$L = \frac{1}{2}d_{A,B} + \frac{1}{4}d_{A,C} + \frac{1}{4}d_{A,D} + \dots = 20$$



Y. Pauplin 2000

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

# Proof of Pauplin formula

Let *L* be the length of the tree: i.e.

$$L = \sum_{k:k edge} I_k$$

where we denoted with  $l_k$  the length of the edge k. The Pauplin expressione P can be written as

$$P = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$
  
=  $\sum_{a,b} \sum_{k \in W_{a,b}} 2^{-t_{a,b}} l_k$   
=  $\sum_k l_k \sum_{a,b} 1_{k \in W_{a,b}} 2^{-t_{a,b}}$
where  $\sum_{a,b}$  denotes the sum on distinct pair of leaves *a*, *b* and where we denoted with  $W_{a,b}$  the set of edges connecting the leaf *a* with the leaf *b*.

Given an edge k, let us denote with  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  the two nodes connected by k, and let us denote with  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  the two trees which has roots in  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , respectively.

We can notice that

$$\sum_{a,b} \mathbf{1}_{k \in W_{a,b}} 2^{-t_{a,b}} = \sum_{a \in T_1} \sum_{b \in T_2} 2^{-t_{a,b}}$$

in fact all the pairs which contribute to the above sum have one leaf in  $T_1$  and the other in  $T_2$ .

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms



Now we can notice that for any  $a \in T_1$ , and  $b \in T_2$  we can write

$$t_{a,b} = z_a + z_b$$

where  $z_a$  is the the number of branches in the path between a and  $k_1$  and where  $z_b$  is the number of branches in the path between b and  $k_2$ .

Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

#### Therefore

$$\sum_{a \in T_1} \sum_{b \in T_2} 2^{-t_{a,b}} = \sum_{a \in T_1} \sum_{b \in T_2} 2^{-z_a - z_b} = \sum_{a \in T_1} 2^{-z_a} \sum_{b \in T_2} 2^{-z_b} = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$$
(1)

by Kraft equality.

Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

Kraft Equality

In a binary tree let  $z_k$  be the depth of the leaf k. Then

 $\sum_{k} 2^{-z_k} = 1$ 



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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

**Balanced Minimum Evolution Principle** 

### If a distance is additive the right tree T is the one that minimizes

$$L_T = \sum_{\{X,Y\}} 2^{-t_{X,Y}} d_{X,Y}$$

R. Desper, O.Gascuel 2003

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A BME Algorithm

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A BME Algorithm

Define an Energy:

$$E = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$

Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A BME Algorithm

Define an Energy:

$${\sf E} = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$

Define an elementary move



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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A BME Algorithm

### Define an Energy:

$$E = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$

Define an elementary move



start from a reasonable tree (NJ tree)

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A BME Algorithm

### Define an Energy:

$$E = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$

Define an elementary move



- start from a reasonable tree (NJ tree)
- extract a link

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A BME Algorithm

### Define an Energy:

$$E = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$

Define an elementary move



- start from a reasonable tree (NJ tree)
- extract a link
- extract an elementary move

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**Pauplin Formula** FASTME **Quartet Based Algorithms** 

### A BME Algorithm

### Define an Energy:

$$E = \sum_{a,b} 2^{-t_{a,b}} d_{a,b}$$

Define an elementary move



- start from a reasonable tree (NJ tree)
- extract a link
- extract an elementary move
- accept the move if  $\Delta E < 0$

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### FASTME algorithm

$$\sum_{\{X,Y\}} 2^{-t(X,Y)} d(X,Y)$$

The algorithm FASTME starts form a reasonable tree (NJ tree) and then makes suitable elementary moves to minimize the formula above

O. Gascuel and M. Steel 2006

Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### **Quartet Based Algortihms**



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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### **Quartet Based Algortihms**



strong four points condition  $d_{A,B} + d_{C,D} < d_{A,C} + d_{B,D} = d_{A,D} + d_{B,C}$ 

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### **Quartet Based Algortihms**



soft four points condition  $d_{A,B} + d_{C,D} < min(d_{A,C} + d_{B,D}, d_{A,D} + d_{B,C})$ 

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A Quarted Based Algorithms: Elementary Move



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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A Quarted Based Algorithms: Elementary Move



for any  $a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D$ 

define  $D_1 = d_{a,b} + d_{c,d}, D_2 = d_{a,c} + d_{c,d}, D_3 = d_{a,d} + d_{b,c}$ 

define quartet frustration as

$$f_{(a,b)(c,d)} = max(0, D_1 - min(D_2, D_3))$$

Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A Quartet Based Algorithm

#### define configuration energy

$$E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha)-n(b,\beta)-n(c,\gamma)-n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$$

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### A Quartet Based Algorithm

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$$E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha)-n(b,\beta)-n(c,\gamma)-n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$$

# $\Delta E$ is the variation of a functional and the functional is the Pauplin length $L_T$

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Pauplin Formula FASTME Quartet Based Algorithms

### Horizontal Transfer

An entire part of sequence A is copied in sequence C As a result the distance matrix is the convex combination of two additive matrices, then it is not an additive matrix



# Phylogeny reconstruction with

# applications in linguistics and biology

### Emanule Caglioti and Francesca Tria

Sapienza Università di Roma

Fondazione ISI. Torino

### joint work with

Vittorio Loreto Sapienza Università di Roma & ISI Andrea Pagnani Fondazione ISI, Torino Simone Pompei Fondazione ISI, Torino



# •Algorithms

### •Algorithms

•An application in linguistics

- •Algorithms
- •An application in linguistics
- •A biology related problem

## A recall



### Soft four points condition

$$D_1 = d_{a,b} + d_{c,d}, D_2 = d_{a,c} + d_{c,d}, D_3 = d_{a,d} + d_{b,c}$$
$$D_1 = \min(D_1, D_2, D_3)$$

# A recall



$$D_1 = d_{a,b} + d_{c,d}, D_2 = d_{a,c} + d_{c,d}, D_3 = d_{a,d} + d_{b,c}$$
$$D_1 = \min(D_1, D_2, D_3)$$

Pauplin's formula

$$L_P = \sum_{a < b} 2^{-t(a,b)} \mathcal{D}(a,b)$$

Soft four points condition



O. Gascuel and M. Steel 2006

$$l = \frac{1}{2}[d(e,g) + d(g,h) + d(h,f) + d(f,e)]$$

 $L_{P} = \frac{1}{2} [d(e, f) + d(g, h)] + \frac{1}{4} [d(e, g) + d(e, h) + d(f, h) + d(f, g)] \qquad L_{P} = l$ 

### Stochastic local search algorithms (SLS)



### elementary moves (NNI)

## Stochastic local search algorithms (SLS)



elementary moves (NNI)

- I. extract a link
- 2. extract an elementary move
- 3. accept the move with probability  $e^{-\beta\Delta E}$

## Stochastic local search algorithms (SLS)



elementary moves (NNI)

- I. extract a link
- 2. extract an elementary move
- 3. accept the move with probability  $e^{-\rho z}$

simulated annealing-like procedure:

eta (inverse temperature) increases with time

zero temperature procedure:

 $eta=+\infty~~{\color{black}\longleftrightarrow}~$  accept the move iff  $~~\Delta E < 0$ 



 $D_1 = d_{a,b} + d_{c,d}, D_2 = d_{a,c} + d_{c,d}, D_3 = d_{a,d} + d_{b,c}$ 



soft four points condition  $D_1 = \min(D_1, D_2, D_3)$ 





### define



 $D_1 = d_{a,b} + d_{c,d}, D_2 = d_{a,c} + d_{c,d}, D_3 = d_{a,d} + d_{b,c}$ 

soft four points condition

$$D_1 = \min(D_1, D_2, D_3)$$

quartet frustration

 $f_{(a,b)(c,d)} = max(0, D_1 - min(D_2, D_3))$ 





$$f_{(a,b)(c,d)} = max(0, D_1 - min(D_2, D_3))$$

 $I. E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha) - n(b,\beta) - n(c,\gamma) - n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$
## Local (configurational) energy definition based on the soft four points condition



 $I. E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha) - n(b,\beta) - n(c,\gamma) - n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$ 

 $\Delta E = 4\Delta L_P$ 

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1. 
$$E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha)-n(b,\beta)-n(c,\gamma)-n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$$
  
2.  $E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} \frac{2^{-n(a,\alpha)-n(b,\beta)-n(c,\gamma)-n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}}{(D_1 + min(D_2, D_3))^K}$   
 $K > 0$ 

#### Motivation: longer distances have larger fluctuations

1. 
$$E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha)-n(b,\beta)-n(c,\gamma)-n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$$
  
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 $K > 0$ 

# Motivation: longer distances have larger fluctuations drawback: $\Delta E$ is not the variation of any functional

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Motivation: longer distances have larger fluctuations drawback:  $\Delta E$  is not the variation of any functional

3. 
$$E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} \frac{f_{(a,b),(c,d)}}{(D_1 + min(D_2, D_3))^K}$$

 $\Delta E$  is the variation of a functional (same expression with the sum over all quadruplets a,b,c,d)

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$$E_{(A,B),(C,D)} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B, c \in C, d \in D} 2^{-n(a,\alpha)-n(b,\beta)-n(c,\gamma)-n(d,\delta)} f_{(a,b),(c,d)}$$
  
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 $\Delta E$  is the variation of a functional (same expression with the sum over all quadruplets a,b,c,d) Why choosing 2.? It works better

## Performances of distance-based reconstruction algorithms as a function of mutation rate per site



#### Scaling behavior with the number of taxa N



dependence on  $\mu^2 \lambda(N)$ 

 $\lambda(N)$  mean distance between leaves

$$\lambda_{\text{theo}}(N) = \frac{2N(\log_2 N + 1) - 4N + 2}{N - 1}$$
 for completely balanced trees

Why is this important?

Why is this important?

e.g. Protein interaction networks Virus Phylogeny Tree of life

Why is this important?

e.g. Protein interaction networks Virus Phylogeny Tree of life

In general, areas where the phylogeny is important for prediction

 $\mathcal{M}_1 = M_{\alpha,\beta} + M_{\gamma,\delta}$  $\mathcal{M}_2 = M_{\alpha,\gamma} + M_{\beta,\delta}$  $\mathcal{M}_3 = M_{\alpha,\delta} + M_{\beta,\gamma}$ 







 $E_{((A,B),(C,D))} = \max(0, \mathcal{M}_1 - \min(\mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{M}_3))$ 

How is M defined?





 $E_{((A,B),(C,D))} = \max(0, \mathcal{M}_1 - \min(\mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{M}_3))$ 

#### How is M defined?

If  $M_{\alpha,\beta} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B} \mathcal{D}(a,b) \, 2^{-t(a,\alpha)-t(b,\beta)}$ 

 $\Delta E = 4L_P$ 





 $E_{((A,B),(C,D))} = \max(0, \mathcal{M}_1 - \min(\mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{M}_3))$ 

#### How is M defined?

If  $M_{\alpha,\beta} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B} \mathcal{D}(a,b) \, 2^{-t(a,\alpha)-t(b,\beta)} \qquad \Delta E = 4L_P$ 

Introduce the idea that longer distances have larger fluctuations





 $E_{((A,B),(C,D))} = \max(0, \mathcal{M}_1 - \min(\mathcal{M}_2, \mathcal{M}_3))$ 

#### How is M defined?

If 
$$M_{\alpha,\beta} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B} \mathcal{D}(a,b) \, 2^{-t(a,\alpha)-t(b,\beta)} \qquad \Delta E = 4L_P$$

Introduce the idea that longer distances have larger fluctuations for each leaf *a* we define a *length* 

$$l_a = \frac{1}{N_B} \sum_{b \in B} \mathcal{D}(a, b) + \frac{1}{N_C} \sum_{c \in C} \mathcal{D}(a, c) + \frac{1}{N_D} \sum_{d \in D} \mathcal{D}(a, d)$$

the idea is filtering leaves' contributions using this length

Introduce a weight

$$p_a = f\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a\right)$$

Introduce a weight

$$p_a = f \left( l_{\min}^A / l_a \right)$$
$$p_a = \theta \left( l_{\min}^A / l_a - l_t \right)$$

simple case

Introduce a weight $p_a = f\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a\right)$ simple case $p_a = \theta\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a - l_t\right)$ 

A better approach is to use a smooth weight, e.g.

 $p_a = \left(l_{\min}^A / l_a\right)^k \quad k > 0$ 

Introduce a weight $p_a = f\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a\right)$ simple case $p_a = \theta\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a - l_t\right)$ 

#### A better approach is to use a smooth weight, e.g.

$$p_a = \left(l_{\min}^A/l_a
ight)^k \ k > 0$$
  
then  $M_{lpha,eta} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B} \mathcal{D}(a,b) w_a w_b p_a p_b$ 

with w effective Pauplin's weights

Introduce a weight $p_a = f\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a\right)$ simple case $p_a = \theta\left(l_{\min}^A/l_a - l_t\right)$ 

A better approach is to use a smooth weight, e.g.

$$p_a = \left( l_{\min}^A / l_a \right)^k \quad k > 0$$

then 
$$M_{\alpha,\beta} = \sum_{a \in A, b \in B} \mathcal{D}(a,b) w_a w_b p_a p_b$$

with w effective Pauplin's weights

Identify the weight  $p_a$  with the probability of considering the leaf a when defining the subtree representative

Compute the effective Pauplin weights by using a suitable partition function



but the probability factorizes on each node!

$$w_a = \frac{1}{2^{n(\mathcal{P}_a)}} \prod_{\alpha_i \in \mathcal{P}_a} \left( 1 + \prod_{a_i \in V(\alpha_i)} (1 - p_{a_i}) \right)$$





-□∨(α<sub>i</sub>) ⊐a

⊐ V(α,)

 $V(\alpha_3)$ 

but the probability factorizes on each node!

$$w_a = \frac{1}{2^{n(\mathcal{P}_a)}} \prod_{\alpha_i \in \mathcal{P}_a} \left( 1 + \prod_{a_i \in V(\alpha_i)} (1 - p_{a_i}) \right)$$

number of nodes in the path from a to  $\alpha$ 



number of nodes in the path from a to  $\alpha$ 



number of nodes in the path from *a* to  $\alpha$ 

drawback:  $\Delta E$  is not the variation of any functional weights depend on the chosen edge!



number of nodes in the path from a to lpha

drawback:  $\Delta E$  is not the variation of any functional weights depend on the chosen edge!

positive facts:

- I. It works
- 2. computational complexity O(N^2 log(N))
- 3. general method to weigh taxa

Performances of distance-based reconstruction algorithms as a function of mutation rate per site



Performances of distance-based reconstruction algorithms as a function of the horizontal transfer rate



## The benchmarking problem





#### Is a web experiment -game- aimed to provide a completely controlled and model-free phylogeny



Is a web experiment -game- aimed to provide a completely controlled and model-free phylogeny

Players (copysts) have few minutes to copy a given text. Texts evolve by:

copyingdegradation



Is a web experiment -game- aimed to provide a completely controlled and model-free phylogeny

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Is a web experiment -game- aimed to provide a completely controlled and model-free phylogeny Players (copysts) have few minutes to copy a given text. Texts evolve by:

O dolce amor de caritate, pregote che me te lassi tenere, se te piace che da ti non me deggia mai partire. Lo dolce amore che me se è dato, madonna, puoi che me l'hai prestato, non me lo tollere questa fiata puoi che l'agio desiderato; puoi che ce so' venuta e che me te si' dato, non me voglio più partire. O dolce amore smesurato che te si' umiliato ed a questa misera te si dato. O dolce matre non me lo retollere, lo voglio tenere che me confuorti e che ma mea mente allustri. Puoi che m'hai reconsolata ed ame allustrata, no lo retollere se te piace. O dolce amore de grande confuorto che resusciti chi è muorto. O dolce amor de veritate che dai lume alli accecati, illuminame se te piace.


Is a web experiment -game- aimed to provide a completely controlled and model-free phylogeny

Players (copysts) have few minutes to copy a given text. Texts evolve by:

#### TIME

O dolce amor de caritate, pregote che me te lassi tenere, se te piace che da ti non me deggia mai partire. Lo dolce amore che se è dato, madonna, puoi che me l'hai prestato, non me lo tollere questa fiata puoi che l'agio desidere puoi che ce so' venuta e che pi' dato, non me voglio più partire. O dolce and smesurato che te si' umiliate questa misera te si dato dolce matre non me lo retollere, lo voglio tenere che me confuorti e che ma mea mente allustri. Puoi che m'hai reconsolata ed ame allustrata, no lo retollere se te piace. O dolce amore de grande confuorto che resusciti chi è muorto. O dolce amor de veritate che dai lume alli accecati, illuminame se te piace.



## An application in linguistics: The tree of languages



## Lists of words representing a language

## Swadesh lists

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First attempt: cognate words → distance 0/1
phonological characters

## Swadesh lists

## Lists of words representing a language

First attempt: cognate words — distance 0/1
phonological characters

1	ei	io
You	yu	tu
We	wi	noi
Ear	ir	oreky~o
Eye	ei	oky~o

Levenshtein (edit) distance: number of insertions, deletions or substitutions to go from a word to another

## Swadesh lists

Lists of words representing a language

First attempt: cognate words — distance 0/1
phonological characters

	ei	io	distance between languages: average Levenshtein distance between homologous words
You	yu	tu	
We	wi	noi	
Ear	ir	oreky~o	
Eve	ei	okv~o	

Levenshtein (edit) distance: number of insertions, deletions or substitutions to go from a word to another ASJP (Automated Similarity Judgment Program) database

- 50 language families
- languages per family varing from O(10) to O(100)
- each language list 100 homologous words (but incomplete!)

ASJP (Automated Similarity Judgment Program) database

50 language families

languages per family varing from O(10) to O(100)

each language list 100 homologous words (but incomplete!)

40 words common to almost all languages in each family



ASJP (Automated Similarity Judgment Program) database

50 language families

languages per family varing from O(10) to O(100)each language list 100 homologous words (but incomplete!)



## Comparison with Ethnologue (experts) classification



No much difference in performances between reconstruction algorithms: too much noise or too short and/or incomplete lists?

# Artificial lists of words evolving through mutation, deletion and insertion

#### Artificial lists of words

#### evolving through mutation, deletion and insertion

N=100 languages, lists of 100 words common to all languages +100 words of which 80% is randomly and independently deleted from each language lists



#### Artificial lists of words

normalized RF

#### evolving through mutation, deletion and insertion

N=100 languages, lists of 100 words common to all languages +100 words of which 80% is randomly and independently deleted from each language lists







## **INDO-EUROPEAN**

#### Romance

#### Germanic

Celtic

**Balto-Slavic** 

Indo-Iranian

An application in biology: Influenza virus evolution

# Extract information about the phylogenetic process from phylogenetic tree shape



patient 6 from (26)]. All sequences were collected from GenBank and trees were constructed with maximum likelihood in PAUP\* (46). Horizontal branch lengths are proportional to substitutions per site. Further details are available from the authors on request.

## Balance/unbalance measures

 $A_i$  number of taxa diversifying from node *i*, including itself





Almost all evolutive process produce asymptotically balanced tress



## Influenza A virus RNA in 8 segments (~10000 nucleotides)



Influenza A virus RNA in 8 segments (~10000 nucleotides)

HA (Hemagglutinin) and (NA) Neuraminidase are the surface proteins responsible for the interaction with host immune system (~1000 nucleotides each)

#### e.g. H3N2 (from 1968)



## Influenza A virus RNA in 8 segments (~10000 nucleotides)

Predictive Isolate: Codon set

AShangdong5/94: Positively selected codons A/Harbn/054: Codona saxociated with the receptor binding A/Santiago/118694: Fastest evolving codons A/NewYork/15594: Codons in or near antibody combining sites A and B

## HA (Hemagglutinin) and (NA) Neuraminidase

are the surface proteins responsible for the interaction with host immune system (~1000 nucleotides each)

### e.g. H3N2 (from 1968)



Open question: Which evolutive process produces the comb-like (or unbalanced) tree? virus - host immune system interaction? Open question: Which evolutive process produces the comb-like (or unbalanced) tree? virus - host immune system interaction?

More general open questions:

taking into account deviations from additivity in algorithms (horizontal transfer)

exploiting additional information (internal nodes)

modeling evolutionary processes leading to real phylogenies

Thank you