

DNA sequences I

Alignment and Sanger sequence editing, DNA saturation, basic single-gene tree construction

DNA sequences I

- Alignment [Mafft]
- Alignment editing [BioEdit, MEGA]
- Alignment improvement [Gblocks, Trimal]
- Alignment conversion, concatenation [FASconCAT]
- Model selection [jModeltest, PartitionFinder]
- Tree reconstruction [RAxML, PAUP, MrBayes]
- Tree manipulation [FigTree, R]

Sequence alignment

- <http://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/server/>

Strategy:

- Auto (FFT-NS-1, FFT-NS-2, FFT-NS-i or L-INS-i; depends on data size) [Updated](#)

Progressive methods

- FFT-NS-1 (Very fast; recommended for >2,000 sequences; progressive method)
- FFT-NS-2 (Fast; progressive method)
- G-INS-1 (Slow; progressive method with an accurate guide tree)

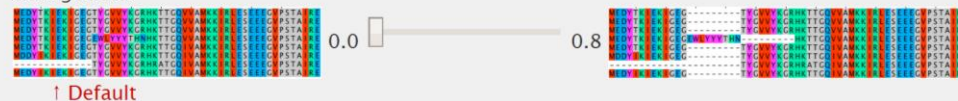
Iterative refinement methods

- FFT-NS-i (Slow; iterative refinement method)
- E-INS-i (Very slow; recommended for <200 sequences with multiple conserved domains and long gaps) [Help](#) [Updated](#) (2015/Jun)
- L-INS-i (Very slow; recommended for <200 sequences with one conserved domain and long gaps) [Help](#)
- G-INS-i (Very slow; recommended for <200 sequences with global homology) [Help](#)
- Q-INS-i (Extremely slow; secondary structure of RNA is considered; recommended for a global alignment of highly divergent ncRNAs with <200 sequences \times <1,000 nucleotides; the number of iterative cycles is restricted to two, 2016/May) [Help](#)

Align unrelated segments, too? *in Alpha Testing* (2014/Mar)

If the input data is expected to be globally conserved but locally contaminated by unrelated segments, try 'Unalignlevel>0' and possibly 'Leave gappy regions'.

Unalignlevel:



Gap opening penalty: (1.0 – 5.0)

Offset value: (0.0 – 1.0)

Score of **N** in nucleotide data: [Example](#)

- Long stretches of **ns** tend to be gapped (excluded from the alignment).
- (nzero) **N** has no effect on the alignment score.
- (nwildcard) **N** is treated like a wildcard. *Experimental option* (2016/Apr/26)
 - Try this if **ns** should be aligned with usual letters.

Sequence alignment

- *Playing with MAFFT options*

Strategy:

- Auto (FFT-NS-1, FFT-NS-2, FFT-NS-i or L-INS-i; depends on data size) [Updated](#)

Progressive methods

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Iterative refinement methods

- FFT-NS-i (Slow; iterative refinement method)
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Align unrelated segments, too? *in Alpha Testing* (2014/Mar)

If the input data is expected to be globally conserved but locally contaminated by unrelated segments, try 'Unalignlevel:'

Unalignlevel:



Gap opening penalty: (1.0 - 5.0)

Offset value: (0.0 - 1.0)

Score of **N** in nucleotide data: [Example](#)

↓ Long stretches of **NS** tend to be gapped (excluded from the alignment).

- (nzero) **N** has no effect on the alignment score.
- (nwildcard) **N** is treated like a wildcard. *Experimental option* (2016/Apr/26)

↑ Try this if **NS** should be aligned with usual letters.

Strategy:

- FFT-NS vs Q-INS
- FFT-NS vs G-INS

Align unrelated sequences:

- 0.0 vs 0.8

Penalties:

- 1 vs 3
- 1 vs 5

Score of **N** in nucleotide data:

- nzero v nwildcard

Test of alignments differing by:

- locus (e.g., SSU, rbcL)
- variability
- N frequency
- ...

Sequence editing

- BioEdit - <http://www.mbio.ncsu.edu/bioedit/bioedit.html>



- A few tips:
 - Sequence – Manipulations – UPPERCASE
 - Sequence – Nucleic Acid – RNA->DNA
 - Alignment – Minimize alignment to mask
 - Edit – Copy sequence titles
 - Search options.....

Sequence editing

- MEGA - <http://www.megasoftware.net/>



- A few tips (.fas):
 - Data – Reverse Complement
 - Data – Translate/untranslate
- A few tips (.meg):
 - Distance – Compute pairwise distance
 - Phylogeny – Construct fast trees
 - Statistics (Data explorer) – Nucleotide composition
 - Highlight (Data explorer) – Mark sites

Sequence editing

- FaBox- <http://users-birc.au.dk/biopv/php/fabox/>



- Edit names
- Crop and merge alignments
- Extract variable sites („Show variable sites only“)
- Convert fasta to other formats (e.g., TCS input)
- Create MrBayes nexus file („Create MrBayes input file from fasta (fasta2mrbayes)“)

Sequence editing

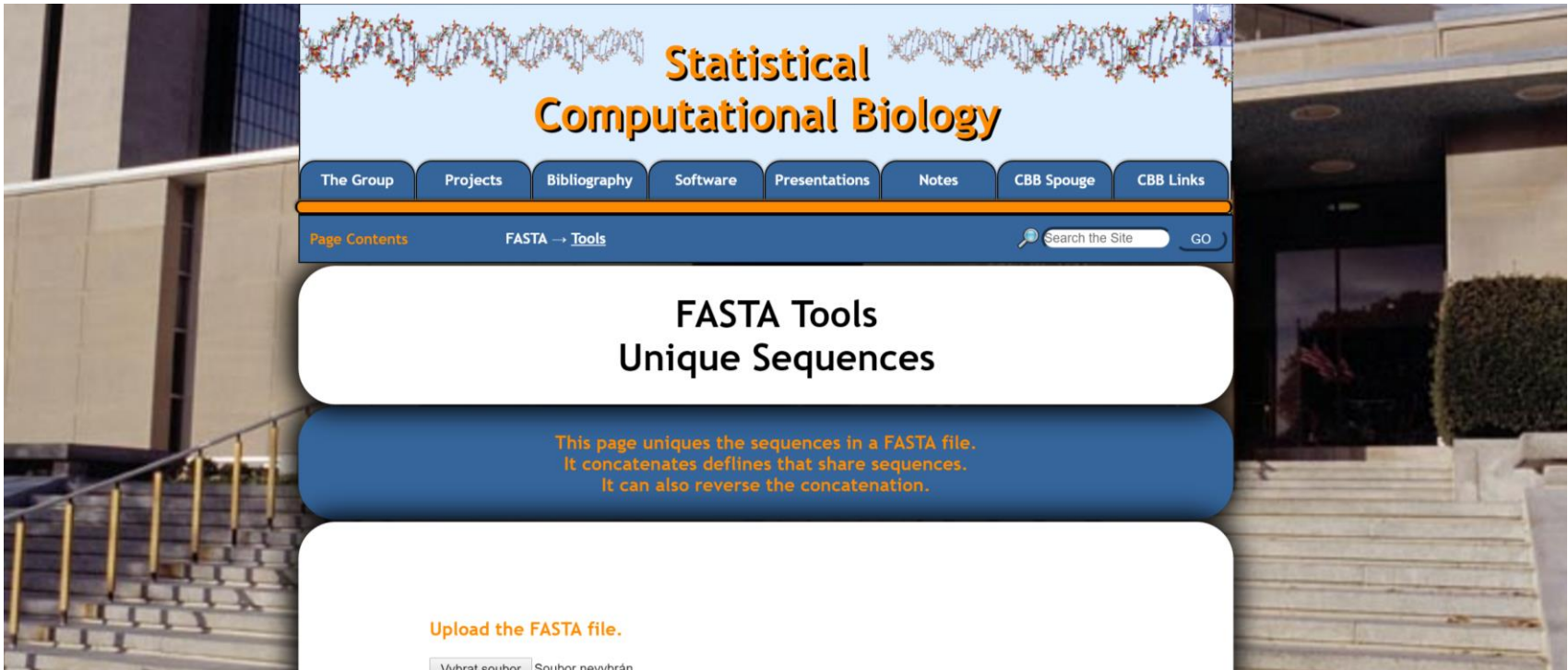
- SeqState - <http://bioinfweb.info/Software/SeqState>



- Coding gaps as a special state
- *File -> Load NEXUS file*
- *IndelCoder -> simple indel coding*

Sequence editing

- FASTA Tools – Unique sequences
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/CBBresearch/Spouge/html_ncbi/html/fasta/uniqueseq.html



The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the 'FASTA Tools Unique Sequences' page. The page is part of the 'Statistical Computational Biology' website, which features a blue header with a DNA double helix graphic. The main content area is white with a blue navigation bar at the top containing links for 'The Group', 'Projects', 'Bibliography', 'Software', 'Presentations', 'Notes', 'CBB Spouge', and 'CBB Links'. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a 'Page Contents' link. The main heading is 'FASTA Tools Unique Sequences'. A blue box contains the text: 'This page uniques the sequences in a FASTA file. It concatenates deflines that share sequences. It can also reverse the concatenation.' At the bottom, there is a section for 'Upload the FASTA file.' with a file selection button labeled 'Vybrat soubor' and a 'Soubor nevybrán' message.

Statistical Computational Biology

The Group Projects Bibliography Software Presentations Notes CBB Spouge CBB Links

Page Contents FASTA → Tools Search the Site GO

FASTA Tools Unique Sequences

This page uniques the sequences in a FASTA file. It concatenates deflines that share sequences. It can also reverse the concatenation.

Upload the FASTA file.

Vybrat soubor Soubor nevybrán

Sequence editing

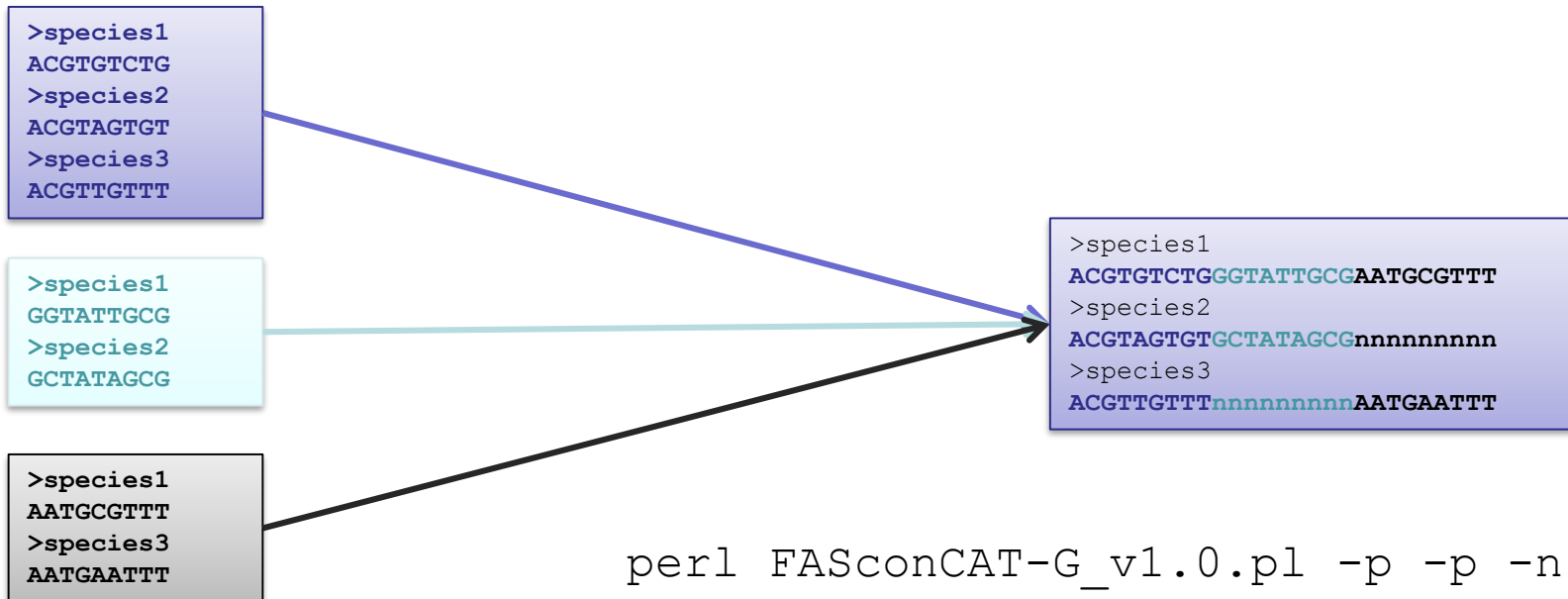
- A few tips in R:
 - Save sequence names
 - Replace sequence names
 - Minimize alignment to mask
 - Save an alignment of selected sequences
 - Concatenate alignments



Alignment concatenations, conversion

FASconCAT – <https://www.zfmk.de/en/research/research-centres-and-groups/fasconcat-g>

- Perl script
- concatenating alignments (with same headers but not necessarily with all samples in all alignments)
- conversion between fasta, phylip and nexus



Alignment improvement

- Gblocks:
- http://molevol.cmima.csic.es/castresana/Gblocks_server.html

Castresana Lab
Animal Biodiversity and Evolution Program

Institut de
Biologia Evolutiva
(CSIC-UPF)

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Gblocks Server

Selection of conserved blocks from multiple alignments for their use in phylogenetic analysis

About the Gblocks Server

Version 0.91b, January 2002

Copyright © Jose Castresana

 **Gblocks** eliminates poorly aligned positions and divergent regions of a DNA or protein alignment so that it becomes more suitable for phylogenetic analysis. This server implements the most important features of the Gblocks program to make its use as simple as possible without losing the functionality that it is necessary in most of the cases. Other options can be changed in the stand-alone program. You can see here an [example output file](#) showing the blocks selected from a protein alignment. Further information can be found in the [online documentation](#). Please see the [Gblocks](#) page for citations.

Gblocks Server

Paste an alignment in NBRF/PIR or FASTA format:

Options to play with:

Or upload an alignment file:

Type of sequence:
DNA || Protein || Codons

Options for a less stringent selection:

Allow smaller final blocks

Allow gap positions within the final blocks

Allow less strict flanking positions

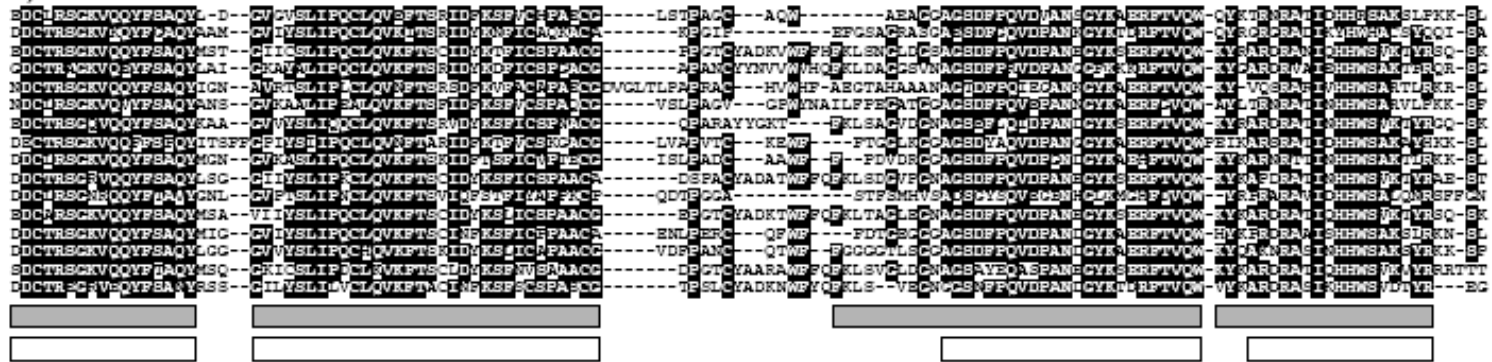
Options for a more stringent selection:

Do not allow many contiguous nonconserved positions

Alignment improvement

- Gblocks

c)



d)

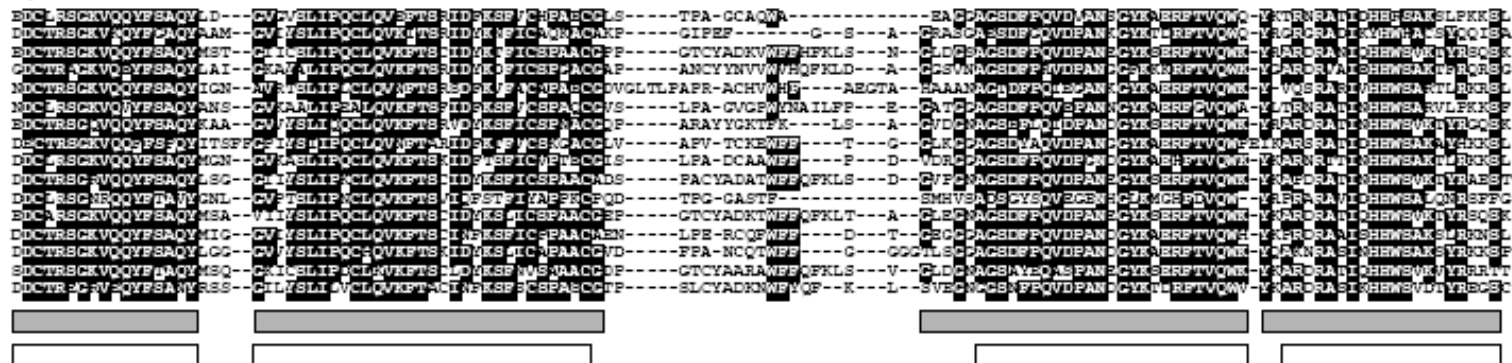


FIGURE 2. Fragment of a simulated alignment (a) and the realignment of the same sequences (after gap removal) by ClustalW (b), Mafft (c), and Probcons (d). The simulation corresponds to an asymmetric tree with divergence $\times 1$. The blocks below each alignment represent the fragments selected by Gblocks with relaxed conditions (grey blocks) and with stringent conditions (white blocks). Positions of the alignments where more than 50% of the sequences are identical are shown with black boxes.

Alignment improvement

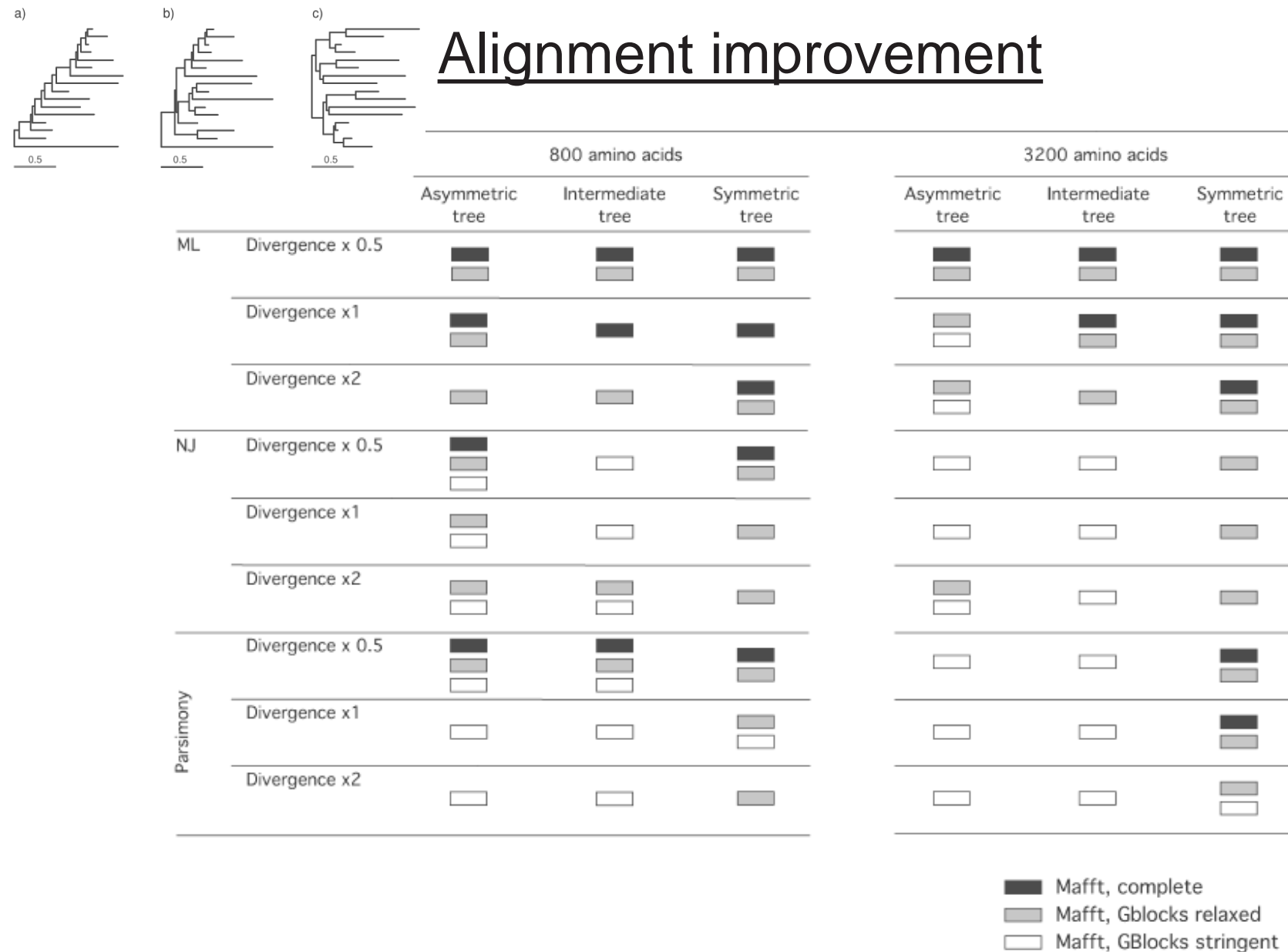
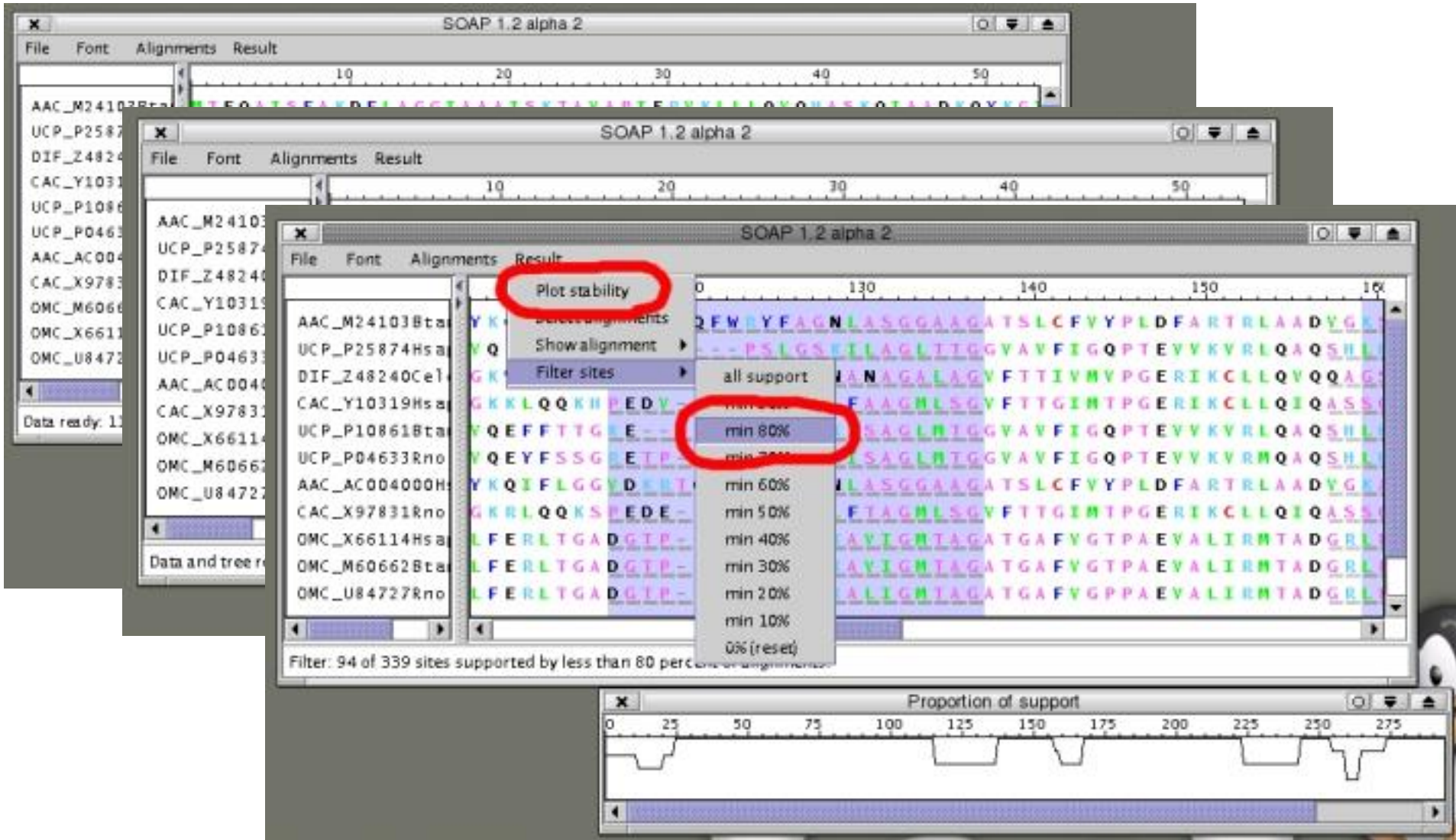


FIGURE 6. Mafft alignment strategies that give rise to the statistically best topologies. When two or more strategies do not show statistical differences in Robinson-Foulds distances, all equivalent strategies are represented. The complete alignment is represented by a black block, and the relaxed and stringent Gblocks strategies by grey and white blocks, respectively.

Alignment improvement

- SOAP - <http://ueg.ulb.ac.be/SOAP/>



Alignment improvement

- Trimal - <http://trimal.cgenomics.org>
 - automated removal of spurious sequences or poorly aligned regions

```
trimal -in example1 -out output6 -htmlout output6.html -gappyout
```

```
Selected Residue / Sequence
Deleted Residue / Sequence
          10      20      30      40      50      60
=====+=====+=====+=====+=====+=====+
Sp8      -----GLGKV---IVY-GIVLGTKS-DQFSNWVWVL-----FPWNGLQIHMMGII
Sp17     -----FAYTAPD---LLLIGFLLKTVA-T-FG--DTWF-----QLWQGLDLNKMPVF
Sp10     -----DPAVL---FV--IMLGTIT-K-FS--SEWF-----FAWLGLEINMMVII
Sp26     AAAAAAAAA---ALL---TYL-GLFLGTDY-----EN---FAAAAAANAWLGLEINMMAQI
Sp33     -----PTIL---NIA-GLHMETDI-N-FS--LAWF-----QAWGGLEINKQAIL
Sp6      -----ASGAI---LTL-GIYLFTLC-AVIS--VSWY-----LAWLGLEINMMAII
```

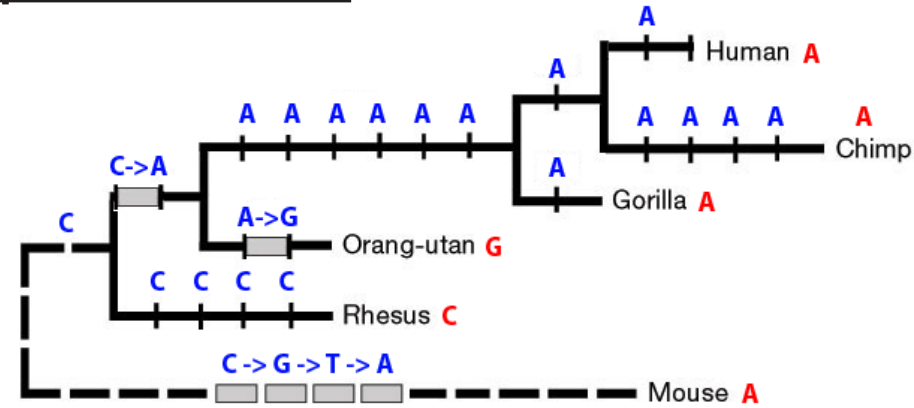
```
trimal -in example1 -out output7 -htmlout output7.html -strict
```

```
Selected Residue / Sequence
Deleted Residue / Sequence
          10      20      30      40      50      60
=====+=====+=====+=====+=====+=====+
Sp8      -----GLGKV---IVY-GIVLGTKS-DQFSNWVWVL-----FPWNGLQIHMMGII
Sp17     -----FAYTAPD---LLLIGFLLKTVA-T-FG--DTWF-----QLWQGLDLNKMPVF
Sp10     -----DPAVL---FV--IMLGTIT-K-FS--SEWF-----FAWLGLEINMMVII
Sp26     AAAAAAAAA---ALL---TYL-GLFLGTDY-----EN---FAAAAAANAWLGLEINMMAQI
Sp33     -----PTIL---NIA-GLHMETDI-N-FS--LAWF-----QAWGGLEINKQAIL
Sp6      -----ASGAI---LTL-GIYLFTLC-AVIS--VSWY-----LAWLGLEINMMAII
```


Alignment improvement

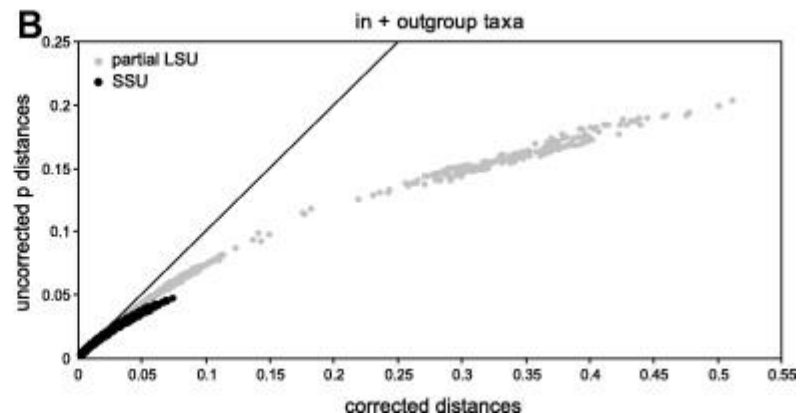
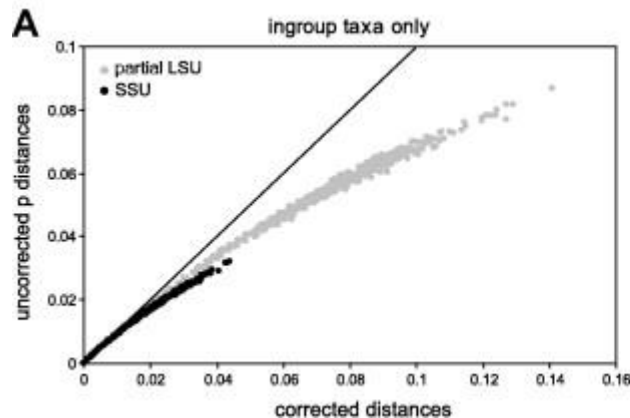
Substitution saturation

- Some positions in alignment were changed multiple times
- Due to only 4 nucleotide types, the noise is stochastically increasing by time
- Saturated positions can represent the majority of variability in data
- A big problem for MP analyses!



1) Saturation curves:

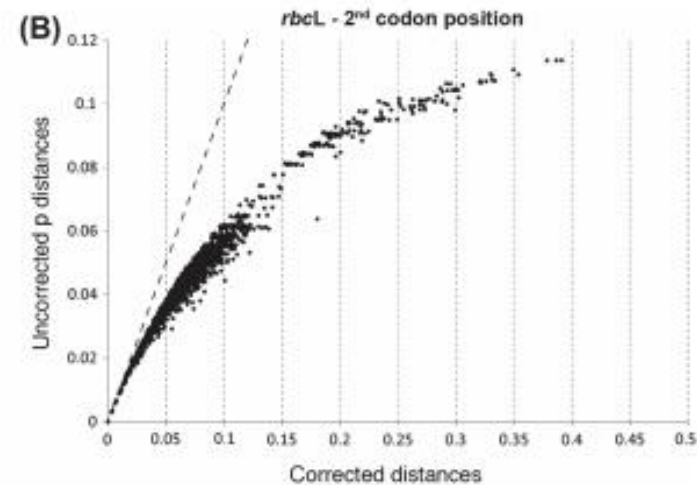
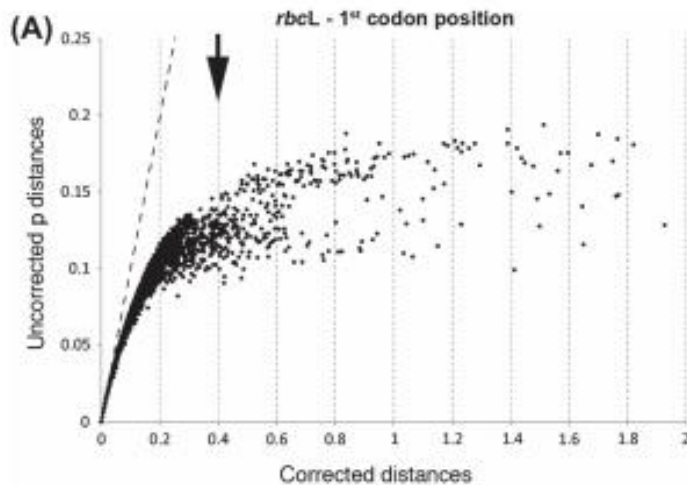
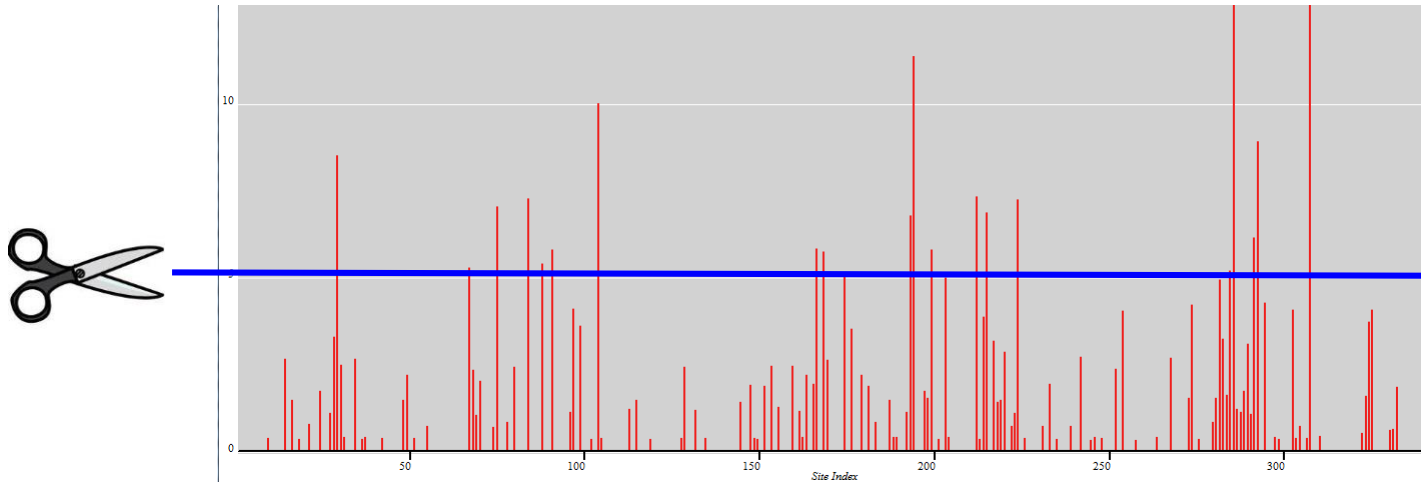
- Comparison of sequence distances accounted under the simple and more complex substitution models



Alignment improvement

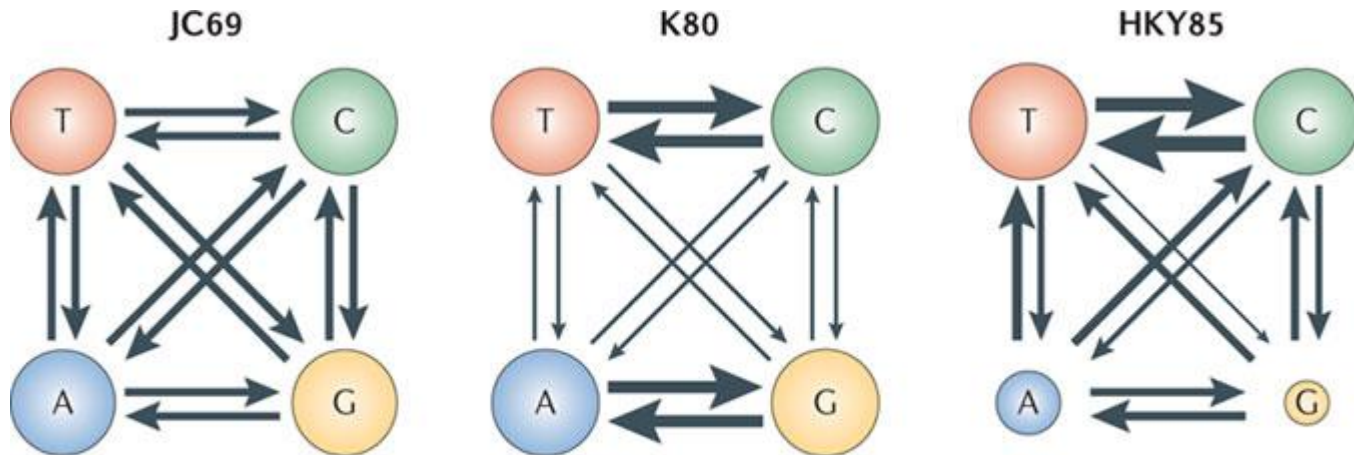
2) Site stripping

- Deletion of saturated alignment positions



Model selection

- *p-distance*: the simplest distance measure: the proportion of sites that differ between two sequences (saturation!).
- *substitution models* – models of how frequently different mutations occur in the DNA to precisely estimate the evolutionary distance between organisms
- Different combinations of base frequencies and nucleotide substitutions



Model selection

- Jukes-Cantor (JC69): equal base frequencies, all substitutions equally likely
(nst=1, rate classification: aaaaaa)

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

- Felsenstein (F81): variable base frequencies, all substitutions equally likely
(nst=1, rate classification: aaaaaa)

	A	T	C	G
A	-	$\alpha \Pi_T$	$\alpha \Pi_C$	$\alpha \Pi_G$
T	$\alpha \Pi_A$	-	$\alpha \Pi_C$	$\alpha \Pi_G$
C	$\alpha \Pi_A$	$\alpha \Pi_T$	-	$\alpha \Pi_G$
G	$\alpha \Pi_A$	$\alpha \Pi_T$	$\alpha \Pi_C$	-

- Kimura (K80): equal base frequencies, one transition rate and one transversion rate
(nst=2, rate classification: abaaba)

	A	T	C	G
A	-	β	β	α
T	β	-	α	β
C	β	α	-	β
G	α	β	β	-

- Hasegawa-Kishino-Yano (HKY): variable base frequencies, one transition rate and one transversion rate
(nst=2, rate classification: abbbba)

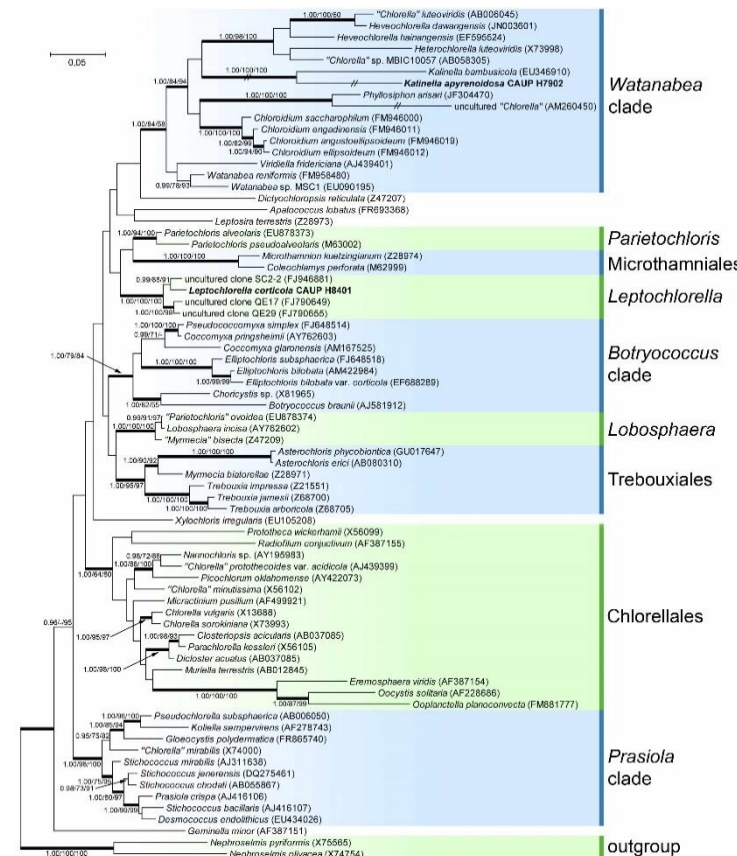
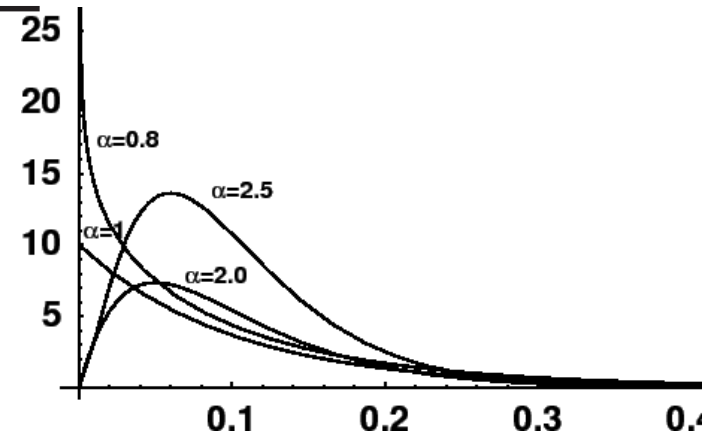
	A	T	C	G
A	-	$\beta \Pi_T$	$\beta \Pi_C$	$\alpha \Pi_G$
T	$\beta \Pi_A$	-	$\beta \Pi_C$	$\beta \Pi_G$
C	$\beta \Pi_A$	$\beta \Pi_T$	-	$\beta \Pi_G$
G	$\beta \Pi_A$	$\beta \Pi_T$	$\beta \Pi_C$	-

- General time reversible (GTR) variable base frequencies, symmetrical substitution matrix
(nst=6, rate classification: abcdef)

	A	T	C	G
A	-	$\alpha \Pi_T$	$\beta \Pi_C$	$\gamma \Pi_G$
T	$\alpha \Pi_A$	-	$\delta \Pi_C$	$\epsilon \Pi_G$
C	$\beta \Pi_A$	$\delta \Pi_T$	-	$\zeta \Pi_G$
G	$\alpha \Pi_A$	$\epsilon \Pi_T$	$\zeta \Pi_C$	-

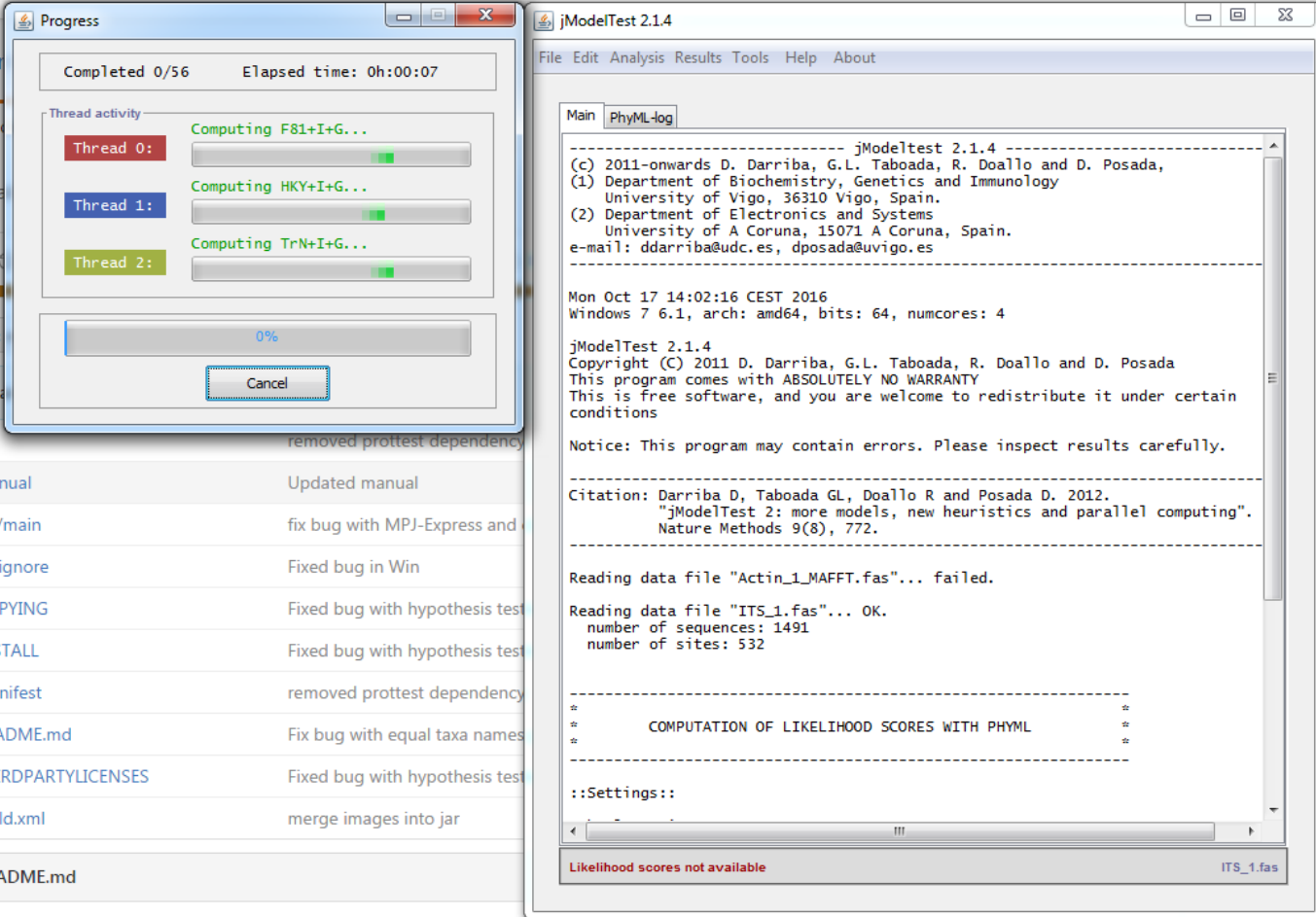
Model selection

- Gamma distribution (Γ): models a variability in substitution rates on different alignment positions. Usually, a model is simplified to 4 α categories
- Proportion of invariable sites (I): existence of a majority of invariable sites may negatively affect the estimated genetic distances. I model is particularly important in joint occurrence of very short and long branches
- Covarion (cov): models a variability in nucleotide substitution rates across the phylogenetic tree



Model selection

- jModelTest: <https://github.com/ddarriba/jmodeltest2>



The image shows two overlapping windows from the jModelTest 2.1.4 application. The foreground window is a 'Progress' dialog box with the following details:

- Completed: 0/56
- Elapsed time: 0h:00:07
- Thread activity:
 - Thread 0: Computing F81+I+G... (Progress bar ~25%)
 - Thread 1: Computing HKY+I+G... (Progress bar ~25%)
 - Thread 2: Computing TrN+I+G... (Progress bar ~25%)
- Overall progress: 0%
- Cancel button

The background window is the main application window titled 'jModelTest 2.1.4'. It displays a log window with the following text:

```
----- jModeltest 2.1.4 -----
(c) 2011-onwards D. Darriba, G.L. Taboada, R. Doallo and D. Posada,
(1) Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Immunology
    University of Vigo, 36310 Vigo, Spain.
(2) Department of Electronics and Systems
    University of A Coruna, 15071 A Coruna, Spain.
e-mail: ddarriba@udc.es, dposada@uvigo.es
-----

Mon Oct 17 14:02:16 CEST 2016
Windows 7 6.1, arch: amd64, bits: 64, numcores: 4

jModelTest 2.1.4
Copyright (C) 2011 D. Darriba, G.L. Taboada, R. Doallo and D. Posada
This program comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY
This is free software, and you are welcome to redistribute it under certain
conditions

Notice: This program may contain errors. Please inspect results carefully.

-----
Citation: Darriba D, Taboada GL, Doallo R and Posada D. 2012.
          "jModelTest 2: more models, new heuristics and parallel computing".
          Nature Methods 9(8), 772.
-----

Reading data file "Actin_1_MAFFT.fas"... failed.
Reading data file "ITS_1.fas"... OK.
number of sequences: 1491
number of sites: 532

-----
*          COMPUTATION OF LIKELIHOOD SCORES WITH PHYML          *
*                                                                *
*                                                                *
*                                                                *
-----

::Settings::

-----
```

At the bottom of the log window, a red status bar reads 'Likelihood scores not available'. The file name 'ITS_1.fas' is visible in the bottom right corner of the log window.

Best partitioning

- Partition Finder (Lanfear et al.) – selecting best-fit partitioning schemes and models of evolution
 - for all partitions simultaneously
 - merge partitions with same model into one
 - requires Python 2.7
 - alignment in phylip format
 - configuration file

```
# ALIGNMENT FILE #
alignment = test.phy;

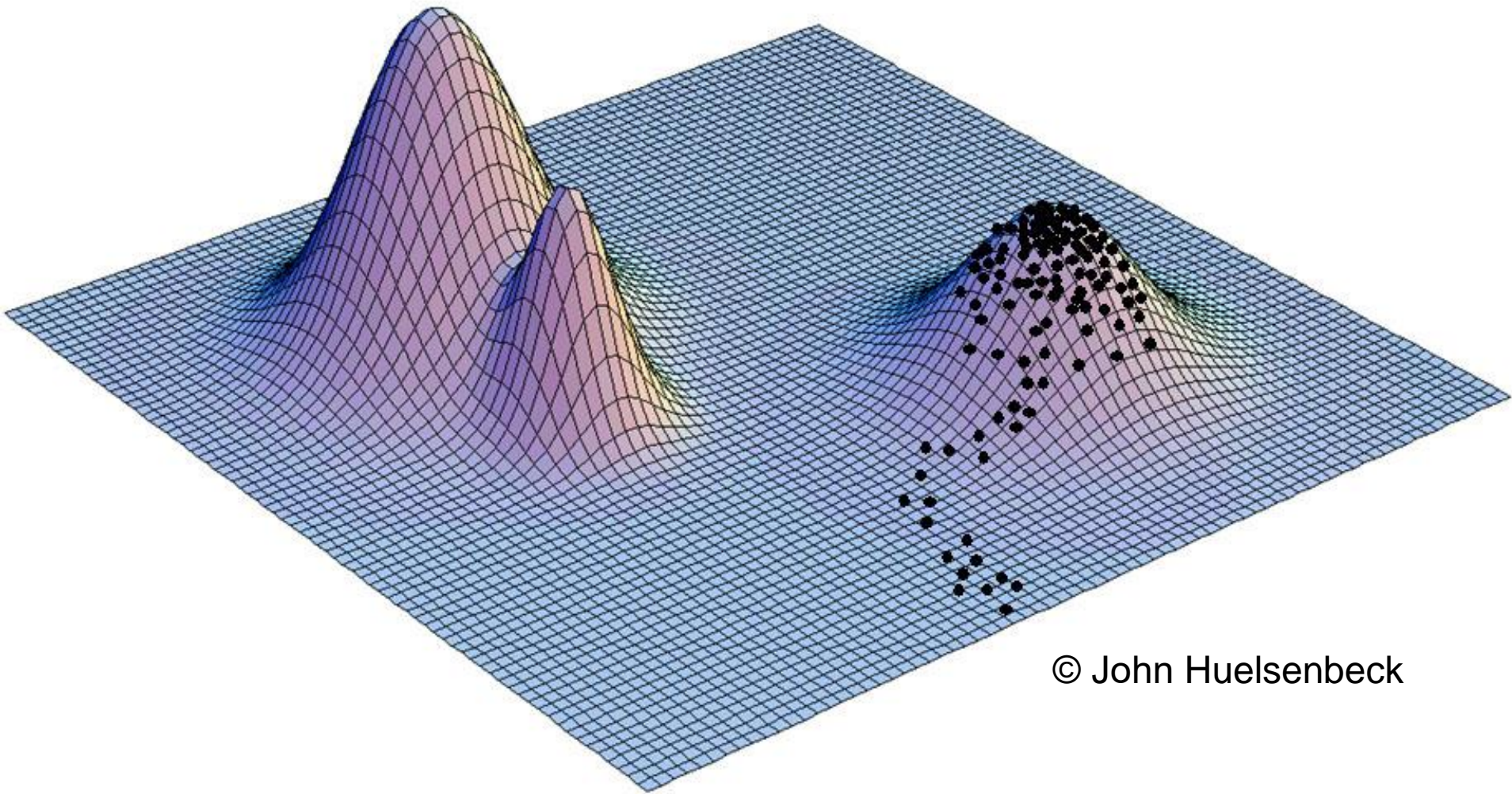
# BRANCHLENGTHS #
branchlengths = linked;

# MODELS OF EVOLUTION #
models = all;
model_selection = aicc;

# DATA BLOCKS #
[data_blocks]
Gene1_pos1 = 1-789\3;
Gene1_pos2 = 2-789\3;
Gene1_pos3 = 3-789\3;

# SCHEMES #
[schemes]
search = greedy;
```

Bayesian inference - MrBayes



© John Huelsenbeck

Bayesian inference - MrBayes

```
begin mrbayes;
```

```
charset rbcL1      = 3-1179 \ 3;  
charset rbcL2      = 1-1180 \ 3;  
charset rbcL3      = 2-1181 \ 3;  
charset ITS12      = 1182-1525 1683-1902;  
charset RNA        = 1526-1682;
```

```
partition marker = 5:rbcL1,rbcL2,rbcL3,ITS12,RNA;
```

```
set partition = marker;
```

```
lset applyto=(1) nst=6 rates=gamma;
```

```
lset applyto=(2,5) nst=1 rates=equal;
```

```
lset applyto=(3,4) nst=2 rates=gamma;
```

```
prset applyto=(1,3,4) statefreqpr=dirichlet(1,1,1,1);
```

```
prset applyto=(2,5) statefreqpr=fixed(equal);
```

```
prset applyto=(all) ratepr=variable;
```

```
unlink statefreq=(all) revmat=(all) tratio=(all) shape=(all)  
pinvar=(all);
```

```
mcmc ngen=5000000 samplefreq=100 nchains=4;  
end;
```

```
begin mrbayes;
```

```
charset ITS1        = 1-152;  
charset ITS2        = 319-519;  
charset RNA         = 153-318;  
charset intron1     = 520-727;  
charset exon        = 728-850;  
charset intron2     = 851-1142;
```

```
partition vse = 6:ITS1,ITS2,RNA,intron1,exon,intron2;
```

```
set partition = vse;
```

```
lset applyto=(all) nst=mixed rates=gamma;
```

```
prset applyto=(all) statefreqpr=dirichlet(1,1,1,1);
```

```
prset applyto=(all) ratepr=variable;
```

```
unlink statefreq=(all) revmat=(all) tratio=(all) shape=(all) pinvar=(all);
```

```
mcmc ngen=5000000 samplefreq=100 nchains=4;  
end;
```

Parsimony - PAUP

```
[maximum parsimony block]
begin paup;
log start=yes file=MP.log replace=yes;
set autoclose=yes warnreset=no increase=auto;
set criterion=parsimony;
hsearch;
savetrees brlens=yes file=treeMP.tre replace=yes;
contree /strict=yes majrule=yes treefile=contree.tre replace=yes;
log stop;
end;
```

```
[bootstrap MP block]
log start=yes file=MPboot.log replace=yes;
bootstrap search=heuristic nreps=100 conlevel=50;
savetrees from=1 to=1 file=MPboot.tre savebootp=nodelabels maxdecimals=1 replace=yes;
log stop;
end;
```

ML - RAxML

Basic command line parameters

-m	substitution model
-p	random seed
-t	starting tree (if not specified, parsimony tree is generated using randomized stepwise addition)
-s	input file (phylip or fasta)
-#	number of replicates
-n	suffix for resulting files

Bootstrapping

a) find best ML tree (best-scoring tree)

raxmlHPC -m GTRGAMMA -p 12345 -# 20 -s dna.phy -n bestML

- generate 20 trees, best saved to RAxML_bestTree.bestML

b) compute bootstrap replicates

raxmlHPC -m GTRGAMMA -p 12345 -b 12345 -# 100 -s dna.phy -n boot

- generate 100 bootstrap matrices

- trees generated to RAxML_bootstrap.boot

c) bootstrap values mapped onto best ML tree

raxmlHPC -m GTRGAMMA -p 12345 -f b -t RAxML_bestTree.bestML -z

RAxML_bootstrap.boot -n finalboot

- two files generated: RAxML_bipartitions.finalboot (bootstrap values as nodes) and RAxML_bipartitionsBranchLabels.finalboot (bootstrap values above branches)

Rapid bootstrap

- much faster than standard bootstrap

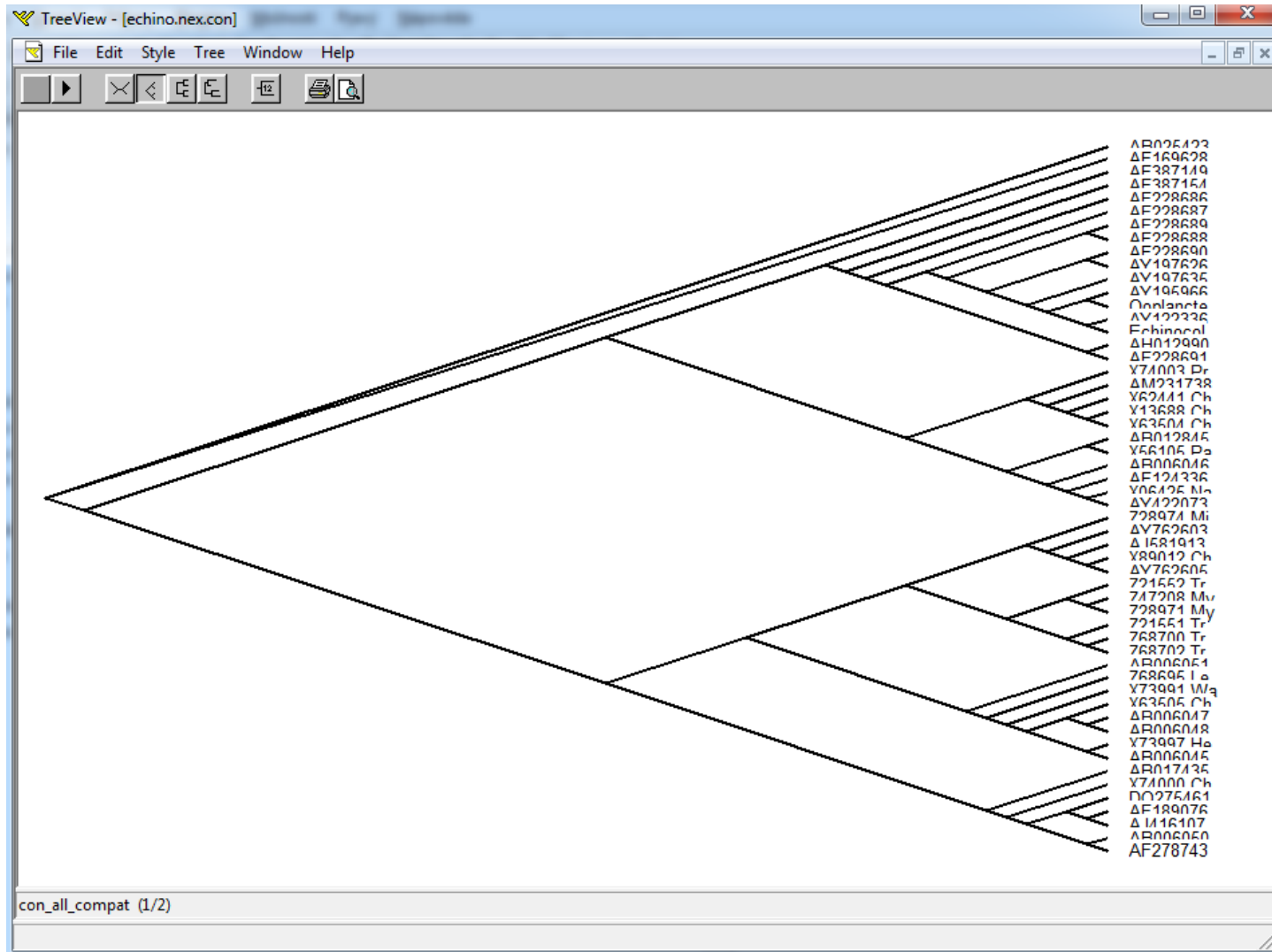
- complete analysis (ML search+ bootstrapping) in one step

raxmlHPC -f a -m GTRGAMMA -p 12345 -x 12345 -# 100 -s dna.phy -n rbs

- RAxML_bipartitions.rbs – best ML tree with mapped bootstrap replicates

Tree Manipulation

- TreeView - <http://en.bio-soft.net/tree/TreeView.html/>

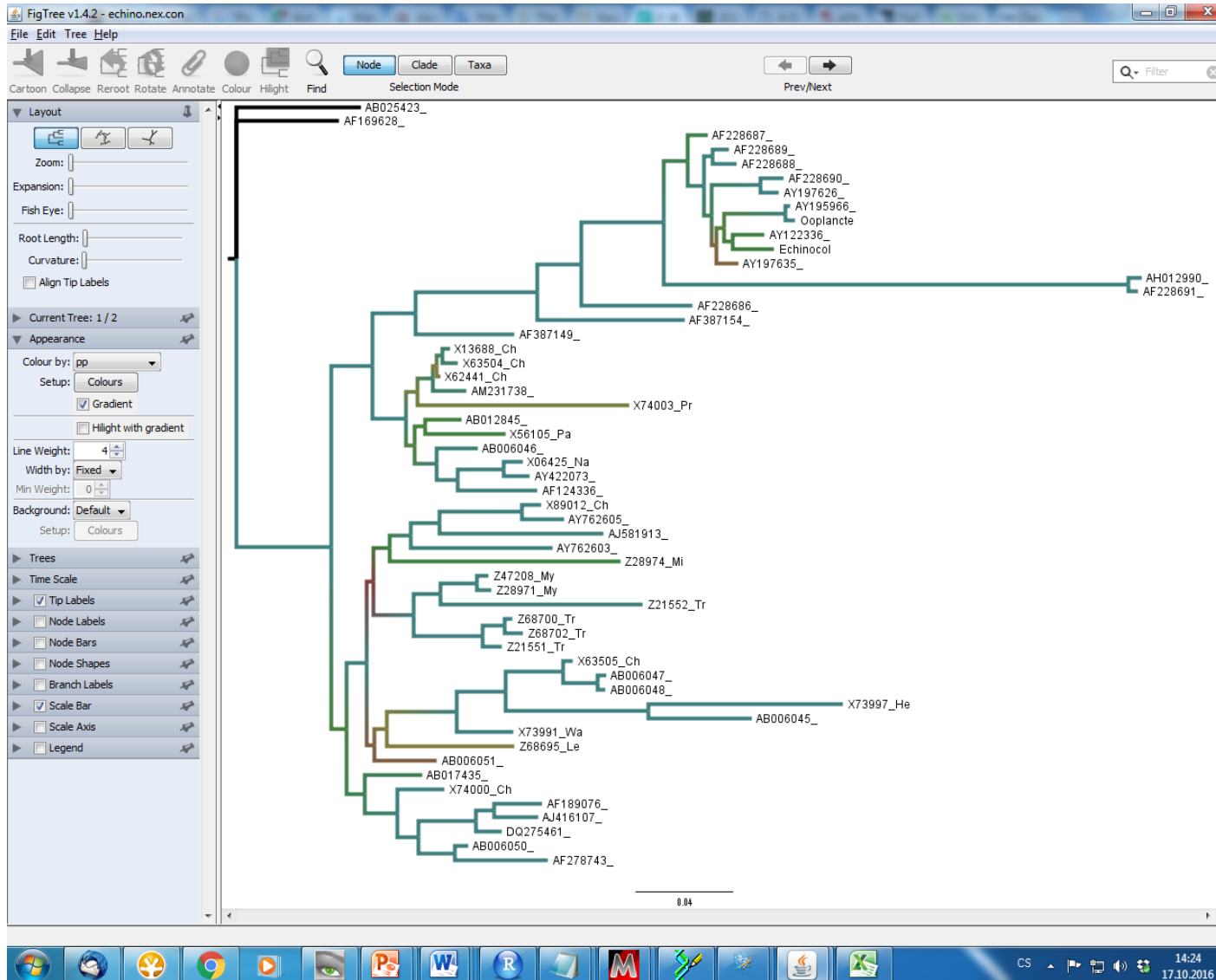


Tree Manipulation

- FigTree - <http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/>

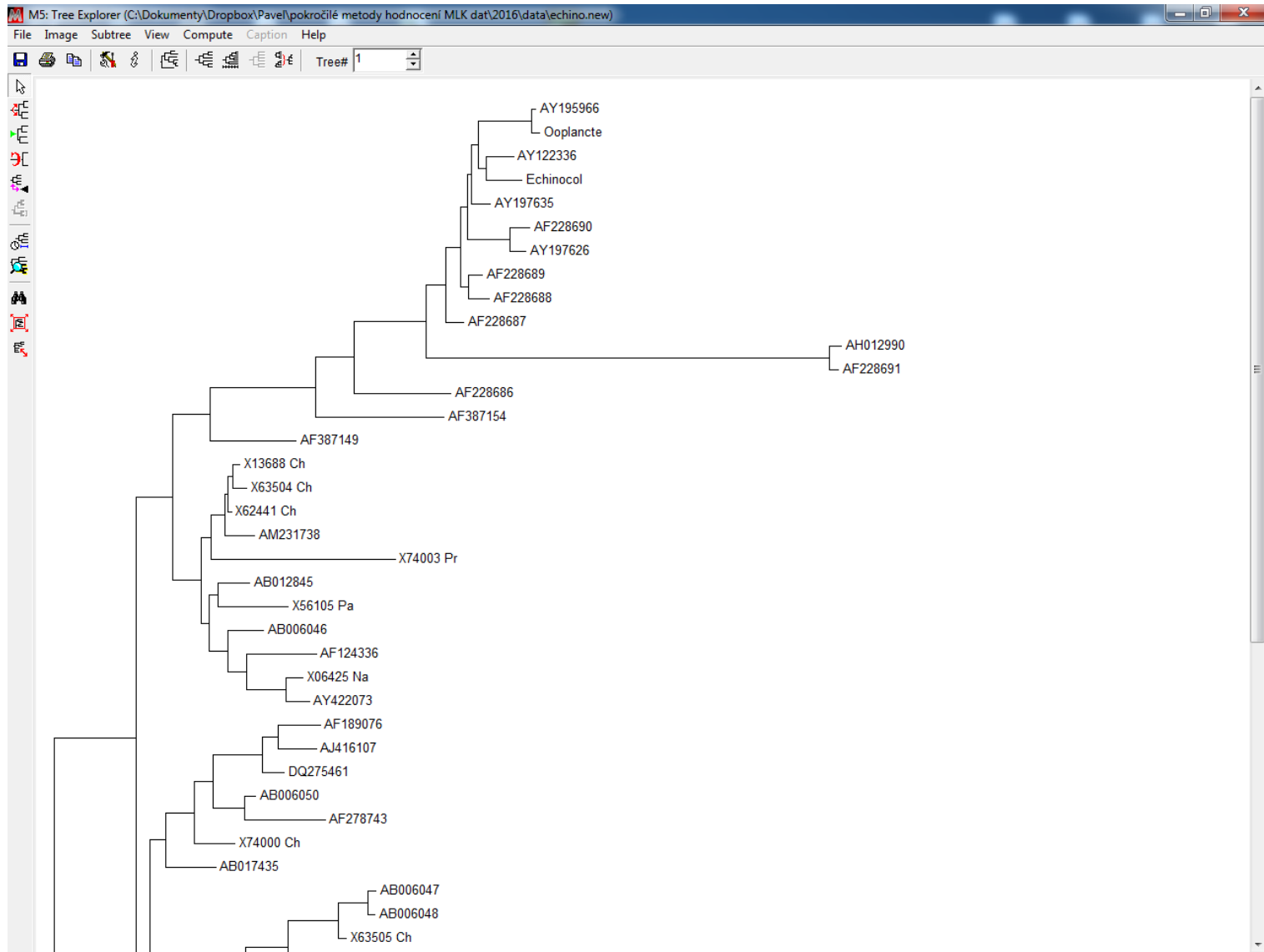


FigTree



Tree Manipulation

- MEGA - <http://www.megasoftware.net/>



Excercises:

Compare phylogenetic trees using:

- alignments with different amount of missing data
- alignments obtained by different MAFFT options
- original and minimized alignments after cleaning poorly aligned regions
- indel coding
- simple and complex evolutionary models
- partitioned and un-partitioned concatenated datasets
- different inferences (BI, ML, parsimony)