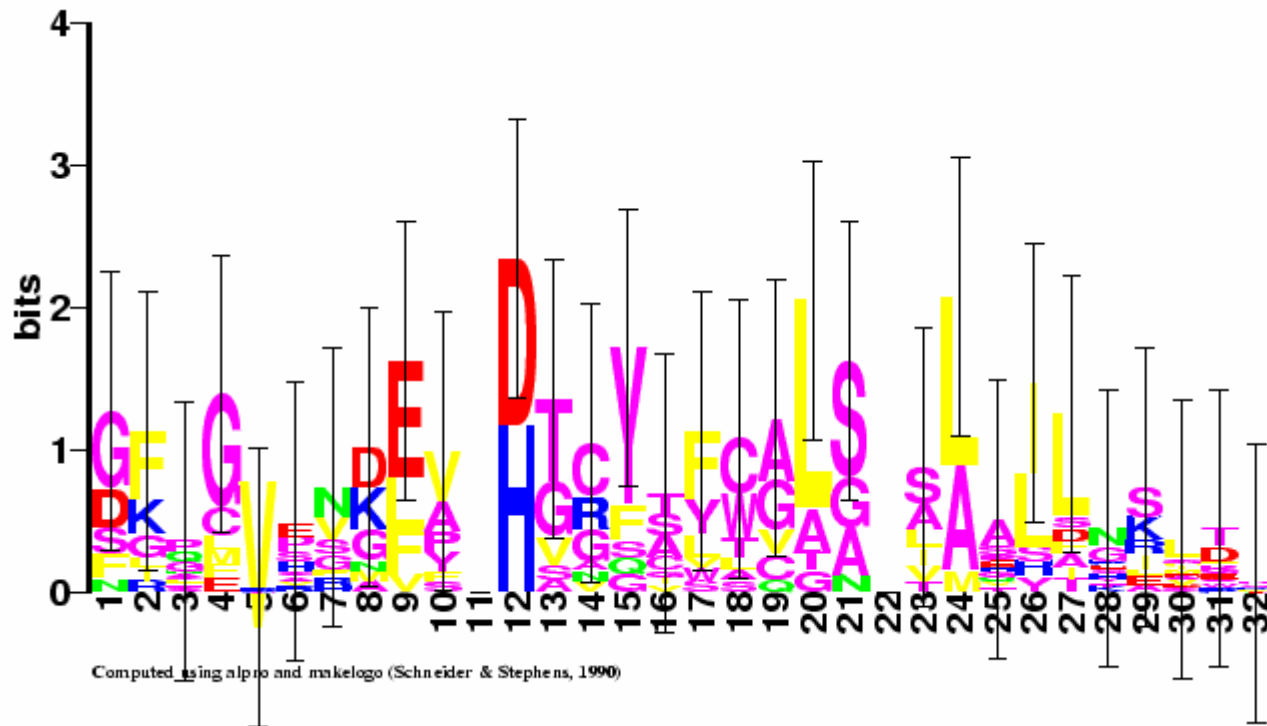


# 7.91 – Lecture #3 Michael Yaffe

## More Multiple Sequence Alignment

-and-

## Motif Scanning, Database Searching



# Outline

- Multiple Sequence Alignment - Carillo & Lipman, Clustal(W)
- Position-Specific Scoring Matrices (PSSM)
- Information content, Shannon entropy
- Sequence logos
- Hidden Markov Models
- ...Other approaches: Genetic algorithms, expectation maximization, MEME, Gibbs sampler
- FASTA, Blast searching, Smith-Waterman
- Psi-Blast

Reading - Mount p. 139-150, 152-157, 161-171, 185-198

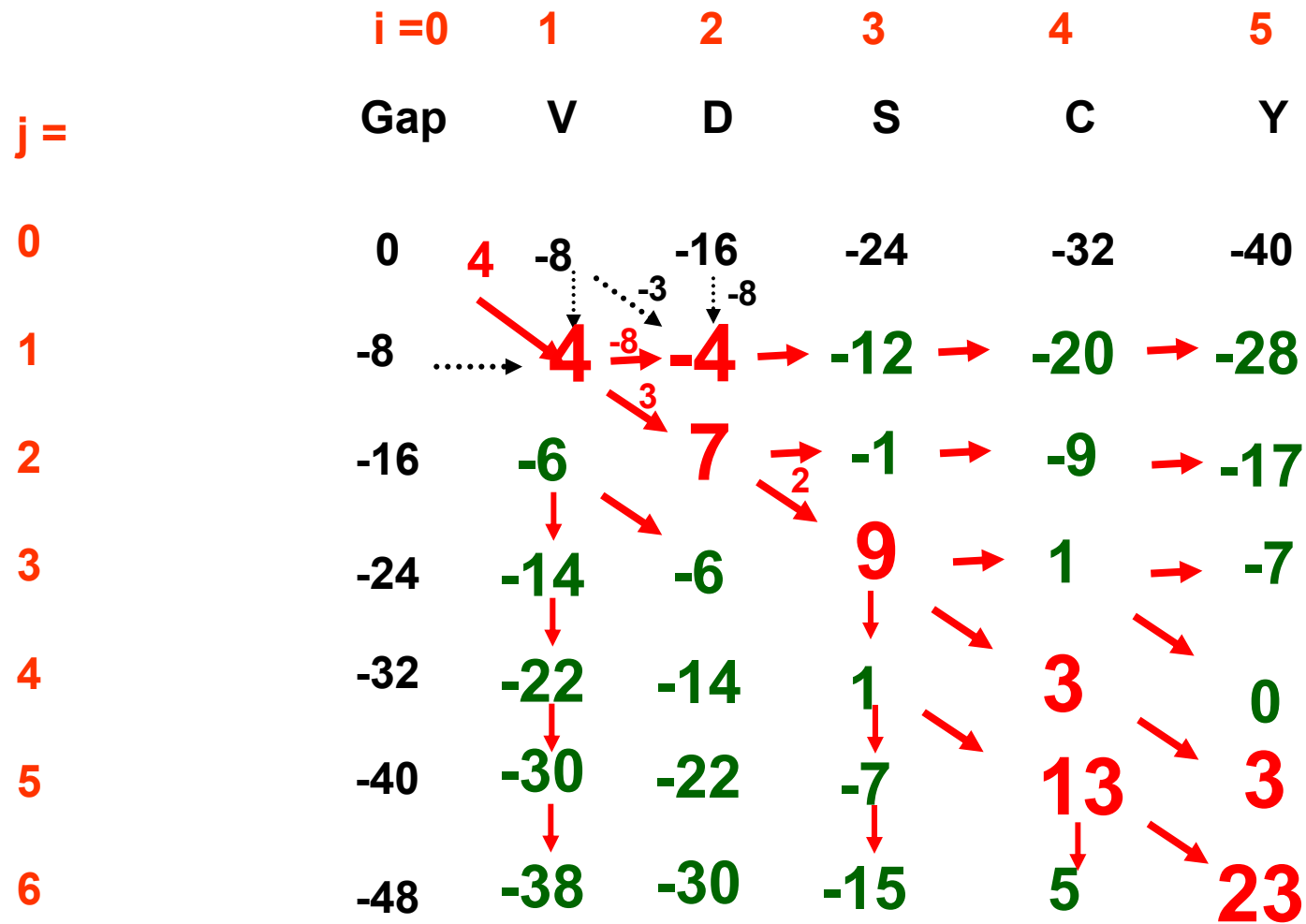
# Multiple Sequence Alignments

- Sequences are aligned so as to bring the greatest number of single characters into register.
- If we include gaps, mismatches, then even dynamic programming becomes limited to ~ 3 sequences unless they are very short....need an alternative approach...

**Why?**

# Consider the 2 sequence comparison

.....an  $O(mn)$  problem – order  $n^2$



## For 3 sequences....

ARDFSHGLLENKLLGCDSMRWE  
GRDYKMALLEQWILGCD-MRWD  
SRDW--ALIEDCMV-CNFFRWD

*An  $O(mnj)$  problem !*

Consider sequences each 300 amino acids

2 sequences –  $(300)^2$

3 sequences –  $(300)^3$

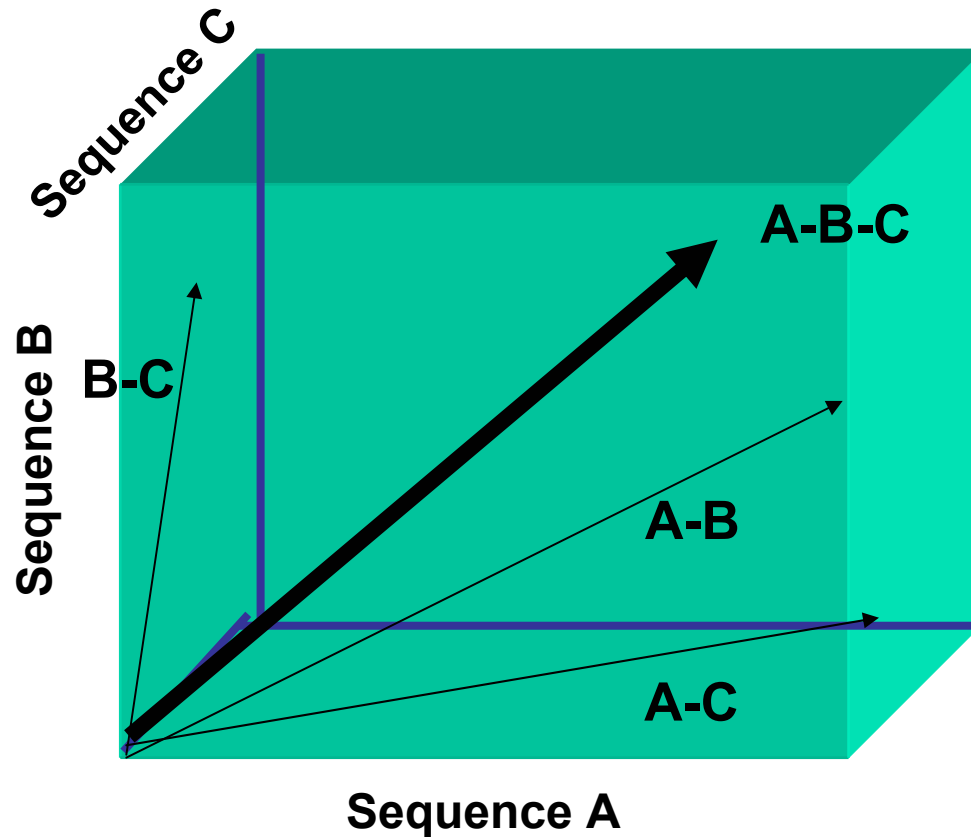
but for  $v$  sequences –  $(300)^v$

Uh Oh !!!

Our polynomial problem  
Just became exponential!

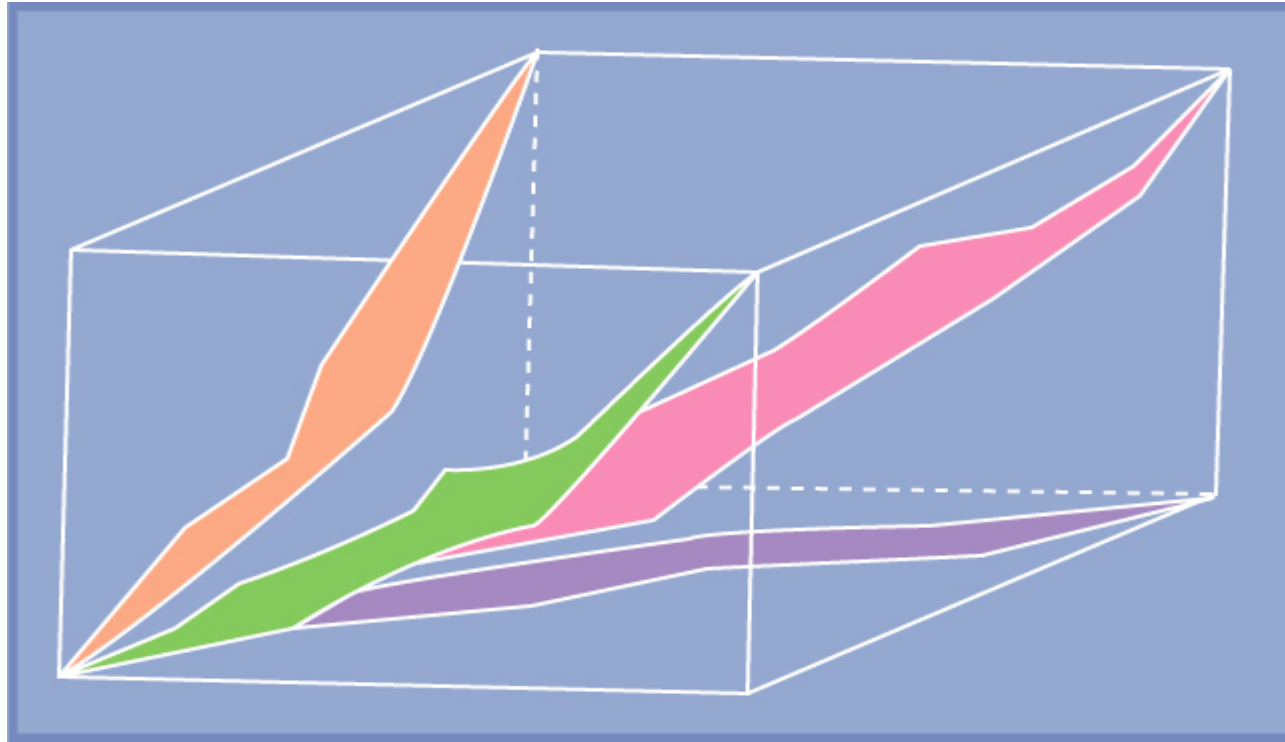
# Consider pairwise alignments between 3 sequences

**Carillo and Lipman – Sum of Pairs method**



*Do we need to  
Score each node?*

**Get the multiple alignment score within the cubic lattice by  
Adding together the scores of the pairwise alignments...**

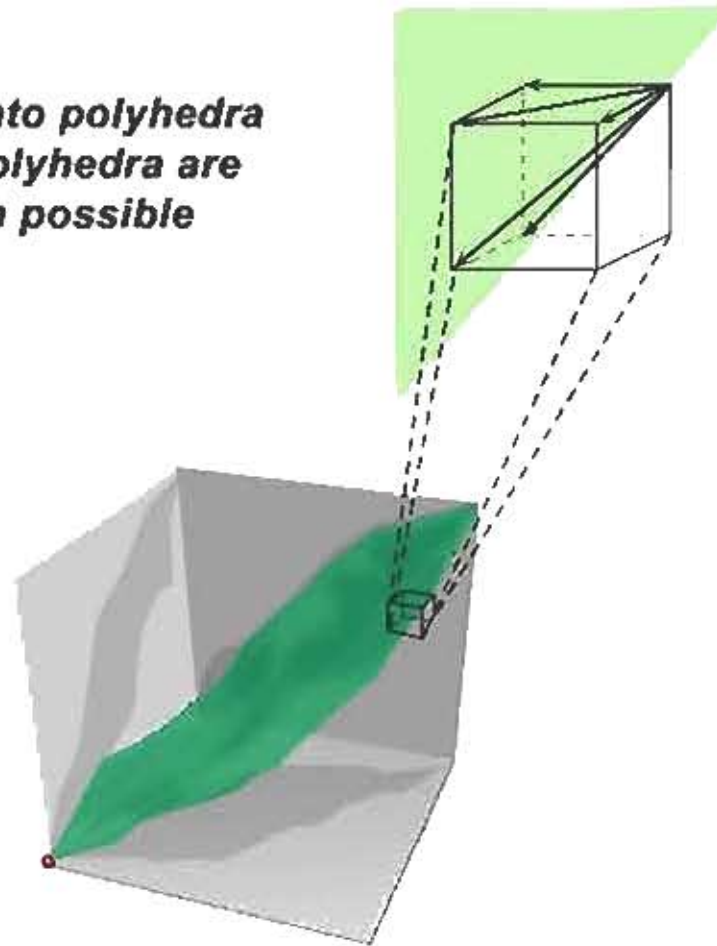


**In practice, doesn't give optimal alignment...But we're close!**

**Seems reasonable that the optimal alignment won't be far from the diagonal we were on...so we just set bounds on the location of the msa within the cube based on each pairwise-alignment.**

**Then just do dynamic programming within the volume defined by the pre-imposed bounds**

***...the volume is broken into polyhedra  
and the borders of the polyhedra are  
defined by paths through possible  
alignments***





**Still takes too long for more than three  
sequences...need a better way!**

- **Progressive Methods of Multiple Sequence Alignment**

**Concept – simple:**

**1-Use DP to build pairwise alignments of most closely related sequences**

**2- Then progressively add less related sequences or groups of sequences...**

# ClustalW

*Higgins and Sharp 1988*

- 1- Do pairwise analysis of all the sequences (you choose similarity matrix).
- 2- Use the alignment scores to make a phylogenetic tree.
- 3- Align the sequences to each other guided by the phylogenetic relationships in the tree.

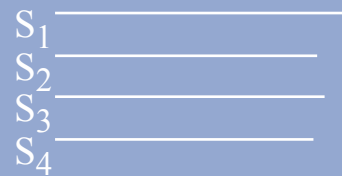
**New features: Clustal  $\boxtimes$  ClustalW (allows weights)  $\boxtimes$  ClustalX (GUI-based**

*Weighting is important to avoid biasing an alignment by many sequence Members that are closely related to each other evolutionarily!*

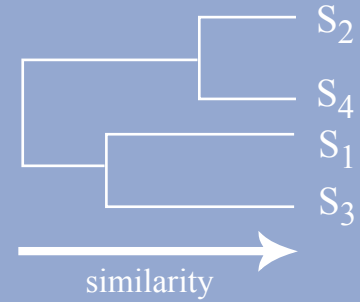
# Steps in Multiple Alignment

## Pairwise Alignment

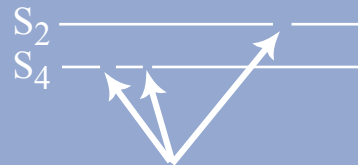
Example - 4 sequences  $S_1$   $S_2$   $S_3$   $S_4$



6 pairwise comparisons  
then cluster analysis



## Multiple alignment following the tree from A



align most similar pair

Gaps to optimize alignment



align next most similar pair

New gap to optimize  
alignment of ( $S_2S_4$ ) with ( $S_1S_3$ )



align alignments-preserve gaps

# Progressive Alignments

**Note that the final msa is EXTREMELY DEPENDENT on the initial pairwise sequence alignments!**

**If the sequences are close in evolution, and you can see the alignment – GREAT!**

**If the sequences are NOT close in evolution, and you CANNOT See the alignment – errors will be propagated to the final msa**

**Has led to other approaches to do msa's that aren't so Dependent on initial states....i.e. genetic algorithm**

# Finding patterns (i.e. motifs and domains) in Multiple Sequence Analysis

---

## Block Analysis, Position Specific Scoring Matrices (PSSM)

BUILD an msa from groups of related proteins

**BLOCKS** represent a conserved region in that msa that is **LACKING IN GAPS** – i.e. no insertions/deletions

The **BLOCKS** are typically anywhere from 3-60 amino acids long, based on exact amino acid matches – i.e. alignment will tolerate mismatches, but doesn't use any kind of PAM or BLOSUM matrix...in fact they generate the BLOSUM matrix!

A single protein contains numerous such **BLOCKS** separated by stretches of intervening sequences that can differ in length and composition.

These blocks may be whole domains, short sequence motifs, key parts of enzyme active sites etc, etc.

**BLOCKS** database....so far exploration limited. Lots of stuff to probe!

# Can use these conserved BLOCKS to derive a PSSM

- The dirty secret behind prosite! Scansite! And in a twisted way Psi-BLAST!

12345..... 11  
... GDSFH YFVSHG...  
... GDAFHYYISFG...  
... GDSYHYFLSFG...  
... SDSFH YFMSFG...  
... GDSFHFFASFG...

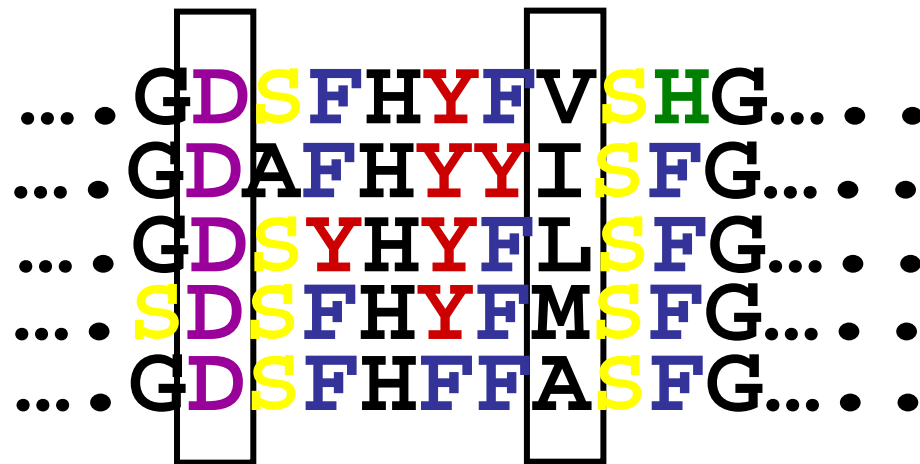
Now build a matrix with 20 amino acids as the columns, and 11 rows  
For the positions in the BLOCK



We can now use the PSSM to search a database for other proteins that have the BLOCK (or motif).

**Problem 1 – We need to think about what kind of information is Contained within the PSSM.**

→Leads to concepts of Information Content & Entropy



**Problem 2 –The PSSM must accurately represent the expected BLOCK Or motif....and we have only limited amounts of data! Is it a good statistical Sampling of the BLOCK/motif? Is it too narrow because of small dataset? Should we broaden it by adding extra amino acids that we choose using Some type of randomization scheme (called adding pseudocounts). If so, How many should we add?**



# Finding patterns (i.e. motifs and domains) in Multiple Sequence Analysis

---

## Block Analysis, Position Specific Scoring Matrices (PSSM)

**BUILD** an msa from groups of related proteins

**BLOCKS** represent a conserved region in that msa  
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The **BLOCKS** are typically anywhere from 3-60 amino acids long, based on exact amino acid matches – i.e. alignment will tolerate mismatches, but doesn't use any kind of PAM or BLOSUM matrix...in fact they generate the BLOSUM matrix!

**These blocks may be whole domains, short sequence motifs, key parts of enzyme active sites etc, etc.**

# Position Specific Scoring Matrices PSSM

1 2 3 4 5 ..... 11  
... G D S F H Q F V S H G ...  
... S D A F H Q Y I S F G ...  
... G D S Y W N F L S F G ...  
... S D S F H Q F M S F G ...  
... G D S Y W N Y A S F G ...

*This BLOCK might represent some small part of a modular protein domain, or might represent a motif for something .....like a phosphorylation site on the S in position 9*

Now build a matrix with 20 amino acids as the columns, and 11 rows  
For the positions in the BLOCK

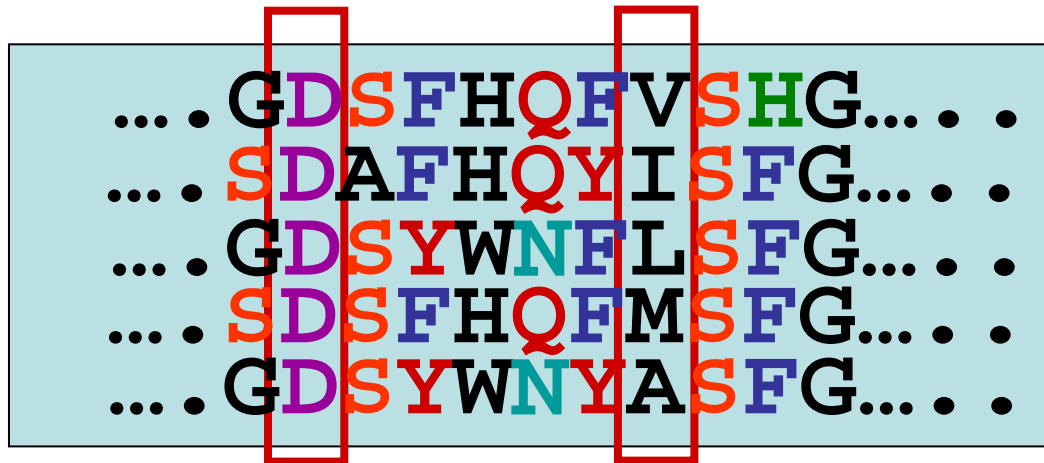


We can now use the PSSM to look for the BLOCK (motif) in single proteins

-or-

use the PSSM to search a database for other proteins that have the BLOCK (or motif).

**Problem 1 –The PSSM must accurately represent the expected BLOCK Or motif....and we have only limited amounts of data! Is it a good statistical Sampling of the BLOCK/motif? Is it too narrow because of small dataset? Should we broaden it by adding extra amino acids that we choose using Some type of randomization scheme (called adding pseudocounts). If so, How many should we add?**



**Problem 2 –We need to think about what kind of information is Contained within the PSSM.**

→Leads to concepts of Information Content & Entropy

# Pseudocounts

- If the number of sequences in the training set is both large and diverse, then the sequences in the training set represent a good statistical sampling of the motif....*if not, then we have a sampling error!*

Correct for this by adding pseudocounts. How many to add?

- *Too many pseudocounts dominate the frequencies... and the resulting matrix won't work!*
- *Too few pseudocounts then we'll miss many amino acid variations, and matrix will only find sequences that produced the motif!*

Add few pseudocounts if sampling is good (robust), and add more pseudocounts if sampling is sparse

**One reasonable approach is to add  $\sqrt{N}$  pseudocounts, where  $N$  is the number of sequences...**

***As  $N$  increases, the influence of pseudocounts decreases since  $N$  increases faster than  $\sqrt{N}$ , but doesn't add enough at low  $N$***

# Pseudocounts

*How do we choose which amino acids to use for the pseudocounts?*

**Approach 1** – Choose the randomly based on  $f(i)$ , the frequency of amino acid  $i$  found in all proteins in GenBank...  
.....seems wrong somehow, since not all amino acids should substitute for others in an alignment....

**Approach 2** – Use information from scoring matrices (i.e. PAM250 or BLOSUM 62 matrices, since these give estimates of amino acid substitutions....OK, but may not make optimal use of the data from an aligned sequence block

**Approach 3** – Use data from some subset of other aligned sequence BLOCKS as an estimate of the amino acid distribution in the block we are working with. These capture some features of protein structure and function. Sjolander et al have prepared such amino acid distributions and these are referred to as Dirichlet mixtures.

# A word on Dirichlet Mixtures

Concept comes from Bayesian statistics....idea of posterior distributions. Obtained by multiplying prior probabilities (i.e. what you know) with likelihood of new data ....OK, maybe more on this later

An easier to understand, almost correct explanation:  
(Bayes without tears)

Suppose in one column of an alignment of 27 sequences we find:  
12 G's, 6 T's, 6 F's and 3 P's.

The probability of such a distribution of amino acids is:

$$P(12G, 6T, 6F, 3P) = \frac{n!(pG)^{12}(pT)^6(pF)^6(pP)^3}{12! 6! 6! 3!}$$

Where  $n! = (12+6+6+3)!$

$12! 6! 6! 3!$

**This is called a multinomial distribution.**

# A word on Dirichlet Mixtures

**We want to get at the prior probabilities that would generate this type of multinomial distribution,**  
i.e. that would statistically favor the choice amino acids we actually observed in our alignment.

We also have to consider several other alternatives that are close to the exact distribution of amino acids we actually observed, but might also be reasonable, i.e.  
11 G's, 7 T's, 5 F's and 4 P's.

*This would have a slightly different multinomial distribution*

So we also need to consider the prior probabilities that would reflect these other similar, but not identical amino acid distributions for the alignment

Finally, we weigh all of these different prior probabilities that would generate these similar but not identical multinomial distributions into a combined frequency distribution...

**AND THIS IS THE DIRICHLET MIXTURE**



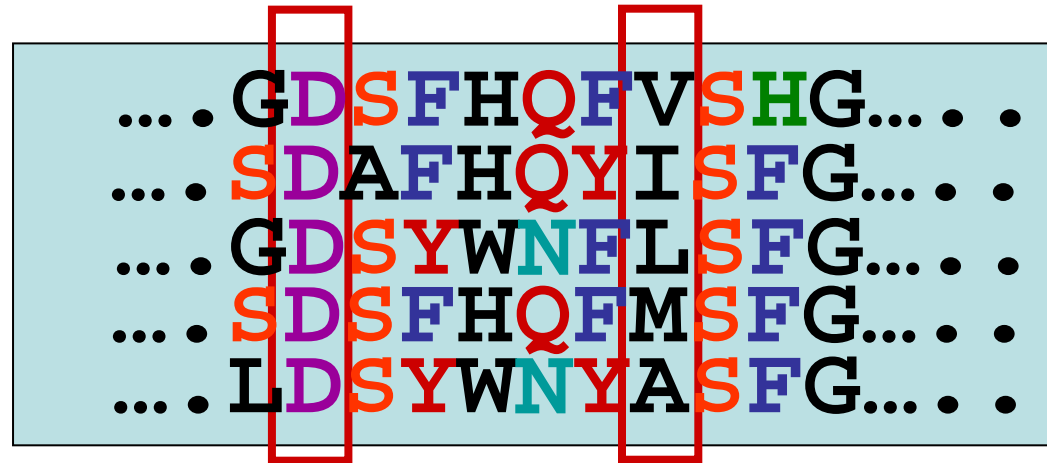
# The last word on Dirichlet Mixtures

**At the moment, these Dirchelet mixtures provide the best way to analyze amino acid compositions in an alignment that can detect weak but significant sequence similarity.**

**Dirchelet mixtures are used extensively in several Hidden Markov Models of sequence alignments (later in this lecture).**

**Why? Because you can use fewer sequences in the training set (i.e. 20 or so for HMMs) and still derive good motifs!**

# Information Content



Derived from the field of Information Theory

**Concept is simple – some positions in an alignment provide a lot more information than others as far as identifying a motif is concerned**

How do we quantitate this?

# Information Theory



Photograph courtesy of Lucent Technologies. <http://www.bell-labs.com/news/2001/february/26/1.html>  
Copyright notice: <http://www.lucent.com/copyright.html>

**Originated with Claude Shannon,  
an MIT PhD who worked for Bell Labs  
and was interested in how much information  
you could transmit, how fast you could send it,  
and how accurately you could  
transmit it, across telephone lines**

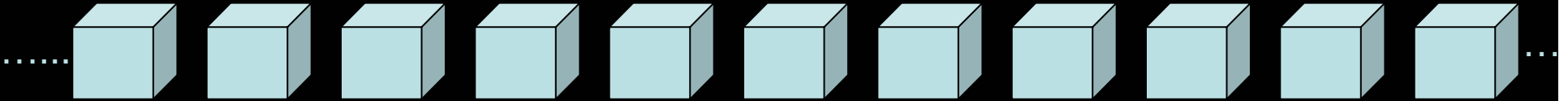
# Information Theory

**What is the minimum amount of information necessary to convey a message unambiguously?  
How do we quantitate the uncertainty in a message?**

***How much information is present in each position in a sequence motif. How can we quantitate information content in motif sequences? How can this help us understand the biological meaning of motifs?***

# Complex Problem

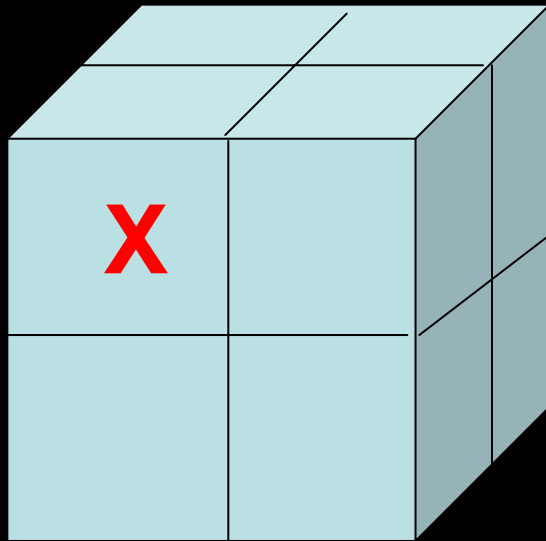
**I put 1,048,576 identical boxes in a straight line and I hide \$500 into one of them at random**



***Now let's play 20 questions....(yes/no)***

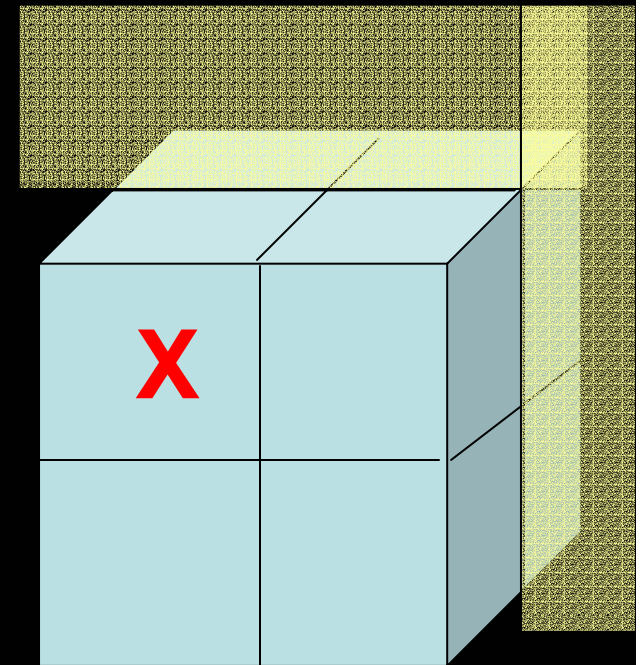
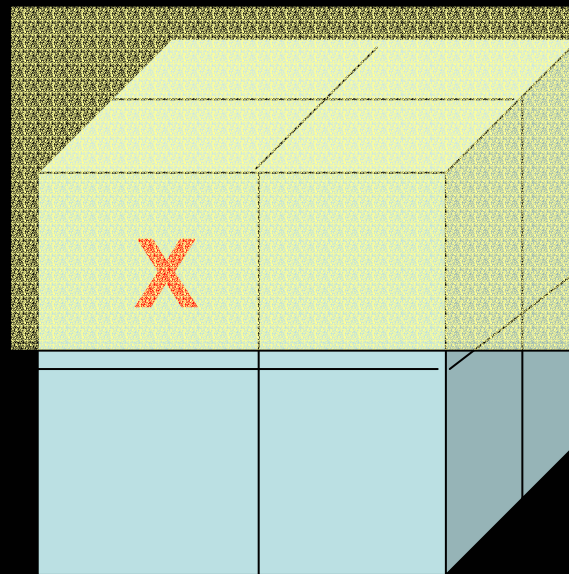
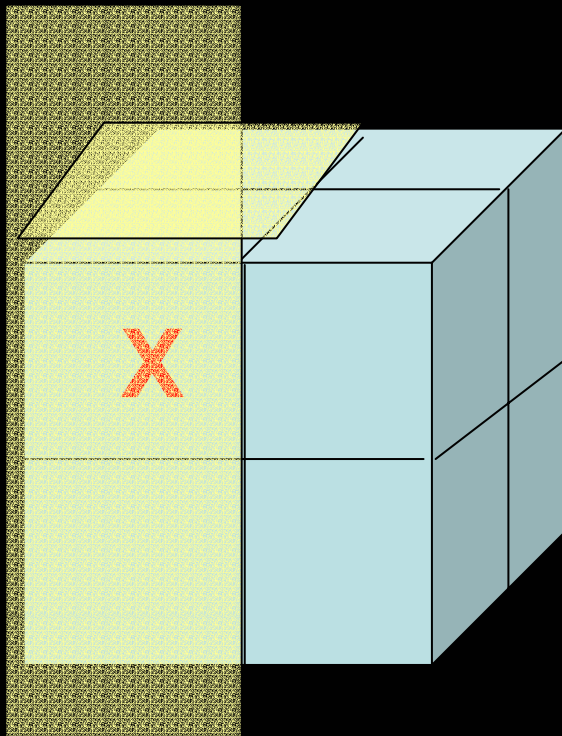
# Simpler Example

**Minimum number of yes-no questions  
to locate an object of interest?**



# Simple Example

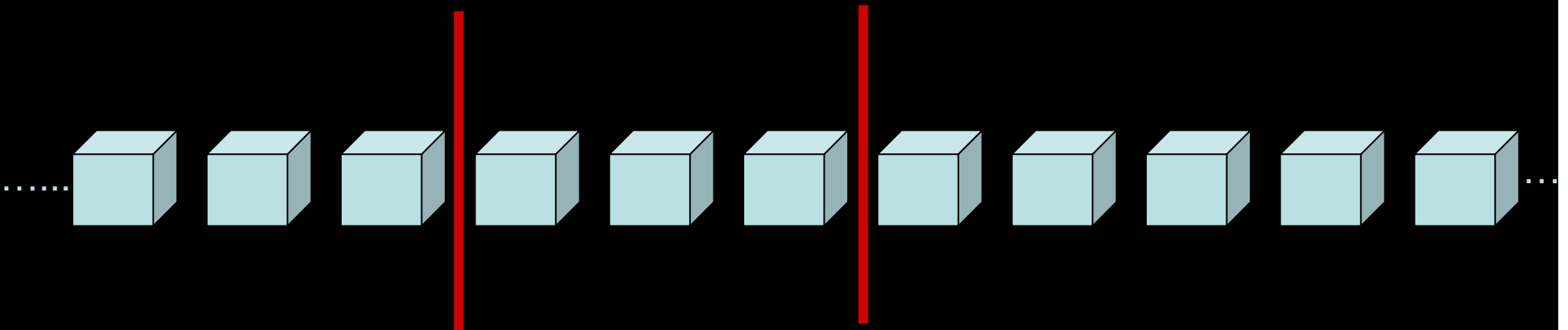
Minimum number of questions  
to locate the object of interest?



$$\text{Log}_2 8 = 3$$

# Complex Problem

I put 1,048,576 identical boxes in a straight line and I hide \$500 into one of them at random



*Now let's play 20 questions....(yes/no)*

$$2^{20} = 1,048,576$$



# Information Theory

Since the information was derived using base 2 of the total number of probabilities (i.e. computers), the resulting information is said to be coded in units of bits (binary digits)

Could have used base  $e$  for the logs of the probabilities, (i.e. natural Logs) – then the resulting information is said to be coded in units of nats (natural digits)

Could have used base 10 (i.e.) for the logs of the probabilities – then the resulting information is said to be coded in units of dits (decimal digits)

# Information Theory

So we have the relationship that :  $2^b=M$   
where M = number of possibilities.

or

$$b = \log_2(M)$$

where b=number of bits required to uniquely determine which, of all possibilities M, a particular value is.

**b tells us something about how many bits of information we need to specify all the possibilities for a position.**

Can also write  $b = -\log_2(1/M)$

For equivalent probabilities  $P = 1/M$

$$b = -\log_2(P)$$

For 20 amino acids in one position in a sequence motif

If all 20 had an equal chance,  $P = 1/20$

$$b = -\log_2(1/20) = 4.32 \text{ bits of information}$$

# Information Theory

*What happens when the probabilities aren't the same?*

Concept of surprisals (Tribus)

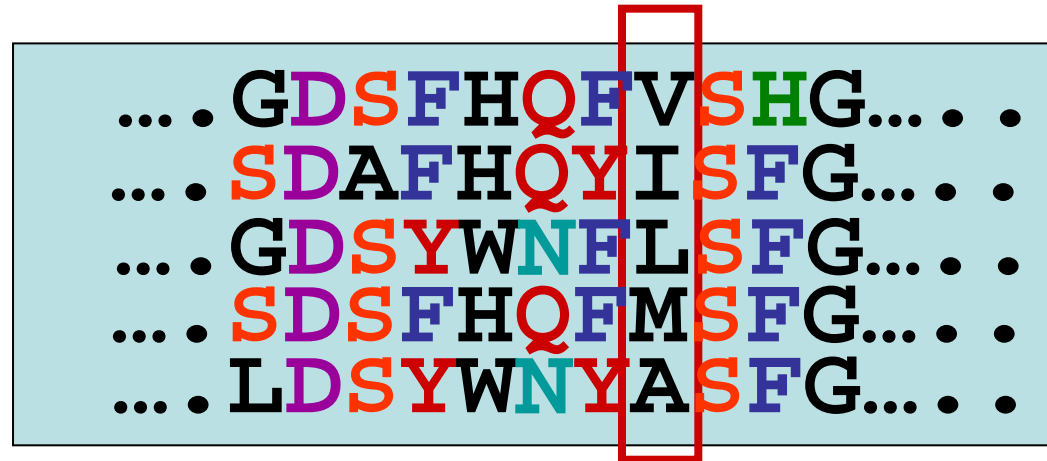
Watching TV analogy....I flash up one of the amino acids, and you guess  
Which one it is.....

$$\text{Define } u_i = -\log_2(P_i)$$

$u_i$  = the surprisal....a measure of how surprised you are  
by the amino acid that appears on the screen....

In a sequence alignment, we want to know the average surprisal in  
each column of the alignment.

# Information Theory



Average surprisal =  $\frac{u_V + u_I + u_L + u_M + u_A}{N}$

N

← total # of sequences

In general case:

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{20} N_i u_i}{N}$$

←  $N_i$  = # of sequences with  
 Amino acid  $i$  in that position  
 $N$  = total # of sequences

Bring N inside the Summation sign

$$\sum_{i=1}^{20} \frac{N_i u_i}{N}$$

← *N<sub>i</sub> = # of sequences with Amino acid i in that position*  
*N = total # of sequences*

*But N<sub>i</sub>/N is just P<sub>i</sub>, the probability of finding amino acid i in that position of the alignment.*

So we get...

$$\sum_{i=1}^{20} P_i u_i$$

**We defined  $u_i = -\log_2(P_i)$**

**So we end up with Shannon's famous formula:**

$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^{20} P_i (\log_2 P_i)$$

**Where H = the "Shannon Entropy"  
In bits per position in the alignment**

# Information Theory

So we end up with Shannon's famous formula:

$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^{20} P_i (\log_2 P_i)$$

Where H = the "Shannon Entropy"  
In bits per position in the alignment

## What does this mean???

*H is a measure of entropy or randomness or disorder  
....it tells us how much uncertainty there is for the different  
amino acid abundances at one position in a sequence motif*

# Information Theory

Shannon's famous formula:

$$H = - \sum_{i=1}^{20} P_i(\log_2 P_i)$$

Where H = the "Shannon Entropy"  
In bits per position in the alignment

...	G	D	S	F	H	Q	F	V	S	H	G	...	.
...	S	D	A	F	H	Q	Y	I	S	F	G	...	.
...	G	D	S	Y	W	N	F	L	S	F	G	...	.
...	S	D	S	F	H	Q	F	M	S	F	G	...	.
...	L	D	S	Y	W	N	Y	A	S	F	G	...	.

Here  $P(D)=1$  so  $H = -(1 * \log_2(1)) = -(1*0) = 0 !$

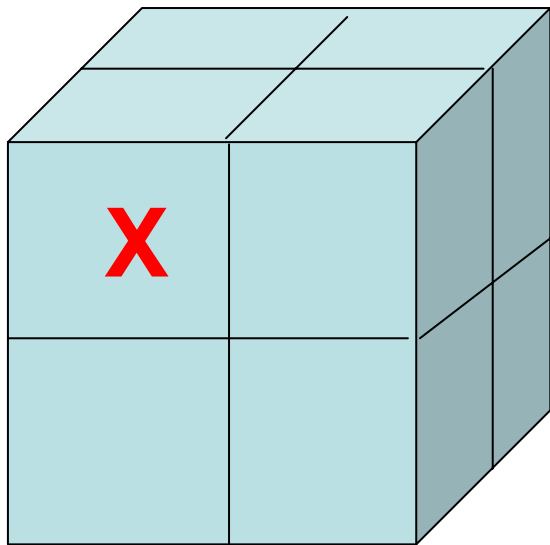
*No uncertainty in this position!!*

Here  $H = -(1/5 * \log_2(1/5)) - (1/5 * \log_2(1/5)) - (1/5 * \log_2(1/5)) - (1/5 * \log_2(1/5)) - (1/5 * \log_2(1/5)) = 2.32$

*Great uncertainty in this position!!*

# Information Theory

## From Uncertainty to Information



Back to our cube

Suppose I would only answer  
2 questions...

Now the uncertainty before would have been  
3 bits

Uncertainty after is 1 bit

Therefore, the information content you have gained,  $R$ , is  
 $R = H_{\text{before}} - H_{\text{after}} = 3 \text{ bits} - 1 \text{ bit} = 2 \text{ bits!}$



# Information Theory

... G D S F H Q F V S H G ...  
... S D A F H Q Y I S F G ...  
... G D S Y W N F L S F G ...  
... S D S F H Q F M S F G ...  
... L D S Y W N Y A S F G ...

Assuming all 20 amino acids equally possible:

$$H_{\text{before}} = 4.32, H_{\text{after}} = 0$$

Therefore, this position encodes  $4.32 - 0 = 4.32$  bits of information!

Another position in the motif that contains all 20 amino acids...

$$H_{\text{before}} = 4.32, H_{\text{after}} = 4.32$$

Therefore, this position encodes  $4.32 - 4.32 = 0$  bits of information!

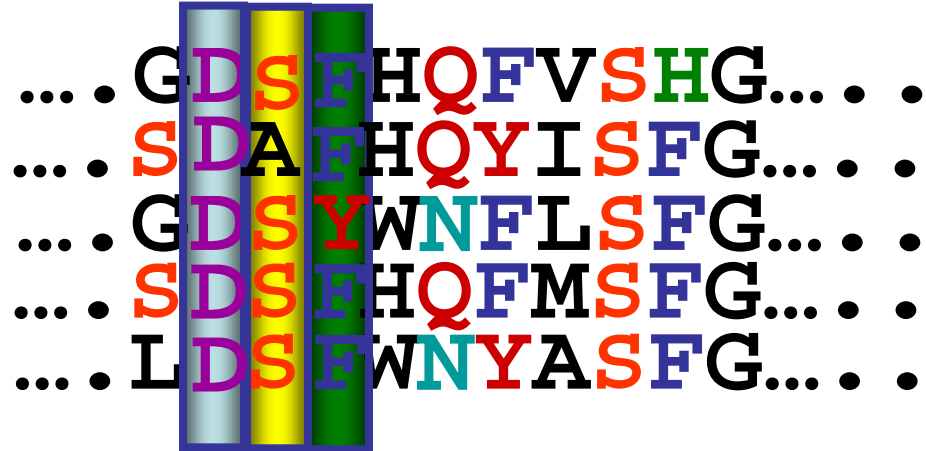


# Sequence Logos

- 1- Horizontal axis is position within a sequence motif**
- 2 - Vertical axis is amount of information in bits that the Position holds. The height of the individual letters is  $H_{\text{before}} - H_{\text{letter}}$ , i.e. how much of that information that particular letter (i.e. amino acid) contributes**
- 3- Very useful graphical representations that convey relative information content at various positions in a motif and contributions from relative amino acids.**

# Markov Chains & Models

In PSSMs, each position is evaluated independently.



*Note – we can use PSSMs for aligning sequences, finding domains, mapping motif sites, and even secondary structure prediction....*

*Are we capturing all the information?*

# Markov Chains & Models

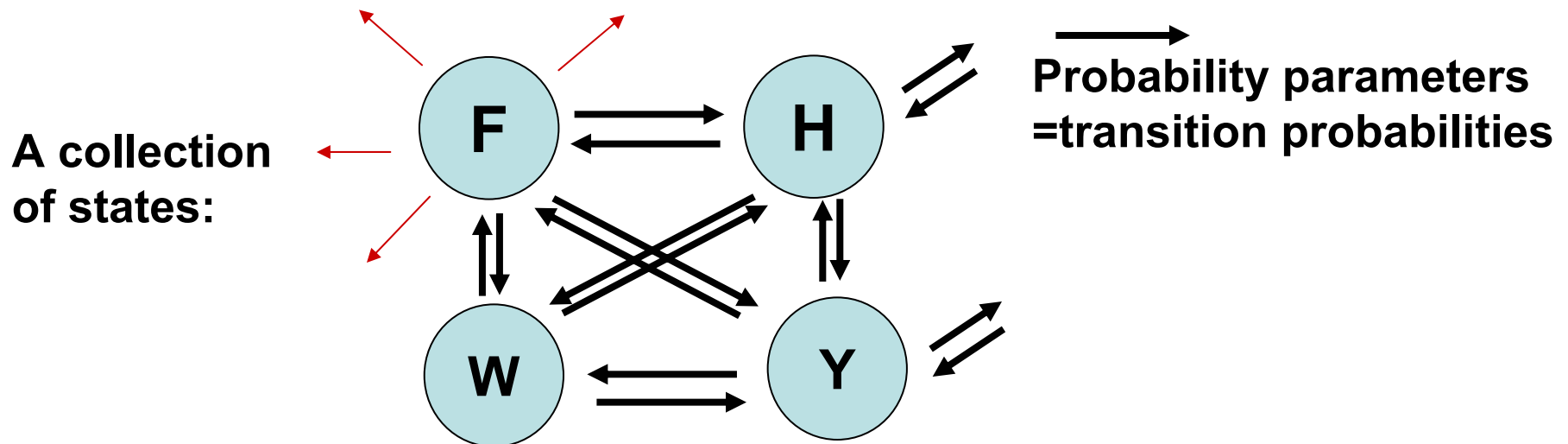
What other information is there?

... G D S F H Q F V S H G ...  
... S D A F H Q Y I S F G ...  
... G D S Y W N F L S F G ...  
... S D S F H Q F M S F G ...  
... L D S Y W N Y A S F G ...

How do we model this? ...A Markov model!

# A Markov Chain

... GDS **FHQ** FVSHG...  
... SDA **FHQ** IISFG...  
... GDS **WNY** FLSFG...  
... SDS **FHQ** FMSFG...  
... LDS **FWNY** ASFG...



Net probabilities for the entire sequence involve conditional probabilities – Bayes!

The probability of any amino acid depends ONLY on the value of the preceding amino acid.

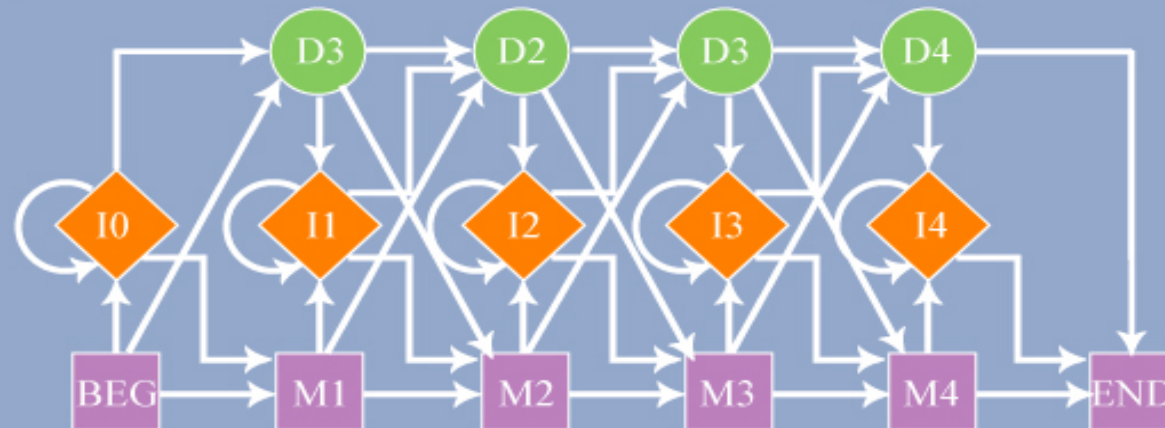
# Markov Models

## Sequence alignment

N	•	F	L	S
N	•	F	L	S
N	K	Y	L	T
Q	•	W	-	T

PURPLE POSITION REPRESENTS ALIGNMENT IN COLUMN  
ORANGE POSITION REPRESENTS INSERT IN COLUMN  
GREEN POSITION REPRESENTS DELETE IN COLUMN

## Hidden Markov model for sequence alignment



■ match state    ◆ insert state    ● delete state    → transition probability

# Hidden Markov Models

Statistical model that includes all combinations of matches, mismatches and gaps (prior slide)

*Very useful to obtain best multiple sequence alignment or find new members of the alignment!*

Make a starting model, and use 20-100 aligned sequences to train it (i.e. get the transition probabilities tuned).

Often use Dirichlet mixtures when deciding which amino acid substitutions to allow in a motif

Try and generate all the sequences in the training set by examining all possible paths through the model. This might be a huge computational problem, but it is reduced using something called the “Forward-Backward” algorithm

Another algorithm, Baum-Welch, counts the number of times each state-to-state transition was used, and that a particular amino acid is required to generate one of the sequences in the training set



**Make an improved HMM that uses the results of the Baum-Welch algorithm, and repeat cyclically until the parameters (i.e. the transition probabilities) stabilize.**

**Now you have a trained model that can provide the most likely path to generate each sequence. There is another algorithm, the Viterbi algorithm, that uses dynamic programming to find the best path to generate each sequence, given the model.**

**This collection of paths, (i.e. match-match-insertion-match...) defines the final multiple sequence alignment.**

**Note that in the end, all you have are transition probabilities for each amino acid at each position in an alignment. The model that generated these is “hidden”**

**...The Hidden Markov Model!**

**Get multiple sequence alignments as good or better than those  
Obtained with other techniques.**

**Both Pfam and SMART, two software programs that search for domains  
In amino acid queries, use HMMs**

# Database Searching

Problem is simple:

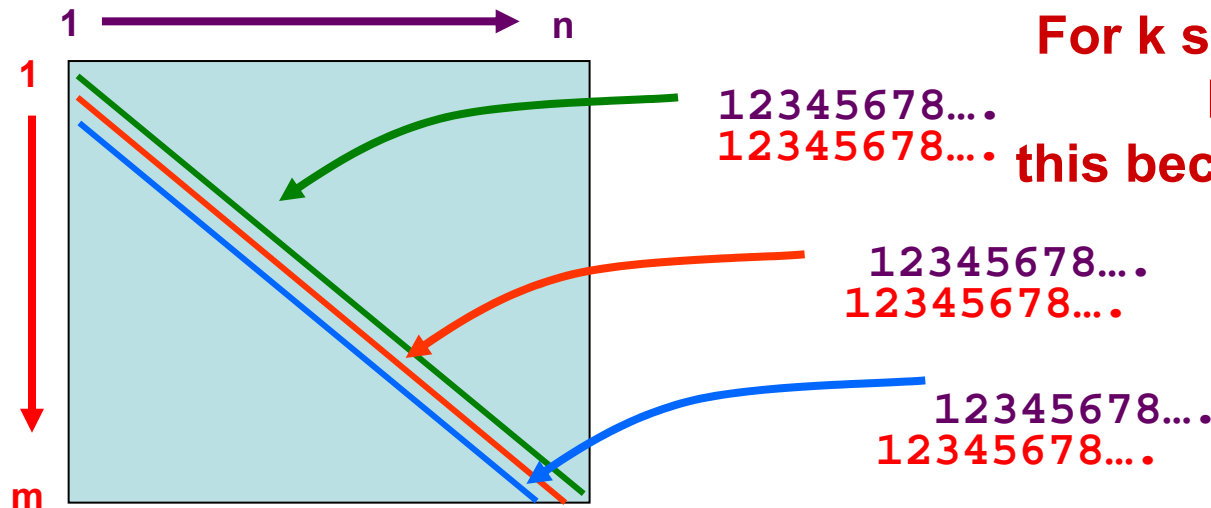
I want to find homologues to my protein in the database  
How do I do it?

Do the obvious – compare my protein against  
every other protein in the database and look  
for local alignments by dynamic programming

**Uh Oh!**

For  $k$  sequences in the  
Database

this becomes an  $O(mnk)$   
problem!



....essentially an  $O(mn)$  problem

# Database Searching

Still, this can be done - ~ 50x slower than Blast/FASTA,  
Smith-Waterman algorithm...

**SSEARCH** (<ftp.virginia.edu/pub/fasta>) – do it locally!

*But in the old days, needed a faster method...  
2 approaches – Blast, FASTA – both heuristic  
(i.e. tried and true) – almost always finds related  
Proteins but cannot guarantee optimal solution*

## FASTA: Basic Idea

### 1- Search for matching sequence patterns or words

Called k-tuples, which are exact matches of “k” characters  
between the two sequences

i.e. RW = 2-tuple

Seq 1: AHFYRWNKLCV

Seq 2: DRWNLFCVATYWE

# Database Searching

FASTA: Basic Idea

2- Repeat for all possible k-tuples

i.e. CV = 2-tuple

Seq 1: AHFYRWNKLCV

Seq 2: DRWNLFCVATYWE

3- Make a Hash Table (Hashing) that has the position of each k-tuple in each sequence

i.e.

<u>2-tuple</u>	<u>pos. in Seq1</u>	<u>pos in Seq 2</u>	<u>Offset (pos1-pos2)</u>
<u>RW</u>	5	2	3
<u>CV</u>	10	7	3
AH	1	----	----

# Database Searching

Seq 1: AHFYRWNKLCV

Seq 2: DRWNLFCCVATYWE

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i.e.

<u>2-tuple</u>	<u>pos. in Seq1</u>	<u>pos in Seq 2</u>	<u>Offset (pos1-pos2)</u>
<u>RW</u>	5	2	3
<u>CV</u>	10	7	3
AH	1	----	----

4- Look for words (k-tuples) with same offset

These are in-phase and reveal a region of alignment between the two sequences.

5- Build a local alignment based on these, extend it outwards

Seq 1: AHFYRWNKLCV

Seq 2: DRWNLFCCVATYWE

# Database Searching

With hashing, number of comparisons is proportional  
To the average sequence length (i.e. an  $O(n)$  problem),  
Not an  $O(mn)$  problem as in dynamic programming.

Proteins – ktup = 1-2,  
Nucleotides, ktup=4-6

One big problem – low complexity regions.

Seq 1: AHFYPPPPPPPPFSER

Seq 2: DVATPPPPPPPPPPNLFK

# Database Searching

## BLAST

Same basic idea as FASTA, but faster and more sensitive!

### How?

BLAST searches for common words or k-tuples, but limits the search for k-tuples that are most significant, by using the log-odds values in the Blosum62 amino acid substitution matrix

*i.e. look for **WHK** and might accept **WHR** but not **HFK** as a possible match (note 8000 possibilities)*

Repeat for all 3-tuples in the query

Search the database for a match to the top 50 3-tuples that match the first query position in the sequence, the second query position, etc.

Use any match to seed an ungapped alignment (old BLAST)



# Database Searching

Word length is fixed:      3-tuple for proteins  
   11-tuple for nucleotides

By default, filters out low complexity regions.

Determine if the alignment is statistically significant.  
calculates the probability of observing a score greater than or equal to your alignment based on extreme value distribution.

Calculates an E-value = expectation value:

This is the probability of finding an unrelated sequence that shows this good an alignment just by chance.

*Remember if  $p=.0001$  and my database has 500,000 sequences, I will have an  $E=50!$  (normal starting  $E=10$ )*

Search

Seq. Subsequences From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_

Change database: **nr**

Display options:

How: **BLAST!** **FASTA Query** **FASTA Ref**

Options for advanced searching

Limit to accession type: \_\_\_\_\_ or select from: **(nr)**

Conservative bit definition:

Choose filter:  Low complexity  Mask for low complexity only  Mask lower case

Evalue: **10**

Max Seq: **3**

Matrix: **PAM70** Gap Costs: **Existence 1 Extension 1**

RESULTS

# Psi-BLAST

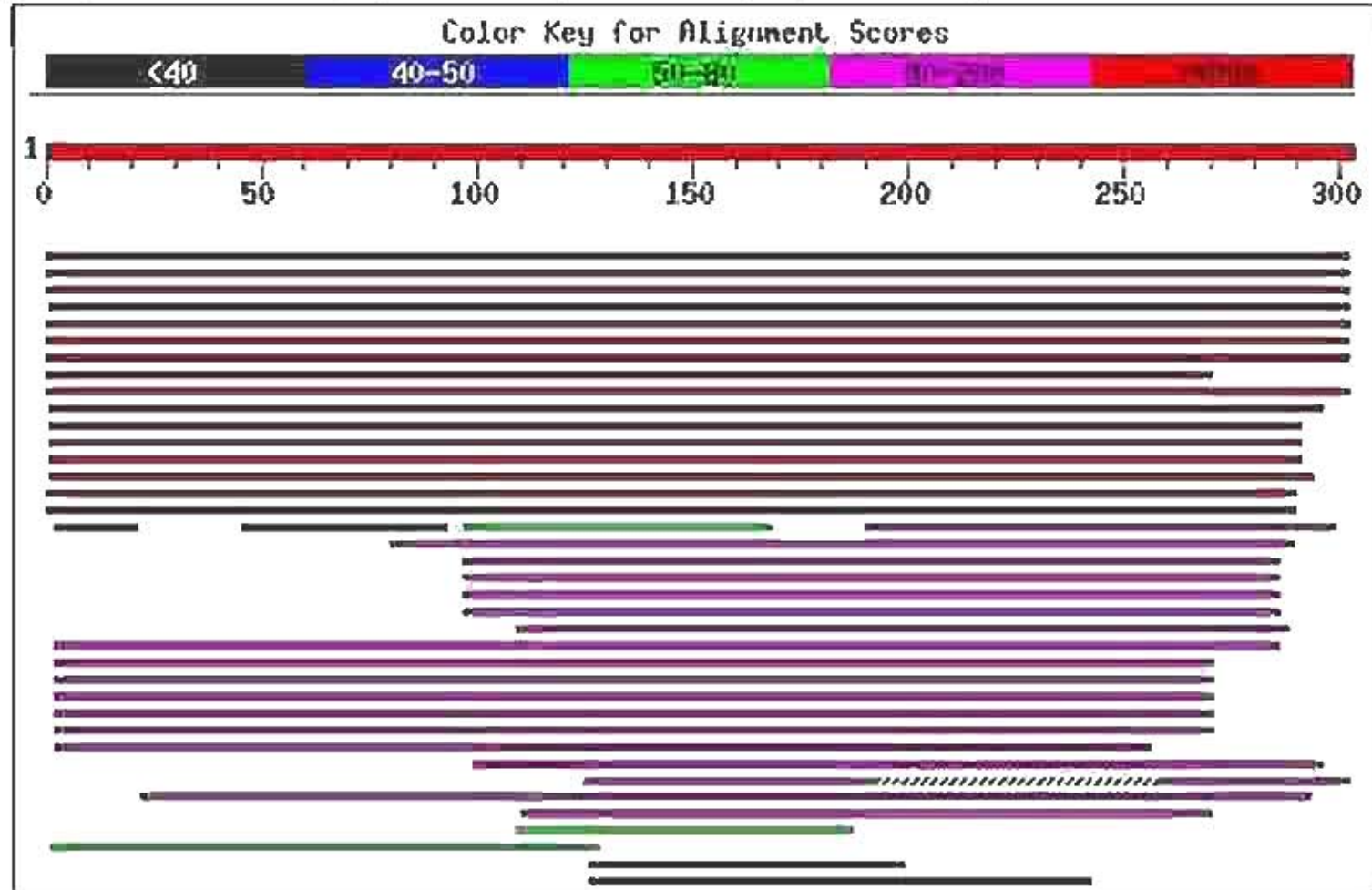
*Position-specific iterative BLAST*

Combines BLAST searching with PSSMs!

1- Start with regular BLAST search – look at the results

### Distribution of 42 Blast Hits on the Query Sequence

Mouse-over to show defline and scores. Click to show alignments



# Psi-BLAST

*Position-specific iterative BLAST*

Combines BLAST searching with PSSMs!

- 1- Start with regular BLAST search – look at the results
- 2- Pick the ones you believe are really homologous

## Sequences with E value BETTER than threshold

Sequences producing significant alignments:	Score	E Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 14295402 ref XP_047240.1  (NM_047240) polo-like kinase (Drosophila melanogaster)	622	e-174
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 14295402 ref NP_007924.1  (NM_005070) polo-like kinase (Drosophila melanogaster)	622	e-177
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220127 gb AAA50623.1  (U01038) pLX (Homo sapiens)	621	e-177
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 1402428 gb AAA76629.1  (L19559) protein kinase (Homo sapiens)	619	e-176
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 6755194 ref NP_035251.1  (NM_01121) polo-like kinase homolog (Homo sapiens)	602	e-171
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 1983470 mar J047245 protein kinase (EC 2.7.1.37; Plx - mouse)	297	e-170
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 sp Q57677 PLX1_RAT Serine/threonine protein kinase P.1 (Rattus norvegicus)	297	e-170
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 gb AAK28250.1 AF32802.1 (AF32802) polo-like protein kinase (Rattus norvegicus)	244	e-154
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 gb AAC60217.1 (U58205) Plx1 (Xenopus laevis)	252	e-162
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 11442874 db P34221 XK24_CAMEL Hypothetical 41.6 kDa protein C14 (Camelus dromedarius)	292	2e-78
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_420776.1  (NM_066369) Protein kinase (Caenorhabditis elegans)	293	2e-78
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 gb AAC14129.1 (AF057165) putative serine/threonine protein kinase (Caenorhabditis elegans)	292	2e-78
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_491026.1  (NM_050635) Y71Y9B.1 p (Caenorhabditis elegans)	282	1e-75
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_224122.1  (NM_079455) polo (Drosophila melanogaster)	224	6e-67
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 15286163 sp P22364 P210_EBOME PROTEIN KINASE POLO (Drosophila melanogaster)	224	9e-67
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 gb AAC28024.1 (AF053092) polo-like kinase isoform (Rattus norvegicus)	222	3e-36
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_591196.1  (NM_048795) protein kinase (Caenorhabditis elegans)	129	2e-77
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_006613.1  (NM_006672) serum-inducible kinase 1 (Homo sapiens)	131	1e-32
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 14295402 ref XP_041712.1  (NM_041712) serum-inducible kinase 1 (Homo sapiens)	130	1e-32
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 sp P23321 SMK_MOUSE Serine/threonine-protein kinase 3 (Mus musculus)	112	3e-32
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_114029.1  (NM_03102) serum-inducible kinase 1 (Homo sapiens)	139	5e-32
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 14295402 gb AAC30177.1 AF352642.1 (AF352642) polo-like kinase (Homo sapiens)	138	6e-32
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 gb AAC30177.1 AF352640.1 (AF352640) polo-like kinase (Homo sapiens)	132	4e-31
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 gb AAC32181.1 (U71392) putative serine/threonine kinase (Homo sapiens)	135	7e-31
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 sp Q58804 CNK_MOUSE CYTOKINE-INDUCIBLE SERINE/THREONINE KINASE (Mus musculus)	134	7e-31
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gi 12220392 ref NP_004954.1  (NM_004073) cytokine-inducible kinase 1 (Homo sapiens)	131	8e-30

# Psi-BLAST

## *Position-specific iterative BLAST*

Combines BLAST searching with PSSMs!

- 1- Start with regular BLAST search – look at the results
- 2- Pick the ones you believe are really homologous
- 3- Now align these sequences to the query sequence and make up a PSSM that tells how much to weigh each amino acid in each position in the alignment
- 4- Use this PSSM to do another BLAST search
- 5- Add any new sequences that come up to the old ones if you believe they are really homologous
- 6- Repeat the alignment to make a new and improved PSSM that tells how much to weigh each amino acid in each position in the alignment







# Psi-BLAST

7-- Use this PSSM to do another BLAST search

8-- Keep iterating until no new sequences are found

Very good for finding weakly related sequences

**The End !!!!!**