Molecular Phylogenetics

By Zhu Hongwei

Introduction

- Brief introduction to phylogenetics basics
- Phylogenetics tree construction methods
- Programs for phylogenetic tree construction

Phylogenetics

the study of the evolutionary history of living organisms

- **4** Tree branching patterns called *dendrogram*
- major assumption for phylogenetics

1: molecular sequences used in phylogentic construction are homologous

2: each position in a sequence evolved independently

Terminology

rooted trees & unrooted trees



the best way to root a tree is to use an outgroup

- In orthologs: Homologous genes evolve from the same ancestral gene
- paralogs: Homologous genes come from gene duplication



- gene phylogeny versus species phylogeny
- gene phylogeny: phylogeny from a gene or protein sequence

only describes the evolution of that particular gene/protein does not necessarily correlate with the evolutionary path of the species

In a species tree, the branching point at internal node represents the speciation event

- Forms of tree representation
- Ladogram trees and phylogram trees
- Phylogram, -scaled, -the branch length represent the amount of evolutionary divergence

advantages: the trees shows both the evolutionary relationships and information about the relative divergence time of the branches

- Cladogram, –unscaled, –the branches lengths, neatly, but have no phylogenetic meaning
- Newick format: (((B,C),A),(D,E)), (((B:1,C:2),A:2),(D:1.2,E:2.5)),



Phylogram trees

Cladogram trees

4 procedure

i: choice of molecular markers

either nucleotide or protein sequence data can be chosen depend on the properties of the sequences and the purposes of the study

for studying very closely related organisms, nt seq can be used;

for more widely divergent groups of organisms slowly evolving nt seq(rRNA) or prot seq can be used

4 procedure

- i: choice of molecular markers
 - prot seq are preferable in most cases reasons:
 - prot seq are more conserved as the result of degeneracy nt seq are more codon biased than prot seq gaps introduced to maximize alignment scores always cause frameshift errors

<mark>↓ procedure</mark>

4 ii: alignment

most critical step in the procedure

only the correct alignment produces phylogenetic tree

automatic seq alignment almost always contain errors and should be edited or refined if necessary

<u>T-Coffee</u> program should be used

clustalw/clustalx/bioedit/...can also do

4 procedure

4 ii: alignment

necessary to decide whether to use the full alignment or to extract parts of it, rather subjective

to improving alignment quality, Rascal and NorMD can help

the program <u>Gblocks</u> can help to detect and eliminate the poorly aligned positions and divergent regions

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T-Coffee program demonstration

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Gblocks program demonstration

4 procedure

iii: multiple substitutions

homoplasy ---multiple substitutions and convergence at individual position obscure the estimation of the true evolutionary distances

- to correct homoplasy, statistical models are needed:
- the commonly used nt substitutions models are Jukes-Cantor and Kimura models
- the commonly used AA substitutions models are PAM and JTT models

- The principle of <u>minimum evolution</u> or <u>maximum</u> <u>parsimony</u> often applied
- The two main catalogues: phenetic methods and cladistic methods
- The phenetic methods are distance-based method that measure the pair-wise differences among sequences and build the tree totally from resultant distance matrix
- The cladistic methods are character-based methods, all possible topologies are evaluated and one that is chosen is this that optimizes the evolution

4 <u>1: Unweighted pair group method with arithmetic mean</u> (UPGMA)

- **4** UPGMA is the simplest method of phylogeny
- It uses clustering approach and uncorrected data to build a tree
- Steps for building a tree
- 1. Construct distance matrix
- 2. Cluster the two shortest distance OTUs into an internal nodes
- 3. Recalculate the distance matrix
- 4. Repeat the process until all OTUs are grouped in a single cluster

Pros and cons

- Used to construct phylogenic tree of taxa with the relatively constant rate of evolution
- Simple and fast method
- Do not reflect the evolutionary descent
- Extensively used in literature

4 2: Neighbor joining (NJ)

- the phylogenetic tree is constructed from a star-like tree by grouping OTUs with shortest distance of branch length together
- Steps for building a tree
- 1. Start with distance matrix and star-like tree
- 2. Group the two most similar taxa into a node and calculate the branch length
- 3. Recalculate the distance matrix and branch length and construct a new tree
- 4. Repeat the process until only one terminal is present

Pros and cons

Advantages:

- Relatively rapid, so it is suitable for analyzing a large dataset
- Calculate the branch length
- Disadvantages:
- Construct only one possible tree
- Yield a biased tree under some condition
- Compress sequence information

Pros and cons of phenetic methods

- Both UPGMA and NJ base on distance matrix to reflect evolutionary relationship
- they compress sequence information into single number, cannot reflect the changes of character states of sequences
- UPGMA and NJ are relatively fast, suitable for analyzing large data set that are not very strong similar
- In general, NJ gives better result than UPGMA

Cladistic methods

- Cladistic methods assume that a set of sequences descended from a common ancestor by mutated and selected processes without hybridization or other horizontal gene transfers
- 4 1: Maximum parsimony(MP)
- Maximum parsimony assumes that trees with the minimum number of evolutionary changes are the most preferable trees
- MP bases on the number of character-state changes to construct all possible trees and give each a score

Steps for building a tree

- 1. Start with multiple alignment
- 2. Construct all possible topologies and base on evolutionary changes to score each of these topologies
- 3. Choose a tree with the fewest evolutionary changes as the final tree

Pros and cons

- Advantages:
- Reflect the ancestral relationship
- Use all known evolutionary information
- Faster than Maximum likelihood

Disadvantages:

- Yield little information about branch length
- Require long computation time
- Yield biased tree under some conditions

4 2: Maximum likelihood(ML)

- A Maximum likelihood use statistical tool to evaluate a hypothesis about evolutionary history
- It constructs all possible trees of evolutionary history from an observed data set

Steps for building a tree

- 1. Start with a multiple alignment.
- 2. List all possible topologies of each data partition (i.e., column)
- 3. Calculate probability of all possible topologies for each data partition.
- 4. Combine data partitions
- 5. Identify tree with the highest overall probability at all partitions as most likely phylogeny

Pros and cons

- Advantages:
- More accurate than other methods. It is often used to test an existing tree.

- Advantages:
- All the sequence information is used
- Evaluate all possible trees
- Sampling errors have least effect on the method
- Disadvantages:
- Extremely slow
- Impractical for analyzing large data set

Evaluation of different methods

- Up to date, None of the tree-building methods make sure to reflect correctly the evolutionary relationship of a sequence set
- There is a recommended phylogeny flowchart to choose right methods



Recommended Phylogeny Flowchart

Phylogenetic tree evaluation

- Boostrapping & Jackknifing
- Bootstrapping: repeatedly sampling trees through slightly perturbed dataset
- Bootstrap results should be interpreted with caution (does not assess the accuracy of a tree, only consistency and stability indicated
- A tree should be bootstrapped 500-1000 times, impossible for MP and ML

- Jackknifing: one half of the sites in a dataset are randomly deleted
- Computing time is much shortened
- The results may not be comparable with that from bootstrapping

- There are plenty of programs available for constructing phylogenetic trees
- The most commonly used are as followed:
- PAUP(Phylogenetic analysis using parsimony), one of the most widely used

Commercial phylogenetic package for Macintosh (UNIX version available)

- Phylip package is a free program and can also available online
- **TREE PUZZLE** is a program that allows various substitution models by maximum likelihood, however failed to install on my compute MEGAS.
- 4 MEGA is a easy to ha





- How to use Phylip
- 4 i: Choose a molecular marker
- 4 ii: Do careful alignment
- 4 iii: Run Phylip program package, select program interest

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Phylip program package

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J Bootstrap, Jackknife, Permute, Rewrite?	Bootstrap			
% Regular or altered sampling fraction?	regular			
B Block size for block-bootstrapping?	1 (regular bootstrap)			
R How many replicates?	100			
W Read weights of characters?	No			
C Read categories of sites?	No			
S Write out data sets or just weights?	Data sets			
I Input sequences interleaved?	Yes			
0 Terminal type (IBM PC, ANSI, none)?	IBM PC			
1 Print out the data at start of run	No			
2 Print indications of progress of run	Yes			
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- 8 × 🛂 C:\Documents and Settings\Zhu Hongwei\桌面\phylip3.67\exe\seqboot.exe Settings for this run: D Sequence, Morph, Rest., Gene Freqs? Molecular seguences J Bootstrap, Jackknife, Permute, Rewrite? Bootstrap Regular or altered sampling fraction? regular z В Block size for block-bootstrapping? 1 (regular bootstrap) R How many replicates? 100 W Read weights of characters? No С Read categories of sites? No Write out data sets or just weights? S Data sets Ι Input sequences interleaved? Yes Ø Terminal type (IBM PC, ANSI, none)? IBM PC 1 Print out the data at start of run No 2 Print indications of progress of run Yes Y to accept these or type the letter for one to change Random number seed (must be odd)? 23 completed replicate number 10 20 completed replicate number completed replicate number 30 completed replicate number 40 50 completed replicate number completed replicate number 60 completed replicate number 70 completed replicate number 80 completed replicate number 90 completed replicate number 100 Output written to file "outfile" Done.



Rename the 'outfile' to 'infile'

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Protein distance algorithm, version 3.67
Settings for this run:
    Use JTT, PMB, PAM, Kimura, categories model?
                                                    Jones-Taylor-Thornton matrix
  Р
     Gamma distribution of rates among positions?
  G
                                                    No
  С
              One category of substitution rates?
                                                    Yes
  W
                       Use weights for positions?
                                                    No
  M
                      Analyze multiple data sets?
                                                    No
                     Input sequences interleaved?
 Ι
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                    Terminal type (IBM PC, ANSI)?
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  Ø
               Print out the data at start of run
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  2
             Print indications of progress of run
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Are these settings correct? (type Y or the letter for one to change)
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Run 'protdist.exe' and an output of 'outfile'



Change 'outfile' to 'infile' and run 'neighbor.exe'

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Lettings\Zhu Hongwei\桌面\phylip3.67\exe\neighbor.exe
                                                                          ٠
 Y to accept these or type the letter for one to change
       9: species 7 ( 0.00025) joins species 8 ( 0.00318)
Cycle
Cycle
       8: node 7 ( 0.01145) joins species 9 ( 0.00929)
Cycle 7: species 10 < 0.00908) joins species 11 < 0.00297)
Cycle 6: node 7 < 0.03054) joins node 10 < 0.00822)
Cycle 5: node 7 < 0.00940) joins species 12 < 0.02431)
Cycle 4: species 6 ( 0.04015) joins node 7 ( 0.03101)
Cycle 3: species 4 ( 0.00556) joins species 5 ( 0.00818)
Cycle 2: node 4 ( 0.00237) joins node 6 ( 0.01347)
Cycle 1: species 1 < 0.00868) joins species 2 < 0.00335)
last cycle:
node 1 ( 0.00013) joins species 3 ( -0.00015) joins node 4 (
                                                                0.00971
Output written on file "outfile"
Tree written on file "outtree"
Done.
Press enter to quit.
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UW C:\Documents and Settings\Zhu Hongwei\桌面\phylip3.67\exe\consense.exe
                                                                            - 🗆 X
Consensus tree program, version 3.67
Settings for this run:
           Consensus type (MRe, strict, MR, M1): Majority rule (extended)
С
 0
                                  Outgroup root: No, use as outgroup species 1
R
                  Trees to be treated as Rooted:
                                                  No
Т
             Terminal type (IBM PC, ANSI, none): IBM PC
1
                 Print out the sets of species:
                                                  Yes
2
           Print indications of progress of run:
                                                  Yes
3
                                 Print out tree: Yes
 4
                 Write out trees onto tree file: Yes
Are these settings correct? (type Y or the letter for one to change)
Consensus tree written to file "outtree"
Output written to file "outfile"
Done.
Press enter to quit.
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Rename 'outfile' to 'infile','outtree' to 'intree' and run 'consense.exe'

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Neighbor-joining method

Negative branch lengths allowed

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There are so many thing covering this!

keep one thing in mind: BE CAUTIOUS when dealing with phylogenetic trees, it is very difficult to find a TRUE tree !

References:

Jin Xiong, Essential bioinformatics, Cambridge University Press, 2006: 127-169

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Jean-Michel Claverie, Cedric Notredame, Bioinformatics for dummies (2nd Edition) Wilry Press, 2006

Thanks!

