# Bioinformatics II: <br> Building a phylogenetic tree using Parsimony methods 

Dr Manaf A Guma
University of Anbar- college of applied science-Heet.
Department of chemistry

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## What is Parsimony methods

- It is a method taxa (for classification) in ways that minimize the number of evolutionary changes.
- What is the Goal of the method?
- Find the tree that allows evolution of the sequences with the fewest changes.
- This is called a most parsimonious (MP) tree

- NOTE: Taxonomists : scientists who do classification through evaluations.

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## What is the idea of the Parsimony method?

- It is based on, all other species being equal.
- For e.g: 4 nucleotide changes, is more likely to be true than a complex one. (sub-grouping).
- The method assumes that change in characteristic occurs in lineage over time.
- But, the rate of mutation is NOT constant over time.
- So, leaves (descendent) can have different distances from the root.


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## Example? Construct a tree that represent minimum evolutionary changes

- For site 1, the tree that represents minimum changes groups allthe (parrots) -a type of birds-show ' T ' ' in one group and all those showing ' ' C " in another group.

|  | Sites |  |  |  | Sites |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Species | 1 | 2 | 3 | Species | 1 | 2 | 3 |  |
|  | T | A | G | B | T | A | G |  |
|  | C | A | A |  | C | A | A |  |
|  | T | C | G |  | T | C | G |  |
|  | T | C | G |  | T | C | G |  |
|  | C | A | A |  | C A | A |  |  |

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## The question: How thee taxa divergence started from an ancestor?

- The two tree are topologically identical, but they assume different. ancestral states


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## 2

- For site 2, there are three possible parsimonious trees.


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## 2

- All these trees agree on:
- How to cluster parrots in different groups.
- The minimum number of substitution.
- But they disagree on:
- How this evolutionary divergence has occurred in the course of evolution.
- Again, tree are topologically identical, but they assume different ancestral state

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## 3

- For site 3, there are 2 possible parsimonious tree.


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## Calculate the number of substitutions steps on each branch?

- So, this depends on the ancestral states.


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## The maximum parsimony tree is the one with minimum total number of substitution.



## Fitch's algorithm

- To count the number of steps of a tree requires at given site:
- Construct a set of nucleotides that are observed there.
- Go down the tree.
- For each ancestral node (say A).
- Consider its two immediate descendent sets (say D1 and D2).
- Nucleotide se in ancestor A
- A-D1 U D2.
- if D1 are dis-joint
- Else, A=D1ת D2


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## Tutorial

- Make a Phylogenetic tree using NCBI?
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilE-SkJCFOc

