# CS 598MEB Computational Cancer Genomics Lecture 2

Mohammed El-Kebir January 20, 2022



# **Course Information**

#### **Course website:**

• <u>https://www.el-kebir.net/teaching/CS598MEB/Spring\_2022/CS598MEB.html</u>

#### Piazza: (please sign up)

https://piazza.com/illinois/spring2022/cs598meb

#### **Description:**

• This course focuses on recent algorithmic methods in cancer genomics, including somatic variant calling, phylogeny inference and identification of driver mutations. Students will study the underlying principles of these methods and the application of these methods to cancer genomics data.

### Lecture Outline

- Recap
- Maximum Parsimony
- Two-state Perfect Phylogeny
- Two-state Perfect Phylogeny Mixtures

#### Reading

• Lecture notes

#### Hallmarks of Cancer



#### Inter-tumor heterogeneity: Every tumor is different!

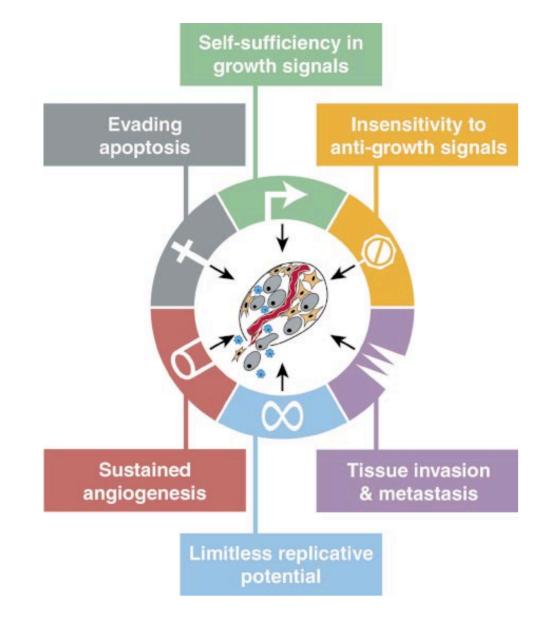
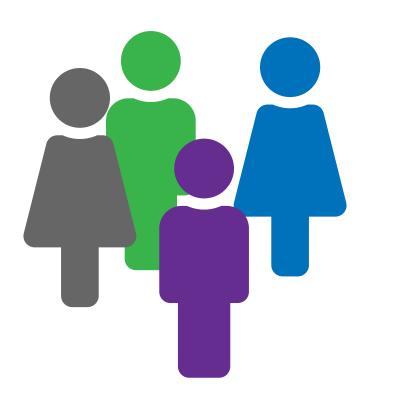


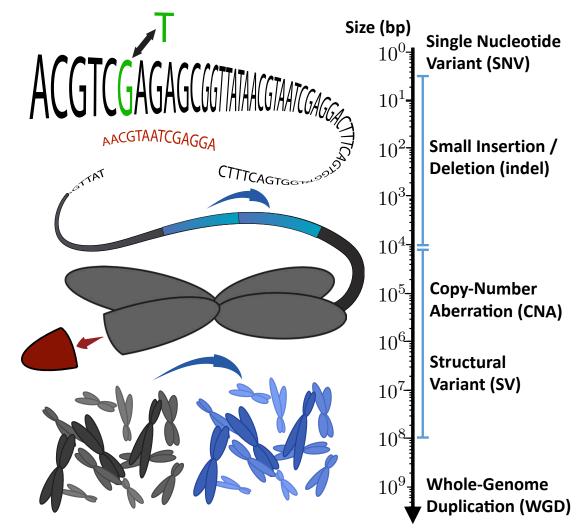
Figure 1. Acquired Capabilities of Cancer

We suggest that most if not all cancers have acquired the same set of functional capabilities during their development, albeit through various mechanistic strategies.

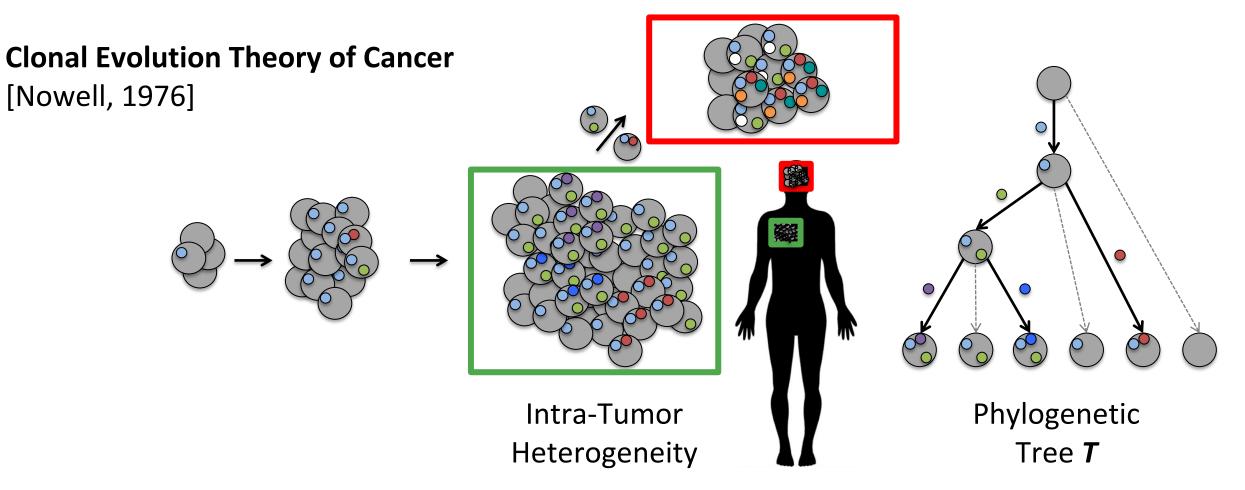
#### Cancer is Caused by Somatic Mutations



Inter-tumor heterogeneity: Every tumor is different!

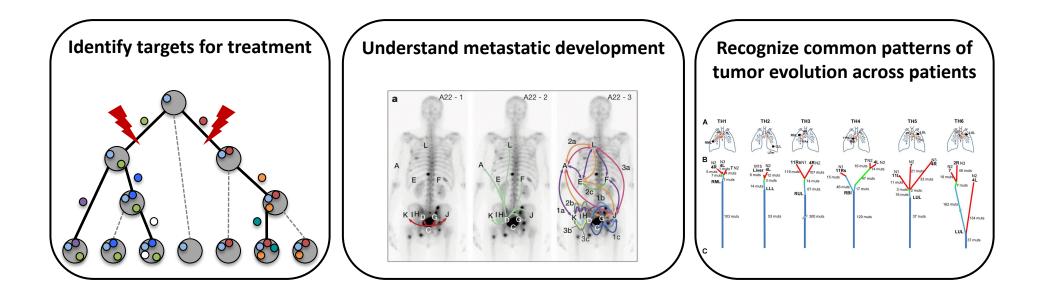


# Tumorigenesis: Cell Mutation, Division & Migration



#### Intra-tumor heterogeneity: Every tumor cell is different

# Phylogenies are Key to Understanding Cancer



These downstream analyses **critically rely** on accurate tumor phylogeny inference

**Key challenge in phylogenetics:** 

Accurate phylogeny inference from data at present time

### Lecture Outline

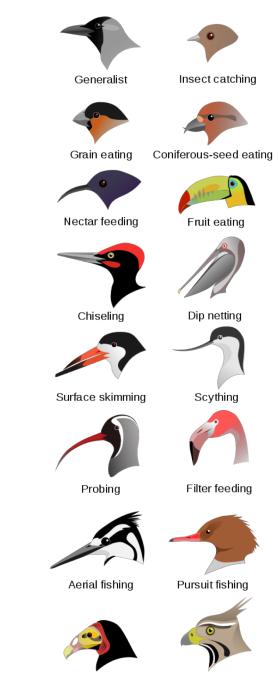
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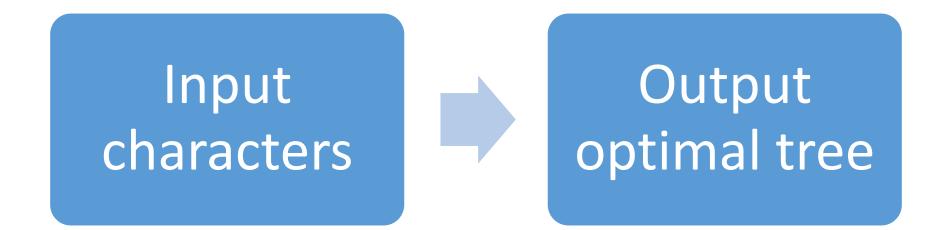
# Character-Based Tree Reconstruction

- Characters may be morphological features
  - Shape of beak {generalist, insect catching, ...}
  - Number of legs {2,3,4, ..}
  - Hibernation {yes, no}
- Character may be nucleotides/amino acids
  - {A, T, C, G}
  - 20 amino acids
- Values of a character are called states
  - We assume discrete states



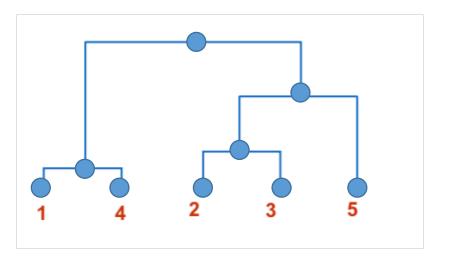
Scavenging

#### Character-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction

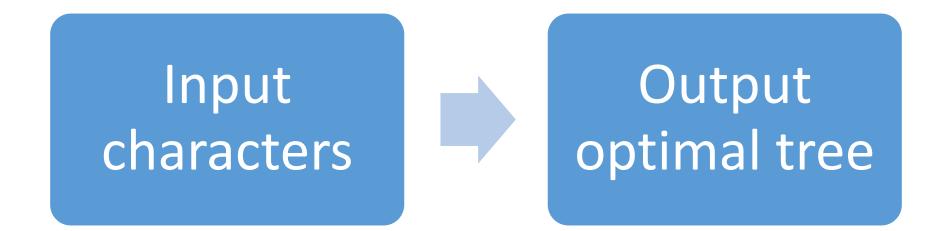


Question: What is optimal?

Want: Optimization criterion



#### Character-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction

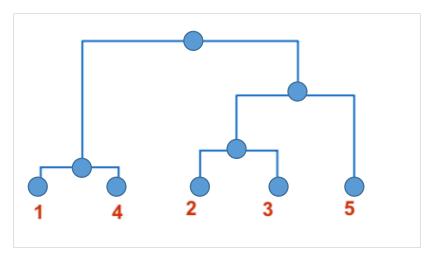


Question: What is optimal?

Want: Optimization criterion

**Question**: How to optimize this criterion?

Want: Algorithm

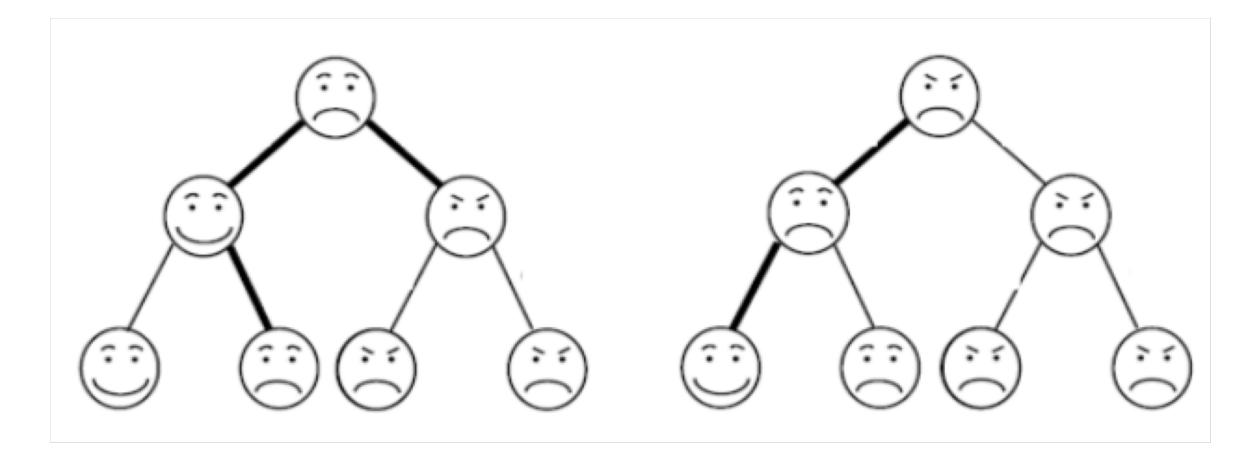


#### Character-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction: Input

<b>Characters / states</b>	State 1	State 2
Mouth	Smile	Frown
Eyebrows	Normal	Pointed

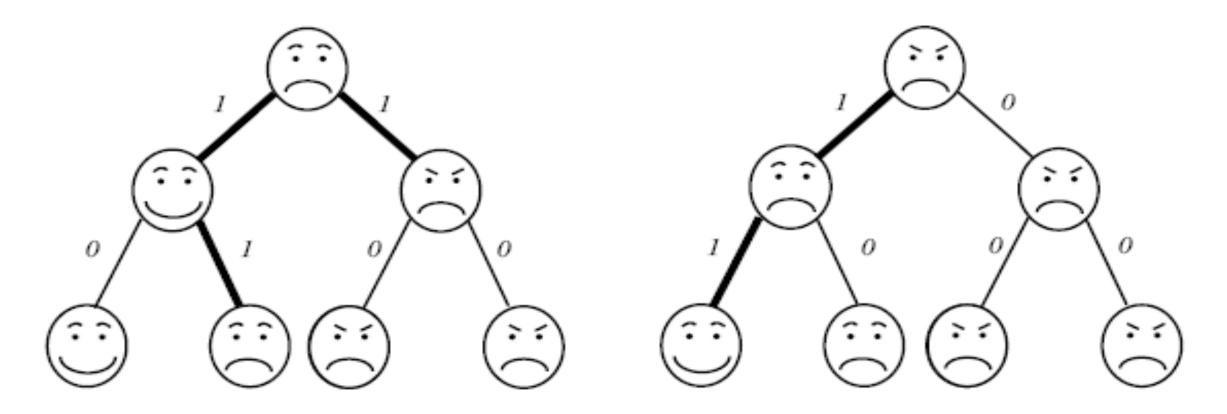


#### Character-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction: Criterion



#### **Question**: Which tree is better?

#### Character-Based Phylogeny Reconstruction: Criterion



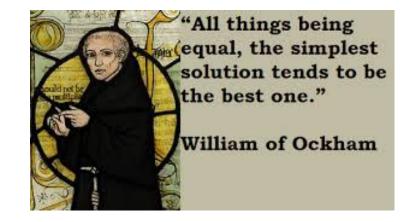
(a) Parsimony Score=3

(b) Parsimony Score=2

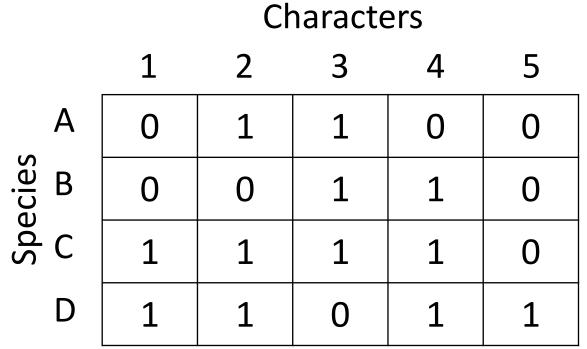
**Parsimony**: minimize number of changes on edges of tree

# Why Parsimony?

- Ockham's razor: "simplest" explanation for data
- Assumes that observed character differences resulted from the fewest possible mutations
- Seeks tree with the lowest **parsimony score**, i.e. the sum of all (costs of) mutations in the tree.



#### Binary Characters



#### Characters only have two possible states

Possible Encoding: 0:not-mutated 1 : mutated

Possible Encoding: 0 : no wings 1 : wings

#### A Small and a Large Problem

Small Maximum Parsimony Phylogeny Problem: Given  $m \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{i,j}]$  and tree T with m leaves, find assignment of character states to each internal vertex of Twith minimum parsimony score.

**Large Maximum Parsimony Phylogeny Problem:** Given  $m \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{i,j}]$ , find a tree T with m leaves labeled according to A and an assignment of character states to each internal vertex of T with minimum parsimony score.

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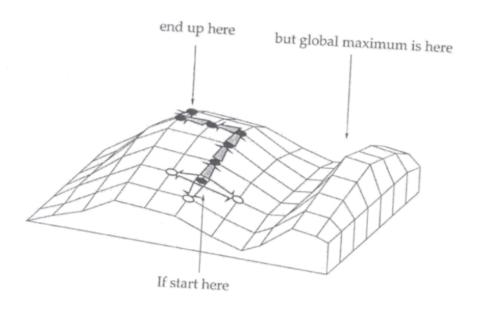
**Question**: Are both problems easy (i.e. in P)?

# Large Maximum Parsimony Phylogeny

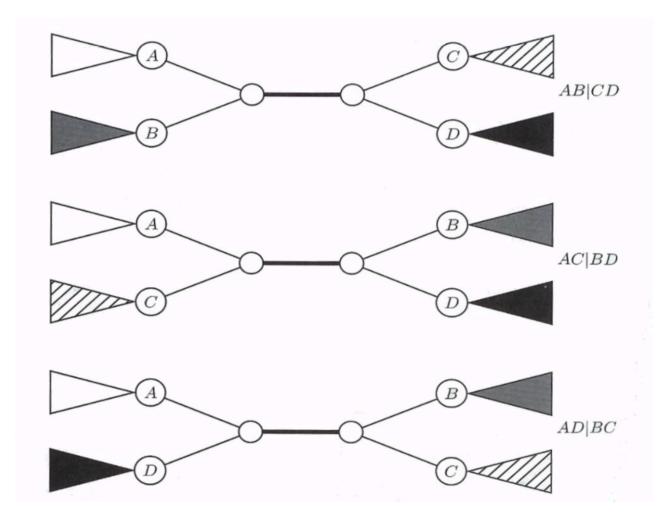
- This problem is NP-hard
- Heuristics using local search (tree moves)

- 1. Start with an arbitrary tree T.
- 2. Check "neighbors" of T.
- 3. Move to a neighbor if it provides the best improvement in parsimony/likelihood score.

Caveats: Could be stuck in **local** optimum, and not achieve global optimum



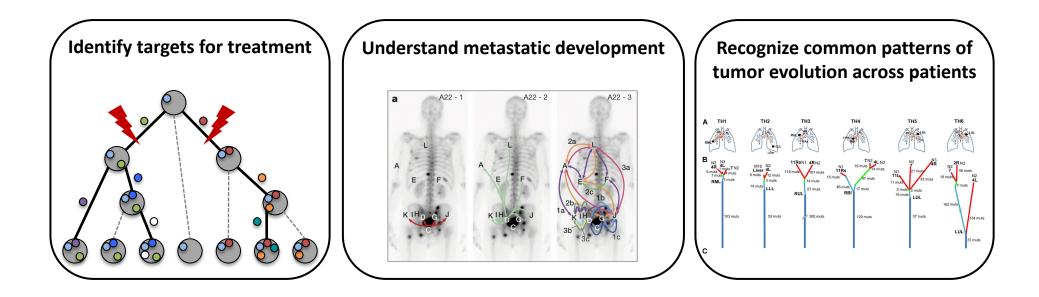
# Local Search: Nearest-Neighbor Interchange (NNI)



Rearrange four subtrees defined by one internal edge

Figure: Jones and Pevzner

# Phylogenies are Key to Understanding Cancer

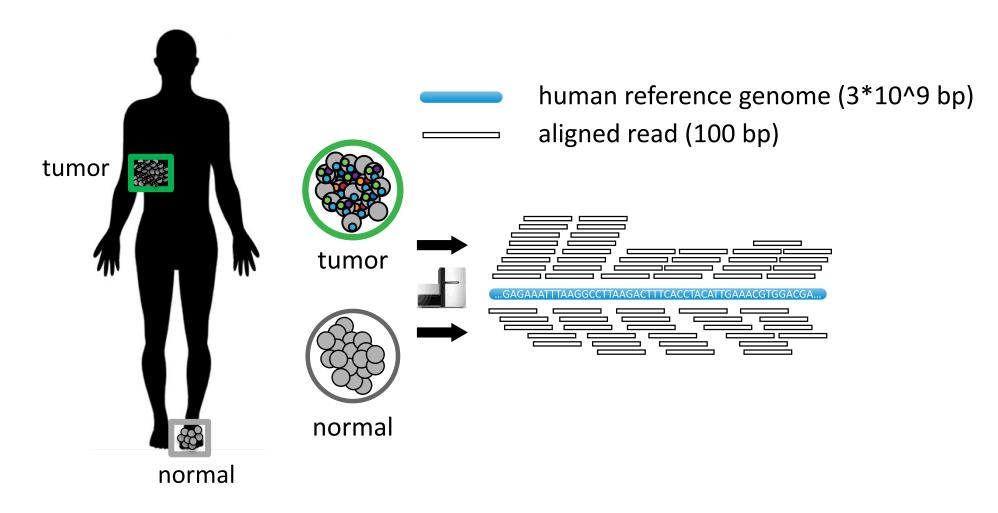


These downstream analyses **critically rely** on accurate tumor phylogeny inference

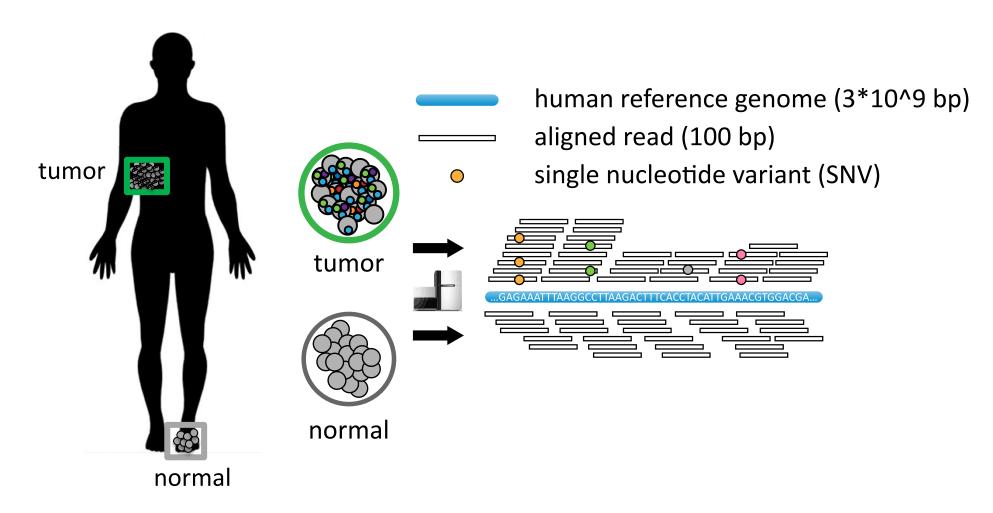
**Key challenge in phylogenetics:** 

Accurate phylogeny inference from data at present time

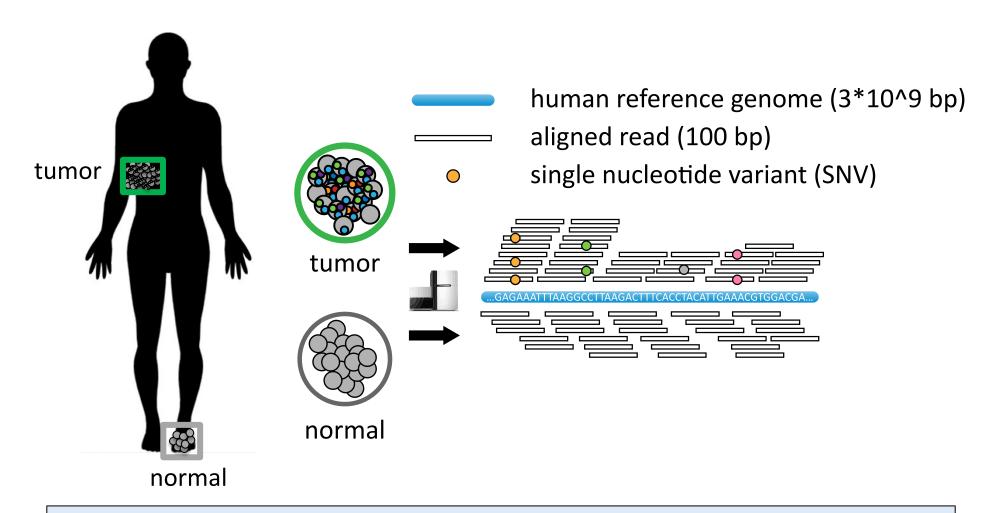
### Additional Challenge in Cancer Phylogenetics



# Additional Challenge in Cancer Phylogenetics



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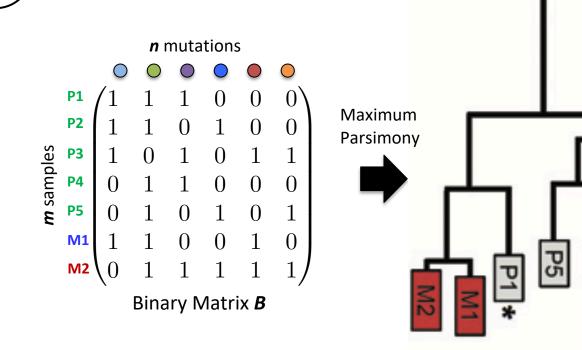
#### Additional challenge in cancer phylogenetics: Phylogeny inference from mixed bulk samples at present time

# Tumor Phylogeny Inference

#### Metastatic Colorectal Cancer (Patient CRC2)

[Kim et al., Clin Cancer Res 21(19), 2015]:

- 5 primary samples (P1-P5)
- 2 metastases (M1-M2)
- 412 single-nucleotide variants (SNVs)



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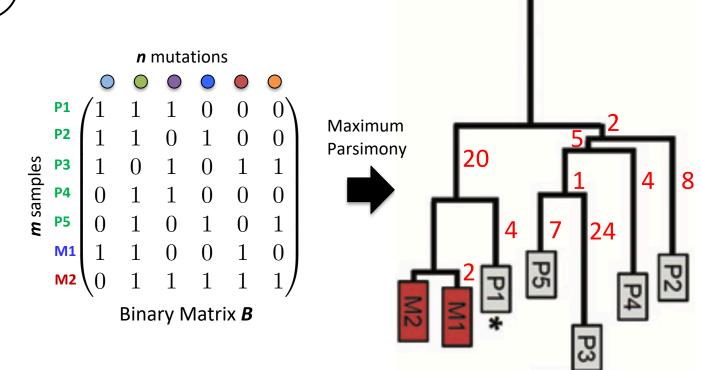
CRC-2

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CRC-2

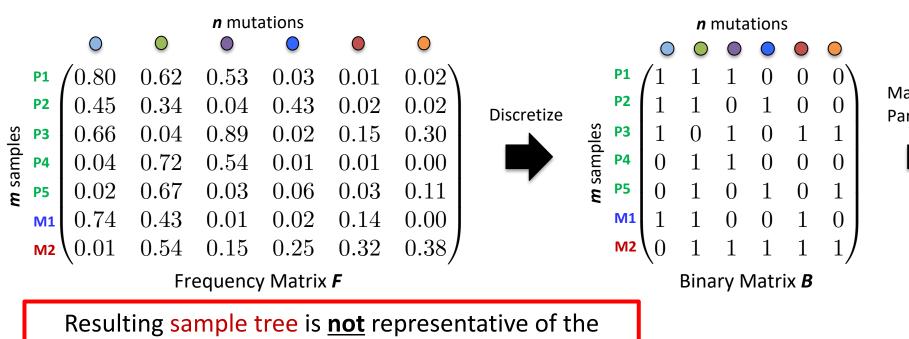
### Heuristic for Tumor Phylogeny Inference

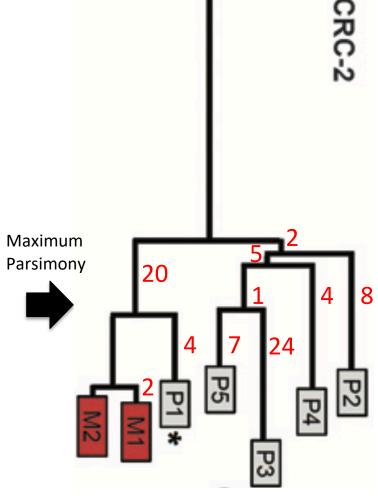
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- 5 primary samples (P1-P5)
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- 41 mutate more than once (homoplasy)

division/mutation history or the migration history





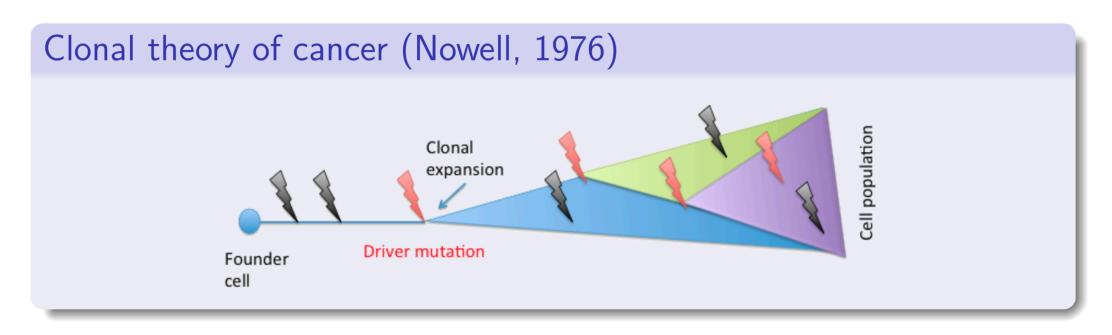
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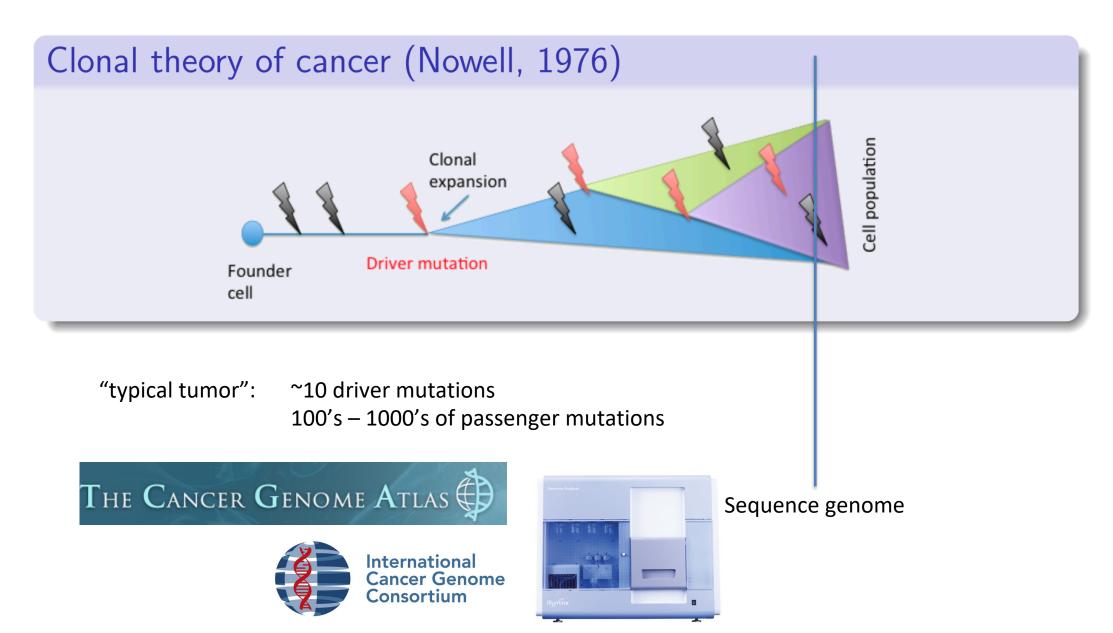
• Lecture notes

### Somatic Mutations and Cancer

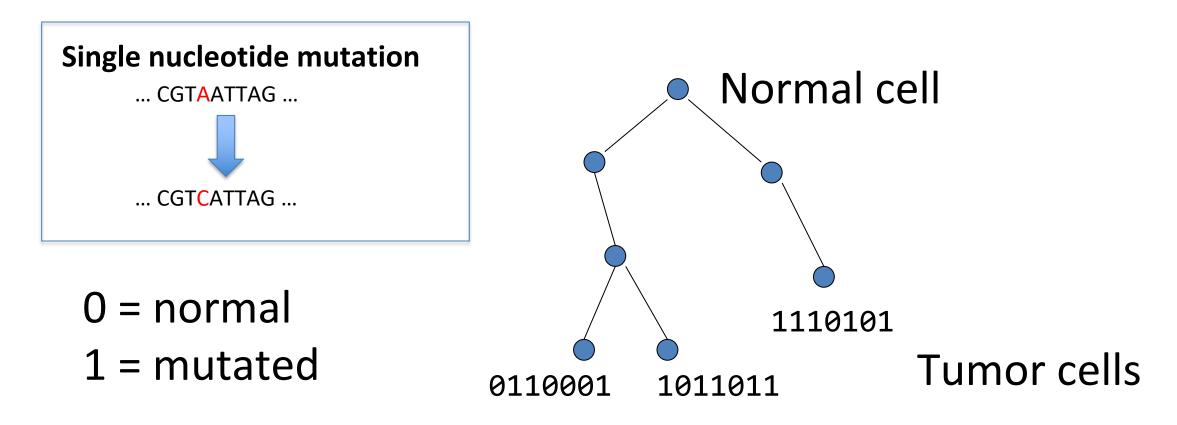


"typical tumor": ~10 driver mutations 100's – 1000's of passenger mutations

# Somatic Mutations and Cancer

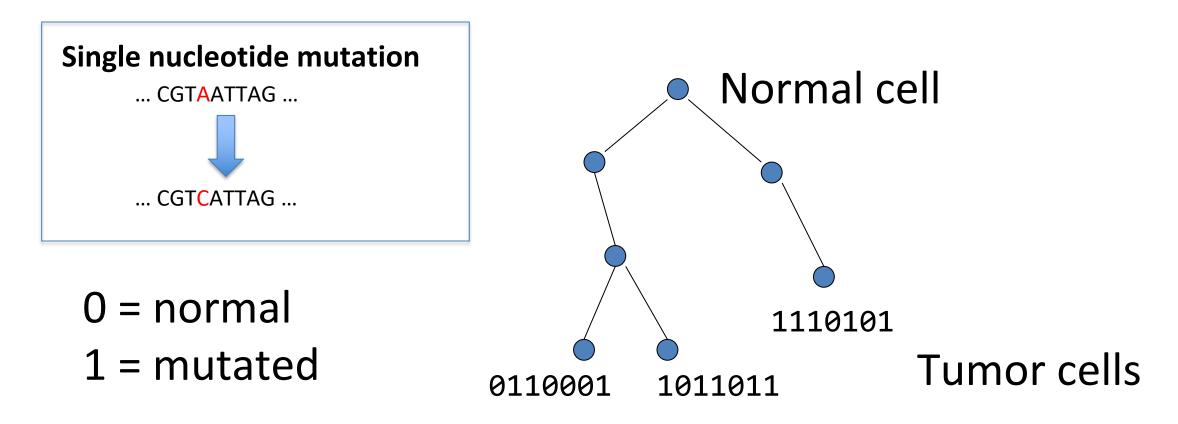


### Progression of Somatic Mutations



#### Root is the normal, founder cell and leaves are cells in tumor.

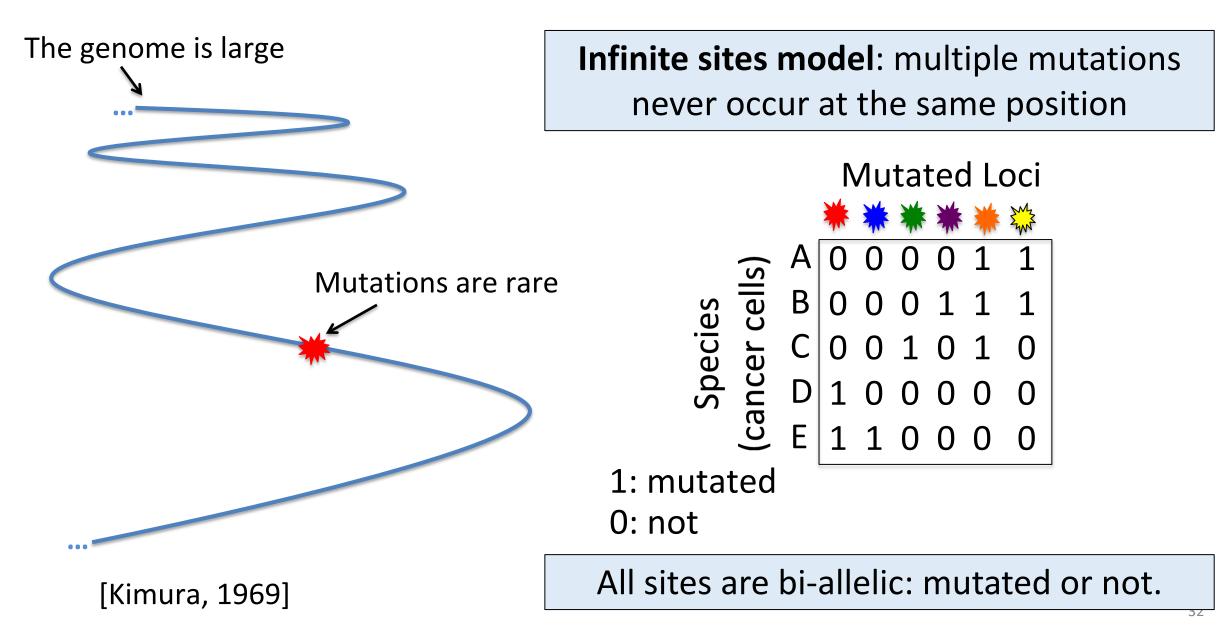
### Progression of Somatic Mutations



Root is the normal, founder cell and leaves are cells in tumor.

Infinite sites assumption: each locus mutates only once.

# Infinite Sites Model



# Two-state Perfect Phylogeny

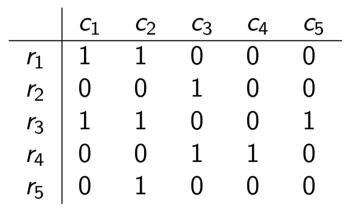
Matrix  $M \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times m}$  has n taxa and m characters

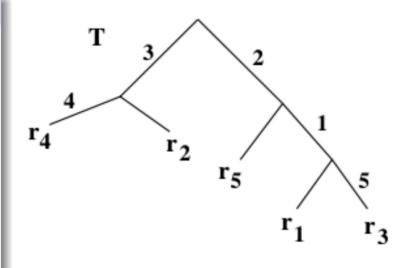
Taxon f has state 1 for character c
⇔ f possesses character c



A perfect phylogeny for M is a rooted tree T with n leaves such that:

- Each taxon labels only one leaf
- Each character labels only one edge
- Character possessed by a taxon are on unique path to root

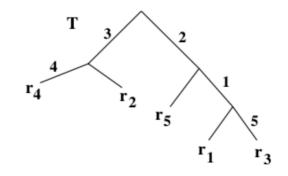


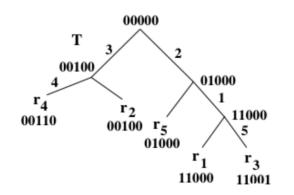


Root node is all zero ancestor

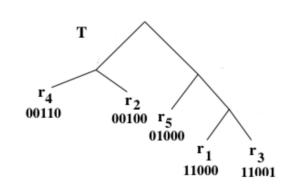
#### Two-state Perfect Phylogeny – Alternative Definitions

- Each taxon labels exactly one leaf
- 2 Each character labels exactly one edge
- One of the second se





- Each taxon labels exactly one leaf
- 2 Each node is labeled by  $\{0,1\}^m$
- 3 Nodes labeled with state *i* for character *c* form a connected subtree
- Each taxon labels exactly one leaf
- 2  $T_c(i)$  is smallest subtree connecting all leaves labeled with state *i* for character *c*
- 3  $T_c(0)$  and  $T_c(1)$  are disjoint for all c



#### Two-state Perfect Phylogeny Problem

#### Input:

Matrix  $M \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times m}$  has n taxa and m characters

Taxon f has state 1 for character c
⇔ f possesses character c

	<i>c</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>c</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>C</i> 3	<i>C</i> 4	<i>C</i> <sub>5</sub>
$r_1$	1	1	0	0	0
<i>r</i> <sub>2</sub>	0	0	1	0	0
$r_3$	1	1	0	0	1
<i>r</i> 4	0	0	1	1	0
<i>r</i> 5	0	1 0 1 0 1	0	0	0

#### Problem

Given  $M \in \{0,1\}^{n \times m}$  does M have a perfect phylogeny?

# Try it yourself!

Only one of these matrices can be used to build a perfect phylogeny.

(1) As a group, decide on an approach to try to determine which one is which.

(2) Try out your approach to see if you can construct the tree.

(3) What did you learn from your attempt?



$$M_{2} = \begin{array}{ccccc} & & Characters \\ & C_{1} & C_{2} & C_{3} & C_{4} & C_{5} \\ & A & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ & A & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ & B & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & C & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ & D & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & E & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

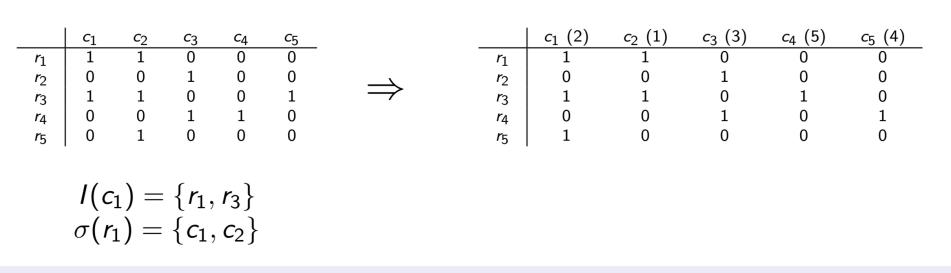
### The Perfect Phylogeny Problem – Preliminaries

### Problem

Given  $M \in \{0,1\}^{n \times m}$  does M have a perfect phylogeny?

### Definition

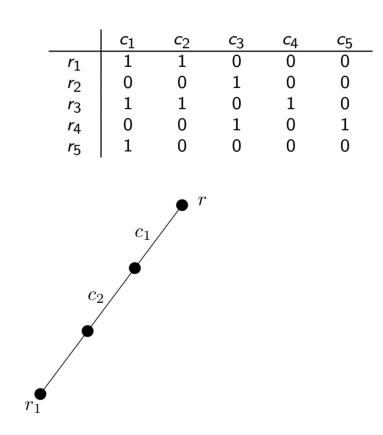
I(c) is the set of taxa that possess character c; and  $\sigma(f)$  is the set of characters possessed by taxon f.



Sort columns of M s.t. c < d iff  $|I(c)| \ge |I(d)|$ . Break ties arbitrarily.

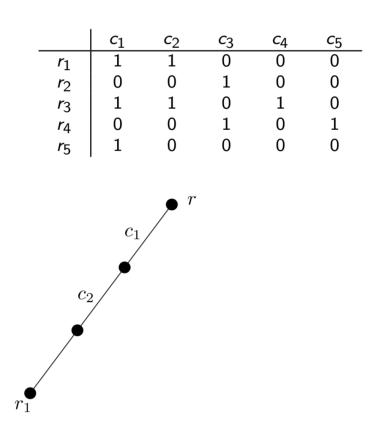
- Consider rows of *M* iteratively
  - $T_i$  is tree of first *i* rows of *M*
- $T_1$  is a path graph
  - Terminal nodes r and 1
  - $|\sigma(1)| + 1$  edges labeled by  $\sigma(1)$

c < d iff  $|I(c)| \geq |I(d)|$ 



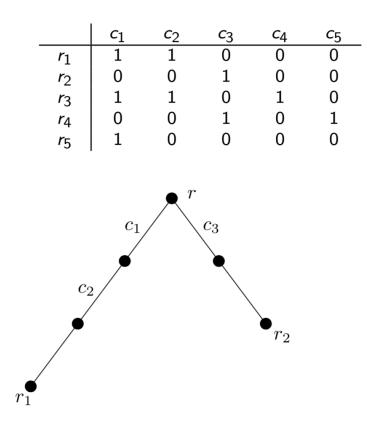
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- $T_{i+1}$  is a supertree of  $T_i$ 
  - Let v be last node on walk from r matching characters σ(i + 1)
    - **\star** Character *d* is the last match
    - ★ Unmatched characters  $\tau(i+1)$

### c < d iff $|I(c)| \geq |I(d)|$



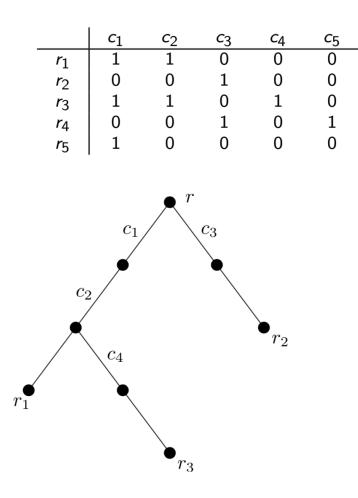
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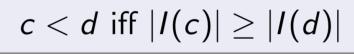


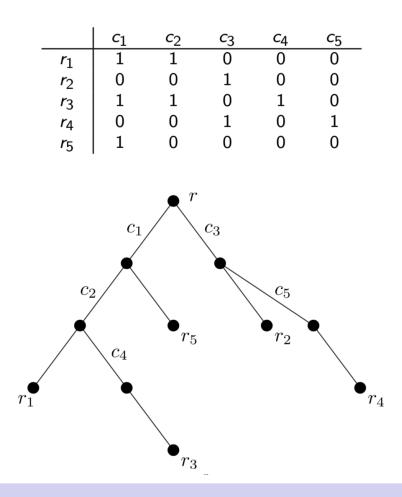
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### Lemma

Let  $M_i \in 0, 1^{i \times m}$  be a submatrix of M. If M is conflict-free then  $T_i$  is a perfect phylogeny for  $M_i$ .

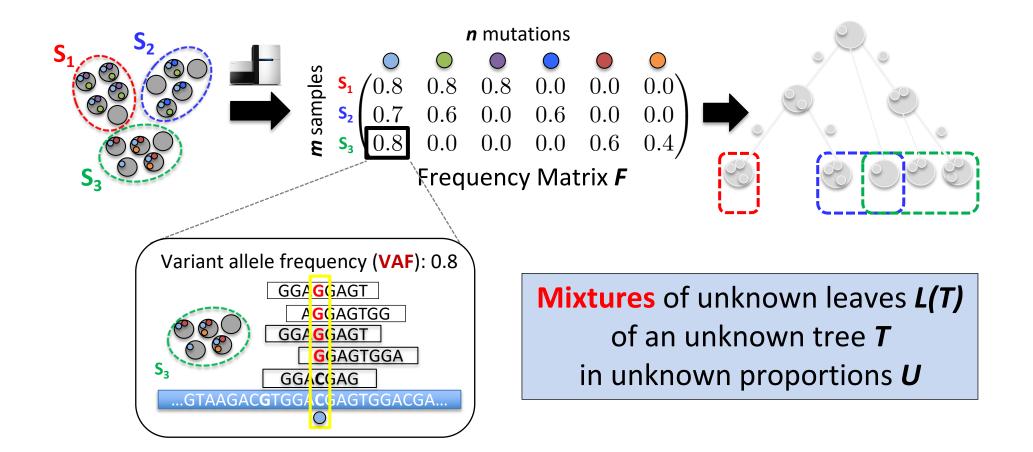
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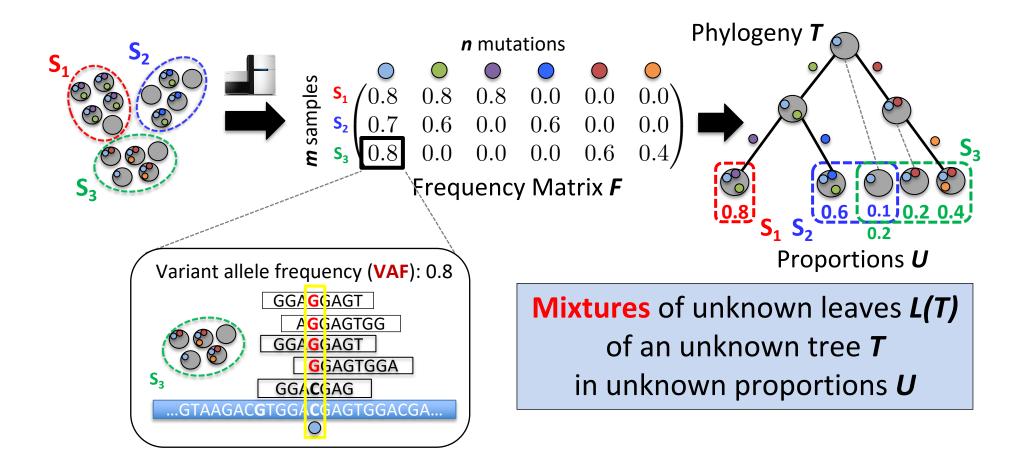
### Reading

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## Sequencing and Tumor Phylogeny Inference

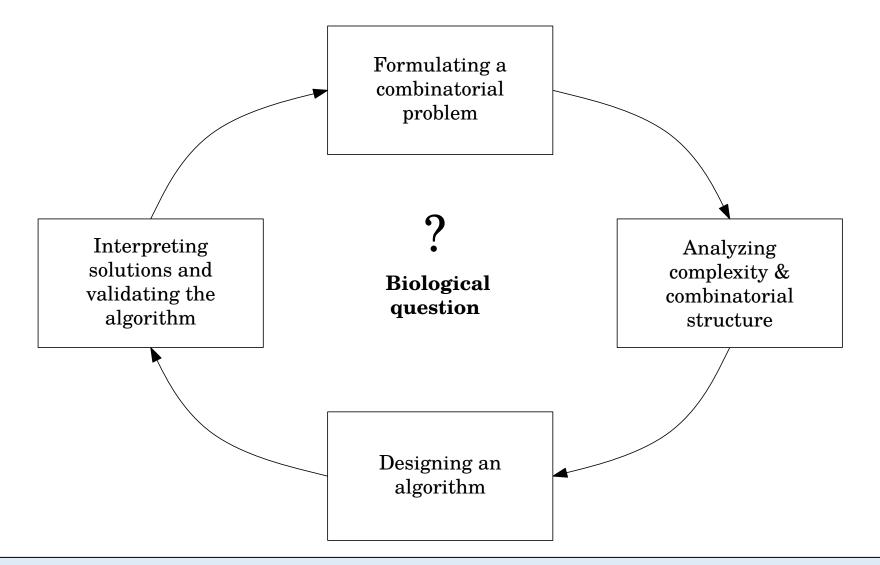


# Sequencing and Tumor Phylogeny Inference

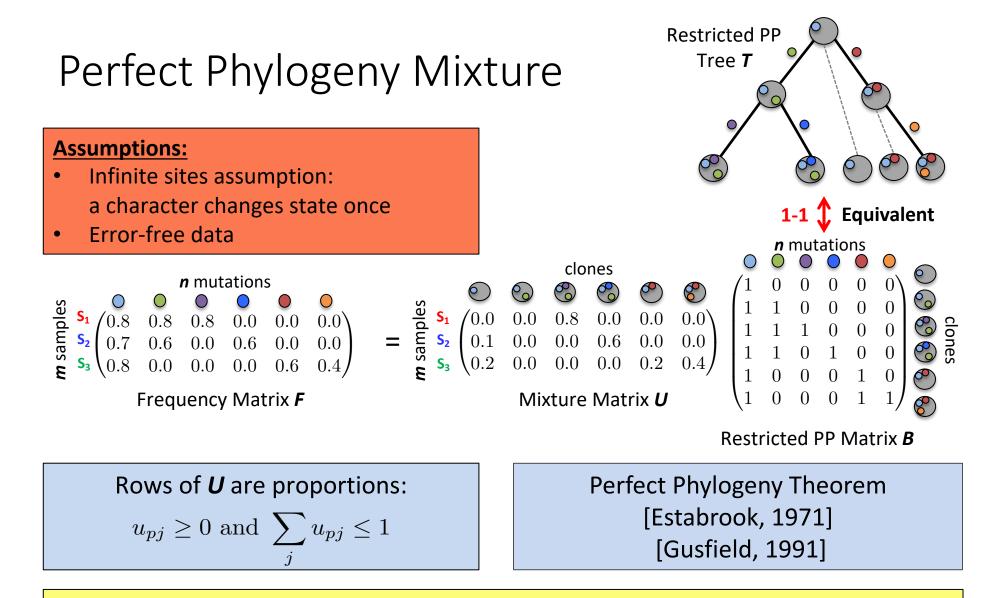


Tumor Phylogeny Inference: Given frequencies *F*, find phylogeny *T* and proportions *U* 

# Key Challenge in Computational Biology



Translating a biological problem into a computational biology

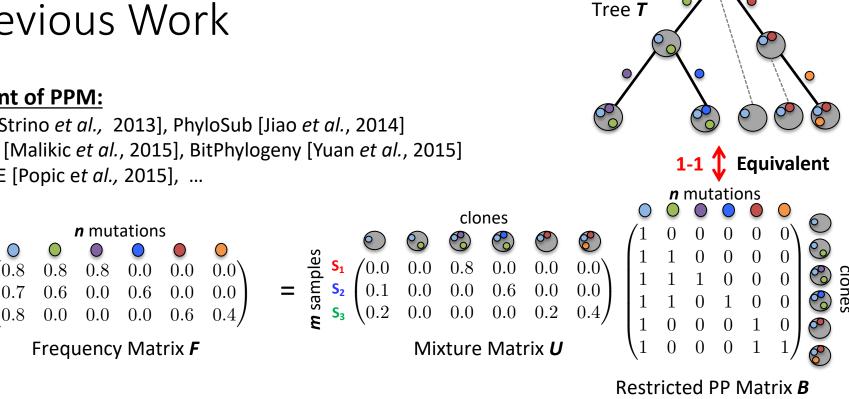


## Previous Work

#### Variant of PPM:

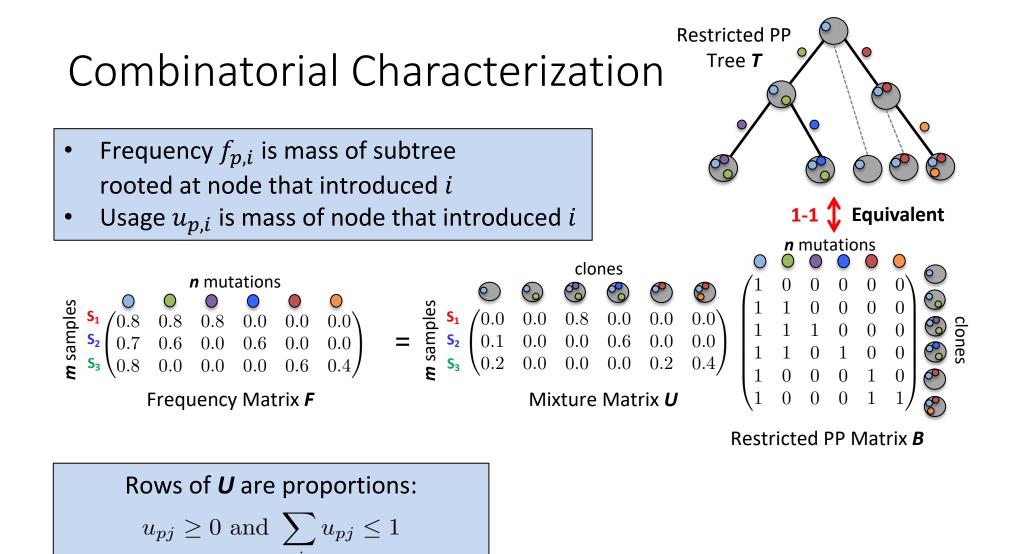
**n** samples

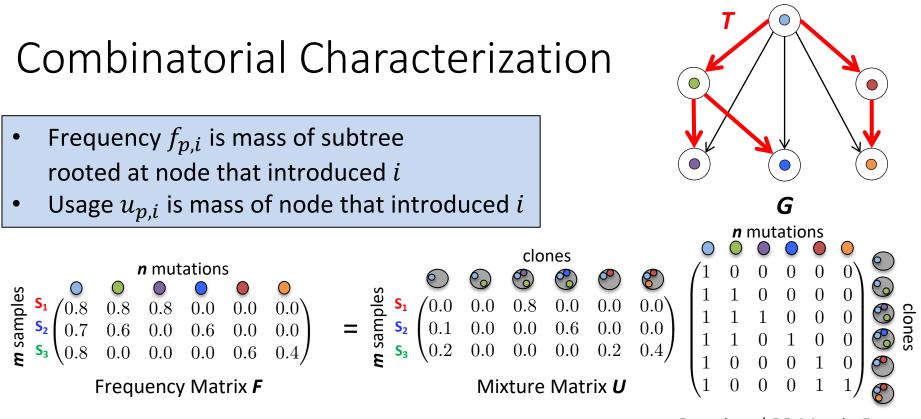
TrAp [Strino et al., 2013], PhyloSub [Jiao et al., 2014] CITUP [Malikic et al., 2015], BitPhylogeny [Yuan et al., 2015] LICHeE [Popic et al., 2015], ...



**Restricted PP** 

Rows of **U** are proportions: Perfect Phylogeny Theorem [Estabrook, 1971]  $u_{pj} \ge 0$  and  $\sum u_{pj} \le 1$ [Gusfield, 1991]

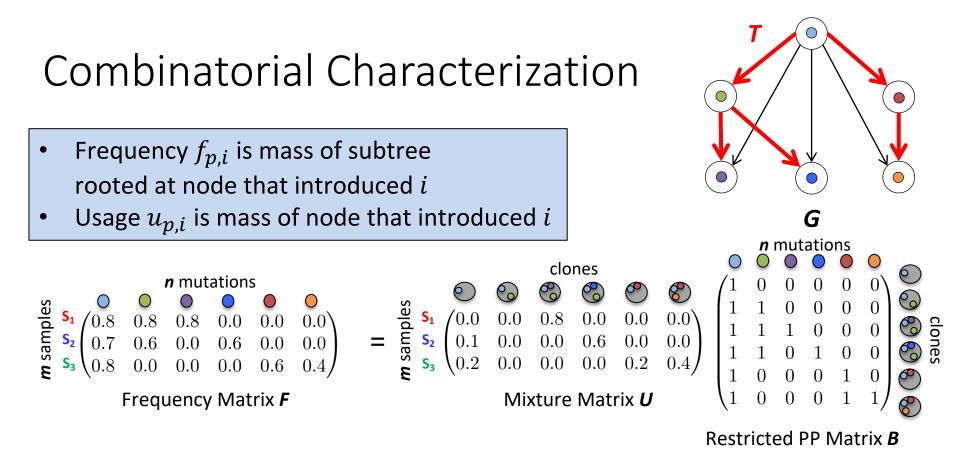




Restricted PP Matrix **B** 

### Theorem 1:

**T** is a solution to the PPM if and only if **T** is a spanning tree of **G** satisfying the sum condition



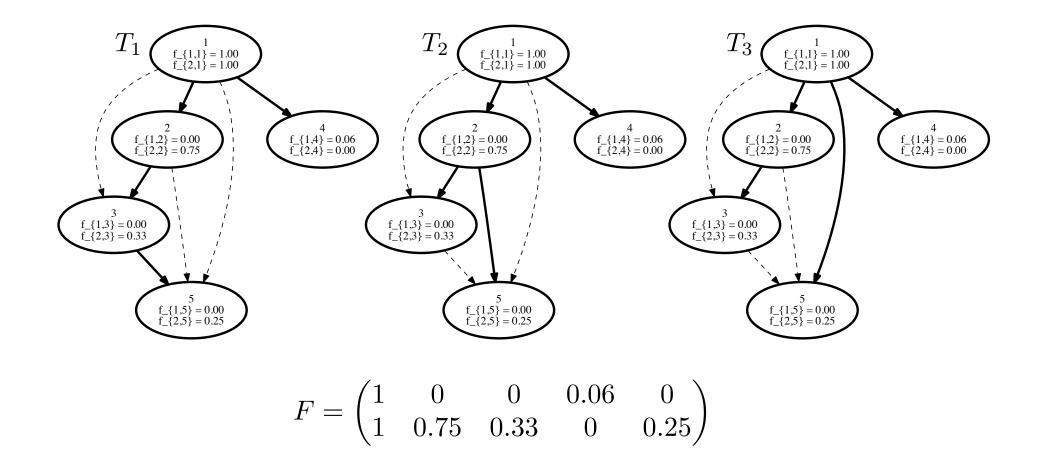
#### Theorem 1:

**T** is a solution to the PPM if and only if **T** is a spanning tree of **G** satisfying the sum condition

### Theorem 2:

PPM is NP-complete even for *m*=2

## Non-uniqueness of Solutions to PPM



**Question 1:** Can we determine the number of solutions?

**Question 2:** Can sample solutions uniformly at random?

# Summary of Lectures 1 & 2

- DNA, RNA and proteins are sequences
  - Central dogma of molecular biology: DNA -> RNA -> protein
- Problem != algorithm
- Key challenge in computational biology is translating a biological problem into a computational problem
- Cancer is a genetic disease caused by somatic mutations
- Inter-tumor heterogeneity and intra-tumor heterogeneity:
  - Not only is every tumor different, but so is every tumor cell...
- Reading:
  - "Biology for Computer Scientists" by Lawrence Hunter (http://www.el-kebir.net/teaching/CS466/Hunter\_BIO\_CS.pdf)