


Pairwise Alignment Problem:
Given two sequences, determine their optimal (i.e., best scoring) alignment.

## The Elegance of Alignment

The problem of finding the best alignment of two sequences has two important properties:
(1) The solution can be found by looking at the solutions to subproblems
(2) Subproblems often overlap

Indeed, to find the best alignment of two sequences, we need only look at 3 slightly smaller alignments (i.e., remove one or two characters from the sequences).

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The method for determining the best alignment is known as a dynamic programming algorithm.

The Elegance of Alignment


## Score Table

## AGCGTTA <br> ACGTGA

How Is Each Entry in the Table Determined?

- Each entry depends on 3 previous entries (because of problem's "elegance")
- Each entry also depends on scores used (match, mismatch, gap)



## Alignment Score Table

## AGCGTTA

ACGTGA

|  | A |  | C | G | T | G | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | -6 | -12 | -18 | -24 | -30 | -36 |
| A | -6 | 5 | -1 | -7 | -13 | -19 | -25 |
| G | -12 | -1 | 1 | 4 | -2 | -8 | -14 |
| C | -18 | -7 | 4 | -2 | 0 | -6 | -12 |
| G | -24 | -13 | -2 | 9 | 3 | 5 | -1 |
| T | -30 | -19 | -8 | 3 | 14 | 8 | 2 |
| T | -36 | -25 | -14 | -3 | 8 | 10 | 4 |
| A | -42 | -31 | -20 | -9 | 2 | 4 | 15 |

Alignment Score Table

## AGCGTTA

ACGTGA

|  |  | A | C | G | T | G | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | -6 | -12 | -18 | -24 | -30 | -36 |
| A | -6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| G | -12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| C | -18 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| G | -24 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| T | -30 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| T | -36 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | -42 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

How Do We Re-Create the Alignment?

## AGCGTTA <br> ACGTGA

A-CGTGA

- The problem of finding the best alignment for two sequences has a couple of interesting properties:
(1) The best alignment can be determined using the best alignments of subproblems
(2) Subproblems often overlap
- Because of these properties, we can fill in a table of solutions to subproblems
- Each table entry is determined from 3 of the preceding entries
- The filled-in table tells us the best alignment!


## Global vs. Local

TGGTAGATTCCCACGAGATCTACCGAGTATGAGTAGGGGGACGTTCGCTCGG GССТСТААСАСАСТGСАСGAGATCAACCGAGATATGAGTAATACAGCGGTACGGG

Global Alignment Score: 60
---TGGTAGATTC-C--CACGAGATCTACCGAG-TATGAGTAGGGGGAC-GTTCGCT-C-GG
 GССТ-СТА-АСАСАСТGСАСGAGATCAACCGAGATATGAGTA---ATACAG--CGGTACGGG

Local Alignment Score: 105
CACGAGATCTACCGAG-tatgagta
llllllll |llll |llllll
CACGAGATCAACCGAGATATGAGTA

## AGCGTTA

ACGTGA

|  | A |  | C | G | T | G | A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | -6 | -12 | -18 | -24 | -30 | -36 |
| A | -6 | 5 | -1 | -7 | -13 | -19 | -25 |
| G | -12 | -1 | 1 | 4 | -2 | -8 | -14 |
| C | -18 | -7 | 4 | -2 | 0 | -6 | -12 |
| G | -24 | -13 | -2 | 9 | 3 | 5 | -1 |
| T | -30 | -19 | -8 | 3 | 14 | 8 | 2 |
| T | -36 | -25 | -14 | -3 | 8 | 10 | 4 |
| A | -42 | -31 | -20 | -9 | 2 | 4 | 15 |

## Local Alignment

## AGATCAC

CGACAG

|  | C |  | G | A | C | A | G |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| G | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| T | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| C | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| A | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| C | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## AGATCAC

 CGACAG|  | C |  | G | A | C | A | G |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| G | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| T | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| C | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 8 |
| C | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 10 |

## Linear Gap Penalty

With linear gap scoring, every gap has the same score


Local Alignment

## AGATCAC CGACAG

|  | C |  | G | A | C | A | G |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| G | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
| A | 0 | 0 | 0 | $1 p$ | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| T | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| C | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 8 |
| C | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 8 | 10 |

## Affine Gap Penalty

With affine gaps, gap scores are determined from two scores:

- alpha, $a$, is the gap opening score
- beta, $\beta$, is the gap extension score


## AGGCTACGATCGATCGAGTT



If the match score is +5 , the mismatch score is -4 , and the affine gap scores are $\alpha=-7$ and $\beta=-2$, then the alignment score is 22 .

Not All Nucleotides Are Created Equal!

Match score: 5
Mismatch score: -4

|  | $\mathbf{A}$ | $\mathbf{C}$ | $\mathbf{G}$ | $\mathbf{T}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathbf{A}$ | 5 | -4 | -4 | -4 |
| $\mathbf{C}$ | -4 | 5 | -4 | -4 |
| $\mathbf{G}$ | -4 | -4 | 5 | -4 |
| $\mathbf{T}$ | -4 | -4 | -4 | 5 |


|  | $\mathbf{A}$ | $\mathbf{C}$ | $\mathbf{G}$ | $\mathbf{T}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathbf{A}$ | 5 | -4 | -1 | -4 |
| $\mathbf{C}$ | -4 | 5 | -4 | -1 |
| $\mathbf{G}$ | -1 | -4 | 5 | -4 |
| $\mathbf{T}$ | -4 | -1 | -4 | 5 |

## BLOSUM62 Matrix



## Amino Acids Work Too!!!

## MLVIGSL

MHWNLV

## Protein vs. Nucleotide

- Protein searches tend to find more distant similarities
-Why?
- 4 vs. 20 letter alphabet
- Different nucleotide sequences can code for the exact same sequence of amino acids
- Better protein substitution matrices
- Protein databanks are smaller

