

---

# Hidden Markov Models and Bioinformatics

## - Docentföreläsning

Marina Alexandersson

Göteborg, Dec 9, 2004

---

## Some genetic history



Charles Darwin

1859: Origin of the Species



---

## Some genetic history



Gregor Mendel

1865: Gregor Mendel's peas



---

# Some genetic history



Courtesy of Herrn Courvoisier, Porzellan-Sammlung, University of Basel.  
Non-commercial, educational use only.

Friedrich Miescher

1869: DNA isolated



Fraunhofer **CHALMERS**  
Research Centre  
Industrial Mathematics



---

# Some genetic history



Walter Sutton



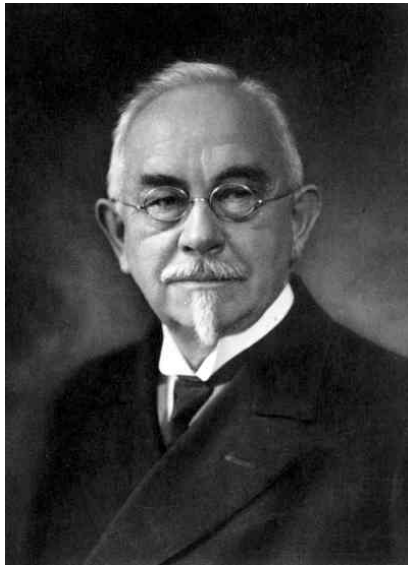
Theodor Boveri

1902: Chromosome theory of heredity



---

## Some genetic history



Willhem Johannsen

1909: the word 'gene' introduced



---

# Some genetic history



George Beadle



Edward Tatum

1941: One gene, one enzyme



---

# Some genetic history



James Watson

Francis Crick

1953: The DNA double helix

---

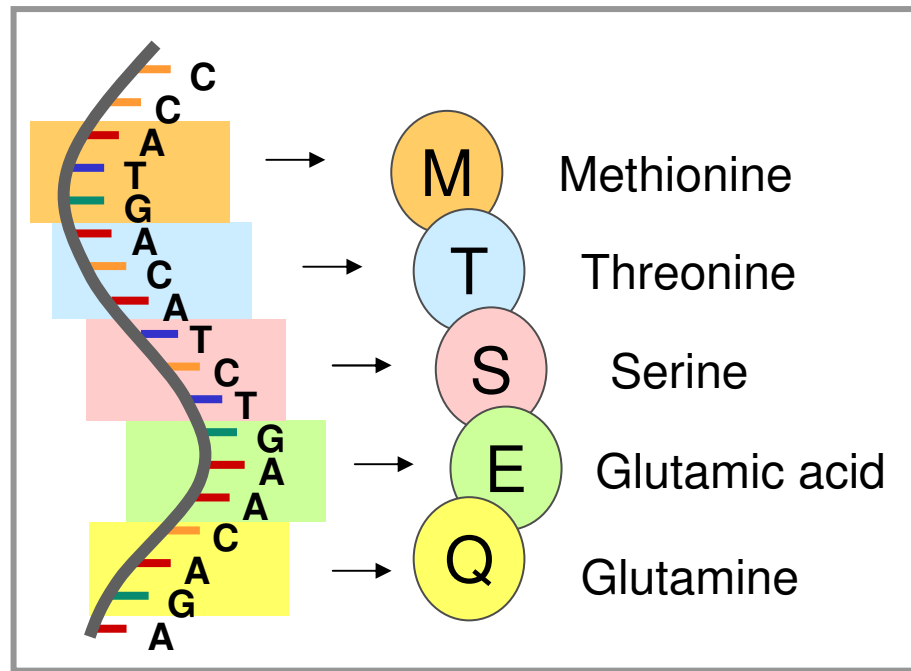
## Some genetic history



1955: 46 human chromosomes



# Some genetic history



1966: Genetic code cracked

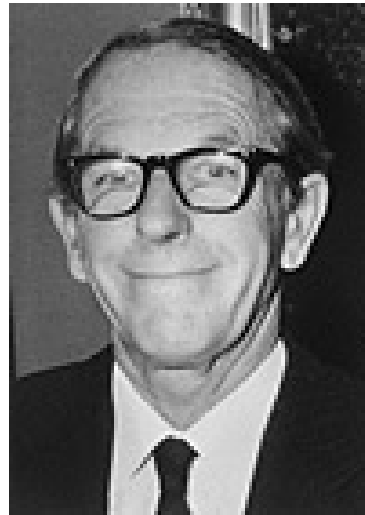


---

# Some genetic history



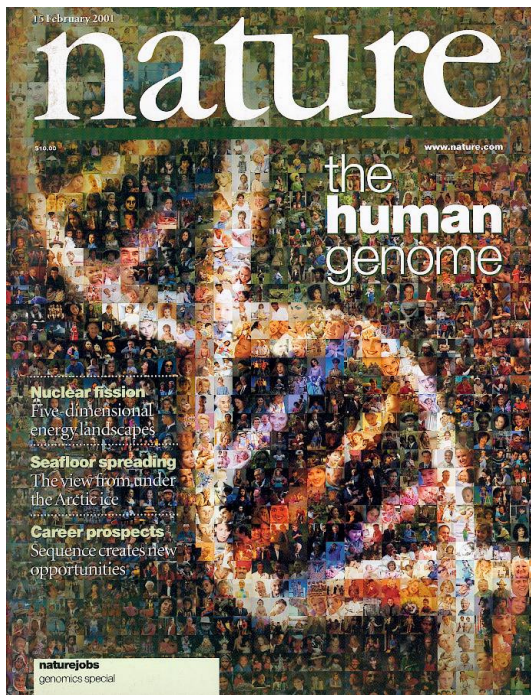
Walter Gilbert



Frederick Sanger

1977: DNA sequencing

# Some genetic history

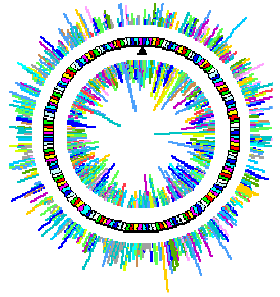


1990: Human Genome Project



Fraunhofer **CHALMERS**  
Research Centre  
Industrial Mathematics

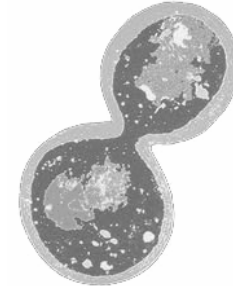




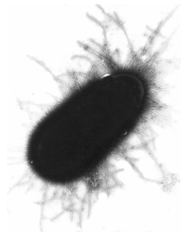
# Sequencing history

1995: Two microbial genomes (1.8, 0.6)

1996: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (12)



1997: *E. coli* (4.6)



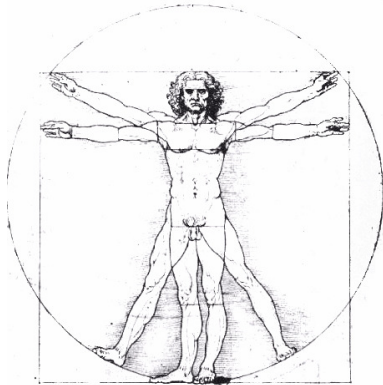
1998: *C. elegans* (97)



2000: *Drosophila melanogaster* (180)



2003: *Homo sapiens* (3,200)



---

More to come...



Fraunhofer **CHALMERS**  
Research Centre  
Industrial Mathematics

---

# Whole genome analysis

- Gene finding
- Sequence alignment
- Regulatory region discovery

---

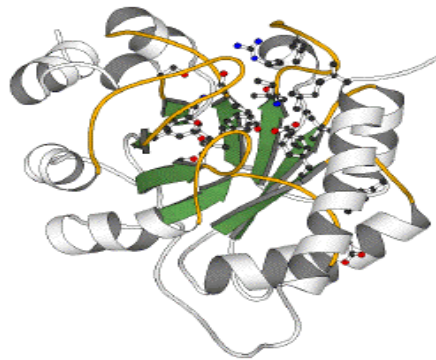
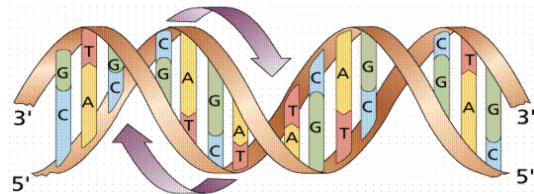
## Whole genome analysis - Why?

- Complete gene and protein sets
- Primary sequence of all genes
- Sequence relationships between genes and proteins
- Function of new proteins
- Transcriptional level of all genes
- Understanding metabolic pathways
- Trace disease genes
- ...

---

# Gene finding

# Gene expression



**DNA**

*transcription*

**RNA**

*translation*

**Protein**

CCTGAGCCAAC TATTGATGAA



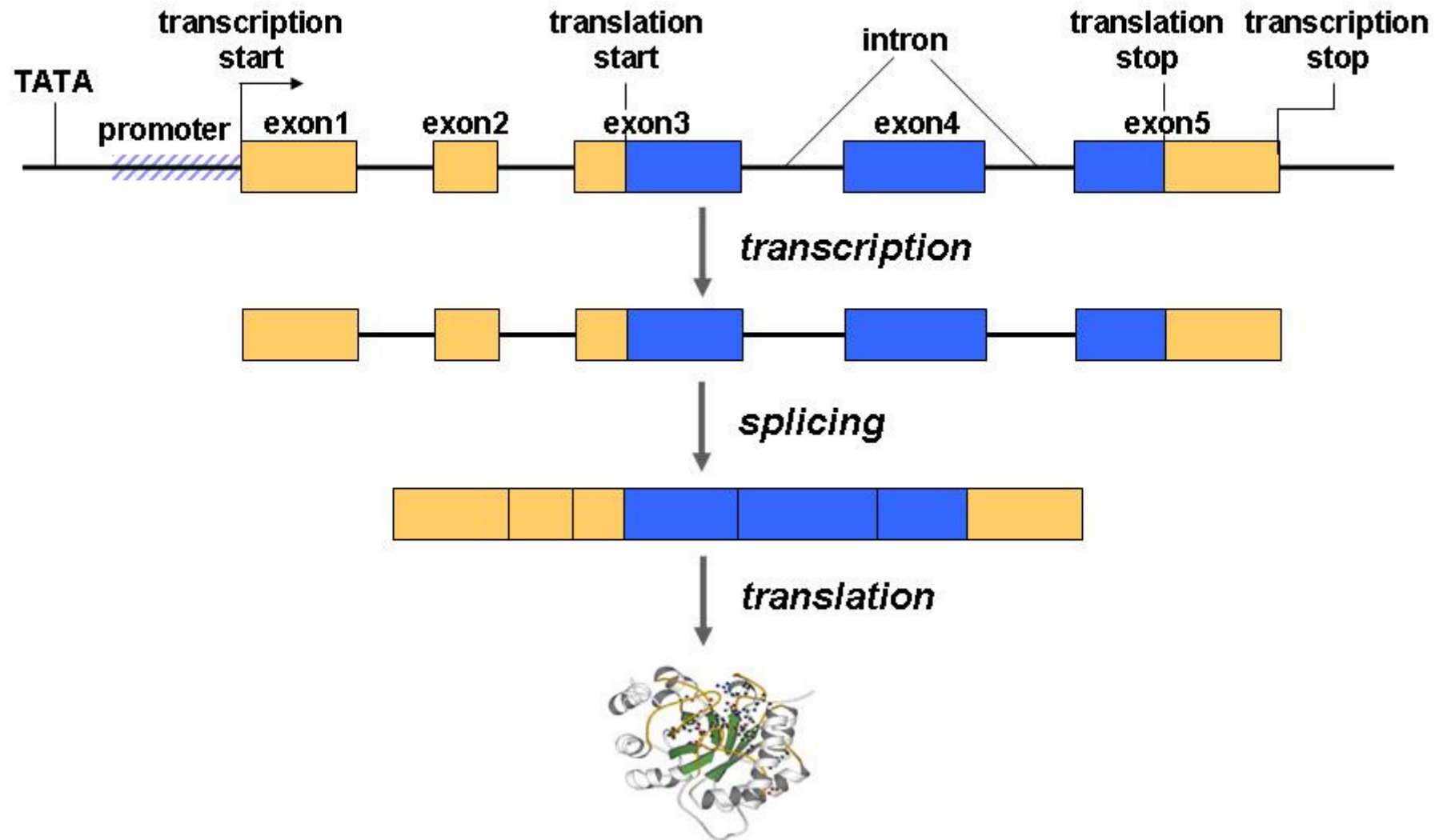
CCU**GAGCCAAC**UAUUG**GAUGAA**



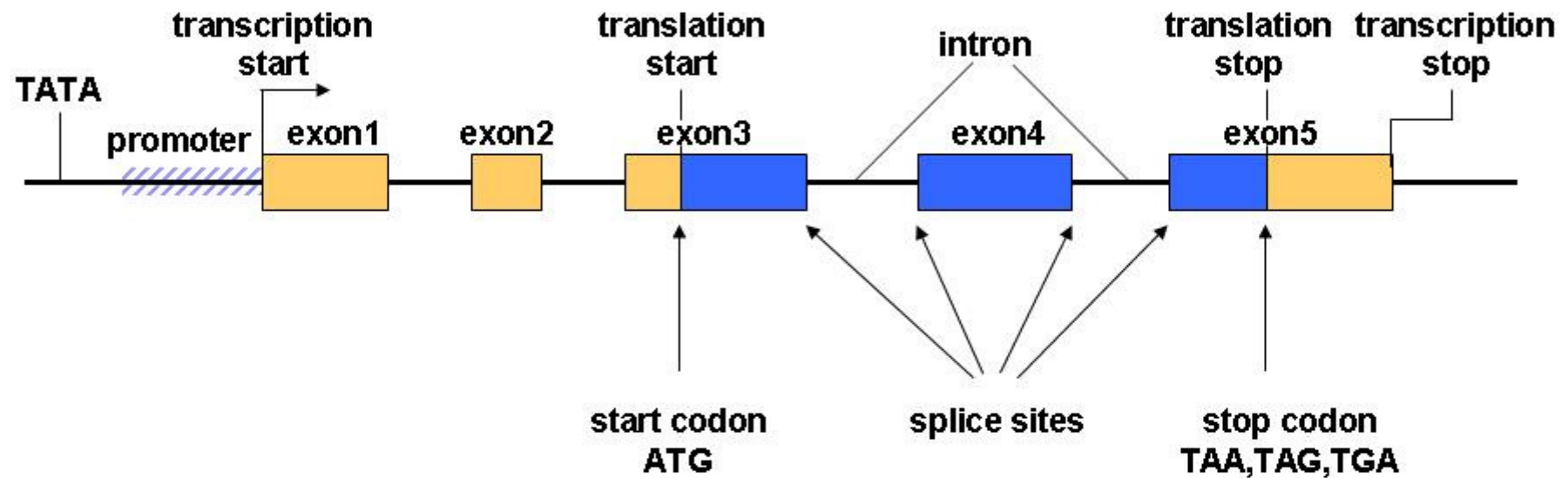
**PEPTIDE**



# Gene structure



# Finding genes





> HSKIIIBE, Human gene for casein kinase II subunit beta (EC 2.7.1.37).  
ggggctgagatgtaaattagaggagctggagaggagtgcctcagagtttgggttgctttaagaaagggg  
ggtccgaattctcccgtgggtggagggccgaatgtgggaggaggaggataccagaggcaggggaagga  
gaacttgagcttactgacactgtcttttctagctgacgtgaagatgagcagctcagaggagggtgc  
ctggatttccctgggtctgtgggctccgtggcaatgaattctctgtgaagtgagttctcttcaacctcc  
ctacttgccagcttcacatatcttcccaccagacgttccctcacatatccactctacactgttctct  
aaagcttttatgggagagagtgtagggtgaactagggagagacacaagtactctgctgagttgggagtg  
agaaacaagcacaacagatgcagttgtgttgatgataaggcatcacttagagcattttgcccagggtcaa  
agatgaggattttgatatgggttccctcttggcttccatgtcctgacaggtggatgaagactacatcca  
ggacaaatttaactctactggactcaatgagcaggtccctcactatcgacaagctctagacatgatctt  
ggacctggagcctgggtgaggcaccctcaggggtgttttgtgtgtgtgcgtgcactattttctcttcaa  
atctctatctacttgccctgaattttgccaaatttcccttgggtctctgatctcttaacccccaaatca  
tgctttattttgatccctccacctgactctgtctagttttgtgacgtatctacttgttctcatgtttt  
tgcaagggtcagaagcccagggttctgggtcccatgcccagatgttggatggggtaaggcccaaaagta  
gggtgctaggcaaaactgaaatagcccgcagcccctggataggggcagggcacctaggaaagctgaaaaaca  
agtagttgcatttggccgggctgtgggttcagatgaagaactggaagacaacccccaccagagtgacctg  
attgagcaggcagccgagatgctttatggatgatccacgcccgtacatccctaccaaccgtggcatc  
gcccagatgggtgaggcctctctgctccctacctgcctccctctgagcagtaagagacacaggttccctgca  
gcaagaagtcatgtttaagccctgtttaaggaagctagctgagaagaggggaagaaccccagaacttgg  
ccctgccctaatttggaaagaaaggcaacacagaagtttgagagcccactctagtcacagagaagggggcct  
ctggacagagttggaaggagtgcgcacagagttggataggggtgggctgogaagggagttgcctctct  
ttacatctacctgccaaacccttccatgtatctacctcagttggaaaagtaccagcaaggagactttg  
gttactgtcctcgtgtgtactgtgagaaccagccaatgcttccattGgtgagttgtgaagaagggaaa  
ggaaagcaccgtgtggcagttcttatgggaaggagtggggctcaacacatggagcctgagtcctgagg  
ggaggttaggtaggaatagggggataacctggcctgctgagttctggctgtctcccaggccttccagacat  
cccagggtgaagccatgggtgaagctctactgccccaaagtgcattggaatgtgtacacaccaagtcatcaag  
acaccatcacacggatggcgcctacttcggcactgggttccctcacatgctctcatgggtgcatcccga  
gtaccggcccaagagacctgccaaaccagtttgtgcccaggtagggagcagggagagttcattaagggta  
aaggaaaggcccaagatccccagagagggggaggacaggggcatggcccttcttgaggtctgcttctcc  
cagaatcagggcatctccctgctgagtgactgtgggaaagtatttgattatctgtgcttgagttacct  
tatgtagaatgttcttgagctgagaagtgggaaaccacagggcttagctctgagcaggtccatagag  
gagctcaggtggggagggtgggaaatgcaggtgactggcagggcctggatggggctcatgctgctgcctct  
ctgacctctgccctggcctaggctctacggtttcaagatccatccgatggcctaccagctgcagctcca  
agccgccagcaactcaagagcccagttcaagacgatcgcctgatccctccccacctgtcctgcagtc  
tttgtctttcccttctttttgccacccttccaggaaccctgtatgggttttagtttaaataaagga  
gtcgttatcgtgggtgggaatatgaaataaagtagaagaaaaggccatgagctagctctgctgggtgcttgc  
ggaaggggggtggagcgtggccatggaaatcgggctccacggcccagggtatgg

> HSKIIIBE, Human gene for casein kinase II subunit beta (EC 2.7.1.37).  
ggggctgagatgtaaattagaggagctggagaggagtgcctcagagtttgggttgctttaagaaagggg  
ggttcogaattctcccgtgggtggagggccogaatgtgggaggaggaggataccagaggcaggggaagga  
gaacttgagcttactgacactgttcttttctagctgacgtgaagatgagcagctcagaggagggtgc  
ctggatttccctgggtctgtgggctccgtggcaatgaattctctgtgaagtgagttctcttcaacctcc  
ctacttgccagcttcacatatcttcccaccagacgttcttccacatatccactctacactgttctct  
aaagcttttatgggagagagtgtagggtgaactagggagagacacaagtactctgctgagttgggagtg  
agaaacaagcacaacagatgcagttgtgttgatgataaggcatcacttagagcattttgcccagggtcaa  
agatgaggattttgatatgggttccctcttggcttccatgtcctgacaggtggatgaagactacatcca  
ggacaaatttaacttactggactcaatgagcaggtccctcactatcgacaagctctagacatgatctt  
ggacctggagcctgggtgaggcaccctcaggggtgttttgtgtgtgtgcgtgcactattttctcttcaa  
atctctatctacttgccctgaattttgccaaatttcccttgggtctctgatctcttaacccccaaatca  
tgctttatttgatcctccacctgactcttgtctagttttgtgacgtatctacttgttctcatgtttt  
tgcaagggtcagaagcccagggttcttgggtcccatgcccagatgttggatggggtaaggccccaaaagta  
gggtgctaggcaaaactgaatagcccgcagcccctggatagggcagggcacctaggaaagctgaaaaaca  
agtagttgcatttggccgggctgtgggtcagatgaagaactggaagacaacccccaccagagtgacctg  
atgagcagggcagccgagatgctttatggattgatccacgcccgtacatccttaccaacctggcatc  
gcccagatgggtgaggcctctctgctcctacctgcctcctcttgagcagtaagagacacaggttccctgca  
gcaagaagtcatgtttaagccctgtttaaggaagctagctgagaagaggggaagaaccccagaacttgg  
ccctgccctaatttggaaagaaaggcaacacagaagtttgagagcccactctagtcacagagaagggggcct  
ctggacagagttggaaggagtgcgacagagttggataggggtgggctgogaagggagttgcctctct  
ttacatctacctgccaaaccttccatgtatccacctcagttggaaaagtaccagcaaggagactttg  
gttactgtcctcgtgtgtactgtgagaaccagccaatgcttccattGgtgagtggtgaagaagggaaa  
ggaaagcacctgttggcagctcttatgggaaggagtggggctcaacacatggagcctgagtcctgagg  
ggaggttaggttaggaatagggggataacctggcctgctgagctctggctgtctcccaggccttccagacat  
cccagggtgaagccatgggtgaagctctactgccccaaagtgcattggaatgtgtacacaccaagtcatcaag  
acaccatcacacggatggcgcctacttcggcactgggttccctccacatgctctctatgggtgcattcccga  
gtaccggcccaagagacctgccaaaccagtttgtgcccaggtagggagcagggagagtcattaagggta  
aaggaaaggccccaaagatccccagagagggggaggacaggggcatggcccttcttgaggtctgcttctcc  
cagaatcagggcatctccctgctgagtgactgtgggaaagtatttgattatctgtgcttgagttacct  
tatgtagaatgttcttgagctgagaagtgggaaccacagaggcttagctctgagcaggtccatagag  
gagctcaggtggggagggtgggaatgcaggtgactggcagggcctggatggggctcatgctgctgcctct  
ctgacctctgccctggcctaggctctacggtttcaagatccatccgatggcctaccagctgcagctcca  
agccgccagcaactcaagagcccagtcacagacgatcgcctgatccctccccacctgtcctgcagtc  
tttgtcttttcccttcttttttgccaccttccaggaacctgtatgggttttagtttaaataaagga  
gtcgttatcgtgggtgggaatatgaaataaagtagaagaaaaggccatgagctagctctgctgggtgcttgc  
ggaaaggggggtggagcgtggccatggaaatcgggctccacggcccagggatgg

---

# Approaches to genefinding

- Homology
  - BLAST, Procrustes
- Ab initio (or de novo)
  - Genscan, Genie
- Hybrids
  - GenomeScan, GenieEST, Twinscan, SGP, SLAM

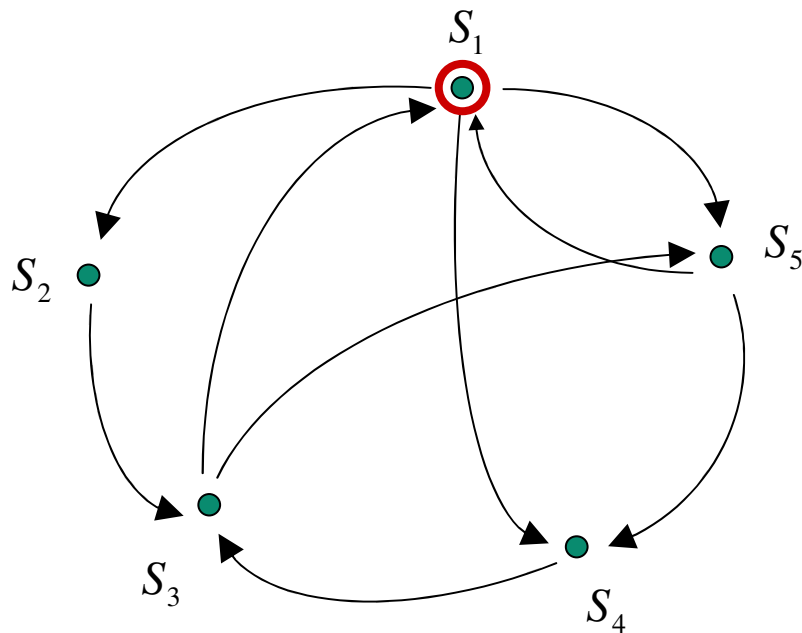
---

# Hidden Markov Models

---

# A discrete process

A random process, jumping between a finite number of states



State sequence:

$S_1 S_2 S_3 S_1 S_4 S_3 S_5 S_1 S_5 S_4$



---

# A Markov process

The process is *Markov* if the next state only depends on the current state and not the history.

General description

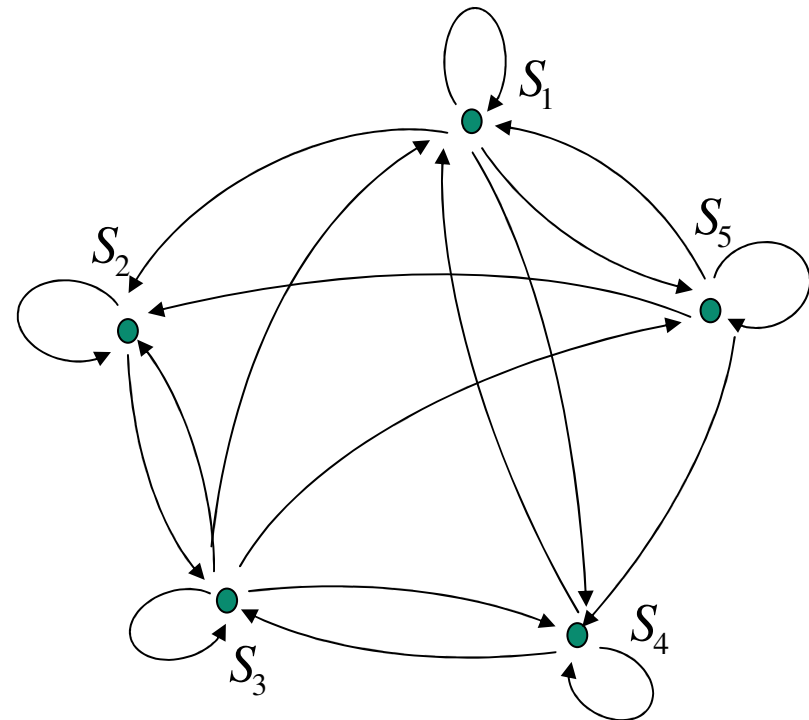


$$\Pr(X_t = S_j \mid X_{t-1} = S_i, X_{t-2} = S_k, \dots) =$$

$$\Pr(X_t = S_j \mid X_{t-1} = S_i)$$



Markov description



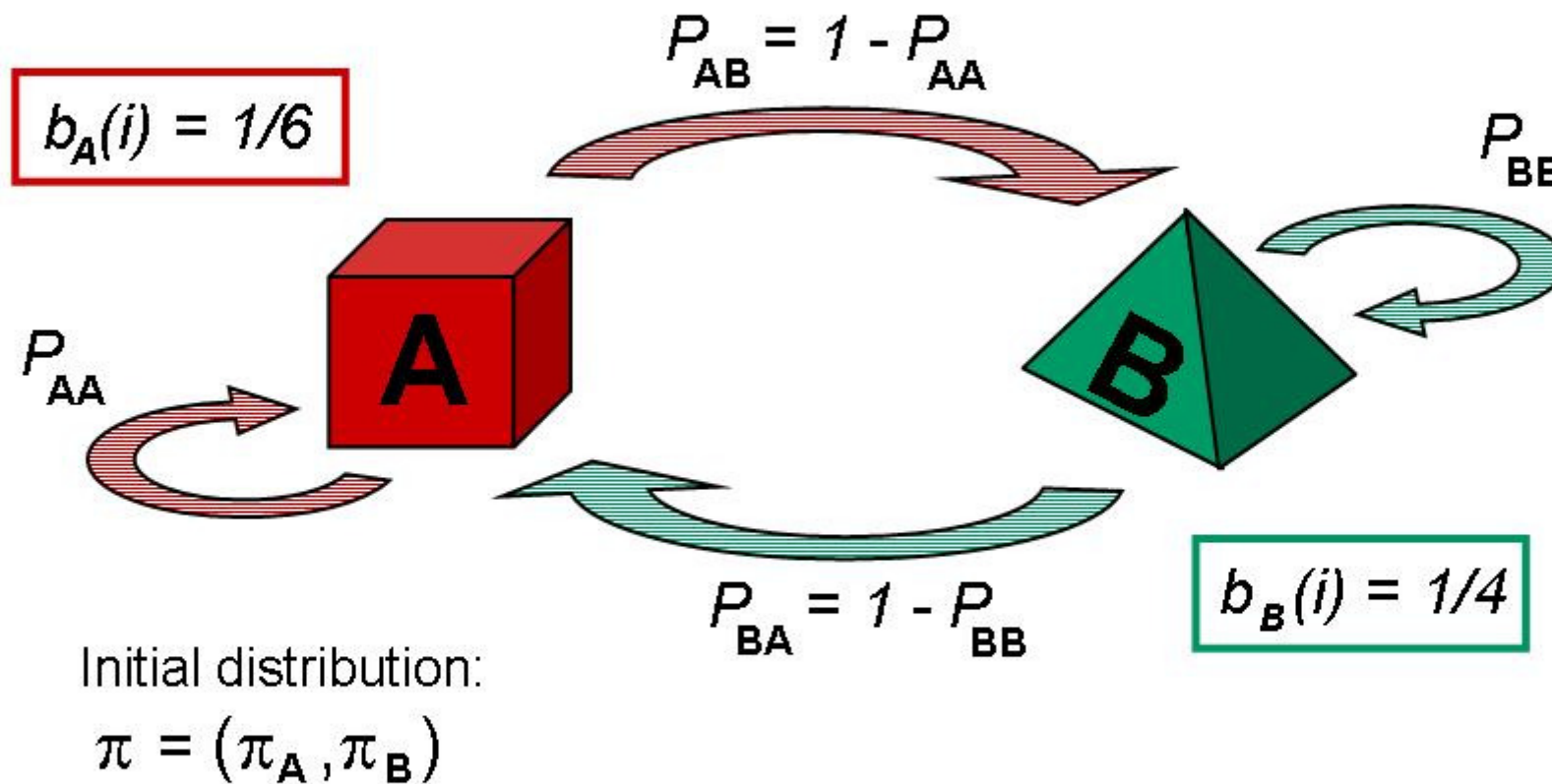
---

## A *hidden* Markov Model

A standard hidden Markov model is comprised of two interrelated processes:

- *Hidden process*: a Markov chain on the state space, generating a state sequence hidden from the observer.
- *Observed process*: generating output through random functions associated with each state.

# A simple Hidden Markov Model (HMM)

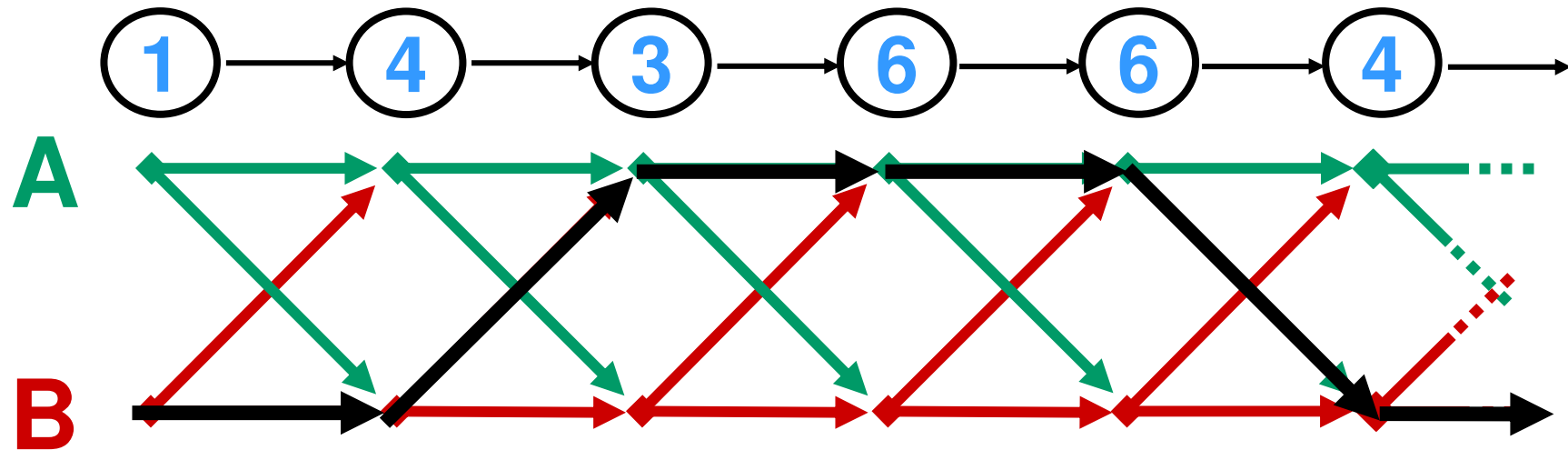




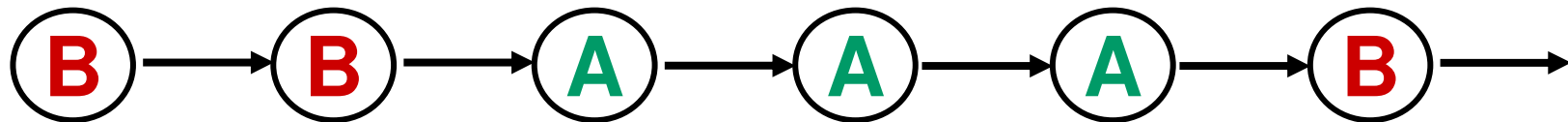
---

## A lattice view

Observed sequence:



Hidden sequence:



---

## Two fundamental problems

- The probability of the observed data given the model.

The forward algorithm

- The best hidden state sequence given the data.

The Viterbi algorithm

---

## The HMM algorithms

The forward variables:

$$\alpha_t(i) = \Pr(\text{obs. up to } t, \text{ ending in state } i \text{ at time } t)$$

The backward variables:

$$\beta_t(i) = \Pr(\text{obs. after } t \mid \text{ending in state } i \text{ at time } t)$$

The Viterbi variables:

$$\delta_t(i) = \max_{X_1, \dots, X_t} \Pr(\text{obs. up to } t, \text{ ending in state } i \text{ at time } t)$$



---

## The hidden process:

Let  $\{X_t\}_{t=1}^T$  denote the Markov process assuming values in the state space  $S_1, \dots, S_N$ .

The process begins in a state determined by the initial distribution  $\{\pi_i\}_{i=1}^N$  and evolves through the state space according to transition probabilities

$$a_{ij} = \Pr(X_{t+1} = j \mid X_t = i)$$



---

## The observed process:

Let  $\{Y_t\}_{t=1}^T$  be the observed process generating output as random functions of the state  $X_t$  according to some output function

$$b_j(Y_t | Y_1, \dots, Y_{t-1}) = \Pr(Y_t | X_t = j, Y_1, \dots, Y_{t-1})$$



---

## The joint probability

The joint probability of the two interrelated processes becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr( X_{t+1} = j, Y_{t+1} \mid X_t = i, X_1, \dots, X_{t-1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_{t-1} ) = \\ & = \Pr( X_{t+1} = j \mid X_t = i ) \Pr( Y_{t+1} \mid X_{t+1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_t ) = \\ & = a_{ij} b_j ( Y_{t+1} \mid Y_1, \dots, Y_t ) \end{aligned}$$

  
*transition probability*      *output distribution*



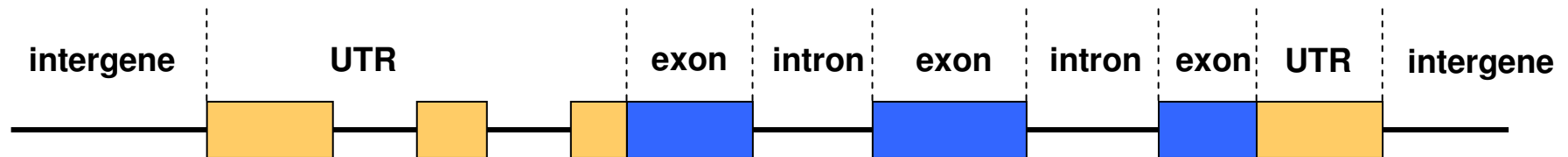
---

# Gene finding

## - *Generalized HMMs*

---

# HMMs for gene finding



Observed:

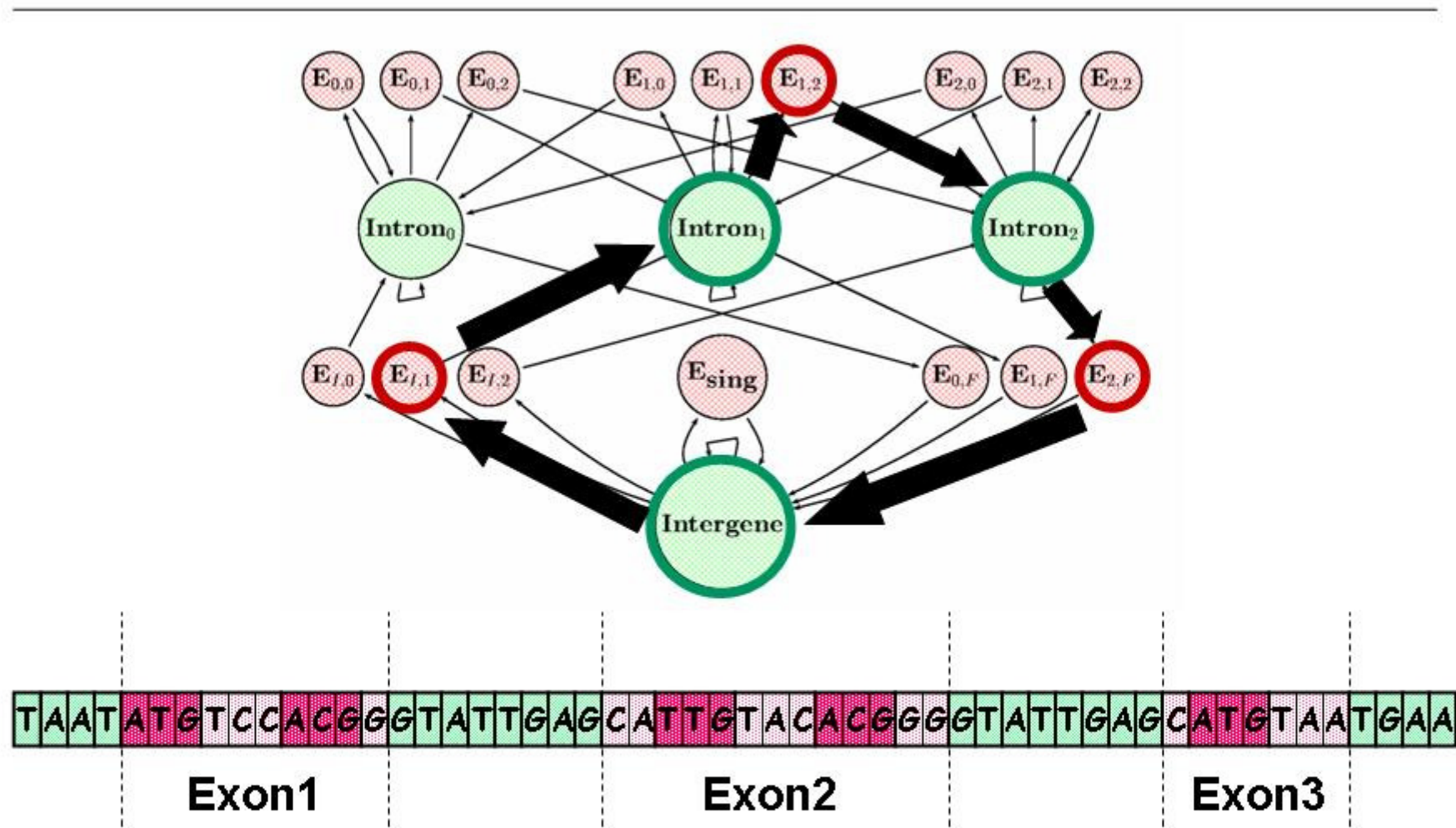
CTTGATGCTGGCACGTTCTGCTTCATCGGAGACAAATTACGGCTTTCCGGAGCA

Hidden:

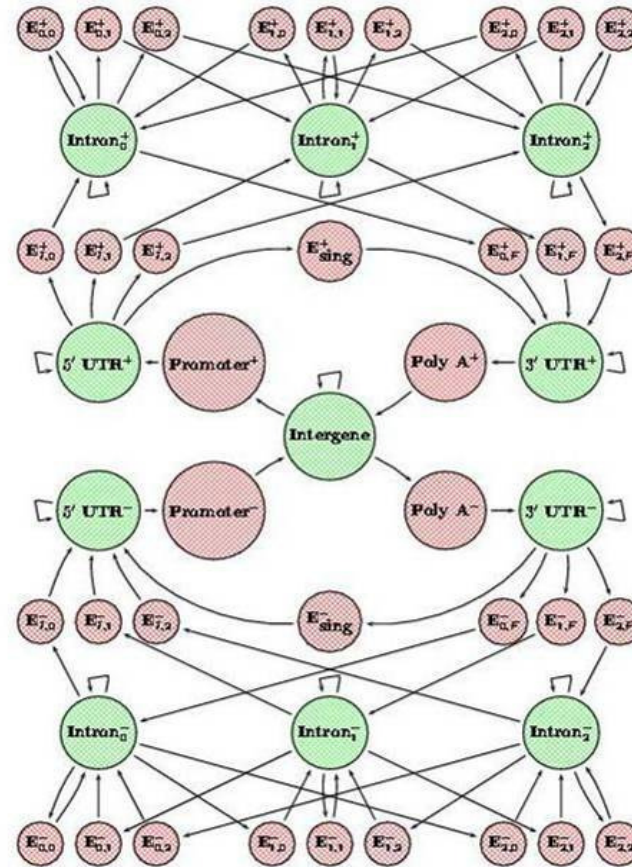
CTTGATGCTGGCACGTTCTGCTTCATCGGAGACAAATTACGGCTTTCCGGAGCA







# The Genscan state space



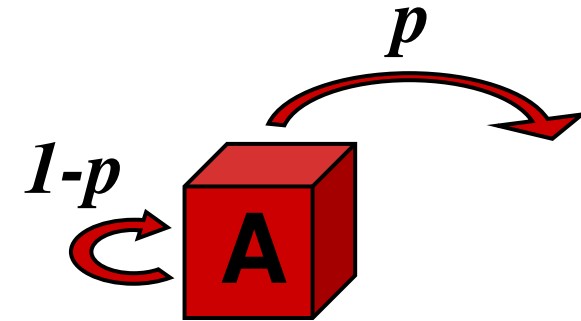
---

## State duration times

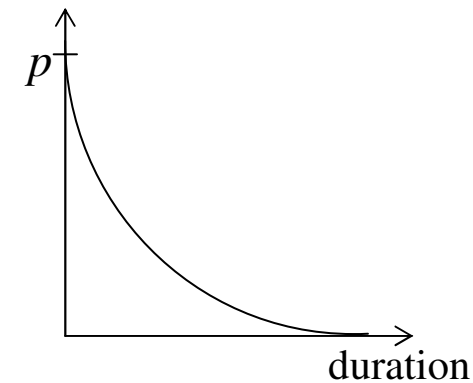
$$\Pr(\text{leaving state}) = p$$

$$\Pr(\text{staying in state}) = 1 - p$$

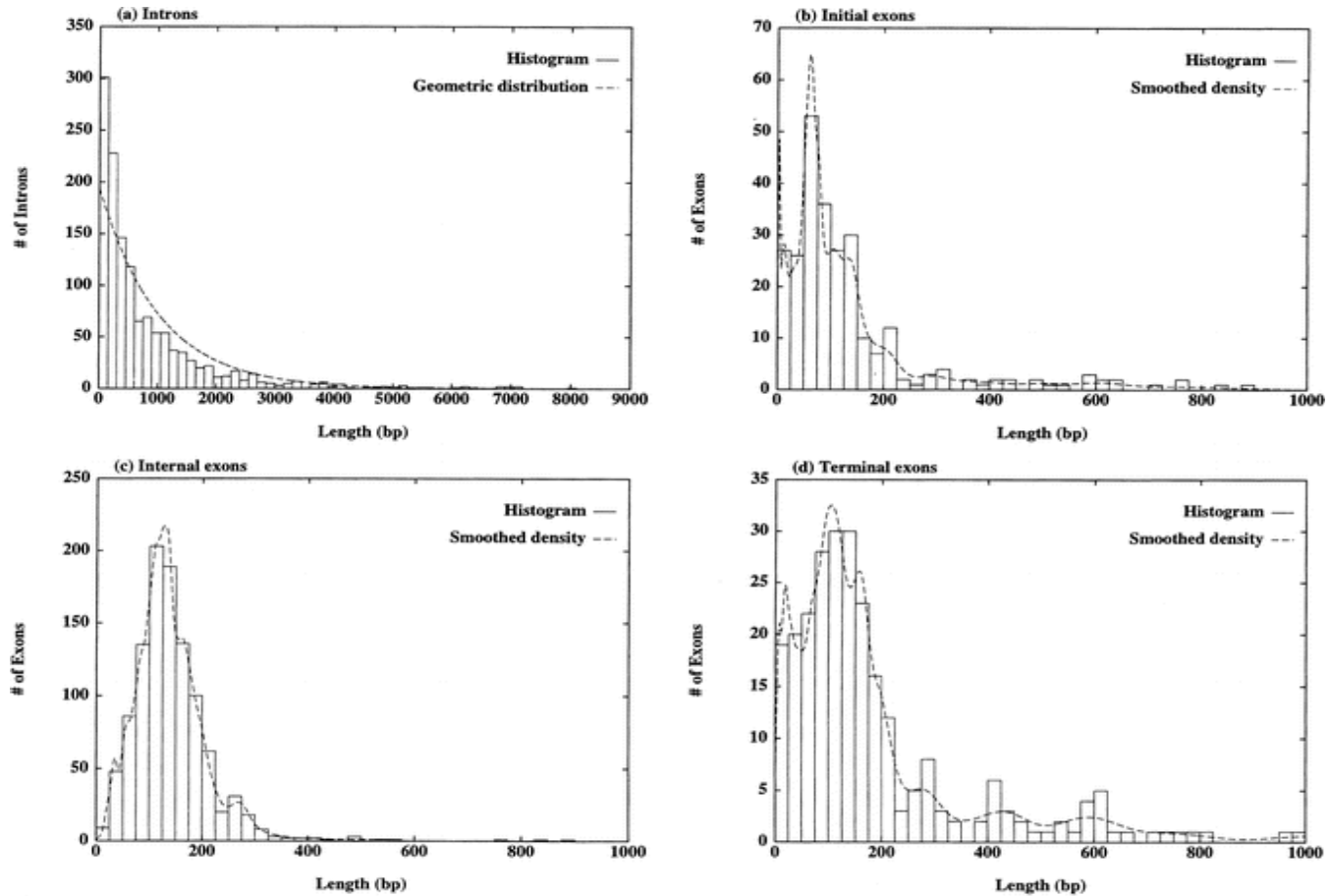
$$\Pr(\text{output of exactly } r \text{ in state}) = (1 - p)^{r-1} p$$



The geometric distribution



# Observed duration times



---

## Generalized HMMs

When in state  $X_l$  the duration  $d_l$  is chosen from a generalized length distribution

$$f_{X_l}(d_l) = \Pr(\text{state duration} = d_l \mid X_l)$$

Now the indices for the observed and the hidden process may differ, and we introduce partial sums

$$p_l = \sum_{k=1}^l d_k, \quad p_0 = 0$$



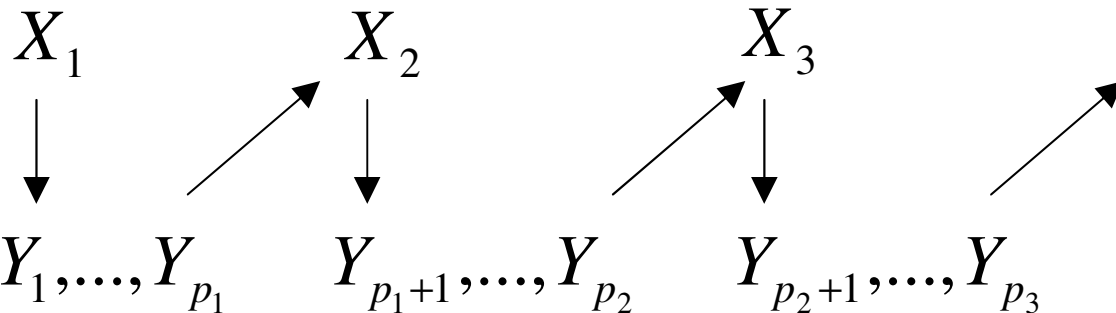
---

## Generalized HMMs, cont.

- In state  $X_l$  choose state duration  $d_l$
- Generate output  $Y_{p_{l-1}+1}, \dots, Y_{p_l}$  according to

$$b_{X_l}(Y_{p_{l-1}+1}, \dots, Y_{p_l} \mid Y_1, \dots, Y_{p_{l-1}})$$

**Hidden process:**



**Observed process:**

$Y_1, \dots, Y_{p_1}$        $Y_{p_1+1}, \dots, Y_{p_2}$        $Y_{p_2+1}, \dots, Y_{p_3}$



---

## Generalized HMMs, cont.

Assume that we observe a sequence of outputs  $Y_1, \dots, Y_T$  from a sequence of hidden states  $X_1, \dots, X_L$  with durations  $d_1, \dots, d_L$  (assume  $p_L = T$ ). The joint probability of hidden and observed data becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y_1^T, X_1^L, d_1^L) &= \\ &= \pi_{X_1} f_{X_1}(d_1) b_{X_1}(Y_1^{p_1}) \prod_{l=2}^L \underbrace{a_{X_{l-1}, X_l}}_{\text{transition probability}} \underbrace{f_{X_l}(d_l) b_{X_l}(Y_{p_{l-1}+1}^{p_l} | Y_1^{p_{l-1}})}_{\text{output distribution}} \end{aligned}$$

*duration distribution*



---

# Sequence alignment

## - *Pair HMMs*



# Sequence alignment

```

50      .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :
247 GGTGAGGTCGAGGACCCTGCA  CGGAGCTGTATGGAGGGCA  AGAGC
    |:  ||  ||||:  |||| --:||  ||| |: :|  |||---|||
368 GAGTCGGGGGAGGGGGCTGCTGTTGGCTCTGGACAGCTTGCATTGAGAGG

100     .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :
292 TTC                   CTACAGAAAAGTCCCAGCAAGGAGCCACACTTCACTG
    |||-----||  |  |: :|  |: ||||: :|:|:-||  |:|  |
418 TTCTGGCTACGCTCTCCCTTAGGGACTGAGCAGAGGGCT  CAGGTCGCGG

150     .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :
332                   ATGTCGAGGGGAAGACATCATTCGGGATGTCAGTG
-----||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| : ||||| ||||| |||||
467 TGGGAGATGAGGCCAATGTCGAGGGGAAGACATCATTTGGGATGTCAGTG

200     .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :      .      :
367 TTCAACCTCAGCAATGCCATCATGGGCAGCGGCATCCTGGGACTCGCCTA
    |||||: ||||| ||||| : ||||| ||||| ||||| : ||  ||: ||||| : ||||| |||||
517 TTCAATCTCAGCAACGCCATCATGGGCAGTGAATTCTGGGGCTCGCCTA

```



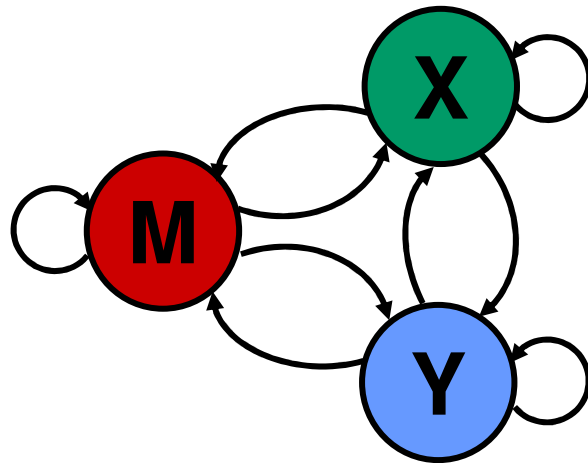
---

## Sequence comparisons. Why?

- Are the sequences related?
- What regions are related?
- How evolutionary distant are they?
- Info about the evolutionary process.

---

# Pair HMMs for alignment



**M** = (mis)match

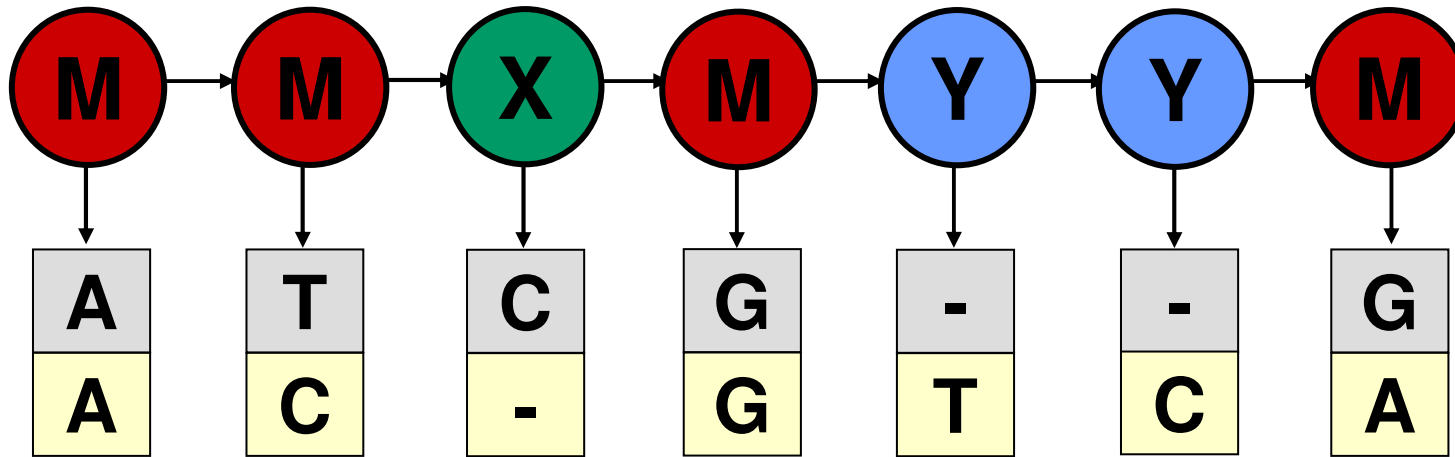
**X** = insert seq1

**Y** = insert seq2



---

## Pair HMMs



Output sequence:

**ATCG- - G**  
**AC- GTCA**

Observed sequences:

**ATCGG**  
**ACGTCA**

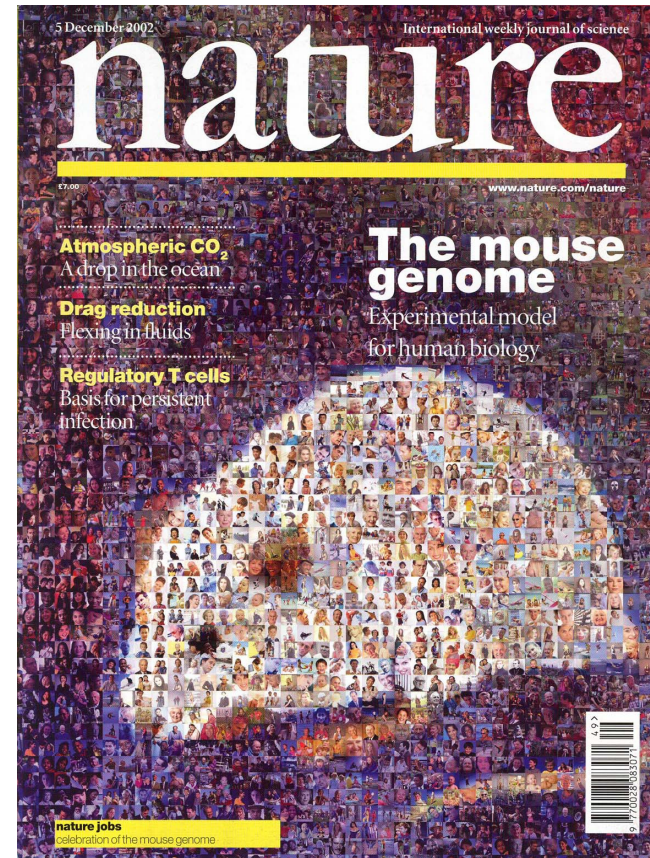
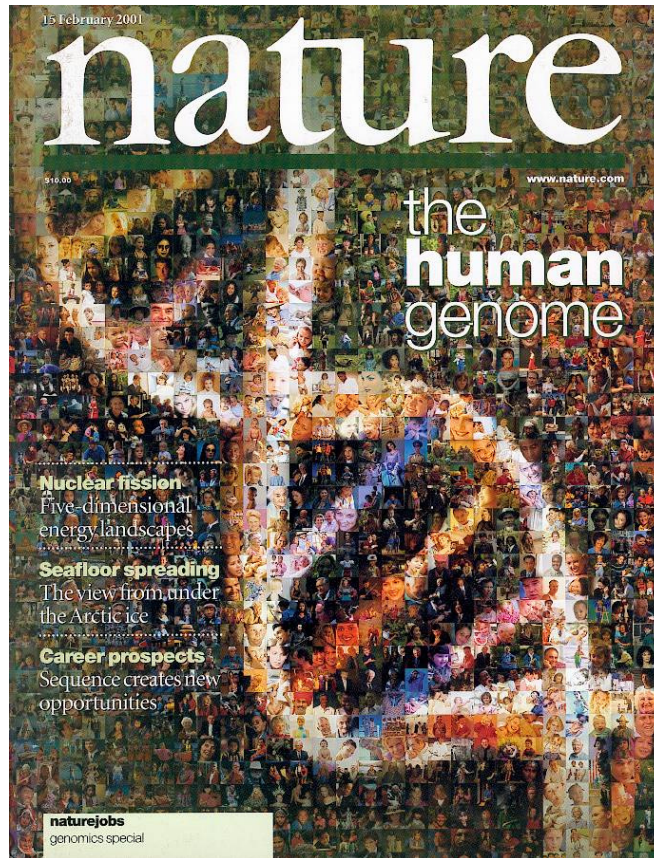


---

# Comparative gene finding

## - *Generalized Pair HMMs*

# Comparing human and mouse



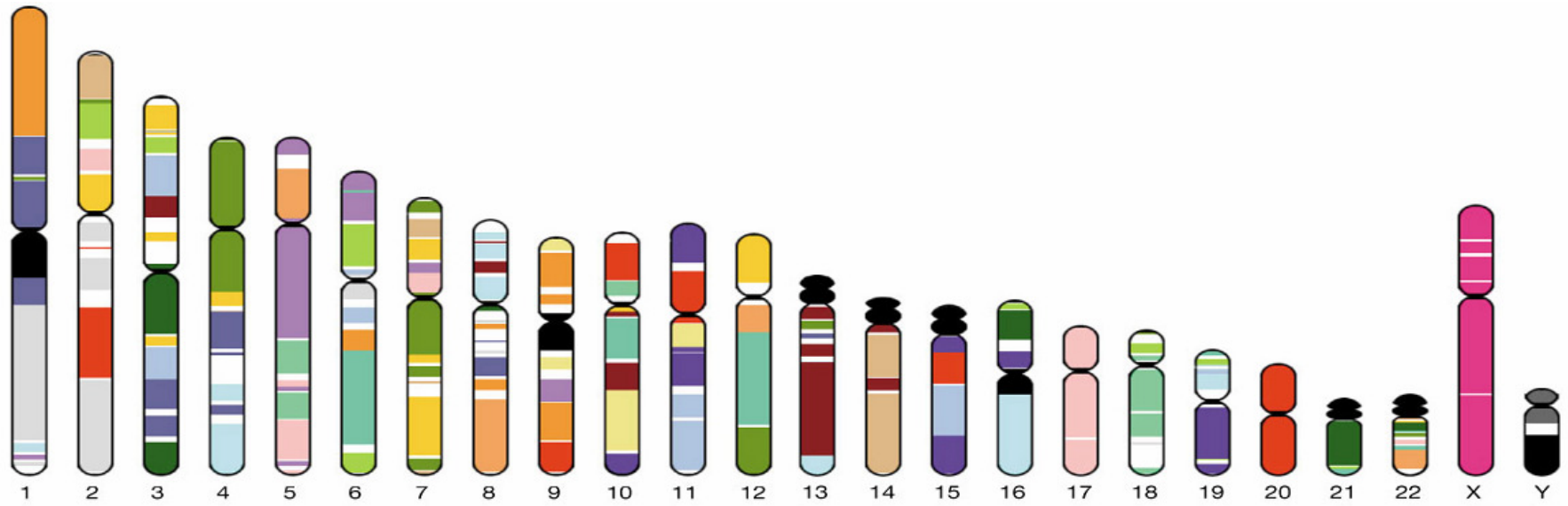
Fraunhofer **CHALMERS**  
Research Centre  
Industrial Mathematics



**Why mouse?**

Colored By Fayebe

# Human

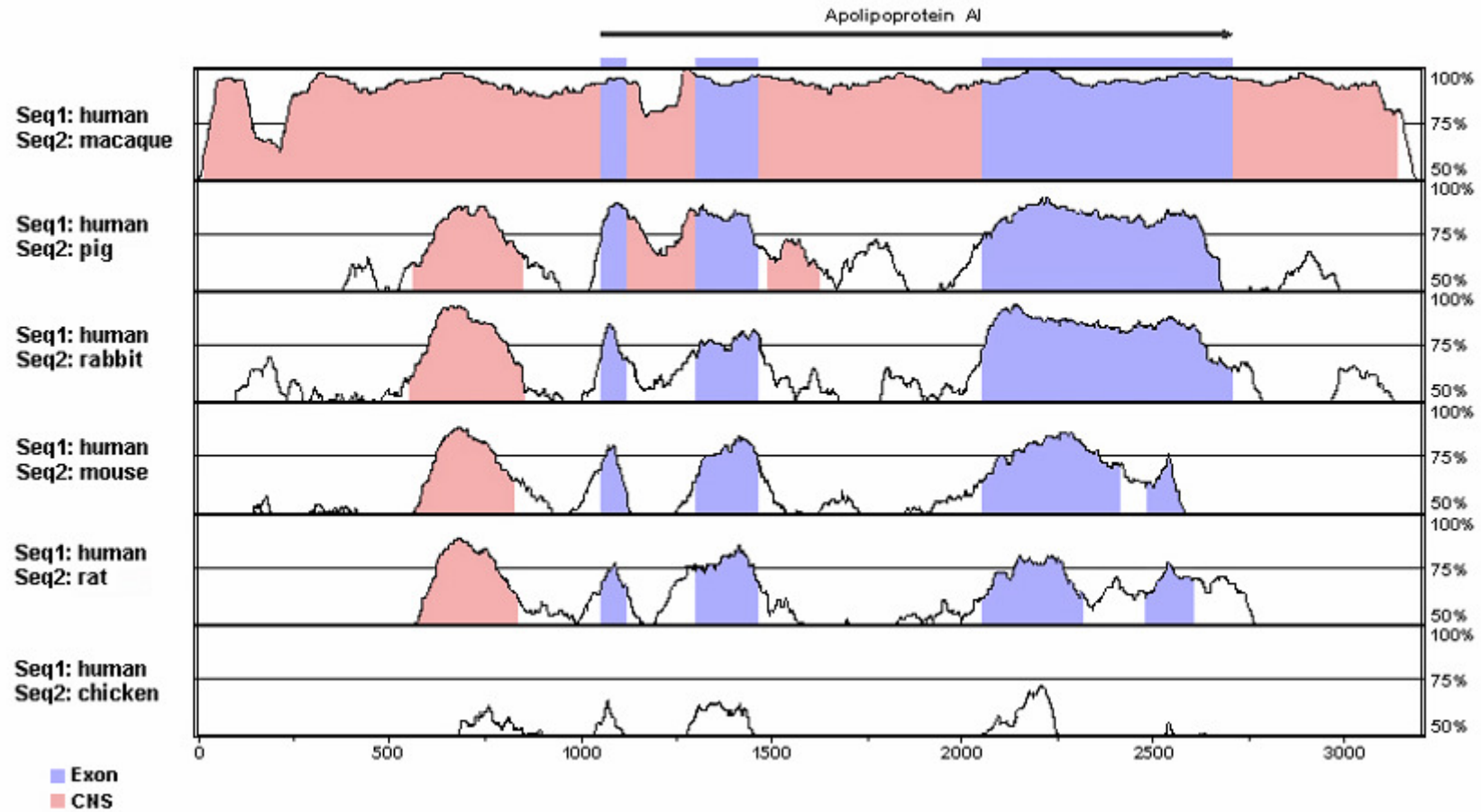


# Mouse





### human vs macaque, pig, rabbit, mouse, rat, chicken

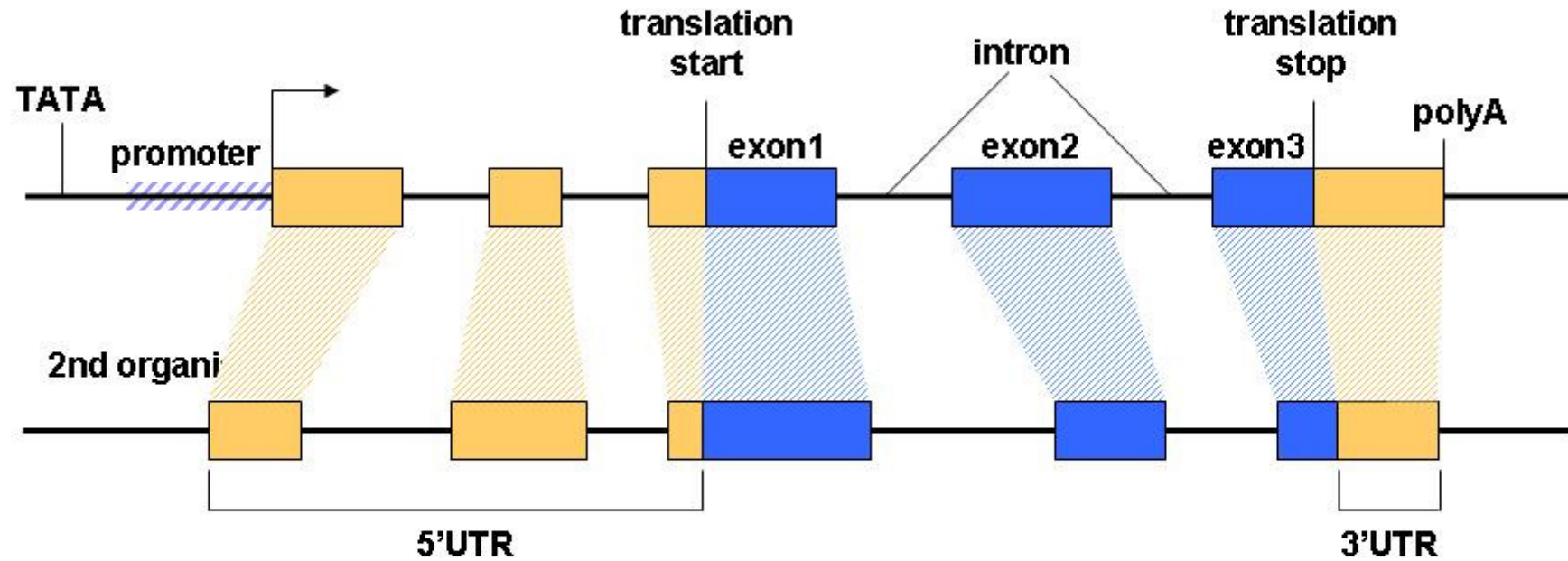


---

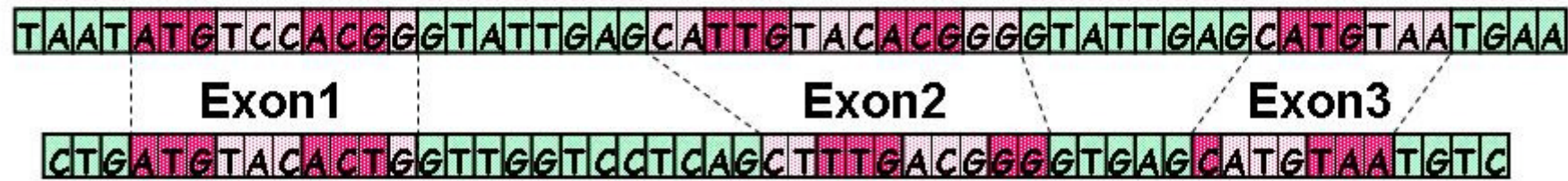
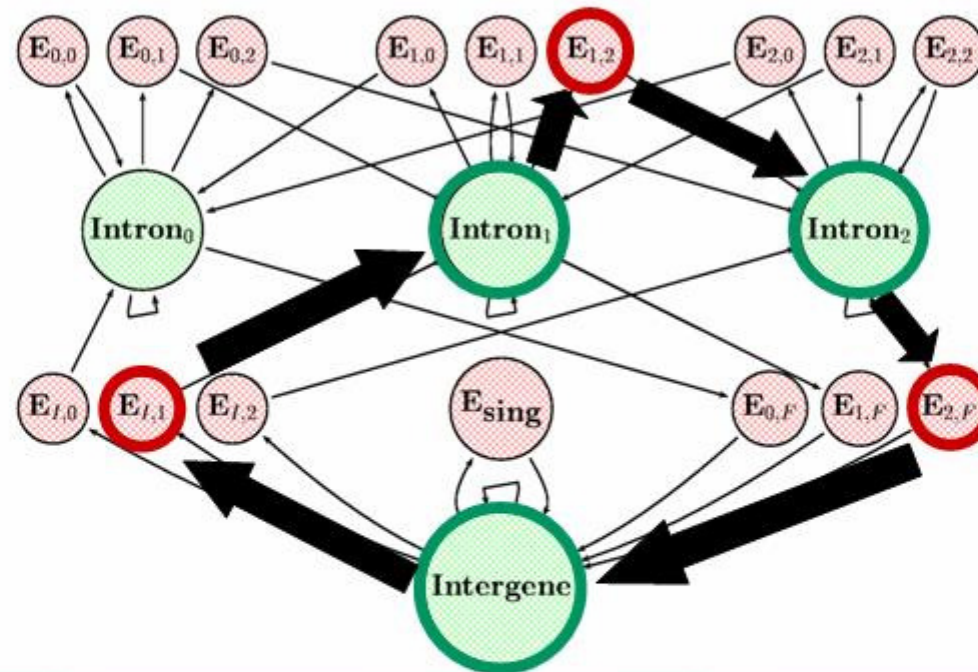
# Comparison of 1196 orthologous gene pairs (Makalowski et al., 1996)

- Sequence identity
  - exons: 84.6%
  - protein: 85.4%
  - introns: 36%
  - 5' UTRs: 67%
  - 3' UTRs: 69%

# Comparative gene finding



# Generalized Pair HMMs



---

## Generalized Pair HMMs

- Same hidden process  $X_1, \dots, X_L$  on state space  $S_1, \dots, S_N$
- Two output sequences:  $Y_1, \dots, Y_T$  and  $Z_1, \dots, Z_U$
- Two sets of durations:  $d_1, \dots, d_L$  and  $e_1, \dots, e_L$
- Two sets of partial sums:

$$p_l = \sum_{k=1}^l d_k, \quad p_0 = 0, \quad p_L = T \quad \text{and}$$

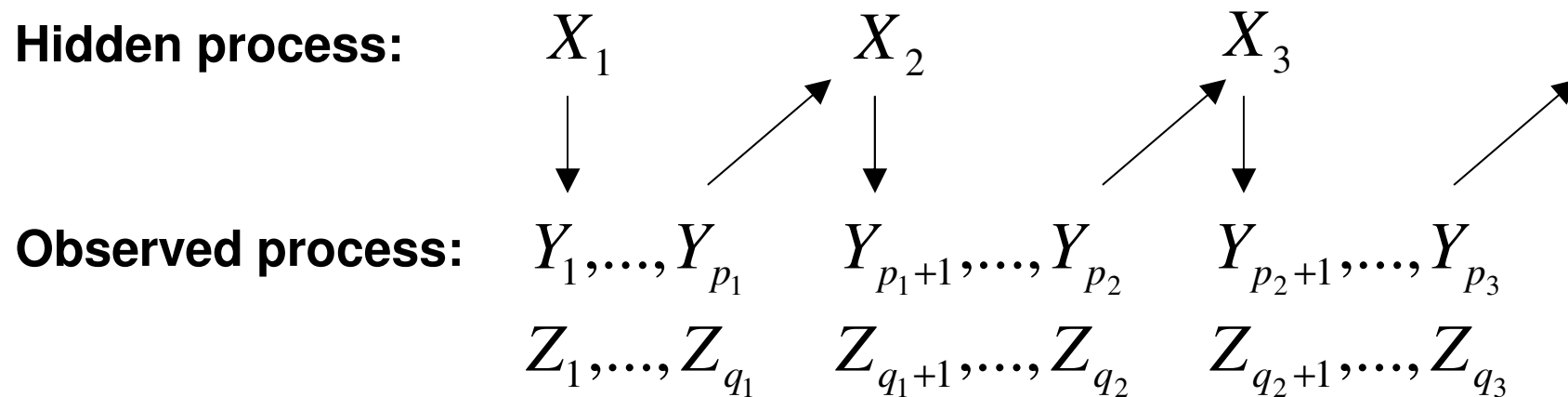
$$q_l = \sum_{k=1}^l e_k, \quad q_0 = 0, \quad q_L = U$$



## Generalized Pair HMMs, cont.

- In state  $X_l$  choose state durations  $(d_l, e_l)$  from some joint distribution  $f_{X_l}(d_l, e_l)$ .
- Output  $Y_{p_{l-1}+1}, \dots, Y_{p_l}$  and  $Z_{q_{l-1}+1}, \dots, Z_{q_l}$  jointly generated from

$$b_{X_l}(Y_{p_{l-1}+1}^{p_l}, Z_{q_{l-1}+1}^{q_l} \mid Y_1^{p_{l-1}}, Z_1^{q_{l-1}})$$



## Generalized Pair HMMs, cont.

The joint probability of hidden and observed data  $Y_1, \dots, Y_T$  becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Pr(Y_1^T, Z_1^U, X_1^L, d_1^L, e_1^L) &= \\
 &= \pi_{X_1} f_{X_1}(d_1, e_1) b_{X_1}(Y_1^{p_1}, Z_1^{q_1}) \prod_{l=2}^L \underbrace{a_{X_{l-1}, X_l}}_{\text{transition probability}} \underbrace{f_{X_l}(d_l, e_l) b_{X_l}(Y_{p_{l-1}+1}^{p_l}, Z_{q_{l-1}+1}^{q_l} | Y_1^{p_{l-1}}, Z_1^{q_{l-1}})}_{\text{output distribution}}
 \end{aligned}$$



---

# Reducing computational complexity



---

## Computational complexity

Model	Time	Space
HMM	$N^2T$	$NT$
PHMM	$N^2TU$	$NTU$
GHMM	$D^2N^2T$	$NT$
GPHMM	$D^4N^2TU$	$NTU$

$N$  = no. states

$T$  = length seq1

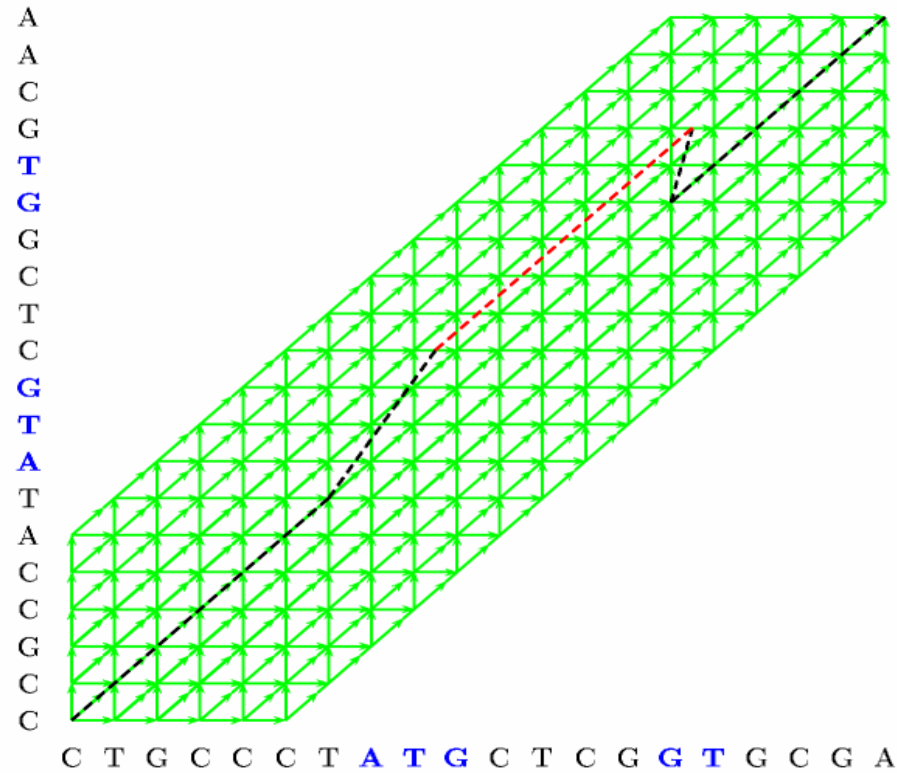
$D$  = max duration

$U$  = length seq2



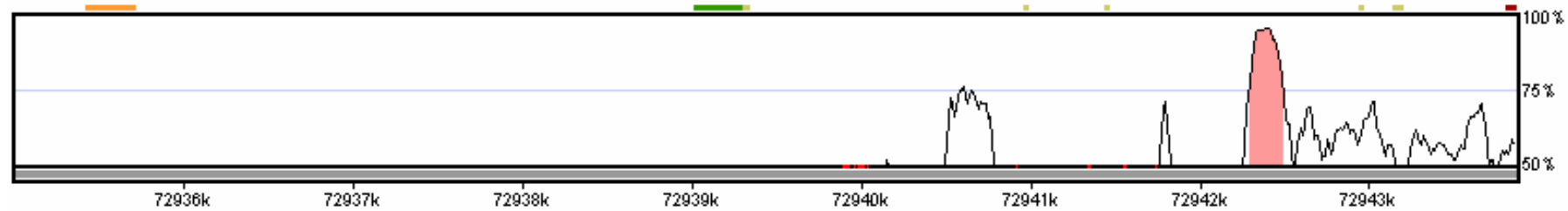
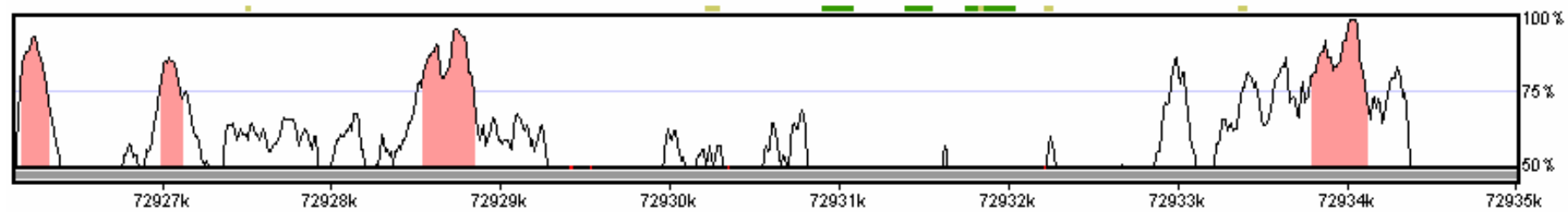
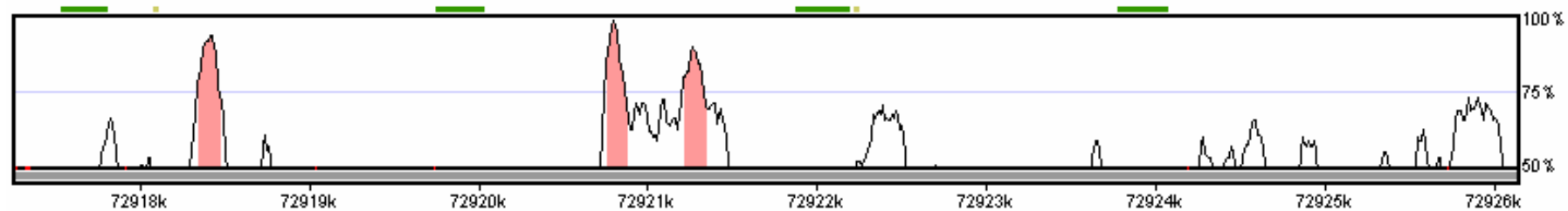
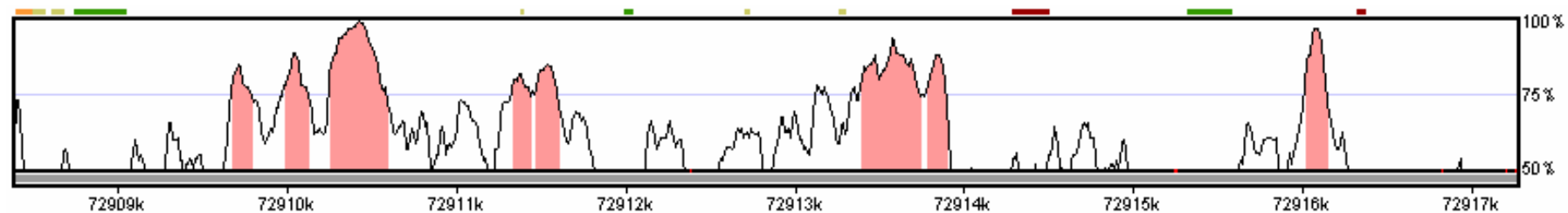
---

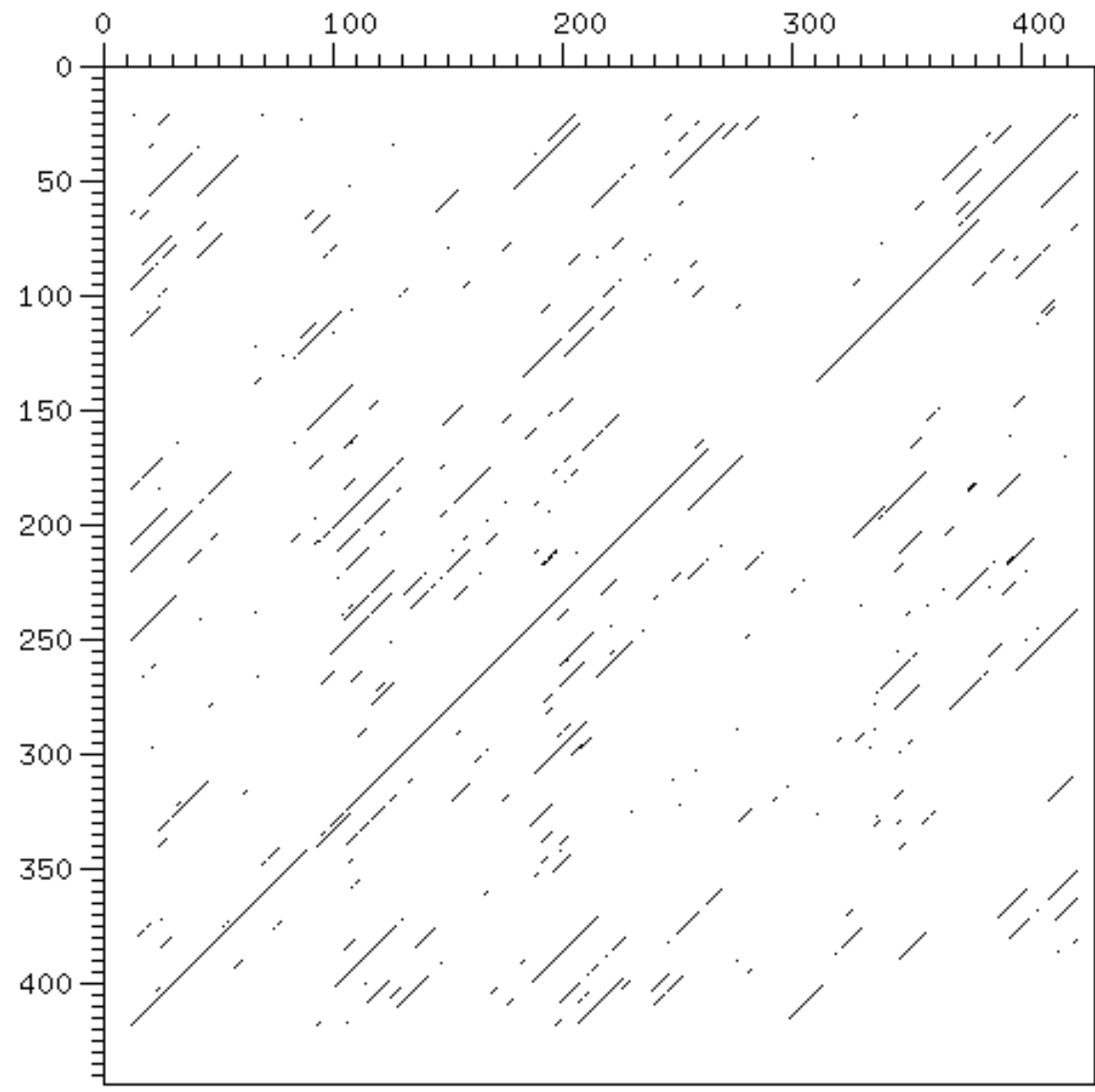
# Approximate alignment

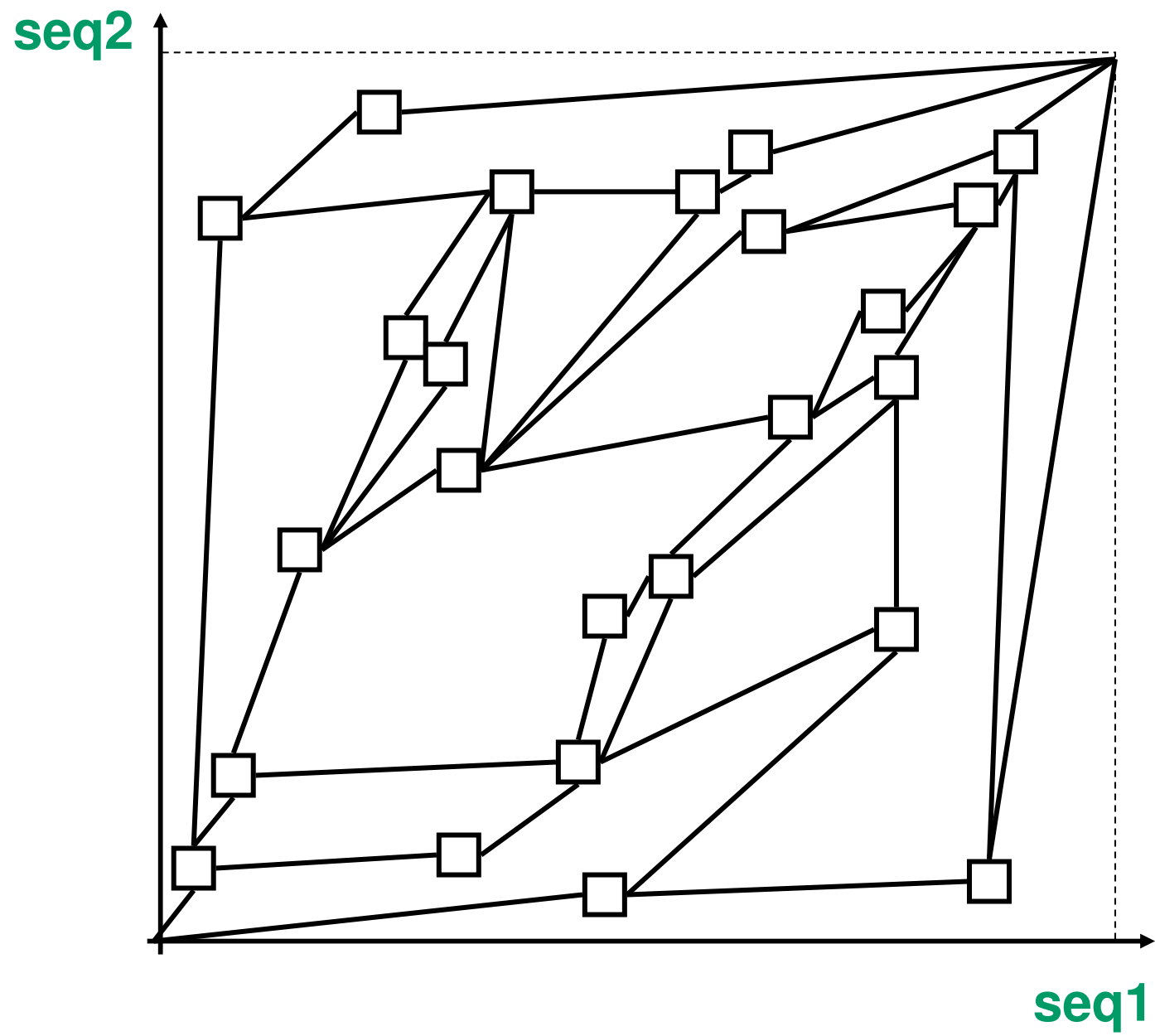


Reduces  
*TU*-factor to  $hT$



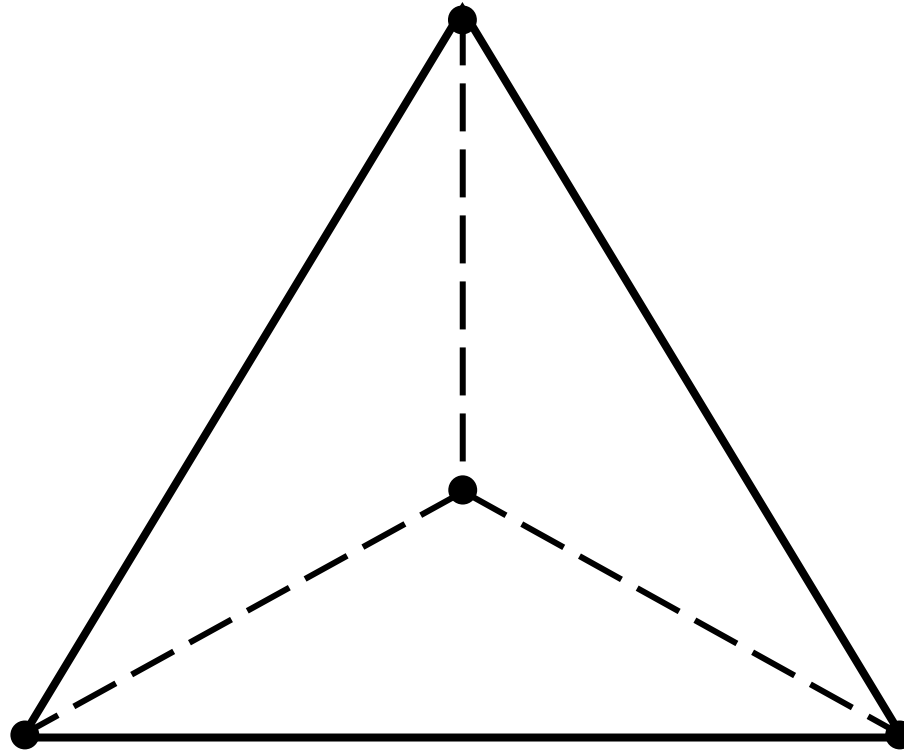






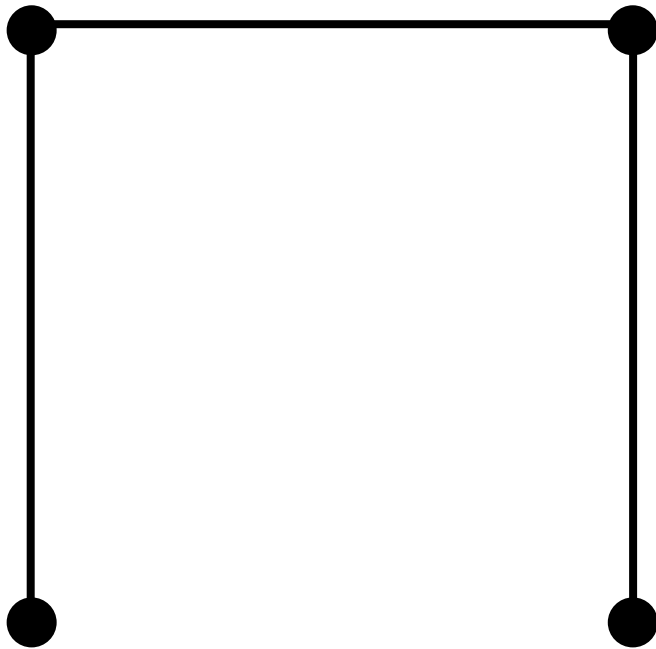
---

# Steiner trees

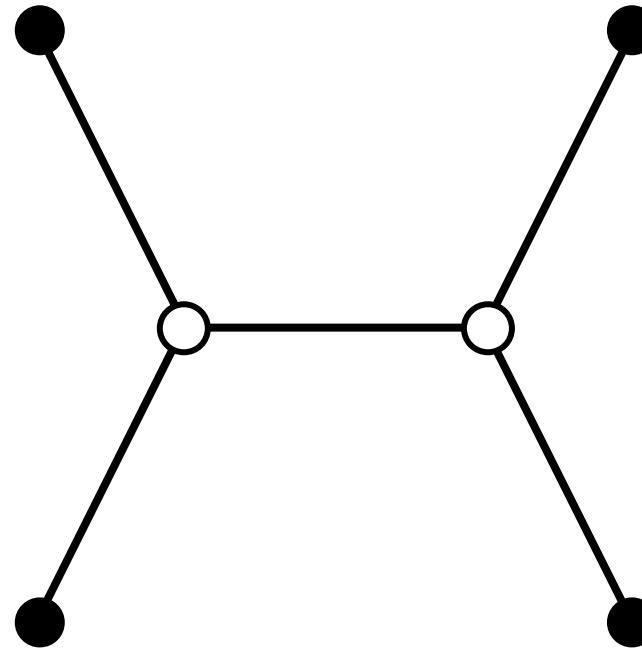


---

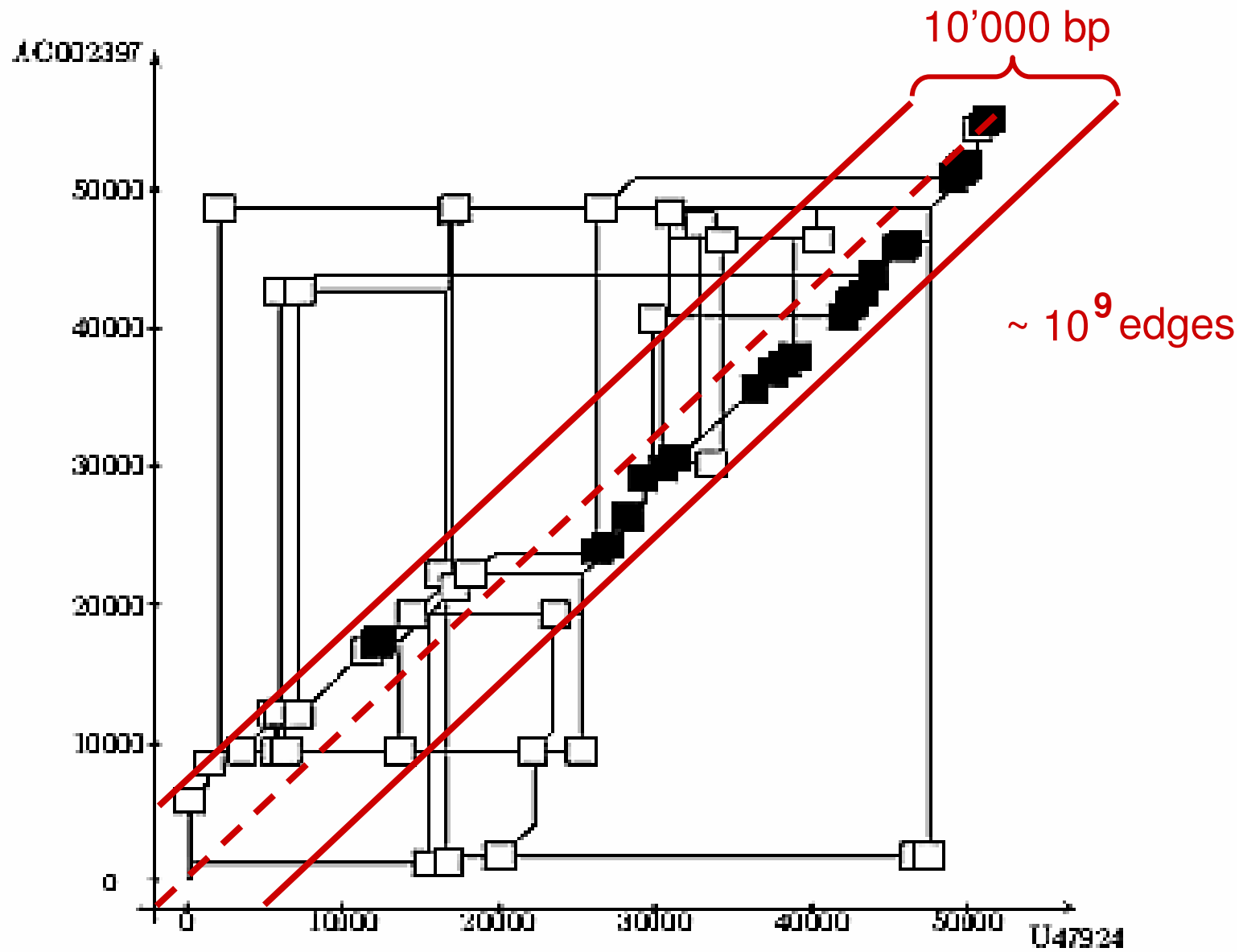
# Steiner trees



Minimum spanning  
tree



Steiner tree



2-approximation in  $O(n^3)$