

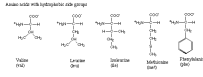
## CS 6784: STRUCTURAL SVM FOR PROTEIN SEQUENCE ALIGNMENT

Feb 11, 2010 Guest Lecture  
Chun-Nam Yu


## What are Proteins?

**Amino Acids (20 types)**


Amino acids with hydrophobic side groups



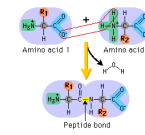
Amino acids with hydrophilic side groups



Amino acids that act as buffers



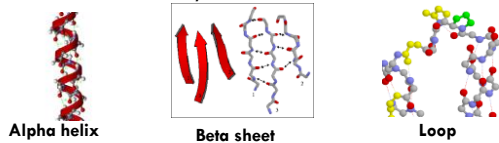
**Any two amino acids can form peptide bonds to join together**



**Represented by 20 letters:**  
A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y

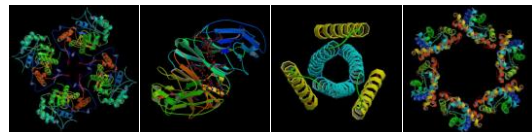
## Secondary Structures

- A typical protein sequence:  
MDSIQAEWYFGKITRRESERLLLNAENPRGTFVLRSE  
TKGAYCLSVSDFDNAKGLNVKHYKIRKLDSSGGFYTS  
RTQFNLSLQQLVAYYSKHADGLCHRLITVCP
- typically between 100 to 1000 amino acids long
- Fold into secondary structures:



## Tertiary Structures (Folds)

- On top of 2<sup>nd</sup> structures fold into stable shapes
- Shape determines functions:
  - ▣ Oxygen transport
  - ▣ Building hair, muscle, etc




## Homology Modeling of Proteins

**Given: new sequence**

LYNWKVDVEPPKFTEVTDVVLITRD

**Similar sequence, known structure**

ADKVLKGEKVQAKYPVDLKLKVKQ




+

align ↓

LYNWKVDVEPPKFTEVTDVVLITRD  
ADKV-LKGEKVQAKYPV-DLKLKVKQ

**Want to know: structure**




Build model ←

## The Learning Task

**Protein Alignment Prediction**

*known structure:*  
QWNAYIDNLMAD.....SQY



→ QWNAYIDN-LMAD.....SQY  
SWQTYVDTNLT VGT.....QGF

*new sequence:*  
SWQTYVDTNLT VGT.....QGF

**Input X**                      **Output Y**

## Sequence Alignments

- Given sequence pairs:

AECD      EACC

- Alignment 1:

AECD      Score  
EACC      = -1 - 1 + 9 + 6  
            = 13

- Alignment 2:

-AECD      Score  
EACC-      = -3 + 4 - 4 + 9 - 3  
            = 3

	A	C	D	E	F	G	H
A	4	0	-2	-1	-2	0	-2
C	0	9	-3	-4	-2	-3	-3
D	-2	-3	6	2	-3	-1	-1
E	-1	-4	2	5	-3	-2	0
F	-2	-2	-3	-3	6	-3	-1
G	0	-3	-1	-2	-3	0	0
H	-2	-3	-1	0	-3	0	0

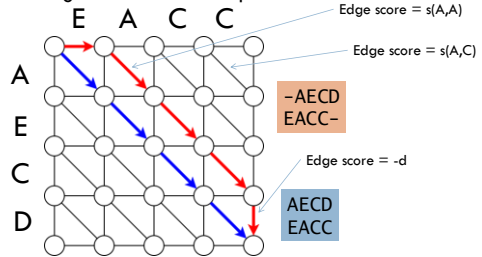
BLOSUM 62

Substitution Cost Matrix  
Gap penalty  $d = -3$

## Smith-Waterman Algorithm

- Weighted string edit distance: Match, insert, delete

- String Edit Distance Graph:



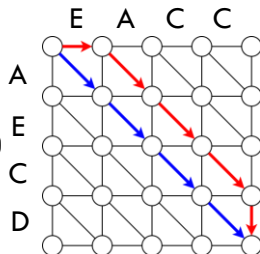
## Smith-Waterman Algorithm

- Weighted string edit distance: Match, insert, delete

- Find highest scoring path through the graph

- Dynamic Programming Recurrence:

$$F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} F(i-1, j-1) + s(a_i, b_j) \\ F(i-1, j) - d \\ F(i, j-1) - d \end{cases}$$



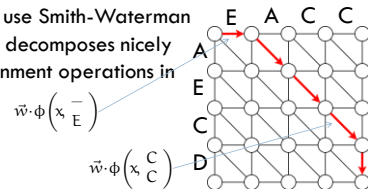
## More Complex Substitution Scores

- Consider More General Linear Scoring Rule:

$$\Phi(x, y) = \phi(x, \bar{E}) + \phi(x, \bar{A}) + \phi(x, \bar{C}) + \phi(x, \bar{C}) + \phi(x, \bar{D})$$

- Score of alignment =  $\vec{w} \cdot \Phi(x, y)$

- Can still use Smith-Waterman as score decomposes nicely into alignment operations in  $y$

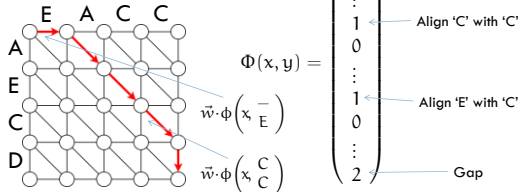


## More Complex Substitution Scores

- In the simplest case the match score  $s(a_i, b_j)$  is just a simple lookup over the BLOSUM matrix

- Consider the feature map:

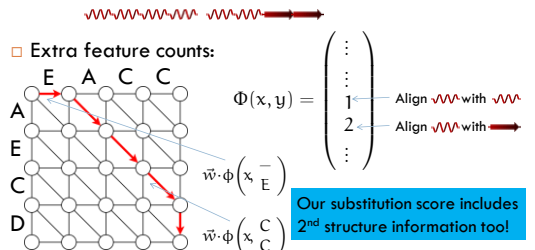
- Equivalent to BLOSUM



## More Complex Substitution Scores

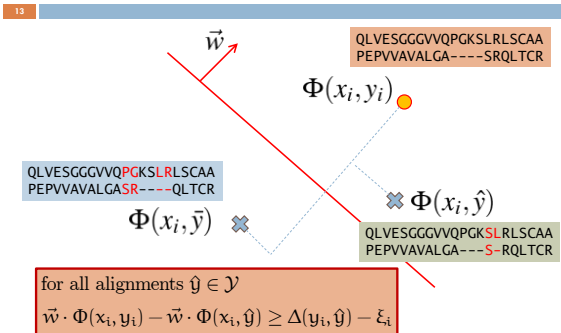
- Suppose we also have information on 2<sup>nd</sup> structures:

- $x = (A E C D, E A C C)$



Our substitution score includes 2<sup>nd</sup> structure information too!

## Structural Support Vector Machines



## Structural Support Vector Machines

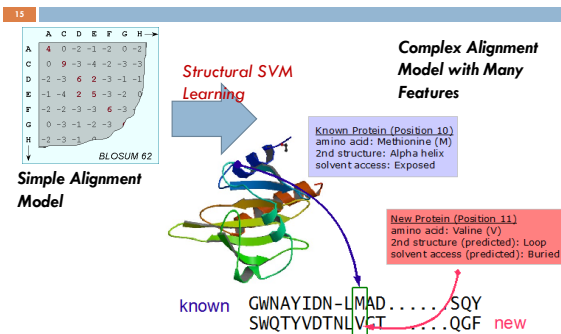
- Structural SVM [Tsochantaridis et al. '04]

$$\min_{\vec{w}, \xi} \frac{1}{2} \|\vec{w}\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$$

s.t. for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , for all alignments  $\hat{y} \in \mathcal{Y}$ ,  
 $\vec{w} \cdot \Phi(x_i, y_i) - \vec{w} \cdot \Phi(x_i, \hat{y}) \geq \Delta(y_i, \hat{y}) - \xi_i$

- Convex optimization problem
- $O\binom{n+m}{m}$  = exponentially many constraints
- Can solve using cutting-plane algorithm

## Learning with Many Features



## Feature Vectors (2 examples)

- 3 basic structural features:
  - Amino acid (i.e., A, N, P, etc)
  - Secondary structures (i.e.,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ )
  - Exposure to water (i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
- Anova2:
  - Pairwise feature interaction, e.g.,  $s(A \text{ and } \alpha, E \text{ and } \beta)$
- Window:
  - Consider neighborhood of aligned site, e.g.,  $s(AEC, CED), s(\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha, \alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha)$

## Loss Functions

### Q-loss

- Correct Alignment  $y$ :

-AEC  
EACC-

- Incorrect Alignment  $y'$ :

A-ECD  
EACC-

Q-loss = 1/3

### Q4-loss (shift < 4)

- Correct Alignment  $y$ :

-AEC  
EACC-

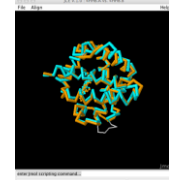
- Incorrect Alignment  $y'$ :

A-ECD  
EACC-

Q4-loss = 0

## Experiments

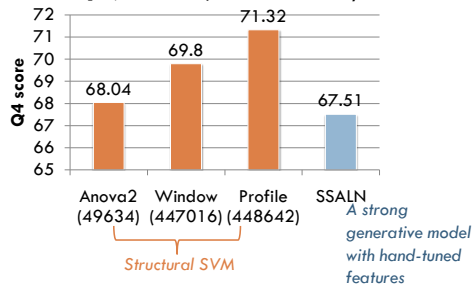
- Training Set: ~5000 alignments [Qiu & Elber '06]
- Test Set: ~30000 alignments from deposits to Protein Data Bank between June 05 to June 06
- All structural alignments produced by the program CE by superposition of 3D coordinates



(from pdb.org)

## Results on Alignment Accuracy

□ From [Yu, Joachims, Elber & Pillardy. RECOMB'07]



## Summary

- An application of Structural SVM to a problem in computational biology
- Discriminative training allows us to incorporate complex features into the alignment models to improve alignment accuracy
- Showed how to design the feature vectors, loss functions, and inference procedures

