# Fitting Tree Metrics with Minimum Disagreements 

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Any guess?


Any guess?


Darwin's notes


## Tree of life



## Tree of life




## Tree of life

## -3.5 Billion <br> Today

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-3.5 Billion<br>Today

## Tree of life



## First to discuss tree reconstruction



They're the same picture...


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They're the same picture...


Hmm...
15 million years?


## Reconstruct from distance matrix



## Reconstruct from distance matrix



## If, due to noise, no matching tree?

## Reconstruct from distance matrix



If, due to noise,
no matching tree?
Minimize disagreements!

## Reconstruct from distance matrix



## If, due to noise, no matching tree?

## Minimize disagreements!

Can also minimize total error, max error, L2 error...

## The Alew llork Times

TRILOBITES

## A Battle Is Raging in the Tree of

 LifeWhich came first, the sponge or the comb jelly?

## Scientists Have Found the First Branch on the Tree of Life

## What we know...

APX - Hard

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O(1) approximation for ultrametrics (structured trees) - even under mild constraints


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O(1) approximation for ultrametrics (structured trees) - even under mild constraints

- What about unstructured trees?



## Structuring the unstructured

## OPT



## Structuring the unstructured

1) Find a root.
2) Find depths of leaves.


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$\operatorname{Input}(\alpha, u)=12$, but $\operatorname{OPT}(\alpha, u)=8$


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$\operatorname{Input}(\alpha, v)=6$, but $\operatorname{OPT}(\alpha, v)=7$


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Now for all u we know depth(u).
$\operatorname{depth}(u)=\operatorname{OPT}^{\prime}(\alpha, u)=\operatorname{Input}(\alpha, u)$


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$\operatorname{depth}(\mathrm{u})=\operatorname{OPT}(\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{u})=\operatorname{Input}(\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{u})$
How much did we pay?

- We moved exactly $D(\alpha)$ nodes, each introduced at most ( $n-1$ ) disagreements.
- $\quad D\left(O P T^{\prime}\right) \leq D(O P T)+D(\alpha)(n-1)$



## Structuring the unstructured

1) Find a root.
2) Find depths of leaves.

$$
D(O P T)=\frac{1}{2} \sum_{u} D(u)
$$


$D()$ denotes disagreements in OPT

## Structuring the unstructured

 $D\left(O P T^{\prime}\right) \leq D(O P T)+D(\alpha)(n-1)$ a minimizes disagreements1) Find a root.
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D(\alpha) \leq 2 D(O P T) / n
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## $\mathrm{D}(\mathrm{OPT}) \leq 3 \mathrm{D}(\mathrm{OPT})$

$D(\alpha) \leq 2 D(O P T) / n$


## Where do we stand?



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$\square$

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$\square$

## Where do we stand?


$?$

## Reduce to ultrametric (all leaves same depth)



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## So... who is the "Oldest Sister"?

Was it the sponge or the comb jelly that diverged first?

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