



Bioinformatics

- **Comparative analysis of seven multiple protein sequence alignment servers:
clues to enhance reliability of predictions**



Motivation

- Evaluate the reliability of seven multiple alignment servers currently available on the Internet in terms of
 - power(sensitivity)
 - confidence(selectivity).



Why multiple alignment

- the detection of common patterns in protein families
- suggesting primers for polymerase chain (PCR) of fragments of homologous genes
- understanding molecular evolution
- predicting secondary and tertiary structures



System and methods

- **Online server:** ClustalW, MAP, PIMA, Block Maker, MSA
- **Email server:** MEME, Match-Box



System and methods-source

- ⑩ common core of each test family is defined as a set of SCRs, initiated by superimposing the backbone of the major elements of secondary structure of the less similar pair of sequence
- ⑩ each SCR was extended as far as the root mean square(RMS) computed between
 - α -carbons on the whole SCR remains $< 1.8\text{\AA}$
- ⑩ the other proteins of the family are progressively aligned and the common SCR limited to the set for which all the pairwise comparisons produce an RMS of $< 1.8\text{\AA}$.



System and methods–11 output

- PIMA:
 - PIMA_ML(maximum linkage)
 - PIMA-SB(sequential branching)
- Block Maker
 - Gibbs method
 - Gibbs method



System and methods-11 output

- MatchBox
 - Reliability ≤ 4 , MB1
 - Reliability ≤ 5 , MB2
 - Reliability ≤ 9 , MB3
- MEME
- ClustalW
- MAP
- MSA



Definition and formula

- **pSCRs**: predicted structurally conserved regions are defined as the segments aligned in all the sequences and not disrupted by gaps.
- **SCR**: structurally conserved regions.
- **S**: cumulated length of the SCRs.
- **s**: the cumulated length of the pSCRs.
- **I**: the cumulated length correctly predicted.



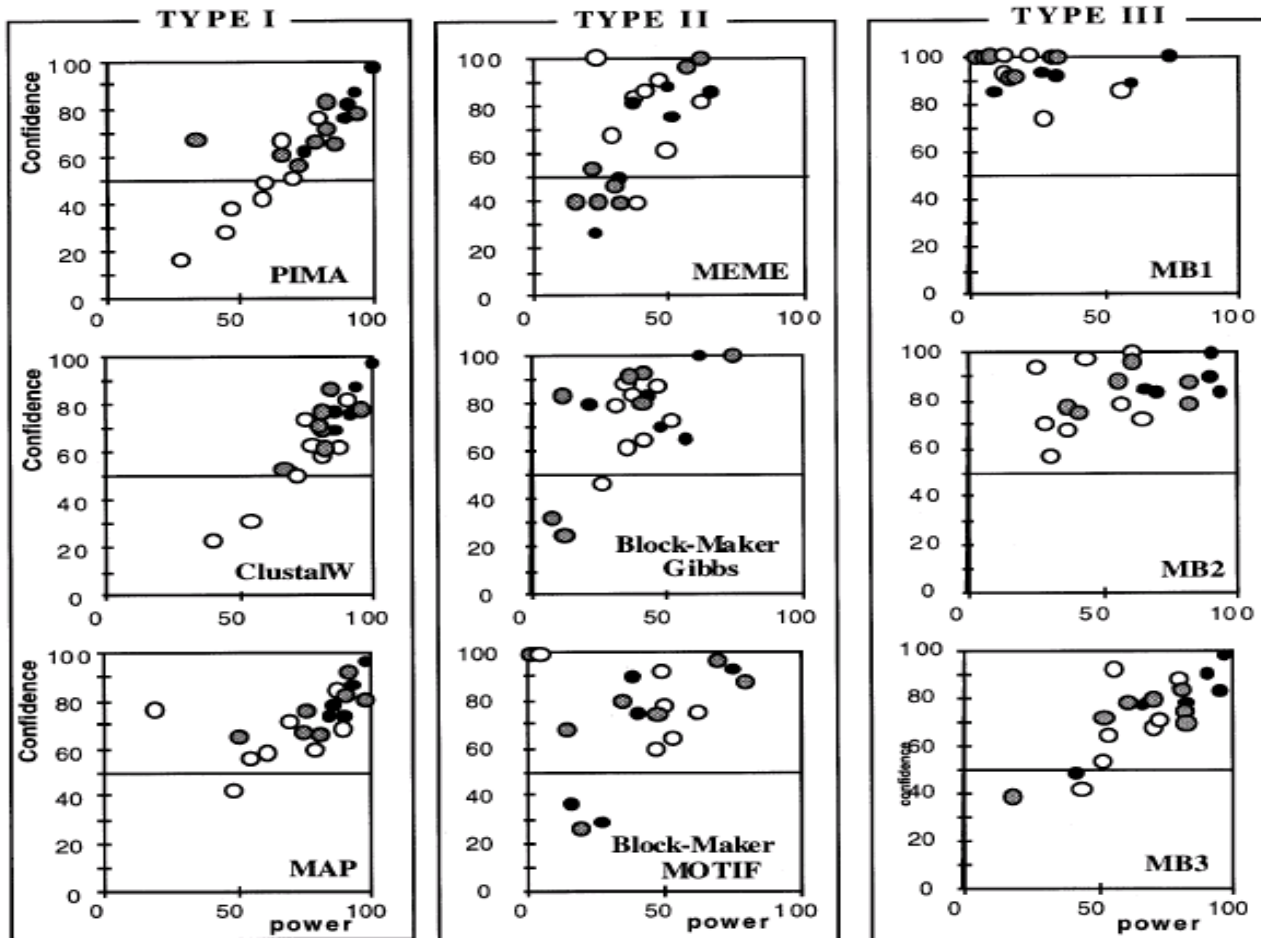
Definition and formula

- The performances of a given method applied on a given family are evaluated by the following relationships:

$$\text{Power} = I/S * 100$$

$$\text{Confidence} = I/s * 100$$

Result





Result

- Identity:
 - black >20%
 - grey 10-20%
 - white <10%



Result

- Type I methods:
 - For ClustalW, MAP, PIMA
 - Power and confidence are linear relationship
 - Best overall rate on Power



Result

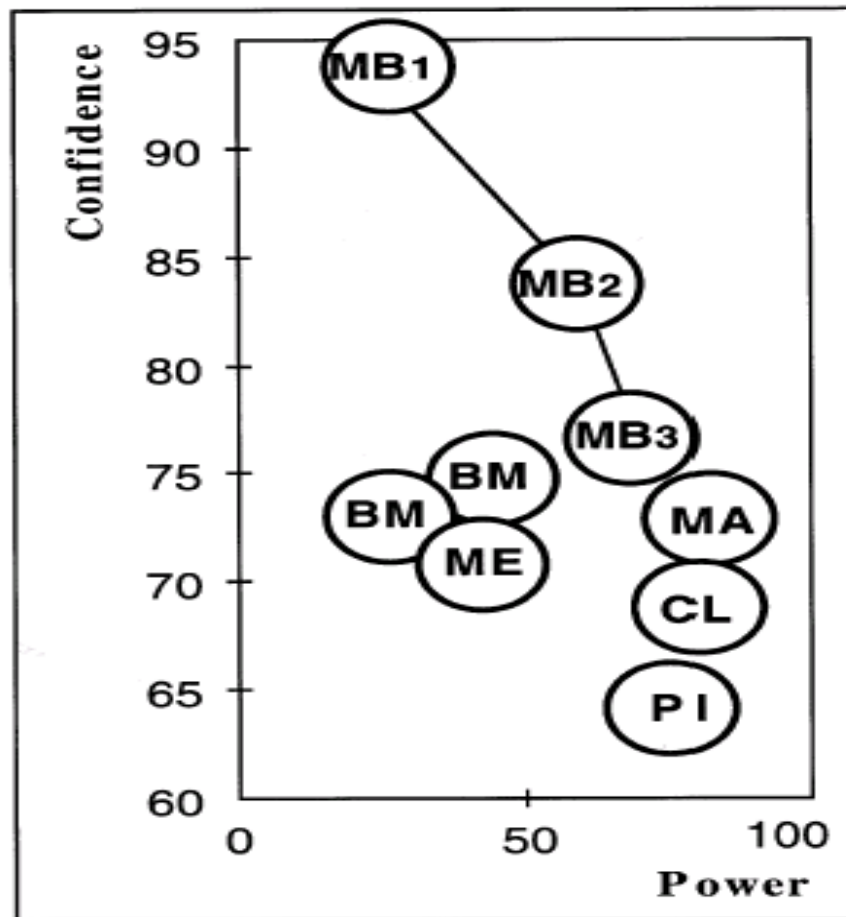
- Type II methods
 - For Block Maker and MEME
 - Power is low
 - Not clearly related to the rate of identity
 - Priori unpredictable



Result

- Type III methods:
 - For Match-Box 1,2,3
 - Confidence is high
 - Low performance in low reliability score

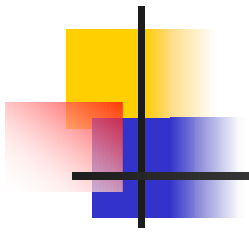
Result





Result

- Type I : large power with low confidence
- Type II : hybrid situation between I, II
- Type III : large confidence variable power



Question?



