

S2 Illustrated methods

This document contains additional figures that illustrate the processes and models described in the Methods section of the main manuscript.

Sampling site patterns

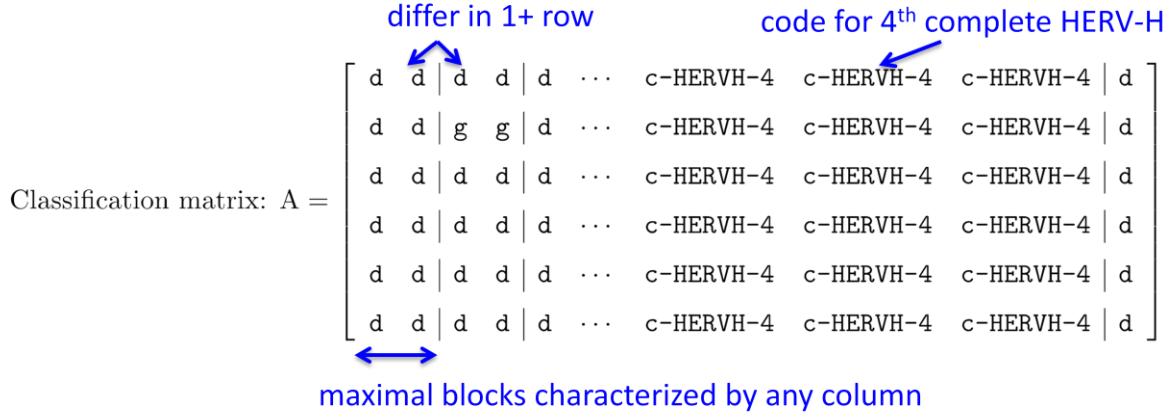


Figure A: Each position in a matrix representation of a six-way EPO alignment can be classified as one of the following: an unannotated nucleotide coded as **d**; an unannotated gap coded as **g**; the *i*th solo-LTR having identifier *id* and coded as **s-*i-id***; or the *i*th partial or full-length ERV having identifier *id* and coded as **c-*i-id***. We partition classification matrix **A** into *l* adjacent submatrices so that all columns in submatrix **A**^(*i*) are identical and so that two consecutive submatrices differ.

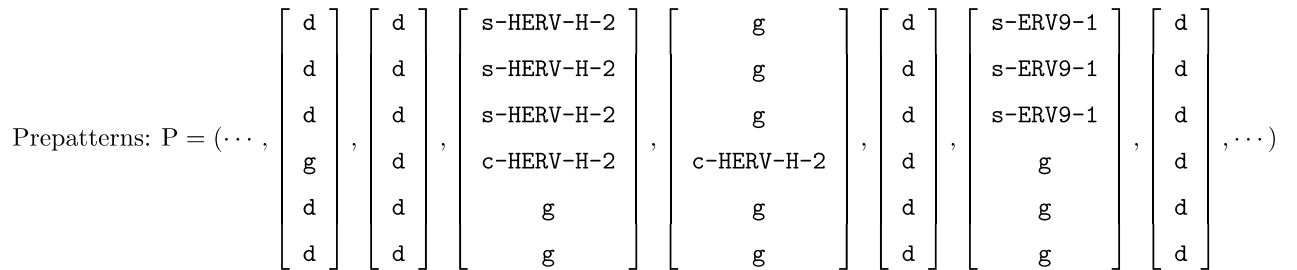


Figure B: The sequence of the first columns of all submatrices of at least 50 columns is referred to as the sequence of pre-patterns **P**.

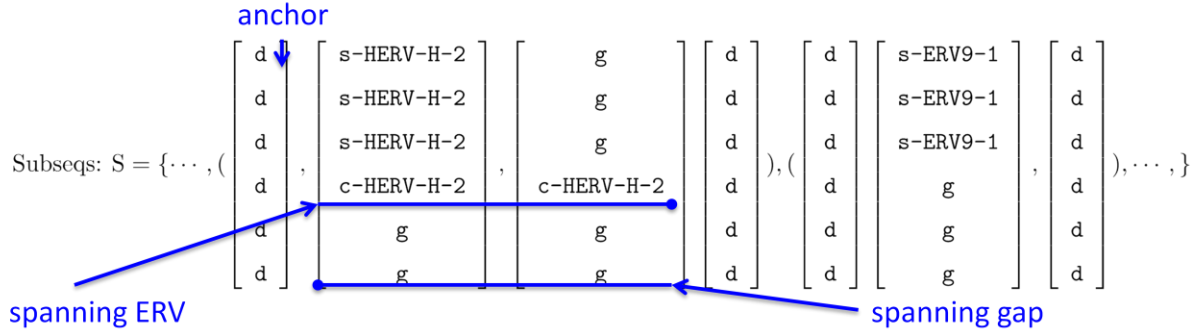


Figure C: To obtain site patterns to place on a phylogeny we parsed the set S of subsequences of pre-patterns that are (i) anchored by host DNA at either end, that (ii) contain a spanning solo-LTR or full-length ERV, and that (iii) contain a spanning gap.

$$\text{Site patterns: } U = \left\{ \dots, \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x \\ x \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x \\ x \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \right\}$$

Figure D: The parsed pre-patterns from S are converted to site patterns using a heuristic method. These site patterns can then be analysed using a phylogenetic insertion and deletion model.

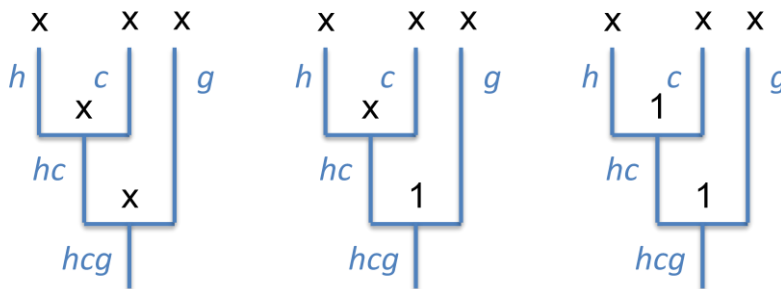


Figure E: Consider an insertion that occurred in a common ancestor of the human, chimpanzee, and gorilla. To calculate the probability of observing solo-LTRs in all present day primates we must consider each of the above three deletion scenarios.

Exponential deletion model

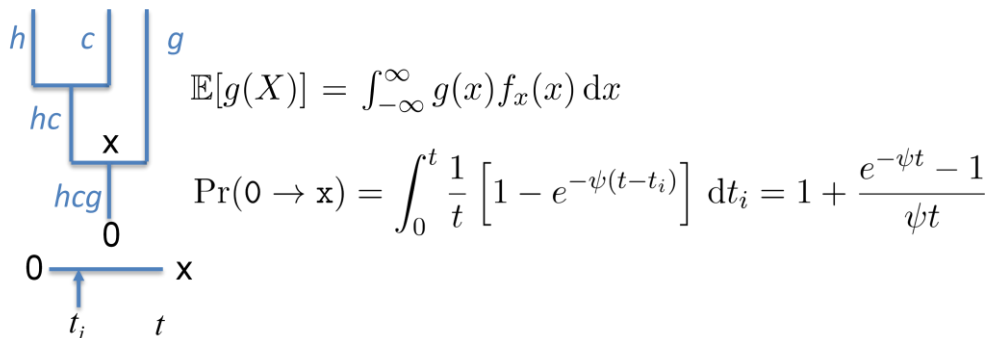


Figure F: Under an exponential model, the probability that an ERV is deleted on an insertion branch has an analytical solution. (The insertion time t_i is uniformly distributed because we assume ERVs arrive according to a Poisson process.)

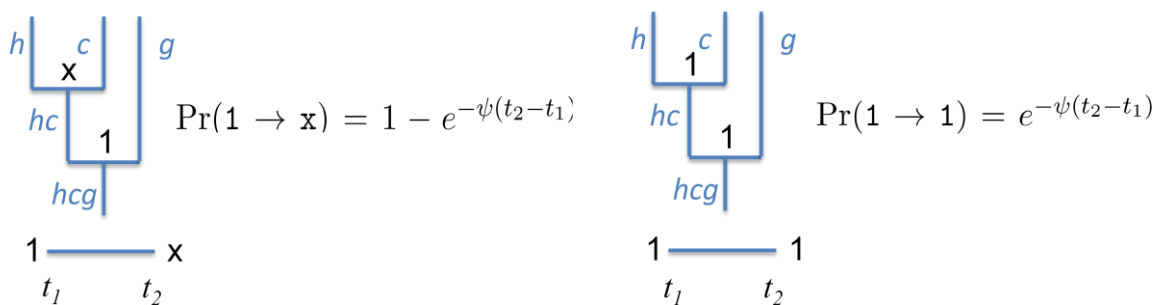


Figure G: Under an exponential deletion model, on a post insertion branch we need to be able to calculate two kinds of probabilities: the probability that an ERV is deleted (converted to a solo-LTR, left); and the probability that an ERV remains in full-length form (right).

Weibull deletion model

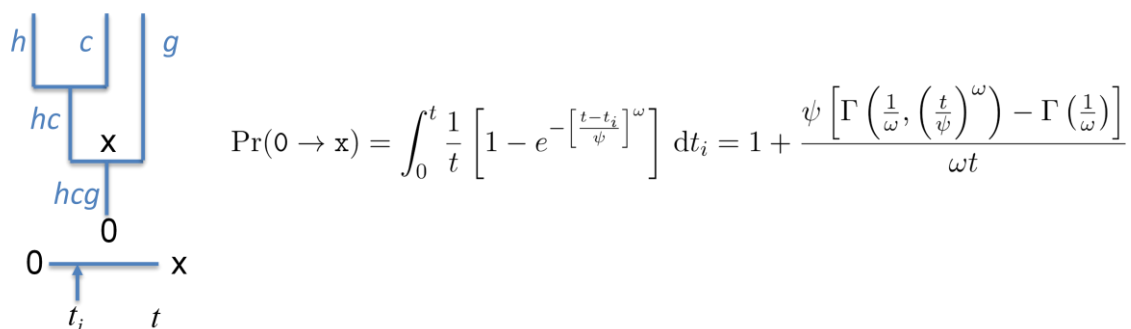
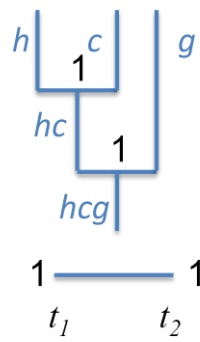


Figure H: Under a Weibull model, the probability that an ERV is deleted on an insertion branch also has an analytical solution. (The insertion time t_i is uniformly distributed because we assume ERVs arrive according to a Poisson process.)



$$\Pr(1 \rightarrow 1|t_i) = \int_0^t \frac{1}{t} \left\{ \frac{e^{-\left[\frac{t_2-t_i}{\psi}\right]^\omega}}{e^{-\left[\frac{t_1-t_i}{\psi}\right]^\omega}} \right\} dt_i$$

Figure I: Under a Weibull model, the probability that an ERV is deleted on a post insertion branch is obtained using the conditional reliability function.