

Rooted triplet= rooted binary phylogenetic tree with exactly three leaves.



For three leaves A, B, C in T we write ((A, B), C) if the path from A to B does not intersect the path from C to the root  $\rho$ .

That is the unique rooted triplet with

$$lca(A,B) \prec lca(A,C) = lca(B,C)$$

Any rooted phylogenetic tree can be represented by a set of rooted triplets.

# **Combining Rooted Triples**



Consensus Tree "displays" all rooted triples:



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# **Combining Rooted Triples**



Consensus Tree does not always exist!!



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That is the unique rooted triplet with

$$lca(A,B) \prec lca(A,C) = lca(B,C)$$

T and an arbitrary triple ((A, B), C) are consistent iff

$$lca(A,B) \prec lca(A,C) = lca(B,C)$$

T displays ((A, B), C).

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## BUILD

**Theorem** (Aho, Sagiv, Szymanski, Ullman - 1981; Semple & Steel - 2003) Let  $\mathscr{R}$  by a collection of rooted triples with leaf set  $\mathscr{L}$ . Then there is an  $O(|\mathscr{R}||\mathscr{L}|)$  time algorithm – called BUILD – that either

- constructs a phylogenetic tree  ${\it T}_{|\mathscr{R}}$  that displays each member of  $\mathscr{R}$ 

or

• recognizes  $\mathscr{R}$  as inconsistent.



Idea of this recursive, top-down approach: Partition  $\mathscr{L}$  into blocks according to  $\mathscr{R}$ . Output a tree consisting of a root whose children are roots of the trees obtained by recursing on each block.



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## BUILD

Let  $\mathscr{R}$  be a set of triples defined on a leaf set  $\mathscr{L}$ .

For any  $L \subseteq \mathscr{L}$  define  $\mathscr{R}_{|L} = \{((x, y)z) \in \mathscr{R} \mid x, y, z \in L\}.$ 

To find blocks use auxiliary graph  $G(\mathscr{R}_{|L}, L) = (L, E)$  with  $(x, y) \in E$  iff there is a triple  $((x, y)z) \in \mathscr{R}_{|L}$ 

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Exmpl:  $L = \{A, B, C\}, \mathcal{R} = ((A, B)C), G(\mathcal{R}_{|L}, L)$ 



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**Crucial observation:** If ((xy)z) is consistent with a tree T then the leaves labeled by *x* and *y* cannot descend from two different children of the root of *T*, i.e., *x* and *y* must belong to the same block.

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**Crucial observation:** If ((xy)z) is consistent with a tree *T* then the leaves labeled by *x* and *y* cannot descend from two different children of the root of *T*, i.e., *x* and *y* must belong to the same block.

Therefore, the algorithm defines the partition of  $L \subseteq \mathscr{L}$  by: Blocks of leaves iff connected components in  $G(\mathscr{R}_{|L}, L)$ 



# Lemma (Aho, Sagiv, Szymanski, Ullman (1981), Bryant & Steel (1995))

A given triple set  $\mathscr{R}$  on a leaf set  $\mathscr{L}$  is consistent if and only if for all  $L \subseteq \mathscr{L}$  with |L| > 1 the graph  $G(\mathscr{R}_{|L}, L)$  is disconnected.

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## BUILD

- 1: **INPUT:** Set of triples in  $\mathcal{R}$ , leaf set  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- 2: **OUTPUT:** A rooted, phylog. tree distinctly leaf-labeled by  $\mathscr{L}$  consistent with all rooted triplets in  $\mathscr{R}$ , if one exists; otherwise *null*.
- 3: compute  $G(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{L})$
- 4: compute connected components  $C_1, \ldots, C_s$  of  $G(\mathscr{R}, \mathscr{L})$
- 5: if s = 1 and  $|\mathscr{L}| = 1$  then
- 6: return tree  $\simeq K_1$
- 7: else if s = 1 and  $|\mathscr{L}| > 1$  then
- 8: return null
- 9: **else**
- 10: **for** i = 1,...*s* do
- 11:  $T_i = \text{BUILD}(\mathscr{R}_{|V(C_i)}, V(C_i))$
- 12: end for
- 13: **if**  $T_i \neq null$  for all i = 1, ..., s then
- 14: attach all of these trees to a common parent node and let T be the resulting tree; else T = null.
- 15: end if
- 16: end if



#### $\mathscr{R} = \{((AB)C), ((AC)D), ((DE)B)\}$



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# BUILD - Example

$$\begin{split} \mathscr{R} &= \{ ((AB)C), ((AC)D), ((DE)B) \} \\ C_1 &:= \texttt{BUILD}(\mathscr{R}_{|\mathscr{L}}, \mathscr{L} = \{A, B, C\}) \\ \mathscr{R}_1 &:= \{ ((AB)C) \} \\ C_2 &:= \texttt{BUILD}(\mathscr{R}_{|\mathscr{L}}, \mathscr{L} = \{D, E\}) \\ \mathscr{R}_2 &:= \emptyset \end{split}$$

$$G(\{A, B, C\})$$
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# BUILD - Example

$$\begin{array}{l} C_{11} := \texttt{BUILD}(\mathscr{R}_{|\mathscr{L}}, \mathscr{L} = \{A, B\}) \\ C_{12} := \texttt{BUILD}(\emptyset, \{C\}) \\ C_{21} := \texttt{BUILD}(\emptyset, \{D\}) \\ C_{22} := \texttt{BUILD}(\emptyset, \{E\}) \end{array}$$



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## BUILD - Example





# BUILD - Example



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