

# Duplication Correcting Codes for live DNA Storage



Farzad Farnoud

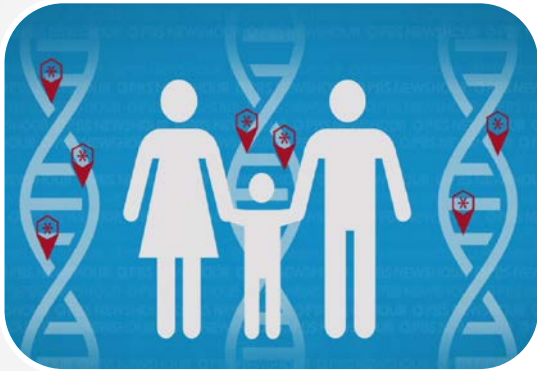


Siddharth Jain  
Jehoshua Bruck



Moshe Schwartz

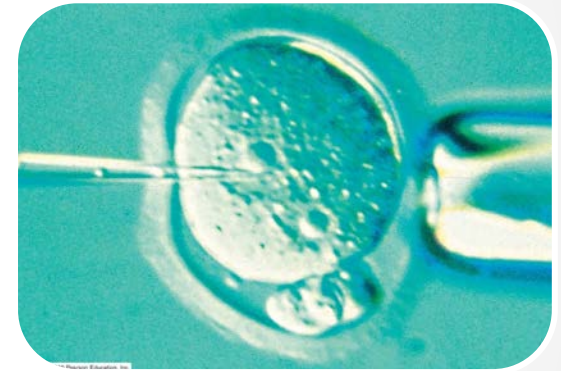
# Data Storage in DNA



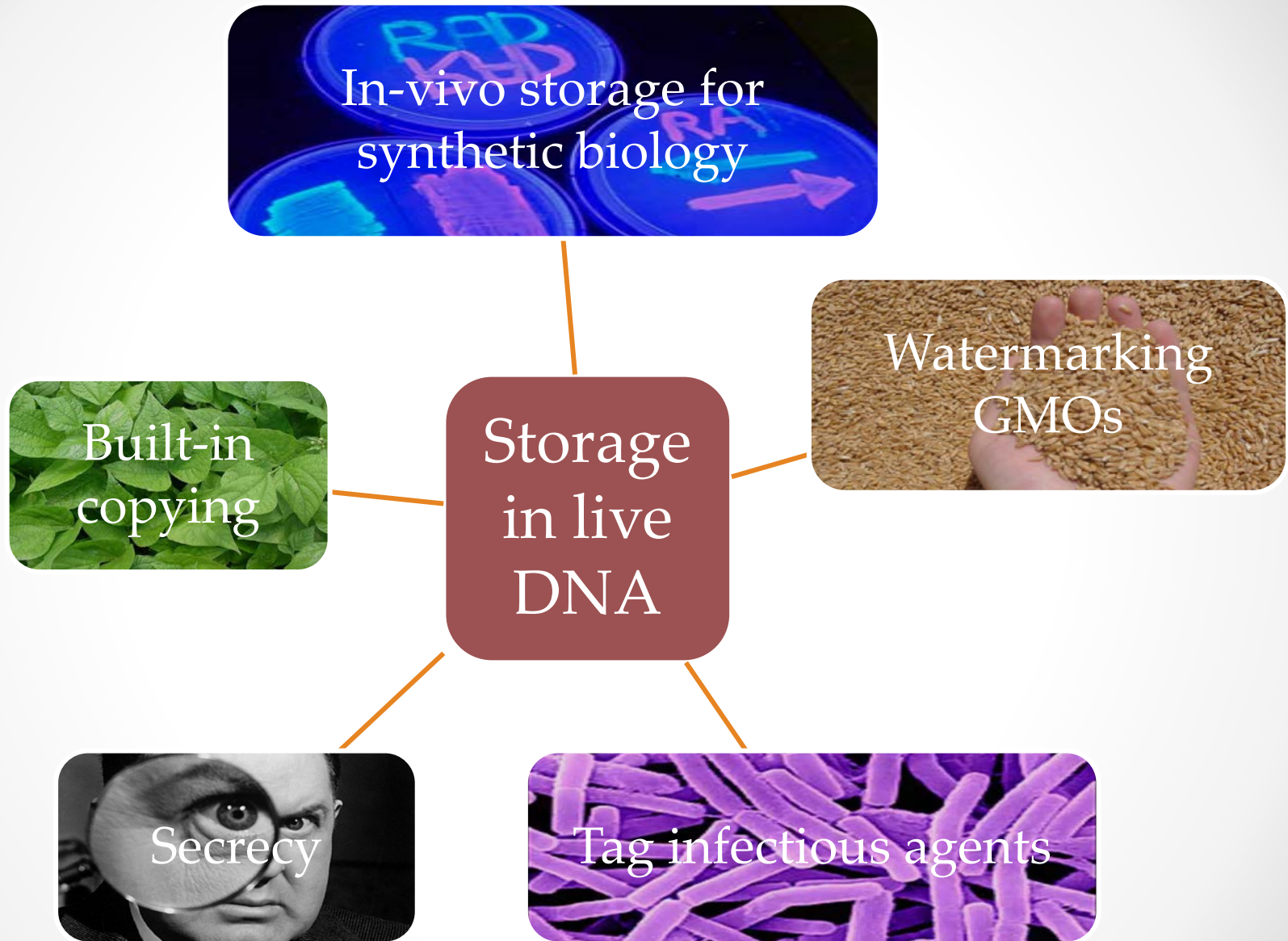
genetic information  
is stored in DNA



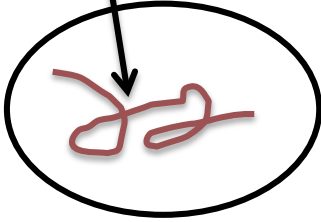
ex-vivo data storage



in-vivo data storage



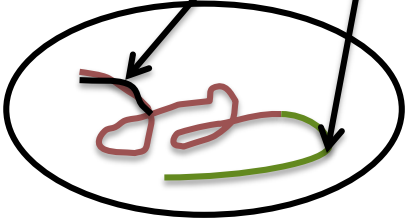
Information stored  
in DNA



time/  
replication

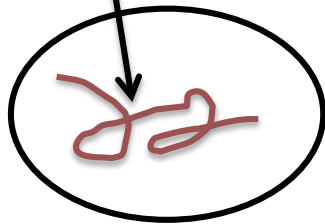


Mutations



*Information  
Corrupted!*

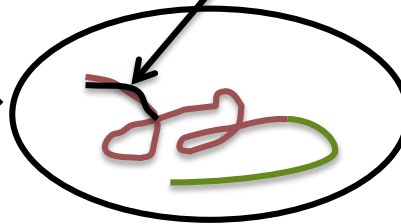
Information stored  
in DNA



time/  
replication



Tandem Duplications  
ACG → ACG**ACG**

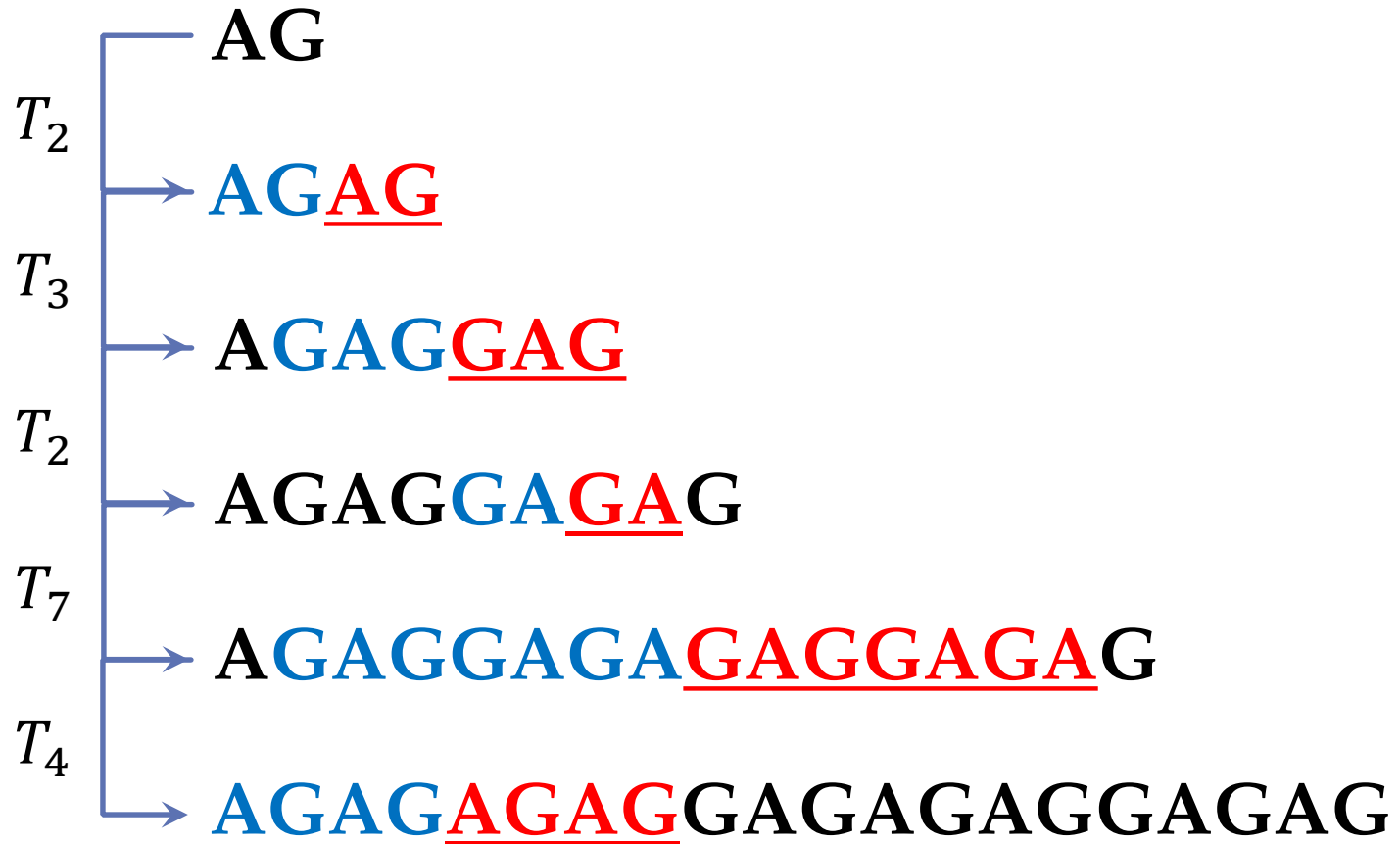


*Information  
Corrupted!*

# Related Work

- Arita & Ohashi, 2004 – parity check bits
  - Haider & Barenkow, 2007 - Hamming code or repetition code
  - Yachie et. al, 2008 - copy data multiple times at different locations
  - Haughton & Balado, 2013 - Coded for substitution
- 
- Dolecek and Ananthram 2008 – Tandem duplication errors of length 1
  - Mitzenmacher 2008 – Lower & upper bounds on sticky channel capacity

# Tandem Duplications







# Channel Model



# $k$ -uniform Errors, $T_k$

## Example : 2-uniform ( $T_2$ )

Input:  $x = \text{ACGT}$

$\text{ACGT} \rightarrow \text{ACG}\underline{\text{CGT}} \rightarrow \text{AC}\underline{\text{AC}}\text{GCGT} \rightarrow$   
 $\text{AC}\text{ACGCGT}\underline{\text{GT}}$

Output:  $y = \text{ACACGCGTGT}$

# $k$ -bounded Errors, $T_{\leq k}$

**Example : 4-bounded ( $T_{\leq 4}$ )**

**Input:  $x = \text{ACGT}$**

**ACGT  $\rightarrow$  ACGCGT  $\rightarrow$  ACGACGCGT  $\rightarrow$   
AACGACGCGT  $\rightarrow$  AACGACGCGTGCGT**

**Output:  $y = \text{AACGACGCGTGCGT}$**

# Decoding by deduplication



Encoding

- Repeat-free sequences

Decoding

- Remove all repeats

# Decoding by Deduplication

## Removing k-uniform errors

**Example : 2-uniform ( $T_2$ )**

Channel output:  $y = \text{ACACGCGTGT}$

$\text{AC}\del{A}\text{CGCGTGT} \rightarrow \text{ACG}\del{C}\text{GTGT} \rightarrow \text{ACGT}\del{GT}$

Input estimate:  $\hat{x} = \text{ACGT}$

# Decoding by Deduplication

## Removing k-bounded errors

**Example : 4-bounded ( $T_{\leq 4}$ )**

Channel output:  $y = \text{AACGACGCGTGCGT}$

~~A~~ACGACGCGTGCGT  $\rightarrow$  ACG~~ACG~~CGTGCGT  $\rightarrow$   
ACGCGT~~GCGT~~  $\rightarrow$  ACG~~CGT~~

Input estimate:  $\hat{x} = \text{ACGT}$

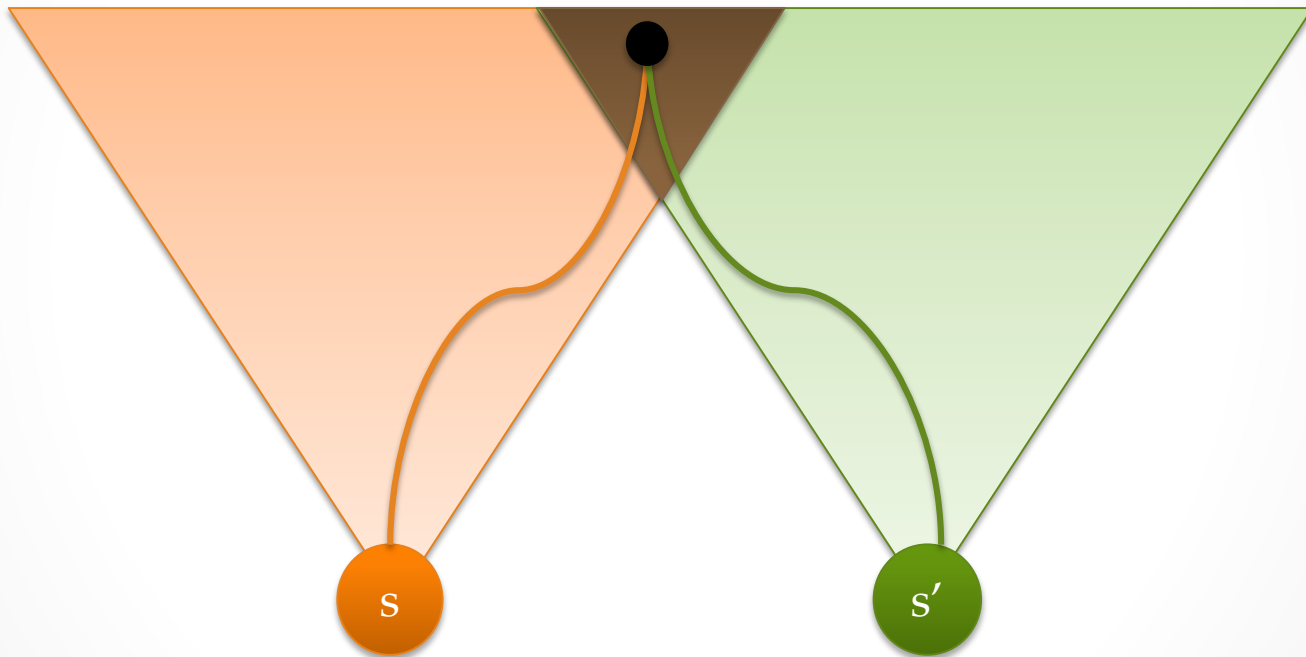
# What Could Go Wrong?

Example:  $T_{\leq 4}$



**Root of  $s$ :** repeat-free sequence that can be transformed to  $s$  via duplications

# *Duplication Cone*





# Uniqueness of Roots

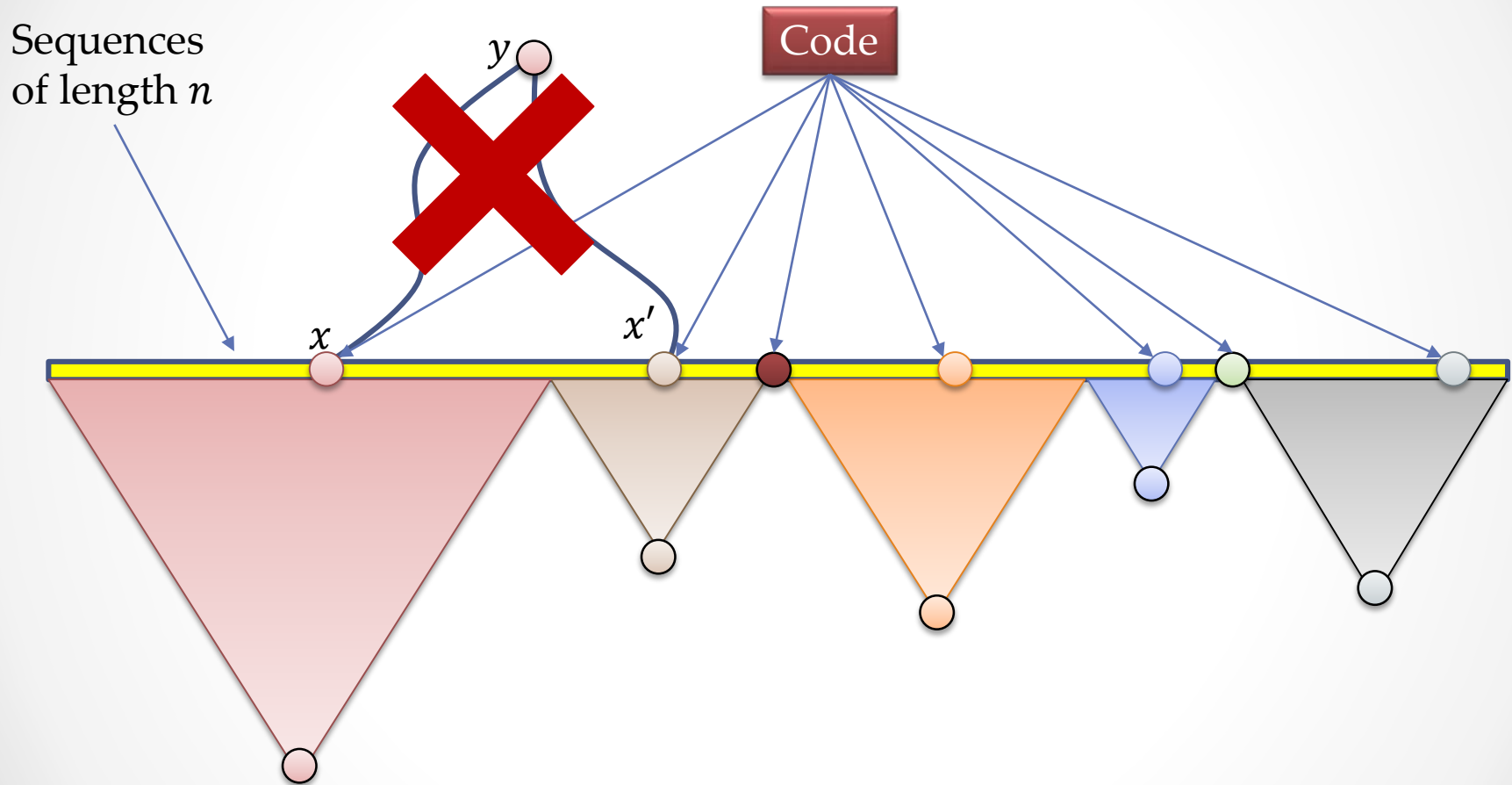
## *Theorem 1*

*For tandem duplication rule  $T_k$ , the root is unique for any  $k$ .*

## *Theorem 2*

*For tandem duplication rule  $T_{\leq k}$ , the root is unique for  $k \leq 3$ .*

$$T_k, T_{\leq 2}, T_{\leq 3}$$



# Codes for $T_k, T_{\leq 2}, T_{\leq 3}$ Channels

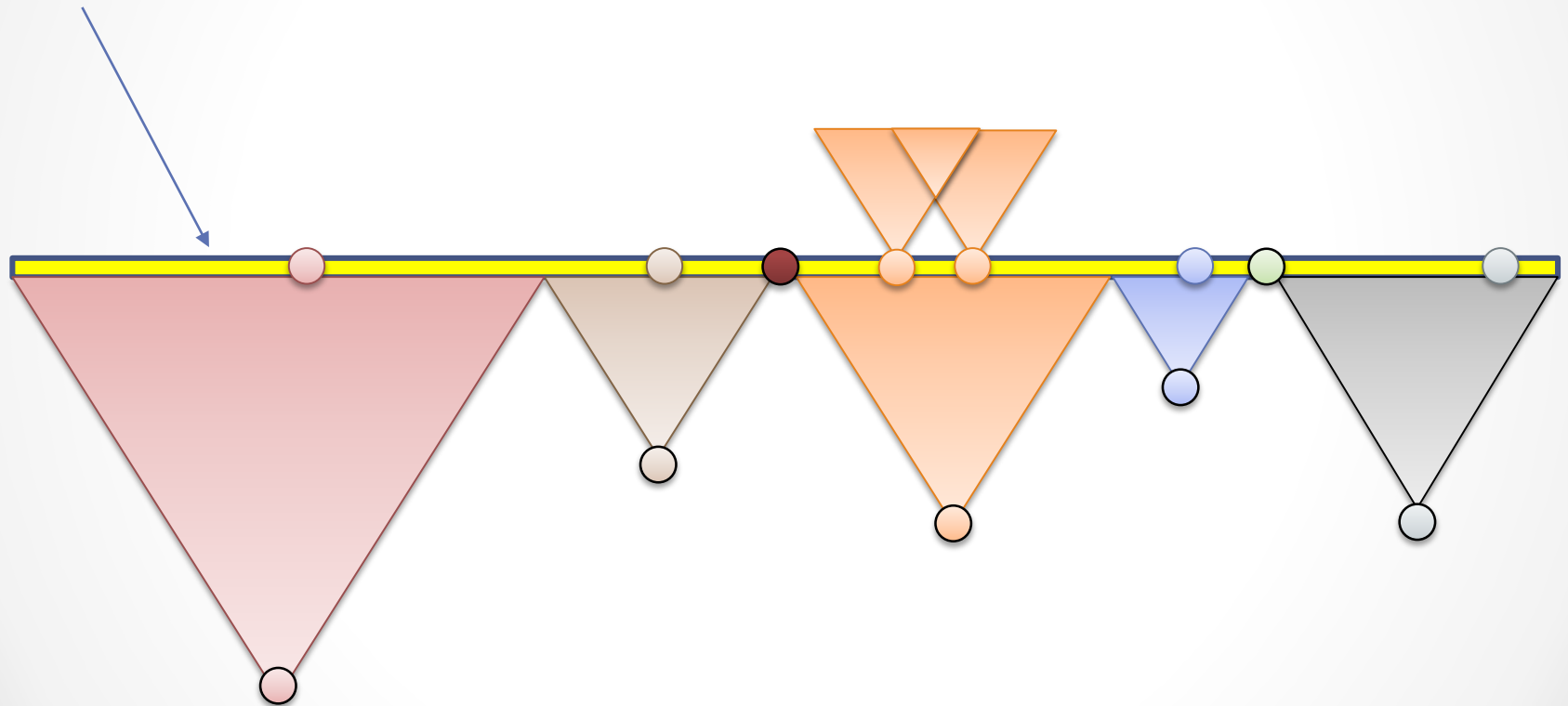
Extend each root to length  $n$  through  $T$

Example:  $T_2, n = 7, |\Sigma| = 4$ :

ACTCTCT, AAAAAAA, CGGTATA, CATGCGA

*This code is optimal for  $T_k$  and  $T_{\leq 2}$*

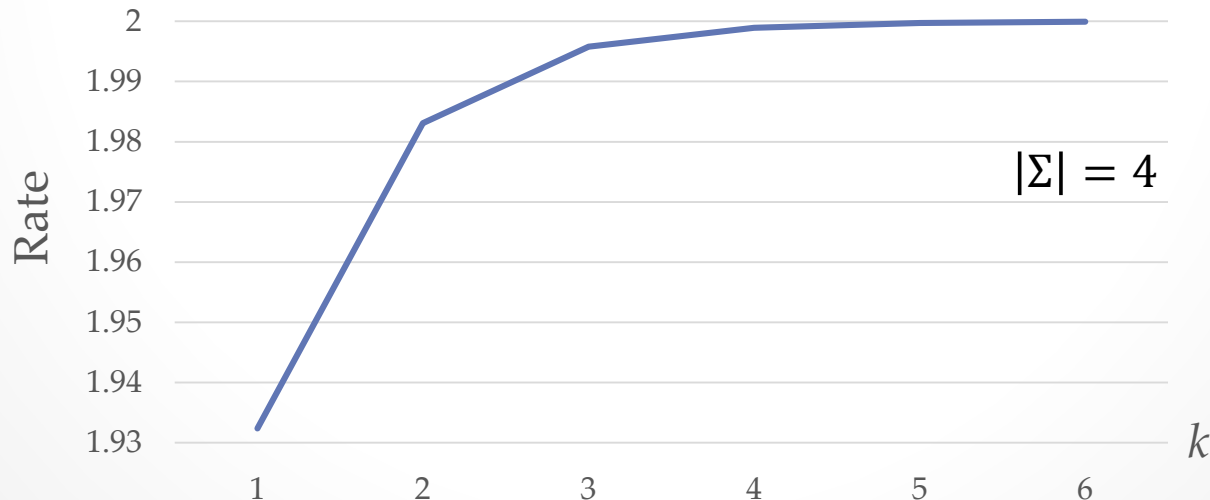
Sequences  
of length  $n$



# Codes for $T_k$ Channel

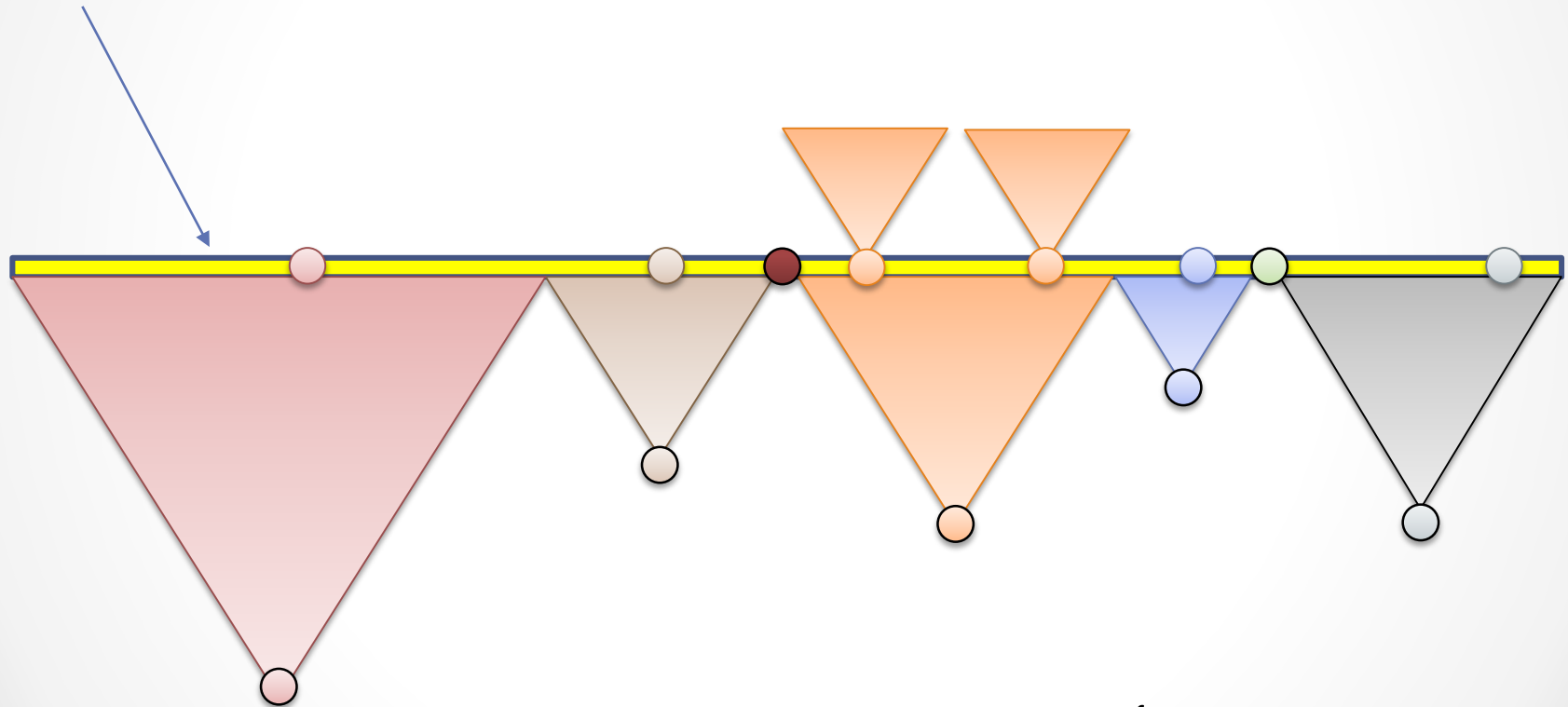
Bijection: Roots  $\leftrightarrow$  RLL(0,  $k - 1$ )

$$M = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor n/k \rfloor - 1} |\Sigma|^k M_{RLL(0, k-1)}(n - (i+1)k)$$



*This code is not optimal for  $T_{\leq 3}$*

Sequences  
of length  $n$



**Rate for  $T_3 \geq 0.3479$**

# Other Results

*Construction:* Optimal codes for  $t$  errors under  $T_k$  using codes in  $\ell_1$ -metric

*Theorem:* Under  $T_U$ , the root is unique for all sequences if and only if

$ \Sigma  = 1$	$k U$
$ \Sigma  = 2$	$U = \{k\}$ $U \supseteq \{1,2\}$
$ \Sigma  \geq 3$	$U = \{k\}$ $U \supseteq \{1,2\}$ $U \supseteq \{1,2,3\}$

# Open Problems

- Optimal Code for  $\leq 3$  duplication error
- Codes for non-unique root regimes
- Codes for unbounded duplication error
- Code for duplication errors with point mutations