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Linz, March 12, 2021

Opponent Review for the Bachelor Thesis:
“Influence of Clustal-W hyperparameters in multiple sequence alignment for Align-RUDDER” by Marlene Ganz

The Bachelor Thesis of Marlene Ganz investigates the effects of hyperparameters of a well-known sequence alignment method (Clustal-W) when used together with Align-RUDDER, a novel reinforcement learning method. Effects of hyperparameters in Clustal-W are known when used with biological sequence. However, the assumptions of the algorithm do not necessarily hold in other domains as they were specifically designed for biological sequences. Therefore, investigating their effect in a different domain is an interesting topic which is covered in this thesis.

The thesis is, overall, well written. The related work section is very structured and easy to follow. However, some parts could be expanded upon. Moreover, some of the plots are not easy to read and hard understand at first glance.

All in all, I can confidently state that this thesis meets my criteria for a good bachelor thesis.



Markus Hofmarcher