Exploring protein domains and clusters across species in Ensembl and MycoCosm

We're going to use the HMMER tool, which is embedded in Ensembl Fungi with the Ensembl Fungi species as reference proteomes and standard search parameters. You can use the full tool here: https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/hmmer/search/phmmer if you want to work with other species and set your own thresholds. This tool uses protein sequences as input and finds domains within them and maps against all species, like a more powerful, domain oriented BLAST. We'll then explore this at a finer scale looking at a handful of closely related species in the MycoCosm Cluster tool.

In the BioMart demo, we found genes that were associated with reduced virulence in Fusarium solani, and which did not have an orthologue in F. oxysporum. We're going to explore one of these genes in more detail: *PEP2* or NechaG73962.

- a) Search *Fusarium solani* for NechaG73962 at fungi.ensembl.org. Navigate to the Transcript tab and either export the protein sequence in FASTA format or highlight and copy it.
- b) Using the link in the Ensembl Fungi header navigate to the HMMER tool. Paste in your sequence and click Submit.
 - I. What is the PFAM domain identified in this sequence?
 - II. Hover over the domain image, what is the length of the aligned region with our submitted protein sequence?
- c) In the Significant Query Matches table at the bottom of the page, click on the black Customise button and add 'Phylum' to the table.
 - I. To which Phylum do the top hits belong to?
 - II. Which species is reported as the top hit? Is this the same as Fusarium solani (think about the reproductive cycle...)?
- d) We can explore the taxonomy more broadly elsewhere. Click on the Taxonomy tab just above the domain image.
 - I. How many hits were there in the Basdiomycota?
 - II. Click to expand the Agaricomycetes node by clicking on the arrow, and then the Agaricales. Which families are represented?

NOTE: You may need to click on the node name (e.g. Agaricales), to reposition the image.

- e) Let's explore this protein domain further using the JGI MycoCosm cluster tool. This will enable us to compare the presence genes containing this domain across a closely related group. Navigate to mycocosm.jgi.doe.gov and search for *Fusarium solani*. Select Fusarium solani FSSC 5 v1.0, then click on the MCL clusters option at the top of the page. Search for the protein domain we identified, SnoaL_4.
 - I. For the first cluster, 4,213, which species is missing any hits?
 - II. Click on the link for the domain (4213) to explore in more detail. We can see from the donut plots that only 4 species contain this SnoaL-like domain.
 - III. Which species have the most similar protein lengths, and contain the SnoaL-like domain?

- f) Click on Synteny in the final column.
 - I. Are the clusters around this conserved between these species? Click on them to highlight the occurrence in the image.
 - II. Which other species has the most similar synteny to *Fusarium solani* (Fusso1) protein 495533? Why do you think this is?

Answers

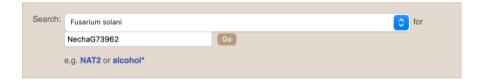
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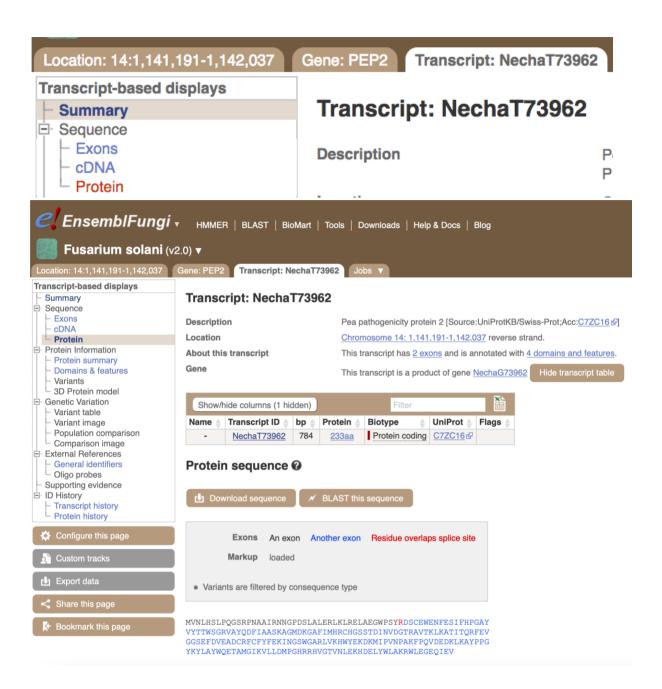
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g) Search *Fusarium solani* for NechaG73962 at fungi.ensembl.org. Navigate to the Transcript tab and either export the protein sequence in FASTA format, or highlight and copy it.

Answer: Go to fungi.ensembl.org. From the homepage select *Fusarium solani* from the drop-down list and type in NechaG73962. Hit Go.



Click on the gene name hyperlink on the results page, this will take you to the gene tab. Click on the transcript tab Transcript: NechaT73962 to go to the transcript tab. On the left-hand navigation panel there is a link for Protein under the Sequence header. Highlight the protein sequence and copy it.

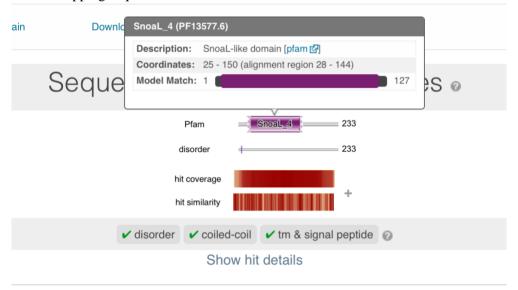


Using the link in the Ensembl Fungi header navigate to the HMMER tool. Paste in your sequence and click Submit.

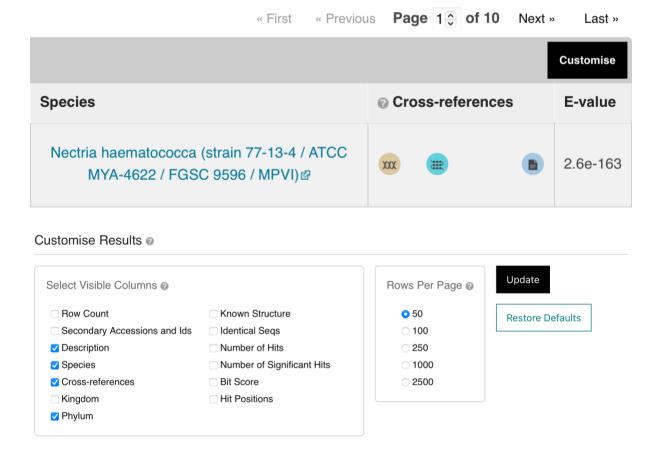


- I. What is the PFAM domain identified in this sequence?
- II. Hover over the domain image, what is the length of the aligned region with our submitted protein sequence?

Answers: The image shown in the centre middle of the page shows the domain (or domains) matched in your sequence. Hovering over the domain will give you some summary information, including the length of the overlapping sequence.



h) In the Significant Query Matches table at the bottom of the page, click on the black Customise button and add 'Phylum' to the table.



I. To which Phylum do the top hits belong to?

Answer: We can see that the column of the first hits are all listed as 'Ascomycota'

II. Which species is reported as the top hit? Is this the same as Fusarium solani (think about the reproductive cycle...)?

Answer: The sexual form (teleomorph) of Fusarium solani (the anamorph) is Nectria haematococca.

Sig	Significant Query Matches (460) in ensemblgenomes (v.44)									
	Target	Description	Phylum	Species	Cross-references	E-value				
>	NechaG73962₽	Pea pathogenicity protein 2 [Source:UniProtKB/Swiss- Prot;Acc:C7ZC16]	Ascomycota	Nectria haematococca (strain 77- 13-4 / ATCC MYA-4622 / FGSC 9596 / MPVI)를	 	2.6e-163				
>	LW93_4799₽	Uncharacterized protein	Ascomycota	Gibberella fujikuroi ₽	a b	1.6e-137				
>	FFB14_04603₽	Pea pathogenicity protein 2	Ascomycota	Fusarium fujikuroi (GCA_900096505)₽		2.1e-137				
>	AU210_001920㎡	hypothetical protein	Ascomycota	Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. radicis-cucumerinum@		6.2e-137				
>	FOWG_10080@	pea pathogenicity protein 2	Ascomycota	Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. lycopersici MN25 (GCA_000259975)	a b	6.2e-137				

i) We can explore the taxonomy more broadly elsewhere. Click on the Taxonomy tab just above the domain image.

Taxonomic distribution of all search hits

I. How many hits were there in the Basdiomycota?

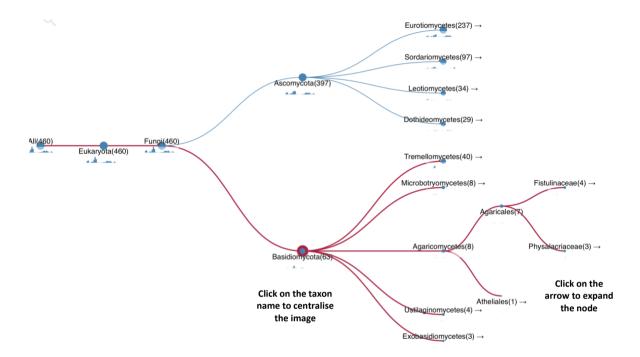
Answer: We can see from the number in the parentheses that there are 63 hits.

Eurotiomycates(237) Sordariomycetes(97) Lectiomycetes(34) → Dothideomycetes(29) All(460) Eukaryota(460) Fungi(460) Fungi(460) Fungi(460) Fungi(460) Agaricomycetes(8) → Basidiomycota(63) Lineage: → All → Eukaryota → Fungi → Basidiomycota Basidiomycota (63)

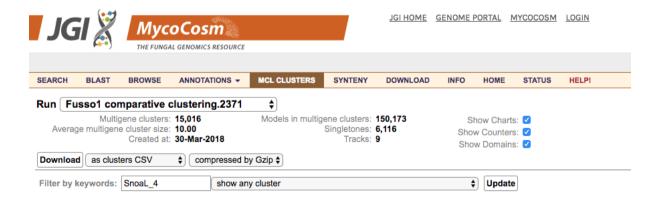
II. Click to expand the Agaricomycetes node by clicking on the arrow, and then the Agaricales. Which families are represented?

Answer: Fistulinaceace and Physalacriaceae families are shown here with 4 and 3 members respectively.

NOTE: You may need to click on the node name (e.g. Agaricales), to reposition the image.

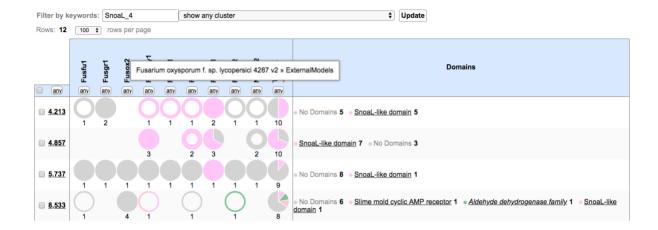


j) Let's explore this protein domain further using the JGI MycoCosm cluster tool. This will enable us to compare the presence genes containing this domain across a closely related group. Navigate to mycocosm.jgi.doe.gov and search for *Fusarium solani*. Select Fusarium solani FSSC 5 v1.0, then click on the MCL clusters option at the top of the page. Search for the protein domain we identified, SnoaL_4.



I. For the first cluster, 4,213, which species is missing any hits?

Answer: There is no 'donut' in the first row for the species Fusox2. Hover over the name or look at the list below the table to see what this species/assembly full name is, it is *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. lycopersici 4287 v2 ExternalModels.



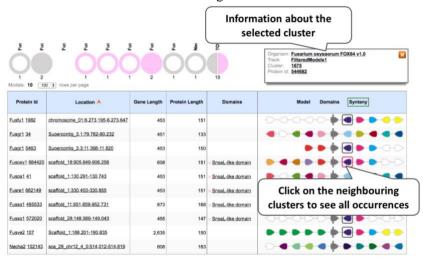
II. Click on the link for the domain (4213) to explore in more detail. We can see from the donut plots that only 4 species contain this SnoaL-like domain.

Answer: The pink colour corresponds to the SnoaL-like domain.

III. Which species have the most similar protein lengths, and contain the SnoaL-like domain?

Protein Id	Location 🙏	Gene Length	Protein Length	Domains	Model Domains Synteny		
Fusfu1 1982	chromosome_01:6,273,195-6,273,647	453	151		453		
Fusgr1 34	Supercontig_3.1:79,782-80,232	451	133		92 310		
Fusgr1 5463	Supercontig_3.3:11,368-11,820	453	150		453		
Fusoxy1 684420	scaffold_18:905.649-906,256	608	151	SnoaL-like domain	18 530	These three	
Fusps1 41	scaffold_1:130,291-130,743	453	151	 SnoaL-like domain 	453	have the same	
Fusre1 682149	scaffold_1:330,403-330,855	453	151	SnoaL-like domain	453	protein length	
Fusso1 495533	scaffold_11:951,859-952,731	873	168	 SnoaL-like domain 	873	_	
Fusso1 572020	scaffold_28:148,589-149,043	455	147	SnoaL-like domain	455		
Fusve2 107	Scaffold_1:188,201-190,835	2,635	150		98 2,474 ———————————————————————————————————		
Necha2 102143	sca_29_chr12_4_0:514,012-514,819	808	183		566 68		

- k) Click on Synteny in the final column.
 - I. Are the clusters around this conserved between these species? Click on them to highlight the occurrence in the image.



II. Which other species has the most similar synteny to *Fusarium solani* (Fusso1) protein 495533? Why do you think this is?

Answer: *Nectria haematococca* v2.0 FilteredModels1. We know this to be the sexual form of F. *solani* so this is expected.