

Gene **araC** (RDBECOLIGNC00050)

## Gene Information

**Name:** araC  
**Synonyms:** [EG10054]  
**Bnumber:** b0064  
**Position:** 70387 -> 71265  
**Size:** 878 bp  
**Strand:** forward  
**gc content:** 52.55972696245734%  
**Centisome Position:** 1.5164213

## multifunTerms

- 1 - metabolism --> 1.1 - carbon utilization --> 1.1.1 - carbon compounds
- 2 - information transfer --> 2.2 - RNA related --> 2.2.2 - Transcription related
- 3 - regulation --> 3.1 - type of regulation --> 3.1.2 - transcriptional level --> 3.1.2.2 - activator
- 3 - regulation --> 3.1 - type of regulation --> 3.1.2 - transcriptional level --> 3.1.2.3 - repressor
- 3 - regulation --> 3.3 - genetic unit regulated --> 3.3.1 - operon

## External Cross References

[STRING](#) [ECOLIHUB](#) [ASAP](#) [ECHOBASE](#) [OU-MICROARRAY](#) [CGSC](#) [ECOCYC](#) [REFSEQ](#)

## Sequence:

ATGGCTGAAGCGCAAAATGATCCCCTGCTGCCGGGATACTCGTTTAAACGCCCATCTGGTGGCGGGTTTAAACGCCGATTGAGGCCAACGGTTATCTCGATTTTTTATCGACCGACCGCT  
 GGAATGAAAGGTTATATTCTCAATCTCACCATTTCGCGGTGAGGGGGTGGTAAAAATCAGGGACGAGAATTTGTCTGCCGACCGGGTGATATTTGTCTGCCCGCCAGGAGAGATT  
 ATCACTACGGTCGTCATCCGGAGGCTCGCGAATGGTATCACCAGTGGGTTTACTTTTCGTCGCGCGCCTACTGGCATGAATGGCTTAACCTGGCCGTCAATATTTGCCAATACGGGTTTC  
 TTTTCGCCCGGATGAAGCGCACCAAGCCGCAATTTCAAGCGACCTGTTTGGGCAAAATCATTAAACGCCGGGCAAGGGGAAGGGCGCTATTCCGAGCTGCTGGCGATAAATCTGCTTGAGCAATT  
 GTTACTGCGGCGCATGGAAGCGATTAAACGAGTCGCTCCATCCACCGATGGATAATCGGGTACGCGAGGCTTGTGAGTACATCAGCGATCACCTGGCAGACAGCAATTTTGATATCGCCA  
 GCGTCGCACAGCATGTTTGTGTCGCGCTCGCGTCTGTACATCTTTTCGCCAGCAGTTAGGGATTAGCGTCTTAAGCTGGCGCGAGGACCAACGCATTAGTCAGGCGAAGCTGCTT  
 TTGAGCACTACCGGATGCCTATCGCCACCGTCGCTCGCAATGTTGGTTTGACGATCAACTCTATTTCTCGCGAGTATTTAAAAATGACCGGGGCCAGCCCGAGCGAGTTTCGTGC  
 CGGTTGTGAAGAAAAAGTGAATGATGTAGCCGTCAAGTTGTCATAA

## Regulation Info

[ promoters: 1 | regulators: 5 | Regulatory Interaction: 2 ]

Operon **araC**

## Promoters Regulators Transcription Unit

None [] araC

## Regulators

Type	Function	Name
regulatoryComplex	repressor	XylR-Xylose DNA-binding transcriptional dual regulator
regulatoryComplex	activator	AraC-L-arabinose DNA-binding transcriptional activator
regulatoryComplex	activator	CRP-cAMP DNA-binding transcriptional dual regulator
regulatoryComplex	repressor	DNA-binding transcriptional dual regulator AraC
regulatoryComplex	repressor	AraC-L-arabinose DNA-binding transcriptional activator

## Products

## DNA-binding transcriptional dual regulator AraC

**anticodon:** None  
**cellularLocations** [cytosol]  
**isRegulator** None  
**isoelectricPoint** None  
**molecularWeight** 33.384  
**synonyms** [AraC]  
**type** None

## External Cross References

[INTERPRO](#) [PFAM](#) [PRIDE](#) [DIP](#) [PDB](#) [SMR](#) [SMART](#) [PROSITE](#) [PRINTS](#) [PRODB](#) [ECOLIWI](#) [MODBASE](#) [UNIPROT](#) [REFSEQ](#) [ECOCYC](#)

## Notes

The "arabinose regulator," AraC, is a transcription factor that regulates transcription of several genes and operons involved in arabinose catabolism and transport. It coregulates with another transcriptional regulator, CRP; both are transcription factors involved in l-arabinose degradation. These regulators bind cooperatively to activate transcription of five operons related to transport, catabolism, and autoregulation of l-arabinose. Transcription of these operons is induced when *E. coli* is grown in the absence of glucose and when the physiological inducer, l-arabinose, binds to the AraC regulator. In the absence of glucose, cellular cyclic AMP levels are high and cyclic AMP forms a dimeric complex with CRP to coregulate with AraC [14] Hofmann K et al.1997 [23] Reeder T et al.1991 [10] Schleif R et al.1983 [8] Flaherty C et al.1992 [12] Schleif RF et al.1998 [1] Hendrickson W et al.1990 [4] Wilcox G et al.1984. AraC binds to five target sites in the *araBp* region. AraC binds to the less-conserved site (-42.5) with less strength; this binding occurs only in the presence of arabinose, and it is absolutely required for expression of *araBp* [13] Lobell RB et al.1990 [17] Hamilton EP et al.1988 [19] Francklyn C et al.1987 [16] Huo L et al.1986 [24] Carra JH et al.1993. AraC binding to the distal site (-123.5) has been shown to down-regulate expression of *araBp* and *araCp* [20] Huo L et al.1992 [17] Hamilton EP et al.1988. In the absence of arabinose, AraC is unable to activate *araBp*, but it regulates its own expression by repressing *araCp* and *araBp* simultaneously [13] Lobell RB et al.1990 [17] Hamilton EP et al.1988 [16] Huo L et al.1986. Arabinose triggers AraC-dependent activation of *araBp* and relieves AraC-dependent repression of *araCp* [17] Hamilton EP et al.1988 [16] Huo L et al.1986. The *araBAD* operon is located upstream of *araC* and in the opposite direction. In the presence of arabinose, this regulator activates transcription by overlapping the -35 box of the core promoters, and the central position of the binding site is located near bp -41.5. The binding targets for AraC consist of 17-nucleotide-long direct repeat sequences that possess conserved motifs; each monomer binds to one of these conserved sequences [14] Hofmann K et al.1997 [18] Huhne R et al.1996. Studies by A. Tischer et al. suggest that when arabinose binds AraC, a helix-capping motif is formed at the dimerization domain in a region close to the interdomain linker [15] Auton M et al.2019. This capping motif appears to induce destabilization of the amide hydrogen-bonded structure of two residues in the linker, which could allow the optimum quaternary rearrangement of the DNA-binding domain that leads to an inducing state of AraC [15] Auton M et al.2019. The AraC regulator belongs to the AraC/XylS family and occurs as both a monomer and a homodimer. It is composed of two domains. The solution structure of the C-terminal DNA-binding domain has been solved. It consists of two helix-turn-helix regions connected by an  $\alpha$ -helix [5] Rodgers ME et al.2009. The N-terminal domain is responsible for dimerization and L-arabinose binding [14] Hofmann K et al.1997 [3] Ramos JL et al.1993. A new domain, between the dimerization domain and DNA-binding domains of the dimeric AraC protein, facilitates repression of the *araBAD* operon by AraC in the absence of arabinose [11] Cole SD et al.2012. Its crystal structure [6] Wolberger C et al.1997 [9] Wolberger C et al.1997 | reveals that the sugar molecule is bound within a  $\beta$ -barrel, buried by the N-terminal arm of the protein. It has been suggested that this N-terminal arm plays a key role in the regulation of the arabinose-dependent DNA-binding properties of the protein. In the absence of arabinose it interacts with the DNA-binding domain and constrains this domain, and it releases it in the presence of arabinose [9] Wolberger C et al.1997 [21] Dirla S et al.2009. This interaction appears to be affected by a mutation in the interdomain linker [7] Seedorff J et al.2011. On the other hand, the function of AraC is largely unaffected by several other mutations in the interdomain linker [22] Schleif RF et al.2016.

## Sequence

MAEAQNPDLLPGYSFNAHLVAGLTPIEANGYLDFFIDRPLGMKGYILNLTIRGQGVVKNQGREFVCRPGDILLFPPGEIHHYGRHPEAREWYHQWVYFRPRAYWHEWLNWPSI  
FANTGFFRPDEAHQPHFSDLFGQIINAGQGEGRYSELLAINLLEQLLLRRMEAINESLHPPMDNRVREACQYISDHLADSNFDIASVAQHVCCLSPSRLSHLFRQQLGISVLSW  
REDQRISQAKLLLSSTRMPIATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCTGASPSSEFRAGCEEKVNDAVKLS

## Gene Ontology Terms

## Biological Process

GO:0005975 - carbohydrate metabolic process [25] UniProt-GOA et al.2012 [ICWHO]  
GO:0006355 - regulation of transcription, DNA-templated [26] GOA et al.2001 [ICWHO]  
GO:0019568 - arabinose catabolic process [27] Englesberg E et al.1959 [IMP] [25] UniProt-GOA et al.2012 [ICWHO]  
GO:0045892 - negative regulation of transcription, DNA-templated [28] GOA curators et al.2016 [ICWHO]

## Cellular Component

GO:0005737 - cytoplasm [25] UniProt-GOA et al.2012 [ICWHO] [29] UniProt-GOA et al.2012 [ICWHO]  
GO:0005829 - cytosol [30] Mann M et al.2008 [IDA] [31] Babu M et al.2009 [ICWHO]  
GO:0032993 - protein-DNA complex [32] Wade JT et al.2014 [IMP]

## Molecular Function

GO:0000976 - transcription cis-regulatory region binding [32] Wade JT et al.2014 [IMP]  
GO:0001217 - DNA-binding transcription repressor activity [32] Wade JT et al.2014 [IMP]  
GO:0003677 - DNA binding [25] UniProt-GOA et al.2012 [ICWHO]  
GO:0003700 - DNA-binding transcription factor activity [26] GOA et al.2001 [ICWHO]  
GO:0005515 - protein binding [33] Mosca R et al.2014 [IPI]  
GO:0042802 - identical protein binding [33] Mosca R et al.2014 [IPI] [9] Wolberger C et al.1997  
GO:0043565 - sequence-specific DNA binding [26] GOA et al.2001 [ICWHO]

## Motifs

**Type:** Sequence-Conflict **Source:** UniProt 2015-08

**Position:** 7 - 7

**sequence:**

D

**Note:** None

**Type:** Conserved-Region **Source:** UniProt 2019-08

**Position:** 180 - 279

**sequence:**

EACQYISDHLADSNFDIASVAQHVCCLSPSRLSHLFRQQLGISVLSWREDQRISQAKLLSTTRMPIATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCTGASPSEFRAG

Note: None

**Type:** DNA-Binding-Region **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** 198 - 219**sequence:**

SVAQHVCCLSPSRLSHLFRQQL

Note: None

**Type:** DNA-Binding-Region **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** 246 - 269**sequence:**

ATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCT

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** None - None**sequence:**

P

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** None - None**sequence:**

T

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** None - None**sequence:**

R

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** None - None**sequence:**

Y

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** None - None**sequence:**

H

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** 31 - 31**sequence:**

Y

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08**Position:** 209 - 209**sequence:**

S

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08

**Position:** 213 - 213

**sequence:**

H

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08

**Position:** 213 - 213

**sequence:**

H

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08

**Position:** 257 - 257

**sequence:**

D

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08

**Position:** 258 - 258

**sequence:**

Q

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2019-08

**Position:** 262 - 262

**sequence:**

S

Note: None

**Type:** Pfam-Feature **Source:** Pfam 33.1

**Position:** 200 - 278

**sequence:**

AQHVCCLSPSRLSHLFRQQLGISVLSWREDQRISQAKLLSTTRMPIATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCTGASPSEFRA

Note: None

**Type:** Pfam-Feature **Source:** Pfam 33.1

**Position:** 23 - 160

**sequence:**

TPIEANGYLDFFIDRPLGMKGYYILNLTIRGQGVKNQGREFVCRPGDILLFPPGEIHHYGRHPEAREWYHQWYFRPRAYWHEWLNWPSIFANTGFFRPDEAHQPHFSDLFGQ  
IINAGQGEGRYSELLAINLLEQLL

Note: None

**Type:** Conserved-Region **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 180 - 279

**sequence:**

EACQYISDHLADSNFDIASVAQHVCCLSPSRLSHLFRQQLGISVLSWREDQRISQAKLLSTTRMPIATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCTGASPSEFRAG

Note: None

**Type:** DNA-Binding-Region **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 198 - 219

**sequence:**

SVAQHVCCLSPSRLSHLFRQQL

Note: None

**Type:** DNA-Binding-Region **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 246 - 269

**sequence:**

ATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCT

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** None - None

**sequence:**

P

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** None - None

**sequence:**

T

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** None - None

**sequence:**

R

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** None - None

**sequence:**

Y

Note: None

**Type:** Amino-Acid-Sites-That-Bind **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** None - None

**sequence:**

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Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 31 - 31

**sequence:**

Y

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 209 - 209

**sequence:**

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Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 213 - 213

**sequence:**

H

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 213 - 213

**sequence:**

H

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 257 - 257

**sequence:**

D

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 258 - 258

**sequence:**

Q

Note: None

**Type:** Mutagenesis-Variant **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 262 - 262

**sequence:**

S

Note: None

**Type:** Sequence-Conflict **Source:** UniProt 2021-03

**Position:** 7 - 7

**sequence:**

D

Note: None

**Type:** Pfam PF12833 **Source:** Pfam 35.0

**Position:** 201 - 278

**sequence:**

QHVLSPSRLSHLFRQQLGISVLSWREDQRISQAKLLSTTRMPIATVGRNVGFDDQLYFSRVFKKCTGASPSEFRA

Note: None

**Type:** Pfam PF02311 **Source:** Pfam 35.0

**Position:** 23 - 160

**sequence:**

TPIEANGYLDFIDRPLGMKGYYLNLITRGQGVKNQGREFVCRPGDILLFPPGEIHHYGRHPEAREWYHQWVYFRPRAYWHEWLNWPSIFANTGFFRPDEAHQPHFSDLFGQ  
IINAGQGEGRYSELLAINLLEQLL

Note: None

## Citations

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