BGGN-213: FOUNDATIONS OF BIOINFORMATICS

The find-a-gene project assignment

http://thegrantlab.org/bggn213/ Dr. Barry Grant

Overview:

The find-a-gene project is a required assignment for BGGN-213. You should prepare a written report in PDF format that has responses to each question labeled [Q1] - [Q10] below. You may wish to consult the scoring rubric at the end of this document and the example report provided online.

The objective with this assignment is for you to demonstrate your grasp of database searching, sequence analysis, structure analysis and the R environment that we have covered in class.

Due Date:

Your responses to questions Q1-Q4 are due at the beginning of Week 5. Note that these answers can be obtained very quickly (at best within 10 or 15 minutes), so if you don't succeed at first, just keep trying.

The complete assignment, including responses to all questions, is due at the beginning of <u>Week 10</u>. Late responses will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Submission instructions:

Submit your PDF document to GradeScope as directed on our class website. Please do make sure your document is in PDF format and named something like BGGN213_F20_[yourUCSDname].pdffor example, my document would be named BGGN213_F20_bjgrant.pdf

Be sure to include your UCSD email and PID number on the first page of your report.

nsasse@ucsd.edu A59006574

Submit your preliminary report with answers to Q1-Q4 at the beginning of week 5 so we can determine if you have found a novel gene. Submit this preliminary report as one document with screen shots of the results inserted appropriately.

See the demonstration report linked to on the course website for an example of format. I will email you my decision; proceed with subsequent questions only after we are sure you have found a novel gene.

For the final report add your results for Q5-Q10 to the preliminary report and submit a final document containing the results for all questions. <u>Please do not submit only Q5-Q10 answers as the final report</u>.

Questions:

[Q1] Tell me the name of a protein you are interested in. Include the species and the accession number. This can be a human protein or a protein from any other species as long as it's function is known.

If you do not have a favorite protein, select human RBP4 or KIF11. Do not use beta globin as this is in the worked example report that I provide you with online.

Name: corticotropin releasing hormone receptor 1 (CRHR1)

Accession: XP_038482545

Species: Canis lupus familiaris (dog)

[Q2] Perform a BLAST search against a DNA database, such as a database consisting of genomic DNA or ESTs. The BLAST server can be at NCBI or elsewhere. Include details of the BLAST method used, database searched, and any limits applied (e.g. Organism).

Method: TBLASTN

Database: Expressed sequence tags (est)

Organism: yellow perch

Also include the output of that BLAST search in your document. If appropriate, change the font to Courier size 10so that the results are displayed neatly. You can also screen capture a BLAST output (e.g. alt print screen on a PC or on a MAC press \mathbb{H}-shift-4. The pointer becomes a bulls eye. Select the area you wish to capture and release. The image is saved as a file called Screen Shot [].pngin your Desktop directory). It is not necessary to print out all the blast results if there are many pages.

On the BLAST results, clearly indicate a match that represents a protein sequence, encoded from some DNA sequence, that is homologous to your query protein. I need to be able to inspect the pairwise alignment you have selected, including the E value and score. It should be labeled a "genomic clone" or "mRNA sequence", etc. - but include no functional annotation.

Chosen match: Accession GO574502.1, Yellow perch estrogen-stimulated brain library Perca flavescens cDNA, mRNA sequence.

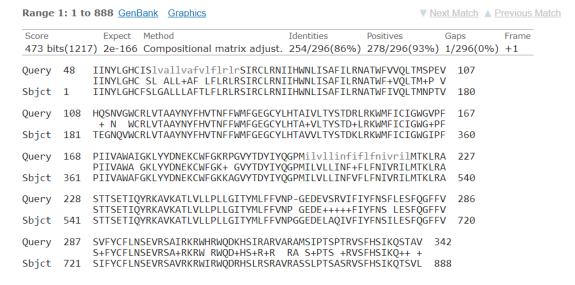
See below for alignment details

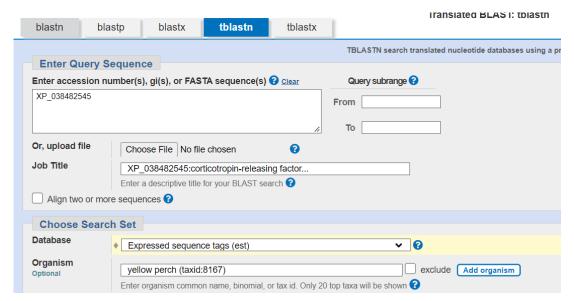
In general, [Q2] is the most difficult for students because it requires you to have a "feel" for how to interpret BLAST results. You need to distinguish between a perfect match to your query (i.e. a sequence that is not "novel"), a near match (something that might be "novel", depending on the results of [Q4]), and a non-homologous result. If you are having trouble finding a novel gene try restricting your search to an organism that is poorly annotated.



ypbe-18-A02 Yellow perch estrogen-stimulated brain library Perca flavescens cDNA, mRNA sequence

Sequence ID: GO574502.1 Length: 890 Number of Matches: 1





[Q3] Gather information about this "novel" <u>protein</u>. At a minimum, show me the protein sequence of the "novel" protein as displayed in your BLAST results from [Q2] as FASTA format (you can copy and paste the aligned sequence subject lines from your BLAST result page if necessary) or translate your novel DNA sequence using a tool called EMBOSS Transeq at the EBI. Don't forget to translate all six reading frames; the ORF (open reading frame) is likely to be the longest sequence without a stop codon. It may not start with a methionine if you don't have the complete coding region. Make sure the sequence you provide includes a header/subject line and is in traditional FASTA format.

> Yellow perch, GO574502.1 (from EMBOSS Transeq)

IINYLGHCFSLGALLLAFTLFLRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNATWFIVQLTMNPTV
TEGNQVWCRLVTAAYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLRKWMFICIGWGIPF
PIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKKAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFLFNIVRILMTKLRA
STTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDELAQIVFIYFNSILESFQGFFV
SIFYCFLNSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSLRSRAVRASSLPTSASRVSFHSIKQTSVLX

Here, tell me the name of the novel protein, and the species from which it derives. It is very unlikely (but still definitely possible) that you will find a novel gene from an organism such as S. cerevisiae, human or mouse, because those genomes have already been thoroughly annotated. It is more likely that you will discover a new gene in a genome that is currently being sequenced, such as bacteria or plants or protozoa.

Name: corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1

Species: Perca flavescens

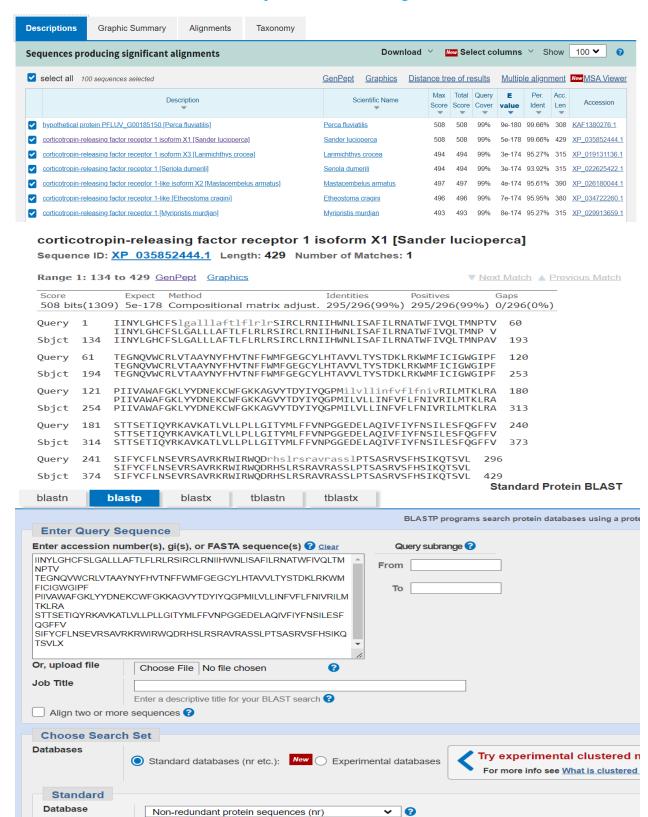
Eukaryota; Metazoa; Chordata; Craniata; Vertebrata; Euteleostomi; Actinopterygii; Neopterygii; Teleostei; Neoteleostei; Acanthomorphata; Eupercaria; Perciformes; Percoidei; Percidae; Percinae; Perca.

[Q4] Prove that this gene, and its corresponding protein, are novel. For the purposes of this project, "novel" is defined as follows. Take the protein sequence (your answer to [Q3]), and use it as a query in a blastp search of the nr database at NCBI.

- If there is a match with 100% amino acid identity to a protein in the database, from the same species, then your protein is NOT novel (even if the match is to a protein with a name such as "unknown"). Someone has already found and annotated this sequence, and assigned it an accession number.
- If the top match reported has less than 100% identity, then it is likely that your protein is novel, and you have succeeded.
- If there is a match with 100% identity, but to a different species than the one you started with, then you have likely succeeded in finding a novel gene.
- If there are no database matches to the original query from [Q1], this indicates that you have partially succeeded: yes, you may have found a new gene, but no, it is not actually homologous to the original query. You should probably start over.

A BLASTP search against NR database (see setup in first screen-shot below) yielded a top hit result is to a protein from Sander lucioperca (pike perch). Most of the results are bony fish.

See additional screen shots below for top hits and selected alignment details:



[Q5] Generate a multiple sequence alignment with your novel protein, your original query protein, and a group of other members of this family from different species. A typical number of proteins to use in a multiple sequence alignment for this assignment purpose is a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 20 - although the exact number is up to you. Include the multiple sequence alignment in your report. Use Courier font with a size appropriate to fit page width.

Side-note: Indicate your sequence in the alignment by choosing an appropriate name for each sequence in the input unaligned sequence file (i.e. edit the sequence file so that the species, or short common, names (rather than accession numbers) display in the output alignment and in the subsequent answers below). The goal in this step is to create an interesting an alignment for building a phylogenetic tree that illustrates species divergence.

Re-labeled sequences for alignment:

Original query protein:

>Yellow Perch: 16-433 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1-like isoform X3 [Perca flavescens]

Novel protein:

>Pike Perch: 1-429 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1 isoform X1 [Sander lucioperca]

MEKLLSQMMCVCLFLSGRVSPTQLTCETLILLSTNLTARTLVFLNQTFGVRNSSGVFCDLSVDGIGTCWPLSAAGQLISR

Other sequences for alignment:

>Chinese Perch: 4-432 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1 isoform X1 [Siniperca chuatsi]

MEKLLSQVVCVCVLLSGRVSPAELTCETLILLSTNLTARTLALLNQTFTISNTSGLYCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISR

>Damselfish: 3-430 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1-like isoform X2 [Acanthochromis polyacanthus]

 $\verb|RKVLSQVICVFVLLSGRVSPAELTCETLILLSTNLTARTLALLNQTFTISNSSGVYCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRP|$

>Flier cichlid: 5-432 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1-like [Archocentrus centrarchus]

RKLLSQIVFVCVVMSGRVSPAKLSCETLILLSTNFTARTLALLNQTFAISNSSGVYCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELVSRP

>Zig-zag eel: 3-430 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1-like isoform X1 [Mastacembelus armatus]

 $\tt RKILSQVVCVCVLLTGWVSPAELTCETLILLSTNLTARTLALLNQTLTVSNTSGLYCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRP$

>Lawnmower blenny: 4-430 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1-like [Salarias fasciatus]

KLLSOLLCVCVLLSGAASAAELTCETLILLSTNLTARLLVLLNOTFTISNSSGLFCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELVSRPC

>Banded archerfish:6-433 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1 isoform X1 [Toxotes jaculatrix]

RKLLSQVVCVCVLLTGRVCPVELTCETLILLSTNLTAKTLALLNQTFTISNTSGMYCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRP

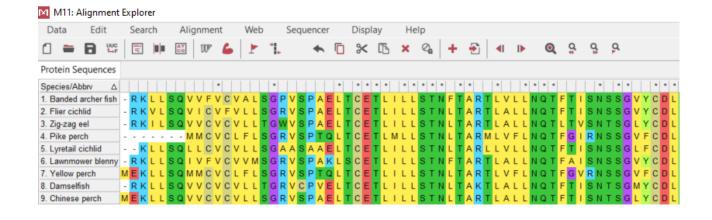
>Lyretail cichlid: 3-430 corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 1 [Neolamprologus brichardi]

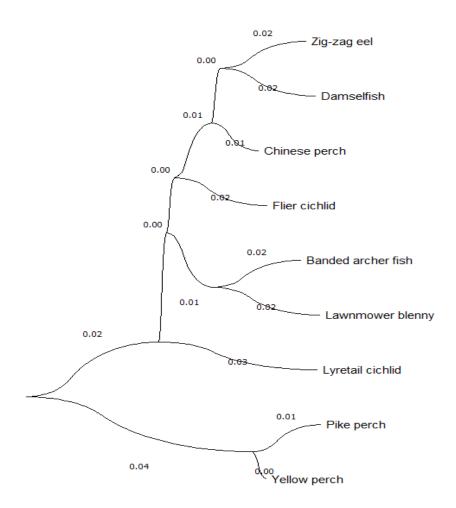
 $\verb|RKLLSQVVFVCVALSGPVSPAELTCETLILLSTNFTARTLVLLNQTFTISNSSGVYCDLSVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELVSRP|$

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Yellow perch: MEKLLSQMMCVCLFLSGRVSPTQLTCETLILLSTNLTARTLVFLNQTFGVRNSSGVFCDL
             -----MMCVCLFLSGRVSPTQLTCETLMLLSTNLTARMLVFLNQTFGIRNSSGVFCDL
Pike perch:
Chinese perch: MEKLLSQVVCVCVLLSGRVSPAELTCETLILLSTNLTARTLALLNQTFTISNTSGLYCDL
Damselfish:
             -RKLLSQVVCVCVLLTGRVCPVELTCETLILLSTNLTAKTLALLNQTFTISNTSGMYCDL
Flier cichlid: -RKVLSOVICVFVLLSGRVSPAELTCETLILLSTNLTARTLALLNOTFTISNSSGVYCDL
Zig-zag eel:
              -RKILSQVVCVCVLLTGWVSPAELTCETLILLSTNLTARTLALLNQTLTVSNTSGLYCDL
             -RKLLSQIVFVCVVMSGRVSPAKLSCETLILLSTNFTARTLALLNQTFAISNSSGVYCDL
Lawnmower:
Banded archer: -RKLLSQVVFVCVALSGPVSPAELTCETLILLSTNFTARTLVLLNQTFTISNSSGVYCDL
Lyretail:
             --KLLSQLLCVCVLLSGAASAAELTCETLILLSTNLTARLLVLLNQTFTISNSSGLFCDL
                      :: * : ::* ....:*:*****:** * ::****: : *:***
XP 035852444.1: SVDGIGTCWPLSAAGQLISRPCPEQFNGIHYNTSNRVFRECQTNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 028454502.1: SVDGIGTCWPLSAAGQLISRPCPEQFNGIHYNTSNRVFRECQTNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 044037885.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRPCPEQFNGIHYNTTNRVYRECQSNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 040917920.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRPCPEQFNGIHYNTTNRVYRECQSNGSWALRGNYSQCTEII
XP 022067791.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRPCPEQFNGIHYNTTNRVFRECLSNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 026180043.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELISRPCPEQFNGIHYNTSNRVYRECQFNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 030591515.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELVSRPCPEQFNGIHYNTTNRVYRECQVNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 006805303.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELVSRPCPEQFNGIHYNTTNRVYRECQVNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
XP 029944739.1: SVDGIGTCWPRSAAGELVSRPCPEQFNGIHYNTTNRVYRDCQSNGSWAPRGNYSQCTEII
               XP 035852444.1: VMRKSKLHYQVAVIINYLGHCFSLGALLLAFTLFLRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 028454502.1: IMRKTKLHYQVAVIINYLGHCFSLGALLLAFTLFLRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 044037885.1: VLRKSKVHYQVAVIINYLGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 040917920.1: VLRKSKVHYQVAVIINYLGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 022067791.1: ILRKSKVHYHVAVIINYLGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 026180043.1: VLRKSKVHYQVAVIINYLGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 030591515.1: ILRKSKVHYQVAVIINYMGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 006805303.1: VLRKSKVHYQVAVIINYLGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
XP 029944739.1: VMRKSKVHYHVAVIINYLGHCISLGALLLAFTLFMRLRSIRCLRNIIHWNLISAFILRNA
               XP 035852444.1: TWFIVQLTMNPAVTEGNQVWCRLVTAAYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 028454502.1: TWFIVQLTMNPTVTEGNQVWCRLVTAAYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 044037885.1: TWFIVQLTMTSAVTESNQVWCRLVTAGYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 040917920.1: TWFIVQLTMTPAVTESNQVWCRLVTAAYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 022067791.1: TWFIVQLTMNPAVTESNQVWCRLVTAGYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAIVLTYSTDKLR
XP 026180043.1: TWFIVQLTMNPAVTESNQVWCRLVTAAYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 030591515.1: TWFIVQLTMNPAVTESNQVWCRLVTAGYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 006805303.1: TWFIVQLTMNPAVTERNQVWCRLVTAGYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
XP 029944739.1: TWFIVQLTMNPAVTESNQVWCRLVTAGYNYFHVTNFFWMFGEGCYLHTAVVLTYSTDKLR
               *********************************
XP 035852444.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKKAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 028454502.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKKAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 044037885.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 040917920.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 022067791.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 026180043.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 030591515.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
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XP 006805303.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
XP 029944739.1: KWMFICIGWGIPFPIIVAWAFGKLYYDNEKCWFGKRAGVYTDYIYQGPMILVLLINFVFL
               ****************
XP 035852444.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDELAQIVFIY
XP 028454502.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDELAQIVFIY
XP 044037885.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIOYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVAOIVFIY
XP 040917920.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVAQIVFIY
XP 022067791.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVAQIVFIY
XP 026180043.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVAQIVFIY
XP 030591515.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVAQIVFIY
XP 006805303.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVARIVFIY
XP 029944739.1: FNIVRILMTKLRASTTSETIQYRKAVKATLVLLPLLGITYMLFFVNPGGEDEVSQIVFIY
XP 035852444.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSIFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSLRSRAVRASSLPTSASRVS
XP 028454502.1: FNSILESFQGFFV-----FLNNSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSLRSRAVRASSLPTSASRVS
XP 044037885.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSFRSRAVRATSLPTSPSRVS
XP 040917920.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSIRSRTVRATSLPTSPSRVS
XP 022067791.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSIRSRAVRATSLPTSPSRVS
XP 026180043.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAARKRWIRWQDRHSIRSRAVRATSLPTSPSRVS
XP 030591515.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSIRSRAVRATSLPTSPSRVS
XP 006805303.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSIRSRVIRATSLPTSPSRVS
XP 029944739.1: FNSILESFQGFFVSVFYCFL-NSEVRSAVRKRWIRWQDRHSIRSRTVRATSLPTSPSRVS
                                 ** ****** ********** *** ***
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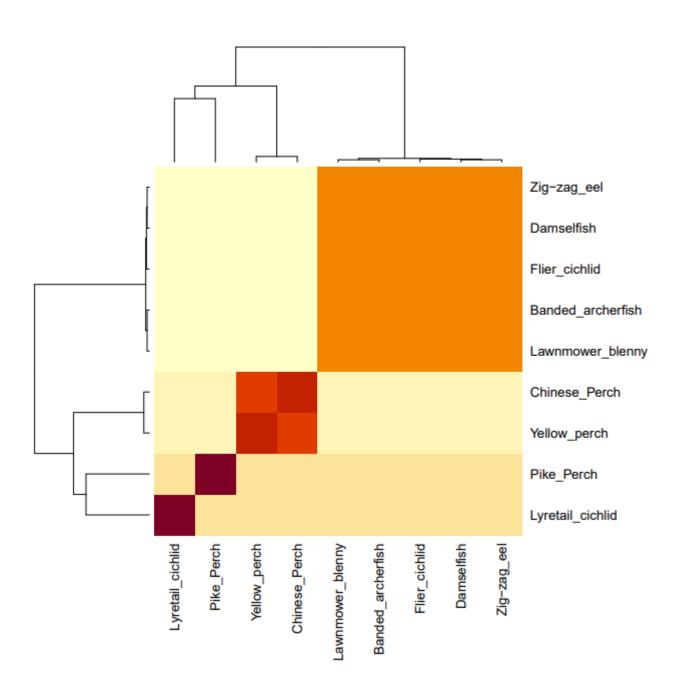
[Q6] Create a phylogenetic tree, using either a parsimony or distance-based approach. Bootstrapping and tree rooting are optional. Use "simple phylogeny" online from the EBI or any respected phylogeny program (such as MEGA, PAUP, or Phylip). Paste an image of your Cladogram or tree output in your report.





0.01

[Q7] Generate a sequence identity based **heatmap** of your aligned sequences using R. If necessary, convert your sequence alignment to the ubiquitous FASTA format (Seaview can read in clustal format and "Save as" FASTA format for example). Read this FASTA format alignment into R with the help of functions in the **Bio3D package**. Calculate a sequence identity matrix (again using a function within the Bio3D package). Then generate a heatmap plot and add to your report. Do make sure your labels are visible and not cut at the figure margins.



[Q8] Using R/Bio3D (or an online blast server if you prefer), search the main protein structure database for the most similar atomic resolution structures to your aligned sequences.

List the top 3 *unique* hits (i.e. not hits representing different chains from the same structure) along with their Evalue and sequence identity to your query. Please also add annotation details of these structures. For example include the annotation terms PDB identifier (structureId), Method used to solve the structure (experimentalTechnique), resolution (resolution), and source organism (source).

HINT: You can use a single sequence from your alignment or generate a consensus sequence from your alignment using the Bio3D function consensus(). The Bio3D functions blast.pdb(), plot.blast() and pdb.annotate() are likely to be of most relevance for completing this task. Note that the results of blast.pdb() contain the hits PDB identifier (or pdb.id) as well as Evalue and identity. The results of pdb.annotate() contain the other annotation terms noted above.

Note that if your consensus sequence has lots of gap positions then it will be better to use an original sequence from the alignment for your search of the PDB. In this case you could chose the sequence with the highest identity to all others in your alignment by calculating the row-wise maximum from your sequence identity matrix.

ID	Technique	Resolution	Source	E-value	Identity
6P9X	Electron microscopy	2.910	Homo sapiens	4.9123 e-205	80%
6PB0	Electron microscopy	3.000	Homo sapiens	1.302 e-198	81%
4Z9G	X-ray diffraction	3.183	Entero- bacteria	7.816 e-121	53%

[Q9] Generate a molecular figure of one of your identified PDB structures using **VMD**. You can optionally highlight conserved residues that are likely to be functional. Please use a white or transparent background for your figure (i.e. not the default black).

Based on sequence similarity. How likely is this structure to be similar to your "novel" protein?

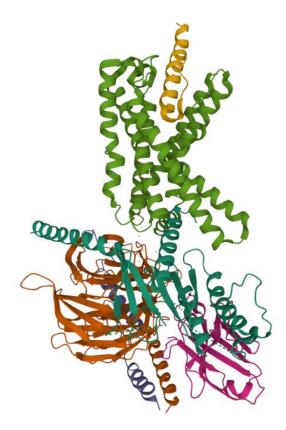


Figure 1: 6P9X

[Q10] Perform a "Target" search of ChEMBEL (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/chembl/) with your novel sequence. Are there any Target Associated Assays and ligand efficiency data reported that may be useful starting points for exploring potential inhibition of your novel protein?

CHEMBL details 6 Functional Assays for CHEMBL613089; No ligand efficiency data.

https://www.ebi.ac.uk/chembl/target_report_card/CHEMBL613089/

Name And Classification

ID:	CHEMBL613089
Туре:	ORGANISM
Preferred Name:	Mycobacterium flavescens
Synonyms:	
Organism:	Mycobacterium flavescens
Species Group:	No
Protein Target Classification:	Not Applicable