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## 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.

**KIF11** (kinesin family member 11)  
**Accession number:** NP\_004514  
**Species:** Homo sapiens

**[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 search against Fungi ESTs  
**Database:** Expressed sequence tag (est)  
**Organism:** Fungi (taxid:4751)

Translated BLAST: tblastn

blastn | blastp | blastx | **tblastn** | tblastx

TBLASTN search translated nucleotide databases using a protein query. [more...](#) [Reset page](#) [Bookmark](#)

**Enter Query Sequence**

Enter accession number(s), gi(s), or FASTA sequence(s) [?](#) [Clear](#)

NP\_004514.2

Query subrange [?](#)

From

To

Or, upload file  no file selected [?](#)

Job Title

Enter a descriptive title for your BLAST search [?](#)

☐ Align two or more sequences [?](#)

**Choose Search Set**

Database  [?](#)

Organism  ☐ exclude [?](#)

Enter organism common name, binomial, or tax id. Only 20 top taxa will be shown [?](#)

Exclude ☐ Models (XM/XP) ☐ Uncultured/environmental sample sequences

Limit to ☐ Sequences from type material

Entrez Query  [YouTube](#) [Create custom database](#)

Enter an Entrez query to limit search [?](#)

**BLAST** Search database **est** using **Tblastn** (search translated nucleotide databases using a protein query)

☒ Show results in a new window

**BLAST results will be displayed in a new format by default**  
You can always switch back to the Traditional Results page. [New](#)

Also include the output of that BLAST search in your document. If appropriate, change the font to Courier size 10 so 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 ⌘-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 [ ] .png in your Desktop directory). It is **not** necessary to print out all of the blast results if there are many pages.

**Chosen match:** Accession DV760029.1, 849 base pairs cDNA clone from *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*.

select all 100 sequences selected		GenBank					Graphics
	Description	Max Score	Total Score	Query Cover	E value	Per. Ident	Accession
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">EST786001 Coccidioides posadasii saprobic phase cDNA library, greater than 4kb Coccidioides posadasii cDNA clone CIBBJ47 5' end, mRNA sequ</a>	248	248	22%	2e-73	52.94%	<a href="#">CO015619.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">PchrSEQ9845 Phanerochaete chrysosporium pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Phanerochaete chrysosporium cDNA clone PchrSEQ9845, mRNA sequen</a>	246	246	23%	2e-72	53.78%	<a href="#">DV760029.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">G873P58FD23.T0 C. posadasii Silveira, 24HR SPHERULE NORMALIZED Coccidioides posadasii cDNA, mRNA sequence</a>	237	237	23%	1e-69	51.01%	<a href="#">GH414355.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CCHU13341.b1 CCHU Glomus intraradices germinated spores on water agar 3 days Rhizophagus intraradices cDNA clone CCHU13341 5', mRNA</a>	228	228	24%	3e-66	49.42%	<a href="#">GW112992.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CBW015429.b1 CBWO Melampsora larici-populina germinated and ungerminated urediniospores (H) Melampsora larici-populina cDNA clone CBW</a>	215	215	24%	2e-61	45.66%	<a href="#">GR790348.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">EST786841 Coccidioides posadasii saprobic phase cDNA library, greater than 4kb Coccidioides posadasii cDNA clone CIBBO56 3' end, mRNA seq</a>	205	205	28%	1e-57	40.89%	<a href="#">CO016459.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">HMA050014.T3_E07_055 GLEST05 Ganoderma lucidum cDNA 3', mRNA sequence</a>	198	198	26%	2e-55	42.60%	<a href="#">HO746710.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">TianSEQ14201 Thermomyces lanuginosa pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Thermomyces lanuginosus cDNA clone TianSEQ14201, mRNA sequence</a>	197	197	24%	3e-55	44.06%	<a href="#">EB066279.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">FM240253 Library 8 Zymoseptoria tritici cDNA clone 25206, mRNA sequence</a>	192	192	14%	1e-53	62.09%	<a href="#">FM240253.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CeleSEQ13238 Cunninghamella elegans pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Cunninghamella elegans cDNA clone CeleSEQ13238, mRNA sequence</a>	187	187	23%	6e-52	44.84%	<a href="#">DY893802.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CCAHK46TR C.neoformans strain JEC21 Cryptococcus neoformans var. neoformans cDNA clone CCAHK46, mRNA sequence</a>	184	184	24%	4e-50	40.15%	<a href="#">CF694261.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">CCADB58TR C.neoformans strain JEC21 Cryptococcus neoformans var. neoformans cDNA clone CCADB58, mRNA sequence</a>	184	184	24%	4e-50	40.15%	<a href="#">CF711531.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">G873P58RD23.T0 C. posadasii Silveira, 24HR SPHERULE NORMALIZED Coccidioides posadasii cDNA, mRNA sequence</a>	182	182	24%	7e-50	39.34%	<a href="#">GH414356.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">EST793475 Coccidioides posadasii spherule cDNA library, 0.4 to 2.3 kb Coccidioides posadasii cDNA clone CIEAN39 3' end, mRNA sequence</a>	182	182	25%	1e-49	39.86%	<a href="#">CO005140.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">EST694586 Coccidioides posadasii saprobic phase cDNA library, greater than 4kb Coccidioides posadasii cDNA clone CIBAX21 3' end, mRNA sequ</a>	182	182	24%	2e-49	39.85%	<a href="#">CF817204.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">ApulSEQ15914 Aureobasidium pullulans pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Aureobasidium pullulans cDNA clone ApulSEQ15914, mRNA sequence</a>	177	177	20%	1e-48	46.22%	<a href="#">DY862005.1</a>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">FP399961 Tuber melanosporum mycelium Tuber melanosporum cDNA clone SY0AAA27YG16 5', mRNA sequence</a>	177	177	19%	2e-48	47.37%	<a href="#">FP399961.1</a>

**PchrSEQ9845 Phanerochaete chrysosporium pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Phanerochaete chrysosporium cDNA clone PchrSEQ9845, mRNA sequence**

Sequence ID: [DV760029.1](#) Length: **849** Number of Matches: **1**

Range 1: 8 to 760 [GenBank](#) [Graphics](#) [Next Match](#) [Previous Match](#)

Score	Expect	Method	Identities	Positives	Gaps	Frame
246 bits(628)	2e-72	Compositional matrix adjust.	143/251(57%)	181/251(72%)	7/251(2%)	+2
Query	256	VKIGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAVDKRAREAGNINQSLTLGRVITALVERTPHVPYRESK				315
Sbjct	8	+++GKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGA DKRAREAG INQSLTLGRVI ALV+R+ HVPYRESK				187
Query	316	LTRLQDSLGGRTRTSIIATISPA <sup>slnleettstle</sup> YAHRAKNIILNKPEVNQKLTKKALI				375
Sbjct	188	LTR+LQDSLGGRT+T IIATISPA N+EETLSTL+YA RAK+I NKPEVNQ++T+ AL+				367
Query	376	KEYTEEIERLKRDLAAAREKNGVYISEENFRVMSGKLTVQEEQIVELIEKIGAVEEELNR				435
Sbjct	368	KEYVAEIERLKADVLAAAREKNGIFFSEERWQEMTAEQELKQTEMQAKKQVEIVESQLRN				547
Query	436	VTE-----LFMDNKNELDQCKSDLNKQTQELTTQKHLQETKLQLVKEEYITSALEST				488
Sbjct	548	VREEFEQSMALLMRDGLKETKERLQKKETELKATEGKLEVVKGALEEEVVVRQAYQEN				727
Query	489	EEKLHDAASKL 499				
Sbjct	728	ETVLDGVATGL 760				

PchrSEQ9845 Phanerochaete chrysosporium pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Phanerochaete chrysosporium cDNA clone PchrSEQ9845, mRNA sequence

Sequence ID: DV760029.1 Length: 849 Number of Matches: 1

Range 1: 8 to 760GenBankGraphicsNext MatchPrevious Match

Score	Expect	Method	Identities	Positives	Gaps	Frame
246 bits(628)	2e-72	Compositional matrix adjust.	143/251(57%)	181/251(72%)	7/251(2%)	+2
Query	256	VKIGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAVDKRAREAGNINQSLTLGRVITALVERTPHVPYRESK				315
		+++GKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGA DKRAREAG INQSLTLGRVI ALV+R+ HVPYRESK				
Sbjct	8	LRVGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAQDKRAREAGMINQSLTLGRVINALVDRSSHVPYRESK				187
Query	316	LTRILQDSLGGRTSIIATISPAslneetlstleyAHRAKNILNKPEVNQKLTKKALI				375
		LTR+LQDSLGGRT+T IIATISPA N+EETLSTL+YA RAK+I NKPEVNQ++T+ AL+				
Sbjct	188	LTRLQDSLGGRTKTCIIATISPARSNMEETLSTLDYAIRAKSIKNKPEVNQRMTRNALL				367
Query	376	KEYTEEIERLKRDLAAAREKNGVYISEENFRMSGKLTVQEEQIVELIEKIGAVEEELNR				435
		KEY EIERLK D+ AAREKNG++ SEE ++ M+ + +++ ++ E +++ VE +L				
Sbjct	368	KEYVAEIERLKADVLAAREKNGIFFSEERWQEMTAEQELKDTMQEAKKQVEIVESQLRN				547
Query	436	VTE-----LFMDNKNELDQCKSDLQNKQTQELETTQKHLQETKLQLVKEEYITSALEST				488
		V E L M EL + K LQ K EL+ T+ L+ K L +E + A +				
Sbjct	548	VREEFEQSMALLMRRDGELKETKERLQKKETELKATEGKLEVVKGALEEEVVVRQAYQEN				727
Query	489	EEKLHDAASKL 499				
		E L A+ L				
Sbjct	728	ETVLDGVATGL 760				

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.

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.

**[Q3]** Gather information about this “novel” **protein**. 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.

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.

```
>8-760_1 PchrSEQ9845 Phanerochaete chrysosporium pBluescript (EcoRI-XhoI) Phanerochaete  
chrysosporium cDNA clone PchrSEQ9845, mRNA sequence  
LRVGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAQDKRAREAGMINQSLTLGRVINALVDRSSHVPYRESK  
LTRLLQDSLGGRTKTCIATISPARSNMEETLSTLDYAIRAKSIKNKPEVNQRMTRNALL  
KEYVAEIERLKADVLAAREKNGIFFSEERWQEMTAEQELKDTQMKEAKKQVEIVESQLRN  
VREEFEQSMALLMRRDGELKETKERLQKKETELKATEGKLEVVKGALEEEVVVRQAYQEN  
ETVLDGVATGL
```

**Name:** *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*, hypothetical protein

**Species:** *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*

*Eukaryota; Fungi; Dikarya; Basidiomycota; Agaricomycotina;*

*Agaricomycetes; Polyporales; Phanerochaetaceae; Phanerochaete*

**[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.

### Blastp search against nr database:

blastn **blastp** blastx tblastn tblastx

Enter Query Sequence BLASTP programs search protein databases using a protein query. [more...](#)

Enter accession number(s), gi(s), or FASTA sequence(s) Clear Query subrange

LRVGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAQDKRAREAGMINQSLTLGRVINALVDRSSHVPYRESK  
LTRLQDSLGGRTKTCIATISPARSNMEETLSTLDYAIRAKSIKKNKPEVNRQMRNALL  
KEYVAEIERLKADVLAAREKNGIFFSEERWQEMTAEQELKDTQEMQEAQKQVEIVESQLRN  
VREEFEQSMALLMRRDGELKETKERLQKKETELKATEGKLEVVKGALEEEVVVRQAYQEN  
ETVLDGVATGL Go

Or, upload file Choose File no file selected +

Job Title Enter a descriptive title for your BLAST search

☐ Align two or more sequences +

Choose Search Set

Database Non-redundant protein sequences (nr) +

Organism Optional exclude +

Enter organism common name, binomial, or tax id. Only 20 top taxa will be shown. +

Exclude Optional ☐ Models (XM/XP) ☐ Non-redundant RefSeq proteins (WP) ☐ Uncultured/environmental sample sequences

Program Selection

Algorithm

☐ Quick BLASTP (Accelerated protein-protein BLAST)

☒ blastp (protein-protein BLAST)

☐ PSI-BLAST (Position-Specific Iterated BLAST)

☐ PHI-BLAST (Pattern Hit Initiated BLAST)

☐ DELTA-BLAST (Domain Enhanced Lookup Time Accelerated BLAST)

Choose a BLAST algorithm +

**BLAST** Search database nr using Blastp (protein-protein BLAST)

☒ Show results in a new window

The top result is a hypothetical protein from *Phanerochaete camosa* with identity 94.42%, some results indicate that this is a kinesin-domain-containing protein:

	Description	Max Score	Total Score	Query Cover	E value	Per. Ident	Accession
✓	hypothetical protein PHACADRAFT_173717 [Phanerochaete carnosae HHB-10118-sp]	483	483	100%	5e-161	94.42%	<a href="#">XP_007395896.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein PHLGIDRAFT_22804 [Phlebiopsis gigantea 11061_1 CR5-6]	467	467	100%	4e-155	91.24%	<a href="#">KIP09572.1</a>
✓	kinesin motor protein cin8 [Steccherinum ochraceum]	447	447	100%	1e-145	87.65%	<a href="#">TCD71883.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein EUX98_g250 [Antrodiaella citrinella]	446	446	100%	3e-145	86.45%	<a href="#">THH33841.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein EVJ58_g2903 [Fomitopsis rosea]	442	442	100%	9e-145	86.06%	<a href="#">TFY64019.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein SERLADRAFT_451502 [Serpula lacrymans var. lacrymans S7.9]	441	441	100%	1e-144	85.66%	<a href="#">XP_007321258.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein PHLZEN_2v10106 [Phlebia centrifuga]	444	444	100%	3e-144	85.66%	<a href="#">PSR74150.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein PAXINDRAFT_112407 [Paxillus involutus ATCC 200175]	442	442	100%	3e-144	85.26%	<a href="#">KIJ17421.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein SERLA73DRAFT_170393 [Serpula lacrymans var. lacrymans S7.3]	440	440	100%	3e-144	85.66%	<a href="#">EGN95950.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein HYDPIDRAFT_145382 [Hydnomerulius pinastris MD-312]	441	441	100%	1e-143	86.06%	<a href="#">KIJ69381.1</a>
✓	kinesin-domain-containing protein [Daedalea quercina L-15889]	440	440	100%	1e-143	86.06%	<a href="#">KZT67731.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein PAXRUDRAFT_825572 [Paxillus rubicundulus Ve08.2h10]	440	440	100%	2e-143	85.26%	<a href="#">KIK96808.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein PISMIDRAFT_670188 [Pisolithus microcarpus 441]	438	438	100%	8e-143	85.26%	<a href="#">KIK31191.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein FOMPIDRAFT_1109816 [Fomitopsis pinicola FP-58527 SS1]	436	436	100%	2e-142	85.26%	<a href="#">EPT06162.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein M404DRAFT_951987 [Pisolithus tinctorius Marx 270]	436	436	100%	5e-142	85.66%	<a href="#">KIO13377.1</a>
✓	predicted protein [Postia placenta Mad-698-R]	434	434	100%	5e-142	85.66%	<a href="#">EED84161.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein PLICRDRAFT_161615 [Plicaturopsis crispa FD-325 SS-3]	436	436	100%	7e-142	84.46%	<a href="#">KII88479.1</a>
✓	predicted protein [Fibroporia radiculosa]	438	438	100%	1e-141	85.26%	<a href="#">XP_012181653.1</a>
✓	hypothetical protein SCLCIDRAFT_113134 [Scleroderma citrinum Foug A]	434	434	100%	2e-141	84.06%	<a href="#">KIM65286.1</a>
✓	kinesin-domain-containing protein [Rhizopogon vinicolor AM-OR11-026]	434	434	100%	2e-141	84.46%	<a href="#">OAX44667.1</a>

[Download](#) [GenPept](#) [Graphics](#)

hypothetical protein PHACADRAFT\_173717 [Phanerochaete carnosae HHB-10118-sp]

Sequence ID: [XP\\_007395896.1](#) Length: 1058 Number of Matches: 1

[See 1 more title\(s\)](#)

Range 1: 320 to 570 [GenPept](#) [Graphics](#)

[Next Match](#) [Previous Match](#)

Score	Expect	Method	Identities	Positives	Gaps
483 bits(1243)	5e-161	Compositional matrix adjust.	237/251(94%)	245/251(97%)	0/251(0%)
Query 1	LRVGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAQDKRAREAGMINQSLTLGRVINALVDRSSHVPYRESK				60
Sbjct 320	LRVGKLNLDLAGSENIGRSGAQDKRAREAGMINQSLTLGRINALVDRS+HVPYRESK				379
Query 61	LTRLLQDSLGGRTKTCIIATISPARSNMEETLSTLDYAIRAKSIKNKPEVNQRMTRNALL				120
Sbjct 380	LTRLLQDSLGGRTKTCIIATISPARSNMEETLSTLDYAIRAKSIKNKPEVNQRMTRNALL				439
Query 121	KEYVAEIERLKADVLAAREKNGIFFSEERWQEMTAEQELKDTMQEAKKQVEIVESQLRN				180
Sbjct 440	KEYVAEIERLK+DVLAAAREKNGIFFSEERWEMTAEQEL+DTMQEA+KQVEIVESQLRN				499
Query 181	VREEFEQSMALLMRRDGELKETKERLQKETELKATEGKLEVVKGALIEEVVVRQAYQEN				240
Sbjct 500	VREEFEQSMALLMRRDGELKETKE+LQK+ET+LKATEGKL VKGALIEEVVVRQAY+EN				559
Query 241	ETVLDGVATGL	251			
Sbjct 560	E LDGVATGL				
	EALDGVATGL	570			