



Map Proteins to OrthoMCL with <u>Diamond BLAST</u>A Tutorial



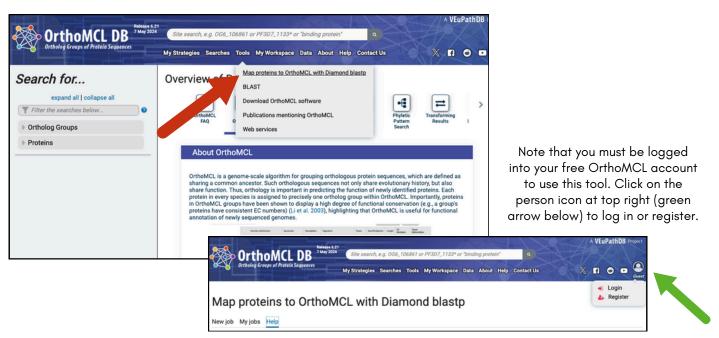


Learning Objectives

- Understand the purpose of the OrthoMCL protein mapping tool
- Learn how to prepare and upload sets of proteins for mapping
- Explore the output and understand the Diamond job result page

Introduction

- OrthoMCL is a genome-scale algorithm that uses protein sequence similarity and phylogenetic relationships to create groups of orthologous protein sequences both within and across species.
 OrthoMCL includes all VEuPathDB species plus additional Core species that broadly represent the diversity across the Tree of Life.
- 2. **Purpose**: The protein mapping tool allows users to map a set of proteins of interest, usually a complete proteome from an organism, to existing OrthoMCL groups.
- 3. This tool uses Diamond BLAST, an alternative to NCBI BLAST which is 10,000 times faster while being only 0.1– 1% less sensitive.
- 4. Access the tool from the **Tools menu** in the header > Map proteins to OrthoMCL with Diamond BLASTP (red arrow below)



Layout of the Diamond BLASTP protein mapping tool:

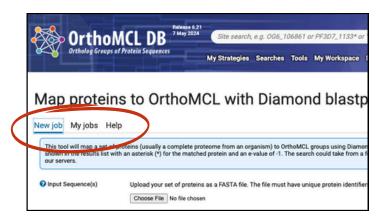
There are three tabs (circled in red on right)

- New job: Upload a FASTA formatted file of protein sequences
- My jobs: A list of all of your previous jobs.
 These are saved in your account and persist across visits to the website
- 3. **Help**: Tips for using the tool

Preparing your data: Your set of proteins must be formatted as a plain text FASTA file.

- Each protein in the FASTA file must have unique protein identifiers as the first word in its definition/header line.
- Header line must start with a greater than (>) symbol and end with a carriage return.

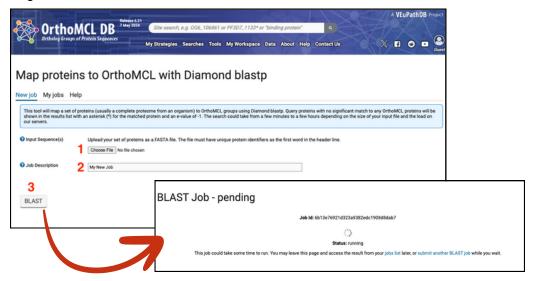
The figure on the right shows a properly formatted FASTA file.





Uploading data: Do the following steps in the "New job" tab (refer to figure below)

- Input sequence: Choose a FASTA-formatted data file with protein sequences from your computer
- 2. Job description: Add brief text describing your set of proteins
- 3. **BLAST**: Click on the BLAST button to start the job. You will see a message with a job ID assignment.

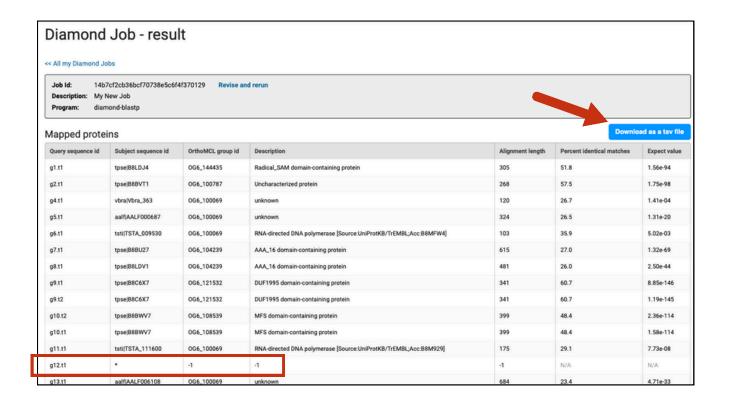


Understanding the output:

The output page has two components

- 1. **The results table** (see below). This is a preview of the matching results for the first 100 sequences in your query file.
- 2. A blue download button at the top right (see red arrow below). The complete result can be downloaded as a tab delimited file (tsv) with one best match for each query protein with the following columns:
 - Query_ID: the identifier for the sequence in your input file
 - Subject_ID: the identifier for the best matching OrthoMCL sequence
 - o Orthogroup: the orthogroup containing the best matching OrthoMCL sequence
 - Subject_description: description of the best matching OrthoMCL sequence
 - Alignment_length: length of the aligned region between Query and Subject sequences
 - Percent_identity: percent identity between Query and Subject sequences
 - e-value: BLAST significance score for the alignment between Query and Subject sequences

Note: Unmatched query proteins (no significant match) are included in the results file without an OrthoMCL protein or group listed. For example, see red rectangle below.





Questions? Comments? Write to help@veupathdb.org