

**Title:** Tracking the Evolution of the Hemoglobin Beta (HBB) Gene Across Species

**Name:** Garima Rana

**Course:** BioinformHer Mini Project – Module 2

**Date:** 11 June 2025

## **Table of Contents**

1. Project Objective
2. Sequence Retrieval & BLAST Search
3. Pairwise Sequence Alignment
4. Multiple Sequence Alignment (MSA)
5. Sequence Logo Generation
6. Phylogenetic Tree Construction
7. Conclusion
8. References

## “BioinformHer Mini Project - Module 2”

**Introduction**— Haemoglobin is an essential protein responsible for transporting oxygen in the blood. The beta subunit of hemoglobin, encoded by the HBB gene, plays a crucial role in this function. Studying how this gene has evolved across different species helps us understand the conservation of vital genes and molecular evolution in vertebrates.”

“In this mini project, I analyzed the HBB gene across six species—Human, Chimpanzee, Cow, Mouse, Chicken, and Zebrafish—using several bioinformatics tools such as BLAST(alignment tool), Clustal omega ( multiple sequence alignment), Skylign(sequence logo generation) and MegaX( phylogenetic analysis) . The aim was to study its evolutionary conservation by retrieving sequences, performing alignments, creating sequence logos, and building a phylogenetic tree.

### Task 1: Sequence Retrieval & BLAST Search

- Retrieved the human HBB protein sequence from NCBI in FASTA format.
- Used BLASTp to identify homologous sequences in other species: chimpanzee, cow, mouse, chicken, and zebrafish
- Recorded the % identity and accession numbers.
- The FASTA sequences of these proteins were downloaded and recorded the percentage identity for each species compared to the human HBB.”

#### **Procedure-**

The first step involved retrieving the human Hemoglobin Beta (HBB) protein sequence from the NCBI database in FASTA format. This sequence was then used as a query in a BLASTp search to identify homologous proteins in five other species: chimpanzee, cow, mouse, chicken, and zebrafish. Each species was selected to represent varying evolutionary distances from humans. The BLAST results included percentage identity and accession numbers, summarized in the table below.

1. Go to [NCBI](#).
2. Search for the **Human HBB gene** – nucleotide or protein.
3. Perform **BLAST** with that sequence.
4. Select HBB sequences from **5 other species**:
  - Chimpanzee
  - Cow
  - Mouse
  - Chicken
  - Zebrafish
5. Download their **FASTA sequences**.

Result Table:

Species	Accession number	% similarity with humans
Chimpanzee	XP_508242.1	98%
cow	NP_776342.1	78%
mouse	NP_001265090.1	80%
chicken	NP_990820.1	69%
zebrafish	NP_001076303.1	49%

ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

Items: 1 to 20 of 1473

1. **HBB, partial [Homo sapiens]**  
147 aa protein  
Accession: CAG46711.1 GI: 49456781  
Nucleotide Taxonomy  
GenPept Identical Proteins FASTA Graphics

2. **HBB [Homo sapiens]**  
147 aa protein  
Accession: CAG38767.1 GI: 49168544  
Nucleotide Taxonomy  
GenPept Identical Proteins FASTA Graphics

3. **Hbb [Borrelia baviariensis]**  
108 aa protein  
Accession: UJ60771.1 GI: 2181459558  
Nucleotide Taxonomy  
GenPept Identical Proteins FASTA Graphics

4. **Hbb [Borrelia baviariensis]**  
108 aa protein  
Accession: UJ60770.1 GI: 2181459556  
Nucleotide Taxonomy  
GenPept Identical Proteins FASTA Graphics

5. **Hbb [Borrelia baviariensis]**  
108 aa protein  
Accession: UJ60769.1 GI: 2181459554  
Nucleotide Taxonomy  
GenPept Identical Proteins FASTA Graphics

6. **Hbb, partial [Borrelia baviariensis]**  
108 aa protein  
Accession: UJ58060.1 GI: 2181421630  
Nucleotide Taxonomy  
GenPept Identical Proteins FASTA Graphics

**Hbb, partial [Borrelia baviariensis]**

Search

See more...

Recent activity

human hbb gene (1473)

hemoglobin, beta adult 2 [Danio rerio]

Hemoglobin beta zebrafish (24)

hemoglobin subunit beta [Gallus gallus]

Hemoglobin beta chicken (24)

See more...

An official website of the United States government

ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

NIH National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Log in

Protein

Protein

Advanced

Search

Help

FASTA

Send to:

Change region shown

Analyze this sequence

Run BLAST

Identify Conserved Domains

Show in Genome Data Viewer

Articles about the hbbat gene

Genomic and phylogenetic comparisons of the alpha-globin and beta-globin [DNA Cell Biol. 2004]

Characterization of adult alpha- and beta-globin genes in the zebrafish. [Blood. 1997]

Biocompatibility and biodistribution of surface-enhanced Raman scattering nr [ACS Nano. 2010]

See all...

Reference sequence information

RefSeq mRNA

See reference mRNA sequence for the hbbat gene (NM\_131020.3).

More about the hbbat gene

Predicted to enable heme binding activity; oxygen binding activity; and oxygen carrier activity. Predicted to contribute to haptoglobin bind...

Also Known As: ba1, ba2, ba2l, hbb, hb...

hemoglobin subunit beta-1 [Danio rerio]

NCBI Reference Sequence: NP\_571095.1

GenPept Identical Proteins Graphics

>NP\_571095.1 hemoglobin subunit beta-1 [Danio rerio]  
HVEWTDARTAILGLWGLNDEIGPOLSRCLTVVPTORYFATFGLSSPAATMCPKVAHGRVTVC  
GLERAIKNDNVKNTYAALSVHSEKLHVDPDFRLLADCTVCAAMKFGAGFNADVQGEAWQFLAVV  
SALCRQYH

NIH

National Library of Medicine

National Center for Biotechnology Information

Log in

Protein

hbb Homo sapiens

Create alertAdvanced

Search

Help

Species

Animals (1,309)

Bacteria (9)

Viruses (158)

Customize ...

Source databases

PDB (6)

RefSeq (8)

UniProtKB / Swiss-Prot (10)

Customize ...

Sequence length

Custom range...

Molecular weight

Custom range...

Release date

Custom range...

Revision date

Custom range...

Clear all

Show additional filters

Summary

20 per page

Sort by Default order

Send to:

Filters: Manage Filters

Results by taxon

Top Organisms

Homo sapiens (1,309)

Hepatitis B virus (158)

Borrelia burgdorferi (7)

Macaca fascicularis (1)

Papio anubis (1)

All other taxa (9)

More...

Find related data

Database: Select

Find results

Search details

hbb[All Fields] AND ("Homo sapiens" [Organism] OR Homo sapiens [All Fields])

Search

See more...

Recent activity

hbb Homo sapiens (1475)

human hbb gene (1473)

Turn Off

Clear

GENE

HBB — hemoglobin subunit beta

Homo sapiens (human)

Also known as: CD113-C, ECT6, beta-globin

Gene ID: 3043

RefSeq products

Orthologs

Genome Data Viewer

New - Visualize gene across multiple species

RefSeq Sequences

+

Items: 1 to 20 of 1475

1. HBB, partial [Homo sapiens]

147 aa protein

Accession: CAG46711.1 GI: 49456781

Nucleotide

Translation

GenPept

Identical Proteins

FASTA

Graphics

HBB [Homo sapiens]

NIH

National Library of Medicine

National Center for Biotechnology Information

Log in

Protein

hbb Homo sapiens

Create alertAdvanced

Search

Help

FASTA

hemoglobin beta [Bos taurus]

GenBank: BAJ05100.1

GenPept

Identical Proteins

Graphics

>BAJ05100.1 hemoglobin beta [Bos taurus]

MLTAEKAAVTAFWGKVKVDEVGGEALGRLLLVYPWTRQFFESFGDLSTDAVMMNPKVKAHGKKVLDSF

SNCKRLDDLKGTFAALSELHCDKLHVDPENFKLLGNLVVYLARNFGKEFTPYLQADFGKVVAGVANAL

AHRYH

Send to:

Change region shown

Analyze this sequence

Run BLAST

Identify Conserved Domains

Protein 3D Structure

Crystal Structure Analysis of CO form hemoglobin from Bos taurus

PDB: 6I11

Source: Bos taurus

Method: X-ray Diffraction

Resolution: 1.34 Å

See all 13 structures...

Articles about the HBB gene

Polymorphisms in the bovine hemoglobin-beta gene provide evidence for gene [Anim Sci J. 2011]

A comparison of amino acid sequences in the beta-chains of adu [Arch Biochem Biophys. 1967]

Amino acid sequences in the -chains of adult bovine hemoglobin [Arch Biochem Biophys. 1972]

See all...

Reference sequence information

RefSeq protein

NIH

National Library of Medicine

National Center for Biotechnology Information

Log in

Protein

hbb Homo sapiens

Create alertAdvanced

Search

Help

FASTA

RecName: Full=Hemoglobin subunit beta; AltName: Full=Beta-globin; AltName: Full=Hemoglobin beta chain; Contains: RecName: Full=LVV-hemorphin-7; Contains: RecName: Full=Spinorphin

UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot: P68871.2

GenPept

Identical Proteins

Graphics

>sp|P68871.2|HBB\_HUMAN RecName: Full=Hemoglobin subunit beta; AltName: Full=Beta-globin; AltName: Full=Hemoglobin beta chain; Contains: RecName: Full=LVV-hemorphin-7; Contains: RecName: Full=Spinorphin

MVHLTPERKSAVITAWGKNNVDEVGGEALGRLLLVYPWTRQFFESFGDLSTDAVMGNPKVKAHGKKVLG

AFSDGLAHLNKGTFATLSELHCDKLHVDPENFRLLGNVLVCLVAHHFGKEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVAN

ALAHKYH

Send to:

Change region shown

Analyze this sequence

Run BLAST

Identify Conserved Domains

Protein 3D Structure

Cryo-EM structure of human CD163 SRCR1-9 in complex with haptoglobin-hemoglobin

PDB: 9FNG

Source: Homo sapiens

Method: Electron Microscopy

Resolution: 5.2 Å

See all 253 structures...

Articles about the HBB gene

Hb Monza: A novel extensive HBB duplication with preserved α-β subunit interaction [Med. 2025]

HBB as a Novel Biomarker for the Diagnosis and Monitoring of Li [Technol Cancer Res Treat. 2024]

Exagamglogene Autotemcel for Severe Sickle Cell Disease [N Engl J Med. 2024]

See all...

blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

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National Center for Biotechnology Information

BLAST® » blastp suite » results for RID-4JDPYZU016

Home Recent Results Saved Strategies Help

**Important update**  
Effective August 2025, the **ClusteredNR** database will become the default Protein BLAST database. [Learn more about ClusteredNR](#)

[Edit Search](#) [Save Search](#) [Search Summary](#) [How to read this report?](#) [BLAST Help Videos](#) [Back to Traditional Results Page](#)

**1** Your search is limited to records that include: chimpanzee (taxid:9598)

Job Title: sp|P68871.2|HBB\_HUMAN RecName: Full=Hemoglobin...  
RID: 4JDPYZU016 Search expires on 06-12 15:57 pm [Download All](#)  
Program: BLASTP [Citation](#)  
Database: nr [See details](#)  
Query ID: lcl|Query\_11225261  
Description: sp|P68871.2|HBB\_HUMAN RecName: Full=Hemoglobin su ...  
Molecule type: amino acid  
Query Length: 147  
Other reports: [Distance tree of results](#) [Multiple alignment](#) [MSA viewer](#)

**Filter Results**

Organism only top 20 will appear ☐ exclude  
Type common name, binomial, taxid or group name  
[Add organism](#)

Percent Identity  to  E value  to  Query Coverage  to   
[Filter](#) [Reset](#)

Compare these results against the new Clustered nr database [BLAST](#)

[Descriptions](#) [Graphic Summary](#) [Alignments](#) [Taxonomy](#)

Sequences producing significant alignments [Download](#) [Select columns](#) Show 100 [?](#)

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BLAST® » blastp suite » RID-4N0961H9013

Home Recent Results Saved Strategies Help

[Formatting options]

Job Title: AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

Request ID: 4N0961H9013  
Status: Searching  
Submitted at: Thu Jun 12 03:26:30 2025  
Current time: Thu Jun 12 03:26:45 2025  
Time since submission: 00:00:14

This page will be automatically updated in 2 seconds

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BLAST® » blastp suite » results for RID-4N0961H9013

Home Recent Results Saved Strategies Help

[Formatting options]

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Request ID: 4N0961H9013  
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Time since submission: 00:00:14

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Query ID

lcl|Query\_9977135

Description

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

Molecule type

amino acid

Query Length

147

Other reports

[Distance tree of results](#)
[Multiple alignment](#)
[MSA viewer](#)

+

Add organism

Percent Identity

to

E value

to

Query Coverage

to

Filter

Reset

Compare these results against the new Clusted nr database

BLAST

Descriptions

Graphic Summary

Alignments

Taxonomy

hover to see the title

click to show alignments

Show Conserved Domains

Alignment Scores

< 40

40 - 50

50 - 80

80 - 200

>= 200

23 sequences selected

Putative conserved domains have been detected, click on the image below for detailed results.

Query seq.

1

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Specific hits

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Superfamily

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Distribution of the top 23 Blast Hits on 23 subject sequences

Query

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19

20

21

22

23

Query ID

lcl|Query\_9977135

Description

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

Molecule type

amino acid

Query Length

147

Other reports

[Distance tree of results](#)
[Multiple alignment](#)
[MSA viewer](#)

+

Add organism

Percent Identity

to

E value

to

Query Coverage

to

Filter

Reset

Compare these results against the new Clusted nr database

BLAST

Descriptions

Graphic Summary

Alignments

Taxonomy

Alignment view

Pairwise

Restore defaults

Download

23 sequences selected

Download

GenPept

Graphics

Next

Previous

Descriptions

hemoglobin subunit beta [Pan troglodytes]

Sequence ID: XP\_508242.1 Length: 147 Number of Matches: 1

See 1 more title(s) See all Identical Proteins(IPG)

Range 1: 1 to 147

GenPept

Graphics

Next Match

Previous Match

Score

293 bits(750)

Expect

3e-103

Method

Compositional matrix adjust.

Identities

144/147(98%)

Positives

144/147(97%)

Gaps

0/147(0%)

Query

1

MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTORLFESFGDLTPDAVMGNPK

60

Sbjct

1

MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTORLFESFGDLTPDAVMGNPK

60

Query

61

VKAHGKKVLGAFSDGPAHLNDLKGTFATLSLHCDKLVHPENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHFG

120

Sbjct

61

VKAHGKKVLGAFSDGPAHLNDLKGTFATLSLHCDKLVHPENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHFG

120

Query

121

KEFTTPVQAAAYQKVAVGAVANALAHKYH

147

Sbjct

121

KEFTTPVQAAAYQKVAVGAVANALAHKYH

147

Related Information

Gene - associated gene details

AlphaFold Structure - 3D structure displays

Genome Data Viewer - aligned genomic context

Identical Proteins - Identical proteins to NP\_000509.1

Query ID

lcl|Query\_10168673

Description

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

Molecule type

amino acid

Query Length

147

Other reports

[Distance tree of results](#)
[Multiple alignment](#)
[MSA viewer](#)

+

Add organism

Percent Identity

to

E value

to

Query Coverage

to

Filter

Reset

Compare these results against the new Clusted nr database

BLAST

Descriptions

Graphic Summary

Alignments

Taxonomy

hover to see the title

click to show alignments

Show Conserved Domains

Alignment Scores

< 40

40 - 50

50 - 80

80 - 200

>= 200

24 sequences selected

Putative conserved domains have been detected, click on the image below for detailed results.

Query seq.

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146

147

Specific hits

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Superfamily

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Distribution of the top 24 Blast Hits on 24 subject sequences

Query

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24

blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

hbb zebrafish - Protein - NCBI

NCBI Blast:AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

How to read this report?

BLAST Help Videos

Back to Traditional Results Page

Search Summary

How to read this report?

BLAST Help Videos

Back to Traditional Results Page

1

Your search is limited to records that include: cow (taxid:9913)

Job Title

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

RID

4N0D2X81016

Search expires on 06-13 15:28 pm

Download All

Program

BLASTP

Citation

Database

nr

See details

Query ID

lcl|Query\_10168673

Description

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

Molecule type

amino acid

Query Length

147

Other reports

Distance tree of results

Multiple alignment

MSA viewer

Filter Results

Organism

only top 20 will appear

Type common name, binomial, taxid or group name

Add organism

Percent Identity

E value

Query Coverage

Filter

Reset

Compare these results against the new Clustered nr database

BLAST

Descriptions

Graphic Summary

Alignments

Taxonomy

Sequences producing significant alignments

Download

Select columns

Show 100

select all

24 sequences selected

GenPept

Graphics

Distance tree of results

Multiple alignment

MSA Viewer

Description	Scientific Name	Max Score	Total Score	Query Cover	E value	Per. Ident	Acc. Len	Accession
hemoglobin, epsilon-1 [Bos taurus]	Bos taurus	240	240	100%	2e-82	76.19%	147	NP_001103977.1
hemoglobin subunit epsilon-4 [Bos taurus]	Bos taurus	229	229	100%	3e-78	70.07%	147	NP_001014910.1
hemoglobin subunit beta [Bos taurus]	Bos taurus	227	227	98%	2e-77	83.33%	145	NP_776342.1
Chain B, Hemoglobin subunit beta [Bos taurus]	Bos taurus	225	225	97%	2e-76	83.22%	144	B1HX_B
hemoglobin beta [Bos taurus]	Bos taurus	223	223	98%	7e-76	81.94%	145	BAJ05099.1
hemoglobin subunit epsilon-2 [Bos taurus]	Bos taurus	219	219	100%	5e-74	67.35%	147	NP_001014913.1

Feedback

blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

hbb zebrafish - Protein - NCBI

NCBI Blast:AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

How to read this report?

BLAST Help Videos

Back to Traditional Results Page

Search Summary

How to read this report?

BLAST Help Videos

Back to Traditional Results Page

1

Your search is limited to records that include: cow (taxid:9913)

Job Title

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

RID

4N0D2X81016

Search expires on 06-13 15:28 pm

Download All

Program

BLASTP

Citation

Database

nr

See details

Query ID

lcl|Query\_10168673

Description

AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]

Molecule type

amino acid

Query Length

147

Other reports

Distance tree of results

Multiple alignment

MSA viewer

Filter Results

Organism

only top 20 will appear

Type common name, binomial, taxid or group name

Add organism

Percent Identity

E value

Query Coverage

Filter

Reset

Compare these results against the new Clustered nr database

BLAST

Descriptions

Graphic Summary

Alignments

Taxonomy

Alignment view

Pairwise

Restore defaults

Download

24 sequences selected

Download

GenPept

Graphics

hemoglobin, epsilon-1 [Bos taurus]

Sequence ID: NP\_001103977.1

Length: 147

Number of Matches: 1

Range 1: 1 to 147

GenPept

Graphics

Next Match

Previous Match

Score	Expect	Method	Identities	Positives	Gaps
240 bits (613)	2e-82	Compositional matrix adjust.	112/147 (76%)	128/147 (87%)	0/147 (0%)

Query 1

MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDVGGGALGRLLVVPWTQRLPESFGDLFTPDVAVMGNPK

60

Sbjct 1

MVHFTAEKAAITGLGKVNVEEAGGALGRLLVVPWTQRFDSFGNLSASAIMGNPK

60

Query 61

VKAHGKKVLGAFSDGPAHLNDLKGTFATLSLHCDKLVHDPENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHHFG

120

Sbjct 61

VKAHGKKVLTSGEATKMLNDLKGAFKLSLHCDKLVHDPENFRLLGNVIVIIATHFG

120

Query 121

KEFTTPVQAAQKVKVAGVANALAHKYH

147

Sbjct 121

KEFTTPVQAAQKLVSGVATALAHKYH

147

Related Information

Gene - associated gene details

AlphaFold Structure - 3D structure displays

Genome Data Viewer - aligned genomic context

Identical Proteins - Identical proteins to NP\_001103977.1

Download

GenPept

Graphics

hemoglobin subunit epsilon-4 [Bos taurus]

Sequence ID: NP\_001014910.1

Length: 147

Number of Matches: 1

See 3 more title(s)

See all Identical Proteins (IPG)

Feedback

## Task 2: Pairwise Sequence Alignment

Performed pairwise alignment using EMBOSS Needle. The FASTA sequences of these proteins were downloaded and recorded the percentage identity for each species compared to the human HBB.

### Procedure-

Using EMBOSS Needle, pairwise alignments were performed to compare the human HBB sequence against that of two other species — the closely related chimpanzee and the more distantly related zebrafish. These alignments helped assess the conservation of amino acids and the evolutionary divergence. As expected, the human and chimpanzee sequences were nearly identical, while the zebrafish sequence showed more divergence and reduced similarity.

### Steps:

1. Use an EMBOSS Needle or NCBI Alignment tool.
2. Align:
  - Human vs Chimpanzee (closely related)
  - Human vs Zebrafish (distantly related)

Comparison	% Identity	% Similarity	Gaps
Human vs Chimpanzee	98%	99%	0
Human vs Zebrafish	49%	66%	0

The screenshot displays the EMBOSS Needle web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Job Dispatcher', 'Help & Privacy', 'Your Jobs', and 'Input form'. Below this, a yellow banner welcomes users. The main section is titled 'Input sequence' and includes a 'Sequence type' dropdown set to 'Protein'. A text box labeled 'Paste your first sequence here - or use the example sequence' contains the following text:   
>AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]  
MVHLTPPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDDEVGGEALGRLLVYPWTQRLFESFGDLFTPDVAMGNPKVKAHGKKVLG  
AFSDGPAHLNKLKGTATLSELHCDKLHVDPENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHHFGKEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVAN  
ALAHKYH  
At the bottom, a cookie consent banner is visible with the text 'This website requires cookies, and the limited processing of your personal data in order to function. By using the site you are agreeing to this as outlined in our Privacy Notice and Terms of Use.' and a button that says 'I agree, dismiss this banner'.



## Sequence with chimpanzee-

```
# Aligned_sequences: 2
# 1: AAR96398.1
# 2: XP_508242.1
# Matrix: EBLOSUM62
# Gap_penalty: 10.0
# Extend_penalty: 0.5
#
# Length: 147
# Identity:      144/147 (98.0%)
# Similarity:    144/147 (98.0%)
# Gaps:          0/147 ( 0.0%)
# Score: 761.0
#
#=====
AAR96398.1      1 MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTQRLFESFGDLF      50
XP_508242.1    1 MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTQRFESFGDLS      50
AAR96398.1     51 TPDVAMGNPKVKKAHGKKVLGAFSDGPAHL DNLKGT FATLSELHCDKLHVD    100
XP_508242.1    51 TPDVAMGNPKVKKAHGKKVLGAFSDGLAHL DNLKGT FATLSELHCDKLHVD    100
AAR96398.1    101 PENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHHFGKEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVANALAHKYH      147
XP_508242.1   101 PENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHHFGKEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVANALAHKYH      147
#-----
#-----
```

## Sequence with zebrafish-

```
ebi.ac.uk
About READ... HBB Mini Pro... "BioinformHe... Untitled docu... human hbb g...
# Aligned_sequences: 2
# 1: AAR96398.1
# 2: NP_001003431.2
# Matrix: EBLOSUM62
# Gap_penalty: 10.0
# Extend_penalty: 0.5
#
# Length: 147
# Identity:      72/147 (49.0%)
# Similarity:    102/147 (69.4%)
# Gaps:          0/147 ( 0.0%)
# Score: 395.0
#
#=====
AAR96398.1      1 MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNVDEVGGEALGRLLVVYPWTQRLFESFGDLF      50
NP_001003431.   1 MVQWSDSERKTIASVWSKINVDEIGPQTLARVLVVYPWTQRYFGAFGDLS      50
AAR96398.1     51 TPDVAMGNPKVKKAHGKKVLGAFSDGPAHL DNLKGT FATLSELHCDKLHVD    100
NP_001003431.   51 CASAIMGNPKVSEHGKTVLKALEKAVKNVDDIKTTYAKLSQLHCEKLNVD      100
AAR96398.1    101 PENFRLLGNVLVCVLAHHFGKEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVANALAHKYH      147
NP_001003431.  101 PDNFKLLADCLSI VIATNFGPAFNPSVQSTWQKLLSVVVAALTSRYF      147
#-----
#-----
```

## Interpretation:

High conservation between human and chimpanzee HBB indicates evolutionary closeness. Lower similarity with zebrafish suggests divergence over time. As expected, the human and chimpanzee HBB sequences are highly conserved, indicating strong evolutionary similarity. On the other hand, the zebrafish HBB sequence shows lower identity, reflecting greater evolutionary divergence.

### Task 3: Multiple Sequence Alignment (MSA)

Using Clustal Omega, I aligned the HBB protein sequences from all six species. The alignment showed several conserved regions, especially in the functional domains of the protein.

Description:

- Used Clustal Omega to align all six species' HBB protein sequences.
- Conserved residues indicate functionally important domains.

#### Procedure-

A Multiple Sequence Alignment (MSA) was performed using Clustal Omega. All six sequences were aligned to identify conserved regions and structural motifs across species. The alignment output highlighted several regions with perfect or near-perfect conservation, especially among mammalian species. These conserved regions are likely critical to the functional stability of the HBB protein

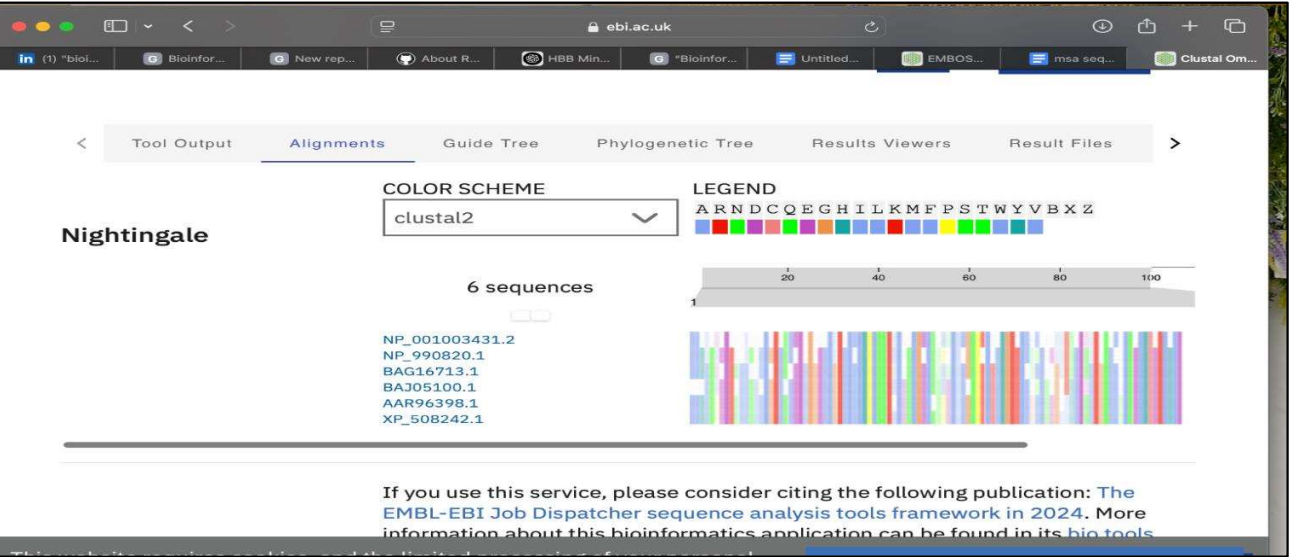
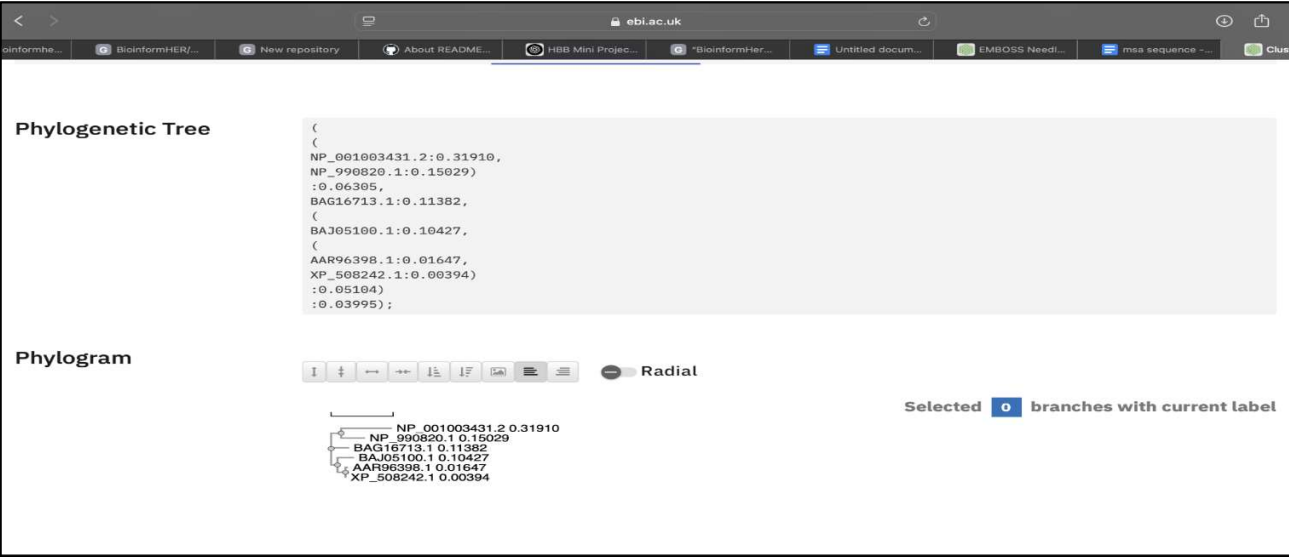
#### Steps:

1. Use **Clustal Omega**
2. Align all 6 sequences.

#### Observation:

Conserved regions suggest structurally and functionally important parts of the HBB protein.

The screenshot shows the Clustal Omega web interface in a browser. The header includes the Clustal Omega logo and navigation links like 'Job Dispatcher', 'Help & Privacy', 'Your Jobs', and 'Input form'. A yellow banner welcomes users to the Job Dispatcher website. Below this, a text box explains that Clustal Omega is a new MSA program using seeded guide trees and HMM profile-profile techniques. The 'Input sequence' section has a 'Sequence Type' dropdown set to 'Protein' (with 'DNA' and 'RNA' as options). Below this is a text input field with the placeholder 'Paste your sequence here - or use the example sequence' and the example sequence '>AAR96398.1 hemoglobin beta [Homo sapiens]'.



Tool output

CLUSTAL O(1.2.4) multiple sequence alignment

Download

NP_001003431.2	MVQWSDSERKTIASVWSKINVDEIGPQTARLVVYPWTQRYFGAFGDLSCASAIMGNPK	60
NP_990820.1	MVHWTAEKQLITGLWGKVNVAECGAELARLLIVYPWTQRFASFGLSSPTAILGNPM	60
BAG16713.1	MVHLTDAEKSAVSCLWAKVNPDEVGGEALGRLLVYPWTQRYFDSFGDLSSAIMGNPK	60
BAJ05100.1	--MLTAEKAAVTAFWGKVNDEVGGEALGRLLVYPWTQRFESFGDLSTADAVMGNPK	58
AAR96398.1	MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNDEVGGEALGRLLVYPWTQRFESFGDLSTPDVAVMGNPK	60
XP_508242.1	MVHLTPEEKSAVTALWGKVNDEVGGEALGRLLVYPWTQRFESFGDLSTPDVAVMGNPK	60
	: *: : : .*: : : * : :*:***** * :*: * :*:	
NP_001003431.2	VSEHGKTVLKALEKAVKNVDDIKTTYAKLSQLHCEKLVNDPDKLLADCLSIIVATNFG	120
NP_990820.1	VRAHGKVLTSFGDAVKNLNLIKNTFSQLSELHCDKLHVDPENFRLLGDIILIVLAAHFS	120
BAG16713.1	VKAHGKVTITAFNEGLKNLDNLKGTFFASSELHCDKLHVDPENFRLLGNAIVIVLGHHLG	120
BAJ05100.1	VKAHGKVLDSFNGMKHLDDLKGTFFAALSELHCDKLHVDPENFKLLGNVLVVVLARNFG	118
AAR96398.1	VKAHGKVLGAFSDGPAHLNLDNLKGTFFATLSELHCDKLHVDPENFRLLGNVLVCLVAHHFG	120
XP_508242.1	VKAHGKVLGAFSDGLAHLNLDNLKGTFFATLSELHCDKLHVDPENFRLLGNVLVCLVAHHFG	120
	* ***: * : : . : : :*: * : : ***:*****:*****: : * : : : .	
NP_001003431.2	PAFNPSVQSTWQKLLSVVVAALTSRYF	147
NP_990820.1	KDFTPECQAQAWQLVRVVAHALARKYH	147
BAG16713.1	KDFTPAQAQAAQKVVAGVATALAHKYH	147
BAJ05100.1	KEFTPVQLQADFQKVVAGVANALAHRYH	145
AAR96398.1	KEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVANALAHKYH	147
XP_508242.1	KEFTPPVQAAYQKVVAGVANALAHKYH	147

## Task 4: Sequence Logo Generation

To visualize conserved amino acid positions, I uploaded the MSA file to Skylign and generated a sequence logo. The height of each letter in the logo represents how conserved that amino acid is across all six species.

Description:

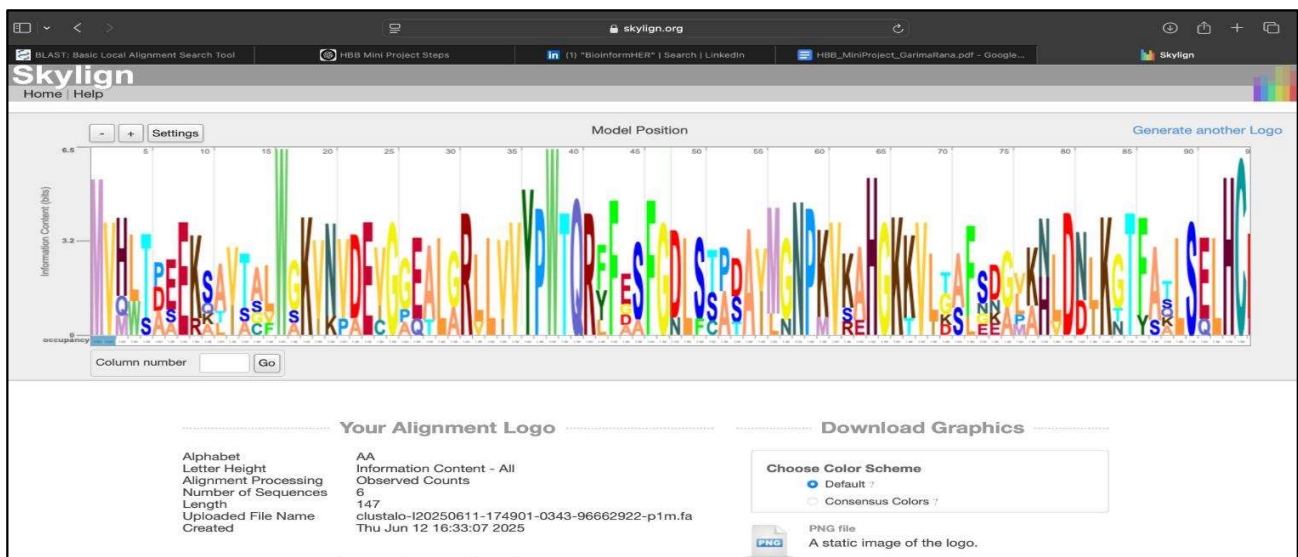
- Uploaded MSA results in Skylign to visualize conserved amino acids.

Procedure-

The sequence logo generated via Skylign provided a visual summary of residue conservation. Taller letters in the logo correspond to amino acids that are more conserved across the species. The conserved residues observed at specific positions suggest functional or structural importance — potentially sites involved in oxygen binding or protein folding.

Steps:

1. Upload MSA file to [Skylign](https://skylign.org).
2. Generate sequence logo.



skylin.org

BLAST: Basic Local Alignment Search Tool | iBID Mini Project Steps | (1) "BioinformaICR" | Search | LinkedIn | iBID\_MiniProject\_GarimaBana.pdf - Google... | Skylign

Column number  Go

---

### Your Alignment Logo

Alphabet	AA
Letter Height	Information Content - All
Alignment Processing	Observed Counts
Number of Sequences	6
Length	147
Uploaded File Name	clustalo-l20250611-174901-0343-96662922-p1m.fa
Created	Thu Jun 12 16:33:07 2025

### Generate another Logo

Upload an HMM or Multiple sequence alignment ?  
Choose File no file selected

**Letter Height**


- ☒ Information Content - All ?
- ☐ Information Content - Above Background ?
- ☐ Score ?


[Generate Logo](#) [Reset](#)


### Download Graphics

**Choose Color Scheme**


- ☒ Default ?
- ☐ Consensus Colors ?


 **PNG file**  
A static image of the logo.


 **scaled PNG file**  
A static image of the logo scaled to the theoretical maximum height.

 **SVG file**  
A vector image of the logo.

### Download Data

 **HMM**  
The HMM file used to calculate this logo.

 **JSON**  
Raw data for the logo formatted in JavaScript Object Notation.

 **Tabular Text**  
Raw data for the logo in a tab delimited text

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## Observation:

Tall letters represent highly conserved residues, indicating important structural or functional roles. As shown in the logo, some residues like Histidine and Valine are highly conserved. This suggests they may be crucial for hemoglobin's oxygen-binding function or structural integrity.



### **Task 5: Phylogenetic Tree Construction**

I used MEGA X software to construct a phylogenetic tree based on the MSA. The resulting tree shows the evolutionary relationships among the species based on their HBB sequences.

**Description:**

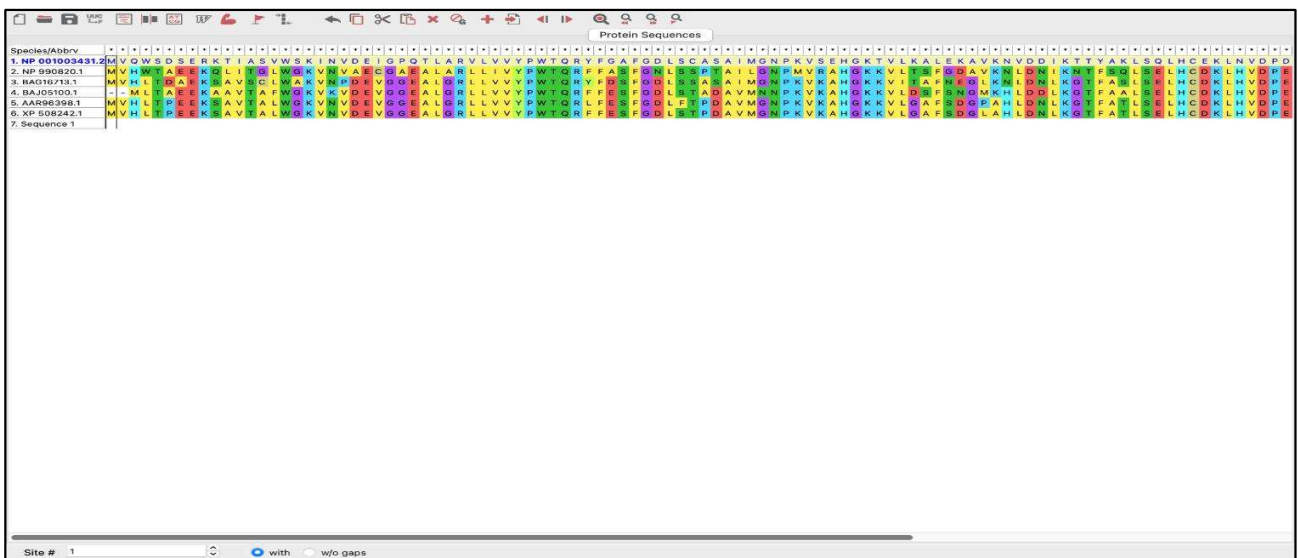
- Used MEGA X with the aligned sequences to generate a phylogenetic tree.
- Method: Neighbor-Joining

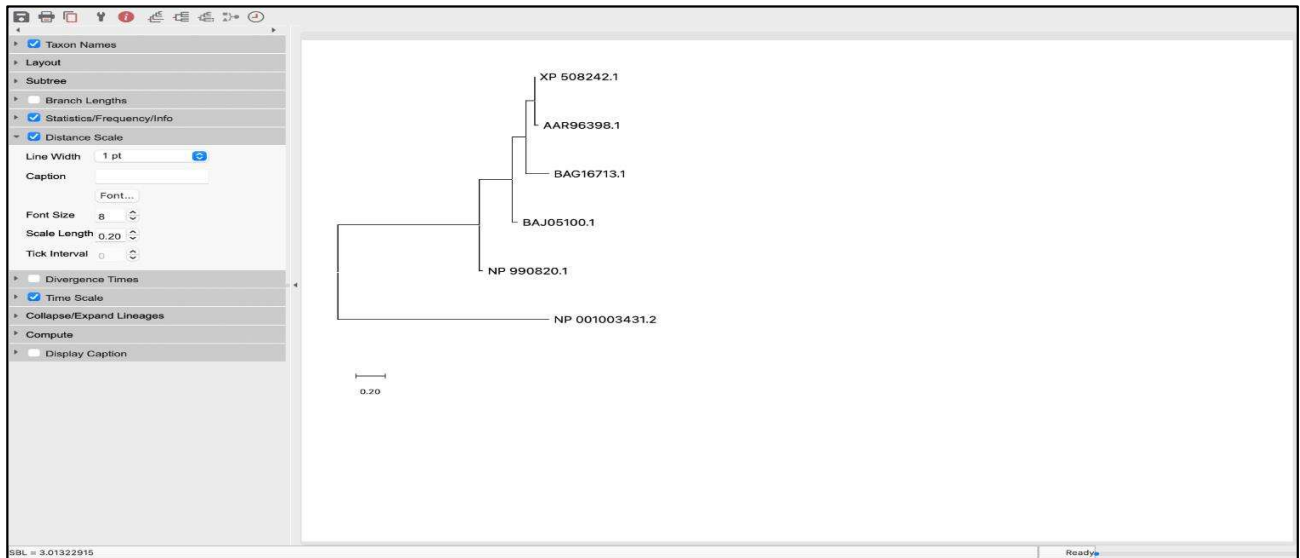
### Steps:

1. Use **MEGA X** software.
2. Import the aligned file (MSA).
3. Construct a **phylogenetic tree** using the appropriate method (NJ or ML).

Interpretation:

- Chimpanzees are closest to humans.
- Zebrafish and chicken are most distant.
- Tree matches known evolutionary relationships.
- The tree clusters human and chimpanzee together, which is expected as they are closely related. Zebrafish, being the most distantly related vertebrate in this analysis, appears on a separate branch.





## Conclusion

This project helped me explore how a crucial gene like HBB has evolved across species. The analysis showed that the HBB gene is highly conserved among mammals but shows significant divergence in non-mammalian species like zebrafish. These results align well with known evolutionary relationships and highlight the power of bioinformatics in evolutionary biology.

## References

- NCBI GenBank and FASTA
- BLASTp – NCBI
- EMBOSS Needle
- Clustal Omega
- Skyline
- MEGA X Software