



**COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD,
SAHIWAL CAMPUS**

Assignment 03 (Lab):

Topic: “Motif scan”

BIO413: Structural and Functional Bioinformatics

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Motif Scan:

1. Introduction:

Protein motifs are most commonly extracted from an initial multiple sequence alignment, but sometimes the training sequences are not strictly homologous, or the sequences contain repeated sequences, rearrangements, or other common situations that disrupt alignment approaches.

Motif scanning means **finding all known motifs that occur in a sequence**. This form lets you paste a protein sequence, and select the collections of motifs to scan and launch the search. A document deals with the interpretation of the match scores.

2. Methodology:

Motif Scan is a tool under MyHits. Like all MyHits tools, they operate using HitKeeper. HitKeeper was mainly written by Marco Pagni and Jörg Hau. It is a software package hit list management that contains a collection of scripts that interact with a relational database management system (RDMS).

3. Case study:

Before beginning the search, a protein sequence must be chosen. Note that Motif Scan does not scan nucleotide sequences, and only protein sequences can be used.

- Take a protein sequence of **toxin** paste it on the search bar and click on all parameters then click on the search button.
- Click on examples and select fasta sequence.

The screenshot shows the Motif Scan web interface. On the left is a sidebar with a 'Tools' menu where 'Motif Scan' is selected. The main area contains a form with several sections:

- Header:** 'user: GUEST' with 'log in' and 'settings' links, and 'width: 600'.
- Instructions:** A paragraph explaining that motif scanning finds known motifs in a sequence and that a document explains match score interpretation.
- Protein Input:** A text box containing a protein sequence: '>QGM49698.1 Toxin (plasmid) [Pseudomonas aeruginosa] MRPSVVLDMKRSVAVREAVGFRFTANPRVFGSVLHGTDRDGSDDLDDALPGATLLD LGDLEELKSLLG VDDVLLTPGDLPPKFRKVLAEAPV'. An annotation 'Paste protein sequence' points to this box.
- Format Selection:** A dropdown menu set to 'FASTA format' with a 'clear input' button. An annotation 'Select format' points to this dropdown.
- Motif Sources:** A list of sources under the label 'mot_source':
 - ☒ hamap - HAMAP profiles
 - ☒ pat - PROSITE patterns
 - ☒ freq_pat - PROSITE patterns (frequent match producers)
 - ☒ pre - More profiles
 - ☒ prf - PROSITE profiles
 - ☒ pfam_fa - Pfam HMMs (local models)
 - ☒ pfam_gi - Pfam HMMs (global models)An annotation 'Select all parameters' points to this list.
- Search Button:** A 'search' button with a note 'The scan might take a few minutes.' and a 'reset page' link.

3.1) Result annotation:

- It gives result from the different databases.

You should consult the home pages of Prosite on ExPASy, Pfam and InterPro for additional information.

- The names of the matches are accompanied with its status. Strong matches are denoted with a [!] while weak matches are marked with [?].

Motif Scan Results

user: GUEST width: 600
log in settings

Tools Hub
Results
Stored results
Private area
Misc
Deprecated
Privacy notice

Query Protein temporarily stored [here](#).

Database of motifs PROSITE patterns (frequent match producers) [freq_pat], HAMAP profiles [hamap], PROSITE patterns [pat], Pfam HMMs (local models) [pfam_fs], Pfam HMMs (global models) [pfam_ls], More profiles [pre], PROSITE profiles [prf].

searching HAMAP profiles
searching PROSITE patterns
searching PROSITE patterns (frequent match producers)
searching More profiles
searching PROSITE profiles
searching Pfam HMMs (local models)
searching Pfam HMMs (global models)
postprocessing

Summary
Original output [hamap](#), [pat](#), [freq_pat](#), [pre](#), [prf](#), [pfam_fs](#), [pfam_ls](#).

Matches map
(features from query are above the ruler, matches of the motif scan are below the ruler)

List of matches

FT	MYHIT	36	39	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]
FT	MYHIT	41	44	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]
FT	MYHIT	54	57	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]
FT	MYHIT	77	80	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]	freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE [?]
FT	MYHIT	36	38	pre:PAP [?]	pre:PAP [?]
FT	MYHIT	23	47	pfam_fs:NTP_transf_2 [!]	pfam_fs:NTP_transf_2 [!]
FT	MYHIT	11	96	pfam_ls:NTP_transf_2 [!]	pfam_ls:NTP_transf_2 [!]
FT	MYHIT	11	96		

Detail of matches

60

1 1 1 1

pre:PAP [?]

pfam_fs:NTP_transf_2 [!]





pfam_ls:NTP_transf_2 [!]

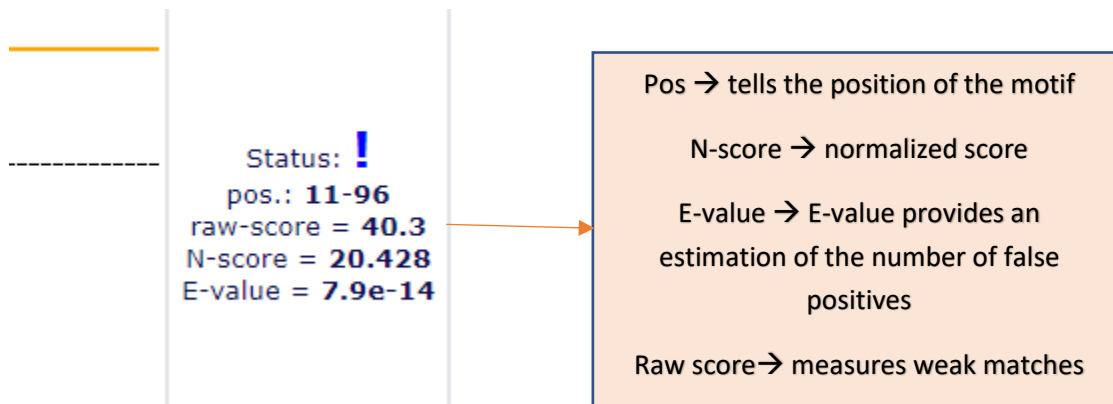
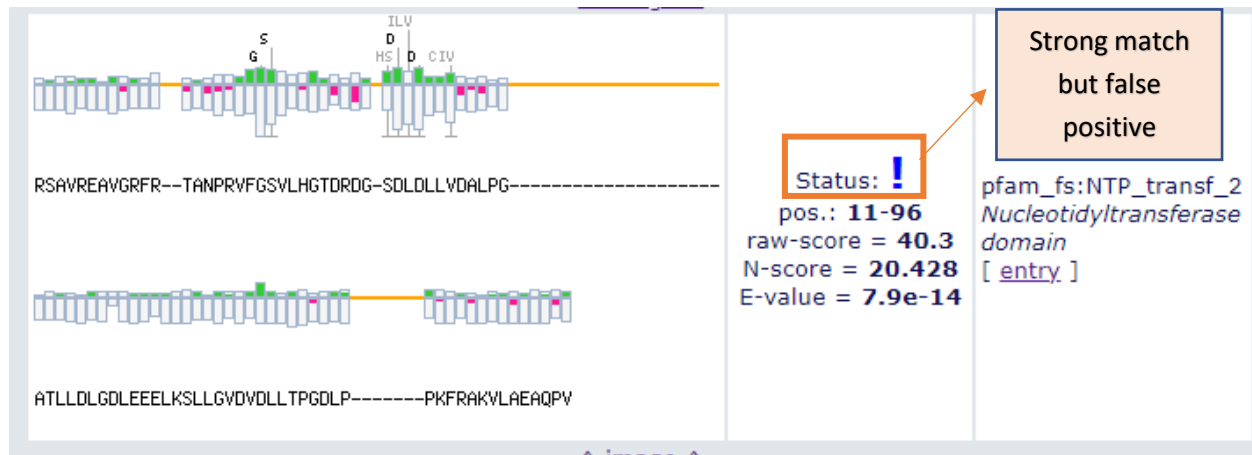
Map of matches

It gives motif legends Information

Below that, the “Detail of Matches” segment illustrates the domains and functional groups of a sequence. The position of the motif will be displayed beside it along with the status of the match. Matches that are denoted with “?” status have insufficient evidence to identify it. The tool will try to identify it anyway, but the result is questionable. ? → tells promoter region of motif sequence is not defined and information is incomplete and have weak matches. ! in blue color → indicates information is present but e-value is large so error chances occur.(E-value is better when it is close to 0)

3.2) Match score details:

Detail of matches		
match detail	match score	motif information
 TSDG TORD	Status: ? pos.: 36-39	Weak match freq_pat:CK2_PHOSPHO_SITE Casein kinase II phosphorylation site. [entry]Legends: 1, phosphorylation.
 TSDG TORD	Status: ? pos.: 41-44	
 TSDG TORD	Status: ? pos.: 54-57	
 TSDG TORD	Status: ? pos.: 77-80	

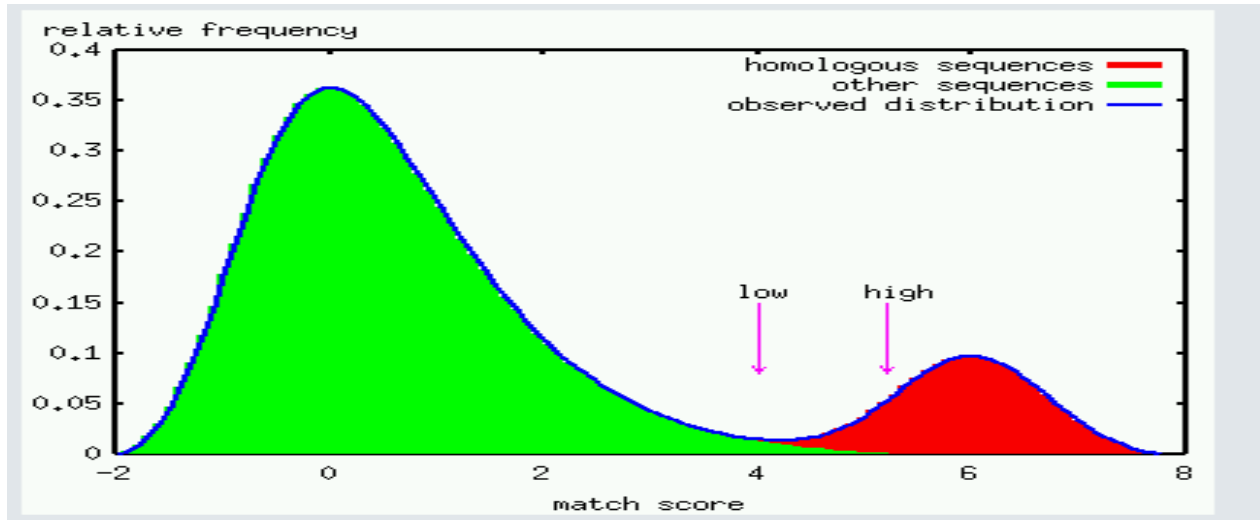


2001 which amount to a total of 408 011 338 = 10⁹ residues (in 1 818 627 entries).

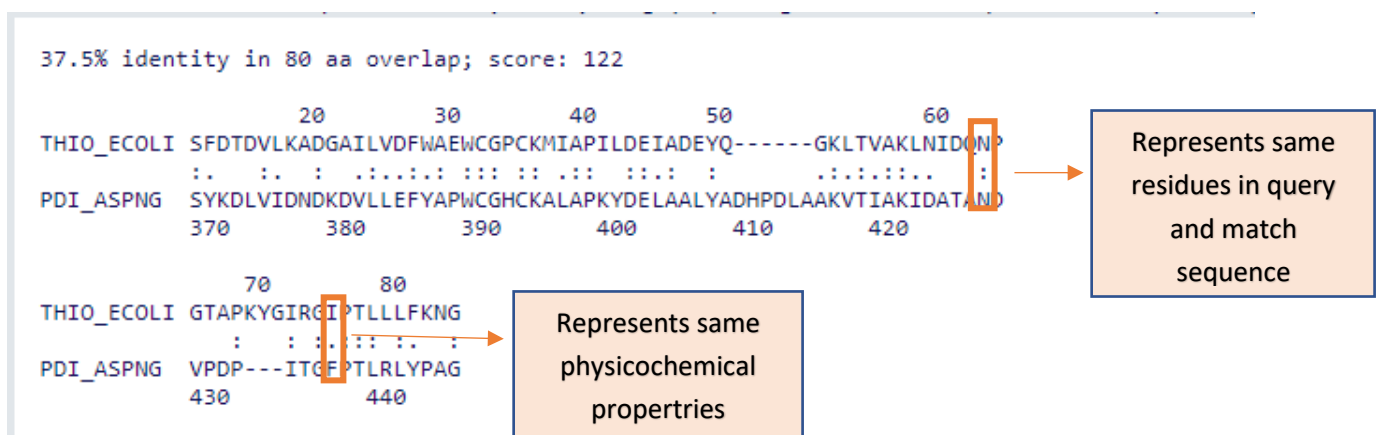
Normalized score	E-value for SwissProt version 34	E-value for the Hits database june 2001
7.0	2.1	41
8.0	0.21	4.1
9.0	0.021	0.41
10.0	0.0021	0.041

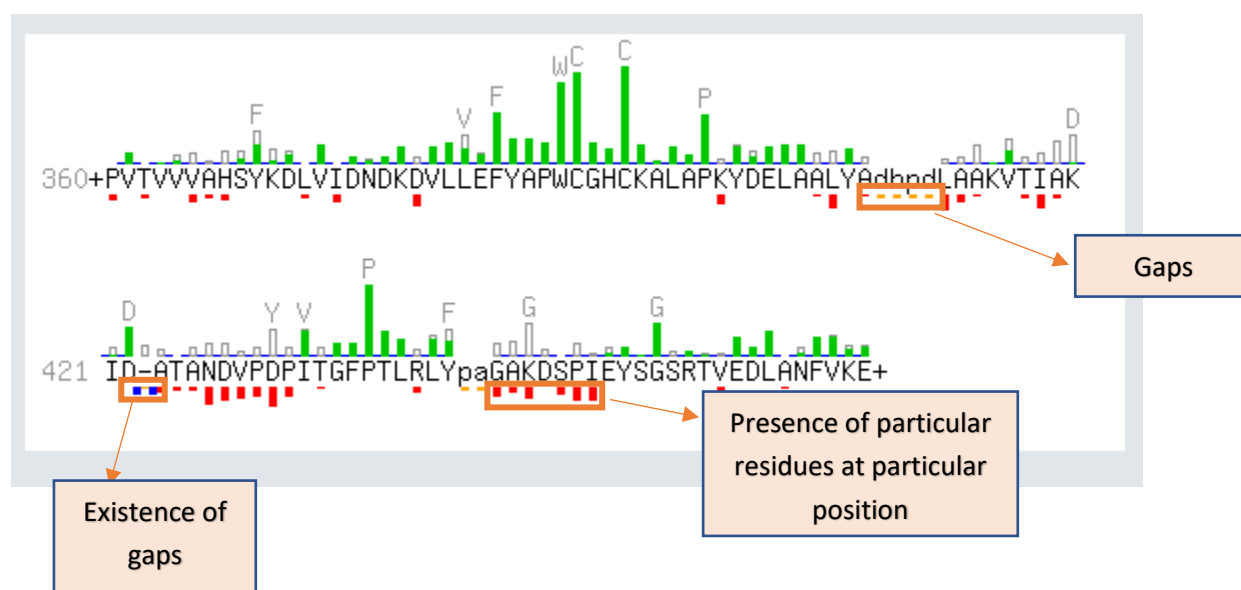
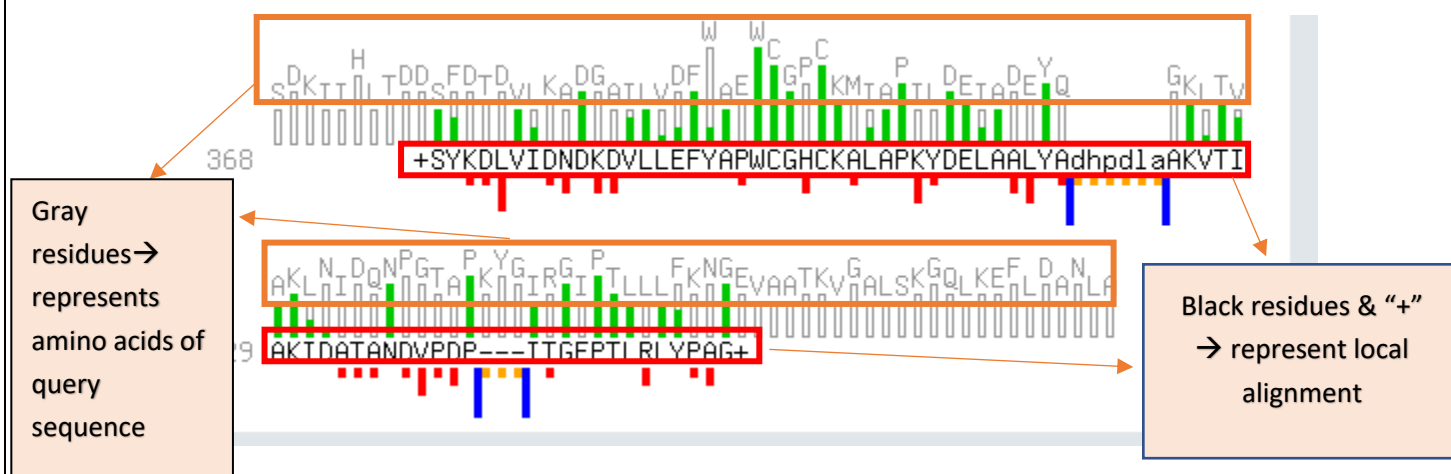
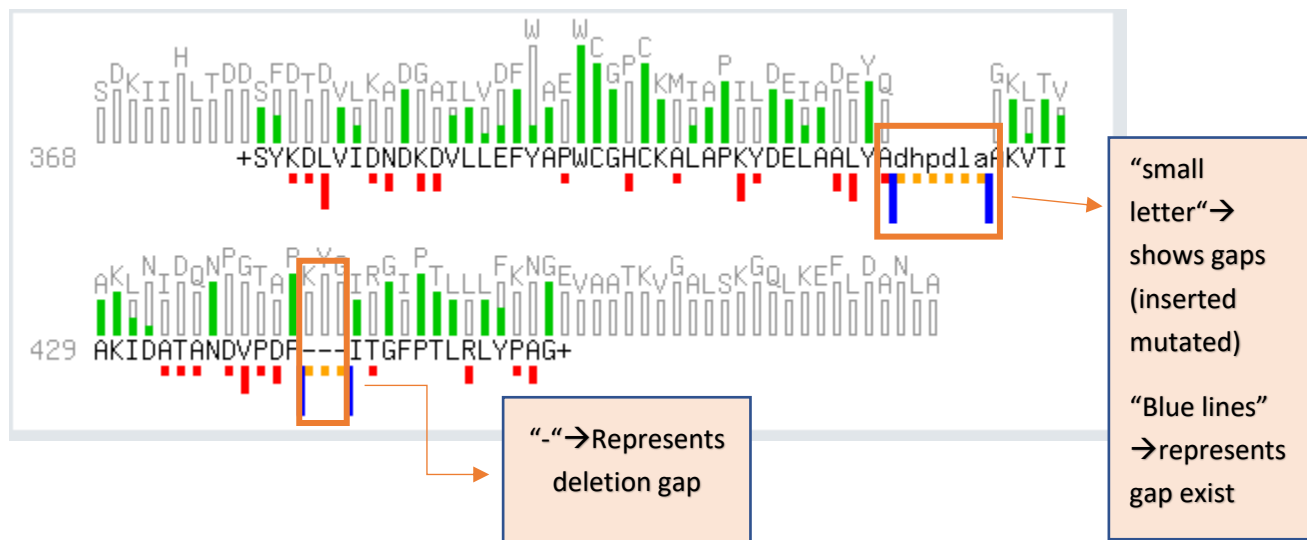
Some of these weak matches are still measured by its raw score, N-score (normalized value), and E-value despite having weak evidence. The E-value indicates how similar the motif on the sequence is to the motif obtained from one of the databases. Motifs with weak evidence tend to

have high E-values, indicating its dissimilarity from the motif on the sequence. The motif displayed is usually incomplete.

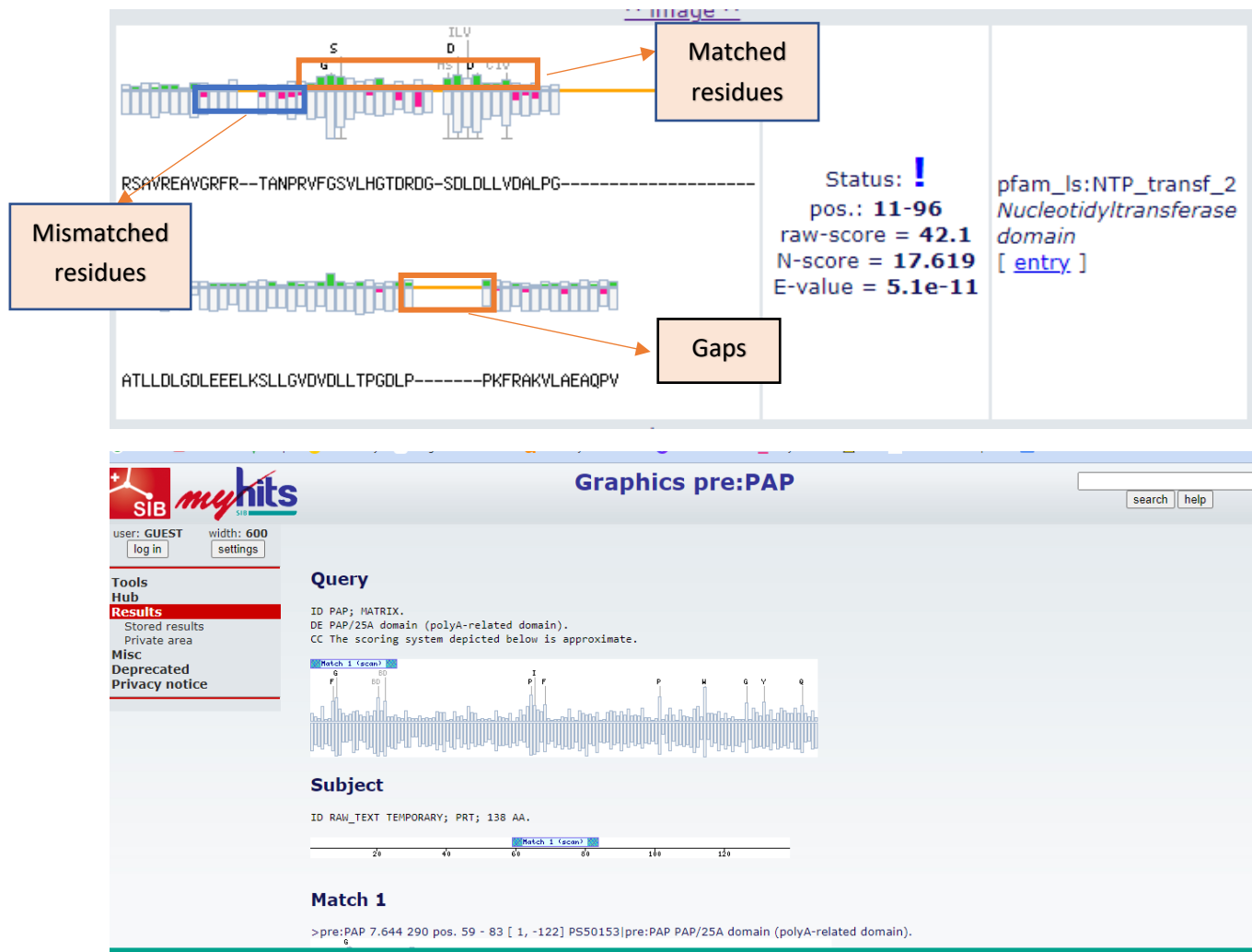


3.3) Match Details:





3.4) Graphical representation:



4. Conclusions:

A motif scan is a tool that finds motifs on a protein sequence and attempts to identify them. It assists in the classifications of proteins by identifying these motifs or patterns on a protein sequence. The software uses HitKeeper to manage its data so that they are in sync. Not many researchers use Motifs Scan because of how niche its function is, but it is very useful in identifying functional groups which can help scientists compare unknown proteins based on these groups. The tool might see more usage if more resources are made to help users navigate it.