

Protein Bioinformatics

Part I: Access to information

260.655
March 30, 2010
Jonathan Pevsner, Ph.D.
pevsner@kennedykrieger.org

Outline for today

Introduction

Accessing information
Entrez Gene
Accession numbers and RefSeq
Protein Databases: UniProt, ExPASy
Three genome browsers: NCBI, UCSC, Ensembl

Four perspectives on individual proteins
Perspective 1: Protein families (domains and motifs)
Perspective 2: Physical properties (3D structure)
Perspective 3: Localization
Perspective 4: Function

Course objectives

To provide students with the ability to analyze and understand data from high-throughput proteomics experiments. At the conclusion of the course the students will be able to:

- (a) Define protein physical properties and analyze protein structure.
- (b) Explain how proteins are studied experimentally and how data are generated in high-throughput experiments.
- (c) Describe the computational methods used to study protein structure and interactions.
- (d) Explain the algorithms, statistical techniques and software tools used to analyze high-throughput proteomics data.

Syllabus (through April)

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Tues 3/30 | Protein bioinformatics I (Pevsner) |
| Thurs 4/1 | Protein bioinformatics II: Evolution (Pevsner) |
| Tues 4/6 | Physical properties of amino acids (Prigge) |
| Thurs 4/8 | Protein structure essentials (Prigge) |
| Tues 4/13 | How to visualize proteins (Prigge) |
| Thurs 4/15 | Why proteins fold (Prigge) |
| Tues 4/20 | Structure determination and databases (Prigge) |
| Thurs 4/22 | Crystallography practicum (Prigge/Bosch) |
| Tues 4/27 | Quantitative proteomics (Cole) |
| Thurs 4/29 | Proteomics and systems biology (Bosch) |

Syllabus (through May)

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Tues 5/4 | Protein Structure: Databases & classification
(Ruczinski) |
| Thurs 5/6 | Protein secondary struct. prediction (Ruczinski) |
| Tues 5/11 | Protein tertiary structure prediction (Ruczinski) |
| Thurs 5/13 | Protein structure prediction (CASP) (Ruczinski) |
| Tues 5/18 | Review (Prigge/Ruczinski/Pevsner) |
| Thurs 5/20 | Final Exam + Practicum |

Website

The course website is:
<http://www.biostat.jhsph.edu/~iruczins/teaching/>
260.655/
(or Google "ingo teaching")

Literature references

You are encouraged to read original source articles. They will enhance your understanding of the material. Readings are optional but recommended.

Computer labs

There are several computer labs (details to follow).

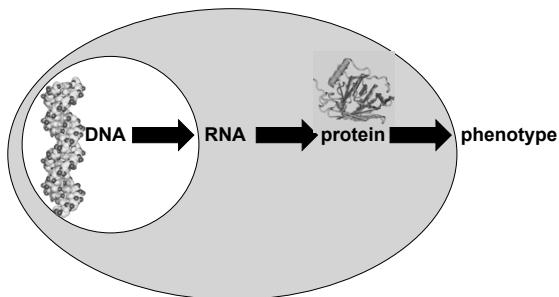
Grading

Grading is based on assignments and on a final exam.

What is bioinformatics?

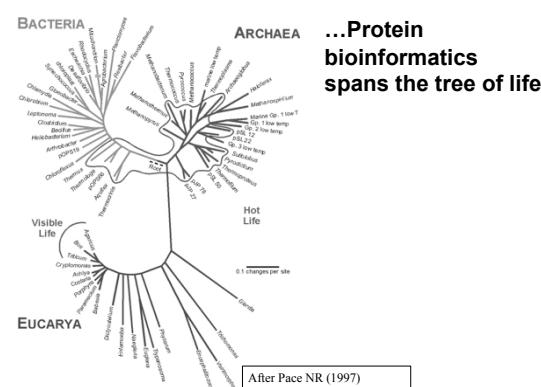
- Interface of biology and computers
- Analysis of proteins, genes and genomes using computer algorithms and computer databases
- Genomics is the analysis of genomes. The tools of bioinformatics are used to make sense of the billions of base pairs of DNA that are sequenced by genomics projects.
- Protein bioinformatics refers to the use of computational biology tools to understand protein structure and function, including high throughput approaches

Protein bioinformatics spans the central dogma...

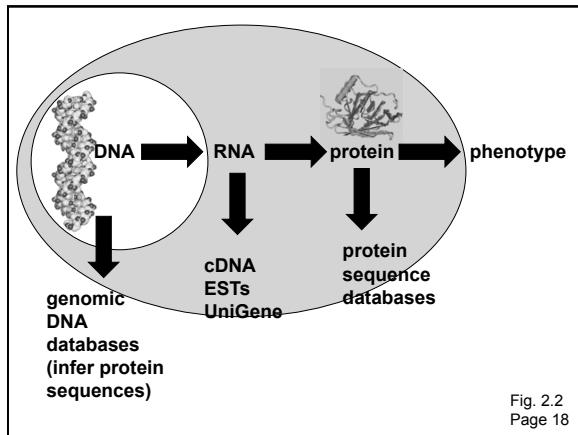
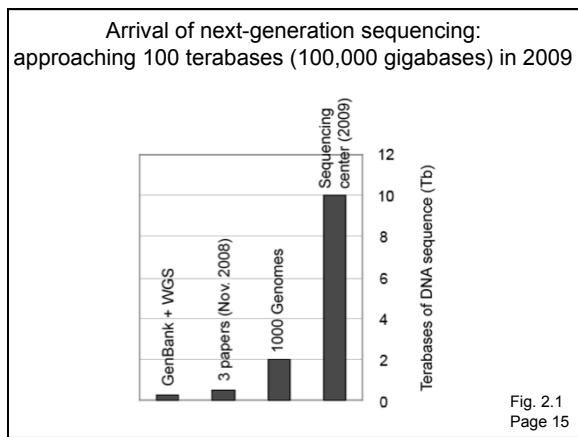
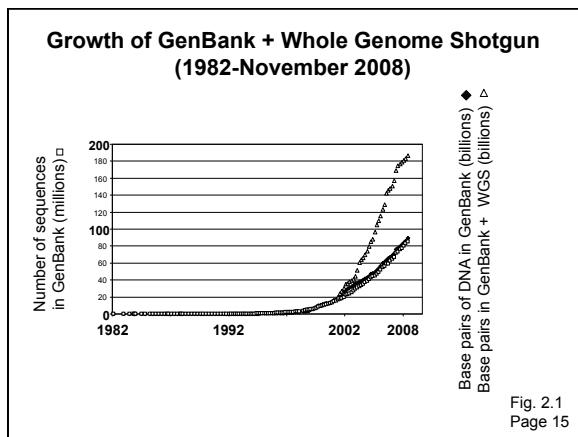


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...Protein bioinformatics spans the tree of life



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**New NCBI homepage (November 2009):
To study a protein, try starting with Entrez Gene**

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

From the NCBI home page, type “beta globin” and hit “Search”

NCBI

Entrez, The Life Sciences Search Engine.

SEARCH | HELP | SITE MAP | PUBLMED | All Databases | Human Genome | GenBank | Map Viewer | Help

Search across databases [beta global] GO | Clear | help

Results displayed in grey indicate one or more terms not found

7474	PubMed: biomedical literature citations and abstracts	198	Books: online books
5635	PubCentral: free, full text journal articles	116	OMIM: online Mendelian Inheritance in Man
[3]	Site Search: NCBI web and FTP sites	[3]	DHAN: online Mendelian Inheritance in Animals
1783	Neotelaide: Core subset of nucleotide sequence records	240	dGAPt: genotype and phenotype
2019	EST: Expressed Sequence Tag records	[72]	Gene-oriented clusters of transcript
[3]	GSS: Genome Survey Sequence records	[3]	EDD: conserved protein domain database
1521	Protein: sequence database	501	3D Domains: Domains from Entrez Structure
[13]	Genome: generic genome sequences	[20]	UNISTX: markers and mapping data
126	Structure: three-dimensional macromolecular	[20]	PopSet: population study data sets
[3]	Taxonomy: organisms in Genbank	737	GEO profiles: expression and molecular
[3]	SNP: single nucleotide polymorphism	[10]	omic data profiles
[93]	Gene: centromere information	[3]	GEO Databank: experimental sets of GEO data
[18]	SRB: Short Read Archive		
[18]	Biostatus: Pathways and systems of interacting molecules		
[5]	HomoloGene: eukaryotic homology groups		
[273]	Gene Expression Atlas: gene expression atlas of mouse central nervous system.		

Follow this link to "Gene"

Fig. 2.5
Page 2

Entrez Gene is in the header
Note the "Official Symbol" HBB for beta globin
Note the "limits" option



Entrez Gene (top of page)

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Entrez Gene (bottom of page): RefSeq accession numbers

NCBI Reference Sequences (RefSeq)

RefSeq maintained independently of Annotated Genomes

These reference sequences exist independently of genome builds. [Explain](#)

Genomic

1. **NC_000007.3 Reference**
Range: 70465..72150
Download: [GenBank, FASTA Sequence Viewer \(beta\)](#)

mRNA and Protein(s)

1. **NM_000518.4 Reference**
Sense strand (NM)
Complement CDS: 48921..520372
UniProtKB/TrEMBL: A6ZQ73
UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot: P38672
Conserved Domains (1): [Summary](#)
c81848 globin: Globins are heme proteins, which bind and transport oxygen...
Localization: cytosolic
Blast Score: 277

RefSeq of Annotated Genomes: Build 26.3

The following sections contain reference sequences that belong to a specific genome build. [Explain](#)

Reference assembly

1. **NC_000011.8 Reference assembly**
Range: 520417..520372, complement
Download: [GenBank, FASTA Sequence Viewer \(beta\)](#)
2. **NT_009237.17**
Range: 403542..4033937, complement
Download: [GenBank, FASTA Sequence Viewer \(beta\)](#)

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Access to sequences: Entrez Gene at NCBI

Entrez Gene is a great starting point: it collects key information on each gene/protein from major databases. It covers all major organisms.

RefSeq provides a curated, optimal accession number for each DNA (NM_000518 for beta globin DNA corresponding to mRNA) or protein (NP_000509)

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Accession numbers are labels for sequences

NCBI includes databases (such as GenBank) that contain information on DNA, RNA, or protein sequences. You may want to acquire information beginning with a query such as the name of a protein of interest, or the raw nucleotides comprising a DNA sequence of interest.

DNA sequences and other molecular data are tagged with accession numbers that are used to identify a sequence or other record relevant to molecular data.

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What is an accession number?

An accession number is label that used to identify a sequence. It is a string of letters and/or numbers that corresponds to a molecular sequence.

Examples (all for retinol-binding protein, RBP4):

X02775	GenBank genomic DNA sequence	DNA
NT_030059	Genomic contig	
Rs7079946	dbSNP (single nucleotide polymorphism)	
N91759.1	An expressed sequence tag (1 of 170)	RNA
NM_006744	RefSeq DNA sequence (from a transcript)	
NP_007635	RefSeq protein	protein
AAC02945	GenBank protein	
Q28369	SwissProt protein	
1KT7	Protein Data Bank structure record	

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NCBI's important RefSeq project: best representative sequences

RefSeq (accessible via the main page of NCBI) provides an expertly curated accession number that corresponds to the most stable, agreed-upon “reference” version of a sequence.

RefSeq identifiers include the following formats:

Complete genome	NC_#####
Complete chromosome	NC_#####
Genomic contig	NT_#####
mRNA (DNA format)	NM_##### e.g. NM_006744
Protein	NP_##### e.g. NP_006735

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Entrez Gene (bottom of page): non-RefSeq accessions (it's unclear what these are, highlighting usefulness of RefSeq)			
Protein Accession	Uniprot	GeneID	UniProt ID/UniRef ID
CHS408			
Genomic: S82787.1			AAD14400.1
Genomic: U01317.1			AAA16324.1
Genomic: U01317.2			AAA15234.1
Genomic: U02272.1			AAA16316.1
Genomic: V00989.1			CAAS2257.1
Genomic: V00991.1			CAAS2377.1
mRNA: AF219150.1			AAQ19595.1
mRNA: AF219152.1			AAQ19597.1
mRNA: AF219159.1			AAQ20489.1
mRNA: AF291114.1			AAQ2929.1
mRNA: AF291115.1			AAQ2930.1
mRNA: ATY36110.1			AAH11200.1
mRNA: AY329313.1			AAH95298.1
mRNA: CDS03301.1			AAH95299.1
mRNA: CDS03303.1			AAH95300.1
mRNA: CDS1913.1			CAE46711.1
mRNA: CDS1924.1			None
mRNA: CDS2424.1			None
mRNA: CDS2425.1			None
mRNA: CDS2426.1			None
mRNA: CDS1601.1			None
mRNA: EU064432.1			ACD9949.1
mRNA: M11420.1			AAA15203.1
mRNA: M21113.1			AAA15232.1
mRNA: M21113.1			AAA33066.1
mRNA: V00971.1			CA427556.1
mRNA: V00972.1			CA427557.1
Synthetic: AM39217.1			CAJ37115.1
Synthetic: AM39331.1			CAJ38029.1
Synthetic: QCB9543.2			ABM87442.1
Synthetic: QCB9543.2			ABM87443.1
Synthetic: EU13774.1			ABM87357.1

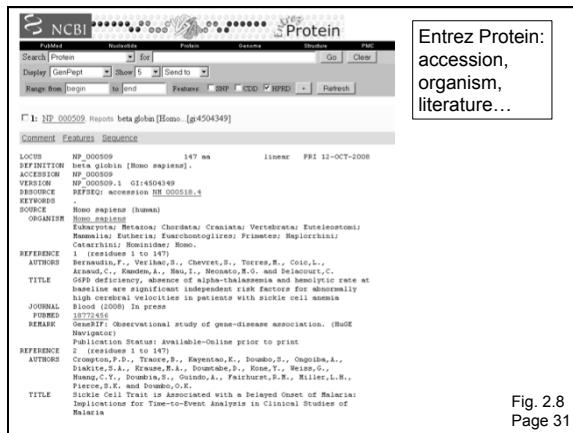


Fig. 2.8
Page 3

Entrez Protein:
...features of a protein, and its sequence
in the one-letter amino acid code

Fig. 2.8
Page 31

Entrez Protein:
You can change the display (as shown)...

Display: GenPept

Range: GenPept, GenPeptFull, PDB, XML, TinySeq, XML, ComSeq, XML, Graphical

LOCUS NP_000509.1 beta globin [Homo_sapiens]

DEFINITION beta globin [Homo_sapiens].

VERSION NP_000509.1

ORGANISM Homo sapiens (human)

REFERENCES (residues 1 to 147)

AUTHORS Benoit, C., Chevret, S., Torren, M., Cotic, L., Arnould, C., Koenen, A., Meau, I., Neostato, M.G. and Delacourt, C.

TITLE G6PD deficiency, absence of alpha-chalismenia and hemolytic rate at basal level, independent site factors for abnormally high cerebral velocities in patients with sickle cell anemia

JOURNAL Blood (2000) 105:1833-1838

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FASTA format:
versatile, compact with one header line
followed by a string of nucleotides or amino acids
in the single letter code

Display: FASTA

Range from begin to end

>NP_000509 ref|NP_000509.1| beta globin [Homo sapiens]

TVHLTPPEKSATVALWQRNVNDEVGGEALQLLVLVYPTQRFESTFGDLSTPDAVMONPKVKAHGKVKLG AFSDGQLHLNLKGTFATLSSELHCDELRLRVPPENFRLLGNVLUVCVLAAHFGKEFTPPVQAAYQRVAGVAN ALAHKTH

Fig. 2.9
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UniProt:
a centralized
protein
database
(uniprot.org)

The UniProt homepage features a search bar at the top with the query "beta globin". Below the search bar, there are tabs for "Search", "Blast", "Align", "Retrieves", and "ID Mapping". To the right of the search bar, there are links for "Downloads", "Contact", "Documentation", and "Help". The main content area includes a "WELCOME" section, a "NEWS" section with a link to "UniProt release 15.10 - Nov 3, 2009", a "What we provide" section with categories like UniProtKB, UniRef, UniParc, and Supporting data, and a "SITE TOUR" section with a screenshot of the site. At the bottom, there is a "PROTEIN SPOTLIGHT" section with a link to "In like a shot October 2009". The UniProt logo is prominently displayed in the center.

ExPASy: vast proteomics resources (www.expasy.ch)

The ExPASy homepage features a search bar with the query "beta globin". Below the search bar, there are links for "Databases", "Tools", "Services", "Mirrors", "About", and "Contact". The main content area includes sections for "Databases" (listing UniProtKB, PROSITE, HAMAP, SwissVar, ViralZone, SWISS-MODEL Repository, SWISS-2DPAGE, World-2DPAGE Repository, MAPEGIdB, ENZYME, GlycoSuiteDB, UniPathway [details] [full list]), "Tools & Software" (listing Proteomics tools, Blast, ScanProsite, Melanie, MSight, Make2D-DB, SWISS-MODEL, Swiss-PdbViewer [full list]), "Documentation" (listing What's New?, E-mail alerts, UniProtKB documentation, How to link to ExPASy, Advanced search [full list]), and "Latest News" (listing Protein Spotlight - Oct 24, 2009, World-2DPAGE - Oct 23, 2009, and a link to [more news] [SIB news]).

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Ensembl genome browser (www.ensembl.org)

Ensembl output for beta globin includes views of chromosome 11 (top), the region (middle), and a detailed view (bottom).

There are various horizontal annotation tracks.

[1] Visit <http://genome.ucsc.edu/>, click Genome Browser

UCSC Genome Bioinformatics

Genomes Blat Tables Gene Sorter PCR VisiGene Proteome Session FAQ Help

About the UCSC Genome Bioinformatics Site

We encourage you to explore these sequences with our tools. The Genome Browser zooms and scrolls over the work of annotators worldwide. The Gene Sorter shows expression, homology and other information gathered in many ways. The Table Browser maps your request to the genomic data. The Table Browser provides access to the underlying database. VisiGene lets you look through a large collection of mouse and human expression patterns. Genome Oracle allows you to upload and display genome-wide data sets.

The TIGR® Genome Resource is developed and maintained by the Genome Bioinformatics Group, a service of

[2] Choose organisms, enter query (beta globin), hit submit

Human (*Homo sapiens*) Genome Browser Gateway

The UCSC Genome Browser was created by the Genome Bioinformatics Group of UC Santa Cruz. Software Copyright © The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

clade genome assembly position or search term image width
Vertebrate Human May 2004 beta globin 1200 submit
Click here to reset the browser user interface settings to their defaults.
add custom tracks configure tracks and display clear position

[3] Choose the RefSeq beta globin gene

UCSC Genes	
HBG	(uc000fym_1) at chr11:5204383-521333 -
	Hemoglobin Lepore-Baltimore (Fragment).
HBG	(uc000fym_1) at chr11:5203272-5204077 -
	beta globin
HBG	(uc000fym_1) at chr11:5103635-5104434 -
	delta globin
BHLA	(uc000fzv_1) at chr16:1642846-167520 -
	transcription factor, winged helix, motif protein 17
BHLA	(uc000fzv_2) at chr16:1642846-167520 -
	alpha 1 globin
BHLA	(uc000fzv_2) at chr16:1642846-167520 -
	alpha 2 globin
BHLA	(uc000fzv_2) at chr16:1642846-167520 -
	alpha 1 globin
BHBP1	(uc000fzg_1) at chr11:5213197s-52213198 -
	Homo sapiens hemoglobin, beta pseudogene
RefSeq Genes	
HBG	at chr11:5204383-52204872 - (NM_000518) beta globin
HBFP1	at chr11:5213197s-52213198 - (NP_001589)

[4] The UCSC Genome Browser is an essential resource

- choose which tracks to display
- add custom tracks
- the Table Browser is complementary

Example of how to access sequence data: HIV-1 *pol*

There are many possible approaches. Begin at the main page of NCBI, and type an Entrez query: hiv-1 pol

Searching for HIV-1 pol: >130,000 nucleotide, protein hits

The screenshot shows the NCBI Entrez search interface with the query 'HIV-1 pol' entered. The results page displays a large number of hits (130,108) across various databases, including PubMed, PubChem, and GenBank. A detailed breakdown of the hit count is provided:

- 21,278 PubMed articles
- 43,677 PubChem Central full-text journal articles
- 13 Site Search: NCBI web and FTP sites
- 130,108 Nucleotide: Core subset of nucleotide sequence records
- 36 Protein: Protein sequence database
- 311 Genomes: Whole genome sequences
- 311 Structures: Three-dimensional structures
- 16 Taxonomies: Organisms in GenBank
- 16 SNPs: Single nucleotide polymorphisms
- 246 Genes: Gene-centered information
- 150 Short Read Archive
- 29 Interacting molecules
- 1 Human Proteins: eukaryotic homologs

Below the results, a note indicates: "Pond counts displayed in gray indicate one or more terms not found". The date '11/09' is visible at the bottom right.

**Searching for HIV-1 pol:
using the command hiv-1[organism] limits the output to just one entry**

The screenshot shows the NCBI search results for 'hiv-1[organism]'. It displays a single entry for 'HIV-1 genome, 1 complete genome' (NC_001802). The entry details include:

- Organism: Human immunodeficiency virus 1, complete genome
- Strain: 415R
- Type: Viral genome
- Created: 1998/01/22

A callout box provides instructions: 'Try Taxonomy Browser to easily limit your query to your favorite organism(s). Example: NCBI home → Taxonomy → Taxonomy browser → human → protein to find a human protein'.

The screenshots illustrate the difference in search results when using the [organism] search term:

- Top Screenshot:** Shows a search for 'HIV-1 pol' without the [organism] term, resulting in over 300,000 nucleotide entries.
- Middle Screenshot:** Shows a search for 'hiv-1[organism]' resulting in 14,870 entries.
- Bottom Screenshot:** Shows a search for 'hiv-1[organism]' resulting in 1 RefSeq entry (NC_001802).

A callout box highlights the 'over 300,000 nucleotide entries for HIV-1' in the top result.

Example of how to access sequence data: histone

query for "histone"	# results
protein records	85,000
RefSeq entries	32,000
RefSeq (limit to human)	1129
NOT deacetylase	863

At this point, select a reasonable candidate (e.g. histone 2, H4) and follow its link to Entrez Gene.

There, you can confirm you have the right protein.

11-09



Entrez Gene result for a histone



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Perspective 1: Protein domains and motifs

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Definitions

Signature:

- a protein category such as a domain or motif

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Definitions

Signature:

- a protein category such as a domain or motif

Domain:

- a region of a protein that can adopt a 3D structure
- a fold
- a family is a group of proteins that share a domain
- examples: zinc finger domain
 immunoglobulin domain

Motif (or fingerprint):

- a short, conserved region of a protein
- typically 10 to 20 contiguous amino acid residues

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15 most common domains (human)

Zn finger, C2H2 type	1093 proteins
Immunoglobulin	1032
EGF-like	471
Zn-finger, RING	458
Homeobox	417
Pleckstrin-like	405
RNA-binding region RNP-1	400
SH3	394
Calcium-binding EF-hand	392
Fibronectin, type III	300
PDZ/DHR/GLGF	280
Small GTP-binding protein	261
BTB/POZ	236
bHLH	226
Cadherin	226

Source: Integr8 at EBI website

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15 most common domains (various species)

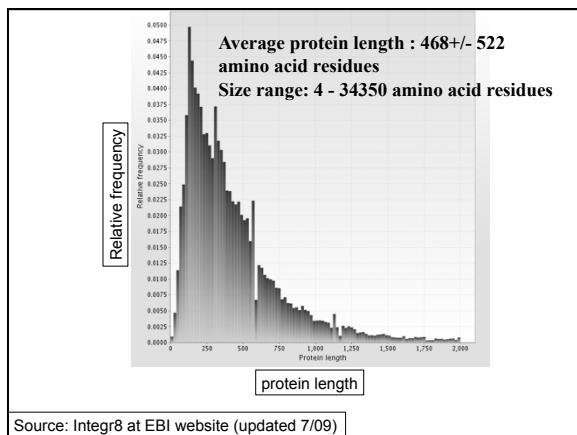
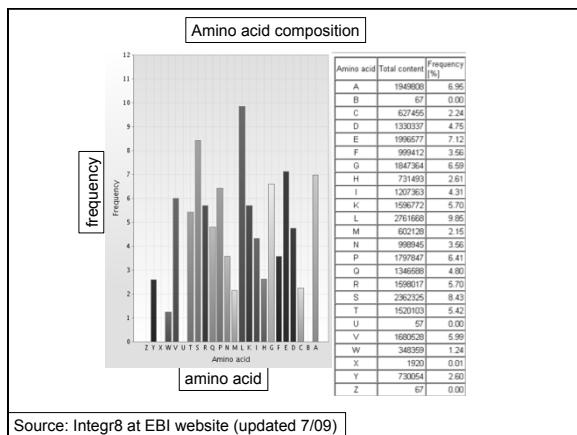
The European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI) offers many key proteomics resources at the Integr8 site:

<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/proteome/>

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1. Go to the Integr8 site: <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/proteome/>
2. Browse species; choose *Homo sapiens*.
3. Click "Proteome analysis"
4. Obtain a variety of statistics, such as common repeats, domains, average protein length

The screenshot shows the main interface of the Integr8 web portal. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Databases, Tools, EBI Groups, Training, Industry, About Us, and Site Index. Below the navigation is a search bar with fields for 'Search for species' (containing 'Homo sapiens') and 'Search for gene/protein' (containing 'Hsp70'). To the right of the search bar are buttons for 'All species' and 'Go'. A banner below the search bar reads: 'The Integr8 web portal provides easy access to integrated information about deciphered genomes and their corresponding proteomes. Available data includes DNA sequences (from databases including the EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Database, Genome Reviews, and Ensembl), protein sequences (from databases including the UniProt Knowledgebase, UniRef, and UniProtKB), and proteome analysis (performed using InSilico, Clustal, and GOA); and information about orthology, paralogy, and synteny. Integr8 data can also be accessed via the Integr8 FTP site.' At the bottom of the page, a footer section titled 'How to Integrate?' contains a brief text about leaving feedback.



Definition of a domain

According to InterPro at EBI (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/interpro>):

A domain is an independent structural unit, found alone or in conjunction with other domains or repeats.
 Domains are evolutionarily related.

According to SMART (<http://smart.embl-heidelberg.de>):

A domain is a conserved structural entity with distinctive secondary structure content and a hydrophobic core.
 Homologous domains with common functions usually show sequence similarities.

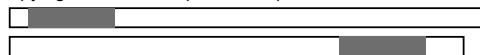
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Varieties of protein domains

Extending along the length of a protein



Occupying a subset of a protein sequence



Occurring one or more times



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Example of a protein with domains: Methyl CpG binding protein 2 (MeCP2)

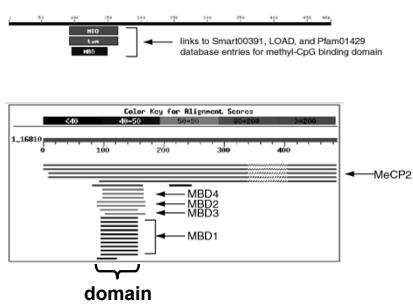


The protein includes a methylated DNA binding domain (MBD) and a transcriptional repression domain (TRD). MeCP2 is a transcriptional repressor.

Mutations in the gene encoding MeCP2 cause Rett Syndrome, a neurological disorder affecting girls primarily.

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Result of an MeCP2 blastp search: A methyl-binding domain shared by several proteins



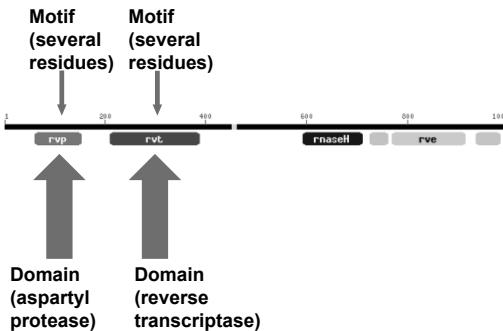
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Are proteins that share only a domain homologous?

MeCP2		486 aa
MBD1		605 aa
MBD2		411 aa
MBD2 (testis)		302 aa
MBD3		291 aa
MBD4		580 aa

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Proteins can have both domains and motifs (patterns)



Eukaryotic and viral aspartyl proteases signature and profile

PROSITE (cross-references)	
PS00141; ASP_PROTEASE	Retrieve an alignment of Swiss-Prot true positive hits: [Clustal format, color condensed view] [Clustal format, color] [Clustal format, pl]
PS00125; ASP_PROF_RETROV	Retrieve an alignment of Swiss-Prot true positive hits: [Clustal format, color condensed view] [Clustal format, color] [Clustal format, pl]
Documentation	
<p>Aspartyl proteases, also known as acid proteases, (EC 3.4.23.-) are a widely distributed group of proteases that are found in bacteria, fungi, plants, viruses and some plant viruses. Aspartate proteases of eukaryotes are monomeric enzymes which contain of two domains. Each domain contains a conserved sequence motif, which is highly conserved. The domains most probably evolved from the duplication of an ancestral gene containing a primate domain. Currently known eukaryotic aspartyl proteases are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vertebrate gastric pepsin A and C (also known as gastrinase). - Vertebrate chymosin (rennin), involved in digestion and used for making cheese. - Vertebrate lysosomal cathepsins D (EC 3.4.23.3) and E (EC 3.4.23.34). - Bacterial aspartyl proteases that function to generate endopeptidase I from endopeptidase II in the plasma. - Fungal proteases such as aspergillopepsin A (EC 3.4.23.18), candidapepsin (EC 3.4.23.19), trichocomacepsin (EC 3.4.23.20), aspergillamepramycin (EC 3.4.23.21), polygalopepsin (EC 3.4.23.22), and chitosapepsin (EC 3.4.23.23). - Yeast asochoreopain (EC 3.4.23.23) (protease A) (gene PEP4). PEP4 is involved in the regulation of the yeast cell cycle and regulates the alpha-factor. - Yeast barriopepsin (EC 3.4.23.23) (gene RAS1); a protease that cleaves alpha-factor and thus acts as an antagonist of the mating pheromone. <p>Protein families associated with this profile:</p>	
Consensus pattern [LVVMP[GAC][LVVMTADIN][LVVFA]-D-[ST]-Q-[STAV] [STAPIDENQ]-x-[LVVMFSTNC]-x-[LVVMFGTAA][D is the active site residue]	
Sequences known to belong to this class detected by the pattern ALL	
Other sequence(s) detected in Swiss-Prot 37	
Sequences known to belong to this class detected by the profile ALL viral-type proteases	

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Definition of a motif

A motif (or fingerprint) is a short, conserved region of a protein. Its size is often 10 to 20 amino acids.

Simple motifs include transmembrane domains and phosphorylation sites. These do not imply homology when found in a group of proteins.

PROSITE (www.expasy.org/prosite) is a dictionary of motifs (there are currently 1600 entries). In PROSITE, a pattern is a qualitative motif description (a protein either matches a pattern, or not). In contrast, a profile is a quantitative motif description. We will encounter profiles in Pfam, ProDom, SMART, and other databases.

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Summary of Perspective 1: Protein domains and motifs

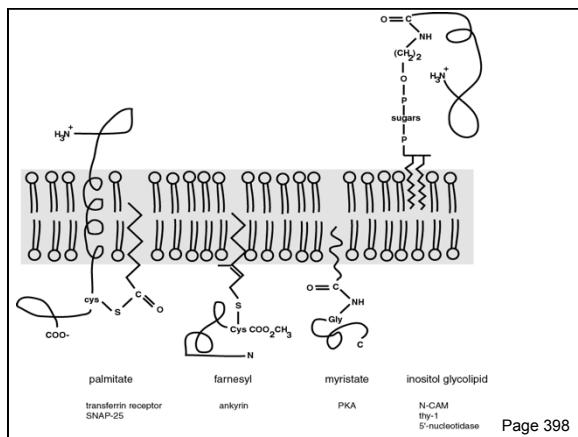
A signature is a protein category such as a domain or motif.

You can learn about domains at Integr8, and at databases such as InterPro and Pfam.

A motif (or fingerprint) is a short, conserved sequence. You can study motifs at Prosite at ExPASy.

Perspective 2: Physical properties of proteins

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Physical properties of proteins

Many websites are available for the analysis of individual proteins. ExPASy and ISREC are two excellent resources.

The accuracy of these programs is variable. Predictions based on primary amino acid sequence (such as molecular weight prediction) are likely to be more trustworthy. For many other properties (such as posttranslational modification of proteins by specific sugars), experimental evidence may be required rather than prediction algorithms.

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Access a variety of protein analysis programs from the top right of the ExPASy home page



Compute pI/Mw

RETB HUMAN (P02753)

DE Plasma retinol-binding protein precursor (PRBP) (RBP).
OS Homo sapiens (Human).

The computation has been carried out on the complete sequence.

Molecular weight: 22867.85

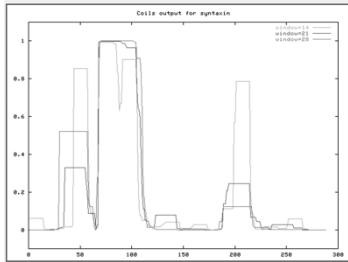
Theoretical pI: 5.48

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Coils output for syntaxin

[ISREC-Server] Date: Sat Oct 27 20:52:40 MET 2001

```
# COILS version 2.1
# using PUPP matrix
# no weights
# Input file is ../wwwtmp/.COILS.27003.1040.seq
#>syntaxin, 288 bases, 5DFFEF76 checksum.
```



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Protein secondary structure

Protein secondary structure is determined by the amino acid side chains.

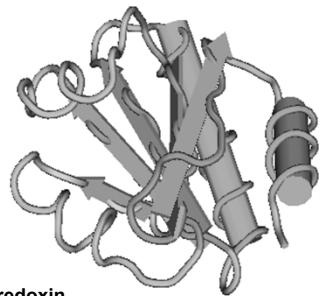
Myoglobin is an example of a protein having many α -helices. These are formed by amino acid stretches 4-40 residues in length.

Thioredoxin from *E. coli* is an example of a protein with many β sheets, formed from β strands composed of 5-10 residues. They are arranged in parallel or antiparallel orientations.

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Myoglobin
(John Kendrew, 1958)

Fig. 11.3
Page 427



Thioredoxin

Fig. ~11.3
Page 427

Secondary structure prediction

Chou and Fasman (1974) developed an algorithm based on the frequencies of amino acids found in α helices, β -sheets, and turns.

Proline: occurs at turns, but not in α helices.

GOR (Garnier, Osguthorpe, Robson): related algorithm

Modern algorithms: use multiple sequence alignments and achieve higher success rate (about 70-75%)

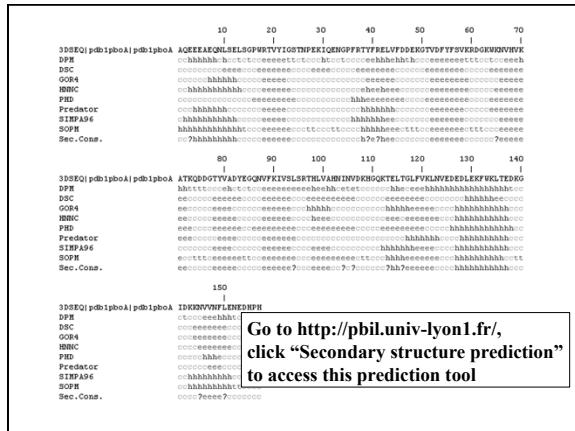
Page 427

Secondary structure prediction

Web servers:

GOR4
Jpred
NNPREDICT
PHD
Predator
PredictProtein
PSIPRED
SAM-T99sec

Table 11-3
Page 429



Tertiary protein structure: protein folding

Main approaches:

- [1] Experimental determination
(X-ray crystallography, NMR)
 - [2] Prediction
 - ▶ Comparative modeling (based on homology)
 - ▶ Threading
 - ▶ *Ab initio* (de novo) prediction

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Experimental approaches to protein structure

- [1] X-ray crystallography
 - Used to determine 80% of structures
 - Requires high protein concentration
 - Requires crystals
 - Able to trace amino acid side chains
 - Earliest structure solved was myoglobin

 - [2] NMR
 - Magnetic field applied to proteins in solution
 - Largest structures: 350 amino acids (40 kDa)
 - Does not require crystallization

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Steps in obtaining a protein structure

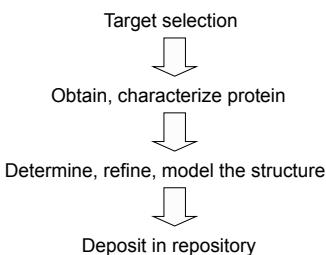


Fig 11.5
page 431

The Protein Data Bank (PDB)

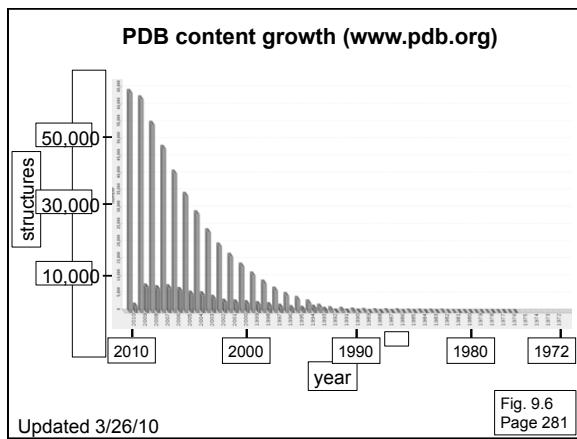
- PDB is the principal repository for protein structures
- Established in 1971
- Accessed at <http://www.rcsb.org/pdb> or simply <http://www.pdb.org>
- Currently contains 64,000 structure entities

Updated 3/26/10

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The screenshot shows the RCSB PDB homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for "Home", "Contact Us", "Feedback", "Help", and "Logout". The main content area features a large image of a protein structure labeled "Molecule of the Month: Hsp90". Below this, there's a section titled "A Resource for Studying Biological Macromolecules" with text about the PDB archive and its tools. A sidebar on the left lists various menu items like "Home", "Getting Started", "Download Files", "Deposit and Validate", "Dictionaries & File Formats", "General Education", "Site Tutorials", "Bodymaps", "Publications", "Acknowledgments", and "Frequently Asked Questions". A "Quick Tips" box provides information on using the RCSB API and browser compatibility. At the bottom, there's a note about the RCSB being managed by Rutgers, UConn, and NIST, and funded by NEAMS, DOE, NLM, NID, NIEHS, NIBIB, and NIDDK.

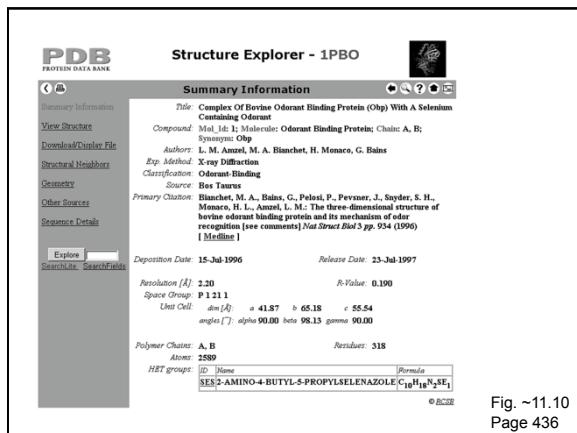
Fig. 11.7
Page 435



PDB holdings (12/08)

50,621	proteins, peptides
2,225	protein/nucl. complexes
1,946	nucleic acids
33	<u>other; carbohydrates</u>
54,825	total

Table 11-4
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Viewing hemoglobin (accession 2h35) at PDB

PDB PROTEIN DATA BANK

As of Tuesday Dec 16, 2008 there are 54955 Structures | PDB Statistics

2h35 | DOI or PMID: 18676598 | Site Search | Advanced Search

Home Search Results Help | Structure Summary | Sequence Details | Biology & Chemistry | Materials & Methods | Annotations | External Links

2h35 | Download Files | FASTA Sequence | PDBx/MOLZipped Files | Display Molecule | Structural Report | External Links | Structure Analysis | Help

Quick Tips: To view the 3D structure click the link in the viewers under the image

Learn more: [M] DOI 10.2210/pdb2h35/pdb

Red - Derived Information

Title: Solution structure of Human normal adult hemoglobin

Authors: Fan, J.S., Yang, D.

Primary Citation: Xu, Y., Zhang, Y., Fan, J.S., Yang, D. (2008). A new strategy for structural determination of hemoglobin by NMR without individual denaturation. *Methods* 42: 654-657. [Abstract]

History: 2006-11-14 2008-05-22 Release

Experimental Method: NMR Ensemble

NMR Ensemble: Conformers Calculated: 20 Conformers Structures: 20 Selection Criteria: Solvent-accessible geometry, structures with the least restraint violations, structures with the lowest energy

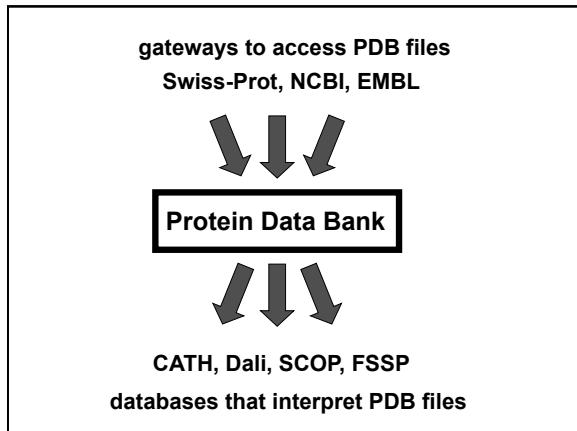
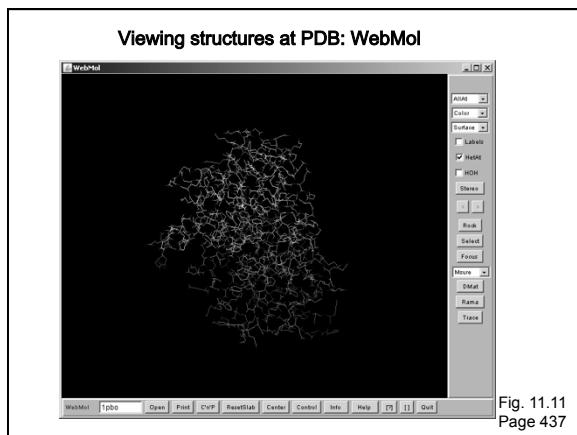
NMR Refine: Method: NMR, 20 STRUCTURES Data N/A

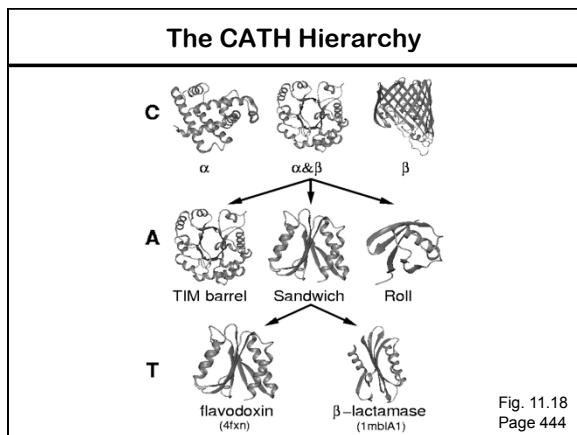
Molecular Description: Polymer: 1. Monoclinic Hemoglobin alpha Subunit: Chain A: Hemoglobin beta Subunit: Chain B: D

Structure Weight: 64555.86

Classification: Oxygen Storage/Transport

Source: Journal: 1 | Scientific Name: Homo sapiens | Common Name: Humans | Expression:





Access to PDB through NCBI

You can access PDB data at the NCBI several ways.

- Go to the Structure site, from the NCBI homepage
- Use Entrez
- Perform a BLAST search, restricting the output to the PDB database

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Fig. ~11.12
Page 438

BLAST Basic Local Alignment Search Tool

NCBI BLAST! blastp

Enter Query Sequence

Enter accession number, gi, or FASTA sequence: np_003270

From: To:

Or, upload file: Browse

Job Title: NP_003270 fast skeletal muscle troponin C...
Enter a descriptive title for your BLAST search.

Blast 2 sequences

Choose Search Set

Database: Non-redundant protein sequences (nr) [S] Non-redundant protein sequences (nr)
Reference protein (refseq_protein)
Swissprot protein sequences (swissprot)
Patented protein sequences (pat)

Entrez Query: Protein Data Bank proteins (pdb) [S] Only 20 top taxa will be shown.
Environmental samples (env_nr)

**Do a blastp search;
set the database to pdb (Protein Data Bank)**

Sequences producing significant alignments:

Score (Bits)	E Value	Sequence
311	5e-86	g:01120511A Chain A, Copolymer Of Troponin C With A 47 Residue I...
308	7e-85	g:01120511A Chain A, Crystal Structure Of Calcium-Saturated Ba...
289	3e-79	g:01120511C Chain C, Crystal Structure Of Skeletal Muscle Tro...
287	1e-78	g:01120511A Chain A, Rude Solution Structure Of Calcium Saturat...
287	1e-78	g:01120511A Chain A, Refined Structure Of Chicken Skeletal Mus...
287	4e-78	g:01120511A Chain A, Crystal Structure Of Calcium-Saturated (...
287	5e-52	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Calcium-Saturated Troponin C...
287	5e-52	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Feline Cardiac Troponin C...
287	5e-52	g:01120511A Chain A, Solution Structure Of F150 Cardiac Tropon...
197	2e-51	g:01120511A Chain A, Solution Structure Of Calcium-Saturated C...
197	4e-51	g:01120511A Chain A, Solubilized Structure And Chemical Shift Ass...
197	4e-51	g:01120511A Chain A, X-Ray Crystallographic Study Of Calcium-S...
167	2e-42	g:01120511A Chain A, Calcium-Bound Edma Mutant Of The N-Doamin...
167	7e-42	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of A New Mutant Of N-Doamino...
167	7e-41	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Apo-Calcmodulin Bound To Onco...
167	1e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Apo-Calcmodulin Bound To Onco...
167	1e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Crystal Structure Of Anthrax Edema Factor...
167	4e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Calmodulin Bound To A Cystein...
167	4e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Crystal Structure Of Calmodulin Bound To...
167	5e-39	g:01120511A Calmodulin Complexed With Cev1. Ig Peptide
155	5e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, 2.0 Å Crystal Structure Of The Cev1. Ig
155	5e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Target Enzyme Recognition By Calmodulin ...
155	5e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Apo-Calcmodulin Bound To Onco...
155	5e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Apo-Calcmodulin Bound To Onco...
155	5e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Apo-Calcmodulin Bound To Onco...
155	6e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Modulation Of Calcium Plasticity By Bo...
155	6e-39	g:01120511A Chain A, Modulation Of Calcium Plasticity By Bo...
155	6e-39	g:01120511B Chain B, Crystal Structure Of Anthrax Edema Factor...
155	2e-38	g:01120511A Chain D, Crystal Structure Of The Adenylyl Cyclase...
155	2e-38	g:01120511A Chain A, Calmodulin Mutant With A 4 Residue Dele...
155	3e-38	g:01120511A Chain A, Myosin VI Muscletein-Free (Mlineact) Cyt...
153	3e-38	g:01120511A Chain A, Structural Genomics Of Camorthohabitic El...
153	3e-38	g:01120511B Chain B, Myosin VI (Mid-Insert-2-Cm, Delta Insert-1...
153	8e-38	g:01120511A Chain A, Structure Of Paracortin Tetrameric Calmo...
151	4e-38	g:01120511A Chain A, The 1.0 Å Resolution Crystal Structure Of Ca...

Structure accession (e.g. 2J7Z)

Structure links

NCBI Structure

Search Structure

Display: Summary | Show 20 | Sort by: | Send to: | Download CnID

All: 10 | Bacterial: 0 | Eukaryotic: 10 | Ligand: 0 | NMR: 0 | X-ray: 10 |

Items 1 - 10 of 10 | One page.

Recent Activity: Turn On | Clear | Activity recording is turned off. Turn recording back on.

1: 2HLV Related Structures, Domains, Ligands, Other Links

Bovine Odorant Binding Protein Derwrapped Triple Mutant
[ImrnId:653212]

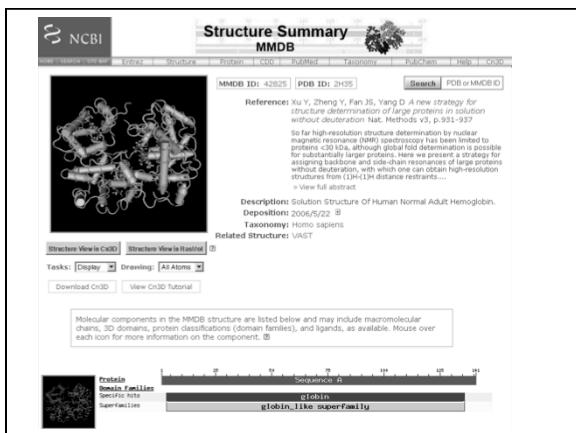
2: 1CBP Related Structures, Literature, Domains, Other Links

Odorant-Binding Protein From Bovine Nasal Mucosa
[ImrnId:50597]

3: 1GT1 Related Structures, Literature, Domains, Other Links

Complex Of Bovine Odorant Binding Protein With Ammoniumscrene And Pyranne
[ImrnId:49328]

Fig. 9.14
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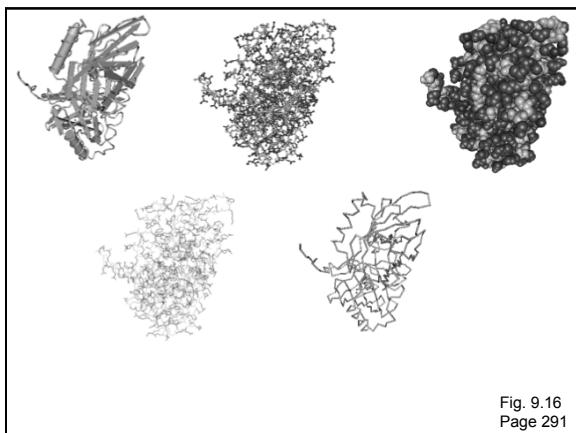
Access to PDB structures through NCBI

Molecular Modeling DataBase (MMDB)

Cn3D ("see in 3D" or three dimensions):
structure visualization software

Vector Alignment Search Tool (VAST):
view multiple structures

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Introduction to Perspectives 3 and 4: Gene Ontology (GO) Consortium

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The Gene Ontology Consortium

An ontology is a description of concepts. The GO Consortium compiles a dynamic, controlled vocabulary of terms related to gene products.

There are three organizing principles:

Molecular function
Biological process
Cellular compartment

You can visit GO at <http://www.geneontology.org>. There is no centralized GO database. Instead, curators of organism-specific databases assign GO terms to gene products for each organism.

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GO terms are assigned to Entrez Gene entries

Provided by SGD

Function	Evidence
heme binding	IEA
hemoglobin binding	IDA PubMed
iron ion binding	IEA
metal ion binding	ND
molecular function	IDA PubMed
oxygen binding	IEA
oxygen binding	IEA
oxygen transporter activity	IEA
oxygen transporter activity	NAS PubMed

Process	Evidence
biological process	ND
nitric oxide transport	NAS PubMed
oxygen transport	IEA
oxygen transport	NAS PubMed
oxygen transport	TAS PubMed
positive regulation of nitric oxide biosynthetic process	NAS PubMed
regulation of blood pressure	IEA
regulation of blood vessel size	IEA
transport	IEA

Component	Evidence
hemoglobin complex	IEA
hemoglobin complex	NAS PubMed
hemoglobin complex	TAS PubMed

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HBB
protein from *Homo sapiens* (human)

Term associations • Gene product information • Peptide Sequence • Sequence information •

Term Associations

D gene association format D RDF-XML

▼ Filter associations displayed D

Filter Associations—

Ontology	Evidence Code	Set filters
GO	IC	
biological process	IDA	
cellular component	IEA	
molecular function	EXP	

Remove all filters

Select all Clear all Perform an action with the selected terms... [Get]

Accession, Term	Ontology	Qualifier	Evidence	Reference	Assigned by
165985 gene products	biological process		ND	UniProtKB:Q9UPB1	UniProtKB
GO:0008150 : biological_process					
GO:0005833 : 27 gene products	cellular component		NAS	UniProtKB:Q9UPB1	UniProtKB
hemoglobin complex					
164057 gene products	molecular function		ND	UniProtKB:Q9UPB1	UniProtKB
GO:0003674 : molecular_function					

[Select all] [Clear all] Perform an action with the selected terms... [Get]

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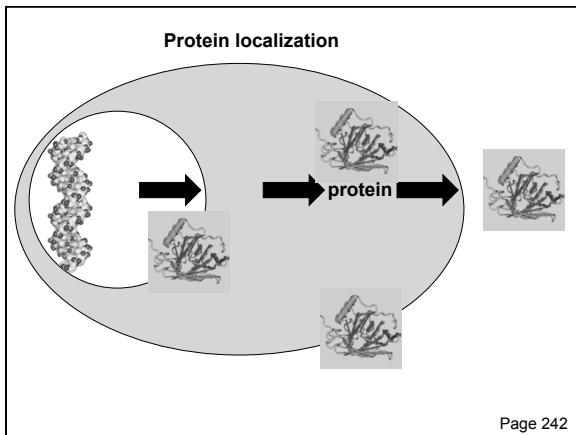
The Gene Ontology Consortium: Evidence Codes

IC	Inferred by curator
IDA	Inferred from direct assay
IEA	Inferred from electronic annotation
IEP	Inferred from expression pattern
IGI	Inferred from genetic interaction
IMP	Inferred from mutant phenotype
IPI	Inferred from physical interaction
ISS	Inferred from sequence or structural similarity
NAS	Non-traceable author statement
ND	No biological data
TAS	Traceable author statement

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Perspective 3: Protein localization

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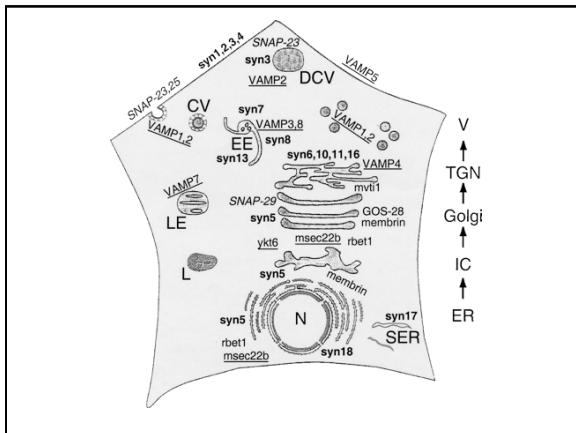
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Protein localization

Proteins may be localized to intracellular compartments, cytosol, the plasma membrane, or they may be secreted. Many proteins shuttle between multiple compartments.

A variety of algorithms predict localization, but this is essentially a cell biological question.

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Results of Subprograms

```
PSG: a new signal peptide prediction method
N-region: length 2; pos.chg 1; neg.chg 0
H-region: length 14; peak value 10.03
PSG score: 5.63

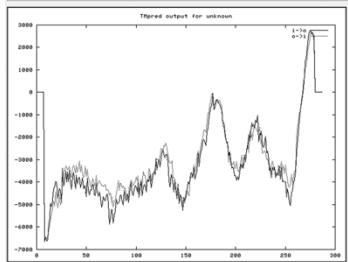
GvH: von Heijne's method for signal seq. recognition
GvH score (threshold: -2.1): 3.93
possible cleavage site: between 16 and 17

>>> Seems to have a cleavable signal peptide (1 to 16)
```

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```
2 possible models considered, only significant TM-segments used
----> slightly preferred model: N-terminus inside
1 strong transmembrane helices, total score : 2757
# from to length score orientation
1 266 284 (19) 2757 i-o

----> alternative model
1 strong transmembrane helices, total score : 2690
# from to length score orientation
1 266 288 (23) 2690 o-i
```



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