

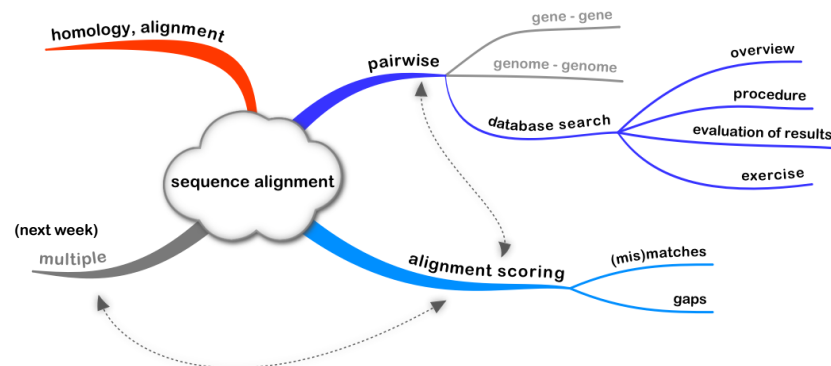
Database searches Nov 15, 2019

heute!

10h: 3 Computer Pools (1a, 1b, 2a)

11: 2 Computer Pools (1a, 2a)

Today's topics



Analysis & comparison of sequences

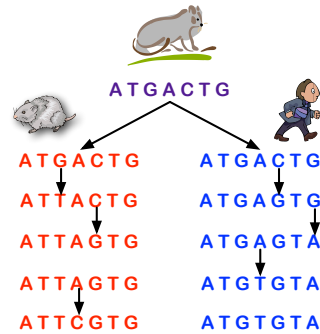
sequence data: abundant & relevant for many disciplines!

- database searching (pairwise alignments)
 - identify / collect **homologous** sequences or domains
- multiple sequence alignment
 - study conservation & variability of **homologous** sequences
- phylogenetic analysis
 - infer evolutionary history of **homologous** sequences
- genome alignment and assembly
- structure analysis & prediction
- ...

Homology

homologs

- morphological structures, sequences, domains,
- derived from a common ancestor (and evolving!)
- all-or-nothing condition



similarity / identity

- a quantitative measure

ATTTCGTG
ATGTGTA

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Sequence alignment

the comparison & relative arrangement of sequences by

- searching for similarities between their characters (amino acids or nucleotides) and
- possibly inserting gaps in each sequence

pairwise sequence alignment

MYITENGMDÉFNPKVSLERALDDSNR
MYITENGRDEASTGKIDLK----DSER

multiple sequence alignment

VGKGLMCGAGLK----MGNLRIEYVIDNADRTGSLK
PGNGYGYGAGLRVDSPLGPIRLLEYAFNDCKA-RRFH
AGKGAAYGVGVK----LGSIRTEYANDCNTDTGTALF
AGKGAAYGVGVK----LGSIRTEYANDCNTDTGTALF
AGKGAAYGVGVK----LGSIRTEYANDCNTDTGTALF
VGNCSYGVGVK----LGAVRAEYAVDHNACTGAFF
PGFGVGFYGIHFNIDGQIRVDYAMNAFSL-KTIY
VGHCSYGVGVK----LGAVRAEYAVDHNACTGAFF
PGSGYGYGVGVKVDSPGLPIRLLEYAFNDCKA-RRFH
VGHCSYGLGVK----LGLVRGEYIVDHNACTGTVF
PGSGYGFGGVVRMDSPVGPVRLEYAWNAGE-GRFH
PGSGYGYGLGVKVDSPGLPIRLLEYAFNDCKA-RRFH

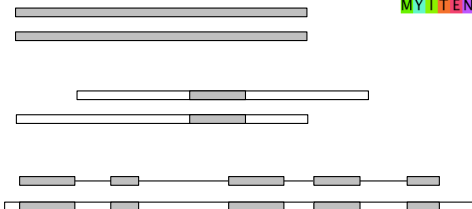
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Pairwise alignment

two gene sequences

- global or local
- homologous sequences from different species
- homologous sequences from the same species
- genomic vs. cDNA sequence
- ...

MYITENGMDÉFNPKVSLERALDDSNR
MYITENGRDEASTGKIDLK----DSER



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Pairwise alignment

two entire genomes

- global or local
- computation, display

CTTCTAAACCTTTGGTATAGGTTCAAACTCTATTGGACCAATATAATA
CTTCTAAACCTTTGGTATAGGTTCAAACTCTATTGGACCAATATAATA
TATCTATATTGATTTTATCTATTATTTCATTTCTATATATATATATATA
CATATAAA-----ATTATTTG--CAATTGCATATATATATCTTA-ATATA
ATATCTATTTCGAAAAAGAGAGAAATAAATAGAAATAGAAAAAATTC
ATTCTGATATTTCACAAA-----ATAGGTTATGAA-----TTTC
TGAATGCTTTAAGATTTAATATTAAACABATATAGCTAGATACCTTCCT
TTATTTCTTT--ATCTTTATTTAA--ATATTTGATAAAAGGAGAG--
CTATATATATATCTGACCTATAGACTCTATTTCTAGAAATTTCTTAAGA
-EAGTATGCTGGGTTCCTGGTAATAATAATAATAATAATTTT-----
AATTAATTAATAATAATAATAATAATAATAATAATAATAATAATAATA
AA--TTAAAAATCAATGA-EAAGATT-----ATGAATTTT-----
ATAATCCCTTTCCTTTTATATTTCTCTCTGAAGTAAAGAAACCTTCTAG
-TAATCAATT-----TTTCTTACCTTCTCTGAAGTAAAGAAACCTTCTAG
TTGCTCTTGAATACCTTCTTTCAAAAAGCTTTCTGCTTCAAGCGTTAATG
ATGTTCTTGAATACCTTCTTTCAAAAAGCTTTCTGCTTCAAGCGTTAATG

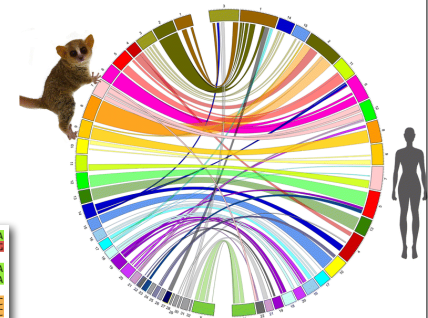


image taken from <http://tinyurl.com/y9e6su4x>

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Database search

very frequent problem

- I have a starting (query) sequence
- I want to compare it to homologous sequences
- ...but which other sequences are homologous to it?

solution: database search!

- compare query to a collection of sequences
- identify / collect homologs for further analysis



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Database search using BLAST

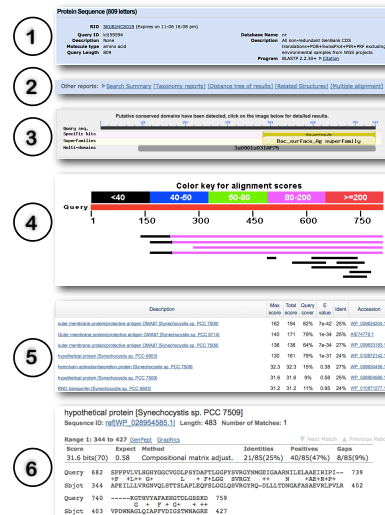
- BLAST
- compute & score pairwise alignments between a starting (query) sequence and sequences in a database
 - statistically evaluate the alignments, return the best alignments
- YOU →
- decide if the similarity is the result of homology (shared ancestry) or of chance



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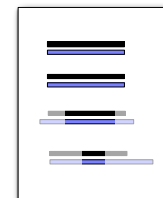
BLAST results

1. Header
2. Other reports:
 - Search Summary
 - Taxonomy reports
 - Distance tree of results
 - Multiple alignment
3. Conserved Domains
4. Graphic Summary
5. Summary table of alignments
6. Alignments



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- Sequences producing significant alignments:
- | Score | E | Value |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1048 | 0.0 | |
| 493 | e-139 | |
| 35 | 0.14 | |
| 33 | 0.46 | |
| 33 | 0.54 | |
| 30 | 2.8 | |
- 5
- Sequences producing significant alignments:
- | Score | E | Value |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 1048 | 0.0 | |
| 493 | e-139 | |
| 35 | 0.14 | |
| 33 | 0.46 | |
| 33 | 0.54 | |
| 30 | 2.8 | |
- 6
- >TOC75_ORYSJ RecName: Full=Protein TOC75, chloroplastic; AltName: Full=75 kDa translocan at the outer-envelope-membrane of chloroplasts; Flags: Precursor; Length = 817
- Score = 1048 bits (2789), Expect = 0.0, Method: Compositional matrix adjust.
- Identities = 487/695 (70%), Positives = 579/695 (83%), Gaps = 4/695 (0%)
- Query: 119 FWSRILSPARAIADPEKSEWDHSLPADITVLRLSGFKKYYKISDILFFDRNKSQVE 178
- Subject: 123 FWSRISFGGAHADEKSSGDWDPHGLPANINVPMTKLSGLKRYKISELKFDRRAAGGGGA 182
- Score: 30.4 bits (67), Expect = 2.8, Method: Compositional matrix adjust.
- Identities = 16/37 (43%), Positives = 21/37 (56%), Gaps = 1/37 (2%)
- Query: 738 PIKTHVYFAEHGTLGSSKDVKNPTV-VYRRMGQ 773
- Subject: 85 PVLAKVDNEEHKDLASENDVGFPTIKIFRNGGK 121



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Database search using BLAST

considerations & challenges:

- **score similarities?**
- **efficiently search the database?**
 - query: 1 sequence, 500-1000 bp or aa
 - GenBank: 209,656,636 sequences, 279,668,290,132 bases
- **statistically evaluate if the similarity could be due to chance?**

```
MYITENGMDDEFNNPKVSLERALDDSNR
||||||| || | | |||
MYITENGRDEASTGKIDLK----DSER
```



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Scoring an alignment

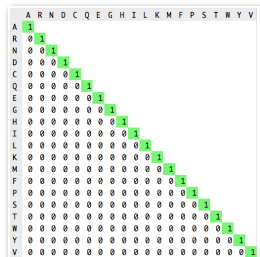
- **matches**
- **mismatches**
- **gaps**
- **a scoring matrix is used for matches, mismatches,**
- **gap penalties are used for opening / extending gaps**
- **alignment score: sum of scores at each alignment position, $S = \sum s_{ij}$**
- **goal: identify the optimal alignment**

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Scoring an alignment

```
seq 1 MYITENGMD EYNNPKVSLERALDDSNR
      ||||| || | | |||
seq 2 MYITENGRDEASTGKIDLK----DSER
```

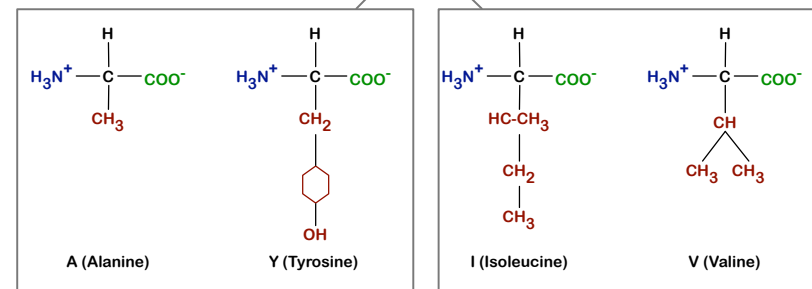
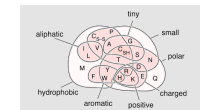
score: 1+1+1+1+1+1+0+1+1+0+0+0+1+0+0+1+0+1+1+0+1 = 14



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Scoring an alignment

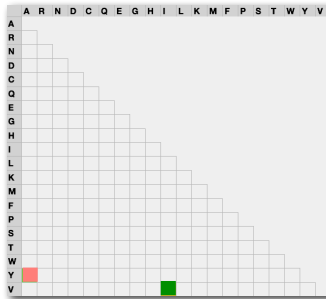
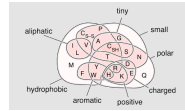
```
seq 1 MYITENGMD EYNNPKVSLERALDDSNR
      ||||| || | | |||
seq 2 MYITENGRDEASTGKIDLK----DSER
```



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Scoring an alignment

seq 1 MYITENGMD~~E~~YNNPKVSLERALDDSNR
 seq 2 MYITENG~~RDE~~ASTGKIDLK----DSER

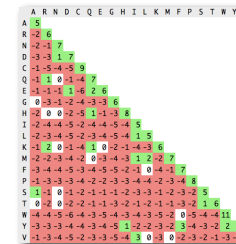


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Scoring an alignment

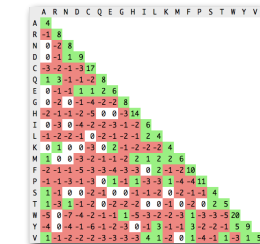
very similar
homologous sequences

QCRKYP L Y R A I K K D L G T E Q L T
 QCRKYP L Y R A I K K D L G T D Q L T
 QCRKYP L Y R M L K K D L G T E Q L T
 QCRSYP L Y R M L K K D L G T E Q L S
 QCRSYP L Y R K V K K E L G T E Q L T
 QCRSYP L Y R K V S K E L G I E Q L T
 ECRSYP L Y R K I K K E L G T G Q L T
 QCRRY P L Y R K I K K E I G T G Q L T



more divergent
homologous sequences

ADLKT LAEEKSHIQVRFT ECRGYS L
 AHKKT LADEKSHIQVRFTDCRGYTL
 ADKKN LAEEKVHIQVFFTECKGYPL
 DAKIT LASSKPHIAVRFQTQHPYPL
 AKKIT LANSRPHIDTRFTQLRAYPL
 AKKIT VASGRPHIATRFQVQRAYPL
 AAVIT LGTGGQGISAHFQECRGLPL
 AARVTLGTGGQGISVHFQECRGLPL
 AARIT LATAGGQISVHFAECRGYPL



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BLOSUM matrices

- **B**LOCKS amino acid **S**UBSTITUTION **M**ATRICES
- based on local alignments of divergent sequences
- different BLOSUM matrices are based on observed alignments with different degrees of similarity

- BLOSUM60 matrix:

derived from and best used for
sequences that are 60% identical

for proteins of

BLOSUM45 45% identity
 BLOSUM60 60%
 BLOSUM90 90%

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Substitution matrices

- ➔ which amino acids occur together in the alignment columns more often than expected by chance?

trusted alignment of
homologous sequences

ADLKT LAEEKSHIQVRFT ECRGYS L
 AHKKT LADEKSHIQVRFTDCRGYTL
 ADKKN LAEEKVHIQVFFTECKGYPL
 DAKIT LASSKPHIAVRFQTQHPYPL
 AKKIT LANSRPHIDTRFTQLRAYPL
 AKKIT VASGRPHIATRFQVQRAYPL
 AAVIT LGTGGQGISAHFQECRGLPL
 AARVTLGTGGQGISVHFQECRGLPL
 AARIT LATAGGQISVHFAECRGYPL

$$s(a, b) = \log \left(\frac{p_{ab}}{q_a q_b} \right)$$



p_{ab} : observed frequency of residues a and b aligned
 q_a, q_b : frequencies of residues a and b

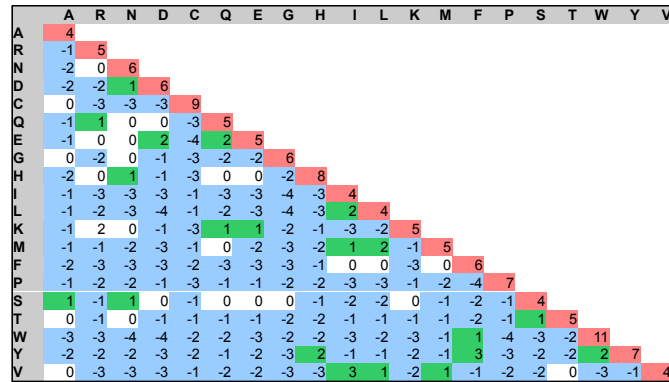
M: 0.01
 L: 0.1
 ML: 0.002

$$s(M, L) = \log \left(\frac{0.002}{0.01 \cdot 0.1} \right) = +1$$

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BLOSUM62

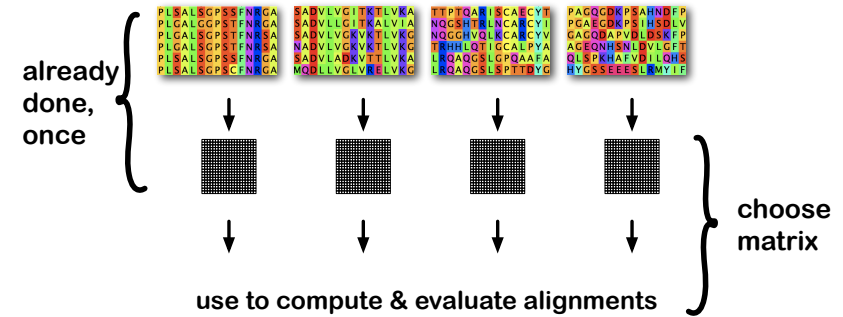
gaps: -2 each



MYITENGMDFFNPKVSLERALDDSNR → MYITENGMDFFNPKVSLERALDDSNR
 MYITENGREASTGKIDLDKDSER → MYITENGREASTGKIDLK----DSER → 60

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(BLOSUM) matrices



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Scoring matrices

identity matrices

- easy to understand and implement
- biologically not very realistic

matrices based on physico-chemical aa properties

- better than identity scores
- different divergence times - same scores!

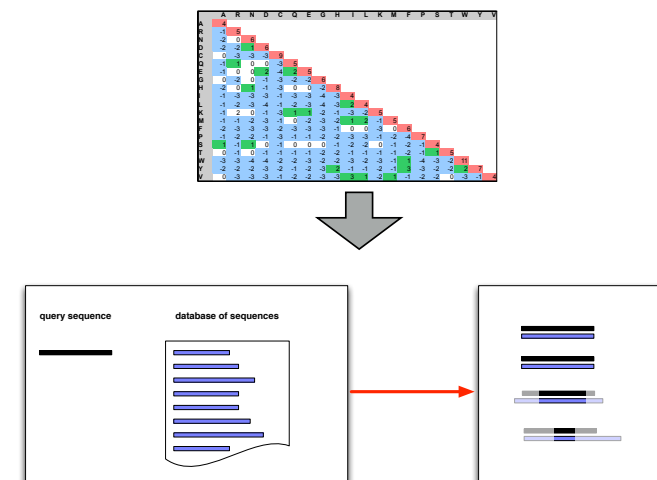
BLOSUM matrices

- evolutionary perspective:
sequences accumulate changes over time

(many other matrices exist, some are very specific)

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Finding & evaluating sequence matches



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Pairwise alignment approaches

exhaustive search

- compare every position of the query with every position of every database sequence
- not practical

```

MELPTRD      SRGCMFAAIAAL      PPTVKNSN
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
GCMFA        GCMFA            GCMFA
    
```

heuristics

- most popular approach: BLAST
- exclude unpromising regions from the search

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Main steps of BLAST

- pre-processing of the database to be searched
- seeding
 - homologous sequences contain (at least) short stretches of identical or high-scoring amino acids

```

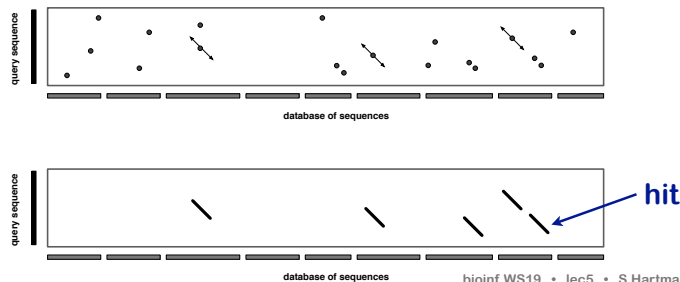
KRTDADGAVRG FCFL TASPQLQAMQVQKSASIALERLKEVAYMKQETRNISQGMIRSREKGLQFVRETT EVKN TLFQDQLRLQQLVADFLTAVRFTSSS
||||| + + ||||| + + + + + ||| + + + + + ||| + + + + + ||| + + + + + ||| + + + + + ||| + + + + + |||
KRTDERGNIIG FCFL TMAVDHPQISARDIDRECLSTLKEFAYIQQMKNVSVQMIPLKEKNLQLLHDIP QIKS PIYGDQIKLQLVLSDFLLSIVRHAPSP
    
```

- these will be identified and used as seeds
- extension to a good longer alignment
- evaluation of statistical significance
- ranking & presentation of alignments

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Seeding & extension

- the locations of short, high scoring hits are identified
- these are used as alignment seeds
- seeds are extended into longer alignments (→ “hits”)
- for each hit, an “E(xpect)-value” is computed
- hits are ranked by their E-values and reported



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Evaluating alignments

```

DSNRMYIGMDEFNPKVSLE ← query sequence
DSERMYIGRDEASTGKIDLK ← database sequence
    
```

alignment raw score: $S = \sum s_{ij}$

- any two sequences (even if they are unrelated!) will have a “best” alignment score
- how high of a score can we expect from random (unrelated) sequences? is our current score better?
- statistics!
 - substitutions, aa distribution, seq lengths, etc
 - based on Gumbel extreme value distribution

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Evaluating alignments

DSNRMYIGMDEFNNPKVSLER
 DSERMYIGRDEASTGKIDLK

real query sequence
 real database sequence

alignment raw score: $S = \sum s_{ij}$



$$E = K m n e^{-\lambda S}$$

$$S' = \frac{(\lambda \times S) - \ln(K)}{\ln(2)}$$

$$E = mn(2^{-S'})$$

E: the number of alignments at least as good that are expected by chance

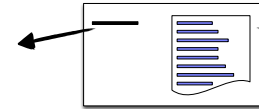
(under comparable conditions: aa composition, db & query length, etc.)

0	0.000000003	0.002	5	20
	3×10^{-9}			
	3e-09			

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Evaluating alignments

query sequence:
one plant gene
sequence of 809 aa



database to be searched:
51,826,119 bacterial
sequences with a total of
18,610,688,330 aa

db seq: 763 aa; aln: 673 (287/42% | or +)

ISDILFFDRNKKSVETQDSFLDHSKPGVYTKAQLKLESLATCGFEKVDMEKGTNADSGLTZFAESMWERADRFRCZINGVL
 VGEVLVDAGDEQLTTELENYVQAIPTORTATRSQLEEDINAIATFATOFFANVRAEPQ---DTPLGVRYTF---IVPMPILAAVRV---
 MGSGKPVNDPMSEKEKIEFFRRQREYKRRISARPCLPTSVHEIKDMLAEQ---GRVSARLLQKTRDVRQSVHYHEGYACQAVNF
 QANTGTQIPSVIPENK---VDDIFKEQYGSLLNLRFRFQEGKQLKNVYQONGVYLAQVNEA
 GNLNTR-EVVEICEVVEGDITKLSTIYDLKLGIVVE-----GNTGEPVVORELPKQLPGHTFNIEAGKQALRNINSLALFSNIEVNP RP
 PQVAADGTITLALAEQVIEDI-----FARTTVORDLRVFGGLGFEDVWVSLNP
 DEMWEGSIIVEIKLKELEQK-----LTGSVTTSNLFNPODOLAFKMEYAHPLYL
 GE-DPRNVITIVWDE---KNS-----AEFQLQQLLELFDLFTDPKGL
 DGVDPRNRTLVRVCFNSRKLSPFTGGPGV-----DEUPSINVRAGVKANITENFS-----ROSKFTY---GLVHEEITRDSNICKSN
 GG---DPYKTSYTYNTFRRTTSLDFGGENEITLPNDORPXL---RLGGGVNTRPLSKDPLNKEVTSASAGLEYQRYSTRSDGELSP E
 GQRVLPHGASADGPPITSGTIDIMAFQANITRONTRFVNGTIVGSRNMFVVDQGLQYENFFPHNQLTVTKFLQMSVEEGAGK
 DEL-----GHELSFGDGTDDLTLQAGAVRRDRNDATRP TSGSLVRFGVEQSVPIGAGNILLNRVGSYQYFFVPSF INFSDG-
 SPPPLVLHGHYGCGVGLPSYDAFTLGGPSYRGVYMEIEGAARNILEAEATRPKIGTHYVA-FAENGTDLGSSDKGNPTVYVR
 PQLTAHQGGTGLDLPYELFLLGGSNVRGDEGLSGRSFVQATAEYRPVYSIVGALFFDVTGLSSGNVPGAPAGVGRK
 MGQSSSYGAGMK-----LGLVRAEYVDHNSGTGVFFRFRGERF
 SSGSGFYGLGVQSVPLPFRIDYCF-TDEGSRLLHFGIGERF

E: 7e-42

db seq: 409 aa;
aln: 26 (17/65% | or +)

TTSNFLNPODOLAFKMEYAHPLYL
 HGVLPSSANLAFLETAVPYEAN

E: 9

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BLAST results

- pairwise alignments query–database sequence
- overview table, ranked by E-value

Sequences producing significant alignments:

	Score	E
	(bits)	Value
TOC75_ORYSJ	1048	0.0
TC754_ARATH	493	e-139
MATK_LEPPR	35	0.14
PDI_NEDSA	30	2.8

- alignments, ranked by E-value

Score = 1048 bits (2709), Expect = 0.0, Method: Compositional matrix adjust.
 Identities = 487/695 (70%), Positives = 579/695 (83%), Gaps = 4/695 (0%)

Query: 119 FWSRILSPARAIADPKSEDWDSHELPADITVLLGRLSGFKYKISDILFFDRNKKSKVE 178
 FWSRI S A ADE S DMD H LPA+I V + +LSG K+YKIS++ FFR
 Sbjct: 123 FWSRIFSGGAHADEKSSGDMDPHGLPANINVPMTKLSGLKRYKISELKFFDRAAGGGGA 182

- information about the query and the database
- information about statistical parameters
- different presentation online and in the terminal
- additional information & analysis options online

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BLAST search: results

	online	terminal
Header	X	X
Other reports:		
Search Summary	X*	
Taxonomy reports	X	
Distance tree of results	X	
Multiple alignment	X	

Graphic Summary

Conserved Domains	X	
Graphical Overview of Hits		
Descriptions	X	X
Alignments	X	X
Footer		X*

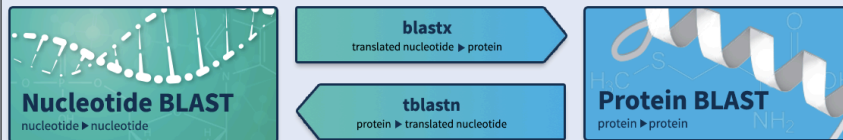
X*

equivalent information

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BLAST programs

query	database	program
nucleotide	nucleotide	blastn
nucleotide (translated)	nucleotide (translated)	tblastx
nucleotide (translated)	peptide	blastx
peptide	peptide	blastp
peptide	nucleotide (translated)	tblastn



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BLAST search in practice

- call the appropriate BLAST program
- select parameters for search
- select database to be searched
- select and submit query sequence

The screenshot shows the NCBI BLAST search interface. The 'blastp' program is selected. The search parameters include: 'Enter Query Sequence' (a protein sequence), 'Database' (Non-redundant protein sequences), 'Organism' (Human), 'Exclude' (checked), 'Search' (checked), 'Program Selection' (blastp), and 'Algorithms' (blastp). The 'BLAST' button is visible at the bottom.

```
blastp
-db database
-query querySeq
-b xxx
-e yyy
...
```

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Today's exercise

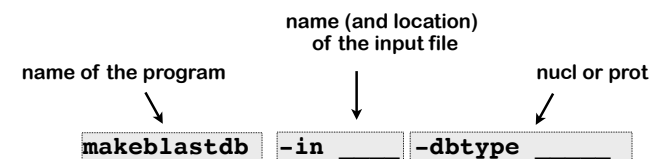


query: human beta globin
database: *Medicago truncatula* genes

1. download the human beta globin in fasta format from NCBI
 - one file each: protein sequence, DNA sequence
2. download medicago DNA and protein sequences from Moodle
 - one file each: protein sequences, DNA sequences
3. convert the medicago sequences into a BLAST database
4. search if the human globin is similar to a medicago sequence
 - protein-protein (blastp)
 - DNA-DNA (blastn)

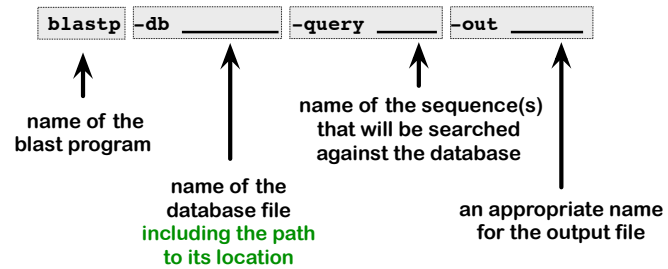
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convert a fasta file into a database



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command-line BLAST



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heute!

10h: 3 Computer Pools (1a, 1b, 2a)

11: 2 Computer Pools (1a, 2a)

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Key terms and concepts

- homology, similarity
- alignment
 - local, global
- BLOSUM substitution matrices:
 - what are they, how were they derived, how are they used in sequence alignment
- heuristics
- database searching / BLAST
 - principle, steps
 - evaluation of results
 - definition and interpretation of “E-value”

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