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#### Learning Objectives

- Learn about sequence alignment.
  - What is sequence alignment?
  - What is <u>biological</u> sequence alignment?
  - Why is biological sequence alignment important?
- Learn how to use BLAST for biological sequence alignment.

What is a Sequence Alignment?

- Arrange two or more words (sequences of letters) so that you can identify regions of similarity between them.
- For the current discusion, the alphabet (set of letters) is the standard English alphabet (size = 26).
- Consider these four words: bat, hat, batter, hatter.
- How similar are bat and hat?
- Whic word is more similar to bat: hat or batter? What about hatter? Why?
- Which pair of words is more similar to each other: (bat, hat) or (batter, hatter)? Why?

Sequence Alignments → Longest Common Subsequence

- Let's be a bit more formal about determining similarity.
- For a particular alignment, we will score them as follows:
  - Perfect match = 1 (A A, B B, etc.)
  - Mismatch = 0 (A B, B A, etc.)
- Using this scoring scheme, we'll find the longest common subsequence in each word pair and score them to determine the most similar sequences.

Sequence Alignments → Longest Common Subsequence Examples

| Alignment 1 | Alignment 2          |
|-------------|----------------------|
| BAT         | HAT                  |
|             |                      |
| HAT         | BATTER               |
| Score = 2   | Score = 2            |
| Alignment 4 | Alignment 5          |
| RAT         |                      |
|             | ΠΑΙ                  |
|             |                      |
| <br>BATTER  | HAT<br>   <br>HATTER |

**Alignment 3** BAT HATTER Score = 2**Alignment 6** BATTER HATTER

Score = 5

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Sequence Alignments — Gapped Alignments

Consider these three sequences:

1.THE CATS IN THE HAT2.THE CAT IN THE HAT3.THE CAT IS A HAT

• Which phrase (2 or 3) is the most similar to phrase 1?

Sequence Alignments → Gapped Alignments

- Again, let's be a bit more formal about determining similarity.
- For a particular alignment, we will score it as follows:
  - Perfect match = 1 (A A, B B, etc.)
  - Mismatch = 0 (A B, B A, etc.)
  - Gap open = -1
  - Gap extension = 0
- Using this scoring scheme, we'll find the longest gapped subsequence in each word pair and score them to determine the most similar sequences.

Sequence Alignments — Gapped Alignment Examples

### Alignment 1 THECATSINTHEHAT | | | | | | THECATINTHEHAT

Score = 6

**Alignment 2** 

# THECATSINTHEHAT

Score = 14 – 1 = 13

**Alignment 3** 

# THECATSINTHEHAT

Score = 6

#### **Alignment 4**

THECATSINTHEHAT

Score = 6 - 1 + 3 = 8

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Sequence Alignments → Global vs. Local Alignment

- Global alignment → find the single best alignment across the entire length of both sequences.
- Local alignment → find one or more highly similar local regions between both sequences.



What is a Biological Sequence Alignment?

- Arrange two or more molecular sequences (DNA, RNA, protein) to identify regions of similarity between them.
  - Matches, mismatches and gaps.
  - Pairwise vs. multiple sequence alignment (MSA)
- We'll focus on DNA.
- DNA is a sequence of four possible nucleotides: adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine.
  - DNA alphabet (letters) = {A, C, G, T}
- Much smaller than English alphabet.

**Biological Sequence Alignment Example** 

- How would you globally align these two sequences?
  - Sequence  $1 \rightarrow ACTG$
  - Sequence  $2 \rightarrow ACGTG$

**Biological Sequence Alignment Example** 



Why are Biological Sequence Alignments Important?

- The more similar two molecular sequences are, the more likely that the molecules are also similar in structure, function or evolutionary history.
- DNA sequences
  - Mismatch = point mutation
  - Gap = insertion or deletion (indel)
- When developing primers for a PCR reaction (you'll learn about this later), need to make sure that the primer is unique to the organism's genome.

Why Do We Need Computers and Algorithms to Find Alignments?

- Why not find all biological sequence alignments manually?
- How many times can you find the query sequence ATCGGCCATTAC in the following target sequence? Is it there at all? If so, is it unique?

ATCACTGTAGTAGTAGCTGGAAAGAGAAATCTGTGACTCCAATTAGCCAGTTCCTGCAGACCTTGTGAGGACTAG AGGAAGAATGCTCCTGGCTGTTTTGTACTGCCTGCTGTGGAGTTTCCAGACCTCCGCTGGCCATTTCCCTAGAGC CTGTGTCTCCTCTAAGAACCTGATGGAGAAGGAATGCTGTCCACCGTGGAGCGGGGACAGGAGTCCCTGTGGCCA GCTTTCAGGCAGAGGTTCCTGTCAGAATATCCTTCTGTCCAATGCACCACTTGGGCCTCAATTTCCCTTCACAGG GGTGGATGACCGGGAGTCGTGGCCTTCCGTCTTTTATAATAGGACCTGCCAGTGCTCTGGCAACTTCATGGGAT CAACTGTGGAAACTGCAAGTTTGGCTTTTGGGGACCAAACTGCACAGAGAGACGACTCTTGGTGAGAAGAAACAT CTTCGATTTGAGTGCCCCAGAGAAGGACAAATTTTTGCCTACCTCACTTTAGCAAAGCATACCATCAGCTCAGA CTATGTCATCCCCATAGGGACCAATGGACCAATGAAAAATGGATCAACACCCATGTTTAACGACATCAATATTTA TGACCTCTTTGTCTGGATGCATTATTATGTGTCCAATGGATGCACTGCTTGGGGGATCTGAAATCTGGAGAGACAT CGATTTTGCCCATGAAGCACCAGCTTTTCTGCCTTGGCCATAGACTCTTCTTGTTGCGGTGGGAACAAGAAATCCA GAAGCTGACAGGAGAGAAAACTTCACTATTCCATATTGGGACTGGCGGGATGCAGAAAAGTGTGACATTTGCAC AGATGAGTACATGGG

### BLASTing Through the Kingdom of Life What is BLAST?

- Basic Local Alignment Search Tool
- Very fast tool for finding local regions of similarity between sequences.
  - Given a query sequence, search one or more target databases for matches.
- Target databases are extremely large; millions of sequences.
  - nt = non-redundant nucleotide sequence database
  - nr = non-redundant protein sequence database

## BLASTing Through the Kingdom of Life Interpreting BLAST Results

- For a given query sequence, you will receive a list of matching target sequences with corresponding alignments.
  - The query sequence can match more than one region for a target sequence (local alignments).
- Each alignment will have an E-value; statistical significance of alignment.
  - Number of sequence matches you would expect to find in a target database composed entirely of random sequences.

Interpreting BLAST Results

- Low E-value means that the match is not random.
- What does an E-value = 4 mean?
- A couple observations about E-values to remember:
  - Greater chance of finding a random match in a larger target database (larger E-value).
  - Greater chance of finding a random match for a shorter query sequence (larger E-value).

### BLASTing Through the Kingdom of Life Hands-On Tutorial

Go to http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi

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#### Hands-On Tutorial

- Copy the first query sequence (> Example) from http://www.digitalworldbiology.com/ BLAST/62000sequences.html
- Paste target sequence into textbox on BLAST start screen.
- Additional step:
  - Algorithm parameters → Set max target sequences to 500.

| BLAST<br>Home Recent Re   | Basic Local Alignment Search Tool My NCB   |
|---|--|
| NCBI/BLAST/blastn suite<br>Reset cace     Enter Query 3     Enter accession     GAATCGGA     ATTCCAAG,     GAAGTTGT | BLASTN programs search nucleotide databases using a nucleotide query. more<br>Bookmark Sequence number, gi, or FASTA sequence Clear GAGTGTTGGTCACTTAGCGCGGGGAACATCGAGCA ATGACCATTITTGCACGACAAGCAGGTTCAGGCACT TCGAGAAAGCTCAGCGTAGCCGCACTGGTGAGCCA To  |
| GTTCCTGC/<br>Or, upload file<br>Job Title   | AGACCAGATCGACGAAAGGCTTAGAAACATCACAA  |
| Cho Sear<br>Database<br>Entrez Query<br>Optional  | Ch Set   |
| Program Sele<br>Optimize for<br>BLAST   | action Highly similar sequences (megablast) More dissimilar sequences (discontiguous megablast) Somewhat similar sequences (blastn) Choose a BLAST algorithm @ For the BLAST activities: 1. Change the database to "Others" 2. Select "nucleotide collection" from the pull-down menu. 3. Change the program selection to the program selection to the program selection to the program selection to the pull-down menu. |
| Algorithm param   | optimize for more dissimilar<br>sequences.   |

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#### Hands-On Tutorial

| 5    | BLAST        |                       |                             | Ba                       | sic Local Alignment Search Tool  |   |  |
|------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| د `  | Home         | Recent Results        | Saved Strategies            | Help                     |  |   |  |
| ► NC | BI/BLAST     | blastn/ Formatting F  | Results - 9AH2CB3901        | N [E                     | ormatting options]   |   |  |
| Job  | o Title: Nu  | icleotide sequen      | ce (2110 letters)           |                          |  |   |  |
|      | Request II   | D                     |                             |                          | 9AH2CB3901N  |   |  |
|      | Status       | s Searching           |                             |                          |  | ~ |  |
|      | Submitted    | Submitted at          |                             |                          | Wed Jul 11 16:57:48 2007   |   |  |
|      | Current time |                       |                             | Wed Jul 11 16:57:50 2007 |  |   |  |
|      | Time since   | e submission          |                             |                          |  |   |  |
|      | This page    | will be automatically | updated in <b>15</b> second | is                       | Either wait patiently, or set up an<br>account and come back later to view |   |  |
|      |              |                       |                             |                          | your results.  |   |  |

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#### Hands-On Tutorial

- How many sequences are in the database?
- How many letters are in the database?
- How long is the query sequence?

| Query ID       Icl 55449         Description       Example         Molecule type       nucleic acid         Query Length       840         Other reports: ⊽Search Summary [Taxonomy reports] [Distance] | e tree of results]           |           |                      | Database Name r<br>Description A<br>Program E | nr<br>All GenBa<br>HTGS seo<br>BLASTN : | ank+EMBL+DDBJ+PDB sequences (but no EST, STS, GSS,environmental samples or phase 0, 1 or 2<br>juences)<br>2.2.23+ ▷ <u>Citation</u> |
|---|------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|---|---|---|
|   |                              |           |                      |   |   |   |
|   |                              | Search Pa | arameters            |   |   |   |
|   | Program                      |           | blastn               |   |   |   |
|   | Word size                    |           | 7                    |   |   |   |
|   | Expect value                 |           | 10                   |   |   |   |
|   | Hitlist size                 |           | 500                  |   |   |   |
|   | Match/Mismatch scores        |           | 2,-3                 |   |   |   |
|   | Gapcosts                     |           | 5,2                  |   |   |   |
|   | Low Complexity Filter        |           | Yes                  |   |   |   |
|   | Filter string                |           | L;m;                 |   |   |   |
|   | Genetic Code                 |           | 1                    |   |   |   |
|   | Data                         |           | base                 |   |   |   |
|   | Posted date                  |           | Apr 25, 2010 5:43 PM |   |   |   |
|   | Number of letters            |           | 31,036,146,654       |   |   |   |
|   | Number of sequences          |           | 11,514,615           |   |   |   |
|   | Entrez query                 |           | none                 |   |   |   |
|   | Karlin-Alter                 |           | hul statistics       |   |   |   |
|   | Lambda                       | 0.633731  |                      | 0.625   |   |   |
|   | v                            | 0.000701  |                      | 0.025   |   |   |
|   | н                            | 0.912438  |                      | 0.78  |   |   |
|   |                              | 0.512450  |                      | 0.70  |   |   |
|   | Results S                    |           | Statistics           |   |   |   |
|   | Length adjustment            |           | 36                   |   |   |   |
|   | Effective length of query    |           | 804                  |   |   |   |
|   | Effective length of database |           | 30621620514          |   |   |   |
|   | Effective search space       |           | 24619782893256       |   |   |   |
|   | Effective search space used  |           | 24619782893256       |   |   |   |
|   |                              |           |                      |   |   |   |

#### Hands-On Tutorial



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#### Hands-On Tutorial

- What is the most likely identity of your sequence? What is its accession number?
- What data supports this conclusion?
- What organism is the source of the target sequence?
- Approximately how many alignments have an E-value less than 0.01?
- For which other organisms are there matches?



#### Hands-On Tutorial

| Accession | Description  | Max score                                | Total score                                  | Ouery coverage                       | A E value | Max ident | Links |
|-----------|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| (16893.1  | Tarantula mRNA for hemocyanin subunit a                  | 4057                                     | 4057   | 100%                                 | 0.0       | 100%      |       |
| 1547807.1 | Nephila inaurata madagascariensis mRNA for hemocyanii    | 662                                      | 662  | 79%                                  | 0.0       | 73%       |       |
| 0547811.1 | Nephila inaurata madagascariensis mRNA for hemocyanii    | 202                                      | 319  | 43%                                  | Se-48     | 88%       |       |
| 0547809.1 | Nephila inaurata madagascariensis mRNA for hemocyanii    | 185                                      | 241  | 14%                                  | 7e-43     | 83%       |       |
| 3307908.1 | Cupiennius salei mRNA for hemocyanin subunit 5' (hc-5' - | 175                                      | 298  | 19%                                  | 6e-40     | 84%       |       |
| 3277492.1 | Eurypelma californicum mRNA for hemocyanin subunit g     | 171                                      | 278  | 22%                                  | 8e-39     | 79%       |       |
|           | Th<br>W<br>Se  | he Max sco<br>here the se<br>ee where th | ore is linked t<br>quences ma<br>ne sequence | to data that sh<br>atch.<br>s align. | ow        |           |       |

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### BLASTing Through the Kingdom of Life Hands-On Tutorial

 How many identical nucleotides are there for your sequence?

| >emb/X16893.1 ECHEMSUA Tarantula mRNA for hemocyanin subunit a  |
|---|
| Score = 4183 bits (2110), Expect = 0.0       This is the score assigned by BLAST.         Idercities = 2110/2110 (100%)       In general, the higher the score, the better the match between the query sequence and the sequence found in |
| Query: 1 gastcggagagtgttggtcacttagcgc   |
| In this example, 100% of the<br>nucleotides in a 2110 base stretch of<br>the query sequence are identical to a<br>2110 nucleotide region in the<br>ctgaagttgttcgagaagctcagcgtagcogccact 120   |
| sequence obtained from Genbank.   |
| Query: 121 ggtgagccagttcctgcagaccagatcgacgaaaggcttagaaacatcacaaccttaggt 180   |
| Sbjct: 121 ggtgagccagttcctgcagaccagatcgacgaaaggcttagaaacatcacaaccttaggt 180   |
| Query: 181 cccsatgaattottotottgottttacccagaccacttggaacaagccaagagagtotac 240<br>   |
| Query: 241 gaagttttctgccatgctgctaacttcgatgacttcgtcagcttggcaaagcaagc   |
| Sbjet: 241 gaagttttetgecatgetgetaacttegatgaettegteagettggeaaagegegega 300   |
| Query: 301 agottcatgaactccactctgtttgccttctctgcagaagttgccctccttcatcggggaa 360<br>IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII  |
| Query: 361 gactgccgaggcgtcatcgtacctcccgtccaagaagttttcgctgacagattcatcccc 420   |
| Sbjet: 361 gactgccgaggcgtcatcgtacctcccgtccaagaagttttcgctgacagattcatcccc 420   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
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#### Hands-On Tutorial



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#### Hands-On Tutorial

- Find the sequence "NM\_000372.4"
- Is your sequence expressed?
- How do you know?
- How is this sequence related to the first alignment in the results?

| Accession | Description  | Max score | Total score | Query coverage | 🖾 E value | Max ident | Links |
|-----------|--|-----------|-------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 893.1     | Tarantula mRNA for hemocyanin subunit a                  | 4057      | 4057        | 100%           | 0.0       | 100%      |       |
| 1907.1    | Nephila inaurata madagascariensis mRNA for hemocyani     | 662       | 662         | 79%            | 0.0       | 73%       |       |
| -1.1      | Nephila inaurata madagascariensis mRNA for hemocyanii    | 202       | 319         | 43%            | Se-48     | 88%       |       |
| 309.1     | Nephila inaurata madagascariensis mRNA for hemocyani     | 185       | 241         | 14%            | 7e-43     | 83%       |       |
| 008.1     | Cupiennius salei mRNA for hemocyanin subunit 5' (hc-5' - | 175       | 298         | 19%            | 6e-40     | 84%       |       |
| 192.1     | Eurypelma californicum mRNA for hemocyanin subunit g     | 171       | 278         | 22%            | 8e-39     | 79%       |       |
| ok at the | GenBank record.  |           |             |                |           |           |       |

#### Hands-On Tutorial

 On which chromosome is the matching target sequence located?

![](_page_28_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### Hands-On Tutorial

| W × W × 8 × 8 × 8 × 8 × 8 × 1 × 1 × 8 × 1. | <u> × 8 × 8 × 8 × + - @ ×</u>  |
|--|--|
| C ☆ http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?db=protein&cmd=Link&LinkName=protein_gene&from_uid=4507753  | D< \$  |
| For quick access, place your bookmarks here on the bookmarks bar. Import bookmarks now   | 🗀 Other Bookmarks  |
| S NCBI Entrez Gene   | My NCBI ₽<br>[Sian In] [Register]<br>∋   |
| All Databases PubMed Nucleotide Protein Genome Structure OMIM PMC Journals Books   |  |
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| A TYP tyrasingsa (agulasutanggus albinism IA) [ Home seriess ]   | ntrez Gene Home  |
| GeneID: 7299 updated 10-Apr-2010   | Table Of Contents  |
| Summary 🔹 🕄  |  |
| Official Symbol TYR  | Summary<br>Genomic regions, transcripts, and products                          |
| provided by <u>HGNC</u>  | Genomic context  |
| Official Full Name tyrosinase (oculocutaneous albinism IA)   | Interactions   |
| Primary source HGNC:12442  | General gene info<br>General protein info                                      |
| See related Ensembl:ENSG00000077498; HPRD:06086; MIM:606933  | Reference sequences  |
| Gene type protein coding   | Related sequences Additional links   |
| RefSeq status REVIEWED   |  |
| Organism <u>Homo sapiens</u>   |  |
| Lineage Eukaryota; Metazoa; Chordata; Craniata; Vertebrata; Euteleostomi; Mammalia; Eutheria; Euarchontoglires; Primates; Haplorrhini; Catarrhini; Hominidae;<br>Homo  | Order cDNA clone<br>BioAssay, by Gene target                                   |
| Also known as OCA1A; OCAIA; SHEP3; TYR   | BioSystems   |
| Summary The enzyme encoded by this gene catalyzes the first 2 steps, and at least 1 subsequent step, in the conversion of tyrosine to melanin. The enzyme has both tyrosine hydroxylase and dopa oxidase catalytic activities, and requires copper for function. Mutations in this gene result in oculocutaneous albinism, and nonpathologic polymorphisms result in skin pigmentation variation. The human genome contains a pseudogene similar to the 3' half of this gene. [provided by RefSeq]   | CCDS<br>Conserved Domains<br>EST<br>Full text in PMC<br>GEO Profiles<br>Genome |
| Genomic regions, transcripts, and products   | HomoloGene   |
| (plus) Go to reference sequence details  | Map Viewer<br>Nucleotide   |
|  | OMIA   |
| NC 000011 9  | Probe  |
|  | Protein<br>PubChem Compound  |
| MH_000372.4 9 4 MP_000363.1 precursor <u>C0038284.1</u>  | PubChem Substance  |
| Country region   | PubMed (GeneRIF)   |
| Genomic context  | PubMed (OMIM)  |
|  | RerSeq Proteins<br>RefSeg RNAs   |
| chromosome: 11; Location: 11q14-q21 See TYR in MapViewer   | RefSeqGene   |
|  | SNP<br>SNP: GeneView   |
| GHPUNLIS GKNS TYR FOLMEB NOX4  | SNP: Genotype  |

#### Hands-On Tutorial

| Pub Med   | National<br>Library<br>of Medicine           |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Nucleotide Protein Genome   | Structure Pop Set                            |  |  |  |  |
| for   | Go Clear                                     |  |  |  |  |
| U '<br>□ Limits Preview/Index Histopy   | Cliphoard                                    |  |  |  |  |
|   | Cipboard                                     |  |  |  |  |
| Display Citation 🗢 Save Text C  | Order Add to Clipboard                       |  |  |  |  |
| 1 : J Biol Chem 1990 Nov 15;265(32):19447-52  | Related Articles, Books, Protein, Nucleotide |  |  |  |  |
| Arthropod hemocyanins. Molecular cloning and hemocyanin subunits a and e.   | l sequencing of cDNAs encoding the tarantula |  |  |  |  |
| Voit R, Feldmaier-Fuchs G   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zoologisches Institut, Universitat Munchen, Federal Republic  | c of Germany.                                |  |  |  |  |
| cDNA clones comprising the entire coding region of two out of the seven heterogeneous subunits of hemocyanin from<br>the tarantula, Eurypelma californicum, were isolated from four cDNA libraries constructed from total RNA from the<br>heart tissue of single spiders. Hybridization was first carried out using a tarantula hemocyanin subunit e partial cDNA,<br>and several positive clones were isolated, including one containing a 2.2-kilobase full-length cDNA (lambda M 1). The<br>cDNA comprises an open reading frame for 623 amino acids, 34 nucleotides of the 5'noncoding region, and 286<br>nucleotides of the 3'-noncoding region. To select for other hemocyanin subunits, two 17-mer oligonucleotide mixtures,<br>corresponding to the conserved regions in the copper A and copper B oxygen-binding site of chelicerate hemocyanins,<br>were used as probes. Among the positive clones obtained, full-length cDNAs coding for subunit a were identified. The<br>cDNA sequence determined from clone lambda K 1 provides an open reading frame coding for 630 amino acids and<br>includes the 5'- and 3'-noncoding regions. Northern blot analysis revealed single transcripts for subunits a and e, each<br>2.3 kilobases long. The cDNAs for subunits a and e were both found to lack any leader peptide sequence. This<br>supports the idea that the mature protein accumulates in the cytoplasm and is released by cell rupture. |  |  |  |  |  |
| MeSH Terms:<br>o Amino Acid Sequence<br>o Animal<br>o Base Sequence<br>o Binding Sites<br>o Cloning, Molecular*<br>o Codon<br>o Copper/metabolism   | Back to the beginning                        |  |  |  |  |

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