



Gramene Exercises

March 2018

The Gramene database (<http://www.gramene.org>) is an integrated resource for comparative genomics and pathways in plants. The database provides researchers with valuable information on numerous crops and model species, enabling powerful functional comparisons across species.

In partnership with Ensembl Plants, we host genome browsers for 53 complete reference genomes (build 56b; for a current list see our release notes: <http://gramene.org/release-notes>). Each plant genome encompasses value-added annotations, gene-trees, and whole genome alignments. Evolutionary histories provided in phylogenetic gene trees classify orthologous and paralogous relationships as speciation and duplication events. Orthologous genes inform synteny maps that enable interspecies browsing across ancestral regions. Browsers from multiple species can be viewed simultaneously, with links showing homologous gene and whole-genome alignment mappings. SNP and structural diversity data, available for 9 reference genomes, are displayed in the context of gene annotation, showing functional consequences that can be assigned to individual accessions within the diversity panel. Genomic data include phenotypic, transcriptome profiling, and methylome data. Visual displays can be downloaded as high-resolution, publication-ready, image files. A fully integrated BLAST tool enables visualization of alignments within the browser. For data mining, our BioMart tool enables complex queries of sequence, annotation, homology and variation data, and provides an additional gateway into the genome browsers.

Gramene is driven by several platform infrastructures or modules that are linked to provide a unified user experience. The Genomes and Pathway modules enable species-specific and cross-species data downloads for discrete region(s), gene(s) or gene feature(s) via the Genome Browser, and pathway-centered downloads via the Pathways portal and Plant Reactome. The genome browser portal (<http://ensembl.gramene.org>) takes advantage of the Ensembl project's infrastructure to provide an interface for exploring genome features, functional ontologies, variation data, and comparative phylogenomics. In addition, plant metabolic and regulatory pathways are available for cross-species analysis via the Plant Reactome (<http://plantreactome.gramene.org>). The Plant Reactome hosts 264 rice pathways (80% manually curated) and orthology-based projections of the rice reference pathways to 74 plant species. Through a

collaboration with EBI-ATLAS, we now also display baseline gene expression on our browsers.

Gramene's archives (<http://archive.gramene.org>) host historical data and tools such as legacy databases (e.g., genetic markers, comparative maps, curated genes and phenotype-associated variant alleles, proteins, ontologies). Our legacy BioCyc collection of pathway databases is hosted on a virtual server at CyVerse (<http://pathway.iplantcollaborative.org>).

In addition, project data is available for customizable downloads from the GrameneMart utility (<http://ensembl.gramene.org/biomart>), nucleotide and protein sequence alignments via BLAST (<http://ensembl.gramene.org/Tools/Blast>), bulk downloads via file transfer protocol (FTP) at Gramene (<ftp://ftp.gramene.org/pub/gramene>) and Ensembl Genomes (<http://ensembl.gramene.org/info/website/ftp/index.html>), and programmatic access via Ensembl's REST application programming interface (API) and public MySQL (<http://www.gramene.org/web-services>). The website, database, and its contents are being updated quarterly and updates can be followed from the Gramene news portal (<http://www.gramene.org/blog>), by browsing the site's release notes (<http://www.gramene.org/release-notes>), and through our social media: Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Gramene>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/gramenedatabase>).

The examples below provide sample queries to explore the Gramene website. We describe one of many possible ways to solve a given exercise and encourage you to discover other ingenious ways to solve them!

These and additional examples are also available on the Gramene's Outreach page (www.gramene.org/outreach).

EXERCISES

These exercises will illustrate the power of comparative plant genomics in research using the resources in Gramene.

Exercise 1. View a phylogenetic tree for a family of transcription factors

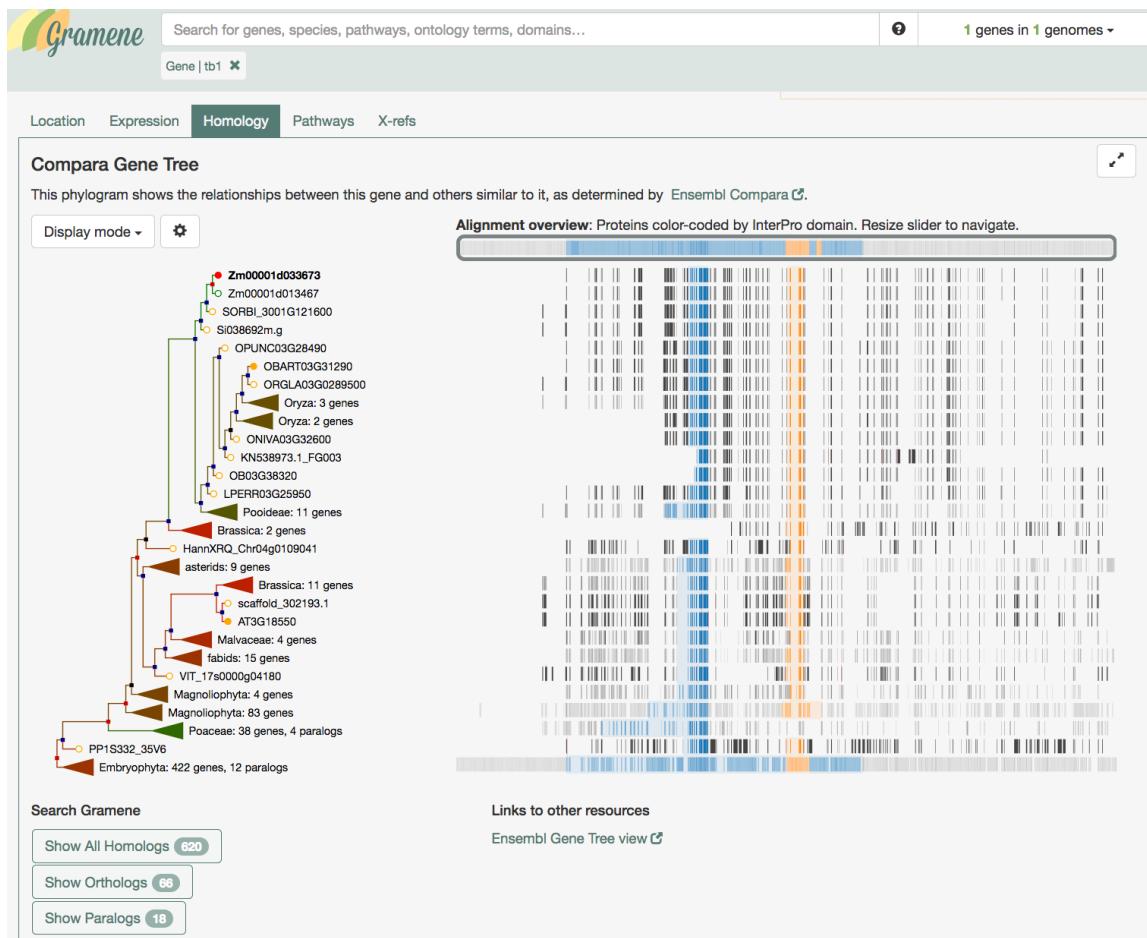
In this exercise, we will navigate a phylogenetic tree for plant genes in the TCP family of transcription factors (named after the first characterized protein members: maize TB1, snapdragon CYC, and rice PCF), highlight species-specific orthologs/paralogs with particular GO annotations in the tree. We will then proceed to generate lists of orthologs/paralogs and download both, images and tables with our results.

- a. How many orthologs can you identify for maize TB1?

Hint: You may find the answer for this through different approaches. Gramene's new search will give you the quickest answer through a snapshot of the *tb1* (Zm00001d033673) gene tree. Other approaches are described in subsequent exercises.

1. Go to www.gramene.org. This is Gramene's homepage.
2. Enter TB1 in the search box. This will redirect you to search.gramene.org.
3. Find the maize *tb1* (Zm00001d033673) gene. Click on the "Homology" tab.

Answer: There are 66 orthologs of maize TB1 in the current Gramene build #56.



- b. What is the most prominent TCP domain among members of the gene tree? How many maize genes have a TCP domain?

Note: By looking at the maize TB1 gene tree in Gramene's genome browser, 3 InterPro domains with TCP features appear to be shared among family members. IPR005333 is considered a "family" of protein domain as it encompasses TCP domains: IPR017887 and IPR017888.

Answer: Again, there are multiple ways to answer a question.

- 1) Via search.gramene.org:
 - a) Go to the "Homology" tab of the Search results for maize *tb1* (see above).
 - b) Click on the most prominent blue colored domain (IPR017887).
 - c) Simple answer: IPR017887 - Transcription factor TCP subgroup.
- 2) Via the genome browser:
 - a) From the "Homology" tab in your search results (see above), click on "Ensembl Gene Tree view" OR go to ensembl.gramene.org, search for maize TB1 and click on (Plant Compara) Gene Tree ([EPIGT00820000103607](#)).

- b) Select InterPro domains in the annotations table. By selecting an individual domain, all members that share it will be highlighted in the tree.
- c) Detailed answer:
- 597 members have IPR005333 Transcription factor, TCP.
 - 596 members IPR017887 Transcription factor TCP subgroup
 - 196 members IPR017888 CYC/TB1, R domain

Gene: teosinte branched1 Zm00001d033673_T001

Description: Transcription factor TEOSINTE BRANCHED 1

Synonyms: AC233950.1_FG002, tb1, ZmTCP1

Location: Chromosome 1: 270,553,676-270,554,778 forward strand.

About this gene: This gene has 1 transcript (splice variant), 66 orthologues and 17 paralogues.

Name	Transcript ID	bp	Protein	Biototype	UniProt	Flags
Novel	Zm00001d033673_T001	1101	366aa	A0A1D6L1J8	Q93W12	Protein coding

Gene tree

GeneTree EPIGT00820000103607

Number of genes: 620
Number of speciation nodes: 436
Number of duplication nodes: 168
Number of ambiguous nodes: 14
Number of gene split events: 1

Highlight annotations:

- 597 members: IPR005333
- 596 members: IPR017887
- 196 members: IPR017888
- 12 members: IPR015943
- 4 members: IPR020467
- 1 member: IPR029058
- 1 member: IPR032675

Showing 1 to 7 of 7 entries (filtered from 177 total entries)

Gene tree:

```

graph TD
    Root --- Node1[RS SC0003DMG400005705, Solanum tuberosum]
    Root --- Node2[SoLyc03g19770_2, Solanum lycopersicum]
    Node1 --- Node3[TBL_0_Nicotiana attenuata str. UT]
    Node2 --- Node4[RS SC0003DMG400004045_1, Solanum tuberosum]
    Node3 --- Node5[SoLyc06g099240_1, Solanum lycopersicum]
    Node4 --- Node6[TBL_1_Nicotiana attenuata str. UT]
    Node5 --- Node7[HmnaK02_Ch16g0501631, Helianthus annuus]
    Node6 --- Node8[HmnaK02_Ch16g0501631, Helianthus annuus]
  
```

- 3) Customized data dump: Using the BioMart utility.
- Go to <http://ensembl.gramene.org/biomart/martview>.
 - Select Database: "Plant Genes" and Dataset: "Zea mays genes".
 - Under "Protein Domains", select "Limit to genes with these family or (InterPro) domain IDs" and enter "IPR005333", "IPR017887" or "IPR017888".
 - Click on "Count". Alternatively, under "Attributes" select the associated data (e.g., gene or transcript ID, position, sequence, variants, GO terms, etc.) that you would like to download for these genes.

Answer: There are 46 maize genes with IPR005333, 45 with IPR017887 and 4 with IPR017888.

New **Count** **Results** **URL** **XML** **Perl** **Help**

Dataset 46 / 46272 Genes Zea mays genes (B73 RefGen_v4) Filters Interpro ID(s) [e.g. IPR000007]: [ID-list specified] Attributes Gene stable ID Transcript stable ID	Please restrict your query using criteria below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GENE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GENE ONTOLOGY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MULTI SPECIES COMPARISONS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROTEIN DOMAINS AND FAMILIES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Limit to genes ... <input type="text" value="With Interpro ID(s)"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Only <input type="radio"/> Excluded <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limit to genes with these family or domain IDs [Max 500 advised] <input type="text" value="IPR005333"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VARIANT:
--	--

- c. You have learned 3 ways to find orthologs for a given gene (via Search, Genome Browser and BioMart). Can you identify the (*Japonica*) rice ortholog of the maize *tb1* gene? Wouldn't it be nice to highlight both genes in the TCP gene family tree?

- 1) Via Search:
 - a) From the “Homology” tab in Search results (see above), select *Zea mays* and *Oryza sativa japonica* from the drop-down menu on the top right of the Search page.
 - b) Click on “Show Orthologs”.

The screenshot shows the Gramene search interface. At the top, there's a search bar and a dropdown menu showing "2 genes in 2 genomes". Below the search bar, a "Gene Tree | Orthologs of teosinte branched1" panel is open. It displays a taxonomic distribution chart where nodes for *O. sativa Japonica* and *Zea mays* are highlighted in blue and orange respectively. Below this, the "teosinte branched1" gene details are shown for *Z. mays*, including its transcription factor status and homologs in *O. sativa Japonica* and *A. thaliana*. A separate panel for the *Os03g0706500* gene is also visible at the bottom.

- 2) Via Genome Browser:

- From the left side menu of the Gene Summary page or the Plant Compara Gene Tree view (see above), select the (Plant Compara) “Orthologues” option
- Type “japonica” on the “Filter” box to show only rice orthologues in the results table.

Location: 1:270,553,676-270,554,776 Gene: teosinte branched1 Trans: Zm00001d033673_T001

Gene: teosinte branched1 Zm00001d033673

Description Transcription factor TEOSINTE BRANCHED 1
Synonyms AC233950_1_FG002, tb1, ZmTCP1
Location Chromosome 1: 270,553,676-270,554,776 forward strand.
About this gene This gene has 1 transcript (splice variant), 65 orthologues and 17 paralogues.

Transcripts [Show transcript table](#)

Show/hide columns (1 hidden)						Filter
Name	Transcript ID	bp	Protein	Biotype	UniProt	Flags
Novel	Zm00001d033673_T001	1101	366aa		A0A1D6L1J8 Q83W1P	Protein coding

Orthologues [?](#)

[Download orthologues](#)

Summary of orthologues of this gene [Hide](#) [⊖](#)

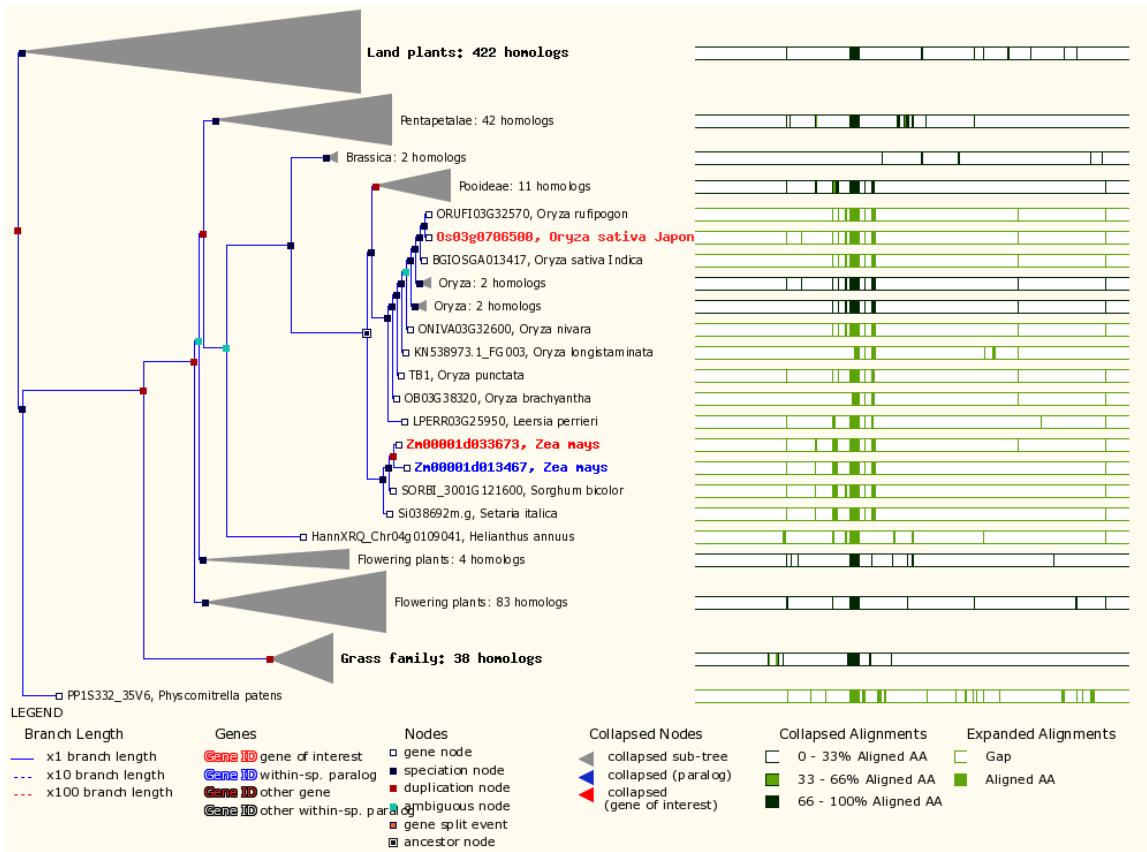
Click on ‘Show details’ to display the orthologues for one or more groups of species. Alternatively, click on ‘Configure this page’ to choose a custom list of species.

Species set	Show details	With 1:1 orthologues	With 1:many orthologues	With many:many orthologues	Without orthologues
All (57 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	31	13	13
Amborellales (1 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	1
Bryophyta (1 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	1	0	0
Chlorophyta (2 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	2
Liliopsida (21 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	18	3	0
Lycopodiophyta (1 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	1
Rhodophyta (3 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	3
Eudicots (23 species)	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	12	10	1

Selected orthologues [Hide](#) [⊖](#)

Show All entries		Show/hide columns						japonica
Species	Type	Orthologue	dN/dS	Target %Id	Query %Id	GOC Score	WGA Coverage	High Confidence
Oryza sativa Japonica	1-to-many	Qs03g0706500	0.13420	57.47 %	60.93 %	n/a	n/a	n/a
	View Gene Tree	Compare Regions (3:28,428,504-28,430,438:1)						
		View Sequence Alignments						

- Click on the “View Gene Tree” link for the rice orthologue.



3) Via BioMart:

- From the “Zea Mays genes” data set in BioMart (see above), under the “Gene” filter, select “ID list limit”.
- Enter “Zm00001d033673” as the “Gene stable ID” for maize *tb1*.
- Under “Attributes”, select “Homologs”.
- From the “Homologs” attributes form, under “Gene Attributes” select “Gene stable ID”, and under “Orthologs” select “Oryza sativa Japonica gene stable ID” and any additional data desired (e.g., % identity).
- Click on “Results”. Customize how to view and export your results.

Dataset
Zea mays genes (B73 RefGen_v4)

Filters
Gene stable ID(s) [e.g. ENSRNA049437471]: [ID-list specified]

Attributes
Gene stable ID
Oryza sativa Japonica gene stable ID
%id. target Oryza sativa Japonica gene identical to query gene

Dataset
[None Selected]

Please select columns to be included in the output and hit 'Results' when ready

Features Variant (Germline)
 Structures Sequences
 Homologues

GENE:
Ensembl
 Gene stable ID
 Transcript stable ID
 Protein stable ID
 Chromosome/scaffold name
 Gene start (bp)
 Gene end (bp)
 Strand
 Karyotype band
 Gene name
 Source of gene name
 Transcript count
 Gene % GC content
 Gene description

ORTHOLOGUES (Max select 6 orthologues):
Aegilops tauschii Orthologues
 Aegilops tauschii gene stable ID
 Aegilops tauschii gene name
 Aegilops tauschii protein or transcript stable ID
 Aegilops tauschii chromosome/scaffold name
 Aegilops tauschii chromosome/scaffold start (bp)
 Aegilops tauschii chromosome/scaffold end (bp)
 Query protein or transcript ID
 Last common ancestor with Aegilops tauschii
 Aegilops tauschii homology type
 %id. target Aegilops tauschii gene identical to query gene
 %id. query gene identical to target Aegilops tauschii gene
 Aegilops tauschii Gene-order conservation score
 Aegilops tauschii Whole-genome alignment coverage
 dN with Aegilops tauschii
 dS with Aegilops tauschii
 Aegilops tauschii orthology confidence [0 low, 1 high]

Amborella trichopoda Orthologues
 Amborella trichopoda gene stable ID
 Amborella trichopoda gene name
 Amborella trichopoda homology type
 %id. target Amborella trichopoda gene identical to query gene

URL **XML** **Perl** **Help**

Export all results
 to Unique results only Go

Email notification to

View rows as Unique results only

Gene stable ID	Oryza sativa Japonica gene stable ID	%id. target Oryza sativa Japonica gene identical to query gene
Zm00001d033673	Os03g0706500	60.929

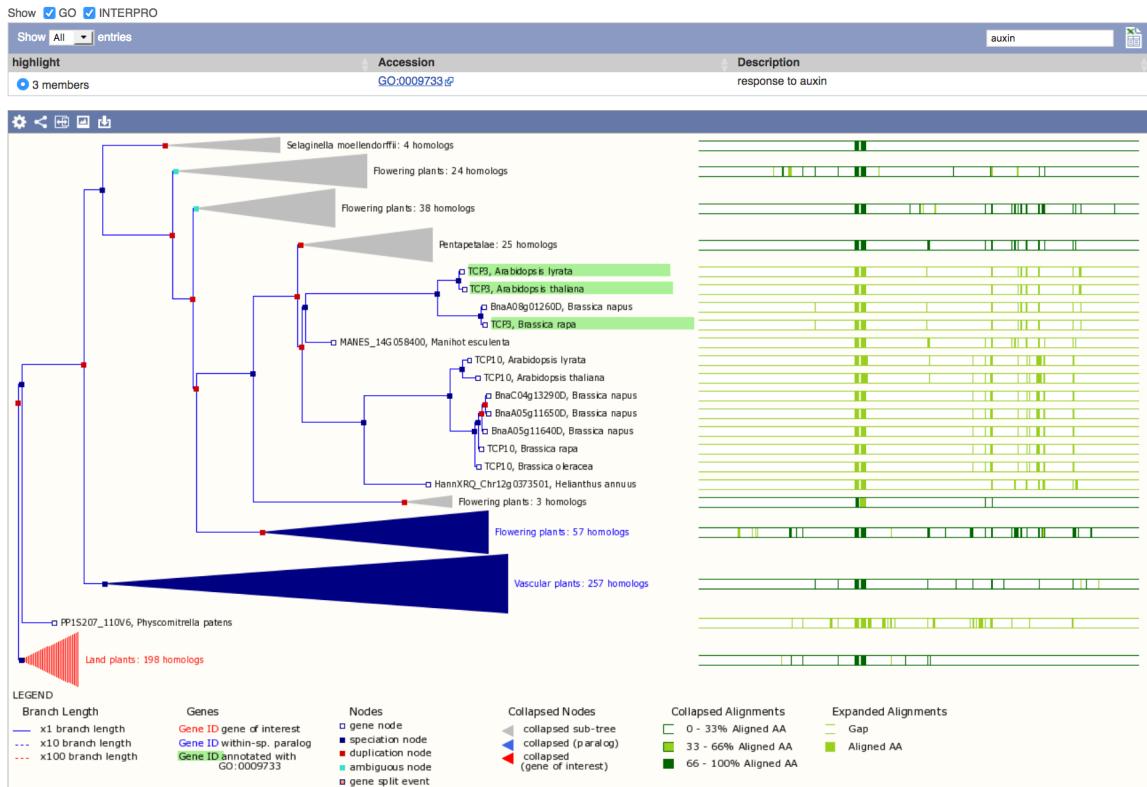
Answer: Os03g0706500 (IRGSP1) or LOC_Os03g49880.

d. Identify genes in the tree that have been associated with auxin response.

Hint: GO:0009733 is the GO term identifier for “response to auxin”.

- From the Plant Compara Gene Tree view (see above), enter the term “auxin” in the Filter box to identify GO or InterPro term(s) for auxin response.
- Select GO:0009733

Answer: There are 3 genes encoding TCP3 in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *A. lyrata* and *Brassica rapa* in the tree that have been associated with response to auxin.



Exercise 2. Identify tomato transcription factors within the TCP gene family with a SNP that results in a truncated peptide.

Note: The SNP will introduce a stop codon(*) resulting in a truncated protein product.

Hints:

- 1) Via Search and/or Genome Browser:
 - a) Go to the Transcript page of Solyc06g069240.1, a tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) ortholog of maize *tb1* (proceed as we did above to identify the rice ortholog of maize TB1).
 - b) Select “Domains & features” from the page’s left side menu.
 - c) Find the IPR017887 domain (transcription factor TCP subgroup) and click on “Display all genes with this domain”.
 - d) Copy the resulting gene list and use it as input to mine for tomato variants with a “stop_gained” as functional consequence in the Gramene Mart (see #2 ahead).

Solanum lycopersicum (SL2.50) ▾

Location: 6:43,006,781-43,008,127 Gene: Solyc06g069240.1 Trans: Solyc06g069240.1.1

Transcript-based displays

- Summary
- Sequence
 - Exons
 - cDNA
 - Protein
- Protein Information
 - Protein summary
 - Domains & features**
 - Variants
- Genetic Variation
 - Variant table
 - Variant image
 - Population comparison
 - Comparison image
- External References
 - General identifiers
 - Oligo probes
- Supporting evidence
- ID History
 - Transcript history
 - Protein history

Configure this page

Custom tracks

Export data

Share this page

Bookmark this page

Gramene is produced in collaboration with Ensembl Plants

Transcript: Solyc06g069240.1.1

Location Chromosome 6: 43,006,781-43,008,127 forward strand.

About this transcript This transcript has 2 exons, is annotated with 10 domains and features and is associated with 116 variations.

Gene This transcript is a product of gene Solyc06g069240.1 Show transcript table

Domains & features ⓘ

Domains

Show/hide columns						Filter
Domain source	Start	End	Description	Accession	InterPro	
PANTHER	24	334	-	PTHR31072-SF41	-	
PANTHER	24	334	-	PTHR31072	-	
PANTHER	325	390	-	PTHR31072-SF41	-	
PANTHER	325	390	-	PTHR31072	-	
PROSITE profiles	255	272	CYC/TB1, R domain	PS51370	IPR017888 [Display all genes with this domain]	
PROSITE profiles	115	173	Transcription factor TCP subgroup	PS51369	IPR017887 [Display all genes with this domain]	
Pfam	114	275	Transcription factor, TCP	PF03634	IPR005333 [Display all genes with this domain]	

Other features

Show/hide columns			Filter
Feature type	Start	End	
MobiDBLite	78	133	
MobiDBLite	214	308	
Seg	185	204	

- 2) Via BioMart: First use IPR017887 (TCP domain) to filter the tomato genes data set. Then select tomato variations as a second data set and under Filters, use “stop_gained” as “Consequence type”.

New Count Results

Dataset 34 / 35216 Genes
Solanum lycopersicum genes (SL2.50)

Filters

Interpro ID(s) [e.g. IPR000007]: [ID-list specified]

Attributes

Gene stable ID
Interpro ID
Interpro Short Description

Dataset

Solanum lycopersicum Short Variants (SNPs and indels excluding flagged variants) (SL2.50)

Filters

Variant consequence : stop_gained

Attributes

Variant name
Variant source
Chromosome/scaffold name
Chromosome/scaffold position start (bp)
Chromosome/scaffold position end (bp)
Variant consequence

Export all results to File TSV Unique results only Go

Email notification to

View 10 rows as HTML Unique results only

Gene stable ID	Interpro ID	Interpro Short Description	Variant name	Variant source	Chromosome/scaffold name	Chromosome/scaffold position start (bp)	Chromosome/scaffold position end (bp)	Variant consequence
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ11D4DP	The 150 1	TGRSP	90352723	90352723	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ1IEPNJ	The 150 1	TGRSP	91009343	91009343	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ11E0ZQ	The 150 1	TGRSP	90714271	90714271	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ114T7X	The 150 1	TGRSP	86817174	86817174	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ107LBN	The 150 1	TGRSP	70788055	70788055	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ10UIAV	The 150 1	TGRSP	82292010	82292010	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ110Q7T	The 150 1	TGRSP	85057092	85057092	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ10G6Z2	The 150 1	TGRSP	75234382	75234382	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZ10JMCB	The 150 1	TGRSP	76840415	76840415	stop_gained
Solyc01g103780.2	IPR017887	TF_TCP_subgr	vcZZYXQJ	The 150 1	TGRSP	66782860	66782860	stop_gained

Exercise 3. Explore the genetic variation associated with a gene

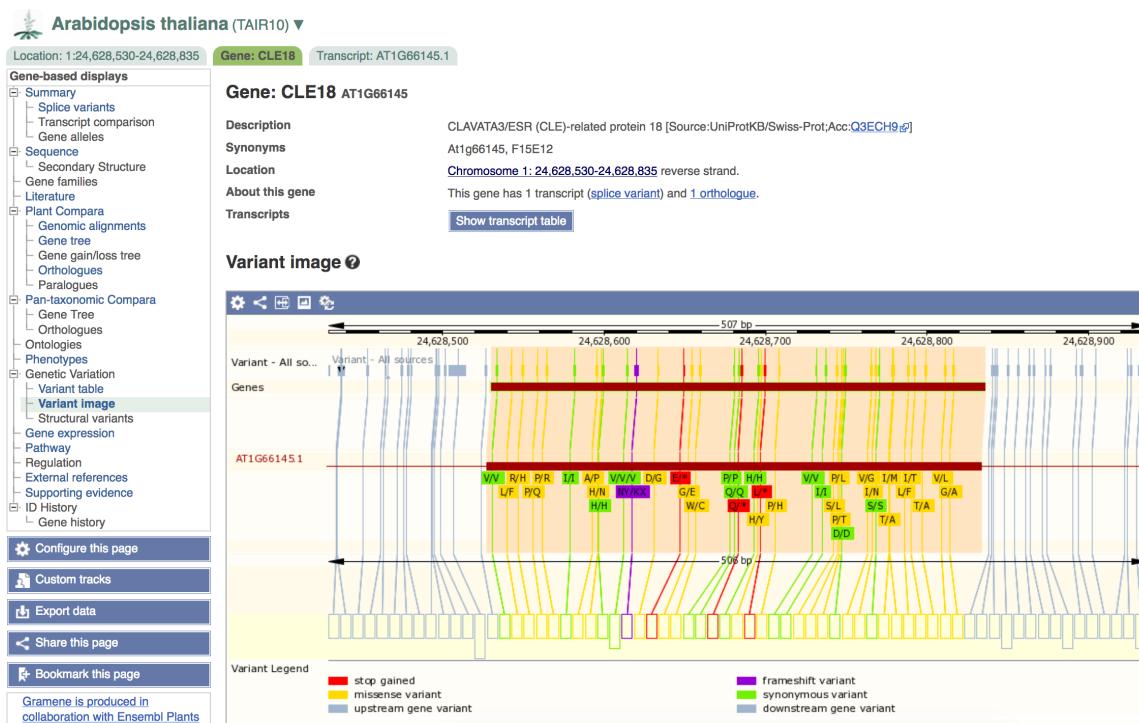
We will now explore genetic variants along the *Arabidopsis c/e18* gene to find 2 SNPs reported to have drastic functional consequences for the CLE18 peptide. CLE18 is a CLAVATA3/ESR-related (CLE) peptide with diverse roles in plant

growth and development. Two functional consequences were described by [Cao et al \(2011\) \[Nature Genetics\]](#).

- Visualize the genetic variants for this gene
- Are there any stop codons introduced (nonsense or stop gained variants) in this gene? Compare your findings with Supplementary Table 3 of Cao et al (2011)
- Are there any transcript-specific variants for this gene?
- Download a subset of the variants (e.g., those that introduce an amino acid change in the protein)

To visualize the genetic variants in CLE18 (AT1G66145), simply select the “Variant image” view from the left menu bar of the corresponding gene page or go directly to

http://ensembl.gramene.org/Arabidopsis_thaliana/Gene/Variation_Gene/Image?g=AT1G66145;r=1:24628530-24628835;t=AT1G66145.1



Answers:

There are three SNP variants that introduce stop codons (stop gained) in the CLE18 gene (TAIR10/AraPort11). Find these by going to the “Variant table” view of the CLE18 gene

(http://ensembl.gramene.org/Arabidopsis_thaliana/Gene/Variation_Gene/Table?g=AT1G66145;r=1:24628530-24628835;t=AT1G66145.1) and filtering all variants using the word “stop gained” as shown in the figure below.

Here is the fragment of Supplementary Table 3 in Cao et al (2011) that lists the SNPs with predicted drastic effects in CLE18 (AT1G66145). The genomic coordinates clearly differ for these SNPs (there is no change when converted to TAIR9), however the relative distance between the two variants reported in the 2011 study is 14 bp, the exact same distance between ENSVATH05076737 and ENSVATH00125659.

SNPs with predicted drastic effects on gene function.						
Chr	Pos	Type	Strains	Locus ID	Annotation	
2621	1	24,617,814	stop	1	AT1G66120	acyl-activating enzyme 11 (AAE11)
2622	1	24,632,348	stop	1	AT1G66145	CLE18 (CLAVATA3/ESR-RELATED)
2623	1	24,632,362	stop	3	AT1G66145	CLE18 (CLAVATA3/ESR-RELATED)
2624	1	24,637,463	splice	5	AT1G66150	TMK1 (TRANSMEMBRANE KINASE)
2625	1	24,675,258	stop	1	AT1G66220	subtilase family protein

No transcript-specific variants are seen in *cle18* because – so far – a single transcript has been identified for this gene.

To download a subset of the variants (e.g., those that introduce an amino acid change in the protein), use the Gramene Mart to identify CLE18 variants with a specific predicted functional consequence (missense in this case).

URL XML Perl Help

Dataset Arabidopsis thaliana Short Variants (SNPs and indels excluding flagged variants) (TAIR10) Filters Gene stable ID(s) [Max 500 advised] : [ID-list specified] Variant consequence : missense_variant Attributes Variant name Variant source Chromosome/scaffold name Chromosome/scaffold position start (bp) Chromosome/scaffold position end (bp) Gene stable ID Variant consequence	Please restrict your query using criteria below REGION: GENERAL VARIANT FILTERS: GENE ASSOCIATED VARIANT FILTERS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gene stable ID(s) [Max 500 advised] AT1G66145 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Variant consequence inframe_deletion inframe_indel inframe_insertion inframe_variant intergenic_variant internal_feature_elongation intron_variant mature_miRNA_variant missense_variant
Dataset [None Selected]	

Results

View rows as Unique results only

Variant name	Variant source	Chromosome/scaffold name	Chromosome/scaffold position start (bp)	Chromosome/scaffold position end (bp)	Gene stable ID	Variant consequence
ENSVATH13741823	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628542	24628542	AT1G66145	missense_variant
ENSVATH13741824	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628549	24628549	AT1G66145	missense_variant
tmp_1_24628558_G_T	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628558	24628558	AT1G66145	missense_variant
ENSVATH00125657	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628564	24628564	AT1G66145	missense_variant
tmp_1_24628595_C_G	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628595	24628595	AT1G66145	missense_variant
ENSVATH13741826	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628598	24628598	AT1G66145	missense_variant
ENSVATH01479127	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628633	24628633	AT1G66145	missense_variant
ENSVATH05076736	The 1001 Genomes Project	1	24628654	24628654	AT1G66145	missense_variant
ENSVATH00125658	The 1001 Genomes	1	24628659	24628659	AT1G66145	missense_variant

Note: In addition to the Ensembl "Tools" for genomic analysis (e.g., BLAST, BioMart, Assembly Converter, Variant Effect Predictor), other genetic analysis (e.g., Simple Sequence Repeat Identification Tool or SRIT) tools can be accessed through Gramene's archival Diversity pages at <http://archive.gramene.org/diversity/tools.html>

Exercise 4. Upload, visualize and share your own data into a new genome browser track

The Ensembl genome browser allows users to upload their own data and visualize it on a custom track and/or analyze it with various tools like the BLAST sequence alignment tool, the Assembly Converter tool, the Variant Effect Prediction (VEP) tool, etc. Data may be formatted in various file formats including FASTA, GFF, GTF, BED, BAM, VCF, bedGraph, gbrowse, PSL, WIG, BigBed, BigWig, and TrackHub. Some data like GFF annotations may be directly uploaded from a local machine. Large data files like BED/BAM alignments or BigWig graphic display configurations need to be uploaded onto a local server that is accessible to the browser via an URL. Another way to share third-party data is via a DAS (Distributed Annotation System) registry, which would need to be set up by a software engineer.

The test data sets that are available for upload and visualization for this exercise have been preloaded onto a local server that is publicly accessible:

http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome. The data consists of BAM alignments and CpG methylation for B73 & Mo17 maize lines used in the study by [Regulski et al \(2013\) \[Genome Research 23:1651\]](#) and were used to create expression tracks in Gramene build 56.

- 1) Go to a genomic region of your choice (Location View, e.g., http://ensembl.gramene.org/Zea_mays/Location/View?r=1:11375522-113782806;db=core;time=1521250985769.769). Click on “Custom tracks” for pop-up window to appear.

*Note: This pop-up window also allows you to load public RNA-Seq data from **The Track Hub!** Simply click on “**Track Hub Registry Search**” instead and proceed to find the type of omics data for the species you are interested in, as so:*

Gramene

Personal Data

Personal Data

Custom tracks

Track Hub Registry Search

Manage Configurations

Search the Track Hub Registry

Species: Zea mays

Assembly: AGPv4

Data type:

- all --
- genomics
- transcriptomics**
- proteomics

Text search:

Hint: Leave "text search" empty to show all track hubs for this species

Search

- 2) To add a custom track, paste custom data in valid format or enter the corresponding URL (see methylome data files in local server above) in the

“Data” field (e.g.,
http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/B73_CHG.bw)
and click on “Add data”.

Custom tracks → Add a custom track or Add more data

- 3) Click on the check mark (top right corner) to close the window. You may need to navigate to a region that contains your data to visualize it on the screen and make sure that your custom track is turned on.

The screenshot shows the 'Add a custom track' dialog box. At the top, there are tabs for 'Configure Region Image', 'Configure Overview Image', 'Configure Chromosome Image', and 'Personal Data'. The 'Personal Data' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there is a note about track hubs and indexed files not working with certain cloud services like Google Drive and Dropbox. The main form has fields for 'Name for this data (optional)', 'Species' (set to Zea mays), 'Assembly' (AGPv4), 'Data' (URL: http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/B73_CHG_coverage.bw), 'Data format' (BigWig), and an 'Add data' button at the bottom.

Custom data sets loaded

The screenshot shows the 'Your data' table. The columns are: Type, Source, Species, Assembly, Last updated, and Actions. The table lists several entries:

Type	Source	Species	Assembly	Last updated	Actions
URL	B73_CpG.bw http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/B73_CpG.bw	Zea mays	AGPv4	16/03/18 at 21:34	
URL	B73_CHG.bw http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/B73_CHG.bw	Zea mays	AGPv4	16/03/18 at 21:27	
URL	MO17_CHH.bw http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/e/MO17_CHH.bw	Zea mays	AGPv4	16/03/18 at 21:37	
URL	MO17_CHG.bw http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/e/MO17_CHG.bw	Zea mays	AGPv4	16/03/18 at 21:35	
URL	MO17_CpG.bw http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/e/MO17_CpG.bw	Zea mays	AGPv4	16/03/18 at 21:38	
URL	B73_CHH.bw http://data.gramene.org/public/Zea_mays4m/methylome/e/B73_ChH.bw	Zea mays	AGPv4	16/03/18 at 21:34	

At the bottom of the table, there are buttons for 'Add more data' and 'Search for public track hubs'.

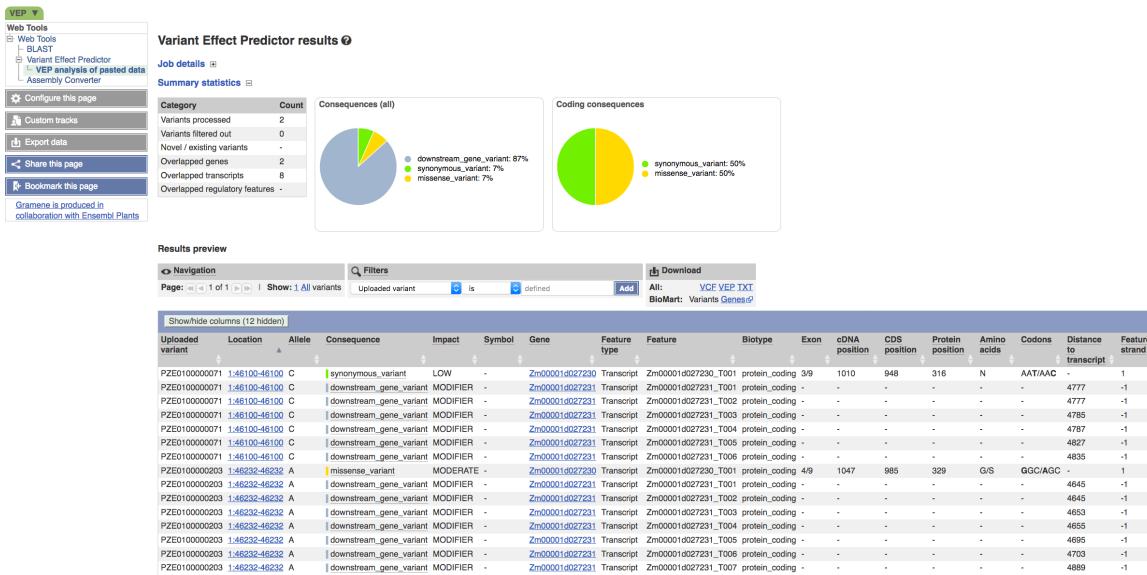
Custom tracks of methylation signatures data



Predict functional effects in custom SNP data sets using the VEP tool

Copy/paste the following sample maize VCF in the VEP Tool (http://ensembl.gramene.org/Zea_mays/Tools/VEP?db=core) to visualize the predicted functional consequence for the SNPs listed. Results are shown below.

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.0
##fileDate=20161018
##source=MaizeHapMapMockUp
##reference=RefGenv4
##phasing=no
##INFO=<ID=MQ,Number=.,Type=Float,Description="RMS mapping quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT
B73:MZ M97:MZ MKN009:MZ MKN010:MZ MKN011:MZ
1 46100 PZE0100000071 T C . PASS MQ=92 GT 0/0
0/0 0/0 0/0 0/0
1 46232 PZE0100000203 G A . PASS MQ=91 GT 0/0
0/0 0/0 0/0 0/0
```



Exercise 5. BLAST a sequence. Determine synteny for a genomic region. Convert coordinates between different genome assemblies.

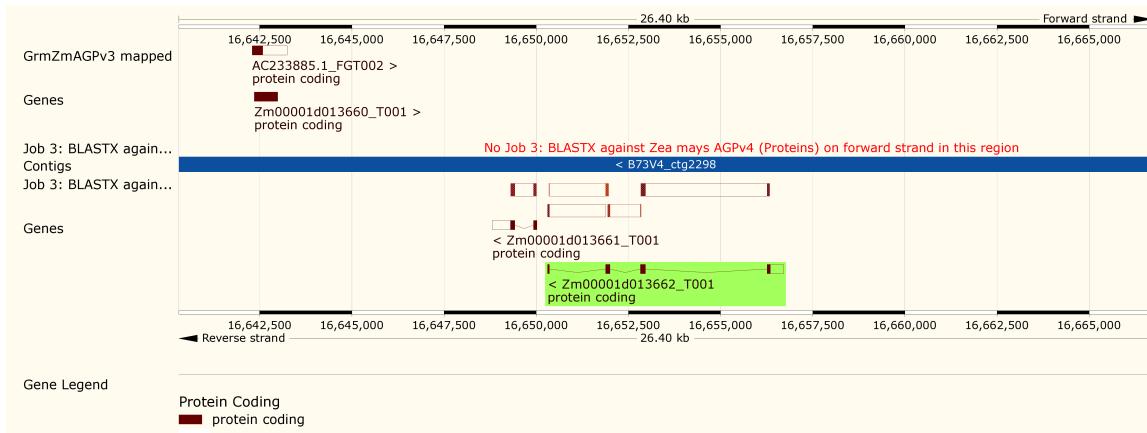
In this exercise, we will identify orthologues of a species whose reference genome is not available in Gramene via BLASTX and find corresponding synteny blocks in other species.

- Use the nucleotide sequence of the *Sorghum virgatum* Sh1 gene taken from [Lin et al \(2012\) \[Nature Genetics 44:720\]](#) to identify orthologous genes in *Sorghum bicolor* and maize.

Answer:

The best hit in *Sorghum bicolor* (orthologue) is SORBI_3001G152901

The best hit in *Zea mays* (orthologue) maps to the C2C2-YABBY-transcription factor 6 (Zm00001d013662) gene region, which appears to be a “split gene” (annotation artifact) together with Zm00001d013661.



Work on your own to answer the following. We are always willing to help! ☺
E-mail us at feedback@gramene.org

- b. Highlight the orthologues in two of those species in the tree as you learned in Exercise 1.
- c. Download the genetic variation for one of the maize Sh1 orthologues as you learned in Exercise 2. How many nonsense substitutions can you find in this gene?
- d. Lin *et al* (2012) also provide RefGen_v2 coordinates for maize shattering QTLs in Supplementary Table 5. Identify synteny blocks for the intervals at maize chromosomal regions (RefGen_v2) chr1: 259,223,260 - 261,622,457 and chr5: 15,806,322 - 16,428,681 in rice and sorghum. Download the synteny images that you generate.

Note: You will need to first use the Assembly converter tool to map the QTL intervals to RefGen_v4 coordinates.

- e. Download all the genes for a given synteny block. Can you identify a *Sh1* orthologous (YABBY-like) gene in it?
- f. Compare your results with those in *Lin et al* (2012)

>S. virgatum Sh1 CDS

```

ATGTCGGCCCAGCAGATCGCGCCGGTGCCGGAGCATGTGTGCTACGTGCA
CTGCAAATTCTGCAATACAATTCTCGCGGTAGTGTCCCAGTCACAGCAT
GCTGAACATCGTGACAGTCCGTTGGGCAGTCAGCTAGCCTGCTGTCAGT
GAACTTGAGAGGACTCCTCCAATCACTCCCTGTCCAGAACATCACTACTCGCA
GGAGAAATAATTCAAGGTCCAAAATTTCAGCTTACTGAAAACACCCTGAG
TATGCACCTTCGTCTTCGAAATACCGCATGCCAACGATGTTGTCAGAAAAG
GTGATCTGGATCATATGCTGCACGTGCGTGGTAAGCTCCAGAGAAAGAGGCA
ACGTGTTCCCTCAGCATATAACAGATTATTAAAGGAAGAGATACGAAGGGATT
AAAGCAAGCAACCCAGACATAAGCCACAGGGAAGCCTTCAGCACTGCAGCA
AAAAATTGGGCACATTTCAAACATTCACTTGGACTAGGGCCCTATGAAA
GTAGCAACAAAGCTTGTGAGGCCATTGGTGCAACGGGCCATCCCCAGAAAG

```

TCCAAGATCTCTACTAA