



Input formats to BLAST

Tom Madden¹

Created: June 23, 2008; Updated: September 25, 2020.

Multiple sequence alignment

The -in_msa psiblast option provides a way to jump start psiblast from a master-slave multiple sequence alignment computed outside psiblast. The multiple sequence alignment must contain the query sequence as one of its sequences, but it need not be the first sequence. The multiple sequence alignment must be specified in a format that is derived from Clustal, but without some headers and trailers (see example below).

The rules are also described by the following words. Suppose the multiple sequence alignment has N sequences. It may be presented in one or more blocks, where each block presents a range of columns from the multiple sequence alignment. E.g., the first block might have columns 1-60, the second block might have columns 61-95, the third block might have columns 96-128. Each block should have N rows, one row per sequence. The sequences should be in the same order in every block. Blocks are separated by one or more blank lines. Within a block there are no blank lines, and each line consists of one sequence identifier followed by some whitespace followed by characters (and gaps) for that sequence in the multiple sequence alignment. In each column, all letters must be in upper case, or all letters must be in lower case.

```
# Example multiple sequence alignment file
align1
-----
26SPS9_Hs      IHAAEEKDWTAYSYFYEAPEGYdsidspkaitslkyml1ckimlntp
F57B9_Ce       LHAADEKDFKTAFSYFYEAPEGYdsvdeksaltalkymllckvmlldlpdevn
YDL097c_Sc     ILHCEDKDYKTAFSYFFESFESTYhnltthnsyekacqvlkymllskimlnliddvkn
YMJ5_Ce        LYSAEERDYKTSFSYFYEAPEGFasigdkinatsalkymilckimlneteqlagllaake
FUS6_ARATH    KNYIRTRDYCTTTKHIIHMCMNAIlvsiemgqfthvtstyvnkaeqnpetlepmvnaklrc
COS41.8_Ci     SLDYKLKYTLTIARLYLEDEDPVqaemyinrasllqnetadeqlqihykvcyarvldyrr
644879         KCYSRARDYCTS AKHVINMCLNVikvsvylqnwshvlsyvskaestpeiaeqrgerdsqt
YPR108w_Sc     IHCLAVRFNKEAAKLLVDSLATFtsieltsyesiatyasvtglftlertdlkskvidspe
eif-3p110_Hs   SKAMKMGDWKTCHSFIINEKMNGkvw-----
T23D8.4_Ce     SKAMLNGDWKKCQDYIVNDKMNQkvw-----
YD95_Sp         IYLMSIRNFSGAADLLLDCMSTFsstellppyydvvryavisgaislrvdktkivdspe
KIAA0107_Hs     LYCVAIRDfkQAAELFLDTVSTFTsyelmdyktfvtytvysmialerpdlrekvikgae
F49C12.8_Hs     LYRMSVRDFAGAADLFLEAVPTFgtsyelmyenlilytvittfaldrpdrlrtkvircne
Int-6_Mm        KFQYECGNYSGAAEYLFFRVLVpatdrnalsslwgklaseilmqnwdaamedltrlket
-----
26SPS9_Hs      lryagrqtealkcvaqasknrsladfekaltdy-----
F57B9_Ce       alkyngsdddamkaiaaaaqkrslkdfqvafgsf-----
YDL097c_Sc     akytketyqsrgidamkavaeaymnrslldfntalkqy-----
YMJ5_Ce        ivayqkspriairsmadafrkrslkdfvkalaeh-----
```

FUS6_ARATH	asglahlelkkyklaarkfldvnpelgnsyneviapqdiatyggalcalasfdrselkqkv
COS41.8_Ci	kfleaaqrynelysyksaiheteqtakalcailapaggqrssrlatlfkdercql1lp
644879	qailtklkcaglaelaarkykqaakcl1lasfdhcdpfellspsnvaiyggalcalatfd
YPR108w_Sc	llslisttaalqsissltislyasyfpyllty-----
eif-3p110_Hs	-----
T23D8.4_Ce	-----
YD95_Sp	vavlpqnesmssleacinslycdysgffrtladve-----
KIAA0107_Hs	ilevlhs1pavrqylfslyecrysffqslavv-----
F49C12.8_Hs	vqeqltgglngtlipvreyesyydchydrffiqlaale-----
Int-6_Mm	idnnsvssplqslqqrtwlhwslfvfnhpkgrdniiidlflyqpqylnaiqtmphilr
 26SPS9_Hs	-----
F57B9_Ce	-----
YDL097c_Sc	-----
YMJ5_Ce	-----
FUS6_ARATH	idninfrrnflelvpdrelindfyssryascleylasl-----
COS41.8_Ci	sfgilekmfldriiksdemefar-----
644879	rqelqrnvissssfklflelepqvrdfiifkfyeshkyasclkmldem-----
YPR108w_Sc	-----
eif-3p110_Hs	-----
T23D8.4_Ce	-----
YD95_Sp	-----
KIAA0107_Hs	-----
F49C12.8_Hs	-----
Int-6_Mm	yttavitnkdvrvkrrqv1kdlvkviqqesytykdptefveclvvnfdfdgaqkk1rec
 26SPS9_Hs	RAELRDDPIISTHLAKLYDNLLEQNLIRVIEPFSRVQIEHISSLIKLSKADVERKLSQMI
F57B9_Ce	PQEIQMDPVVVRKHFSLSERMLEKDLCRIIEPYSFVQIEHVAQQIGIDRSKVEKKLSQMI
YDL097c_Sc	EKELMGDELTRSHFNALYDTLLESNLCKIIEPFECVEISHISKIIGLDTQQVEGKLSQMI
YMJ5_Ce	KIELVEDKVVAVHSQNLERNMLEKEISRVIEPYSEIELSYIARVIGMTVPPVERAIARMI
FUS6_ARATH	KSNLLLDIHLHDHVDTLYDQIRKKALIQYTLPFVSVDLSRMADAFKTSVSGLEKELEALI
COS41.8_Ci	QLMPHQKAITADGSNILHRAVTEHNLLSASKLYNNIRFTELGALLEIPHQMAEKVASQMI
644879	KDNLLLDMDYLAPHVRTLYTQIRNRALIQYFSPYVSADMHRMAAFNTTVAALEDELTQLI
YPR108w_Sc	ANVLIPCKYLNRRHADFFVREMRRKVAQLESYKTLSSLKSMASAFGVSVAFLDNDLGFI
eif-3p110_Hs	DLFPEADKVRTMLVRKIQEESLRTYLFTYSSVYDSISMETLSDMFELDLPTVHSIISKMI
T23D8.4_Ce	NLFHNAETVKGMVVRRIQEESLRTYLLTYSTVYATVSLKKLADLFELSKKDVSIIISKMI
YD95_Sp	VNHLKCDQFLVAHYRYYVREMRRAYAQLLESYRALSIDSMMAASFGVSVDYIDRDLASFI
KIAA0107_Hs	EQEMKKDWLFAPHYRYYVREMRIHAYSQLESYRSLTGYMAEAFGVGVEFIDQELSRFI
F49C12.8_Hs	SERFKFDYRLSPHFNNYSRGMRHRAYEQFLTPYKTVRIDMMMAKDFGVSRADFRELHRLI
Int-6_Mm	ESVLVNDFFLVACLEDIFIENARLFIFETFCRIHQCISINMLADKNMTPPEEAERWIVNLI
 26SPS9_Hs	LDKKFHGILDQGEGVLIIFDEPP
F57B9_Ce	LDQKLSGSLDQGEGMLIVFEIAV
YDL097c_Sc	LDKIFYGVLDQGNGWLWYETPN
YMJ5_Ce	LDKKLMGSIDQHGDTVVVYPKAD
FUS6_ARATH	TDNQIQARIDSHNKILYARHADQ
COS41.8_Ci	CESRMKGHIDQIDGIVFFERRET
644879	LEGLLISARVDSHSKILYARDVDQ
YPR108w_Sc	PNKQLNCVIDRVNGIVETNRPDN
eif-3p110_Hs	INEELMASLDQPTQTVVMHRTEP
T23D8.4_Ce	IQEELSATLDEPTDCLIMHRVEP
YD95_Sp	PDNKLNVIDRVNGVVFNTNPDE
KIAA0107_Hs	AAGRLHCKIDKVNEIVETNRPDS
F49C12.8_Hs	ATGQLQCRIDAVNGVIEVNHRDS
Int-6_Mm	RNARLDAKIDSKLGHVVMGNNAV