



Bioinformatics

Biological Networks An introduction

Part 7

Mahdi Vasighi



Gene Regulation

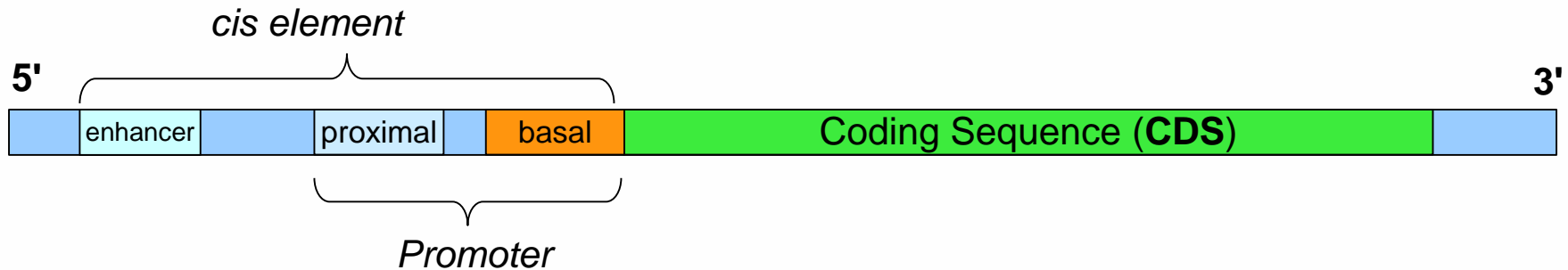
If transcription and translation were only dependent on random collisions thousands, if not millions, of times within the nucleus (transcription) and at ribosomes (translation), there would be no cell differentiation and organisms would be shapeless and lack structure.

The latest estimates are that a human cell, a eukaryotic cell, contains approximately 35,000 genes.

- **housekeeping genes** are expressed in all cells all the time.
- Some are expressed all the time in only those cells that have **differentiated** in a particular way.
- Some are expressed only as conditions around and in the cell change. For example, the **arrival of a hormone** may turn on (or off) certain genes in that cell.
- The gene must have Exon; start signals; stop signals; regulatory control elements



Gene Regulation

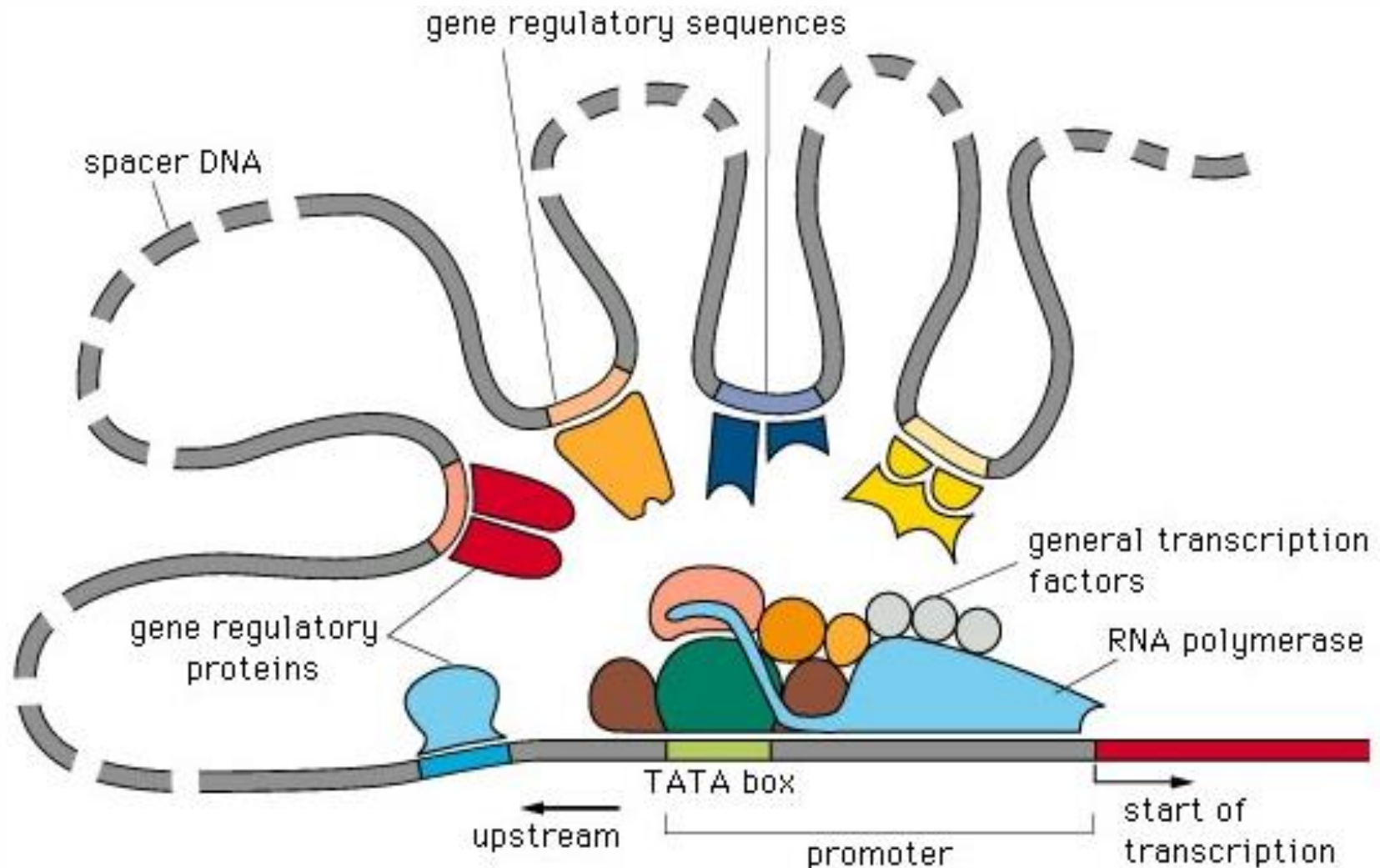


- ▶ **The basal (core) promoter:** provides recognition and binding sites for the RNAP II and is located about 40 base pairs (bps) from the start of the gene. It typically contains a sequence of seven bases (TATAAAA, the '**TATA box**').
- ▶ **Proximal promoter** tends to contain primary regulatory elements
- ▶ **Enhancer** (and/or **Silencer**) serve to activate or repress transcription.
- ▶ **promoters** and **enhancers** form a DNA sequence, called a ***cis element***, which is recognized by regulatory proteins, called a ***trans element***.
- ▶ This still leaves the question of where the first trans element comes from.



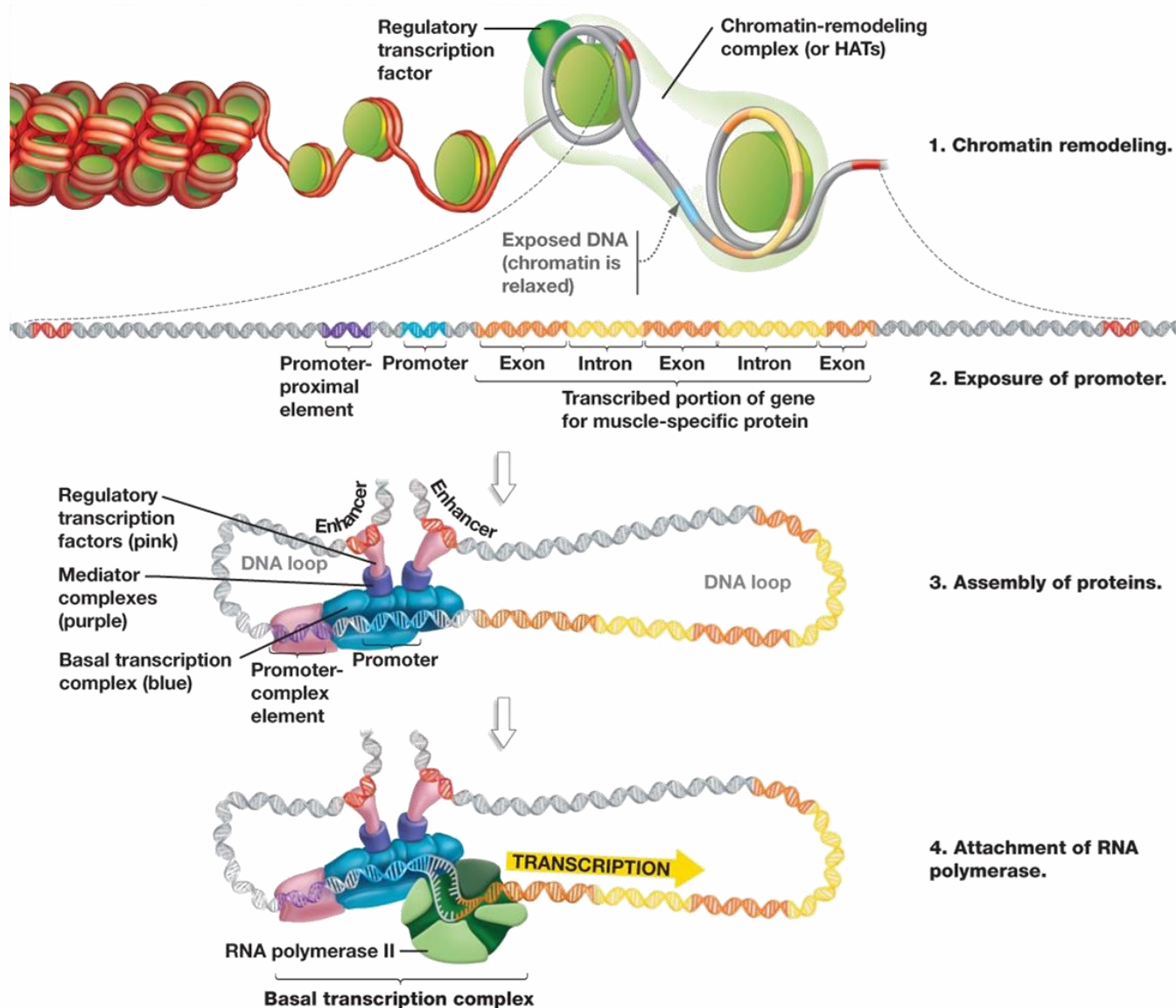


Gene Regulation





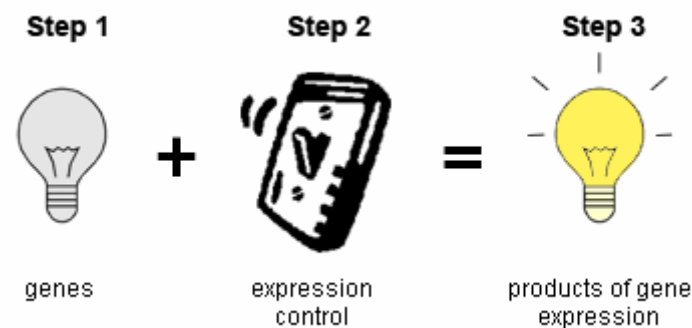
Gene Regulation





Gene Regulatory Network

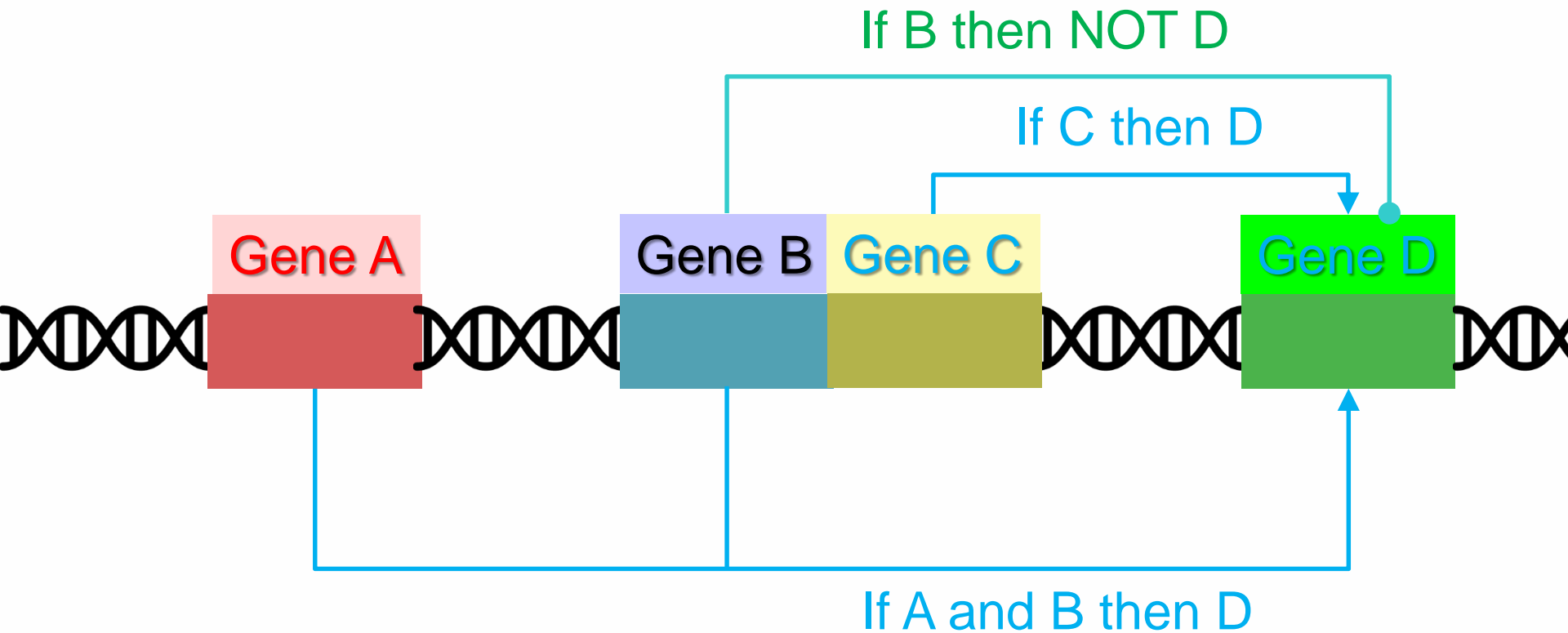
- ♦ Gene regulatory networks (GRNs) are the on-off switches of a cell operating at the gene level.



- ♦ Two genes are connected if the expression of one gene modulates expression of another one by either activation or inhibition



Gene Regulatory Network





Gene Regulatory Network

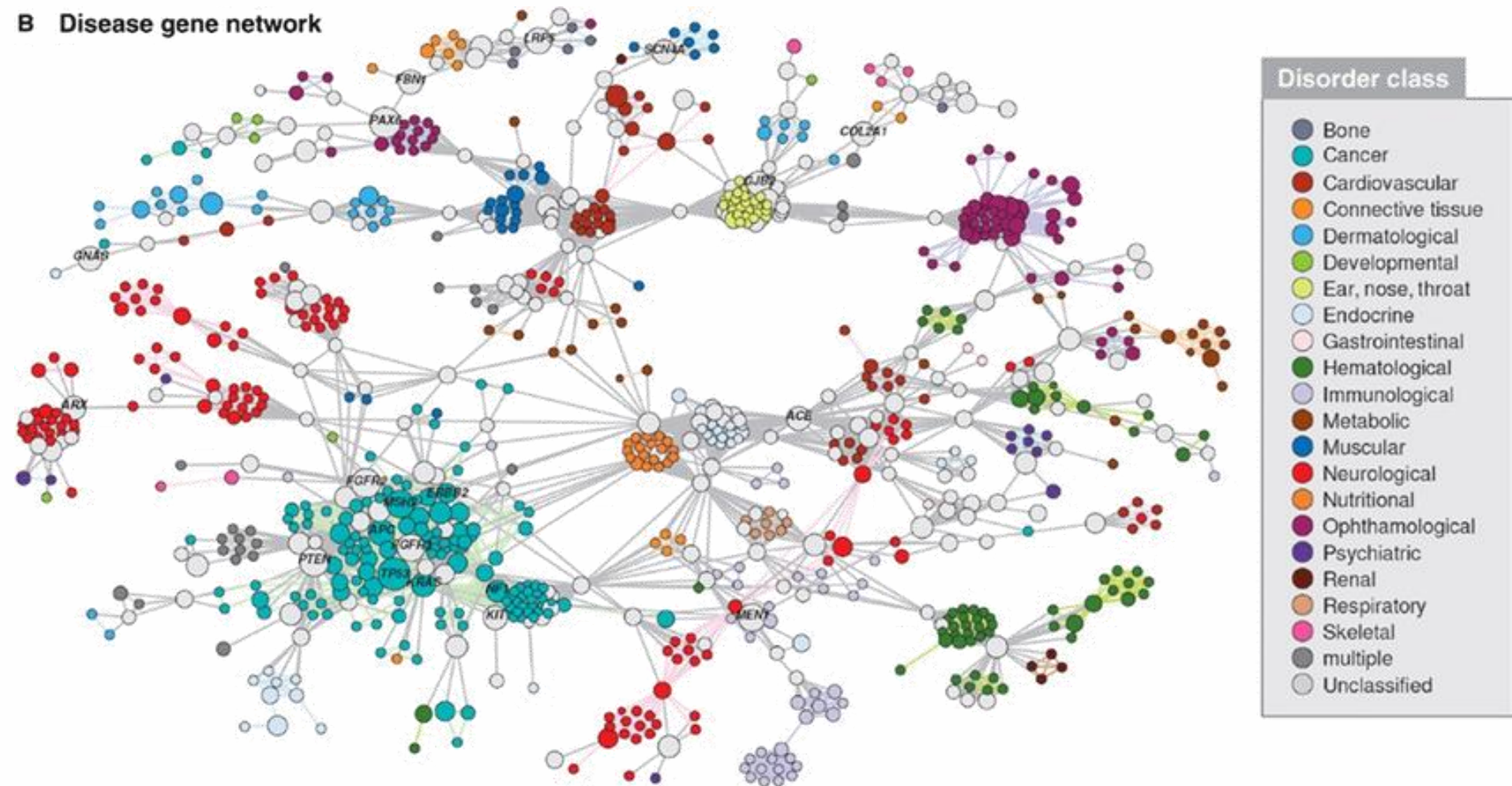
Why Study GRNs?

- ♦ Genes are **not independent**
 - They regulate each other and act collectively;
 - This collective behavior can be observed using microarray
- ♦ Some genes **control the response** of the cell to changes in the environment by regulating other genes
- ♦ Potential discovery of **triggering mechanism and treatments for disease**



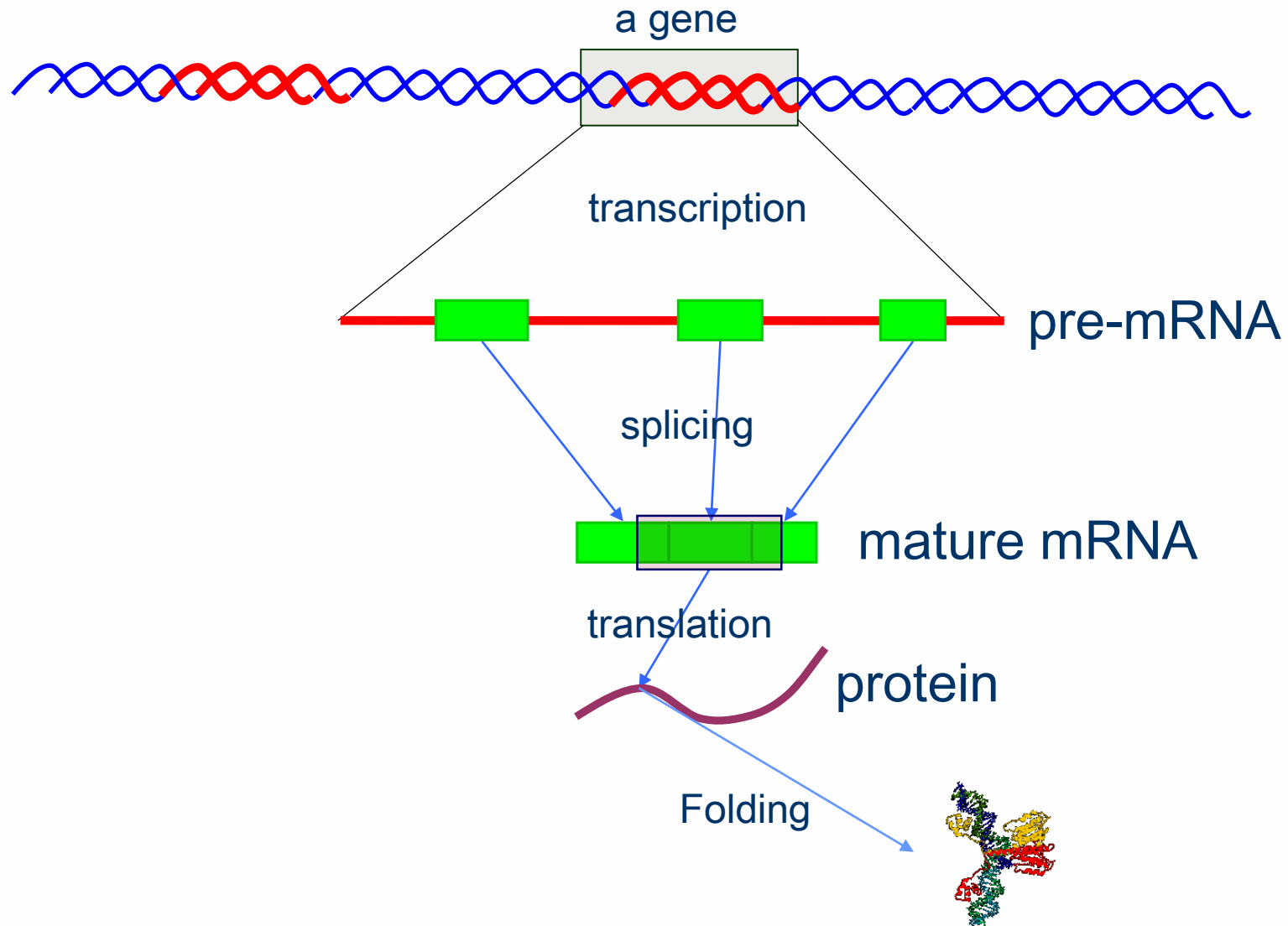
Gene Regulatory Network

B Disease gene network





Sequence story

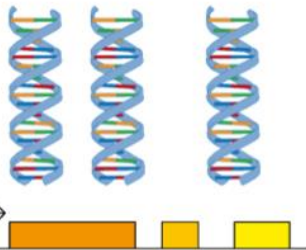




Sequence story

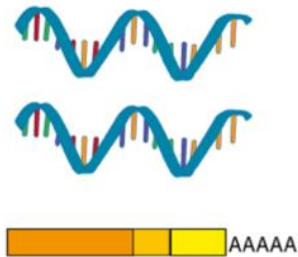
Schematic representation of the five omics technologies

Genomics



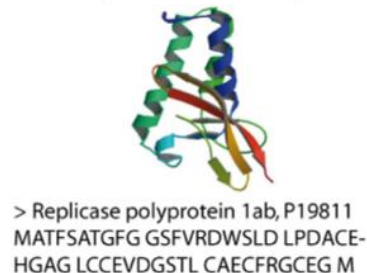
Genes sequences

Transcriptomics



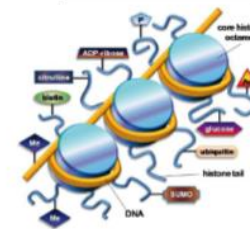
mRNA sequences
mRNA expression level

Proteomics



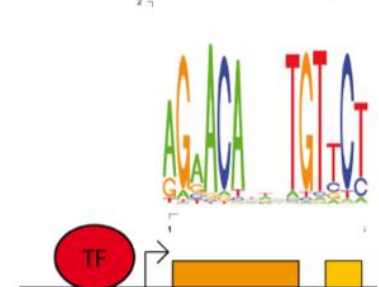
Protein sequences

Epigenomics



Histones modifications
DNA methylation

Cistromics

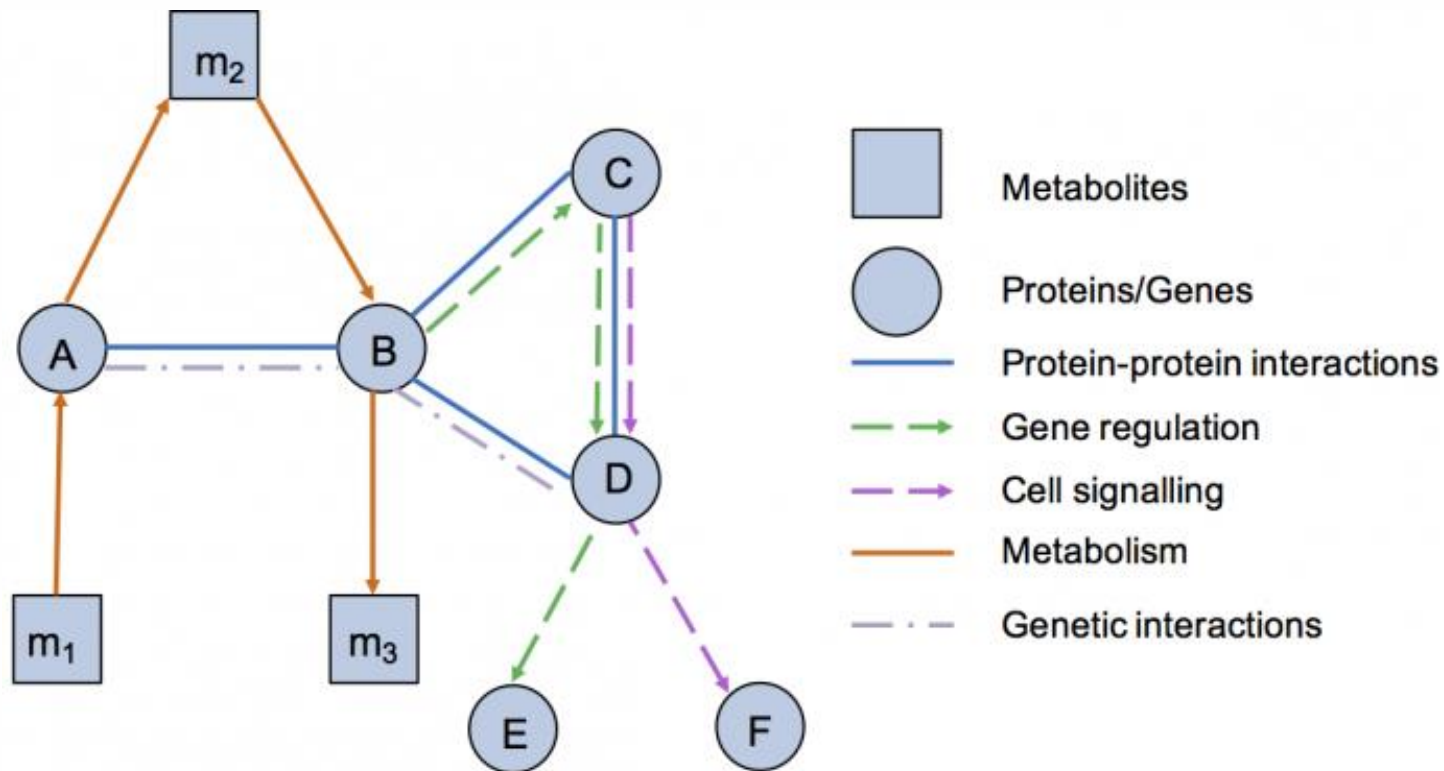


Genomic repertoire of
the binding sequences
of a transcriptome
factor



Biological networks

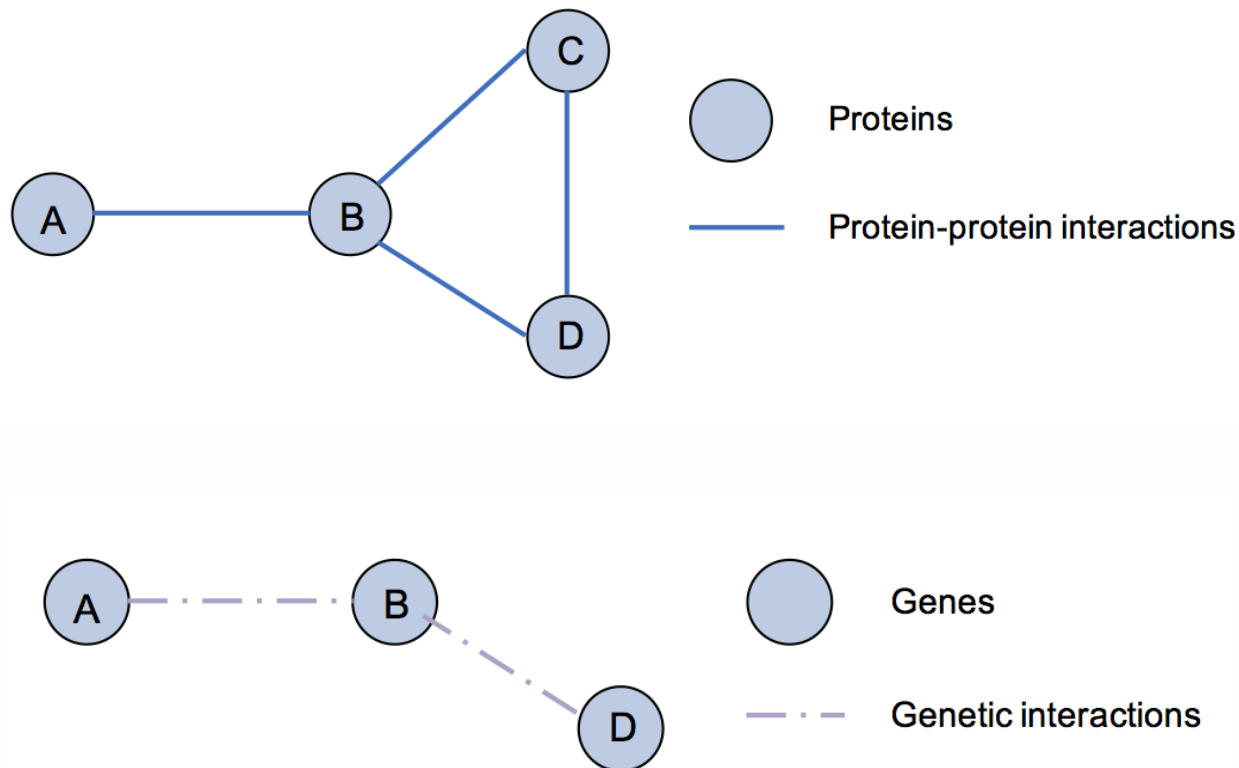
Different types of information can be represented in the shape of networks in order to model the cell





Biological networks

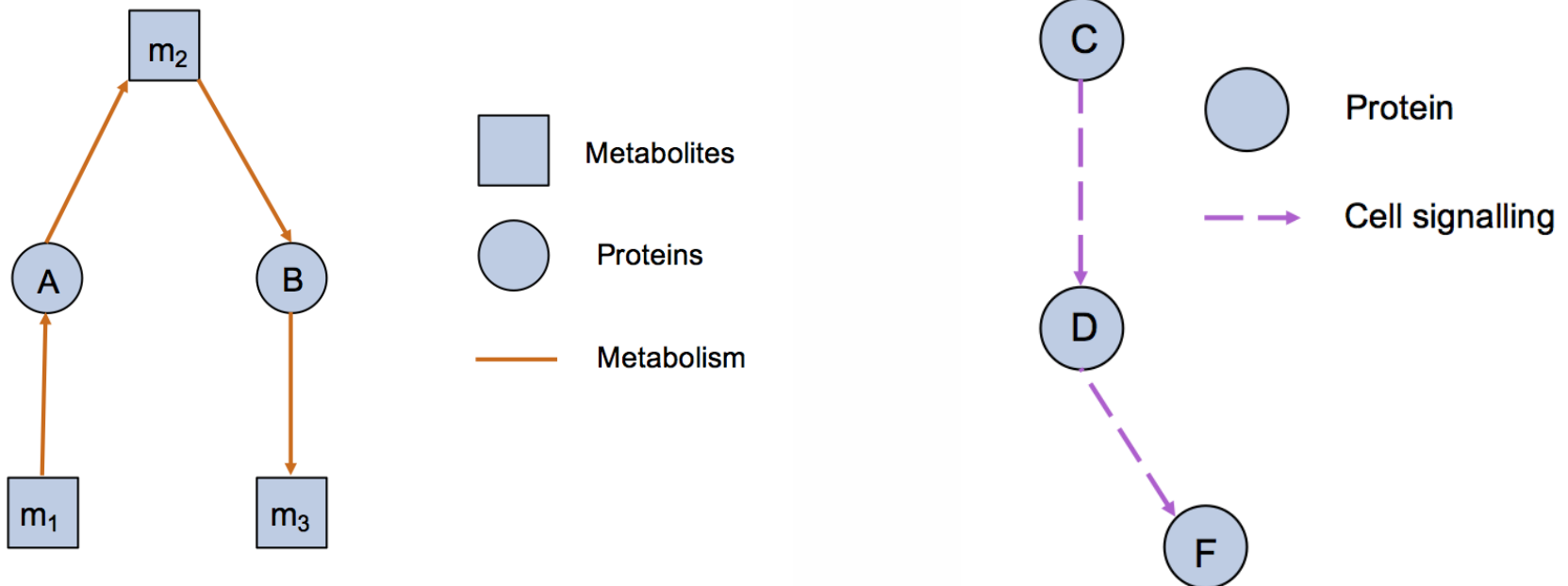
Different types of information can be represented in the shape of networks in order to model the cell





Biological networks

Different types of information can be represented in the shape of networks in order to model the cell





Biological networks

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/14/S8/S10>

You et al. *BMC Bioinformatics* 2013, **14**(Suppl 8):S10
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/14/S8/S10>



PROCEEDINGS

Open Access

Prediction of protein-protein interactions from amino acid sequences with ensemble extreme learning machines and principal component analysis

Zhu-Hong You^{1*†}, Ying-Ke Lei^{2†}, Lin Zhu³, Junfeng Xia⁴, Bing Wang⁵

From The 2012 International Conference on Intelligent Computing (ICIC 2012)
Huangshan, China. 25-29 July 2012

Abstract

Background: Protein-protein interactions (PPIs) play crucial roles in the execution of various cellular processes and



Biological networks

Appl Bioinformatics 2006; 5 (2): 77-88

BIOMEDICAL GENOMICS AND PROTEOMICS

Appl Bioinformatics 2006; 5 (2): 77-88
1175-5636/06/0002-0077/\$39.95/0

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Machine Learning for Detecting Gene-Gene Interactions

A Review

Brett A. McKinney^{1,2} David M. Reif^{1,2} Marylyn D. Ritchie¹ and Jason H. Moore^{2,3,4,5,6}

- 1 Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Center for Human Genetics Research, Vanderbilt University Medical School, Nashville, Tennessee, USA
- 2 Computational Genetics Laboratory, Department of Genetics, Dartmouth Medical School, Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA
- 3 Department of Community and Family Medicine, Dartmouth Medical School, Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA
- 4 Department of Biological Sciences, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, USA
- 5 Department of Computer Science, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, USA
- 6 Department of Computer Science, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA

Abstract

Complex interactions among genes and environmental factors are known to play a role in common human



Protein Sequences

Nomenclature and Symbolism for Amino Acids

#	1-Letter Code	3-Letter Code	Name
1	A	Ala	Alanine
2	R	Arg	Arginine
3	N	Asn	Asparagine
4	D	Asp	Aspartic acid
5	C	Cys	Cysteine
6	Q	Gln	Glutamine
7	E	Glu	Glutamic acid
8	G	Gly	Glycine
9	H	His	Histidine
10	I	Ile	Isoleucine
11	L	Leu	Leucine
12	K	Lys	Lysine
13	M	Met	Methionine
14	F	Phe	Phenylalanine
15	P	Pro	Proline
16	S	Ser	Serine
17	T	Thr	Threonine
18	W	Trp	Tryptophan
19	Y	Tyr	Tyrosine
20	V	Val	Valine

Seven Codes for Ambiguity or Exceptional Amino Acids		
1-Letter Code	3-Letter Code	Meaning
B	Asn or Asp	Asparagine or aspartic acid
J	Xle	Isoleucine or leucine
O (letter)	Pyl	Pyrrolysine
U	Sec	Selenocysteine
Z	Gln or Glu	Glutamine or glutamic acid
X	Xaa	Any residue

A protein fragment defines as the succession of its constituent amino acids, listed in order from the **N-terminus** to the **C-terminus**.

by IUPAC (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry)



DNA Sequences

<i>1-Letter Code</i>	<i>Nucleotide Base Name</i>	<i>Category</i>
A	Adenine	Purine
C	Cytosine	Pyrimidine
G	Guanine	Purine
U	Uracil	Pyrimidine
N	Any nucleotide	Purine or Pyrimidine
R	A or G	Purine
Y	C or U	Pyrimidine
--	-----	None (gap)

By convention, the primary structure of a DNA or RNA molecule is reported from the 5' end to the 3' end.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>

All Databases

Insulin human

NCBI Home

Resource List (A-Z)

All Resources

Chemicals & Bioassays

Data & Software

DNA & RNA

Domains & Structures

Genes & Expression

Genetics & Medicine

Genomes & Maps

Homology

Literature

Proteins

Sequence Analysis

Taxonomy

Training & Tutorials

Variation

Welcome to NCBI

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- [Tools](#): Analyze data using NCBI software
- [Downloads](#): Get NCBI data or software
- [How-To's](#): Learn how to accomplish specific tasks at NCBI
- [Submissions](#): Submit data to GenBank or other NCBI databases

Genomic Structural Variation

dbVar archives large scale genomic variation data and associates defined variants with phenotypic information.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Popular Resources

[PubMed](#)

[Bookshelf](#)

[PubMed Central](#)

[PubMed Health](#)

[BLAST](#)

[Nucleotide](#)

[Genome](#)

[SNP](#)

[Gene](#)

[Protein](#)

[PubChem](#)

NCBI Announcements

New version of Genome Workbench available

06 Sep 2012

An integrated, downloadable application for viewing and analyzing sequence data

NCBI's July Newsletter is on the Bookshelf

13 Aug 2012

Introduction to the 1000 Genomes Browser, PubMed's Citation Manager and

New Microbial BLAST Page

28 Jun 2012

Now easier to use and with the familiar format and features of the standard NCBI BLAST engine, including auto-complete

[More...](#)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>

Search NCBI databases

[Help](#)



Search

Results found in 38 databases for "insulin human"

Literature

Books	3,128	books and reports
MeSH	1	ontology used for PubMed indexing
NLM Catalog	197	books, journals and more in the NLM Collections
PubMed	67,350	scientific & medical abstracts/citations
PubMed Central	210,591	full-text journal articles

Health

ClinVar	847	human variations of clinical significance
dbGaP	1,338	genotype/phenotype interaction studies
GTR	45	genetic testing registry
MedGen	5	medical genetics literature and links
OMIM	901	online mendelian inheritance in man
PubMed Health	577	clinical effectiveness, disease and drug reports

Genomes

Assembly	133	genome assembly information
BioProject	412	biological projects providing data to NCBI
BioSample	258	descriptions of biological source materials
Clone	140	genomic and cDNA clones
dbVar	4,842	genome structural variation studies
Epigenomics	19	epigenomic studies and display tools
Genome	1,386	genome sequencing projects by organism
GSS	4	genome survey sequences

Genes

EST	3,899	expressed sequence tag sequences
Gene	11,526	collected information about gene loci
GEO DataSets	17	functional genomics studies
GEO Profiles	2,095,273	gene expression and molecular abundance profiles
HomoloGene	68	homologous gene sets for selected organisms
PopSet	6	sequence sets from phylogenetic and population studies
UniGene	35	clusters of expressed transcripts

Proteins

Conserved Domains	52	conserved protein domains
Protein	8,665	protein sequences
Protein Clusters	0	sequence similarity-based protein clusters
Structure	1,077	experimentally-determined biomolecular structures

Chemicals

BioSystems	3,527	molecular pathways with links to genes, proteins and chemicals
PubChem BioAssay	18,960	bioactivity screening studies
PubChem Compound	18	chemical information with structures, information and links
PubChem Substance	587	deposited substance and chemical information

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>

NCBI

Resources

How To

Protein

Protein

Species

Animals (7,468)

Plants (5)

Fungi (67)

Bacteria (166)

Archaea (4)

Viruses (4)

Customize ...

Source databases

PDB (1,875)

RefSeq (3,183)

UniProtKB / Swiss-Prot (911)

Customize ...

Genetic compartments

Mitochondrion (1)

Sequence length

Custom range...

Molecular weight

Custom range...

Release date

Custom range...

Revision date

Custom range...

Clear all

Show additional filters

NCBI

Resources

How To

Protein

Protein

Advanced

FASTA

Send to:

insulin [Homo sapiens]

GenBank: AAA59172.1

[GenPept](#) [Identical Proteins](#) [Graphics](#)

>gi|386828|gb|AAA59172.1| insulin [Homo sapiens]
MALWMRLPLLLALLALWGPDPAAAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAEDLQVGQVELGG
GPGAGSLQPLALEGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSIICSLYQLENYCN

[GenPept](#) [Identical Proteins](#) [FASTA](#) [Graphics](#)

More...

☐ [insulin \[Homo sapiens\]](#)

2. 110 aa protein

Accession: AAA59172.1 GI: 386828

[GenPept](#) [Identical Proteins](#) [FASTA](#) [Graphics](#)

☐ [Insulin \[Homo sapiens\]](#)

3. 110 aa protein

Accession: AAH05255.1 GI: 13528924

[GenPept](#) [Identical Proteins](#) [FASTA](#) [Graphics](#)

☐ [insulin, partial \[Homo sapiens\]](#)

4. 94 aa protein

Accession: AEG19452.1 GI: 333826819

[GenPept](#) [Identical Proteins](#) [FASTA](#) [Graphics](#)

☐ [insulin \[Homo sapiens\]](#)

5. 107 aa protein

Accession: AAA59179.1 GI: 307072

[GenPept](#) [Identical Proteins](#) [FASTA](#) [Graphics](#)

☐ [insulin \[Homo sapiens\]](#)

6. 110 aa protein

Accession: AAN39451.1 GI: 23986711

Find related data

Database: Select

Find items

Search details

insulin[All Fields] AND ("Homo sapiens"
[Organism] OR human[All Fields])

Search

See more...

Recent activity

Turn Off Clear

insulin human (8665)

insulin human AND (alive[prop]) (11464)

Retrieving Protein Sequences

<http://www.expasy.org/>



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query [help](#)

Visual Guidance

Categories

[proteomics](#)

[genomics](#)

[structural bioinformatics](#)

[systems biology](#)

[phylogeny/evolution](#)

[population genetics](#)

[transcriptomics](#)

[biophysics](#)

[imaging](#)

[IT infrastructure](#)

[drug design](#)

Resources A..Z

Links/Documentation

ExPASy is the new **SIB Bioinformatics Resource Portal** which provides access to scientific databases and software tools in different areas of life sciences including proteomics, genomics, phylogeny, systems biology, population genetics, transcriptomics etc. (see [Categories](#) in the left menu). On this portal you find resources from many different SIB groups as well as external institutions.

Featuring today

EIMMo


Browse miRNA target predictions from the EIMMo algorithm
[\[details\]](#)




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- New features
- New to ExPASy
- Experienced ExPASy users: what is different

Popular resources

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 [SWISS-MODEL](#)

 [STRING](#)

 [PROSITE](#)

Latest News



Protein Spotlight: life's tremors - 2011-10-10

Destruction is sometimes necessary for life to continue.... [More](#).

New resource in genomics - 2011-10-05

A new resource (ZFN-Site) to search genomes for specific target sites and off-target sites, such as for pairs of zinc finger proteins (ZFPs). More details on the website of [ZFN-Site](#).

[\[More news\]](#) [\[SIB news\]](#)



ExPASy

Bioinformatics Resource Portal

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Visual Guidance

Categories

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[phylogeny/evolution](#)

[population genetics](#)

[transcriptomics](#)

[biophysics](#)

[imaging](#)

[IT infrastructure](#)

[drug design](#)

Resources A..Z

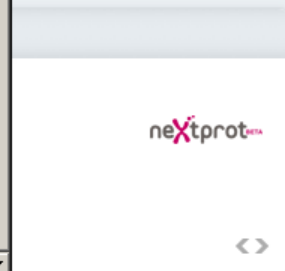
Links/Documentation

ExPASy is the new SIB software tools in different population genetics, transcriptomics many different SIB groups.

query All databases

proteomics
– Individual resources:
ENZYME
GPSDB
miROrtho
MyHits
OMA
OpenFlu
OrthoDB
PROSITE
Protein Spotlight
Selectome
STRING
SWISS-2DPAGE
SWISS-MODEL Repository
SwissDock
SwissVar
UniProtKB
ViralZone
World-2DPAGE Repository

Portal which provides access to scientific databases and including proteomics, genomics, phylogeny, systems biology, (resources in the left menu). On this portal you find resources from



Popular resources

UniProtKB

SWISS-MODEL

STRING

PROSITE

Latest News

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[\[More news\]](#) [\[SIB news\]](#)



How to use this portal?

- New features
- New to ExPASy
- Experienced ExPASy users: what is different



UniProtKB

insulin chimpanzee

Advanced



BLAST Align Retrieve/ID Mapping

Help Contact

Show help for UniProtKB

Basket

Results

Filter by

Reviewed (22)
Swiss-Prot

Unreviewed (283)
TrEMBL

Popular organisms

PAPHA (1)

PANPA (2)

PANTR (298)

Pan troglodytes
troglodytes (1)

Pan troglodytes verus
(3)

Search terms

Filter "chimpanzee" as:

author (232)

organism (300)

taxonomy (300)

Filter "insulin" as:

gene ontology (241)

protein family (27)

protein name (28)

View by

Columns BLAST Align Download Add to basket

1 to 25 of 305 Show 25

Entry	Entry name	Protein names	Gene names	Organism	Length
Q5CZK5	INSL5_PANTR	Insulin-like peptide INSL5	INSL5	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	135
Q5CZK6	INSL4_PANTR	Early placenta insulin-like peptide	INSL4	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	139
P30410	INS_PANTR	Insulin	INS	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	110
Q5CZK3	INSL3_PANTR	Insulin-like 3	INSL3, RLF	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	131
A2T756	PDX1_PANTR	Pancreas/duodenum homeobox protein ...	PDX1, IPF1	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	283
A1YG85	PDX1_PANPA	Pancreas/duodenum homeobox protein ...	PDX1, IPF1	Pan paniscus (Pygmy chimpanzee) (Bonobo)	283
H2R3T0	H2R3T0_PANTR	Insulin-like growth factor 1 (Somat...	IGF1	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	196
H2QJJ4	H2QJJ4_PANTR	Insulin receptor substrate 1	IRS1	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	1,241
H2QJD6	H2QJD6_PANTR	Insulin-like growth factor binding ...	IGFBP5	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	272
H2QFR9	H2QFR9_PANTR	Insulin-like 3	INSL3	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	131
H2R7K5	H2R7K5_PANTR	Insulin-degrading enzyme	IDE	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	1,019
H2QJD5	H2QJD5_PANTR	Insulin-like growth factor	IGFBP2	Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	325



UniProtKB

Advanced



BLAST Align Retrieve/ID Mapping

Help Contact

Basket

P30410 - INS_PANTR

Protein **Insulin**
Gene **INS**
Organism *Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)*
Status Reviewed - - Experimental evidence at protein levelⁱ

Display

None

BLAST

Align

Format

Add to basket

History

Feedback

Help video

☒ FUNCTION

☒ NAMES & TAXONOMY

☒ SUBCELLULAR LOCATION

☐ PATHOLOGY & BIOTECH

☒ PTM / PROCESSING

☐ EXPRESSION

☒ INTERACTION

☒ STRUCTURE

☒ FAMILY & DOMAINS

☒ SEQUENCE

☒ CROSS-REFERENCES

☒ PUBLICATIONS

☒ ENTRY INFORMATION

☒ MISCELLANEOUS

Functionⁱ

Insulin decreases blood glucose concentration. It increases cell permeability to monosaccharides, amino acids and fatty acids. It accelerates glycolysis, the pentose phosphate cycle, and glycogen synthesis in liver.

GO - Biological processⁱ

- ▶ activation of protein kinase B activity Source: Ensembl
- ▶ alpha-beta T cell activation Source: Ensembl
- ▶ glucose homeostasis Source: Ensembl
- ▶ glucose transport Source: Ensembl
- ▶ MAPK cascade Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of acute inflammatory response Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of fatty acid metabolic process Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of feeding behavior Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of NAD(P)H oxidase activity Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of protein oligomerization Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of proteolysis Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of respiratory burst involved in inflammatory response Source: Ensembl
- ▶ positive regulation of cell proliferation Source: Ensembl
- ▶ positive regulation of DNA replication Source: Ensembl
- ▶ positive regulation of glycogen biosynthetic process Source: Ensembl
- ▶ positive regulation of glycolytic process Source: Ensembl
- ▶ acute-phase response Source: Ensembl
- ▶ fatty acid homeostasis Source: Ensembl
- ▶ glucose metabolic process Source: UniProtKB-KW
- ▶ G-protein coupled receptor signaling pathway Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of glycogen catabolic process Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of protein catabolic process Source: Ensembl
- ▶ negative regulation of protein secretion Source: Ensembl
- ▶ positive regulation of cytokine secretion Source: Ensembl
- ▶ positive regulation of glucose import Source: Ensembl
- ▶ insulin receptor signaling pathway Source: Ensembl



```
>sp|P30410|INS_PANTR Insulin OS=Pan troglodytes GN=INS PE=1 SV=1
MALWMRLRLPLLVLALLWGPDPASAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAED
LQVGQVELGGGPGAGSLQPLALEGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN
```

Display

None

- ☒ FUNCTION
- ☒ NAMES & TAXONOMY
- ☒ SUBCELLULAR LOCATION
- ☐ PATHOLOGY & BIOTECH
- ☒ PTM / PROCESSING
- ☐ EXPRESSION
- ☒ INTERACTION
- ☒ STRUCTURE
- ☒ FAMILY & DOMAINS
- ☒ SEQUENCE
- ☒ CROSS-REFERENCES
- ☒ PUBLICATIONS
- ☒ ENTRY INFORMATION
- ☒ MISCELLANEOUS
- ☒ SIMILAR PROTEINS

▲ Top

Sequence¹

Sequence status¹: Complete.

Sequence processing¹: The displayed sequence is further processed into a mature form.

P30410-1 [UniParc]

FASTA

Add to Basket

« Hide

```
      10      20      30
MALWMRLRLPLLVLALLWGPDPASAFVNQHLCGSHLVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAED
      60      70      80
TPKTRREAED LQVGQVELGG GPGAGSLQPLALEGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSLYQLENYCN
     110
SLYQLENYCN
```

Sequence databases

Select the link destinations:

- ☒ EMBLⁱ
- ☐ GenBankⁱ
- ☐ DDBJⁱ

PIRⁱ A42179.

RefSeqⁱ NP_001008996.1. NM_001008996.1. XP_009457971.1. XM_009457971.1.

UniGeneⁱ Ptr.6479.

Genome annotation databases

Ensemblⁱ ENSPTRT00000006079.

GeneIDⁱ 449570.

Length: 110
Mass (Da): 12,025
Last modified: April 1, 1993 - v1

Sequence: X61089.1
.troglodytes gene for preproinsulin

View: TEXT FASTA XML

Download: XML FASTA TEXT

Organism: Pan troglodytes

Molecule type: genomic DNA

Topology: linear

Data class: STD

Taxonomic Division: MAM

Sequence length: 2,483

Sequence Version: 1

First public: 12-NOV-1991

Last updated: 14-NOV-2006

Show Version History: X61089

Keywords: insulin, preproinsulin.

Secondary accession(s): J95065.

Lineage: Eukaryota, Metazoa, Chordata, Craniata, Vertebrata, Euteleostomi, Mammalia, Eutheria, Euarchontoglires, Primates, Haplorhini, Catarrhini, Hominidae, Pan

Navigation: Overview Source Feature(s) Sequence Other Feature(s) Publications

Base range: 1 - 2483 Apply

Overview: Forward strand 0 bp

Features: 1 bp 2,483 bp

source: Pan troglodytes

exon: 1 bp 2,483 bp

intron: 1 bp 2,483 bp

5'UTR: 1 bp 2,483 bp

3'UTR: 1 bp 2,483 bp

CDS: 1 bp 2,483 bp

sig_peptide: 1 bp 2,483 bp



A sequence in FASTA format **begins with a single-line description, followed by lines of sequence data**. The description line is distinguished from the sequence data by a greater-than ("**>**") symbol in the first column. It is recommended that all lines of text be shorter than 80 characters in length.

E. coli dUTPase protein sequence in FASTA format.

```
>sp|P64007|DUT_ECO57 Deoxyuridine 5'-triphosphate  
nucleotidohydrolase OS=Escherichia coli O157:H7 GN=dut PE=3 SV=1  
MKKIDVKILDPRVGKEFRLPTYATSGSAGLDRACLDDAVELAPGDTTL  
VPTGLAIHIADPSLAAMMLPRSGLGHKHGIVLGNLVGLIDSDYQGQLMI  
SVWNRGQDSFTIQPGERIAQMIFVPVVQAEFNLVEDFDATDRGEGGF  
GHSGRQ
```

SWISS-PROT

accession

name

Organism

Gene name

Protein
existence

Sequence Version Number

Protein Data Bank

<http://www.rcsb.org>



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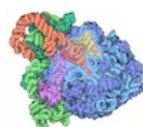
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Organism

- Homo sapiens (21609)
- Escherichia coli (4675)
- Mus musculus (3732)
- Saccharomyces cerevisiae (2209)
- Bos taurus (2117)
- Rattus norvegicus (1834)
- Escherichia coli K-12 (1486)
- Other (47060)



Molecule of the Month

Transfer-Messenger RNA

Damaged messenger RNA poses a double danger to cells. If a messenger RNA is truncated, it will be missing its stop codon, so it will encode a faulty, truncated protein. Also, ribosomes get stalled at the end of these truncated messages and are unable to release the mRNA and move on to the next protein synthesis job. Bacteria possess an ingenious molecular method for solving both of these problems at the same time, that destroys the faulty protein and releases the ribosome all at once.

[Full Article](#)



Protein Structure Initiative Featured System

Bacterial Hemophores

Our bodies are filled with iron: iron in hemoglobin colors our blood bright red and iron is used as a chemical tool in many cellular proteins. Altogether, we have several grams of iron scattered through our cells. Surprisingly, however, lack of iron often limits the growth of pathogenic bacteria infecting our bodies. This is by design: our bodies have evolved to guard their store of iron, so the amount of free iron circulating through the body is vanishingly small. PSI biology researchers are exploring the proteins that pathogenic bacteria use to gather scarce heme groups, and the iron ions they carry.

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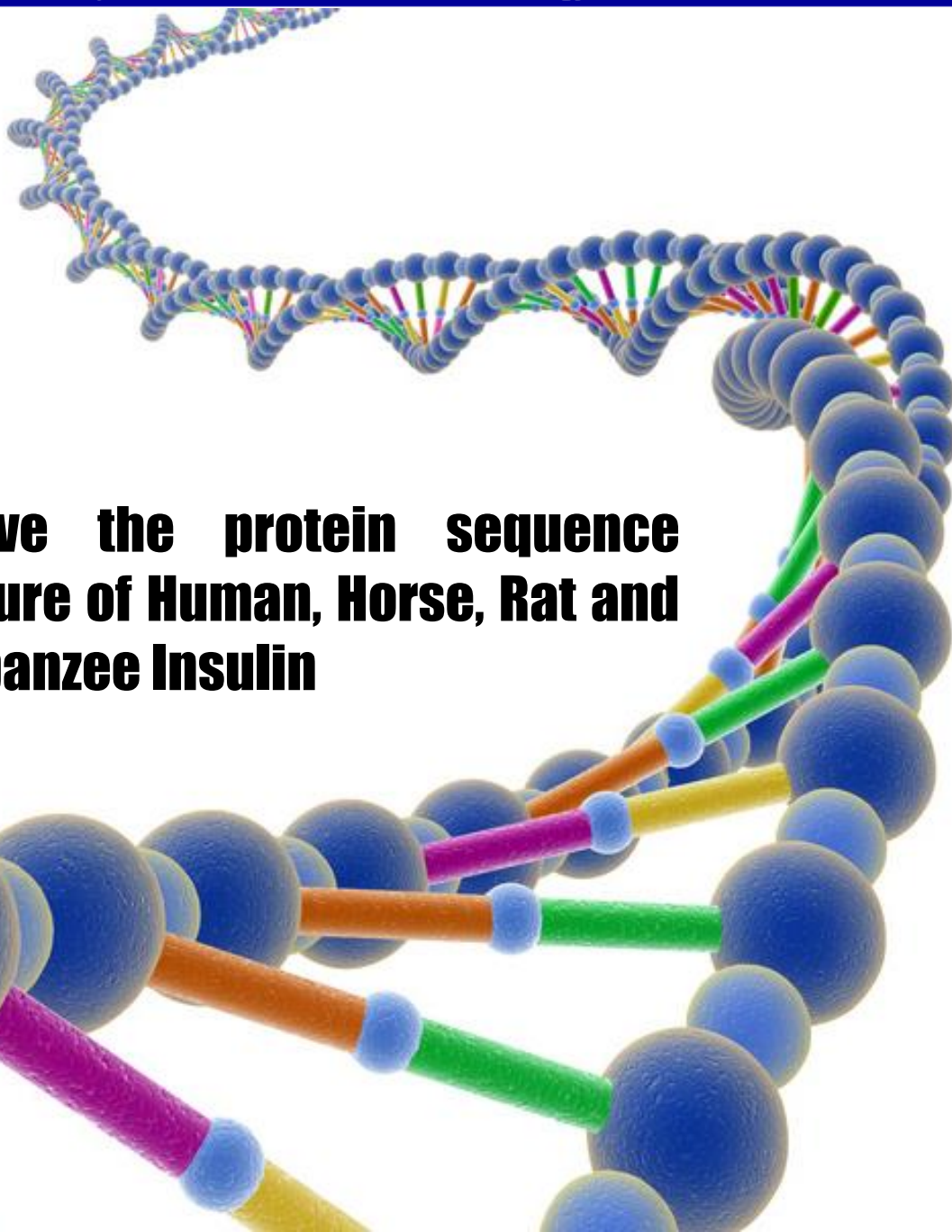
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**Retrieve the protein sequence
structure of Human, Horse, Rat and
Chimpanzee Insulin**

