

**Integrative Molecular and Cellular Bioengineering, SPRING '07**  
**16:125:584:01**

**Assignment 2: Due February 13, 2007**

1. In an accompanying Excel file is the data from the Baker et al. paper.

a) By performing a search on “fibronectin”, find the profiles of all genes encoding fibronectin. Comment on how similar or dissimilar they are.

There are 6 hits on fibronectin, summarized in the file “baker\_fibronectin\_hots.xls”. As can be seen in the graph of their profiles, some of them have similar shapes but overall they are not so similar. Even when they represent 2 probes to the same clone (see series 2 and series 5), the results do not match as closely as we would like.

b) Examine the expression of the “immediate-early genes” in Table 6c of the paper. Specifically, compute the Euclidean distance between each pair of these 13 gene profiles (use Excel or Matlab or whatever you are comfortable with to somewhat automate this task) using the fold-change numbers in the paper. For the three genes that are replicated (c-myc, ERK-1, and c-fos), determine whether their closest distance is to their replicate or to another gene.

See “hw2\_baker\_immed\_early\_analysis.xls”. In general, the replicates are similar, but probably not as similar as you would expect or help for. With c-fos, the expression changes are small, so the differences are amplified by the negative number notation utilized by Baker et al. But even with the others, the repeats are usually closer to another gene than to its replicate.

c) Compute the log<sub>2</sub> changes in expression for these same 13 genes (think about what the negatives mean and how to deal with them) and then repeat the calculations in b), and see whether the interpretation regarding replicates changes.

Unfortunately, this did not change the interpretation markedly, though it was a useful exercise. See the same spreadsheet.

2. Using the Primer3 site (or some other if you prefer), design a set of real-time PCR primers that will detect mouse STAT3 cDNA while not detecting human STAT3 cDNA.

Searching for mouse STAT3 mRNA complete, there were 3 possibilities that turned up. I chose BC003806 because it appeared to be full-length (the second hit was not). When I blast this (BL2SEQ) against this human stat3 (variant 1), I get a lot of similarity. With respect to the mouse sequence, the homologous regions include [128..2507], [2548..2678], and [2804..2837]. So, I ran Primer 3 excluding the region from [128..2678] from consideration, and I got the following. I would not pick the top choice to use, since runs of 4 Gs are not good. Instead, I would use alternate oligos #2.

**WARNING: Numbers in input sequence were deleted.**

PRIMER PICKING RESULTS FOR mouse stat3

No mispriming library specified

Using 1-based sequence positions

WARNING: Unrecognized base in input sequence

OLIGO                    start len    tm    gc%    any    3' seq







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```

RIGHT PRIMER      2897   20   59.60   55.00   4.00   1.00
gaaagtgcagagccaggagt
PRODUCT SIZE: 105, PAIR ANY COMPL: 3.00, PAIR 3' COMPL: 2.00

2 LEFT PRIMER     2729   20   60.81   55.00   2.00   0.00
tgagagcagaagggagcaag
RIGHT PRIMER      2897   20   59.60   55.00   4.00   1.00
gaaagtgcagagccaggagt
PRODUCT SIZE: 169, PAIR ANY COMPL: 3.00, PAIR 3' COMPL: 0.00

3 LEFT PRIMER     2728   20   60.81   55.00   3.00   0.00
ctgagagcagaagggagcaa
RIGHT PRIMER      2897   20   59.60   55.00   4.00   1.00
gaaagtgcagagccaggagt
PRODUCT SIZE: 170, PAIR ANY COMPL: 3.00, PAIR 3' COMPL: 1.00

4 LEFT PRIMER     2729   20   60.81   55.00   2.00   0.00
tgagagcagaagggagcaag
RIGHT PRIMER      2895   20   59.60   55.00   4.00   2.00
aagtgcagagccaggagttc
PRODUCT SIZE: 167, PAIR ANY COMPL: 3.00, PAIR 3' COMPL: 1.00

```

Statistics

```

con   too   in   in           no   tm   tm   high  high
high
sid  many  tar  excl  bad   GC   too  too  any  3'  poly
end
ered  Ns   get  reg   GC% clamp  low  high compl compl  X
stab  ok
Left  4287  11   0  2572  1271  0  118  173  0  2  0
23  117
Right 4269  7   0  2572  1042  0  230  190  0  1  0
30  197

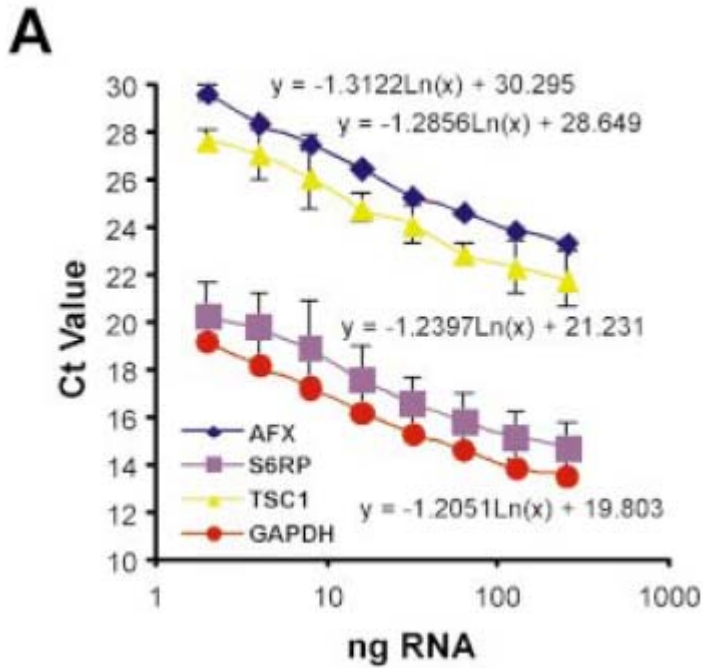
```

Pair Stats:

considered 16, unacceptable product size 7, high end compl 1, ok 8  
primer3 release 1.0

(primer3\_www\_results.cgi v 0.4)

3. The following plot gives real-time PCR data in terms of threshold cycle number for dilutions of each of 4 genes. For each of the four genes in this figure, estimate the PCR efficiency, averaged over all the runs in the dilution series.



Again, we can replace the log by  $\ln$  in our equation from the notes:

$$n_t = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{F_t}{\alpha}\right)}{\ln(1+\varepsilon)} - \frac{1}{\ln(1+\varepsilon)} \ln(N_0)$$

Thus, each slope is equal to  $-1/\ln(1+\varepsilon)$

Thus,

Gene	-slope	$\varepsilon$
AFX	1.3122	1.14
S6RP	1.2397	1.24
TSC1	1.2856	1.18
GAPDH	1.2051	1.29

The fact that all the values are significantly greater than 1 suggests that there is some flaw in the way that the values were generated.