Complete proteomes sets in UniProtKB

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The UniProt Knowledgebase

The UniProt Knowledgebase (UniProtKB) is a freely accessible resource for functional information on proteins with accurate, consistent, rich and comprehensive annotation. In addition to manually curated data, UniProtKB holds a large number of nucleotide-derived protein sequences, many of which are annotated by automated annotation procedures.

Complete and reference proteome sets

As the cost of sequencing continues to fall, the number of organisms with completely sequenced and annotated genomes is rapidly increasing. UniProtKB endeavours to provide comprehensive protein-centric views of such genomes in the form of complete proteome sets.

What are complete proteome sets?

A complete proteome set is defined as the entire set of proteins expressed by a specific organism. The majority of the UniProt complete proteome sets are based on the translation of a completely sequenced genome, and will normally include sequences that derive from extra-chromosomal elements such as plasmids or organelar genomes in organisms where these occur.

What are reference proteome sets?

Reference proteome sets are a subset of complete proteome sets which have been manually selected and include well-studied model organisms and other proteomes of interest for biomedical and biotechnological research. Currently (UniProtKB release 2012_07), there are 656 reference proteome sets. Reference proteomes have been chosen to provide broad coverage of the tree of life, and constitute a representative cross-section of the taxonomic diversity to be found within UniProtKB.

Challenges of multiple proteomes from one species

Currently, complete proteomes are accessed through the UniProt website using the taxonomy identifier (taxID) of the organism. However, there are now an increasing number of cases where the same strain or isolate, having the same taxID, has been completely sequenced by more than one sequencing project. A new unique proteome identifier is needed which will distinguish between duplicate proteomes of the same organism. The INSDC Genome Assembly Database assigns a unique identifier to each sequencing project. This identifier provides a link between the complete genome of an organism and the corresponding complete proteome. By using the genome collections identifier, UniProt can distinguish between duplicate sequencing projects.

How to access proteome sets in UniProtKB

http://www.uniprot.org

or

FTP download

or

programmatic access

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