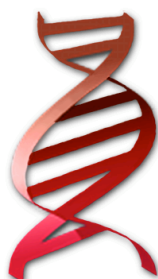




# Tutorial & Examples



*Version 7*

*OLIGO Primer Analysis Software Version 7*  
*Assembled in August 2008 by Wojciech Rychlik*  
*Molecular Biology Insights, Inc., Cascade, CO, USA*  
*<http://www.oligo.net/>*

# OLIGO 7 Tutorial & Examples

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# 1. Oligo 7 Installation

## 1.1. Installation

Oligo software can be installed only if you have administrator privileges for this particular computer. If you cannot save files to the Program Files or Applications Folder you need to log out and log-in with the account that has administrator privileges or ask your IT manager to install Oligo for you.

### 1.1.1. Installation form the Internet

Download the zipped Oligo package, Oligo7Mac\_Installer.zip (Macintosh), or Oligo7Win\_Installer.zip (Windows) to your hard drive. Some systems unpack the files automatically, and some require manual unzipping. Double click on the zip file to unpack the contents.

Double click on the **Oligo7Mac\_Setup** installer package (Mac; sometimes you see the ".pkg" at the end of the name), or on the **Oligo7Win\_Setup** (PC; sometimes you see the ".exe" at the end of the name) to start the installation process, and follow the on-screen instructions. In Macintosh, Oligo is installed in Oligo sub-folder in the Applications folder. In PC, the default folder is C:\Program Files\Oligo 7. Start Oligo 7, fill out the registration form and register it, as described in Chapter 1.2.

### 1.1.2. Installing OLIGO from a Compact Disk

To load the OLIGO program to your hard drive:

1. Insert the Oligo 7 Disk into computer's CD drive.
2. Mac: double click on Oligo7Mac\_Setup.pkg installer package, and follow the instructions displayed on screen.  
PC: Double click on the Oligo7Win\_Setup.exe icon displayed in the CD drive window. Follow the on screen instructions. You would be asked for the folder name and location of the Oligo 7 application.
3. Once the installation is complete, double click on the Oligo 7 icon to start it and register your program license. Alternatively you can start Oligo by choosing "Start" from the desktop, followed by "Programs".

## 1.2. Registration

In order to protect your copy of the OLIGO program and provide you with prompt technical support, we need you to register as an OLIGO user with your distributor prior to accessing OLIGO or seeking technical support.

The registration form takes a few minutes to complete and you should receive your access code within an hour after contacting your distributor during normal business hours.

Because each installation creates a unique workstation code, you will need to register each computer separately.

To register your OLIGO software on each computer, follow these steps:

1. Double-click on the OLIGO icon to call up the registration procedures.
2. Once the "Customer Registration" window appears, complete each field. Use either the mouse or <Tab> to move to each field. This window must be completed for each workstation you are registering (See the figure below) Your e-mail address must be entered to make the "Register" button active. The Fax number must be entered to get the "Print" button active. Leave the Access Code field blank.

OLIGO 7 Customer Registration

Welcome to OLIGO 7 Primer Analysis Software. In order to protect your program license, and provide you with prompt technical support, please complete this customer registration form and click "Register" button. If you are not connected to the Internet, please Print and fax this form to +1 719 684 7989. After this, you may Exit Oligo, and when you receive the Access Code back from us, you may re-start Oligo, enter the Code and click the "Confirm Code" button. The registration would then be completed for this particular computer.

Principal Investigator or Manager's Name:

Institution and Department:

Address:

Phone Number:  Ext.:  Fax Number:  E-Mail:

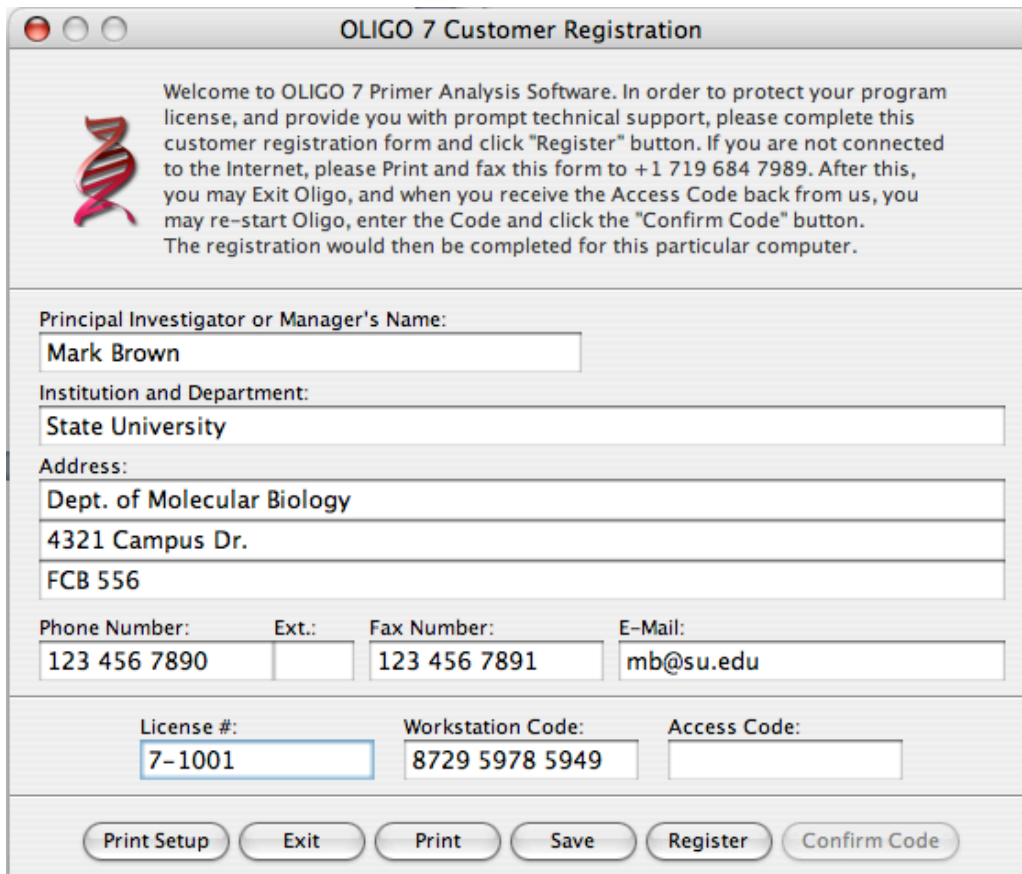
License #:  Workstation Code:  Access Code:

Print Setup Exit Print Save Register Confirm Code


*The OLIGO Customer Registration window.*

**Note:** Your software license number is on the OLIGO CD, User Manual or/and in the e-mail conformation of the purchase.

3. When you enter the license number the "Register" button should become active, as shown on the next page.



**OLIGO 7 Customer Registration**


 Welcome to OLIGO 7 Primer Analysis Software. In order to protect your program license, and provide you with prompt technical support, please complete this customer registration form and click "Register" button. If you are not connected to the Internet, please Print and fax this form to +1 719 684 7989. After this, you may Exit Oligo, and when you receive the Access Code back from us, you may re-start Oligo, enter the Code and click the "Confirm Code" button. The registration would then be completed for this particular computer.

Principal Investigator or Manager's Name:

Institution and Department:

Address:

Phone Number:  Ext.:   
 Fax Number:  E-Mail:

License #:  Workstation Code:  Access Code:

If you're connected to the Internet, click the "Register" button at this point. The registration e-mail is sent to MBI automatically, and upon its completion the window should display the message "Registration form successfully sent". If you perform the registration during the MBI's normal operation hours (Monday through Friday, h: 8-16, Mountain Time), expect the returning Access Code within an hour. Otherwise, you may Exit the Oligo and start it again at later time, when you'd receive the Access Code. Click the "OK" button to exit.

- 3a. If you're not connected to Internet, or your network does not permit e-mails directly from Oligo, please print out the Registration Form by clicking the Print button, and fax it to MBI at +1 719 684 7989, or press the Save button, and the saved (text) file attach to your e-mail and send it to us.
4. When you receive the Access Code from MBI, go back to the registration window by bringing it to the front or by re-starting Oligo, enter it to the "Access Code" box, and click the "Confirm Code" button. The registration process is complete.

To register your second and following computers, you need to complete the same registration process each time.

*Note: If you ever need to re-load OLIGO, contact MBI for assistance, preferably by e-mail to [mbisupport@oligo.net](mailto:mbisupport@oligo.net)*

## 2. File Opening and Viewing

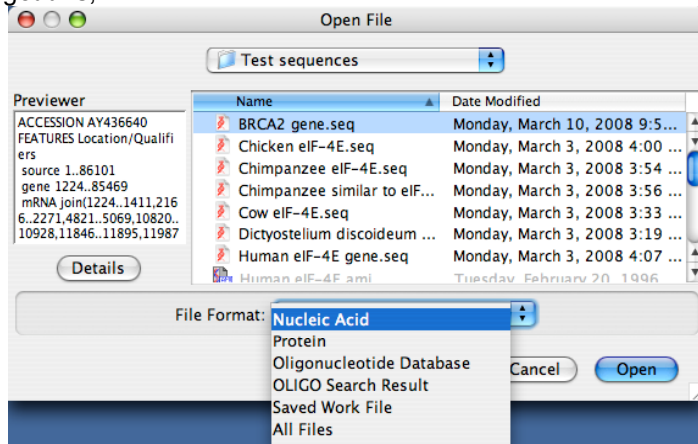
The tutorials in this section give you an opportunity to learn how the features of the OLIGO software can assist you in your research. Some of the tutorial examples are intended to provide a general guide from which you can construct your specific application. Others are specific, so that you can duplicate, if you wish, similar results (similar, not exact, because future revisions of the software may be slightly different in default parameters).

*Note: if you want to duplicate the results in the search examples, open Human eIF-4E.seq for your sequence file. It is located in the Oligo 7 folder i Test sequences subfolder. Oligo example database is in Oligo 7 folder (universal primers.odb).*

### 2.1. Open a sequence file

Oligo opens variety of file types, such as DNA, RNA, protein sequences, databases and other.

1. Choose File - Open from the File menu.
2. Navigate to the "Test sequences" folder by clicking at the bar displayed at the top of the window.
3. At the bottom of this window you may choose a file format available to you. The default is "Nucleic Acid", so that the DNA and RNA sequence files can be opened instantly by clicking on the "Open" button. However, when you click on the "Nucleic Acid" pull down menu, you'll get this,




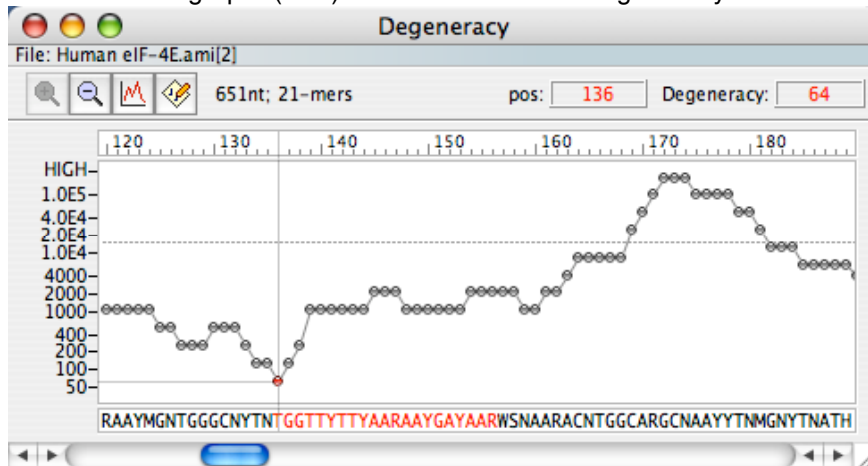
so you'll be able to choose any of the four types of files. If you choose "All Files" Oligo will try to determine automatically the file format, but of course you'd need to know the file type by yourself.

4. Clicking on "Protein" and then choosing "Human eIF-4E.ami" file would open this protein file and automatically reverse-translate it to DNA. The default reverse translation method is Lathe (choosing most probable codons for human proteins), but if before opening a protein file you would "Change - Rev. Translate Method" to "Degenerate", you would end up with an entirely different DNA sequence - this time a degenerate one. Please do so.
5. When you open a protein sequence file in a degenerate mode, you'll see lots of degenerate nucleotide symbols in the Sequence window, but the translation will not look exactly like the original amino acid file because some degenerate symbols would cover more than one amino acid kind. Instead of arginine symbol, "R", for example, you will get low case "r"

indicating that arginine is most likely, but also that some other amino acid may exist at certain position.

6. Choose "Melting Temperature Graph" from the Analyze menu.

7. Click at the "graph" () button and choose "Degeneracy". You should get this window:



8. At this point the scale displays degeneracy. Those numbers are usually high for a default size of Current Oligo of 21 bases. To get more manageable degeneracy change the Current Oligo length, using the Change menu, to 17. At this time you should be able to find oligos with relatively low degeneracy.

9. Click on the Analyze menu. Note that in place of former "Melting Temperature Graph" item you'd find "Degeneracy Graph". You may change the display back to tm analogously as described in point 7.

## 2.2. Open a database file.

1. Choose File - Open from the File menu.

2. Choose "Oligonucleotide Database" as File Format.

3. The "Test sequences" folder doesn't have any database files, so all the files are greyed-out. Go up one folder higher by choosing Oligo 7 folder from the top menu.

4. Open "universal primers.odb". You should see the database window:

#	Date	ID Number	Sequence	3'-Dim. ΔG	P.E. / p.e.	Tm / tm
1	07/13/94	X02513:6309L19	GGTTTTCCAGTCACGACG	-5.5	D	482 - 57.8
2	07/13/94	X02513:6290L17	GTAAAACGACGGCCAGT	-1.2	SC	479 - 54.0
3	07/13/94	X02513:6209U16	AACAGCTATGACCATG	-4.0	D	381 - 46.7
4	07/13/94	X52330:670U17	CGAGGTCGACGGTATCG	-9.5	D	453 - 55.7
5	07/13/94	X52330:720L17	TCTAGAAGTAGTGGATC	-3.7	D	376 - 44.6
6	08/12/94	X52330:774L17	ATTAAACCCCTACTAAAG	-1.9	SC	369 - 43.7
7	08/12/94	X52330:633U21	ACTCACTATAGGCCAATTGG	-	SC	504 - 56.4
8	08/12/94	X52330:779L18	CGGCCAATTAACCCCTAC	-	SC	516 - 56.0

5. Click on record #3. From the table you can read that it forms a 3'-dimer of 4 kcal/mole, and that this value is above the parameters threshold (to change the thresholds you'd have to use "Options" button).

6. To see the actual dimer go to the Analyze menu (database has a different Analyze menu) and choose "Duplex Formation". When you check this window you may close it.

7. The database has a powerful multiplexing option. Click on "Analyze - Multiplex All - Minimize Reaction #". Oligo automatically finds compatible oligo sets among the entries labeled "SC", that stands for Self-Compatible. You may view those sets by clicking on the triangles located at the lower right:



2 6 9 10

The example above shows Group 1, consisting of oligos # 2,6,9, and 10 in the database. All those four oligos do not form 3'-end dimers among themselves.

8. Let's make a new set of primers in the database. From the Edit menu choose "Add Set". The lower part of the window changes and shows four edit boxes, under "Enter Record #'s".
9. Enter to the Forward Primer box "9" and to Reverse enter "10". The "Add" button activates.
10. Click the "Add" button, followed by "Show All" button.
11. You should see a new row added to the database. If the window is not tall enough, use the slider (a dot separating individual oligo entries from sets), and drag it up.
12. Close the Database window without saving.

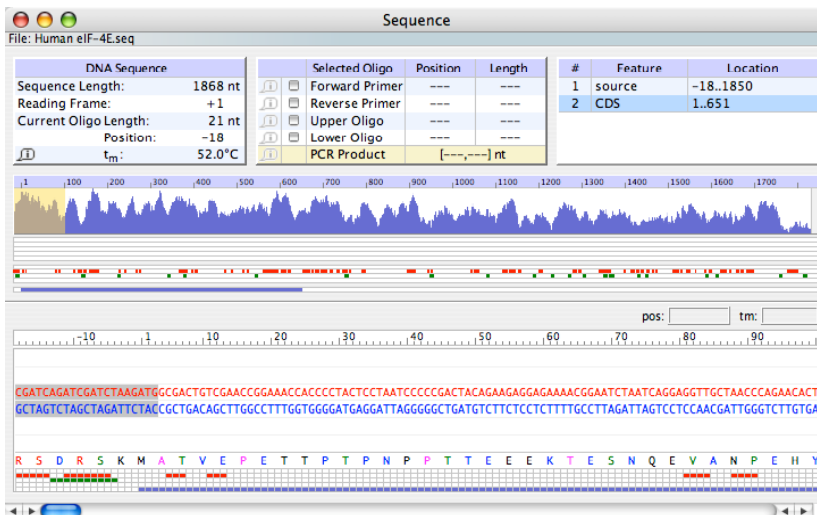
### 3. Navigating in Oligo

*Note: if you want to duplicate the results in the search examples, open Human eIF-4E.seq for your sequence file.*

#### 3.1. Moving around a sequence file.

After the registration, described in the User Manual, Chapter 2.3, you may open a sequence file or a database. This example describes how to move around and what features are immediately available to you after opening a sequence file.

1. Open a sequence file: use File-Open, and in the "Test sequences" Folder choose Human eIF-4E.seq. Click on the "CDS" row displayed at the top right of the window. You should see the Sequence window, as depicted on the figure below:




Clicking on "CDS" highlighted the coding region of eIF-4E DNA sequence (it is actually the mRNA sequence reverse transcribed to DNA)

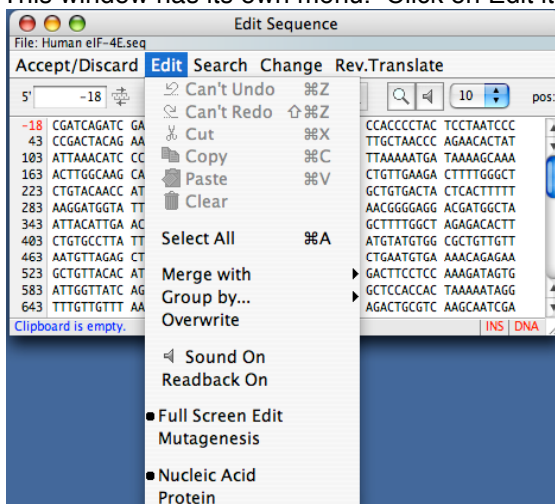
2. Move the horizontal bar. You will notice that the yellow-shaded box moves around the Tm graph. Sequence in this box is displayed at the bottom of this window. Click on any nucleotide displayed this window - you just changed the Current Oligo position. All the features of the Sequence window are described in the Manual, Chapter 2.5. You may move down or up the sequence using the keyboard (arrows, page up or down).

3. Keep the Sequence window opened, and choose "Open Reading Frames" from the Analyze menu. If you click on any nucleotide position you also change the Current Oligo position: observe the Sequence window while playing with the ORF window. You may change the reading frame just by clicking on the open reading frames displayed in the top portion of the ORF window.
4. Close the ORF window (for clarity) and open the Melting Temperature Graph and/or Internal Stability - Current Oligo windows from the Analyze menu. Note that by clicking on the nucleotide symbols or the graph itself you are actually moving to the new positions. If you zoom out the Tm window, by clicking on the loupe symbol with "-" sign, you still can change the Current Oligo position by clicking on the graph.
5. Close all but the Sequence window and choose "Selected Bases" from the Search menu. You will see 4 columns there. "Loops" (showing strong stems of the sequence) and "Strings" columns are empty, because you haven't searched yet for the strings, and there are no strong stems (below -12 kcal/mol: a default search parameter setting for "Template Loop  $\Delta G$  Threshold" with the "Template Loop Window Size" of 40 nt.) in this DNA sequence file. Columns (Hairpin loop) "Stems" and "Palindromes" are filled with numbers, as those searches are initiated automatically as soon as you open a sequence file. By clicking on any of those numbers you change the Current Oligo position.
6. Another method to change the Current Oligo position is to open the "Select New Current Oligo Position" from the Select menu and entering the desired position number.
7. Make a quick search for Sequencing Primers (Search -> for Primers & Probes...-> click "Sequencing Primers" followed by "Search" buttons). After the search you'll see the Analyze -> Selected Oligonucleotides window. You may also select the Current Oligo by clicking on any row displaying Forward or Reverse Primers. By double clicking on these primers in the Selected Oligonucleotides window you will not only change the Current Oligo position, but also you will select the actual primer (observe the Sequence window how it changes).

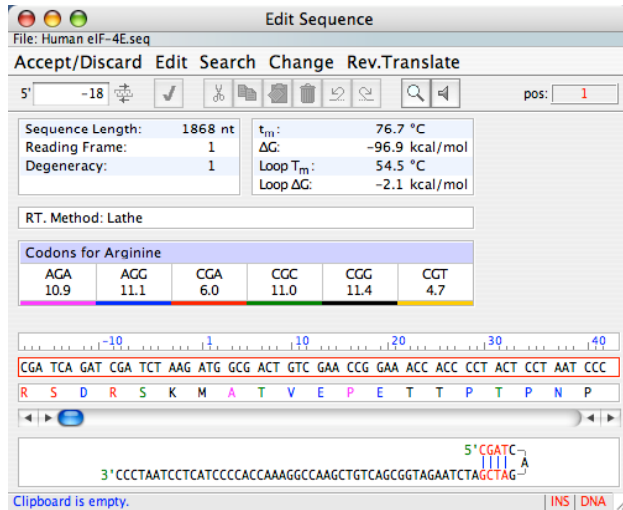
### 3.2. Changing windows appearance

The display of certain windows can be customized. The Edit windows, for example have two display modes, as well as all the Analyze windows with the "Options"  button.

1. Open the Edit - Entire Sequence window. You should get the "Full Screen Edit" window.
2. This window has its own menu. Click on Edit item. You should see the following menu:

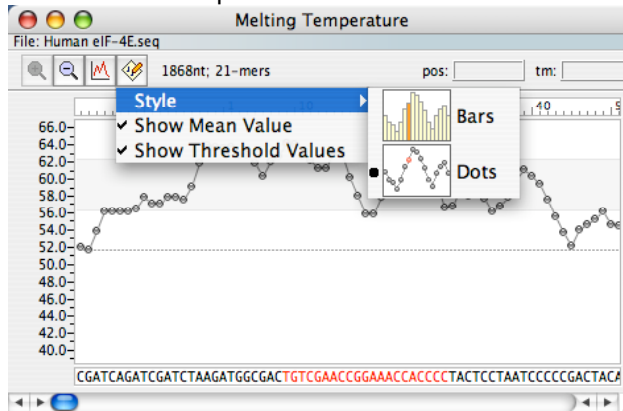


3. Note a dot by the "Full Screen Edit". It indicates the current window style.
4. Click on the "Mutagenesis" item. The window changes its appearance (see the following figure). If you'd be editing a primer, this type of window would open automatically.



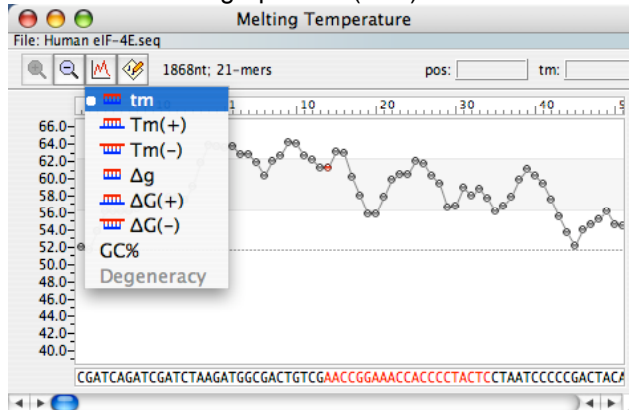
5. Close the Edit window and open the Melting Temperature window.

6. Click on the "Options" button. You should see this:



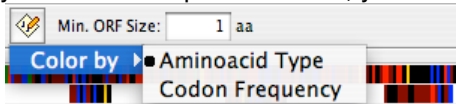
7. Click on the "Bars". Now the  $T_m$ s of the oligos is displayed as bars instead of dots. This type of change is available on Internal Stability and Sequence Frequency windows as well.

8. Click on the small graph icon (  ). You should see this menu:

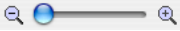


At this point you may choose a different kind of Current Oligos representation. The default was "tm", showing melting temperature graph of oligos without dangling ends. Tm(+) shows the same but with the dangling ends, and Tm(-) shows  $T_m$  with dangling ends of oligo complements. Similarly, "ΔG(+)" and "ΔG(-)" shows free energy graph with dangling ends of Current Oligos and their complements, respectively, while "Δg" represents the standard values, without the dangling ends. "CG%" shows the CG content, and Degeneracy (active when the sequence is degenerate) shows the number of possible sequence combinations.

9. Close the Melting Temperature window and open the Open Reading Frames window. When you click the "Options" button, you'll be able to change

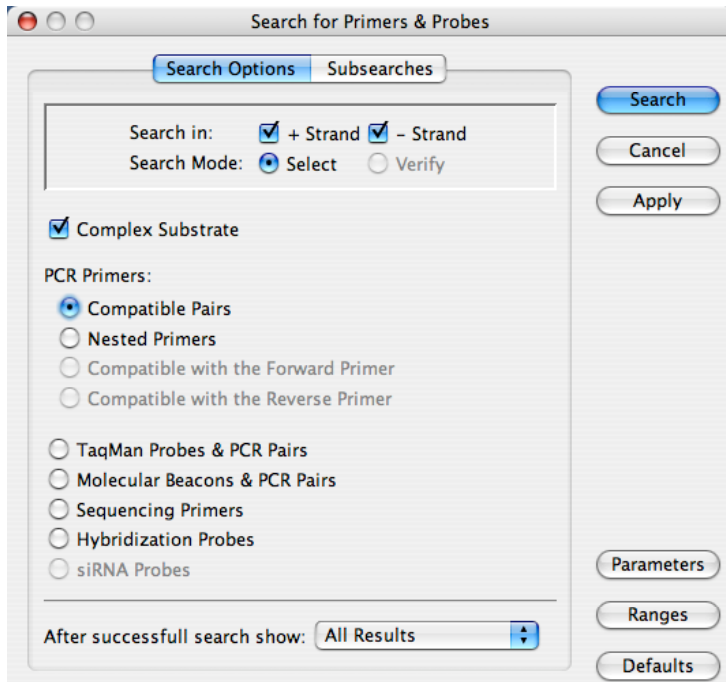


the meaning of open reading frames color coding from amino acid type to codon frequency.

10. Note a slide button at the top left of the ORF window:  By dragging it to the right you'll see zooming in the ORF graph. This feature is very useful when the opened sequence is large.

## 4. Search for Primers and Probes

This section describes methods in searching primers and probes, the "Search - for Primers & Probes..." menu item.



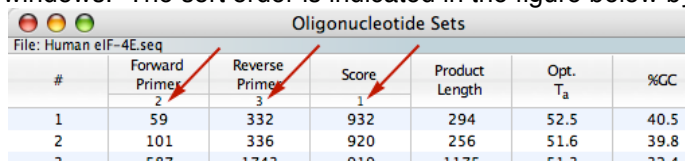
Take a quick look at the Search for Primers dialog window. At the top you see two tabs, Search Options and Subsearches. Below this there are two check boxes - if both checked the search will proceed in both DNA strands. The Search Mode is set to "Select", that is, the search will start from scratch, and not continue on already selected primers (that's the "Verify" mode). If you uncheck the "Complex Substrate" box, good when working with plasmids, not with total organism DNA, a sub-search to eliminate frequent oligos will not take place. Below this box, you see a list of possible search types that Oligo can perform. Buttons on the right: the "Search" button starts the actual search, "Cancel" closes the window, and "Apply" memorizes the current type of search, so that when you "Cancel" the window and come back to it you'd see the most recent setting. "Apply" also sets the search parameters and accordingly, modifies the Sequence and other relevant windows. Button "Parameters" opens the search parameters

windows, including windows that define the stringencies and scoring system. Button "Ranges" opens a complex dialog that controls not only the search ranges, but the number of results you need within the ranges. Button "Defaults" changes all parameters to the default values. This chapter will guide you through various search types.

#### 4.1. Searching for PCR primers, a simple search

This example takes you through a quick search for a pair of optimal PCR primers. To run this search, open Human eIF-4E.seq file and:

1. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
2. Verify that the "Compatible Pairs" button under "PCR Primers" in the dialog box is checked.
3. Click "Search" to start the search. The "Search Status" progress window appears, and the message "Search Completed" appears when the search is complete.
4. When the search is complete, two windows open: "Oligonucleotide Sets" and "Selected Oligonucleotides". You may also check the "Primers & Probes Search Data" (from the Search menu) window to make sure that the final search stringency is acceptable. OLIGO automatically reduces search stringency if it does not find any compatible pairs.
5. There are six sort options on the "Oligonucleotide Sets" and "Selected Oligonucleotides" windows. The sort order is indicated in the figure below by red arrows:



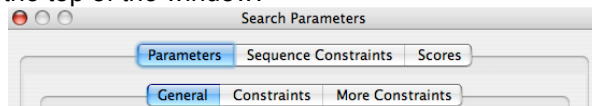
#	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer	Score	Product Length	Opt. T <sub>a</sub>	%GC
1	59	332	932	294	52.5	40.5
2	101	336	920	256	51.6	39.8
3	587	1743	910	1175	51.3	37.4

You may change the sort order by simply clicking at the column name. Option-click (or Alt-click) allows for multiple sorts. You may also sort the data by product length or any other field not sorted in the example above.

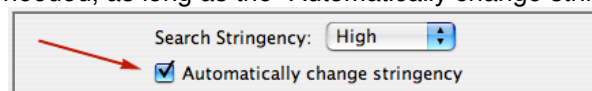
9. Click on a primer pair to select this primer pair or double click on a pair to view the "PCR" window for the selected pair.
10. Choose the primers from the Analyze - Key Info menu or other Analyze menu windows to view the primer sequence and/or related data.

#### 4.2. Searching for PCR primers, an example to show the options

1. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
2. Verify that the "Compatible Pairs" button under "PCR Primers" in the dialog box is checked.
3. Click the "Parameters" button. At this point you see the General Parameters, as indicated at the top of the window:

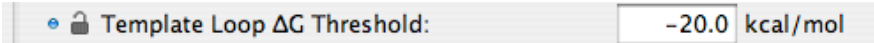


This will let you change the search stringency globally, change sequence frequency table and salt and primers concentration in the reaction mix. By default, the stringency search is set to "High". If you experience a long search time, you may shorten the search by starting from a lower stringency type. Otherwise, Oligo will reduce the stringency automatically if needed, as long as the "Automatically change stringency" box is checked:



4. Choose the "Fair" search stringency.
5. Check the "Constraints" and "More Constraints" options. Each sub-search option that will be active for a given search method has a blue dot on the left. The irrelevant sub-searches

have no blue dots. To the right of this dot you should see an open or closed lock. This represents whether a given parameter can be changed during automatic stringency search. You may wish to permanently fix a specific parameter to the displayed value by clicking on an open lock. The lock should close. Some parameters Oligo is not able to change automatically. These sub-searches are labeled with grey-out locks. The image below shows one of the sub-searches in the "More Constraints" window



This is active parameter for Compatible Pairs search (blue dot on the left) and the automatic stringency may change it, if necessary. For sake of this example, increase this value to -6 kcal/mol and lock this value, and click "OK". You've just set the parameter of a sub-search that will eliminate all the PCR products (not the primers!) that would make a hairpin with a  $\Delta G$  larger than -6 kcal/mol, with the size of this hairpin not larger than 40 nt. (if the "Template Loop Window Size" was set to 40 nt). Note that this test sequence has only one loop like this around pos. 160-200 (Sequence window marks it in maroon color).

6. Click the "Ranges" button. Instead choosing the search ranges manually, click the "Check Region(s)" button.
7. From the "Features" window select the #2: CDS (coding sequence), so you should see this:

#	Feature	Location
1	source	-18..1850
2	CDS	1..651

and click the "Accept" button.

8. Check the "Find products in checked region(s) only" box.
9. Check also the box "No multiple products in one sequence region" and "Cover the entire search area with "Overlapping products".
10. Change the PCR product length to "150 to 300".
11. Click the "OK" button. You should get just the coding region covered with PCR products, and the hairpin loop in the template gone from any PCR products.

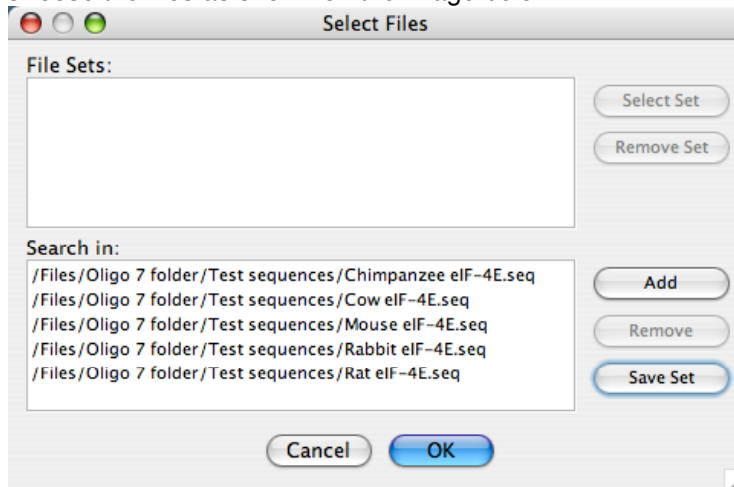
### 4.3. Searching for sequencing primers

1. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
2. Click on "Sequencing Primers" button
3. Choose the DNA strand the primers should be made of: leave checked "Search in: + Strand" if you want primers to sequence forward (they would be annealing to the negative strand), and uncheck the "- Strand".
4. Choose the region you want the primers located: click the "Ranges" button and type "Positive strand search range:" 400 to 450. The negative strand search range is irrelevant.
5. Make sure the "No overlapping primers/probes" box is checked if you want to avoid multiple choices of almost identical primers.
6. Click "OK" button.
7. Click the "Search" button. You should get only one primer in the "Selected Oligonucleotides" window.
8. Double click on this primer in the "Selected Oligonucleotides" window. You've just selected a sequencing primer.

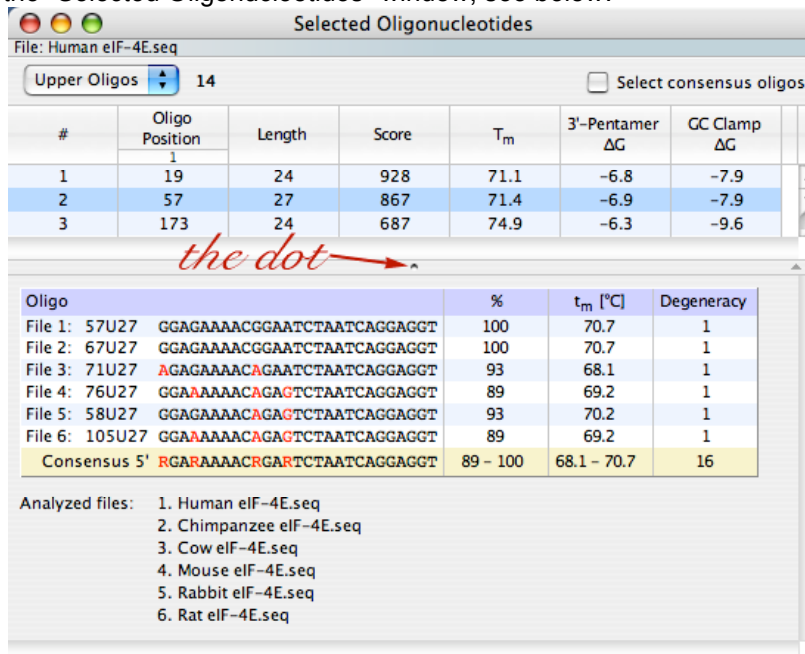
### 4.4. Searching for consensus hybridization probes

1. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
2. Click on the "Hybridization Probes" button
3. Click on the "Subsearches" tab at the top of the window.
4. Click on the "Consensus Probes" box at the bottom of the window. A new window "Select Files" pops out, and you need to select other homologous sequences.

- Click the "Add" button and navigate to the Test sequences folder, supplied with the software (by default it is located in the Oligo 7 folder in the Applications folder).
- Choose the files as shown on the image below:



- by repetitively clicking on a file name and the "Add" button.
- Click the "Done" button and return to the "Select Files" window. The window should look similar to the one depicted above.
  - You may click "OK" now, but if you'd like to memorize this set so that you can use it at later time, click the "Save Set" button and give it a descriptive but short name, than click "OK".
  - Go back to the "Search for Primers & Probes", and click the "Search button".
  - The results are displayed in the "Selected Oligonucleotides" window. Sort it by "Oligo Position" by clicking on the "Oligo Position" title.
  - Double click on the second oligo (pos. 57). You've just selected a non-degenerate probe. You may check it on any relevant Analyze windows. In the top right of the Selected Oligonucleotides window there is a check box "Select consensus oligos". If it's checked, the selected probe would contain a few degenerate bases. This is because it is a consensus probe. You may check the alignment by dragging up the dot located at the bottom center of the "Selected Oligonucleotides" window, see below:



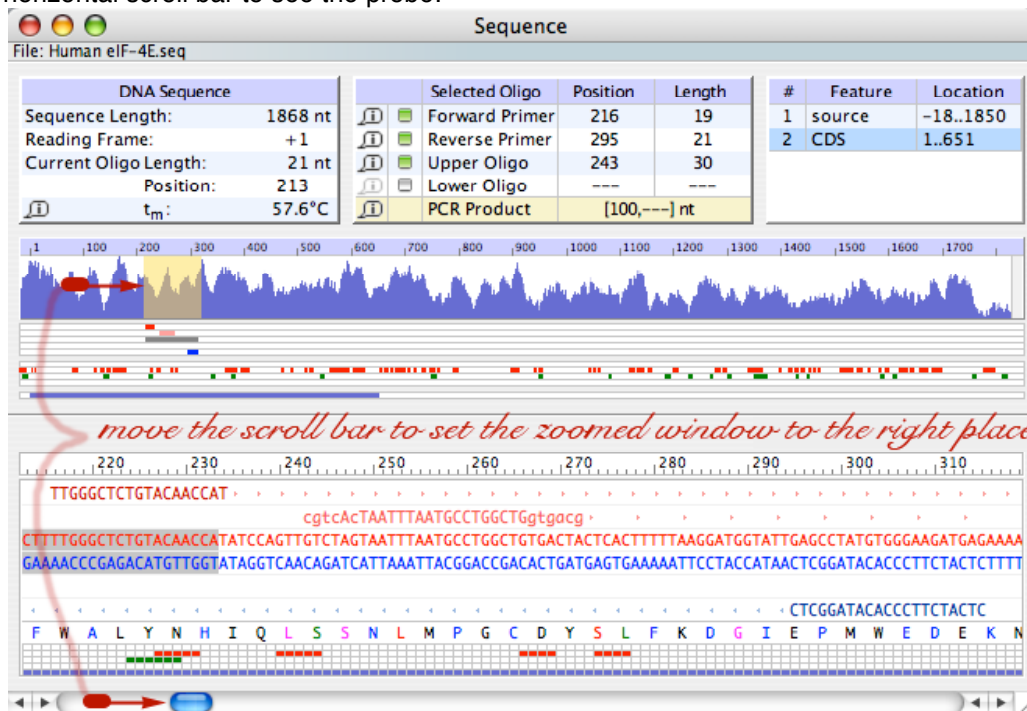
Note that the mismatches with the File 1 (the principal sequence) are marked in red.

## 4.5. Searching for TaqMan Probes & PCR Pairs

1. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
2. Click the "TaqMan Probes & PCR Pairs" button.
3. Click the "Search" button. The sets are found and displayed in the "Oligonucleotide Sets" Table.
4. Click once on a set to select it, or click twice to choose it and open the PCR analysis window at the same time.
5. If you don't like the default Tm difference between the primers & the probe, before the search you may alter it by changing the "Tm of Probe - Tm of Primer" search parameter in the "Constraints" window.
6. If you need only a specific DNA region to work with, before the search you may set the search range by choosing it from the "Search Ranges" window (click the "Ranges" button and enter the positive and negative strand search range in the top of the window, following by the "OK" button).

## 4.6. Searching for Molecular Beacons & PCR Pairs

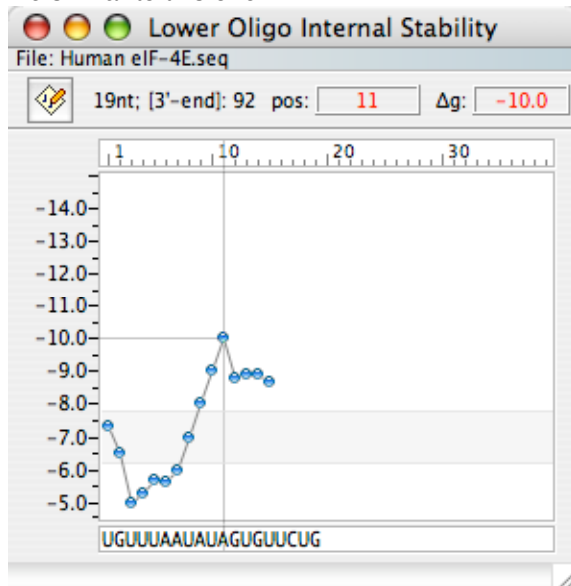
1. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
2. Click the "Molecular Beacons & PCR Pairs" button.
3. Click the "Search" button. The sets are found and displayed in the "Oligonucleotide Sets" Table.
4. Double click on a set to select it and open the PCR analysis window at the same time. Note that you get a seemingly disturbing comments "The Upper Oligo does not match the template" and "3'-end Upper Oligo dimer". This is a sign that the beacon probe was selected successfully.
5. To see the alignment with the template choose the Sequence window and move the horizontal scroll bar to see the probe:



6. View the probe under various Analyze windows, especially Analyze - Hairpin Formation - Upper Oligo.

## 4.7. Searching for siRNA Probes

1. Open Human eIF-4E.seq.
2. Choose "DNA to RNA" from the "Change" menu.
3. Choose the "Primers and Probes" option from the "Search" menu.
4. Click the " siRNA Probes" button.
5. Click the "Search" button. The oligos are found and displayed in the "Selected Oligonucleotides" Table.
7. Double click on the first record. You've selected the sense strand of a siRNA probe.
6. Choose "Lower Oligos" from the pull down menu (top left of the window).
7. Double click on the first record. You've selected the antisense strand of a siRNA probe.
8. Check the Internal Stability window ("Analyze"- "Internal Stability" - "Lower Oligo"). It should look similar to this one:



The negative strand probe (always a 19-mer) should start from a pentamer of -7.5 kcal/mol or so, its 3'-end should be slightly more stable than 5'-end, the internal 12-mer stability should be about -22 kcal/mol, should not form significant internal hairpin loops, should not have sequence repeats, and should be as unique as standard hybridization probes.

9. Add manually TT or attach dinucleotides corresponding to the original mRNA to the 3'-ends of the oligos: use "Edit" - "Upper (Lower) Oligo" options. The dTdT is preferred for a better probe stability.

## 4.8. Searching multiple files (batch processing)

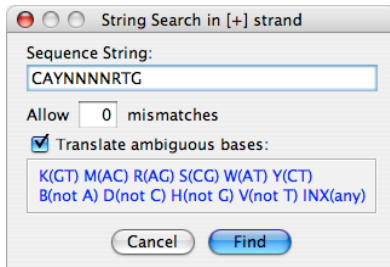
1. Start Oligo and choose "Search" - "Sequence files".
2. Select files: choose the entire Test sequences folder.
3. Choose the Method of search: Hybridization Probes.
4. Click the "Ranges" button and check the "Choose hybridization probes every" "1000 bp".
5. Click "OK", and another "OK" to get back to the "Batch Processing" window.
6. Click the "Search" button. Before Oligo starts searching it asks you for a file name for the results data. Default is "BatchResults.txt", a plain text file. Enter a new name or leave it as is. Note that you may save the file in three different formats: Simple List, Full Analysis or Oligonucleotide Database. Accept the name by clicking at the 'Save' button.
7. The Search Progress window displays how many files were processed and scheduled. The search ends when this progress window disappears. Open the BatchResults.txt file with any word processor.

## 5. Other Search Options

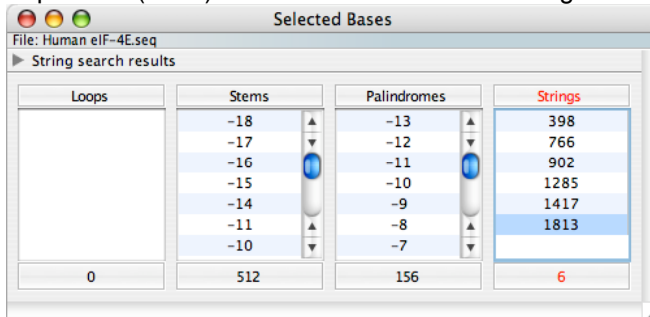
### 5.1. Search for a sequence string

Oligo's search for string is not just a plain 'Find' function commonly implemented in most editing software. It allows searching for mismatches and for ambiguous bases. This example shows the process.

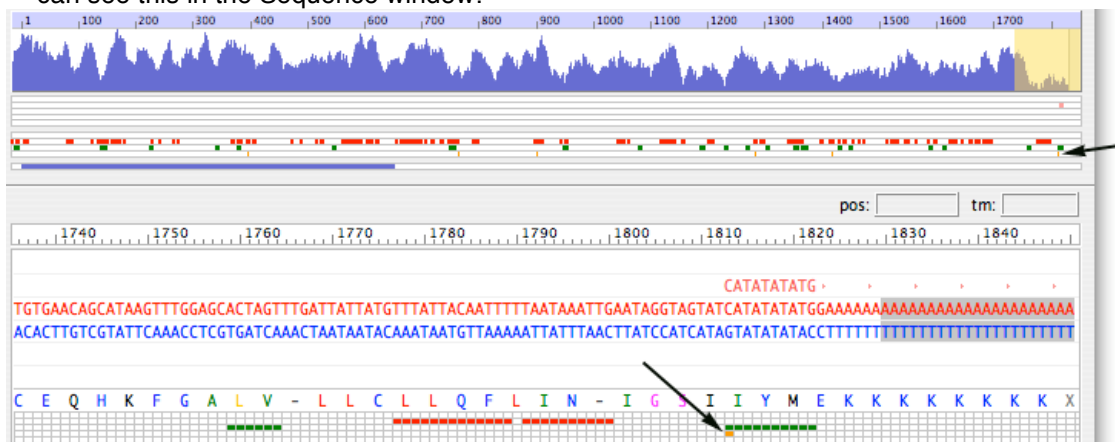
1. Start Oligo, open Human eIF-4E.seq and choose "Search" - "for a Sequence String + strand".
2. Type a degenerate sequence CAYNNNNRTG. It's an Msl I recognition site and click the "Find" button.



3. The results pop up in the "Selected Bases" window in the "Strings" column. Click the last position (1813). You should see the following window:



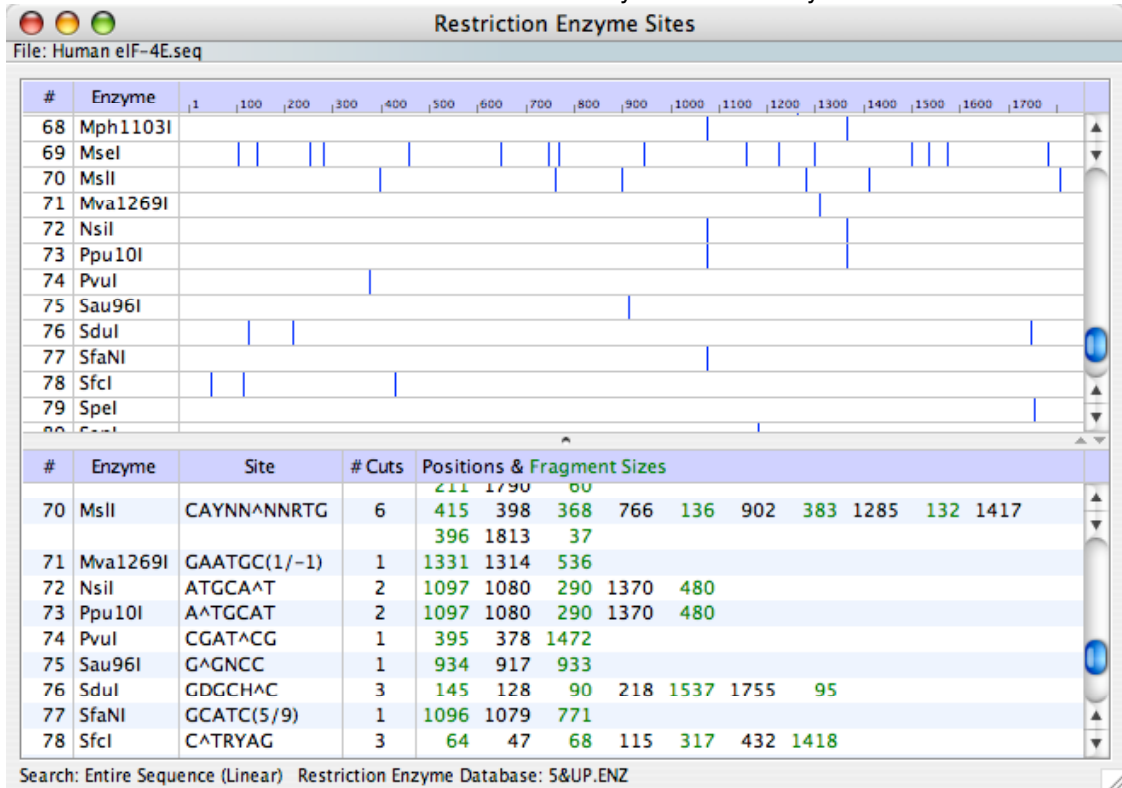
The pos. 1813 is highlighted. At the same time the Current Oligo pos. 1813 is selected and you can see this in the Sequence window:



The arrows point to pos. 1813, marked in orange. This position is at the beginning of a 10 bp-long palindrome (marked in green). The palindrome itself was selected as the Upper Oligo, shown above as the top sequence in red.

## 5.2. Search for restriction enzyme sites

1. Start Oligo, open Human eIF-4E.seq and choose "Search" - "for Restriction Sites..." option.
2. Click the "Select Enzyme Database". The files are located in the Tables sub-folder.
3. Click the 5&UP.ENZ file containing most 5-cutters and higher and the "Select" button.
4. Choose "Linear" sequence and click the "Search" button.
5. You should see the results in the "Restriction Enzyme Sites" Analyze window:



This window consists of two parts. The top one is a graphical representation: the entire row represents the length of the sequence file and the blue vertical lines are the recognition sites. The bottom part is the enzyme listing, ended at the bottom with a list of non-cutting enzymes (scroll the bar down to see it: the picture above does not show it). The actual recognition sites are listed in black, and the fragment sizes are in green.

## 5.3. Search for restriction enzyme sites in protein

This search reverse-translates a protein sequence into all combinations of reading frames and finds all possible restriction enzyme sites that could be made. This feature is useful in gene construction projects. The example below shows how to find a protein of interest, set the proper reading frame and then find the restriction sites only in this protein.

1. Start Oligo, open BRCA gene.seq and open the Open Reading Frames window from the Analyze menu.
2. Find the longest pen reading frame in the sequence. This is the one we'd like to analyze for potential restriction enzyme sites. Click on the graphical representation of it to set the proper reading frame (see the graph below). You may use the zoom-in slider located at the top left of the window for a better view.



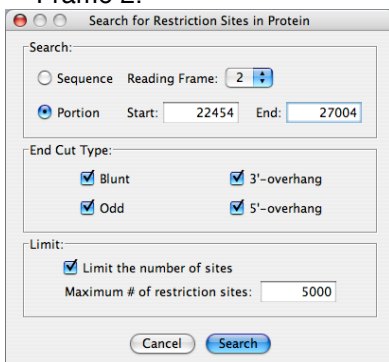
The zoom-in slider

When you click on this ORF it gets underlined in green and the information about this particular protein is shown in the ORS Statistics table.

This green rectangle shows what part of the sequence is displayed in the lower part of the window (zoomed-in area). Move the scroll bar to see other regions.

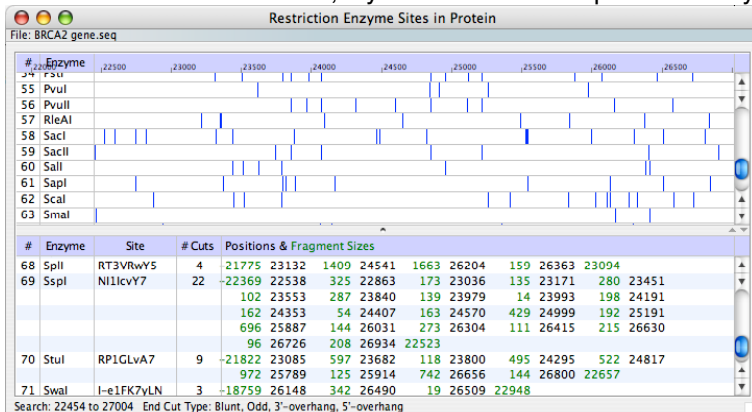
ORF Statistics				
R.Fr.	Position	Protein	Molecular Weight	Mean pKa
[+2]	22454 - 27004	1517 aa	170223.0	7.1

3. Choose "Search" - "for Restriction Sites in Protein..." option. It should indicate Reading Frame 2.



4. Type in the Start and End position numbers of the protein. You should find those numbers in the ORF window.

5. Click the "Search" button, if you want to find all possible enzyme "Cut Types".



6. After the search the results are displayed in a window with a very similar format to the standard "Search for restriction enzyme sites" window, except that the degenerate protein site is listed instead of the actual DNA recognition site sequence (all those symbols are explained in the Appendix E of the User Manual).