

Sequence Similarity Networks for the Protein “Universe”

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Blue Waters Symposium

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Alex Bateman, EMBL-EBI

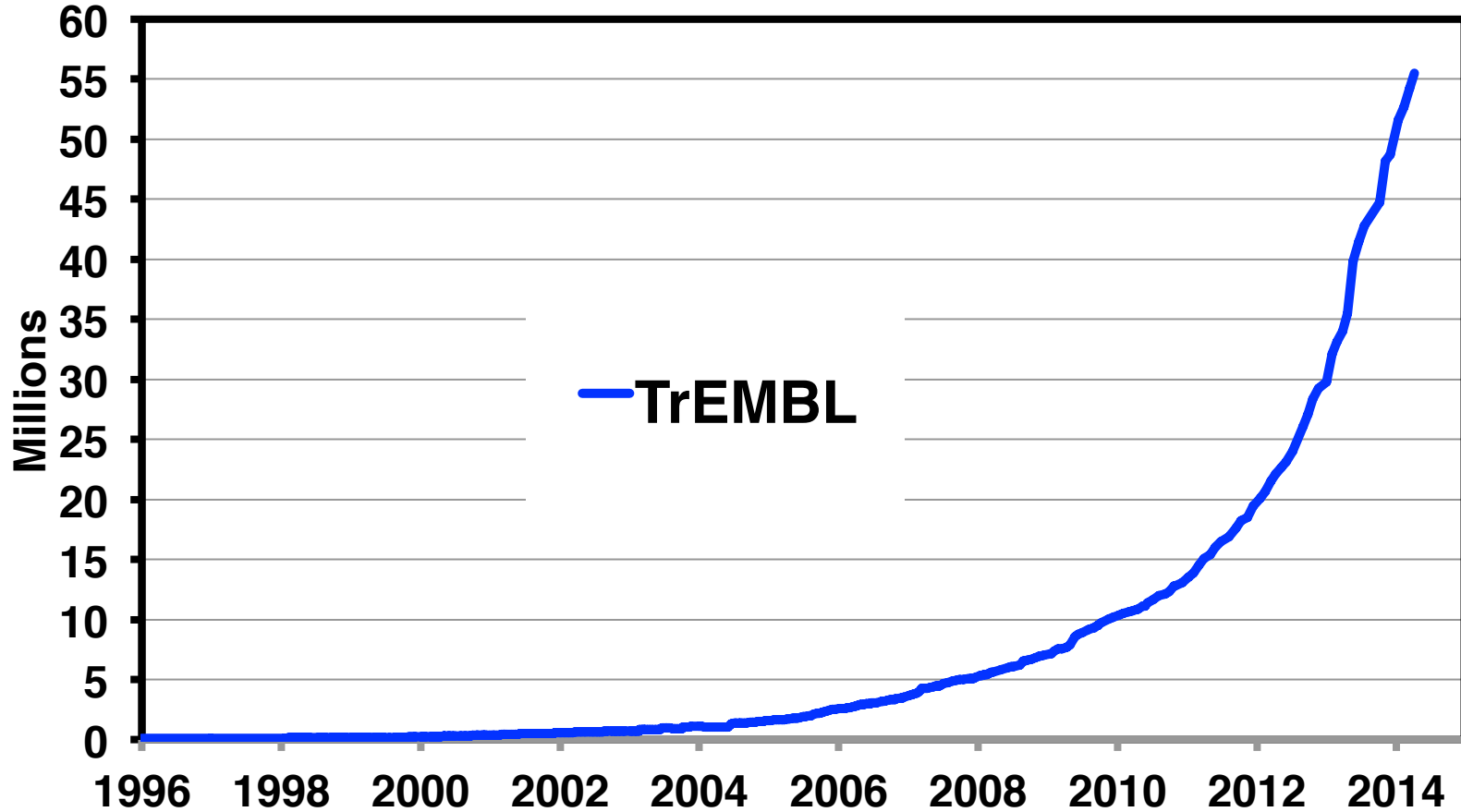
Matthew Jacobson, UCSF

NIH U54GM093342
UIUC Blue Waters Allocation

The number of protein sequences is “exploding” !

Release 2014_04 of 16-Apr-2014 of UniProtKB/TrEMBL

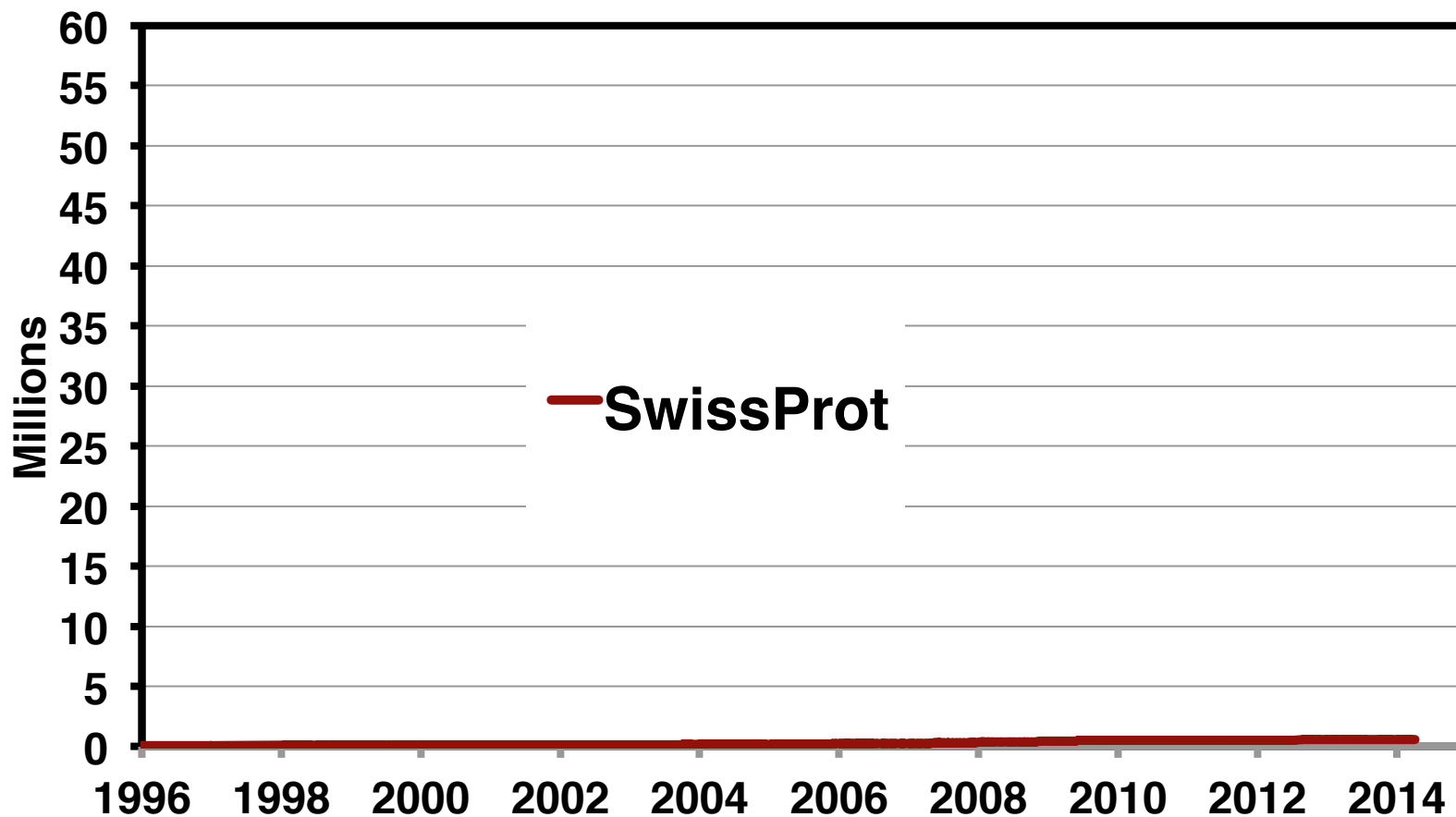
 contains **55,503,547** sequence entries.



But the number of curated annotations is lagging !

Release 2014_04 of 16-Apr-2014 of UniProtKB/SwissProt

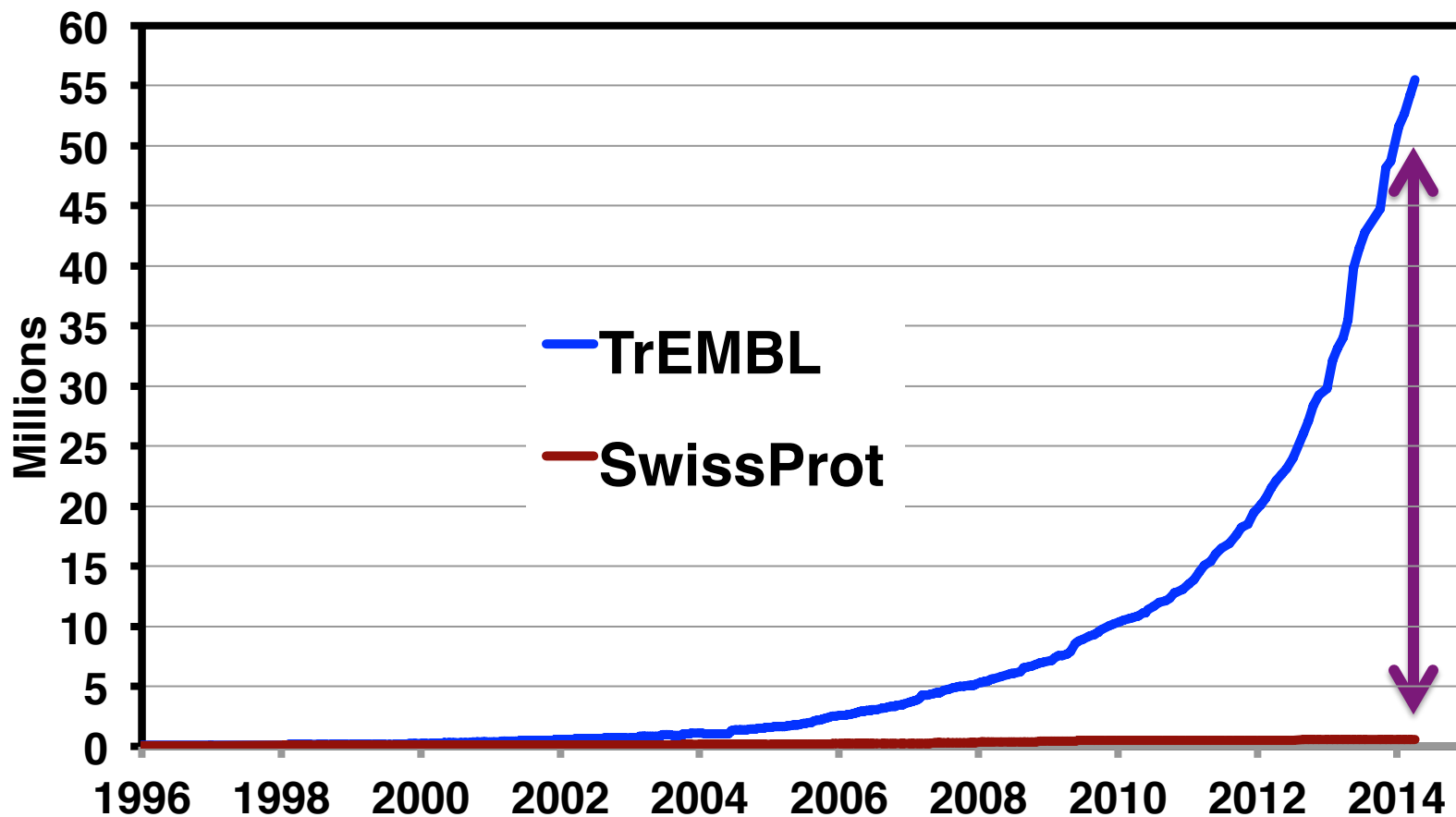
 contains **544,996** sequence entries.



Perhaps 50% have unknown or uncertain functions

Release 2014_04 of 16-Apr-2014 of UniProtKB

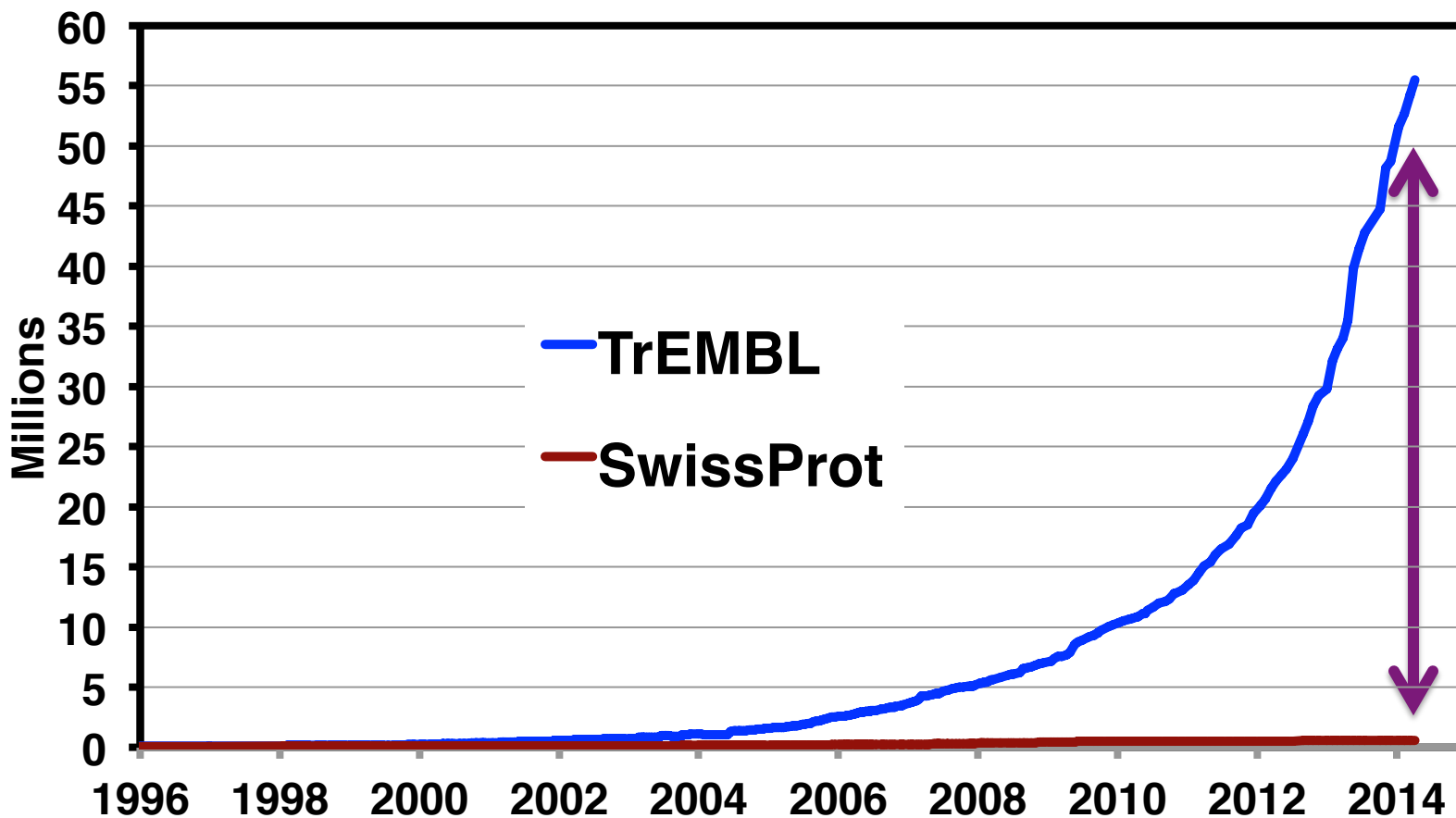
contains **55,503,547** sequence entries.



How do we solve this problem ?

Release 2014_04 of 16-Apr-2014 of UniProtKB

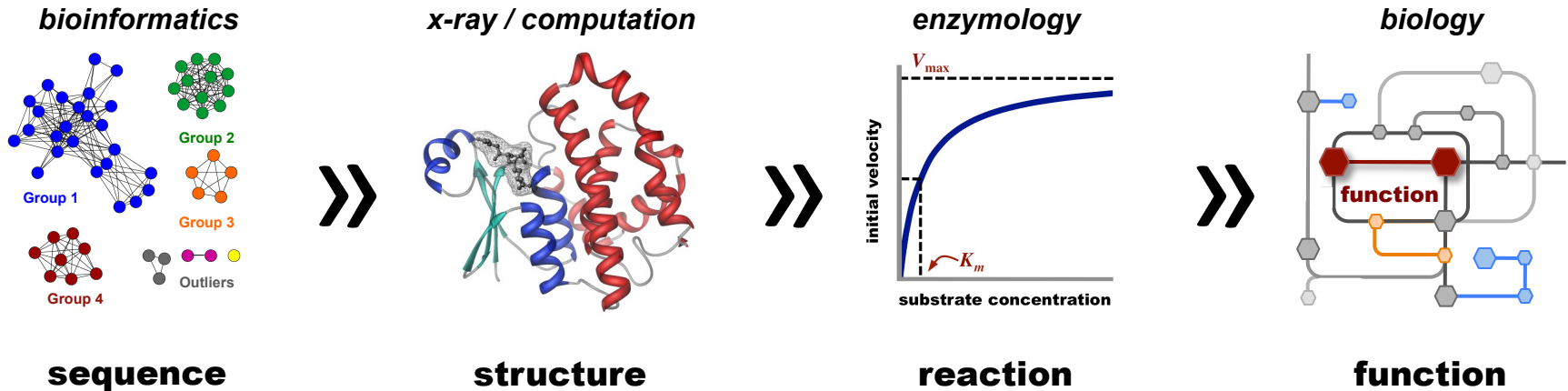
 contains **55,503,547** sequence entries.



Requires high-throughput experimental

and computational strategies

U54 GM093342: “Enzyme Function Initiative” (EFI)



Albert Einstein

Steven Almo

Boston University

Karen Allen

Gladstone Institutes

Katherine Pollard

University of Illinois

John Gerlt

John Cronan

Jonathan Sweedler

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Matthew Jacobson

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Brian Shoichet

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Pennsylvania State

Squire Booker

University of Virginia

Wladek Minor

University of Utah

C. Dale Poulter

Deliverables, not Specific Aims



1. **Develop robust high-throughput sequence/structure-based tools and strategies** to discover *in vitro* activities and *in vivo* metabolic functions of unknown enzymes
2. **Disseminate tools to the community** for determining activities and functions of unknown enzymes
3. **Collaborate with the community** to implement the tools and strategies
4. **Correct annotations** in the protein databases

Deliverables, not Specific Aims



- 1. Develop robust high-throughput sequence/structure-based tools and strategies** to discover *in vitro* activities and *in vivo* metabolic functions of unknown enzymes
2. Disseminate tools to the community for determining activities and functions of unknown enzymes
3. Collaborate with the community to implement the tools and strategies
4. Correct annotations in the protein databases

Using Sequence Similarity Networks for Visualization of Relationships Across Diverse Protein Superfamilies

Holly J. Atkinson^{1,2}, John H. Morris³, Thomas E. Ferrin^{2,3,4}, Patricia C. Babbitt^{2,3,4*}

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Abstract

The dramatic increase in heterogeneous types of biological data—in particular, the abundance of new protein sequences—requires fast and user-friendly methods for organizing this information in a way that enables functional inference. The most widely used strategy to link sequence or structure to function, homology-based function prediction, relies on the fundamental assumption that sequence or structural similarity implies functional similarity. New tools that extend this approach are still urgently needed to associate sequence data with biological information in ways that accommodate the real complexity of the problem, while being accessible to experimental as well as computational biologists. To address this, we have examined the application of sequence similarity networks for visualizing functional trends across protein superfamilies from the context of sequence similarity. Using three large groups of homologous proteins of varying types of structural and functional diversity—GPCRs and kinases from humans, and the crotonase superfamily of enzymes—we show that overlaying networks with orthogonal information is a powerful approach for observing functional themes and revealing outliers. In comparison to other primary methods, networks provide both a good representation of group-wise sequence similarity relationships and a strong visual and quantitative correlation with phylogenetic trees, while enabling analysis and visualization of much larger sets of sequences than trees or multiple sequence alignments can easily accommodate. We also define important limitations and caveats in the application of these networks. As a broadly accessible and effective tool for the exploration of protein superfamilies, sequence similarity networks show great potential for generating testable hypotheses about protein structure-function relationships.

Citation: Atkinson HJ, Morris JH, Ferrin TE, Babbitt PC (2009) Using Sequence Similarity Networks for Visualization of Relationships Across Diverse Protein Superfamilies. *PLoS ONE* 4(2): e4345. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0004345

Editor: I. King Jordan, Georgia Institute of Technology, United States of America

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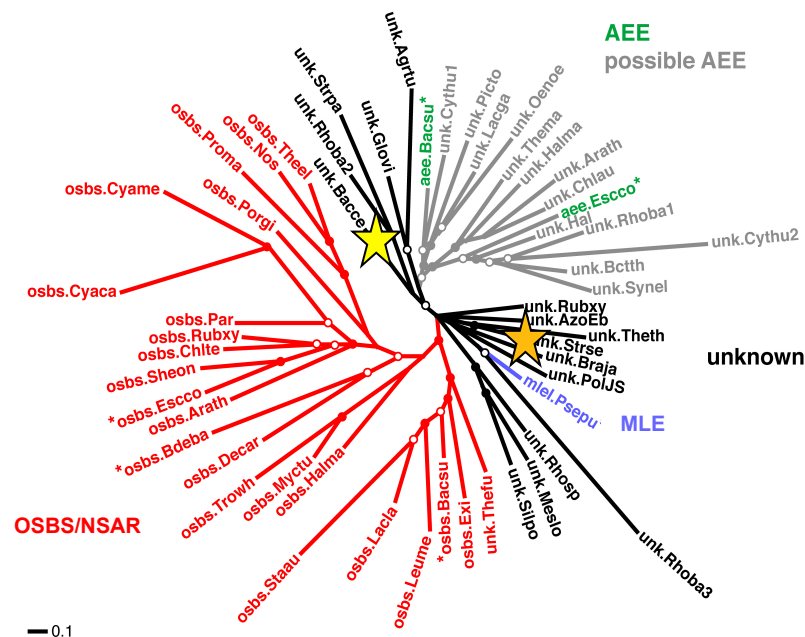
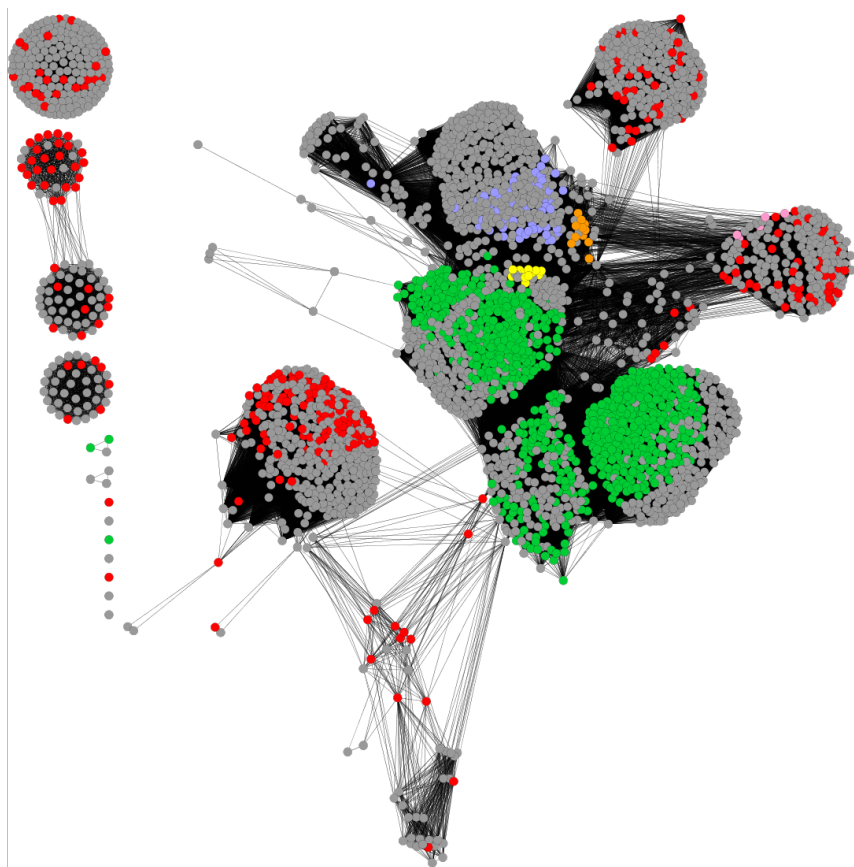
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Funding: This work was supported by NIH grant GM60595 and NSF grant DBI 0640476 to P.C.B. and P41 RR01081 to T.E.F. H.J.A. received support from NIH grant T32 GM067547. Initial exploration of sequence similarity networks used the enolases and amidohydrolases superfamilies as example data sets, and was supported by P01 GM071790 to P.C.B. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Competing Interests: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

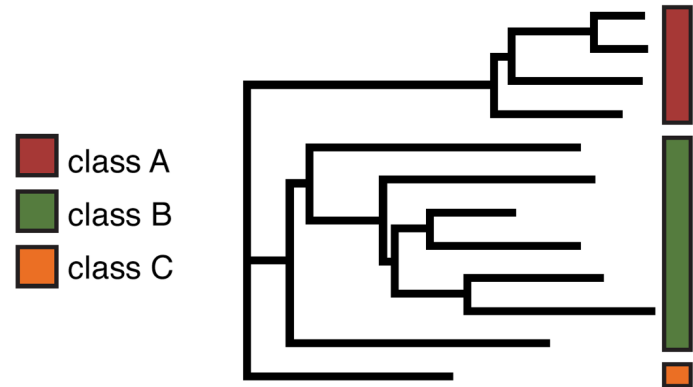
* E-mail: babbitt@cgl.ucsf.edu

Sequence similarity networks (SSNs) vs dendrograms: enolase superfamily

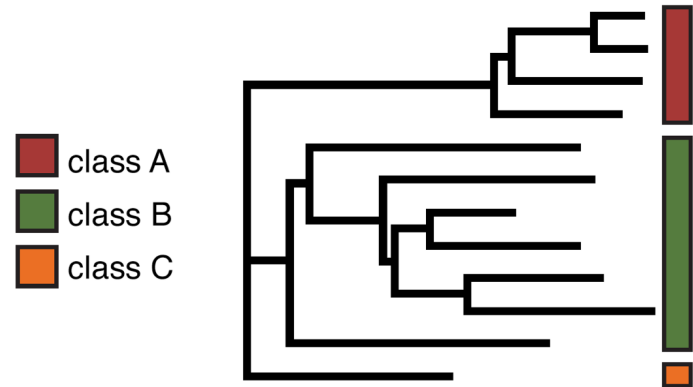


Families are easier to visualize in SSNs,
so hypotheses are easier to formulate and explore

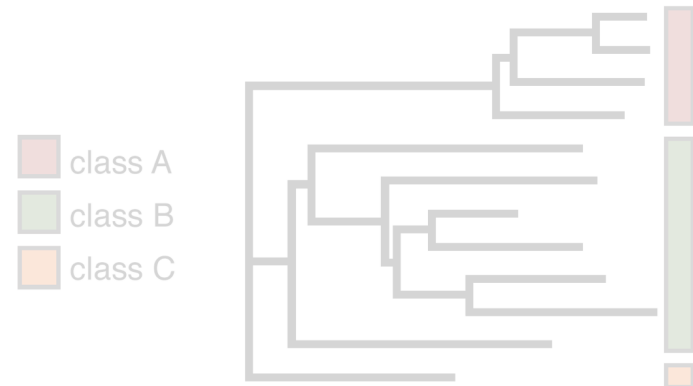
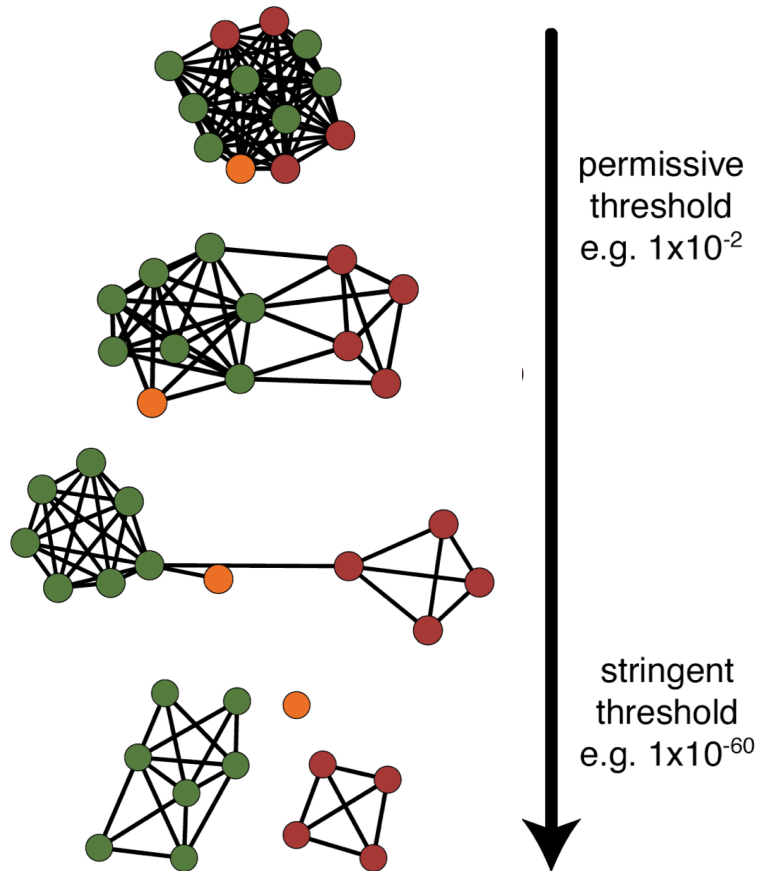
Dendrograms/trees for sequence relationships



Connectivity: multiple sequence alignments



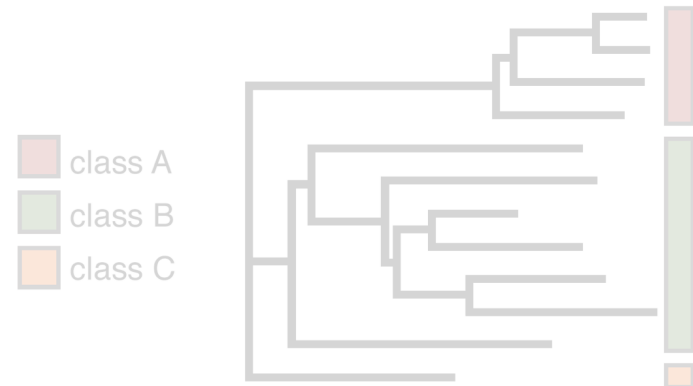
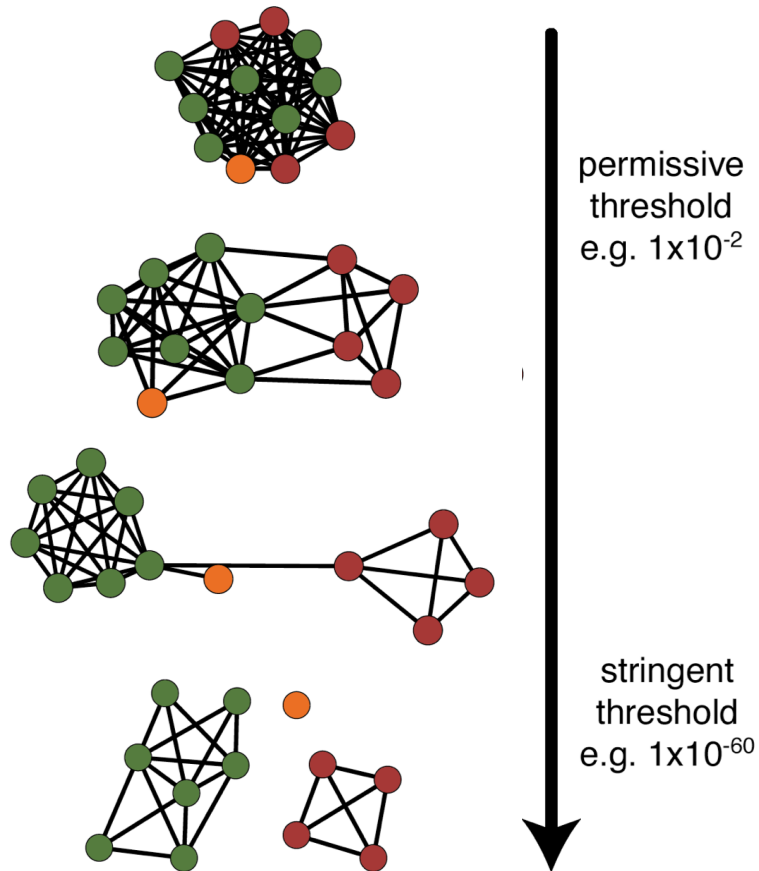
Sequence similarity networks



node (circle) = sequence

edge (line) = connection less than a user-defined score (e-value)

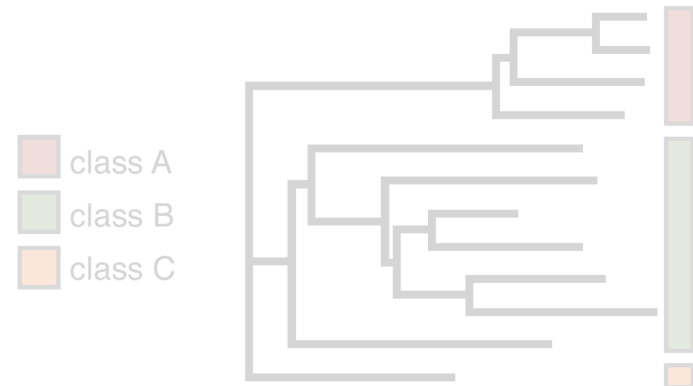
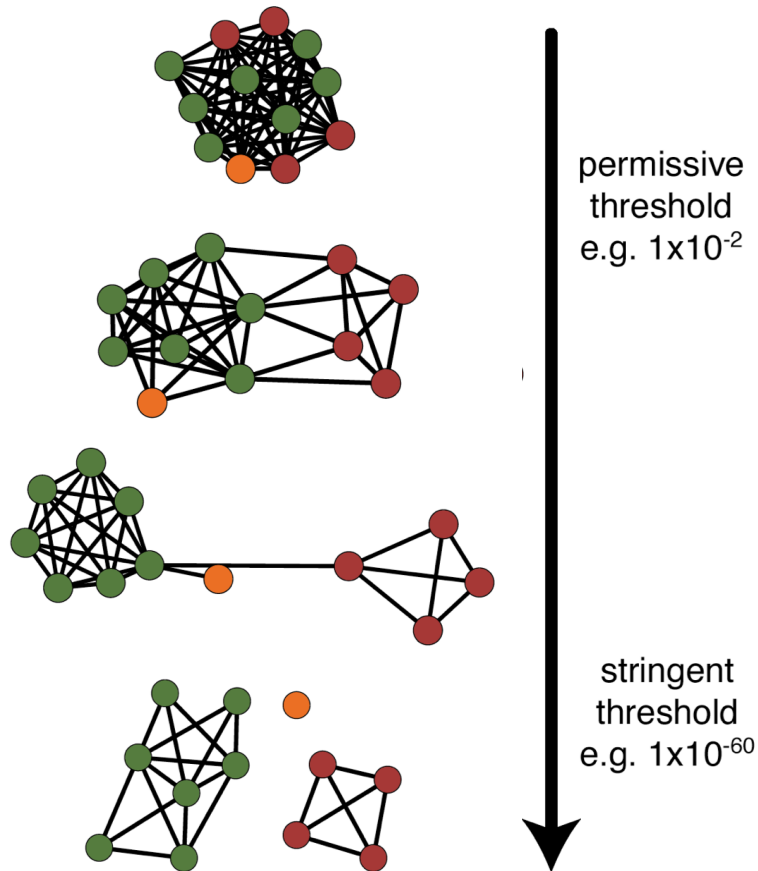
Connectivity: all-by-all BLASTP e-values



node (circle) = sequence

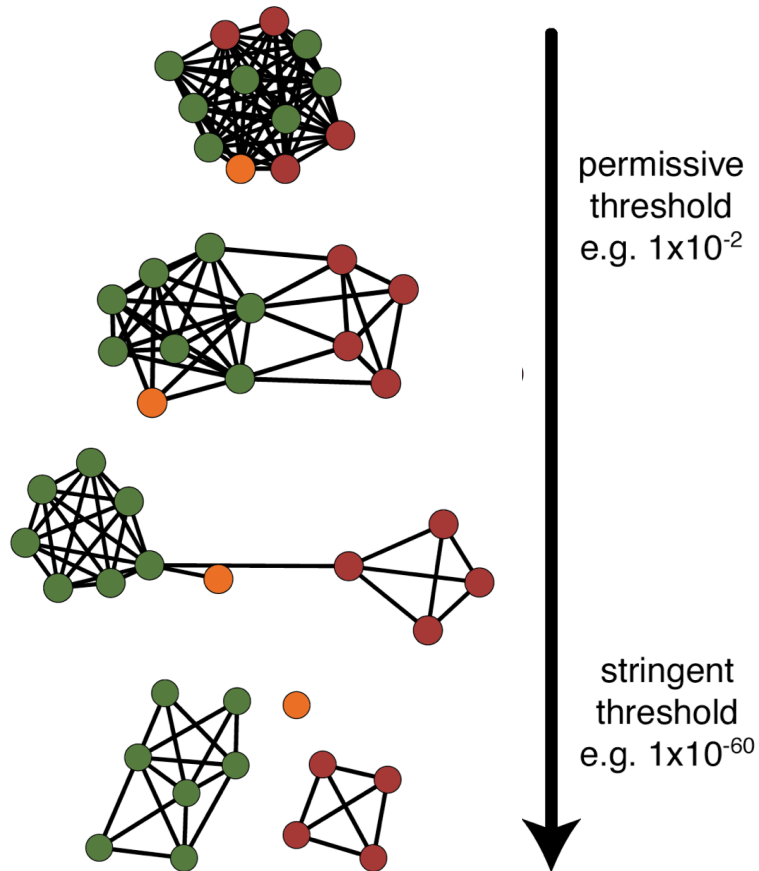
**edge (line) = connection less than
a user-defined score (e-value)**

Faster to calculate than dendrograms

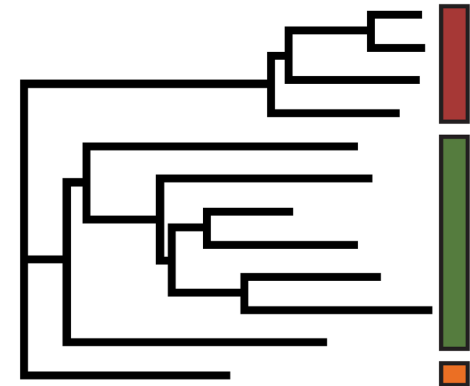


node (circle) = sequence
edge (line) = connection less than a user-defined score (e-value)

Qualitatively similar results



- class A
- class B
- class C



node (circle) = sequence

**edge (line) = connection less than
a user-defined score (e-value)**

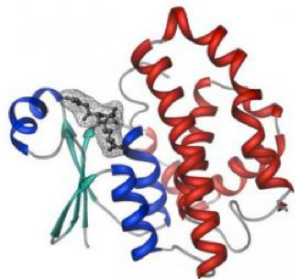
The **Enzyme Function Initiative (EFI)** is developing a robust sequence / structure based strategy for facilitating discovery of *in vitro* enzymatic and *in vivo* metabolic / physiological functions of unknown enzymes discovered in genome projects.

[More »](#)

STRATEGY

1 2 3 4 5

Sequence » **STRUCTURE** » Reaction » Function



STRUCTURE

Structures for targeted enzymes are obtained either by x-ray crystallography or homology modeling. The structures serve as templates for docking of *in silico* libraries during virtual screening and enable functional predictions to guide activity screening.

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New EFI-EST - A web-based sequence similarity network tool from the EFI. [More »](#)

New resource - Carbocation numbering system created for isoprenoids. [More »](#)

New Metabolite Docker - The Computation Core releases new docking tool. [More »](#)

New Publications - Nine new EFI publications just posted. [More »](#)

EFI RESOURCES / DATA ACCESS

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[Experimental DB »](#)

[Informatics \(SFLD\) »](#)

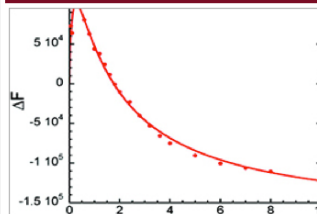
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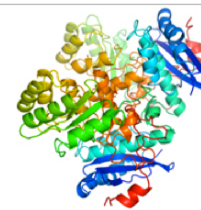
[Create Sequence Similarity Networks »](#)

PUBLICATIONS




2011 Publication from Stourman, et al. in *Biochemistry*
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STRUCTURES



PDB Deposition 3TJ4 by Vetting et al
New structure for EFI target 502087 from the Enolase superfamily.

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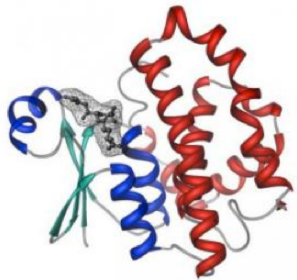
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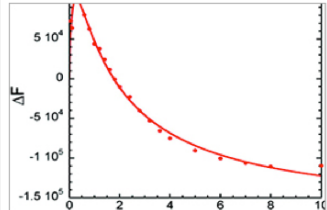
EFEST

Create Sequence Similarity Networks »



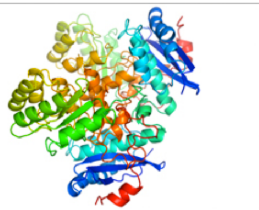
METABOLITE DOCKER

PUBLICATIONS




2011 Publication from Stourman, et al. in *Biochemistry*
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STRUCTURES





PDB Deposition 3TJ4 by Vetting et al
New structure for EFI target 502087 from the Enolase superfamily.

Enzyme Function Initiative
1208 W. Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801 |
efi@enzymefunction.org



National Institute of
General Medical Sciences

<http://enzymefunction.org/>

EFI - ENZYME SIMILARITY TOOL

START WITH...

An Introduction
Start here if you are new to the "Sequence Similarity Networks Tool".

A
INPUT

»»

B
GENERATE
DATA SET
⌚

»»

C
ANALYSIS

»»

D
GENERATE
NETWORKS
⌚

»»



E
DOWNLOAD
FILES

Input ?

Option A: Generate data set of close relatives via BLAST. Enter only protein sequence. Do not enter any fasta header information.
(Maximum number sequences retrieved: 2,000)

Option B: Generate data set with Pfam and/or InterPro numbers. For Pfam families, the format is a comma separated list of PFxxxxx (five digits); for InterPro families, the format is IPRxxxxxx (six digits). (Maximum number sequences retrieved: 25,000)

Used for data retrieval only

EFI - ENZYME SIMILARITY TOOL

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IPR008794

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Output **full** and **rep node** networks (.xgmml files)

EFI - ENZYME SIMILARITY TOOL

A
INPUT

»»

B
GENERATE
DATA SET
⌚

»»

C
ANALYSIS

»»

D
GENERATE
NETWORKS
⌚

»»

E
DOWNLOAD
FILES

GENERATING NETWORK XGMML FILE...

Full Network ?

Each node in the network is a single protein from the data set. Large files (>500MB) may not open.

	# Nodes	# Edges	File Size (MB)
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	2,886	325,025	81 MB

Representative Node Networks ?

Each node in the network represents a collection of proteins grouped according to percent identity.

	% ID	# Nodes	# Edges	File Size (MB)
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	40	49	1	1 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	45	81	2	1 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	50	118	3	1 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	55	168	13	1 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	60	223	86	1 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	65	287	272	1 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	70	373	698	2 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	75	472	1,881	2 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	80	570	3,944	3 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	85	678	7,393	4 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	90	816	12,191	5 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	95	1,011	20,528	7 MB
<input type="button" value="Download"/>	100	1,689	70,294	20 MB



BLUE WATERS SUSTAINED PETASCALE COMPUTING



User does not have to wait for BLASTs
Expedite hypotheses and experiments



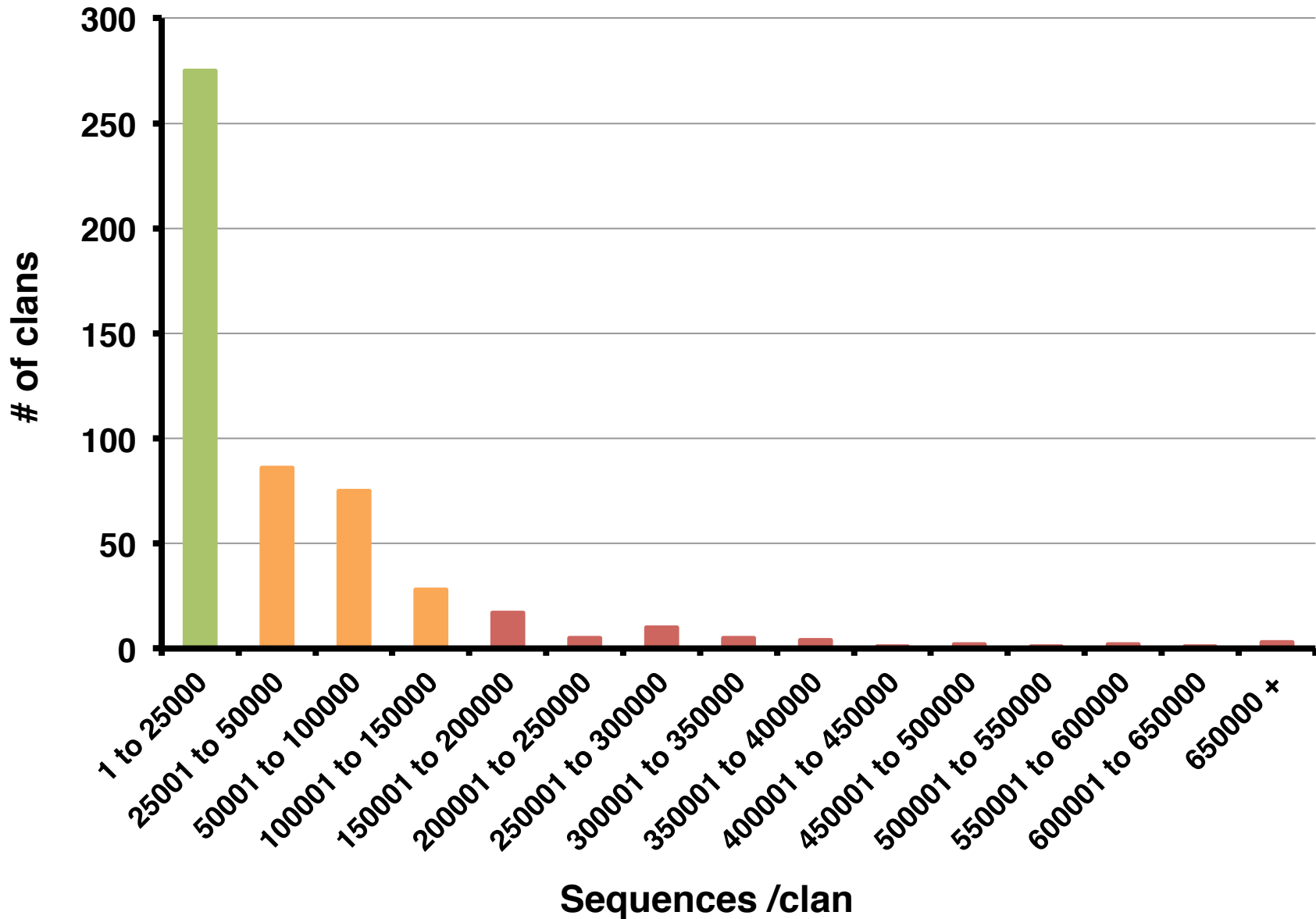
Families: conserved protein families based a seed alignment of representative sequences that is used to generate a profile hidden Markov model (HMM).

14,831 families in Pfam 27.0 (March 2013)

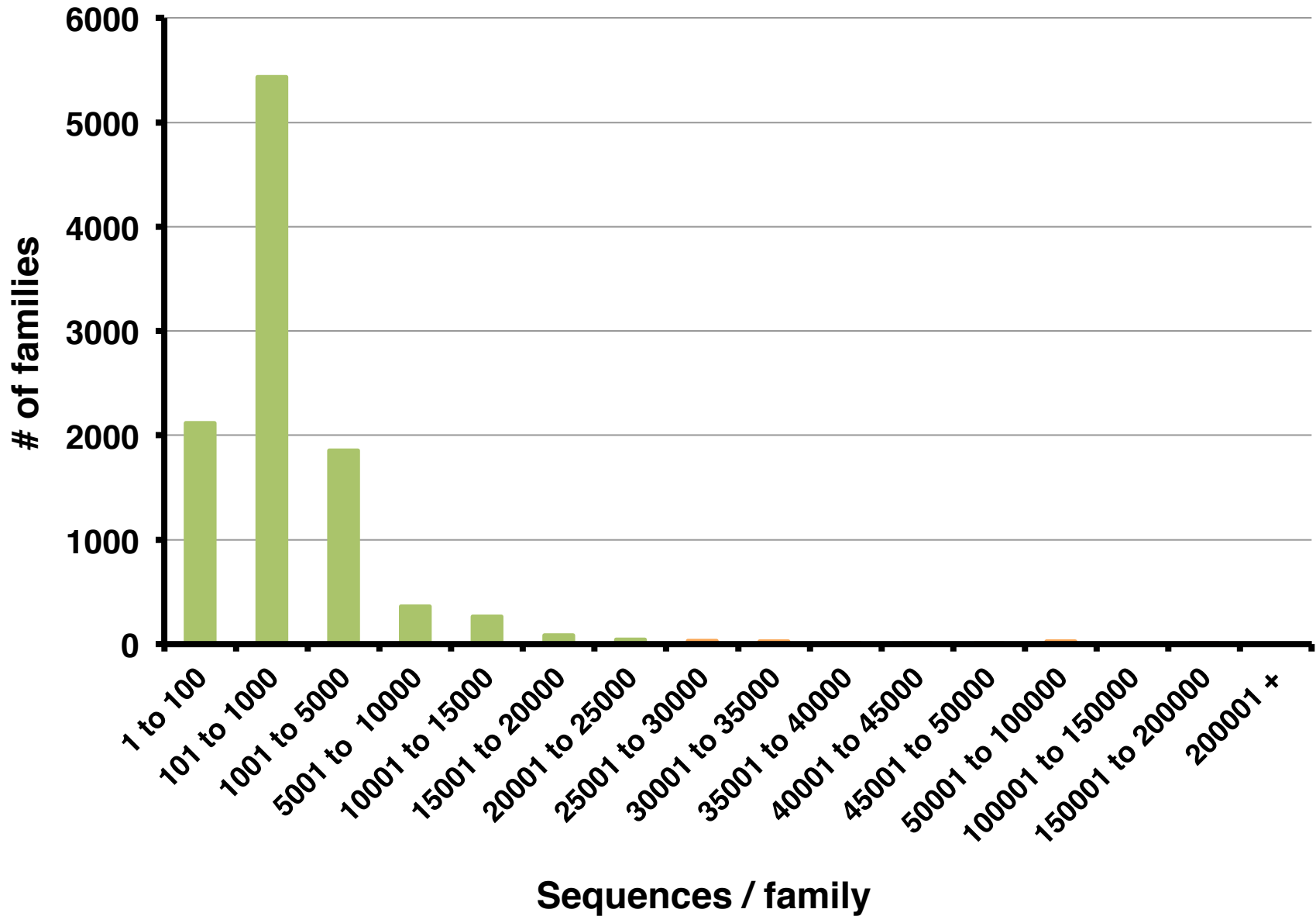
Clans: families (superfamilies) that have a common evolutionary ancestor based on structure and sequence.

515 clans in Pfam 27.0 containing 4,563 Pfam families

515 clans (4,563 families): 68,545 sequences/clan



10,268 “clanless”-families: 1,909 sequences/family



BLASTall on Blue Waters: 32 processors /node and 64 GB RAM/node

- 1. Partition each family into smaller sets of query sequences, e.g., 100 sequences for small families**
- 2. Load the entire set of sequences into RAM**
- 3. Use BLASTall to calculate e-values for the query sets against all sequences**
- 4. Store BLAST results**
- 5. Concatentate results**
- 6. Filter results to remove redundancy (A-B vs B-A)**

BLASTall on Blue Waters: **32 processors /node and 64 GB RAM/node**

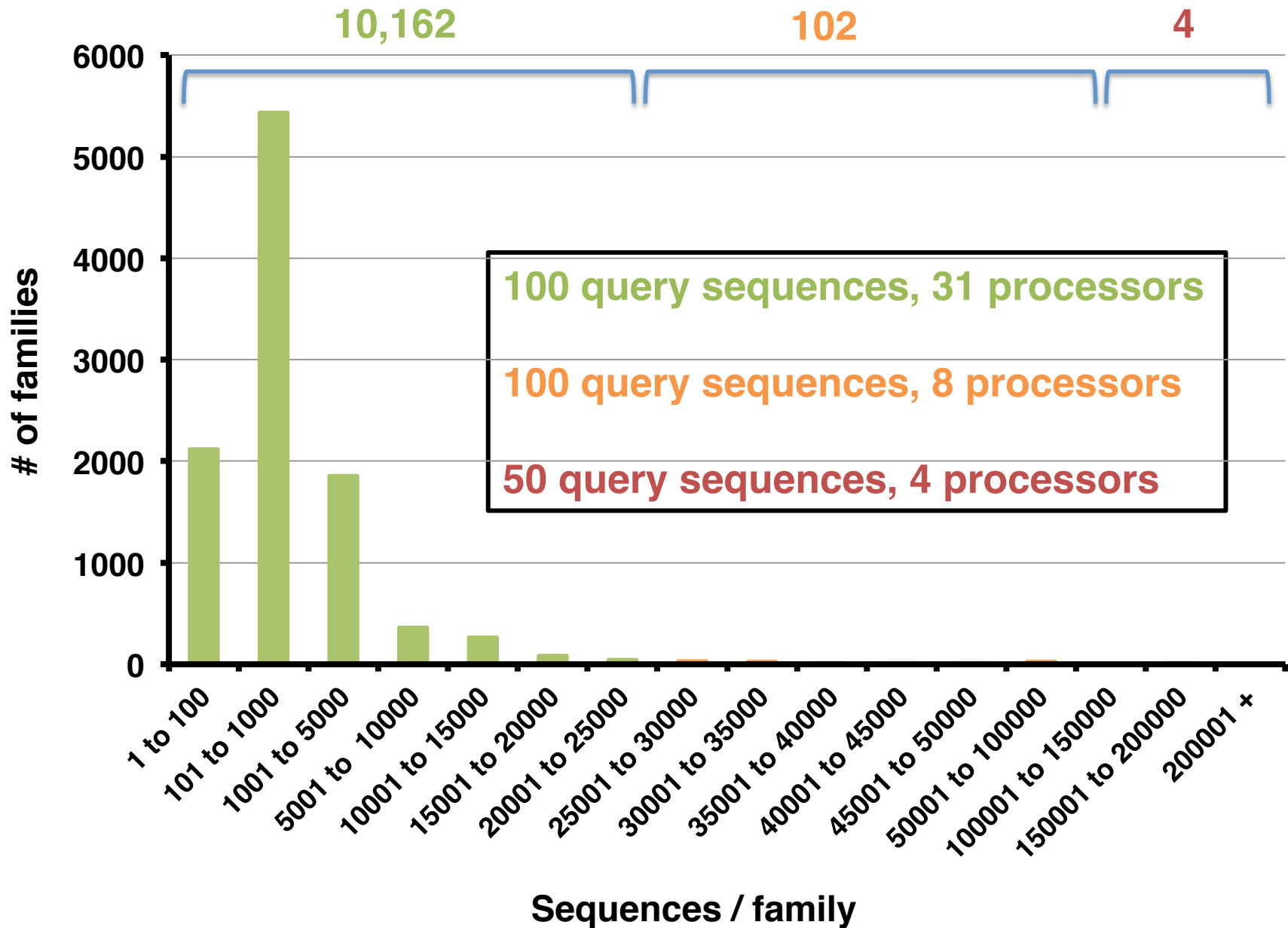
24 hr wall time limits the sizes of the query sets, depending on total number of sequences

Solution: decrease sequences into smaller query sets. Or, split family into smaller pieces.

64GB RAM limits the number of sequences that can be loaded and the number of results that can be stored

Solution: decrease number of processors to make more RAM available per processor but this increases the number of required nodes. Or, split family into smaller pieces. These are computationally equivalent.

10,268 families: average 1,909 sequences/family



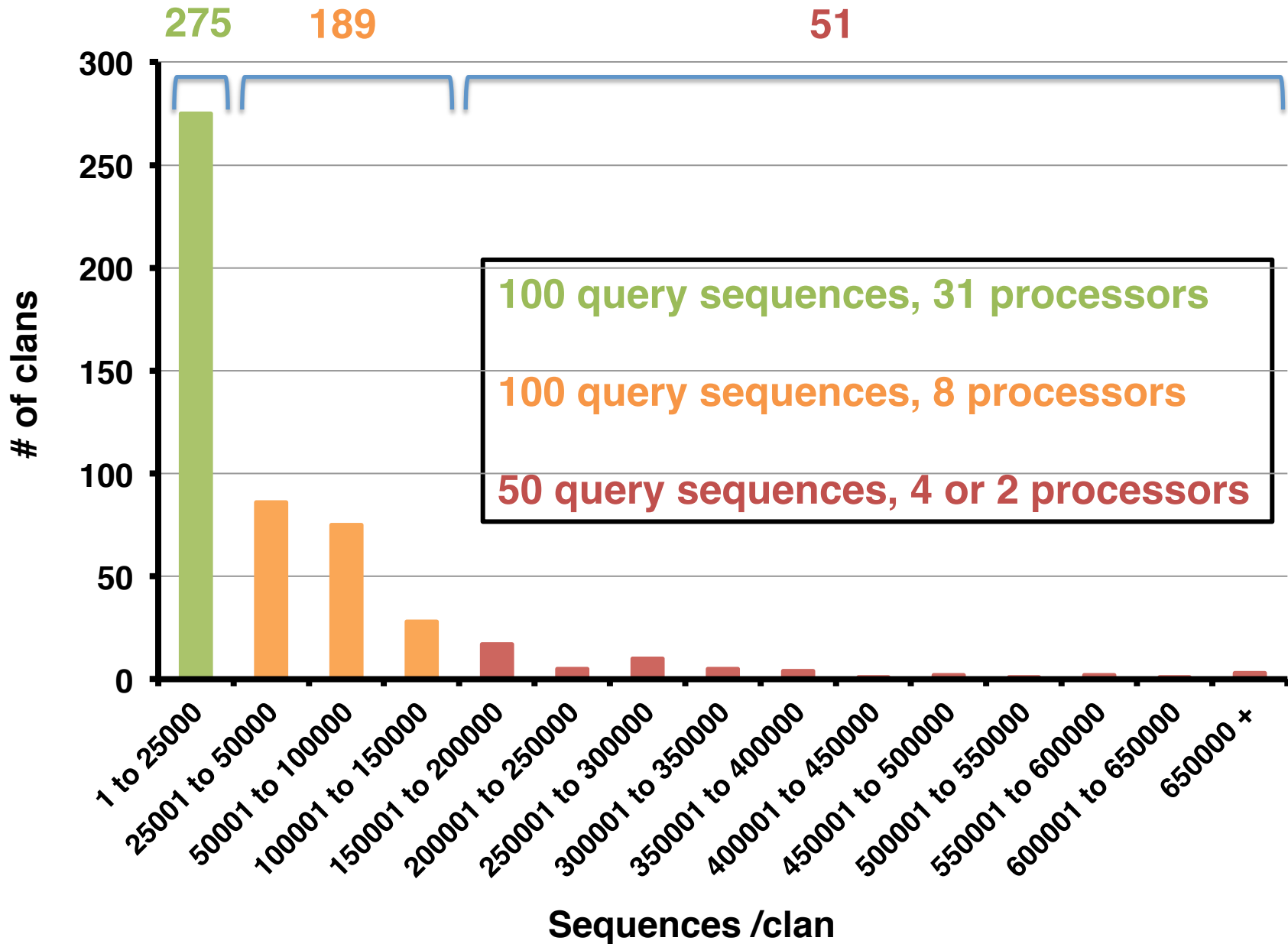
10,268 “clanless”-families



To date, 10,264 BLASTs are complete!

These are being processed to yield .xgmml files for Cytoscape. Statistics are being calculated for choice of visualization thresholds.

515 clans: average 68,545 sequences/clan



515 clans (and their 4,564 families)



514 BLASTs completed!

The successful BLASTs are being processed to yield .xgmml files for Cytoscape as well as statistics to choose visualization thresholds.

Families are being extracted from the 514 completed clans (3,049/4,563 to date); these are being processed to yield .xgmml files and statistics.

The largest clan (CL0023: 3,066,502 sequences) is too large for Blue Waters, using our current algorithms.

The .xgmml files for 514 clans and all 14,831 families will be made available via a Web server.

Alternative BLAST approaches will be developed for CL0023.

Networks to be calculated on a quarterly refresh cycle to provide current networks to the biological community.

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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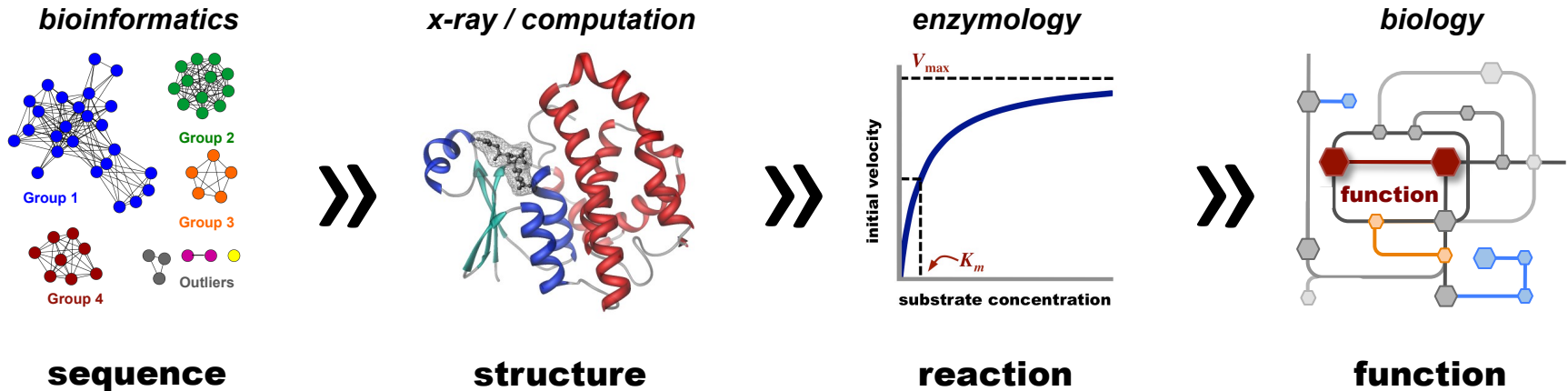
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