EMBL – Data Library Network Servers

Address:

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Description

The EMBL Data Library offers a range of electronic services to the molecular biology research community.

An electronic mail server and an anonymous ftp server allow access to a large number of important data collections, including the EMBL nucleotide sequence database, the SWISS-PROT protein sequence database, and the Brookhaven protein structure database. In addition to the complete quartely releases of the sequence databases weekly updates of the EMBL database are provided for downloading by ftp. Individual EMBL database entries can be retrieved using the e-mail server, and new entries are made available on a daily basis.

The Data Library also maintains an archive of free software for molecular biology. More than 200 different programs are currently available for MS-DOS, Vax/VMS, UNIX and Macintosh systems and can be downloaded by e-mail or anonymous ftp.

New data collections and software are added constantly.

The FASTA and QuickSearch services enable remote users to perform sequence similarity searches against a variety of nucleotide and protein sequence databases maintained at EMBL. Whereas QuickSearch is appropriate for the quick identification of very similar database entries, FASTA is better suited for the detection of more distantly related sequences. The database available for searches are updated daily, thus access to latest sequence information is guaranteed.

A Gopher server (EMBnet BioInformation Resource EMBL) is in operation which sits on top of the EMBL anonymous ftp archive. It is part of the EMBnet BioGopher network.

Network Access

Anyone with direct or gatewayed access to the Internet can use the EMBL servers.

The addresses to use are:

NetServ@EMBL-Heidelberg.DE
(E-mail file server)

Fasta@EMBL-Heidelberg.DE
(FASTA database similarity searches)

Quick@EMBL-Heidelberg.DE
(QuickSearch database similarity searches)

Detailed descriptions of access procedures and the information available can be obtained by sending the word HELP on the Subject line or in the body of an e-mail message to the addresses shown above.

The anonymous ftp server can be reached at:

ftp.EMBL-heidelberg.DE

Use the user name "anonymous" and your e-mail address as password to log in. Some older ftp clients might get confused by multiple message lines. In this case, enter a dash "-" as the first character of the password to turn this feature off.

The Gopher server can be accessed at ftp.EMBL-Heidelberg.DE at port 70.

Who Can Use The EMBL Server

Access to the EMBL network services is unrestricted. However, European users are strongly encouraged to use their national EMBnet nodes if possible. Most EMBnet nodes offer similar services.

Miscellaneous

Periodically, the EMBL File Server Newsletter is posted to the USENET newsgroup bionet.molbio.embl-databank. It contains information about changes and additions to the services provided by the EMBL Data Library. This newsgroup can also be used to contact the Data Library staff.

The EMBL anonymous ftp server is mirrored by ftp.weizmann.ac.il.

The software provided is exchanged with the file servers at the University of Indiana (Iubio) and the University of Houston (Gene-Server).

These network services are provided in collaboration with the EMBL Computer Group.

References

Additional information about these resources are available by electronic mail from NetServ@EMBL-Heidelberg.DE (help doc), by anonymous ftp (in /pub/help on ftp.EMBL-Heidelberg.DE) or by Gopher ("About this resource").