

(<http://genomes.urv.es/CAIcal>)



## TUTORIAL

(July 2006)

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## Introduction

### WHAT IS CAICAL?

CAIcal is a web server, freely available at <http://genomes.urv.es/CAIcal>, that performs several computations in relation to codon usage and the codon adaptation of DNA or RNA sequences to host organisms.

The screenshot displays the CAIcal server web interface. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with links: DATABASES, HIST-OR, APPLICATIONS, CLUSTAL, Translate, and NUP-search. Below these are logos for the ICBM and the ICBM group. Further down are links for USEFUL LINKS, Codon Usage Database, and Human codon usage. The main content area is titled 'CAIcal server' and contains a welcome message: 'The CAIcal server is freely available at <http://genomes.urv.es/CAIcal>. This server performs several computations in relation to codon usage and the codon adaptation of DNA or RNA sequences to host organisms.' Below this, there are three main sections: 1) 'Calculation of parameters:' with a description and an 'ENTER' button; 2) 'DNA or RNA sequences:' with two sub-options: '[CAI calculation]' and '[Calc expected CAI]', each with an '(a) ENTER' or '(b) ENTER' button; 3) 'Protein alignment:' with two sub-options: '[One reference table]' and '[Multiple reference tables]', each with an '(a) ENTER' or '(b) ENTER' button. Each section also includes a link to 'Click here to see an example'.

### OPTIONS AVAILABLE

CAIcal has three main options:

- Calculation of parameters. This initial option provides basic calculations such as nucleotide composition, codon usage, codon usage per thousand and relative synonymous codon usage (RSCU) (see section A of this guide).
- CAI calculation for FASTA sequences. This section has two options: 1) CAI calculation for DNA or RNA sequences introduced and 2) calculation of an expected CAI value determined by randomly generating sequences (see section B of this guide).
- CAI calculation for protein alignment translated to DNA alignment. This option provides the use of: 1) one reference codon usage table for all of the sequences or 2) one reference table for each sequence introduced (see section C of this guide).

<h3>Calculation of parameters:</h3> <p>Use this option to calculate <u>nucleotide composition</u>, <u>codon usage</u>, <u>codon usage per thousand</u> and/or <u>Relative Synonymous Codon Usage (RSCU)</u> from DNA sequences.</p>	<input type="text" value="ENTER"/> <p><a href="#">Click here to see an example</a></p>
<h3>DNA or RNA sequences:</h3> <p>Use this option to calculate (a) Codon Adaptation Index for introduced sequences (CAI) or (b) expected CAI determined by randomly generating sequences.</p>	<div> <input type="text" value="(a) ENTER"/> <input type="text" value="(b) ENTER"/> </div> <p> <a href="#">Click here to see an example</a> <a href="#">Click here to see an example</a> </p>
<h3>Protein alignment:</h3> <p>Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) from protein alignment that has been translated to a DNA alignment using (a) a unique codon usage table as a reference or (b) multiple codon usage tables as a reference.</p>	<div> <input type="text" value="(a) ENTER"/> <input type="text" value="(b) ENTER"/> </div> <p> <a href="#">Click here to see an example</a> <a href="#">Click here to see an example</a> </p>

We have also developed this Tutorial, a Frequently Asked Questions section and several examples, which are available from the home page of the server. These helpful options will be periodically updated.

## Required inputs

### INPUT REQUIREMENTS

The server first checks whether the query sequences are a DNA or a RNA region. The table below is a summary of the input requirements for each section of CAIcal.

Input	Gene parameters	CAI calculation		CAI calculation of alignment	
		CAI	Expected CAI	One reference table	Multiple reference tables
DNA or RNA sequences in FASTA format	1	1	1	1	1
One codon usage reference table for all sequences	0	1	1	1	0
One codon usage reference table for each sequence	0	0	0	0	1
Protein alignment	0	0	0	1	1
Genetic code selection	1	1	1	1	1
Upper confidence limit option	0	0	1	0	0
Nucleotide composition and codon usage calculation options	1	0	0	0	0

(1: required; 0: not required)

### FORMAT OF THE REFERENCE SET

An easy way to introduce the codon usage reference table in CAIcal is to copy and paste the codon usage tables from *Codon Usage Database* (Nakamura et al., 2000). We have therefore added a link to this database in the left frame of the server. The codon usage table from the '*Codon Usage Database*' format allowed in CAIcal is as follows:

**Fields:** [triplet] [frequency: per thousand] ([number])...

Example:

```
UUU 17.4(586747)  UCU 15.0(507382)  UAU 12.1(408578)  UGU 10.5(352664)
UUC 20.4(687969)  UCC 17.7(596425)  UAC 15.3(516505)  UGC 12.6(426761)
UUA 7.5(254407)   UCA 12.1(409879)  UAA 1.1( 35822)   UGA 1.6( 55514)
UUG 12.8(432797)  UCG 4.5(150335)   UAG 0.8( 27554)   UGG 13.3(447152)
```

```

CUU 13.1(440882)  CCU 17.5(589809)  CAU 10.8(363555)  CGU  4.6(155426)
CUC 19.7(664417)  CCC 20.0(675558)  CAC 15.1(509431)  CGC 10.6(357380)
CUA  7.1(240672)  CCA 16.9(569871)  CAA 12.1(408697)  CGA  6.2(208816)
CUG 39.9(1347830) CCG  7.0(237033)  CAG 34.3(1157220) CGG 11.6(390529)

AUU 15.8(532975)  ACU 13.0(438753)  AAU 16.7(563795)  AGU 12.1(408481)
AUC 20.9(705646)  ACC 19.0(641707)  AAC 19.0(642797)  AGC 19.5(656528)
AUA  7.4(249300)  ACA 15.0(504527)  AAA 24.1(812474)  AGA 11.9(402225)
AUG 22.0(744022)  ACG  6.1(205470)  AAG 32.0(1079579) AGG 11.9(402146)

GUU 11.0(370035)  GCU 18.5(624602)  GAU 21.7(732533)  GGU 10.8(364282)
GUC 14.6(491325)  GCC 28.1(947810)  GAC 25.2(850343)  GGC 22.5(758251)
GUA  7.1(238697)  GCA 15.9(537665)  GAA 28.6(964323)  GGA 16.4(553492)
GUG 28.3(956245)  GCG  7.5(253270)  GAG 39.7(1340672) GGG 16.6(558612)

```

We have also introduced another format as follows:

**Fields: [triplet] ([number])...**

Example:

```

TTT (171) TCT (147) TAT (124) TGT (99)
TTC (203) TCC (172) TAC (158) TGC (119)
TTA (73)  TCA (118) TAA (0)   TGA (0)
TTG (125) TCG (45)  TAG (0)   TGG (122)
CTT (127) CCT (175) CAT (104) CGT (47)
CTC (187) CCC (197) CAC (147) CGC (107)
CTA (69)  CCA (170) CAA (121) CGA (63)
CTG (392) CCG (69)  CAG (343) CGG (115)
ATT (165) ACT (131) AAT (174) AGT (121)
ATC (218) ACC (192) AAC (199) AGC (191)
ATA (71)  ACA (150) AAA (248) AGA (113)
ATG (221) ACG (63)  AAG (331) AGG (110)
GTT (111) GCT (185) GAT (230) GGT (112)
GTC (146) GCC (282) GAC (262) GGC (230)
GTA (72)  GCA (160) GAA (301) GGA (168)
GTG (288) GCG (74)  GAG (404) GGG (160)

```

The section that requires more than one codon usage database in the same text box need sequence identification: *[name of sequence]*.

Example:

```

[name_sequence_1]
TTT (171) TCT (147) TAT (124) TGT (99)
TTC (203) TCC (172) TAC (158) TGC (119)
TTA (73)  TCA (118) TAA (0)   TGA (0)
TTG (125) TCG (45)  TAG (0)   TGG (122)
CTT (127) CCT (175) CAT (104) CGT (47)
CTC (187) CCC (197) CAC (147) CGC (107)
CTA (69)  CCA (170) CAA (121) CGA (63)
CTG (392) CCG (69)  CAG (343) CGG (115)
ATT (165) ACT (131) AAT (174) AGT (121)
ATC (218) ACC (192) AAC (199) AGC (191)
ATA (71)  ACA (150) AAA (248) AGA (113)
ATG (221) ACG (63)  AAG (331) AGG (110)
GTT (111) GCT (185) GAT (230) GGT (112)
GTC (146) GCC (282) GAC (262) GGC (230)
GTA (72)  GCA (160) GAA (301) GGA (168)
GTG (288) GCG (74)  GAG (404) GGG (160)

```

```

[name_sequence_2]
TTT (171) TCT (147) TAT (124) TGT (99)
TTC (203) TCC (172) TAC (158) TGC (119)
TTA (73)  TCA (118) TAA (0)   TGA (0)
TTG (125) TCG (45)  TAG (0)   TGG (122)
CTT (127) CCT (175) CAT (104) CGT (47)
CTC (187) CCC (197) CAC (147) CGC (107)
CTA (69)  CCA (170) CAA (121) CGA (63)
CTG (392) CCG (69)  CAG (343) CGG (115)
ATT (165) ACT (131) AAT (174) AGT (121)
ATC (218) ACC (192) AAC (199) AGC (191)
ATA (71)  ACA (150) AAA (248) AGA (113)
ATG (221) ACG (63)  AAG (331) AGG (110)
GTT (111) GCT (185) GAT (230) GGT (112)
GTC (146) GCC (282) GAC (262) GGC (230)

```

GTA (72) GCA (160) GAA (301) GGA (168)  
 GTG (288) GCG (74) GAG (404) GGG (160)

## ERROR AND WARNING MESSAGES

The table below is a brief summary of the main errors and warning of CAIcal.

Option	Genes Parameters	CAI calculation		CAI calculation of alignment	
		CAI	Expected CAI	One reference table	Multiple reference tables
No sequences are introduced	E	E	E	E	E
No reference table is introduced	E	E	E	E	E
Sequence is not divisible by three	E	E	E	E	E
Sequence with more than one stop codon	W	W	W	W	W
No parameters are checked	E	-	-	-	-
DNA sequence introduced does not correspond to protein sequence from the alignment.	-	-	-	E	E
Sequence too long (>10000 nt)	E	E	E	E	E

(*E*: error; *W*: warning)

## SECTION A – Calculation of Parameters

### OVERVIEW

Use this option to calculate nucleotide composition, codon usage, codon usage per thousand and/or relative synonymous codon usage (RSCU) from DNA sequences.

### INPUTS

This section requires three steps:

- 1) Introduction of DNA or RNA sequences in FASTA format in a text box.

- 2) Choose the genetic code corresponding to the sequences introduced. If the genetic code is not choose appropriately, it can generate some error messages.



**Choose the genetic code**

11: Eubacterial

1: Standard

2: Vertebrate Mitochondrial

3: Yeast Mitochondrial

4: Mold, Protozoan, Coelenterate Mitochondrial and Mycoplasma/Spiroplasma

5: Invertebrate Mitochondrial

6: Ciliate Macronuclear and Dasycladacean

9: Echinoderm Mitochondrial

10: Alternative Ciliate Macronuclear

11: Eubacterial

12: Alternative Yeast

13: Ascidian Mitochondrial

14: Flatworm Mitochondrial

15: Blepharisma Nuclear Code

3) Finally, choose at least one of the four outputs available and click on the submit button.

**Choose the output**

☒ Nucleotide composition
 ☒ Codon usage
 ☐ Codon usage per thousand
 ☒ RSCU

**SUBMIT**

## OUTPUTS

This section has four outputs:

- Nucleotide composition.

NUCLEOTIDE COMPOSITION													
SEQUENCES \ PARAMETERS	length	A	C	T	G	%A	%C	%T	%G	%G+C	%G+A	%G+T	%A+T
gij 29345410:3460-3996	537	192	90	131	124	35.75	16.76	24.39	23.09	39.85	58.85	47.49	60.15
gij 29345410:512111-512308	198	83	36	44	35	41.92	18.18	22.22	17.68	35.86	59.60	39.90	64.14
gij 29345410:512408-512758	351	121	59	92	79	34.47	16.81	26.21	22.51	39.32	56.98	48.72	60.68
gij 29345410:c1126784-1126596	189	87	28	33	41	46.03	14.81	17.46	21.69	36.51	67.72	39.15	63.49
gij 29345410:c1127066-1126806	261	94	44	68	55	36.02	16.86	26.05	21.07	37.93	57.09	47.13	62.07
gij 29345410:1581041-1581595	555	197	107	113	138	35.50	19.28	20.36	24.86	44.14	60.36	45.23	55.86
gij 29345410:2088036-2088290	255	86	48	71	50	33.73	18.82	27.84	19.61	38.43	53.33	47.45	61.57

*\*Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application:*

36.312849162	68	55	26	30	37.9888268156	14.5251396648							
30.7262569832	10.7597765363	31.2849162011	54.748603352	47.4860335196	68.7150837989								
45.251396648	56	48	27	48	31.2849162011	15.0037988827							
26.8156424581	26.8156424581	41.8994413408	58.1005586592	53.6312849162	58.1005586592								
41.8994413408	39.7668818713												
gij 29345410:512111-512308	198		83	44	36	35	41.9191919192						
18.1818181818	22.2222222222	17.6767676768	35.8585858586	59.5959595956	39.8989898989								
64.1414141414	60.1010101010	40.4040404040	37	11	8	10	56.0606060606						
12.1212121212	16.6666666667	15.1515151515	27.2727272727	71.2121212121	31.0101010102								
72.7272727273	28.7878787879	25	15	16	10	37.8787878788							
24.2424242424	22.7272727273	15.1515151515	39.3939393939	53.0303030303	37.0707070708								

- Codon usage.

CODON USAGE																		
CODONS	TTT	TTC	TTA	TTG	CTT	CTC	CTA	CTG	ATT	ATC	ATA	GTT	GTC	GTA	GTG	TCT	TCC	TCA
Aminoacids	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	L	I	I	I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S
gij29345410:3460-3996	3	5	2	2	3	0	0	7	3	3	7	1	2	6	6	1	0	
gij29345410:512111-512308	2	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	1		
gij29345410:512408-512758	1	3	2	5	2	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	0	4	0	2	0	
gij29345410:c1126784-1126596	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	
gij29345410:c1127066-1126806	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	3	4	4	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	
gij29345410:1581041-1581595	2	3	0	4	3	1	0	3	4	3	0	2	0	4	1	1	0	
gij29345410:2088036-2088290	1	4	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	4	0	4	0	

*\*Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.*

CODONS	TTT	TTC	TTA	TTG	CTT	CTC	CTA	CTG	ATT	ATC	ATA	GTT	GTC	GTA	GTG	TCT	TCC	TCA
AMINOACIDS	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	L	I	I	I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S
I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
P	P	P	T	T	T	T	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	Y
Y	H	H	Q	Q	N	N	K	K	D	D	E	D	D	E	D	E	E	E
E	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G

- Codon usage per thousand.

CODON USAGE PER THOUSAND																		
CODONS	TTT	TTC	TTA	TTG	CTT	CTC	CTA	CTG	ATT	ATC	ATA	GTT	GTC	GTA	GTG	TCT	TCC	TCA
Aminoacids	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	L	I	I	I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S
gij29345410:3460-3996	16.76	27.93	11.17	11.17	16.76	0.00	0.00	39.11	16.76	16.76	39.11	5.59	11.17	33.52				
gij29345410:512111-512308	30.30	0.00	15.15	15.15	15.15	15.15	0.00	15.15	15.15	15.15	0.00	30.30	0.00	15.15				
gij29345410:512408-512758	8.55	25.64	17.09	42.74	17.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.09	8.55	17.09	25.64	0.00	34.19				
gij29345410:c1126784-1126596	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.87	15.87	0.00	0.00	31.75	47.62	15.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	47.62				
gij29345410:c1127066-1126806	22.99	22.99	0.00	22.99	22.99	0.00	0.00	34.48	45.98	45.98	0.00	11.49	0.00	34.48				
gij29345410:1581041-1581595	10.81	16.22	0.00	21.62	16.22	5.41	0.00	16.22	21.62	16.22	0.00	10.81	0.00	21.62				
gij29345410:2088036-2088290	11.76	47.06	0.00	35.29	11.76	0.00	0.00	11.76	11.76	23.53	0.00	11.76	0.00	47.06				

*\*Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.*

CODONS	TTT	TTC	TTA	TTG	CTT	CTC	CTA	CTG	ATT	ATC	ATA	GTT	GTC	GTA	GTG	TCT	TCC	TCA
AMINOACIDS	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	L	I	I	I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S
I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
P	P	P	T	T	T	T	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	Y
Y	H	H	Q	Q	N	N	K	K	D	D	E	D	D	E	D	E	E	E
E	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G

- Relative Synonymous Codon Usage.

Relative Synonymous Codon Usage (RSCU)																		
CODONS	TTT	TTC	TTA	TTG	CTT	CTC	CTA	CTG	ATT	ATC	ATA	GTT	GTC	GTA	GTG	TCT	TCC	TCA
Aminoacids	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	L	I	I	I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S
gij29345410:3460-3996	0.75	1.25	0.86	0.86	1.29	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.69	0.69	1.62	0.27	0.53	1.60	1.60	0.86	0.00	
gij29345410:512111-512308	2.00	0.00	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	0.00	1.20	1.50	1.50	0.00	2.67	0.00	1.33	0.00	2.00	1.00	
gij29345410:512408-512758	0.50	1.50	1.33	3.33	1.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.20	0.60	1.20	1.71	0.00	2.29	0.00	3.00	0.00	
gij29345410:c1126784-1126596	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	3.00	2.25	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	1.00	3.00	0.00	
gij29345410:c1127066-1126806	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.71	1.71	0.00	0.00	2.57	1.50	1.50	0.00	1.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
gij29345410:1581041-1581595	0.80	1.20	0.00	2.18	1.64	0.55	0.00	1.64	1.71	1.29	0.00	1.14	0.00	2.29	0.57	1.00	0.00	
gij29345410:2088036-2088290	0.40	1.60	0.00	3.60	1.20	0.00	0.00	1.20	1.00	2.00	0.00	0.80	0.00	3.20	0.00	3.00	0.00	

*\*Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.*

CODONS	TTT	TTC	TTA	TTG	CTT	CTC	CTA	CTG	ATT	ATC	ATA	GTT	GTC	GTA	GTG	TCT	TCC	TCA
AMINOACIDS	F	F	L	L	L	L	L	L	I	I	I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S
I	V	V	V	V	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
P	P	P	T	T	T	T	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	Y	Y	Y
Y	H	H	Q	Q	N	N	K	K	D	D	E	D	D	E	D	E	E	E
E	C	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G

This section includes an output in tab-delimited format for each calculation. This output can be used to copy and paste into other applications.

## SECTION B - CAI calculation for FASTA sequences

### B1. CAI calculation

#### OVERVIEW

Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) for introduced sequences using one or two codon usage reference tables as a reference set.

#### INPUTS

This section requires four steps:

- 1) Introduction DNA or RNA sequences in FASTA format in a text box.

- 2) Insert one or two codon usage reference tables. These reference tables can be obtained from codon usage databases or created by the user.

**Insert codon usage table 1 (codon usage database format)**

UUU 17.4(586747)	UCU 15.0(507382)	UAU 12.1(408578)	UGU 10.5(352664)
UUC 20.4(687969)	UCC 17.7(596425)	UAC 15.3(516505)	UGC 12.6(426761)
UUA 7.5(254407)	UCA 12.1(409879)	UAA 1.1( 35822)	UGA 1.6( 55514)
UUG 12.8(432797)	UCG 4.5(150335)	UAG 0.8( 27554)	UGG 13.3(447152)
CUU 13.1(440882)	CCU 17.5(589809)	CAU 10.8(363555)	CGU 4.6(155426)
CUC 19.7(664417)	CCC 20.0(675558)	CAC 15.1(509431)	CGC 10.6(357380)
CUA 7.1(240672)	CCA 16.9(569871)	CAA 12.1(408697)	CGA 6.2(208816)

**Insert codon usage table 2 (codon usage database format)**

UUU (0.925)	UCU (0.967)	UAU (0.926)	UGU (0.929)
UUC (1)	UCC (1)	UAC (1)	UGC (1)
UUA (0.477)	UCA (0.621)	UAA (0.00)	UGA (0.00)
UUG (0.590)	UCG (0.777)	UAG (0.00)	UGG (0.00)
CUU (0.911)	CCU (0.930)	CAU (0.917)	CGU (0.881)
CUC (0.947)	CCC (1)	CAC (1)	CGC (0.910)
CUA (0.917)	CCA (0.859)	CAA (0.904)	CGA (0.723)

- 3) Choose the genetic code corresponding to the sequences introduced. Choosing an unsuitable genetic code may generate errors messages.

**Choose genetic code**

11: Eubacterial

1: Standard  
2: Vertebrate Mitochondrial  
3: Yeast Mitochondrial  
4: Mold, Protozoan, Coelenterate Mitochondrial and Mycoplasma/Spiroplasma  
5: Invertebrate Mitochondrial  
6: Ciliate Macronuclear and Dasycladacean  
9: Echinoderm Mitochondrial  
10: Alternative Ciliate Macronuclear  
11: Eubacterial  
12: Alternative Yeast  
13: Ascidian Mitochondrial  
14: Flatworm Mitochondrial  
15: Blepharisma Nuclear Code

4)

- 5) Click on the submit button.

CUC (0.947)	CCC (1)	CAC (1)	CGC (0.910)
CUA (0.917)	CCA (0.859)	CAA (0.904)	CGA (0.723)

**Choose genetic code**

11: Eubacterial

SUBMIT

## OUTPUTS

The first output in this section are gene parameters such as CAI (Sharp and Li 1987) (CAI-1 and CAI-2 correspond to adaptation to codon usage reference tables 1 and 2 respectively), the effective number of codons (Nc) (Wright



1990) or G+C percentage. Additionally there is an output in tab delimited format. This output can be used to copy and paste into other applications.

GENE'S PARAMETERS									
Name	length	CAI-1	CAI-2	%GC	%GC1	%GC2	%GC3	Nc	
gi 29345410:3460-3996	537	0.685	0.913	39.9	46.4	31.3	41.9	53.5	
gi 29345410:512111-512308	198	0.738	0.894	35.9	27.3	39.4	40.9	48.4	
gi 29345410:512408-512758	351	0.630	0.864	39.3	44.4	43.6	29.9	43.2	
gi 29345410:c1126784-1126596	189	0.734	0.892	36.5	38.1	34.9	36.5	38.3	
gi 29345410:c1127066-1126806	261	0.731	0.901	37.9	35.6	35.6	42.5	41.4	
gi 29345410:1581041-1581595	555	0.673	0.901	44.1	61.1	44.9	26.5	46.9	
gi 29345410:2088036-2088290	255	0.663	0.906	38.4	42.4	37.6	35.3	35.8	

*\*Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.*

Name	Length	CAI-1	CAI-2	%G+C	%G+C (1)	%G+C (2)	%G+C (3)	Nc
gi 29345410:3460-3996	537	0.685	0.913	39.9	46.4	31.3	41.9	53.5
gi 29345410:512111-512308	198	0.738	0.894	35.9	27.3	39.4	40.9	48.4
gi 29345410:512408-512758	351	0.630	0.864	39.3	44.4	43.6	29.9	43.2

This output provides a graphically visualization of the weight of each codon along a DNA sequence. The window size and length can be defined by the user.

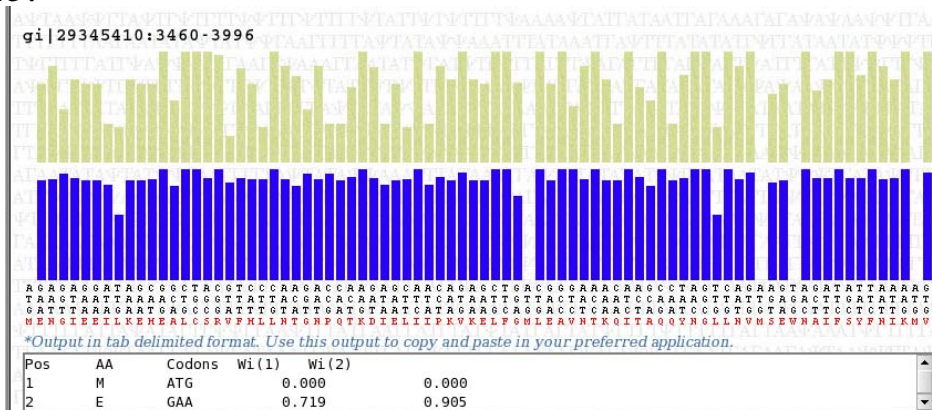
### DRAW SEQUENCES

Choose the Window size

Choose the Window step

DRAW

If the user has pasted two reference tables, the values for reference tables 1 and 2 are represented in yellow and blue bars, respectively. The values used to represent each figure are also included in a text box in tab-delimited format.



The graphical representation includes a table with the weight of each codon.

■ Codon weights 1

TTT (F)	0.853	TTC (F)	1.000	TTA (L)	0.189	TTG (L)	0.321
CTT (L)	0.327	CTC (L)	0.493	CTA (L)	0.179	CTG (L)	1.000
ATT (I)	0.755	ATC (I)	1.000	ATA (I)	0.353	ATT (V)	0.387
GTC (V)	0.514	GTA (V)	0.250	GTG (V)	1.000	TCT (S)	0.773
TCC (S)	0.908	TCA (S)	0.624	TCG (S)	0.229	AGT (S)	0.622
AGC (S)	1.000	CCT (F)	0.873	CCC (F)	1.000	CCA (P)	0.844
CCG (P)	0.351	ACT (T)	0.684	ACC (T)	1.000	ACA (T)	0.786
ACG (T)	0.320	GCT (A)	0.659	GCC (A)	1.000	GCA (A)	0.567
GCG (A)	0.267	TAT (Y)	0.791	TAC (Y)	1.000	CAT (H)	0.714
CAC (H)	1.000	CAA (Q)	0.353	CAG (Q)	1.000	AAT (N)	0.877
AAC (N)	1.000	AAA (K)	0.753	AAG (K)	1.000	GAT (D)	0.861
GAC (D)	1.000	GAA (E)	0.719	GAG (E)	1.000	TGT (C)	0.826
TGC (C)	1.000	CGT (R)	0.386	CGC (R)	0.889	CGA (R)	0.519
CGG (R)	0.971	AGA (R)	1.000	AGG (R)	1.000	GGT (G)	0.480
GGC (G)	1.000	GGA (G)	0.730	GGG (G)	0.737		

■ Codon weights 2

TTT (F)	0.925	TTC (F)	1.000	TTA (L)	0.477	TTG (L)	0.590
CTT (L)	0.911	CTC (L)	0.947	CTA (L)	0.917	CTG (L)	1.000
ATT (I)	0.922	ATC (I)	1.000	ATA (I)	0.861	ATT (V)	0.925
GTC (V)	1.000	GTA (V)	0.882	GTG (V)	0.974	TCT (S)	0.967
TCC (S)	1.000	TCA (S)	0.621	TCG (S)	0.777	AGT (S)	0.888
AGC (S)	0.926	CCT (F)	0.930	CCC (F)	1.000	CCA (P)	0.859
CCG (P)	0.964	ACT (T)	0.930	ACC (T)	1.000	ACA (T)	0.859
ACG (T)	0.954	GCT (A)	0.924	GCC (A)	1.000	GCA (A)	0.858
GCG (A)	0.957	TAT (Y)	0.926	TAC (Y)	1.000	CAT (H)	0.917
CAC (H)	1.000	CAA (Q)	0.904	CAG (Q)	1.000	AAT (N)	0.915
AAC (N)	1.000	AAA (K)	0.901	AAG (K)	1.000	GAT (D)	0.923
GAC (D)	1.000	GAA (E)	0.905	GAG (E)	1.000	TGT (C)	0.929
TGC (C)	1.000	CGT (R)	0.881	CGC (R)	0.910	CGA (R)	0.723
CGG (R)	1.000	AGA (R)	0.583	AGG (R)	0.783	GGT (G)	0.965
GGC (G)	1.000	GGA (G)	0.767	GGG (G)	0.982		

Another option is the calculation of the upper tolerance limit for the sequences introduced at 90%, 95% or 99% levels of confidence (see section B2 - calculation of expected CAI).

**CALCULATES UPPER CONFIDENCE LIMIT**

Confidence intervals for reference table 1	95% ▾
Confidence intervals for reference table 2	95% ▾

## B2. Expected CAI

## OVERVIEW

Use this option to calculate an expected CAI value determined by randomly generating 500 sequences with the same G+C content and amino acid composition as the query sequence.

**E-CAI (EXPECTED CAI CALCULATION)**

The E-CAI server is a web-application and an executable program that calculates the expected value of the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) for a set of query sequences by generating random sequences with similar G+C content and amino acid composition to the input. This expected CAI therefore provides a direct threshold value for discerning whether the differences in the CAI value are statistically significant and arise from the codon preferences or whether they are merely artifacts that arise from internal biases in the G+C composition and/or amino acid composition of the query sequences.

[Click here to see an example](#) RETURN TO CAIcal

**Insert your sequences in FASTA format**

**Insert codon usage table (codon usage database format)**

## INPUTS

- 1) Introduce DNA or RNA sequences in FASTA format in the text box. These sequences will be used in this section as a reference to create 500 random sequences.

**Insert your sequences in FASTA format**

```
>SeqA
ATGCAGAACGACGCCGCGAATTTGTGGACTTATACGTGCCTCGGAAGTGCTCAGCCTCTAATCGCATTATAGCCGCTAAGGACCACGCTAGCATC
>SeqB
ATGCAGAAATGACGACGGCGAGTTTGTGGACTATATGTGCCACGGAAGTGCTCGGCCTCAATAGGATTATTGCCGAAAAGACCATGCCTCTATC
>SeqC
ATGCAAAACGATGCCGGCGAGTTTGTGGACCTCTATGTGCCTAGAAAAATGTTCCGGCTTCCAATCGTATCATTGGTGCCAAGGATCATGCCAGCATC
>SeqD
ATGGAGAATGATGCAGGGGAGAACGTCGATCTGTATGTTCCCGCAAGTGTTCCGCCTCTAATCGTATTATTACGCAAAAGACCACGCAAGTGTA
>SeqE
ATGCAGAACGATGCAGGGCAGACTGTTGAGCTGTATGTACCGCGCAAGTGACGCTCTTCAAATCGCATTATCGGGCCAAAAGACCACGCCAGCGTA
>SeqF
ATGCAGAACGCCAGTGGACGAATTGTAGATTGTACGTGCCACGTAAGTGCTCCGTCACTAATCGATTAATAAGTGCTAAGGACCACGCGTCTGTT
>SeqG
ATGGAGAATGACAAAGGCGAGCTGGTCGAGCTATATGTGCCTAGAAAAATGCTCTGCTACAAATCGTATTATCAAAGCCGATGATCAGCGCTCCGCT
>SeqH
```

- 2) Insert the codon usage reference tables. These reference tables can be obtained from codon usage databases or created by the user.



3) Choose the upper confidence limit at 90%, 95% or 99%, the Markov or Poisson Method and the appropriate genetic code and click on the accept button.

## OUTPUTS

There are two outputs in this section. The first of these is related to the parameters used to create random sequences and the second output is the expected CAI calculated.

1) Reference parameters from the introduced sequences, i.e. G+C percentage and amino acid composition

REFERENCE PARAMETERS

G+C content (%)

%GC	%GC1s	%GC2s	%GC3s
52.2	57.6	41.6	58.3

Amino acid content (%)

M	2.17 +/- 0.27	Q	4.67 +/- 0.49	N	5.25 +/- 0.34	D	8.04 +/- 0.39	A	9.20 +/- 0.36
G	8.30 +/- 0.41	E	5.07 +/- 0.36	F	2.13 +/- 0.41	V	7.59 +/- 0.35	L	6.40 +/- 0.57
Y	3.16 +/- 0.42	P	2.13 +/- 0.31	R	7.43 +/- 0.31	K	6.42 +/- 0.27	C	2.10 +/- 0.22
S	7.45 +/- 0.35	I	6.52 +/- 0.52	H	1.57 +/- 0.15	T	3.81 +/- 0.47	W	0.58 +/- 0.11

Number of samples = 500



2) Statistical parameters: chi-square goodness-of-fit test and Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. A chi-square test is conducted to compare the goodness-of-fit between the amino acid frequencies or G+C content of each sequence of the query and their mean values. To check whether the CAI of the randomly generated sequences follow a normal distribution, a Kolmogorov-Smirnov test is made.

```

STATISTICAL TESTS help
Kolmogorov-Smirnov test for the expected CAI (alpha = 0.05): 0.030 < Critical Value( 0.061) [NORMALITY]
Chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit test for AA (alpha = 0.05): the 100.0% of sequences fit the AA distribution
Chi-Square Goodness-of-Fit test for G+C (alpha = 0.05): the 92.9% of sequences fit the G+C distribution

```

3) The figure below is an example of the calculated expected CAI value. The value of the expected CAI at a 95% level of confidence that contain 95% of population is 0.767. Also included is the CAI average from the random sequences.

```

EXPECTED CAI at 95% confident that contain 95% of population
Average = 0.702
Upper Limit (p<0.05) = 0.767

```

## SECTION C - CAI calculation for protein alignment

### C1. Using one reference table

#### OVERVIEW

Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) from protein alignment translated to DNA using a unique codon usage table as reference.

**PROTEIN ALIGNMENT USING ONE REFERENCE SET**

Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) from protein alignment that has been translated to a DNA alignment using a unique codon usage table as reference.

[Click here to see an example](#) HOME

**Insert your protein alignment**

**Insert your sequences in FASTA format**

#### INPUTS

- 1) Introduce the protein alignment in the text box.

**Insert your proteins alignment**

```
SeqA      MQNDAGEFVDLYVPRKCSASNRIIAAKDHASIQMNVAEVDRTTGRFN-GQFKTYGICGAI
SeqB      MQNDAGEFVDLYVPRKCSASNRIIAAKDHASIQMNVAEVDRTTGRFN-GQFKTYGICGAI
SeqC      MQNDAGEFVDLYVPRKCSASNRIIAAKDHASIQMNVAEVDKVTGRFN-GQFKTYAICGAI
SeqD      MENDAGENVDLYVPRKCSASNRIIAKDHASVQLSIVDVPETGRQT-DGSKTYAICGEI
SeqE      MQNDAGQTVELYVPRKCSASNRIIGPKDHASVQIDFVDVPETGRMIPGKSTRYAICGAI
SeqF      MQNASGRIVDLYVPRKCSVTNRIISAKDHASVQLNIAKVDPDTGRMVPGEHLTVALTSGI
SeqG      MENDKGQLVELYVPRKCSATNRIIKADDHASVQINVAKVD-EEGRAIPGEYITYALSGYV
SeqH      MENDKGQLVELYVPRKCSATNRIIKADDHASVQINVAKVD-EEGRAIPGEYITYALSGYV
SeqI      MENDKGQLVELYVPRKCSATNRIIKADDHASVQISIAKVD-EDGRAIAGENITYALSGYV
SeqJ      MENDKGQLVELYVPRKCSATNRIIKADDHASVQINIAKVD-ENGHAPVGEYITYALSGYV
SeqK      MENEAGQLVDLYVPRKCSATNRIIQAKDHASVQINCAVD-AEGRQIPGEKTTYAISGFV
SeqL      MENDAGQVTELYIPRKCSATNRMITSKDHASVQLNIGHLD-ANG-LYTQFTTFALCGFV
SeqM      MQNEEGQVTELYIPRKCSATNRLITSKDHASVQLNIGHLD-ANG-LYTQFTTFALCGFV
SeqN      --NIEGKIVDLYIPRKCSATKRILPSKEHGAVQIDVALVD-DEG-VATGQVVSFAISGAV
SeqA      RRMGESDDSI LRLAKAD-----GIVSKNF-----
```

- 2) Insert the codon usage reference tables. These reference tables can be obtained from codon usage databases or created by the user.

**Insert your sequences in FASTA format**

```

>SeqA
ATGCAGAACGACGCCGGCGAATTTGTGGACTTATACGTGCCCTCGGAAGTGCTCAGCCTCTAATCGCATTATAGCCGCTAAGGACCACGCTAGCATC
>SeqB
ATGCAGAATGACGACGGCGAGTTTGTGGATCTATATGTGCCACGGAAGTGCTCGGCCTCCAATAGGATTATTGCCGCAAAAGACCATGCCTCTATC
>SeqC
ATGCAAAACGATGCCGGCGAGTTTGTGGACCTCTATGTGCTAGAAAATGTTCCGGCTCCAATCGTATCATTGGTGCCAAGGATCATGCCAGCATC
>SeqD
ATGGAGAATGATGACGGGGGAGAACGTCGATCTGTATGTTCCCGCAAGTGTTCCGCCTCTAATCGTATTATTACGCAAAAGACCACGCAAGTGTA
>SeqE
ATGCAGAACGATGACGGGCAGACTGTTGAGCTGTATGTACCGCGCAAGTGACGCTCTTCAAATCGCATCATCGGGCCAAAAGACCACGCCAGCGTA
>SeqF
ATGCAGAACGCCAGTGGACGAATTGTAGATTTGTACGTGCCACGTAAGTGCTCCGTCACTAATCGATTAATAAGTGCTAAGGACCACGCGTCTGTT
>SeqG
ATGGAGAATGACAAAGGGCAGCTGGTCGAGCTATATGTGCTAGAAAATGCTCTGCTACAAATCGTATTATCAAAGCCGATGATCACGCGTCCGTG
>SeqH

```

- 3) Insert the codon usage reference table. These reference tables can be obtained from codon usage database or created by the user.

**Insert codon usage table (codon usage database format)**

UUU 17.4(586747)	UCU 15.0(507382)	UAU 12.1(408578)	UGU 10.5(352664)
UUC 20.4(687969)	UCC 17.7(596425)	UAC 15.3(516505)	UGC 12.6(426761)
UUA 7.5(254407)	UCA 12.1(409879)	UAA 1.1( 35822)	UGA 1.6( 55514)
UUG 12.8(432797)	UCG 4.5(150335)	UAG 0.8( 27554)	UGG 13.3(447152)
CUU 13.1(440882)	CCU 17.5(589809)	CAU 10.8(363555)	CGU 4.6(155426)
CUC 19.7(664417)	CCC 20.0(675558)	CAC 15.1(509431)	CGC 10.6(357380)
CUA 7.1(240672)	CCA 16.9(569871)	CAA 12.1(408697)	CGA 6.2(208816)

- 4) Choose the genetic code corresponding to the sequences introduced. Choosing an unsuitable genetic code may generate error messages.

**\*Choose genetic code**

11: Eubacterial

1: Standard  
2: Vertebrate Mitochondrial  
3: Yeast Mitochondrial  
4: Mold, Protozoan, Coelenterate Mitochondrial and Mycoplasma/Spiroplasma  
5: Invertebrate Mitochondrial  
6: Ciliate Macronuclear and Dasycladacean  
9: Echinoderm Mitochondrial  
10: Alternative Ciliate Macronuclear  
11: Eubacterial  
12: Alternative Yeast  
13: Ascidian Mitochondrial  
14: Flatworm Mitochondrial  
15: Rlenharisma Nuclear Code

Done

- 5) Click on the accept button.

**\*Choose genetic code**

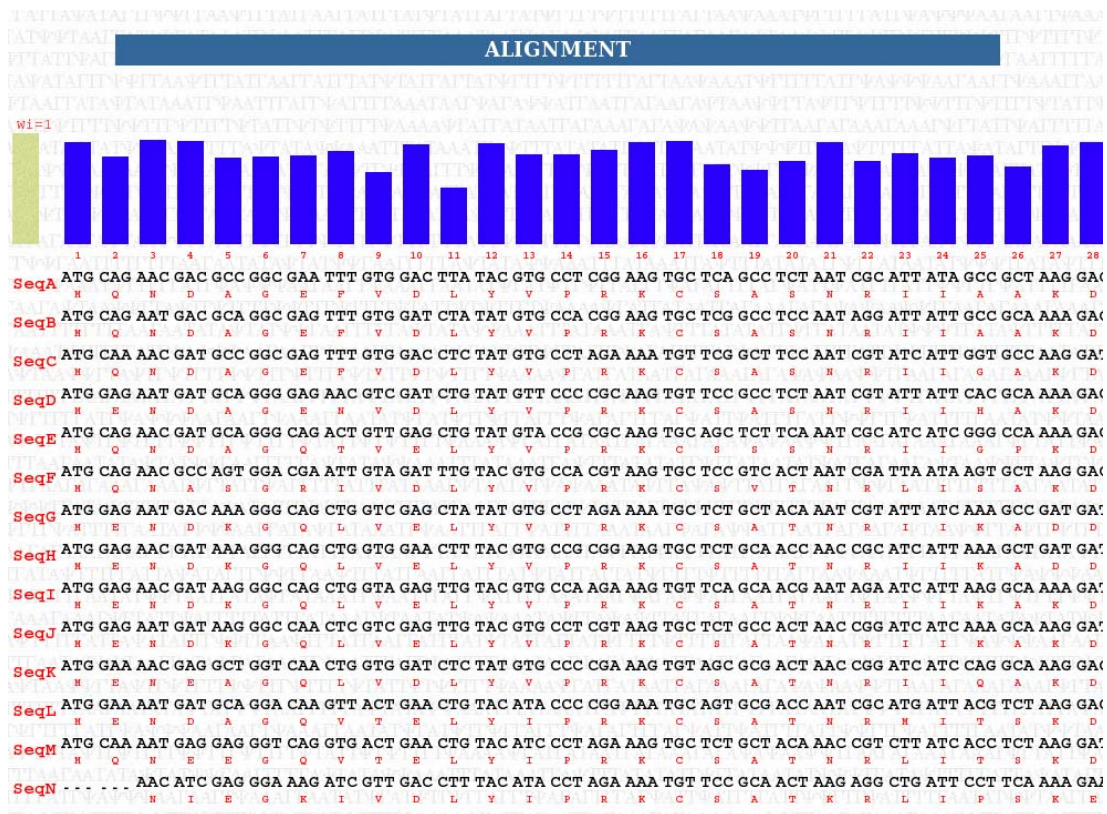
11: Eubacterial

ACCEPT

## OUTPUTS

The main output in this section is the protein alignment translated to DNA with the mean weight of codons along the

alignment.



We have included two tab-delimited formats, the first one has the complete result and the second one has just the mean weight of the codons and their position.

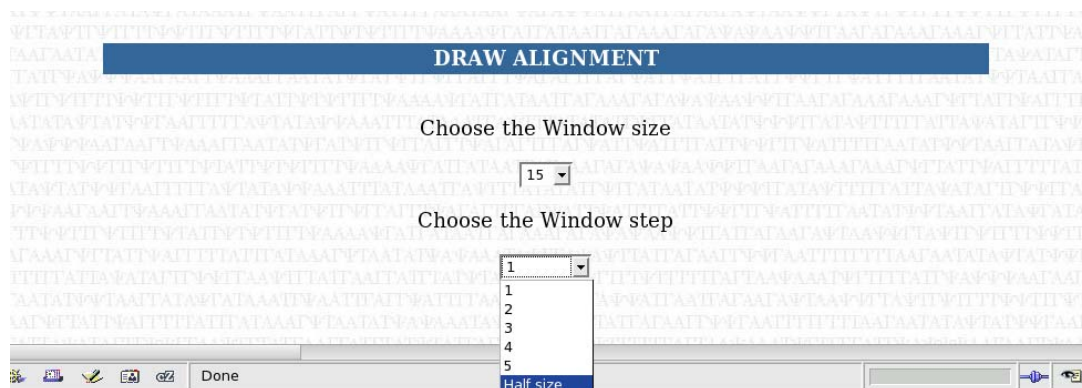
\*(Alignment) Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.

Weights	0.93	0.80	0.95	0.93	0.79	0.79	0.81	0.85	0.66	0.90	0.51	0.91	0.81
	0.82	0.85	0.93	0.94	0.72	0.68	0.92	0.75	0.82	0.79	0.81	0.70	0.89
	0.92	0.94	0.77	0.78	0.60	0.91	0.89	0.88	0.66	0.74	0.92	0.59	0.94

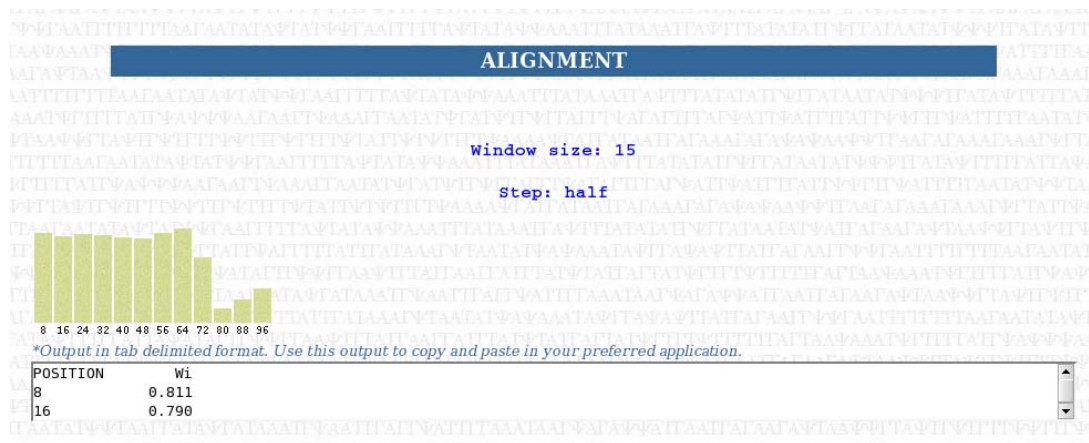
\*(Position weights) Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.

POSITION	Wi
1	0.929
2	0.796

The weight of the codons along the alignment can also be visualized by changing the step and the window size.







Another output are the gene parameters in a table or in tab-delimited format for copying and pasting them into a spreadsheet program.

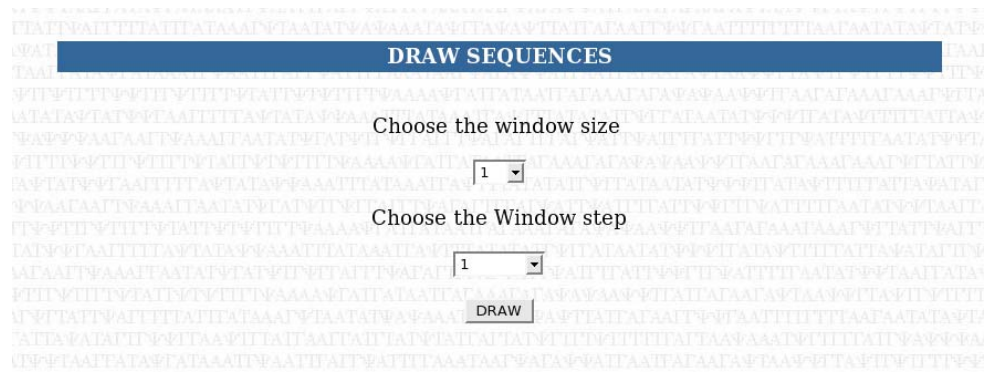
**GENES' PARAMETERS**

Name	length	CAI	%GC	%GC1	%GC2	%GC3	Nc
SeqA	249	0.815	52.6	50.6	42.2	65.1	53.6
SeqB	249	0.769	50.6	51.8	42.2	57.8	57.4
SeqC	249	0.785	50.6	48.2	39.8	63.9	52.8
SeqD	249	0.797	49.4	53.0	39.8	55.4	44.9
SeqE	264	0.773	54.9	59.1	43.2	62.5	50.3
SeqF	312	0.703	53.5	65.4	49.0	46.2	57.8
SeqG	261	0.789	52.5	56.3	39.1	62.1	61.0
SeqH	261	0.789	54.4	58.6	39.1	65.5	57.5
SeqI	261	0.762	50.2	54.0	40.2	56.3	56.7
SeqJ	261	0.721	51.7	57.5	37.9	59.8	61.0
SeqK	261	0.752	53.6	56.3	42.5	62.1	61.0
SeqL	246	0.801	53.7	59.8	40.2	61.0	44.8
SeqM	255	0.773	52.2	58.8	40.0	57.6	59.3
SeqN	240	0.798	50.4	55.0	38.8	57.5	46.5

\*Output in tab delimited format. Use this output to copy and paste in your preferred application.

Name	Length	CAI	%GC	%GC1	%GC2	%GC3	Nc
SeqA	249	0.815	52.6	50.6	42.2	65.1	53.6
SeqB	249	0.769	50.6	51.8	42.2	57.8	57.4
SeqC	249	0.785	50.6	48.2	39.8	63.9	52.8
SeqD	249	0.797	49.4	53.0	39.8	55.4	44.9
SeqE	264	0.773	54.9	59.1	43.2	62.5	50.3
SeqF	312	0.703	53.5	65.4	49.0	46.2	57.8
SeqG	261	0.789	52.5	56.3	39.1	62.1	61.0

The weight of codons along the sequences can be visualized simply by selecting the window size and the step.



## C2. Using one reference for each sequence

### OVERVIEW

Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) from protein alignment translated to DNA using a codon usage table as a reference for each sequence.

**PROTEIN ALIGNMENT USING MULTIPLE REFERENCE SETS**

Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) from protein alignment that has been translated to a DNA alignment using one codon usage table as a reference for each sequence.

[Click here to see an example](#) HOME

**Insert your protein alignment**

**Insert your sequences in FASTA format**

### INPUTS

This section requires the same inputs as in section C1 but requires just one codon usage table for each sequence introduced. See "Input Requirements" from this tutorial.

**Insert codon usage table (One sequence - one codon usage table)**

Use this option to calculate the Codon Adaptation Index (CAI) from protein alignment that has been translated to a DNA alignment using one codon usage table as a reference for each sequence.

[Click here to see an example](#) HOME

**Insert your protein alignment**

**Insert your sequences in FASTA format**

## Automation of some of the calculations

---

To allow the calculation of CAI values for hundreds or thousands of sequences on a whole-genome scale and generate an expected value, users of the CAIcal server can download a Perl script that automatically performs these calculations. In addition, several parameters fixed in the CAIcal server (like the number and length of randomly generated sequences) can be specified in this script version.

### How to run it

From the main page of the CAIcal/E-CAI server download the Perl script after introducing your name, institution and e-mail address.

Uncompress the file. In a Linux operative system you can do it by typing: *(Replace \* for the appropriate version)*

```
$ tar -xvf CAIcal_ECAI_v*.tar.gz
```

```
$ gunzip CAIcal_ECAI_v*.gz
```

This will generate a directory called CAIcal\_v\*. Enter to this directory:

```
$ cd CAIcal_ECAI_v*
```

To see how to run CAIcal/E-CAI execute the following command:

```
$ perl CAIcal_ECAI_v*.pl -help
```

To run an example, execute the following command:

```
$ perl CAIcal_ECAI_v*.pl
```

You will need to install a Perl interpret to execute the script in a Windows operative system.

### Parameters to run CAIcal/E-CAI



The script needs several parameters to be executed. These parameters are specified when executing the script:

```
$ perl CAIcal_ECAI_v -e [cai|expected|cai_and_expected] -f
[file_name] -h [file_name] -g [1|4|11] -c [90|95|99] -p
[90|95|99] -o1 [file_name] -o2 [file_name] -o3 [file_name] -n
[number] -l [number] -m [markov/poisson]
```

- PROGRAM TO EXECUTE: -e cai|expected|cai\_and\_expected <default: cai\_and\_expected>. The option 'cai' calculates only the CAIs of the query sequences. The 'expected' option calculates only an expected CAI and the 'cai\_and\_expected' option calculates both.
- INPUT1 DATA FILE: -f file\_name <default: example.ffn>. The DNA sequences in the input file have to be in fasta format.
- INPUT2 HOST FILE: -h file\_name <default: human>. This file has to contain a Codon usage reference table in the Codon Usage Database format.
- GENETIC CODE: -g 1|2|3|4|5|6|9|10|11|12|13|14|15 <default: 1>. This option allows choosing the Standard (1), Eubacteria (11), Mycoplasma (4) and other genetic codes.
- CONFIDENCE LEVEL: -c 90|95|99 <default: 95>.
- PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION OR COVERAGE: -p 90|95|99 <default: 95>.
- OUTPUT1 (CAI: -o1 file\_name <default: cai>
- OUTPUT2 (CAI random sequences): -o2 file\_name <default: random\_sequences\_and\_cai>
- OUTPUT3(EXPECTED CAI: -o3 file\_name <default: expected>
- METHOD: -m markov/poisson <default: markov>
- NUMBER OF RANDOMLY GENERATED SEQUENCES: -n number <default: 1000>
- LENGTH OF RANDOMLY GENERATED SEQUENCES (IN CODONS): -l number <default: 300 (100 in Poisson Method)>
- HELP -help.

## References

---

- Nakamura, Y., Gojobori, T. and Ikemura, T. Codon usage tabulated from the international DNA sequence databases: status for the year 2000. *Nucl. Acids Res.* 28, 292.
- Sharp, P.M. and Li, W. (1987) The Codon adaptation index -a measure of directional synonymous codon usage bias and its potential applications. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 15:1281-1295.
- Wright, F. (1990) The 'effective number of codons' used in a gene. *Gene*, 87:23-29.