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# **pyhmmmer**

***Release 0.2.0***

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*Cython bindings and Python interface to [HMMER3](#).*



## SETUP

Run `pip install pyhmmmer` in a shell to download the latest release and all its dependencies from PyPi, or have a look at the [Installation page](#) to find other ways to install `pyhmmmer`.





## 2.1 Installation

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**Note:** Wheels are provided for Linux x86-64 platforms, but other machines will have to build the wheel from the source distribution. Building `pyhmmer` involves compiling HMMER3 and Easel, which requires a C compiler to be available.

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### 2.1.1 PyPi

`pyhmmer` is hosted on GitHub, but the easiest way to install it is to download the latest release from its [PyPi repository](#). It will install all dependencies then install `pyhmmer` either from a wheel if one is available, or from source after compiling the Cython code :

```
$ pip install --user pyhmmer
```

### 2.1.2 EMBL Package Registry

You can also install `manylinux` wheels built from the latest commit that passed the unit tests. Those bleeding-edge releases are available in the GitLab Package Registry hosted on the EMBL git server. Just instruct `pip` to use an extra index URL as follow:

```
$ pip install --user pyhmmer --extra-index-url https://git.embl.de/api/v4/projects/  
↪3638/packages/pypi/simple
```

### 2.1.3 GitHub + pip

If, for any reason, you prefer to download the library from GitHub, you can clone the repository and install the repository by running (with the admin rights):

```
$ pip install --user https://github.com/althonos/pyhmmer/archive/master.zip
```

**Caution:** Keep in mind this will install always try to install the latest commit, which may not even build, so consider using a versioned release instead.

## 2.1.4 GitHub + setuptools

If you do not want to use `pip`, you can still clone the repository and run the `setup.py` file manually, although you will need to install the build dependencies (mainly [Cython](#)):

```
$ git clone --recursive https://github.com/althonos/pyhmmer
$ cd pyhmmer
$ python setup.py build
# python setup.py install
```

**Danger:** Installing packages without `pip` is strongly discouraged, as they can only be uninstalled manually, and may damage your system.

## 2.2 Examples

### 2.2.1 Active Site Analysis

This example is adapted from the method used by [AntiSMASH](#) to annotate biosynthetic gene clusters. AntiSMASH uses profile HMMs to annotate enzymatic domains in protein sequences. By matching the amino acids in the alignment, it can then predict the product specificity of the enzyme.

In this notebook, we show how to reproduce this kind of analysis, using a PKS I Acyltransferase domain built by the AntiSMASH authors (the HMM in HMMER2 format can be downloaded from [their git repository](#)).

---

#### References

- Del Vecchio, F., H. Petkovic, S. G. Kendrew, L. Low, B. Wilkinson, R. Lill, J. Cortes, B. A. Rudd, J. Staunton, and P. F. Leadlay. 2003. \*Active-site residue, domain and module swaps in modular polyketide synthases.\* J Ind. Microbiol Biotechnol 30:489-494.
- Medema MH, Blin K, Cimermancic P, de Jager V, Zakrzewski P, Fischbach MA, Weber T, Takano E, Breitling R. \*antiSMASH: rapid identification, annotation and analysis of secondary metabolite biosynthesis gene clusters in bacterial and fungal genome sequences.\* Nucleic Acids Res. 2011 Jul:W339-46.

```
[1]: import pyhmmer
     pyhmmer.__version__
```

```
[1]: '0.2.0'
```

#### Loading the HMM

Loading a HMMER profile is done with the `pyhmmer.plan7.HMMFile` class, which provides an iterator over the HMMs in the file. Since we only use a single HMM, we can simply use `next` to get the first (and only) `pyhmmer.plan7.HMM`.

```
[2]: with pyhmmer.plan7.HMMFile("data/hmms/txt/PKSI-AT.hmm") as hmm_file:
     hm = next(hmm_file)
```

## Building digitized sequences

Easel provides the code necessary to load sequences from files in common biological formats, such as GenBank or FASTA. These utilities are wrapped by the `pyhmmmer.easel.SequenceFile`, which provides an iterator over the sequences in the file. Note that `SequenceFile` tries to guess the format by default, but you can force a particular format with the `format` keyword argument.

```
[3]: with pyhmmmer.easel.SequenceFile("data/seqs/PKSI.faa") as seq_file:
      sequences = [ seq.digitize(hmm.alphabet) for seq in seq_file ]
```

### Note

The C interface of Easel allows storing a sequence in two different modes: in *text* mode, where the sequence letters are represented as individual characters (e.g. “A” or “Y”), and *digital* mode, where sequence letters are encoded as digits. To make Python programs clearer, and to allow static typecheck of the storage mode, we provide two separate classes, `TextSequence` and `DigitalSequence`, that represent a sequence stored in either of these modes.

`SequenceFile` yields sequences in text mode, but HMMER expects sequences in digital mode, so we must digitize them. This requires the sequence alphabet to be known, but we can just use the `Alphabet` instance stored in the `alphabet` attribute of `hmm`.

## Running a search pipeline

With the sequences and the HMM ready, we can finally run the search pipeline: it has to be initialized with an `Alphabet` instance, so that the Plan7 background model can be configured accordingly. Then, we run the pipeline in search mode, providing it one HMM, and several sequences. This method returns a `TopHits` instance that is already sorted and thresholded.

```
[4]: pipeline = pyhmmmer.plan7.Pipeline(hmm.alphabet)
      hits = pipeline.search_hmm(hmm, sequences)
```

## Rendering the alignments

Domain instances store all the required information to report results in their `alignment` attribute. We can show the alignment between a HMM and a sequence like `hmmsearch` would as follow (using the first domain of the first hit as an example):

```
[5]: ali = hits[0].domains[0].alignment

print(" "*3, ali.target_name.decode())
print("{:3}".format(ali.hmm_from), ali.hmm_sequence, "{:3}".format(ali.hmm_to))
print(" "*3, ali.identity_sequence)
print("{:3}".format(ali.target_from), ali.target_sequence, "{:3}".format(ali.target_
→to))
print(" "*3, ali.hmm_name.decode())

      sp|Q9ZGI5|PIKA1_STRVZ
      1_
→1FpGQGGSQyaGMGreLYetePVFRqalDrCaaaLrphLgfsLlevLfgdegqeeaaasLdqTryaQPALFAvEYALArLWrSWGvePdAVlGHSvGEY
→lpggGaMlaVraseeevrelLapyggrlsiAAvNGPrsvVvSGdaeaieallaeLeaqGirarrLkVsHAFHSplMepmldeleevlagitpraPriP
→308
      +FpGQG+Q+aGMG eL++++ VF++a+ +CaaLp++++sL +v ++ +g      a+ L+++++QP+ FAv+++LAR_
→W+  Gv+P+AV+GHS+GE++AA+vAG+lSL+DA+r+V  R++ ++a l+g+G+Ml+ ++se+ v e+La+++ +ls+AAvNGP_
→++VvSGd+ +ie+l++++ea G+rar ++V++A+HS+++e +_el+evlag++p+aPr+P++S++ G+w+tt+
→+ld++YW+r+lR+ V Fa+++etL+ + G+t+F+Ev++hvpLt ++ t      + la+Lrr+ (continues on next page)
```

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```

635  VFPGQGTQWAGMGAELLDSSAVFAAAMAECEAALSPYVDWSLEAVVRQAPG-----
→ APTLERVDVVQPVTFAVMVSLARVWQHGVTPQAVVGHSQGEIAAAYVAGALSLDDAARVVTLSKSIAAhLAGKGMLSLALSEDAVLERLAGFD-
→ GLSVAAVNGPTATVVSQDPVQIEELARACEADGVRARVIPVDYASHSRQVEIIESLAEVLAGLSPQAPRVFFSTLEGAWITE-
→ PVLDDGGYWYRNLRRRVGFAPAVETLATDEGFTHFVEVSAHPVLTMALPGTV-----TGLATLRRD 925
    PKS-AT.tcoffee

```

You may also want to see where the domains are located in the input sequence; using the [DNA feature viewer](#) developed by the [Edinburgh Genome Foundry](#), we can build a summary graph aligning the protein sequences to the same reference axis:

```

[6]: from dna_features_viewer import GraphicFeature, GraphicRecord
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# create an index so we can retrieve a Sequence from its name
seq_index = { seq.name:seq for seq in sequences }

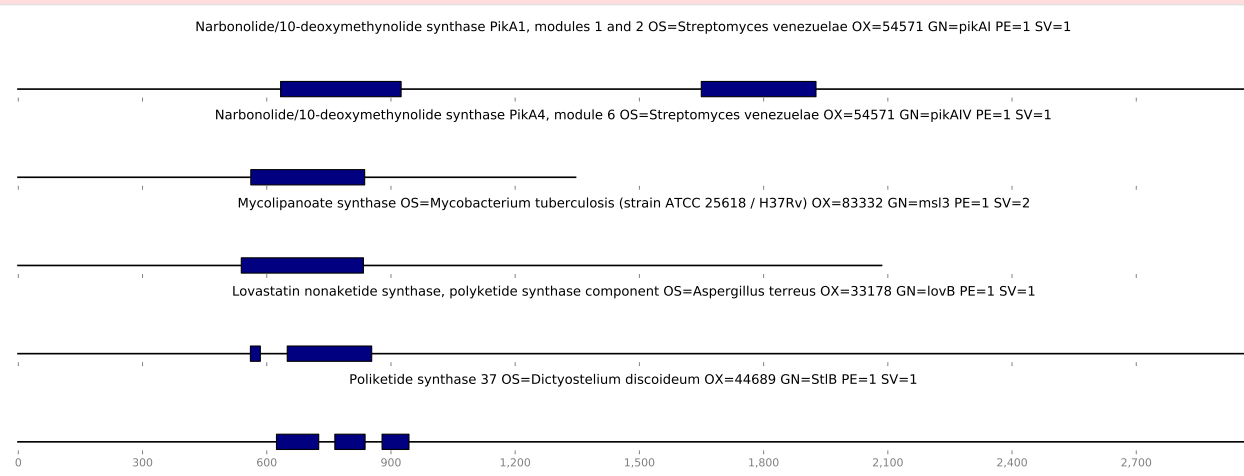
fig, axes = plt.subplots(nrows=len(hits), figsize=(16, 6), sharex=True)
for ax, hit in zip(axes, hits):
    # add one feature per domain
    features = [
        GraphicFeature(start=d.alignment.target_from-1, end=d.alignment.target_to)
        for d in hit.domains
    ]
    length = len(seq_index[hit.name])
    desc = seq_index[hit.name].description.decode()

    # render the feature records
    record = GraphicRecord(sequence_length=length, features=features)
    record.plot(ax=ax)
    ax.set_title(desc)

# make sure everything fits in the final graph!
fig.tight_layout()

/home/docs/checkouts/readthedocs.org/user_builds/pyhmmer/envs/v0.2.0/lib/python3.7/
→ site-packages/traitlets/traitlets.py:3036: FutureWarning: --rc={'figure.dpi': 96}
→ for dict-traits is deprecated in traitlets 5.0. You can pass --rc <key=value> ...
→ multiple times to add items to a dict.
FutureWarning,

```

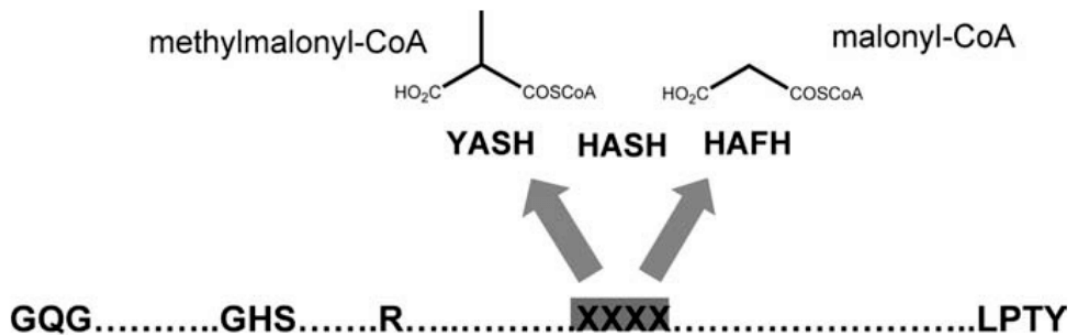


## Checking individual positions for catalytic activity

First let's define a function to iterate over an alignment; this will come in handy later. This function yields the position in the alignment (using the HMM coordinates) and the aligned amino acid, skipping over gaps in the HMM sequence.

```
[7]: def iter_target_match(alignment):
    position = alignment.hmm_from
    for hmm_letter, amino_acid in zip(alignment.hmm_sequence, alignment.target_
    →sequence):
        if hmm_letter != ".":
            yield position, amino_acid
            position += 1
```

Now, for the final step, we want to check for the specificity of the enzyme domains; Del Vecchio *et al.* have identified two amino acids in the acyltransferase domain that once muted will decide of the enzyme specificity for either malonyl-CoA or methylmalonyl-CoA:



For this, we need to check the alignment produced by HMMER, and verify the residues of the catalytic site correspond to the ones expected by the authors. We use the function we defined previously, first to check the core amino acids are not muted, and then to check the specificity of the two remaining residues.

```
[8]: POSITIONS = [ 93, 94, 95, 120, 196, 198]
    EXPECTED = ['G', 'H', 'S', 'R', 'A', 'H']
    SPECIFICITY = [195, 197]

    for hit in hits:
        print("\nIn sequence {!r}: ".format(hit.name.decode()))
        for domain in hit.domains:
            ali = domain.alignment
            aligned = dict(iter_target_match(ali))

            print("- Found PKSII-AT domain at positions {:4} to {:4}".format(ali.target_
            →from, ali.target_to))
            try:
                signature = [ aligned[x] for x in POSITIONS ]
                spec = [ aligned[x] for x in SPECIFICITY ]
            except KeyError:
                print(" -> Domain likely too short")
                continue
            if signature != EXPECTED:
                print(" -> Substrate specificity unknown")
            elif spec == ["H", "F"]:
                print(" -> Malonyl-CoA specific")
```

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```

elif spec == ["Y", "S"]:
    print("  -> Methylmalonyl-CoA specific")
else:
    print("  -> Neither malonyl-CoA nor methylmalonyl-CoA specific")

```

```

In sequence 'sp|Q9ZGI5|PIKA1_STRVZ':
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 635 to 925
  -> Methylmalonyl-CoA specific
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 1651 to 1927
  -> Methylmalonyl-CoA specific
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 3181 to 3475
  -> Malonyl-CoA specific

In sequence 'sp|Q9ZGI2|PIKA4_STRVZ':
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 563 to 837
  -> Methylmalonyl-CoA specific

In sequence 'sp|A0A089QRB9|MSL3_MYCTU':
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 540 to 834
  -> Neither malonyl-CoA nor methylmalonyl-CoA specific

In sequence 'sp|Q9Y8A5|LOVB_ASPTE':
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 562 to 585
  -> Domain likely too short
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 651 to 854
  -> Neither malonyl-CoA nor methylmalonyl-CoA specific

In sequence 'sp|Q54FI3|STLB_DICDI':
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 625 to 726
  -> Domain likely too short
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 766 to 838
  -> Domain likely too short
- Found PKSI-AT domain at positions 880 to 944
  -> Domain likely too short

```

## 2.3 API Reference

### 2.3.1 Errors

Common errors and status codes for the `easel` and `hmmer` modules.

**exception** `pyhmmer.errors.AllocationError` (*MemoryError*)  
 A memory error that is caused by an unsuccessful allocation.

**exception** `pyhmmer.errors.UnexpectedError` (*RuntimeError*)  
 An unexpected error that happened in the C code.

As a user of this library, you should never see this exception being raised. If you do, please open an issue with steps to reproduce on the [bug tracker](#), so that proper error handling can be added to the relevant part of the bindings.

**exception** `pyhmmer.errors.EaselError` (*RuntimeError*)  
 An error that was raised from the Easel code.

## 2.3.2 Easel

High-level interface to the Easel C library.

Easel is a library developed by the [Eddy/Rivas Lab](#) to facilitate the development of biological software in C. It is used by [HMMER](#) and [Infernal](#).

### Alphabet

**class** `pyhmmer.easel.Alphabet`

A biological alphabet, including additional marker symbols.

This type is used to share an alphabet to several objects in the `easel` and `plan7` modules. Reference counting helps sharing the same instance everywhere, instead of reallocating memory every time an alphabet is needed.

Use the factory class methods to obtain a default *Alphabet* for one of the three biological alphabets:

```
>>> dna = Alphabet.dna()
>>> rna = Alphabet.rna()
>>> aa  = Alphabet.amino()
```

**amino()**

Create a default amino-acid alphabet.

**dna()**

Create a default DNA alphabet.

**rna()**

Create a default RNA alphabet.

**K**

The alphabet size, counting only actual alphabet symbols.

---

#### Example

```
>>> Alphabet.dna().K
4
>>> Alphabet.amino().K
20
```

---

**Type** `int`

**Kp**

The complete alphabet size, including marker symbols.

---

#### Example

```
>>> Alphabet.dna().Kp
18
>>> Alphabet.amino().Kp
29
```

---

**Type** `int`

**symbols**

The symbols composing the alphabet.

---

**Example**

```
>>> Alphabet.dna().symbols
'ACGT-RYMKSWHBVDN*~'
>>> Alphabet.rna().symbols
'ACGU-RYMKSWHBVDN*~'
```

---

Type `str`

**Bitfield****class** `pyhmmer.easel.Bitfield`

A statically sized sequence of booleans stored as a packed bitfield.

A bitfield is instantiated with a fixed length, and all booleans are set to `False` by default:

```
>>> bitfield = Bitfield(8)
>>> len(bitfield)
8
>>> bitfield[0]
False
```

**count** (*value=True*)

Count the number occurrences of *value* in the bitfield.

If no argument is given, counts the number of `True` occurrences.

---

**Example**

```
>>> bitfield = Bitfield(8)
>>> bitfield.count(False)
8
>>> bitfield[0] = bitfield[1] = True
>>> bitfield.count()
2
```

---

**toggle** (*index*)

Switch the value of one single bit.

---

**Example**

```
>>> bitfield = Bitfield(8)
>>> bitfield[0]
False
>>> bitfield.toggle(0)
>>> bitfield[0]
True
>>> bitfield.toggle(0)
>>> bitfield[0]
False
```

---



## KeyHash

**class** pyhmmer.easel.**KeyHash**

A dynamically resized container to store string keys using a hash table.

**clear**()

Remove all entries from the collection.

**copy**()

Create and return an exact copy of this mapping.

## Multiple Sequence Alignment

**class** pyhmmer.easel.**MSA**

An abstract alignment of multiple sequences.

**checksum**()

Calculate a 32-bit checksum for the multiple sequence alignment.

**class** pyhmmer.easel.**TextMSA**(*MSA*)

A multiple sequence alignment stored in text mode.

**copy**()

Duplicate the text sequence alignment, and return the copy.

**digitize**(*alphabet*)

Convert the text alignment to a digital alignment using *alphabet*.

**Returns** *DigitalMSA* – An alignment in digital mode containing the same sequences digitized with *alphabet*.

**class** pyhmmer.easel.**DigitalMSA**(*MSA*)

A multiple sequence alignment stored in digital mode.

**alphabet**

The biological alphabet used to encode this sequence alignment to digits.

**Type** *Alphabet*

**copy**()

Duplicate the digital sequence alignment, and return the copy.

## Sequence

**class** pyhmmer.easel.**Sequence**

An abstract biological sequence with some associated metadata.

Easel provides two different mode to store a sequence: text, or digital. In the HMMER code, changing from one mode to another mode is done in place, which allows recycling memory. However, doing so can be confusing since there is no way to know statically the representation of a sequence.

To avoid this, pyhmmer provides two subclasses of the *Sequence* abstract class to maintain the mode contract: *TextSequence* and *DigitalSequence*. Functions expecting sequences in digital format, like `pyhmmer.hmmsearch`, can then use Python type system to make sure they receive sequences in the right mode. This allows type checkers such as `mypy` to detect potential contract breaches at compile-time.

**checksum()**

Calculate a 32-bit checksum for the sequence.

**clear()**

Reinitialize the sequence for re-use.

**accession**

The accession of the sequence.

**Type** `bytes`**description**

The description of the sequence.

**Type** `bytes`**name**

The name of the sequence.

**Type** `bytes`**source**

The source of the sequence, if any.

**Type** `bytes`**class** `pyhmmer.easel.TextSequence` (*Sequence*)

A biological sequence stored in text mode.

---

**Hint:** Use the `sequence` property to access the sequence letters as a Python string.

---

**copy()**

Duplicate the text sequence, and return the copy.

**digitize** (*alphabet*)Convert the text sequence to a digital sequence using *alphabet*.**Returns** *DigitalSequence* – A copy of the sequence in digital-model, digitized with *alphabet*.**sequence**

The raw sequence letters, as a Python string.

**Type** `str`**class** `pyhmmer.easel.DigitalSequence` (*Sequence*)

A biological sequence stored in digital mode.

---

**Hint:** Use the `sequence` property to access the sequence digits as a memory view, allowing to access the individual bytes. This can be combined with `numpy.asarray` to get the sequence as an array with zero-copy.

---

**alphabet**

The biological alphabet used to encode this sequence to digits.

**Type** *Alphabet, readonly***copy()**

Duplicate the digital sequence, and return the copy.

**textize()**

Convert the digital sequence to a text sequence.

**Returns** *TextSequence* – A copy of the sequence in text-mode.

**sequence**

The raw sequence digits, as a memory view.

**Type** *memoryview*

## Sequence File

**class** `pyhmmer.easel.SequenceFile`

A wrapper around a sequence file, containing unaligned sequences.

This class supports reading sequences stored in different formats, such as FASTA, GenBank or EMBL. The format of each file can be automatically detected, but it is also possible to pass an explicit format specifier when the *SequenceFile* is instantiated.

**close()**

Close the file and free the resources used by the parser.

**guess\_alphabet()**

Guess the alphabet of an open *SequenceFile*.

This method tries to guess the alphabet of a sequence file by inspecting the first sequence in the file. It returns the alphabet, or *None* if the file alphabet cannot be reliably guessed.

**Raises**

- **EOFError** – if the file is empty.
- **OSError** – if a parse error occurred.
- **ValueError** – if this methods is called after the file was closed.

**parse(buffer, format)**

Parse a sequence from a binary buffer using the given format.

**parseinto(seq, buffer, format)**

Parse a sequence from a binary buffer into seq.

**read(skip\_info=False, skip\_sequence=False)**

Read the next sequence from the file.

**Parameters**

- **skip\_info** (*bool*) – Pass *True* to disable reading the sequence *metadata*, and only read the sequence *letters*. Defaults to *False*.
- **skip\_sequence** (*bool*) – Pass *True* to disable reading the sequence *letters*, and only read the sequence *metadata*. Defaults to *False*.

**Returns** *Sequence* – The next sequence in the file, or *None* if all sequences were read from the file.

**Raises** **ValueError** – When attempting to read a sequence from a closed file, or when the file could not be parsed.

---

**Hint:** This method allocates a new sequence, which is not efficient in case the sequences are being read within a tight loop. Use *SequenceFile.readinto* with an already initialized *Sequence* if you can to recycle the internal buffers.

---

**readinto** (*seq*, *skip\_info=False*, *skip\_sequence=False*)

Read the next sequence from the file, using *seq* to store data.

**Parameters**

- **seq** (*Sequence*) – A sequence object to use to store the next entry in the file. If this sequence was used before, it must be properly reset (using the *Sequence.clear* method) before using it again with *readinto*.
- **skip\_info** (*bool*) – Pass *True* to disable reading the sequence *metadata*, and only read the sequence *letters*. Defaults to *False*.
- **skip\_sequence** (*bool*) – Pass *True* to disable reading the sequence *letters*, and only read the sequence *metadata*. Defaults to *False*.

**Returns** *Sequence* – A reference to *seq* that was passed as an input, or *None* if no sequences are left in the file.

**Raises** *ValueError* – When attempting to read a sequence from a closed file, or when the file could not be parsed.

---

**Example**

Use *SequenceFile.readinto* to loop over the sequences in a file while recycling the same *Sequence* buffer:

```
>>> with SequenceFile("vendor/hmmer/testsuite/ecori.fa") as sf:
...     seq = TextSequence()
...     while sf.readinto(seq) is not None:
...         # ... process seq here ... #
...         seq.clear()
```

---

**set\_digital** (*alphabet*)

Set the *SequenceFile* to read in digital mode with *alphabet*.

This method can be called even after the first sequences have been read; it only affects subsequent sequences in the file.

## Sequence / Subsequence Index

**class** *pyhmmer.easel.SSIReader*

A read-only handler for sequence/subsequence index file.

**class** *Entry* (*fd*, *record\_offset*, *data\_offset*, *record\_length*)

**property** *data\_offset*

Alias for field number 2

**property** *fd*

Alias for field number 0

**property** *record\_length*

Alias for field number 3

**property** *record\_offset*

Alias for field number 1

```

class FileInfo (name, format)

    property format
        Alias for field number 1

    property name
        Alias for field number 0

    close ()
        Close the SSI file reader.

    file_info (fd)
        Retrieve the FileInfo of the descriptor.

    find_name (key)
        Retrieve the Entry for the given name.

class pyhmmer.easel.SSIWriter
    A writer for sequence/subsequence index files.

    add_alias (alias, key)
        Make alias an alias of key in the index.

    add_file (filename, format=0)
        Add a new file to the index.

        Parameters

        • filename (str) – The name of the file to register.

        • format (int) – A format code to associate with the file, or 0.

        Returns int – The filehandle associated with the new indexed file.

    add_key (key, fd, record_offset, data_offset=0, record_length=0)
        Add a new entry to the index with the given key.

    close ()
        Close the SSI file writer.

```

### 2.3.3 Plan7

High-level interface to the Plan7 data model.

Plan7 is the model architecture used by HMMER since HMMER2.

**See also:**

Details about the Plan 7 architecture in the [HMMER documentation](#).

#### Alignment

```

class pyhmmer.plan7.Alignment
    A single alignment of a sequence to a profile.

    hmm_accession
        The accession of the query, or its name if it has none.

        Type bytes

```

**hmm\_from**  
The start coordinate of the alignment in the query HMM.  
Type `int`

**hmm\_name**  
The name of the query HMM.  
Type `bytes`

**hmm\_sequence**  
The sequence of the query HMM in the alignment.  
Type `str`

**hmm\_to**  
The end coordinate of the alignment in the query HMM.  
Type `int`

**identity\_sequence**  
The identity sequence between the query and the target.  
Type `str`

**target\_from**  
The start coordinate of the alignment in the target sequence.  
Type `int`

**target\_name**  
The name of the target sequence.  
Type `bytes`

**target\_sequence**  
The sequence of the target sequence in the alignment.  
Type `str`

**target\_to**  
The end coordinate of the alignment in the target sequence.  
Type `int`

## Background Model

**class** `pyhmmer.plan7.Background`  
The null background model of HMMER.

**copy()**  
Create a copy of the null model with the same parameters.

**L**  
The mean of the null model length distribution, in residues.  
Type `int`

## Builder

**class** pyhmmer.plan7.Builder

A factory for constructing new HMMs from raw sequences.

**build** (*sequence*, *background*, *popen*=0.02, *pextend*=0.4)

Build a new HMM from *sequence* using the builder configuration.

### Parameters

- **sequence** (*DigitalSequence*) – A single biological sequence in digital mode to build a HMM with.
- **background** (pyhmmer.plan7.background) – The background model to use to create the HMM.
- **popen** (float) – The *gap open* probability to use with the score system. Defaults to 0.02.
- **pextend** (float) – The *gap extend* probability to use with the score system. Defaults to 0.4.

**Raises** **ValueError** – When either *sequence* or *background* have the wrong alphabet for this builder.

**copy** ()

Create a duplicate *Builder* instance with the same arguments.

**seed**

The seed used by the internal random number generator.

Setting the seed will effectively reinitialize the internal RNG. In the special case the seed is 0, a one-time arbitrary seed will be chosen and the RNG will no be reseeded for reproducibility.

**Type** int

## Domains

**class** pyhmmer.plan7.Domain

A single domain in a query *Hit*.

**c\_value**

The independent e-value for the domain.

**Type** float

**i\_value**

The independent e-value for the domain.

**Type** float

**score**

The overall score in bits, null-corrected.

**Type** float

**class** pyhmmer.plan7.Domains

A sequence of domains corresponding to a single *Hit*.

## Hits

**class** pyhmmer.plan7.**Hit**

A high-scoring database hit found by the comparison pipeline.

**accession**

The accession of the database hit, if any.

**Type** `bytes` or `None`

**description**

The description of the database hit, if any.

**Type** `bytes` or `None`

**domains**

The list of domains aligned to this hit.

**Type** `Domains`

**evaluate**

The e-value of the hit.

**Type** `float`

**name**

The name of the database hit.

**Type** `bytes`

**pre\_score**

Bit score of the sequence before *null2* correction.

**Type** `float`

**score**

Bit score of the sequence with all domains after correction.

**Type** `float`

**class** pyhmmer.plan7.**TopHits**

A ranked list of top-scoring hits.

*TopHits* are thresholded using the parameters from the pipeline, and are sorted by key when you obtain them from a *Pipeline* instance:

```
>>> abc = thioesterase.alphabet
>>> hits = Pipeline(abc).search_hmm(thioesterase, proteins)
>>> hits.is_sorted()
True
```

Use `len` to query the number of top hits, and the usual indexing notation to extract a particular *Hit*:

```
>>> len(hits)
1
>>> hits[0].name
b'938293.PRJEB85.HG003687_113'
```

**clear()**

Free internals to allow reusing for a new pipeline run.

**is\_sorted** (*by*='key')

Check whether or not the hits are sorted with the given method.



See `sort` for a list of allowed values for the `by` argument.

**sort** (*by*='key')

Sort hits in the current instance using the given method.

**Parameters** *by* (`str`) – The comparison method to use to compare hits. Allowed values are: `key` (the default) to sort by key, or `seqidx` to sort by sequence index and alignment position.

## HMM

**class** `pyhmmmer.plan7.HMM`

A data structure storing the Plan7 Hidden Markov Model.

**write** (*fh*, *binary*=`False`)

Write the HMM to a file handle.

**Parameters**

- **fh** (`io.IOBase`) – A Python file handle, opened in binary mode (this must be the case even with `binary=False`, since the C code will emit bytes in either case).
- **binary** (`bool`) – Pass `False` to emit the file in ASCII mode using the latest supported HMMER format, or `True` to use the binary HMMER3 format.

**zero** ()

Set all parameters to zero, including model composition.

**M**

The length of the model (i.e. the number of nodes).

**Type** `int`

**accession**

The accession of the HMM, if any.

**Type** `bytes` or `None`

**description**

The description of the HMM, if any.

**Type** `bytes` or `None`

**name**

The name of the HMM, if any.

**Type** `bytes` or `None`

## HMM File

**class** `pyhmmmer.plan7.HMMFile`

A wrapper around a file (or database), storing serialized HMMs.

**close** ()

Close the HMM file and free resources.

This method has no effect if the file is already closed. It called automatically if the `HMMFile` was used in a context:

```
>>> with HMMFile("tests/data/hmms/bin/PKSI-AT.h3m") as hmm_file:
...     hmm = next(hmm_file)
```

## Pipeline

**class** `pyhmmer.plan7.Pipeline`

An HMMER3 accelerated sequence/profile comparison pipeline.

**clear**()

Reset the pipeline configuration to its default state.

**search\_hmm**(*query, sequences*)

Run the pipeline using a query HMM against a sequence database.

### Parameters

- **query** (*HMM*) – The HMM object to use to query the sequence database.
- **sequences** (iterable of *DigitalSequence*) – The sequences to query with the HMM. For instance, pass a *SequenceFile* in digital mode to read from disk iteratively.

**Returns** *TopHits* – the hits found in the sequence database.

**Raises** **ValueError** – When the alphabet of the current pipeline does not match the alphabet of the given HMM.

**search\_seq**(*query, sequences, builder=None*)

Run the pipeline using a query sequence against a sequence database.

### Parameters

- **query** (*DigitalSequence*) – The sequence object to use to query the sequence database.
- **sequences** (iterable of *DigitalSequence*) – The sequences to query. Pass a *SequenceFile* instance in digital mode to read from disk iteratively.
- **builder** (*Builder*, optional) – A HMM builder to use to convert the query to a *HMM*. If *None* is given, it will use a default one.

**Returns** *TopHits* – the hits found in the sequence database.

**Raises** **ValueError** – When the alphabet of the current pipeline does not match the alphabet of the given query.

## Z

The number of effective targets searched.

It is used to compute the independent e-value for each domain, and for an entire hit. If *None*, the parameter number will be set automatically after all the comparisons have been done. Otherwise, it can be set to an arbitrary number.

**Type** *float* or *None*

## domZ

The number of significant targets.

It is used to compute the conditional e-value for each domain. If *None*, the parameter number will be set automatically after all the comparisons have been done, and all hits have been thresholded. Otherwise, it can be set to an arbitrary number.

**Type** *float* or *None*

## seed

The seed used by the internal random number generator.

**Type** *int*

## Profile

**class** pyhmmmer.plan7.Profile

A Plan7 search profile.

**clear**()

Clear internal buffers to reuse the profile without reallocation.

**configure**(hmm, background, L, multihit=True, local=True)

Configure a search profile using the given models.

### Parameters

- **hmm** (pyhmmmer.plan7.HMM) – The model HMM with core probabilities.
- **bg** (pyhmmmer.plan7.Background) – The null background model.
- **L** (int) – The expected target sequence length.
- **multihit** (bool) – Whether or not to use multihit modes.
- **local** (bool) – Whether or not to use non-local modes.

**copy**()

Return a copy of the profile with the exact same configuration.

**is\_local**()

Return whether or not the profile is in a local alignment mode.

**is\_multihit**()

Returns whether or not the profile is in a multihit alignment mode.

**optimized**()

Convert the profile to a platform-specific optimized profile.

**Returns** *OptimizedProfile* – The platform-specific optimized profile built using the configuration of this profile.

**class** pyhmmmer.plan7.OptimizedProfile

An optimized profile that uses platform-specific instructions.

**copy**()

Create an exact copy of the optimized profile.

**is\_local**()

Return whether or not the profile is in a local alignment mode.

**write**(fh\_filter, fh\_profile)

Write an optimized profile to two separate files.

HMMER implements an acceleration pipeline using several scoring algorithms. Parameters for MSV (the *Multi ungapped Segment Viterbi*) are saved independently to the `fh_filter` handle, while the rest of the profile is saved to `fh_profile`.

## 2.3.4 HMMER

Reimplementation of HMMER binaries with the PyHMMER API.

`pyhmmer.hmmmer.hmmsearch` (*queries*, *sequences*, *cpus*=0, *callback*=None, *\*\*options*)

Search HMM profiles against a sequence database.

### Parameters

- **queries** (iterable of *HMM*) – The query HMMs to search in the database.
- **sequences** (collection of *DigitalSequence*) – A database of sequences to query.
- **cpus** (*int*) – The number of threads to run in parallel. Pass 1 to run everything in the main thread, 0 to automatically select a suitable number (using `psutil.cpu_count`), or any positive number otherwise.
- **callback** (*callable*) – A callback that is called everytime a query is processed with two arguments: the query, and the total number of queries. This can be used to display progress in UI.

**Yields** *TopHits* – A *top hits* instance for each query, in the same order the queries were passed in the input.

---

**Note:** Any additional arguments passed to the `hmmsearch` function will be passed transparently to the *Pipeline* to be created.

---

`pyhmmer.hmmmer.phmmmer` (*queries*, *sequences*, *cpus*=0, *callback*=None, *builder*=None, *\*\*options*)

Search protein sequences against a sequence database.

### Parameters

- **queries** (iterable of *DigitalSequence*) – The query sequences to search in the database.
- **sequences** (collection of *DigitalSequence*) – A database of sequences to query.
- **cpus** (*int*) – The number of threads to run in parallel. Pass 1 to run everything in the main thread, 0 to automatically select a suitable number (using `psutil.cpu_count`), or any positive number otherwise.
- **callback** (*callable*) – A callback that is called everytime a query is processed with two arguments: the query, and the total number of queries. This can be used to display progress in UI.
- **builder** (*Builder*, optional) – A builder to configure how the queries are converted to HMMs. Passing *None* will create a default instance.

**Yields** *TopHits* – A *top hits* instance for each query, in the same order the queries were passed in the input.

---

**Note:** Any additional arguments passed to the `phmmmer` function will be passed transparently to the *Pipeline* to be created.

---

`pyhmmer.hmmmer.hmmcompress` (*hmms*, *output*)

Press several HMMs into a database.

Calling this function will create 4 files at the given location: `{output}.h3p` (containing the optimized profiles), `{output}.h3m` (containing the binary HMMs), `{output}.h3f` (containing the MSV parameters), and `{output}.h3i` (the SSI index mapping the previous files).

#### Parameters

- **hmms** (iterable of [HMM](#)) – The HMMs to be pressed together in the file.
- **output** (`str` or `os.PathLike`) – The path to an output location where to write the different files.

Cython bindings and Python interface to HMMER3.

HMMER is a biological sequence analysis tool that uses profile hidden Markov models to search for sequence homologs. HMMER3 is maintained by members of the [Eddy/Rivas Laboratory](#) at Harvard University.

`pyhmmmer` is a module, implemented using the [Cython](#) language, that provides bindings to HMMER3. It directly interacts with the HMMER internals, which has several advantages over CLI wrappers like [hmmmer-py](#).

## 2.4 Contributing to pyHMMER

For bug fixes or new features, please file an issue before submitting a pull request. If the change isn't trivial, it may be best to wait for feedback.

### 2.4.1 Setting up a local repository

Make sure you clone the repository in recursive mode, so you also get the wrapped code of Easel and HMMER, which are exposed as `git` submodules:

```
$ git clone --recursive https://github.com/althonos/pyhmmmer
```

### 2.4.2 Running tests

Tests are written as usual Python unit tests with the `unittest` module of the standard library. Running them requires the extension to be built locally:

```
$ python setup.py build_ext --debug --inplace
$ python -m unittest discover -vv
```

### 2.4.3 Coding guidelines

This project targets Python 3.6 or later.

Python objects should be typed; since it is not supported by Cython, you must manually declare types in type stubs (`.pyi` files). In Python files, you can add type annotations to function signatures (supported in Python 3.5) or in variable assignments (supported from Python 3.6 onward).

## Interfacing with C

When interfacing with C, and in particular with pointers, use assertions everywhere you assume the pointer to be non-NULL.

## 2.5 Changelog

All notable changes to this project will be documented in this file.

The format is based on [Keep a Changelog](#) and this project adheres to [Semantic Versioning](#).

### 2.5.1 Unreleased

### 2.5.2 v0.2.0 - 2021-01-21

#### Added

- `pyhmmer.plan7.Builder` class to handle building a HMM from a sequence.
- `Pipeline.search_seq` to query a sequence against a sequence database.
- `psutil` dependency to detect the most efficient thread count for `hmmsearch` based on the number of *physical* CPUs.
- `pyhmmer.hmmer.phmmmer` function to run a search of query sequences against a sequence database.

#### Changed

- `Pipeline.search` was renamed to `Pipeline.search_hmm` for disambiguation.
- `libeasel.random` sequences do not require the GIL anymore.
- Public API now have proper signature annotations.

#### Fixed

- Inaccurate exception messages in `Pipeline.search_hmm`.
- Unneeded RNG reallocation, replaced with re-initialisation where possible.
- `SequenceFile.__next__` not working after being set in digital mode.
- `sequences` argument of `hmmsearch` now only requires a `typing.Collection[DigitalSequence]` instead of a `typing.Collection[Sequence]` (not more `__getitem__` needed).

## Removed

- `hits` argument to `Pipeline.search_hmm` to reduce risk of issues with `TopHits` reuse.
- Broken alignment coordinates on `Domain` classes.

## 2.5.3 v0.1.4 - 2021-01-15

### Added

- `DigitalSequence.textize` to convert a digital sequence to a text sequence.
- `DigitalSequence.__init__` method allowing to create a digital sequence from any object implementing the buffer protocol.
- `Alignment.hmm_accession` property to retrieve the accession of the HMM in an alignment.

## 2.5.4 v0.1.3 - 2021-01-08

### Fixed

- Compilation issues in OSX-specific Cython code.

## 2.5.5 v0.1.2 - 2021-01-07

### Fixed

- Required Cython files not being included in source distribution.

## 2.5.6 v0.1.1 - 2020-12-02

### Fixed

- `HMMFile` calling `file.peek` without arguments, causing it to crash when passed some types, e.g. `gzip.GzipFile`.
- `HMMFile` failing to work with PyPy file objects because of a bug with their implementation of `readinto`.
- C/Python file object implementation using `strcpy` instead of `memcpy`, causing issues when null bytes were read.

## 2.5.7 v0.1.0 - 2020-12-01

Initial beta release.

## Fixed

- `TextSequence` uses the sequence argument it's given on instantiation.
- Segmentation fault in `Sequence.__eq__` caused by implicit type conversion.
- Segmentation fault on `SequenceFile.read` failure.
- Missing type annotations for the `pyhmmer.easel` module.

## 2.5.8 v0.1.0-a5 - 2020-11-28

### Added

- `Sequence.__len__` magic method so that `len(seq)` returns the number of letters in `seq`.
- Python file-handle support when opening an `pyhmmer.plan7.HMMFile`.
- Context manager protocol to `pyhmmer.easel.SSIWriter`.
- Type annotations for `pyhmmer.easel.SSIWriter`.
- `add_alias` to `pyhmmer.easel.SSIWriter`.
- `write` method to `pyhmmer.plan7.OptimizedProfile` to write an optimized profile in binary format.
- `offsets` property to interact with the disk offsets of a `pyhmmer.plan7.OptimizedProfile` instance.
- `pyhmmer.hmm.hmmcompress` emulating the `hmmcompress` binary from HMMER.
- `M` property to `pyhmmer.plan7.HMM` exposing the number of nodes in the model.

### Changed

- Bumped vendored Easel to v0.48.
- Bumped vendored HMMER to v3.3.2.
- `pyhmmer.plan7.HMMFile` will raise an `EOFError` when given an empty file.
- Renamed `length` property to `L` in `pyhmmer.plan7.Background`.

### Fixed

- Segmentation fault when `close` method of `pyhmmer.easel.SSIWriter` was called more than once.
- `close` method of `pyhmmer.easel.SSIWriter` not writing the index contents.

## 2.5.9 v0.1.0-a4 - 2020-11-24

### Added

- `MSA`, `TextMSA` and `DigitalMSA` classes representing a multiple sequence alignment to `pyhmmer.easel`.
- Methods and protocol to copy a `Sequence` and a `MSA`.
- `pyhmmer.plan7.OptimizedProfile` wrapping a platform-specific optimized profile.
- `SSIReader` and `SSIWriter` classes interacting with sequence/subsequence indices to `pyhmmer.easel`.



- Exception handler using Python exceptions to report Easel errors.

### Changed

- `pyhmmmer.hmmsearch` returns an iterator of `TopHits`, with one instance per HMM in the input.
- `pyhmmmer.hmmsearch` properly raises errors happening in the background threads without deadlock.
- `pyhmmmer.plan7.Pipeline` recycles memory between `Pipeline.search` calls.

### Fixed

- Missing type annotations for the `pyhmmmer.errors` module.

### Removed

- Unneeded or private methods from `pyhmmmer.plan7`.

## 2.5.10 v0.1.0-a3 - 2020-11-19

### Added

- `TextSequence` and `DigitalSequence` representing a `Sequence` in a given mode.
- E-value properties to `Hit` and `Domain`.
- `TopHits` now stores a reference to the pipeline it was obtained from.
- `Pipeline.Z` and `Pipeline.domZ` properties.
- Experimental pickling support to `Alphabet`.
- Experimental freelist to `Sequence` class to avoid allocation bottlenecks when iterating on a `SequenceFile` without recycling sequence buffers.

### Changed

- Made `Sequence` an abstract base class.
- Additional `Pipeline` parameters can be passed as keyword arguments to `pyhmmmer.hmmsearch`.
- `SequenceFile.read` can now be configured to skip reading the metadata or the content of a sequence.

### Removed

- Redundant `SequenceFile` methods.

### Fixed

- `doctest` loader crashing on Python 3.5.
- `TopHits.threshold` segfaulting when being called without prior `TopHits.sort` call
- Unknown `format` argument to `SequenceFile` constructor not raising the right error.

## 2.5.11 v0.1.0-a2 - 2020-11-12

### Added

- Support for compilation on PowerPC big-endian platforms.
- Type annotations and stub files for Cython modules.

### Changed

- `distutils` is now used to compile the package, instead of calling `autotools` and letting HMMER configure itself.
- `Bitfield.count` now allows passing an argument (for compatibility with `collections.abc.Sequence`).

## 2.5.12 v0.1.0-a1 - 2020-11-10

Initial alpha release (test deployment to PyPI).

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zero() (*pyhmmer.plan7.HMM method*), [21](#)