

PREFACE

Scope and Purpose of the HIV Molecular Immunology Database

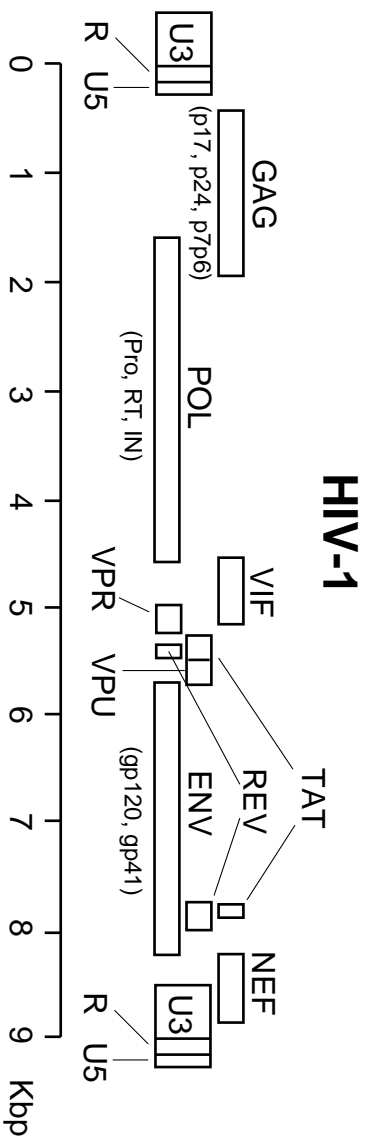
The HIV Molecular Immunology Database was added as a companion volume to the NIAID, Division of AIDS-funded *Human Retroviruses and AIDS Genetic Sequence Compendium* in 1995. This volume is the 1998 issue. The HIV Immunology Database includes T-cell epitope maps on HIV proteins, alignments, and annotation, as well as a summary and map of linear B-cell epitopes and monoclonal antibodies with discontinuous epitopes. The protein alignments highlight the sequence heterogeneity among international isolates in well-characterized T-cell epitopes. The annotation includes information such as how specific epitopes were experimentally defined, HLA specificities for T-cell epitopes, isotypes of monoclonal antibodies, the initial antigenic stimulus immunogen, and brief notes describing the context in which a given epitope was studied. The database also contains review articles relevant to the immunology of HIV. The complete database is available on the World Wide Web at <http://hiv-web.lanl.gov/immunology>, and the raw data files for the epitope tables are available at an ftp site there. Comments on the database or requests for the hard copy can be sent via email to immunol@t10.lanl.gov.

Citing the Database

This database may be cited as *HIV Molecular Immunology Database 1998*, Editors: Bette Korber, John Moore, Christian Brander, Richard Koup, Barton Haynes, and Bruce Walker. Publisher, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Theoretical Biology and Biophysics, Los Alamos, New Mexico, Publication number LAUR 99-586.

The Cover

The cover of the 1998 database depicts the 3-dimensional crystal structure of gp120 with the CD4BS, CD4 inducible binding site and 2G12 epitope indicated. This figure is from a review of the *Structure of the Core of HIV-1 gp120 Exterior Envelope Glycoprotein* by Richard Wyatt, Peter D. Kwang, Wayne A. Hendrickson and Joseph G. Sodroski, in this volume, page IV-1.



Landmarks of the HIV-1 Genome