

I-A

How to Optimally Define Optimal Cytotoxic T Lymphocyte Epitopes in HIV Infection?

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I-A-1 The evolution of the optimal CTL epitope list at Los Alamos HIV Immunology database

T-cell responses to HIV infection were first described in 1987, when Walker *et al.* [1987] and Plata *et al.* [1987] independently showed CD8 T-cell reactivity against viral proteins. Soon after, the first epitopes were identified using short synthetic peptides, allowing for ever-increasingly detailed assessments of HIV-specific immune responses and HIV evolution analyses [Kawashima *et al.*, 2009; Nixon *et al.*, 1988]. To date, more than 1200 individual HLA class I-restricted HIV-1 epitopes have been identified, with 276 of these characterized in detail and defined to their minimal or optimal length. With the initiation of large international cohorts of individuals who are in very early stages of infection or who have superior ability to control viral replication, the establishment of multi-national research consortia, and the development of sophisticated viral genome sequencing and analysis tools, many epitopes have been assessed for their relative contribution to the natural control of HIV infection and potential suitability as vaccine immunogens. While many studies take advantage of the detailed description of previously identified and oftentimes immunodominant epitopes, a number of recent studies highlight the importance of subdominant responses, T-cell activities to variable targets, and responses present at the very earliest time points after infection, as these factors may play a crucial role in viral control [Bansal *et al.*, 2005; Frahm *et al.*, 2006; Goonetilleke *et al.*, 2009]. By nature, these responses have not been identified frequently, and in some cases

have not undergone the extensive work-up that has been given to the immunodominant responses restricted by frequent HLA class I alleles. The description of such responses poses a challenge to those who strive to provide the HIV community and T-cell immunologist with a reliable resource of well-defined T-cell epitopes. In our attempt to maintain such a resource at the Los Alamos National Laboratory HIV database, we face this challenge frequently, and the following sections outline some of the considerations that shape our product of the “optimal” CTL epitope list.

This year’s update of the Los Alamos HIV Immunology Database CTL epitope listing marks the 15th year since we initiated this online list, which has proven a useful tool for the HIV community at large. Based on a few in-house criteria, we have over the years created what we refer to as the “A-list”, which contains only those epitopes for which we are fairly confident that they have been defined to their optimal length and for which restriction by a specific HLA class I allele has been indisputably demonstrated. At the same time, we have included in the general section of the database a “B-list” of all T-cell epitopes that have been described in the literature. Thus, within the Los Alamos HIV Immunology database, all studies describing specific T-cell responses to either short peptides or longer segments are included. In addition, search tools on the web site allow rapid searches for these T-cell targets and the retrieval of summarized details about the study in which these responses were defined. As a consequence, any reported T-cell response to HIV should be accessible at LANL, whether it was identified in natural infection or vaccination, including responses defined in individuals with or without specifically defined HLA alleles and with or without a known level of disease control. This information is retained with the epitopes in the full “B-list” database, which can be accessed using a web-based search interface (http://www.hiv.lanl.gov/content/immunology/ctl_search). We highlight this fact to encourage anyone accessing the database to go beyond the epitopes given in the A-list whenever the specific study warrants inclusion of less well-defined CTL activities. Including a broader range of epitopes may help to ascertain one’s own findings, and potentially allow one to infer, for instance, a potential HLA restriction in a given subject for whom only limited samples are available

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and who thus needs to be analyzed in a less full-blown approach.

I-A-2 Why should we bother with a list of optimally defined epitopes?

As mentioned above, the “optimal/A-list” of HIV epitopes is based on a number of in-house, arbitrary criteria, which we have regularly reviewed over the years. In brief, these criteria include the unequivocal experimental demonstration of restriction by a specific HLA class I allele and the definition of the optimal epitope length. The latter is defined as the peptide truncation that, in its shortest version, elicits a maximal functional response. While in earlier years, serial truncations were often used at decreasing concentrations in cytotoxicity (Cr51 release) assays, more recent studies often use the EliSpot or flow-cytometry based detection of effector functions including cytokine release or expression of CD107. Although these different effector functions have been shown to be subject to variable activation (i.e., peptide concentration) thresholds [Betts *et al.*, 2004], we have not seen or heard of an example in which one or the other marker would have identified different optimal epitope lengths. Aside from HLA restriction and optimal epitope definition, there are no other criteria that we consider for inclusion in the A-list. This practice has sometimes appeared to be overly strict, and a reasonable case can be made for diverging views. While we regularly discuss the input we receive from investigators in the field, our consensus remains to base our selection on the above criteria and to include only the very best defined epitopes in this listing. The major rationale for this is to keep the list free of epitopes that have been defined based on incomplete HLA restriction assays, (mis)interpretation of the data, insufficient arrays of peptide truncations tested or, in a few cases, pure speculation regarding epitope length and HLA restriction. The B list includes essentially all of the epitopes as defined in the published literature by primary authors, thus these less well-defined epitopes are captured in the database as well.

As our optimal epitope list has served as a training set for several epitope prediction algorithms (<http://www.syfpeithi.de/>, <http://atom.research.microsoft.com/bio/epipred.aspx>), we also feel that epitopes that are characterized based on HLA prediction tools should not be included in the A-list. Otherwise, the risk exists that an algorithm may use a training set that contains data that are the product of its own predictions. While this may not be a big issue for those alleles for which many epitopes have been described, cases such as epitopes presented on HLA-B63 (B*1516, B*1517) indicate that existing tools would not have been able to identify the true breath of the allele-specific binding motifs and would have in some cases led to the wrong prediction

of optimal epitope length [Frahm *et al.*, 2005]. The prediction of possible HLA restriction is also complicated by the fact that most HIV epitopes can be presented in the context of several different HLA class I alleles [Frahm *et al.*, 2007]. Thus, while the individual response in a single subject will likely provide reliable data, the issue of incorrect, or at least incomplete HLA restriction assignment becomes a real problem in individuals expressing multiple alleles that can present the epitope under study. Apart from the well-described epitope sharing between alleles in the same locus and HLA supertype, such as A3/A11 or B57/B58, individuals mounting, for instance, a response to the known HLA-B37 and B57 YFPDQNYT epitope in Nef, could mount these responses through HLA-A29, -B35, or -C06 [Frahm *et al.*, 2007]. If two or more of these alleles are expressed in a given individual, only a detailed functional HLA restriction analysis could provide reliable HLA restriction information. While this example may seem far-fetched, it only highlights one situation where experimental proof for presentation in the context of at least five alleles has been published. Similar examples exist for HCV epitopes and, in cases where alternatively presenting alleles are encoded by more or less frequent haplotype combinations, will certainly distort immunodominance analyses and have an impact on viral evolution analyses [Niu *et al.*, 2009]. In addition, it is also possible that individuals make responses to a single epitope on more than one of their alleles. This has been analyzed only for a few epitopes and mainly in the context of well-described allele pairs in the same supertype; thus the consequences of a potential “functional homozygosity” (i.e., presentation of a limited set of epitopes on several HLA alleles with similar epitope binding motifs) on viral control *in vivo* and immune evasion of the virus is unknown. Finally, it is also important not to rely on “defining” individual 4-digit typing by inference from larger HLA data sets from unrelated populations and ethnicities. Although haplotype frequencies for well-studied populations have been fairly well established, the ongoing expansion of HIV-related studies and vaccine trials into populations for which these data are limited, introduces a considerable risk of predicting incorrect subtypes. While this may be a particular issue for HLA-B15 and A68 alleles (for which subtypes fall into separate HLA supertypes and thus present vastly different epitopes), the case of HLA-B35 and others (A2, B44, etc.) clearly illustrates that high-resolution typing should be employed for the best definition of HLA restriction [Sidney *et al.*, 2008].

Similar to detailed HLA restriction analyses, there are several reasons why definition of optimal epitope length should be based on experimental analysis rather than binding motif predictions or only partial truncations. While some hints from available epitope sequences may be helpful in the experimental design

of truncation studies or overlapping peptide synthesis (such as the elimination of possible rare (“forbidden”) C-terminal residues; <http://www.hiv.lanl.gov/content/sequence/PEPTGEN/peptgen.html>), only a systematic approach will clarify the identity of the targeted sequence. An older example of how this may affect epitope response patterns is the case of two embedded B57 epitopes, where one shorter version is fully contained in a longer epitope sequence [Goulder *et al.*, 2000c]. As shown in our own analyses on promiscuous epitope presentation, embedded epitopes can also be presented on different HLA molecules, again highlighting that HLA restriction and fine mapping approaches need to go hand in hand [Frahm *et al.*, 2007]. Importantly, shorter is not necessarily better, as has been shown in a number of cases where bulged epitopes were presented in the context of alleles such as HLA-B35 and its subtypes [Burrows *et al.*, 2006]. Existing prediction algorithms, trained on existing data of mostly 9–10mer epitope sequences, could not possibly predict these epitopes and their HLA restrictions. Rather, the mapping analyses ideally start from the full-length peptide that initially elicited the detected response (often an overlapping peptide of 15–18 amino acids in length). The ever-decreasing cost for peptide synthesis and the development of collaborative studies among laboratories where many peptide truncations already exist will hopefully enable many more research groups to conduct such additional analyses.

While we strive to collect all well-characterized CTL epitopes in our list of optimally defined CTL epitopes, we are also trying to strike a balance between including as much information and as many epitopes as possible while avoiding the potential detrimental effects of including epitopes that are not conclusively defined. Since most epitopes represent correctly defined optimal targets in a clinically-relevant setting [Goonetilleke *et al.*, 2009], they do put us in the difficult position of either relaxing the inclusion criteria or asking for additional analyses to be conducted. We however also feel that their inclusion in the comprehensive listing (B-list) of the HIV Immunology Database will make such information readily accessible to the wider research community, in the end providing a benefit for all involved in the definition of protective immune responses, T-cell immunity and viral evolution. At the same time, we remain open to suggestions on how we could improve the A-list so that it meets the changing needs of the community. For any comments, please contact us.

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I-A-3 Table of optimal HIV-1 CTL epitopes

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes.

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|-------------|-----------|---------|--------------|--|
| A*0101 (A1) | gp160 | 787–795 | RRGWEVLKY | Cao, 2002 |
| A2 | RT | 127–135 | YTAFTIPSV | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004b |
| A*0201 (A2) | p17 | 77–85 | SLYNTVATL | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Parker <i>et al.</i> , 1992, 1994 |
| A*0201 (A2) | p2p7p1p6 | 70–79 | FLGKIWPSYK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002b |
| A*0201 (A2) | Protease | 76–84 | LVGPTPVNI | Karlsson <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| A*0201 (A2) | RT | 33–41 | ALVEICTEM | Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1998; Haas, 1999 |
| A*0201 (A2) | RT | 179–187 | VIYQYRDDL | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1996a |
| A*0201 (A2) | RT | 309–317 | ILKEPVHGV | Walker <i>et al.</i> , 1989; Tsomides <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| A*0201 (A2) | Vpr | 59–67 | AIIRILQQL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a,b |
| A*0201 (A2) | gp160 | 311–320 | RGPGRFVVI | Alexander-Miller <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| A*0201 (A2) | gp160 | 813–822 | SLLNATDIAV | Dupuis <i>et al.</i> , 1995 |
| A*0201 (A2) | Nef | 136–145 | PLTFGWYKYL | Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1996; Maier & Autran, 1999 |
| A*0201 (A2) | Nef | 180–189 | VLEWRFDLRL | Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1996; Maier & Autran, 1999 |
| A*0202 (A2) | p17 | 77–85 | SLYNTVATL | Goulder, 1999 |
| A*0205 (A2) | p17 | 77–85 | SLYNTVATL | Goulder, 1999 |
| A*0205 (A2) | gp160 | 846–854 | RIRQLERA | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| A*0205 (A2) | Nef | 83–91 | GAFDLSFFL | Rathod, 2006 |
| A*0207 (A2) | p24 | 164–172 | YVDRFYKTL | Currier <i>et al.</i> , 2002 |
| A*0301 (A3) | p17 | 18–26 | KIRLRPGGK | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| A*0301 (A3) | p17 | 20–28 | RLRPGGKKK | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997b; Culmann, 1999; Lewinsohn & Riddell, 1999; Wilkes & Ruhl, 1999 |
| A*0301 (A3) | p17 | 20–29 | RLRPGGKKKY | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2000b |
| A*0301 (A3) | RT | 33–43 | ALVEICTEMEK | Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1998; Haas, 1999 |
| A*0301 (A3) | RT | 73–82 | KLVDLFRELNK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | RT | 93–101 | GIPHPAGLK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | RT | 158–166 | AIFQSSMTK | Threlkeld <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| A*0301 (A3) | RT | 269–277 | QIYPGKIVR | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | RT | 356–366 | RMRGAHTNDVK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | Integrase | 179–188 | AVFIHNFKRK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | Vif | 17–26 | RIRTWKSLVK | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a; Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | Vif | 28–36 | HMYISKKAK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | Vif | 158–168 | KTKPPLPSVKK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | Rev | 57–66 | ERILSTYLGR | Addo, 2002; Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| A*0301 (A3) | gp160 | 37–46 | TVYYGVPVWK | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1994 |
| A*0301 (A3) | gp160 | 770–780 | RLRDLILLIVTR | Takahashi <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| A*0301 (A3) | Nef | 73–82 | QVPLRPMYTK | Koenig <i>et al.</i> , 1990; Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| A*0301 (A3) | Nef | 84–92 | AVDLSHFLK | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|--|
| A*1101 (A11) | p17 | 84–91 | TLYCVHQK | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1998 |
| A*1101 (A11) | p24 | 217–227 | ACQGVGGPGHK | Sipsas <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| A*1101 (A11) | RT | 158–166 | AIFQSSMTK | Johnson & Walker, 1994; Zhang <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Threlkeld <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| A*1101 (A11) | RT | 341–350 | IYQEPFKNLK | Culmann, 1999 |
| A*1101 (A11) | RT | 520–528 | QIIEQLIKK | Fukada <i>et al.</i> , 1999 |
| A*1101 (A11) | Integrase | 179–188 | AVFIHNFKRK | Fukada <i>et al.</i> , 1999 |
| A*1101 (A11) | Integrase | 203–211 | IIATDIQTK | Wang <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| A*1101 (A11) | gp160 | 199–207 | SVITQACPK | Fukada <i>et al.</i> , 1999 |
| A*1101 (A11) | Nef | 73–82 | QVPLRPMTYK | Buseyne, 1999 |
| A*1101 (A11) | Nef | 75–82 | PLRPMTYK | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| A*1101 (A11) | Nef | 84–92 | AVDLSHFLK | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| A23 | gp160 | 585–593 | RYLKDQQLL | Cao <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| A*2402 (A24) | p17 | 28–36 | KYKLGKHIW | Ikeda-Moore <i>et al.</i> , 1998; Lewinsohn, 1999 |
| A*2402 (A24) | p24 | 162–172 | RDYVDRFFKTL | Dorrell <i>et al.</i> , 1999; Rowland-Jones, 1999 |
| A*2402 (A24) | gp160 | 52–61 | LFCASDAKAY | Lieberman <i>et al.</i> , 1992; Shankar <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| A*2402 (A24) | gp160 | 585–593 | RYLKDQQLL | Dai <i>et al.</i> , 1992 |
| A*2402 (A24) | Nef | 134–141 | RYPLTFGW | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997a; Ikeda-Moore <i>et al.</i> , 1998 |
| A*2501 (A25) | p24 | 13–23 | QAISPRTLNAW | Kurane & West, 1999 |
| A*2501 (A25) | p24 | 71–80 | ETINEEAAEW | Klenerman <i>et al.</i> , 1996; van Baalen <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| A*2501 (A25) | gp160 | 321–330 | EIIGDIRQAY | Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2006 |
| A*2601 (A26) | p24 | 35–43 | EVIPMFSAL | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996a |
| A*2601 (A26) | RT | 449–457 | ETKLGKAGY | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| A29 | Nef | 120–128 | YFPDWQNYT | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004a |
| A*2902 (A29) | p17 | 78–86 | LYNTVATLY | Masemola <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| A*2902 (A29) | gp160 | 209–217 | SFEPIPIHY | Altfeld, 2000 |
| A30 | p17 | 34–44 | LVWASRELERF | Masemola <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| A*3002 (A30) | p17 | 76–86 | RSLYNTVATLY | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3002 (A30) | RT | 173–181 | KQNPDIYIY | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3002 (A30) | RT | 263–271 | KLNWASQIY | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3002 (A30) | RT | 356–365 | RMRGAHTNDV | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| A*3002 (A30) | Integrase | 219–227 | KIQNFRVYY | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003; Rodriguez <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| A*3002 (A30) | gp160 | 310–318 | HIGPGRAFY | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| A*3002 (A30) | gp160 | 704–712 | IVNRNRQGY | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3002 (A30) | gp160 | 794–802 | KYCWNLLQY | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3101 (A31) | gp160 | 770–780 | RLRDLLLIVTR | Safrit <i>et al.</i> , 1994a,b |
| A*3201 (A32) | RT | 392–401 | PIQKETWETW | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| A*3201 (A32) | gp160 | 419–427 | RIKQIINMW | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|----------|---------|-------------|--|
| A33 | Nef | 133–141 | TRYPLTFGW | Cao, 2002 |
| A*3303 (A33) | gp160 | 698–707 | VFAVLSIVNR | Hossain <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3303 (A33) | gp160 | 831–838 | EVAQRAYR | Hossain <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| A*3303 (A33) | Vpu | 29–37 | EYRKILRQR | Addo <i>et al.</i> , 2002 |
| A66 | RT | 438–448 | ETFYVDGAANR | Rathod, 2006 |
| A*6801 (A68) | Tat | 39–49 | ITKGLGISYGR | Oxenius <i>et al.</i> , 2002 |
| A*6801 (A68) | Vpr | 52–62 | DTWAGVEAIR | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| A*6802 (A68) | RT | 436–445 | GAETFYVDGA | Rathod & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| A*6802 (A68) | Protease | 3–11 | ITLWQRPLV | Rowland-Jones, 1999 |
| A*6802 (A68) | Protease | 30–38 | DTVLEEWNL | Rowland-Jones, 1999 |
| A*6802 (A68) | Vpr | 48–57 | ETYGDTWTGV | Rathod & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| A*6802 (A68) | gp160 | 777–785 | IVTRIVELL | Wilkes, 1999 |
| A*7401 (A19) | Protease | 3–11 | ITLWQRPLV | Rowland-Jones, 1999 |
| B7 | p24 | 84–92 | HPVHAGPIA | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| B7 | RT | 156–164 | SPAIFQSSM | Linde & Faircloth, 2006 |
| B7 | Rev | 66–75 | RPAEPVPLQL | Yang, 2006 |
| B*0702 (B7) | p24 | 16–24 | SPRTLNAWV | Lewinsohn, 1999 |
| B*0702 (B7) | p24 | 48–56 | TPQDLNTML | Wilson, 1999; Wilkes <i>et al.</i> , 1999; Jin <i>et al.</i> , 2000; Wilson <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*0702 (B7) | p24 | 223–231 | GPGHKARVL | Goulder, 1999 |
| B*0702 (B7) | Vpr | 34–42 | FPRIWLHGL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a |
| B*0702 (B7) | Vif | 48–57 | HPRVSSEVHI | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a |
| B*0702 (B7) | gp160 | 298–307 | RPNNNTRKSI | Safrit <i>et al.</i> , 1994b |
| B*0702 (B7) | gp160 | 843–851 | IPRRIRQGL | Wilkes & Ruhl, 1999 |
| B*0702 (B7) | Nef | 68–77 | FPVTPQVPLR | Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1996; Maier & Autran, 1999 |
| B*0702 (B7) | Nef | 68–76 | FPVTPQVPL | Bauer <i>et al.</i> , 1997; Frahm & Goulder, 2002 |
| B*0702 (B7) | Nef | 71–79 | TPQVPLRPM | Goulder, 1999 |
| B*0702 (B7) | Nef | 77–85 | RPMTYKAAL | Bauer <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*0702 (B7) | Nef | 128–137 | TPGPGVRYPL | Culmann-Penciolelli <i>et al.</i> , 1994; Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| B8 | gp160 | 848–856 | RQGLERALL | Cao, 2002 |
| B*0801 (B8) | p17 | 24–32 | GGKKKYKLLK | Reid <i>et al.</i> , 1996; Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997d |
| B*0801 (B8) | p17 | 74–82 | ELRSLYNTV | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997d |
| B*0801 (B8) | p24 | 128–135 | EIYKRWII | Sutton <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997d |
| B*0801 (B8) | p24 | 197–205 | DCKTILKAL | Sutton <i>et al.</i> , 1993 |
| B*0801 (B8) | RT | 18–26 | GPKVKQWPL | Walker <i>et al.</i> , 1989; Sutton <i>et al.</i> , 1993 |
| B*0801 (B8) | gp160 | 2–10 | RVKEYQHL | Sipsas <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*0801 (B8) | gp160 | 586–593 | YLKDQQLL | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1992; Shankar <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| B*0801 (B8) | Nef | 13–20 | WPTVRERM | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997d |
| B*0801 (B8) | Nef | 90–97 | FLKEKGGI | Culmann-Penciolelli <i>et al.</i> , 1994; Price <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|-----------|---------|--------------|--|
| B13 | p24 | 3–11 | VQNLQGQMV | Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B13 | p24 | 94–104 | GQMREPRGSDI | Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B13 | p2p7p1p6 | 66–74 | RQANFLGKI | Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B13 | Protease | 57–66 | RQYDQILIEI | Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2007; Mueller <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B13 | RT | 333–341 | GQGQWYQI | Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B13 | Nef | 106–114 | RQDILDLWI | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 2005; Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B*1302 (B13) | Nef | 106–114 | RQDILDLVV | Gray <i>et al.</i> , 2009 |
| B14 | p2p7p1p6 | 42–50 | CRAPRKKGC | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002b |
| B*1401 (B14) | RT | 142–149 | IRYQYNVL | Rathod, 2006 |
| B*1402 (B14) | p24 | 166–174 | DRFYKTLRA | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| B*1402 (B14) | gp160 | 584–592 | ERYLKDQQL | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1992 |
| B*1501 (B62) | p24 | 137–145 | GLNKIVRMV | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Goulder, 1999 |
| B*1501 (B62) | RT | 260–271 | LVGKLNWASQIY | Johnson, 1999 |
| B*1501 (B62) | RT | 309–318 | ILKEPVHGVY | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Johnson, 1999 |
| B*1501 (B62) | Nef | 117–127 | TQGYFPDWQNY | Culmann, 1999 |
| B*1503 (B72) | p24 | 24–32 | VKVIEEKAF | Honeyborne & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| B*1503 (B72) | p24 | 164–172 | YVDRFFKTL | Masemola <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| B*1503 (B72) | Protease | 68–76 | GKKAIGTVL | Rathod & Bishop, 2006 |
| B*1503 (B72) | RT | 496–505 | VTDSQYALGI | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*1503 (B72) | Integrase | 135–143 | IQQEFGIPY | Honeyborne & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| B*1503 (B72) | Integrase | 185–194 | FKRKGIGGY | Honeyborne, 2003 |
| B*1503 (B72) | Integrase | 263–271 | RKAKIIRDY | Cao <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*1503 (B72) | Tat | 38–47 | FQTKGLGISY | Novitsky <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| B*1503 (B72) | Nef | 183–191 | WRFDSRLAF | Cao, 2002 |
| B*1510 (B71) | p24 | 12–20 | HQAISPRTL | Day, 2005 |
| B*1510 (B71) | p24 | 61–69 | GHQAAMQML | Day, 2003 |
| B*1510 (B71) | Integrase | 66–74 | THLEGKIIL | Kiepiela <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B*1510 (B71) | Vif | 79–87 | WHLGHGYSI | Honeyborne, 2003 |
| B*1516 (B63) | gp160 | 375–383 | SFNCGGEFF | Wilson <i>et al.</i> , 1997; Wilson, 1999 |
| B18 | RT | 137–146 | NETPGIRYQY | Rathod & Bishop, 2006 |
| B18 | RT | 175–183 | NPEIVYQY | Rathod, 2006 |
| B18 | Nef | 105–115 | RRQDILDLVVY | Yang, 2006 |
| B*1801 (B18) | p24 | 161–170 | FRDYVDRFYK | Ogg <i>et al.</i> , 1998 |
| B*1801 (B18) | Vif | 102–111 | LADQLIHLHY | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a |
| B*1801 (B18) | gp160 | 31–39 | AENLWTVY | Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2006 |
| B*1801 (B18) | gp160 | 61–69 | YETEVHNVW | Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2006 |
| B*1801 (B18) | Nef | 135–143 | YPLTFGWY | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Culmann-Penciolelli <i>et al.</i> , 1994 |

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|---|
| B27 | Vpr | 31–39 | VRHFPRIWL | Addo & Rathod, 2004 |
| B*2703 (B27) | p24 | 131–140 | RRWIQLGLQK | Rowland-Jones <i>et al.</i> , 1998; Rowland-Jones, 1999 |
| B*2705 (B27) | p17 | 19–27 | IRLRPGGKK | McKinney <i>et al.</i> , 1999; Lewinsohn, 1999 |
| B*2705 (B27) | p24 | 131–140 | KRWIILGLNK | Nixon <i>et al.</i> , 1988; Buseyne <i>et al.</i> , 1993; Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997c |
| B*2705 (B27) | Integrase | 186–194 | KRKGIGGY | Payne & Goulder, 2009 |
| B*2705 (B27) | gp160 | 786–795 | GRRGWEALKY | Lieberman <i>et al.</i> , 1992; Lieberman, 1999 |
| B*2705 (B27) | Nef | 105–114 | RRQDILDWI | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997b |
| B*3501 (B35) | p17 | 36–44 | WASRELERF | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997a |
| B*3501 (B35) | p17 | 124–132 | NSSKVSQNY | Rowland-Jones <i>et al.</i> , 1995 |
| B*3501 (B35) | p24 | 122–130 | PPIPVGDIY | Rowland-Jones <i>et al.</i> , 1995 |
| B*3501 (B35) | RT | 107–115 | TVLDVGDAY | Wilkes & Ruhl, 1999; Wilson <i>et al.</i> , 1999 |
| B*3501 (B35) | RT | 118–127 | VPLDEDFRKY | Sipsas <i>et al.</i> , 1997; Shiga <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| B*3501 (B35) | RT | 175–183 | HPDIVIYQY | Rowland-Jones <i>et al.</i> , 1995; Shiga <i>et al.</i> , 1996; Sipsas <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*3501 (B35) | gp160 | 42–52 | VPVWKEATTTL | Wilkes & Ruhl, 1999 |
| B*3501 (B35) | gp160 | 78–86 | DPNPQEVVL | Shiga <i>et al.</i> , 1996 |
| B*3501 (B35) | gp160 | 606–614 | TAVPWNASW | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1994 |
| B*3501 (B35) | Nef | 74–81 | VPLRPMTY | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Culmann-Penciolelli <i>et al.</i> , 1994 |
| B*3701 (B37) | Nef | 120–128 | YFPDWQNYT | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Culmann, 1999 |
| B*3801 (B38) | Vif | 79–87 | WHLGQGVSI | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| B*3801 (B38) | gp160 | 104–112 | MHEDIISLW | Cao, 2002 |
| B*3901 (B39) | p24 | 61–69 | GHQAAMQML | Kurane & West, 1999 |
| B*3910 (B39) | p24 | 48–56 | TPQDLNTML | Honeyborne & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| B*4001 (B60) | p17 | 92–101 | IEIKDTKEAL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2000 |
| B*4001 (B60) | p24 | 44–52 | SEGATPQDL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2000 |
| B*4001 (B60) | p2p7p1p6 | 118–126 | KELYPLTSL | Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002b |
| B*4001 (B60) | RT | 5–12 | IETVPVKL | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004b |
| B*4001 (B60) | RT | 202–210 | IEELRQHLL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2000 |
| B*4001 (B60) | gp160 | 805–814 | QELKNSAVSL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2000 |
| B*4001 (B60) | Nef | 37–45 | LEKHGAITS | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004b |
| B*4001 (B60) | Nef | 92–100 | KEKGGLEGL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2000 |
| B*4002 (B61) | p17 | 11–19 | GELDRWEKI | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*4002 (B61) | p24 | 70–78 | KETINEEAA | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*4002 (B61) | p24 | 78–86 | AEWDRVHPV | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*4002 (B61) | p2p7p1p6 | 64–71 | TERQANFL | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*4002 (B61) | Nef | 92–100 | KEKGGLEGL | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003; Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2000 |

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|-----------|---------|-------------|---|
| B42 | Integrase | 28–36 | LPPIVAKEI | Kiepiela <i>et al.</i> , 2007 |
| B42 | Integrase | 260–268 | VPRRKAKII | Kiepiela & Goulder, 2002 |
| B*4201 (B42) | p24 | 48–56 | TPQDLNTML | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2000a |
| B*4201 (B42) | RT | 271–279 | YPGIKVRQL | Wilkes & Ruhl, 1999 |
| B*4201 (B42) | Nef | 71–79 | RPQVPLRPM | Honeyborne, 2006 |
| B*4201 (B42) | Nef | 128–137 | TPGPGVRYPL | Goulder, 1999 |
| B44 | Protease | 34–42 | EEMNLPGRW | Rodriguez <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| B44 | gp160 | 31–39 | AENLWVTVY | Borrow <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*4402 (B44) | p24 | 162–172 | RDYVDRFYKTL | Ogg <i>et al.</i> , 1998 |
| B*4402 (B44) | p24 | 174–184 | AEQASQDVKNW | Lewinsohn, 1999 |
| B*4402 (B44) | gp160 | 31–40 | AENLWVTVYY | Borrow <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*4403 (B44) | p17 | 78–86 | LYNTVATLY | Masemola <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| B*4415 (B12) | p24 | 28–36 | EEKAFSPEV | Bird <i>et al.</i> , 2002 |
| B*4501 (B45) | p2p7p1p6 | 1–10 | AEAMSQVTNS | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| B50 | Nef | 37–45 | LEKHGAITS | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004b |
| B51 | Vif | 57–66 | IPLGDAKLII | Bansal <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| B51 | Vpr | 29–37 | EAVRHFPRI | Cao <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*5101 (B51) | RT | 42–50 | EKEGKISKI | Haas <i>et al.</i> , 1998; Haas, 1999 |
| B*5101 (B51) | RT | 128–135 | TAFTIPSI | Sipsas <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B*5101 (B51) | gp160 | 416–424 | LPCRKIQII | Tomiyama <i>et al.</i> , 1999 |
| B*5201 (B52) | p24 | 143–150 | RMYSPTSI | Wilkes & Ruhl, 1999; Wilson <i>et al.</i> , 1997 |
| B53 | Nef | 135–143 | YPLTFGWCF | Kiepiela & Goulder, 2002 |
| B*5301 (B53) | p24 | 48–56 | TPYDINQML | Gotch <i>et al.</i> , 1993 |
| B*5301 (B53) | p24 | 176–184 | QASQEVKNW | Buseyne <i>et al.</i> , 1996, 1997; Buseyne, 1999 |
| B*5301 (B53) | Tat | 2–11 | EPVDPRLEPW | Addo <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| B*5301 (B53) | Nef | 135–143 | YPLTFGWCY | Sabbaj <i>et al.</i> , 2003 |
| B*5501 (B55) | gp160 | 42–51 | VPVWKEATTT | Shankar <i>et al.</i> , 1996; Lieberman, 1999 |

Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|--------------|---------|-------------|--|
| B57 | p24 | 32–40 | FSPEVIPMF | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B57 | Protease | 70–77 | KAIGTVLV | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B57 | Integrase | 123–132 | STTVKAACWW | Rodriguez <i>et al.</i> , 2004; Addo & Rathod, 2004 |
| B57 | Nef | 116–124 | HTQGYFPDW | Draenert, 2002 |
| B57 | Nef | 127–135 | YTPGPGIRY | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B57 | Nef | 137–145 | LTFGWCFKL | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B*5701 (B57) | p24 | 15–23 | ISPRTLNAW | Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1991; Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| B*5701 (B57) | p24 | 30–40 | KAFSPEVIPMF | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| B*5701 (B57) | p24 | 108–117 | TSTLQEIQGW | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| B*5701 (B57) | p24 | 176–184 | QASQEVKNW | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| B*5701 (B57) | RT | 244–252 | IVLPEKDSW | van der Burg <i>et al.</i> , 1997; Hay, 1999 |
| B*5701 (B57) | Integrase | 173–181 | KTAVQMAVF | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996b; Hay, 1999 |
| B*5701 (B57) | Vpr | 30–38 | AVRHFPRIW | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a |
| B*5701 (B57) | Vif | 31–39 | ISKKAKGWF | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a |
| B*5701 (B57) | Rev | 14–23 | KAVRLIKFLY | Addo <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| B*5701 (B57) | Nef | 116–125 | HTQGYFPDWQ | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| B*5701 (B57) | Nef | 120–128 | YFPDWQNYT | Culmann <i>et al.</i> , 1991 |
| B*5703 (B57) | p24 | 30–37 | KAFSPEVI | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2000b |
| B*5703 (B57) | p24 | 30–40 | KAFSPEVIPMF | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2000b |
| B*5703 (B57) | Nef | 83–91 | AAFDLSFFL | Gray <i>et al.</i> , 2009 |
| B58 | p17 | 76–86 | RSLYNTVATLY | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B58 | Tat | 2–11 | EPVDPRLPEW | Frahm & Brander, 2005 |
| B58 | gp160 | 59–69 | KAYETEVHNVW | Rathod & Bishop, 2006 |
| B*5801 (B58) | p24 | 108–117 | TSTLQEIQGW | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1996b; Bertoletti <i>et al.</i> , 1998 |
| B*5801 (B58) | RT | 375–383 | IAMESIVIW | Kiepiela & Goulder, 2002 |
| B*5801 (B58) | Rev | 14–23 | KAVRLIKFLY | Addo <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| B62 | Nef | 19–27 | RMRAEPAA | Cao, 2002 |
| B63 | p17 | 76–86 | RSLYNTVATLY | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B63 | p24 | 15–23 | ISPRTLNAW | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B63 | p24 | 30–40 | KAFSPEVIPMF | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B63 | Rev | 14–23 | KAVRLIKFLY | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B63 | Nef | 127–135 | YTPGPGIRY | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B63 | Nef | 137–145 | LTFGWCFKL | Frahm <i>et al.</i> , 2005 |
| B81 | Protease | 80–90 | TPVNIIGRNML | Honeyborne <i>et al.</i> , 2006 |
| B81 | RT-Integrase | 560–8 | LFLDGIDKA | Addo, 2002 |
| B*8101 (B81) | p24 | 48–56 | TPQDLNTML | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2000a |
| B*8101 (B81) | Vpr | 34–42 | FPRIWLHGL | Altfeld <i>et al.</i> , 2001a |

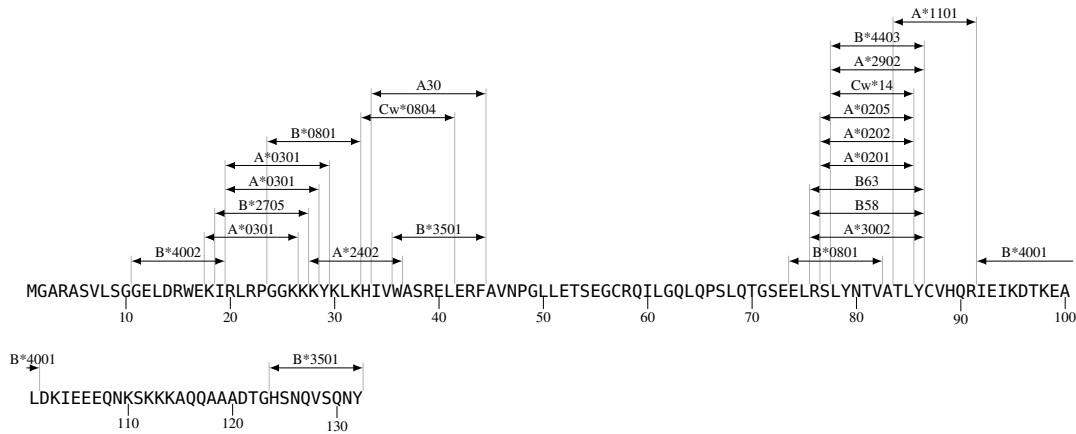
Table I-A-1: Best defined HIV CTL epitopes (cont.).

| HLA | Protein | AA | Sequence | Reference |
|----------------|------------|---------|--------------|--|
| Cw1 | gp160 | 218–226 | CAPAGFAIL | Zuñiga, 2008; Streeck <i>et al.</i> , 2008 |
| Cw*0102 (Cw1) | p24 | 36–43 | VIPMFSAL | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 1997a |
| Cw*0102 (Cw1) | Gag-Pol TF | 24–31 | NSPTRREL | Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2006 |
| Cw3 | Nef | 83–91 | AALDLSHFL | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004b |
| Cw*0303 (Cw9) | p24 | 164–172 | YVDRFFKTL | Honeyborne, 2003 |
| Cw*0304 (Cw10) | p24 | 164–172 | YVDRFFKTL | Honeyborne, 2003 |
| Cw*0304 (Cw10) | gp160 | 557–565 | RAIEAQQHL | Currier <i>et al.</i> , 2002; Trocha, 2002 |
| Cw*0401 (Cw4) | gp160 | 375–383 | SFNCGGEFF | Wilson <i>et al.</i> , 1997; Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 1993 |
| Cw5 | p24 | 174–185 | AEQASQEVKNWM | Draenert <i>et al.</i> , 2004b |
| Cw*0501 | Rev | 67–75 | SAEPVPLQL | Addo <i>et al.</i> , 2001 |
| Cw6 | Nef | 120–128 | YFPDWQNYT | Frahm & Brander, 2005 |
| Cw7 | Nef | 105–115 | KRQEILDLWVY | Kiepiela & Goulder, 2002; Yu <i>et al.</i> , 2002a |
| Cw8 | gp160 | 557–565 | RAIEAQQHM | Bishop & Honeyborne, 2006 |
| Cw8 | Nef | 82–91 | KAAVDLSHFL | Harrer <i>et al.</i> , 1996b |
| Cw*0802 (Cw8) | p24 | 48–56 | TPQDLNTML | Goulder <i>et al.</i> , 2000a; Honeyborne & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| Cw*0802 (Cw8) | RT | 495–503 | IVTDSQYAL | Rathod & Honeyborne, 2006 |
| Cw*0802 (Cw8) | Nef | 83–91 | AAVDLSHFL | Cao <i>et al.</i> , 2003; Rathod & Honeyborne, 2006 |
| Cw*0804 (Cw8) | p17 | 33–41 | HLVWASREL | Masemola <i>et al.</i> , 2004 |
| Cw12 | Tat | 30–37 | CCFHCQVC | Cao <i>et al.</i> , 2003; Nixon <i>et al.</i> , 1999 |
| Cw14 | p17 | 78–85 | LYNTVATL | Horton & Havenar-Daughton, 2005 |
| Cw15 | gp160 | 557–565 | RAIEAQQHL | Trocha, 2002 |
| Cw18 | p24 | 142–150 | VRMYSVSI | Honeyborne, 2006 |
| Cw18 | p24 | 161–169 | FRDYVDRFF | Honeyborne & Kiepiela, 2005 |
| Cw18 | Integrase | 165–172 | VRDQAEHL | Rathod & Honeyborne, 2006 |
| Cw18 | Vpu | 5–13 | YRLGVGALI | Honeyborne, 2006 |

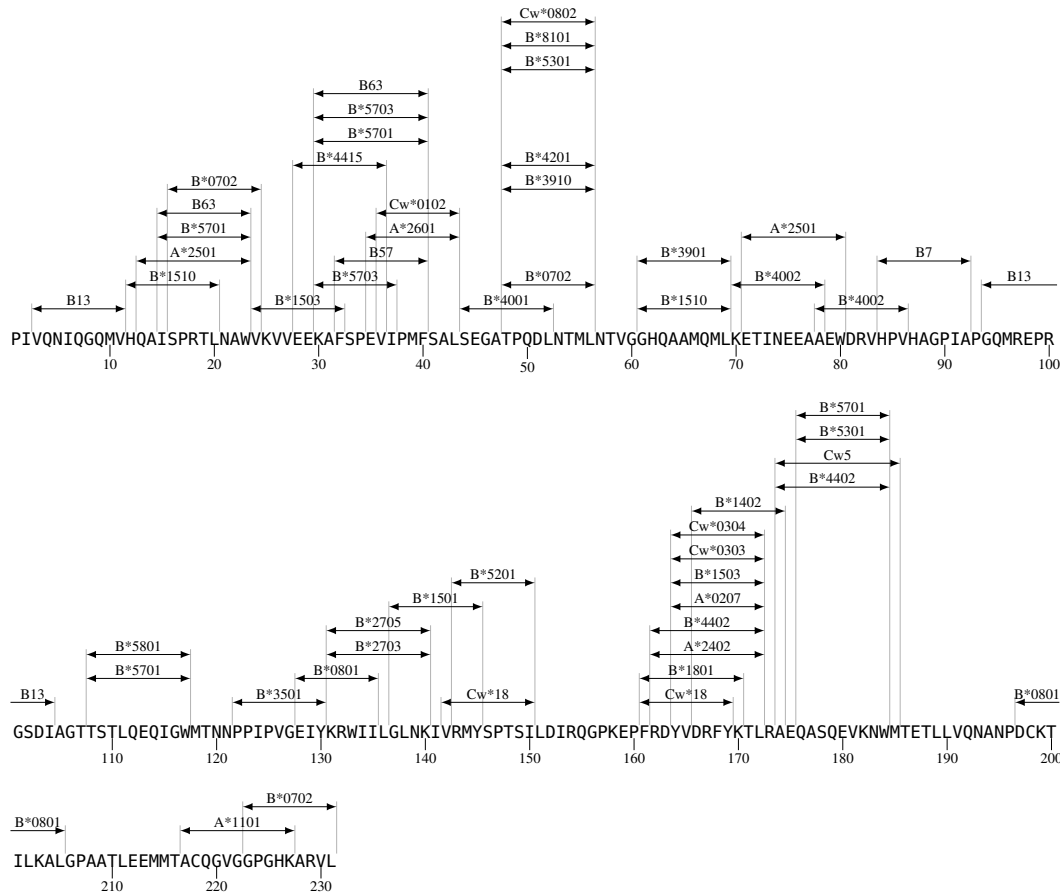
I-A-4 Map of optimal HIV-1 CTL epitopes

The location and HLA restriction elements of CTL epitopes are indicated on protein sequences of HXB2. These maps are meant to provide the relative location of defined epitopes on a given protein, but the HXB2 sequence may not actually carry the epitope of interest, as it may vary relative to the sequence for which the epitope was defined.

p17 Optimal CTL Epitope Map

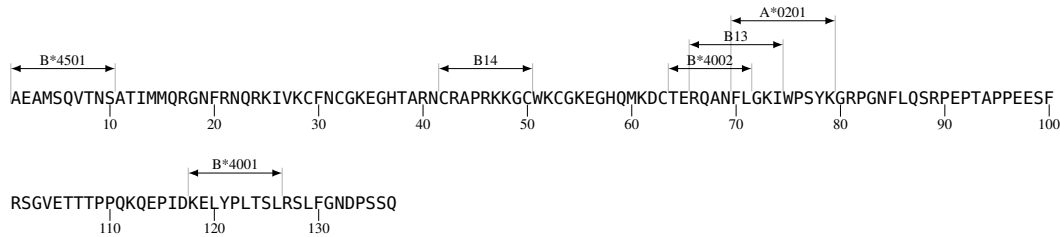


p24 Optimal CTL Epitope Map

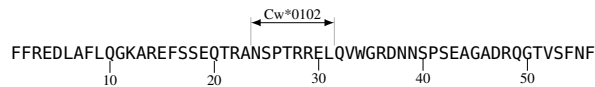


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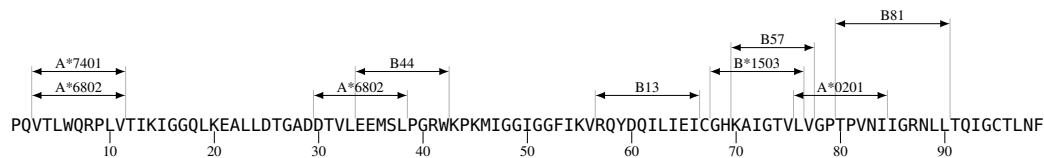
p2p7p1p6 Optimal CTL Epitope Map



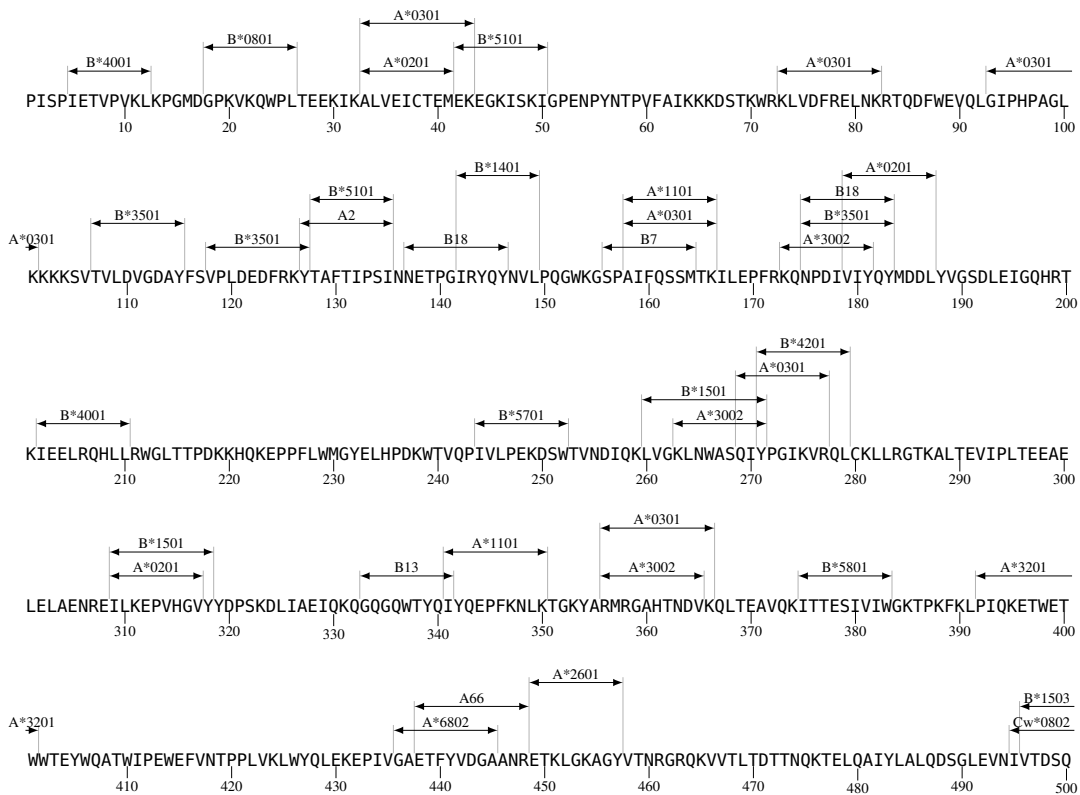
Gag/Pol TF Optimal CTL Epitope Map



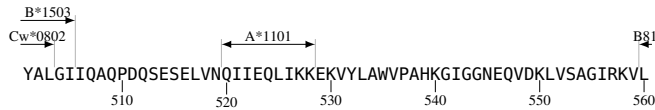
Protease Optimal CTL Epitope Map



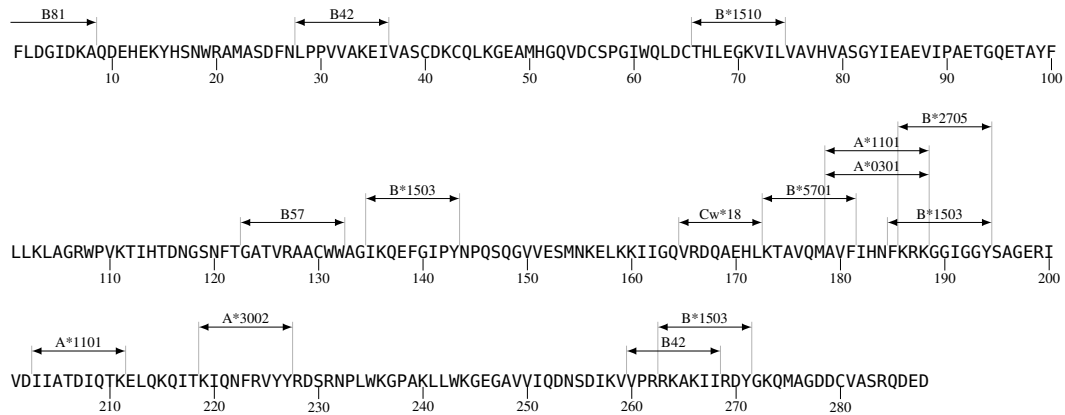
RT Optimal CTL Epitope Map



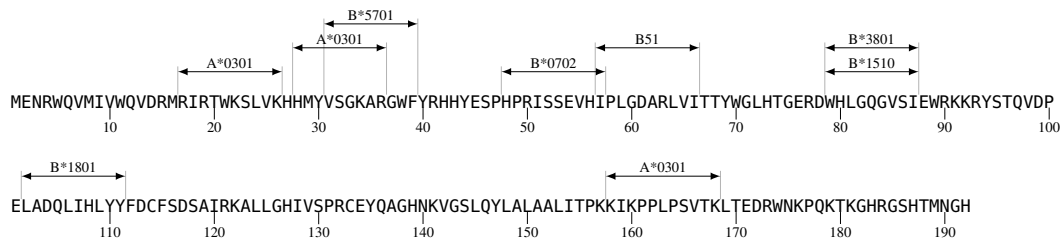
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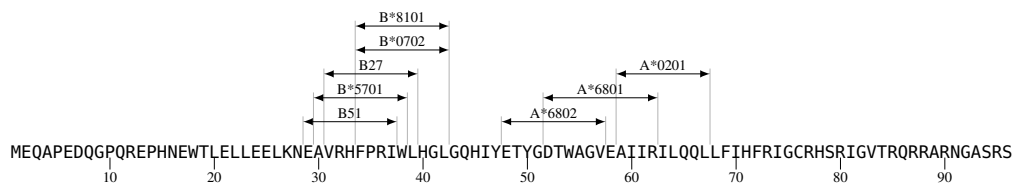
Integrase Optimal CTL Epitope Map



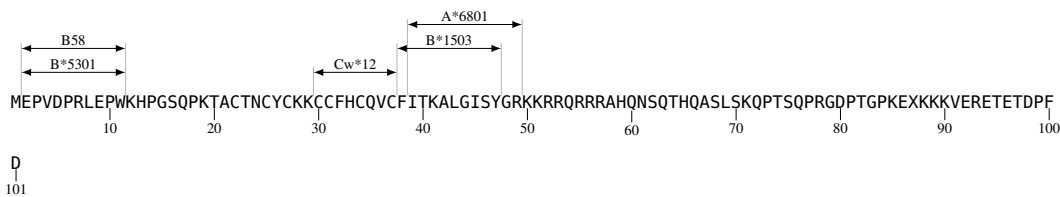
Vif Optimal CTL Epitope Map



Vpr Optimal CTL Epitope Map

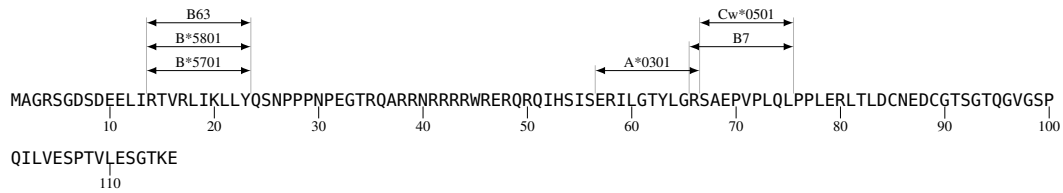


Tat Optimal CTL Epitope Map

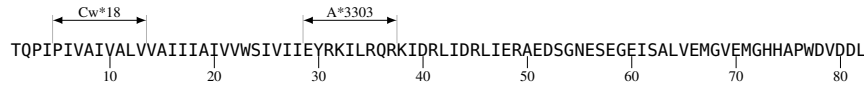


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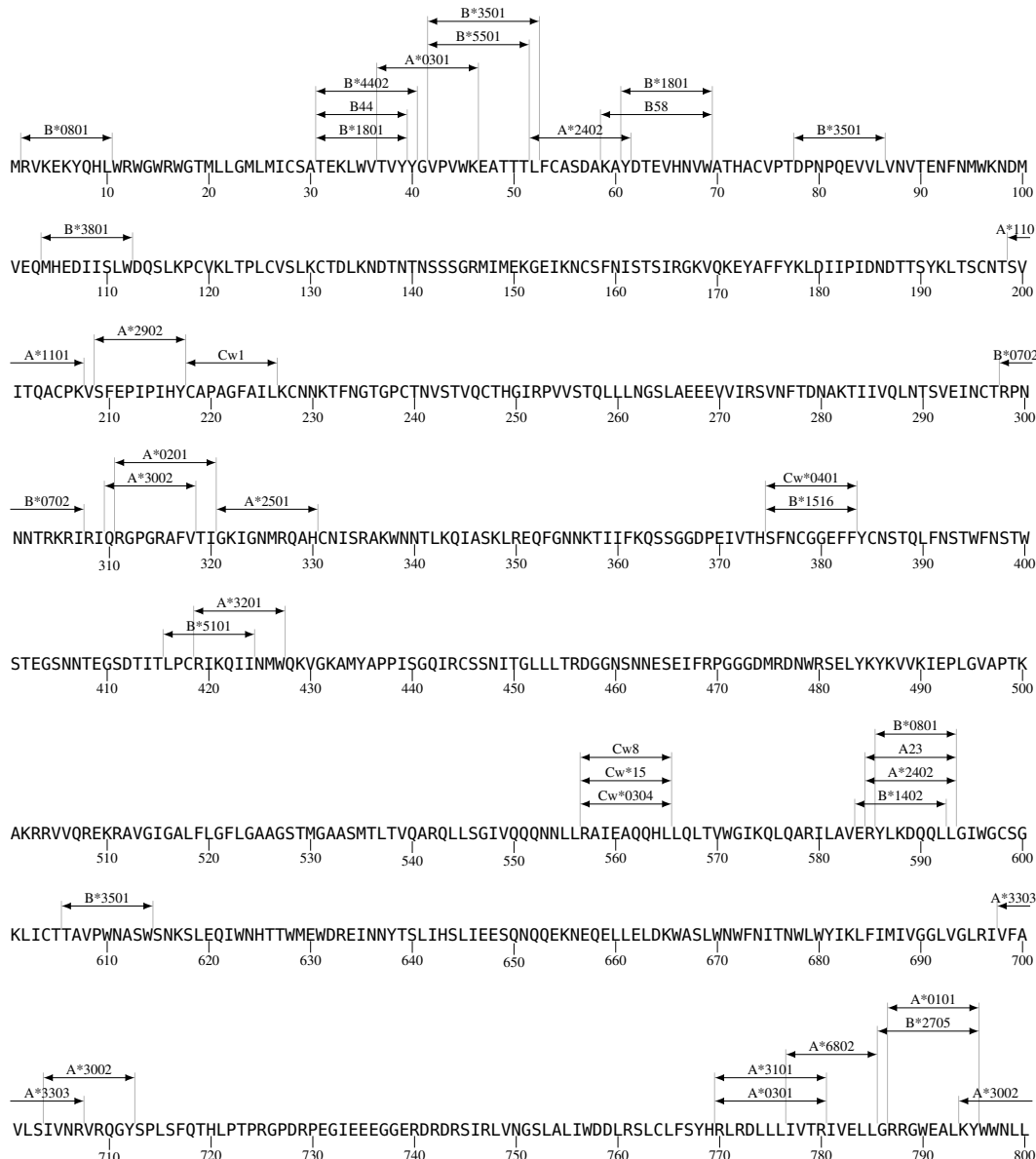
Rev Optimal CTL Epitope Map



Vpu Optimal CTL Epitope Map



gp160 Optimal CTL Epitope Map



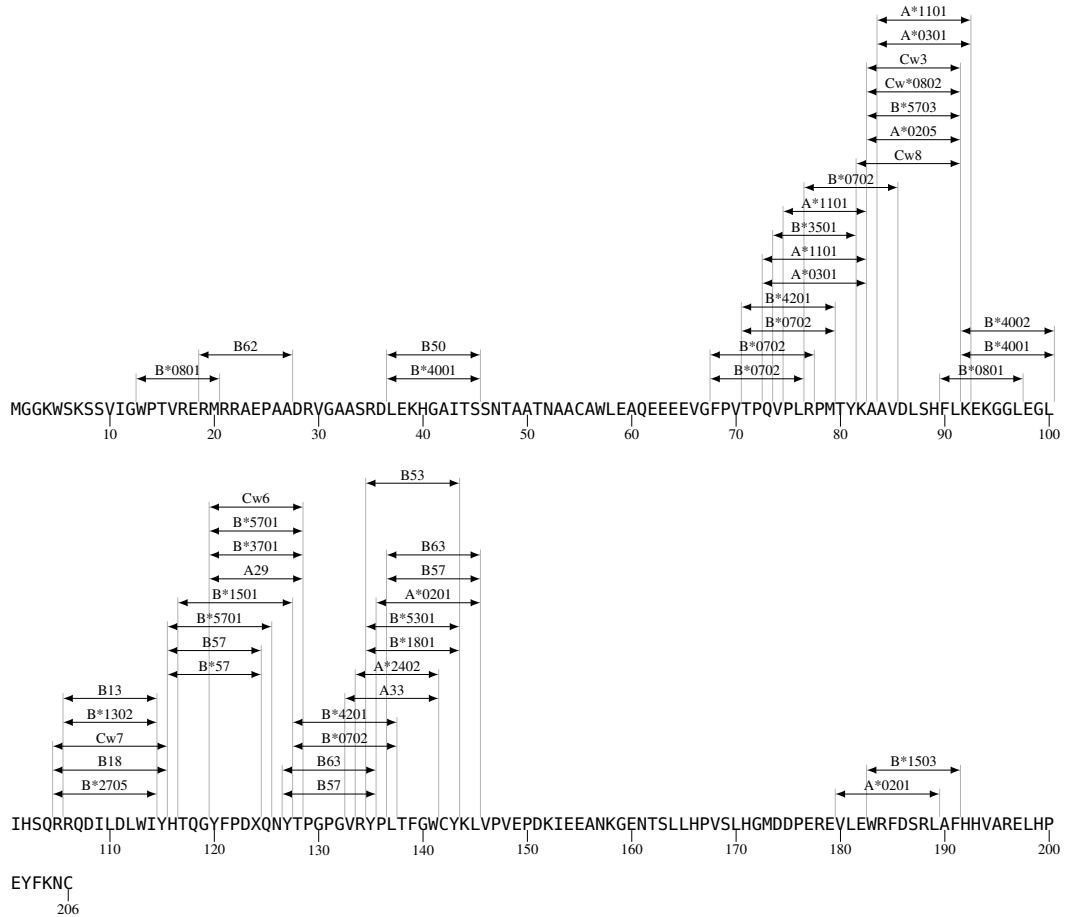
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Optimal HIV-1 CTL Epitopes

Map of optimal HIV-1 CTL epitopes



Nef Optimal CTL Epitope Map



I-A-5 References

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