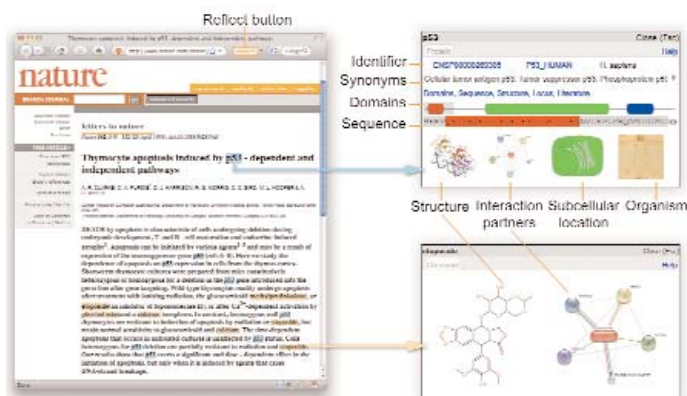


Embargoed until Tuesday, 9 June 2009, 20:00 BST

## New EMBL service makes web browsing efficient for biologists



Reflect applied to a pubmed webpage. Protein names found in the text are highlighted in blue, chemicals in orange. Pop-up windows provide extra information on the bio-molecules.

**Heidelberg, 9 June 2009** - The life sciences are scaling up and produce huge amounts of data and new literature at an amazing pace. The European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) now offers a new free service to help researchers,

teachers and students keep up-to-date with scientific literature on the web, especially when researching unfamiliar molecules.

In the current issue of *Nature Biotechnology* researchers of EMBL's Structural and Computational Biology Unit present 'Reflect', a new automated document annotation service. Reflect pinpoints all genes, proteins and small molecule names on any web page. With a single click pop-up windows provide extra information on any molecule, such as domain structure, subcellular localisation, 3D structure, and interaction partners in the case of proteins, and the chemical structure and interaction partners in the case of small molecules. The information is based on biological databases comprising 1.5 million proteins from 373 organisms and 4.3 million small molecules.

Reflect was recently awarded the first prize in the Elsevier Grand Challenge, an international contest that attracted over 70 submissions that improve the way scientific information is communicated

Reflect is freely available on the web at: <http://reflect.ws>. ●

### Source Article

Pafilis, E., O'Donoghue, S.I., Jensen, L.J., Horn, H., Kuhn, M., Brown, N.P. & Schneider, R. Reflect - Augmented Browsing for the Life Scientist. *Nature Biotechnology*, 9 June 2009

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## **About EMBL**

The European Molecular Biology Laboratory is a basic research institute funded by public research monies from 20 member states (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) and associate member state Australia. Research at EMBL is conducted by approximately 80 independent groups covering the spectrum of molecular biology. The Laboratory has five units: the main Laboratory in Heidelberg, and Outstations in Hinxton (the European Bioinformatics Institute), Grenoble, Hamburg, and Monterotondo near Rome. The cornerstones of EMBL's mission are: to perform basic research in molecular biology; to train scientists, students and visitors at all levels; to offer vital services to scientists in the member states; to develop new instruments and methods in the life sciences and to actively engage in technology transfer activities. EMBL's International PhD Programme has a student body of about 170. The Laboratory also sponsors an active Science and Society programme. Visitors from the press and public are welcome.

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