# ASAP system User Guide

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## Overview

ASAP system provides a tool for performing complicated annotations from one central place, where you can keep your results stored for a while. ASAP uses different sources of information to make annotations. It can hit remote internet site for an annotation or query local database that is populated once in a period of time to keep up with the constantly updating world of biological annotations.

There are couple problems that caused us create ASAP system. Sometimes to get a full annotation information you need to go through few sites to obtain, extract and compose the information. What if you need to do it for a number of entries, what if for hundreds, what if for thousands? The ASAP system allow to wrap the sequence of annotations in one annotation plan that you can use any time from the same interface as for any other plans.

## How It Works

We create an annotation plan for a problem. We insert it in ASAP system. You query the plan. ASAP assigns a *job* number to the *query*, performs the *job*, which *status* can be checked at any time. Upon finishing you can view or download results. That how it works in a nutshell.

## Details

### FAQ

**Q**: What is **ASAP**?
**A**: ASAP = Automated Sequence Annotation Pipeline. It is a system that contains different plans of various annotations that you can use for your needs.

**Q**: I have a certain problem to solve. How do I use the **ASAP** to do it?
**A**: So far, there are two ways to do it.
Number one is when we have an annotation plan for your problem – then you need just to query the plan submitting your information and receive the results *ASAP*.
Second way is when you have rather specific problem and we didn't create a plan for it yet. Please contact us with the description of the problem and the plan for it will be created *ASAP*.
In the next version of the **ASAP** (when we'll create enough different small independent plans) we intend to include into system the ability for the user to combine the plans together to receive the answer user needs.

**Q**: What is a '*plan*'?
**A**: In a nutshell, plan is a script that is programmed to take some input, and using different sources (local and remote databases, internet sites, programs, etc.), to get information (annotation) about this input.

**Q**: Why should I register?
**A**: Why not? It takes just about 15 seconds to do and it gives you the flexibility of keeping track of all queries you performed, allows you to customize your environment, and of course helps us to control things that happening in our system.

**Q**: What is a '*query*'?
**A**: That is obviously the action you can do with a plan to receive some information from it by passing some input.

**Q**: What is a '*job*'?
**A**: Job is created to handle your single query.

**Q**: What is a '*status*'?
**A**: You can check status of any job (in other words, query progress) you launched. A portion of queries (e.g. with BLAST search) take some time to be finished and the status is the convenient feature to keep you posted on the job's progress.


# Home
The home page shows you the links to the most used by you plans, last plans you used and the most popular plans for all users. There is also information on the number of queries you submitted and how much of them have been finished.


# Query
Pick a plan to query, then submit input information following the directions of the query screen. Press 'Submit' button to start the processing. You'll be redirected to status of the job you just submitted.

## Status

Pick a job to see status. You can name the job (assign some special name for it so it will be more understandable and easier to read for you). If it is not finished you can press refresh to update the status of the job. Once you have the job finished you'll be able to download or view results if any availible.

## Register

If you are not logged in (or never were) you can register to become a user of the system. Be a user of the system means to be able to use it. Just specify the name you want to use, password and e-mail (the e-mail will be used to alarm you when a job is finished).

## Profile

Change your personal custom information here

## Login

Specify your username and password to log in. Hit 'Remember me' box for automatic login next time you entered the system. If administrator configured the LDAP login, you can login without being registered – just specify your institution ID and password. For the security reasons the passwords are stored in md5 code.
If you forgot your password use 'Forgot your password?' link to get the new password by e-mail.

## Logout

Press to logout from the system, so to protect you information from the person who will possibly use the same computer after you.