

# Data mining in Ensembl with BioMart

## Worked Example – Demonstrating the Linked Dataset

BioMart can federate (join together) databases, in this example we will join two different datasets, Ensembl genes and RGD (the Rat Genome Database) to identify all Ensembl genes involved in carbohydrate metabolism in rat. First, we will limit our search to genes involved in the *carbohydrate metabolic process*. By linking the RGD and Ensembl databases, we ask for only genes in both databases (the intersection of the two sets). The *RGD ID*, *Ensembl gene* and *transcript ID*, along with the '*Disease Ontology*' term from RGD are all selected as output columns.

**STEP 1:**  
Go to the BioMart Central server page  
[www.biomart.org](http://www.biomart.org)



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### BioMart Project

BioMart is a query-oriented data management system developed jointly by the [European Bioinformatics Institute \(EBI\)](#) and [Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory \(CSHL\)](#).

The system can be used with any type of data and comes with a range of query interfaces and administration tools, including 'out of the box' website that can be installed, configured and customised according to requirements. The system simplifies the task of creation and maintenance of advanced query interfaces backed by a relational database and it is particularly suited for providing the 'data mining' like searches of complex descriptive (e.g. biological) data. BioMart can work with existing data repositories by converting them to a required BioMart format as well as newly created databases.

BioMart has built-in support for query optimization, which makes it particularly useful when working with large data repositories storing high throughput experiment data such as genomic sequence or microarray experiments. The system can also be used with small datasets typical of the 'wet lab' environment because it only requires a minimal support. BioMart architecture makes possible to cross-query multiple datasets distributed across the internet, removing the need to integrate and store data locally. BioMart data can be accessed using either web, graphical, or text based applications, or programmatically using web services or software libraries written in Perl and Java. Currently supported RDBMS platforms are MySQL, Oracle and Postgres.

BioMart is completely Open Source, licensed under the LGPL, and freely available to anyone without restrictions

#### Powered by BioMart software:

- [Central Server](#)
- [Ensembl](#)
- [HapMap](#)
- [Dictybase](#)
- [Wormbase](#)
- [Gramene](#)
- [Rat Genome Database](#)
- [DroSpeGe](#)
- [ArrayExpress DW](#)
- [GermOnLine](#)
- [PRIDE](#)
- [PepSeeker](#)
- [Pancreatic Expression Database](#)
- [Reactome](#)



**STEP 2:**  
Click on 'Central server'

New Count Results XML Perl Help

Dataset [None selected] - CHOOSE DATABASE -

**STEP 3:**  
 Select the database:  
**Ensembl 48 genes**  
 and the species of interest  
 under 'Choose Dataset'.  
 (*Rattus norvegicus genes*)

New Count Results XML Perl Help

Dataset Rattus norvegicus genes (RGSC3.4)  
 Filters [None selected]  
 Attributes Ensembl Gene ID, Ensembl Transcript ID

Dataset [None Selected] - CHOOSE ADDITIONAL DATASET -

**STEP 4:**  
 Click on the secondary Dataset to join this query to the **RGD genes (MCW)**. (Choose the option available as 'Additional dataset'.)

New Count Results XML Perl Help

Dataset Rattus norvegicus genes (RGSC3.4)  
 Filters [None selected]  
 Attributes Ensembl Gene ID, Ensembl Transcript ID

Dataset 20071127  
 Filters [None selected]  
 Attributes [None selected]

[RGD GENES (MCW)] 20071127

**STEP 5:**  
 Click 'Filters' in the second (RGD) database.

**New** **Count** **Results** XML Perl Help

Please restrict your query using criteria below

**Dataset**  
Rattus norvegicus genes (RGSC3.4)

**Filters**  
[None selected]

**Attributes**  
Ensembl Gene ID  
Ensembl Transcript ID

**Dataset**  
20071127

**Filters**  
[None selected]  
Biological Process :  
carbohydrate metabolic process

**Attributes**  
[None selected]

Gene Information

Genome Map v3.4

External Database Identifiers

Gene Ontology Slim Annotations

Molecular Function

Biological Process

Cellular Component

Disease Ontology

**STEP 6:**  
Expand 'Gene Ontology Slim Annotations' and select 'Biological Process' as 'carbohydrate metabolic process'

The filters have determined our gene set. Click '**Count**' (at the top) to see how many genes have passed these filters.

**STEP 7:**  
Click on '**Attributes**'

**New** **Count** **Results** XML Perl Help

Please select columns to be included in the output and hit 'Results' when ready

GENE AND FUNCTION  DATABASE ACCESSIONS

GENE DATA

MAPPING

ONTOLOGY ANNOTATIONS

**Dataset** 27673 / 27673 Genes  
Rattus norvegicus genes (RGSC3.4)

**Filters**  
[None selected]

**Attributes**  
Ensembl Gene ID  
Ensembl Transcript ID

**Dataset** 298 / 39154 Entries  
20071127

**Filters**  
[None selected]

**STEP 8:**  
Expand the 'GENE DATA' panel, and select 'RGD ID'.

**STEP 9:**  
Expand the 'ONTOLOGY ANNOTATIONS' to select **Disease Ontology**. (DO term)

**STEP 10:**  
Click **RESULTS** at the top to  
preview the output

New Count **Results** XML Perl Help

Please select columns to be included in the output and hit 'Results' when ready

GENE AND FUNCTION  DATABASE ACCESSIONS

GENE DATA

**Gene Data**

Symbol  Entrez Gene ID  
 Name  Description  
 RGD ID

MAPPING

ONTOLOGY ANNOTATIONS

**Gene Ontology**

Qualifier  Evidence Code  
 GO ID  With From  
 Go term  Aspect  
 Db reference

**Geneontology Slim Annotation**

GO slim ID  GO slim term

**Disease Ontology**

DB Reference  Evidence  
 DO ID  Qualifier  
 DO term  With From  
 Aspect

**Mammalian Physiology Annotation**

DB Reference  Evidence  
 MP ID  Qualifier  
 MP Term  With From  
 Aspect

Dataset 27673 / 27673 Genes  
Rattus norvegicus genes (RGSC3.4)  
**Filters**  
[None selected]  
**Attributes**  
Ensembl Gene ID  
Ensembl Transcript ID

Dataset 298 / 39154 Entries  
20071127  
**Filters**  
[None selected]  
Biological Process :  
carbohydrate metabolic  
process  
**Attributes**  
RGD ID  
DO term

hart version 0.6

Note the summary of selected  
options.

The order of attributes  
determines the order of  
columns in the result table.

**New** **Count** **Results**

**Dataset** 27673 / 27673 Genes  
Rattus norvegicus genes (RGSC3.4)

**Filters**  
[None selected]

**Attributes**  
Ensembl Gene ID  
Ensembl Transcript ID

**Dataset** 298 / 39154 Entries  
20071127

**Filters**  
[None selected]  
Biological Process :  
carbohydrate metabolic process

**Attributes**  
RGD ID  
DO term

Export all results to    Unique results only

Email notification to

View  rows as   Unique results

| Ensembl Gene ID                    | Ensembl Transcript ID              | RGD ID                  | DO term               |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000033162</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000039871</a> | <a href="#">1303058</a> |                       |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000023148</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000024138</a> | <a href="#">2372</a>    | Bone Diseases         |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000023148</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000023693</a> | <a href="#">2372</a>    | Bone Diseases         |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a> | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Breast Neoplasms      |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a> | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Carcinoma, Renal Cell |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a> | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Kidney Neoplasms      |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a> | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Carcinoma in Situ     |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a> | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Colorectal Neoplasms  |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a> | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Ovarian Neoplasms     |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000017012</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000022988</a> | <a href="#">2381</a>    |                       |

To save a file of the complete table, click 'Go'. Or, email the results to any address.

**STEP 11:**  
Go back and change Filters or Attributes if desired. Or, View 'ALL' as HTML...

| Ensembl Gene ID                    | Ensembl Transcript ID               | RGD ID                  | DO term                      |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000033162</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000039871</a>  | <a href="#">1303058</a> |                              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000023148</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000024138</a>  | <a href="#">2372</a>    | Bone Diseases                |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000023148</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000023693</a>  | <a href="#">2372</a>    | Bone Diseases                |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a>  | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Breast Neoplasms             |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a>  | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Carcinoma, Renal Cell        |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a>  | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Kidney Neoplasms             |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a>  | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Carcinoma in Situ            |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a>  | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Colorectal Neoplasms         |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000028629</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031164</a>  | <a href="#">2081</a>    | Ovarian Neoplasms            |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000017012</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000022988</a>  | <a href="#">2381</a>    |                              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000007467</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031440</a>  | <a href="#">2493</a>    | Cardiomyopathy, Hypertrophic |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000007467</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031440</a>  | <a href="#">2493</a>    | Coronary Arteriosclerosis    |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000007467</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031440</a>  | <a href="#">2493</a>    | Obesity                      |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000007467</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000031440</a>  | <a href="#">2493</a>    | Hypertension                 |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000022282</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000016044</a>  | <a href="#">2375</a>    |                              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000000572</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000000697</a>  | <a href="#">620355</a>  | Osteochondrodysplasias       |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000011150</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000014860</a>  | <a href="#">2158</a>    | Mucopolysaccharidosis VI     |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000005849</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000008337</a>  | <a href="#">2019</a>    |                              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000003745</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000005085</a>  | <a href="#">2165</a>    |                              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000003500</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000004662</a>  | <a href="#">2131</a>    | Hyperthyroidism              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000003500</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000004662</a>  | <a href="#">2131</a>    | Hypertriglyceridemia         |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000003500</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000004662</a>  | <a href="#">2131</a>    | Obesity                      |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000008885</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000012017</a>  | <a href="#">1308400</a> |                              |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000006807</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000009111</a>  | <a href="#">2090</a>    | Fructose Intolerance         |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000006807</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT000000059880</a> | <a href="#">2090</a>    | Fructose Intolerance         |
| <a href="#">ENSRNOG00000001344</a> | <a href="#">ENSRNOT00000001816</a>  | <a href="#">69219</a>   | Fatty Liver, Alcoholic       |

**END OF WORKED EXAMPLE**