SEQUENCHER®

Version 5.4.6

Release Notes

Gene Codes Corporation

T C A G E N E
A G T C O D E S

Release Notes

What's Changed

- **Email address required for NCBI BLAST searches**

In accordance with NCBI guidelines, you will now be prompted for an email address the first time you use **BLAST** from **Sequencher Connections**.

- **Sequencher Connections Can Now Connect to https://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/**

NCBI has changed their web protocol to the more secure https. We have made changes to ensure that **Sequencher Connections** can connect to this new server.

- **Historic Sequencher Connections Sessions Can Still be Opened**

A **Sequencher Connections Session** created before the NCBI URL changeover, can still be viewed as a historic **Session**.

- **Change to Historic Session Message in Webview**

The message that appears in **Webview** has been altered and will be displayed when **Sequencher Connections** cannot connect to NCBI.
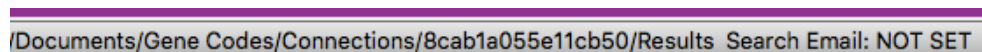
- **Rare Font Issue on Windows 10 Fixed**

A rare font issue that only affects Windows 10 users of **Sequencher** has been fixed. This does not affect older versions of Windows.
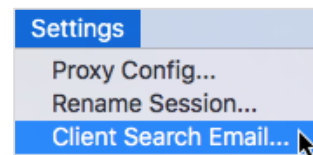
What's Changed

Email address required for NCBI BLAST searches

NCBI requires that you include an email address with your **BLAST** searches especially if you are sending several searches at a time. There are two reasons for this, the first is so that you can be contacted if there is a problem with your search. The second reason is to ensure that organizations which use **BLAST** a lot, but have only one external IP address, do not get blacklisted for over-using the facility because of the number of users initiating **BLAST** searches from that IP address. With the combination of email and IP address, NCBI is able to determine that it is not a single individual abusing the service.
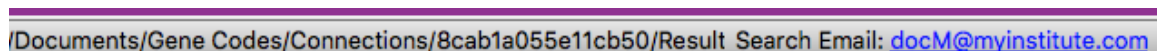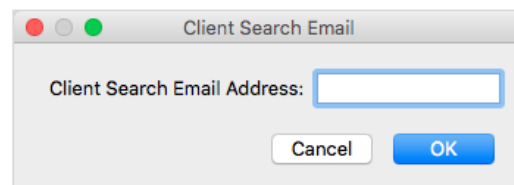
If you are running **BLAST** for the first time with **Sequencer** 5.4.6, **Sequencer Connections** will now ask you to enter your email address into a dialog. Your email address is only used with the **BLAST** searches. The email address appears at the bottom right-hand side of your **Sequencer Connections** session window. Initially, this will say **Search Email: NOT SET**.

If the email address needs to be changed, you may do so by going to the **Settings** menu and selecting **Client Search Email…**
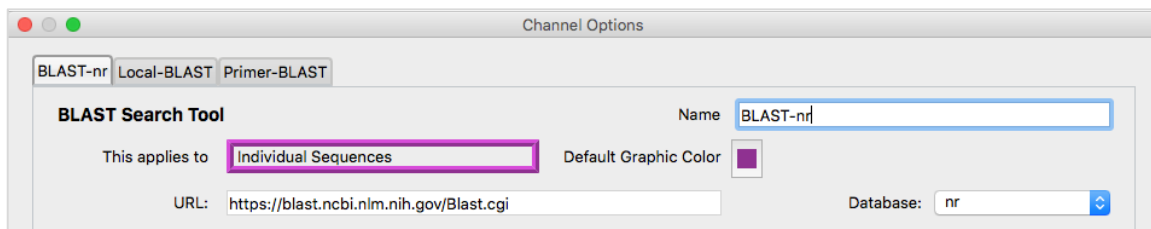

You enter your email address into the **Client Search Email** dialog. The address will be displayed at the bottom right-hand side of your session window.

Sequencer Connections Can Now Connect to https://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/

NCBI informed its users that they were changing their web protocol from http to https effective September 30, 2016. After this date, any program using the old http style address would no longer be able to send any searches to their **BLAST** or **Primer-BLAST** servers (this does not affect **Local-BLAST**). In order to ensure that **Sequencer** customers on current support plans were not inconvenienced by this change, we brought out this maintenance release.

The only visible sign of the change can be found in the **Options** for a **Sequencer Connections** channel where the URL now commences with https: instead of http:.
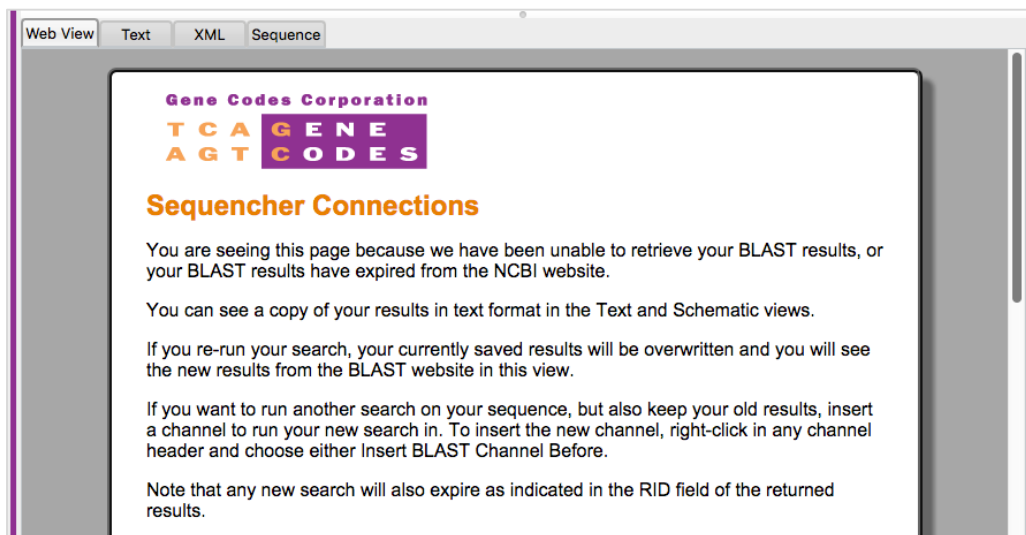
Historic Sequencher Connections Sessions Can Still be Opened

If you have created a **Sequencher Connection Session** before the NCBI URL changeover you will still be able to view the results as a historic **Session**. The status in cells containing a completed **BLAST** or **Primer-BLAST** run will appear as Done. You will be able to view your results in the **Text** tab.

Change to Historic Session Message in Webview

The message that appears in **Webview** has been updated. Previously, the user was informed that we were unable to retrieve their results from NCBI because their search had expired from the NCBI website. However, the user was still able to view any existing results in the **Text** tab of the **Sequencher Connections** results pane. This message will now appear in situations where users are unable to connect to NCBI. For example, if the user has no internet connection or if there is a server error at NCBI.

Rare Font Issue on Windows 10 Fixed

Sequencher uses some special fonts in order to make certain types of information stand out clearly. A rare font issue, that only affects Windows 10 users of **Sequencher**, has been fixed. Windows 10 prevents the installation of fonts it does not recognize, even if the user has given permission for the program employing those fonts to be installed. On Windows Home Edition, the user has no control over this Windows feature. On Windows Pro and Enterprise Editions, the user can change a policy which allows the installation of such fonts. However, if the user was working on Windows Home Edition or had the restrictive policy set in Windows Pro or Enterprise Editions, then **Sequencher** would quit on startup with an error message.

We have changed how **Sequencher** responds to a missing font so that users can continue to work. If the user starts to work in an area where the font is required, **Sequencher** will alert them and suggest that they try to re-install. They can still continue to work after dismissing the error dialog.