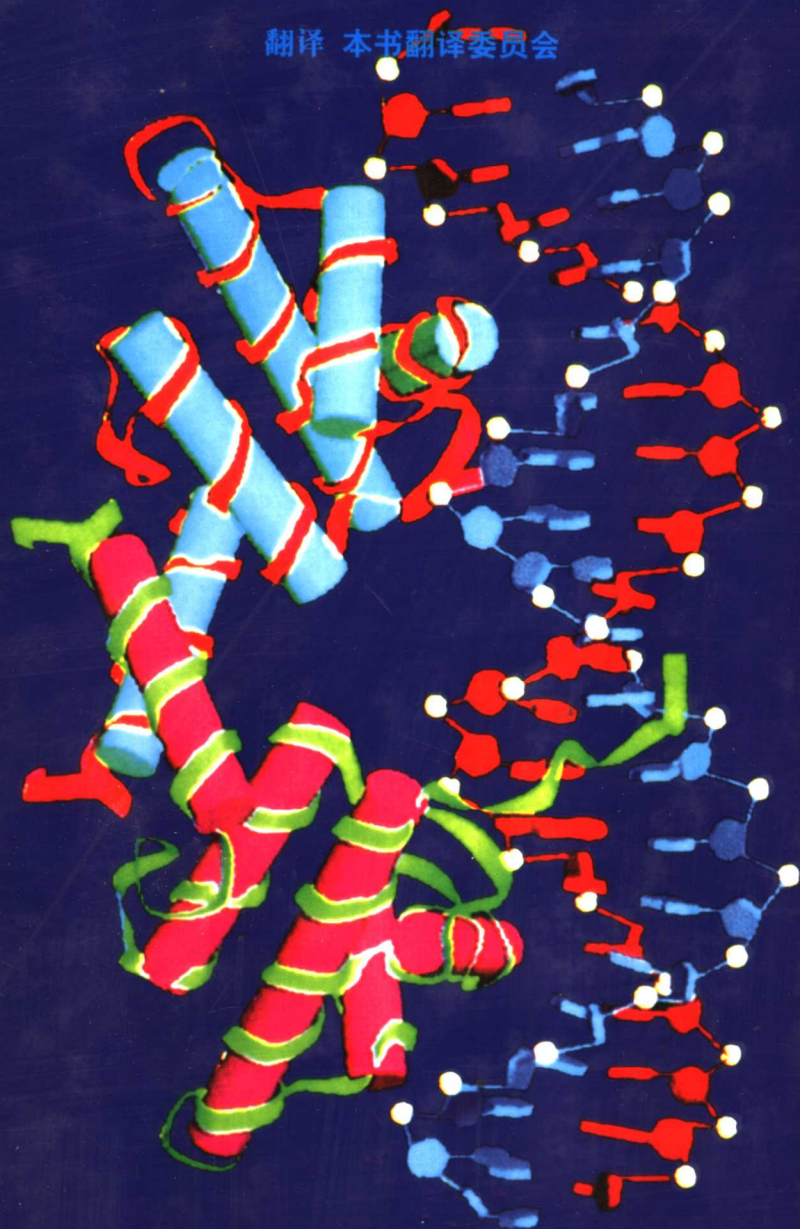


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中国科学院上海生物化学与细胞生物学研究所

《英汉分子生物学辞典》

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英文版前言

分子生物学起始于 20 世纪 30 年代,但主要的突破是在 50 年代。分子生物学在目前看起来与实际应用尚有一段距离,但随着快速的发展,在遗传学、在发育和细胞功能的分子基础、在诸如 DNA 和蛋白质的大分子结构方面的这些突破变得愈来愈广地和应用领域如医学、药理学、农业和工业生物技术有关。它们显得特别有价值并快速引导着重大的应用,例如基因治疗、药物设计、作物遗传性状的改良、重要化合物的合成等。这些应用成果使得分子生物领域内的先驱者大为惊奇。他们一直以为,他们的研究仅仅为了对未知事物作出解释。分子生物学的实际应用也愈来愈多地由医学、农业和工业的人士参与,他们要求了解分子生物学的原则和进展,提高阅读有关文献的能力。非本领域出身的更广泛人群,需要专门术语——行话的帮助以及分子生物学原则的指导。诚然,就如在其他的激增的科学分支内一样,即使本学科内,专业的分子生物学家有时也会发现自己不懂的行话,他们必须阅读自己领域之外的文献。

在 19 世纪,对大多数科学家来说,都有可能应用一种只要能够阅读日常报纸的任何人都能懂的语言来撰写他们的研究。啊!时光不再。《自然》和《科学》的最新出版物内,有多少比例,科学家或非专业的人们能够懂?每一个活跃的科学家人都在发明自己个人的行话,分子生物学也并不例外。诚然,行话在其被发明之后,也被输出和输入。“克隆”,从经典的植物学引进到分子生物学,现在重新被输出,已变成公众广泛应用的一个时髦术语,虽然应用得并不全部合适。相反,“下游”、“上游”、“伴侣”,甚至“诱导”等术语在分子生物学中都含有与日常生活十分不同的意义。

本书的目的是帮助本领域内外的人士了解分子生物学的方法、概念和发现,即使他们最初对本领域内全部或部分的行话是无知的。这是一部百科全书,而不仅仅是一本字典,也就是说,本书作者并不简单地满足于把词汇的定义按字典典型进行排列,虽然这种定义可以从本书中大量地找到。作者力求,而这更重要,对大多数论题,例如蛋白质合成、膜的行为或基因操作等,提供一个概观,使领域之外的人士能够了解感兴趣的或与自己专业活动有关的论题。为此,本书内容有两部分,即长条目(比较类似百科全书型)和短条目(比较类似字典型)混合组成。本书内还有丰富的交叉参考,并含有大量的图表,以帮助在不同论题间的穿梭。本书所有作者均是活跃的研究者,他们在自己领域内都作出过重大的贡献,因而对他们所选定的论题都具有第一手的知识。编者希望,本书的这些特点使得它对于那些需要了解分子生物学概念的人们,对于他们的工作是有价值的。

约翰·肯德鲁

剑桥 1994

龚祖坝 译

英文版导言

《英汉分子生物学百科辞典》(*Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology*)的目的是为分子生物学本身的核心论题提供一个全面、综合、简明的参考来源,同时本书也包括分子生物学曾为之作出巨大贡献的其他领域的一般背景材料。因此尽可能在一本书中向所有的生物学专家和生物专业的学生以及相关领域(如医学)的专家和学生提供可以理解的完整的参考资料。本书宽广的涉及面使非生物专业的读者也能方便地找到有关当前分子生物学进展的信息。

本书共含有 5 500 多条长度不等的条目,以字母先后安排顺序。名字前的数字、希腊字母和构象字母在排列时不予考虑。例如, β -半乳糖苷酶(β -galactosidase)被安排在 G 项,N-乙酰半乳糖胺(*N*-acetylgalactosamine)被安排在 A 项。条目中共有 217 条命题经过挑选的长的综述条目,同时还有 4 000 余条目前广泛应用的较短的专业术语的定义。关键词还包含有通用的缩写词、同义词和指导读者寻找相应条目的交叉参考条目。整书的不带定义的标准缩写词列于第 9~10 页。

具有综述性质的条目目录除以字母排列外,还按相关领域分类,列于本书的第 5~7 页。在每条条目内,能提供补充材料或基础材料的交叉条目将以小的大写字母列出,在每条条目的最后,还以小的大写字母列出补充交叉条目(译者注:这些小的大写字母在中文书中均以黑体字标出)。

所有长条目和许多短条目还附有参考书目,这些参考书目是为了使读者能进入有关文献,但不作为完整的文献目录而列出。

埃莉诺·劳伦斯
龚祖坝 译

中文版前言

不能否认,20 世纪生命科学之所以取得如此令人瞩目的飞速发展和巨大成就,与分子生物学这一分支学科的建立及研究进展有密切的联系。

生物的多样性,生命现象的复杂性,使得生命科学的研究长期处于宏观或微观(细胞、组织)形态描述的水平。随着大量现代技术的发明和应用,新发现、新概念、新见解不断涌现,使得一些生命现象目前已能在分子水平上进行阐述和解释。分子生物学作为一门独立的分支学科,不仅在最近数十年间得到飞速的发展,而且与细胞生物学、分子遗传学、发育生物学、神经科学和生物工程等学科相互交叉和渗透,目前已很难分清这些生命科学分支学科之间的边缘界限,分子生物学的概念和技术也渗入到一些本来比较传统的生命科学学科之中,如动物学、植物学、比较生物学和古生物学等。

新中国成立后,我国前辈科学家曾在分子生物学领域做出了杰出的贡献,如牛结晶胰岛素和酵母丙氨酸 tRNA 分子的人工合成等,并且培养了一批卓有成就的研究骨干和学术带头人。改革开放以后,大批年轻学者纷纷出国学习和进修,把一些先进的理念和技术带回祖国,使得我国在分子生物学研究方面与国际水平的差距有所缩小。但总体而言,我国分子生物学的研究水平和国际水平仍有一定的差距。

由诺贝尔奖获得者肯德鲁博士主编、本领域杰出研究者撰写的 *Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology*,内容丰富,覆盖面广,条理清晰,信息量大。共有条目 5 500 多条,从基础理论到科学概念,从研究技术到名词解释,均有详尽和精湛的阐述。这是一本不可多得的参考书。参与此书翻译的有中国科学院上海生物化学与细胞生物学研究所的数十位专家及博士研究生。参与本书编辑校对工作的还有李茂深先生和曹京凤女士等。

肯德鲁博士于 1996 年来中国访问。在访问中国科学院上海生物化学研究所期间,他曾答应为本书中译本作序,但他在返国后不久即不幸因病去世,因而他为本书中译本作序的愿望未能完成。在此我们对肯德鲁博士在科学上的杰出贡献以及为发展中国与国际同行之间的学术交流所做出的努力表示敬意,并对他的逝世表示深切哀悼。

我们相信,所有从事生命科学研究的专家、学者、学生以及农学和医学研究和教学工作者均能从本书的出版中有所获益。

龚祖坝

2002 年 6 月