

**TABLE S1: Alignment of SL1 sequences**

**“Standard” SL1 sequences (total: 293)**

A1.KE.86.ML170_1986_AF539405	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-G	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	48
A1.SE.95.UGSE8131_AF107771	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAG	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	9
A1.RU.03.03RU20_06_13_AY500393	G	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-G	GTGCAC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGGA	G	1
A2.CY.94.94CY017_41_AF286237	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-G	GTGCAC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	2
A2.CD.97.97CDKTB48_AF286238	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-G	GTGCAC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
B.AU.x.1181_AF538302	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	35
B.AU.96.MBCD36_AF042105	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	15
B.TW.94.TWCYS_AF086817	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	4
B.CN.x.CNHN24_AY180905	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	3
B.GB.86.GB8_AF271445	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	G	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	3
B.US.98.98USHVTN8229c6_AY56010	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	C-A	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	2
B.AU.x.C42_AF538305	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	A	TAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
B.AU.87.MBC925_AF042101	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	T-A	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
B.MM.99.mSTD101_AB097870	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAA	GCGCGC	G	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
B.RU.04.04RU128005_AY682547	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
B.US.84.SF33_AY352275	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAA	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
B.US.98.98USHVTN3605c9_AY56010	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A--	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.BR.04.04BR013_AY727522	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	79
C.BW.00.00BW17956_AF443097	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	11
C.BW.00.00BW192113_AF443101	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	11
C.BW.98.98BWMO18D5_AF443080	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAA	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	5
C.BW.00.00BW181113_AF443098	G	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	3
C.BW.99.99BW4745_AF443085	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCGAG	AGG	CGAG	A	3
C.BW.00.00BW20361_AF443102	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAGG	AGG	CGAG	A	2
C.BR.04.04BR038_AY727524	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CAGCAGG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.BW.00.00BW076820_AF443089	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	TGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.BW.00.00BW3891_6_AF443113	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGTAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.BW.00.00BW3970_2_AF443114	A	CTCG	G	CCTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAGG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.BW.98.98BWMC14A3_AF443078	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAA	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
C.BW.98.98BWMO36A5_AF443081	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	GAA	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
C.BW.99.99BW393212_AF443083	A	CCCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.II.98.98IS002_AF286233	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTA	A-A	GTGCAC	T	TGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.IN.94.94IN476_AF286223	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
C.ZA.00.1197MB_AY463234	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAC	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.ZA.03.SK029B2_AY772691	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CAGTAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
C.ZA.03.SK065B1_AY772694	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	T	CGGCAGG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
D.UG.92.92UG001_AJ320484	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A--	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	2
D.CD.84.84ZR085_U88822	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAA	GCGCGC	T	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
F1.BR.89.BZ163_AY173958	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	5
G.KE.93.HH8793_12_1_AF061641	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-G	GTGCAC	G	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	4
G.NG.92.92NG083_U88826	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	2
G.ES.00.X558_AF423760	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAG	GTGCAC	C	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
H.BE.93.VI991_AF190127	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
01_AE.TH.93.93TH9021_AF164485	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	C-G	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	2
02_AG.NG.x.IBNG_L39106	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-G	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
11_cpx.CM.96.4496_AF492623	A	CTCG	G	CTTGTGTTG	A-G	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
11_cpx.FR.99.MP1307_AJ291720	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	AAA	GTGCAC	G	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
12_BF.AR.99.ARMA159_AF385936	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	A	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
13_cpx.CM.96.1849_AF460972	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A--	GCGCGC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	2
01B.MM.00.mIDU502_AB097865	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	G	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
06A1.BJ.x.B76_AJ293865	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A--	GTGCAC	G	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
A1D.TZ.96.TZBFL0088_AF442570	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GCGCGC	G	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
A2C.ZM.90.ZAM184_U86780	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A-A	GTGCAC	C	CGGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
N.CM.97.YBF106_AJ271370	A	CTCG	G	CTCGTTG	---	GTGCAC	A	CAGCGAG	AGG	CGAG	G	3
O.BE.87.ANT70_L20587	G	CTCG	G	CTTAGCG	G-A	GTGCAC	C	CGCTAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	3
O.CM.91.MVP5180_L20571	G	CTCG	G	CTTAGCG	G-A	GTGCAC	C	TGCTAAG	AGG	CGAG	A	1
CPZ.CD.x.ANT_U42720	A	CTCG	G	TCTGCTG	C-A	GCGCGC	G	TAGCAGA	AGG	CGAG	G	1
CPZ.GA.x.CPZGAB_X52154	A	CTCG	G	CTTGCTG	A--	GTGCAC	A	CAGCAAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1
CPZ.US.85.CPZUS_AF103818	A	CTCG	G	CTCGCTG	A--	GTGCAC	A	CAGCGAG	AGG	CGAG	G	1

### Imperfect palindrome

B.AU.x.C24_AF538304	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   ACGCGC-   G   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   2
C.BW.96.96BW15C02_AF110974	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   TTGCAC-   T   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAA   A   1
C.ZA.00.1228MB_AY463222	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GCGCAC-   T   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   A   1
F1.BE.93.VI850_AF077336	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GTGCAAC   A   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   A   1
01_AE.CF.90.90CF11697_AF197340	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AG   GTGCTC-   A   CAGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   A   1
12_BF.UY.99.URTR23_AF385934	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GCGCAC-   G   --GCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
12_BF.UY.99.URTR35_AF385935	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AG   GCGCAC-   G   --GCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
16_A2D.KR.97.97KR004_AF286239	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GCGC---   A   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
CPZ.TZ.x.TAN1_AF447763	A   CTCG   G   CTTGTGA   CA   GCGCA--   A   TCACAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1

### Non-standard flanks of the palindrome

B.NL.00.671_00T36_AY423387	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AAGAAGAA   GCGCGC   G-   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
12_BF.BR.99.BREPM108_AY771589	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AAGAA---   GTGCGC   A-   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
C.BW.00.00BW16162_AF443092	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA-----   GTGCAC   TC   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   A   1

### Imperfect upper stem

B.US.90.US1_AY173952	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GCGCGC   G   --GCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
B.GA.88.OYI_M26727	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTT   A-   GCGCGC   A   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
B.NL.86.3202A21_U34604	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GCGCGC   A   CGCCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
C.ZA.01.01ZATM45_AY228557	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTT   AA   GTGCAC   T   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   A   1
01BC.MM.99.mIDU107_AB097868	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GTGCAC   T   CGGC-AG   AGG   CGAG   A   1
05_DF.BE.x.VI1310_AF193253	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GCGCGC   A   AGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1

### Imperfect lower stem

B.AU.x.C76_AF538306	A   CTCT   G   CTTGCTG   A-A   GCGCGC   A   CAGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   G   1
C.BW.99.99BW46424_AF443084	G   ATCG   G   CTTGCTG   AAA   GTGCAC   T   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAG   A   1
C.BW.00.00BW22767_AF443107	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   A-A   GTGCAC   T   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAA   A   2
J.SE.94.SE7022_AF082395	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   A-A   GTGCAC   A   CGGCAAG   AGG   CGAA   G   1
01_AE.CF.90.90CF4071_AF197341	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   A-G   GTGCAC   G   CAGCAAG   AGG   CGAA   G   1
01_AE.TH.93.93TH057_AF197338	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   A-G   GTGCAC   A   CAGCAAG   AGG   CAAG   A   1
11_cpx.CM.97.MP818_AJ291718	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   A-G   GTGCAC   A   CAGCAAG   AGG   CGAA   A   1

### Variations in the internal loop

A1.KE.97.ML013_2_AY322185	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AG   GTGCAC   A   CAGCAAG   AAG   CGAG   A   1
C.BW.98.98BWMC122_AF443076	A   CTCG   G   CTTGCTG   AA   GTGCAC   T   CGGCAAG   GGG   CGAG   A   1

Total "non-standard" sequences: 29

We retrieved the alignments of complete genomes of HIV-1 available on September 2006 at the Los Alamos HIV Sequence Database (1). Only the sequences without gaps in the SL1 region were used; alignments were manually modified to take into account the structural features of SL1 stem-loop. Note that some of the isolates may not correspond to fully infectious viruses, so the sequence variability presented in the table may be somewhat overestimated. On the other hand, multiple isolates from the same patients are not presented in these alignments, which may somewhat decrease the sequence variability. Only unique sequence variants of SL1 are shown in the table; the number in the right column shows the number of isolates with this particular sequence. The left column contains the database sequence ID of an arbitrary representative isolate. The ID contains the subtype or the recombinant number, country of origin, year of isolation and the GenBank ID (1). Entry A1.KE.86.ML170\_1986\_AF539405 contains SL1 sequence representative of the Mal isolate, and entry B.AU.x.1181\_AF538302 contains sequence representative of the Lai isolate. Residues of the 6-nt palindromic loop are shown in red, upper stem in blue, lower stem in green, G-rich asymmetric internal loop in magenta, and residues flanking the palindrome are shown in cyan.

(1) Leitner, T., Foley, B., Hahn, B., Marx, P., McCutchan, F., Mellors, J.W., Wolinsky, S. and Korber, B. (2005) HIV Sequence Compendium 2005, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM.