(SHOTGUN) METAGENOMICS

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obtained directly from the samples without culturing microbes in the laboratory



total genomic DNA of a sample high sequencing depth

amplicon/targeted/16S rRNA

Project MetaHIT (2008-2012)

METAgenomics of the Human Intestinal Tract



124 individuals

healthy, overweight and obese individual human adults, as well as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)

- sequencing of stool samples \rightarrow 540 Gb of DNA
- 3 million different genes
- a person carries, on average, 540000 genes, a value that corresponds to some 160 species



- type 1 : high levels of Bacteroides
- type 2 : few Bacteroides but Prevotella are common

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• type 3 : high levels of Ruminococcus





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Historical sample

- Sample : Jean-Paul Marat, blood stain from the newspaper L'Ami du peuple
- DNA sequencing : HiSeq 4000, paired-end 568,623,176 reads in total

74,244,610 reads mapped to the human reference genome ancestry analysis

494,378,566 other reads

among them 9,788,947 quality controlled and cleaned reads metagenomic analysis

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Bioinformatics analysis

Alignment of reads against database of bacterial genomes

Disease	Pathogen	Blood	Unstained paper
Syphilis	Treponema pallidum	×	×
Scrofula (tuberculosis)	Mycobacterium tuberculosis1	×	×
Leprosy	Mycobacterium leprae	×	×
Diabetic candidiasis (thrush)	Candida sp.	×	×
Scabies	Sarcoptes scabiei	×	×
Seborrheic dermatitis	Malassezia sp.	11	1
Atopic eczema	Staphylococcus aureus	1	×
Severe acneiform eruptions	Cutibacterium acnes	111	~~

Marat may have suffered from a primary fungal infection (seborrheic dermatitis), superinfected with bacterial opportunistic pathogens

Metagenomic analysis of a blood stain from the French revolutionary Jean-Paul Marat (1743-1793) https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/825034v1.full See also (in French) https://www.lemonde.fr/blog/realitesbiomedicales/2019/11/08/ des-biologistes-moleculaires-font-parler-le-sang-du-revolutionnaire-marat



Lokiarchaeota

a novel candidate archaeal phylum

- sample : deep marine sediments near Loki's castle (Norvege)
- amplicon sequencing (16S) : new archea
- shotgun sequencing : Illumina HiSeq 2500, SRP045692 assembly : 5,381 protein coding genes, 32% new, 26% archea, 29% bacteria, 3.3% eukaryotes



Complex archaea that bridge the gap between prokaryotes and eukaryotes Nature volume 521, pages173–179(2015)

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How was obtained the first SARS-CoV-2 genome?



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Shotgun sequencing for community samples

Metagenomics

potentially sequences all fragmented DNA in a community

 \rightarrow includes all microorganisms and viruses

 \rightarrow gives access to all genes across the entire genomes

Metatranscriptomics

potentially sequences all fragmented RNA in a community \rightarrow activity of the genes

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Amplicon sequencing

- fast and cost-effective
- captures a large diversity of microorganisms
- benefits from well-designed computational tools



- requires PCR (primers, amplification)
- restrained to taxonomic classification and profiling

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low taxonomic resolution

Shotgun sequencing versus amplicon sequencing



who is there?

more complete taxonomic information no bias due to PCR amplification access to the full genomes and genes captures genomes which lack amplicon targets (viruses, ...)



what are they doing?

functional potential of the community analysis of gene functions, metabolic pathways, etc.



more expensive



new challenges in terms of data processing, storage and analysis : size of the data, uneven coverage

Content of this lecture

• Taxonomic analysis

Some general ideas, principles and tools

• Functional analysis

Some general ideas, principles and tools

• Not presented today : Richness, comparative analysis

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Key concepts

• To select, or not

focusing on some marker genes one single marker or a combination of markers

• To assemble, or not

reconstructing the original sequences from short reads

• To bin, or not

gathering sequences that are intended to belong to the same species, or the same strain

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Many routes, many strategies, many tools



Elements of choice

	selection	all reads	assembly
Biological question			
presence/absence of known species	***	***	*
discovery of novel species	*		***
functional analysis		*	**
Complexity of the community	H/M/L	M/L	L
Requirements			
computational time sequencing depth	++ +	++	+++ +++
bioinformatics skills	+	+	+++

H : high, M : medium, L : low Computational time : from a few minutes to a few days/weeks Read-based approaches : web servers or pipelines

Taxonomic classification



- input : short reads from a single shotgun metagenomic sequencing experiment (FASTA or FASTQ files)
- output : list of detected microbes and their abundances





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which data to use for the marker(s)? reference database with a taxonomy



how to compare the reads to the database? comparison engine

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how to classify a read? supervised binning

Approach 1 : One single marker

 choice of the phylogenetic marker ubiquitous in the environment/showing some differences between species
16S rRNA (prokaryote), 18S rRNA (eukaryote), ITS (fungi)

• database : Silva, Greengenes, ...

• comparison to the database

identification of the reads corresponding to the marker

 processing of the extracted reads direct classification of the raw reads : Qiime2, MAPseq

Approach 2 : Multiple markers

- how to choose the markers?
- selection of a few universal phylogenetics markers PhyloSift

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 selection of clade-specific markers Metaphlan2

PhyloSift

- 37 families of "elite" marker genes congruent phylogenetic histories represent about 1% of an average bacterial genome
- 16S and 18S ribosomal RNA genes
- mitochondrial gene families
- eukaryote-specific gene families
- viral gene families

PeerJ. 2014; 2: e243. Published online 2014 Jan 9. doi: <u>10.7717/peerj.243</u>

PhyloSift: phylogenetic analysis of genomes and metagenomes

Aaron E. Darling, ^{11,2} Guillaume Jospin,² Eric Lowe,² Frederick A. Matsen, IV,⁵ Holly M. Bik,² and Jonathan A. Eisen^{3,4}

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Metaphlan2

Metagenomic Phylogenetic Analysis

- successor of Metaphlan (2012, Human Microbiome Project)
- markers and quasi-markers

coding sequences that unequivocally identify specific microbial clades at the species level or higher taxonomic levels

markers : specific of the clade

quasi-markers : show a minimal number of sequence hits in genomes outside the clade

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bacteria : 770,000 markers + 130,000 pseudomarkers from 13,000 genomes archaea : 460,000 markers + 4,600 pseudomarkers from 300 genomes eukaryotes : 22,400 markers + 2,550 pseudomarkers from 110 genomes virus : 38,800 markers + 23,000 pseudomarkers from 3500 genomes

Metaphlan2 — pipeline

- mapping of short reads on the marker + pseudomarker database (Bowtie2)
- computation of the relative abundance of each taxonomic unit from presence of markers and pseudo-markers normalization of the total number of reads in each clade by the nucleotide length of its markers
- unclassified subclades : reads belonging to clades with no available sequenced genomes are reported as an unclassified subclade of the closest ancestor for which there is available sequence data

SampleID Metaphlan2_Analysis k_Bacteria 100.0 k_Bacteria|p_Acidobacteria 55.60886 k_Bacteria|p_Verrucomicrobia 36.2624 k_Bacteria|p_Proteobacteria 7.09312 k_Bacteria|p_Actinobacteria|c_Acidobacteriia 55.60886 k_Bacteria|p_Acidobacteria|c_Acidobacteriia 55.60886 k_Bacteria|p_Proteobacteria|c_Opitutae 36.2624 k_Bacteria|p_Proteobacteria|c_Gammaproteobacteria 3.60559 k_Bacteria|p_Proteobacteria|c_Alphaproteobacteria 3.48753 k_Bacteria|p_Actinobacteria|c_Actinobacteria 1.03562 k_Bacteria|p_Acidobacteria|c_Acidobacteriia|o_Acidobacteriales 55.60886

k_Bacteria|p_Acidobacteria|c_Acidobacteriia|o_Acidobacteriales 55.00886 k_Bacteria|p_Verrucomicrobia|c_Opitutae|o_Puniceicoccales 36.2624 k_Bacteria|p_Proteobacteria|c_Gammaproteobacteria|o_Pseudomonadales 3.6 k_Bacteria|p_Proteobacteria|c_Alphaproteobacteria|o_Rhodobacterales 3.4 k_Bacteria|p_Actinobacteria|c_Actinobacteria|o_Actinomycetales 1.03562 k_Bacteria|p_Acidobacteria|c_Acidobacteriia|o_Acidobacteriales|f_Acidobac

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Kingdom | Phylum | Class | Order | Family | Genus | Species | Strain

Approach 3 : all possible genes/genomes

• database : reference genomes + taxonomy

no structural annotation, no phylogenetic markers

- comparison of reads against the database : should be very efficient
- main principle : split the data into k-mers (words of length k)

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- Data : genomes sequences, reads sequences
- No prior knowledge on the genomes
- Examples : Kraken, Centrifuge, One codex, LMAT...

Example : Kraken



Precomputed database

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1. short read \rightarrow overlapping k-mers



3. assignation of the read







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Read assignation

Kaiju



Menzel, P. et al. (2016) Fast and sensitive taxonomic classification for metagenomics with Kaiju. Nat. Commun. 7 :11257

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- protein-level classification : reads are translated into amino acid sequences
- database

NCBI RefSeq, proGenomes, non-redundant BLAST protein database (optionally also including fungi and microbial eukaryotes)

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 comparison between the reads and the database maximum exact matches (MEMs), optionally allowing mismatches Burrows-Wheeler Transform

classification






Assembly





Mihai Pop, Sergey Koren, Dan Sommer

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Why it is so difficult

- presence of multiple closely related strains or species : hard to distinguish sequencing errors and poymorphisms
- uneven abundance of organisms present in the sample : this causes uneven sequencing depth of organisms present in the sample
- presence of intragenomic repeats + intergenomics repeats (horizontal transfer) : risk of chimera creation

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- size of the data : $\mathsf{Gb} \to \mathsf{Tb}$

De Bruijn Graph (reminder)

- rationale
 - the genome can be reconstructed from the k-mers it contains

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- reads are decomposed into k-mers
- graph
 - nodes : k-mers present in the reads
 - arcs : overlaps of length k 1 between k-mers
- contig : simple path in the graph





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Application to community samples

- de Bruijn graph + multi-k principle $k = 21 \rightarrow k = 55 \rightarrow k = 77$
- efficient construction and storage of the De Bruijn Graphs
- careful handling of mismatches
- careful extension of paths in the De Bruiijn Graphs
- intergenomic repeats solving with abundance
- metagenomics : MEGAHIT (2015), MetaSPAdes (2016)

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• metatranscriptomics : MEGAHIT (2015)

What to do with contigs

• taxonomy classification : analogous to read-based approaches

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- functional annotation : later in this lecture
- binning : just now



Binning

- gathering sequences that are intended to belong to the same species, or the same strain
- taxonomy dependent (supervised binning, taxonomic binning)
 - database search, sequence comparison
 - known species
 - Phylosift, Metaphlan2, MG-Rast, MEGAN, MGnify...
- taxonomy independent (inherent statistics)
 - sequence composition : nucleotide composition, codon usage

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- contig coverage
- hybrid : machine learning

Nucleotide composition

Tetranucleotide usage patterns



- Escherichia coli and Neisseria meningitidis
- overlapping fragments of 40kb
- for each fragment, for each tetranucleotide : Z-score observed frequency/theoretical frequency
- histograms of Pearson's correlation coefficients : pairwise comparisons of the fragment's tetranucleotide-derived z-scores

Application of tetranucleotide frequencies for the assignment of genomic fragments. Environmental Microbiology (2004) 6(9), 938–947

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Codon usage

- the genetic code is redundant : several codons can code for the same amino acid
- each species tends to show a preference for particular synonymous codons
- clustering of sequences according to their codon bias



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AAA	3.5	1.3	CAA	1.3	1.4	GAA	4.3	1.6	TAA	*	*
AAG	1.1	1.6	CAG	3.0	1.7	GAG	1.8	1.8	TAG	*	*
AAC	2.4	1.4	CAC	1.1	1.5	GAC	2.2	1.7	TAC	1.4	1.4
AAT	1.4	1.3	CAT	1.2	1.4	GAT	3.2	1.5	TAT	1.5	1.3
AGA	0.1	1.6	CGA	0.3	1.7	GGA	0.6	1.8	TGA	*	*
AGG	0.1	1.8	CGG	0.4	2.0	GGG	1.0	2.2	TGG	1.4	1.8
AGC	1.6	1.7	CGC	2.4	1.8	GGC	3.2	2.0	TGC	0.7	1.6
AGT	0.7	1.5	CGT	2.5	1.6	GGT	2.8	1.8	TGT	0.5	1.5
ACA	0.5	1.4	CCA	0.8	1.5	GCA	2.0	1.7	ТСА	0.6	1.4
ACG	1.4	1.7	CCG	2.6	1.8	GCG	3.6	2.0	TCG	0.8	1.6
ACC	2.5	1.5	CCC	0.4	1.6	GCC	2.5	1.8	тсс	0.9	1.5
ACT	0.9	1.4	ССТ	0.6	1.5	GCT	1.6	1.6	тст	0.9	1.4
ATA	0.3	1.3	СТА	0.3	1.4	GTA	1.1	1.5	TTA	1.1	1.3
ATG	2.5	1.5	CTG	5.7	1.6	GTG	2.7	1.8	TTG	1.2	1.5
ATC	2.7	1.4	СТС	1.0	1.5	GTC	1.5	1.6	TTC	1.8	1.4
ATT	2.8	1.3	СТТ	0.9	1.4	GTT	1.9	1.5	TTT	1.9	1.2

Codon Usage Frequence Table for E. coli

1st column : observed frequency 2nd column : theoretical frequency Examples of the usage of Serine codons in different organisms

Codon	E.coli	D.melanogaster	H.sapiens	S.cerevisiae
AGT	3	1	10	5
AGC	20	23	34	4
TCG	4	17	9	1
TCA	2	2	5	6
TCT	34	9	13	52
TCC	37	48	28	33

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(rounded percentages- source : D. Gautheret)

Contig coverage

- reads are mapped on the contigs
- similar coverage = similar abundance
- two contigs with similar coverage potentially come from same underlying source population in the community

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Hybrid approaches

• cocacola (2017)

COCACOLA : binning metagenomic contigs using sequence COmposition, read CoverAge, CO-alignment and paired-end read LinkAge Bioinformatics, Volume 33, Issue 6, 15, pages 791–798

• concoct (2014)

Binning metagenomic contigs by coverage and composition Nature Methods volume 11, pages 1144–1146

• MyCC (2016)

Accurate binning of metagenomic contigs via automated clustering sequences using information of genomic signatures and marker genes. Sci Rep. 2016; 6 : 24175.

• MetaBat (2015)

MetaBAT, an efficient tool for accurately reconstructing single genomes from complex microbial communities. PeerJ 2015; 3 : e1165.

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Functional analysis



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Functional analysis : how to annotate genes in genomes? Three main approaches

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- de novo prediction of coding regions
- homology based annotation
- motif based annotation

Prediction of coding regions

how can we find genes in prokaryotic genomes?



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Prediction of coding regions

how can we find genes in prokaryotic genomes?



- identification of ORFs (start + stop codon)
- codon usage bias differences in the frequency of occurrence of synonymous codons in coding DNA compared to non-coding DNA, and between species

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How to adapt these approaches to metagenomic/metranscriptomic reads/contigs?

- short reads : codon usage bias
- contigs : ORF (codons start, stop) + codon usage bias
- +resistant to sequencing errors

FragGeneScan

Nucleic Acids Res. 2010 Nov;38(20):e191. doi: 10.1093/nar/gkq747. Epub 2010 Aug 30.

FragGeneScan: predicting genes in short and error-prone reads.

<u>Rho M¹, Tang H, Ye Y</u>.

MetaGeneMark

http://exon.gatech.edu/meta_gmhmmp.cgi

Homology based annotation

- alignment of short reads/contigs to a large database of annotated protein sequences
- databases : Eggnog, SEEDS, KEGG, Interpro, swissprot, ...
- choice of the alignment tool, DNA/protein pre-NGS tools : BlastX, BLAT especially designed for gene or genome comparison

Diamond : optimized to deal with short reads order of magnitude faster than BlastX for this kind of data (x 1000)

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Fast and sensitive protein alignment using DIAMOND

Benjamin Buchfink 🏁, Chao Xie & Daniel H Huson 🏁

Nature Methods 12, 59–60 (2015) doi:10.1038/nmeth.3176 Received: 29 April 2014 Accepted: 20 October 2014

Motif based annotation

- motif : signature for a given protein family
- models : prosite expression, matrix, profile Hidden Markov Model

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TYY1_HUMAN YVCPFDGCNKKFAQSTNLKSHILT--H YKO8_CAEEL YKCT--VCRKDISSSESLRTHMFKOHH BASO_HUMAN FQCD--ICKKTFKNACSVKIHHKN-MH ZG2-9_XENL FVCT--VCGKTYKYKHGLNTHLHS--H P43_XENBO LKCSVPGCKRSFRKKRALRIHVSE--H IKAR_MOUSE FECN--MCGYHSQDRYEFSSHITRGEH TRA1_CAEEL YKCEFADCEKAFSNASDRAKHONR-TH ZN10_HUMAN YKCN--QCGIIFSQNSPFIVHQIA--H XFIN_XENLA FRCS--ECSRSFTHNSDLTAHMRK--F TF3A_BUFAM CKCETENCNLAFTTASNMRLHFKR-AF ZG58_XENLA FVCT--ECNLSFAGLANLRSHQHL--H P43_XENBO YRCSYEDCOTVSPTWTALOTHLKK--H TSH_DROME FRCV--WCKQSFPTLEALTTHMKDSK ZN76_HUMAN FRCGYKGCGRLYTTAHHLKVHERA--H TF3A_BUFAM YRCPRENCDRTYTTKFNLKSHILT-FH SUHW_DROAN YACK--ICGKDFTRSYHLKRHOKYSSC ZN76_HUMAN YTCPEPHCGRGFTSATNYKNHVRI--H SRYC_DROME_FKCN--YCPRDFTNFPNWLKHTRR-RH EVI1_HUMAN YRCK--YCDRSFSISSNLQRHVRN-IH



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modélisation : motif Prosite

C-x(2,4)-C-x(3)-[LIVMFYWC]-x(8)-H-x(3,5)-H

Interpro

Protein sequence analysis & classification

- http:// www.ebi.ac.uk/interpro
- developed at EBI since 1999 (version 70)
- signatures for protein families, domains and functional sites collected from 14 databases
 35 020 entries based on 48 938 signatures
 - 55 020 entries based on 40 950 signatures
- mappings of InterPro entries to Gene Ontology (GO) terms (InterPro2GO)

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Pipelines for read-based strategies



Taxonomic+functional analyses

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MG-RAST

- developed since 2007 (University of Chicago)
- supports amplicons (16S, 18S, and ITS), metagenomics and metatranscriptomics
- http://metagenomics.anl.gov
- MEGAN
 - developed since 2007 (U. Tübingen)
 - Alignment of the reads on the database : Diamond
 - Taxonomic classification : LCA, lowest common ancestor against NCBI nr
 - Functional analysis : mapping to KEGG, SEED, EggNOG and InterPro2GO

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MGnify

MGnify EBI metagenomics



Submit, analyse, discover and compare microbiome data since 2013 https://www.ebi.ac.uk/metagenomics



What can you do with MGnify?

- Submit microbiome studies for analysis : amplicon, metagenomic, metatranscriptomic or assembled data for analysis
- Request analysis of any publicly available data
- Explore a diverse range of analysed microbiome studies
- Visualise and download analysis results
- Access the raw data from the European Nucleotide Archive (ENA).

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Data structuration in MGnify

- MGYS XXXXXX study / project Each project contains one or more (biological) samples
- sample (ENA identifier)
 Each sample can have one or more experiments associated with it (such as metagenomic, amplicon or metatranscriptomic).

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- run (ENA identifier) Set of reads for one experiment
- MGYA XXXXXX analysis Results obtained from processing a run file

MGnify : amplicon analysis pipeline



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MGnify : raw reads analysis pipeline



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Mgnify : assembly analysis pipeline

Assembly

- submission of raw reads (with host sequences removed) to ENA
- quality control + additional host contamination removal process
- assembly with metaSPAdes (paired reads) or SPAdes (single reads)

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• Contig analysis : assembly pipeline



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₹ 990



Pathways : KEGG



- http://www.genome.jp/kegg
- collection of databases : metabolic pathways, genomes, genes, diseases, ...
- KO entries : group of genes representing functional orthologs in the molecular networks
- available in MGnify for assemblies

Data submission : ENA Webin

- data is stably archived
- accession numbers (prerequisite for many publications)
- active submission helpdesk
- training materials

"A major aim in the development of this resource has been to encourage metagenomics researchers to openly share their data as widely as possible, and to also describe their data in sufficient detail such that other scientists are able to extract maximum value from it."

Conclusion



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- fast evolving field
- influence of the nature of the data
 - sequencing technology and quality of the data

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- complexity of the community
- coverage
- balance between performances and usability

Taxonomic classification

which tool is the best? with which parameters?

FEMS Microbiol Ecol. 2016 Jul; 92(7): fiw095. Published online 2016 May 8. doi: 10.1093/femsec/fiw095

Evaluating techniques for metagenome annotation using simulated sequence data

Richard J. Randle-Boggis, 1,* Thorunn Helgason, 1 Melanie Sapp, 2 and Peter D. Ashton 1

2016, MEGAN (older version), MG-RAST, One Codex

Genome Biol. 2017; 18: 182. Published online 2017 Sep 21. doi: 10.1186/s13059-017-1299-7

Comprehensive benchmarking and ensemble approaches for metagenomic classifiers

Alaxa B. R. McIntyra, ^{1,23} Rachid Qunit,⁴ Ebrahim Afahinnekoo,^{2,3,5} Robert J. Prill,⁶ Elizabeth Hénaff,^{2,3} Noah Alexander, ^{2,3} Samuel S. Minot,¹ David Darko, ^{1,23} Jonathan Foox,^{2,3} Sofa Ahsanuddin,^{3,3} Sooti Tighe⁸ Nur A. Hasan, ^{9,10} Poorani Subramanian,⁹ Kelly Moffat,² Shawn Levy,¹¹ Stefano Lonardi,⁴ Nick Greenfield, ⁷Ria R. Cohwell, ^{9,12} Gail L. Rosen, ⁸¹⁴ and Christopher E. Mason^{12,2,14}

2017, 11 tools (including CLARK, Kraken, LMAT, Metaphlan2, PhyloSift, MGAN+Diamond)

Sci Rep. 2016; 6: 19233. Published online 2016 Jan 18. doi: 10.1038/srep19233

An evaluation of the accuracy and speed of metagenome analysis tools

Stinus Lindgreen, a,1,2,3,* Karen L. Adair, 1,2 and Paul P. Gardner 1,2

2016, 14 tools (including CLARK, MetaPhan2, One codex, EBI, MG-Rast, kraken, LMAT, Megan)

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Shotgun sequencing versus amplicon sequencing

Comparing 16S rRNA Marker Gene and Shotgun Metagenomics Datasets in the American Gut Project Using State of the Art Tools, E.R. Hyde, J. Sanders, A. Tripathi, Q. Zhu, R. Knight, 2017 "There is some consistency between the 16S and shotgun metagenomics approaches although some obvious differences are noted."

Large-scale differences in microbial biodiversity discovery between 16S amplicon and shotgun sequencing, Michael Tessler et al., Scientific Reports 2017

"Overall the amplicon data were more robust across both biodiversity and community ecology analyses at different taxonomic scales."

Assembly and binning

CAMI Challenge

- community-driven initiative
- 700 newly sequenced microorganisms and 600 novel viruses and plasmids
- 3 artificial communities low, medium, high complexity presence of multiple, closely related strains, plasmid and viral sequences and realistic abundance profiles
- assemblers : MEGAHIT, Minia, Meraga, A*, Ray Meta, Velour
- binners : MyCC, MaxBin 2.0, MetaBAT, MetaWatt, CONCOCT2
- https://data.cami-challenge.org, https://data.cami-challenge.org/cami2

Critical Assessment of Metagenome Interpretation—a benchmark of metagenomics software Nature Methods volume 14, pages 1063–1071(2017)