Interactive Microbiome Analysis using DIAMOND+MEGAN



Daniel H. Huson Anupam Gautam Wenhuan Zeng



Tutorial web page







- Introduction to microbiome analysis
- Part 0: Software setup
- Part 1: DIAMOND alignment against protein database
- Part 2: Meganization of reads and alignments
- Part 3: Interactive exploration using MEGAN





 Introduction to microbiome analysis 	9:00- 9:45
• Part 0: Software setup	9:45-10:00
 Part 1: DIAMOND alignment 	10:00-10:45
Coffee	10:45-11:15
 Part 2: Meganization 	11:15-11:45
 Part 3: Interactive MEGAN 	11:45-13:00





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Microbiome

• Traditionally, microbes are studied in pure culture

Genome:

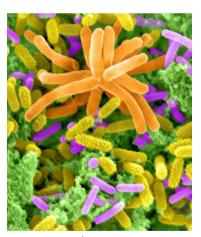


www.innovations-report.de

- Entire DNA sequence of a single organism
- But: most microbes don't live in isolation and many can't be cultured

Microbiome:

Collection of microbes in a specific theatre of activity



www.physorg.com

Metagenome:

- Entire DNA sequence of a microbiome

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Sources of studied microbiomes

- Soil samples
- Water samples
- Seabed samples
- Air samples
- Ancient bones
- Host-associated samples
- Human microbiome

• . . .













• First NGS technique 454 released

Intended for genome sequencing...

★Use NGS to sequence ancient DNA?

ARTICLES

Genome sequencing in microfabricated high-density picolitre reactors

Marcel Margulies¹*, Michael Egholm¹*, William E. Altman¹, Said Attiya¹, Joel S. Bader¹, Lisa A. Bemben¹, Jan Berka¹, Michael S. Braverman¹, Yi-Ju Chen¹, Zhoutao Chen¹, Scott B. Dewell¹, Lei Du¹, Joseph M. Fierro¹, Xavier V. Gomes¹, Brian C. Godwin¹, Wen He¹, Scott Helgesen¹, Chun He Ho¹, Gerard P. Irzyk¹, Szilveszter C. Jandoʻ, Maria L. I. Alenquer¹, Thomas P. Jarvie', Khama B. Jirzge', Jong-Bum Kim¹, James R. Knight¹, Janna R. Lanza¹, John H. Leamon¹, Steven M. Lefkowitz¹, Ming Lei¹, Jing Li¹, Kenton L. Lohman¹, Hong Lu¹, Vinod B. Makhijani¹, Keith E. McDade¹, Michael P. McKenna¹, Eugene W. Myers³, Elizabeth Nickerson¹, John R. Nobile¹, Ramona Plant¹, Bernard P. Puc¹, Michael T. Ronan¹, George T. Roth¹, Gary J. Sarkis¹, Jan Fredrik Simons¹, John W. Simpson¹, Maithreyan Srinivasan¹, Karrie R. Tartaro¹, Alexander Tomasz², Kari A. Vogt', Greg A. Volkemer', Shally H. Wang¹, Yong Mang¹, Michael P. Weiner¹,

Pengguang Yu¹ Richard F Regley¹ & Jonathan M Rothberg



★Use NGS to sequence metagenomic DNA?

NGS = next generation sequencing

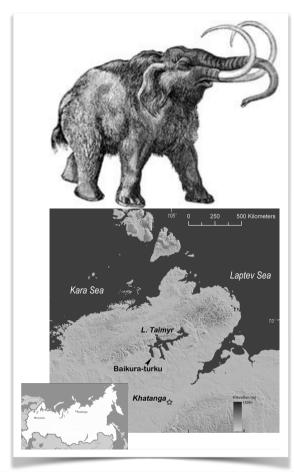


Mammoth DNA & metagenome (2006)

- DNA collected from permafrost mammoth (28,000 years old)
- DNA extracted from 1g bone
- DNA sheared to 500-700 bp

- Sequenced using 454
- ~302,000 reads, length ~95 bp

- ★ Can use NGS for ancient DNA
- ★ First NGS metagenomics paper



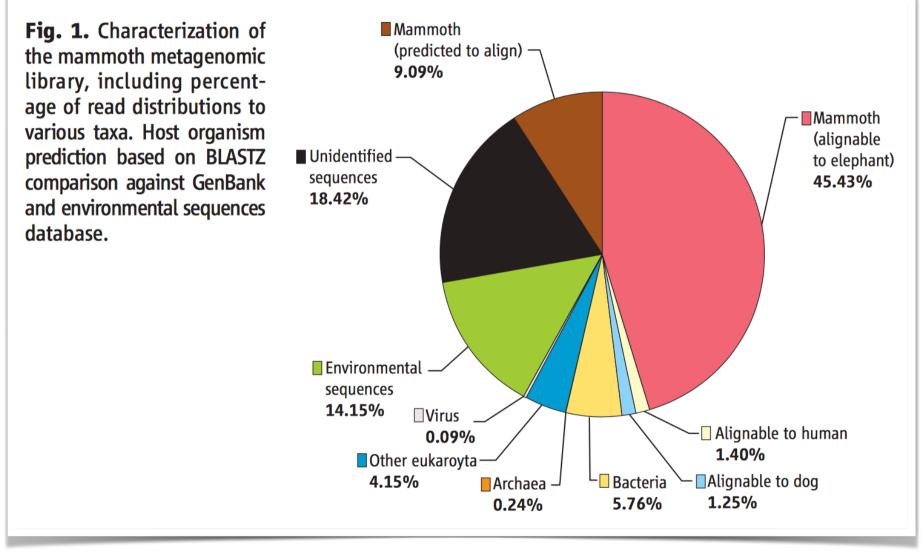
REPORTS

Metagenomics to Paleogenomics: Large-Scale Sequencing of Mammoth DNA

Hendrik N. Poinar, ^{1,2,3*} Carsten Schwarz, ^{1,2} Ji Qi, ⁴ Beth Shapiro, ⁵ Ross D. E. MacPhee, ⁶ Bernard Buigues, ⁷ Alexei Tikhonov, ⁸ Daniel H. Huson, ⁹ Lynn P. Tomsho, ⁴ Alexander Auch, ⁹ Markus Rampp, ¹⁰ Webb Miller, ⁴ Stephan C. Schuster ^{4*}



Mammoth bone metagenome (2006)



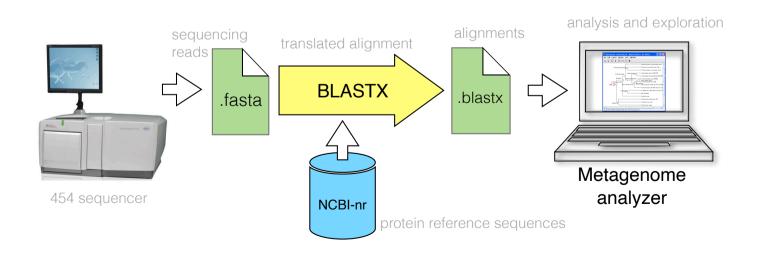
Poinar et al, Science 2006



How to analyze metagenomic reads? (2006)

Basic idea (with Stephan Schuster at Penn State):

- BLASTX non-host reads against NCBI-nr
- Assign reads to NCBI taxonomy using naive LCA (lowest common ancestor) approach
- Develop GUI to explore assignments and alignments

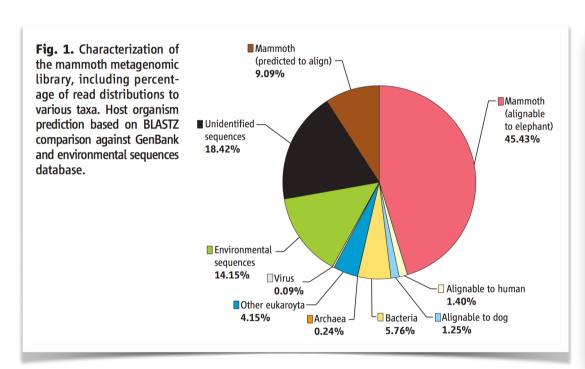


2006 MEGAN analysis pipeline



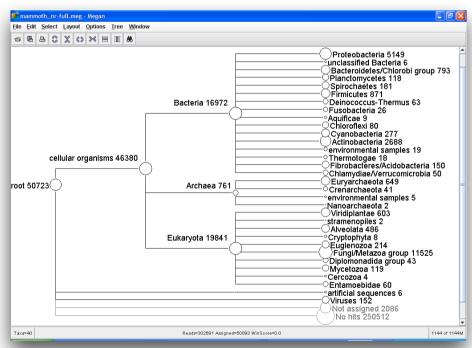
How to analyze metagenomic reads? (2006)

MEGAN (MEtagenome ANalyzer 1.0)



Poinar et al, Science 2006

MEGAN 1.0



H. et al, Genome Research, 2007



Computational bottleneck (2006)

- Compare all reads against the NCBI-nr protein database
- Year 2006:
 - 300,000 reads of length ~100bp
 - NCBI-nr: 3 million entries, ~1 billion letters
- ★ BLASTX took a couple of weeks on a small cluster

(NCBI-nr today: ~ 550 million entries)



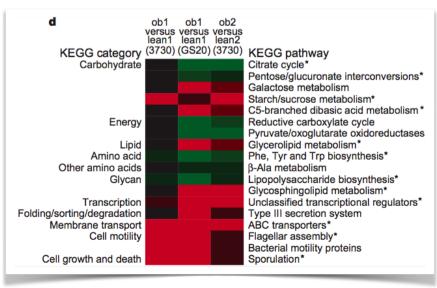
Obesity-associated gut microbiome

Turnbaugh et al (2006):

- Caecal microbial DNA of ob/ob, ob/+, +/+ mice
- Sanger sequencing:
 - 39.5 Mb
 - read length 750 bp
- 454 sequencing:
 - 160 Mb
 - read length 93 bp



- Change in relative abundance of Bacteroidetes and Firmicutes
- Change in functional capacity (toward energy harvesting)





Large-scale human gut analysis

Vol 464 4 March 2010 doi:10.1038/nature08821

nature

MetaHIT 2010

ARTICLES

A human gut microbial gene catalogue established by metagenomic sequencing

Junjie Qin¹*, Ruiqiang Li¹*, Jeroen Raes^{2,3}, Manimozhiyan Arumugam², Kristoffer Solvsten Burgdorf⁴, Chaysavanh Manichanh⁵, Trine Nielsen⁴, Nicolas Pons⁶, Florence Levenez⁶, Takuji Yamada², Daniel R. Mende², Junhua Li^{1,7}, Junming Xu¹, Shaochuan Li¹, Dongfang Li^{1,8}, Jianjun Cao¹, Bo Wang¹, Huiqing Liang¹, Huisong Zheng¹, Yinlong Xie^{1,7}, Julien Tap⁶, Patricia Lepage⁶, Marcelo Bertalan⁹, Jean-Michel Batto⁶, Torben Hansen⁴, Denis Le Paslier¹⁰, Allan Linneberg¹¹, H. Bjørn Nielsen⁹, Eric Pelletier¹⁰, Pierre Renault⁶, Thomas Sicheritz-Ponten⁹, Keith Turner¹², Hongmei Zhu¹, Chang Yu¹, Shengting Li¹, Min Jian¹, Yan Zhou¹, Yingrui Li¹, Xiuqing Zhang¹, Songgang Li¹, Nan Qin¹, Huanming Yang¹, Jian Wang¹, Søren Brunak⁹, Joel Doré⁶, Francisco Guarner⁵, Karsten Kristiansen¹³, Oluf Pedersen^{4,14}, Julian Parkhill¹², Jean Weissenbach¹⁰, MetaHIT Consortium[†], Peer Bork², S. Dusko Ehrlich⁶ & Jun Wang^{1,13}

To understand the impact of gut microbes on human health and well-being it is crucial to assess their genetic potential. Here we describe the Illumina-based metagenomic sequencing, assembly and characterization of 3.3 million non-redundant microbial genes, derived from 576.7 gigabases of sequence, from faecal samples of 124 European individuals. The gene set, ~150 times larger than the human gene complement, contains an overwhelming majority of the prevalent (more frequent) microbial genes of the cohort and probably includes a large proportion of the prevalent human intestinal microbial genes. The genes are largely shared among individuals of the cohort. Over 99% of the genes are bacterial, indicating that the entire cohort harbours between 1,000 and 1,150 prevalent bacterial species and each individual at least 160 such species, which are also largely shared. We define and describe the minimal gut metagenome and the minimal gut bacterial genome in terms of functions present in all individuals and most bacteria, respectively.

• 576Gb of sequence from 124 individuals

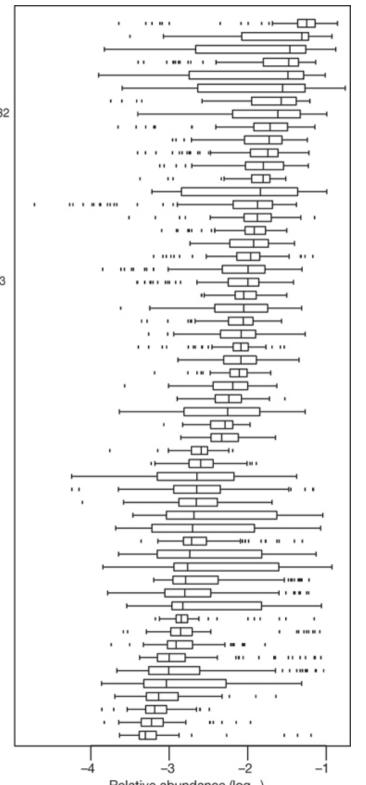


Core of human gut microbiome

- 57 species present in ≥90% of individuals with coverage >1%
- High variability
- Bacteroidetes and Firmicutes most abundant

BLASTX at Super Computer Center in Barcelona, then MEGAN analysis

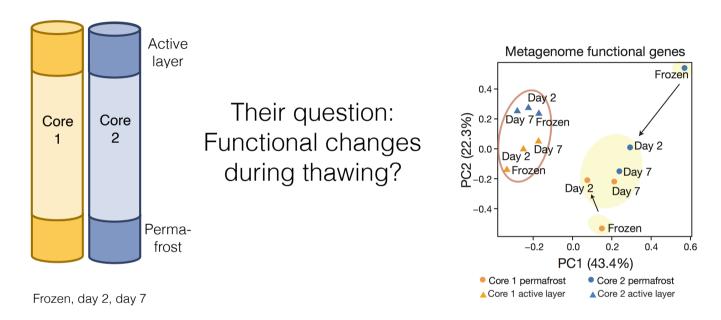
Bacteroides uniformis Alistipes putredinis Parabacteroides merdae Dorea longicatena Ruminococcus bromii L2-63 Bacteroides caccae Clostridium sp. SS2-1 Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron VPI-5482 Eubacterium hallii Ruminococcus torques L2-14 Unknown sp. SS3 4 Ruminococcus sp. SR1 5 Faecalibacterium prausnitzii SL3 3 Ruminococcus lactaris Collinsella aerofaciens Dorea formicigenerans Bacteroides vulgatus ATCC 8482 Roseburia intestinalis M50 1 Bacteroides sp. 2 1 7 Eubacterium siraeum 70 3 Parabacteroides distasonis ATCC 8503 Bacteroides sp. 9 1 42FAA Bacteroides ovatus Bacteroides sp. 4 3 47FAA Bacteroides sp. 2 2 4 Eubacterium rectale M104 1 Bacteriodes xylanisolvens XB1A Coprococcus comes SL7 1 Bacteroides sp. D1 Bacteroides sp. D4 Eubacterium ventriosum Bacteroides dorei Ruminococcus obeum A2-162 Subdoligranulum variabile Bacteroides capillosus Streptococcus thermophilus LMD-9 Clostridium leptum Holdemania filiformis Bacteroides stercoris Coprococcus eutactus Clostridium sp. M62 1 Bacteroides eggerthii Butyrivibrio crossotus Bacteroides finegoldii Parabacteroides iohnsonii Clostridium sp. L2-50 Clostridium nexile Bacteroides pectinophilus Anaerotrumas colihominis coccus anavus cteroides intestinalis Bacteroides fragilis 3 1 12 Clostridium asparagiforme Enterococcus faecalis TX0104 Clostridium scindens Blautia hansenii





Permafrost study (2011)

(Mackelprang et al, Science 2011)



- Align ~250 million Illumina reads against KEGG
- 800,000 CPU hours at Super Computer Center in Berkeley





Three basic questions







High-throughput DNA sequencing

Billions of sequences

Basic computational analysis

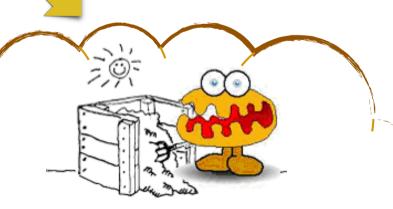


Many CPU hours



Q1: Who is out there?

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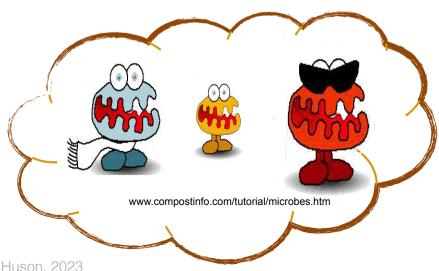


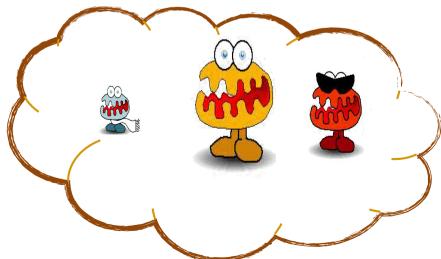
Q2: What are they doing?



Q3: How do they compare?







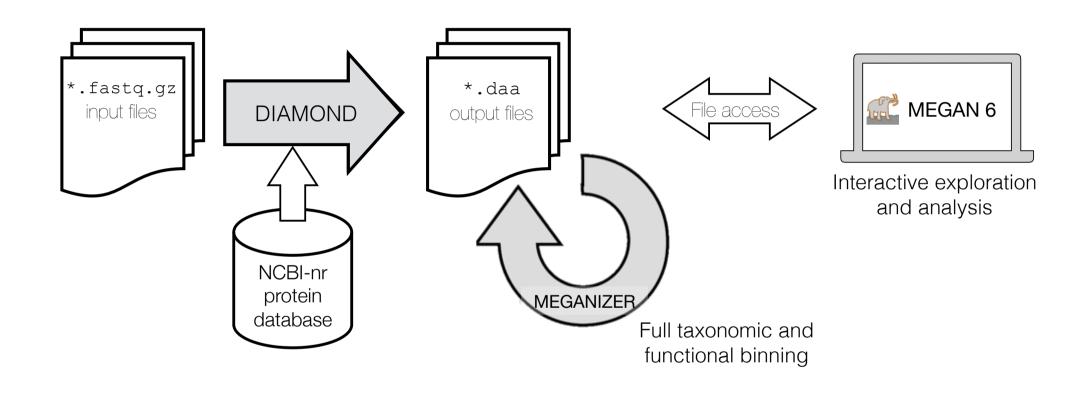


Three-part approach

- Part 1: Align reads or assembled contigs against protein reference sequences - DIAMOND
- Part 2: Analyze alignments to assign sequences to taxonomic and functional classes - MEGANIZER
- Part 3: Interactively explore, analyze and compare samples - MEGAN



DIAMOND+MEGAN pipeline



Server

Desktop/laptop





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Part 0 - Software setup

Tutorial webpage, available from:

https://github.com/husonlab/tutorials/wiki/Tutorial



You should have the following files and software installed:

• DIAMOND, from:

https://github.com/bbuchfink/diamond

• MEGAN, from:

https://software-ab.cs.uni-tuebingen.de/download/megan6

Data files, tutorial reference and mapping files, from:

https://software-ab.cs.uni-tuebingen.de/download/megan6/tutorial/tutorial.zip





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Part I - Protein alignment

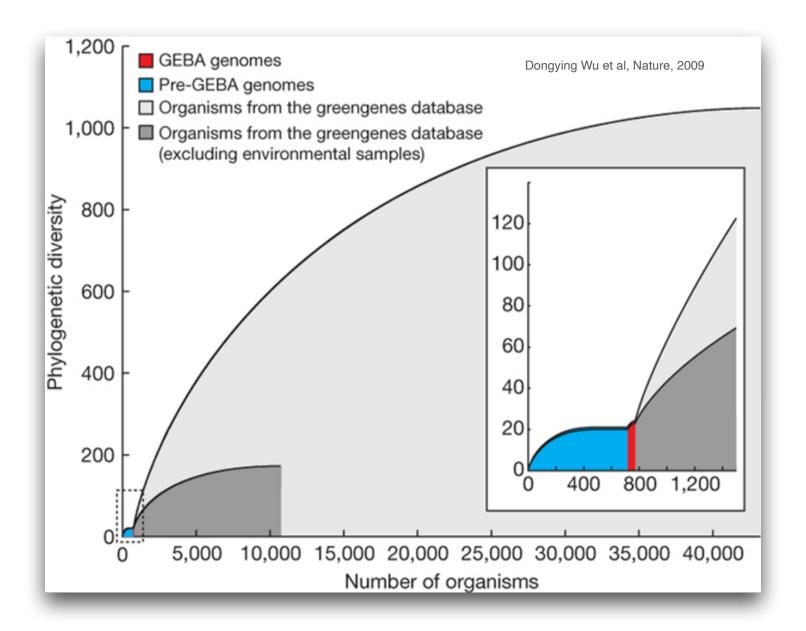
 Key idea: To perform metagenome analysis, align against a protein reference database

Why protein alignment?

- To identify known genomes in a sample, use DNA alignment (e.g., pathogen detection, human gut)
- To analyze unknown organisms, protein alignment is more suitable due to higher level of conservation



Genome databases don't cover enough diversity





Translated alignment

• Read:

```
>HISEQ: 457: C5366ACXX: 2:1101:5937:60460 (101 bases)
```

Translation (frame +3):

```
..I L I R K P I K N T N V M K K Y I C ...
```

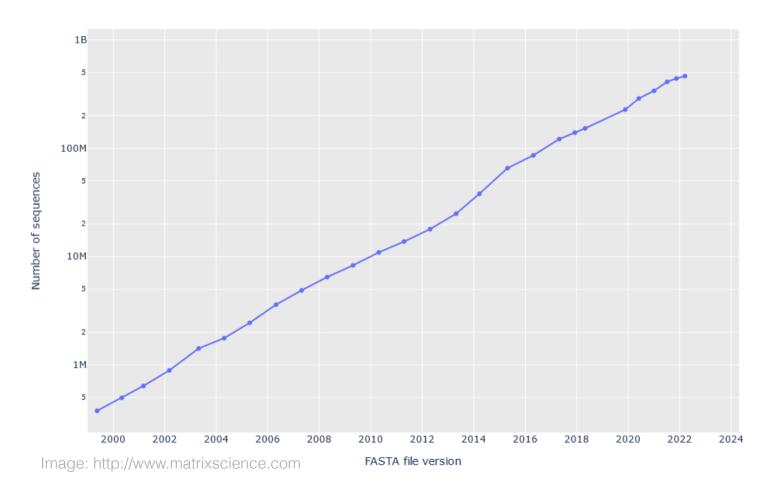
• Translated alignment:



Comprehensive database: NCBI-nr

 NCBI-nr database of non-redundant protein sequences has over 500M entries

Number of sequences in NCBI nr (log scale)

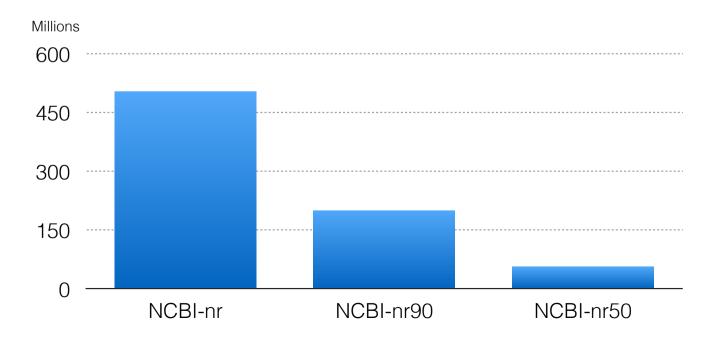




Smaller alternative?

- Latest release of DIAMOND allows clustering of NCBI-nr (Buchfink et al, submitted)
- Similarity: 90 and 50%
- NCBI-nr90 and NCBI-nr50

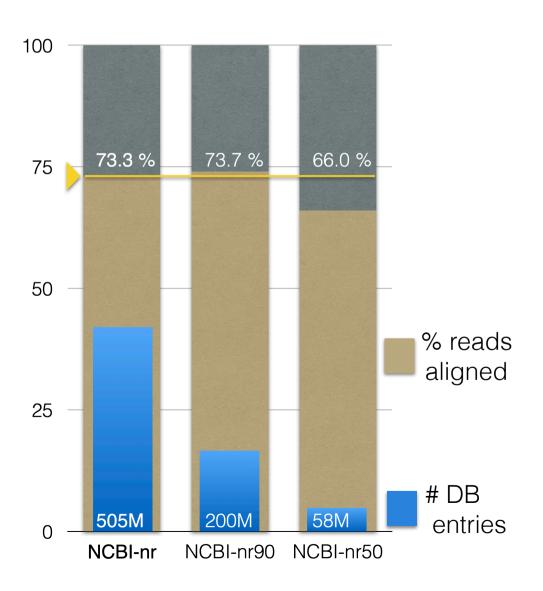






Comparison NCBI-nr vs nr50

201M reads aligned by DIAMOND & analyzed using MEGAN



Classification	NCBI-nr	NCBI-90	NCBI-50
NCBI			
Taxonomy	1.0	1.01	0.85
GTDB			
Taxonomy	1.0	1.03	0.88
INTERPRO	1.0	1.34	1.39
INTERPRO	1.0	1.54	1.55
SEED	1.0	1.07	1.23
EC	1.0	1.12	1.17
EGGNOG	1.0	1.55	1.87
Speed-up	1.0	3.0	34.6



Tutorial-nr file

- While NCBI-nr50 is small enough to be used on a high-end laptop, it is too big for this tutorial
- For the tutorial, we provide tutorial-nr.gz
 - This is a small subset of nr50.gz
 - It only contains accessions relevant for the provided short-read datasets
 - It can not be used for analysis of real data



Part I - Protein alignment

- Will use DIAMOND
 - designed for metagenomics (Buchfink et al, 2015)

- Need to:
 - Install DIAMOND
 - Download reference sequence
 - Run DIAMOND to build index
 - Run DIAMOND on fastq.gz files



Part I - DIAMOND index

Build a DIAMOND index:

diamond makedb --in tutorial-nr.gz -d tutorial-nr

• Note: Using tutorial-nr.gz, due to time restrictions



Part I - Run DIAMOND

Run DIAMOND on one input FASTQ file:

```
diamond blastx -d tutorial-nr \
-q data/Alice00-1mio.fa.gz \
-o out/Alice00-1mio.daa \
-f 100 --masking 0
```

Run DIAMOND on all input files in the directory:

```
for file in data/*.fa.gz
do
ofile="out/$(basename "${file%.*}").daa"
diamond blastx --db tutorial-nr \
-q $file -o $ofile -f 100 --masking 0
done
```



Part I - Run DIAMOND

 For full size datasets, DIAMOND alignment (and subsequent meganization) is run on a server

• The 12 small datasets against tutorial-nr.gz will take less than 20 minutes on a modern laptop

 If you failed to run DIAMOND on the data, you can download the resulting files here:

https://software-ab.cs.uni-tuebingen.de/download/megan6/tutorial/diamond-out.zip





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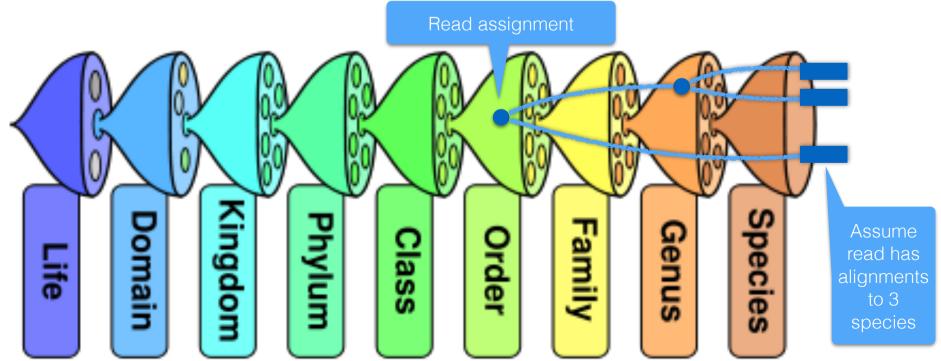
Part 2: Meganization

- Run DIAMOND with option -f 100, so that
 - the output is a "DAA" file, a binary file containing all aligned sequences and reported alignments.
- Then run tool daa-meganizer (or MEGAN)
 - to "meganize" the DAA file; performing taxonomic and functional analysis of all aligned sequences, and
 - the result of meganization is appended to the DAA file;
 no new file is created.
- A meganized DAA file can be opened in MEGAN.



Taxonomy meganization

- Taxonomic binning uses
 - the NCBI taxonomy (Benson et al, 2005),
 - the GTDB taxonomy (Parks et al, 2018),
 - naive LCA algorithm for short reads (Huson et al, 2007),
 - interval-union LCA for long reads (Huson et al, 2018).





Function meganization

- Functional binning uses e.g.
 - EggNOG (Powell et al, NAR 2014)
 - InterPro (Mitchell et al, NAR 2015)
 - SEED (Overbeek et al, NAR 2014)
 - KEGG (MEGAN UE only, Kanehisa & Goto, NAR 2000)
- Assignment uses the top-hit strategy (Huson, 2011)



Meganization database

- A DAA file contains reference sequences and their accessions
- Meganization requires a mapping of accessions to taxonomic and functional classes

 Provided as a "MEGAN mapping database" megan-map-tutorial.db

Here is the SQLITE schema:

CREATE TABLE mappings (Accession PRIMARY KEY, Taxonomy INT, GTDB INT, EGGNOG INT, INTERPRO2GO INT, SEED INT, EC INT);

A typical entry:

EKP93748 | 867903 | | 253 | | 22932 | 501010007



Part 2: Meganization

Meganize one DIAMOND file:

```
~/megan/tools/daa-meganizer \
-i out/Alice00-1mio.daa \
-mdb megan-map-tutorial.db
```

Meganize all DIAMOND files:

```
~megan/tools/daa-meganizer \
-i out/*.daa -mdb megan-map-tutorial.db
```



Part 2: Meganization

• If you failed to meganize the 12 files, you can download the meganized files here:

https://software-ab.cs.uni-tuebingen.de/download/megan6/tutorial/meganizer-out.zip

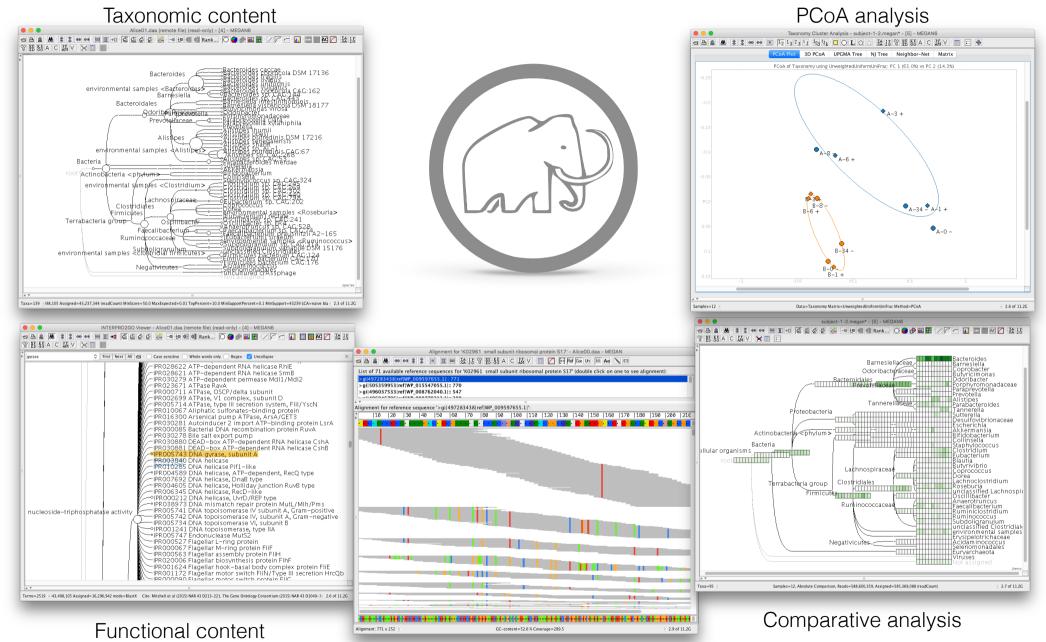




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Interactive MEGAN analysis



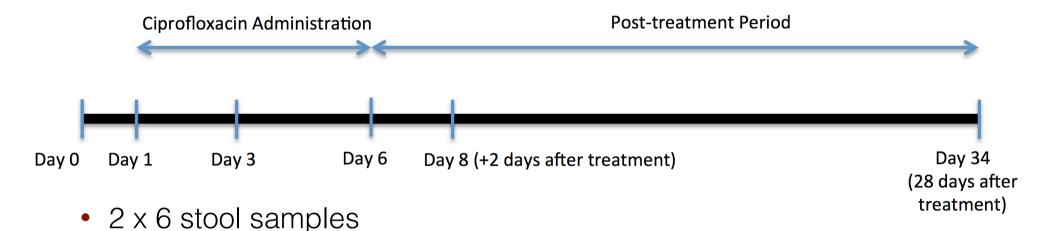
Gene-centric alignment and assembly



ASARI- Antibiotic resistance pilot study

Two volunteers, subject 1 and subject 2





- Shotgun sequencing
 - ~60 million reads per sample (101 bp per read)
 - ~800 million reads in total
- Initial analysis: compare against NCBI-nr protein database

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Performance of DIAMOND+MEGAN

12 human gut samples, total 816 million HiSeq reads

Sample	Reads	DIAMOND (s)	Alignments	Aligned reads	Meganizer (s)
Alice 0	66 393 401	19 062	627 405 772	44 900 227	9 299
Alice 1	64 923 975	15 771	595 715 349	43 498 105	11 338
Alice 3	55 092 349	13 435	515 249 349	37 675 494	8 621
Alice 6	66 289 376	16 801	910 892 059	52 627 776	11 771
Alice 8	57 957 661	14 134	790 946 244	45 358 448	13 911
Alice 34	64 380 386	15 615	608 114 143	44 741 897	11 962
Bob 0	61 232 588	14 573	825 213 917	48 882 884	12 058
Bob 1	65 763 766	16 203	841 038 616	51 408 892	12 270
Bob 3	89 034 641	34 598	1 233 571 041	72 017 720	15 789
Bob 6	89 339 172	27 333	1 138 796 522	70 344 161	15 507
Bob 8	78 001 118	19 734	1 049 831 855	63 336 241	13 423
Bob 34	57 627 119	15 406	780 844 319	45569158	11 433
Total	816 035 552	222 665	9 917 619 186	620 360 003	Max: 15 789
Time	The state of the s	≈ 62 h		The second secon	≈ 5 h

doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1004957.t001

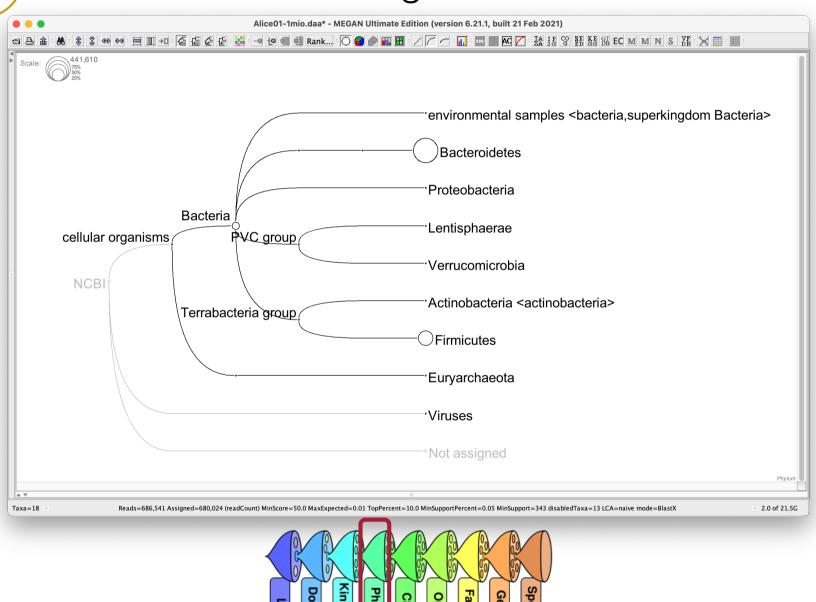
Complete analysis in 62+5 hours on a single server





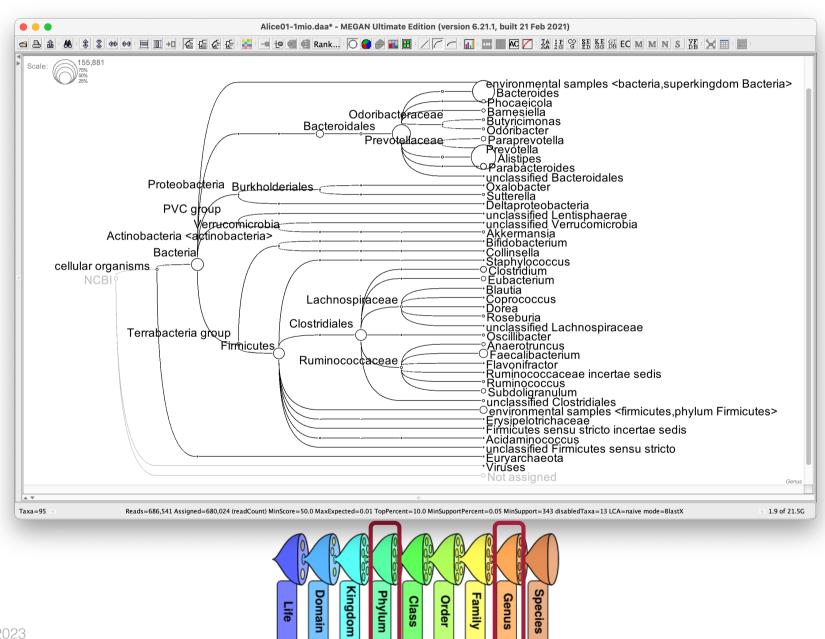
Taxonomic content

ASARI human gut microbiome



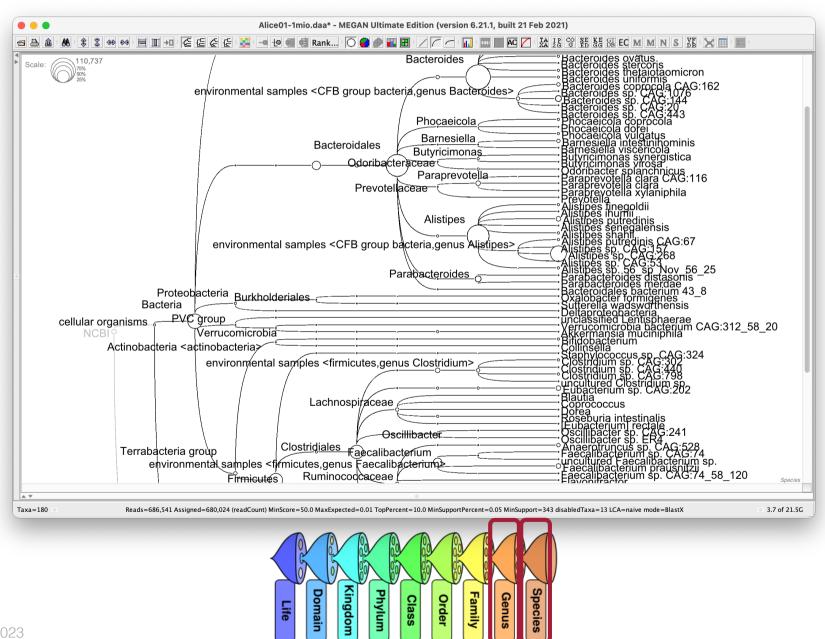


Taxonomic content



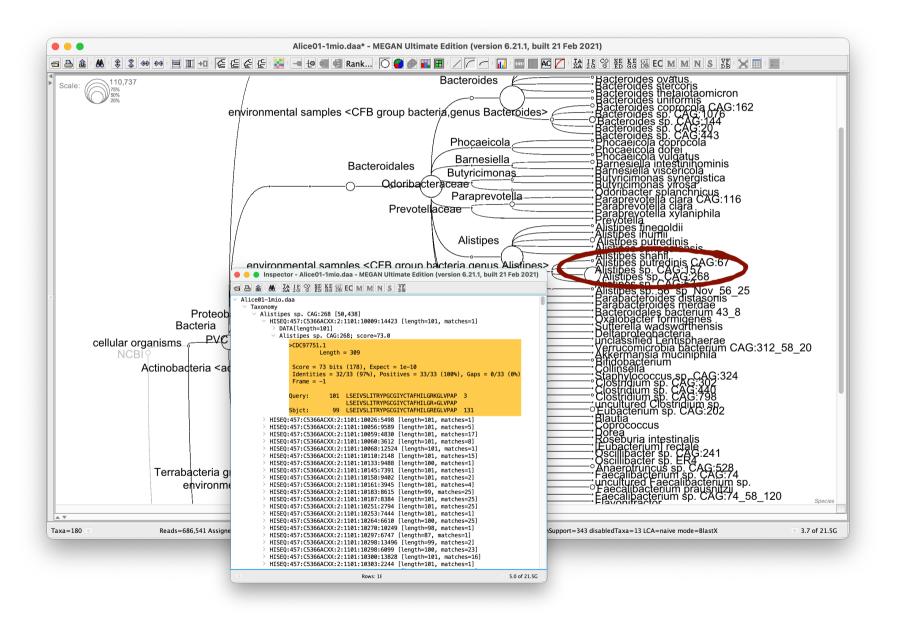


Taxonomic content





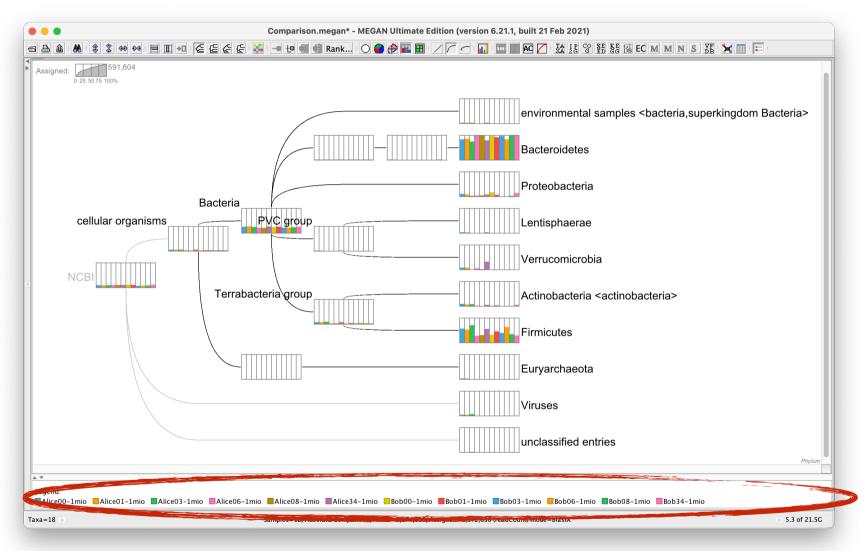
Drill down to details...





Comparison

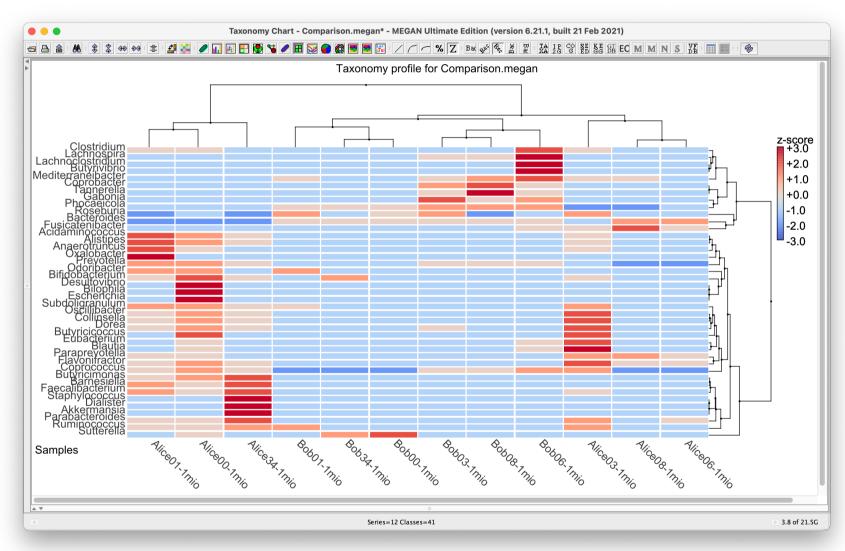
Q3: How do they compare?



All 12 ASARI human gut samples together



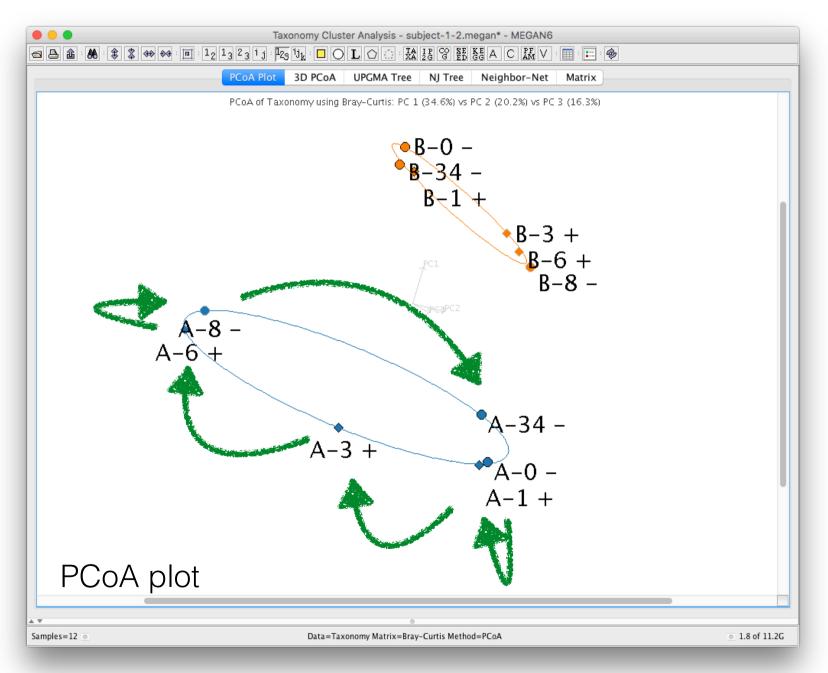
Comparison



All 12 ASARI human gut samples together

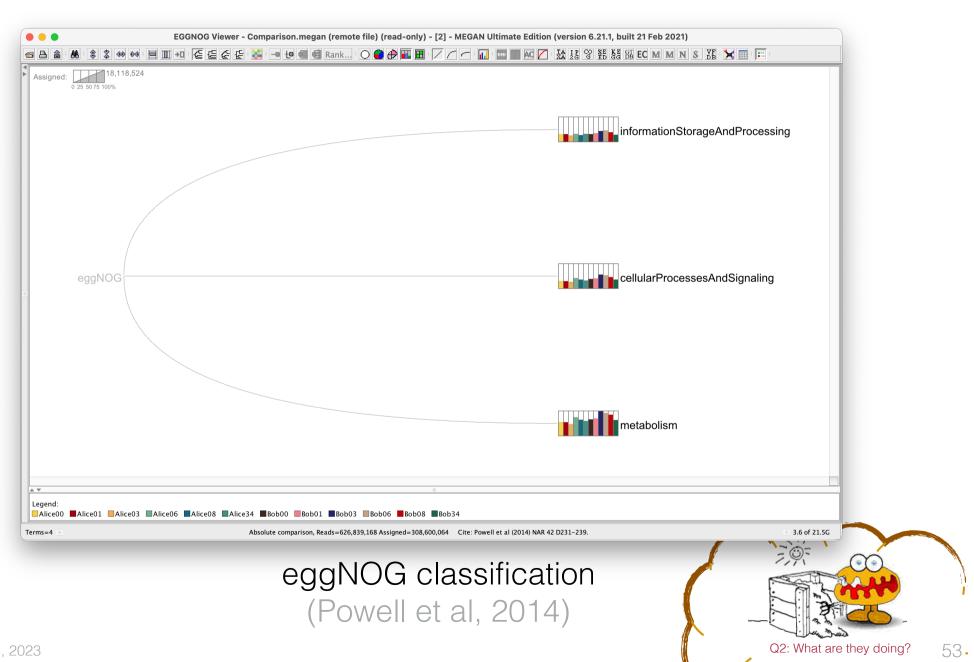


E.g.: Does the microbiome rebound?



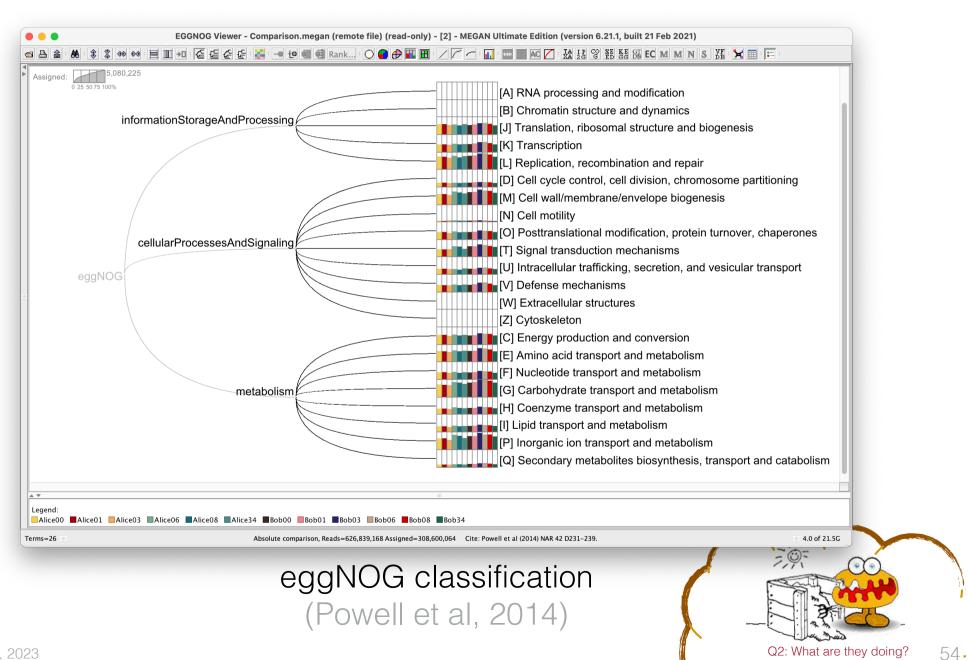


Functional content



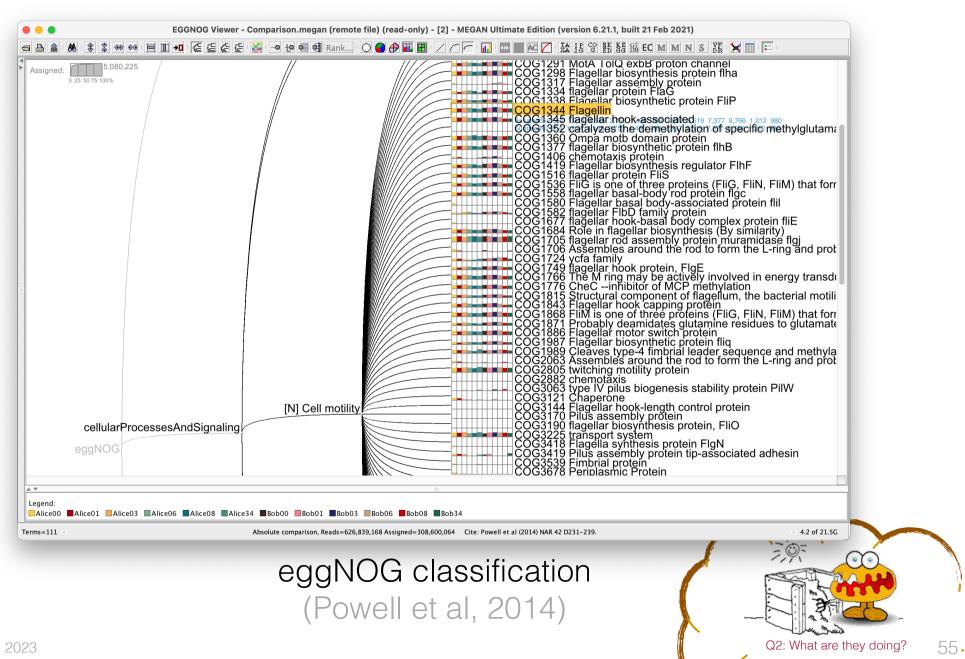


Functional content





Functional content





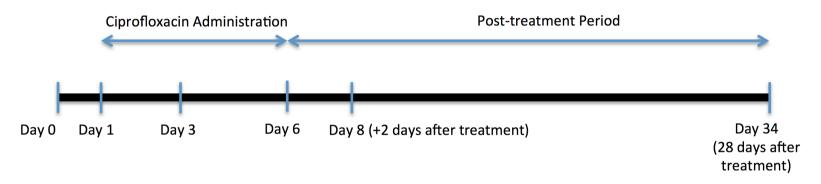
Part 3: MEGAN analysis

- Launch MEGAN by typing:
 - ~/megan/MEGAN
- Open individual files with the File->Open... item
- Compare files using the File->Compare... item



Alice and Bob-short reads

Alice and Bob, 6 time points each



- Each subsampled to 1 mio reads.
- data/Alice00-1mio.fq.gz etc



Alice and Bob-short reads

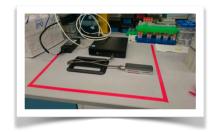
Tutorial tasks:

- confirm that these are gut samples should be dominated by Bacteroidota, Firmicutes and Proteobacteria.
- Open all twelve files together in a comparison document and add the provided metadata.
- Confirm that the taxonomic profiles of either subject changes during the course of antibiotics and then returns to a similar state after treatment.



Enrichment reactor - long reads

Nanopore reads from enrichment reactor:



Short report | Open Access | Published: 16 April 2019

Annotated bacterial chromosomes from frame-shiftcorrected long-read metagenomic data

Krithika Arumugam, Caner Bağcı, Irina Bessarab, Sina Beier, Benjamin Buchfink, Anna Górska, Guanglei Qiu, Daniel H. Huson & Rohan B. H. Williams □

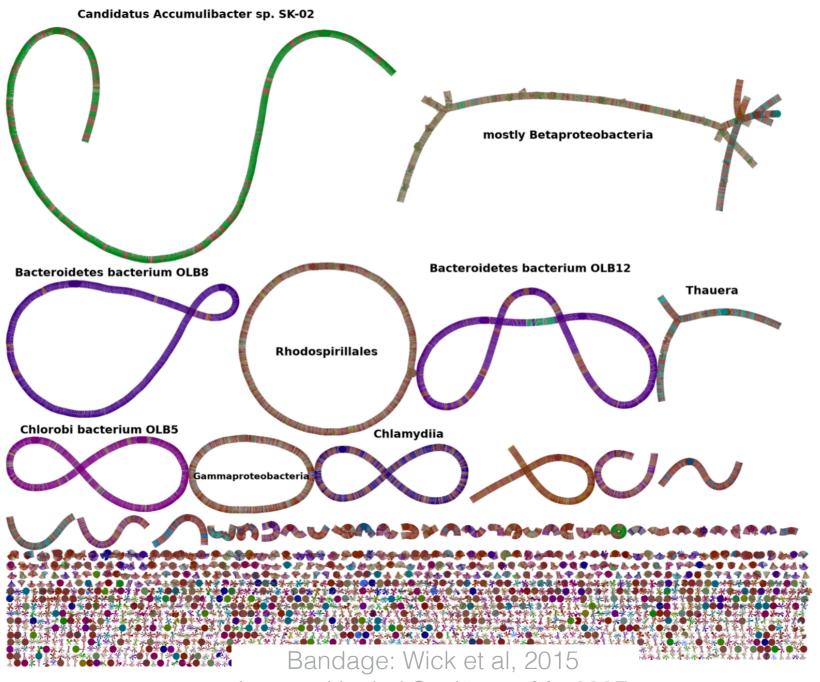
Microbiome 7, Article number: 61 (2019) | Cite this article



- Reads ~695,000, length ~9kb, total ~6Gb
- Unicycler assembly: long-reads/assembly.fa.gz



Bandage visualization of assembly graph



Daniel Huson, 2023 Layout: Hachul S., Jünger M., 2007

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Taxonomic bins ≥ 50% complete

DIAMOND+MEGAN taxonomic bin		Unicycler	Total (Mb)	Aligned (Mb)	Average coverage	CheckM		Prokka		
		contigs				Complete.	Contam.	rRNA	tRNA	CDS
High quality draft genomes:										
B1	Bacteroidetes bacterium OLB12	1	4.2	3.5	57.3	95%	0.1%	6	39	4,163
B2	$Candidatus\ Accumulibacter\ SK-02$	1	5.2	4.1	384.2	94%	0.6%	4	53	4,915
B3	Chlamydiia (class)	1	2.8	1.8	48.8	94%	2%	6	39	3,387
B4	Gamma proteobacteria (class)	43	4.7	3.0		93%	2%	6	52	4,833
	-longest contig		2.7	1.6	25.1	93%	0.2%	3	40	3,359
B5	Bacteroidetes bacterium OLB8	1	3.8	3.0	52.1	93%	1%	6	37	3,394
B6	Rhodospirillales (order)	1	4.4	3.0	29.5	92%	0.5%	3	47	4,015
B7	Chlorobi bacterium OLB5	1	3.5	2.5	38.7	88%	1%	3	41	4,131
Mediur	n quality draft genomes:									
B8	Thauera (genus)	25	4.6	4.0		89%	4%	12	64	4,040
	-longest contig		8.0	0.7	32.7	14%	0%	0	5	672
B9	Sphingobacteriales bacterium 44-15	59	3.2	2.8		76%	1%	2	17	2,953
	-longest contig		0.2	0.1	10.2	0%	0%	0	0	172
B10	Bacteroidetes (phylum)	43	3.9	2.6		72%	7%	1	12	1,997
	-longest contig		1.2	8.0	14.1	32%	0%	0	3	807
B11	Candidatus Contendobacter B J11	39	2.5	2.0		59%	9%	2	37	2,668
	-longest contig		0.3	0.3	15.4	19%	0%	0	7	295
Low quality draft genomes:										
B12	Betaproteobacteria (class)	111	6.6	5.5		89%	79%	6	71	4,655
	-longest contig		0.4	0.3	37.1	10%	0%	0	1	372
B13	Nitrospira (genus)	34	4.2	3.7		83%	13%	0	6	563
	-longest contig		1.1	0.9	17.6	27%	0%	0	2	99
B14	Chloroflexi (phylum)	151	5.4	4.3		71%	29%	0	11	3,565
	-longest contig		0.2	0.2	13.3	8%	0%	0	1	86
	-									

Arumugam et al, 2019

CheckM (Parks et al. 2014) Prokka (Seemann, 2014)



Enrichment reactor - long reads

Run DIAMOND in long-read mode:

```
diamond blastx -d nr \
-q data2/assembly.fa.gz \
-o data/assembly.daa -f 100 \
--range-culling -k 25 -F 15
```

Run MEGANIZER in long-read mode:

```
$MEGAN/tools/daa-meganizer \
-i data2/assembly.daa -lg \
-mdb megan-map-Feb2022.db
```



Enrichment reactor - long reads

- Investigate the long-read inspector dialog
- Discuss frame-shift correction





Please provide tutorial feedback to ISMB using this QR-code:



Feedback webpage

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