

Bioinformatische Charakterisierung kurzer DNA-Fragmente aus bakteriellen Gemeinschaften

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Bielefeld University, Germany

Overview

- 1 Metagenomics
- 2 The CARMA Pipeline for Short Read Metagenome Analysis
- 3 Evaluation and Applications
- 4 Algorithmic Issues for Very Large Datasets
- 5 Further Applications
- 6 Conclusion

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Metagenomics

Motivation

- $\approx 99\%$ microbes not cultivable



- have to be taken from natural environment



- study whole microbial communities



Metagenomics

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- have to 

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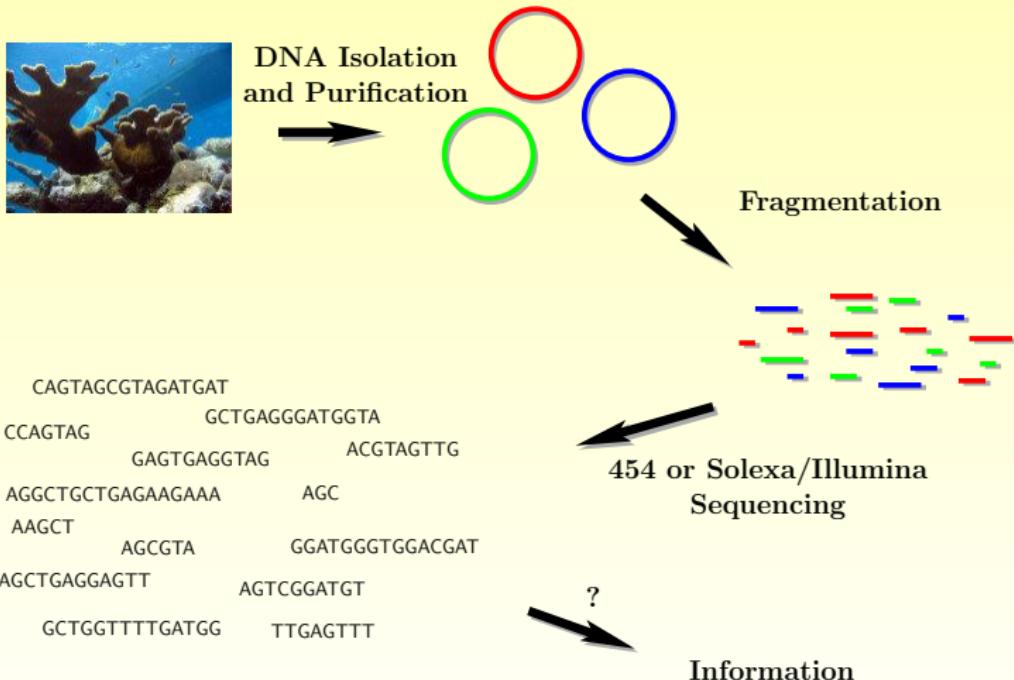
Exploring unseen communities

Advances in sequencing technology and tools for analysis are allowing researchers to unravel the environmental diversity of microbes faster and in greater detail than ever before. **Nathan Blow** reports.

TECHNOLOGY FEATURE METAGENOMICS



Metagenomics

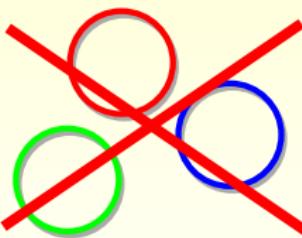


Short Read Metagenomics: Difficulties

Problems with de novo assembly:

- short read length (35-250 bp)
- sequencing errors
- mixture of reads from different species

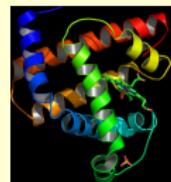
→ DNA barcoding is not possible.



Short Read Metagenomics: Our Approach

Retrieving information: our approach

- Protein domains are highly conserved
- Find reads that encode for known proteins
→ environmental gene tags (EGTs)
- Provide information about:
 - taxonomical origin and function of EGTs
 - taxonomical composition
 - habitat-specific proteins
 - differences between communities from different environments

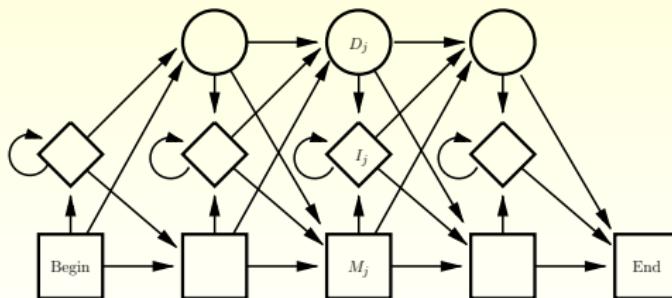


Pfam

Environmental gene tags are found by comparison of translated reads with Pfam domains

Pfam Database

- 10340 protein families (July 2008)
- multiple alignments
- Pfam profile hidden markov model (pHMM)
- used to match reads against protein families



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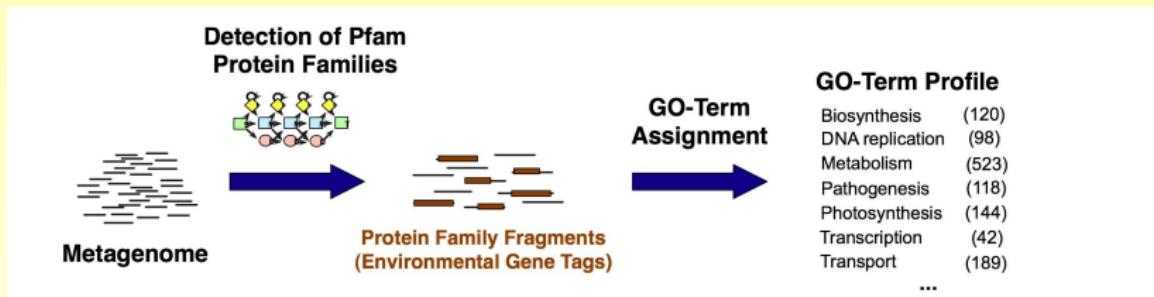
Pipeline for Characterizing Short Read Metagenomes

Two goals:

- (A) Functional Analysis
- (B) Taxonomical Classification

Krause *et al.* (2008), Phylogenetic classification of short environmental DNA fragments, *Nucleic Acids Res.* **36**(7): 2230-2239

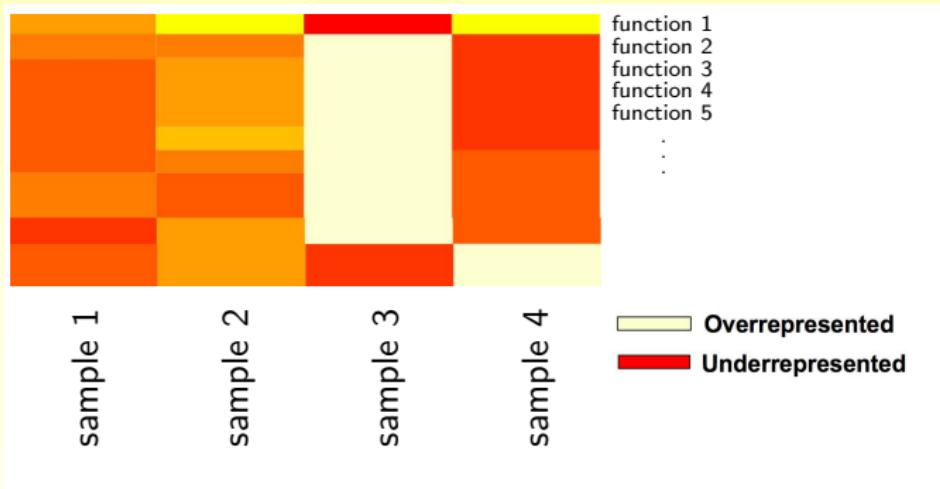
(A) Functional Analysis



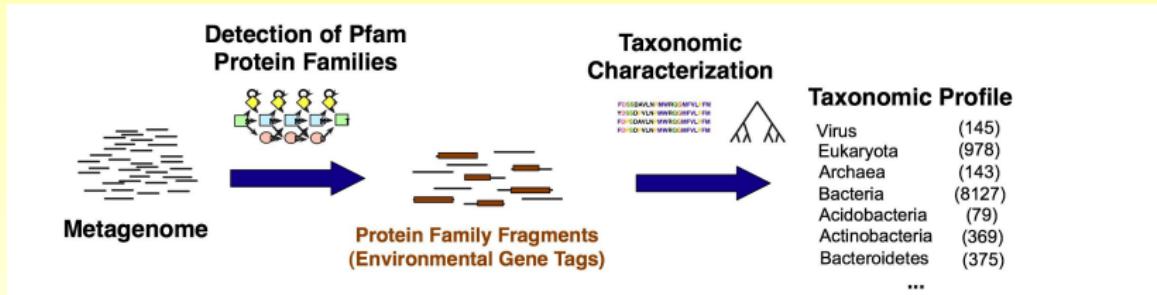
- Find environmental gene tags:
 - filter with BLASTX
 - alignment using HMM
- GO-term profile:
 - characterizes genetic diversity
 - potential metabolism of underlying community

(A) Functional Analysis: Result

Comparative analysis reveals genetic and metabolic trends



(B) Taxonomical Classification



Taxonomic Profile

- assignment to taxonomic groups based on a phylogenetic analysis (binning)
- characterizes species composition
- unlike 16S rDNA analysis takes all available sequence data into account

(B) Taxonomical Classification

Details of the procedure:

Multiple alignment of known family members:

(Pfam family: PF01973)

```
PF1  ...INSHSSYKAIIVIGSGPSLEEHYDYLQQISSS--SHRPLIIAADTALRGILLHNNIKPDIVICI--DGLIG...
PF2  ...---GREIFVIGTGPTLEQHFERLAVIRER--ADRPLYICVDTAYRPLREHGIVPDYVVSI--D---...
PF3  ...---IKGREAYVLATGPTLAGHFERLKQVREQ--AERPLFICVDTALRPILLEHGIRPDIV-VT-----
PF4  ...V--PRQQVIVVGAGPSLEAALSQLECISKR--KNRPLIIAVDTALKPLLQNGIRPNIVVSI--D-ADI...
PF5  ...KSIAKNKEAFVIGAGPSLEEHYSFLASISKQPLHHRPIIIAVDAAAKGLLAHGVKLDIV-VTIDE-MID...
```

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```

- Add gene tag to full multiple alignment using [hmmpalign](#).

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PF5  ...KSIAKNKEAFVIGAGPSLEEHYSFLASISKQPLHHRPIIIAVDAAAKGLLAHVGVKLDIV-VTIDE-MID...
EGT   KAIVIGSGPSLEEHYDYLQQIS
```

↑ gene tag

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(B) Taxonomical Classification

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PF4 . . . V---PRQQVIVVGACPSLEAALSQLECISKR--KNRPLIIAVDTALKPLLQNGIRPNIVVSI--D-ADI...
PF5 . . . KSIAKNKEAFVIGAGPSLEEHYSFLASISKQPLHHRP IIIAVDAAKGLLAHVVKLDIV-VTIDE-MID...
EGT KAIVIGSGPSLEEHYDYLQQIS

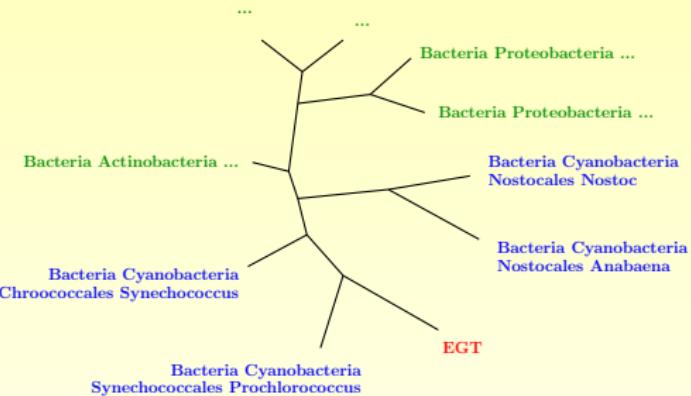


	PF1	PF2	...	EGT
PF1	0	0.3	...	0.6
PF2	0.3	0	...	0.2
...
EGT	0.6	0.2	...	0

(B) Taxonomical Classification

Details of the procedure:

	PF1	PF2	...	EGT
PF1	0	0.3	...	0.6
PF2	0.3	0	...	0.2
...
EGT	0.6	0.2	...	0



Phylogenetic tree

- Neighbor Joining
- Gene tags classified based on their location in tree

(B) Taxonomical Classification

Classification by longest common prefix of neighbor taxa:

- Bacteria Cyanobacteria Synechococcales Prochlorococcus
- Bacteria Cyanobacteria Chroococcales Synechococcus
- Bacteria Cyanobacteria Nostocales ...

→ ‘Bacteria Cyanobacteria’

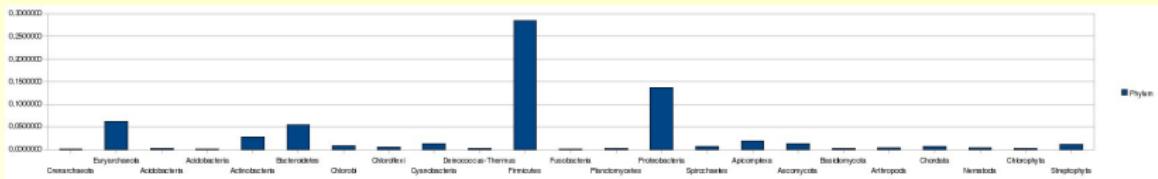
Reminder: taxonomic ranks



Level	Taxonomic Rank	Example: <i>E. coli</i>
1	Superkingdom	Bacteria
2	Phylum	Proteobacteria
3	Class	Gammaproteobacteria
4	Order	Enterobacteriales
5	Genus	Escherichia
6	Species	<i>Escherichia coli</i>

(B) Taxonomical Classification: Result

Typical output:



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Evaluation: Creating a Standard of Truth

Test set: 77 complete genomes

- 2 superkingdoms (archaea and bacteria)
- 10 phyla
- 29 classes
- 62 genera
- 77 species

Test set excluded from reference set:

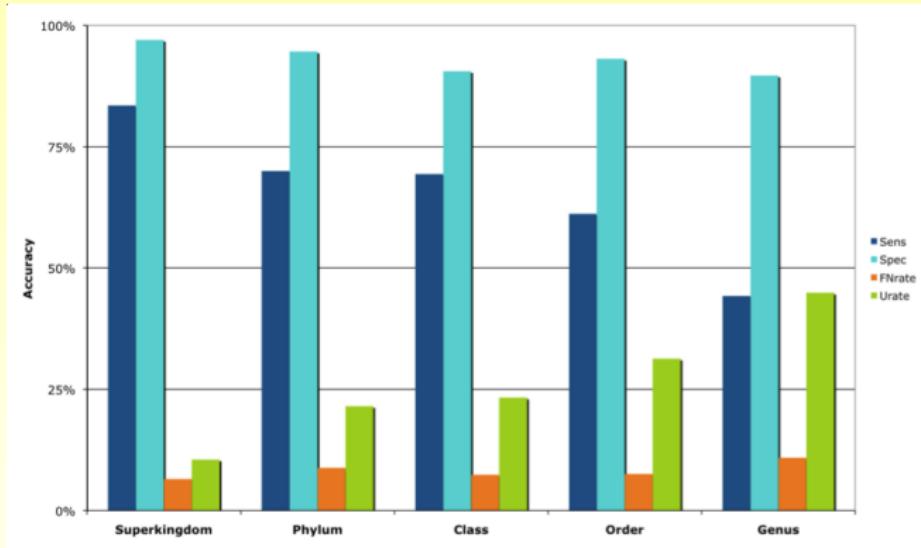
Pfam members from any of the 77 species were omitted from full multiple alignments

Evaluation: Creating a Standard of Truth

Simulation of a typical 454-sequenced metagenomic data set:

- 77 genomes fragmentized with [ReadSim](#) (*Schmid et al. 2008*)
- simulates sequencing using 454 pyrosequencing
- fragments randomly sampled (2x)
- fragment length: 80-120bp, mean 100bp
- simulates sequencing errors at homopolymers

Evaluation: Classification Accuracy



Sens: Sensitivity, fraction of correctly classified EGTs

Spec: Specificity, reliability of predictions

FNrate: False negative rate, proportion of wrongly classified EGTs

Urate: Unknown rate, proportion of EGTs not assigned to any taxonomic group

Application Example 1



Comparative Analysis of Four Microbial Coral Reef Communities

In cooperation with Rob Edwards and Forest Rohwer
(San Diego State University, California)

Dinsdale *et al.* (2008), Microbial Ecology of Four Coral Atolls in the Northern Line Islands, *PLoS ONE* 3(2), e1584

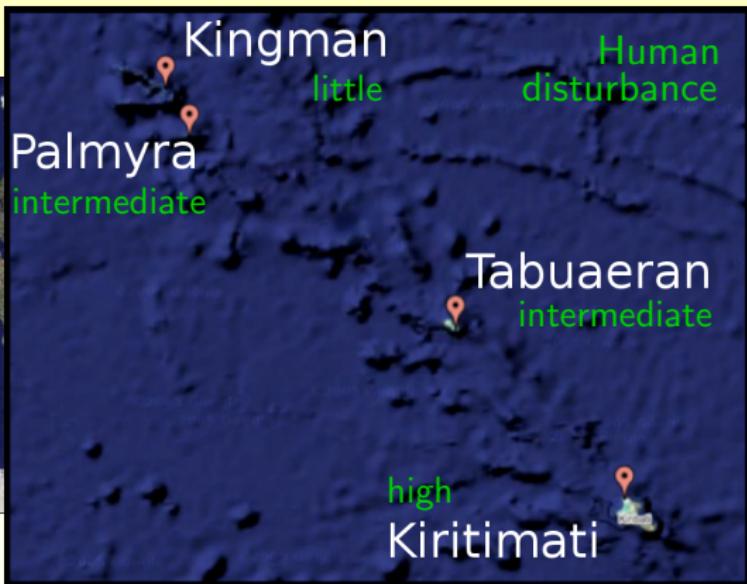
Application Example 1

Influence of Human Activities on Coral Reef Microbial Communities



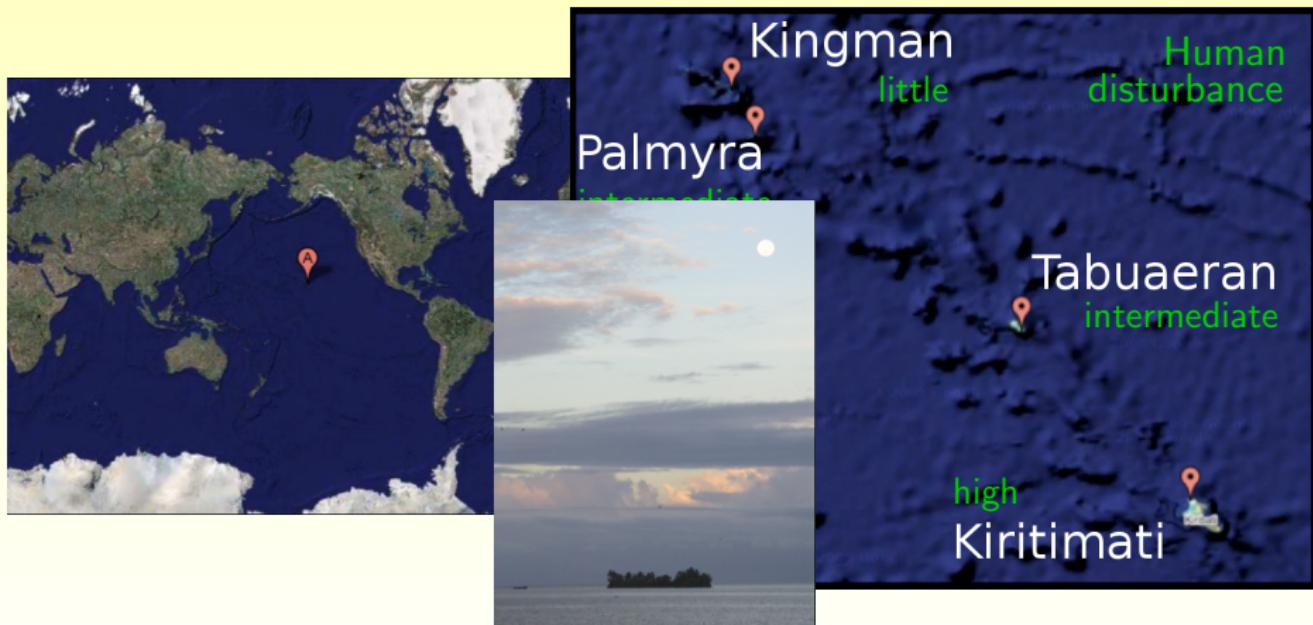
Application Example 1

Influence of Human Activities on Coral Reef Microbial Communities



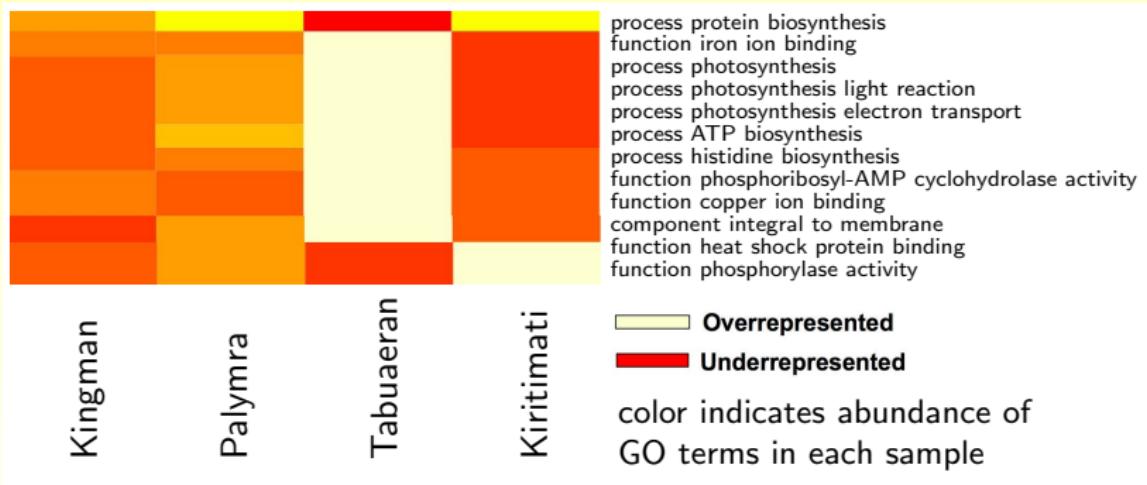
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Influence of Human Activities on Coral Reef Microbial Communities



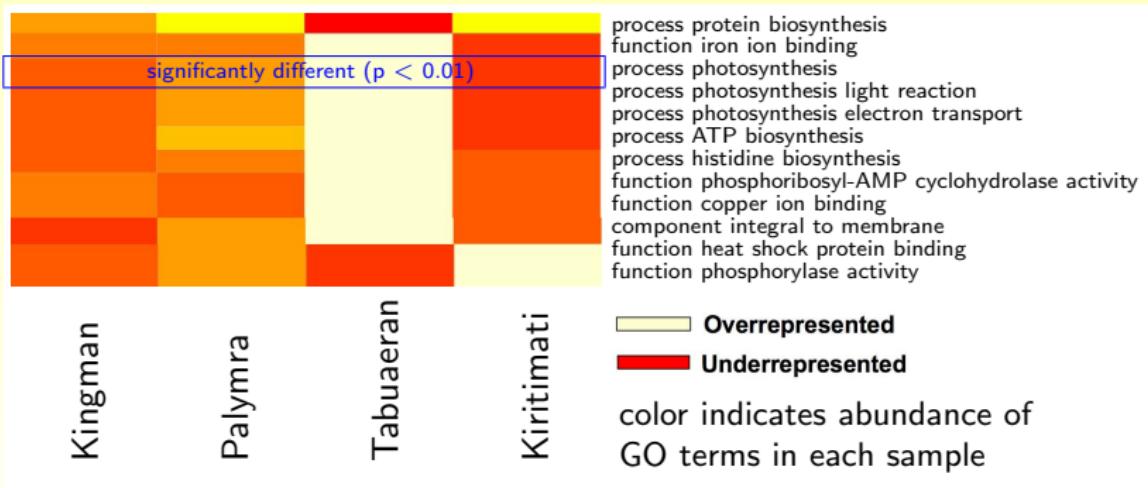
Application Example 1

GO-term profiles indicate transition in metabolic activities



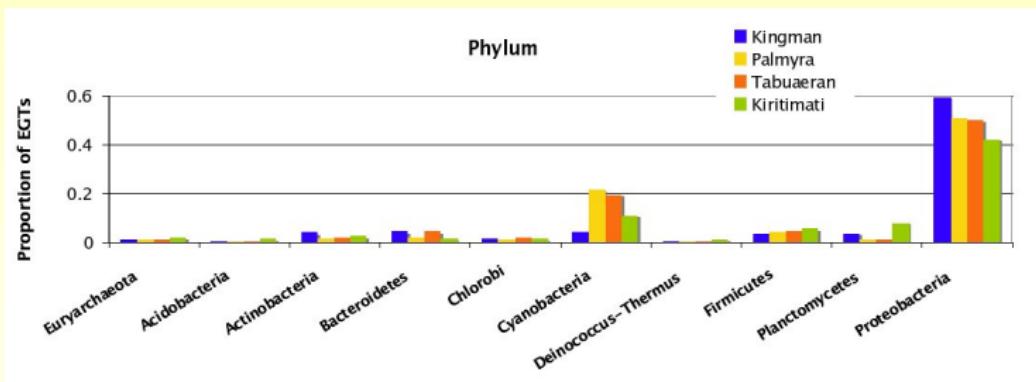
Application Example 1

GO-term profiles indicate transition in metabolic activities



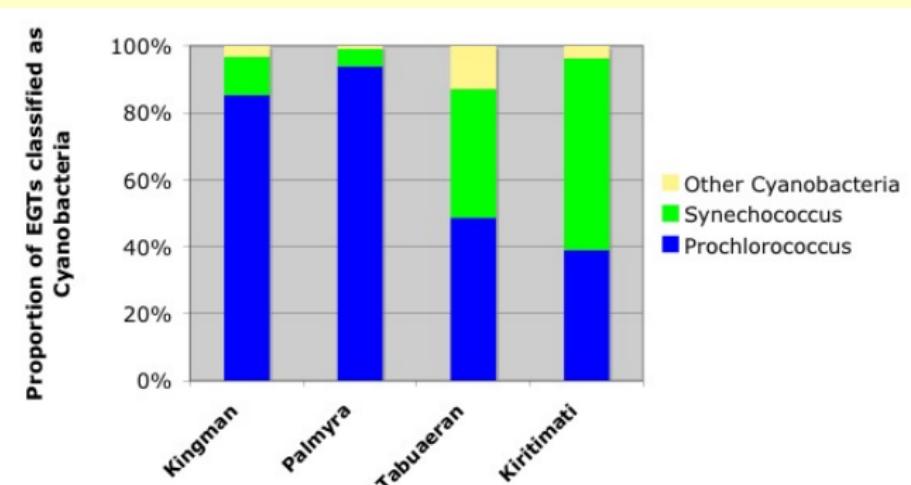
Application Example 1

Coral reef community structure



Application Example 1

Taxonomic profiles indicate transition from *Prochlorococcus* to *Synechococcus* (most abundant marine Cyanobacteria)



Application Example 2



Comparative Analysis of Three Aquatic Microbial Communities

In cooperation with Rob Edwards and Forest Rohwer
(San Diego State University, California)

Krause *et al.* (2008), Phylogenetic classification of short environmental DNA fragments, *Nucleic Acids Res.* **36**(7), 2230-2239

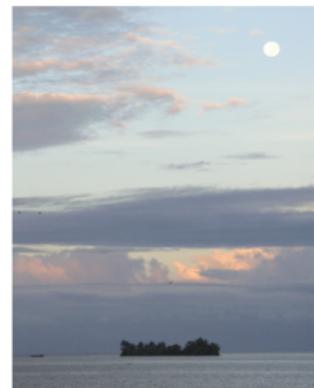
Application Example 2: Sampling Locations



San Diego solar salterns,
USA



Rios Mesquites stromatolites,
Mexico

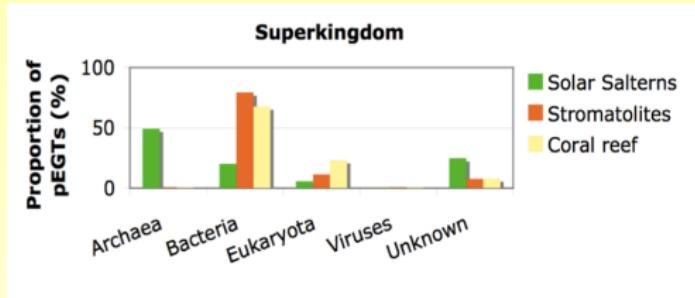


Kingman coral
reef, Northern
Line Islands



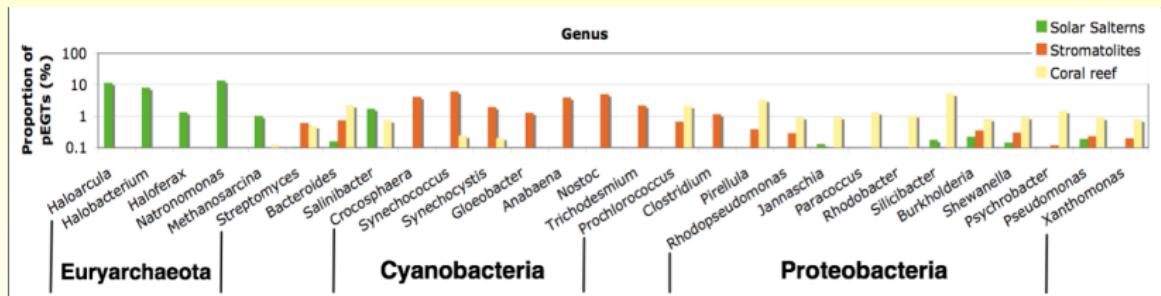
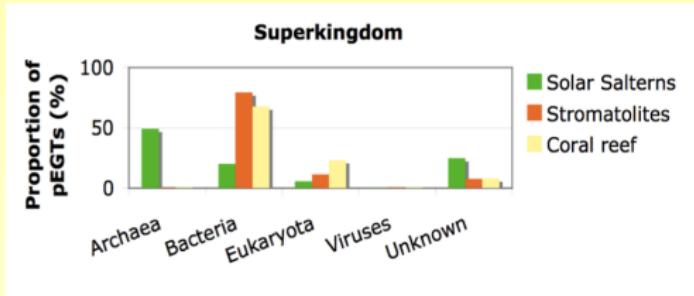
Sample data provided by Forest
Rohwer and Robert Edwards

Application Example 2: Community Structure



pEGTs: prokaryotic fraction of EGTs

Application Example 2: Community Structure



pEGTs: prokaryotic fraction of EGTs

Application Example 2: Taxonomic Diversity

Sample	Phylum		Class		Order		Genus	
	H'	J	H'	J	H'	J	H'	J
Solar salterns	0.8	0.31	1.0	0.32	1.4	0.28	2.6	0.45
Stromatolites	1.2	0.42	1.2	0.37	2.7	0.55	3.6	0.70
Coral reef	1.2	0.46	1.7	0.55	3.9	0.81	4.2	0.83

H' : **Diversity**, including richness and evenness (Shannon index)

J : **Evenness**, relative commonness and rarity of organisms

Further Applications of CARMA



Diversity of coral reef viruses
(in cooperation with Stuart Sandin, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego, USA)

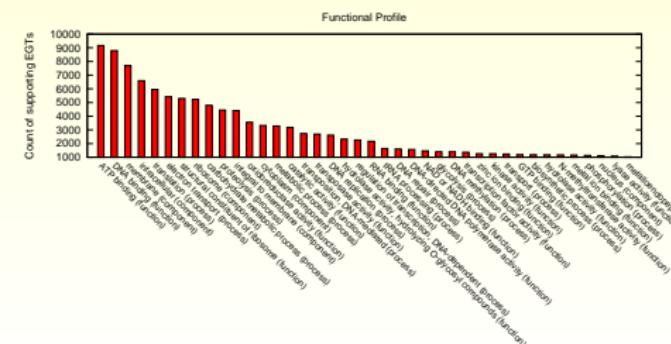
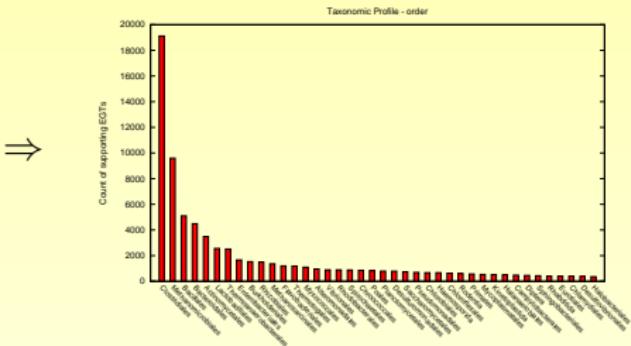


Waste Water Treatment Plant plasmid sample
(in cooperation with Andreas Schlüter, Bielefeld University)

Latest development: WebCARMA



<http://webcarma.cebitec.uni-bielefeld.de>



controlled vocabulary:

Gene Ontology
NCBI taxonomy

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Challenges of Very Large Data Sets



Illumina/Solexa technology provides millions of ultra-short reads.

- **Pro:** cost per base ca. 10–100 × lower
- **Contra:** reads are quite short (35–100 bp)

Necessary improvements

- Optimization of repeated tree reconstruction (caching)
- fast pHMM filtration (q -gram index and bucketing)
- incorporation of mate-pair information

Speeding up CARMA: q-Gram Index

Index: q=3

AAA	→
AAC	→
AAD	→
...	→
DDV	→ 1
...	→
DVV	→ 2, 6
...	→
VDC	→ 9
...	→
VDV	→ 5
...	→
VVD	→ 4, 8
...	→
VVV	→ 3, 7

Protein: **DDVVVVDVVVDC**
Position: **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11**

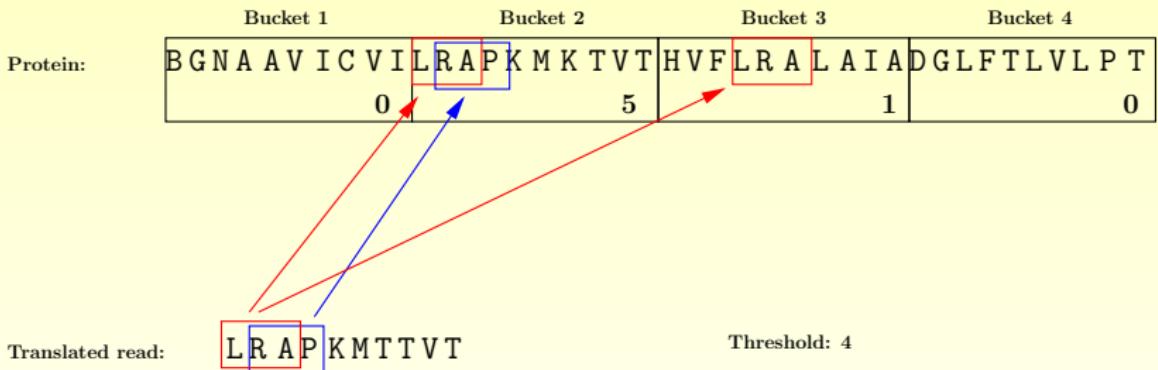
Speeding up CARMA: q-Gram Index

	Bucket 1	Bucket 2	Bucket 3	Bucket 4
Protein:	B G N A A V I C V I L R A P K M K T V T			
	0	5	1	0

Translated read: L R A P K M T T V T

Threshold: 4

Speeding up CARMA: q-Gram Index



Speeding up CARMA: q-Gram Index

Adaptation for multiple alignment: avoid redundant pointers

```
PF1 INSHSSYKAIVIGSGPSLEEHYDYLQQISSS--SHRPLIIAADTALRGLLLHNNNIKPDIVICI--DGLIG
PF2 -----GREIFVIGTGPITLEQHFERLAVIRER--ADRPLYICVDTAYRPLREHGPSPDVVSI--D-----
PF3 ---IKGREAYVLATGPTLAGHFERLKQVREQ--AERPLFICVDTALRPLLEHGIRPDIV-VT-----
PF4 V---PRQQVIVVGAGPSLEAALSQLECISKR--KNRPLIIAVDTALKPLLQNGIRPNIVVSI--D-ADI
PF5 KSIAKNKEAFVIGAGPSLEEHYSFLASISKQPLHHRPIIIAVDAAAKGLLAHGVKLIDIV-VTIDE-MID
```

Index:

...

AAD → 41

...

CVD → 41

...

AVD → 41

...

GPS → 15, 53 (only one pointer per column)

...

Speeding up CARMA: q-Gram Index

For protein q -grams, also consider neighborhood
(similar to BLAST)

Index:

...

AAD → 41; CVD, AVD

...

CVD → 41; AAD, AVD

...

AVD → 41; AAD, CVD

...

GPS → 15, 53; GPT

...

Speeding up CARMA: Results

Data set

- 5.5M Solexa/Illumina reads (50bp)
- 246,083 EGTs extracted

Runtimes

- CPU hours
790h 26m → 631h 38m
- On Bielefeld University Bioinformatics Resource Facility Compute Cluster (ca. 300 CPU cores)
36h 19m → 28h 13m

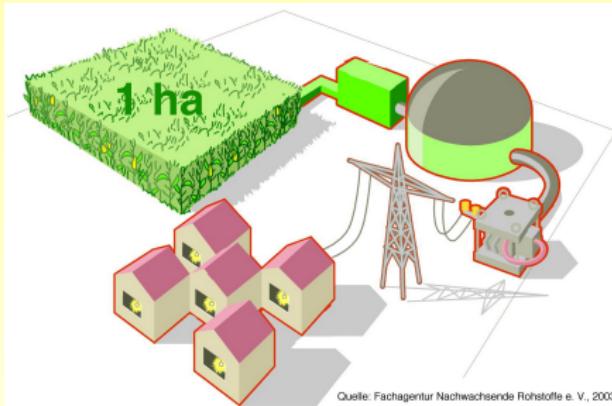
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What lives in a biogas reactor?



Quelle: Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e. V., 2003

454 data set:

Schlüter, et al. (2008), The metagenome of a biogas-producing microbial community of a production-scale biogas plant fermenter analysed by the 454-pyrosequencing technology, *J. Biotechnol.* **136**(1-2): 77-90

Krause, et al. (2008), Taxonomic composition and gene content of a methane-producing microbial community isolated from a biogas reactor, *J. Biotechnol.* **136**(1-2): 91-101

Solexa/Illumina Approach to Metagenomics

Sequencing

- Cooperation of Illumina and Bielefeld University
- Sequenced the same biogas sample

Adaptation of sequencing protocol

- Maximal read length (50bp in spring 2008)
- Minimal insert size for paired-end reads (mate pairs)

Data obtained

35 bp reads: 68 M

50 bp reads: 77 M (most experiments done on a 5.5 M subset)

Data Sets

Solexa/Illumina

- 5,475,293 reads (50 bp)
- 246,083 EGTs (4.5%)

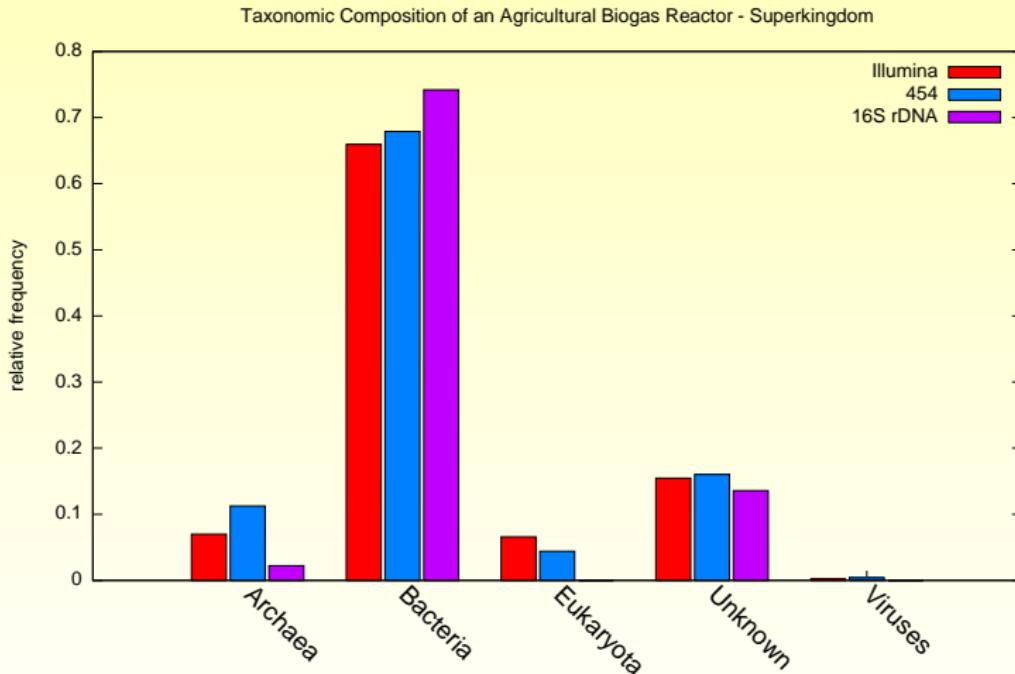
454/Roche

- 616,072 reads (avg. 230 bp)
- 160,284 EGTs (26.0%)

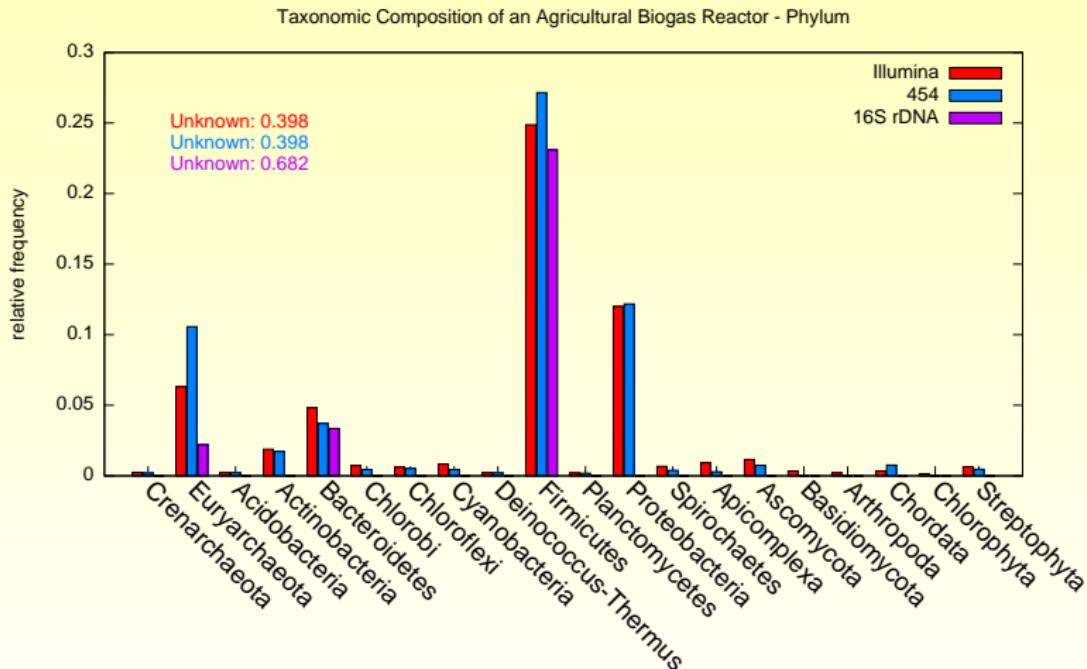
16S rDNA (from 454 reads)

- Procedure:
 1. Detection of reads that encode for 16S rDNA genes using BLAST and an rRNA database
 2. Ribosomal Database Project (RDP) Classifier, a naive Bayesian classifier
- 1,930 reads that encode for 16S rDNAs

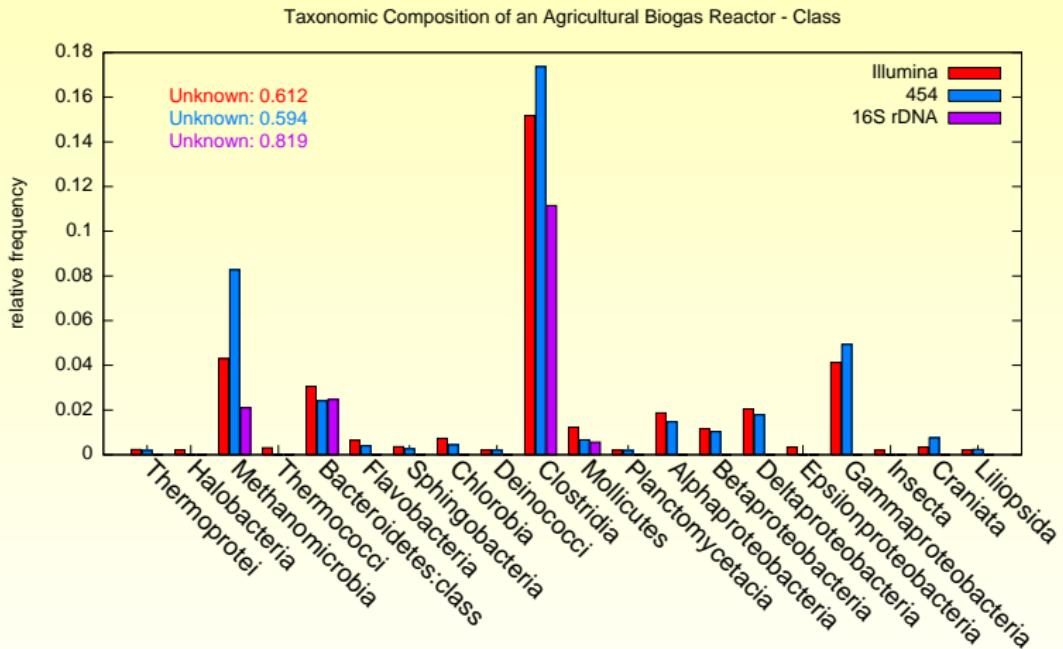
Results: (1) Superkingdom



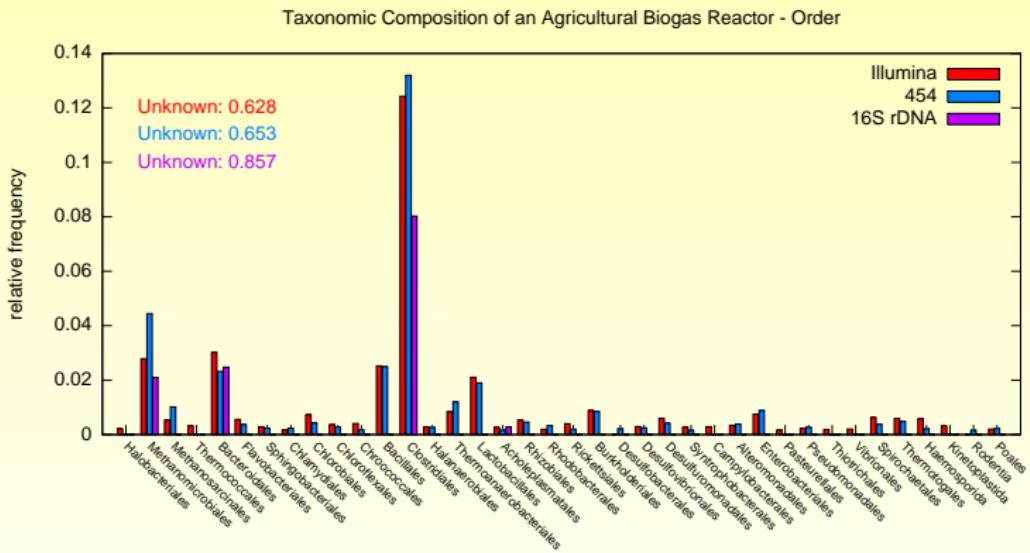
Results: (2) Phylum



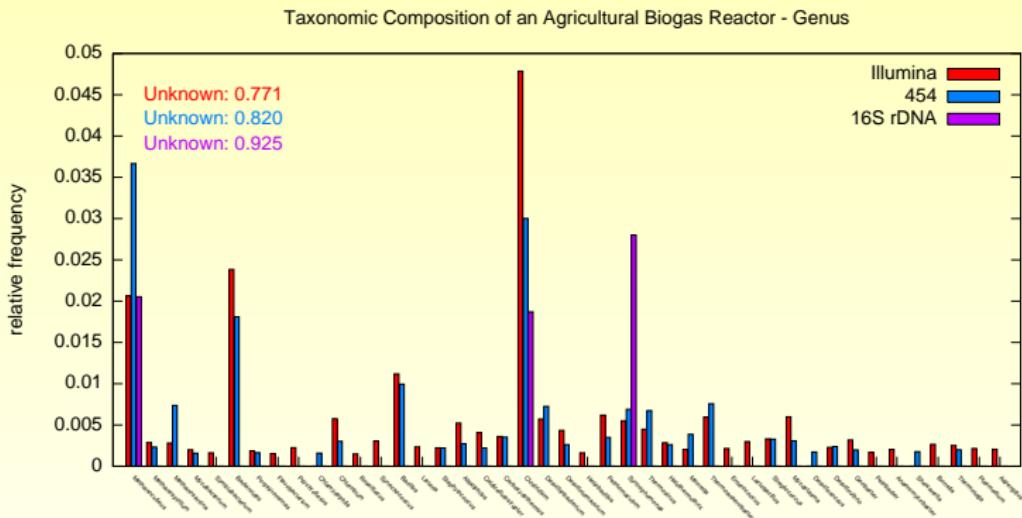
Results: (3) Class



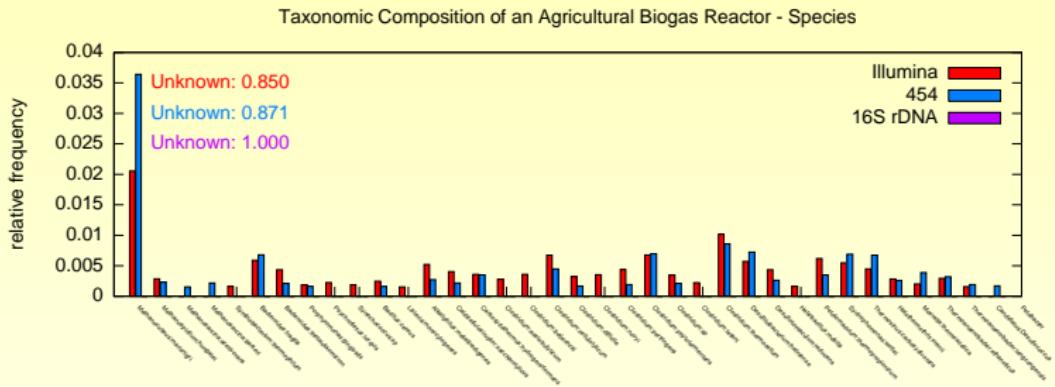
Results: (4) Order



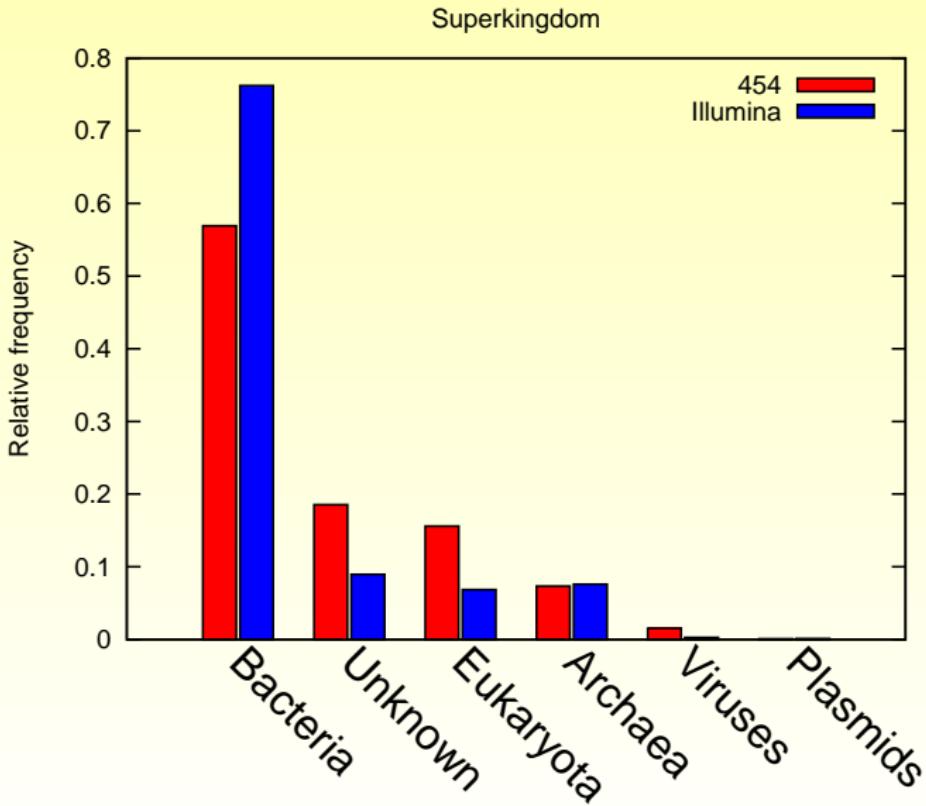
Results: (5) Genus



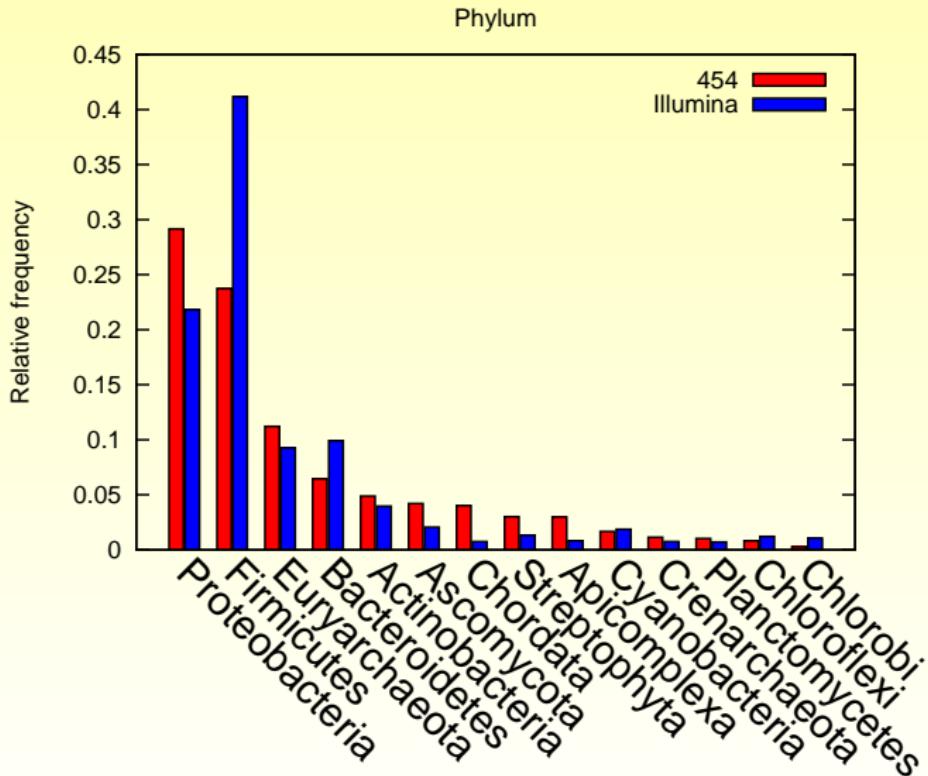
Results: (6) Species



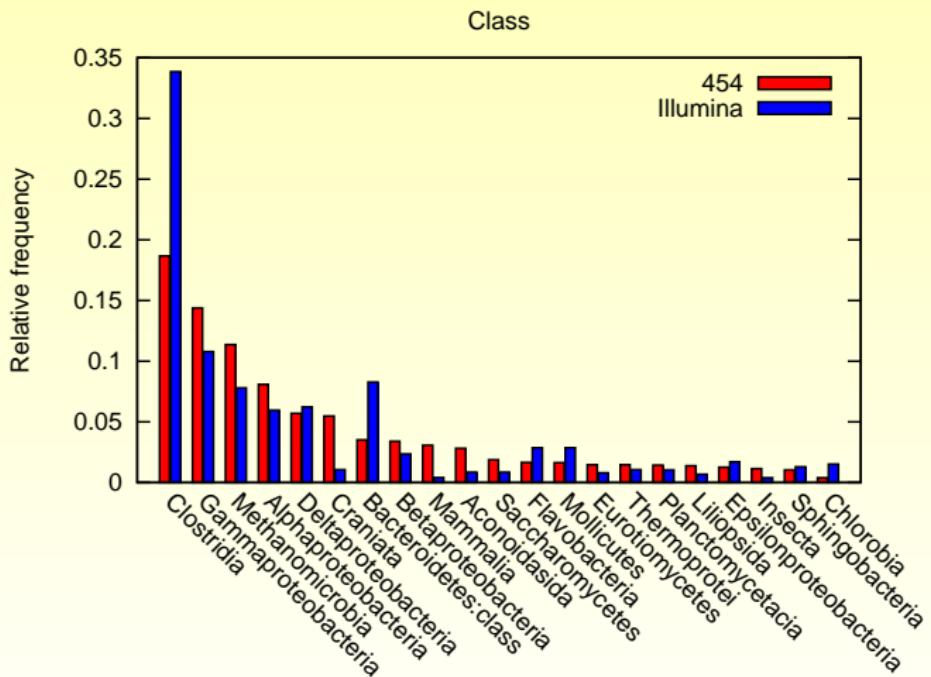
Closer look: (1) Superkingdom



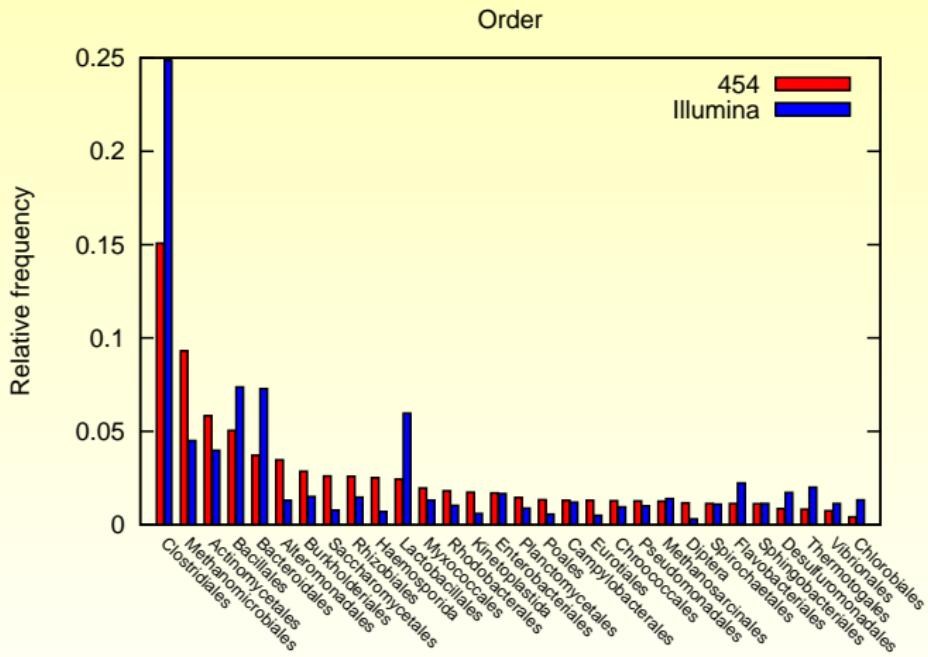
Closer look: (2) Phylum



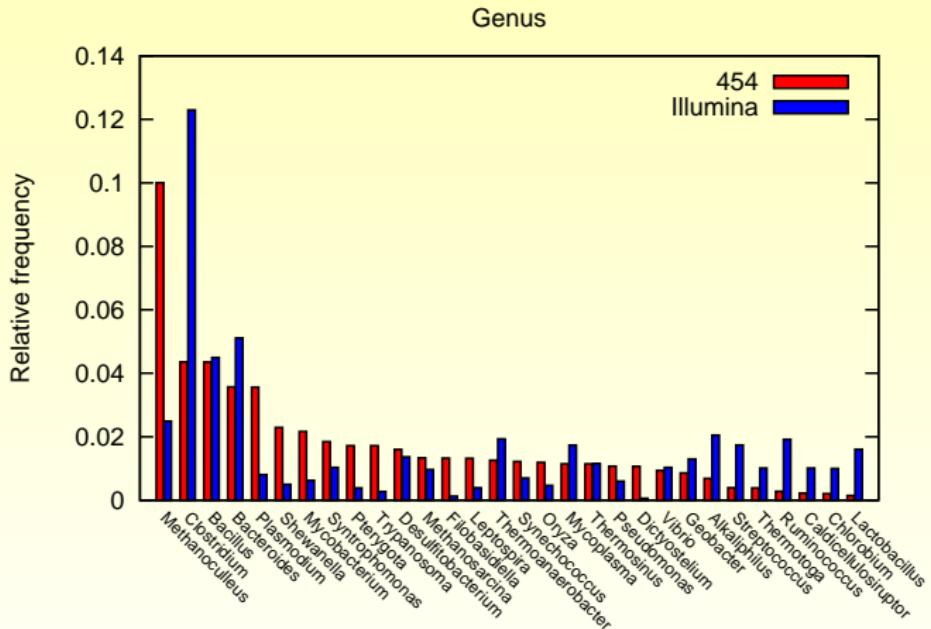
Closer look: (3) Class



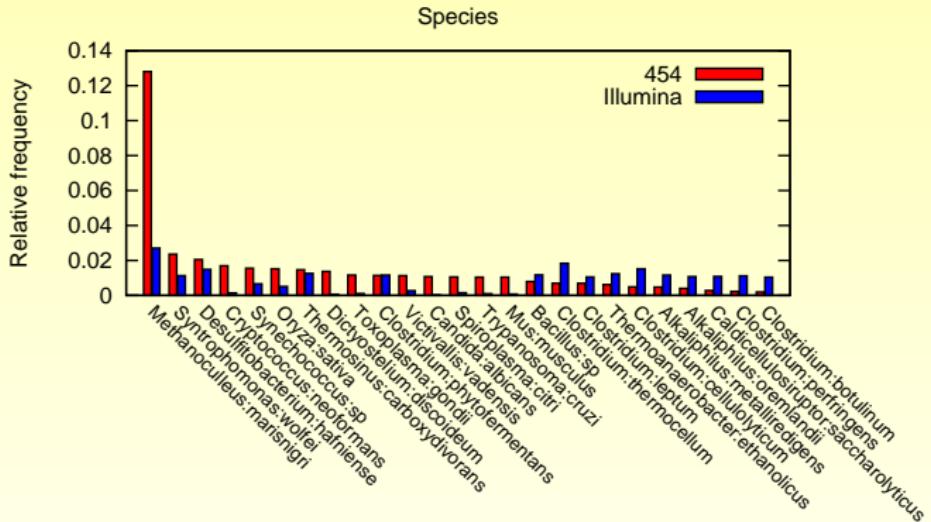
Closer look: (4) Order



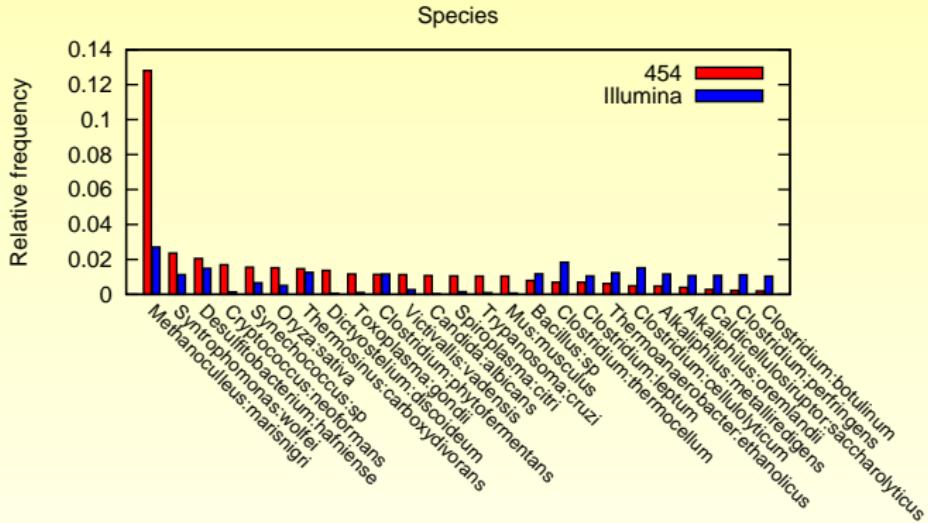
Closer look: (5) Genus



Closer look: (6) Species



Closer look: (6) Species



Comparison at this level is critical: **GC Bias?**

- 454 data: High GC content (52-55%)
- Illumina data: Low GC content (45%)

Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?

Another hypothesis: Ultra-short read length?

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Metagenomics: Read Length Matters^{v†}

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Obtaining an unbiased view of the phylogenetic composition and functional diversity within a microbial community is one central objective of metagenomic analysis. New technologies, such as 454 pyrosequencing, have dramatically reduced sequencing costs, to a level where metagenomic analysis may become a viable alternative to more-focused assessments of the phylogenetic (e.g., 16S rRNA genes) and functional diversity of microbial communities. To determine whether the short (~100 to 200 bp) sequence reads obtained from pyrosequencing are appropriate for the phylogenetic and functional characterization of microbial communities, the results of BLAST and COG analyses were compared for long (~750 bp) and randomly derived short reads from each of two microbial and one virophiloplankton metagenome libraries. Overall, BLASTX searches against the GenBank nr database found far fewer homologs within the short-sequence libraries. This was especially pronounced for a Chesapeake Bay virophiloplankton metagenome library. Increasing the short-read sampling depth or the length of derived short reads (up to 400 bp) did not completely resolve the discrepancy in BLASTX homolog detection. Only in cases where the long-read sequence had a close homolog (low BLAST E-score) did the derived short-read sequence also find a significant homolog. Thus, more-distant homologs of microbial and viral genes are not detected by short-read sequences. Among COG hits, derived short reads sampled at a depth of two short reads per long read missed up to 72% of the COG hits found using long reads. Noting the current limitation in computational approaches for the analysis of short sequences, the use of short-read-length libraries does not appear to be an appropriate tool for the metagenomic characterization of microbial communities.

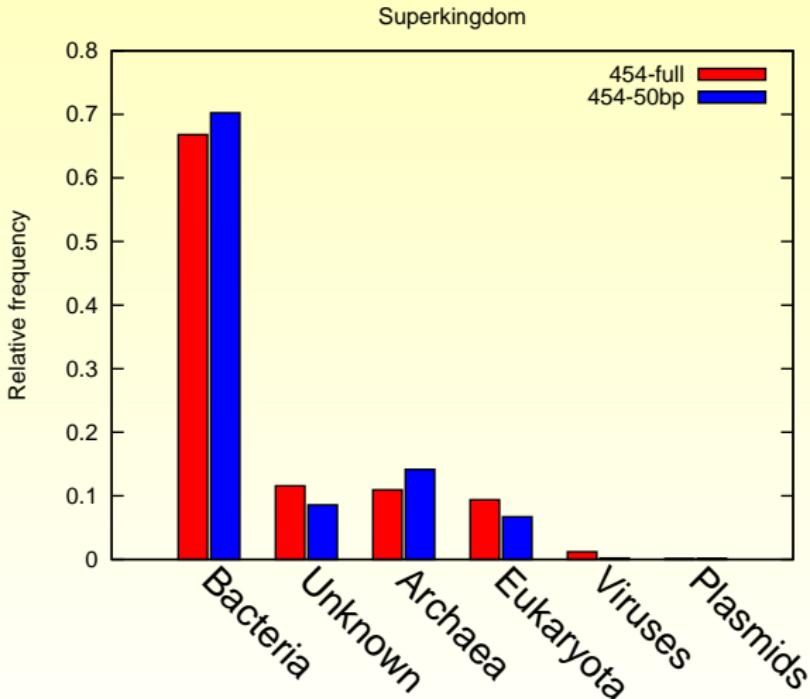
Sequence polymorphism analysis of discrete genes within environmental samples has revolutionized our view of the diversity and the composition of microbial communities. Since it was first proposed as a universal phylogenetic marker of life on

interest and the requirement of prior sequence information necessary for the design of oligonucleotide PCR primers and probes.

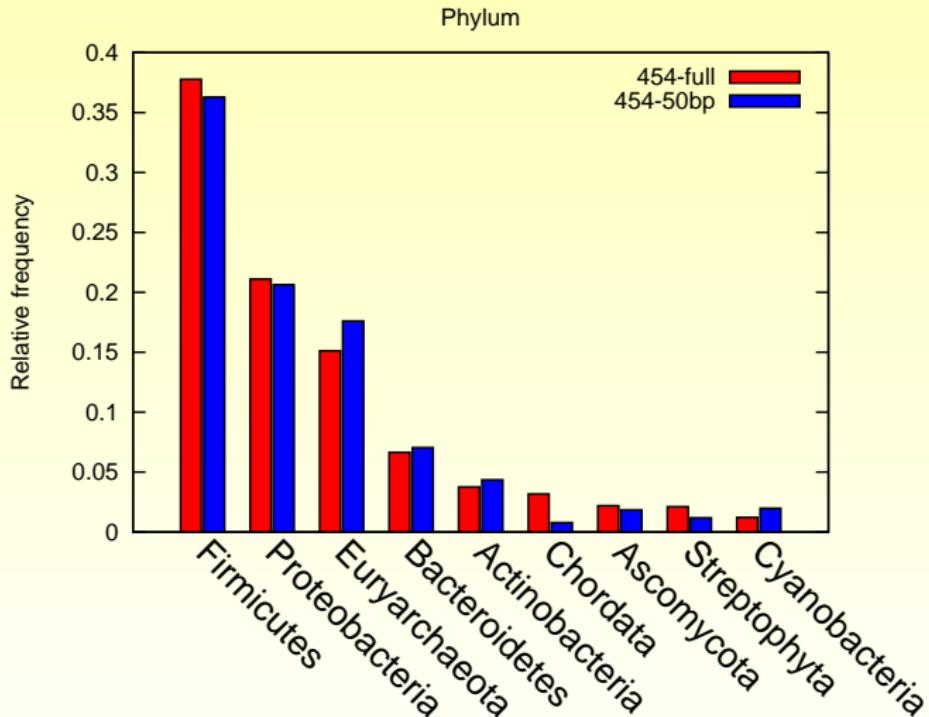
*The ideal technique for the assessment of microbial diversity.

Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?

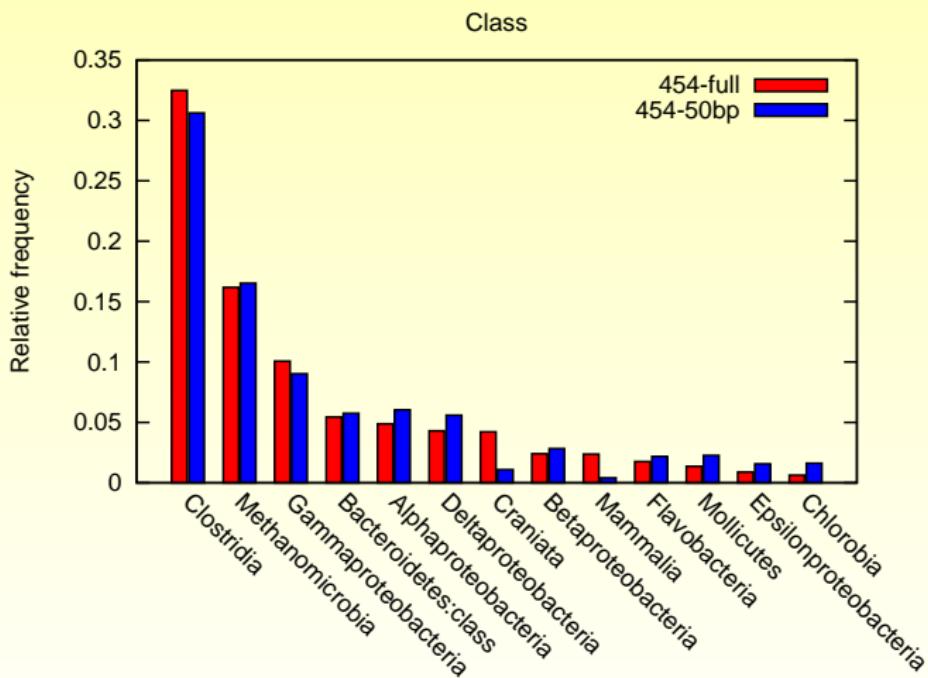
Simulated Ultra-Short Reads: 50bp extracts from 454 reads



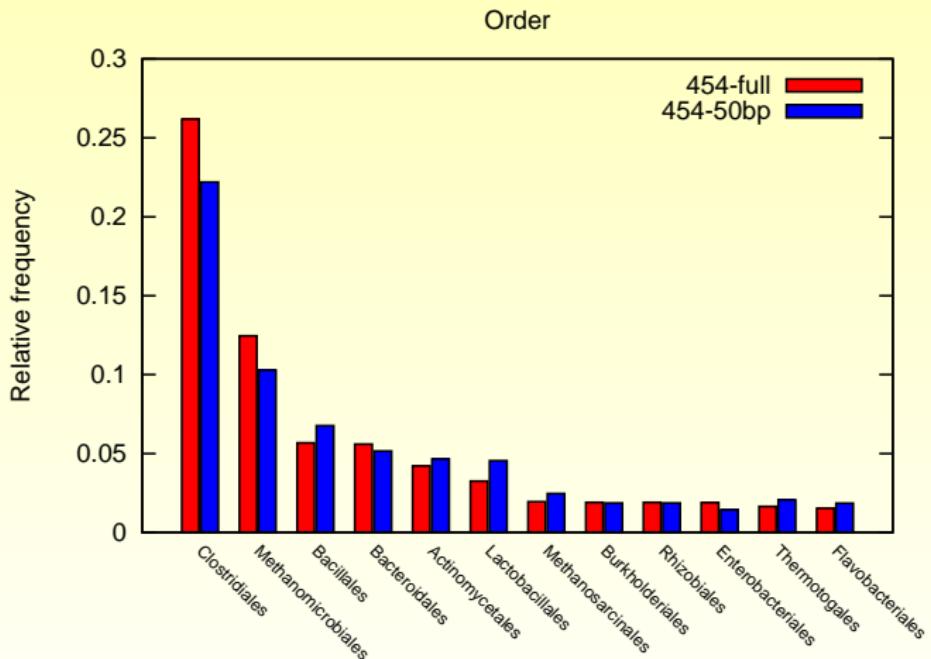
Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?



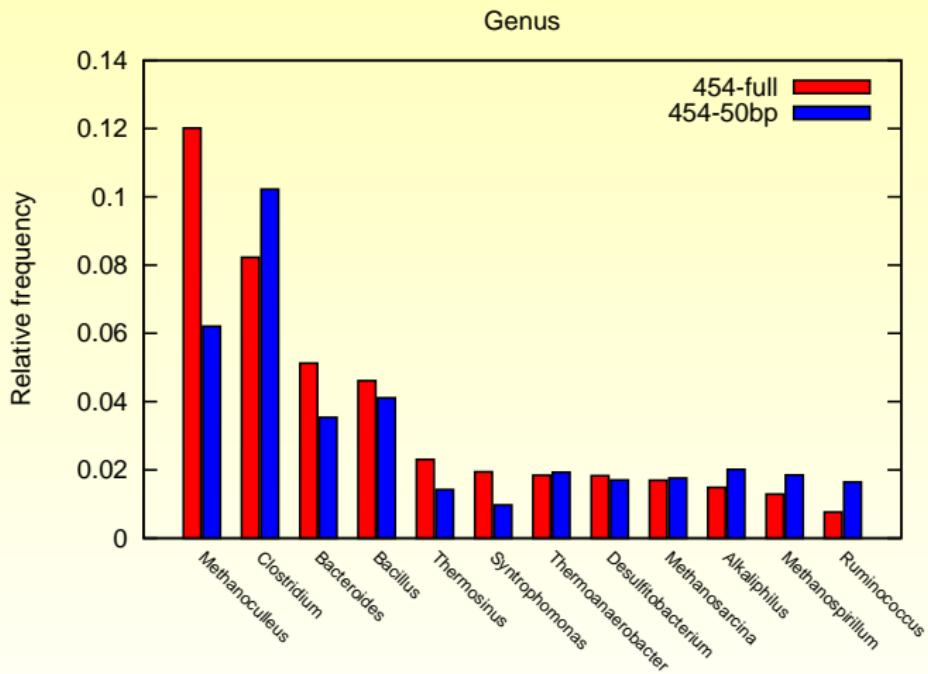
Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?



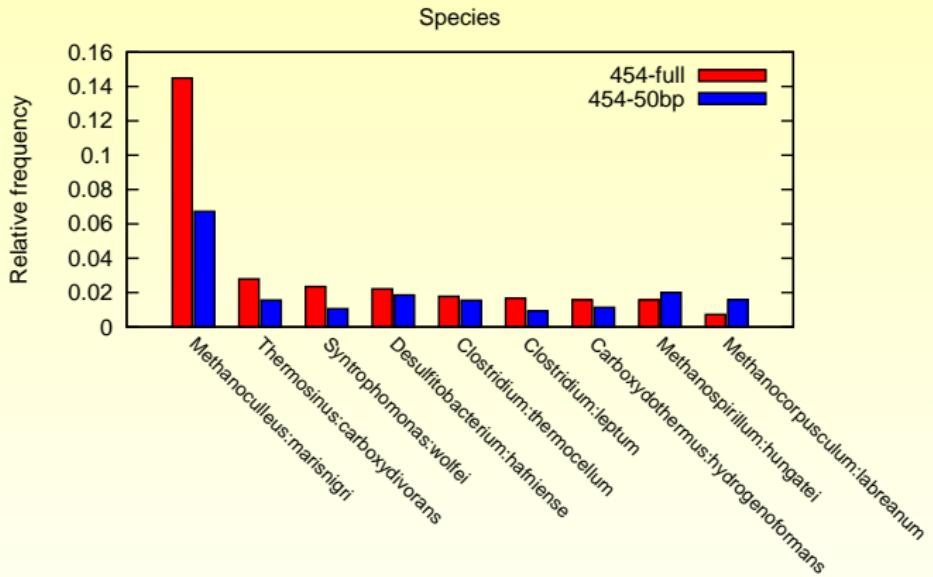
Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?



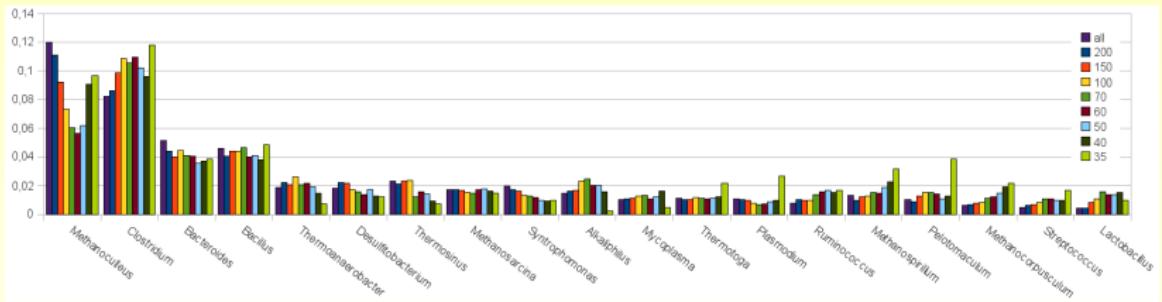
Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?



Experiment 2: Read Length Matters?



Experiment 2: Closer look at Genus level



Overview

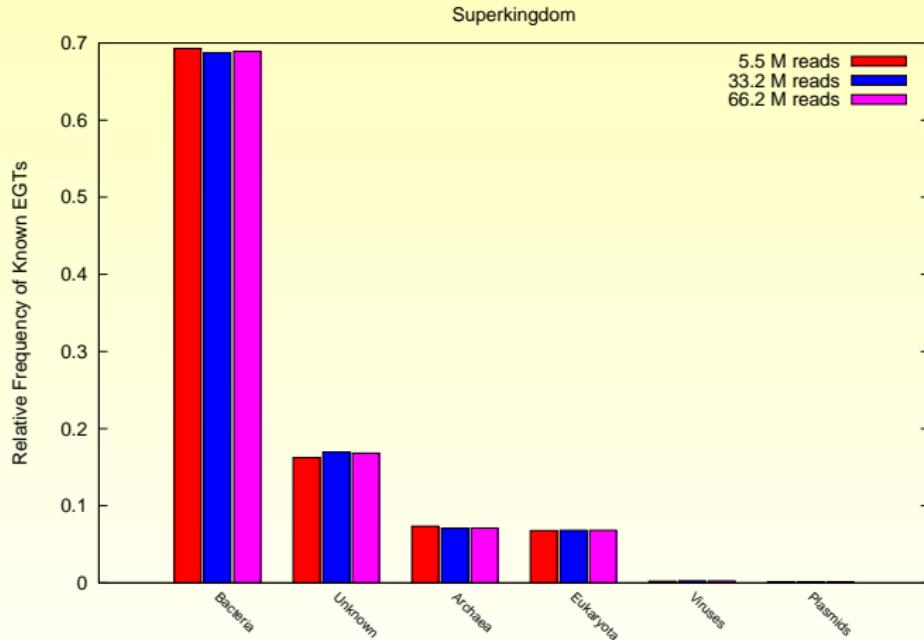
- 1 Metagenomics
- 2 The CARMA Pipeline for Short Read Metagenome Analysis
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 - Incorporation of Mate Pairs
- 6 Conclusion

How many Ultra-Short Reads?

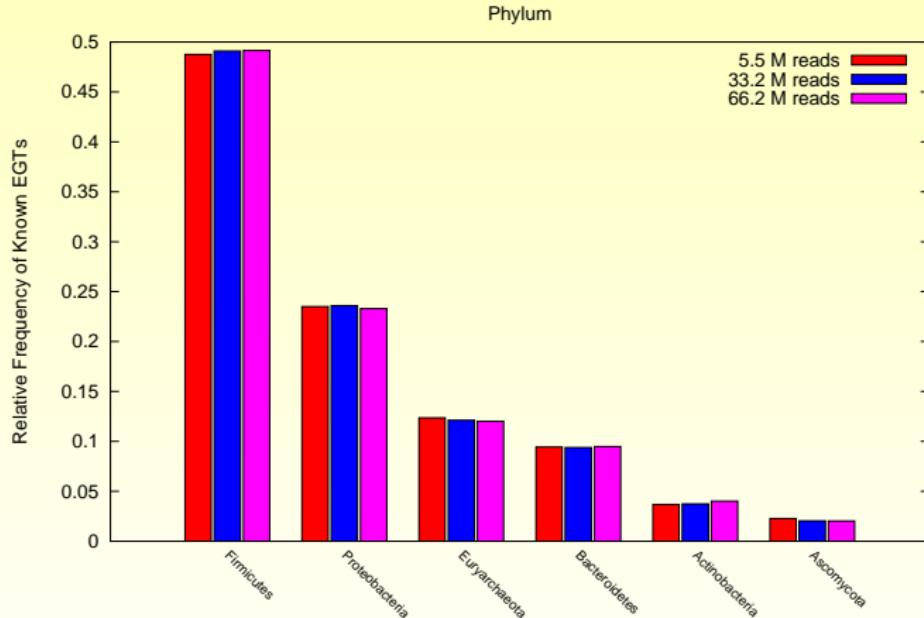
How many 50 bp-reads do we need?

- 1 million?
- 100 million?
- 1 billion?

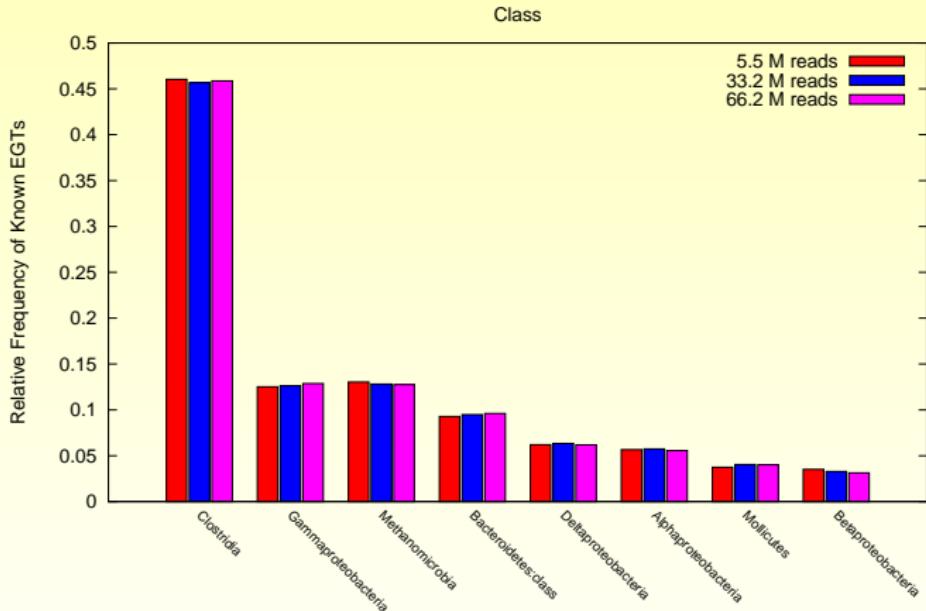
Convergence: (1) Superkingdom



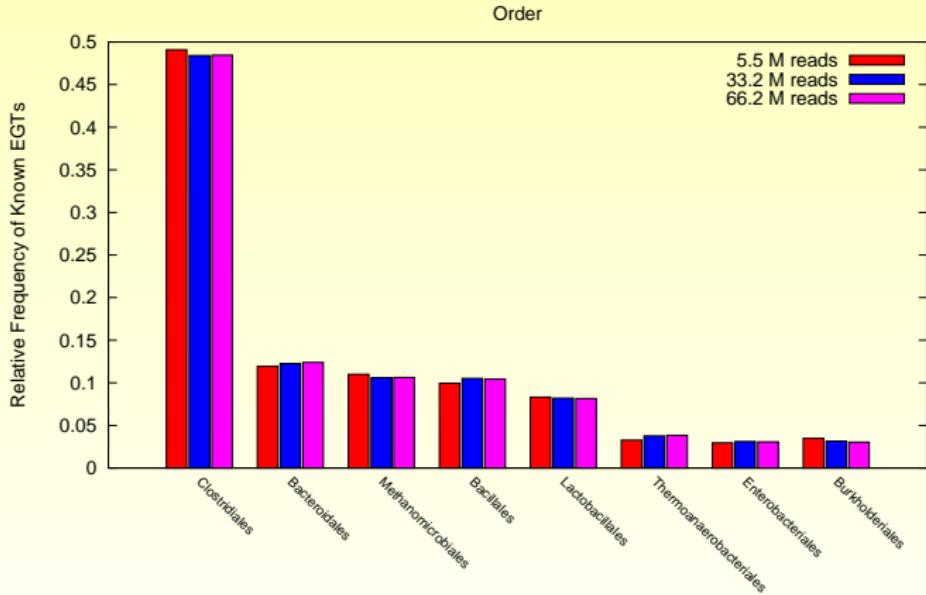
Convergence: (2) Phylum



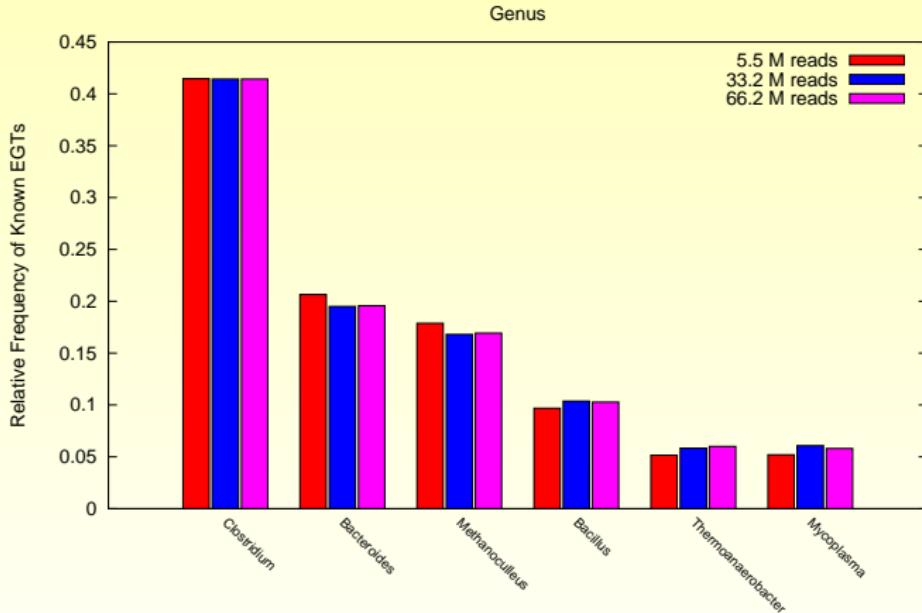
Convergence: (3) Class



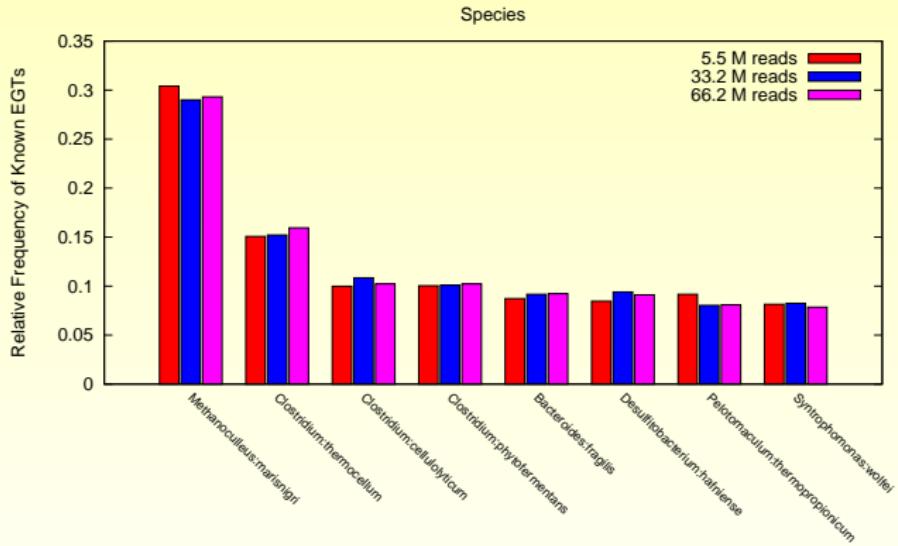
Convergence: (4) Order



Convergence: (5) Genus



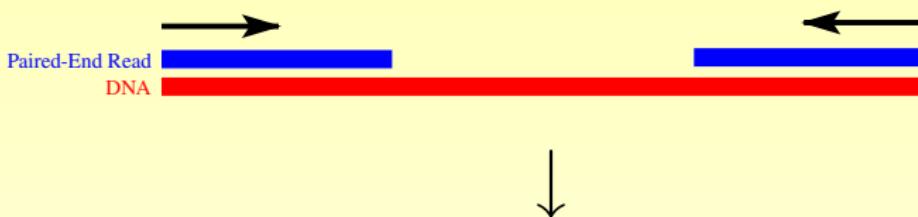
Convergence: (6) Species



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Mate Pairs



Mate Pairs

- CAGTAGGTCACACAC ... ? ... CGTAGCGGATGCTG
- more information → better predictions

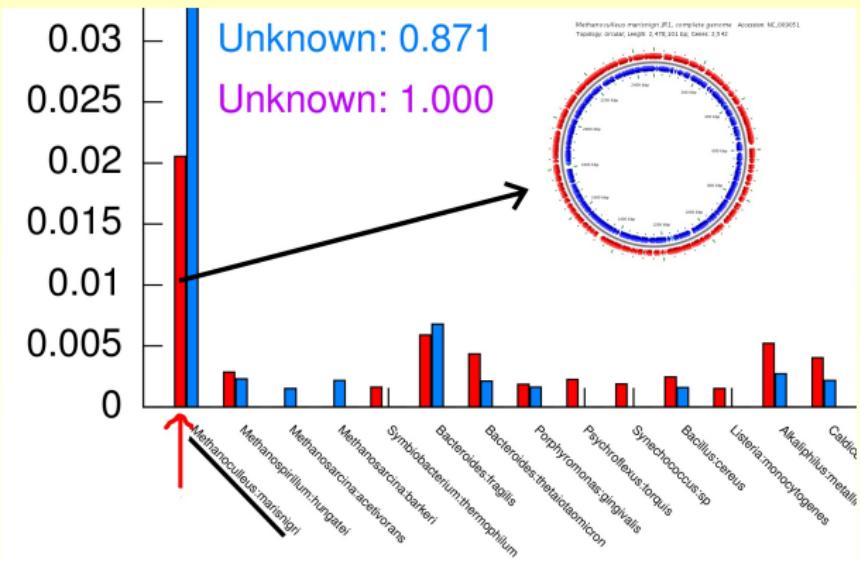
Illumina – Adaptation of protocol

Minimal insert size for paired-end reads

Including Paired-end Information

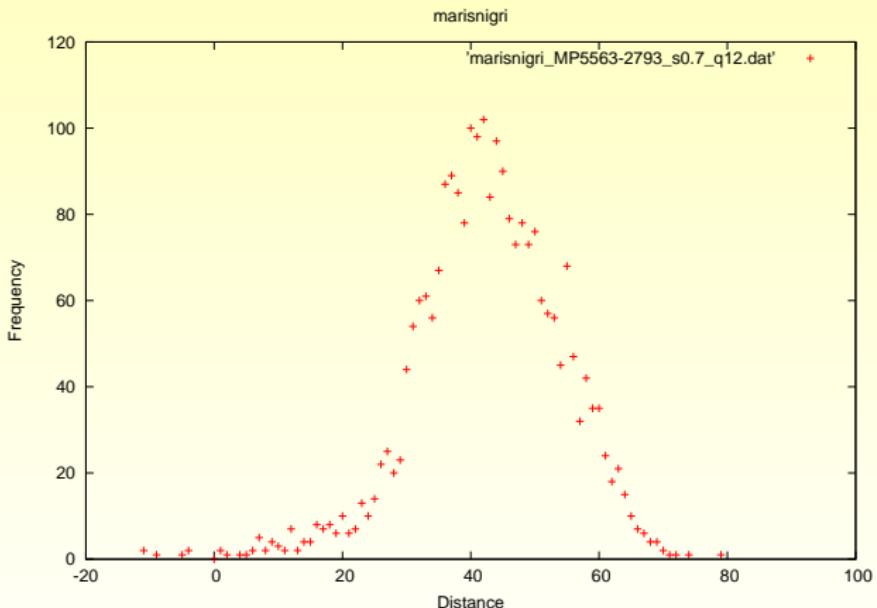
... should increase quality of results!

Question: What is the distance between mates?



Distance between Paired-end Reads

Mapped mate-pair reads classified as Methanoculleus genus
to *M. marisnigri* genome.

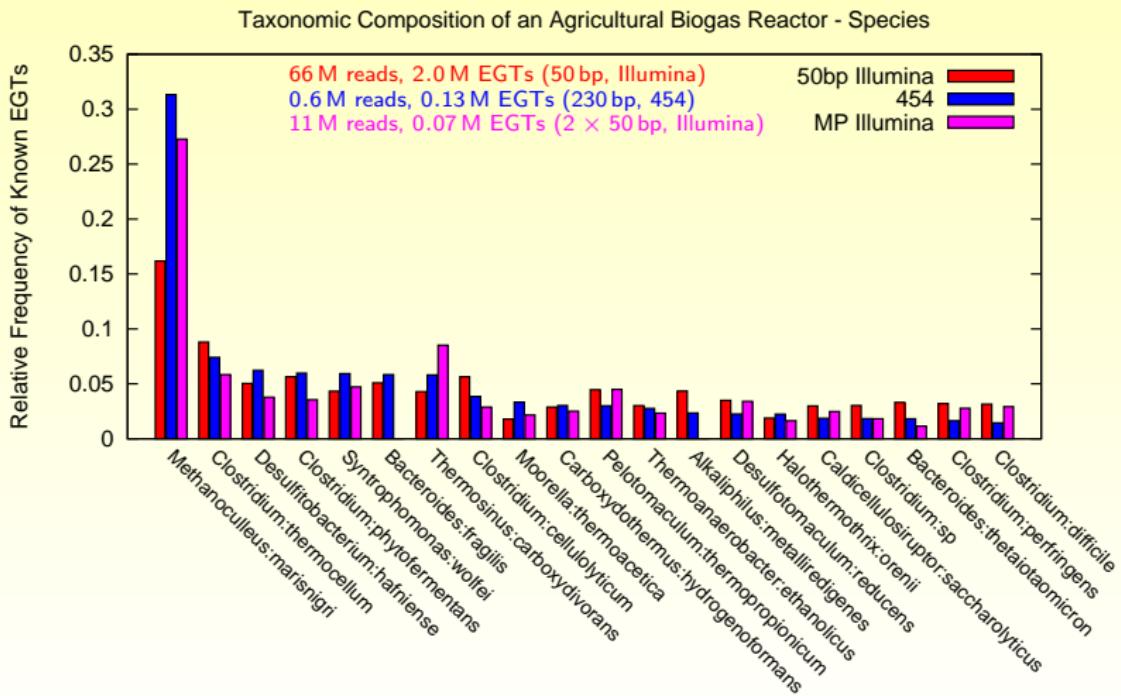


Do both mates match the same domain?

- Analysed: 11 M reads (5.5 M mate pairs)
 - found 448 702 EGTs
 - Checked each mate pair (in the set of EGTs) whether both mates match the same Pfam protein family: 87 923 pairs
 - $\approx 40\%$ of all EGTs belong to a “usable” mate pair where both mates match
- Integration of mate pairs should increase quality of results!

Using Mate Pairs

Early results:



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Conclusion

- Metagenomics can provide valuable information about microbial communities
- CARMA was successfully applied to ultra-short reads
- Precise quantification at lower ranks is difficult
- Algorithmic challenges
- Implemented Mate Pair usage
- Convergence using increasing number of reads (but:
low-complexity data set with only few prevalent species)

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Illumina:

- Robert Cohen, Adam Lowe, Keith Moon, Cindy Lawley, Dirk Evers

<http://webcarma.cebitec.uni-bielefeld.de>

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