

How can I get the most from my rRNA gene analysis?



- Todd DeSantis

LBL - Ecology Dept.

Developed Greengenes <http://greengenes.lbl.gov>

Developed the PhyloChip technology

Second Genome, Inc.

Licensed the PhyloChip to provide services outside LBL



Where to read more

◎ Special Thanks to the Technology Dream Team

- ◎ An improved Greengenes taxonomy for bacteria and archaea with explicit ranks. Daniel McDonald¹, Morgan N. Price², Julia Goodrich^{1†}, Eric P. Nawrocki³, Todd Z. DeSantis⁴, Alexander Probst^{4§}, Gary L. Andersen⁴ Rob Knight^{1,5} and Philip Hugenholtz^{6*}, 2011, ISMEJ, Submitted)
- ◎ The Impact of Classifier Training Sets on Phylogenetic Information From High-Throughput Bacterial 16S rRNA Gene Surveys. (Jeffrey J. Werner^{a*}, Omry Koren^{b*}, Philip Hugenholtz^c, Todd Z. DeSantis^d, William A. Walters, J. Gregory Caporaso^e, Largus T. Angenent^a, Rob Knight^{e,f}, Ruth E. Ley^{b#}, 2011, ISMEJ, In Press)

◎ Applications

- ◎ Deep-Sea Oil Plume Enriches Indigenous Oil-Degrading Bacteria (Hazen, 2010, Science)
- ◎ Deciphering the Rhizosphere Microbiome for Disease-Suppressive Bacteria (Mendes, 2011, Science)

Recent Interesting Use Cases

© <http://www.secondgenome.com/2011/03/recent-microbiomics-advances-from-various-fields/>

<http://greengenes.lbl.gov>



Services



Trim

Trim-away poor quality data from a batch of sequences.



Align

Align a batch of sequences. Find near-neighbors.



Classify

Classify a queried sequence within a selected database.



Distance

Calculate a distance matrix.



Export

Export records from the prokMSA.



Download

Download database, presentations, and supplemental data.

What we'll cover today

- ⊙ Mini-Background on 16S rRNA gene
- ⊙ Do quality assessment
- ⊙ Do alignment
- ⊙ Do chimera check
- ⊙ Overview on classification
- ⊙ Alternate technology - PhyloChip
- ⊙ Microbiome data visualization



Error probability: scan and trim

>actb24

```
TTTTGGGATTTCGCTCCGCCTCGCGGCATCGCAGCCCTTTGTACCGGCCAT
TGTCAGCACGTGTGCAGCCCAAGACATAAGGGGCGATGATGATTTGACGTCG
TCCCCACCTTCCTCCGAGTTGACCCCGGCAGTCTCCTGTGAGTCCCCGAC
ATTACTCGCTGGCAACACAGACAAGGGTTGCGCTCGTTGCGGGACTTAA
CCCAACATCTCAGCACAGAGCTGACGACAACCATGCACCACCTGTACAC
CGACCACAAGGGGGCTGATATCTCTACCAGTTTCCGGTGTATGTCAAGCC
TTGGTAAGGTTCTTCGCGTTGCGTCGAATTAAGCCACATGCTCCCGTGCT
TGTGCGGGCCCCCGTCAATTCTTTGAGTTTTCAGCCTTGCGGGCCGTACTC
CCCAGGCGGGGAACCTTAATGCGTTAGCTGCGGCACCGACGACGTGGAATG
TCGCCAACACCTAGTTCCCAACGTTTACGGCGTGGAATACAGGGTATCT
AATCCTGTTCGCTCCCCACGCTTTCGCTCCTCAGCGTCAGTAATGGCCCA
GAGATCCGCCTTCGCCACCGGTGTTCTCCTGATATCTGCGCATTTTC..
```

>actb24

```
..19 10 11 9 8 8 8 15 9 9 10 9 13 8 10 10 10 16 18 16
16 10 9 11 7 8 8 12 14 25 15 15 6 6 6 6 12 10 14 22
25 21 21 8 10 9 12 11 9 9 17 20 29 29 22 20 11 11 7 7
9 17 13 20 20 31 30 23 23 11 9 9 9 7 7 13 15 25 25 24
21 17 17 17 21 24 24 29 25 25 29 40 32 31 19 19 10 10
9 20 20 25 18 18 25 25 19 19 21 21 23 28 28 29 29 32
22 22 22 32 27 29 25 27 27 22 25 15 15 18 27 27 33 33
33 40 40 47 47 47 32 32 32 32 29 35 40 40 40 40 40 40
31 31 40 32 29 21 21 25 31 26 29 30 30 33 28 31 31 26
26 25 22 22 29 31 28 26 28 27 29 33 25 25 18 27 30 42
37 42 35 35 35 40 40 40 40 42 42 34 34 42 44 47 47 47
47 42 47 42 42 42 42 42 ..
```

Phred	Error probability		conf.
20	1 in 10 ^{2.0}	1/100	99%
15	1 in 10 ^{1.5}	1/32	97%
10	1 in 10 ^{1.0}	1/10	90%
5	1 in 10 ^{0.5}	1/3	66%

Trim a batch of sequences using corresponding quality scores

Use this tool to trim your fasta sequences according to their quality scores. A fasta file of sequences will be sent by email along with a spreadsheet of results. This is a beta tool, so please provide feedback. The program is based on the work of David Ow.

My fasta formatted sequence file:

no file selected

My fasta formatted quality file:

no file selected

Options:

Good quality threshold:

Set the quality score required for a base call to be considered as confident.

Window size:

Set the size of the span to be considered collectively.

Percentage:

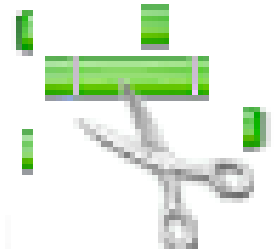
Set the percentage of bases that must surpass the threshold for the window to be considered good.

- ☒ Bases returned upper-case.
- ☐ Bases returned as upper-case, sub-threshold quality positions are converted to lower-case.
- ☐ Bases returned as upper-case, sub-threshold quality positions are converted to N.

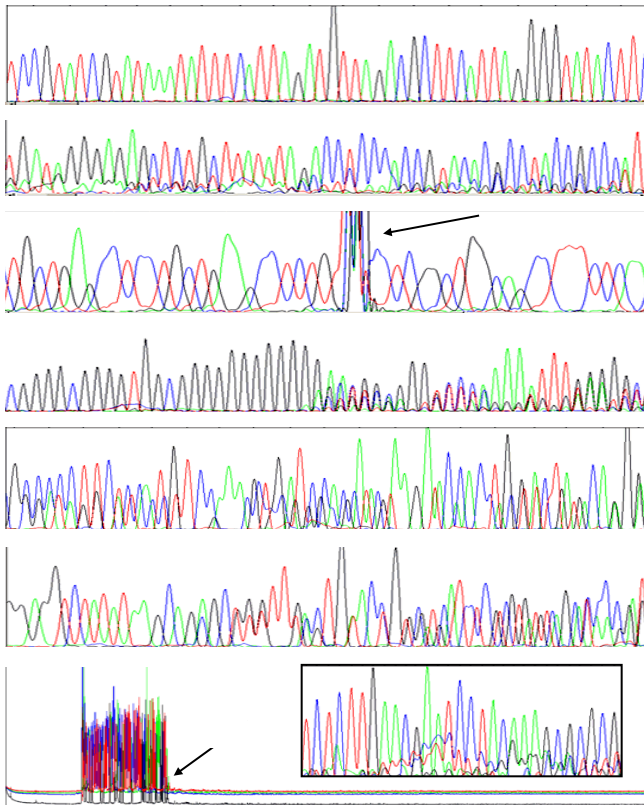
qual files should follow sequences throughout pipeline.

Submit Trim Job

- ◎ Do it now, discuss it later ...
- ◎ Every 3rd person?
 - ◎ Goto: <http://greengenes.lbl.gov/Download/Tutorial/>
 - ◎ [Get: GG_tut_files.zip](#)
 - ◎ [Unzip it.](#)
 - ◎ [View with a text editor:](#)
 - ◎ UnAlignSeqsMGM.fasta
 - ◎ UnAlignSeqsMGM.qual
 - ◎ Goto: <http://greengenes.lbl.gov> then "Trim"
 - ◎ "Begin the Trim"



Shall we build our houses on sand?



A. High quality data show peaks that are sharp and evenly distributed. Almost no background noise is observed.

B. Background noise appears as many smaller, irregular peaks under the dominant peaks of interest.

C. Spikes (at arrow) can be caused by air bubbles entering the capillary.

D. Homopolymeric regions allow enzyme "slippage" when the growing strand does not stay paired correctly with the template DNA during polymerization through the low-complexity span. Resulting fragments of varying lengths manifest as double peaks in the chromatogram.

E. Multiple Overlapping Peaks throughout. If derived from direct 16S rRNA gene amplicon sequencing, may indicate multiple genomes due to insufficient colony isolation or endosymbiosis. If derived from clone library, may indicate poor transformant colony isolation or plasmid prep contamination.

F. Sporadic Overlapping Peaks. If derived from direct amplicon sequencing, may indicate divergent 16S rRNA genes within the same genome.

G. Abrupt truncations. 16S rRNA amplicons are predisposed to secondary structure formation and may form hairpins restricting the passage of the sequencing polymerase. Inset magnifies chromatogram at region of arrow to display low signal-to-noise ratio.

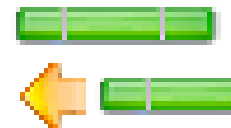
Chromatogram quality can be occluded by text-only sequence data. In all examples (**A - G**), base calls can be produced from chromatograms for most peaks with automated software. In **A**, each peak yields a base-call with low error probability. In contrast, chromatograms **B - G** contain peaks that, although are capable of producing automated base-calls, will have vastly varying degrees of error probability. Examples of non-ideal chromatograms in libraries from general sequencing projects shown in **B - D** whereas **E - G** are examples of additional aberrations encountered in 16S rRNA gene sequencing. Chromatograms produced by Eton Bioscience Inc. (<http://www.eatonbio.com>) and used with permission.

The Trim Results

- ⊙ Collect 2 emails
- ⊙ Save to tutorial folder
- ⊙ .xls file useful for an overview
 - ⊙ `UnAlignSeqsMGM_trimmed_XXXXX.xls`
 - ⊙ Columns
- ⊙ .fasta file is ready for downstream tools
 - ⊙ `UnAlignSeqsMGM_trimmed_XXXXX.fasta`
 - ⊙ Or user can modify

Submit Alignment Job

- ⦿ Do it now, discuss it later ...
 - ⦿ Goto: <http://greengenes.lbl.gov> then "Align"
 - ⦿ Upload UnAlignSeqsMGM_trimmed_XXXXX.fasta
 - ⦿ Check all boxes.
 - ⦿ "Submit"



The Ribosome

rDNA

rRNA (functional molecule)

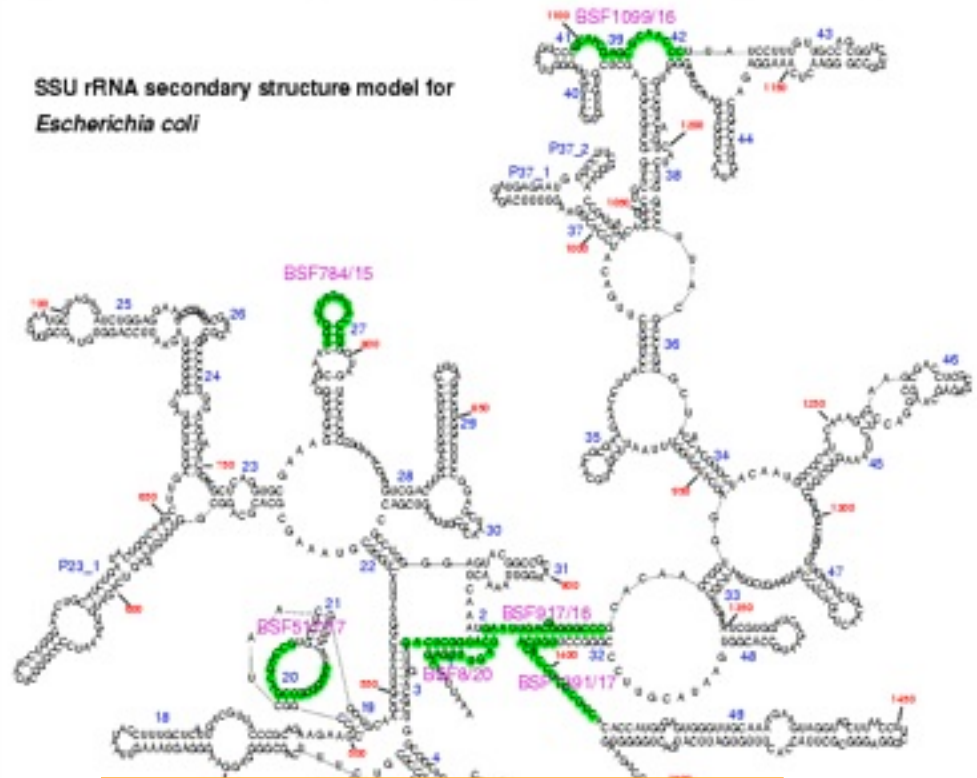
LSU

SSU

16S or 18S

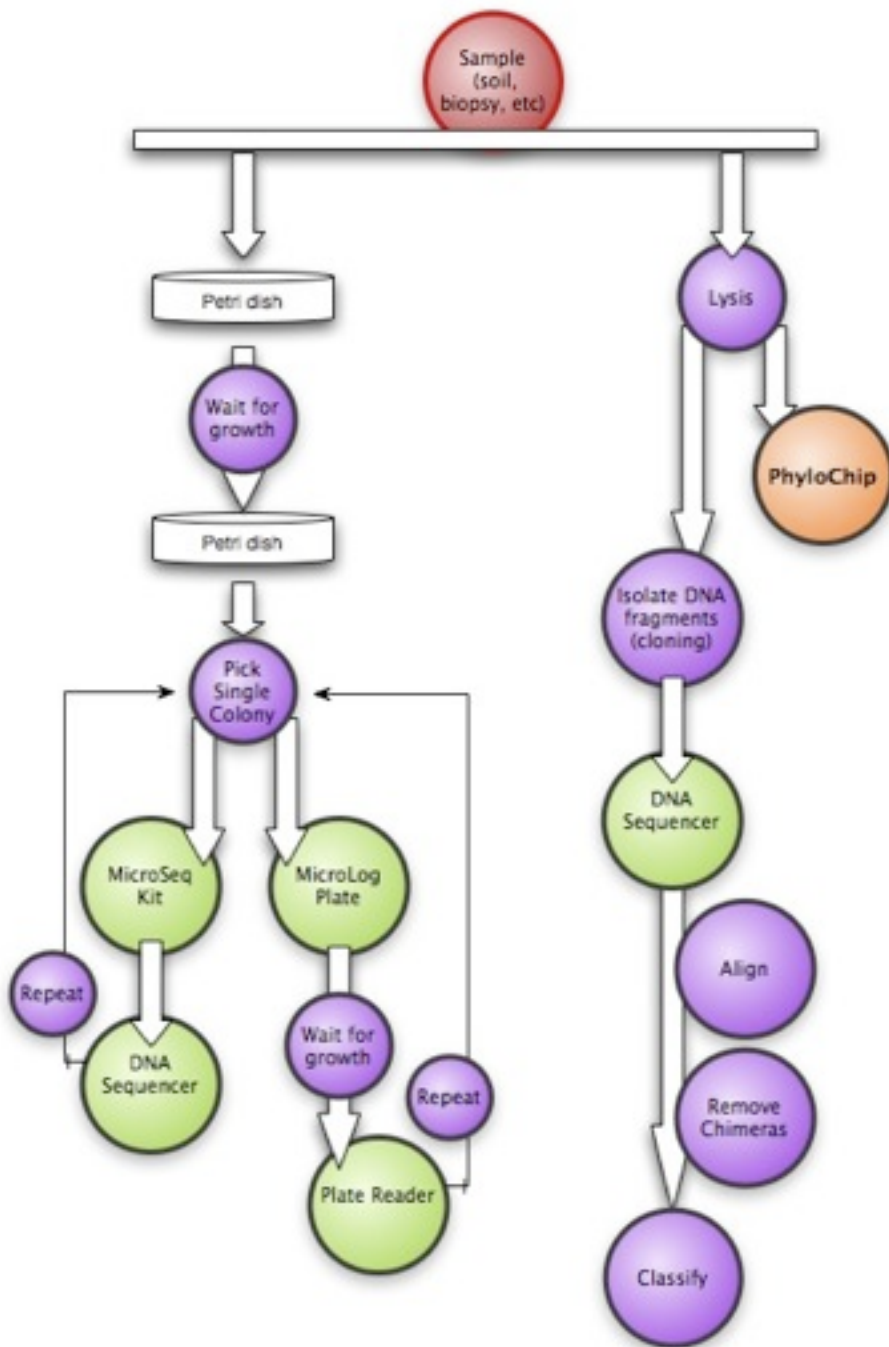


SSU rRNA secondary structure model for *Escherichia coli*



Conserved regions at termini allow mixed community PCR amplification.





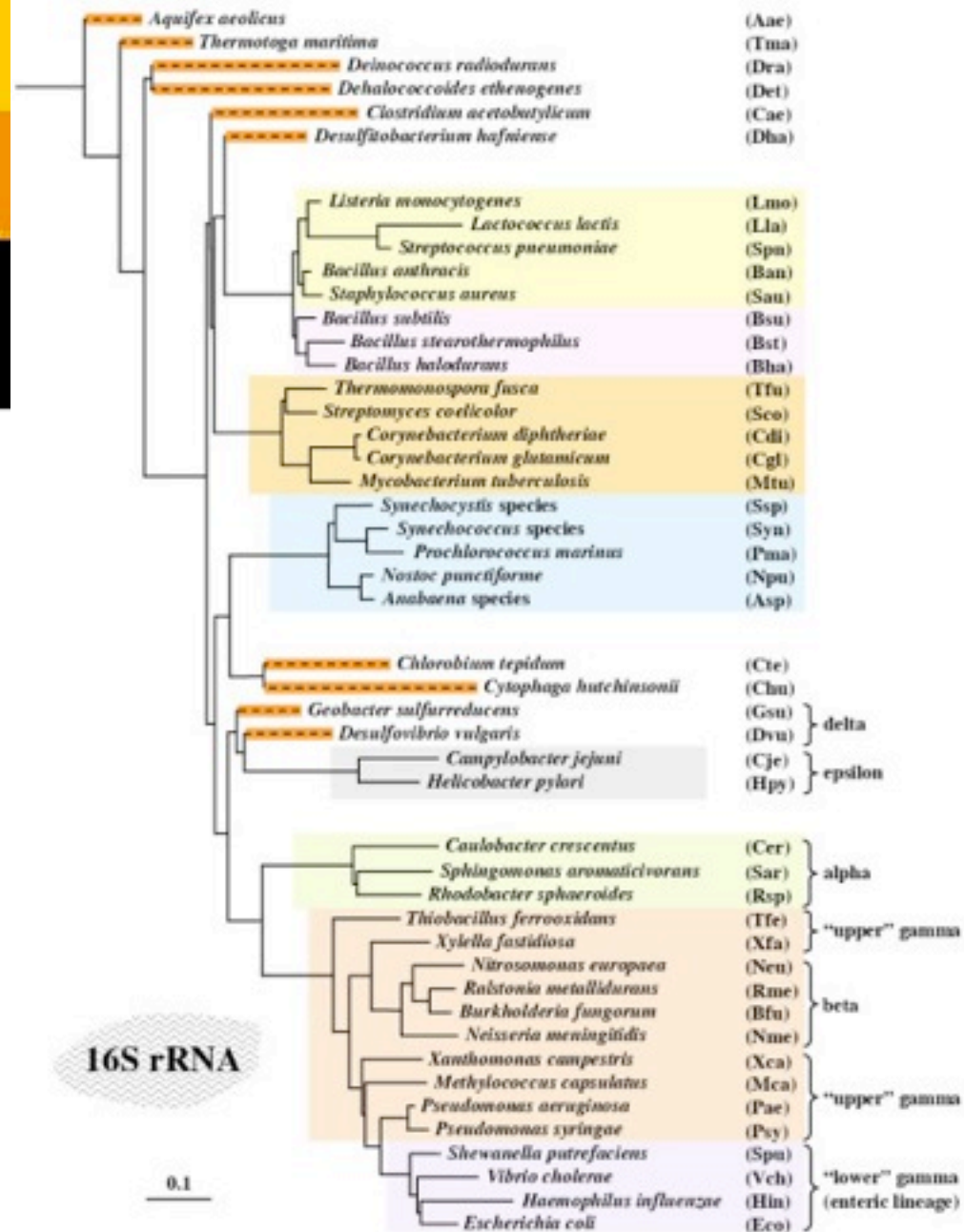
Lab Workflows

- ⊙ Culturable?
- ⊙ Extractable?
- ⊙ Able to ligate?
- ⊙ Able to yield viable transformants?
- ⊙ Clean sequencing reaction?

Classify

① 16S rRNA aids in taxonomic placement of sequences

② Compare your sequence to others.



Xie et al. BMC Biology 2004 2:15

Greengenes maintains a high-quality Core Set

- ◎ Start by collecting a large set:
 - ◎ All matching GOLD (genomesonline.org) organisms
- AND
- ◎ All meeting specific criteria
 - ◎ ≥ 1300 nt.
 - ◎ ≤ 2 homopolymers
 - ◎ $\leq 0.3\%$ ambiguity
 - ◎ ≤ 30 "small gap intrusions" - bases not supported by the 2° structure.
 - ◎ Non-chimeric

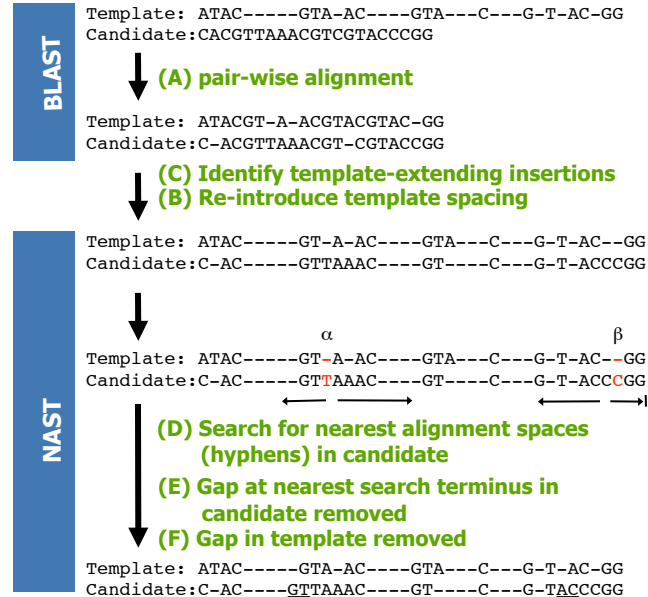
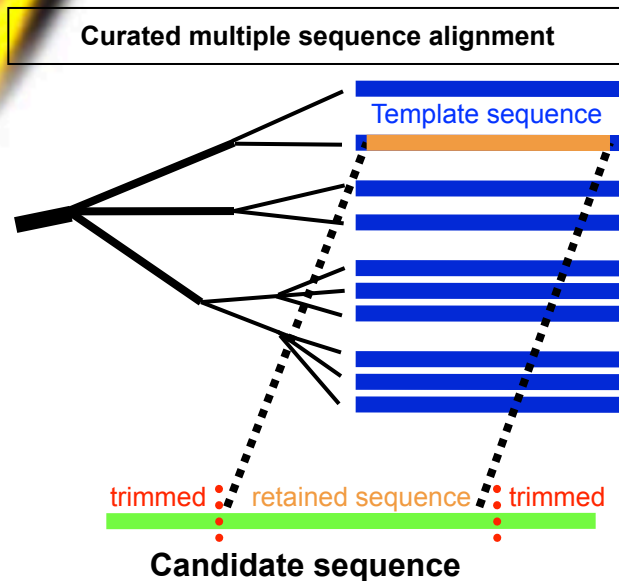
Greengenes maintains high-quality Core Sets

- ⦿ Then de-replicate at >95% Uclust identity.
- ⦿ 36,550 genes represents the known 16S diversity.
- ⦿ Other sub-sets
 - ⦿ All named isolates
 - ⦿ All HMP Genome Strains
 - ⦿ Knight, Caporaso: QIIME-ready reference sets.
 - ⦿ Older Core Sets
- ⦿ http://greengenes.lbl.gov/Download/Sequence_Data/Fasta_data_files/



Download a Core Set to screen your contigs for 16S content...

NAST align against the core set.



Example of NAST (Nearest Alignment Space Termination) compression of a BLAST pair-wise alignment using a 38 character aligned template. Template and candidate is extended to 40 characters after BLAST gap insertion (A) and retention of original template spacing (B). Nucleotide insertions in the candidate relative to the template which force additional characters to be added in the template are identified at positions α and β (C). A bi-directional search for the nearest alignment space (hyphen) relative to the insertion terminates at the positions indicated by the black arrows (D). The leftward search from the α position was shorter in distance compared to the rightward, thus the space left of 'GT' was removed. The search from the β position encountered the alignment edge on the right, thus the position to the left of 'AC' was removed (E). Lastly, the two template-extending spaces are deleted from the template (F). Notice that sequence data is not added to nor overwritten in the candidate. The NAST removal of two characters from both sequences allowed local misalignments (underlined) while preserving the 38 character format of the global multiple sequence alignment.

The NAST Alignment Results

- ⊙ .xls file useful for an overview
 - ⊙ Walk through columns
 - ⊙ NAST vrs NASTnot
 - ⊙ Purpose of nn and nni
 - ⊙ Clearcut, RAX-ml, ITOL, etc., tree
- ⊙ Other NAST implementations
 - ⊙ PyNAST - Knight
 - ⊙ NASTier - Hass
 - ⊙ NAST MOTHUR - Schloss

BIOINFORMATICS

PyNAST: A flexible tool for aligning sequences to a template alignment.

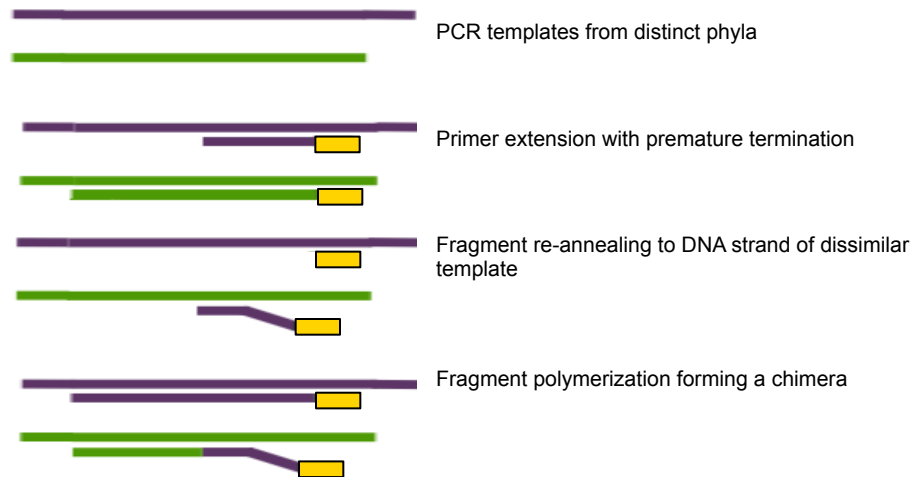
J. Gregory Caporaso¹, Kyle Bittinger², Frederic D. Bushman², Todd Z. DeSantis³, Gary L. Andersen³ and Rob Knight^{1*}

¹Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO.

²Dept. of Microbiology, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA.

³Center for Environmental Biotechnology, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA.

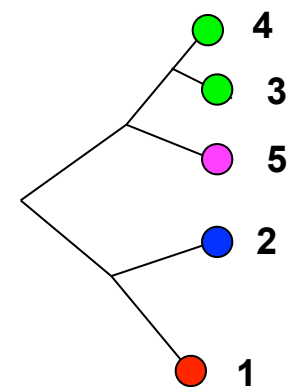
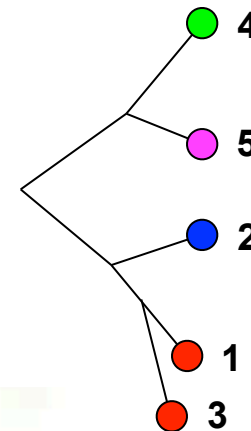
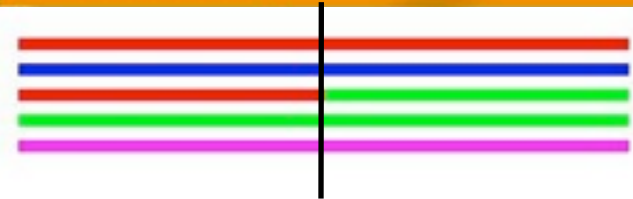
How chimera's form



An example of a chimeric artifact generated during PCR amplification of a mixed population using broad-specificity 16S rRNA primers. Partial amplicons may form hybrids with dissimilar templates because conserved regions exist at positions medial to the PCR primer targets. The partial amplicon can be extended using the dissimilar 16S gene as a template.

Find them with the partial-partial tree building approach

- ⊙ Build MSA
- ⊙ Divide MSA at all possible break points
- ⊙ Construct 2 distance matrices for each break test.
- ⊙ Compare consistency of distances.



(Wang and Wang, 1997;
Hugenholtz, 2003)

Setting thresholds to flag chimeras.

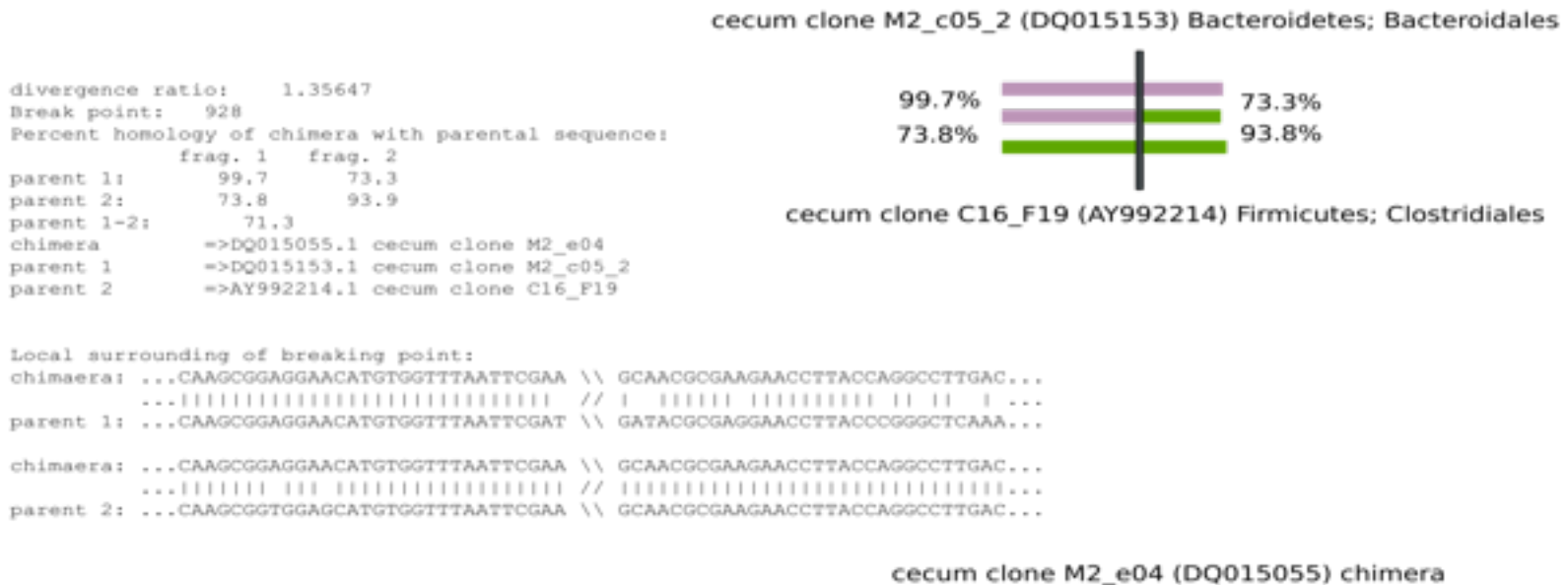


Figure 4. Chimeras can be detected within large data sets using modifications to the existing software, Bellerophon (Huber et al, 2004). In this example a chimera (clone M2_eO4) was found in a 16S rRNA gene clone library prepared from cecal samples. The modified Bellerophon is able to search for parents over intra-library (putative parent M2_c05_2) and inter-library (putative parent C16_F19) sequences. **The *divergence ratio* of 1.36 indicates the parents are 36% more divergent from each other than the chimeric fragments are from their respective parents.** Further investigation placed the parents in distinct phyla.

Submit Chimera Check

- ⦿ Goto: <http://greengenes.lbl.gov>
 - ⦿ Then "More Tools"
 - ⦿ Then "Chimera Check with Bellerophon"
- ⦿ "Submit"



The Bellerophon Results

- ⊙ .xls file useful for an overview
 - ⊙ Walk through columns
- ⊙ Bclean, Bambig, Bchimera

Taxonomy in Flux

- ⦿ Incongruent taxonomic nomenclature even at phylum level.
- ⦿ Making multiple taxonomic classifications available through Greengenes will aid in standardizing classification, particularly for environmental lineages.
- ⦿ Greengenes integrates each, allowing a balanced approach to nomenclature of newly discovered organisms.
- ⦿ Example Search:

⦿ NCBI: CP000866

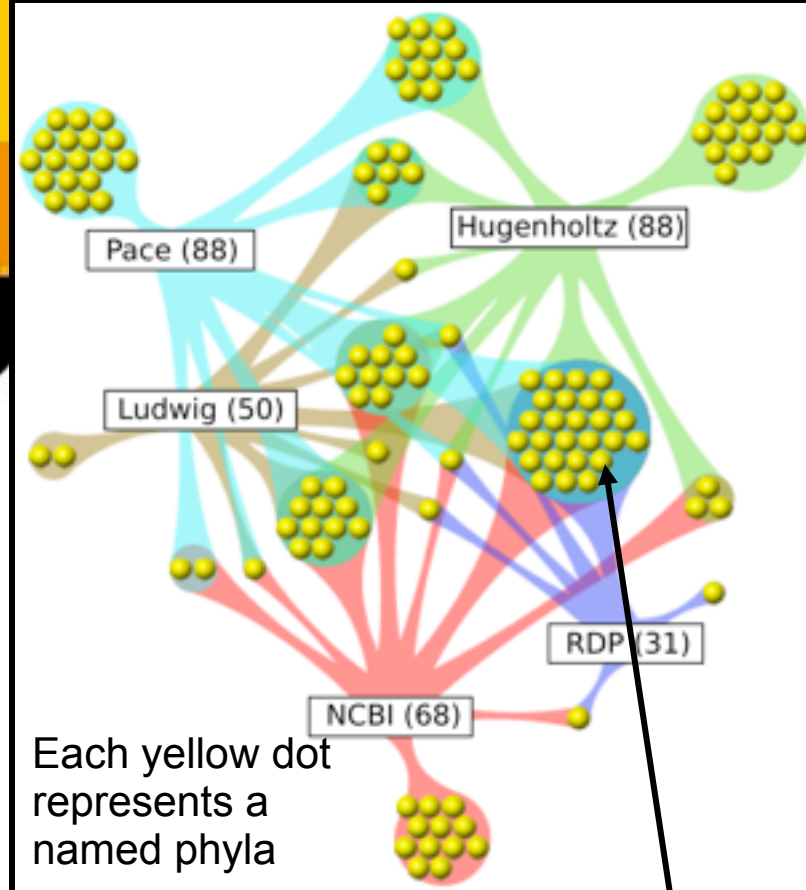
⦿ or “*Nitrosopumilus maritimus*”

http://greengenes.lbl.gov/cgi-bin/show_one_record_v2.pl?prokMSA_id=247303

My Taxonomy

greengenes

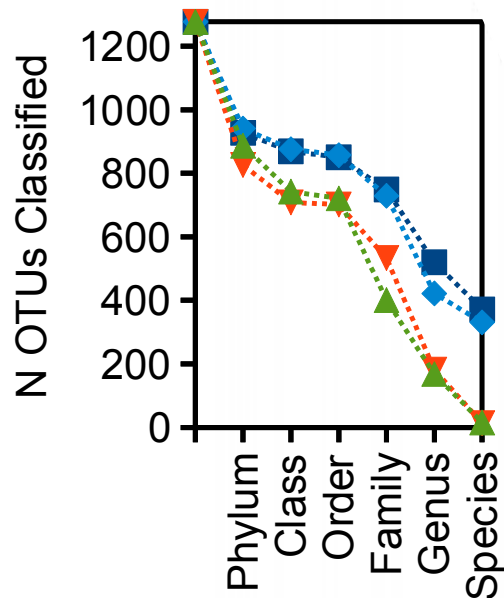
Activate



Only a fraction of the phyla are recognized by all five major curators.

Why use the greengenes taxonomy?

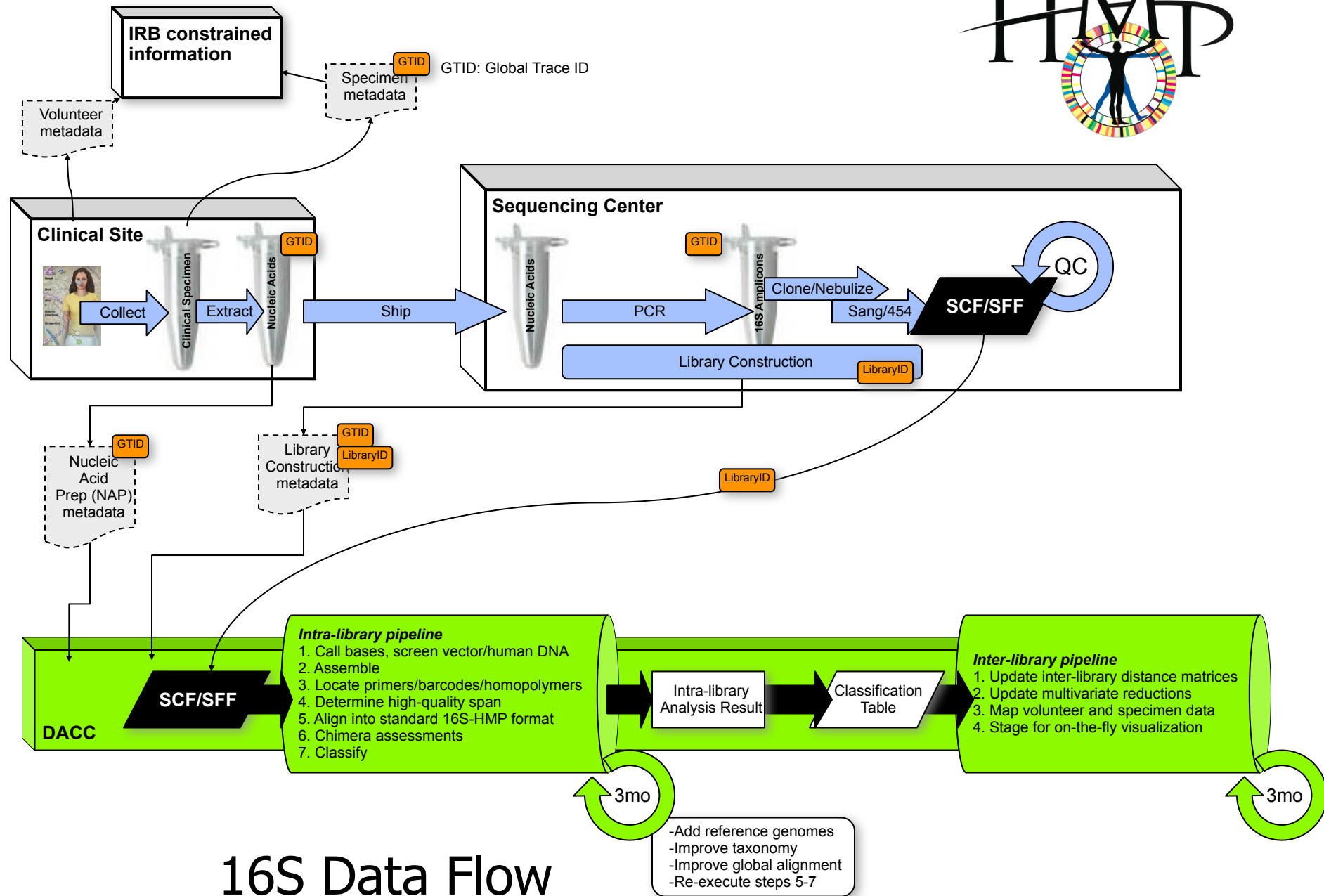
- GG99
- ◆ GG91.3
- ▼ SILVA
- ▲ RDP TS6



- ◎ A high-quality reference tree with nomenclature is maintained
- ◎ More of your experimental reads are classified at a high resolution

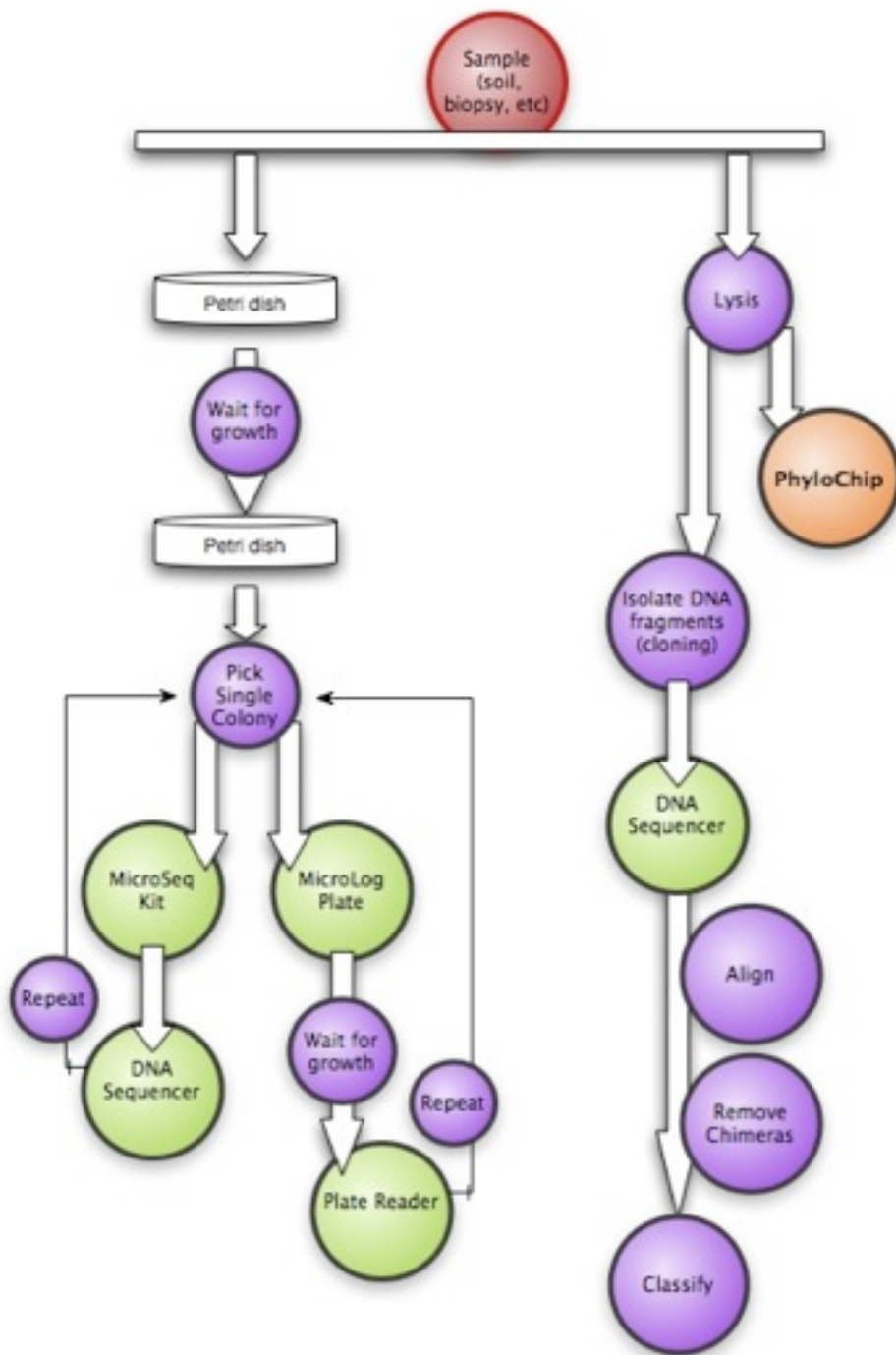
The Classification Results

- ④ classify_xxxxx.xls file
- ④ Walk through columns





Merging Sequencing and PhyloChipTM Assay Results



PhyloChip

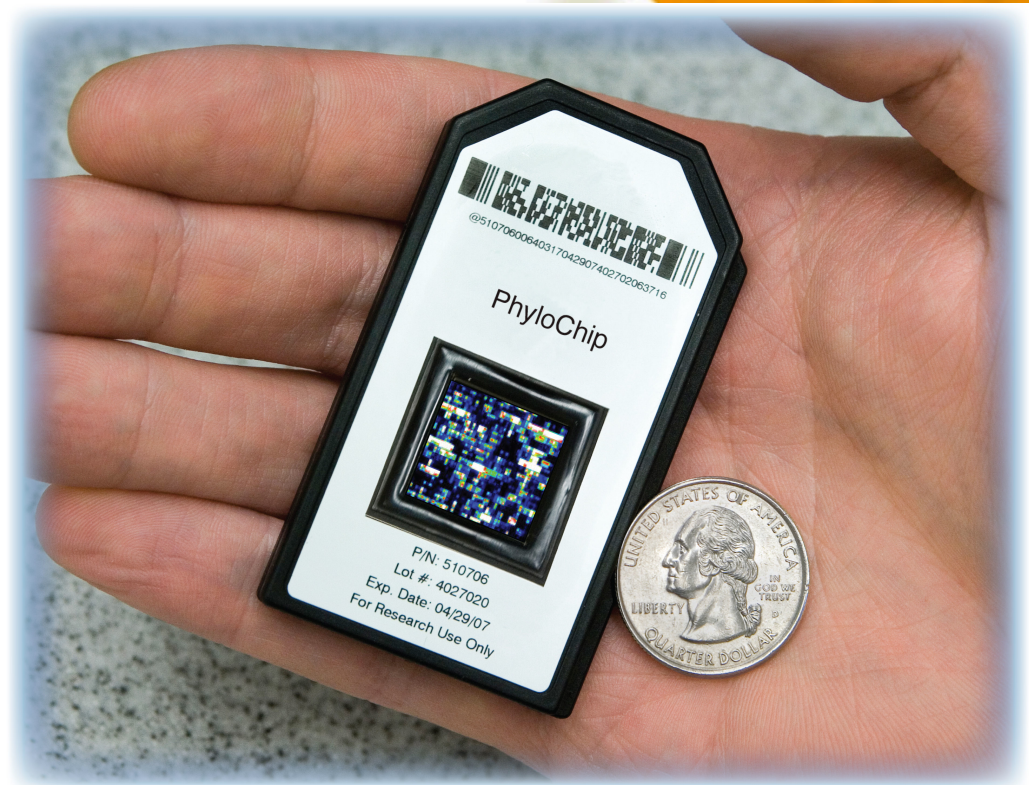
- Do biological replicates
- Pre-screen samples before doing metagenomics
- Rapid
- Comprehensive
- "1 trillion"

Sampling Effort

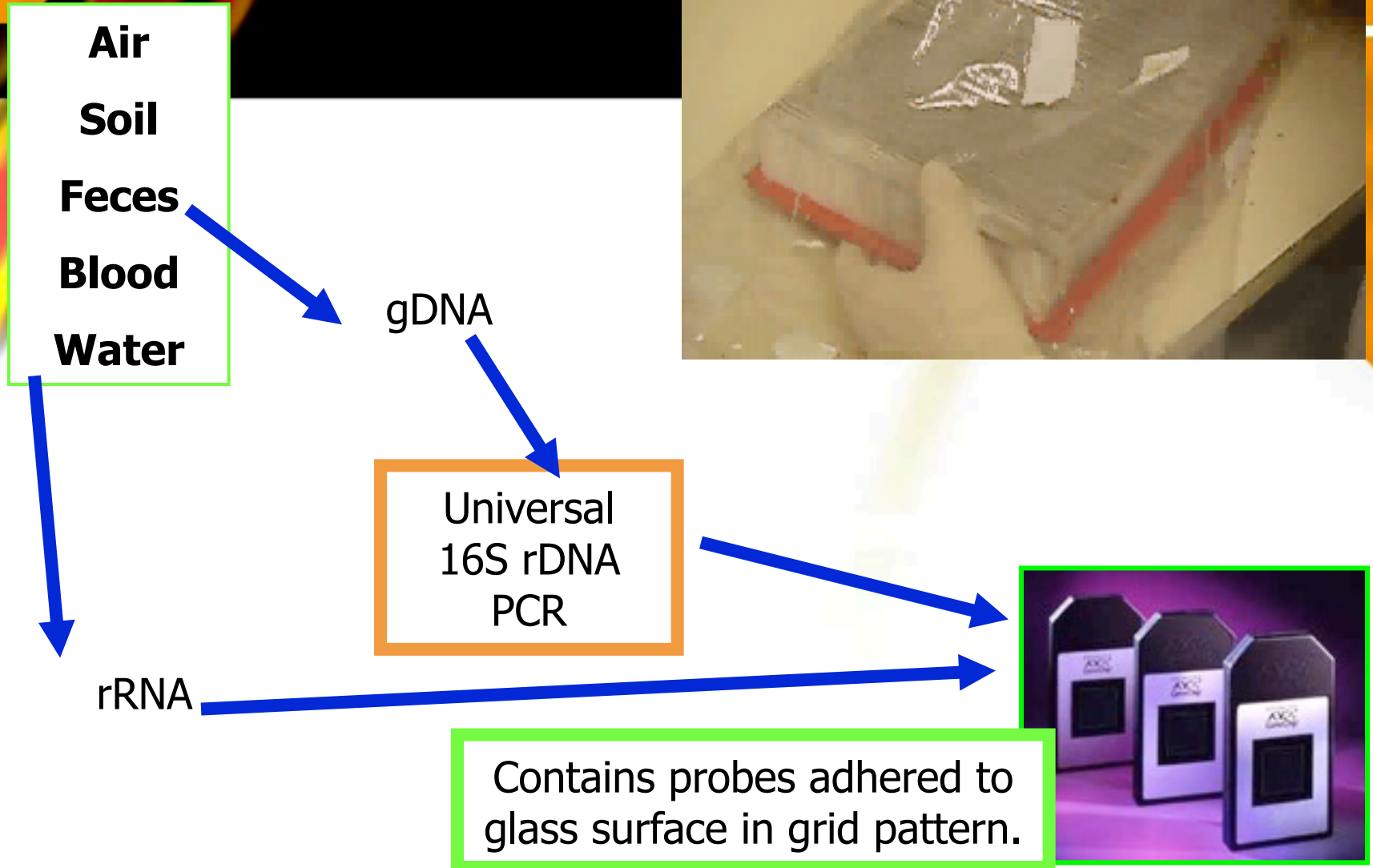
- typical 16S rRNA gene PCR yields 500 to 1,000 ng in a 20 uL volume
 - 1500bp @ 660 g/mole/bp
 - 5×10^{-14} moles / uL
 - 3×10^{10} molecules /uL
 - 6×10^{11} total sequences
- How many should we observe?
 - 600? 60,000 (1 out of every 10 million)?
- Hybridize them all on a PhyloChip ...
 - Dominant populations do not occlude minority populations

Project Overview

- Goal
 - Create a single microarray capable of detecting and categorizing the bacteria and archaea in a complex sample.
- Approach
 - GeneChip targeted at 16S rDNA sequence variations to distinguish taxa.

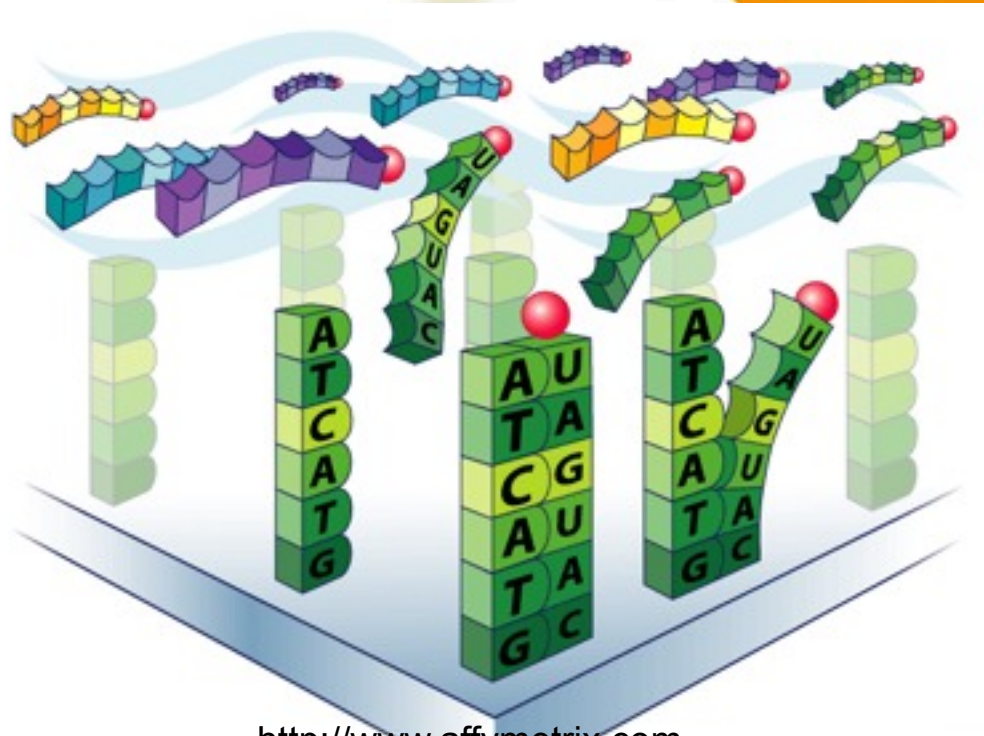


General Protocol



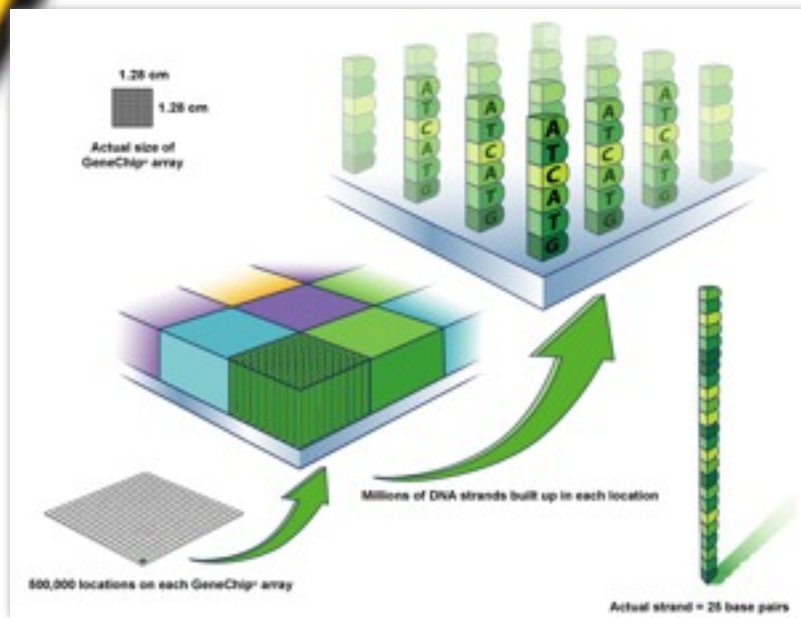
Hybridization

- ⦿ Notice all NA is labeled (fluorescence)
- ⦿ Non-binding NA is washed away
- ⦿ If surface “glows”, then target was captured by probe.

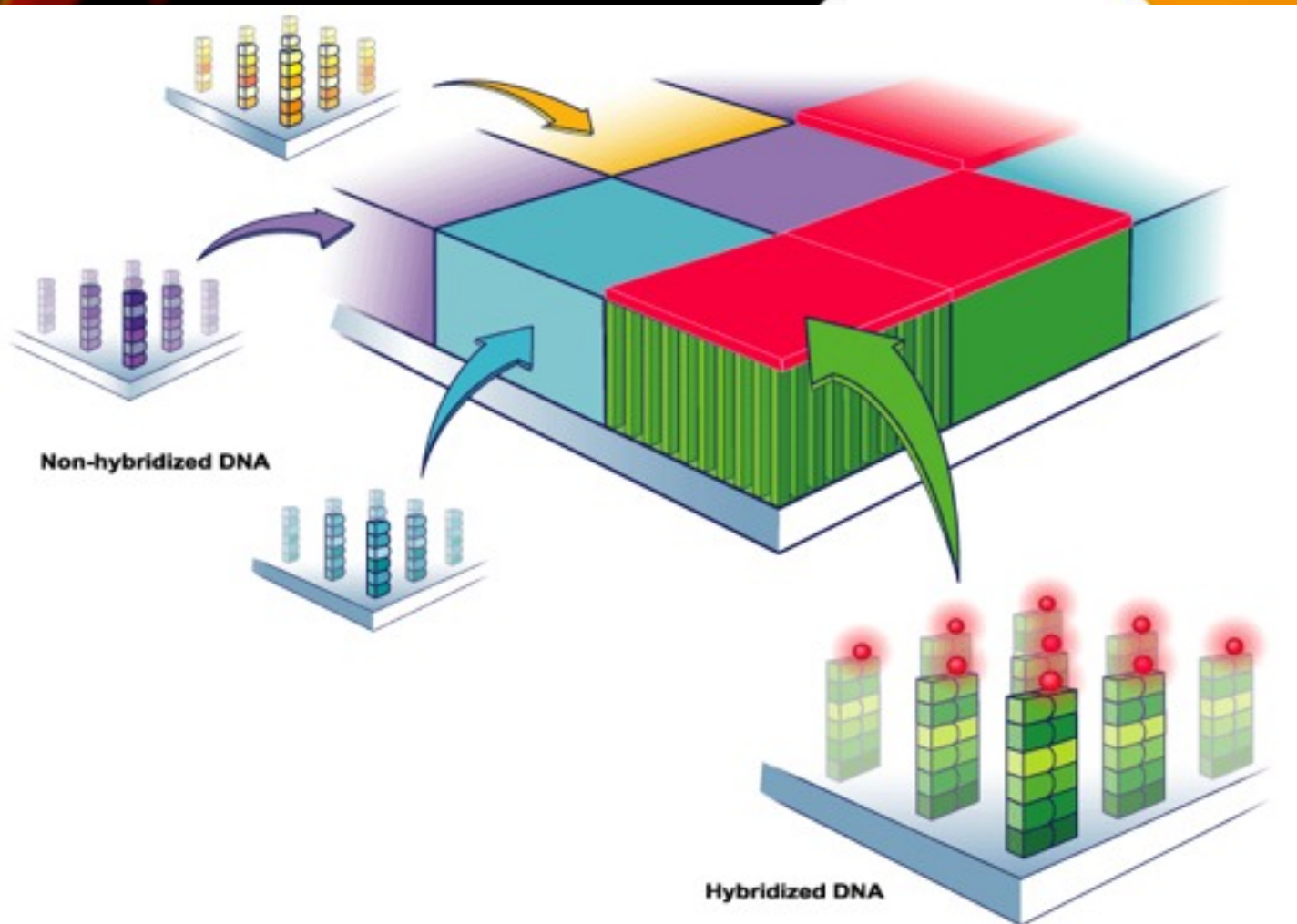


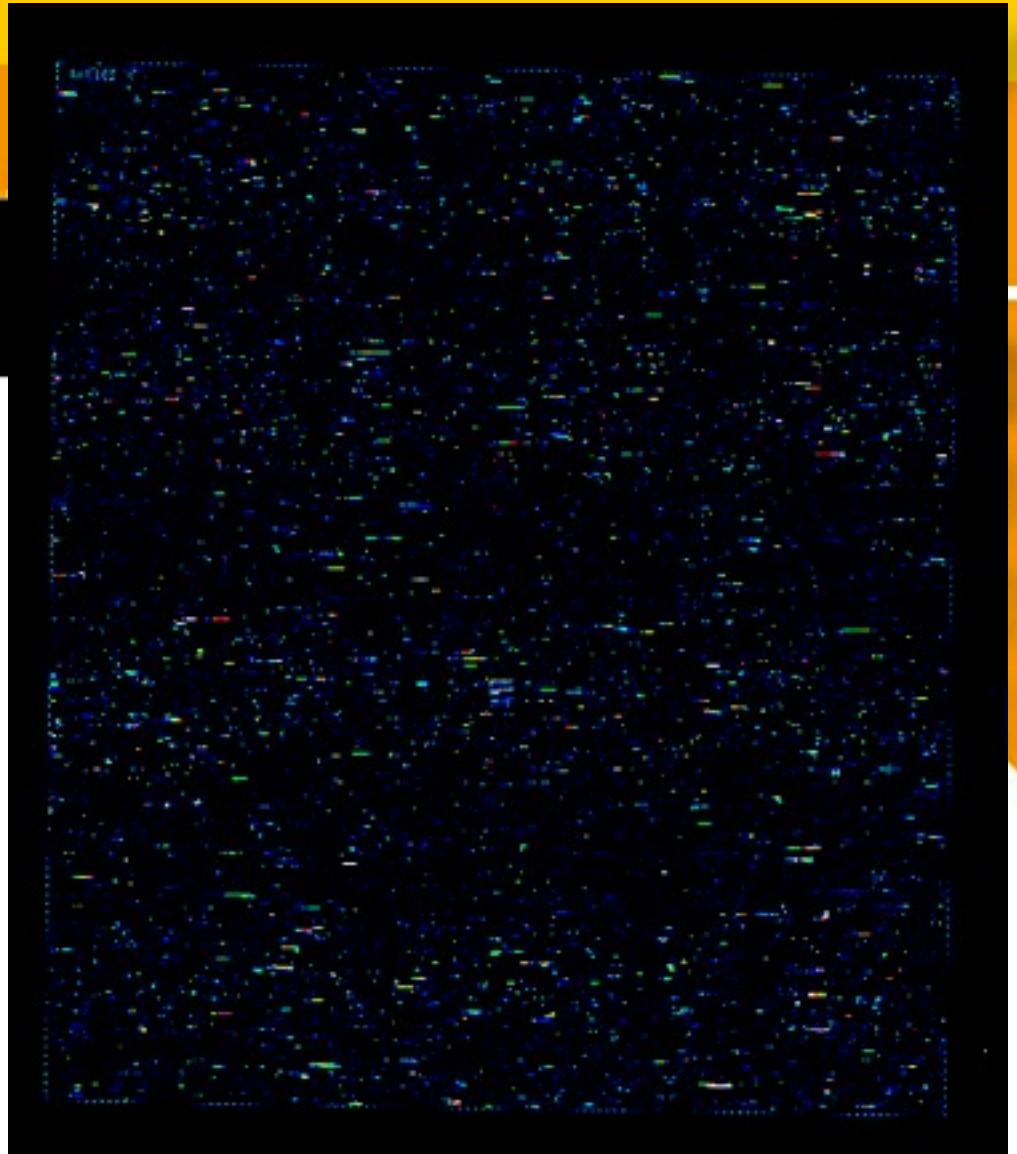
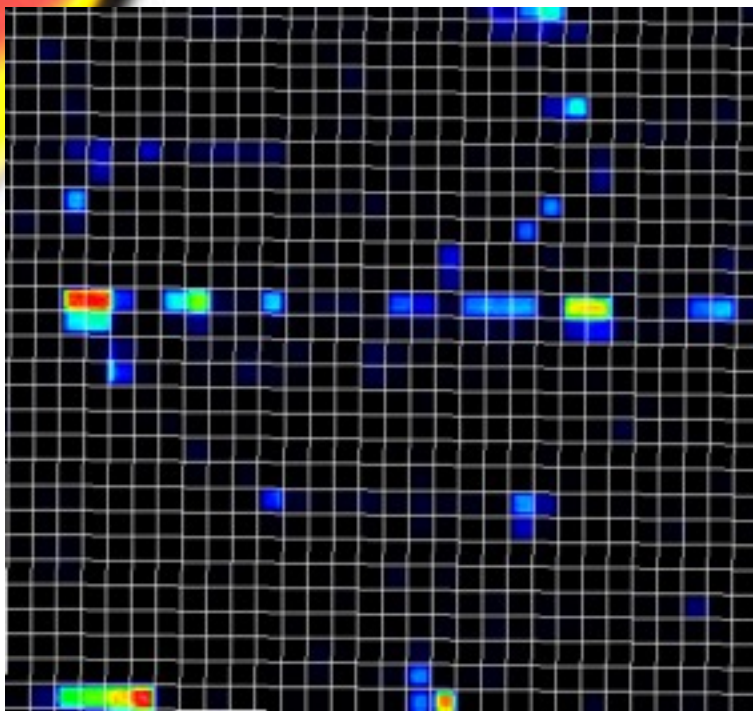
<http://www.affymetrix.com>

Millions of copies per feature



Coordinates of fluorescence determines test results.



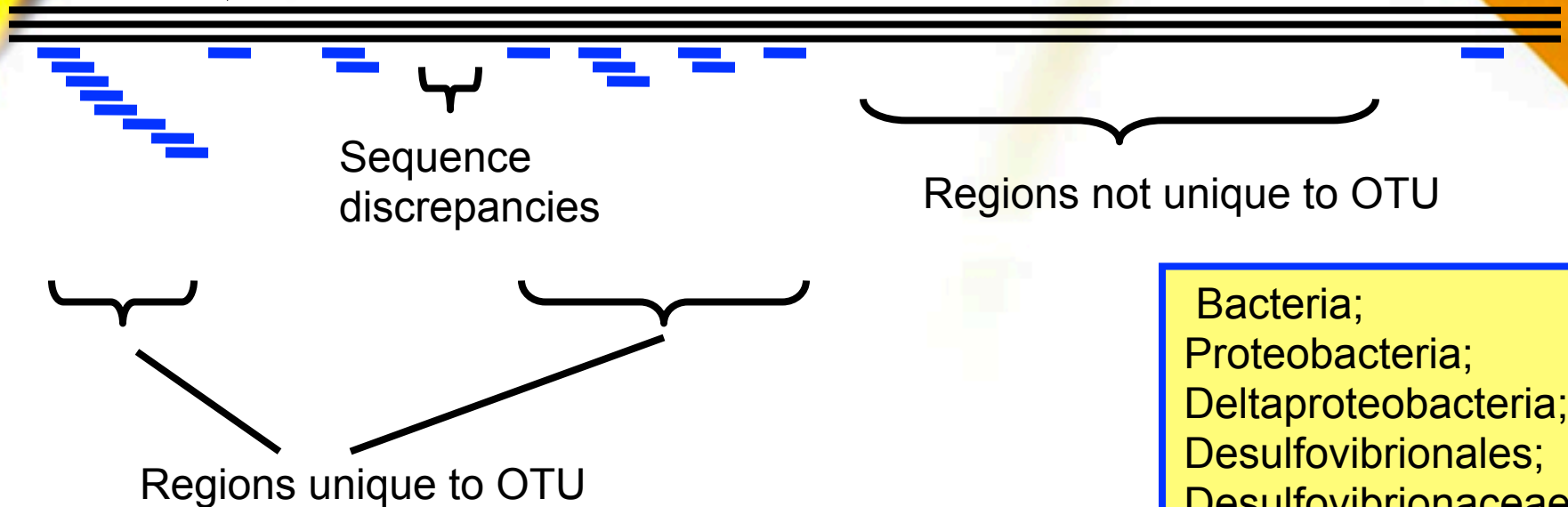


Probe Design

```
TTACACATGCAAGTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGCGCGACGGGTGAGTAACGGGTGGATGATCTACCCATGAGTT-GGGATACGGCTGGAAACGGTC-NCTAATACC-GAATACGCTCCGATTTCAACTTCGGGGGAAGGTGGCCTCTGCTTGCAGCTACTGCTCATGGA  
TTACACATGCAAGTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGCGCGACGGGTGAGTAACGGGTGGATGATCTACCCATGAGTTAGG-AATACGGCTGGAAACGGTCG-CTAATACCA-AATACGCTCCGATTTCAACTT-CGGGGGAAGGTGGCCTCTGCTTGCAGCTACTGCTCATGGA  
TTACACATGCAAGTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGCGCGACGGGTGAGTAACGGGTGGATGATCTACCCATGAGTT-GGGATACGGCTGGAAACGGTCG-CTAATACC-GAATACGCTCCGATTTCAACTT-CGGGGGAAGGTGGCCTCTGCTTGCAGCTACTGCTCATGGA  
ACACATGCAAGTCGCGCGTGAAGGACCGCGTGGATGATCTACCCATGAGTGCCTCTGCTTGCAGCTACTGCTCAT  
CATGCAAGTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTGCAGCTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCGCAGCTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCG  
GCAGCTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCGAGTCGCGCGTGAAGGACTTCGGTGGTGAAGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTA  
AAGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGGACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGG  
ACTTCGGTCCGAGTAAGCGGCGG
```

Desulfovibrio sp. str. DMB.
Desulfovibrio sp. 'Bendigo A'
Desulfovibrio vulgaris DSM 644

Example of the Location of Probes Used for the Desulfovibrio vulgaris Probe Set



Bacteria;
Proteobacteria;
Deltaproteobacteria;
Desulfovibrionales;
Desulfovibrionaceae;
sf_1; otu_10051

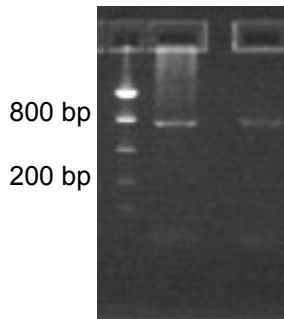
Is Cyanobacteria OTU 5157 Present?

Clone library says "NO"

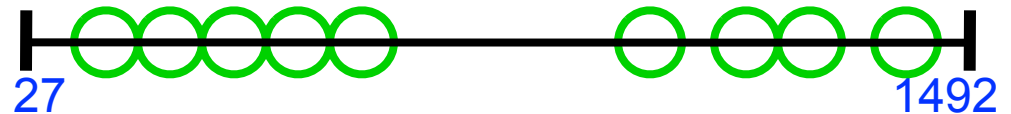
Chip says "YES"

Confirmation

PCR with OTU Specific Primers says "YES"



02210104000000.5157_
2.21.1.4.5157 OTU 9 seqs
prokMSA_id:3279 Leptolyngbya boryanum PCC 73110. NONE
prokMSA_id:3280 Leptolyngbya foveolarum str. Komarek 1964/112
prokMSA_id:3281 "Plectonema boryanum" UTEX 485
prokMSA_id:3282 "Oscillatoria" sp. str. M-117
prokMSA_id:3283 Phormidium sp. str. M-99
prokMSA_id:39175 Phormidium tenue
prokMSA_id:41034 Phormidium tenue AF337652
prokMSA_id:43289 Phormidium molle
prokMSA_id:45010 Phormidium pachydematicum



Sequencing and BLAST of PCR says "YES"

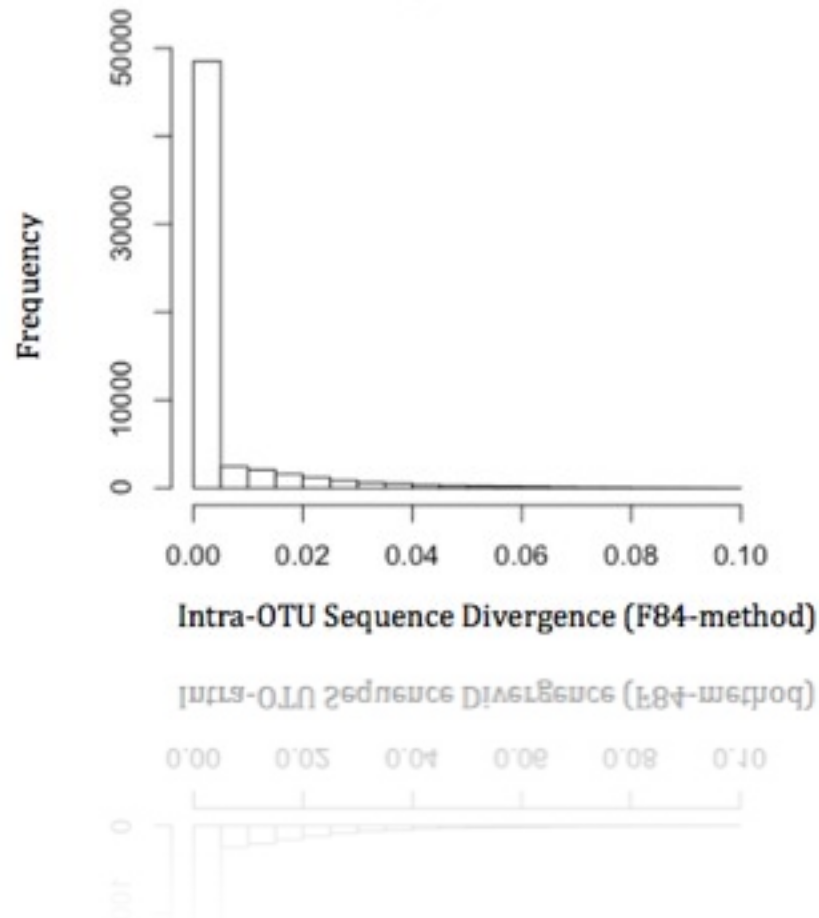
BLAST of sequenced PCR shows 99% Identity:
Cyanobacteria

Subgroup: Leptolyngbya

prokMSA_id:3280 **Leptolyngbya foveolarum** str. Komarek 1964/112

prokMSA_id:3281 **"Plectonema boryanum"** UTEX 485

Figure S12. Distribution of mean sequence divergence within OTUs. Sequence differences were determined using the F84 method after NAST alignment (S17) as previously described(S52). The method was chosen due to its recognition by phylogenetic tree reconstruction biologists (S53). The method masks the hypervariable regions resulting in less perceived dissimilarity. The majority of the OTUs contain either singleton genes or sets of genes with no divergence among the conserved positions.



approximate density of 10,000 molecules per μm^2

“midi 100 format” hybridization cartridges

1,016,064 probe features, arranged as a grid of 1,008 rows and columns.

Probes complementary to lower confidence 16S sequences were included to enable broadening the phylogenetic scope of analysis, when those sequences are validated with unambiguous entries into public repositories.

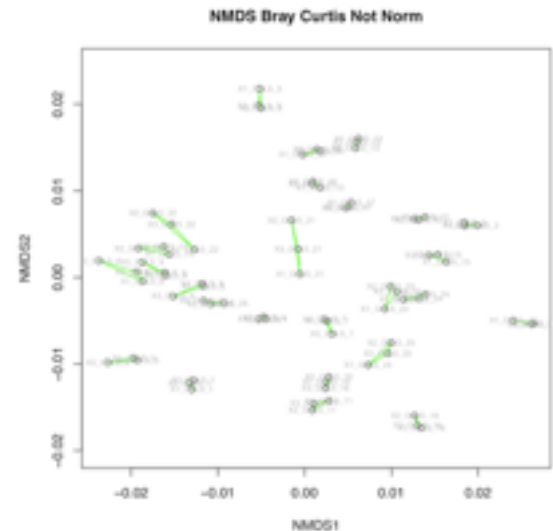
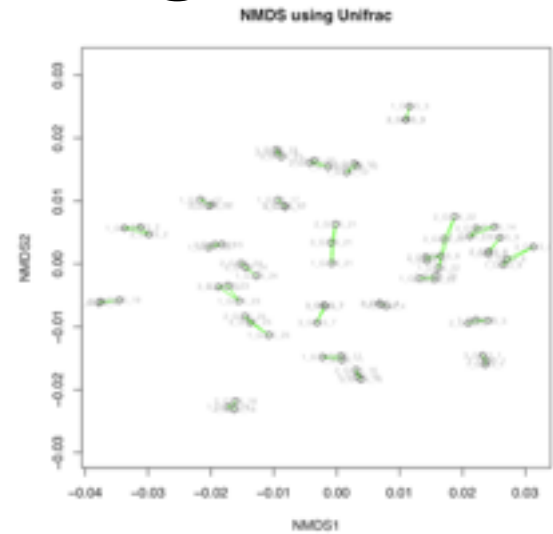
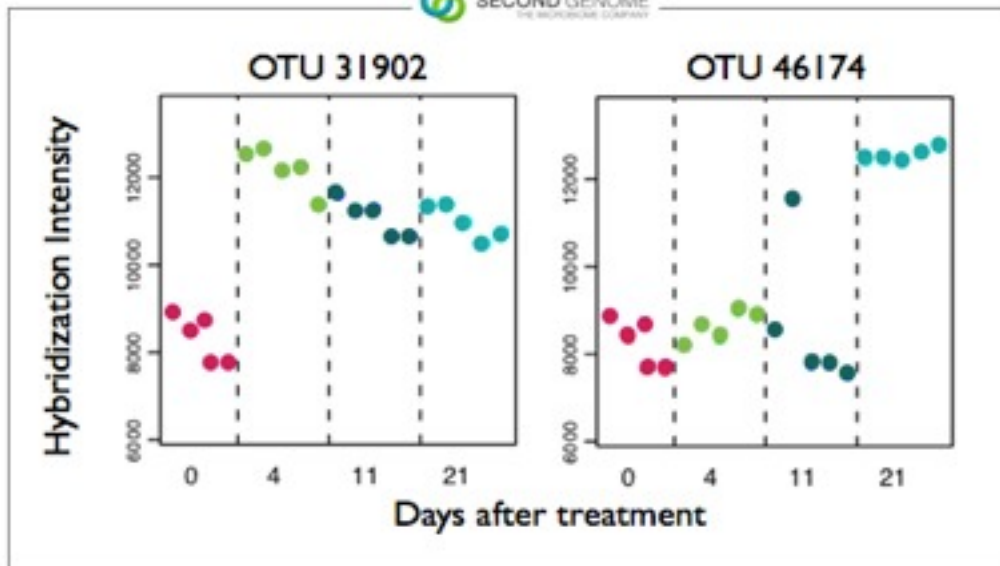
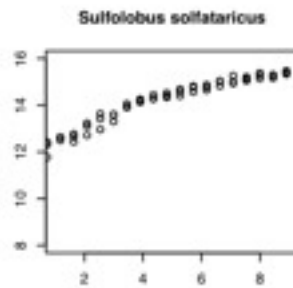
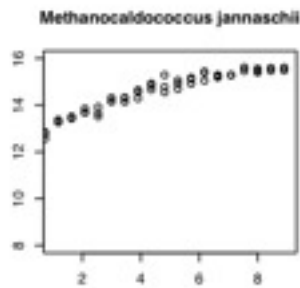
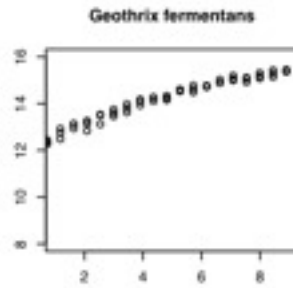
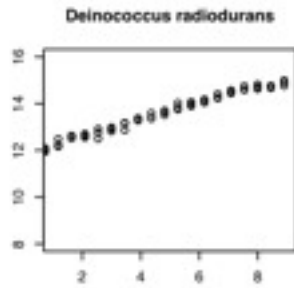
Taxonomic overlay

The OTUs represented **2 domains, 147 phyla, 1,123 classes, and 1, 219 orders** demarcated within the archaea and bacteria. Each OTU was assigned to one of **1,464** families according to the placement of its member organisms in the taxonomic outline as maintained by Philip Hugenholtz (S23). The OTUs comprising each family were clustered into sub-families by transitive (single linkage) sequence identity of 72% common heptamers. Altogether, **10,993** sub-families were found.

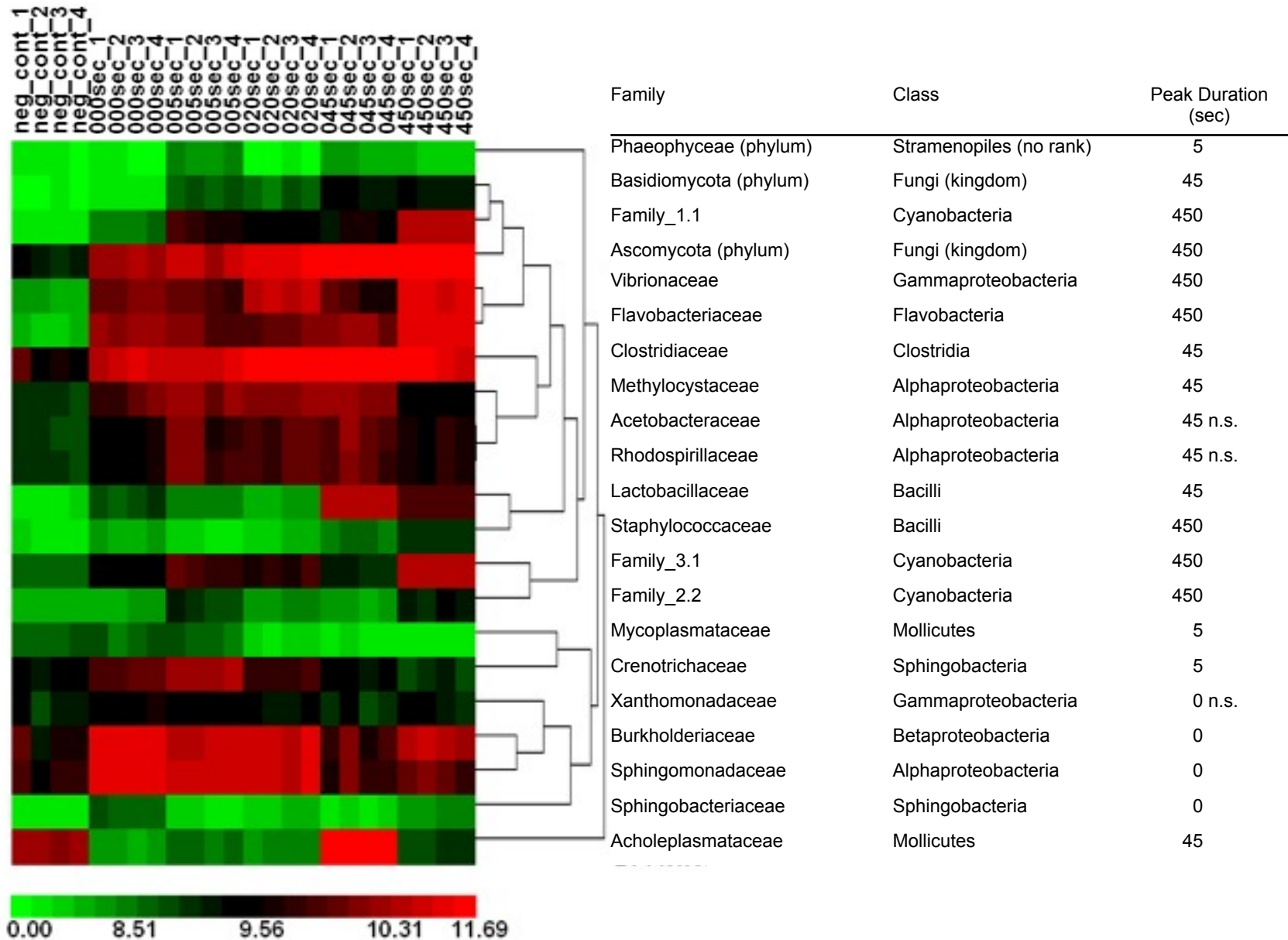
The average number of probe pairs assigned to each OTU was 37 (s.d. 9.6).

59,959 OTUs

Quantitative Tracking



Extraction methods will affect community observations.

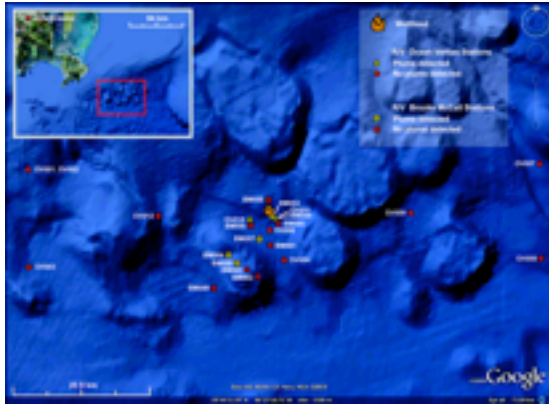


DeSantis, 2005, FEMS Let

REPORTS

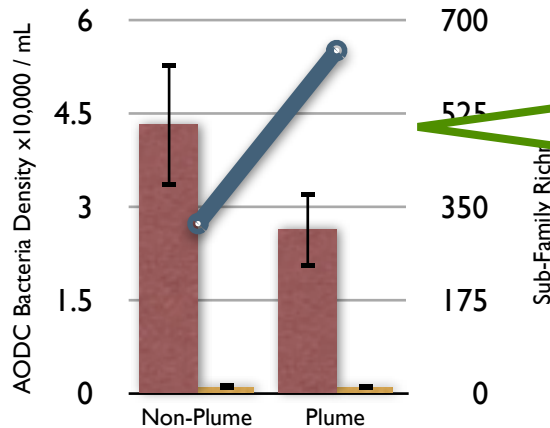
Deep-Sea Oil Plume Enriches Indigenous Oil-Degrading Bacteria

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Sampling sites around the ruptured MC252 well head from May 25 to June 7, 2010.

- Hydrocarbon Increase Above Background:
 - EPA Gulf of Mexico Hydrocarbon Concentration Allowance* = 29,000 parts per billion (29,000 mg/L)
 - Deep Horizon Oil Spill Plume Hydrocarbon Concentration = 139 parts per billion (0.139 mg/L)
- *The EPA NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Effluent Standard) permits for Offshore Gulf of Mexico installations contain a NOT TO EXCEED limit of 29 ppm 42 mg/L (42 parts per million) on a daily basis AND a NOT TO EXCEED limit of 29 mg/L per day (29 parts per million) on a monthly basis.



Cell Density Bacterial Richness Archaeal Richness

- Although the blowout is one of the largest oil spills in history ...
- An ultra low-concentration hydrocarbon plume formed ~1150 m below the surface.
- Is a microbial community shift detectable?
- Which taxa are enriched by the hydrocarbons?

