

METAGENOMICS PROJECT:

For this project, I analysed a soil microbiome to identify antimicrobial resistance (AMR) genes. Soil is one of the most biologically diverse environments on Earth, home to vast microbial communities that play critical roles in nutrient cycling, plant growth, and ecosystem stability. Importantly, it also serves as a **natural reservoir of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) genes**. Many antibiotics used in medicine and agriculture are originally derived from soil bacteria, which have naturally evolved resistance mechanisms over millions of years. This helps -detect novel AMR Genes, understand resistance, monitor environmental spread and evaluate impact of human activity

Aim:

Perform antibiotic resistance gene profiling on metagenomic sample **SRR287818** using the CARD-RGI tool and NGS TOOLS

Step1: SRA ID was obtained by searching soil metagenome in SRA database of NCBI

The screenshot shows the NCBI SRA search results for the query 'soil metagenome'. The search results are displayed in a table with columns for Accession, Summary, and Size. The first result is SRR29063273, which is a pilot bioaugmentation study. The search results are filtered by 'Accession' and 'Summary'. The search results are also filtered by 'Accession' and 'Summary'. The search results are also filtered by 'Accession' and 'Summary'.

Step 2: After obtaining SRA ID details about it such as it single or paired end was checked

The screenshot shows the NCBI SRA record page for SRR29063273. The page displays the SRA ID, the study title, and the study description. The study is titled 'pilot bioaugmentation' and is described as 'Pilot site bioaugmentation petroleum-contaminated soil'. The study is submitted by 'Dalian University of Technology'. The study is described as 'Pilot site bioaugmentation petroleum-contaminated soil'. The study is submitted by 'Dalian University of Technology'. The study is described as 'Pilot site bioaugmentation petroleum-contaminated soil'.

Step 3: Using prefetch and fastq dump split files commands in WSL the Sequence was downloaded

```
>fastq-dump SRR33842758
```

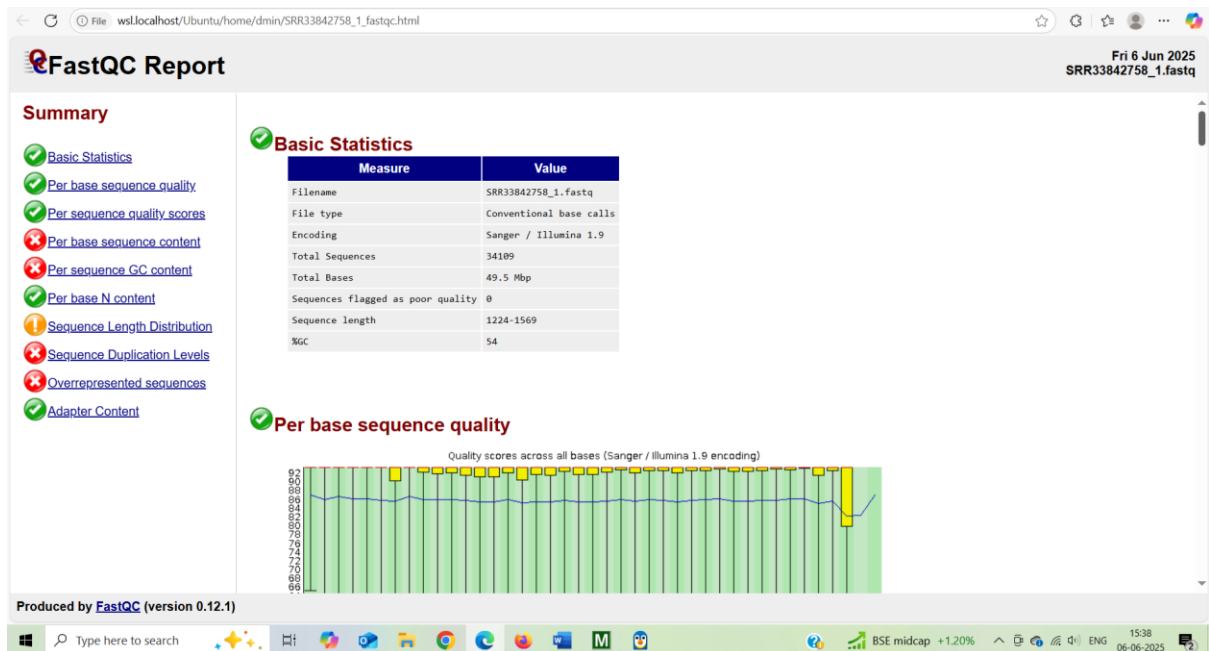
output

```
>Read 34109 spots for SRR33842758
```

Written 34109 spots for SRR33842758

Step 4: FastQC report of SRR33842758 was obtained

```
>fastqc SRR33842758.fastq
```



Step 5: To improve the quality of sequence, trimming using trim galore was performed

```
> trim_galore --quality 30 --length 20 --paired SRR33842758_1_fastq.gz
```

Step 6: Used Megahit tool to develop contigs

```
> sudo apt install megahit
```

```
> megahit -r SRR33842758_1_trimmed.fq -o megahit_output
```

```
> ls
```

```
> cd megahit_output
```

Step 7: Upload final.contigs.fa to CARD Database

CARD

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Use RGI:

Enter a GenBank accession(s):

Enter accessions separated by commas

Nucleotide sequences will undergo ORF calling to generate predicted protein sequences. Examples: JN420336.1, AY123251.1, HQ451074.1, AL123456

Upload FASTA sequence file(s):

Choose Files final.contigs.fa

Upload a plain text file containing DNA or protein sequence(s) in FASTA format (20 Mb limit). The file can contain more than one FASTA formatted sequence, such as assembly contigs or multiple proteins. Each file will be treated as a single sample.

Select Data Type:

☒ DNA sequence

☐ Protein sequence

Select Criteria:

☒ Perfect and Strict hits only

☐ Perfect, Strict and Loose hits

Nudge ≥95% identity Loose hits to Strict:

☒ Exclude nudge

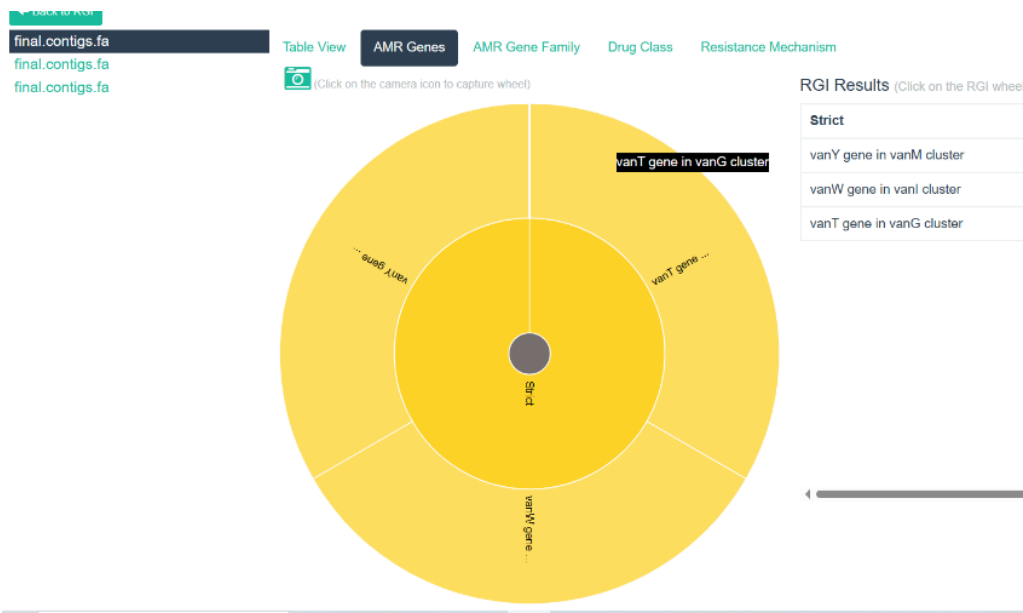
☐ Include nudge

CARD:Live

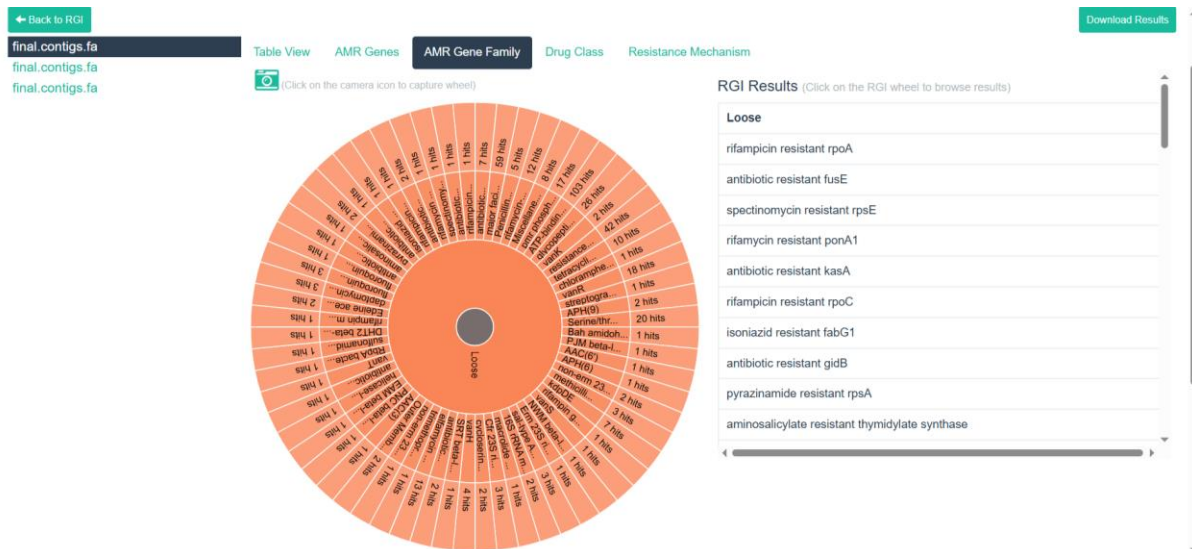
Step 8: Analyse drug resistant genes in Strict and lose hits

Hit	Criteria	Bitscore	Cut-Off	Percent Identity
vanT gene in vanG cluster	Strict	188	175	32.26
vanW gene in vanI cluster	Strict	98.2	50	34.5
vanY gene in vanM cluster	Strict	87.4	50	29.23

Strict Hit



Lose Hits



Step 9: Analyse different antibiotic resistance mechanisms involved-

reduced permeability to antibiotic
antibiotic inactivation
antibiotic target protection
antibiotic target replacement
antibiotic efflux
antibiotic target alteration

Conclusion:

For this project, I analyzed a soil microbiome to identify antimicrobial resistance (AMR) genes. I began by retrieving the relevant dataset from the NCBI SRA using its SRA ID and downloaded the raw sequencing data with prefetch and fastq-dump. After performing quality control with FastQC, I trimmed the reads using Trimmomatic to remove adapters and low-quality sequences. The cleaned reads were then assembled into contigs using MEGAHIT. Finally, I uploaded the assembled contigs to the CARD (Comprehensive Antibiotic Resistance Database) to identify AMR genes and determine the resistance mechanisms present in the sample.