

Standards,
Precautions &
Advances in
Ancient
Metagenomics

Date : 22 Sept. 2020
Chairs: Alex Hübner
Anna Fotakis

Session 5: Reuse the Refuse

Applying new analytical methods beyond current practices



Session Scope

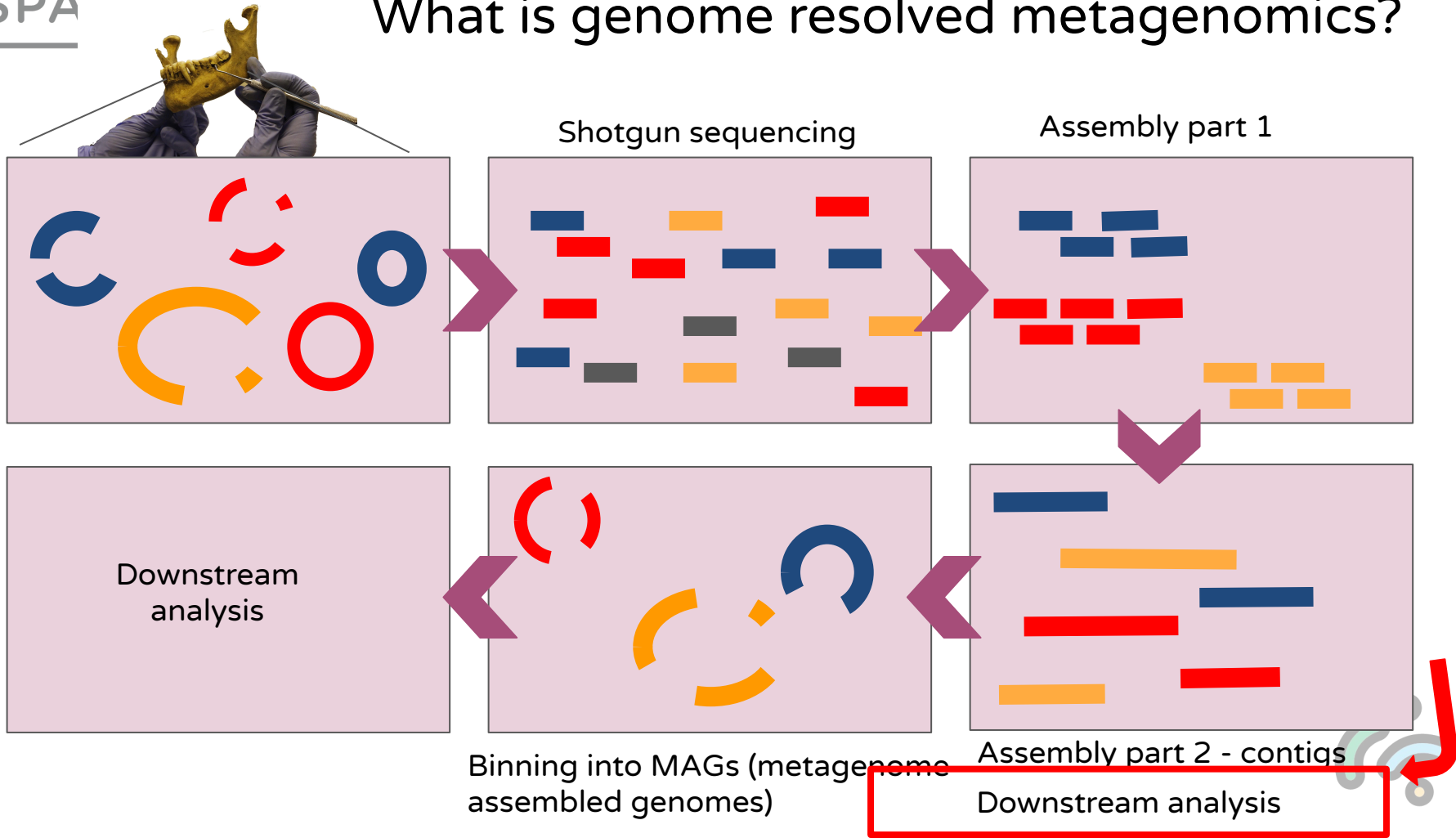
- New and exciting methods and approaches for pushing the boundaries of metagenomics analysis
- Ancient metagenomics ‘adopting’ new protocols for genome-resolved metagenomics and functional analysis with the challenges of ancient datasets
- Encourage novel approaches in data analysis but with caution on the potential pitfalls and limitations when designing and embarking on such a study



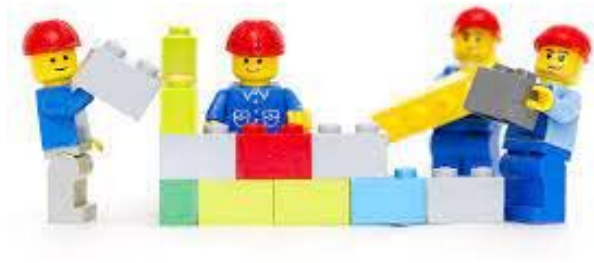
A brief summary of concepts



What is genome resolved metagenomics?



In other words...





Article | OPEN | Published: 11 February 2019

A new genomic blueprint of the human gut microbiota

Alexandre Almeida , Alex L. Mitchell, Miguel Boland, Samuel C. Forster, Gregory B. Gloor, Aleksandra Tarkowska, Trevor D. Lawley & Robert D. Finn Nature **568**, 499–504 (2019) | Download Citation 

New Results

[Comment on this paper](#)

The genomic and proteomic landscape of the rumen microbiome revealed by comprehensive genome-resolved metagenomics

Robert D. Stewart, Marc D. Auffret, Amanda Warr, Alan W. Walker, Rainer Roehe, Mick Watson

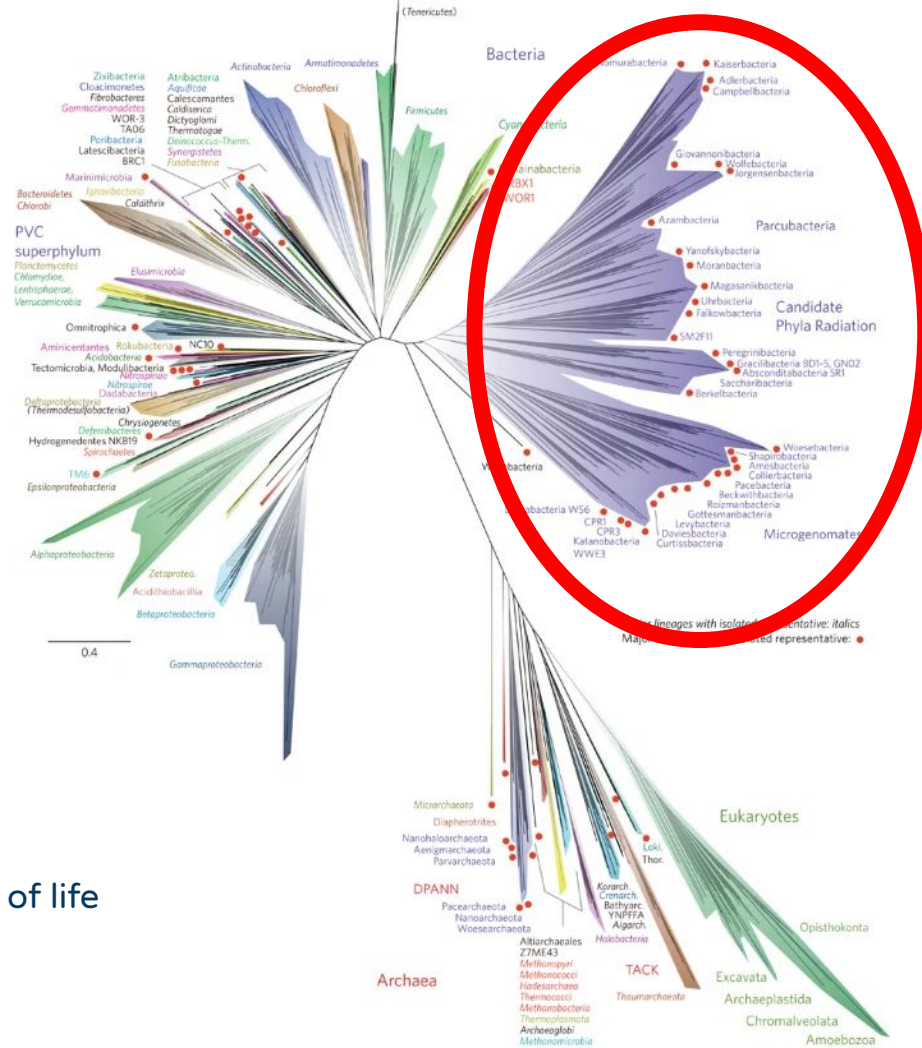
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/489443>

This article is a preprint and has not been peer-reviewed [what does this mean?].

RESOURCE | VOLUME 176, ISSUE 3, P649-662.E20, JANUARY 24, 2019

Extensive Unexplored Human Microbiome Diversity Revealed by Over 150,000 Genomes from Metagenomes Spanning Age, Geography, and Lifestyle

Edoardo Pasolli • Francesco Asnicar  • Serena Manara  • ... Christopher Quince • Curtis Huttenhower • Nicola Segata   • [Show all authors](#) • [Show footnotes](#)Open Access • Published: January 17, 2019 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2019.01.001> •



A new view on the tree of life

Hug et al 2016
<https://doi.org/10.1038/nmicrobio.1.2016.48>



Some considerations

- ❑ Study design (including laboratory strategy, sequencing depth)
- ❑ Validations
- ❑ Quality of data (soil vs dental calculus vs bone etc) and the limitations (a good assembly is favoured by long good quality reads)
- ❑ Question and application for your study

Further applications

- ❑ Novel genome discovery
- ❑ Functional analysis
- ❑ Pangenomics
- ❑ Phylogenetics
- ❑ And more...



In summary

- Experimental set-up
- Data quality (combining both assembly and assembly free methods)
- Computational power
- Validating your steps
- Know your samples/data!!!!





poorlydrawnlines.com

<http://www.poorlydrawnlines.com/comic/reason/>

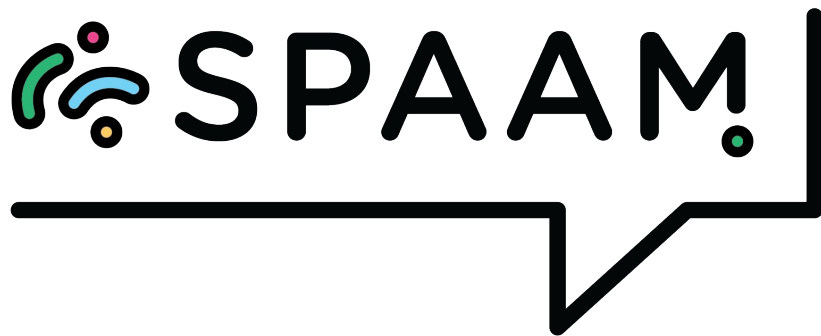


Ice breaker speakers

Maxime Borry (PhD - MPI for the Science of Human History) - “A new take on ancient DNA metagenomics assembly and validation”

Antonio Fernandez-Guerra (Assistant Professor, Section for GeoGenetics, Globe Institute, UCPH) - “Microbial Ancient Metagenomics: Beyond who is there”





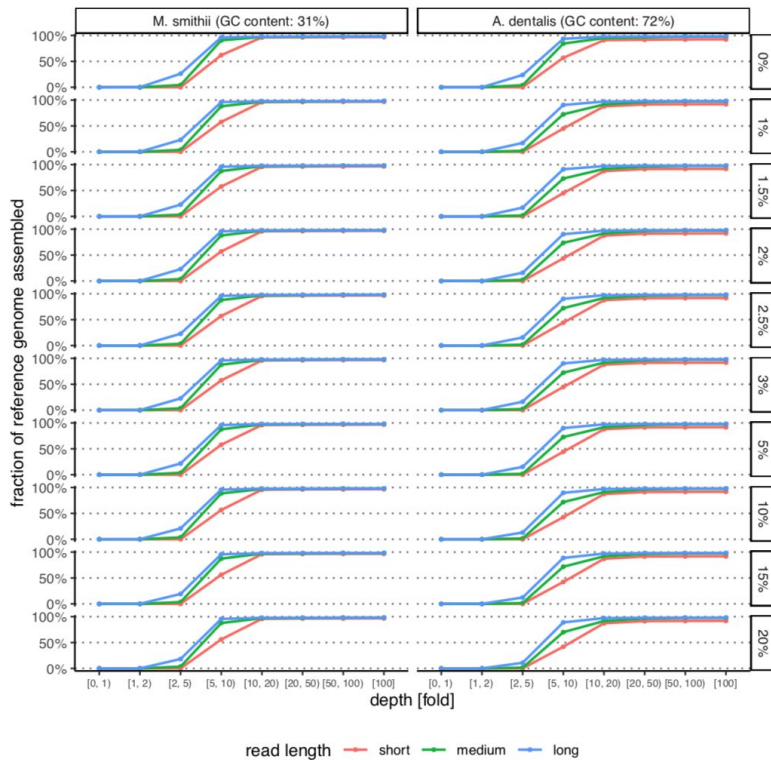
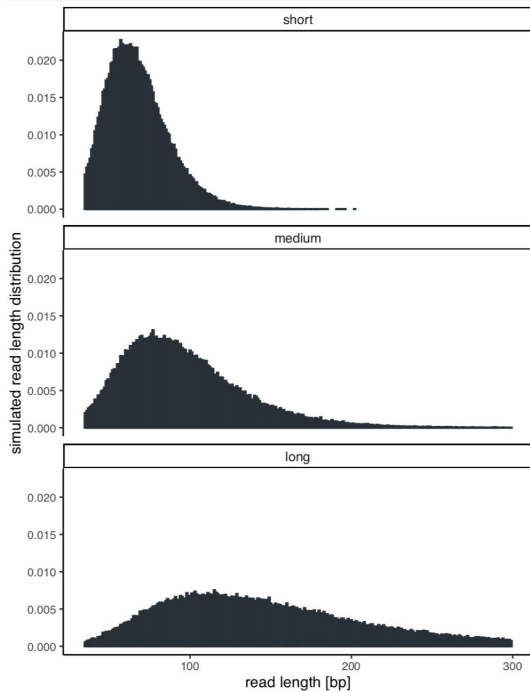
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A new take on ancient DNA metagenomics assembly validation

Maxime Borry

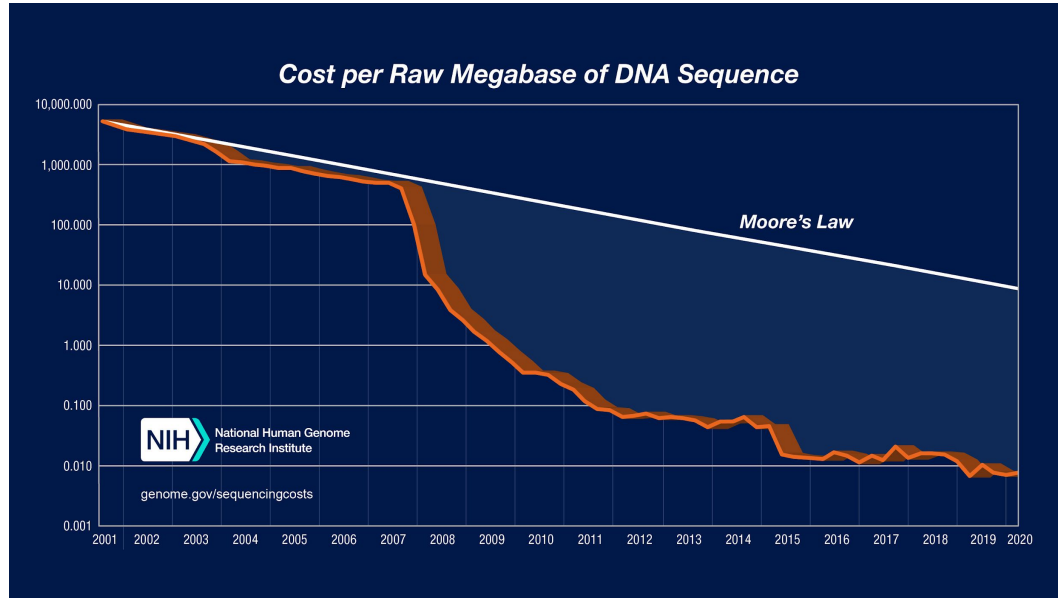


aDNA de novo assembly: is it even possible ?



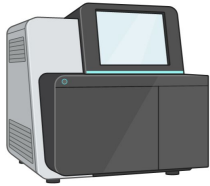
Coverage is key

And you will always get more for you money



Scaling up damage profile inspection

aDNA validation of sequences often involves damage profiles



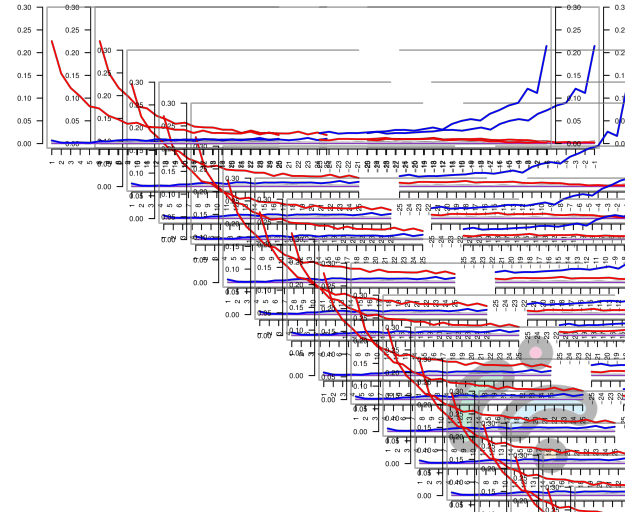
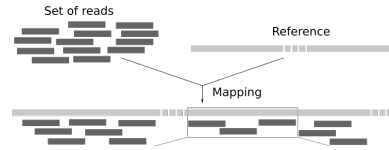
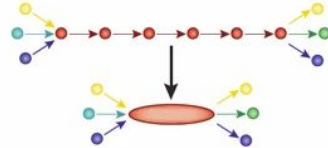
1. Fragment DNA and sequence



2. Find overlaps between reads

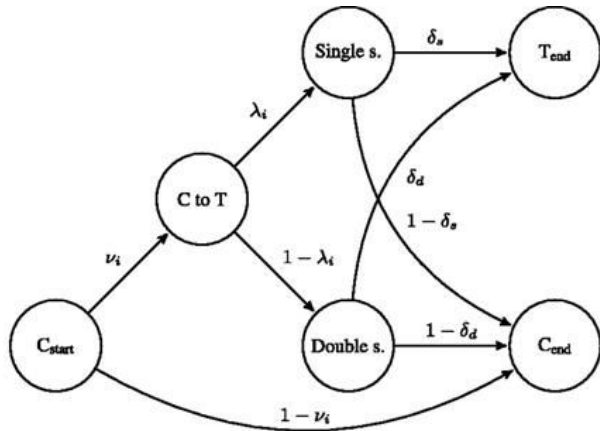
...AGCCTAGACCTACAAGATCGCGACACGT
GGATCGCGACACAGTCGCATATCCGGT...

3. Assemble overlaps into contigs



How to programmatically check for aDNA deamination ?

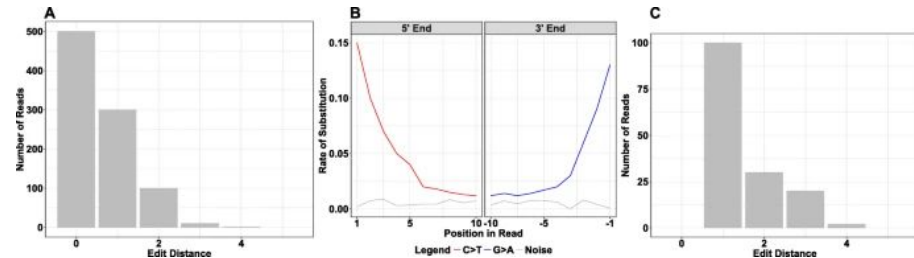
The mapdamage2 approach



More accurate but Slower

The HOPS approach

1 CtoT in first 10 bp = ancient



Fast but very Approximate





github.com/maxibor/pydamage



Dr. Alexander Huebner



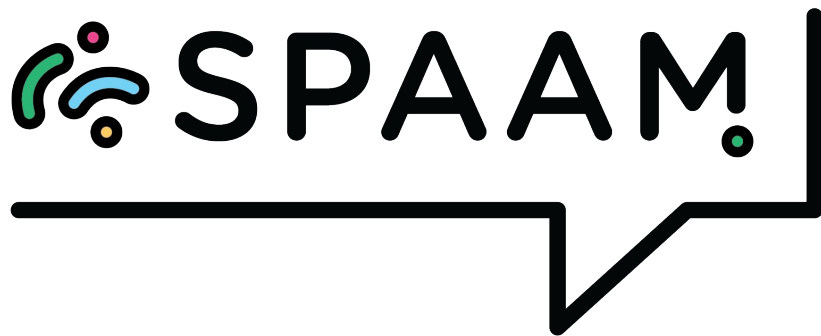
Dr. Adam Ben Rohrlach



What next ?

- Damage as extra metric/dimension for binning
- Other aDNA contig validation criteria





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Microbial Ancient Metagenomics: Beyond who is there

Antonio



- **On the complexity of assembling ancient metagenomes**
 - very short reads
 - low coverage
 - damage
- **Give me functions!**
 - damage and the amino acid space
 - substitution matrices

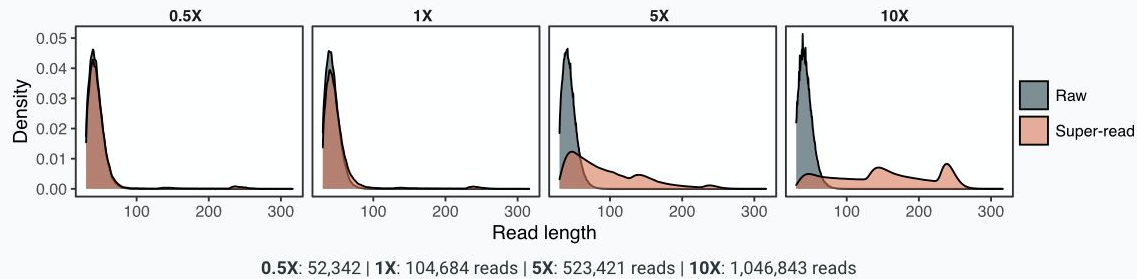


Let's keep it simple
exploring one genome at a time



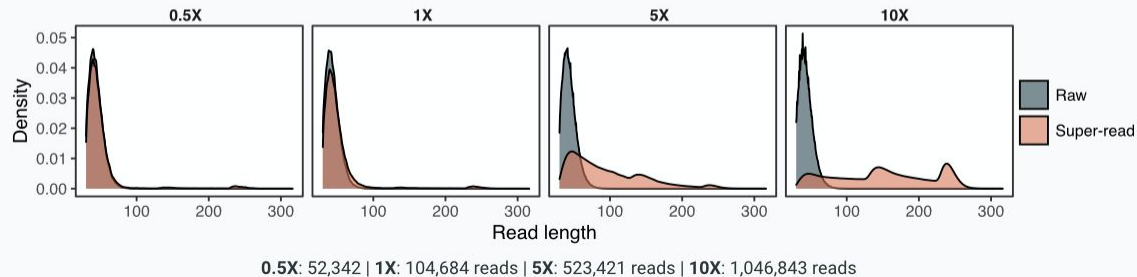
Synthetic data from *Yersinia pestis* A1122

- different coverage
- mode read length = 40 nt
- with and without damage



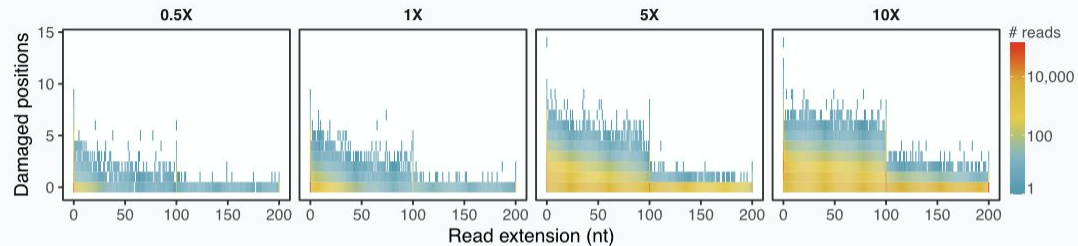
Synthetic data from *Yersinia pestis* A1122

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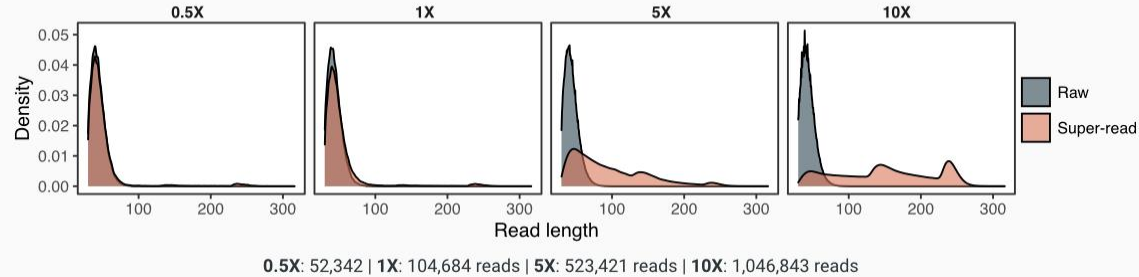
Super-reads?

- careful extension of reads from both ends
- we can gain extra bits of information



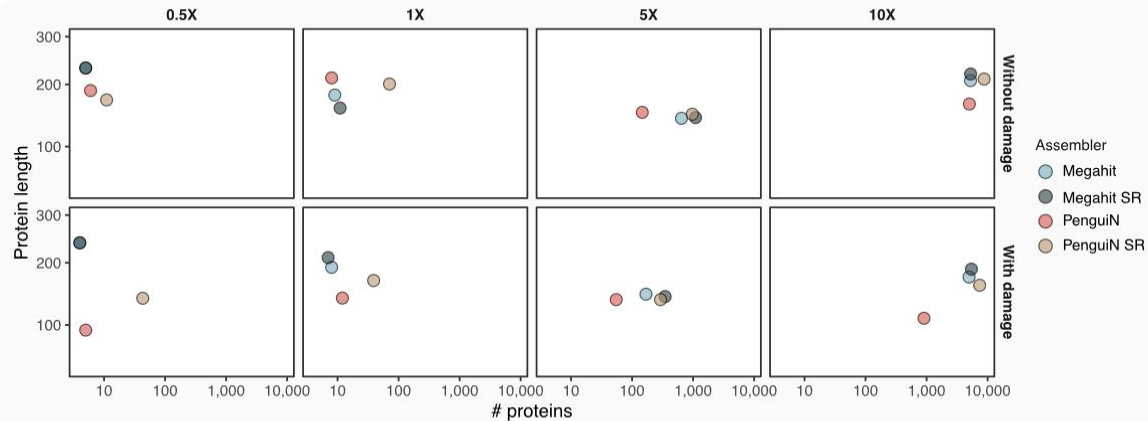
Synthetic data from *Yersinia pestis* A1122

- different coverage
- mode read length = 40 nt
- with and without damage



How can I assemble my ancient metaG?

- Which options do I have?
- How can I recover more genes?
- An amino acid centric approach



Assembling your ancient metaG

will not always be possible

- in many cases assemblies will be very bad (fragmented)
- assembly only recovers a small fraction
- very low coverage + short reads = worst combination



The coding sequence space of ancient metagenomes



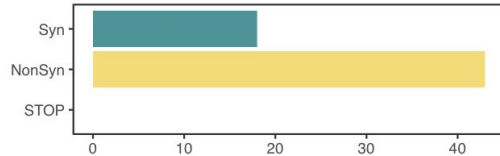
Second Position

First Position	Second Position				Third Position
	T	C	A	G	
	TTT } Phe TTC } TTA } Leu TTG }	TCT } Ser TCC } TCA } TCG }	TAT } Tyr TAC } TAA STOP TAG STOP	TGT } Cys TGC } TGA STOP TGG Trp	
	CTT } CTC } Leu CTA } CTG }	CCT } Pro CCC } CCA } CCG }	CAT } His CAC } CAA } Gln CAG }	CGT } CGC } Arg CGA } CGG }	
	ATT } Ile ATC } ATA } Met ATG }	ACT } Thr ACC } ACA } ACG }	AAT } Asn AAC } AAA } Lys AAG }	AGT } Ser AGC } AGA } Arg AGG }	
	GTT } Val GTC } GTA } GTG }	GCT } Ala GCC } GCA } GCG }	GAT } Asp GAC } GAA } Glu GAG }	GGT } Gly GGC } GGA } GGG }	

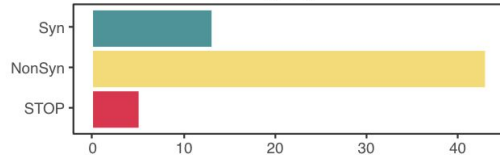
Codons and damage

what to expect when looking for function

C → T



A → G



Codon changes



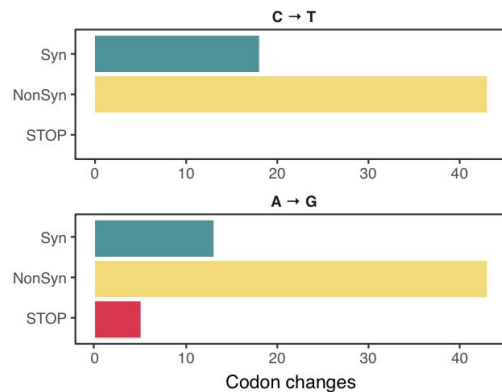
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T	TTT } Phe TTC } TTA } Leu TTG }	TCT } Ser TCC } TCA } TCG }	TAT } Tyr TAC } TAA STOP TAG STOP	TGT } Cys TGC } TGA STOP TGG Trp	T C A G
C	CTT } Leu CTC } CTA } CTG }	CCT } Pro CCC } CCA } CCG }	CAT } His CAC } CAA } Gln CAG }	CGT } Arg CGC } CGA } CGG }	T C A G
A	ATT } Ile ATC } ATA } Met ATG }	ACT } Thr ACC } ACA } ACG }	AAT } Asn AAC } AAA } Lys AAG }	AGT } Ser AGC } AGA } Arg AGG }	T C A G
G	GTT } Val GTC } GTA } GTG }	GCT } Ala GCC } GCA } GCG }	GAT } Asp GAC } GAA } Glu GAG }	GGT } Gly GGC } GGA } GGG }	T C A G

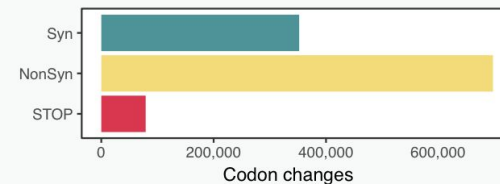
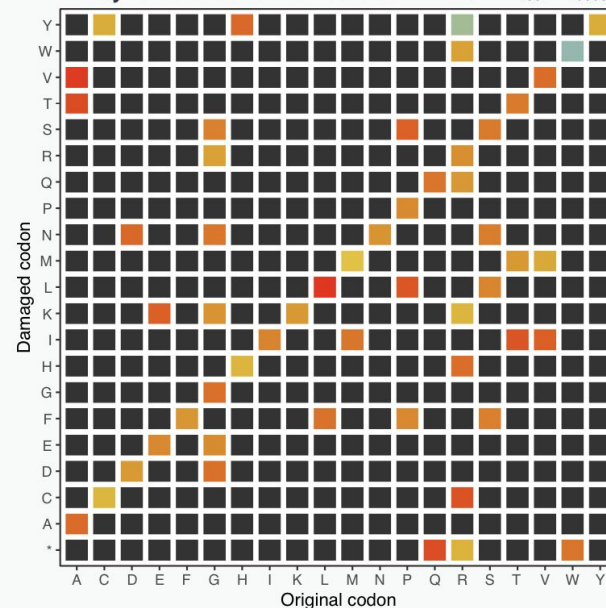
Third Position

Codons and damage

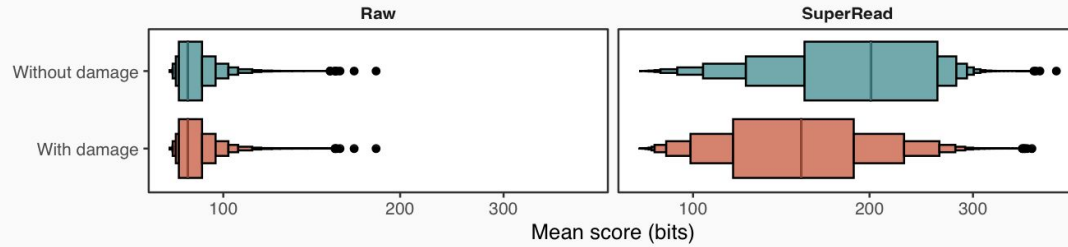
what to expect when looking for function

*Yersinia pestis* A1122

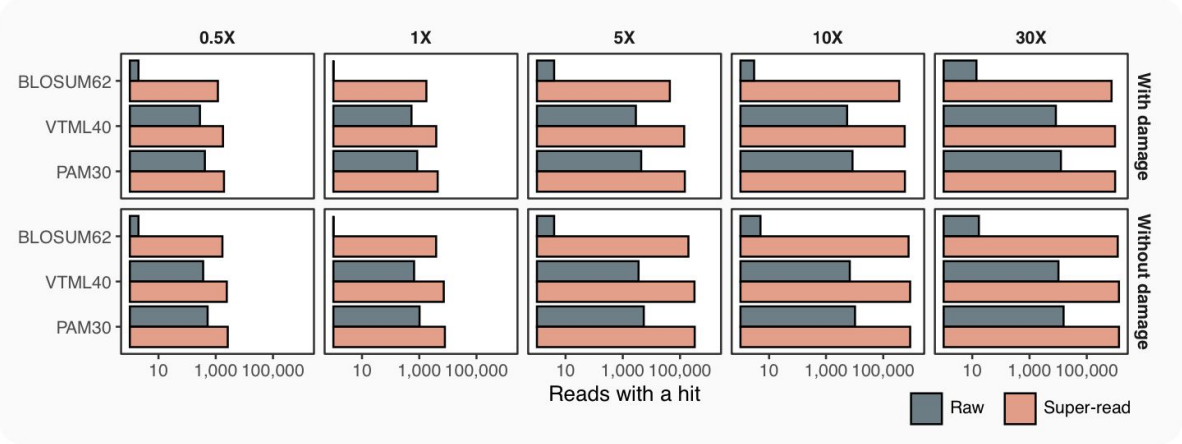
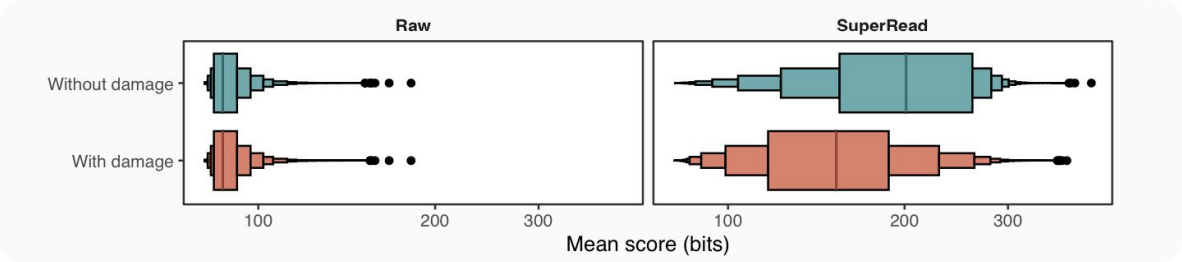
2M synthetic reads with 50% δs



On the importance of choosing the right **substitution matrix**



On the importance of choosing the right substitution matrix



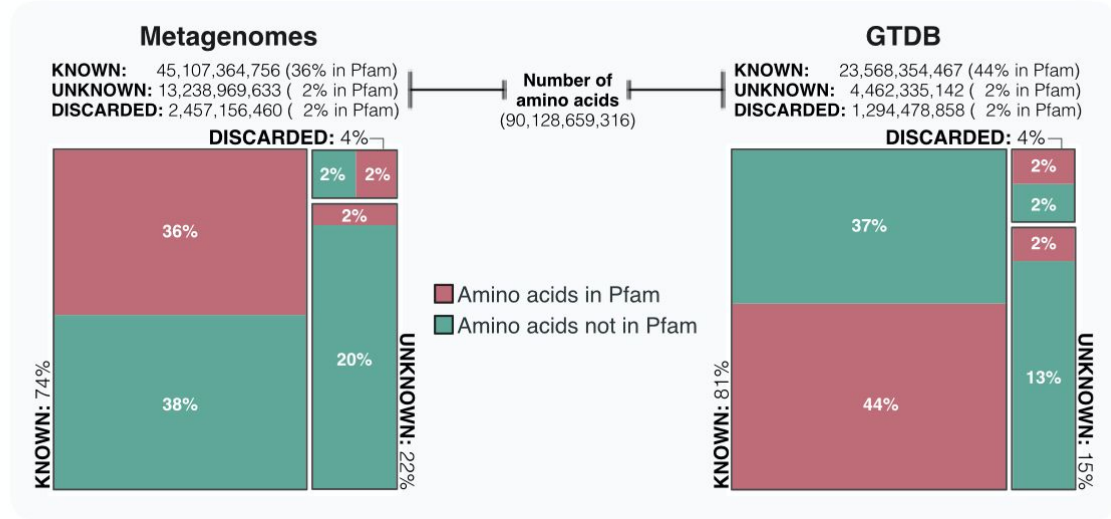
	Gap penalty	Similarity (%)	Bits/pos.	50 bit length
BLOSUM80	10/1	32.0	0.48	104
BLOSUM62	11/1	28.9	0.40	125
VTML140	10/1	28.4	0.44	114
VTML120	11/1	32.1	0.54	93
VTML80	10/1	40.5	0.74	68
VTML40	13/1	64.7	1.92	26
VTML20	15/2	86.1	3.30	15
VTML10	16/2	90.9	3.87	13
PAM70	10/1	33.9	0.58	86
PAM30	9/1	45.9	0.90	56

Yersinia pestis A1122 2M synthetic reads with 50% δ s vs *Yersinia pestis* A1122 proteome

A word of **caution**

when using modern methods

if you use **very short reads**...



Discussion Points:

- Ancient de novo assembly validation - what we should look out for?
- How to go about designing a de novo assembly study
- Considerations for functional annotations
- Potential of Capture for targeted de novo applications
- Broader future applications - including pangenomics or even strain resolution

