

Accessible and scalable pipelines for fast and easy (foodborne) pathogen detection and tracking

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Context

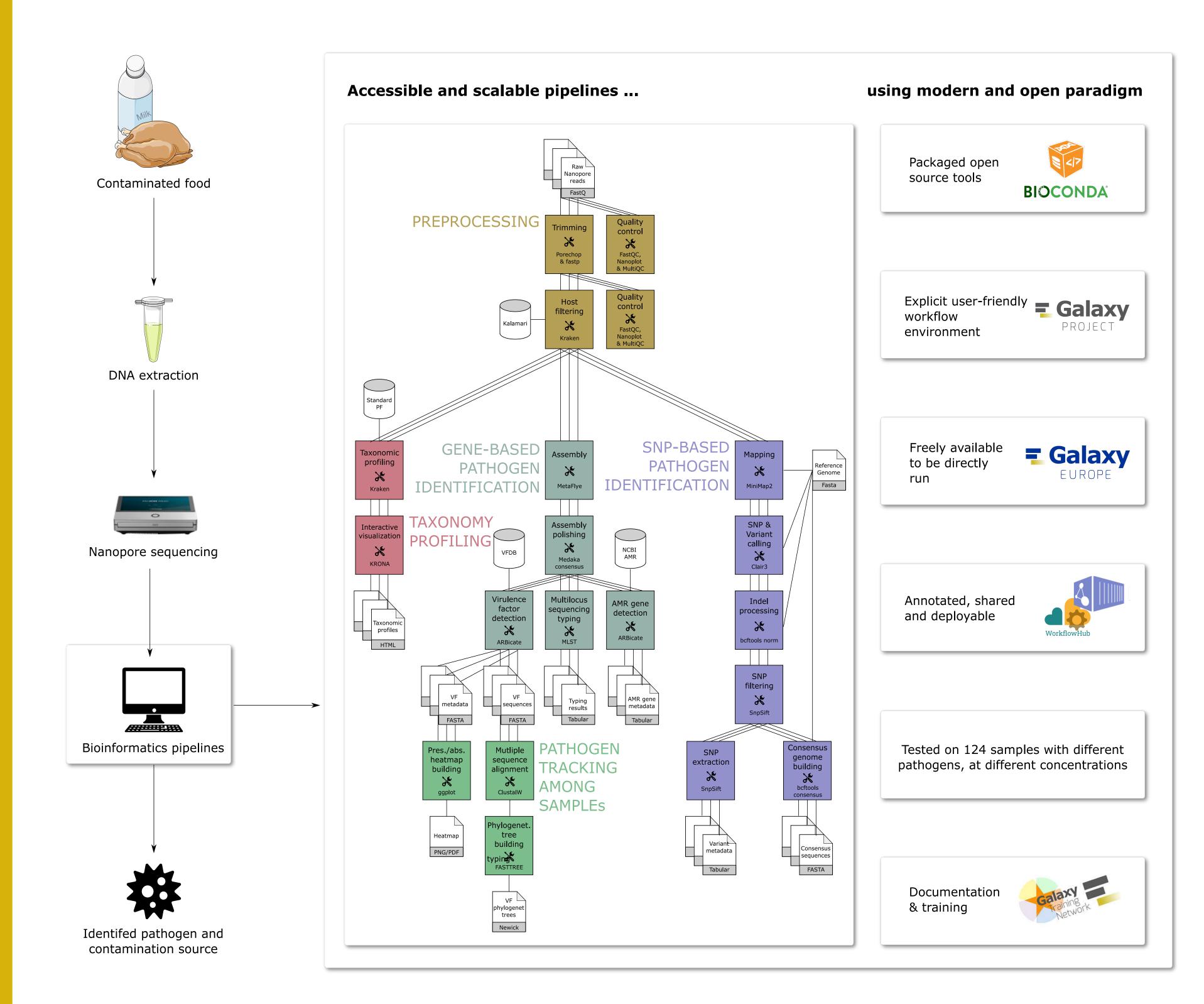
Food contamination by pathogens affects around 600 million people a year and impacts socioeconomic development at different levels. During the investigation of a foodborne outbreak, a microbiological analysis of the potentially responsible food vehicle is performed in order to detect the responsible pathogens and identify the contamination source. Traditional methods require the isolation of the targeted pathogen, which is time-consuming, not always straightforward, nor successful.

The **metagenomics** approach could solve this issue, by giving an overview of the genomic composition in the sample, including the food source itself, the microbial community, and any possible pathogens. It is **not based on prior DNA isolation**, nor limited to specific genes and it is **more accurate**. Metagenomics combined with **Oxford Nanopore sequencing** makes the identification of pathogens **quicker**, **easier**, **more accessible**, and **more practical**.

But processing such data stay complex because of the lack of accessible, easy-to-use, and openly available pipelines.

Accessible and scalable pipelines

To solve this issue, we have implemented a series of **FAIR Galaxy**-based **workflows**. These workflows integrate **state-of-the-art tools**, **visualization**, and **reports** to **detect** and **track** pathogens from any - not only food - metagenomics Oxford Nanopore sample.



Results

The workflows were
successfully tested on
(1) spiked food with
different Salmonella
enterica strains at
different concentrations,
and

(2) samples collected from human & chicken stools, and meat in Palestine containing Salmonella enterica or Campylobacter jejuni.

