

Alignment-free distance estimation ...

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Abstract

Introduction

Pairwise overall genome relatedness forms the basis genome-based taxonomic classification and phylogentic analysis. Average Nucleotide Identity (ANI) is a widely-accepted method for estimating genome similarity. Massive-scale sequencing of microbial genomes has necessitated a transition to alignment-free estimation of genome relatedness. A number of alignment-free similarity estimates exist, including several that closely approximate ANI.

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Author Contributions

Author	Contributions
NTP	Conceptualization; Methodology; Writing - Original Draft; Writing - Review and Editing; Visualization; Supervision; Funding Acquisition
...	...
CTB	Conceptualization; Methodology; Writing - Original Draft; Writing - Review and Editing; Visualization; Supervision; Funding Acquisition

Competing Interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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1. **Open collaborative writing with Manubot**

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2. <https://github.com/bluegenes/2021-ani-paper>