

# UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

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November 21, 2016

Editors-in-Chief

Microbiome

Dear Editors-in-Chief,

My co-authors and I are submitting a manuscript entitled ‘Intensity Plots and other options for Visualizing Microbiome Data’. This work is a result of our reading various papers where human microbiome data were analyzed but the analysis was based on too drastic a reduction in dimension of the OTU table. The article is an attempt to bridge the gap between recommendations from the statistics literature to practice in the microbiome literature. Most microbiome analyses are conducted with some sort of dimension reduction and visualization of the OTU table, and given this, we would like to make available the code and methods that we have developed. One part of the code is making it easier for researchers to take ordination output from R and input it into the QIIME pipeline. Another set of code is for other visualizations that we developed.

Of the two datasets, one is openly available while the other one is currently not. If the manuscript is accepted, we will pursue obtaining the second dataset for publication.

As this manuscript is attempting to bridge a gap, we request that the manuscript be reviewed by a combination of statisticians and scientists who work with microbiome data. A couple of possible statisticians are,

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The manuscript has not been published or submitted elsewhere, and all the authors have read and approved the current version.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S. Huzurbazar", is displayed on a light gray rectangular background.

Snehalata V. Huzurbazar

Professor of Statistics