

Searching massive amounts of sequencing data using K-mers and graphs

Finlay Maguire

February 15, 2023

FCS, Dalhousie

Learning Objectives

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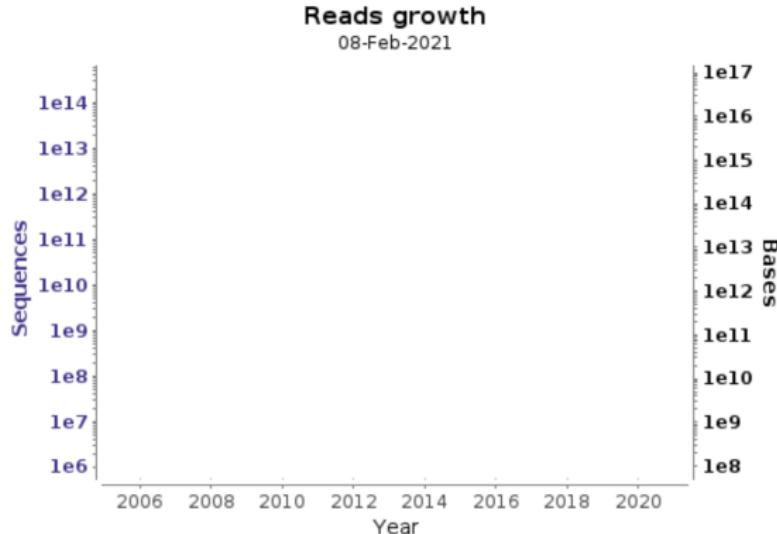
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- Outline the two main strategies for k-mer indexing: colour aggregative and k-mer aggregative
- Describe the core algorithm used by BlastFrost (colour aggregative) and BIGSI (k-mer aggregative)

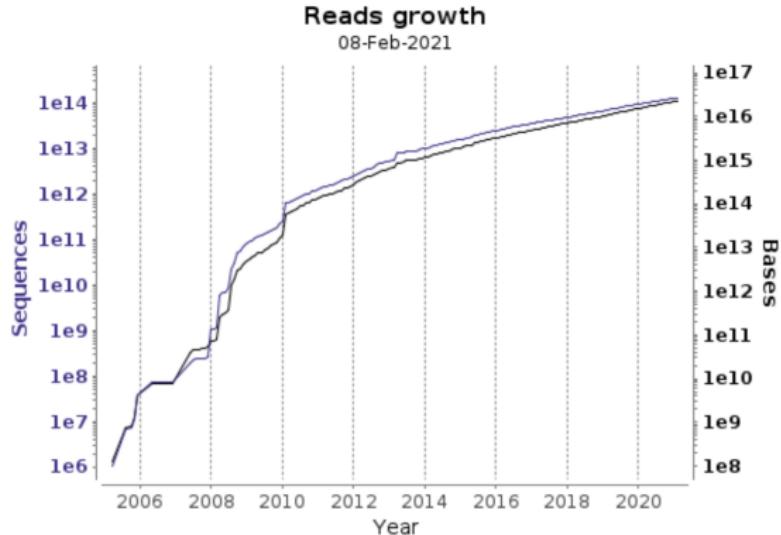
Massive datasets?

Sequencing Data Explosion



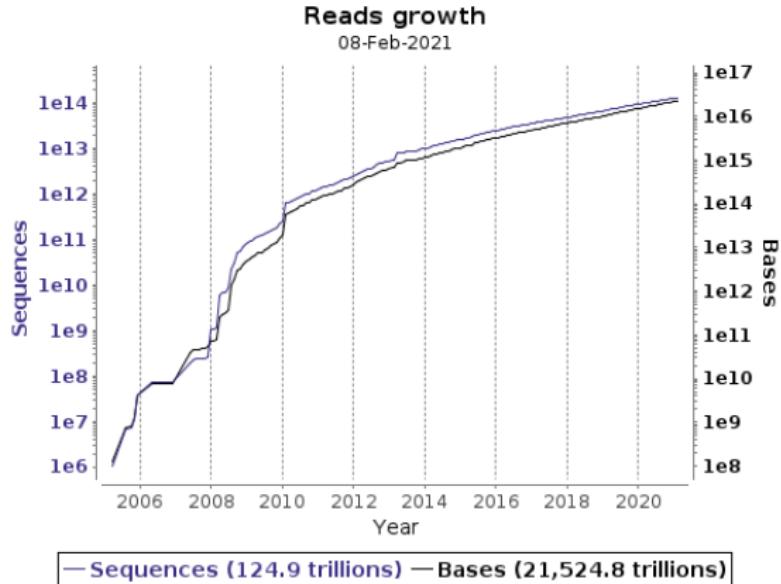
European Nucleotide Archive: Read Data

Sequencing Data Explosion



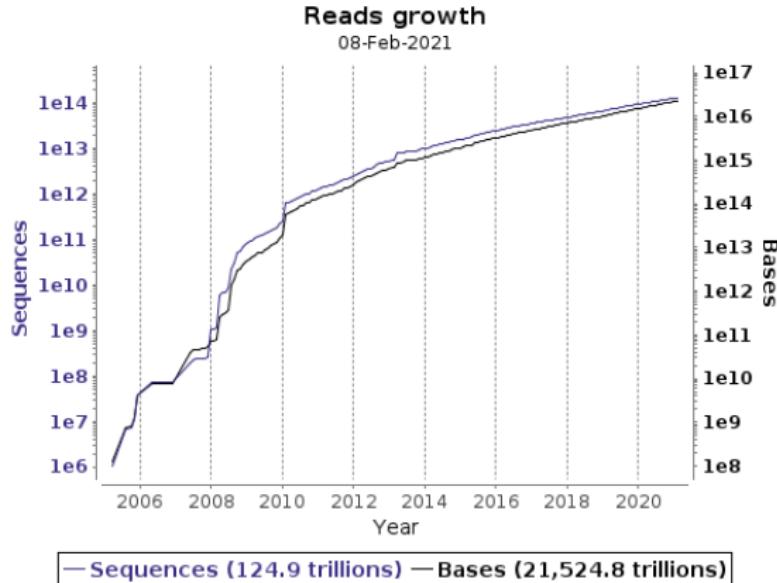
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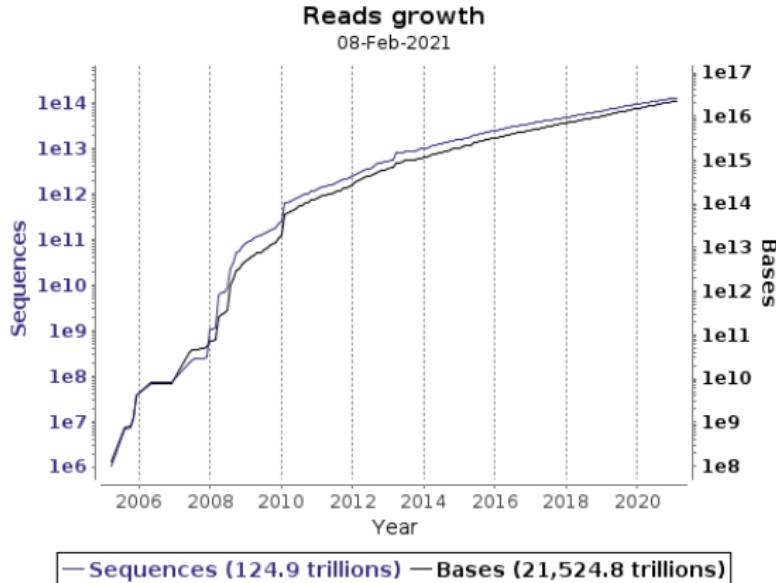
Sequencing Data Explosion



European Nucleotide Archive: Read Data

- Uncompressed at 2-bits per base:

Sequencing Data Explosion



European Nucleotide Archive: Read Data

- Uncompressed at 2-bits per base:
- 5,381.2 TB (without any metadata or accession information)

Searching all this data: surveillance of colistin resistance

Countries reporting plasmid-mediated colistin resistance encoded by *mcr-1*

Data source: Al-Tawfiq, J. A., Laxminarayan, R. & Mendelson, M. How should we respond to the emergence of plasmid-mediated colistin resistance in humans and animals? Int. J. Infect. Dis. (2016). doi:10.1016/j.ijid.2016.11.415

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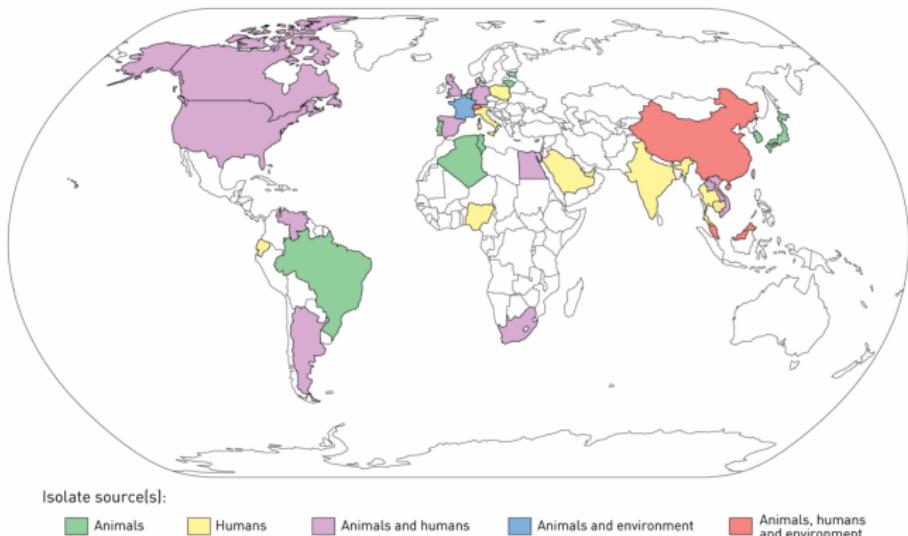


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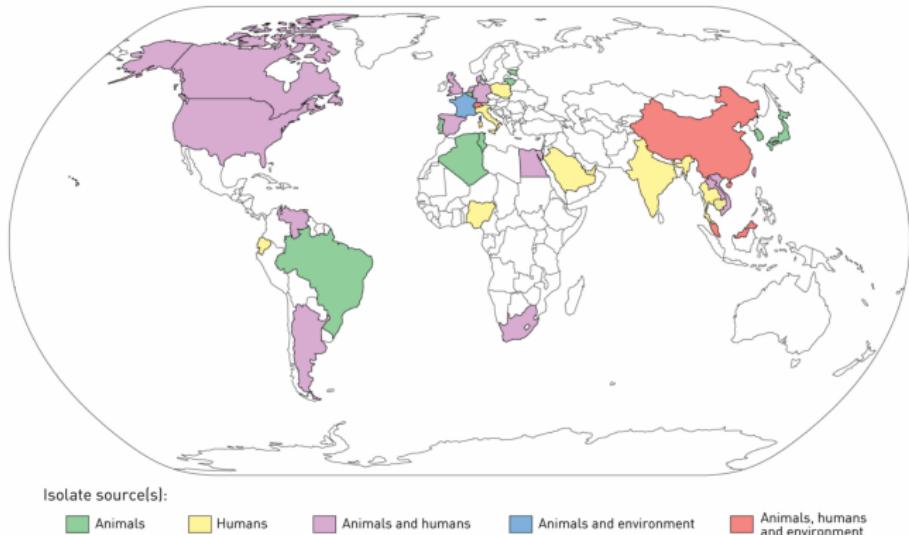


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- Which genome and metagenome read sets from all over the world contain MCR-1?

Formal Problem

- \mathcal{D} is a collection of n sets of reads

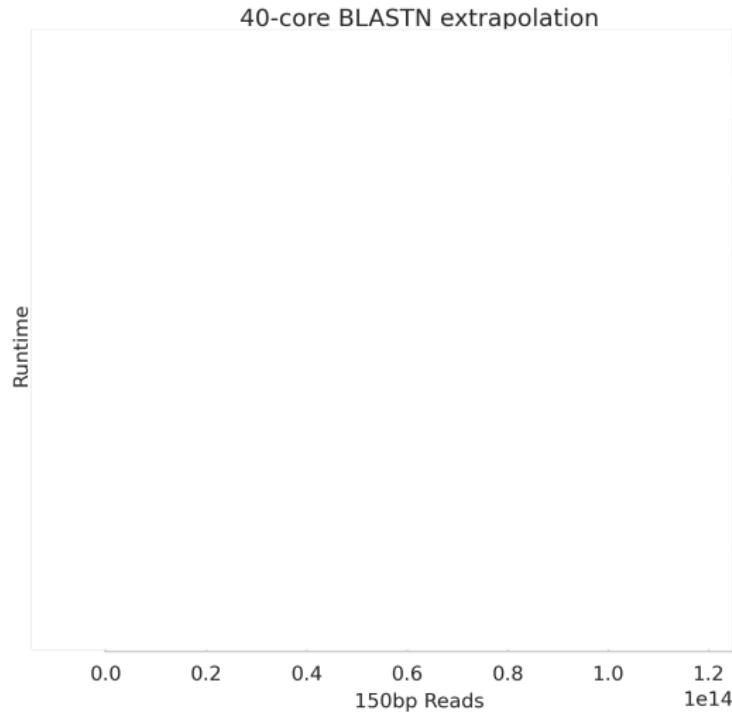
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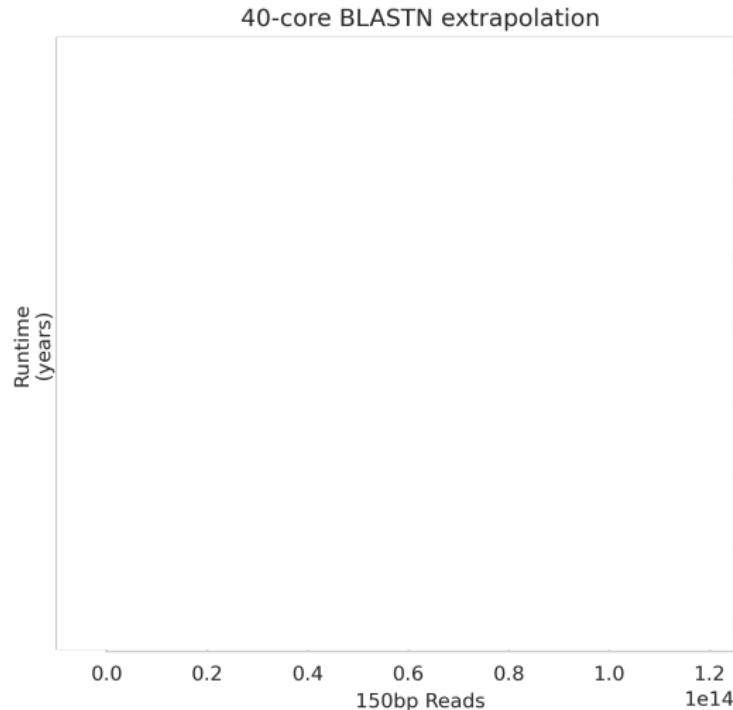
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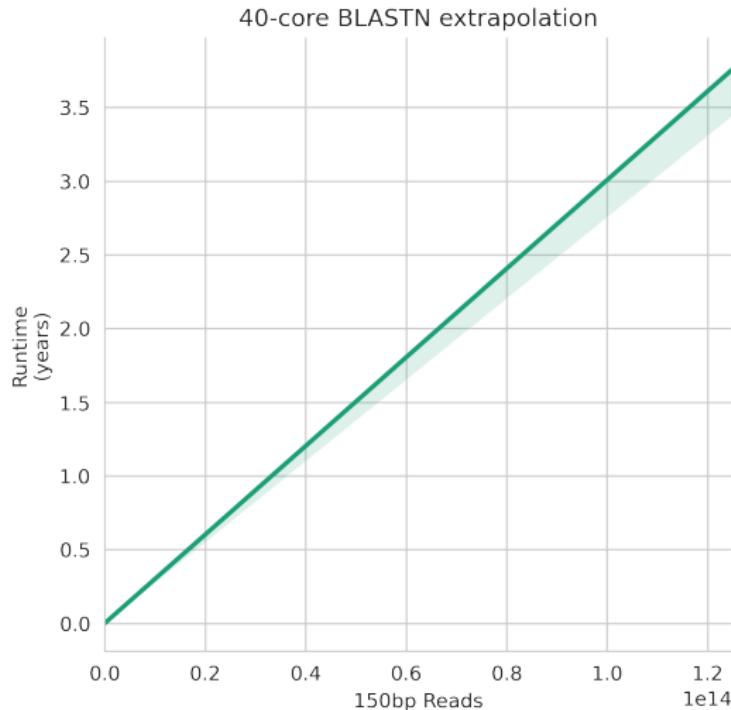
Just use BLAST?



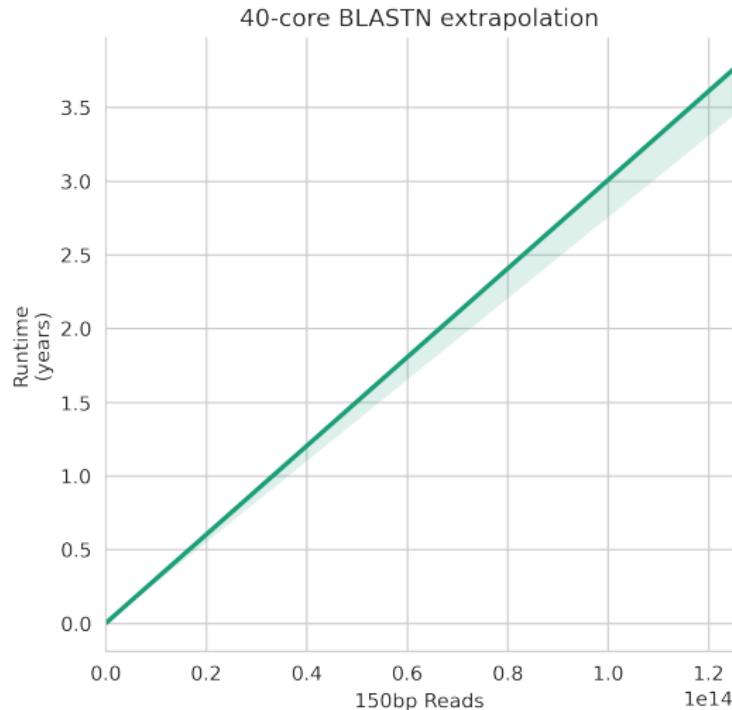
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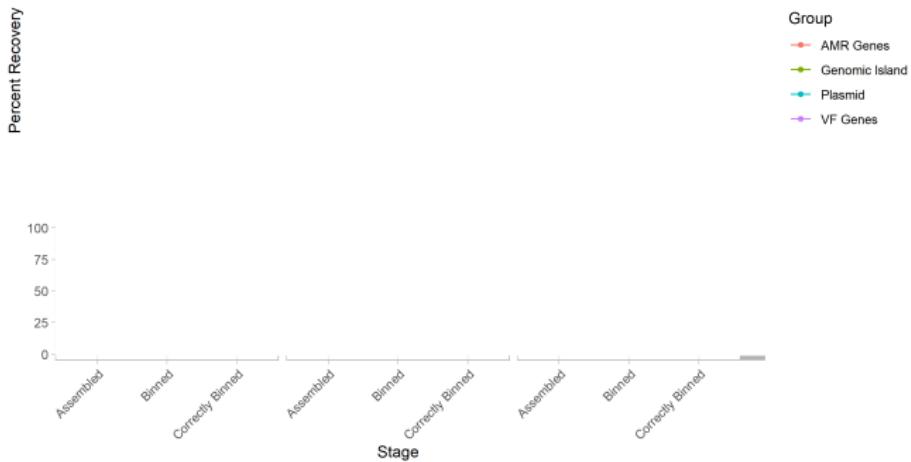


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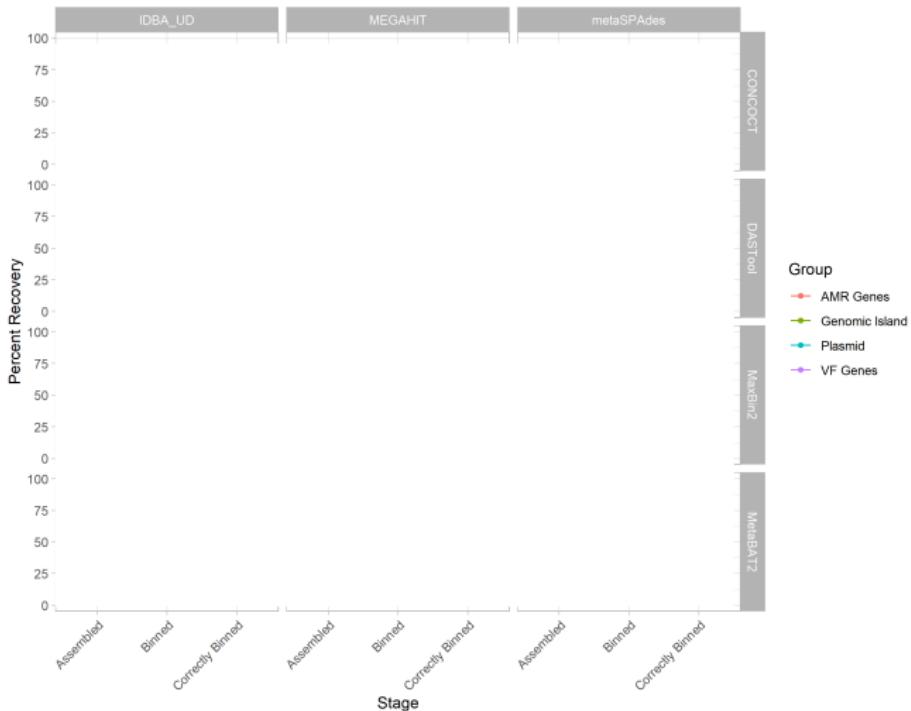


- By the end, there will be ~ 3x more data than at the start.

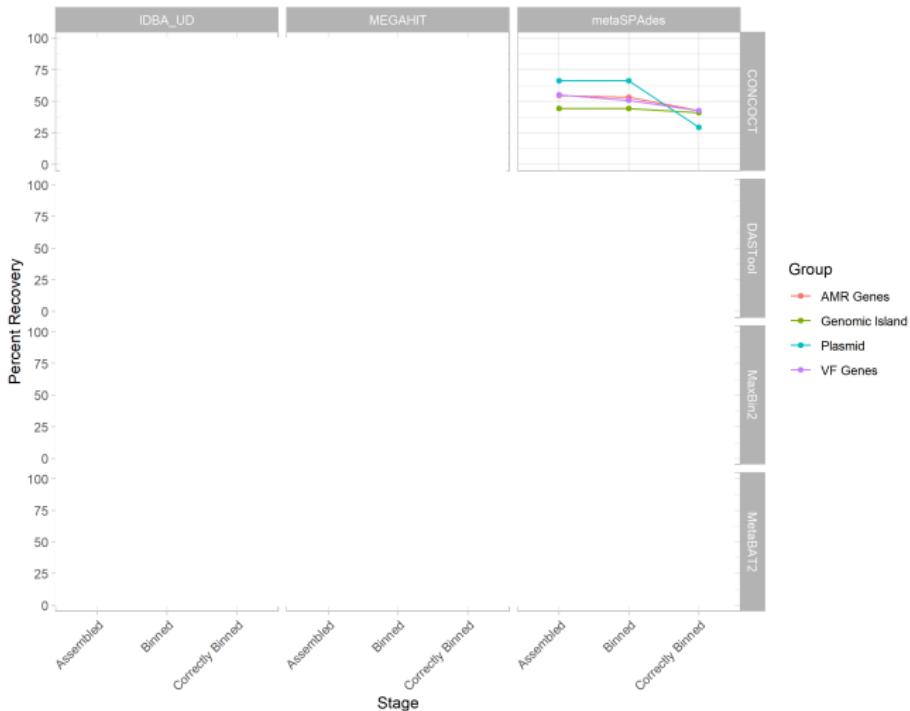
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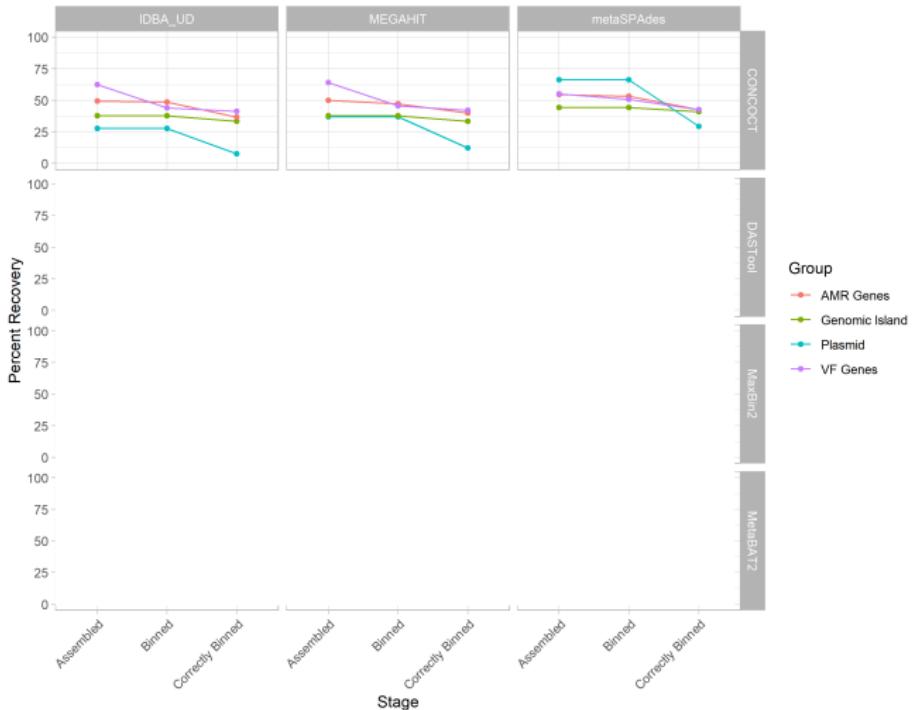
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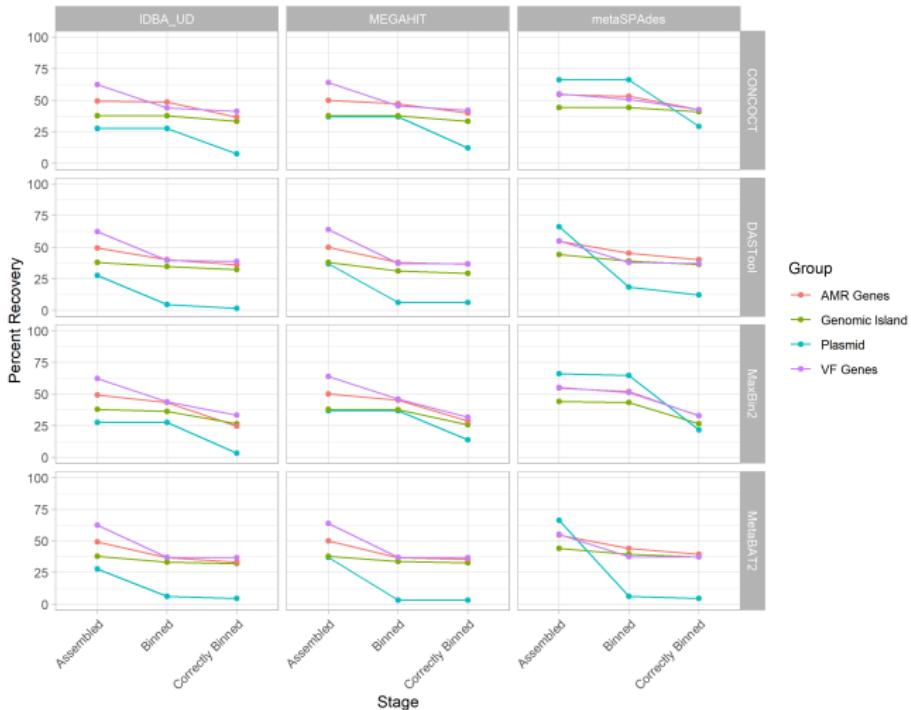
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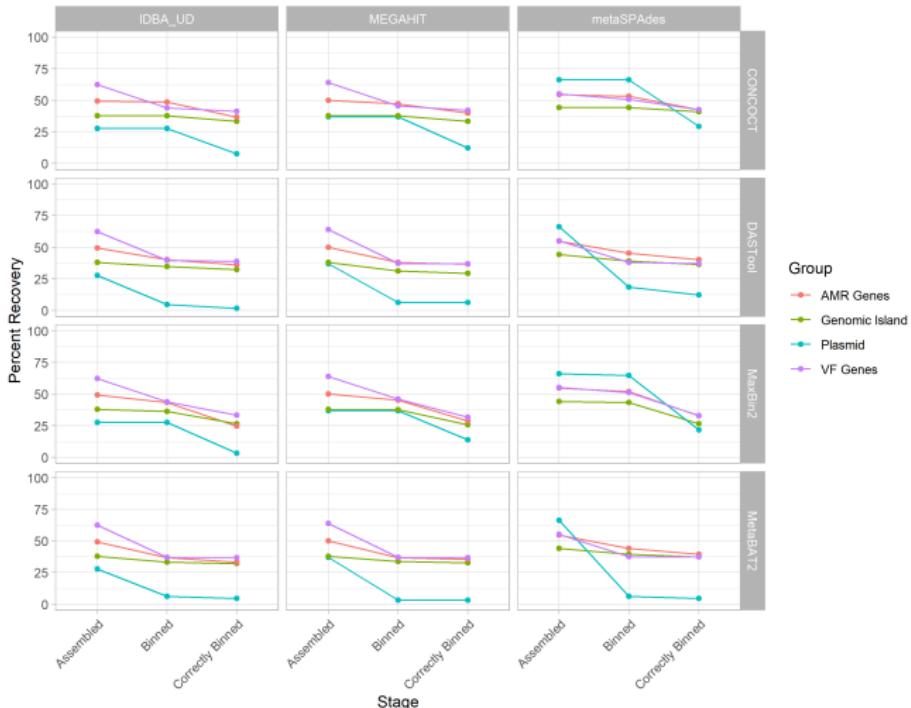
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What about only using assembled data?



- No matter the method, assembly causes loss of information.

Let's complicate but actually
simplify this problem

k-mers!

Sequence Sets

k-mers!

Sequence Sets

AGCTCA

GGCTCA

k-mers!

Sequence Sets

Decompose to K-mers

AGCTCA

GGCTCA

k-mers!

Sequence Sets

AGCTCA
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Decompose to K-mers

AGC GGC
GCT GCT
CTC CTC
TCA TCA

k-mers!

Sequence Sets

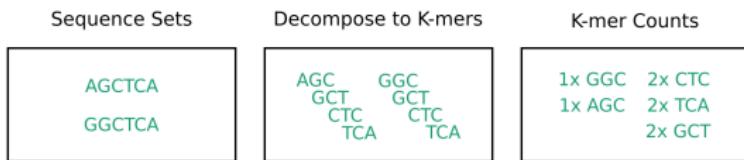
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K-mer Counts

k-mers!



k-mers!

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1x GGC 2x CTC
1x AGC 2x TCA
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K-mer Sets

k-mers!

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K-mer Sets

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 GCT

k-mers!

Sequence Sets	Decompose to K-mers	K-mer Counts	K-mer Sets
AGCTCA GGCTCA	AGC GGC GCT GCT CTC CTC TCA TCA	1x GGC 2x CTC 1x AGC 2x TCA 2x GCT	GGC CTC AGC TCA GCT
GGCTCA TTTCAC			

k-mers!

Sequence Sets	Decompose to K-mers	K-mer Counts	K-mer Sets
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GGCTCA TTTCAC	GGC TTT GCT TTC CTC TCA TCA CAC		

k-mers!

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Formal Problem: querying the set of sets of k-mers

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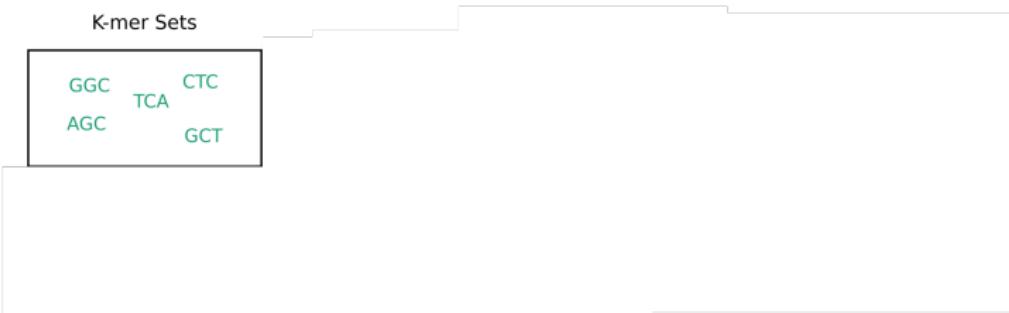
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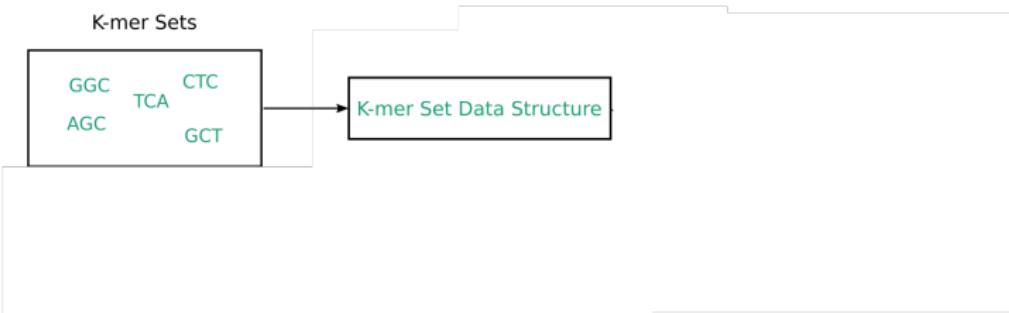
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- Identify which sets of reads k-mers in \mathcal{D} contain S
- Bonus: also applicable to anything you can decompose into k-mers e.g., assembled sequences and long-reads

Algorithms to query a set of k-mer sets

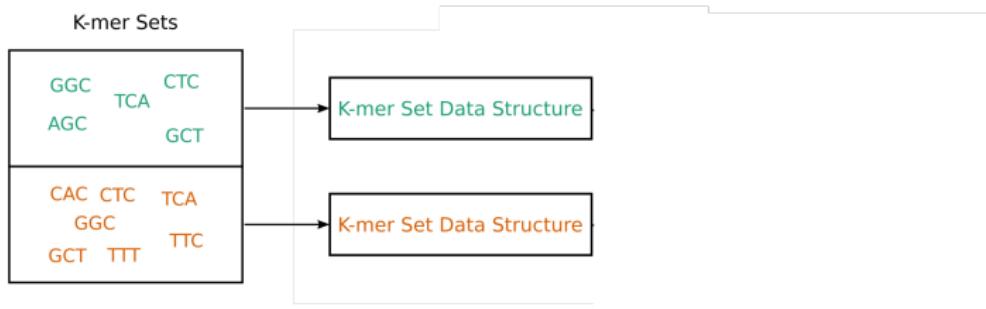
Components of a solution



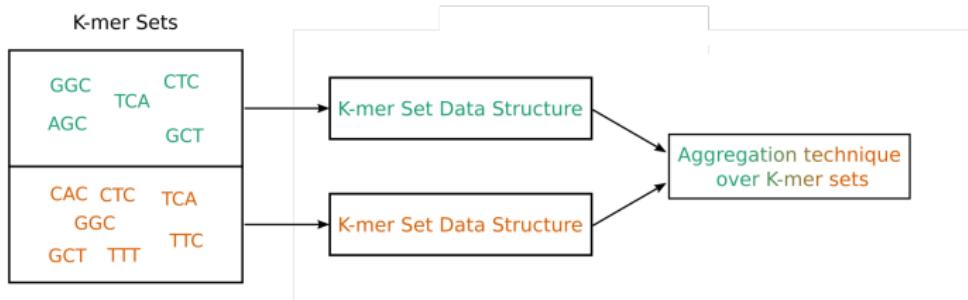
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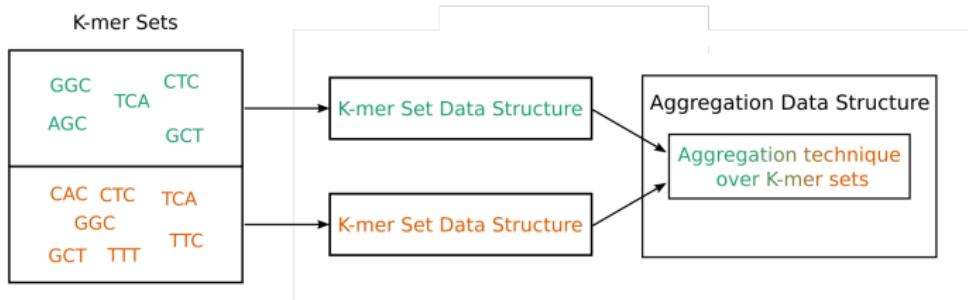
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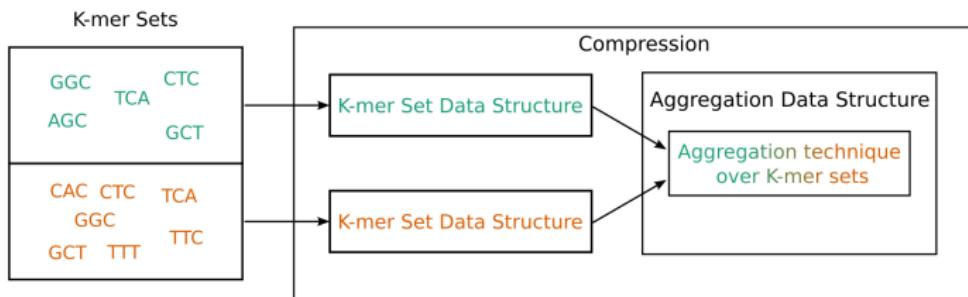
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Indexing a single set of k-mers

K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

sequence **ATGGAAGTCGCAGAATC**

homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

sequence **ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC**

7mers

homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

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sequence	ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC
7mers	ATGGAAG

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K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

sequence	ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC
7mers	ATGGAAG TGGAAAGT

homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

sequence	ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC
7mers	ATGGAAG TGGAAAGT GGAAGTC GAAGTCG AAGTCGC AGTCGCG GTCGCGG TCGGCGA CGCGGAA GCGGAAT CGGAATC

homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

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de Bruijn graph

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K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

sequence	ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC
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de Bruijn graph

ATGGAAG

homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

K-mer Set Data Structure: de Bruijn graphs

sequence **ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC**

7mers

```
ATGGAAG
TGGAAAGT
GGAAGTC
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AAGTCGC
AGTCGCG
GTCGCGG
TCGGCGA
CGCGGAA
GCGGAAT
CGGAATC
```

de Bruijn graph

```
ATGGAAG -> TGGAAGT
```

homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

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sequence **ATGGAAGTCGCGGAATC**

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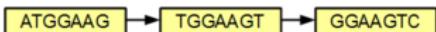
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de Bruijn graph



homolog.us/Tutorials/book4/p2.1.html

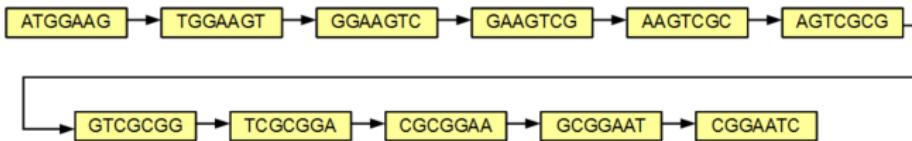
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de Bruijn graph



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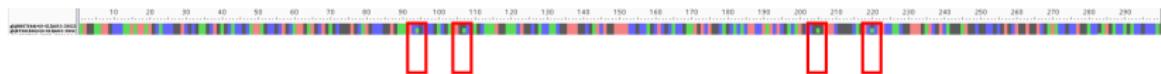
de Bruijn graph collapses diversity: NDM



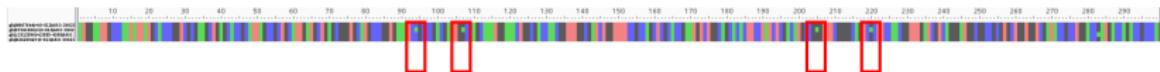
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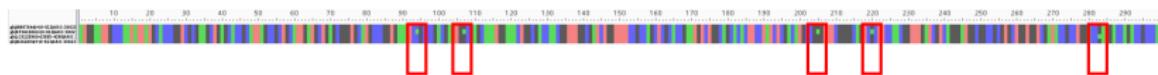
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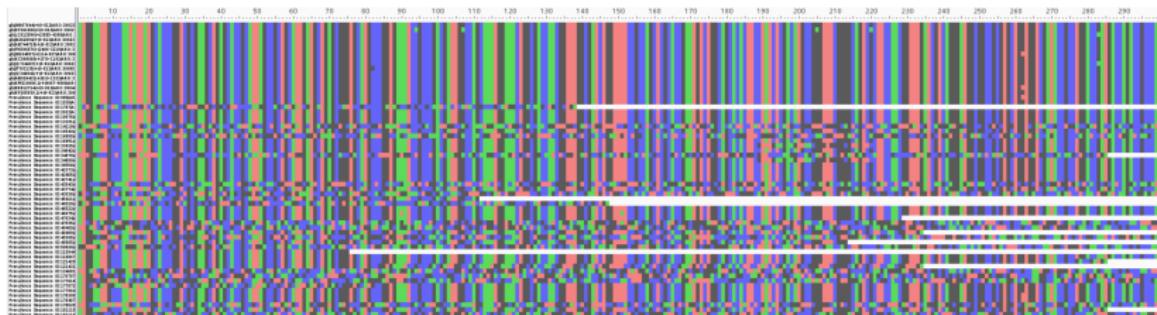
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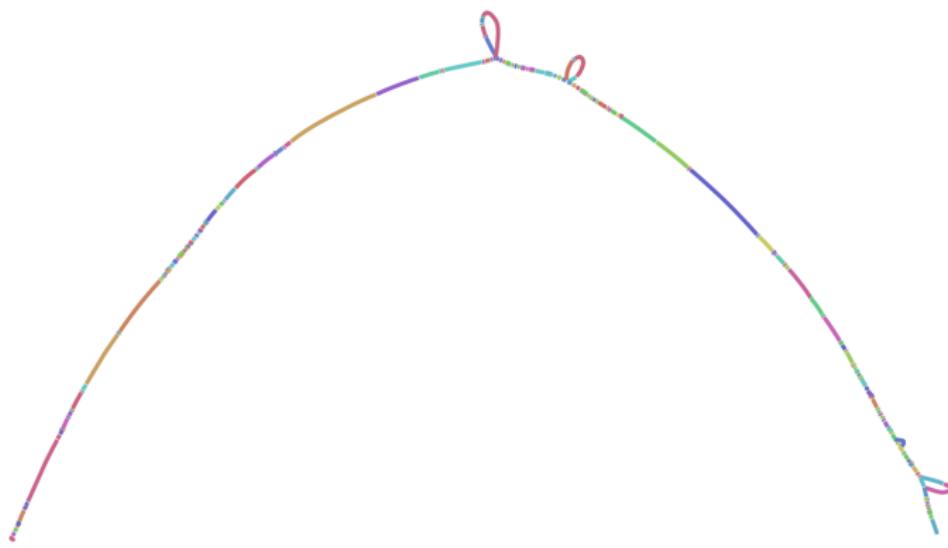
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K-mer Set Data Structure: Bit-Vector

K-mer Sets

GGC	TCA	CTC
AGC		GCT

K-mer Set Data Structure: Bit-Vector



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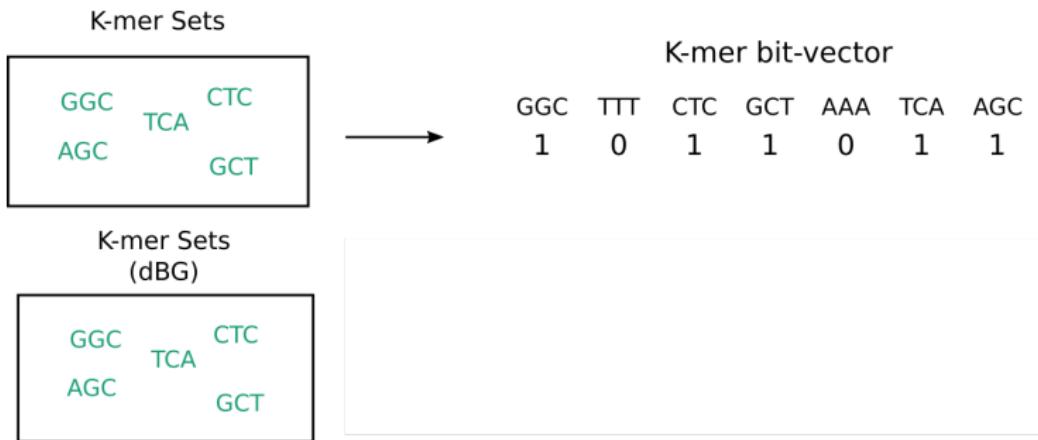
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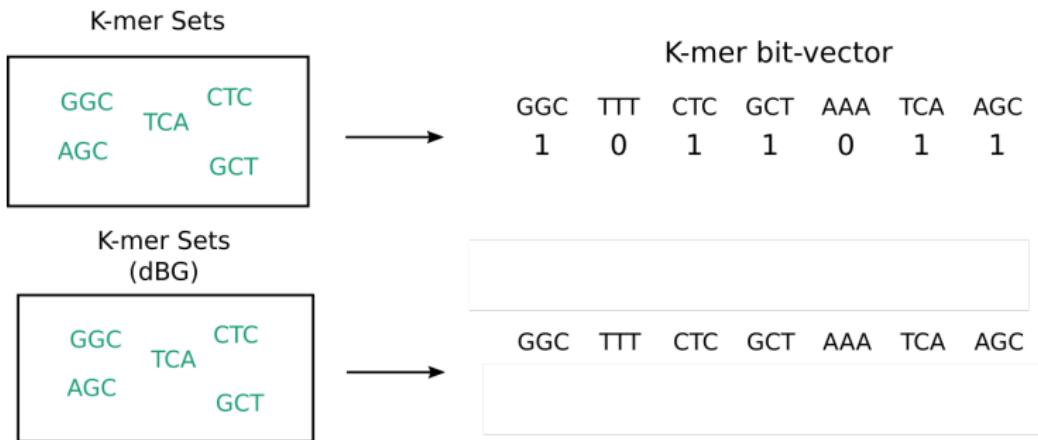
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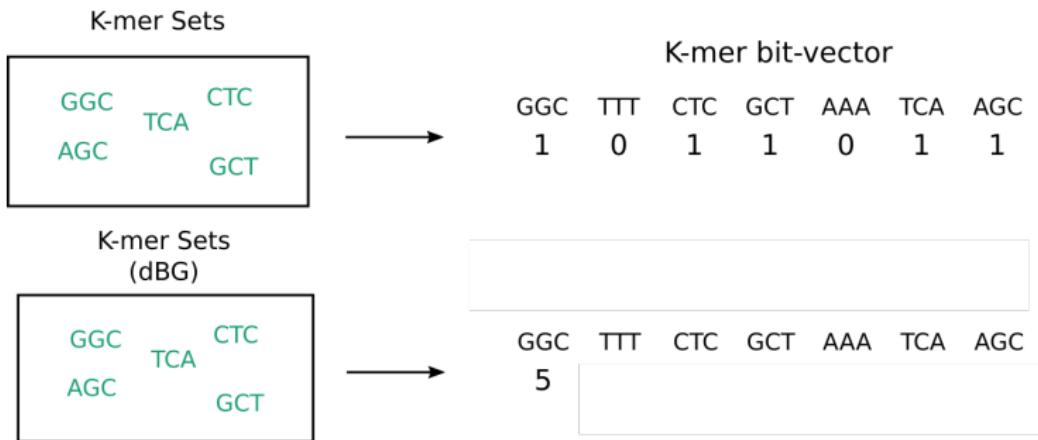
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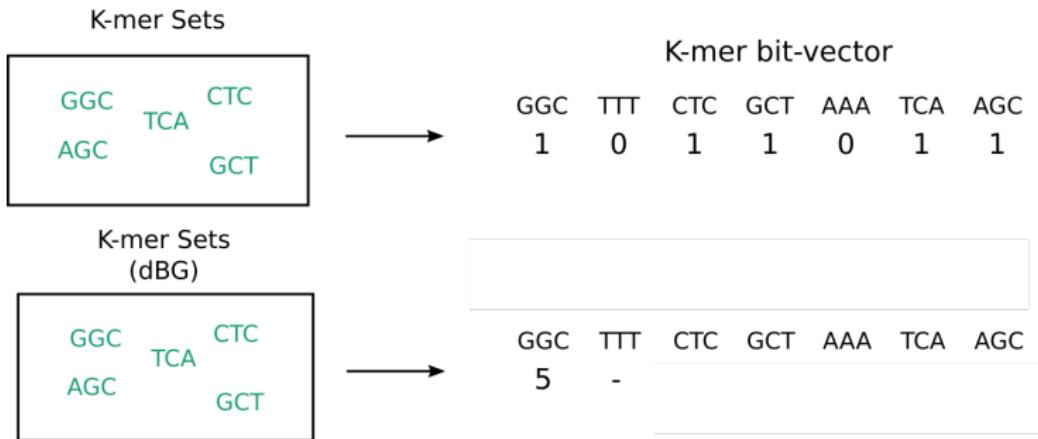
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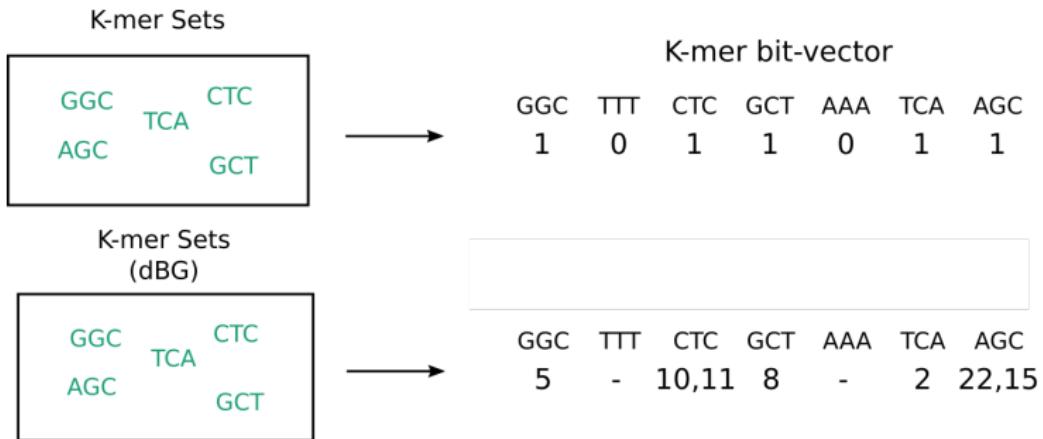
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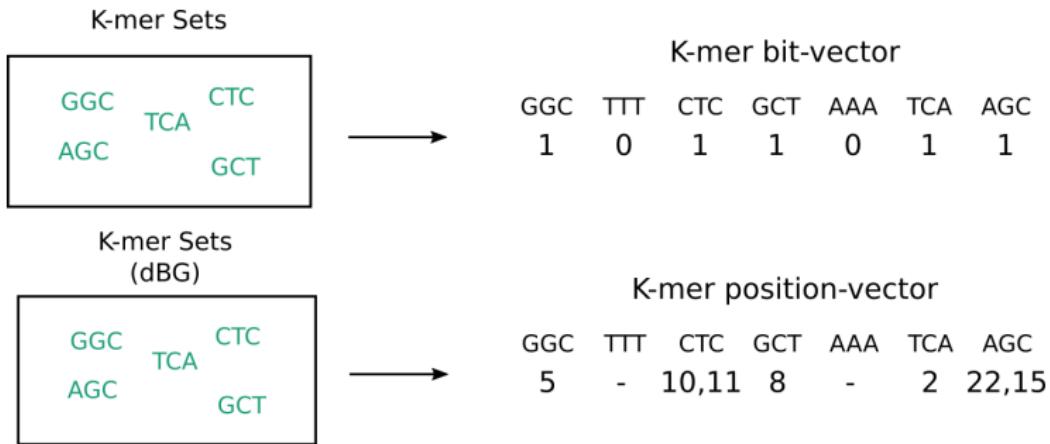
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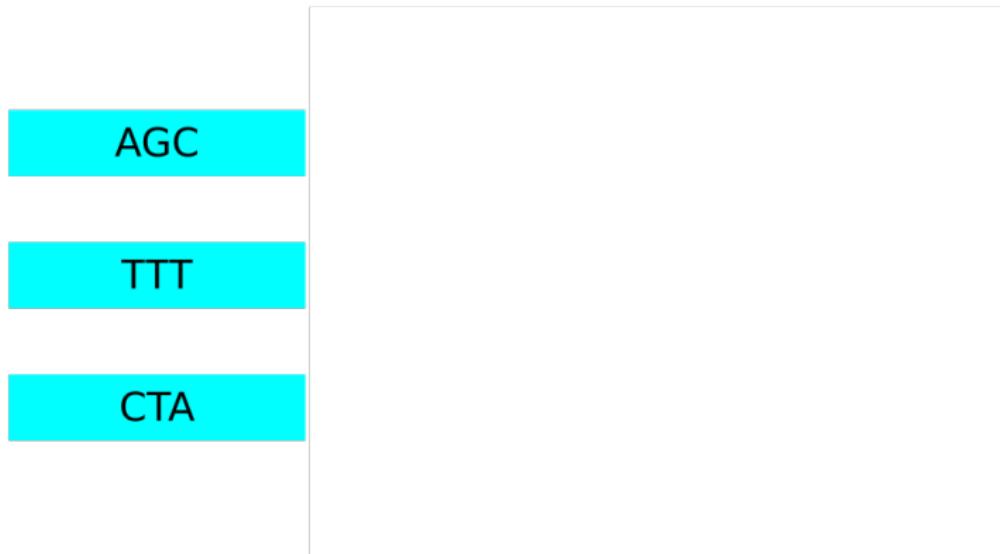
K-mer Set Data Structure: making bit-vectors more efficient



Adapted from wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hash_table_3_1_1_0_1_0_0_SP.svg

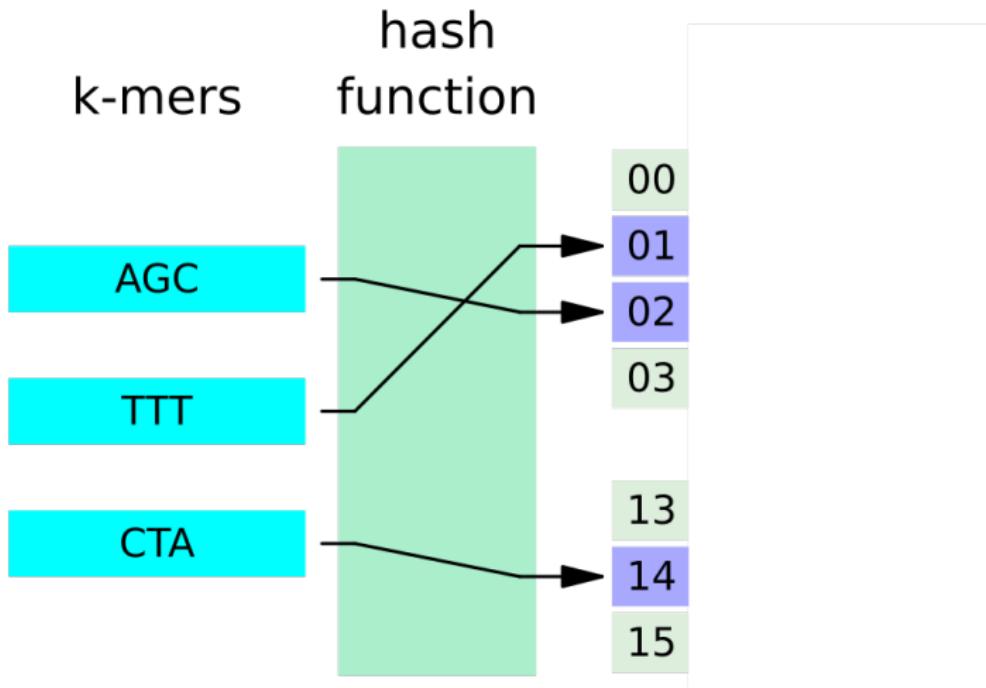
K-mer Set Data Structure: making bit-vectors more efficient

k-mers hash
 function



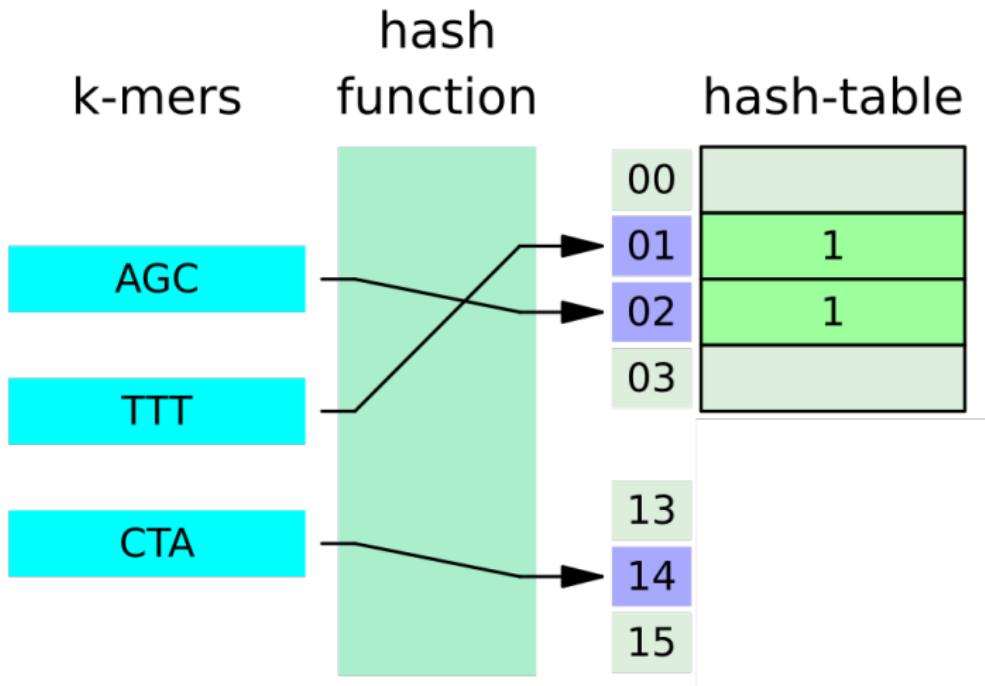
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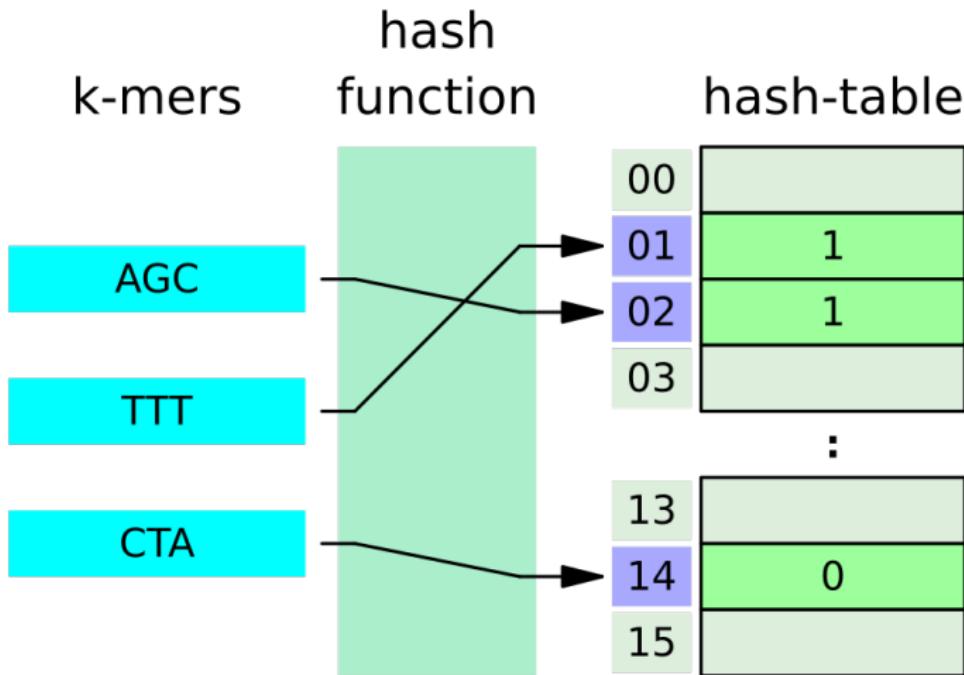
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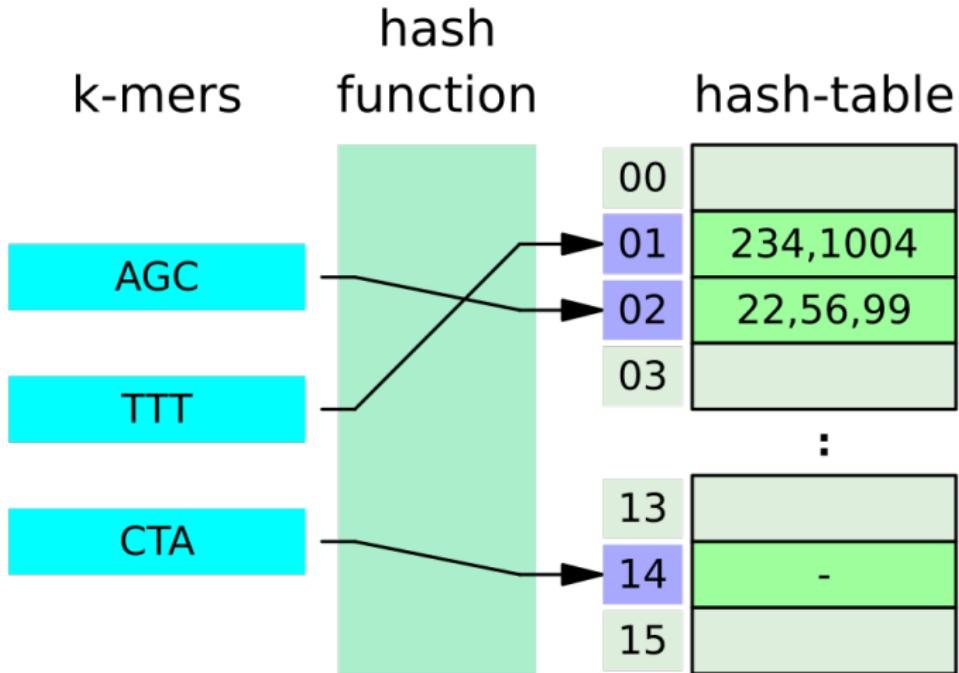
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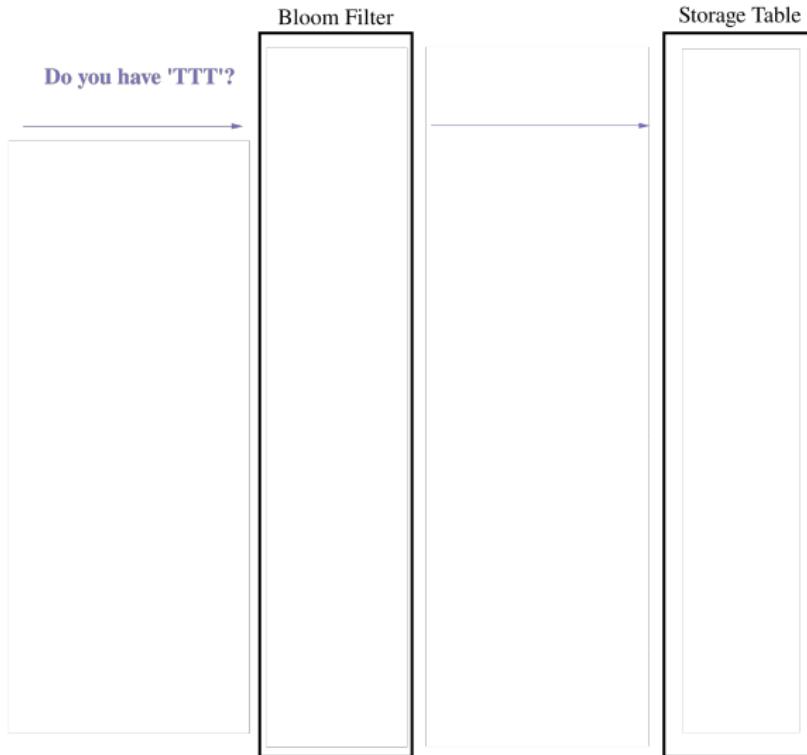
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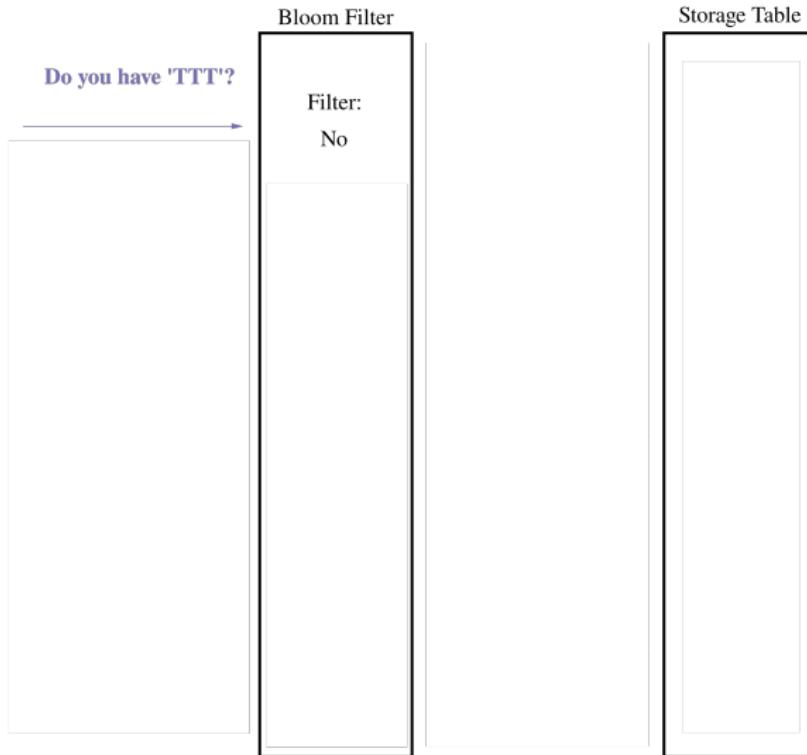


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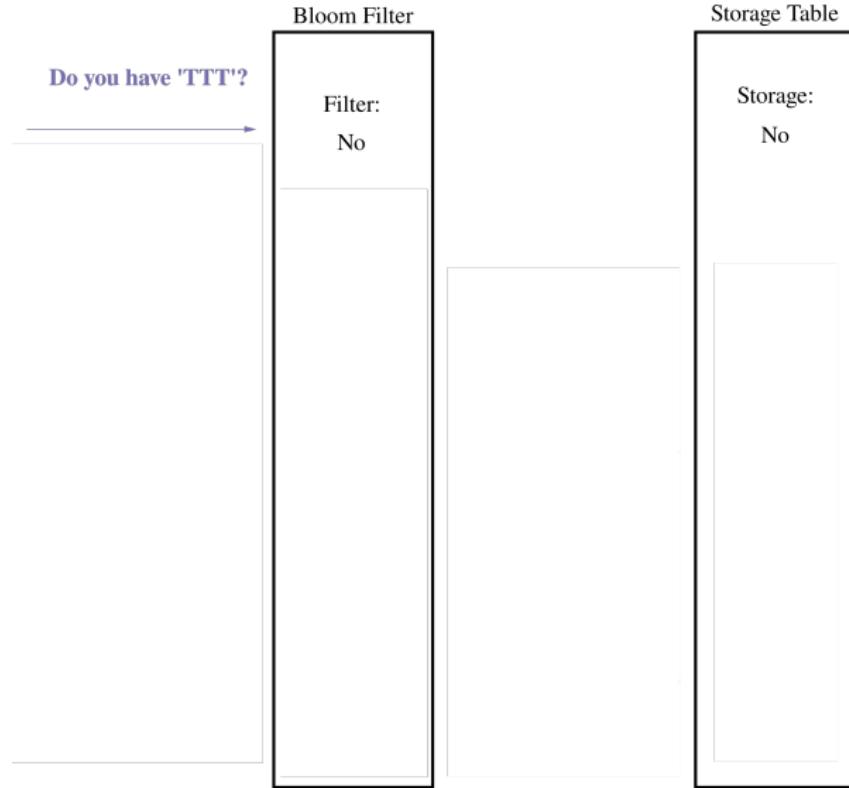
K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters



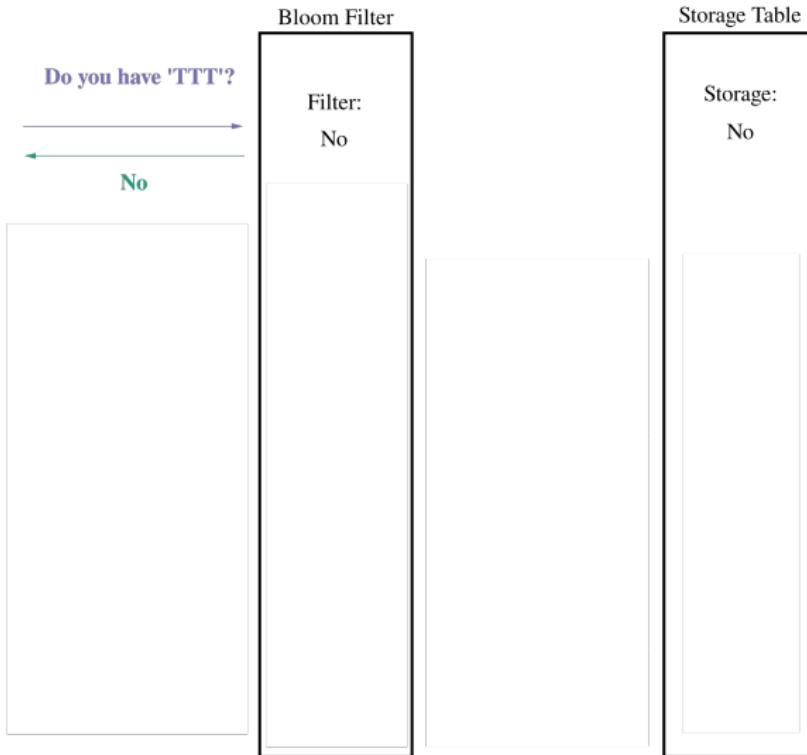
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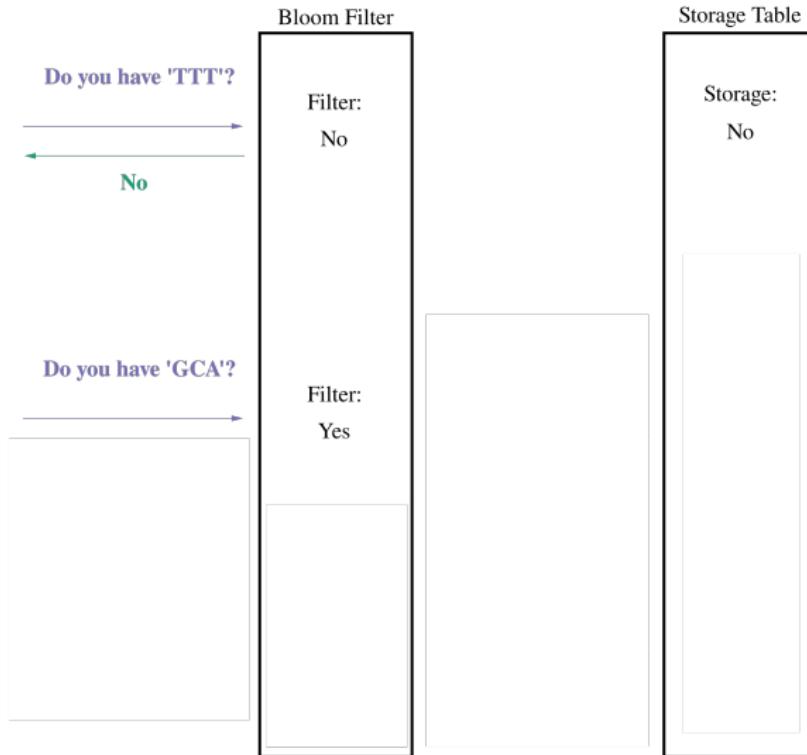
K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters



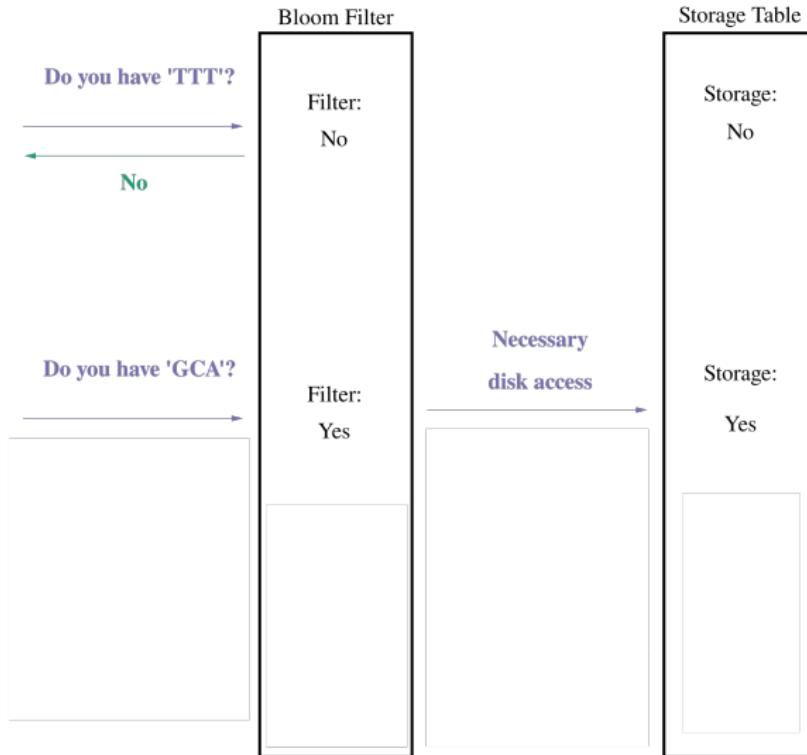
K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters



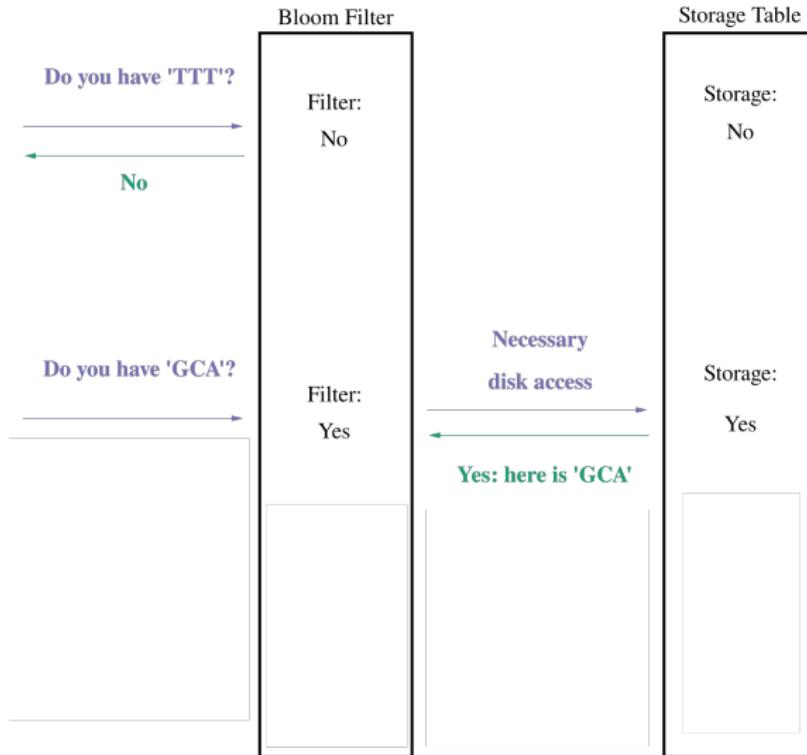
K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters



K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters

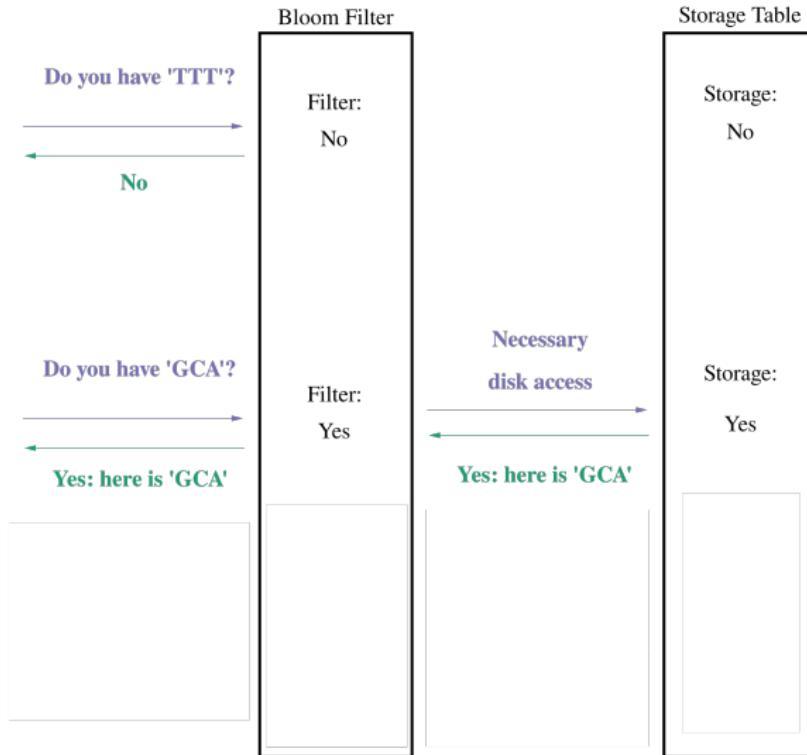


K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters

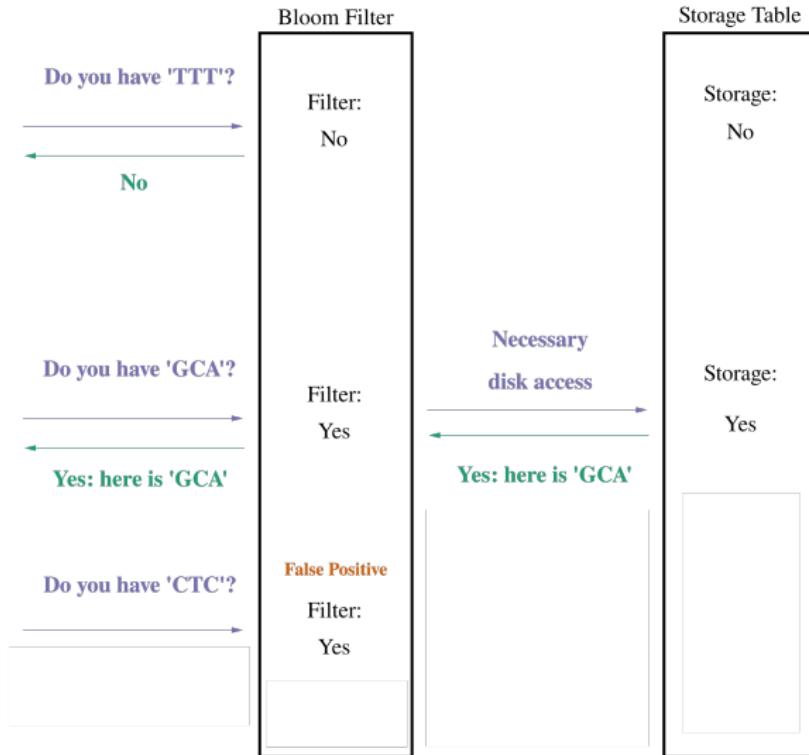


Adapted from wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bloom_filter_speed.svg

K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters

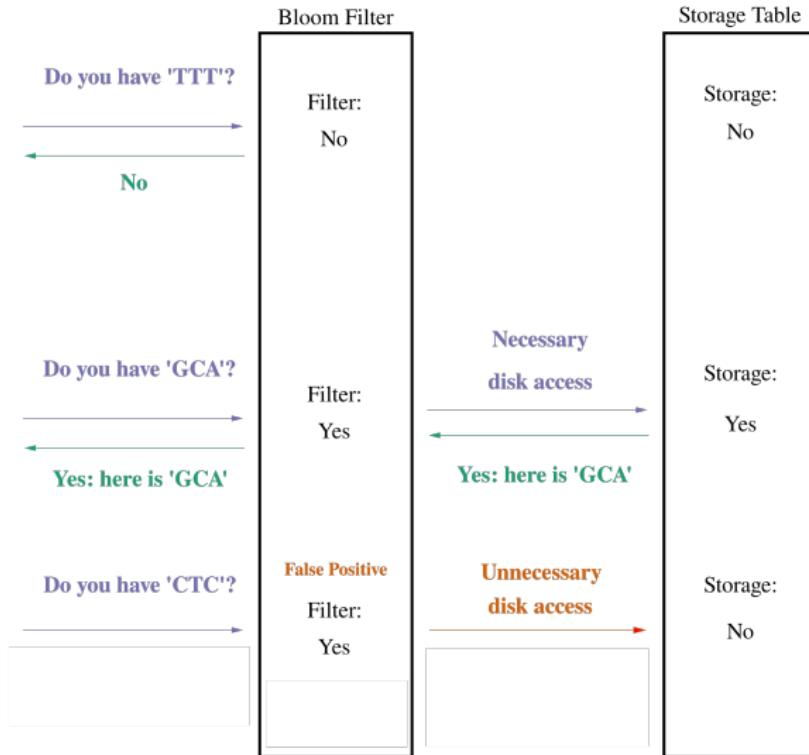


K-mer Set Data Structure: bloom filters

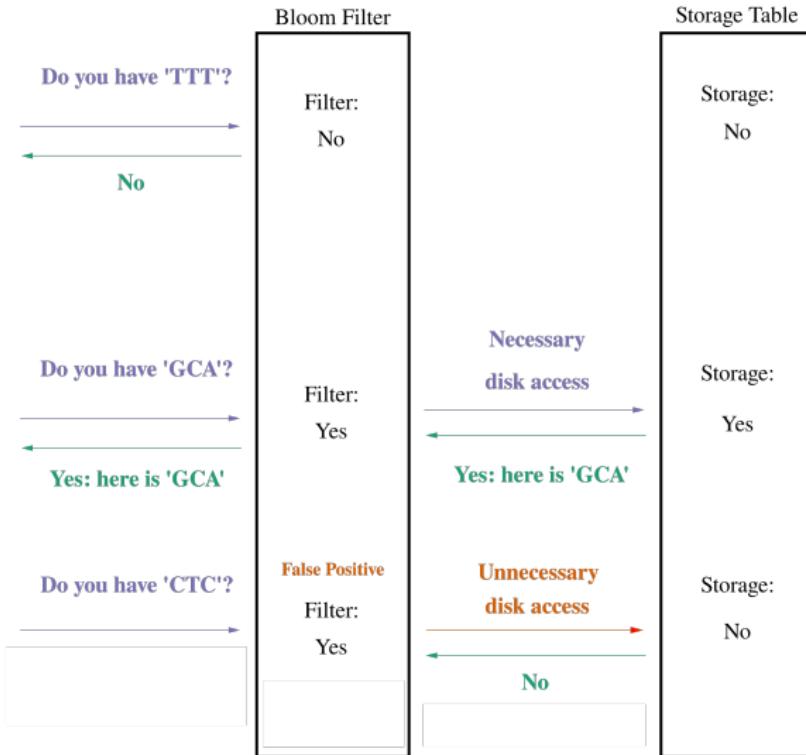


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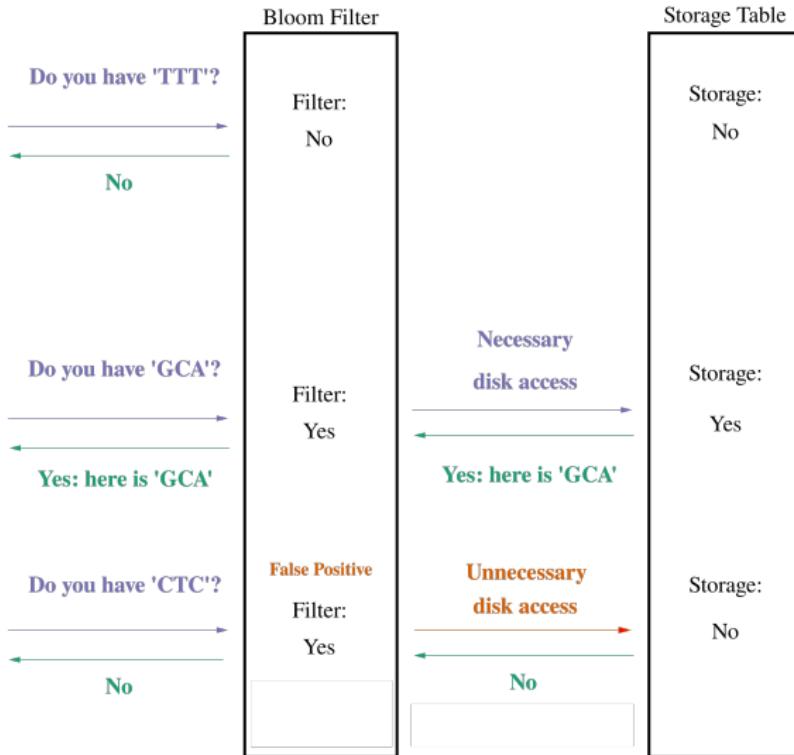


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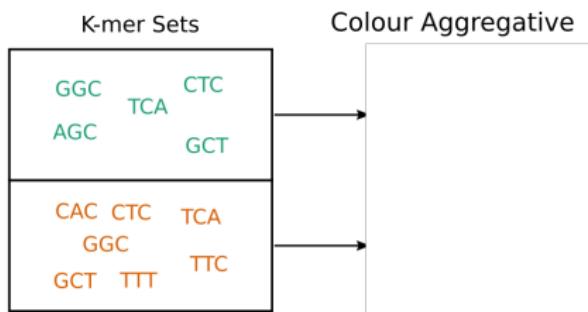
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How do we index across sets of
k-mers?

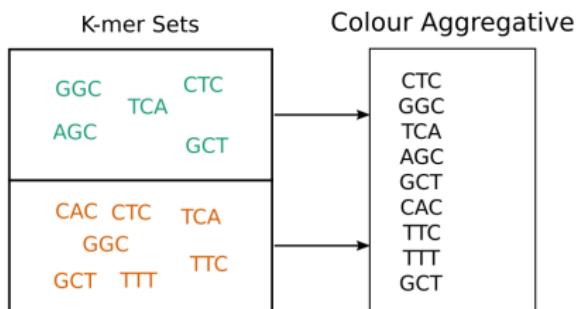
Two possible approaches: colour or k-mer aggregative

K-mer Sets		
GGC	TCA	CTC
AGC		GCT
<hr/>		
CAC	CTC	TCA
GGC		
GCT	TTT	TTC

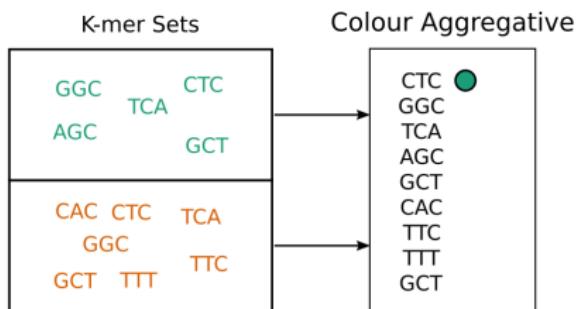
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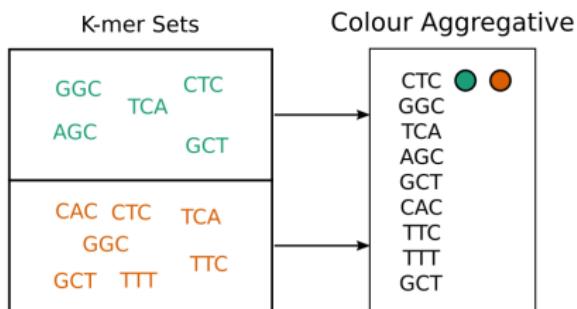
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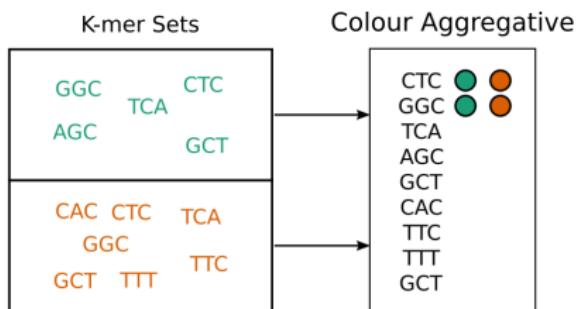
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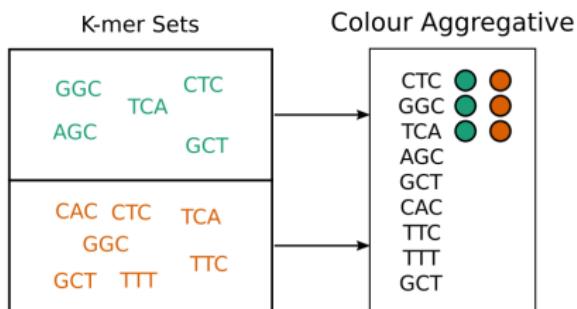
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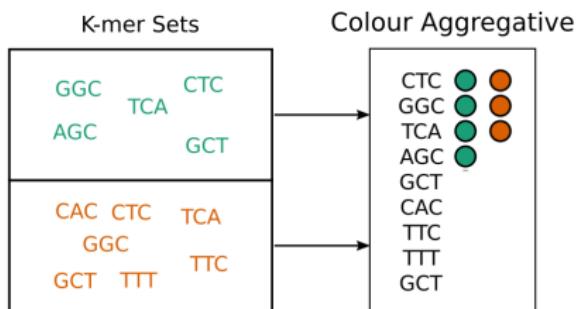
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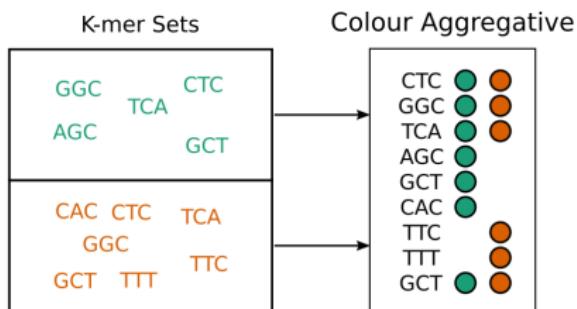
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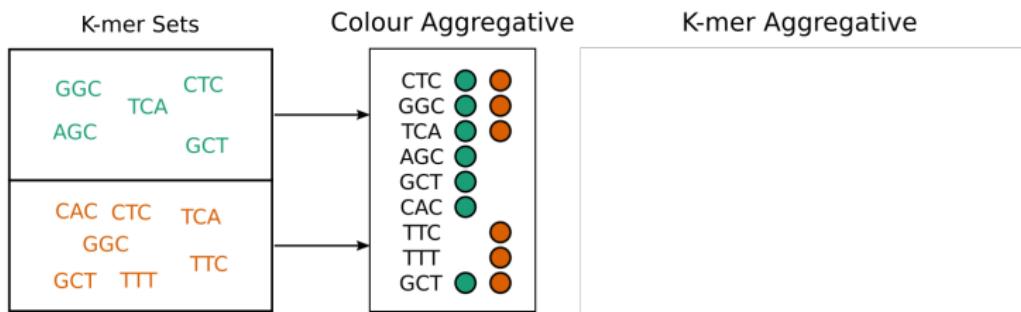
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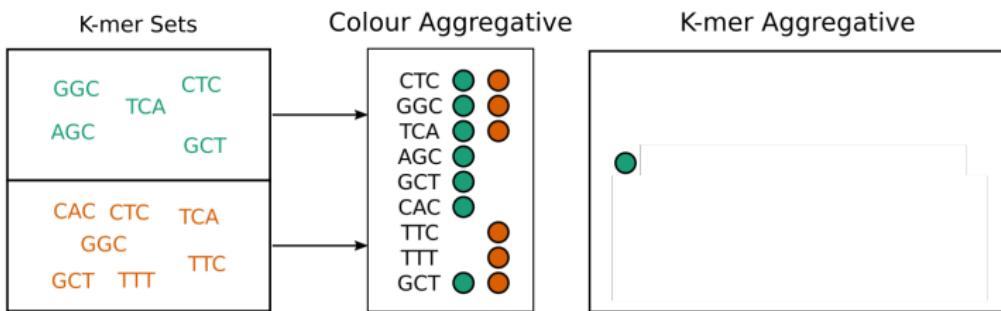
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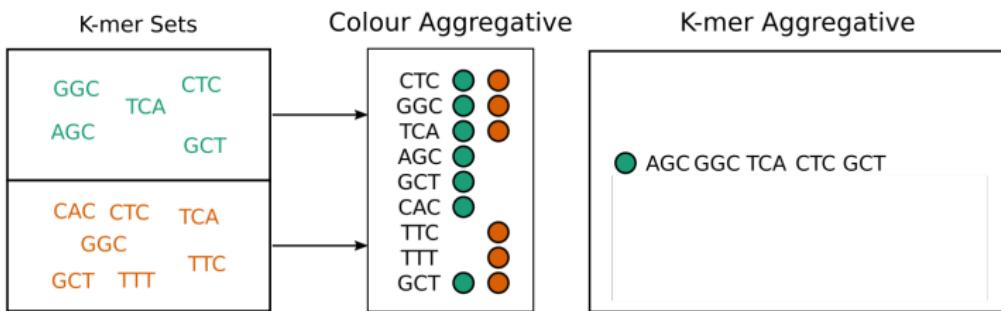
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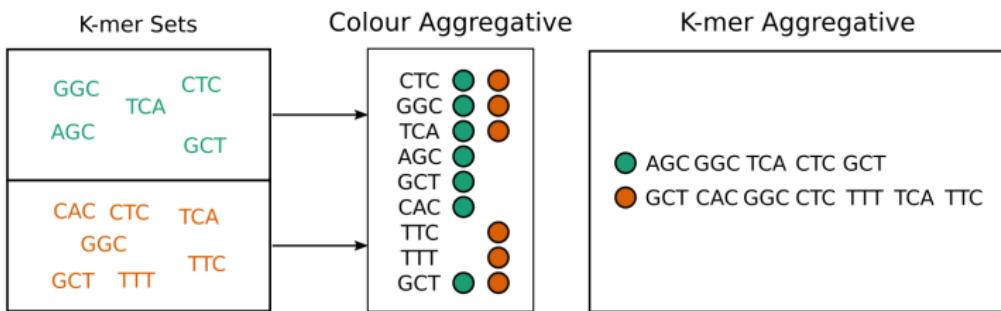
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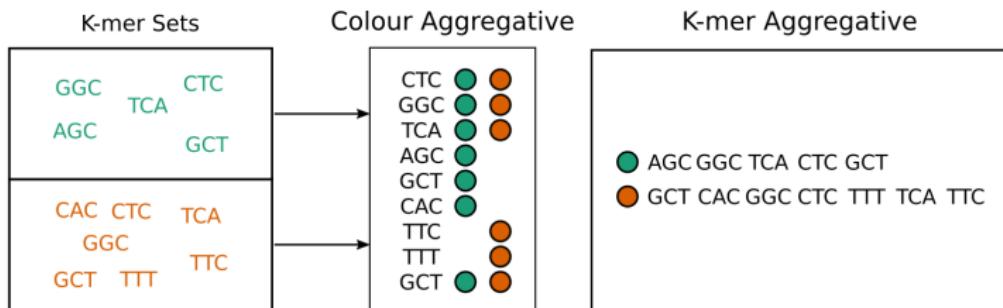
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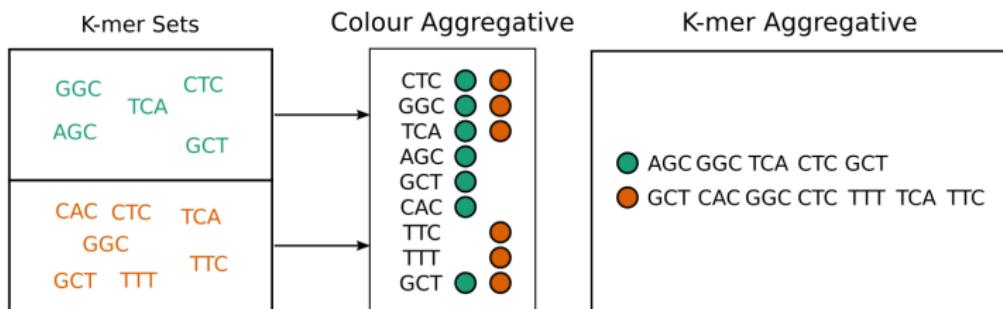


Two possible approaches: colour or k-mer aggregative



- Colour aggregative: k-mer \rightarrow sample(s)

Two possible approaches: colour or k-mer aggregative



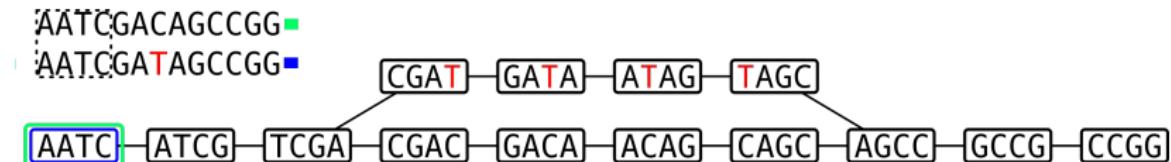
- Colour aggregative: k-mer \rightarrow sample(s)
- K-mer aggregative: sample \rightarrow k-mer(s)

Colour aggregative methods

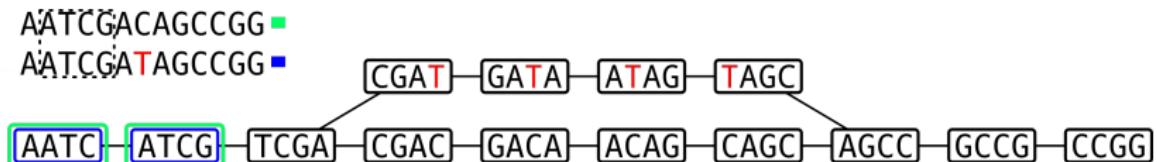
Coloured de Bruijn graph



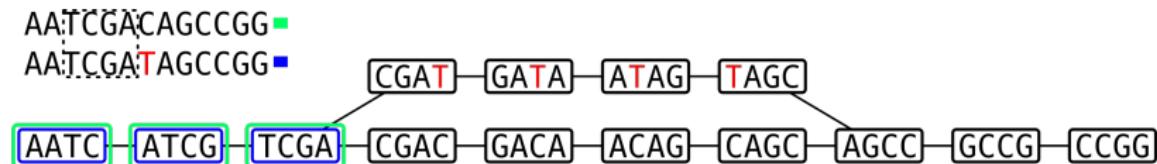
Coloured de Bruijn graph



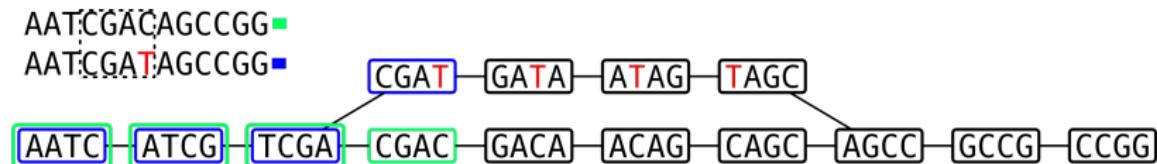
Coloured de Bruijn graph



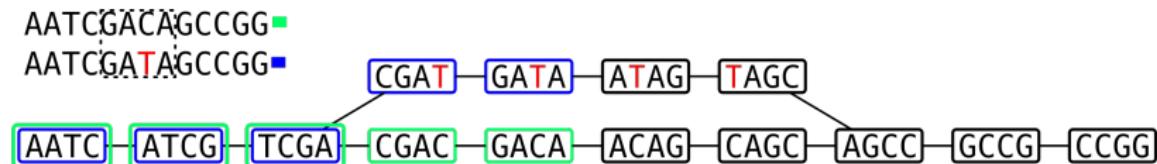
Coloured de Bruijn graph



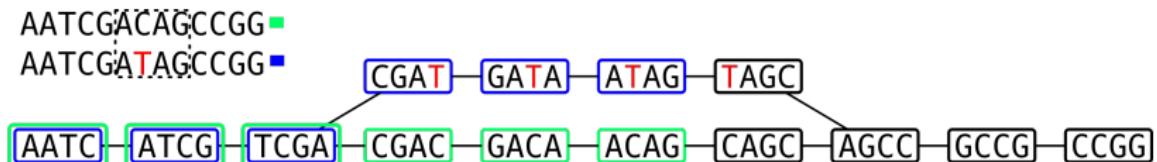
Coloured de Bruijn graph



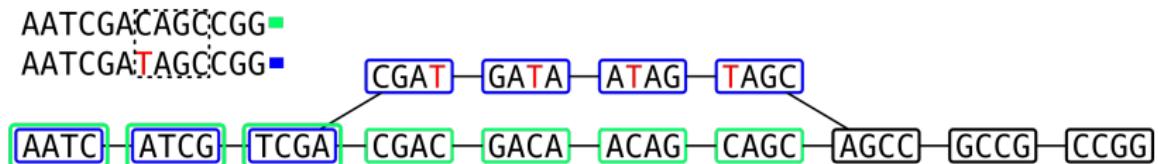
Coloured de Bruijn graph



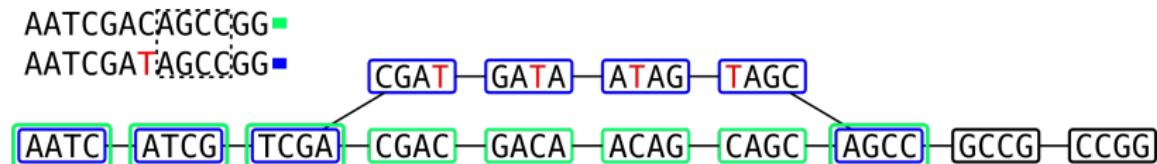
Coloured de Bruijn graph



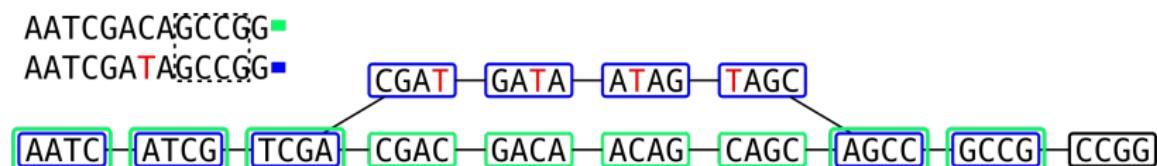
Coloured de Bruijn graph



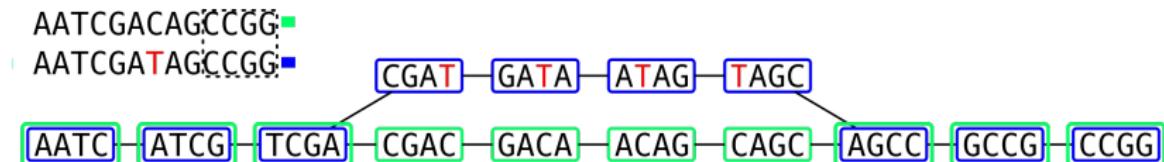
Coloured de Bruijn graph



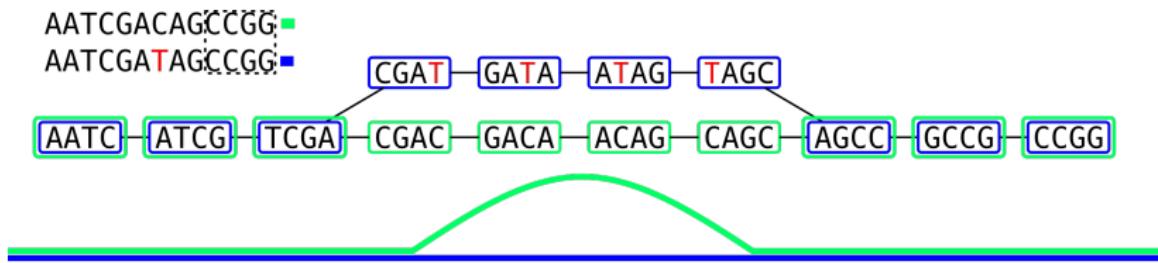
Coloured de Bruijn graph



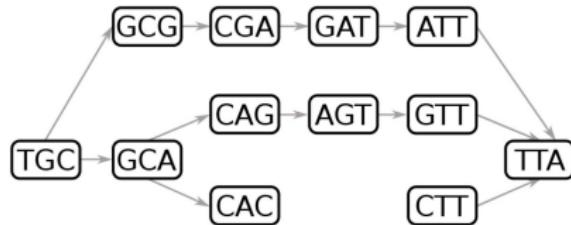
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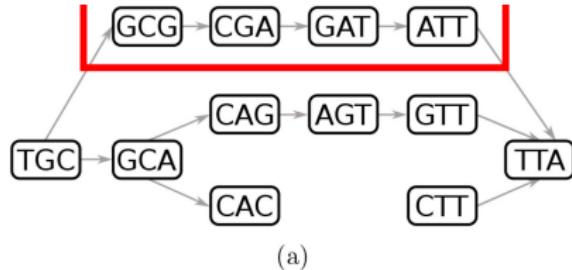


Succinct/Compacted coloured de Bruijn graphs



[Holley and Melsted, 2019]

Succinct/Compacted coloured de Bruijn graphs

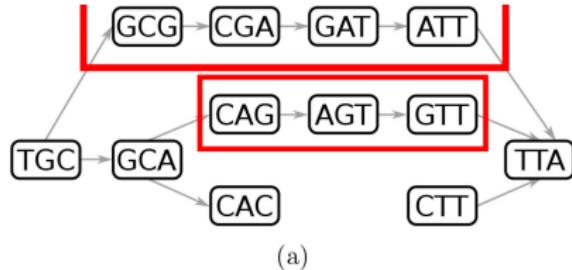


(a)

(b)

[Holley and Melsted, 2019]

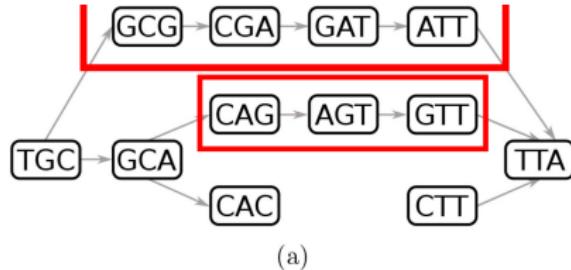
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(b)

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Succinct/Compacted coloured de Bruijn graphs



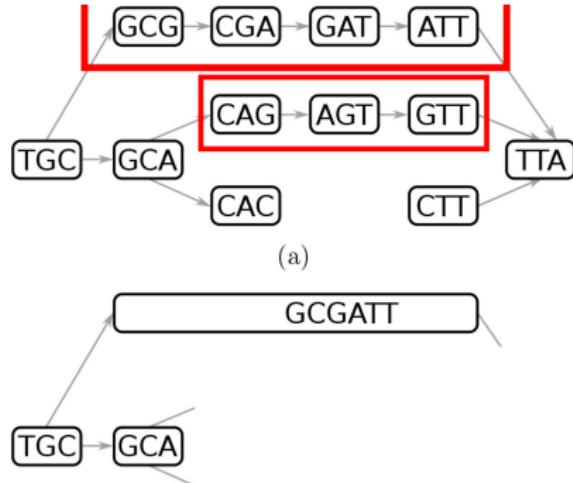
(a)



(b)

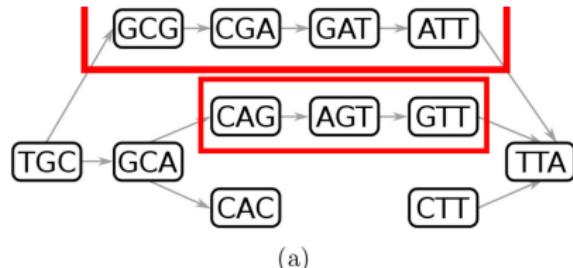
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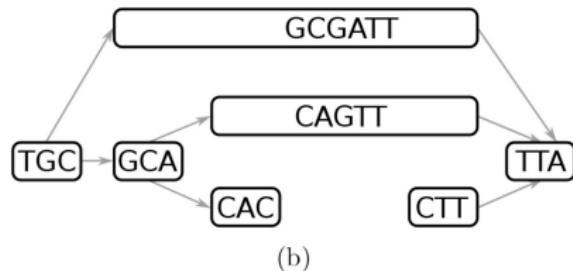


[Holley and Melsted, 2019]

Succinct/Compacted coloured de Bruijn graphs



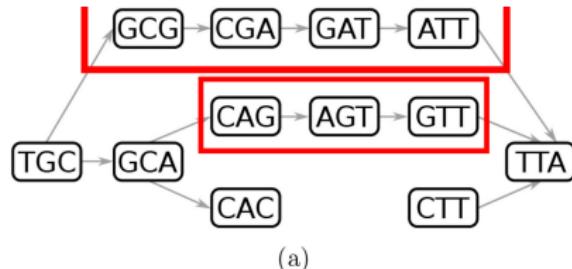
(a)



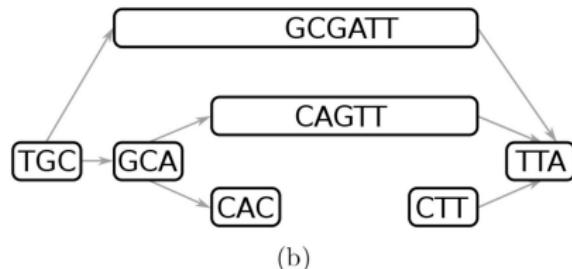
(b)

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Succinct/Compacted coloured de Bruijn graphs

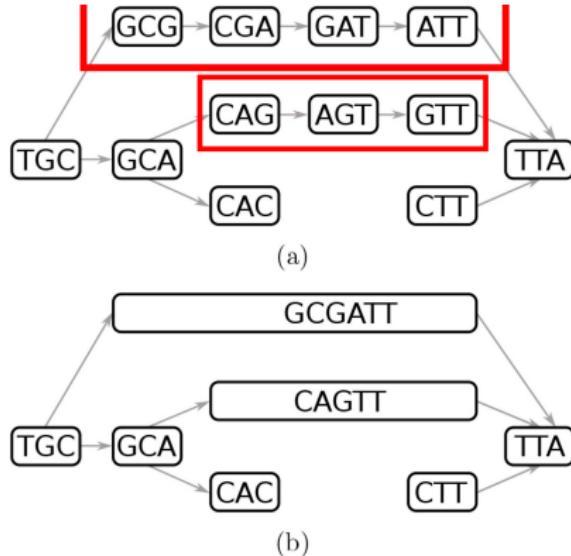


- Compact maximal non-branching paths into untigs



[Holley and Melsted, 2019]

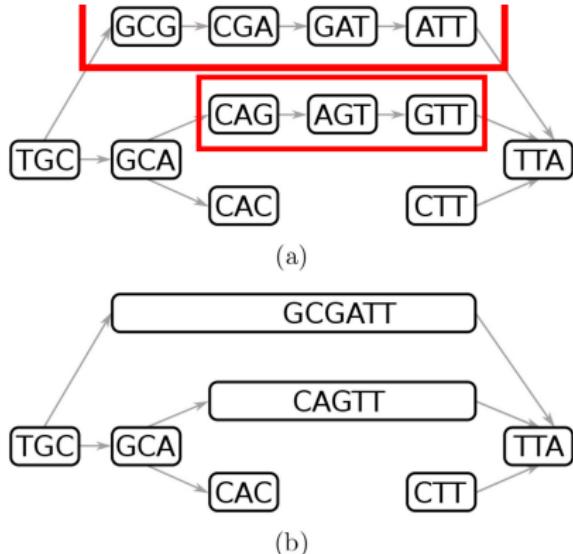
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- Compact maximal non-branching paths into untigs
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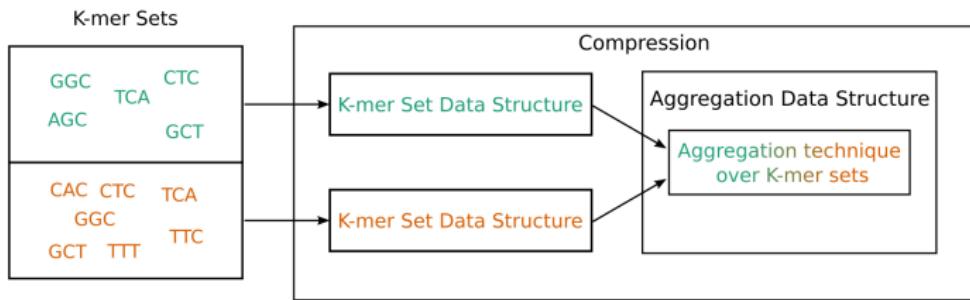
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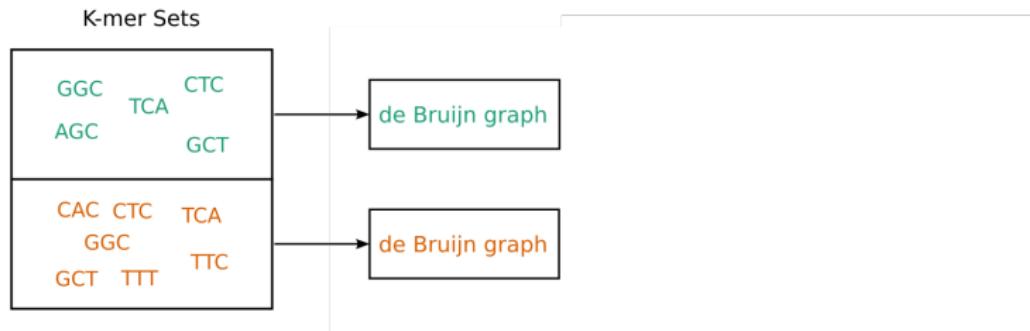
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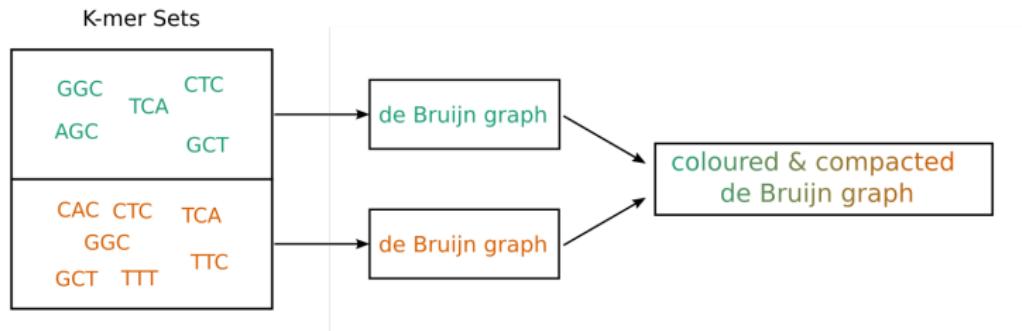
- Compact maximal non-branching paths into untigs
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- AKA make things more approximate but smaller!



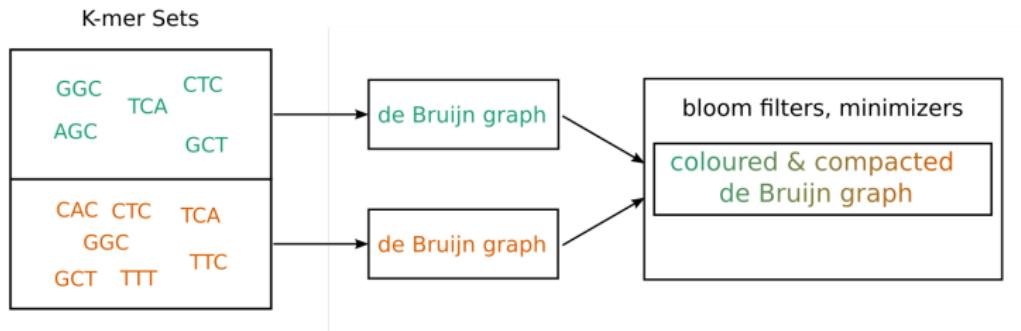
BlastFrost

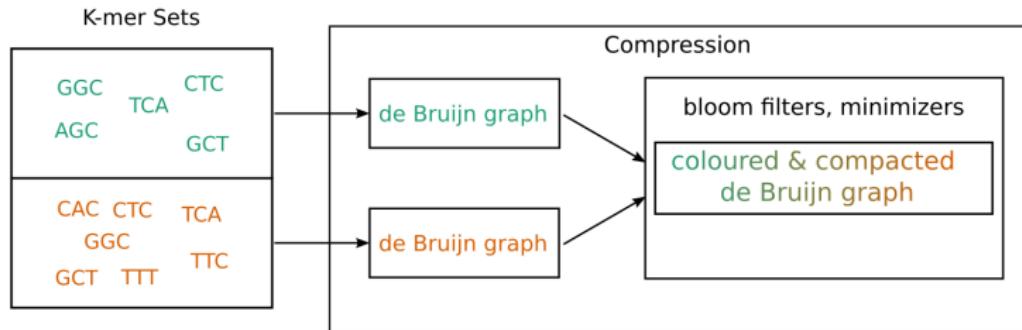
K-mer Sets			
GGC	TCA	CTC	
AGC		GCT	
CAC	CTC	TCA	
GGC			
GCT	TTT	TTC	



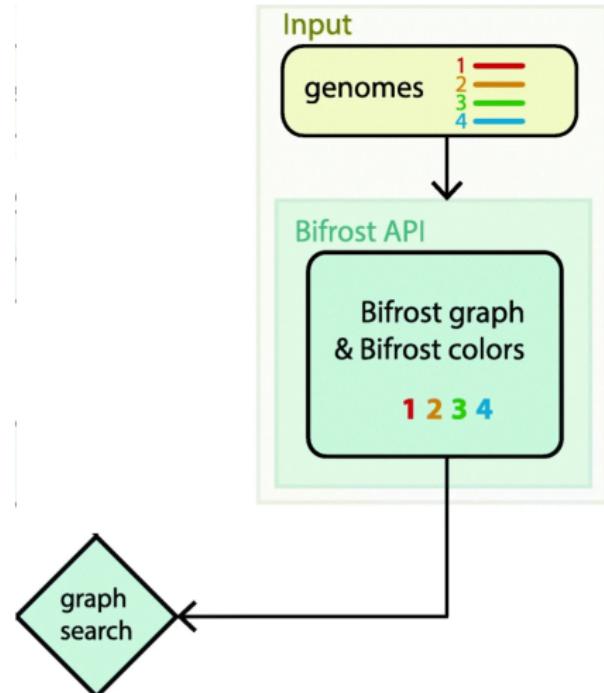


BlastFrost



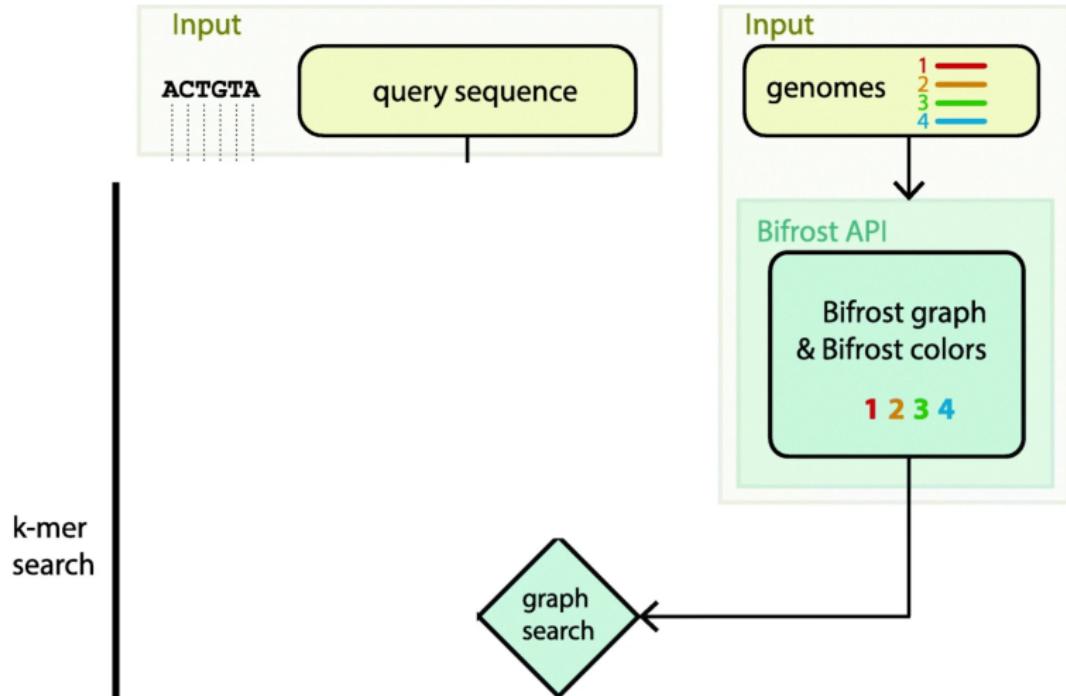


BlastFrost: Similar but for bigger sequences!



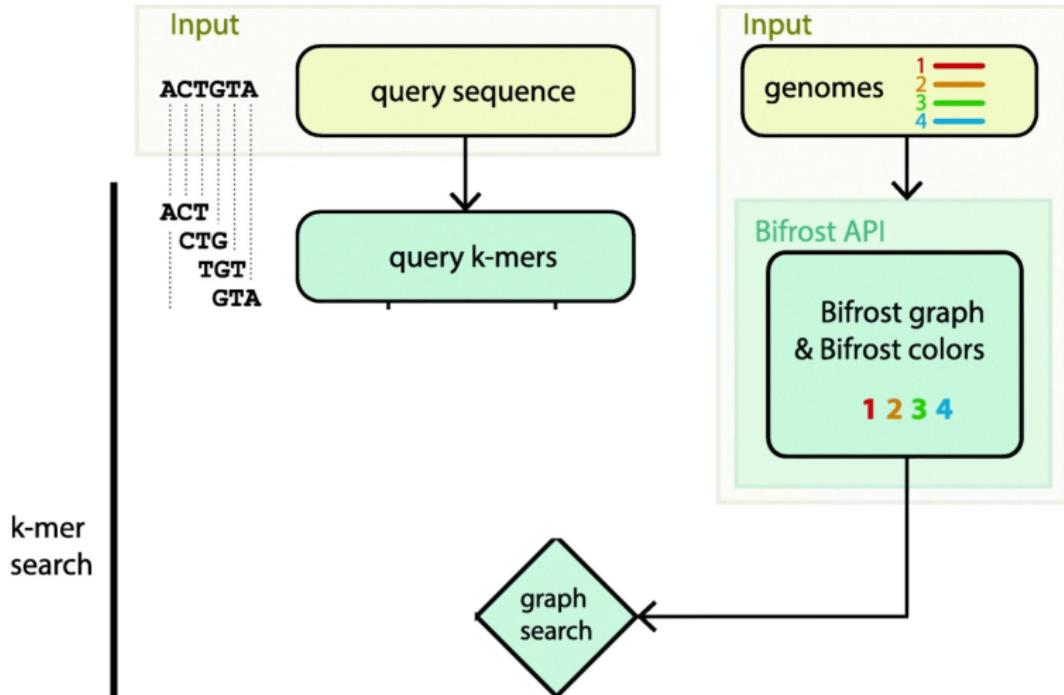
[Luhmann et al., 2020]

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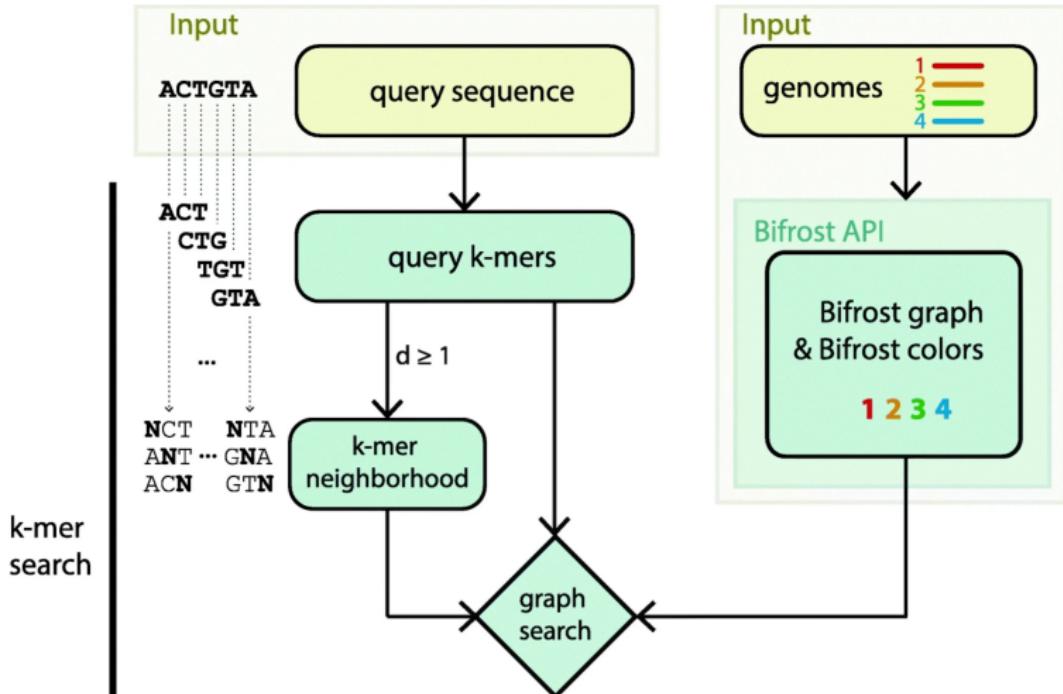
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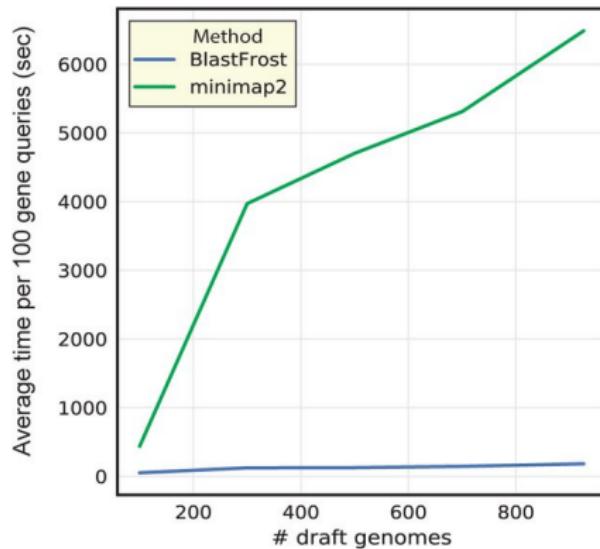
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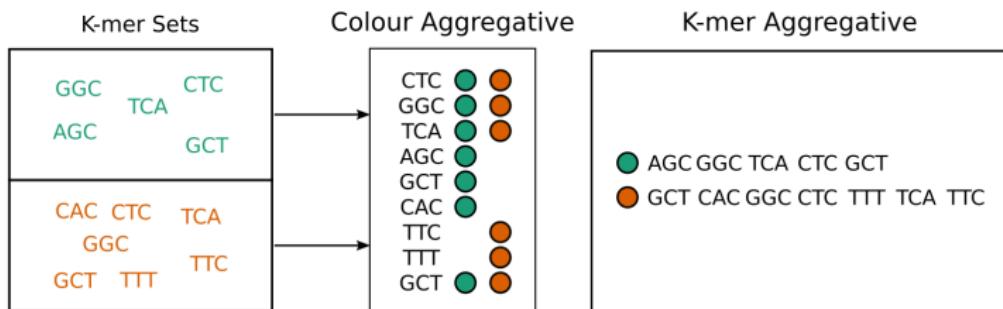
BlastFrost scaling

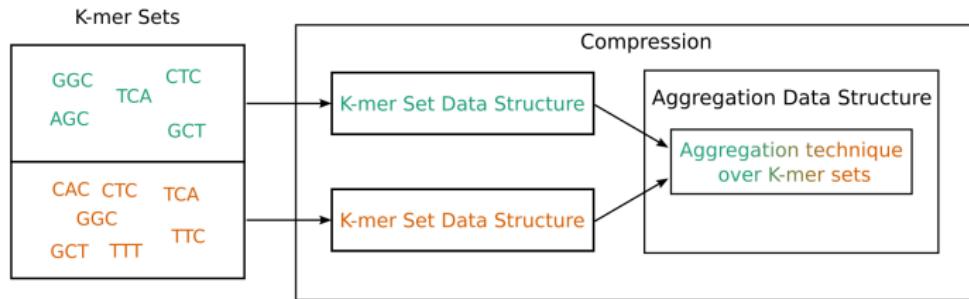


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K-mer aggregative methods

Index based on sample -> k-mer(s)



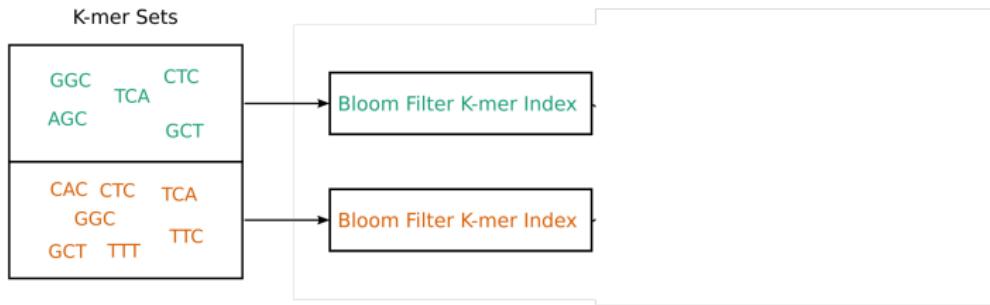


[Bradley et al., 2019]

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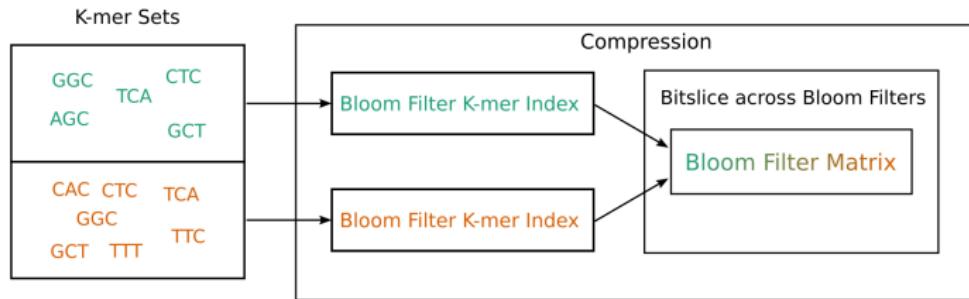
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BIGSI indexing of ENA

Searching a snapshot of publically available bacterial WGS datasets from the ENA/SRA (N=455,632) Dec 2016.

This is a proof-of-concept demonstration of the BIGSI search index for microbial genomes. We have indexed the complete bacterial and viral whole-genome sequence content of the European Nucleotide Archive as of December 2016. See [our paper](#).

Thanks to CLIMB for hosting.

You can use this to search for samples with a given gene, plasmid, or SNP. Queries must be at least 61bp in length. Species metadata provided by analysis by Bracken + Kraken.

More info at <https://bigsi.readme.io/> and <http://github.com/pblimb/bigsi>.

ATGAAAAAAACAAATACTATCACTTGCCTTTTTTAAATGTCAAATATTCTACAGCAGGOCAGTGATCAACAC
Proportion of query k-mers threshold: 100

e.g. MCR-LOXA-1

6446 results

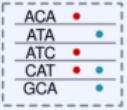
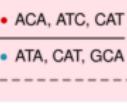
- ➊ 100% of query k-mers found in ERR434640 (*Escherichia coli* : 96.99%; *Shigella flexneri* : 2.93%)
- ➋ 100% of query k-mers found in ERR434990 (*Escherichia coli* : 96.39%; *Shigella boydii* : 3.21%)
- ➌ 100% of query k-mers found in ERR434282 (*Escherichia coli* : 99.92%; *Enterobacter sp. R4-368* : 0.03%)
- ➍ 100% of query k-mers found in ERR434371 (*Escherichia coli* : 94.83%; *Shigella boydii* : 3.36%)
- ➎ 100% of query k-mers found in ERR434477 (*Escherichia coli* : 64.75%; *Shigella boydii* : 16.75%)
- ➏ 100% of query k-mers found in ERR434915 (*Escherichia coli* : 99.97%; *Erwinia tasmaniensis* : 0.03%)

[Bradley et al., 2019]

- Indexing all bacterial, viral and parasitic reads in ENA (500,000 sets, 170TB of data)
- 1.5TB index that be queried near instantaneously

Which method?

Many Options

method name	aggregation technique	k-mer set data structure	aggregation data structure
BiFrost	color aggregative methods	hash table	1 or several color matrices
			
BIGSI	k-mer aggregative methods	Bloom filter	Bloom filter matrix /matrices
			

[Marchet et al., 2021]

Many Options

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Metannot			
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Pufferfish			
BLight			
VARI(-Merge), Rainbowfish	color aggregative methods		
Mantis(+MST)		BWT	1 or several color matrices
BFT		Counting Quotient Filter	
SBT, SSBT, AllSomeSBT, HowDeSBT	k-mer aggregative methods	Bloom filter trie	
BIGSI, COBS, RAMBO	• ACA, ATC, CAT • ATA, CAT, GCA	Bloom filter	search tree/forest
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[Marchet et al., 2021]

- It depends: complexity, sequence length, query length
- What features you need e.g., inserting new sets, space vs time trade-offs

Summary

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- Vast amount of sequence data and it is growing rapidly

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 - Map from union of all k-mers to samples they contain (colour aggregative) e.g., BiFrost

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 - Map from union of all k-mers to samples they contain (colour aggregative) e.g., BiFrost
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- Active field and choosing best method is very data and task specific

Questions?

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