

In House pipeline: NG-Tax

Validation based on controls

Open & reproducible microbiome data analysis spring school
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University of Turku



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Tested parameters

- Primer pair
- Barcoding strategy
- Chimera filtering
- Filtering parameters
- OTU picking
- Database
- Etc...

And try to come up with an 'optimal' combination of each

In house analysis pipeline: NG-Tax

The screenshot shows the F1000Research website interface. The header is orange with the F1000Research logo and the tagline 'Open for Science'. A search bar is on the right. Navigation links include BROWSE, SUBJECTS, GATEWAYS, HOW TO PUBLISH, ABOUT, and BLOG. The main article title is 'NG-Tax, a highly accurate and validated pipeline for analysis of 16S rRNA amplicons from complex biomes [version 1; referees: 2 approved with reservations, 1 not approved]'. The authors listed are Javier Ramiro-Garcia, Gerben D. A. Hermes, Christos Giatsis, Detmer Sipkema, Erwin G. Zoetendal, Peter J. Schaap, and Hauke Smidt. A 'Check for updates' button is present. On the right, a 'METRICS' sidebar shows 1897 VIEWS and 435 DOWNLOADS, along with buttons to 'Get PDF' and 'Get XML'.

F1000Research
Open for Science

Search

BROWSE SUBJECTS GATEWAYS HOW TO PUBLISH ▾ ABOUT ▾ BLOG

RESEARCH ARTICLE

NG-Tax, a highly accurate and validated pipeline for analysis of 16S rRNA amplicons from complex biomes [version 1; referees: 2 approved with reservations, 1 not approved]

✉ **Javier Ramiro-Garcia**^{1-3*}, Gerben D. A. Hermes^{1,2*}, Christos Giatsis⁴, Detmer Sipkema², Erwin G. Zoetendal^{1,2}, Peter J. Schaap^{1,3}, Hauke Smidt²

* Equal contributors

+ Author details

+ Grant information

Check for updates

METRICS

1897
VIEWS

435
DOWNLOADS

Get PDF

Get XML

NG-Tax analysis & settings

Galaxy interface

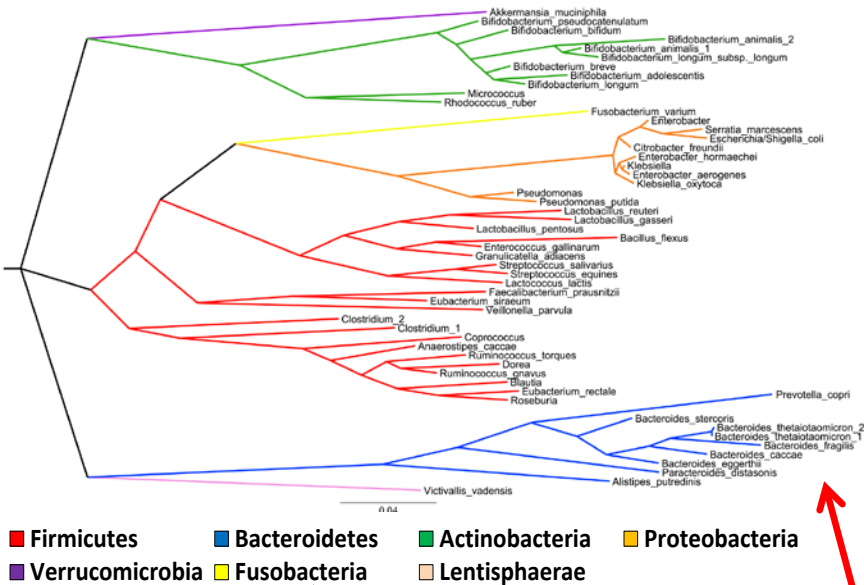
The screenshot displays the Galaxy NG-Tax web interface. The top navigation bar includes links to various Galaxy tools and datasets. The left sidebar lists available tools, with 'NG-Tax-1.0' selected. The main panel shows the 'Analyze Data' workflow with the following settings:

- fastQ sets**: Insert fastQ sets (button)
- Create fastQ files for each library?**: Yes (selected), No
- Are the primers already removed from data?**: Yes, No
- Forward read length**: 70 (input field)
- Reverse read length**: 70 (input field)
- Forward primer**: [AG]GGATTAGATACCC (input field)
- Reverse primer**: CGAC[AG][AG]CCATGCA[ACGT]CACCT (input field)
- Ratio OTU abundance**: 2 (input field)
- Classify ratio**: 0.8 (input field)
- Minimum percentage threshold**: 0.1 (input field)
- Identity level**: 100 (input field)
- Error correction**: 98.5 (input field)

Red arrows highlight the 'Forward read length', 'Forward primer', 'Classify ratio', and 'Minimum percentage threshold' settings. The right sidebar shows an empty 'History' panel with a message: 'This history is empty. You can load your own data or get data from an external source'.

Validation:

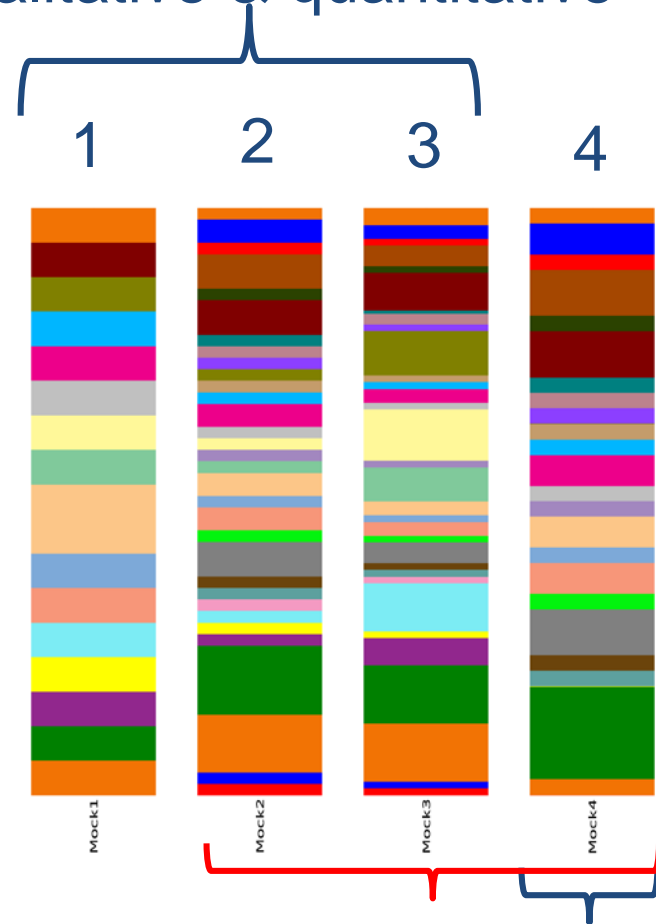
Positive controls/Synthetic or Mock communities



- 54 species
- 32 genera
- 7 phyla

Resolution

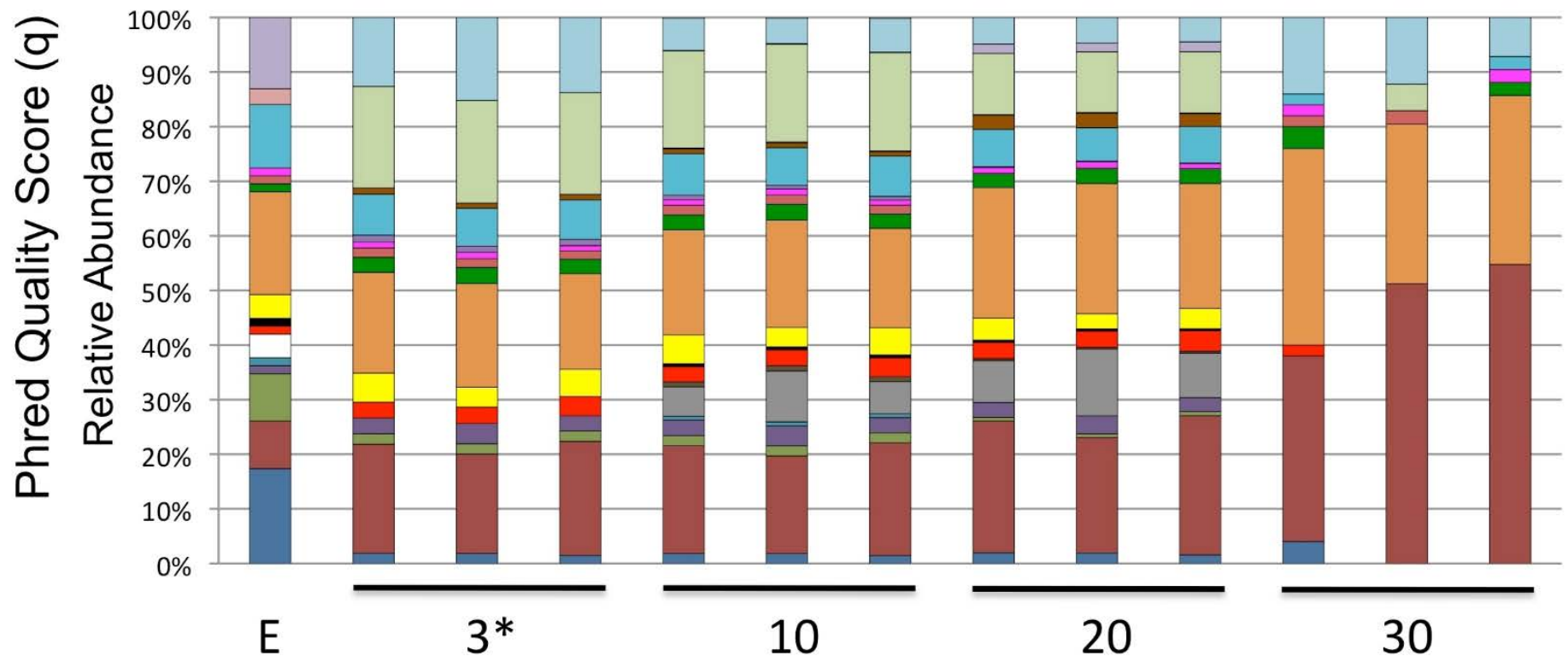
Qualitative & quantitative



How low can we go

Effect of quality filtering

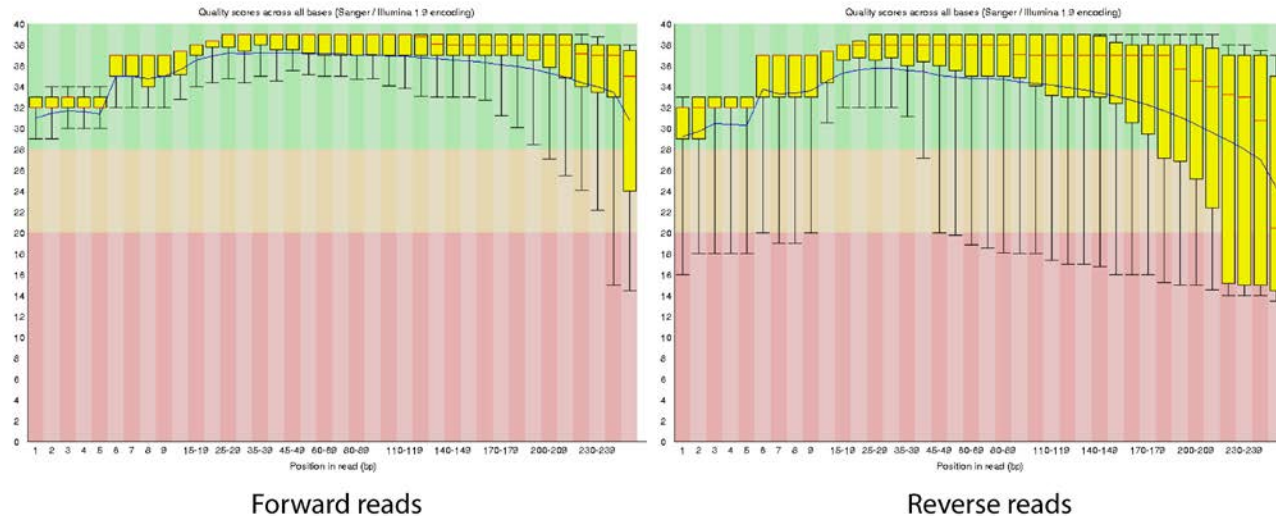
- Bokulich 2013, Quality-filtering vastly improves diversity estimates from Illumina amplicon sequencing. Nat methods. supplementals



Settings optimization

- No quality filtering based on phred score

Phred 10 = 90% accuracy, 30 99.9%



- Filter by abundance -> high quality
- “QC” = demultiplexing (matching valid barcodes)
- ‘Short’ reads: 2x70nt (enough for identification) = less room for error.

OTU classification: Classify ratio

The screenshot displays the Galaxy NG-Tax web interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Apps, USEARCH manual, and various databases. The main panel is titled 'NG-Tax / NG-Tax' and contains a 'Tools' sidebar on the left with options like 'NG-Tax-1.0', 'Get Data', 'Send Data', 'Text Manipulation', 'Convert Formats', 'Filter and Sort', 'Join, Subtract and Group', 'Extract Features', 'Fetch Sequences', 'Fetch Alignments', 'Get Genomic Scores', 'Statistics', 'Graph/Display Data', and 'Phenotype Association'. The central workspace shows the 'Analyze Data' workflow with a 'fastQ sets' section. The 'Classify ratio' slider is highlighted with a red circle, set to 0.8. Other settings include 'Forward read length' (70), 'Reverse read length' (70), 'Forward primer' ([AG]GGATTAGATACCC), 'Reverse primer' (CGAC[AG][AG]CCATGCA[ACGT]CACCT), 'Ratio OTU abundance' (2), 'Minimum percentage threshold' (0.1), 'Identity level' (100), and 'Error correction' (98.5). The right sidebar shows an empty 'History' panel with a message: 'This history is empty. You can load your own data or get data from an external source'.

Galaxy / NG-Tax

Tools

search tools

NG-Tax-1.0

Get Data

Send Data

Text Manipulation

Convert Formats

Filter and Sort

Join, Subtract and Group

Extract Features

Fetch Sequences

Fetch Alignments

Get Genomic Scores

Statistics

Graph/Display Data

Phenotype Association

NGS TOOLBOX BETA

NGS: QC and manipulation

Workflows

All workflows

Analyze Data

Workflow

Shared Data

Visualization

Help

User

Using 0 bytes

No text dataset available.

Mapping file see help for template

fastQ sets

+ Insert fastQ sets

Create fastQ files for each library?

Yes No

Are the primers already removed from data?

Yes No

Forward read length

70

Read length of the forward reads excluding the primer and barcode length

Reverse read length

70

Read length of the reverse reads excluding the primer and barcode length

Forward primer

[AG]GGATTAGATACCC

Forward primer. Put degenerate positions between brackets [] or use the degenerate letters

Reverse primer

CGAC[AG][AG]CCATGCA[ACGT]CACCT

Reverse primer. Put degenerate positions between brackets [] or use the degenerate letters

Ratio OTU abundance

2

ratio otu_parent_abundance/otu_chimera_abundance (recommended 2, both otu parents must be two times more abundant than the otu chimera)

Classify ratio

0.8

At what ratio does a taxon needs to be present to be the selected as the primary

Minimum percentage threshold

0.1

All OTU below set percentage will be removed

Identity level

100

Threshold for identity level

Error correction

98.5

History

search datasets

Unnamed history

(empty)

This history is empty. You can load your own data or get data from an external source

95% sequence similarity: genus level

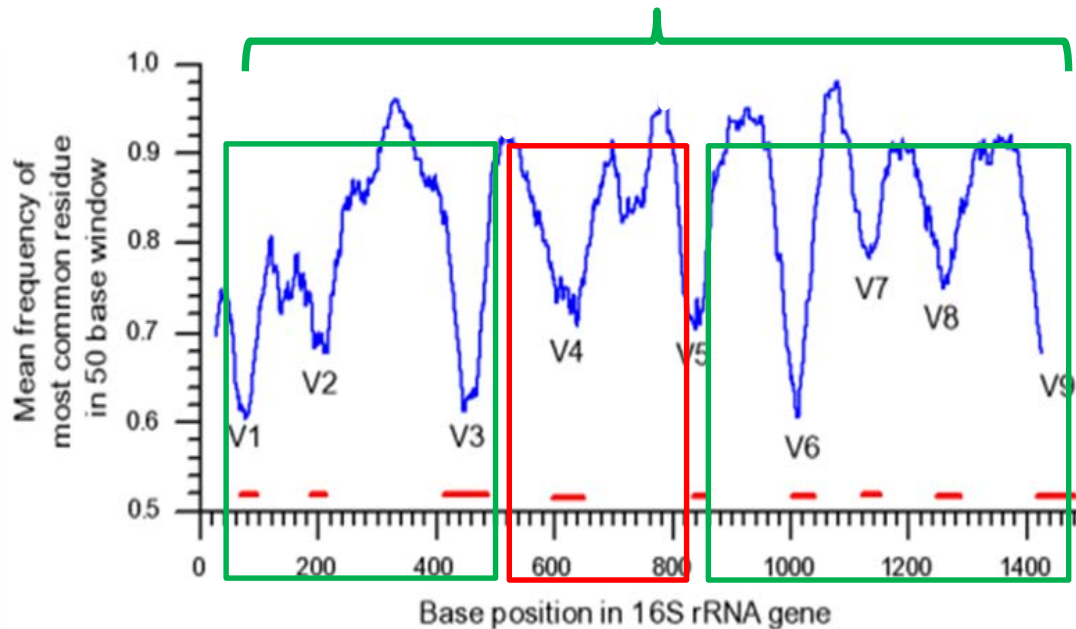
Based on full length 1500nt SILVA alignment

95%

100%

99%

95% sequence similarity: genus level



Same sequence/different classification

‘choose’?

SILVA: *Blautia*/*Faecalibacterium*



Real example: very clear

Online JSON Viewer

jsonviewer.stack.hu

Viewer Text

provData

samples

libraries

otuList

56560

56561

id: "56561"

forwardSequence: "TGGTAGTCCACACCGTAAACGATGATTAGGTGTTGGAGGATTGACCCCTTCAGTGCCGCAGTTAACAC"

reverseSequence: "GTCTCTGCGTCCCGAAGGAAATACGTTTCCAGCATCGTCGCGAGGATGTCAGACCTGGTAAGGTTCTT"

assignedTaxon

taxonHitCount: 754

tax: "Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Faecalibacterium"

ratio: 0.9934123847167325

mismatchCount: 0

usedMismatchLevel

mismatchCount: 0

levelCount: 759

hitsTaxon

0

1

2

3

4

Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Subdoligranulum

taxonHitCount: 3

tax: "Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Subdoligranulum"

ratio: 0.003952569169960474

mismatchCount: 0

Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Ruminococcus 2

taxonHitCount: 1

tax: "Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Ruminococcus 2"

ratio: 0.0013175230566534915

mismatchCount: 0

Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Anaerotruncus

taxonHitCount: 1

tax: "Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Anaerotruncus"

ratio: 0.0013175230566534915

mismatchCount: 0

Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Faecalibacterium

taxonHitCount: 754

tax: "Bacteria;Firmicutes;Clostridia;Clostridiales;Ruminococcaceae;Faecalibacterium"

ratio: 0.9934123847167325

mismatchCount: 0

bestTaxon

idList

usedTaxonLevel: 6

mismatchLevelCounts

Search: GO! Next Previous

Nr hits that are *Faecalibacterium*

100% match in the SILVA DB

nr hits with 100% match in
the SILVA DB

All hits in the SILVA DB with 100%

99.34% of the 100% matches of that sequence (OTU)
in the SILVA database are *Faecalibacterium*

Real example: less clear

Online JSON Viewer | Galaxy | Settings | Galaxy | W | Cor

jsonviewer.stack.hu

Apps | USEARCH manual | http--ssb1-Chemicals | GenBank Overview | https--intranet.tifn | KAAS - KEGG Automa | Pyrosequ

Viewer | Text

```
{
  "forwardSequence": "TTGGTAGTCCACGCCGTAAACGATGTCGACTTGGAGGTTGTGCCCTTGAGGCGTGGCTCCGGAGCTAACGC",
  "reverseSequence": "GTCTCAGAGTTCCCGAAGGCACCAAGCATCTCTGCTAAGTTCTCTGGATGTCAAAGAGTAGGTAAGGTTCT",
  "assignedTaxon": {
    "taxonHitCount": 3704,
    "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae",
    "ratio": 1,
    "mismatchCount": 0
  },
  "usedMismatchLevel": {
    "mismatchCount": 0,
    "levelCount": 3704
  },
  "hitsTaxon": [
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Pantoea",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 2487,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Enterobacter",
      "ratio": 0.6714362850971922,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 939,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Citrobacter",
      "ratio": 0.2535097192224622,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Klebsiella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Kluyvera",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Yokenella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
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      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Buttiauxella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
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      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Cronobacter",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Leifliottia",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Hafnia-Obesumbacterium",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Cedecea",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Escherichia-Shigella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Citrobacter",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Raoultella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Tatumella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
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      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Providencia",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Morganella",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    },
    {
      "taxonHitCount": 104,
      "tax": "Bacteria;Proteobacteria;Gammaproteobacteria;Enterobacteriales;Enterobacteriaceae;Serratia",
      "ratio": 0.028077753779697623,
      "mismatchCount": 0
    }
  ]
}
```

Search: | GO | Next | Previous

Assigned:
Enterobacteriaceae

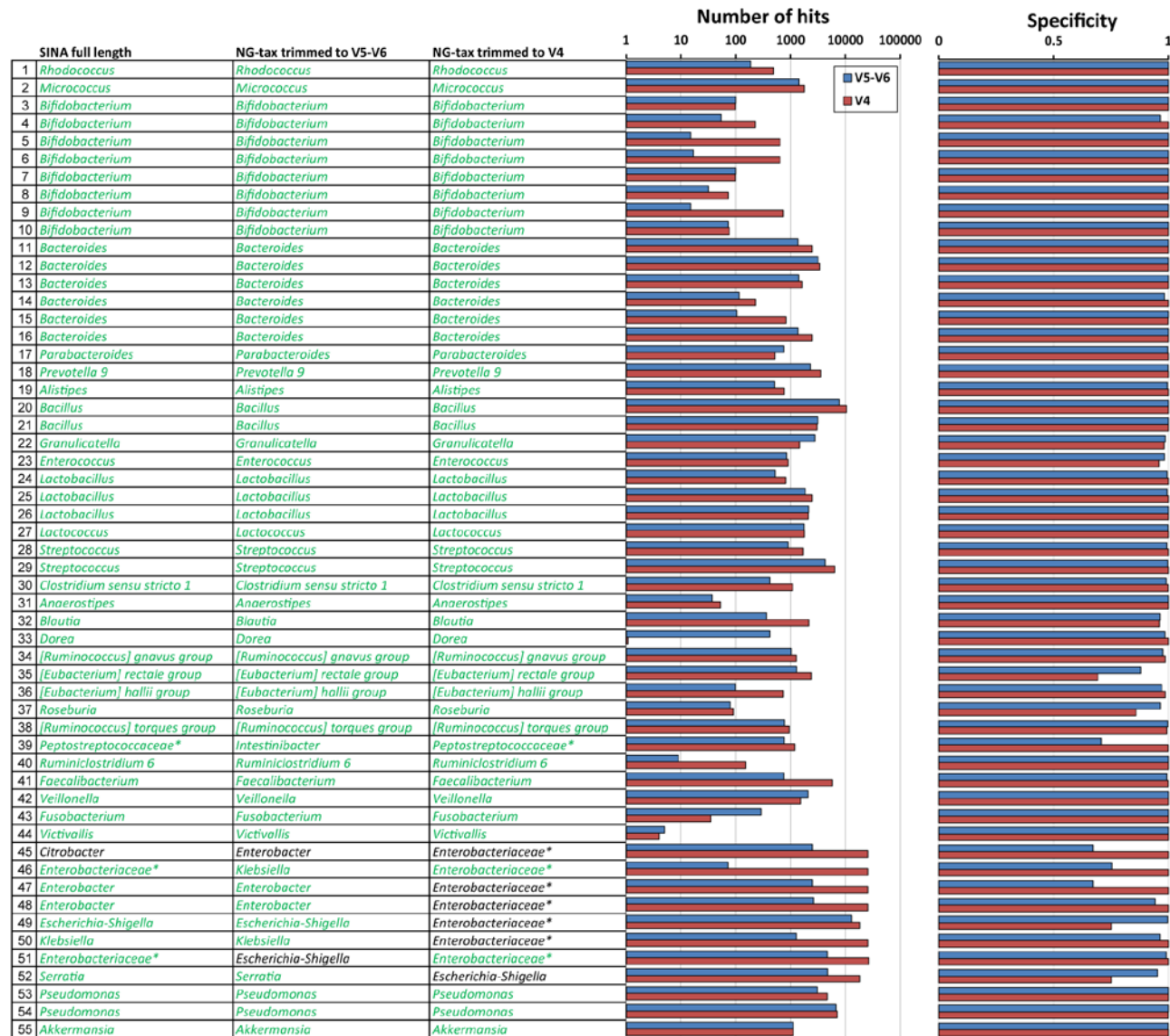
2.7% Pantoea

67% @100% match with 3704
hits -> back to family

25% Citrobacter

NG-Tax classification accuracy & confidence

2x70nt information



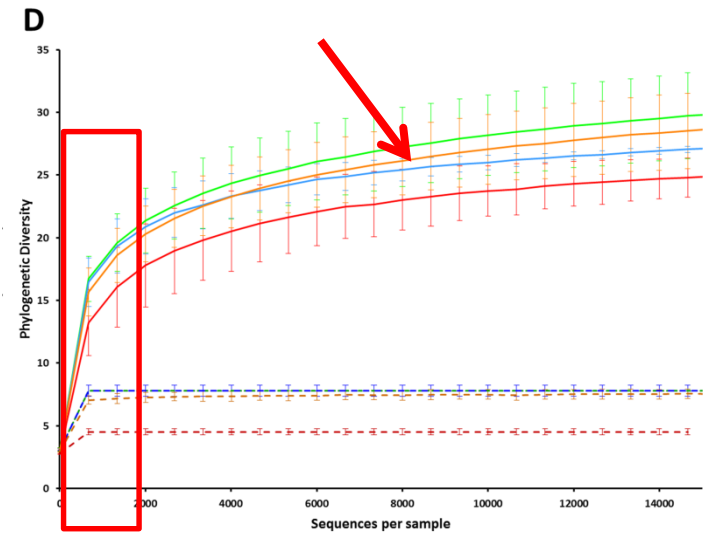
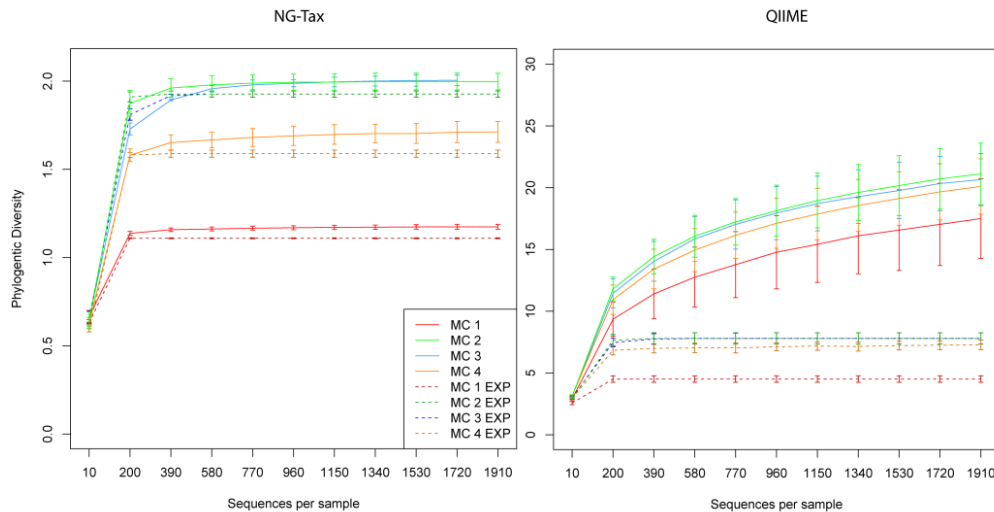
Validation

Sources of error/noise:

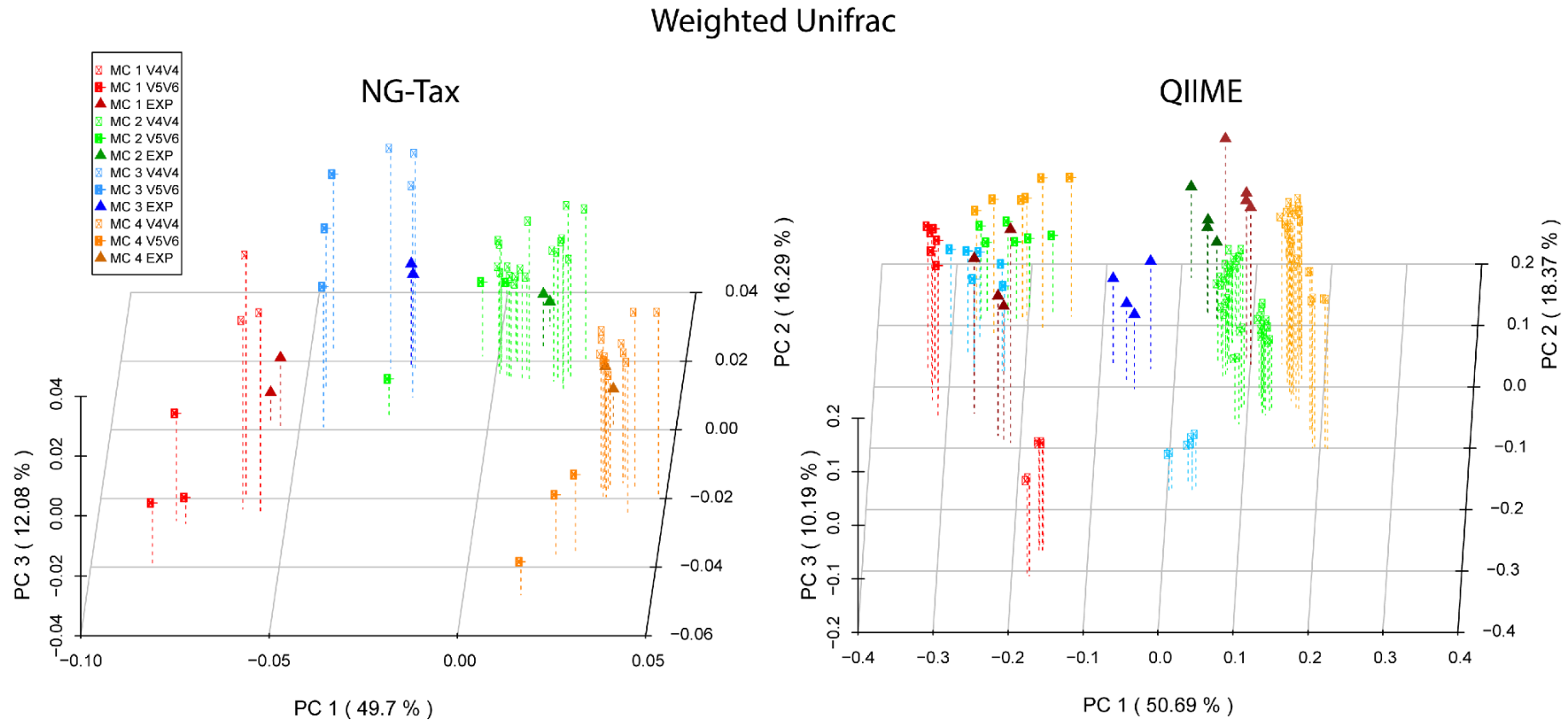
- 4 different synthetic community types (each in triplicate)
- 2 different variable regions V4, V5-V6
- 2 primer pairs (515F-806R, 784F-1064R)
- 25-35 PCR cycles
- 7 libraries
- 3 different sequencing runs

NG-Tax performance: alpha diversity

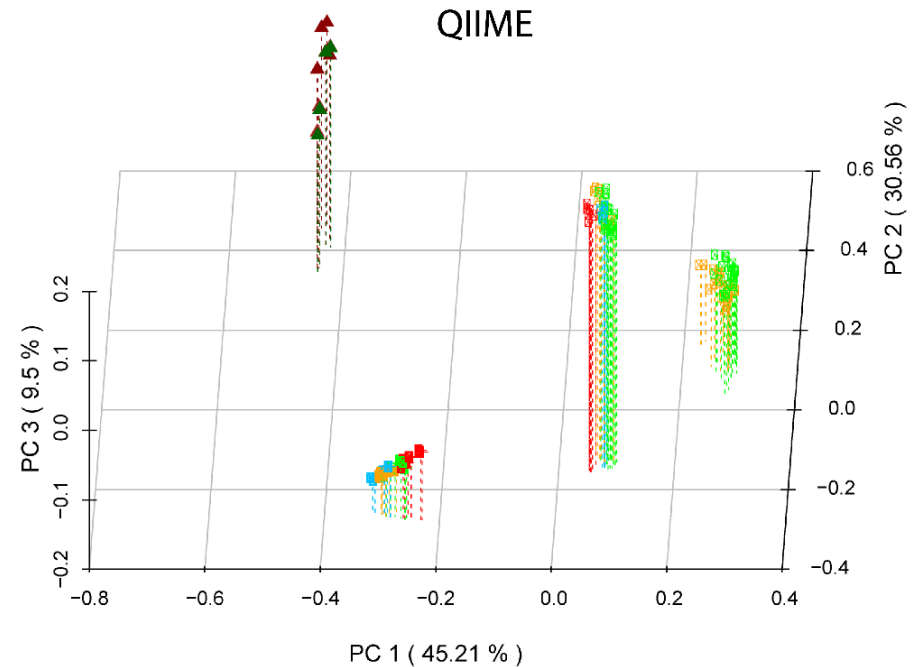
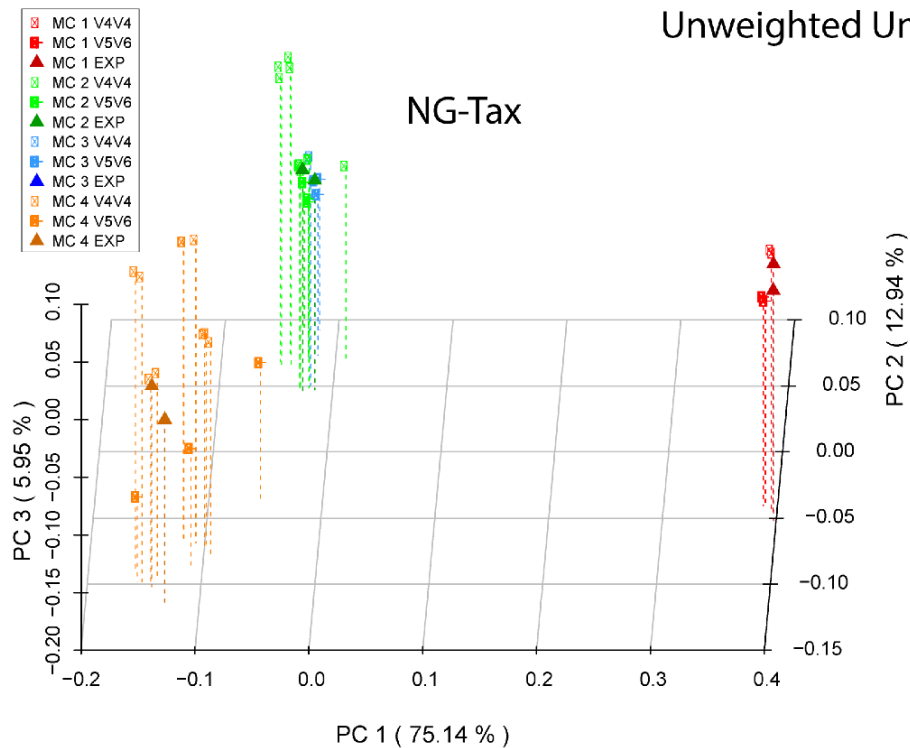
Rarefaction plots



NG-Tax performance: beta diversity



NG-Tax performance: beta diversity



Retain or retrieve the relevant **high resolution biological information** despite high noise levels

Independent of

- primer type/variable region
- Sample diversity/complexity
 - Sequencing run

Biom (OTU table)

#OTU ID	Mc.1.t.I56	Mc.1.1.I01	Mc.1.2.I01	Mc.1.3.I01	Mc.2.t.I56	Mc.2.2.I01	Mc.2.3.I01	Mc.3.t.I56	Mc.3.2.I01	Mc.3.3.I01	Mc.4.t.I56	Mc.4.2.I01	Mc.4.3.I01	taxonomy
565610	1000	3242	1578	1646	2000	461	292	2000	46	87	0	6	12	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
565628	0	763	359	408	0	144	56	0	10	20	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
565653	0	176	0	79	0	26	17	0	3	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
565686	0	0	0	0	2000	423	139	2000	24	45	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
565688	0	0	0	0	1000	272	92	1000	9	35	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
565696	0	0	0	0	1000	153	83	1000	15	25	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656106	0	0	0	0	0	64	26	0	0	9	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656108	0	0	0	0	1000	83	40	1000	5	34	2500	15	42	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656111	0	0	0	0	1000	166	104	1000	3	29	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656114	0	0	0	0	0	83	35	0	6	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656124	0	0	0	0	0	42	14	0	6	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656128	0	0	0	0	0	34	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656146	0	0	0	0	0	40	29	0	2	11	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656150	0	0	0	0	0	35	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656156	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656161	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656164	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656174	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656202	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656207	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium
5656254	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	k__Bacteria; p__Actinobacteria; c__Actinobacteria; o__Bifidobacteriales; f__Bifidobacteriaceae; g__Bifidobacterium

Data interpretation: NG-Tax

- Reads/OTU -> confidence
- ~3 reads not very confident. 30.000 reads very confident
- Classification ratio 0.8, maybe check
- Preferably at genus level, OTUs contain too much risk/error, unless the OTU is very 'clean'
- Preferably use phylogenetic information because OTU based methods are very sensitive to noise
- Check classification of interesting OTUs
- Classify Nas using whatever method (blast is ugly)