

Novel components at the periphery of long read genome assembly tools

A bioinformatics thesis

Pierre Marijon

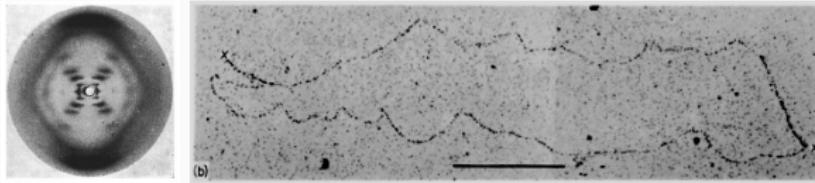
Directeurs: Jean-Stéphane Varré, Rayan Chikhi

2 december 2019

Équipe BONSAI, Inria, University of Lille

Introduction

Go back to bases

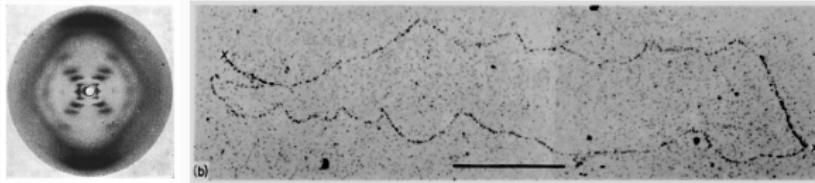


X-ray diffraction of DNA¹ & Autoradiography of *E. coli* chromosome²

¹[Franklin and Gosling, 1953]

²[Cairns, 1963]

Go back to bases



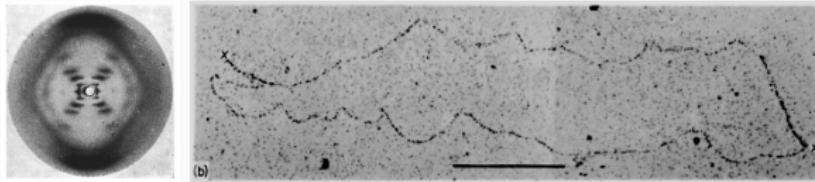
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DNA is the carrier of genetic information, having access to this information allows us to:

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Go back to bases



X-ray diffraction of DNA¹ & Autoradiography of *E. coli* chromosome²

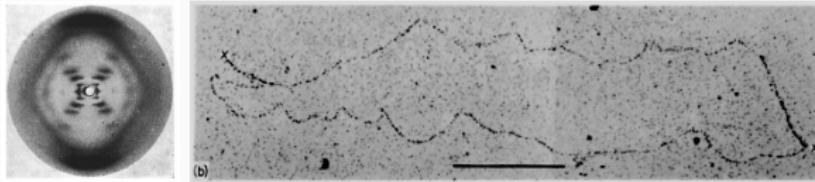
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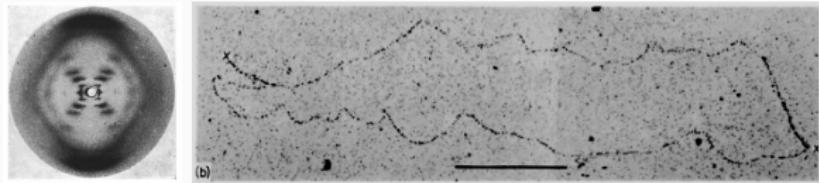
DNA is the carrier of genetic information, having access to this information allows us to:

- understand the origin of genetic diseases
- reconstruct steps of the evolution

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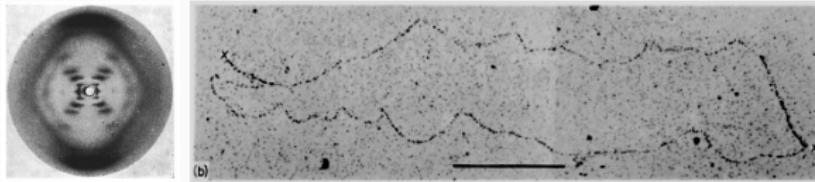
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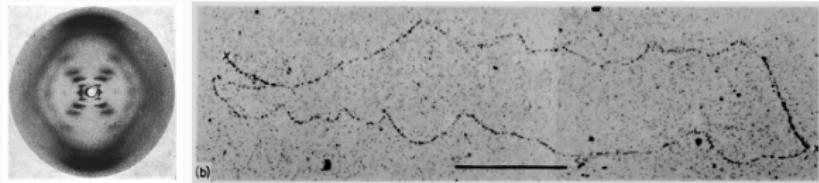
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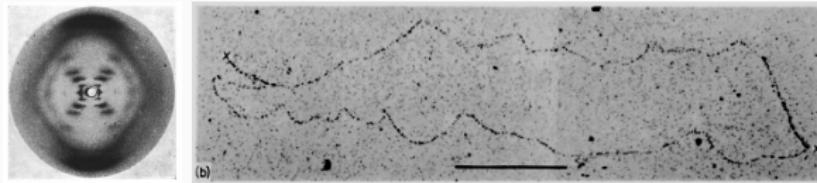
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- reconstruct steps of the evolution
- identify species
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Many biological phenomena can be seen from a genomic perspective

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Go back to bases



X-ray diffraction of DNA¹ & Autoradiography of *E. coli* chromosome²

DNA is the carrier of genetic information, having access to this information allows us to:

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- reconstruct steps of the evolution
- identify species
- observe the structure of the population

Many biological phenomena can be seen from a genomic perspective

How we can read this information ?

¹[Franklin and Gosling, 1953]

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Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



nostra, pAr incepitos himenaeos
nostra, per incepitos
conubia nostra, per incepitos
diam pharetra vitae. Class
placerat leo leo, in feugiat diam
vitae. Clas aptent taciti sociosqu ad
per incepitos per incepitos leo leEEEo
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Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



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Reading and assembling DNA: a crazy monk analogy



Biologist



Genome



Sequencer

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Assembly tools

My contribution

PhD main concern : improving result of assembly tools without modifying existing assembly tools

We focus on:

³[Marijon et al., 2019b]

⁴[Marijon et al., 2019a]

My contribution

PhD main concern : improving result of assembly tools without modifying existing assembly tools

We focus on:

- improving input of assembly³

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PhD main concern : improving result of assembly tools without modifying existing assembly tools

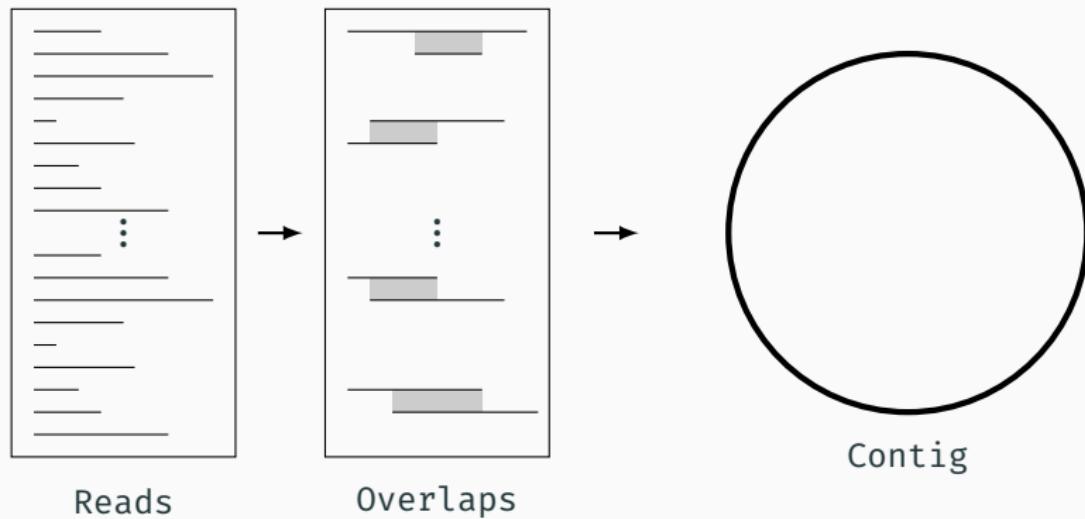
We focus on:

- improving input of assembly ³
- trying to understand why assembly is fragmented and if we can solve this fragmentation ⁴

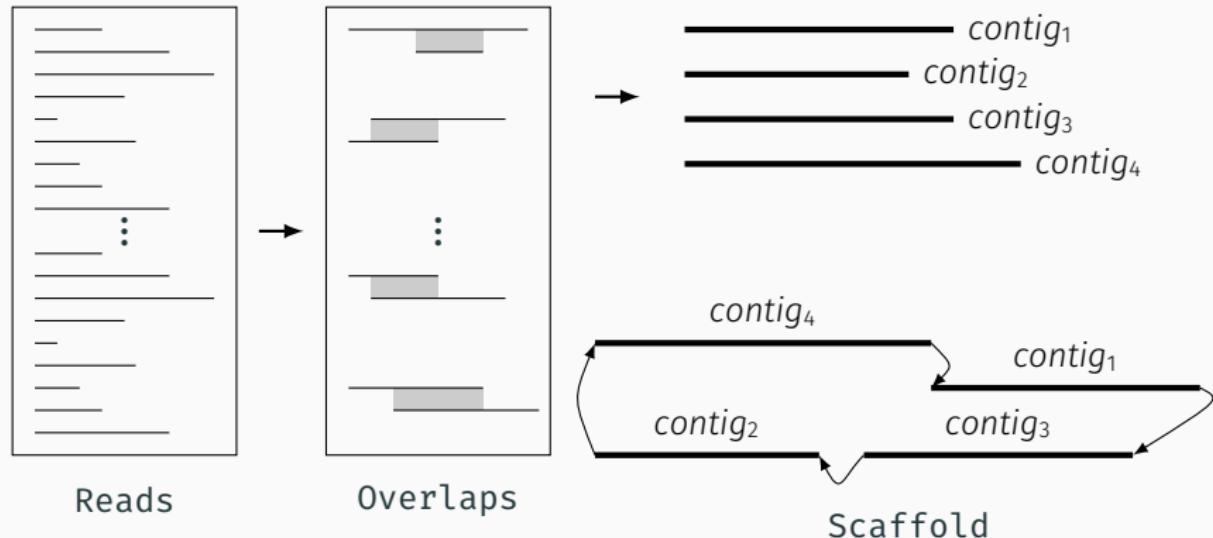
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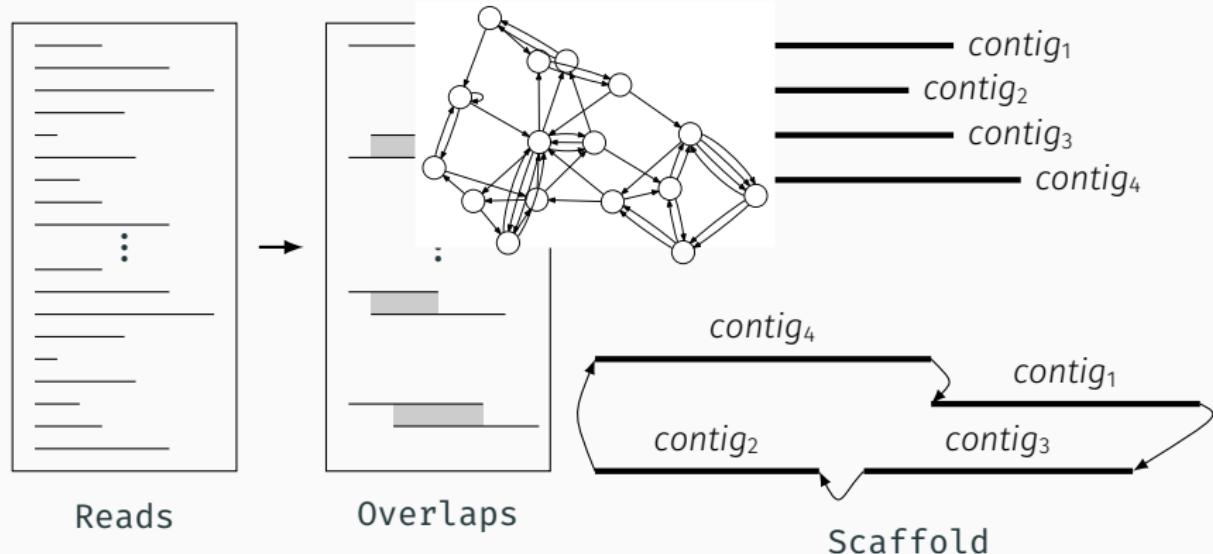
Glossary



Glossary



Glossary



Assembly problem isn't solved

Number of contigs	2nd Gen.	3rd Gen.	# chromosome
<i>Gorilla gorilla gorilla</i>			24 x 2
<i>Schistosoma japonicum</i>			8 x 2
<i>Escherichia coli</i>			1
<i>Ambystoma mexicanum</i>			14 x 2

⁵[Scally et al., 2012]

⁶[Gordon et al., 2016]

⁷[Schistosoma japonicum Genome Sequencing and Functional Analysis Consortium, 2009]

⁸[Luo et al., 2019]

⁹GenBank Id 6313798

¹⁰[Maio et al., 2019]

¹¹[Keinath et al., 2015]

¹²[Smith et al., 2019]

Assembly problem isn't solved

Number of contigs	2nd Gen.	3rd Gen.	# chromosome
<i>Gorilla gorilla gorilla</i>	461,501 ⁵		24 x 2
<i>Schistosoma japonicum</i>	95,269 ⁶		8 x 2
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1 ⁸		1
<i>Ambystoma mexicanum</i>	1,479,440 ¹⁰		14 x 2

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<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1 ⁹	1 ¹⁰	1
<i>Ambystoma mexicanum</i>	1,479,440 ¹¹	891,205 ¹²	14 x 2

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Assembly outline

Sequencing

Assembly

Scaffolding
& Evaluation

Assembly outline

Sequencing

Pre-assembly

- Overlapping
- Scrubbing

Assembly

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& Evaluation

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Scaffolding
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Pre-Assembly: fpa and yacrd

Sequencing

Pre-assembly

- Overlapping
- Scrubbing

Assembly

Post-assembly

Evaluation & Scaffolding

Overlap definition

(R_1) ACTGAGATGGACTTAGA



(R_2) ACTTAGAGAGGATAGGATA

Overlap definition

(R₁) ACTGAGATGGACTTAGA



(R₂) ACTTAGAGAGGATAGGATA

(R₁) ACTGAGATGGACTTAGA



(R₃) ACT-ACACATGGTAGTAGAA

Overlap definition

(R_1) ACTGAGATGGACTTAGA



(R_2) ACTTAGAGAGGATAGGATA

(R_1) ACTGAGATGGACTTAGA



(R_3) ACT-ACACATGGTAGTAGAA

Some third generation overlapping tools: **daligner** [Myers, 2014], **MHAP** [Koren et al., 2017], **Minimap2** [Li, 2016a, Li, 2018].

Some overlaps are too short to be useful



Shaun Jackman
@sjackman

October 4, 2018

I have a 1.2 TB PAF.gz file of minimap2 all-vs-all alignments of 18 flowcells of Oxford Nanopore reads.

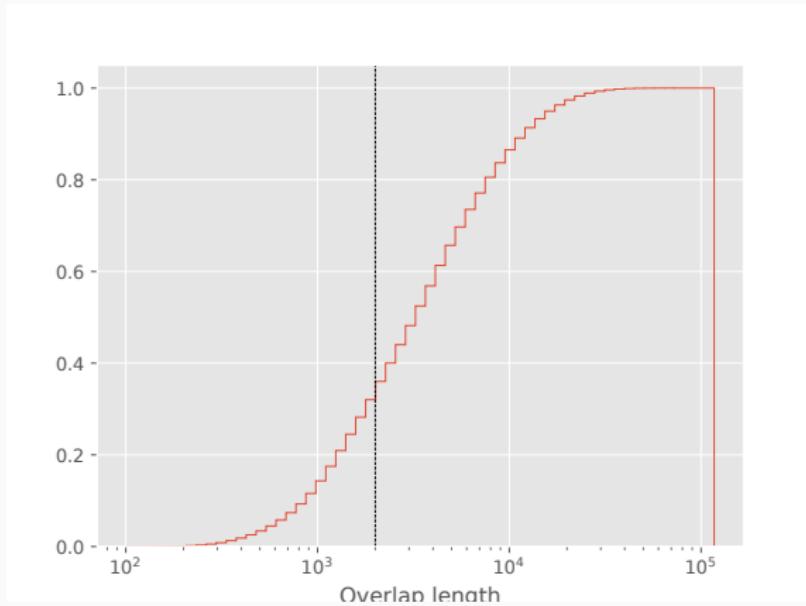
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In a typical assembly pipeline (**Minimap2/Miniasm**¹³), overlap lengths look like this:

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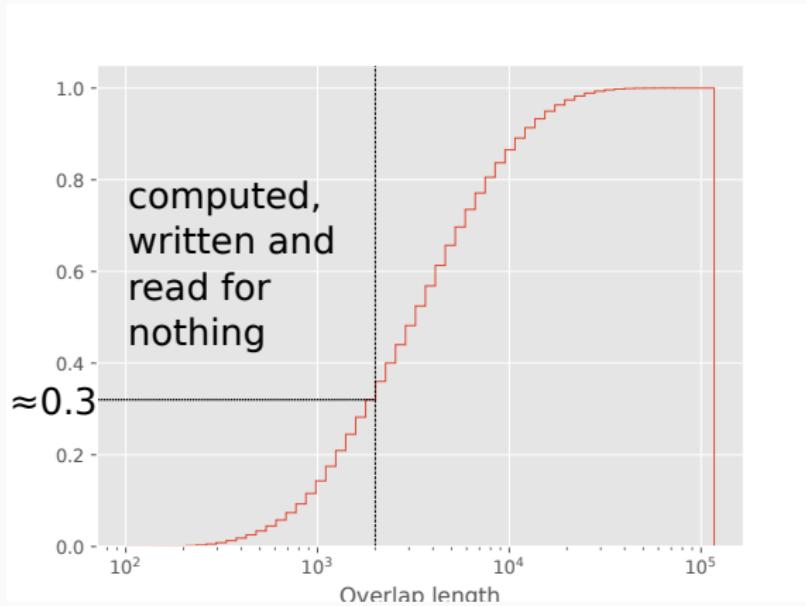


Overlap found by **Minimap2** on dataset SRR8494940 *E. coli* Nanopore 340x

¹³[Li, 2016b]

Some overlaps are too short to be useful

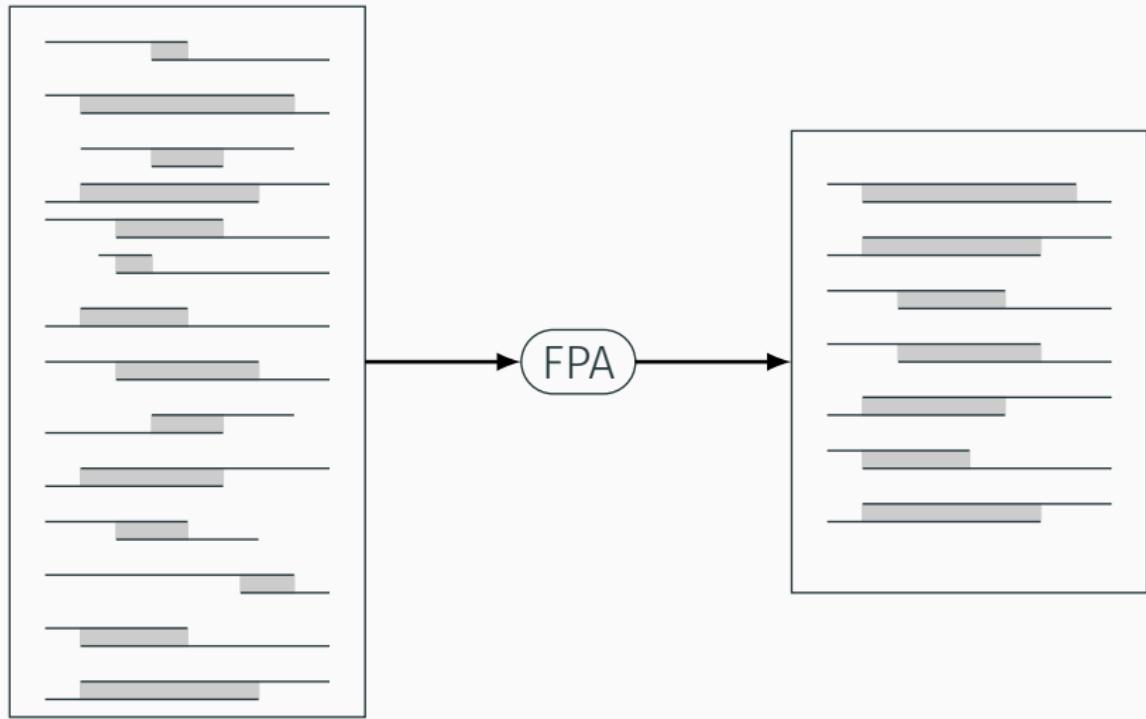
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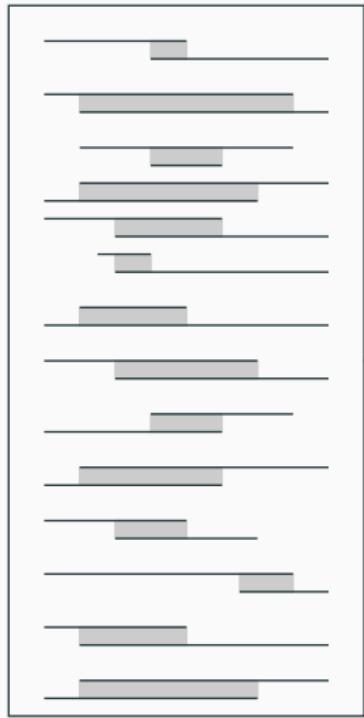
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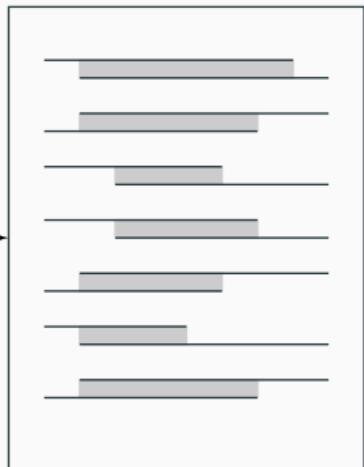
fpa: Filter Pairwise Alignment



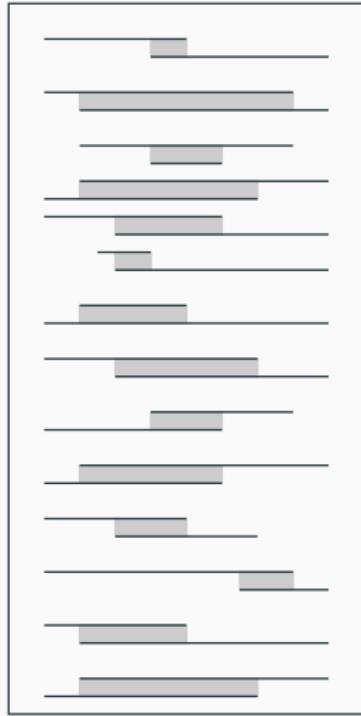
fpa: Filter Pairwise Alignment



fpa can filter on:



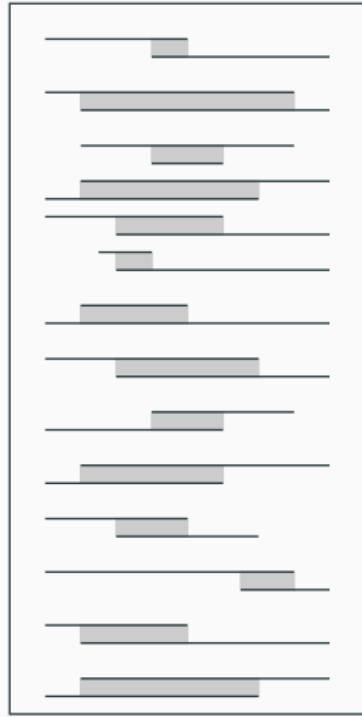
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fpa can filter on:

- overlap length

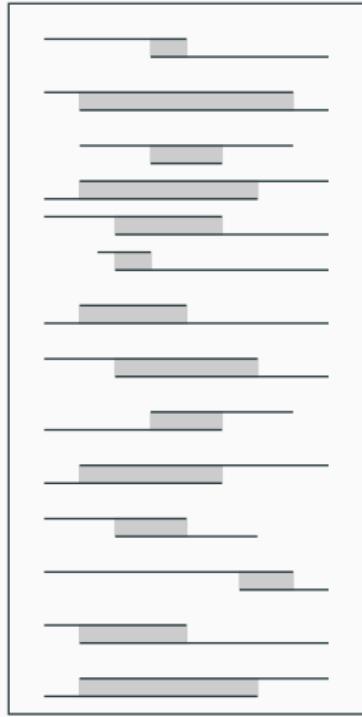
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fpa can filter on:

- overlap length
- read length

fpa: Filter Pairwise Alignment



fpa can filter on:

- overlap length
- read length
- overlap type

fpa effect on assembly

To study fpa effect on downstream analysis we compare two assembly pipelines:

- Minimap2 → Miniasm
- Minimap2 → fpa → Miniasm

On two dataset:

- *H. sapiens* chr 1, Nanopore, 30x¹⁴
- *E. coli*, Nanopore, 50x¹⁵

¹⁴[Jain et al., 2018]

¹⁵[Maio et al., 2019]

fpa effect on assembly

Dataset Pipeline	<i>H. sapiens</i> chr 1		<i>E. coli</i>	
	w/o fpa	fpa	w/o fpa	fpa
Time (s)	3593	3386	30	31
PAF size	32G	9.5G	141M	82M
# contigs	168	150	5	5
contiguity ¹⁶	407821	438055	1450762	1246808

¹⁶for experts it's NGA50

fpa effect on assembly

Dataset Pipeline	<i>H. sapiens</i> chr 1		<i>E. coli</i>	
	w/o fpa	fpa	w/o fpa	fpa
Time (s)	3593	≈ 0.9x	30	≈ 1x
PAF size	32G	≈ 0.3x	141M	≈ 0.6x
# contigs	168	≈ 0.9x	5	= 1
contiguity ¹⁶	407821	≈ 1.1x	1450762	≈ 0.9x

¹⁶for experts it's NGA50

Sequencing

Pre-assembly

- Overlapping
- Scrubbing

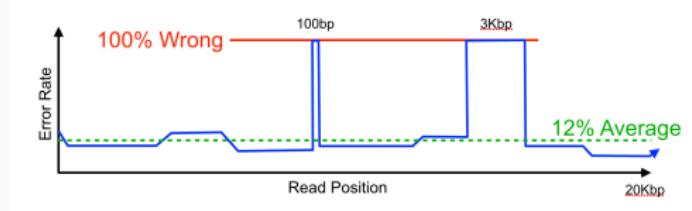
Assembly

Post-assembly

Evaluation & Scaffolding

Error type in third generation reads

Errors are not homogeneously distributed along the read ¹⁷

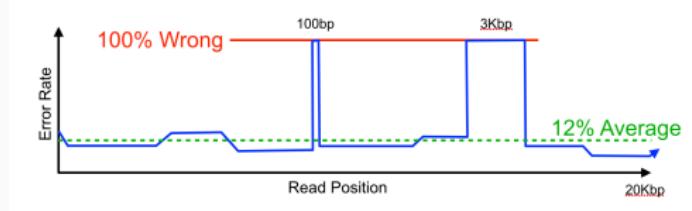


¹⁷[Myers, 2015]

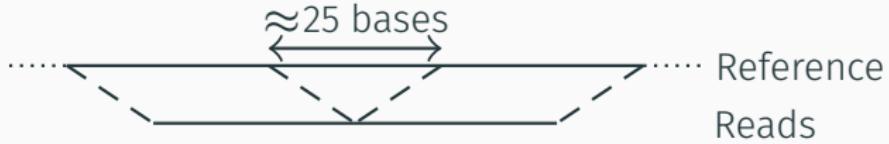
¹⁸[Wick and Holt, 2019]

Error type in third generation reads

Errors are not homogeneously distributed along the read¹⁷



Glitches read¹⁸

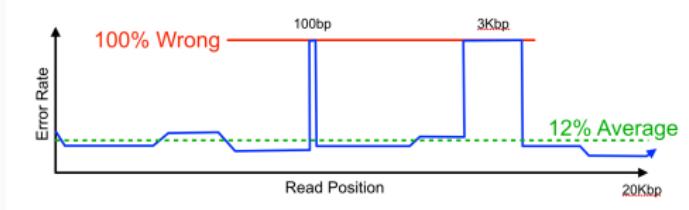


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Error type in third generation reads

Errors are not homogeneously distributed along the read¹⁷



Glitches read¹⁸



Chimeric read¹⁸



¹⁷[Myers, 2015]

¹⁸[Wick and Holt, 2019]

yacrd: Yet Another Chimeric Read Detector

Raw PacBio/Nanopore reads



Minimap (.paf output)
MHAP, graphmap, ... (.mhap output)

0 3 4 4 3 2 0 2 4 4 4 4 3 2

YACRD computes
a coverage curve
to identify
chimeric reads



yacrd effect on assembly

To study the effect of **yacrd** we run it on two datasets:

- *H. sapiens* chr 1, Nanopore, 30x¹⁹
- *E. coli*, Nanopore, 50x²⁰

And we run **Minimap2** → **Miniasm** assembly

We compare **yacrd** against two other scrubbing tools:

- DASCRUBBER²¹
- MiniScrub²²

¹⁹[Jain et al., 2018]

²⁰[Maio et al., 2019]

²¹[Myers, 2017]

²²[LaPierre et al., 2018]

yacrd: Result on reads

Dataset	Scrubber	Error rate	# chimeric reads
<i>H. sapiens</i> chr1	raw	21.05	25888
	yacrd	19.01	5216
	DASCRUBBER	16.86	1640
<i>E. coli</i>	raw	15.63	351
	yacrd	14.34	64
	DASCRUBBER	13.07	50
	MiniScrub	11.51	58

yacrd: Result on assembly

We present the ratio against the assembly with raw reads

Dataset	Scrubber	contig	contiguity ²³	misassemblies
<i>H. sapiens</i> chr1	yacrd	2x	4x	0.25x
	DASCRUBBER	2x	4x	0.1x
<i>E. coli</i>	yacrd	1x	2x	0.6x
	DASCRUBBER	1x	2x	0.6x
	MiniScrub	9x	0.4x	0.8x

²³still NGA50

yacrd: Result on assembly

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	DASCRUBBER	1x	2x	0.6x
	MiniScrub	9x	0.4x	0.8x
Dataset	yacrd	DASCRUBBER	Raw read assembly	
<i>H. sapiens</i> chr1	27 mins	3 days 2 hours		≈ 1 hours
<i>E. coli</i>	33 mins	1 days 20 hours		≈ 30 mins

²³still NGA50

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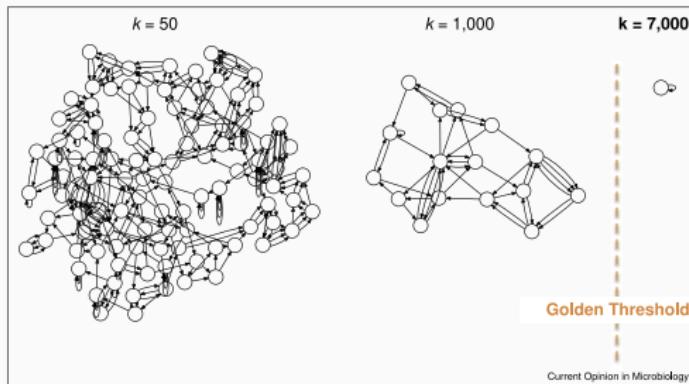
Post-Assembly: KNOT Knowledge Network Overlap exTraction

Bacterial *de novo* assembly problem, solved ?

Assembly of 3rd generation sequencing data

- high error rate in reads
- but solves almost all genomic repetitions

Assembly of the *E. coli* genome²⁴:



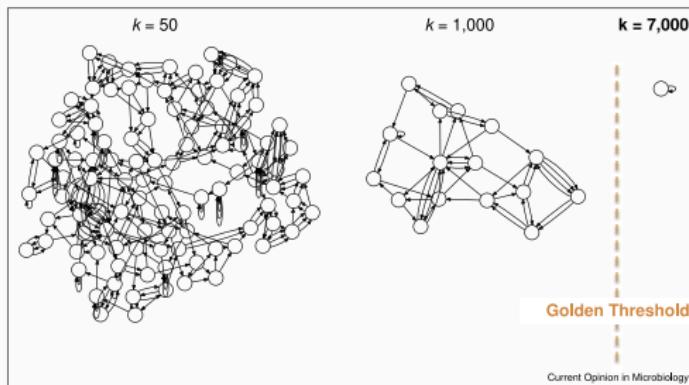
²⁴One chromosome, one contig [Koren and Phillippy, 2015]

Bacterial *de novo* assembly problem, solved ?

Assembly of 3rd generation sequencing data

- high error rate in reads
- but solves almost all genomic repetitions

Assembly of the *E. coli* genome²⁴:



But in reality ...

²⁴One chromosome, one contig [Koren and Phillippy, 2015]

Assembly is solved for many bacteria but not for all

NCTC: 3000 bacteria cultures sequenced with PacBio
(read length \approx 10-20kb), and assembled with HGAP²⁵

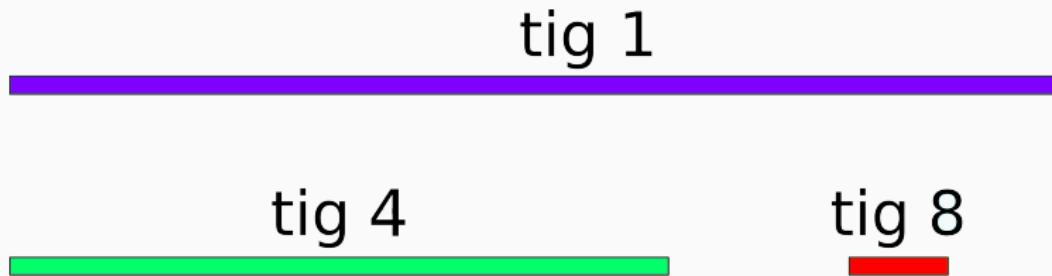
599 / 1735 (34 %) assemblies are not single-contig (as of Feb 2019)

Species	Strain	Sample	Runs	Automated Assembly	Manual Assembly	Manual Assembly Chromosome Contig Number	Manual Assembly Plasmid Contig Number	Manual Assembly Unidentified Contig Number
Achromobacter xylosoxidans	NCTC10807	ERS451415	ERR550491 ERR550506 ERR550507	Pending	EMBL	1	0	0
Budvicia aquatica	NCTC12282	ERS462988	ERR581162	Pending	EMBL	2	0	0
Campylobacter jejuni	NCTC11351	ERS445056	ERR550473 ERR550476	Pending	EMBL	1	0	0
Cedecea neteri	NCTC12120	ERS462978	ERR581152 ERR581168 ERR597265	Pending	EMBL	7	1	0
Citrobacter amalonaticus	NCTC10805	ERS485850	ERR601156 ERR601157	Pending	EMBL	1	2	0
Citrobacter freundii	NCTC9750	ERS485849	ERR601159 ERR601165	Pending	EMBL	1	0	0
Citrobacter koseri	NCTC10849	ERS473430	ERR581173	Pending	EMBL	1	1	0
Corynebacterium diphtheriae	NCTC11397	ERS451417	ERR550510	Pending	EMBL	1	0	0
Cronobacter sakazakii	NCTC11467	ERS462977	ERR581151 ERR581167	Pending	EMBL	4	3	0

²⁵[Chin et al., 2013]

A synthetic example

- Dataset: *Terriglobus roseus* synthetic pacbio, 20x coverage (LongISLND²⁶)
- Assembly tools: Canu ²⁷



²⁶[Lau et al., 2016]

²⁷[Koren et al., 2017]

A synthetic example

- Dataset: *Terriglobus roseus* synthetic pacbio, 20x coverage (LongISLND²⁶)
- Assembly tools: Canu ²⁷



Can we recover missing edges between contigs?

²⁶[Lau et al., 2016]

²⁷[Koren et al., 2017]

A synthetic example

An assembly graph can be defined as :

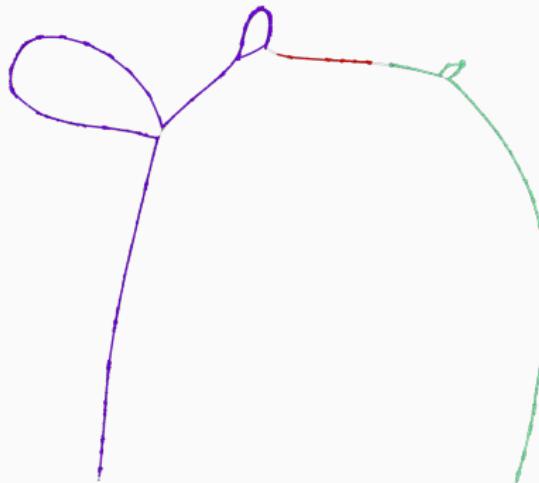
- nodes → reads
- edges → overlaps

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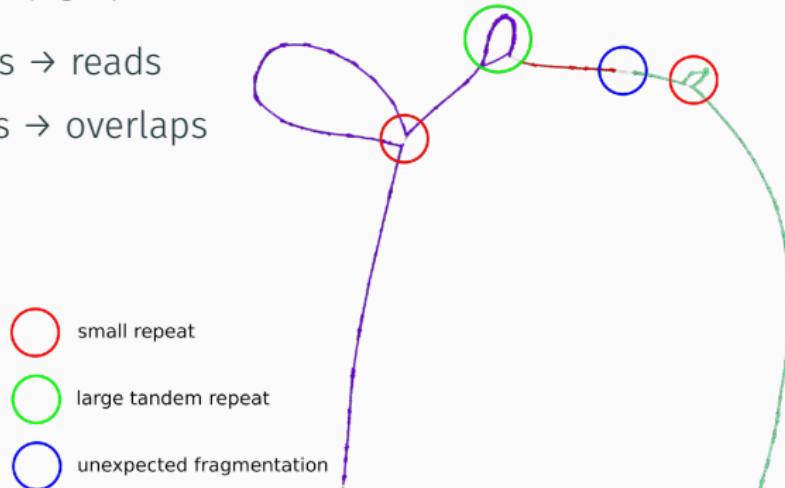
Overlap graph (constructed by **Minimap2**²⁸), reads are colored by **Canu** contig.

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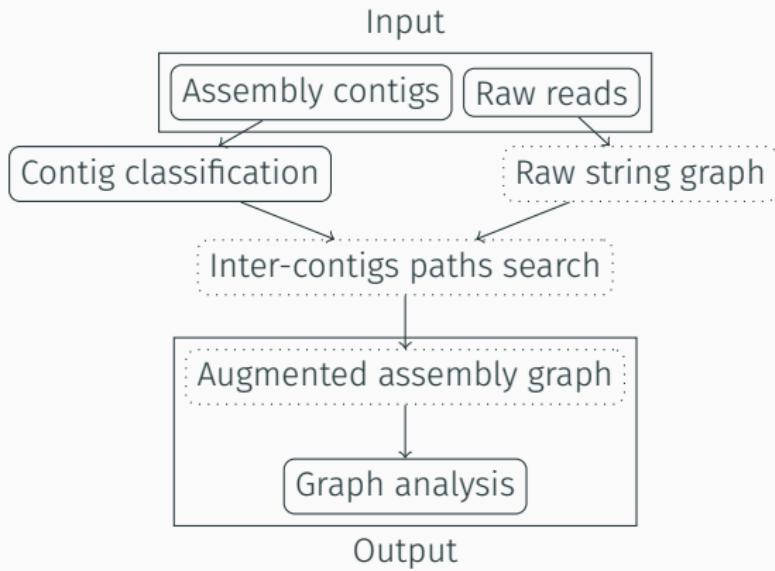
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Definition of an Augmented Assembly Graph

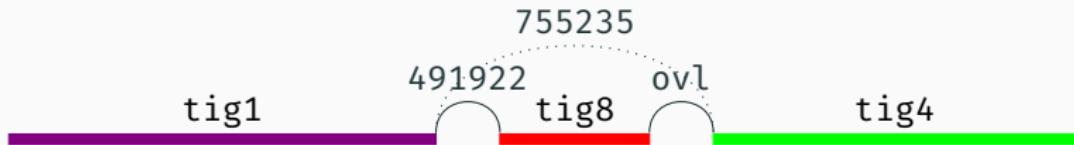
The AAG is an undirected, weighted graph:

- nodes: contigs extremities
- edges:
 - between extremities of a contig (weight = 0),
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Plain links are paths compatible with true order of contigs, dotted links are other paths.

Graph analysis

We classify paths based on their length (in base pairs):

Distant:



Adjacency:



Multiple adjacency:



In prokaryotes, most repetitions are $< 10 \text{ kbp}$ ²⁹

²⁹[Treangen et al., 2009]

Test on 38 datasets from NCTC3000

We selected 38 datasets from NCTC3000, where **Canu**, **Miniasm** and **Hinge** didn't produce the expected number of chromosomes (*i.e.* *unsolved assemblies*).

- 19 datasets were *manually solved* by NCTC
- 17 remained fragmented
- 2 with no assembly attempt by NCTC

Result

Across 38 datasets:

Mean number of	
Canu contigs	4.32
Edges in AAG	32.67
Theoretical max. edges in AAG	41.83
Distant edges	28.64
Adjacency edges	4.02
Missing adjacency in:	
Canu contigs graph	4.94
AAG, adjacency edges	2.70

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Almost half of the missing paths in contigs graph are recovered.

Hamilton walk

AAG's are generally complete graphs. We can enumerate all their Hamilton walks.

The weight of a walk is the sum of all edge weights.

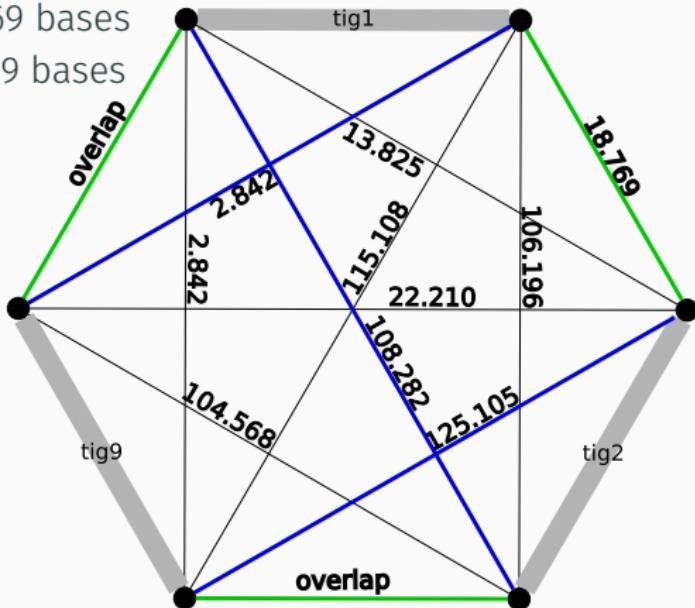
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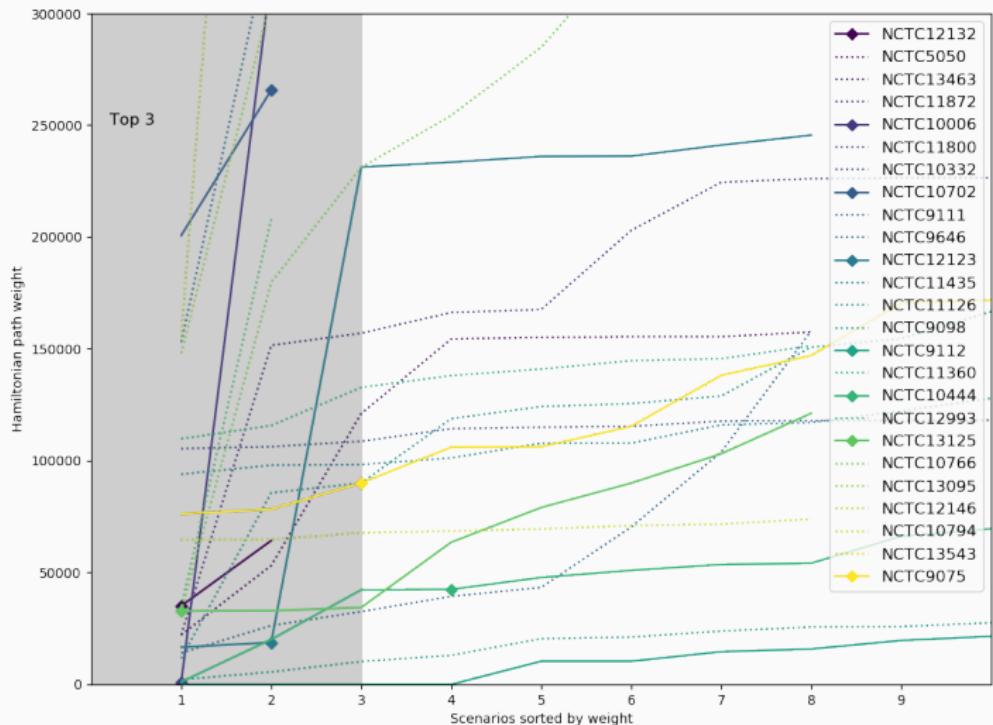
The weight of a walk is the sum of all edge weights.

Supposedly: We assume that **lowest-weight walk** is the true genome.

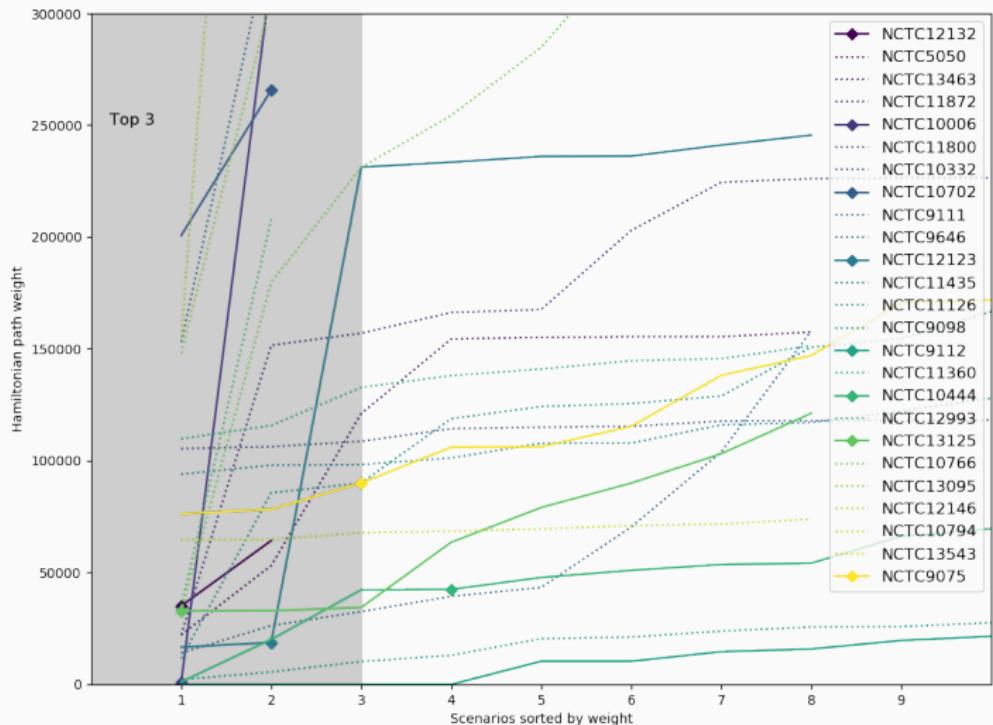
- Green walk weight: 18,769 bases
- Blue walk weight: 136,229 bases



Hamilton walk



Hamilton walk



Generally, the true contig ordering is a low-weight Hamiltonian walk

Conclusion

Summary: `yacrd` and `fpa`

`fpa` allows users to reduce the memory impact of overlap files without impact on assembly and was used:

³⁰<https://github.com/ekg/yeast-pangenome>

³¹<https://github.com/natir/yacrd/issues/30>

Summary: `yacrd` and `fpa`

`fpa` allows users to reduce the memory impact of overlap files without impact on assembly and was used:

- in a genome graph pipeline generation³⁰ to keep only very long overlap
- KNOT pipeline to convert overlap into overlap graph

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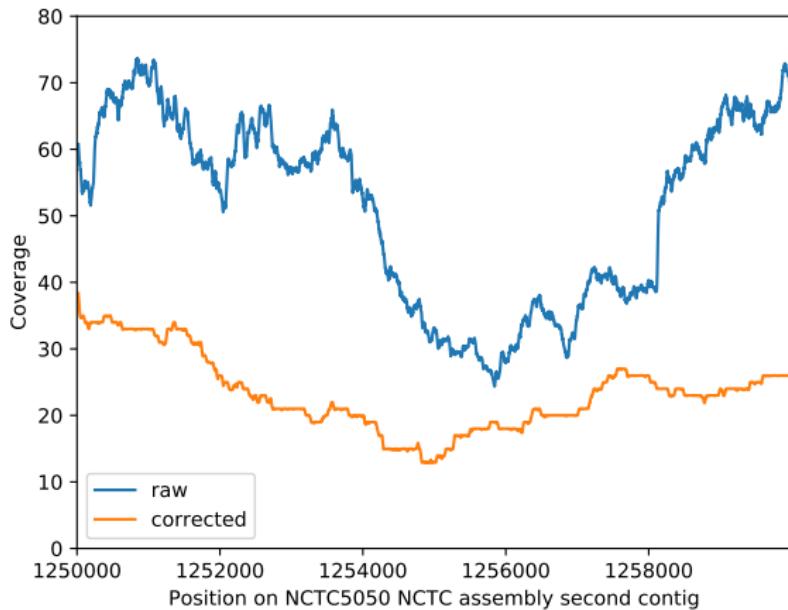
I'm still not satisfied

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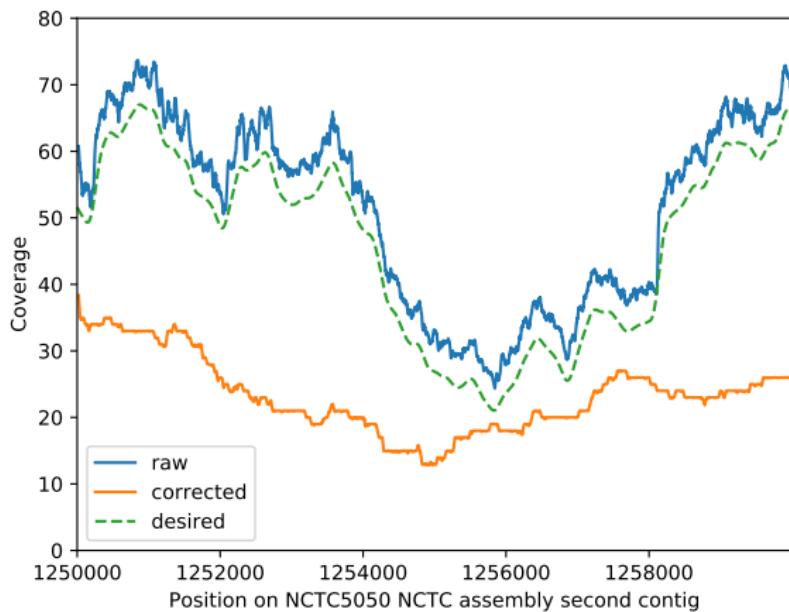
Scrubbing or correcting reads can create a coverage gap



Correction performed by the `Canu` correction module

Summary: `yacrd` and `fpa`

Scrubbing or correcting reads can create a coverage gap



Correction performed by the `Canu` correction module

Summary: KNOT

The KNOT AAG help to understand and improve assembly without any new information.

- Bacterial assembly is not solved for all datasets
- Build and analyse **Augmented Assembly Graph** can help

Future:

- Reduce the computation time
- Get more users

Open questions:

- Behavior of the AAG on heterozygote dataset
- How to adapt to multichromosomal species

Outlook

Publications:

- Graph analysis of fragmented long-read bacterial genome assemblies doi: [10.1093/bioinformatics/btz219](https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btz219)
- `yacrd` and `fpa`: upstream tools for long-read genome assembly doi: [10.1101/674036](https://doi.org/10.1101/674036)

Blog posts:

- State-of-the-art long reads overapper-compare
- How to reduce the impact of your PAF file on your disk by 95%
- Misassemblies in noisy assemblies

Software:

- `KNOT` <https://github.com/natir/knot/>
- `yacrd` <https://github.com/natir/yacrd/>
- `fpa` <https://github.com/natir/fpa/>

Perspectives

“With modern fast sequencing techniques and suitable computer programs it is now possible to sequence whole genomes without the need of restriction maps.”*

* Adapted from R. Chikhi talk, CGSI 2019**

** Adapted from A. Phillippy’s talk, RECOMB-Seq’19³²

³²[Staden, 1979]

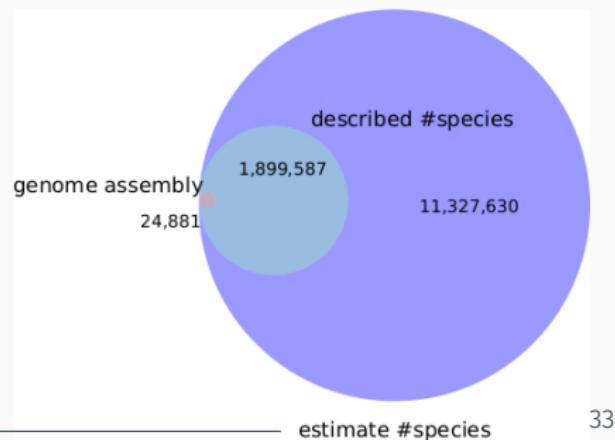
³³data extract from ebi database and [Chapman, 2009]

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- The BONSAI team
- All staff members of:
 - CRISTAL laboratory
 - Inria Lille Nord Europe center
 - University of Lille

Finally, my friends and family.

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