Fecal Microbiota Transplant (FMT) Qiime 2 Analysis

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Background

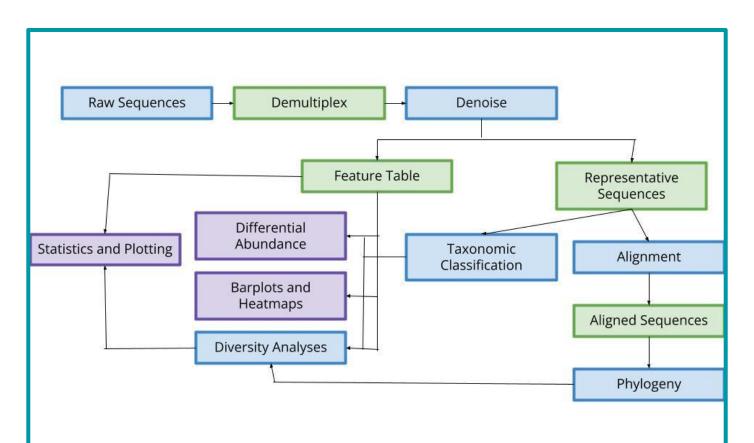
- In a study by Kang et al., children with autism and gastrointestinal disorders were treated with fecal microbiota transplants to reduce their symptoms
- For 18 weeks, their microbiomes and severity of their symptoms were monitored through fecal swab and stool samples
- An Illumina 16s rRNA library was prepared for sequencing the samples

Kang, DW., Adams, J.B., Gregory, A.C. *et al.* Microbiota Transfer Therapy alters gut ecosystem and improves gastrointestinal and autism symptoms: an open-label study. *Microbiome* 5, 10 (2017). https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-016-0225-7

Goals

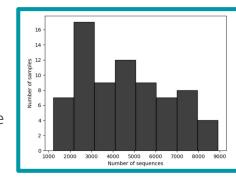
- Using sequenced data from the study by Kang et al., a bioinformatic pathway analysis was performed
- Raw reads were denoised and merged, sequences were aligned and classified, phylogenies were created, and diversity metrics were assessed using Qiime and VSCode
- Bioinformatic techniques were used to generate results in the form of representative figures and visualizations

Pipeline



Methods: Obtaining, Denoising, and Merging Data

- wget: obtains initial data files (sample metadata and 10% subsample data)
- demux summarize: plots sequence quality to assess reads before denoising
- dada2 denoise-single: denoises sequences (removes errors and increases accuracy)
- *metadata tabulate*: tabulates denoised stats (amount of filtered, denoised, and non-chimeric read inputs)
- *feature-table tabulate-seqs*: gives sequence lengths
- *feature-table merge*: combines two feature tables
- feature-table merge-seqs: gives sequence lengths
- *feature-table summarize*: tabulates and plots frequency stats
- feature-table tabulate-seqs: makes merged table with sequence lengths of each feature



Feature ID	Sequence Length	Sequence
002e78333d6cf2b11aa7a5ba03dd2c68	137	AGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTTTAAAGGGCGCGTAGGCGGGACGTCAAGTCAGCCGGTAAAAGACTGCAGCTAAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTCGACCTGGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGCGGAACAAGTGAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTCGACCTGGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGACAAGTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTCGACCTGGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGACAAGTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTCGACCTGGAGACGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGACAAGTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCGGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGACAAGTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCGGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGACAAGTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTAGCACCGCGGAGACGAGACGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGGAGACAAGTGAAACTGTAGAACTGTAGCACCGCCGTTGAAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAACTGTAGAAAAAAAA
0046913ae6f9e12dbd889671ed26c09d	137	AGCGTTGTCCGGAATTATTGGGCGTAAAGGGCGCGCAGGCGGTTCAGTCTGTCT
009c3d1fd56cf5682c875f959d9fee33	137	AGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTGTAAAGGGTGCGTAGACGGGAAATTAAGTTAGTT
00c7ff8350c1f1874014b473b1890bf3	137	GGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTTTAAAGGGAGCCGTAGGCCGTGGGTTAAGTGTGTTGTGAAATCCGGTTGCTCAACATCCGGTTTGCAGCGCATACTGTCTCACTTGAGTGCGCACAACGCAGGCGGAATTCGTCG
014ed0286a2651609cc4a145b7ea6788	137	GGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTTTAAAGGGAGCGTAGGCCGCCAGGTAAGCGTGTTGTGAAATGTACCGGCTCAACCGGTGAATTGCAGCGCGAACTGTCTGGCTTGAGTGCACGGTAAGTAGGCGGAATTCATGG

Methods: Aligning Sequences

- alignment mafft: aligns sequences of feature table
- *alignment mask*: removes ambiguous positions from alignment

Methods: Classifying Sequences

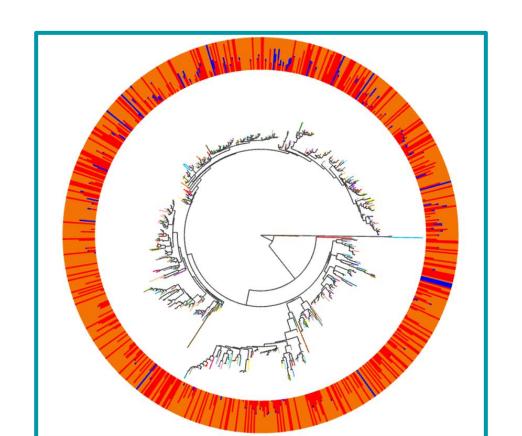
- wget: obtains 16s rRNA human stool classifier from SILVA database
- feature-classifier classify-sklearn: assigns taxonomy to rep seqs
- metadata tabulate: tabulates taxa and confidence of each feature

Feature ID #q2:types \$\frac{1}{2}\$	Taxon categorical ↓↑	Confidence categorical
002e78333d6cf2b11aa7a5ba03dd2c68	d_Bacteria; p_Bacteroidota; c_Bacteroidia; o_Bacteroidales; f_Marinifilaceae; g_Butyricimonas; s_uncultured_bacterium	0.9443730139226642
0046913ae6f9e12dbd889671ed26c09d	${\tt d_Bacteria; p_Firmicutes; c_Negativicutes; o_Veillonellales-Selenomonadales; f_Veillonellaceae; g_Megasphaera; s_uncultured_bacterium}$	0.9972867127847357
009c3d1fd56cf5682c875f959d9fee33	d_Bacteria; p_Firmicutes; c_Clostridia; o_Clostridia_UCG-014; f_Clostridia_UCG-014; g_Clostridia_UCG-014	0.999999999982891
00c7ff8350c1f1874014b473b1890bf3	d_Bacteria; p_Bacteroidota; c_Bacteroidia; o_Bacteroidales; f_Prevotellaceae; g_Prevotella; s_Prevotella_bergensis	0.9999999722448368
014ed0286a2651609cc4a145b7ea6788	d_Bacteria; p_Bacteroidota; c_Bacteroidia; o_Bacteroidales; f_Prevotellaceae; g_Prevotella; s_Prevotella_buccalis	0.9999876928118754

Methods: Making Phylogenetic Tree

- phylogeny fasttree: makes tree from aligned sequences
- phylogeny midpoint-root: roots tree
- empress tree-plot: adds taxa to rooted tree
- empress community-plot: plots phylogenies and taxonomic community data

Results: Phylogenetic Tree



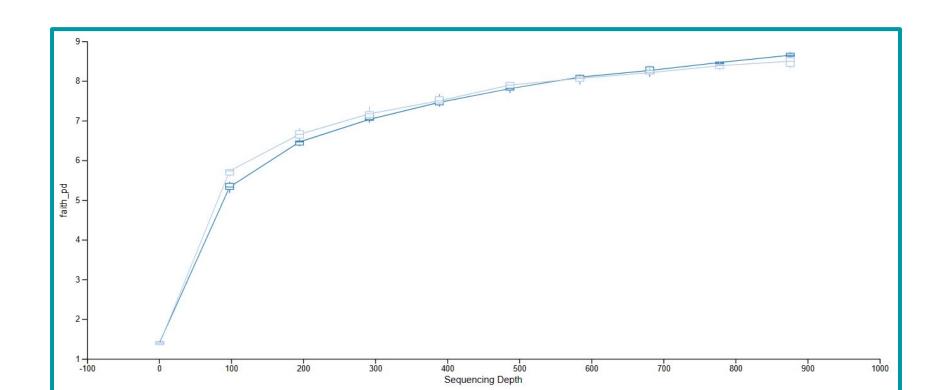
Methods: Assessing Diversity Metrics

- *feature-table filter-samples*: filters samples to compare control and treatment groups
- *feature-table summarize*: makes filtered table to determine sequence depth
- diversity core-metrics-phylogenetic: makes and plots alpha and beta diversity metrics using sequence depth

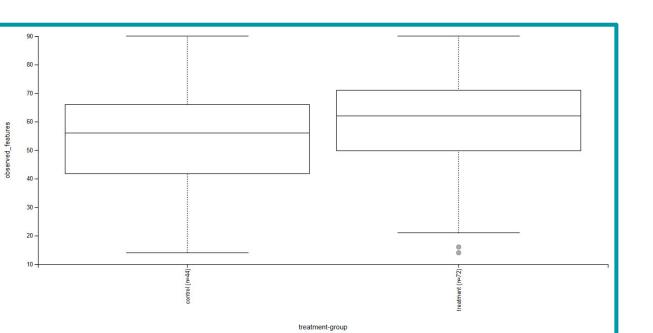
Alpha Diversity:

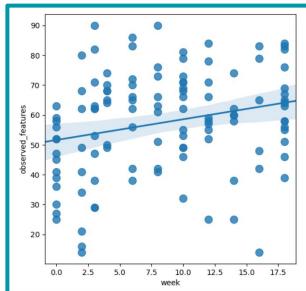
- diversity alpha-rarefaction: verifies sequence depth and plots depth vs diversity
- *diversity alpha-group-significance*: plots alpha diversity vs observed features
- longitudinal linear-mixed-effects: makes alpha diversity linear plot with weekly treatment vs diversity

Results: Alpha Rarefaction Plot



Results: Alpha Diversity Plots



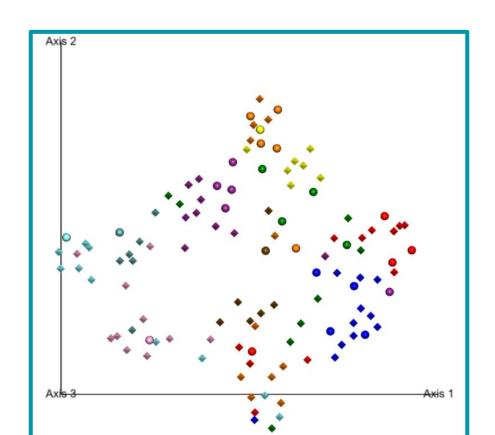


Methods: Assessing Diversity Metrics

Beta Diversity:

- diversity umap: reduces dimensions of beta diversity metrics using unweighted and weighted unifrac matrices
- metadata tabulate: tabulates unifrac matrices using diversity values (Faith's phylogenetic diversity, evenness, and Shannon diversity)
- *taxa barplot*: makes taxonomy barplot
- emperor plot: plots umap and pcoa data from beta diversity unifrac matrices

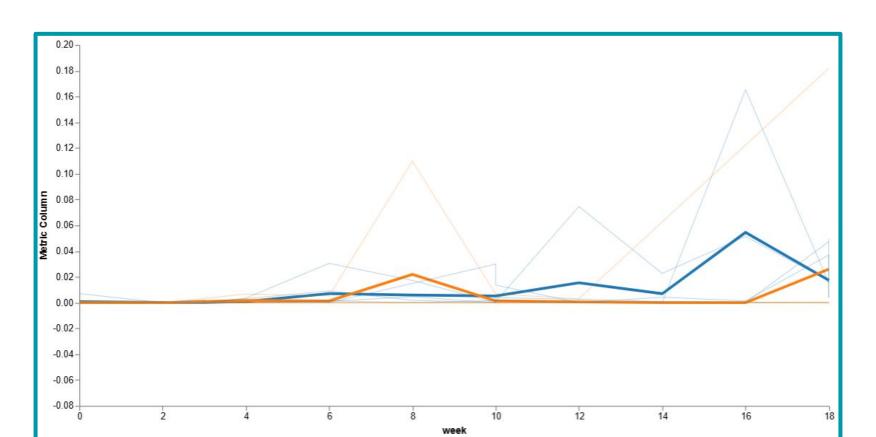
Results: Beta Diversity Plot



Methods: Assessing Diversity Metrics

- *taxa collapse*: adds taxa to feature table
- feature-table filter-features-conditionally: filters abundance of genera in feature table
- *feature-table relative-frequency*: converts counts in filtered feature table to relative frequencies
- longitudinal volatility: makes longitudinal volatility plot using metadata, diversity metrics, and taxa and relative frequencies from table
- longitudinal feature-volatility: makes volatility control plot to identify features that change over time

Results: Volatility Control Plot



Conclusions

- My full script contains all commands that I used for this project and can be found in my repo on GitHub
- I ran into issues getting the empress command and pushing from my local repo to my GitHub repo
- Qiime is a useful program for performing bioinformatic analyses

Sources

Kang, DW., Adams, J.B., Gregory, A.C. *et al.* Microbiota Transfer Therapy alters gut ecosystem and improves gastrointestinal and autism symptoms: an open-label study. *Microbiome* 5, 10 (2017). https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-016-0225-7 https://docs.giime2.org/2024.2/tutorials/fmt/

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