Microbiome Analysis

Research Day 2012 Ranjit Kumar







Human Microbiome

- Microorganisms Bad or good ?
- Human colon contains up to 100 trillion bacteria.
- Human microbiome The community of bacteria that live on/in the human host (mucosal surfaces, skin, tooth surface, etc.) Beneficial/neutral/adversarial.
- Numerous studies have suggested that shifts in the populations of microbial communities may be associated with acute and chronic diseases: inflammatory bowel disease, obesity, cardiovascular disease, eczema and other skin diseases, vaginal infections.



Studying microbiome : 16S rRNA gene sequencing

- 16S rRNA gene is found in all bacterial species, contains regions which are highly conserved and highly variable sequence.
- Variable sequence can be thought of as a molecular "fingerprint". Can be used to identify bacterial genera and species.
- Large public databases available for comparison.
 - RDP Ribosomal Database
 - Greengenes
 - ARB-Silva



Next Generation Sequencing

- ✓ Culture independent study
- ✓ Low quantity of sample needed (20-50ng DNA)
- ✓ High sequencing depth (identification of rare microbes).
- ✓ Multiplexing of many different samples in one run using indexes (up to 40 barcodes).
- Large scale sequencing of 16S rDNA gene amplicons. Different technologies have different read length and cost factors.
 - 454 : 450K 500K reads per run
 - Illumina GAIIx : 10M 40M reads/lane*
 - Illumina Hiseq : 350M reads/lane*
 - Illumina Miseq (new) : 8M reads/lane*



Microbiome Analysis in Nutshell





Microbiome Facilities at UAB

1. Sample preparation.

- Processing DNA and 16S DNA PCR Dr. Casey Morrow's lab.
- 2. Sequencing : Helfin genomics center
 - GAIIx, HISeq, MISeq Dr. Mike Crowley.
- 3. Data Analysis Microbiome data analysis.
 - Data analysis by CCTS/BMI group : Dr. Elliot Lefkowitz
 - Software packages available QIIME*, Mothur*, R*
- 4. Gnotobiotics facility

* Programs installed at Cheaha Cluster



Data Analysis and Cluster

- Recent microbiome run at UAB : GAIIx, 90 samples (8 projects), 7 lanes, 28GB ~ 120M reads.
- Data Analysis Challenges : Sample grouping and demultiplexing, Accuracy, Fast turnaround time, Storage space, parallel processing.
- ✓ Cheaha cluster provides facilities for large scale data analysis.
- ✓ Programs installed QIIME, Mothur, R, FASTQC, FastX
- ✓ Developed automated scripts for parallel analysis.
- ✓ 3 day turnaround time for initial set of results.



Example

- 24 samples in five group(A,B,C,M,V)
- Sample prefixed with C are control





Alpha diversity

Used to access the diversity within a sample





Beta diversity

Used to access the diversity between the samples



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Other plots : Heatmap



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UAB Biomedical Informatics Resources and Assistance

• CCTS-BMI

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Heflin Center

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