

Third Generation Sequencing Informatics

DESAM Research Institute

Applied Bioinformatics - Wits University wits.ac.za

University of Nevada, Reno unr.edu

sib.swiss

Clinical Bioinformatics Bioinformatics | Boston University bu.edu

Outline

- NGS Technologies
- Limitations and Future Scope
- 3rd Gen Informatics
- Workflow of Data Analysis
- Definitions, File Types, Processes, and more

What to Expect?

- Basic Knowledge about Sequencing Platforms
- Introduction on Bioinformatics
- How to interpret Raw Data?
- Types of Analysis and what programs we need to choose?
- Applications and Visualizations of the data

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NGS Technologies:

NGS Technologies:

7. Helicos Sequencing (Single-Molecule Sequencing):

- Principle: Serial imaging of fluorescently labeled nucleotides during synthesis.
- Key Features: Single-molecule sequencing, no amplification bias.

Applications: Gene expression analysis, RNA-Seq.

- 8. Complete Genomics Sequencing:
- Principle: Direct sequencing of DNA nanoarrays.
- Key Features: No need for library preparation, cost-effective for large projects. Applications: Genome sequencing for population studies.
- 9. BGISEQ Sequencing:
- Principle: DNBSEQ technology using combinatorial probe-anchor synthesis.
- Key Features: High throughput, relatively low cost.

Applications: Genome sequencing, transcriptome analysis.

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Dlamini *et al*., 2020 - *Comput Struct Biotechnol J.*

Limitations of NGS:

1. Read Length: NGS platforms typically produce short sequence reads, which can make it challenging to assemble genomes with repetitive regions or analyze long-range structural variations.

2. Error Rates: NGS can have error rates, particularly in homopolymer regions (repeating nucleotides), which can affect variant calling accuracy and data quality.

3. Coverage Uniformity: NGS may exhibit uneven coverage across the genome, leading to gaps or regions with low sequencing depth, which can affect variant detection and downstream analysis.

4. Complex Structural Variations: Complex structural variations, such as chromosomal rearrangements and inversions, may be challenging to detect accurately using standard NGS approaches.

5. Repetitive Regions: Highly repetitive genomic regions can be difficult to sequence and assemble, leading to incomplete or inaccurate results.

6. GC Bias: NGS can exhibit GC content bias, resulting in varying sequencing depths for regions with different GC content, potentially impacting data analysis.

7. Sequence Errors: Sequencing errors, including substitutions, insertions, and deletions, can occur and require advanced error correction methods.

Limitations of NGS:

8. Library Preparation Artifacts: Artifacts introduced during library preparation, such as PCR duplicates, can lead to data redundancy and affect variant calling and quantification.

9. High Computational Demands: NGS data analysis demands significant computational resources and expertise, which can be a limitation for some research settings.

10. Data Storage and Management: Managing and storing large volumes of NGS data can be challenging and costly, particularly for long-term storage and data sharing.

11. Sample Contamination: Contamination of samples during handling or library preparation can lead to incorrect results and necessitate rigorous quality control measures.

12. Ethical and Privacy Concerns: The generation of extensive genetic data raises ethical and privacy concerns, requiring careful data handling and consent procedures.

13. Turnaround Time: NGS workflows can have longer turnaround times compared to other diagnostic methods, impacting clinical applications where rapid results are needed.

14. Limited Detection of Epigenetic Modifications: Standard NGS techniques may not provide comprehensive information about epigenetic modifications, necessitating additional assays for detailed epigenomic studies.

15. Cost: While NGS costs have decreased over the years, it can still be expensive, particularly for large-scale projects or clinical applications.

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Dlamini *et al*., 2020 - *Comput Struct Biotechnol J.*

Advantages of NGS:

1. High Throughput: NGS platforms can generate vast amounts of sequencing data, allowing researchers to analyze multiple samples simultaneously.

2. Speed: NGS is significantly faster than traditional Sanger sequencing, enabling quicker results for research and clinical applications.

3. Cost-Effective: The per-base cost of sequencing has decreased over the years, making NGS more accessible for various research projects and clinical diagnostics.

4. Whole Genome Sequencing: NGS allows for whole genome sequencing, providing a comprehensive view of an individual's genetic makeup and potential disease risk factors.

5. Customization: NGS can be tailored to specific research questions, enabling targeted sequencing of regions of interest or whole genome/exome sequencing as needed.

Advantages of NGS:

6. Detection of Various Variants: NGS can identify a wide range of genetic variants, including SNPs, indels, CNVs, and structural variations, enhancing its versatility.

7. Applications Across Disciplines: NGS is widely used in genomics, transcriptomics, epigenomics, metagenomics, and more, enabling diverse scientific investigations.

8. Personalized Medicine: NGS is crucial in the field of personalized medicine, where genetic information informs treatment decisions and drug selection.

9. Rare Disease Diagnosis: NGS can help diagnose rare genetic disorders by identifying disease-causing mutations in affected individuals.

10. Research Advancements: NGS has led to significant advances in genetics, genomics, and our understanding of complex diseases and traits.

Disadvantages of NGS:

1. Data Complexity: NGS generates massive volumes of data that require advanced computational and bioinformatics resources for processing and analysis.

2. Short Read Lengths: Most NGS platforms produce short reads, which can be challenging for de novo genome assembly and analyzing repetitive regions.

3. Data Storage: Storing and managing large NGS datasets can be costly and require robust infrastructure.

4. Quality Control: Ensuring data quality is critical, as sequencing errors, artifacts, and biases can impact the accuracy of results.

5. Bioinformatics Expertise: NGS data analysis requires specialized bioinformatics expertise, which may not be readily available to all researchers.

Disadvantages of NGS:

6. GC Bias: NGS can exhibit bias in sequencing GC-rich or GC-poor regions, affecting coverage uniformity.

7. Ethical and Privacy Concerns: The generation of extensive genetic data raises ethical and privacy concerns, necessitating careful data handling and consent procedures.

8. Turnaround Time: NGS workflows can have longer turnaround times compared to other diagnostic methods, which may not be suitable for urgent clinical cases.

9. Sample Contamination: Contamination of samples during handling or library preparation can lead to incorrect results and necessitate rigorous quality control measures.

10. Initial Setup Costs: While the per-base sequencing cost has decreased, the initial setup costs for acquiring NGS instruments and infrastructure can be substantial.

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Future Scope of NGS technology:

1. Longer Read Lengths: Continued efforts to increase read lengths will enable more comprehensive genome assembly, better detection of structural variations, and improved characterization of complex regions.

2. Single-Molecule Sequencing: Advancements in single-molecule sequencing technologies, such as Oxford Nanopore, may provide ultralong reads and real-time sequencing, revolutionizing genomics and metagenomics research.

3. High-Throughput Platforms: The development of high-throughput NGS platforms will enable faster and more cost-effective sequencing, making large-scale genomic projects more accessible.

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Future Scope of NGS technology:

4. Clinical Diagnostics: NGS will play an increasingly significant role in clinical diagnostics, including the identification of rare genetic disorders, monitoring cancer mutations, and guiding personalized treatment plans.

5. Epigenomics and Epitranscriptomics: NGS will continue to unravel the complexities of epigenetic modifications and RNA modifications, shedding light on gene regulation and disease mechanisms.

6. Single-Cell Sequencing: Further refinement of single-cell sequencing techniques will provide insights into cellular heterogeneity, developmental biology, and disease processes at the individual cell level.

7. Metagenomics and Microbiome Research: Advancements in metagenomic analysis will improve our understanding of microbial communities in various environments, leading to applications in health, agriculture, and environmental sciences.

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Future Scope of NGS technology:

8. Structural Variation Detection: Enhanced methods for accurately detecting and characterizing structural variations will have implications for understanding genetic diseases and their underlying mechanisms.

9. Functional Genomics: Integrating NGS with functional genomics techniques will enable researchers to decipher gene function and regulatory networks with higher precision.

10. Data Analysis and Interpretation: Continued development of bioinformatics tools and Al-driven approaches will facilitate the analysis and interpretation of complex NGS datasets, making it more accessible to researchers.

11. Global Genomic Initiatives: Expanding global genomic initiatives will involve large-scale population sequencing projects to understand genetic diversity, ancestry, and disease susceptibility on a global scale.

EAR EAST UNIVERSITY OD DESAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE Future Scope of NGS technology:

12. Point-of-Care Sequencing: Portable and miniaturized NGS devices for point-of-care applications, such as rapid pathogen detection, may become more widespread.

13. Ethical and Regulatory Frameworks: As NGS continues to generate vast amounts of genetic data, the development of robust ethical guidelines and regulatory frameworks for data privacy and security will be essential.

14. Environmental Genomics: NGS will be instrumental in monitoring and managing ecosystems and biodiversity, helping with conservation efforts and ecological research.

15. Therapeutic Insights: NGS will contribute to personalized medicine by identifying drug targets, optimizing treatment strategies, and predicting individual responses to therapies.

16. Emerging Sequencing Technologies: Novel sequencing technologies currently in development may bring unforeseen advancements and capabilities to genomics research.

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DESAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE Future Advancements and Directions:

1. Precision Medicine: Personalized treatment plans based on an individual's genomic, transcriptomic, and proteomic data will become more common, improving healthcare outcomes.

2. Functional Genomics: Advancements in functional genomics, including CRISPR-based gene editing and high-throughput screening, will enable a deeper understanding of gene function and regulation.

3. Epigenomics and Epitranscriptomics: Further exploration of epigenetic modifications and RNA modifications will provide insights into gene regulation, development, and disease.

4. Single-Cell Omics: Single-cell genomics, transcriptomics, and proteomics will reveal cellular

heterogeneity and help understand complex biological processes.

5. Multi-Omics Integration: Integrating genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics data will

provide a holistic view of biological systems and disease mechanisms.

6. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning: Al-driven data analysis, predictive modeling, and

• drug discovery will accelerate genomics research and enable data-driven healthcare.

I EAR EAST UNIVERSITY **DESAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE** Future Advancements and Directions:

7. Metagenomics and Microbiome Research: Continued study of the human microbiome and

environmental metagenomics will impact health, agriculture, and ecological research.

8. Long-Read Sequencing: Advancements in long-read sequencing technologies will improve genome assembly, structural variation detection, and the study of complex genomic regions.

9. Nanopore Sequencing: Further developments in nanopore sequencing will lead to ultra-long reads, real- time sequencing, and portable devices with broader applications.

10. Single-Molecule Sequencing: Refinement of single-molecule sequencing techniques will provide unprecedented insights into genomics and molecular biology.

11. Drug Discovery and Development: Genomics will play a pivotal role in identifying new drug targets, optimizing drug development, and predicting patient responses to treatments.

12. Cancer Genomics: Continued research into cancer genomics will lead to better diagnostics, targeted therapies, and early detection methods.

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500-1,000 bp fragments

Infer nucleotide identity using dNTPs, http://education.com/initiation and initiation and time
then visualize with electrophoresis parallelization of sequencing reactions with single-molecule resolution parallelization of sequencing reactions

 \sim 50-500 bp fragments

Tens of kb fragments, on average

Short-read sequencing

Long-read sequencing

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3 rd Gen Informatics

- **Base calling:** Software process the raw data to call nucleotide bases and generate sequence reads.
- **Quality Control:** Quality control metrics are applied to assess the accuracy and reliability of the sequencing data.
- **Read Alignment:** Sequence reads are aligned or mapped to a reference genome or transcriptome to determine their genomic or transcriptomic locations.
- **Variant Calling:** Variants, such as single nucleotide polymorphism (SNPs) and insertions/deletions (indels) are identified by comparing the sequenced DNA to a reference sequence.
- **Bioinformatics Analysis:** Various bioinformatics tools and pipelines are used for downstream analysis, including gene expression quantification, pathway analysis, and functional annotation.
- **Data Interpretation:** Researchers and clinicians interpret the NGS data to gain insights into genetic variations, gene expression patterns, epigenetic modifications, and more to elucidate disease mechanisms, identify therapeutic targets, or diagnosing genetic disorders.

What is Trimming?

with the adapters completely overlapping the reads (A) testing for immediate 'read-though', then proceeds by checking for later overlap (B), including partial adapter read-though (C), finishing when the overlap indicates no read-through into the adapters (D).

https://academic.oup.com/bioinformatics/article/30/15/2114/2390096/Trimmomatic-a-flexible-trimmer-for-Illumina

sequencing cycles: 200

What is Quality Control?

What is Alignment/Mapping?

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of seq storing SAM 03

File Five Types of Fasta: **FASTA FORTA FILE Formatics**
Fasta: **Represention for represented using single-letter**
resented using single-letter

FASTA $0₁$

Sequence A BAM (Binary Alignment/Map) file is the compressed binary and the compressed binary representation of the Sequence Alignment/Map (SAM), a compact and **PAM** version of the Sequence Alignment/Map (SAM), a compact and indexable representation of nucleotide sequence alignments. BED: The data between SAM and BAM is exactly same. Being Binary

Require samtools to view the file.
 TERIOT EXTERNAL Require samtools to view the file.

or amino acid sequences of nucleic acids and proteins.

data in a series of tab delimited ASCII columns. Most often it is generated as a human readable version of its $BAM/$ BAM/Sister BAM format, which stores the same data in a \bullet P raw data of genome

BAM

04

header (information VCF version, sample etc) and data lines constitute the body of file. The header contains meta-information and is included after '##' string while the Data lines have 8 mandatory columns. #CHROM, POS, ID, REF, ALT, QUAL, FILTER, INFO.

peptide sequences, in the sequence of the sequences, in the pairs of the sequences of the represented using single-letter codes. A sequence in FASTA format begins with a single-line description, followed by lines

This is a very basic format with two minimum lines.
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and every **Everything** and every start of ormat was developed by Sanger institute in order to a nucleic and its quality scores (O: phred and a nucleic and its quality scores (O: phred and a nucleic content of the sequence and its quality scores from $\binom{group\log{other}}{quality\ score}$ and is associated with 4 lines.
 $\binom{1}{1}$ anality score) and is associated with 4 lines.

VCF: The SAM Format is a text format for storing sequence **in Dioinformatics for the SAM Format** is a text format for storing sequence

Principles of 3rd Gen Informatics

- 1. Data Preprocessing:
	- Quality Control: Bioinformatics tools assess the quality of sequencing data by checking for base call accuracy, sequence read length distribution, and other quality metrics.
	- Adapter Trimming: Sequencing adapters, which are added during library preparation, are removed to ensure accurate downstream analysis.
	- Read Filtering: Low-quality reads, duplicate reads, and contaminating reads are filtered out to improve data quality.
- 2. Sequence Alignment:
	- Reference Alignment: Sequence reads are aligned or mapped to a reference genome or transcriptome. Bioinformatics algorithms ensure that each read is correctly positioned on the reference, allowing researchers to identify genomic or transcriptomic locations.

3. Variant Calling:

- Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs) and Indels: Bioinformatics tools identify genetic variations, such as SNPs and indels, by comparing the sequenced DNA to the reference genome. Variant calling algorithms assess the likelihood of each variant.
- Structural Variations: Detection of larger structural variations, such as insertions, deletions, duplications, and translocations, is performed using specialized bioinformatics tools.

Workflow of 3rd Gen Informatics

- 4. Gene Expression Analysis (RNA-Seq):
	- Quantification: Bioinformatics tools quantify gene expression levels, isoform usage, and transcript abundances from RNA-Seq data.
	- Differential Expression: Researchers identify genes that are differentially expressed between experimental conditions (e.g., diseased vs. healthy samples) to understand regulatory mechanisms and disease pathways.

5. Functional Annotation:

- Bioinformatics tools annotate sequenced genes and variants to provide functional context, including gene ontology, pathway analysis, and identification of protein domains and motifs.
- 6. Epigenomics Analysis:
	- Bioinformatics methods are used to analyze DNA methylation, histone modifications, and chromatin accessibility data, providing insights into epigenetic regulation.

Workflow of 3rd Gen Informatics

- 7. Metagenomics:
	- Bioinformatics tools analyze metagenomic data to identify and characterize microorganisms in complex microbial communities, assess microbial diversity, and study their functional potential.
- 8. Visualization:
	- Data visualization tools and software generate plots, heatmaps, and graphs to help researchers and clinicians interpret and communicate their findings effectively.
- 9. Integration with Other Omics Data:
	- Bioinformatics facilitates the integration of NGS data with other omics data, such as proteomics and metabolomics, to provide a more comprehensive understanding of biological systems.

Workflow of 3rd Gen Informatics

10. Software and Pipelines:

- Bioinformatics pipelines, often implemented in software packages (e.g., BWA, GATK, STAR), automate data analysis workflows and ensure reproducibility.
- 11. Custom Analysis:
	- Depending on the specific research question, bioinformaticians may develop custom scripts and

algorithms to address unique analytical challenges.

12. Data Sharing and Databases:

• Bioinformatics resources, databases, and data repositories (e.g., NCBI, ENCODE, GenBank) store and provide access to NGS data for the research community.

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What are Genetic Variants?

1. Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs): SNPs are single base pair changes in the DNA sequence, representing the most common type of genetic variation in the human genome. They can occur at specific positions in the genome and are associated with diverse traits and diseases.

2. Insertions and Deletions (Indels): Indels involve the insertion or deletion of one or more nucleotides in the DNA sequence, leading to length variations at specific genomic locations.

3. Copy Number Variations (CNVs): CNVs are structural variations characterized by changes in the number of copies of a DNA segment. They can include gene duplications, deletions, and complex rearrangements. 4. Tandem Repeat Variations: These variations consist of short DNA sequences repeated consecutively within a genomic region. The number of repeats can vary among individuals and impact gene expression and phenotypic traits.

5. Structural Variants (SVs): SVs are larger-scale variations involving the rearrangement, duplication, or deletion of significant DNA segments. They encompass translocations, inversions, and large insertions or deletions.

6. Point Mutations: Point mutations are changes in a single nucleotide, which can be transitions

(substitution of a purine with another purine or a pyrimidine with another pyrimidine) or transversions (substitution of a purine with a pyrimidine or vice versa).

What are Genetic Variants?

7. Frameshift Mutations: Frameshift mutations occur when nucleotides are inserted or deleted from a DNA sequence in a way that shifts the reading frame during translation, potentially resulting in non-functional proteins.

8. Missense Mutations: Missense mutations are point mutations that change a single nucleotide, leading to the substitution of one amino acid for another in the encoded protein. They can affect protein structure and function.

9. Nonsense Mutations: Nonsense mutations are point mutations that create premature stop codons in the coding sequence, resulting in truncated and often non-functional proteins.

10. Silent Mutations: Silent mutations are point mutations that do not change the amino acid sequence of the encoded protein due to the redundancy of the genetic code. They typically have no discernible phenotypic effect.

11. Splice Site Mutations: Splice site mutations affect the conserved sequences at exon-intron junctions, leading to altered mRNA splicing and potentially non-functional or dysfunctional protein products. 12. Intronic Variants: Variants located within introns (non-coding regions) of genes can influence gene expression and regulation by affecting splicing, transcription, or other regulatory elements.

Workflow for Nanopore Sequencing platform

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DESAM RESEARCH INSTITUTE What you should have in your PCs?

- Txt editors (notepad, MSWord, notepad++, etc.)
- MSExcel for csy files
- Please register to following websites

https://usegalaxy.org

server.t-bio.info

• Please download following programs

IGV (Integrative Genomics Viewer) from igv.org

Blast2GO (Annotation tool) from blast2go.com

Bioedit (Seq. alignment editor) from bioedit.software.informer.com

(A) Molecular Function

· Small molecule binding

= Ion binding

 (b)

Patient

Father

Mother

 $292 - Arg - 4$
874 A G G A

HOXA11 c.881T>G (p.Met294Arg)

 Met

Sezer *et al.*, 2022 – *Am J Med Genet.*

OF HOXA11 TRKKRC**EYTKYQIRELERE**FFFSVYINKEKRLOLSRMLMLT**DRQVKI**
SIX1 G<mark>EETSYCFKEKSRGVLRE</mark>WYAHNFYFSPREKRELAEATGLTTTQVSN

SHOX LHX4 AKRPRT LHX3 A

Ullah *et al*., 2019 – *Sci. Rep.*

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A Hakkımızda DESAM Laboratuvarları Araştırma Grupları Sürekli Eğitim Yayınlar İletişim

Thanx For Your Attention…