Future lessons from large-scale biological data management

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We have been living through a revolution.



Revolution is driven by data



Source: Semantic community

EMBL

A data driven experiment: The 1000 Genomes Project primary goals

To provide a deep characterization of human genome variation to provide a baseline for investigating the relationship between genotype and phenotype.

- To identify effectively all variation
 - At 1% MAF or higher genome wide
 - At 0.1% to 0.5% MAF in the exonic regions
- Structural variation as well as SNVs
- Provide a haplotype structure for the human genome
- Develop analysis methods, tools and reagents which can be transferred to other projects



Which samples?





Basic strategy

- Collect shotgun sequencing reads
- Random Fragments of the whole genome or exome
- Map the reads to the reference genome
 - Possible problems with repetitive regions of the genome
 - Possible problems with misalignments
- Detect variation based on the alignment of the reads from all samples
 - Statistical issues allowing for errors in sampling

Seven years ago little of this could be done at scale



The growth of the project

- Pilot (2008-2010, published Nature Oct. 2010):
 - Deep sequence for two trios (CEU and YRI)
 - Low coverage ($\sim 2x$) of 180 individuals in 3 populations
 - Capture of 1000 genes in ~700 individuals
- Phase 1 (2010-2012, published Nature Nov. 2012)
 - 1092 individuals with ~3x low-coverage, 1040 with matched exome sequence
 - OMNI 2.5M genotyping
- Phase 2+3 (2012-2014, publish final Paper TBD)
 - 2535 samples with low coverage and exome sequence data
 - High coverage Complete Genomics data for 427 samples.
- Final project represents 25 times more data than the original plan. With 2.5 times more samples and more populations





Managing the 1000 Genomes data

What it felt like in April 2008



First major data transfer







Infrastructures are critical...





But we only notice them when they go wrong





Informatics is Infrastructure:

Network transfer protocols Data Compression Standards Archives



1000 Genomes Project Size

- There are 4461406 files on the ftp site
- There are **580T** of data on the ftp site
- There are **26** populations
- There are **2854** samples
- There are 79072 gigabases of low coverage sequence
- 28753 x coverage in low coverage
- There are **35607** gigabases of exome sequence

There are currently 1,196,200 GB of sequence in the ENA in total (was 235 GB at the start of the project).







Distributed production: sequence data submission



Unique monthly SRA submission July-2008 - May-2013



Distributed consumption: sequence data access





In how many ways can you say "female"?

18-day pregnant females	female (lactating)	individual female	worker caste (female)				
2 yr old female	female (pregnant)	lgb*cc females	sex: female				
400 yr. old female	female (outbred)	mare	female, other				
adult female	female parent	female (worker)	female child				
asexual female	female plant	monosex female	femal				
castrate female	female with eggs	ovigerous female	3 female				
cf.female	female worker	oviparous sexual females	female (phenotype)				
cystocarpic female	female, 6-8 weeks old	worker bee	female mice				
dikaryon	female, virgin	female enriched	female, spayed				
dioecious female	female, worker	pseudohermaprhoditic female	femlale				
diploid female	female(gynoecious)	remale	metafemale				
f	femele	semi-engorged female	sterile female				
famale	female, pooled	sexual oviparous female	normal female				
femail	femalen	sterile female worker	sf				
female	females	strictly female	vitellogenic replete female				
female - worker	females only	tetraploid female	worker				
female (alate sexual)	gynoecious	thelytoky	hexaploid female				
female (calf)	healthy female	female (gynoecious)	female (f-o)				
hen	probably female (based on morphology)						

female (note: this sample was originally provided as a \"male\" sample to us and therefore labeled this way in the brawand et al. paper and original geo submission; however, detailed data analyses carried out in the meantime clearly show that this sample stems from a female individual)",



Big problems need solutions



Graphic: Matt Pike Source: News Limited



Solutions are often possible

Costa Concordia, September 2013



Salvage operation



a pulling machine slowly rolls the

the caissons.

ship upright helped by the weight of

Underwater platforms built to support the ship. Metal boxes (caissons) attached to the side and filled with water.

Source: Titan/Micoperi. Image: Getty



More caissons fixed to the other side of the hull. Water then pumped out.





Informatics is Infrastructure:

Network transfer Data Compression Standards Archives



Standards-compliant data are more discoverable

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	= •										
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search terms specified for fields 'isolation source', 'collection date' and 'geographical location'





- 160 marine stations ran simultaneous standardised sampling on the 21st of June 2014
- A snapshot into status of world's oceans and seas generating a reference dataset that will provide insight into marine microbial diversity and function in the marine environment
- Cross-discipline geographically informed contextual data reporting





Reporting standards for OSD







Informatics is Infrastructure:

The Future



The Future

- Infrastructure and standards allow for us to imagine and realise bigger projects in the future
- A connected web of domain specific efforts, general projects, technology and innovation will drive this infrastructure
 - The Global Alliance for Genomics and Health
 - ELIXIR
 - Secure cloud-based computing
 - Software









- Technology, standards and protocols for federated sharing and analysis of human genomic and health data
- Applicable to many problem is data management





Building capacity in Europe

- ELIXIR: a sustainable infrastructure for biological information in Europe.
- Supporting life science research and its translation to:
 - medicine
 - agriculture
 - the environment
 - the bioindustries
 - society.
- Supported by UK LFCF





EMBL-EBI Embassy Cloud





Infrastructure enables discovery



Necessary (if conceptually unexciting) data management

Interesting, ground breaking ideas





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Framework Programme 7





