



BSI Standards Publication

Biotechnology — Massively parallel DNA sequencing — General requirements for data processing of shotgun metagenomic sequences

National foreword

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Biotechnology — Massively parallel DNA sequencing — General requirements for data processing of shotgun metagenomic sequences

*Biotechnologie — Séquençage d'ADN massivement parallèle —
Exigences générales pour le traitement des données des séquences
métagénomiques "Shotgun"*



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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 276, *Biotechnology*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Shotgun metagenomic sequencing of organisms' genomes from a complex sample is widely used in life science and clinical applications (e.g. human complex disease associated analysis, environmental microecology and other fields) in order to gain knowledge of their composition and function. It has potential to provide significant scientific data for life science research.

The utility of this technique is its ability to reveal the microbial diversity and abundance found in microbial populations from multiple environments and to determine sequence information (taxonomic characterization, functional annotation, and comparative analysis/metagenomics) for individual organisms in these populations. The resulting data can be subjected to comparative analytics. Massively parallel shotgun metagenomic sequencing generates a large amount of data containing a high complexity of microbial genomes and a large number of unknown species. It is important to use effective processing procedures and address quality control for shotgun metagenomic sequencing data. A standardised data format is essential to promote data sharing.

As with any advanced technology, massively parallel sequencing technologies is error prone. Overcoming these shortcomings to ensure a reliable sequencing and analytical outcome is important. This document provides a uniform standard for the collation, storage and subsequent analysis of metagenomic data, and guidelines. It provides requirements and recommendations for the workflow and process of shotgun metagenomic analyses including quality control of sequencing data and metadata, and the compositional and functional analysis of microbial community. These requirements and recommendations can ensure accuracy of data generated from metagenomic analysis, address potential errors and facilitate downstream applications.

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1 Scope

This document illustrates the workflow of shotgun metagenomic sequence data processing of host-derived microbiome and environmental metagenomes.

This document specifies the requirements for quality control of shotgun metagenomic sequence data processing for massively parallel DNA sequencing.

This document provides guidelines for data directory, data archive and metadata for shotgun metagenomic sequence data.

This document applies to data storage, sharing and interoperability of shotgun metagenomic sequence data.

This document applies to shotgun metagenomic sequence data processing and analyses, but excludes functional analysis.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

[ISO 20397-1:2022](#), *Biotechnology — Massively parallel sequencing — Part 1: Nucleic acid and library preparation*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

attribute value

value associated with an attribute instance

[SOURCE: ISO 21962:2003, 1.5.2.3]

3.2

category

set of items or concepts that share a common attribute or feature