

MONASH CENTRAL CLINICAL SCHOOL

## ADEA Symposium: Diabetes & the Gut Microbiota

MATTHEW SNELSON







#### MONASH University

## Outline

What is the microbiota

- How is it measured
  - Techniques
  - Sampling Issues
  - Best Practice Recommendations

## Microbiota vs Microbiome University

Often used synonymously.

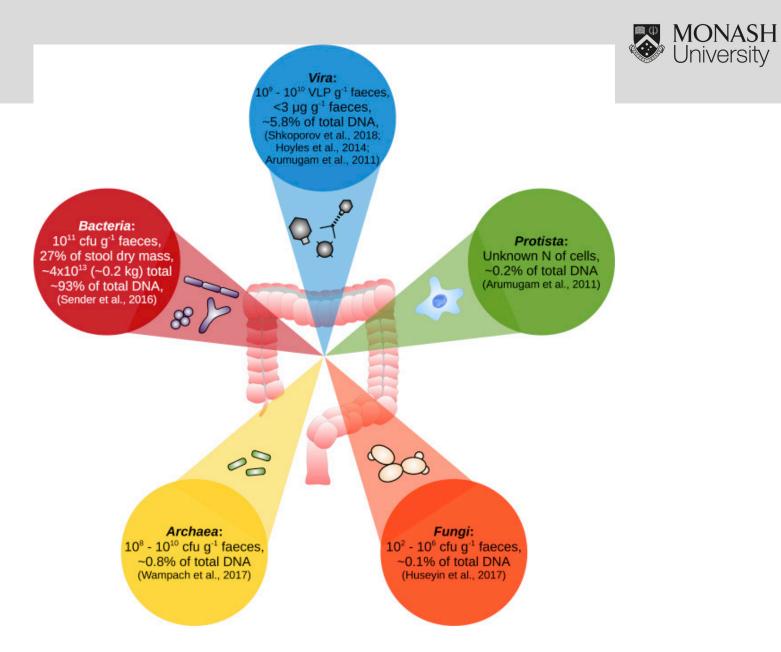
"Microbiota" – Collection of organisms.

 "Microbiome" – Collective genetic material of a microbial community.



## What is the microbiota?

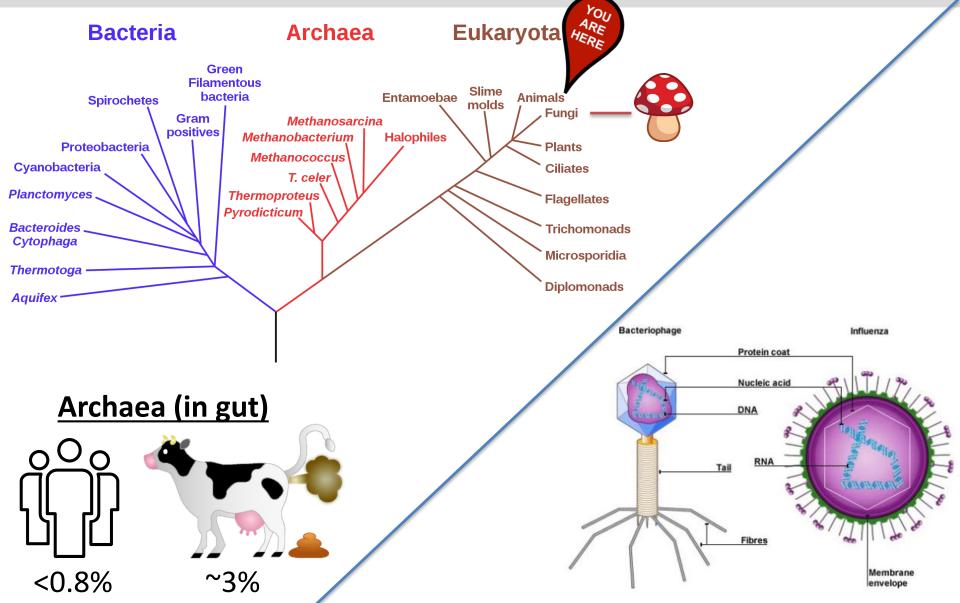
- Collection of microorganisms
  - Bacteria Most studies referring to gut microbiota
  - Archaea
  - Fungi Mycobiome
  - Viruses Virome
  - Bacteriophages Phageome



#### Shkoporov 2019 Cell Host & Microbe



What is the microbiota?

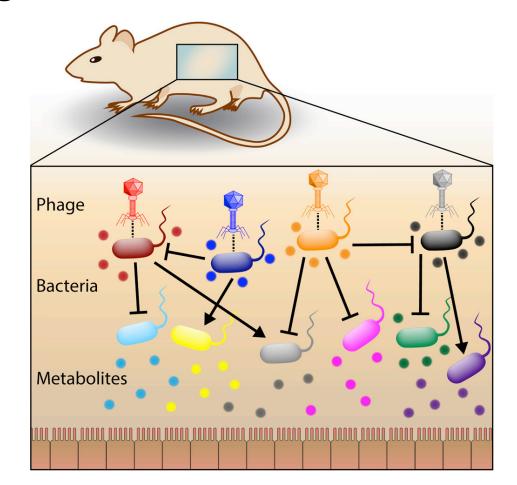




## Bacteriophages

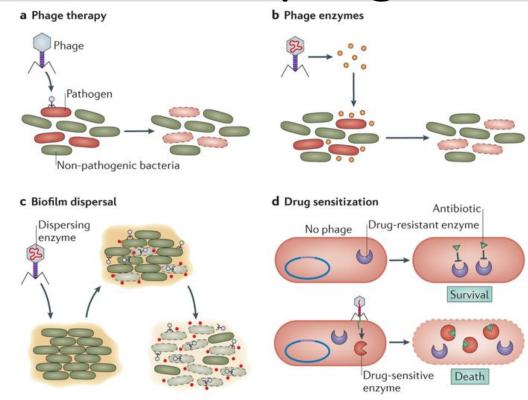
Bacteria: Human Cells 1.3:1

Bacteriophages: Bacteria 10:1



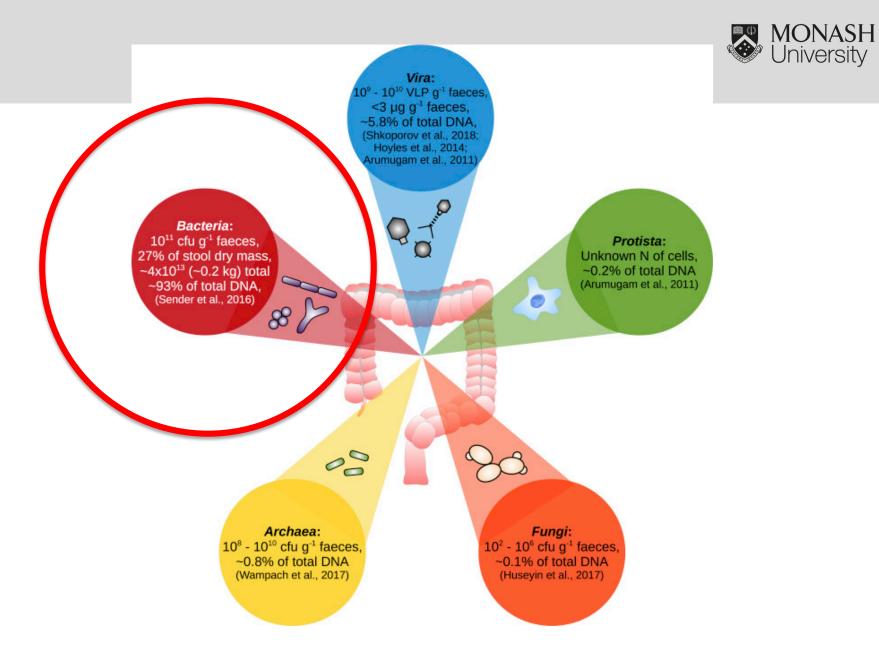


## Bacteriophages



Nature Reviews | Microbiology

# Set Phages to Stun: Reducing the Virulence of Staphylococcus aureus in Diabetic Foot Ulcers







## Nomenclature

Eukarya

Animalia

Chordata

Mammalia

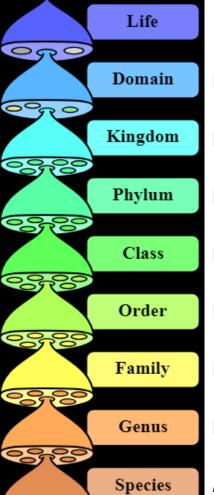
**Primates** 

Hominidae

Homo

Homo sapiens

**Genus Species** 

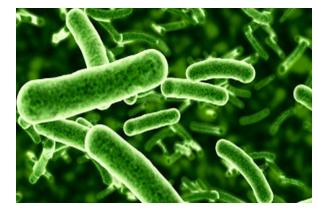


**Bacteria** 

Bacteria

**Firmicutes** 

Bacilli



Lactobacillales

Lactobacillaceae

Lactobacillus

Lactobacillus rhamnosus

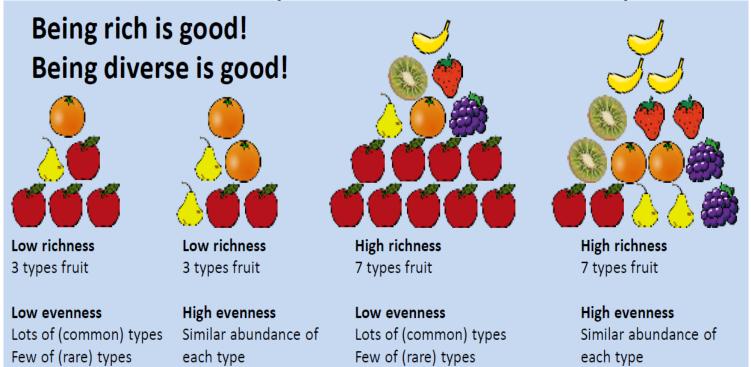
Strain: Lactobacillus rhamnosus GG (ATCC 53103)





## **Alpha Diversity**

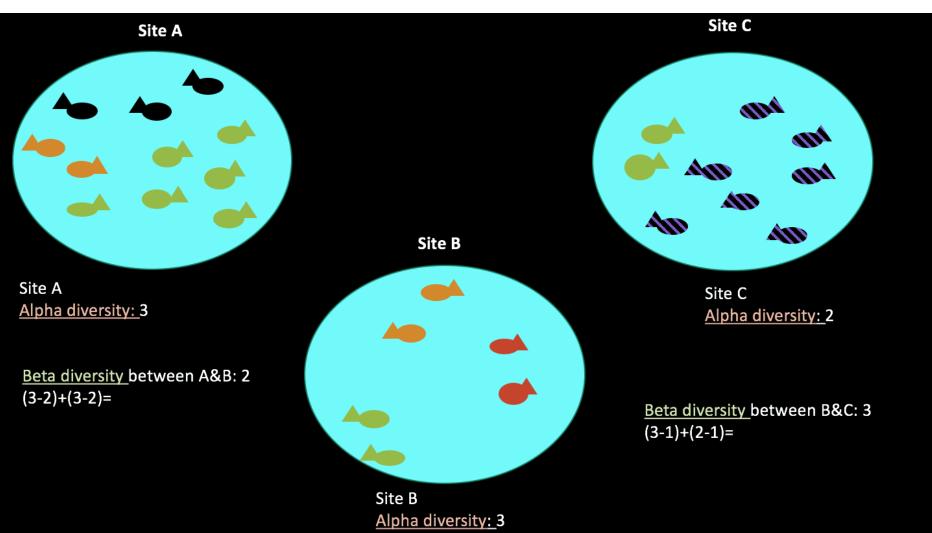
- Within sample measure
  - Simpson, Chao1 (richness)
  - Shannon Index (richness and evenness)





## **Beta Diversity**

• Between sample measure



#### MONASH University

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## Measuring Microbiota

- Targeted qPCR
- 16S rRNA gene
- Shotgun sequencing

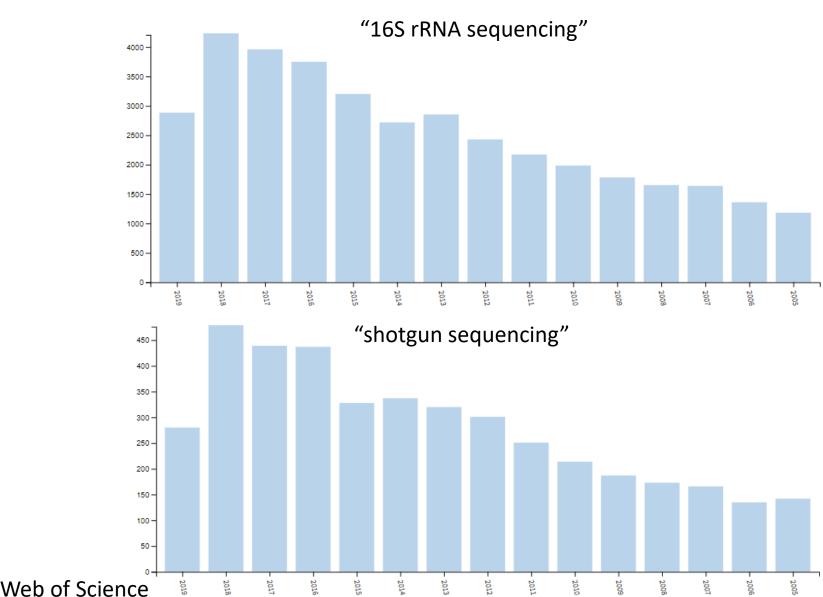
- Metatranscriptomics
  - Measuring bacterial mRNA
- Microbial Metabolomics
  - Measuring metabolites

Who's there?

What are they doing?



## Sequencing Popularity





## Targeted qPCR

#### Using bacteria specific primers

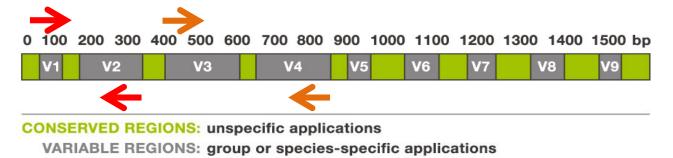
**Table 2** Primers used for qPCR in this study

Target bacteria	Primer	Sequence (5′–3′)	Annealing temperature (°C)	Product size (bp)
Roseburia spp.	Ros-F Ros-R	GCGGTRCGGCAAGTCTGA CCTCCGACACTCTAGTMCGAC	60	81
Faecalibacterium prausnitzii	Fae-F	GGAGGAAGAAGGTCTTCGG AATTCCGCCTACCTCTGCACT	60	248



## 16S rRNA gene

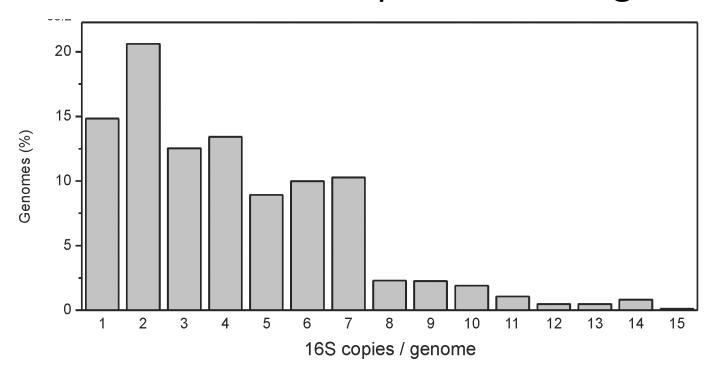
16S rRNA gene (bacteria and archaea)





## 16S rRNA gene

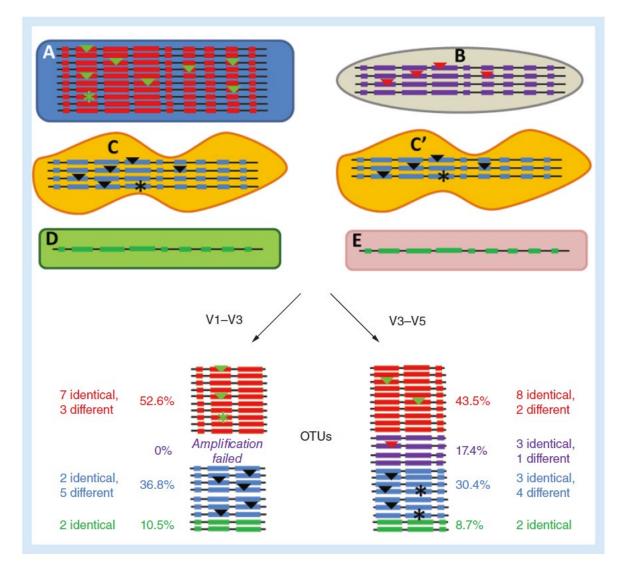
Bacteria can have multiple 16S rRNA genes



"Only a minority of bacterial genomes harbors identical 16S rRNA gene copies"

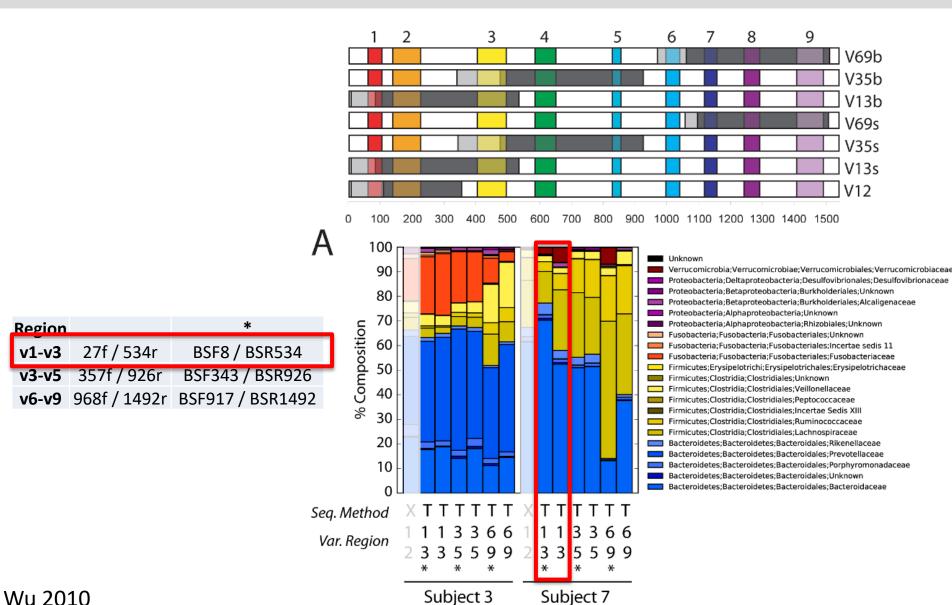


## 16S rRNA gene





## 16S rRNA Primer Set



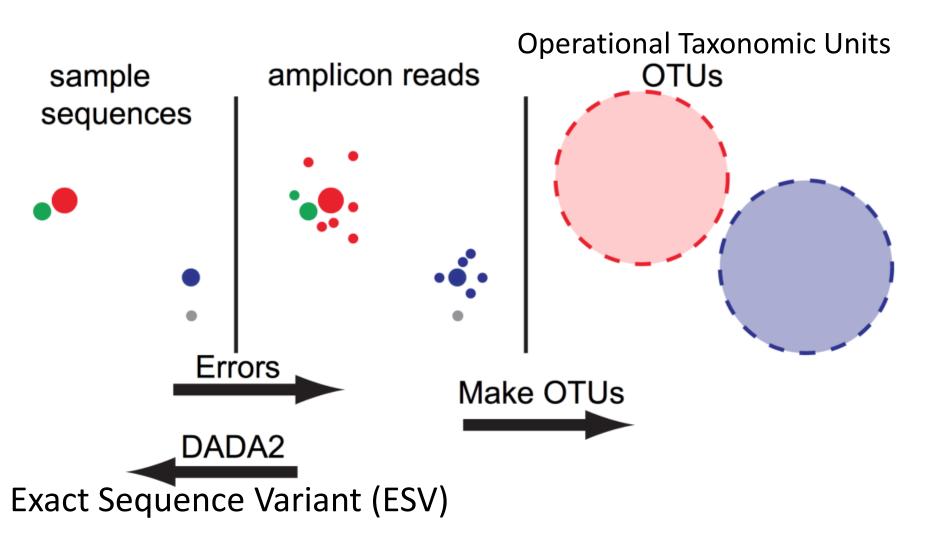


## 16S rRNA Sequences

#### Sequence

```
@M00596:209:00@00000-BN38H:1:2102:13747:1220 1:N:0:NCTCGCTA+AAGGCTAT
ATACGGGGGGCTGCAGTGAGGAATATTGGTCAATGGACGAGAGTCTGAACCAGCCAAGTAGCGTGAAGGATGACTGCCC
88@CCCEGG518=8:::C:CD5:FEF<FGFGFF.AEEFFGGGG8?EFAEGG@FFBBCEF?FFGFFEG8B8D88D9B=D.
 FACGGGAGGCACTANTGAGGAATATTGGTCAATGGACGAGAGTCTGAACCAGCCAAGTAGCGTGAAGGATGACTGC
-8ACCGCCDF588==:C=CFGFDFGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGF<F<CFGGGGGGFFFGFFGFFC7FGGG<9<FCFFGI
-8ACCGEE6=5:8====CC@GGGFEGGE66CEFFCFF,@6@B+CFGGG,6EFGGEFGGD7FGGGGGE6FF=EF<,,CC
CCTACGGGAGGCAGTGAGGAATATTGGTCAATGGTCGGCAGACTGAACCAGCCAAGTCGCGTGAGGGAAGACGGCC
```

## Representative Sequences



Susan Holmes (Stanford)



## 16S rRNA Summary

- Most popular way to measure microbiota
- Uses primers for a specific part of the hypervariable region
- Sequences
  - Old Method: Use OTUs
  - New Method: Use ESVs (ASVs)

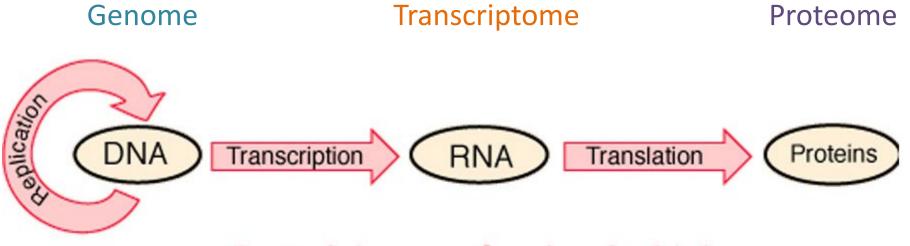
**Shotgun Sequencing** MONASH Microbiome Metagenome Metagenomic data set TACGTACGT TACGTACGT CACGACGGGGGAA TATGGGTCGTTACCA DNA Sample CACGACGGGGGGCAA Multiple TATGGGTCGTTACCA collection extraction sequencing samples TCACATCAGGTCGTTACCA TCACATCAGGTCGTTACCA TATTACGACGGT ATATOATGCACCATOGTA TO ATATCATGCACCATOGTA SI ATATCATGCACCATCGTA TATCCACGACGGGGGCCCC AGGCTACACGTCATGCA Metadata information Contigs QC Assembly-based profiling MOUNDOURS Biological/clinical MANAGARARARA Preprocessed data set (Co)assemble reads into contigs MANAGAMA interpretation **WOUNDANDONNAM** TATGGGTTGGTTACCA ALAE CATGGACGAT CGTA ATATCATGCACCATCGTA Taxonomic and functional annotation Biomarker AGGCTAGACGTGATGCA
AGGCTAGACGTCATGCA
AGGCTAGACGTCATGCA Genes AGGCTACACGTCATGCA discovery FactO: MOON MOON Map reads to annotated contigs Microbiome-based Size: ~TBs MOON MOON prediction tools Microbial species Read-based taxonomic profiling Subtype/ Map reads to genomes or marker genes clustering analysis Reference information Available microbial proteins. genomes and annotations Co-occurrence/ Functions/pathways Annotated pathways ecological modeling Size: ~GBs Read-based metabolic profiling Phylogeny Map reads to annotated genes, reconstruction proteins or pathways Size: ~MBs Strain tracking Epidemiology and Independent Experimental pipeline Pre-processing Sequence analysis Post-processing 5. Validation

Quince 2017 Nature Biotechnology

validation

population genomics



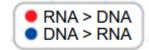


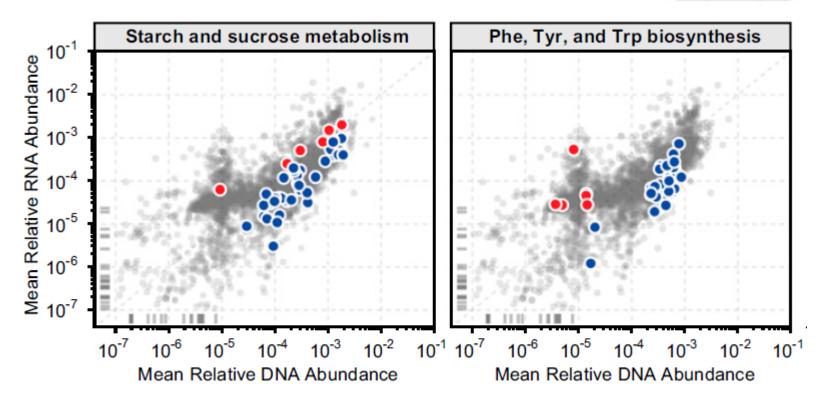
Central dogma of molecular biology



## Metatranscriptomics

Measuring the entire transcriptome





#### MONASH University

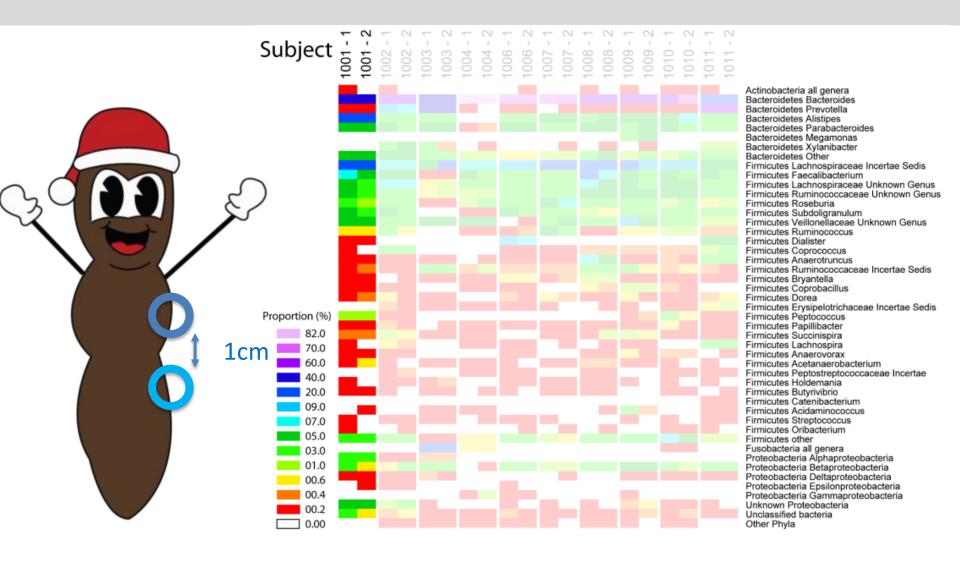
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## **Stool Sampling**

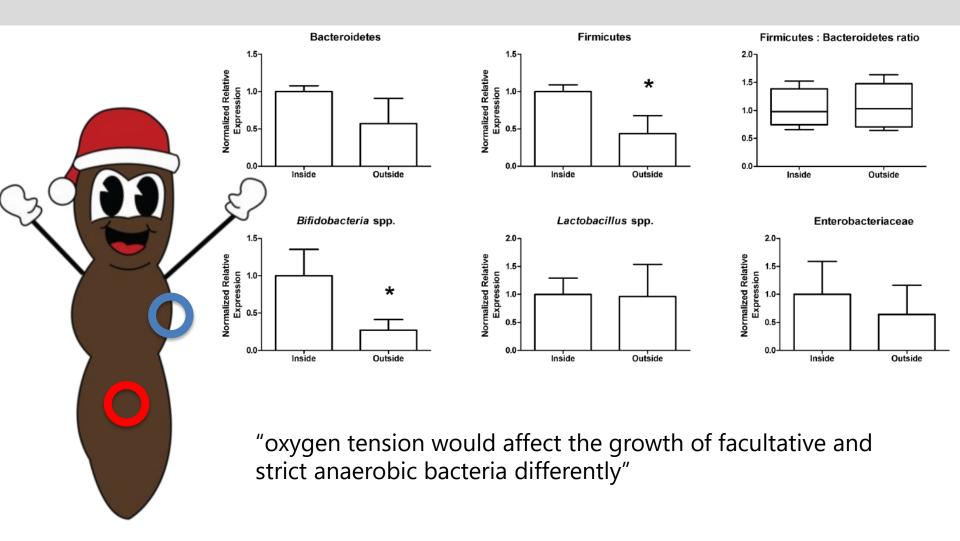




- Taxa present > 1% -> all present in both samples
- Low abundance taxa (0.2-0.4%) -> 35% were not detected in 2<sup>nd</sup> replicate

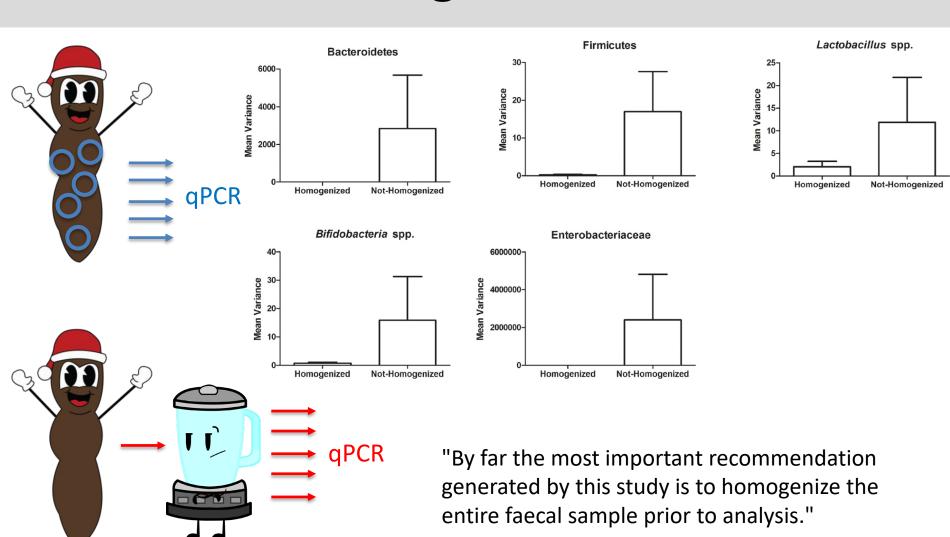
### Outside vs Inside of Stool





## Homogenisation



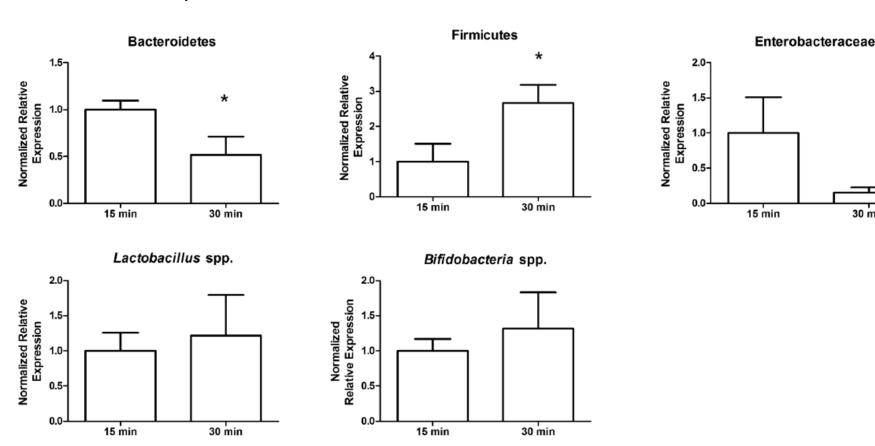


## Storage: Room Temp



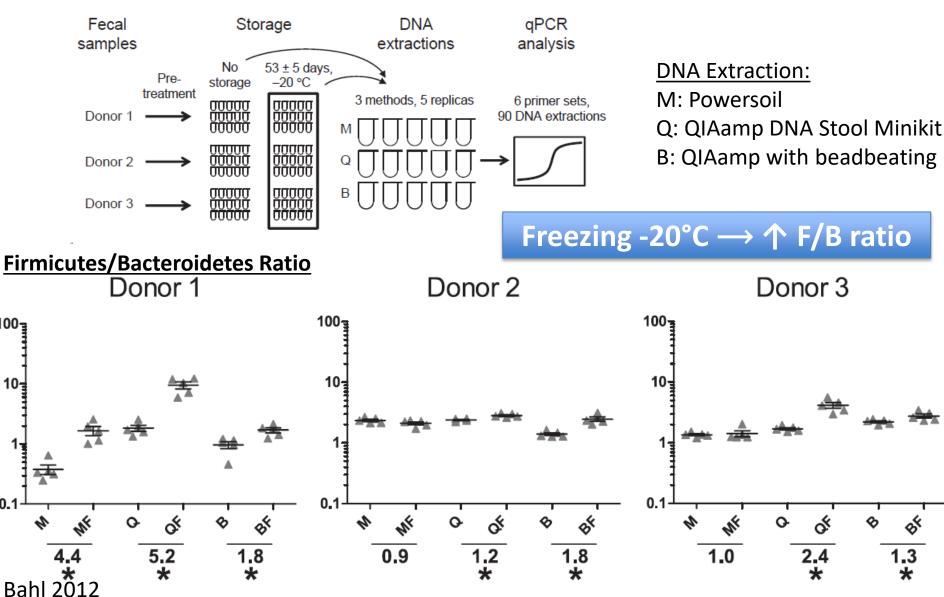
30 min

Room temp for 15 or 30 mins, before DNA extraction



Prolonged time at room temp  $\rightarrow \uparrow$  Firmicutes and  $\downarrow$  Bacteroidetes

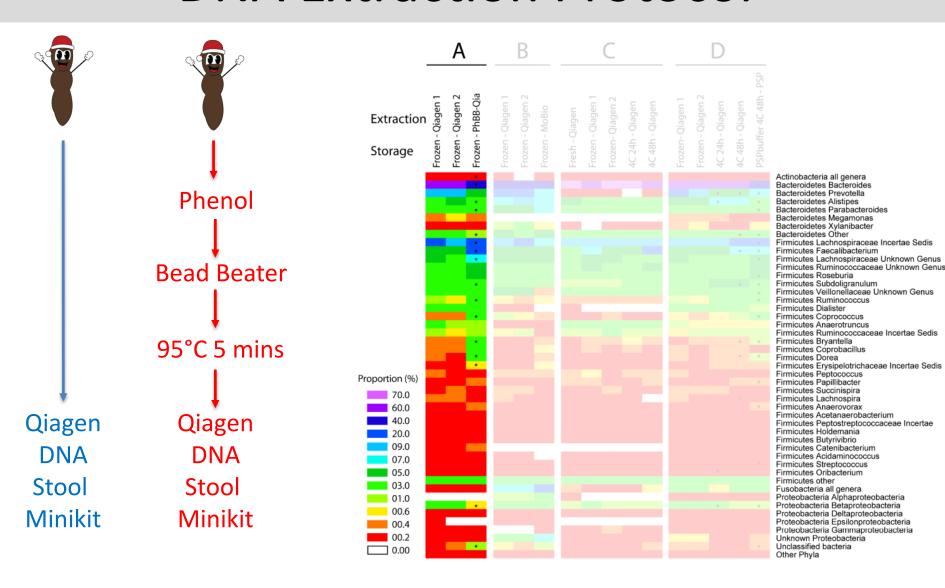
# Storage: Effect of -20°C Freezing Monash University



0.1

# DNA Extraction Protocol Monash University







## **Best Practice....**



Applied and Environmental Microbiology®

#### The Madness of Microbiome: Attempting To Find Consensus "Best Practice" for 16S Microbiome Studies

⑤Jolinda Pollock,a,b ⑥Laura Glendinning,b Trong Wisedchanwet,b ⑥Mick Watsonb



## Best practices for analysing microbiomes

Rob Knight 1.4.6.12\*, Alison Vrbanac<sup>2,12</sup>, Bryn C. Taylor<sup>2,12</sup>, Alexander Aksenov<sup>3</sup>, Chris Callewaert<sup>4,5</sup>, Justine Debelius<sup>4</sup>, Antonio Gonzalez<sup>4</sup>, Tomasz Kosciolek 4, Laura-Isobel McCall<sup>3</sup>, Daniel McDonald<sup>4</sup>, Alexey V. Melnik<sup>3</sup>, James T. Morton<sup>4,6</sup>, Jose Navas<sup>6</sup>, Robert A. Quinn<sup>3</sup>, Jon G. Sanders 4, Austin D. Swafford<sup>1</sup>, Luke R. Thompson 7,8, Anupriya Tripathi<sup>9</sup>, Zhenjiang Z. Xu<sup>4</sup>, Jesse R. Zaneveld<sup>10</sup>, Qiyun Zhu 4, J. Gregory Caporaso<sup>11</sup> and Pieter C. Dorrestein<sup>1,3,4</sup>



Identifying and Overcoming Threats to Reproducibility, Replicability, Robustness, and Generalizability in Microbiome Research



## Recommendations

- Stool sample: Ideally homogenise entire stool.
- Collection/Storage:
  - Immediate storage at -80°C
  - OR Stabilise in 95% ethanol / omnigene.GUT
- DNA extraction:
  - Include mock community controls







# Explore your microbiome.

Learn about your micro and join the thousands who their microbiomes sequ

#### **Gut Explorer**

The best kit for curious explorers. Sample one site: your gut!

From just one gut sample, you get a comprehensive breakdown of your microbiome, how it's functioning, and how it compares to others'.

° \$89

One time purchase

° \$71<sup>20</sup>

Subscribe and save 20% Delivered every month.

Add to cart

#### Gut Time Lapse Explorer

Sample your gut three times: before, during and after a diet or lifestyle change.

Our most popular bundle goes a step further with multiple gut samples, to see how your microbiome changes over time.

° \$199

One time purchase

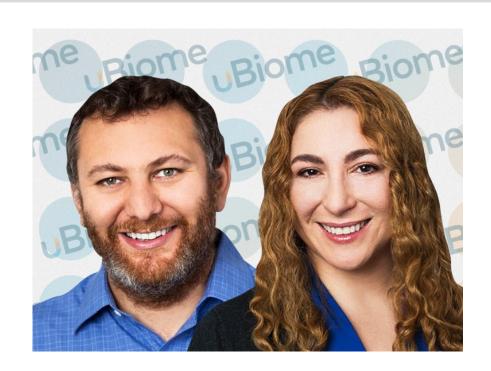
A 25% discount off the normal Gut kit, and you get three timepoints for comparison.

Add to cart



- Jessica Richman
- Zac Apte

- Founded in 2012
- raised >\$100M
- Valued at \$600M (May 2019)





## "No cost to you"



#### Comprehensive report

The SmartGut<sup>™</sup> test report allows to better understand:

In its medical policy, Anthem considers uBiome's tests "investigational and not medically necessary," and Aetna considers the tests "experimental and investigational because their

- 1) If there are specific pathogens | role in clinical management has not been established." causing illness
- 2) The balance of commensal and beneficial bacteria that may be contributing to symptoms
- 3) Risk factors relating to the microbiome

# No cost to you Throughout the duration of uBiome's SmartGut pilot period uBiome will NOT balance bill patients. That means any costs not covered by your insurance company will be covered by uBiome. Request your test

## Customers faced unexpected bills of as much as \$US3,000

Company insiders describe how health start-up uBiome routinely billed patients multiple times without consent and pressured its doctors to approve tests with minimal oversight.

#### The FBI reportedly just raided microbiometesting startup uBiome as part of an investigation into improper billing

**LYDIA RAMSEY** APR 27, 2019, 7:46 AM

https://www.businessinsider.com.au/customer-complaints-about-ubiomes-microbiome-tests-and-billing-2019-5 https://www.cnbc.com/2019/05/02/ubiome-what-really-happened-at-health-start-up-raided-by-fbi.html



- May 2019: Stopped selling the "SmartGut" and "SmartJane" kits (doctor ordered).
- May 2019: Took down stock photos that were used in customer testimonials on website



- Zac Apte and Jessica Richman
  - "on leave"
  - "misrepresented their relationship"
  - Jessica lied about her age
    - 2014: BI: "30 most important women under 30 in tech"
    - 2015: CNN money "Upstart 30: The Futurists"
    - 2018: BI: "30 healthcare leaders under 40"
    - Actual age: 45 (2019)

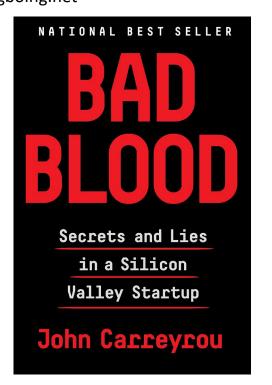


## Following the Recent Raid, Could uBiome

**Become Theranos 2.0?** 

frontlinegenomics.com

## Theranos but for poop boingboing.net





#### Questionable Silicon Valley Health Startups:

- Theranos
- uBiome
- Nurx ("the uber of birth control")



#### THANK YOU