

Genome mining of the genetic diversity in the *Aspergillus* genus - from a collection of more than 30 *Aspergillus* species - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

Genome mining of the genetic diversity in the *Aspergillus* genus - from a collection of more than 30 *Aspergillus* species
In the era of high-throughput sequencing, comparative genomics can be applied for evaluating species diversity. In this project we aim to compare the genomes of 300 species of filamentous fungi from the *Aspergillus* genus, a complex task. To be able to define species, clade, and core features, this project uses BLAST on the amino acid level to discover orthologs. With a potential of 300 *Aspergillus* species each having ~12,000 annotated genes, traditional clustering will demand supercomputing. Instead, our approach reduces the search space by identifying isoenzymes within each genome creating intra-genomic protein families (iPFs), and then connecting iPFs across all genomes. The initial findings in a set of 31 species show that ~48% of the annotated genes are core genes (genes shared between all species) and 2-24% of the genes are defining the individual species. The methods presented here will allow for detailed investigation into mapping of genotype to phenotype across a very large set of genomes without losing information.

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