

Defogging NGS and plant virus diagnostic

The role of a collaborative network as the COST Action FA 1407 - DIVAS

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Introduction



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NGS Technologies



NGS technologies & plant virology

- ✓ Adopted from nearly a decade in R&D
- ✓ Wide and large adoption for Etiology:

Before NGS



With NGS



NGS technologies & plant virology

- ✓ Adopted from nearly a decade in R&D
- ✓ Wide and large adoption for Etiology: from 2009



Deep sequencing analysis of RNAs from a grapevine showing Syrah decline symptoms reveals a multiple virus infection that includes a novel virus

M. Al Rwahnih, S. Daubert, D. Golino, A. Rowhani*



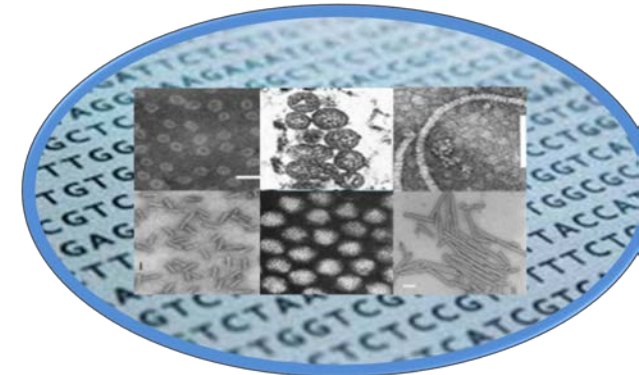
Rapid Communication

Complete viral genome sequence and discovery of novel viruses by deep sequencing of small RNAs: A generic method for diagnosis, discovery and sequencing of viruses

Jan F. Kreuzer^{a,d,*}, Ana Perez^c, Milton Untiveros^a, Dora Quispe^a, Segundo Fuentes^c, Ian Barker^c, Reinhard Simon^b

>100 new viruses discovered

Halt material ? Reaction of a country ?
Do they pose a risk ?



NGS technologies & plant virology

- ✓ Adopted from nearly a decade in R&D
- ✓ Wide and large adoption for Etiology: from 2009, >100 new viruses
- ✓ Is there a potential for diagnostics ?

MOLECULAR PLANT PATHOLOGY (2009) **10**(4), 537–545

DOI: 10.1111/J.1364-3703.2009.00545.X

Technical advance

Next-generation sequencing and metagenomic analysis: a universal diagnostic tool in plant virology

IAN P. ADAMS^{1,*}, RACHEL H. GLOVER¹, WENDY A. MONGER¹, RICK MUMFORD¹, ELENA JACKEVICIENE², MELETELE NAVALINSKIENE³, MARIJA SAMUITIENE³ AND NEIL BOONHAM¹

NGS technologies & plant virology

- ✓ Adopted from nearly a decade in R&D
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Virus Research 188 (2014) 90–96



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Virus Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/virusres



Review

Current impact and future directions of high throughput sequencing in plant virus diagnostics



Sebastien Massart^{a,*}, Antonio Olmos^b, Haissam Jijakli^a, Thierry Candresse^{c,d}

NGS technologies & virus diagnostic

❖ Technical challenges

- Laboratory protocol ?
- Bioinformatic algorithms ?

❖ Performance evaluation

- Sensitivity variability ?
- Specificity ?
- Reproducibility ?
- Repeatability ?

❖ Routine analysis

- Contamination ?



Need for an international collaboration to handle the challenges of integrating NGS into plant virus study and diagnostic

The COST Action



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What is a COST Action ?

- ✓ Funded by European Union
- ✓ COST is an EU-funded program that enables researchers to set up their interdisciplinary research networks in Europe and beyond.
- ✓ For conferences, meetings, training schools, short scientific exchanges or other networking activities.
- ✓ By creating open spaces where people and ideas can grow, we unlock the full potential of science.



COST Action for NGS & plant viruses

✓ COST Action FA 1407

“Coordinate and raise the European capacity to apply NGS technologies for the study and diagnosis of viral diseases of vegetatively propagated plants, seeds and seedlings”

✓ Acronym: DIVAS



What is DIVAS ?

**Deep
Investigation of
Viral
Associated
Sequences**



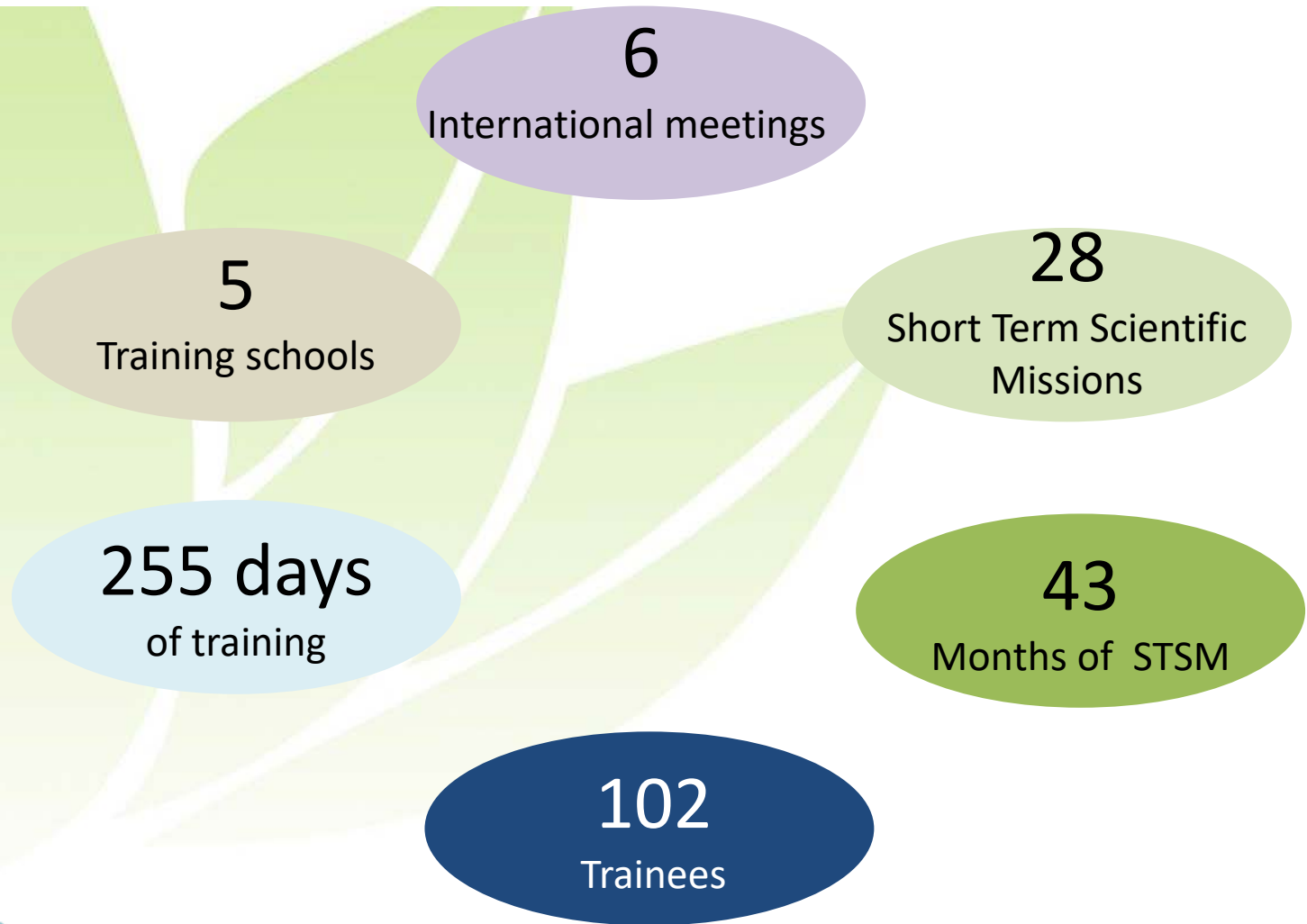
DIVAS' Countries and participants



- ✓ Cost countries: 28
- ✓ 150 virologists supported



DIVAS numbers



Objectives of the COST Action

COST Action for leveraging plant virus control through NGS

1. Provide a **research framework** to reach a comprehensive characterization of the plant virome and to understand its impact on plants



Objectives of the COST Action


COST Action for leveraging plant virus control through NGS

1. Research framework for characterization & impact
2. Coordinate and harmonize European knowledge-base for **technological standards and validation** of reliable NGS protocols



Objectives of the COST Action

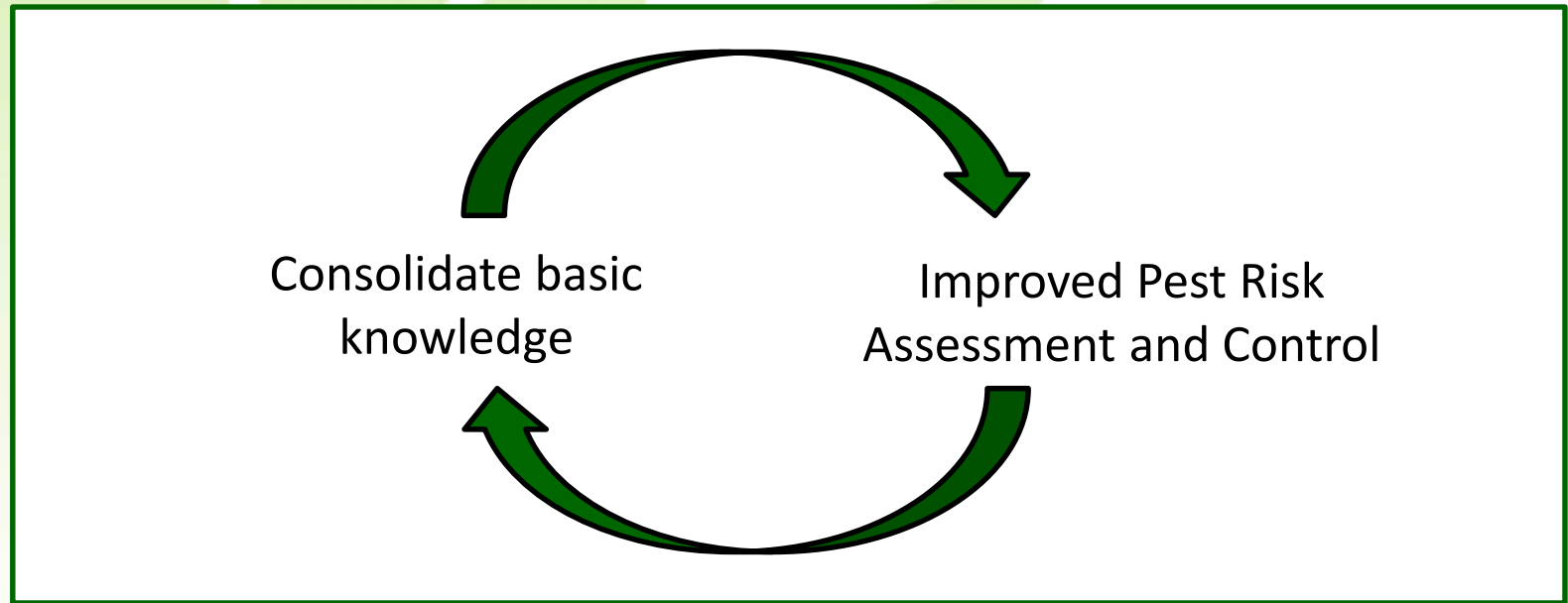
COST Action for leveraging plant virus control through NGS

- 
1. Research framework for characterization & impact
 2. NGS technological standards and validation
 3. Decision schemes on plant virus diagnostic
 4. Discuss, agree and disseminate a scientific position and expertise on the **impact of NGS on virus taxonomy and on the plant-virus interactions**



Objectives of the COST Action

COST Action for leveraging plant virus control through NGS



Transversal Action bridging various stakeholders



The COST Action

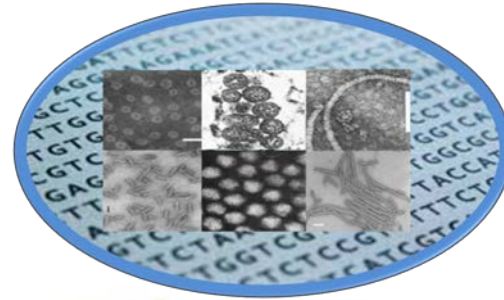
Obj. 1: Research framework



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Research framework

>100 new viruses discovered



“naked” genome sequences !!!

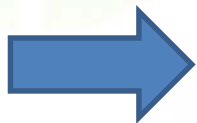
**Biological characterisation to
evaluate the risk**

Research framework



A Framework for the Evaluation of Biosecurity, Commercial, Regulatory, and Scientific Impacts of Plant Viruses and Viroids Identified by NGS Technologies

Sebastien Massart^{1*}, *Thierry Candresse*², *José Gil*³, *Christophe Lacomme*⁴,
*Lukas Predajna*⁵, *Maja Ravnikar*⁶, *Jean-Sébastien Reynard*⁷, *Artemis Rumbou*⁸,
*Pasquale Saldarelli*⁹, *Dijana Škorić*¹⁰, *Eeva J. Vainio*¹¹, *Jari P. T. Valkonen*¹²,
*Hervé Vanderschuren*¹³, *Christina Varveri*¹⁴ and *Thierry Wetzel*¹⁵



Thierry Wetzel – Thursday afternoon

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Obj. 1: Characterization of
plant virome



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Characterization of plant virome-1

- ❖ Classical training school based on theoretical examples or on reference samples



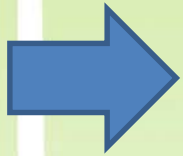
Consequences: come back to office, no time to validate learning outcomes

- ❖ Training school for virus discovery on relevant samples (including lab, sequencing and bioinformatics)



Leveraging learnings outcome by continuous analyses and focus after the training school

Characterization of plant virome-1



Bridging training and production of scientific knowledge

- ✓ 2 training schools with 30 trainees in 2017
- ✓ New training schools next year: for more information:

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Characterization of plant virome-2

Variant detection in NGS data ?



Characterization of plant virome-2



Characterization of plant virome-2

Variant detection in NGS data ?

- Very significant differences between participants
- Only a limited number of SNPs detected by all participants
- Possible causes?
 - Differences between CLC and Genious?
 - Differences in software parameters?
- Mapping will likely have an impact
 - BAM file analyses comparisons

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Obj 3: Decision Scheme –
recommendation for
diagnostic



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DIVAS and virus diagnostics

- ✓ Olomouc meeting (March 2017) -> need for QA/QC for wider adoption of NGS in diagnostics
- ✓ Thursday morning and afternoon
- ✓ Small meeting (25 participants) in Brussels in 2018 to start drafting an EPPO standard for NGS in diagnostics

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Obj 4: Taxonomy



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DIVAS and Taxonomy

CONSENSUS STATEMENT

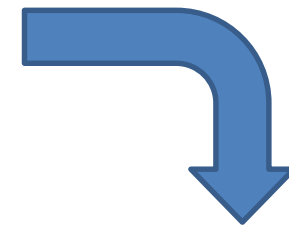
OPEN

CONSENSUS STATEMENT

Virus taxonomy in the age of metagenomics

Peter Simmonds¹, Mike J. Adams², Mária Benkő³, Mya Breitbart⁴, J. Rodney Brister⁵, Eric B. Carstens⁶, Andrew J. Davison⁷, Eric Delwart^{8,9}, Alexander E. Gorbalenya^{10,11}, Balázs Harrach³, Roger Hull^{12}, Andrew M.Q. King¹³, Eugene V. Koonin⁵, Mart Krupovic¹⁴, Jens H. Kuhn¹⁵, Elliot J. Lefkowitz¹⁶, Max L. Nibert¹⁷, Richard Orton⁷, Marilyn J. Roossinck¹⁸, Sead Sabanadzovic¹⁹, Matthew B. Sullivan²⁰, Curtis A. Suttle^{21,22}, Robert B. Tesh²³, René A. van der Vlugt²⁴, Arvind Varsani²⁵ and F. Murilo Zerbini²⁶*

Abstract | The number and diversity of viral sequences that are identified in metagenomic data far exceeds that of experimentally characterized virus isolates. In a recent workshop, a panel of experts discussed the proposal that, with appropriate quality control, viruses that are known only from metagenomic data can, and should be, incorporated into the official classification scheme of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV). Although a taxonomy that is based on metagenomic sequence data alone represents a substantial departure from the traditional reliance on phenotypic properties, the development of a robust framework for sequence-based virus taxonomy is indispensable for the comprehensive characterization of the global virome. In this Consensus Statement article, we consider the rationale for why metagenomic sequence data should, and how it can, be incorporated into the ICTV taxonomy, and present proposals that have been endorsed by the Executive Committee of the ICTV.



Incorporation of metagenomics data (e.g. genome sequences only) in ICTV

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What's next ?

(until March 2019)



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Next activities of the COST Action

- ✓ Performance testing on bioIT for virus diagnostics (EPPO guidelines – Friday pm)
- ✓ Exploring SNP analysis (Friday am & pm) -> PT ?
- ✓ Training school for NGS and virus discovery/detection
- ✓ Training school in Bari for diagnostic laboratories
- ✓ Meetings for Science and also Quality management

Keep posted of COST activities



COST Action Divas (FA 1407)



@ngs_virus



COST Action Divas



Thanks to all the COST participants building the results



IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Special thanks to the Core Group



Angelantonio Minafra
Vice-Chair

Antonio Olmos
WG1 Leader



Thierry Wetzel
WG2 Leader



René van der Vlugt
WG3 Leader



Christina Varveri
STSM manager

Maja Ravnikar
WG4 Leader



Thank you for your attention

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