

Genome-wide Primer Scan (GPS): A python package for a flexible, reliable and large-scale primer design toolkit

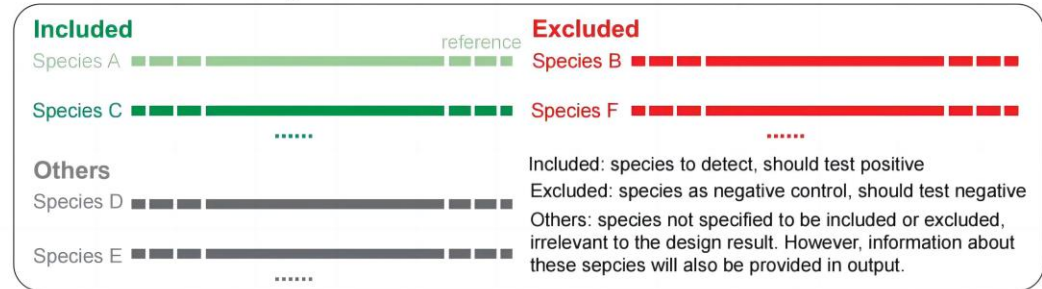
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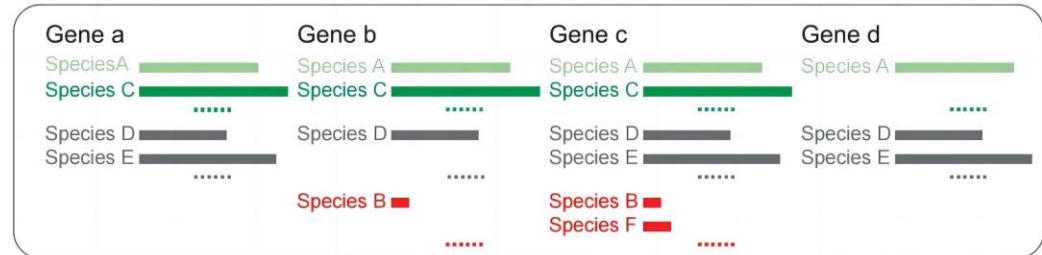
Problems & Ideas

- Problems of species-specific primer design:
 - Most software packages require users to manually specify a template gene or region.
- Ideas: A software search against a large number of genomes to identify specific primers.

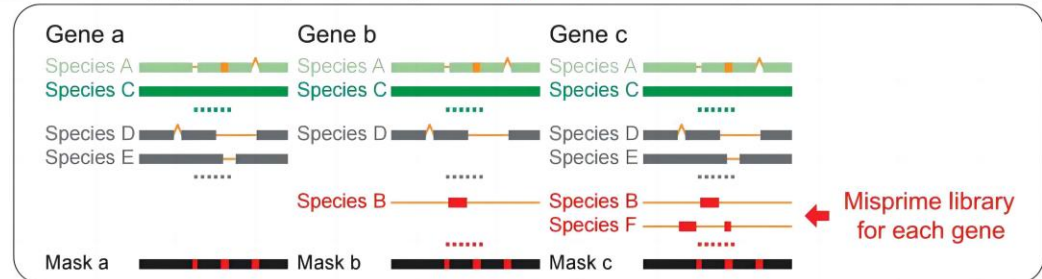
Reference database categorization



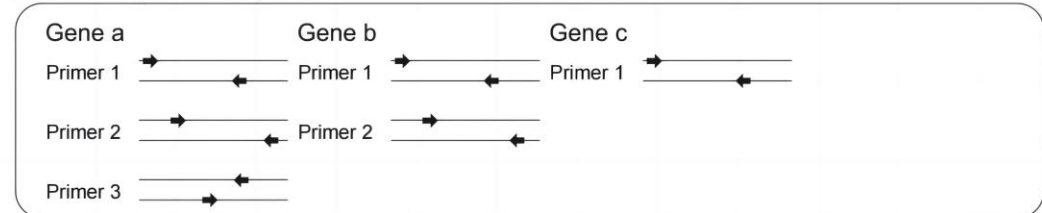
Genome-wide gene level BLAST search



Filter and align genes for primer design

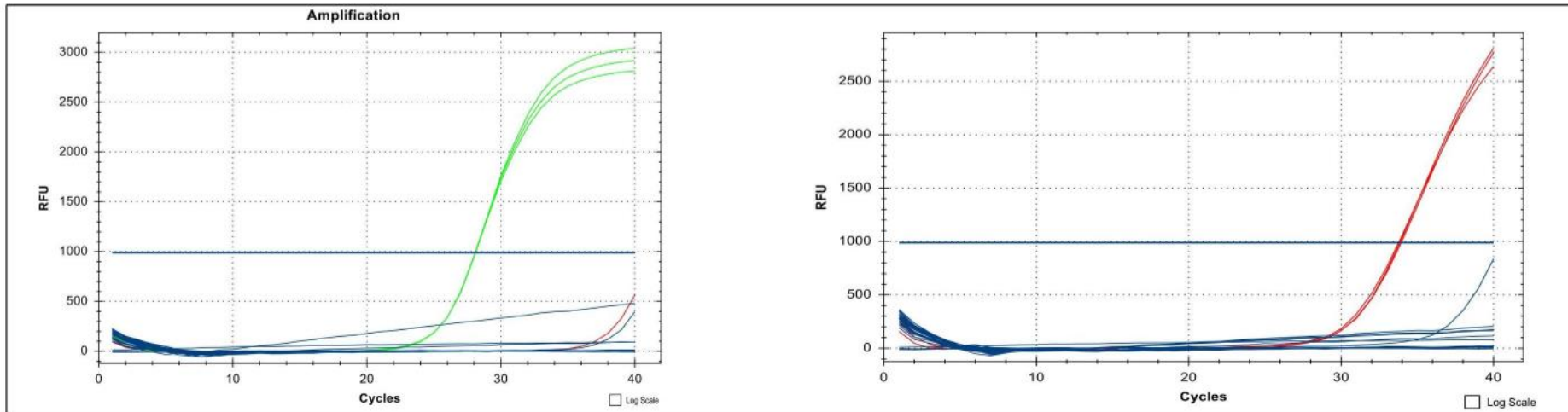


Primer design & Quality control



Main Contributions

- Contributions:
 - A tool could rapidly designing primers for evolving pathogens such as viruses or fungi;
 - A method could handle a large number of genomes to identify specific primers;
 - A species-specific primer design without specifying a template gene or region



Left: targeted species is *C. neoformans* (green); right targeted species is *C. gattii* (red). Other control species (n=9) are colored in black. RFU: Relative Fluorescence units.