The Next NGS Challenge Conference: Data Processing and Integration

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Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) is a highly parallelised approach for quickly and economically sequencing new genomes, re-sequencing large numbers of known genomes, or for rapidly investigating transcriptomes under different conditions. Producing data on an unprecedented scale, these techniques are now driving the generation of knowledge (especially in biomedicine and molecular life sciences) to new dimensions. The massive data volumes being generated by these new technologies require new data-handling and -storage methods. Hence, the Life Science community urgently needs new and improved approaches to facilitate NGS data management and analysis.

A "moving target", this field requires that bioinformaticians, computer scientists and biomedical scientists join their expertise to bring NGS data management and analysis to new levels of efficiency and integration.

In your hands, you hold the proceedings of the *"Next NGS Challenge, Data Processing and Integration, Conference"* organised during 16-17 May 2013 in Valencia, Spain. This conference – a joint event of the EU COST Action BM1006, SeqAhead; the Global Bioinformatics Network, EMBnet; the FP7 Project, STATegra; and the International Society for Computational Biology, ISCB – aims to become a regular, dedicated meeting on cutting-edge NGS applications. As such, it will continue to bring together biologists, computational biologists and bioinformaticians to discuss new challenges in high-throughput sequencing, and to highlight new trends in NGS-based genome research.

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