



Complete Genome Sequences of *Thermus* Strains Isolated from Senami Hot Spring in Japan

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ABSTRACT Extremely thermophilic strains belonging to the genus *Thermus* were isolated from Senami Hot Spring in Japan. Here, I report the complete genome sequences of five *Thermus thermophilus* strains and one *Thermus brockianus* strain, which were obtained by combining Oxford Nanopore long-read and DNBSEQ or Illumina short-read sequencing data.

Thermus aquaticus is the type species of the genus *Thermus*, which was first isolated from Yellowstone National Park in the United States in 1969 (1). At almost the same time, *Thermus thermophilus* was isolated from Mine Hot Spring in Japan (2, 3). Due to its high-temperature adaptation at around 70°C, *Thermus* has great biotechnological potential as a source of thermophilic enzymes, as exemplified by *Taq* DNA polymerase (4). Since the discovery of *T. aquaticus*, many *Thermus* strains have been isolated from thermal areas worldwide (5–11).

I collected boiling water samples at Senami Hot Spring (38.2139 N, 139.4438 E) in Japan. Samples were spread over *Thermus* medium (0.4% [wt/vol] yeast extract, 0.8% [wt/vol] peptone, 0.2% [wt/vol] NaCl) agar plates (1.6% [wt/vol]) containing 0.4 mM MgCl₂ and 0.35 mM CaCl₂ (*Thermus* MC medium) (10). After incubation at 75°C overnight, dozens of well-separated single colonies were isolated, and colony PCR was conducted to analyze the 16S rRNA gene using the *Thermus*_1F and *Thermus*_1521R primer sets (12). I selected five *T. thermophilus* strains (≥99.8% 16S rRNA identities to HB8^T [TTH_RS00710]) and one *T. brockianus* strain (99.9% 16S rRNA identity to YS38^T [NR_036983.1]) for whole-genome analysis.

To prepare genomic DNA, cells were aerobically grown in 5 mL of *Thermus* MC medium at 75°C for 24 h. Genomic DNA was purified using a blood and cell culture DNA midikit (Qiagen; catalog number 13323). For long-read sequencing, unsheared genomic DNA (1 μg) was treated with a short-read eliminator kit (Circulomics; catalog number SS-100-121-01) to remove fragments of <10 kbp, and a library was constructed using a ligation sequencing kit (Oxford Nanopore Technologies [ONT]; catalog number SQK-LSK109). Sequencing was performed with a GridION X5 system on a FLO-MIN106 R9.41 revD flow cell (ONT). Base calling was conducted using Guppy v.4.0.11. The raw data (Table 1) were filtered (*Q* >10; length, >1,000 bases) using NanoFilt v.2.7.1 (13). For short-read sequencing of SNM1-1, SNM3-3, and SNM1-7, a library was constructed using an MGIEasy FS PCR Free DNA library preparation set (MGI Tech Co., Ltd.; catalog number 1000013455) with a ~400- to 500-bp insert. Paired-end sequencing (2 × 150 bases) was then performed on a DNBSEQ-400 instrument (MGI). For SNM6-6, SNM7-6, and SNM4-1, the DNA prep kit (Illumina; catalog number 20018704) was used to generate paired-end libraries with approximately 350-bp inserts. Sequencing was performed using a MiSeq reagent kit v.2 (300 cycles) with 256-bp reads. These raw data were filtered (*Q* > 30; length, >20 bases) using fastp v.0.20.1 (14) (Table 1). Default parameters were used for all software. The trimmed long- and short-read data were assembled using Unicycler v.0.4.8 (15), and the assembly was polished using Pilon v.1.24 (16).

All strains contained a single circular chromosome and multiple circular plasmids. Circularity was confirmed via Unicycler. Automatic annotation was conducted using DFAST v.1.2.15 (17); genomic features are summarized in Table 1.

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TABLE 1 Strains sequenced in this study

Strain	BioSample accession no.	Chromosome or plasmid	Short read			Long read			Length (bp)	GC content (%)	avg read depth (x)	No. of coding sequences	GenBank accession no.
			No. of paired end reads	Total length (Mb)	SRA accession no.	No. of reads	N_{50} (bases)	Total length (Mb)					
<i>T. thermophilus</i> SNM1-1	SAM00442895	Chromosome	12,080,398	1,812	DRR346611	676,877	6,660	2,160	DRR346617	69.31	107	2,371	AP025596
		pThSNM1-1b								69.50	866	116	AP025597
		pThSNM1-1c								68.34	4,720	30	AP025598
		pThSNM1-1d								70.83	5,654	8	AP025599
		pThSNM1-1e								70.63	4,429	8	AP025600
<i>T. thermophilus</i> SNM3-3	SAM00442896	pThSNM1-1f							71.92	12,980	4	AP025601	
		pThSNM1-1g							57.18	6,973	4	AP025602	
		Chromosome	5,407,329	811	DRR346612	1,066,704	3,727	2,995	DRR346618	69.34	676	2,113	AP025609
		pThSNM3-3b								68.86	566	263	AP025610
		pThSNM3-3c								68.68	966	171	AP025611
<i>T. thermophilus</i> SNM6-6	SAM00442897	pThSNM3-3d							70.95	5,285	11	AP025612	
		Chromosome	963,253	226	DRR346613	1,459,467	3,609	2,897	DRR346619	69.41	136	2,087	AP025613
		pThSNM6-6b								68.95	115	219	AP025614
		pThSNM6-6c								68.25	163	96	AP025615
		pThSNM6-6d								68.25	1,025	24	AP025616
<i>T. thermophilus</i> SNM7-6	SAM00442898	Chromosome	989,094	227	DRR346614	1,608,666	1,807	2,619	DRR346620	69.53	123	1,978	AP025617
		pThSNM7-6b								66.73	188	275	AP025618
		pThSNM7-6c								69.51	115	218	AP025619
		pThSNM7-6d								68.52	376	27	AP025620
		Chromosome	4,871,052	731	DRR346615	1,096,885	13,982	3,978	DRR346621	69.44	381	2,022	AP025603
<i>T. thermophilus</i> SNM1-7	SAM00442899	pThSNM1-7b							68.64	252	244	AP025604	
		pThSNM1-7c							68.74	365	149	AP025605	
		pThSNM1-7d								68.95	180	29	AP025606
		pThSNM1-7e								67.95	2,223	18	AP025607
		pThSNM1-7f								70.71	1,960	6	AP025608
<i>T. Brockianus</i> SNM4-1	SAM00442900	Chromosome	1,139,199	249	DRR346616	1,088,755	4,184	3,050	DRR346622	66.96	214	2,181	AP025593
		pTbrSNM4-1b								65.83	181	319	AP025594
		pTbrSNM4-1c								64.31	436	31	AP025595

Data availability. All six *Thermus* strains are associated with BioProject [PRJDB12526](https://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bioproject/PRJDB12526). The BioSample accession numbers and accession numbers for genome sequences and raw sequencing data are available in Table 1.

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