

A summary of the similarities/differences in the overall taxonomic assignment procedure adopted by INDUS and SPHINX

Steps of taxonomic assignment	INDUS	SPHINX
Search space reduction	Achieved by using a pre-clustered reference database.	Achieved by using a pre-clustered reference database.
Identification of a subset of most similar fragments in reference database	Uses compositional distance as a metric	Uses sequence similarity (in terms of alignment characteristics)
Identification of an appropriate taxonomic level of assignment	Uses compositional distance as a metric	Uses alignment parameters as a metric
Final assignment	Based on taxonomic convergence of obtained hits	Based on sequence orthology between query and hit sequences