We are proud to present a schema for true whole genome multi-locus sequence typing (wgMLST) of Klebsiella pneumoniae in BioNumerics. When used in combination with our cloud-based Calculation Engine, typing K. pneumoniae isolates up to strain level using whole genome sequencing data is now easily accessible to everyone.

What is the schema exactly?
Based on the core genome MLST schema from Bialek-Davenet et al., 2014[1], a pan-genomic schema has been defined in collaboration with international coworkers. This resulted in a set of reference sequences that reflect the known diversity of of K. pneumoniae and related species K. michiganensis, K. oxytoca and K. variicola. By also capturing the accessory loci, they increased the discriminatory power of the schema. At the same time, the extended schema also allows for the detection of subtype- or outbreak-specific markers, thus enabling more powerful classification and outbreak definition tools.

Which loci are present?
Starting from 67 annotated reference genomes, our in-house developed schema creation procedure uses a sampling-based multi-reciprocal BLAST procedure to determine those sets of alleles that make up the stable loci in the accessory genome. A per-locus allele assessment procedure then determines the central prototype allele, and thus the definition of the locus. The accessory schema with 19086 loci is then complemented with the 634 core loci, 7 MLST loci[2] and 2 capsular typing loci (wzc[3] and wzi[4]) sequencing) to obtain maximal consistency with classical and novel sequence typing initiatives for K. pneumoniae.

How will it help you?
By using BioNumerics and the integrated powerful calculation infrastructure, analyzing whole genome sequencing data for K. pneumoniae has become a lot more straightforward. Our cloud-based Calculation Engine offers a high-throughput environment for all your sample processing needs. Its quality-controlled de novo assembly possibilities allow you to easily assemble whole genome sequencing data without the need of local computing power. The two allele detection procedures (assembly-based and assembly-free) allow you to perform fast and reliable allele calling for e.g. cluster detection which can be combined with whole genome SNP analysis to obtain the utmost resolution within your sample comparisons.

References: