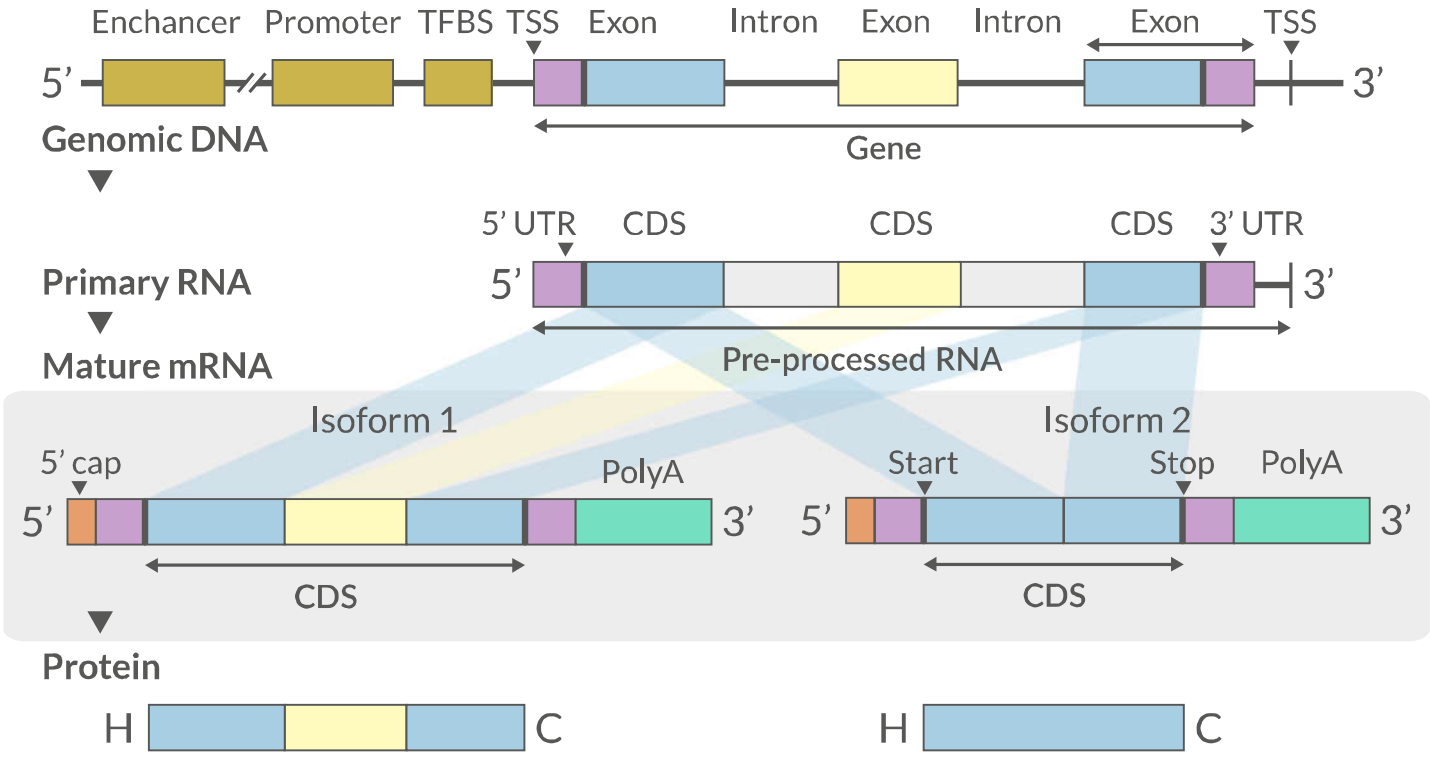
Introduction to RNA-Seq

Introduction To Bioinformatics Using NGS Data

Roy Francis | 25-Oct-2018

Contents

RNA Sequencing

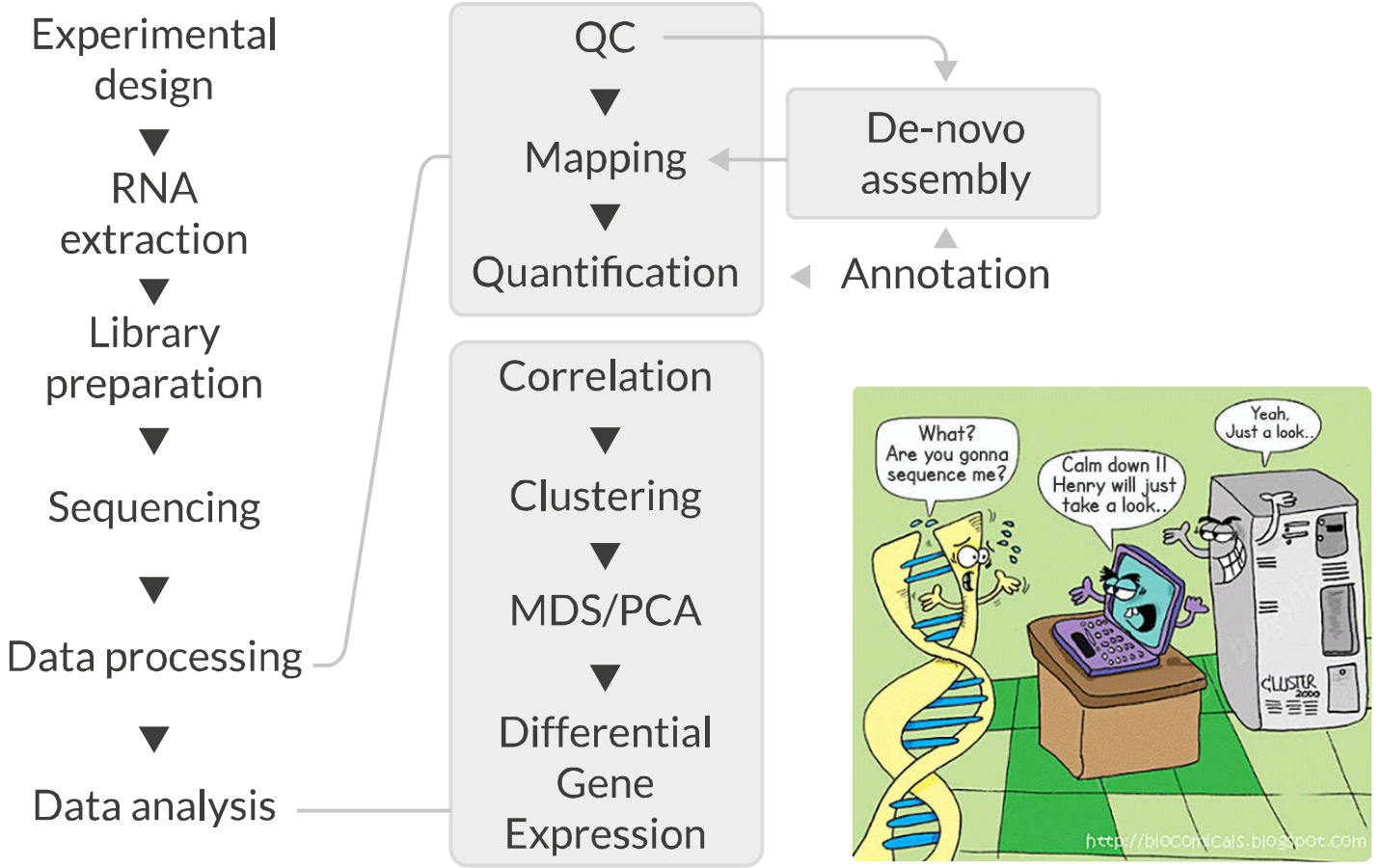


- The transcriptome is spatially and temporally dynamic
- Data comes from functional units (coding regions)
- Only a tiny fraction of the genome

Applications

- Identify gene sequences in genomes
- Learn about gene function
- Differential gene expression
- Explore isoform and allelic expression
- Understand co-expression, pathways and networks
- Gene fusion
- RNA editing

Workflow

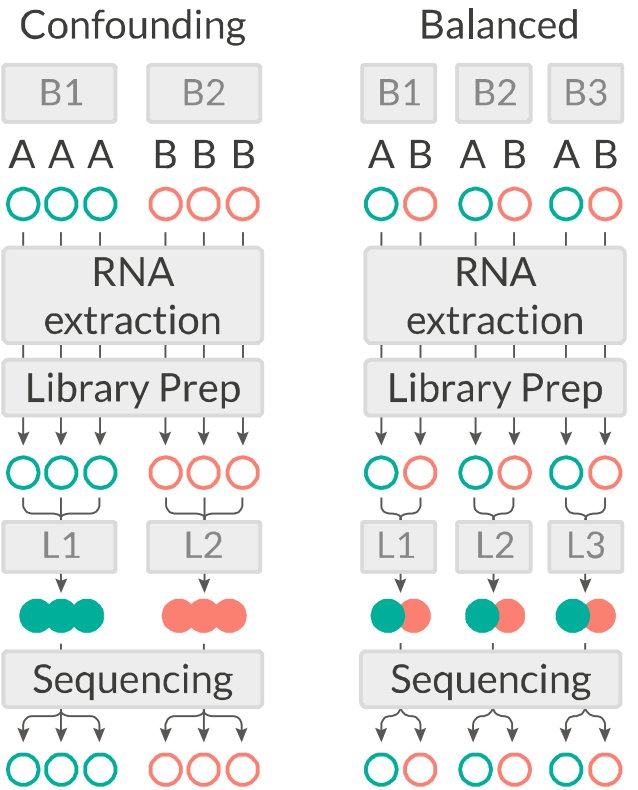


Conesa, Ana, *et al.* "A survey of best practices for RNA-seq data analysis." Genome biology 17.1 (2016): 13

Experimental design

- Balanced design
- Technical replicates not necessary (Marioni *et al.*, 2008)
- Biological replicates: 6 - 12 (Schurch *et al.*, 2016)
- ENCODE consortium
- Previous publications
- Power analysis

RnaSeqSampleSize (Power analysis), Scotty (Power analysis with cost)



Busby, Michele A., *et al.* "Scotty: a web tool for designing RNA-Seq experiments to measure differential gene expression." Bioinformatics 29.5 (2013): 656-657

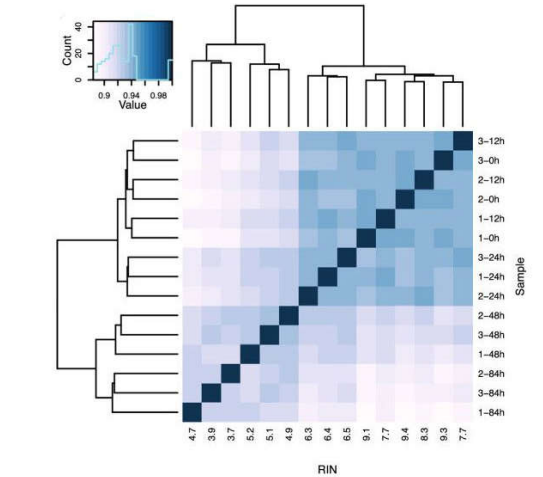
Marioni, John C., *et al.* "RNA-seq: an assessment of technical reproducibility and comparison with gene expression arrays." Genome research (2008)

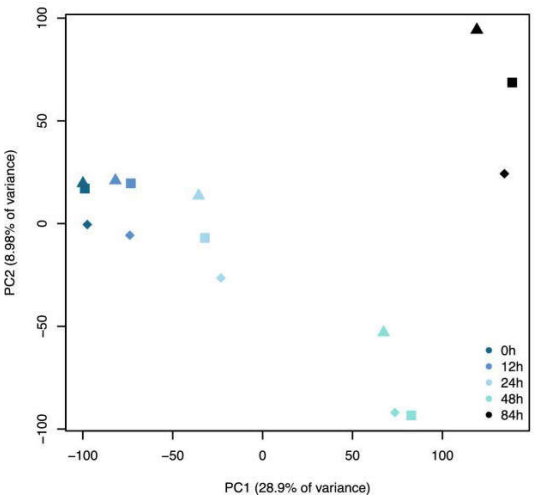
Schurch, Nicholas J., *et al.* "How many biological replicates are needed in an RNA-seq experiment and which differential expression tool should you use?." Rna (2016)

Zhao, Shilin, *et al.* "RnaSeqSampleSize: real data based sample size estimation for RNA sequencing." BMC bioinformatics 19.1 (2018): 191

RNA extraction

- Sample processing and storage
- Total RNA/mRNA/small RNA
- DNAse treatment
- Quantity & quality
- RIN values (Strong effect)
- Batch effect



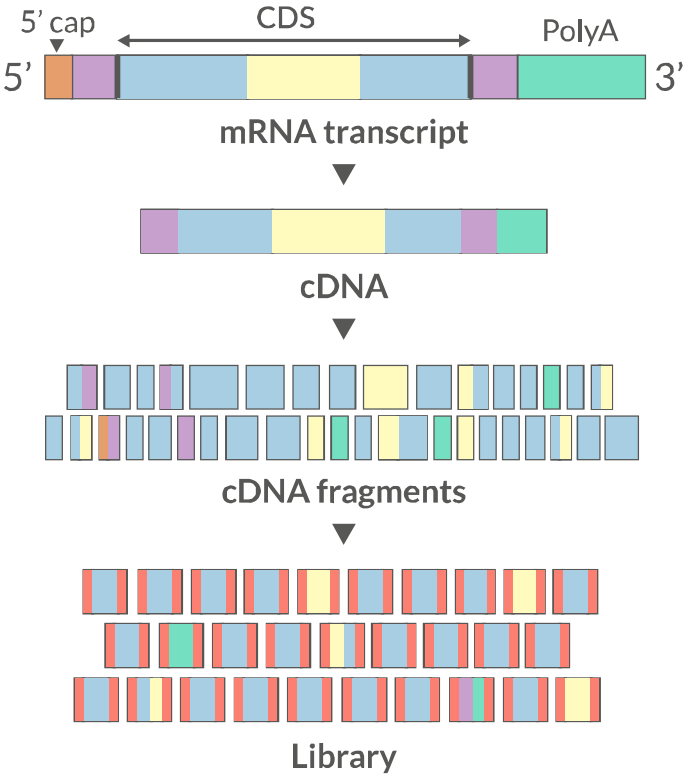


Romero, Irene Gallego, *et al.* "RNA-seq: impact of RNA degradation on transcript quantification." BMC biology 12.1 (2014): 42

Kim, Young-Kook, *et al.* "Short structured RNAs with low GC content are selectively lost during extraction from a small number of cells." Molecular cell 46.6 (2012): 893-89500481-9).

Library prep

- PolyA selection
- rRNA depletion
- Size selection
- PCR amplification (See section PCR duplicates)
- Stranded (directional) libraries
    - Accurately identify sense/antisense transcript
    - Resolve overlapping genes
- Exome capture
- Library normalisation
- Batch effect

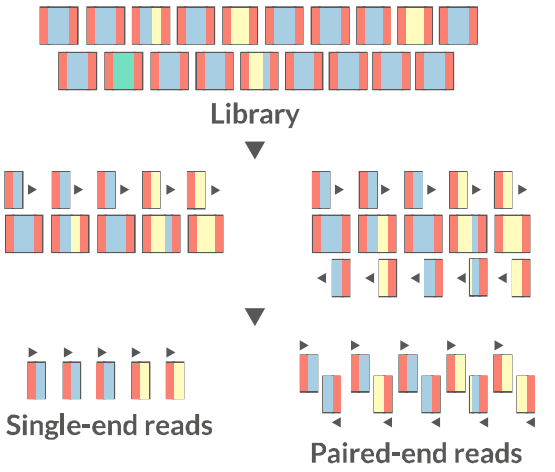


Zhao, Shanrong, et al. "Comparison of stranded and non-stranded RNA-seq transcriptome profiling and investigation of gene overlap." BMC genomics 16.1 (2015): 675

Levin, Joshua Z., et al. "Comprehensive comparative analysis of strand-specific RNA sequencing methods." Nature methods 7.9 (2010): 709

Sequencing

- Sequencer (Illumina/PacBio)
- Read length
  - Greater than 50bp does not improve DGE
  - Longer reads better for isoforms
- Pooling samples
- Sequencing depth (Coverage/Reads per sample)
- Single-end reads (Cheaper)
- Paired-end reads
  - Increased mappable reads
  - Increased power in assemblies
  - Better for structural variation and isoforms
  - Decreased false-positives for DGE



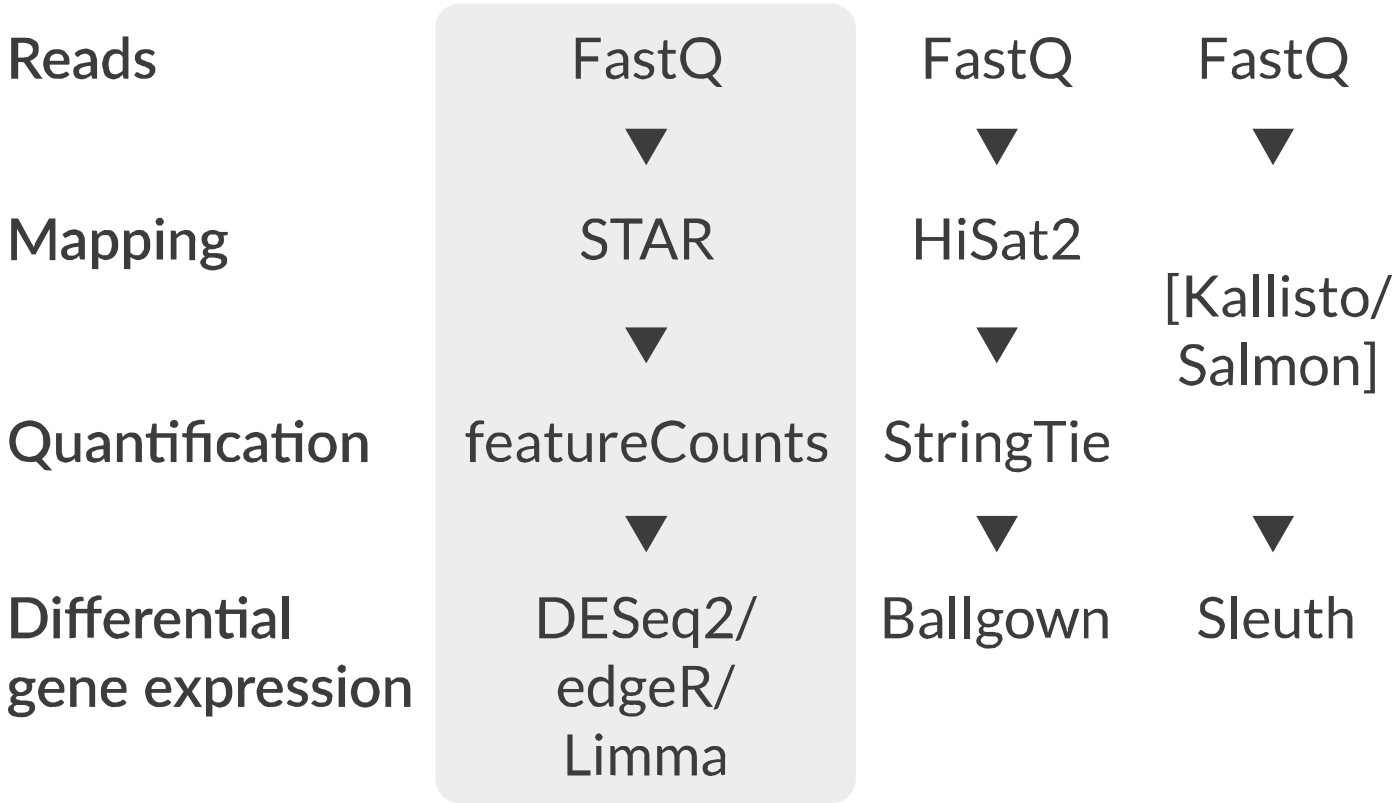
Chhangawala, Sagar, et al. "The impact of read length on quantification of differentially expressed genes and splice junction detection." Genome biology 16.1 (2015): 131

Corley, Susan M., et al. "Differentially expressed genes from RNA-Seq and functional enrichment results are affected by the choice of single-end versus paired-end reads and stranded versus non-stranded protocols." BMC genomics 18.1 (2017): 399

Liu, Yuwen, Jie Zhou, and Kevin P. White. "RNA-seq differential expression studies: more sequence or more replication?." Bioinformatics 30.3 (2013): 301-304

Comparison of PE and SE for RNA-Seq, SciLifeLab

Workflow | DGE



De-Novo assembly

- When no reference genome available
- To identify novel genes/transcripts/isoforms
- Identify fusion genes
- Assemble transcriptome from short reads
- Access quality of assembly and refine
- Map reads back to assembled transcriptome

Trinity, SOAPdenovo-Trans, Oases, rnaSPAdes

Hsieh, Ping-Han *et al.*, "Effect of de novo transcriptome assembly on transcript quantification" 2018 bioRxiv 380998
Wang, Sufang, and Michael Gribskov. "Comprehensive evaluation of de novo transcriptome assembly programs and their effects on differential gene expression analysis." Bioinformatics 33.3 (2017): 327-333

Read QC

- Number of reads
- Per base sequence quality
- Per sequence quality score
- Per base sequence content
- Per sequence GC content
- Per base N content
- Sequence length distribution
- Sequence duplication levels
- Overrepresented sequences
- Adapter content
- Kmer content

FastQC, MultiQC

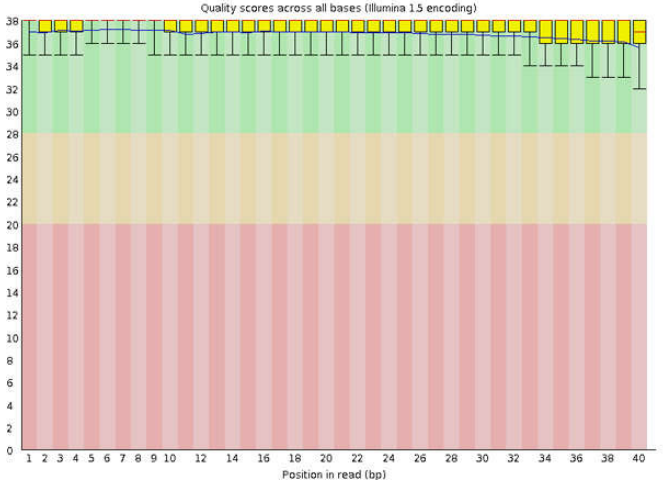
https://sequencing.qcfail.com/

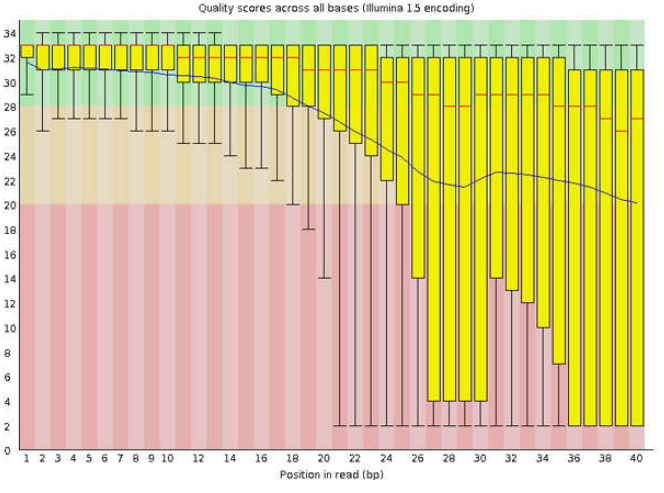
QCFAIL.com

Articles about common next-generation sequencing problems

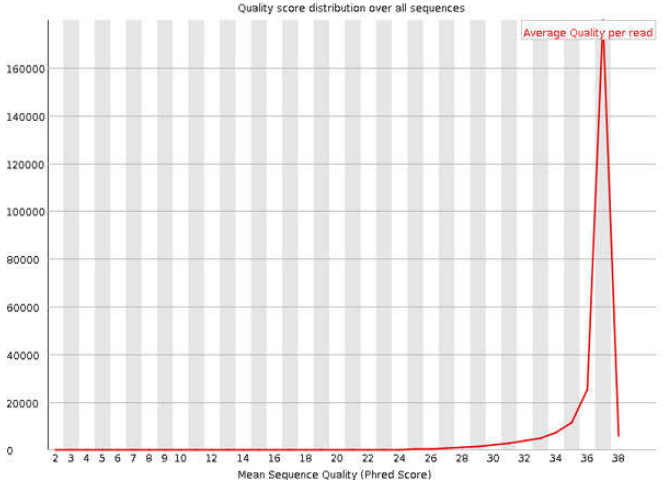
Read QC | PBSQ, PSQS

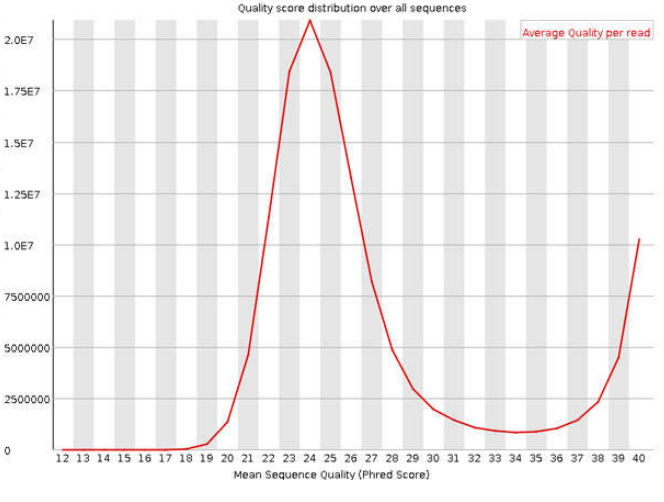
Per base sequence quality





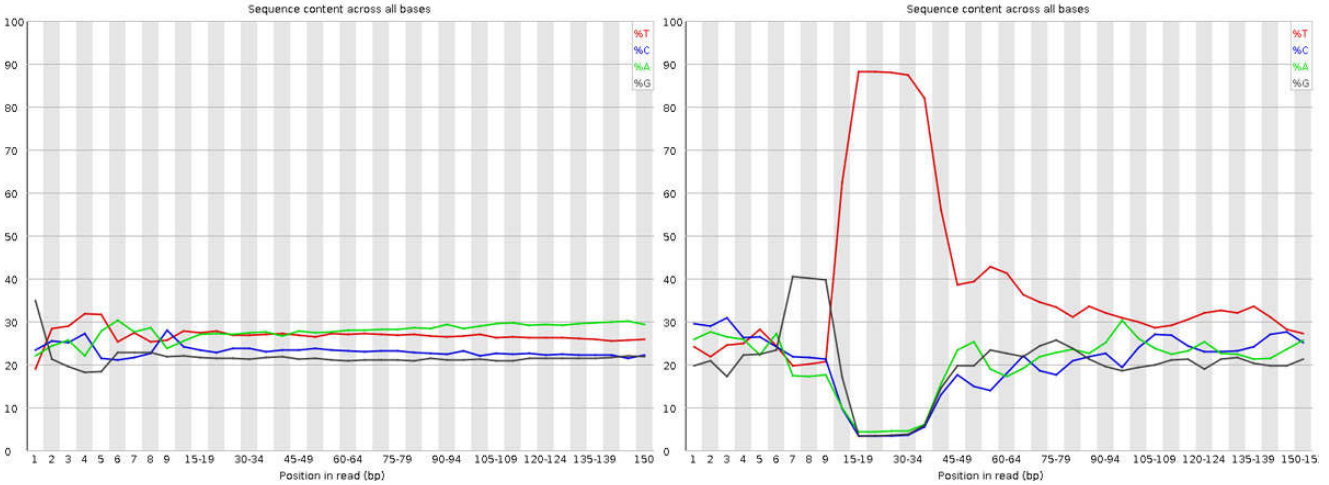
Per sequence quality scores



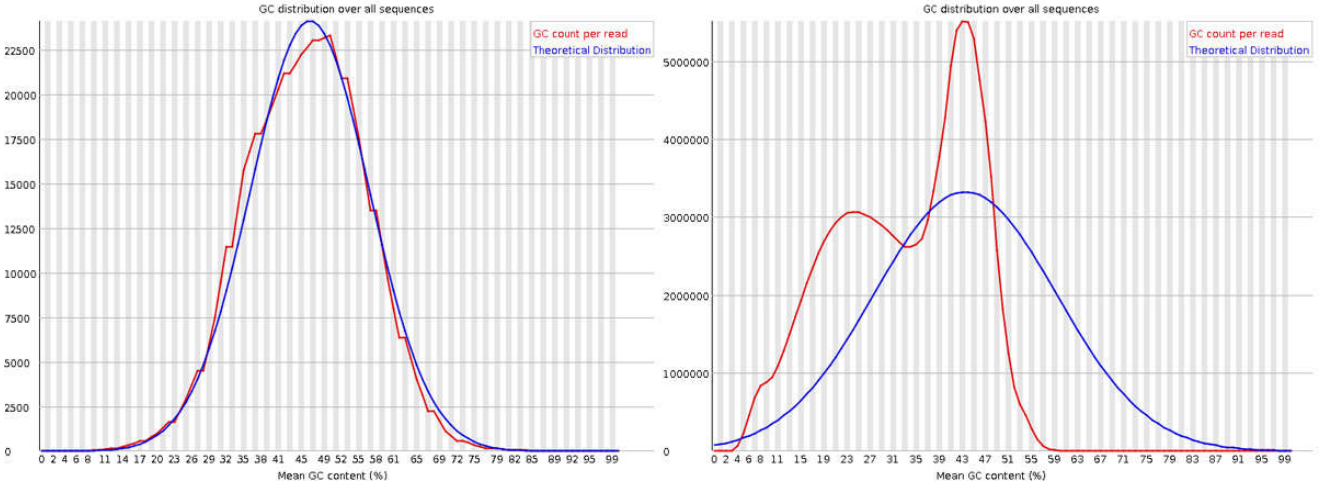


Read QC | PBSC, PSGC

Per base sequence content



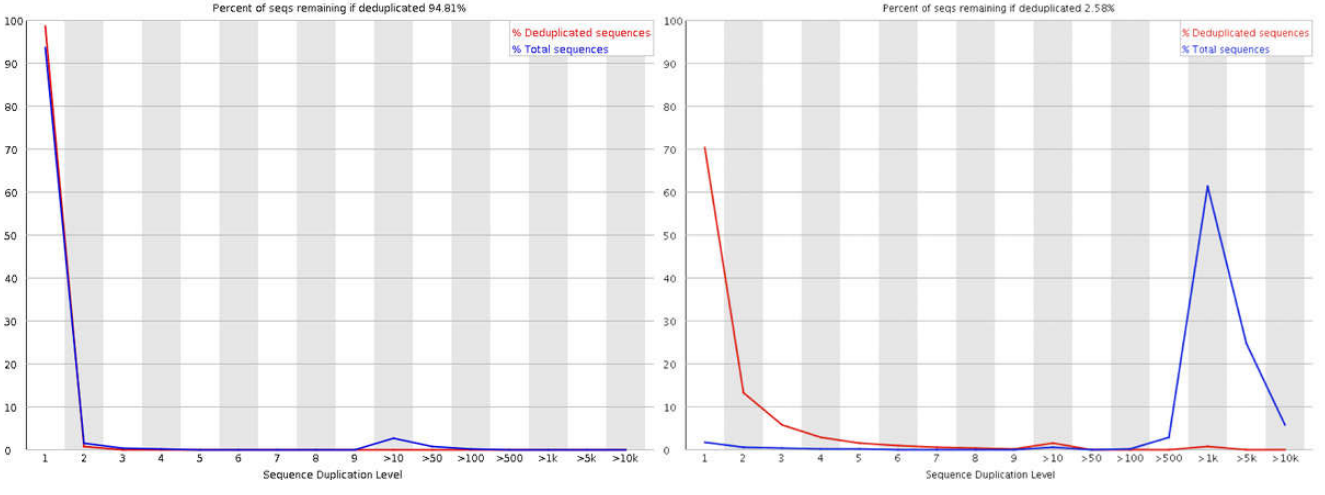
Per sequence GC content



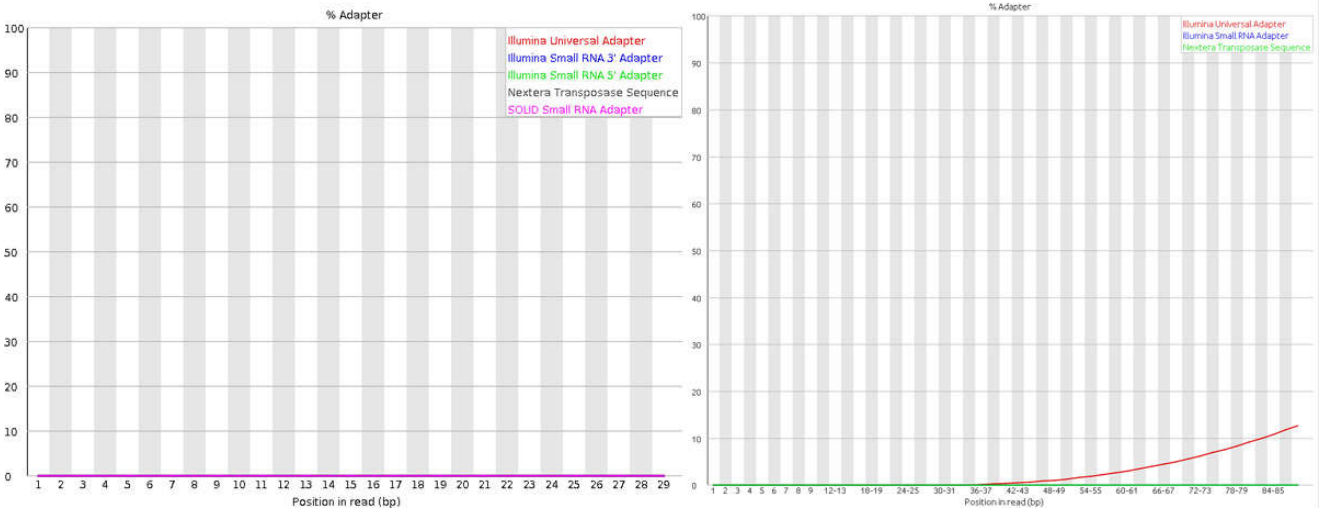
Read QC | SDL, AC

NBIS SciLifeLab

Sequence duplication level



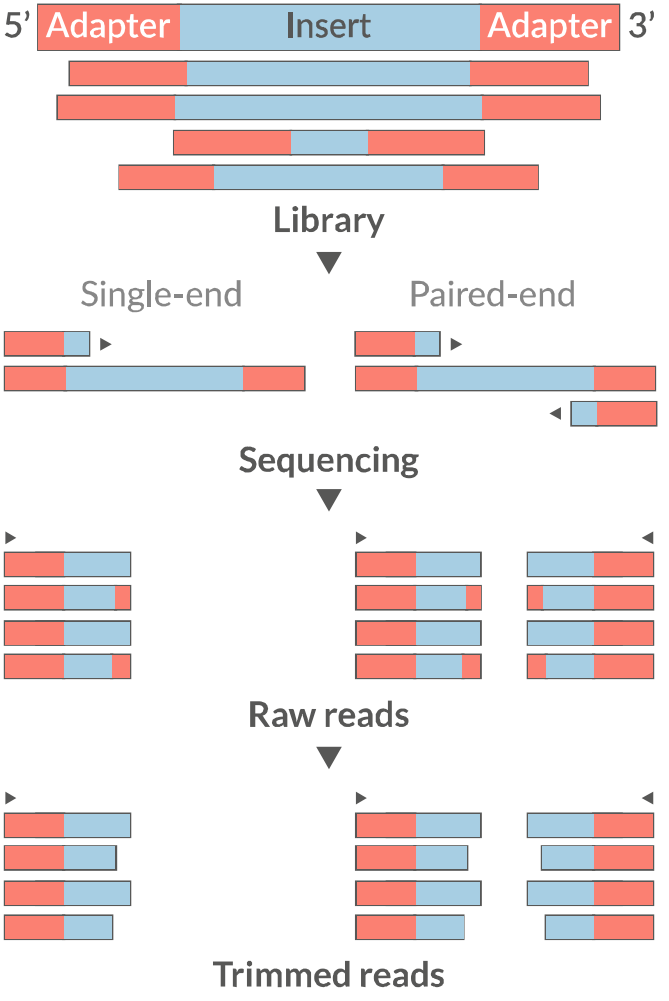
Adapter content



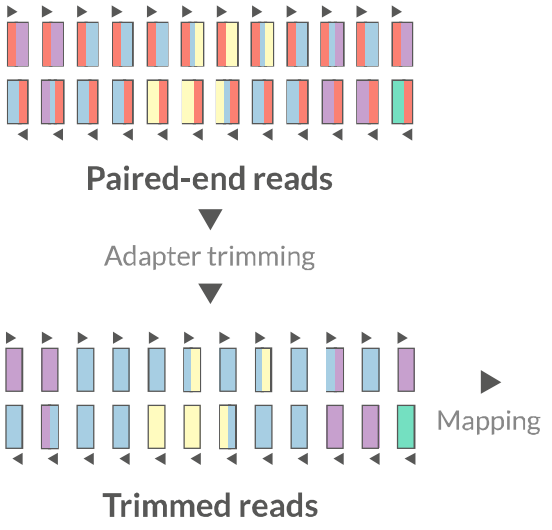
Trimming

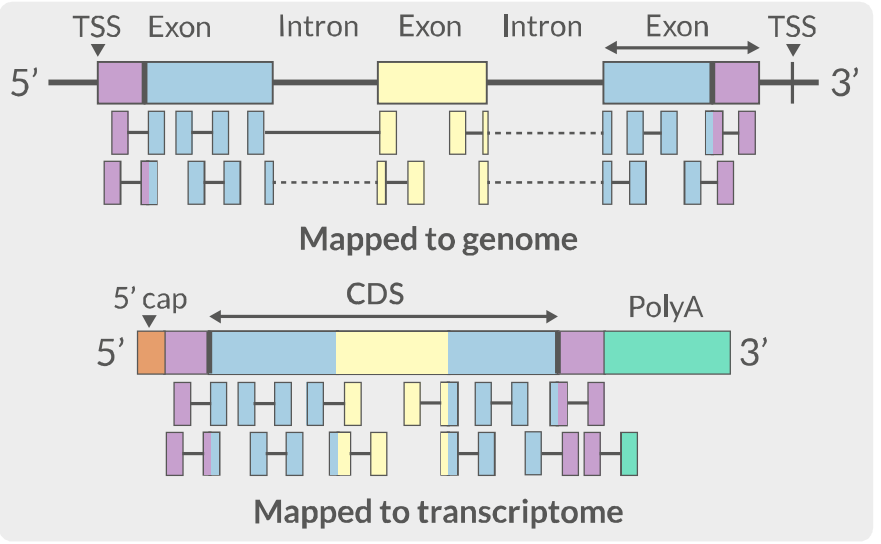
- Trim IF necessary
  - Synthetic bases can be an issue for SNP calling
  - Insert size distribution may be more important for assemblers
- Trim/Clip/Filter reads
- Remove adapter sequences
- Trim reads by quality
- Sliding window trimming
- Filter by min/max read length
  - Remove reads less than ~22nt
- Demultiplexing/Splitting

Cutadapt, fastp, Skewer, Prinseq



Mapping





- Aligning reads back to a reference sequence
- Mapping to genome vs transcriptome
- Splice-aware alignment (genome)

STAR, HiSat2, GSNAP, Novoalign (Commercial)

Baruzzo, Giacomo, *et al.* "Simulation-based comprehensive benchmarking of RNA-seq aligners." Nature methods 14.2 (2017): 135

Mapping

- Reads (FASTQ)

```
@ST-E00274:179:HHYMLALXX:8:1101:1641:1309 1:N:0:NGATGT
NCATCGTGGTATTTGCACATCTTTTCTTATCAAATAAAAAGTTTAACCTACTCAGTTATGCGCATACGTTTTTTGATGGCATTT
+
#AAAFAFA<-AFFJJJAFA-FFJJJJFFFAJJJJ-<FFJJJ-A-F-7--FA7F7-----FFFJFA<FFFFJ<AJ--FF-A<A-<
```

`@instrument:runid:flowcellid:lane:tile:xpos:ypos read:isfiltered:controlnumber:sampleid`

- Reference Genome/Transcriptome (FASTA)

```
>1 dna:chromosome chromosome:GRCz10:1:1:58871917:1 REF
GATCTTAAACATTTATTCCCCCTGCAAACATTTTCAATCATTACATTGTCATTTCCCCTC
CAAATTAAATTTAGCCAGAGGCGCACAACATACGACCTCTAAAAAAGGTGCTGTAACATG
```

- Annotation (GTF/GFF)

```
#!genome-build GRCz10
#!genebuild-last-updated 2016-11
4       ensembl_havana  gene    6732    52059   .       -       .       gene_id "ENS
```

`seq source feature start end score strand frame attribute`

Illumina read name format, GTF format

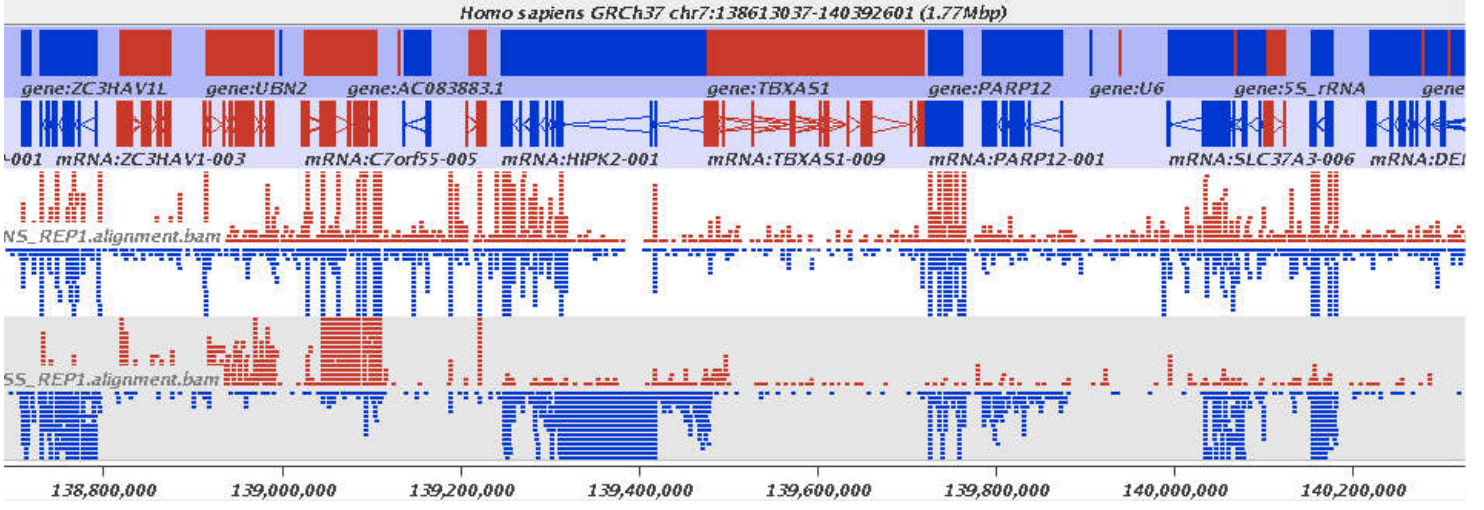
Alignment

- SAM/BAM (Sequence Alignment Map format)

```
ST-E00274:188:H3JWNCCXY:4:1102:32431:49900      163     1       1       60      8S13
```

```
query flag ref pos mapq cigar mrnm mpos tlen seq qual opt
```

SeqMonk, IGV, UCSC Genome Browser



SAM file format

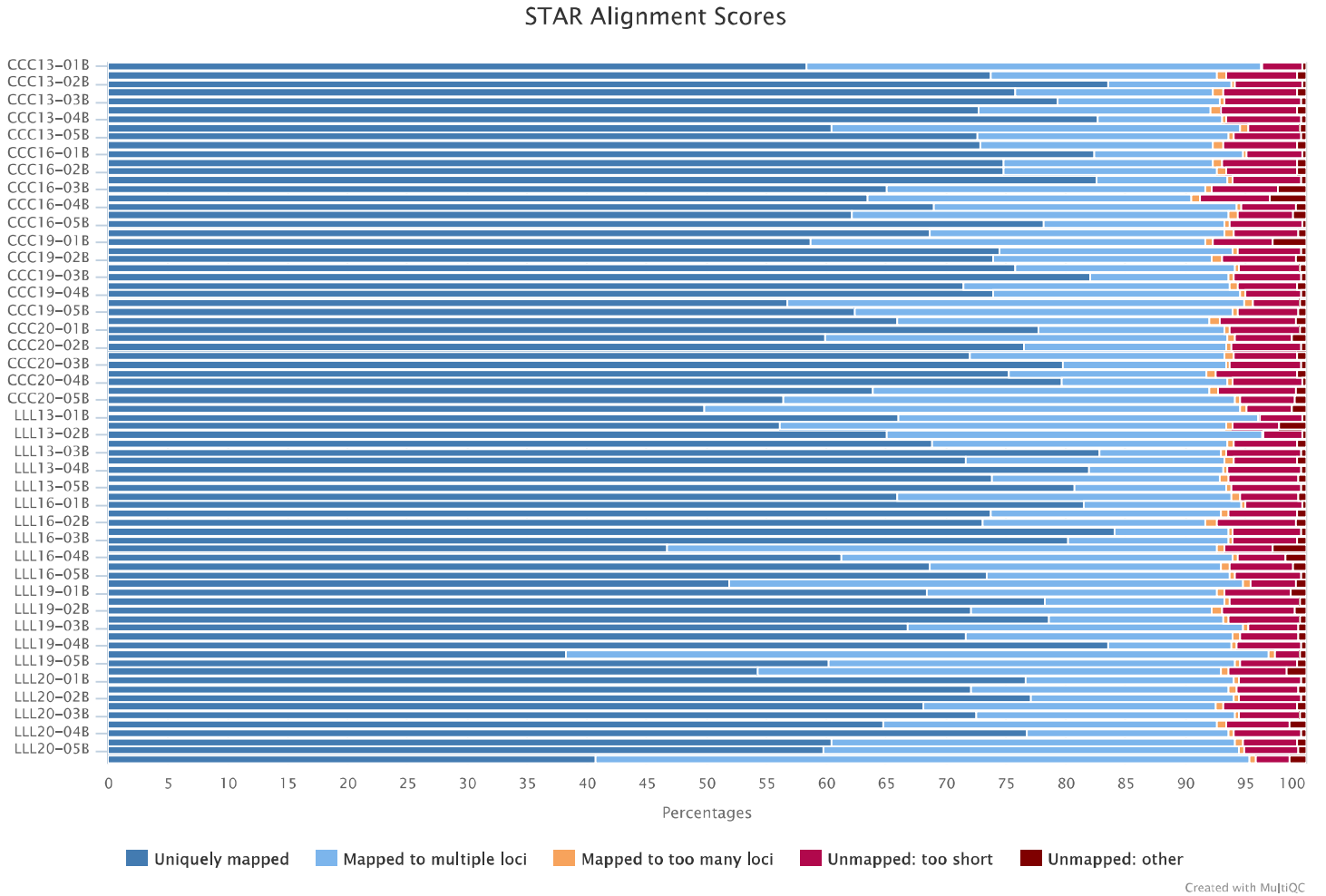
Alignment QC

- Number of reads mapped/unmapped/paired etc
- Uniquely mapped
- Insert size distribution
- Coverage
- Gene body coverage
- Biotype counts / Chromosome counts
- Counts by region: gene/intron/non-genic
- Sequencing saturation
- Strand specificity

STAR (final log file), samtools > stats, bamtools > stats, QoRTs, RSeQC, Qualimap

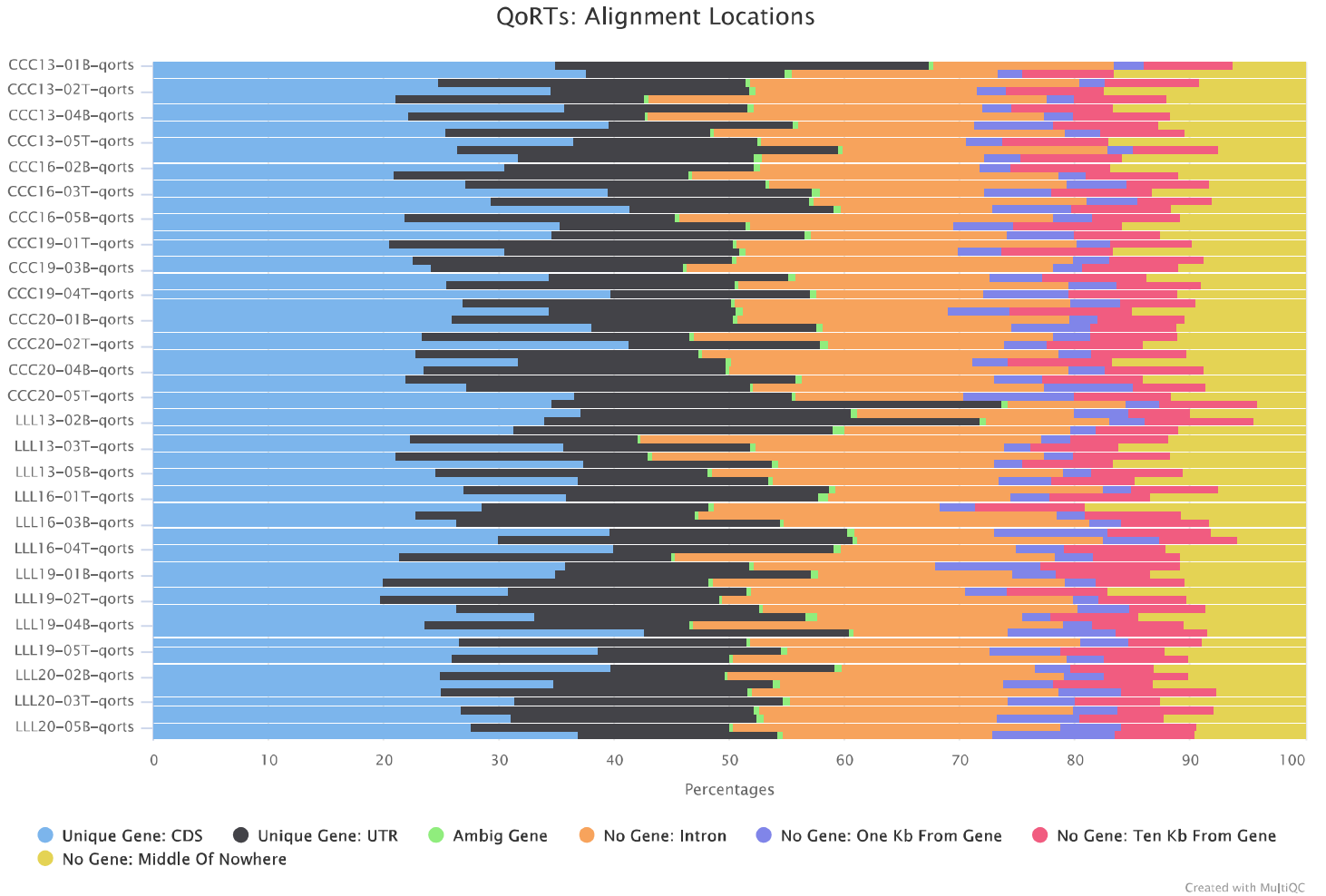
Alignment QC | STAR Log

MultiQC can be used to summarise and plot STAR log files.

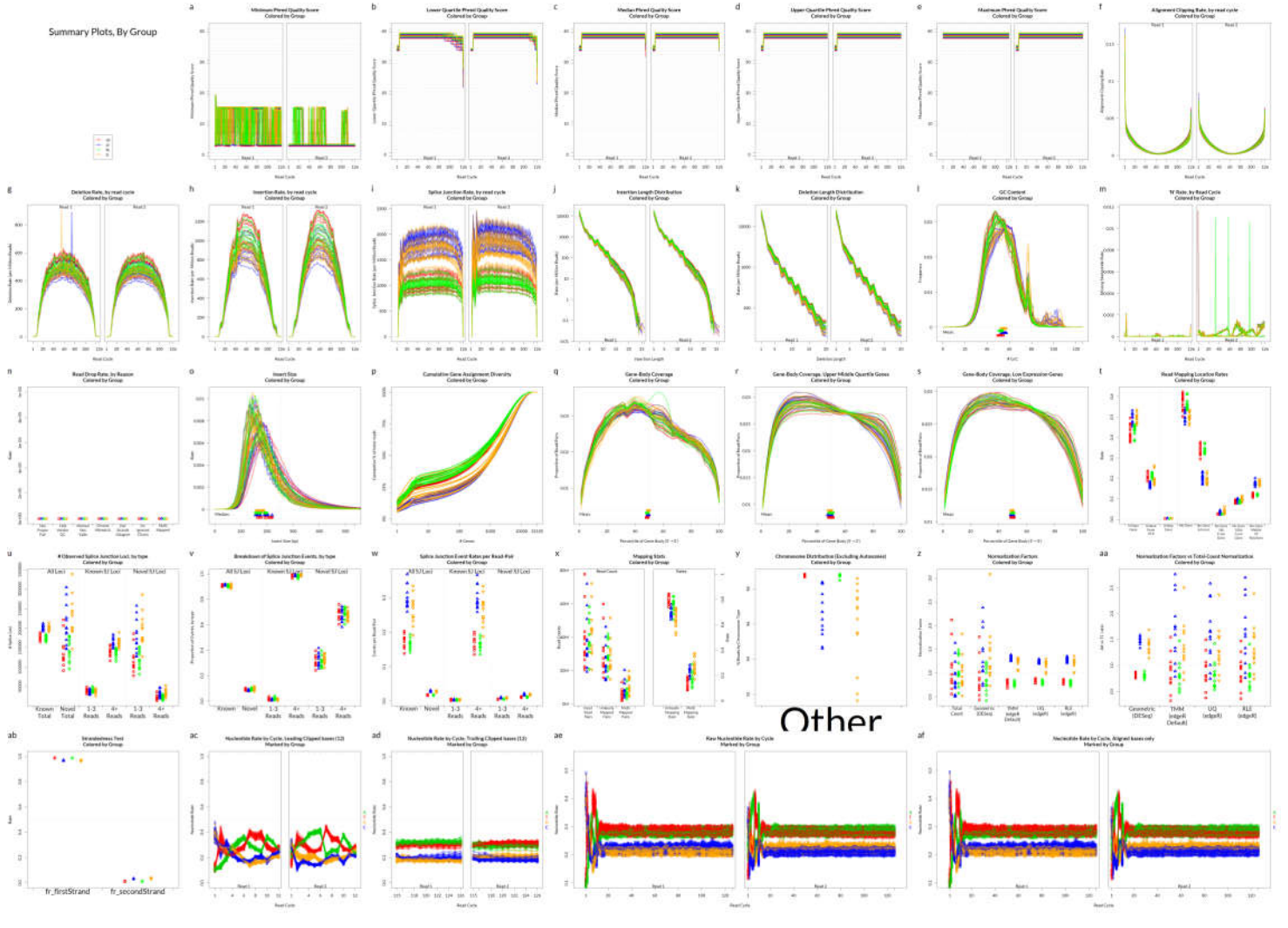


Alignment QC | Features

QoRTs was run on all samples and summarised using MultiQC.

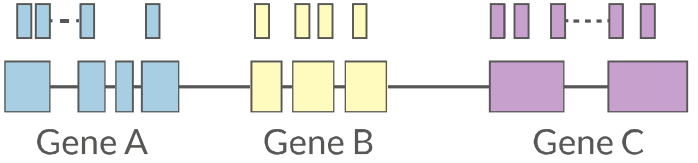


QoRTs

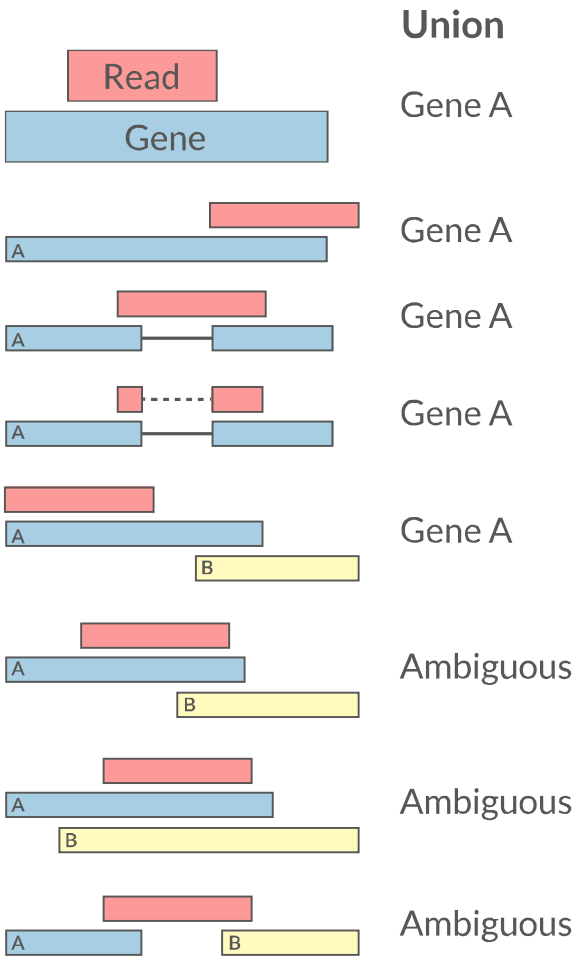


Quantification | Counts

- Read counts = gene expression
- Reads can be quantified on any feature (gene, transcript, exon etc)
- Intersection on gene models
- Gene/Transcript level



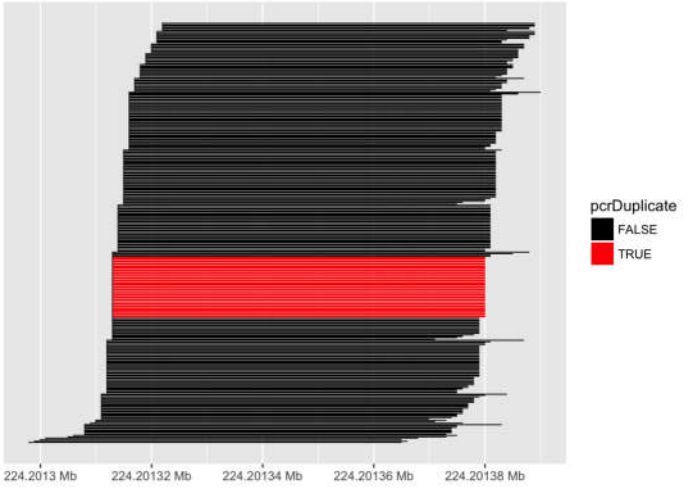
featureCounts, HTSeq



Quantification

PCR duplicates

- Ignore for RNA-Seq data
- Computational deduplication (Don't!)
- Use PCR-free library-prep kits
- Use UMIs during library-prep



Multi-mapping

- Added (BEDTools multicov)
- Discard (featureCounts, HTSeq)
- Distribute counts (Cufflinks)
- Rescue
  - Probabilistic assignment (Rcount, Cufflinks)
  - Prioritise features (Rcount)
  - Probabilistic assignment with EM (RSEM)

Fu, Yu, *et al.* "Elimination of PCR duplicates in RNA-seq and small RNA-seq using unique molecular identifiers." BMC genomics 19.1 (2018): 531

Parekh, Swati, *et al.* "The impact of amplification on differential expression analyses by RNA-seq." Scientific reports 6 (2016): 25533

Klepikova, Anna V., *et al.* "Effect of method of deduplication on estimation of differential gene expression using RNA-seq." PeerJ 5 (2017): e3091

Quantification | Abundance

- Count methods
  - Provide no inference on isoforms
  - Cannot accurately measure fold change
- Probabilistic assignment
  - Deconvolute ambiguous mappings
  - Transcript-level
  - cDNA reference

Kallisto, Salmon

- Ultra-fast & alignment-free
- Subsampling & quantification confidence
- Transcript-level estimates improves gene-level estimates
- Kallisto/Salmon > transcript-counts > `tximport()` > gene-counts

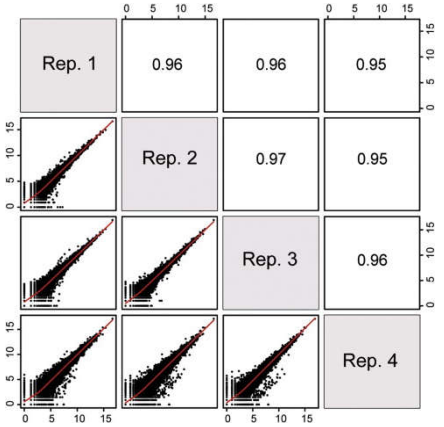
RSEM, Kallisto, Salmon, Cufflinks2

Soneson, Charlotte, *et al.* "Differential analyses for RNA-seq: transcript-level estimates improve gene-level inferences." F1000Research 4 (2015)
Zhang, Chi, *et al.* "Evaluation and comparison of computational tools for RNA-seq isoform quantification." BMC genomics 18.1 (2017): 583

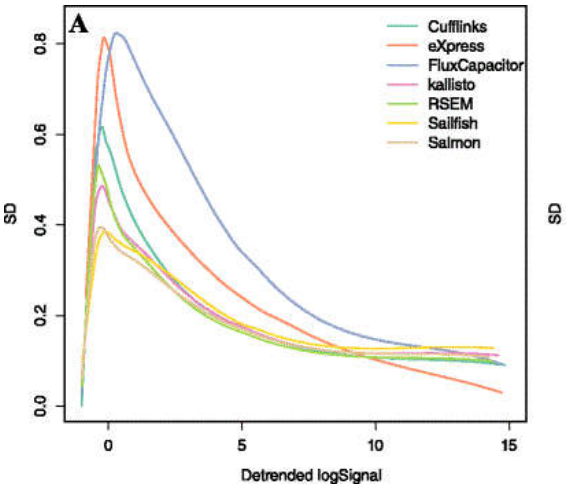
Quantification QC

ENSG00000000003	140	242	188	143	287	344	438	280	253
ENSG00000000005	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ENSG00000000419	69	98	77	55	52	94	116	79	69
ENSG00000000457	56	75	104	79	157	205	183	178	153
ENSG00000000460	33	27	23	19	27	42	69	44	40
ENSG00000000938	7	38	13	17	35	76	53	37	24
ENSG00000000971	545	878	694	636	647	216	492	798	323
ENSG00000001036	79	154	74	80	128	167	220	147	72

- Pairwise correlation between samples must be high (>0.9)



- Count QC using RNASeqComp

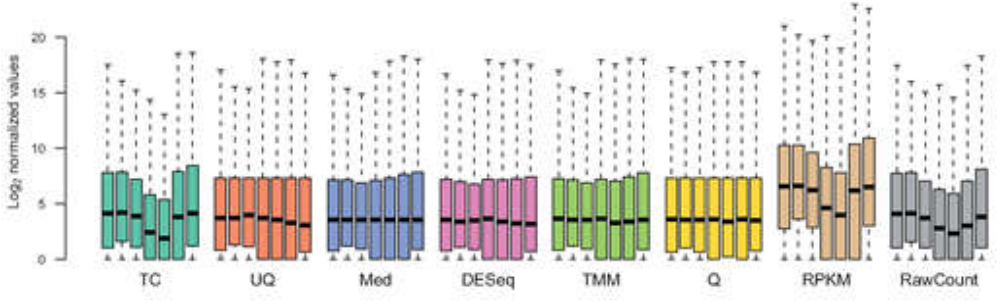


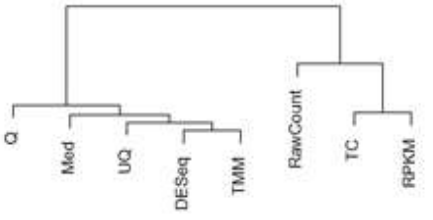
RNASeqComp

Teng, Mingxiang, *et al.* "A benchmark for RNA-seq quantification pipelines." Genome biology 17.1 (2016): 74

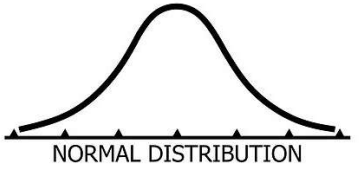
Normalisation

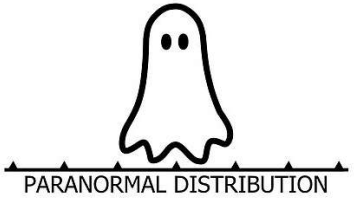
- Control for Sequencing depth & compositional bias
- Median of Ratios (DESeq2) and TMM (edgeR) perform the best





- FoR DGE using DGE packages, use raw counts
- For clustering, heatmaps etc use VST, VOOM or RLOG
- For own analysis, plots etc, use TPM
- Other solutions: spike-ins/house-keeping genes





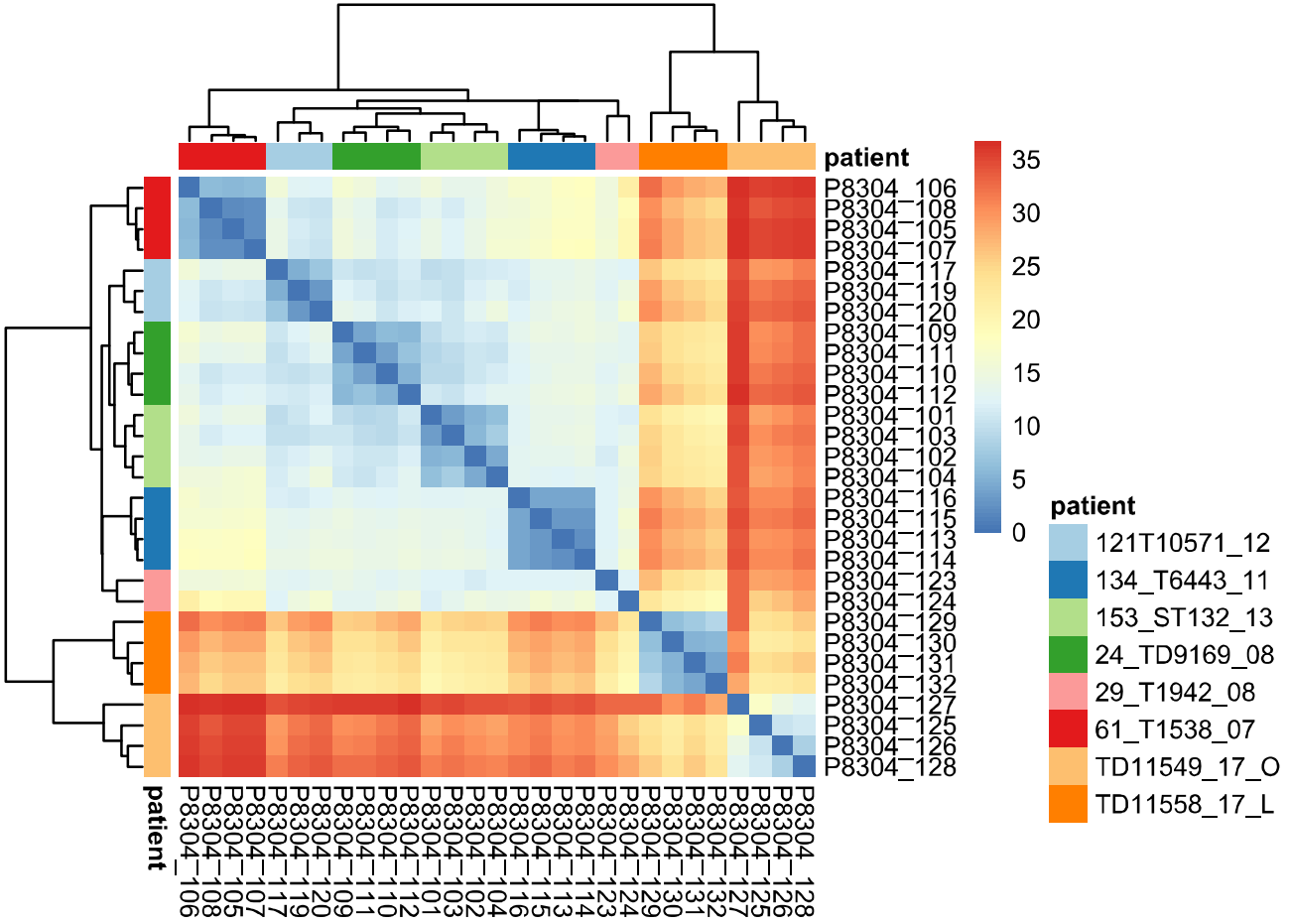
Dillies, Marie-Agnes, *et al.* "A comprehensive evaluation of normalization methods for Illumina high-throughput RNA sequencing data analysis." Briefings in bioinformatics 14.6 (2013): 671-683

Evans, Ciaran, Johanna Hardin, and Daniel M. Stoebel. "Selecting between-sample RNA-Seq normalization methods from the perspective of their assumptions." Briefings in bioinformatics (2017)

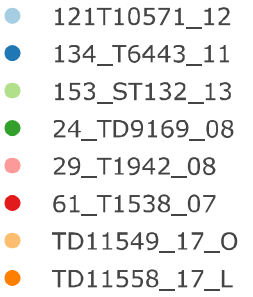
Wagner, Gunter P., Koryu Kin, and Vincent J. Lynch. "Measurement of mRNA abundance using RNA-seq data: RPKM measure is inconsistent among samples." Theory in biosciences 131.4 (2012): 281-285

Exploratory | Heatmap

- Remove lowly expressed genes
- Transform raw counts to VST, VOOM, RLOG, TPM etc
- Sample-sample clustering heatmap



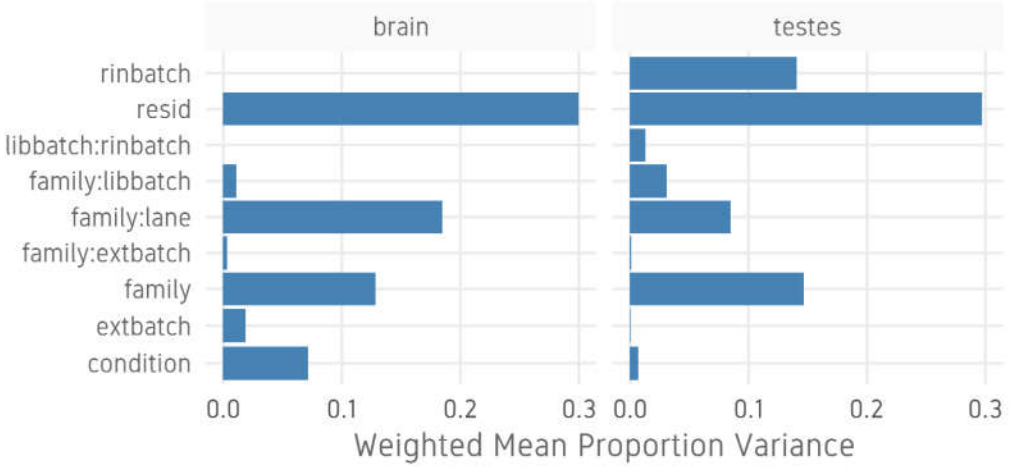
Exploratory | MDS



`cmdscale()`, plotly

Batch correction

- Estimate variation explained by variables (PVCA)



- Find confounding effects as surrogate variables (SVA)
- Model known batches in the LM/GLM model
- Correct known batches (ComBat)(Harsh!)
- Interactively evaluate batch effects and correction (BatchQC)

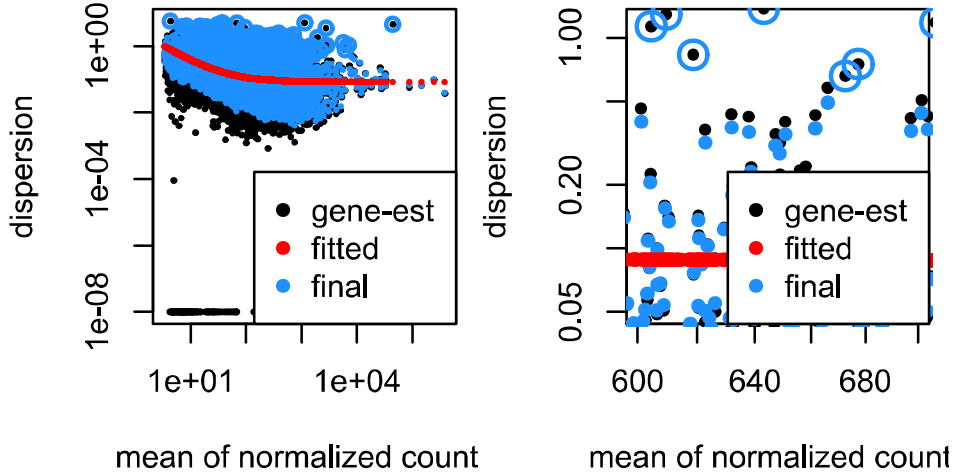
SVA, PVCA, BatchQC

Liu, Qian, and Marianthi Markatou. "Evaluation of methods in removing batch effects on RNA-seq data." Infectious Diseases and Translational Medicine 2.1 (2016): 3-9

Manimaran, Solaiappan, et al. "BatchQC: interactive software for evaluating sample and batch effects in genomic data." Bioinformatics 32.24 (2016): 3836-3838

DGE

- DESeq2, edgeR (Neg-binom > GLM > Test), Limma-Voom (Neg-binom > Voom-transform > LM > Test)
- DESeq2 `~age+condition`
    - Estimate size factors `estimateSizeFactors()`
    - Estimate gene-wise dispersion `estimateDispersions()`
    - Fit curve to gene-wise dispersion estimates
    - Shrink gene-wise dispersion estimates
    - GLM fit for each gene
    - Wald test `nbinomWaldTest()`



DESeq2, edgeR, Limma-Voom

Seyednasrollah, Fatemeh, *et al.* "Comparison of software packages for detecting differential expression in RNA-seq studies." Briefings in bioinformatics 16.1 (2013): 59-70

- Results `results()`

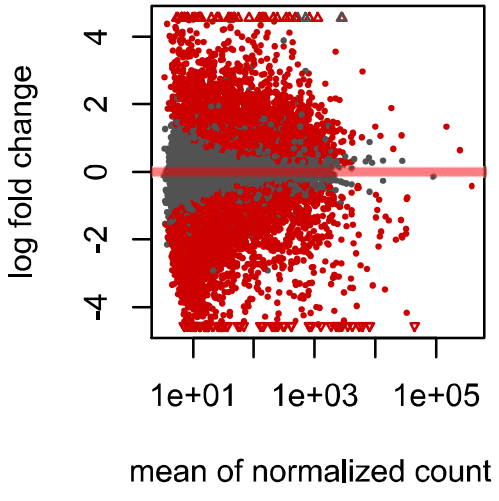
```
## log2 fold change (MLE): type type2 vs control
## Wald test p-value: type type2 vs control
## DataFrame with 1 row and 6 columns
##                         baseMean     log2FoldChange             lfcSE
##                        <numeric>          <numeric>         <numeric>
## ENSG00000000003 242.307796723287 -0.932926089608558 0.114285150312647
##                             stat               pvalue
##                        <numeric>            <numeric>
## ENSG00000000003 -8.16314356726468 3.26416150312236e-16
##                              padj
##                         <numeric>
## ENSG00000000003 1.36240610027518e-14
```

- Summary `summary()`

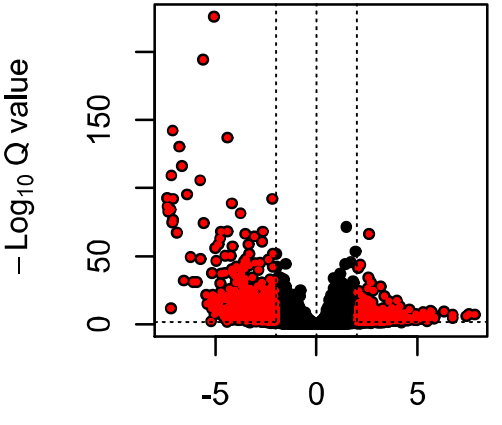
```
##
## out of 17889 with nonzero total read count
## adjusted p-value < 0.1
## LFC > 0 (up)       : 4526, 25%
## LFC < 0 (down)     : 5062, 28%
## outliers [1]       : 25, 0.14%
## low counts [2]     : 0, 0%
## (mean count < 3)
## [1] see 'cooksCutoff' argument of ?results
## [2] see 'independentFiltering' argument of ?results
```

DGE

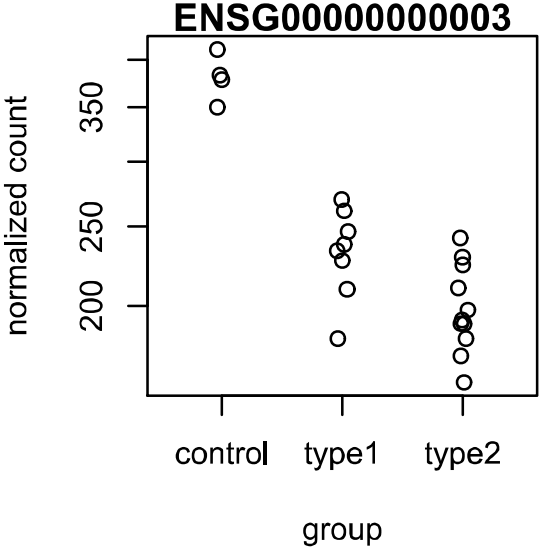
- MA plot `plotMA()`

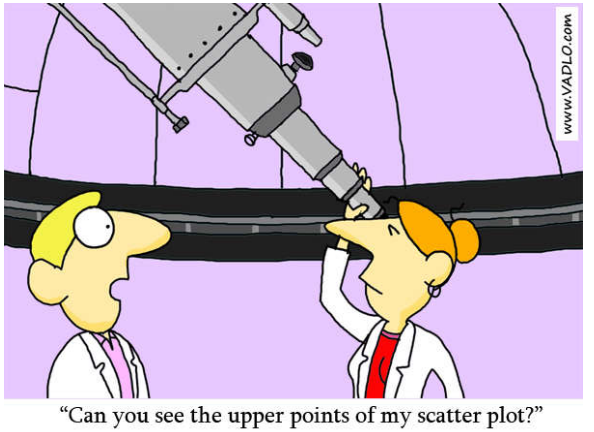


- Volcano plot



- Normalised counts `plotCounts()`

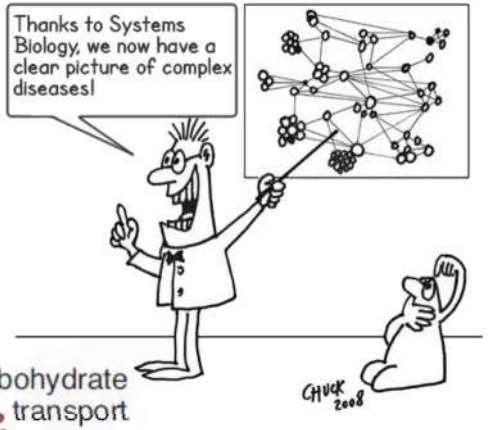


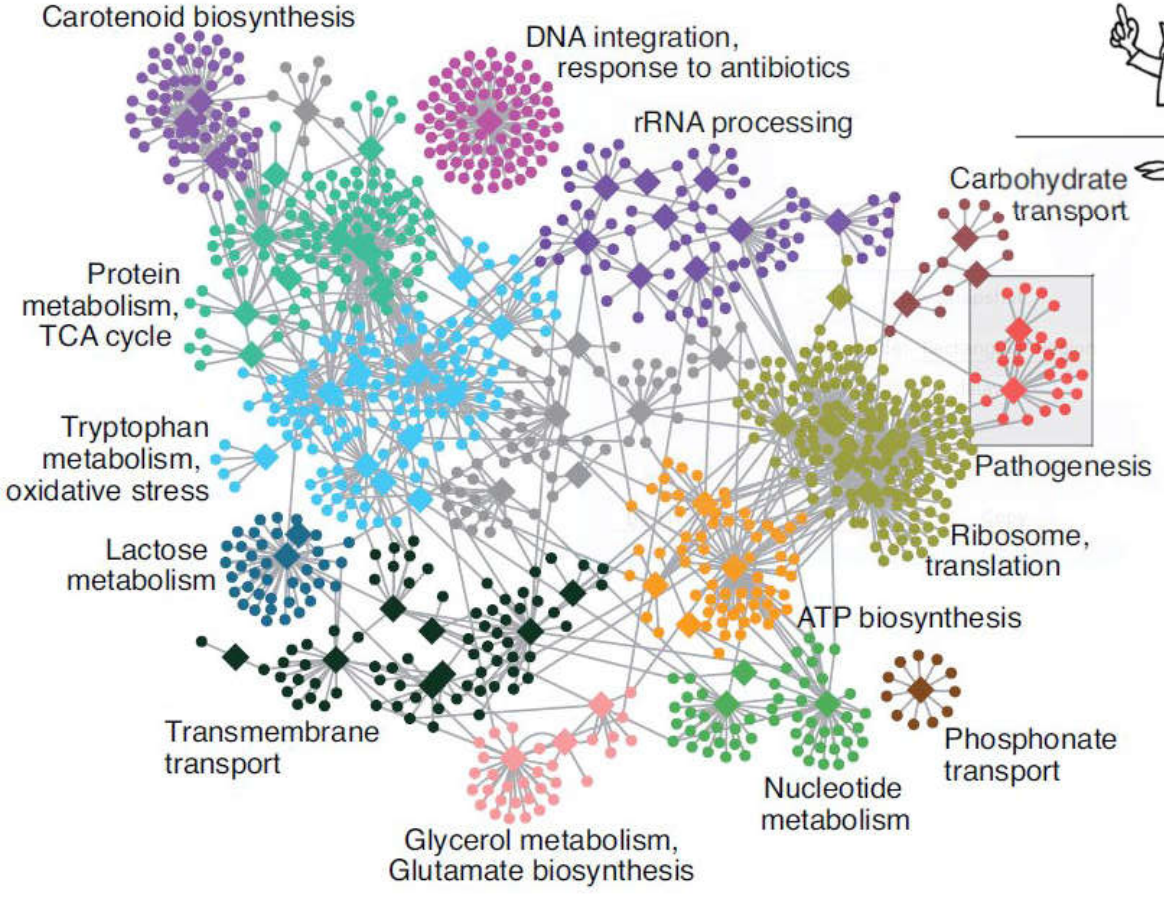


"Can you see the upper points of my scatter plot?"

Functional analysis | GO

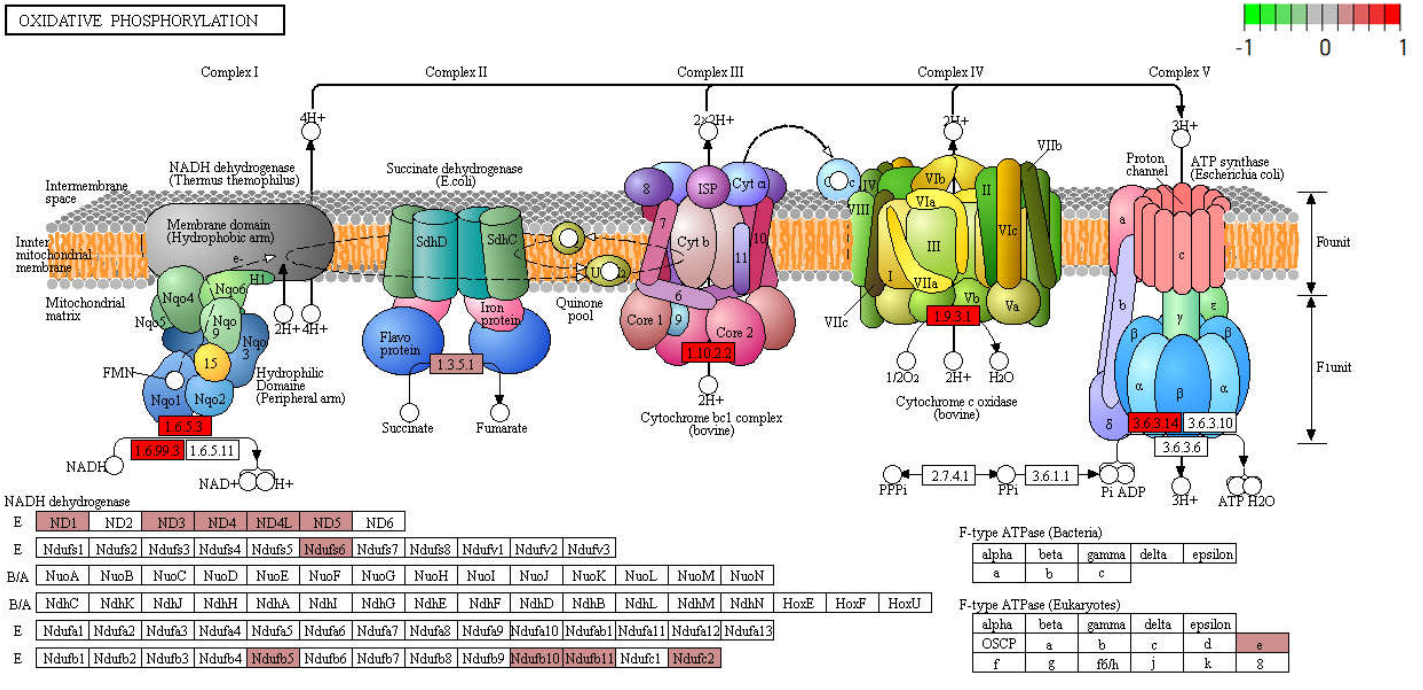
- Gene enrichment analysis
- Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA)
- Gene ontology / Reactome databases





Functional analysis | Kegg

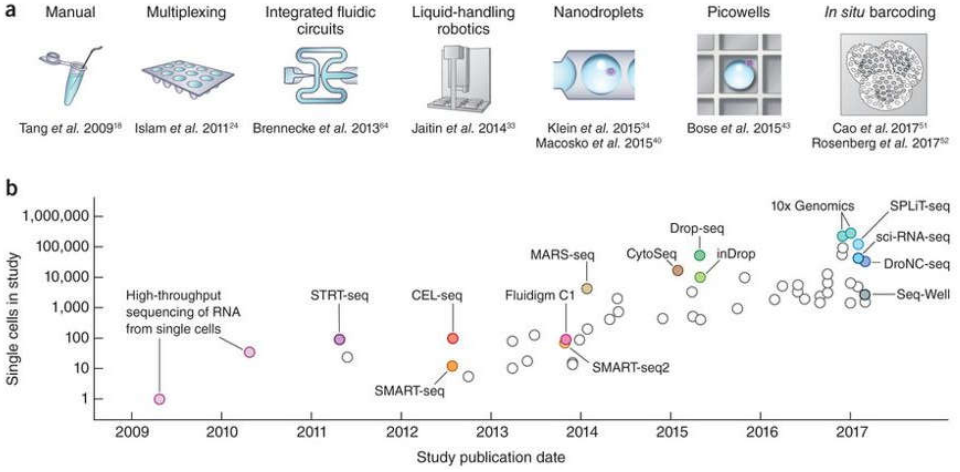
- Pathway analysis (Kegg)



DAVID, clusterProfiler, ClueGO, ErmineJ, pathview

Single cell RNA-Seq

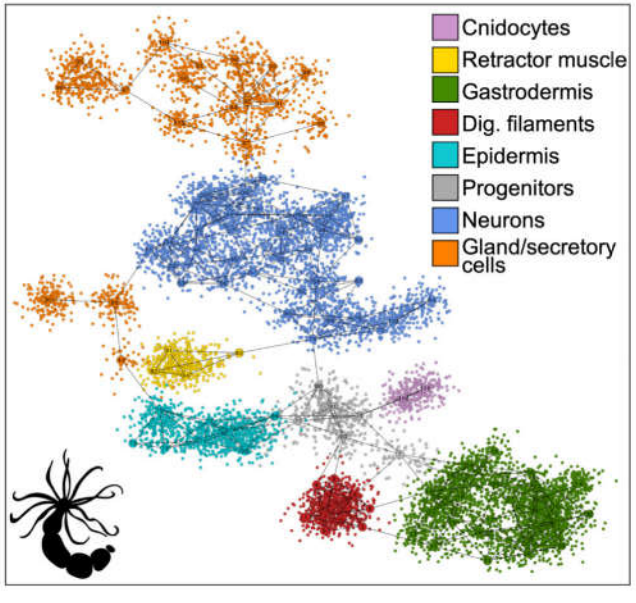
- Bulk RNA-Seq measures mean expression-level over many cells
- Poor resolution for development, differentiation, heterogenous tissues
- Identify cell types in a tissue
- Temporal/spatial/conditional change in cellular state and composition

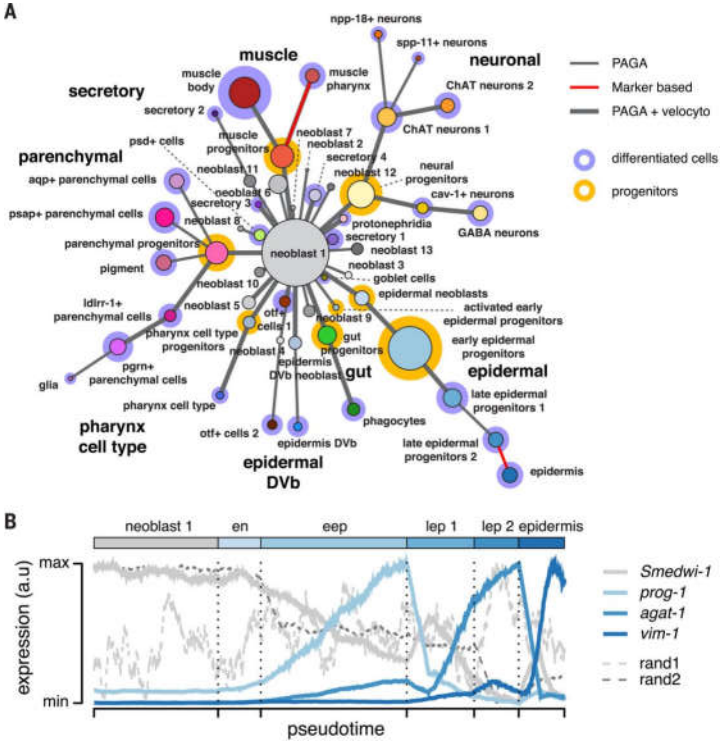


- Zero-inflated data (~80% missing data)
- Transcriptional bursting, drop-out
- Low RNA, Poor capture efficiency
- Amplification bias and background noise

Svensson, Valentine, Roser Vento-Tormo, and Sarah A. Teichmann. "Exponential scaling of single-cell RNA-seq in the past decade." Nature protocols 13.4 (2018): 599

scRNA-Seq | Example





Sebe-Pedros, Arnau, et al. "Cnidarian Cell Type Diversity and Regulation Revealed by Whole-Organism Single-Cell RNA-Seq." Cell 173.6 (2018): 1520-1534

Plass, Mireya, et al. "Cell type atlas and lineage tree of a whole complex animal by single-cell transcriptomics." Science 360.6391 (2018): eaaq1723

New Advances

- Long read single molecule RNA-Seq (Zuo *et al.*, 2018)

Research | Open Access

Revealing the transcriptomic complexity of switchgrass by PacBio long-read sequencing

Chunman Zuo, Matthew Blow, Avinash Sreedasyam, Rita C. Kuo, Govindarajan Kunde Ramamoorthy, Ivone Torres-Jerez, Guifen Li, Mei Wang, David Dilworth, Kerrie Barry, Michael Udvardi, Jeremy Schmutz, Yuhong Tang and Ying Xu

Biotechnology for Biofuels 2018 **11**:170

- Single-cell isoform RNA-Seq (Ishaan *et al.*, 2018)

Single-cell isoform RNA sequencing (ScISOr-Seq) across thousands of cells reveals isoforms of cerebellar cell types.

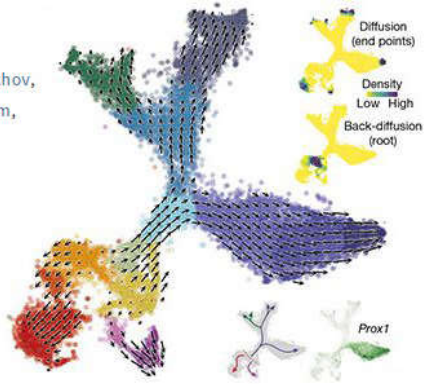
Ishaan Gupta, Paul G Collier, Bettina Haase, Ahmed Mahfouz, Anoushka Joglekar, Taylor Floyd, Frank Koopmans, Ben Barres, August B Smit, Steven Sloan, Wenjie Luo, Olivier Fedrigo, M Elizabeth Ross, Hagen U Tilgner

- Single-cell lineage tracing (Manno *et al.*, 2018)

RNA velocity of single cells

Gioele La Manno, Ruslan Soldatov, Amit Zeisel, Emelie Braun, Hannah Hochgerner, Viktor Petukhov, Katja Lidschreiber, Maria E. Kastriti, Peter Lönnerberg, Alessandro Furlan, Jean Fan, Lars E. Borm, Zehua Liu, David van Bruggen, Jimin Guo, Xiaoling He, Roger Barker, Erik Sundström, Gonçalo Castelo-Branco, Patrick Cramer, Igor Adameyko, Sten Linnarsson & Peter V. Kharchenko

Nature **560**, 494–498 (2018) | Download Citation



Summary

- Sound experimental design to avoid confounding
- Plan carefully about lib prep, sequencing etc based on experimental objective
- Biological replicates may be more important than paired-end reads or long reads
- Discard low quality bases, reads, genes and samples
- Verify that tools and methods align with data assumptions
- Experiment with multiple pipelines and tools
- QC! QC everything at every step

🔗 Conesa, Ana, *et al.* "A survey of best practices for RNA-seq data analysis." Genome biology 17.1 (2016): 13

Further learning

- Griffith lab RNA-Seq using HiSat & StringTie tutorial
- SciLifeLab courses
- HBC Training DGE using DeSeq2 tutorial
- Hemberg lab scRNA-Seq tutorial
- RNA-Seq Blog

Thank you! Questions?

Built on : 25-Oct-2018 at 17:34:39

2018 Roy Francis | SciLifeLab | NBIS

Hands-On tutorial

NBIS SciLifeLab

Main exercise

- 01 Check the quality of the raw reads with **FastQC**
- 02 Map the reads to the reference genome using **Star**
- 03 Assess the post-alignment quality using **QualiMap**
- 04 Count the reads overlapping with genes using **featureCounts**
- 05 Build a statistical model to find DE genes using **edgeR** from a prepared R script

Bonus exercises

- 01 Functional annotation of DE genes using **GO/Reactome** databases
- 02 Visualisation of RNA-seq BAM files using **IGV** genome browser
- 03 RNA-Seq figures and plots using **R**
- 04 De-novo transcriptome assembly using **Trinity**

Data directory: `/sw/share/compstore/courses/ngsintro/rnaseq/`

Work directory: `/proj/g2018028/nobackup/<user>/rnaseq/`

Hands-On tutorial

- Your work directory

`/proj/g2018028/nobackup/[user]/`

```
[user]/
rnaseq/
  +-- 1_raw/
  +-- 2_fastqc/
  +-- 3_mapping/
  +-- 4_qualimap/
  +-- 5_dge/
  +-- 6_multiqc/
  +-- reference/
  |   +-- mouse/
  |   +-- mouse_chr11/
  +-- scripts/
  +-- funannot/
  +-- assembly/
```

- Course data directory

`/sw/share/compstore/courses/ngsintro/rnaseq/`

```
rnaseq/
+-- bonus/
|   +-- assembly/
|   +-- exon/
|   +-- funannot/
|   +-- visual/
+-- documents/
+-- main/
|   +-- 1_raw/
|   +-- 2_fastqc/
|   +-- 3_mapping/
|   +-- 4_qualimap/
|   +-- 5_dge/
|   +-- 6_multiqc/
+-- reference/
|   +-- mouse/
|   +-- mouse_chr11/
+-- scripts/
```