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BUSCO: assessing genome assembly and annotation completeness with single-copy orthologs

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Introduction

BUSCO completeness assessment employs sets of <u>Benchmarking Universal Single-Copy Orthologs</u> from OrthoDB (<u>www.orthodb.org</u>) to provide quantitative measures of the completeness of genome assemblies, annotated gene sets, and transcriptomes in terms of expected gene content. Genes that make up the BUSCO sets for each major lineage are selected from orthologous groups with genes present as single-copy orthologs in at least 90% of the species. While allowing for rare gene duplications or losses, this establishes an evolutionary informed expectation that these genes should be found as single-copy orthologs in the genome of any newly-sequenced species.

Usage of the BUSCO software requires a working installation of Python, HMMER 3.1, Blast+, Augustus (genome assessment only) and EMBOSS transeq (transcriptome assessment only). BUSCO genome assembly assessment first identifies candidate regions from the genome to be assessed with tBLASTn searches using BUSCO consensus sequences. Gene structures are then predicted using Augustus with BUSCO block profiles. Finally, these predicted genes, or all genes from an annotated gene set or transcriptome, are assessed using HMMER and lineage- specific BUSCO profiles to classify matches as complete, duplicated, or fragmented, or when there are no matches, as missing.

BUSCO setup

The BUSCO distribution is released as a compressed archive file (BUSCO_v1.0.tar.gz) for download. Extracting the files to your current directory tar -zxvf BUSCO_v1.0.tar.gz will create the directory BUSCO, containing the required files.

Depending on the species you wish to assess, you should now download the appropriate lineage-specific profile libraries: Metazoa (M), Eukaryota (E), Arthropoda (A), Vertebrata (V), Fungi (F), or Bacteria (B) from http://buscos.ezlab.org to your BUSCO directory.

Before you begin, you will need to make sure that the following required software (some only required for genome or transcriptome assessments) are installed and accessible from the command-line, e.g. set environment variable PATH=\$PATH:/path/to/software/bin

- NCBI BLAST+ http://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/blast/executables/blast+/LATEST/
- HMMER (HMMER 3.1b) http://hmmer.janelia.org/
- Augustus 3.0.x (genome only) http://bioinf.uni-greifswald.de/augustus/ Make sure that the environmental variable \$AUGUSTUS_CONFIG_PATH was set during installation (e.g export AUGUSTUS_CONFIG_PATH=/path_to_augustus/config).
- EMBOSS tools 6.x.x (transcriptome only) ftp://emboss.open-bio.org/pub/EMBOSS/

BUSCO quick start

1- Genome assembly assessment:

python BUSCO v1.0.py -o NAME -in ASSEMBLY -1 LINEAGE -m genome

NAME name to use for the run and all temporary files

ASSEMBLY genome assembly file in fasta format

LINEAGE one-letter code for the BUSCO lineage data to use (M,E,A,V,F,B)

2- Gene set assessment:

python BUSCO v1.0.py -o NAME -in GENE SET -l LINEAGE -m OGS

NAME name to use for the run and temporary files
GENE SET gene set protein sequence file in fasta format

LINEAGE one-letter code for the BUSCO lineage data to use (M,E,A,V,F,B)

3- Transcriptome assessment:

python BUSCO_v1.0.py -o NAME -in TRANSCRIPTOME -1 LINEAGE -m trans

NAME name to use for the run and temporary files TRANSCRIPTOME transcript set sequence file in fasta format

LINEAGE one-letter code for the BUSCO lineage data to use (M,E,A,V,F,B)

BUSCO options

python BUSCO_v1.0.py -in INPUT -o OUTPUT -l LINEAGE -m MODE [Options...]

1- Mandatory arguments

-o name Name used for naming output files

-in input file Genome assembly / gene set / transcriptome in fasta format

-1 lineage Name of the BUSCO lineage data to be used

Valid options: M for metazoa, E for eukaryota, A for arthropoda,

V for vertebrata, F for fungi, and B for bacteria

-m mode Mode of analysis

Valid options: genome, ogs, trans

Default: genome

2- Optional arguments

-h -help Print help

-c integer Number of CPU threads to be used

Default: 1

-sp species Select from the pre-computed Augustus metaparameters

Selecting a closely-related species usually produces better results

Valid options: see Augustus help for list of options

Default: generic

-e evalue Use a custom blast e-value cutoff

Default: 0.01

-f Force overwriting of results files from a previous run with the same name

--flank N Custom flanking genomic regions in base pairs (bp)

Used when extending selected candidate regions before gene prediction Default: Automatically calculated flank sizes based on genome size

--long Performs full optimization for Augustus gene finding training

Default: Off

BUSCO Output

Successful execution of the BUSCO assessment pipeline will create a directory named name_output where 'name' is your assigned name for the assessment run. The directory will contain several files and directories:

1- Files

short_summary_ Contains summary results in BUSCO notation

and a brief breakdown of the metrics

full_table_ Complete results in tabular format with

coordinates, scores and lengths of BUSCO matches

training_set_ Set of complete BUSCO matches used for training Augustus

Only created during genome assessment

_tblastn Results in tabular format of tBLASTn searches

with BUSCO consensus sequences

2- Directories

augustus_ Augustus-predicted genes

Only created during genome assessment

augutus_proteins Corresponding Augustus-predicted proteins

Only created during genome assessment

Selected Complete BUSCO matches, used for training Augustus

gb Complete BUSCO matches, GenBank format

gffs Complete BUSCO matches, GFF format

hmmer_output Tabular format HMMER output of searches with BUSCO HMMs

BUSCO setup test with sample data

Sample data are provided to test your BUSCO setup. Execute the following commands and compare the final output 'run_sample' with the provided files in 'run_test'.

1. Change directory to 'sample_data'

```
cd sample data/
```

2. Run BUSCO assessment on sequence file 'target.fa' in genome mode.

```
python BUSCO v1.0.py -in target.fa -o SAMPLE -l example -m genome
```

3. Compare the final output 'run SAMPLE' with the provided files in 'run TEST'.

Example output: short summary TEST

```
#Summarized BUSCO assessment for file: target_sequence.fa
#BUSCO was run in mode: genome
```

Summary completeness assessment in BUSCO notation:

```
C:80%[D:0.0%], F:0.0%, M:20%, n:10
```

Representing:

- 8 Complete Single-Copy BUSCOs
- O Complete Duplicated BUSCOs
- 0 Fragmented BUSCOs
- 2 Missing BUSCOs
- 10 Total BUSCO groups searched

Example output: full table TEST

#BUSCO group	Status	Scaffold	Start	End	Bitscore	Length
BUSCO_5	Complete	sample	66078	76647	475.7	287
BUSCO_7	Complete	sample	163394	174110	423.6	244
BUSCO_8	Complete	sample	228045	238915	238.1	189
BUSCO_1	Complete	sample	25227	35708	281.1	147
BUSCO_4	Complete	sample	64425	74970	420.3	419
BUSCO_6	Complete	sample	77357	91985	1259.1	688
BUSCO_2	Complete	sample	27021	51425	436.0	183
BUSCO_3	Complete	sample	62338	73243	237.5	144
BUSCO_9	Missing					
BUSCO 10	Missing					