

# Galaxy for virologist training

## Exercise 4: Illumina Assembly 101

Title	Galaxy
Training dataset:	PRJEB43037 - In August 2020, an outbreak of West Nile Virus affected 71 people with meningoencephalitis in Andalusia and 6 more cases in Extremadura (south-west of Spain), causing a total of eight deaths. The virus belonged to the lineage 1 and was relatively similar to previous outbreaks occurred in the Mediterranean region. Here, we present a detailed analysis of the outbreak, including an extensive phylogenetic study. This is one of the outbreak samples.

**Questions:**

- What is assembly?
- How can I evaluate my assembly?

**Objectives:**

- Understand assembly concept
- Learn how to interpret assembly quality control metrics

**Estimated time:** 40 min

## 1. Description

Sometimes, we don't have a reference genome to map against, or we want to reconstruct a genome without any bias caused by a reference. In such cases, we need to do a *de novo assembly*. This type of analysis tries to reconstruct the original genome without any template, using only the reads. Some considerations:


- When we assemble, the longer the reads are and the longer the size of the library fragments the easier it gets for the assembler. That's why PacBio or Nanopore are recommended for assembly. Think of it like a puzzle, the bigger the pieces, the easier it is to form the image.
- It's almost impossible to reconstruct the entire genome of a large-genome microorganism with only one sequencing, although it can be done for smaller ones, like viruses.
- Assembly is not recommended for amplicon based libraries due to the depth of coverage unevenness and the amplicons intrinsic bias.

## 2. Upload data to galaxy

### Training dataset

- Experiment info: PRJEB43037, WGS, Illumina MiSeq, paired-end
- Fastq R1: [ERR5310322\\_1](ftp://ftp.sra.ebi.ac.uk/vol1/fastq/ERR531/002/ERR5310322/ERR5310322_1.fastq.gz) - url :  
`ftp://ftp.sra.ebi.ac.uk/vol1/fastq/ERR531/002/ERR5310322/ERR5310322_1.fastq.gz`
- Fastq R2: [ERR5310322\\_2](ftp://ftp.sra.ebi.ac.uk/vol1/fastq/ERR531/002/ERR5310322/ERR5310322_2.fastq.gz) url :  
`ftp://ftp.sra.ebi.ac.uk/vol1/fastq/ERR531/002/ERR5310322/ERR5310322_2.fastq.gz`
- Reference genome NC\_009942.1: [fasta](#) -- [gff](#)

### Create new history

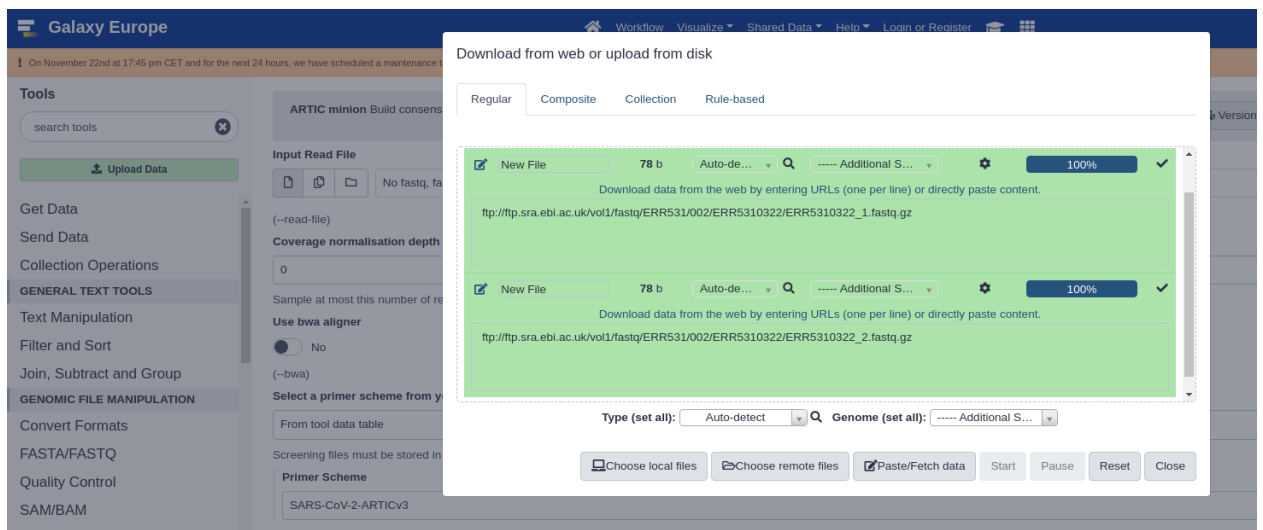
- Click the  icon at the top of the history panel and create a new history with the name `illumina assembly 101 tutorial` as explained [here](#)

### Upload data


- Import and rename the read files `ERR5310322_1` and `ERR5310322_2`
  1. Click in upload data.
  2. Click in paste/fetch data
  3. Copy url for fastq R1 (select and Ctrl+C) and paste (Ctrl+V).
  4. Click in Start.
  5. Wait until the job finishes (green in history)
  6. Do the same for fastq R2.

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- Rename R1 and R2 files.

1. Click in the  in the history for ERR5310322\_1.fastq.gz
2. Change the name to ERR5310322\_1
3. Do the same for R2.

Name  
ERR5310322\_1

Info

Annotation

Add an annotation or notes to a dataset; annotations are available when a history is viewed.

Database/Build  
----- Additional Species Are Below -----

7: GCF\_000875385.1 Viral  
Proj30293\_genomic.fna.gz  
1 sequences  
format: fasta.gz, database: ?  
display with IGV local  
>NC\_009942.1 West Nile virus lineage 1, co  
AGTAGTTGGCTGTGTGAAGCTGAAGCACTTAGTAGTTTGT  
TAGCAGCAAGATCTGATGTCTAAGAACCAAGAGGCCCCG  
CCGCGTGTGTCTTATTTAGTGAAGCAAGAGGCTATTTGA  
GCTCTCTTGGGTTCTCAGGTTCCAGCAATTTGCTCCGACC  
6: ERR5310322\_2  
5: ERR5310322\_1

- Import the reference genome.


New File  
133 b  
Auto-de...  
----- Additional S...  
100%

Download data from the web by entering URLs (one per line) or directly paste content.  
https://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genomes/all/GCF/000/875/385/GCF\_000875385.1\_ViralProj30293/GCF\_000875385.1\_ViralProj30293\_ge

Type (set all): Auto-detect Genome (set all): ----- Additional S...

Choose local files Choose remote files Paste/Fetch data Start Pause Reset Close

- Rename the reference genome.

1. Click the  for the reference file in the history.
2. Change the name to NC\_009942.1

Name  
GCF\_000875385.1\_ViralProj30293\_genomic.fna.gz

Info

Annotation

Add an annotation or notes to a dataset; annotations are available when a history is viewed.

Database/Build  
----- Additional Species Are Below -----

7: GCF\_000875385.1 Viral  
Proj30293\_genomic.fna.g  
z  
1 sequences  
format: fasta.gz, database: ?  
display with IGV local  
>NC\_009942.1 West Nile virus lineage 1, co  
AGTAGTTGGCTGTGTGAAGCTGAAGCACTTAGTAGTTTGT  
TAGCAGCAAGATCTGATGTCTAAGAACCAAGAGGCCCCG  
CCGCGTGTGTCTTATTTAGTGAAGCAAGAGGCTATTTGA  
GCTCTCTTGGGTTCTCAGGTTCCAGCAATTTGCTCCGACC  
6: ERR5310322\_2  
5: ERR5310322\_1

## Assemble reads with Spades

1. Search Spades in the search tool box.
2. Automatically choose k-mer values: Yes
3. Select File format: Separate input reads. Forward reads: ERR5310322\_1, Reverse Reads: ERR5310322\_2
4. Click execute and wait.

The screenshot shows the 'Files' section of the Spades web interface. It has a tab labeled '1: Files'. Below it, there's a 'Select file format' dropdown menu set to 'Separate input files'. Under 'Forward reads', there's a text input field containing '2: ERR5310322\_1' and a file upload icon. Under 'Reverse reads', there's a text input field containing '3: ERR5310322\_2' and a file upload icon. Both sections also have a 'FASTQ format' label and a file upload icon.

5. Click the :eye: icon in the history: Spades Contigs stats.
  - How many contigs has been assembled?
6. Click the :eye: icon in the history: Spades scaffolds.

## Assembly quality control with Quast

1. Search Quast in the search tool box.
2. Contigs/Scaffolds file: Spades scaffolds
3. Use a reference genome: Yes. Select the NC\_009942.1 fasta file previously loaded.

The screenshot shows the 'Contigs/scaffolds file' section of the Quast web interface. It has a file upload icon and a list of files: '12: SPAdes on data 3 and data 2: scaffolds (fasta)', '11: SPAdes on data 3 and data 2: contigs (fasta)', and '1: NC\_009942.1 (as fasta)'. Below this, there's a 'Use a reference genome?' dropdown menu set to 'Yes'. A note states: 'Many metrics can't be evaluated without a reference. If this is omitted, QUASt will only report the metrics that can be evaluated without a reference.' Under 'Reference genome', there's a file upload icon and a list of files: '12: SPAdes on data 3 and data 2: scaffolds (fasta)', '11: SPAdes on data 3 and data 2: contigs (fasta)', and '1: NC\_009942.1 (as fasta)'. At the bottom left, there's a '(-)' icon.

1. Click the :eye: icon Quast HTML report.
  - How much of or reference genome have we reconstructed?
  - How many contigs do we have greater than 1000 pb?
  - How long is the largest contig in the assembly?
  - Which is the N50?
2. Open the Icarus viewer in the quast report.

The screenshot shows the Quast web interface. At the top, there's a header with 'QUAST' and 'Quality Assessment Tool for Genome Assemblies by CAB'. Below it, the date and time are shown: '17 November 2021, Wednesday, 18:07:45'. A link 'View in Icarus contig browser' is highlighted with a red box. Below this, there's a paragraph: 'All statistics are based on contigs of size >= 500 bp, unless otherwise noted (e.g., "# cor bp)" and "Total length (>= 0 bp)" include all contigs).'. Then, there's a line: 'Aligned to "dataset\_76f460df\_9dce\_4919\_9108\_be70c4d29af9" | 11 029 bp | 1 fragment G+C'. At the bottom, there's a section 'Genome statistics' with a bar chart showing 'SPAdes\_on\_data\_3\_and\_data\_2\_...' and 'Genome fraction (%)' with values '83 070'.

- How many contigs align against our reference genome?