

Introduction to RNASeq

Malay (malay@uab.edu)

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Normalization of RNASeq data	2
3	Datasets	2
4	STAR	2
5	RSEM	2
5.1	Installing RSEM	3
5.2	Prepare reference	3
5.3	Calculate expression directly from STAR output	3
5.4	Simpler way to estimating expression	3
5.5	Differential expression	3
5.6	Volcano plot	4
6	EDGER	4
7	DESEQ2	5
7.1	MA-plot	7
7.2	Principal component analysis	8
8	Gene set enrichment analysis	10
	Bibliography	11

1 Introduction

RNASeq is a very vast topic and tons of papers have been and are being written on the topic. The following is just an overview.

Originally the idea was proposed by Mortazavi *et al.* (2008). Although several modification of the original idea have been developed, the basics did not change. In this handout will use the latest in the RNASeq methodology through the use of software called RSEM (Li and Dewey, 2011).

2 Normalization of RNASeq data

People have proposed several methods of normalization of RNASeq data. For a comparison see Dillies *et al.* (2013).

3 Datasets

Every differential expression measurement should have biological replicates. For demonstration, we will use only 1 replicate for two biological conditions. But in real life, this should never be used. We will use two small datasets from Illumina Body Map project. These are samples prepared from adrenal gland and brain and only from chromosome 19. You can download the datasets here:

http://cmb.path.uab.edu/training/docs/CB2-201-2015/rnaseq_data.tar.gz

Unzip the file.

4 STAR

STAR is a modern fast aligner for RNASeq data to reference genome.

```
wget https://github.com/alexdobin/STAR/archive/2.5.1b.tar.gz
tar -xvzf 2.5.1b.tar.gz
cd STAR-2.5.1b
make
```

Put the software in your path

```
cd Linux_x86_64_static/
export PATH=$PATH:`pwd`
```

Prepare the reference genome:

```
mkdir hs
STAR --runThreadN 8 --genomeDir hs --runMode genomeGenerate \
    --genomeFastaFiles chr19.fa --sjdbGTFfile human_chr19.gtf
```

Now create the alignment. There is a special option for STAR to create a “transcriptome alignment” that could be fed directly to RSEM.

```
STAR --runThreadN 8 --genomeDir hs --readFilesIn adrenal_R1.fq \
    adrenal_R2.fq --quantMode TranscriptomeSAM
```

5 RSEM

RSEM is a cutting-edge RNASeq analysis package that is an end-to-end solution for differential expression, and simplifies the whole process. It also introduces a new more robust unit of RNASeq measurement called TPM.

5.1 Installing RSEM

```
wget http://deweylab.biostat.wisc.edu/rsem/src/rsem-1.2.19.tar.gz
tar -xvzf rsem-1.2.19.tar.gz
cd rsem-1.2.19/
make
export PATH=$PATH:`pwd`

# Install ebseq
module load R/R-3.1.2
make ebseq
cd EBSeq/
export PATH=$PATH:`pwd`
```

5.2 Prepare reference

```
rsem-prepare-reference --gtf human_chr19.gtf chr19.fa rsem/chr19
```

5.3 Calculate expression directly from STAR output

```
rsem-calculate-expression --no-bam-output --paired-end \
  --bam Aligned.toTranscriptome.out.bam rsem/chr19 adrenal
```

5.4 Simpler way to estimating expression

```
rsem-prepare-reference --gtf human_chr19.gtf --star --star-path \
  ../STAR-2.5.1b/bin/Linux_x86_64_static -p 8 chr19.fa hs/chr19
rsem-calculate-expression --paired-end --star --star-path \
  ../STAR-2.5.1b/bin/Linux_x86_64_static/ -p 8 adrenal_R1.fq \
  adrenal_R2.fq hs/chr19 adrenal_rsem
rsem-calculate-expression --paired-end --star --star-path \
  ../STAR-2.5.1b/bin/Linux_x86_64_static/ -p 8 brain_R1.fq brain_R2.fq \
  hs/chr19 brain_rsem
```

5.5 Differential expression

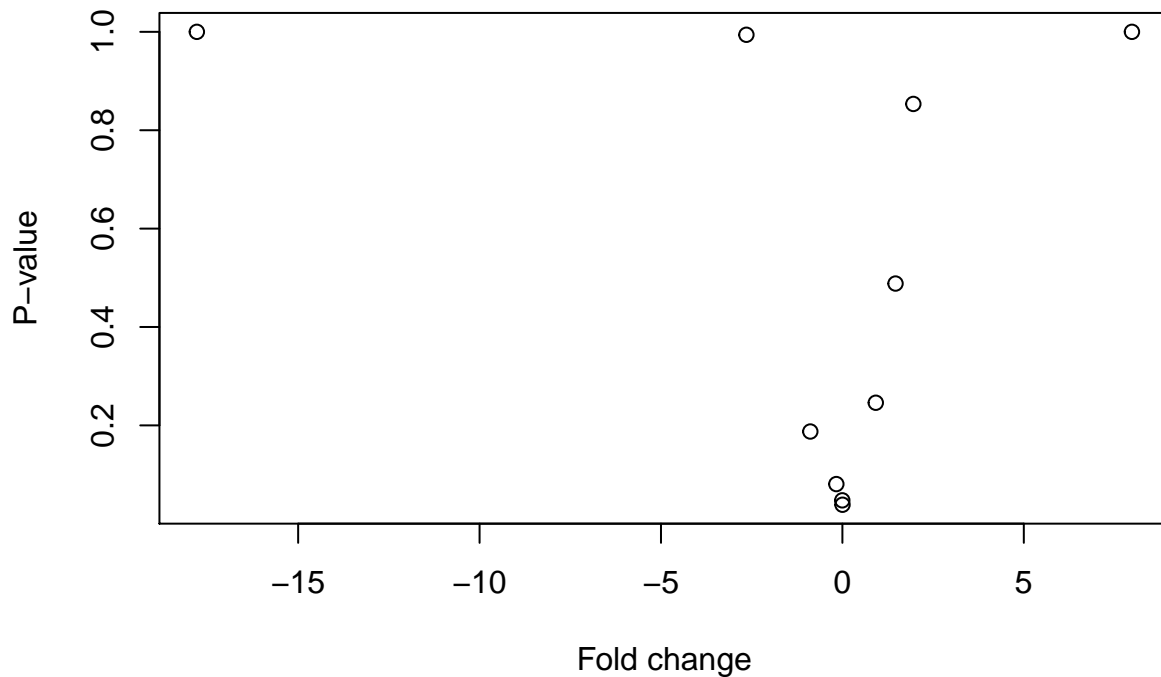
```
rsem-generate-data-matrix adrenal_chr19.genes.results human_chr19.genes.results \
  >diff-brain-adrenal.txt
rsem-run-ebseq diff-brain-adrenal.txt 1,1 expression.results.txt
rsem-control-fdr expression.results.txt 0.05 expression_final.txt
```

And we have our differentially expressed genes.

5.6 Volcano plot

Volcano plot is a good way to show the differentially expressed genes. For that we need the p-value for the differentially expressed genes and the the fold change. Given by “PPEE” and “RealFC” values.

```
data<-read.table("expression.results.txt")
plot(log2(data$RealFC),data$PPDE,xlab="Fold change",ylab="P-value")
```



6 EDGER

For EDGER we need a count table data for mutiple sample. The supplied pnas_expression.txt is a sample file derived from the paper here: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19088194>.

```
raw.data <- read.table("../data/pnas_expression.txt",header=T)
head(raw.data)
counts <- raw.data[ , -c(1,ncol(raw.data))]
rownames(counts) <- raw.data$ensembl_ID
colnames(counts) <- paste(c(rep("C_R",4),rep("T_R",3)),c(1:4,1:3),sep="")

library(edgeR)
group <- c(rep("C", 4) , rep("T", 3))
cds <- DGEList( counts , group = group )
```

```

cds <- calcNormFactors(cds)
design <- model.matrix(~group)
y <- estimateDisp(cds, design)
fit <- glmQLFit(y, design)
qlf <- glmQLFTest(fit, coef=2)
topTags(qlf)

```

7 DESEQ2

```

suppressPackageStartupMessages(library(DESeq2))
counts <- read.table("../data/pnas_expression.txt", header = T)
row.names(counts) <- counts$ensembl_ID
counts <- as.matrix(counts[, -c(1, ncol(counts))])
counts <- counts[rowSums(counts) != 0, ]
coldata <- data.frame(condition=c(rep("C", 4), rep("T", 3)))
row.names(coldata) <- colnames(counts)
#coldata <- as.matrix(coldata)
dds <- DESeqDataSetFromMatrix(countData = counts, colData = coldata, design = ~ condition)
dds <- estimateSizeFactors(dds)

```

Get the size factor estimate

```

#get the sizefactors
sizeFactors(dds)

```

```

##      lane1      lane2      lane3      lane4      lane5      lane6      lane8
## 0.7912131 0.9433354 1.1884939 1.2307145 1.4099376 1.4224762 0.5141056

```

To get the count normalized count table:

```
head(counts(dds, normalized=T))
```

```

##              lane1      lane2      lane3      lane4      lane5
## ENSG00000124208 604.13562 656.18234 528.399861 604.526907 342.56834
## ENSG00000182463  34.12482  21.20137  22.717828  21.125940  34.04406
## ENSG00000124201 227.49877 231.09491 246.530508 223.447445 264.55071
## ENSG00000124205   0.00000   0.00000   4.207005   4.062681   0.00000
## ENSG00000124207  96.05504  84.80547  71.519089  78.816008  56.74010
## ENSG00000125835 166.83243 212.01368 168.280211 185.258246 198.59034
##              lane6      lane8
## ENSG00000124208 503.34760 466.83017
## ENSG00000182463  38.66497  46.68302
## ENSG00000124201 211.60283 171.17106
## ENSG00000124205   0.00000   0.00000
## ENSG00000124207  56.94295  71.96965
## ENSG00000125835 143.41188 101.14654

```

Now we can run the differential expression analysis.

```
dds <- DESeq(dds)
```

```
## using pre-existing size factors
## estimating dispersions
## gene-wise dispersion estimates
## mean-dispersion relationship
## final dispersion estimates
## fitting model and testing
```

```
results <- results(dds)
results
```

```
## log2 fold change (MAP): condition T vs C
## Wald test p-value: condition T vs C
## DataFrame with 21877 rows and 6 columns
##           baseMean log2FoldChange      lfcSE      stat
##           <numeric>      <numeric> <numeric> <numeric>
## ENSG00000124208  529.427261    -0.44957326 0.1383758 -3.2489302
## ENSG00000182463   31.223142     0.62771241 0.3082995  2.0360477
## ENSG00000124201  225.128033    -0.07974932 0.1519200 -0.5249428
## ENSG00000124205    1.181384    -0.73902391 0.5198575 -1.4215895
## ENSG00000124207   73.835473    -0.43000176 0.2116753 -2.0314211
## ...           ...           ...           ...           ...
## ENSG00000218597   7.5966111    -0.58809803 0.5102003 -1.1526808
## ENSG00000217348  17.9021532     0.09405458 0.4048307  0.2323306
## ENSG00000217342   0.1160766    -0.15617262 0.3049843 -0.5120677
## ENSG00000216298   0.1805546    -0.17928852 0.3150863 -0.5690141
## ENSG00000183878 137.6118215     0.46912483 0.1975753  2.3744103
##           pvalue      padj
##           <numeric> <numeric>
## ENSG00000124208 0.001158399 0.007484392
## ENSG00000182463 0.041745562 0.139054223
## ENSG00000124201 0.599622980 0.789298505
## ENSG00000124205 0.155145453      NA
## ENSG00000124207 0.042212300 0.140277429
## ...           ...           ...
## ENSG00000218597 0.24904143  0.47548874
## ENSG00000217348 0.81628122  0.91772024
## ENSG00000217342 0.60860361      NA
## ENSG00000216298 0.56934660      NA
## ENSG00000183878 0.01757701  0.07069669
```

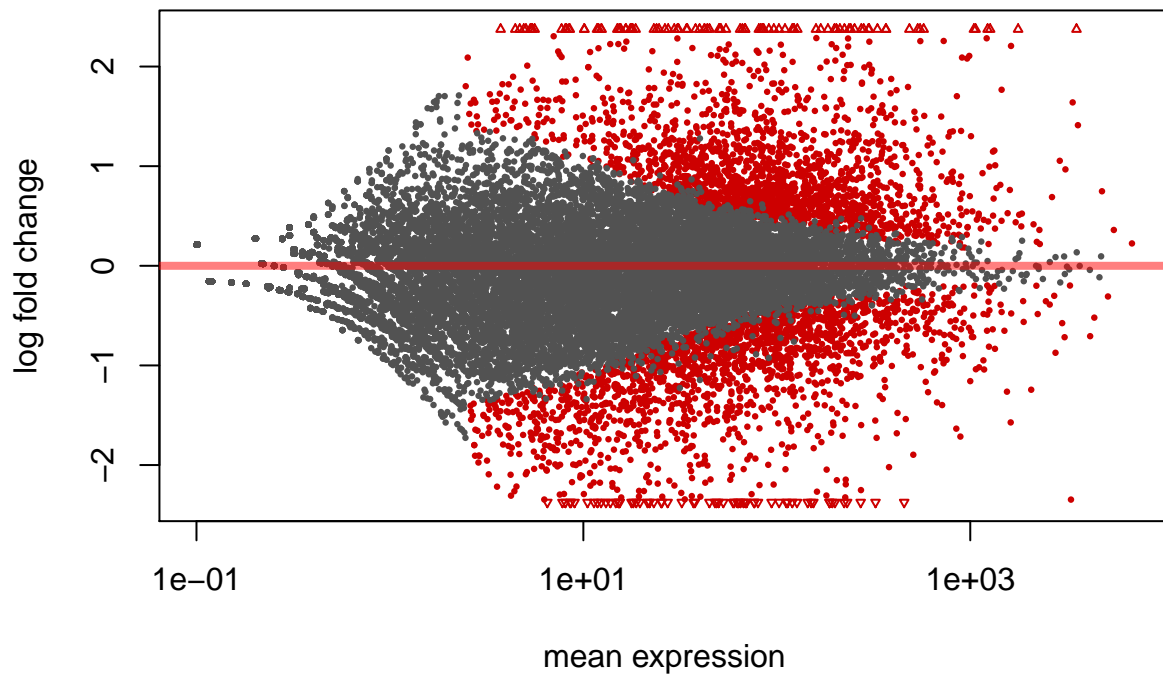
Sort results based on p-value.

```
results<- results[order(results$padj),]
results
```

```
## log2 fold change (MAP): condition T vs C
## Wald test p-value: condition T vs C
## DataFrame with 21877 rows and 6 columns
##           baseMean log2FoldChange      lfcSE      stat
##           <numeric>      <numeric> <numeric> <numeric>
## ENSG00000115648 3541.8337      2.570683 0.06075160    42.31465
## ENSG00000096060 1229.6845      4.948478 0.10121967    48.88850
## ENSG00000151503 1044.9213      5.735306 0.12507788    45.85388
## ENSG00000162772 1065.7118      3.277458 0.08679579    37.76056
## ENSG00000166451  574.4599      4.603353 0.13948418    33.00269
## ...           ...           ...           ...           ...
## ENSG00000129864  0.3319929    -0.28180740 0.3720337   -0.75747818
## ENSG00000217720  0.1805546    -0.17928852 0.3150863   -0.56901406
## ENSG00000218917  0.2215218      0.01991147 0.3307263    0.06020527
## ENSG00000217342  0.1160766    -0.15617262 0.3049843   -0.51206772
## ENSG00000216298  0.1805546    -0.17928852 0.3150863   -0.56901406
##           pvalue      padj
##           <numeric>      <numeric>
## ENSG00000115648 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## ENSG00000096060 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## ENSG00000151503 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## ENSG00000162772 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00
## ENSG00000166451 7.432211e-239 2.116694e-235
## ...           ...           ...
## ENSG00000129864  0.4487634      NA
## ENSG00000217720  0.5693466      NA
## ENSG00000218917  0.9519921      NA
## ENSG00000217342  0.6086036      NA
## ENSG00000216298  0.5693466      NA
```

7.1 MA-plot

```
plotMA(results)
```



7.2 Principal component analysis

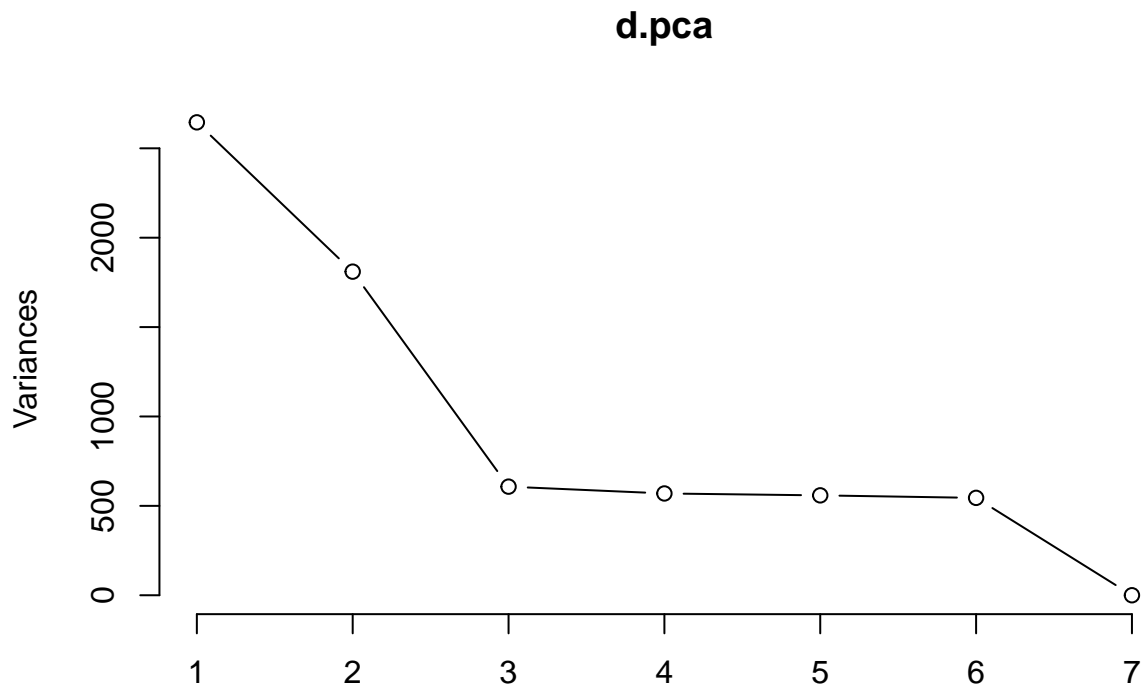
```
d <- read.table("../data/pnas_expression.txt",header=T)
rownames(d) <- d$ensembl_ID
d <- d[,-c(1,9)]
d <- d+1
log.d <- log(d)

#We would like to cluster the samples
# Samples are rows
log.d.t <- t(log.d)

d.pca <- prcomp(log.d.t)

#head(print(d.pca))

#scree plot
plot(d.pca,type="l")
```

```
summary(d.pca)
```

```
## Importance of components:
```

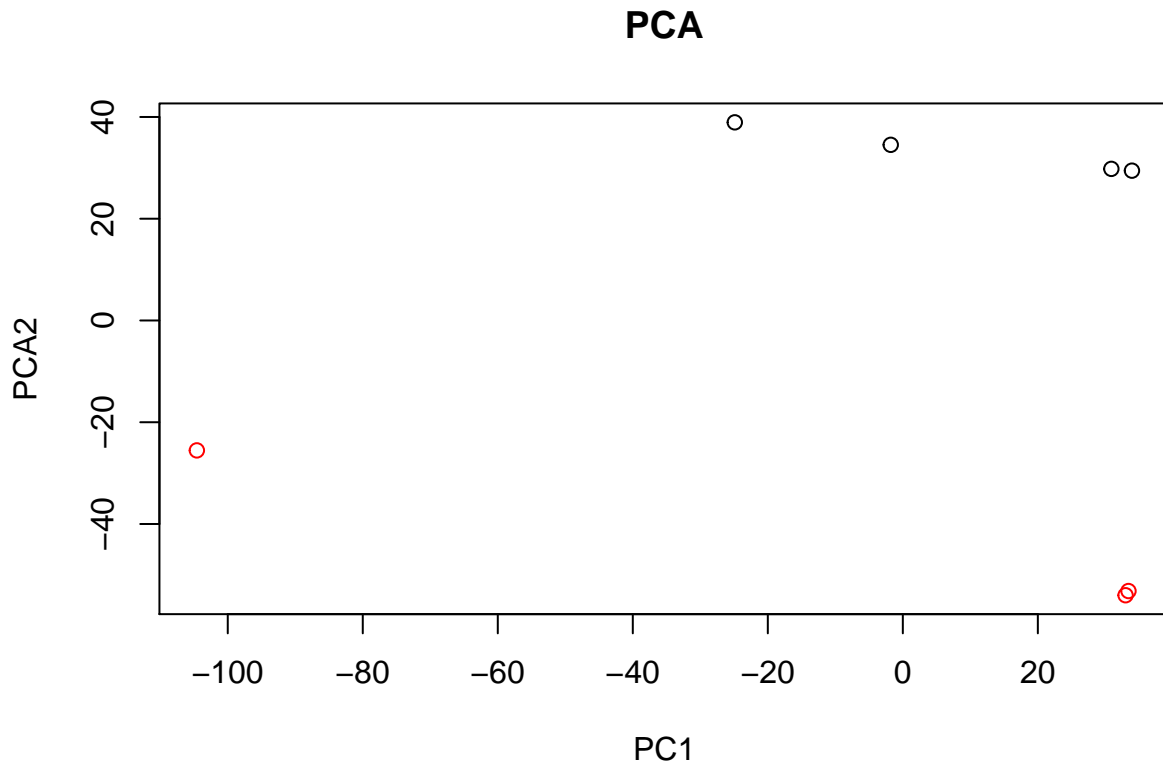
```
##              PC1      PC2      PC3      PC4      PC5      PC6
## Standard deviation  51.4324 42.5448 24.64697 23.86156 23.63660 23.33782
## Proportion of Variance 0.3927 0.2687 0.09019 0.08453 0.08295 0.08086
## Cumulative Proportion 0.3927 0.6615 0.75166 0.83619 0.91914 1.00000
##              PC7
## Standard deviation   3.538e-13
## Proportion of Variance 0.000e+00
## Cumulative Proportion 1.000e+00
```

```
# Eigenvalues
```

```
d.pca$sdev^2
```

```
## [1] 2.645288e+03 1.810059e+03 6.074733e+02 5.693739e+02 5.586890e+02
## [6] 5.446539e+02 1.251782e-25
```

```
plot(d.pca$x[,1], d.pca$x[,2], col=coldata$condition, main="PCA", xlab="PC1", ylab="PCA2")
```



8 Gene set enrichment analysis

Consider a bag full of marbles (total N) containing K green marbles and $(N-K)$ red marbles. If we draw a sample of n from this bag, the probability of getting exactly k green marble is given by *Hypergeometric distribution*.

$$Prob(X = k) = \frac{\binom{K}{k} \binom{N-K}{n-k}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

This is exactly the scenario of finding a pathway or gene-ontology hits with differentially expressed gene sets. In this case:

N = total number of genes in the genome
 n = number of differentially expressed genes (deg) with significant p-value
 K = Number of genes in a pathway or ontology
 k = overlap between degs and that pathway

To calculate this probability in R we need to calculate the cumulative distribution of (*overlap* $\geq k$).

```
phyper(q=k, m=K, n=N-K, k=n, lower.tail = FALSE)
```

Bibliography

Dillies,M.-A. *et al.* (2013) A comprehensive evaluation of normalization methods for illumina high-throughput RNA sequencing data analysis. *Brief Bioinform*, **14**, 671–683.

Li,B. and Dewey,C.N. (2011) RSEM: Accurate transcript quantification from RNA-seq data with or without a reference genome. *BMC Bioinformatics*, **12**, 323.

Mortazavi,A. *et al.* (2008) Mapping and quantifying mammalian transcriptomes by RNA-seq. *Nat. Methods*, **5**, 621–628.