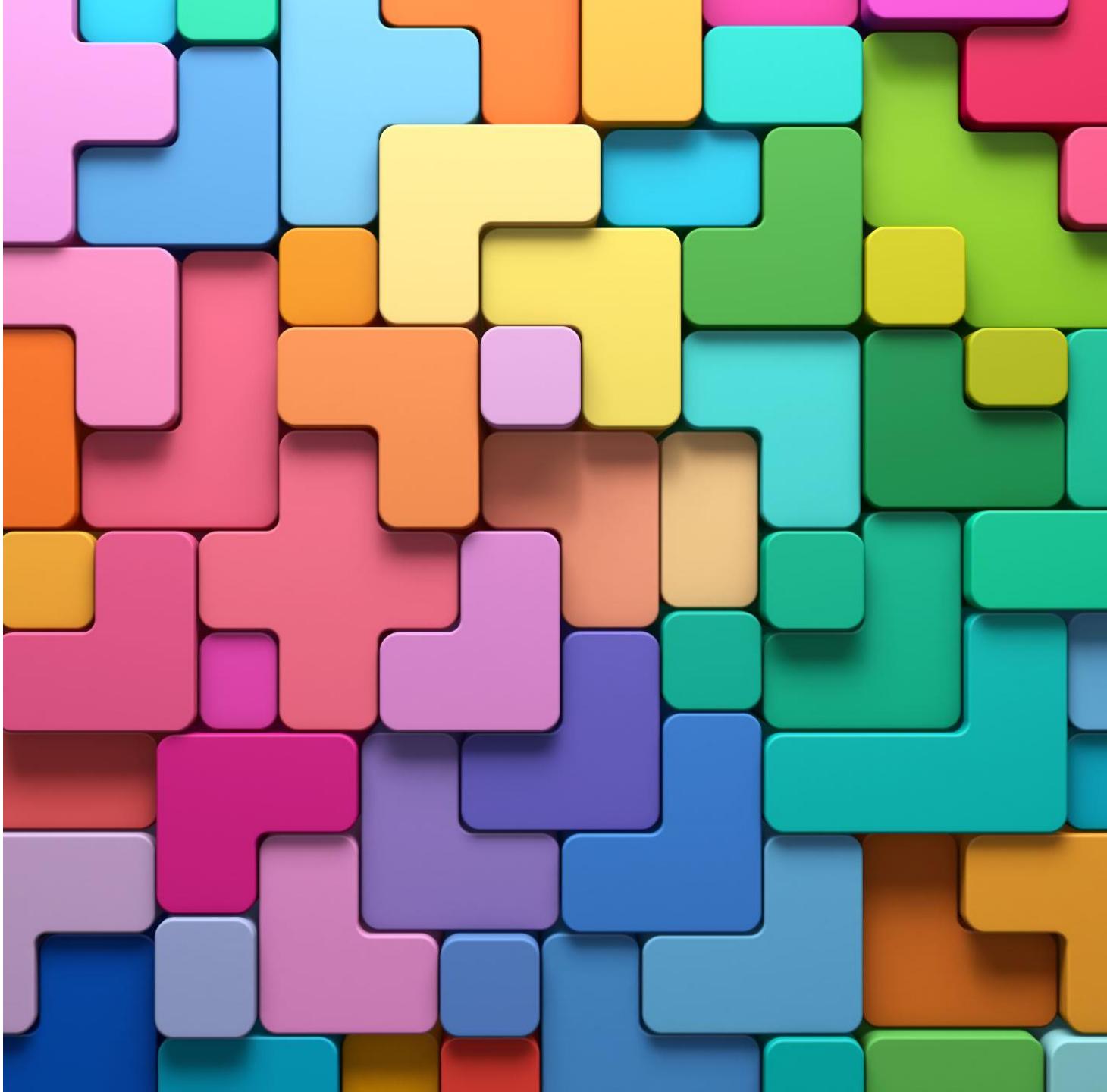


Bulk RNA sequencing analysis

Dr. Aatish Thennavan MDS, PhD



Lecture Overview

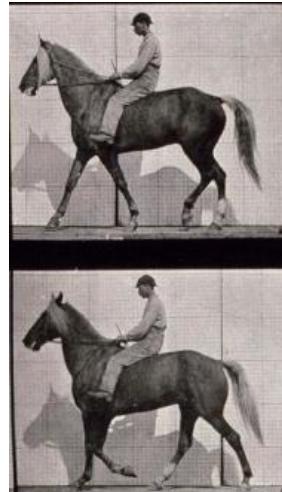
- Introduction – Why RNA sequencing & flowchart of steps
- Bulk RNA sequencing applications
- Steps involved in bulk RNAseq computational analysis
- Terminology and file formats
- Mapping and alignment pipelines for bulk RNAseq
- Data Normalization
 - Log normalization
 - Quantile Normalization
 - DESeq2 Normalization – VST
- Dimensionality reduction
 - Principal component analysis (PCA)
 - Hierarchical Clustering
- Basic principles of DESeq2 Differential expressed gene (DEG) analysis
- Basic principles of pathway analysis – GSEA and GSVA



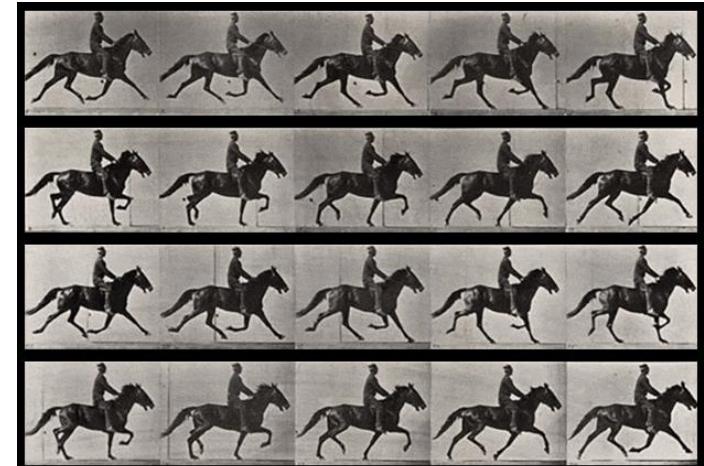
Introduction – Why RNA sequencing

- The cells in our bodies become structurally and functionally diverse by activating different combinations of genes.
- By studying the RNA that is transcribed from these genes, we can find out which genes are active in a particular cell type.
- Measuring DNA gives us the static painting, but RNA measurements gives us the dynamic motion picture

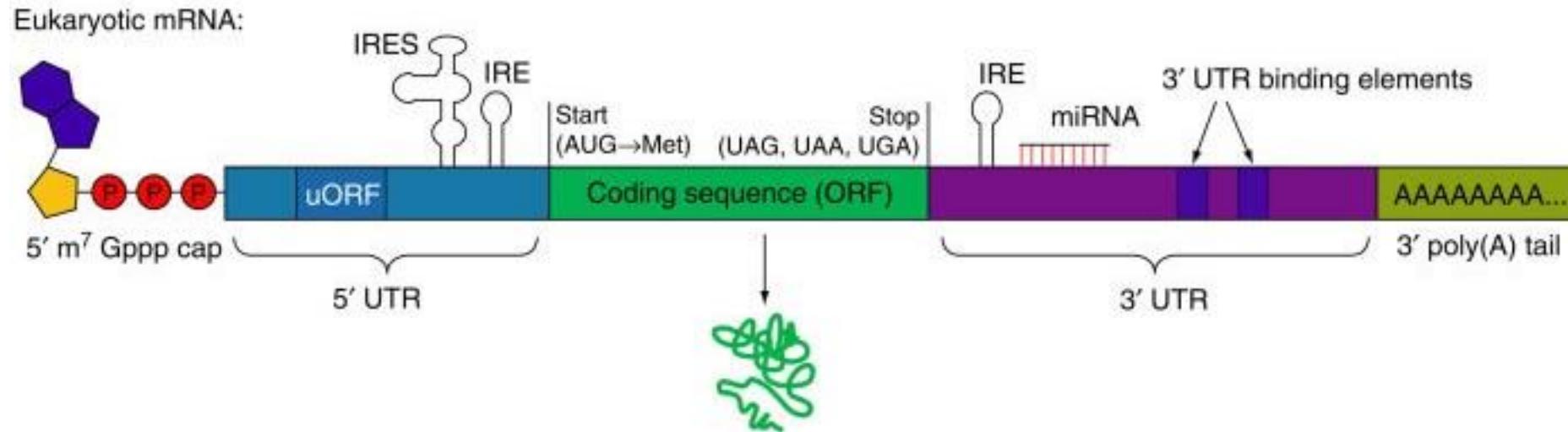
DNA



RNA

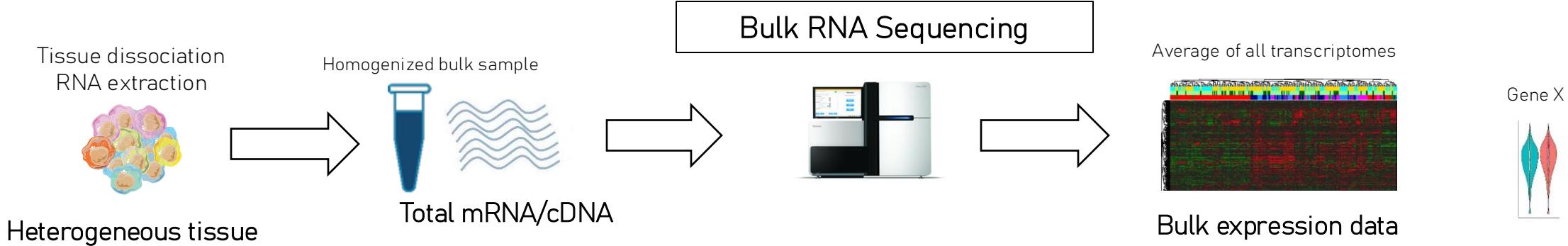


Introduction – What are we sequencing?



- Poly A tail - regulation of mRNA translation, stability, and export
- Three prime untranslated region (3' UTR) - contains the regulatory regions that post-transcriptionally influence gene expression. Promote proteins and microRNA association with mRNA
- Coding region - codes for proteins
- 5' untranslated region (5' UTR) & 5' Cap

Bulk RNA sequencing - Applications



Coding

mRNA

- Differential expression
- large-scale time-series RNA-seq
- Isoform expression
- Allele specific expression
- Alternative splicing events
- Gene fusion
- Co-expression network analysis
- Meta-analysis (Multi-experimental data)

Evolving applications

- Copy number alteration
- Indel detection
- Gene fusion detection
- Neoantigens prediction
- Transposable elements expression
- Detection of microbial contamination
- Metatranscriptomics
- Cell-type deconvolution
- Variant Analysis
- TWAS and eQTL
- Others analysis
 - Meta-analysis
 - Co-expression analysis

Introduction – Flowchart of every RNA sequencing

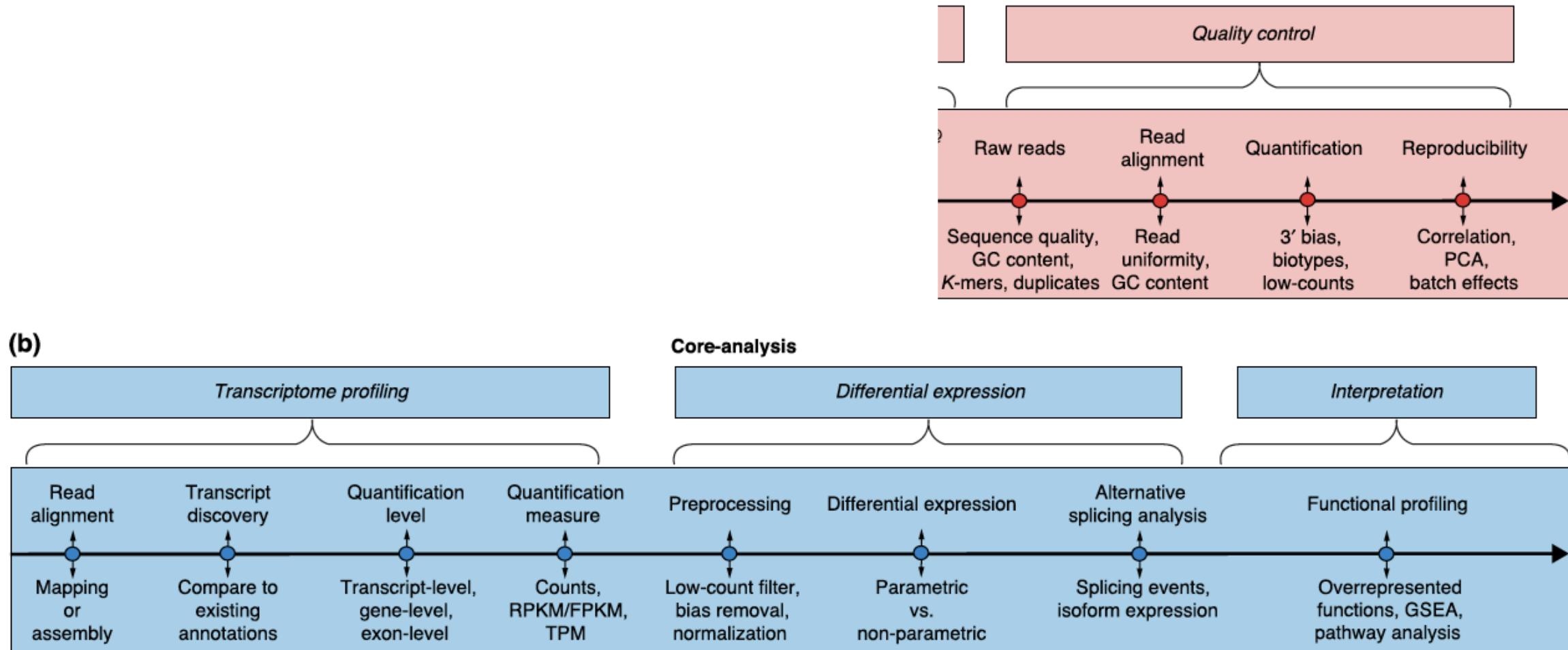
Experimental

1. mRNA isolation/extraction techniques (cell isolation)
2. Quality Check/Quantity
3. Reverse transcription into cDNA
4. Adapted Ligation
5. Amplification
6. Sequencing

Analysis

1. Alignment to a reference genome
2. Quantify transcripts
3. Quality Control
4. Normalization
5. Dimension Reduction
6. Specific analysis – clustering, differential gene expression (DE) analysis etc.

Schematic of bulk RNAseq computational analysis



Frequently used file terms and formats

- **BCL file – Binary base call files (.bcl)**. The file produced via Illumina sequencing. This file contains the base information added in each sequencing cycle and the confidence in the call as a quality score to base call. It is the true raw data output from a sequencing run.
- **FASTQ file – (.fastq.gz or .fq.gz)** It is generated from the .bcl file. It is text file that consists of 4 lines - A sequence identifier with information about the sequencing run and the cluster, the sequence (the base calls; A, C, T, G and N), A separator, which is simply a plus (+) sign, the base call quality scores. These are Phred +33 encoded, using ASCII characters to represent the numerical quality scores.

```
@ML-P2-14:9:000H003HG:1:11102:17290:1073 1:N:0:TCCTGAGC+GCGATCTA
TTGGTAACAGCATGAATTATTCTAGCCACTAAACTCTATGAACATCTTGTGAAGGTTCAAGATAGAGCCTGAAGTACACAGAGAACATTCTAAAAAA
+
AAAAAEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE<AEEEEEE
```

Typically, you will have 2 fastq files per sample in most bulk RNAseq data – paired-end sequencing

Frequently used file terms and formats

The quality score of a base, also known as a Phred or Q score (represented by American Standard Code for Information Interchange – ASCII scores), is an integer value representing the estimated probability of an error, i.e. that the base is incorrect. If P is the error probability, then:

$$P = 10 - Q/10$$

$$Q = -10 \log_{10}(P)$$

| ASCII_BASE=33 Illumina, Ion Torrent, PacBio and Sanger | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|-------|----|---------|-------|----|---------|-------|----|---------|-------|
| Q | P_error | ASCII | Q | P_error | ASCII | Q | P_error | ASCII | Q | P_error | ASCII |
| 0 | 1.00000 | 33 ! | 11 | 0.07943 | 44 , | 22 | 0.00631 | 55 7 | 33 | 0.00050 | 66 E |
| 1 | 0.79433 | 34 " | 12 | 0.06310 | 45 - | 23 | 0.00501 | 56 8 | 34 | 0.00040 | 67 O |
| 2 | 0.63096 | 35 # | 13 | 0.05012 | 46 . | 24 | 0.00398 | 57 9 | 35 | 0.00032 | 68 D |
| 3 | 0.50119 | 36 \$ | 14 | 0.03981 | 47 / | 25 | 0.00316 | 58 : | 36 | 0.00025 | 69 E |
| 4 | 0.39811 | 37 % | 15 | 0.03162 | 48 0 | 26 | 0.00251 | 59 ; | 37 | 0.00020 | 70 F |
| 5 | 0.31623 | 38 & | 16 | 0.02512 | 49 1 | 27 | 0.00200 | 60 < | 38 | 0.00016 | 71 G |
| 6 | 0.25119 | 39 ' | 17 | 0.01995 | 50 2 | 28 | 0.00158 | 61 = | 39 | 0.00013 | 72 H |
| 7 | 0.19953 | 40 (| 18 | 0.01585 | 51 3 | 29 | 0.00126 | 62 > | 40 | 0.00010 | 73 I |
| 8 | 0.15849 | 41) | 19 | 0.01259 | 52 4 | 30 | 0.00100 | 63 ? | 41 | 0.00008 | 74 J |
| 9 | 0.12589 | 42 * | 20 | 0.01000 | 53 5 | 31 | 0.00079 | 64 @ | 42 | 0.00006 | 75 K |
| 10 | 0.10000 | 43 + | 21 | 0.00794 | 54 6 | 32 | 0.00063 | 65 A | | | |

https://drive5.com/usearch/manual/quality_score.html

Frequently used file terms and formats

- SAM file – Sequence alignment/map files (.sam). It is a file format to save alignment information of short reads mapped against reference sequences. Comes from using **samtools** for alignment. It also uses ASCII format, It will have a header section starting with (@). Each alignment line will have 11 mandatory fields: QNAME FLAG RNAME POS MAPQ CIGAR RNEXT PNEXT TLEN SEQ QUAL TAGS

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| QHD VN:1.5 SO:coordinate | Header section | | | | | | | | | |
| @SQ SN:ref LN:45 | | | | | | | | | | |
| r001 99 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG * | Alignment section | | | | | | | | | |
| r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA * | | | | | | | | | | |
| r003 0 ref 9 30 5S6M * 0 0 GCCTAACGCTAA * SA:Z:ref,29,-,6H5M,17,0; | | | | | | | | | | |
| r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC * | | | | | | | | | | |
| r003 2064 ref 29 17 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * SA:Z:ref,9,+,5S6M,30,1; | | | | | | | | | | |
| r001 147 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGGCAT * NM:i:1 | | | | | | | | | | |

Optional fields in the format of TAG:TYPE:VALUE
QUAL: read quality; * meaning such information is not available
SEQ: read sequence
TLEN: the number of bases covered by the reads from the same fragment. Plus/minus means the current read is the leftmost/rightmost read. E.g. compare first and last lines.
PNEXT: Position of the primary alignment of the NEXT read in the template. Set as 0 when the information is unavailable. It corresponds to POS column.
RNEXT: reference sequence name of the primary alignment of the NEXT read. For paired-end sequencing, NEXT read is the paired read, corresponding to the RNAME column.
CIGAR: summary of alignment, e.g. insertion, deletion
MAPQ: mapping quality
POS: 1-based position
RNAME: reference sequence name, e.g. chromosome/transcript id
FLAG: indicates alignment information about the read, e.g. paired, aligned, etc.
QNAME: query template name, aka. read ID

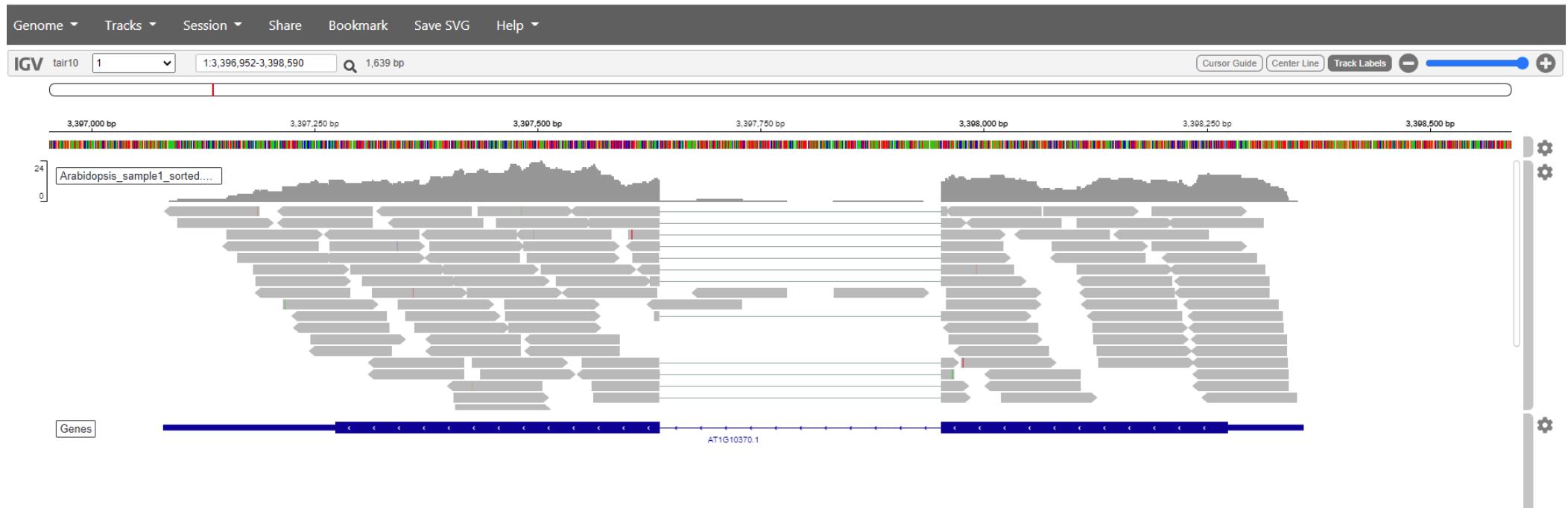
Frequently used file terms and formats

- BAM file – Binary alignment/map files (.bam). It is a compressed binarized .SAM file. Comes from using samtools for alignment. It will also have a header section starting with (@) and alignment fields. It is much smaller than a .sam file.
- CRAM file - Compressed Reference-oriented Alignment Map (.cram). It is an even more compressed version of the bam file

```
## ERR188273.4711308 73 chrX 30 5S70M = 21649 0
CGGGTGATCACGAGGTCAAGACCATCCTGCCAACACAGTGAAACCCATCTACTAAAAATACAA
@@@F=DDFFGHGBHIFFHIGGIFGEGHFHIGIGIFIIGIGIGGDHIIIGIIC@>DGHCHHHGHHFFFFDEACC@ AS:i:-
5 ZS:i:-5 XN:i:0 XM:i:0 XO:i:0 XG:i:0 YT:Z:UP NH:i:2 MD:Z:70 NM:i:0
```

Frequently used file terms and formats

- BAM file – Binary alignment/map files (.bam). It is a compressed binarized .SAM file. Comes from using samtools for alignment. It will also have a header section starting with (@) and alignment fields. It is much smaller than a .sam file.
- Once indexed (.bam.bai) it can be viewed using an interactive genome viewer (IGV).



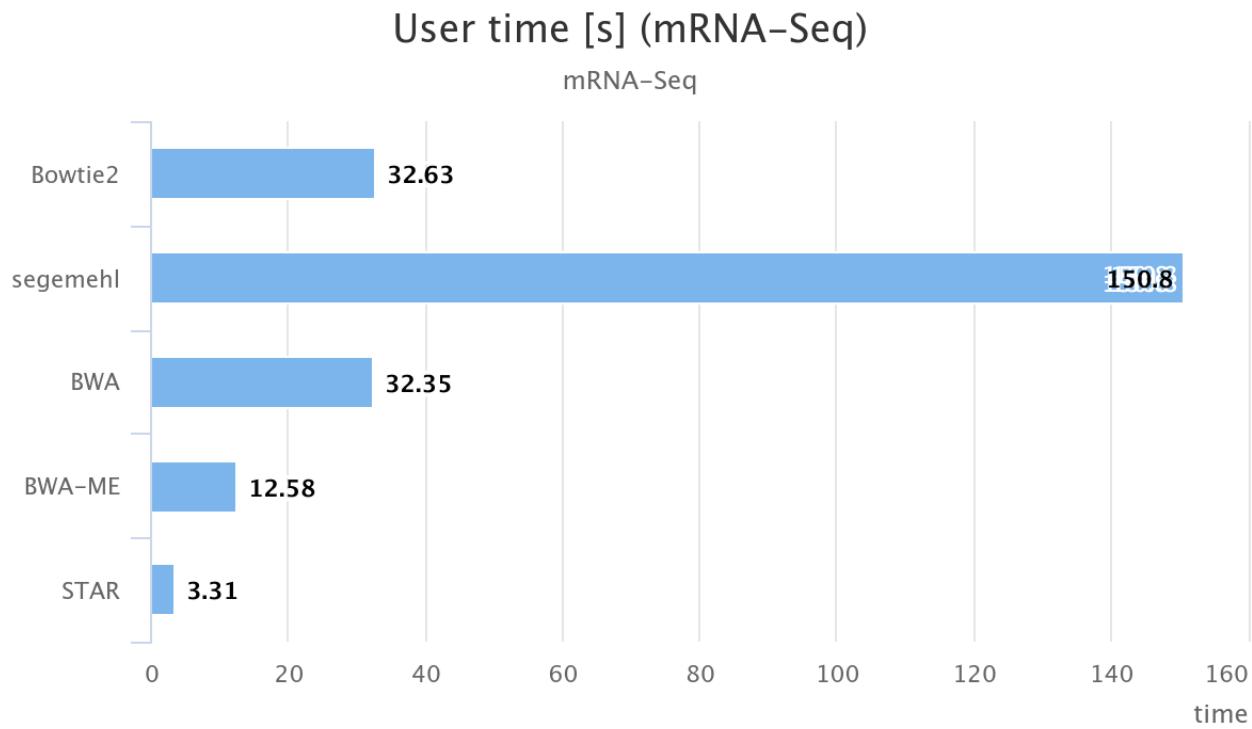
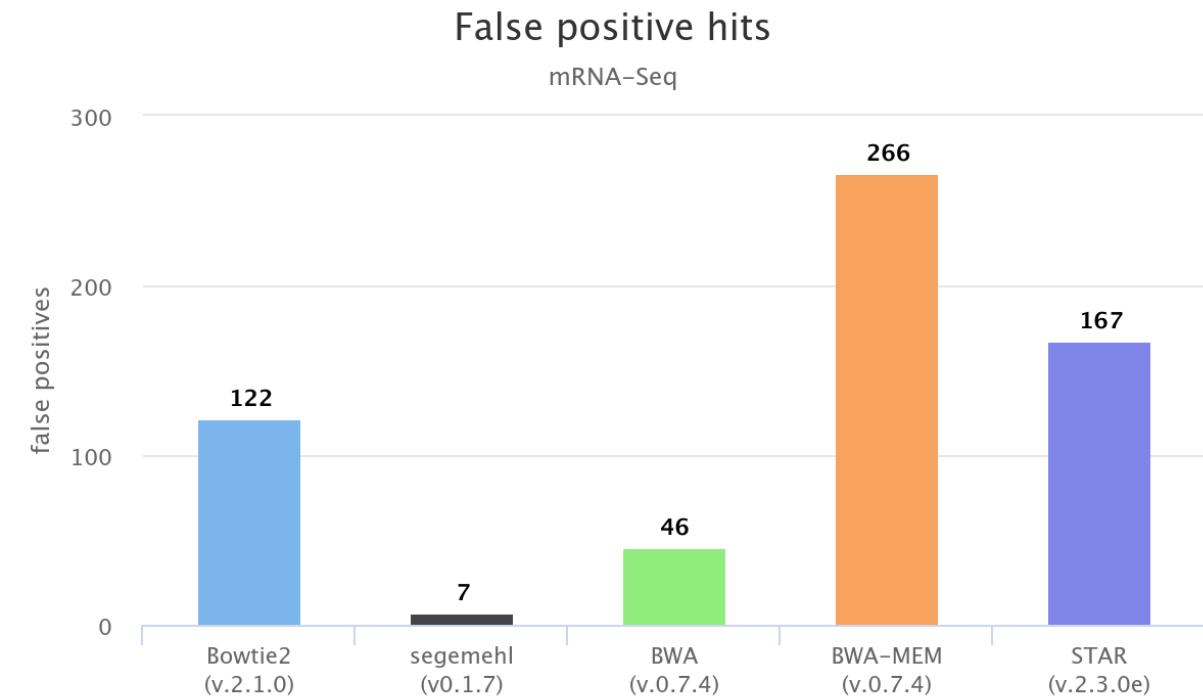
Frequently used file terms and formats

- Gene/transcript/count file – (.txt) File containing ‘abundance estimates’ which predict the relative abundance of different genes/isoforms in the form of three possible metrics (FPKM, RPKM and TPM).
 - RPKM (Reads Per Kilobase Million) – Used for single end reads. Count the total reads in a sample and divide that number by 1,000,000 (scaling factor). Divide the RPM values by the length of the gene, in kilobases.
 - FPKM (Fragments Per Kilobase Million) – Is for paired end reads. It takes into account that two reads can map to one fragment (and so it doesn’t count this fragment twice).
 - TPM (Transcripts Per Kilobase Million) – Divide the read counts by the length of each gene in kilobases (RPK). Count all the RPK values in a sample and divide this number by 1,000,000.

| Name | Length | EffectiveLength | TPM | NumReads |
|-------------------|--------|-----------------|-----|----------|
| ENST00000632684.1 | 12 | 3.00168 | 0 | 0 |
| ENST00000434970.2 | 9 | 2.81792 | 0 | 0 |
| ENST00000448914.1 | 13 | 3.04008 | 0 | 0 |
| ENST00000415118.1 | 8 | 2.72193 | 0 | 0 |

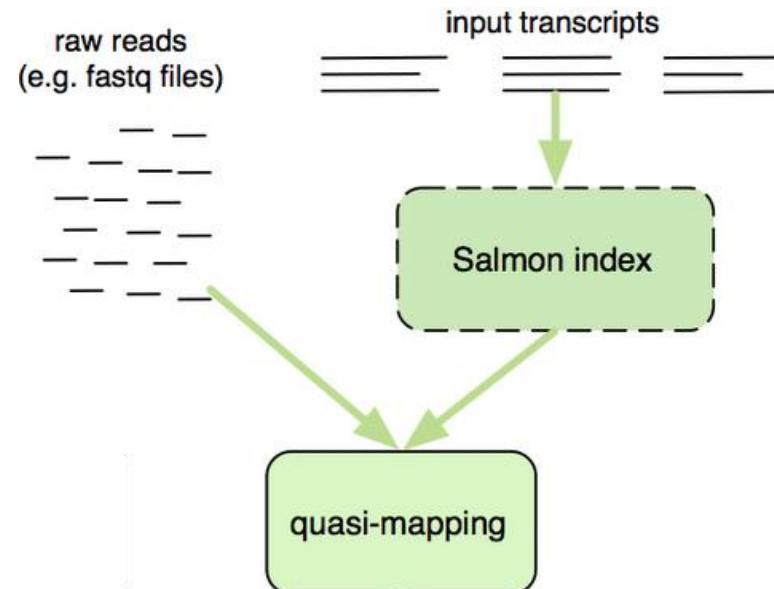
Softwares and Pipeline

- Bowtie2, Tophat2, BWA, BWA-mem, STAR. Mapping algorithms can largely be grouped into two categories based on properties of their indices: algorithms based on hash tables, and algorithms based on the Burrows-Wheeler transform



Softwares and Pipeline – Mapping & quantification

- **Aligners** typically align against the entire **genome**. Used for detecting novel genes/transcripts. Cannot be used to detect non-coding RNAs or splicing variants (unless the reference used is splicing aware). Typically need quantification algorithms like **Cufflinks** or **HTSeq**.
- **PseudoAligners** assign reads to the most appropriate transcript. Can't find novel genes/transcripts. Extremely fast! E.g. **Salmon** and **Kalisto**



Best for RNAseq – STAR + Salmon

Softwares and Pipeline – Pseudocode Syntax

```
#!/bin/bash

#BSUB -p short
#BSUB -t 0-12:00
#BSUB --mem 8G
#BSUB -J salmon_in_serial
#BSUB -o %j.out
#BSUB -e %j.err
#BSUB --reservation=HBC

cd ~/rnaseq/results/salmon

module load salmon
```

```
for fq in ~/rnaseq/raw_data/*.fq
do
    # create a prefix
    base=`basename $fq .fq`

    # run salmon
    salmon quant -i /n/groups/hbctraining/rna-
    seq_2019_02/reference_data/salmon.ensembl38.idx.09-06-2019 \
    -l A \
    -r $fq \
    -p 6 \
    -o $base.salmon \
    --seqBias \
    --useVBOpt \
    --numBootstraps 30 \
    --validateMappings

done
```

Softwares and Pipeline – Pseudocode Syntax

```
# Step 1 Use bcl-convert (recommended by Illumina)
bcl-convert --bcl-input-directory <path_to_run_folder> \
    --output-directory <path_to_output_fastqs> \
    --sample-sheet <path_to_samplesheet.csv>
```

Step 2a: Use bwa aligner Map the FASTQ files to a reference genome and save as SAM

```
bwa mem <path_to_reference.fasta> \
<path_to_output_fastqs>/<SampleID>_R1.fastq.gz \
<path_to_output_fastqs>/<SampleID>_R2.fastq.gz >
<SampleID>.sam
```

Step 2b: Use samtools to convert the SAM file to a sorted and indexed BAM file

```
samtools view -bS <SampleID>.sam | samtools sort -o
<SampleID>.sorted.bam samtools index
<SampleID>.sorted.bam
```

Softwares and Pipeline – Quality control – Picard & MultiQC

- Once we have aligned our reads and quantified gene expression with Salmon, it is then possible to run some additional quality checks on our data.
- Picard Tools is a suite of tools for analysing and manipulating sequencing data. It is maintained by the Broad Institute and comprises 88 different tools for doing jobs such as generating QC metrics, modifying bam files in various ways, or converting files between different formats.
E.g. **MarkDuplicates** – Finds duplicate reads marked by **1024 as a sam flag**
- MultiQC is a tool for collating multiple QC results files into a single report.

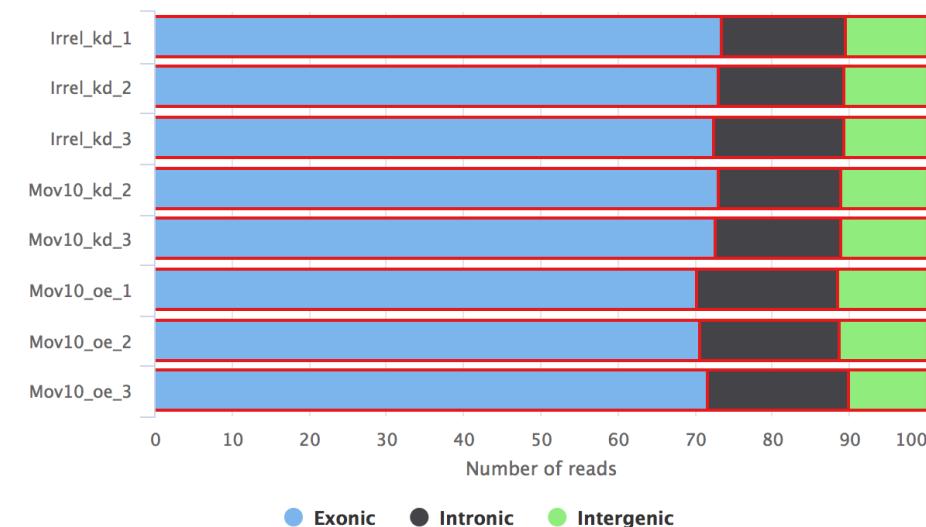
Softwares and Pipeline – Quality control – MultiQC example report

General Statistics

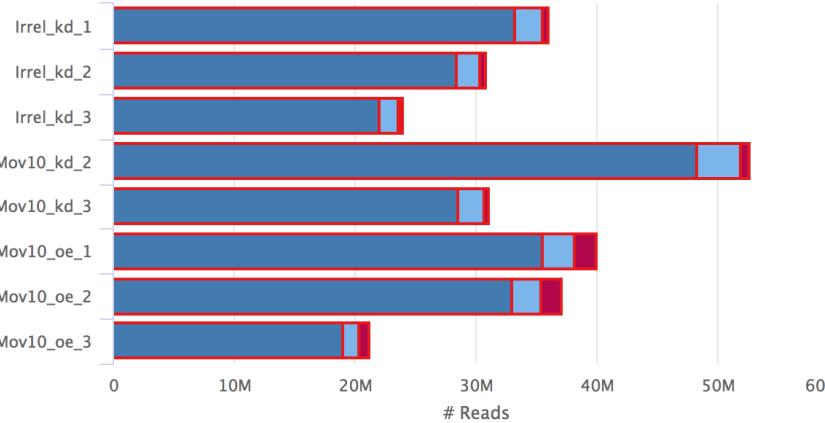
Copy table | Configure Columns | Sort by highlight | Plot | Showing 8/8 rows and 9/11 columns.

| Sample Name | 5'-3' bias | M Aligned | % Aligned | M Aligned | % Aligned | M Aligned | % Dups | % GC | M Seqs |
|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|------|--------|
| Irrel_kd_1 | 1.18 | 35.6 | 86.4% | 31.2 | 92.1% | 33.2 | 55.9% | 47% | 36.1 |
| Irrel_kd_2 | 1.14 | 30.4 | 86.0% | 26.5 | 92.2% | 28.4 | 53.6% | 47% | 30.8 |
| Irrel_kd_3 | 1.19 | 23.6 | 85.7% | 20.5 | 92.0% | 22.0 | 50.1% | 48% | 23.9 |
| Mov10_kd_2 | 1.13 | 51.9 | 86.0% | 45.3 | 91.6% | 48.3 | 60.5% | 48% | 52.7 |
| Mov10_kd_3 | 1.13 | 30.7 | 86.0% | 26.8 | 91.6% | 28.5 | 54.6% | 47% | 31.1 |
| Mov10_oe_1 | 1.09 | 38.1 | 80.2% | 32.1 | 88.9% | 35.5 | 56.5% | 47% | 40.0 |
| Mov10_oe_2 | 1.18 | 35.4 | 81.0% | 30.0 | 88.8% | 33.0 | 55.9% | 48% | 37.1 |
| Mov10_oe_3 | | 20.3 | 81.5% | 17.3 | 90.0% | 19.1 | 50.1% | 47% | 21.2 |

Qualimap RNAseq: Genomic Origin



STAR: Alignment Scores

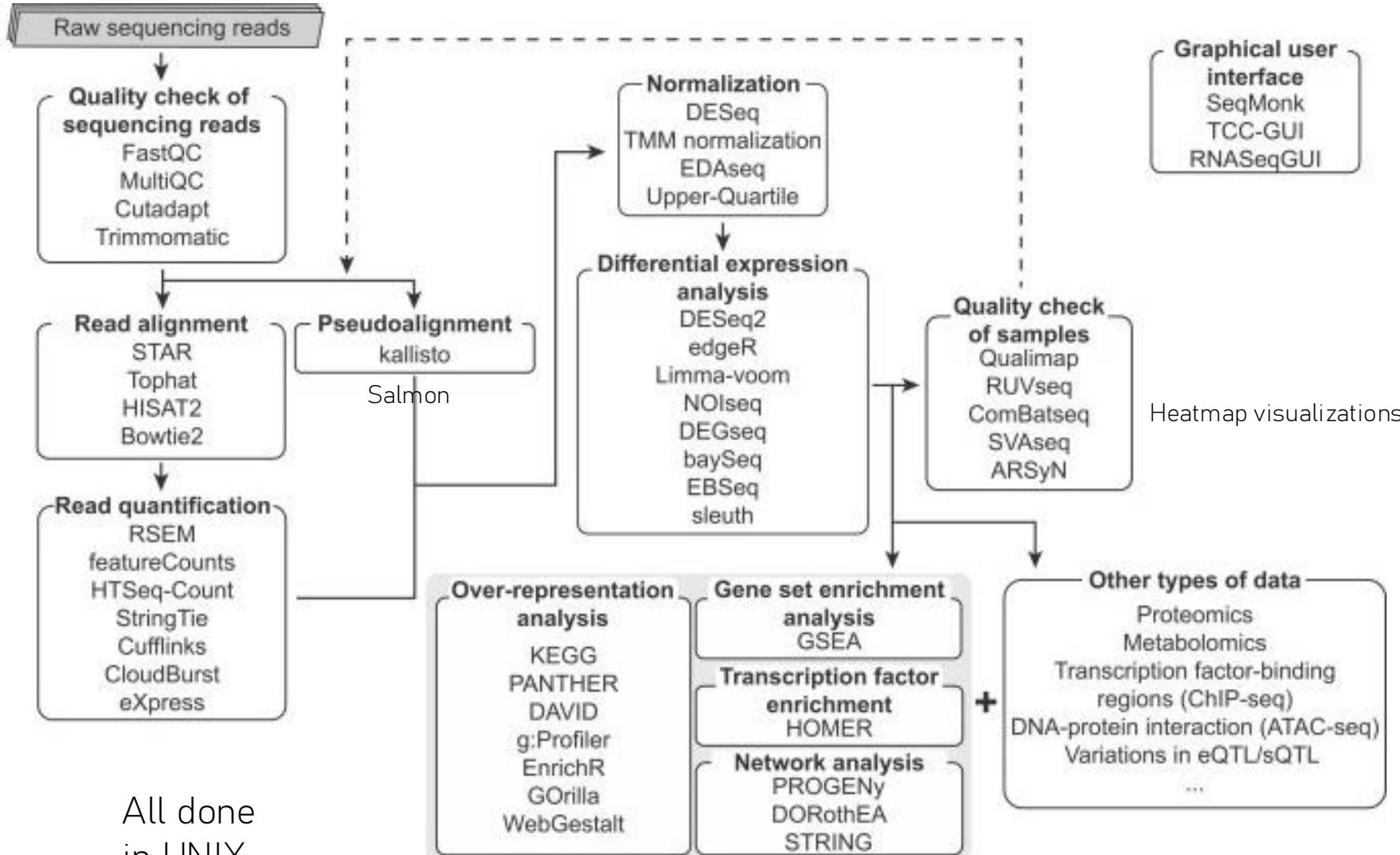


Uniquely mapped
Mapped to multiple loci
Mapped to too many loci
Unmapped: too short
Unmapped: other

https://hbctraining.github.io/Intro-to-rnaseq-hpc-salmon/lessons/05_multiQC.html

Created with MultiQC

Analysis after getting the counts matrix



Analysis after getting the counts matrix

| Name | Length | EffectiveLength | TPM | NumReads |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| ENSG00000121410.12_4 | 509.732 | 325.991 | 3.22494 | 322.674 |
| ENSG00000268895.6_6 | 1823.71 | 1633.86 | 0.9255 | 464.119 |
| ENSG00000148584.15_4 | 5354.1 | 5164.27 | 0 | 0 |
| ENSG00000175899.14_4 | 4544.77 | 4354.95 | 0.039651 | 53 |
| A2M-AS1 | 2592.39 | 2402.54 | 0.008136 | 5.999 |
| A2ML1 | 1749 | 1561.55 | 0 | 0 |
| SLC7A2 | 452 | 269.66 | 0 | 0 |
| ENSG00000001461.12_NIPAL3 | 386 | 208.766 | 0 | 0 |
| ENSG00000001497.12_LAS1 | 1715 | 1526.05 | 0 | 0 |
| ENSG00000001617.7_SEMA3F | 1023 | 833.15 | 0 | 0 |
| ENSG00000003096.9_KLHL13 | 1457.48 | 1269.51 | 3.23046 | 1258.74 |



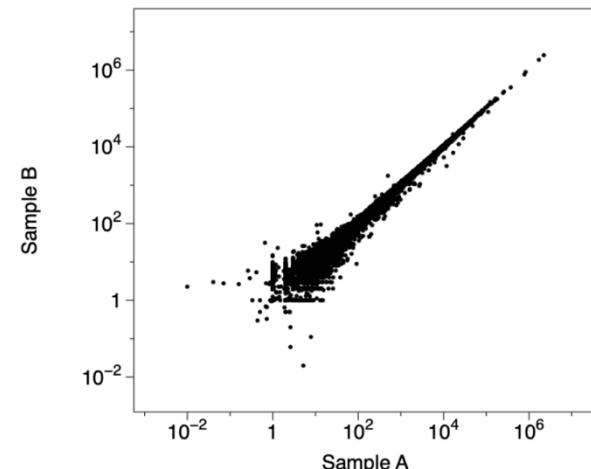
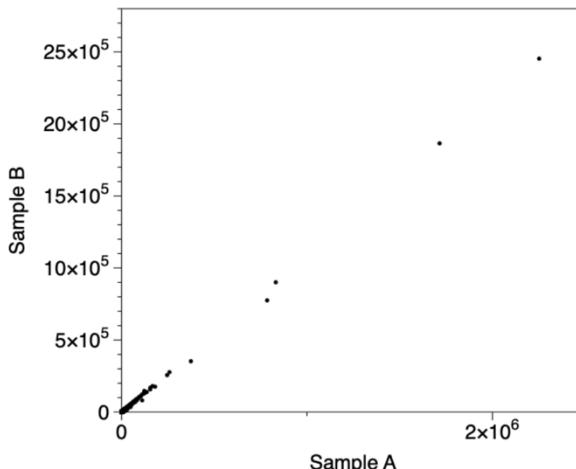
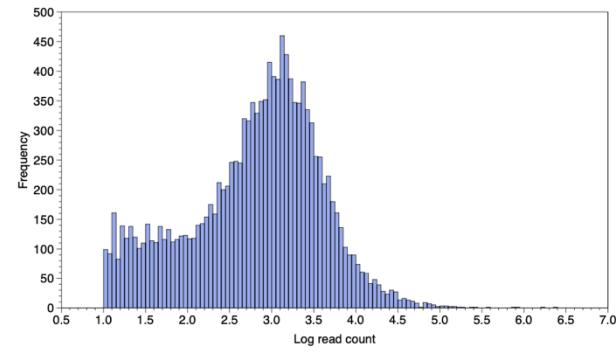
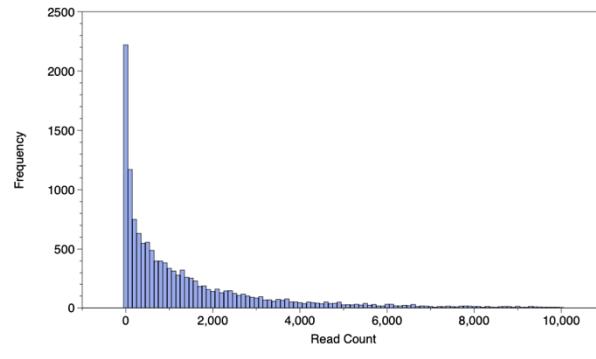
Different ways of annotating the genes



Not always integers -
may not be acceptable to some programs

Filtering and Log transformation

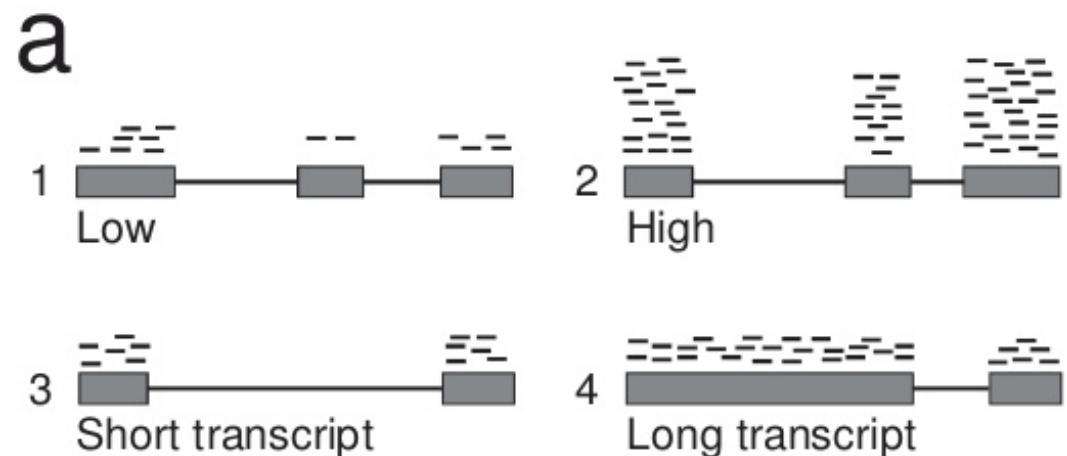
- Because of its vast dynamic ranges RNAseq data is typically filtered for low transcripts and log transformed in order to: provide better visualizations and to present analysis software with a more "normal distribution".



Normalization

- RNASeq transcriptomic expression data may vary based on a variety of often-uncontrollable experimental conditions
- Consequently, RNASeq raw data needs to be adjusted so that comparisons are based on biological truth. This mathematical adjustment is known as **normalization**.

- Number of reads aligned to a gene gives a measure of its level of expression
- Normalization of the count data
 - Sequencing depth
 - Length bias



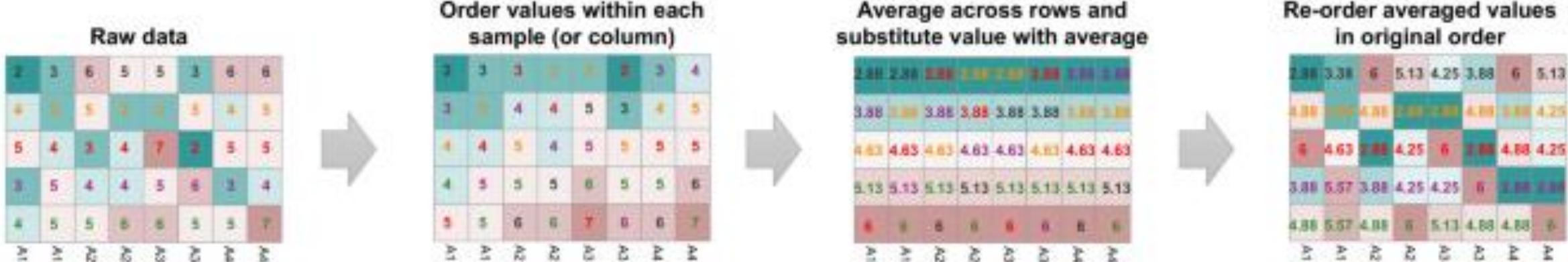
Normalization

- A general strategy, common to many normalization techniques, is to re-distribute signal intensities across all samples such that they now all have the same distribution (e.g. same mean and/or standard deviation).
- Basic assumption of any differential gene expression (DGE) analysis is that there is no difference between the two populations. Therefore, normalization is a necessity!
- Common examples of normalization techniques include
 - linear scaling (also known as min–max scaling),
 - Z-normalization, and
 - rank-scaling (also known as linear interpolation).
 - Specialized approaches for removing batch effects (a form of technical variation) such as ComBat

Normalization – Quantile normalization

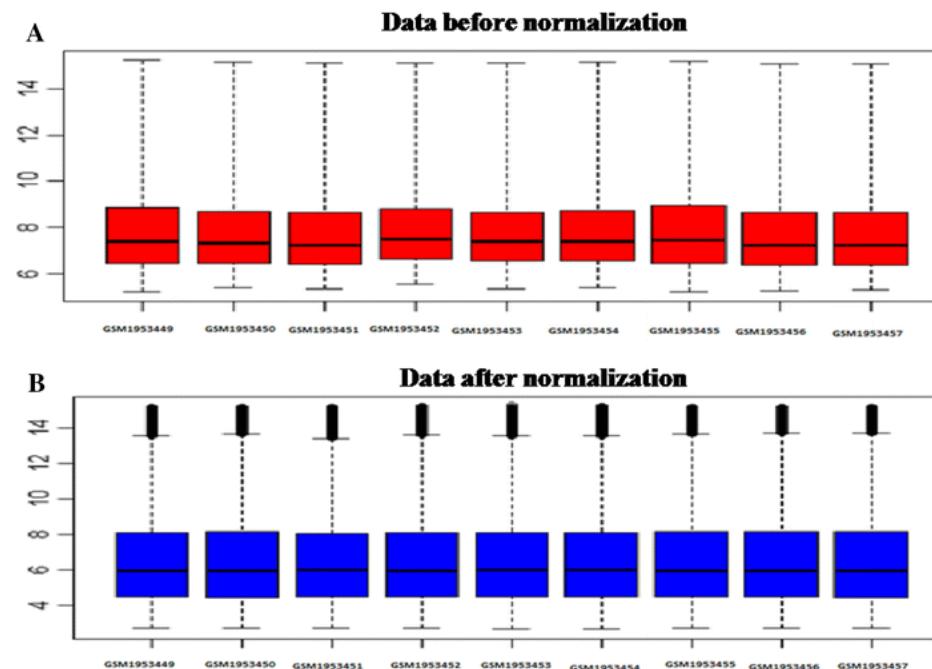
- The quantile normalization (QN) procedure is simple. It involves first ranking the gene of each sample by magnitude, calculating the average value for genes occupying the same rank, and then substituting the values of all genes occupying that particular rank with this average value.
- Finally, we reorder the genes of each sample in their original order.

A Quantile in a single class data



Normalization – Upper Quantile normalization

- The total number of counts for a sample can be very dependent on a small number of highly abundant genes.
- To solve this problem, Divide by the 75th percentile of the total number of counts. This provides a sequencing depth scaling factor that does not depend on the small proportion (less than 5%) of highly expressed genes.
- Advantages:
 - Robustness to outliers
 - Preserves the distribution of the data
 - Easy to implement
 - Consistent results

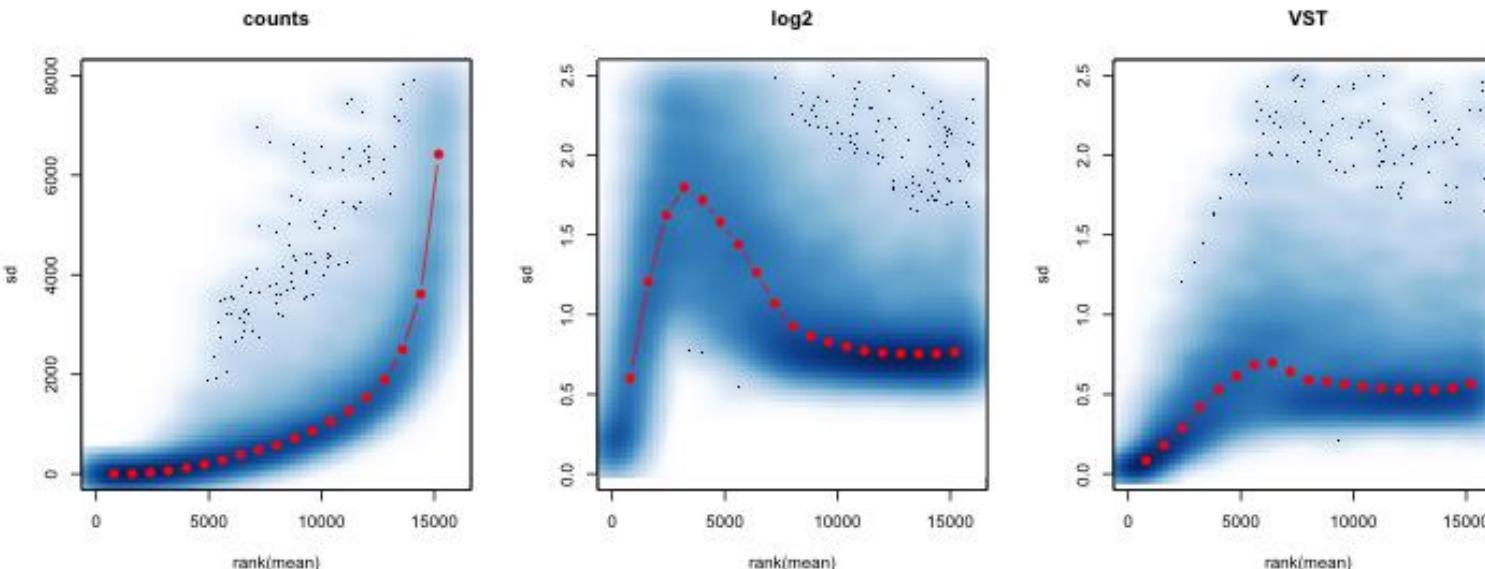


<https://fastercapital.com/content/Quartile-Normalization--Adjusting-Data-for-Statistical-Analysis.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecjN6Xpv6SE>

Normalization – DESeq2

- Most used R library for differential gene expression (DGE) analysis
- Uses a unique normalization – Variance stabilizing transformation (VST); aims at generating a matrix of values for which variance is constant across the range of mean values (homoscedastic), especially for low mean.
- The transformation also normalizes with respect to library size.
- The input to DESeq2 is absolute raw count matrix



<https://seqqc.wordpress.com/2015/02/16/should-you-transform-rna-seq-data-log-vst-voom/comment-page-1/>

Normalization strategies – DESeq2

- Step 1 - Create a pseudo-reference sample (row-wise geometric mean)

| gene | sampleA | sampleB | pseudo-reference sample |
|-------|---------|---------|---------------------------------|
| EF2A | 1489 | 906 | $\sqrt{1489 * 906}$ = 1161.5 |
| ABCD1 | 22 | 13 | $\sqrt{22 * 13}$ = 17.7 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... |

Normalization strategies – DESeq2

- Step 2 - Calculate ratio of each sample to the reference

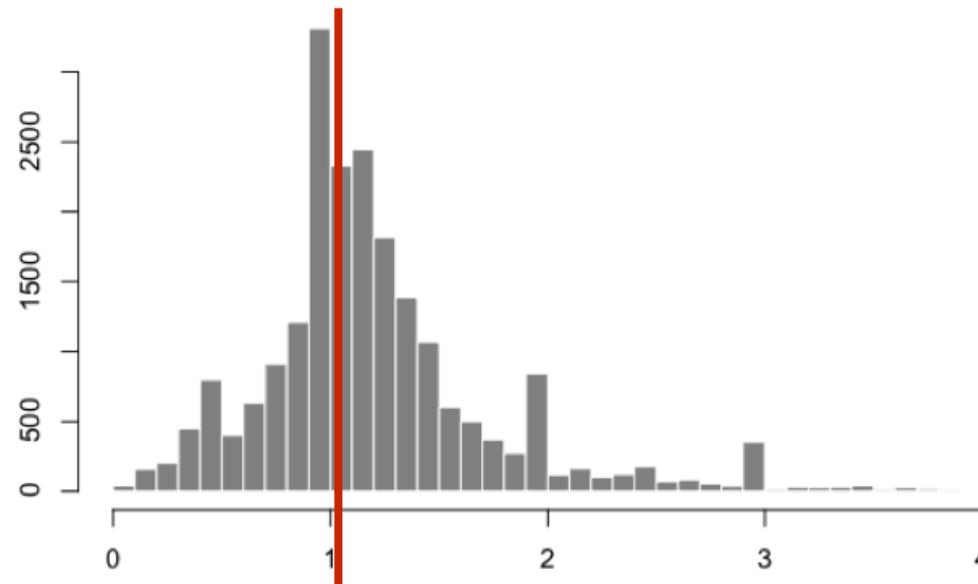
| gene | sampleA | sampleB | pseudo-reference sample | ratio of sampleA/ref | ratio of sampleB/ref |
|-------|---------|---------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| EF2A | 1489 | 906 | 1161.5 | 1489/1161.5 = 1.28 | 906/1161.5 = 0.78 |
| ABCD1 | 22 | 13 | 16.9 | 22/16.9 = 1.30 | 13/16.9 = 0.77 |
| MEFV | 793 | 410 | 570.2 | 793/570.2 = 1.39 | 410/570.2 = 0.72 |
| BAG1 | 76 | 42 | 56.5 | 76/56.5 = 1.35 | 42/56.5 = 0.74 |
| MOV10 | 521 | 1196 | 883.7 | 521/883.7 = 0.590 | 1196/883.7 = 1.35 |

Normalization strategies – DESeq2

- Step 3 - Calculate the normalization factor for each sample (size factor)

```
normalization_factor_sampleA <- median(c(1.28, 1.3, 1.39, 1.35, 0.59))  
normalization_factor_sampleB <- median(c(0.78, 0.77, 0.72, 0.74, 1.35))
```

sample 1 / pseudo-reference sample



Normalization strategies – DESeq2

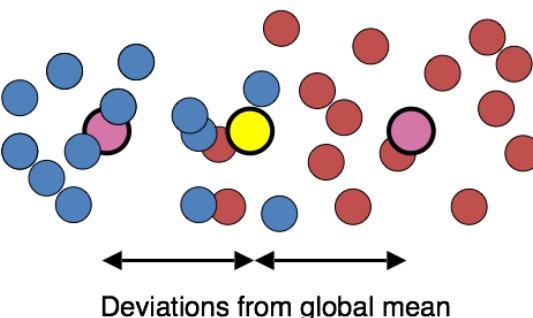
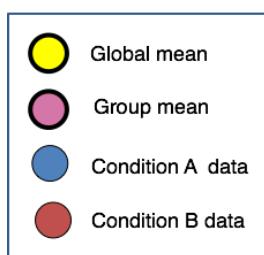
- Step 4 - Calculate the normalized count values using the normalization factor

SampleA median ratio = 1.3

SampleB median ratio = 0.77

| gene | sampleA | sampleB |
|-------|------------------------|------------------------|
| EF2A | $1489 / 1.3 = 1145.39$ | $906 / 0.77 = 1176.62$ |
| ABCD1 | $22 / 1.3 = 16.92$ | $13 / 0.77 = 16.88$ |
| ... | ... | ... |

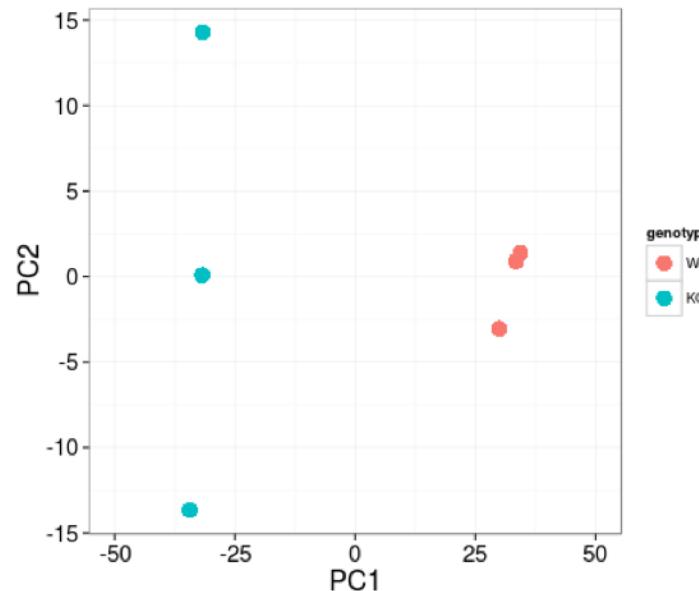
Expression level



Significant difference

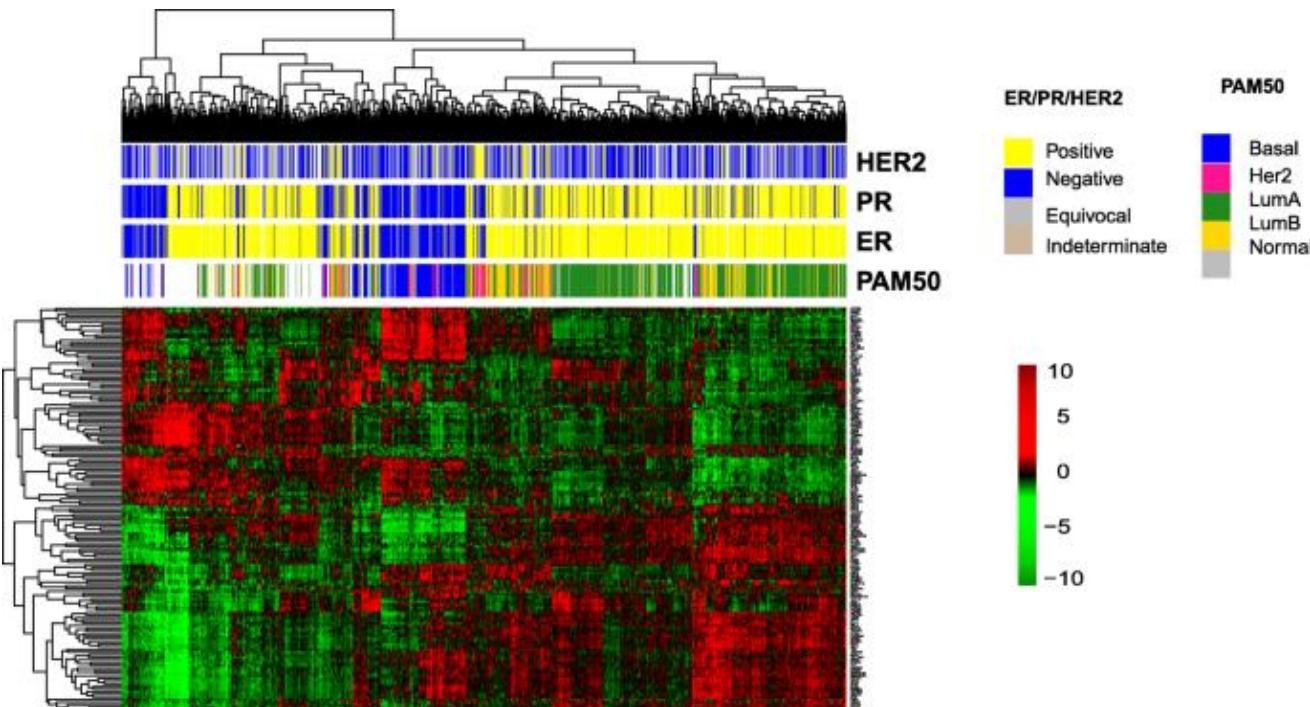
Dimension reducibility – Principal Component analysis (PCA)

- Principal component analysis (PCA) is a multivariate statistical method that combines information from several variables observed on the same subjects into fewer variables, called principal components (PCs).
- Information is measured by the total variance of the original variables (genes), and the PCs optimally account for the major part of that variance.
- For bulk RNAseq, most variance is captured in 1:4 PCs (Typically we use 1:2 PCs for visualization)



Dimension reductionality – Hierarchical Clustering (HC)

- This is another way to capture the pattern of informative genes in the data
- Take the top 2000-5000 most variable genes and cluster all the RNAseq samples (unsupervised HC)
- The heatmap displays the correlation of gene expression for all pairwise combinations of samples in the dataset. Strong "clusters" of genes will have a high correlation value.



Dong, C., Liu, J., Chen, S.X. et al. Highly robust model of transcription regulator activity predicts breast cancer overall survival. BMC Med Genomics 13 (Suppl 5), 49 (2020).
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12920-020-0688-z>

DESeq2 – pairwise comparisons

- The final step in the DESeq2 workflow is fitting the Negative Binomial model for each gene and performing differential expression testing. Once the model is fit, coefficients are estimated for each sample group

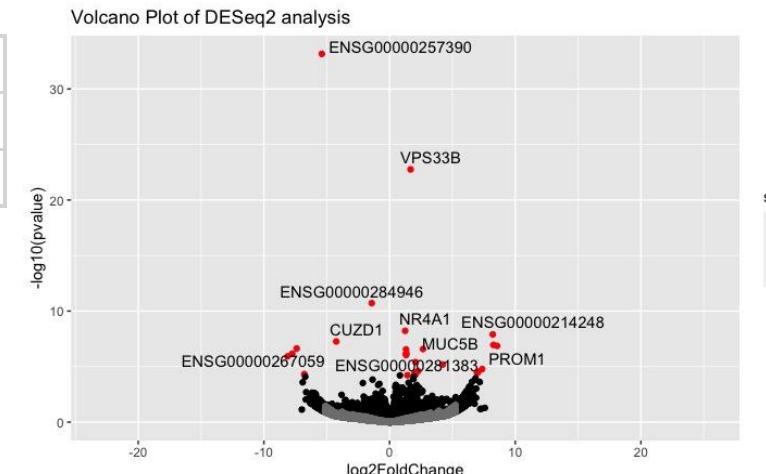
raw count for gene i, sample j
The mean is taken as “normalized counts” scaled by a normalization factor
one dispersion per gene

$$K_{ij} \sim NB(s_{ij}q_{ij}, \alpha_i)$$

normalized counts for gene i, sample j
 $\log_2 q_{ij} = \sum_r x_{jr} \beta_{ir}$
log₂ fold change between conditions

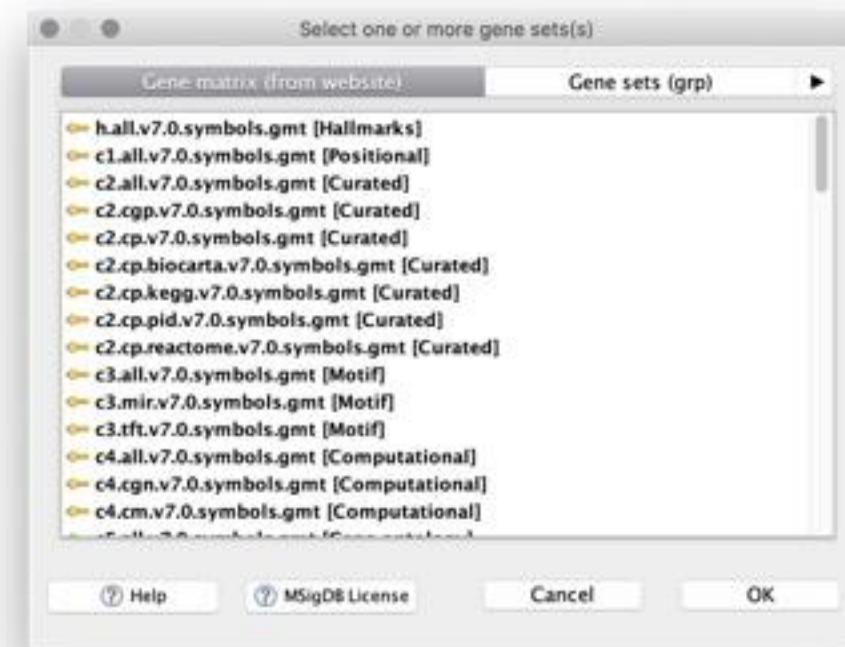
- With DESeq2, the Wald test is commonly used for hypothesis testing when comparing two groups.

| Genes | baseMean | log2FoldCha | IfcSE | stat | pvalue | padj |
|-------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| PROM1 | 33.0469248 | 8.55951004 | 1.62423185 | 5.26988191 | 1.37E-07 | 0.00038687 |
| MUC5B | 26.8332715 | 8.25834232 | 1.55610187 | 5.30707048 | 1.11E-07 | 0.00036081 |



Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA)

- GSEA is a computational method that determines whether an *a priori* defined set of genes shows statistically significant, concordant differences between two biological states (e.g. phenotypes). Uses a **2-way Kolmogrov-Smirnov (K-S) Test** to test the cumulative density of **genes**. Must be performed on normalized data
- Genesets are housed in MSigDB
 - <https://www.gsea-msigdb.org/gsea/msigdb>

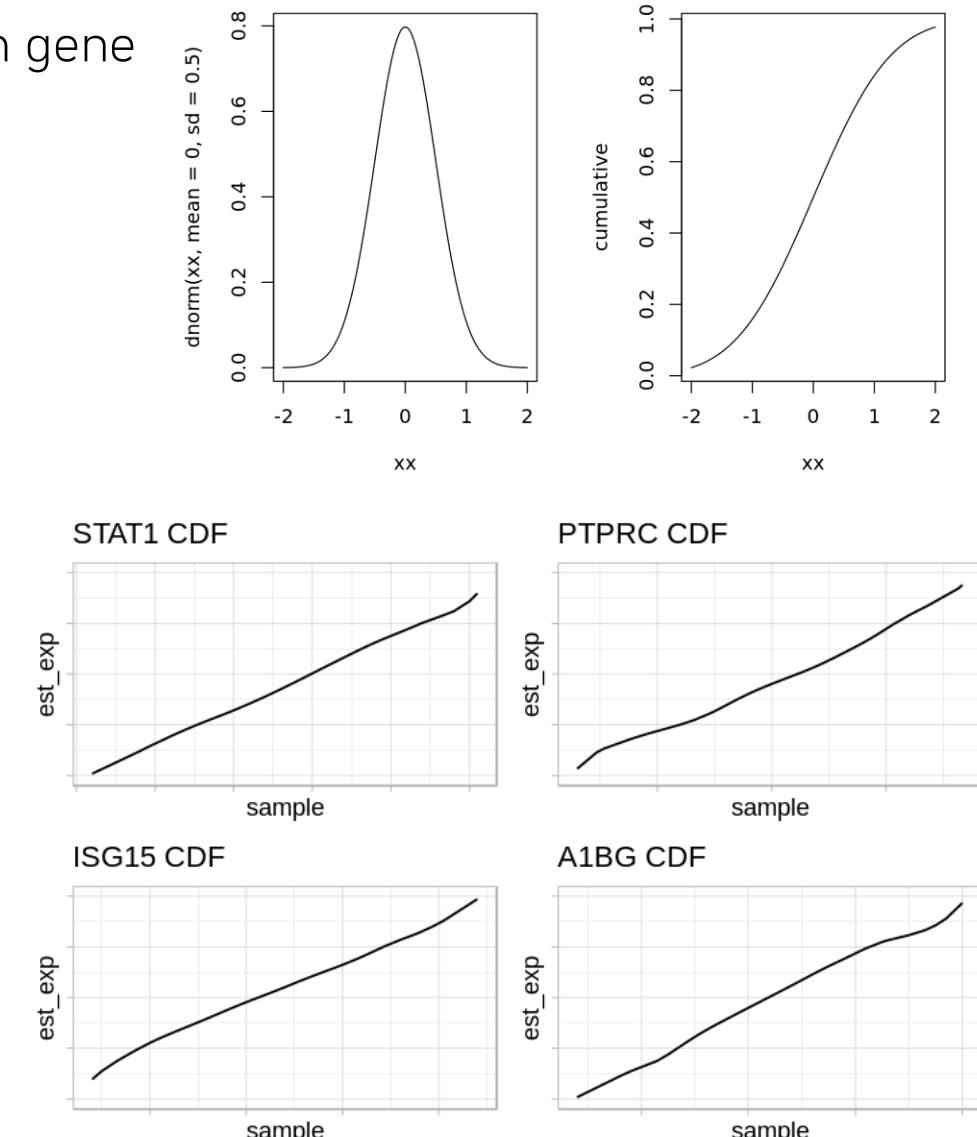


Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA)

- Cumulative density frequency (CDF) is calculated for each gene

| | aab1- Primary solid Tumor | aab4- Primary solid Tumor | aab6- Primary solid Tumor | aab8- Primary solid Tumor | aab9- Primary solid Tumor | aaba- Primary solid Tumor | aabe- Primary solid Tumor | aabf- Primary solid Tumor | aabh- Primary solid Tumor | aabi- Primary solid Tumor | .. |
|---------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----|
| A1BG | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.4 | 5.8 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 6.3 | .. |
| A2LD1 | 7.5 | 6.8 | 7.3 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 6.6 | 7.1 | 6.8 | 8.0 | 5.8 | .. |
| A2M | 14.3 | 14.0 | 13.1 | 13.8 | 14.6 | 13.3 | 13.4 | 14.2 | 13.9 | 11.9 | .. |
| A4GALT | 10.6 | 10.2 | 10.1 | 8.6 | 10.1 | 9.3 | 9.5 | 8.4 | 8.4 | 7.9 | .. |
| AAAS | 9.4 | 9.1 | 9.7 | 9.6 | 9.8 | 9.3 | 9.5 | 9.3 | 9.0 | 9.3 | .. |
| AACS | 10.2 | 10.3 | 9.2 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 10.0 | 9.7 | 9.1 | .. |

- Rank each gene in each sample based on the CDFs



Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA)

- Why K-S test instead of t-test or Fisher's exact test?

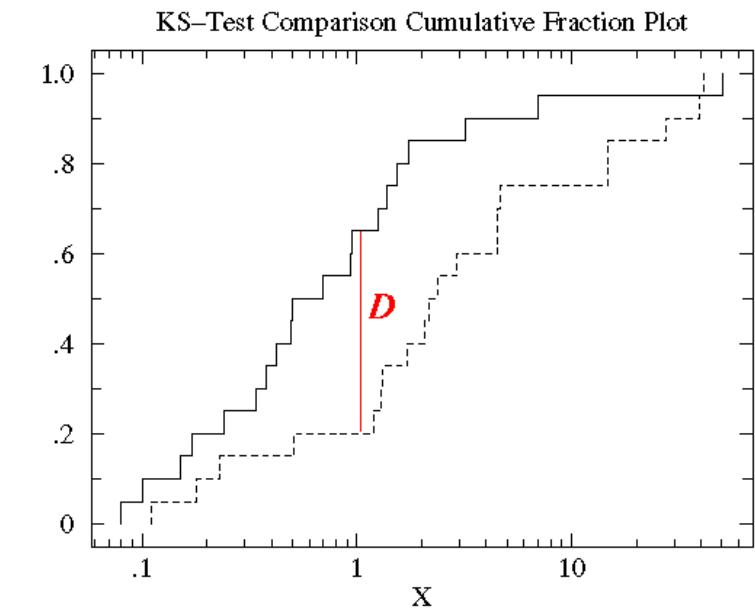
```
> controlA=c(0.22, -0.87, -2.39, -1.79, 0.37, -1.54, 1.28, -0.31, -0.74, 1.72, 0.38, -0.17, -0.62, -1.10, 0.30, 0.15, 2.30, 0.19, -0.50, -0.09)
> summary(controlA)
  Min. 1st Qu. Median  Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
-2.3900 -0.7725 -0.1300 -0.1605  0.3175  2.3000

> treatmentA=c(-5.13, -2.19, -2.43, -3.83, 0.50, -3.25, 4.32, 1.63, 5.18, -0.43, 7.11, 4.87, -3.10, -5.81, 3.76, 6.31, 2.58, 0.07, 5.76, 3.50)
> summary(treatmentA)
  Min. 1st Qu. Median  Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
-5.810 -2.598  1.065  0.971  4.457  7.110

t.test(controlA, treatmentA)

Welch Two Sample t-test

data: controlA and treatmentA
t = -1.1961, df = 21.922, p-value = 0.2444
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
-3.0938116  0.8308116
sample estimates:
mean of x mean of y
-0.1605   0.9710
```



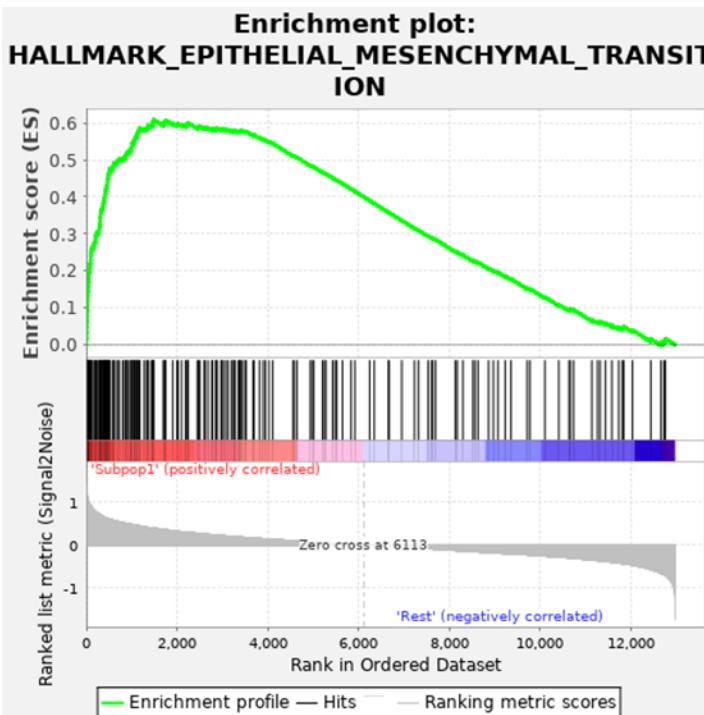
- The Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) test of goodness-of-fit tests whether the observed data is consistent with a given cumulative density function (CDF).

ks.test(controlA, treatmentA)

Two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test

```
data: controlA and treatmentA
D = 0.45, p-value = 0.03354
alternative hypothesis: two-sided
```

Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA)



| NAME | GS fol | GS DETAIL | SIZE | ES | NES | NOM p-val | FDR q-val | FWER p-val | RANK AT | LEADING E |
|--|-----------|-------------|------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------|-----------|
| HALLMARK_EPITHELIAL_MESENCHYMAL_TRANSITION | HALLMAR | Details ... | 185 | 0.608427 | 2.90751 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1484 | tags=44%, |
| REACTOME_COLLAGEN BIOSYNTHESIS AND MODIFYING ENZYMES | REACTOM | Details ... | 55 | 0.667097 | 2.5732 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1751 | tags=49%, |
| HALLMARK_MYC_TARGETS_V2 | HALLMAR | Details ... | 58 | 0.644154 | 2.480841 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2649 | tags=59%, |
| HALLMARK_UNFOLDED_PROTEIN_RESPONSE | HALLMAR | Details ... | 108 | 0.565968 | 2.447949 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1505 | tags=38%, |
| REACTOME_COLLAGEN_FORMATION | REACTOM | Details ... | 75 | 0.590999 | 2.421199 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1751 | tags=44%, |
| REACTOME_UNFOLDED_PROTEIN_RESPONSE_UPR | REACTOM | Details ... | 86 | 0.566878 | 2.38317 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1567 | tags=37%, |
| HALLMARK_MTORC1_SIGNALING | HALLMAR | Details ... | 194 | 0.501201 | 2.372618 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3168 | tags=48%, |
| REACTOME_IRE1ALPHA ACTIVATES CHAPERONES | REACTOM | Details ... | 48 | 0.621656 | 2.324214 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1567 | tags=46%, |
| REACTOME_COLLAGEN_CHAIN_TRIMERIZATION | REACTOM | Details ... | 35 | 0.654969 | 2.288869 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3161 | tags=66%, |
| LEF1_UP.V1_UP | LEF1_UP.V | Details ... | 152 | 0.495248 | 2.259486 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2541 | tags=47%, |
| REACTOME_BINDING_AND_UPTAKE_OF_LIGANDS_BY_SCAVENGER_RECEPTEORS | REACTOM | Details ... | 28 | 0.666604 | 2.239336 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1711 | tags=57%, |
| REACTOME_O GLYCOSYLATION_OF_TSR_DOMAIN_CONTAINING_PROTEINS | REACTOM | Details ... | 30 | 0.632302 | 2.18669 | 0 | 1.80E-04 | 0.002 | 1782 | tags=57%, |
| REACTOME_ECM_PROTEOGLYCANS | REACTOM | Details ... | 64 | 0.543079 | 2.17905 | 0 | 1.66E-04 | 0.002 | 1584 | tags=41%, |

Gene set variation analysis (GSVA)

- GSEA relies on phenotypic data and samples are looked at in a way that two groups of samples whose phenotype are already known have to be compared.
- GSVA is done on single sample level and on normalized data
- *How much do the genes in the gene set of interest vary relative to the genes not in the gene set in the data*

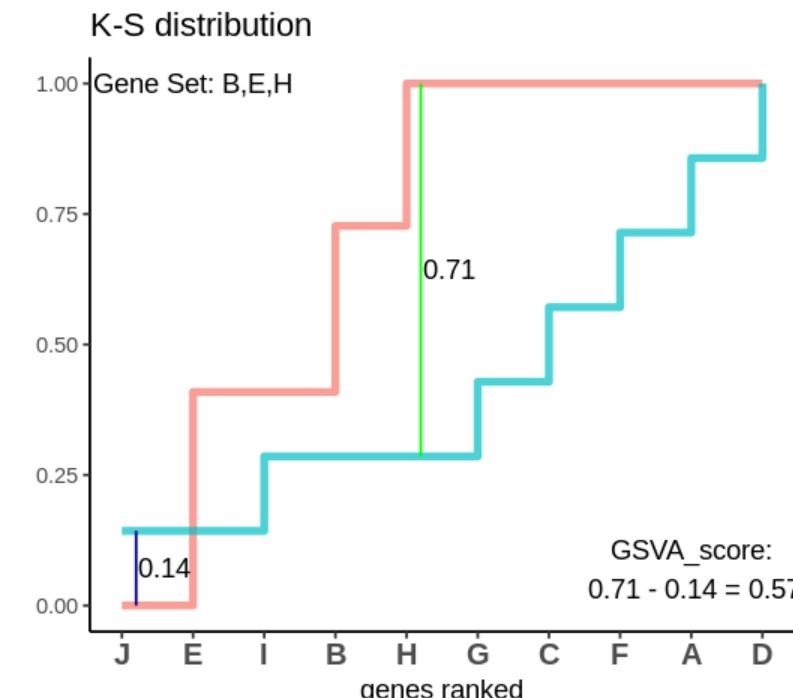
| | S1 | S2 | S3 |
|---|----|----|----|
| A | 10 | 23 | 11 |
| B | 22 | 7 | 18 |
| C | 16 | 3 | 25 |
| D | 9 | 31 | 19 |
| E | 25 | 12 | 5 |
| F | 12 | 27 | 8 |
| G | 18 | 24 | 4 |
| H | 19 | 10 | 2 |
| I | 24 | 13 | 12 |
| J | 35 | 26 | 17 |

CDF
ranked

| | S1 | S2 | S3 |
|---|----|----|----|
| A | 2 | 6 | 5 |
| B | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| C | 4 | 1 | 10 |
| D | 1 | 10 | 9 |
| E | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| F | 3 | 9 | 4 |
| G | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| H | 6 | 3 | 1 |
| I | 8 | 5 | 6 |
| J | 10 | 8 | 7 |

Order
Per
sample

| | rank |
|---|------|
| J | 10 |
| E | 9 |
| I | 8 |
| B | 7 |
| H | 6 |
| G | 5 |
| C | 4 |
| F | 3 |
| A | 2 |
| D | 1 |



Suggested Readings and Learning links

<https://www.acgt.me/blog/2014/12/16/understanding-mapq-scores-in-sam-files-does-37-42>

<https://www.zymoresearch.com/blogs/blog/what-are-sam-and-bam-files?srsltid=AfmB0oodZOqnlsfZBPYoSolkBx-IQoGdNBH5nxWcapeK0KscPlZ-rNkz>

https://hutchdatascience.org/Choosing_Genomics_Tools/bulk-rna-seq-1.html

<https://timd.one/blog/genomics/cigar.php>

https://www.pathwaycommons.org/guide/primers/data_analysis/gsea/

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/qub.2.78>

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.0506580102>

<https://davetang.github.io/muse/gsva.html>

<https://pluto.bio/resources/Learning%20Series/gsea-vs-ora-two-key-pathway-analysis-approaches-for-next-gen-sequencing-data>