RNA-Seq project report template: Some Descriptive Title

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1 Introduction

This report describes the analysis of an RNA-Seq project from Dr. First Last's lab which studies the gene expression changes of ... in *organism* The experimental design is as follows...

2 Sample definitions and environment settings

2.1 Environment settings and input data

Typically, the user wants to record here the sources and versions of the reference genome sequence along with the corresponding annotations. In the provided sample data set all data inputs are stored in a data subdirectory and all results will be written to a separate results directory, while the systemPipeRNAseq.Rnw script and the targets file are expected to be located in the parent directory. The R session is expected to run from this parent directory.

To run this sample report, mini sample FASTQ and reference genome files can be downloaded from here. The chosen data set SRP010938 contains 18 paired-end (PE) read sets from *Arabidposis thaliana* (Howard et al., 2013). To minimize processing time during testing, each FASTQ file has been subsetted to 90,000-100,000 randomly sampled PE reads that map to the first 100,000 nucleotides of each chromosome of the *A. thalina* genome. The corresponding reference genome sequence (FASTA) and its GFF annotion files (provided in the same download) have been truncated accordingly. This way the entire test sample data set is less than 200MB in storage space. A PE read set has been chosen for this test data set for flexibility, because it can be used for testing both types of analysis routines requiring either SE (single end) reads or PE reads.

2.2 Required packages and resources

The systemPipeR package needs to be loaded to perform the analysis steps shown in this report (Girke, 2014).

```
library(systemPipeR)
```

If applicable load custom functions not provided by systemPipeR

```
source("systemPipeRNAseq_Fct.R")
```

2.3 Experiment definition provided by targets file

The targets file defines all FASTQ files and sample comparisons of the analysis workflow.

```
targets <- read.delim("targets.txt", comment.char = "#")[,1:4]</pre>
targets
                      FileName SampleName Factor SampleLong
  ./data/SRR446027_1.fastq.gz
                                       M1A
                                               M1
                                                   Mock.1h.A
  ./data/SRR446028_1.fastq.gz
                                       M1B
                                               M1
                                                   Mock.1h.B
  ./data/SRR446029_1.fastq.gz
                                       A1A
                                               A1
                                                    Avr.1h.A
  ./data/SRR446030_1.fastq.gz
                                       A1B
                                               Α1
                                                    Avr.1h.B
5
  ./data/SRR446031_1.fastq.gz
                                               V1
                                                    Vir.1h.A
                                       V1A
  ./data/SRR446032_1.fastq.gz
                                       V1B
                                               V1
                                                    Vir.1h.B
  ./data/SRR446033_1.fastq.gz
7
                                       M6A
                                               M6 Mock.6h.A
  ./data/SRR446034_1.fastq.gz
                                       M6B
                                                   Mock.6h.B
  ./data/SRR446035_1.fastq.gz
                                       A6A
                                               A6
                                                    Avr.6h.A
10 ./data/SRR446036_1.fastq.gz
                                       A6B
                                               A6
                                                    Avr.6h.B
11 ./data/SRR446037_1.fastq.gz
                                       V6A
                                               V6
                                                    Vir.6h.A
12 ./data/SRR446038_1.fastq.gz
                                               V6
                                                    Vir.6h.B
                                      V6B
13 ./data/SRR446039_1.fastq.gz
                                      M12A
                                              M12 Mock.12h.A
14 ./data/SRR446040_1.fastq.gz
                                      M12B
                                              M12 Mock.12h.B
15 ./data/SRR446041_1.fastq.gz
                                      A12A
                                              A12 Avr.12h.A
16 ./data/SRR446042_1.fastq.gz
                                      A12B
                                              A12 Avr.12h.B
17 ./data/SRR446043_1.fastq.gz
                                      V12A
                                              V12 Vir.12h.A
18 ./data/SRR446044_1.fastq.gz
                                      V12B
                                              V12 Vir.12h.B
```

3 Read preprocessing

3.1 **FASTQ** quality report

The following seeFastq and seeFastqPlot functions generate and plot a series of useful quality statistics for a set of FASTQ files including per cycle quality box plots, base proportions, base-level quality trends, relative k-mer diversity, length and occurrence distribution of reads, number of reads above quality cutoffs and mean quality distribution. The results are written to a PDF file named fastqReport.pdf.

```
args <- systemArgs(sysma="./param/tophat.param", mytargets="targets.txt")
fqlist <- seeFastq(fastq=infile1(args), batchsize=100000, klength=8)
pdf("./results/fastqReport.pdf", height=18, width=4*length(fqlist))
seeFastqPlot(fqlist)
dev.off()</pre>
```

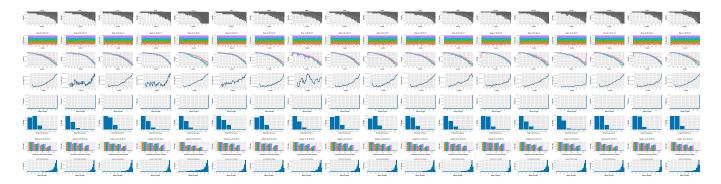


Figure 1: QC report for 18 FASTQ files.

4 Alignments

4.1 Read mapping with Bowtie2/Tophat2

The NGS reads of this project will be aligned against the reference genome sequence using Bowtie2/TopHat2 (Kim et al., 2013; Langmead and Salzberg, 2012). The parameter settings of the aligner are defined in the tophat.param file.

```
args <- systemArgs(sysma="./param/tophat.param", mytargets="targets.txt")
sysargs(args)[1] # Command-line parameters for first FASTQ file</pre>
```

Submission of alignment jobs to compute cluster, here using 72 CPU cores (18 qsub processes each with 4 CPU cores).

Check whether all BAM files have been created

```
file.exists(outpaths(args))
```

4.2 Read and alignment stats

The following provides an overview of the number of reads in each sample and how many of them aligned to the reference.

```
read_statsDF <- alignStats(args=args)</pre>
write.table(read_statsDF, "results/alignStats.xls", row.names=FALSE, quote=FALSE, sep="\t")
read.table("./results/alignStats.xls", header=TRUE)[1:4,]
  FileName Nreads Nalign Perc_Aligned Nalign_Primary Perc_Aligned_Primary
       M1A 96459 89376
                             92.65698
                                                89376
                                                                  92.65698
2
       M1B 98742 86014
                             87.10984
                                                86014
                                                                  87.10984
3
       A1A 94935 88360
                                                                  93.07421
                             93.07421
                                                88360
       A1B 94427 83172
                             88.08074
                                                83172
                                                                  88.08074
```

4.3 Create symbolic links for viewing BAM files in IGV

The symLink2bam function creates symbolic links to view the BAM alignment files in a genome browser such as IGV. The corresponding URLs are written to a file with a path specified under urlfile, here IGVurl.txt.

```
symLink2bam(sysargs=args, htmldir=c("~/.html/", "somedir/"),
    urlbase="http://biocluster.ucr.edu/~tgirke/",
    urlfile="./results/IGVurl.txt")
```

5 Read quantification per annotation range

5.1 Read counting with summarize 0 verlaps in parallel mode using multiple cores

Reads overlapping with annotation ranges of interest are counted for each sample using the summarizeOverlaps function (Lawrence et al., 2013). The read counting is preformed for exonic gene regions in a non-strand-specific manner while ignoring overlaps among different genes. Subsequently, the expression count values are normalized by reads per kp per million mapped reads (RPKM). The raw read count table (countDFeByg.xls) and the correspoding RPKM table (rpkmDFeByg.xls) are written to separate files in the results directory of this project. Parallelization is achieved with the BiocParallel package, here using 8 CPU cores.

```
write.table(rpkmDFeByg, "results/rpkmDFeByg.xls", col.names=NA, quote=FALSE, sep="\t")
Sample of data slice of count table
```

```
read.delim("results/countDFeByg.xls", row.names=1, check.names=FALSE)[1:4,1:5]
```

Sample of data slice of RPKM table

```
read.delim("results/rpkmDFeByg.xls", row.names=1, check.names=FALSE)[1:4,1:4]
```

Note, for most statistical differential expression or abundance analysis methods, such as *edgeR* or *DESeq2*, the raw count values should be used as input. The usage of RPKM values should be restricted to specialty applications required by some users, *e.g.* manually comparing the expression levels among different genes or features.

5.2 Sample-wise correlation analysis

The following computes the sample-wise Spearman correlation coefficients from the rlog normalized expression values generated with the *DESeq2* package. After transformation to a distance matrix, hierarchical clustering is performed with the hclust function and the result is plotted as a dendrogram (sample_tree.pdf).

```
library(DESeq2, quietly=TRUE); library(ape, warn.conflicts=FALSE)
countDF <- as.matrix(read.table("./results/countDFeByg.xls"))
colData <- data.frame(row.names=targetsin(args)$SampleName, condition=targetsin(args)$Factor)
dds <- DESeqDataSetFromMatrix(countData = countDF, colData = colData, design = ~ condition)
d <- cor(assay(rlog(dds)), method="spearman")
hc <- hclust(as.dist(1-d))
pdf("results/sample_tree.pdf")
plot.phylo(as.phylo(hc), type="p", edge.col="blue", edge.width=2, show.node.label=TRUE, no.margin=TRUE)
dev.off()</pre>
```

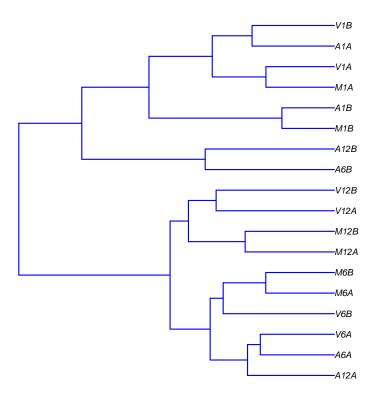


Figure 2: Correlation dendrogram of samples.

6 Analysis of differentially expressed genes with edgeR

The analysis of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) is performed with the glm method from the *edgeR* package (Robinson et al., 2010). The sample comparisons used by this analysis are defined in the header lines of the targets file starting with <CMP>.

```
library(edgeR)
countDF <- read.delim("./results/countDFeByg.xls", row.names=1, check.names=FALSE)
targets <- read.delim("targets.txt", comment="#")
cmp <- readComp(file="targets.txt", format="matrix", delim="-")
edgeDF <- run_edgeR(countDF=countDF, targets=targets, cmp=cmp[[1]], independent=FALSE, mdsplot="")
write.table(edgeDF, "./results/edgeRglm_allcomp.xls", quote=FALSE, sep="\t", col.names = NA)</pre>
```

Filter and plot DEG results for up and down regulated genes. The definition of 'up' and 'down' is given in the corresponding help file. To open it, type ?filterDEGs in the R console.

```
edgeDF <- read.delim("results/edgeRglm_allcomp.xls", row.names=1, check.names=FALSE)
pdf("results/DEGcounts.pdf")
DEG_list <- filterDEGs(degDF=edgeDF, filter=c(Fold=2, FDR=10))
dev.off()
write.table(DEG_list$Summary, "./results/DEGcounts.xls", quote=FALSE, sep="\t", row.names=FALSE)</pre>
```

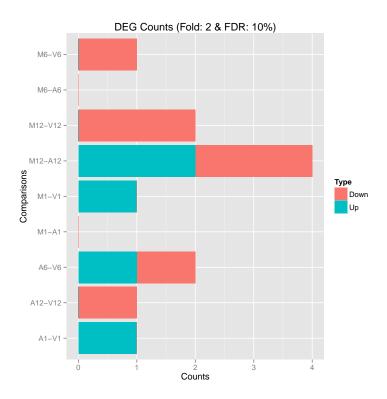


Figure 3: Up and down regulated DEGs with FDR of 10%.

The function overLapper can compute Venn intersects for large numbers of sample sets (up to 20 or more) and vennPlot can plot 2-5 way Venn diagrams. A useful feature is the possiblity to combine the counts from several Venn comparisons with the same number of sample sets in a single Venn diagram (here for 4 up and down DEG sets).

```
vennsetup <- overLapper(DEG_list$Up[6:9], type="vennsets")
vennsetdown <- overLapper(DEG_list$Down[6:9], type="vennsets")
pdf("results/vennplot.pdf")
vennPlot(list(vennsetup, vennsetdown), mymain="", mysub="", colmode=2, ccol=c("blue", "red"))
dev.off()</pre>
```



Figure 4: Venn Diagram for 4 Up and Down DEG Sets.

6.1 GO term enrichment analysis of DEGs

6.1.1 Obtain gene-to-GO mappings

The following shows how to obtain gene-to-GO mappings from biomaRt (here for A. thaliana) and how to organize them for the downstream GO term enrichment analysis. Alternatively, the gene-to-GO mappings can be obtained for many organisms from Bioconductor's *.db genome annotation packages or GO annotation files provided by various genome databases. For each annotation this relatively slow preprocessing step needs to be performed only once. Subsequently, the preprocessed data can be loaded with the load function as shown in the next subsection.

```
library("biomaRt")
listMarts() # To choose BioMart database
m <- useMart("ENSEMBL_MART_PLANT"); listDatasets(m)
m <- useMart("ENSEMBL_MART_PLANT", dataset="athaliana_eg_gene")
listAttributes(m) # Choose data types you want to download
go <- getBM(attributes=c("go_accession", "tair_locus", "go_namespace_1003"), mart=m)
go <- go[go[,3]!="",]; go[,3] <- as.character(go[,3])</pre>
```

```
go[go[,3]=="molecular_function", 3] <- "F"; go[go[,3]=="biological_process", 3] <- "P"; go[go[,3]=="cellul
go[1:4,]
dir.create("./data/GO")
write.table(go, "data/GO/GOannotationsBiomart_mod.txt", quote=FALSE, row.names=FALSE, col.names=FALSE, sep
catdb <- makeCATdb(myfile="data/GO/GOannotationsBiomart_mod.txt", lib=NULL, org="", colno=c(1,2,3), idconv
save(catdb, file="data/GO/catdb.RData")</pre>
```

6.1.2 Batch GO term enrichment analysis

Apply the enrichment analysis to the DEG sets obtained the above differential expression analysis. Note, in the following example the FDR filter is set here to an unreasonably high value, simply because of the small size of the toy data set used in this vignette. Batch enrichment analysis of many gene sets is performed with the GOCluster_Report function. When method="all", it returns all GO terms passing the p-value cutoff specified under the cutoff arguments. When method="slim", it returns only the GO terms specified under the myslimv argument. The given example shows how a GO slim vector for a specific organism can be obtained from BioMart.

```
load("data/GO/catdb.RData")
DEG_list <- filterDEGs(degDF=edgeDF, filter=c(Fold=2, FDR=50), plot=FALSE)
up_down <- DEG_list$UporDown; names(up_down) <- paste(names(up_down), "_up_down", sep="")
up <- DEG_list$Up; names(up) <- paste(names(up), "_up", sep="")
down <- DEG_list$Down; names(down) <- paste(names(down), "_down", sep="")
DEGlist <- c(up_down, up, down)
DEGlist <- DEGlist[sapply(DEGlist, length) > 0]
BatchResult <- GOCluster_Report(catdb=catdb, setlist=DEGlist, method="all", id_type="gene", CLSZ=2, cutoff library("biomaRt"); m <- useMart("ENSEMBL_MART_PLANT", dataset="athaliana_eg_gene")
goslimvec <- as.character(getBM(attributes=c("goslim_goa_accession"), mart=m)[,1])
BatchResultslim <- GOCluster_Report(catdb=catdb, setlist=DEGlist, method="slim", id_type="gene", myslimv=gene")</pre>
```

6.1.3 Plot batch GO term results

The data.frame generated by GOCluster_Report can be plotted with the goBarplot function. Because of the variable size of the sample sets, it may not always be desirable to show the results from different DEG sets in the same bar plot. Plotting single sample sets is achieved by subsetting the input data frame as shown in the first line of the following example.

```
gos <- BatchResultslim[grep("M6-V6_up_down", BatchResultslim$CLID), ]
gos <- BatchResultslim
pdf("GOslimbarplotMF.pdf", height=8, width=10); goBarplot(gos, gocat="MF"); dev.off()
goBarplot(gos, gocat="BP")
goBarplot(gos, gocat="CC")</pre>
```

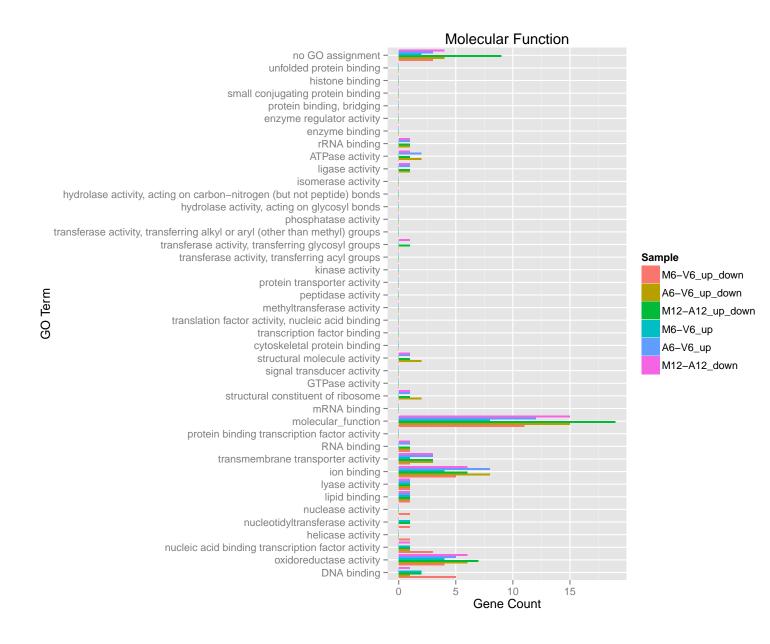


Figure 5: GO Slim Barplot for MF Ontology.

7 Clustering and heat maps

The following example performs hierarchical clustering on the rlog normalized expression matrix subsetted by the DEGs identified in the above differential expression analysis. It uses a Pearson correlation-based distance measure and complete linkage for cluster joining.

```
library(pheatmap)
geneids <- unique(as.character(unlist(DEG_list[[1]])))
y <- assay(rlog(dds))[geneids, ]
pdf("heatmap1.pdf")
pheatmap(y, scale="row", clustering_distance_rows="correlation", clustering_distance_cols="correlation")</pre>
```

dev.off()

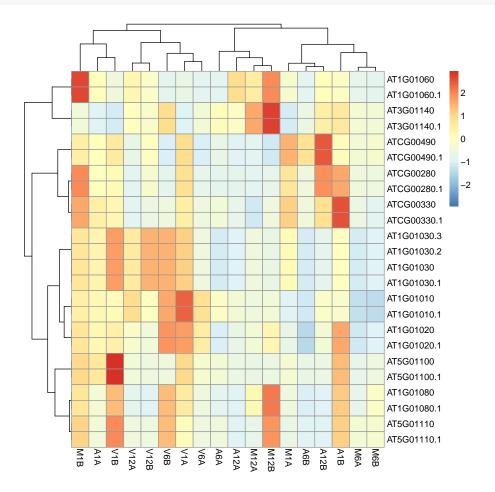


Figure 6: Heat map with hierarchical clustering dendrograms of DEGs.

8 Version Information

toLatex(sessionInfo())

- R version 3.2.2 (2015-08-14), x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
- Locale: LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8, LC_NUMERIC=C, LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8, LC_COLLATE=en_US.UTF-8, LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8, LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8, LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8, LC_NAME=C, LC_ADDRESS=C, LC_TELEPHONE=C, LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8, LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
- Base packages: base, datasets, graphics, grDevices, methods, parallel, stats, stats4, utils
- Other packages: Biobase 2.29.1, BiocGenerics 0.15.6, BiocParallel 1.3.51, Biostrings 2.37.8, DBI 0.3.1, GenomeInfoDb 1.5.15, GenomicAlignments 1.5.13, GenomicRanges 1.21.21, IRanges 2.3.19, knitr 1.11, Rsamtools 1.21.17, RSQLite 1.0.0, S4Vectors 0.7.16, ShortRead 1.27.5, SummarizedExperiment 0.3.7, systemPipeR 1.3.40, XVector 0.9.4
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): annotate 1.47.4, AnnotationDbi 1.31.17, AnnotationForge 1.11.19, base64enc 0.1-3, BatchJobs 1.6, BBmisc 1.9, BiocStyle 1.7.7, biomaRt 2.25.1, bitops 1.0-6, brew 1.0-6, Category 2.35.1, checkmate 1.6.2, colorspace 1.2-6, digest 0.6.8, edgeR 3.11.2, evaluate 0.7.2, fail 1.2, formatR 1.2, futile.logger 1.4.1, futile.options 1.0.0, genefilter 1.51.0, GenomicFeatures 1.21.21, ggplot2 1.0.1, GO.db 3.2.1, GOstats 2.35.1, graph 1.47.2, grid 3.2.2, GSEABase 1.31.3, gtable 0.1.2, highr 0.5, hwriter 1.3.2, lambda.r 1.1.7, lattice 0.20-33, latticeExtra 0.6-26, limma 3.25.15, magrittr 1.5, MASS 7.3-43, Matrix 1.2-2,

munsell 0.4.2, pheatmap 1.0.7, plyr 1.8.3, proto 0.3-10, RBGL 1.45.1, RColorBrewer 1.1-2, Rcpp 0.12.0, RCurl 1.95-4.7, reshape2 1.4.1, rjson 0.2.15, rtracklayer 1.29.25, scales 0.3.0, sendmailR 1.2-1, splines 3.2.2, stringi 0.5-5, stringr 1.0.0, survival 2.38-3, tools 3.2.2, XML 3.98-1.3, xtable 1.7-4, zlibbioc 1.15.0

9 Funding

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10 References

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