

# Lab Session miRNA-mRNA Networks

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## Retrieval of Tumor suppressors and Oncogenes from the NCG web site

Download cancer gene list from the NCG (Network of cancer Genes) web site at: <http://ncg.kcl.ac.uk> From the Download page, select Known cancer genes (List of known cancer genes and tumour suppressor/oncogene annotations). Read the table (tsv format) into a new data frame.

*Note: we had to remove characters “#” from 3 lines, which caused read.table to fail Use function: read.table with header=T, sep=”\t”*

Extract oncogenes and tumor suppressors in two new vectors, based on fields *NCG6\_oncogene* and *NCG6\_tsg*.

Check the results.(You may use either the subset function or `table[table$field==T,]`).

*Use function “subset” or operate on indices with: `tab[tab$col1==T,]`*

## Retrieval of miRNA/mRNA network table

Read network table *A549-control-mirbooking-with-enzymatic-efficiency.tsv* into new data frame.

*Use function: read.table with header=T, sep=”\t”*

View the table contents in Rstudio.

## Extract lines for cancer genes

Create dataframe *tsg\_targets* containing data lines for all tumor suppressor genes.

Create dataframe *onc\_targets* containing data lines for all oncogenes.

Display and count unique oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes in each dataframe.

*Use the subset function and %in% operator. Use the unique function on the adequate column*

## Identifying top Oncomirs and top Tumor suppressor miRNAs.

Visualize all (target gene, miRNA) pairs in *tsg\_targets*.

*use table indices such as in: `tab[,c(“colname1”, “colname2”)]`*

Note that a pair (target,miRNA) can be present several times when a miRNA has several binding sites for this target.

Aggregate all pairs (target,miRNA), while retaining for each pair the max value of column *score*. Sort result by target gene name. Check that (target,miRNA) have been correctly aggregated.

*use functions: `aggregate(score ~ target_name + mirna_name, onc_targets, max) sortedtab <- tab[order(tab$column),]`*

Now extract the most efficient (i.e. highest scoring) (target,miRNA) pairs with oncogenes and tumor suppressor as targets. This is not easy to do with base R, hence we give a solution for this:

```

# first we order the (target,miRNA) pair table by target name and by score
oncomir<-ag_tsg[order(ag_tsg$target_name,-ag_tsg$score),]
#second we keep the first line of each target group
oncomir<-oncomir[!duplicated(oncomir$target_name),]
#finally we rank the results by overall descending score
oncomir<-oncomir[order(-oncomir$score),]

# same for tsmir:
tsmir<-ag_onc[order(ag_onc$target_name,-ag_onc$score),]
tsmir<-tsmir[!duplicated(tsmir$target_name),]
tsmir<-tsmir[order(-tsmir$score),]

```