**SCOPP**

Single Cope Orthology Pipeline for Phylogenetics

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This workflow is essentially a BASH wrapper around a selection of established programs and in-house scripts that screens multiple transcriptome assemblies for single copy othologous genes.

For those interested in exploring the currently stable release, I have provided a bash script for the installation of all dependencies.

SCOPP\_1.0.0\_install.sh

This pipeline has many dependencies, and indeed dependencies on specific versions. As much as possible I do try to keep up with updates and upgrades, but please do pay attention to the versions recommended for installation. An ideal approach is to install onto a new virtual machine, using vmware or virtualbox for instance. Ultimately, the objective is that wrap all this up in a DOCKER image.

Things you need:

1. Raw sequences, demultiplex. It is a good idea to rename them to something meaningful, e.g. FAMILY\_GENUS\_SPECIES\_REGNO\_LOCALITY. This name will carry through all the way to the first tree you produce. Create a new folder for each projects, and in that folder place the raw sequences in a subfolder named “0\_raw”. Note, all file must end in \*\_R1.fastq.gz or \*\_R2.fastq.gz.
2. A reference file containing a single representative sequence for each exon, translated.
3. A list of the samples you want to process. These will be the names associated with the raw sequence files, but without “\_R1.fastq.gz”.

**SCOPP** has 5 modules and are run sequentially:

1. **ASSEMBLE** - this module quality trims and removes adapters from PE Illumina raw reads using Trimmomatic (ref), followed by assembly using Trinity (Ref).
2. **LAST** – The assemblies are then screened for local alignment hit to a provided translated CDNA reference.
3. **HOMOLOGY** – Based on LAST local alignment coordinates, all homologous local hit are extracted from the assemblies, producing a separate fasta file of all homologs per reference gene.
4. **CONSENSUS** – Homolog alignments are then collapsed based on a provided threshold. This step also produces a summary table detailing the number of homologs remaining per species per gene.

All cases where only a single homolog remains per species are considered high priority candidates for single copy orthologs suitable for phylogenetic analysis. Filtering based on taxa completeness is recommended at this stage (e.g. 80% of the study taxa have this single copy ortholog assembled). These high priority gene alignments need to visually inspected and assessed for hidden paralogs using, for instance, pipelines such as TreSPex (REF).

In addition to the high priority candidate genes, secondary candidate genes can be identified whereby the majority of taxa are single copy. Manually reviewing these alignments may reveal that where multiple homologs exist for a given taxa, these will either 1) true paralogs, 2) contaminants or 3) or the result of erroneous contigs containing highly similar domains to a reference genes. Simple manual editing (deletion of identified erroneous homologs) renders the resulting geneof the latter two cases would result in that gene being designated high priority, worth of further screening.

1. **SUBSET** – Once all high priority genes have been identified and edited where appropriate, this module will produce the final alignments, one for each gene in fasta format, and a supermatrix in fasta/nexus (with CHAR SET defined)/phylip format.