RNA-Seq Workflow Template

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Introduction

Users want to provide here background information about the design of their RNA-Seq project.

Samples and environment settings

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.Rmd 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.

The following loads one of the available NGS workflow templates (here RNA-Seq) into the user's current working directory. At the moment, the package includes workflow templates for RNA-Seq, ChIP-Seq, VAR-Seq and Ribo-Seq. Templates for additional NGS applications will be provided in the future.

```
library(systemPipeRdata)
genWorkenvir(workflow="rnaseq")
setwd("rnaseq")
```

Alternatively, this can be done from the command-line as follows:

```
$ Rscript -e "systemPipeRdata::genWorkenvir(workflow='rnaseq')"
$ cd rnaseq
```

Now download the latest systemPipeRNAseq.Rmd script for this course. From within R this can be done as follows.

```
download.file("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/tgirke/GEN242/gh-pages/_vignettes/11_RNAseqWorkflow/sy
```

Or from the command-line one can do this with wget.

```
$ wget -0 systemPipeRNAseq.Rmd https://raw.githubusercontent.com/tgirke/GEN242/gh-pages/ vignettes/11 R
```

If you work under Nvim-R-Tmux, the following command sequence will connect the user from the command-line to a computer node on the cluster.

```
$ srun --x11 --partition=short --mem=2gb --cpus-per-task 1 --ntasks 1 --time 2:00:00 --pty bash -1
```

Now open the R markdown script systemPipeRNAseq.Rmd in your R IDE (e.g. nvim-r or RStudio) and run the workflow as outlined below.

Note, Tmux sessions should always run on one of the headnodes and never on the computer nodes themsleves. This is important since Tmux sessions are persistent meaning they don't close automatically when a computer job finishes. Thus, they are not controlled by the queueing system.

To check the environment of R session, one can execute the following commands from R. The first line returns the node name of the R session.

```
system("hostname") # should return name of a compute node starting with i or c
getwd() # checks current working directory of R session
dir() # returns content of current working directory
```

Required packages and resources

The systemPipeR package needs to be loaded to perform the analysis steps shown in this report (H Backman and Girke 2016).

```
library(systemPipeR)
```

If applicable load custom functions not provided by

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

Experiment definition provided by targets file

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

```
targetspath <- system.file("extdata", "targets.txt", package="systemPipeR")
targets <- read.delim(targetspath, comment.char = "#")[,1:4]
targets</pre>
```

```
##
                      FileName SampleName Factor SampleLong
## 1
      ./data/SRR446027 1.fastq
                                                M1 Mock.1h.A
                                       M1A
      ./data/SRR446028_1.fastq
                                       M<sub>1</sub>B
                                                M1 Mock.1h.B
      ./data/SRR446029_1.fastq
## 3
                                       A1A
                                                Α1
                                                     Avr.1h.A
## 4
      ./data/SRR446030_1.fastq
                                       A1B
                                                Α1
                                                     Avr.1h.B
## 5
      ./data/SRR446031 1.fastq
                                       V1A
                                                V1
                                                     Vir.1h.A
      ./data/SRR446032_1.fastq
                                       V<sub>1</sub>B
                                                V1
                                                     Vir.1h.B
## 7
      ./data/SRR446033_1.fastq
                                       M6A
                                                M6
                                                    Mock.6h.A
     ./data/SRR446034_1.fastq
## 8
                                       M6B
                                                M6
                                                    Mock.6h.B
## 9 ./data/SRR446035_1.fastq
                                       A6A
                                                A6
                                                     Avr.6h.A
## 10 ./data/SRR446036_1.fastq
                                       A6B
                                                A6
                                                     Avr.6h.B
## 11 ./data/SRR446037 1.fastq
                                       V6A
                                                ۷6
                                                     Vir.6h.A
## 12 ./data/SRR446038_1.fastq
                                       V6B
                                                ۷6
                                                     Vir.6h.B
## 13 ./data/SRR446039_1.fastq
                                      M12A
                                               M12 Mock.12h.A
## 14 ./data/SRR446040_1.fastq
                                      M12B
                                               M12 Mock.12h.B
## 15 ./data/SRR446041_1.fastq
                                      A12A
                                               A12 Avr.12h.A
## 16 ./data/SRR446042_1.fastq
                                               A12 Avr.12h.B
                                      A12B
## 17 ./data/SRR446043 1.fastq
                                      V12A
                                               V12 Vir.12h.A
## 18 ./data/SRR446044_1.fastq
                                      V12B
                                               V12 Vir.12h.B
```

Read preprocessing

Read quality filtering and trimming

The function preprocessReads allows to apply predefined or custom read preprocessing functions to all FASTQ files referenced in a SYSargs container, such as quality filtering or adaptor trimming routines. The following example performs adaptor trimming with the trimLRPatterns function from the Biostrings package. After the trimming step a new targets file is generated (here targets_trim.txt) containing the paths to the trimmed FASTQ files. The new targets file can be used for the next workflow step with an updated SYSargs instance, e.g. running the NGS alignments using the trimmed FASTQ files.

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.

Figure 1: FASTQ quality report for 18 samples

Alignments

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).

Read mapping with HISAT2

Check whether all BAM files have been created

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

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)
write.table(read statsDF, "results/alignStats.xls", row.names=FALSE, quote=FALSE, sep="\t")</pre>
```

The following shows the alignment statistics for a sample file provided by the systemPipeR package.

```
read.table(system.file("extdata", "alignStats.xls", package="systemPipeR"), header=TRUE)[1:4,]
```

```
FileName Nreads2x Nalign Perc_Aligned Nalign_Primary Perc_Aligned_Primary
##
## 1
         M1A
              192918 177961
                                  92.24697
                                                   177961
                                                                      92.24697
## 2
                                                                      80.70426
         M1B
              197484 159378
                                  80.70426
                                                   159378
                                  92.72397
## 3
          A1A
              189870 176055
                                                   176055
                                                                      92.72397
                                  78.24457
## 4
          A1B
               188854 147768
                                                   147768
                                                                      78.24457
```

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 in the results directory.

Read quantification

Read counting with summarizeOverlaps 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 directory of this project.

```
library("GenomicFeatures"); library(BiocParallel)
txdb <- makeTxDbFromGFF(file="data/tair10.gff", format="gff", dataSource="TAIR", organism="Arabidopsis
saveDb(txdb, file="./data/tair10.sqlite")
txdb <- loadDb("./data/tair10.sqlite")</pre>
(align <- readGAlignments(outpaths(args)[1])) # Demonstrates how to read bam file into R
eByg <- exonsBy(txdb, by=c("gene"))
bfl <- BamFileList(outpaths(args), yieldSize=50000, index=character())</pre>
counteByg <- summarizeOverlaps(eByg, bfl, mode="Union",</pre>
                                                 ignore.strand=TRUE,
                                                 # preprocess.reads=invertStrand,
                            inter.feature=FALSE,
                                                 singleEnd=TRUE)
countDFeByg <- assays(counteByg)$counts</pre>
rpkmDFeByg <- apply(countDFeByg, 2, function(x) returnRPKM(counts=x, ranges=eByg))</pre>
write.table(countDFeByg, "results/countDFeByg.xls", col.names=NA, quote=FALSE, sep="\t")
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.

Sample-wise correlation analysis

The following computes the sample-wise Spearman correlation coefficients from the rlog transformed 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 (also see file 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(dist(1-d))
pdf("results/sample_tree.pdf")</pre>
```

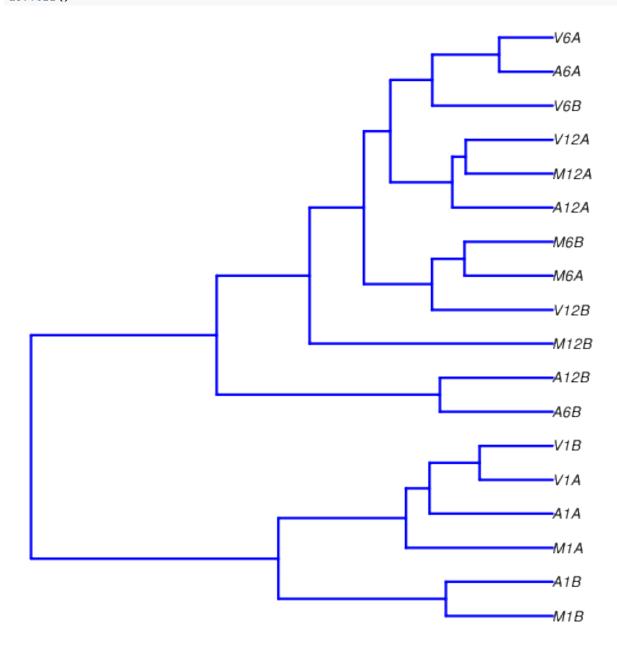


Figure 2: Correlation dendrogram of samples

Analysis of DEGs

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

Run edgeR

```
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="")

Add gene descriptions
library("biomaRt")
m <- useMart("plants_mart", dataset="athaliana_eg_gene", host="plants.ensembl.org")
desc <- getBM(attributes=c("tair_locus", "description"), mart=m)
desc <- desc[!duplicated(desc[,1]),]
descv <- as.character(desc[,2]); names(descv) <- as.character(desc[,1])
edgeDF <- data.frame(edgeDF, Desc=descv[rownames(edgeDF)], check.names=FALSE)
write.table(edgeDF, "./results/edgeRglm_allcomp.xls", quote=FALSE, sep="\t", col.names = NA)</pre>
```

Plot DEG results

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=20))
dev.off()
write.table(DEG_list$Summary, "./results/DEGcounts.xls", quote=FALSE, sep="\t", row.names=FALSE)</pre>
```

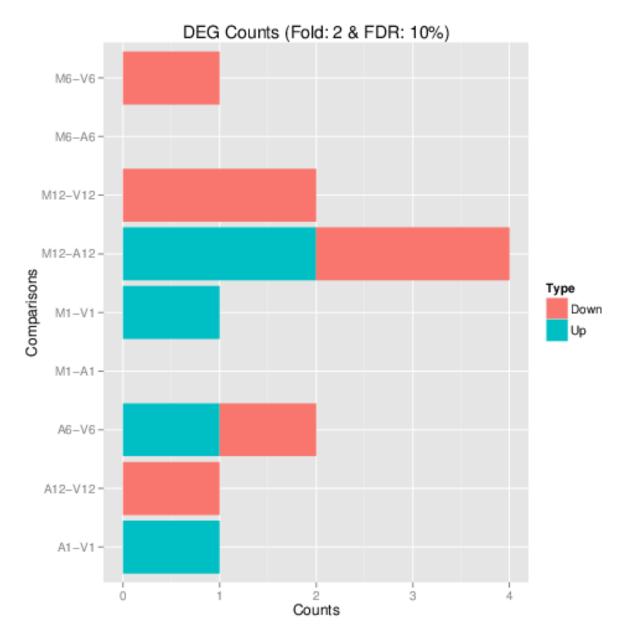


Figure 3: Up and down regulated DEGs with FDR of 1%

Venn diagrams of DEG sets

The overLapper function can compute Venn intersects for large numbers of sample sets (up to 20 or more) and plots 2-5 way Venn diagrams. A useful feature is the possibility 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>
```

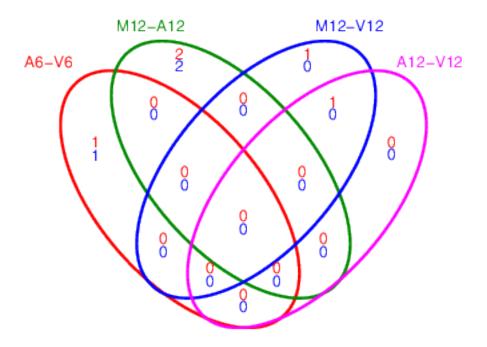


Figure 4: Venn Diagram for 4 Up and Down DEG Sets

GO term enrichment analysis

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
listMarts(host="plants.ensembl.org")
```

```
m <- useMart("plants_mart", host="plants.ensembl.org")
listDatasets(m)
m <- useMart("plants_mart", dataset="athaliana_eg_gene", host="plants.ensembl.org")
listAttributes(m) # Choose data types you want to download
go <- getBM(attributes=c("go_id", "tair_locus", "namespace_1003"), mart=m)
go <- go[go[,3]!="",]; go[,3] <- as.character(go[,3])
go[go[,3]=="molecular_function", 3] <- "F"; go[go[,3]=="biological_process", 3] <- "P"; go[go[,3]=="cel
go[1:4,]
dir.create("./data/GO")
write.table(go, "data/GO/GOannotationsBiomart_mod.txt", quote=FALSE, row.names=FALSE, col.names=FALSE,
catdb <- makeCATdb(myfile="data/GO/GOannotationsBiomart_mod.txt", lib=NULL, org="", colno=c(1,2,3), idc
save(catdb, file="data/GO/catdb.RData")</pre>
```

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 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.

```
library("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, cut library("biomaRt")
m <- useMart("plants_mart", dataset="athaliana_eg_gene", host="plants.ensembl.org")
goslimvec <- as.character(getBM(attributes=c("goslim_goa_accession"), mart=m)[,1])
BatchResultslim <- GOCluster_Report(catdb=catdb, setlist=DEGlist, method="slim", id_type="gene", myslim")</pre>
```

Plot batch GO term results

The data.frame generated by GOCluster 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>
```

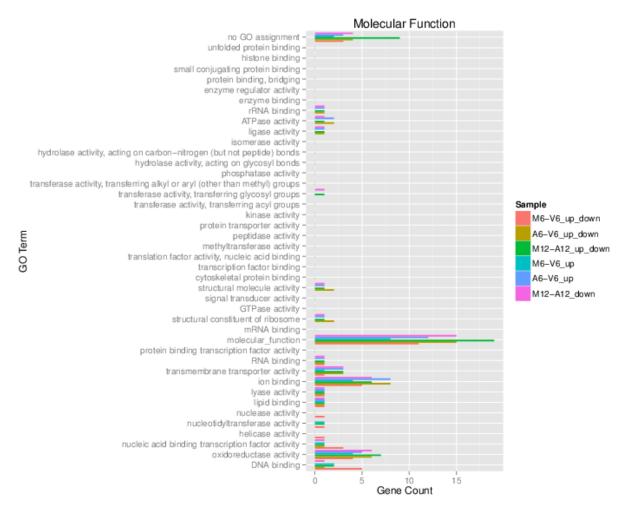


Figure 5: GO Slim Barplot for MF Ontology

Clustering and heat maps

The following example performs hierarchical clustering on the rlog transformed 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"
dev.off()</pre>
```

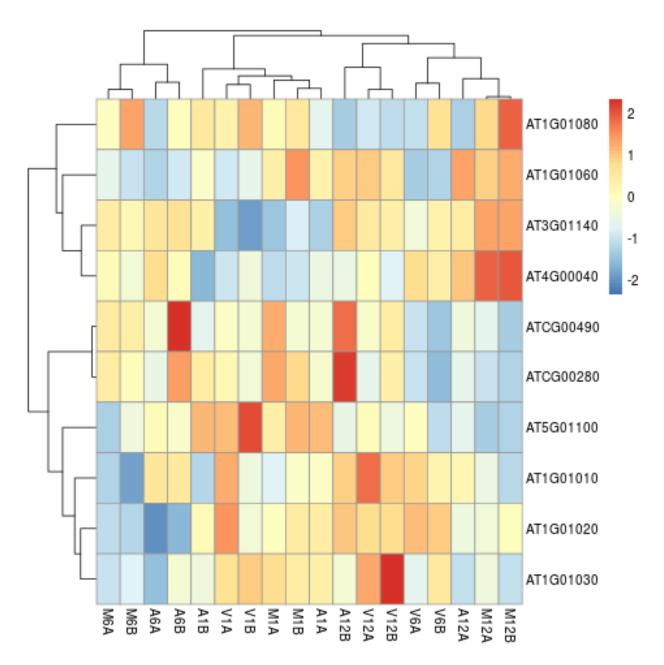


Figure 6: Heat Map with Hierarchical Clustering Dendrograms of DEGs

Version Information

```
## R version 3.4.4 (2018-03-15)
## Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu (64-bit)
## Running under: Ubuntu 16.04.4 LTS
##
## Matrix products: default
```

BLAS: /usr/lib/libblas/libblas.so.3.6.0

```
## LAPACK: /usr/lib/lapack/liblapack.so.3.6.0
##
## locale:
                                    LC_NUMERIC=C
   [1] LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8
                                                                LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8
##
   [4] LC COLLATE=en US.UTF-8
                                    LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8
                                                                LC MESSAGES=en US.UTF-8
   [7] LC PAPER=en US.UTF-8
                                    LC NAME=C
                                                                LC ADDRESS=C
##
## [10] LC_TELEPHONE=C
                                    LC MEASUREMENT=en US.UTF-8 LC IDENTIFICATION=C
##
## attached base packages:
                 parallel methods
## [1] stats4
                                      stats
                                                graphics grDevices utils
                                                                               datasets base
## other attached packages:
##
  [1] ape_5.1
                                    ggplot2_2.2.1
                                                                systemPipeR_1.12.0
   [4] ShortRead_1.36.1
                                    GenomicAlignments_1.14.0
                                                                SummarizedExperiment_1.8.0
  [7] DelayedArray_0.4.0
                                    matrixStats_0.52.2
                                                                Biobase_2.38.0
## [10] BiocParallel_1.12.0
                                    Rsamtools_1.30.0
                                                                Biostrings_2.46.0
## [13] XVector_0.18.0
                                                                GenomeInfoDb_1.14.0
                                    GenomicRanges_1.30.3
## [16] IRanges 2.12.0
                                    S4Vectors_0.16.0
                                                                BiocGenerics_0.24.0
## [19] BiocStyle_2.6.1
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
   [1] nlme 3.1-137
                                Category_2.44.0
                                                         bitops_1.0-6
                                                                                  bit64 0.9-7
   [5] RColorBrewer_1.1-2
                                progress_1.1.2
##
                                                         rprojroot_1.3-2
                                                                                  Rgraphviz_2.22.0
## [9] tools 3.4.4
                                backports 1.1.1
                                                         R6 2.2.2
                                                                                  DBI 0.7
## [13] lazyeval 0.2.1
                                colorspace_1.3-2
                                                         prettyunits_1.0.2
                                                                                  RMySQL_0.10.13
## [17] bit_1.1-12
                                compiler 3.4.4
                                                         sendmailR_1.2-1
                                                                                  graph_1.56.0
## [21] rtracklayer_1.38.3
                                scales_0.5.0
                                                         checkmate_1.8.5
                                                                                  BatchJobs_1.6
## [25] genefilter_1.60.0
                                RBGL_1.54.0
                                                         stringr_1.2.0
                                                                                  digest_0.6.12
## [29] rmarkdown_1.9
                                 AnnotationForge_1.20.0
                                                         base64enc_0.1-3
                                                                                  pkgconfig_2.0.1
## [33] htmltools_0.3.6
                                limma_3.34.0
                                                         rlang_0.2.0
                                                                                  RSQLite_2.0
## [37] BBmisc_1.11
                                GOstats_2.44.0
                                                         hwriter_1.3.2
                                                                                  RCurl_1.95-4.8
## [41] magrittr_1.5
                                GO.db_3.4.2
                                                         GenomeInfoDbData_0.99.1 Matrix_1.2-14
## [45] Rcpp_0.12.13
                                munsell_0.4.3
                                                         stringi_1.1.5
                                                                                  yaml_2.1.14
## [49] edgeR_3.20.1
                                zlibbioc_1.24.0
                                                         fail_1.3
                                                                                  plyr_1.8.4
## [53]
       grid 3.4.4
                                blob 1.1.0
                                                         lattice_0.20-35
                                                                                  splines_3.4.4
                                                                                  knitr_1.20
                                annotate_1.56.0
## [57] GenomicFeatures_1.30.0
                                                         locfit_1.5-9.1
## [61] pillar 1.2.1
                                rjson 0.2.15
                                                         codetools 0.2-15
                                                                                  biomaRt 2.34.0
## [65] XML_3.98-1.9
                                evaluate_0.10.1
                                                                                  gtable_0.2.0
                                                         latticeExtra_0.6-28
## [69] assertthat_0.2.0
                                xtable_1.8-2
                                                                                  tibble_1.4.2
                                                         survival_2.42-3
## [73] pheatmap_1.0.8
                                AnnotationDbi_1.40.0
                                                         memoise_1.1.0
                                                                                  brew_1.0-6
## [77] GSEABase 1.40.0
```

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References

H Backman, Tyler W, and Thomas Girke. 2016. "systemPipeR: NGS workflow and report generation environment." *BMC Bioinformatics* 17 (1): 388. doi:10.1186/s12859-016-1241-0.

Howard, Brian E, Qiwen Hu, Ahmet Can Babaoglu, Manan Chandra, Monica Borghi, Xiaoping Tan, Luyan He, et al. 2013. "High-Throughput RNA Sequencing of Pseudomonas-Infected Arabidopsis Reveals Hidden Transcriptome Complexity and Novel Splice Variants." *PLoS One* 8 (10): e74183. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0074183.

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