Exercises for RNA-seq: Alignment & Counting

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Exercise 1

There's an R function called rowSums() that calculates the sum of each row in a numeric matrix, like the count matrix we have here, and it returns a vector. There's also a function called which.max() that determines the index of the maximum value in a vector. Here's an example of it in action:

Example

```
# Create a temporary data frame called fake
fake <- data.frame(row.names = c("GeneA", "GeneB", "GeneC"),</pre>
                  samp1=c(20,50,40), samp2=c(30,70,50))
# This is what it looks like
fake
##
         samp1 samp2
            20
## GeneA
                  30
## GeneB
            50
                  70
## GeneC
            40
                  50
# Get the rowSums
rowSums(fake)
## GeneA GeneB GeneC
##
      50
           120
                  90
# Get the index of the maximum total value
which.max(rowSums(fake))
```

```
## GeneB
## 2

# Store that index
topGene <- which.max(rowSums(fake))

# Get that row, and all the columns
fake[topGene,]

## samp1 samp2
## GeneB 50 70</pre>
```

Challenge

- 1. Find the gene with the highest expression across all samples remember, each row is a gene.
- 2. Extract the expression data for this gene for all samples.
- 3. In which sample does it have the highest expression?
- 4. What is the function of the gene? Can you suggest why this is the top expressed gene?

Exercise 2

Using the subset() function, print out all the columns where the control mean does not equal 0 and where the UVB mean does not equal zero.

Bonus: code golf – use the fewest characters to get the same solution.

Exercise 3

- 1. Plot the mean expression of each gene in control against the UVB sample mean. Are there any outliers?
- 2. How could you make this plot more informative and look more professional? Hint: try plotting on the log scale and using a different point character.