



# **MVFtools**

*Release 0.5.0*

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## GETTING STARTED

### 1.1 What is MVFtools?

Multisample Variant Format (MVF), is designed for compact storage and efficient analysis of multi-genome and multi-transcriptome datasets. The programs provided in MVFtools support this format, both with conversion utilities, filtering and transformation programs, and data analysis and visualization modules. MVF format is designed specifically for biological data analysis, since sequence data is encoded based on the information content at a particular aligned sequence site. This contextual encoding allows for rapid computation of phylogenetic and population genetic analyses, and small file sizes that enable data sharing and distribution.

### 1.2 How do I cite this ?

Pease JB and BK Rosenzweig. 2015. “Encoding Data Using Biological Principles: the Multisample Variant Format for Phylogenomics and Population Genomics” *IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics*. In press. <http://www.dx.doi.org/10.1109/tcbb.2015.2509997>

Please also include the URL <<https://www.github.com/jbpease/mvftools>> in your methods section where the program is referenced.

### 1.3 Installation

No installation is required, mvftools scripts should work as long as Python3 is installed. The repository can be cloned or downloaded as a .zip file from GitHub.

:: git clone <https://www.github.com/jbpease/mvftools>

Alternatively, you can download MVftools as a .zip file from the github page.

#### 1.3.1 Requirements

- Python 3.x (2.7 should also work, but 3.x recommended) <https://www.python.org/downloads/>

### 1.3.2 Additional Requirements for Some Modules:

- Scipy: (<http://www.scipy.org/>)
- Biopython 1.6+: (<http://www.biopython.org/>),
- Numpy (<http://www.numpy.org/>),
- RAxML 8.x (7.x should also work, but 8.x recommended; <https://sco.h-its.org/exelixis/web/software/raxml/index.html>)
- PAML (<http://abacus.gene.ucl.ac.uk/software/paml.html>)

## 1.4 Preparing your data

### 1.4.1 Sequence Alignment

MVF files can be created from VCF, FASTA, and MAF files using the `ConvertVCF2MVF`, `ConvertFasta2MVF`, or `ConvertMAF2MVF` commands respectively. Once converted to MVF format, analyses and manipulations can be carried out using the rest of the commands in MVFtools.

## 1.5 Basic usage examples

**Case #1: Generate phylogenies from 100kb windows using a VCF data:**

```
python3 mvftools.py ConvertVCF2MVF --vcf DATA.vcf --mvf DATA.mvf
python3 mvftools.py InferWindowTree --mvf DATA.mvf --out WINDOWTREES.txt --
↳windowsize 100000
```

**Case #2: Convert a large FASTA file, then generate window-based counts for DFOIL/D-statistic introgression testing from the first five samples:**

```
python3 mvftools.py ConvertFasta2MVF --fasta DATA.fasta --mvf DATA.mvf
python3 mvftools.py CalcPatternCount --mvf DATA.mvf --out PATTERNS.txt --
↳windowsize 100000 --samples 0,1,2,3,4
```

The file is now ready to use as an input file for with dfoil (<http://www.github.com/jbpease/dfoil>).

## MVF FORMAT SPECIFICATION (VERSION 1.2)

### 2.1 MVF Standard History

#### 2.1.1 MVF standard v1.1.1

Codons and Proteins accommodated

#### 2.1.2 MVF standard v1.2

Dot masking, multi-line header, adoption of “X” in place of “N” for nucleotides, support for non-reference aligned sequences.

### 2.2 MVF General Notes and Usage

#### 2.2.1 General Features

MVF is primarily intended for site-wise analyses in phylogenomics and population genomics. MVF is formatted to contain one aligned site per line, but contains only allelic information, therefore MVF most closely mimics VCF files in formatting, but resembles MAF format in informational content. Additionally, MVF uses special formatting to lower file sizes and speed up filtering and analysis. MVF can readily be adapted from other common sequence formats including VCF, FSATA, and MAF. MVF is also designed to be able to accommodate readily store other information for phylogenomic projects, including tree topologies and sample metadata.

#### 2.2.2 Native Gzip read/write

MVF is designed to work natively with GZIP compression and uses a formatting that attempts to strike a balance between fast filtering, easy visual inspection, while using character patterns that create a good Gzip compression ratio. As long as any input or output file path ends with exactly “.gz”, all MVF scripts will natively read/write to gzip-compressed files.

## 2.2.3 General Notes on Filtering

MVF was specifically designed as a “vertical” format for rapid filtering of *sites* in large-scale phylogenomic analyses. (rather than being “horizontal” to visually show alignment) Therefore, the following should be noted to take advantage of MVF formatting for rapid filtering (i.e. with `grep/zgrep`).

- # is present iff. the line is in the header
- @ is present iff. the position is non-reference
- X is present in the allele string iff. the position has ambiguity data
- #: can quickly filter by chromosome
- :# can quickly filter by coordinate numbers
- Allele strings with one or two characters have full sample coverage (no gaps)
- Allele strings with @[any]+ have coverage=1, [not@][any]+ have coverage=2
- One or two-character allele strings, or notation with [any]+ CANNOT contain homoplasy or synapomorphy (by definition).

## 2.3 Header Specification

All header lines begin with one or more # and contain single-space separated fields.

### 2.3.1 MVF declaration line

First header line always starts with ##mvf, followed by required metadata fields:

- version=1.2
- mvftype=[dna, protein, codon]

and optionally:

- an arbitrary number of metadata fields in key=value format (‘mvftype’ and ‘version’ not allowed as key)

### 2.3.2 Sample information

Sample information (columns) header lines are specified by:

- line starts with #s (“s” for sample) with no leading spaces
- LABEL (must be unique, no spaces)
- an arbitrary number of metadata fields in key=value format (‘label’ not allowed as key)

The first entry should be the reference sequence (if aligned to reference) or can be any sequence in the case of non-reference-aligned de novo alignment).



### 2.3.3 Contig information

Contig information header lines are specified by:

- line starts with #c (“c” for contig)
- CONTIG\_ID (must be unique, alpha-numeric strong recommended, must not contain \* : ; , @ ! + or spaces)
- label=[NAME] (recommended by not required to be unique, no spaces allowed)
- len=[LENGTH] (integer > 0, or zero for unknown)
- ref=[0/1], indicates if contig is reference-based (=1) or not (=0)
- an arbitrary number of metadata fields in key=value format (“label”, “len”, and “ref” not allowed as key)

### 2.3.4 Tree information

Tree information may (optionally) be specified in header lines by:

- line starts with #t (“t” for tree/topology)
- “TREE\_ID=[###]” (must be unique, alpha-numeric)
- TOPOLOGY=[tree\_String] in Newick/Phylip/parenthetical format (must end with ‘;’)
- an arbitrary number of metadata fields in key=value format

To take full advantage of MVF tree storage, use the same sample labels as in the #s header lines

### 2.3.5 Notes

General project notes may (optionally) be specified in the header lines by:

- line starts with #n (“n” for notes)
- Text is unstructured and is not necessarily formatted as metadata

### 2.3.6 Example Header

```
:: ##mvf version=1.2 mvftype=[MVFTYPE] #s SAMPLE0 meta0=somevalue meta1=0 ... #s SAMPLE1 meta0=somethingele meta1=1 ... #s SAMPLE2 meta0=somesome meta1=0 ... ... #c 0 label=CONTIG0 length=100 ref=1 meta0=somevalue ... #c 1 label=CONTIG1 length=200 ref=0 meta0=someother ... ... #t 0 ((SAMPLE0,SAMPLE1),SAMPLE2); model=GTRGAMMA software=RAxML #t 1 ((SAMPLE2,SAMPLE0),SAMPLE1); model=GTRGAMMA software=RAxML partition=chrom1 ... #n Notes on this project.
```

## 2.4 Entry Specification

---

**Note:** all examples show an MVF entry with REF and four samples

---

Entries are structured as two space-separated columns:

```
ID:POSITION ALLELES [ALLELES ALLELES ...]
```

- `ID:POSITION` = chromosomal id matching the first element of a contig in the `#c` header element
- `POSITION` = 1-based position on the contig with matching `CONTIG_ID`
- `ALLELES` = one or more records of alleles at reference-based location specified by `ID:POSITION` and matching the formatting below

### 2.4.1 For `mvftype=codon`

- Allele columns are `PROTEIN DNA1 DNA2 DNA3` where the three DNA columns represent three codon positions in collated form
- Position is the position of the lowest numbered codon position (regardless of transcript strand) and `DNA1/2/3` codon columns are given in order to match the protein (again regardless of transcript orientation)

### 2.4.2 Allele formatting

---

**Note:** all examples show an MVF entry with five samples.

---

For reference-anchored contigs, the first allele is assumed to be the “reference” allele by default. Each entry must either (1) contain the same number of characters as sample labels specified in the header or (2) use one of the special cases in the section below.

`ATCTG` = (REF is ‘A’ samples 1&3 are ‘T’, sample 2 is ‘C’, sample 4 is ‘G’)

### 2.4.3 Special cases

---

**Note:** all examples show an MVF entry with five samples

---

### 2.4.4 Invariant sites

When all alleles are both present (non-gap) and all the same, this is represented by a single base.

```
A = AAAAA
```

## 2.4.5 Monoallelic non-reference samples

When all alleles in the samples (non-REF) are the same but differ from REF, this is represented by two bases.

AT = ATTTT Aa = Aaaaa

## 2.4.6 Single-variant sites

When only one of the samples varies from the others, this is specified as:

[reference\_base, majority\_base, "+", unique\_base, unique\_position]

This is useful shorthand for both sites with one a single base that differs and samples with only one sample represented. When the site only has coverage via one sample (i.e. all other bases are empty, the ‘-’ is omitted from the second position.

AC+T2 = ACTCC AA+C2 = AACAA -+A2 = --A-- A+A2 = A-A-- A+a2 =  
A-a-- A+C2 = A-C--

## 2.4.7 Non-reference aligned sites

Added in MVF v.1.2, this facilitates using MVF for non-reference aligned sequences (e.g. aligned sets of orthologs from de novo assembled transcripts). These non-reference-anchored alignments can comprise the entire MVF file or be included in addition to reference-aligned contigs. Non-reference-contigs in their header entry should include the keyword “nonref” (see Section 1.3). Contigs labels and coordinates are labelled the same as reference-based entries. To denote that the sequence is non-reference and not simply a deletion in the reference, the character “@” should be the first character of the alignment. In the case an entirely non-reference MVF, all contigs can be labelled as “nonref,” but one sequence should be chosen as the reference for the purposes of the allele string. When this sequence is not present, @ is still used.

@AATT = -AATT @A+T3 = -A-T- @-+A3 = ---A-

## 2.5 Character encoding

### 2.5.1 Nucleotide Notation

- Standard IUPAC nucleotide codes are used: ACGT, and U for uracil in RNA
- Standard IUPAC biallelic ambiguity codes KMRSWY are used also.
- Current MVF formatting does NOT allow triallelic ambiguity codes (BDHV), which are converted to ambiguous (X) instead.
- Current MVF formatting does NOT recognize rare symbols (ISOX, or Phi)
- Ambiguous nucleotide is denoted by X instead of standard N

## 2.5.2 Amino Acid Notation

- Standard IUPAC amino acid codes are used: ACDEFGHIKLMNPQRSTVWY
- Standard stop codon symbol \* is used
- Currently the ambiguous/rare symbols are not recognized (BZ)

## 2.5.3 Use of x for ambiguous nucleotides and amino acids

In standard notation, “N” is used for an ambiguous nucleotide, which could be any of A/C/G/T. However, in amino acid notation N stands for “Asparagine” and is a valid character, while X is used for an ambiguous amino acid. MVF v1.2 adopts X as unified ambiguity character for both nucleotides and proteins for MVF files for two purposes: 1. To create a unified ambiguity character for MVF codon files for faster processing 2. To allow fast filtering of ambiguous lines Also note that while ‘X’ in expanded IUPAC notation refers to ‘xanthosine,’ MVF currently does not support rare nucleotides. .. note:: In all conversion utilities that export from MVF format to another file format conversion to the standard “N”/”X” for ambiguous nucleotides/amino acids should ALWAYS be implemented.

## EXAMPLES OF THE SAME DATA IN MVF FORMAT AND OTHER FORMATS

### 3.1 MVF Format

```
##mvf sourceformat=fasta version=1.2 mvftype=dna ncol=5
#s Hsapiens
#s Ptroglodytes
#s Ppaniscus
#s Ggorilla
#s Mmusculus
#c 1 label=Chromosome1 length=248956422
#n Note: This is an example file showing data formatting
1:100 A
1:101 A
1:102 A
1:103 T
1:104 TT+C4
1:105 GC
1:106 A+A4
1:107 AATTA
1:108 AC+G4
```

### 3.2 FASTA Format

```
>Hsapiens gi:1234 geneid:GeneOfInterest chrom:1 start:100 end:108
AAATTGAAA

>Ptroglodytes geneid:GeneOfInterest
AAATTC-AC

>Ppaniscus geneid:GeneOfInterest
AAATTC-TC

>Ggorilla geneid:GeneOfInterest
AAATTC-TC
```

```
>Mmusculus geneid:GeneOfInterest
AAATCCAAG
```

### 3.3 VCF Format

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.1
##samtoolsVersion=0.1.19-44428cd
##reference=hg19.fa
##contig=<ID=Chromosome1,length=248956422>
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Raw read depth">
##INFO=<ID=DP4,Number=4,Type=Integer,Description="# high-quality ref-forward
↳bases, ref-reverse, alt-forward and alt-reverse bases">
##INFO=<ID=MQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Root-mean-square mapping
↳quality of covering reads">
##INFO=<ID=FQ,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Phred probability of all
↳samples being the same">
##INFO=<ID=AF1,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Max-likelihood estimate of
↳the first ALT allele frequency (assuming HWE)">
##INFO=<ID=AC1,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Max-likelihood estimate of
↳the first ALT allele count (no HWE assumption)">
##INFO=<ID=AN,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total number of alleles in
↳called genotypes">
##INFO=<ID=IS,Number=2,Type=Float,Description="Maximum number of reads
↳supporting an indel and fraction of indel reads">
##INFO=<ID=AC,Number=A,Type=Integer,Description="Allele count in genotypes
↳for each ALT allele, in the same order as listed">
##INFO=<ID=G3,Number=3,Type=Float,Description="ML estimate of genotype
↳frequencies">
##INFO=<ID=HWE,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Chi^2 based HWE test P-value
↳based on G3">
##INFO=<ID=CLR,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Log ratio of genotype
↳likelihoods with and without the constraint">
##INFO=<ID=UGT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="The most probable
↳unconstrained genotype configuration in the trio">
##INFO=<ID=CGT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="The most probable
↳constrained genotype configuration in the trio">
##INFO=<ID=PV4,Number=4,Type=Float,Description="P-values for strand bias,
↳baseQ bias, mapQ bias and tail distance bias">
##INFO=<ID=INDEL,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="Indicates that the variant
↳is an INDEL.">
##INFO=<ID=PC2,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Phred probability of the
↳nonRef allele frequency in group1 samples being larger (,smaller) than in
↳group2.">
##INFO=<ID=PCHI2,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Posterior weighted chi^2 P-
↳value for testing the association between group1 and group2 samples.">
##INFO=<ID=QCHI2,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Phred scaled PCHI2.">
##INFO=<ID=PR,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="# permutations yielding a
↳smaller PCHI2.">
##INFO=<ID=QBD,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Quality by Depth: QUAL/#reads
↳">
```

```

##INFO=<ID=RPB,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Read Position Bias">
##INFO=<ID=MDV,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Maximum number of high-
↳quality nonRef reads in samples">
##INFO=<ID=VDB,Number=1,Type=Float,Description="Variant Distance Bias (v2)
↳for filtering splice-site artefacts in RNA-seq data. Note: this version may
↳be broken.">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=GL,Number=3,Type=Float,Description="Likelihoods for RR,RA,AA
↳genotypes (R=ref,A=alt)">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="# high-quality bases">
##FORMAT=<ID=DV,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="# high-quality non-
↳reference bases">
##FORMAT=<ID=SP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Phred-scaled strand bias P-
↳value">
##FORMAT=<ID=PL,Number=G,Type=Integer,Description="List of Phred-scaled
↳genotype likelihoods">
#CHROM      POS      ID      REF      ALT      QUAL      FILTER      INFO      FORMAT
↳Ptroglydotes Ppaniscus Ggorilla      Mmusculus
ch01    100      .      A      .      30      .      DP=5;AF1=0;AC1=0;DP4=5,
↳0,0,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,
↳40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4
ch01    101      .      A      .      30      .      DP=5;AF1=0;AC1=0;DP4=5,
↳0,0,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,
↳40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4
ch01    102      .      A      .      30      .      DP=5;AF1=0;AC1=0;DP4=5,
↳0,0,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,
↳40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4
ch01    103      .      T      .      32      .      DP=5;AF1=0;AC1=0;DP4=5,
↳0,0,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,
↳40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4
ch01    104      .      T      C      7.61      .      DP=2;VDB=6.720000e-02;
↳AF1=1;AC1=58;DP4=0,0,1,1;MQ=20;FQ=-23.8      GT:PL:DP:GQ      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/
↳0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      1/1:38,6,0:2:4
ch01    105      .      G      C      32.1      .      DP=5;AF1=0;AC1=0;DP4=5,
↳0,0,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      0/0:0,6,
↳40:2:4      1/1:38,6,0:2:4
ch01    106      .      A      .      30      .      DP=5;AF1=0;AC1=0;DP4=5,
↳0,0,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0:0      0:0      0:0      0/0:0,6,40:2:4
ch01    107      .      A      T      24.4      .      DP=5;AF1=1;AC1=58;DP4=0,
↳0,1,0;MQ=20;FQ=-23.4      PL:DP      0/0:0,6,40:2:4      1/1:38,6,0:2:4      1/1:38,6,
↳0:2:4      0/0:0,6,40:2:4
ch01    108      .      A      C,G      999      .      DP=52;VDB=6.361343e-02;
↳RPB=-1.264051e+00;AF1=0.9325;AC1=54;DP4=0,2,20,26;MQ=20;FQ=-16.1;PV4=0.5,1,
↳1,1      GT:PL:DP:GQ      1/1:20,3,0,20,3,20:1:11      1/1:36,6,0,36,6,36:2:13      1/
↳1:36,6,0,36,6,36:2:13      1/1:95,95,95,18,18,0:6:8

```





## PROGRAM PARAMETER DESCRIPTIONS

### 4.1 AnnotateMVF

#### 4.1.1 Description

None

#### 4.1.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--filter-annotation/--filterannotation**

**Description:** Skip entries in the GFF file that contain this string in their 'Notes'

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--gff**

**Description:** Input gff annotation file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--line-buffer/--linebuffer**

**Description:** Number of entries to store in memory at a time.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

**--nongenic-margin/--nongenicmargin**

**Description:** for --unannotated-mode, only retain positions that are this number of bp away from an annotated region boundary

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 0

**--nongenic-mode/--nongenicmode**

**Description:** Instead of returning annotated genes, return the non-genic regions without without changing contigs or coordinates

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

## 4.2 ConvertFasta2MVF

### 4.2.1 Description

None

### 4.2.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--fasta (required)**

**Description:** input FASTA file(s)

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** output MVF file

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--contig-by-file/--contigbyfile**

**Description:** Contigs are designated by separate files.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--contig-field/--contigfield**

**Description:** When headers are split by --field-sep, the 0-based index of the contig id.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

**--contig-ids/--contigids**

**Description:** manually specify one or more contig ids as ID:NAME

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--field-sep/--fieldsep**

**Description:** FASTA field separator; assumes '>database accession locus' format

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**Choices:** ['TAB', 'SPACE', 'DBLSPACE', 'COMMA', 'MIXED', 'PIPE', 'AT', 'UNDER', 'DBLUNDER']

**--flavor**

**Description:** type of file [dna] or protein

**Type:** None; **Default:** dna

**Choices:** ['dna', 'protein']

`--manual-coord/--manualcoord`

**Description:** manually specify reference coordinates for each file in the format CONTIGID:START..STOP, ...

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--overwrite`

**Description:** USE WITH CAUTION: force overwrite of outputs

**Type:** boolean flag

`--quiet`

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

`--read-buffer/--readbuffer`

**Description:** number of lines to hold in READ buffer

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

`--ref-label/--reflabel`

**Description:** label for reference sample

**Type:** None; **Default:** REF

`--sample-field/--samplefield`

**Description:** when headers are split by `-field-sep`, the 0-based index of the sample id

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

`--sample-replace/--samplereplace`

**Description:** one or more `TAG:NEWLABEL` or `TAG`, items, if `TAG` found in sample label, replace with `NEW` (or `TAG` if `NEW` not specified) `NEW` and `TAG` must each be unique

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**`--write-buffer/--writebuffer`**

**Description:** number of lines to hold in WRITE buffer

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

## 4.3 ConvertMAF2MVF

### 4.3.1 Description

None

### 4.3.2 Parameters

**`-h/--help`**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**`--maf (required)`**

**Description:** input MAF file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**`--out (required)`**

**Description:** output MVF file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**`--sample-tags/--sampletags (required)`**

**Description:** one or more `TAG:NEWLABEL` or `TAG`, items, if `TAG` found in sample label, replace with `NEW` (or `TAG` if `NEW` not specified) `NEW` and `TAG` must each be unique.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**`--line-buffer/--linebuffer`**

**Description:** Number of entries to store in memory at a time.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

**--mvf-ref-label/--mvfreflabel**

**Description:** new label for reference sample (default='REF')

**Type:** None; **Default:** REF

**--overwrite**

**Description:** USE WITH CAUTION: force overwrite of outputs

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--ref-tag/--reftag**

**Description:** old reference tag

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

## 4.4 ConvertMVF2Fasta

### 4.4.1 Description

None

### 4.4.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output path of FASTA file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--buffer**

**Description:** size (Mbp) of write buffer for each sample

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 10

**--label-type/--labeltype**

**Description:** Long labels with all metadata or short ids

**Type:** None; **Default:** long

**Choices:** ('long', 'short')

**--output-data/--outputdata**

**Description:** Output dna, rna or prot data.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**Choices:** ('dna', 'rna', 'prot')

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--regions**

**Description:** Path of a plain text file containing one more lines with entries 'contigid,stop,start' (one per line, inclusive coordinates) all data will be returned if left blank.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--temp_dir/--tempdir`

**Description:** directory to write temporary fasta files

**Type:** None; **Default:** .

## 4.5 ConvertMVF2Phylip

### 4.5.1 Description

None

### 4.5.2 Parameters

`-h/--help`

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

`--mvf (required)`

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

`--out (required)`

**Description:** Output Phylip file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

`--buffer`

**Description:** size (bp) of write buffer for each sample

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

`--contigs`

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of contigs.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None



**--label-type/--labeltype**

**Description:** Long labels with all metadata or short ids

**Type:** None; **Default:** short

**Choices:** ('long', 'short')

**--output-data/--outputdata**

**Description:** Output dna, rna or prot data.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**Choices:** ('dna', 'rna', 'prot')

**--partition**

**Description:** Output a CSV partitions file with RAxMLformatting for use in partitioned phylogenetic methods.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--regions**

**Description:** Path of a plain text file containing one more lines with entries 'contigid,stop,start' (one per line, inclusive coordinates) all data will be returned if left blank.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--temp\_dir/--tempdir**

**Description:** directory to write temporary fasta files

**Type:** None; **Default:** .

## 4.6 ConvertVCF2MVF

### 4.6.1 Description

None

### 4.6.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--out (required)**

**Description:** output MVF file

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--alleles-from/--allelesfrom**

**Description:** get additional alignment columns from INFO fields (:-separated)

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--contig-ids/--contigids**

**Description:** manually specify one or more contig ids as ID;VCFLABE;MVFLABEL, note that VCFLABEL must match EXACTLY the contig string labels in the VCF file

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--field-sep/--fieldsep**

**Description:** VCF field separator (default='TAB')

**Type:** None; **Default:** TAB

**Choices:** ['TAB', 'SPACE', 'DBLSPACE', 'COMMA', 'MIXED']

**--line-buffer/--linebuffer**

**Description:** Number of entries to store in memory at a time.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

**--low-depth/--lowdepth**

**Description:** below this read depth coverage, convert to lower case set to 0 to disable

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 3

**--low-qual/--lowqual**

**Description:** below this quality convert to lower case set to 0 to disable

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 20

**--mask-depth/--maskdepth**

**Description:** below this read depth mask with N/n

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 1

**--mask-qual/--maskqual**

**Description:** low quality cutoff, bases replaced by N/- set to 0 to disable

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 3

**--no-autoindex/--noautoindex**

**Description:** do not automatically index contigs from the VCF

**Type:** boolean flag

**--out-flavor/--outflavor**

**Description:** choose output MVF flavor to include quality scores and/or indels

**Type:** None; **Default:** dna

**Choices:** ['dna', 'dnaqual', 'dnaqual-indel', 'dna-indel']

**--overwrite**

**Description:** USE WITH CAUTION: force overwrite of outputs

**Type:** boolean flag

`--qual`

**Description:** Include Phred genotype quality (GQ) scores

**Type:** boolean flag

`--quiet`

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

`--ref-label/--reflabel`

**Description:** label for reference sample (default='REF')

**Type:** None; **Default:** REF

`--sample-replace/--samplereplace`

**Description:** one or more `TAG:NEWLABEL` or TAG, items, if TAG found in sample label, replace with NEW (or TAG if NEW not specified) NEW and TAG must each be unique

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--vcf`

**Description:** VCF input file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

## 4.7 CalcCharacterCount

### 4.7.1 Description

None

### 4.7.2 Parameters

`-h/--help`

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--base-match/--basematch**

**Description:** String of bases to match (i.e. numerator).

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--base-total/--basetotal**

**Description:** String of bases for total (i.e. denominator).

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--contigs**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of contigs.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--mincoverage**

**Description:** Minimum sample coverage for sites.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

## 4.8 CalcDstatCombinations

### 4.8.1 Description

None

### 4.8.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--contigs**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of contigs.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

## 4.9 CalcPairwiseDistances

### 4.9.1 Description

None

### 4.9.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--mincoverage**

**Description:** Minimum sample coverage for sites.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

## 4.10 CalcPatternCount

### 4.10.1 Description

None

### 4.10.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--mincoverage**

**Description:** Minimum sample coverage for sites.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None



## 4.11 CalcSampleCoverage

### 4.11.1 Description

None

### 4.11.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--contigs**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of contigs.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

## 4.12 CheckMVF

### 4.12.1 Description

None

### 4.12.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

## 4.13 FilterMVF

### 4.13.1 Description

None

### 4.13.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--actions**

**Description:** set of actions:args to perform, note these are done in order as listed

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--labels**

**Description:** use sample labels instead of indices

**Type:** boolean flag

**--line-buffer/--linebuffer**

**Description:** Number of entries to store in memory at a time.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

**--more-help/--morehelp**

**Description:** prints full module list and descriptions

**Type:** boolean flag

**--overwrite**

**Description:** USE WITH CAUTION: force overwrite of outputs

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--test**

**Description:** manually input a line for testing

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--test-nchar/--textnchar`

**Description:** total number of samples for test string

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

`--verbose`

**Description:** report every line (for debugging)

**Type:** boolean flag

## 4.14 InferGroupSpecificAllele

### 4.14.1 Description

None

### 4.14.2 Parameters

`-h/--help`

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

`--mvf (required)`

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

`--out (required)`

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

`--all-sample-trees/--allsampletrees`

**Description:** Makes trees from all samples instead of only the most complete sequence from each species

**Type:** boolean flag

**--allele-groups/--allelegroups**

**Description:** GROUP1:LABEL,LABEL GROUP2:LABEL,LABEL

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--branch-lrt/--branchlrt**

**Description:** Specify the output file for and turn on the RAxML-PAML format LRT test scan for selection on the target branch in addition to the basic patterns scan

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--chi-test/--chitest**

**Description:** Input two number values for expected Nonsynonymous and Synonymous expected values.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--codeml-path/--codemlpath**

**Description:** Full path for PAML codeml executable.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** codeml

**--contigs**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of contigs.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--end-contig/--endcontig**

**Description:** Numerical id for the ending contig.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000000

**--gff**

**Description:** Input gff annotation file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--mincoverage**

**Description:** Minimum sample coverage for sites.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

**--num-target-species/--targetspect**

**Description:** Specify the minimum number of taxa in the target set that are required to conduct analysis

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 1

**--outgroup**

**Description:** Specify sample name with which to root trees.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--output-align/--outputalign**

**Description:** Output alignment to this file path in phylip format.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--paml-tmp/--pamltmp**

**Description:** path for temporary folder for PAML output files

**Type:** file path; **Default:** pamltmp

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--raxml-path/--raxmlpath**

**Description:** Full path to RAxML program executable.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** raxml

**--samples**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**`--species-groups/--speciesgroups`**

**Description:** None

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**`--start-contig/--startcontig`**

**Description:** Numerical ID for the starting contig.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 0

**`--target`**

**Description:** Specify the taxa labels that define the target lineage-specific branch to be tested.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**`--use-labels/--uselabels`**

**Description:** Use contig labels instead of IDs in output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**`--verbose`**

**Description:** additional screen output

**Type:** boolean flag

## 4.15 InferTree

### 4.15.1 Description

None

### 4.15.2 Parameters

**`-h/--help`**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--bootstrap**

**Description:** turn on rapid bootstrapping for RAxML and perform specified number of replicates

**Type:** integer; **Default:** None

**--choose-allele/--chooseallele/--hapmode**

**Description:** Chooses how heterozygous alleles are handled. (none=no splitting (default); randomone=pick one allele randomly (recommended); randomboth=pick two alleles randomly, but keep both; major=pick the more common allele; minor=pick the less common allele; majorminor= pick the major in 'a' and minor in 'b')

**Type:** None; **Default:** none

**Choices:** ['none', 'randomone', 'randomboth', 'major', 'minor', 'majorminor']

**--contigs**

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of contigs.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--duplicate-seq/--duplicateseq**

**Description:** dontuse=remove duplicate sequences prior to RAxML tree inference, then add them to the tree manually as zero-branch-length sister taxa; keep=keep in for RAxML tree inference (may cause errors for RAxML); remove=remove entirely from alignment

**Type:** None; **Default:** dontuse

**Choices:** ['dontuse', 'keep', 'remove']



**--min-depth/--mindepth**

**Description:** minimum number of alleles per site

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 4

**--min-seq-coverage/--minseqcoverage**

**Description:** proportion of total alignment a sequence must cover to be retained [0.1]

**Type:** float; **Default:** 0.1

**--min-sites/--minsites**

**Description:** minimum number of sites

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100

**--output-contig-labels/--outputcontiglabels**

**Description:** Output will use contig labels instead of id numbers.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--output-empty/--outputempty**

**Description:** Include entries of windows with no data in output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--raxml-model/--raxmlmodel**

**Description:** choose RAxML model

**Type:** None; **Default:** GTRGAMMA

**--raxml-opts/--raxmlopts**

**Description:** specify additional RAxML arguments as a double-quotes encased string

**Type:** None; **Default:**

`--raxml-outgroups/--raxmloutgroups`

**Description:** Comma-separated list of outgroup taxon labels to use in RAxML.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--raxml-path/--raxmlpath`

**Description:** RAxML path for manual specification.

**Type:** None; **Default:** raxml

`--root-with/--rootwith`

**Description:** Comma-separated list of taxon labels to root trees with after RAxML

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--samples`

**Description:** Specify comma-separated list of samples, Leave blank for all samples.

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

`--temp-dir/--tempdir`

**Description:** Temporary directory path

**Type:** file path; **Default:** ./raxmltemp

`--temp-prefix/--tempprefix`

**Description:** Temporary file prefix

**Type:** None; **Default:** mvftree

## 4.16 JoinMVF

### 4.16.1 Description

None

### 4.16.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** One or more mvf files.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--line-buffer/--linebuffer**

**Description:** Number of entries to store in memory at a time.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

**--main\_header\_file/--mainheaderfile**

**Description:** Output file will use same headers as this input file (default=first in list).

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--new-contigs/--newcontigs**

**Description:** By default, contigs are matched between files using their text labels in the header. Use this option to turn matching off and treat each file's contigs as distinct.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--newsamples**

**Description:** By default, samples are matched between files using their text labels in the header. Use this option to turn matching off and treat each file's sample columns as distinct.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--overwrite**

**Description:** USE WITH CAUTION: force overwrite of outputs

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

## 4.17 PlotChromoplot

### 4.17.1 Description

None

### 4.17.2 Parameters

**-h/--help**

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

**--mvf (required)**

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--outgroup (required)**

**Description:** 1 or more outgroups to use for quartets, as comma-separated list

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--samples (required)**

**Description:** 3 or more taxa to use for quartets, comma-separated labels

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--colors**

**Description:** three colors to use for chromoplot

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**Choices:** { 'lgrey': (250, 250, 250), 'dgrey': (192, 192, 192), 'black': (0, 0, 0), 'white': (255, 255, 255), 'red': (192, 0, 0), 'orange': (217, 95, 2), 'yellow': (192, 192, 0), 'green': (0, 192, 0), 'blue': (0, 0, 192), 'teal': (27, 158, 119), 'puce': (117, 112, 179), 'purple': (192, 0, 192), 'none': () }

**--contigs**

**Description:** Enter the ids of one or more contigs in the order they will appear in the chromoplot (as comma-separated list)(defaults to all ids in order present in MVF)

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--empty-mask/--emptymask**

**Description:** Mask empty regions with this color.

**Type:** None; **Default:** none

**Choices:** { 'lgrey': (250, 250, 250), 'dgrey': (192, 192, 192), 'black': (0, 0, 0), 'white': (255, 255, 255), 'red': (192, 0, 0), 'orange': (217, 95, 2), 'yellow': (192, 192, 0), 'green': (0, 192, 0), 'blue': (0, 0, 192), 'teal': (27, 158, 119), 'puce': (117, 112, 179), 'purple': (192, 0, 192), 'none': () }

**--info-track/--infotrack**

**Description:** Include an additional coverage information track that will show empty, uninformative, and informative loci. (Useful for ranscriptomes/RAD or other reduced sampling.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--majority**

**Description:** Plot only 100% shading in the majority track rather than shaded proportions in all tracks.

**Type:** boolean flag

**--out-prefix/--outprefix**

**Description:** Output prefix (not required).

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

### `--plot-type/--plottype`

**Description:** PNG image (default) or graph via matplotlib (experimental)

**Type:** None; **Default:** image

**Choices:** ['graph', 'image']

### `--quiet`

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag

### `--xscale`

**Description:** Width (in number of pixels) for each window

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 1

### `--yscale`

**Description:** Height (in number of pixels) for each track

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 20

## 4.18 TranslateMVF

### 4.18.1 Description

None

### 4.18.2 Parameters

#### `-h/--help`

**Description:** show this help message and exit

**Type:** boolean flag

#### `--mvf (required)`

**Description:** Input MVF file.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--out (required)**

**Description:** Output file

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--filter-annotation/--filterannotation**

**Description:** skip GFF entries with text matching this in their 'Notes' field

**Type:** None; **Default:** None

**--gff**

**Description:** Input GFF3 file. If GFF3 not provided, alignments are assumed to be in-frame coding sequences.

**Type:** file path; **Default:** None

**--line-buffer/--linebuffer**

**Description:** Number of entries to store in memory at a time.

**Type:** integer; **Default:** 100000

**--output-data/--outputdata**

**Description:** protein=single data column of protein alleles; codon=four columns with: protein frame1 frame2 frame3

**Type:** None; **Default:** codon

**Choices:** ['protein', 'codon']

**--overwrite**

**Description:** USE WITH CAUTION: force overwrite of outputs

**Type:** boolean flag

**--quiet**

**Description:** Suppress screen output.

**Type:** boolean flag





## MVF\_FILTER MODULES

### 5.1 GENERAL NOTES

mvf\_filter is a script that processes an MVF file using a variety of modules that can be used in any combination of orders. There are three types of actions:

- Transformations: alter the character strings and may remove empty entries
- Filters: remove entries that meet specific criteria
- Location: remove entries based on their genomic location

Modules can be used in any order and as many as you like. However, this means that when multiple transformations are used any changes to the column numbering must be accounted for. For example, if you want to remove columns 3 and then 5, you have to specify this as “columns:0,1,2,4,5 columns:0,1,2,3” since after the first transformation column 5 would become the new column 4.

### 5.2 allelegroup

This filter requires that all members of each group contain valid alleles. The groups are specified by a series of colon-separated groups of comma-separated columns.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: allelegroup:1,2,3:4,5,6
EXAMPLE #1 AA-AATA --> *retained* (first and second group both have alleles)
EXAMPLE #2 A-X-ATA --> *filtered out* (first group does not have valid
↪alleles)
EXAMPLE #3 AACCC--- --> *filtered out* (second group does not have valid
↪alleles)
```

### 5.3 collapsepriority

This transformation will combine the alleles from several columns using a priority ranked order. This is useful for collapsing low-coverage samples into a single combined sample column. The columns are specified after the colon using comma-separated integers (or text labels with the -labels option).

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: collapsepriority:2,3,4
EXAMPLE #1 ABCDE --> ABC    (column 3 present, so column 3 used)
EXAMPLE #2 AB-DE --> ABD    (column 3 is a gap, so column 4 used)
EXAMPLE #3 ABX-E --> ABE    (column 3 is ambig, 4 is gap, so column 5 used.)
```

## 5.4 collapsemerge

This transformation combines alleles from several columns into a single representative allele. This is useful for combining haplotypes or population samples. The columns are specified after the colon using comma-separated integers (or text labels with the `-labels` option).

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: collapsemerge:2,3,4
EXAMPLE #1 AACAA --> AAM (CAA becomes ambiguity code 'M')
EXAMPLE #2 AACAG --> AAX (CAG would be 'V'. However, X is used since
↳triallelic is not allowed in MVF.
EXAMPLE #3 AAT-T --> AAT (both non-gap columns are 'T' so T is just used.)
```

## 5.5 columns

This transformation returns only the specified columns. The columns are specified after the colon using comma-separated integers (or text labels with the `-labels` option).

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: columns:1,3
EXAMPLE #1 ABCDE --> BD    (columns 1 and 3 are returned)
EXAMPLE #2 A-C-E --> [filtered out] (Since there is no data in columns 1 and
↳3.)
```

## 5.6 maskchar

This transformation will replace the specified character(s) with “X”. Characters to be masked are specified after the column as a comma-separated list of single characters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: maskchar:K,M
EXAMPLE #1: AAKA --> AAXA
EXAMPLE #2: AAMX --> AAXX
```

## 5.7 masklower

This transformation will replace all lower case characters with “X”. This takes no paramters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: masklower
EXAMPLE #1: AaTa --> AXTX
EXAMPLE #2: aaaa --> XXXX
```

## 5.8 mincoverage

This filter will remove entries with fewer non-gap/ambiguous alleles than the specified cutoff. This is useful before conducting scans (such as phylogenetic scans or chromoplots ) that require a minimum number of taxa. The action is specified by a single integer after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: mincoverage:3
EXAMPLE #1: A--A --> *filtered out* (coverage = 2)
EXAMPLE #2: AA-A --> *retained* (coverage = 3)
```

## 5.9 “notchar

This filter will remove entries with any of the specified characters. This can be useful for removing entries with ambiguous characters or missing data. Note that these are *case sensitive* so lower-case characters should be entered alongside upper-case when both are filtered. The action is specified by one or more comma-separated characters after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: notchar:X,K,M
EXAMPLE #1: AK-X --> *filtered out* (contains K and X)
EXAMPLE #2: AA-A --> *retained* (contains none of specific characters)
```

## 5.10 promotelower

This transformation will change all lower-case characters to upper-case. This takes no parameters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: promotelower
EXAMPLE #1: AaTa --> AATA
EXAMPLE #2: aaaa --> AAAA
```

## 5.11 removelower

This transformation will change all lower-case characters to gaps. This action takes no parameters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: removelower
EXAMPLE #1: AaTa --> A-T-
EXAMPLE #2: aaaa --> ----
```

## 5.12 removechar

This transformation will change all instances of the specified characters to gaps. Characters are *case sensitive*. The action is specified by one or more comma-separated characters after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: removechar:a
EXAMPLE #1: AaTa --> A-T-
EXAMPLE #2: aaaa --> ----
```

## 5.13 reqallchar

This filter will remove entries that do not contain all of the specified characters. Characters are *case sensitive*. The action is specified by one or more comma-separated characters after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqallchar:A,K
EXAMPLE #1: AaTa --> *filtered out* (contains "A" but not "K")
EXAMPLE #2: aKaa --> *filtered out* (contains "K" and "a" but not "A")
EXAMPLE #3: AKAT --> *retained*
```

## 5.14 reqcontig

This location filter removes entries not on the specified contig. The action is specified by a numerical contig id after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqcontig:1
EXAMPLE #1: 1:100 AAA --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #2: 2:110 AAA --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #3: X:101 AAA --> *filtered out*
```

## 5.15 reqinformative

This filter removes sites without at least two instances of at least two alleles (phylogenetically informative sites). This action takes no parameters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqinformative
EXAMPLE #1: AATA --> *filtered out* (only one "T")
EXAMPLE #2: ATTA --> *retained* (contains "A" and "T" twice)
EXAMPLE #3: ATCA --> *filtered out* (only one each of "T" and "C")
```

## 5.16 reqinvariant

This filter removes variant sites (not including gaps or ambiguities) This action takes no parameters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqinvariant
EXAMPLE #1: AATA --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #2: AAAA --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #3: AA-A --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #3: AAXA --> *retained*
```

## 5.17 reqregion

This location filter removes entries not on the specified contig within in the specified bounds. The action is specified by a numerical contig id, then start and stop coordinates (inclusive) after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqregion:1,101,110
EXAMPLE #1: 1:100 AAA --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #2: 1:110 AAA --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #3: 2:101 AAA --> *filtered out*
```

## 5.18 reqonechar

This filter will remove entries that do not contain at least one of the specified characters. Characters are *case sensitive*. The action is specified by one or more comma-separated characters after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqonechar:A,K
EXAMPLE #1: AaTa --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #2: CTCC --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #3: aaTC --> *filtered out*
```

## 5.19 reqsample

This filter requires that the given sample(s) be a non-gap/ambiguous allele. The action is specified by one or more comma-separated integer column indices after the colon.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqsample:1,2
EXAMPLE #1: AAAA --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #2: A-AA --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #3: AA-A --> *filtered out*
```

## 5.20 reqvariant

This filter removes invariant sites. This action takes no paramters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqinvariant
EXAMPLE #1: AATA --> *retained*
EXAMPLE #2: AAAA --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #3: AA-A --> *filtered out*
EXAMPLE #4: AAXA --> *filtered out*
```

## 5.21 reqnonrefsample

This filter removes sites with no non-reference information. This action takes no paramters.

```
EXAMPLE ACTION: reqnonrefsample  
EXAMPLE #1: AATA --> *retained*  
EXAMPLE #2: A--A --> *retained*  
EXAMPLE #3: A--- --> *filtered out*
```

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

See also our forum at: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mvftools>

Coming soon.





## VERSION HISTORY

### **v.0.5.0**

*2017-11-27 - Major Upgrade:* Change to single-command structure

### **v.2017-06-25**

*Major Upgrade:* Full manual documentation added, standardization and cleanup of paramaters and upgrades and bugfixes throughout.

### **v.2017-05-18**

Fixes to VCF conversion for compatibility

### **v.2017-04-10**

Added MVF-to-Phylip output conversion `mvf2phy`

### **v.2017-03-25**

Multiple bug fixes, merged and removed the development instance

### **v.2016-02-15**

Fix to `vcf2mvf` for VCF with truncated entries

### **v.2016-10-25**

Efficiency upgrades for `mvfbase` entry iteration.

### **v.2016-09-10**

Minor fixes to gz reading and MVF chromoplot shading

### **v.2016-08-02**

Python3 conversion, integrate `analysis_base`

### **v.2016-01-11**

fix for dna ambiguity characters

### **v.2016-01-01**

Python3 compatiblity fix

### **v.2015-12-31**

Header changes and cleanup

**v.2015-12-15**

Python3 compatibility fix

**v.2015-09-04**

Small style fixes

**v.2015-06-09**

MVF1.2.1 upgrade

**v.2015-02-26**

Efficiency upgrades for iterators

**v.2015-02-01**

First Public Release

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## INDICES AND TABLES

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`