Microbiome Analysis Metagenomics Metatranscriptomics

# Microbiome Bioinformatics

**Genome Assembly & Annotation SNP & Variant Detection** Microbiome & Metagenomic analysis

# Genomics

**Genome Sequencing Next Gen Genetic Mapping** RNA-Seq **Bisulfite Sequencing** 



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# **Proteomics**

**Mass Determination Protein Identification** Post-translational modification

# **CSB1021HF LEC0131** FUNDAMENTALS OF GENOMIC DATA SCIENCE

0.0.0 Module 6: Assembly and annotation in the command line

### 0.1.0 About Fundamentals of Genomic Data Science

Fundamentals of Genomic Data Science is brought to you by the Centre for the Analysis of Genome Evolution & Function (CAGEF) bioinformatics training initiative. This course was developed based on feedback on the needs and interests of the Department of Cell & Systems Biology and the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

The structure of this course is a "code-along", hands-on style! A few hours prior to each lecture, materials will be made available for download at QUERCUS (https://g.utoronto.ca/). The teaching materials will consist of a weekly PDF that you can use to follow along with the instructor along with any datasets that you'll need to complete the module. This learning approach will allow you to spend the time coding and not taking notes!

As we go along, there will be some in-class challenge questions for you to solve. Post lecture assessments will also be available for each module, building upon the concepts learned in class (see syllabus for grading scheme and percentages of the final mark).

#### Where is this course going?

We'll take a blank slate approach here to learning genomic data science and assume you know nothing about programming or working directly with next generation sequencing data. From the beginning of this course to the end we want to guide you from potential scenarios like:

You don't know what to do with a set of raw sequencing files fresh from a facility like CAGEF.

- You've been handed a legacy pipeline to analyse your data or maintain for the lab, but you don't know what it runs or how.
- You plan on generating high-throughput data but there are no bioinformaticians around to help you out.

and get you to the point where you can:

- Recognize the basic tools in sequence analysis.
- Plan and write your own data analysis pipelines.
- Explain your data analysis methods to labmates, supervisors, and other colleagues.

#### 0.1.2 How do we get there?

In the first half of this course, we'll focus on how to generate analysis pipelines using the Galaxy platform – a user-friendly graphical interface that provides access to common sequence analysis tools. After we are comfortable with these tools, we'll look at life through the lens of a command-line interface. It is here that we will learn the basics of file manipulation and how to program scripts that can carry out multiple tasks for us. From there we'll revisit tools from the first half and learn skills to make your data analysis life easier.

#### 0.2.0 Goals of the module

- 1. Learn to build and execute commands for quality control, assembly, and annotation.
- 2. Explore how paired-end information and hash length optimization can improve assemblies.
- 3. Learn how to use the command-line language awk to quickly filter data.
- 4. Learn how to check for contamination in an assembly using Blast.
- 5. Learn how to prepare bash scripts to increase the efficiency of bioinformatics pipelines.

#### 0.3.0 Pre-class modules with Coursera

Each week we strongly encourage you to complete the assigned Coursera modules and/or readings *before* class. These are meant to provide you with sufficient background material on each week's module so that we can focus on the act of "doing" something with that data rather than spend a lot of time on the origins of it. You'll find a section outlining the next set of Coursera modules and readings at the end of each module.

- **0.3.1** Go to <u>www.coursera.org</u> and sign up for an account with your e-mail.
- **0.3.2** Search the following courses and enroll to audit each course (audit):
- Genomic Data Science with Galaxy, Johns Hopkins University.
- Command Line Tools for Genomic Data Science, Johns Hopkins University.

### 0.4.0 Setting up your working directory

We suggest that you create a new directory (folder) for this course directly off your root directory called "**FGDS**". Working from your root directory is not necessary, but it will make some of the aspects of the course a little easier to manage. For Mac OS users, we suggest you create this as a subfolder in your <u>user</u> directory.

- 0.4.1 Within this directory, create another directory called "**Module6**". This is where we will store the data used in this week's module.
- 0.4.2 Create a subdirectory called "**Data**" to store the initial files as we download them before decompressing and working with them in later steps.

### 1.0.0 Quality control of sequencing reads at the command line

This week we revisit our alignment and annotation workflow from Galaxy. We'll still be working with our H. influenzae data but this time it has been broken into a set of paired reads – forward and reverse. We'll learn to work with this type of raw data throughout our pipeline and we'll see how distinguishing between forward and reverse sequences can affect our results.

### 1.1.0 Directory and data setup

Before you begin, open your command line and make sure you have a path for ~/**FGDS/Module6/Data**. This is where we will store data as it is generated in today's lecture.

1.1.1 Check for the FGDS/Module6/Data path. If necessary, create it before setting it as your current directory.

1.1.2 Obtain the paired-end fastq files for this module from the "Data" directory on our course server using the sftp command. This is the same data that we used in Module 3 when we performed Assembly and Annotation with Galaxy, however, the forward and reverse reads have been divided into separate files. Instead of treating the reads as single-end reads as we did in Module 3, we will treat these reads as paired-end reads.

```
sftp fgds@142.150.215.186
        PW: fall2023
ls
ls Data/Module6/
# Download both of the fastq datasubset files to your Data directory
get Data/Module6/*.gz
exit
```

## 1.2.0 Run fastqc from Anaconda

Now that we have our data in our Module6 directory we can proceed with performing a quality check on our fastq reads.

1.2.1 Before using **fastqc**, however, we will need to activate Anaconda (although it should already be active). If you do not see **(base)** at the beginning of your command prompt, then activate it and then double-check your available environments.

```
conda activate
conda info -e
```

1.2.2 Review the help menu for **fastqc** using the **--help** flag. All the tools required for this course should have been installed and added to our Anaconda installation last week, but we'll have to navigate our way through our environments to access them all.

```
fastqc
fastqc --help
```

Note that an abbreviated help menu for most bioinformatics software can also be accessed by simply typing the command without any options or input, but for **fastqc** this will launch the GUI version of the software instead.

1.2.3 Now we are ready to build a **fastqc** command from command line. Although we are inside an Anaconda shell, these commands are issued just as though they were installed directly into your command line.

Command	Meaning
kmers 7	search for overrepresented kmers of 7 bases in length
outdir fastqc	send all output to a directory called fastqc (must already exist)
<pre>HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz</pre>	Input file one, forward reads.
<pre>HinfKW20_datasubset_rev.fastq.gz</pre>	Input file two, reverse reads.

```
(base) mokca@MokData:~/FGDS/Module6$ fastqc --kmers 7 --outdir fastqc Data/HinfKW20_datasubset_ev.fastq.gz
application/gzip
application/gzip
application/gzip
Started analysis of HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 5% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 10% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 15% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 20% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 25% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 30% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 35% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 40% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 45% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 50% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
Approx 50% complete for HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz
```

1.2.4 Review the output of your **fastqc** analysis, which will be in your **fastqc** directory. You can either review the results at the command line using text files that are in the \*.zip archives or open the HTML outputs. I find it is much more useful to look at the figures and evaluate the read quality using the HTML output, so we will be ignoring the text files today.

Mac Users: Use the open command to open these files in a web browser in separate tabs.

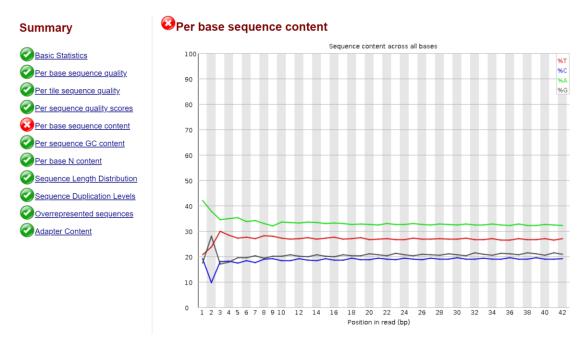
```
ls fastqc
open fastqc/HinfKW20_datasubset_for_fastqc.html
open fastqc/HinfKW20 datasubset rev fastqc.html
```

**Windows Users**: Use the **explorer.exe** command to open files from your current working directory in your default web browser.

```
explorer.exe HinfKW20_datasubset_for_fastqc.html
explorer.exe HinfKW20_datasubset_rev_fastqc.html
```

You can also locate the files using your WSL shortcuts you created and double-click on the HTML file. Otherwise, you will need to copy the html files to a windows directory and open them through the Windows Explorer.

Alternatively, you can use the command below. We copy the files directly to the root of your C: in a new directory called "FastQC\_Temp". Once the files are in these directories, open them by double clicking in Windows Explorer.



As you might remember from Module 2, our **fastqc** analysis yielded some warnings, but none of the tests that failed were concerning. However, that is not the case here, where the "**Per base sequence content**" test fails for the forward reads. This suggests that combining the forward and reverse reads may have masked a smaller issue that is significant when you only look at the forward reads in isolation. In this case, there appears to be relatively strong biases in the first couple bases of the forward reads. There is also a significant drop-off in the base quality towards the ends of the reads.

### 1.3.0 Read trimming with trimmomatic

Given our issues with the forward read sequence data, it would be advisable to filter our reads. We will run trimmomatic to solve these issues.

1.3.1 Double check where your home directory is located. While we have been using the "~" quote often as a shortcut for our home directory, we will need the full path in later steps.

```
pwd # This will show you your home directory structure for 1.3.3
```

1.3.2 Review the basic command options that are available for **trimmomatic**. A more detailed description of trimmomatic can be found here.

```
trimmomatic -h
```

1.3.3 Build and execute a **trimmomatic** command to remove any adapters, trim low quality reads, and remove the first two bases from each read.

```
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_unpaired.fastq
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_rev_paired.fastq
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_rev_unpaired.fastq
ILLUMINACLIP:/home/<user>/anaconda3/share/trimmomatic-0.39-
2/adapters/TruSeg2-PE.fa:2:30:10 SLIDINGWINDOW:4:20 HEADCROP:2
```

#### # Note your ILLUMINACLIP directory must be altered to match your own home directory

Command	Meaning
PE	input data is paired-end
-phred33	Phred33 quality scores were used in the input files
Data/HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz	forward fastq.gz file (input)
Data/HinfKW20_datasubset_rev.fastq.gz	reverse fastq.gz file (input)
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq	forward paired fastq file (output)
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_unpaired.fastq	forward unpaired fastq file (output)
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_rev_paired.fastq	reverse paired fastq file (output)
Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_rev_unpaired.fastq	reverse unpaired fastq file (output)
<pre>ILLUMINACLIP:TruSeq2-PE.fa:2:30:10</pre>	trim TruSeq2 adapters off the end of reads
	2 (maximum seed mismatch)
	30 (palindrome clip threshold)
	10 (simple clip threshold)
SLIDINGWINDOW:4:20	trim reads when avg quality across 4 bases < Phred20
HEADCROP: 2	trims the first <u>2</u> bases off every read

```
(base) mokca@MokData:~/FGDS/Module6$ trimmomatic PE -phred33 Data/HinfKW20_datasubset_for.fastq.gz Data/HinfKW20_datasubset_rev.fastq.gz Data/HinfKW20_trimmed for paired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed for paired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed rev unpaired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed rev unpaired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed rev unpaired.fastq ILLUMINACLIP:/home/mokca/anaconda3/share/trimmomatic-0.39-2/adapters/TruSeq2-PE.fa:2:30:10 SLIDINGWINDOW: 4:20 HEADCROP:2
TrimmomaticPE: Started with arguments:
-phred33 Data/HinfKW20_datasubset for.fastq.gz Data/HinfKW20_datasubset_rev.fastq.gz Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_unpaired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_unp
```

1.3.4 Compare the content of trimmomatic's trimmed paired data output.

```
wc Data/*_paired.fastq # Can also use: wc ./Data/*_paired.fastq
```

Of the 1,000,000 read pairs that we started with, we still have 97.92% of our reads in the pairedend output. However, when you look at the file information, you can see that while the two paired.fastq files have the same number of lines, they differ in the number of characters. This suggests that the forward paired read file was more aggressively trimmed.

What if I installed trimmomatic manually? Note that trimmomatic is written in java but we have installed it with a package manager so a lot of the background associations have been handled. If, however, you installed it yourself, you must specify the whole path to the jar file to run it with the java interpreter.

So rather than just trimmomatic to initiate the command, you would use:

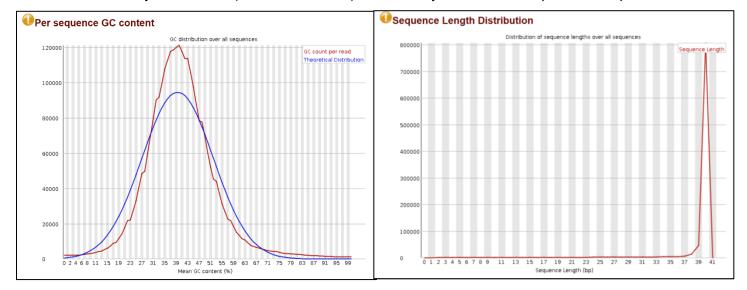
```
java -jar /path/to/Trimmomatic-0.39.jar
```

### 1.4.0 Rerun fastqc on the trimmed dataset

Now that you've trimmed and filtered your data, check to see if any new issues have arisen from the process.

1.4.1 Create a new directory called fastqc\_trimmed and save the results of a **fastqc** analysis to this directory.

1.4.2 Review the results of your fastqc analysis. Depending on your OS, you will either open it directly from your terminal (macOS/Windows) or find it in your windows Explorer and open it from there.



While we have resolved our issues with per base sequence content, we now receive some warnings about our "Per sequence GC content" and "Sequence Length Distribution". If we were to unzip the data generated by fastqc we could look directly at the sequence length distribution and see that we now have a broad range of reads as short as 1 bp through to 40 bp. This trimmed read distribution creates the second warning from our analysis.



### 2.0.0 Paired-end genome assembly with velvet

Now that we have our sequencing reads trimmed and there appear to be no major failures in the data, we can continue the genome assembly process. As we learned in the "Assembly and Annotation with Galaxy" module (Module 2), **velvet** assembles genomes in two steps. These steps include building a hash table of kmers (**velveth**) and performing the assembly (**velvetg**).

### 2.1.0 Build your k-mer hash table with velveth

We'll build our hash table using the **velveth** command. Note that unlike on Galaxy we have a pair of fastq files relating to their forward and reverse reads. We'll see if velvet can leverage this information to its advantage when assembling the genome.

2.1.1 Ensure you are in your **Module6** directory

```
cd ~/FGDS/Module6
```

2.1.1 Examine the **velveth** options. The summary is quite large, so you'll want to pipe the output to something like less.

```
velveth --help | less
```

2.1.2 Build your velveth command taking special note of the parameters. We'll re-use this code later as part of a bash script to do some empirical analysis of hash lengths. The hash length must be an odd number that is shorter than most reads in the dataset because any reads smaller than the hash size will be ignored. It is generally stated that your hash length should be between 21 bps and the average read length (~40 bps for us) minus 10 bps.

velveth velveth\_21\_out 21 -shortPaired -fastq -separate

Command	Meaning
velveth_21_out	output directory for the velveth command (created automatically)
21	hash length (21 basepairs in this case)
-shortPaired	type of reads in the input files
-fastq	format of reads in the input files
-separate	use separate files for paired reads
<pre>HinfKW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq</pre>	input reads (forward trimmed dataset)
HinfKW20_trimmed_rev_paired.fastq	input reads (reverse trimmed dataset)

```
(base) mokca@MokData:~/FGDS/Module6$ velveth velveth_21_out 21 -shortPaired -fastq -separate Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq;
[0.000000] Reading FastQ file Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_rov_paired.fastq;
[0.00033] Reading FastQ file Data/HinfKW20_trimmed_rov_paired.fastq;
[1.230782] 1958464 sequences found in total in the paired sequence files
[1.230804] Done
[1.249275] Reading read set file velveth_21_out/Sequences;
[1.322301] 1958464 sequences found
[1.711848] Done
[1.711871] 1958464 sequences in total.
[1.712003] Writing into roadmap file velveth_21_out/Roadmaps...
[2.232154] Inputting sequences 0 / 1958464
[2.462937] Inputting sequence 1000000 / 1958464
[2.948585] === Sequences loaded in 0.743659 s
[2.948784] Done inputting sequences
[2.948784] Destroying splay table
[2.955920] Splay table destroyed
```

### 2.2.0 Assemble your genome with velvetq

Now that our hash table is assembled we can pass the output on to **velvetg**. Remember, all of our **velveth** output is now in the **~/FGDS/Module6/velveth** 21 out directory.

2.2.1 Examine the velvetg command and the basic options for working with it.

```
velvetg --help # velvetg would also trigger the same result
```

2.2.2 Build your **velvetg** command, again taking note of the parameters – especially our minimum contig length.

Command	Meaning
velveth_21_out	input/output directory from velveth for velvetg
-cov_cutoff auto	automatically determine minimum coverage cutoff for contigs
-exp_cov auto	automatically determine expected coverage with probabilistic formula
-min_contig_lgth 200	minimum contig length exported to configs.fa file

```
S/Module6$ velvetg velveth 21 out -cov cutoff auto -exp cov auto
 -min_contig_lgth 200
[0.000000] Reading roadmap file velveth_21_out/Roadmaps [2.448524] 1958464 roadmaps read
 2.452189] Creating insertion markers
[2.891783] Ordering insertion markers
[3.113688] Counting preNodes
[3.336313] 1396603 preNodes counted, creating them now
[4.610831] Sequence 1000000 / 1958464 [5.764632] Adjusting marker info...
[6.030589] Connecting preNodes
[6.107943] Connecting 1000000 / 1958464
[6.565019] Cleaning up memory
[6.575020] Done creating preGraph
[6.575152] Concatenation...
[6.868386] Renumbering preNodes
[6.868913] Initial preNode count 1396603
[6.884837] Destroyed 1309688 preNodes
[6.885128] Concatenation over!
[6.885269] Clipping short tips off preGraph
[6.906882] Concatenation...
 6.979439] Renumbering preNodes
 6.979857] Initial preNode count 86915
 6.980973] Destroyed 81568 preNodes
[6.981180] Concatenation over!
```

Do you remember how to save the standard output to a file?

### 2.3.0 Converting your velvet commands into a bash script

Suppose we wanted to optimize some of the parameters in our genome assembly. For instance, we could vary the hash length with three sets of values: 21, 23, and 25. Depending on your needs, you could just repeat the commands in the command-line, varying the hash length each time we run **velveth**. Another approach, however, would be to generate our own bash script where we repeat the commands instead.

2.3.1 Create a new script called **velvetscript.sh** in your **~FGDS/Module6/** directory. In this example we'll use **vi** but you could work with a separate editor as well.

2.3.2 Copy our previous **velveth** and **velvetg** commands as two lines in your script.

2.3.3 Repeat the above copied commands two more times but alter the parameters to use a hash length of 23 and 25. Remember to update the output directory names and hash length *in each command*. The other parameters in our commands will remain the same. Finish the script with these three sets of commands and save it.

```
[esc] # Exit insertion mode
:wq # Save and quite vi
```

```
#!/bin/bash
# This script will run three different versions of velveth by alternating
# hash length between 21, 23, and 25

# velvet commands for hash length 21
velveth velveth_21_out 21 -shortPaired -fastq -separate Data/HinfkW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq
Data/HinfkW20_trimmed_rev_paired.fastq
velvetg velveth_21_out -cov_cutoff auto -exp_cov auto -min_contig_lgth 200

# velvet commands for hash length 23
velveth velveth_23_out 23 -shortPaired -fastq -separate Data/HinfkW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq
Data/HinfkW20_trimmed_rev_paired.fastq
velvetg velveth_23_out -cov_cutoff auto -exp_cov auto -min_contig_lgth 200

# velvet commands for hash length 25
velveth velveth_25_out 25 -shortPaired -fastq -separate Data/HinfkW20_trimmed_for_paired.fastq
Data/HinfkW20_trimmed_rev_paired.fastq
velvetg velveth_25_out -cov_cutoff auto -exp_cov auto -min_contig_lgth 200
```

2.3.4 Update your bash script permissions and run it.

```
# Remember you cannot run an executable without permission!

# Remove our previous results

bash velvetscript.sh # Run our bash script
```

**Tired of the default vi/vim colour scheme?** If you're feeling tired of the default colour scheme in vi or vim, you can make choose one using with any of the following commands:

```
:colorscheme + [space] + [tab]
:color <color scheme>  # ie :color elflord
```

To make your change more permanent you can make a .vimrc (vim run commands) file in your home directory containing a similar command code when it starts up:

```
echo 'colorscheme desert' >> ~/.vimrc
```

After that, vi will always implement the colour scheme you've chosen when it starts up.

### 2.4.0 Compare your results between your different velvet assemblies

Each **velvet** assembly generated includes a **Log** file that details information about the number of accepted contigs, the n50 (median contig length), and the maximum contig length. We can use these statistics to compare our three sets of assemblies.

2.4.1 View the **Log** information for our assembly based on a hash length of 21. We know that the genome should be approximately 1.83 Mbps in length based on the completed genome that we downloaded in Module 1. A good genome assembly will also have a high N50 value.

less ./velveth\_21\_out/Log

```
Mon Dec 6 10:26:35 2021

velvetg velveth_21_out -cov_cutoff auto -exp_cov auto -min_contig_lgth 200

Version 1.2.10

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This is free software; see the source for copying conditions. There is NO
warranty; not even for MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Compilation settings:
CATEGORIES = 4
MAXKMERLENGTH = 191
OPENMP
LONGSEQUENCES

Median coverage depth = 17.170077

Final graph has 619 nodes and n50 of 8478, max 31262, total 1678412, using 1799211/1958464 reads
```

2.4.2 Use grep to help you to summarize your files. Rather than check each individual Log file, we can take advantage of our name scheme to view all three log files simultaneously. To accomplish this, we use a grep call to parse through our Log files and display the resulting matches.

```
# -e signals a regex pattern will follow
```

```
(base) mokca@LAPTOP-7LF60G94:~/FGDS/Module6$ grep -e "Median" -e "Final" ./velveth_* out/Log ./velveth_21_out/Log:Median coverage depth = 17.170077 ./velveth_21_out/Log:Final graph has 619 nodes and n50 of 8478, max 31262, total 1678412, using 1799211/1958464 reads ./velveth_23_out/Log:Median coverage depth = 15.992602 ./velveth_23_out/Log:Final graph has 486 nodes and n50 of 10265, max 61132, total 1701348, using 1788364/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Median coverage depth = 14.171393 ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 632 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/Log:Final graph has 532 nodes and n50 of 7103, max 25286, total 1617357, using 1724889/1958464 reads ./velveth_25_out/
```

Based on our output, which assembly is the most appropriate to continue with? In terms of all three metrics, we see that setting hash=23 has the fewest contigs and largest N50 and max values, suggesting that it is the most appropriate assembly to continue with under these parameters. Is there, however, another way to evaluate the quality control of our assemblies?

What makes a good N50 value? While intuitively the idea of an N50 suggests that higher values mean better assemblies, this is not always the case. Since the size of genomes can vary, using the N50 between assemblies of different species is not very comparable. Thus, while there may be some correlation between high N50 and high quality assemblies, this is not always the case.

Instead, if you know the target size of your genome, you can calculate other metrics like NG50. Similar in concept to N50, the calculation of NG50 requires grouping the largest contigs that sum to 50% of the estimated genome size. The smallest contig in this set determines the NG50 value.

### 3.0.0 Assembly quality control with BLAST

Another way that we can assess the quality of our assembly and filter the dataset of contaminant reads is by blasting our output contigs against a reference database using blast. In the interest of time, we skipped this QC step when we were working on Galaxy. Start by reviewing the blastn command help menu, which allows you to query nucleotide sequences in a nucleotide database.

### 3.1.0 Use the awk command to parse data

The awk command searches files for text, much like <code>grep</code>, and allows you to perform specific actions on that text. Named after its creators (*Aho*, *Weinberger*, and *Kernighan*), awk allows a programmer to write simple programs that search for patterns within each line of an input file except it can also take a specific action when a match is found. This form of pattern scanning, and processing can be used to generate reports or perform simple command-line operations. The general syntax of an awk command is:

awk options 'BEGIN {action} /selection\_criteria/ {action1;action2} END {action}'
input-file > output-file

Syntax	Meaning Initiates the call to awk				
awk					
options	The list of options (ie -v var=value or var2=\$variable)				
1 1	Aside from the options, all of the selection/action commands are stored here				
/selection_criteria/	The use of the slash (/) denotes the beginning and end of your regular expression				
{action1;action2}	The use of curly braces { } enclose the action(s) you wish to perform. This could be dependent upon a selection criteria or run without any criteria. You can perform multiple actions within a set of { } and separate them using the semicolon (;) character.				
BEGIN {action},	These are specific actions you wish to take before the first record is read (BEGIN) or				
END {action}	after the last record has been read (END). This is a good place to set a variable value!				

The awk command also has internal features and variables. For each record (line) of a file or input, awk will use whitespace as a delimiter to separate each "word" (field) into \$n variables. For instance, if a line has the following text: "The current example record.", you can access each individual field by its position:

awk variable	Field string	
\$1	The_current	
\$2	example	
\$3	record.	
\$0	The_current	example record.

Furthermore, there are additional built-in variables to help keep track of your record position within a file and how to read or output fields and records.

awk variable	Meaning
NR	The current count of input records (usually lines) that have been seen
NF	The number of fields with the current input record
FS	The field separator character used to divide fields. The default is whitespace but this can be
	reassigned to another character. Note: this starts with the text to the left of the separator!!!
RS	The current record separator character. The default is a newline character, hence each line being a
	new record. Note: this starts with the text to the left of the separator!!!

OFS	The output field separator determines how awk separates fields when you print them. A blank space
	is the default.
ORS	The output record separator determines how awk separates records when you print them. A newline
	character is the default.

Lastly, the awk command has, amongst other things, access to I/O statements. These can allow you to do things like:

Statement	Meaning				
print	Print the current record to standard output.				
getline	Set \$0 from the next input record.				
system(cmd-line)	Execute a command (cmd-line) as though you were in the command line. It will return the exit status value (did it work (0) or fail etc?)				
var_name=value	Set a var_name to a specific variable.				
"literal_string"	We can represent literal strings (ie text) inside double-quotations (" ") and concatenate strings and variables by positioning them together without separators.				

Note that the above descriptions are a non-exhaustive list of variables and statements that are available from **awk**. It is a full-fledged programming language that is extremely useful for quickly manipulating your text files and command outputs. Let's use it in our next section to address some of our questions.

### 3.2.0 Locating your installation of blast with awk

As you may recall, we did not explicitly install **blast** to our system last class, but it may already be presently installed in one or more of our environments. The question is, what is the most efficient method to identify which environment it is in? With the correct commands, we can use the power of **awk** to search through all of our environments for us.

3.2.1 Identify the environments in our Anaconda installation and turn them into a single set of input.

```
conda info -e  # This presents us with a set of environment names conda info -e | # Print the first word/field on each line
```

3.2.2 Use a regular expression as the selection criteria for printing the first field. We have managed to capture the first part of each line from our environment list but we still have additional comment lines that are making it through.

```
# This will get us all of the comment lines
conda info -e | {print $1}'

# Now we will get the opposite of our match criteria
conda info -e | {print $1}'
```

3.2.3 We have now successfully printed out our environment names to standard output. Recall that we can search through a specific Anaconda environment's list of packages using:

```
conda list -n <env_name> <package>.
```

Let's combine our previous **awk** command with this information.

```
# Search the base environment for the blast package conda list -n base blast
```

```
# Use awk to capture an env name and make a command for conda
conda info -e | awk '!/^#/
# We made a command but we still need to run it using system!
conda info -e | awk '!/^#/ {cmd="conda list -n "$1" blast"
                                        ule6$ conda info -e | awk '!/^#/ {cmd="conda list
    blast"; system(cmd)}'
      packages in environment at /home/mokca/anaconda3:
      Name
                            Version
                                                    Build Channel
      packages in environment at /home/mokca/anaconda3/envs/alignersENV:
      Name
                            Version
                                                    Build Channel
      packages in environment at /home/mokca/anaconda3/envs/prokkaENV:
      Name
                            Version
                                                    Build Channel
                                               hf3cf87c 0
                                                            bioconda
     blast
                            2.13.0
      packages in environment at /home/mokca/anaconda3/envs/r_422ENV:
                                                    Build Channel
      Name
                            Version
      packages in environment at /home/mokca/anaconda3/envs/sambcftoolsENV:
      Name
                            Version
                                                    Build Channel
     nvironmentLocationNotFound: Not a conda environment: /home/mokca/anaconda3/envs/blast
```

3.2.4 As you can see from the output, the command is nearly perfect! We now see that blast is installed in prokkaENV! However, we get a small error at the end saying that the environment "blast" is not found. A little digging would show us that our initial call to conda info -e creates an additional blank line at the end of its output.

We can use the **NF** variable as criteria to our **awk** command to clean it up. An empty line will have no fields (ie NF=0). Using boolean logic, we can add the criteria that for a line to be processed, it must not start with a # AND it cannot be empty. We use the logical AND (&&) to convey this requirement.

```
# Make a small fix to filter away empty lines
conda info -e | awk '!/^#/ {cmd="conda list -n "$1" blast"; system(cmd)}'
```

Of course, now that we have our command, it seems quite long. However, it sure beats checking each individual environment separately – especially if you have more than a few.

### 3.3.0 Create a subset of your contigs with awk

Now that we've verified the installation of blast, we can go ahead and activate **prokkeENV** to use one of **blast**'s commands to analyse the quality of our contigs.

This type of blast can be quite time consuming because you're querying a large database with multiple long contigs. Therefore, as an example for how a blast QC on an assembly would work, we're only going to use the first three contigs from our assembly today. In practice, you would want to query all your contigs to ensure that none of them were formed from contaminant reads.

3.3.1 Capture a subset of our contigs – the first 3 to be precise – using **awk** and put it into a new file **contigs 3.fa**.

Statement	Meaning				
Awk	Begin the awk command				
/^>/ {n++}	Look for a > at the beginning of a line. When you find a match, increment a counter (n) b				
	Therefore, every time we encounter a contig header, the counter will increment.				
n>3 {exit}	If the value of n becomes greater than 3, then you will exit awk. Otherwise, go to the next				
	command.				
{print}	Print the record to standard output.				
contigs.fa	This is our input file – a set of contigs made by <code>velvetg</code>				
> contigs_3.fa	Write our standard output to contigs_3.fa				

3.3.2 Confirm that we have only taken the first 3 entries from our contig file

```
head -5 contigs_3.fa  # Look at the first 5 lines of your file grep -c "^>" contigs 3.fa  # count the occurrences of ">"
```

### 3.4.0 Use blastn to examine your contig subset

We now have a subset of our data with just 3 contig entries. We'll build a blast command and use this as input to instead of our full set of contigs.

3.4.1 Activate **prokkaENV** and review the **blastn** information. There is quite a bit of information on the help page so you'd better pipe the output to **less**.

3.4.2 Build and run a **blastn** command to query the non-redundant (**nr**) database with the three contigs that you pulled from your genome assembly. There are a lot of options available here for you to review, but we want mostly defaults. These commands are designed to run from your **velveth\_23\_out** directory.

blastn -query contigs\_3.fa -db nr -out velvet\_23\_contigs\_blast.out -max\_target\_seqs 10 -remote -outfmt '6 gseqid qstart qend sstart send evalue bitscore stitle'

Command	Meaning
-query	input file in fasta format (contigs_3.fa)
-db	database you want to query (nr)
-out	<pre>output file (velvet_23_contigs_blast.out)</pre>
-outfmt	output format (6=tabular output, where we have specified output columns to include)
-max_target_seqs -remote	the maximum number of subjects (hits per target) you want to include in the output execute search on the NCBI server

3.4.3 Check your **blast** output to ensure that there is a significant hit for *H. influenzae* in the top ten hits for each of your three contigs. All of our hits should be in an *H. influenzae* strain because it is a very well characterized species from which multiple strains have been sequenced.

```
less velvet_23_contigs_blast.out
```

NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 881	.03 85779	0.0	4294	Haemophilus influenzae strain FDAARGOS 199 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 170	862 17318	36 0.0	4283	Haemophilus influenzae Rd KW20 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452			1922 10995	598 0.0	4189	Haemophilus influenzae strain M25588 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 560	994 5633	0.0	4189	Haemophilus influenzae strain NML-Hia-1, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452	2283			249 7.91e		63.9 Haemophilus influenzae strain NML-Hia-1, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 899	835 8975	11 0.0	4189	Haemophilus influenzae TA8730 DNA, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 498	02 47478	0.0	4189	Haemophilus influenzae strain M1C112 1 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 884	109 88178	35 0.0		Haemophilus influenzae TAMBA230 DNA, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 958	413 95608	39 0.0	4183	Haemophilus influenzae strain PittGG chromosome, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452			638 6299	52 0.0		Haemophilus influenzae PittGG, complete genome
NODE 1 length 2303 cov 20.320452		2325 805	329 80300	0.0	4174	Haemophilus aegyptius strain FDAARGOS 1478 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 894	916 89323	33 0.0	3110	Haemophilus influenzae strain FDAARGOS 199 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 119	4204 11958	388 0.0	3090	Haemophilus influenzae Rd KW20 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 175	0294 17486	511 0.0	3083	Haemophilus influenzae strain PittGG chromosome, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 892	387 89070	0.0	3083	Haemophilus influenzae strain M1C112 1 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 172	2960 17246	543 0.0	3083	Haemophilus influenzae PittGG, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 170	6382 17046	599 0.0		Haemophilus influenzae strain P672-7661 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 181	6213 18145	530 0.0	3072	Haemophilus influenzae strain NCTC11873 genome assembly, chromosome: 1
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 181	3135 18114	152 0.0		Haemophilus influenzae CHBN-V-3 DNA, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 166	6745 16650	062 0.0		Haemophilus influenzae CHBN-V-2 DNA, complete genome
NODE 2 length 1662 cov 27.598074		1684 165	4284 16526	501 0.0		Haemophilus influenzae TAMBA230 DNA, complete genome
NODE 3 length 2587 cov 26.891380		2609 933	147 9305:	39 0.0	4819	Haemophilus influenzae strain FDAARGOS 199 chromosome, complete genome
NODE 3 length 2587 cov 26.891380		2609 115	5975 11585	583 0.0	4819	Haemophilus influenzae Rd KW20 chromosome, complete genome
VADE 0 1 0507 00 001000		0.000 170	0000 1705			a lite i es annu er a nus

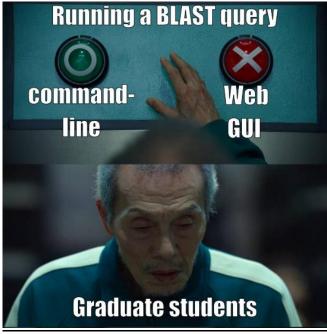
You should expect to see the following columns:

- Query ID
- Query Start
- Query End
- Subject Start
- Subject End
- Expect-value (Number of expected hits of similar quality by chance, which depends on the database size)
- Bit-score (Measure of sequence similarity that is independent of database size, but dependent on the length of the query)
- Subject Title (Full Header Line)

It appears that we retrieved a lot of hits to other *Haemophilus influenza* genomes which suggests, for at least our first 3 contigs, that we have a fairly successful assembly. The remaining contigs, however, would still need to be checked.

**Still uncomfortable with the command line?** You may still prefer to stay with more familiar GUI-based blast running off the web. If that is the case, you can also run your blast analyses using the <a href="mailto:online-platform">online platform</a>.

You can also find more details on running the BLAST+ command line applications online via NCBI.



### 3.5.0 Use quast to examine your assembly

We now have a subset of our data with just 3 contig entries. We'll build a **blast** command and use this as input to instead of our full set of contigs.

3.5.1 Activate quastenv and review the quast help information. There is quite a bit of information on the help page so you'd better pipe the output to less.

3.5.2 Build and run a quast command to compare your velveth\_23\_out contig results. These commands are designed to run from your velveth\_23\_out directory but you might recall that we'll also need a reference genome, which should be found data in **Module 1**.

Command	Meaning
-m 200	The minimum contig size cutoff.
-o quastAnalysis	The output director of our analysis.
-r ~ /FGDS/Module1/downloads/HinfKW20_genomic.fna	Location of your genomic reference file.
contigs.fa	The file containing the contigs of your assembly

3.5.3 You can proceed to view your quast results by finding them in the quastAnalysis folder. You can navigate to the file and then use the **explorer.exe** (WSL2) or **open** (MacOS) commands.

```
cd quastAnalysis/icarus_viewers/
explorer.exe alignment viewer.html #MacOS: open alignment viewer.html
```



#### 4.0.0 Genome annotation with Prokka

As was the case when we completed our assembly on Galaxy, we now want to finish up by annotating all the coding features in the assembled genome. This can also be a useful tool for quality control if you know approximately how many coding regions you expect to identify. Remember that **prokka** is just one of many tools that can be used for genome annotation but is particularly optimized for speed and simplicity. It has been shown to perform very well for annotation of bacteria, archaea, and viruses.

### 4.1.0 Annotate your velvet genome with prokka

We'll continue working from the ~/FGDS/Module6/velveth 23 out/ directory

4.1.1 Start by reviewing the **prokka** options and checking the version you are using just so we can all be on the same page.

```
cd ~/FGDS/Module5/velveth_23_out
conda activate prokkaENV
prokka --help
prokka --version
```

```
omputation:
                    Number of CPUs to use [0=all] (default '8')
 --cpus [N]
                    Fast mode - only use basic BLASTP databases (default OFF)
  --fast
                    For CDS just set /product="unannotated protein" (default OFF)
  --noanno
 --mincontiglen [N] Minimum contig size [NCBI needs 200] (default '1')
 --rfam
                    Enable searching for ncRNAs with Infernal+Rfam (SLOW!) (default '0')
                    Don't run rRNA search (default OFF)
                    Don't run tRNA search (default OFF)
 --notrna
                    Prefer RNAmmer over Barrnap for rRNA prediction (default OFF)
 --rnammer
(prokkaENV) mokca@LAPTOP-7LF60G94:~/FGDS/Module6/velveth 23 out$ prokka --version
rokka 1.14.6
(prokkaENV) mokca@LAPTOP-7LF60G94:~/FGDS/Module6/velveth 23 out$
```

4.1.2 Build a basic **prokka** command that will annotate all of the coding and gene features in your reference genome using the bacterial database. You may recognize this command from last week when we tested our **prokka** installation.

```
prokka --kingdom Bacteria --outdir HinfKW20_annotation --prefix HinfKW20 --locustag HinfKW20Gene --compliant --force --quiet contigs.fa &
```

Command	Meaning					
kingdom	database to use for annotation (Bacteria)					
outdir	output directory name (HinfKW20_annotation). This will					
	generate the new directory for us.					
prefix	output file name prefix					
locustag	output locus tag prefix					
compliant	force contig and gene compliance with Genbank					
force	write over output directory if one already exists					
quiet	do not print all progress to the screen while prokka is running					
&	Run this process in the background. This frees us to do other					
	commands.					

Note we have excluded tags for --genus, --species, and --strain which we used in our annotation commands on Galaxy.

```
(prokkaENV) mokca@LAPTOP-7LF6OG94:~/FGDS/Module6/velveth 23_out$ prokka --kingdom Bacteri a --outdir HinfKW20_annotation --prefix HinfKW20 --locustag HinfKW20Gene --compliant --fo rce --quiet contigs.fa & [1] 14558
```

4.1.3 When you have a process running in the background, you can check on how it is progressing using the command top. You'll notice that our call to prokka produced a number as output. This is the process ID, and we can use this to find the process when we run top.

top # this runs an interactive program like less

			_			·	-				
14786	mokca	20	0	10656	700	660	S	0.3	0.0	0:00.01	sh
14789	mokca	20	0	10656	704	668	S	0.3	0.0	0:00.01	sh
14793	mokca	20	0	10656	704	664	S	0.3	0.0	0:00.01	sh
14794	mokca	20	0	10656	700	660	S	0.3	0.0	0:00.01	sh
1	root	20	0	10044	480	356	S	0.0	0.0	17:21.35	init
26543	root	20	0	10044	96	48	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.03	init
26544	mokca	20	0	18576	3372	3256	S	0.0	0.0	615:28.54	bash
14558	mokca	20	0	42016	25832	25796	S	0.0	0.2	0:00.99	perl
14625	mokca	20	0	0	0	0	Z	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	sh
14693	mokca	20	0	0	0	0	Z	0.0	0.0	0:00.01	sh
14695	mokca	20	0	10656	700	652	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.03	sh
14755	mokca	20	0	10656	712	668	S	0.0	0.0	0.00 00	sh
14761	mokca	20	0	10656	708	668	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	sh
14780	mokca	20	0	10656	700	660	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	sh

A closer look at our process tells us that **prokka** is actually running as a **perl** script! Use "q" to quit **top**. With this command-line utility, you can keep track of your processes and see when they may be stuck.

4.1.4 Review all of the prokka output files (12 total) in your HinfKW20 annotation directory.

```
ls -la HinfKW20_annotation
less HinfKW20_annotation/HinfKW20.txt
```

```
organism: Genus species strain
contigs: 285
bases: 1701655
CDS: 1589
gene: 1631
rRNA: 2
tRNA: 39
tmRNA: 1
HinfKW20_annotation/HinfKW20.txt (END)
```

**Learn more about Prokka!** You can learn more details about running prokka at the command line with advanced settings like genus specific databases and personalized protein databases at the following link: https://github.com/tseemann/prokka

### 5.0.0 Bash (to) basics: creating a bash pipeline

Through a series of similar steps as Galaxy we've generated our own command-line version of assembly and annotation. Recall our velvetscript.sh that we created back in section 2.3.0. It was focused on running multiple versions of velvet for assembly. We'll take this a step further to make an assemble and annotation pipeline.

### 5.1.0 Download assemblyAndAnnotation.sh

An updated version of this script has been created to run additional commands. To work with it, you must first download and update its permissions.

5.1.1 Download assembly And Annotation. sh from the course server.

5.1.2 Set permissions for execution of your script

chmod 744 assemblyAndAnnotation.sh

### 5.2.0 Update and complete the assemblyAndAnnotation.sh

Now that you have downloaded the proto-script, it will need to be edited so that it can run properly in the command line.

5.2.1 Open up the script for editing

5.2.2 Look at the beginning of the script. It has no **shebang** identifying its type so you must add one.

# Line 1

5.2.3 In order to work with Anaconda commands from within a bash script, you will need to initialize it using the following command under the "Preparation" section:

# Line 13

5.2.4 Update the **fastqc** command which is missing the input files. Here we will concatenate the file names located in the variable **\$1** and **\$2** with the expected extension **.fastq**. We can concatenate variables and text using double quotes (" "). Your complete line 20 should look like:

fastqc --kmers 7 --outdir fastqc # Line 20

5.2.5 Recall that the command we used for **trimmomatic** is rather long. To make it clearer in our bash script, we can split a single command into multiple lines with the back slash (\). For this to work correctly, there can be NO whitespace following the \.

On the next line, the command will concatenate where the text begins again so you can use indentation to denote the same command is continuing. We'll use two spaces as indentation at the beginning of our continued command here. Your final command at line 27 will now span to line 30 with the last ILLUMINACLIP command spanning a single line:

```
trimmomatic PE -phred33 "$1.fastq.gz" "$2.fastq.gz" \
   "$1_trimmed_paired.fastq" "$1_trimmed_unpaired.fastq" \
   "$2_trimmed_paired.fastq" "$2_trimmed_unpaired.fastq" \
   ILLUMINACLIP:/home/<your_user_name>/anaconda3/share/trimmomatic-0.39-
2/adapters/TruSeq2-PE.fa:2:30:10 SLIDINGWINDOW:4:20 HEADCROP:2
```

5.2.6 Prior to running **prokka** in our script we need to remember that it is installed in its own environment. We'll need to activate **prokkaENV** to gain access to our **prokka** package. At line 47 add the following:

```
conda activate prokkaENV
```

# Line 47

5.2.7 Save the changes to your script and exit vi.

```
[esc]:wq
```

### 5.3.0 Run your first bash script pipeline

Now that we have completed our bash script, we can proceed with running it for the first time. Take a closer look at the code structure you can see that it is best to run this script within the final output folder you would like to use. Keep in mind that all of the output directories have been generated based on relative paths.

5.3.1 Make a folder for your output and change the working directory to this new folder.

```
cd ~/FGDS/Module6
mkdir pipeline
cd pipeline
```

5.3.2 Run the pipeline bashscript. Recall that the file for this script is located in ~/FGDS/Module6/

5.3.3 When your script eventually completes, you'll be able to view the various output. You can actually do so while **prokka** is running as well.

```
ls -la /HinfKW20 annotation
```

That's it for today! Good luck with your pipelines!

### 6.0.0 Class summary

That concludes our sixth and penultimate lecture bringing you up to speed on running our own assembly and annotation pipeline through the command line interface. Next module we'll focus on building our RNAseq pipeline and learning a little bit more programming. Altogether we've explored the following in this module:

- Quality checking, filtering, assembling and annotating from raw fastq reads in the command line.
- Generating awk commands to parse and process data.
- Creating custom bash scripts to run a simple bioinformatics pipeline.

### 6.1.0 Post-lecture assessment (9% of final grade)

Soon after this lecture, a homework assignment will be made available on Quercus in the assignment section. It will build on the ideas and/or data generated within this lecture. Each homework assignment will be worth 9% of your final mark. If you have assignment-related questions, please try the following steps in the order presented:

- Check the internet for a solution read forums and learn to navigate for answers.
- Generate a discussion on Quercus outlining what you've tried so far and see if other students can contribute to a solution.
- Contact course teaching assistants or the instructor.

### 6.2.0 Suggested class preparation for Module 7

Next week we will complete our exploration of bioinformatics tools through the lens of the command line. We'll cover variant calling and RNASeq as well as explore some additional basic programming concepts. To prepare for this, we suggest the following Coursera Modules:

- Command Line Tools for Genomic Data Science, *Lilana Florea*, *PhD*:
  - Module 3: Alignment and Sequence Variation (52 mins)
  - Module 4: Tools for Transcriptomics (1hr, 10mins)

### 6.3.0 Acknowledgements

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