

Transcriptome profiling exercise

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Use Binf's local galaxy server:

galaxy.bio.ku.dk

Use your previously created usernames and passwords. If none, then make them first!

Transcriptome profiling exercise

- Assignment: Use galaxy to
 1. Import data files (bam files)
 2. Assemble and quantify transcript (via Cufflinks)
 3. Make a combined transcriptome (via Cuffmerge)
 4. Make differential expression analysis (via Cuffdiff)
- And answer the questions along the way

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Part 1

- You will use four .bam files for this exercise: WT1, WT2, KD1 and KD2, WT representing wild type (control) and KD is knock-down (experiment)
- BAM files are the output of Bowtie (and Tophat) meaning files that show where reads map to the genome
- These bam files are from a small loci (500 kb) on chromosome 1. They are from an experiment where HOXA1 was knocked down.

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Part 1 (1 of 2)

1. Go to local BRIC galaxy: <http://galaxy.bio.ku.dk/> and log in
2. Make a new history and call it something like “RNA-seq exercise”
3. Go to “Files” on Absalon -> RNA_seq folder and download the 4 .bam files to use for this exercise (KD1.bam, KD2.bam, WT1.bam and WT2.bam)

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Part 1 (2 of 2)

4. Upload to Galaxy each of the 4 bam files. When uploading the first specify it is for hg19 (it will do so for the others automatically) Leave everything else at default.

- Hint: Galaxy allows you to queue tasks, meaning you can queue the upload of all 4 files
- Question: Why can't you use the "view data" (eye icon) for the bam files?
Hint: What are bam files?

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Part 2 (1 of 3)

- That should result in something like this in the data menu (right side):



- The order and numbers does not matter
- Question: Why can't you use the "view data" (eye icon) for the bam files?
Hint: What are bam files?

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Part 2 (2 of 3)

- Find the “NGS: RNA Analysis” section in the tool menu - here we have everything we need for RNA-seq analysis
- Remember! Read the whole documentation page before using any tool!

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Part 2 (3 of 3)

- For each of the 4 bam files assemble the transcripts using the “cufflinks” tool with default parameters (run cufflinks 4 times)
- Hint: We only need the data called “assembled transcripts” meaning you can delete the other files (and preserve the overview)
- Question: For the cufflinks run on WT1.bam, how many transcripts found consists of 1 exon (manually inspect the files)?
Hint: The “view data” button might be usefull
Hint: Look up a GTF file online

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Part 3 (1 of 1)

- Using the input of all 4 cufflinks runs (the “assembled transcripts”) create a combined transcriptome with the “cuffmerge” tool. Use default parameters
- Question: What is a GTF file (google it)
- Question: How would you obtain the GTF file, containing the RefSeq genes or UCSC knownGenes (both are reference transcriptome/annotation), required if you want to use the “Use Reference Annotation” parameter?

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Part 4 (1 of 2)

- Use the Cuffdiff tool, with default parameters, to make de differential expression analysis. Use all 4 bam files and the combined transcriptome create via cuffmerge
- Today we only need “transcript differential expression testing” and “gene differential expression testing”.

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Part 4 (2 of 2)

- How many transcripts were found in the combined transcriptome? How many genes?
- How many significantly differentially expressed genes were found? Transcripts?
- What does the ratio of significant gene/transcripts tell you?

Transcriptome profiling solutions

- **Q:** Why can you not use the “view data” (eye icon) for the bam files?
A: BAM files are binary - only computer readable - and can therefore not be displayed to you
- **Q:** For the cufflinks run on WT1.bam, how many transcripts found consists of 1 exon?
A: 5
- **Q:** How would you obtain the reference GTF required to use the “Use Reference Annotation” parameter?
A: Get Data -> UCSC Main -> chose GTF output from table browser -> choose send to galaxy

Transcriptome profiling solutions

- **Q:** How many transcripts were found in the combined transcriptome? How many genes?
A: 20 genes and 50 transcripts ~ 2.5 transcripts pr gene
- **Q:** How many significantly differentially expressed genes were found? Transcripts?
A: 10 genes and 5 transcripts
- **Q:** What does the ratio of significant gene/transcripts tell you
A: That a gene does not need significant transcripts to be significant itself and vice versa