

Nextflow Summit  
by  seqera

# 10 years of multiqc

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Product Manager for OSS, Seqera



# Celebrating 10 years

How MultiQC became a cornerstone of bioinformatics

1

2

3

2015

2016

2017

Sep

First public release

Aug

First commit



2015

2016

2017

Jul

Published in *Bioinformatics*

Mar

Static image plots



2019

2020

2021

2022

Sep

Support for > 100 tools



2024

2025

2026

May

MultiQC in scripts

Oct

Table sample grouping



2024

2025

2026

Jan  
AI Summaries

Oct  
*[insert feature announcement here]*



167

Tools supported

1.5M+

Downloads

7k+

Journal citations

235

Contributors

1,370

GitHub Stars ★

25k+

Daily runs





python2.7 1. python2.7

```
(work) ~/analysis » multiqc .
[INFO ] multiqc : This is MultiQC v0.6.dev0
[INFO ] multiqc : Searching '.'
[INFO ] feature_counts : Found 6 reports
[INFO ] star : Found 6 reports
[INFO ] cutadapt : Found 6 reports
[INFO ] fastq_screen : Found 6 reports
[INFO ] fastqc : Found 6 reports
[INFO ] multiqc : Report      : multiqc_report.html
[INFO ] multiqc : Data       : multiqc_data
[INFO ] multiqc : MultiQC complete
(work) ~/analysis »
```

Recorded  
August 2015

1 2 3

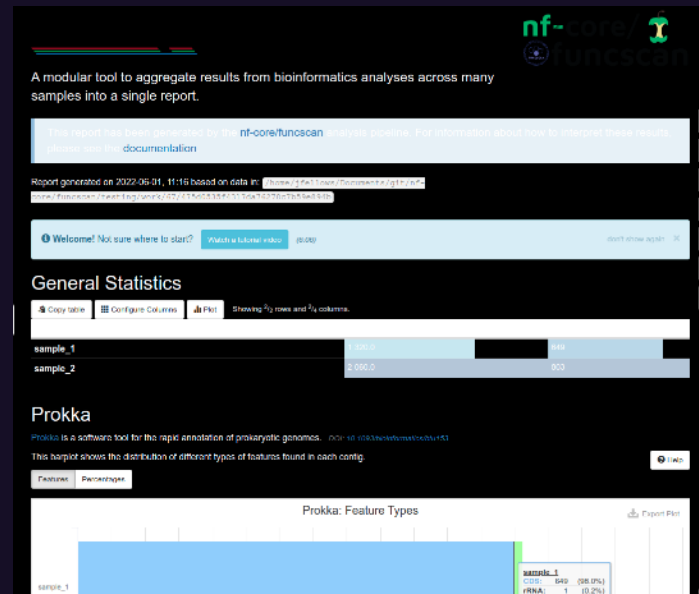
# Dark Mode / Themes

Custom colours in a few lines of code 🕶️

1

2 3

# Dark Mode / Themes



file:///home/user/multiqc\_report.html

This page is protected by browser

# Dark Mode / Themes



Bootstrap v5.3



vladsavelyev on Aug 13, 2024

It sounds like it would be a rewrite, rather than an upgrade

# Dark Mode / Themes



Bootstrap v5.3



Vite

# Dark Mode / Themes



multiqc

v1.31

General Stats

featureCounts

STAR

Summary Statistics

Alignment Scores

Cutadapt

Filtered Reads

Trimmed Sequence Lengths (3)

FastQC: trimmed

Sequence Counts

Sequence Quality Histograms

Per Sequence Quality Score

Per Base Sequence Content

Per Sequence GC Content

Per Base N Content

Sequence Length Distribution

Sequence Duplication Levels

Overrepresented sequences by sample

Top overrepresented sequences

Adapter Content

Status Checks

FastQC: raw

Sequence Counts

Sequence Quality Histograms

Per Sequence Quality Scores

Per Base Sequence Content

Per Sequence GC Content

Per Base N Content

Sequence Length Distribution

Sequence Duplication Levels

Overrepresented sequences by sample

Top overrepresented sequences

multiqc

A modular tool to aggregate results from bioinformatics analyses across many samples into a single report.

Report generated on 2025-10-21, 10:57 CEST based on data in: /Users/ewels/GitHub/MultiQC/website/public/examples/rna-seq/multiqc\_original.html/multiqc\_report.html

📘 Welcome! Not sure where to start?

Watch a tutorial video. (6:06)

don't show again

Report AI Summary

- All samples show good alignment rates (82-98%), but high duplication rates (57-81%) across all samples
- [SRR3192396](#) and [SRR3192399](#) have lower assignment rates (~51%) compared to other samples (66-73%)

More details...

Provider: Segera AI, model: claude-sonnet-4-0 Chat with Segera AI

General Statistics

📄 Copy table

⚙️ Configure columns

📊 Scatter plot

📈 Violin plot

📄 Export as CSV...

Showing 6/8 rows and 7/14 columns.

➕ Summarize table

Sample Name	Assigned	Aligned	Uniq aligned	Trimmed bases	Dups	GC	Seqs
▶ SRR3192396	67.5 %	97.2 %	93.7 %	3.2 %	75.9 %	50.5 %	208.8M
▶ SRR3192397	66.6 %	98.1 %	94.7 %	2.8 %	74.7 %	48.5 %	183.9M
▶ SRR3192398	50.9 %	90.9 %	88.2 %	5.0 %	57.6 %	47.0 %	133.1M
▶ SRR3192399	52.3 %	96.3 %	88.2 %	5.0 %	59.3 %	47.0 %	148.7M
▶ SRR3192400	70.3 %	83.1 %	77.3 %	4.2 %	75.1 %	45.0 %	189.9M
▶ SRR3192401	71.2 %	82.2 %	76.4 %	6.2 %	75.9 %	45.0 %	190.5M
▶ SRR3192657	73.1 %	94.1 %	91.2 %	2.5 %	81.4 %	50.5 %	166.3M
▶ SRR3192658	71.2 %	92.5 %	89.7 %	2.8 %	81.4 %	52.0 %	194.1M

featureCounts

Counts mapped reads for genomic features such as genes, exons, promoter, gene bodies, genomic bins and chromosomal locations. URL: <http://subread.sourceforge.net> DOI: [10.1093/bioinformatics/btn555](https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btn555)

Assignments

Percentages

➕ Summarize plot

📄 Export...

featureCounts: Assignments

8 bars

Sample	Assigned	Unassigned: Ambiguity	Unassigned: Multi Mapping	Unassigned: No Features
SRR3192396_1	~70%	~2%	~10%	~18%
SRR3192397_1	~65%	~2%	~10%	~23%
SRR3192398_1	~50%	~2%	~10%	~38%



multiqc  
v1.30.dev2

General Stats

featureCounts

STAR

Summary Statistics

Alignment Scores

Cutadapt

Filtered Reads

Trimmed Sequence Lengths (3')

FastQC: trimmed

Sequence Counts

Sequence Quality Histograms

Per Sequence Quality Scores

Per Base Sequence Content

Per Sequence GC Content

Per Base N Content

Sequence Length Distribution

Sequence Duplication Levels

Overrepresented sequences by sample

Top overrepresented sequences

Adaptor Content

Status Checks

FastQC: raw

Sequence Counts

Sequence Quality Histograms

Per Sequence Quality Scores

Per Base Sequence Content

Per Sequence GC Content

Per Base N Content

Sequence Length Distribution

Sequence Duplication Levels

Overrepresented sequences by sample

multiqc

A modular tool to aggregate results from bioinformatics analyses across many samples into a single report.

Report generated on 2025-10-21, 11:29 CEST based on data in: /Users/ewels/GitHub/MultiQC/website/public/examples/rna-seq/multiqc\_report.html#star

Welcome! Not sure where to start?

Watch a tutorial video (6:00)

don't show again

Report AI Summary

- All samples show good alignment rates (82-98%), but high duplication levels (55-82%) across all samples
- SRR3192398** and **SRR3192399** show lower assignment rates (~51%) compared to other samples (56-73%)

More details...

Provider: Secora AI, model: claude-3-5-sonnet-latest

Chat with Secora AI

General Statistics

Copy table

Configure columns

Scatter plot

Violin plot

Export as CSV...

Showing 76 rows and 7 columns

+ Summarize table

Sample Name	Assigned	Aligned	Uniq aligned	Trimmed bases	Dups	GC	Seqs
▶ SRR3192396	67.5%	97.2%	93.7%	3.2%	75.9%	50.5%	208.8 M
▶ SRR3192397	66.6%	98.1%	94.7%	2.8%	74.7%	48.5%	183.9 M
▶ SRR3192398	50.9%	95.9%	88.2%	5.0%	67.6%	47.0%	133.1 M
▶ SRR3192399	52.3%	96.3%	88.2%	5.0%	69.3%	47.0%	148.7 M
▶ SRR3192400	70.3%	83.1%	77.3%	6.2%	76.1%	45.0%	189.9 M
▶ SRR3192401	71.2%	82.2%	76.4%	6.2%	75.9%	45.0%	190.5 M
▶ SRR3192657	73.1%	94.1%	91.2%	2.5%	81.4%	50.5%	186.3 M
▶ SRR3192658	71.2%	92.5%	89.7%	2.8%	81.4%	52.0%	194.1 M

featureCounts

Counts mapped reads for genomic features such as genes, exons, promoter, gene bodies, genomic bins and chromosomal locations. <http://subread.sourceforge.net> DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/bt656

Assignments

Percentages

+ Summarize plot

Export...

featureCounts: Assignments

8 samples

- Assigned
- Unassigned: Ambiguity
- Unassigned: Multi Mapping
- Unassigned: No Features

file:///Users/ewels/GitHub/MultiQC/website/public/examples/rna-seq/multiqc\_report.html#general\_stats

DON'T SHOW AGAIN X

- ALL SAMPLES SHOW GOOD ALIGNMENT RATES (87-98%), BUT HIGH DUPLICATION LEVELS (57-82%) ACROSS ALL SAMPLES
- SRR3/91398 AND SRR3/91399 HAVE LOWER ASSIGNMENT RATES (~51%) COMPARED TO OTHER SAMPLES (66-73%)

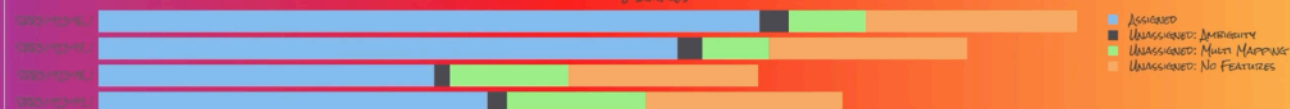
Provider: SERPERA NL Model: CLAUDE-3-5-SONNET-LATEST

CHAT WITH SEGERA A

## FEATURE COUNTS

COUNTS MAPPED READS FOR GENOMIC FEATURES SUCH AS GENES, EXONS, PROMOTERS, GENE BODIES, GENOMIC BINS AND CHROMOSOMAL LOCATIONS. [HTTP://SNP-READ.SOURCEFORGE.NET](http://snp-read.sourceforge.net) DOI: 10.1093/BIOINFORMATICS/BTT156

FEATURE COUNTS: ASSIGNMENTS  
& SAMPLES



\_colors.scss

multiqc > templates > disco > src > scss > \_colors.scss > ...

```
1 $body-bg: #833ab4;
2
3 $font-family-base: "Rock Salt", cursive;
4
5 $primary: #7300ff;
6 $secondary: #00ff0d;
7
8 $body-primary-bg: #f00;
9 $body-secondary-bg: #00f;
10 $body-tertiary-bg: #e1ff00;
11 $info: #3300aa;
12
```

custom.scss

multiqc > templates > disco > src > scss > custom.scss > ...

```
1 @import "https://fonts.googleapis.com/css2?family=Rock+Salt&d
2
3 body {
4   background: linear-gradient(
5     90deg,
6     rgba(131, 58, 180, 1) 0%,
7     rgba(253, 29, 29, 1) 50%,
8     rgba(252, 176, 69, 1) 100%
9   );
10 }
11 .side-nav-wrapper {
12   background: linear-gradient(
13     0deg,
14     rgba(34, 193, 195, 1) 0%,
15     rgba(253, 187, 45, 1) 100%
16   );
17 }
18
```



Dark mode



Reduced report file size by 50%



Simple custom colour themes

1

2

# Thanks

Phil Ewels <phil.ewels@seqera.io>



Vlad Savelyev  
(Astra Zeneca)

**vladsavelyev**

1,036 commits 391,617 ++ 113,728 --

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