

VCF/BCF format

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.2
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=f126cdf8a6e0c7f379d618ff66beb2da,species="Homo
sapiens",taxonomy=x>
##phasing=partial
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
##FILTER=<ID=q10,Description="Quality below 10">
##FILTER=<ID=s50,Description="Less than 50% of samples have data">
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype Quality">
```

INFO

FILTER

FORMAT

#CHROM	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO	FORMAT	NA00001 ...
20	14370	rs6054257	G	A	29	PASS	NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:48:1:51,51
20	17330	.	T	A	3	q10	NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:49:3:58,50
20	1110696	rs6040355	A	G,T	67	PASS	NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	1 2:21:6:23,27
20	1230237	.	T	.	47	PASS	NS=3;DP=13;AA=T	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:54:7:56,6
20	1234567	microsat1	GTC	G,GTCT	50	PASS	NS=3;DP=9;AA=G	GT:GQ:DP	0/1:35:4

VCF format

		ID in dbSNP					Defined in ##INFO lines				
#CHR	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO	FORMAT	NA000001 ...		
20	14370	rs6054257	G	A	29	PASS	NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:48:1:51,51		
20	17330	.	T	A	3	q10	NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:49:3:58,50		
20	1110696	rs6040355	A	G,T	67	PASS	NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	1 2:21:6:23,27		
20	1230237	.	T	.	47	PASS	NS=3;DP=13;AA=T	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:54:7:56,6		
20	1234567	microsat1	GTC	G,GTCT	50	PASS	NS=3;DP=9;AA=G	GT:GQ:DP	0/1:35:4		

DEL,INS
 Defined in ##FILTER lines

Defined in ##FORMAT lines

Genotype; follows FORMAT specifications

<https://samtools.github.io/hts-specs/VCFv4.2.pdf>

VCF format: INFO

```
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Number of Samples With Data">  
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Total Depth">  
##INFO=<ID=AF,Number=A,Type=Float,Description="Allele Frequency">  
##INFO=<ID=AA,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Ancestral Allele">  
##INFO=<ID=DB,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="dbSNP membership, build 129">  
##INFO=<ID=H2,Number=0,Type=Flag,Description="HapMap2 membership">
```

Other standard fields:

1000G, AA (ancestral allele), CIGAR, MQ0 (# reads with MAPQ==0), etc.

Examples

NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;

NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017;

NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;

NS=3;DP=13;AA=T

NS=3;DP=9;AA=G

VCF format: FORMAT

```
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1,Type=String,Description="Genotype">  
##FORMAT=<ID=GQ,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Genotype Quality">  
##FORMAT=<ID=DP,Number=1,Type=Integer,Description="Read Depth">  
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ,Number=2,Type=Integer,Description="Haplotype  
Quality">
```

Other standard fields:

FT (filter pass), GL (genotype likelihood), MQ (mapping quality), etc.

Example

FORMAT	NA00001 ...
GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:48:1:51,51
GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:49:3:58,50
GT:GQ:DP:HQ	1 2:21:6:23,27
GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:54:7:56,6
GT:GQ:DP	0/1:35:4

VCF format: Entries

1. SNP

```
Ref:  g c a G g t
Var:  g c a A g t
```

#CHROM	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO
14	4	.	G	A	.	PASS	DP=100

2. DEL

```
Ref:  g c a G g t
Var:  g c a - g t
```

14	4	.	AG	A	.	PASS	DP=100
----	---	---	----	---	---	------	--------

3. Mixed

```
Ref:  g c a G g t
Var1: g c a - g t
Var2: g c a A g t
Var3: g c a Gtg t
```

14	4	.	AG	AG,A,AA,AGT	A	.	PASS	DP=100
----	---	---	----	-------------	---	---	------	--------

Decoding VCF entries

ID in dbSNP

#CHR	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO	FORMAT	NA000001 ...
20	14370	rs6054257	G	A	29	PASS	NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:48:1:51,51
20	17330	.	T	A	3	q10	NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:49:3:58,50
20	1110696	rs6040355	A	G,T	67	PASS	NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	1 2:21:6:23,27
20	1230237	.	T	.	47	PASS	NS=3;DP=13;AA=T	GT:GQ:DP:HQ	0 0:54:7:56,6
20	1234567	microsat1	GTC	G,GTCT	50	PASS	NS=3;DP=9;AA=G	GT:GQ:DP	0/1:35:4

DEL,INS

Quality < 10

NS=# samples;
DP=total read depth;
HQ=haplotype quality

GT=genotype;
GQ=quality;
DP=total read depth;
HQ=haplotype quality

Two ALT alleles