

Introduction to NGS data analysis

Richard Smith-Unna

1. Rigour and reproducibility
2. Getting your read data
3. What your data looks like: the FASTQ format
4. Organising the raw data
5. Read data quality checking
6. Quality improvement
7. Getting hold of a reference
8. Aligning reads to the reference
9. Application-specific workflows

1. Rigour and reproducibility

- Bioinformatics is *science*
- Keep a (digital) lab book
- Diligently record protocols:
 - software versions
 - commands
 - settings
 - file manipulations
 - numerical conversions
- Publish your code
- Data driven discovery is valid science, but requires self control

2. Getting your read data

- FTP or HTTP transfer (wget or curl)
- Might require a special program or plugin (e.g. Aspera)
- Files are compressed FASTQ, separate files for left and right pairs
- Verify file integrity after download (md5sum)
- Pay attention to download expiry dates
- Backup

Subject: Re: Re: F14FTSEUHT01 [REDACTED] data release
Date: 2014-07-24 11:01
From: shirley xiaoxi guo <shirley.guo@bgitechsolutions.com>
To: [REDACTED]@cam.ac.uk>

Dear [REDACTED],

Please download data as below:

Link: <http://cdts.genomics.hk/customerSupport/login.xhtml> [1]
Account: 20140723F14FTSEUHT01 [REDACTED]
Password: CHLhtbT201 [REDACTED]

3. What your data looks like: the FASTQ format

```
@HWUSI-EAS100R:6:73:941:1973#0/1
GATTGGGGTTCAAAGCAGTATCGATCAAATAGTAAATCCATTGTTCAACTCACAGTTT
+
!''*(((((***+))%%&%%++)(%%&%%).1***-+*''))**55CCF>>>>>CCCCCCC65
```

sequence identifier

HWUSI-EAS100R	the unique instrument name
6	flowcell lane
73	tile number within the flowcell lane
941	'x'-coordinate of the cluster within the tile
1973	'y'-coordinate of the cluster within the tile
#0	index number for a multiplexed sample (0 for no indexing)
/1	the member of a pair, /1 or /2 (<i>paired-end or mate-pair reads only</i>)

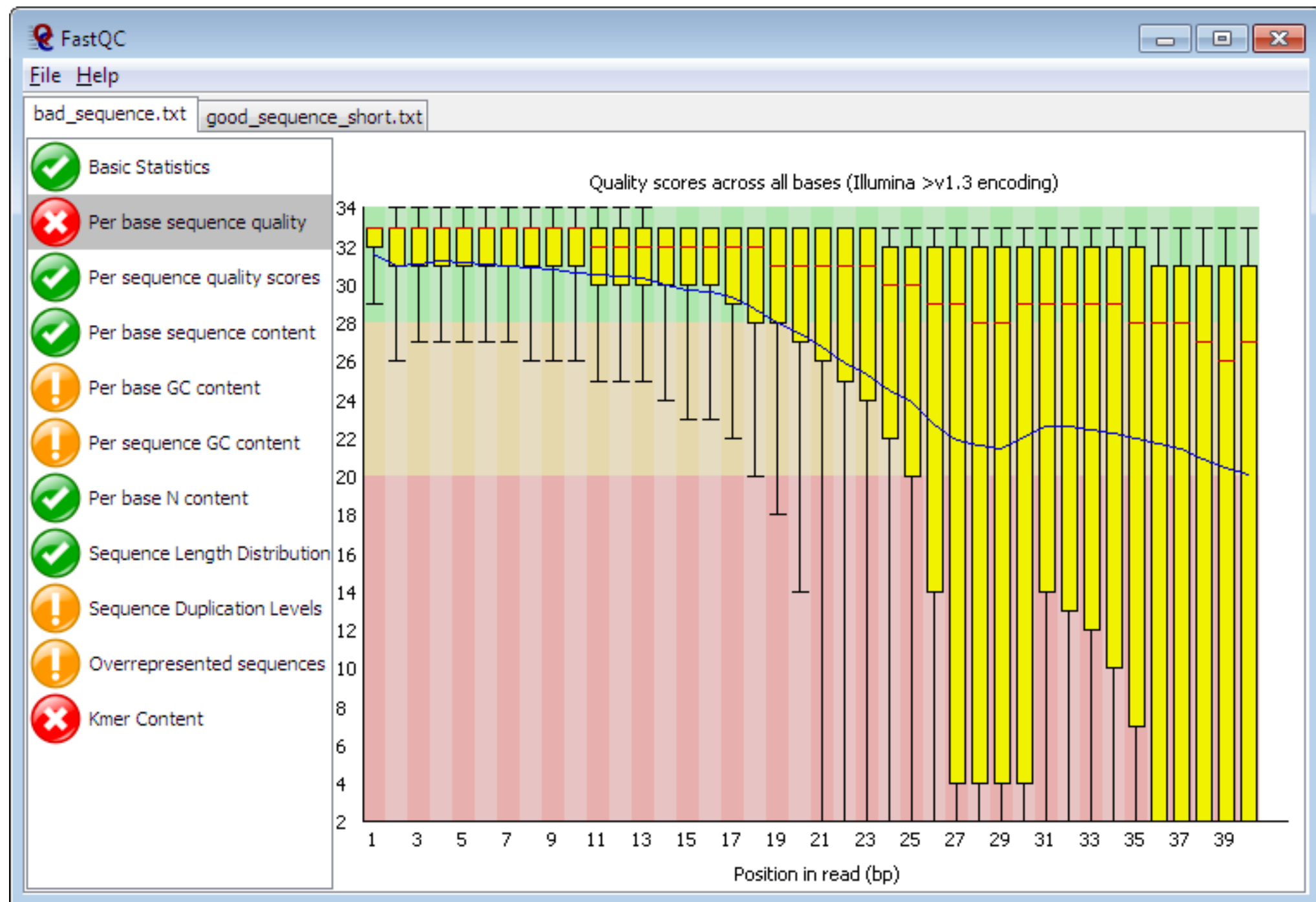
base quality

```
!"#$%&'()*+,-./0123456789:;<=>?@ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ[\]^_`abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz{|}~
```

4. Organising the raw data

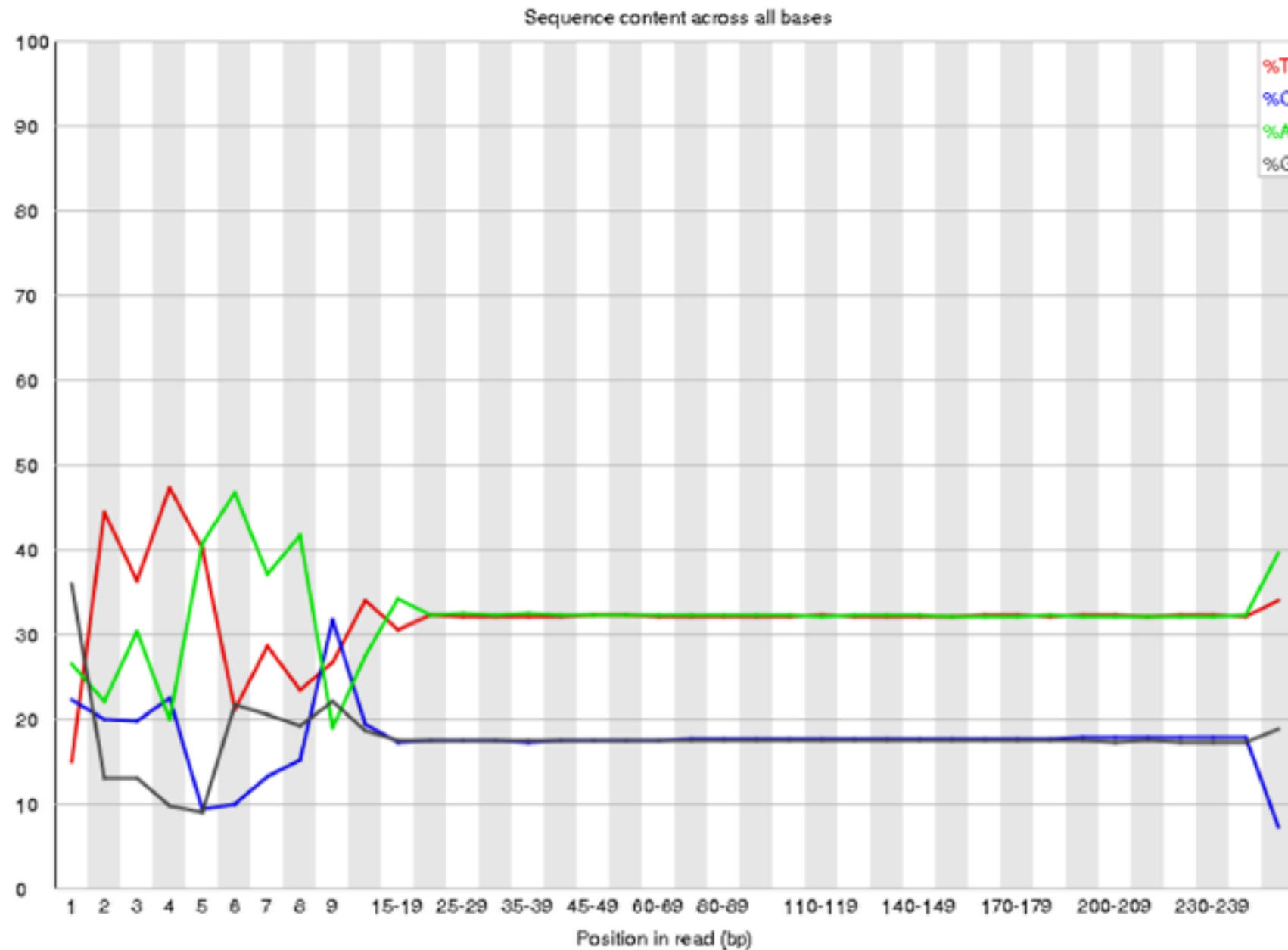
- if samples are multiplexed, map barcodes to samples
- may require splitting, e.g. with fastx-toolkit barcode splitter
- organise according to condition and sample
- give files machine-parseable names
 - rice_wet_rep1_left.fq.gz
 - rice_wet_rep1_right.fq.gz
 - rice_wet_rep2_left.fq.gz
 - rice_wet_rep2_right.fq.gz
 - rice_dry_rep1_left.fq.gz
 - rice_dry_rep1_right.fq.gz
 - rice_dry_rep2_left.fq.gz
 - rice_dry_rep2_right.fq.gz

5. Read data quality checking



<http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc>

5. Read data quality checking



Sequence content (%)

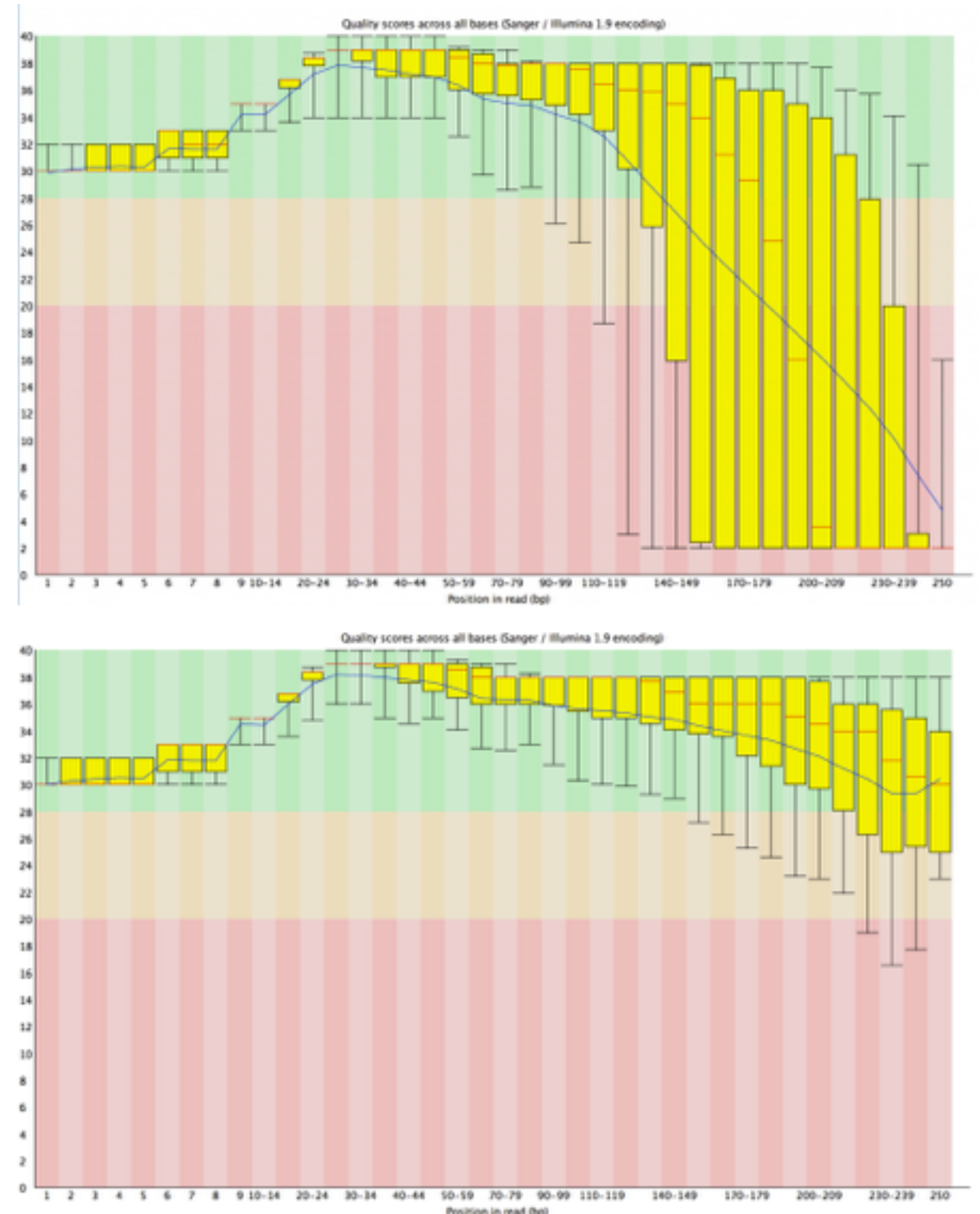
6. Quality improvement

common approaches:

- trimming adapters
- trimming low-quality bases
- trimming to a fixed length
- discarding low-quality reads

tools:

- trimmomatic
- fastx-toolkit



7. Getting hold of a reference

genome or transcriptome?

- genome for:
 - variant calling
 - DNase-seq
 - ChIP-seq
- transcriptome for:
 - RNAseq
- FASTA format

```
>Seq1 [organism=Carpodacus mexicanus] actin (act) mRNA, partial cds
CCTTTATCTAATCTTTGGAGCATGAGCTGGCATAGTTGGAACCGCCCTCAGCCT
CCTCATCCGTGCAGAACTTGGACAACCTGGAACCTTTCTAGGAGACGACCAAAT
TTACAATGTAATCGTCACTGCCCACGCCTTCGTAATAATTTTCTTTATAGTAATAC
CAATCATGATCGGTGGTTTTCGGAAACTGACTAGTCCCACTCATAATCGGCGCCC
CCGACATAGCATTCCCCCGTATAAACAACATAAGCTTCTGACTACTTCCCCCATC
ATTTCTTTTACTTCTAGCATCCTCCACAGTAGAAGCTGGAGCAGGAACAGGGTG
AACAGTATATCCCCCTCTCGCTGGTAACCTAGCCCATGCCGGTGCTTCAGTAGA
CCTAGCCATCTTCTCCCTCCACTTAGCAGGTGTTTCCTCTATCCTAGGTGCTATT
AACTTTATTACAACCGCCATCAACATAAAACCCCAACCCTCTCCCAATACCAAA
CCCCCTATTTCGTATGATCAGTCCTTATTACCGCCGTCCTTCTCCTACTCTCTCTC
CCAGTCCTCGCTGCTGGCATTACTATACTACTAACAGACCGAAACCTAAACACTA
CGTTCTTTGACCCAGCTGGAGGA
```

7. Getting hold of a reference

- sources of existing references:
 - ENSEMBL
<http://ensembl.org>
 - JGI
<http://genome.jgi.doe.gov>
 - EBI genomes
<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/genomes/bacteria.html>
- assembling your own:
 - covered tomorrow

8. Aligning reads to the reference

- Estimate the original source location of each read
- Simon will cover this in the next lecture

9. Application-specific workflows

- Usually starts by converting read alignments into some numerical summary data (e.g. expression counts, peak calls)
- Running programs from the command-line
- Using specialist packages in a programming language like R (<http://bioconductor.org>), Python or Ruby (<http://biogems.info>)
- Writing your own analysis code
- Performing statistical analysis on alignment summary data
- Normalisation: accounting for different sample sizes
- Storytelling and plotting