

# BIOL 354W - Research Methods in Advance Microbiology

Version 14

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## Abstract

This protocol series will guide students through the experience of analyzing metagenomic data.

**Citation:** Rosa Leon BIOL 354W - Research Methods in Advance Microbiology. **protocols.io**

dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.nysdfwe

**Published:** 22 Mar 2018

## Protocol

Introduction to BIOL 354W, sequencing data and bioinformatics

### Step 1.

[BIOL 354W Jan 16th](#)

[BIOL 354W Jan 18th](#)

Command line tutorial

### Step 2.

In order to do bioinformatics, we first need to become comfortable using the computational language and basic skills that will allow you to analyze data.

Open this link in Chrome

 LINK:

[http://rik.smith-unna.com/command\\_line\\_bootcamp/](http://rik.smith-unna.com/command_line_bootcamp/)

 NOTES

**Marcia Smith** 29 Jan 2018

change to:

In order to do bioinformatics, we first need to become comfortable using the computational language and basic skills that will allow you to analyze data.

DNA quality assessment and assurance

### Step 3.

The first step in analyzing the sequencing data set is to assess the quality of the sequence, and then to edit the dataset in order to retain only the highest quality sequences for the following analysis.

To this end we will use: FastQC - A high throughput sequence QC analysis tool

Familiarize yourself with the software by looking at their [web page](#) - check out the video tutorial!

#### cmd COMMAND

```
scp -r username@bio-server-2.willamette.edu:/home/username/folder_with_fastqc_file ~/Desktop/
```

Now that the software has run and you have folders and files with data, you should look at the data to assess the quality and make a decision about the quality control step that we will work on next. For this you can unzip your folder where there will be detail information about the results, as well as a summary of the run. You can also download the .html file to look at the graphic representation of the run, the same format you experienced on the FastQC web and tutorial

#### 📌 NOTES

**Rosa Leon** 14 Jan 2018

You can perform the FastQC file on .fastq files and also in .fastq.gz files or compressed files

**Rosa Leon** 30 Jan 2018

This step must be done from a Terminal window that is looking at your own computer and not connected to the server

**Marcia Smith** 29 Jan 2018

Change to:

The first step in analyzing the sequencing data set is to assess the quality of the sequence, and then to edit the dataset in order to retain only the highest quality sequences for the following analysis.

### Assuring DNA sequencing quality using Trimmomatic

#### Step 4.

Trimmomatic: A flexible read trimming tool for Illumina NGS data ([Website](#))

#### Description

Trimmomatic performs a variety of useful trimming tasks for Illumina paired-end and single ended

data. The selection of trimming steps and their associated parameters are supplied on the command line.

The current trimming steps are:

- ILLUMINACLIP: Cut adapter and other illumina-specific sequences from the read.
- SLIDINGWINDOW: Perform a sliding window trimming, cutting once the average quality within the window falls below a threshold.
- LEADING: Cut bases off the start of a read, if below a threshold quality
- TRAILING: Cut bases off the end of a read, if below a threshold quality
- CROP: Cut the read to a specified length
- HEADCROP: Cut the specified number of bases from the start of the read
- MINLEN: Drop the read if it is below a specified length
- TOPHRED33: Convert quality scores to Phred-33
- TOPHRED64: Convert quality scores to Phred-64

#### cmd **COMMAND**

```
java -jar /opt/BioInfo_tools/Trimmomatic-0.36/trimmomatic-0.36.jar PE -threads 5 -
phred33 input_forward.fq.gz input_reverse.fq.gz output_forward_paired.fq.gz output_forward_
unpaired.fq.gz output_reverse_paired.fq.gz output_reverse_unpaired.fq.gz ILLUMINACLIP:/opt/
BioInfo_tools/Trimmomatic-0.36/adapters/TruSeq3-
PE.fa:2:30:10 LEADING:15 TRAILING:15 SLIDINGWINDOW:4:15 MINLEN:36
input_forward.fq.gz = " the exact name of your forward or R1 sequence file" input_reverse.fq.gz =
" the exact name of your forward or R2 sequence file" output_forward_paired.fq.gz = write in what
you would like the output to be called Eg. 3A_trimmed_R1_paired.fastq.gz"
output_forward_unpaired.fq.gz = write in what you would like the output to be called Eg.
3A_trimmed_R1_unpaired.fastq.gz" output_reverse_paired.fq.gz = write in what you would like the
output to be called Eg. 3A_trimmed_R2_paired.fastq.gz" output_reverse_unpaired.fq.gz = write in
what you would like the output to be called Eg. 3A_trimmed_R2_unpaired.fastq.gz" Try to run this
command as it is with quality of Q15 (SLIDINGWINDOW:4:15) as currently stated in the command
and then with Q30 (SLIDINGWINDOW:4:30). Record the number % of out put sequences per each.
```

### Metagenomic assembly

#### Step 5.

To assemble our metagenomes we will try two different assemblies and compare them. We will try IDBA\_UD and Megahit assemblies. These are going to be one of the most time intensive processes that we will do in the class.

Megahit github - <https://github.com/voutcn/megahit/>

Megahit article - <https://academic.oup.com/bioinformatics/article/31/10/1674/177884>

IDBA\_UD - <https://github.com/loneknightpy/idba>

IDBA\_UD article - <https://academic.oup.com/bioinformatics/article/28/11/1420/266973>

cmd **COMMAND**

```
/opt/BioInfo_tools/idba/bin/idba_ud -r merged_reads.fa -o output_dir --num_threads 5
```

Once the read files are converted into fasta and in consecutive order then the assembly can be run  
merged\_reads.fa = your new generated merged fasta sequences files exactly as you called them  
output\_dir = a folder to store the assembly output, you choose the folder name

### Assessing the quality of the assemblies

#### Step 6.

We can investigate assembly statistics to compare which assembly is best between the two assemblies utilized. For this we can use a software called Quast.

Metrics based only on contigs:

- Number of large contigs (i.e., longer than 500 bp) and total length of them.
- Length of the largest contig.
- N50 (length of a contig, such that all the contigs of at least the same length together cover at least 50% of the assembly).
- Number of predicted genes, discovered either by GeneMark.hmm (for prokaryotes), GeneMark-ES or GlimmerHMM (for eukaryotes), or MetaGeneMark (for metagenomes).

cmd **COMMAND**

```
/opt/BioInfo_tools/quast/metaquast.py contig.fa --gene-finding -t 5
```

QUAST evaluates genome assemblies by computing various metrics.

### Binning assembled metagenomes with MaxBin

#### Step 7.

MaxBin is a software for binning assembled metagenomic sequences based on an Expectation-Maximization algorithm.

Users provide the assembled metagenomic sequences and the reads coverage information or sequencing reads. MaxBin will report genome-related statistics, including estimated completeness, GC content and genome size in the binning summary page.

MaxBin article - <https://academic.oup.com/bioinformatics/article/32/4/605/1744462>

cmd **COMMAND**

```
perl /opt/BioInfo_tools/MaxBin-2.2.4/run_MaxBin.pl -contig "assembled_contigs.fa" -  
reads "interleaved reads fasta" -out "out directory" -thread 5
```

MaxBin requires the assembled contains file and also the file that contains the sequence reads  
assembled\_contigs.fa = your contigs file (remember to add the full path if you are in a different directory)  
concatenated reads fasta = the path to your reads, these reads most all be in one file

and concatenate ( or paired R1 followed by R2 reads). This you can get from your IDBA fq2fa run out directory = a directory that you create to save your bins

### Assessing the quality of your bins via CheckM

#### Step 8.

Checkm article - <http://genome.cshlp.org/content/25/7/1043>

Also check out the website for information on CheckM - [CheckM website](#)

Before running CheckM the software pplacer must be included in the PATH by adding

`export PATH="/opt/anaconda3/bin:$PATH"` to the `.bashrc` file in your home directory under the

`# User specific aliases and functions` section.

#### cmd **COMMAND**

```
/usr/bin/checkm qa lineage.ms . -o 2
```

This command will help you generate an expanded information table about each of your bins. Run this command from within the directory where your checkm data is located copy the table that this command generated onto an excel sheet and analyze to then run VizBin

### Use VizBin to further curate your bins

#### Step 9.

VizBin is a java software that calculates kmer composition and creates a pictographical output that shows the similarity between contigs related to how close they are positioned to each other. We will use VizBin to help us de-contaminate our bins

VizBin will generate a visualization window. Each point represents a genomic fragment (by default of length  $\geq 1,000$ nt). VizBin is designed with the user in mind. All that is needed is a fasta file containing the sequences of interest. A step-by-step guide on using VizBin - including a description of loading the data, selecting points, and exporting the sequences represented by the selected points - is provided on the tutorial page of [VizBin's github wiki](#)

In order to run VizBin with your data you must download your bins fasta files onto your desktop.

To download go to the [VizBin page](#)

### Perform taxonomic identification using Phylosift

#### Step 10.

Phylosift software searches for single copy marker genes and finds their taxonomic classification

Before running this command take a moment to learn about the software at the [Phylosift webpage](#)

cmd **COMMAND**

```
/usr/local/phylosift_v1.0.1/bin/phylosift all your_bin.fasta --threads 3
```

To run Phylosift you only need to have change your\_bin.fasta for the files (and path if required) for each of your individual bins

### Prokka - software for annotations

#### Step 11.

Learn about how to set up a prokka run and what the outputs are by looking at the git hub [prokka webpage](#)

cmd **COMMAND**

First export the executable files in the bin directory :

```
export PATH=$PATH:/opt/BioInfo_tools/prokka-1.11/bin/
```

Then run PROKKA:

```
/opt/BioInfo_tools/prokka-1.11/bin/prokka contigs.fasta
```

We will annotated our curated bins using PROKKA

### Compare genomes to various databases

#### Step 12.

In order to assess the metabolic potential of you Metagenome Assembled Genomes (MAGs) we will compare their predicted proteins against a few different databases. These databases will provide information about what pathways or protein groups your annotated proteins belong to. This will help you assess what kind of metabolic potential your organisms possess.

We will start by taking our annotated proteins and running it in the BlastKoala web platform.

<http://www.kegg.jp/blastkoala/>

Use your PROKKA.faa file to copy the protein annotations and past on the box label Enter FASTA sequences or upload the PROKKA.faa file. Add you email so they can keep you update on the progress of your analysis.

Once you submit your PROKKA.faa and receive an email that your results are ready to view. Go to the View tab on top of the pie chart and press download details to get information about what metabolic pathway your proteins are associated with. After doing this, go back to the pie chart webpage and click on the Reconstruct Modules link at the bottom of the page. This will show metabolic pathways and in the detailed tab will show you which of your proteins fall within each pathways. Copy this and use as a text or save as PDF (by using Safari web browser)

## Compare genomes to various databases

### Step 13.

In order to run the next few steps we need to add another set of software to our path

cmd **COMMAND**

```
nano .bashrc
```

```
##copy and paste
```

```
User specific aliases and functions
```

```
export PATH=$PATH:/opt/ncbi-blast-2.7.1+/bin/
```

```
## Save file changes by "control + 0" and then "control + X", then close the window and log in again to the server
```

This step is crucial to successfully run the next few steps

## Compare genomes to various databases

### Step 14.

Compare annotated proteins to the Cluster of Orthologous Genes (COG)

cmd **COMMAND**

```
perl /opt/BioInfo_tools/cdd2cog.pl -r output_file.out -c /opt/BioInfo_tools/COG/cddid.tbl -f /opt/BioInfo_tools/COG/fun.txt -w /opt/BioInfo_tools/COG/whog -a
```

Once we have generated a blast output, which provides a comparison of our annotated bins to the COG database we can use the cdd2cog perl script to count and parse that information for us

## Running Phylosift on metagenomic reads using tmux

### Step 15.

In order to assess the community composition of the whole metagenome we can use phylosift to find short pieces of markers in our reads. While running Phylosift with out bins/genomes takes maybe one to a few hours running Phylosift with millions of reads will take multiple hours to days. For this reason we need to use a window manager software call tmux . tmux will allow us to set up a process/job to run in a parallel window and exit the window while the process keeps running in the background.

In order to run Phylosift using tmux :

- Type = `tmux new -s session-name`      example of a session-name - `phylosft_3B`

- On the new window write your script command for Phylosift

```
/usr/local/phylosift_v1.0.1/bin/phylosift all --paired R1.fastq R2.fastq
```

- Verify that is running by typing = `tmux ls`

- Press together the keys `control+b+z` in your keyboard to disconnect from the parallel window

- To go back to that window type = `tmux a -t session-name`      for example `tmux a -t phylosft_3B`

- If something went terrible wrong you can kill your parallel window by typing = `tmux kill-session -t phylosft_3B`

## Running PROKKA and COG on your metagenomic contigs

### Step 16.

Given that we decided that we will be working with megahit assemblies - we will use the `final_contigs.fa` file to run both PROKKA on the full metagenome ( as opposed to bins recovered from the metagenome) and COG on the full metagenome.

To do this use the same commands as above for both PROKKA and COG, but change the fasta file to the `final_contigs.fa` from your whole metagenome