

RNA-Seq Analysis of Tumor Resistance in Knockout (KT) vs Wild-Type (WT) Mice

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Agenda

1. Steps Accomplished
2. Data Quality Reports
3. Results
4. Current Progress
5. Achievements

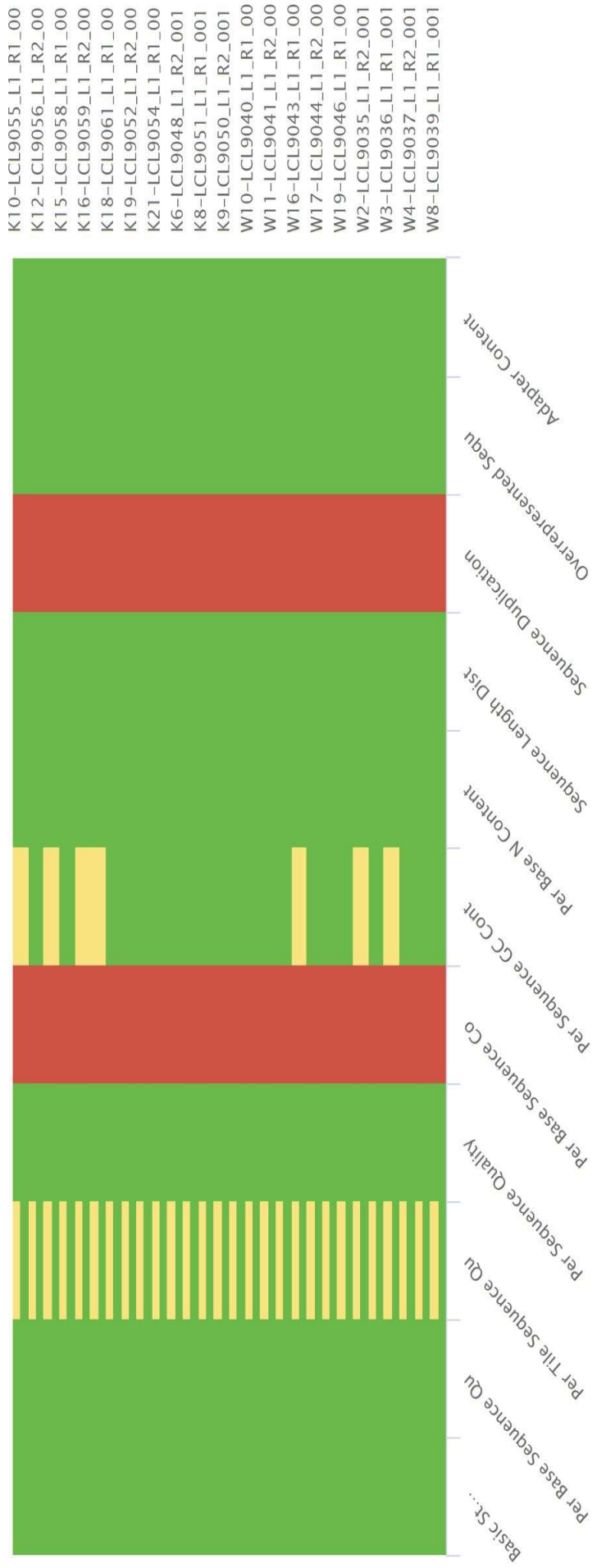
Steps Accomplished - High Level

1. Transferred 757 GB Data to HPC Clusters
2. Unzipping and FastQC, MultiQC reports
3. Trimming using multiple techniques
4. Verifying with data quality reports
5. Read Alignment using STAR
6. Collected statistics of Bam using Samtools
7. Generated featurecounts by GRCm39
8. Loaded the data into Rstudio
9. Processed the raw counts for analysis
10. Applied Deseq2
11. Filtered significant genes
12. Visualized the genes
13. Performed the Gene Ontology
14. Applied Kegg Pathway Analysis

Data Quality Checks - Raw Data

FastQC: Status Checks

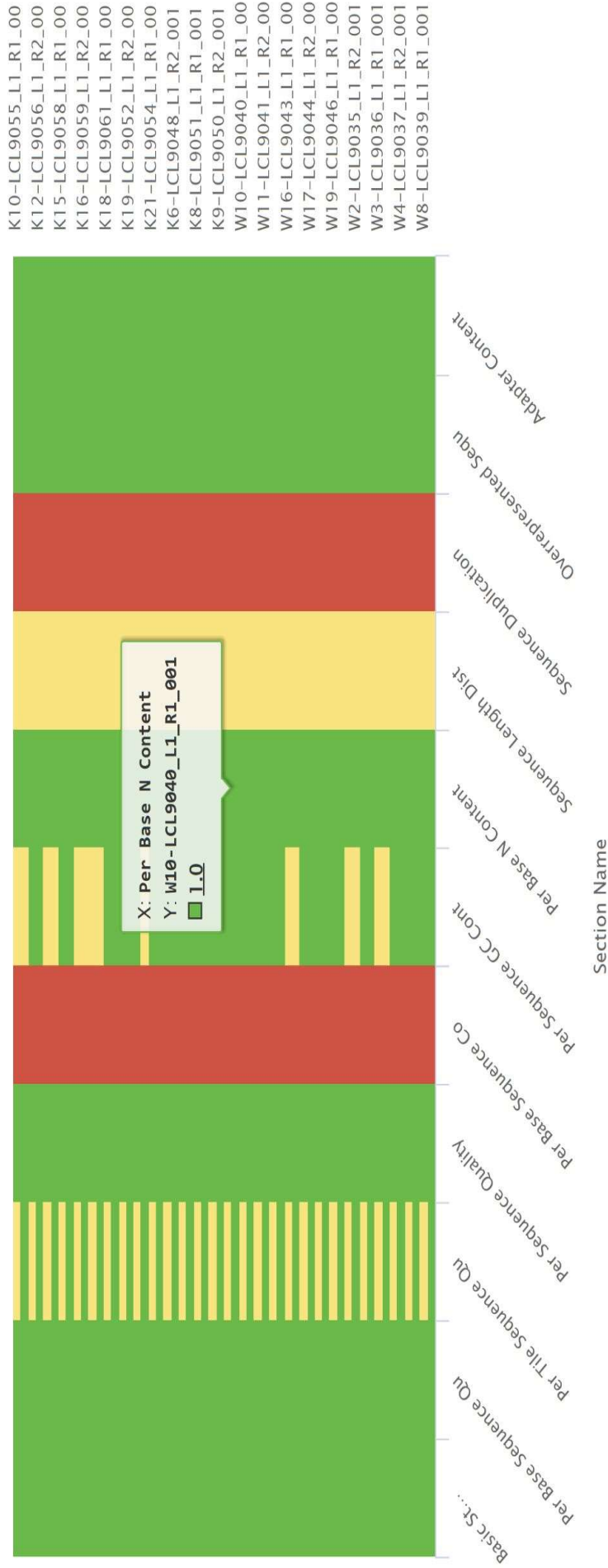
 Export Plot



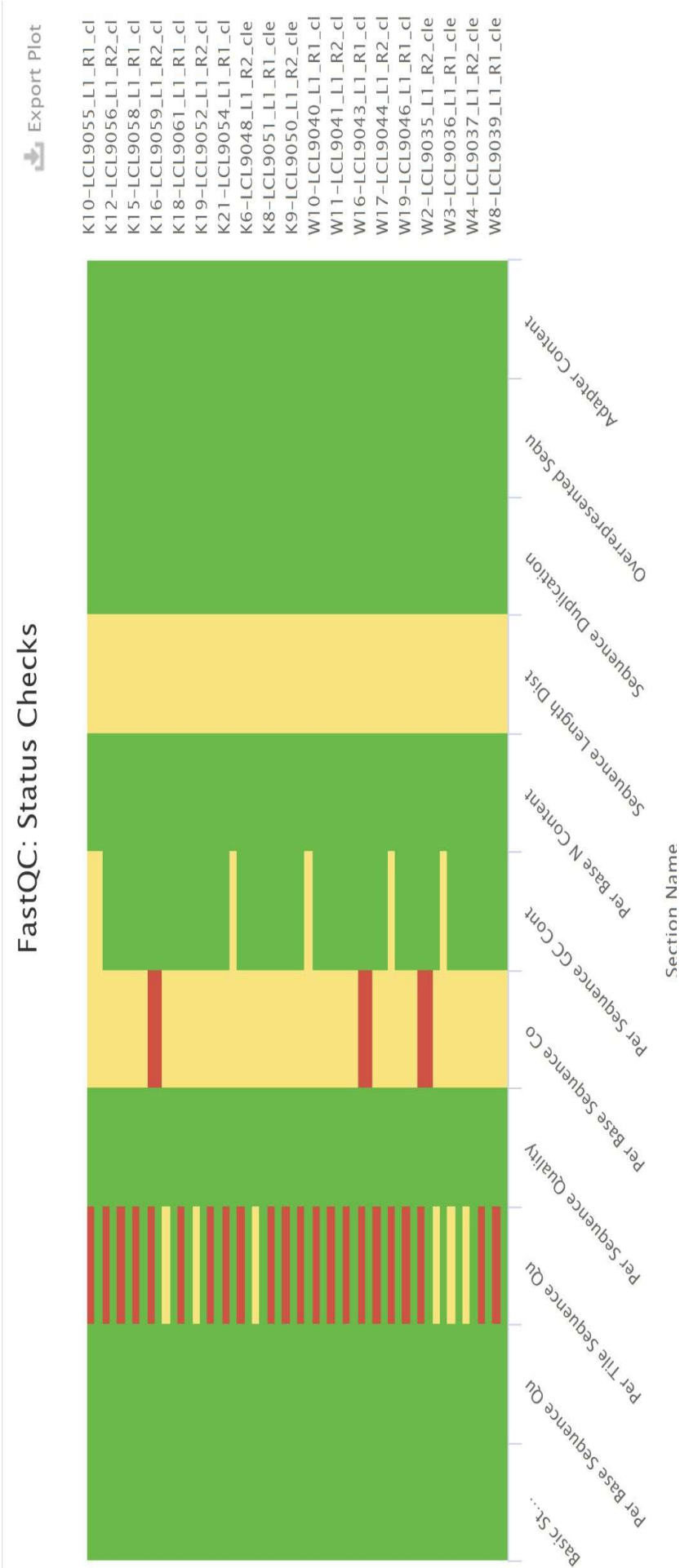
Data Quality Checks - Dedup Reads

FastQC: Status Checks

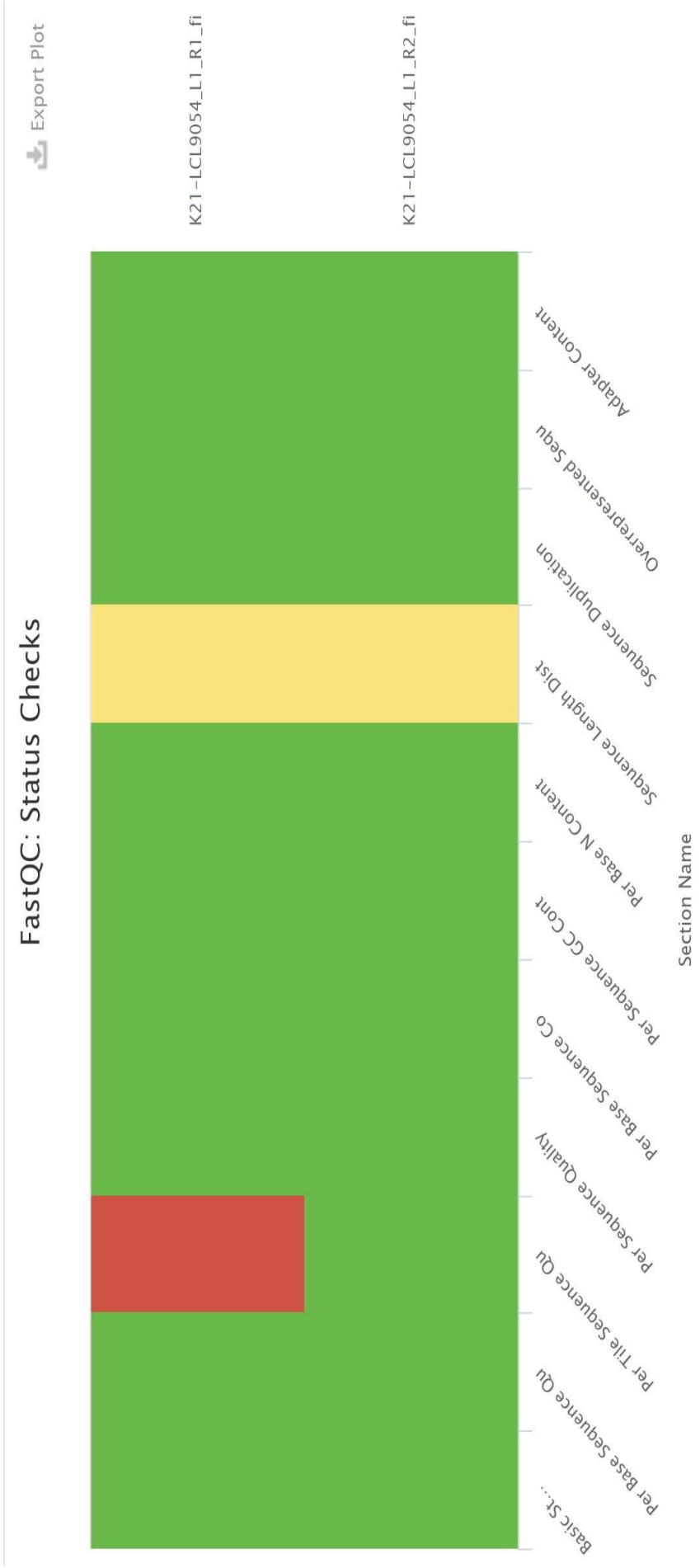
Export Plot



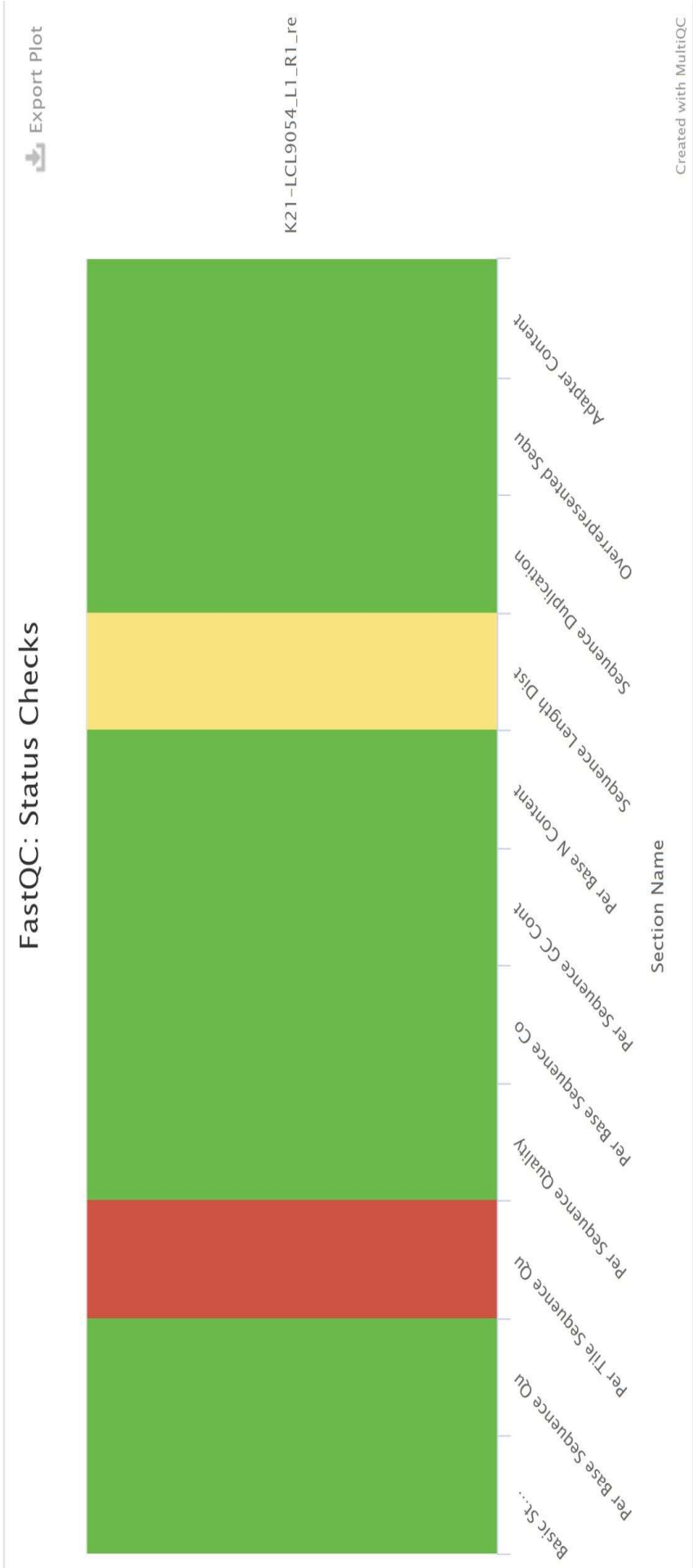
Data Quality Checks - Trimmomatic Min Len - 80%



Data Quality Check - Filtered Reads



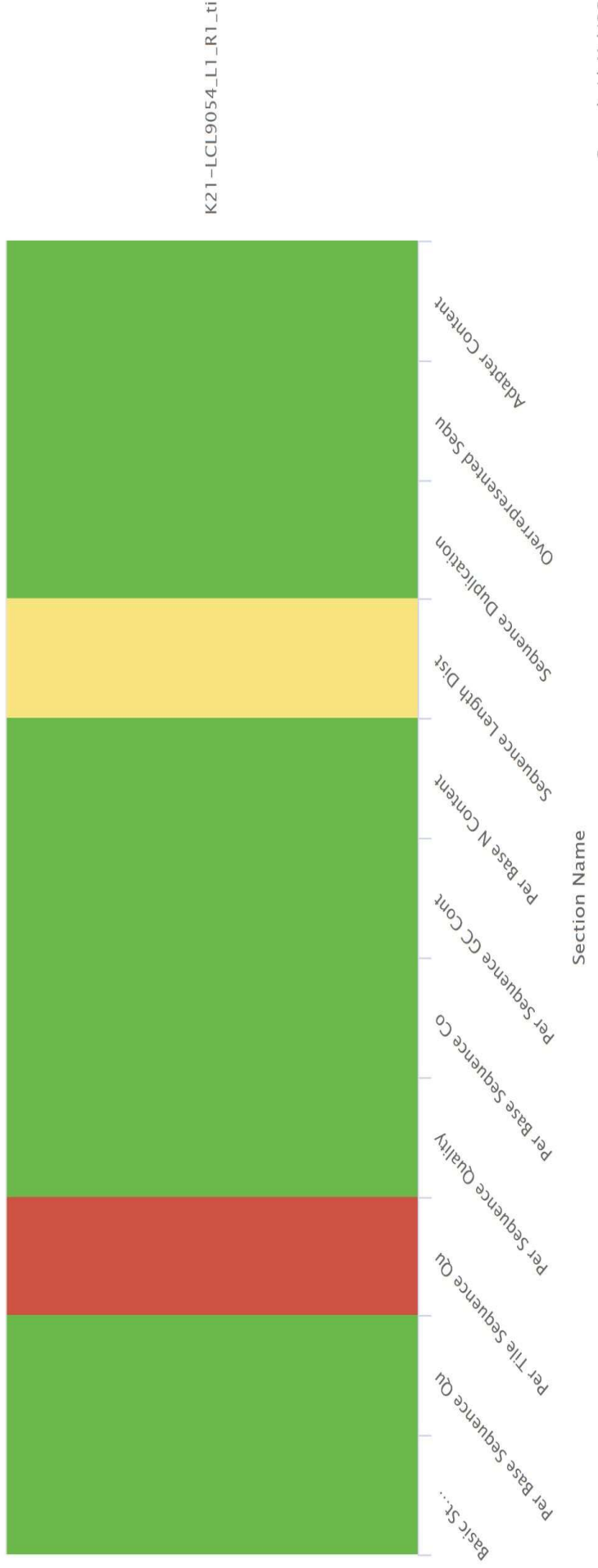
Data Quality Check - Recalibrated Reads



Data Quality Check - Tile Filtered

FastQC: Status Checks

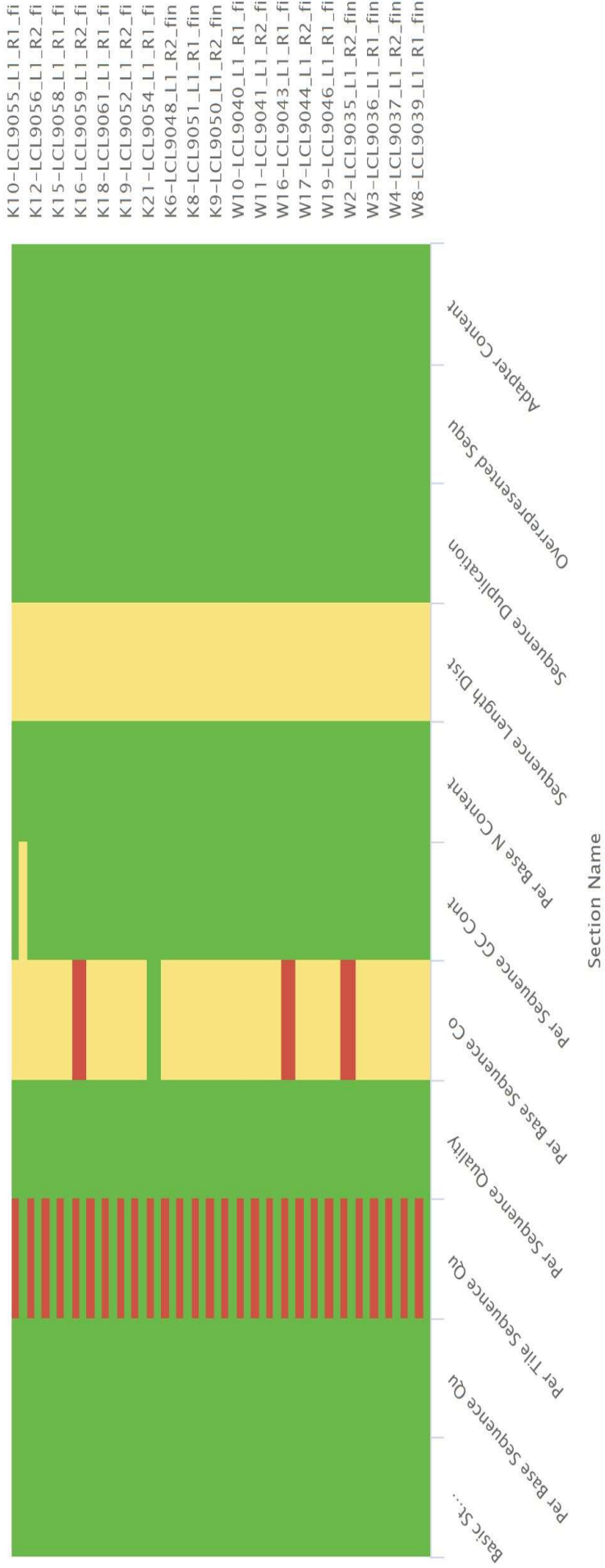
 Export Plot



Data Quality Checks - Final

FastQC: Status Checks

Export Plot



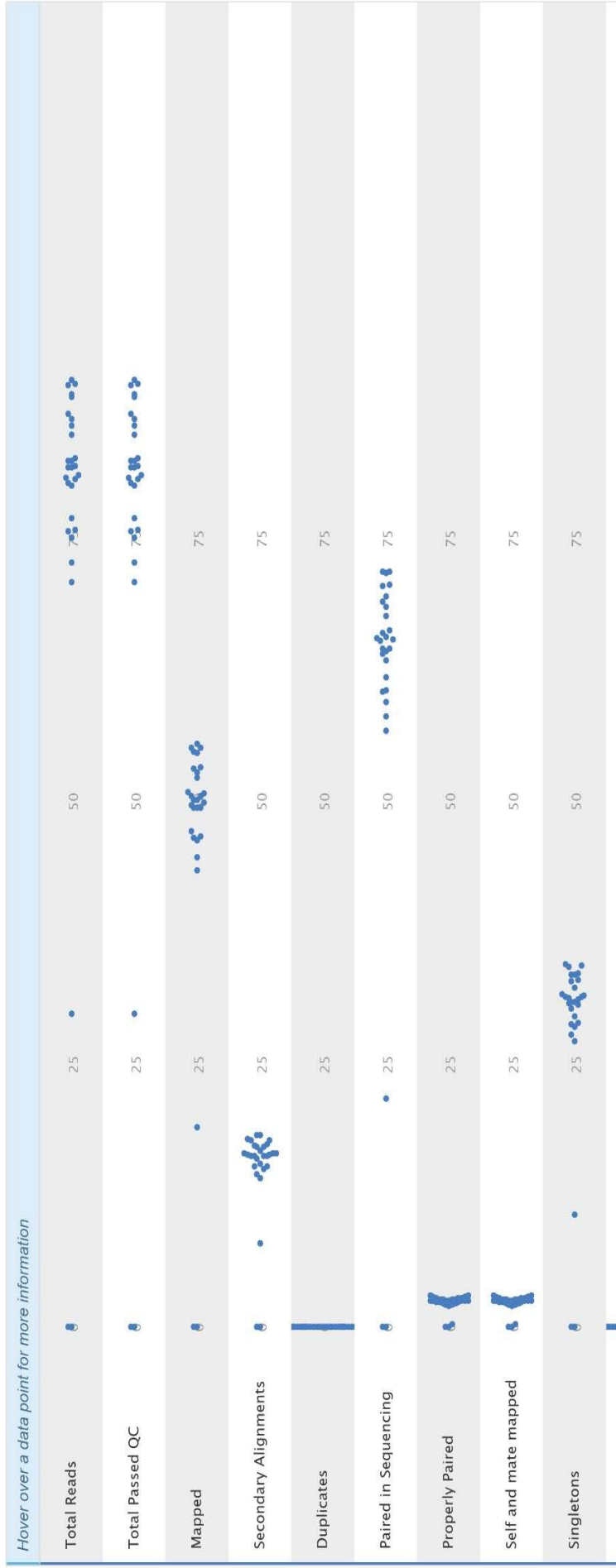
Download Data

Data Quality Check - Samtools

Samtools is a suite of programs for interacting with high-throughput sequencing data. DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btp352.

Samtools Flagstat

This module parses the output from `samtools flagstat`. All numbers in millions.

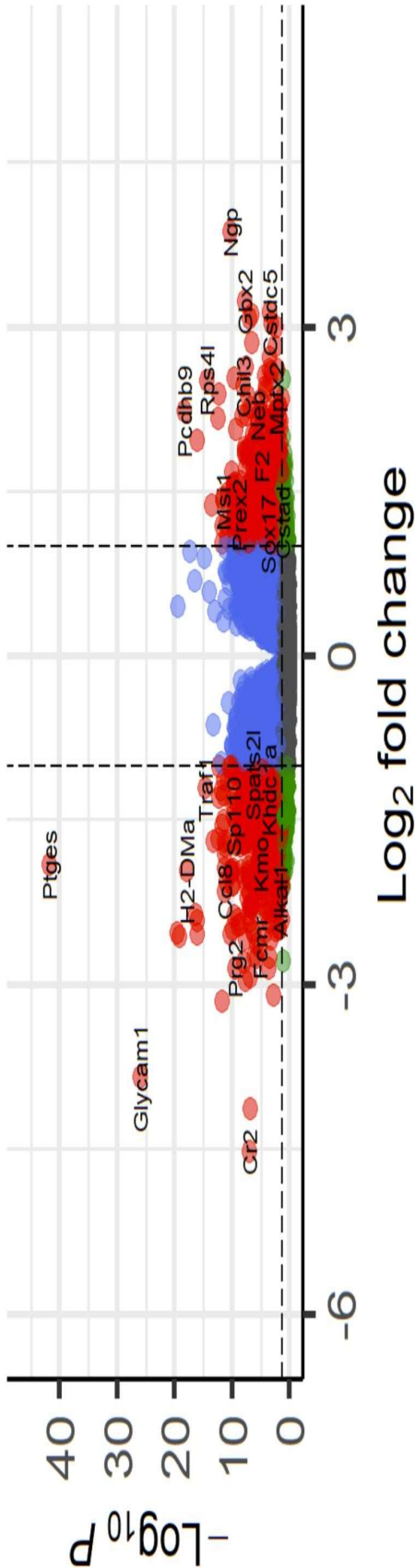


Results

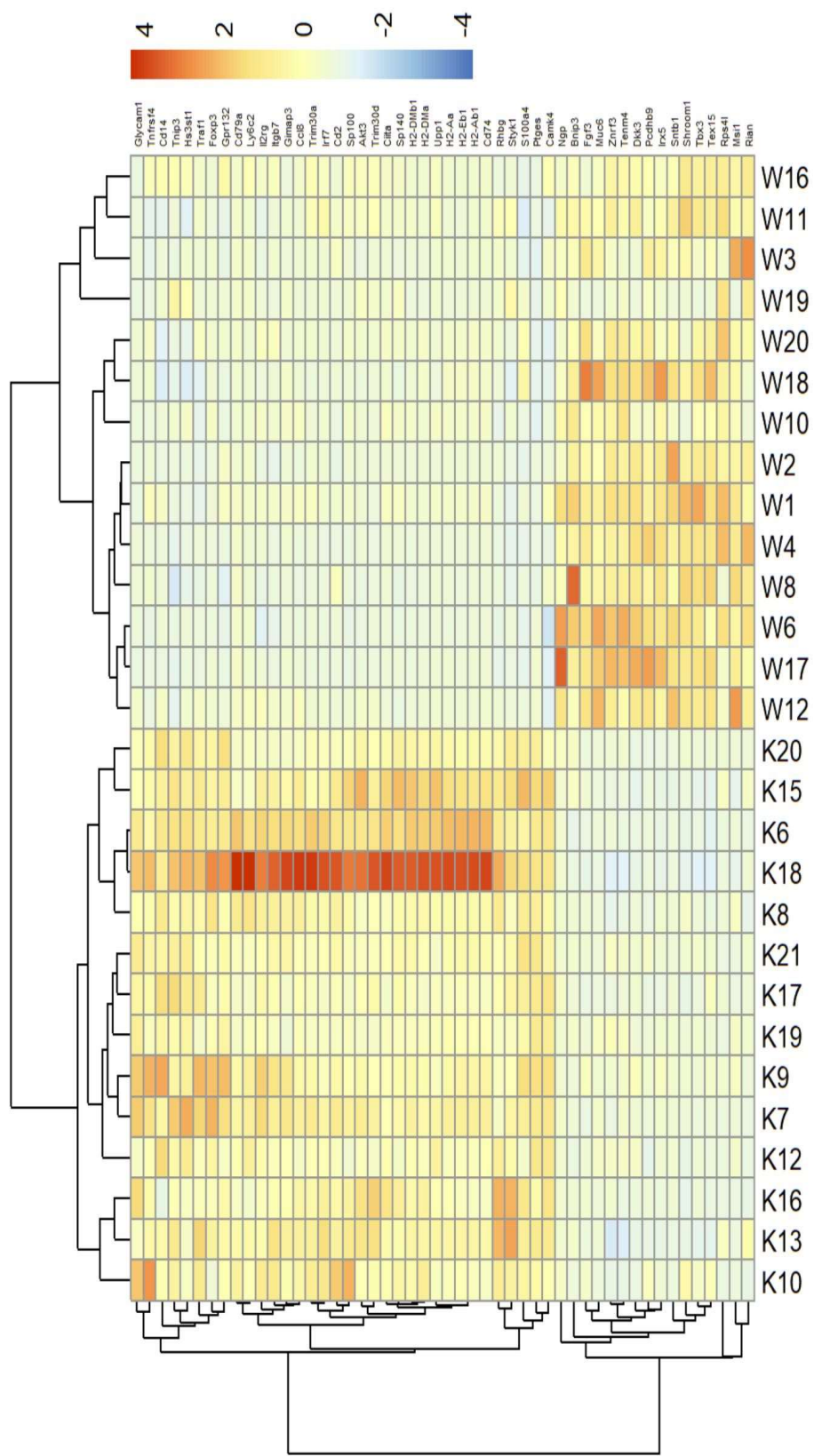
Volcano Plot of Differentially Expressed Genes

Enhanced Volcano

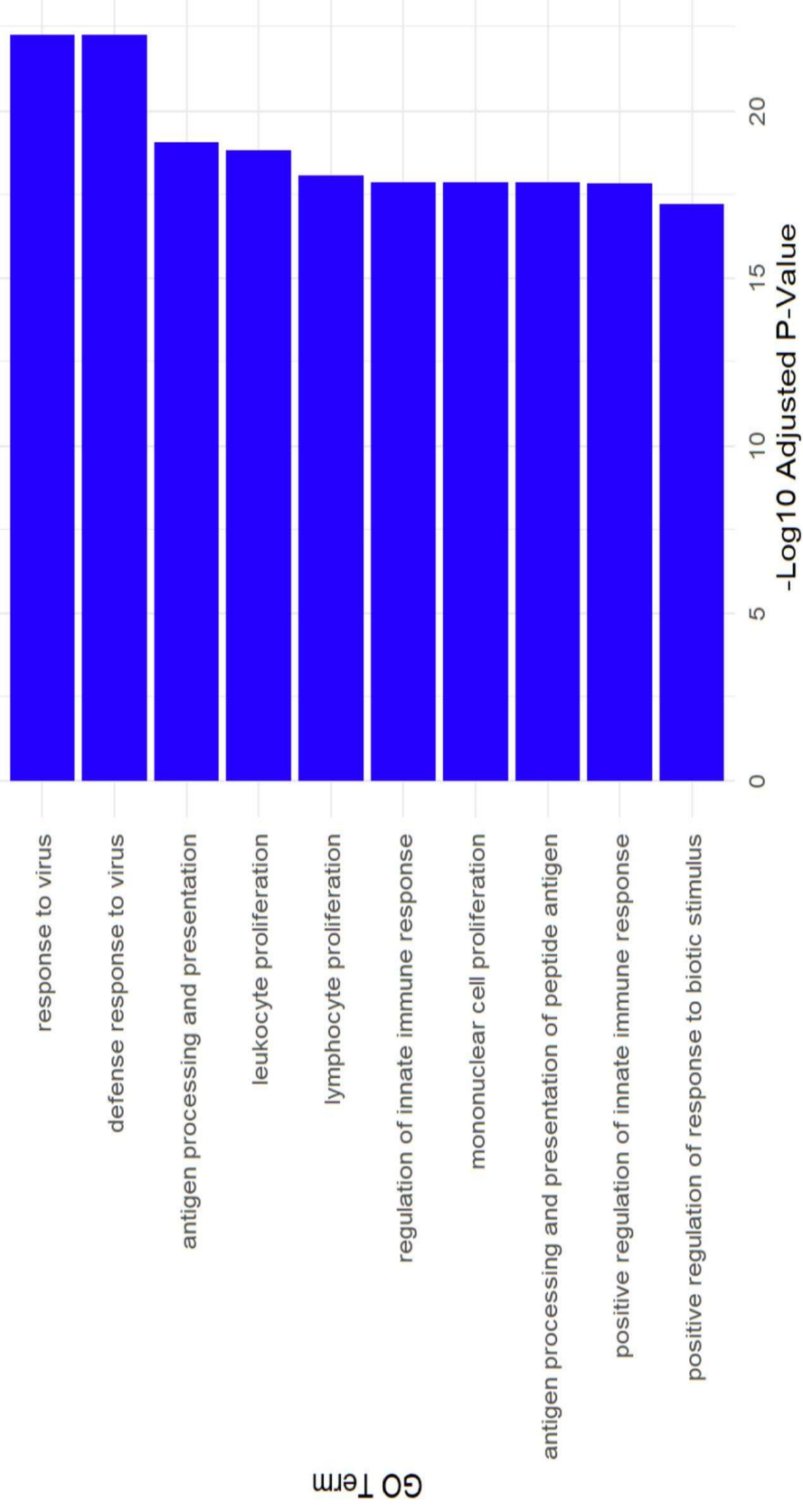
● NS ● Log_2 FC ● p-value ● p – value and Log_2 FC



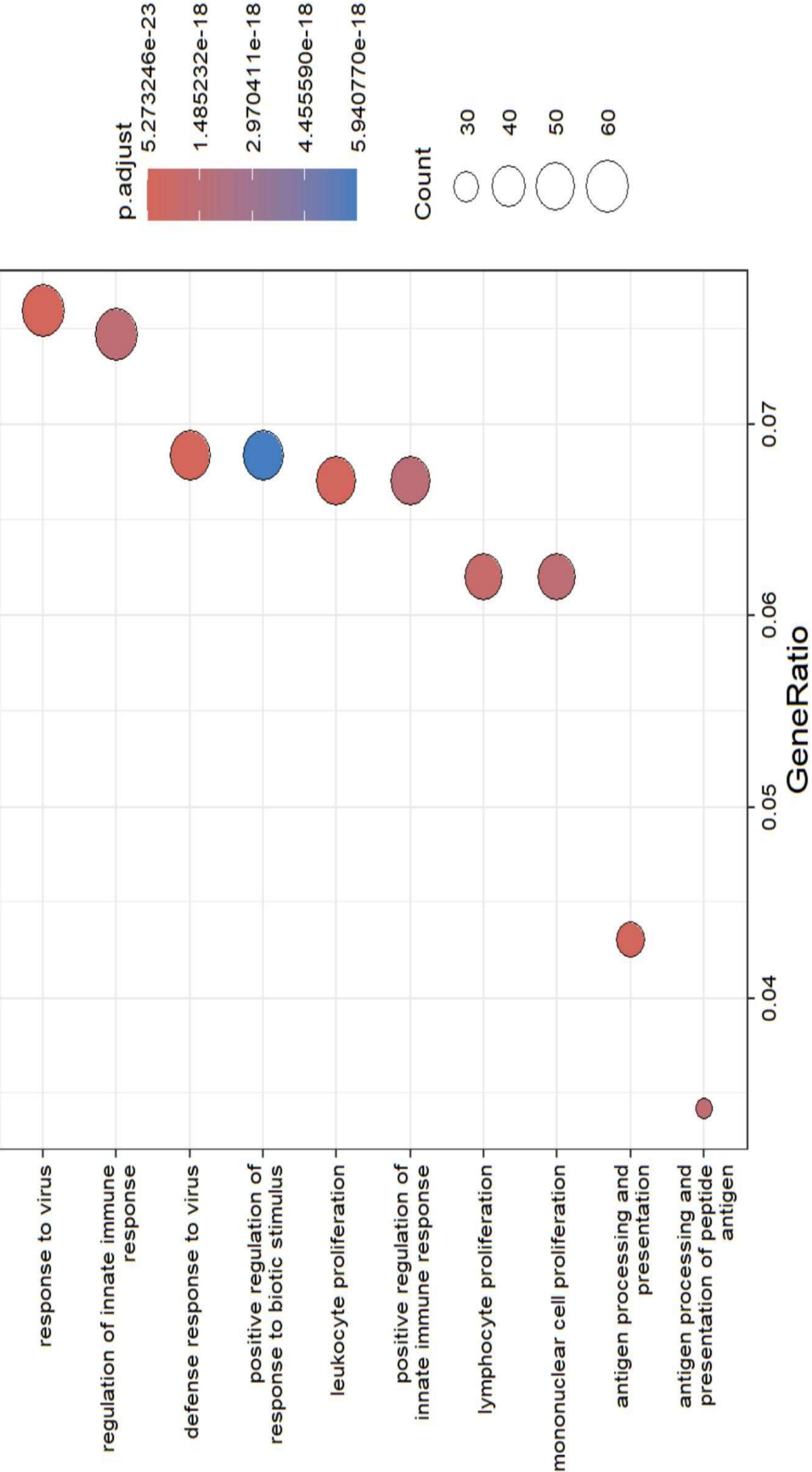
total = 23420 variables



Top 10 Enriched GO Terms



GO Biological Process Enrichment



Gene Ontology (GO) Analysis

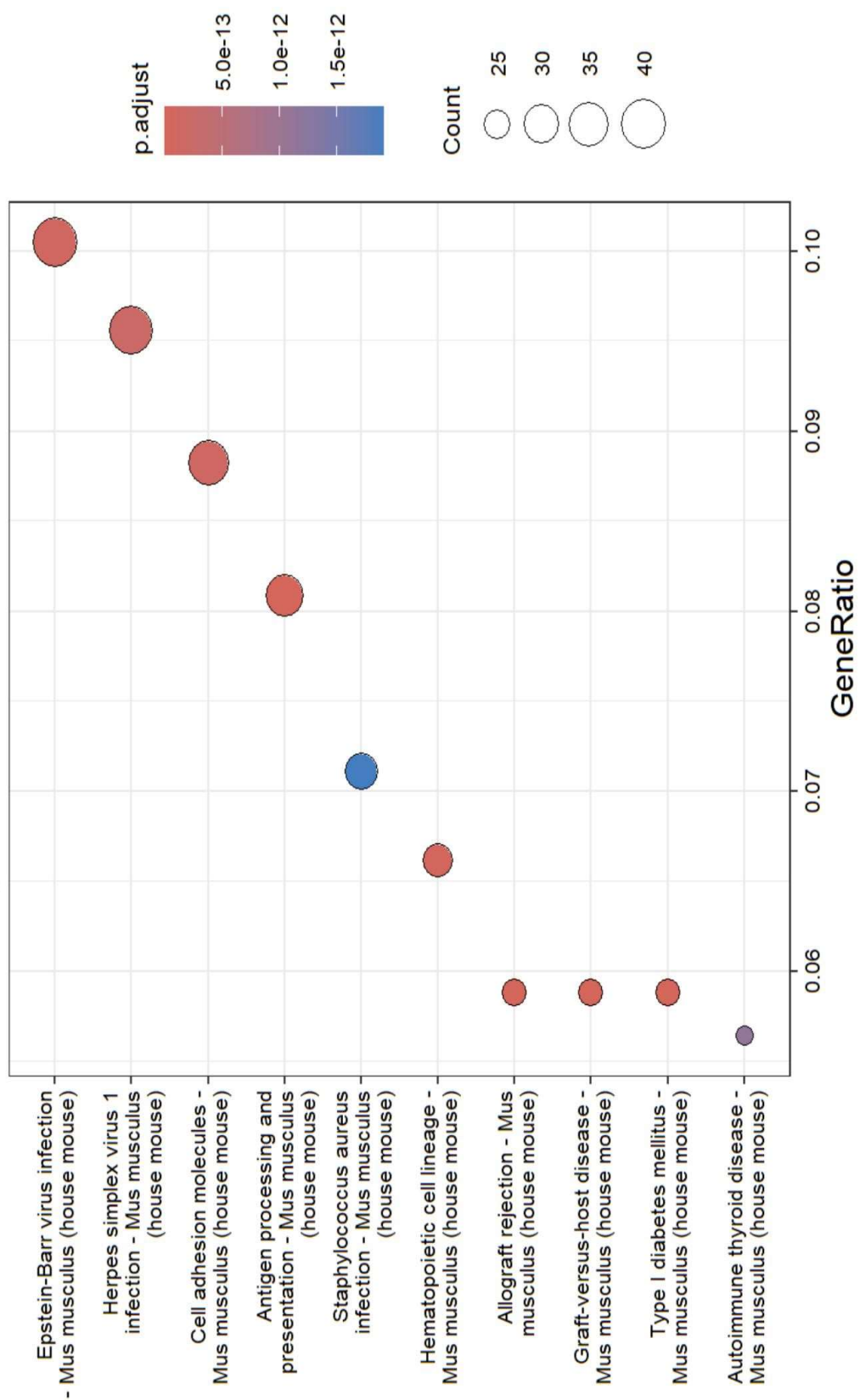
Key findings:

- "GO analysis revealed a **strong immune system activation signature**."
- The top enriched biological processes included:
 - **Defense response to virus**
 - **Antigen processing and presentation**
 - **Leukocyte and lymphocyte proliferation**
 - **Regulation of innate immune response**
 - **Leukocyte cell-cell adhesion"**

Interpretation:

- "These results suggest that the **KO gene plays a role in immune regulation**."
- The upregulation of antigen presentation and leukocyte activity indicates a **heightened immune response**, possibly due to **autoimmune activation or infection susceptibility**."

KEGG Pathway Enrichment - Mouse



KEGG Pathway Enrichment Analysis

1. Epstein-Barr Virus Infection (Top Pathway)

- "This pathway is highly enriched, suggesting that the **KO gene may impact the immune response to viral infections.**"
- "This could indicate an altered susceptibility to **latent viral infections.**"

2. Herpes Simplex Virus Infection

- "Similar to Epstein-Barr virus, this pathway suggests that the **KO gene may play a role in antiviral defense mechanisms.**"
- "Changes in this pathway may **influence susceptibility or immune response to herpesviruses.**"

3. Cell Adhesion Molecules (CAMs)

- "This pathway is critical for **immune cell communication and migration.**"
- "The enrichment of this pathway suggests that the KO might be affecting **immune cell adhesion, trafficking, or signaling.**"

4. Antigen Processing and Presentation

- "This is a key pathway in **adaptive immunity**, affecting how the immune system recognizes and responds to foreign antigens."
- "If the KO gene disrupts antigen presentation, it could impact **T-cell activation and immune surveillance.**"

5. Staphylococcus aureus Infection

- "This indicates a potential change in **bacterial immune defense mechanisms.**"
- "The KO may alter how the host immune system recognizes and clears bacterial infections."

Why KO Mice Are Protected from Cancer?

Based on pathway enrichment findings, we can hypothesize that KO mice have:

- **Stronger immune surveillance** via **enhanced antigen presentation and T-cell activation**
- **Increased immune system activation**, reducing tumor immune escape
- **Reduced viral oncogenesis**, preventing infection-driven cancers
- **A pro-inflammatory immune environment**, making it harder for tumors to establish
- **A potential autoimmunity-tumor trade-off**, where increased immune activation protects against cancer

Current Progress

1. Revisit the data quality checks and improve the score on fastqc reports.
2. Rerun the pipeline once the data quality checks are well established.
3. Resume the analysis on the data for finding insights.
4. Analyse the data on different scenarios such as:
 - a. With genes starting with “Ig”.
 - b. WT small tissue samples VS WT large tissue samples.
 - c. KO small tissue samples VS KO large tissue samples.
 - d. WT small tissue samples VS KO small tissue samples.
 - e. WT large tissue samples VS KO large tissue samples.

Achievements

- Globus Transfer to transfer 757 GB data in minutes from hours(scp, rsync).
- End to End pipeline development from reading data to visualising insights.
- On average 60% mapping unique read with Genome (yet to improve more).
- Reduced fastqc generation on all files from 1.5 hours to under 26 mins.
 - Utilised parallel module to achieve this feat on the HPC clusters

Thank You