

Data mining exercise

An emulation of real life as a data scientist in biology

- In absalon, there is now a data mining challenge, to do in groups, under 'assignments'
- It gives a data set and a vague problem statement from some experimentalists who don't know data mining, statistics or bioinformatics
- You have an experimentalist who knows everything there is to know about the experiment around (me). But he knows no bioinformatics or R whatsoever.
- You have this whole lecture plus at least 1h on the next (Tuesday). The idea is that these 4h will be enough. I will select some groups to present (make an rmd file, knit to html)
- All groups will submit their solution - I have made an 'assignment' for this. I will make all solutions available to all

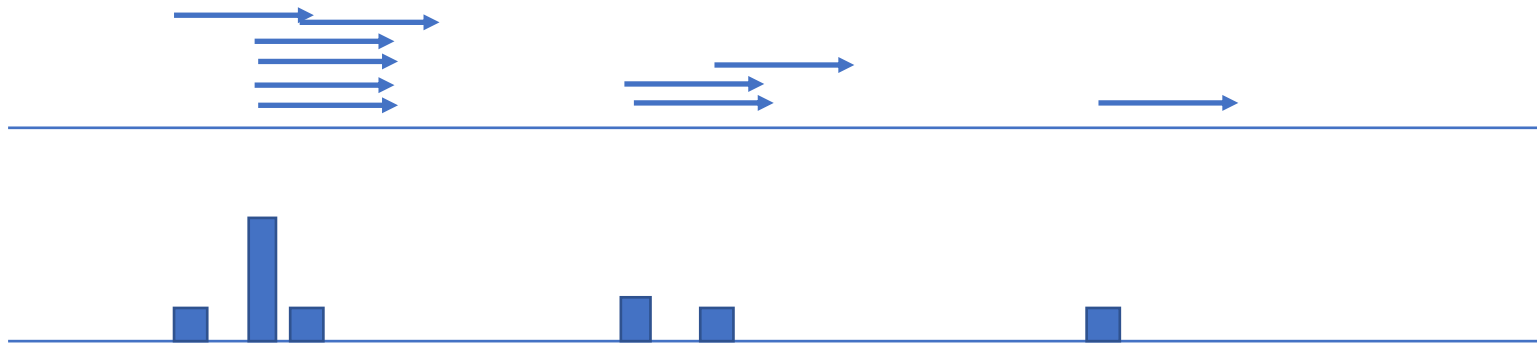
The data

- CAGE libraries are made for a set of tissues in mouse
- Each row in your file is a CAGE tag cluster (next slide)
- Each row has TPM-normalized expression values for each tissue, and ID and mm8 locations (and strand)

CAGE tag cluster

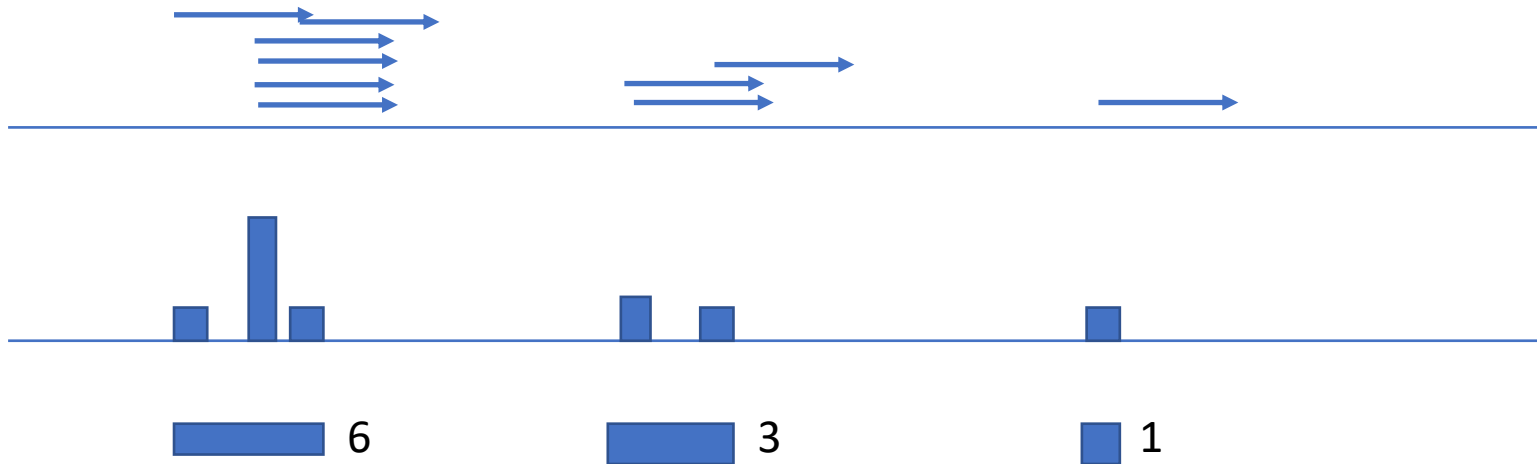
Reminder: CAGE tags are, effectively, the first 30 bp of RNAs from the 5' end

Each CAGE tag is mapped to the genome – if you would visualize this in the genome browser, it would look like a 'barplot' on the genome where we count the occurrences of 5' ends of tags, like this:



CAGE tag cluster

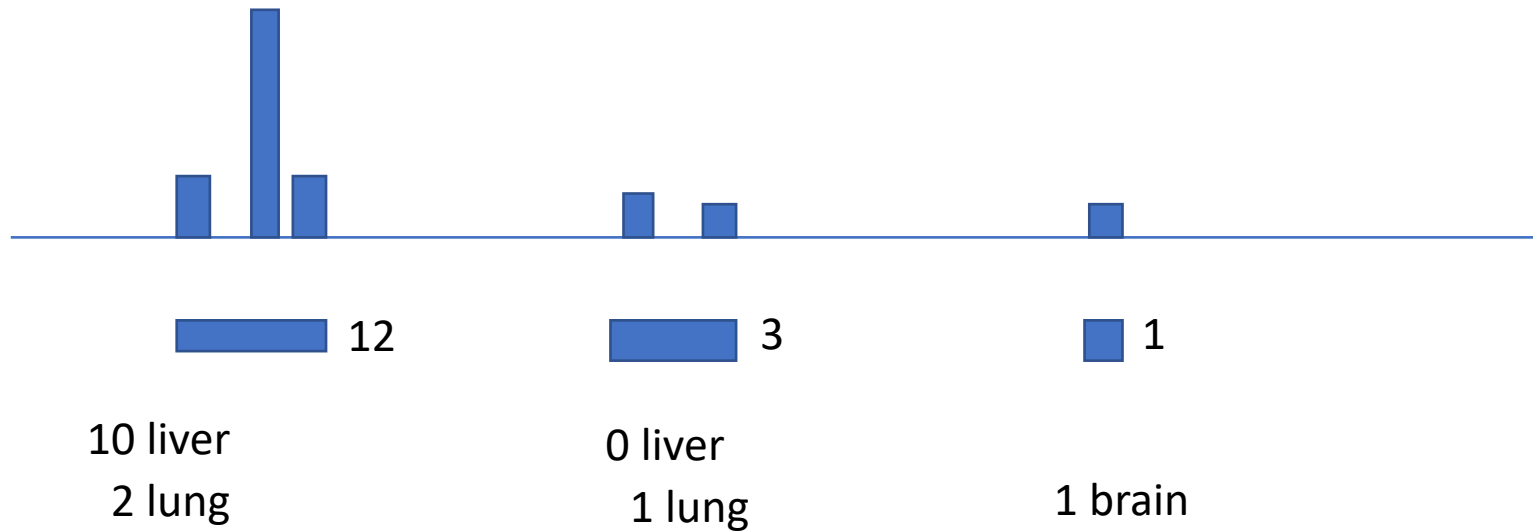
It is helpful to 'clump' together tags that map close to one another, like this



These CAGE tag clusters have a start, end and a strand, and also a count of CAGE tags

In our data, clusters can have CAGE tags from several tissues

In our data, clusters can have CAGE tags from several tissues



So, aside from location and strand, each cluster will have a row in an expression matrix that says how many tags from each tissue

	liver	lung	brain
Cluster1	10	2	0
Cluster2	0	1	0

As a last step, such counts are normalized, because the library sizes are different (by tags-per-million)

So, again: the data

- CAGE libraries are made for a set of tissues in mouse
- Each row in your file is a CAGE tag cluster
- Each row has TPM-normalized expression values for each tissue, and ID and mm8 locations (and strand)

Tips

- This is means to emulate a real-life setting
- Make use of the experimentalist that knows everything about the experiment (=me)
- This person also sort knows what he wants, but cannot explain it in bioinformatics terms.
- In most real data science projects – including this one, unlikely homeworks etc the challenge is not *how* to do analyses but figuring out *what questions to ask*. Which is really what the core of science is.

Schedule

- We will work in the home work groups the rest of the lecture (we will not return to this room until next lecture).
- The experimentalist will walk between groups randomly, but you can send him a text if you need assistance (22456668)
- At Tuesday, we will start in the home work groups and you will have one hour to finish, and then we meet in the big lecture room at 1400.