

A Robust Variant Benchmarking Pipeline within the GHGA Framework

Kübra Narcı¹, Florian Heyl¹, Sameesh Kher¹, Ata Jadidharari², Nicolas Vannieuwkerke³, Maxime U Garcia⁴, Daniel Hübschmann¹, nf-core community, and the GHGA consortium

- 1 Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, Heidelberg, Germany 2 Technical University of Munich, Garching, Germany 3 Ghent University, Ghent, Netherlands

- 4 Segera Labs, Barcelona, Spain

Variant calling is crucial for identifying genetic variations in next-generation sequencing (NGS) data, but differences in tools, technologies, and variant representations cause inconsistencies. To address this, we developed the nf-core/variantbenchmarking pipeline within the German Human Genome-Phenome Archive (GHGA) project. It benchmarks small variants, indels, structural variants, and copy number variations for both germline and somatic samples. The pipeline uses normalization methods to resolve allelic ambiguities and provides metrics like precision, recall, and F1 scores. Built with Nextflow under nf-core repository, it is scalable, reproducible, and integrates securely with GHGA, supporting the development of accurate variant-calling workflows for precision medicine.

Multiple input types can run in parallel

- Multi-sample VCFs
- Germline or somatic samples
- Regions BED
- Bad formatted VCFs

Variant preprocessing ensures standardization

- Liftover tools
- Structural Variant reformatting
- **Decomposition** of complex variants
- Filtering

Optional benchmarking tools and parameters

- Small variants
 - hap.py or som.py and rtgtools
- Structural variants
 - o truvari, svanalyzer and witty.er
- Copy number variations
 - o truvari, witty.er and intersection

Key features

- Performs both germline and somatic benchmarking
- **nf-core** compliant
 - Open-source & community-driven
 - Modular design
 - Reproducible
- FAIR-aligned within GHGA
- Generates publication-ready reports
 - Benchmarking metrics & plots







