DMAP2: User Guide

DMAP2 builds on the original DMAP distribution (Stockwell, *et al.*, 2014) by providing scripts to simplify the selection of processing options and running the programs for the various steps.

Overview:

After installation of the various prerequisite software packages and genomic resources, DMAP has a series of steps:

- a. Genome preparation for bismark mapping (usually only needs doing once for a series of samples)
- b. Adaptor trimming of bisulphite sequence reads for each sample
- c. Mapping reads for each sample to the genome with bismark producing .bam or .sam files
- d. Comparing mapped data with the DMAP program diffmeth
- e. Relating genomic fragments or regions of interest to genomic features with the DMAP program identgeneloc

DMAP2 groups these steps into a number of scripts each implementing one or more operations. If prior work has already performed some steps (genome preparation, mapping) then those can be omitted and appropriate information put in the basic parameter file. While the mapping scripts are based on using the bismark bisulphite aligner, other aligners can be used (e.g. bsmap) in which case they can be processed from the diffmeth point at step (d).

Script details:

(i) Information common to all scripts is specified in a file like dmap_basic_params.sh which defines the following variables:

annotation file location - location of the annotation file(s)

annotation_files - list or array of the files: SeqMonk, EMBL or Genbank expect 1 file for each chromosome, GTF uses a single file

dmap_annot_info_file - name of the information file generated for SeqMonk/EMBL/Genbank annotations: defaults to dmap_annot_info.txt We have found SeqMonk annotation useful when the locations of TSS (Transcription Start Sites) and CpG Islands are needed, since these are contained in the SeqMonk files. It is also possible to include extra features into SeqMonk files if required. See **Prerequisites** section below for descriptions of how to obtain SeqMonk files or Gencode GTF annotation files.

(ii) dmap_index_build.sh - performs the genome preparation (step a) and further sets up details for the annotation step (e). The script takes information from dmap_basic_params.sh By default, the bismark indices will be built in the same location as the genome fasta files, but this would require that you have write access to that location. If not then you can specify some other writeable directory in dmap_bismark_index_location in dmap_basic_params.sh.

Since all the mapping for an experiment would usually be done against the same genome, the index building step should only be needed once.

The annotation preparation depends on the annotation format and produces an information file relating chromosome IDs to files for EMBL, Genbank and SeqMonk formats. No action is needed for GTF/GFF3 formats.

Once the file dmap_basic_params.sh has been set up for your environment the script should be run with a command like:

./dmap_index_build.sh dmap_basic_params.sh

noting that this will take some time for the bismark genome generation process. It may be worth using Linux/Unix tools like nohup to keep such jobs running in the background, especially if you need to disconnect from the machine running this operation.

DMAP expects genome fasta files to be one file per chromosome. In the event that multiple chromosomes or contigs are present in one file, the script split_fasta.awk in Appendix VI will separate them into individual files, each named by its fasta ID by default. Script documentation is in the file.

(iii) map_bisulphite_reads.sh performs the steps of adaptor trimming (b) and bismark mapping (c). Parameters specific to each sample are in a file like sample_params.sh (example in Appendix II) where dmap_run_type is set to RRBS or WGBS, needed here since RRBS library preparation adds a CG dinucleotide to the end of each MspI fragment and these require removal during adaptor trimming. In order to avoid issues with overrepresentation of C's central to short reads with paired end mapping, we routinely used read 1 only. See Appendix I for other possible options.

map_bisulphite_reads.sh creates and uses an adaptor file contam.fa for the adaptor trimming step, it also makes a file <sample_name>_bismark_cmd.sh to execute bismark, where <sample_name> is based on the name in dmap sample files in the sample params.sh file for the sample.

For example: the original untrimmed read file mysample1_R1.fastq would be adaptor trimmed to mysample1_R1_at.fastq then mapped using the command in mysample1_R1_bismark_cmd.sh to produce output files like mysample1_R1_at_bismark_bt2.bam and mysample1_R1_at_bismark_bt2_SE_report.txt.

Running the mapping for each sample would be done with a command like:

```
./map_bisulphite_reads.sh dmap_basic_params.sh sample_params.sh
```

again noting that some time will be needed for each sample. The use of nohup or other utilities to run these jobs in the background is useful.

(iv) dmap_run_diffmeth.sh takes mapped data from bismark and performs the required differential methylation analysis (step d) with parameters from a file which specifies the type of analysis, the input files and the diffmeth output file. An example diffmeth parameter file is in Appendix III and, in this case, is for a 3 group Anova run. The important variables are:

```
dmap_run_type - defines RRBS or WGBS and should match the setting for the
    map_bisulphite_reads.sh step
```

- diffmeth_run_type defines the analysis type (Anova, chisquare, pairwise CpGlist or binlist)

Analyses needing only a single file or group of files (diffmeth_run_type in chisquare, CpGlist or binlist) will only need a single file in file_list1. Pairwise runs need two file names in that list.

Anova runs also need anova_group_number and anova_detail to be defined as well as additional lists of file names in file_list2, etc.: one such list for each group. If the variable anova_fold_difference is set to "yes" a column of fold methylation differences will be added to the output.

Further control of diffmeth parameters is *via* the variables:

map_init_CpG_to_prev - for 3' matching reads, the initial C is counted in the adjacent RRBS fragment

pr threshold - reject fragments/regions with Pr above this threshold

For SAM mapping files it may be necessary to define max_sam_readlength if the reads exceed 150bp. This is not required for BAM files.

Run the diffmeth script with a command like:

```
./dmap run diffmeth.sh dmap basic params.sh my diffmeth params.sh
```

noting that the execution time can range from 20 minutes to some hours, depending on the amount of data and the computer performance. diffmeth runs will typically require some 5Gb of RAM or more depending on the genome size, the number of samples and the coverage.

(v) dmap_run_genloc.sh implements step e on the output from diffmeth runs or other appropriately formatted input in which identgeneloc looks upstream (in the sense of the feature) for the nearest feature of interest to each region/fragment. The minimum input is 3 columns (chromosome ID, start, stop) but more usually the other columns generated by diffmeth would be included.

dmap_run_genloc.sh requires a parameter file (example in Appendix IV) to specify the source of annotation data and to control other aspects of the run. Variables are:

```
genloc input file - name of 3 or more column input file
```

show_TSS - for SeqMonk annotation, show nearest upstream transcription start sites (TSS)

TSS_limit - if non-zero will limit how far TSS will be scanned from regions.

show CpGi - for SeqMonk annotation, show nearest upstream CpG island

show CpGi internal - allow CpG islands to be internal to regions

show TSS CpGi ranges - show ranges for CpG islands and TSS

Run the identgeneloc script with a command like:

```
./dmap_run_genloc.sh dmap_basic_params.sh geneloc_params.sh
```

identgeneloc runs will typically require some 350Mb of memory, depending on the size of the annotation file(s) and would take some 12 minutes or so for input files of 500,000 regions.

Prerequisites:

In order to run DMAP the following prerequisites should be obtained and installed.

(a) Genomes

DMAP requires genomes in FASTA format with each chromosome in an individual file. Various sources exist, but one of the most convenient is

https://www.ensembl.org/info/data/ftp/index.html following the 'DNA (FASTA)' link. Three different versions of each chromosome are offered: .dna.,.dna.rm. and .dna.sm. respectively being complete genome, genome with repeat regions masked as 'N' and genome with repeats in lower case. The first is probably the most useful. Files can be downloaded by selecting each individually with the browser or as a group from the command line (for Homo sapiens) using a command like:

```
curl -0 ftp.ensembl.org/pub/release-
105/fasta/homo_sapiens/dna/Homo_sapiens.GRCh38.dna.chromosome.[1-22].fa.gz
```

followed by

```
curl -0 ftp.ensembl.org/pub/release-
105/fasta/homo_sapiens/dna/Homo_sapiens.GRCh38.dna.chromosome.[X-Y].fa.gz
```

noting that each command is complete on one line. The files are gzip compressed and, when put in an appropriate directory, can be uncompressed with a command like:

```
gunzip Homo sapiens.GRCh38.dna.chromosome.*.fa.gz.
```

In dmap_basic_params.sh set dmap_genome_file_location to the directory where these files have been decompressed and fill dmap_genome_fasta_files with the chromosome file names.

- **(b) Annotation** files in one of the following formats:
- (i) SeqMonk obtained through the SeqMonk mapped sequence data analyser, available from

```
https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/segmonk/
```

by starting the application and choosing File > New Project then 'Import Genome From Server' and selecting then downloading the genome of choice. This should create a directory seqmonk_genomes, probably in your top level directory, containing the organism and genome version which contain a series of files 1.dat, 2.dat,... - these contain the annotations for each chromosome. Set the location of these files in dmap_basic_params.sh as annotation_file_location and fill annotation_files with the list of chromosome files. feature_annotation_type is set to SeqMonk.

SeqMonk annotation has proven particularly useful when transcription start sites and CpG islands are needed and allows the choice of specific biotypes for the features of interest. Further, it is possible to append other feature information (e.g. enhancers) to each chromosome: Appendix V contains examples of added features.

(ii) GTF - obtained from https://www.gencodegenes.org/ for mouse or human, by choosing the organism and genome version, then downloading the comprehensive gene annotation file as GTF which will download a file with a name like: gencode.v39.annotation.gtf.gz which can be moved to an appropriate location where it can be uncompressed for DMAP with:

gunzip gencode.v39.annotation.gtf.gz

producing gencode.v39.annotation.gtf. Set the location in dmap_basic_params.sh as annotation_file_location and annotation files to the filename. feature annotation type is set to GTF.

- (iii) GFF3 obtained as for GTF, with similar basic parameter settings.
- (iv) EMBL obtained from https://www.ensembl.org/info/data/ftp/index.html as 'Annotated sequence (EMBL)' or consider using utilities like ftp or curl to transfer the files at the command line, with a command (for Homo sapiens) like:

```
curl -0 ftp.ensembl.org/pub/release-
105/embl/homo_sapiens/Homo_sapiens.GRCh38.105.chromosome.[1-22].dat.gz
```

(all complete on 1 line). X and Y chromosomes will need [1-22] replaced by [X-Y].

The retrieved files will need decompressing with a command like:

```
gunzip Homo sapiens.GRCh38.105.chromosome.*.dat.gz
```

Set the location of these files in dmap_basic_params.sh as annotation_file_location and fill annotation_files with the list of chromosome files. feature_annotation_type is set to EMBL.

Note that EMBL (and Genbank) feature tables obtained from ENSEMBL only return ENSEMBL gene IDs with DMAP.

(v) Genbank - available from NCBI, though hard to find there and comes with awkward chromosome IDs. Better obtained similarly to EMBL from Ensembl as 'Annotated sequence (GenBank)' or at the command line with something like:

```
curl -0 ftp.ensembl.org/pub/release-
105/genbank/homo_sapiens/Homo_sapiens.GRCh38.105.chromosome.[1-22].dat.gz
```

as above. feature annotation type is set to Genbank.

For SeqMonk, EMBL and Genbank annotation formats the list of file names and chromosome IDs are written to the file set in dmap_annot_info_file, which defaults to dmap annot info.txt.

Note that Genbank (and EMBL) feature tables obtained from ENSEMBL only return ENSEMBL gene IDs with DMAP.

- (c) Bismark: while other bisulphite aligners (e.g. BSMAP at https://code.google.com/archive/p/bsmap/) will work effectively with DMAP, we have generally found Bismark to be a good performer. Bismark is available from https://github.com/FelixKrueger/Bismark or from https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/bismark/ and is installed as per instructions, which amounts to putting the perl executables into an appropriate directory: either system ones (/usr/local/bin-system privilege required) or your own top level bin. The variable bismark_run_options in dmap_basic_params.sh can be set to reflect your needs: we have found that '-N 1' restricts the permitted seed mismatches to 1 (defaults to 2) works well for our data and gives significantly faster mapping. The option '--bowtie2' is not now necessary for recent bismark versions, but remains for completeness.
- (d) bowtie2: recent versions of Bismark require the aligner bowtie2. If not already installed in your systems it is available from https://github.com/BenLangmead/bowtie2 or

https://sourceforge.net/projects/bowtie-bio/files/bowtie2/, the latter providing precompiled binaries which can be unzipped and installed in an appropriate directory.

(e) samtools: required by Bismark in order to generate bam rather than sam files. (bam files are about 1/3 the size of the corresponding sam files.) If not already installed, it is available from https://sourceforge.net/projects/samtools/ as source code which will need unpacking and compiling using instructions like:

```
bzip2 -dc samtools-1.14.tar.bz2 | tar -xvf -
cd samtools-1.14
./configure
make
make install
```

The latter instruction may require system privilege (e.g. sudo). Alternatively you can copy the executable to a location on your PATH with something like:

```
cp samtools ~/bin/
```

(f) DMAP: available as source code from

https://github.com/peterstockwell/DMAP either by downloading as a zip archive from 'Code->Download ZIP' and using unzip or from the command line with:

```
git clone https://github.com/peterstockwell/DMAP
```

producing either DMAP-master or DMAP which contains instructions for building in README.md.

The source code should compile with any reasonable C compiler, but note that the library zlib is needed for full functionality with .bam files. The main executables needed are difmeth and identgeneloc which should be copied to an appropriate directory on your PATH or set path_to_dmap in dmap_basic_params.sh to the actual location.

References:

Stockwell, P.A., Chatterjee, A., Rodger, E.J. and Morison, I.M. "DMAP: Differential Methylation Analysis Package for RRBS and WGBS data" *Bioinformatics* (2014) DOI: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btu126.

Krueger, F., and Andrews, S.R., Bismark: a flexible aligner and methylation caller for Bisulfite-Seq applications, *Bioinformatics*,

(2011), https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btr167

Appendix I: Options for mapping paired end reads.

The authors of bismark (Felix Krueger and Simon Andrews, 2011) advise that the use of paired end reads with RRBS fragments will result in over-representation of the overlapping portion of short fragments, given that the 40-220 bp size selection will generate many reads below the usual read lengths presently available. A possible solution is to use tools like FLASH (http://www.cbcb.umd.edu/software/flash) to generate longer reads where paired end reads clearly overlap. This process generates 3 fastq output files: longer overlapped reads, R1 non-overlapped and R2 non-overlapped. Since bismark is only configured to accept either single ended files (or a list of them) or paired end files for R1 & R2 (or a list for each), a strategy would be for two bismark runs, one single-ended for joined reads, the other paired-ended for unjoined reads, then use samtools merge to combine the results before continuing with DMAP analysis. Our experience with this was that it did not improve the mapping efficiency sufficiently to justify the extra work, hence our decision to work with single-ended data.

Appendix II: An example sample parameter file for mapping:

```
# sample params.sh: parameters to descibe a single bisulphite
# sequence sample, including the raw fastq file(s) and any
# trimming that might be justified by the read qualities.
# identify if this was RRBS or WGBS: this determines a number
# of downstream operations, including adaptor trimming and
# differential methylation calculations. Values are RRBS or WGBS.
dmap run type="RRBS";
# dmap run type="WGBS";
# name of adaptor-trimmed output dir:
adtrimmed out dir="./";
# sample file name(s): we usually only map read 1, so
# read 2 name would omitted.
dmap sample_files=("CRC-P-10_1.fastq.gz" "CRC-P-10_2.fastq.gz");
# hard trim length, leave 0 for no trimming.
dmap sample trim length=0;
# minimum read length for retention: usually set this to 20
dmap min read length=20;
# mapping output directory
bismark out dir="bismark out/";
```

Appendix III: Example parameter file for diffmeth runs

In this case an Anova run with three groups.

```
# diffmeth run params.sh: parameters to define differential
# methylation run type and mapped files for the DMAP diffmeth
# program.
# identify if this was RRBS or WGBS: this determines a number
# of downstream operations, including adaptor trimming and
# differential methylation calculations. Values are "RRBS" or "WGBS"
# where:
\# "RRBS" compares methylation on fragments (usually MspI) in size range
# "WGBS" compares methylation on defined windows or regions
# this is previously specified for the adaptor trimming and mapping
# and obviously the values here should be consistent with those.
dmap_run_type="RRBS";
# dmap run type="WGBS";
# type of diffmeth run: values are one of "pairwise" "chisquare"
"Anova" "CpGlist" or "binlist"
# where:
# "pairwise" runs Fisher's Exact statistic on two samples
# "chisquare" runs a Chi Square test on multiple samples to identify
fragments/regions with greatest variation
# "Anova"
          run Analysis of Variance on two sets of multiple samples,
producing F statistic
# "CpGlist"
            lists methylation counts for each CpG
             lists methylation information for each fragment/region
diffmeth_run_type="Anova";
case $diffmeth run type in
pairwise)
# "pairwise" requires two mapping output files
file list1=("./rundata/bismark out/CRC-P-10 1 at bismark bt2 pe.bam"
"./rundata/bismark out/NC-P-20 1 at bismark bt2.bam");
chisquare)
# "chisquare" requires a list of at least 2 mapping output files
file list1=(
"./rundata/comb D1.bam"
"./rundata/comb D2.bam"
"./rundata/comb D3.bam"
);
;;
Anova)
# Anova requires a group number to define how many groups are involved
# and a list of at least 2 mapping output files for each group
# a further parameter defines the amount of information returned, being
# one of: "anova simple" "anova medium" or "anova full"
# where
# "anova simple" returns F statistic and its probability
# "anova medium" adds sample counts and greater methylated group
```

```
# "anova full" further adds methylation figures for each CpG in
fragment/region
anova_group_number=3;
file list1=(
 "./rundata/comb D1.bam"
 "./rundata/comb D2.bam"
 "./rundata/comb D3.bam"
 "./rundata/comb D4.bam"
);
file list2=(
 "./rundata/comb D5.bam"
"./rundata/comb D6.bam"
"./rundata/comb D7.bam"
file list3=(
 "./rundata/comb D8.bam"
 "./rundata/comb_D9.bam"
 "./rundata/comb D10.bam"
anova detail="anova full";
CpGlist | binlist)
# "CpGlist" and "binlist" require a single mapping file
file list1=("./rundata/comb D1.bam")
;;
esac
# diffmeth requires a fragment size specification, even for WGBS
(ignored then)
diffmeth_fragment_min=40;
diffmeth fragment max=220;
# "WGBS" requires a window (tile) length
wgbs window=1000;
# output file name for diffmeth
diffmeth_out_name="diffmeth_output_anova test I6 mod.txt";
# threshold criteria for including fragment/regions
# No. of hits per CpG for fragment/region to be valid
# default is 1
min cpg hits=10;
# No. of CpG of fragment/region that must meet min cpg hits criterion
# 0 indicates no check for this
min_valid_cpgs=0;
```

```
# Minimum No. samples reaching criteria for a fragment/region to be
included
# defaults to 2
min sample count=6;
# For RRBS 3' mapping reads, count initial CpG to previous fragment.
map init CpG to prev="yes";
# Probability threshold: omit fragments/regions with Pr greater.
# default (1.0) implies no filtering
#pr threshold=1.0;
# Max read length for .SAM files (not needed for .BAM, though)
# defaults to 150bp, for 0
#max sam read length=150;
Appendix IV: Example parameter file for dmap run genloc.sh
# genloc run params.sh: parameters to define gene location
# operation with identgeneloc. Some relevant parameters
# are already set with the basic parameters, this file
# relates to the specific settings required for a project.
# file of chromosome & coordinate data (min 3 columns) as:
# chrid start stop
genloc input file="diffmeth output binlist nz.txt";
# name of output file: identgeneloc writes to stdout, we need
# to direct that somewhere, else will still got to stdout
genloc output file="genloc binlist nz chrchk gc.txt";
# the number of columns can be identified automatically
# putting a non-zero value here will override the automatically
# chosen value
genloc column number=0;
# Control whether regions internal to genes are allowed
# and whether they are to be related to exon/intron
# boundaries.
# values for the parameter internal to genes are:
# "" = disallow
# "internal" = allow
# "exon intron" = relate to exon/intron boundaries
```

internal_to_genes="exon_intron";

```
# SeqMonk annotations define TSS and CpG islands
# ignored for other annotation formats
show TSS="yes";
# limit for TSS ranges, zero=nolimit
TSS limit=0;
show CpGi="yes";
# CpG islands can be shown within regions: "yes" permits this
show CpGi internal="yes";
show TSS CpGi ranges="yes";
# For SeqMonk annotations, can restrict to particular biotypes;
# valid values are: 3prime overlapping ncrna IG C gene IG C pseudogene
IG_D_gene IG_J_gene IG_J_pseudogene
# IG V gene IG V pseudogene Mt rRNA Mt tRNA Mt tRNA pseudogene TEC
TR C gene TR D gene TR J gene TR J pseudogene
# TR V gene TR V pseudogene ambiguous orf antisense lincRNA miRNA
miRNA pseudogene misc RNA misc RNA pseudogene
# ncrna host non coding non stop decay nonsense mediated decay
polymorphic pseudogene processed transcript
# protein_coding pseudogene rRNA rRNA_pseudogene retained_intron
scRNA pseudogene sense intronic sense overlapping
# snRNA snRNA pseudogene snoRNA snoRNA pseudogene tRNA pseudogene
transcribed unprocessed pseudogene
# protein coding is probably one of the most useful.
genloc seqmonk biotypes=(
"protein coding"
# GTF & GFF3 annotations allow selection of attributes and feature
types
# Attributes default to "transcript name, transcript id, gene name" if
# not specified. Actual attributes can vary widely for GTF format
genloc_GTF_attributes=(
"transcript name"
"transcript id"
"gene name"
# feature types default to "exon, CDS, start codon, stop codon, transcript"
# not specified. Valid values for GTF are are any of:
CDS, start codon, stop codon, exon, intron CNS, intron, 5UTR, 3UTR, CNS, inter, t
ranscript, gene
# GFF3 values are far more diverse
```

```
genloc_GTF_featuretypes=(
"gene"
)
```

Appendix V: Example of additional SeqMonk annotation appended to a chromosome feature file

```
856539..856757
FT
     gene
                     /description="enhancer chr1:856539-856757"
FT
                     /name="enh_856539"
FT
                     /score="2"
FT
                     /biotype="enhancer"
FT
                     858256..858648
FT
     gene
                     /description="enhancer chr1:858256-858648"
FT
                     /name="enh 858256"
FT
                     /score="5"
FT
                     /biotype="enhancer"
FT
                     868565..868684
FT
     gene
                     /description="enhancer chr1:868565-868684"
FT
FT
                     /name="enh 868565"
                     /score="2"
FT
                     /biotype="enhancer"
FT
```

Appendix VI: split_fasta.awk script to split multi-sequence fasta files.

```
# split fasta.awk: script to break multi-entry fasta
# files into separate files, each containing 1 entry.
# files named by the fasta IDs, with optional header
# Peter Stockwell: 21-Feb-2022
#
# usage:
# awk -f split_fasta.awk <multi_fasta_file>
# or piped, e.g.
# cat <multi_fasta_file> | awk -f split_fasta.awk
# Can define optional useful parameters in command line:
# namehdr - prefixed to each output file name, can be a directory or
string or both (e.g. namehdr="singles_fasta/")
# extension - use as file extension, default is ".fa"
# infofile - will write table of Chr IDs and full file paths to this
file
# use as: e.g.
# awk -f split_fasta.awk namehdr="genome_singles/" extension=".fasta"
infofile="chr_info.txt" <multi_fasta_file>
# to produce chr info.txt which is suitable for the diffmeth -G option
# If namehdr is a directory, it must already exist.
BEGIN {namehdr="";
extension=".fa";
outfile="";
infofile=""
cwd=ENVIRON["PWD"];
}
$0~/>/{if (outfile != "")
  close(outfile);
outfile = sprintf("%s%s%s",namehdr,substr($1,2),extension);
printf("%s\n",$0) > outfile;
if (infofile != "")
  printf("\"%s\"\t\"%s/%s\"\n",substr($1,2),cwd,outfile) > infofile;
$0!~/>/{
printf("%s\n",$0) > outfile;
END{
if (outfile != "")
 close(outfile);
if (infofile != "")
 close(infofile);
}
```