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Mar 08, 2022

## Wastewater QC workflow in GalaxyTrakr (SSQuAWK2) V.3

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GenomeTrakr  
Tech. support email: [genomeTrakr@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:genomeTrakr@fda.hhs.gov)

Jasmine Amirzadegan

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### PURPOSE:

Step-by-step instructions for checking sequence quality for SARS-CoV-2 wastewater samples using **SSQuAWK2: SARS - CoV - 2 Sequence Quality Assurance Workflow and Kontrapion, version 2**. The SSQuAWK2 workflow, implemented in a custom Galaxy instance, will produce quality assessments for raw reads (Illumina MiSeq paired-end fastq files).

**SCOPE:** This protocol covers the following tasks:

1. Set up an account in GalaxyTrakr
2. Create a new history
3. Upload data and reference files
4. Execute the SSQuAWK2 workflow
5. Interpret the results

### Protocol and SSQuAWK workflow version history:

*Protocol V1, SSQuAWK version 1: Basic protocol steps with screenshots*

*Protocol V2, SSQuAWK version 1: Addition of a detailed 12 minute video tutorial*

**Protocol V3, SSQuAWK version 2: Addition of 5 new genome mapping metrics**

DOI

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.b5u2q6ye](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.b5u2q6ye)

<https://galaxytrakr.org>

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<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.b5u2q6ye>  
Jasmine Amirzadegan

WGS, Quality Control, GalaxyTrakr, GenomeTrakr, microbial pathogen surveillance

protocol ,

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Account set up

1. Create a GalaxyTrakr account here: <https://account.galaxytrakr.org/Account/Register>

**User Registration Form**

Location:   
Add New Location

First Name:   
 Last Name:   
 Email:   
 Primary Phone:   
If possible please use a mobile number than can accept text messages, only used for support  
 Title:   
 Requirements:

## 1.1 Log into your GalaxyTrakr account: <https://galaxytrakr.org>

**Galaxy / GalaxyTrakr 1905** Analysis Data Workflow Visualize Shared Data Help Login

Welcome to Galaxy, please log in

Username or Email Address:

Password:

Forgot password? Click here to reset your password.

Don't have an account? Registration for this Galaxy instance is disabled. Please contact an administrator for assistance.

**Welcome to GalaxyTrakr: open-source bioinformatics for public health.**

This site is intended for use by GenomeTrakr laboratories and their collaborators to assist in the analysis of genomic data for foodborne pathogens. This instance of Galaxy is hosted in a public environment and no personally identifiable (PII) or commercial confidential information should be uploaded.

**--!!--Information and Announcements--!!--**

Please re-import the skesamist workflow that was updated a few days ago. Previous versions are no longer working and are causing errors when running. Thank you.

Access CFSAI SNP Pipeline workflows in the shared workflows screen.

Post in the official Galaxy GenomeTrakr board on the Redmine Site: [Click here](#)

Click here to access the GalaxyTrakr User Guide

Forgot Password? Email GalaxyTrakr Support Team

## Create a new history

### 2 Create a new history.

We recommend creating a new history for each new MiSeq sequence set with details and date in the history name.

Save your SSQuAWK2 output here with any other relevant analyses.

After all the analysis output from this run is saved to your internal data network or computer, older history's should be purged/deleted so as not to occupy the limited storage space in your account. In some cases it may be useful to save, for a limited time, multiple histories or to run analyses concurrently in multiple histories. In these cases you need to pay attention to your % usage bar (shows % used of allocated storage space) in the upper right corner of the GalaxyTrakr page. If you need additional space you can contact [galaxytrakrsupport@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:galaxytrakrsupport@fda.hhs.gov) and request additional storage.

## 2.1 Create a new history with the "+" symbol in the upper right hand corner. Name your history and press "enter" on your keyboard to save the name.

**GalaxyTrakr** Analysis Data Workflow Visualize Shared Data Help Login

Tools:

Get Data:

Tools: QC and manipulation

Tools: Screening and Prediction

Tools: Mapping

Tools: Mapping

Tools: Assembly

Tools: Phylogenetics

Tools: CFSAI SNP Pipeline (beta)

Tools: MegaBlast

Tools: Nucleotide

Tools: NCBI Blast+

Tools: RNA seq

Tools: Annotations

Tools: View

Tools: SnpSift

Tools: Seqtk

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**--!!--Information and Announcements--!!--**

Please let us know if you have any issues with the new version of Galaxy. Thank you.

Access CFSAI SNP Pipeline workflows in the shared workflows screen.

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Click here to access the GalaxyTrakr User Guide

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Take an interactive tour: [Galaxy 1.1](#) [Home](#) [Feedback](#)

Galaxy is an open platform for supporting data intensive research. Galaxy is developed by The Galaxy Team with the support of many contributors.

The Galaxy Project is supported in part by NIDDK, NCI, The Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences, The Institute for Genome Sciences and Policy, and other funders.

**History**

new history

This history is empty. You can load your own data or get data from an external source.

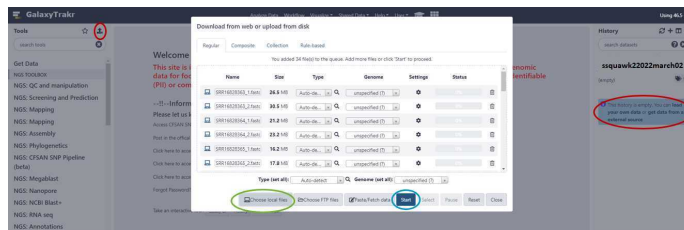
## Upload sequence data

### 3 This section will describe the process for uploading raw fastq files into your active History panel. After the files have been uploaded they will stay in your account until they are deleted.

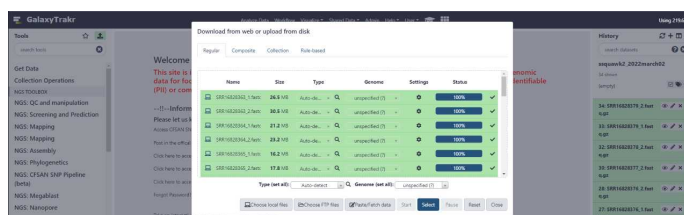
## 3.1 Upload sequence data to your history, using either of the two options circled in red below.

A window will appear in the middle of your screen. This is where you select your files using the "Choose local files" button at the bottom of the window. The "Choose local files" button is circled in green. These fastq files should be paired (two per sample).

After you've selected your files, press "Start" to initiate your data upload to GalaxyTrakr. The "Start" button is circled in blue.



- 3.2 As the file uploads complete, each row will turn green. If samples are shown with yellow background, then are still uploading.



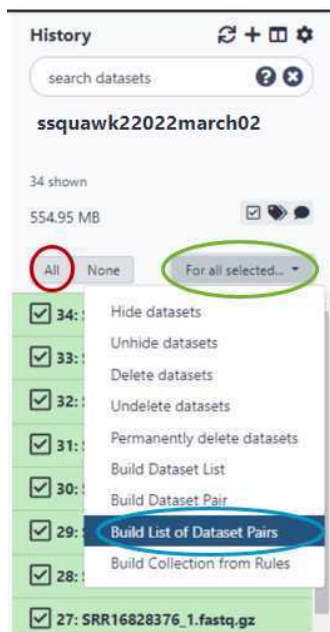
- 3.3 You have just upload a set of forward and reverse reads. For further analysis these files need to be paired properly so the platform knows which R1 and R2 files go with each sample. GalaxyTrakr does this by creating a **List of Dataset Pairs**.

Within your newly created History panel, click the "check box," then select all the files you just uploaded by clicking "All" or by individually selecting the ones you want to pair.



- 3.4 Check all the files belonging to a pair. In this example, all the files belong to a pair, so I will use the "All" button (circled in red).

Then, use the "For all selected..." dropdown (circled in green), and click on "Build List of Dataset Pairs" (circled in blue).

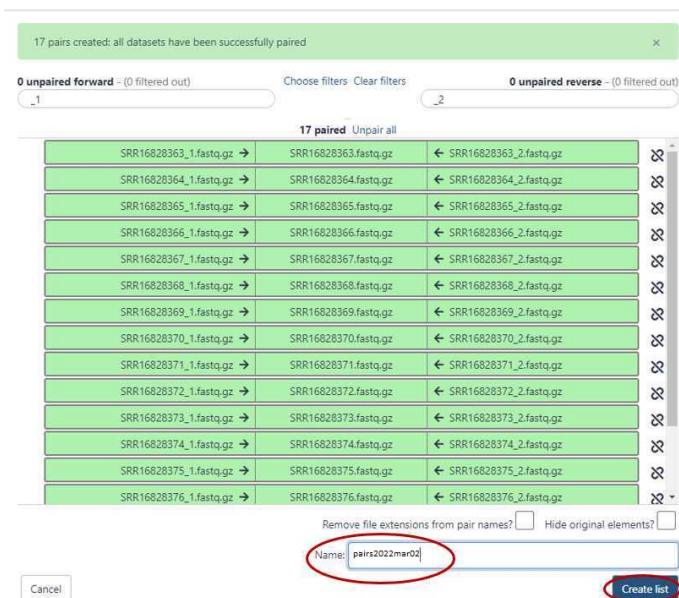


3.5 GalaxyTrakr will automatically pair the files, but it's good to double check.

Paired reads will pair in the middle column and turn green.

If everything looks good, then choose a name for your pairs (circled red) and "Create List" (also circled red).

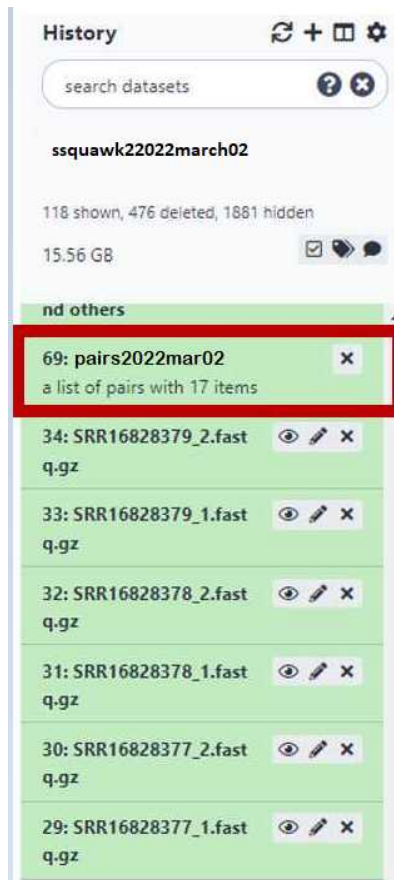
Create a collection of paired datasets



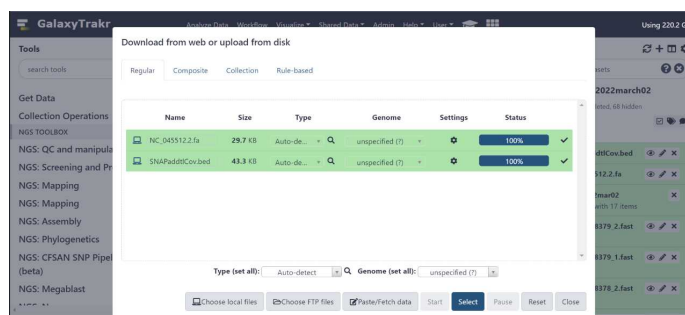
Alternatively, instead of auto-pairing you can click "choose filters" and select the appropriate filter for the pairing:



- 3.6 This paired dataset will now be available for analysis in your history panel. You can run multiple analyses on the same dataset in a history rather than upload the same sequence data to a new history to perform additional analyses. This will help you use your allocated storage space efficiently.



- 4 To the existing history, also upload (1) the **provided reference.fasta file** and (1) a primer.bed file.



- 4.1 SSQuAWK2 is only compatible with the 22903 nt reference genome file obtained from NCBI 'NC\_045512.2'. It is provided here for your convenience: [@ NC\\_045512.2.fa](#)
- 4.2 The primer.bed file should correspond to the SARS - CoV - 2 enrichment primer panel kit used.

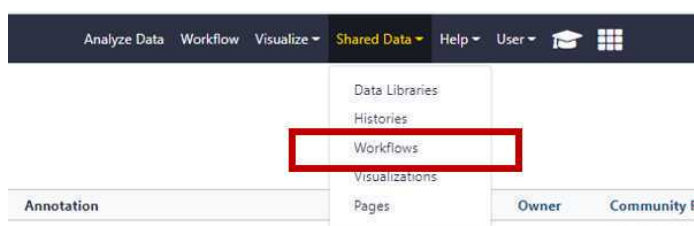
- ☐ **QIAseqDIRECT.bed** QIAseq Direct kit
- ☒ **SNAPStd.bed** SNAP standard kit
- ☐ **SNAPaddtlCov.bed** SNAP additional coverage kit
- ☐ **varskipShort.bed** NEB VarSkip Short (version 1) kit
- ☐ **VSSv2.primer.bed** NEB VarSkip Short (version 2) kit
- ☐ **ARTICv4.bed** ARTIC v4 primer schemes

Run the SSQuAWK workflow

- 5 Add the SSQuAWK2\* workflow to your own "workflows" panel. You only have to do this step once for each new workflow you need.

\*SSQuAWK2: SARS - CoV - 2 Sequence Quality Assurance Workflow Kontrapion, version 2

- 5.1 Navigate to the "Shared Data" drop down and choose workflows



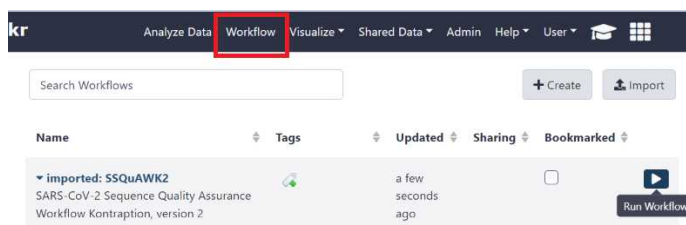
Then, from the SSQuAWK2 drop down menu, select import.

Published Workflows

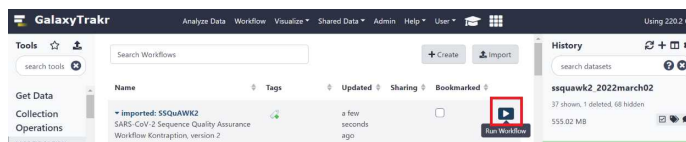
search name, annotation, owner, as  
Advanced Search

Name	Annotation	Owner	Community Rating	Community Tags	Last Updated
SSQuAWK2	SARS-CoV-2 Sequence Quality Assurance Workflow Kontrapion, version 2	jamine_ami	★★★★★	import, play, history	5 seconds ago
NARMS: Unknown or Mixed Run AMR Workflow v2.0	Not bug specific. For mixed MSeq runs or unknown isolates	gmarin	★★★★★	import, play, history	Oct 22, 2021
AMRfinderFluIDT Report WF		gmarin	★★★★★		Oct 22, 2021
NARMS: E. coli AMR Workflow V2.0	E. coli AMR, speciation, and QC	gmarin	★★★★★	import, play, book	Oct 04, 2021

- 5.2 Navigate to the "Workflow" tab in the top ribbon (boxed in red). The workflow will be imported there.



- 5.3 To use the workflow, press the 'play' button (boxed in red) on the right

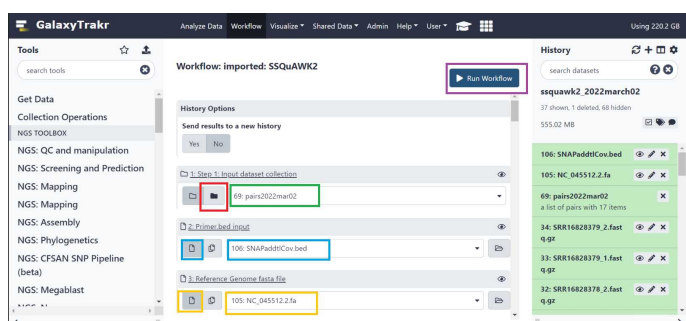


- 5.4 Select the paired list you created earlier by selecting the folder icon (boxed in red), and then the list of pairs (boxed in green).

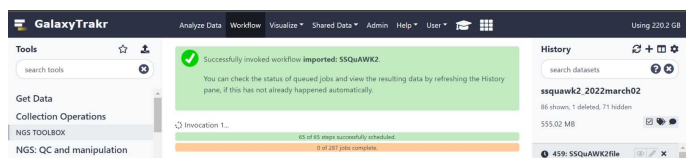
Boxed in blue: Select the bed file from your history.

Boxed in gold: Select the reference fasta file from your history.

Click Run Workflow (boxed in purple).



Running the workflow can take some time depending on the number of samples you are analyzing. Once GalaxyTrakr adds the workflow invocation to the queue, you can choose to log out of GalaxyTrakr and log back in at a later time to see if the job is completed.



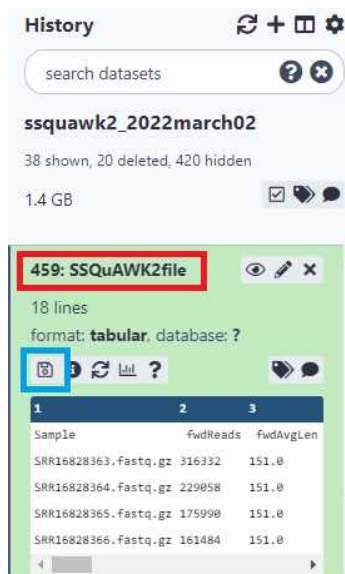
- 5.5 Upon completion of the pipeline, the **SSQuAWK2file** will be green. Click on the "Eye" icon to view the output in the GalaxyTrakr window.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	History
Sample	fastqR1	fastqR2	fastqR3	fastqR4	fastqR5	fastqR6	fastqR7	fastqR8	fastqR9	fastqR10	fastqR11	fastqR12	fastqR13	av
SR11620353.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	ssquawk2_2022march02
SR11620354.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	38 shown, 22 deleted, 402 hidden
SR11620355.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	1.4 GB
SR11620356.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	459: SSQuAWK2file
SR11620357.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620358.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620359.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620360.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620361.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620362.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620363.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620364.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620365.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620366.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620367.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620368.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620369.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620370.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620371.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620372.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620373.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620374.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620375.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620376.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620377.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620378.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	
SR11620379.fastq.gz	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	

Interpret the results

## 6 Download and interpret the results:

- 6.1 Click "SSQuAWK2file" (boxed in red) and then the floppy disc save icon (boxed in blue). The tabular file can be opened in a text reader or converted to a format that can be opened in Excel.

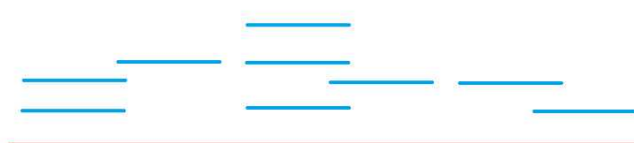


6.2 The SSQuAWK2 output file includes the following metrics:



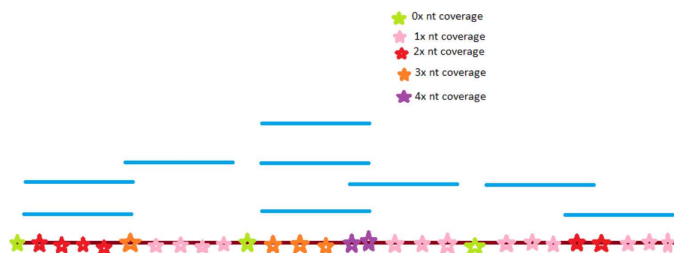
A	B	C
<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Input</i>	<i>Description</i>
<b>Sample</b>	List of Pairs	Sample name from list of pairs
<b>fwdReads</b>	FASTQC	Number of forward reads contributing to the sample pair
<b>fwdAvgLen</b>	FASTQC	Average of all forward read lengths
<b>fwdAvgQ</b>	FASTQC	Average quality of all forward reads
<b>revReads</b>	FASTQC	Number of reverse reads contributing to the sample pair
<b>revAvgLen</b>	FASTQC	Average of all reverse read lengths
<b>revAvgQ</b>	FASTQC	Average quality of all reverse reads
<b>percentHuman</b>	Kraken2	Percentage of reads classified as <i>Homo sapiens</i>
<b>readsHuman</b>	Kraken2	Number of reads classified as <i>Homo sapiens</i>
<b>percentSyntheticSeqs</b>	Kraken2	Percentage of reads classified as non - biological sequences
<b>readsSyntheticSeqs</b>	Kraken2	Number of reads classified as non - biological sequences
<b>percentCovid</b>	Kraken2	Percentage of reads classified as SARS - CoV - 2
<b>readsCovid</b>	Kraken2	Number of reads classified as SARS - CoV - 2
<b>avgReadCov</b>	Bowtie2, samtools, ivar_trim	Average number of nts from sequence reads that map to the genome
<b>percentReadsAlign</b>	Bowtie2, samtools, Kraken2	Percentage of reads that aligned to the reference sequence
<b>percentReadsPassFilt</b>	Bowtie2, samtools, ivar_trim, Kraken2	Percentage of reads that pass the ivar_trim filter parameters: minReadLen = 30, minQual_slidingWindow = 20, and slidingWindow = 4 nt.
<b>percent_nt0Xcov</b>	Bowtie2, samtools, ivar_trim	Percentage of nucleotides that do not cover the genome at all (zero times)
<b>percent_ntLess10Xcov</b>	Bowtie2, samtools, ivar_trim	Percentage of nucleotides that barely cover the genome (less than 10 times)

### 6.3 What is nucleotide coverage?! Let's look at 2 simple pictures



In the figure above, let the burgundy line represent the entire reference genome.

The blue lines are the reads, as sequenced nucleotides.



In the figure above, each star, drawn on the burgundy line (reference genome) is a **nucleotide position**.

There are 28 stars, so we will say our genome is 28 nucleotides long.

We can use coverage to determine the quality of our sequences (blue lines).

The lime green stars along the genome represent 0X coverage, because we did not sequence any reads with **nucleotides positions covering that reference nucleotide position**. There are no blue lines that we sequenced there!

There are 3 nucleotide positions with 0x coverage. The total genome is 28 nucleotides long.

$$\text{percent\_nt0Xcov} = (\text{nucleotidePositions0Xcov} / \text{genomeLength}) * 100$$

$$\text{percent\_nt0Xcov} = (3 / 28) * 100$$

$$\text{percent\_nt0Xcov} = 10.71\%$$

In most ideal scenarios, higher coverage indicates better sequence quality.

For example, 100x coverage is better than 10x coverage.

Since we want **higher coverage**, percent\_nt0Xcov and percent\_ntLess10Xcov are ideally **lower percentages**.

0x coverage and 10x coverage indicate "no coverage" and "poor coverage", respectively.

Generally, we expect avgReadCov in 100's or 1000's\*

If **percent\_nt0Xcov** is a higher percentage, say 50%\*, that means half of the genome was not covered by our sequences. The quality is not ideal.

*\* These values are not official threshold and only used for illustrative purposes.*

*Threshold guidance is 'in progress', and planned to be announced after further analyses.*

#### 6.4 Example output for the first 3 pairs run through the SSQuAWK2 workflow:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	
Sample	fwdReads	fwdAvgLen	fwdAvgQ	revReads	revAvgLen	revAvgQ	percentHuman	readsHuman	percentSyntheticSeqs	readsSyntheticSeqs	perc
SRR16828363.fastq.gz	316332	151.0	33.21	316332	151.0	31.76	0.48	1517	70.88	224206	2
SRR16828364.fastq.gz	229058	151.0	35.71	229058	151.0	34.81	0.38	863	20.92	47920	3
SRR16828365.fastq.gz	175990	151.0	34.90	175990	151.0	33.79	0.50	874	30.04	52862	4

#### Video Tutorial

#### 7 Thanks for using SSQuAWK2!



#### 8 New to GalaxyTrakr? Check out this detailed, 12 minute video overview of the SSQuAWK (version 1)

protocol before trying SSQuAWK2.

**Video edit:**

"SSQuawk allows users to check the sequence quality of SARS-CoV-2 wastewater samples in **CFSAN's custom Galaxy instance, called GalaxyTrakr**. This generates a single report file from raw Illumina MiSeq paired-end fastq file inputs."

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