
CrossMap Documentation

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Liguo Wang

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- CrossMap is a program for convenient conversion of genome coordinate (or annotation files) between *different assemblies* (such as Human hg18 (NCBI36) <-> hg19 (GRCh37), Mouse mm9 (MGSCv37) <-> mm10 (GRCm38)).
- As been said, CrossMap is designed to liftover genome coordinates between assemblies. It's *not* a program for aligning sequence to reference genome.
- We *do not* recommend using CrossMap to convert genome coordinates between species.

WHY CROSSMAP ?

Full genome sequencing, especially mammalian genomes like human, is a long period of work requiring continuous efforts, and therefore reference genome assemblies are subject to change/refine from time to time. Generally, researchers need to convert results analyzed according to old assembly to newer version or vice versa to facilitate meta-analyses, direct comparison as well as data integration and visualization. Several useful conversion tools have been developed:

- [UCSC liftover tool](#) only supports BED input.
- [Galaxy](#) (Based on UCSC liftover tool) supports BED, GFF, GTF input.
- [Ensembl assembly converter](#) supports BED, GFF, GTF, PSL input, but output is GFF only.
- [pyliftover](#) “only does conversion of point coordinates, that is, unlike liftOver, it does not convert ranges, nor does it provide any special facilities to work with BED files”.

but all of them can only convert genome interval files in BED or GFF format and none of them can convert files in BAM/SAM or BigWig format, which are the most widely used file format to represent high-throughput sequencing data including RNA-seq, ChIP-seq, DNA-seq, etc.

DOWNLOAD

- Download CrossMap program from [here](#)
- Download test data from [here](#)

INSTALLATION

Prerequisite:

1. `gcc`
2. `python2.7` or newer
3. `numpy`
4. `cython`

```
$ tar xzf CrossMap-VERSION.tar.gz
```

```
$ cd CrossMap-VERSION
```

```
# install CrossMap to default location. In Linux/Unix, this location is some thing like: /home/user/
$ python setup.py install
```

```
# or you can install CrossMap to a specified location:
$ python setup.py install --root=/home/user/CrossMap
```

```
# setup PYTHONPATH. Skip this step if CrossMap was installed to default location.
$ export PYTHONPATH=/home/user/CrossMap/usr/local/lib/python2.7/site-packages:$PYTHONPATH.
```

```
# Skip this step if CrossMap was installed to default location.
$ export PATH=/home/user/CrossMap/usr/local/bin:$PATH
```

NOTE:

1. Due to intensive computation, CrossMap is designed to run on Linux/Unix and Mac OS. Some modules may not work properly on Windows.

INPUT AND OUTPUT

CrossMap needs 2 input files. [chain](#) format file describing genom-wide pairwise alignment between assemblies and the file containing genome coordinates that you want to convert to different assembly.

4.1 Chain file

Example of [chain](#) file:

```
chain 4900 chrY 58368225 + 25985403 25985638 chr5 151006098 - 43257292 43257528 1
9      1      0
10     0      5
61     4      0
16     0      4
42     3      0
16     0      8
14     1      0
3      7      0
48
```

```
chain 4900 chrY 58368225 + 25985406 25985566 chr5 151006098 - 43549808 43549970 2
16     0      2
60     4      0
10     0      4
70
```

UCSC prebuilt most commonly used [chain](#) files:

- Human (*Homo sapiens*)
- [hg19ToHg18.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert hg19 to hg18)
- [hg19ToHg17.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert hg19 to hg17)
- [hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert hg18 to hg19)
- [hg18ToHg17.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert hg18 to hg17)
- [hg17ToHg19.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert hg17 to hg19)
- [hg17ToHg18.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert hg17 to hg18)
- Mouse (*Mus musculus*)
- [mm10ToMm9.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert mm10 to mm9)
- [mm9ToMm10.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert mm9 to mm10)
- [mm9ToMm8.over.chain.gz](#) (Chain file needed to convert mm9 to mm8)

Chain file of other species can be downloaded from [here](#)

4.2 User Input file

1. **BAM** or **SAM** format.
2. **BED** or BED-like format. BED file must has at least 3 columns ('chrom', 'start', 'end').
3. **Wiggle**. Both "variableStep" and "fixedStep" wiggle line are supported.
4. **BigWig** format.
5. **GFF** or **GTF** format.
6. **VCF** format.

4.3 Output

Format of Output files depends on the input format

Input_format	Output_format
BED	BED (Genome coordinates will be updated to the target assembly)
BAM	BAM (Genome coordinates, all SAM flags, insert size will be updated accordingly)
SAM	SAM (Genome coordinates, all SAM flags, insert size will be updated accordingly)
Wiggle	bedGraph (if wigToBigWig executable does not exist)
Wiggle	BigWig (if wigToBigWig executable exists)
BigWig	bedGraph (if wigToBigWig executable does not exist)
BigWig	BigWig (if wigToBigWig executable exists)
GFF	GFF (Genome coordinates will be updated to the target assembly)
GTF	GTF (Genome coordinates will be updated to the target assembly)
VCF	VCF (Genome coordinates and reference allele will be updated to the target assembly)

USAGE

Run CrossMap.py without any arguments will print help message:

```
# run CrossMap without argument
$ python CrossMap.py
```

Screen output:

```
Program: CrossMap (v0.1.1)
```

Description:

```
CrossMap is a program for convenient conversion of genome coordinates
and genomeannotation files between assemblies (eg. lift from human
hg18 to hg19 or vice versa).It support file in BAM, SAM, BED, Wiggle,
BigWig, GFF, GTF, VCF, etc.
```

Usage: CrossMap.py <command> [options]

```
bam  convert alignment file in BAM or SAM format.
bed  convert genome coordindate or annotation file in BED or BED-like format.
bigwig      convert genome coordinate file in BigWig format.
gff  convert genome coordindate or annotation file in GFF or GTF format.
vcf  convert genome coordinate file in VCF format.
wig  convert genome coordinate file in Wiggle, or bedGraph format.
```

Run CrossMap.py with command keyword will print help message for that command:

```
$ python CrossMap.py bed
```

Screen output:

Usage:

```
CrossMap.py bed input_chain_file input_bed_file [output_file]
```

Description:

```
"input_chain_file" and "input_bed_file" can be regular or compressed
(*.gz, *.Z, *.z, *.bz, *.bz2, *.bzip2) file, local file or URL
(http://, https://, ftp://) pointing to remote file. BED file must
have at least 3 columns (chrom, start, end) and no more than 12
columns. If no "output_file" was specified, output will be directed
to screen (console). BED format:
http://genome.ucsc.edu/FAQ/FAQformat.html#format1
```

Example:

```
CrossMap.py bed hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.bed test.hg19.bed
# write output to "test.hg19.bed"
```

Example:

```
CrossMap.py bed hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.bed
# write output to screen
```

5.1 Convert BED format files

Standard BED format has 12 columns, but CrossMap also support BED-like formats:

- BED3: The first 3 columns (“chrom”, “start”, “end”) of BED format file.
- BED6: The first 6 columns (“chrom”, “start”, “end”, “name”, “score”, “strand”) of BED format file.
- Other: Format has at least 3 columns (“chrom”, “start”, “end”) and no more than 12 columns. All other columns are arbitrary.

NOTE:

1. For BED-like formats mentioned above, CrossMap only updates “chrom (1st column)”, “start (2nd column)”, “end (3rd column)” and “strand” (if any). All other columns will keep AS-IS.
2. Lines starting with ‘#’, ‘browser’, ‘track’ will be skipped.
3. Lines with less than 3 columns will be skipped.
4. 2nd-column and 3-column must be integer, otherwise skipped.
5. “+” strand is assumed if no strand information was found.
6. For standard BED format (12 columns). If any of the defined exon blocks cannot be uniquely mapped to target assembly, the whole entry will be skipped.
7. “input_chain_file” and “input_bed_file” can be regular or compressed (.gz, .Z, .z, .bz, .bz2, .bzip2) file, local file or URL (<http://>, <https://>, <ftp://>) pointing to remote file.
8. If output_file was not specified, results will be printed to screen (console). In this case, the original bed entries were also printed out.
9. If input region cannot be consecutively mapped target assembly, it will be split.

Example (run CrossMap with **no** output_file specified):

```
$ python CrossMap.py bed hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.bed3
```

Conversion results printed to screen directly (column1-3 are hg18 based, column5-7 are hg19 based):

chr1	142614848	142617697	->	chr1	143903503	143906352
chr1	142617697	142623312	->	chr1	143906355	143911970
chr1	142623313	142623350	->	chr1	143911971	143912008
chr1	142623351	142626523	->	chr1	143912009	143915181
chr1	142633862	142633883	->	chr1	143922520	143922541
chr1	142633884	142636152	->	chr1	143922542	143924810
chr1	142636152	142636326	->	chr1	143924813	143924987
chr1	142636339	142636391	->	chr1	143925000	143925052
chr1	142636392	142637362	->	chr1	143925052	143926022
chr1	142637373	142639738	->	chr1	143926033	143928398
chr1	142639739	142639760	->	chr1	143928399	143928420
chr1	142639761	142640145	->	chr1	143928421	143928805
chr1	142640153	142641149	->	chr1	143928813	143929809

Example (run CrossMap with output_file (**test.hg19.bed3**) specified):


```
$ python CrossMap.py bed hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.bed3 test.hg19.bed3
```

```
$ cat test.hg19.bed3
chr1 143903503 143906352
chr1 143906355 143911970
chr1 143911971 143912008
chr1 143912009 143915181
chr1 143922520 143922541
chr1 143922542 143924810
chr1 143924813 143924987
chr1 143925000 143925052
chr1 143925052 143926022
chr1 143926033 143928398
chr1 143928399 143928420
chr1 143928421 143928805
chr1 143928813 143929809
```

Example (one input region was split because it cannot be consecutively mapped target assembly):

```
$ python CrossMap.py bed hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.bed3
```

```
chr10 81346644 81349952 + -> chr10 81356692 81360000 +
chr10 81349952 81364937 + -> chr10 81360000 81374985 +
chr10 81364952 81365854 + -> chr10 81375000 81375902 +
chr10 81365875 81369946 + -> chr10 81375929 81380000 +
chr10 81369946 81370453 + -> chr10 81380000 81380507 +
chr10 81370483 81371363 + -> chr10 81380539 81381419 +
chr10 81371363 81371365 + -> chr10 62961832 62961834 +
chr10 81371412 81371432 + (split.1:chr10:81371412:81371422:+) chr10 62961834
chr10 81371412 81371432 + (split.2:chr10:81371422:81371432:+) chrX 632780
```

5.2 Convert BAM/SAM format files

Both SAM and BAM are supported. Input file must have header section. If input is BAM file, it should be sorted and indexed using [samTools](#)

Typing command without any arguments will print help message:

```
$ python CrossMap.py bam
```

Screen output:

```
Usage: CrossMap.py bam input_chain_file input_bam_file output_file
```

Options:

```
-m INSERT_SIZE      Average insert size of pair-end sequencing (bp) .
                    [default=200.0]
-s INSERT_SIZE_STDEV Stanadard deviation of insert size. [default=30.0]
-t INSERT_SIZE_FOLD  A mapped pair is considered as "proper pair" if both
                    ends mapped to different strand and the distance
                    between them is less then '-t' * stdev from the mean.
                    [default=3.0]
```

NOTE:

1. Input is BAM or SAM format file. Output format depends on input format. (i.e BAM -> BAM, SAM -> SAM)
2. Alignments that are failed to convert will be saved in *“.unmap.bam”* or *“.unmap.sam”*

3. Header section will be updated to target assembly.
4. Genome coordinates and all SAM flags in alignment section will be updated to target assembly.
5. Optional fields in alignment section will not update.

5.3 Convert Wiggle format files

Input file is **Wiggle** format. If `wigToBigWig` executable is found, output is **BigWig** format, otherwise output will be in **bedGraph** format. **bedGraph** file can be converted into **BigWig** using `wigToBigWig` tool.

Typing command without any arguments will print help message:

```
$ python2.7 CrossMap.py wig
```

Screen output:

Usage:

```
CrossMap.py wig input_chain_file input_wig_file output_prefix
```

Description:

"input_chain_file" can be regular or compressed (*.gz, *.Z, *.z, *.bz, *.bz2, *.bzip2) file, local file or URL (http://, https://, ftp://) pointing to remote file. Both "variableStep" and "fixedStep" wiggle lines are supported. Wiggle format: <http://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/wiggle.html>

Example:

```
CrossMap.py wig hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.wig test.hg19
```

NOTE:

1. To improve performance, this script calls GNU "sort" command internally. If "sort" command does not exist, CrossMap will exit.

5.4 Convert BigWig format files

Input file is **BigWig** format. If `wigToBigWig` executable is found, output is **BigWig** format, otherwise output will be in **bedGraph** format. **bedGraph** file can be converted into **BigWig** using `wigToBigWig` tool.

Typing command without any arguments will print help message:

```
$ python2.7 CrossMap.py bigwig
```

Screen output:

Usage:

```
CrossMap.py bigwig input_chain_file input__bigwig_file output_prefix
```

Description:

"input_chain_file" can be regular or compressed (*.gz, *.Z, *.z, *.bz, *.bz2, *.bzip2) file, local file or URL (http://, https://, ftp://) pointing to remote file. Bigwig format: <http://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/bigWig.html>

Example:

```
CrossMap.py bigwig hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.bw test.hg19
```

NOTE:

1. To improve performance, this script calls GNU “sort” command internally. If “sort” command does not exist, CrossMap will exit.

5.5 Convert GFF/GTF format files

Typing command without any arguments will print help message:

```
$ python2.7 CrossMap.py gff
```

Screen output:

Usage:

```
CrossMap.py gff input_chain_file input_gff_file output_file
```

Description:

"input_chain_file" can be regular or compressed (*.gz, *.Z, *.z, *.bz, *.bz2, *.bzip2) file, local file or URL (http://, https://, ftp://) pointing to remote file. input file must be in GFF or GTF format. GFF format:
<http://genome.ucsc.edu/FAQ/FAQformat.html#format3> GTF format:
<http://genome.ucsc.edu/FAQ/FAQformat.html#format4>

Example:

```
CrossMap.py gff hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.gff test.hg19.gff # write  
output to "test.hg19.bed"
```

Example:

```
CrossMap.py gff hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.gff # write output to  
screen
```

NOTE:

1. Each feature (exon, intron, UTR, etc) is processed separately and independently, and we do NOT check if features originally belonging to the same gene were converted into the same gene.
2. If user want to liftover gene annotation files, use BED12 format.
3. If no output file was specified, output will be printed to screen (console).

5.6 Convert VCF format files

Typing command without any arguments will print help message:

```
$ python2.7 CrossMap.py gff
```

Screen output:

usage:

```
CrossMap.py vcf input_chain_file input_VCF_file ref_genome_file output_file
```

Description:

"input_chain_file" and "input_VCF_file" can be regular or compressed (*.gz, *.Z, *.z, *.bz, *.bz2, *.bzip2) file, local file or URL (http://, https://, ftp://) pointing to remote file. "ref_genome_file" is genome sequence file of 'target assembly' in FASTA format.

Example:

```
CrossMap.py vcf hg18ToHg19.over.chain.gz test.hg18.vcf hg19.fa hg19.out
```

NOTE:

1. Genome coordinates and reference allele will be updated to target assembly.

LICENSE

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CONTACT

- Wang.Liguo AT mayo.edu



