Genome informatics for translation to clinical diagnostics

"user-friendly web-based tools bring sequence data to the clinic"

NHMRC New Investigator Grant - Pitch

Dr Miles Benton

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identification of known or novel pathogenic variants

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- identification of clinically relevant variants is time consuming
 - o large potential for analysis induced false negatives
- larger datasets (WES/WGS) contain **thousands** to **millions** of variants
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 - multitudes of genes / mutations responsible for symptoms or important for treatment

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I'm an emerging researcher (3.5 years out from PhD)

Major drivers for change

paywalls

- nearly all software suites are licensed == '\$\$\$'
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NO software readily accessible and user-friendly for end users 'on the ground'

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pay to use

free but tricky

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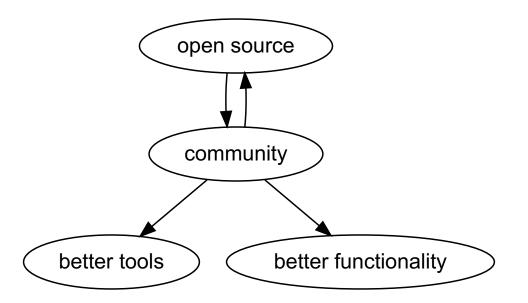
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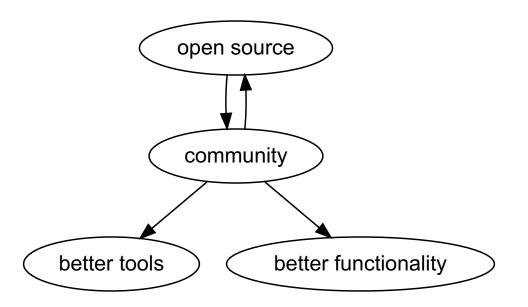
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wide benefit: research | diagnostic | clinical | public

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cloud integration and deployment options

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[*] if you are not familiar with the commandline

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variant filtering process is complicated**

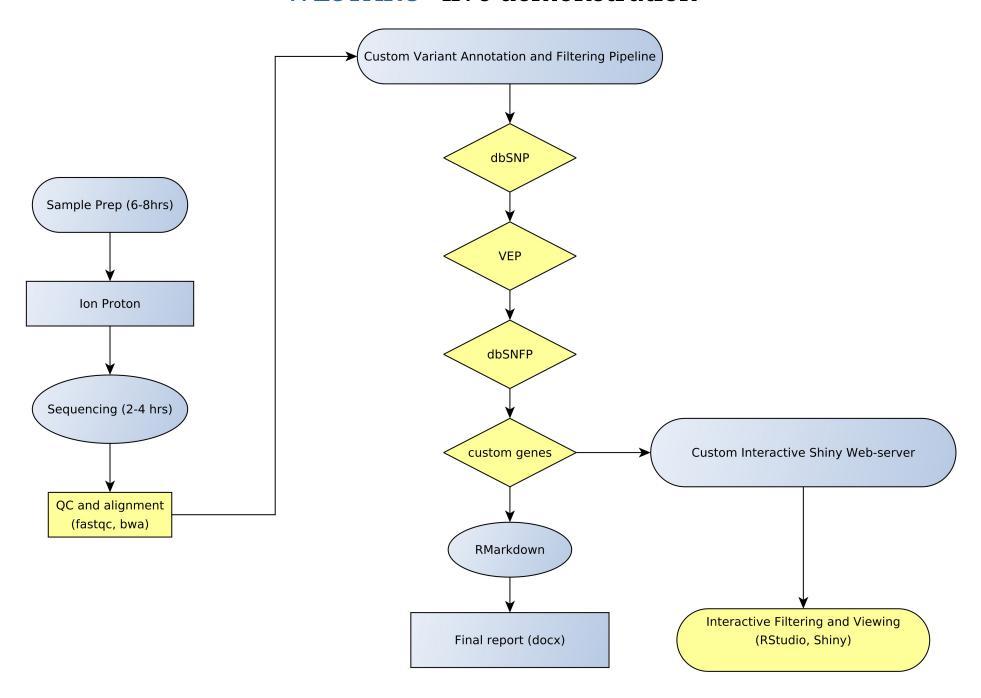
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A large number of people still do this manually...

...this is what computers are for!

Progress to date

WESTARC - live demonstration



Research Design

Develop a series of modules, each achieving a specific task:

- initial QC and sequence alignment
 - + including functionality for structural variation (routinely overlooked)
- VCF annotation and manipulation
 - + currently only accessible to 'advanced' users
- simple interactive 'base' fontend (i.e. WESTARC)
 - + include database interfacing
- Additional analysis interface
 - + phenotype, case/control, sample comparison ...

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Distribute:

• GitHub, docker, & online cloud server (Amazon S3)

Expected outcomes

simple, scalable and robust method for the annotating and categorising genetic variants enabling more rapid and effective analysis of potentially pathogenic variants

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A fully operational suite of software 'modules':

- integrate into an easy-to-use workflow
- can handle all forms of sequence data
- open-source / free to use and develop

Deployment of an user friendly app version / suite of apps:

- integration with existing databases
- cloud deployment
- docker integration

Direct to consumer:

• putting the 'power' back in the hands of those that matter

Team members on this submission

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Prof Lyn Griffiths¹ AI (*Human Genetics*)

A/Prof Rod Lea¹ AI (Genome Informatics)

Dr Robert Smith¹ AI (*Diagnostics*)

Prof Greg Gibson² AI/Mentor (*Integrative Genomics*)

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