

HW3: Transcriptome Analysis

Homework 3 - to be done as groups

Names:

Group:

Homework instructions

For deadlines etc., see Absalon.

You have to supply both the answer (whatever it is: numbers, a table, plots or combinations thereof), as well as the R or Linux code you used to make the plots. This should be done using this R markdown template: we want both the R markdown file and a resulting PDF. For PDF output, you may have to install some extra programs - RStudio will tell you.

Note that:

1. If the R code gives different results than your results, you will get severe point reductions or even 0 points for the exercise
2. Some questions may request you to use R options we have not covered explicitly in the course: this is part of the challenge
3. While this is a group work, we expect that everyone in the group will have understood the group solution: similar or harder question might show up in the individual homework. So, if something is hard, it means you need to spend more time on it
4. The results should be presented on a level of detail that someone else could replicate the analysis.

For statistical tests, you have to:

1. Motivate the choice of test
2. State exactly what the null hypothesis is (depends on test!)
3. Comment the outcome: do you reject the null hypothesis or not, and what does this mean for the actual question we wanted to answer (interpretation)?

When we state “use tidyverse” it means that you should:

1. Only use tidyverse functions.
2. As far as possible, make a combined data analysis using pipes (`%>%`) so that intermediaries are kept at the necessary minimum.

Please use `knitr::kable()` to produce nicely formatted tables when you are asked provide a table.

Please note you need `IsoformSwitchAnalyzeR` v > 1.5.11 if not you need to update first (see the announcement on Absalon for instructions on how to). To show that you have the right version please include and run the following R code in your Rmarkdown:

```
paste(
  'The IsoformSwitchAnalyzeR version is okay:',
  packageVersion("IsoformSwitchAnalyzeR") > "1.5.11",
  sep=' '
)
```

```
## [1] "The IsoformSwitchAnalyzeR version is okay: TRUE"
```

Intro

As you already know how to quantify RNA-seq data (see the quantification exercise during RNA seq lecture) this HW is about post analysis of such quantifications.

Part1: Data analysis and clustering

Use the supplied Salmon quantification subset stored in the “salmon_result_part1.zip” file. These files contain the Salmon quantification of 6 samples - 3 biological replicates of non-treated (WT) and 3 biological replicates of where the cells were treated with a cancer promoting drug called TPA (WTTPA). Salmon was run with the “-seqBias” option.

Question 1.1

Read the “quant.sf” file from the WT1 Salmon result folder into R with “read_tsv()”. Plot the isoform length versus the effective length, add a geom smooth and a dashed line along the diagonal. Scale both axis using log10 via ggplot. Comment on the comparison on the differences between the trend line and the diagonal line with respect to what is expected.

Question 1.2

Analyze and comment on the strange outliers in the plot from Question 1.1. Use max 100 words.

Question 1.3

Use IsoformSwitchAnalyzerR’s importIsoformExpression() to import all the data into R. Convert the abundances imported by importIsoformExpression() into a log2 transformed abundance matrix (using a pseudocount of 1) where columns are samples and isoform ids are stored as rownames. Report the first 4 rows as a table and discuss the advantage of a pseudocount of 1. Use max 100 words.

Question 1.4

Use tidyverse to extract the 100 most variable isoforms (aka those with highest variance) from the log2-transformed expression matrix. Provide a table with top five most variable isoforms.

Question 1.5

Use the pheatmap R package to make one (and just 1) visually appealing heatmap of the isoforms from 1.4 and comment on the result. Columns should be samples and rows isoforms. Furthermore, discuss pros and cons of the argument scale = “row” vs scale = “none”. Use max 100 words.

Part2: Isoform switch analysis with IsoformSwitchAnalyzerR

Use the supplied Salmon quantification subset stored in the “salmon_result_part2.zip” file (Different from what you used in part 1!). These files contain the Salmon quantification of 6 samples - 3 biological replicates of non-treated (WT) and 3 biological replicates of a knock out (KO) of a suspected splice factor - let us call it the X factor for dramatic effect. Salmon was run with the -seqBias option.

Your job is to analyze the changes to the transcriptome using IsoformSwitchAnalyzerR to elucidate the effect of the knock out in relation to the hypothesis that factor X is a splice factor.

Question 2.1

Use the `importIsoformExpression` and `importRdata(...,addAnnotatedORFs=FALSE)` functions to create a `switchAnalyzeRList` object from the Salmon output supplied in the “salmon_result_part2.zip” folder. Use the GTF file also included in the zip file. Report the summary statistics of the resulting `switchAnalyzeRList`. What does the `addAnnotatedORFs=FALSE` argument do and why do you think it is enabled here?

Question 2.2

Why is it essential the annotation stored in the GTF file is the exact annotation quantified with Salmon (in the context of `IsoformSwitchAnalyzeR` functionalities)? **Use max 100 words.**

Question 2.3

Load the supplied “switchList.Rdata” object into R with the `readRDS()` function. This is the result of running the whole `IsoformSwitchAnalyzeR` workflow on the full dataset. Make a table with the Top 10 switching genes with predicted consequences when sorting on q-values.

Question 2.4

Show code for how to produce `switchPlot` for these 10 genes and save them to your own computer. The plots should not be included in the report (only the code for how to produce it)!

Question 2.5

Which of the top 10 genes with switches do you think is the most important? Include/produce the `switchPlot` for that particular gene and discuss the reason why you chose that gene, including references when needed. **Use max 100 words.**

Question 2.6

Plot the global enrichment of switch consequences and alternative splicing and comment on it. What are the general patterns and what does that mean for the transcriptome? How does that relate to the original hypothesis about Factor X? **Use max 100 words.**