



Short read mapping

Hélène Touzet

`helene.touzet@univ-lille.fr`

CNRS, Bonsai, CRISAL



DNA-seq



raw reads



trimmed and
cleaned reads



reference genome



mapping

find location of the reads and align them with respect to the reference

no reference genome



assembly

reconstruct the initial sequence

Short read mapping

ACAACCTGTCTGCTTCAGGAGTTAAATCTTACA-GGATGA	reference
ACAACCTGTCTGCTTCAGGAGT	read 1 +
CAACTGTCTG-TTCAGGAGTT	read 2 +
CAACTGTCTGCTTCAGGAGTT	read 3 -
TGTCTGCTTCGGGAGTTAAATCTT	read 4 +
GAGTTAAATCTTACAGGGATGA	read 5 -

Multiple applications

- detection of genomic variation (SNPs) → Variants
- detection of peaks : small RNA-seq, ChIP-seq → ChIP-seq
- metagenomics analysis → Metagenomics
- ...

RNA-seq : alternative approaches → RNA-seq

```
Read:      GACTGGGCGATCTCGACTTCG
           |||||  ||||| ||||| |||
Reference: GACTG--CGATCTCGACATCG
```

Matches/mismatches/insertions/deletions



comparison of two genes

exact algorithms

very accurate

slow

database search for
homology detection

BLAST

accurate up to 85% identity

fast

whole genome alignment

structural rearrangements

MAUVE, MUMMER

fast

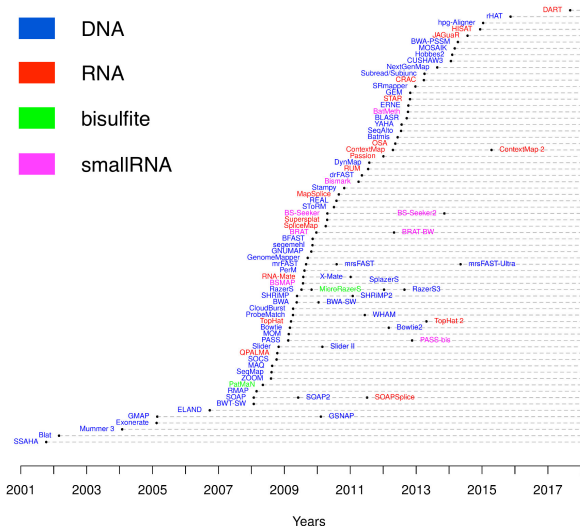
short read mapping

comparison of billions of
sequences against a genome

accurate up to 95% identity

very fast

tradeoff for speed versus sensitivity



+ 60 DNA read mappers published since 2011
https://www.ebi.ac.uk/ñf/hts_mappers

Why is it difficult ?

- volume of the data (reads and reference genome)
- existence of sequencing errors in the reads
- orientation of read relative to reference genome not known
- existence of repetitive elements in the reference sequence
- divergence between the sequenced genome and the reference genome

How to choose a read mapper

- input data : read length, error profile, paired end
- hardware requirements : RAM, multithreading, ...
- ease of installation and use : configurability, options, ...
- quality of results : speed, sensitivity, multiple matches, paired-end matches
- documentation, user community, maintenance



- optimized for Illumina reads
- large user-community
- well-documented and actively maintained
- suitable for all kinds of genomes

[Nat Methods](#). 2012 Mar 4;9(4):357-9. doi: 10.1038/nmeth.1923.

Fast gapped-read alignment with Bowtie 2.

[Langmead B¹](#), [Salzberg SL](#).

+ 22 000 citations ([Google Scholar](#))

<https://doi.org/10.1038/nmeth.1923>

Bowtie2

- Input : FASTA file or FASTQ file
- Output

```
20000 reads; of these:  
  20000 (100.00%) were unpaired; of these:  
    1247 (6.24%) aligned 0 times  
    18739 (93.69%) aligned exactly 1 time  
     14 (0.07%) aligned >1 times  
93.77% overall alignment rate
```

SAM/BAM file containing all alignments found and their scores

BWA - Burrows Wheeler Aligner

- very similar to Bowtie2, also very popular
- three versions
 - BWA-backtrack : Illumina reads up to 100bp
 - BWA-SW (Smith-Waterman) :
more sensitive when alignment gaps are frequent
 - BWA-MEM (maximum exact matches) :
latest one, more efficient
- input : FASTA file or FASTQ file
- output SAM/BAM file

[Bioinformatics](#). 2009 Jul 15;25(14):1754-60. doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btp324. Epub 2009 May 18.

Fast and accurate short read alignment with Burrows-Wheeler transform.

[Li H¹](#), [Durbin R](#).

SAM format

Sequence Alignment/Map format

```
@HD VN:1.6 SO:coordinate
@SQ SN:ref LN:45
r001 99 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5S6M * 0 0 GCCTAAGCTAA * SA:Z:ref,29,-,6H5M,17,0;
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 2064 ref 29 17 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * SA:Z:ref,9,+,5S6M,30,1;
r001 147 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGGCAT * NM:i:1
```

- text-based format
- header section (@)
- alignment section : one line per alignment (11 mandatory columns + optional fields)

Alignment section

```
r001 99 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5S6M * 0 0 GCCTAAGCTAA * SA:Z:ref,29,-,6H5M,17,0;
```

- | | | |
|----|-------|--|
| 1 | QNAME | Query template NAME (read ID) |
| 2 | FLAG | information about the read (int) |
| 3 | RNAME | References sequence NAME (chr, transcript,...) |
| 4 | POS | 1-based leftmost mapping POSition |
| 5 | MAPQ | MAPping Quality (see later) |
| 6 | CIGAR | summary of alignment |
| 7 | RNEXT | Ref. name of the mate/next read |
| 8 | PNEXT | Position of the mate/next read |
| 9 | TLEN | observed Template LENgth |
| 10 | SEQ | read SEQUENCE |
| 11 | QUAL | read quality (Phred-score) |

+ optional fields

SAM FLAG

Combination (sum) of properties of the read and its alignment

- template having multiple segments in sequencing (1)
- each segment properly aligned according to the aligner (2)
- segment unmapped (4)
- next segment in the template unmapped (8)
- SEQ being reverse complemented (16)
- SEQ of the next segment in the template being reversed (32)
- the first segment in the template (64)
- the last segment in the template (128)
- secondary alignment (256)
- not passing quality controls (512)
- PCR or optical duplicate (1024)
- supplementary alignment (2048)

<https://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/explain-flags.html>

SAM FLAG

Examples

template having multiple segments in sequencing + the first segment in the template + next segment in the template unmapped → flag?

99

64 (first in pair) + 32 (mate reverse strand) + 2 (read mapped in proper pair) + 1 (read paired)

2064

2048 (supplementary alignment) + 16 (read reverse strand)

147

CIGAR string

```
Coord      12345678901234 5678901234567890123456789012345
ref        AGCATGTTAGATAA**GATAGCTGTGCTAGTAGGCAGTCAGCGCCAT

+r001/1    TTAGATAAAGGATA*CTG
+r002      aaaAGATAA*GGATA
+r003      gcctaAGCTAA
+r004      ATAGCT.....TCAGC
-r003      ttagctTAGGC
-r001/2    CAGCGGCAT
```

@SQ SN:ref LN:45

```
r001 99 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37 39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002 0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1I4M * 0 0 AAAAGATAAAGGATA *
r003 0 ref 9 30 5S6M * 0 0 GCCTAAGCTAA * SA:Z:ref,29,-,6H5M,17,0;
r004 0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M * 0 0 ATAGCTTCAGC *
r003 2064 ref 29 17 6H5M * 0 0 TAGGC * SA:Z:ref,9,+,5S6M,30,1;
r001 147 ref 37 30 9M = 7 -39 CAGCGGCAT * NM:i:1
```

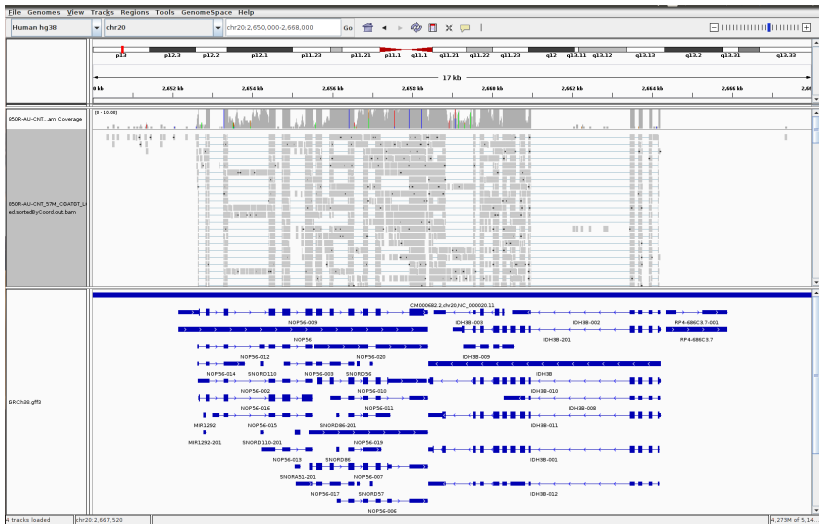
Op	BAM	Description	Consumes query	Consumes reference
M	0	alignment match (can be a sequence match or mismatch)	yes	yes
I	1	insertion to the reference	yes	no
D	2	deletion from the reference	no	yes
N	3	skipped region from the reference	no	yes
S	4	soft clipping (clipped sequences present in SEQ)	yes	no
H	5	hard clipping (clipped sequences NOT present in SEQ)	no	no
P	6	padding (silent deletion from padded reference)	no	no
=	7	sequence match	yes	yes
X	8	sequence mismatch	yes	yes

BAM format

- BAM : Binary sAM
- same data as in SAM
- *binary* format, more compact
 - smaller files
 - faster treatment for computers
 - easier transfer
- BAI : Index for BAM files
 - speed up data search and retrieve in a BAM file

Visualization of BAM files : genome browsers

- interactive visualization and exploration of genomes
- tracks : BAM files (alignments), annotation (GFF), variants (VCF), ...
- interconnection with external resources



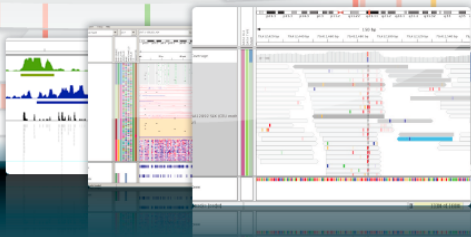
Which genome browser to use for my data ?

- 7 genome browsers : Artemis, GIVE, IGB, IGV, Jbrowse, Tablet, UCSC Genome Browser
- two datasets : RNA-seq hg38 and *Synechococcus elongatus* ChIP-seq
- multiple evaluation criteria
technical features (installation, pluggins), ease of use (first usage, documentation), supported types of data (genome, transcriptome, interations), navigation and visualisation, RAM and time requirements and sharing facilities, interoperability (collaborative work)

F. Bomardi, L Couderc, I. Guigon, J.-P. Meneboo, P. Pericard, H. Touzet
2019, https://wikis.univ-lille.fr/bilille/genome_browser



Integrative Genomics Viewer



IGV – Integrative Genomics Viewer

- developed by the Broad Institute
- popular and versatile
- standalone application (2008)
- web application (2018)
- Galaxy

Bowtie2

Two main ingredients

- index for the reference sequence
- seed-and-extend strategy



Step 0 : build an index for the reference sequence

Index

animals	14–15	Morocco	22
Atlantic Ocean	5, 20, 22	mountains and deserts	8–9
cities	20–23	Namibia	7
country	24–25	Nigeria	20
Egypt	19, 21, 26	plants	16–17
equator	4, 6	prime meridian	4
famous places	26–29	rivers	10–11
Guinea	24	Rwanda	15
Indian Ocean	5	South Africa	5, 28
Kenya	25	Tanzania	8
lakes	12–13	Uganda	13
languages	18–19	weather	6–7
Mediterranean Sea	5, 10	Zimbabwe	

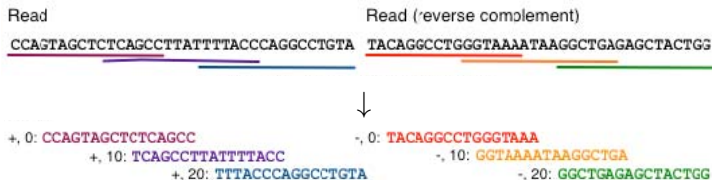
Step 0 : build an index for the reference sequence

- compressed representation of the sequence, that is kept in memory

"Where is this k-mer present in the sequence?"

- Bowtie2 index : Burrows-Wheeler Transform and FM-index
Size of the index for the human genome : 3.2 Gb
- Other indexes : hashtable, suffix array, ...

Step 1 : extraction of *seed* substrings from the read and its reverse complement



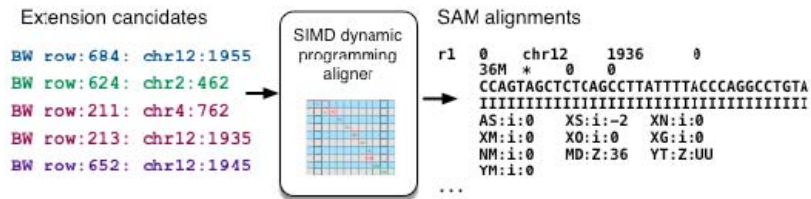
Step 2 : seed substrings are aligned to the indexed genome



no gaps, no ambiguous character in the reference

Step 3 : extension of seeds

```
... CGTCGTG CACTGCACG CATGGA ...  
      |||||  
... TCCACGT CACTGCACG CTGGAC ...  
  <----- seed ----->
```



heuristics choice of seeds (randomized)

Alignment modes

`--end-to-end` (default)

align the entire read from one end to the other

`--local`

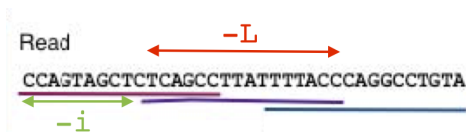
some characters may be trimmed ("soft clipped") from the ends in order to achieve the greatest possible alignment score

Seed options

Step 1 :

-L <int> length of the seed

-i <func> interval between extracted seeds



Step 2 :

-N 0 or 1 number of mismatches permitted per seed.

Default 0

Seed options

Step 3 :

`-D <int>`

number of times Bowtie2 will try to extend the seed in order to find a new best matching location

`-R <int>`

number of times Bowtie2 will start a substring with a different offset from that at the beginning before reporting the best hit.

Alignment score

higher = more similar

```
Read:      GACTGGGCGATCTCGACTTCG
           |||||  ||||| ||||| |||
Reference: GACTG--CGATCTCGACATCG
```

- base mismatch penalty
- gap open penalty
- gap extension penalty
- match reward

Alignment score

higher = more similar

```
Read:      GACTGGGCGATCTCGACTTCG
           |||||  ||||| ||||| |||
Reference: GACTG--CGATCTCGACATCG
```

- base mismatch penalty **-1**
- gap open penalty **-5**
- gap extension penalty **-0.5**
- match reward **1**

Alignment score

higher = more similar

```
Read:      GACTGGGCGATCTCGACTTCG
           |||||  ||||| ||||| |||
Reference: GACTG--CGATCTCGACATCG
```

- base mismatch penalty → depends on the quality value
- gap open penalty
- gap extension penalty
- match reward **in local mode only**

Alignment score options

`--score-min` score threshold

`-0.6 + -0.6 * L` in end-to-end mode

`20 + 8.0 * ln(L)` in local mode

`--ma --mp --rdg --rfg`

match bonus, mismatch penalty, affine read gap penalty, affine reference gap penalty

`--ignore-quals`

always consider the quality value at the mismatched position to be the highest possible

`--np` penalty for having an N in either the read or the reference

MAPQ, mapping quality score

- related to "uniqueness" of the alignment

The greater the gap between the best alignment's score and the second-best alignment's score, the higher its mapping quality should be.

- ranges between 0 and 42
- poorly documented



+ many more options

Do you want to tweak input options?

No

See "Input Options" section of Help below for information

Do you want to tweak alignment options?

No

See "Alignment Options" section of Help below for information

Do you want to tweak scoring options?

No

See "Scoring Options" section of Help below for information

Do you want to use `-a` or `-k` options

No, do not set

Make sure you understand implications of setting `-k` and `-a`. See "Reporting Options" section of Help below for information on `-k` and `-a` options

Do you want to tweak effort options?

No

See "Effort Options" section of Help below for information

Do you want to tweak SAM/BAM Options?

No

See "Output Options" section of Help below for information

Do you want to tweak Other Options?

No

See "Other Options" section of Help below for information

Would you like the output to be a SAM file

Yes No

By default, the output from this Bowtie2 wrapper is a sorted BAM file.

+ more in command-line mode



Preset options

In end-to-end mode :

```
--very-fast -D 5 -R 1 -N 0 -L 22 -i S,0,2.50  
--fast -D 10 -R 2 -N 0 -L 22 -i S,0,2.50  
--sensitive -D 15 -R 2 -N 0 -L 22 -i S,1,1.15 (default)  
--very-sensitive -D 20 -R 3 -N 0 -L 20 -i S,1,0.50
```

In local mode :

```
--very-fast-local -D 5 -R 1 -N 0 -L 25 -i S,1,2.00  
--fast-local -D 10 -R 2 -N 0 -L 22 -i S,1,1.75  
--sensitive-local -D 15 -R 2 -N 0 -L 20 -i S,1,0.75 (default)  
--very-sensitive-local -D 20 -R 3 -N 0 -L 20 -i S,1,0.50
```

+ default values for all other parameters

Do you want to use presets?

- No, just use defaults
- Very fast end-to-end (`--very-fast`)
- Fast end-to-end (`--fast`)
- Sensitive end-to-end (`--sensitive`)
- Very sensitive end-to-end (`--very-sensitive`)
- Very fast local (`--very-fast-local`)
- Fast local (`--fast-local`)
- Sensitive local (`--sensitive-local`)
- Very sensitive local (`--very-sensitive-local`)

Reporting options

Default

Bowtie2 returns one good alignment

No guarantee that this alignment is the best possible in terms of alignment score.

`-k <int>`

specify how many alignments to return

`-a`

return all of the found alignments
very slow



Paired inputs

Pair of files

```
@1/1
AGGGATGTGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTA
+
EGGEGGGDFGEEEEAEECGDEGGFEEGEFGBEEDDECFFDD@CDD<ED
@2/1
AGGGATGTGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTA
+
HHHHHHEGFHEEFEEHEHHGGEGGGGEFGFGGGHHHHHFBBBBEEFEG

@1/2
CCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAAC
+
GHHHDFDFGFGEGFBGEGGEGGGHGFHGFHFFFFFFHHEF?EFEFF
@2/2
CCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAAC
+
HHHHHHHHHHHHHHGHHHHHHGHHHHHHHHHHHHFHHHFHHHHHHHHHHHH
```

Arguments : -1 -2

One single interleaved dataset

```
@1/1
AGGGATGTGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTA
+
EGGEGGGDFGEEEEAEECGDEGGFEEGEFGBEEDDECFFDD@CDD<ED
@1/2
CCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAAC
+
GHHHDFDFGFGEGFBGEGGEGGGHGFHGFHFFFFFFHHEF?EFEFF
@2/1
AGGGATGTGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTA
+
HHHHHHEGFHEEFEEHEHHGGEGGGGEFGFGGGHHHHHFBBBBEEFEG
@2/2
CCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAACCCCTAAC
+
HHHHHHHHHHHHHHGHHHHHHGHHHHHHHHHHHHFHHHFHHHHHHHHHHHH
```

Argument : --interleaved

Description of the pairs

- relative orientation of the mates
 - `--ff` forward forward
 - `--fr` forward reverse
 - `--rf` reverse forward
- fragment length (mate 1 + inner distance + mate 2)
 - `-l` minimum length (default 0)
 - `-X` maximum length (default 500)

Bowtie2 output - paired reads

10000 reads; of these:

10000 (100.00%) were paired; of these:

650 (6.50%) aligned concordantly 0 times

8823 (88.23%) aligned concordantly exactly 1 time

527 (5.27%) aligned concordantly >1 times

650 pairs aligned concordantly 0 times; of these:

34 (5.23%) aligned discordantly 1 time

616 pairs aligned 0 times concordantly or discordantly:

1232 mates make up the pairs; of these:

660 (53.57%) aligned 0 times

571 (46.35%) aligned exactly 1 time

1 (0.08%) aligned >1 times

96.70% overall alignment rate

- concordant
the pair aligns with the expected relative mate orientation and with the expected range of distances between mates
- discordant
both mates have unique alignments, but the alignments do not match paired-end expectations
- the alignment score for a paired-end alignment equals the sum of the alignment scores of the individual mates.

Can I trust the results of Bowtie2 or BWA ?

- Generally, yes



- Be careful with
 - very short reads (<50 nt) with high sequencing error rate
 - low-complexity reads
 - genomes with repeats
 - genomes with high GC-content bias

Other examples of mappers

- More sensitive read mappers (slower)
 - Segehmel
 - GEM
- Long reads (Pacbio, Nanopore)
 - up to 15% sequencing errors
 - GraphMap
 - Minimap2

