

IN-BIOS[9,5]000 2022

Basic file formats

Arvind Sundaram
Oct 18, 2022

Norwegian Sequencing Centre
OUS, Ullevål, Oslo

File formats

- ❖ *FASTA* - sequence data
- ❖ *FASTQ* - sequence data including quality (**SRA**)
- ❖ GTF/GFF, GFF3 - Gene feature & transfer format
- ❖ **SAM/BAM** - aligned/mapped data (**CRAM**)
- ❖ **VCF/BCF** - variant calling

Text format

Binary format

FASTA

- ❖ Represents a sequence - DNA / RNA / protein
- ❖ Two lines:
 - ❖ header starts '>'
 - ❖ Second line contains the sequence

header

```
>NM_001199335.1 Danio rerio toll-like receptor 21 (tlr21), mRNA
CTAGACGAAGCTCTCACAGAGTGAAAGGCTTGTAAATGTTGGACTCAGTTATAGGAATT
ACATTTAAAAGTGGAACTGAAAAACATGGCACACTCTGCATGCCACAAACTGATACTAAA
GGCCACATTCATCTGTCTCATAAAACCTGCCTGCAGCTACAGTTCAGAAGTTGCATAGA
GATCCCAGATTCTAACATACAATCTTACATGTGTTAAAGTTATGAACGAGACATAAC
TGCGATTGTGAGTGATGTATTCCCCACTGCATTAAATCTTACAATCTCTCACA
```

Genomes
Transcriptomes

FASTQ

- ❖ Represents a sequence along with quality information
- ❖ Four lines:
 - ❖ header starts '@'
 - ❖ Second line contains the sequence
 - ❖ Quality header starts with '+'
 - ❖ Fourth line contains the quality for each base in the second line

	Instrument ID	Flowcell ID	tile#	Y axis	index used
Illumina read	↓	run# ↓	lane# ↓	X axis ↓	read# ↓
Phred 33	@J00146:32:HJF3HBBXX:8:1101:1387:1121 1:N:0:GCGATA	NGTTCACCTTGGAGACCTGCTGCGTTATGAGTACGACCTGGCGTGAAA	ACTATTCCCTCCA	+ #AAA<<F<F<7A<-7<JFJJJJJJFJF<FAJA<FJAAF<<<JFJJ7FFJJJJJAJJJJJ<	

FASTQ quality encoding

S - Sanger Phred+33, raw reads typically (0, 40)
 X - Solexa Solexa+64, raw reads typically (-5, 40)
 I - Illumina 1.3+ Phred+64, raw reads typically (0, 40)
 J - Illumina 1.5+ Phred+64, raw reads typically (3, 41)
 with 0=unused, 1=unused, 2=Read Segment Quality Control Indicator (**bold**)
 (Note: See discussion above).
 L - Illumina 1.8+ Phred+33, raw reads typically (0, 41)

GFF/GTF

- ❖ GFF: General Feature Format
 - ❖ Current format is based on version 3 and called GFF3
 - ❖ format consists of one line per feature
 - ❖ each containing 9 columns of data, plus optional track definition lines.
- ❖ GTF: General Transfer Format is identical to GFF version 2.5.

GFF3

chromosome coordinate system

seqid	source	type	start	end	score	strand	phase	attributes	ID
									Name
									Parent
									Note
								
									*case-sensitive
##gff-version 3									
ctg123	example	gene	1050	9000	.	+	.	ID=EDEN;Name=EDEN;Note=protein kinase	
ctg123	example	mRNA	1050	9000	.	+	.	ID=EDEN.1;Parent=EDEN;Name=EDEN.1;Index=1	
ctg123	example	five_prime_UTR	1050	1200	.	+	.	Parent=EDEN.1	
ctg123	example	CDS	1201	1500	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.1	
ctg123	example	CDS	3000	3902	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.1	
ctg123	example	CDS	5000	5500	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.1	
ctg123	example	CDS	7000	7608	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.1	
ctg123	example	three_prime_UTR	7609	9000	.	+	.	Parent=EDEN.1	
ctg123	example	mRNA	1050	9000	.	+	.	ID=EDEN.2;Parent=EDEN;Name=EDEN.2;Index=1	
ctg123	example	five_prime_UTR	1050	1200	.	+	.	Parent=EDEN.2	
ctg123	example	CDS	1201	1500	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.2	
ctg123	example	CDS	5000	5500	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.2	
ctg123	example	CDS	7000	7608	.	+	0	Parent=EDEN.2	
ctg123	example	three_prime_UTR	7609	9000	.	+	.	Parent=EDEN.2	

BED format

- ❖ Browser Extensible Data
- ❖ 3-12 fields; but generally contains 6 or more

chromosome coordinate system		chromosome #	chromStart	chromEnd	name	score	strand
↓	↓	chr7	127471196	127472363	Pos1	0	+
	↓	Chr7	127472363	127473530	Pos2	0	+
	↓	chr7	127473530	127474697	Pos3	0	+
	↓	chr7	127474697	127475864	Pos4	0	+
	↓	chr7	127475864	127477031	Neg1	0	-
	↓	chr7	127477031	127478198	Neg2	0	-

There are far more annotation formats but will stop here!!!

Chromosome coordinate systems

❖ 0-based

ACTGACTG
01234567

To represent the TGAC:

0-based inclusive: 2-5
1-based inclusive: 3-6
1-based exclusive: 3-7

Ensembl: 1-based inclusive
UCSC: 0-based start
1-based end
1-based for display
SAM, VCF, GFF, GTF: 1-based
BAM, BCF: 0-based
BED: 0-based exclusive

❖ 1-based

ACTGACTG
12345678

Most tools are aware of these differences

SAM/BAM

- ❖ SAM - Sequence Alignment/Map format
- ❖ BAM - same as / similar to SAM but in binary format
 - ❖ Most softwares and tools prefer BAM
- ❖ Header
 - (access using samtools view -H)
- ❖ Alignment records
 - (access using samtools view; use -h to include Header)

SAM/BAM: header

```
@HD VN:1.0 GO:none SO:coordinate ← sort order
@SQ SN:chrM LN:16571
@SQ SN:chr1 LN:249250621
...
@SQ SN:chrX LN:155270560
@SQ SN:chrY LN:59373566
...
...
@RG ID:86-191PL:ILLUMINA LB:IL500 SM:86-191-1 ← Read group with platform,
@RG ID:BsK010PL:ILLUMINA LB:IL501 SM:BsK010-1 library and sample information
...
@RG ID:SDH023PL:ILLUMINA LB:IL508 SM:SDH023 → Program analysis history
@PG ID:GATK IndelRealigner VN:2.0-39-gd091f72 CL:knownAlleles=[ ]
targetIntervals=tmp.intervals.list LODThresholdForCleaning=5.0
consensusDeterminationModel=USE_READS entropyThreshold=0.15
maxReadsInMemory=150000 maxWindowSizeForMovement=3000 maxPositionalMoveAllowed=200
maxConsensuses=30 maxReadsForConsensuses=120 maxReadsForRealignment=20000
noOriginalAlignmentTags=false nWayOut=null generate_nWayOut_md5s=false
check_early=false noPGTag=false keepPGTags=false indelsFileForDebugging=null
statisticsFileForDebugging=null SNPsFileForDebugging=null
@PG ID:bwaPN:bwaVN:0.6.2-r126
```

SAM/BAM: alignment records

1 HW-ST605:127:B0568ABXX:2:1201:10933:3739 2 147 3 chr1 4 27675 5 60 6 101M 7 = 8 27588 9 -188

10 TCATTTATGGCCCCTTCTTCCTATATCTGGTAGCTTTAAATGATGACCATGTAGATAATCTTATTGTCCCTTTCA
GAGAC

11 =7 ; : ; <=? ?<=BCCEFFEJFCEGGEFFDF?E@E@ADCACB>CCDCBACDCDDDAB@BCADD
CBC@BCBB8@ABCCCDCBDA@>: /

12 RG:Z:86-191

Col	Field	Type	Regexp/Range	Brief Description
1	QNAME	String	[!-?A-~]{1,254}	Query template NAME
2	FLAG	Int	[0,2 ¹⁶ -1]	bitwise FLAG
3	RNAME	String	* ![~-()+-<>~-][!~-]*	Reference sequence NAME
4	POS	Int	[0,2 ³¹ -1]	1-based leftmost mapping POSition
5	MAPQ	Int	[0,2 ⁸ -1]	MAPping Quality
6	CIGAR	String	* ([0-9]+	CIGAR string
7	RNEXT	String	* = [!~-()+-<>~-][!~-]*	Ref. name of the mate/ next read
8	PNEXT	Int	[0,2 ³¹ -1]	Position of the mate/ next read
9	TLEN	Int	[-2 ³¹ +1,2 ³¹ -1]	observed Template LENght
10	SEQ	String	* [A-Za-z.=.]+	sequence SEQuence
11	QUAL	String	[!~-]+	ACSII of Phred-scaled base QUALity+33

SAM/BAM

- ❖ To check FLAG info: <https://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/explain-flags.html>
- ❖ BAM/SAM files are produced by alignment/mapping softwares and other tools.
- ❖ QC of BAM/SAM files - Picard, Qualimap
- ❖ Manipulating and extracting information from varied file formats - SAMtools, BEDtools, BCFtools

VCF/BCF

- ❖ Variant call format
- ❖ BCF - same as / similar to VCF but in binary format
 - ❖ Most softwares and tools prefer BCF or VCF in zip format
- ❖ header and records

##fileformat=VCFv4.2
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
##reference=file:///seq/references/1000GenomesPilot-NCBI36.fasta
##contig=<ID=20,length=62435964,assembly=B36,md5=xxxx,species="Homo sapiens",taxonomy=x>
...
##INFO=<ID=NS,Number=1>Type=Integer>Description="Number of Samples With Data">
##INFO=<ID=DP,Number=1>Type=Integer>Description="Total Depth">
...
##FILTER=<ID=q10>Description="Quality below 10">
...
##FORMAT=<ID=GT,Number=1>Type=String>Description="Genotype">
...
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001 NA00002 NA00003

header

VCF/BCF: records

```
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER INFO FORMAT NA00001
20 14370 rs6054257 G A 29 PASS NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:48:1:51,51

20 17330 . T A 3 q10 NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017 GT:GQ:DP:HQ 0|0:49:3:58,50

20 1110696 rs6040355 A G,T 67 PASS NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:DP:HQ 1|2:21:6:23,27
```

	#CHROM	POS	ID	REF	ALT	QUAL	FILTER	INFO	FORMAT	SAMPLEs
SNP	20	3	.	C	G	.	PASS	DP=100		
Deletion	20	2	.	TC	C	.	PASS	DP=100		
Insertion	20	2	.	TC	TCA	.	PASS	DP=100		
Alleles	20	2	.	TC	TG,T	.	PASS	DP=100		
Alleles	20	2	.	TCG	TG,T,TCAG	.	PASS	DP=100		

+ Structural variants

Qualimap

- ❖ GUI, command line based
 - ❖ examines sequencing alignment data in SAM / BAM format
 - ❖ BAM QC
 - ❖ RNA-seq QC
 - ❖ Counts QC
 - ❖ Multi-sample BAM QC
- ❖ requires Java, R
- ❖ Uses:
 - ❖ FastQC, Picard, SAMTools, NOISeq, Repitools and JProfiler

SAMtools/BCFtools

- ❖ SAMtools
 - ❖ manipulating SAM/BAM
- ❖ BCFtools
 - ❖ manipulating VCF/BCF
- ❖ Part of HTSlib tool kit

```
-- indexing
    faidx   index/extract FASTA
    index   index alignment
-- editing
    calmd   recalculate MD/NM tags and '=' bases
    fixmate fix mate information
    reheader replace BAM header
    rmdup   remove PCR duplicates
    targetcut cut fosmid regions (for fosmid pool only)
-- file operations
    bamshuf shuffle and group alignments by name
    cat      concatenate BAMs
    merge   merge sorted alignments
    mpileup multi-way pileup
    sort    sort alignment file
    split   splits a file by read group
    bam2fq  converts a BAM to a FASTQ
-- stats
    bedcov  read depth per BED region
    depth   compute the depth
    flagstat simple stats
    idxstats BAM index stats
    phase   phase heterozygotes
    stats   generate stats (former bamcheck)
-- viewing
    flags   explain BAM flags
    tview   text alignment viewer
    view    SAM<->BAM<->CRAM conversion
```

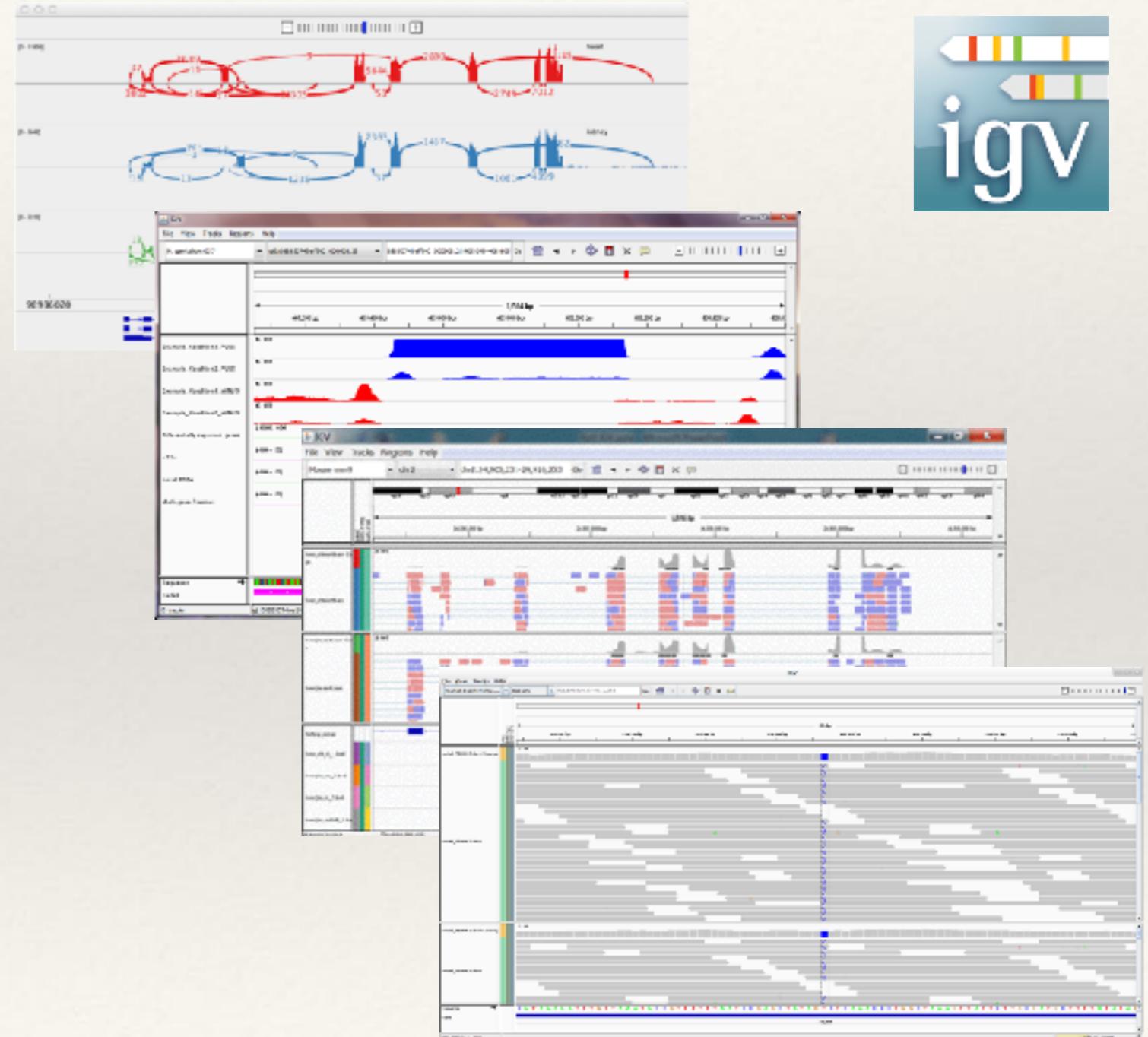
BEDtools

- ❖ Awesome tool to compare dataset in BED/GFF/VCF and BAM formats
- ❖ Very well documented and Highly recommended!!
- ❖ Example:
[http://bedtools.readthedocs.io/en/latest/
content/tools/intersect.html](http://bedtools.readthedocs.io/en/latest/content/tools/intersect.html)



IGV - Integrative Genomics Viewer

- ❖ View BAM, VCF, GTF files and more



- ❖ Ensembl browser

<http://ensembl.org/>

- ❖ UCSC browser

<http://genome.ucsc.edu/>

<http://software.broadinstitute.org/software/igv/>

Further reading

- ❖ GFF3, GTF - <http://gmod.org/wiki/GFF3>
- ❖ SAM/BAM format - <http://samtools.github.io/hts-specs/SAMv1.pdf>
- ❖ VCF/BCF format - <https://samtools.github.io/hts-specs/VCFv4.2.pdf>
- <http://vcftools.sourceforge.net/VCF-poster.pdf>
- ❖ IGV - <http://software.broadinstitute.org/software/igv/>

Databases

- ❖ Ensembl - <http://ensembl.org/>
- ❖ UCSC - <http://genome.ucsc.edu/>
- ❖ NCBI - <http://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>
- ❖ RefSeq - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/refseq/>

There are too many databases containing specific information!!!