A Short Tutorial for Detection and Quantification of Inversions

This tutorial's purpose is to instruct how to use Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) data in order to detect genomic inversions in the genomes of bacteria and calculate their prevalence in the population. It is written as a supplementary guide to the paper "Systematic Identification and Quantification of Phase Variation in Commensal and Pathogenic *E.coli*". This step-to-step guide instructs how to find and quantify inversions. The MATLAB functions used in this tutorial can be downloaded from Balaban lab's website.

a. Map WGS to Reference Genome

Use BWA to align the paired ends sequencing data (two fastq files, one for forward reads and one for reverse) to the reference genome (fasta file). The output of the BWA algorithm is a SAM file. SAM is a text tabular file where each row represents a single WGS read. Only a few of the table's fields are needed in our algorithms:

- i. Identifier (c1): each WGS pair has a unique identifier. Pairing of the two reads is possible with this field
- ii. Bitwise flag (c2): Contains information on the read's mapping. This field is used to extract abnormal pairing
- iii. Genomic location (c4)
- iv. SAM identifier (c6): Is used to identify soft-trimmed reads.
- v. Gap size (c9)

Save the resulting text file for further analysis

b. Prepare data for detection

First the SAM file must be loaded to MATLAB. Use the command line: data = read_sam_file(filename);

to create the matrix data, which contains 3 columns (c2, c4 and c9).

c. Use Inversion Detection Algorithm

As is described in the Supplementary Methods, the algorithm for inversions detection searches for clusters of abnormal reads concentrated on a sloped line

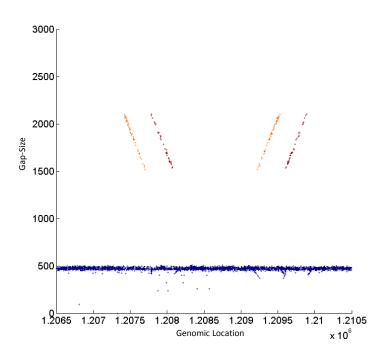
forming the funnel pattern when plotting gap-size against genomic location. To execute the algorithm, run the command line:

[location, score] = detect inversions(data);

The output of the function is a vector of genomic locations containing putative inversions and a corresponding vector of scores, based on the size of the cluster of abnormal reads in that location.

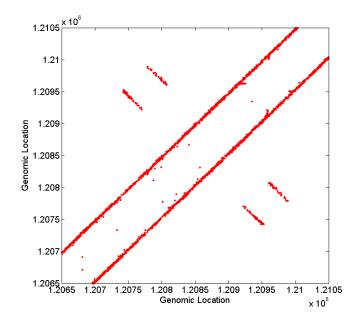
d. Visualize the Inversion (funnel or contact matrix + ref)

Once we obtain a set of putative inversions, we can visualize each genomic location and inspect the funnel pattern that it produces. Run the command line: region = reads_over_region(data, center, range); in order to visualize the funnel pattern around the putative inversion. Set the parameter center to the genomic location you wish to inspect. Running this command on the e14 inversion reported in the paper will produce the following figure:



The output of the function is region, which is a matrix containing all reads that map to the area around the inversion. An alternative way to view the inversion is by plotting a read's location against its pair's (a contact matrix view), by running:

plot(region(:,2), region(:,2) + region(:,3), '.');



e. Identify Inversion's Edges

One of the ways to identify inversion's edges is to find hybrid reads – reads that combine two separate genomic sequences. BWA treats these reads by trimming them and mapping only one part to the genome. When a cluster of reads is soft trimmed at the same genomic location, it might mark the edge of an inversion. Run the command line:

[location, trimmed] = find_trimmed_clusters(region)
to get a list of all the genomic locations marked by trimmed reads' edges. Use
this function to determine the inversion's edges.

f. Prepare Two Reference Genomes

After we identified a funnel-forming inversion, we now wish to quantify how abundant it is in the population. Our approach for quantifying an inversion is to map the WGS data to a small part of the genome with and without the inversion, single out the pool of reads that map normally to one genome and abnormally to the other (variable reads), and calculate the fraction of reads which map normally to the inverted genome of the pool of variable reads. First we want to create to small reference genomes containing the genomic area around the inversion. Run the command line:

prepare_reference_genomes(reference_genome, center, range, left_boundary, right_boundary)

This function receives a fasta file of the reference genome, and the boundaries of the inversion and prepare two smaller fasta files containing the inverted

locus, one with the inversion embedded to the sequence (inverted) and another showing the un-inverted sequence (normal).

After the two reference genomes were created, run BWA on the original fastq files two times, using normal.fasta and inverted.fasta as reference genomes, resulting in two SAM files: normal.sam & inverted.fasta.

g. Quantify The Inversion

After mapping to the two reference genomes, the matlab function quantify can be used to extract the ratio inverted/normal genotypes in the clone. Run the command line:

Inverted_fraction = quantify_inversion(normal_sam, inverted sam)

with the filenames of the two SAM files as inputs, to produce the desired ratio.

Provided Matlab Functions:

Function	Inputs	Outputs
read_sam_file	filename: name of the	data: a matrix containing the
	SAM file.	relevant information for further
		analysis
detect_inversions	data: a matrix	location: a vector containing
	generated by	locations of putative inversions
	read_sam_file	score: a vector containing
		scores for each inversion in
		location. The highest the score,
		the more reads align to the
		putative inversions
reads_over_region	data: a matrix	region: a small matrix
	generated by	containing information on reads
	read_sam_file	
	center: the center of	
	the area of interest (use	
	locations generated by	
	detect_inversions to	
	visualize the inversion)	
	range: the span of the	
	area of interest. Default =	
	2000 Kbp	
find_trimmed_clusters	region: a small matrix	location: a vector of
	containing information	genomic locations
	on reads, generated by	trimmed: the number of
	reads_over_region	trimmed reads whose trimmed
		edge maps directly to each
		genomic location

prepare_reference_genomes	filename: name of the	The function produces two
	reference genome fasta	reference genomes as fasta files:
	file	filename_center_normal
	center: genomic	.fasta
	location signifying the	and
	center of the desired	filename_center_invert
	reference genomes	ed.fasta
	region: number of bps	
	from each side of center	
	to be included in the new	
	reference genomes	
	left_boundary: left	
	boundary of the inverted	
	locus	
	right_boundary:	
	left boundary of the	
	inverted locus	
quantify_inversion	normal_sam:	inverted_fraction: A
	filename of the SAM	number signifying the fraction of
	output file after mapping	the inverted genotype of the
	the WGS data to the un-	entire population
	inverted (normal)	
	reference genome	
	inverted_sam:	
	filename of the SAM	
	output file after mapping	
	the WGS data to the	
	inverted reference	
	genome	