Supplementary material for *LanceOtron: a deep learning peak caller for genome sequencing experiments*

S1 Training data acquisition and processing

S1.1 Selecting ENCODE experiments

To generate a complete list of experiments which met our specifications we used ENCODE's REST API (scripts and outputs available on GitHub). We filtered the results to samples which were "released" status at the time of search inquiry and aligned to human reference genome hg38 as BAM files; for H3K27ac, H3K4me3, and transcription factor ChIP-seq experiments, the availability of a corresponding control track was also required. While infrequent, samples were excluded if ENCODE metadata did not include information on single-end versus paired-end sequencing. The number of samples meeting these criteria was 3,902 (74 ATAC, 911 DNase, 305 H2K27ac, 463 H3K4me3, 2,149 transcription factor samples).

From this 10 paired-end datasets were sampled at random from each experiment type, except in H3K4me3 experiments where only 6 samples available were paired-end, and so 4 single end experiments were included.

S1.2 Data processing

Each BAM file was downloaded directly from ENCODE, along with the corresponding control BAMs for H3K27ac, H3K4me3, and transcription factor ChIP-seq experiments. If multiple replicates of the control experiments existed, only the first listed in ENCODE's database was used for analysis. BAM files were sorted and indexed using Samtools(Li *et al.*, 2009) 1.3 (samtools sort filename.bam and samtools index filename.bam.sorted commands respectively). Bigwig file coverage maps were created from the BAM files using deepTools(Ramírez *et al.*, 2014) version 3.0.1 commands: bamCoverage --bam filename.bam.sorted -o filename.bw --extendReads -bs 1 --normalizeUsing RPKM for paired-end sequenced experiments. For single-end sequenced experiments the average fragment length was obtained from ENCODE and used with the --extendReads flag, making the command: bamCoverage --bam filename.bam.sorted -o filename.bw --extendReads averageFragmentLength -bs 1 --normalizeUsing RPKM.

S1.3 Combining datasets

The choice of dataset structure is closely linked to the model used to interpret the data. It was decided for our purposes that combining datasets from ATAC-seq, ChIP-seq, and DNase-seq would better benefit our model design. Deep learning requires very large datasets, which are used to establish the properties of the inputs. By giving the model ATAC-seq, ChIP-seq, and DNase-seq the model has a greater breadth and quantity of

examples to understand the input space. This is in contrast to creating individual models for each experiment type, which would still learn roughly the same features, but would have fewer samples to train from. In addition, experiments may have a mix of peak shapes, with some types appearing more frequently than others, and combining datasets also allows for reduction in misclassifying rare peak types.

S1.4 Randomly selecting regions to label

Putative peak calls were carried out on all datasets, followed by classification as either peak or noise based on visual inspection. Coordinates for the regions being assessed were determined three ways. The MACS2 peak caller was used on default settings, macs2 callpeak -t filename.bam.sorted -c control_filename.bam.sorted -n sample label -f BAM -g hs -B -g 0.01 for H3K27ac, H3K4me3, and transcription factor ChIP-seq datasets. For ATAC-seq and DNase-seq, which lack control tracks, the following command was used: macs2 callpeak -t filename.bam.sorted -n sample label $-F$ BAM $-g$ hs $-B$ -q 0.01. The second and third peak call methods focused on labeling regions based on their fold enrichment compared to the mean signal. Coverage maps of sequenced reads were first smoothed by applying a rolling average of a given window size. If this smoothed signal was greater than the mean multiplied by a fold enrichment threshold, the coordinate was marked as enriched; adjacent enriched regions were then merged. Methods two and three used five smoothing windows at different base pair (bp) resolutions (100 bp, 200 bp, 400 bp, 800 bp, 1600 bp) as well as five different enrichment thresholds (1, 2, 4, 8, 16). Method two compared the smoothed signal to the mean of chromosome-wide signal multiplied by fold enrichment. Method three was similar except the smoothed signal was compared to either the mean of the chromosome, surrounding 5 kb, or surrounding 10 kb, whichever value was highest (i.e. max[chromosome mean, 5 kb mean, 10 kb mean]) multiplied by fold enrichment.

From each dataset a 1 Mb continuous region was selected at random for each chromosome for autosomes and sex chromosomes only. If the start of the randomly selected region was near the end of the chromosome, the area considered was from that point to the chromosome end, then from the chromosome start extending out until a full 1 Mb was covered. Peaks called from all 3 methods which started within the random region were made available for labeling. For both of the mean-based methods, a peak call was made for each permutation of the smoothing window and enrichment threshold parameters, and all 25 calls were combined - this meant the presence of multiple overlapping candidate peaks in some cases. A python implementation of BEDTools(Quinlan and Hall, 2010) (pybedtools) was used to find overlapping peaks, and only one selected at random was considered for visual inspection.

S1.5 Data labeling

Only candidate regions which were obviously peaks or noise were labeled as such. Visual inspection was carried out using MLV (Sergeant *et al.*, 2021), with control tracks overlaid when available. Regions were inspected one at a time, until either 100 verified peaks were found for the dataset or all of the regions were assessed. Entire 1 Mb regions were assessed (no early stopping), with the order of chromosomes randomized. A total of 736,753 regions were labeled this way (5,016 peaks and 731,737 noise regions) covering 499 Mb. A subsample of these labeled data, alongside algorithmically labeled data (described below), were used for training the first phase of the model. Afterwards the training data was scored with the preliminarily trained model to identify any mislabeled data or misclassifications; from this process 24 peaks and 1,187 noise regions were added to the dataset. Ultimately 16,990 regions were used for training: 8,503 noise regions plus 8,463 peaks.

Additional labels were generated using an algorithm. First the raw signal was smoothed by calculating the rolling mean for the surrounding 400 bp, and any coordinate where the signal was 4-fold*mean-chromosome-signal was marked as enriched. Adjacent enriched regions were combined, and if the size was between 50 bp and 2 kb it was considered a candidate peak. Regions smaller than 50 bp were discarded, and regions above 2 kb were recursively re-evaluated at a 1-fold higher threshold until the region size was between 50 bp and 2 kb, or the region was greater than 20-fold enriched. If these candidate peaks intersected with the previously labeled peaks, these regions were then also labeled peaks, resulting in an additional 3,447 labels for a total of 8,463 peaks (ATAC-seq: 1,926; DNase-seq: 2,097; H3K27ac ChIP-seq: 1,651; H3K4me3 ChIP-seq: 1,806; transcription factor ChIP-seq: 983). Noise regions were down sampled with prioritization given to regions with the highest signal. All noise regions with a max height in the 25th percentile or greater were included (3,658), and equal numbers below the 25th percentile were randomly sampled.

Notably, the candidate peak calling algorithm LanceOtron uses closely resembles the coordinate selection process described above. This ensures that when working with real data, it is presented to the neural network in a similar fashion to the training data here.

S2 Deep learning model design and training

LanceOtron's machine learning architecture is a type of wide and deep neural network(Cheng *et al.*, 2016), combining enrichment values, logistic regression, and a CNN. The logistic regression model takes as inputs the enrichment values, while the CNN uses the 2 kb of signal centered on the region of interest. The outputs of these two models, along with the 11 enrichment values, are input into a multilayer perceptron, which outputs a peak quality metric (called Peak Score) with values ranging from 0 to 1.

The 11 enrichment values consisted of Poisson-based p-values, using maximum height and average signal, calculated from 10kb to 100kb regions in 10kb increments as well as chromosome-wide enrichment. While this is an internal model parameter, and not used for significance thresholding, we opted to use the p-value because of the increased interpretability, though numerous enrichment metrics could have been used to yield similar results. These p-values are also returned to the user as an additional calculated measurement; indeed the results of a traditional statistical peak caller could be mimicked by simply using p-values as the sole filtering metric.

Because the labeling procedure included only those regions which were obviously peaks or noise, the target values of the training data were 0 for noise, and 1 for peak. The logistic regression model was trained separately with the same training data, and all coefficients and model parameters saved. The wide and deep model was then trained with the logistic regression component locked, and with loss distributed 70:30 to wide-and-deep-output:CNN-only-output. By penalizing the model on the CNN separately, it actively encouraged predictions from the 2 kb of signal, i.e., the shape of the peak, to be accurate in absence of enrichment information.

To determine the optimal structure and hyperparameters, a brute force method of building many models with different configurations was carried out. Model per- formance was assessed by measuring the number of correctly predicted clas- sifications of enriched regions from data unseen to the model. This was done in two stages using the RandomSearch function from the python package Keras Tuner. First, 5000 models were built varying the following components: the first convolutional layer's filter number (50-200) and filter size (2-10), the number of convolutional blocks (1-5), number of convolutional layers per block (1-5), convolutional filters used per hidden convolutional layer (20-100) and their size (2-10), pooling type (max, average, or none), dropout rate (0.0-0.5), first dense layer size (10-100), number of additional dense layers (0-3), additional dense layer size (10-100), and learning rate (0.0001-0.01). Convolutional blocks were composed of first convolutional layers, then batch normalization, followed by an optional pooling layer. Performance was robust across a range of configurations. This included models with less complexity, which required less time and computational resources. Given this, several architectural choices were made: fixing the number of convolutional blocks to four, using one convolutional layer per block, and using max pooling; the model used two additional dense layers. The search process was repeated, building another 500 models which explored the following range of component variables: the first convolutional layer's filter number (50-150) and filter size (2-10), convolutional filters used per hidden convolutional layer (50-200) and their size (2-10), dropout rate (0.0-0.5), first dense layer size (10-100), additional dense layers size (10-100), and learning rate (0.0001-0.01). The top 10 performing models were then subjected to 5-fold cross validation, and the architecture from the top performer was used.

S3 Calculating p-value from an input control track

A standard p-value assessment based on the Poisson distribution is performed when using LanceOtron's Find and Score Peaks with Inputs module, which can be used in conjunction with the peak quality metric output from LanceOtron's deep learning model. The mean signal expected from background, λ , is determined using either the mean signal in the input control track ($\lambda_{\sf input}$) or the mean signal in the input control track plus 1 kb ($\lambda_{\sf 1kb}$), whichever is more stringent. P-values are then computed using the average count of overlapping reads (N_{ave}) within the given candidate region.

$$
p\text{-value } = 1 - pPois(N_{ave}, \lambda = \max[\lambda_{input}, \lambda_{1kb}]),
$$

where *pPois* is the Poisson cumulative distribution function:

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{N_{ave}} \frac{e^{-\lambda}\lambda^i}{i!}
$$

Supplementary figure 1 - Simulated data

F1 scores across peak size ranges from simulated data (**A**). While the lowest range had smaller regions for the simulated reads to be mapped, resulting in undetectably low read coverage and reduced F1 scores, the expansive regions allowed for sufficient coverage to detect nearly all potential enrichment sites. However, when looking at regions which are divided into multiple peaks (**B**), these are found much more frequently in regions larger than 1 kb.

Heatmap showing ratio of peaks found in both datasets across different replicates and sequencing depths (**C**). Strong correlation was detected between replicates in a read-depth dependent manner. At the lowest read depth (five million [5M] reads) the small number of peaks called were found in very high percentages across all other peak calls (**C**, top-most three rows), but made up a smaller percentage of the total peak calls from the higher sequencing depth calls (**C**, left-most three rows). This is as expected, since at low coverage only the strongest peaks will remain, be found in all datasets, and as coverage increases there is an increased ability to detect sites which are less frequently bound which will be absent at low depths.

Heatmap showing the Jaccard similarity coefficient between datasets (**D**). Datasets have much weaker correlation at 5M reads, have a large improvement when increased to 10M reads, a modest improvement when further increased to 20M reads, and plateauing effects from there.

 $\mathbf c$

Peak call consistency across simulated replicates

Jaccard correlation between simulated replicates

 $\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}$

 $\overline{1}$

 $\overline{3}$

Supplementary Figure 2 - Peak length distributions

(A) Fragment length distribution data per benchmarking experiment (ATAC-seq in MCF-7 cells; CTCF ChIP-seq in spleen cells; H3K27ac ChIP-seq in GM12878 cells; H3K27ac ChIP-seq in HAP1 cells; H3K4me3 ChIP-seq in K562 cells; H3K4me3 ChIP-seq in MG63 cells; DNase-seq in A549 cells), grouped by peak caller. **(B)** Average peak width in base pairs (bp) over the benchmarking datasets, and **(C)** the total bases covered in megabases (Mb) .

Supplementary Figure 3 - LanceOtron performance compared to other MACS2 parameters

Performance benchmarking measuring precision, recall/sensitivity, selectivity, and overall F1 score for LanceOtron, LanceOtron-MACS2 hybrid, MACS2, MACS2-strict, and MACS2-broad - with and without input as available.

For LanceOtron-MACS2 and LanceOtron-MACS2 with input, the final peak call was generated by LanceOtron via the Score Peaks module, using a peak score of 0.5 as the threshold (consistent with all other benchmarking done). The candidate peak call was generated using MACS2 or MACS2 with input on default settings.

The MACS2-strict peak call was generated using a q-value of 0.01, and MACS2-broad used the broad option.

DNase-seq_open-chromatin_A549

Supplementary Figure 4 - Gene associations for peaks missed by MACS2 but found with LanceOtron for SRF ChIP-seq in GM12878 cells

Image generated from Reactome (Fabregat *et al.*, 2017) showing gene enrichment, with brighter yellow representing more significance. Regions selected for analysis were chosen by peaks identified by LanceOtron only, and which were within 1 kb of a transcription start site.

Supplementary Figure 5 - Peak Score distribution across candidate peaks

Histogram showing the total number of candidate peaks called by LanceOtron and their associated Peak Score over all in-house datasets. LanceOtron's deep learning model tends to score enriched regions being either peak or noise at high probabilities.

Supplementary Table 1 - ENCODE datasets used for training data and testing data

Supplementary Table 2 - ENCODE datasets used for testing data

Supplementary Table 3 - numerical listing of performance benchmarks for all datasets

Supplementary Table 4 - motif enrichment analysis of transcription factors

Supplementary Table 5 - Transcription start site enrichment analysis of SRF

Functionality of LanceOtron's user interface

LanceOtron features a rich graphical user interface, accessible using any web browser, and allows peak calls to be made without the use of the command line. Using the web tool to perform a peak call is demonstrated in **supplementary video 1**: [https://youtu.be/k8GrIp55vDg.](https://youtu.be/k8GrIp55vDg) Furthermore, exploring and filtering data is also easily carried out with the graphical interface, demonstrated in **supplementary video 2**: [https://youtu.be/M5ox8XI-U4Q.](https://youtu.be/M5ox8XI-U4Q)

References

- Cheng,H.-T. *et al.* (2016) Wide & Deep Learning for Recommender Systems. *Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Deep Learning for Recommender Systems - DLRS 2016*.
- Fabregat,A. *et al.* (2017) Reactome pathway analysis: a high-performance in-memory approach. *BMC Bioinformatics*, **18**, 142.
- Li,H. *et al.* (2009) The Sequence Alignment/Map format and SAMtools. *Bioinformatics*, **25**, 2078–2079.
- Quinlan,A.R. and Hall,I.M. (2010) BEDTools: a flexible suite of utilities for comparing genomic features. *Bioinformatics*, **26**, 841–842.
- Ramírez,F. *et al.* (2014) deepTools: a flexible platform for exploring deep-sequencing data. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **42**, W187–91.
- Sergeant,M.J. *et al.* (2021) Multi Locus View: an extensible web-based tool for the analysis of genomic data. *Commun Biol*, **4**, 623.