
Supplementary information

Chromatin accessibility profiling methods

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Supplementary Table 1. Commonly used bioinformatics tools for data processing and analysis of bulk and single-cell chromatin accessibility data. For each tool, the processing step during which it is used, specific features and programming language are given. All mentioned tools are open source and discussed in the text. Unless specified in the ‘Specific features and utilities’ column, the tools are not exclusive to a specific type of chromatin accessibility data.

Processing step	Tool	Specific features and utilities	Language	Reference
Sequencing data quality control	FastQC	Checks sequence quality, GC content, sequence duplication levels, overrepresented sequences etc.	Java	¹
Trimming of sequencing adapters	cutadapt	Finds and removes unwanted adapter sequences, primers, poly-A tails from sequencing reads.	Python	²
	trimmomatic	Performs read trimming and filtering, including the identification of adapter sequences and quality filtering.	Java	³
	fastq-mcf	Detects and removes sequencing adapters. Includes other filtering steps, like filtering of too short reads after trimming.	C++	⁴
Mapping	Bowtie2	Read aligner, used in the ENCODE ATAC-seq pipeline.	C++	⁵
	bwa-mem	Read aligner, used in the Cell Ranger scATAC-seq pipeline.	C	⁶
Peak calling	MACS2	Peak caller originally designed for ChIP-seq data, but also the most commonly used peak caller for chromatin accessibility data.	Python	⁷
	ZINBA	Peak caller which identifies enriched sites across a variety of omics datasets.	C, R	⁸
	HMMRATAC	Peak caller specific for ATAC-seq data, based on a semi-supervised machine learning approach.	Java	⁹
	Genrich	Peak caller with specific analysis modes for ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq data, also includes optional PCR duplicate removal.	C	¹⁰
	F-seq	Peak caller which generates a continuous tag sequence density estimation that allows the identification of peaks in DNase-seq and ATAC-seq data.	Java	¹¹
	Hotspot	Peak caller for DNase-seq and ATAC-seq data based on the binomial distribution using a local background model.	C++	¹²
	DANPOS	Performs dynamic nucleosome analysis at single-nucleotide resolution in MNase-seq data.	Python, R	¹³

Nucleosome positioning tools	NucleoATAC	Calls nucleosome positions and occupancy using ATAC-seq data.	Python	¹⁴
Consensus peak calling	consensusSeeker	Compares genomic positions and ranges from multiple experiments to extract common regions.	R	¹⁵
	DiffBind	Outputs consensus peaks by merging peaks from all input peak sets.	R	¹⁶
Differential accessibility	HOMER	Uses findPeaks or getDifferentialPeaks to identify peaks that are significantly enriched in an experiment sample versus a control/background sample.	Perl and C++	¹⁷
	DESeq2	Originally designed for differential gene expression, but can perform a differential accessibility analysis when providing a non-normalized count matrix of peaks versus samples.	R	¹⁸
	MACS2	Calls differential peaks when providing an experiment sample (as -t) and control sample (as -c), also replicates can be included in the comparison.	Python	¹⁹
	DiffBind	Computes differentially bound sites from multiple experiments using quantitative data.	R	²⁰
	DBChIP	Detects differentially bound sharp binding sites in ChIP-seq data mostly.	R	²¹
Clustering	deepTools	Suite containing several tools, including tools to perform clustering and generate heatmaps of count matrices, allowing the identification of differential region clusters.	Python	²²
Region set enrichment analysis	GREAT	Assigns biological enrichments to a set of regions by analyzing the annotations of the nearby genes.	C, available as web tool	²³
	ChIPseeker	Retrieves nearest genes around peaks, annotates regions, and calculates overlap with ChIP-seq datasets.	R	²⁴
	ChIPpeakAnno	Includes functions to obtain Gene Ontology terms and to find nearest genes around peaks.	R	²⁵
	Enrichr	Converts peaks to genes and performs gene list enrichment analysis.	Python, available as web tool and in R	²⁶
	cisTarget	Identifies significant enrichment of public DHS, FAIRE and ChIP-seq data within sets of regions.	Web tool, also available in R, Python	²⁷
	GIGGLE	Generic search engine for statistically measuring the overlap of a set of regions with any genomic annotation.	C, Python	²⁸

	LOLA	Enrichment analysis of region sets against public databases and custom collections of annotated genomic region sets.	R	29
Chromatin segmentation	ChromHMM	Software for learning and characterizing chromatin states based on a multivariate Hidden Markov Model.	Java	30
	EpicSeg	Segmentation and characterization of epigenomic landscapes by using a probabilistic model.	R	31
	Segway	Performs semi-automated genome annotation, based on a dynamic Bayesian network model.	Python	32
Motif analysis	HOMER	Performs motif discovery via findMotifs and findMotifsGenome to (de novo) discover enriched motifs in a set of regions compared to a background. A user-provided control set can also be used as background.	Perl and C++	17
	MEME	Contains several motif-based sequence analysis tools, performs motif scanning or de novo motif discovery.	Python, available as web tool	33
	cisTarget	Motif enrichment analysis in a set of genomic regions using a ranking-and-recovery procedure.	Web tool, also available in R, Python	27
	RSAT	Motif analysis and de novo motif discovery within a set of regulatory regions, including spaced pairs of k-mers.	Web tool, also available for command line	34
	Weeder	Discovers TF binding sites.	C	35
Deep learning	DeepLIFT	Deep learning model that allows to unravel the output prediction of a neural network by backpropagation, revealing informative nucleotides within sequences.	Python	36
	Basset	Deep learning model that models peak-based chromatin profiles, can be applied to neural networks to learn the importance of nucleotides within DNA sequences	Python, also provided as Jupyter notebooks	37
	DeapSEA	Deep learning model that can be trained on chromatin accessibility data and that predicts the importance of nucleotide alterations.	Python, available as web tool and Jupyter notebooks	38
TF footprinting	Wellington algorithm	Algorithm that identifies protein-DNA binding sites from DNase-seq data using a binomial test. Implemented in the pyDNase package.	Python	39
	HINT(-ATAC)	Hidden Markov model-based method that identifies footprints in ATAC-seq or DNase-seq data.	Python	40, 41
	TOBIAS	TF footprinting framework for ATAC-seq data. Includes a Tn5 bias correction module that utilizes a	Python	42

		dinucleotide weight matrix to estimate the background bias of the Tn5 transposase.		
	DBFP	Dynamic Bayesian network-based approach to identify protein-binding footprints.	Python	⁴³
	DNase2TF	Identifies footprint candidates in DNase-seq data by assessing the significance of cut depletion compared to a local background using a z-score.	R, Perl	⁴⁴
	CENTIPEDE	Hierarchical Bayesian mixture model, infers regions in the genome bound by TFs in DNase-seq data.	R	⁴⁵
	FLR	Builds bias corrected and TF-specific footprint models and uses a log-likelihood ratio to define footprint scores from DNase-seq data.	R	⁴⁶
	DeFCoM	Support vector machine-based supervised learning footprinter, used to perform footprint classification. Footprinter for DNase-seq and ATAC-seq data.	Python	⁴⁷
Genome browsers	IGV	Allows interactive visual exploration of genomic data, can be downloaded as a desktop application.	Java, web tool	⁴⁸
	UCSC Genome Browser	Allows interactive visual exploration of genomic data, allows easy loading of public data such as conservation tracks, SNPs etc.	Web tool, C, can be mirrored locally	⁴⁹
	Ensembl	Provides a genome browser that acts as a single point of access to annotated genomes for mainly vertebrate species.	Web tool	⁵⁰
	JBrowse	Allows interactive visual exploration of genomic data, can be easily embedded into websites.	JavaScript	^{51, 52}
scATAC analysis tools	chromVar	scATAC analysis tool that includes and is based on the identification of motifs with variability in chromatin accessibility between cells or samples.	R	⁵³
	cisTopic	scATAC analysis tool that is based on an unsupervised Bayesian framework using latent Dirichlet allocation, allowing simultaneous clustering of single cells and regions.	R	⁵⁴
	scABC	scATAC analysis tool based on a weighted K-medoids clustering for unsupervised clustering and analysis of scATAC-seq data.	R	⁵⁵
	Scasat	Pipeline that combines both the initial processing of scATAC-seq data and further downstream analyses.	Python, R, provided as Jupyter notebooks	⁵⁶
	SnapATAC	scATAC analysis tool based on count features within fixed-size genomic bins. Dissects cellular heterogeneity in an unbiased manner and maps the trajectories of cellular states. Allows analysis of large datasets.	Python, R	⁵⁷

	ArchR	Extensive suite for fast scATAC-seq data processing and analysis.	R	⁵⁸
	BROCKMAN	scATAC analysis tool that uses k-mer factorization to infer variation in TF activity across samples.	Bash and R	⁵⁹
	SCRAT	scATAC analysis tool based on summarized features across a feature database. Includes a graphical interface.	Web tool, R	⁶⁰
	Cicero	scATAC analysis tool. In addition, allows for the prediction of cis-regulatory interactions by examining co-accessibility, and for trajectory inference (based on Monocle).	R	⁶¹
	Signac	Extension of the scRNA-seq analysis toolkit Seurat for the analysis, interpretation and exploration of single-cell chromatin accessibility data.	R	⁶²
	MAESTRO	Comprehensive scRNA-seq and scATAC-seq analysis suit, integrates dozens of other tools and packages in a single pipeline.	C	⁶³
	EpiScanpy	Extension of the scRNA-seq analysis toolkit Scanpy for the analysis of scATAC-seq and single-cell DNA methylation data	Python, also provided as Jupyter notebooks	⁶⁴
Batch effect removal in single-cell data	BBKNN	Performs batch effect removal through a k nearest-neighbor approach.	Python	⁶⁵
	Scanorama	Enables batch correction based on mutual nearest-neighbors matching.	Python, R	⁶⁶
	scVI	Package for single-cell omics data, which includes a generative model that allows for batch correction.	Python	⁶⁷
Single-cell trajectory inference	Cicero	scATAC-seq analysis tool which includes trajectory reconstruction via implementing a modification of the scRNA-seq trajectory inference tool Monocle	R	⁶¹
	STREAM	Performs trajectory inference for scRNA-seq and scATAC-seq data based on an Elastic Principle Graph Implementation (ELPiGraph)	Python, web tool	⁶⁸

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