

SAM/BAM format, samtools, and IGV-ish

Applied Computational Genomics, Lecture 08

<https://github.com/quinlan-lab/applied-computational-genomics>

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SAM format: a text-based standard(!) for representing sequence alignments

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Sequence analysis

The Sequence Alignment/Map format and SAMtools

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Table 1. Mandatory fields in the SAM format

No.	Name	Description
1	QNAME	Query NAME of the read or the read pair
2	FLAG	Bitwise FLAG (pairing, strand, mate strand, etc.)
3	RNAME	Reference sequence NAME
4	POS	1-Based leftmost POSition of clipped alignment
5	MAPQ	MAPPing Quality (Phred-scaled)
6	CIGAR	Extended CIGAR string (operations: MIDNSHP)
7	MRNM	Mate Reference NaMe ('=' if same as RNAME)
8	MPOS	1-Based leftmost Mate POSition
9	ISIZE	Inferred Insert SIZE
10	SEQ	Query SEQuence on the same strand as the reference
11	QUAL	Query QUALity (ASCII-33=Phred base quality)

SAM format overview

- In the **dark ages**, sequence aligners used disparate output formats. **Pain.**
- 1000 Genomes Project sought to standardize. **Standards are good.**
- The result is imperfect, but it's a **huge** improvement.
- **Strengths of the SAM and BAM formats**
 - Compressed: less disk hungry
 - Indexed: fast viewing, slicing, etc.
 - Single-end and paired-end
 - Relatively simple to produce
 - *Good toolkits available*

What critical information do we need
for sequence alignments?

SAM format overview

Col #	Name	Meaning	Example
1	QNAME	Read or Pair name	HWI-ST156_1:278:1:1058:4544:0
2	FLAG	Bitwise FLAG	<i>Much more soon!</i>
3	RNAME	Reference sequence name	chr1
4	POS	1-based alignment start coordinate	8,724,005
5	MAPQ	Mapping quality	60
6	CIGAR	Extended CIGAR string	<i>Much more soon!</i>
7	MRNM	If paired, the mate's reference seq.	chr1
8	MPOS	If paired, the mate's alignment start	8,724,505
9	ISIZE	If paired, the insert size	562
10	SEQ	The sequence of the query/mate	ACAAATTCAG...
11	QUAL	The quality string for the query/mate	HHH\$^^%\$\$\$...
12	OPT	Optional Tags	XA:i:2, MD:Z:0T34G15

<http://samtools.sourceforge.net/samtools.shtml>

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12	OPT	Optional Tags	XA:i:2, MD:Z:OT34G15

```

arq5x@beast:~/beast_data/Pat — ssh — 101x8
arq5x@beas.../Pat — bash  arq5x@beas.../Pat — bash  arq5x@beas...a/Pat — ssh  java
[arq5x@beast Pat]$ samtools view 1094PC0005.possrt.conc.bam | head -1
1 HWI-ST156_1:278:66:2461:8880:0 2 99 3 chr10 4 50133 0 51M = 50214 132 TAATT
GACGCGCTGTTACGCCCTTTGAGTTCGGTTGAGTTTTGGTTGGAG GFDGDFFFDBEEEE:DDDDDFDFEFGGEEGFADFDFGFFB?BBABB@EBDA? X
T:A:R NM:i:0 SM:i:0 AM:i:0 X0:i:2 X1:i:0 XM:i:0 X0:i:0 XG:i:0 MD:Z:S1 XA:Z:chr10,+50133,51M
,0;

```


Recall: Edit distance

How many edits (changes) must be made to a word or kmer to make it match (align) to another word or kmer?

CURLED
HURLED → Edit distance = 1. Substitute C for H

SHORT
SHO-T → Edit distance = 1. Delete R

TGTTACGG
GGTTGACTA ?

TG-TT-ACGG
-GGTTGACTA

Edit distance = 5

TGTT-ACGG
GGTTGACTA

Edit distance = 4

The CIGAR string: encode the details of the alignment

Operation	Meaning
M	Match*
D	Deletion w.r.t. reference
I	Insertion w.r.t. reference
N	Split or spliced alignment
S	Soft-clipping
H	Hard-clipping
P	Padding

Reference:

ACCTGTC --TACCTTACG

Experimental:

ACCT-TCCATACTTTATC



4M 1D 2M 2I 7M 2S

CIGAR string:

4M1D2M2I7M2S



LENGTH/OPERATION

The extended CIGAR string: M become = and X

Operation	Meaning
=	Exact match
X	Mismatch
D	Deletion w.r.t. reference
I	Insertion w.r.t. reference
N	Split or spliced alignment
S	Soft-clipping
H	Hard-clipping
P	Padding

Reference:

ACCTGTC --TACCTTACG

Experimental:

ACCT-TCCATACTTTATC

4= 1D 2= 2I 3= 1X 3= 2S

CIGAR string: 4=1D2=2I3=1X3=2S

The FLAG column



Sequence ID	FLAG	CHROM	POS
ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:6:2123:15189:52872	97	1	10001
ST-E00223:46:HG7V5CCXX:2:1116:12601:22862	1123	1	10006
ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:5:2208:10074:43308	99	1	10008
ST-E00223:46:HG7V5CCXX:5:2119:12936:64896	99	1	10013
ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:1:1205:17290:54577	99	1	10019
ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:6:1115:16844:11013	81	1	10026
ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:7:2113:18935:32356	99	1	10032
ST-E00223:46:HG7V5CCXX:6:2117:3082:44239	99	1	10040
ST-E00223:46:HG7V5CCXX:5:2213:10744:58813	163	1	10074
ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:4:1220:14651:8868	99	1	10086

The FLAG score

base2	base10	base16	Meaning	Applies to:
0000000001	1	0x0001	The read originated from a paired sequencing molecule	Both
0000000010	2	0x0002	The read is mapped in a proper pair	Pairs only
0000000100	4	0x0004	The query sequence itself is unmapped	Both
0000001000	8	0x0008	The query's mate is unmapped	Pairs only
0000010000	16	0x0010	Strand of the query (0 for forward; 1 for reverse strand)	Both
0000010000	32	0x0020	Strand of the query's mate	Pairs only
0000100000	64	0x0040	The query is the first read in the pair	Pairs only
0001000000	128	0x0080	The read is the second read in the pair	Pairs only
0010000000	256	0x0100	The alignment is not primary	Both
0100000000	512	0x0200	The read fails platform/vendor quality checks	Both
1000000000	1024	0x0400	The read is either a PCR duplicate or an optical duplicate	Both

ST-E00223:32:H5J57CCXX:4:1220:14651:8868

99

1

10086



base2	base10	base16	Meaning	Applies to:
0000000001	1	0x0001	The read originated from a paired sequencing molecule	Both
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0010000000	128	0x0080	The read is the second read in the pair	Pairs only
0100000000	256	0x0100	The alignment is not primary	Both
0100000000	512	0x0200	The read fails platform/vendor quality checks	Both
1000000000	1024	0x0400	The read is either a PCR duplicate or an optical duplicate	Both

00001100011

$$2^6 + 2^5 + 2^1 + 2^0 = 64 + 32 + 2 + 1 = 99$$

*What is the best way to use tons
of disk space and have very
inefficient analyses?*

**Text files of billions of
alignments**

Use samtools to convert SAM to BAM.

This takes a long time, but you do it once

Create BWT of reference genome.

```
$ bwa index grch38.fa
```



Output is in SAM format. Use multiple threads if you have a computer with multiple CPUs.

Align paired-end FASTQ to BWT index.

```
$ bwa mem -t 16 grch38.fa 1.fq 2.fq > sample.sam
```



Output is in BAM format. However, it is unsorted - that is, random genomic order as reads are randomly placed in FASTQ by sequencer.

Convert SAM to BAM

```
$ samtools view -Sb sample.sam > sample.bam
```

SAMTOOLS: Converting and manipulating SAM/BAM

Commands:

- Indexing
 - dict create a sequence dictionary file
 - 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)
 - addreplacerg adds or replaces RG tags

- Viewing
 - flags explain BAM flags
 - tview text alignment viewer
 - view SAM<->BAM<->CRAM conversion
 - depad convert padded BAM to unpadded BAM

<http://www.htslib.org/doc/samtools.html>

SAMTOOLS: Converting and manipulating SAM/BAM

Commands:

-- File operations

collate	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
quickcheck	quickly check if SAM/BAM/CRAM file appears intact
fastq	converts a BAM to a FASTQ
fasta	converts a BAM to a FASTA

-- Statistics

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)

<https://gist.github.com/arq5x/4716b710f967998e9feaeb134e0ebe2b#file-bam-md>

Tutorial for working with samtools

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Synopsis

Our goal is to work through examples that demonstrate how to explore, process and manipulate SAM and BAM files with the `samtools` software package.

For future reference, use the samtools [documentation](#).

Installing samtools

Follow these steps:

```
cd ~
# optional, you may already have a src directory
mkdir src
cd ~/src
git clone https://github.com/samtools/samtools
cd samtools
make
cp samtools ~/bin
```

<http://quinlanlab.org/tutorials/samtools/samtools.html>

Let's play around with a real BAM file
using samtools

Use IGV to look at your BAM file

<https://gist.github.com/arq5x/4716b710f967998e9feaeb134e0ebe2b#file-igv-md>

IGV tutorial

The screenshot shows the IGV website homepage. On the left is a navigation sidebar with links for Home, Downloads, Documents, Hosted Genomes, FAQ, IGV User Guide, File Formats, Release Notes, IGV for iPad, Credits, and Contact. Below the sidebar is a search box and the Broad Institute logo. The main content area features a large banner with the IGV logo and a visualization of genomic data. Below the banner are sections for Overview, Downloads, and Funding. The Overview section describes IGV as a high-performance visualization tool for large, integrated genomic datasets. The Downloads section provides a link to download the desktop application and igvtools. The Funding section lists the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, and the Starr Cancer Consortium as funders, and mentions participation in the GenomeSpace initiative funded by the National Human Genome Research Institute.

Home

Integrative Genomics Viewer

Overview

The **Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV)** is a high-performance visualization tool for interactive exploration of large, integrated genomic datasets. It supports a wide variety of data types, including array-based and next-generation sequence data, and genomic annotations.

Downloads

Download the IGV desktop application and igvtools.

Funding

Development of IGV is made possible by funding from the [National Cancer Institute](#), the [National Institute of General Medical Sciences](#) of the [National Institutes of Health](#), and the [Starr Cancer Consortium](#).

IGV participates in the [GenomeSpace](#) initiative, which is funded by the [National Human Genome Research Institute](#).

Citing IGV

To cite your use of IGV in your publication:

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https://github.com/griffithlab/rnaseq_tutorial/wiki/IGV-Tutorial