



PISCES: a package for quantitation and QC of big mRNA-seq datasets

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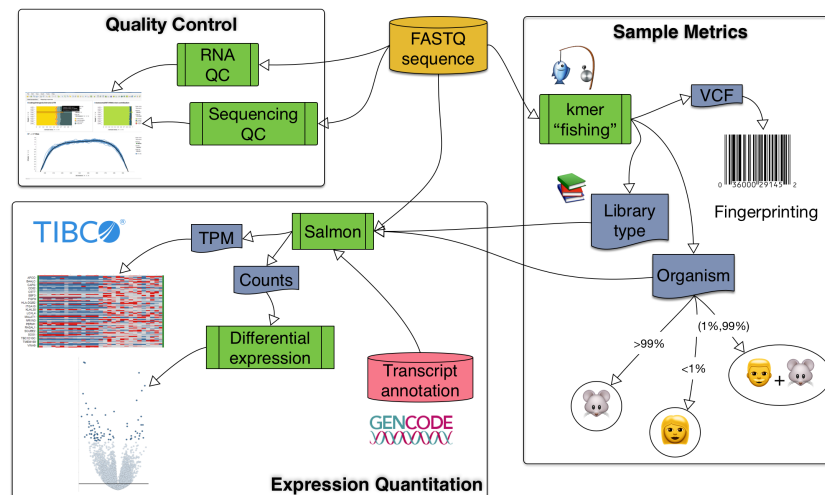
February 16, 2017

Why a new pipeline?

1. New tools are faster
2. Tooling around new tools is lacking
 - Expression QC
 - Genotyping/fingerprinting
3. Automation for reprocessing large datasets
4. Reproducibility

What is PISCES?

PISCES is a package that eases the burden of processing large numbers of mRNA-seq libraries, and subsequently reducing errors in parameter selection and QC validation and consisting of three analysis modules:



1. Single sample analysis of individual mRNA-seq libraries
 - species detection, SNP fingerprinting, library geometry detection, and quantitation using salmon
2. Multiple sample aggregation of analysis results
 - summarization, TMM normalization, and differential expression analysis of multiple libraries to produce data formats ready for visualization and further analysis
3. Multiple sample aggregation of quality control (QC) results
 - visualization of mRNA-seq library QC metrics

PISCES implementation details

1. PISCES is implemented as a python3 package
 - bundled with all necessary dependencies to enable reproducible analysis and easy deployment
2. Configuration files are specified to:
 - build transcriptome indices
 - supply sample metadata
 - define contrasts for differential expression analysis using DEseq2
 - define default program parameters
3. Development versions will be available on Bitbucket, with python packages installable using pip.

PISCES stats at Novartis Oncology (December 2016)

1. 2,894 RNAseq samples processed

- ~30 CPU years for our previous cufflinks-based pipeline
- ~2/3 CPU years for PISCES
- We can reprocess TCGA, GTEx... When we need

2. 9,475 lines of code

- 8757 python
- 718 R

3. Six “stable” releases

2015-12-08



Matthew Shirley

[acab3c5](#)

initial commit of SVN version

PISCES workflow

- `piscs index` ➤ Once
- `piscs run` ➤ Once each sample
- `piscs qc` ➤ Once each experiment
- `piscs summarize` ➤ Once each experiment

PISCES “index”

1. Creates transcriptome FASTA from input GTFs and genomic FASTAs
 - Optionally masks sequence – ATCccccGTA → ATCNNNGTA
 - Add as many as you need: e.g. mouse/human xenograft
2. Incorporates “extra” user-defined FASTA files
 - e.g. **viral sequences**, repetitive elements
3. Generates salmon and bowtie2 index files
 - Bowtie2 indices are only used for QC metrics

Reproducible index builds

```
47 },
48 "xeno": {
49   "gencode": {
50     "gtfs": ["/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_v25/gencode.v25.annotation.gtf",
51             "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_vM10/gencode.vM10.annotation.gtf"],
52     "fastas": ["/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/hg38.fa", "/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/mm10.fa"],
53     "extra_fastas": [],
54     "index": "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/indices/gencode_v25_vM10",
55     "options": {}
56   },
57   "gencode_plus": {
58     "gtfs": ["/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_v25/gencode.v25.annotation.gtf",
59             "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_vM10/gencode.vM10.annotation.gtf"],
60     "fastas": ["/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/hg38.fa", "/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/mm10.fa"],
61     "extra_fastas": ["/home/merkijs1/annotations/dfam/Dfam.named.fa", "/home/skewepe1/viper/db/160205_virus_nucl.fa"],
62     "index": "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/indices/gencode_v25_vM10_plus",
63     "options": {}
64   },
65   "gencode_plus_masked": {
66     "gtfs": ["/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_v25/gencode.v25.annotation.gtf",
67             "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_vM10/gencode.vM10.annotation.gtf"],
68     "fastas": ["/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/hg38.fa", "/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/mm10.fa"],
69     "extra_fastas": ["/home/merkijs1/annotations/dfam/Dfam.named.fa", "/home/skewepe1/viper/db/160205_virus_nucl.fa"],
70     "index": "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/indices/gencode_v25_vM10_plus_masked",
71     "options": {"masked": true}
```


Reproducible index builds

```
1 {
2   "human": {
3     "gencode": {
4       "gtfs": ["/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_v25/gencode.v25.annotation.gtf"],
5       "fastas": ["/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/hg38.fa"],
6       "extra_fastas": [],
7       "index": "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/indices/gencode_v25",
8       "options": {}
9     },
10    "gencode_plus": {
11      "gtfs": ["/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_v25/gencode.v25.annotation.gtf"],
12      "fastas": ["/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/hg38.fa"],
13      "extra_fastas": ["/home/merkija1/annotations/dfam/Dfam.named.fa", "/home/skewepe1/viper/db/160205_virus_nucl.fa"],
14      "index": "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/indices/gencode_v25_plus",
15      "options": {}
16    },
17    "gencode_plus_masked": {
18      "gtfs": ["/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/annotations/gencode_v25/gencode.v25.annotation.gtf"],
19      "fastas": ["/db/nibrgenome/NG00009.0/fasta/hg38.fa"],
20      "extra_fastas": ["/home/merkija1/annotations/dfam/Dfam.named.fa", "/home/skewepe1/viper/db/160205_virus_nucl.fa"],
21      "index": "/da/onc/harmonization/pisces/indices/gencode_v25_plus_masked",
22      "options": {"masked": true}
23    }
24  },
25  "mouse": {
26    "-----": {
```

PISCES workflow

- `piscles index` ➤ Once
- `piscles run` ➤ Once each sample
- `piscles qc` ➤ Once each experiment
- `piscles summarize` ➤ Once each experiment

PISCES “run”

- Minimal examples

- `pisces run -fq1 r1_1.fq.gz r1_2.fq -fq2 r2_1.fq ...`
- `pisces run -fq1 r1.fq.gz`
- `pisces run ... --sample-type xeno --salmon-indices gencode`
- `pisces run ... --threads 8 --name patient_10_liver`
- `pisces run ... --config user-config.json`
- All parameters have defaults, or are inferred from the FASTQ files

PISCES “run”

```
(v0.6) -bash-4.1$ pisces run -h
usage: pisces run -fq1 [FQ1 [FQ1 ...]] [-fq2 [FQ2 [FQ2 ...]]] [-n NAME]
      [-o OUT] [-p THREADS] [-t {human,mouse,xeno}]
      [-l {IU,ISF,ISR}] [--scratch-dir SCRATCH_DIR] [--overwrite]
      [--salmon-indices [SALMON_INDICES [SALMON_INDICES ...]]]
      [--no-alignment-qc] [--make-bam] [--no-salmon] [--no-fastqp]
      [--no-vcf] [-c CONFIG_FILE] [-h]
```

required arguments:

-fq1 [FQ1 [FQ1 ...]] space-separated list of gzipped FASTQ read 1 files

optional arguments:

-fq2 [FQ2 [FQ2 ...]] space-separated list of gzipped FASTQ read 2 files

-n NAME, --name NAME sample name used in output files. default=auto

-o OUT, --out OUT path to output directory. default=/path/to/\$FQ1/PISCES

-p THREADS, --threads THREADS

total number of CPU threads to use default=1

-t {human,mouse,xeno}, --sample-type {human,mouse,xeno}

species of the sample library default=auto

-l {IU,ISF,ISR}, --libtype {IU,ISF,ISR}

library geometry for Salmon (<http://salmon.readthedocs.org/en/latest/salmon.html#what-s-this-libtype>)

default=auto

--scratch-dir SCRATCH_DIR

path to scratch directory default=/scratch

--overwrite

overwrite existing files

--salmon-indices [SALMON_INDICES [SALMON_INDICES ...]]

salmon index names (defined in --config-file)

default=['gencode_plus']

--no-alignment-qc

do not generate picard qc metrics

--make-bam

make a BAM file for visualization

--no-salmon

do not run salmon

--no-fastqp

do not generate read-level qc metrics

--no-vcf

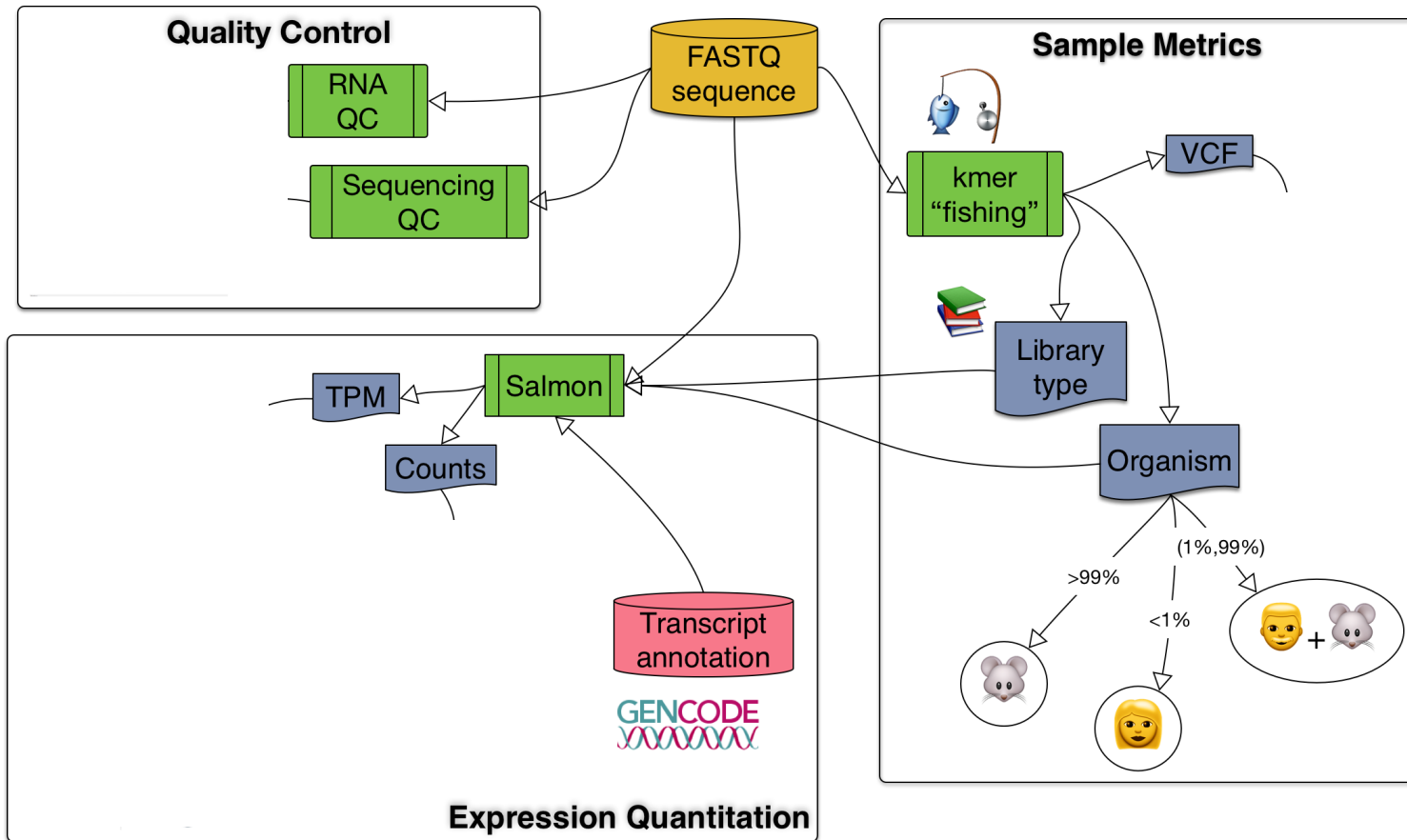
do not generate vcf file

-c CONFIG_FILE, --config-file CONFIG_FILE

default=/usr/prog/onc/seqtools/pisces/v0.6/src/novartis-pisces/pisces/config.json

-h, --help

PISCES “run”



PISCES “run” outputs

```
(v0.6) -bash-4.1$ ls
BA-83-ZT03_1_fastqp.txt  BA-83-ZT03.fastq1_kmers.txt  pisces.log
BA-83-ZT03_1_fastqp.zip  BA-83-ZT03.fastq2_kmers.txt  qcANALYSIS
BA-83-ZT03_2_fastqp.txt  BA-83-ZT03.fastq_fingerprint.vcf  salmon
BA-83-ZT03_2_fastqp.zip  BA-83-ZT03.pct_human_mouse
```

- --name “BA-83-ZT03”
- **fastqp** Python clone of FastQC
 - <https://github.com/mdshw5/fastqp>
- **fastq_fingerprint.vcf**: genotypes derived from kmer counts
- **pct_human_mouse**: estimate of mouse/human percent derived from beta-actin kmers
- *qcANALYSIS*: picard metrics from **100,000 downsampled alignments** using bowtie2
- Salmon directory contains one or more salmon quant.sf files corresponding to --salmon-indices defined in --config

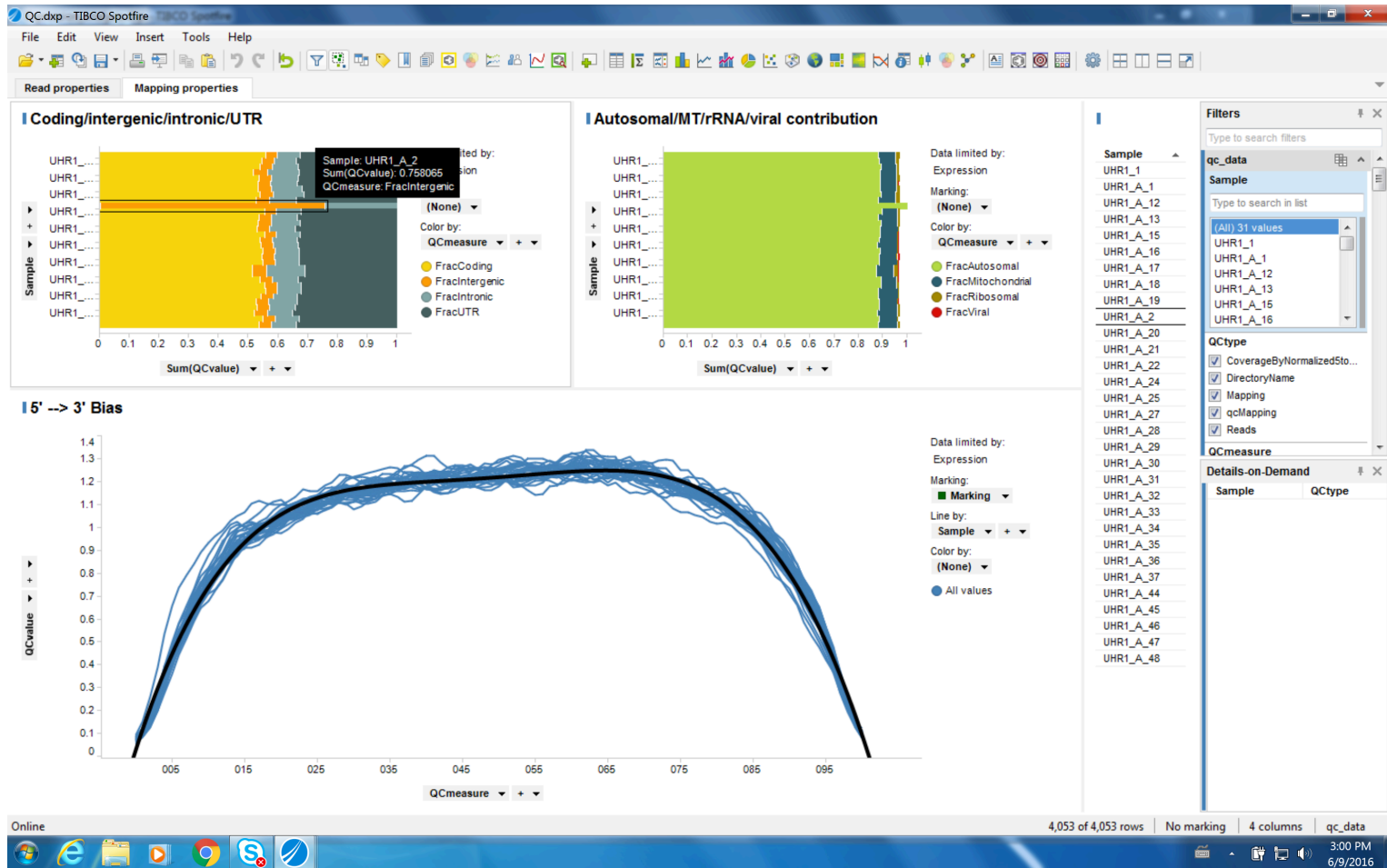
PISCES workflow

- `piscs index` ➤ Once
- `piscs run` ➤ Once each sample
- `piscs qc` ➤ Once each experiment
- `piscs summarize` ➤ Once each experiment

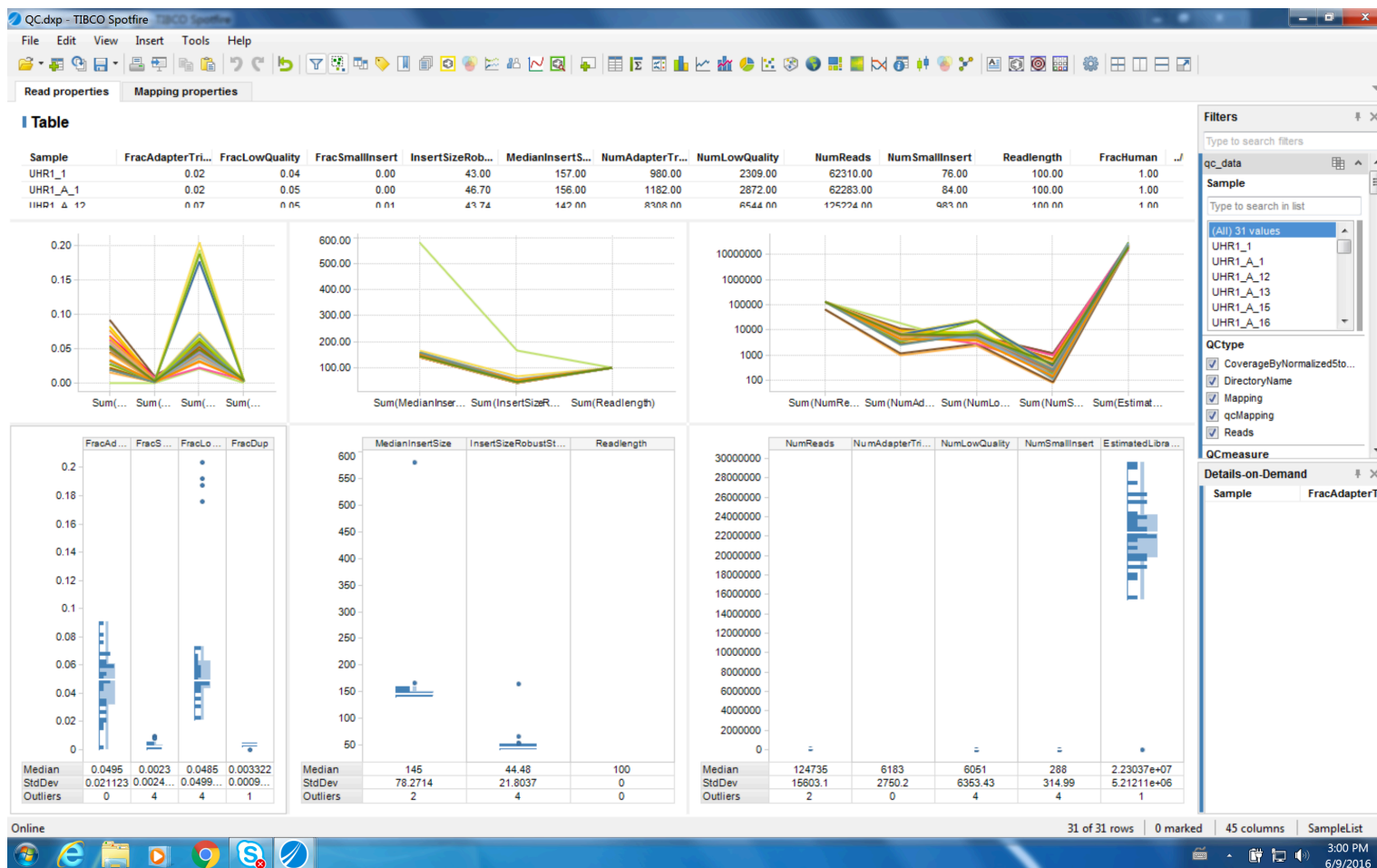
PISCES “qc”

- Minimal examples
 - `pisces qc -tab out.table -tall out.tall [dir1 [dir2...]]`
 - `pisces qc -metadata samples.csv`
 - `pisces qc -fingerprint [dir1 [dir2...]]`
- `--tab` output gathers statistics in a wide table
- `--tall` output is a tidy table used for visualization
- `--fingerprint` produces a table of sample identities and pairwise probabilities
 - Use this to find sample swaps

PISCES “qc” Spotfire vis



PISCES “qc” Spotfire vis



PISCES “summarize”

- Minimal examples
 - `pisces summarize [dir1 [dir2...]]`
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv`
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv -group-by cell_line -norm-by treatment -control-factor DMSO`
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv -deseq-contrasts contrasts.yaml -patsy ~treatment+cell_line`
- Output files are prefixed by `-name`

PISCES “summarize”

- Minimal examples
 - `pisces summarize [dir1 [dir2...]]`
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv`
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv -group-by cell_line -norm-by treatment -control-factor DMSO`
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv -deseq-contrasts contrasts.yaml -patsy ~treatment+cell_line`
- Output files are prefixed by `-name`

PISCES “summarize”

- Output tables are genes/isoforms x samples (rows x columns)
- Read salmon files using tximport in DESeq2 package
- Annotation for gene-level summaries provided by <https://github.com/stephenturner/annotables>
- “Tidy” deseq table is 5 column: contrast, log2fc, log10p, basemean, stderr
- **Normalization:** TPM > remove mito/ribo genes > calculate TMM scaling on protein coding genes > TMM scale *all genes*

PISCES “summarize”

- Minimal examples
 - `pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv -group-by cell_line -norm-by treatment -control-factor DMSO`

metadata.csv:

```
SampleID,UUID,CellLine,Treatment,Time,Directory,Groups
A3_DMSO_6hr_R1,CA-96-XXXX,A375,DMSO,6hr,..../CA-96IY67/PISCES,A3_DMSO_6hr
A3_DMSO_6hr_R2,YA-97-XXXX,A375,DMSO,6hr,..../YA-97-IB67/PISCES,A3_DMSO_6hr
A3_DMSO_24hr_R1,WA-95-XXXX,A375,DMSO,24hr,..../WA-95-XA65/PISCES,A3_DMSO_24hr
A3_DMSO_24hr_R2,SA-95-XXXX,A375,DMSO,24hr,..../SA-95-XE65/PISCES,A3_DMSO_24hr
```

PISCES “summarize”

```
- pisces summarize -metadata sample.csv -deseq-  
  contrasts contrasts.yaml -patsy ~Treatment~CellLine
```

contrasts.yaml

Treatment:

- [DrugA_1uM_6h, DMSO_0uM_6h]
- [DrugA_5uM_6h, DMSO_0uM_6h]
- [DrugA_1uM_16h, DMSO_0uM_16h]
- [DrugA_5uM_16h, DMSO_0uM_16h]
- [DrugB_1uM_6h, DMSO_0uM_6h]
- [DrugB_5uM_6h, DMSO_0uM_6h]
- [DrugB_1uM_16h, DMSO_0uM_16h]
- [DrugB_5uM_16h, DMSO_0uM_16h]
- [shRNA1_0uM_48h, Dox_0uM_48h]
- [shRNA2_0uM_48h, Dox_0uM_48h]
- [shRNA1_0uM_72h, Dox_0uM_72h]
- [shRNA2_0uM_72h, Dox_0uM_72h]

PISCES “summarize”

```
(v0.6) -bash-4.1$ pisces summarize -h
PISCES summary expression matrix and differential expression
```

```
Usage: summarize [options] [--exclude-genes=GENE]... [<DIR> <DIR>...]
```

Options:

```
-n NAME, --name NAME
-q IDX, --salmon-quant SALMON_INDEX
-m META, --metadata METADATA_DIR
-r VAR, --group-by VAR
-b VAR, --norm-by VAR
-c FACTOR, --control-factor FACTOR
-d PATSY, --deseq-formula PATSY
a`
-i YAML, --deseq-contrasts YAML
-s BIOTYPE, --scale-tpm BIOTYPE
-e TPM, --median-expression TPM_CUTOFF
-t FILE, --spotfire-template FILE
-x GENE, --exclude-genes GENE
--exclude-ribosomal
--isoforms
--debug
```

```
Output file base name [default: expression_matrix]
PISCES Salmon run to aggregate [default: gencode_plus]
CSV file describing contrast variables and sample names
Column name describing variable to group samples for no
Column name of the main variable used for within-group
Name of factor in '--norm-by' column used for within-gr
`patsy` notation to be passed to DESeq2 e.g: ~ treatment
YAML annotation of the contrasts of interest (see exampl
TMM normalize using genes belonging to this ENSEMBL `bi
Exclude genes from TMM normalization that have expressi
File path at which to create Spotfire template DXP
List of genes to exclude from TMM normalization
Exclude genes starting with RPS or RPL from TMM scaling
Output transcript isoform level matrices
Print debugging information
```

Arguments:

```
<DIR> Directories containing `pisces run` analysis results
```

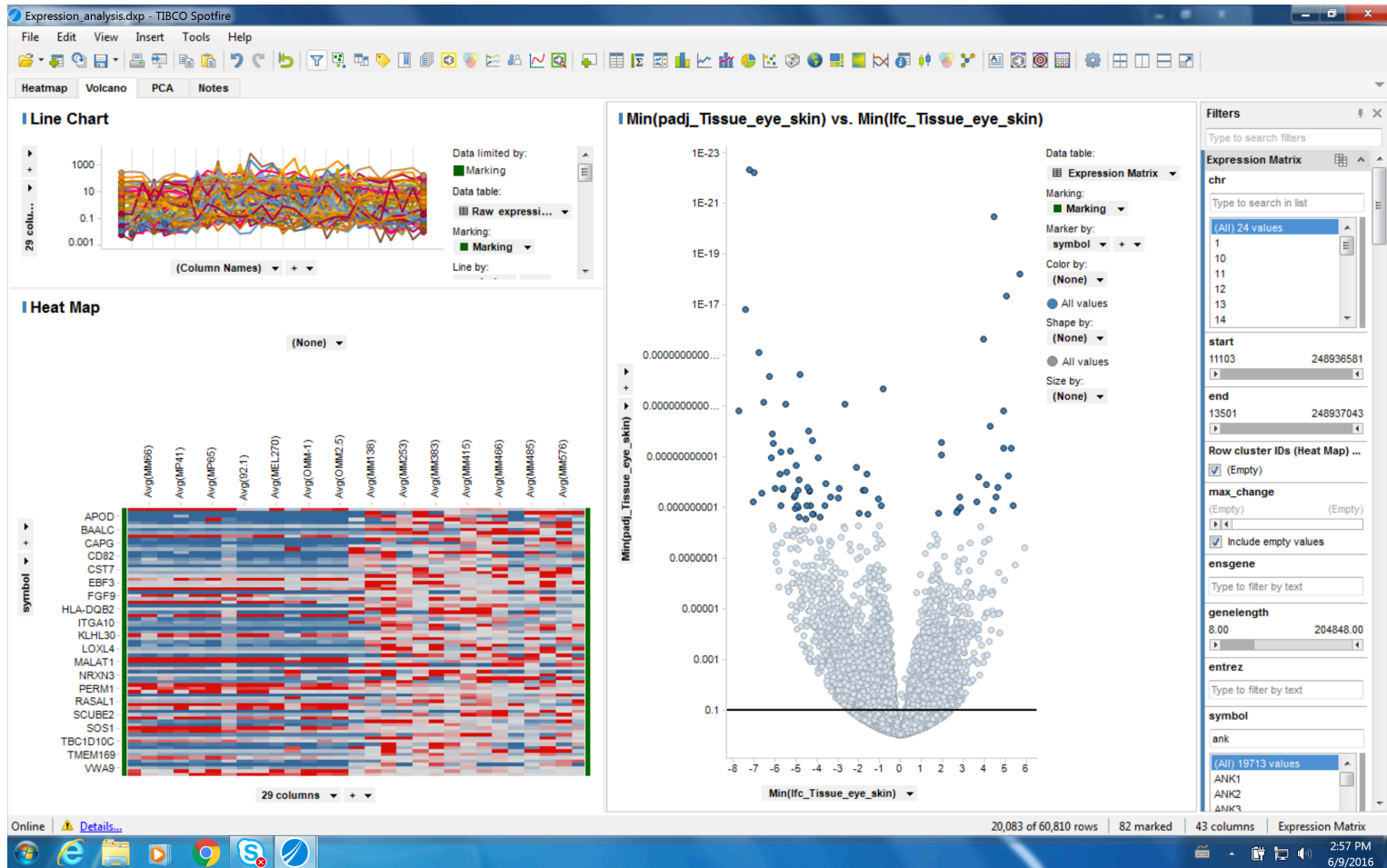

PISCES “summarize”

```
(v0.6) -bash-4.1$ ls *txt
expression_matrix.human.counts.txt
expression_matrix.human.deseq.tidy.txt
expression_matrix.human.deseq.txt
expression_matrix.human.log2fc.TMM-scaled.txt
expression_matrix.human.log2fc.txt
expression_matrix.human.raw.TMM-scaled.txt
expression_matrix.human.raw.txt
```

```
ENSG00000000003 31.876041      43.98197      31.24694
ENSG00000000005 0      0      0      0
ENSG000000000419 642.86735      724.86686      651.867107
ENSG000000000457 383.02904      428.7312      344.55176
ENSG000000000460 90.071902      105.421481      75.579435
ENSG000000000938 6555.15158      6953.14207      10927.14845
ENSG000000000971 61.411666      72.134983      73.60825
ENSG00000001036 226.744579      225.221183      244.833379
ENSG00000001084 439.34715      530.068236      466.932745
ENSG00000001167 436.4706      594.4711      466.4708
ENSG00000001460 67.06453      92.846359      73.648065
ENSG00000001461 513.90091      727.1472      572.96732
ENSG00000001497 792.7377      807.7378      774.738 654.738
ENSG00000001561 235.651 312.651 225.651 206.651 167.651 180.651
ENSG00000001617 76.566899      75.542055      105.712012
```

median_length	entrez	symbol	chr	start	end	strand	biotype	description		
1933.07577885484		7105	TSPAN6	X	100627109	100639991	-1	protein_coding	tetraspanin 6 [Source:HGNC Symbol]	
825.33540625	64102	TNMD	X	100584802	100599885	1	protein_coding	tenomodulin [Source:HGNC Symbol]		
899.972561340993		8813	DPM1	20	50934867	50958555	-1	protein_coding	dolichyl-phosphate mannosyltransferase 1	
3774.68332494071		57147	SCYL3	1	169849631	169894267	-1	protein_coding	SCY1-like, kinase-like domain-containing protein	
2659.59198414737		55732	C1orf112		1	169662007	169854080	1	protein_coding	chromosome 1 open reading frame 112
1839.80820111712		2268	FGR	1	27612064	27635277	-1	protein_coding	FGR proto-oncogene, Src family tyrosine kinase	
3234.26381228412		3075	CFH	1	196651878	196747504	1	protein_coding	complement factor H	

PISCES “summarize” Spotfire vis



Near term development goals

1. Normalization efforts
 - Best practices for TMM normalization
 - Investigate *shoal* for improving abundance estimates during *pisces summarize*
 - <https://github.com/COMBINE-lab/shoal>
2. Automated re-identification of samples against a multi-sample VCF
3. Determine best practice for sequence masking
4. **Open source visualizations**
5. Publication

Takeaways

1. PISCES was developed to solve real-world issues:
 - Large number of datasets
 - Realize gains in efficiency using new “alignment-free” tools
 - Quick, routine QC of each sample, with fingerprinting identity
 - Identify sample/species swaps
 - Integrated tools to produce analysis or visualization-ready tables
 - Packaging of tool dependencies
 - Reproducibility of results
 - Standardization of RNAseq analysis within NIBR
2. PISCES builds on (mostly) open-source tools
3. I'll be publishing the framework as a preprint Q1 2017

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