
ACEseqDocs Documentation

Release 1.2.8

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CHAPTER 1

License

The license of the ACEseq code is *MIT* <<https://github.com/eilslabs/ACEseqWorkflow/blob/github/LICENSE.txt>>. See *here* <https://github.com/eilslabs/ACEseqWorkflow/blob/github/package_LICENSES.md> licenses of packages used by the workflow.

CHAPTER 2

Need help?

In case of question please contact Kortine Kleinheinz (k.kleinheinz@dkfz-heidelberg.de)

Installation & Run instructions

To run the ACEseq-workflow multiple components are needed:

- ACEseq workflow plugin
- The [Roddy workflow management framework](#)
- Software stack
- Reference data
- [COWorkflowsBasePlugin](#)

The *The Standard Way* to install the workflow is described below and involves the installation of each of these components. For the older 1.2.10 release we currently also provide prepackaged files and a Docker container. See *Prepackaged files (ACEseq 1.2.10 only)* below for instructions.

3.1 The Standard Way

The standard way to install the workflow is the manual installation of all components.

1. Download the COWorkflowBasePlugin zip-archive from [Github-Releases](#). The version to download can be found in the [ACEseq buildinfo.txt](#).
2. Download the ACEseq zip-archive from [Github-Releases](#). The archive already contains a Jar-archive with the compiled Java/Groovy code (JAR-file) for the given Roddy API version. No compilation of the plugin is therefore required.
3. The file [ACEseq buildinfo.txt](#) in also shows you the Roddy API version that you need for the chosen ACEseq workflow version.
4. Install the required Roddy version. Please see the [Roddy repository](#) for installation instructions for Roddy.
5. Install the software stack (see *Software Stack (Conda)* below) via Conda
6. Install the reference files (see *Reference files* below) via the preparation script.

3.1.1 Software Stack (Conda)

The workflow contains a description of a [Conda](#) environment. A number of Conda packages from [BioConda](#) are required. You should set up the Conda environment at a centralized position available from all compute hosts.

First install the BioConda channels:

```
conda config --add channels r
```

```
conda config --add channels defaults
```

```
conda config --add channels conda-forge
```

```
conda config --add channels bioconda
```

Then install the environment

```
conda env create -n ACEseqWorkflow -f $PATH_TO_PLUGIN_DIRECTORY/resources/  
↪analysisTools/copyNumberEstimationWorkflow/environments/conda.yml
```

The name of the Conda environment is arbitrary but needs to be consistent with the *condaEnvironmentName* variable. You can set the *condaEnvironmentName* variable in any of the loaded configuration files (see [Roddy documentation](#)) or even directly in your Roddy call via *-cvalues="condaEnvironmentName:\$value"*.

If you do not want to use Conda, you can get a complete list of all packages and package versions Conda would install from the *\$PATH_TO_PLUGIN_DIRECTORY/resources/analysisTools/copyNumberEstimationWorkflow/environments/conda.yml*.

3.1.2 Reference files

The workflow uses various files as reference files, such as a reference genome or annotation files. Depending on the contents of these files also the outcome of your analysis may change. We provide installation scripts in the *installation/* directory (currently only in the *github* branch of the repository). To download and prepare the reference files please check out the ACEseq repository and do

```
bash $PATH_TO_PLUGIN_DIRECTORY/installation/downloadReferences $targetDirectory
```

with *\$targetDirectory* being the directory into which you want to install the files. The variable *baseDirectoryReference* in your configurations needs to be set to the *\$targetDirectory* path.

Note that the current plugin version is tuned to be run on the hg19 human assembly, but a liftover of all files should probably enable a run on GRch38.

3.2 Prepackaged files (ACEseq 1.2.10 only)

On <http://bfg-nfs3.ipmb.uni-heidelberg.de> you can find archives for the 1.2.10 plugin version. The prepackaged zip files contains a full Roddy / Plugin setup and include different scripts to install all necessary software and download the required reference files. Currently, we do not intent to update these prepackaged installation files or the Docker version. Note that the Roddy version packaged not capable of submitting to LSF.

Please see the standard way to install recent workflow versions.

3.2.1 Stand-alone Roddy for Execution on HTC Cluster

To run the Roddy-based version of ACEseq please download the pre-packed zip file from <http://bfg-nfs3.ipmb.uni-heidelberg.de>. Three steps are required to ensure running of ACEseq.

1. Run the “prepareRoddyInstallation.sh” script.
2. Download all reference files as specified in the section “Reference files” (below).
3. Set up the Conda environment or install the necessary software as specified in the section “Software” (below).

Before running ACEseq a few parameters need to be adjusted in the configuration files. The output directory is specified in \$PATH_TO_ACEseq_RODDY_VERSION/configurations/projectsACEseqTest.xml. Here the variables “baseDirectoryReference”, “inputBaseDirectory”, “outputBaseDirectory”, “outputAnalysisBaseDirectory” need to be set. If no SVs should be included the following configuration values (cvalues) should be included:

```
<cvalue name='runWithSv' value='true' type="boolean"/>
<cvalue name='SV' value='yes' type="boolean"/>
```

Otherwise “svOutputDirectory” and the SV bedpe filename in the filenames section need to be set.

```
<configurationvalues>
  <cvalue name='svOutputDirectory' value='${outputAnalysisBaseDirectory}/
  ↳nameOfDirectoryWithSVResults' type="path"/>
</configurationvalues>

<filenames package='de.dkfz.b080.co.files' filestagesbase='de.dkfz.b080.co.files.
  ↳COFileStage'>
  <filename class="TextFile" onMethod="de.dkfz.b080.co.aceseq.ACEseqMethods.mergeSv"
    selectiontag="svFileTag"
    pattern='${svOutputDirectory}/${pid}_svs.bedpe' />
</filenames>
```

Technical specifications are set in the file \$PATH_TO_ACEseq_RODDY_VERSION/configurations/applicationProperties.ini. The path to the project.xml and the path to the plugins (\$PATH_TO_ACEseq_RODDY_VERSION/Roddy/dist/plugins/) need to be set under configurationDirectories and pluginDirectories. Finally the job manager and execution host need to be set.

Please have a look at the following default applicationProperties.ini file:

```
[COMMON]
useRoddyVersion=current                # Use the most current version for tests

[DIRECTORIES]
configurationDirectories=[FOLDER_WITH_CONFIGURATION_FILES]
pluginDirectories=[FOLDER_WITH_PLUGINS]

[COMMANDS]
jobManagerClass=de.dkfz.rodgy.execution.jobs.direct.synchronousexecution.
↳DirectSynchronousExecutionJobManager
#jobManagerClass=de.dkfz.rodgy.execution.jobs.cluster.pbs.PBSJobManager
#jobManagerClass=de.dkfz.rodgy.execution.jobs.cluster.sge.SGEJobManager
#jobManagerClass=de.dkfz.rodgy.execution.jobs.cluster.slurm.SlurmJobManager
#jobManagerClass=de.dkfz.rodgy.execution.jobs.cluster.lsf.rest.LSFRestJobManager
commandFactoryUpdateInterval=300
commandLogTruncate=80                  # Truncate logged commands to this length.
↳ If <= 0, then no truncation.

[COMMANDLINE]
```

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```

CLI.executionServiceUser=USERNAME
CLI.executionServiceClass=de.dkfz.rodny.execution.io.LocalExecutionService
#CLI.executionServiceClass=de.dkfz.rodny.execution.io.SSHExecutionService
CLI.executionServiceHost=[YOURHOST]
CLI.executionServiceAuth=keyfile
#CLI.executionServiceAuth=password
CLI.executionServicePasswd=
CLI.executionServiceStorePassword=false
CLI.executionServiceUseCompression=false
CLI.fileSystemInfoProviderClass=de.dkfz.rodny.execution.io.fs.FileSystemInfoProvider

```

To execute ACEseq run

```

sh $PATH_TO_ACEseq_RODDY_VERSION//Roddy/rodny.sh rerun ACEseq@copyNumberEstimation
↪ $pid \
--useconfig=$PATH_TO_ACEseq_RODDY_VERSION/configuration/applicationProperties.ini \
--cvalues="bamfile_list:$pathToControlBamFile;$pathToTumorBamFile,sample_list:control;
↪ tumor,possibleControlSampleNamePrefixes:control,
↪ possibleTumorSampleNamePrefixes:tumor"

```

More information on Roddy can be found [here](#).

3.2.2 Docker version

1. Download all reference files as specified in the section below.
2. Download the Base and ACEseq Docker images from the website: <http://bfg-nfs3.ipmb.uni-heidelberg.de>
3. Import both files with (names might differ based on supplied version):

```
docker load < BaseDockerContainer.tar.gz
```

```
docker load < ACEseqDockerContainer.tar.gz
```

4. Download the control files archive and extract them. The directory contains the file “rodny.sh”. Please call this script with: bash rodny.sh. You will see:

```

#!/bin/bash
# 1: Run mode, which might be "run" or "testrun"
# 2: Configuration identifier, normally "ACEseq"
# 3: Configuration directory
# 4: Dataset identifier / PID
# 5: Control bam file
# 6: Tumor bam file
# 7: Control bam sample name
# 8: Tumor bam sample name
# 9: Reference files path
# 10: Output folder
# 11: Optional: The SV file

```

An example call is:

```

bash rodny.sh run ACEseq ./config/ stds /home/rodny/someproject/control_MB99_merged.
↪ mdup.bam /home/rodny/someproject/tumor_MB99_merged.mdup.bam control tumor /icgc/ngs_
↪ share/assemblies/hg19_GRCh37_1000genomes ./output

```

Here you tell roddy to run the ACEseq configuration using the config folder in the current directory with a control and tumor bam. Also you tell Roddy the samples for both files namely control and tumor. Finally, you supply the path to the reference files and the folder where you will store your output data.

CHAPTER 4

QuickStart

To start ACEseq download package from [here](#) and install the reference files and conda package as described under *Installation & Run instructions*.

```
sh $PATH_TO_PLUGIN_DIRECTORY/Roddy/rodgy.sh rerun ACEseq@copyNumberEstimation $pid \  
--useconfig=$PATH_TO_PLUGIN_DIRECTORY/applicationProperties.ini \  
--cvalues="bamfile_list:$pathToControlBamFile;$pathToTumorBamFile,sample_list:control;  
↪tumor,possibleControlSampleNamePrefixes:control,  
↪possibleTumorSampleNamePrefixes:tumor"
```

Following parameters should be changed in the project.xml:

- baseDirectoryReference
- outputBaseDirectory
- outputFileGroup (in case all outputfiles should have different group than primary group)

Alternative running modes:

- runWithoutControl (in case it should be run without control)
- runwithFakeControl (in case the coverage should be taken from a different control)

5.1 Hardware

ACEseq requires the execution of multiple jobs that are highly parallelized in the beginning but linearize towards the end of the workflow. It requires a maximum of 50g RAM in few of the Jobs. On a HPC cluster with multiple cores available it will usually finish within 24h (100-160 CPU h). The final output usually requires between 4 and 6g memory.

5.2 Software

The installation of all required software can be found under *Installation & Run instructions*.

Alternative Running Modes

Multiple alternative running modes are enabled with ACESeq.

6.1 Run Without Control

If no control sample is available, but ACESeq was already used to process other tumor sample pairs one of their control coverage profile can be used for normalization. In this case the patient's sex needs to be set with PATIENTSEX="male|female|klinefelter".

Please specify the path and prefix to a control coverage profile for a male (MALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PRE) and a female patient (FEMALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PRE) so it can be matched to the processed sample. To activate this option the value runWithout control needs to be set to 'true', either via the command line execution under cvalues or in the project.xml.

```
<cvalue name="runWithoutControl" value="true" type="boolean" />
<cvalue name="PATIENTSEX" value="male|female|klinefelter" type="boolean" />
<cvalue name='MALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PRE' value="pathToPID/{pid}/ACESeq/cnv_snp/{pid}.chr
↪" type='path'
    description="path and prefix to chromosome-wise 1kb coverage file used for
↪fake control workflow for male patients" />
<cvalue name='FEMALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PRE' value="pathToPID/{pid}/ACESeq/cnv_snp/{pid}.
↪chr" type='path'
    description="path and prefix to chromosome-wise 1kb coverage file used for
↪fake control workflow for female patients" />
```

6.2 Run quality check only

In case you do not want to run the full ACESeq pipeline immediately, but would rather access the sample's quality first you can start ACESeq with the option "runQualityCheckOnly" set to "true".

6.3 Replace low quality control

If a control sample is very noisy and masks CNAs it can be replaced with the coverage profile from a different control of the same sex. For this run ACEseq with “runWithFakeControl” set to “true” and specify the values “FE-MALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PRE” and “MALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PRE” as described in the section for analysis without matched control.

6.4 Run with/without SV breakpoint incorporation

To process samples with incorporation of SV breakpoints set the following in the project.xml:

```
<configurationvalues>
  <cvalue name='svOutputDirectory' value='${outputAnalysisBaseDirectory}/
  ↳nameOfDirectoryWithSVResults' type="path"/>
  <cvalue name='runWithSv' value='true' type="boolean"/>
</configurationvalues>

<filenames package='de.dkfz.b080.co.files' filestagesbase='de.dkfz.b080.co.files.
  ↳COFileStage'>
  <filename class="TextFile" onMethod="de.dkfz.b080.co.aceseq.ACESeqMethods.
  ↳mergeSv"
    selectiontag="svFileTag"
    pattern='${svOutputDirectory}/${pid}_svs.bedpe' />
</filenames>
```

If the bedpe file does not exist ACEseq will submit all steps until the bedpe file is required. A rerun once the SV file is generated will start the pipeline up from the point where SV breakpoints are incorporated.

To process a samples without SVs please set the following in the project.xml:

```
<cvalue name='runWithSv' value='false' type="boolean"/>
<cvalue name='SV' value='no' type="string"/>
```

CHAPTER 7

Input Parameters

Multiple parameters can be set with ACEseq though not all are necessary to change. This table gives an overview and description for all available parameters

Table 1: “ACEseq parameters”

name	value	type	description
aceseqOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/ACEseq_{\$tumorSample}	string	
svOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/SV_calls	string	
crestOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/crest	string	
cnvSnpOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/cnv_snp	string	
imputeOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/phasing	string	
plotOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/plots	string	
runWithControl	boolean	boolean	use control for analysis (false>true)
minHT	5	integer	minimum number of consecutive SNPs to be considered for haploblocks
snp_min5coverage	integer	integer	minimum coverage in control for SNP
cnv_min5coverage	5000	integer	minimum coverage for 1kb windows to be considered for merging in 10kb windows
mapping1000lity	integer	integer	minimum mapping quality for 1kb windows to be considered for merging in 10kb windows (maximum mappability)
min_windows	5	integer	minimum number of 1kb windows fullfilling cnv_min_coverage and mapping_quality to obtain merged 10kb windows
min_X_ratio	0.8	float	minimum ratio for number of reads on chrY per base over number of reads per base over whole genome to be considered as female
min_Y_ratio	0.12	float	minimum ratio for number of reads on chrY per base over number of reads per base over whole genome to be considered as male
LOWESS_F	0.1	float	f parameter for R lowess function
SCALE_FACTOR	0.9	float	scale_factor for R lowess function
COVERAGERPLOTS ylims	ylim	ylim	ylims for Rplots in GC-bias plots
FILENAME_FOR_CORRECT_PLOTS	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/log_bcnv/chrX.png	string	
GC_bias_json	key string	key string	key in GC-bias json
FILE_DENSITYBETA	\$(pwd)/AnalysisBaseDirectory}/densityBeta.pdf	string	
min_DDIlength	100	integer	minimum length for DEL/DUP/INV to be considered for breakpoint integration

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Table 1 – continued from previous page

name	value	type	description
selSVColumnScore	column	string	column from bedpe file to be recored in \${pid}_sv_points.txt file
min_seg_2000th	2000	integer	segmentByPairedPSCBS() minwidth parameter in PSCBS R package
undo_SD24	24	integer	segmentByPairedPSCBS() undo.SD parameter in PSCBS R package
pscbs_prune_height	1	integer	pruneByHClust() parameter h in PSCBS R package
min_seg_0.6	0.6	float	minimum average mappability over segment to be kept after segmentation
min_seg_9000th_prune	9000	integer	maximum of segment to be considered for merging to neighbouring segment prior to clustering
min_num_1	1	integer	maximum number of SNPs in segment to be considered for merging to neighbouring segment prior to clustering
clusteringes	yes	string	should segments be clustered (yes/no), coerage and BAF will be estimated and assigned clusterwide
min_cluster_number	1	integer	minimum number of clusters to be tried with BIC
min_membership	0.8	float	obsolete
min_distance	0.5	float	min_distance
haplogroupPrefix	haplo	string	prefix for file with haplogroups per chromosome
haplogroupFileSuffix	up	string	suffix for file with haplogroups per chromosome
haplogroupOutputDirectory	\$(pwd)/Output	string	\$(pwd)/OutputDirectory/\${haplogroupFilePrefix}
min_length_100000	100000	integer	minimum length of segments to be considered for tumor cell content and ploidy estimation
min_hetSNPs_purity	1	integer	minimum number of control heterozygous SNPs in segments to be considered for tumor cell content and ploidy estimation
dh_stop	max	string	
min_length_100000stop	100000	integer	
dh_zero	no	string	
purity_min	0.3	float	minimum tumor cell content allowed
purity_max	1	float	i
ploidy_min	1	float	
ploidy_max	6.5	float	
SNP_VCF	\$(VCF_PATH)/\$(pid).vcf	string	If the VCF_PATH has changed the value for the filename pattern MUST also be changed.
SNP_VCF_SNP_VCF_INDEX	\$(VCF_PATH)/\$(pid).vcf	string	Value must be converted to a string because of a bug.
SNP_SUFFIX	up.gz	string	
CHR_PREFIX	\$(CHR_PREFIX)	string	
CHR_SUFFIX	\$(CHR_SUFFIX)	string	
AUTOSOME_INDICES	{1..22}	Array	
CREST	yes	string	include SV breakpoints in analysis (yes/no)
mpileup_qual	30	integer	quality used for parameter ‘Q’ in samtools mpileup
CNV_MPILEUP_OPTS	-B -Q \${mpileup_qual} -q 1 -I “	string	options for mpileup to determine which bases/reads to use
FILE_VCF_SUFFIX	vcf	string	suffix for vcf files
FILE_TXT_SUFFIX	txt	string	suffix for txt files
phasedGenotypeFilePrefix	phased	string	prefix for phased genotypes file
unphasedGenotypeFilePrefix	unphased	string	prefix for unphased genotypes file
phasedGenotypeFileSuffix	phased	string	suffix for phased genotypes file
unphasedGenotypeFileSuffix	unphased	string	suffix for unphased genotypes file

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Table 1 – continued from previous page

name	value	type	description
BCFTOOLS_OPTS	“	String	bcftools options for imputation
FAKE_CONTROL_POST		string	suffix for chromosome wise 1kb coverage files used for fake control workflow
PATIENT_SEX		string	patient sex used in case of no control workflow (male female klinefelter)
CNV_ANNOT_SUFFIX		string	suffix for mappability annotated chromosome-wise 1kb coverage files
CNV_SUFFIX.gz		string	suffix chromosome-wise 1kb coverage files
FILE_UNPHASED_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY		Directory	/\${unphasedGenotypesFilePrefix}
FILE_UNPHASED_GENOTYPE_CHR		File	/\${unphased_genotype_chr}
FILE_PHASED_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY		Directory	/\${phasedGenotypesFilePrefix}
FILE_PHASED_GENOTYPE_CHR		File	/\${phased_genotype_chr}
FILE_INFO		string	
FILE_INFO_SAM_HEADER		string	
FILE_HAPS		string	
FILE_HAPS_CONF		string	
FILE_SUMMARY		string	
FILE_WARNINGS		string	
FILE_PAT		string	
FILE_SAM_HEADER_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY		Directory	/\${samfile used by imputation on X chromosome for females}
MALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PREFIX		string	and suffix for chromosome-wise 1kb coverage file used for fake control workflow for male patients
FEMALE_FAKE_CONTROL_PREFIX		string	and suffix for chromosome-wise 1kb coverage file used for fake control workflow for female patients
PLOT_PREFIX		Directory	/\${pid}_plot
FILE_MOST_IMPORTANT_INFO_SEG_PRE		File	
FILE_MOST_IMPORTANT_INFO_SEG_POST		File	
FILE_SEGMENT_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY		Directory	/\${pid}
FILE_SEGMENT_SUFFIX		File	
outputUMask		string	
outputFileGroup		Group	group for output files and directories
outputAccessRights		Access Rights	access rights for written files
outputAccessRightsForDirectories		Access Rights	access rights for written directories
possibleControlSampleNamePrefix		string	possible prefix of control bam if named \${prefix}_\${pid}_\${mergedBamSuffix} (blood)
possibleTumorSampleNamePrefixes		string	possibleControlSampleNamePrefixes
referenceGenomePath		File	reference genome file
REFERENCE_GENOME_1KREF		File	{REFERENCE_GENOME_1KREF}
dbSNP_Path		File	/\${path}/00path All.SNV.vcf.gz
MAPPABILITY_ALIGN100MER_CHR		File	/\${chr}.bedGraph.gz
CHROMOSOME_HPLINGHxFILE		File	
REPLICATION_RATE_FILE		File	/\${chr}.Rda
GC_CONTENT_FILE		File	/\${chr}.37_100genomes_gc_content_10kb.txt
GENETIC_MAP_FILE		File	/\${chr}.map
KNOWN_HAPLOTYPES_CHR_NAMES		File	/\${chr}.integrated_phase1_v3. 20101123.snps_indels_svsnomono.haplotypes.gz
KNOWN_HAPLOTYPES_CHR_NAMES		File	/\${chr}.integrated_phase1_v3. 20101123.snps_indels_svsnomono.legend.gz

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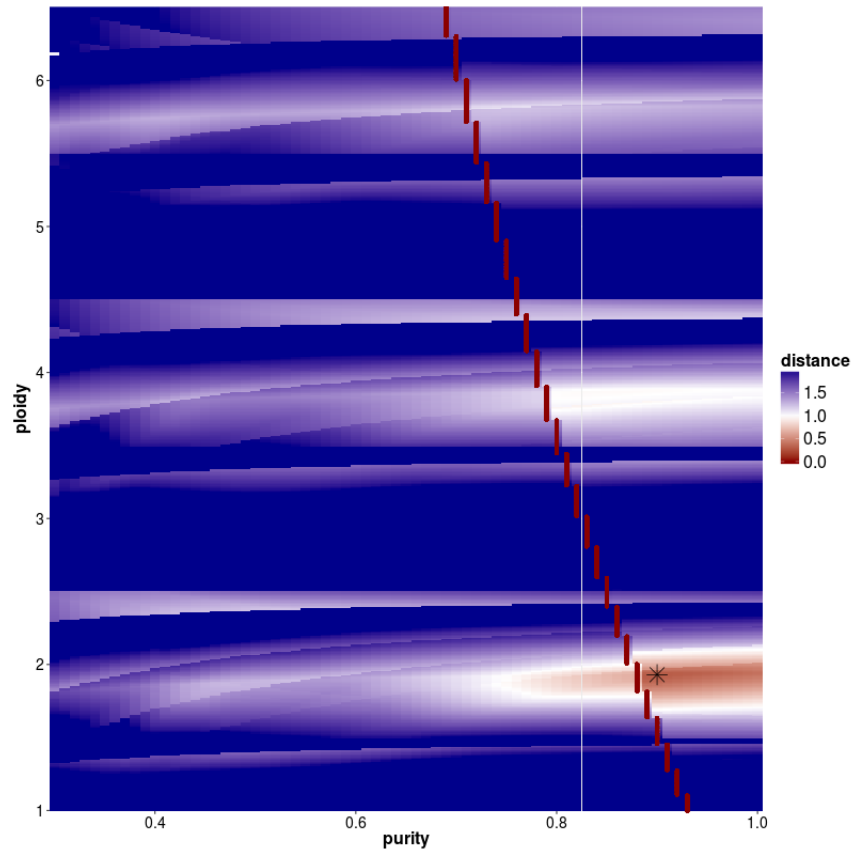
Table 1 – continued from previous page

name	value	type	description
GENETIC_MAP_Path	Genetic Map Xmap file	file	PAR_combined_b37.txt
KNOWN_HAP_PATH	VEP/PHS/001/chrX_nonPAR_impute.hap.gz	file	integrated_v3_chrX_nonPAR_impute.hap.gz
KNOWN_HAP_PATH	VEP/PHS/001/chrX_nonPAR_impute.legend.gz	file	integrated_v3_chrX_nonPAR_impute.legend.gz
output_exe_path	Directory (executable path to log file)	string	
impute_Bam_Path	Directory	string	directory for impute files
merged_Bam_Suffix	dupmark	string	A list of all known suffixes for merged bam files. I.e. merged.dupmark.bam, merged.mdup.bam...
merged_Bam_Suffix	mdup	string	A list of all known suffixes for merged bam files. I.e. merged.dupmark.bam, merged.mdup.bam...
default_Merged_Bam_Suffix		string	The default suffix for merged bam files when they are created by Roddy.
libloc_PSCBS		string	path to PSCBS library in R
libloc_flexclust		string	path to flexclust library in R

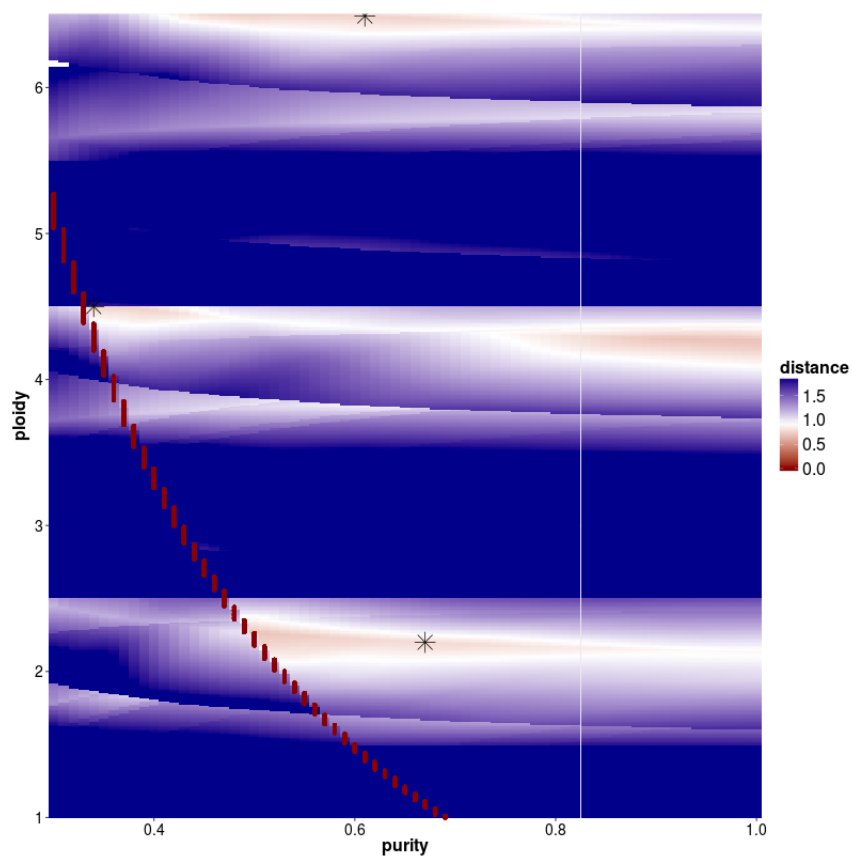
Purity Evaluation

Depending on the sample, ACEseq might return multiple possible solutions. These solutions can be found in the file `${PatientID}_ploidy_purity_2D.txt` within the ACEseq results directory.

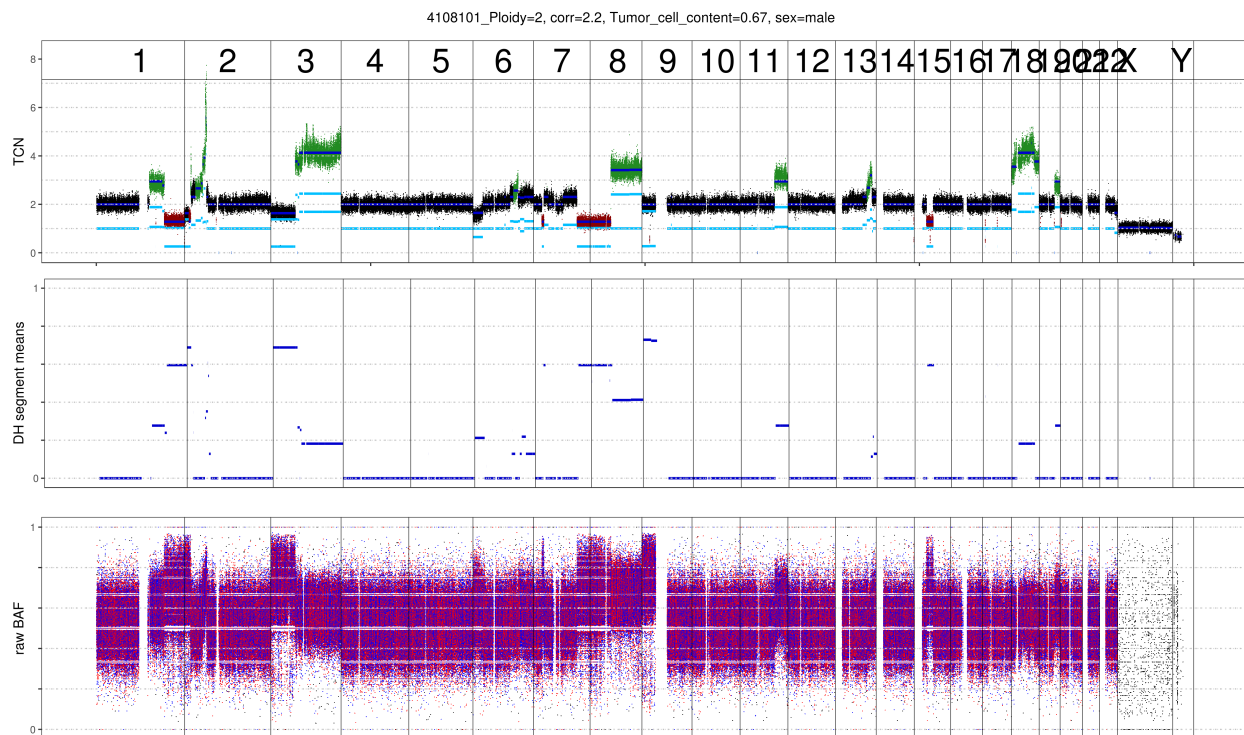
In addition to the table the plot `${PatientID}_tcn_distance_start.png` shows a distance matrix. This distance matrix indicates the estimated mean distance per ploidy/tcc combination based on the equations explained in the methods section. The optimally found minima are indicated by a star.



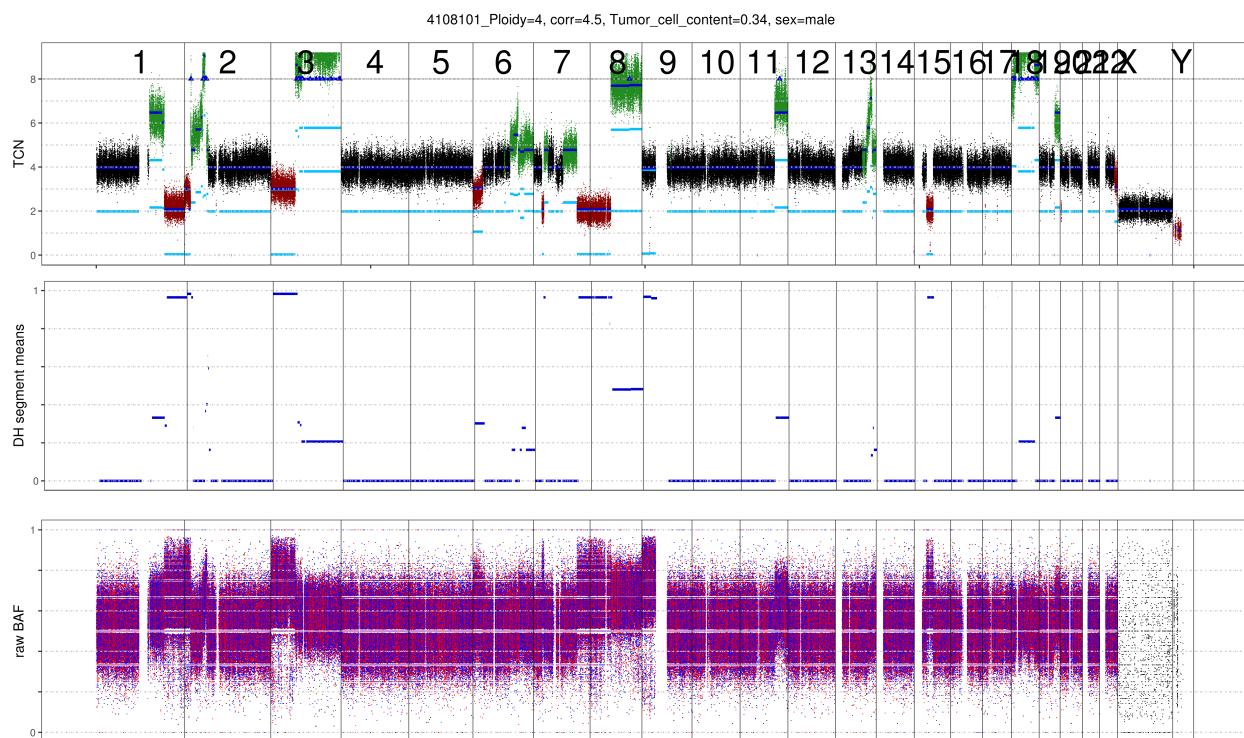
In case of multiple solutions, one can choose between the solution with the lowest distance or do as we suggest and choose the solution that is closest to diplot. It is recommended to make use of the prior knowledge about tumor biology as well as checking the final output as well as the mutant-allele frequency of a patient.



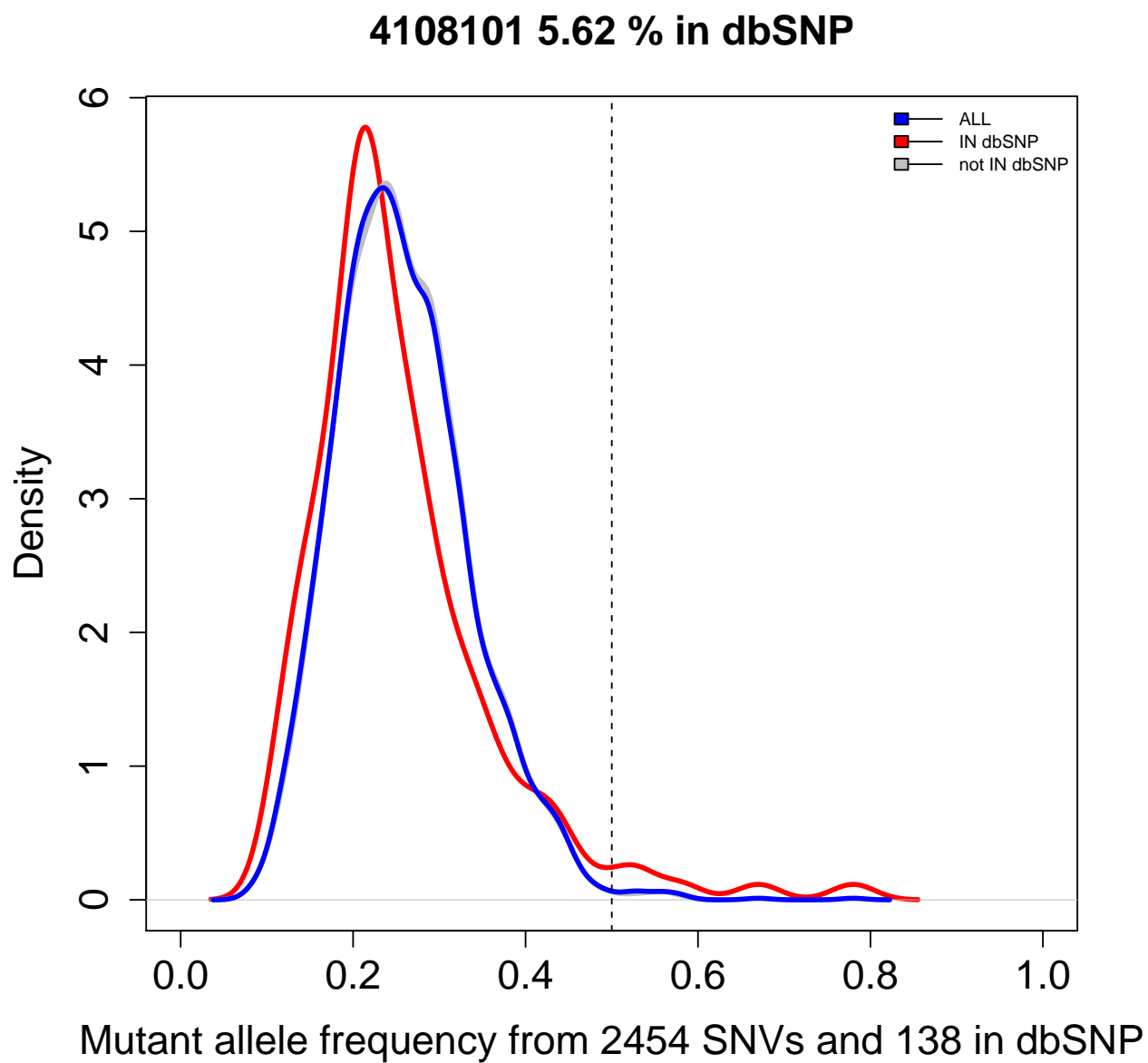
As can be seen below the benefit of increasing the ploidy of this sample to tetraploid leads to a clonal fit of multiple segments though many others remain subclonal (indicated by deviation from integer copy number states). This is often observed for heterogenous samples such as this shown lymphoma sample. Lymphoma tend to be diploid and heterogenous indicating that the diploid solution is correct. In addition we plotted the MAF distribution over balanced segments, that supports our assumption. Diploid solution:



Tetraploid solution:



MAF distribution over balanced segments:

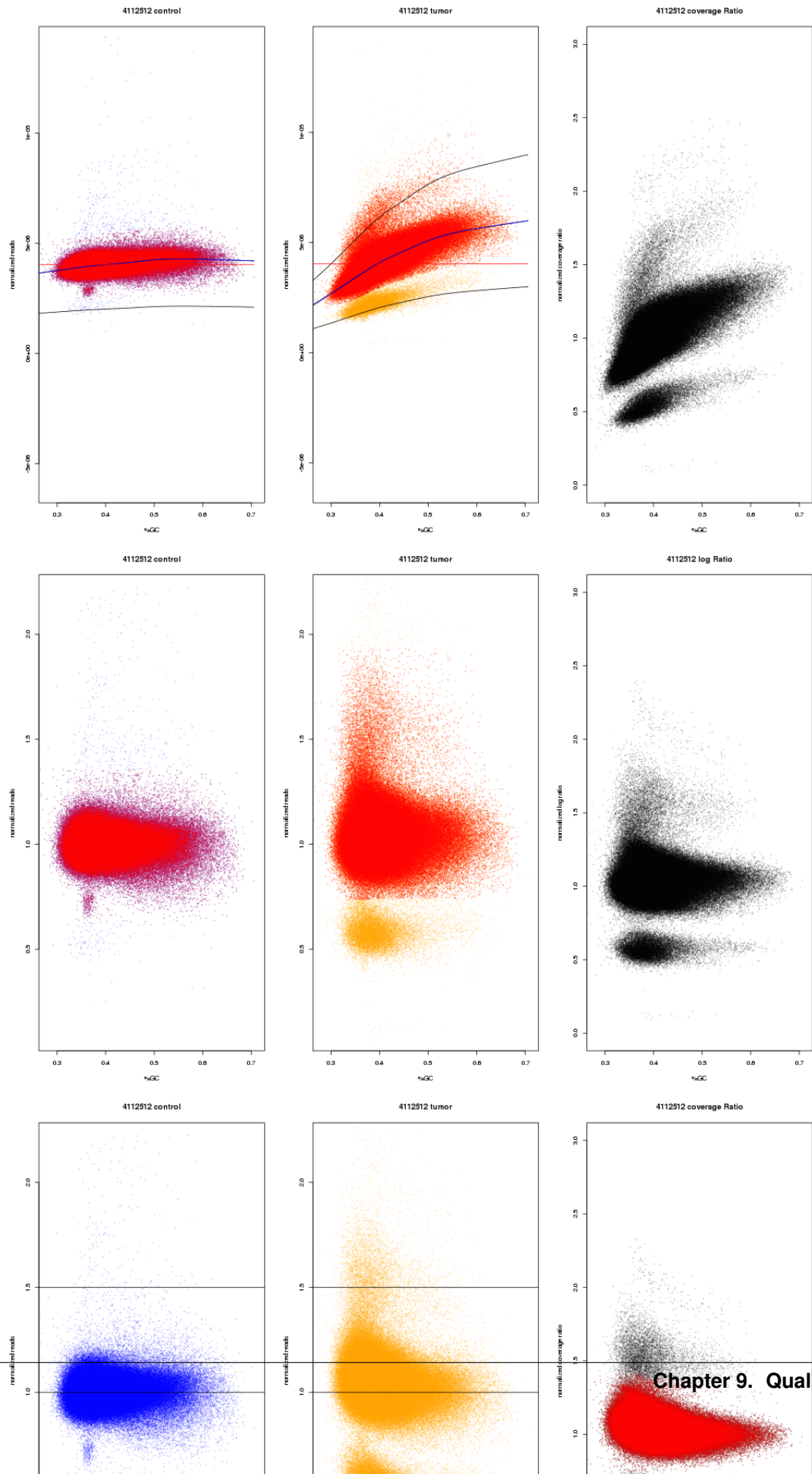


CHAPTER 9

Quality check

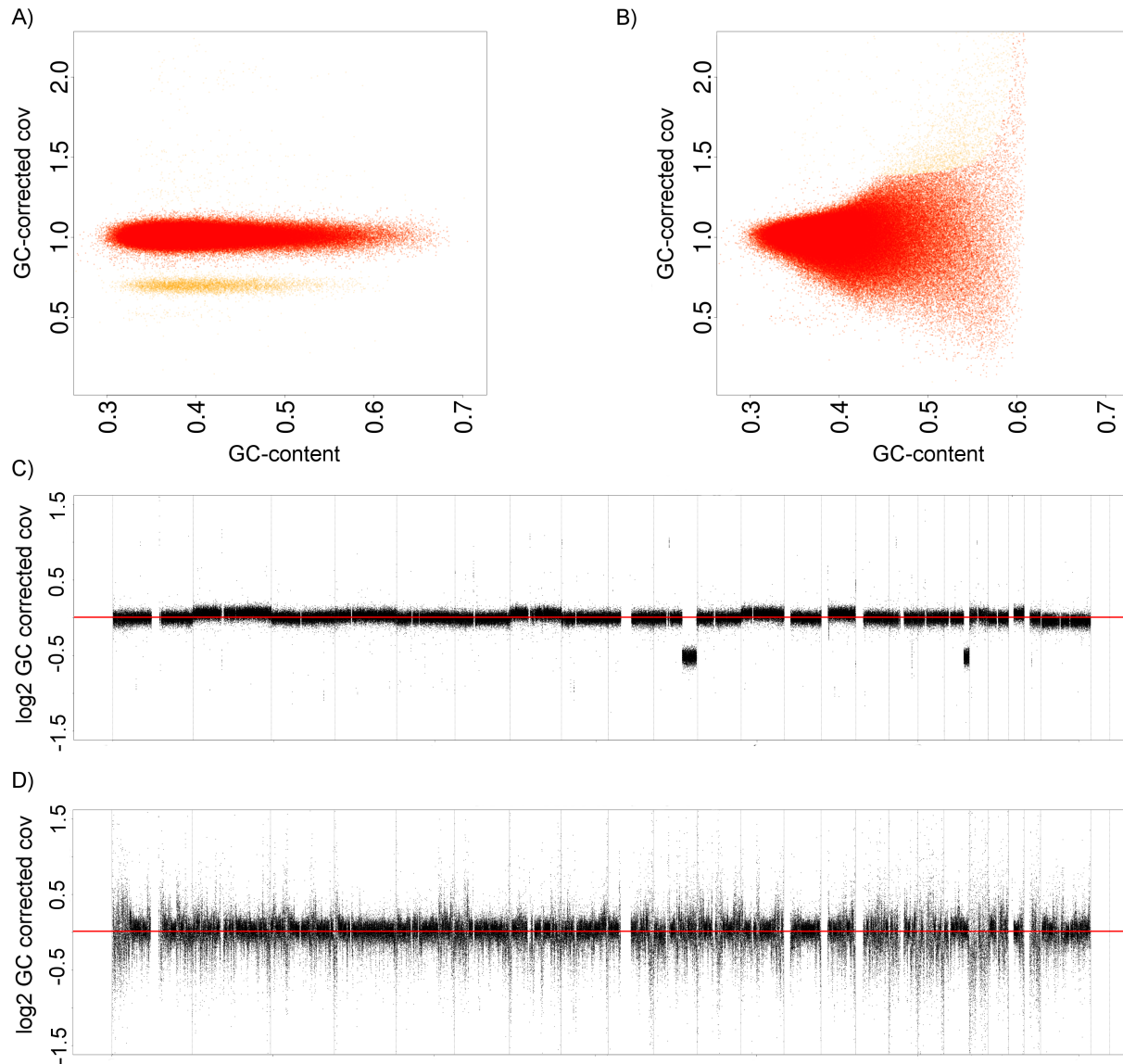
ACESeq provides a thorough quality check of the sample by investigation of the GC-bias: 1.differences in GC-bias between tumor and control 2.evenness of coverage in tumor and control

The following plot shows the raw GC bias for a healthy control (left), a corresponding tumor (middle) and the tumor/control ratio (right). The top row depicts raw data while the middle row indicates GC-bias corrected data and the bottom line indicates GC-bias and RT-bias corrected data.



The file `${pid}_qc_gc_corrected.json` provides information about slope, curvature and their differences between tumor and control. A strong difference between tumor and control can impact sensitivity and specificity of other variant calls.

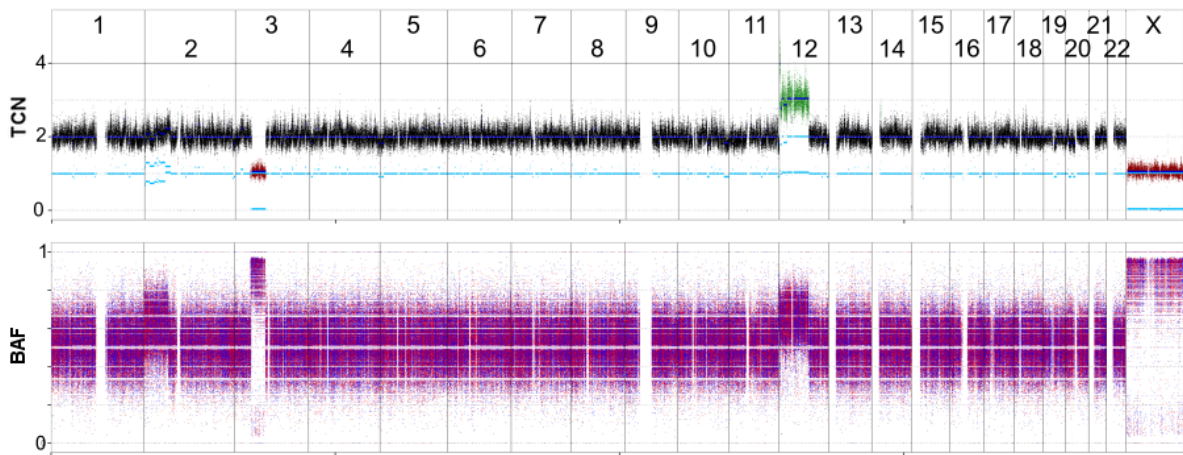
The full width half maximum (FWHM) indicates the noise level within the majority copy number state in a sample. If it exceeds 0.205 in the control or 0.34 in the tumor a sample should be flagged with a warning. Yellow flagged tumors might have decreased specificity and sensitivity. Samples should be red flagged in case the FWHM exceed 0.29 in healthy controls or 0.54 in tumors. Red flagged tumor samples are very likely to accumulate artifacts due to a noisy coverage profile and should be excluded from further analysis. Flagged controls can be rescued by rerunning the pipeline with `“rerunWithFakeControl=true”`. The following plot shows a sample with low FWHM (A and C) and a sample with noisy coverage and thus high FWHM (B and D). No good copy number estimates can be obtained from the high FWHM sample.



CHAPTER 10

Final Output

A graphical presentation of the final results is given for each tcc/ploidy solution. A general overview is given for the whole genome as shown here and per chromosome. Points represent raw SNP data points, colored by their copy number with regard to the majority copy number state (red: loss, black: neutral, green: gain). Segments are indicated by dark and light blue lines for total and allele-specific copy number respectively. Raw BAF are shown in the bottom panel which can be used to evaluate tcc and confirm allele-specific copy numbers.



Final results are provided in two formats. A reduced set of information is contained in the file `${pid}_most_important_info_${ploidy}_${purity}.txt` while the full set is presented in `${pid}_comb_pro_extra_${ploidy}_${purity}.txt`. A mapping of both headers and a corresponding description is given here.

Table 1: “Final output column headers”

most_important_info	comb_pro_extra	description
chromosome	chromosome	
start	start	start coordinate

Continued on next page

Table 1 – continued from previous page

most_important_info	comb_pro_extra	description
end	end	end coordinate
SV.Type	crest	SV type connected to both or one breakpoint
length	length	length of segment
TCN	tcnMean	total copy number
NbrOfHetSNPs	tcnNbrOfHets	number of control heterozygous SNPs in segment
dhSNPs	dhMax	estimated DH
minStart	minStart	last SNP prior to segment start
maxStart	maxStart	first SNP after segment start
minEnd	minStop	last SNP prior to segment end
maxEnd	maxStop	first SNP after segment end
covRatio	tcnMeanRaw	bias corrected coverage ratio
dhEst	dhMean	raw DH
c1Mean	c1Mean	minor allele copy number
c2Mean	c2Mean	major allele copy number
genotype	genotype	ratio of rounded allele copy numbers
CNA.type	CNA.type	DUP/DEL/LOH/TCNneutral
GNL	GNL	gain/loss/loh compared to diploid
	tcnNbrOfSNPs	number of SNPs per segment
	tcnNbrOfLoci	number of SNPs per segment
	dhNbrOfLoci	heterozygous SNPs per segment
	map	mappable/unmappable
	cluster	cluster assigned during merging
	neighbour	indicates whether neighbouring segments exist on both sides
	distDH	distance to main cluster center DH
	errorSNP	error for DH direction
	distTcn	distance to main cluster center coverage ratio
	errorLength	error in coverage ratio direction
	totalError	sum of errorSNP and errorLength
	area	AUC ratio
	peaks	1 for balanced; 2 for imbalanced
	meanCovT	average total coverage per cluster
	meanCovB	average total coverage of B allele
	AF	allelic factor
	BAF	B-allele frequency
	A	rounded minor allele copy number
	B	rounded major allele copy number
	TCN	rounded copy number
	ploidy	majority copy number used as reference for CNA.type
	Sex	patient sex
	cytoband	cytoband

CHAPTER 11

HRD, LST, TAI

HRD, LST and TAI scores are provided in the file `${pid}_HRDscore_${ploidy}_$tcc` for each solution.

HRD and LST are merged based on smoothed segments as suggested by Popova et al. (doi: 10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-12-1470).

TAI are based on unmerged segments. A combination of the three scores might be useful.

ACESeq can be used to estimate copy-numbers from WGS data using a tumor vs. control approach. Thus a pre-requisite is WGS data from healthy tissue and tumor tissue of the same patient with at least 30x coverage. Samtools [] mpileup is used to determine the coverage for tumor and control sample - position specific for each single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) position recorded in dbSNP and per 1 kb window. To get chromosome specific allele frequencies, the genotypes of SNP positions are phased with Impute2 [] and A and B allele are assigned accordingly. Haploblocks are defined as regions with consecutively phased SNPs. Subsequently, B-allele frequencies (BAFs) are estimated for all SNP positions in tumor and control with sufficient coverage in the control:

$$BAF = \frac{cov_{SNP}^B}{cov_{SNP}^A + cov_{SNP}^B}$$

These can be converted to the decrease of heterozygosity a measure of the allelic state [Olshen et al.].

$$DH = 2 \times |BAF - 0.5|$$

12.1 Pre-processing

To estimate the coverage of each SNP position a general coverage of 10 kb windows was determined. 1 kb coverage windows are merged into 10 kb windows in case enough contributing windows with sufficient coverage and mappability are found in the corresponding region. The resulting coverage values are normalized with the sum of all 10 kb coverage windows for tumor and control respectively. These normalized estimates are subsequently corrected for a possible GC- and replication-timing bias.

12.2 GC-/Replication timing bias correction

12.2.1 Correction for GC bias

Correction for GC bias

As described in detail by Benjamini and Speed (REF) genomic regions with varying GC content may be sequenced at different depth due to selection bias or sequencing efficiency. Differing raw read counts in these regions even in the absence of copy number alterations can lead to false positive calls. A GC-bias plot (Figure XY) can be used to visually inspect the bias of a sample. ACEseq first fits a curve to the data using LOWESS (locally weighted scatterplot smoothing, implemented in R) to identify the main copy number state first, which will be used to for a second fit. The second fit to the main copy number state is used for parameter assessment and correction of the data. This two-step fitting is necessary to compensate for large copy number changes that could lead to a misfit. The LOWESS fit as described above interpolates over all 10 kb windows. It thus averages over all different copy number states. If two states have their respective center of mass at different GC content, this first LOWESS fit might be distorted and not well suited for the correction. The full width half maximum (FWHM) of the density over all windows of the main copy number state is estimated for control and tumor. An usual large value here indicates quality issues with the sample.

12.2.2 Correction for replication time

Once the data is corrected for GC-bias the replication timing bias is considered. In general, if a fraction of the cells in the analyzed sample is cycling, early replicating regions would be expected to display higher coverage than late replicating regions, as a higher percentage of these would already have undergone replication in the S-phase [Zitat Koren et al.]. For a subtle analysis of copy number alterations, it would be beneficial to correct for this replication timing bias. Large fractions of the genome have common replication timing in different cell types or tissues, but there are regions of tissue or organ specificity [] [Zitat RepliSeq]. In the present work, a consensus replication timing score, the RepliSeq score as described by [] [Zitat RepliSeq], is attributed to every 10 kb window of the genome by averaging over the RepliSeq information from different cell lines. Replication timing bias plots can be generated analogously to the GC bias plots. A LOWESS fit on the already identified main cluster is carried out to correct for this bias (Figure?). This correction is performed on the GC-corrected data to obtain the final corrected coverage data, which will be used in the following.

The two bias correction steps described above are done sequentially. A simultaneous 2D LOWESS or LOESS correction would be desirable, but fails due to computational load (the clusters to be fitted have 106 points). Different parameters such as slope and curvature of the both LOWESS correction curves used are extracted. The GC curve parameters is used as quality measures to determine the suitability of the sample for further analysis whereas the replication timing curve parameters is used to infer the proliferation activity of the tumor. We could show a strong correlation between Ki-67 estimates and the slope of the fitted curve (Figure).

Once corrected a coverage ratio is calculated as the ratio of normalized tumor coverage over normalized control coverage:

$$covR = \frac{covT_{window}^{corrected}}{covN_{window}^{corrected}}$$

Finally SNP and coverage data are merged. Regions without coverage or SNP information are discarded.

12.3 Segmentation

Once data pre-processing is completed the genome is segmented with the PSCBS (parent specific circular binary segmentation) [1] (Version!!!) algorithm. Prior to the actual segmentation, segment-boundaries due to a lack of coverage are determined. Single outliers among the coverage and very low coverage regions are determined using PSCBS functions. In addition to these, breakpoints that are indicated by previously called structural variations are taken into account. During the actual segmentation step the genome is segmented based on the pre-defined breakpoints, changes in the coverage ratio and DH. DH values are only considered in case the SNP position is heterozygous in the control.

12.4 Segment reliability

Homozygous deletions are called in segments that lack mapped reads. These deletions are only considered to be true in case the low read count is unlikely to be caused by a low mappability. Thus, the mappability is assessed for all segments. Regions with mappability below 60% are considered unmappable and not further considered for copy number estimation. Each SNP position is annotated with the new segment information and mappability.

12.5 Segment clustering and merging

In order to avoid over-segmentation short segments (default <9 kb) are attached to the closest neighboring segment according to the coverage ratio. Subsequently, segments from diploid chromosomes are clustered according to the log2 of the coverage ratio and DH. These values are scaled prior to clustering. The DH of a segment is defined as the most commonly found DH value among all SNPs in the segment that are heterozygous in the control. In a first step, c-means clustering is performed. The segments are weighted according to the log2 of their length. A minimum number of one clusters is required allowing up to 20 clusters and the optimal cluster number is determined with BIC clustering [2]. The number is used to cluster the points with cmeans subsequently (with the R fpc package clusterboot function).

To avoid over-fitting a further downstream processing is applied. Firstly, the minimal accuracy defined by the FWHM is taken into account. Cluster with more than 85% of all points within these coverage limits are chosen. Of these the cluster with most segments is defined as main cluster. The other chosen clusters are merged with the main cluster if their the difference between their center and the main cluster center is not bigger than XX times the DH-MAD of the main clusters. Neighboring segments are merged before new cluster centers are determined. In a second step segments that are embedded within main cluster segments are considered for merging. The number of control heterozygous SNP positions and the length are considered here to establish two criteria. Segments with less than 5 heterozygous SNPs are merged with the main cluster if they lie between the FWHM boundaries. Additionally, error values defining the tolerable deviation from the main cluster center is defined both for DH and coverage value as follows:

$$errorDH = \frac{1}{\sqrt{numberofheterozygousSNPs}}$$

$$errorCoverage = \frac{1}{\log2(length)}$$

If the SNP error of a selected segment exceeds the distance in DH and the length error exceeds the coverage difference it is appointed to the main cluster. Again neighboring segments with identical clusters are merged. Finally,

a general cluster coverage is estimated from all relevant segments and assigned to the cluster members to further reduce noise in the data.

12.6 Allelic adjustment

To get better estimates of a segments allelic state as balanced or imbalanced the phasing and segmentation information are combined. Within an imbalanced segment the more prominent allele should be consistently assigned to the same allele across all haploblocks. For balanced segments a haploblock-wise swap of A- and B-allele should have no effect. Thus, the median tumor BAF is calculated haploblock-wise for all SNP positions that are heterozygous in the control. If it is below 0.5 A- and B-allele are swapped within the haploblock region to get consistency across the haploblocks of a segment. This procedure ensures a more accurate estimation of the allelic state of a region in the next step.

12.7 Calling of Allelic Balance and Imbalance

In order to be able to identify the allelic state of a segments, a first test to distinguish between allelic balance and imbalance of a segment independent from the degree of imbalance was implemented. Our method evaluates the area under the BAF density curve left and right of 0.5. Balanced segments should have an equal area and the allelic state of a segment can be defined by equation [eq:areaDiff], i.e. computing the absolute value of the relative difference between the left and right area.

$$diffA_{segment} = \frac{|A_{right} - A_{left}|}{A_{right} + A_{left}}$$

For balanced segments $diffA_{segment}$ should be close to zero, whereas this value should shift more towards one for imbalanced segments. Thus, a cut-off to differentiate between balanced and imbalanced segments is needed. In the following we propose a way to establish a dynamic and sample dependent cut-off. In case a sample has several segments that correspond to different states, e.g one balanced and one imbalanced state, these will be represented by different peaks in the density distribution of $diffA_{segment}$. Hence the minima between the peaks can be used as cut-off. Corresponding to the above reasoning peaks further left in the distribution are more likely to represent balanced states. The minimum that differentiates a balanced from an imbalanced state varies across different samples. Potentially this depends on the relative contribution of copy number states, tumor cell content, contamination, subpopulations and sequencing biases. Empirically the discrimination is optimal for cut-off values in the range of 0.25 and 0.35. The minimum value of the density function within this interval is chosen as cut-off. The allelic state is only evaluated for segments on diploid chromosomes that fulfill certain quality criteria in order to ensure confident calls. Once $diffA_{segment}$ was calculated for a segment and the overall cut-off determined segments that exceed the cut-off are classified imbalanced. Segments below the cut-off are classified as balanced.

12.8 Copy Number Estimation

Once the allelic state of a segment is determined it can be used for the computation of tumor cell content and ploidy of the main tumor cell population. The average observed tumor ploidy can be determined with equation [eq:averagePloidy].

$$D_t = p_t \times P_t + 2 \times (1 - p_t)$$

Where p_t is the tumor purity and P_t is the tumor ploidy. Using the observed tumor ploidy and the coverage ratio of a segment ($covR_{segment}$), the total copy number of a segment can be estimated as follows:

$$TCN_{segment} = \frac{covR_{segment} \times D_t - 2 \times (1 - p_t)}{p_t}$$

This can be used subsequently to obtain the real BAF value for each segment by converting the coverage data to a copy number. The allelic factor (AF) is introduced for this as a segment-wise conversion measure.

$$AF_{segment} = \frac{\frac{covT_{segment}^{norm}}{10000}}{p_t \times TCN_{segment} + 2 \times (1 - p_t)}$$

$covT_{segment}^{norm}$ represents the observed tumor coverage of a segment. The factor $\frac{1}{10000}$ is introduced to get from the initial 10 kb window coverage to a per base pair coverage. The BAF value of a segment can be calculated as follows.

where $covT_{segment}^B$ is the observed tumor coverage of a segment. The BAF value can now be used to calculate the DH of a segment according to [eq:DH]. Finally the allele-specific copy numbers are estimated.

$$TCN_{segment}^B = \frac{1}{2} \times TCN_{segment} \times (1 - DH_{segment})$$

$$TCN_{segment}^A = TCN_{segment} - TCN_{segment}^B$$

12.9 Purity and ploidy estimation

To obtain actual copy numbers for each segment ploidy and tumor cell content of the tumor sample have to be inferred from the data. Information about the allelic state of a segment is combined with TCN, DH and allele-specific copy numbers calculations. The combination of ploidy and tumor cell content that can explain the observed data the best is to be found. Possible ploidies in the range from 1 to 6.5 in steps of 0.1 and possible tumor cell content from 30% to 100% in steps of 1% are tested. The evaluation is done based on the distance of all segments from their next plausible copy number state. Imbalanced segments are fitted to a positive integer value.

$$distance_{tcn_imbalanced} = abs(TCN_{segment} - round(TCN_{segment}))$$

In addition the allele specific copy number is estimated according to equation [eq:TCNb] and [eq:TCNa]. For each allele a distance is defined accordingly:

$$\begin{aligned} distance_{tcn_a_imbalanced} &= abs(TCN_{segment}^A - round(TCN_{segment}^A)) \\ distance_{tcn_b_imbalanced} &= abs(TCN_{segment}^B - round(TCN_{segment}^B)) \end{aligned}$$

The total distance as quality measure of a fit is defined as the sum of the distances.

$$distance_{segment_imbalanced} = distance_{tcn_imbalanced} + distance_{tcn_a_imbalanced} + distance_{tcn_b_imbalanced}$$

Balanced segments can only be fitted to even total copy numbers. The distance is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} distance_{tcn_balanced} &= \frac{TCN_{segment}}{2} - floor(\frac{TCN_{segment}}{2}) \\ &\quad \text{?identicalto} \\ distance_{tcn_balanced} &= abs(\frac{TCN_{segment}}{2} - round(\frac{TCN_{segment}}{2})) \times 2 \end{aligned}$$

As both alleles are expected to be present in equal numbers the allele specific copy number as well as the total distance can be derived.

$$\begin{aligned} distance_{tcn_a_balanced} &= distance_{tcn_b_balanced} = \frac{distance_{tcn_balanced}}{2} \\ distance_{segment_balanced} &= distance_{tcn_balanced} + distance_{tcn_a_balanced} + distance_{tcn_b_balanced} \\ &= 2 \times distance_{tcn_balanced} \end{aligned}$$

For each ploidy and tumor cell content combination a mean distance is defined by using the segment length as weights:

$$meanDist(p_t, P_t) = \frac{\sum_{1:N_{segments}}^i (distance_{segment_i} * length_{segment_i})}{\sum_{1:N_{segments}}^i length_{segment_i}}$$

All segments on diploid chromosomes that exceed a pre-set length and contain a sufficient amount of heterozygous SNP positions are used for the estimation. The smaller the distance the more likely a combination is chosen as final solution. Combinations of ploidy and tumor cell content that lead to negative copy numbers or exceed the DH limits are excluded as solution and used to set a minimum limit.

12.9.1 Final output

Once the optimal ploidy and tumor cell content combinations are found the TCN and allele-specific CN will be estimated for all segments in the genome and classified (gain, loss, copy-neutral LOH, loss LOH, gain LOH, sub). If a segments TCN is further than 0.3 away from an integer value it is assumed to originate from subpopulations in the tumor sample that lead to gains or losses in part of the tumor cell population.

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