

Submission ID #: 69253

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Project Page Link: <https://review.jove.com/account/file-uploader?src=21122213>

**Title: Rup (RNA-Seq Usability Assessment Pipeline) - Quality Control for Bulk RNA-Seq Experiments in Eukaryotes**

**Authors and Affiliations:**

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## **Author Questionnaire**

- 1. Microscopy:** Does your protocol require the use of a dissecting or stereomicroscope for performing a complex dissection, microinjection technique, or something similar? **No**
- 2. Software:** Does the part of your protocol being filmed include step-by-step descriptions of software usage? **Yes, all done**
- 3. Filming location:** Will the filming need to take place in multiple locations? **No**
- 4. Testimonials (optional):** Would you be open to filming two short testimonial statements **live during your JoVE shoot**? These will **not appear in your JoVE video** but may be used in JoVE's promotional materials. **No**

### **Current Protocol Length**

Number of Steps: 11

Number of Shots: 23

# Introduction

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*Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.*

## INTRODUCTION:

~~What is the scope of your research? What questions are you trying to answer?~~

- 1.1. **Oliver Rupp:** We develop innovative bioinformatics tools to simplify, automate, and integrate data analysis from diverse high-throughput experiments.

- 1.1.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B.roll:3.4*

~~What technologies are currently used to advance research in your field?~~

- 1.2. **Oliver Rupp:** We use high-throughput sequencing, advanced bioinformatics software, and powerful computing infrastructures to enable systematic biological data analysis.

- 1.2.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

## CONCLUSION:

~~What research gap are you addressing with your protocol?~~

- 1.3. **Oliver Rupp:** We address missing standardized quality control for RNA-seq, ensuring reliable data assessment before downstream gene expression analysis.

- 1.3.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

~~What advantage does your protocol offer compared to other techniques?~~

- 1.4. **Oliver Rupp:** Rup integrates multiple quality checks in one pipeline, offering accessible, automated, and reproducible RNA-seq assessment for biologists.

- 1.4.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B.roll:4.2*

~~How will your findings advance research in your field?~~

- 1.5. **Oliver Rupp:** Our tool enables exploring how RNA-seq quality influences biological interpretation, paving the way for transparent and reproducible transcriptomics.

1.5.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B.roll:4.3*

***Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.***

# Protocol

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## 2. Initial Setup and Configuration for Read Mapping Analysis

**Demonstrator:** Oliver Rupp

2.1. To begin, install all required R packages using the Bioconductor package manager [1].

2.1.1. WIDE: Talent using the Bioconductor package manager on a desktop.

2.2. Create a source folder to organize the input files for the analysis [1]. Add the reference genome sequence in FASTA (*Fast-ah*) format as “reference/genome.fa” (*reference-genome-dot-f-a*) to this folder [2].

2.2.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_1.mp4. 00:00-00:09

2.2.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_1.mp4. 00:10-00:27

2.3. Add the gene model annotation file named “reference/annotation.gtf” (*reference-annotation-dot-g-t-f*) to the same folder [1]. Optionally, include the rRNA (*R-R-N-A*) gene annotation as a GTF (*G-T-F*) file named “reference/rRNA.gtf” (*reference-R-N-A-Dot-G-T-F*) [2].

2.3.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_2.mp4 00:00-00:13.

2.3.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_2.mp4 00:14-00:32

2.4. Place all sequencing reads as compressed fastq (*Fast-Q*) files into the folder named “reads” [1]. Ensure that each file follows the naming format [2-TXT]. Then set the analysis parameters according to the sequencing method used [3].

2.4.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_3.mp4. 00:00-00:05

2.4.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_3.mp4. 00:06-00:20

**TXT: File name format: <SAMPLENAME>\_1.fastq.gz and <SAMPLENAME>\_2.fastq.gz for the forward and reverse reads**

2.4.3. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_3.mp4. 00:21-00:27

## 3. Read Mapping Quality Assessment Using Rsubread

3.1. To map quality of the sequence, use the Rsubread (*R-S-U-Bread*) package [1] to build an index of the reference genome from the genome FASTA file [2-TXT].

3.1.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_4.mp4 00:00-00:06

- 3.1.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_4.mp4. 00:10-00:17 **TXT: Perform this only once for each reference genome**
- 3.2. For each sample, use the **align()** (*Align*) function to iterate and align sequencing reads to the reference genome [1]. Store the resulting alignment files in the output folder in .bam (*Dot-Bam*) format [2].
- 3.2.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_5.mp4 00:00-00:09
- 3.2.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_5.mp4 00:10-00:19
- 3.3. Now use the **featureCounts()** (*Feature-counts*) function to count reads mapped to each gene [1]. The annotation files should be in the GTF format [2]. Ensure only reads with a single match to the genome are counted [3].
- 3.3.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_6.mp4. 00:00-00:14
- 3.3.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_6.mp4. 00:15-00:25
- 3.3.3. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_6.mp4. 00:29-00:40
- 3.4. Count the reads that map to rRNA genes by using the **featureCounts()** function with the rRNA gene GTF file [1]. Allow multimapped reads to be included in this count [2].
- 3.4.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_7.mp4. 00:00-00:16
- 3.4.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_7.mp4. 00:17-00:26
- 3.5. Retrieve the read assignment statistics generated by the **featureCounts()** function for each sample [1]. These statistics include the number of reads categorized as assigned, unmapped, multimapped, and others [2].
- 3.5.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_8.mp4. 00:00-00:19
- 3.5.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_8.mp4. 00:20-00:29
- 3.6. Collect the statistics for rRNA gene assignments separately [1]. Then generate bar plots visualizing the read mapping statistics from the previous steps [2].
- 3.6.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_9.mp4. 00:00-00:16
- 3.6.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_9.mp4. 00:17-00:31
- 3.7. Group genes based on the number of reads assigned to them [1]. Plot the classification results as a bar plot [2].
- 3.7.1. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_10.mp4. 00:00-00:12
- 3.7.2. SCREEN: 69253\_screenshot\_10.mp4. 00:16-00:26

# Results

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## 4. Results

- 4.1. Sample s1\_r1 (*S-one-R-One*) showed a low number of reads both before and after trimming [1].
  - 4.1.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2. *Video editor: Highlight pink and blue bars for sample s1\_r1 sequentially*
- 4.2. The trimmed read count of sample s1\_r2 (*S-one-R-Two*) was visibly reduced compared to its raw read count [1], indicating removal of low-quality reads during trimming [2].
  - 4.2.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2. *Video editor: Highlight the pink read bar for sample s1\_r2.*
  - 4.2.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 2. *Video editor: Highlight the blue bar for sample s1\_r2.*
- 4.3. Mapping identified problems in the read assignments [1]. Sample s2\_r3 (*S-one-R-Three*) exhibited a high number of multi-mapped reads [2] and an elevated amount of ribosomal RNA reads [3]. A large fraction of reads in sample s2\_r4 did not map to the reference genome suggesting contamination with sequences from a non-target organism[4].
  - 4.3.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 3.
  - 4.3.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 3. *Video editor: Highlight the green portion of the stacked bar for sample s2\_r3 in the “Genes” panel*
  - 4.3.3. LAB MEDIA: Figure 3. *Video editor: Highlight the blue bar for sample s2\_r3 in the “rRNA” panel.*
  - 4.3.4. LAB MEDIA: Figure 3. *Video editor: Highlight the pink portion of the stacked bar for sample s2\_r4 in the “genome” panel.*
- 4.4. Samples s2\_r1 through s2\_r4 showed fewer genes with more than 100 assigned reads [1].
  - 4.4.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 4. *Video editor: Highlight the orange and red segments of the bars for samples s2\_r1 through s2\_r4.*
- 4.5. In the correlation heatmap, sample s2\_r5 clustered with the replicates of sample s1 [1], and sample s1\_r5 clustered with the replicates of sample s2, indicating a likely replicate labeling error [2].
  - 4.5.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 5. *Video editor: Highlight the red box of s2\_r5 row*
  - 4.5.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 5. *Video editor: Highlight the red box of s1\_r5 within the*

*cluster of s2 replicates on the heatmap.*



**Pronunciation Guide:**

1. RNA-seq  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˌɑːrˌɛnˈeɪ sɪk/  
Phonetic Spelling: ar-eh-nay-seeek
2. Eukaryotes  
Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/eukaryote>  
IPA: /juːˈkær.i.oʊts/  
Phonetic Spelling: yoo-kair-ee-oats
3. Bioinformatics  
Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/bioinformatics>  
IPA: /ˌbaɪ.oʊ.ɪn.fərˈmæt.ɪks/  
Phonetic Spelling: bye-oh-in-fer-mat-iks
4. Transcriptomics  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˌtrænˌskrɪpˈtoʊ.mɪks/  
Phonetic Spelling: tran-skript-oh-miks
5. FASTA  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˈfæs.tə/  
Phonetic Spelling: fas-tuh
6. GTF  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˌdʒiː.tiːˈɛf/  
Phonetic Spelling: jee-tee-ef
7. FASTQ  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˈfæst.kjuː/  
Phonetic Spelling: fast-kyoo
8. rRNA  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˌɑːrˌɑːrɛnˈeɪ/  
Phonetic Spelling: ar-ar-en-ay
9. Rsubread  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ɑːrˈsʌbˌriːd/  
Phonetic Spelling: ar-sub-reed
10. featureCounts  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found  
IPA: /ˈfiː.tʃərˌkaʊnts/  
Phonetic Spelling: fee-chur-kownts
11. Multimapped  
Pronunciation link: No confirmed link found

IPA: /,mʌl.ti'mæpt/

Phonetic Spelling: mul-tee-mapt

12. Annotation

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/annotation>

IPA: /,æn.ə'teɪ.ʃən/

Phonetic Spelling: an-uh-tay-shun

13. Ribosomal

Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ribosomal>

IPA: /,raɪ.bə'soʊ.məl/

Phonetic Spelling: rye-buh-so-mul