

# Bulk-RNAseq Pipeline

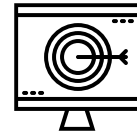
Hands-on Training 

# Center for Research Informatics – Bioinformatics Core



## Genomics and proteomics data analysis

BiCF applies appropriate and state-of-the-arts statistical and bioinformatic methodologies to analyze genomics data generated from standard and emerging assays.



## Consulting, grant writing and training

BiCF provides consulting services for experimental design or data analysis; grant writing assistance, including bioinformatics development, cost analysis, and documentation of tools to complete the research.



## Data management system development

BiCF offers enterprise solutions for project and study management, for data production, sharing and integration.

## OUR AWESOME TEAM



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Faculty Director



**Wenjun Kang, MS**

Technical Director



**Yan Li, PhD**

Associate Director



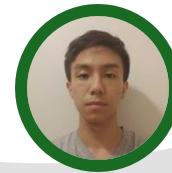
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Submit a project request: <https://biocore.cri.uchicago.edu/>



# Randi

## High Performance Computing Cluster

Analyze clinical, translational, and basic science data quickly and powerfully with Randi, the CRI's high performance computing cluster.

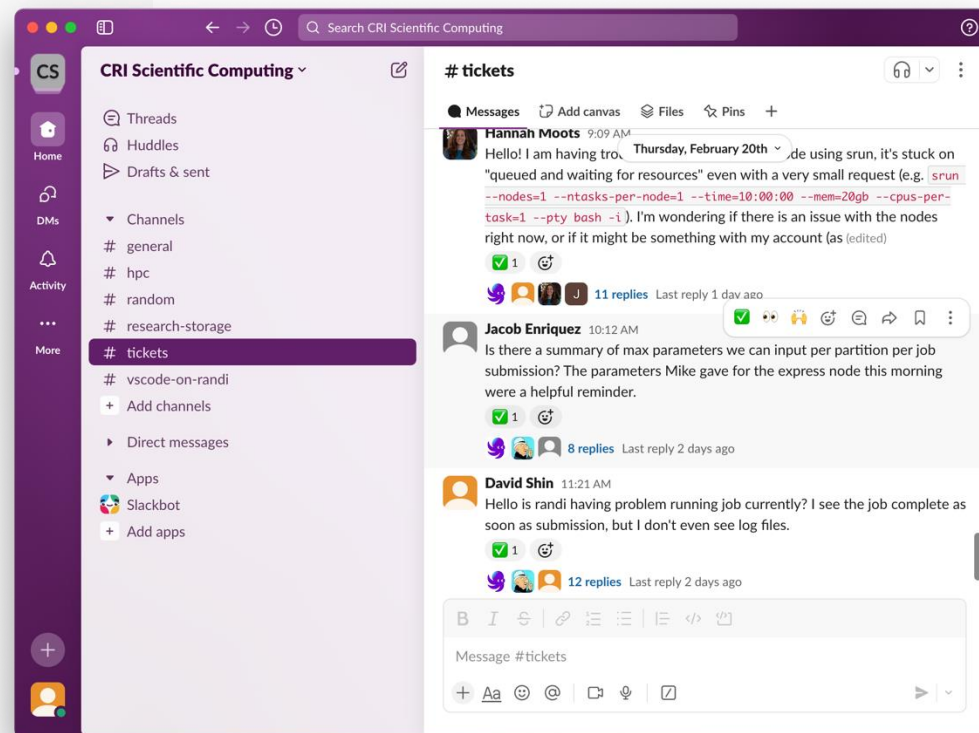
### SPECS

- ✓ 2.9 GHz Intel Ice Lake processors across all compute nodes
- ✓ 3.0 GHz AMD Milan processors across all GPU nodes
- ✓ Infiniband HDR100 interconnect (100 Gbps)
- ✓ 919 TFLOPs Actual Performance (Rmax)
- ✓ 156 standard compute nodes (4992 total cores; 128 GB RAM per node)
- ✓ 48 mid-tier compute nodes (1536 total cores; 512 GB RAM per node)
- ✓ 7 large memory nodes (224 total cores; 1.5 TB RAM per node)
- ✓ 5 GPU nodes with 8x NVidia A100 GPUs
- ✓ 1 SXM node with 8x NVidia A100 GPUs connected via NVSwitch
- ✓ 250 TB Scratch Space

### WHAT MAKES RANDI UNIQUE?

You have multiple options both on and off campus for high performance computing. Randi stands out among them for several reasons:

- ✓ A **HIPAA-compliant environment** appropriate for analyzing patient data
- ✓ Four software stacks built using both open source and commercial compilers
- ✓ Separate software stacks for basic science and clinical research
- ✓ GPU versions of software commonly used in the life sciences
- ✓ The ability to handle **data-intensive pipelines** that require up to 1.5TB of memory
- ✓ HPC administrators who are **experts in scientific computing** to help you one-on-one with optimizing your jobs, installations, and more



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HPC and  
Bioinformatics  
Core Services!

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- Every Tuesday | 12:00 PM – 2:30 PM
- Hosted by Michael Jarsulic

### Bioinformatics Core:

- Every Tuesday | 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM
- Hosted by Yan Li

Visit our website for more details

[cri.uchicago.edu](http://cri.uchicago.edu)



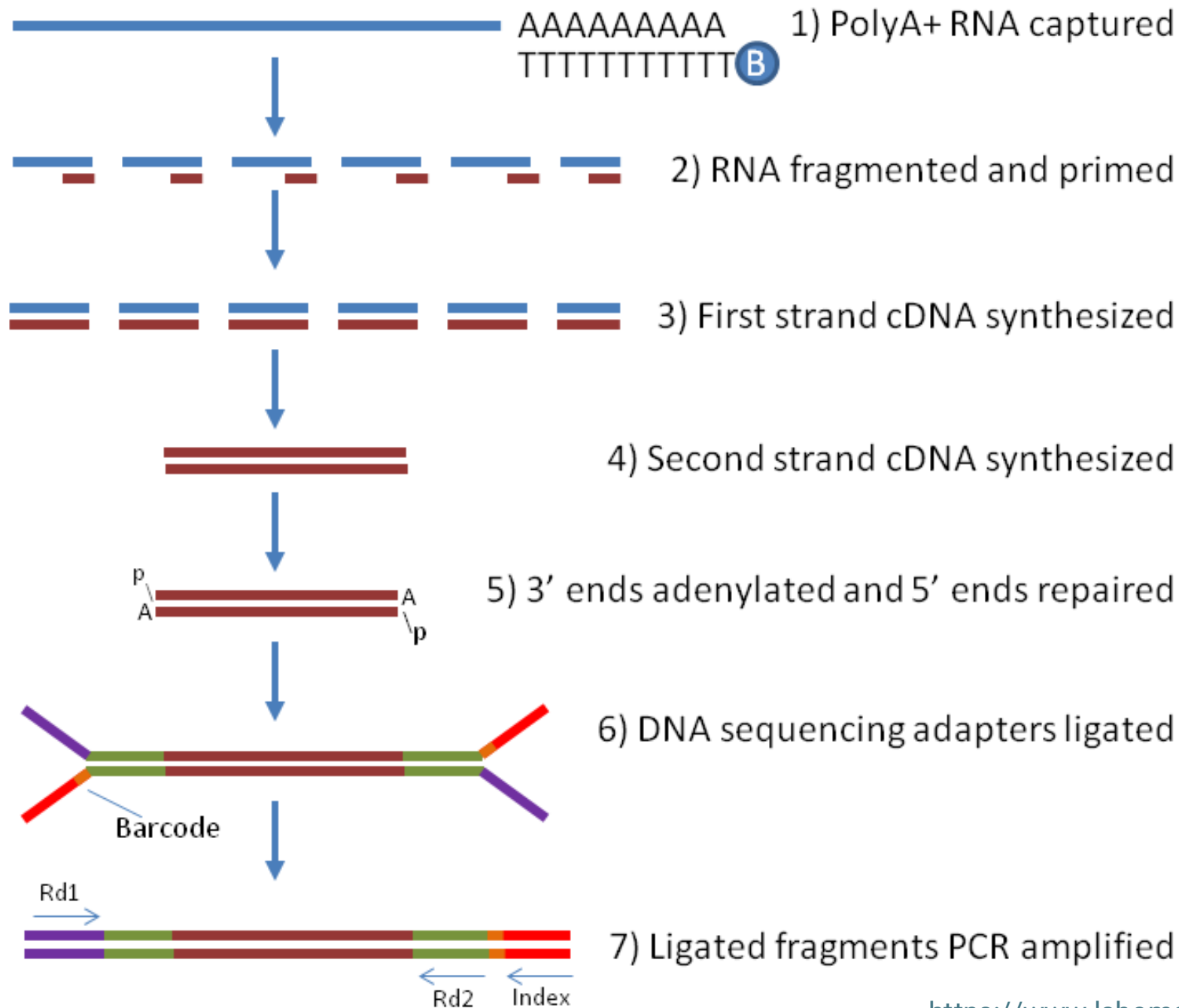


# Objectives

- Learn to run Nextflow RNA-Seq pipeline on Randi HPC
- Learn to run our in-house app for differential expression analysis

# What is Bulk RNA-Seq?

- Bulk RNA sequencing (**bulk RNA-Seq**) measures **gene expression levels** in a sample by sequencing the **total RNA from a mixture of cells**. Unlike **single-cell RNA-Seq**, bulk RNA-Seq provides an **average expression profile** across all cells in a sample.



# Biological Questions Bulk RNA-Seq Can Answer

Our focus today

- ✓ **Differential Gene Expression (DGE)** → Which genes are **upregulated/downregulated** between conditions?
- ✓ **Pathway & Functional Enrichment** → What **biological processes** are affected? (e.g., gene-set over-representation analysis, GSEA)
- ✓ **Alternative Splicing & Isoform Analysis** → Are there changes in **splicing patterns**?
- ✓ **Mutation & Fusion Detection** → Are there **SNPs, RNA editing sites, or fusion transcripts**?
- ✓ **Cell-Type-Specific Expression (with deconvolution)** → What cell types contribute to gene expression changes?





Raw Data



*lftp*



Project Folder



FASTQ Files

Nextflow Program Scripts for QC and Pre-Processing

In-House Program Scripts for Differential Expression Analysis

A Summary Report Containing:

- QC Report of Pre-Processed Raw Data
- Normalized Gene Count Tables
- Principle Component Analysis Plots
- Differentially Expressed Genes with Statistics
- Volcano Plots and Heatmaps
- Over-Representation Analysis of GO Terms and KEGG
- Description of Methods

## Randi

High Performance Computing Cluster



***Workflow Overview***

# Agenda & Key Activities

## ***Section 1***

- Introduction to the Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline
- Hands-on Practice on Running Nextflow on the Randi Server
- Interpretation of Nextflow Outputs

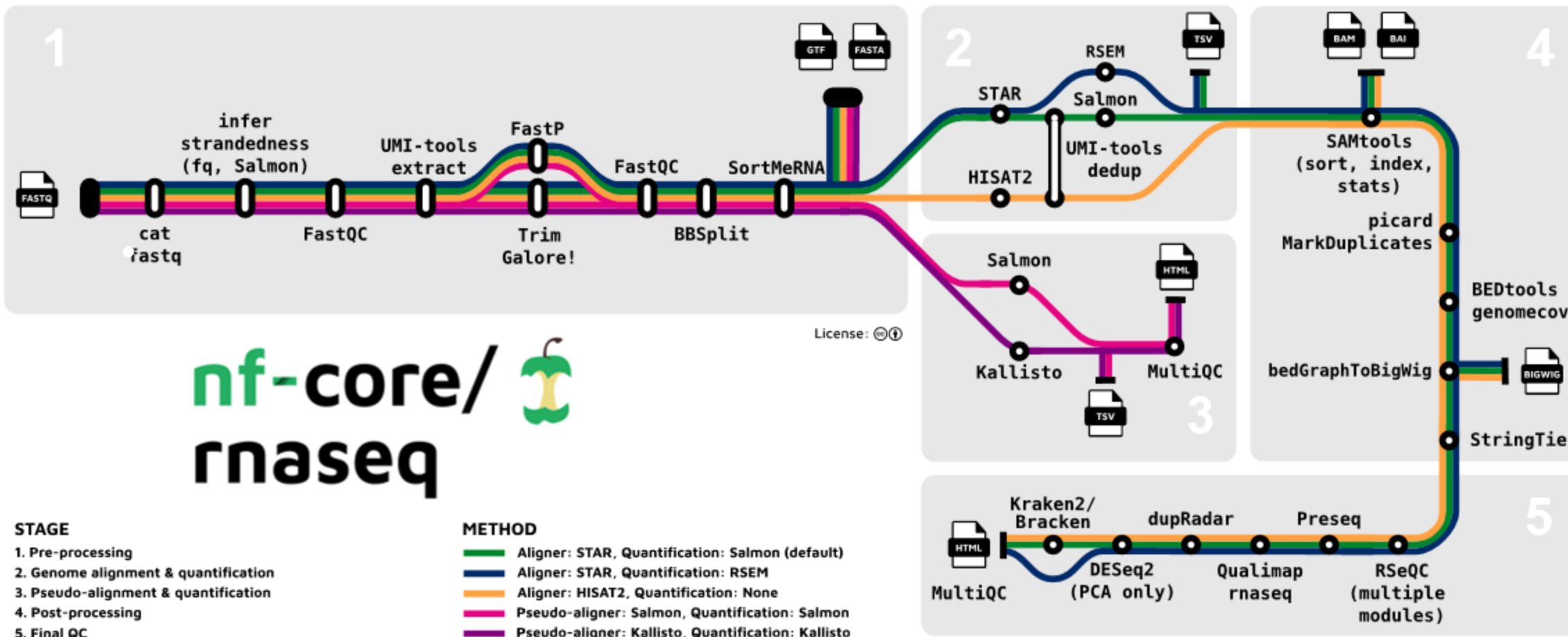
TEN-MINUTES BREAK

## ***Section 2***

- Introduction to the DE Analysis Principles
- Demo of the DE Analysis App on Randi
- Hands-on Practice on Running the DE Analysis App
- Interpretation of the DE Analysis Results

# ***Section 1***

## ***Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline***



1-3 hours



# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

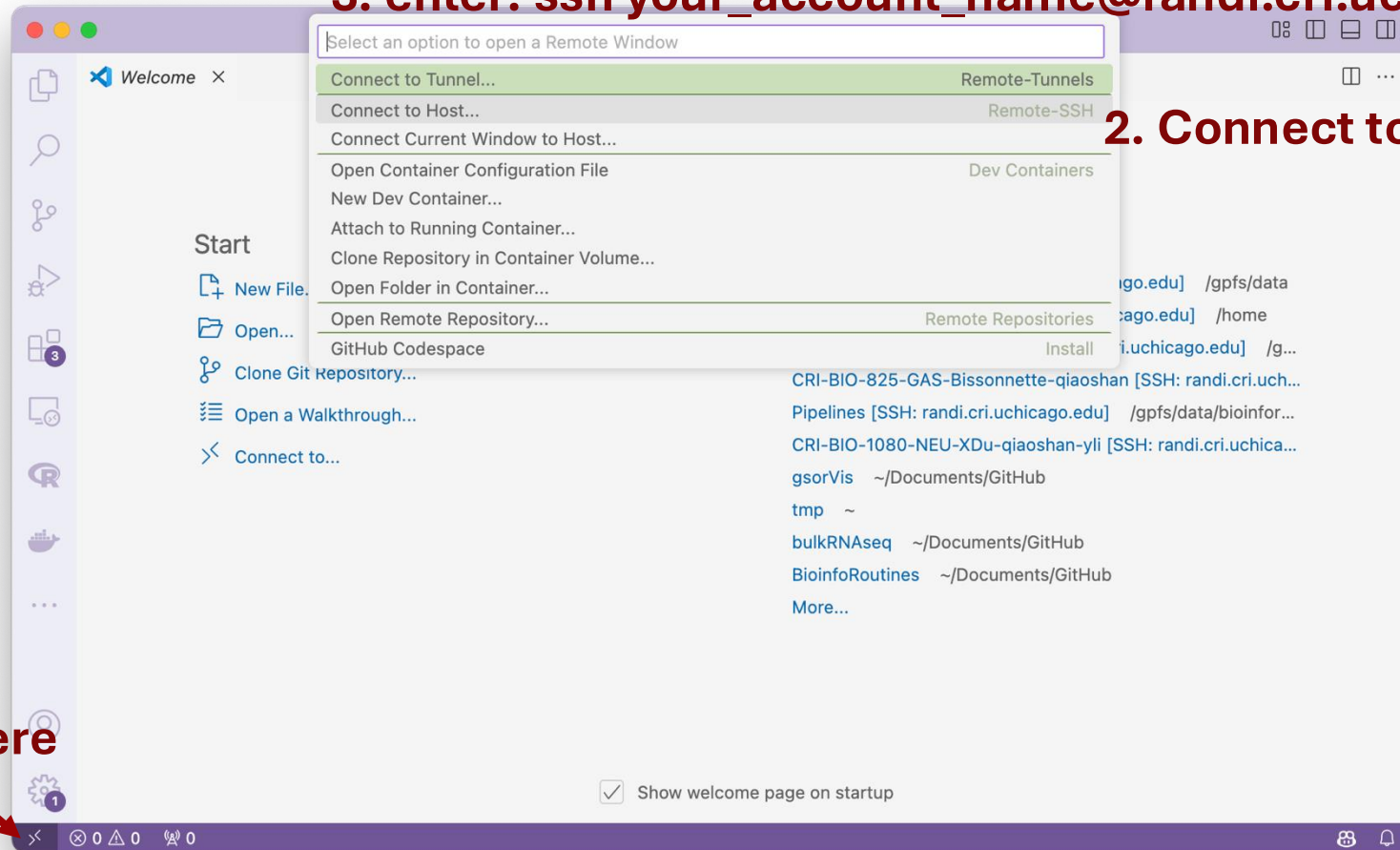
**Step 1: Log into Randi** Terminal / iTerm (MacOS) PuTTY / Xshell (Windows)

Here we do the demo using VSCode since it is very user-friendly and compatible with both systems.

**3. enter: ssh your\_account\_name@randi.cri.uchicago.edu**

**2. Connect to Host**

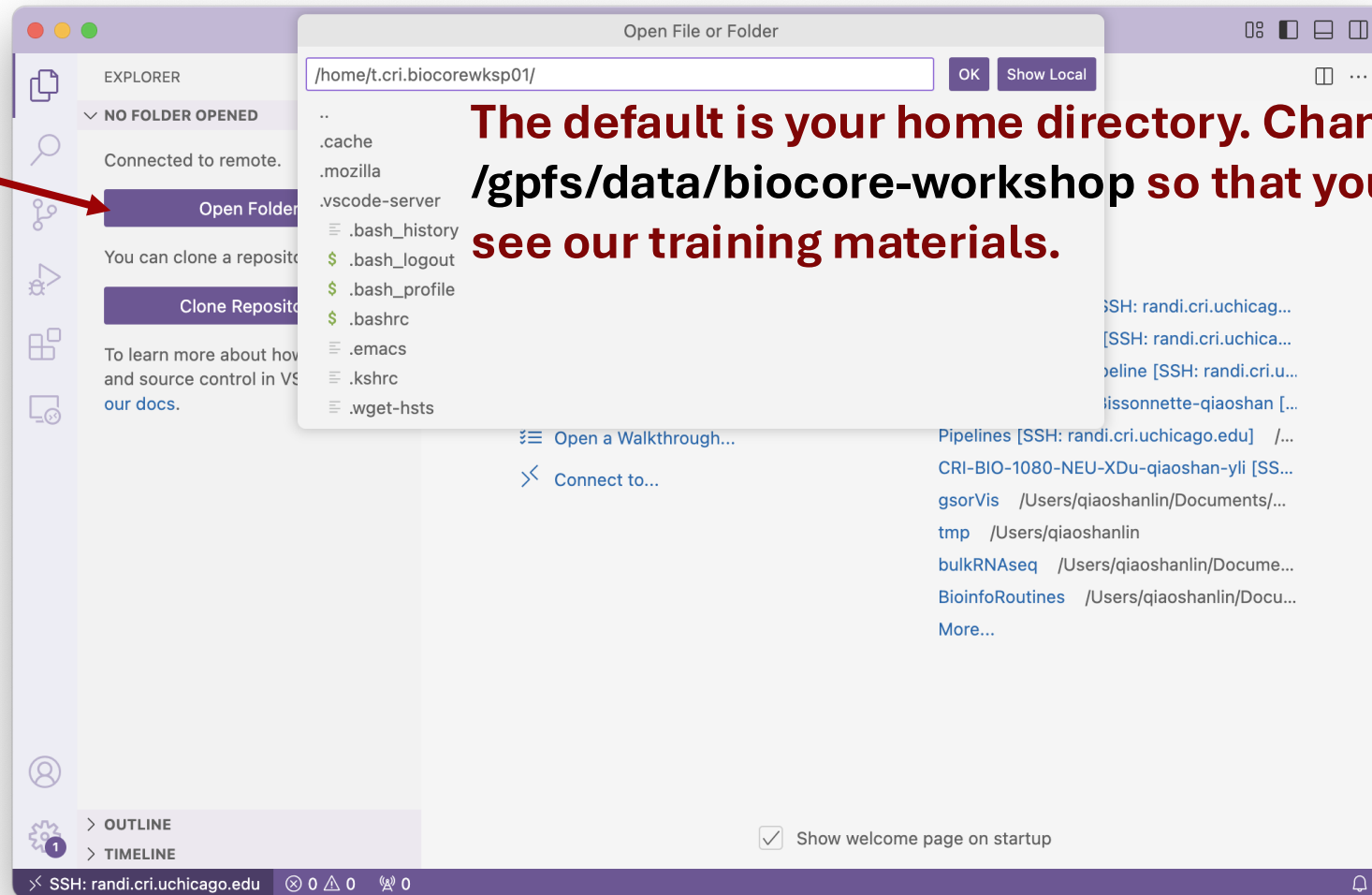
**1. Click here**



# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

*Step 2: Navigate to the biocore-workshop folder*

Open Folder



# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## Step 3: Set up the Nextflow pipeline

1. Right-click to create a working folder in testRun

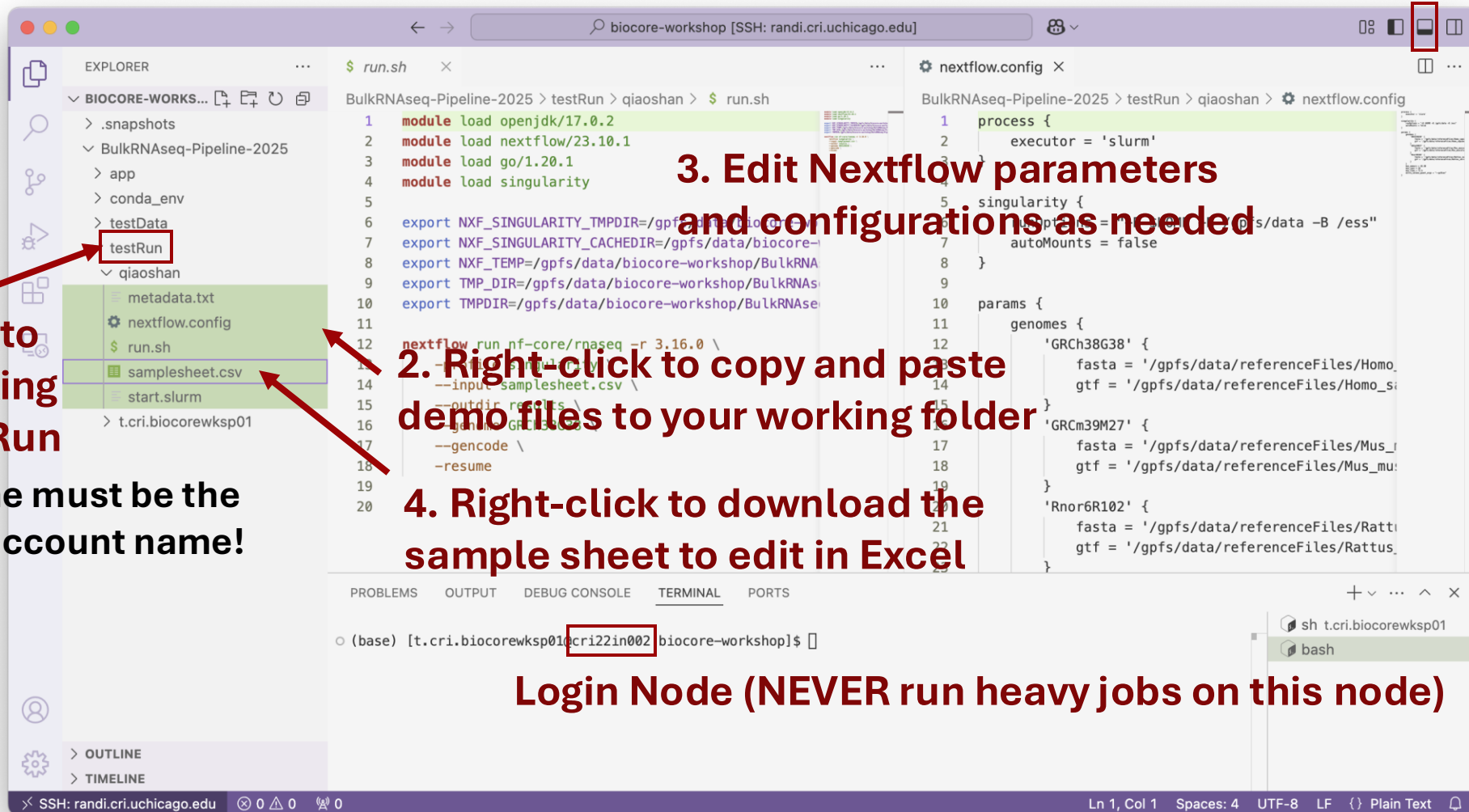
The folder name must be the same as your account name!

3. Edit Nextflow parameters and configurations as needed

2. Right-click to copy and paste demo files to your working folder

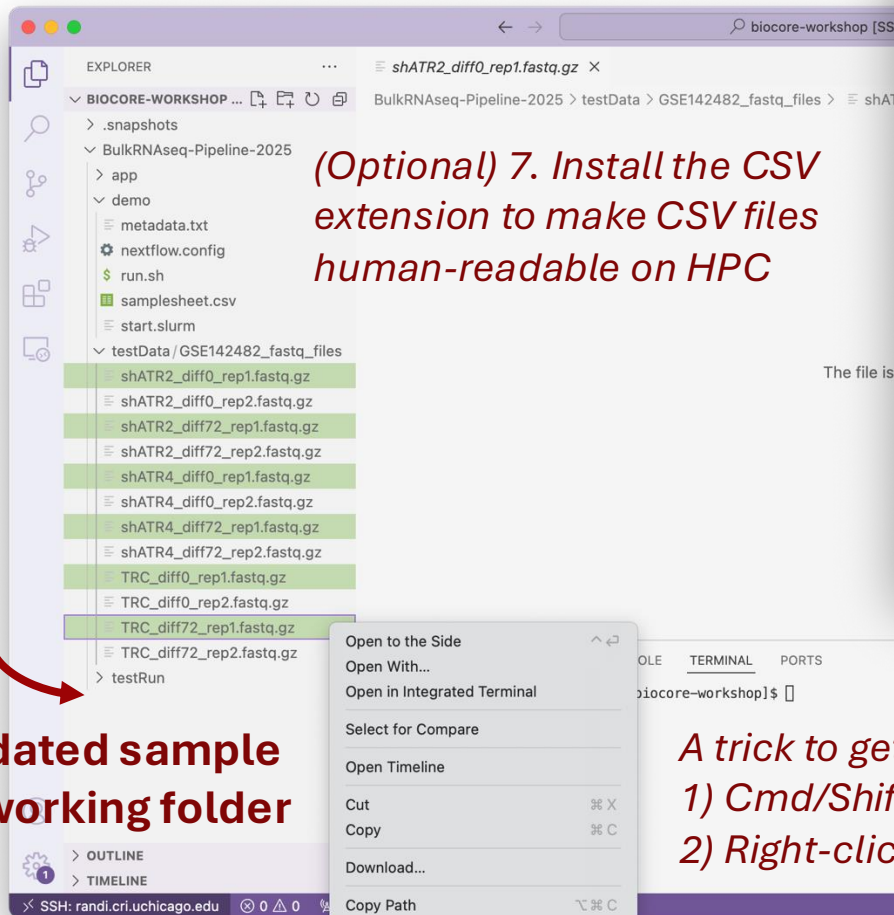
4. Right-click to download the sample sheet to edit in Excel

Login Node (NEVER run heavy jobs on this node)



# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## Step 3: Set up the Nextflow pipeline



*(Optional) 7. Install the CSV extension to make CSV files human-readable on HPC*



**6. Drag the updated sample sheet to your working folder**

samplesheet — Saved to my Mac

Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Conditional Formatting Format as Table Cell Styles Cells Editing Sensitivity Add-ins Analyze Data

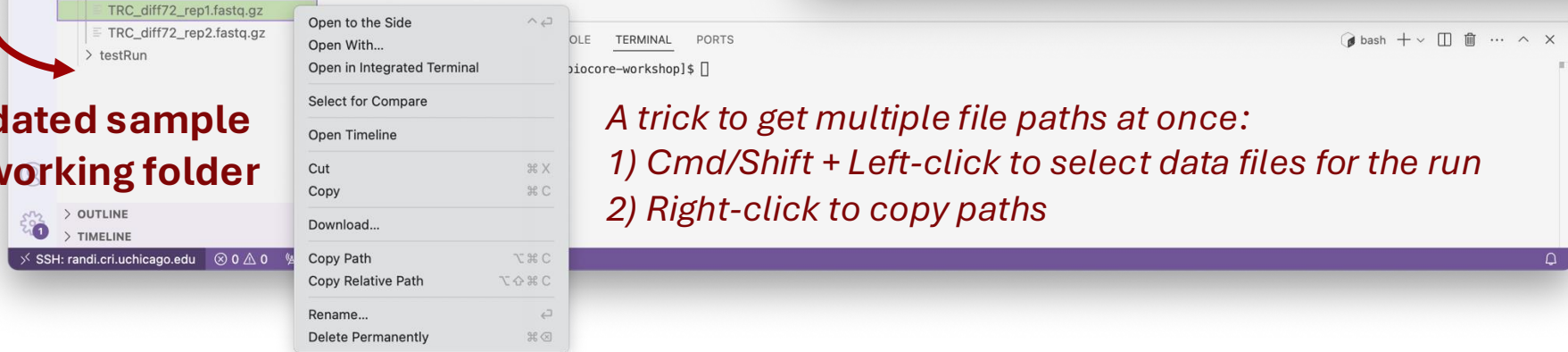
G29

sample	fastq_1	fastq_2	strandedness
TRC_diff0_rep1	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff0_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
TRC_diff72_rep1	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff72_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
shATR2_diff0_rep1	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff0_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
shATR2_diff72_rep1	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff72_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
shATR4_diff0_rep1	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff0_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
shATR4_diff72_rep1	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff72_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
TRC_diff0_rep2	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff0_rep2.fastq.gz		auto
TRC_diff72_rep2	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff72_rep2.fastq.gz		auto
shATR2_diff0_rep2	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff0_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
shATR2_diff72_rep2	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff72_rep1.fastq.gz		auto
shATR4_diff0_rep2	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff72_rep2.fastq.gz		auto
shATR4_diff72_rep2	/gdfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff72_rep2.fastq.gz		auto

**5. Edit the downloaded samplesheet in Excel**

*A trick to get multiple file paths at once:*

- 1) Cmd/Shift + Left-click to select data files for the run*
- 2) Right-click to copy paths*






# Test Data (GSE142482)

## Pathogenesis of Human Papillomaviruses Requires the ATR/p62 Autophagy-Related Pathway

Authors: [Shiyuan Hong](#), [Yan Li](#), [Paul J. Kaminski](#), [Jorge Andrade](#), [Laimonis A. Laimins](#)  [AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS](#)

<https://doi.org/10.1128/mbio.01628-20> •  Check for updates

 12 / 2,971



 CITE

PDF/EPUB

### ABSTRACT

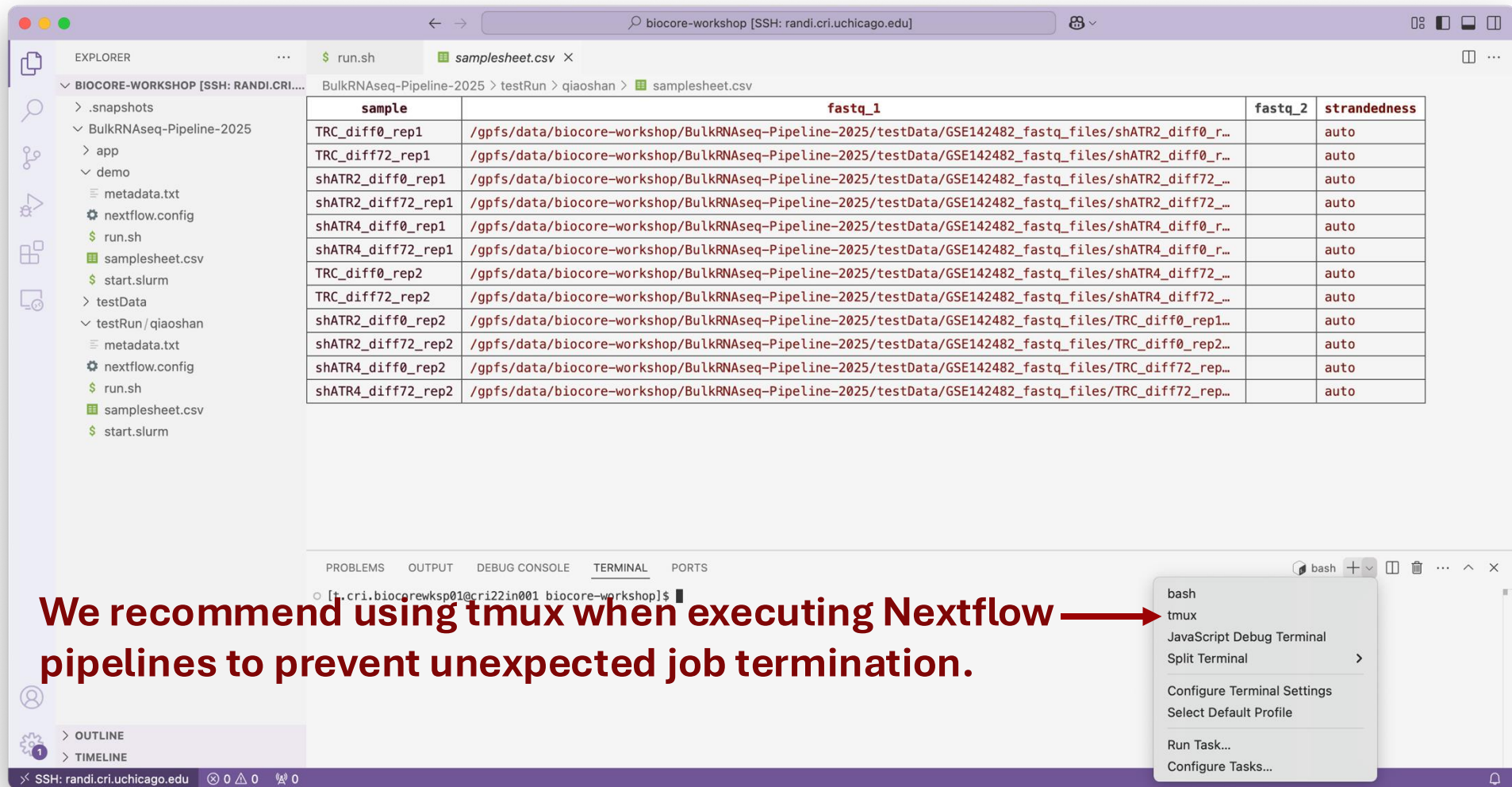
High-risk human papillomaviruses (HPVs) constitutively activate the ataxia telangiectasia and Rad3-related (ATR) DNA damage response pathway, and this is required for viral replication. In fibroblasts, activated ATR regulates transcription of inflammatory genes through its negative effects on the autophagosome cargo protein p62. In addition, suppression of p62 results in increased levels of the transcription factor GATA4, leading to cellular senescence. In contrast, in HPV-positive keratinocytes, we observed that activation of ATR resulted in increased levels of phosphorylated p62, which in turn lead to reduced levels of GATA4. Knockdown of ATR in HPV-positive cells resulted in decreased p62 phosphorylation and increased GATA4 levels. Transcriptome sequencing (RNA-seq) analysis of HPV-positive cells identified inflammatory genes and interferon factors as negative transcriptional targets of ATR. Furthermore, knockdown of p62 or overexpression of GATA4 in HPV-positive cells leads to inhibition of viral replication. These findings identify a novel role of the ATR/p62 signaling pathway in HPV-positive cells.

Hong SLi Y, Kaminski PJ, Andrade J, Laimins LA. 2020. Pathogenesis of Human Papillomaviruses Requires the ATR/p62 Autophagy-Related Pathway. *mBio* 11:10.1128/mbio.01628-20. <https://doi.org/10.1128/mbio.01628-20>



# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## Step 4: Run the Nextflow pipeline



The screenshot shows a Nextflow pipeline configuration file named `samplesheet.csv` with the following content:

sample	fastq_1	fastq_2	strandedness
TRC_diff0_rep1	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff0_r...		auto
TRC_diff72_rep1	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff0_r...		auto
shATR2_diff0_rep1	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff72_...		auto
shATR2_diff72_rep1	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR2_diff72_...		auto
shATR4_diff0_rep1	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff0_r...		auto
shATR4_diff72_rep1	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff0_r...		auto
TRC_diff0_rep2	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff72_...		auto
TRC_diff72_rep2	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/shATR4_diff72_...		auto
shATR2_diff0_rep2	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff0_rep1...		auto
shATR2_diff72_rep2	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff0_rep2...		auto
shATR4_diff0_rep2	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff72_rep...		auto
shATR4_diff72_rep2	/gpfs/data/biocre-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testData/GSE142482_fastq_files/TRC_diff72_rep...		auto

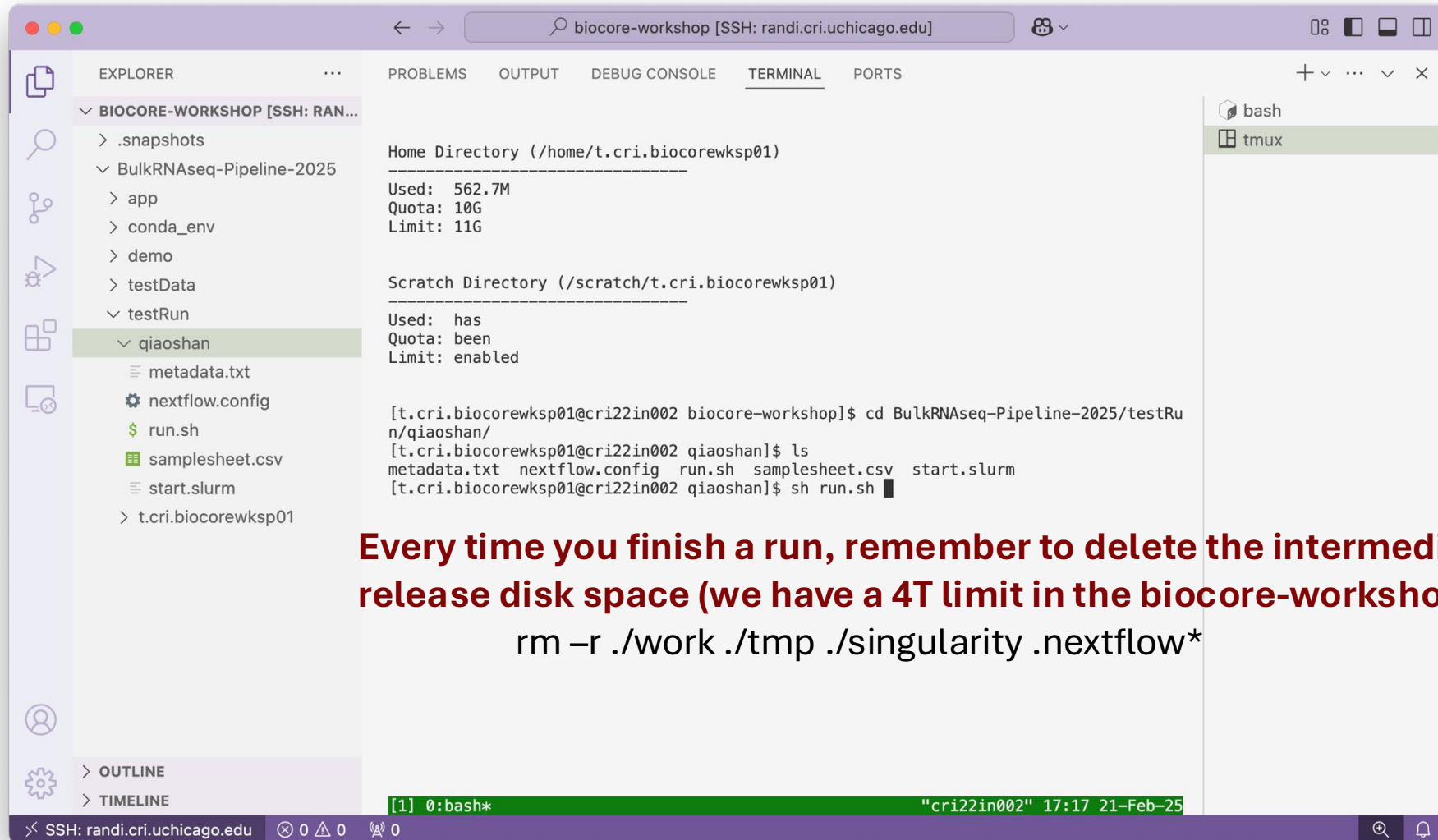
The terminal window shows the command `run.sh` being executed. A context menu is open over the terminal, with the `tmux` option selected. The menu items are:

- bash
- tmux
- JavaScript Debug Terminal
- Split Terminal
- Configure Terminal Settings
- Select Default Profile
- Run Task...
- Configure Tasks...

**We recommend using tmux when executing Nextflow pipelines to prevent unexpected job termination.**

# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## Step 4: Run the Nextflow pipeline



```
Home Directory (/home/t.cri.biocorewkp01)
-----
Used: 562.7M
Quota: 10G
Limit: 11G

Scratch Directory (/scratch/t.cri.biocorewkp01)
-----
Used: has
Quota: been
Limit: enabled

[t.cri.biocorewkp01@cri22in002 biocore-workshop]$ cd BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testRun/qiaoshan/
[t.cri.biocorewkp01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$ ls
metadata.txt nextflow.config run.sh samplesheet.csv start.slurm
[t.cri.biocorewkp01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$ sh run.sh
```

**Every time you finish a run, remember to delete the intermediate folders to release disk space (we have a 4T limit in the biocore-workshop folder):**

```
rm -r ./work ./tmp ./singularity .nextflow*
```





# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## Step 4: Run the Nextflow pipeline

```
biocore-workshop [SSH: randi.cri.uchicago.edu]
EXPLORER PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
BIOCORE-WORKSHOP [SSH: RAN...
  .snapshots
  BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025
    app
    conda_env
    demo
    testData
    testRun
      qiaoshan
        t.cri.biocorewks01
          .nextflow
          results
          singularity
          tmp
          work
          .nextflow.log
          .nextflow.log.1
          .nextflow.log.2
          .nextflow.log.3
          .nextflow.log.4
          .nextflow.log.5
          bulkRNAseq_57157894....
          bulkRNAseq_57157894....
          metadata.txt
          nextflow.config
          $ run.sh
          samplesheet.csv
          start.slurm
          ._DS_Store
        OUTLINE
        TIMELINE
[99/a02d86] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TR... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[99/9d4651] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TR... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[7c/521110] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TR... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[4c/708f33] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[a8/d64bb5] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[62/f7b06e] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[74/2b6ff5] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[56/d215c7] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[db/44b333] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[54/a65c94] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[21/68035e] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[c0/9982f1] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[0b/48d365] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[8a/c88f4b] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[45/b4b732] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[28/57c5fe] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_ST... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[87/f8cf44] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:DESEQ2_QC_S... [100%] 1 of 1 _
[e5/232d3d] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_MARKDUP... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[5b/13dcb4] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_MARKDUP... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[2a/54f54d] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_MARKDUP... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[cf/22d107] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_MARKDUP... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[47/bdda8d] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_MARKDUP... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[58/53dc81] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:STRINGTIE_S... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[1b/a22707] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:SUBREAD_FEA... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[a1/9690e5] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:MULTIQC_CUS... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[d7/646c21] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BEDTOOLS_GE... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[80/007dcf] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BEDTOOLS_GE... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[88/810585] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BEDGRAPH_BE... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[3d/163a8e] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BEDGRAPH_BE... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[7c/94e2fd] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BEDGRAPH_BE... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[4d/b2e875] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BEDGRAPH_BE... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[93/ae55d9] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUALIMAP_RN... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[7c/6a647c] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:DUPRADAR (s... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[48/389023] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[ca/3d873c] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[00/547185] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[59/9f0d60] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[b6/d3277e] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[8a/da720a] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[94/987a88] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:R... [100%] 12 of 12 _
[06/2f809a] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:MULTIQC (1) [100%] 1 of 1 _
-[inf-core/rnaseq] Pipeline completed successfully -
Completed at: 21-Feb-2025 18:09:33
Duration : 51m 50s
CPU hours : 66.7
Succeeded : 422
[t.cri.biocorewks01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$
[1] 0: bash*
```

Once completed, return to the bash terminal and run: ***tmux kill-session -t [session number]***

# Key Parameters

```
biocore-workshop [SSH: randi.cri.uchicago.edu]
EXPLORER
  BIOC...
    .snapshots
    BulkRNAseq-Pipelin...
      app
      conda_env
      demo
      testData
      testRun
        qiaoshan
          .nextflow
          results
          work
          .nextflow.log
          metadata.txt
          nextflow.config
          $ run.sh
          samplesheet.csv
          start.slurm
          t.cri.biocorewksp01
          ._DS_Store
  OUTLINE
  TIMELINE

BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025 > testRun > qiaoshan > $ run.sh
1  module load openjdk/17.0.2
2  module load nextflow/23.10.1
3  module load go/1.20.1
4  module load singularity
5
6  export NXF_SINGULARITY_TMPDIR=/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/tes
7  export NXF_SINGULARITY_CACHEDIR=/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/t
8  export NXF_TEMP=/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testRun/$USER/tmp
9  export TMP_DIR=/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testRun/$USER/tmp
10 export TMPDIR=/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testRun/$USER/tmp
11
12 nextflow run nf-core/rnaseq -r 3.16.0 \
13   -profile singularity \
14   --input samplesheet.csv \
15   --outdir results \
16   --genome GRCh38G38 \
17   --gencode \
18   -resume
19
20 rm -r ./work ./tmp ./singularity .nextflow*

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS
bash - qiaoshan
[t.cri.biocorewksp01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$
```

**Prerequisites**

**Set to folders that you can access and have enough space**

**Run inside singularity container**

**Specified in nextflow.config**

**Specify if your GTF annotation is in GENCODE format**

**Resume from where it left over when an unexpected interruption happens**

**Delete intermediate files**



# Interpretation of Nextflow Outputs

```
▼ results
> fastqc
> multiqc
> pipeline_info
> star_salmon
> trimgalore
```

FastQC reports of raw reads and trimmed reads

\*First to check\* One report with QC of each step integrated in one place

Commands for each step & Environment setup

Filtered bam files & **Gene counts**

Read trimming reports

```
salmon.merged.gene_counts_length_scaled.tsv
salmon.merged.gene_counts_scaled.tsv
salmon.merged.gene_counts.tsv
salmon.merged.gene_lengths.tsv
salmon.merged.gene_tpm.tsv
salmon.merged.transcript_counts.tsv
salmon.merged.transcript_lengths.tsv
salmon.merged.transcript_tpm.tsv
```

Each sample has a salmon output folder with \*.sf files.

I recommend using \*.sf files for the downstream to take advantage of the bias correction by Salmon

```
▼ shATR2_diff0_rep1
> aux_info
> libParams
> logs
{} cmd_info.json
≡ quant.genes.sf
≡ quant.sf
```

quant.genes.sf

BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025 > testRun > qiaoshan > results > star\_salmon > shATR2\_diff0\_rep1 > quant.genes.sf

	Name	Length	EffectiveLength	TPM	NumReads
1					
2	ENSG00000278625.1	106	3 0 0		
3	ENSG00000276017.1	2404	1903.18 0.010847	2.903	
4	ENSG00000278573.1	603	338.522 0 0		
5	ENSG00000275757.1	153	5 3784.35 2660.56		
6	ENSG00000276312.1	90	3 0.296331 0.125		

# Agenda & Key Activities

## *Section 1*

- Introduction to the Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline
- Hands-on Practice on Running Nextflow on the Randi Server
- Interpretation of Nextflow Outputs

TEN-MINUTES BREAK

## ***Section 2***

- Introduction to the DE Analysis Principles
- Demo of the DE Analysis App on Randi
- Hands-on Practice on Running the DE Analysis App
- Interpretation of the DE Analysis Results



# ***Section 2***

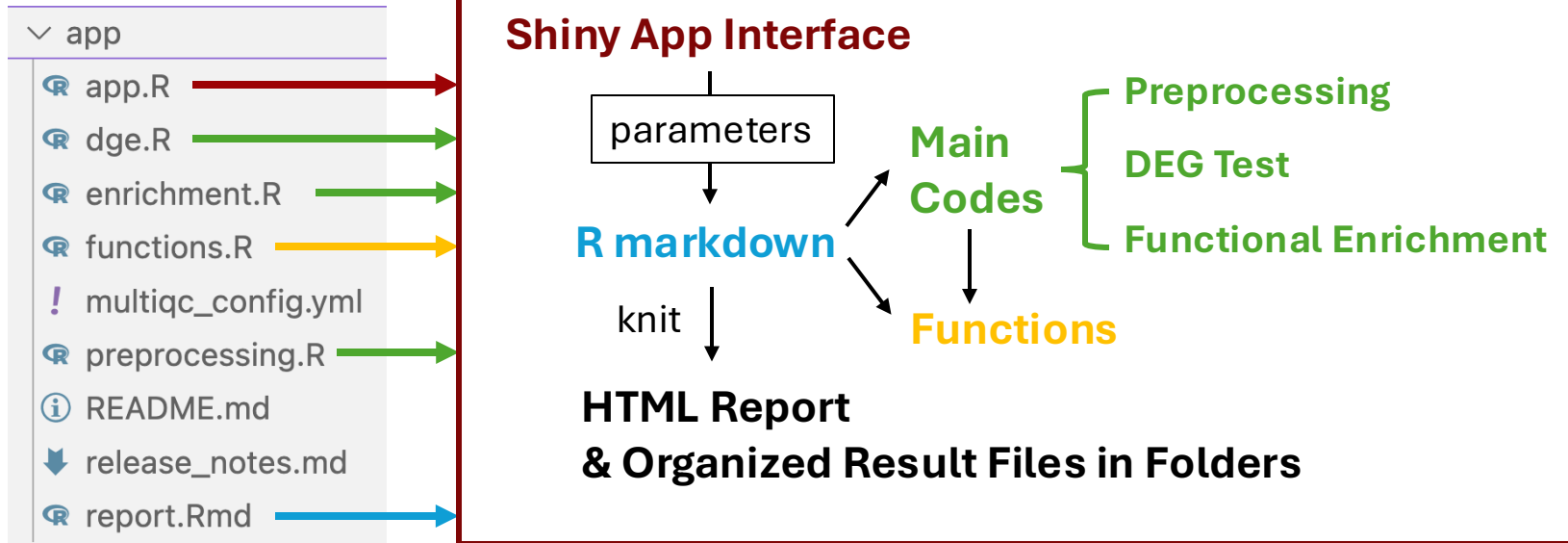
## ***DE Analysis***

# Key Considerations in DE Analysis

- ⚠ **Batch Effects** → Use PCA/MDS to check for unwanted variation
- ⚠ **Replicates Matter** → More replicates = higher statistical power (highly recommend  $\geq 3$  rep)
- ⚠ **Read Depth** → Sufficient sequencing depth (25M)
- ⚠ **Data Distribution** → RNA-seq data is often over-dispersed (use a model like Negative Binomial )
- ⚠ **Normalization** → Correct for library size & sequencing depth
- ⚠ **Multiple Testing Correction** → Use adjusted p-values to control false positives

# In-House Downstream Analysis

## Architecture



jow30 / CRI-BulkRNAseq-Report Public

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Security Insights

main

Go to file

About

No description, website, or topics provided.

Activity

0 stars

1 watching

0 forks

File	Commit Message	Time
nextflow.config	add nextflow.config	3 months ago
app	rename msigdb output files to avoid...	3 months ago
demo	add nextflow.config	3 months ago
.gitignore	change dir search mode to recursive	4 months ago

RNaseq Differential Expression Analysis

Fill out this form to run DE analysis downstream of nf-core/rnaseq pipeline.

Project Introduction and Experimental Design:

Write the project introduction and the experimental design here.

A Brief Description of the Executed Pipeline:

- We used the nf-core/rnaseq v3.16.0 pipeline for pre-processing of raw reads.
- We used the STAR->Salmon route for read alignment and quantification.
- We used the GRCm39 reference genome for read mapping and Gencode vM27 for gene annotation.

MultiQC report to show:

Notable Facts in the MultiQC Report:

Write something here if any notable facts are found in the multiQC report.

Output Directory for DE Analysis:

Add Group Comparison Pairs

FDR Cutoff for ORA Results:

0.05

Species:

human

Select the "Perform ORA with All DEGs" option below to merge up-/down-regulated DEGs into a single list for ORA. Otherwise, they will be analyzed separately.

- Perform ORA with All DEGs
- Perform ORA with GO Terms
- Perform ORA with KEGG Pathways
- Perform ORA with Reactome Pathways
- Perform ORA with MSigDB Gene Sets

MSigDB Category for ORA:

C2

MSigDB Subcategory for ORA:

CP:KEGG

- Perform GSEA with MSigDB Gene Sets:

FDR Cutoff for GSEA Results:

0.05

MSigDB Category for GSEA:

C2

MSigDB Subcategory for GSEA:

CP:KEGG

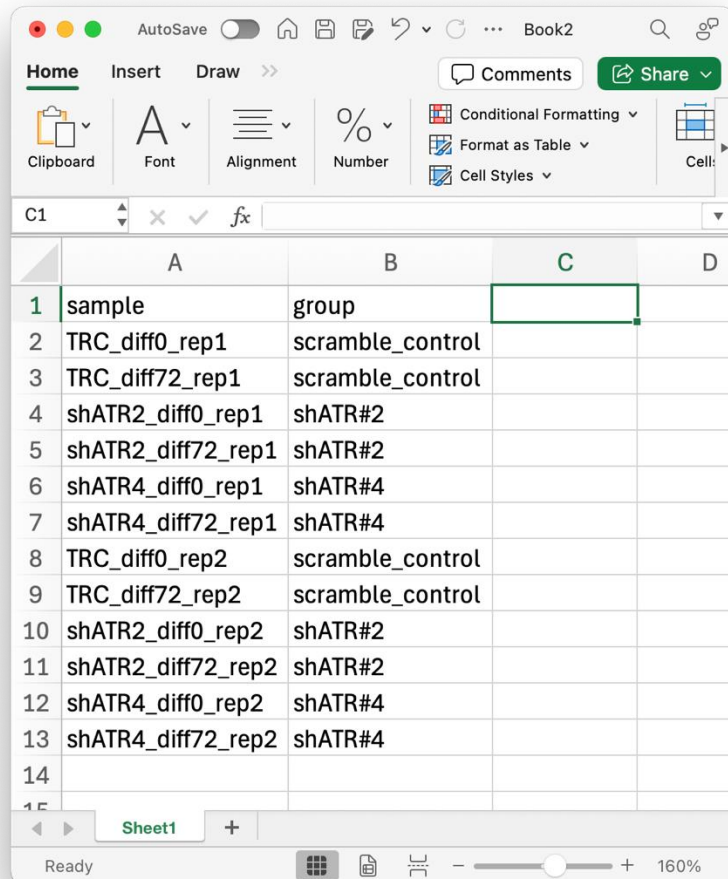
Submit

**5-20 minutes**

# In-House Downstream Analysis

## Step 1: Setup experimental groups

1. Edit the table in Excel

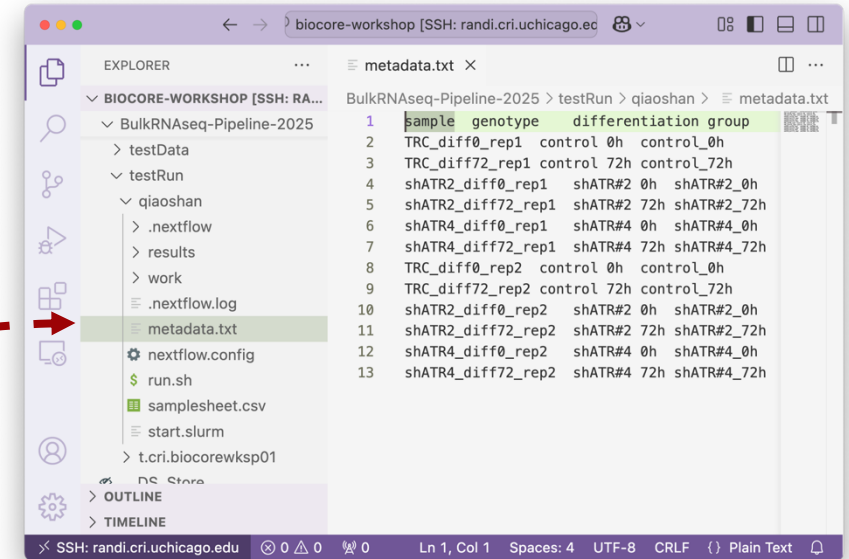


	A	B	C	D
1	sample	group		
2	TRC_diff0_rep1	scramble_control		
3	TRC_diff72_rep1	scramble_control		
4	shATR2_diff0_rep1	shATR#2		
5	shATR2_diff72_rep1	shATR#2		
6	shATR4_diff0_rep1	shATR#4		
7	shATR4_diff72_rep1	shATR#4		
8	TRC_diff0_rep2	scramble_control		
9	TRC_diff72_rep2	scramble_control		
10	shATR2_diff0_rep2	shATR#2		
11	shATR2_diff72_rep2	shATR#2		
12	shATR4_diff0_rep2	shATR#4		
13	shATR4_diff72_rep2	shATR#4		
14				
15				

2. Save the table in the txt or csv format



3. Drag to your working folder



```
BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025 > testRun > qiaoshan > metadata.txt
1 sample genotype differentiation group
2 TRC_diff0_rep1 control 0h control_0h
3 TRC_diff72_rep1 control 72h control_72h
4 shATR2_diff0_rep1 shATR#2 0h shATR#2_0h
5 shATR2_diff72_rep1 shATR#2 72h shATR#2_72h
6 shATR4_diff0_rep1 shATR#4 0h shATR#4_0h
7 shATR4_diff72_rep1 shATR#4 72h shATR#4_72h
8 TRC_diff0_rep2 control 0h control_0h
9 TRC_diff72_rep2 control 72h control_72h
10 shATR2_diff0_rep2 shATR#2 0h shATR#2_0h
11 shATR2_diff72_rep2 shATR#2 72h shATR#2_72h
12 shATR4_diff0_rep2 shATR#4 0h shATR#4_0h
13 shATR4_diff72_rep2 shATR#4 72h shATR#4_72h
```

The header must contain *sample* and *group*. You can add as many experimental factors as you want to columns.

If a batch effect needs to be corrected, add a *batch* column so that the batch-effect-removal option can be enabled.

# In-House Downstream Analysis

## Step 2: Run the slurm script

```
ssh: biocore-workshop [SSH: randi.cri.uchicago.edu]
$ start.slurm
BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025 > testRun > qiaoshan > $ start.slurm
1  #!/bin/bash -l
2  #SBATCH --job-name=bulkRNAseq
3  #SBATCH --partition=tier1q
4  #SBATCH --time=01:00:00
5  #SBATCH --nodes=1
6  #SBATCH --ntasks-per-node=1
7  #SBATCH --cpus-per-task=1
8  #SBATCH --mem=16gb
9  #SBATCH -o %x_%j.out
10 #SBATCH -e %x_%j.err
11
12 module load gcc/12.1.0
13 module load miniconda3/24.4.0
14
15 conda activate /gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/conda_env/cri-bulk-rnaseq-report-v1.0
16
17 multiqc results -c /gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/app/multiqc_config.yml -f --no-data-dir
18
19 R -e "shiny::runApp('/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/app', host = '0.0.0.0', port = 3838)"
20
```

```
PROBLEMS  OUTPUT  DEBUG CONSOLE  TERMINAL  PORTS
bash - qiaoshan
● (base) [t.cri.biocorewks01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$ ls
metadata.txt nextflow.config results run.sh samplesheet.csv start.slurm work
● (base) [t.cri.biocorewks01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$ sbatch start.slurm
Submitted batch job 57163189
● (base) [t.cri.biocorewks01@cri22in002 qiaoshan]$ squeue -j 57163189
JOBID PARTITION  NAME  USER ST  TIME  NODES NODELIST(REASON)
57163189 tier1q bulkRNAs t.cri.bi R  0:07  1 cri22cn147
```

If you have never run any conda on Randi before, run the following commands and restart the terminal before submitting job:

```
module load gcc/12.1.0
module load miniconda3/24.4.0
conda init
```

Increase mem if data is large

Produce a simplified multiQC report.

Enter the conda environment

Run R shiny app

sbatch start.slurm to submit job

squeue -j [jobID] to check status

Job is running on this node

# In-House Downstream Analysis

## Step 3: Fill out the form

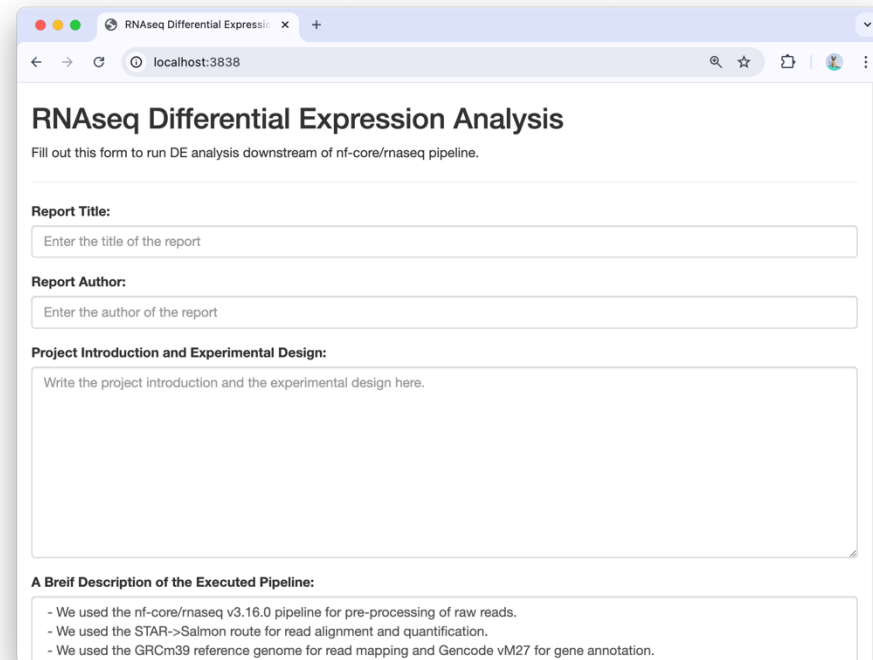
1. Open a local terminal and run:

```
ssh -N -f -L 3838:shinyApp_running_node:3838 your_account@randi.cri.uchicago.edu
```

1. -L XXXX:cri22cnYYY:3838 → **Forward local port XXXX to remote port 3838.**
2. -N → **No interactive shell.**
3. -f → **Run in the background** (not supported in Windows OpenSSH).

2. Open <http://localhost:3838/> in a browser (need to wait until multiqc is done)

3. Follow the hints to fill out the form and submit



RNAseq Differential Expression Analysis

Fill out this form to run DE analysis downstream of nf-core/maseq pipeline.

**Report Title:**  
Enter the title of the report

**Report Author:**  
Enter the author of the report

**Project Introduction and Experimental Design:**  
Write the project introduction and the experimental design here.

**A Brief Description of the Executed Pipeline:**

- We used the nf-core/maseq v3.16.0 pipeline for pre-processing of raw reads.
- We used the STAR->Salmon route for read alignment and quantification.
- We used the GRCm39 reference genome for read mapping and Gencode vM27 for gene annotation.

# Interpretation of DE Analysis Results

## PCA Plot

- A dimension reduction approach
- To show similar samples clustering together
- To infer which gene (or variable) is the most valuable for clustering the data
- To reveal batch effects

## Volcano Plot

- To highlight significant DEGs

## Heatmap

- To visualize and validate expression changes across samples

## Over Representation Analysis (ORA)

- Which gene set is enriched with DEGs (whether a gene set contains more DEGs than expected by chance)

## Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA)

- Identifies pathways that are globally up- or down-regulated (by using continuous gene rankings instead of requiring an arbitrary DEG cutoff)



# Reminders

- Please remember to delete your folder after practice to save space for other people.
- We will hold the BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025 folder for you until Mar. 25. All data will be removed to make room for our next workshop.

# Upcoming Workshop: Spatial Transcriptome



**Diana Vera Cruz,  
PhD**



**Jason Shapiro,  
PhD**

**Date: Beginning of April**

Overview of methods for analyzing 10X Visium and Nanostring GeoMX data. Including:

- Data pre-processing and quality control
- Worked examples of different analytical workflows
- Introduction to common R packages

*Thanks for attending!* 

**Q & A**

# Center for Research Informatics

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- Every Tuesday | 12:00 PM – 2:30 PM
- Hosted by Michael Jarsulic

#### Bioinformatics Core:

- Every Tuesday | 12:30 PM – 3:30 PM
- Hosted by Yan Li

Visit our website for more details

[cri.uchicago.edu](http://cri.uchicago.edu)



Please give us some feedback!

<https://mycri.cri.uchicago.edu/educations/trainings/75/survey/>

# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## If using Terminal:

```
qiaoshanlin@BIO-ML-10 ~ % ssh t.cri.biocorewkshp01@randi.cri.uchicago.edu
** Unauthorized use/access is prohibited. **

This computer system is owned by the University of Chicago Biological Sciences
Division and is for authorized use only. Logging onto this computer verifies
you have read and agree both to the statement below and to use BSD computer
networks and systems in accordance with the BSD Eligibility and Acceptable Use
policy and related policies.

Individuals using this computer system are subject to having all of their
activities on this system monitored and recorded by system personnel. Anyone
using this system expressly consents to such monitoring and is advised that if
such monitoring reveals possible criminal activity or policy violation, system
personnel may provide the evidence of such monitoring to law enforcement or
other officials.

University of Chicago Acceptable Use Policy:
https://itservices.uchicago.edu/policies/acceptable-use-policy

(t.cri.biocorewkshp01@randi.cri.uchicago.edu) Password:
Last login: Tue Feb 25 16:22:51 2025 from 205.208.121.84

Home Directory (/home/t.cri.biocorewkshp01)
-----
Used: 366.1M
Quota: 10G
Limit: 11G

Scratch Directory (/scratch/t.cri.biocorewkshp01)
-----
Used: has
Quota: been
Limit: enabled
```

***ssh your\_account\_name@randi.cri.uchicago.edu***

Enter password and you will be logged in

Every account has a 11G limit in the home directory

# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## If using Terminal:

```
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 ~]$ cd /gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/ → Change directory to biocore-workshop
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 biocore-workshop]$ ls → List all contents in the current directory
BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025 csetula results
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 biocore-workshop]$ cd BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testRun/
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 testRun]$ mkdir -p $(whoami) → Make a folder inside testRun with your account name
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 testRun]$ cd $(whoami)
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ cp ../qiaoshan/* . → Copy all scripts from qiaoshan
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ ls
metadata.txt nextflow.config run.sh samplesheet.csv start.slurm
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ sh run.sh → Run the Nextflow pipeline
Nextflow 24.10.4 is available - Please consider updating your version to it
N E X T F L O W ~ version 23.10.1
Launching `https://github.com/nf-core/rnaseq` [drunk_mayer] DSL2 - revision: 33df0c05ef [3.16.0]
```

```
executor > slurm (29)
[34/b72ccf] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:PREPARE_GENOME:GTF_FILTER (GRCh38.primary_assembly.genome.fa) [100%] 1 of 1 ✓
[c7/98079a] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:PREPARE_GENOME:GTF2BED (GRCh38.primary_assembly.genome.filtered.gtf) [100%] 1 of 1 ✓
[23/cd85e2] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:PREPARE_GENOME:MAKE_TRANSCRIPTS_FASTA (rsem/GRCh38.primary_assembly.genome.fa) [100%] 1 of 1 ✓
[ed/d3717d] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:PREPARE_GENOME:CUSTOM_GETCHROMSIZES (GRCh38.primary_assembly.genome.fa) [100%] 1 of 1 ✓
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TRIM_FILTER_SETSTRANDEDNESS:CAT_FASTQ -
[8a/770b01] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TRIM_FILTER_SETSTRANDEDNESS:FASTQ_FASTQC_UMITOOOLS_TRIMGALORE:FASTQC (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[7b/fd9df4] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TRIM_FILTER_SETSTRANDEDNESS:FASTQ_FASTQC_UMITOOOLS_TRIMGALORE:TRIMGALORE (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[1a/14fbd4] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TRIM_FILTER_SETSTRANDEDNESS:FASTQ_SUBSAMPLE_FQ_SALMON:FQ_SUBSAMPLE (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[fd/cd2078] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:FASTQ_QC_TRIM_FILTER_SETSTRANDEDNESS:FASTQ_SUBSAMPLE_FQ_SALMON:SALMON_QUANT (sample09) [ 16%] 1 of 6
[17/b09da9] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:STAR_ALIGN (sample02) [ 0%] 0 of 1 → Nextflow pipeline is running
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:BAM_SORT_STATS_SAMTOOLS:SAMTOOLS_SORT -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:BAM_SORT_STATS_SAMTOOLS:SAMTOOLS_INDEX -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:BAM_SORT_STATS_SAMTOOLS:BAM_STATS_SAMTOOLS -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:BAM_SORT_STATS_SAMTOOLS:BAM_STATS_SAMTOOLS:SAMTOOLS_FLAGSTAT -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:ALIGN_STAR:BAM_SORT_STATS_SAMTOOLS:BAM_STATS_SAMTOOLS:SAMTOOLS_IDXSTATS -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_STAR_SALMON:SALMON_QUANT -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_STAR_SALMON:CUSTOM_TX2GENE -
[-] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:QUANTIFY_STAR_SALMON:TXIMETA_TXIMPORT -
```



# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## If using Terminal:

```
[15/f08465] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:RSEQC_INFERESEXPERIMENT (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[1d/a6bc16] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:RSEQC_JUNCTIONANNOTATION (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[a2/359263] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:RSEQC_JUNCTIONSATURATION (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[42/e2c891] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:RSEQC_READDISTRIBUTION (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[bb/693aaf] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:BAM_RSEQC:RSEQC_READDUPLICATION (sample09) [100%] 6 of 6 ✓
[6d/c4dfe0] process > NFCORE_RNASEQ:RNASEQ:MULTIQC (1) [100%] 1 of 1 ✓
Waiting for file transfers to complete (1 files)
-[nf-core/rnaseq] Pipeline completed successfully -
Completed at: 25-Feb-2025 16:59:52
Duration : 27m 58s
CPU hours : 29.7
Succeeded : 216

(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ ls
metadata.txt nextflow.config results run.sh samplesheet.csv start.slurm
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ sbatch start.slurm
Submitted batch job 57220694
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ squeue -j 57220694
JOBID PARTITION NAME USER ST TIME NODES NODELIST(REASON)
57220694 tier1q bulkRNAs t.cri.bi R 0:06 1 cri22cn068
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$ ls -l
total 4
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 588 Feb 25 17:19 bulkRNAseq_57220694.err
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 0 Feb 25 17:19 bulkRNAseq_57220694.out
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 231 Feb 25 16:31 metadata.txt
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 1195 Feb 25 16:31 nextflow.config
drwxrws--- 7 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 4096 Feb 25 16:59 results
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 1073 Feb 25 16:31 run.sh
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 796 Feb 25 16:31 samplesheet.csv
-rw-rw---- 1 t.cri.biocorewkshp01 cri-biocore_workshop 618 Feb 25 16:31 start.slurm
(base) [t.cri.biocorewkshp01@cri22in002 t.cri.biocorewkshp01]$
```

Once completed, submit the DE analysis script by `sbatch start.slurm`

→ Check job status using job ID

→ We will need this running node name

→ .err and .out files will be generated when the job starts running

## Open a new terminal:

```
qiaoshanlin@BI0-ML-10 ~ % ssh -N -f -L 3838:cri22cn068:3838 qiaoshan@randi.cri.uchicago.edu
** Unauthorized use/access is prohibited. **

This computer system is owned by the University of Chicago Biological Sciences
Division and is for authorized use only. Logging onto this computer verifies
you have read and agree both to the statement below and to use BSD computer
networks and systems in accordance with the BSD Eligibility and Acceptable Use
policy and related policies.
```

Forward local port to remote port

**Note: the port might be conflicted when multiple users are running on the same node. If there shows an error, try to change the port number and restart the job.**

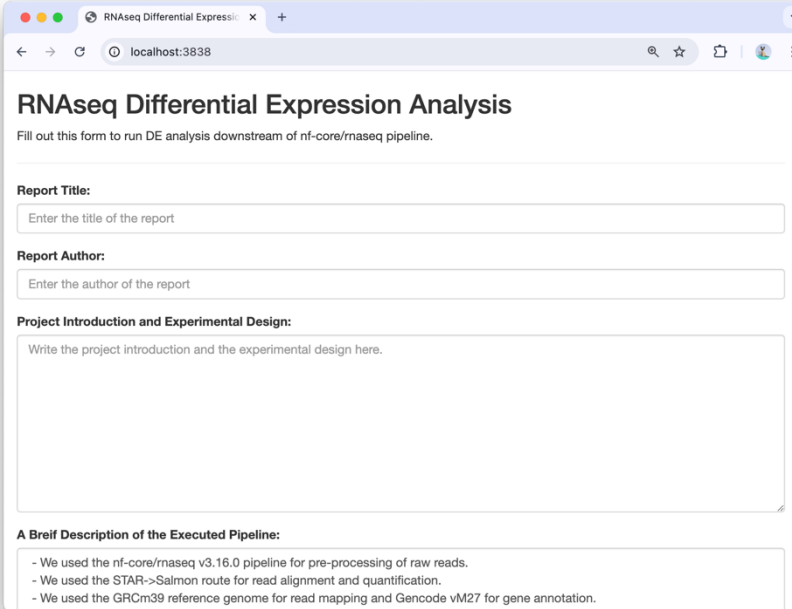


# Run Nextflow RNAseq Pipeline on Randi

## *If using Terminal:*

Finally, open <http://localhost:3838/> in a browser (need to wait until multiqc is done)

And you should be able to see an interface like :



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [localhost:3838](http://localhost:3838/). The page title is "RNAseq Differential Expression Analysis". Below the title, there is a heading "RNAseq Differential Expression Analysis" and a sub-heading "Fill out this form to run DE analysis downstream of nf-core/rnaseq pipeline." The form contains three main sections: "Report Title:" with a text input field containing "Enter the title of the report"; "Report Author:" with a text input field containing "Enter the author of the report"; and "Project Introduction and Experimental Design:" with a large text area containing "Write the project introduction and the experimental design here." At the bottom, there is a section titled "A Brief Description of the Executed Pipeline:" with a list of bullet points: "- We used the nf-core/rnaseq v3.16.0 pipeline for pre-processing of raw reads.", "- We used the STAR->Salmon route for read alignment and quantification.", and "- We used the GRCm39 reference genome for read mapping and Gencode vM27 for gene annotation."

To see the results, you can follow this webpage:

[https://uchicago.service-now.com/kb\\_view.do?sys\\_kb\\_id=27ffbabb97fc025423087cf11153af5b](https://uchicago.service-now.com/kb_view.do?sys_kb_id=27ffbabb97fc025423087cf11153af5b)

or run the following command in your local terminal to download everything:

```
scp -r XXX@randi.cri.uchicago.edu:/gpfs/data/biocore-workshop/BulkRNAseq-Pipeline-2025/testRun/XXX ~/Document/bulkRNAseq_test
```

(remember to replace **XXX** with your account name; you can also change **~/Document/bulkRNAseq\_test** to some other folders on your computer)

For more troubleshooting, please come to our office hour