

Technical Note

Use of HGMD mutation data within popular variant annotation tools

Numerous free or open source variant annotation tools are available today to extract, annotate and analyse the many genomes and their identified variants coming from next generation sequencing methods.

There are many different types of information available for annotation of variants with the end goal to use that annotation to define the effect and changes in phenotype that are likely to be caused by the variant. Various information resources can act as a backend database for the annotation tools used within an annotation pipeline where the input file with an undefined collection of variants becomes directly associated with the annotation details (Figure 1).

The value derived from the annotation is directly related to the information resource selected for annotation. Cited in more than 5,000 scientific articles, HGMD is the industry leading database for published, inherited disease mutations.

In this technical note we identify a subset of popular variant annotation tools that are able to work with HGMD data and provide a step-by-step guide for the use of HGMD data by three of the tools: ANNOVAR, snpEff and VariantAnnotation – a Bioconductor package.

Open source variant annotation tools

A selection of popular free or open source variant annotation tools are described in Table 1.

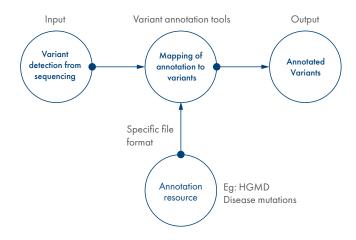


Figure 1. Variant annotation pipeline

Table 1.

Tool	Code source	Annotation format supported	HGMD use described in this application note
annovar*	Perl	GFF3, VCF	Yes
snpEff	Java	TXT, BED, BigBed, VCF, GFF	Yes
Variant Annotation (Bioconductor package)	R	VCF	Yes
AnnTools	Python, MySQL for data storage	BED	No
CHAoS	Perl	BED, WIG	No
vcfanno	go	BED, BAM, VCF	No
seqminer	R	VCF, BCF, METAL	No

^{*}ANNOVAR is free for academic use only. Commercial use requires a license from QIAGEN.

HGMD as an annotation resource

HGMD is a comprehensive database of published inherited disease mutations. Trained genetics experts read the published literature and extract information about germline mutations that have been shown to be associated with a specific disease or phenotype. The database is updated quarterly to ensure that the latest

and most relevant information is available. As of the March 2021.1 release, HGMD contained information for more than 314,000 mutations.

HGMD data is available by subscription for download in multiple formats to support variant annotation including standard VCF format.

VCF format

```
##Copyright=NROMD. Not for redistribution.
##Copyright=NROMD. Not for redistribution.
##reference=GRCh36
##reference=GRCh36
##INFO=CID=CLASS, Number=1, Type=String, Description="Nutation Category, https://mortal.biobase-international.com/homd/pro/global.php&cate">
##INFO=CID=DEMER, Number=1, Type=String, Description="Gene symbol">
##INFO=CID=DEMER, Number=1, Type=String, Description="Forein annotation">
##INFO=CID=DEMER, Number=1, Type=String, Description="#Down on the control of the control o
```

BED format

```
track name="hgmd" description="HGMD Mutations" color="176,23,31" visibility=3

chr1 877522 877523 Autism_spectrum_disorder:877C>G 0 +

chr1 899317 899320 Schizophrenia:1375_1376delCT 0 +

chr1 949522 949523 Idiopathic_basal_ganglia_calcification:163C>T 0 +

chr1 949695 949696 Mycobacterial_disease_mendelian_susceptibility_to:339dupG 0 +

chr1 949738 949739 Mycobacterial_disease_mendelian_susceptibility_to:379G>T 0 +
```

Step-by-step data analysis

Here we demonstrate the steps required to annotate an input sample with HGMD mutation data for three variant analysis tools: ANNOVAR, snpEff and VariantAnnotation. The dataset used for the analysis is the breast cancer (primary ductal carcinoma TNM stage IIA, grade 3) HCC1187 cell line sample from the Complete Genomics public cancer data set (R. Drmanac et al, Science 327(5961), 78).

ANNOVAR

Step 1: Convert the input VCF file to ANNOVAR's specific file format using the accessory perl script convert2 annovar. pl. In this example, HG00731-200-37-ASM.vcf is the input file and cgexample is the name appended to the converted output file

\$ perl convert2annovar.pl -format vcf4 vcfBeta-HG00731-200-37-ASM.vcf
-allsample -outfile cgexample

```
kar@sys-mkt108 /cygdrive/i/annovar

S perl convert2annovar.pl -format vcf4 vcfBeta-HG00731-200-37-ASM.vcf -allsample -outfile cgexample
NOTICE: output files will be written to cgexample.<samplename>.avinput
NOTICE: Finished reading 103447676 lines from VCF file
NOTICE: A total of 10344658 locus in VCF file passed QC threshold, representing 3465464 SNPs (2358709 transitions and 1106755 tr
ansversions) and 6895319 indels/substitutions
NOTICE: Finished writing 3392941 SNPs (2310236 transitions and 1082705 transversions) and 581702 indels/substitutions for 1 samp
les
WARNING: Skipped 4830315 invalid alternative alleles found in input file
WARNING: Found 366 invalid reference alleles in input file
WARNING: Skipped 1658714 invalid genotype records in input file
```

Step 2: Annotate the converted VCF file (named cgexample. HG00731-200-37-ASM.avinput in this example) with HGMD annotations using the annotate. variation. pl script. The VCF formatted HGMD file (named HGMD_PRO_2020.1_hg19.vcf in this example) is used as the database file. In this example it is found in the humandb directory.

\$ perl annotate_variation.pl -infoasscore -buildver hg19 -filter -dbtype
vcf -vcfdbfile HGMD_PRO_2020.1_hg19.vcf cgexample.HG00731-200-37-ASM.
avinput humandb/

```
Kar@MKT/cygdrive/d/annovar

$ per! annotate_variation.pl -infoasscore -buildver hg19 -filter -dbtype vcf -vcfdbfile HGMD_PRO_2016.
1_hg19.vcf cgexample.HG00731-200-37-ASM.avinput humandb/
NOTICE: Variants matching filtering criteria are written to cgexample.HG00731-200-37-ASM.avinput.hg19_
vcf_dropped, other variants are written to cgexample.HG00731-200-37-ASM.avinput.hg19_vcf_filtered
NOTICE: Processing next batch with 3974643 unique variants in 3974643 input lines
NOTICE: Scanning filter database humandb/HGMD_PRO_2016.1_hg19.vcf...Done
```

Step 3: Search the output file (named cgexample.HG00731- 200-37-ASM.avinput.hg19_vcf_dropped in this example) for annotated variants in the gene of your choice. In this example we have chosen to use BRCA1 since the sample data is taken from a breast cancer cell line.

\$ egrep -w "hgnc=BRCA1" cgexample.HG00731-200-37-ASM.avinput. hg19_vcf_
dropped

snpEff

Step1: Download the appropriate reference genome. In this example we are using the hg19 reference genome \$ java -jar snpEff.jar download -v GRch37.75

```
CarthicL@MKT-KARTHICK /cygdrive/d/snpEf
golani
00:00:00
                       Command: 'download'
                       Reading configuration file 'snpEff.config'. Genome: 'GRCh37.75' Reading config file: D:\snpEff\snpEff.config
00:00:00
00:00:00
00:00:00
00:00:00
                       Downloading database for 'GRCh37.75'
00:00:00 Connecting to http://downloads.sourceforge.net/project/snpeff/da
tabases/v4_3/snpEff_v4_3_GRCh37.75.zip
00:29:56 Local file name: 'C:\cygwin64\tmp\/snpEff_v4_3_GRCh37.75.zip'
00:00:00
                       Donwload finished. Total 662099902 bytes.
Extracting file 'data/GRCh37.75/regulation_CD4.bin'
Creating local directory: 'D:\snpEff\.\data\GRCh37.75'
Extracting file 'data/GRCh37.75/regulation_GM06990.bin'
00:30:03
00:30:03
00:30:03
 0:30:03
```

Step 2: Annotate the input VCF file with HGMD annotations using the – interval option in snpEff to accept the HGMD file as an annotation file. In this example sample-hg00731. vcf is the input file. The BED formatted HGMD file, named hgmd-hg19.bed in this example, is used as the database file\$ java -jar snpEff.jar download -v GRch37.75

\$ java -Xmx4g -jar snpEff.jar -v -interval hgmd-hg19.bed GRCh37.75 sample-hg00731.vcf

Input:

Output:

```
SILTANDO
SIL
```

Alternatively, the VCF formatted HGMD file, named HGMD_PRO_2020.1_hg19.vcf in this example, can be used as the database file

 $\$ java -Xmx4g -jar snpEff.jar -v -interval HGMD_PRO_2020.1_hg19.vcf GRCh37.75 sample-hg00731.vcf

Input:

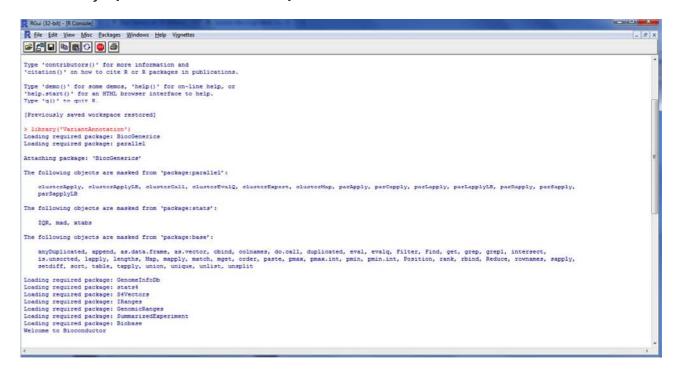
Output:



Variant Annotation – a Bioconductor package

Step 1: Install the VariantAnnotation package from Bioconductor

> library ('VariantAnnotation')



Step 2: Upload the input vcf file using the "readVcf" function. In this example sample-hg00731.vcf is the input file > vcf <- readVcf("D:/sample-hg00731.vcf", "hg19")

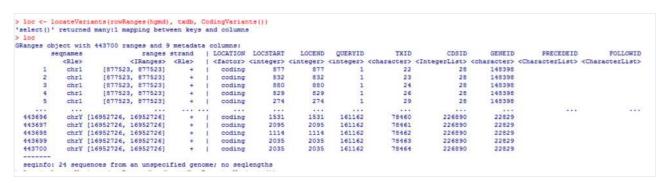
```
> vcf <- readVcf("D:/sample-hg00731.vcf", "hg19")
> vcf
class: CollapsedVCF
dim: 499882 1
rowRanges (vcf):
 GRanges with 5 metadata columns: paramRangeID, REF, ALT, QUAL, FILTER
info(vcf):
 DataFrame with 21 columns: NS, AN, AC, CGA_KR, CGA_FI, CGA_PFAM, CGA_MIRB, CGA_RPT, CGA_SDO, END, CGA
info(header(vcf)):
             Number Type
                            Description
                    Integer Number of Samples With Data
  AN
                    Integer Total number of alleles in called genotypes
             1
                   Integer Allele count in genotypes, for each ALT allele
   CGA XR
                    String Per-ALT external database reference (dbSNP, COSMIC, etc)
             A
   CGA FI
             A
                   String Functional impact annotation
  CGA PFAM
                   String PFAM Domain
  CGA MIRB
                   String miRBaseId
   CGA RPT
                   String repeatMasker overlap information
  CGA SDO
                   Integer Number of distinct segmental duplications that overlap this locus
  END
                   Integer End position of the variant described in this record
   CGA WINEND 1
                    Integer End of coverage window
                   Float Frequency in baseline
  CGA BF
   CGA MEDEL 4
                   String Consistent with deletion of mobile element; type, chromosome, start, end
                   String ID of mate breakend
  MATEID
                   String Type of structural variant
  SVTYPE
   CGA_BNDG A
                   String Transcript name and strand of genes containing breakend
   CGA BNDGO A
                   String Transcript name and strand of genes containing mate breakend
   CIPOS
                    Integer Confidence interval around POS for imprecise variants
   IMPRECISE 0
                   Flag
                          Imprecise structural variation
                   String Mobile element info of the form NAME, START, END, POLARITY
  MEINFO
   SVLEN
                    Integer Difference in length between REF and ALT alleles
geno(vcf):
  SimpleList of length 33: GT, PS, SS, FT, GQ, HQ, EHQ, CGA_CEHQ, GL, CGA_CEGL, DP, AD, CGA_RDP, CGA_GP,
geno (header (vcf)):
             Number Type
                            Description
   GT
             1
                  String Genotype
   PS
             1
                    Integer Phase Set
                    String Somatic Status: Germline, Somatic, LOH, or . (Unknown)
   33
             1
 FT
                    String Genotype filters
```

Step 3: Upload the HGMD annotations using the "read-Vcf" function. The VCF formatted HGMD file (named HGMD_PRO_2020.1_hg19.vcfin this example) is used as the database file

```
> hgmd <- readvcf("D:/HGMD_PRO_2020.1_hg19.vcf", "hg19")</pre>
```

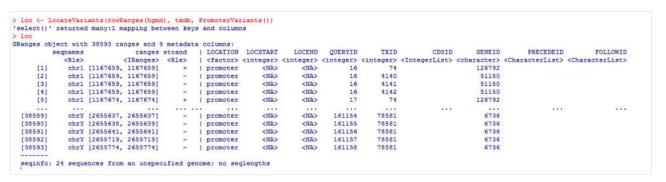
Step 4: Optionally filter the HGMD annotations by their location within or relative to a gene using the locateVariants function and the UCSC HG 19 genomic coordinates package specified as txdb. Regions are specified in the region argument and can be one of the following: CodingVariants, IntronVariants, FiveUTRVariants, ThreeUTRVariants, IntergenicVariants, SpliceSiteVariants or PromoterVariants. Here we show an example specifying variants located within coding regions.

> loc <- locateVariants(rowRanges(hgmd), txdb, CodingVariants())</pre>



And an example specifying variants located within promoter regions

> loc <- locateVariants(rowRanges(hgmd), txdb, PromoterVariants())</pre>



Step 5: Annotate the input VCF file with HGMD annotations using the subsetByOverlaps function. In this example, vcf is the previously uploaded input file and hgmd is the previously uploaded HGMD annotations

> out <- subsetByOverlaps(hgmd,vcf)</pre>

```
> out<-subsetByOverlaps(hgmd, vcf)
> out
class: CollapsedVCF
dim: 200 0
rowRanges (vcf):
 GRanges with 5 metadata columns: paramRangeID, REF, ALT, QUAL, FILTER
info(vcf):
 DataFrame with 8 columns: CLASS, MUT, GENE, STRAND, DNA, PROT, DB, PHEN
info(header(vcf)):
         Number Type
                       Description
  CLASS 1
                String Mutation Category, https://portal.biobase-international.com/hgmd/pro/global.php#cats
  MUT
                String HGMD mutant allele
   GENE
                String Gene symbol
   STRAND 1
                String Gene strand
  DNA
         1
                String DNA annotation
   PROT
                String Protein annotation
  DB
         1
                String dbSNP identifier, build 137
        1
  PHEN
                String HGMD primary phenotype
geno(vcf):
 SimpleList of length 0:
```

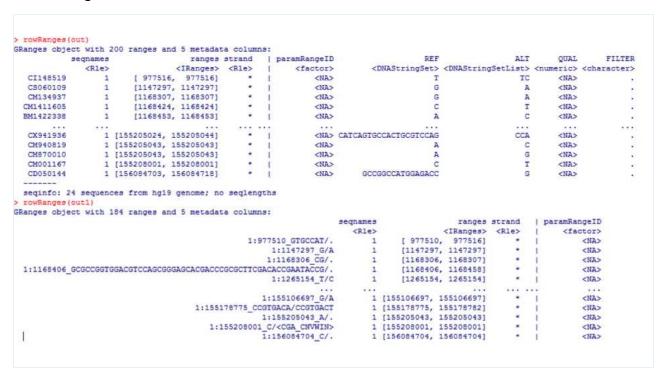
Step 6: View the output. Use the info(out) command to view the HGMD annotations

> info(out)

```
DataFrame with 200 rows and 8 columns
                   CLASS
                                                  GENE
                                                              STRAND
                                                                                                                                                                PROT
            <character> <character> <character> <character>
                                                                                                                            <character>
                                                                                                                                                        <character> <character>
                                                                                                             NM_198576.3:c.1362dupC
NM_003327.3:c.634+25C>T
CI148519
                                                                                                                NM_080605.3:c.649G>A
NM_080605.3:c.766C>T
                                                                                                                                              NP_542172.2:p.G217S re397514724
NP_542172.2:p.R256W NA
CM134937
                                    ALT
                                              B3GALT6
CM1411605
                       DM
DM
                                              B3GALT6
                                    ALT
                                                                                                                NM 080605.3:c.795A>C
                                                                                                                                              NP 542172.2:p.E265D rs374677519
BM1422338
                                              B3GALT6
                       DM
CX941936
                                                                     - NM_001005741.2:c.1447_1466delCTGGACGCAGTGGCACTGATinsTG
                                                                                                           NM_001005741.2:c.1448T>G NP_001005741.1:p.L483R
NM_001005741.2:c.1448T>C NP_001005741.1:p.L483P
CM940819
                       DM
                                    ALT
                                                   GBA
                                                                                                                                                                                  MA
CM870010
                                                   GBA
CM001167
                       DM
                                    ALT
                                                   GBA
                                                                                                             NM_001005741.2:c.685G>A NP_001005741.1:p.A229T
                                                                                                                                                                                 NA
CD050144
                                                                                           NM_170707.3:c.-3_12delGCCATGGAGACCCCG
                                                                                                                                                                   NA re267607546
                                                                                    <character>
CI148519 "Congenital_myasthenic_syndrome_with_distal_muscle_weakness_&_atrophy
                                "Myocardial_infarction_protection_against_association"
"Ehlers_Danlos_syndrome_like"
CS060109
CH134937
                                  "Spondyloepimetaphyseal_dysplasia_with_joint_laxity"
"Al-Gazali_syndrome"
CM1411605
BM1422338
CX941936
                                                                             "Gaucher_disease"
CM940819
CM870010
                                                                           "Gaucher_disease"
"Gaucher disease 2"
CM001167
                                                                           "Gaucher disease 3"
CD050144
                                         "Muscular dystrophy Emery-Dreifuss neurogenic"
```

Use the rowRanges(out) command to show the genomic coordinate information for the mutations

> rowRanges(out)



Obtaining access to HGMD
For more information, or to obtain a quote for a license to HGMD data for use in any of the tools profiled in this technical note, contact bioinformaticssales@qiagen.com.
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