

Is my genome ready for annotation?

The 3C:

Contiguity

Completeness

Correctness

Molina-Mora, J.A., Campos-Sánchez, R.,
Rodríguez, C. *et al.* (2020).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-58319-6>

Fragments



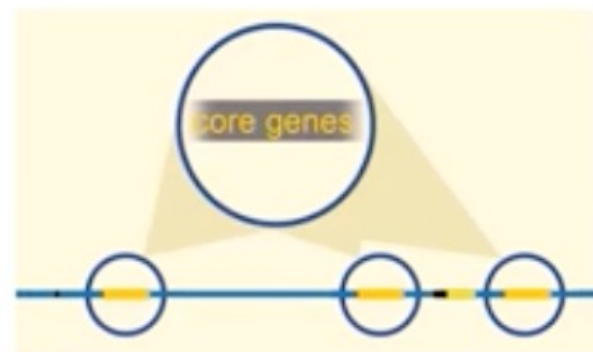
Contiguity

Fidelity/accuracy



Correctness

Core genes



Completeness

<https://youtu.be/N7oVyOTGfsk>

Contiguity

Metrics:

- Number of contigs
- Average, min and max contigs length
- N50

Tools: QUAST, CLC, etc

> [Genome Res.](#) 2012 Mar;22(3):557-67. doi: 10.1101/gr.131383.111.  Epub 2012 Jan 6.

GAGE: A critical evaluation of genome assemblies and assembly algorithms

Steven L Salzberg ¹, Adam M Phillippy, Aleksey Zimin, Daniela Puiu, Tanja Magoc, Sergey Koren, Todd J Treangen, Michael C Schatz, Arthur L Delcher, Michael Roberts, Guillaume Marçais, Mihai Pop, James A Yorke

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 22147368 PMCID: [PMC3290791](#) DOI: [10.1101/gr.131383.111](#) 

[Free PMC article](#)



QUAST

Content

Genome assembly evaluation tool.

QUAST evaluates genome assemblies by computing various metrics.

It works both with and without reference genomes.

The tool accepts multiple assemblies, thus is suitable for comparison.

> [BMC Genomics.](#) 2019 Sep 11;20(1):706. doi: 10.1186/s12864-019-6070-x. 

dnAQET: a framework to compute a consolidated metric for benchmarking quality of de novo assemblies

Gokhan Yavas ¹, Huixiao Hong ¹, Wenming Xiao ^{2 3}

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 31510940 PMCID: [PMC6737619](#) DOI: [10.1186/s12864-019-6070-x](#) 

[Free PMC article](#)

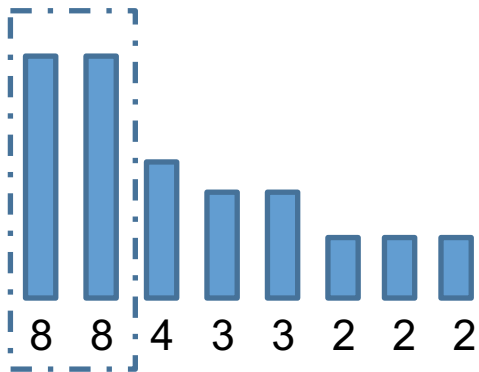
- The number of contigs/scaffolds in the assembly
- The size of the smallest contigs/scaffolds
- The size of the largest contigs/scaffolds
- The number of bases included in the assembly
- The mean length of the contigs/scaffolds
- The number of contigs <200 bases
- The number of contigs >1,000 bases
- The number of contigs >10,000 bases
- ~~● The number of contigs that had an open reading frame~~
- ~~● The mean % of the contig covered by the ORF~~
- NX (e.G. N50): the largest contig size at which at least X% of bases are contained in contigs at least this length

- % Of bases that are G or C
- GC skew
- AT skew
- The number of bases that are N
- The proportion of bases that are N
- The total linguistic complexity of the assembly

- N50**: given a set of contigs of varying lengths, the N50 length is defined as the length N for which 50% of all bases in the contigs are in contigs of length $L < N$

contig size list $L = (8, 8, 4, 3, 3, 2, 2, 2) = 32$

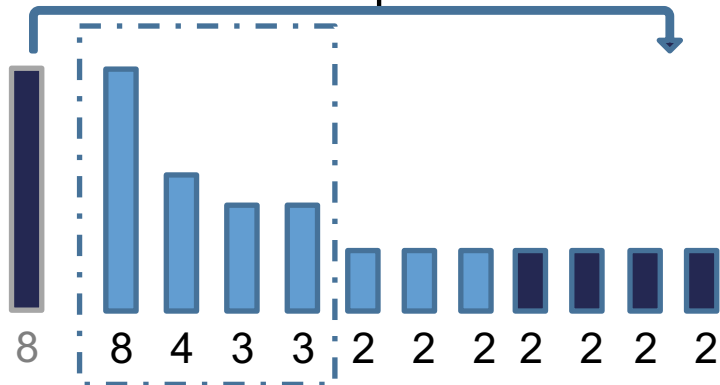
we have 50% of total length (16/32) above 4 \rightarrow **N50** is equal to 8



N50 = 8

Average : $32/8 = 4$

Mediane = 3



N50 = 3

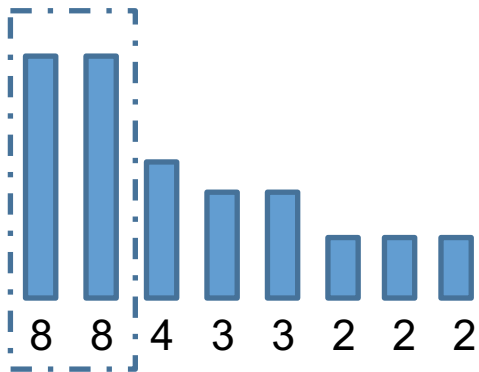
Average : $32/11 = 2.9$

Mediane = 2

N50 may not reflect some improvements to the assembly.

If we connect two contigs longer than N50 or connect two contigs shorter than N50, N50 is not changed; N50 is only improved if we connect a contig shorter than N50 and a contig longer than N50.

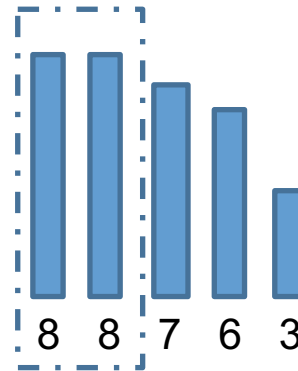
If we assembler testers solely target N50, we may be misled by it.



N50 = 8

Average : $32/8 = 4$

Mediane = 3



N50 = 8

Average : $32/4 = 6.4$

Mediane = 7

QUAST tool for genome assemblies,
MetaQUAST, the extension for metagenomic datasets,
QUAST-LG, the extension for large genomes (e.g., mammals),
rnaQUAST, the extension for RNAseq,
and **Icarus**, the interactive visualizer for these tools.

QUAST default pipeline utilizes Minimap2. Reads mapping on genome.

Functional elements prediction modules use GeneMarkS, GeneMark-ES, GlimmerHMM, Barrnap, and BUSCO.

QUAST module for finding structural variations applies BWA, Sambamba, and GRIDSS.

QUAST we use bedtools for calculating raw and physical read coverage, which is shown in Icarus contig alignment viewer.

Icarus also can use Circos

QUAST-LG introduced modules requiring KMC and Red.

MetaQUAST uses MetaGeneMark, Krona tools, BLAST, and SILVA 16S rRNA database.

Contiguity

contigs ($\geq x$ bp) is total number of contigs of length $\geq x$ bp.

Total length ($\geq x$ bp) is the total number of bases in contigs of length $\geq x$ bp.

contigs is the total number of contigs in the assembly.

Largest contig is the length of the longest contig in the assembly.

Total length is the total number of bases in the assembly.

Reference length is the total number of bases in the reference genome.

GC (%) is the total number of G and C nucleotides in the assembly, divided by the total length of the assembly.

Reference GC (%) is the percentage of G and C nucleotides in the reference genome.

N50 is the length for which the collection of all contigs of that length or longer covers at least half an assembly.

NG50 is the length for which the collection of all contigs of that length or longer covers at least half the reference genome.

This metric is computed only if the reference genome is provided.

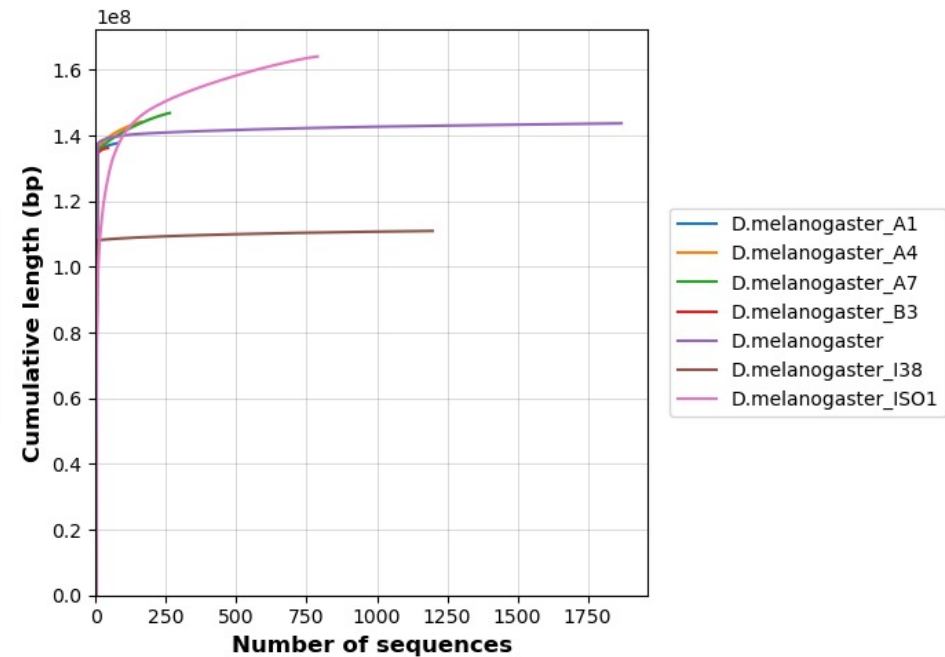
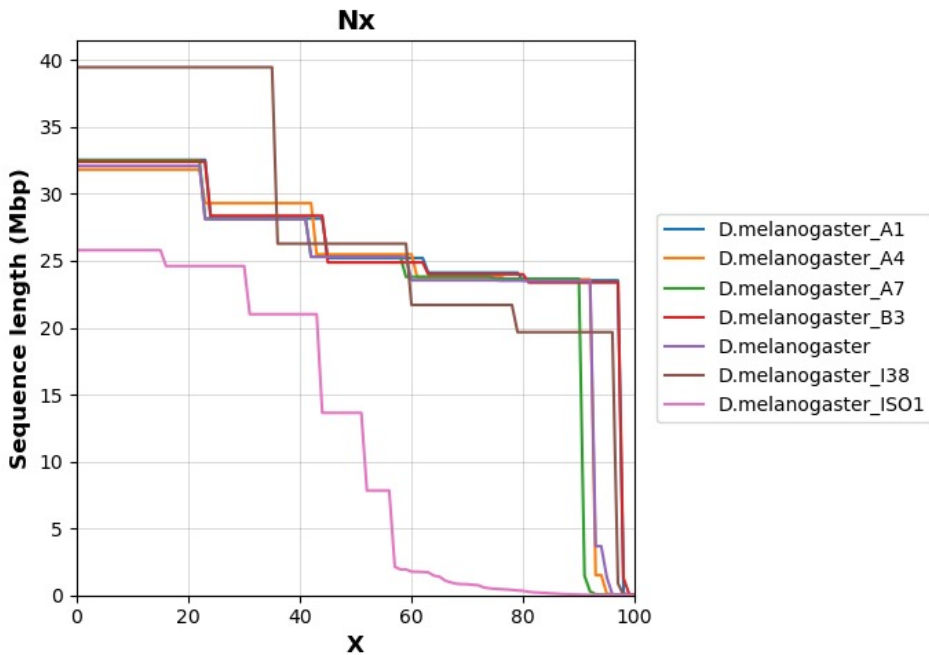
N75 and NG75 are defined similarly to N50 but with 75 % instead of 50 %.

L50 (L75, LG50, LG75) is the number of contigs equal to or longer than N50 (N75, NG50, NG75)

In other words, L50, for example, is the minimal number of contigs that cover half the assembly

Nx curve

« 50 » is a single point on the Nx curve. The entire Nx curve in fact gives us a better sense of contiguity.



Completeness

Proportion of the original genome represented by the assembly

$$\frac{\textit{Assembled genome size}}{\textit{Estimated genome size} *}$$

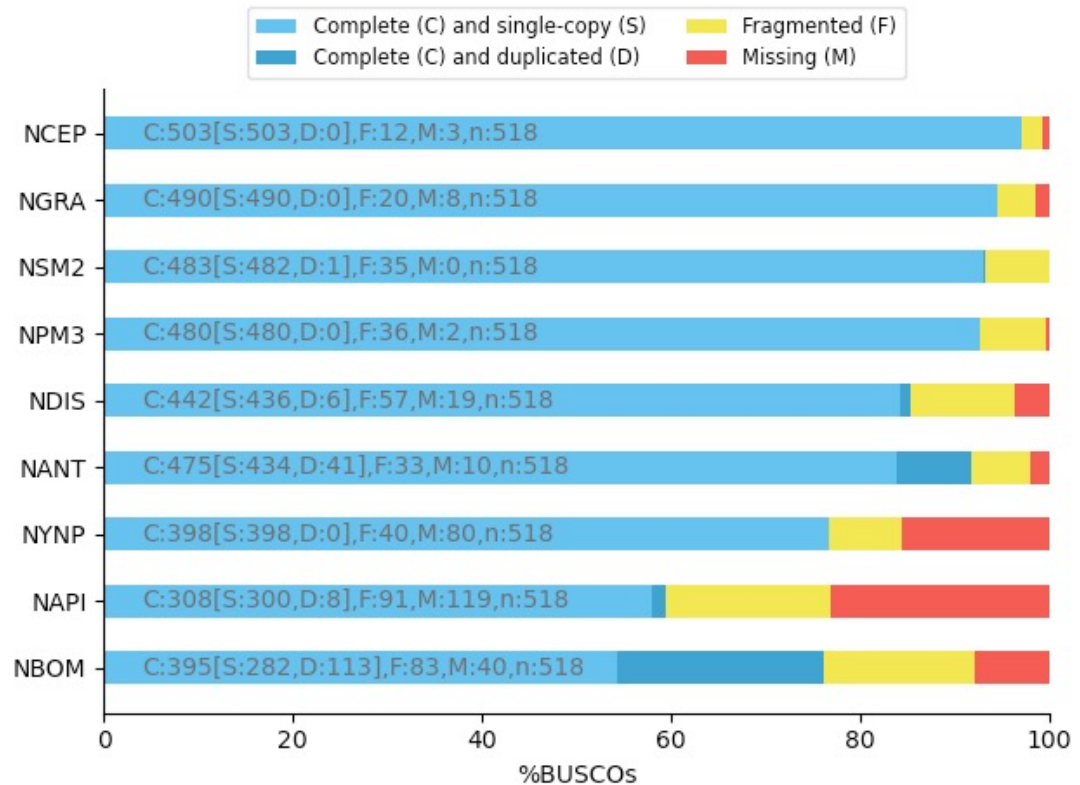
* it's an estimation, so not perfect

Completeness

Core genes (BUSCO) : quantitative assessment of genome assembly based on evolutionarily informed expectations of gene content from near-universal single-copy orthologs.

Core genes in assembly

Core genes in reference database



Tips: Reference databases are constructed using known genomes. Species with few/no close genomes available can have very bad scores.

BUSCO analysis

CEGMA : Core Eukaryotic Genes Mapping Approach : (<http://korflab.ucdavis.edu/datasets/cegma/>)

HMM:s for 248 core eukaryotic genes aligned to your assembly to assess completeness of gene space

“complete”: 70% aligned

“partial”: 30% aligned

A set of eukaryotic core proteins (KOG = euKaryotic Orthologous Groups) from 6 species: H. sapiens, D. melanogaster, C. elegans, A. thaliana, S. cerevisiae, S.pombe

BUSCO (<http://busco.ezlab.org/>)

Assessing genome assembly and annotation completeness with Benchmarking Universal Single-Copy Orthologs

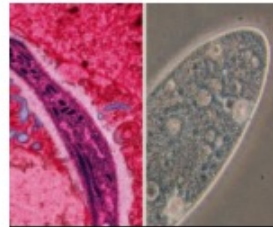
Datasets (Beta versions, updated sets and additional lineages coming soon)



Bacteria sets



Eukaryota sets



Protists sets














Metazoa sets



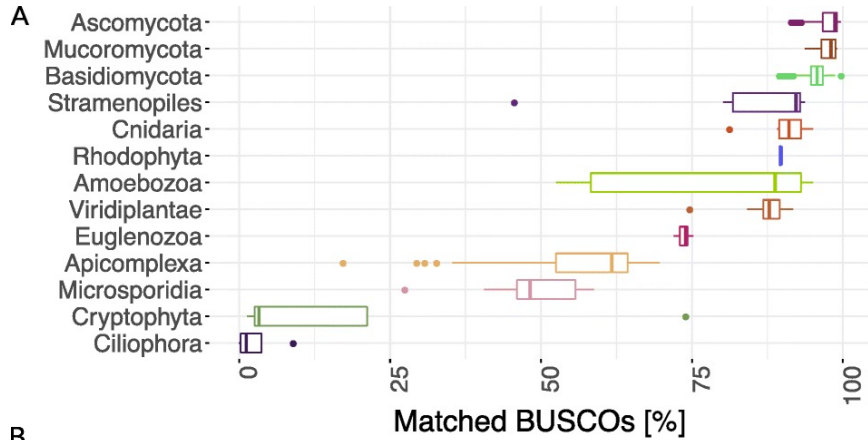
Fungi sets



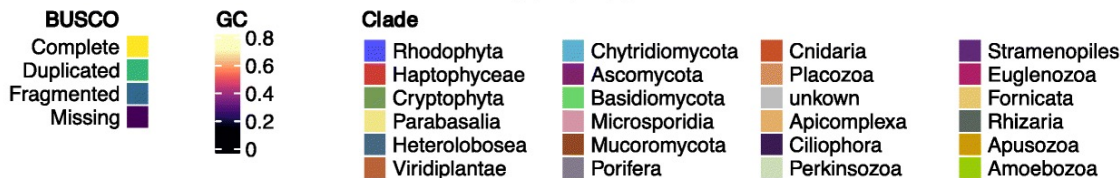
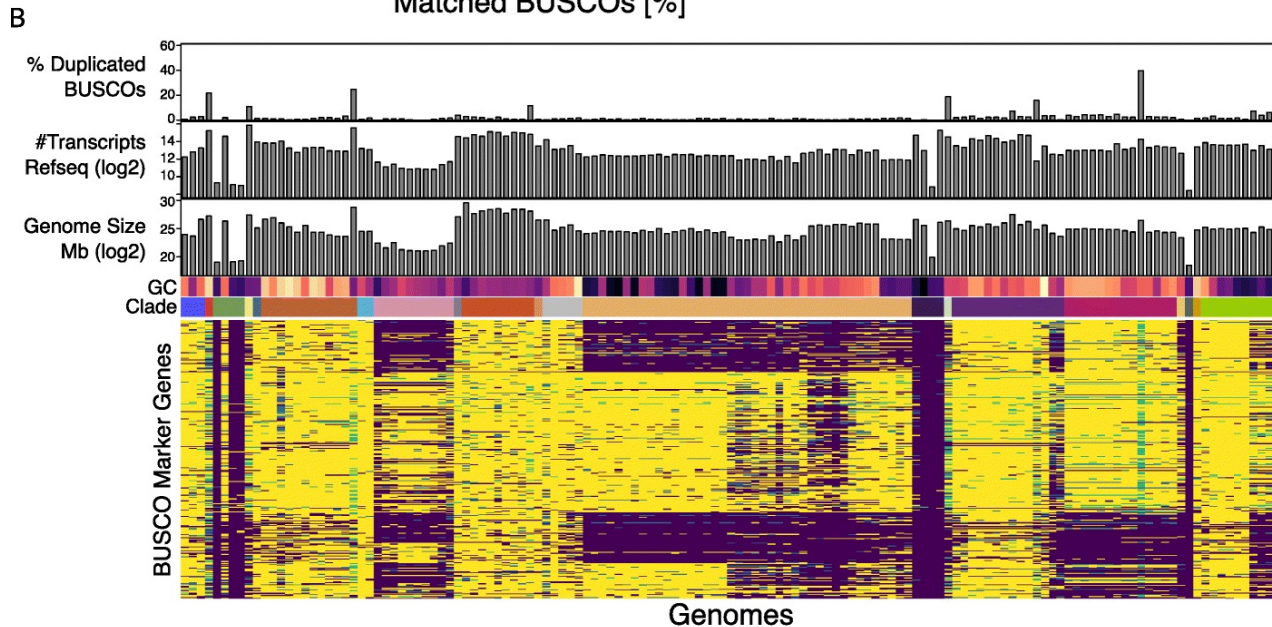
Plants set

Arthropods: 
 Vertebrates: 
 Fungi: 
 Bacteria: 
Metazoans:  &  & 
 Eukaryotes:  &  &  & 

BUSCO limitation



<https://github.com/Finn-Lab/EukCC/>



Saary, P., Mitchell, A.L. & Finn, R.D. Estimating the quality of eukaryotic genomes recovered from metagenomic analysis with EukCC. *Genome Biol* **21**, 244 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13059-020-02155-4>

Completeness

Kmer representation (Merqury, YAK)

kat spectra-cn plot

> Histogram is build with read kmer content.

Colors come from assembly.

> Black = not in the assembly (heterozygous part, second haplotype).

➤ Red = once in the assembly.

1 K-mers on both chromosomes (homozygotes curves)
2 different k-mers on each chromosome (heterozygote curves)

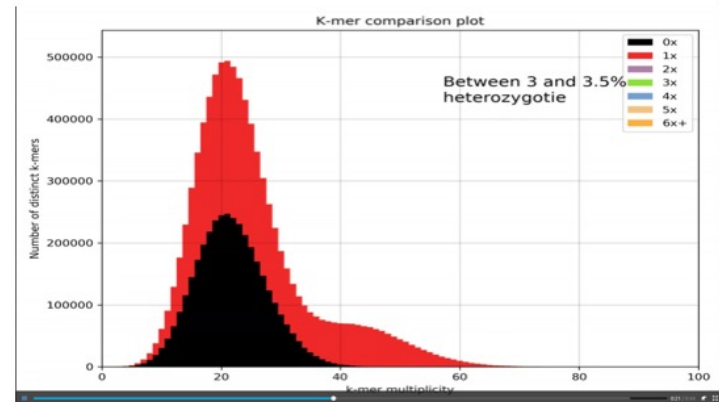
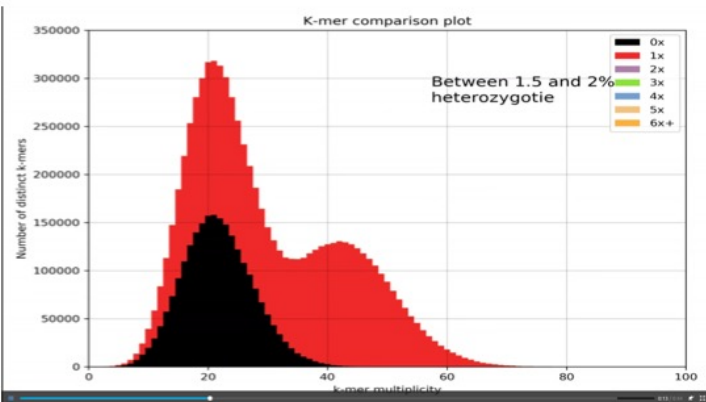
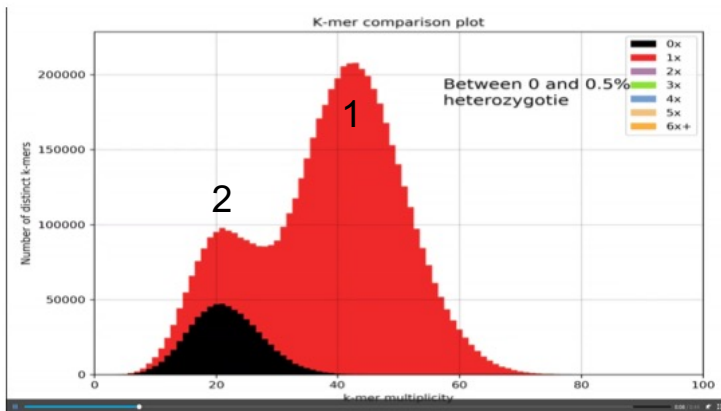


Figure: kat spectra-cn 1.5

Figure: kat spectra-cn 3.5

Completeness

Kmer representation (Merquryl, YAK)

kat spectra-cn plot on homozygous genomes
 > Histogram is build with read kmer content.

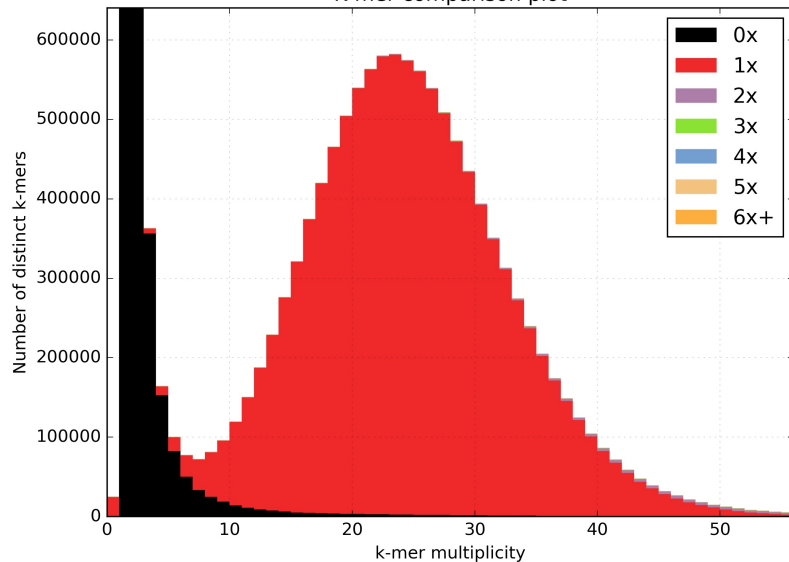
Colors come from assembly.

> Black = not in the assembly (errors).

➤ Red = once in the assembly.

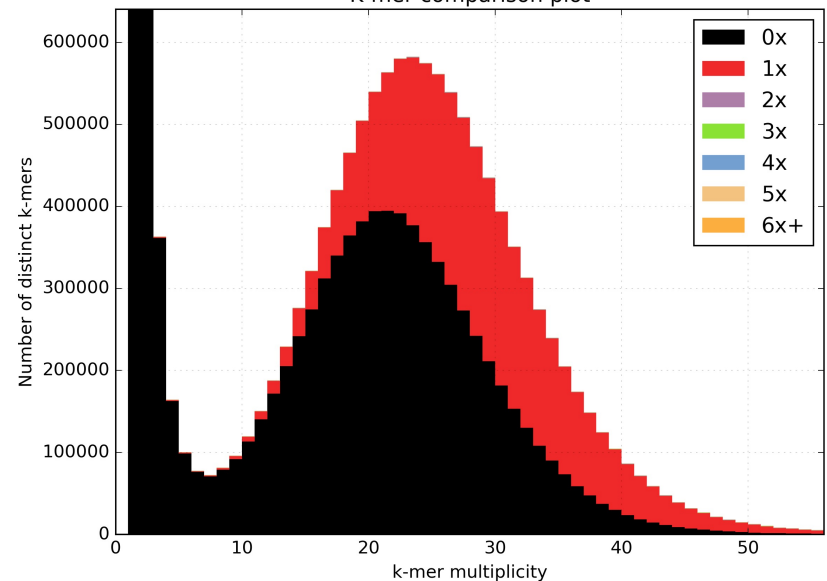
Good assembly

K-mer comparison plot



Wrong assembly : too small k-value during assembly

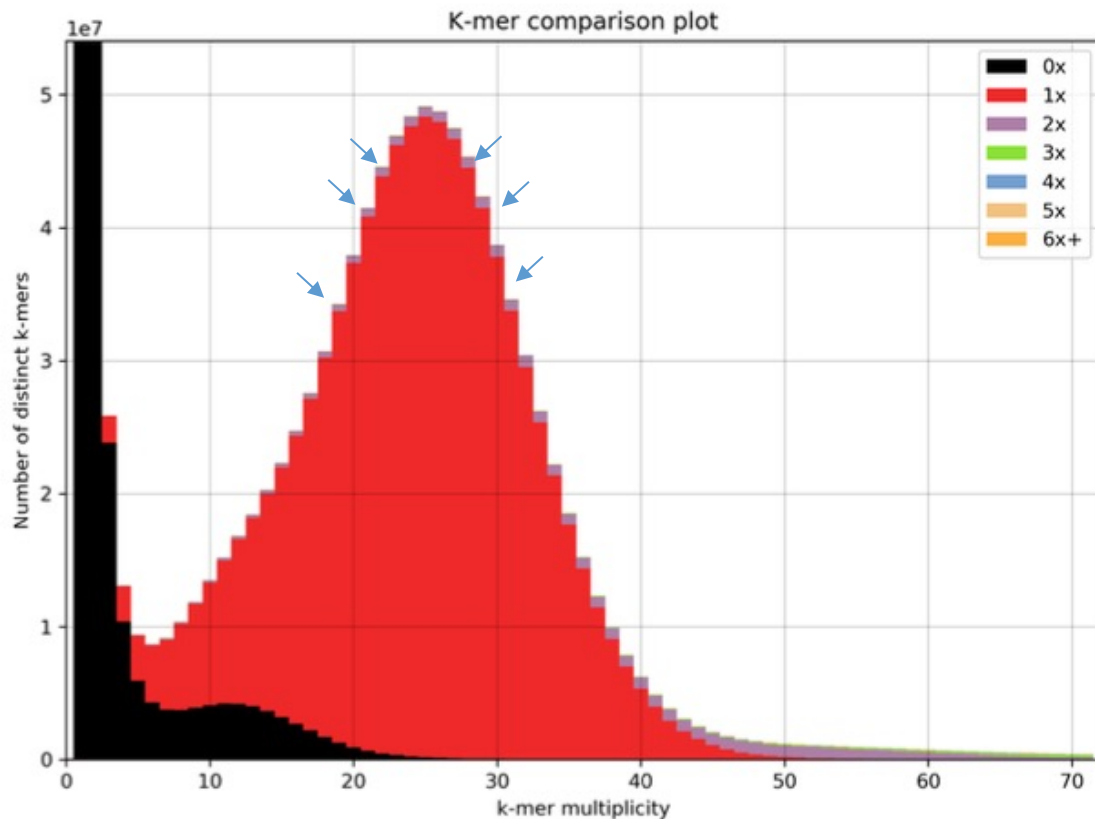
K-mer comparison plot



Completeness

Colors come from assembly.

- > Black = not in the assembly (heterozygous part, second haplotype).
- Red = once in the assembly.
- Purple = twice in the assembly



Sometimes assembler have problems to attribute contigs to the correct haplotype.

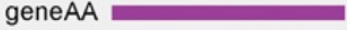
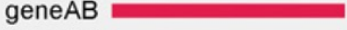

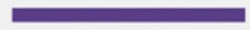





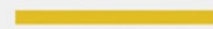
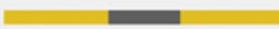










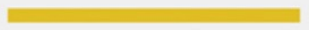

- > These contigs stay in the main assembly
- > This impacts the spectra-cn color profile, remaining purple on top of the red.

Correctness

Proportion of the assembly that is free from mistakes

- Mis-joins
- Repeat compressions
- Unnecessary duplications
- Indels / SNPs caused by assembler

Align back reads to the assembly and check for inconsistencies

Error Type	Reference	Assembly	Read evidence
Family collapse	geneAA  geneAB  geneAC  n=3	 n=1	
Chimerism	 geneC geneB  n=2	 n=1	
Unsupported insertion	 n=1	 n=1	no reads align to insertion 
Incompleteness	 n=1	 n=1	read pairs align off end of contig 
Fragmentation	 n=1	 n=4	bridging read pairs 
Local misassembly	 n=1	 n=1	read pairs in wrong orientation 
Redundancy	 n=1	 n=3	all reads assign to best contig 