

#### DeepG4: A deep learning approach to predict active G-quadruplexes

#### SeqBim 2020

Vincent ROCHER, Matthieu Genais, Elissar Nassereddine and Raphaël Mourad

CBI-Toulouse | Chromatin and DNA Repair | 22/11/2020







### **DNA:** The secret of life

#### **B-DNA (1953)**



The B- DNA (double helix structure) is the most stable structure.

#### **Non B-DNA (1954)**

Cruciform

Triplex

Slipped Structure



Lananand







## **G-Quadruplex (G4):** A non B-DNA Structure



Balasubramanian et al,Sci Rep, 2017

- Fold into four-stranded structures.
- Containing guanine tetrad.
- Motif  $G \geq 3N_xG \geq 3N_yG \geq 3N_zG \geq 3$

# **Biological function of G4's**



- Regulation of gene expression and chromatin architecture.
- Telomere stability.
- Disrupting the replication fork progression causing **Double-strand breaks (DSBs)**.

# Algorithms for G-quadruplexes (G4) predictions

#### **Expert system methods**

Name	Method	Implementation	Year	Link
quadparser	Regex	Python	2005	https://github.com/dariober/
gqrs_mapper	Score based	Python	2006	http://bioinformatics.ramapo.edu/QGRS
G4hunter	Score based	Python	2016	https://github.com/AnimaTardeb/G4Hunter
pqsfinder	Score based	R	2017	https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/pqsfinder.html
qparse	Score based	Python	2019	https://github.com/B3rse/qparse
G4CatchAll	Regex	Python	2019	https://github.com/odoluca/G4Catchall

- **Regex:** ([Gg]{3,}) (\w{1,8}) ([Gg]{3,}) (\w{1,8}) ([Gg]{3,}) (\w{1,8}) ([Gg]{3,})
- Score based: Compute a score using a sliding windows over the whole genome by using G richness and G skewness (G4Hunter).

#### First G4 genome-wide mapping in vitro (G4-seq) 2014

High-throughput sequencing of DNA G-quadruplex structures in the human genome

- High-resolution sequencing-based method to detect G4s in the human genome in vitro.
- The developed method called G4-seq combining features of the polymerase stop assay with Illumina next-generation sequencing.



# Algorithms for G-quadruplexes (G4) predictions

#### Machine learning based algorithms

Name	Method	Implementation	Year	Link
quadron	Machine Learning	R xgboost	2017	https://github.com/aleksahak/Quadronr
G4detector	Deep Learning	Python / Tensorflow	2019	https://github.com/OrensteinLab/G4detector
penguinn	Deep Learning	Python / Tensorflow	2020	https://github.com/ML-Bioinfo-CEITEC/penguinn

- **Quadron:** A machine learning model to predict the formation of G4s using 119 sequence-based features. I.e: the number of tetrads in the G4s , the occurrence of special kmer ...
- Penguinn, G4detector: Multiple layers CNN (Deep learning)

#### Mapping G4s in vivo with BG4-seq (2018)

- ChIP-seq for the DNA secondary structures through the use of a G4-structurespecific single-chain antibody (BG4).
- Refinements in chromatin immunoprecipitation.
- Followed by high-throughput sequencing.



Genome-wide mapping of endogenous G-quadruplex DNA structures by chromatin immunoprecipitation and high-throughput sequencing



### **Active G4s** dataset

Overlap between in vitro (G4-Seq) and in vivo (BG4-Seq) form active G4s.





Mapping of active G4s

## **G4 predictions with DeepG4**

**DeepG4**: a deep learning model to predict active G4s (BG4-G4-seq peaks).

What is deep learning?



Some basic representation of a multi-layer deep learning model



# **G4 predictions with DeepG4**

#### Deep learning for DNA sequences.





Weights can be represented as PWM and encode motifs as features for our model.

### **DeepG4** model architecture



- 1. **Conv1D**: Scan sequences using kernel (20bp).
- 2. Average pooling: Reduce dimension size and aggregate kernel signal.
- 3. **Global max pooling**: Output max activation signal for each kernel.
- 4. **Dropout**: Regularization layer.
- 5. Dense layer (100 units, linear): Combination of weighted kernel signal.
- 6. Dense layer (1 unit, sigmoid): Output a probability.

### **DeepG4: Performances**

Tools

#### Input

**Control sequences:** randomly selected genomic sequences that matched sizes, GC, and repeat contents similar to actives G4s (R package gkmSVM).

- HaCat G4: train/validation/test dataset.
- Independent experiment: HaCat, HEKnp, K562.

G4 detection algorithms						
Name	Method	Implementation				
DeepG4	Deep Learning	R/Tensorflow				
penguinn_retrained	Deep Learning	Python / Tensorflow				
penguinn	Deep Learning	Python / Tensorflow				
G4detector_retrained	Deep Learning	Python / Tensorflow				
G4detector	Deep Learning	Python / Tensorflow				
quadron_retrained	Machine Learning	R xgboost				
quadron_score	Machine Learning	R xgboost				
G4hunterRF	Machine Learning	R ranger / python				
G4hunter	Score based	Python				
qparse	Score based	Python				
pqsfinder	Score based	R				
gqrs_mapper	Score based	Python				
quadparser	Regex	Python				
G4CatchAll	Regex	Python				

### **DeepG4: Performances**



### **DeepG4: Performances**



#### **DeepG4:** Feature extraction

- Motifs are extracted from kernels.
- 900 kernels associated into 163 clusters using matrix clustering (RSAT).
- Represented into 163 root motifs.



Multidimensional scaling (MDS) of DeepG4 clusters.

#### **DeepG4:** Feature importance

- Known TFBS motifs (identified with TomTom) are good predictors.
- De novo and G4-like motifs also found as good predictors.





#### Top 25 importance variables



# Cell type specific transcription factor motif predictors of active G4s



#### **Random Forest classifier:**

- One cell type vs all others cells types.
- Use TFBS motifs as features.
- Importance weighted by motif abundance in the positive set.

### **DeepG4:** SNP effect on active G4s





- C>A lead to a decrease in G4 activity.
- A>G lead to an increase in G4 activity.

#### SNPs could alter the G4 structure stability.

SNPs eQTL (GTEx) increasing gene expression presented high G4 activity.



# Thanks

Vincent ROCHER, Matthieu Genais, Elissar Nassereddine and Raphaël Mourad CBI-Toulouse | Chromatin and DNA Repair | 22/11/2020

# Possible upgrades

- Quasi-SVM as last layer (replacing Dense).
- Filled weights with JASPAR PWMs to help training.
- Parallel convolution layer with differents kernels sizes.
- Add DNA accessibility as input with ATAC-seq.

### Sequence features enriched at active G4s

- Active G4s are enriched in **promoters**.
- Current algorithms failed to predict nonnegligible fraction of **active G4s (11%)**.
- And more than 50% of their results are **false positives**.







#### AUC

Input	DeepG4_BG4G4seq	DeepG4Scan_BG4G4seq	G4CatchAll_n
Peaks_BG4_G4seq_GSE107690_K562_201b	0.920	0.920	0.692
Peaks_BG4_G4seq_GSE76688_HEKnp_201b	0.892	0.892	0.548
Peaks_BG4_G4seq_GSE99205_HaCaT_201b	0.950	0.950	0.603
Peaks_G4seq_BG4_GSE107690_K562_201b	0.919	0.919	0.744
Peaks_G4seq_BG4_GSE76688_HaCaT_201b	0.928	0.928	0.762
Peaks_G4seq_BG4_GSE76688_HEKnp_201b	0.879	0.879	0.643
Peaks_G4seq_BG4_GSE99205_HaCaT_201b	0.919	0.919	0.675
Peaks_G4seqpm_BG4_GSE107690_K562_201b	0.934	0.934	0.770
Peaks_G4seqpm_BG4_GSE76688_HaCaT_201b	0.942	0.942	0.778
Peaks_G4seqpm_BG4_GSE76688_HEKnp_201b	0.893	0.893	0.627
Peaks_G4seqpm_BG4_GSE99205_HaCaT_201b	0.937	0.937	0.706