Understanding *M. tuberculosis* variants using Galaxy and the

COMBAT TB Explorer

Bioinformatics Institute

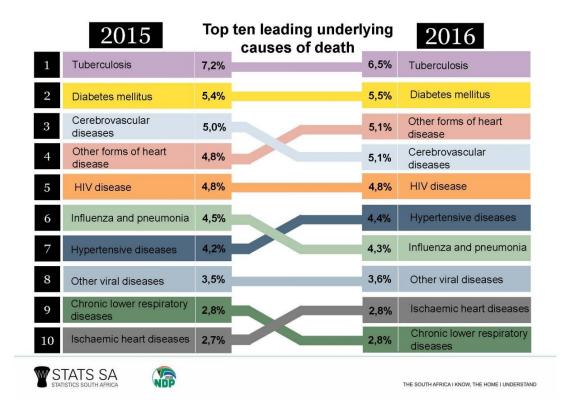
Thoba Lose
Software Developer







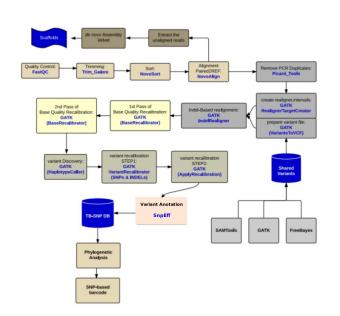




Top 10 leading in causes of death in South Africa

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS)

- WGS has provided ways of uncovering disease related variants in both rare and non-rare diseases.
- The workflows/pipelines for variant calling/analysis are quite standard.
- These workflows generate data on a large number of variants.

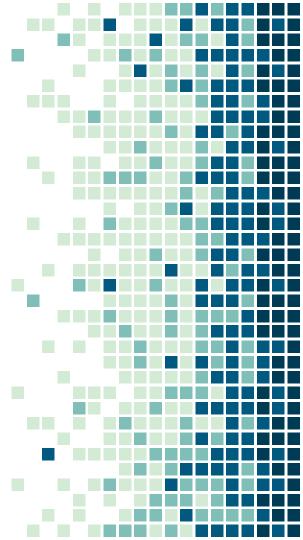


6 6 While workflows and associated software to process raw data and produce high-confidence variant calls have significantly improved, filtering of candidates to identify a subset relevant to a specific study is still a complex exercise...

A practical guide to filtering and prioritizing genetic variants

Mahjoubeh Jalali Sefid Dashti and Junaid Gamieldien South African National Bioinformatics Institute, University of the Western Cape, Bellville, South Africa

BioTechniques 62:18-30 (January 2017) doi 10.2144/000114492 Keywords: whole-genome sequencing; whole-exome sequencing; functional variants; variant prioritization



Questions a biologist might ask



What part of the gene is this variant located in?

What is the predicted effect of the variant?

Is the variant in a gene associated with a essential pathway?

Is the variant in a gene that encodes a protein that interacts with a known disease protein?

Is the variant in a gene that has a function that coincides with the pathology of TB?

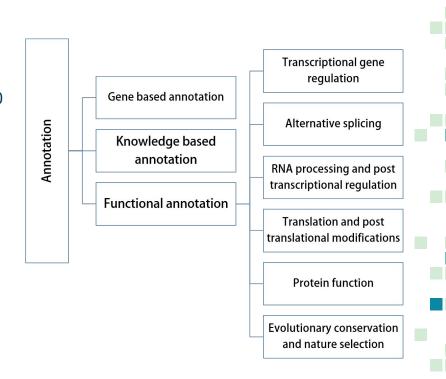
There is a possibility that genes associated with IPR000873 activate fatty acids during dormancy Is the variant in a gene that encodes a target protein (drug target)?



Variant Annotation

 Involves adding metadata and knowledge in effort to enhance assessment of variants likely to impact function.

 SnpEff is a variant annotation and effect prediction tool.



SnpEff

INFO #CHROM POS ID REF ALT QUAL FILTER rs6875309 12 1290 PASS NS=4;DP=20;AF=0.045 9 rs44309 G 2 q15 NS=1:DP=3:AF=0.78



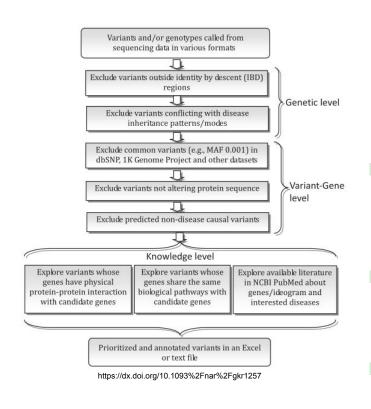
#CHROM POS ID REF ALT **QUAL FILTER** INFO 12 1290 rs6875309 56 **PASS** NS=4;DP=20;AF=0.045 ;EFF=STOP_LOSS(HIGHINONSENSEITag/CogIF2*I 3449ITRP2LIICODINGINM_97375I) G NS=1;DP=3;AF=0.78;EFF=STOP_GAIN(HIGHIFRAMESHIFTITag/CogIF2*I 689IFRC2LIICODINGINM_454648I) 680 rs44309 q15





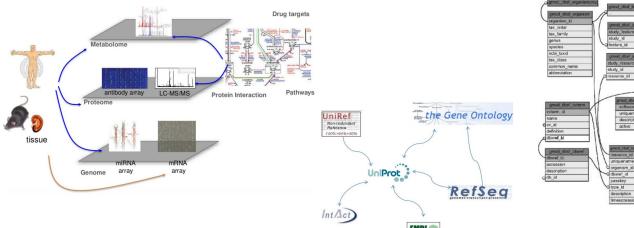
It is possible to rank
 variants based on
 predicted impact. However,
 identifying the strongest
 candidates is not obvious

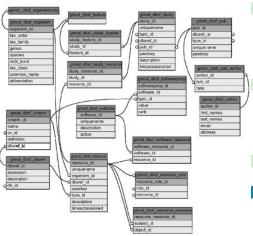
 Assessing candidate genes in the context of extant knowledge is vital.



Graph Databases

- Storing biological data involves modeling and storing thousands of interrelated entities.
- Relational databases meet very specific needs.
- Graph databases which focus on relationships between entities and are seen as a natural fit.

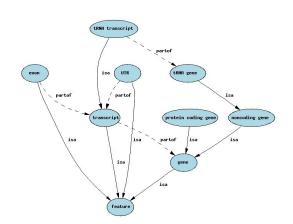


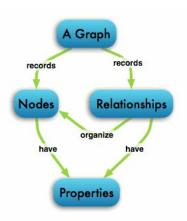


Neo4j

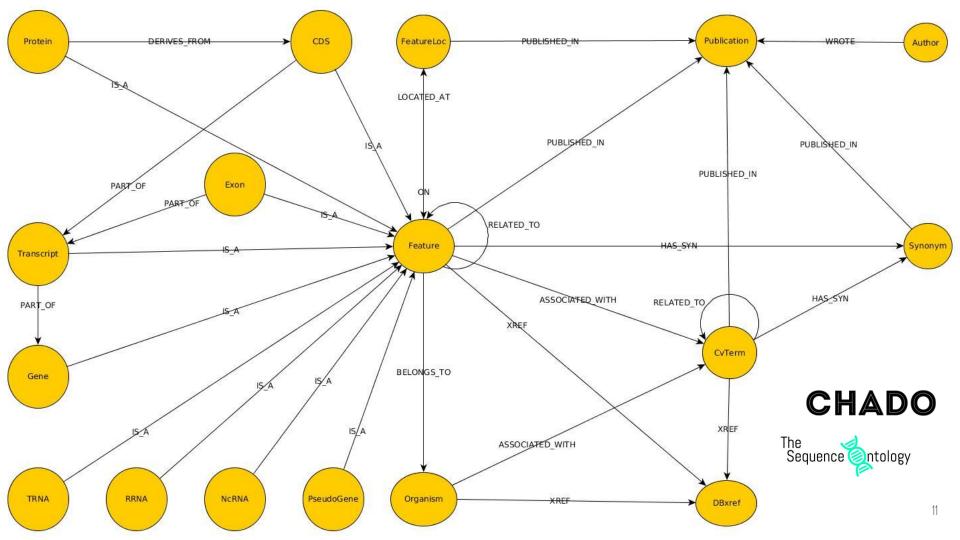


- A highly scalable graph database with a declarative query language called Cypher
 - Property Graph Model
 - Whiteboard friendly
 - Schema-less
 - Exposes a RESTful API



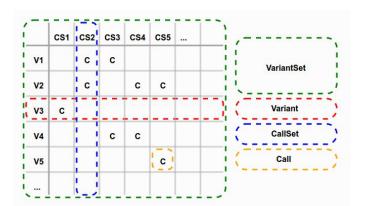


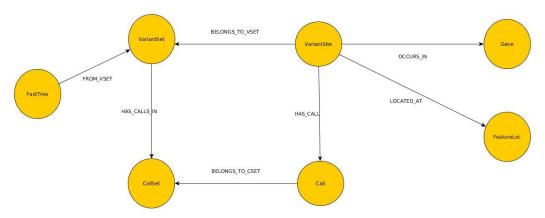




GA4GH Variant Model

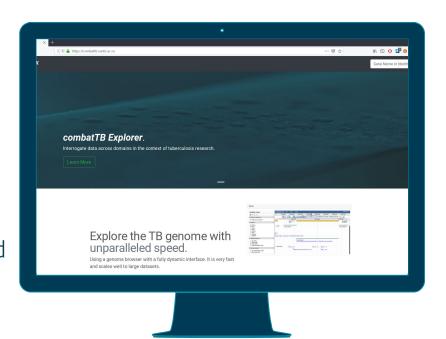


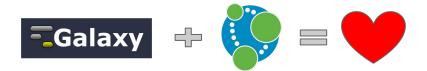




COMBAT TB Explorer

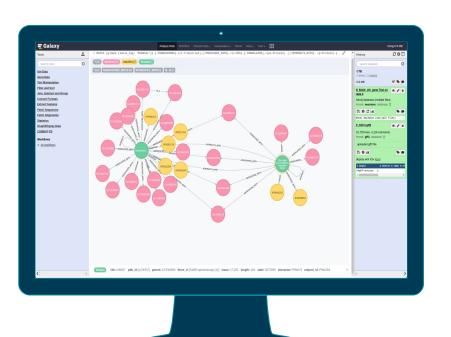
An integrated knowledge management <u>system</u> that allows researchers to interrogate data in the context to TB research and data available in public repositories





Neo4j Galaxy IE

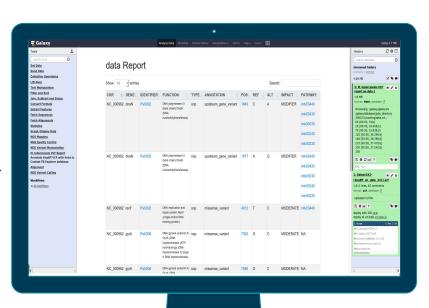
Based on a customized Neo4j Docker image and utilises the neostore datatype.





tbvcfreport

A tool that utilises the Neo4j database to generate an interactive HTML-based VCF report, from SnpEff produced VCF files, with links to the COMBAT TB Explorer





Conclusion

 The integration of extant biological resources in the context of TB, the Combat TB Explorer combined with Galaxy provide a single, easy to use, integrated approach to prioritize candidate variants.



The Team

Christoffels Lab:

- L. Abdoll
- T. Calvert-Joshua
- A. Christoffels
- K. Direko
- Z. Mashologu
- J. Southgate
- P. van Heusden









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WESTERN CAPE



THANKS!

Any questions?

You can find me at: thoba@sanbi.ac.za













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