

CREMA tutorial

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What about distal regulation?

- ISMARA only considers regulatory elements near the transcription start site.
- But in higher eukaryotes, a lot (most?) of gene regulation is driven by distal cisregulatory elements (enhancers).

Features of (distal) Cis-Regulatory Elements

- Activation requires local chromatin structure to become accessible.
- Each CRE is bound by different combinations of TFs.
- RNA polymerase is recruited to active CREs.
- Active CREs can produce short aborted transcripts.
- Chromatin is looped (actively) so that CREs contact target promoters.
- CRE state is associated with particular chromatin marks.

Why is including the effects of distal CREs challenging?

- **1. There are too many!** A substantial fraction of the genome can act as a CRE *in particular tissues/conditions*.
- **2. CREs are highly condition-dependent.** In contrast to elements like genes and promoters, the set of active CREs in the genome is highly condition-dependent.
- **3. Disagreement between different methods for CRE identification** (e.g. DNA accessibility, H3K4me1, H3K27ac, p300, eRNAs).
- **4. Poor understanding of CRE-promoter interaction**
	- We typically do not know which CREs target which promoters.
	- Little understanding of how CRE activity affects target gene expression.

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Automated modeling of genome-wide chromatin state in terms of local constellations of regulatory sites

Summary of the approach

- **Input**: raw sequencing data of enhancer marks (Dnase-seq, ATAC-seq, ChIP-seq) across a set of samples.
- **CRE detection:** All genomic regions that show a significant enrichment in at least one sample.
- **CRE signal matrix:** Quantify the strength of each CRE's signal across conditions.
- **TFBS annotation:** Predict TFBSs in all CREs genome-wide.
- **Model CRE activity:** Model the CRE signal strength across samples in terms the the TFBSs in each CRE and activities of regulators.

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Completely automated analysis of ChIP-seq data

Citation:

Genome Res. 2019 Jul; 29(7): 1164-1177. doi: 10.1101/gr. 239319.118. Epub 2019 May 28.

Crunch: integrated processing and modeling of ChIP-seq data in terms of regulatory motifs.

Berger S¹, Pachkov M¹, Arnold P¹, Omidi S¹, Kelley N¹, Salatino S¹, van Nimwegen E¹.

Preprocessing

- $1.$ **Quality Filtering**
- $2.$ **Adapter Removal**
- **Read Mapping** 3.
- **BED and WIG Extraction** 4.
- **Fragment Size Estimation** 5.

Peak Calling

- **Detecting Enriched Regions** 6.
- **Decomposition of Enriched Regions** 7.
- **Peaks Annotation** 8.

Regulatory Motif Analysis

- **Finding de novo Motifs** $9.$
- 10. Identifying Complementary Motif Set from de novo and Known Motifs
- 11. Motif Site Prediction
- 12. Motif Scoring and Annotation

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- 11. Motif Site Prediction
- 12. Motif Scoring and Annotation

Matches to adaptor sequences GATCGGAAGAGCTCGTATGCCGTCTTCTGCTTC ACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT 1200 GATCGGAAGAGCGGTTCAGCAGGAATGCCGAd TGGAATTCTCGGGTGCCAAGG 1000 GATCGGAAGAGCACACGTCTG **TCGTATGCCGTCTTCTGCTTG** full matches 800 600 400 200 $\overline{15}$ 16 17 18 19 20 prefix length

- Truncate low quality 3' ends of reads.
- Remove reads that are:
	- too short
	- too low sequencing quality (phred score)
	- too many Ns
	- too low dinucleotide entropy.
- Identify which of a library of 3' adapter sequences has most prefix matches to the reads.
- Remove adaptor matches.

Preprocessing 1. **Quality Filtering Adapter Removal** $2.$ $\overline{3}$. **Read Mapping BED and WIG Extraction** 4. **Fragment Size Estimation** 5. **Peak Calling** 6. **Detecting Enriched Regions Decomposition of Enriched Regions** 7. **Peaks Annotation** 8. **Regulatory Motif Analysis**

- **Finding de novo Motifs** $9₁$
- 10. Identifying Complementary Motif Set from de novo and Known Motifs
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- Map reads to the genome (Bowtie).
- Use only 'best' mappings for each read.
- **Note:** Multi-mappers are divided with equal weight over the loci that they map to.

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Fragment length can be estimated from cross-correlation of reads on opposite strands

From: Kharchenko et al *Nat Biotech* **(2008), after Schmid and Bucher** *Cell* **(2007)**

- DNA fragments are either sequenced from the left end on the plus strand.
- Or from their right end on the negative strand.
- The mapping position on pos/neg strand corresponds to the start/end of the fragment.
- One binding peak leads to *two* peaks of mapped reads: one on plus strand, and one shifted by fragment length on the negative strand.
- The cross-correlation between starts/ends of reads on pos/neg strand captures the fragment length.

Using this, we estimate the (strand independent) central position for each read.

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12. Motif Scoring and Annotation

Preprocessing

- 1. **Quality Filtering**
- **Adapter Removal** $\mathbf{2}$.
- **Read Mapping** 3.
- **BED and WIG Extraction** 4.
- 5. **Fragment Size Estimation**

Peak Calling

- **Detecting Enriched Regions** l6.
- **Decomposition of Enriched Regions** $7.$
- **Peaks Annotation** 8.

Regulatory Motif Analysis

- **Finding de novo Motifs** $9.$
- 10. Identifying Complementary Motif Set from de novo and Known Motifs
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- Slide 500 bp window across the genome.
- Quantify significance of the enrichment of ChIPseq over input DNA in each window.
- Collect all windows over a significance threshold.
- Fuse consecutive windows into enriched regions.

Removing regions with abnormally high coverage in background samples

- Reverse cumulative distribution of background reads per window.
- About 1 in 1000 windows has abnormally large coverage.
- These regions are often associated with repetitive elements and map poorly to other species.
- These are likely an artefact, e.g. the assembly may underestimate the size of these repeats.
- The statistics of the peak finding model breaks down in these regions.
- CRUNCH thus removes these regions from consideration.

Bayesian model for identifying enriched regions

Noise model for read-counts in un-enriched windows

• *Multiplicative* noise plus *Poisson* sampling, i.e. as previously developed in:

Balwierz PJ, Carninci P, Daub CO, Kawai J, Hayashizaki Y, Van Belle W, Beisel C, van Nimwegen E. Genome Biol. 2009;10(7):R79. doi: 10.1186/gb-2009-10-7-r79. Epub 2009 Jul 22.

Variables:

- *n*,*m* = reads in ChIP/input sample.
- *N*,*M* = total reads in ChIP/input sample.
- σ = standard-deviation of the multiplicative noise.
- μ = Shift in average log read-density.

Probability of observing *x* **if there is no true enrichment:** $P(x | \mu, \sigma) \propto \exp \left(-\frac{(x - \mu)}{2}\right)$

Mixture model

• The enrichment *xi* for each window *i* derives from either the noise model or a uniform distribution (= 'something else'):

$$
P(D \mid \mu, \sigma, \rho) = \prod_{i} \left[P(x_i \mid \mu, \sigma) \rho + \frac{1 - \rho}{x_{\text{max}} - x_{\text{min}}} \right]
$$

• We fit μ , σ , and ρ to *maximize* $P(D | \mu, \sigma, \rho)$, and calculate an enrichment z-score for each window.

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Enrichment *x*:

$$
x = \log\left[\frac{n}{N}\right] - \log\left[\frac{m}{M}\right]
$$

$$
x p\left[-\frac{\left(x-\mu\right)^2}{2\left(2\sigma^2+\frac{1}{n}+\frac{1}{m}\right)}\right]
$$

 \rfloor '

The noise model accurately captures the observed genome-wide enrichment statistics

As far as we are aware, **CRUNCH has the only peak-finder that demonstrably matches the data's statistics**.

Automated decomposition of each enriched region into individual binding peaks using a Gaussian mixture

- Read-density profile modeled as a *Gaussian mixture* plus background read-density.
- Informative prior on peak-width from fragment sizes.
- Each individual peak assigned a final significance.
- Final individual peaks sorted by their significance.
- **Peak annotation:** Identify nearest neighboring genes.

Sorted list of annotated peaks

Examples of peaks fitted within regions hide

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- The CRUNCH pipe-line is used to identify peaks within each sample.
- All peaks from all samples with centers within 75bp are fused into CREs.
- 90% of all CREs are less than 500bp in datasets processed so far.
- Typically on the order of 100'000 CREs genome-wide in a given dataset.

CRE signal strength across samples

Signal strength is defined as the log-ratio of the read-density in the foreground sample relative to a `background' sample:

$$
S_{cs} = \log\big(\frac{f_{cs}}{F_s}\cdot\tilde{F}+1\big)-\log\big(\frac{b_{cs}}{B_s}\cdot\tilde{F}+1\big)
$$

- S_{cs} = Signal of CRE *c* in sample *s*.
- f_{cs} = Number of reads from sample *s* falling in CRE *c*.
- F_s = Total number of reads in sample *s*.
- \tilde{F} = Median number of total reads across samples.
- b_{cs} = Number of *background* reads from sample *s* falling in CRE *c*.
- B_s = Total number of reads in sample *s*.

Background

- For ChIP-seq: Provided background samples of input DNA (or reference ChIP-seq background sample that we have precalculated).
- For ATAC-seq/DNase-seq: A simple *uniform distribution* of background read counts.

TFBS annotation in CREs

- We use our curated collection of \sim 500 motif groups representing \sim 600 mammalian TFs.
- We use MotEvo to predict TFBSs for each motif *m* in each CRE *c*.
- The TFBS predictions are summarized in the sitecount matrix:

 N_{cm} = Sum of the posteriors of sites for motif *m* in CRE *c*.

MARA model for CREs

• We employ the MARA model *exactly* as it is performed for gene expression data, i.e. we fit the model:

$$
S_{cs} = \sum_{m} N_{cm} \cdot A_{ms} + \tilde{c}_c + c_s + noise
$$

- \bullet A_{ms} = Average effect on CRE signal in sample *s* from removing 1 binding site for motif *m*.
- We again use a *Gausian prior* on the motif activities (ridge regression) and optimize its parameter using 80/20 cross-validation.
- Motif significances are:

$$
z_m = \sqrt{\frac{1}{S} \sum_s \left(\frac{A'_{ms}}{\delta A'_{ms}}\right)^2}
$$

Target scores are (changes in chi-squared of the fit):

$$
\zeta_{cm} = \frac{\sum_{s} \chi_{csm}^2 - \chi_{cs}^2}{\langle \chi^2 \rangle}
$$

Predicting targets of each motif (conceptual)

- For each motif, select promoters with predicted sites, i.e with $N_{cm} > 0$
- *Mutate* CRE *c* to *remove* the binding site(s) for motif *m*: $N_{cm} \rightarrow 0$
- Updated site-count matrix: $N \rightarrow \tilde{N}$
- Log-likelihood ratio of fitting all data with N versus the mutated \tilde{N} :

 $\int dA P(S|\widetilde{N}, A)$

Quantifies the contribution of motif *m* to explaining the $\zeta_{cm} = \log \left[\frac{\int dA P(S|N,A)}{\int dA P(S|\tilde{N}, A)} \right]$ Quantifies the contribution of ζ_{cm}

The log-likelihood ratio ζ_{cm} quantifies how much the quality of the fit is reduced when the sites for motif *m* in CRE *c* are removed.

Associating CREs with genes

Distance based weights between CRE and TSS of nearby genes:

$$
w_c(G) = \frac{0.95}{1+(\frac{d_{CG}}{d_p})^2} + \frac{0.05}{1+(\frac{d_{CG}}{d_d})^2}
$$

Probability of associating CRE c with gene G based on relative weights:

$$
P_c(G) = \frac{w_c(G)}{w_0 + \sum_g w_c(g)}
$$

 $W_0 = 0.01$

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CREMA: Cis-Regulatory Element Motif Activities

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CREMA: Cis-Regulatory Element Motif Activities

Click on example results

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Example results

- DNase-Seq: mouse liver sampled at different timepoints after prolonged exposure to constant darkness.
	- CREMA results
	- ENCODE link to the dataset
- ATAC-Seq: different tissues sampled at different timepoints during embryonic development.
	- CREMA results
	- ENCODE link to the dataset
- H3K4me3 ChIP-Seq: Immunoprecipitation for H3K4me3 across different tissues sampled at different timepoints during embryonic development.
	- CREMA results
	- ENCODE link to the dataset
- H3K4me3 ChIP-Seq: Immunoprecipitation for H3K4me3 across different types of primary human cells
	- CREMA results
	- ENCODE link to the dataset
- H3K4me1 ChIP-Seq: Immunoprecipitation for H3K4me1 across different types of primary human cells
	- CREMA results
	- ENCODE link to the dataset
- Chromatin accessibility in the developing mouse embryo.
- ATAC-seq from the Bing Ren lab (ENCODE).
- 10 tissues, multiple time points in each.

Results chromatin accessibility in mouse development

Project

ENCODE: ATAC-seq of different tissues during embryonic development

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Navigation

Motif significance table Sample table **Mean activities PCA plots** All CRE sorted by **FOV**

CREMA identifies cis-regulatory elements genome-wide and models their activities across samples in terms of predicted transcription factor binding sites within them.

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

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Results chromatin accessibility in mouse development

ENCODE: ATAC-seq of different tissues during embryonic development

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Motif significano table Sample table **Mean activities PCA plots** All CRE sorted **k FOV** Search get Perform san averaging

Downloads

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CREMA identifies cis-regulatory elements genome-wide and models their activities across samples in terms of predicted transcription factor binding sites within them.

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

List of samples with CRE summary statistics

BIO NTRUM Links with more information about each sample.

Most significant motifs for forebrain_E15.5

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value) for sample forebrain_E15.5.

0 Q + H O B E X A T = = B

z-value of motif activity

Results chromatin accessibility in mouse development

CREMA identifies cis-regulatory elements

binding sites within them.

genome-wide and models their activities across samples in terms of predicted transcription factor

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

ENCODE: ATAC-seq of different tissues during embryonic development

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Navigation

table

FOV

Search: Show $10 \div$ entries **Motif name N** Z-value ⇅ **Associated genes Profile** Logo **Motif significance** Sample table Tal1 43.90 Tal1 Links \blacktriangledown n Rm **Mean activities PCA plots** All CRE sorted Rfx3 Rfx1 Rfx4 31.11 Rfx3 Mars Links \blacktriangledown Rfx1 Links \blacktriangledown Search gene Rfx4 Links * Perform sample averaging Hnf4a 24.18 Hnf4a Links \blacktriangledown nallel **Downloads**

PCA plots summarize the overall structure in the data

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PCA of the CRE signal vectors across samples

8 Q + H Q B D X A H = = H

- Interactive figure (mouse over, zoom, screen shot, etc.)
- Colors correspond to tissues.
- Symbols correspond to developmental time.

PCA of the motif activities across samples

- More than 70% of the variance is captured by the first two PCA components.
- Samples tend to move radially outward with developmental time.
- Projections of top motifs onto these two PCA components are indicated.

Motifs sorted by significance (explaining changes in accessibility across samples)

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

Motifs sorted by significance (explaining changes in accessibility across samples)

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

Rfx motif is second in the list.

Three Rfx TFs bind this motif

Results for Rfx3_Rfx1_Rfx4

Z-value: 31.11

Transcription factors associated with Rfx3_Rfx1_Rfx4

CREs near the TFs associated with the motif

Correlations of motif activity and signal intensity at CREs associated with the motif's TFs:

This plot shows correlation between observed signal intensity of a CRE associated with the transcription factor across all samples and activity of the motif.

For each TF, only the top 5 correlated CREs are shown.

Search:

CREs near the TFs associated with the motif

Correlations of motif activity and signal intensity at CREs associated with the motif's TFs:

This plot shows correlation between observed signal intensity of a CRE associated with the transcription factor across all samples and activity of the motif.

For each TF, only the top 5 correlated CREs are shown.

Search:

CREs near Rfx4 have CRE signal intensities that highly correlate with motif activity

CREs near the TFs associated with the motif

Correlations of motif activity and signal intensity at CREs associated with the motif's TFs:

This plot shows correlation between observed signal intensity of a CRE associated with the transcription factor across all samples and activity of the motif.

For each TF, only the top 5 correlated CREs are shown.

Search:

Rfx4 promoter accessibility matches the activity of the motif across samples.

CREs near the Rfx4 promoter

- 7 Separate CREs in a 10Kb region around the start of the Rfx4 gene.
- 3 more CREs downstream of the promoter and upstream of 2 lincRNAs.

Activity of the Rfx3_Rfx1_Rfx4 motif across the samples

- The motif is strongly upregulated in all neural tissues.
- The motif increases in activity across development.

activity

Especially in late development and postnatally in forebrain.

List of top target CREs of the Rfx motifs

All tables like this are searchable and sortable by each of their columns.

How many CREs does the Rfx motif target?

Rank distribution of CRE target scores:

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Where are the CREs that the Rfx motif targets?

Histogram of CRE-TSS distance, based on: 6375 CREs

- Targets = all CREs that have at least 1 binding site for the Rfx motif.
- The histogram is made by weighing each CRE with its target score for the Rfx motif.

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Where are the CREs that the Rfx motif targets?

- Fractions of the CREs targeted by the Rfx motif that intersect different types of genomic regions.
- Enrichment of each region type relative to *random positions in the genome*.
- Enrichment of each region type relative to the set of *all CREs.*

10th most significant motif is Mef2b

None of the CREs near Mef2b correlate strongly in accessibility with Mef2b motif activity.

Mef2b motif activity is strongly up-regulated in the developing heart.

Mef2b targets muscle genes, mostly in introns

response to muscle activity involved in regulation of muscle adaptation(GO:0014873) 32.5 GO:0014873

51.8 GO:0098735 positive regulation of the force of heart contraction(GO:0098735)

10.8

10.4

Nfia motif activity increases with time in many tissues

 $\mathbf 5$ $6\overline{6}$ $\overline{7}$

 $\overline{3}$ $\overline{4}$ Position CREs near the Nfia TF have accessibility that correlate with Nfia motif activity.

Results chromatin accessibility in mouse development

ENCODE: ATAC-seq of different tissues during embryonic development

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Navigation

Motif significance table Sample table **Mean activities PCA plots** All CRE sorted by **FOV** Search gene Perform sample averaging **Downloads**

CREMA identifies cis-regulatory elements genome-wide and models their activities across samples in terms of predicted transcription factor binding sites within them.

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

Searchable list with all CREs.

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List of CREs with summary statistics

This table shows statistics for all CRE/genes in the dataset.

Show 100 \div entries

Search:

- The table can be sorted by any of its columns (default by FoV).
- One can search for particular CREs or genes.
- Note a gene can have many CREs associated with it.
- The table is LARGE and typically takes ~1 minute to load.

Example of a CRE with very high FoV

CRE: chr11_77965366_77966105

Fraction of explained variance: 0.959 SwissRegulon link: chr11_77965366_77966105 **Associated genes:**

· Sez6 : seizure related gene 6 Links \blacktriangledown Associated transcript: ENSMUST00000140630

On this plot you can see a contribution of individual motifs into the predicted signal intensities. Use checkboxes in the table on the right side to show or remove impact of a motif to the predicted signal intensities. By default all motifs are turned off.

This plot shows signal intensities and predicted signal of mm10_chr11_77965366_77966105 CRE. Left vertical axis is a CRE signal intensities on the log2 scale. Right vertical axis is a predicted CRE signal on the log2 scale. Horisontal axis indicates samples.

Example CRE with very high FoV

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Fraction of explained variance: 0.959 SwissRegulon link: chr11_77965366_77966105 **Associated genes:**

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This plot shows signal intensities and predicted signal of mm10_chr11_77965366_77966105 CRE. Left vertical axis is a CRE signal intensities on the log2 scale. Right vertical axis is a predicted CRE signal on the log2 scale. Horisontal axis indicates samples.

Of course, it is extremely rare for the model to fit accessibility across tissues so well.

All results are downloadable in flat file formats

Project

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CREMA identifies cis-regulatory elements genome-wide and models their activities across samples in terms of predicted transcription factor binding sites within them.

ENCODE: ATAC-seq of different tissues during embryonic development

Regulatory motifs sorted by significance (z-value)

These results allow all kinds of downstream analyses of your own design.

Example

Variability in accessibility is larger for distal regions and larger at later developmental time points

CREMA: acknowledgments **CREMA:** CREMA **Cis-Regulatory Element Motif Activities**

Please choose appropriate options and start your job submission by clicking the "Start upload" button.

Anne Krämer CREMA developer

Mikhail Pachkov web-interface developer

Severin Berger CRUNCH developer

Phil Arnold MotEvo

Saeed Omidi CRUNCH pipeline

Nick Kelley pre-processing

Silvia Salatino pre-processing