ribotricer: Identifying short and long ORFs under active translation

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Actively translating fragments show 3-nt periodicity



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Problem definition: Differentiate an actively translating profile (left) from non-active (right) in Ribo-seq data

- Assesses the periodicity of RPF profile by projecting the 3D read count vector of each codon to a 2D unit vector
- Uses qualitative information of "high-low-low" pattern



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- · Ribo-seq profiles from CDS exons: True positives
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Goal: Detect actively translating ORFs with minimal dependence on the ORF length.

Ribo-seq data is heterogeneous across species



Ribotricer achieves highest AUROC across datasets



Ribotricer achieves highest F1 score across datasets



Ribotricer can detect ORFs as short as 20 codons

 Calculate the deviation of phase score between a full length exon and its shorter variant created by subsampling codons

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Ribotricer can detect ORFs as short as 20 codons

- Calculate the deviation of phase score between a full length exon and its shorter variant created by subsampling codons
- · Ribotricer can accurately detect ORFs as short as 20 codons



Identifying actively translating regions using ribotricer

Yeast-filament transition in C. albicans

• *C. albicans*: a fungal pathogen that inhabits the mucosal surfaces of most healthy individuals

Yeast-filament transition in C. albicans

- *C. albicans*: a fungal pathogen that inhabits the mucosal surfaces of most healthy individuals
- Reversible morphological transition from single budding yeasts to continuously branching filaments increases virulence



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Yeast-filament transition in C. albicans

- *C. albicans*: a fungal pathogen that inhabits the mucosal surfaces of most healthy individuals
- Reversible morphological transition from single budding yeasts to continuously branching filaments increases virulence
- Translational landscape changes unknown: Avenues for improving drug efficacy



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Ribotricer enables recovery of ORFs with low signal to noise ratio



· High rRNA contamination leads to a very few shallow sequenced samples

Ribotricer enables recovery of ORFs with low signal to noise ratio



- · High rRNA contamination leads to a very few shallow sequenced samples
- Most ORF detection methods fail at detecting any translating regions because of low signal to noise ratio

Ribotricer identifies genes playing differential role at translational level



Ribotricer identifies genes playing differential role at translational level

Ribotricer detects hundreds of genes playing a differential role at the translational level in yeast to filamentous transition.

Gene	Function	FC
HMS1	TF required for morphogenesis	3.6
ERK1	Kinase required for yeast-hyphal switch	3.5
PTC8	Required for hyphal growth	3.1
RAX2	Involved in establishment of bud sites and hyphal growth	2.4



Ribotricer enables discovery of novel ORFs

· Ribotricer can be used to discover novel ORFs that are unannotated



Ribotricer enables discovery of novel ORFs

- · Ribotricer can be used to discover novel ORFs that are unannotated
- Ribotricer discovered 71 novel ORFs that are currently missing from *C. albicans*' annotation



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Ribotricer's phase score captures periodicity in Ribo-seq profile



Ribotricer cutoff learned by maximizing the F1 score

- F1 score = harmonic mean of precision and recall
- Using public datasets in human and mouse, we choose the phase-score cutoff as the score resulting in maximum F1 score



Ribotricer outperforms other methods at the isoform level



Ribotricer outperforms other methods at the isoform level



Ribotricer outperforms other methods at the exon level



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Species-specific cutoffs can vary with datasets



Ribotricer's performance is consistent across short and long ORFs

- Ribotricer's performance
 unaffected by signal strength
- Particularly advantageous in regions of low signal to noise ratio



Ribotricer's performance is minimally dependent on ORF length



Dataset specific cutoffs can give marginal improvement

Ribotricer can also learn dataset-specific cutoffs based on availability of RNA- and Ribo-seq dataset



Ribotricer achieves highest AUROC in independent species



Ribotricer achieves highest F1 score in independent species



Membrane proteins seem to be not-profiled by Ribo-seq



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Membrane proteins seem to be not-profiled by Ribo-seq



Phase scores with transcript category



