

➤ Description:

High-throughput RNAi screening has been widely used in a spectrum of biomedical research and made it possible to study functional genomics. However, a challenge for authentic biological interpretation of large-scale siRNA or shRNA-mediated loss-of-function studies is the biological pleiotropy resulting from multiple modes of action of siRNA and shRNA reagents. A major confounding feature of these reagents is the microRNA-like translational quelling that can result from short regions (~6 nucleotides) of oligonucleotide complementarity to many different mRNAs. To help identify and correct miRNA-mimic off-target effects, we have developed DecoRNAi (deconvolution analysis of RNAi screening data) for automated quantitation and annotation of microRNA-like off-target effects in primary RNAi screening data sets. DecoRNAi can effectively identify and correct off-target effects from primary screening data and provide data visualization for study and publication. DecoRNAi contains pre-computed seed sequence families for 3 commonly employed commercial siRNA libraries. For custom collections, the tool will compute seed sequence membership from a user-supplied reagent sequence table. All parameters are tunable and output files include global data visualization, the identified seed family associations, the siRNA pools containing off-target seed families, corrected z-scores and the potential miRNAs with phenotypes of interest.

➤ Input file format:

51742	-25.00	CUGAAGACCUCCAAGUUUA	GGACAUGAUCCGAGAGGUG	UGAAGAAAGCCACUGCCAA	GAGCUGAGCAAUGUCCUGG
10660	-23.50	CCAAAGAGCUCAUAAAAGA	CAAGAUGUAUGGUGAGUAU	CCAAUGAGCUCCUGCAAAC	UCUCAAGGACUAUCUGUUA
151648	-23.32	GAACUUGGAUCUCUUGUCU	GAUCACAGAUUCAUUGAA	CUAAGGAGUUCAUAGAAUU	GAAAUUAAGCCUCCGAAUC
11036	-21.72	GUACUUGGAUAUCGAAAUU	GCUCAAGACAUGGAUAAUA	UAACAGAUGCAGUUGGUA	CCAUAGAAAUAUCUUCGAU
7791	-20.63	GAAGUGAUUAUCGCCUUG	GAAACUCGUCGGCGGUGU	CACAGGAGUUUGUAGGAUU	GUUCUCACCUUAUAGAGCA
5272	-18.36	GAAAGUCGCGCACGGCCUU	UCGAAAGACCUCGCCGUGU	UGGCCGAACUCGAGCAGAA	CGUCUGUGCGGAGAAGUUA
7314	-18.24	CAUCUUAAGCCUGAAGGAUA	UGAAAGAAGCCCAAGAUUA	CAGCCAGCGUGAACUAUAA	AAACGCAGGUCUUUUUAUAG
341405	-17.61	UCAACAGCAUCAUUAGUUA	GAUUUAAGCAUUCGGGUUA	UGGCCAGCCUUCAGUAAUA	GAAUUGAAACCGUGCUACA
9183	-17.38	GACAAGAACUCCACAUGA	GAAUGUGGUCUGAACGAA	GACCAAGAAUGAUCCUUUC	GGUGAGCAGUAUUGAUUUG
687	-16.20	GGACCAAGCCAGACUGUAU	GGAAUGAACCGUUUGACGA	CCGGGUAGCUCAAUUGAUG	CAAGAUAAACCCUUCGCACA

Note 1: Input file has to be a Comma-separated values (CSV) file whose extension name is “.csv”.

Note 2: Input file has **NO HEADER** in the first row.

Note 3: The first two columns are Gene Entrez ID and phenotypic readouts (it is robust Z score in all of our example datasets), respectively. In following columns, users have to provide siRNA sense strand sequences if they are using custom siRNA library and make sure one sequence per cell, in which case the first column doesn't have to be Gene Entrez ID and can be any format. If users choose our built-in siRNA library for analysis, sequences are not needed.

Note 4: For user-provided siRNA sense strand sequences, please make sure the sequences don't contain 3' overhanging nucleotides because we are using sense strand to generate antisense strand sequence. For example, usually, siRNAs contain 21 nt and the last 2 are overhanging nt, in which case please only include the first 19 nt in the input file.

➤ Parameters:

Input File: Name of input file for analysis. This file should contain Gene ID (for example, Gene Entrez ID name), normalized screening data and sense strand siRNA sequences. Default format is a csv (comma separated value) file, in which the first column contains Gene ID name, the second column contains normalized screening data and the following columns are the sense strand siRNA sequences (one sequence per column, i.e., for example, there would be 4 separate sequence columns if 4 oligos are present in a pool). See the user's manual for details.

Strand: For identification and quantification of off-target effects, DecoRNAi can employ sense strand only, antisense strand only or both strands. The default setting is using both strands.

Lambda: Penalty parameter in the model for identification of off-target effects. Default is 0.001.

Seed: Specify which hexamer is used to define the seed sequence for analysis. For the most part, a siRNA oligo contains 21 nt. We can therefore assign any of 14 different hexamers as the seed sequence. For example, 1 means nucleotides 5' 1~6 hexamer and 2 means nucleotides 5' 2~7 hexamer and etc. Default is 2.

Library: Users can specify the siRNA library for analysis. Seed families are pre-computed for the Dharmacon siGenome (version history 0), Dharmacon siGenome (version history 2), and Ambion. Gene Entrez ID is necessary to map between input data and stored sequences. Users can also upload custom library-wide sequence information for each oligonucleotide or processed siRNA, in which case Gene ID is free of format and type. Default is Custom.

Strength of seed-linked effect: Users can specify the cutoff for strength of seed-linked effect. Must be positive value and default is 1. A smaller value will select more off-target seed families.

Significance (P value): Users can specify the cutoff for significance (P value). Default is 0.01. In summary report, False Discovery Rate (FDR) will be provided to control multiple testing issues.

➤ Graphical demonstration of work flow

1) Download publicly available demo datasets

Step 1: Click "Shared Data" on the top of the middle and select "Data Libraries" tab.

Step 2: Select "DecoRNAi_Demo_Data" and click.

Step 3: Check the boxes associated with "Galaxy_DecoRNAi_example" CSV files and click "Go".

Step 4: Click "Analyze Data" button on the left of the middle top.

Step 5: Downloaded data is available for analysis.

Data library name	Data library description
DecoRNAi_Demo_Data	DecoRNAi Demo Data
ParClip_Demo_Data	ParClip_Demo_Data
SbacHTS_Demo_Data	SbacHTS_Demo_Data

Name	Message	Data type	Date uploaded	File size
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Galaxy_DecoRNAi_example_Ambion.csv		txt	2013-03-05	387.6 KB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Galaxy_DecoRNAi_example_Custom.csv		txt	2013-03-05	2.0 MB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Galaxy_DecoRNAi_example_NewDhar.csv		txt	2013-03-05	321.3 KB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Galaxy_DecoRNAi_example_OldDhar.csv		txt	2013-03-05	333.1 KB

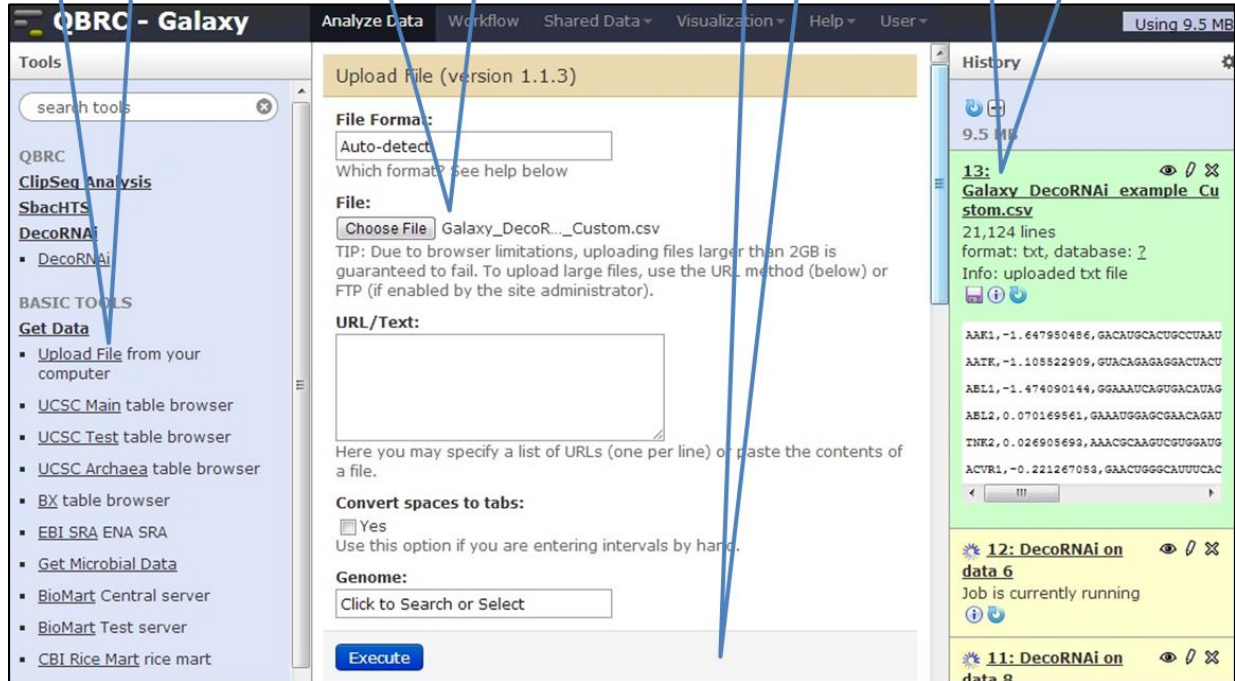
2) Upload custom data

Step 1: Select "Get Data" → "Upload File".

Step 2: Choose selected file from your computer.

Step 3: Click "Execute" button.

Step 4: Uploaded file shown here.



The screenshot displays the QBRC - Galaxy web interface. The main panel shows the 'Upload File (version 1.1.3)' tool configuration. The 'File Format' is set to 'Auto-detect'. The 'File' field shows a selected file named 'Galaxy_DecoR..._Custom.csv'. The 'Execute' button is visible at the bottom. The right sidebar shows the 'History' panel with a list of jobs. Job 13, 'Galaxy_DecoRNAi example Custom.csv', is highlighted in green and shows '21,124 lines' and 'format: txt, database: 2'. Below it, job 12 is 'DecoRNAi on data 6' and job 11 is 'DecoRNAi on data 8'. The 'Tools' panel on the left lists various tools under 'BASIC TOOLS', with 'Get Data' and 'Upload File from your computer' highlighted.

3) Parameters setup

Step 1:
Click "DecoRNAi" and select "DecoRNAi".

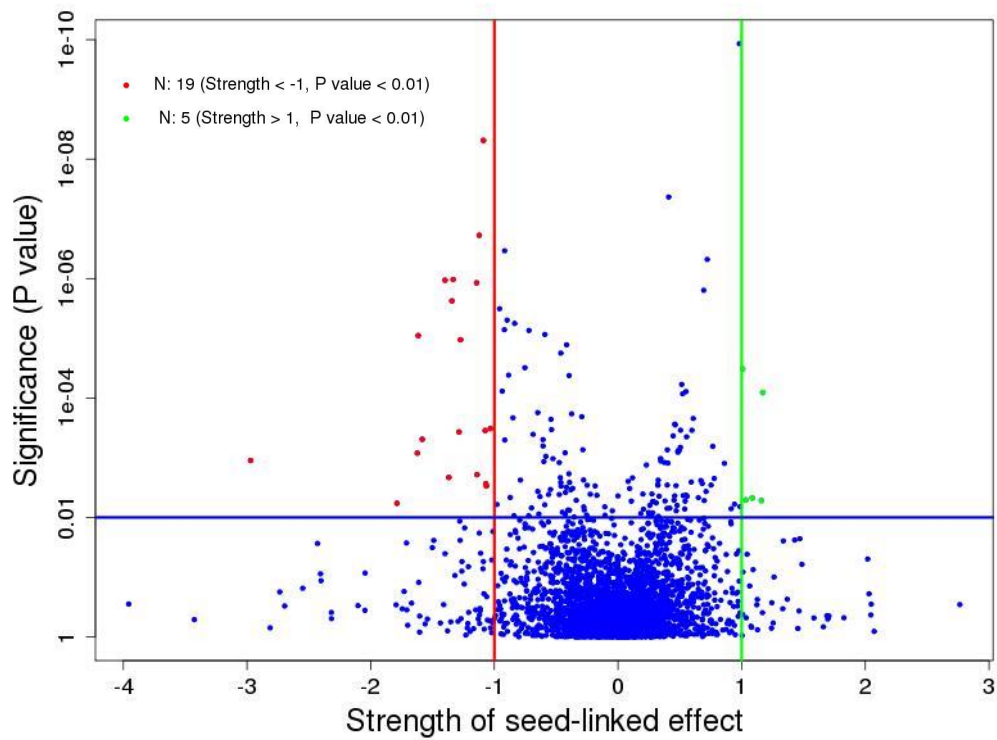
Step 2:
Select input file from pop up menu.

Step 3:
Set up all parameters and click "Execute".

Step 4:
Analysis results available for download.

The screenshot displays the QBRC - Galaxy interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Analyze Data', 'Workflow', 'Shared Data', 'Visualization', 'Help', and 'User'. The 'Tools' sidebar on the left lists various tools, with 'DecoRNAi' highlighted under the 'QBRC' section. The main panel shows the 'DecoRNAi (version 1.0.0)' tool configuration. The 'Input File' is set to '13: Galaxy_DecoRNAi_e..._Custom.csv'. The 'Strand Orientation for Analysis' is set to 'Both'. The 'Lambda Value' is 0.001. The 'Seed' is 2. The 'siRNA Library to use' is 'Custom'. The 'Strength of Seed-Linked Effect' is 1. The 'Significance P-Value' is 0.01. An 'Execute' button is at the bottom. The 'History' panel on the right shows a list of jobs, with '16: DecoRNAi on data 6' highlighted in yellow.

- 4) Global visualization of seed-linked off-target effects (“SeedFamilyOffTarget.jpeg” and “SeedFamilyOffTargetLegend.jpeg”): this figure provides visualization of both strength of seed-lined effect and significance (P values). On the plot, each dot represents a seed family and x axis indicates strength of seed-lined effect and y axis statistical significance (P value). Red dots represent negative off-target seed families and green dots represent positive off-target seed families. Criterion is defined by users and false discovery rate is reported in analysis summary (see below demonstration).



- 5) Seed family summary table ("Seed_Family_Summary.csv"): In a genome-wide siRNA screening, about 4000 seed families are present in an analysis and we summarize for each of them as below. "Seed family" represents 6 nt seed sequence, "strength of seed-linked effect" and "Significance (P value)" are used for selection of off-target seed families and for above visualization.

Seed family	Strength of seed-linked effect	Family size	Significance (P value)
UACUGU	0.98	63	1.17E-10
UAUUGG	-1.09	68	4.87E-09
AUUCCU	0.41	113	4.32E-08
UACCAG	-1.12	48	1.89E-07
AGUUGA	-0.92	69	3.44E-07
AAUACU	0.72	132	4.79E-07
UGUUGU	-1.33	46	1.04E-06
ACAUGU	-1.40	32	1.07E-06
ACCAGG	-1.14	68	1.18E-06
...

6) Identified off-target seed families ("Off-Target_Seed_Families.csv"): Identified off-target seed families. Criterion defined by users.

Seed family	Strength of seed-linked effect	Family size	Significance (P value)
ACAUGU	-1.40	32	1.07E-06
ACCAGG	-1.14	68	1.18E-06
ACCAGU	-1.06	43	2.98E-03
ACUAGG	-1.62	23	8.37E-04
ACUAGU	-1.62	23	9.03E-06
AGCUCC	1.17	19	8.13E-05
AGUACC	-1.29	18	3.71E-04
GAUGCU	-1.27	37	1.06E-05
GCCUAA	1.16	6	5.22E-03
GUUACU	-1.03	19	3.25E-04
GUUUGG	1.09	34	4.72E-03
UAAGUC	-1.58	10	4.91E-04
UACCAG	-1.12	48	1.89E-07
UAUGAU	-1.07	39	2.73E-03
UAUUGG	-1.09	68	4.87E-09
UCCUUU	-1.07	28	3.51E-04
UCUCAG	1.01	27	3.25E-05
UCUCCC	-1.37	10	2.14E-03
UCUGAC	-2.97	6	1.11E-03
UCUGCA	-1.14	44	1.92E-03
UGUCCC	-1.79	9	5.80E-03
UGUUGU	-1.33	46	1.04E-06
UUCUCC	-1.34	34	2.37E-06
UUGGGU	1.03	26	5.09E-03

7) siRNAs pools with off-target seed family ("siRNAsPool_OffTargetSeedFamily_ACUAGG.csv"):

ID	Z Score	off-target seed
5993	-5.08	ACUAGG
493	-3.55	ACUAGG
55014	-3.26	ACUAGG
6530	-3.21	ACUAGG
51320	-3.21	ACUAGG
79917	-3.09	ACUAGG
79780	-2.91	ACUAGG
1241	-2.69	ACUAGG
4299	-2.02	ACUAGG
387837	-1.76	ACUAGG
9814	-1.30	ACUAGG
124842	-1.23	ACUAGG
5970	-1.15	ACUAGG
9786	-0.91	ACUAGG
10725	-0.72	ACUAGG
56961	-0.46	ACUAGG
390195	-0.15	ACUAGG
22875	0.00	ACUAGG
10181	0.17	ACUAGG
83849	0.20	ACUAGG
10957	0.62	ACUAGG
2263	1.01	ACUAGG
7780	1.38	ACUAGG

- 8) Annotated miRNAs with phenotype of interest ("miRNA.csv"): based identified off-target seed families, we could annotate known miRNAs with potential phenotype of interest.

MiRBase ID	MiRBase Accession	Mature sequence	Seed.sequence
hsa-miR-3923	MIMAT0018198	AACUAGUAAUGUUGGAUUAGGG	ACUAGU
hsa-miR-4713-5p	MIMAT0019820	UUCUCCCACUACCAGGCUCCCA	UCUCCC
hsa-miR-4256	MIMAT0016877	AUCUGACCUGAUGAAGGU	UCUGAC

- 9) Corrected Z score ("CorrectedZScore.csv"): based on our algorithm, after removing off-target effect, we provide a list of corrected Z score which has a lower false positive rate.

ID	Z Score	Corrected Z Score
7314	-23.60	-13.78
27243	-22.32	-16.79
8837	-19.94	-17.51
10482	-17.53	-12.10
7316	-14.07	-11.24
26137	-11.77	-9.26
285877	-10.35	-7.77
128866	-9.66	-8.07
5430	-9.53	-7.94
29080	-9.26	-7.91
...

- 10) Analysis summary ("Analysis_Summary.csv"): summary of whole analysis.

Analysis is successfully done!	
Parameters set up	
Strand Orientation for Analysis:	both
Lambda value:	0.001
Seed:	2
siRNA Library:	new_dharmacon
Strength of seed-linked effect:	1
P value:	0.01
Analysis summary	
Number of negative off-target seed families:	19
Number of positive off-target seed families:	5
FDR:	0.026
Identify miRNA with phenotypic effects:	Yes