CASmap: Splitting Short Reads Alignment with FPGA-based Streamline

Optimization

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Short reads alignment, as a core computational issue in HTS (High-Throughput Sequencing) data analysis, it becomed a bottle-neck in HTS data real-time clinical applications. We created a new alignment system (CASmap) which implemented BWT-based alignment algorithm in a customized desktop reconfigurable computer based on FPGA reconfigurable platform. It accelerated ~30X and ~2X higher than BWA (one thread) and SOAP3 in searching read location candidates in suffix array with the power of FPGA-based streamline optimization. Multi-threading parallelization of smith-waterman algorithm was implemented in multi-core cpu of host to verify the location candidates of reads. CASmap achieved the high speed of ~310Gbp/day,cpu in aligning real human whole genome sequencing Hiseq pair-end reads (4 mismaches/read, 2×100bp) with the low power consumption of ~30w/Gb and high accuracy of 99%. CASmap, as an efficient reconfigurable heterogeneous computing system for short read alignment, provided a new green computing framework for HTS-driven genomic era.

Keywords: Short Read Alignment, High-throughput Sequencing, High-performance Computing, Reconfigurable Computing, Green Computing, Heterogeneous Computing