



## Running SARS-CoV-2 Metagenomic Samples in Terra using Theiagen's Freyja FASTQ Workflow

Document TG-FREY-01, Version 2

Date:

4/4/2024

Workflow Versions:

PHB v2

### 1. PURPOSE/SCOPE

To standardize the process of running SARS-CoV-2 (SC2) metagenomic samples using Theiagen's Freyja FASTQ workflow in Terra to perform lineage deconvolution, abundance determination, and identify coverage metrics. Acceptable data types include Illumina paired end (PE) raw read files.

### 2. REQUIRED RESOURCES

- Computer
- Internet connection: at least 10 and 5Mbps for download and upload speeds, respectively
- Internet browser
  - Google Chrome, Firefox, or Edge
- Google account
- Terra account, linked to Google account
- Metagenomic Illumina PE raw read files uploaded to Terra workspace
- Theiagen's Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB Workflow in Terra

#### REQUIRED WORKFLOW INPUTS FILES

- Raw Illumina PE read files
- Primer bed file
- Reference genome
- Curated lineages file\*
- Usher barcodes metadata file\*

### 3. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Document Name
TG-TER-03	Uploading Local or SRA NGS Data & Creating a Results Metadata Table in Terra
TG-FREY-04	Creating Static Reference Files for Freyja Analysis in Terra using Theiagen's Freyja Update Workflow

### 4. PROCEDURE

#### 4.1 RUNNING THE FREYJA FASTQ WORKFLOW

1. Open Terra and navigate to the **workflows** tab within the workspace containing wastewater data
2. Select the **Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB** workflow (Fig 1)
3. **Uncheck use call caching** (Fig 2)

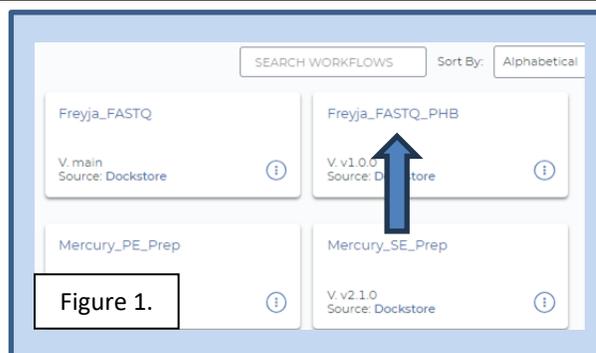


Figure 1.

\*Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB can be run without the `curated_lineages` and `usher_barcodes` input files by setting the `update_db` input value to `true`; this performs analysis using the most up-to-date reference files stored in the Freyja Github repository

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- Choose the latest version of **version 2** in the version dropdown field, or the workflow version that was used during internal assay validation (Fig 2, a)
- Select the second bullet to **run workflow(s) with inputs defined by data table** (Fig 2, b)
- Select the relevant data table name under the select **root entity type** dropdown (Fig 2, c)

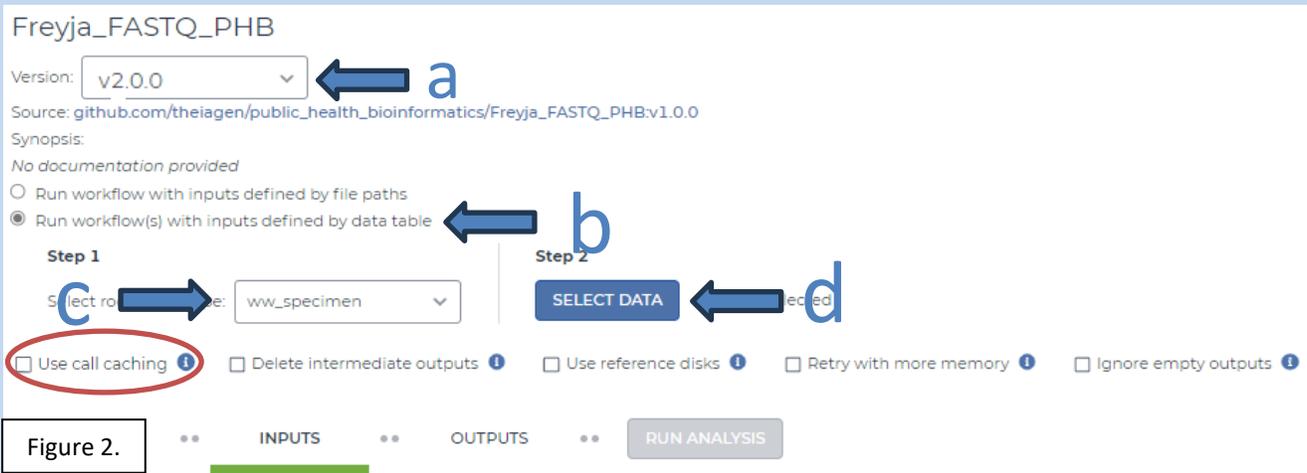


Figure 2.

- Click **select data** (Fig 2, d) and in the pop-up window **select the checkbox** for each sample to be included in the analysis (Fig 3)

a Click the checkbox dropdown and all to select all samples in the data table; if the checkbox at the top is checked, only the first 100 samples in the data table will be selected

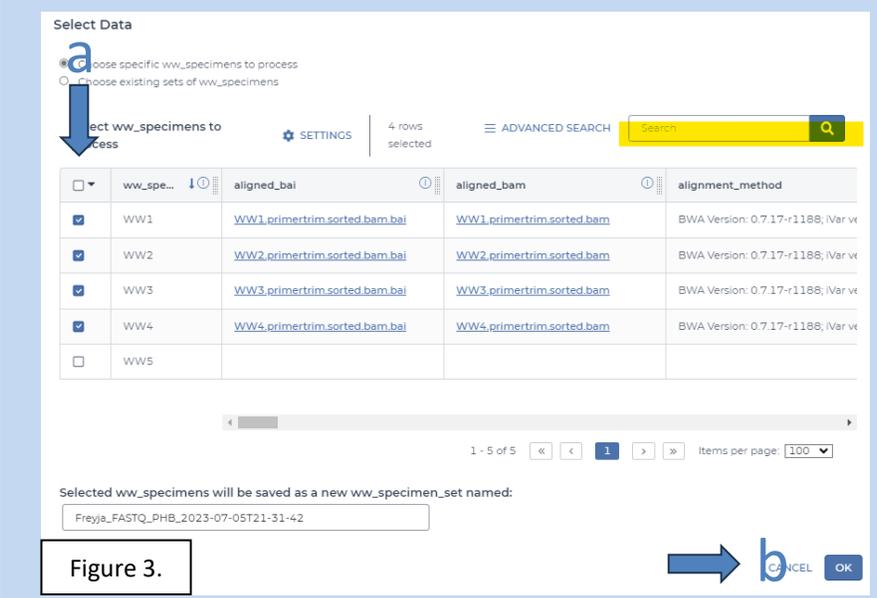


Figure 3.

b Additionally, a subset of samples may be chosen using the search bar to filter before selecting the checkbox at the top to only select samples matching the search criteria (Fig 3, highlight)

c Scroll to the bottom and click **ok**

- Click on the inputs tab to specify settings (Fig 4)

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a Manually set the first five attributes to the following, respectively

i. Primer bed file: `workspace.SWIFT_primer_bed`

1. For other primer sets, ensure primer bed files are uploaded to the workspace; they will then be available in the dropdown as `workspace.[FILENAME]`

a. See [appendix 10.2](#) for adding workspace elements and files to Terra

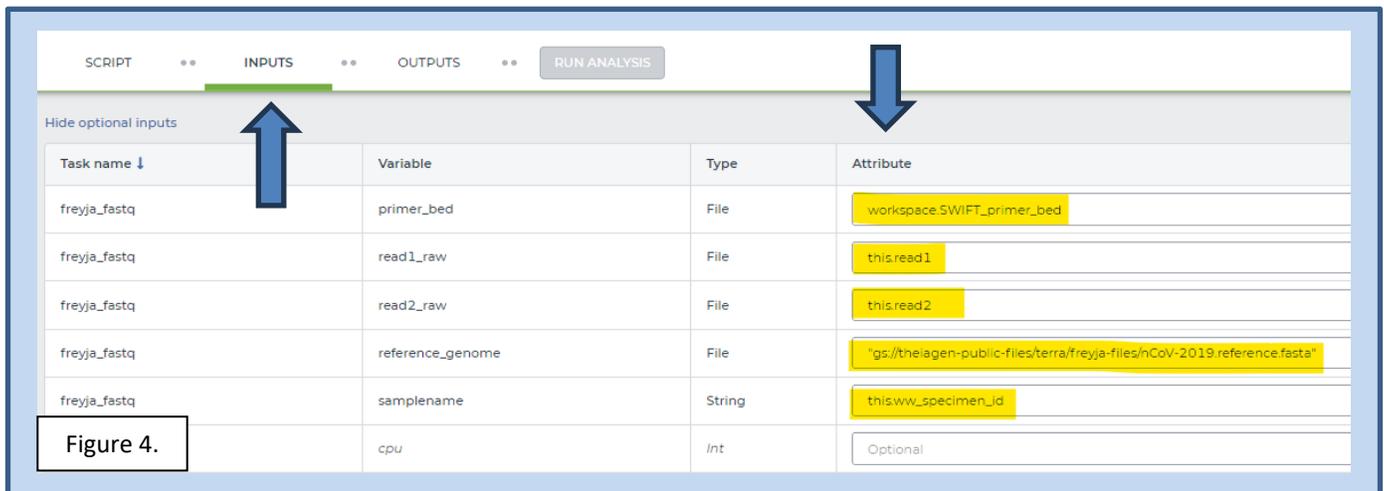
2. Find other SC2 primer bed files available on the Theiagen [Docker Image and Reference Materials for SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Characterization Notion page](#) under Terra Resources for TheiaCoV > SARS-CoV-2 Primer Scheme BED Files

ii. Raw read1 file: `this.read1`

iii. Raw read2 file: `this.read2`

iv. Reference genome: `"gs://theiagen-public-files/terra/freyja-files/nCoV-2019.reference.fasta"`

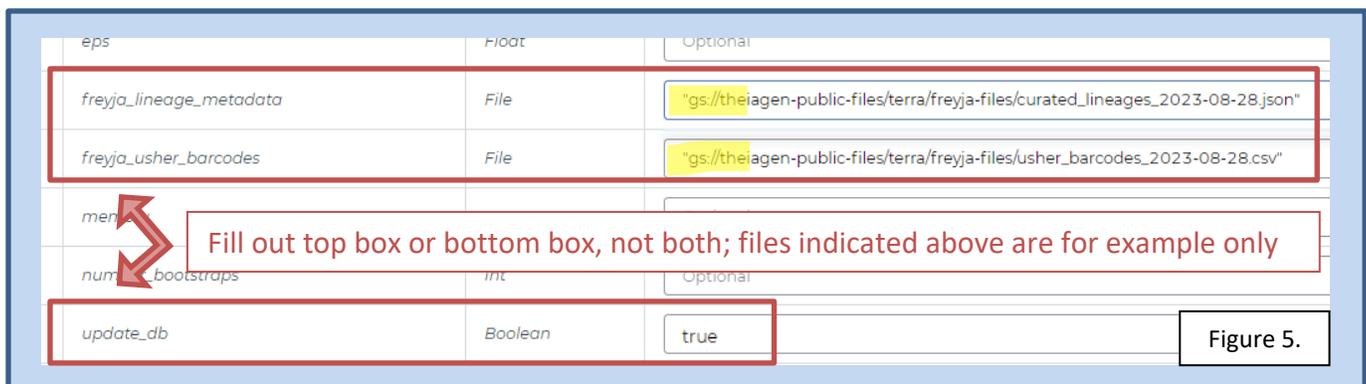
v. Unique Terra data table name: `this.ww_specimen_id`



Task name ↓	Variable	Type	Attribute
freyja_fastq	primer_bed	File	workspace.SWIFT_primer_bed
freyja_fastq	read1_raw	File	this.read1
freyja_fastq	read2_raw	File	this.read2
freyja_fastq	reference_genome	File	"gs://theiagen-public-files/terra/freyja-files/nCoV-2019.reference.fasta"
freyja_fastq	samplename	String	this.ww_specimen_id
	cpu	int	Optional

Figure 4.

b Specify the `curated lineages and usher barcodes files` used to assign SC2 lineages; follow one of the three options below (Fig 5):



eps	Float	Optional
freyja_lineage_metadata	File	"gs://theiagen-public-files/terra/freyja-files/curated_lineages_2023-08-28.json"
freyja_usher_barcodes	File	"gs://theiagen-public-files/terra/freyja-files/usher_barcodes_2023-08-28.csv"
men		
num_bootstraps	int	Optional
update_db	Boolean	true

Fill out top box or bottom box, not both; files indicated above are for example only

Figure 5.

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i. **Option 1:** To run Freyja FASTQ for the first time or to use the most up-to-date SC2 curated\_lineages and usher\_barcodes files created by the Freyja developers<sup>1</sup>, set the `update_db` input field to `true`

1. To save these reference file versions for use in a future analysis, run the `Freyja_Update_PHB` workflow; see the [TG-FREY-04: Freyja Update SOP](#) for details

ii. **Option 2:** Run recently updated versions of the curated\_lineages and usher\_barcodes reference files saved as Terra workspace data elements using the `Freyja_Update_PHB` workflow and SOP

1. **NOTE:** `Freyja_Update_PHB` should be run prior to running `Freyja_FASTQ_PHB` for this option

2. Enter additional Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB workflow inputs as follows:

a. `freyja_lineage_metadata`: `workspace.FreyjaLineageMetadata`

b. `freyja_usher_barcodes`: `workspace.FreyjaUsherBarcodes`

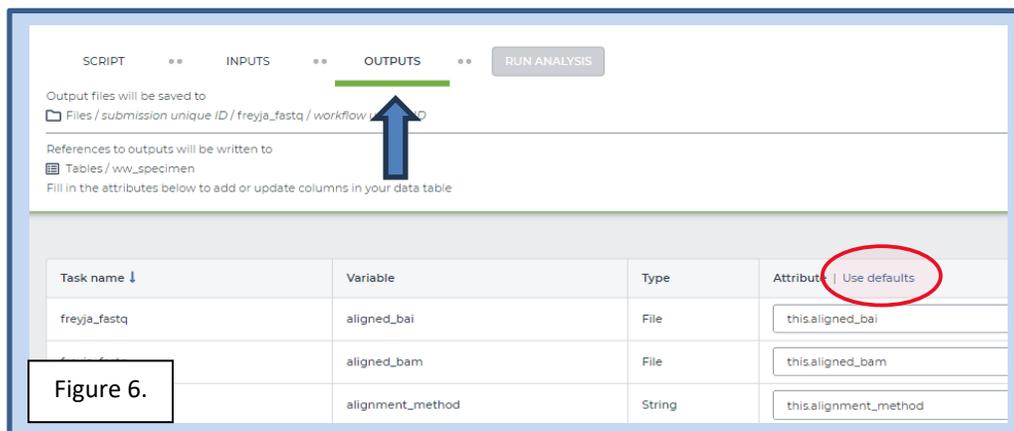
iii. **Option 3:** To use specific versions of the curated\_lineages and usher\_barcodes files that have been used previously for analysis, enter the corresponding `"gs://[FILENAME]..."` filepaths for `freyja_lineage_metadata` and `freyja_usher_barcodes` input values; these may be saved in the workflow from prior analysis or copied from the respective Terra workspace files (see [appendix 10.2](#) for details on copying workspace filepaths)

iv. **NOTE:** When aggregating and analyzing samples sequenced over time, it is important that the same curated lineages and usher barcodes files are used to run Freyja FASTQ workflow and identify lineages present within a sample. Updated files can contain new lineage assignments that samples run with Freyja FASTQ using previous file versions will be missing

9. Specify outputs by clicking on the `outputs` tab and `use defaults` (Fig 6)

10. Click `save`

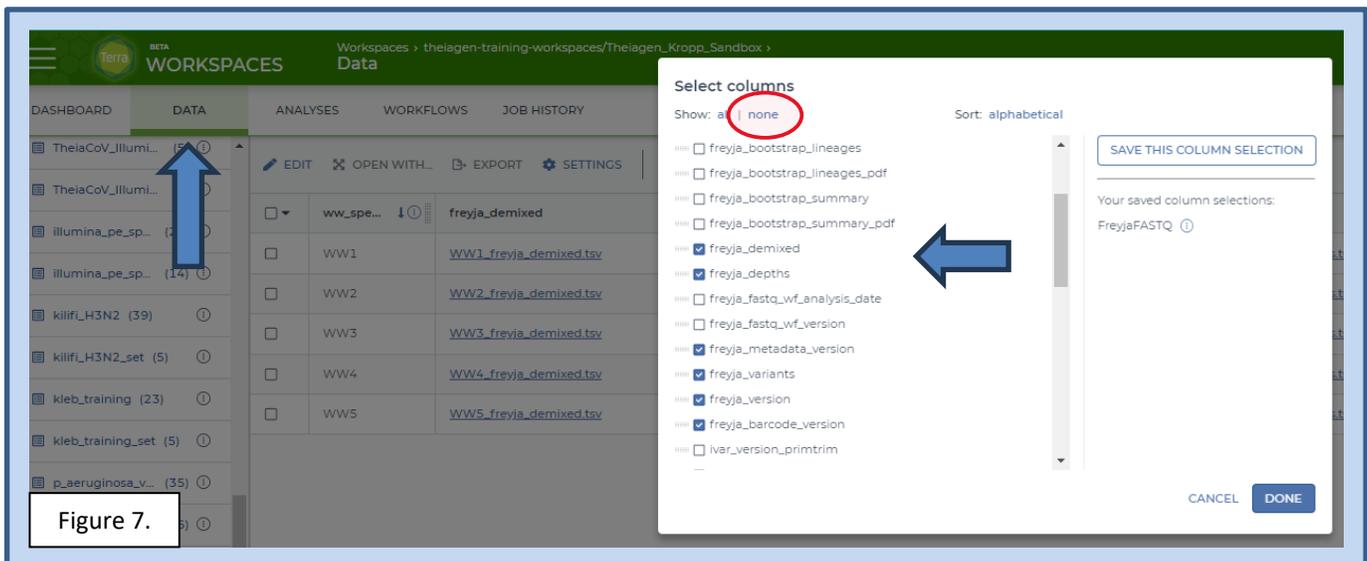
11. Launch the workflow by clicking `run analysis`; enter desired comments and click `launch`



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## 4.2 DETERMINING LINEAGES, ABUNDANCES, AND COVERAGE METRICS

1. In the **data** tab, navigate to the Terra data table containing SC2 metagenomic data
2. Click **settings** and select **none** to deselect all output columns (Fig 7)
3. To simplify the table, select the following outputs:
  - a. **freyja\_barcode\_version**
  - b. **freyja\_demixed**
  - c. **freyja\_depths**
  - d. **freyja\_metadata\_version**
  - e. **freyja\_variants**



4. Click on the **freyja\_demixed column file** to determine the following sample information:
  - a. Lineages identified
  - b. Distribution of variants of concern (VOCs)
  - c. Lineages and relative abundances of lineages
5. Click on the **freyja\_variants column file** to see all variants identified within the sample
6. Click on the **freyja\_depths column file** to determine the relative depth of coverage for every variant identified

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## 5. QUALITY RECORDS

- Wu, F., et al. (2020). Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 isolate Wuhan-Hu-1, complete genome. NC\_045512.2. [FASTA Genome Assembly]. NCBI. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/1798174254>.
- Workflow version and configuration settings (default and custom inputs)
- Curated lineages and usher barcodes files
- Raw read files
- freyja\_demixed, freyja\_variants, and freyja\_depths tsv output files
- aligned\_bam file for further visualizations

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

- Consult with internal staff familiar with this procedure or contact [support@theiagen.com](mailto:support@theiagen.com) for troubleshooting inquiries
- For document edit requests, contact [support@theiagen.com](mailto:support@theiagen.com)

## 7. LIMITATIONS

1. When creating visualizations from aggregated sample data over time, ensure all samples have been run with Freyja FASTQ using the same curated\_lineages and usher\_barcodes files
2. Freyja FASTQ can only be used to analyze SC2 data from Illumina PE sequencing files

## 8. REFERENCES

1. Andersen Lab Github. <https://github.com/andersen-lab/Freyja>. Accessed on 4/5/2024.
2. Primer BED files available at Theiagen [Docker Image and Reference Materials for SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Characterization Notion page](#)

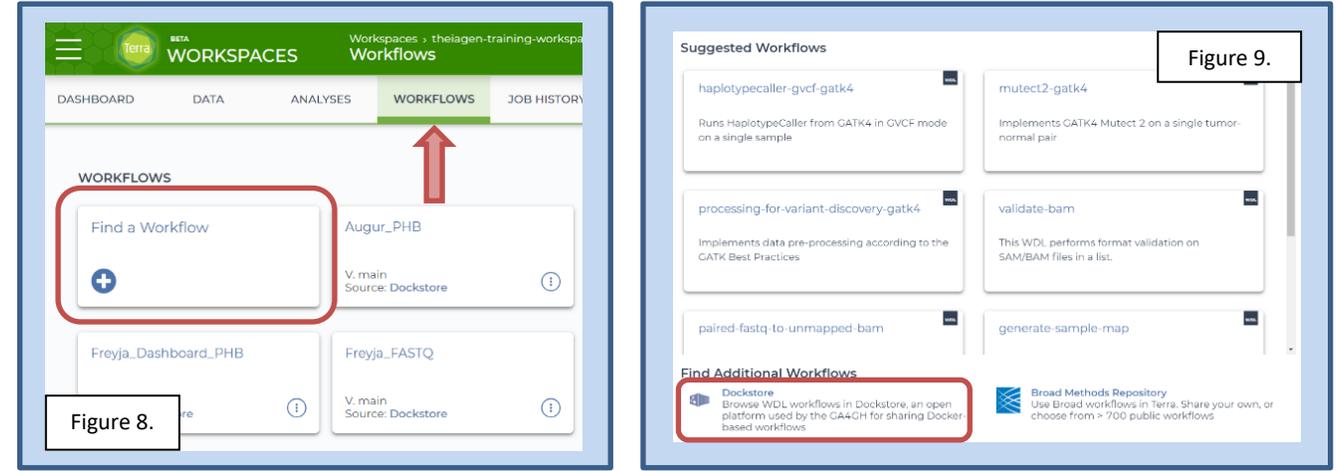
## 9. REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Version	Release Date
Document creation	1	8/2023
Added workflow input information and usage of curated_lineages and usher_barcodes reference files, updated quality records and references; added appendices	2	4/2024

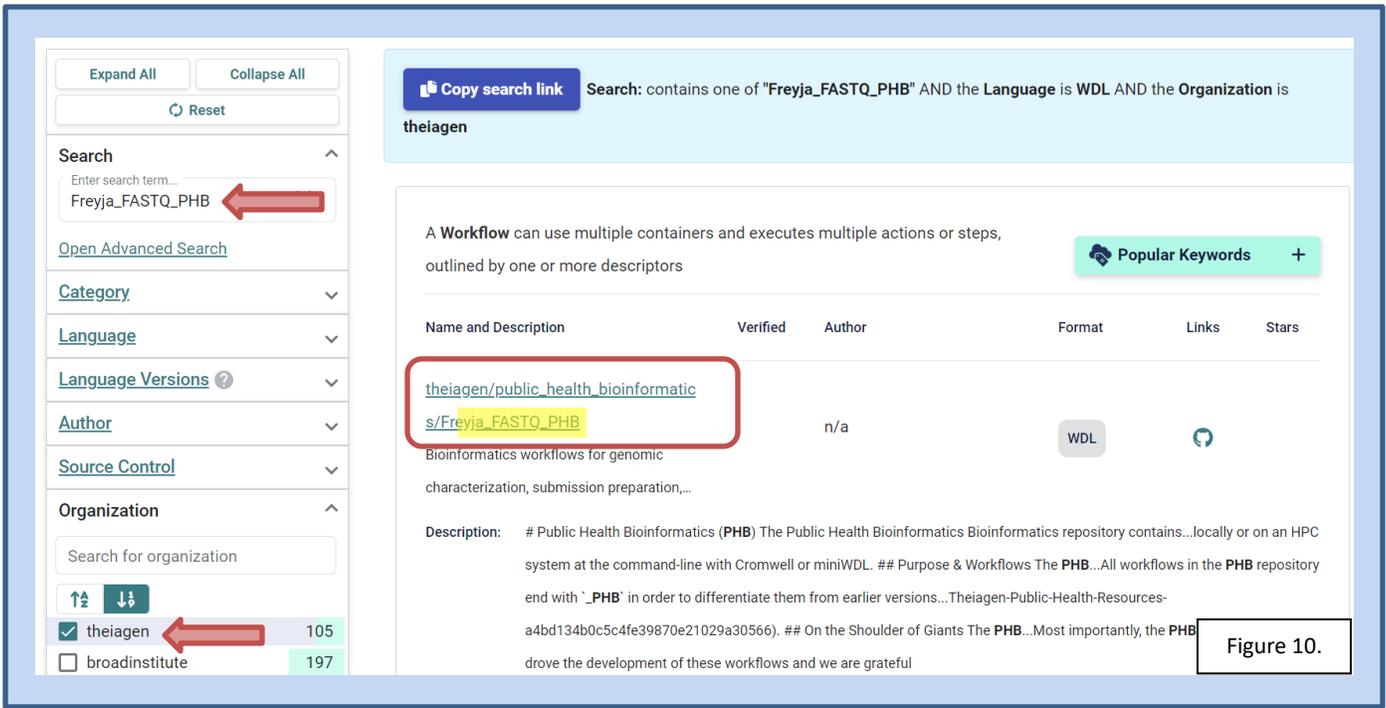
## 10. APPENDICES

### 10.1 IMPORTING FREYJA WORKFLOWS FROM DOCKSTORE

1. In the **Terra workspace** of interest, open the **workflows** tab and click **find a workflow** (Fig 8)
2. In the pop-up window, click **dockstore** (Fig 9)

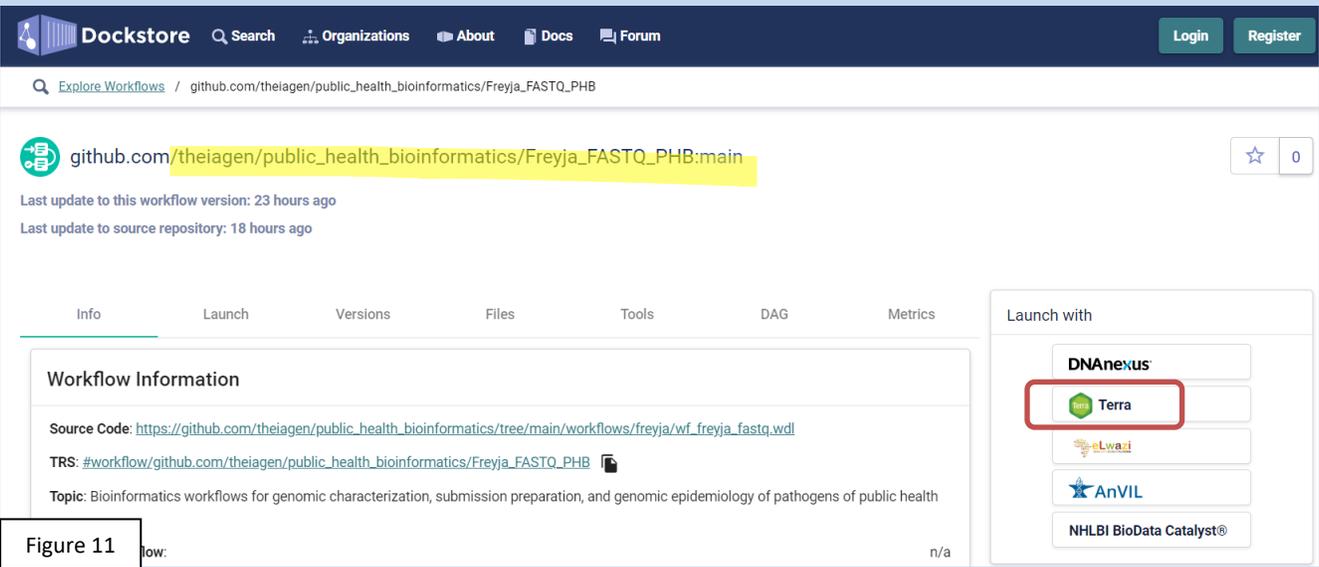


3. To find the Theiagen Freyja FASTQ workflow, type "**Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB**" in the search bar (Fig 10)
4. In the left hand sidebar, scroll down to Organization and select "**theiagen**" (Fig 10)
5. Find the workflow by looking at the file path suffix; click the name to **open the workflow** (Fig 10)



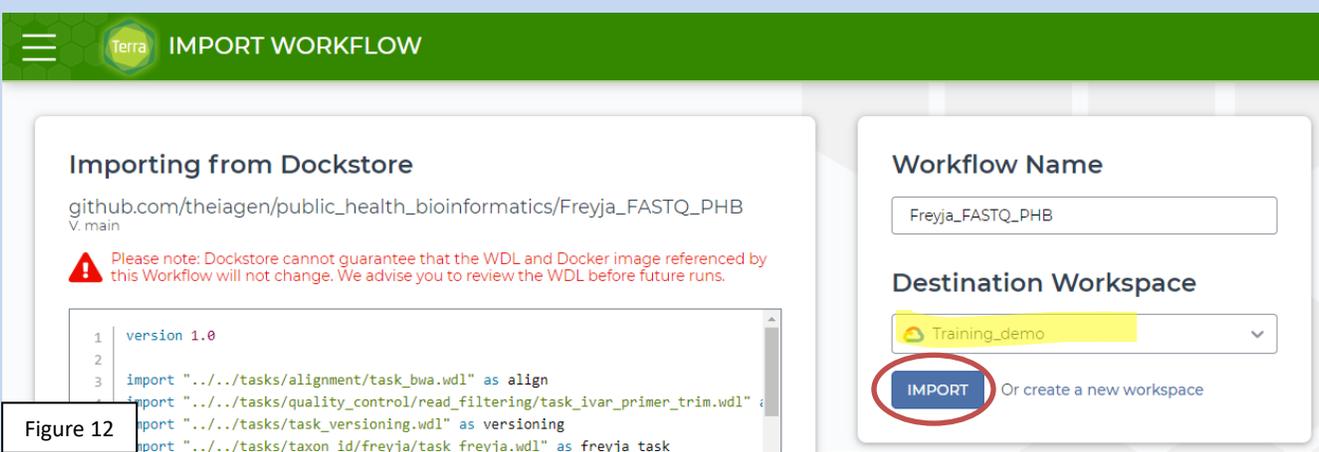
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- Click **Terra** to launch the workflow in Terra (Fig 11)
- Choose the **destination workspace** in the dropdown and click **import** or create a new workspace (Fig 12)



The screenshot shows the Dockstore interface for the workflow 'github.com/theiagen/public\_health\_bioinformatics/Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB'. The 'Launch with' section on the right lists several options: DNAnexus, Terra (highlighted with a red box), eLwazi, AnVIL, and NHLBI BioData Catalyst®. The 'Workflow Information' section on the left provides details about the source code and topic.

**Figure 11** shows the workflow page in Dockstore.



The screenshot shows the Terra 'IMPORT WORKFLOW' interface. The 'Workflow Name' is 'Freyja\_FASTQ\_PHB'. The 'Destination Workspace' dropdown is set to 'Training\_demo'. The 'IMPORT' button is highlighted with a red circle. A warning message is visible: 'Please note: Dockstore cannot guarantee that the WDL and Docker image referenced by this Workflow will not change. We advise you to review the WDL before future runs.'

**Figure 12** shows the Terra import workflow interface.

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## 10.2 ADDING TERRA WORKSPACE DATA ELEMENTS AND FILES

- Navigate to the **Terra workspace** where analysis will be run
- To upload local files, open the **Files** tab in the bottom left of the workspace (Fig 13)
  - Click **upload** and select the file of interest; **ensure the file name does not contain spaces**
  - Once the upload is complete, **right click** on the file name and click **copy link**
- Open the **workspace data** tab (Fig 13) and click the **blue plus symbol** in the bottom right (Fig 13)
- Click in the **key field** and **name the element** being added (Fig 14)
  - E.g. to add a primer bed file, the key **SWIFT\_primer\_bed** may be used
- In the value field, choose **string** as the value type
  - Paste the file path**; the string must start with **"gs://[FILENAME]..."**
    - Add a **description** (e.g. updated date/initials), if desired and click the **blue checkmark** (Fig 14)

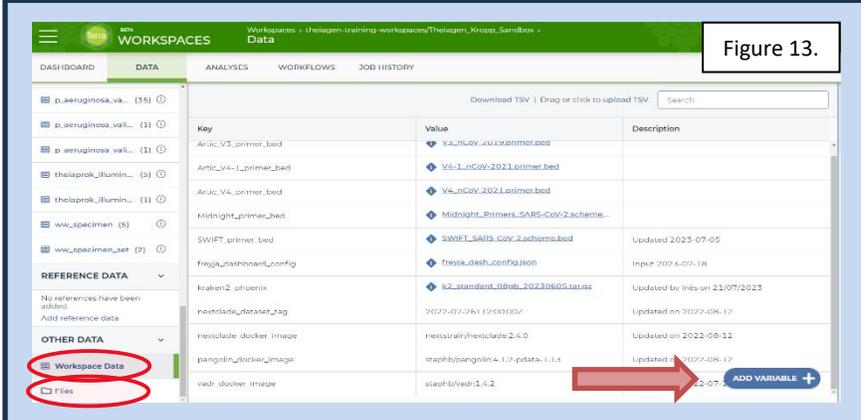


Figure 13.

Key	Value	Description
Artic_V4-1_primer_bed	<a href="#">V4-1_nCoV-2021.primer.bed</a>	
Artic_V4_primer_bed	<a href="#">V4_nCoV-2021.primer.bed</a>	
FreyjaLineageMetadata	<a href="#">curated_lineages.json</a>	Taken from Freyja_Workflows Demo Data
FreyjaUsherBarcodes	<a href="#">usher_barcodes.csv</a>	Updated 8/3/23; taken from Freyja_Workflows Demo Data
Freyja_ReferenceGenome	<a href="#">nCoV-2019.reference.fasta</a>	MN908947.3
Midnight_primer_bed	<a href="#">Midnight_Primer_SARS-CoV-2.scheme.bed</a>	
SWIFT_primer_bed	gs://theiagen-public-files/terra/theia	String
	Updated 2023-07-05 kk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 14.