

Biotechnology

Before handing off an analysis run

From the field note "Your bioinformatics pipeline runs. Could anyone else run it next month?".

The short version

- ◇ A green run is not a handoff. The next scientist needs reconciled outputs, recorded versions and an acceptance decision.
- ◇ Use the reports and provenance your workflow engine already produces before adding another tool.
- ◇ Pin the workflow, references, parameters and environment, then repeat a reference run under agreed rules.
- ◇ Prove resume and recovery with the files you actually retain, so the pipeline no longer depends on one person.

The checklist

- ☐ Freeze expected sample IDs, source versions and permitted exclusions.
- ☐ Record workflow, parameters, environment and reference versions.
- ☐ Reconcile every expected output and keep its QC decision.
- ☐ Separate process completion from scientific acceptance.
- ☐ Repeat the reference run under agreed comparison rules.
- ☐ Demonstrate interrupted-run recovery and retention limits.
- ☐ Have another operator retrieve the evidence and repeat the reference run.

Want a second pair of eyes on your answers?

Book a free 30-minute discovery call at www.seriustech.com/contact or email contact@seriustech.com. We reply within 1 business day.

Read the full note with examples and sources at www.seriustech.com/blog/biotech-bioinformatics-reproducibility. © SeriusTech.