

# Setup and usage guide for UniverSC GUI app

## Check for the following before you start

Make sure that...

- The computer has sufficient space for the sample reads, reference genome, output data.
- The computer has **32GB of RAM** or more.  
*UniverSC uses STAR aligner for aligning reads to a reference. 27GB of RAM was used to map reads to human genome. So, a comfortable execution of the app will need 32GB of RAM.*
- The computer has **500G or free storage** or more.  
As a part of its process to format your input files, UniverSC app will unzip the already-large .fastq.gz files. These files can quickly reach over hundreds of GB. If the app is used on Windows or Mac (when a Docker image is used), make sure that there is enough space where the Docker container will be created.
- The OS of the computer is **Ubuntu 22.04** (for Linux), **Monterey 12.4** (for Mac), or **Windows 10** (for Windows).  
*While it may very well work on other versions, UniverSC has been specifically tested on these versions of operating systems.*

# Guide for setting up UniverSC GUI app

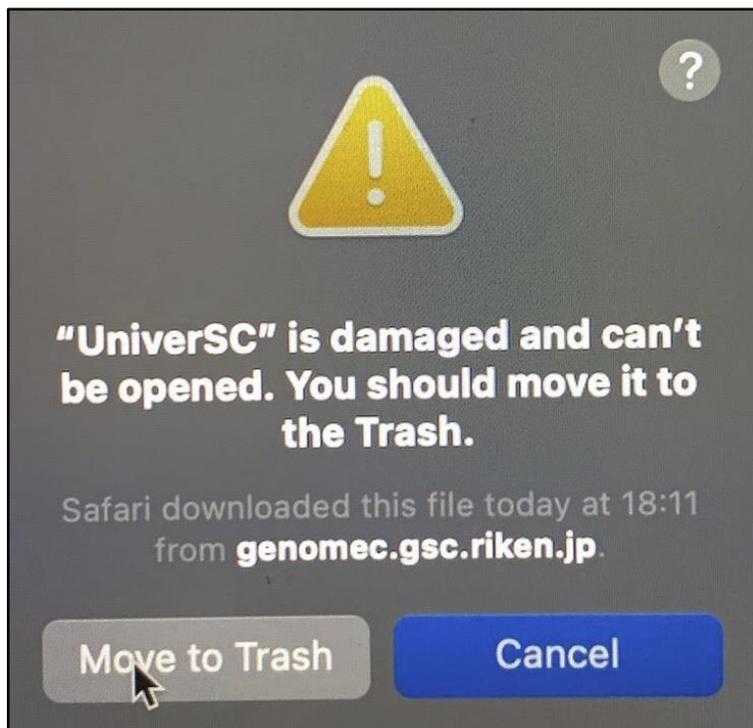
1. Download and unzip the UniverSC GUI app for the appropriate platform from the following link:

[https://genomec.gsc.riken.jp/gerg/UniverSC/UniverSC\\_app\\_release](https://genomec.gsc.riken.jp/gerg/UniverSC/UniverSC_app_release)

(If you are not a Mac user, skip to Step 3.)

2. Clear the extended attribute.

Depending on the version of the OS, Mac can give you the following error:



This is due to Mac's incompatibilities with some of the extended attributes of UniverSC GUI app. When this occurs, click on "Cancel" DO NOT MOVE TO TRASH. Instead, open the terminal and enter the following command to clear all extended attributes of the app.

```
xattr -cr /SOME/PATH/TO/YOUR/APP/UniverSC.app
```

Alternatively, change your working directory to where UniverSC GUI app is at by using the 'cd' command and then enter the following.

```
xattr -cr UniverSC.app
```

3. Execute the UniverSC GUI app by double clicking on the icon to confirm that the app opens properly. It will take some time for the app to open up.

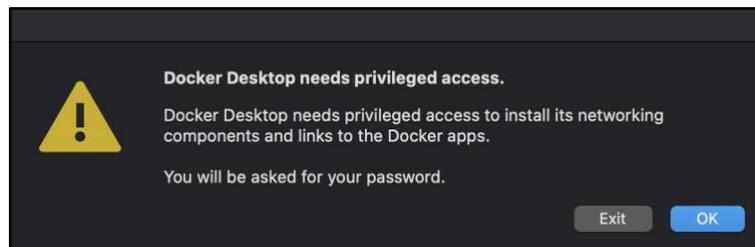
(If you are a Linux user, skip to Step 9. Docker is not needed.)

4. Download Docker for desktop installer from their official website:

<https://www.docker.com/products/docker-desktop>

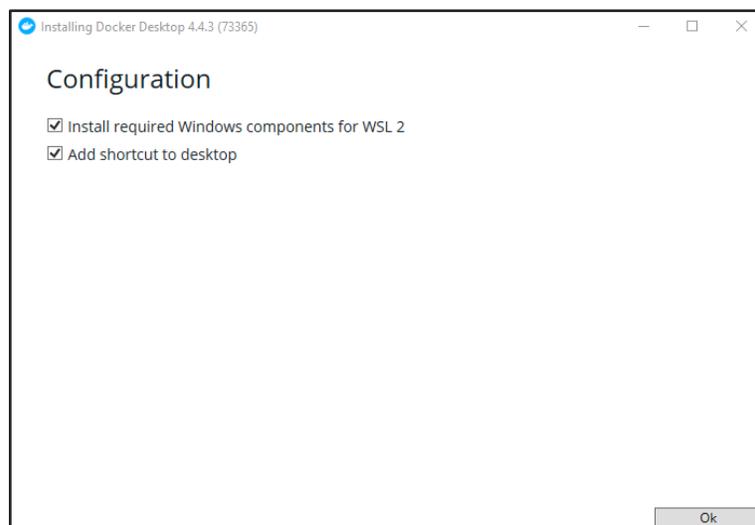
5. Install Docker.

For Mac: Copy Docker icon to the Application folder as instructed. Following window will appear. Press OK (it will take a moment to start up).



For Windows: Execute the installer by double clicking the installer.

**NOTE:** If asked, make sure to configure required components for WSL 2.



For Windows: Install the Linux kernel manually. Follow the link to the kernel to download and install the Linux kernel. This will complete the process to install Docker.

**Step 4 - Download the Linux kernel update package**

1. Download the latest package:

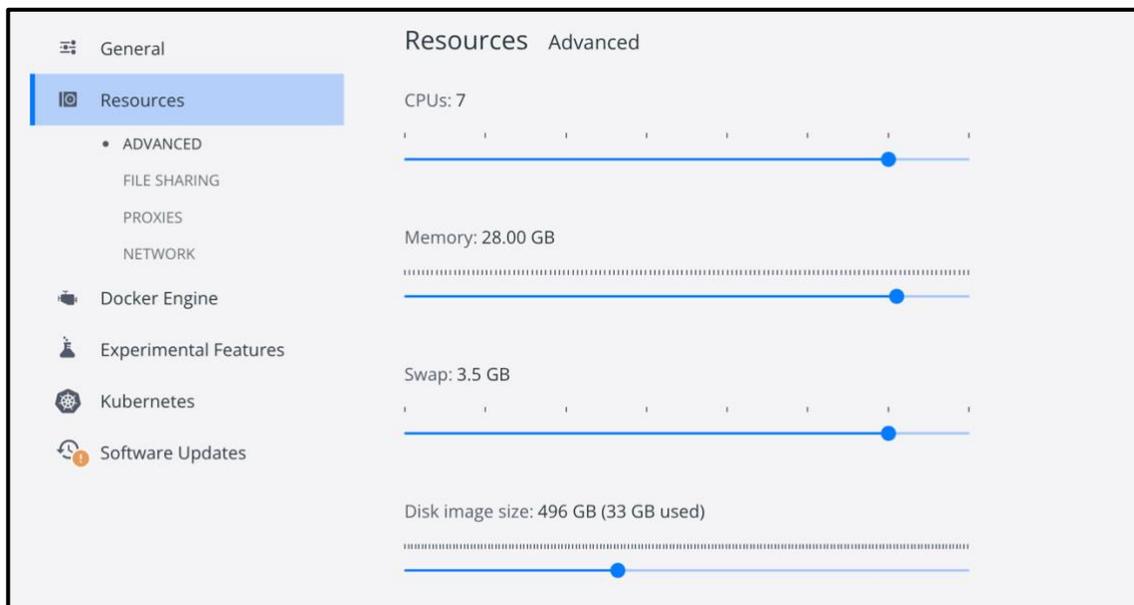
- [WSL2 Linux kernel update package for x64 machines](#)

**Note**

If you're using an ARM64 machine, please download the [ARM64 package](#) instead. If you're not sure what kind of machine you have, open Command Prompt or PowerShell and enter: `systeminfo | find "System Type"`.

**Caveat:** On non-English Windows versions, you might have to modify the search text, translating the "System

6. If needed, allocate sufficient resources to Docker.



The screenshot shows the Windows Settings application with the 'Resources' tab selected under 'Docker Engine'. The 'Resources' section is expanded to show 'Advanced' settings. The following resources are configured:

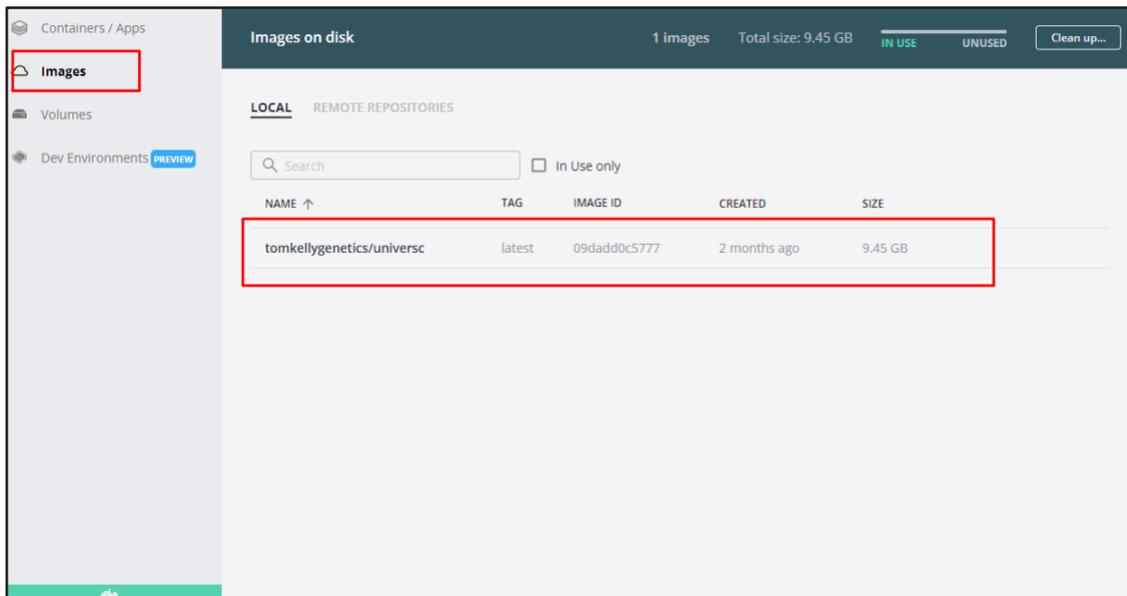
- CPUs:** 7 (represented by a slider set to 7 out of 10)
- Memory:** 28.00 GB (represented by a slider set to approximately 28% of the total)
- Swap:** 3.5 GB (represented by a slider set to approximately 3.5% of the total)
- Disk image size:** 496 GB (33 GB used) (represented by a slider set to approximately 33% of the total)

**NOTE:** The screen shown above will NOT be available if using Windows WSL2. See Appendix 1 for hints on how to allocate resources when using Windows WSL2.

7. When Docker installation is complete, open the command prompt (on Windows) or the terminal (on Mac), and enter the following command to pull the Docker image for the most updated version of UniverSC.

```
docker pull tomkellygenetics/universc:latest
```

- When the command runs to completion successfully, an image of UniverSC should appear on the Docker application under 'Images'.



(If you are not a Linux user, skip to Step 11. Command-line UniverSC is not needed.)

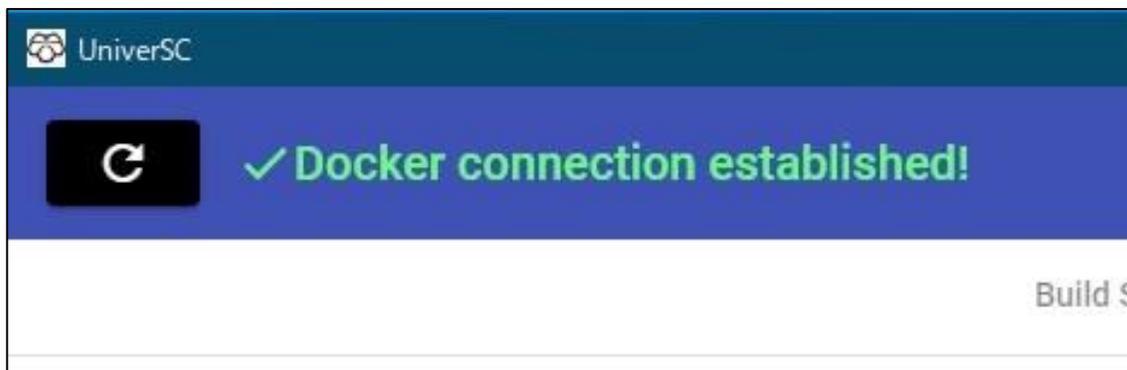
- Download and unzip the most updated UniverSC command line version from the following link:

<https://github.com/minoda-lab/universc/releases>

- Download and install Cell Ranger 3.0.2.

<https://github.com/10XGenomics/cellranger>

- Execute the UniverSC GUI app by double clicking the app. You should see the green message in the top left corner signaling that the Docker connection is established.



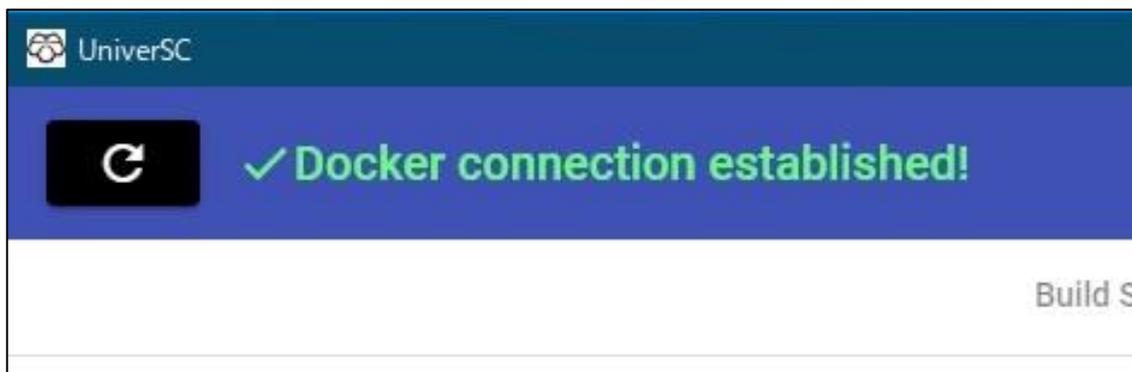
# Guide for using UniverSC GUI app

**NOTE:** This guide is based on the processing of test data provided at <https://genomec.gsc.riken.jp/gerg/UniverSC>

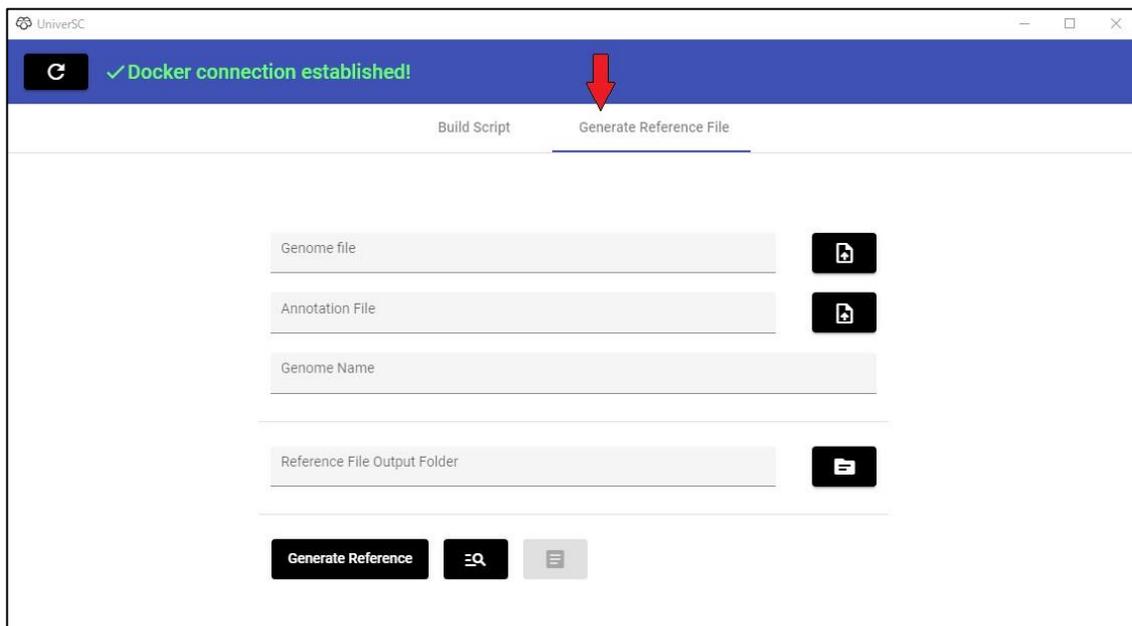
## I. Making a genome reference

A reference genome file(s) must be formatted prior to analyzing a sample.

1. Execute the UniverSC GUI app by double clicking the app. You should see the green message in the top left corner signaling that the Docker connection is established.



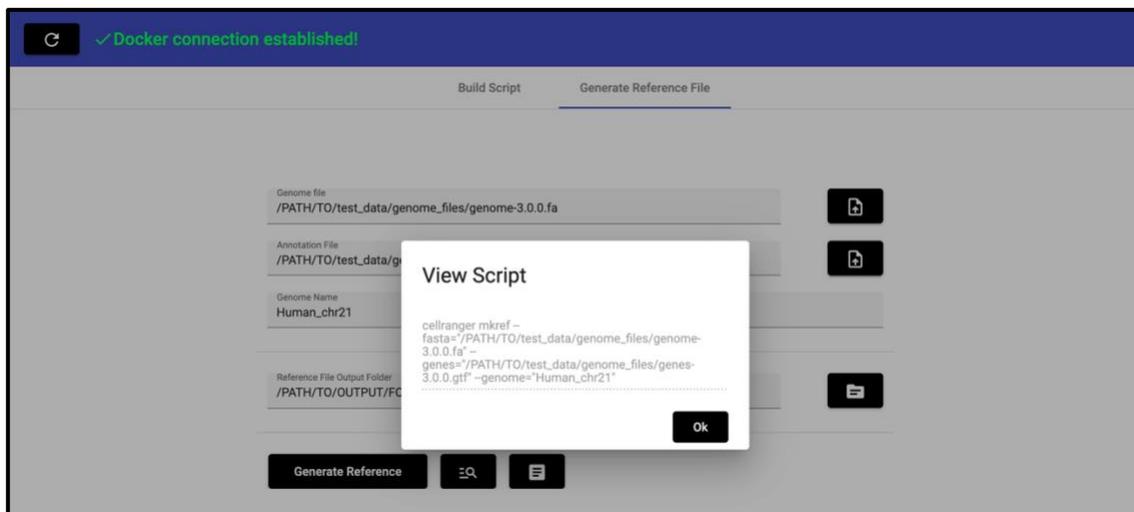
2. Choose the "Generate Reference File" tab.



3. Select the genome file, the annotation file, a name for the newly generated reference file, and an output folder.

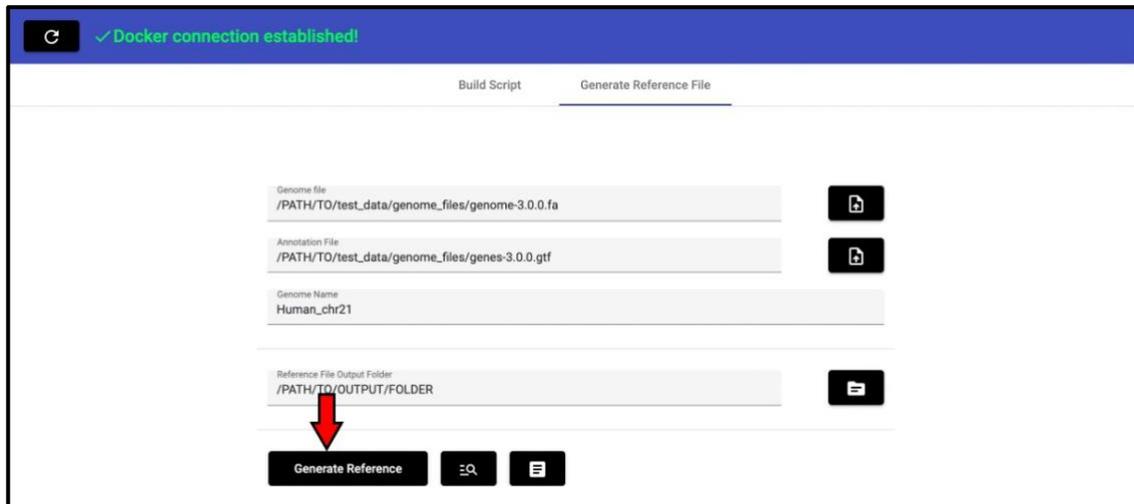


(If you wish to see the actual command passed, click on the “View Script” icon.)



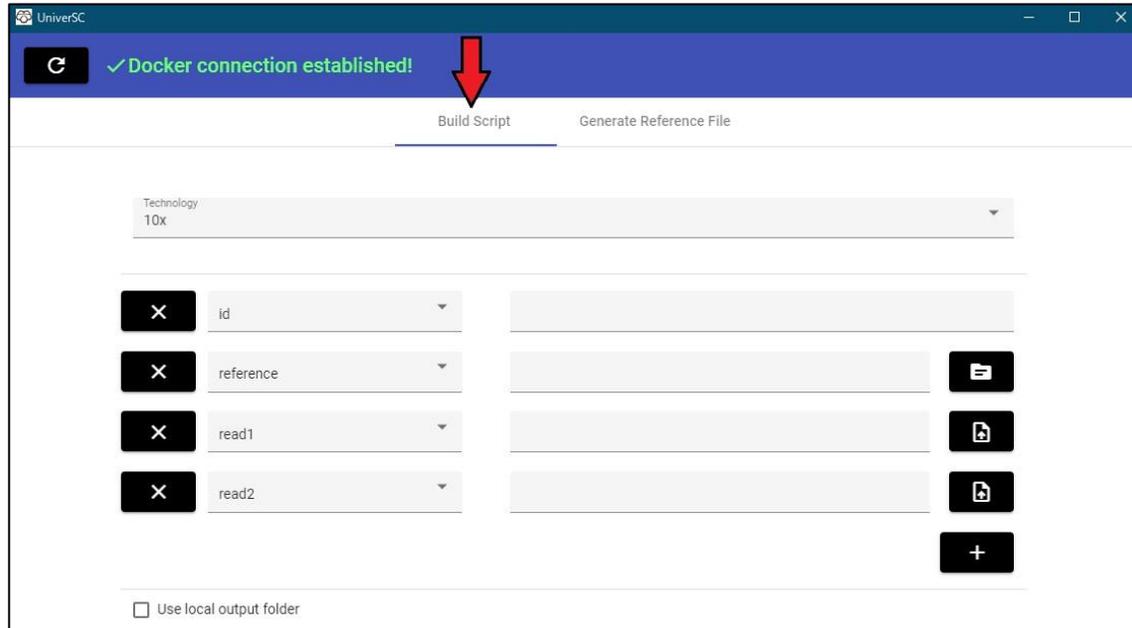
4. Generate a new reference by clicking on “Generate Reference” icon.

**NOTE:** This step should take about a minute with test data.



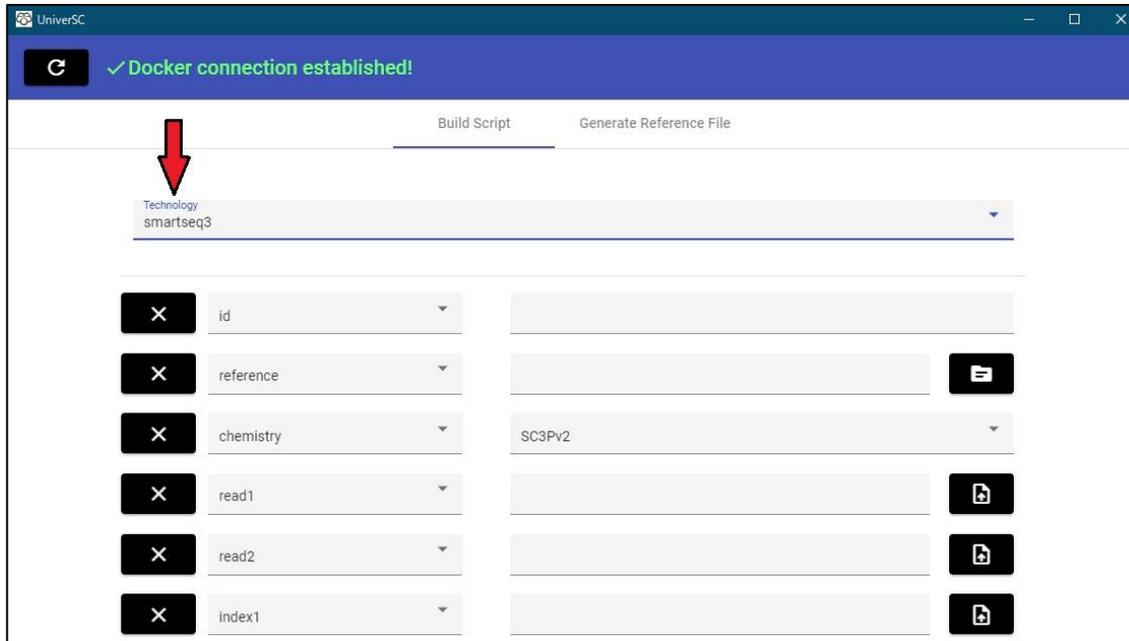
## II. Processing your sample

1. Choose the “Build Script” tab.

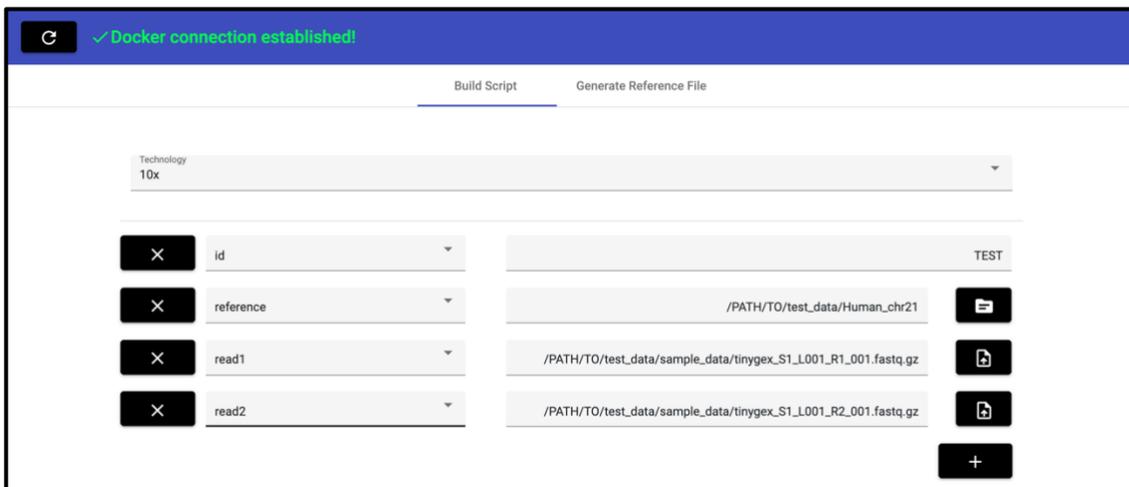


2. Select the appropriate technology from a pulldown list. All the required additional parameters will automatically appear.

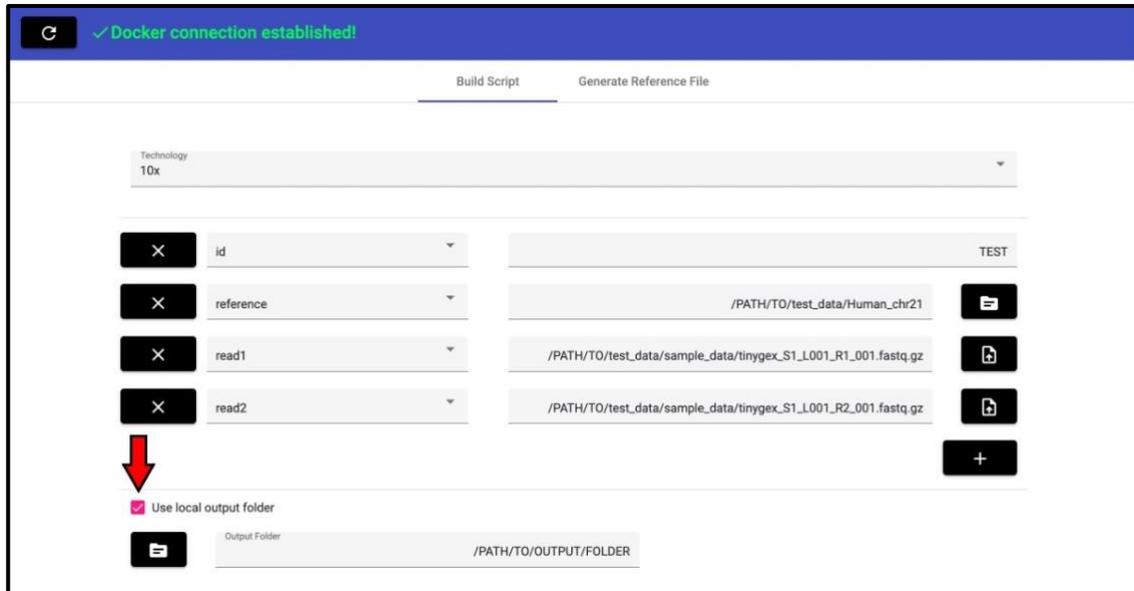
**NOTE:** Chose 10x to process test data.



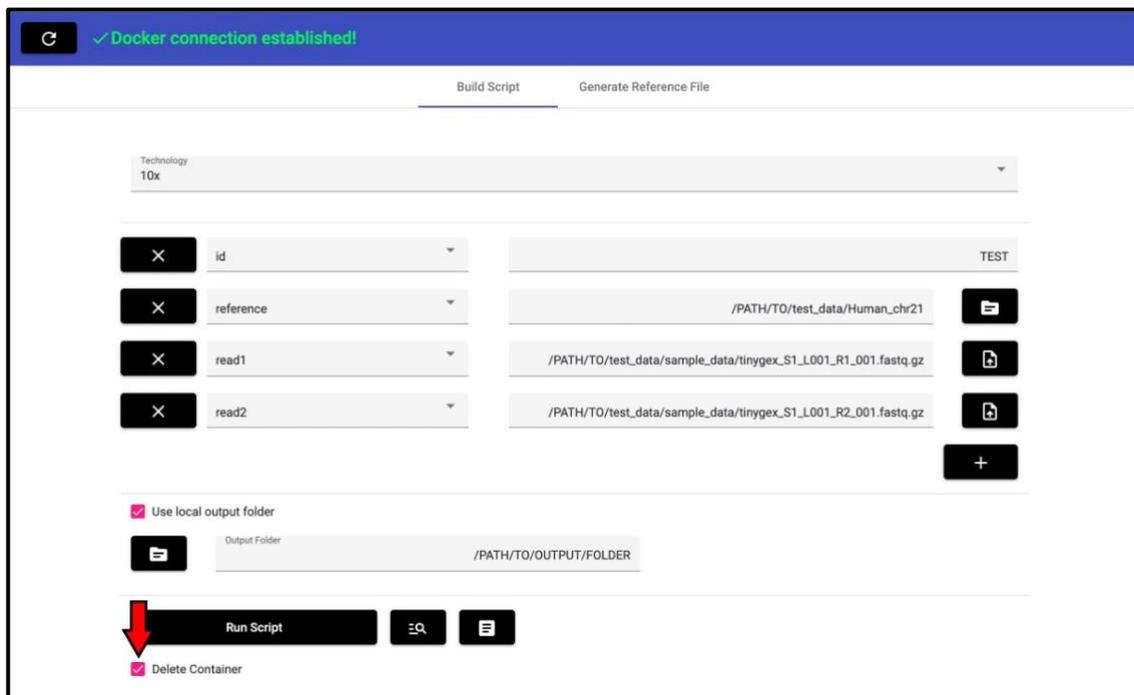
3. Fill out the ID name, select reference and sample files.



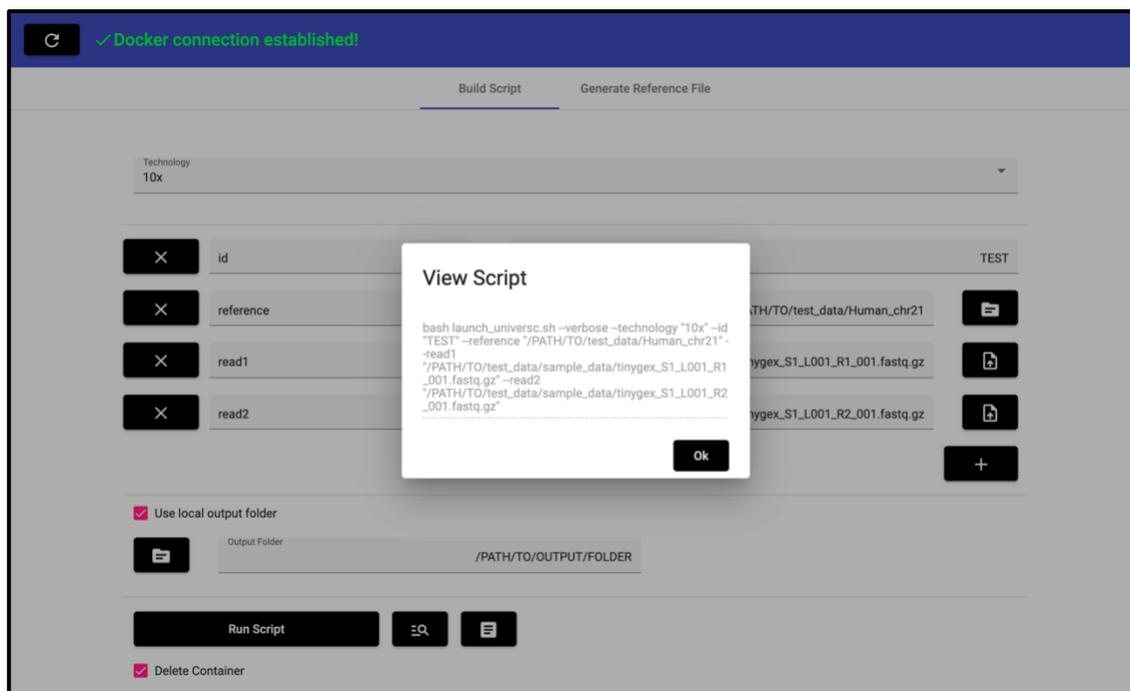
- Click on the “Use local output folder” box to output the results to your computer outside of Docker. Otherwise, the output files will remain within the Docker container and cannot be directly accessed from the local computer.



- Click on the “Delete Container” box to remove the Docker image made during the process to save space on your computer.

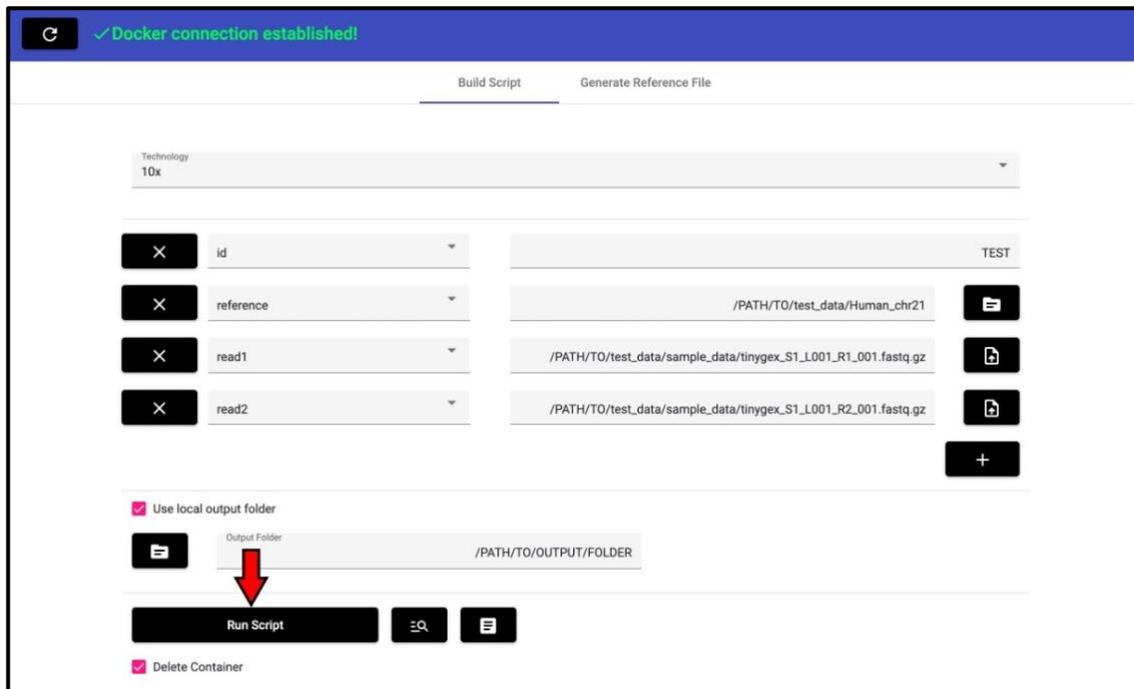


(As in the case of making a new reference, if you wish to see the actual command passed, click on the “View Script” icon.)



6. Process your data by clicking on “Run Script” icon.

**NOTE:** This step should take about 5-10 minutes with test data.



7. Check if your output matches the output provided within test data.

# Appendix 1: Hints for adding resources to in Docker (WSL2)

UniverSC app will likely require the Docker container to have more resources allocated than its default values. Here are “hints” on how to increase these values.

**NOTE:** As some of these steps may differ from computer to computer, consider the following information as “hints”.

- Number of threads, RAM, and swap memory  
To increase these values, modifications must be made on the “.wslconfig” file. This file is usually located “C:\Users\<User>”. Within the .wslconfig file, each resource can be set as below:

```
[wsl2]
memory=50GB
swap=32GB
swapFile=C:\Users\Administrator
processors=28
```

- Storage  
The default storage size for a Docker container is set at 256GB. This needs to be increased through a multi-step process like below:
  - i. Each Docker container is a virtual hard drive. The first step is to determine the current size of the container and where these containers are mounted. Determine this by building a new UniverSC container, open its terminal. Type in “df -h” to determine the disk size. The disk named “overlay” shows the container size and “/dev/sdX” (usually sdc) is the virtual hard drive.
  - ii. To confirm that such virtual hard drive exists, open Ubuntu command-line and type in “mount | grep “/dev/sdX”, which should display the disk mounted somewhere.
  - iii. The next step is to resize the virtual hard drive. In the Ubuntu command-line type in “sudo resize2fs /dev/sdX <SIZE>M” (size in MBs).