

Unix, Perl and BioPerl

I: Introduction to Unix for Bioinformatics

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Introduction to Unix for Bioinformatics

- Why Unix?
- The Unix operating system
- Files and directories
- Ten required commands
- Input/output and command pipelines
- Supplementary information
 - X windows
 - EMBOSS
 - Shell scripts

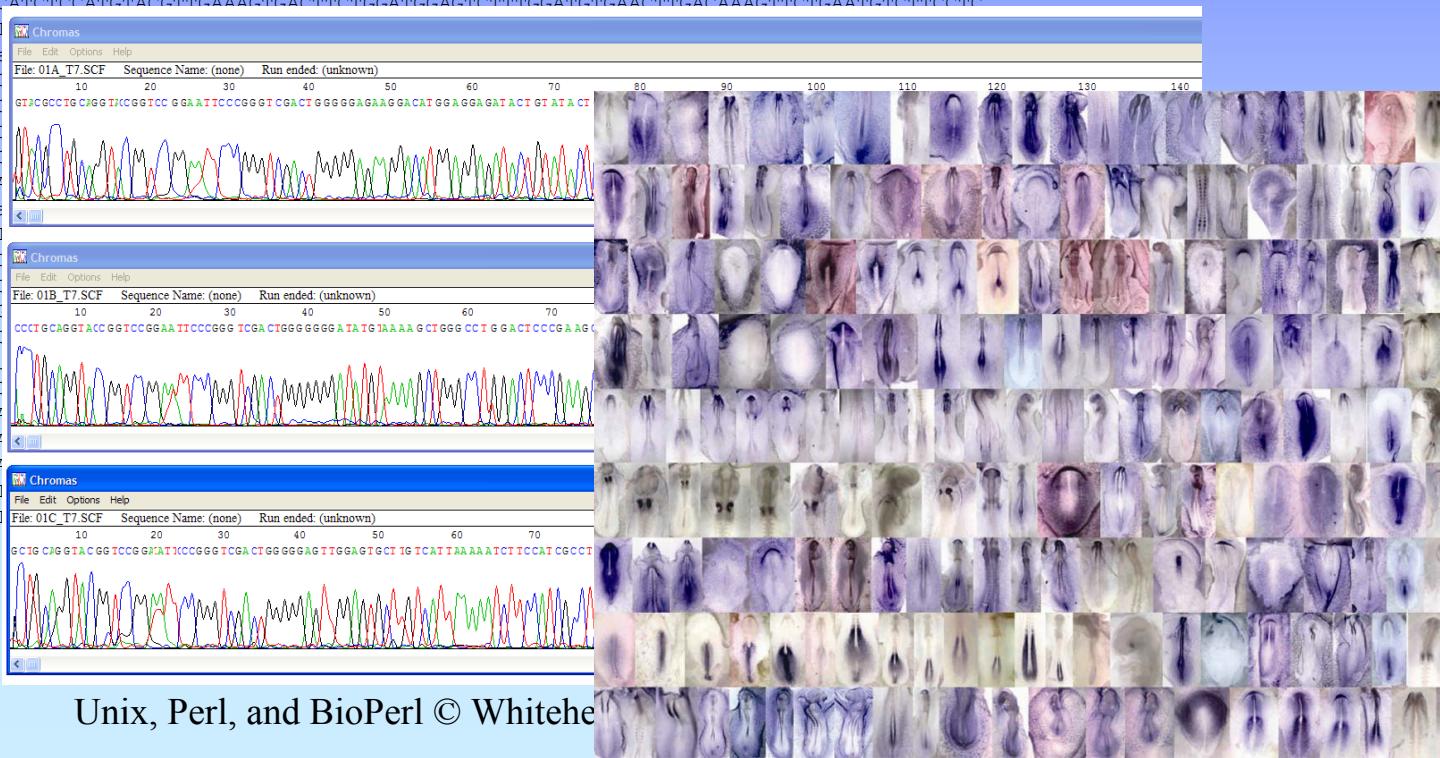
Objectives

- Get around on a Unix computer
- Run bioinformatics programs
“from the command line”
- Design potential ways to streamline data manipulation and analysis with scripts

Why Unix (for me)?

- GEISHA, the *Gallus gallus* (chicken) EST and in situ hybridization (ISH) database

```
>A01_T3 | GEISHA | Gallus gallus | 496 nt | 77:572
ATCAAAGCTTACCGACAAACATATTGACAATTAGTTGGACAGGAGGGAGGACACCCGAGGAATGTAGGCTGAGCCATAGTGTGCCAAGGCTCTC
CCTGTTTGTCTGGTGGACTGAGCCAACAGCTCCCTGCCCTCAGGAAGGCAGCAGTGGTACAGGCACACTCTATGGGACTAACAGGAGGGTGTTGTG
GTGACCTCGGAGCAGGAGCATCTCACCCATCACTCACACTGCAGACAGCATCACTGTGAAGGCCTACAGATACTGCAGTGTGGTCACAAAAGCATCCACTGGC
TGCTCCCTACCTCTTCTCTCAGCATCTCATGTAACCTGAAACTGACTCTCTGGATGGACTCTTGGATGTGAACTTGACAAACTCTGAATGTCTCTC
CCGGTGAGCAAGCATGTGGTCCAGCACAT
>A02_T3 | GEISHA | Gallus ga
ACTTCTCGGTTATTAAAAACGGATACCGGGCTCTCTTCTGCCGCCCGCTCCACTAGCAAGGTGTCAGGGCAAAAGCGTATTTACAGCTTGAGATGAGTGACTCAGCTTCATCAGAAACCTGACG>
>A03_T3 | GEISHA | Gallus ga
GCCGTCCCTTAATCATGGCCCCGTTAACACTCTAATTTCAAAGAACGCCGCGCGGACCGCCAGCTCGATCCACCAGACTTGCCTCCAATGGATCCTCCCCGGGTGGGAGTGGTAATTGGCG>
>lcl|A05_T3 | GEISHA | Gallus g
GCTGATTATGCCGTTGCAGAGCAGGTGAAACACTTCTTAGTATTAAAAACAAACTGGGGTTGTTACTGCTTACTCTAAATTACTCAGTAACGTAGTTACAGA
CTCTGAATTAAATTAAATATTTTAAAAACTGGGCTAATGCCAGCCTCTAGT
```



Why Unix (in general)?

- Features: multiuser, multitasking, network-ready, robust
- Others use it – and you can benefit from them (open source projects, etc.)
- Good programming and I/O tools
- Scripts can be easily re-run
- Types: Linux, Solaris, Darwin, etc.
- Can be very inexpensive

Why Unix for Bioinformatics?

- Good for manipulating lots of data
- Many key tools written for Unix
- Don't need to re-invent the wheel
- Unix-only packages: EMBOSS, BioPerl
- Unix tools with other OSs: Mac (OS X) & PC (Cygwin)

Unix O.S.

- kernel
 - managing work, memory, data, permissions
- shell:
 - working environment and command interpreter
 - link between kernel and user
 - choices: tcsh, etc.
 - History, filename completion [tab], wildcard (*)
 - Shell scripts to combine commands
- filesystem
 - ordinary files, directories, special files, pipes

WIBR BaRC systems

Training

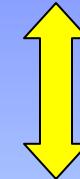
hebrides
(Solaris; 4 CPUs)
with storage and
filesystem
`/home/username`

Research

storage and filesystem:
`/home/username`

barra (Linux; 4 CPUs)

Linux cluster: ~14 x 2 CPUs

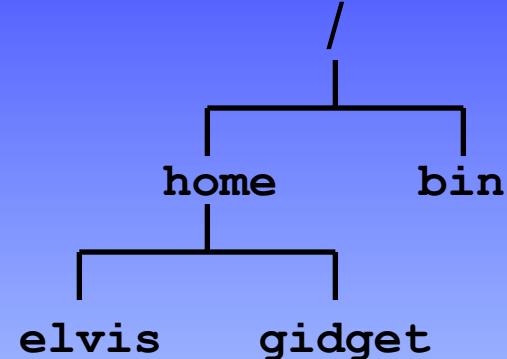


Logging in

- ssh (secure shell; for encrypted data flow)
ssh -l user_name hebrides.wi.mit.edu
- passwd: to change your passwd
- logging out
logout

Intro to files and directories

- Arranged in a branching tree
- Root of tree at “/” directory
- User elvis lives at /home/elvis
(on ‘hebrides’)
- No spaces allowed
- Full vs. relative pathnames
 - At his home, Elvis’ home dir is “.”
 - To get to /home/gidget, go up and back down:
(../gidget relative to /home/elvis)
- Anywhere, your home directory is “~”.



Intro to Unix commands

- Basic form is

command_name options argument(s)

examples:

mv old_data new_data

blastall -p blastn -i myFile.seq -e 0.05

-d nt -T T -o myFile.out

- Use history (\uparrow , \downarrow , $!num$) to re-use commands
- Cursor commands: A (beginning) and E (end)
- To get a blank screen: `clear`
- For info about a command: `man command`

Key commands p. 1

- Where am I?

```
elvis@hebrides [1]% pwd  
/home/elvis
```

- What's here?

```
elvis@hebrides [2]% ls  
A01.tfa
```

```
elvis@hebrides [3]% ls -a
```

.	.cshrc	A01.tfa
..	.twmrc	

Key commands p. 2

- Change directories:

`cd .. /gidget`

`/home/gidget`

- Make a new directory:

`mkdir spleen`

- Remove a directory (needs to be empty first):

`rmdir spleen`

File permissions

- Who should be reading, writing, and executing files?
- Three types of people: user (u), group (g), others (o)
- 9 choices (rwx or each type of person; default = 644)

0 = no permission

4 = read only

1 = execute only

5 = r + x

2 = write only

6 = r + w

3 = x + w

7 = r + w + x

- Setting permissions with chmod:

chmod 744 myFile or **chmod u+x myFile**

-rwxr--r-- 1 elvis musicians 110 Jun 19 10:45 myFile

chmod 600 myFile

-rw----- 1 elvis musicians 110 Jun 19 10:45 myFile

Key commands p.3

- Copying a file:

cp [OPTION] . . . SOURCE DEST

Ex: cp mySeq seqs/mySeq

- Moving or renaming a file:

mv [OPTION] . . . SOURCE DEST

Ex: mv mySeq seqs/mySeq

- Looking at a file (one screenful) with ‘more’

Ex: more mySeq

(Spacebar a screenful forward,

<enter> a line forward; ^B a screenful back; q to exit)

Key commands (summary)

ssh

mkdir

cp

pwd

mvdir

mv

ls

chmod

more

cd

To get more info (syntax, options, etc.):

man *command*

Input/output redirection

- Defaults: stdin = keyboard; stdout = screen

- To modify,

```
command < inputFile > outputFile
```

- input examples

```
sort < my_gene_list
```

- output examples

```
ls > file_name (make new file)
```

```
ls >> file_name (append to file)
```

```
ls foo >& file_name (stderr too)
```

Pipes (command pipelines)

- In a pipeline of commands, the output of one command is used as input for the next
- Link commands with the “pipe” symbol: |

ex1: **ls *.fa | wc -l**

ex2: **grep '^>' *.fa | sort**

Managing jobs and processes

- Run a process in the foreground (fg):
command
- Run a process in the background (bg):
command &
- Change a process (fg to bg):
 1. suspend the process: ^Z
 2. change to background: **bg**

Managing jobs and processes (cont.)

- See what's running (ps)

```
elvis@hebrides[1] % ps -u user_name
```

PID	TTY	TIME	CMD
22541	pts/22	0:00	perl
22060	pts/22	0:00	tcsh

- Stop a process:

```
kill PID
```

ex: **kill 22541**

Text editors

- emacs, vi (powerful but unfriendly at first); pico
- nedit, xemacs (easier; X windows only)
- desktop text editors (BBEdit; TextPad) + sftp

Supplementary information

X Windows

- method for running Unix graphical applications
- still allows for command-line operation
- see help pages for getting started
- some applications with extensive graphics:
 - EMBOSS
 - R
 - Matlab
 - ClustalX + TreeView
- Requires a fast network/internet connection



EMBOSS

- The European Molecular Biology Open Software Suite
- List of programs at
<http://www.hgmp.mrc.ac.uk/Software/EMBOSS/Apps/>
- ex: Smith-Waterman local alignment (water)
- Programs have two formats: interactive and one-line
- Conducive to embedding in scripts for batch analysis
- Traditionally command-line but web interfaces are becoming available

EMBOSS examples

- needle: Needleman-Wunsch global alignment
`needle seq1.fa seq2.fa -auto
-outfile seq1.seq2.needle`
- dreg: regular expression search of a nucleotide sequence
`dreg -sequence mySeq.tfa -pattern
GGAT[TC]TAA -outfile mySeq_dreg.txt`

Shell script example

```
#!/bin/csh
# alignSeqs.csh: align a pair of sequences

# Check to make sure you get two arguments (sequence
# files)
if ($#argv != 2) then
    echo "Usage: $0 seq1 seq2"; exit 1
endif

# Local alignment
set localOut=$1.$2.water.out
water $1 $2 -auto -outfile $localOut
echo Wrote local alignment to $localOut

# Global alignment
set globalOut=$1.$2.needle.out
needle $1 $2 -auto -outfile $globalOut
echo Wrote global alignment to $globalOut
```

Some other helpful commands

- rm: remove (delete) files ex: **rm myOldfile**
- cat: concatenate files
 ex: **cat *.seq > all_seq.tfa**
- alias: create your own command shortcuts
 ex: **alias myblastx blastall -p blastx -d nr**
- find: find a lost file (ex: look for files with the .fa extension)
 ex: **find . -name *.fa**
- diff; comm: compare files or lists
- sort: sort (alphabetically/numerically) lines in a file
- uniq: get list of non-redundant lines
- grep: search a file for a text pattern
- tar: combine files together for storage or transfer
- sftp: transfer files between machines
- gzip & gunzip: compress or uncompress a file

Summary

- Why Unix?
- The Unix operating system
- Files and directories
- Ten required commands
- Input/output and command pipelines
- X windows, EMBOSS, and shell scripts

Exercises

- compress, move, and uncompress sequence files
- make a multiple sequence file
- create a BLAST database
- run BLAST on your database
- extract a sequence from the database