



Plant & Food **RESEARCH**
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Moa

0.1

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Moa is a piece of software build around GNU Make⁵ that allows you to use Gnu Make run bioinformatics pipelines.

GNU Make is an excellent tool to automate the compilation of software. Gnu make determines how a file is created, what it's dependencies are, and what needs to be executed. Gnu Make uses so called Makefiles to describe a project. A bioinformatics project is often of the same form as compiling software.

Moa wraps a set of common bioinformatics tools as Makefiles. Features of Moa are:

- A uniform interface; all Moa makefiles use a central library that provides a uniform, command line, interface to configuring and executing jobs.
- Interaction; all templates are designed to interact with each other.
- Parallel execution; Gnu make bla bla bla

Moa consists of several parts:

- moaBase; a central library describing a number of central routines used by all Makefiles
- Template Makefiles; each application is wrapped in a template Makefile.
- The “moa” helper script; a number of tools that cannot be caught in Makefiles are implemented in a central helper script called “moa”.
- Additional helper scripts; a number of diverse utilities are part of the moa packages. These are a part of an embedded application.
- Couchdb interface; Moa is able to store information on each job in a couchdb. See chapter XX.

1.0.1 Example session

To better understand how Moa works, please read this sample session:

```
mkdir test  
cd test  
moa new lftp
```

Chapter 2

Installation

2.1 Prerequisites

Moa is developed on Ubuntu⁹ and RHEL⁶ Linux and is expected to operate without much problems on most modern Linux distributions. Moa is depends on the following list of software. The version numbers are an indication, not strict prerequisites. Other, even older, versions might work.

- [Gnu Make](#) 3.81
- [Git](#) 1.6. To download the Moa software. Alternatively it is possible to download a tarball.
- [Python](#) 2.6. Python 2.5 will not work, several supporting scripts use 2.6 specific functionality
- [Biopython](#) 1.49. Only used by the blast wrapper.
- [Apache Couchdb](#) 0.9.0. Only when using couchdb functionality, see the chapter on Couchdb
- [Couchdb-python](#). Only when using couchdb functionality, see the chapter on Couchdb

Furthermore, the required bioinformatics analysis tools need to be installed. All Moa templates that wrap an application expect that application to be installed and present in the PATH.

2.2 Getting the code

Moa is hosted at github:

<http://github.com/mfiers/Moa>

Currently there are no formal releases so the only option is to download the latest version of the software, this can be done using git:

```
git clone git://github.com/mfiers/Moa.git
```

It is also possible to download an (automatically generated) archive of the trunk. Using Git, however, makes it very easy to stay in sync with the latest bugfixes and is thus strongly recommended until there are formal releases. An archive can be found here:

<http://github.com/mfiers/Moa/tarball/master>

After downloading, and possibly unpacking, the source code must be moved to a suitable location of your choice. For example /opt/moa. The resulting tree should contain the following directories: /opt/moa/bin and /opt/moa/template. Remember to set the file attributes, depending on who is going to use the software.

2.3 Configuration

Configuration of Moa is simple: The Moa /bin/ directory must be included in the PATH and a environment variable must be set pointing to the Moa directory. The easiest way to do this is by adding the following lines to your .bashrc:

```
export PATH=/opt/moa/bin:$PATH
export MOABASE=/opt/moa
```

and run `source .bashrc`.

..done..

Chapter 3

Using Moa

3.1 Creating a pipeline

3.1.1 Guiding principles

Most (bioinformatics?) projects start small, and grow over time. From that perspective it is advisable to give the organization of your project some thought on forehand.

When using Moa the separate analysis steps of a pipeline each reside in a directory. The output data of each analysis usually resides in the same directory or a subdirectory thereof. Moa has templates that assist in downloading and organizing data. This has as result that all project data in a Moa project will be organized in a directory tree on your filesystem. Such a tree must represent both the data in logical way as well as the analysis pipeline organization.

Although there are likely multiple ways of achieving a healthy organization of a Moa project, this manual proposes the following organization:

- On the highest levels organize your project according to fundamental divisions in the project or data source. For example, if you work with data from multiple organisms, that might be a good top level division.
- On lower levels start organizing your annotation pipeline. Since most

3.1.2 Setting up analysis steps

3.2 Running a pipeline

3.2.1 Running one job

3.2.2 Running a series of jobs

Chapter 4

Using GBrowse

The Generic Genome Browser (Gbrowse)⁸ is a popular tool for ...
to be written

Chapter 5

Couchdb

Couchdb² is a novel type of database that is almost completely unlike a SQL database. In its simplest form it is a high performance key-value datastore. Moa uses Couchdb to store information on all analyses performed by Moa. This means that for each job that Moa performs, a record is created in the Couchdb database. This record has a unique identifier, called `jid`. Moa creates `jids` on the fly by combining the template name, the directory name and a unique identifier (to prevent collisions). These names are not always very descriptive, so it is advisable to set a `jid` manually. This is possible using the following command (do not use spaces!):

```
make set jid=SensibleName
```

Each time Moa executes, the analysis record in Couchdb is updated. The record contains all parameters used, the type of analysis done and the location (current directory) of the analysis. It is possible to update the couchdb record without running the analysis using:

```
make register
```

Moa/Couchdb records are a set of key/value pairs, that look like this:

The most important application of Couchdb in Moa is to refer to other jobs using Couchdb identifiers. In a Moa project without couchdb references to the output of other jobs is done by defining the path to that analysis. If, at a certain moment, the project structure needs to be rearranged, it can be hard to discover which path references need to be updated. Use of couchdb solves this, instead of referring to a path, it is now possible to refer to a `jid` / value combination.

allows a user to refer to another Moa job by the identifier, as opposed to using (relative) directories. The biggest advantage is that it is now possible to shuffle your directories around without breaking the pipeline structure.

5.0.3 Configuration

Please follow the couchdb documentation to set up a local server. Moa has been developed with the latest version of Couchdb (currently 0.9.1). It might be possible to use an older version, but that has not been tested.

All Moa configuration for couchdb is done in `$MOABASE/etc/moa.conf.mk`.

The default setting of Moa is to not use couchdb. This can be overridden by setting: `usecouchdb=T`

Moa expects a Couchdb server on `localhost:5984`. This can be overridden using: `couchserver=other.server:portnumber`

All information

5.0.4 Using couchdb with Moa

Instead of using `make set key=value`, couchdb variables are set using `make cset jid\^{}key`

LocalWords: jid SensibleName

Chapter 6

Extending Moa

This chapter describes how to create new templates for use with Moa. Creating a template is not extremely difficult, probably the hardest part is ensuring that templates are able to interact with other templates.

A template is nothing more than a standardized Makefile. To understand how Makefiles work, please read the [Gnu Make Manual](#). Note that creating Makefiles can be difficult at first, as the logic rather differs from scripting languages.

Each template exists of the following parts:

- Definition
- Include moaBase
- Implementation

The order in which the template is defined is very important!

In the remainder of this chapter we will describe a simple template that creates the reverse complement of a [FASTA](#) file using the [EMBOSS⁷](#) [revseq](#) utility

6.1 Definition

The definition is a list of variables defining what your template does and giving Moa information on how to use this template.

6.1.1 Describing the new template

The following variables define what your template does. These variables are used in generating the help files, the manual and the website.

Identifier	Description
moa_title	The title for this template
moa_description	A short description of this template

Example:

```
moa_title = Reverse Complement
moa_description = This Moa template takes a set of      \
                  input FASTA sequences and determines the reverse \
                  complement using the EMBOSS revseq utility.
```

Note:

- Lines are allowed to break over multiple lines, but the previous line must end with a backslash. No spaces are allowed after the backslash and the new line must be indented (with at least one space).

6.2 Implementation

Appendix A

Template reference

This chapter contains, as a reference, all help documentation of all templates currently in the Moa repository. It is possible to get the (latest) version of the help for each template by running:

```
make help
```

in a directory with a Moa analysis. Moreover, if an Makefile links to multiple templates, on the fly generated help will detail all targets that can be used and all parameters that can be defined.

A.1 blast

Wraps BLAST¹, the most popular similarity search tool in bioinformatics

A.1.1 Targets

blast Running BLAST takes an input directory (*blast_input_dir*), determines what sequence files are present (with the parameter *blast_input_extension*) and executes BLAST on each of these. Moa BLAST is configured to create XML output (as opposed to the standard text based output) in the *./out* directory. The output XML is subsequently converted to GFF3⁴ by the custom *blast2gff* script (build around biopython³). Additionally, a simple text report is created.

blast_report Generate a text BLAST report.

A.1.2 Parameters

Required parameters

blast.db Location of the blast database

blast.gff_source source field to use in the gff

Optional parameters

blast.input_dir directory containing the input sequences

input_extension Extension of the input files

blast.program blast program to use (default: blastn)

blast.eval e value cutoff

blast.nohits number of hits to report

blast.threads threads to run blast with (note the overlap with the Make -j parameter)

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.2 blastSingle

Wraps BLAST¹, the most popular similarity search tool in bioinformatics

A.2.1 Targets

blast Running BLAST takes an input directory (*blast.input_dir*), determines what sequence files are present (with the parameter *blast.input_extension*) and executes BLAST on each of these. Moa BLAST is configured to create XML output (as opposed to the standard text based output) in the *./out* directory. The output XML is subsequently converted to GFF3⁴ by the custom *blast2gff* script (built around biopython³). Additionally, a simple text report is created.

blast.report Generate a text BLAST report.

A.2.2 Parameters

Required parameters

blast_input_file Input fasta file to BLAST

blast_db Location of the blast database

blast_gff_source source field to use in the gff

Optional parameters

blast_input_dir directory containing the input sequences

input_extension Extension of the input files

blast_program blast program to use (default: blastn)

blast_eval e value cutoff

blast_nohits number of hits to report

blast_nothreads threads to run blast with (note the overlap with the Make -j parameter)

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.3 blastdb

A.3.1 Targets

blastdb :

A.3.2 Parameters

Required parameters

bdb_name Database name to create

Optional parameters

bdb_input_dir Dir with the input fasta files, defaults to ./fasta

bdb_input_extension extension of the input sequence files, defaults to fasta

bdb_protein Protein database? (T)rue) or not (F)alse (default: F)

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.4 blat

A.4.1 Targets

blat :

A.4.2 Parameters

Required parameters

blat_db Blat db file (multifasta)

blat_gff_source undefined

Optional parameters

blat_input_file input query file. If this variable is not defined, the combination of blat_input_dir and blat_input_extension is used to find a list of input files

blat_input_dir source field in the generated gff

blat_input_extension extension of the input files

blat_eval evaluate cutoff to select the reported hits on (defaults to 1e-15)

blat_db_id_list a sorted list of db ids and descriptions, enhances the report generated

blat_db_type type of the database (dna, prot or dnax)

blat_query_type type of the query (dna, rna, prot, dnax or rnax)

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.5 bowtie

A.5.1 Targets

bowtie :

A.5.2 Parameters

Required parameters

bowtie_db Bowtie db

bowtie_input_dir input dir with the query files

Optional parameters

bowtie_input_extension Extension of the input files, defaults to fastq

bowtie_input_format Format of the input files, defaults to fastq

bowtie_extra_params extra parameters to feed bowtie

bowtie_output_name undefined

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.6 bowtiedb

A.6.1 Targets

bowtiedb :

A.6.2 Parameters

Required parameters

bowtiedb_input_dir The reference sequence to build a bowtie database with.

bowtiedb_name Name of the bowtie index to create

Optional parameters

bowtiedb_input_extension Extension of the input files, defaults to 'fasta'

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.7 cleanFasta

A.7.1 Targets

clean_fasta :

A.7.2 Parameters

Required parameters

Optional parameters

cf_input_dir undefined

cf_input_extension undefined

sed_command The sed command cleaning the code, defaults to '/>/!s/[ACGTNacgtn]/N/g'

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.8 clustalgroup

A.8.1 Targets

clustalgroup :

A.8.2 Parameters

Required parameters

cwg_input_dir This set of sequences to run clustalw on

Optional parameters

cwg_input_extension undefined

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.9 clustalpair

A.9.1 Targets

clustalpair :

A.9.2 Parameters

Required parameters

input_dir_a This set is compared to the sequences in input_dir_b. only a forward comparison is made (a against b, not the other way round)

input_dir_b The set to compare against

Optional parameters

input_extension Extension of the input files

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.10 clustalw

A.10.1 Targets

clustalw :

A.10.2 Parameters

Required parameters

input_dir_a This set is compared to the sequences in input_dir_b. only a forward comparison is made (a against b, not the other way round)

input_dir_b The set to compare against

Optional parameters

input_extension Extension of the input files

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.11 concatenate

A.11.1 Targets

concatenate :

A.11.2 Parameters

Required parameters

input_dir Directory with the input data

name A unique project name defining this job. Cannot have spaces.

Optional parameters

input_extension Extension of the input files

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.12 create.gbrowse.db

A.12.1 Targets

create.gbrowse.db :

A.12.2 Parameters

Required parameters

gbrowse_user gbrowse db user

gbrowse_db gbrowse db

Optional parameters

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.13 dottup

A.13.1 Targets

dottup :

A.13.2 Parameters

Required parameters

dottup_input_dir_a This set is compared to the sequences in input_dir_b. only a forward comparison is made (a against b, not the other way round)

dottup_input_dir_b The set to compare against

Optional parameters

dottup_input_extension undefined

dottup_wordsize undefined

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.14 empty

A.14.1 Targets

empty :

A.14.2 Parameters

Required parameters

Optional parameters

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.15 fasta2gff

A.15.1 Targets

fasta2gff :

A.15.2 Parameters

Required parameters

f2g_gffsource Source to be used in the gff

Optional parameters

f2g_input_dir Directory with the input fasta (default: ./fasta)

f2g_output_dir Directory with the output gff (default: ./gff)

f2g_input_extension glob pattern of the fasta files (default: *.fasta)

f2g_options options to be passed to the fasta2gff script

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.16 gap4export

A.16.1 Targets

gap4export :

A.16.2 Parameters

Required parameters

ge_input_dir Directory with the input data

ge_input_pattern file name pattern

Optional parameters

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.17 gather

A.17.1 Targets

gather :

A.17.2 Parameters

Required parameters

g_input_dir list of directories with the input files

g_input_pattern glob pattern to download

Optional parameters

g_name_sed undefined

g_output_dir Output subdirectory, defaults to '.'

g_process Command to process the files. If undefined, hardlink the files.

g_limit limit the number of files gathered (with the most recent files first, defaults to 1mln)

g_powerclean Do brute force cleaning (T/F). Remove all files, except moa.mk & Makefile when calling make clean. Defaults to F.

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.18 getFromNcbi

A.18.1 Targets

getFromNcbi :

A.18.2 Parameters

Required parameters

ncbi_db NCBI database (for example nucest)

ncbi_query NCBI query (for example txid9397[Organism%3Aexp])

Optional parameters

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.19 gmap

A.19.1 Targets

gmap :

A.19.2 Parameters

Required parameters

gmap_db Gmap db

gmap_input_file input file with the sequences to map

Optional parameters

gmap_extra_parameters extra parameters to feed to gmap

gmap_invert_gff Invert the GFF (T/F)

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.20 gmapdb

A.20.1 Targets

gmapdb :

A.20.2 Parameters

Required parameters

gmapdb_input_dir The reference sequence to build a gmap database with.

gmapdb_name Name of the gmap index to create

Optional parameters

gmapdb_input_extension Extension of the input files, defaults to 'fasta'

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.21 lftp

A.21.1 Targets

lftp :

A.21.2 Parameters

Required parameters

lftp_url The base url to download from

lftp_pattern glob pattern to download

Optional parameters

lftp_timestamp Depend on lftp to decide if a file needs updating, else a touch-file is created that you need to delete or touch before updating (T/F)

lftp_powerclean Do brute force cleaning (T/F). Remove all files, except moa.mk & Makefile when calling make clean. Defaults to F.

lftp_noclean set of files not to be deleted by the powerclean

lftp_user username for the remote site

lftp_pass password for the remote site, note that this can be defined on the commandline using: 'make lftp_pass=PASSWORD'

lftp_output_dir subdir to create & write all output to. If not defined, data will be downloaded to directory containing the Makefile

lftp_dos2unix (T/F) Run dos2unix to prevent problems with possible dos text files (default=F).

lftp_mode Mode of operation - mirror or get. Mirror enables timestamping. Get just gets a single file. If using get, consider setting depend_lftp_timestamp

to F. When using get, the full url should be in lftp_url. lftp_pattern is ignored. Defaults to mirror.

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.22 mummer

A.22.1 Targets

mummer :

A.22.2 Parameters

Required parameters

input_dir_a This set is compared to the sequences in input_dir_b. only a forward comparison is made (a against b, not the other way round)

input_dir_b The set to compare against

Optional parameters

input_extension Extension of the input files

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.23 nstretch

A.23.1 Targets

nstretch :

A.23.2 Parameters

Required parameters

Optional parameters

nstretch_input_dir input dir with the fasta files

nstretch_input_extension extension of the input files

nstretch_len minimal number of Ns before its reported (default 10)

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.24 pregap

A.24.1 Targets

pregap :

A.24.2 Parameters

Required parameters

input_dir Directory with the input data

input_pattern file name pattern

cloning_vector File containing the cloning vector

sequencing_vector File containing the sequencing vector

ecoli_screenseq File containing ecoli screen sequences

repeat_masker_lib File with a repeatmasker library

vector_primerfile File with the vector primers

Optional parameters

quality_value_clip quality cutoff (default=10)

pregap_template the template pregap config file to use. if not defined, Moa tries ./files/pregap.config.

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.25 traverse

A.25.1 Targets

traverse :

A.25.2 Parameters

Required parameters

Optional parameters

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

A.26 upload2gbrowse

A.26.1 Targets

upload2gbrowse :

A.26.2 Parameters

Required parameters

gup_user gbrowse db user. If not defined, this defaults to 'moa'.

gup_db gbrowse database. If not defined, this defaults to 'moa'.

gup_gffsource the gff source field, used in batch operations

Optional parameters

gup_fasta_dir input directory with fasta files to upload to gbrowse

gup_gff_dir input directory with gff files to upload to gbrowse

gffsource gff source of the data to upload
gup_upload_fasta Perform fasta upload (T/F)
gup_upload_gff Perform gff upload (T/F)
gbrowse_do_upload Deprecated: use gup_upload_gff or gup_upload_fasta
jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.
project undefined

A.27 varscan

A.27.1 Targets

varscan :

A.27.2 Parameters

Required parameters

varscan_input_file Varscan input alignments file

Optional parameters

varscan_extra_params location of varscan.pl, defaults to '/usr/lib/perl5/site_perl/5.8.8/varscan.pl'

varscan_output_name Base name of the output files

varscan_perl_file undefined

jid Unique identifier for this analysis job. Autogenerated unless defined.

project undefined

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