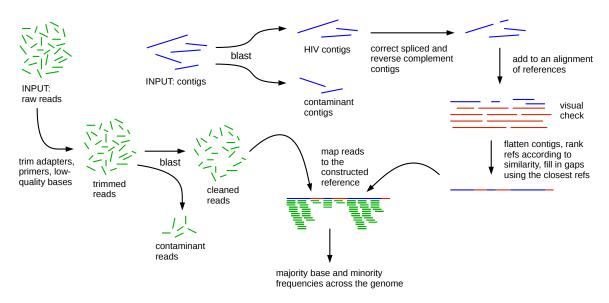
shiver

available from https://github.com/ChrisHIV/shiver

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This manual last updated May 3, 2018



shiver is a tool for mapping paired-end short reads to a custom reference sequence constructed using $de\ novo$ assembled contigs, in order to minimise the biased loss of information that occurs from mapping to a reference that differs from the sample. From the mapped reads, base frequencies are quantified, and a consensus sequence is called. **shiver** was designed for HIV but has broader applicability; if you are using it for sequence data from organism X instead of HIV, mentally replace HIV by X when reading this manual.

The method and its performance are discussed in [1]; please cite this if you find shiver helpful. If you use shiver, please also cite the publications of its dependencies: SAMtools [2], MAFFT [3], Trimmomatic[4], BLAST [5], and BWA [6] or bowtie [7] if you switched the default mapper from smalt (for which there is no publication to cite). Details of these are found in the file CitationDetails.bib in shiver's info subdirectory.

shiver is run 'through the command line' (or 'in a terminal'), not by clicking on things in a graphical user interface. If you don't know how to run programs from the command line, you should look that up first¹.

shiver runs natively on Linux and Mac OS, but not Windows. To install the dependencies of shiver follow these instructions. Once the dependencies are installed, to run shiver you only need to download its code from the <u>GitHub repository</u>; after download no installation is required. On any operating system (including Windows), if you have <u>VirtualBox</u> installed, you can run this image of Linux Ubuntu 16.04.03 which contains shiver and all its dependencies. (It also contains our separate tool <u>phyloscanner</u>, which allows you to infer and analyse phylogenies using mapped reads, for example those produced by shiver).

¹These resources were recommended by the organisers of the Wellcome Trust Genome Campus' Genomics and Clinical Virology course: http://rik.smith-unna.com/command_line_bootcamp, http://www.ee.surrey.ac.uk/Teaching/Unix, http://swcarpentry.github.io/shell-novice/.

To update your shiver code, in a terminal you need to change directory to where your shiver code lives, and run the command git pull.

If you have a problem getting the code to run or think you've found a bug, please create a <u>New issue</u> on the GitHub repository.

Throughout this manual, I'll assume your shiver code lives in ~/shiver/. If you downloaded it somewhere else, e.g. my/other/directory/shiver/, simply replace every occurrence of ~/shiver/ in this manual by my/other/directory/shiver/; alternatively if you're feeling lazy, create a symbolic link to my/other/directory/shiver, call it shiver, and put it in your home directory.

By default, to run a shiver command, you have to tell the command line where the binary/exectuable file for that command is found, i.e. including its path, e.g. ~/shiver/shiver_align_contigs.sh. If you don't want to type the path every time – you want to be able to just type shiver_align_contigs.sh-you need to add the directory containing the shiver code (~/shiver/) to your PATH environmental variable. Search on Google if you don't know how to do that.

Throughout this manual, a \$ character at the start of a line just indicates that what follows should be run from command line; you should be able to just copy and paste this into your terminal, then press enter to execute the command. Don't include that initial \$ character in what you copy and paste. Be sure to highlight the whole command for copying and pasting. If a command is split over multiple lines, you can copy all of them in one go then press enter.

1 Initialisation

Before you begin processing a collection of samples there's an initialisation step: it should be run once only (i.e. not once for each sample). It requires:

- A shiver configuration file; one of these with default values is ~/shiver/config.sh. Here it is needed only to tell shiver how to run the program blast; you can change your mind about all the pipeline parameters contained in this file later on. The config file is discussed further in section 6.
- An alignment of your choice of existing reference genomes (lots of which are available to download from the <u>LANL HIV database</u>) called MyRefAlignment.fasta, say.
- Fasta files containing the adapters and PCR primers used for sequencing, called MyAdapters.fasta and MyPrimers.fasta, say. Adapters will be removed using Trimmomatic, and "The naming of the various sequences within this file determines how they are used" Trimmomatic docs. In the ExampleInput directory of this repository is a default Illumina adapters file, and a file containing the PCR primers relevant to our sequence data those of Gall et al. (J. Clin. Microbio. 2012). Do not assume these are what's needed for your sequence data instead ask your sequencing team to provide the adapter and primer sequences they used. Adapter sequence is trimmed out of reads, whereever it is found; afterwards PCR primer sequences are trimmed when perfect matches to them are found at the end of a read.

Initialisation files will be put into a directory called MyInitDir if you run

\$ ~/shiver/shiver_init.sh MyInitDir config.sh MyRefAlignment.fasta \
MyAdapters.fasta MyPrimers.fasta

(remembering to skip that first \$ character.) You shouldn't touch MyInitDir or the files therein after running this command, or unknown bad things might happen.

After running that initialisation command (once only!), you can process any number of samples. Sample processing writes and reads in again (many) files in the working directory, so **it's very important** work in a separate, empty directory for each sample you process. Otherwise you might overwrite existing files, or the files from processing one sample could interfere with the files from processing another sample. There's an example of creating a new directory for each of a series of samples in section 7.

2 shiver input

The input for each sample is (1) paired-end short reads, and (2) contigs that were generated by running de novo assembly on those short reads.

- 1. The forward read names must all end in "/1", the reverse read names must all end in "/2", and mates in a pair must match in what comes before this. e.g. Forward read names might be FirstRead-Name/1, SecondReadName/1, ... and reverse read names should then be FirstReadName/2, SecondReadName/2, ... This is so shiver knows how to pair the reads together.
- 2. Our chosen assembler is IVA; it can be installed from here or run on a virtual machine here, and the publication is here. Say your forward reads are in reads_1.fastq.gz and your reverse reads are in reads_2.fastq.gz; assembling them into contigs is as simple as running

```
$ iva -f reads_1.fastq.gz -r reads_2.fastq.gz MyOutputDirectory
```

though you should run iva --help to see the options, including specifying adapter and primer sequences to trim from the reads. shiver wants *all* contigs produced by assembly; if by curiosity you check what organisms the different contigs come from, do not remove non-HIV contigs. These contaminant contigs (if present) are used to help remove contaminant reads.

3 How to process a single sample

Processing requires two commands. With forward/reverse read files named as above and contigs in contigs.fasta, the first is

```
$ ~/shiver/shiver_align_contigs.sh MyInitDir config.sh contigs.fasta SID
```

replacing SID ('sample ID') by a name used for labelling all output files for this sample. This command will produce a file named SID.blast (detailing blast hits of your contigs to those existing references supplied for the initialisation). Assuming at least one contig looks like HIV, SID.blast will not be empty (see section *Including samples without contigs* otherwise), and there will be another file called SID_raw_wRefs.fasta – an alignment of the HIV contigs (i.e. those that have blast hits) to your input existing reference genomes. As discussed in the shiver article, this alignment should be inspected, and in the minority of cases where this is required, edited; see the following section.

shiver decides that a contig needs correcting, if it

- is not wholly spanned by a blast hit, suggesting that the ends are not genuine HIV and should be trimmed off;
- has two or more blast hits (ignoring hits wholly inside other hits), suggesting that it is chimeric/spliced erroneously connecting disconnected parts of the genome;
- has a blast hit in the opposite orientation to the reference, suggesting that that contig (or part of the contig) should be reverse complemented;
- contains an unrealistically large gap after alignment to the existing references, suggesting that it should be split into two separate contigs.

Appropriate action is taken in each case, cutting and reverse-complementing as needed. If any of these actions were needed for any of the contigs, an additional file SID_cut_wRefs.fasta will be produced, which contains all contigs after correction aligned to the existing references. We expect that SID_cut_wRefs.fasta (if it exists) is a better alignment than SID_raw_wRefs.fasta, but it's safer not to take this for granted, for example unusual indels can result in multiple blast hits. It's therefore recommended to inspect both alignments, choose which set of contigs you think are more likely to approximate the true consensus, edit the alignment if you spot what you believe to be errors, and discard the other alignment.

With an alignment of contigs you're happy with, say SID_raw_wRefs.fasta, run

\$ ~/shiver/shiver_map_reads.sh MyInitDir config.sh contigs.fasta SID \
SID.blast SID_raw_wRefs.fasta reads_1.fastq.gz reads_2.fastq.gz
and you're done.

4 A manual step between the two automatic steps? Blasphemy!

The reason for this is discussed in more detail in the shiver paper. Correct alignment has already been attempted automatically in the first step, but unfortunately aligning whole HIV genomes automatically, perfectly, 100% of the time is a dream: HIV has very high mutation and substitution rates, including frequent insertions and deletions. Compounding this problem is the fact that de novo assembly output is sometimes an imperfect representation of the sample, and aligning problematic sequences may give problematic alignments. For most samples the contigs and their alignment are fine, and seeing this from the alignment takes one or two seconds of human time. When editing is required, it amounts to one of two things: deleting a whole contig if it appears to be wholly junk (i.e. short stretches of poorly aligned sequence separated by large gaps), or deleting the end of a contig if just the end looks wrong (i.e. a stretch of sequence in very poor agreement with the existing references, or a stretch of sequence separated from the rest of the contig by a gap implausibly large for a real deletion). Visually checking and editing when needed ensures an alignment of contigs you can trust, allowing the second shiver command to reliably construct a) a tailored reference that minimises mapping bias, and b) a global alignment of all samples, instantly, without further need for an alignment algorithm: see the end of section Scripted usage to process batches of samples. This R package by Oliver Ratmann uses machine learning to correct such alignments; however for each sample you must manually check the corrections to ensure they are correct, instead of checking the alignment itself.

5 What output do I get?

Output files include:

- SID.bam, SID_ref.fasta: the bam file of mapped reads, and the reference to which they were mapped. (It's a shame the bam file format does not include the reference, c'est la vie.)
- SID_BaseFreqs.csv: the frequencies of A, C, G, T, '-' for a deletion, and N for unknown, at each position in the genome. SID_BaseFreqs_ForGlobalAln.csv is almost the same thing; it contains an extra column with a coordinate that can be used to compare different samples, at the cost of having to skip some rows for which the coordinate is not defined (see section 8). SID_BaseFreqs_WithHXB2.csv contains the base frequencies and an extra column for the coordinate in HXB2; again this has the cost of needing to exclude some rows (where the reads had an insertion with respect to the reference).
- SID_MinCov_X_Y.fasta: the pairwise alignment of the consensus genome and the reference used for mapping. In place of X and Y here you'll see the two coverage thresholds specified in config.sh: X is the minimum number of reads to call a base (if there are fewer than X reads we call? instead of a base), Y the minimum number to use upper case for the base (to signal increased confidence). The mapping reference is included with the consensus here to give context to any? characters.
- SID_MinCov_X_Y_ForGlobalAln.fasta, SID_coords.csv: these files are useful for when multiple samples are processed, so we postpone their explanation to section 8.
- SID_InsertSizeCounts.csv: the insert-size distribution.

If the config file variable remap is left at its default value of true, some of the files named above will have a second copy with SID replaced by SID_remap in the file name. These are the result of remapping to the consenses called from the first round of mapping. The files SID[something] and SID_remap[something] will likely be very similar, but the latter is expected to be slightly more accurate.

Some files are not produced by default, but their production can be specified in config.sh:

• SID_PreMapping_1.fastq, SID_PreMapping_2.fastq. These are produced if you change the value of the config file variable KeepPreMappingReads to true. They are the reads after removal of adapters, PCR primers, low-quality bases, and those read pairs suspected of being contamination based on blasting to the contaminant contigs. These are the reads right before the mapping step; not all of these reads will map, for example because the removal of suspected contaminant reads based on the contaminant contigs is not perfectly sensitive (some contaminant reads may not have been assembled into contigs). So if what you're after is the fully processed reads with as many

contaminant reads removed as possible (e.g. to upload to some public database), you don't want these files, you want the reads from the bam file.

- SID_MinCov_X_Y_wContigs.fasta. This is produced if you change the value of the config file variable AlignContigsToConsensus to true. It is an alignment of the consensus, the reference used for mapping, and all HIV contigs for this sample (as they were after any automatic cutting and any manual editing).
- SID_ContaminantReads.bam. This is produced if you change the value of the config file variable MapContaminantReads to true. It is a bam file of only the contaminant reads mapped to the HIV reference; it shows you the contaminant reads that would have been in your bam file of genuine reads had you turned off the contaminant-contig-based cleaning of reads.

Lots of intermediate/temporary files are produced during processing; these you probably don't want to keep. By default their names all begin temp_ (you can change this in the config file if you really want). If you

- ran shiver from inside an empty directory as strongly advised, and
- are still inside the same directory, and
- chose a sample ID (for labelling output) that did not begin temp_,

then the command rm temp_* will delete all and only the temporary files. (Warning: the rm command irrecoverably deletes files, and the wildcard character * matches anything. If you accidentally put a space between temp_ and *, the previous command would delete everything in the current directory. If the rm command makes you nervous, you can delete files by selecting them in a graphical file explorer window and clicking delete (dependent on your operating system).)

6 The config file

In config.sh you can change pipeline parameters from their default values. During development of shiver, config.sh has often been updated (e.g. new features might require new parameters). As this may happen again in the future, to make sure you keep any changes you've made to default values, I recommend the following: make one copy of config.sh called config_original.sh, a second copy called config_MyChanges.sh, leave the former untouched and change whatever you like in the latter. Then when you update your shiver code, running

\$ diff config_original.sh ~/shiver/config.sh

will show you whether the update has changed the config file; if so, running

\$ diff config_original.sh config_MyChanges.sh

will remind you of the changes you made to default parameter values.

7 Scripted usage to process batches of samples

Before we start, note that scripted use of shiver (like any other command-line program) to process multiple files is easier if you know the basics of playing with file names from the command line. Consider this toy example:

```
bar.csv foo.csv
$ ls TxtDir/
bar.txt foo.txt
# Assign the text file we want to a variable:
$ DesiredTextFile=TxtDir/foo.txt
# This shows how to find the associated csv file:
$ DesiredTextFileNoPath=$(basename "$DesiredTextFile")
$ echo "$DesiredTextFileNoPath"
foo.txt
$ DesiredTextFileNoPathNoExtention="${DesiredTextFileNoPath%.txt}"
$ echo "$DesiredTextFileNoPathNoExtention"
$ AssociatedCsvFile=CsvDir/"$DesiredTextFileNoPathNoExtention".csv
$ ls "$AssociatedCsvFile"
CsvDir/foo.csv
# Or, the above steps all in one go:
$ DesiredTextFile=TxtDir/foo.txt
$ ls CsvDir/$(basename "${DesiredTextFile%.txt}").csv
CsvDir/foo.csv
   Now back to shiver. Say your current directory contains three subdirectories: contigs, MyInitDir
and reads, containing what the names suggest. Here are your contigs:
$ ls contigs/
sampleA.fasta sampleB.fasta sampleC.fasta
and here are your reads:
$ ls reads/
sampleA_1_fastq.gz sampleA_2_fastq.gz
sampleB_1_fastq.gz sampleB_2_fastq.gz
sampleC_1_fastq.gz sampleC_2_fastq.gz
Start by aligning the contigs for all samples:
$ for ContigFile in contigs/*.fasta; do
  # Extract the SID for this sample from the filename by removing the extension and path
  SID=$(basename "${ConfigFile%.fasta}")
  # Make, and change into, an empty directory for processing this contig file
 mkdir AlignmentOutput_"$SID"
  cd AlignmentOutput_"$SID"
  ~/shiver/shiver_align_contigs.sh ../MyInitDir ../config.sh "$ContigFile" "$SID"
  cd ..
done
```

We have two directories: one with text files, one with csv files.

\$ ls CsvDir/

As explained above, for those samples for which contig correction is necessary, SID_cut_wRefs.fasta will be produced as well as SID_raw_wRefs.fasta, and only the better looking of these two should be kept (and edited if needed). Let's say you put one of these two files for each sample all together in a directory called CheckedContigAlignments.

```
# For samples that had an SID_cut_wRefs.fasta file, we kept either that file or
# SID_raw_wRefs.fasta. Let's rename all these files to have the same suffix -
# removing '_raw' or '_cut' to leave just SID_wRefs.fasta - to make it easier
# to find the one we want.
$ cd CheckedContigAlignments
$ for alignment in *_cut_wRefs.fasta; do
 mv -i "$alignment" "${alignment%_cut_wRefs.fasta}"_wRefs.fasta
done
$ for alignment in *_raw_wRefs.fasta; do
 mv -i "$alignment" "${alignment%_raw_wRefs.fasta}"_wRefs.fasta
done
# Now let's map! Make and change into an empty directory for processing each sample.
$ cd ..
$ for ContigFile in contigs/*.fasta; do
  # Find the other files for this sample.
  # NB careful scripting would check that files exist before using them;
  # here I'm trying to use minimal code for illustration.
  SID=$(basename "${ConfigFile%.fasta}")
  mkdir MappingOutput_"$SID"
  cd MappingOutput_"$SID"
  BlastFile=../AlignmentOutput_"$SID"/"$SID".blast
  alignment=../CheckedContigAlignments/"$SID"_wRefs.fasta
  reads1=../reads/"$SID"_1.fastq.gz
  reads2=../reads/"$SID"_2.fastq.gz
  ~/shiver/shiver_map_reads.sh ../MyInitDir ../config.sh "$ContigFile" \
  "$SID" "$BlastFile" "$alignment" "$reads1" "$reads2"
  cd
done
```

8 The Global Alignment

and you're done mapping.

Now for those aforementioned *_MinCov_X_Y_ForGlobalAln.fasta files. These are generated by excising unique insertions seen in a sample (i.e. not seen in any of the existing references used for initialisation), and then inserting gaps using coordinate translation in such a way that these files are all aligned with each other and with the alignment of existing references. Constructing a global alignment is then achieved just by putting all those files into one file:

```
$ cat MappingOutput_*/*_ForGlobalAln.fasta > GlobalAln.fasta
and you can include the existing references too, if you like, with
$ cat MyInitDir/ExistingRefAlignment.fasta >> GlobalAln.fasta
Now it's over to you for phylogenetics, GWAS etc.
```

9 Including samples without contigs

You might have some samples for which none of the contigs have blast hits to the existing references you supplied, i.e. it looks like all contigs are contaminants. In this case the contig alignment step will produce an empty blast file and no SID_raw_wRefs.fasta file. If you have total confidence in your de novo assembler, you could choose to dismiss such samples as total sequencing failure – that would be reasonable. On the other hand perhaps there are enough HIV reads to call a partial consensus, and the assembler just failed to build any contigs out of them. Because of this possibility, in place of the alignment-of-contigs-to-existing-references argument that's given to shiver_map_reads.sh, you can supply a fasta file containing a single sequence: that sequence will be used as the reference for mapping, instead of a tailored one constructed from contigs. If that sequence is one of the existing references

you provided at the initialisation step, shiver knows how to do the coordinate translation necessary to produce a SID_MinCov_X_Y_ForGlobalAln.fasta file; if not, this file will not be produced (you'll still get your consensus sequence though).

To script this kind of thing, you can just check whether the alignment of contigs to existing references exists for this sample: if not, choose a sequence to use as your reference to mapping. This would probably be most easily achieved by making a big look-up table before you start. (e.g. running the program kraken or kallisto on the reads for each sample, one can see which of the existing references has the largest number of reads attributed to it; one might obtain a non-null result even when no HIV contigs were assembled.) For example in the scripted usage above, after

 $\verb|alignment=../CheckedContigAlignments/"\$SID"_wRefs.fasta, you could have$

```
if [[!-f "$alignment"]]; then
   # Insert code here to re-assign the $alignment variable to be a
   # file containing the reference previously chosen for this sample.
fi
```

10 Sample Reprocessing and Analysis

Individual steps from shiver can be run with stand-alone command line tools, for ease of reapplication elsewhere; these are contained in the tools subdirectory of the shiver code directory. For example CorrectContigs.py is run with a file of contigs and a file of their BLASTN hits to some set of references, and corrects the contigs by cutting and reverse-complementing where needed. Also included in shiver are command-line tools for easy analysis and modification of sample output without rerunning the whole pipeline:

• Recall X and Y above – the coverage thresholds for calling bases. You can generate another consensus sequence using different values, X2 and Y2 say, without rerunning the whole pipeline, thus:

```
$ tools/CallConsensus.py SID_BaseFreqs.csv X2 Y2 > MyNewConsensus.fasta
```

If you decrease the value of X you will see more bases and fewer? characters: the less strict you are with your requirement on 'vertical' coverage (the number of mapped bases at a point; the height at a given position in the bam file, if you like), the more 'horizontal' coverage (i.e. genomic coverage, the total number of bases called in the consensus) will increase. That's good right? Yes and no. You could also increase your horizontal coverage by replacing all? characters by a random selection of As, Cs, Gs and Ts, but it's not recommended. Decreasing these thresholds increases sensitivity to HIV reads at the cost of specificity (since some reads are bound to be contaminants), and you ought to balance these, not just maximise the former. The gold-standard way of figuring out how low you can safely set your coverage threshold without including many contaminant reads would be to sequence a set negative control samples and see what coverage they typically have, purely from contamination. (As always, negative controls must be obtained and processed in exactly the same way as the genuine samples to be meaningful, i.e. taking samples from people uninfected by HIV then processing as usual. Simply sequencing water, for example, would not capture the fact that blood contains other nucleic acids that can be mistaken for HIV.) Absent such information, another way to get a handle on this problem is provided by LinkIdentityToCoverage.py, described below. Yet another way, for dated sequences, might be to maximise the correlation between real time and the evolutionary distance inferred from a phylogeny – the R^2 of the molecular clock – since too little real sequence and too much contaminant sequence will both screw up your phylogeny. To regenerate a coordinate-translated version of this consensus for the global alignment (of all consensuses produced by shiver), tools/TranslateSeqForGlobalAln.py can be run, taking as its two arguments the consensus, and SID_coords.csv generated by the full run of shiver.

• Another parameter in the configuration file is the minimum read *identity* – the fraction of bases in the read which are mapped and agree with the reference – required for a read to be considered mapped, and so retained in the BAM file. If you wish to increase this after completion of shiver, reads with an identity below your new higher threshold can be discarded by running RemoveDivergentReads.py on a BAM file. Running shiver_reprocess_bam.sh on the resulting BAM file (or indeed any BAM file) implements just the last steps in shiver, namely generating pileup, calculating the base frequencies, and calling the consensus.

- FindNumMappedBases.py calculates the total number of mapped bases in a BAM file (where read length is constant this equals the number of mapped reads multiplied by read length, minus the total length of sequence clipped from reads), optionally binned by read identity. In the absence of mapped contaminant reads, and all else being equal, mapping to a reference which is closer to the true consensus should map more bases and mapped reads should have higher identities.
- FindClippingHotSpots.py counts, at each position in the genome, the number and percentage of reads that are clipped from that position to their left or right end. Having many such reads is a warning sign of the kind of biased loss of information discussed in the shiver paper.
- FindSubSeqsInAlignment.py finds the location of specified sub-sequences in an alignment.
- LinkIdentityToCoverage.py finds, for each different coverage encountered when considering all positions in a BAM file, the mean read identity at such positions. The mean read identity tends to be lower at positions of low coverage due to a background of contaminant reads, which differ from the reference by virtue of being contamination, but which are nevertheless similar enough to be mapped. Quantifying the decline in identity at low coverage helps inform what coverage threshold is appropriate for a given data set.
- AlignMoreSeqsToPairWithMissingCoverage.py allows more sequences to be added to a pairwise alignment in which one sequence contains missing coverage (such as a consensus and its reference), correctly maintaining the distinction between gaps (indicating a deletion) and missing coverage.
- AlignBaseFreqFiles.py aligns not two sequences, but two of the csv-format base frequency files output by shiver. Optionally a similarity metric is calculated at each position in the alignment, between 0 (no agreement on which bases/gaps are present) and 1 (perfect agreement on which bases/gaps are present and on their proportions). This allows comparison not just of consensus sequences between two samples but also of minority variants.
- ConvertAlnToColourCodes.py converts each base in a sequence alignment into a colour code indicating agreement with the consensus and indels; AlignmentPlotting.R takes such colour codes and visualises the alignment. These scripts were used to produce the alignment + coverage + gene diagrams in the shiver paper.
- Finally some simple tools for convenience: FindSeqsInFasta.py extracts named sequences from a fasta file, with options including gap stripping, returning only windows of the sequences, and inverting the search; PrintSeqLengths.py prints sequence lengths with or without gaps; SplitFasta.py splits a fasta file into one file per sequence therein.

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