Lecture 3A: Working with text



Practical Bioinformatics (Biol 4220)

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Lecture 3A outline

- 1. Text formatting
- 2. Text processing
- 3. Example pipelines

Text strings

Pipelines sharing input/output as text

Programs expect input in a variety of formats

Pipelines often require intermediate stages that reformat or filter output from one stage before passing it as input to the next stage

Example file formats

~\$ cat format_1.txt
This file contains DNA sequences downloaded from GenBank
for multiple species (incl. human, mouse, cow) and multiple
genes (incl. CO2 and cytB). The first sequence, for the CO2
gene in Mus musculus, is interesting, in part, because it
nucleotide site positions 31, 239, and 594 are G, C, and T,
respectively, whereas CO2 for all other species described
in this document report nucleotides A, C, and T, at those
...

plain text (.txt)

```
~$ cat format_4.txt

> Mus_musculus_CO2
ACGTCAGGGCATTTCATCGTGCGATC...
> Homo_sapiens_CO2
ACGTCACCGCATTTGCTCGTGCGATC...
> Bos_taurus_CO2
ACGTCACTGCATCATTTCGTGCGATC...
> Mus_musculus_cytB
CGGCAAGATGCCGATCTCGTGCGATC...
> Homo_sapiens_cytB
CTGCAAGTTGCCTGACTCGTGCGATC...
> Bos_taurus_cytB
CAGCAGGATGCCTTTCTCGTGCGATC...

> CAGCAGGATGCCTTTCTCGTGCGATC...

> CAGCAGGATGCCTTTCTCGTGCGATC...
```

FASTA format (.fas or .fasta)

```
~$ cat format_2.txt
species,gene,sequence
Mus_musculus,CO2,ACGTCAGGGCATT...
Homo_sapiens,CO2,ACGTCACCGCATCAT...
Bos_taurus,CO2,ACGTCACTGCATCAT...
Mus_musculus,cytB,CGGCAAGATGCC...
Homo_sapiens,cytB,CTGCAAGTTGCC...
Bos_taurus,cytB,CAGCAGGATGCCTT...
```

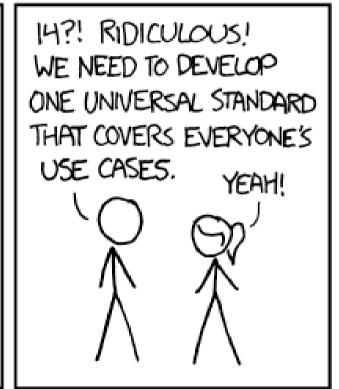
comma-separated values (.csv)

Javascript Object Notation (.json)

No formats are perfect for all use cases

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE: (SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)

SITUATION: THERE ARE 14 COMPETING STANDARDS.



500N: SITUATION: THERE ARE 15 COMPETING STANDARDS.

.csv format

The *comma-separated values* format is flexible and easy to work with

- All rows have same number of columns
- Each line is a row
- Text between commas is a column

```
species, gene, sequence
Mus_musculus, CO2, ACGTCAGGGCATT...
Homo_sapiens, CO2, ACGTCACCGCATT...
Bos_taurus, CO2, ACGTCACTGCATCAT...
Mus_musculus, cytB, CGGCAAGATGCC...
Homo_sapiens, cytB, CTGCAAGTTGCC...
Bos_taurus, cytB, CAGCAGGATGCCTT...
```

.fasta format

FASTA is a popular format for molecular sequence data. Sequences are defined by two adjacent sets of rows:

- First row beginning with ">" provides sequence name
- Following rows report the sequence data (e.g. ACGT) for that named sequence, until the ">" row

```
> Mus_musculus_CO2
ACGTCAGGGCATTTCATCGTGCGATC
CGATCAACGCTCATGGCATTACTCAG
...
> Homo_sapiens_CO2
ACGTCACCGCATTTGCTCGTGCGATC
CTGTCAATGCTCATGCTATTACTCAG
...
> Bos_taurus_CO2
ACGTCACTGCATCATTTCGTGCGATC
CGGTCAGCGCTCATGCTACTACTCAG
...
```

.sam format

Sequence Alignment/Map format is a *tab-delimited* format used with for sequence alignment against a reference genome

- Header lines (optional) begin with "@"
- Alignment lines follow; each row contains 11 columns that identify each mapped read by its name, position, sequence identity, quality score, etc.

```
@HD VN:1.6 SO:coordinate @SO SN:ref LN:45
@SO SN:ref LN:45
r001
       99 ref 7 30 8M2I4M1D3M = 37
                                     39 TTAGATAAAGGATACTG *
r002
        0 ref 9 30 3S6M1P1T4M *
                                      0 AAAAGATAAGGATA
r003
        0 ref 9 30 5S6M
                                                          * SA:Z:ref,29,-,6H5M,17,0;
                                      0 GCCTAAGCTAA
        0 ref 16 30 6M14N5M
r004
                                      0 ATAGCTTCAGC
r003 2064 ref 29 17 6H5M
                                      0 TAGGC
                                                           SA:Z:ref,9,+,5S6M,30,1;
     147 ref 37 30 9M
                                       CAGCGGCAT
                                                          * NM:i:1
```

.vcf format

Variant Call Format is a tab-delimited format that reports genomic variants

- Header lines ("##") report file metadata
- Following rows reports each variant, and its chromosome, position, its variant type (e.g. SNP, microsat), and how the variant differs from a reference sequence

```
##fileformat=VCFv4.3
##fileDate=20090805
##source=myImputationProgramV3.1
    ---> OMITTED LARGE PART OF HEADER FOR BREVITY <---
##FORMAT=<ID=DP, Number=1, Type=Integer, Description="Read Depth">
##FORMAT=<ID=HQ, Number=2, Type=Integer, Description="Haplotype Quality">
#CHROM POS
               ID
                                 ALT
                                        OUAL FILTER
                                                       INFO
                                                                                        FORMAT
                                                      NS=3;DP=14;AF=0.5;DB;H2
20
      14370
               rs6054257 G
                                 Α
                                        29
                                              PASS
                                                                                        GT:GO:
20
      17330
                                 Α
                                              q10
                                                      NS=3;DP=11;AF=0.017
                                                                                        GT:GO:I
      1110696 rs6040355 A
                                G,T
                                              PASS
                                                      NS=2;DP=10;AF=0.333,0.667;AA=T;DB GT:GQ:D
20
                                        67
20
      1230237
                                        47
                                              PASS
                                                      NS=3;DP=13;AA=T
                                                                                        GT:GO:
      1234567 microsat1 GTC
                                 G,GTCT 50
20
                                              PASS
                                                      NS=3; DP=9; AA=G
                                                                                        GT:GQ:I
```

Common forms of text processing

- **sort** the text (e.g.) alphabetically
- filter out *duplicate* data entries
- parse or tokenize text strings into fields by a delimiter
- *join* or *paste* multiple text files into a single file
- *translate* a set of text characters into a new set of characters (e.g. lowercase to uppercase)
- cut relevant text out of a data table
- find all lines and/or files that match a search pattern

Text format determines how it that text is best processed

```
# search csv file for CO2
$ grep CO2 sequences.csv
Mus_musculus, CO2, ACGTCAGGGCATT...
Homo_sapiens, CO2, ACGTCACCGCATT...
Bos_taurus, CO2, ACGTCACTGCATCAT...
```

```
# search fasta file for CO2
$ grep CO2 sequences.fasta
> Mus_musculus_CO2
> Homo_sapiens_CO2
> Bos_taurus_CO2
```

Formats for filesystem organization

How you name and organize filesystems determines how they can be processed

tree

```
species 1.fasta
                                                                                 species 2.fasta
                                                                             gene 2
                                     tree
tree
                                                                                 species 1.fasta
                                                                                 species 2.fasta
                                       species 1.gene 1.fasta
  U3392125.fasta
                                       species 2.gene 1.fasta
  U3392126.fasta
                                        species 1.gene 2.fasta
  U3392127.fasta
                                       species 2.gene 2.fasta
  U3392128.fasta
                                                                           tree
                                                                             species 1
                                                                                 gene 1.fasta
                                                                                 gene 2.fasta
                                                                             species 2
                                                                                 gene 1.fasta
                                                                                 gene 2.fasta
                 Less
                                                                               More
             organized
                                                                           organized
```

grep, file pattern searcher

Many options are available to modify the behavior of *grep*. Execute *man grep* for more examples. Some below.

```
$ cat
Viburnum molle, ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum acerifolium, ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
Viburnum molle, ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
$ grep -i MOLLE segl.csv
# print row number with match
$ grep -n nudum seg1.csv
3: Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
$ grep '[ACGT]AT' seq1.csv
Viburnum acerifolium, ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
$ grep '[A-Za-z]AT' seq1.csv
Viburnum acerifolium, ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
```

sort, sorts file by line

Sorts each line in a file alpanumerically; delimit files (-t) to sort against specific fields (-k)

```
$ cat seq1.csv
Viburnum molle, ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum acerifolium, ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
$ cat seq2.csv
Viburnum lantana, ACGGTAGGTATACGCAGTA
Viburnum tinus, ACGGTAGGTCTACACTGTA
Viburnum clemensiae, AGGGTCAGTCTACACTGTA
$ sort seq1.csv seq2.csv
Viburnum acerifolium, ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum clemensiae, AGGGTCAGTCTACACTGTA
Viburnum lantana, ACGGTAGGTATACGCAGTA
Viburnum molle, ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
Viburnum tinus, ACGGTAGGTCTACACTGTA
$ sort -t ',' -k2,2 seq1.csv
Viburnum molle, ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum nudum, ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
Viburnum acerifolium, ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
```

uniq, filters repeated lines

Filters out any line that is identical to the previous line, then prints filtered text to standard output

```
$ cat seq3.csv
Viburnum_molle,ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum_molle,ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum_acerifolium,ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum_acerifolium,ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum_nudum,ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
Viburnum_molle,ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
$ uniq seq3.csv
Viburnum_molle,ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
Viburnum_acerifolium,ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
Viburnum_nudum,ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
Viburnum_nudum,ACCGTAGATATACACAGTA
Viburnum_molle,ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
```

tr, translate characters

Expects a text stream as input; translates all characters in the first pattern into the second pattern

```
# convert from DNA to RNA
$ echo "aGcttAcGCaTaC" | tr "t" "u" | tr "T" "U"
aGcuuAcGCaUaC
# needs input redirect to operate on file
$ cat seq.txt
aGcttAcGCaTaC
$ tr "t" "u" < seq.txt | tr "T" "U"
# change case, then convert DNA to RNA
$ echo "aGcttAcGCaTaC" | tr "[:lower:]" "[:upper:]" | tr "T" "U"
AGCUUACGCAUAC
# delete spaces
$ echo "AGC UUAC G CAUAC" | tr -d " "
AGCUUACGCAUAC
# squeeze all repeated U's
$ echo "AUUUUGUAAAAC" | tr -s "U" "U"
AUGUAAAAC</pre>
```

rev, reverse text for each line

Prints characters for each line in reverse order (left-to-right) to standard output

```
# example csv for Darwin's finches
$ cat finch.csv
name,wingL,tarsusL
magnirostris,4.404200,3.038950
conirostris,4.349867,2.984200
# reverse text for each line
$ rev finch.csv
Lsusrat,Lgniw,eman
059830.3,002404.4,sirtsoringam
002489.2,768943.4,sirtsorinoc
```

cut, extract columns from file

Prints selected text to standard out. Text can be selected by a delimited field (-d) or by character position (-c)

```
# example csv for Darwin's finches
$ cat finch.csv
name,wingL,tarsusL
magnirostris,4.404200,3.038950
conirostris,4.349867,2.984200
# cut columns for name (1) and tarsus length (3)
$ cut -f1,3 -d "," finch.csv
name,tarsusL
magnirostris,3.038950
conirostris,2.984200
# extract the first five character columns
$ cut -c1-5 finch.csv
name,
magni
conir
```

paste, merge lines of files

Prints interleaved lines from each file to standard output; use "-d" to specify what character is used to join lines

```
# file 1 contains sequence names
$ cat seq_names.txt
> Viburnum_molle
> Viburnum_acerifolium
# file 2 contains sequence data
$ cat seq_data.txt
ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
# interleave sequence names and data
$ paste -d "\n" seq_names.txt seq_data.txt
> Viburnum_molle
ACAGTAGGTAGACACAGTA
> Viburnum_acerifolium
ACGGTAGGTATACACAGTA
```

join, merge two data tables

Joins lines of two files that share a common field, then writes joined text to standard output

```
# what do the two tables contain?
$ cat dat1.txt
index,name,size
1,dog,24
2,whale,523
$ cat dat2.txt
name,appetite
dog,102
whale,1405
# join two tables against shared "name" field
$ join -1 2 -2 1 -t , dat1.txt dat2.txt
name,index,size,appetite
dog,1,24,102
whale,2,523,1405
```

find, search file tree

Finds all filesystem objects that match search criteria, then prints the path to each file/directory to stdout

```
$ 1s data
file1.txt file2.txt old files
$ find data
data
data/file2.txt
data/file1.txt
data/old files
data/old files/file3.txt
data/old files/older files
data/old files/older files/file1.txt
$ find data -name "file1*"
data/file1.txt
data/old files/older files/file1.txt
$ find data -type d
data
data/old files
data/old files/older files
```

Testing pipelines during design

Don't expect a pipeline will work correctly on your first design attempt

- 1. Create simplified versions of expected input so that problems can be easily spotted
- 2. If the pipeline modifies your filesystem, make a copy of the affected files
- 3. Add commands one-at-a-time to the pipeline

```
$ head data/mammal_data.csv
Order; Scientific_name; AdultBodyMass_g; Max_longevity_d
Rodentia; Eligmodontia typus; 17.37; 292
Rodentia; Microtus oregoni; 20.35; 456.25
Rodentia; Peromyscus gossypinus; 27.68; 471.45833335
Macroscelidea; Elephantulus myurus; 59.51; 401.5
Rodentia; Peromyscus boylii; 23.9; 547.5
Rodentia; Phodopus campbelli; 27.06; 653.95833335
Rodentia; Myodes gapperi; 19.83; 608.33333335
Eulipotyphla; Sorex palustris; 13.07; 547.5
Rodentia; Reithrodontomys humulis; 8.25; 817.90416665
```

```
$ grep Monotremata mammal_data.csv
Monotremata; Tachyglossus aculeatus; 4499.97; 18158.75
Monotremata; Zaglossus bruijnii; 7500; 13176.5
Monotremata; Zaglossus attenboroughi; 2500; no information
Monotremata; Zaglossus bartoni; 6500; no information
Monotremata; Ornithorhynchus anatinus; 1484.25; 8139.5
```

```
$ grep Monotremata mammal_data.csv | cut -f2,3 -d ";"
Tachyglossus aculeatus;4499.97
Zaglossus bruijnii;7500
Zaglossus attenboroughi;2500
Zaglossus bartoni;6500
Ornithorhynchus anatinus;1484.25
```

```
$ grep Monotremata mammal_data.csv | cut -f2,3 -d ";" | sort
Ornithorhynchus anatinus;1484.25
Tachyglossus aculeatus;4499.97
Zaglossus attenboroughi;2500
Zaglossus bartoni;6500
Zaglossus bruijnii;7500
```

```
$ grep Monotremata mammal_data.csv | cut -f2,3 -d ";" | sort | tr -s ";" "\t"
Ornithorhynchus anatinus 1484.25
Tachyglossus aculeatus 4499.97
Zaglossus attenboroughi 2500
Zaglossus bartoni 6500
Zaglossus bruijnii 7500
```

Example problem

Write a pipeline to compute the number of uniquely named files in a directory that remain after applying various filters.

What code is needed for these steps?

- 1. find file paths for all .txt files in local directory (and subdirectories)
- 2. filter out all files whose names contain the text "ignore"
- 3. reverse each line in the text stream
- 4. extract the first column in the reversed text (i.e. the reversed file names)
- 5. sort the reversed file names
- 6. filter out duplicate (non-unique) file names
- 7. print the number of lines in the filtered text stream

Lab 3A

github.com/WUSTL-Biol4220/home/labs/lab_03A.md