

Regulatory Sequence Analysis Tools

Installation guide

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1 Description

This documents describes the installation procedure for the software package **Regulatory Sequence Analysis Tools (*RSAT*)**.

2 Requirements

2.1 Operating system

RSAT is a unix-based package. It has been installed successfully on the following operating systems.

1. Linux
2. Mac OSX
3. Sun Solaris
4. Dec Alpha
5. cygwin (under MS Windows 98) (except for the graphical libraries, because I did not find a cygwin version of GD.pm)

RSAT is not compatible with any version of Microsoft Windows and I have no intention to make it compatible in a foreseeable future. Since most programs are written in perl, part of them might run under windows, but some others will certainly not, because they include calls to unix system commands.

2.2 Perl language

The programs in *RSAT* are written in perl. Version 5.1 or later is recommended.

2.3 Perl modules

Two perl modules are required for the graphical tools of *RSAT*.

GD.pm Interface to Gd Graphics Library.

PostScript::Simple Produce PostScript files from Perl.

These modules can be found in the Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (<http://www.cpan.org/>).

3 Installation

For the time being, *RSAT* is distributed as a compressed archive. In a near future, we will also distribute it via a CVS server, which will greatly facilitate the updates.

RSAT can be distributed either as a compressed archive, or via the CVS server. The CVS distribution greatly facilitates updates.

Note The CVS distribution will soon be available for external users, but we still need to configure the CVS server to accept a guest login. For the time being, the CVS distribution is still restricted to the people from the lab. Inbetween, the only distribution mode for external users is the compressed archive.

3.1 Installation from the CVS repository

Before being able to retrieve *RSAT* from the CVS repository, you need an account on our server. For this, please contact Jacques van Helden (*jvanheld@scmbb.ulb.ac.be*).

3.1.1 First installation

The following command should be used the first time you retrieve the tools from the server:

```
cvs -d mylogin@cvs.scmbb.ulb.ac.be:/cvs co rsa-tools
```

This will create a directory *rsa-tools* on your computer, and store the programs in it. Note that at this stage the programs are not yet functional, because you still need to install genomes, which are not included in the CVS distribution.

3.1.2 Updates

Once the tools have been retrieved, you can obtain updates very easily. For this, you need to change your directory to the *rsa-tools* directory, and use the *cvs* command in the following way.

```
cd rsa-tools
cvs update .
```

3.2 Installation from a compressed archive

Uncompress the archive containing the programs. The archive is distributed in *zip* or *tar* format.

The *.zip* files can be uncompressed with the command ***unzip***.

```
unzip rsa-tools_yyyymmdd.zip
```

where *yyymmdd* stands for the version number (delivery date).

If the ***unzip*** command is not supported on your system, you can uncompress the *.tar.gz* archive with the commands ***gunzip*** and ***tar***, which are part of the default unix installation.

```
gunzip rsa-tools_YYYYMMDD.tar.gz
tar -xpf rsa-tools_YYYYMMDD.tar
```

4 Adding *RSAT* to your path

1. Create an environment variable named *RSAT* and containing the path of *rsa-tools*. For example, assuming *RSAT* have been installed in the directory `/home/myaccount/rsa-tools`, and your shell is *bash*:

```
export RSAT=/home/myaccount/rsa-tools
```

2. add the path of *rsa-tools/perl-scripts* and binaries to your path.

```
export PATH=${PATH}:${RSAT}/bin
export PATH=${PATH}:${RSAT}/perl-scripts
```

If you are using a different shell than *bash*, the specification of environment variables is slightly different (for example, in *tcsh*, you need to use ***setenv*** instead of ***export***). In case of doubt, ask your system administrator how to configure your environment variables and your path.

The specification of the environment variables and paths are required each time you want to use *RSAT*. You can add these specification to your personal profile (e.g. the *.bashrc* file if your shell is *bash*). If you don't know how to proceed, ask your system administrator.

5 Initializing the directories

In addition to the programs, the installation of *rsa-tools* requires the creation of a few directories for storing data, access logs (for the web server), and temporary files.

The distribution includes a series of make scripts which will facilitate this step. You just need go to the *rsa-tools* directory, and start the appropriate make file.

```
cd rsa-tools
make -f makefiles/init_RSAT.mk init
```

6 Installing genomes

Genomes are distributed via the HTTP server.

<http://rsat.ulb.ac.be/rsat/data/genomes/>

Download the genomes you need and store them in your local *RSAT* genome directory

/home/myaccount/rsa-tools/public_html/data/genomes

You also need the file which provides the list of supported genomes.

http://rsat.ulb.ac.be/rsat/data/supported_organisms.pl

This file must be stored in your **RSAT** data directory

/home/myaccount/rsa-tools/public_html/data/

If you only downloaded a subset of genomes, you will need to edit the file *supported_organisms.pl*, in order to delete the specification of other genomes.

7 Configuring **RSAT** for utilization on the command line

The **RSAT** distribution comes with a template configuration file named *RSA.config.default* and located in the *rsa-tools* directory.

Copy this file to create your own config file *RSA.config*.

```
cp RSA.config.default RSA.config
```

In principle, this default configuration file is sufficient to run the tools on the command-line.

You only need to edit it if you want to install a web server of the tools, or if you want to specify custom settings (for example the installation of additional genomes on a separate hard drive).

8 Testing the command-line tools

8.1 Testing the access to perl scripts

From now on, you should be able to use the perl scripts from the command line. To test this, run:

```
random-seq -help
```

This should display the on-line help for the random sequence generator.

```
random-seq -l 200 -r 4 -a a:t 0.3 c:g 0.2
```

Should generate a random sequence.

8.2 Testing genome installation

We will now test if the genomes are correctly installed. You will obtain the list of supported organisms with the command:

```
supported-organisms
```

If this command returns no result, it means that genomes were either not installed, or not correctly configured. In such a case, check the directories in the *data/genomes* directory, and check that the file *data/supported_organisms.pl*.

Once you can obtain the list of installed organisms, try to retrieve some upstream sequences. You can first read the list of options for the **retrieve-seq** program.

```
retrieve-seq -help
```

Select an organism (say *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*), and retrieve all the start codons with the following options :

```
retrieve-seq -org Saccharomyces_cerevisiae \  
             -type upstream -from 0 -to +2 -all \  
             -format wc -nocomment
```

This should return a set of 3 bp sequences, mostly ATG (in the case of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* at least)

8.3 Testing the graphical scripts

RSAT includes two graphical tools, **feature-map** and **XYgraph**. These tools require the following perl modules:

GD.pm Interface to Gd Graphics Library.

PostScript::Simple Produce PostScript files from Perl.

To test if these modules are available on your machine, type.

```
feature-map -help
```

If the modules are available, you should see the help message of the program feature-map. If not, you will see an error message complaining about the missing libraries. In such a case, ask your system administrator to install the missing modules.

9 Further steps

The installation is now finished, you can start the user's guide.