BCH 571 Bioinformatics for Life Scientists

Lab 11

This lab is designed to give you experience using the command line, programming for the command line, and using git.

First, ensure that you have a Unix command line available on your laptop. For mac OS X, this is the terminal application. For Windows 10, this is the Linux Subsystem: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/wsl/install-win10

If you have Windows, but not Windows 10, you can use cygwin, a free tool that provides a complete Unix environment:

http://www.cygwin.com/

If you install cygwin, you have a lot of control of the packages that are installed. Be sure to include Python 4 and git with the installed packages.

Write a program to shuffle an input string. In bioinformatics, it is a common task to shuffle sequences. The program will be called shuffle and it will take a string on the command line and output a shuffled sequence to the command line (using the Python print function).

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The shuffling function is:

Shuffle(input_string)

string_list ← array/list of characters in input_string

for i ← 0 to length(string_list)

j ← random choice of integer from 0 to (length(string_list)-1)

string_list ← swap(string_list,i,j)

input_string ← concatenation of characters in string_list

return input_string

The swap function is:

swap(string_list,i,j)

temp ← string_list;

string_list; ← string_list;

string_list; ← temp

return string_list
```

(Google random.randint() to see how to generate the random number.)

Use the Unix command line to call your program with any string and verify a shuffled sequence is returned.

Also, try using git. After making your project, navigate with cd to the directory and establish a new repository. Add your source code to the project, and commit the changes with informative log messages. There is nothing format to turn in for git, but give it a try.

To use git on Apple OS X, you will need to install Xcode from the app store. Xcode provides developer tools, including C++ for Mac.