# **Environmental metagenomics**

Working with the command line



### What is Unix?



A family of computer operating systems (OSs)

Linux, MacOS, Solaris, OpenBSD

### **Key characteristics**

Multitasking: multiple software processes can run at the same time

Multiuser: several users can use the same computer at the same time

Multiprocessing: can use more than one computer processor

Portable: can be used in various hardware architectures



# The Unix philosophy

"The idea that the power of a system comes more from the relationships among programs than from the programs themselves"

- Use of a large number of simple programs performing a limited, welldefined function
- Use of a command-line interpreter ("shell") to combine these programs to perform complex tasks
- Use of plain text for storing data
- Use of a hierarchical filesystem

### The Unix shell

Command-line interpreter

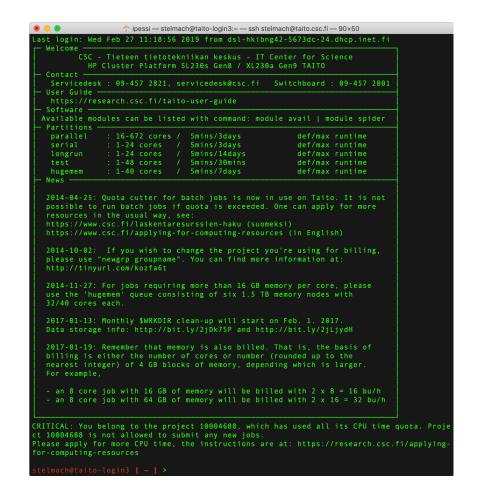
Interprets sequences of text

- Entered by a user
- From a file
- From a data stream

Primary interface before graphical user interfaces (GUIs) appeared

Still widely used today

- Efficient
- Low memory footprint
- Advanced scripting





# Some basic Unix commands

```
pwd: print working directory ("where am I?")

Is: list ("show folder contents")

mkdir: make directory (a.k.a. folder)

cd: change directory ("go to folder")

cp: copy

mw: move
```

mv: move

rm: <u>rem</u>ove



# Some additional notes

#### Case-sensitive

photo.jpg ≠ PHOTO.jpg

Does not like spaces and special characters in file/folder names

- genome report.txt X
- genome\_report.txt
- Tromsø.txt X
- Tromso.txt 🗸

- Space after each "word" in the command
- Commands have to be typed in a single line, one at a time
- After each command, hit "Enter" to execute it
- Lines starting with "#" are comments

#### A few tricks:

- Tabulator
- History



# More advanced usage

- Piping (|)
- Stream redirection
  - Stdout ("output"): >
  - Stderr ("error messages"): 2
  - Stdout + stderr: &
- Status
  - Idle

```
(base) ubuntu@ip-172-31-9-64:~$ _
```

For/while loops

```
for FILE in file01 file02 file03; do
   mv $FILE.txt $FILE.old.txt
done
```

```
while read FILE; do
    rm $FILE.txt
done < files_to_remove.txt</pre>
```

Something is running

```
(base) ubuntu@ip-172-31-9-64:~$ sleep 60
```



### **How to learn UNIX?**

### By using it!

- Trial and error
- Don't copy and paste it, type it

#### Ask the internet

- http://stackoverflow.com/
- http://stackexchange.com/
- http://askubuntu.com/
- Google!

### **Cheat sheets**

 https://www.guru99.com/linuxcommands-cheat-sheet.html

### Manual ("man") pages

• man ls

### Online courses/tutorials

http://codecademy.com



# Let's practice the command line a bit

https://www.codecademy.com/learn/learn-the-command-line

