FAIR bioinfo for bioinformaticians

Introduction to the tools of reproducibility in bioinformatics

C. Hernandez¹ T. Denecker¹ J.Sellier² C. Toffano-Nioche¹

¹Institute for Integrative Biology of the Cell (I2BC) UMR 9198, Université Paris-Sud, CNRS, CEA 91190 - Gif-sur-Yvette, France

²Institut de Génétique et de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire (IGBMC) CNRS UMR 7104 - Inserm U 1258 67404 - Illkirch cedex, France

Sept. 2020



Literate programming



What is literate programming?

Let us change our traditional attitude to the construction of programs: Instead of imagining that our main task is to instruct a computer what to do, let us concentrate rather on explaining to humans what we want the computer to do.

— Donald E. Knuth, Literate Programming, 1984



What is literate programming?

Definition

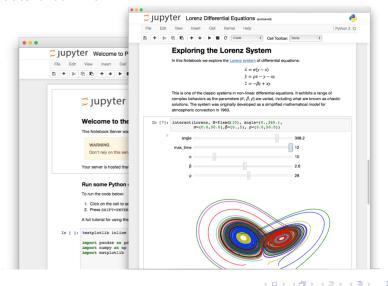
"Literate programming is a programming paradigm introduced by Donald Knuth in which a computer program is given an explanation of its logic in a natural language, such as English, interspersed with snippets of macros and traditional source code, from which compilable source code can be generated." Donald Knuth, 1984.

Wikipedia, 18/08/2020

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literate_programming#Workflow

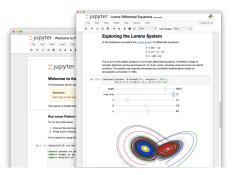


What does it look like?









Interactive programming interface allowing to combine both natural and computer languages.

In one file:

- Explanations
- Code
- Results
- Graphs and plots



Why using literate programming frameworks?

Use cases:

- Day to day analyses
- Analysis reports
- Writing scientific articles



Example of an article entirely written using a notebook

File (on a repository)



Published article



Executable file





Literate programming

This session:

- Markdown
- Rmarkdown / RStudio
- Jupyter



Markup and markdown

Definition

A markup language uses tags to define elements within a document.

Three different types and usage:

- Presentational (used by traditional word-processing systems)
 - Markup is invisible
- Procedural, provides instructions to process the text (e.g. TeX, PostScript)
 - Markup is visible and can be directly manipulated by the author.
- Descriptive, to label documents parts (e.g. LaTeX, HTML, XML...)
 - Emphasizes the document structure.



Markdown language

Markdown is a Lightweight markup language.

Designed to be:

- easy to write using any generic text editor (plain-text-formatting syntax)
- easy to read in its raw form



Markdown language

You've probably see it already on GitHub (README), Wikipedia...

```
# Heading
## Sub-heading
### Another deeper heading
A [link](http://example.com).
Text attributes _italic_, *italic*, **bold**, `monospace`.
Bullet list:
  * apples
  * oranges
  * pears
```

Github guide :

urlhttps://guides.github.com/features/mastering-markdown/



Literate programming

But how is this useful for literate programming?

When you want to weave both code (to be interpreted) and formatting information, you precisely need a lightweight language for the formatting part.



The challengers

No need to hide, there are currently two main frameworks used in bioinformatics:

RMarkdown and Jupyter



RMarkdown



At the beginning, there was nothing.



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Then came Sweave.

Leisch, Friedrich (2002). "Sweave, Part I: Mixing R and LaTeX: A short introduction to the Sweave file format and corresponding R functions"



At the beginning, there was nothing.

Then came Sweave.

Leisch, Friedrich (2002). "Sweave, Part I: Mixing R and LaTeX: A short introduction to the Sweave file format and corresponding R functions" And people saw that the path would be long...



knitR (2011)



"The knitr package was designed to be a transparent engine for dynamic report generation with R, solve some long-standing problems in Sweave, and combine features in other add-on packages into one package" https://yihui.org/knitr/



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RMarkdown



"When you run render, R Markdown feeds the .Rmd file to knitr, which executes all of the code chunks and creates a new markdown (.md) document which includes the code and its output.

The markdown file generated by knitr is then processed by pandoc which is responsible for creating the finished format."

https://rmarkdown.rstudio.com



RMarkdown





R Notebooks











Conclusion

RMarkdown is...

• A great way to create powerful reports

•



Jupyter



A bit of history...

- 2011: IPython (interactive Python shell) with notebook functionalities
- 2014 : Spin-off project called Project Jupyter
- a non-profit, open-source project maintained by a strong Community
- "Jupyter will always be 100% open-source software, free for all to use and released under the liberal terms of the modified BSD license"
- A reference to the three core programming languages supported by Jupyter (Julia, Python and R)

https://jupyter.org/



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What can it do?



What can it do? Everything (excepted coffee)



But what is it exactly ?



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Web-based interactive computational environment.



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• Web-based : client/server



But what is it exactly? Web-based interactive computational environment.

Web-based : client/server

• Interactive : notebook system



But what is it exactly?

Web-based interactive computational environment.

Web-based : client/server

Interactive : notebook system

Computational environment : console, many kernels available...

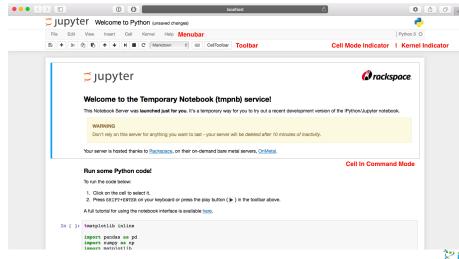


Dashboard





Notebook editor



Project Jupyter

- A non-profit, open-source project maintained by a strong Community
- Adopted by the biggest in the Cloud industry (Google, Microsoft, Amazon...)
- And financed by the biggest (Google, Microsoft, EU Horizon 2020 program, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation...)

Inside the Python community (snakemake, conda...)

Integration with GitHub since 2015 (renderer)



Nbviewer: a static renderer for Jupyter notebooks



JUPYTER FAQ

nbviewer

A simple way to share Jupyter Notebooks

Enter the location of a Jupyter Notebook to have it rendered here:

URL | GitHub username | GitHub username/repo | Gist ID

Go!

https://nbviewer.jupyter.org/



Jupyter + Docker = binder



Turn a Git repo into a collection of interactive notebooks

Have a repository full of Jupyter notebooks? With Binder, open those notebooks in an executable environment, making your code immediately reproducible by anyone, anywhere.

New to Binder? Get started with a Zero-to-Binder tutorial in Julia, Python or R.

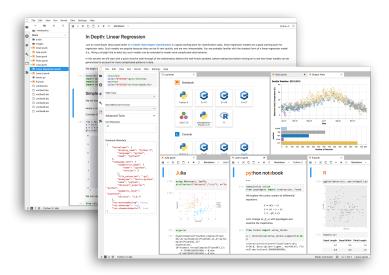
| GitHub + | Sitory name or URL GitHub repository name | e or URL | | | |
|------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------|--------|--|
| it branch, | tag, or commit | Path to a notebook file (option | al) | | |
| Git branch | , tag, or commit | Path to a notebook file (option | nal) File - | launch | |



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IFB 2020

More to come: Jupyter Lab 1.0





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Who's the best?



Who's the best?

It depends...



Who's the best?

It depends...

- R analyses? Go for RMarkdown/RStudio
- R analyses for a publication ? Consider Jupyter with an R kernel



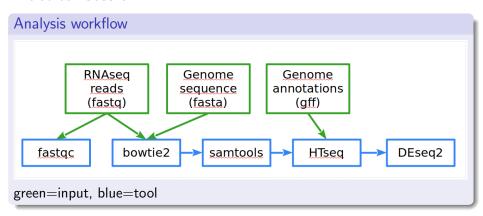
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- R analyses? Go for RMarkdown/RStudio
- R analyses for a publication ? Consider Jupyter with an R kernel
- Python analyses? Why do you even ask...



Practical session



fastqc control quality of the input reads

bowtie2 reads mapping on the genome sequence

samtools mapped reads selection & formatting

HTseq count table of mapped reads on genes (annotations)

DESeq2 statistical analysis: genes list having differential expression



Practical session

Savoir FAIRe

- Markdown
- Learn the structure of an Rmd file
- Turn a script into a notebook
- Extend the notebook with new functionalities
- Bonus: introduction to Jupyter

