

Introduction to the command-line interface (shell)

Harvard Chan Bioinformatics Core
in collaboration with
HMS Research Computing

<https://tinyurl.com/hbc-shell-online>



Shannan Ho Sui
Director



Victor Barrera



Amelie Jule



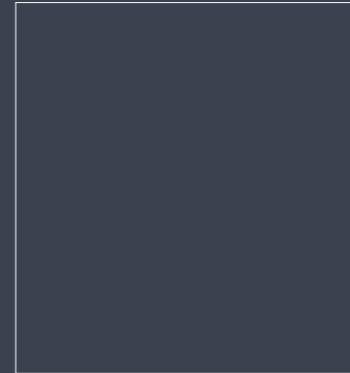
Zhu Zhuo



Radhika Khetani
Director of Education



Meeta Mistry



Heather Wick
Starts on June 19th



Will Gammerdinger



Emma Berdan



Sergey Naumenko



Maria Simoneau

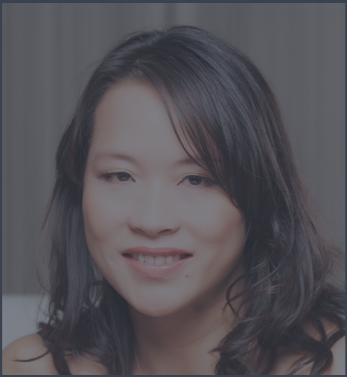


Noor Sohail



James Billingsley

Introductions!



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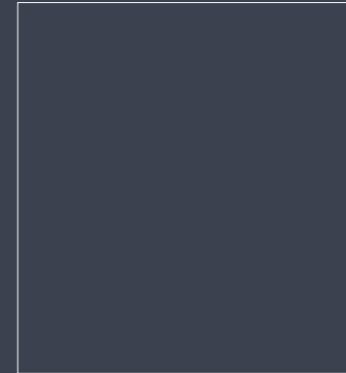
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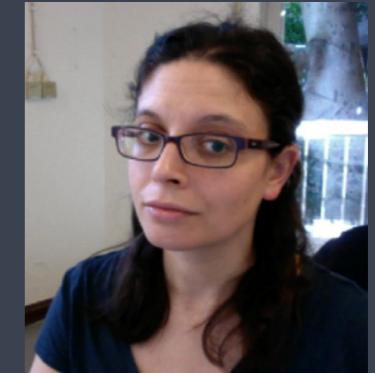
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Introductions!

How do you pronounce your name?

How do you plan to use shell and the O2 cluster?

Consulting

- Experimental design help
- RNA-seq analysis: bulk, single cell, small RNA
- ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq analysis
- Genome-wide methylation
- WGS, resequencing, exome-seq and CNV studies
- QC & analysis of gene expression arrays
- Functional enrichment analysis
- Grant support

<http://bioinformatics.sph.harvard.edu/>



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Training

A key component of the HBC's mission is its training initiative. Our dedicated training team holds workshop to help researchers at Harvard better understand analytical methods for NGS data.

HBC's training team is made up of four PhD-level scientists who devote substantial time to material development, training and community building/outreach. All members of the training team also participate in consultations on research projects to ensure they remain up-to-date on current best practices in NGS analysis.

Our hands-on workshops focus on **basic data skills** and **analysis of high-throughput sequencing data**, with an emphasis on **experimental design**, current **best practices** and **reproducibility**. Our workshops are designed for **wet-lab biologists** aiming to independently design sequencing-based experiments and analysing the resulting data.

We offer three types of workshops:

1. Short, 3-hour monthly workshops (*Current topics in bioinformatics*)
2. Basic Data Skills**
3. Advanced Topics: Analysis of high-throughput sequencing (NGS) data**

***The basic data skills workshops serve as the foundation for the advanced workshops.*

<http://bioinformatics.sph.harvard.edu/training/>

<https://hbctraining.github.io/main/>

Training

A key component of the HBC's mission is to provide training for researchers at Harvard and beyond.

HBC's training team is made up of experts in training and community building who work on research projects to ensure the quality of our training.

Our hands-on workshops focus on **bioinformatics**, with an emphasis on **experimental design** and **data analysis**. We also offer **wet-lab biologists** and **computational biologists** training in working with data.

We offer three types of workshops:

1. Short, 3-hour monthly workshops
2. Basic Data Skills**
3. Advanced Topics: Analysis of high-throughput sequencing (HTS) data

**The basic data skills workshop is designed for researchers with no prior experience in bioinformatics.



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Our dedicated training team holds workshops to help researchers learn how to analyze **bioinformatics** or **NGS** data.

The training team also devote substantial time to material development, consulting, and teaching. Our training team also participate in consultations on best practices in NGS analysis.

Workshops focus on the analysis of high-throughput sequencing data, with an emphasis on **experimental design**, **data quality**, and **reproducibility**. Our workshops are designed to teach researchers how to plan wet-lab experiments and analyse the resulting data.

bioinformatics)

(**NGS**) data**

or the advanced workshops.

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bioinformatics)

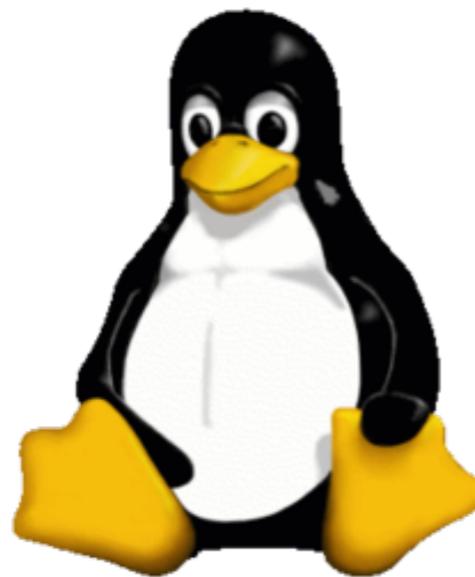
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Workshop scope



“Unix is user-friendly.

It's just very selective about who its friends are.”

The Unix command-line interface

- ◆ Unix is a stable, efficient and powerful operating system
- ◆ It can easily coordinate the use and sharing of a computer's (or a system's) resources, i.e. built to allow multi-user functionality
- ◆ Can easily handle complex and repetitive tasks easily on large and small datasets
- ◆ Usually, written commands are used to work with this OS, instead of the pointing and clicking used with operating systems like Windows and OSX

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Bioinformatics:

- ◆ A lot of NGS-analysis tools are created for the Unix OS
- ◆ High-performance compute clusters which are necessary to analyze large datasets require a working knowledge of Unix

Linux

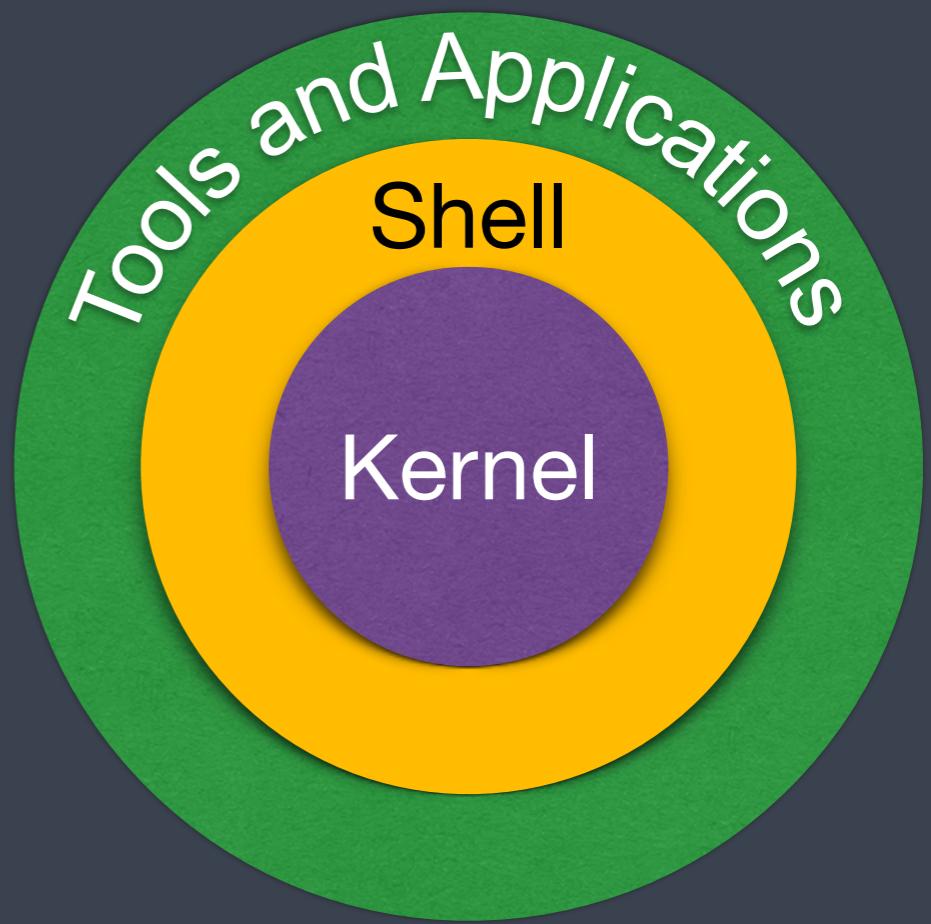
- ❖ Linux is a free, open-source operating system based on Unix
- ❖ It has the same components as the original, but the open source community is involved in active development of various distinct distributions of Linux



Components

The Unix/Linux system is functionally organized at 3 levels:

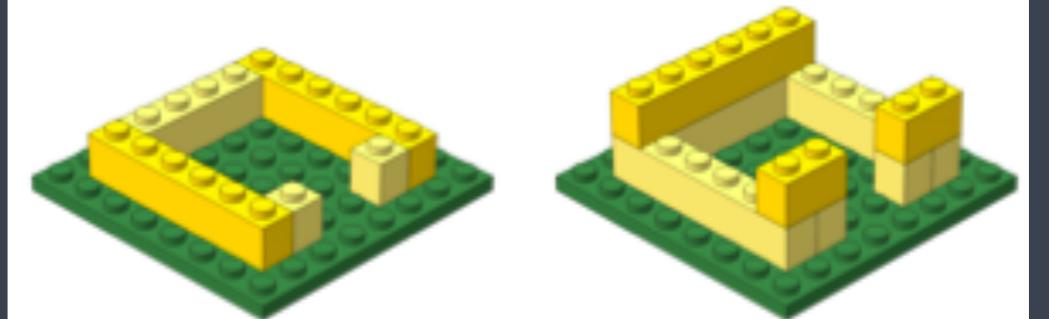
- ◆ **The kernel**, which schedules tasks and manages storage: *the brain of the system*
- ◆ **The shell**, *an interpreter* that helps interprets our input for the kernel
- ◆ **Utilities, tools and applications**, which use the shell to communicate with the kernel



The “shell”

- ◆ The shell is **an interpreter**
- ◆ It is independent of the operating system
- ◆ Dozens of shells have been developed throughout UNIX history, and a lot of them are still in use
- ◆ The most commonly used shell is **bash**

Learning Objectives



- ✓ Learn what a “shell” is and become comfortable with the command-line interface
 - Find your way around a filesystem using written commands
 - Work with small and large data files
 - Become more efficient when performing repetitive tasks
- ✓ Understand what a computational cluster is and why we need it

Logistics

Course webpage

<https://tinyurl.com/hbc-shell-online>

Course schedule online

Workshop Schedule

Day 1

Time	Topic	Instructor
9:30 - 10:10	Workshop introduction	Meeta
10:10 - 11:40	Introduction to Shell	Mary
11:40 - 12:00	Overview of self-learning materials and homework submission	Jihe

Before the next class:

1. Please **study the contents** and **work through all the code** within the following lessons:

- Wildcards and shortcuts in Shell
- Examining and creating files
- Searching and redirection
- Shell scripts and variables in Shell

NOTE: To run through the code above, you will need to be **logged into O2** and **working on a compute node** (i.e. your command prompt should have the word `compute` in it).

1. Log in using `ssh rc_trainingXX@o2.hms.harvard.edu` and enter your password (replace the "XX" in the username with the number you were assigned in class).
2. Once you are on the login node, use `srun --pty -p interactive -t 0-2:30 --mem 1G`

Course materials online



Introduction to the command line interface (shell)

[View on GitHub](#)

Learning Objectives

- How do you access the shell?
- How do you use it?
 - Getting around the Unix file system
 - looking at files
 - manipulating files
 - automating tasks
- What is it good for?

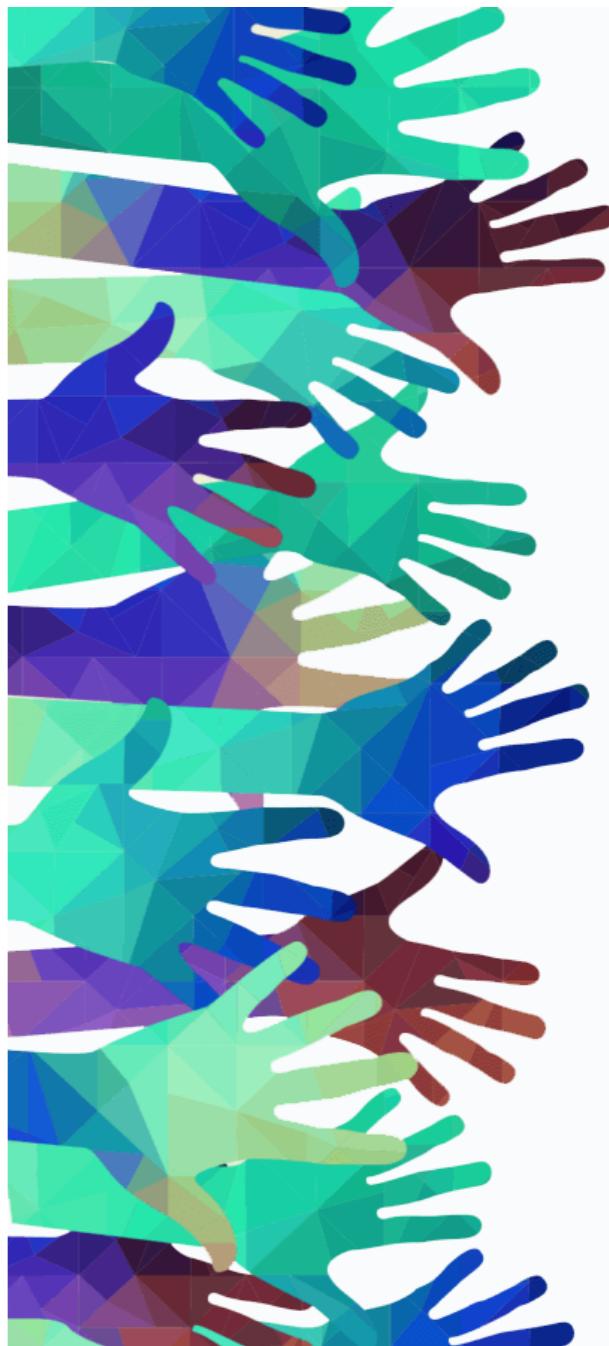
Setting up

We will spend most of our time learning about the basics of the shell command-line interface (CLI) by exploring experimental data on the **O2** cluster. So, we will need to log in to this remote compute cluster first before we can start with the basics.

Let's take a quick look at the basic architecture of a cluster environment and some cluster-specific jargon prior to logging in.

Course participation

- ▶ Mandatory review of self-learning lessons and assignments
- ▶ Attendance required for all classes
- ▶ Quit/minimize all applications that are not required for class
- ▶ Your questions and active participation drive learning
- ▶ We look forward to all of your questions!



Homework and Expectations

- ❖ At-home lessons and exercises after each session
- ❖ Cover material not previously discussed
- ❖ Provides us feedback to help pace the course appropriately
- ❖ 3-5 hours to complete

Odds and Ends

- ❖ Name tags
- ❖ Post-its
 - green - I am all set
 - red - I need time/help
- ❖ Quit/minimize all applications that are not required for class
- ❖ Phones on vibrate/silent
- ❖ Bathrooms

Thanks!

- Kathleen Chappell and Andy Bergman from HMS-RC
- [Data Carpentry](#)

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Contact us!

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