

# Introduction to command-line tools and biomolecule drawing software

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# Discussion

- What is the key difference between Linus Pauling's DNA model and Watson and Crick's model?
- What was the key conclusion of Watson and Crick's paper?

# Agenda

- Drawing/Viewing molecules: Demonstration using ChemSketch
- **Short Lecture**
- Back to hands-on
  - Login to Biolinux using Putty
  - **Linux Tutorial**
    - **Supporting webpage**
      - [https://web.stanford.edu/group/farmshare/cgi-bin/wiki/index.php/How\\_to\\_learn\\_linux](https://web.stanford.edu/group/farmshare/cgi-bin/wiki/index.php/How_to_learn_linux)
      - PDF from the above link (available on BlackBoard)
    - **Shell tutorial (if time permits)**

# Agenda (contd.)

- **Installation of NCBI e-utilities (Edirect) and will work out few examples**
  - Exercise files will be made available in the class
- **Introduction to R/R-Studio**
  - Introduction to RStudio
  - R-hands-on via RStudio

# Unix/Linux

- **Warning**
- This is just a basic introduction to the Linux OS. For newcomers, it needs several weeks of exposure to become comfortable with this OS
- Today, we are just going to barely scratch the surface
- Please refer to **SR-Linuxtutorial.docx (available from Blackboard “Needed in Class” folder)**

# Basic Intro to Shell

- Shell is a program that sits between the User and the OS.
- There are many flavors
  - C, K, Bourne, Bourne-again etc.
- C or tcsh is very user-friendly but rarely used by system administrators.
- I mostly use C-shell (tcsh)
- **I will demonstrate the capability in the class**

# Entrez Direct (Edirect)

- Advanced method for accessing (not readily available via web-interface) the NCBI's databases
- Perl scripts accessible via Linux/Unix Shell scripts
- Will run on Unix/Linux/Mac systems that has Perl installed
  - If you are using Windows; use Cygwin (not complicated and I will not cover this in the class)

# What is needed to run Edirect?

- Unix/Linux/Mac OSX
  - Windows
    - Unix/Linux emulators (SeqWin etc.)
- Perl with LWP::Simple
- Basic Idea
  - Each script outputs an XML
    - These XML outputs can in turn be piped using other Edirect commands
      - ESearch, Efetch, Elink, Epost xtract etc.
        - » Xtract (Powerful XML parser)

Why XML?

Easy to parse an XML

NCBI adopted XML based output



# Where do we get this software?

NCBI Resources ▾ How To ▾

NCBI  
National Center for  
Biotechnology Information

All Databases ▾  Search

**NCBI Home**

**Resource List (A-Z)**

- All Resources
- Chemicals & Bioassays
- Data & Software
- DNA & RNA
- Domains & Structures
- Genes & Expression
- Genetics & Medicine
- Genomes & Maps
- Homology
- Literature
- Proteins
- Sequence Analysis
- Taxonomy
- Training & Tutorials
- Variation

**Welcome to NCBI**

The National Center for Biotechnology Information advances science and health by providing access to biomedical and genomic information.

[About the NCBI](#) | [Mission](#) | [Organization](#) | [NCBI News](#) | [Blog](#)

**Submit**  
Deposit data or manuscripts into NCBI databases

**Download**  
Transfer NCBI data to your computer

**Learn**  
Find help documents, attend a class or watch a tutorial

**Develop**  
Use NCBI APIs and code libraries to build applications

**Analyze**  
Identify an NCBI tool for your data analysis task

**Research**  
Explore NCBI research and collaborative projects

**Popular Resources**

- PubMed
- Bookshelf
- PubMed Central
- PubMed Health
- BLAST
- Nucleotide
- Genome
- SNP
- Gene
- Protein
- PubChem

**NCBI Announcements**

August 3rd webinar: NCBI T Loci: RefSeq Ribosomal RN Sequences for Identification Phylogenetic Analysis

Tree Viewer 1.10 visualizes phylogenetic trees up to 10

Tree Viewer version 1.10 ha

## Develop

NCBI provides a variety of resources that allow developers to access and manipulate NCBI data in their applications.

## FEEDBACK

```

<div class="col eight_col develop">
  
  <div class="action_bar black_text">
    <a href="api.shtml">
      <section class="col four_col no_border">
        <div class="button_text">Programming interfaces including the E-utilites</div>
        <span class="action-button-icon icon-api icon-4x"></span>
      </section>
    </div>
    <a href="libraries.shtml">
      <section class="col four_col">
        <div class="button_text">Code Libraries</div>
      </section>
    </div>
  </div>

```

## APIs

Programming interfaces including the E-utilities, BLAST URL API and PUG



## Code Libraries

Software libraries including the C++  
and SRA toolkits



## Data Formats

Schema, DTDs and other data specifications



GitHub

NCBI GitHub repository



## News & Blog

Entrez Utilities News  
C++ toolkit News  
API blog posts



## APIs

NCBI provides several public APIs that allow programmatic access to many databases and tools.

### Entrez Programming Utilities (E-utilities)

The E-utilities are the public API to the NCBI Entrez system and allow access to all Entrez databases including PubMed, PMC, Gene, Nucleotide and Protein. The E-utilities are a suite of eight server-side programs that accept a fixed URL syntax for search, link and retrieval operations. A companion package named Entrez Direct consists of several executables that allow the E-utilities to be called directly from a UNIX command line.

[Documentation](#) [Quick Start](#) [Examples](#) [Entrez Direct](#)

### BLAST URL API

The BLAST API allows developers to submit BLAST searches for processing at NCBI or cloud service provider(s) using HTTPS. The API can then check the status of submitted searches and retrieve results when ready in several formats.

[Overview](#) [Documentation](#)

### PubChem Power User Gateway (PUG)

PUG is a suite of APIs for the NCBI PubChem resource, and provides programmatic access to many PubChem functions including downloads of chemical and assay data, chemical structure searches and chemical standardization. PUG offers HTTP, REST and SOAP interfaces, and also integrates with the E-utilities to provide convenient access to other NCBI databases.

[Documentation](#) [SOAP](#) [REST](#) [REST Tutorial](#)

### PubMed Central (PMC) APIs

PMC provides several APIs that provide programmatic access to various services that deal with PMC literature content, including file validation tools, Open Access web services, and an ID convertor that interconverts PMCID's, PMID's, Manuscript ID's, and DOI's.

[Documentation](#)

### ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Developer guidance about HTTPS at NCBI](#)

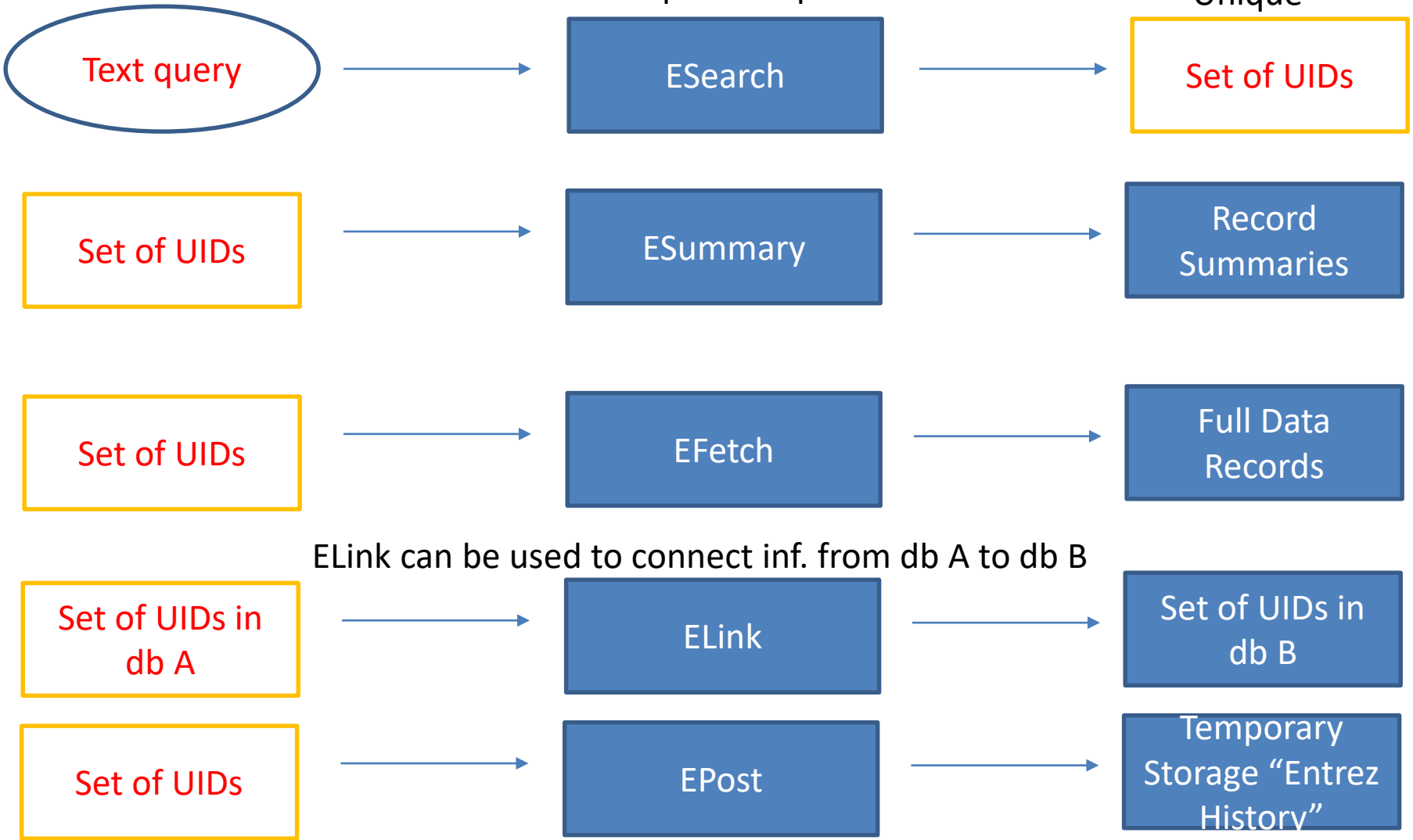
[API Usage Guidelines](#)

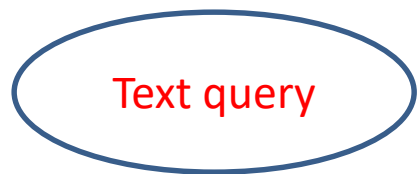
[Data Usage Policy](#)

[NLM APIs](#)

# E-utilities

Takes a text input  
& outputs unique IDs





Example "childhood asthma"

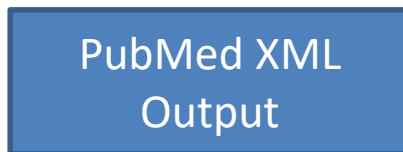


For DB, we can use PubMed

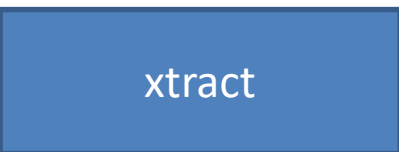


output

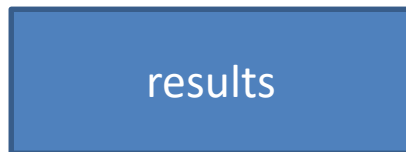
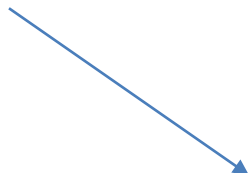
Also an input



PubMed



XML Parser



# Edirect/E-utilities

- Why is it useful?
- Let us do a couple of examples

**NOTE: DO NOT USE QUOTES FOR THE STRING THAT YOU WILL USE FOR THE SEARCH**

**PubMed.gov**  
US National Library of Medicine  
National Institutes of Health

PubMed

Create RSS Create alert Advanced

Article types  
Clinical Trial  
Review  
Customize ...

Text availability  
Abstract  
Free full text  
Full text

PubMed Commons  
Reader comments  
Trending articles

Publication dates  
5 years  
10 years  
Custom range...

Format: Summary ▼ Sort by: Most Recent ▼ Send to ▼

**Search results**  
Items: 1 to 20 of 10039

# WILL BE DIFFERENT

<< First < Prev Page 1 of 502 Next > Last >>

☐ 1. [Early Life Exposure to the Great Smog of 1952 and the Development of Asthma.](#)  
Bharadwaj P, Graff Zivin J, Mullins JT, Neidell M.  
Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2016 Jul 8. [Epub ahead of print]  
PMID: 27392261

☐ 2. [Domestic Dog Exposure at birth reduces the Incidence of Atopic Dermatitis.](#)  
Thorsteinsdottir S, Thyssen JP, Stokholm J, Vissing NH, Waage J, Bisgaard H.  
Allergy. 2016 Jul 6. doi: 10.1111/all.12980. [Epub ahead of print]  
PMID: 27392261

Let us see how we can use E-Direct to get the same output using Command Prompt

`esearch -db pubmed -query "childhood asthma"`

```
<ENTREZ_DIRECT>
  <Db>pubmed</Db>
  <WebEnv>NCID_1_90103729_130.14.18.34_9001_1468093986_406367782_0MetA0_S_MegaStore_F_1</WebEnv>
  <QueryKey>1</QueryKey>
  <Count>10039</Count>
  <Step>1</Step>
</ENTREZ_DIRECT>
```

Look at the count, it is same as the web based search.

Is it useful? It just gives you a total count. If you want individual records, you have to use **esummary**

`esearch -db pubmed -query "childhood asthma" | esummary`

Note this will keep dumping all the 10,039 records in the XML format.



# Edirect/E-utilities

- Second example
- For example, if you want to search PubMed for articles that contain the keyword, “lycopenene cyclase” and download all the resulting article abstracts into a file.

# Applications of E-Direct

- Go to PubMed, type “lycopene cyclase”
  - Hit **“Search”**
- From the hits page, change the Format of the page to **“Abstract”** and also ask it to show 200 hits per page to see them all
- Use **Send to** a file for download
- **E-Utils**
- **esearch -db pubmed -query "lycopene cyclase" | \**  
**efetch -format abstract > HitsFile.txt**

- **esearch -db protein -query "lycopene cyclase" | efetch -format fasta**
- **Please read more on the following NCBI link:**
- **<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK179288/>**

# Key flags that work well with xtract

❑ **-sep** and **-tab**

❑ **research -db pubmed -query "arthritis"**

❑ Will get a XML output

❑ Which is a summary file # of hits etc,

❑ Not very useful; to extract summaries, we pipe it to esummary

❑ **research -db pubmed -query "arthritis" | esummary**

```
esearch -db pubmed -query "arthritis" \  
| efetch -format xml | xtract -pattern \  
Pubmed Article -block Author -element \  
LastName, Initials
```

-pattern Pubmed  
Article will loop over  
each article

Within each article,  
block will search

Output will be a bunch of names LastName, Initials  
separated by tab character (default).

To force the script to use space, use "-sep" flag

```
esearch -db pubmed -query "arthritis" \  
| efetch -format xml | xtract -pattern \ Pubmed Article -block \  
Author -sep " " -element \ LastName, Initials
```

If we want each Author in a new line

```
esearch -db pubmed -query "arthritis" \  
| efetch -format xml | xtract -pattern \ Pubmed Article -block \  
Author -sep " " -tab "\n" -element \ LastName, Initials
```

? How do we store the results in a file? (Linux shell command)

Take that file and sort them and see the frequency of each author

Hint we will use two shell command: sort and uniq

# More complicated example

- Task
  - Search for the PNAS journal published papers of Garber ED
  - Collect all similar articles
  - Look for the keyword “mouse”
  - Extract the articles, first author name, PMID and the article title.
- This task is very difficult in some cases not possible to carry out via web interface

# Websearch

- NCBI → PubMed → **Garber ED [AUTH] AND PNAS [JOUR]** → You get 4 or more hits → Collect articles from “**Similar articles**” → Look for keyword **mouse** → **Get the article PMID, article title, Author first name**
- **esearch** -db **pubmed** -query "Garber ED [AUTH] AND PNAS [JOUR]" | **elink** -related | **efilter** -query "mouse" | **efetch** -format docsum | **xtract** -pattern DocumentSummary -element Id SortFirstAuthor Title



# Links

- Linux
  - ❑ [https://web.stanford.edu/group/farmshare/cgi-bin/wiki/index.php/How\\_to\\_learn\\_linux](https://web.stanford.edu/group/farmshare/cgi-bin/wiki/index.php/How_to_learn_linux)
- NCBI E-utilities
  - API to NCBI Entrez system
  - Need: Internet, web-browser, Perl etc.
  - <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK25501/>
- R
  - <https://www.r-project.org/> (Windows/Mac/Linux)
- Rstudio
  - <https://www.rstudio.com/> (Windows/Mac/Linux)

# Statistics

- R/Rstudio
- R
  - Free Software for statistical computing and graphics.
  - It compiles and runs on a wide variety of OS
    - Unix, Windows, MacOS. UNIX platforms, Windows and MacOS.
- RStudio
  - GUI for R; Very helpful to run R via RStudio