American Museum of Natural History



RGGS Comparative Genomics 2 – Computational Methods (Session 6)

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Session 5 outline

- Quiz 1 (oral recapitulation of previous topics)
- Paper presentations

Additional matters

- Session 9 October 31
 - Unfortunately, Jessica Goodhart will not be available to teach on October 31
 - However, she has kindly offered to teach on the morning of November 1
 - Who is available to attend the class on that day?
 - * Hopefully, most of you

Reproducibility and organization

– Why is reproducibility important in computational biology, and how do you ensure your work is organized for reproducibility?

Introduction to Unix/Unix-like OS

 What are the advantages of using Unix or Unix-like operating systems for computational biology?

Basic navigation in the terminal

 Can you walk me through basic terminal navigation, including commands for viewing, listing, moving between directories, and editing text files?

Command line computing basics 1

 Mention useful commands to navigate directories, view/edit/create files, among other tasks

Command line computing basics 2

- What is a batch script?
- What are shell pipelines, for- and while-loops?

Connecting to remote servers & package managers

– What steps would you take to connect to a remote server, and how can a package manager assist in managing the software on that server?

Introduction to GitHub & version control

– What are the key benefits of using GitHub for version control, and how does it help in collaborative research?

Working on remote servers (HPC architecture, scheduler, jobs)

- Could you explain what a HPC environment is and how to submit a job using a scheduler?
- Can all computational process be parallelized?

• Scripting:

- How can scripting automate tasks in computational biology, and what are some typical tasks that can be scripted?
- Mention some examples of scripting languages

Introduction to R and Python for phylogenomics

- Mention some examples of tasks in Python or R that involve data manipulation, statistical computing and graphics
- Can you describe a scenario where you would use either R or Python for phylogenomics, and why you would choose one over the other?

Summary of tasks that can be scripted

- Data retrieval and management
- Data preprocessing
- Analysis and modeling
- Visualization
- Batch processing
- Result compilation and reporting
- Integrating tools and pipelines

Poster presentations

- Each student has chosen an -omics paper that they find innovative, exciting, relevant to their work, or particularly interesting
- Today (October 10, 2024), they will deliver a 10-minute presentation that provided a concise overview of the research question addressed and a thorough explanation of the computational methods employed