

# An introduction to python and its applications in bioinformatics

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Lab Master Class  
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# The print function and ‘Hello World’

```
(base) nageorge@hydra:~$ python
```

# The print function and ‘Hello World’

```
(base) nageorge@hydra:~$ python
Python 3.7.7 (default, Mar 26 2020, 15:48:22)
[GCC 7.3.0] :: Anaconda, Inc. on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
```

# The print function and ‘Hello World’

```
(base) nageorge@hydra:~$ python
Python 3.7.7 (default, Mar 26 2020, 15:48:22)
[GCC 7.3.0] :: Anaconda, Inc. on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

>>> print('Hello World')
```

# The print function and ‘Hello World’

```
(base) nageorge@hydra:~$ python
Python 3.7.7 (default, Mar 26 2020, 15:48:22)
[GCC 7.3.0] :: Anaconda, Inc. on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

>>> print('Hello World')
Hello World
```

# Variable assignment

```
>>> lab_group = "Hug_lab"
```

# Variable assignment

```
>>> lab_group = "Hug_lab"  
>>> print(lab_group)  
Hug_lab
```

# Variable assignment

```
>>> lab_group = "Hug_lab"  
>>> print(lab_group)  
Hug_lab  
>>> lab_group  
'Hug_lab'
```

# List generation and the len function

```
>>> lab_members = ['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
```

# List generation and the len function

```
>>> lab_members = ['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> lab_members
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
```

# List generation and the len function

```
>>> lab_members = ['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> lab_members
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> len(lab_members)
11
```

# List generation and the len function

```
>>> lab_members = ['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> lab_members
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> len(lab_members)
11
>>> len('str')
3
```

# Indexing in python

```
>>> lab_members  
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
```

# Indexing in python

```
>>> lab_members  
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']  
>>> print("The principal investigator of this lab is: " + lab_members[1])
```

# Indexing in python

```
>>> lab_members  
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']  
>>> print("The principal investigator of this lab is: " + lab_members[1])  
The principal investigator of this lab is: Fiona
```

?????



# Indexing in python

```
>>> lab_members  
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']  
0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10
```

# Indexing in python

```
>>> print("The principal investigator of this lab is: " + lab_members[0])
```

# Indexing in python

```
>>> print("The principal investigator of this lab is: " + lab_members[0])  
The principal investigator of this lab is: Laura
```



# Index ranges and non-inclusivity

```
>>> lab_members  
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
```

# Index ranges and non-inclusivity

```
>>> lab_members
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> lab_members[0:4]
```

# Index ranges and non-inclusivity

```
>>> lab_members
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan', 'Panuya', 'Brian', 'Emilie', 'Grant', 'Rosalind', 'Nikhil', 'Lisa']
>>> lab_members[0:4]
['Laura', 'Fiona', 'Veronica', 'Dan']
```

# The for loop

```
>>> for lab_member in lab_members:
```

# The for loop

```
>>> for lab_member in lab_members:  
...     print(lab_member + " is a cool lab member")
```

# The for loop

```
>>> for lab_member in lab_members:  
...     print(lab_member + " is a cool lab member")  
...  
Laura is a cool lab member  
Fiona is a cool lab member  
Veronica is a cool lab member  
Dan is a cool lab member  
Panuya is a cool lab member  
Brian is a cool lab member  
Emilie is a cool lab member  
Grant is a cool lab member  
Rosalind is a cool lab member  
Nikhil is a cool lab member  
Lisa is a cool lab member
```

# The for loop's iteration variable

```
>>> for chicken13 in lab_members:  
...     print(chicken13 + " is a cool lab member")
```

# The for loop's iteration variable

```
>>> for chicken13 in lab_members:  
...     print(chicken13 + " is a cool lab member")  
...  
Laura is a cool lab member  
Fiona is a cool lab member  
Veronica is a cool lab member  
Dan is a cool lab member  
Panuya is a cool lab member  
Brian is a cool lab member  
Emilie is a cool lab member  
Grant is a cool lab member  
Rosalind is a cool lab member  
Nikhil is a cool lab member  
Lisa is a cool lab member
```

# The if else conditional statements and the “>” comparison operator

```
>>> if len(lab_members) > 10:
```

# The if else conditional statements and the “>” comparison operator

```
>>> if len(lab_members) > 10:  
...     print("Since when did our lab get so big?")
```

# The if else conditional statements and the “>” comparison operator

```
>>> if len(lab_members) > 10:  
...     print("Since when did our lab get so big?")  
... else:  
...     print("Is our lab considered big?")
```

# The if else conditional statements and the “>” comparison operator

```
>>> if len(lab_members) > 10:  
...     print("Since when did our lab get so big?")  
... else:  
...     print("Is our lab considered big?")  
...  
Since when did our lab get so big?
```

Counters, another comparison operator “==”  
and... basically everything else we've discussed

```
>>> name = 'LAURA'  
>>> letters = ['L', 'A', 'U', 'R', 'A']  
>>> counter = 0
```

Counters, another comparison operator “==”  
and... basically everything else we've discussed

```
>>> name = 'LAURA'  
>>> letters = ['L', 'A', 'U', 'R', 'A']  
>>> counter = 0  
>>> for character in name:  
...     if character == letters[1]:  
...         counter = counter + 1  
...  
...
```

Counters, another comparison operator “==”  
and... basically everything else we've discussed

```
>>> name = 'LAURA'  
>>> letters = ['L', 'A', 'U', 'R', 'A']  
>>> counter = 0  
>>> for character in name:  
...     if character == letters[1]:  
...         counter = counter + 1  
...  
>>> print(counter)  
2
```

# The range function with a for loop

```
>>> for i in range(17):
...     print(i)
...
```

# The range function with a for loop

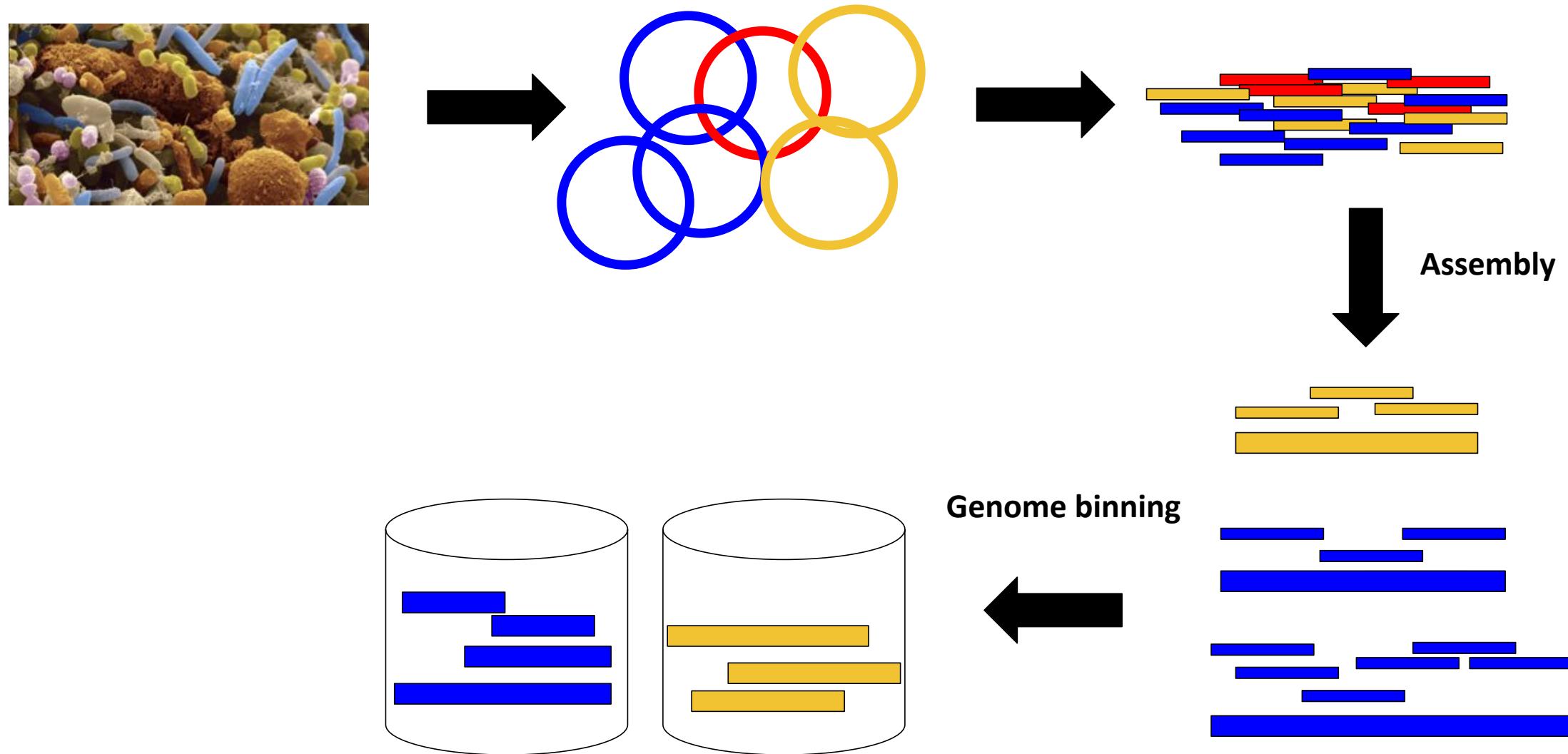
```
>>> for i in range(17):
...     print(i)
...
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
```

# Transitioning to bioinformatics

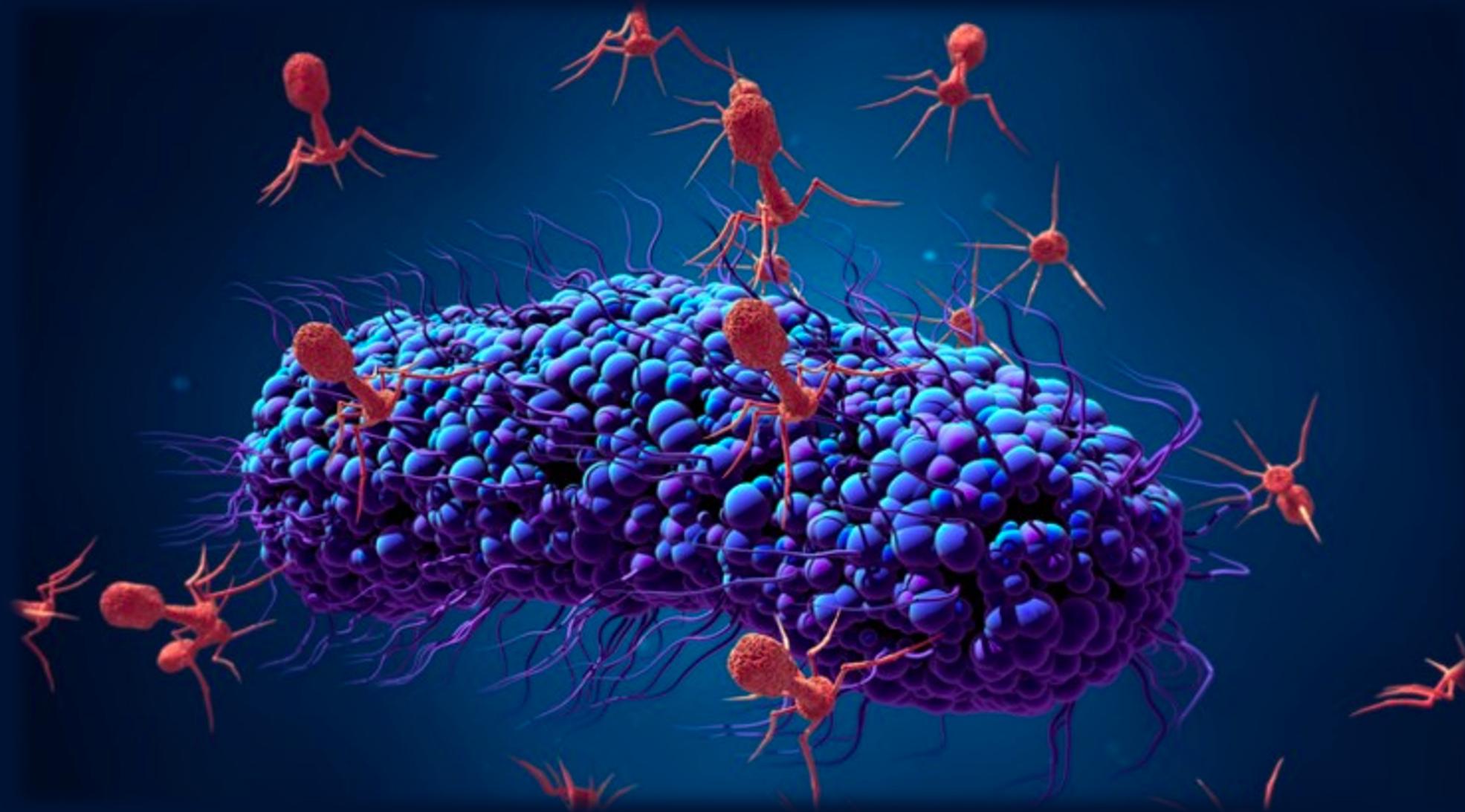
# K-mers

- A k-mer is pattern (or part of a sequence) of length k
- E.g. ATA is a 3-mer

# Work in our lab involving k-mers



# Work in our lab involving k-mers



# K-mer detection

How many times does the 3-mer “ATA” exist in the string below?

CGATATATCCATAG

# K-mer detection

How many times does the 3-mer “ATA” exist in the string below?

CGATATATCCATAGTGCTAATTAAATAGCTATGCCCTAAGTATAAGGGCTACGA

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T A T C C A T A G

Sequence: CGATATATCCATAG  
(14 characters)

3-mer: ATA

Note that the 11<sup>th</sup> position in the sequence is last position at which a 3-mer can be captured

i.e., the last position a k-mer can be called in a sequence = the length of the sequence – the length of the k-mer

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

C G A T A T A T C C A T A G

Sequence: CGATATATCCATAG

3-mer: ATA

- We need a way of iterating across the sequence
- We need to compare pieces of the sequence to the k-mer
- We need a counter to keep track of matches to the k-mer

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range(len(sequence) - len(kmer) + 1):
    if sequence[i:i + len(kmer)] == kmer:
        counter += 1

print(counter)
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range(len(sequence) - len(kmer) + 1):
    if sequence[i:i + len(kmer)] == kmer:
        counter = counter + 1
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range((len(sequence))-(len(kmer))+1):
```

# The range function

```
>>> for i in range(17):
...     print(i)
...
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range((len(sequence))-(len(kmer))+1):
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range((len(sequence))-(len(kmer))+1):
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range((len(sequence))-(len(kmer))+1):
    if sequence[i:i+(len(kmer))] == kmer:
        counter = counter + 1
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = [0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
            C G A T A T A T C C A T A G]
counter = 0
for i in range((len(sequence))-(len(kmer))+1):
    if sequence[i:i+(len(kmer))] == kmer:    if sequence[0:3] == kmer:
        counter = counter + 1
```

# K-mer detection

```
#!/opt/anaconda3/bin/python

kmer = 'ATA'
sequence = 'CGATATATCCATAG'

counter = 0
for i in range((len(sequence))-(len(kmer))+1):
    if sequence[i:i+(len(kmer))] == kmer:
        counter = counter + 1
print(counter)
```

# K-mer detection (as a python script)

```
→ PhD_student_thoroughly_confuses_lab_with_poor_explanation_of_python ./kmer_counting2.py  
3
```

# K-mer detection (with friendly user output)

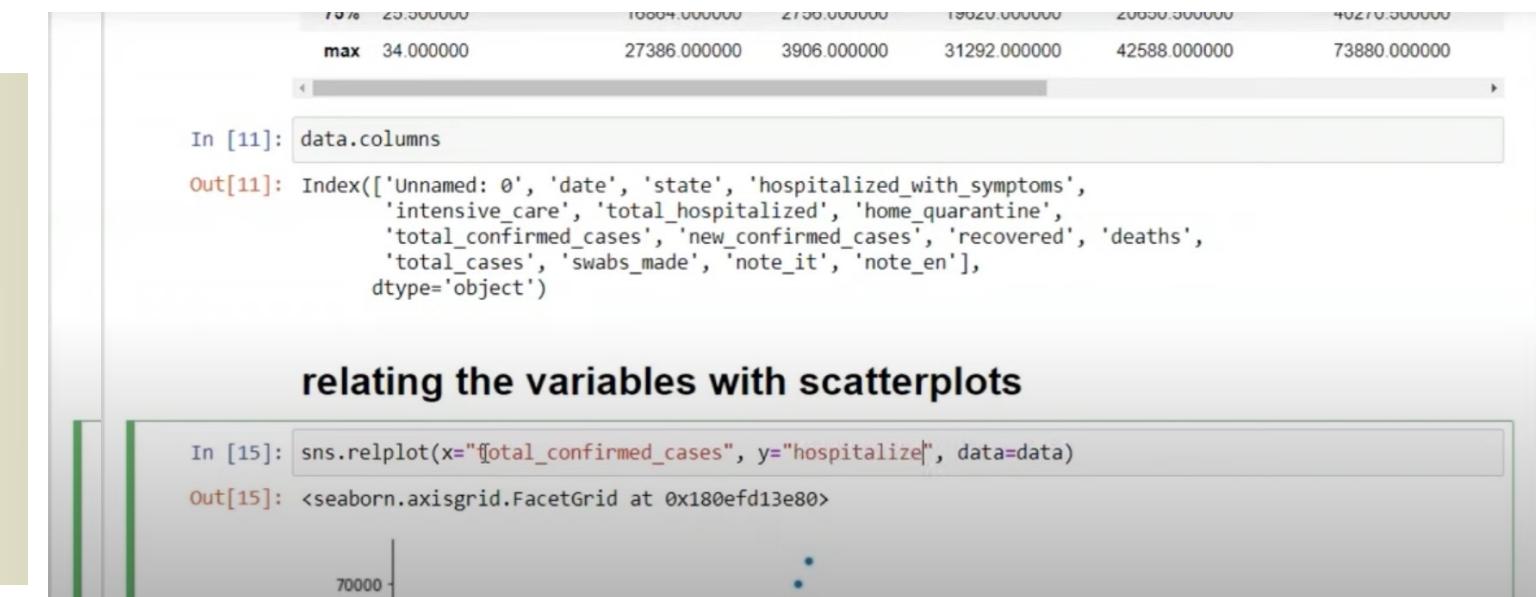
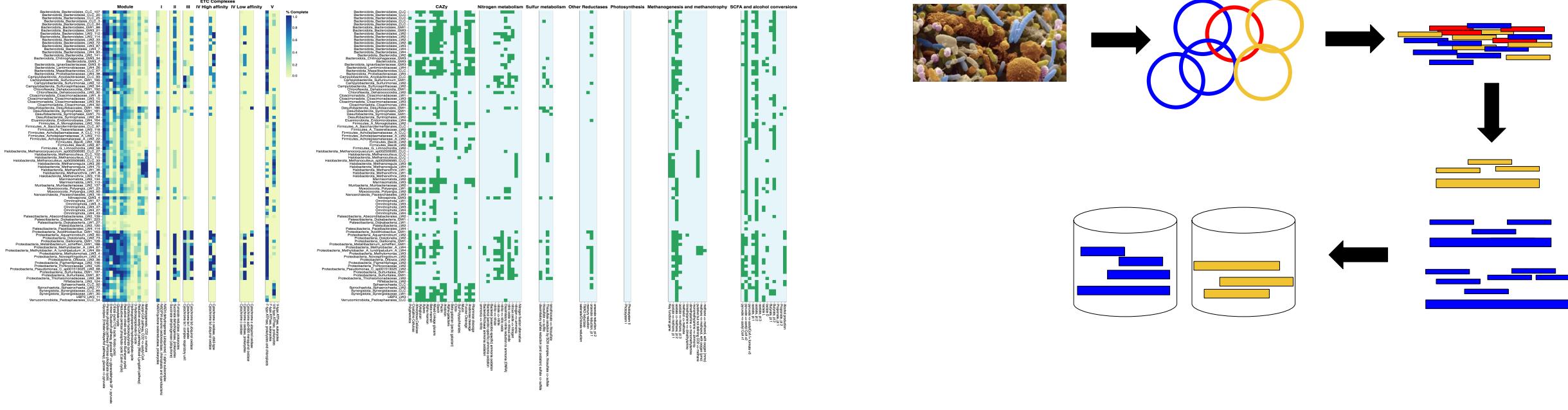
```
➔ PhD_student_thoroughly_confuses_lab_with_poor_explanation_of_python ./kmer_counting2.py  
The kmer ATA occurs 3 times in the sequence CGATATATCCATAG
```

# K-mer detection (with arguments passed from the command line)

```
➔ PhD_student_thoroughly_confuses_lab_with_poor_explanation_of_python ./kmer_counting.py ATA CGATATATCCATAG  
The kmer ATA occurs 3 times in the sequence CGATATATCCATAG
```

# K-mer detection (with arguments passed from the command line)

```
➔ PhD_student_thoroughly_confuses_lab_with_poor_explanation_of_python ./kmer_counting.py ATA CGATATATCCATAGTGCTAATTAAATAGCTATGCCCTAAGTATAAGGGCTACGA  
The kmer ATA occurs 5 times in the sequence CGATATATCCATAGTGCTAATTAAATAGCTATGCCCTAAGTATAAGGGCTACGA
```





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A collection of exercises to accompany Bioinformatics Algorithms: An Active-Learning Approach by Phillip Compeau & Pavel Pevzner. A full version of this text is hosted on [stepic.org](#)



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