Use of *color_seq.pl* and *color_nums.pl* scripts

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Background and overview

The scripts *color_seq.pl* and *color_nums.pl* are simple command line filters intended to colorize specific value-associated "words" contained within simple ASCII text. This is useful to highlight specific values for quick value identification and pattern visualization. Both tools take text from a file or standard input then output this with ANSI escape sequences interjected to color specific characters in a terminal display. Both tools also accept various command line options to allow user control over character or token selection and color choice.

This document briefly describes options available for these tools and, probably more importantly, provides example uses. Given that the point of these tools is to colorize text, examples are accompanied by screen captures illustrating outputs. (And this documentation is in pdf format to allow these graphics).

color_seq.pl is for coloring DNA sequences. The default behavior is to color what appears to be sequences with a four-color scheme associated with A C G and T. The script contains logic to guess whether a "word" (or token; continuous block of characters) is sequence-containing or not based on the fraction of ACGT characters; Words deemed to not be sequence-containing are not colored. By default, entire lines beginning with "#" or ">" are not colored, as these traditionally are associated with comments or the header lines of fasta format files. This behavior can be changed via command line switch.

In addition to simply finding and coloring DNA sequences, *color_seq.pl* can be used to highlight attributes often encountered in sequence files. For example, lower case sequence can be ignored (i.e. not colored), or upper and lower case sequence can be differentiated by bold / non-bold coloring. Another use is to highlight non-ACGT characters within (what appears to be) sequence. This is useful to quickly find IUB characters and any non-sequence characters (both colored differently to stand out).

Finally, *color_seq.pl* can be used to highlight *window-based* sequence features. With this feature runs of contiguous characters containing, as well as not containing, a specific base are highlighted. This feature supports IUB degenerate codes in addition to the normal ACGT bases. For example, using window-based highlighting on can readily identify runs of GC (IUB code "S"), runs of purines (IUB code "R"), etc. In addition to highlighting windows containing the specified base (or bases corresponding to an IUB code), windows *not* containing runs of the chosen base(s) are also highlighted in a second color.

color_nums.pl is for coloring numbers. The default behavior is to highlight numbers within text using a single color (This is distinct from simply coloring numeral characters). By default, entire lines beginning with "#" are not colored, as these traditionally are associated with comments, but this behavior can be changed via command line switch. It is also possible to only color a subset of number-containing "columns" via command line switch.

Assigning colors based on value allows rapid identification of "high" or "low" values. In addition, coloring a whole table of numbers together can serve as s simple means to visualize patterns in the data.

Use of *color_seq.pl*

Calling *color_seq.pl* without any arguments (or with "-help" or an unrecognized argument) yields this splash / help screen:

Each command line switch has a brief description of what it does. Given only input and no command switches, default coloring is performed. Figure 1 shows a test-case sequence file displayed via the *cat* command. Figure 2 shows this same content with output from *cat* piped through *color_seq.pl*, which is given a "naked dash" to indicate input is from standard input (*stdin*). Other color schemes may be specified with the <code>-cabi</code> and <code>-cgc</code> switches. The result of these is shown in Figure 3, with "ABI" style first and GC-based coloring second.

Figure 1. Test-case sequence file.

Figure 2. Default coloring. Test-case sequence 'piped' as input. The command switch '-' is used to indicate input will come from *stdin*.

```
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 118> color_seq.pl examp.fas -cabi
   Comment line for seqs ACGT...
>seq_1
    ACCCTCATCCCTgtttagggCCGGCAGCGAGGCCTCACCACAGGGACAAGCCCGGCCCATCCCCATC
>target GGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCC
GTGGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCCCAAATAATTGGTCACCTGCTCTCCTGGCCCCT
>chr16 24730001
>dirty; has non ACGT and non IUB codes but within a seq block
FCAACAAATAATAGTGGGCNNNNNNNNNNNkkNNxyztattatagcaataaccRYSTMKat
ATCCAATTGTTWTATTAGCGAAATCATCATGSGTTTCATTTTGCTTTGGTAATAGTGCAGCCCACCCTCTGGTGTGGGGGC
GTGTGAGTGGAGGGGGCCTGGCTAGGGAAAGGGGGGGGCCCCCACACTGGGCCCTAAGGTTCAAGGGCTTC
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 119> color_seq.pl examp.fas -cgc
   Comment line for seqs ACGT...
>seq_1
TTCAAACCCTCATCCCTgttttagggCCGGCAGCGAGGCCTCACCACAGGGACAAGCCCCGGCCCATCCCCATC
>target GGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCC
TGTGGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCCCAAATAATTGGTCACCTGCTCTCCTGGCCCCCT
>chr16_24730001
>dirty; has non ACGT and non IUB codes but within a seq block
CAACAAATAATAGTGGGCNNNNNNNNNNNNkkNNxyztattatagcaataaccRYSTMKat
>two
ATCCAATTGTTWTATTAGCGAAATCATCATGSGTTTCATTTTGCTTTGGTAATAGTGCAGCCCACCCTCTGGTGTGGGGGC
```

Figure 3. ABI and GC-based coloring schemes.

Some options can be combined, such as the $_{\text{lw}}$ and $_{\text{all}}$ switches, which, respectively, direct the script to color lowercase characters white (i.e. do not color them) and to include all lines (i.e. do not ignore lines starting with ">" or "#"). The result is shown in Figure 4, which uses the default color scheme. Note that the "ACGT" in the comment on the first line is colored, while the lowercase sequence characters on the third line (and further down) are not. Highlighting non-ACGT within sequence-like strings is showin in Figure 5 with the $_{\text{nacgt}}$ switch. Normal ACGT bases are not colored, IUB code letters are colored red, and other (non-DNA) characters are colored cyan.

Figure 4. Changing which characters are considered for coloring. The <code>-lw</code> and <code>-all</code> switches result in no color for lower case characters, and all lines being "colorable", respectively.

Figure 5. Highlighting non-ACGT characters within sequence-containing strings.

Highlighting *window-based* sequence features is shown in Figure 6. Contiguous runs of specified base characters, and runs *devoid* of these, are colored within sequence-containing strings, while the remaining sequence characters are not colored. Two parameters define windowing behavior: base type and window size. Base type may be ACGT or any IUB code. Window size dictates the minimal length of runs that qualify for coloring. Runs of selected bases (and non-selected bases) that are at least window size long are colored; Selected base type(s) are red, and non-selected base type(s) are cyan.

NOTE. Only ACGT bases qualify for selection and lines are considered independently. This means that IUB characters within strings do not count for runs, and runs spanning multiple lines are not colored.... (Maybe in a future version???)

```
verdascend [~/git/comline color seq num] 178> color seq.pl examp.fas -win r
   Comment line for segs ACGT...
TTCAAACCCTCATCCCTgtttagggCCGGCAGCGAGGCCTCACCACAGGGACAAGCCCGGCCCATCCCCATC
>target GGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCC
        AATTCTACCCAAGACTCCCCAAATAATTGGTCACCTGCTCTCCTGGCCCCT
chr16_24730001>
        dirty; has non ACGT and non IUB codes but within a seq block
TCAACAAATAATAGTGGGCNNNNNNNNNNNkkNNxyztattatagcaataaccRYSTMKat
>two
ATCCAATTGTTWTATTAGCGAAATCATCATGSGTTTCATTTTGCTTTGGTAATAGTGCAGCCCACCCTCTGGTGTGGGGC
GTGTGAGTGGAGGGGGCCTGGCTAGGGAAAGGGGGGGGGCCCCCACACTGGGCCCTAAGGTTCAAGGGCTTC
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 179> color_seq.pl examp.fas -win c -ws 3
   Comment line for seqs ACGT...
>seq_1
TTCAAACCCTCATCCCTgtttagggCCGGCAGCGAGGCCTCACCACAGGGACAAGCCCGGCCCATCCCCATC
target GGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCC
TGTGGCGGAAATTCTACCCAAGACTCCCCAAATAATTGGTCACCTGCTCTCCTGGCCCCT
chr16 24730001
>dirty; has non ACGT and non IUB codes but within a seq block
TCAACAAATAATAGTGGGCNNNNNNNNNNNNkkNNxyztattatagcaataaccRYSTMKat
>two
ATCCAATTGTTWTATTAGCGAAATCATCATGSGTTTCATTTTGCTTTGGTAATAGTGCAGCCCACCCTCTGGTGTGGGGGC
GTGTGAGTGGAGGGGGCCTGGCTAGGGAAAGGGGGGGGCCCCCACACTGGGCCCCTAAGGTTCAAGGGCTTC
```

Figure 6. Coloring windows with like-base runs. Red denotes selected base type(s) and cyan denotes *absence* of selected base type. Top example highlights runs of purine bases (A or G) in red, indicated by IUB code "R", using default window size (= 5). Bottom example highlights runs of C, with window size given as 3.

Use of *color_num.pl*

Calling *color_num.pl* without any arguments (or with "-help" or an unrecognized argument) yields this splash / help screen:

Each command line switch has a brief description of what it does. Given only input and no command switches, default coloring is performed. Figure 7 shows the first five lines of three number-containing files displayed via the *head* command. Figure 8 shows this same content with output from *head* piped through *color_num.pl*, which is given a "naked dash" to indicate input is from standard input.

Specific number values can be highlighted. For example, the -rg switch can be used to specify a range of values; Numbers within the range are shown with one color, numbers less than the range are shown in another color, and numbers more than the range are shown in still another color. It is also possible to highlight *only* the within-range values using the -ok switch. Figure 9 shows this behavior, using a chosen range of 69 to 71. There are also options to differentiate only two classes of numbers; Those with values greater than or less than some chosen threshold and the rest.

```
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 193> head -5 *mat
==> test-dat.mat <==
Table with four cols of average sequence values
dp_10
        70.290 76.299
                        70.290
                                76.299
dp_20
        69.500
                64.213
                        69.500
                                64.213
        72.403 66.563 72.403 66.563
dp_22
==> test-lod.mat <==
Matrix with log odd frquencies for various dinucleotides
RowNames
                AA
                        AC
                                AG
                                         ΑT
                                                         cc
                                                                                          GC
                                                                 CG
                                                                         CT
                                                                                 GΑ
        -0.79
                                                 -0.28
p0
                -0.31
                        -0.65
                                 0.10
                                         0.52
                                                          0.00
                                                                  0.33
                                                                          0.41
                                                                                  -0.71
                                                                         -0.43
p1
                 0.06
                        -0.25
                                          0.39
                                                         -0.21
                                                                                  -0.44
        -0.47
                                 0.58
                                                 -0.89
                                                                 -0.01
p2
         0.58
                -0.53
                        -1.51
                                 0.93
                                                                         -0.26
                                                                                  -1.76
                                          0.98
                                                 -0.59
                                                         -0.75
                                                                 -0.03
==> test-mix.mat <==
Names len c2CC.3p5.10 c2CY.3p5.10 tmPey0.3p1.10 c2CC.3p3.10 c2CY.3p3.10 win4.1C.3p1.10 win5.1C.
3p1.10 win6.1C.3p1.10 win6.1C.3p3.12
CV10006790 18 0 0 26.002 0 0 1 1 1 1
CV10007783 14 0 0 28.779 0 0 0 0 0 1
CV10007820 16 0 0 25.182 0 0 0 0 0 0
CV10007826 16 0 2 30.266 0 2 2 2 2 3
```

Figure 7. Test-case number-containing files (first five lines for each of three).

```
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 194> head -5 *mat | color_nums.pl -
==> test-dat.mat <==
Table with four cols of average sequence values
dp_10
        70.290
                76.299
                        70.290
                                 76.299
dp_20
        69.500
                64.213
                        69.500
                                 64.213
dp_22
        72.403
                66.563
                        72.403
                                66.563
==> test-lod.mat <==
Matrix with log odd frquencies for various dinucleotides
                                                                  CG
RowNames
                AA
                        AC
                                 AG
                                         ΑT
                                                 CA
                                                          cc
                                                                          CT
                                                                                   GΑ
                                                                                           \mathsf{GC}
        -0.79
                -0.31
                                                 -0.28
                        -0.65
                                          0.52
                                                          0.00
                                                                  0.33
                                                                           0.41
                                                                                   -0.71
p0
                                  0.10
        -0.47
                        -0.25
                                  0.58
                                                          -0.21
р1
                0.06
                                          0.39
                                                 -0.89
                                                                  -0.01
                                                                          -0.43
                                                                                   -0.44
        0.58
                -0.53
                        -1.51
                                                 -0.59
                                                                          -0.26
p2
                                  0.93
                                          0.98
                                                          -0.75
                                                                  -0.03
                                                                                   -1.76
==> test-mix.mat <==
Names len c2CC.3p5.10 c2CY.3p5.10 tmPey0.3p1.10 c2CC.3p3.10 c2CY.3p3.10 win4.1C.3p1.10 win5.1C.
3p1.10 win6.1C.3p1.10 win6.1C.3p3.12
CV10006790 18 0 0 26.002 0 0 1 1 1 1
CV10007783 14 0 0 28.779 0 0 0 0 0 1
CV10007820 16 0 0 25.182 0 0 0 0 0 0
CV10007826 16 0 2 30.266 0 2 2 2 2 3
```

Figure 8. Test-case number-containing files with default coloring.

```
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 206> color_nums.pl test-dat.mat -rg 69 71
Table with four cols of average sequence values
dp 10
        70.290
                        70.290
dp 20
        69.500
                64.213
                        69.500
                                64.213
dp_22
                66.563
                                66.563
dp_61
  72
        69.403
                        69.403
dp_87
        70.166
                        70.166
dp_91
                64.194
                       67.750
                                64.194
dp_104
        69.838
                70.310
                       69.838
                                70.310
dp_143
       66.662
                63.678
                       66.662
                                63.678
dp_147
       68.924
                        68.924
  175
        70.184
                        70.184
   214
       67.335 65.891
  259
                       67.335
                               65.891
dp_260 66.187
               59.892
                       66.187
                                59.892
dp_292 69.324 60.051 69.324 60.051
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 207> color_nums.pl test-dat.mat -rg 69 71 -ok
Table with four cols of average sequence values
                        70.290
dp_10
        70.290
                76.299
                                76.299
dp_20
        69.500
                64.213
                        69.500
                                64.213
dp_22
        72.403
                66.563
                        72.403
                                66.563
dp_61
        71.595
                74.616
                        71.595
                                74.616
dp_72
        69.403
                72.568
                        69.403
                                72.568
dp_87
        70.166
                82.582
                        70.166
                                82.582
dp_91
        67.750
                64.194
                       67.750
                                64.194
dp_104
       69.838
                70.310
                       69.838
                                70.310
   143
       66.662
                63.678
                        66.662
  147
        68.924
                74.292
                       68.924
                                74.292
dp_175
       70.184
               75.051
                        70.184
                                75.051
dp 214 71.625 72.597
                       71.625
                                72.597
       67.335 65.891
                       67.335
dp_260 66.187 59.892
                       66.187
                                59.892
dp_292 69.324 60.051 69.324 60.051
```

Figure 9. Specifying a range of values to highlight (e.g. 69 to 71).

To better highlight specific numbers, subsets of (potentially) number-containing tokens may be ignored. Only values found in a range of columns can be colored, thus allowing some number-containing columns to be easily ignored. Column selection is done with the <code>-col</code> switch, which is associated with two number to specify start and end columns. Use of the <code>-not</code> switch inverts column selection criteria, so that numbers within selected columns are *not* colored but numbers in other columns may be colored. The <code>-iz</code> switch allows zero values to be ignored. Figure 10 shows the result of combining all three above mentioned options, in this case selecting all columns *except* column 5, specifying a coloring range from 2 to 3, and ignoring zeros.

```
verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 222> color_nums.pl test-mix.mat -col 5 5 -not -iz -rg 2 3
Names len c2CC.3p5.10 c2CY.3p5.10 tmPey0.3p1.10 c2CC.3p3.10 c2CY.3p3.10 win4.1C.3p1.10 win5.1C.3p1.10
win6.1C.3p1.10 win6.1C.3p3.12
CV10006790 18 0 0 26.002 0 0 1 1 1 1
CV10007783
             14 0 0 28.779 0 0 0 0 0 1
             16 0 0 25.182 0 0 0 0 0 0
CV10007820
                0 2 30.266 0 2
CV10007826
CV10008635 14 0 0 40.532 0 0 3
CV10008675 14 0 0 38.379 0 0 1 1
CV10008677 14 0 1 41.133 0 1 1 1
CV10008677
CV10011080
                0 0 20.602 0 0 2 2 2 0
CV10011088 14 3 3 40.661 3 4 4 4 5 5
CV10012722 17 0 0 32.071 0 0 2 2 2 1
CV10018478 15 0 1 39.820 0 1 1 1 1 2
CV10020570 17 0 1 23.102 0 1 1 1 1 2
CV10020577 15 0 0 26.405 0 0 1 1 1 2
CV10021253 17 2 3 31.539 2 3 3 3 3 3
```

Figure 10. Selecting specific columns, ignoring zero values and coloring by value range. All columns except column 5 are selected via the combination of switches <code>-col 5 5 -not</code> and zeros are ignored (i.e. not colored) because of the <code>-iz</code> switch. Finally, a color range of 2 to 3 is specified for differential value-based color assignment (i.e. in range values are yellow; under range values are blue; over range values are red).

Options for predefined ranges include the -nr switch for 0 to 1, and the -n2 switch for -1 to 1. Figure 11 shows an example.

<pre>verdascend [~/git/comline_color_seq_num] 233> color_nums.pl test-lod.mat -n2</pre>											
Matrix with log odd frquencies for various dinucleotides											
RowNam	ies	AA	AC	AG	AT	CA	CC	CG	CT	GA	GC
p0	-0.79	-0.31	-0.65	0.10	0.52	-0.28	0.00	0.33	0.41	-0.71	
p1	-0.47	0.06	-0.25	0.58	0.39	-0.89	-0.21	-0.01	-0.43	-0.44	
p2	0.58	-0.53	-1.51	0.93	0.98	-0.59	-0.75	-0.03	-0.26	-1.76	
p3	1.71	-0.52	0.25	0.86	0.95	-0.43	-0.68	-1.04	-0.25	-1.36	
p4	1.31	0.00	1.43	1.26	1.93	-1.25	-0.20	-0.87	0.48	-1.70	
p5	1.73	0.02	1.79	1.62	0.55	-2.00	-0.44	-0.60	1.17	-1.07	
p6	1.01	0.31	1.62	1.43	1.49	-2.45	-0.24	-0.38	1.34	-0.13	
p7	1.97	0.29	1.98	1.74	0.22	-2.05	-0.87	-0.50	0.62	0.81	
p8	0.21	0.45	1.27	1.94	0.25	-1.55	-0.83	-0.55	0.64	0.56	
p9	0.31	0.34	0.31	0.78	0.46	-1.16	-0.68	0.04	0.19	0.15	
p10	0.24	0.32	-0.03	0.72	0.12	-0.67	-0.41	-0.09	0.02	-1.38	
p11	-0.04	0.21	0.29	0.10	0.00	-0.43	0.21	-0.07	-0.60	0.36	
	1.5.7	1			7 004	1	1 .	. 1			

Figure 11. Predefined range coloring, from -1 to 1.