Unix introduction

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What is Unix

- Unix is a family of operating systems and environments that exploits the power of linguistic abstractions to perform tasks
- Unix is not an acronym; it is a pun on "Multics". Multics was a large multi-user operating system that was being developed at Bell Labs shortly before Unix was created in the early '70s. Brian Kernighan is credited with the name.
- All computational genomics is done in Unix



History of Unix

- Initial file system, command interpreter (shell), and process management started by Ken Thompson
- File system and further development from Dennis Ritchie, as well as Doug McIlroy and Joe Ossanna
- Vast array of simple, dependable tools that each do one simple task



Philosophy of Unix

- Vast array of simple, dependable tools
- Each do one simple task, and do it really well
- By combining these tools, one can conduct rather sophisticated analyses
- The Linux help philosophy: "RTFM" (Read the Fine Manual)

Know your Unix

- Unix users spend a lot of time at the command line
- In Unix, a word is worth a thousand mouse clicks

```
Last login: Thu May 12 09:49:43 on ttys001 localhost:~ mikhail$
```

Unix systems

- Three common types of laptop/desktop operating systems: Windows, Mac, Linux.
- Mac and Linux are both Unix-like!
- What that means for us: Unix-like operating systems are equipped with "shells" that provide a command line user interface.



What is shell

- Shell is an interactive environment with a set of commands to initiate and direct computations
- Shell encloses the complexity of OS, hence the name
 - You type in commands
 - Shell executes them

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unix_shell

Command line, aka shell

- The Bourne shell (sh) is a shell, or command-line interpreter, for computer operating systems.
- Developed by Stephen Bourne at Bell Labs, 1976
- bash (the Bourne-Again shell) was later developed for the GNU project and incorporates features from the Bourne shell, csh, and ksh. It is meant to be POSIX-compliant.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stephen_R._Bourne

Most popular types of shell

- bash Bourne-Again shell
- tcsh TENEX C shell
- zsh Z shell
- Change shell: chsh -s /bin/zsh
- \$SHELL environmental variable has path to the currently used shell

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Getting to the command line

- Remote access, SSH, PuTTY
 (http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/), MobaXterm
 (https://mobaxterm.mobatek.net/)
- Mac OS X + Xcode development suite (free, https://developer.apple.com/xcode/) + X11 server (free, https://www.xquartz.org/) + iTerm2 (optional, https://iterm2.com/)
- **Ubuntu Linux** (long-term support LTS version, XX.04, http://www.ubuntu.com/download/desktop)

Getting to the command line | Windows users

- Cygwin, http://www.cygwin.com/
- Git Bash, https://git-for-windows.github.io/
- Boot from a CD or USB (search for "linux usb")
- Install the whole Linux systems as a Virtual Machine in VirtualBox

https://www.virtualbox.org/

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Getting to the command line | Mac users

- "Terminal" is already installed, bash shell
- Why? Darwin, the system on which Apple's Mac OS X is built, is a derivative of 4.4 BSD-Lite2 and FreeBSD. In other words, the Mac is a Unix system.
- For X11 (graphics), see XQuartz
- iTerm2 a better terminal replacement for Mac

http://xquartz.macosforge.org/landing/

https://www.iterm2.com/

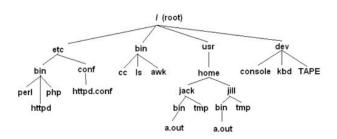
Obtaining new command-line software

- Modern Unix systems have package managers to that download install (free) software for you
- On a Mac, Homebrew (http://brew.sh/) is a popular package-management system (alternatively, MacPorts, https://www.macports.org/)
- On Ubuntu, apt
 (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advanced_Packaging_Tool) is the standard package manager, with both a command-line and graphical interface available
- On Windows, Cygwin (https://cygwin.com/install.html) installs everything precompiled through its setup file. Do not delete setup-x86_64.exe file after installing Cygwin, explore what Linux tools are available (a lot)

Interacting with shell

- Most commands take additional arguments that fine tune their behavior
- If you don't know what a command does, use the command man <command>
- Press q to quit the man page viewer
- Most often, you'll use <command> -h or <command> --help
- Some commands output help if executed without any arguments

File system: Full vs. relative paths



- cd / go to the root directory
- cd /usr/home/jack/bin go to the user's sub-directory
- cd .. go to the upper level directory
- cd, or cd ~ go to the user's home directory
- cd -- go to the last visited directory

Orienting in the filesystem

- pwd print working directory
- 1s list all files in the current directory
- ls -1 list files in one column
- 1s -lah list files in long, human readable format, include all content, user, owner, permissions

Creating, moving, copying, and removing files

- touch <file> creates an empty file
- nano <file> edit it
- mkdir <dirname> creates a directory
- cp <source_file> <target_file> copy a file to another location/file
- mv <source_file> <target_file> move a file
- rm <file> remove a file. If multiple files provided, removes all of them
- rm -r <dirname> recursive removal (deletes a directory)

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Permissions: chmod, chown and chgrp

In Unix, every file and directory has an owner and a group

- Owner is the one who created a file/directory
- Group defines rules of file operations and/or permissions
- Every user on a Unix machine can belong to one or more groups

Every file has three permission levels

- what the user can do
- what the group can do
- what the all can do

Permissions: chmod, chown and chgrp

- The first column tells you about the permissions on the file
 - The very first character in the permissions column tells you what kind of file it is. A – means it's a regular file. A d means it's a directory
 - The next nine characters come in three classes, each has three characters. The three classes are owner/group/world permissions
 - Inside a permission class, r means that class can read the file; w means that class can write the file; x means that class can execute the file
- The second column has the number of files (inside a directory)
- The third and fourth columns tell you the owner and group

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Permissions: chmod, chown and chgrp

```
1 mdozmorov
                        staff
                                205B Dec 19 11:01 BIOS692.2018.Rps
-rw-r--r--
            1 mdozmorov
                        staff
                                3.5K Dec 18 10:20 BUILD.md
-rw-r--r--
            1 mdozmorov staff
                                470B Dec 19 08:48 README.md
-rw-r--r--
            1 mdozmorov staff
                                2.1K Dec 19 07:51 config.yml
-rw-r--r--
drwxr-xr-x 10 mdozmorov
                        staff
                                340B Dec 18 10:20 includes
drwxr-xr-x 10 mdozmorov
                        staff
                                340B Dec 18 10:20 _layouts
                                238B Dec 18 10:29 posts
drwxr-xr-x 7 mdozmorov
                        staff
                                1.0K Dec 20 15:54 acknowledgement
-rw-r--r--
            1 mdozmorov
                        staff
```

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Finding your files

- find lists all files under the working directory (and its subdirectories) based on arbitrary criteria
- find . prints the name of every file or directory, recursively. Starts from the current directory
- find . -type f finds files only
- find . -type d -maxdepth 1 finds directories only, at most 1 level down
- find . -type f -name "*.mp3" finds only *.mp3 files
- find . -type f -name "README.md" -exec wc -1 {} \; find files and execute a command on them

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Wildcards and patterns

- * matches any character
- ? matches a single character
- [chars] matches any character in chars
- [a-zA-Z] matches any character between a and z, including capital letters
- ls *.md
- ls [Rt]*

Looking inside files

- cat <file> prints out content of a file. If multiple files, consequently prints out all of them (concatenates)
- zcat prints out content of gzipped files
- more/less <file> shows the content of the file one screen at a time

Keyboard shortcuts for more command

- space forward
- b backward
- g go to the beginning
- G go to the end
- /<text> starts forward search, enter to find next instance
- q quit

Chaining commands: pipes

One of the most useful capabilities of Unix is the ability to redirect the STDOUT of one command into the STDIN of another

The \mid (pipe) character feeds output from the first program (to the left of the \mid) as input to the second program on the right. Therefore, you can string all sorts of commands together using the pipe

```
find . | wc -l
cat names.txt | sort | uniq -c
```

Executing one command AFTER another completed successfully: <command> && <command>

mkdir music && mv *.mp3 music/

Chaining commands: redirections

- Nearly every command in Unix makes use of a convention to have a "standard input" (also called stdin or STDIN, or channel 0) and "standard output" (also called stdout or STDOUT, or channel 1)
- There is also a "standard error" (stderr or STDERR, or channel 2) output that is, by convention, reserved for error messages
- find / 2> error.log capture STDERR into a file
- find / 2> /dev/null suppress STDERR messages
- find / 2>&1 add STDERR to STDOUT

Chaining commands: redirections

- If you want to dump the standard output into a file, use command >
 file (overwrites the file). command >> file (appends to the file)
- Redirection example: 1s > README.md save file list in the current directory into README.md file
- Redirection works in another direction: grep CCO < License.md
- Or, the content of a commant into another command: join <(sort file1) <(sort file2)

Other essential commands

head/tail	cut
for	comm
sort	echo
uniq	basename
WC	dirname
tr	history
grep	which
join	who
kill	grep
tar	seq
gzip	paste

Shell conveniences

- Tab completion
- Ctrl-c cancel the command you are writing
- Ctrl-r reverse search through your command line history
- history shows your previous commands
- !<history number> repeats specific command. Or, !ls to match the most recent ls command
- !! repeats the last command

Processes and job control

- As we interact with Linux, we create numbered instances of running programs called "processes." You can use the ps command to see a listing of your processes (and others!). To see a long listing, for example, of all processes on the system try: ps -ef
- To see all the processes owned by you and other members of the class,
 try: ps -ef | grep bash
- To see the biggest consumers of CPU, use the top command (which refreshes every few seconds): top

Foreground/background

Thus far, we have run commands at the prompt and waited for them
to complete. We call this running in the "foreground." It is also
possible, using the & operator, to run programs in the "background",
with the result that the shell prompts immediately without waiting for
the command to complete:

Backgrounding a running job with C-z and 'bg'

- Sometimes you start a program, then decide you want to run it in the background. Here's how:
 - countdown 200 > c.out
 - Press C-z to suspend the job
 - Type bg at the command prompt
 - The job is now running in the background. To bring it back to the foreground, type fg at the command prompt

Process control

 To kill the job, use the 'kill' command, either with the five-digit process id: kill 56894 #for example!

Statistical command line goodies

- data_hacks, https://github.com/bitly/data_hacks
 - Command line tools for data analysis
 - histogram.py
 - bar_chart.py
 - sample.py
- datamash, https://www.gnu.org/software/datamash/
 - summary statistics
 - transposing matrixes

Additional commands

- tree lists the contents of directories in a tree-like format
- csvkit collection of command-line tools to work with CSV data
- parallel a shell tool for executing jobs in parallel using one or more computers

https://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/linux-show-directory-structure-command-line/

https://csvkit.readthedocs.io/en/1.0.2/scripts/csvlook.html

https://csvkit.readthedocs.io/en/1.0.3/

https://www.datascience at the command line.com/chapter-8-parallel-pipelines.html

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Unix for high-performance cluster computing

- Allow you to submit multiple jobs at once
- Depending on the system, can schedule jobs for you
- Are optimized for high-throughput performance

Unix at VCU

- VCU Biostatistics cluster information, https://wiki.vcu.edu/display/biosit/Home
- Contact Helen Wang (huwang at vcu.edu) to establish an account
- Google if you run into problems using Unix!

Learn more

- https://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/index.htm
- Heng Li's "A Bioinformatician's UNIX Toolbox", http://lh3lh3.users.sourceforge.net/biounix.shtml
- Bioinformatics one-liners by Stephen Turner, https://github.com/stephenturner/oneliners
- Collection of bioinformatics-genomics bash one liners, using awk, sed etc. https://github.com/crazyhottommy/bioinformatics-one-liners
- Links and references to many genomics and bioinformatics resources, https://github.com/crazyhottommy/ getting-started-with-genomics-tools-and-resources