

Bio-Linux:

A FLOSS (Free/Libre Open Source Software) platform for genomic data analysis

Tony Travis

*University of Aberdeen Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences
and
Minke Informatics Limited*

Basel Life Science Week

*Next Generation Sequencing:
Clinical and research applications*

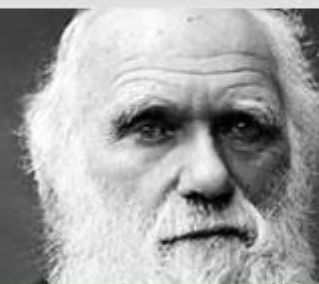
Thu 24 Sep 2015





The Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences

World-leading research to address environmental grand challenges



[Home](#)

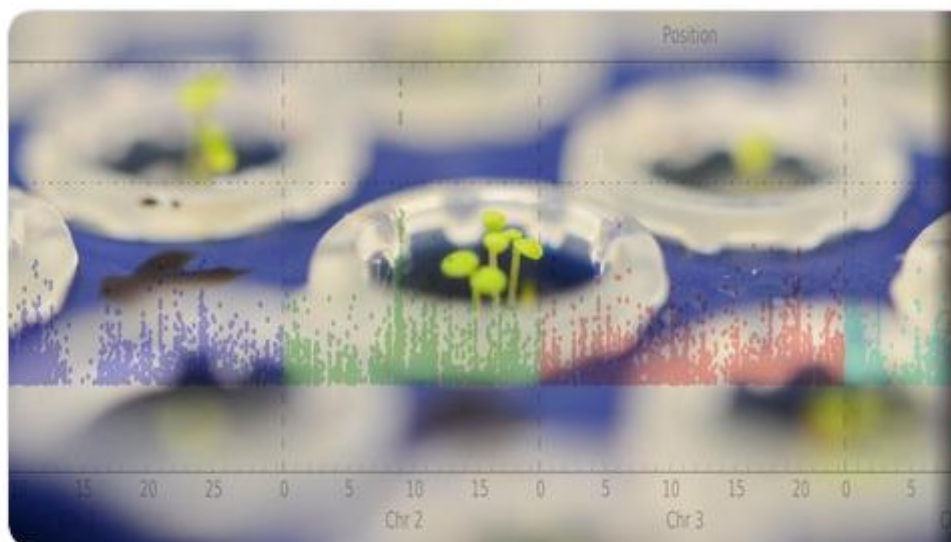
[About](#)

[Research](#)

[People](#)

[News, Events
and Seminars](#)

The **Institute of Biological & Environmental Sciences (IBES)** undertakes both pure and applied research across the biological sciences, with a broad cross cutting theme of understanding the fundamental biological consequences of environmental change.



Genomics research

IBES scientists are at the leading edge of research to identify the genetic basis of important traits in plants to help address the food security challenge

[Find out more](#)



[Latest](#)

[Events and Seminars](#)

[News](#)



Minke Informatics Limited

Penguins best friend

Address

3 Donview
Bridge of Alford
Scotland (UK)
AB33 8QJ

Location

[View the map](#)

Contact:

+44 07985 078324

tony.travis@minke-informatics.co.uk

Publications

[ResearchGate](#)

[Mendeley](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

Ask a question

Name

Address

Question

Submit

<http://minke-informatics.co.uk/>

NERC EOS Bio-Linux

- NERC
 - Natural Environment Research Council (UK)
- EOS
 - NERC Environmental 'Omics Synthesis Centre
- NEBC
 - NERC Environmental Bioinformatics Centre



<http://environmentalomics.org/bio-linux/>

Five-year NERC research programme

Mathematics & Informatics for Environmental Omic Data Synthesis is a new five-year NERC research programme

NERC ENVIRONMENTAL 'OMICS SYNTHESIS CENTRE

[Contact Us](#)**EOS**

Bringing together ideas, disciplines, people and organisations to harness 'Omics to advance Environmental Sciences.

[Learn More](#)**STFC/NERC Futures Network**

The overarching objective of the network is to build bridges between STFC and NERC scientists in bioinformatics and environmental 'Omics.

[Learn More](#)**ELIXIR**

ELIXIR is a pan-European research infrastructure for biological information. ELIXIR will provide the facilities necessary for life science researchers.

[Learn More](#)

Bio-Linux

Bio-Linux Overview Bio-Linux Overview

BL Sidebar Menu

- ▶ [Bio-Linux Overview](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux Software List](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux 8 – What's New](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux Remote Access Guide](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux Installation](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux Download](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux Training](#)
- ▶ [Bio-Linux Mailing List & Contact](#)

Bio-Linux 8 – Released July 2014

"Bio-Linux is an ideal system for scientists handling and analysing biological data."

If you use Bio-Linux in your work, please reference:

Field, D., Tiwari, B., Booth, T., Houten, S., Swan, D., Bertrand, N. and Thurston, M. 2006. Open Software for biologists: from famine to feast. *Nature Biotechnology* 24, 801 – 803.

See [recent papers that have cited Bio-Linux](#) in Google Scholar.

About Bio-Linux

Bio-Linux 8 is a powerful, free bioinformatics workstation platform that can be installed on anything from a laptop to a large server, or run as a virtual machine. Bio-Linux 8 adds more than 250 bioinformatics packages to an [Ubuntu Linux 14.04 LTS](#) base, providing around 50 graphical applications and several hundred command line tools. The [Galaxy environment](#) for browser-based data analysis and workflow construction is also incorporated in Bio-Linux 8.

Bio-Linux 8 represents the continued commitment of NERC to maintain the platform, and comes with many updated and additional tools and libraries. With this release we support pre-prepared VM images for use with VirtualBox, VMWare or Parallels. Virtualised Bio-Linux will power the [EOS Cloud](#), which is in development for launch in 2015.



Bio-Linux contains over 250 software packages

NEBC Menu Banner

Bio-Linux Software Documentation Project

[Back to search form](#)

[Browse by Category](#)

Accd	Alignment	Clustering	Databases	Display	Edit	Enzyme_kinetics	Feature_tables	Hmm
acdvalid acdtrace acdtable acdpretty acdlog acdc	FastTree dialign Alignment > Consensus cons consambig gap4 megamerger merger spin Alignment > Differences act diffseq Alignment > Dot_plots dotmatcher dotpath dotter dottup polydot Alignment > Editing clicsequenceviewer jalview squint Alignment > Global est2genome fasta ggsearch glsearch needle needleall stretcher swat Alignment > Graphical blixem clicsequenceviewer clustalx dotter	Clustering > Graph clmconf clmdist clmimac clminfo clmmeet clmresidue mcl mcx mcxconvert mcxmap mcxsubs Clustering > Sequences assembly-conversion-tools blastclust cd-hit clobb gap4 gcphrap phrap qiime uclust	omssa big-blast Databases > Indexing arb cdbfasta formatdb formatpsdb hmindex makeblastdb makemindex sindex Databases > Post_search_graphical mview Databases > Post_search_processing mspcrunch mview prfx prss Databases > Retrieval afetch arb blastdbcmd cdbyank fastacmd hmmfetch maxdLoad2 sfetch Databases > Searching arb big-blast blast+ blast2 blastall blastcl3 blastn	cytoscape showpep cn3d textsearch sixpack showseq showdb seealso remap prettyseq pepwheel pepnet lindna cirdna abiview trev Display > Alignments boxshade jprofilegrid Display > Annotation act artemis gff2ps showfeat Display > Dotplots dotter lalign lav2ps lav2svg Display > Sequence_traces consed gap4 trev Display > Structure cn3d rasmol	splitsource sizeseq secretsall nthseqset notab nospace nohtml aligncopypair yank vectorstrip union trimspace trimseq trimest splitter skipseq skipredundant seqrettype secretsplit secretsset seqretall seqret revseq pasteseq origunion origsplitter nthseq notseq noreturn newseq maskseq maskfeat maskambigprot maskambignuc makeprotseq makenucseq listor featreport featcopy extractseq extractfeat extractalign entret descseq	findkm	twofeat coderet	sreformat sindex shuffle sfetch hmmsearch-pvm hmmsearch hmmfam-pvm hmmfam hmindex hmmfetch hmmemit hmmconvert hmmcalibrate-pvm hmmcalibrate hmmbuild hmmalign

2006 Nature Biotechnology 24 (7). Nature Publishing Group: 801–3.

Open software for biologists: from famine to feast

Dawn Field, Bela Tiwari, Tim Booth, Stewart Houten, Dan Swan, Nicolas Bertrand & Milo Thurston

Developing and deploying specialized computing systems for specific research communities is achievable, cost effective and has wide-ranging benefits.

Every research scientist who depends daily on computers to store, manipulate and analyze data wants to arrive at work to a smoothly working computer system. Anything less than an up-to-date, complete and bug-free system can steal precious time away from research. Equally, the top priority of dedicated computing support services is to provide such systems.

The qualities of an ideal computing platform are, of course, in the eyes of the beholder. Important attributes include speed, stability, security, the potential to integrate effectively into existing networked environments and

which is facing an exponentially increasing deluge of data, these attributes are not only desirable but increasingly essential. In particular, the advent of 'omic technologies (genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics) is presenting biologists and bioinformaticians with the challenge of devising solutions for better and faster synthesis of raw data into scientific knowledge.

Building and delivering tailored computing solutions can require significant expertise, is often dependent on dedicated staff and hardware resources and sometimes involves the construction of large centralized facilities.

systems, software and their hardware independence that is now transforming the accessibility and affordability of such systems.

From famine to feast

FOSS software lends itself well to distribution and modification and is supported by an active development community. It is also an economical and powerful way of accessing some of the best computing solutions available¹. A driving force of the FOSS revolution is Linux. Technically speaking, the term Linux refers only to one core component of the operating system, but has become a catchall phrase

Origins of Bio-Linux

- NERC requirements
 - Software platform to support the diverse bioinformatics used in research they fund
 - Cost-effective alternative to proprietary bioinformatics software
 - Used by biologists to analyse their *own* data
- Freely available bioinformatics software
 - Packaged, tested and documented

Bela Tiwari and Dawn Field explore the tools and facilities that can be used by the budding open source bioinformatician

The bioinformatics playground

In order to carry out meaningful analyses, you need to have a question to answer and an understanding of the context of that question

'B'ioinformatic is a buzz word that is becoming increasingly audible in the Linux world. Fast, economical, flexible, and extendable computing power is making Linux increasingly attractive to scientists in many areas of research, including biology. More generally, the open source movement has greatly benefited biological research; the most publicised project being the publicly funded effort to sequence and make freely available the human genome. Less well publicised is the huge amount of biological data that can be freely accessed. The combination of data availability

Projects with enough funding are able to hire dedicated system administrators to provide sustainable bioinformatics computing systems, but many of us are not that lucky and have to go it alone.

To add to the challenge, much bioinformatics software is written by academics, and while there are some very good, well tested packages out there, there are also many that were intended to answer a particular question, on a particular machine, for a particular group. Such packages were often not built with portability, future use or further development in mind.

users will depend on the system, how they will access it, etc. Live CD or DVD distributions may be good for an individual and for demonstration purposes, but they are probably not the right choice for the provision of tools to a whole department.

LIVE DISTRIBUTIONS

Live Linux distributions are a relatively new phenomenon and offer some big advantages. You don't have to install anything to run them. Just slot the CD or DVD into the drive and boot your machine. Et voilà! If the developers have

and free software is revolutionising this field.

The ability to redistribute Linux, the existence of online documentation, active user and developer communities, and the fact that much bioinformatics software is developed for Linux/Unix systems, has opened the way for individual users without access to large centralised resources to be able to install and run bioinformatics software to analyse data, and to start developing for the wider community.

Here we outline projects that can help to significantly ease the experience of trying out, using, and providing computing platforms appropriate for bioinformatics analyses.

KNOWING WHEN

Turning data into knowledge is a complex task that demands data manipulation, comparison, statistical analysis, visualisation, as well as data storage and dissemination. Usually, the weight of many lines of evidence must be combined to answer a scientific question, and the interpretation of the output of many different software tools plays a key role in discerning and assembling data from which biological knowledge is born.

Finding and installing common tools for bioinformatics on your own machine, especially for those new to Linux, can be a daunting task.

Knowing when to persevere or give up with a piece of software is all part of the key skills of a bioinformatician or bioinformatics systems provider. Even very experienced system administrators can sometimes find installing and integrating bioinformatics software and databases frustrating and tedious.

Many developers have faced these challenges already and taking advantage of the resources some of them have made freely available can greatly reduce the overheads involved in establishing a new system for bioinformatics. Some of these resources are described in this article including CD and DVD-based Live Linux distributions customised for bioinformatics analyses, full distributions that can be installed from ISO images or installed over the network, and also specialised package repositories. Each of these solutions has its particular attractions for users with different requirements.

PICKING YOUR SOLUTION

Whether you plan to use a system yourself or provide it for others, give thought to your long-term requirements. Questions you might be asking yourself include how much computing power you are likely to need, whether you require a cluster-based solution, how many databases need to be stored locally, how many

done their jobs correctly, the software should be configured to run properly without any further configuration. Live distributions may appeal to people who want to try a system out, those who want to demonstrate software to others, or those who want a portable Linux system for their own purposes. It is unlikely, however, that a live distribution will suffice as your primary bioinformatics system if you want to undertake serious bioinformatics work.

FULL SYSTEMS

Full systems customised for bioinformatics work are offered freely by a number of groups. Installed systems are very flexible. Unlike a Live distribution, you can always add extra software and customise to your hearts content. The distributions reviewed here are available either by downloadable ISO files (BioBrew and Biolinux) or by network installation (Bio-Linux). Currently, BioBrew is the only distribution of the three reviewed that can also be purchased on DVD.

By nature a certain degree of knowledge is required for maintaining a machine running Linux, with the level required varying between the systems reviewed here. For example, if you are a biologist with little computing or systems knowledge, but you require access to a high

Bio-Linux is FLOSS

- Free - as in beer
- *Libre* - as in speech
- Open
- Source
- Software



Does FLOSS matter?

- Yes!
- Free software is software that gives you the user the freedom to share, study and modify it. We call this free software because the user is free



Why does this matter for bioinformatics?

- Intellectual freedom is important in biology
- Share software with other people legally
- Develop new versions of old software legally



RESEARCH

Open Access

Community-driven development for computational biology at Sprints, Hackathons and Codefests

Steffen Möller^{1,2*}, Enis Afgan^{3,4}, Michael Banck², Raoul JP Bonnal⁵, Timothy Booth⁶, John Chilton⁷, Peter JA Cock⁸, Markus Gumbel⁹, Nomi Harris¹⁰, Richard Holland^{11,12}, Matúš Kalaš¹³, László Kaján^{2,14}, Eri Kibukawa¹⁵, David R Powel^{14,16}, Pjotr Prins¹⁷, Jacqueline Quinn¹⁸, Olivier Sallou^{2,19}, Francesco Strozzi²⁰, Torsten Seemann^{4,16}, Clare Sloggett⁴, Stian Soiland-Reyes²¹, William Spooner¹¹, Sascha Steinbiss²², Andreas Tille², Anthony J Travis²³, Roman Valls Guimera²⁴, Toshiaki Katayama²⁵, Brad A Chapman²⁶

From NETTAB 2013: 13th Network Tools and Applications in Biology Workshop on Semantic, Social and Mobile Applications for Bioinformatics and Biomedical Literature
Venice, Italy. 16-18 October 2013

Abstract

Background: Computational biology comprises a wide range of technologies and approaches. Multiple technologies can be combined to create more powerful workflows if the individuals contributing the data or providing tools for its interpretation can find mutual understanding and consensus. Much conversation and joint investigation are required in order to identify and implement the best approaches. Traditionally, scientific conferences feature talks presenting novel technologies or insights, followed up by informal discussions during coffee breaks. In multi-institution collaborations, in order to reach agreement on implementation details or to transfer deeper insights in a technology and practical skills, a representative of one

Bio-Linux training and support

- Bioinformatics 'core' services
 - Typically overstretched and under-resourced
 - Better to teach biologists about bioinformatics
 - Biologists are advised how to analyse their data
 - Biologists better understand their own analysis
- Training environment
 - Based on guided self-study
 - Workshop or training course

Bio-Linux as a Tool for Bioinformatics Training

Timothy Booth, Mesude Bicak*, Hyun Soon Gweon,
Dawn Field

Molecular Evolution and Bioinformatics Group
NERC Centre for Ecology and Hydrology
Wallingford, United Kingdom

tbooth@ceh.ac.uk, mbicak@ceh.ac.uk, hyugwe@ceh.ac.uk,
dfield@ceh.ac.uk

Enis Afgan

Center for Informatics and Computing
Ruđer Bošković Institute
Zagreb, Croatia
enis.afgan@irb.hr

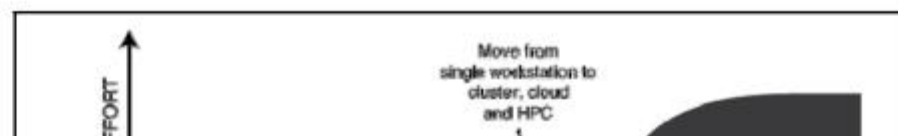
Abstract—Because of the ever-increasing application of next-generation sequencing (NGS) in research, and the expectation of faster experiment turn-around, it is becoming unfeasible and unscalable for analysis to be done exclusively by existing trained bioinformaticians. Instead, researchers and bench biologists are performing at least parts of most analyses. In order for this to be realized, two conditions must be satisfied: (1) well designed and accessible tools need to be made available, and (2) researchers and biologists need to be trained to use such tools in order to confidently handle high volumes of NGS data. Bio-Linux helps on both counts by offering well over one hundred bioinformatics tools packaged into a single distribution, easily accessible and readily usable. Bio-Linux is also accessible in the form of virtual images or on the cloud, thus providing researchers with immediate access to scalable compute infrastructure required to run the analysis. Furthermore this paper discusses how bioinformatics training on Bio-Linux is helping to bridge the data production and analysis gap.

Keywords—*bioinformatics; next-generation sequencing; training; cloud computing.*

deal with errors and subtleties in data and understand the tools, as well as their strengths/weaknesses for a given problem. But with the system set-up taken care of, the researcher is free to focus on these problems.

B. Learning hurdles in bioinformatics

Anyone wishing to develop bioinformatics skills and to analyse NGS data effectively faces many learning challenges. Here, we identify two particular hurdles - steep learning curves that a user must overcome to progress. As illustrated in Fig. 1, these are: 1) the move from manual, interactive data manipulation to programmatic manipulation, e.g. from manually editing a batch of files to writing a simple shell loop to make the edits, and 2) the move from working on a single system to working on a Grid or Cluster system, e.g. from running a big set of BLAST searches in series to splitting the query and submitting it to a compute cluster.



Bio-Linux 'live' DVD

- SystemImager
 - Used by NEBC for Bio-Linux network installation
 - Difficult to use on slow/unreliable (2GB download)
- BioKnoppix
 - Developed from Knoppix Debian 'live' DVD
 - Difficult to customise and impossible to upgrade
- Zen Linux
 - Knoppix derivative Debian 'live' DVD
 - Easy to customise and upgrade

Bioknoppix

Last Update: 2015-06-08 01:36
UTC



BIOKNOPPIX

- OS Type: [Linux](#)
- Based on: [Debian](#)

[KNOPPIX](#)

- **Origin:** [Puerto Rico](#)
- **Architecture:** [i486](#)
- **Desktop:** [Fluxbox](#), [Fluxbox](#), [IceWM](#), [IceWM](#), [KDE](#), [WMaker](#), [Xfce](#)
- **Category:** [Live Medium](#)
- **Status:** **Discontinued**
- **Popularity:** Not ranked



Bioknoppix is a customised distribution of the KNOPPIX live CD. With this distribution you just boot from the CD and you have a fully functional Linux OS with open source applications targeted at the molecular biologist. Besides using some RAM, Bioknoppix doesn't touch the host computer, being ideal for demonstrations, molecular biology students, workshops, etc.

Zen Linux

Last Update: 2015-06-08 01:36
UTC

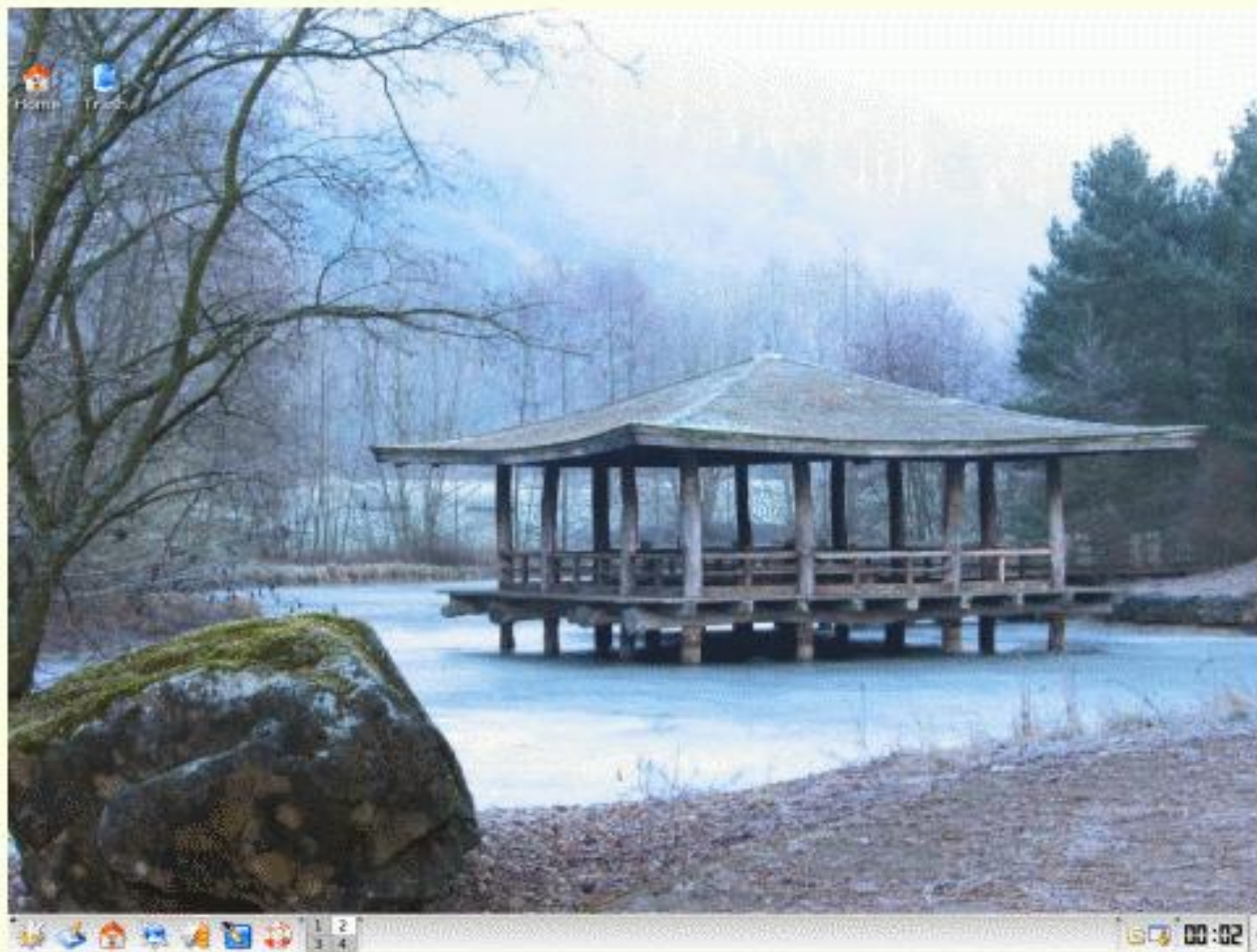


- OS Type: [Linux](#)
- Based on: [Debian](#).

[KNOPPIX](#)

- Origin: [USA](#)
- Architecture: [i486](#)
- Desktop: [Fluxbox](#), [KDE](#)
- Category: [Live Medium](#)
- Status: **Discontinued**
- Popularity: Not ranked

Zen Linux is a bootable live CD distribution. Most configuration is done automatically upon boot and requires no user interaction. It includes the ability to create remastered, personalised editions of the product.



Zen Summary

Distribution	Zen Linux
Home Page	http://www.zenlinux.org/



Rowett

Un Oslo

Un. Ulster

Un Newcastle

Un Lund

Trinity

Un Cork

EBI

IFR

Rivm

Rikilt

DiFE

TNO

Un Reading

Un Wageningen

Un Maastricht

Un Krakow

Un Munich

Nu GO

Inserm Marseille

Un Florence

Un Balearic Illes

Data sharing

- Data sharing
 - What is possible?
 - What needs to be improved?
- Manage expectations
 - Network latency
 - Storage capacity



2012 Nature Genetics 44 (2), 121–26.

Toward interoperable bioscience data

Susanna-Assunta Sansone^{1,39}, Philippe Rocca-Serra^{1,39}, Dawn Field², Eamonn Maguire¹, Chris Taylor^{2,3}, Oliver Hofmann⁴, Hong Fang⁵, Steffen Neumann⁶, Weida Tong⁷, Linda Amaral-Zettler⁸, Kimberly Begley^{4,9}, Tim Booth², Lydie Bougueleret¹⁰, Gully Burns¹¹, Brad Chapman⁴, Tim Clark^{12,13}, Lee-Ann Coleman¹⁴, Jay Copeland¹⁵, Sudeshna Das^{12,13}, Antoine de Daruvar^{16,17}, Paula de Matos³, Ian Dix¹⁸, Scott Edmunds¹⁹, Chris T Evelo^{20,21}, Mark J Forster²², Pascale Gaudet^{23,24}, Jack Gilbert²⁵, Carole Goble²⁶, Julian L Griffin^{27,28}, Daniel Jacob^{17,29}, Jos Kleinjans³⁰, Lee Harland³¹, Kenneth Haug³, Henning Hermjakob³, Shannan J Ho Sui⁴, Alain Laederach³², Shaoguang Liang¹⁹, Stephen Marshall³³, Annette McGrath³⁴, Emily Merrill¹³, Dorothy Reilly³³, Magali Roux^{35,36}, Caroline E Shamu¹⁵, Catherine A Shang³⁷, Christoph Steinbeck³, Anne Trefethen¹, Bryn Williams-Jones³¹, Katherine Wolstencroft²⁶, Ioannis Xenarios^{10,38} & Winston Hide⁴

To make full use of research data, the bioscience community needs to adopt technologies and reward mechanisms that support interoperability and promote the growth of an open ‘data commoning’ culture. Here we describe the prerequisites for data commoning and present an established and growing ecosystem of solutions using the shared ‘Investigation-Study-Assay’ framework to support that vision.

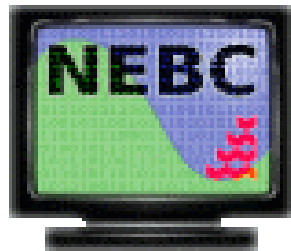
To tackle complex scientific questions, experimental datasets from different sources often need to be harmonized in regard to structure, formatting and annotation so as to open their content to (integrative) analysis. Vast swathes of bioscience data remain locked in esoteric for-

service providers and circumvents many of the problems caused by data diversity. The same framework enables researchers, bioinformaticians and data managers to operate within an open data commons.

through the provision of independent databases, tools and curators, driven by advocates of the sharing of both pre- and post-publication data^{7,8}. To build an interoperable open data ecosystem will require leveraging all of these positive efforts and further increasing com-

Bio-Linux + Ubuntu 'biobuntu'

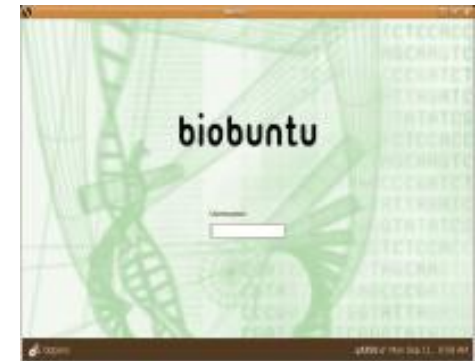
- NEBC (UK) Bio-Linux4 (Debian “Sarge”)
 - NERC Environmental Bioinformatics Centre
- Ubuntu 6.06.1 LTS operating system
 - Open source software based on Debian Linux



+



=





Ubuntu

Overview Code Bugs **Blueprints** Translations Answers

[Log in / Register](#)

Bioinformatics workstation/server for Ubuntu

Ubuntu » Blueprints » Bioinformatics workstation/server for...

Registered by Tony Travis on 2008-02-25

The 'biobuntu' project is part of the NBX (NuGO Black Box) project, which supports data sharing and bioinformatics for scientists working on the NuGO (Nutritional Genomics Organisation) EU-funded Framework-6 project. The project began as a port of Debian-based NEBC bio-linux (<http://nebc.nox.ac.uk/biolinux.html>) to Ubuntu 6.06.1 LTS. The 'biobuntu' prototype is deployed as an openMosix Beowulf cluster (<http://bioinformatics.rri.sari.ac.uk>), lab-scale NBX servers (e.g. <http://nbx1.nugo.org/>), personal workstations and a live DVD. Work is currently underway to replace openMosix with Kerrighed for clustering biobuntu, and for adoption of GRID extensions to the Kerrighed Kernel for participation of 'biobuntu' instances in the EU-Funded XtremOS project from INRIA (<http://www.xtremos.eu/>). The purpose of this blueprint is to invite collaboration on a generic 'biobuntu' version with support for Kerrighed clusters.

[Read the full specification](#)

Blueprint information

Status:

Started

Priority:

Undefined

Direction:

Needs approval

Definition:

Discussion

Implementation:

Deployment

Started by

Tony Travis on 2008-02-29

Feedback requests

Approver:

None

Drafter:

Tony Travis

Assignee:

Tony Travis

Series goal:

Proposed for [hardy](#)

Milestone target:

ubuntu-8.04.1

Related branches

Related bugs

Sprints

[carter](#)

[Edit subscription](#)
 [Subscribe someone else](#)

Subscribers

Daniel Swan
 Dylan A.
 Jean Parpaillon
 Kenneth Geisshirt
 Luke12
 Paul Van Allsburg
 Reinhard Tartler
 Stewart Houten
 Tim Booth
 Tim Post
 Tony Travis

Help

[NBX Project](#)
[NBX Network](#)
[NBX Intranet](#)

NuGO Black Box (NBX) Project

Welcome to nbx9 (x86_64, Ubuntu 10.04 LTS) hosted at RINH for the University of Florence.

Click the menu tabs at the top of this page to access web applications or services provided by the NBX - You do not need to login on the NBX to access the services, but you need your NuGO username and password to access GenePattern. Click the Desktop tab to login and use the NuGO Desktop.

The NuGO Black Box (NBX) project aims to provide an easy way to deploy a 'lab-scale' bioinformatics server as a web-based 'appliance' pre-loaded with useful tools that can be accessed either using a web browser or remote desktop login, or via SOAP-based web services. You can transfer files between the NBX and your own PC directly using GenePattern, or by downloading and installing an [SFTP](#) client.

The NBX is based on [Bio-Linux](#) and other freely available bioinformatics software.

[Read more](#)

[⚡ Back to top](#)



Modules & Pipelines

☒ category ☐ suite ☐ all

[open all](#) | [close all](#)

Recently Used

Annotation

- GeneCruiser

Clustering

- ConsensusClustering
- HierarchicalClustering
- KMeansClustering
- NMFConsensus
- SOMClustering
- SubMap

Data Format Conversion

- GctToPcl
- PclToGct

GO

- GetResultForGO
- TopGoAnalysis

Gene List Selection

- ClassNeighbors
- ComparativeMarkerSelection
- ExtractComparativeMarkerResults
- GeneNeighbors
- GSEA
- SelectFeaturesColumns
- SelectFeaturesRows

Image Creators

- HeatMapImage
- HierarchicalClusteringImage

Missing Value Imputation

- ImputeMissingValuesKNN

Pathway Analysis

- ARACNE
- MINDY

Prediction

- CART
- CARTXValidation
- KNN
- KNNXValidation
- NearestTemplatePrediction
- SVM
- WeightedVoting
- WeightedVotingXValidation

Preprocess & Utilities

- ConvertLineEndings
- ConvertToMAGEL
- DownloadURL
- ExtractColumnNames
- ExtractRowNames
- GEOImporter
- MADMAXArrayQualityAnalysis
- MapChipFeaturesGeneral
- MergeColumns
- MergeRows
- MultiplotPreprocess
- NuGOExpressionFileCreator
- NuGOMakeCleanData
- PreprocessDataset

Welcome to GenePattern

Analyzing genomic data in GenePattern

[comments/suggestions](#)

what do you want to do?

- Click a **protocol** to run an analysis. GenePattern guides you step by step.
- Click **Quick Start** for instructions on how to run any module in GenePattern.

Protocols for running common analyses in GenePattern:



Run an Analysis in GenePattern

Learn how to run an analysis in GenePattern by preprocessing gene expression data and visualizing the resulting data as a heat map.



Differential Expression Analysis

Find genes that are significantly differentially expressed between classes of samples.



Clustering

Group genes and/or samples by similar expression profiles.



Prediction

Create a model, also referred to as a classifier or class predictor, that correctly classifies unlabeled samples into known classes.



SNP Copy Number and Loss of Heterozygosity Estimation

Compute SNP copy number (CN) and loss of heterozygosity (LOH) based on Affymetrix SNP chip data for paired target/normal samples.

See also:

- Tutorial [[HTML](#) | [PDF](#)] Hands-on introduction to GenePattern.
- GenePattern User Guide** Full description of this web application.
- Modules** List of all installed modules with links to their documentation.

[comments/suggestions](#)

Recent Jobs

No jobs to display



Help

[Bio-Linux User Guide](#)[Bio-Linux tutorial](#)[Data files for tutorial](#)

RINH/BioSS Beowulf cluster

Welcome to bobcat (2.6.32-31-server x86_64, Ubuntu 10.04 LTS) at the University of Aberdeen Rowett Institute of Nutrition and Health.

Click the menu tabs at the top of this page to access web applications or services provided by the Beowulf - You do not need to login on the Beowulf to access the services, but you need a username and password to access GenePattern. Click the Desktop tab to login and use the Beowulf Desktop. PLEASE NOTE: "bobcat" is now running 64-bit Bio-Linux 6.

The RINH/BioSS Beowulf project aims to provide an easy way to access a bioinformatics cluster either using a web browser or remote desktop login, or via SOAP-based web services. You can transfer files between the Beowulf and your own PC directly using GenePattern, or by downloading and installing an [SFTP](#) client.

The RINH / BioSS Beowulf is based on [Bio-Linux](#) and other freely available bioinformatics software.

[Read more](#)

Operational status on Wed 28-09-2011

The Beowulf is running normally, and is available for use.

Please note: the Beowulf servers are not yet running Kerrighed SSI, so jobs will not be migrated onto nodes automatically.

[⬆ Back to top](#)





bioinformatics Cluster Report for Tue, 26 Jun 2012 22:33:42 +0100

[Get Fresh Data](#)

 Metric [cpu_report](#) Last [week](#) Sorted [by name](#)
[Physical View](#)
[Grid > bioinformatics > --Choose a Node](#)

Overview of bioinformatics

CPUs Total: **164**
 Hosts up: **30**
 Hosts down: **0**

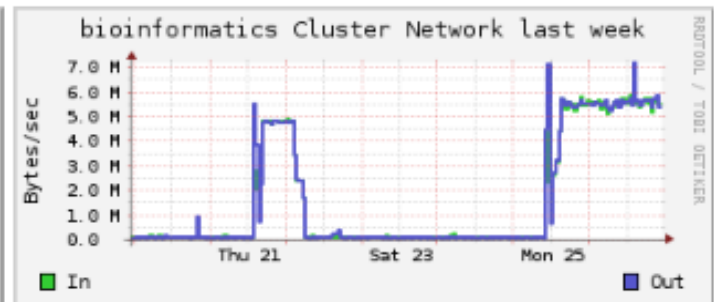
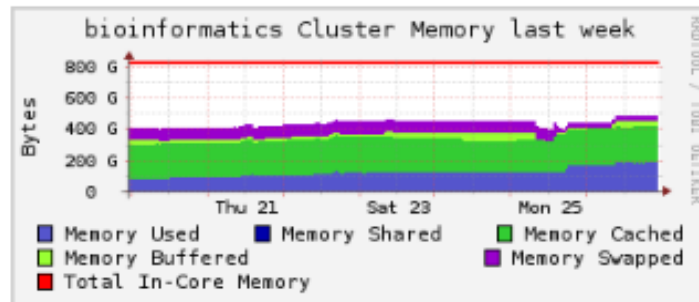
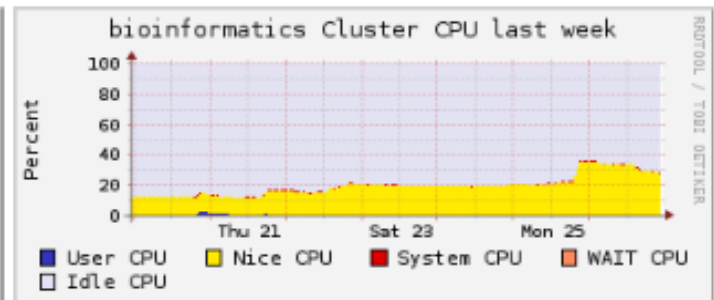
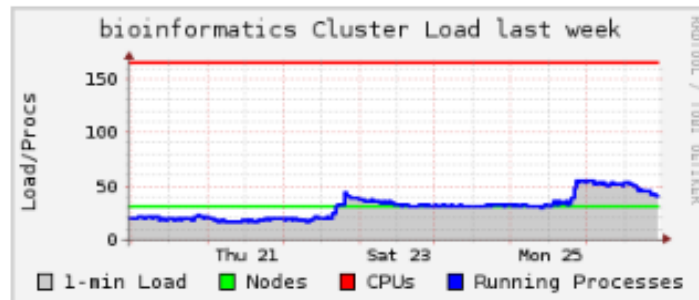
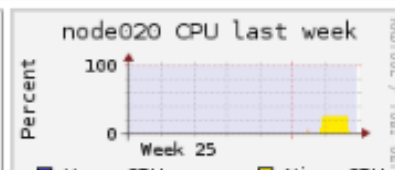
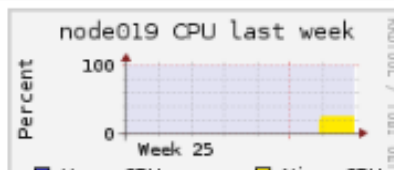
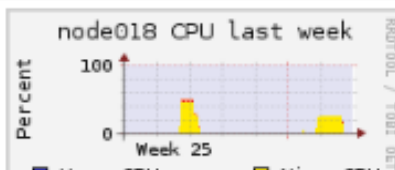
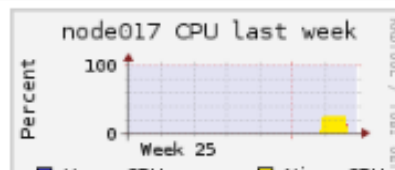
Avg Load (15, 5, 1m):
24%, 24%, 24%

Localtime:
2012-06-26 22:33

Cluster Load Percentages



75-100 (6.67%)
 50-75 (16.67%)
 25-50 (43.33%)
 0-25 (33.33%)


 Show Hosts: ☒ yes ☐ no | [bioinformatics cpu_report last week sorted by name](#) | Columns [4](#) Size [small](#)


ABYSS: A parallel assembler for short read sequence data

Jared T. Simpson,¹ Kim Wong, Shaun D. Jackman, Jacqueline E. Schein, Steven J.M. Jones, and İnanç Birol²

Genome Sciences Centre, British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver, British Columbia V5Z 4E6, Canada

Widespread adoption of massively parallel deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sequencing instruments has prompted the recent development of de novo short read assembly algorithms. A common shortcoming of the available tools is their inability to efficiently assemble vast amounts of data generated from large-scale sequencing projects, such as the sequencing of individual human genomes to catalog natural genetic variation. To address this limitation, we developed **ABYSS** (Assembly By Short Sequences), a parallelized sequence assembler. As a demonstration of the capability of our software, we assembled 3.5 billion paired-end reads from the genome of an African male publicly released by Illumina, Inc. Approximately 2.76 million contigs ≥ 100 base pairs (bp) in length were created with an N50 size of 1499 bp, representing 68% of the reference human genome. Analysis of these contigs identified polymorphic and novel sequences not present in the human reference assembly, which were validated by alignment to alternate human assemblies and to other primate genomes.

[Supplemental material is available online at www.genome.org. Software binaries and instructions are available at <http://www.bcgsc.ca/platform/bioinfo/software/abyss>.]

Massively parallel sequencing platforms, such as the Illumina, Inc. Genome Analyzer, Applied Biosystems SOLiD System, and 454 Life Sciences (Roche) GS FLX, have provided an unprecedented increase in DNA sequencing throughput. Currently, these technologies produce high-quality short reads from 25 to 500 bp in length, which is substantially shorter than the capillary-based sequencing technology. However, the total number of base pairs sequenced in a given run is orders of magnitude higher. These two factors introduce a number of new informatics challenges, including the ability to perform de novo assembly of millions or even billions of short reads.

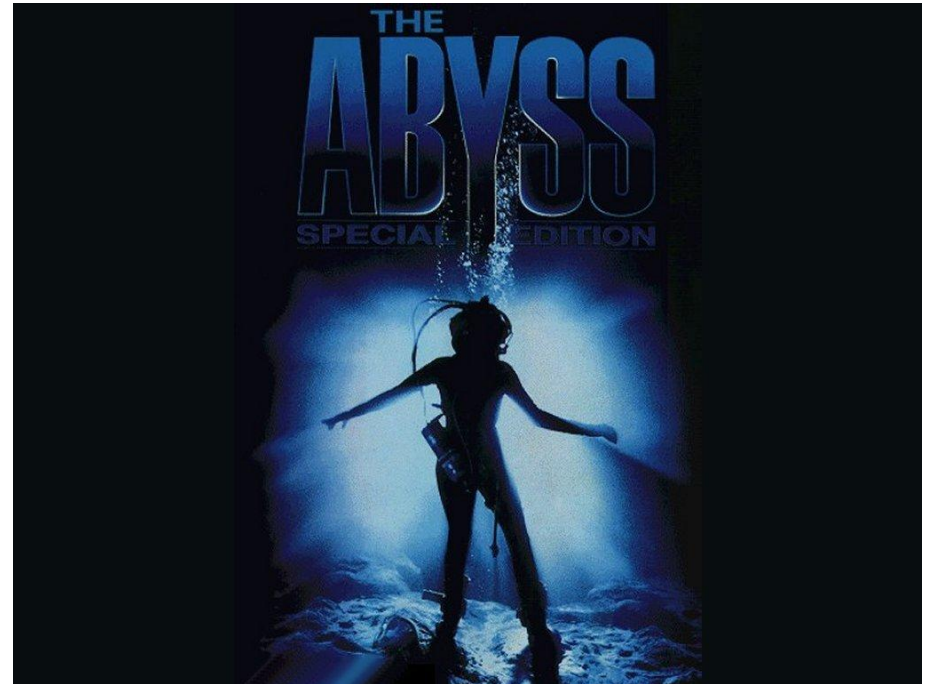
The field of short read de novo assembly developed from pioneering work on de Bruijn graphs by Pevzner et al. (Pevzner and Tang 2001; Pevzner et al. 2001). The de Bruijn graph representation is prevalent in current short read assemblers, with Velvet

increase, the application of these technologies to structural analysis of large, complex genomes has become feasible. Notably, the 1000 Genomes Project (www.1000genomes.org) is undertaking the identification and cataloging of human genetic variation by sequencing the genomes of 1000 individuals from a diverse range of populations using short read platforms. Up to this point however, analysis of short read sequences from mammalian-sized genomes has been limited to alignment-based methods (Korbel et al. 2007; Bentley et al. 2008; Campbell et al. 2008; Wheeler et al. 2008) due to the lack of de novo assembly tools able to handle the vast amount of data generated by these projects.

To assemble the very large data sets produced by sequencing individual human genomes, we have developed **ABYSS** (Assembly By Short Sequencing). The primary innovation in **ABYSS** is a distributed representation of a de Bruijn graph, which allows parallel

ABySS assembler based on *make*

- Assembly By Short Sequences
- *de novo*, parallel, paired-end sequence assembler
- AbySS *pipeline* is implemented as an executable 'Makefile'



make bioinformatics easier!

- GNU '*make*'
 - Unix + GNU/Linux
 - Software utility
- Builds projects
 - According to *rules*
 - File *dependencies*
 - Concurrent *workflow*





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Methods

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ymeth



Hyb: A bioinformatics pipeline for the analysis of CLASH (crosslinking, ligation and sequencing of hybrids) data[☆]



Anthony J. Travis^{a,b}, Jonathan Moody^c, Aleksandra Helwak^a, David Tollervey^a, Grzegorz Kudla^{c,*}

^a Wellcome Trust Centre for Cell Biology, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom

^b Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland, United Kingdom

^c MRC Human Genetics Unit, Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Available online 6 November 2013

Keywords:

CLASH

RNA–RNA interactions

Bioinformatics

High-throughput sequencing

ABSTRACT

Associations between proteins and RNA–RNA duplexes are important in post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression. The CLASH (Cross-linking, Ligation and Sequencing of Hybrids) technique captures RNA–RNA interactions by physically joining two RNA molecules associated with a protein complex into a single chimeric RNA molecule. These events are relatively rare and considerable effort is needed to detect a small number of chimeric sequences amongst millions of non-chimeric cDNA reads resulting from a CLASH experiment. We present the “hyb” bioinformatics pipeline, which we developed to analyse high-throughput cDNA sequencing data from CLASH experiments. Although primarily designed for use with AGO CLASH data, hyb can also be used for the detection and annotation of chimeric reads in other high-throughput sequencing datasets. We examined the sensitivity and specificity of chimera detection in a test dataset using the BLAST, BLAST+, BLAT, pBLAT and Bowtie2 read alignment programs. We obtained the most reliable results in the shortest time using a combination of preprocessing with Flexbar and subsequent read-mapping using Bowtie2. The “hyb” software is distributed under the GNU GPL (General Public License) and can be downloaded from <https://github.com/gkudla/hyb>.

© 2013 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

“*hyb*” - an executable Makefile

- Named “*hyb*” to avoid confusion with wet-lab CLASH
- GNU “make”
 - Machine *reasoning*
 - Makefile contains rules
target: dependencies
actions
- *Orchestration*
 - Target *independence* allows *concurrency*
 - Avoids unnecessary re-analysis of results

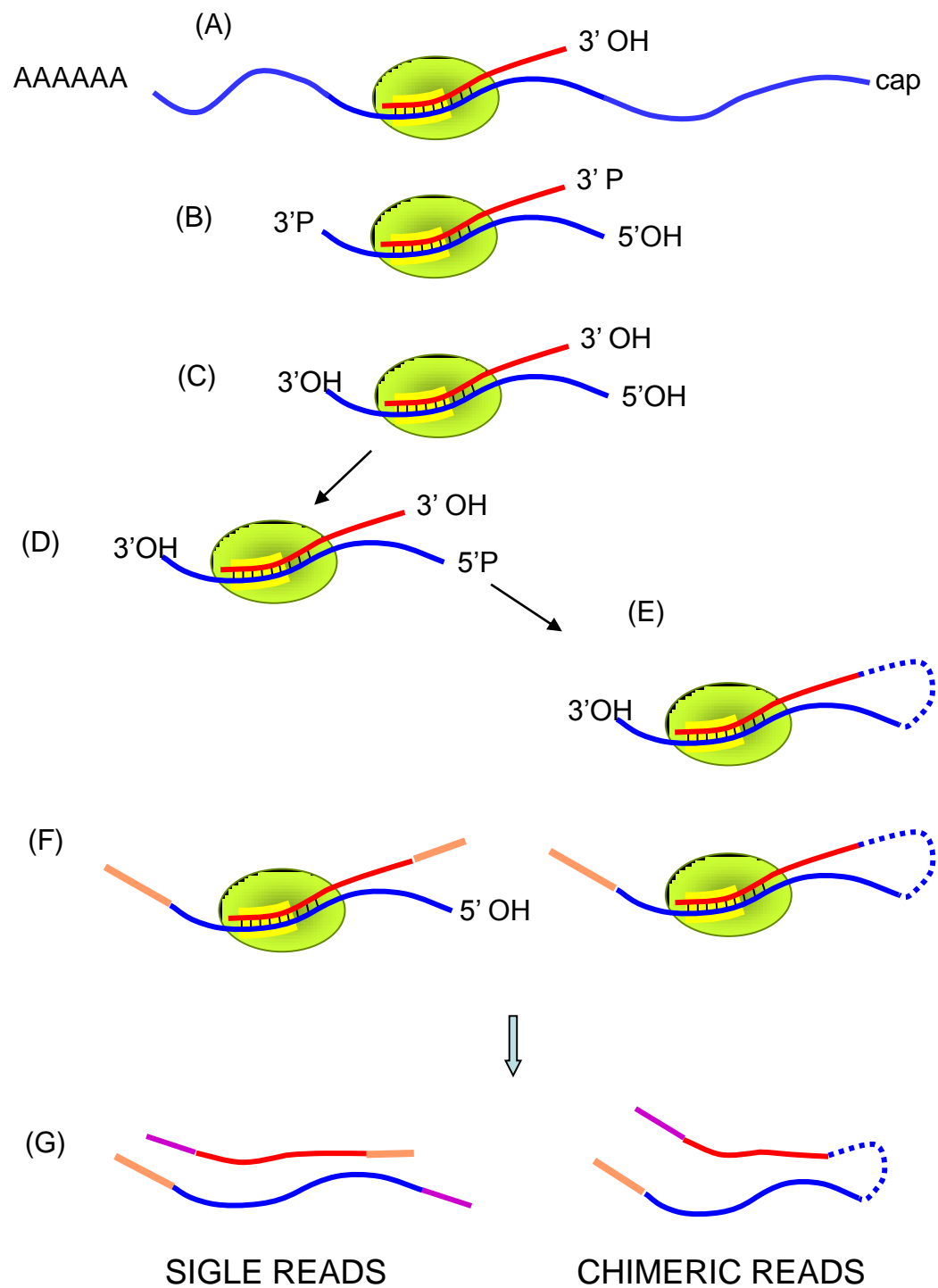
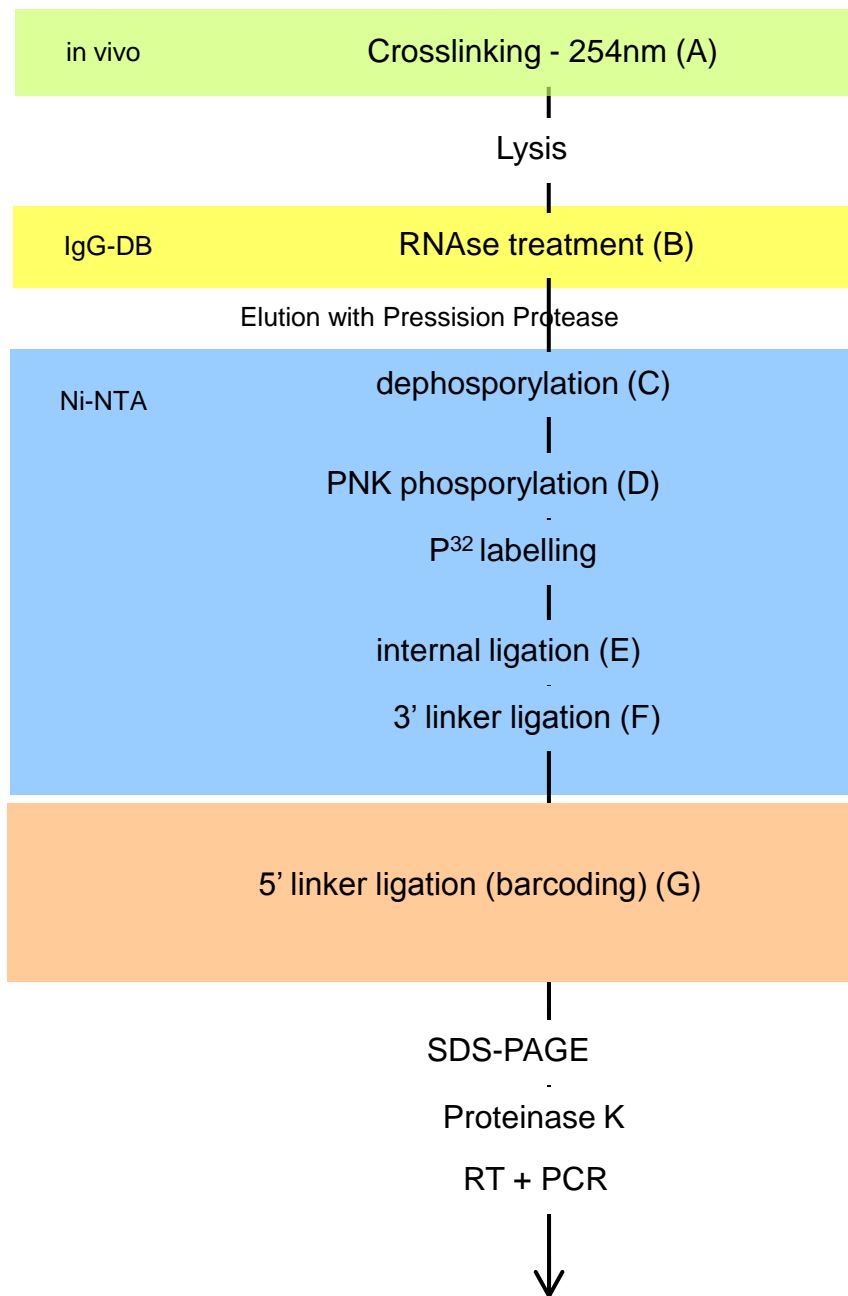


Figure 3

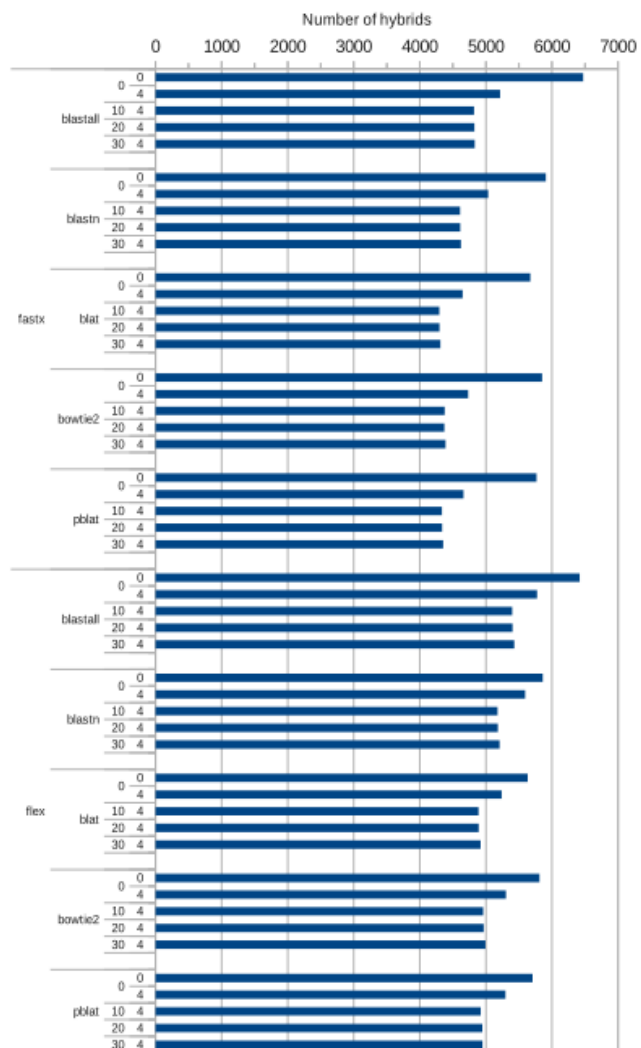


Figure 3

Figure 4

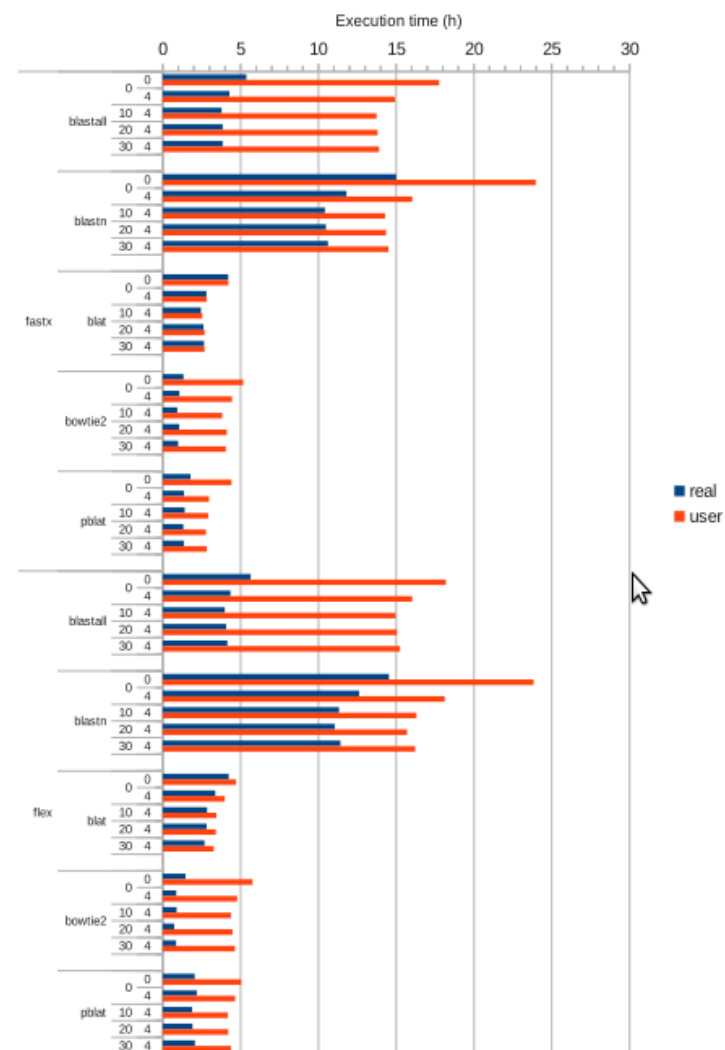


Figure 4

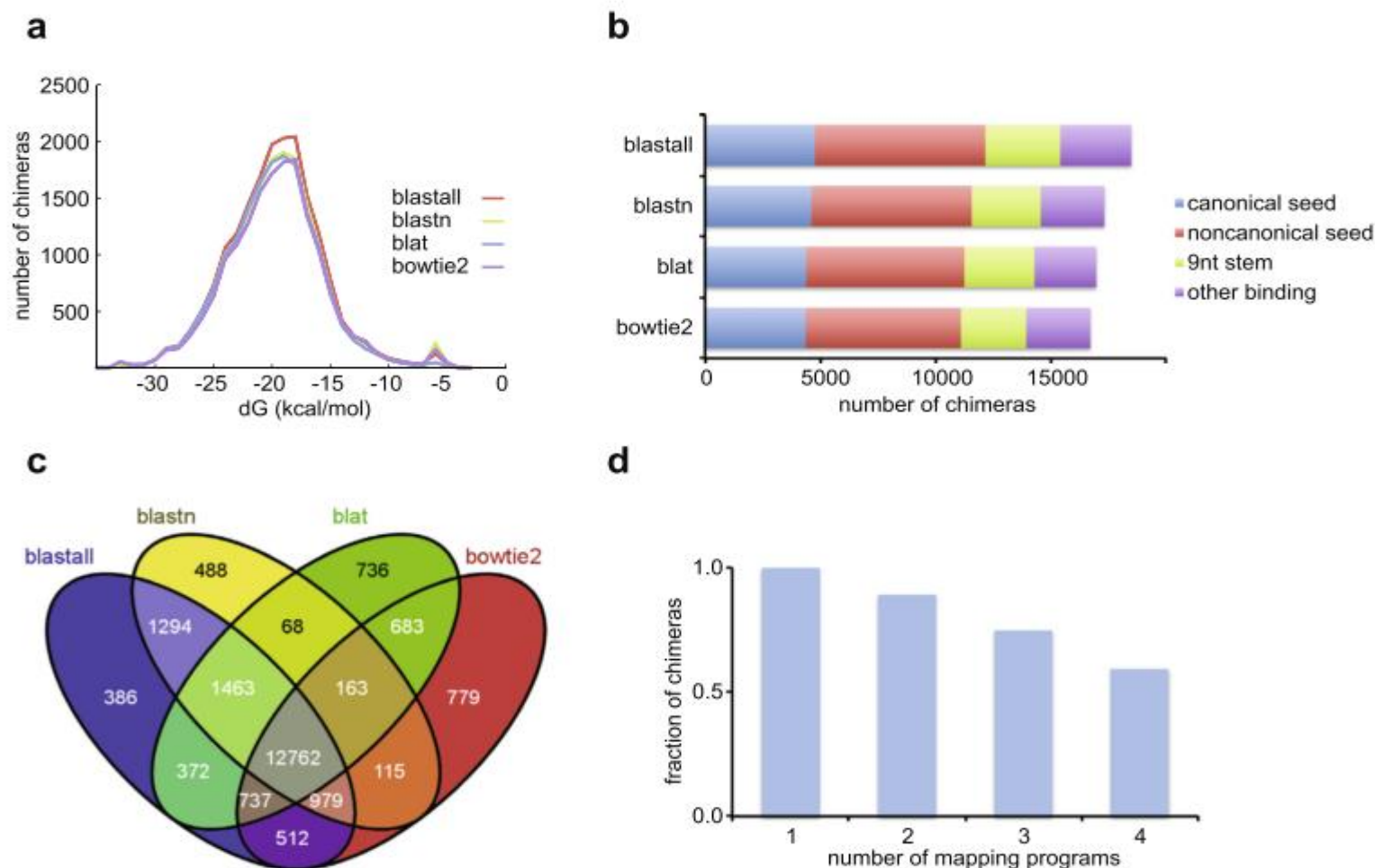


Fig. 5. Characteristics of chimeras recovered as a function of the mapping program used. (a) Distribution of folding energies of miRNA-mRNA chimeras identified with blastall, blastn, blat, and bowtie2. (b) Types of RNA-RNA interactions recovered with each mapping program. (c) Numbers of chimeras recovered with different combinations of mapping programs, analysed with VENNY [29]. A total of 12762 interactions are found with all four mapping programs, whereas 21537 interactions are found with at least one of the programs. (d) Fractions of chimeras recovered with one or more, two or more, three or more, and four mapping programs, respectively. Analyses were performed on dataset E4 (Ref. [11]), with the following parameters: trim = 0 filt = 0 min = 4 len = 17.

Make has been used in other bioinformatics pipelines. For example, the “PredictProtein” server [26] invokes Make programmatically by a Perl driver script to process jobs submitted via a

miRNA-mRNA interactions can be distinguished from false positives by the following characteristics:

(1) Average predicted folding energy of chimeras (stronger

So, how do we run Bio-Linux?



Boot the Bio-Linux USB-stick

- Try Bio-Linux out on your *own* laptop
- FLOSS platform for bioinformatics work
- Contact **Tony Travis** to obtain a Bio-Linux USB-stick at BLSW



tony.travis@minke-informatics.co.uk

Run Bio-Linux under Windows

- Virtual Machine
 - Windows host
 - Bio-Linux guest
- Bio-Linux OVA
 - Hypervisor neutral
 - Vmware
 - VirtualBox



Download the Bio-Linux OVA file

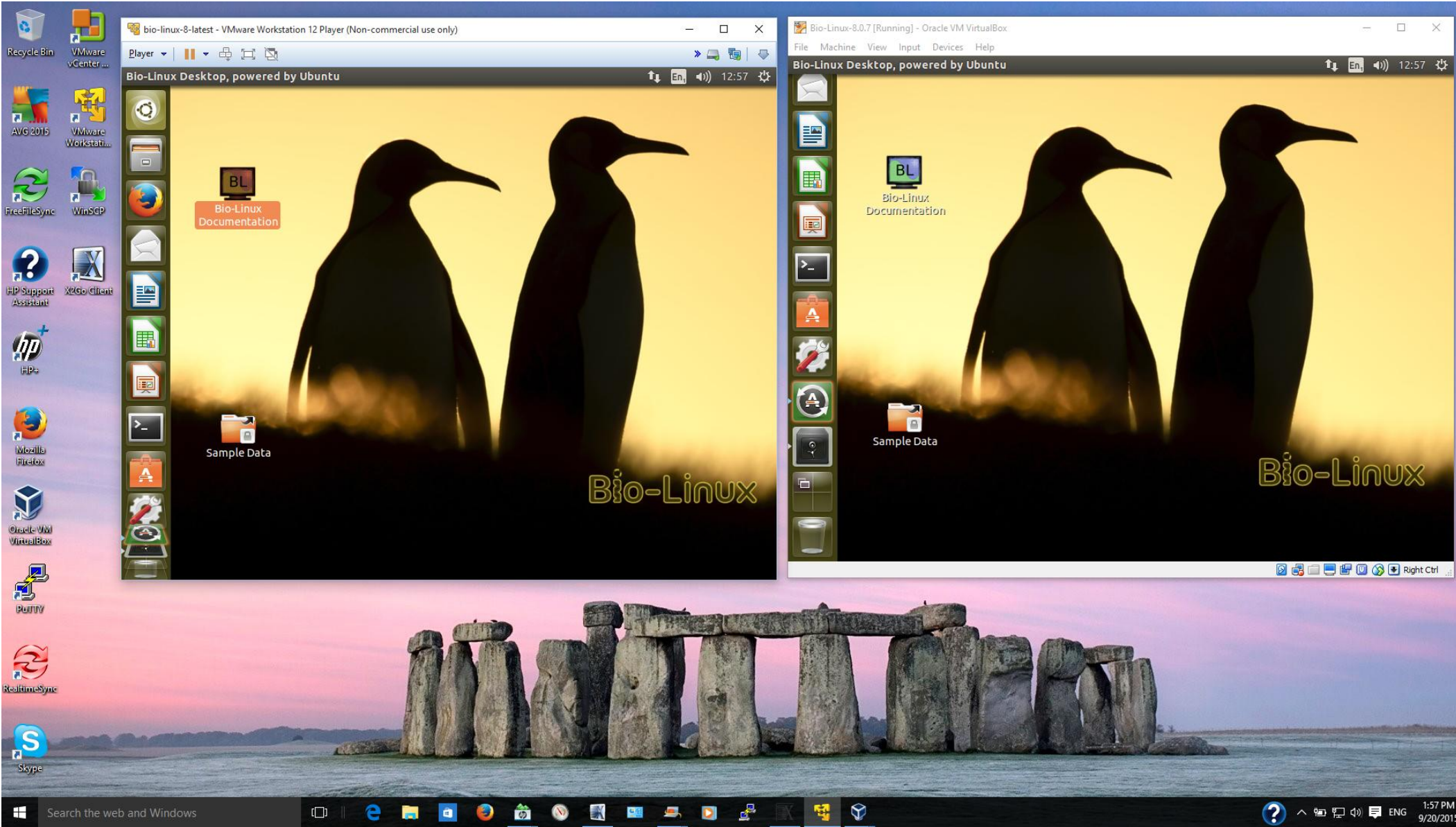
<http://environmentalomics.org/bio-linux-download/>

The screenshot shows a Windows desktop environment. On the left side of the desktop, there is a vertical stack of icons: Recycle Bin, VMware vCenter..., AVG 2015, VMware Workstation..., FreeFileSync, WinSCP, HP Support Assistant, X2Go Client, HP+, Mozilla Firefox, Oracle VM VirtualBox, PuTTY, RealtimeSync, and Skype. The taskbar at the bottom contains the Start button, a search bar, and several application icons including Internet Explorer, File Explorer, and various utility programs. The system clock in the bottom right corner displays '12:02 PM 9/20/2015'.

The web browser window is open to the URL <http://environmentalomics.org/bio-linux-download/>. The page content includes a download progress window for 'bio-linux-8-latest.ova' showing '23 minutes remaining — 1.5 of 3.9 GB'. Below this, there is a registration form with fields for Name, Affiliation/company, Funding body (eg. NERC, BBSRC), E-mail address, and Where I heard about Bio-Linux 8 OVA. A checkbox for 'Let me know about future releases of Bio-Linux 8 OVA' is checked. A 'Go' button is at the bottom of the form. The page also provides a direct link for users who prefer not to register: <http://nebc.nerc.ac.uk/downloads/bio-linux-8-latest.iso>. A section titled 'Alternative mirror sites' mentions mirrors in the US and Taiwan, with a note that the 'ibiblio US mirror is here' and a link to nebc.nerc.ac.uk/downloads/bio-linux-8-latest.ova.

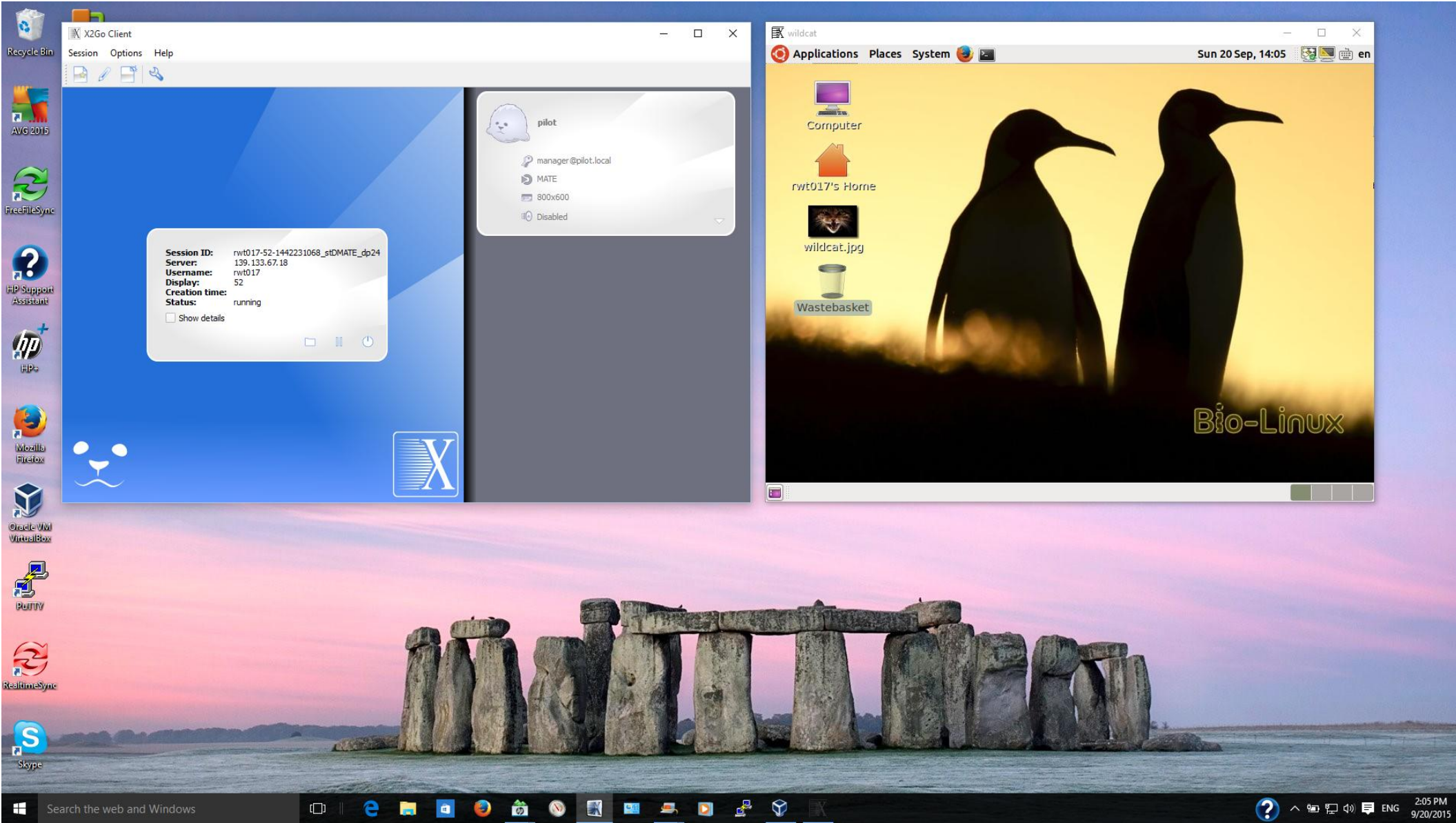
Import into Vmware or VirtualBox

Run Bio-Linux under Microsoft Windows



Use a Bio-Linux terminal server

Connect to a *remote* MATE desktop using “x2go”



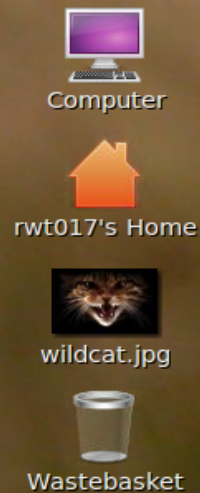
Bio-Linux terminal server

- Ubuntu 14.04 LTS
 - 2@Opteron 6128
 - 16 cores
 - 128GiB RAM
 - 18TB disk space
 - 2TB system
 - 8TB user
 - 8TB backup
- Bio-Linux 8.0.7

Beware!



wildcat



rwt017@wildcat: /work/AWD/data/Year-1

File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help

rwt017@wildcat: /work/AWD/GWAS

```

1 [|||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||||100.0%]
2 [|||||] 9.8%
3 [ 0.0%
4 [|] 1.3%
5 [|] 1.2%
6 [|] 0.6%
7 [ 0.0%
8 [ 0.0%
9 [ 0.0%
10 [|] 0.6%
11 [ 0.0%
12 [ 0.0%
13 [ 0.0%
14 [|||] 4.9%
15 [|] 1.2%
16 [|] 1.2%
Mem[|||||||||] 18957/128941MB
Swp[||] 3732/131071MB

```

Tasks: 523; 5 running
Load average: 1.28 1.23 1.23
Uptime: 65 days, 20:22:04

NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	CPU%	MEM%	TIME+	Command
0	373M	8464	6480	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.26	mate-session
0	253M	2872	2376	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.02	/usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/indicator-bluetooth/indicator-bluetooth-s
0	505M	12808	5524	S	0.0	0.0	0:01.86	zeitgeist-datahub
0	267M	3204	2576	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.01	/usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/indicator-power/indicator-power-service
0	365M	4124	3236	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.15	/usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/deja-dup/deja-dup-monitor
0	609M	15048	11100	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.19	update-notifier
0	206M	18580	6680	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.26	/usr/bin/python /usr/share/system-config-printer/applet.py
0	294M	6820	5276	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.06	/usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/polkit-mate/polkit-mate-authentication-ag
0	887M	31652	24896	S	0.0	0.0	0:02.26	caja
0	807M	64060	13976	S	0.0	0.0	0:12.21	mate-panel
0	751M	19628	13244	S	0.6	0.0	0:34.50	mate-terminal
0	23044	6336	1804	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.41	-bash
0	20908	3484	1360	R	8.6	0.0	3:18.21	htop
0	23100	6396	1812	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.27	-bash
0	7464	1000	748	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	make
0	50864	30660	1952	S	0.0	0.0	0:14.82	/usr/bin/perl -w /usr/local/ParSNP/bin/emmax-input -i A
0	4444	396	316	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	sh -c /usr/bin/p-link --file beagle_all --recode12 -
0	854M	835M	1696	R	100.	0.6	6:24.37	/usr/bin/p-link --file beagle_all --recode12 --ma
0	8484	716	588	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	gnome-pty-helper
0	532M	17216	11428	S	0.0	0.0	0:03.43	marco
0	1203M	20008	13180	S	0.0	0.0	0:03.96	/usr/bin/mate-settings-daemon
0	170M	75400	20660	S	0.6	0.1	0:58.59	/usr/lib/nx/./x2go/bin/x2goagent -extension XFIXES -nolisten tcp -nolisten
0	47884	3676	1928	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.06	/usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/gconf/gconfd-2
0	37024	1116	756	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	//bin/dbus-daemon --fork --print-pid 5 --print-address 7 --session

F1 Help F2 Setup F3 Search F4 Filter F5 Tree F6 SortBy F7 Nice + F8 Nice + F9 Kill F10 Quit



Computer



rwt017's Home



wildcat.jpg



Wastebasket

rwt017@wildcat: /work/AWD/data/Year-1

File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help

rwt017@wildcat: /work/AWD/data/Year-1

rwt017@wildcat: /work/AWD/GWAS

Tasks: 558; 18 running
Load average: 14.73 6.25 3.06
Uptime: 65 days, 20:50:07

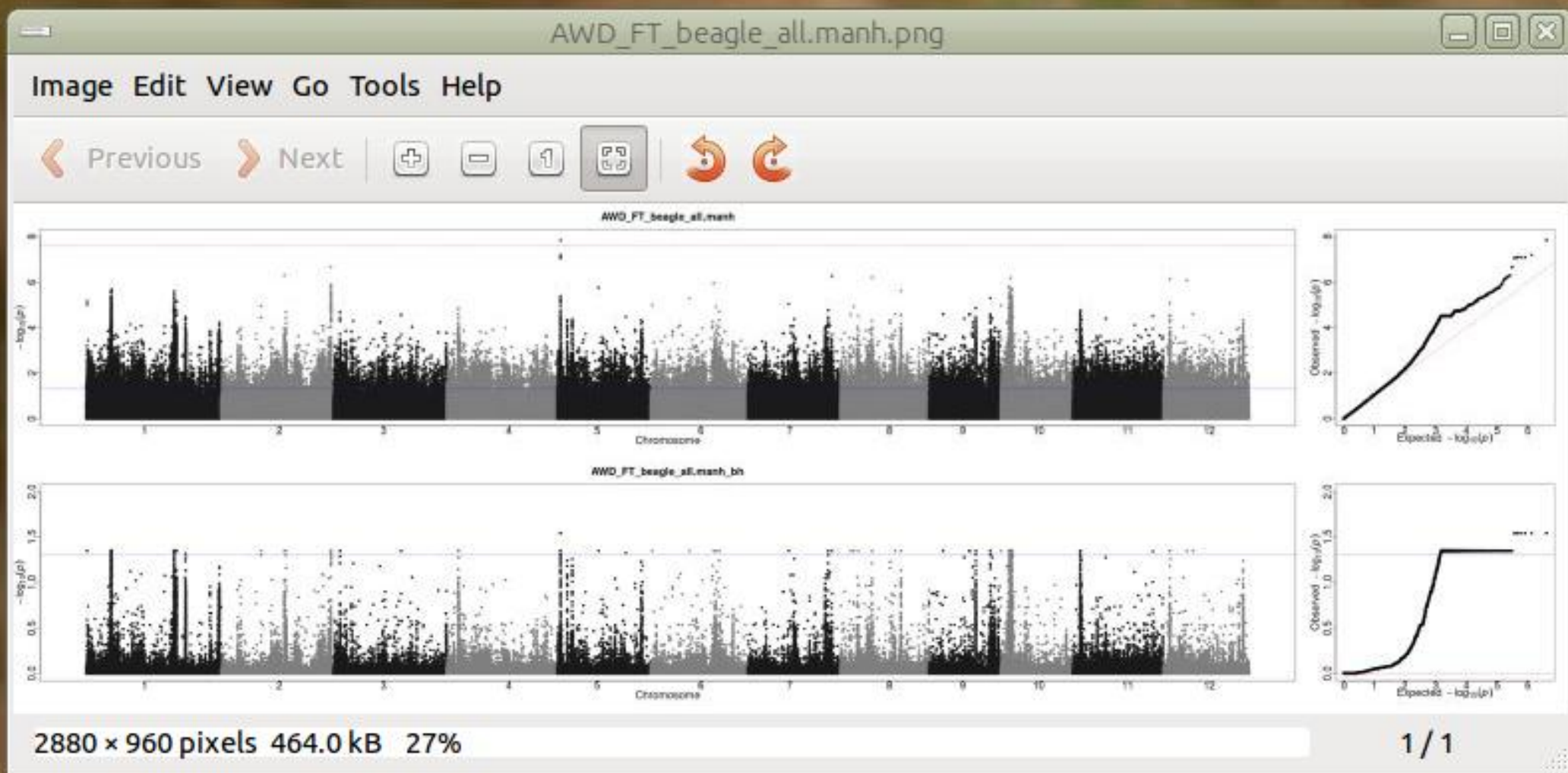
1 [|||||] 99.0%
2 [|||||] 99.5%
3 [|||||] 99.5%
4 [|||||] 99.0%
5 [|||||] 94.5%
6 [|||||] 99.0%
7 [|||||] 98.5%
8 [|||||] 99.0%
9 [|||||] 99.0%
10 [|||||] 99.5%
11 [|||||] 99.5%
12 [|||||] 99.0%
13 [|||||] 98.5%
14 [|||||] 98.5%
15 [|||||] 99.0%
16 [|||||] 98.5%
Mem[|||||] 20026/128941MB
Swp[||] 3732/131071MB

NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	CPU%	MEM%	TIME+	Command
0	12960	720	580	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.04	/usr/bin/ck-launch-session /usr/bin/dbus-launch --exit-with-session /usr/
0	373M	8464	6480	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.26	└─ mate-session
0	253M	2872	2376	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.02	└─ /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/indicator-bluetooth/indicator-bluetooth-s
0	505M	12808	5524	S	0.0	0.0	0:02.23	└─ zeitgeist-database
0	267M	3204	2576	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.01	└─ /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/indicator-power/indicator-power-service
0	365M	4124	3236	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.16	└─ /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/deja-dup/deja-dup-monitor
0	609M	15048	11100	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.19	└─ update-notifier
0	206M	18580	6680	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.26	└─ /usr/bin/python /usr/share/system-config-printer/applet.py
0	294M	6820	5276	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.07	└─ /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/polkit-mate/polkit-mate-authentication-ag
0	887M	32512	25188	S	0.0	0.0	0:02.47	└─ caja
0	807M	64064	13980	S	0.0	0.0	0:12.39	└─ mate-panel
0	751M	19668	13284	S	0.0	0.0	0:37.21	└─ mate-terminal
0	23044	6336	1804	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.41	└─ -bash
0	20908	3484	1360	R	6.5	0.0	5:34.09	└─ htop
0	23100	6396	1812	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.27	└─ -bash
0	7464	1000	748	S	0.0	0.0	0:00.00	└─ make
0	580M	548M	2176	R	99.7	0.4	2:22.53	└─ /usr/bin/perl -w /usr/local/ParSNP/bin/emmax-run -i bea
0	580M	547M	516	S	0.0	0.4	0:00.03	└─ /usr/bin/perl -w /usr/local/ParSNP/bin/emmax-run -i
10	104M	93480	1280	R	68.3	0.1	1:48.09	└─ emmax -d 10 -t ../../beagle_all -p MEAN_Ti47.phen
0	580M	547M	524	S	0.0	0.4	0:00.04	└─ /usr/bin/perl -w /usr/local/ParSNP/bin/emmax-run -i
10	90940	77244	1324	R	83.7	0.1	1:48.00	└─ emmax -d 10 -t ../../beagle_all -p RATIO_grain.ph
0	580M	547M	516	S	0.0	0.4	0:00.05	└─ /usr/bin/perl -w /usr/local/ParSNP/bin/emmax-run -i
10	88828	75264	1300	R	86.7	0.1	1:45.48	└─ emmax -d 10 -t ../../beagle_all -p AWD_Mg25.pheno
0	580M	547M	528	S	0.0	0.4	0:00.04	└─ /usr/bin/perl -w /usr/local/ParSNP/bin/emmax-run -i

F1Help F2Setup F3Search F4Filter F5Tree F6SortBy F7Nice + F8Nice + F9Kill F10Quit



Bio-Linux



Conclusions

- Bio-Linux is useful for reproducible research
 - Common platform with well-defined environment
- Biologists get better insight into their data by doing their *own* bioinformatics
- Bioinformaticians can be more effective by training and supporting biologists
 - Peer role for more advanced research projects
- Intellectual freedom really does matter
 - How you use your computer is part of that

Acknowledgements

- Bio-Linux
 - Tim Booth (NEBC)
 - Bela Tiwari (NEBC/CLCbio)
- NuGO
 - Ben van Ommen (TNO)
 - Chris Evelo (BigCat, Maastricht University, NL)
 - Philip de Groot (Wageningen University, NL)
- Molecular genetics of drought tolerance in rice
 - Adam Price (University of Aberdeen, UK)