Biology, Computers & Python Michael Schatz

Sept 3, 2013 QB Bootcamp Lecture 1





Outline

Part I: Overview & Fundamentals

- Overview of Computer Systems
- Python Primer

Part 2: Sequence Analysis TheoryPart 3: Genomics ResourcesPart 4: Unix PrimerPart 5: Example Analysis

Modern Biology Challenges



The foundations of biology will continue to be observation, experimentation, and interpretation

- Technology will continue to push the frontier
- Measurements will be made *digitally* over large populations, at extremely high resolution, and for diverse applications

Rise in Quantitative and Computational Demands

- I. Experimental design: selection, collection & metadata
- 2. Observation: measurement, storage, transfer, computation
- 3. Integration: multiple samples, assays, analyses
- 4. Discovery: visualizing, interpreting, modeling

Ultimately limited by the human capacity to execute extremely complex experiments and interpret results

How do we draw conclusions?

• Comparison & Correlations: How does X compare to Y?

X	Y
Exomes of kids with autism	Exomes of kids that do not
Genomes of Europeans	Genomes of non-Europeans, mammals,
Gene expression in mutants	Gene expression in wild type
Firing patterns of mutant fly neurons	Firing patterns of wild type

• Modeling & Predictions: How will X respond to Y?

X	Y
Mutant tomatoes	Increased temperatures
Human Microbiome	Probiotic treatments
Gene expression in mice	Knockout of transcription factor
Firing rate in flies	Decreased sodium levels

How do we DRAW conclusions?



- = Mendel: 100k observations, 10 years
- ^{682.577} ==> HiSeq 2000: 600B observations, 10 days
 - ==> Make friends with your computational tools

What is a computer? [hardware]



Hard Drive Permanent Storage – 1TB (big, slow, cheap)



Processor Arithmetic, logic # cores, clock speed



Working Storage – 8 GB (small, fast, expensive)



Display Human Interface

Network Computer Interface Home: 10Mb/s, CSHL: 1Gb/s



Programming 101



A software program is like sheet music for the orchestra inside your computer Static, written representations of an active process

Programming with Python



https://www.enthought.com/products/canopy/academic/ http://www.codecademy.com/tracks/python



http://schatzlab.cshl.edu