Public Resources (II) – Analysis tools

Web-based analysis tools – easy to use, but often with less customization options.

Stand-alone analysis tools – requires installation and configuration, but provides more customization options.

- Commercial analysis tools
- ***** Scripting for bioinformatics projects

Stand-alone tools 1.

Rules of the thumb:

- Make a folder for each program.
- Make a sub-folder for input/output if necessary.
- Read the instructions before installation.

Stand-alone tools 3.

Command line applications:

Accounts for a large number of high-quality, sophisticated programs.

Practice – (install and) run standalone blast in your own computer

Pet Projects:

Searching for potential ortholog of IL6 in the *Drosophila* genome

Practice – Install the blast program (1)

- 1. Download the BLAST executable file, save the file in a folder, such as c:\GMS6014\blast\
- 2. Run the installation program by double click. Inspect the folder following installation.
- 3. Add three more folders to your /blast directory, "/query", "/dbs", and "/out".

Practice – Install the blast program (2)

- 5. Inspect the contents of the doc, data, and bin folder. *Move the programs from blast\bin to the blast folder*.
- 6. Bring a command (cmd) window by typing "cmd" in the Start→Run box.
- 7. Go to the blast folder by typing "cd C:\GMS6014\blast"
- 8. Try to run the program by typing "blastall", read the output.

Practice -- BLAST search in your own computer

- 1. Download data file from the course web page, or Ensemble. Save in the blast\dbs folder.
- 2. Start a CMD window (or Terminal in Mac), navigate to the C:\GMS6014\blast folder.
- 3. At the prompt "C:\GMS6014\blast\bin>" type the command "makeblastdb —in ../dbs/Dm6.33 —dbtype nucl"* format the dataset for the program.
- 4. Compose the query sequence save as "3TNF.txt" in the "blast\query\" folder.
- 5. Initiated the search by typing "tblastn –db ../dbs/ Dm6.33 –query ../query/3IL6.txt –out ../out/myblast.html –html"

*Command syntax may be different depending on platform and setup

What's in a command?



For more info, refer to the "user manual" file in the blast\doc folder.