FAIR_bioinfo : Open Science and FAIR principles in a bioinformatics project

How to make a bioinformatics project more reproducible

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A (not-so-uncommon) nightmare



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What changed?

- Package
- Software
- Libraries
- Environment variables

- OS version
- Computer
- ..?



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Different levels of encapsulation

Goal : capture the system environment of applications (OS, packages, libraries,...) to control their execution.

- Hardware virtualisation (virtual machines) 🕸
- OS virtualisation (images and containers) 촱
- Environment management CONDA

Let's say we want to install RStudio...

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We started with a computer using a specific OS...

Host OS

Computer



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We started with a computer using a specific OS... And inside this environment, we installed a new application.

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We started with a computer using a specific OS... And inside this environment, we installed a new application. Applications rely on dependencies, e.g. external libraries.

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Usually dependencies of different applications don't interfere. But what if we want to test the latest version of our favourite tool? There might be conflicts...

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Usually dependencies of different applications don't interfere. But what if we want to test the latest version of our favourite tool? There might be conflicts...

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Encapsulation : managing environments



Idea : create separated environments for each application.





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Encapsulation : managing environments



Idea : create separated environments for each application. More versatile: create a new environment per analysis.



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But what if we want to install a software from a different OS?



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Idea: use virtual machines Pros:

- Each application gets a completely different and independent environment
- Virtual machines can be transferred to another computer (using the same manager)





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Idea: use virtual machines Pros: transferable independent environments Cons:

- Redundancy between VMs
- Heavy to set up
- No automation



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Idea: "trick" applications into believing that they are in a different OS than the host's Avoid redundancy.





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OS virtualisation vs hardware virtualisation Pros:

- Speed
 - Installation is faster
 - No boot time
- Lightweight
 - Minimal base OS
 - Minimal libraries and application set
- Easy sharing of applications



(B)



Cons:

- Singularity to use images on a cluster
- Changes of policies of the Docker company



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Docker policy

Update of the Docker Image retention policy (13/08/2020)

What is a container image retention limit and how does it affect my account?

Image retention is based on the activity of each individual image stored within a user account. If an image has not either been pulled or pushed in the amount of time specified in your subscription plan, the image will be tagged "inactive." Any images that are tagged as "inactive" will be scheduled for deletion. Only accounts that are on the **Free** individual or organization plans will be subject to image retention limits. A new dashboard will also be available in Docker Hub that offers the ability to view the status of all of your container images.

What are the new container image retention limits?

Docker is introducing a container image retention policy which will be enforced starting November 1, 2020. The container image retention policy will apply to the following plans:

- Free plans will have a 6 month image retention limit
- Pro and Team plans will have unlimited image retention

https://www.docker.com/pricing/retentionfaq



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Encapsulation and reproducibility stack



Conda



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CONDA: an environment manager

Conda definitions

- Environment: a set of packages/tools in a directory (added to our PATH)
- Conda: an open source package + a general-purpose environment management system (installation, execution, upgrade). For any programming language, multi-platform (Windows, MacOS, Linux).
- Conda package: a compressed tarball of a tool

Why using an environment manager?

- avoid compilation and dependencies problems: an environment manager will take care of everything!
- have several environments in parallel each with their own set of tools
- useful when cross-tools dependencies are incompatible with each other

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CONDA: Access

Conda distribution

- Anaconda: a data science platform, comes with a lot of packages
- Miniconda: come without installed packages

Anconda cloud, the "conda hub"

- <u>Anaconda cloud</u> (private company) relies on the community of developers, concerns many domains (Machine Learning, Data Visualization, Dashboarding-web, Image Processing, Natural Language Processing, etc)
- Anaconda cloud: made up of channels/owners. Each channels contains one or more conda packages
- be careful when downloading any packages from an untrusted source, always inspect before installation

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CONDA About channels

Some conda channels

- default
- conda-forge: many popular python packages (analogous to PyPI but with a unified, automated build infrastructure and more peer review of recipes)
- bioconda: bioinformaticians' contributions
- private

Channels list order

- ${\scriptstyle \bullet}$ when different channels have the same package \Rightarrow collisions
- \bullet collisions resolved following the order of your channels list \Rightarrow put supplemental channels at the bottom of your channel list



CONDA R, mamba

Conda and R

The R interpreter is included in the r-essentials package (200 r packages). Add r- before the regular r package name (eg. r-ggplot2)

Favorites	 Downloads 	◆ Package (owner / package)		Platforms
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1	66845	\bigcirc conda-forge / r-essentials $_{41}$ Some essential packages for working with R. This was migrated from the Υ channel.	conda	linux-64 noarch osx-64

Mamba

A fast drop-in alternative to conda, using libsolv for dependency resolution

1 conda install -c conda-forge mamba

Next, replace conda by mamba to use it

CONDA command

simple commands

1 conda create env -n myenv # creation of a conda environment 2 conda info --envs # list environments (* for the active one) 3 conda activate myenv # active the myenv environment 4 conda list # list packages (only in an active environment) 5 conda install package # installation of a tool/package 6 conda remove package # suppress the tool from the environment 7 conda env remove -n myenv # suppress the myenv environment 8 conda deactivate # inactivate the environment

miniconda3

With the miniconda3 distribution and by default, environments are installed in a miniconda3/envs/ repository



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CONDA 2 modes

interactive

- create an environment
- activate the environment
- install some conda packages

configuration file

- list all conda packages in a configuration file (yaml or json format)
- create the environment based on the configuration file (option -f)
- activate the environment

reproducibility

- good practice: use a configuration file
- specify a precise version of a package: <channel>::<package>=<version>

Conda Exercise



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Conda setup

How to access conda?

- Conda is so used that it could even be installed by default to your machine. To test this: conda --version
- if not, may install it or got it by a docker image:
- 1 docker run -i -t -v \${PWD}:/data continuumio/miniconda3
- already activated on the IFB cluster (otherwise with module: module load conda)



How to access tools?

Manage Conda environment

O create the working environment:

- 1 conda create env -n myenv
- activate it:
 - 1 conda activate myenv

if not yet done, install packages (specify the channel):

- 1 conda install -c bioconda bowtie2
- work with the tools
- o quite the environment:
 - 1 conda deactivate

Install snakemake with conda

Objective

Create a conda configuration file to install the snakemake tool.

Hint

- Search its channel in the Anaconda cloud web pages
- the "minimal" environment is sufficient

Install snakemake with conda



Docker



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Docker is not very "old"

- First commit January 2013
- First version March 2013
- Version 1.0 in June 2014

But its adoption was fast

• Officially packaged in Ubuntu since 2014 (v14.04)

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- Set of libraries and functions
- Fixed. Cannot be modified
- Can be stored/shared online
- Can be automatically built

Container



- "Active image"
- Can be modified (interactive)
- Can be turned into an image
- One image, many containers





(https://docs.docker.com/get-started/overview/)



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DockerHub

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(https://hub.docker.com/)



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Usermade images (1/2)

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Usermade images (2/2) Be critical!

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PUBLIC AUTOMATED BUILD genomicpariscentre/samtools	
Repolnfo Tags Dockerfile Build Details	
Short Description	Docker Pull Command
Samtools is a processor of sequence alignments fot SAM and BAM formats	docker pull genomicpariscentre/samtoc
Full Description	Owner
Samtools is a processor of sequence alignments fot SAM and BAM formats	genomicpariscentre
	Source Repository
	O GenomicParisCentre/dockerfiles

(https://hub.docker.com/r/genomicpariscentre/samtools/)



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(https://docs.docker.com/get-started/overview/)



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Other commands :

- docker images : list images available locally
- docker ps : status of containers
- docker rm : delete a container
- docker rmi : delete an image

• ...

(More details during the practical session.)

Savoir FAIRe

- (Installation de Docker)
- 1. Use a pre-defined image available on the DockerHub
- 2. Adapt an image to your needs
- 3. Build an image with a Dockerfile

Practical session : Docker and FastQC. See companion document.