What is GNU/Linux?

GNU/Linux is a "free" operating system

- Other operating systems:
 - Microsoft windows
 - Apple Mac OS X
 - Sun Solaris
 - FreeBSD/OpenBSD
 - AIX
 - And many more.....



GNU/Linux history

• GNU project started by Richard Stallman in 1984 to create a "free" operating system.

• Linux kernel (base of the system) created by Linus

Torvalds in 1991.

FREE AS IN FREEDOM RICHARD STALLMAN'S





Linux Distributions

- Linux kernel + many free software applications + installer system
- Bundled on cdrom for easy install.



Why do we use linux?

- Easy access to many useful tools in bioinformatics
 - Programing: perl, python, R,C, java, bash
 - Libraries: bioperl, biopython, bioconductor (R)
 - Webservers (apache)
 - Database servers (mysql)
- Flexibility
- Stability
- Security
- Price

Why do we use linux?

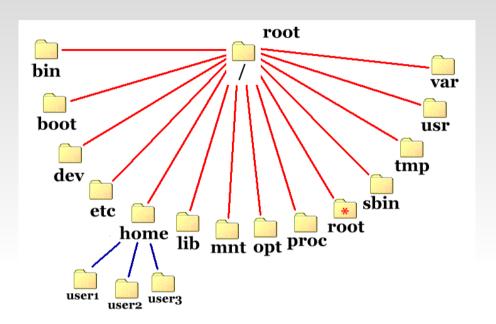
- We have a small cluster (400 cores and 200TB) running GNU/Linux (debian) to run experiments.
- It is easier to work with the same operating system in both cluster and desktop computers.
- GNU/Linux is widely used in High Performance Computing (HPC) environments. GNU/Linux is used on most supercomputers.

TOP500 OPERATING SYSTEM FAMILY STATS 11-2009

_	Operating system Family	Count	Share	%Processor Sum
_	Linux	446	89.20 %	3253501
_	Windows	5	1.00 %	59072
_	Unix	25	5.00 %	124274
_	BSD Based	1	0.20 %	1280
_	Mixed	23	4.60 %	1226500
_	Totals	500	100%	4664627

SOURCE: http://www.top500.org/stats/list/34/osfam

Linux Filesystem



- Every path starts in /
- No C: or D: for disks like windows
 - C:\Documents and Settings\username\Desktop
 - /home/username/Desktop

in windows

in linux

Software on classroom pcs

- Text editor
- Firefox web browser
- OpenOffice (Equivalent to Microsoft Office)
 - OpenOffice Word Processor (word)
 - OpenOffice Spreadsheet (excel)
 - OpenOffice Presentation (powerpoint)
- Pdf reader

Basic command line usage

Listing directory contents

ls list a directory

ls -l list a directory in long (detailed) format

Moving around the filesystem

pwd shows your current directory (where you are)

cd my_docs Go to subdirectory my_docs.

cd Go to your home folder.

cd.. Go to the parent folder of the current folder.

Basic commandline usage

Moving, renaming, and copying files

cp file1 file2

my file1 newname

mv file1 AAA/

rm file1

rm -r dir1

mkdir dir1

copy the file1 to file2

move or rename a file

move file1 into sub-directory AAA

remove (delete) a file

recursively remove a directory and its contents

create a directory

Viewing and editing files

cat filename

less filename

head filename

head -n filename

tail filename

tail -n filename

grep string filename

Dump a file to the screen.

Browse through a file: q=quit, / search.

Show the first lines of a file.

Show the first n lines of a file.

Show the last few lines of a file.

Show the last n lines of a file.

prints all the lines in a file that contain the string