



GIGA mass storage hands-on

GIGA doctoral school

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1. Preliminary remarks

- all procedures will be done on GIGA mass storage (usually restricted to GIGA members and their collaborators)
- for the purpose of this training, we have created a "friend" user for the GIGA/ULG members who don't have their ULG ID yet.
- other server will have different structure, entry point and/or connection procedure but usually same principles

SAMBA connection (Finder, Windows explorer)

2.1 SAMBA connection instructions

- Windows:
<https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/mass-storage/mass-storage-connection#windows>
- Mac:
<https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/mass-storage/mass-storage-connection#mac-os-x>
- Linux:
<https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/mass-storage/mass-storage-connection#linux>

2.2 SAMBA connection practical

Space exploration and small file transfer: your \$HOME

- your entry point is your HOME (only you can read/write there)
- you can create folders and/or transfer files these
 - Very important naming conventions :
<https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/mass-storage/mass-storage-management-practices#mandatory-rules>
 - create a training folder in your home (for exemple DS_training)
 - transfer (drag and drop) a small text file from your computer into it ### See naming conventions !!!!
- the `_SHARE_` folder is a link to shared resources (research, platforms, resources and administration)

2.2 SAMBA connection practical

Shared space exploration

- `_SHARE_/Research/...` if you are GIGA member, you can go down the tree to find your lab (you may have access or not depending of what your PI asked for you)
- `_SHARE_/Platforms/GEN/BIOINFO/TRAINING` (folder we created for this training => temporarily allowed to read and write => if you delete something it disappear for everybody!)
- `_SHARE_/Resources` (you can read but not write, if you can't read a file, we probably made a mistake in setting the permissions => let us know)
- go to `_SHARE_/Resources/Genomes/Scripts` => you can open and read (most) files but not add a new file in the folder or modify/delete one of them

2.3 important considerations

- SAMBA useful to
 - see what's in a folder
 - read/update small files (typically smaller than 1Gb)
 - transfer small files (from or to your computer)
- best practices:
 - if working on a document, save it on your computer and only transfer the final version to mass storage
 - naming conventions:
<https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/mass-storage/mass-storage-management-practices#mandatory-rules>
- **WARNING:** when you delete a file/folder on the mass storage, data will be deleted for everybody !!!! Don't delete files or folders without being sure nobody else need it. Before to delete a folder/file, check you are not unintentionally deleting shared files (ex: if you delete the `_SHARE_` folder in your home, you will delete all your lab's data !!!!!!!!)

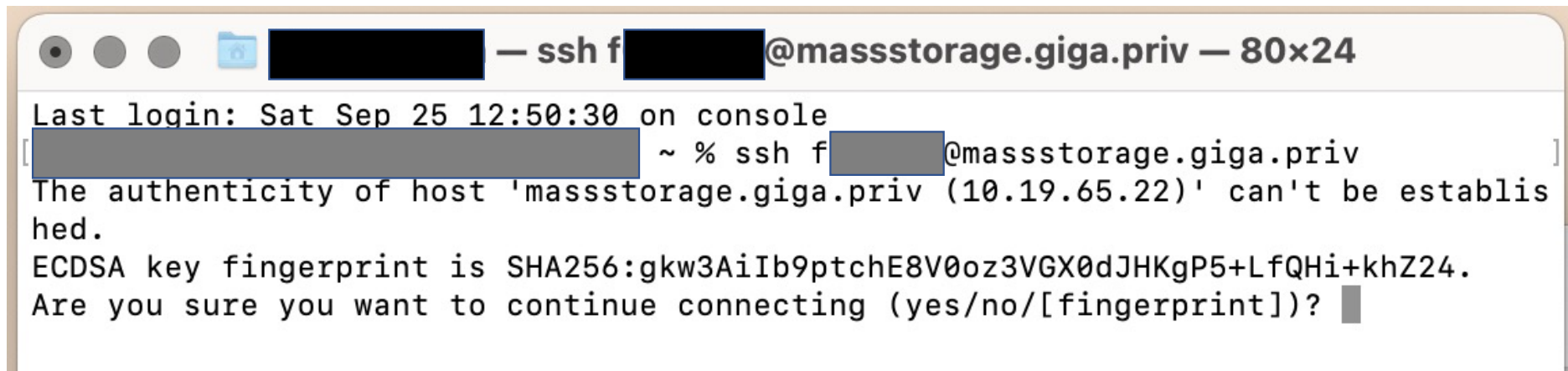
If you delete a file/folder by mistake, contact the bioinformatic team or the UDIMED as soon as possible (if the file/folder was backed up, we can restore it during 28 days!)

SSH connection

3.1 SSH connection instruction

- open command line terminal
 - MAC or LINUX: open Terminal
 - Windows: look for PowerShell in start menu or install and run MobaXterm <https://mobaxterm.mobatek.net/>
- type "ssh u123456@massstorage.giga.priv"
- If you see a message about ECDSA key fingerprint (see next slide), answer "yes"
- Enter password when prompted (nothing will appear on screen while typing)

Message that could appear at first connection



```
██████████ — ssh f██████████@masstorage.giga.priv — 80x24
Last login: Sat Sep 25 12:50:30 on console
[██████████ ~ % ssh f██████████@masstorage.giga.priv ]
The authenticity of host 'masstorage.giga.priv (10.19.65.22)' can't be established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is SHA256:gkw3AiIb9ptchE8V0oz3VGX0dJHKgP5+LfQHi+khZ24.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? █
```

Screen once logged

(X11 and bash error messages are specific to my configuration)

```

alice@M[redacted] ~ % ssh u:[redacted]@massstorage.giga.priv
u:[redacted]@massstorage.giga.priv's password:
X11 forwarding request failed on channel 0
Last login: Mon Oct  4 01:00:18 2021 from 10.39.7.185
Welcome to

  \/\
  \/\  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _
  \/\  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (  (
  \/\  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _  _
  \/\


You are logged in on NASGW2
In case of problem, contact the Helpdesk
Ticket      : https://sam.segi.uliege.be/
Phone       : 04/366.49.99
E-mail      : helpdesk@segi.ulg.ac.be

--> For more information about the GIGA cluster and mass storage:
      https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/cluster/cluster-home
-bash: warning: setlocale: LC_CTYPE: cannot change locale (UTF-8): No such file or directory
-bash: module: command not found
[u[redacted]@nasgw2 ~]$

```

3.2 what's SSH ?

- Encrypted network protocol
- linux system, use bash as command interpreter

 is you best friend

ex: "linux how to do xxxx" or "bash how to do xxxx"



3.3 SSH connection practical

- your entry point = your \$HOME (the same as with SAMBA connection)
- it's a linux system and bash interface => when looking for how to do stuff, google "linux how to do xxxx" or "bash how to do xxxx"
- basic commands
 - list directory content with "`ls -lh <path>`"
 - move around with "`cd <path>`" and "`cd ..`" to go one folder up (parent folder)
 - to go back to home, use "`cd $HOME`"
 - print working directory with "`pwd`" or "`realpath ./`"
 - read a text file with "`less <path/to/file.txt>`" (type "q" to close it)
- move around and test different commands
- see supplemental slides with other bash commands

File transfer

4. File transfer from/to mass storage

- SAMBA (drag and drop)
 - **Warning:** if you lose your connection the transfer is aborted and some files may be partially transferred (without warning!!!) => always check integrity afterward
- FileZilla (secure protocol, graphical interface),
 - **Warning:** if you lose your connection the transfer is aborted and some files may be partially transferred (warning will appear in graphical interface) => always check messages in transfer window and always better to also check integrity afterward
 - <https://filezilla-project.org/>
 - Host = sftp://masstorage.giga.priv



FileZilla

1

Host: Username: Password: Port: [Quickconnect](#)

2

Site Manager

Select entry:

- My Sites
 - MassStorage
 - diagenode

General | Advanced | Transfer Settings | Charset

Protocol: SFTP - SSH File Transfer Protocol

Host: Port:

Logon Type: Ask for password

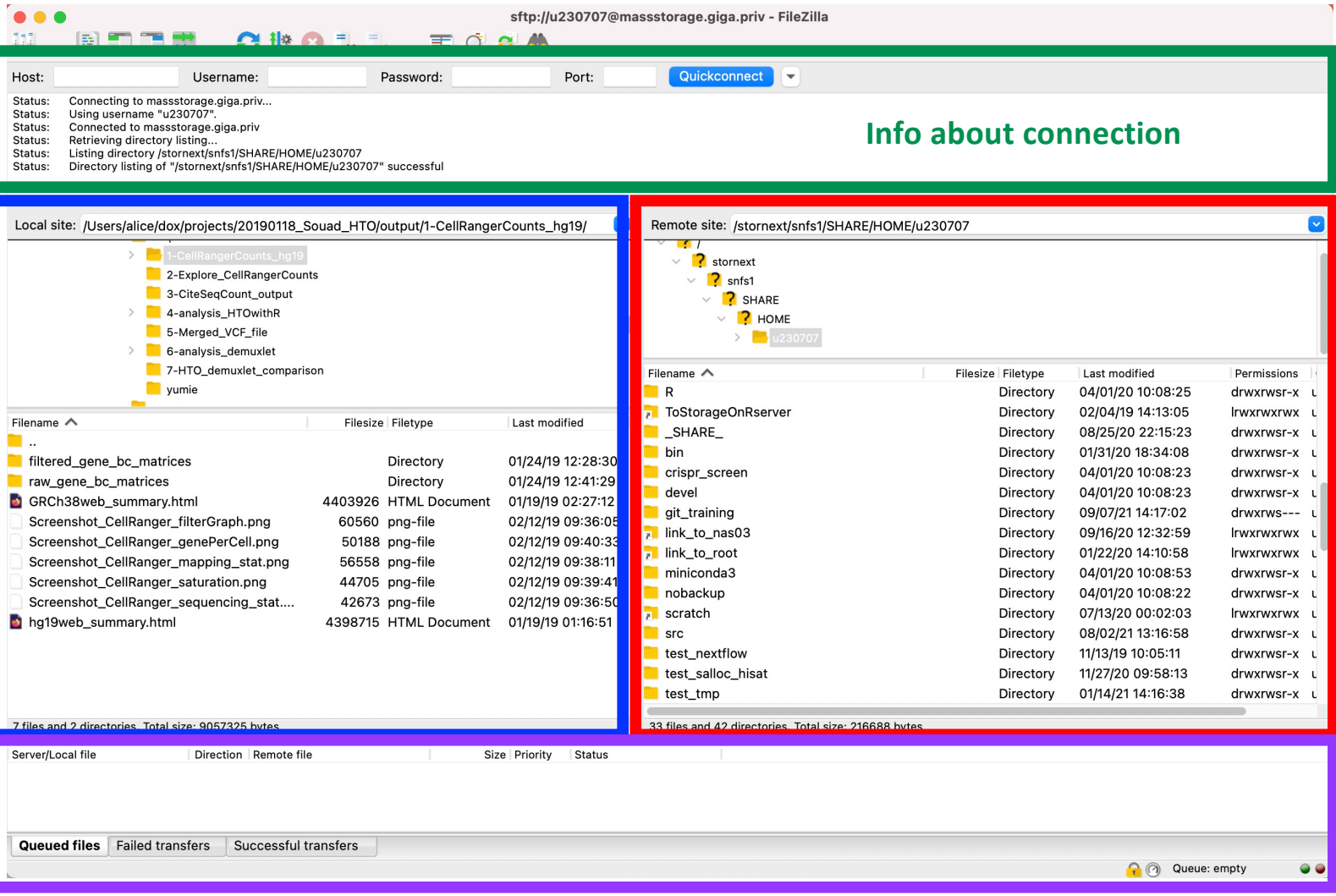
User:

Password:

Background color: None

Comments:

[Connect](#) [OK](#) [Cancel](#)

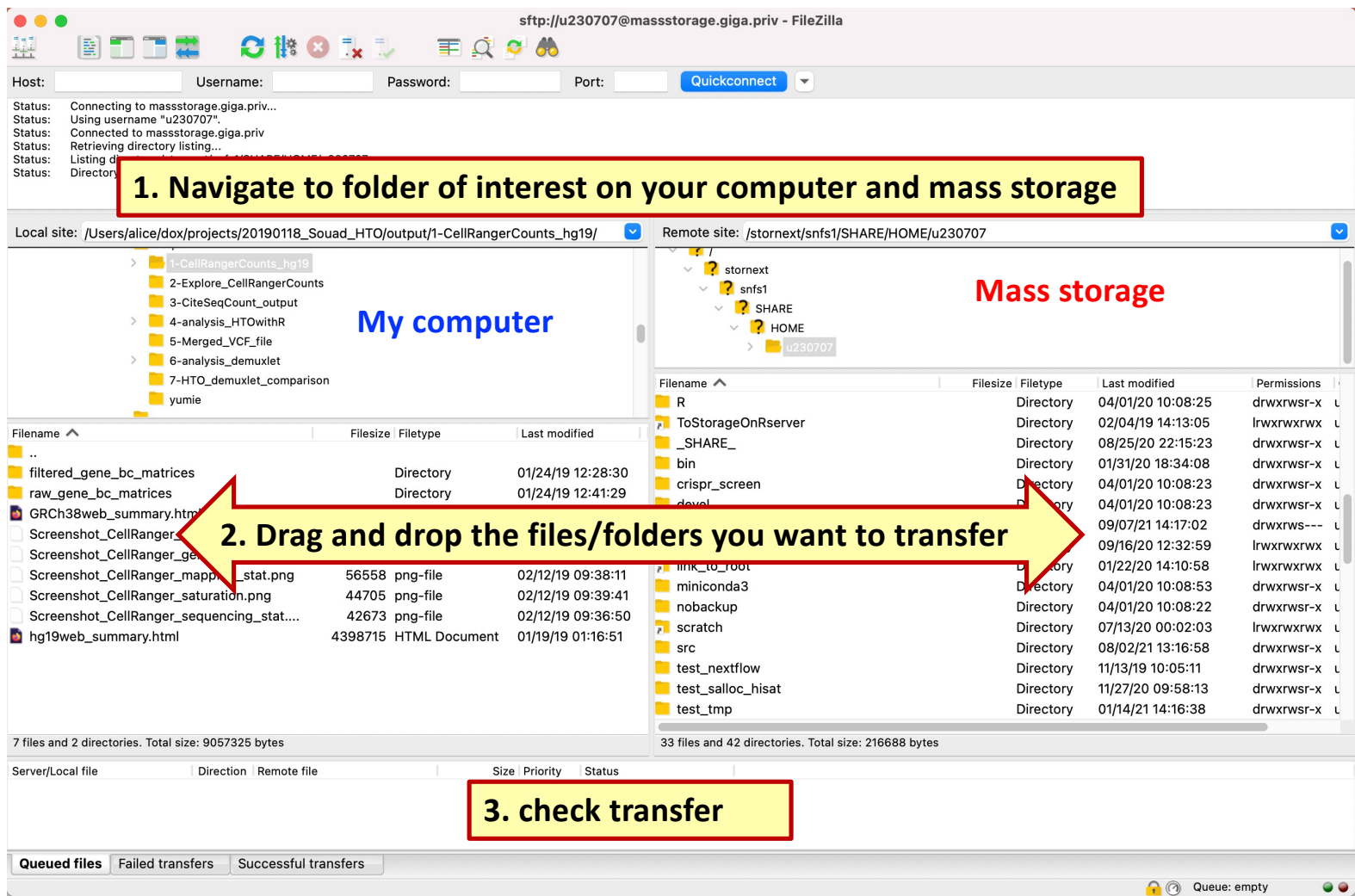


Info about connection

My computer

Mass storage

Info about transfer



4. File transfer from/to mass storage

- rsync (command line terminal):
 - instruction to transfer to/from the GIGA mass storage
https://gitlab.uliege.be/giga-bioinfo/user-guides-wiki/-/wikis/faq/file_transfer
 - on Windows computer may require installation of a software such as
 - Ubuntu for Windows
 - MobaXterm (recommended)
 - a tiny bit more complicated but a lot more powerful and safe !!!! If a transfer is interrupted, rsync can resume it from where it stopped.
- Windows: "synchronize it"
 - <https://www.grigsoft.com/wndsync.htm>
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synchronize_It

SSH versus SAMBA

What's the difference between SAMBA and SSH connection ?

- **Via a SAMBA connection, any command you run is running on your computer**
 - if you work on a file on the mass storage from your computer via a SAMBA connection, the file will be transferred to your computer memory (via the network), processed, then the output is sent back to the mass storage => can be very inefficient (especially over VPN)
 - Best practice: transfer file(s) to your computer, works on it there and transfer back the output afterwards
- **Via a ssh connection, any command is run on the mass storage, using the mass storage CPUs/RAM**
 - will be a lot faster (ex: to move file from one folder to another one or to compress files)
 - it's a shared limited resource => don't perform analyses there. Run analysis either on your computer or on another server (ex: GIGA cluster)
- **Note:** if you transfer files between 2 remote servers (mass storage and CECI cluster for example) using FileZilla or "synchronize it", data will go through your computer and that can get very slow (especially over WIFI and/or VPN) => you should ssh to one of the server and use rsync (or an other tool depending of the type of server)

How to get help ?

5. How to get help ?

- linux commands

Getting help

\$ man <command>	display a command's manual page
\$ info <command>	display a command's info entry
\$ whatis <command>	display a brief description of a command

Helpful websites



ex: "linux how to do xxxx" or "bash how to do xxxx"

Helpful websites

- Lots of websites with good explanations about commands, options, etc
- Forum to ask questions and understand error messages

The screenshot shows a Stack Overflow question page. The header includes the Stack Overflow logo, navigation links (About, Products, For Teams), a search bar, and 'Log in' and 'Sign up' buttons. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Home, PUBLIC, Questions (selected), Tags, Users, COLLECTIVES (with an 'i' icon), Explore Collectives, FIND A JOB (Jobs, Companies), and TEAMS (Stack Overflow for Teams). The main content area features the question title, an 'Ask Question' button, and metadata: 'Asked 3 years, 4 months ago', 'Active 3 years, 4 months ago', and 'Viewed 2k times'. The question body contains a description of the problem, a code block for a Makefile, and a request for help. The right sidebar has sections for 'The Overflow Blog' (with two articles), 'Featured on Meta' (with three items), and 'Looking for a job?' (with a 'Senior Software Engineer - Backend' position).

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Free

How to fix GNU/Make "Too many open files. Stop." errors without increasing the open file limit?

Ask Question

Asked 3 years, 4 months ago Active 3 years, 4 months ago Viewed 2k times

I am currently trying to compile a project for an nRF52 board. When using `make clean`, I get the error message `Makefile.common:12: *** Too many open files. Stop.` (Line 12 of `Makefile.common` just says `include $(TEMPLATE_PATH)Makefile.posix`).

-2

Every solution I can find online to this problem involves increasing the number of files the system can open at once. Unfortunately, I tried increasing it all the way to 20000 (which is apparently enough to overload the memory on my computer), and it still gave the same error message. So I don't think this is a practical solution in my case, and that this problem indicates something wrong with the makefile itself. Is there a culprit that would cause this to happen?

In case it's important, I'm using Ubuntu 18.04. The makefile is pasted below.

```
TARGETS      := nrf52832_xxaa
OUTPUT_DIRECTORY := _build

SDK_ROOT := $(realpath ../../../../..)
PROJ_DIR := ../../..

$(OUTPUT_DIRECTORY)/nrf52832_xxaa.out: \
    LINKER_SCRIPT := ble_app_hrs_gcc_nrf52.ld

# Source files common to all targets
SRC_FILES += \
```

The Overflow Blog

- Extracting text from any file is harder than it looks. Extracting formatting...
- Podcast 381: Building image search, but for any object IRL

Featured on Meta

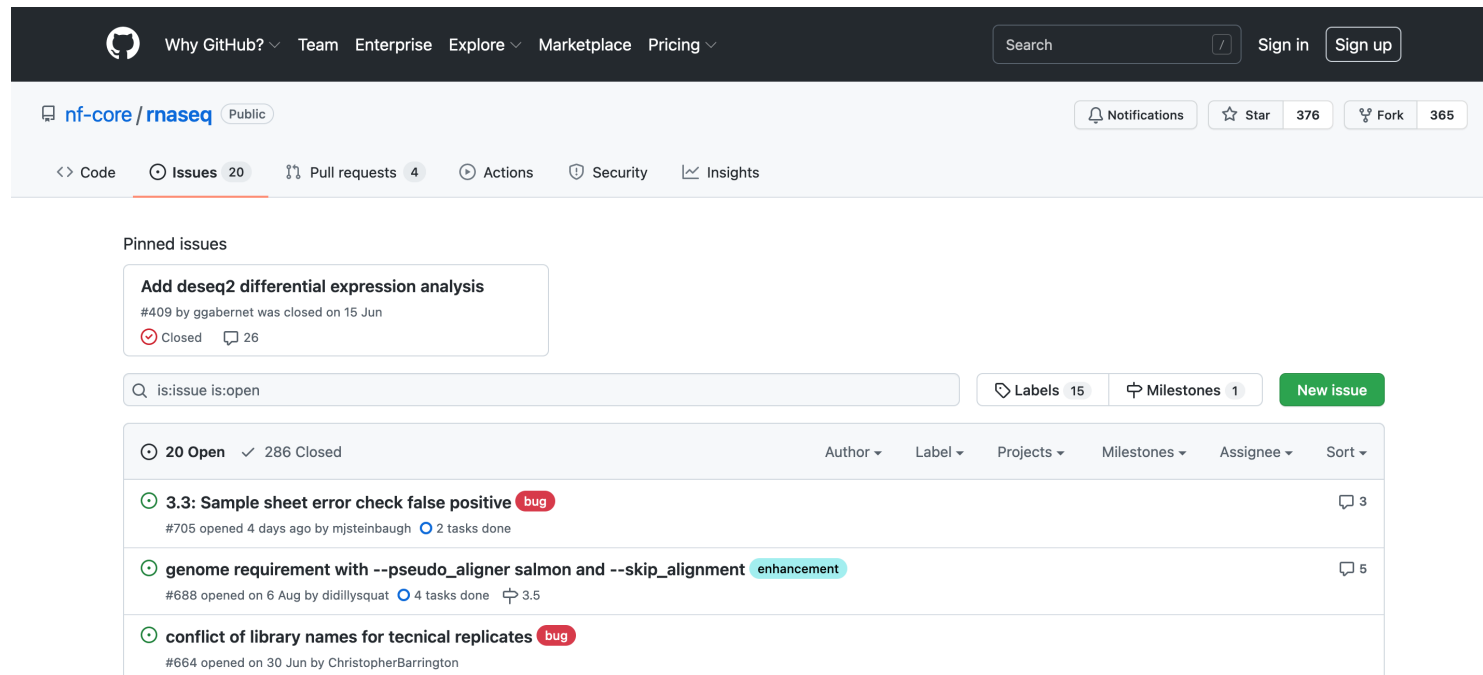
- Updates to Privacy Policy (September 2021)
- CM escalations - How we got the queue back down to zero
- 2021 Moderator Election Q&A - Question Collection

Looking for a job?

Senior Software Engineer - Backend

Helpful websites

- Lots of websites with good explanations about commands, options, etc
- Forum to ask questions and understand error messages
- If the program you use has a GitHub page




The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for `nf-core/rnaseq`. The repository is public and has 376 stars and 365 forks. The Issues tab is selected, showing 20 open issues. A pinned issue is visible: "Add deseq2 differential expression analysis", which was closed on 15 Jun. The main list of issues includes:

- 3.3: Sample sheet error check false positive** (bug) - #705, opened 4 days ago by `mjsteinbaugh`, 2 tasks done.
- genome requirement with `--pseudo_aligner salmon` and `--skip_alignment`** (enhancement) - #688, opened on 6 Aug by `didillysquatch`, 4 tasks done, version 3.5.
- conflict of library names for technical replicates** (bug) - #664, opened on 30 Jun by `ChristopherBarrington`.

GIGA bioinfo team

- When ?
 - If you didn't find an answer on internet
 - If you didn't understand the info
 - If you are not sure about what you understood
 - If you need help to implement the solution
- How ?
 - <https://sam.med.uliege.be/>
 - change "Catégorie concernée" to BIOINFO-GIGA (see next slide)
 - preferred route for solving problems (can be shared with UDI, SEGI, etc)
 - bioinfo.giga@uliege.be

Create a request in SAM


 SAM MED Demandes ▾ La famille SAM ▾ AM

Votre assistant informatique (UDI MED)

Téléphone *

Date de résolution souhaitée *

Auj. 3 j. 7 j. 15 j. Aucune

12-10-2021 

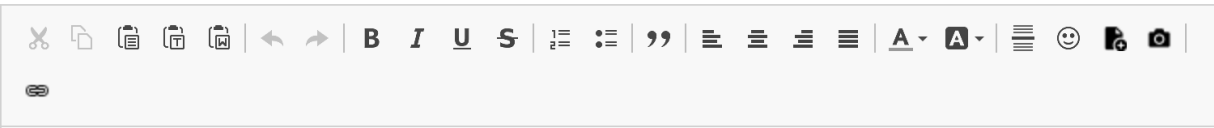
Bâtiment *

Catégorie concernée *

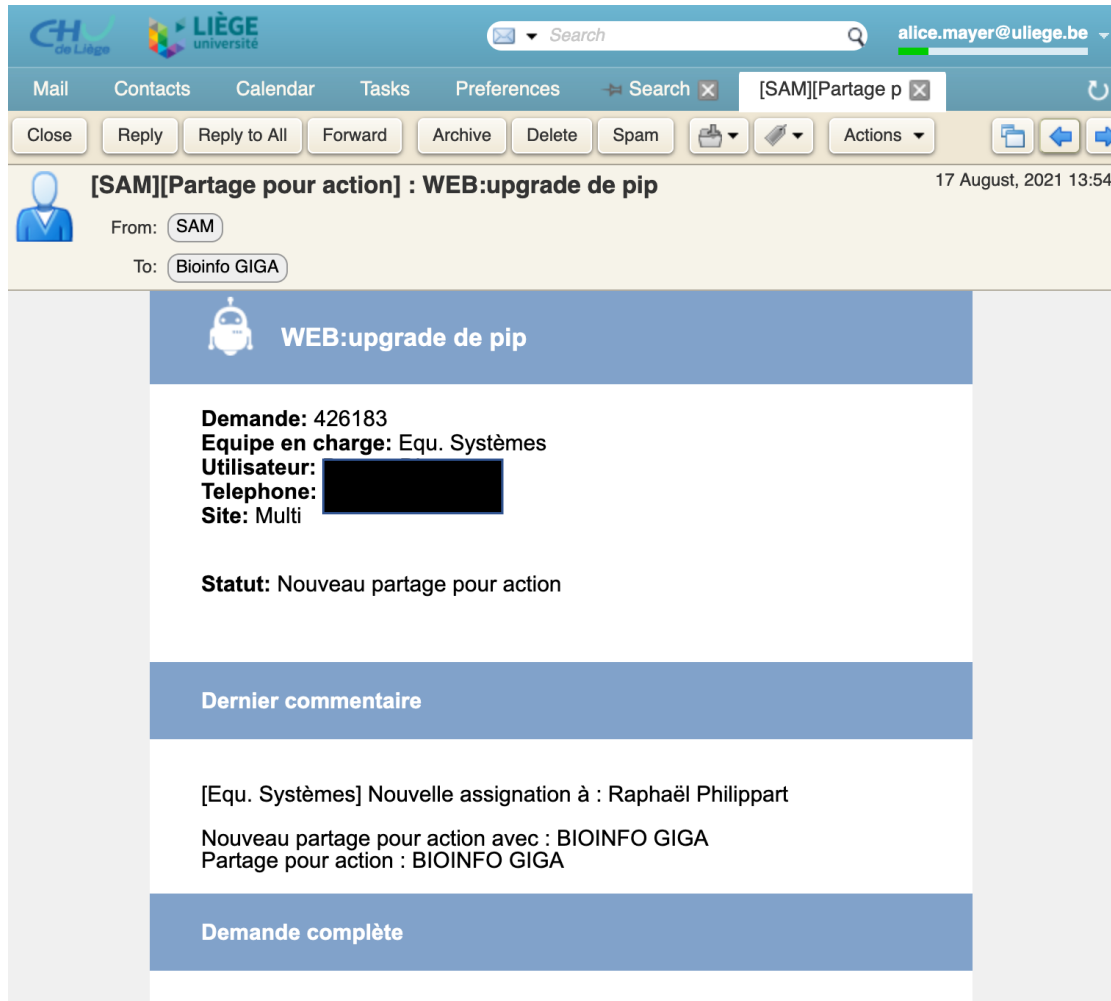
BIOINFO-GIGA ▾

Objet de la demande *

Description détaillée de votre problème/demande *



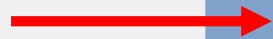
You will receive answer by email



The screenshot shows an email client interface with the following elements:

- Header:** Logos for CH de Liège and LIÈGE université. Search bar with "Search" and "alice.mayer@uliege.be".
- Navigation:** Mail, Contacts, Calendar, Tasks, Preferences, Search, [SAM][Partage p].
- Actions:** Close, Reply, Reply to All, Forward, Archive, Delete, Spam, Actions, navigation icons.
- Subject:** [SAM][Partage pour action] : WEB:upgrade de pip
- Date:** 17 August, 2021 13:54
- From:** SAM
- To:** Bioinfo GIGA
- Body:**
 - WEB:upgrade de pip** (with robot icon)
 - Demande:** 426183
 - Equipe en charge:** Equ. Systèmes
 - Utilisateur:** [Redacted]
 - Telephone:** [Redacted]
 - Site:** Multi
 - Statut:** Nouveau partage pour action
 - Dernier commentaire** (with blue header bar)
 - [Equ. Systèmes] Nouvelle assignation à : Raphaël Philippart
 - Nouveau partage pour action avec : BIOINFO GIGA
 - Partage pour action : BIOINFO GIGA
 - Demande complète** (with blue header bar)

To reply, click on link at the bottom of the email



Cliquez ici pour accéder directement à la demande

Cliquez ici pour accéder à SAM

Ceci est un message automatique de SAM

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Important consideration

6. Important consideration

You can run basic commands and manage your data (move, compress, etc) while connected to the mass storage but
it's forbidden to run any analysis there !!!!!



Thank you for your attention !
Questions ?

GIGA bioinformatic team
bioinfo.giga@uliege.be



Supplemental info

From Oxford Biomedical Data Science Training Programme (2018)

The Linux Shell

- Command line interface (CLI) – command interpreter
- Takes commands from the keyboard and gives them to the operating system to perform
- Most widely used is bash (Bourne Again Shell)
- Terminal emulator – program that lets you interact with the shell
- Environment variables
 - variables in the shell that can be accessed by any program run in the shell
 - Configure the path – places to look for executable programs
 - Can be user defined and modified
 - Can be accessed using \$ notation

```
$ echo $PATH
```

Bash shortcuts

- CTRL-c Abort current command
- CTRL-z Pause current foreground process
- CTRL-l Clear the screen
- CTRL-a Go to start of line
- CTRL-e Go to end of line
- CTRL-u Cut from start of line
- CTRL-k Cut to end of line
- CTRL-r Search history
- CTRL-d Logout (also exit)
- Up arrow – access previous commands
- Tab – autocomplete (will prompt if ambiguous)

Linux Streams

- Streams are mechanism to move data from one place to another
- Standard streams
 - Standard in (stdin): the default place where commands listen for information
 - Standard outout (stdout): the default place for output to go
 - Standard error (stderr): the default place for error output to go
- Unless redirected stdout and stderr both print to the terminal
- Pipes (|) connect the standard output of one command to the standard input of another

Redirecting input, output & error

<code>\$ command1 < file1</code>	input file1 to command1
<code>\$ command1 < (command2)</code>	output of command 2 as file input to command1
<code>\$ command1 > file1</code>	standard output of command1 to file1
<code>\$ command1 >> file1</code>	append standard output of command1 to file1
<code>\$ command1 2> file1</code>	error output of command1 to file1
<code>\$ command1 1>&2</code>	standard output to same place as standard error
<code>\$ command1 2>&1</code>	standard error to same place as standard output
<code>\$ command1 > /dev/null</code>	discard standard output of command1

Combining commands

```
$ command1; command2
```

run cmd1 then cmd2

```
$ command1 && command2
```

run cmd2 if cmd1 is successful

```
$ command1 || command2
```

run cmd2 if cmd1 is not successful

```
$ command1 | command2
```

Pipe stdout from cmd1 to stdin cmd2

```
$ command1 |& command2
```

Pipe stderr from cmd1 to stdin cmd2

Loops

```
$ for i in {1..5}; do COMMAND; done
```

```
$ for (i=1;i<=10;i+=2); do COMMAND; done
```

```
$ for i in *.txt; do COMMAND; done
```

```
$ for x in *.bed; do cat $x | wc -l; done
```

Glob for files

Use filename as variable

Managing Linux Processes

- Any Linux command creates a process
- Every process has a process ID (PID)
- Processes can run in the foreground or background
- The priority index of a process is called Nice
 - It can vary between 20 to -19 (default 0)
 - The lower the 'Nice' index the higher the priority

`$ bg`

To run a stopped process in background

`$ fg`

To bring a background process to the foreground

`$ ps`

Give the status of processes running for a user

`$ ps <PID>`

Gives the status of a particular process

`$ nice`

Starts a process with a given priority

`$ renice`

Changes priority of an already running process

`$ kill <PID>`

Kills a process

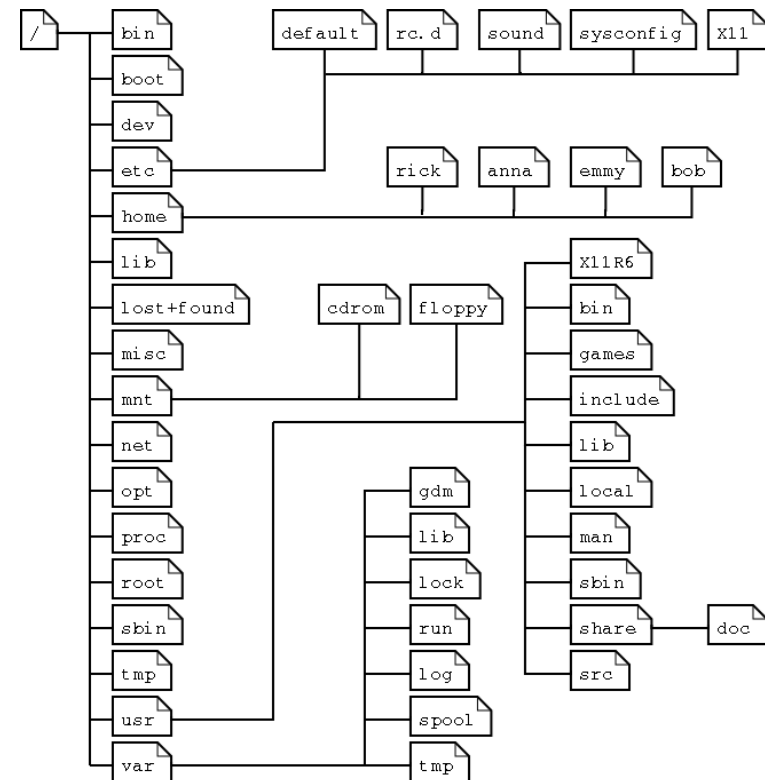
`$ killall <name>`

Kills all processes by name

The Linux file system

- In Linux everything is a file (or a process)
- A directory is just a file containing names of other files
- Tree structure
 - Finder (OSX)
 - Windows Explorer

Redhat file system layout



Navigating the file structure

```
$ pwd
```

print working directory

```
[[u230707@nasgw1 ~]$ pwd  
/stornext/snfs1/SHARE/HOME/u230707
```

```
$ ls
```

list directory contents

```
_SHARE_
```

```
$ cd _SHARE_
```

change directory

```
$ ls
```

```
[[u230707@nasgw1 ~]$ cd _SHARE_  
[[u230707@nasgw1 _SHARE_]$ ls -lh  
total 0  
lrwxrwxrwx 1 u230707 u230707 16 Jan 13 2020 Administration -> /massstorage/ADM  
lrwxrwxrwx 1 u230707 u230707 16 Jan 13 2020 Platforms -> /massstorage/PTF  
lrwxrwxrwx 1 u230707 u230707 16 Jan 13 2020 Research -> /massstorage/URT  
lrwxrwxrwx 1 u230707 u230707 17 Apr 6 2020 Resources -> /massstorage/RES/
```

Adapted from Oxford Biomedical Data Science Training Programme

Changing how you view files

Alias: ll = 'ls -l'

Options for ls

Option	Long Option	Description
-a	--all	List all files, even those with names that begin with a period, which are normally not listed (i.e., hidden).
-d	--directory	Ordinarily, if a directory is specified, ls will list the contents of the directory, not the directory itself. Use this option in conjunction with the -l option to see details about the directory rather than its contents.
-F	--classify	This option will append an indicator character to the end of each listed name. For example, a "/" if the name is a directory.
-h	--human-readable	In long format listings, display file sizes in human readable format rather than in bytes.
-l		Display results in long format.
-r	--reverse	Display the results in reverse order. Normally, ls displays its results in ascending alphabetical order.
-S		Sort results by file size.
-t		Sort by modification time.

Viewing text files

<code>\$ file <filename></code>	print a brief description of the file's content
<code>\$ cat <filename></code>	print the file contents to standard out
<code>\$ head -n 20 <filename></code>	print the first n lines to standard out
<code>\$ tail -n 20 <filename></code>	print the last n lines to standard out
<code>\$ tail -f <filename></code>	Follow changes to the end of the file on standard out
<code>\$ more <filename></code>	Display output in the terminal one page at a time
<code>\$ less <filename></code>	Like more but allows backward movement
<code>\$ vim <filename></code>	Open file in vim terminal text editor
<code>\$ emacs <filename></code>	Open file in emacs terminal text editor
<code>\$ nano <filename></code>	Open file in nano terminal text editor

Creating files and directories

<code>\$ touch <filename></code>	Create new empty file (can create several at a time)
<code>\$ vim <filename></code>	Open new file in vim editor
<code>\$ emacs <filename></code>	Open new file in emacs editor
<code>\$ nano <filename></code>	Open new file in nano editor
<code>\$ mkdir <dir1></code>	Create new directory
<code>\$ mkdir <dir1> <dir2></code>	Create multiple new directories

Copying, moving and renaming files

```
$ cp file1 file2      copy file to new file
$ cp file1 dir1/     copy file to new directory

$ mv file1 file2     Rename file
$ mv file1 dir1/     move file to new directory
```

cp options

Option	Meaning
-a, --archive	Copy the files and directories and all of their attributes, including ownerships and permissions. Normally, copies take on the default attributes of the user performing the copy.
-i, --interactive	Before overwriting an existing file, prompt the user for confirmation. If this option is not specified, cp will silently overwrite files.
-r, --recursive	Recursively copy directories and their contents. This option (or the -a option) is required when copying directories.
-u, --update	When copying files from one directory to another, only copy files that either don't exist, or are newer than the existing corresponding files, in the destination directory.
-v, --verbose	Display informative messages as the copy is performed.

```
$ rename 's/old/new/' <files>      Rename multiple files using pattern matching
$ rename 's/perl/pl/' *.perl
```


Deleting files

```
$ rm file1           remove file
$ rm *.perl         remove multiple files
$ rm -r dir1        remove directory & contents
$ rmdir dir1        remove empty directory
```

rm options

Option	Meaning
-i, --interactive	Before deleting an existing file, prompt the user for confirmation. If this option is not specified, rm will silently delete files.
-r, --recursive	Recursively delete directories. This means that if a directory being deleted has subdirectories, delete them too. To delete a directory, this option must be specified.
-f, --force	Ignore nonexistent files and do not prompt. This overrides the --interactive option.
-v, --verbose	Display informative messages as the deletion is performed.

File Properties

```
MEQ1174:~ haniapavlou$ ls -l
```

```
[total 11656
drwx-----   3 haniapavlou  staff          102 15 Sep 23:54 Applications
drwxrwxr-x@   3 haniapavlou  staff          102 21 Jun  2016 Creative Cloud Files
drwx-----+  12 haniapavlou  staff          408 31 Jan 11:52 Desktop
drwx-----+  11 haniapavlou  staff          374  4 Nov 17:22 Documents
drwx-----+ 273 haniapavlou  staff         9282 31 Jan 11:52 Downloads
drwx-----+  71 haniapavlou  staff         2414 20 Jan 01:24 Library
drwx-----+   8 haniapavlou  staff          272 21 Jan  2016 Movies
drwx-----+   5 haniapavlou  staff          170  4 Sep 21:22 Music
drwx-----+   6 haniapavlou  staff          204 28 Jul  2016 Pictures
drwxr-xr-x+   5 haniapavlou  staff          170  1 Jul  2015 Public
drwxr-xr-x    4 haniapavlou  staff          136  3 Nov 12:10 ThinkStats2
drwxr-xr-x    3 haniapavlou  staff          102 15 Apr  2016 VirtualBox VMs
drwx-----@   3 haniapavlou  staff          102  4 Feb  2016 hania.pavlou@gmail.com Creative Cloud Files
-rw-r--r--    1 haniapavlou  staff    5963929 18 May  2016 mcds_f_segments.csv
```

file permissions

owner

group

size
(bytes)

modification
date

file name

hard links

File Permissions - Owner

- Linux is a multi-user operating system
- Access to read, write and execute each file / directory is controlled
- Each file is owned by exactly one user
- You can see the different users on your system by typing:

```
$ cat /etc/passwd
```
- The first field on each line is the name of a unique user

File Permissions - Groups

- A group is a collection of one or more users
- Each user can be a member of multiple groups
- A file can be owned by exactly one group
- To see the groups that your user currently belongs to, type:

```
$ groups
```

- To show all of the groups currently available on your system, type:

```
$ cat /etc/group
```

- The last category that you can assign permissions for is the "other" category.
- 'Other' = any user that is not the file owner and is not a member of the group that owns the file
- This allows you to set permissions that will apply to anyone outside of the two control groups

Types of Permissions

- Each permissions category (owner, group and other) can be assigned permissions that restrict their ability to read, write, or execute a file
- For a regular file
 - read permissions are required to read the contents of a file
 - write permissions are necessary to modify it
 - execute permissions are needed to run the file as a script or an application
- For directories:
 - read permissions are necessary to list the contents of a directory
 - write permissions are required to modify the contents of a directory
 - execute permissions allow a user to change directories into the directory
- Linux represents these types of permissions using two separate symbolic notations:
 - Alphabetic
 - Octal

Alphabetic notation

```
$ ls -l
```

```
d|rwx|r-x|r-x 3 root root      4096 Apr 26 2012 dir1  
-|rw-|r--|--- 1 root root      2981 Apr 26 2012 file1
```

- = regular file **user** **group** **other**
l = link
d = directory

r = read permissions
w = write permissions
x = execute permissions
- = no access