Scaling Galaxy for Big Data



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Galaxy¹ is a widely-used, web-based platform **Acknowledgements** for data integration and analysis in the life sciences (Goecks et al., 2010; Blenkenberg et al., 2010; Giardine et al., 2005). It is available as a free public server² on the web, and as opensource software that can be installed locally and on the cloud³. Galaxy enables life scientists to perform bioinformatics analysis using the large and varied datasets now being generated in biomedical research. It does this without requiring researchers to learn Linux system management, scripting, or command line interfaces.

In addition to making these methods accessible to bench researchers, Galaxy also enables sharing, reproducibility and transparency in research. Galaxy features a robust history mechanism that automatically and unobtrusively records all data, metadata, and analysis steps, allowing the analysis to be shared and published, and run again with the same or different data. The platform also supports creation of reusable pipelines, either de novo, or by extracting them from existing analyses.

This talk will introduce Galaxy and then focus on what the project is doing to scale to support complex analysis in experiments with hundreds or even thousands of samples and datasets. It also includes a discussion on the challenges faced, and how they are being addressed

The Galaxy Project is an open source project with core team members on three continents, and across the United States. It has a very active community, contributing support, code, documentations, tools, and training back to the project. Principal Investigators are located at Penn State University, Johns Hopkins University, and George Washington University. The Galaxy Project is primarily funded through NIH NHGRI grant 5U41HG006620.

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