



Netherlands
Bioinformatics
Centre

NBIC Galaxy Hackathon a marathon for programmers

Freek de Bruijn
Scientific programmer
NBIC



About NBIC and me

- NBIC: is *the* Dutch network of bioinformatics experts
- NBIC: active in research, education and support
- NBIC: collaboration of 100+ bioinformatics scientists and 50+ programmers

- me: studied computer science
- me: interested in biology
- me: working for NBIC for almost 1 year

NBIC hackathon

- yearly event for community building
- 2011: April 13th and 14th
- 25 developers in 3 teams:
 - Amazon's Mechanical Turk: community intelligence
 - combine GCSF and MOLGENIS (2 systems to help model experimental protocols)
 - **Galaxy (12 developers)**
- Hailiang Mei already told about it yesterday

Getting started: coffee, red bull and coke



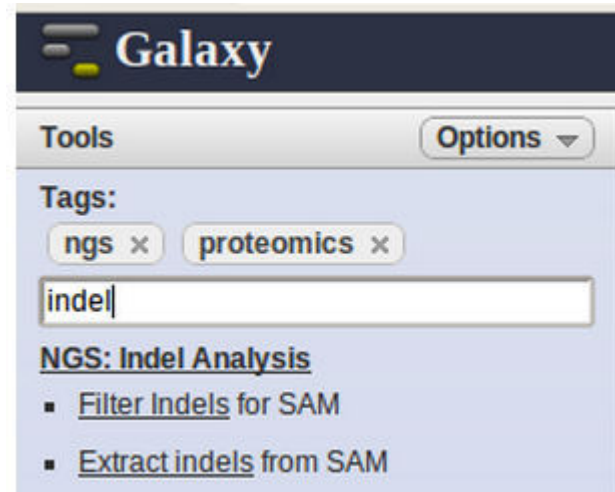
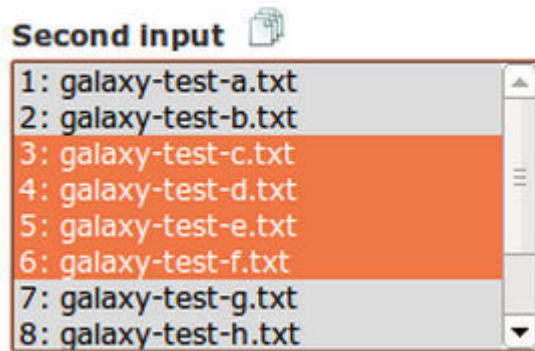
10 times hg pull [...]galaxy-central and a flaky wifi connection took some time

Two days flew by



Results

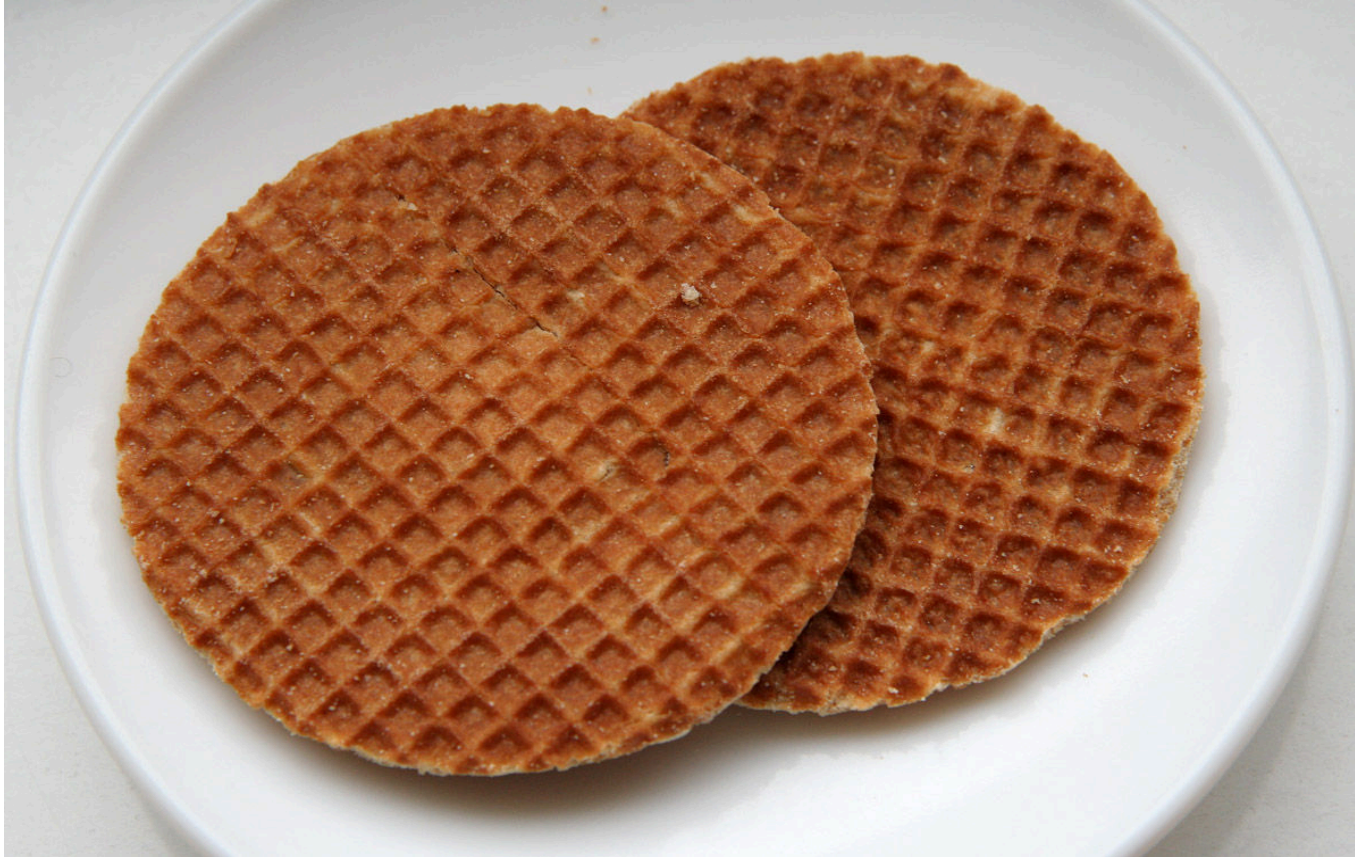
- new: loop over files in a directory
- new: tool configs in separate files → easier installation
- new: tool selection with tags



What did we learn - 1

- Galaxy is very easy to modify (with some Galaxy devs)
- we learned a lot about the internals of Galaxy
- we stumbled upon something previously unheard of
- Guido did a great job: Python is very elegant
- hackathons are lots of fun!
- we learned that there is international interest for Galaxy hackathons organized in tiny European countries
- we are of course already thinking about planning the next hackathon, so we will keep you informed

What did we learn - 2



Nate and Dannon discovered that they really like
"stroopwafels" (Dutch syrup waffles)

Dannon and Nate found out that hotel reservations
can go wrong - it can be a way to get free drinks

Acknowledgements

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- hackathon organization: Christine Chichester, Hailiang Mei, NBIC Office and many others
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- NBIC for organizing and funding
- photography: Rob Hooft (bit.ly/nbichack3)