The Monash Bioinformatics Platform is a core facility that provides bioinformatics support to the University and affiliated organisations in partnership with research groups and facilities. It has a wide range of expertise in biological research fields requiring cutting edge computational techniques such as genomics, proteomics and structural biology. It is also the hub for a distributed network of bioinformaticians embedded across the University and a partner in technical training and infrastructure development.
Mission statement: There is more data created now in the biological sciences than ever before. The Monash Bioinformatics Platform’s goal is to assist researchers in the processing, organisation and analysis of biological data, providing insight and aiding scientific discovery. The Platform has a belief that a small amount of bioinformatics knowledge can go a long way, and aims to equip researchers with basic bioinformatics skills by facilitating hands-on training.

Contact

Platform Manager
Steve Androulakis
Steve has a software engineering background, having completed a Bachelor of Computing, Computer Software Engineering, and has worked in biomedical sciences research and large data management for 7 years. He was instrumental in developing the MyTardis scientific instrument data management system, which helps solve the problem of users needing to store large datasets and share them with collaborators online. He has worked as a research data consultant at Monash University, before becoming the Bioinformatics Platform Manager.
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What is Bioinformatics?
Bioinformatics is a term to describe a variety of computational, mathematical and statistical capabilities that assist the analysis and interpretation of biological information. This often takes place at the DNA, RNA and protein levels.

Bioinformatics Support
A bioinformatician within the platform can partner with researchers to provide an in depth understanding and expertise over the length of a research project. A basic level of service is also available, with bioinformaticians available to consult over experimental design or providing preliminary data processing and analysis.

Hands-on Training
Hands-on training is provided to researchers in conjunction with partners such as Bioplatforms Australia and Software Carpentry. Topics covered include RNA-Seq and ChIP-Seq analysis as well as de novo genome assembly. Introduction to programming courses are run and are very popular with researchers.

Technological Infrastructure
The Platform can give access to a variety of technological infrastructure, including large storage, supercomputers and cloud computing resources. Remote desktops and servers with a range of pre-installed bioinformatics applications are maintained by the platform and are freely available.