



CLC Server

Administrator

USER MANUAL

Administrator Manual for
CLC Server 7.5
Windows, Mac OS X and Linux

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This software is for research purposes only.

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Welcome to *CLC Server* 7.5, a central element of the *CLC* product line enterprise solutions.

The latest version of the user manual can also be found in pdf format at <http://www.clcbio.com/usermanuals>.

You can get an overview of the server solution in figure 1.1. The software depicted here, including *CLC Server* is for research purposes only.

The *CLC Server* is shipped with a range of different tools and analyses. All *CLC Workbenches* can serve as client to *CLC Server*, but only analyses available both on the Workbench client and on *CLC Server* can be started from the Workbench client. For documentation on the customization and integration, please see the developer kit for the server at <http://www.clcdeveloper.com>.

The basic idea behind using a server for data analysis is that you can have the server store data and run jobs centrally and thereby offload personal and typically smaller computers. For the user, the difference between working just with a Workbench and working with a Workbench *and* a server is very small. All the mechanisms for managing data, using the tools, and visualizing the data are the same.

1.1 System requirements

The system requirements of *CLC Server* are:

Server operating system

- Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, or Windows Server 2008.
- Mac OS X 10.7 or later.
- Linux: Red Hat 5 or later. SUSE 10.2 or later. Fedora 6 or later.
- For *CLC Server* setups that include job nodes and grid nodes, those nodes must run the same type of operating system as the master *CLC Server*.

Server hardware requirements

- Intel or AMD CPU required



Figure 1.1: An overview of the server solution from CLC bio. Note that not all features are included with all license models.

- Computer power: 2 cores required. 8 cores recommended.
- Memory: 4 GB RAM required. 16 GB RAM recommended.
- Disk space: 500 GB required. More needed if large amounts of data are analyzed.

Special memory requirements for working with genomes

A 64-bit computer and operating system is necessary if you wish to utilize more than 2 GB RAM.

The numbers below give minimum and recommended amounts for systems running mapping and analysis tasks. The requirements suggested are based on the genome size.

- **E. coli K12 (4.6 megabases)**
 - Minimum: 2 GB RAM
 - Recommended: 4 GB RAM
- **C. elegans (100 megabases) and Arabidopsis thaliana (120 megabases)**

- Minimum: 2 GB RAM
- Recommended: 4 GB RAM

- **Zebrafish (1.5 gigabases)**

- Minimum: 2 GB RAM
- Recommended: 4 GB RAM

- **Human (3.2 gigabases) and Mouse (2.7 gigabases)**

- Minimum: 6 GB RAM
- Recommended: 8 GB RAM

Special requirements for de novo assembly

De novo assembly may need more memory than stated above - this depends both on the number of reads and the complexity and size of the genome. See <http://www.clcbio.com/white-paper> for examples of the memory usage of various data sets.

1.2 Licensing

Three kinds of license can be involved in running analyses on the CLC Server.

- **A license for the server software itself.** This is needed for running analyses via the server. The license will allow a certain number of open sessions. This refers to the number of active, individual log-ins from server clients such as Workbenches, the Command Line Tools, or the web interface to the server. The number of sessions is part of the agreement with CLC bio when you purchase a license. The manual chapter about installation provides information about how to obtain and deploy the license for the server.
- **A license for the Workbench software.** The Workbench is used to launch analyses on the server and to view the results. Find the user manuals and deployment manual for the Workbenches at <http://www.clcbio.com/usermanuals>.
- **A network license if you will be submitting analyses to grid nodes.** This is explained in detail in section [6.2.5](#).

1.3 CLC Genomics Server

The CLC Genomics Server is shipped with the following tools and analyses that can all be started from CLC Genomics Workbench and CLC Server Command Line Tools:

- Import
- Export
- Download Genome
- Alignments and Trees

- Create Alignment
- Create Tree
- Maximum Likelihood Phylogeny
- General Sequence Analysis
 - Extract Annotations
 - Extract Sequences
- Nucleotide Analysis
 - Translate to Protein
 - Convert DNA to RNA
 - Convert RNA to DNA
 - Reverse Complement Sequence
 - Reverse Sequence
 - Find Open Reading Frames
- Sequencing Data Analysis
 - Trim Sequences
 - Assemble Sequences
 - Assemble Sequences to Reference
 - Secondary Peak Calling
- Primers and Probes
 - Find Binding Sites and Create Fragments
- BLAST
 - BLAST
 - BLAST at NCBI
 - Download BLAST Databases
 - Create BLAST Database
 - Manage BLAST Databases
- NGS Core Tools
 - Create Sequencing QC Report
 - Merge Overlapping Pairs
 - Trim Sequences
 - Map Reads to Reference
 - Local Realignment
 - Create Detailed Mapping Report
 - Merge Read Mappings
 - Extract Consensus Sequence

- Process Tagged Sequences (Multiplexing)
- Track Tools
 - Convert to Tracks
 - Convert from Tracks
 - Merge Annotation Tracks
 - Annotate with Overlap Information (Annotate and Filter)
 - Extract Reads Based on Overlap (Annotate and Filter)
 - Filter Annotations on Name (Annotate and Filter)
 - Filter Based on Overlap (Annotate and Filter)
 - Create GC Content Graph Tracks (Graphs)
 - Create Mapping Graph Tracks (Graphs)
 - Identify Graph Threshold Areas(Graphs)
- Resequencing Analysis
 - Create Statistics for Target Regions
 - Probabilistic Variant Detection
 - Quality-based Variant Detection
 - InDels and Structural Variants
 - Coverage Analysis
 - Annotate from Known Variants (Annotate and Filter Variants)
 - Filter against Known Variants (Annotate and Filter Variants)
 - Annotate with Exon Numbers (Annotate and Filter Variants)
 - Annotate with Flanking Sequences (Annotate and Filter Variants)
 - Filter Marginal Variant Calls (Annotate and Filter Variants)
 - Filter Reference Variants (Annotate and Filter Variants)
 - Compare Sample Variant Tracks (Compare Variants)
 - Compare Variants within Group (Compare Variants)
 - Fisher Exact Test (Compare Variants)
 - Trio Analysis (Compare Variants)
 - Filter against Control Reads (Compare Variants)
 - GO Enrichment Analysis (Functional Consequences)
 - Amino Acid Changes (Functional Consequences)
 - Annotate with Conservation Score (Functional Consequences)
 - Predict Splice Site Effect (Functional Consequences)
- Transcriptomics Analysis/ Expression Analysis
 - RNA-Seq Analysis (legacy version)
 - RNA-Seq Analysis
 - Extract and Count (Small RNA Analysis)

- Annotate and Merge Counts (Small RNA Analysis)
- Create Histogram (General Plots)
- Epigenomics Analysis
 - PeaQ Shape ChIP-Seq Analysis
 - ChIP-Seq Analysis
- De Novo Sequencing
 - De Novo Assembly
 - Map Reads to Contigs

The functionality of the *CLC Genomics Server* can be extended by installation of Server plugins. The available plugins can be found at http://www.clcbio.com/server_plugins.

Latest improvements

CLC Genomics Server is under constant development and improvement. A detailed list that includes a description of new features, improvements, bugfixes, and changes for the current version of *CLC Genomics Server* can be found at:

<http://www.clcbio.com/products/clc-genomics-server-latest-improvements/>.

1.4 Biomedical Genomics Server Extension

The *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension* can run all the tools and analyses available from both *Biomedical Genomics Workbench* and *CLC Genomics Workbench* as well as the pre-installed workflows from *Biomedical Genomics Workbench*.

All the tools listed in section 1.3 can therefore be started on the server, as well as the *Biomedical Genomics Workbench* specific tools:

- Add Information about Amino Acid
- Add Conservation Scores
- Add Flanking Sequence
- Add Fold Changes
- Add Information from Variant Databases
- Add Information from Overlapping Genes
- Add Information from Overlapping Variants
- Compare Shared Variants within a Group of Samples
- Create fold change track from expressions
- Create New Genome Browser View
- Duplicate Mapped Reads Removal

- Add Exon Number
- Identify Differentially Expressed Gene Groups and Pathways
- Identify Candidate Variants
- identify Enriched Variants in Case vs Control Group
- Identify Highly Mutated Gene Groups and Pathways
- Identify Mutated Genes
- Identify Variants with Effect on Splicing
- Mutation Tester Tool
- Primer Pair Import
- Primer Trim
- QC for Read Mapping
- QC for Sequencing Reads
- QC for Target Sequencing
- Realign Variants before Comparison
- Remove False Positives
- Remove Germline Variants
- Remove Information from Variants
- Remove Variants Inside Genome Regions
- Remove Variants Outside Genome Regions
- Remove Variants Outside Targeted Regions
- Remove Reference Variants
- Remove Variants Found in External Database
- Remove Variants Not Found in External Database
- Select Genes by Name
- Whole Genome Coverage Analysis

The functionality of the CLC Server can be extended by installation of Server plugins. The available plugins can be found at http://www.clcbio.com/server_plugins.

1.5 CLC Drug Discovery Server

The *CLC Drug Discovery Server* is shipped with the following tools that can all be started from *CLC Drug Discovery Workbench* and *CLC Server Command Line Tools*:

- Drug Design
 - Dock Ligands
 - Screen Ligands
 - Extract Ligands
 - Calculate Molecular Properties
- Sequence Analysis
 - Extract Sequences
 - Download Pfam Database
 - Pfam Domain Search
 - Motif Search
 - BLAST
 - BLAST at NCBI
 - Download BLAST Databases
 - Create BLAST Database
 - Manage BLAST Databases
- Sequence Alignment
 - Create Alignment
 - Create Tree
- Workflows
- Import (e.g. molecules from PDB, SDF, or SMILES)
- Export

Latest improvements

CLC Drug Discovery Server is under constant development and improvement. A detailed list that includes a description of new features, improvements, bugfixes, and changes for the current version of *CLC Drug Discovery Server* can be found at:

<http://www.clcbio.com/products/clc-drug-discovery-server-latest-improvements/>.

Chapter 2

Installation

2.1 Quick installation guide

The following describes briefly the steps needed to set up *CLC Genomics Server*, *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension*, *CLC Drug Discovery Server*, and *CLC Science Server* with pointers to more detailed explanation of each step.

If you are looking for how to set up a *CLC License Server*, instructions can be found in the *CLC License Server* manual.

If you are going to set up execution nodes as well, please read section 6 first.

1. Download and run the server software installer file. When prompted during the installation process, choose to start the server (section 2.2).
2. Run the license download script distributed with the server software. This script can be found in the installation area of the software. (section 2.8). The script will automatically download a license file and place it in the server installation directory under the folder called `licenses`.
3. Restart the server (section 2.9).
4. Ensure the necessary port is open for access by client software for the server. The default port is 7777 .
5. Log into the server web administrative interface using a web browser using the username **root** and password **default** (section 3).
6. Change the root password (section 4.1).
7. Configure the authentication mechanism and optionally set up users and groups (section 4.2).
8. Add data locations (section 3.2).
9. From *within the Workbench*, download and install the Workbench Client plugin. This is needed for the Workbench to be able to contact the server (section 2.10).
10. Check your server setup using the **Check set-up** link in the upper right corner as described in section 11.2.1.

11. Your server should now be ready for use.

2.2 Installing and running the Server

Getting the *CLC Server* software installed and running involves, at minimum, these steps:

1. Install the software.
2. Ensure the necessary port in the firewall is open.
3. Download a license.
4. Start the Server and/or configure it as a service.

All these steps are covered in this section of the manual. Further configuration information, including for job nodes, grid nodes, and External Applications, are provided in later chapters.

Installing and running the *CLC Server* is straightforward. However, if you do run into troubles, please refer to the troubleshooting section in Appendix [11.2](#), which provides tips on how to troubleshoot problems yourself, as well as how to get help.

Note that if you have a *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension* or *CLC Drug Discovery Server*, there are important extra notes to read about installation found in section [2.4](#) and section [2.5](#).

2.2.1 Installing the Server software

The installation can only be performed by a user with administrative privileges. On some operating systems, you can double click on the installer file icon to begin installation. Depending on your operating system you may be prompted for your password (as shown in figure [2.1](#)) or asked to allow the installation to be performed.

- On Windows 8, Windows 7 or Vista, you will need to right click on the installer file icon, and choose to **Run as administrator**.
- For the Linux-based installation script, you would normally wish to install to a central location, which will involve running the installation script as an administrative user - either by logging in as one, or by prefacing the command with sudo. Please check that the installation script has executable permissions before trying to execute it.



Figure 2.1: *Enter your password*.

Next, you will be asked where to install the server (figure [2.2](#)). If you do not have a particular reason to change this, simply leave it at the default setting. The chosen directory will be referred to as the *server installation directory* throughout the rest of this manual.

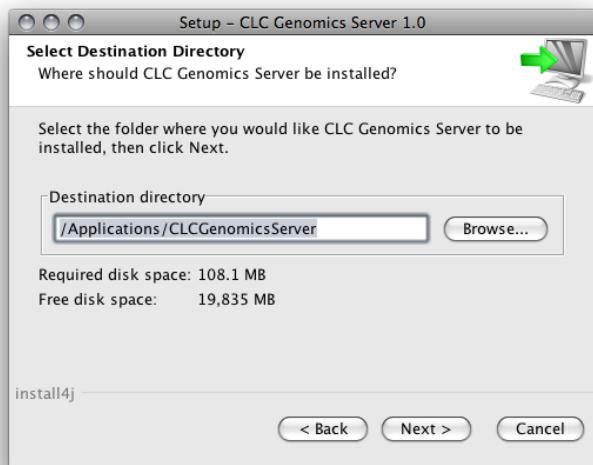


Figure 2.2: Choose where to install the server. Exemplified here with **CLC Genomics Server**

The installer allows you to specify the maximum amount of memory the CLC Server will be able to utilize (figure 2.3). The range of choice depends on the amount of memory installed on your system and on the type of machine used. On 32 bit machines you will not be able to utilize more than 2 GB of memory – on 64-bit machines there is no such limit.

If you do not have a reason to change this value you should simply leave it at the default setting.

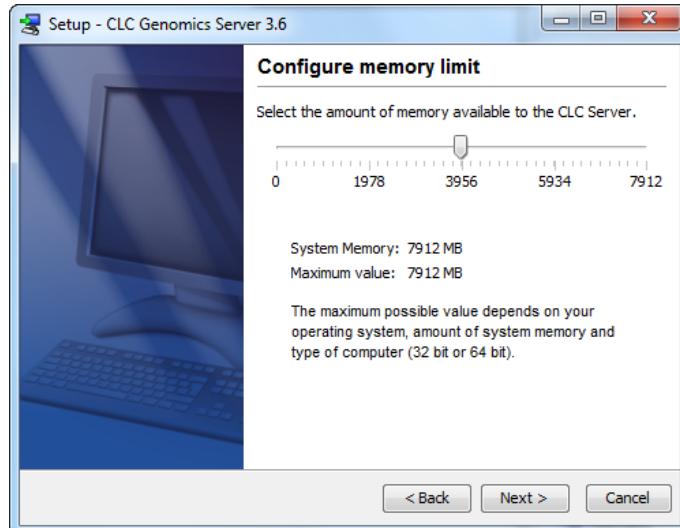


Figure 2.3: Choose the maximum amount of memory used by the server.

If you are installing the Server on a Linux or Mac system, you are offered the option to specify a user account that will be used to run the *CLC Server* process. Having a specific, non-root user for this purpose is generally recommended. On a standard setup, this would have the effect of adding this username to the service scripts, which can then be used for starting up and shutting down the *CLC Server* service and setting the ownership of the files in the installation area. Downstream, the user running the *CLC Server* process will own files created in File Locations, for example, after data import or data analyses.

If you are installing the server on a Windows system you will be able to choose if the service is started manually or automatically by the system.

The installer will now extract the necessary files.

On a Windows system, if you have chosen that the service should be started automatically, the service should also start running at this point. On Linux or Mac, if you have chosen the option to start the system at the end of installation, the service should also have started running. Please note that if you do not already have a license file installed, then the *CLC Server* process will be running in a limited capacity at this point. Downloading a license is described in section [2.8](#).

Information on stopping and starting the *CLC Server* service is provided in section [2.9](#).

2.3 Silent installation

The installer also has a silent installation mode which is activated by the `-q` parameter when running the installer from a command line, e.g.

```
CLCGenomicsServer_6_5.exe -q
```

On Windows, if you wish to have console output, `-console` can be appended as *the second parameter* (this is only needed when running on Windows where there is no output per default):

```
CLCGenomicsServer_6_5.exe -q -console
```

You can also in silent mode define a different installation directory: `-dir`.

```
CLCGenomicsServer_6_5.exe -q -console -dir "c:\bioinformatics\clc"
```

Note! Both the `-console` and the `-dir` options only work when the installer is run in silent mode.

The `-q` and the `-console` options work for the Uninstall program as well.

Linux and Mac systems are also supported.

On Mac, this looks something like:

```
/Volumes/CLCGenomicsWorkb/CLC Genomics Workbench Installer.app
```

```
/Contents/MacOS/JavaApplicationStub -q
```

On Linux the following options are supported:

```
CLCGenomicsServer_6_5.exe -c
```

This forces the installer to run in console mode.

To do a fully unattended installation use the following options:

```
CLCGenomicsServer_6_5.exe -c -q -dir /opt/clcgenomicsserver
```

This installs the product in `/opt/clcgenomicsserver`.

2.4 Biomedical Genomics Server Extension - installation notes

The *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension* is based on *CLC Genomics Server*. To extend the functionality of the *CLC Genomics Server* with Biomedical Genomics specific tools you will need to download an additional license for the *CLC Genomics Server* - the 'Biomedical Genomics Server Extension' license. To download the license, please follow the instructions for download of the regular Genomics Server license you used to first download the Genomics Server license (see section 2.8). When this has been done, you can proceed directly, without restarting the server, to the installation of the 'Biomedical Genomics Server Extension' license by following the same procedure.

When you have an installed *CLC Genomics Server* with a Biomedical Genomics Server Extension there are a few more things you must do before you are ready to start using the server:

2.4.1 On the server: Create reference data directory

- You must create a directory on the server hard drive. This directory is where the Biomedical Genomics Workbench reference data will be stored. Please note that the name of the directory must be "CLC_References".

2.4.2 Using the *CLC Genomics Server* web interface: Add reference data location

- Open the *CLC Genomics Server* web interface and add a new file location, which is the path to the directory you have just created.

To do this click on the "Admin" tab, then "Main configuration", select "File system locations", and click on the button labeled "Add New File Location" as shown in figure 2.4.

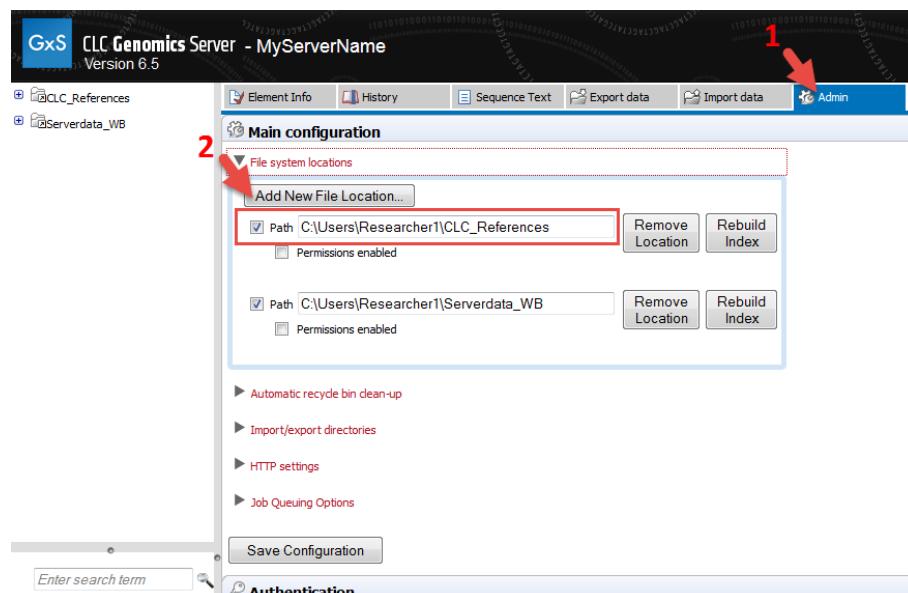


Figure 2.4: After you have created a directory you must mount the directory by going to the *CLC Genomics Server* web interface. This is done under the "Admin tab", "Main configuration", "File system locations", and "Add New File Location". Please note that the name of the directory must be "CLC_References" as shown in this example.

2.4.3 Using the Biomedical Genomics Workbench: Set up connection between Biomedical Genomics Workbench and your CLC Genomics Server

- Start Biomedical Genomics Workbench in **administrator mode** (this is necessary in order to be able to perform the next step).
- The next thing to do is to allow access from your *Biomedical Genomics Workbench* to your *CLC Genomics Server*. To do this, you need the *CLC Workbench Client Plugin*.

To install the *CLC Workbench Client Plugin* from *Biomedical Genomics Workbench*:

Help in the Menu Bar | Plugins and Resources... ()

or **Plugins () in the Toolbar**

- The last thing to do is to log into the server from *Biomedical Genomics Workbench*. This is done using the menu bar as shown in figure 2.5:

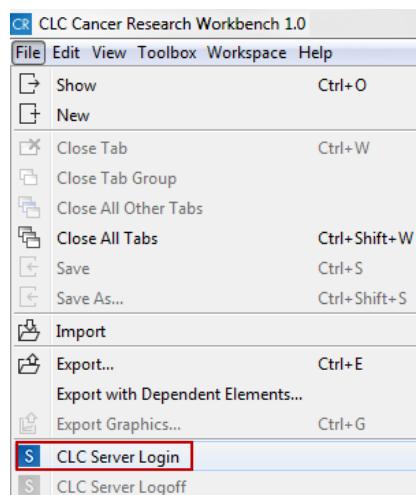


Figure 2.5: Log into the server via "File" in the menu bar.

When you are logged into the server, you can see in your **Navigation Area** that you have an extra *CLC_References* repository. The little blue box with an S on one of the *CLC_References* repositories indicates that this is the server repository. This is illustrated in figure 2.6.

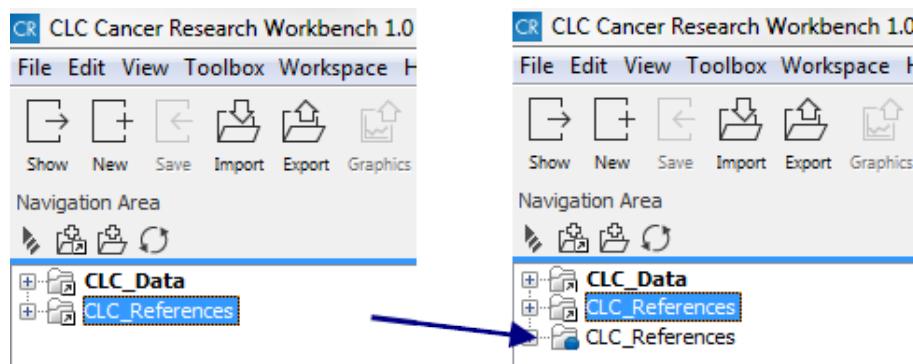


Figure 2.6: When you are logged into a server, you can see the server repository "CLC_References", which is marked with a blue box with an S.

2.5 CLC Drug Discovery Server - installation notes

When the *CLC Drug Discovery Server* has been installed, a few extra steps are needed to make the **Import Molecules from SMILES or 2D** command work on the server.

The **Import Molecules from SMILES or 2D** command requires a third-party software program called Balloon to be installed on the server (and on all server job nodes that should be able to execute this command).

Balloon is freeware and can be downloaded from the website <http://users.abo.fi/mivainio/balloon/download.php> (available for Windows, Mac and a variety of Linux platforms).

The **Import Molecules from SMILES or 2D** looks for the location of the installed Balloon executable file using an environment variable called "BALLOON_LOCATION". Therefore, the server administrator needs to set the environment variable on all available server nodes to point to this location, e.g. BALLOON_LOCATION = /usr/local/balloon/balloon.

2.6 Upgrading an existing installation

Upgrading an existing installation is very simple. For a single *CLC Server*, the steps we recommend are:

- Make sure that nobody is using the server (see section 4.4). A standard procedure would be to give users advance notice that the system will be unavailable for maintenance.
- Install the server in the same installation directory as the one already installed. All settings will be maintained. These maintained settings include the Data Locations, Import/Export directories, BLAST locations, Users and Groups, and External Application settings.

If you have a *CLC Job Node* setup, you will also need to upgrade the *CLC Server* software on each job node. Upgrading the software itself on each node is all you need to do. Configurations and plugins for job nodes are pushed to them by the master node.

2.6.1 Upgrading major versions

Once you have performed the steps mentioned above, there are a few extra details whenever the release is more than a bug-fix upgrade (e.g. a bug-fix release would be going from version 1.0 to 1.0.1).

First, make sure all client users are aware that they must upgrade their Workbench and server connection plugin.

Second, check that all plugins installed on the *CLC Server* are up to date (see section 3.11). You can download updated versions of plugins from <http://www.clcbio.com/clc-plugin/>.

Third, if you are using the *CLC Server Command Line Tools*, it might have to be updated as well. This is noted in the latest improvements page of the server:

- *CLC Genomics Server* http://www.clcbio.com/improvements_genomics_server
- *CLC Science Server* http://www.clcbio.com/improvements_science_server.

Finally, if you are using job nodes, be aware that any new tools included in the server upgrade are automatically disabled on all job nodes. This is done in order to avoid interfering with a job node set-up, where certain job nodes are dedicated to specific types of jobs. Read more about enabling the jobs in section [6.1.3](#).

For major versions (e.g. going from 1.X to 2.0) a new license needs to be downloaded (see section [2.8](#)), and the server restarted.

2.7 Allowing access through your firewall

By default, the server listens for TCP-connections on port 7777 (see section [3.4](#) for info about changing this).

If you are running a firewall on your server system you will have to allow incoming TCP-connections on this port before your clients can contact the server from a Workbench or web browser. Consult the documentation of your firewall for information on how to do this.

Besides the public port described above the server also uses an internal port on 7776. There is no need to allow incoming connections from client machines to this port.

2.8 Downloading a license

The CLC Server looks for licenses in the `licenses` folder in the installation area. Downloading and installing licenses is similar for all supported platforms, but varies in certain details. Please check the platform-specific instructions below for how to download a license file on the system you are running the CLC Server on or the section on downloading a license to a non-networked machine if the CLC Server is running on a machine without a direct connection to the external network.

2.8.1 Windows license download

License files are downloaded using the `licensedownload.bat` script. To run the script, right-click on the file and choose **Run as administrator**. This will present a window as shown in figure [2.7](#).

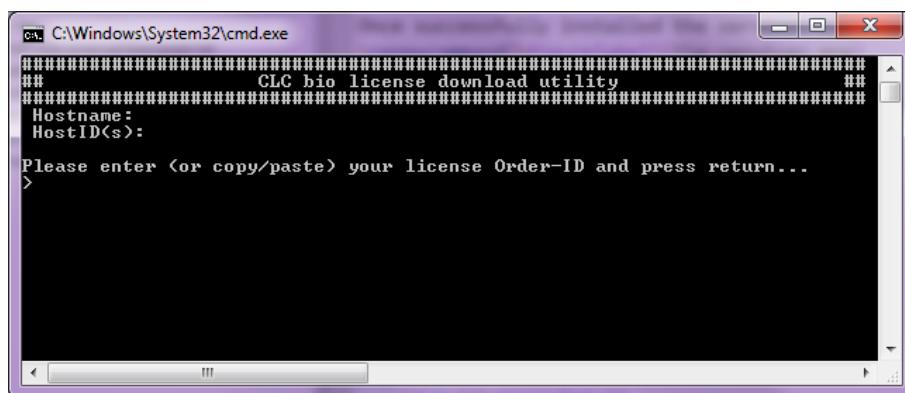


Figure 2.7: Download a license based on the Order ID.

Paste the Order ID supplied by CLC bio (right-click to **Paste**) and press Enter. Please contact

support-clcbio@qiagen.com if you have not received an Order ID.

Note that if you are *upgrading* an existing license file, this needs to be deleted from the licenses folder. When you run the downloadlicense.command script, it will create a new license file.

Restart the server for the new license to take effect (see how to restart the server in section [2.9.1](#)).

2.8.2 Mac OS license download

License files are downloaded using the downloadlicense.command script. To run the script, double-click on the file. This will present a window as shown in figure [2.8](#).

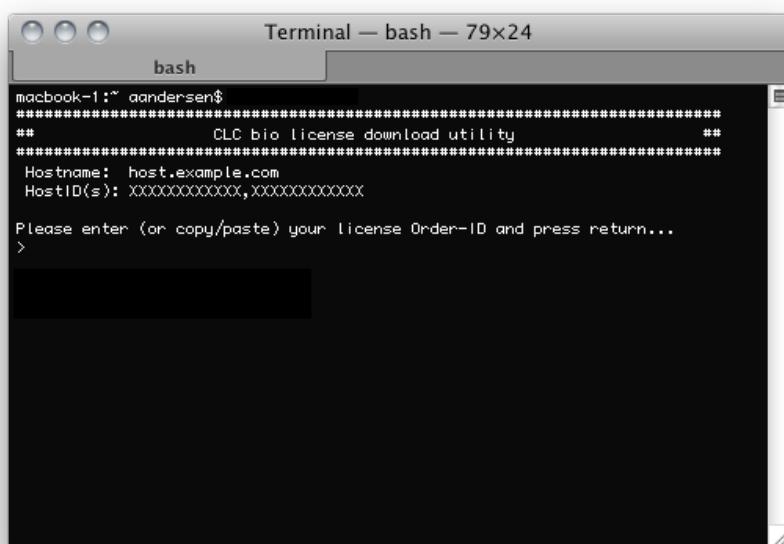


Figure 2.8: Download a license based on the Order ID.

Paste the Order ID supplied by CLC bio and press Enter. Please contact support-clcbio@qiagen.com if you have not received an Order ID.

Note that if you are *upgrading* an existing license file, this needs to be deleted from the licenses folder. When you run the downloadlicense.command script, it will create a new license file.

Restart the server for the new license to take effect (see how to restart the server in section [2.9.2](#)).

2.8.3 Linux license download

License files are downloaded using the downloadlicense script. Run the script and paste the Order ID supplied by CLC bio. Please contact support-clcbio@qiagen.com if you have not received an Order ID.

Note that if you are *upgrading* an existing license file, this needs to be deleted from the licenses folder. When you run the downloadlicense script, it will create a new license file.

Restart the server for the new license to take effect (see how to restart the server in section [2.9.3](#)).

2.8.4 Download a static license on a non-networked machine

To download a static license for a machine that does not have direct access to the external network, you can follow the steps below after the Server software has been installed.

- Determine the host ID of the machine the server will be running on by running the same tool that would allow you to download a static license on a networked machine. The name of this tool depends on the system you are working on:
 - Linux: downloadlicense
 - Mac: downloadlicense.command
 - Windows: licensedownload.bat

When you run the license download tool, the host ID for the machine you are working on will be printed to the terminal.

In the case of a job node setup, the only machine you need the host ID for is the master node. This is the machine the license file will be stored on.

- Make a copy of this host ID such that you can use it on a machine that has internet access.
- Go to a computer with internet access, open a browser window and go to the relevant network license download web page:

For the Drug Discovery Server (all versions) or the Genomics Server version 5.0 or higher, please go to:

<https://secure.clcbio.com/LmxWSv3/GetServerLicenseFile>

For the Biomedical Genomics Server add-on (all versions) please go to:

<https://secure.clcbio.com/LmxWSv3/GetLicenseFile>

For the Genomics Server version 4.5.2 and lower, please go to:

<http://licensing.clcbio.com/LmxWSv2/GetServerLicenseFile>

It is vital that you choose the license download page appropriate to the version of the software you plan to run.

- Paste in your license order ID and the host ID that you noted down earlier into the relevant boxes on the webpage.
- Click on 'download license' and save the resulting .lic file.
- Take this file to the machine acting as the CLC Server master node and place it in the folder called 'licenses' in the CLC Server installation directory.
- Restart the CLC Server software.

2.9 Starting and stopping the server

2.9.1 Microsoft Windows

On Windows based systems the CLC Server can be controlled through the Services control panel.

Depending on your server solution, the service is named:

- *CLC Genomics Server*: CLCGenomicsServer
- *CLC Drug Discovery Server*: CLCDrugDiscoveryServer
- *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension*: CLCGenomicsServer
- *CLC Science Server*: CLCScienceServer

Choose the service and click the start, stop or restart link as shown in figure 2.9.

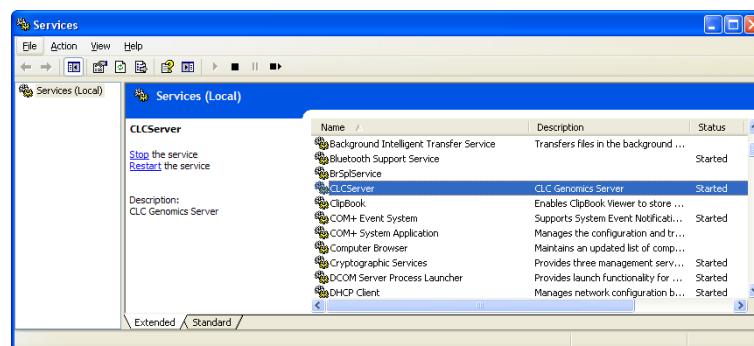


Figure 2.9: Stopping and restarting the server on Windows by clicking the blue links.

Once your server is started, you can use the Admin tab on the server web interface to manage your server operation (see section 3.12).

2.9.2 Mac OS X

On Mac OS X the server can be started and stopped from the command line.

Open a terminal and navigate to the CLC Server installation directory. Once there, the server can be controlled with the following commands.

Remember to replace *CLCServer*, in the commands listed below, with the name from the following list, corresponding to your server solution:

- *CLC Genomics Server*: CLCGenomicsServer
- *CLC Drug Discovery Server*: CLCDrugDiscoveryServer
- *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension*: CLCGenomicsServer
- *CLC Science Server*: CLCScienceServer

To start the server run the command:

```
sudo ./CLCServer start
```

To stop the server run the command:

```
sudo ./CLCServer stop
```

To view the current status of the server run the command:

```
sudo ./CLCServer status
```

You will need to set this up as a service if you wish it to be run that way. Please refer to your operating system documentation if you are not sure how to do this.

Once your server is started, you can use the Admin tab on the server web interface to manage your server operation (see section [3.12](#)).

2.9.3 Linux

You can start and stop the *CLC Server* service from the command line. You can also configure the service to start up automatically after the server machine is rebooted.

During installation of the *CLC Server* a service script is placed in `/etc/init.d/`.

This script will have a name reflecting the server solution, and it includes the name of the custom user account specified during installation for running the *CLC Server* process.

Remember to replace *CLCServer*, in the commands listed below, with the name from the following list, corresponding to your server solution:

- *CLC Genomics Server*: `CLCGenomicsServer`
- *CLC Drug Discovery Server*: `CLCDrugDiscoveryServer`
- *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension*: `CLCGenomicsServer`
- *CLC Science Server*: `CLCScienceServer`

Starting and stopping the service using the command line:

To start the *CLC Server*:

```
sudo service CLCServer start
```

To stop the *CLC Server*:

```
sudo service CLCServer stop
```

To restart the *CLC Server*:

```
sudo service CLCServer restart
```

To view the status of the *CLC Server*:

```
sudo service CLCServer status
```

Start service on boot up:

On Red Hat Enterprise Linux and SuSE this can be done using the command:

```
sudo chkconfig CLCServer on
```

How to configure a service to automatically start on reboot depends on the specific Linux distribution. Please refer to your system documentation for further details.

Troubleshooting

If the *CLC Server* is run as a service as suggested above, then the files in the installation area of the software and the data files created after installation in *CLC Server File Locations* will be owned by the user specified to run the *CLC Server* process. If someone starts up the *CLC Server* process as root (i.e. an account with super-user privileges) then the following steps are recommended to rectify the situation:

1. Stop the *CLC Server* process using the script located within the installation area of the *CLC Server* software. You can do that using the full path to this script, or by navigating to the installation area and running:

```
sudo ./CLCServer stop
```

2. Change ownership recursively on all files in the installation area of the software and on all areas specified as *Server File Locations*.

3. Start the *CLC Server* service as the specified user by using the service script:

```
sudo service CLCServer start
```

Once your server is started, you can use the Admin tab on the server web interface to manage your server operation (see section [3.12](#)).

2.10 Installing relevant plugins in the Workbench

In order to use the *CLC Server* from a *CLC Workbench*, you need to install the *CLC Workbench Client Plugin* in the *Workbench*. This will allow you to log into the *CLC Server*, access data from the *CLC Server* data locations and submit analyses to your *CLC Server*.

Plugins are installed using the Plugins and Resources Manager¹, which can be accessed via the menu in the *Workbench*

Help | Plugins and Resources ()

or via the **Plugins ()** button on the Toolbar.

From within the Plugins and Resources Manager, choose the Download Plugins tab and click on the *CLC Workbench Client Plugin*. Then click on the button labeled **Download and Install**.

If you are working on a system not connected to the internet, then you can also install the plugin by downloading the *cpa* file from the *plugins* page of our website

<http://www.clcbio.com/clc-plugin/>

¹In order to install plugins on many systems, the *Workbench* must be run in administrator mode. On Windows Vista and Windows 7, you can do this by right-clicking the program shortcut and choosing "Run as Administrator".

Then start up the Plugin manager within the Workbench, and click on the button at the bottom of the Plugin manager labeled **Install from File**.

You need to restart the Workbench before the plugin is ready for use.

Note that if you want users to be able to use **External applications** (see chapter 8) on the server, there is a separate plugin (CLC External Applications Plugin) that needs to be installed in the Workbench the same way as described above.

2.11 Installing the database

For CLC Server solutions where the license includes the add-on *CLC Bioinformatics Database*, support for data management in an SQL-type database is available. This section describes how to install and setup *CLC Bioinformatics Database* for the CLC Server.

2.11.1 Download and install a Database Management System

If you do not already have an existing installation of a Database Management System (*DBMS*) you will have to download and install one. *CLC Bioinformatics Database* can be used with a number of different DMBS implementations. Choosing the right one for you and your organization depends on many factors such as price, performance, scalability, security, platform-support, etc.

Information about the supported solutions are available on the links below.

- MySQL: <http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/>
- PostgreSQL: <http://www.postgresql.org/>
- Microsoft SQL Server: <http://www.microsoft.com/SQL/>
- Oracle: <http://www.oracle.com/>

In the case of MySQL and Oracle, you will need to have the appropriate JDBC driver and this will need to be placed in the `userlib` folder of the CLC software installation area. See section 11.3 for further details on this as well as additional guidance for special configurations for DBMSs.

2.11.2 Create a new database and user/role

Once your DBMS is installed and running you will need to create a database for containing your CLC data. We also recommend that you create a special database-user (sometimes called a database-role) for accessing this database.

Consult the documentation of your DBMS for information about creating databases and managing users/roles.

2.11.3 Initialize the database

Before you can connect to your database from a CLC Workbench or Server it must be initialized. The initialization creates the required tables for holding objects, and prepares an index used for searching. Initialization is performed with the CLC Bioinformatics Database Tool (see figure 2.10).

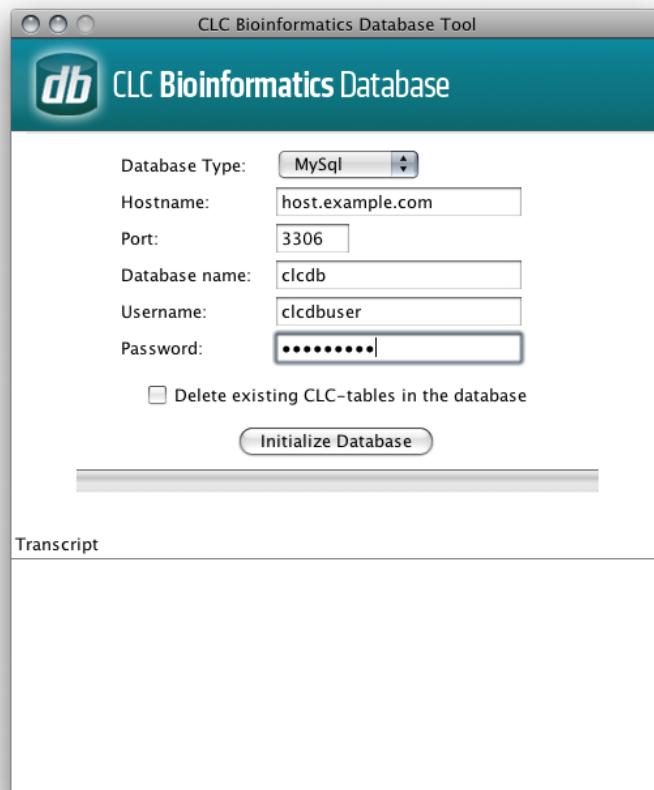


Figure 2.10: The CLC Bioinformatics Database tool

- Download the CLC Bioinformatics Database Tool from <http://www.clcbio.com/products/clc-bioinformatics-database-tool-direct-download/>
- Install the CLC Bioinformatics Database Tool on a client machine, and start the program.
- Fill in the fields with the required information.
 - Hostname: The fully-qualified hostname of the server running the database.
NOTE: The same hostname must be used every time you connect to the database
 - Port: The TCP/IP listening port on the database server
 - Database name: The name of the database you created in the previous section
 - Username: the name of the user/role you created in the previous section
 - Password: the password for the user/role.
- To re-initializing an existing CLC database you must check the "Delete Existing..." checkbox.
NOTE: ANY DATA ALREADY STORED IN THE CLC DATABASE WILL BE DELETED.
- Click the Initialize Database button to start the process.

While the program is working the progress-bar will show the status and the transcript will show a log of actions, events and problems. If anything goes wrong, please consult the transcript for more information. If you need assistance, please contact support-clcbio@qiagen.com, and include the contents of transcript.

If the initialization is successful, the status bar will display this message: *Database successfully initialized*. You can now close the CLC Bioinformatics Database Tool.

Chapter 3

Configuring and administering the server

3.1 Logging into the administrative interface

The administrative interface for a running *CLC Server* is accessed via a web browser. Most configuration occurs via this interface. Simply type the host name of the server machine you have installed the *CLC Server* software on, followed by the port it is listening on. Unless you change it, the port number is 7777. An example would be

`http://clccomputer:7777/` or `http://localhost:7777/`

The default administrative user credentials are:

- **User name:** `root`
- **Password:** `default`

Use these details the first time you log in. We recommend that you change this password.

Details of how to change the administrative user password is covered in section [4.1](#).

3.2 Adding locations for saving data

Before you can use the server for doing analyses you will need to add one or more locations for storing your data.

The locations are simple pointers to folders on the file system (section [3.2.1](#)).

For *CLC Server* solutions where the license includes the add-on *CLC Bioinformatics Database*, the location can alternatively be based on a *CLC Bioinformatics Database* (section [3.2.2](#)).

3.2.1 Adding a file system location

To set up a file system location, open a web browser and navigate to the *CLC Server* web interface.

Once logged in go to the *Admin* tab and unfold the *Main configuration* section.

Under the **File system locations** heading, click the **Add New File Location** button to add a new file system location (see figure 3.1).

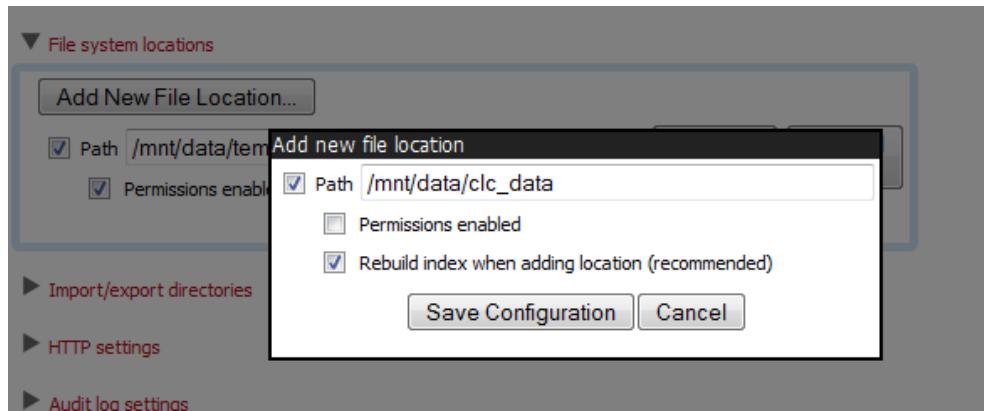


Figure 3.1: File system location settings.

In this dialog, enter the path to the folder you want to use for storing the data. The path should point to an *existing* folder on the server machine, and the user *running the server process* needs to have read and write access to the folder. This is usually a dedicated user, or it may be the system's root user if you have not created a dedicated user for this purpose.

The file location(s) configured on the server will be accessible to those working using CLC Workbenches after they log into the server via their Workbench.

Once you have pressed **Save Configuration** (learn more about rebuilding the index in section 3.2.3), this location will be added and it should now appear in the left hand side of the window in the server **Navigation Area**. By default it will also appear in the Workbench on next login. You can use the checkbox next to the location to indicate whether it should be visible to your users or not.

You can choose whether access control should be switched on and off. Please see section 5.1 for more information about enabling and setting permissions on CLC Server data folders.

Note that pressing **Remove Location** will only remove the location from this list - it will not delete the folder from your system or affect any data already stored in this folder. The data will be accessible again simply by adding the folder as a new location again.

Important points about the CLC Server data in the file system locations

Any file system locations added here should be folders **dedicated for use** by the CLC Server. Such areas should be directly accessed only by the CLC Server. In other words, files should **not** be moved into these folders, or their subfolders, manually, for example using your standard operating system's command tools, drag and drop, and so on. All the data stored in this areas will be in clc format and will be owned by the user that runs the CLC Server process.

File locations for job node set-ups

When you have a job node set-up, all the job node computers need to have access to the same data location folder. This is because the job nodes will write files directly to the folder rather than passing through the master node (which would be a bottleneck for big jobs). Furthermore, the

user running the server must be the same for all the job nodes and it needs to act as the same user when accessing the folder no matter whether it is a job node or a master node.

The data location should be added **after** the job nodes have been configured and attached to the master node. In this way, all the job nodes will inherit the configurations made on the master node.

One relatively common problem faced in this regard is *root squashing* which often needs to be disabled, because it prevents the servers from writing and accessing the files as the same user - read more about this at http://nfs.sourceforge.net/#faq_b11.

You can read more about job node setups in section [6](#).

3.2.2 Adding a database location

To add a database location to the server, the server license should include the add-on *CLC Bioinformatics Database*.

Before adding a database location, you need to set-up the database. This is described in section [2.11](#).

To set up a database location, open a web browser and navigate to the CLC Server web interface.

Once logged in go to the *Admin* tab and unfold the *Main configuration* section. There are two headings relating to CLC data storage: Database locations and File system locations.

Under the **Database locations** heading, click the **Add New Database Location** button to add a new database location (see figure [3.1](#)).

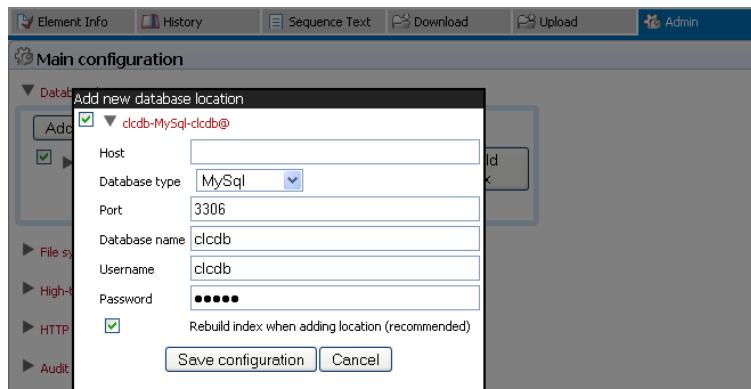


Figure 3.2: Database location settings.

Enter the required information about host, port and type of database. This can be done by entering the information in the respective fields and a connection string is generated (see figure [3.3](#)). There is also the possibility to use a custom connection string if needed. The user name and password refers to the user role on your Database Management System (DBMS), see section [2.11](#).

Note that there are two versions of Oracle in the list. One is the traditional using SID style (e.g. `jdbc:oracle:thin:@[HOST] [:PORT] :SID`) and the other is using thin-style service name (e.g. `jdbc:oracle:thin:@//[HOST] [:PORT] /SERVICE`).

Click the **Save Configuration** button to perform the changes. The added database location should

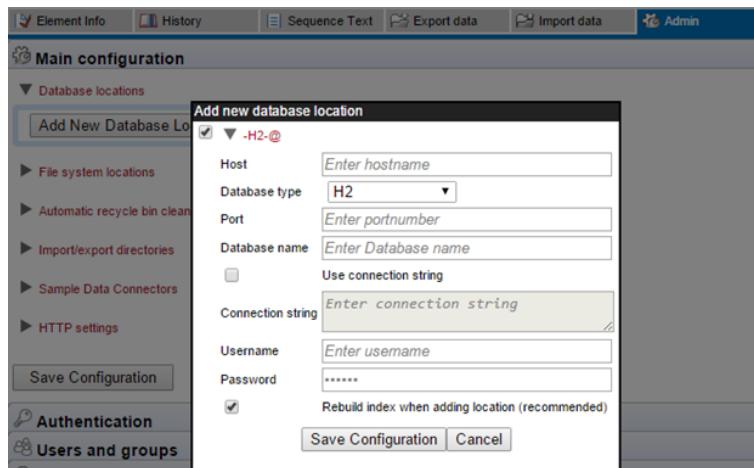


Figure 3.3: *Add new database location*.

now appear in the **Navigation Area** in the left hand side of the window.

3.2.3 Rebuilding the index

The server maintains an index of all the elements in the data locations. The index is used when searching for data. For all locations you can choose to **Rebuild Index**. This should be done only when a new location is added or if you experience problems while searching (e.g. something is missing from the search results). This operation can take a long time depending on how much data is stored in this location.

If you move the server from one computer to another, you need to move the index as well. Alternatively, you can re-build the index on the new server (this is the default option when you add a location). If the rebuild index operation takes too long and you would prefer to move the old index, simply copy the folder called `searchindex` from the old server installation folder to the new server.

The status of the index server can be seen in the **User Statistics** pane found in the **Status and Management** tab page showing information on where the index server resides and the number of locations currently being serviced.

3.3 Accessing files on, and writing to, areas of the server filesystem

There are situations when it is beneficial to be able to interact with (non-CLC) files directly on your server filesystem.

A common use case would be importing high-throughput sequencing data or large molecule libraries from folders where it is stored on the same system that your CLC Server is running on. This could eliminate the need for each user to copy large data files to the machine the CLC Workbench is running on before importing the data into a CLC Server data area.

Another example is if you wish to export data from CLC format to other formats and save those files on your server machine's filesystem (as opposed to saving the files in the system your Workbench is running on).

From the administrator's point of view, this is about configuring folders that are safe for the CLC

Server to read and write to on the server machine system.

This means that users logged into the *CLC Server* from their Workbench will be able to access files in that area, and potentially write files to that area. Note that the *CLC Server* will be accessing the file system as the *user running the server process* - not as the user logged into the Workbench. This means that you should be careful when opening access to the server filesystem in this way. Thus, only folders that do not contain sensitive information should be added.

Folders to be added for this type of access are configured in the web administration interface **Admin** tab. Under **Main configuration**, open the **Import/export directories** (Figure 3.4) to list and/or add directories.

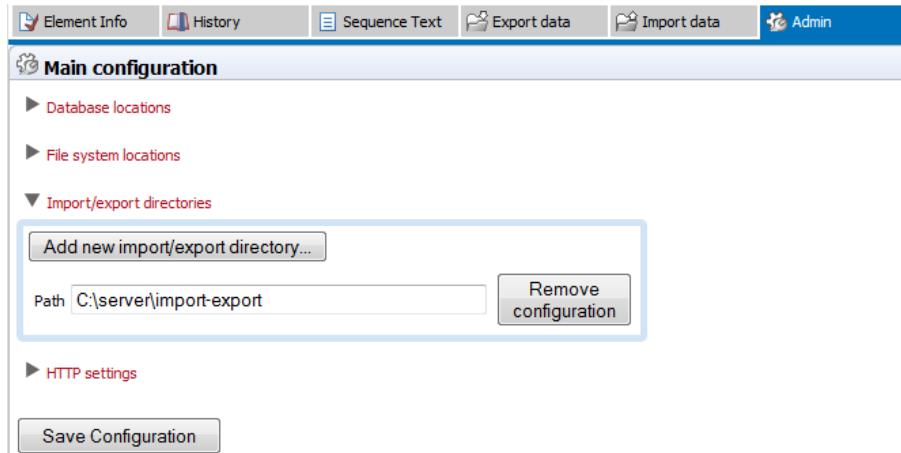


Figure 3.4: Defining source folders that should be available for browsing from the Workbench.

Press the **Add new import/export directory** button to specify a path to a folder on the server. This folder and all its subfolders will then be available for browsing in the Workbench for certain activities (e.g. importing data functions).

The import/export directories can be accessed from the Workbench via the Import function in the Workbench. If a user, that is logged into the *CLC Server* via their CLC Workbench, wishes to import e.g. high throughput sequencing data, an option like the one shown in figure 3.5 will appear.

On my local disk or a place I have access to means that the user will be able to select files from the file system of the machine their CLC Workbench is installed on. These files will then be transferred over the network to the server and placed as temporary files for importing. If the user chooses instead the option *On the server or a place the server has access to*, the user is presented with a file browser for the selected parts of the server file system that the administrator has configured as an Import/export location (an example is shown in figure 3.6).

Note: Import/Export locations should NOT be set to subfolders of any defined CLC file or data location. CLC file and data locations should be used for CLC data, and data should only be added or removed from these areas by CLC tools. By definition, an Import/Export folder is meant for holding non-CLC data, for example, sequencing data that will be imported, data that you export from the *CLC Server*, or BLAST databases.

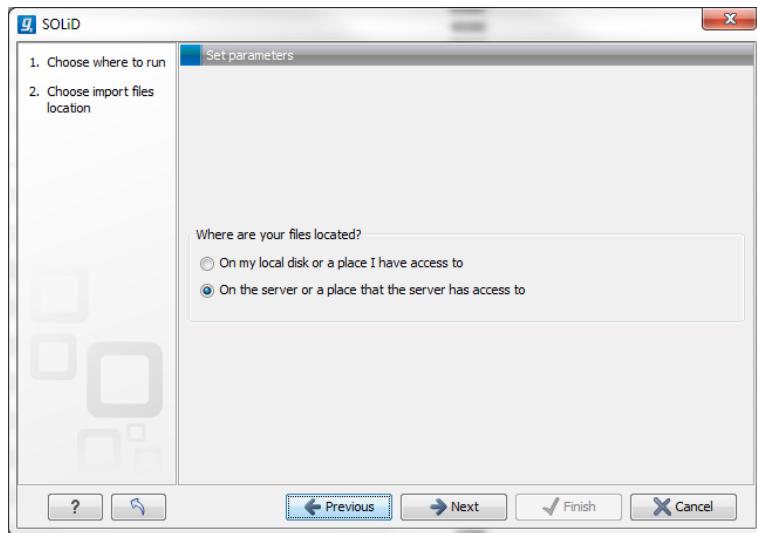


Figure 3.5: Deciding source for e.g. high-throughput sequencing data files.

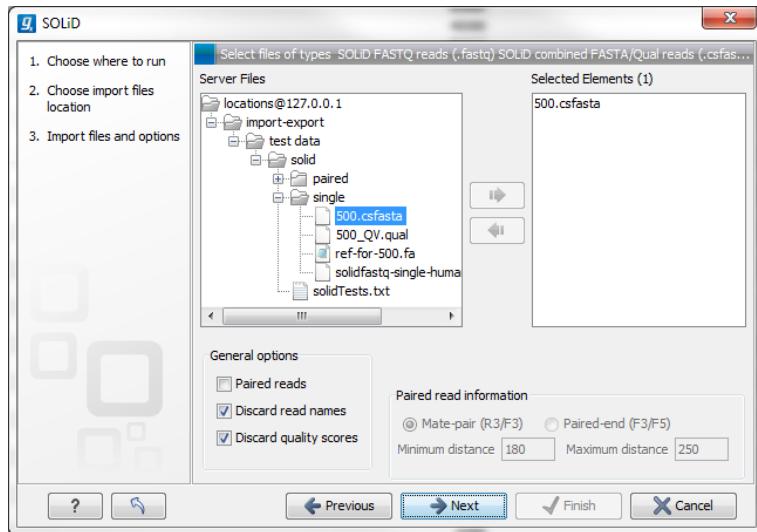


Figure 3.6: Selecting files on server file system.

3.4 Changing the listening port

The default listening port for the CLC Server is 7777. This has been chosen to minimize the risk of collisions with existing web-servers using the more familiar ports 80 and 8080. If you would like to have the server listening on port 80 in order to simplify the URL, this can be done in the following way.

- Navigate to the CLC Server installation directory.
- Locate the file called `server.xml` in the `conf` directory.
- Open the file in a text editor and locate the following section

```
<Connector port="7777" protocol="HTTP/1.1"
           connectionTimeout="20000"
           redirectPort="8443" />
```

- Change the port value to desired listening port (80 in the example below)

```
<Connector port="80" protocol="HTTP/1.1"
           connectionTimeout="20000"
           redirectPort="8443" />
```

- Restart the service for the change to take effect (see how to restart the server in section [2.9](#)).
- Once the service is restarted, please log into the administrative interface and change the default port number in the "Master node port" field under Admin | Job distribution | Server setup, then click on **Save Configuration** button to save the new setting.

3.5 Changing the tmp directory

The CLC Server often uses a lot of disk space for temporary files. These are files needed during an analysis, and they are deleted when no longer needed. By default, these temporary files are written to your system default temporary directory. Due to the amount of space that can be required for temporary files, it can be useful to specify an alternative, larger, disk area where temporary files created by the CLC Server can be written.

In the *server installation directory* you will find a file called `CLCServer.vmoptions`, where `CLCServer` will be the name of your particular CLC server:

- *CLC Genomics Server*: `CLCGenomicsServer`
- *CLC Drug Discovery Server*: `CLCDrugDiscoveryServer`
- *Biomedical Genomics Server Extension*: `CLCGenomicsServer`
- *CLC Science Server*: `CLCScienceServer`

Open the file in a text editor and add a new line like this: `-Djava.io.tmpdir=/path/to/tmp` with the path to the new tmp directory. Restart the server for the change to take effect (see how to restart the server in section [2.9](#)).

We highly recommend that the tmp area is set to a file system local to the server machine. Having tmp set to a file system on a network mounted drive can substantially affect the speed of performance.

3.5.1 Job node setup

The advice about having a tmp area being set on a local file system is true also for job nodes. Here, the tmp areas for nodes should **not** point to a shared folder. Rather, each node should have a tmp area with an identical name and path, but situated on a drive local to each node.

You will need to edit the `CLCServer.vmoptions` file on each job node, as well as the master node, as described above. This setting is **not** pushed out from the master to the job nodes.

3.6 Setting the amount of memory available for the JVM

When running the CLC Server, the Java Virtual Machine (JVM) needs to know how much memory it can use. This depends on the amount of physical memory (RAM) and can thus be different from

computer to computer. Therefore, the installer investigates the amount of RAM during installation and sets the amount of memory that the JVM can use.

On **Windows** and **Linux**, this value is stored in a property file called `ServerType.vmoptions` (e.g. `CLCGenomicsServer.vmoptions`) which contains a text like this:

```
-Xmx8192m
```

The number (8192) is the amount of memory in megabytes the *CLC Server* is allowed to use. This file is located in the installation folder of the *CLC Server* software.

By default, the value is set to 50% of the available RAM on the system you have installed the software on.

You can manually change the number contained in the relevant line of the `vmoptions` file for your *CLC Server* if you wish to raise or lower the amount of RAM allocated to the Java Virtual Machine.

3.7 Limiting the number of cpus available for use

A number of the algorithms in the *CLC Server* will, in the case of large jobs, use all the cores available on your system to make the analysis as fast as possible. If you wish to restrict this to a predefined number of cores, this can be done with a properties file: Create a text file called `cpu.properties` and save it in the `settings` folder under the *CLC Server* installation directory.

The `cpu.properties` file should include one line like this:

```
maxcores = 1
```

Restart the *CLC Server* if you create or change this file for these settings to take effect.

Instead of 1 you write the maximum number of cores that the *CLC Server* is allowed to use. Please note that this is not a guarantee that the *CLC Server* will never use more cores than specified, but that will be for very brief and infrequent peaks and should not affect performance of other applications running on your system.

You can download a sample `cpu.properties` file at <http://clcbio.com/files/deployment/cpu.properties>.

3.8 HTTP settings

Under the **Admin** (gear) tab, click **Configuration**, and you will be able to specify HTTP settings. Here you can set the time out for the user HTTP session and the maximum upload size (when uploading files through the web interface).

3.9 Audit log

The audit log records the actions performed on the *CLC Server*. Included are actions like logging in, logging out, import, and the launching and running of analysis tasks. Data management operations such as copying, deleting and adding files are not Server actions and are thus not recorded.

Audit log information is available via the web administrative interface under the **Audit log** tab. Here, details of user activities are given.

Audit information is also written to text-based log files. Upon the first activity on a given date, a new log file called audit.log is created. This file is then used for logging that activity and subsequent Server activities on that day. When this new audit.log file is created, the file that previously had that name is renamed to audit.<actual events date>.log.

The audit log files can be found under the Server installation area under `webapps/CLCServer/WEB-INF`.

Log files are retained for 30 days. When the creation of a new audit.log file is triggered, audit log files older than 30 days are checked for and deleted.

The audit log files are tab delimited file with the following fields:

- Date and time
- Log level
- Operation: Login, Logout, Command queued, Command done, Command executing, Change server configuration, Server lifecycle; more may be added and existing may be changed or removed.
- Users
- IP Address
- Process name (when operation is one of the Command values) or description of server lifecycle (when operation is Server lifecycle)
- Process identifier - can be used to differentiate several processes of the same type.

3.10 Deployment of server information to CLC Workbenches

See the *Deployment manual* at <http://www.clcbio.com/usermanuals> for information on pre-configuring the server log-in information when Workbench users log in for the first time.

3.11 Server plugins

You can install plugins on the server under the **Admin**  tab (see figure 3.7).

Click the **Browse** button and locate the plugin .cpa file to install a plugin. To uninstall a plugin, simply click the button next to the plugin. Read more about developing Server plugins at <http://www.clcdeveloper.com/>.

Installing a plugin will require the Server to be restarted. A restart will cause any running or scheduled jobs to fail, so you will be prompted to enter maintenance mode before the plugin installation/uninstallation starts (see section 3.12). You can also enter maintenance mode manually later by using the Status and management panel in the Admin tab (see figure 3.8). In both cases you can write a warning message that will inform users about the expected period of time in which the server will be in maintenance mode. Once all current jobs have been completed, the Server and any job nodes can be restarted.

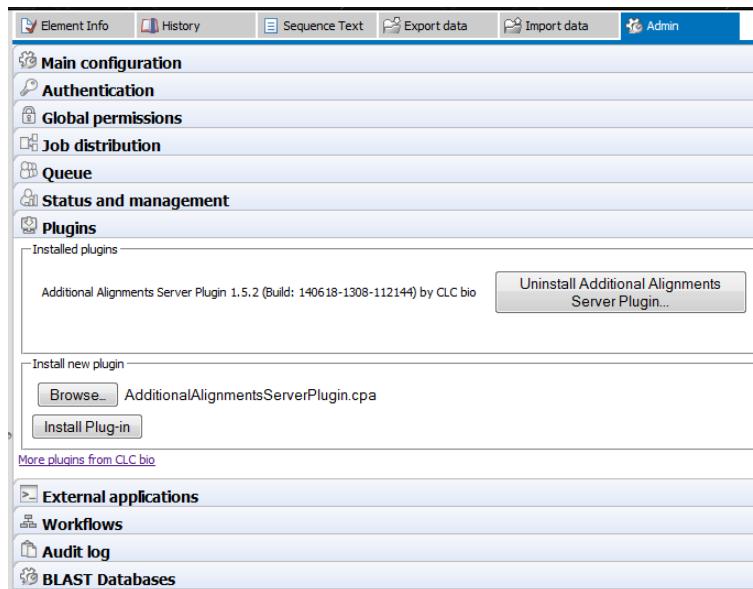


Figure 3.7: *Installing and uninstalling server plugins.*

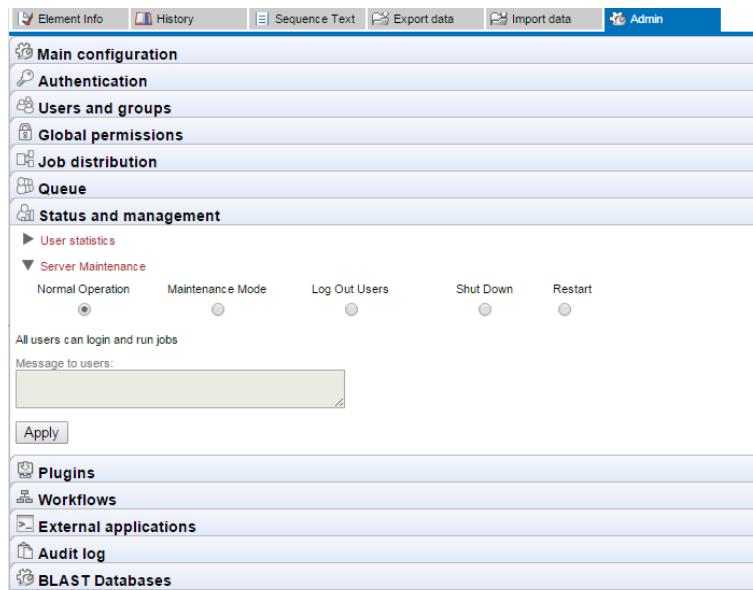


Figure 3.8: *The Status and Management dialog.*

3.12 Status and management

Server operation can be managed from the Admin tab, under Status and Management (figure 3.8).

Under the User statistics tab, you can find information about the "Number of users logged in", i.e., the number of users currently logged in, and "Number of logins", i.e., how many active sessions there is across all users. For example, if one user is logged in through the web interface and through the workbench, user statistics would show:

- Number of users logged in: 1
- Number of logins: 2.

Under the Server Maintenance tab you can modify the server status.

- Normal Operation: The server is running.
- Maintenance Mode: Current jobs are allowed to run and complete, but submission of new jobs is restricted. While the server is in maintenance mode, users that were already logged in can check the progress of their run or their data, but cannot submit new jobs. Users that were logged out cannot log in. An administrator can write a warning message that will inform users about the expected period of time in which the server will be in maintenance mode.
- Log Out Users: All users currently logged in will be logged out and all running jobs will be allowed to complete. As with the maintenance mode, no user can log in while the server is in Log Out Users mode. An administrator can also write a customized warning message for the users.
- Shut down: The server and any attached job nodes will shut down .
- Restart: The server and any attached job nodes will be shut down and restarted.

3.13 Queue

Clicking the **Queue** panel will show a list of all the processes that are currently in the queue (including the ones in progress). An example is shown in figure 3.9.

Users and groups	
Global permissions	
Job distribution	
Queue	
Master process	<p>Workflow: QW (160270.master-release - queued and in user hold, 160273.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Add Conservation Scores (160276.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Create New Genome Browser View (160278.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Add Information from Variant Databases (160275.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Add Information from Variant Databases (160272.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Remove False Positives (160267.master-release - running)</p> <p>Add Information from Overlapping Genes (160269.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Add Information from Variant Databases (160274.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Add Information from Variant Databases (160271.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Remove Information from Variants (160277.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Merge reports for the QW workflow (160279.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p> <p>Remove Variants Outside Targeted Regions (160268.master-release - queued and in user hold)</p>
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
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	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
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	root 
	root 
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	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root 
	root
	root <img alt="cancel icon" data-bbox="785 3015 798

- **Non-exclusive algorithms** These are analyses that can run at the same time as others in this category as well as the streaming category, described below. They have low demands on system resources. An example of a non-exclusive algorithm would be "Convert from tracks".
- **Stream algorithms** These have high I/O demands, that is, they have high demands for reading from and writing to disk. Such jobs cannot be run with others in the streaming category but can be run alongside jobs in the non-exclusive category. An example of a streaming job would be import of NGS data.
- **Exclusive algorithms** These are algorithms optimized to utilize the machine they are running on. They have very high I/O bandwidth, memory, or CPU requirements and therefore do not play well with other algorithms. An example of this sort of analysis would be "Map Reads to Reference".

See Appendix section [11.5](#) for a list of CLC Genomics Server algorithms that can be executed concurrently on a job node or single server.

The rest of this section discusses the available configuration options, as they apply to the running of multiple non-exclusive jobs, or running a single streaming job alongside non-exclusive jobs, on a CLC Server in single server mode or on a job node.

3.14.1 Multi-job processing

Allowing more than one analysis to run on a CLC Server in single server mode or on a job node is enabled by default. This feature can be disabled in the **Multi-job processing** section of the interface by setting the "Multi-job Processing" option to "Disable". See figure [3.10](#)). Click on the button labeled "Save" to save this change.

When this feature is disabled all jobs will be executed one at a time.

3.14.2 Fairness factor

The fairness factor defines the number of times that a job in the queue can be overtaken by other jobs before resources are reserved for it to run. So, for example, in a situation where there are many non-exclusive jobs and some exclusive jobs being submitted, it is desirable to be able to clear the queue at some point to allow the exclusive job to have a system to itself so it can run. The fairness factor setting is used to determine how many jobs can move ahead of an exclusive job in the queue before the exclusive job will get priority and a system will be reserved for it. The same fairness factor applies to streaming jobs being overtaken in the queue by non-exclusive jobs.

The default value for this setting is 10. With this value set, a job could be overtaken by 10 others before resources are reserved for it that will allow it to run. A fairness factor of 0 means that a node will be reserved for the job at the head of the queue.

This value can be configured under the **Fairness factor** section of:

Admin  | **Job distribution**  | **Job queuing options**

Job queuing options

Multi-job processing

Allow job nodes / single server to run multiple jobs at the same time. Restrictions apply, see [manual](#) for more information.

Enable
 Disable

Fairness factor

For job nodes or single servers, set the maximum number of jobs that could overtake the one at the head of the queue before a job node is reserved for it. See [manual](#) for more information.

10

Concurrent jobs per node

Provide a value for the maximum number of jobs that can simultaneously run on each job node. See [manual](#) for more information.

host1-node01 10 or unrestricted

host2-node02 10 or unrestricted

Save

Figure 3.10: Select "Disable" to force that only a single job is executed at a time on a job node or single server.

3.14.3 Concurrent jobs per node

By default, the maximum number of jobs that can be concurrently run on a single server or node is 10. This number can be configured on a per-system basis. The maximum number of concurrent jobs that can be configured is set to the number of cores on the node.

Single server setup Go to the section Server Setup under the Job Distribution tab of the web administration page and enter the desired value in the box labelled "Maximum number of concurrent jobs". See figure 3.11.

Server setup

Server mode

Single server: One server, all processing done locally

Master node host	master-host	master-host
Master node port	7777	7777
Master node display name	master-host	master-host
CPU limit	Unlimited	
Maximum number of concurrent jobs	8	or unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>

Save Configuration

Figure 3.11: Set the maximum number of concurrent jobs or check the "Unrestricted" box to change the setting for the single server setup.

Job node setup Go to the section Job queuing options under the Job Distribution tab of the web administration page and enter a value for each job node listed under the "Concurrent jobs per node" section. See figure 3.12.

Concurrent jobs per node

Provide a value for the maximum number of jobs that can simultaneously run on each job node. See [manual](#) for more information.

host1-node01	<input type="text" value="10"/> or unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
host2-node02	<input type="text" value="10"/> or unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>

Save

Figure 3.12: Set the maximum number of concurrent jobs or check the "Unrestricted" box for any job node.

Chapter 4

Managing users and groups

4.1 Logging in the first time and changing the root password

When the server is installed, you will be able to log in via the web interface using the following credentials:

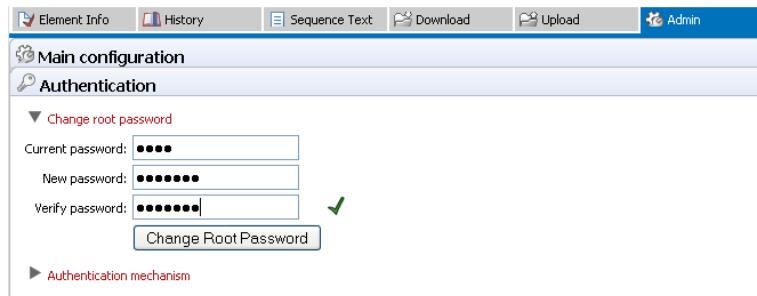
- **User name:** root
- **Password:** default

Once logged in, you should as a minimum set up user authentication (see section 4.2) and data locations (see section 3.2) before you can start using the server.

For security reasons, you should change the root password (see figure 4.1):

Admin (gear) | Authentication (key) Change root password

Note that if you are going to use job nodes, it makes sense to set these up before changing the authentication mechanism and root password (see section 6).



The screenshot shows a web-based administration interface for a server. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Element Info', 'History', 'Sequence Text', 'Download', 'Upload', and 'Admin'. The 'Admin' link is highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Main configuration' and contains a 'Authentication' section. Under 'Authentication', there is a 'Change root password' sub-section. It features three input fields: 'Current password' (containing '****'), 'New password' (containing '*****'), and 'Verify password' (containing '*****'). A green checkmark is positioned to the right of the 'Verify password' field, indicating that the two new password entries match. Below these fields is a blue 'Change Root Password' button. At the bottom of the 'Change root password' section, there is a link '▶ Authentication mechanism'.

Figure 4.1: We recommend changing the root password. The verification of the root password is shown with the green checkmark.

4.2 User authentication using the web interface

When the server is installed, you can log in using the default root password (username=root, password=default).

Once logged in, you can specify how the general user authentication should be done:

Admin (gear) | Authentication (key) Authentication mechanism

This will reveal the three different modes of authentication as shown in figure 4.2.



Figure 4.2: Three modes of user authentication.

The options are:

- **Built-in authentication.** This option will enable you to set up user authentication using the server's built-in user management system. This means that you create users, set passwords, assign users to groups and manage groups using the web interface (see section 4.2.1) or using the Workbench (see section 4.3.1). All the user information is stored on the server and is not accessible from other systems.
- **LDAP directory.** This option will allow you to use an existing LDAP directory. This means that all information needed during authentication and group memberships is retrieved from the LDAP directory. If needed, the LDAP integration can use Kerberos / GSSAPI. Encryption options (Start TLS and LDAP over SSL) are available.
- **Active directory.** This option will allow you to use an existing Active directory which is Microsoft's LDAP counterpart. This means that all information needed during authentication and group memberships is retrieved from the Active directory. Encryption options (Start TLS and LDAP over SSL) are available.

For the two last options, a settings panel will be revealed when the option is chosen, allowing you to specify the details of the integration. See figure 4.3 for an example of LDAP settings.

Note that membership of an administrative group is used to control which users can access the admin part of the web interface. These users will also be able to set permissions on folders (see section 5). For the built-in authentication method, this means adding particular users to the built-in **admin** group. For Active Directory or LDAP, this means designating a group in the box labeled **Admin group name** and adding any users who should be administrators of the CLC Server to this group.

4.2.1 Managing users using the web interface

To create or remove users or change their password:

Admin (gear) | Users and groups (key) Manage user accounts

This will display the panel shown in figure 4.4.

Authentication

- ▶ Change root password
- ▼ Authentication mechanism
 - Built-in authentication
 - LDAP directory
 - Active directory

Hostname: host.example.com

Port: Default if "ldaps://" is selected: 636. Else: 389

Encryption: Plain text Default: "Plain text"
 Forced Start TLS
 ldaps://

Disable SSL certificate check:

Base DN: dc=example,dc=com

Admin group name: Default: admins

Cache timeout: Default: 3600 (seconds)

Users DN: ou=users (Base DN will be appended)

Groups DN: ou=groups (Base DN will be appended)

UID attribute: Default: uid

Group name attribute: Default: cn

Membership attribute: Default: memberUid

Bind DN: Leave empty to use anonymous bind

Bind password:

Kerberos/GSSAPI Authentication:

Kerberos realm: Leave empty to use default realm

Kerberos config file: Default: /etc/krb5.conf

Figure 4.3: LDAP settings panel.

4.2.2 Managing groups using the web interface

To create or remove groups or change group membership for users:

Admin (gear) | Users and groups (people) Manage groups

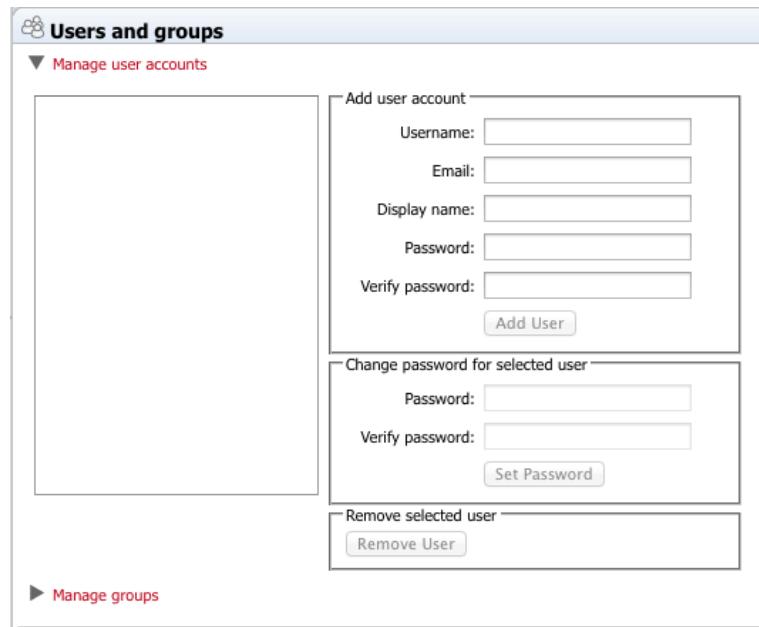
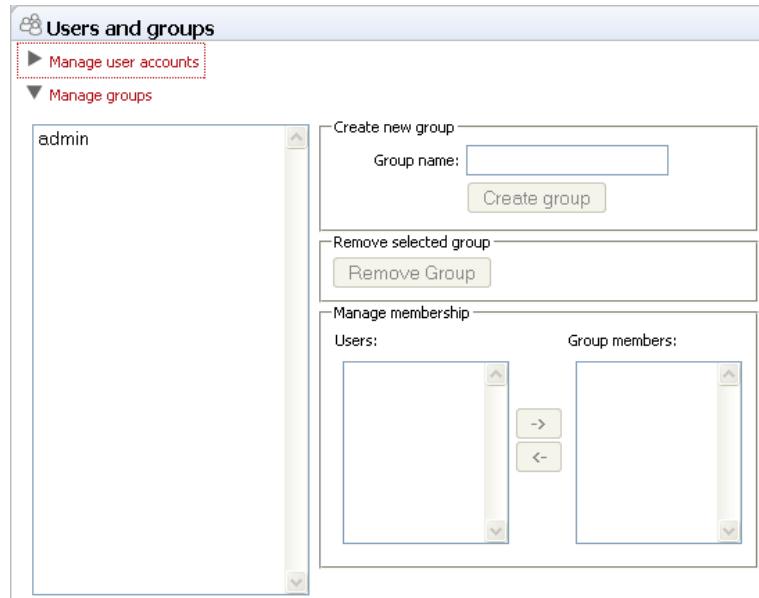
This will display the panel shown in figure 4.5.

The same user can be a member of several groups.

Note that membership of the admin group is used for allowing users access to the admin part of the web interface. Users who should have access to the administrative part of the server should be part of the "admin" group which is the only special group (this group is already created for you).

Note that you will always be able to log in as root with administrative access.

The functionality depends on the user authentication and management system: if the built-in system is used, all the functionality described below is relevant; if an external system is used for managing users and groups, the menus below will be disabled.

Figure 4.4: *Managing users.*Figure 4.5: *Managing users.*

4.3 User authentication using the Workbench

Users and groups can also be managed through the Workbench (note that you need to set up the authentication mechanism as described in section 4.2):

File | Manage Users and Groups

This will display the dialog shown in figure 4.6.

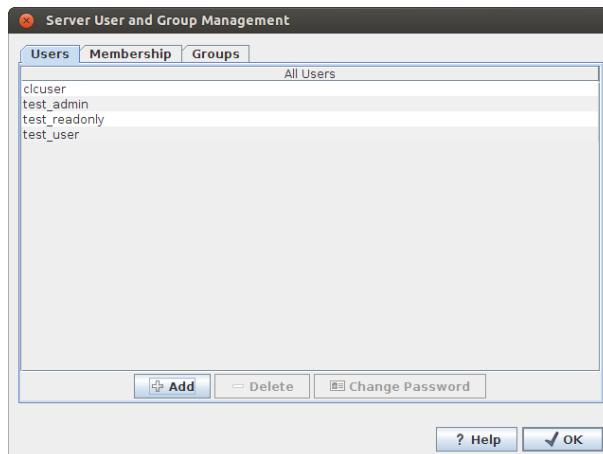


Figure 4.6: Managing users.

4.3.1 Managing users through the Workbench

Click the **Add** (+) button to create a new user. Enter the name of the user and enter a password. You will be asked to re-type the password. If you wish to change the password at a later time, select the user in the list and click **Change password** (key icon).

To delete a user, select the user in the list and click **Delete** (minus sign).

4.3.2 Managing groups through the Workbench

Access rights are granted to groups, not users, so a user has to be a member of one or more groups to get access to the data location. Here you can see how to add and remove groups, and next you will see how to add users to a group.

Adding and removing groups is done in the **Groups** tab (see figure 4.7).

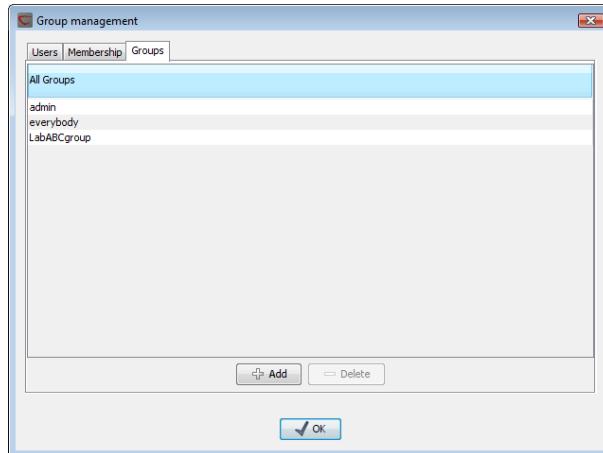


Figure 4.7: Managing groups.

To create a new group, click the **Add** (+) button and enter the name of the group. To delete a group, select the group in the list and click the **Delete** (minus sign) button.

4.3.3 Adding users to a group

When a new group is created, it is empty. To assign users to a group, click the **Membership** tab. In the **Selected group** box, you can choose among all the groups that have been created. When you select a group, you will see its members in the list below (see figure 4.8). To the left you see a list of all users.

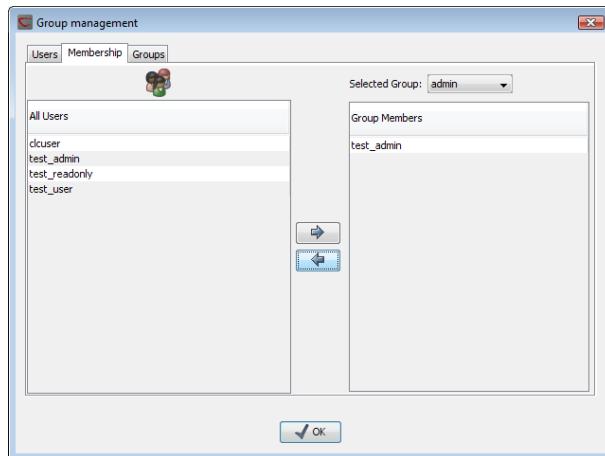


Figure 4.8: Listing members of a group.

To add or remove users from a group, click the **Add** (→) or **Remove** (←) buttons. To create new users, see section 4.3.1.

The same user can be a member of several groups.

4.4 User statistics

Clicking the **User statistics** panel will show a summary of the current usage of the server. An example is shown in figure 4.9.



Figure 4.9: The user statistics (user names have been blurred).

You can see the number of users currently logged in, and you can see the number of sessions for each user. The two green dots indicate that this user is logged in twice (e.g. through the

Workbench and through the web interface). The other two users have been logged in previously.

You can also log users off by expanding the user sessions on the + sign and the click **Invalidate Session....** This will open a confirmation dialog where you can also write a message to the user that will be displayed either in the Workbench or the browser.

Chapter 5

Access privileges and permissions

The CLC Server allows server administrators to control access on several levels:

- **Access to data in the server's file and data locations.** Common examples would be restricting access to particular folders to specified groups of users or setting reference data access to be "read-only".
- **Launching jobs** on the server can be restricted to particular groups of users. Permissions settings are available for data import, export and running particular analyses, whether built-in analyses, installed Workflows or configured external applications. In the case of grid setups, access to particular grid presets can also be restricted to particular groups.
- **Access to the import/export directories.** Directories on the server file system configured as import/export directories can have their access via the CLC Server restricted to certain groups of users.

5.1 Controlling access to CLC Server data

The CLC Server uses folders as the basic unit for controlling access to data, and access is granted (or denied) to groups of users.

Two types of access can be granted to a group on any folder within a server location:

Read access Users of the designated group(s) can see the elements in the folder, open them and copy from them. Access can be through any route, for example, via the CLC Command Line Tools or via the Workbench, for example when browsing in the **Navigation Area** of a Workbench, searching, or when clicking the "originates from" link in the **History** (🕒) of data.

Write access Users of the designated group(s) can make and **Save** (💾) changes to an element, and new elements and subfolders can be created in that area.

For a user to be able to access a folder, they must have read access to all the folders above it in the hierarchy. In the example shown in figure 5.1, to access the *Sequences* folder, the user must have access to both the *Example Data* and *Protein* folders.

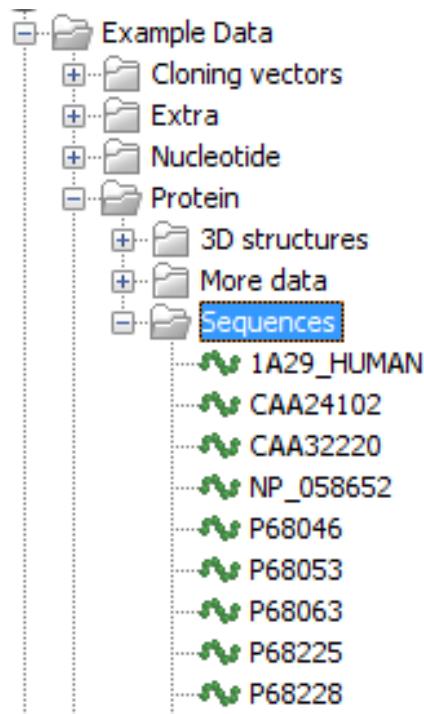


Figure 5.1: A folder hierarchy on the server.

It is fine to just give write access to the final folder. For example, read access only could be granted to the *Example Data* and *Protein* folders, with read and write access granted to the *Sequences* folder.

Permissions on CLC Server File Locations must be **explicitly enabled** via the web administrative interface if they are desired (see section 3.2.1). Please see 5.1.3 for further details about the system behaviour if permissions are not enabled and configured.

Configuring the permissions is done via a CLC Workbench acting as a client for the CLC Server. At the point when permissions are enabled on a File Location via the server web administrative interface, Only the CLC Server root user or users in a configured admin group have access to data held in that File Location at this point. No groups will have read or write access to any area under this location. Permissions should then be explicitly set by the root or other admin user on the folders in that area, as described below.

5.1.1 Setting permissions on a folder

This step is done from within a CLC Workbench. Start up a copy of a CLC Workbench that has a plugin called the *CLC Server Client Plugin* installed. From within the Workbench, go to the File menu and choose the item **CLC Server Login**. Log into the CLC Server as an administrative user.

You can then set permissions on folders within File Locations that have had permissions enabled or on Database Locations, if you have a CLC Bioinformatics Database.

right-click the folder (📁) | Permissions (📋)

This will open the dialog shown in figure 5.2.

Set the relevant permissions for each of the groups and click **OK**.

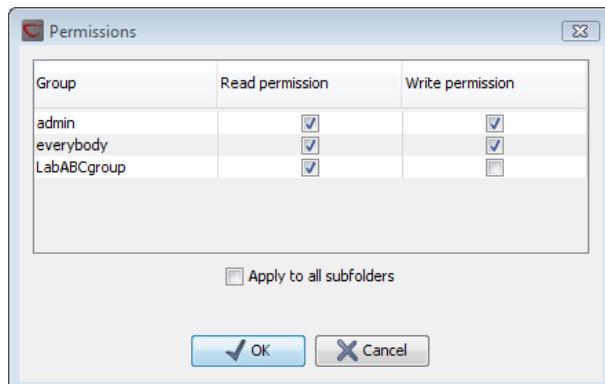


Figure 5.2: Setting permissions on a folder.

If you wish to apply the permissions recursively, that is to all subfolders, check **Apply to all subfolders** in the dialog shown in figure 5.2. **Note** that this operation is usually only relevant if you wish to clean up the permission structure of the subfolders. **It should be applied with caution**, since it can potentially destroy valuable permission settings in the subfolder structure.

5.1.2 Recycle bin

When users delete data in the **Navigation Area** of the Workbench, it is placed in the recycle bin. When the data is situated on a data location on a CLC Server, the data will be placed in a recycle bin for that data location. Each user has an individual recycle bin containing the data deleted by that particular user which cannot be accessed by any other user (except server administrators, see below). This means that any permissions applied to the data prior to deletion are no longer in effect, and it is not possible to grant other users permission to see it while it is located in the recycle bin. In summary, the recycle bin is a special concept that is not included in the permission control system.

Server administrators can access the recycle bins of other users through the Workbench:

right-click the data location (📁) | Location | Show All Recycle Bins

This will list all the recycle bins at the bottom of the location as shown in figure 5.3.

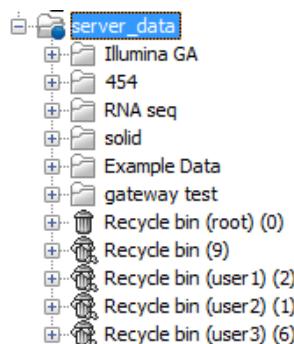


Figure 5.3: Showing all recycle bins.

The recycle bin without a name contains all the data that was deleted in previous versions of the CLC Server before the concept of a per-user recycle bin was introduced. This recycle bin can only be accessed by server administrators by selecting **Show All Recycle Bins**.

The administrator is also able to empty the recycle bin of a user:

right-click the recycle bin (trash bin) | Empty

All recycle bins can be emptied in one go:

right-click the data location (file folder) | Location | Empty All Recycle Bins

Please note that these operations cannot be undone.

CLC Server can be set to automatically empty recycle bins when the data has been there for more than 100 days. This behavior can be controlled for each data location: Under the **Main configuration** heading, click the **Automatic recycle bin clean-up** header and click the **Configure** button. This will allow you to disable the automatic clean-up completely or specify when it should be performed as shown in figure 5.4.

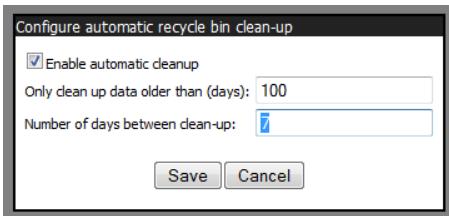


Figure 5.4: Automatic clean-up of the recycle bin.

Data deleted before the per-user recycle bin concept was introduced will be ignored by the automatic clean-up (this is the data located in the general recycle bin that is not labeled with a user name).

5.1.3 Technical notes about permissions and security

All data stored in CLC Server file system locations are owned by the user that runs the CLC Server process. Changing the ownership of the files using standard system tools is not recommended and will usually lead to serious problems with data indexing and hamper your work on the CLC Server.

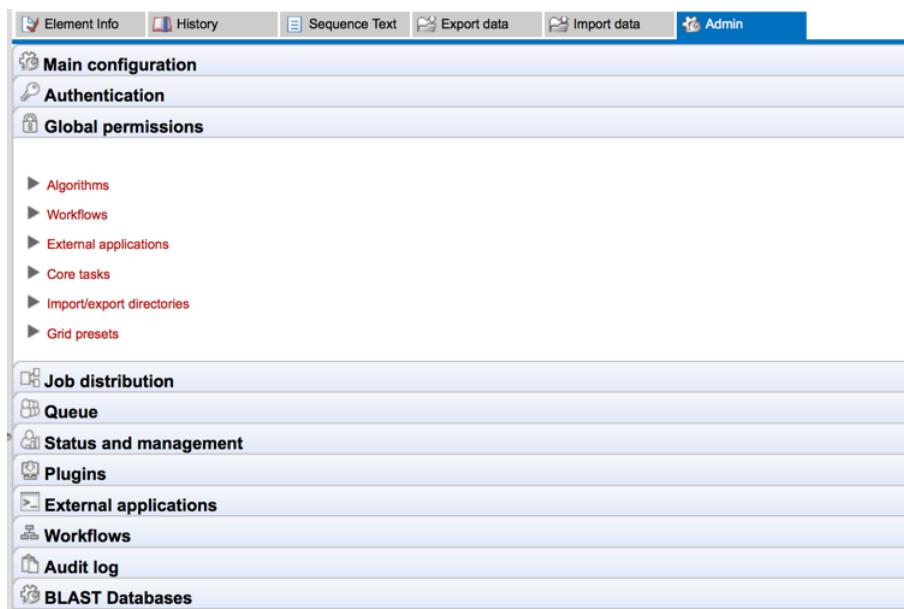
One implication of the above ownership setup is that by default, (i.e. without permissions enabled), all users logging into the CLC Server are able to access all data within that file system location, and write data to that file system locations. All files created within such a file system location are then also accessible to all users of the CLC Server.

Group permissions on file system locations is an additional layer within the CLC Server, and is not part of your operating system's permission system. This means that enabling permissions, and setting access restrictions on CLC file system locations only affects users accessing data through CLC tools (e.g. using a Workbench, the CLC Command Line Tools, the CLC Server web interface or the Server API). If users have direct access to the data, using for example general system tools, the permissions set on the data in CLC Server has no effect.

5.2 Controlling access to tasks and external data

The configurations discussed in this section refer to settings under the **Global Permissions** section of the Admin tab in the CLC Server web administrative interface. See figure 5.5.

Permissions can be set determining who has access to particular:

Figure 5.5: *Global permissions*.

- **Algorithms** The analysis algorithms.
- **Workflows** Workflows installed on the server.
- **External** applications.
- **Core tasks** Currently covers setting permissions on actions associated with the Standard Import tools. (High throughput sequence data import is handled via tools listed in the Algorithms section.)
- **Import/export directories** File system areas not part of the CLC data setup, which the CLC Server is able to access.
- **Grid presets** For grid node setups only: presets for sending jobs to a particular queue with particular parameters. Note that grid presets are identified by name. If you change the name of a preset under the Job Distribution settings section, then this, in effect, creates a new preset. In this situation, if you had access permissions previously set, you would need to reconfigure those settings for this, now new, preset.

You can specify which groups should have access to each of the above by opening the relevant section and then clicking the **Edit Permissions** button for each relevant element listed. A dialog appears like that in figure 5.6. If you choose **Only authorized users from selected groups**, you will be offered a list of groups that you can select (or de-select) to grant or restrict access to that functionality.

The default configuration is that all users have access to everything.

5.3 Customized attributes on data locations

If CLC data is stored in a database then location-specific attributes can be set on all elements stored in that data location. Attributes could be things like company-specific information such as

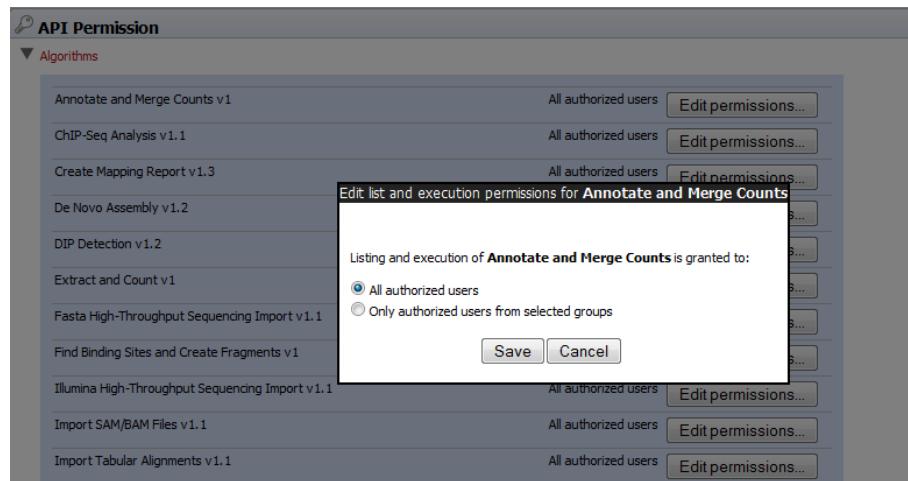


Figure 5.6: Setting permissions for an algorithm.

LIMS id, freezer position etc. Attributes are set using a CLC Workbench acting as a client to the CLC Server.

Note that the attributes scheme belongs to a particular data location, so if there are multiple data locations, each will have its own set of attributes.

Note also that for *CLC Genomics Workbench* and *CLC Main Workbench*, a Metadata Import Plugin is available (<http://www.clcbio.com/clc-plugin/metadata-import-plugin/>). The plugin consists of two tools: "Import Sequences in Table Format" and "Associate with Metadata". These tools allow sequences to be imported from a tabular data source and make it possible to add metadata to existing objects.

5.3.1 Configuring which fields should be available

To configure which fields that should be available¹ go to the Workbench:

right-click the data location | Location | Attribute Manager

This will display the dialog shown in figure 5.7.



Figure 5.7: Adding attributes.

¹If the data location is a server location, you need to be a server administrator to do this

Click the **Add Attribute** (+) button to create a new attribute. This will display the dialog shown in figure 5.8.

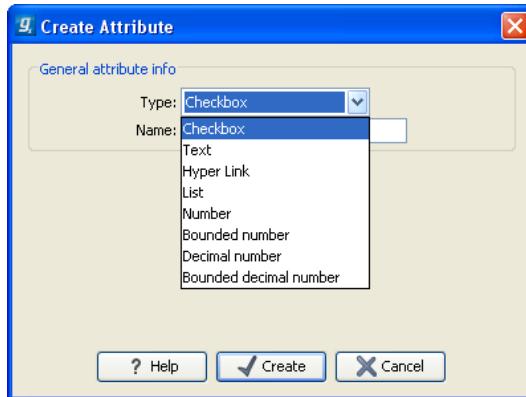


Figure 5.8: The list of attribute types.

First, select what kind of attribute you wish to create. This affects the type of information that can be entered by the end users, and it also affects the way the data can be searched. The following types are available:

- **Checkbox.** This is used for attributes that are binary (e.g. true/false, checked/unchecked and yes/no).
- **Text.** For simple text with no constraints on what can be entered.
- **Hyper Link.** This can be used if the attribute is a reference to a web page. A value of this type will appear to the end user as a hyper link that can be clicked. Note that this attribute can only contain one hyper link. If you need more, you will have to create additional attributes.
- **List.** Lets you define a list of items that can be selected (explained in further detail below).
- **Number.** Any positive or negative integer.
- **Bounded number.** Same as number, but you can define the minimum and maximum values that should be accepted. If you designate some kind of ID to your sequences, you can use the bounded number to define that it should be at least 1 and max 99999 if that is the range of your IDs.
- **Decimal number.** Same as number, but it will also accept decimal numbers.
- **Bounded decimal number.** Same as bounded number, but it will also accept decimal numbers.

When you click **OK**, the attribute will appear in the list to the left. Clicking the attribute will allow you to see information on its type in the panel to the right.

5.3.2 Editing lists

Lists are a little special, since you have to define the items in the list. When you click a list in the left side of the dialog, you can define the items of the list in the panel to the right by clicking **Add Item** (+) (see figure 5.9).

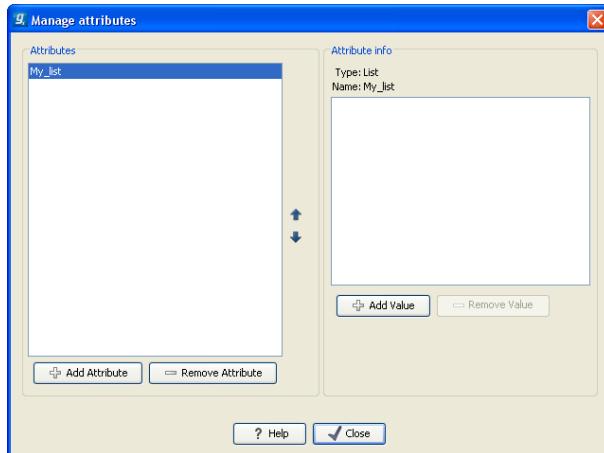


Figure 5.9: Defining items in a list.

Remove items in the list by pressing **Remove Item** (⊖).

5.3.3 Removing attributes

To remove an attribute, select the attribute in the list and click **Remove Attribute** (⊖). This can be done without any further implications if the attribute has just been created, but if you remove an attribute where values have already been given for elements in the data location, it will have implications for these elements: The values will not be removed, but they will become static, which means that they cannot be edited anymore.

If you accidentally removed an attribute and wish to restore it, this can be done by creating a new attribute of exactly the same name and type as the one you removed. All the "static" values will now become editable again.

When you remove an attribute, it will no longer be possible to search for it, even if there is "static" information on elements in the data location.

Renaming and changing the type of an attribute is not possible - you will have to create a new one.

5.3.4 Changing the order of the attributes

You can change the order of the attributes by selecting an attribute and click the **Up** and **Down** arrows in the dialog. This will affect the way the attributes are presented for the user.

5.4 Filling in values

When a set of attributes has been created (as shown in figure 5.10), the end users can start filling in information.

This is done in the element info view:

right-click a sequence or another element in the Navigation Area | Show (↗) | Element info (📋)

This will open a view similar to the one shown in figure 5.11.

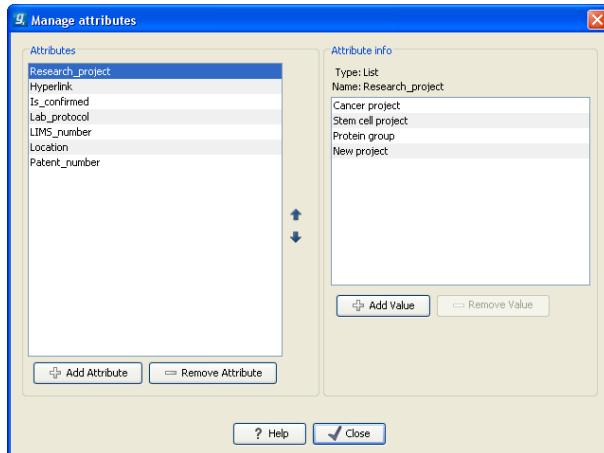


Figure 5.10: A set of attributes defined in the attribute manager.

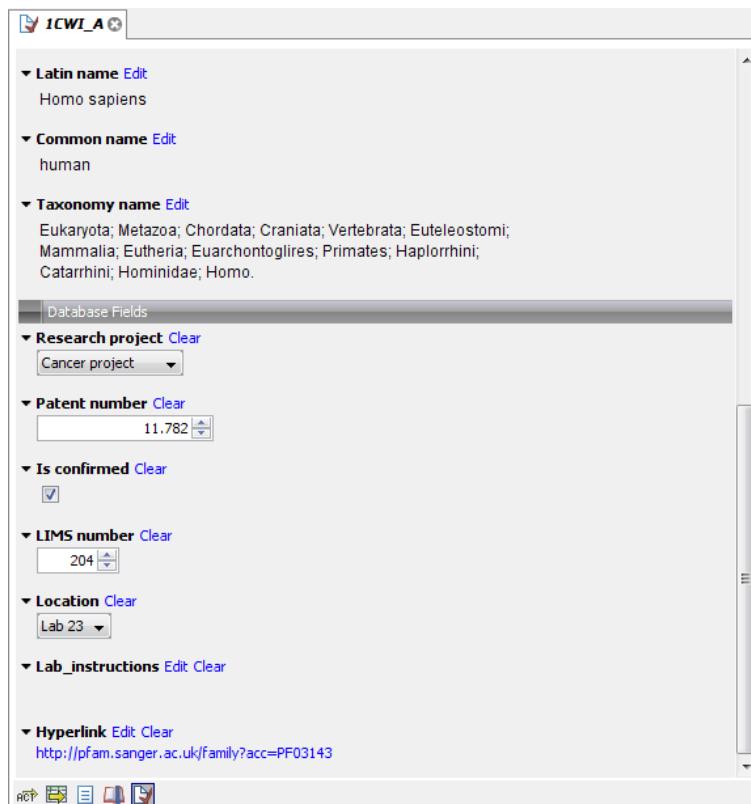


Figure 5.11: Adding values to the attributes.

You can now enter the appropriate information and **Save**. When you have saved the information, you will be able to search for it (see below).

Note that the element (e.g. sequence) needs to be saved in the data location before you can edit the attribute values.

When nobody has entered information, the attribute will have a "Not set" written in red next to the attribute (see figure 5.12).

This is particularly useful for attribute types like checkboxes and lists where you cannot tell, from the displayed value, if it has been set or not. Note that when an attribute has not been set, you



Figure 5.12: An attribute which has not been set.

cannot search for it, even if it looks like it has a value. In figure 5.12, you will not be able to find this sequence if you search for research projects with the value "Cancer project", because it has not been set. To set it, simply click in the list and you will see the red "Not set" disappear.

If you wish to reset the information that has been entered for an attribute, press "Clear" (written in blue next to the attribute). This will return it to the "Not set" state.

The **Folder editor**, invoked by pressing **Show** on a given folder from the context menu, provides a quick way of changing the attributes of many elements in one go (see the Workbench manuals at <http://clcsupport.com>).

5.4.1 What happens when a clc object is copied to another data location?

The user supplied information, which has been entered in the **Element info**, is attached to the attributes that have been defined in this particular data location. If you copy the sequence to another data location or to a data location containing another attribute set, the information will become fixed, meaning that it is no longer editable and cannot be searched for. Note that attributes that were "Not set" will disappear when you copy data to another location.

If the element (e.g. sequence) is moved back to the original data location, the information will again be editable and searchable.

If the e.g. Molecule Project or Molecule Table is moved back to the original data location, the information will again be editable and searchable.

5.4.2 Searching

When an attribute has been created, it will automatically be available for searching. This means that in the **Local Search** (🔍), you can select the attribute in the list of search criteria (see figure 5.13).

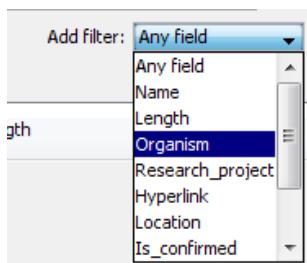


Figure 5.13: The attributes from figure 5.10 are now listed in the search filter.

It will also be available in the **Quick Search** below the **Navigation Area** (press Shift+F1 (Fn+Shift+F1 on Mac) and it will be listed - see figure 5.14).

Read more about search in one of the Workbench manuals, e.g. in (http://www.clcbio.com/files/usermanuals/CLC_Genomics_Workbench_User_Manual.pdf) section **Local search**.

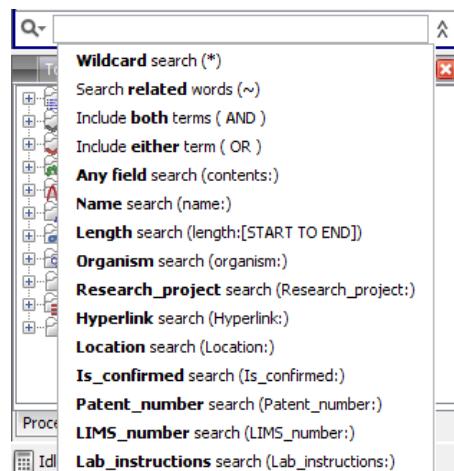


Figure 5.14: The attributes from figure 5.10 are now available in the Quick Search as well.

Chapter 6

Job Distribution

The *CLC Server* has the concept of *distributing jobs to nodes*. This means that you can have a master server with the primary purpose of handling user access, serving data to users and starting jobs, and you have a number of nodes that will execute these jobs.

Three models are available:

- **Model I: Master server with dedicated job nodes.** In this model, a master server submits CLC jobs directly to machines running the *CLC Server* for execution. In this setup, a group of machines (from two upwards) have the *CLC Server* software installed on them. The system administrator assigns one of them as the *master node*. The master controls the queue and distribution of jobs and compute resources. The other nodes are *job nodes*, which execute the computational tasks they are assigned. This model is simple to set up and maintain, with no other software required. However, it is not well suited to situations where the compute resources are shared with other systems because there is no mechanism for managing the load on the computer. This setup works best when the execute nodes are machines dedicated to running a *CLC Server*. Further details about this setup can be found in section [6.1](#)
- **Model II: Master server submitting to grid nodes.** In this model, a master server submits tasks to a local third party scheduler. That scheduler controls the resources on a local computer cluster (grid) where the job will be executed. This means that it is the responsibility of the native grid job scheduling system to start the job. When the job is started on one of the grid nodes, a **CLC Grid Worker**, which is a stand-alone executable including all the algorithms on the server, is started with a set of parameters specified by the user. Further details about this setup can be found in section [6.2](#).
- **Model III: Single Server setup.** In this model, the master and execution node functionality is carried out by a single *CLC Server* instance.

Figure [6.1](#) shows a schematic overview.

For models I and II, the master server and job nodes, or master server and grid nodes must run on the same type of operating system. It is not possible to have a master server running Linux and a job node running Windows, for example.

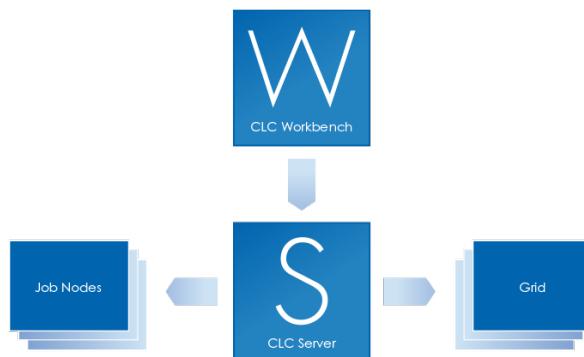


Figure 6.1: An overview of the job distribution possibilities.

6.1 Model I: Master server with dedicated job nodes

6.1.1 Overview: Model I

This setup consists of two types of CLC Server instances:

1. **A master node** - a machine that accepts jobs from users and then passes them to job nodes for execution.
2. **Job nodes** - machines running the *CLC Server* that accept jobs directly from a master node.

The general steps for setting up this model are:

1. Install the *CLC Server* software on all the machines involved. (See section 2.2.)
2. Install the license on the machine that will act as the master node. (See section 2.8.)
3. Start up the *CLC Server* software on the master server. Then start up the software on the job nodes. (See section 2.9.)
4. Log in to the web administrative interface for the *CLC Server* of the master node. (See section 3.1.)
5. Configure the master node, attach the job nodes and configure the job nodes via the administrative interface on the master node.

Almost all configuration for the *CLC Server* cluster is done via the web administrative interface for the *CLC Server* on the **master node**. This includes the installation of plugins. See section section 6.1.4.

The only work done directly on the machines that will run as job nodes is

- Installation of the *CLC Server* software.
- Starting up the software up on each node.
- The changing of the built-in administrative login credentials under certain circumstances. See section 6.1.2.
- If using a *CLC Bioinformatics Database*, installing the relevant database driver on each job node.

6.1.2 User credentials on a master-job node setup

When initially installed, all instances of the *CLC Server* will have the default admin user credentials.

If you have a brand new installation, and you are happy to use the default administrative login credentials (see section 3.1) during initial setup, you do not need to change anything.

Once the *CLC Server* software on all machines is up and running and the job nodes have been attached to the master, changes to passwords for the built-in authentication system, which includes the default admin user, root, will be pushed from the master to the job nodes. You do not need to manually change the password on each job node.

If you wish to change the default administrative password before attaching the job nodes to the master, then please log into the web administrative interface of each machine running the *CLC Server* software and setup *identical* details on each one.

The master node needs access to the job nodes to be able to push configurations to them. Thus, if you change the admin password on the master server and later wish to attach a new job node, you will need to log into the web administrative interface of the job node and set the root password for the *CLC Server* software to match that of the master server. Until that is done, the master will not be able to communicate with the job node because the root admin passwords are different. Once the master can communicate with the job node, it can push other configurations to the job node.

6.1.3 Configuring your setup

If you have not already, please download and install your license to the master node. (See section 2.8.) Do **not** install license files on the job nodes. The licensing information, including how many job nodes you can run, are all included in the license on the master node.

To configure your master/execution node setup, navigate through these tabs in the web administrative interface on your master node:

 | 

First, set the server mode to `MASTER_NODE` and provide the master node address, port and a master node name as shown in figure 6.2. It is optional whether you wish to specify a CPU limit or just leave the field setting to "Unlimited".

The info function next to the "Master node host" field can be used to get information about the server. Clicking the text next to the input text fields will use this text to populate the text fields.

The display name is shown in the top graphics of the administration interface.

If the **Attach Node** button in the Job nodes section is greyed out, click on the button labeled **Save Configuration** in the Server mode section to actively save the `MASTER_NODE` setting. The **Attach Node** button should now be active. Click on it to specify a job node to attach. Fill in the appropriate information about the node (see figure 6.3).

Besides information about the node hostname, port, displayname, and CPU limit, you can also configure what kind of jobs each node should be able to execute. This is done by clicking the "Manage Job Types" button (see figure 6.3). As shown in figure 6.4 you can now specify whether the job node should run "Any installed Server Command" or "Only selected Server Commands". Clicking "Only selected Server Commands" enables a search field and a list of all server command

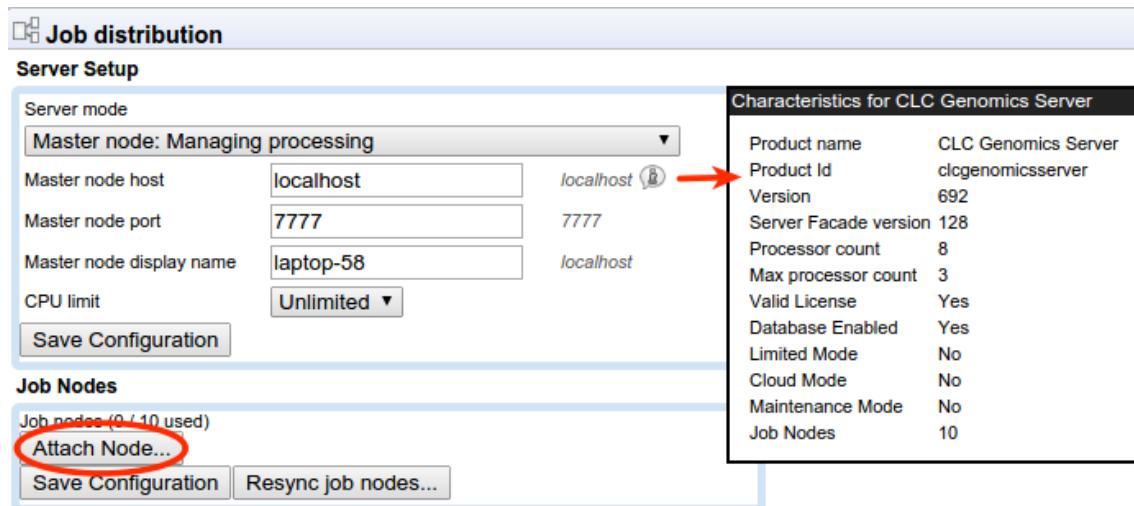


Figure 6.2: Setting up a master server.

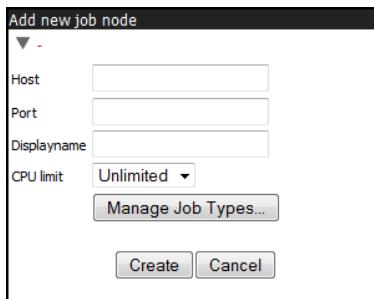


Figure 6.3: Add new job node.

names and types. The search field can be used to narrow down the server commands by name or type.

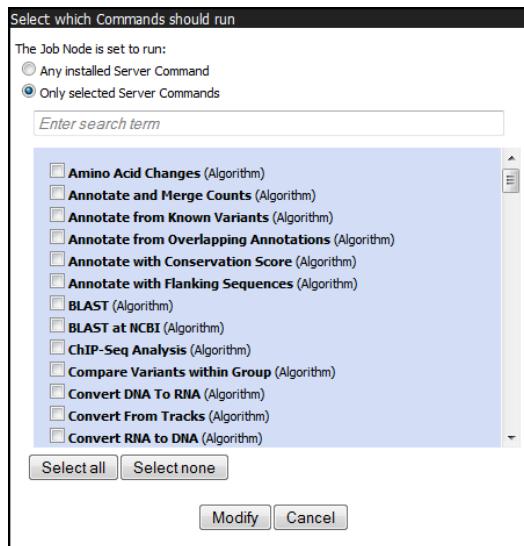


Figure 6.4: Select Server Commands to run on the job node.

Repeat this process for each job node you wish to attach and click **Save Configuration** when you are done.

Once set up, the job nodes will automatically inherit all configurations made on the master node.

If one of the nodes gets out of sync with the master, click the **Resync job nodes** button.

Note that you will get a warning dialog if there are types of jobs that are not enabled on any of the nodes.

Note that when a node has finished a job, it will take the first job in the queue that is of a type the node is configured to process. This then means that, depending on how you have configured your system, the job that is number one in the queue will not necessarily be processed first.

In order to test that access works for both job nodes and the master node, you can click "check setup" in the upper right corner as described in section [11.2.1](#).

One relatively common problem that can arise here is *root squashing*. This often needs to be disabled, because it prevents the servers from writing and accessing the files as the same user - read more about this at http://nfs.sourceforge.net/#faq_b11.

6.1.4 Installing Server plugins

Server plugin installation is described in section [3.11](#).

You **only** need to install the plugin on the master server. Once installed, you should **check that the plugin is enabled** for **each job node** you wish to make available for users to run that particular task on. To do this:

- Go to the Job Distribution tab in the master nodes web administrative interface
- Click on the link to each job node
- Click in the box by the relevant task, marking it with a check mark if you wish to enable it.

6.1.5 Distributed task execution

This aspect is currently only relevant for *CLC Drug Discovery Server*.

For the "Dock Ligands" and "Screen Ligands" tools available on the *CLC Drug Discovery Server*, the execution can be distributed to several job nodes. The input is split into smaller sub-tasks that are computed in parallel on several job nodes or grid nodes. On a single server setup the job will not be distributed to other nodes, but will be run on the master server.

It is possible to configure the maximum number of distributed tasks that can be executed at a given time, as well as the number of executors that execute the sub-tasks for a given distributed task. To configure these, go to:

Admin  **| Job distribution**  **| Multi-node processing options**

and specify the maximum numbers of tasks as described below (see figure [6.5](#)).

- Maximum number of parts that distributable analyses should be split into (0 means unlimited): Configures the number of executors that execute the sub-task from a distributed task.
- Maximum number of analyses that can be run in a distributed manner that can be run at the same time (0 means unlimited): By configuring this you change how many distributed tasks can be running at the same time.

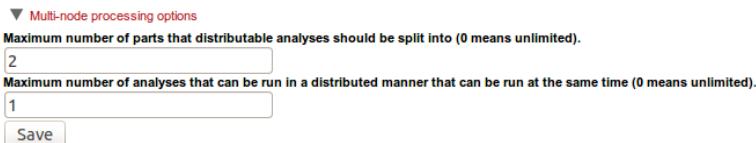


Figure 6.5: Specify the maximum number of tasks.

6.2 Model II: Master server submitting to grid nodes

6.2.1 Overview: Model II

The CLC Grid Integration allows jobs to be offloaded from a master server onto grid nodes using the local grid submission/queuing software to handle job scheduling and submission.

Except from a few algorithms available on *CLC Drug Discovery Server*, a given CLC algorithm will only run on a single machine. That is, a single job will run on one node. See Appendix section [11.8](#) for a list of algorithms that support distributed parallelization. For those algorithms not distributing the task across nodes, each grid node employed for a given task must have enough memory and space to carry out that entire task.

6.2.2 Requirements for CLC Grid Integration

- A functional grid submission system must already be in place. Please also see the section on supported job submission systems below.
- The DRMAA library for the grid submission system to be used. See Appendix section [11.6](#) for more information about DRMAA libraries for the supported grid submission systems.
- The *CLC Server* must be installed on a Linux based system configured as a *submit host* in the grid environment.
- The user running the *CLC Server* process is seen as the submitter of the grid job, and thus this user must exist on all the grid nodes.
- *CLC Server* file locations holding data that will be used must be mounted with the same path on the grid nodes as on the master *CLC Server* and accessible to the user that runs the *CLC Server* process.
- If a *CLC Bioinformatics Database* is in use, all the grid nodes must be able to access that database using the user that runs the *CLC Server* process.
- A *CLC License Server* with one or more available *CLC Grid Worker* licenses must be reachable from the *execution hosts* in the grid setup.
- A SUN/Oracle Java Runtime environment 1.7 update 45 or later must be installed on all execution hosts that will be running *CLC Grid Worker* jobs.
- In order for multi-job processing to work (only relevant for *CLC Drug Discovery Server*), the grid execution nodes must be able to establish a network connection with the *CLC Server*.

Supported grid scheduling systems

CLC officially supports the third party scheduling systems OGE, PBS Pro and IBM Platform LSF. We have tested the following versions:

- OGE 6.2u6
- PBS Pro is 11.0
- LSF 8.3 and 9.1

On a more general level:

- The grid integration in the CLC Server is done using DRMAA. Integrating with any submission system that provides a working DRMAA library should in theory be possible.
- The scheduling system must also provide some means of limiting the number of CLC jobs launched for execution so that when this number exceeds the number of CLC Grid Worker licenses, excess tasks are held in the queue until licenses are released. In LSF and OGE for example, the number of simultaneous CLC jobs sent for execution on the cluster can be controlled in this way by configuring a "Consumable Resource". This is described in more detail in section [6.2.6](#).

An example of a system that works for submitting CLC jobs, but which cannot be officially supported due to the second of the above points is PBS Torque. As far as we know, there is no way to limit the number of CLC jobs sent simultaneously to the cluster to match the number of CLC Grid Worker licenses. So, with PBS Torque, if you had three Grid Worker licenses, up to three jobs could be run simultaneously. However, if three jobs are already running and you launch a fourth job, then this fourth job will fail because there would be no license available for it.

This limitation can be overcome, allowing you to work with systems such as PBS Torque, if you control the job submission in some other way so the license number is not exceeded. One possible setup for this is if you have a one-node-runs-one-job setup. You could then set up a queue where jobs are only sent to a certain number of nodes, where that number matches the number of CLC Grid Worker licenses you have.

6.2.3 Technical overview

Figure [6.6](#) shows an overview of the communication involved in running a job on the grid, using OGE as the example submission system.

The steps of this figure are in detail:

1. From the Workbench the user invokes an algorithm to be run on the grid. This information is sent to the master server running the CLC Server.
2. The master server writes a file with job parameters to a shared work directory of the grid execution nodes. The job parameters contain identifiers mapping to the job data placed in the CLC server data location. The job parameters file is automatically deleted when it is no longer used by the grid node.
3. Now the server invokes `qsub` through the specified DRMAA native library. Then `qsub` transfers the job request to the grid scheduler. Since the user that runs the CLC Server process has invoked `qsub`, the grid node will run the job as this CLC-Server user.
4. The job scheduler will choose a grid node based on the parameters given to `qsub` and the user that invoked `qsub`.

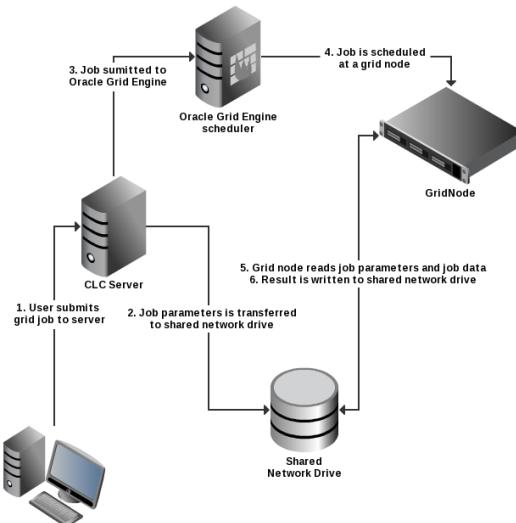


Figure 6.6: An overview of grid integration, using OGE as the example submission system.

5. The chosen grid node will retrieve CLC Grid Worker executable and the job parameters from the shared file system and start performing the given task.
6. After completion of the job, the grid node will write the results to the server's data location. After this step the result can be accessed by the Workbench user through the master server.

6.2.4 Setting up the grid integration

CLC jobs are submitted to a local grid via a special, stand-alone executable called **clcgridworker**. In the documentation, this executable is also referred to as the CLC Grid Worker.

The following steps are taken to setup grid integration for CLC bio jobs. These steps are described in more detail in the sections that follow. It is assumed that your *CLC Server* software is already installed on the machine that is to act as the master.

1. Set up the licensing of the grid workers, as described in section [6.2.5](#)
2. Configure the CLC grid licenses as a consumable resource in the local grid system, as described in section [6.2.6](#)
3. Configure and save grid presets, as described in section [6.2.7](#)
4. If not already done, install the CLC Workbench Client Plugin in the Workbenches, as described in section [2.10](#). The CLC Workbench Client Plugin can be used to submit jobs to your grid.
5. Optionally, create and edit a `clcgridworker.vmoptions` file in each deployed CLC Grid Worker area, as described in section [6.2.11](#). This is usually desirable and would be done if you wished to customize settings such as maximum memory to dedicate to the java process.
6. Test your setup by submitting some small tasks to the grid via a *CLC Server* client such as the *CLC Server* or the Command Line Tools. Ideally, these would be tasks already known to run smoothly directly on your *CLC Server*.

6.2.5 Licensing of grid workers

There are two main steps involved in setting up the licenses for your CLC Grid Workers.

Step 1: Installing network licenses and making them available for use

Generally, a pool of CLC grid licenses are purchased and are served by the *CLC License Server* software. For information on how to install the *CLC License Server* and download and install your CLC Grid Worker licenses please follow the instructions in the *CLC License Server* user manual, which can be found at

<http://www.clcsupport.com/clclicenseserver/current/>.

A pdf version is available at

http://www.clcbio.com/files/usermanuals/CLC_License_Server_User_Manual.pdf.

Step 2: Configuring the location of your CLC License Server for your CLC Grid Workers

One license is used for each CLC Grid Worker script launched. When the CLC Grid Worker starts running on a node, it will attempt to get a license from the license server. Once the job is complete, the license will be returned. Thus, your CLC Grid Worker needs to know where it can contact your CLC License Server to request a license.

To configure this, use a text editor and open the file: `gridres/settings/license.properties` under the installation are of your *CLC Server*.

The file will look something like this:

```
#License Settings

serverip=host.example.com
serverport=6200
disableborrow=false

autodiscover=false
useserver=true
```

You can leave `autodiscover=true` to use UDP-based auto discovery of the license server. However, for grid usage it is recommended that you set `autodiscover=false` and use the `serverip` property to specify the host name or IP-address of your CLC License Server.

After you have configured your grid presets, see section [6.2.7](#), and have saved them, those presets are deployed to the location you specify in the **Path to CLC Grid Worker** field of the preset. Along with the `clcgridworker` script, the license settings file is also deployed.

If you need to change your license settings, we recommend that you edit the `license.properties` file under `gridres/settings/license.properties` of your *CLC Server* installation, and then re-save each of your grid presets. This will re-deploy the CLC Grid Workers, including the changed `license.properties` file.

6.2.6 Configuring licenses as a consumable resource

Since there is a limitation on the number of licenses available, it is important that the local grid system is configured so that the number of CLC Grid Worker scripts launched is never higher than the maximum number of licenses installed. If the number of CLC Grid Worker scripts launched exceeds the number of licenses available, jobs unable to find a license will fail when they are executed.

Some grid systems support the concept of a *consumable resource*. Using this, you can set the number of CLC grid licenses available. This will restrict the number of CLC jobs launched to run on the grid at any one time to this number. Any job that is submitted while all licenses are already in use should sit in the queue until a license becomes available. **We highly recommend that CLC grid licenses are configured as a consumable resource on the local grid submission system.**

Information about how a consumable resource can be configured for LSF has been provided by IBM and can be found in Appendix section [11.7](#)

6.2.7 Configure grid presets

The details of the communication between the master server and the grid when submitting a job is configured using **grid presets**. The users selects a preset when starting the job as explained in section [6.2.13](#).

To configure the presets, log into the web-interface of the CLC Server on your master machine and navigate through these tabs in the web administrative interface:

Admin (grid) | Job distribution (grid)

Choose the **Grid Presets** section and click the **Create New Preset** button.

Edit preset LSF	
Preset name	LSF
Native library path	/usr/lib/libdrmaa.so
Shared work directory	/mnt/shared/tmp/gridworker
Path to CLC Grid Worker	/mnt/shared/gridworker/clcgridworker
Job category	
Grid Mode	<input type="radio"/> Legacy <input checked="" type="radio"/> Resource Aware
Native specification f(x)...	<input type="button" value="Submit test job..."/> -n {COMMAND_THREAD_MIN},{COMMAND_THREAD_MAX} <input type="button" value="Submit test job..."/>
<input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Save Configuration"/>	

Figure 6.7: Configuring presets.

For each preset, the following information can be set:

Preset name The name of the preset as it will be presented in the Workbench when starting a job (see section [6.2.13](#)) and as you will be able to refer to it when using the Command

Line Tools. Alphanumeric characters can be used, and hyphens are fine within, but not at the start of preset names.

Native library path The full path to the grid-specific DRMAA library.

Shared work directory The path to a directory that can be accessed by both the CLC Server and the Grid Workers. Temporary directories are created within this area during each job run. These temporary directories hold files used for communication between the CLC Server and Grid Worker.

Path to CLC Grid Worker This field should contain the path to a directory on a shared file system that is readable from all execution hosts.

The CLC Grid Worker, along with associated settings files, is extracted from the installation area of the CLC Server software, and is then deployed to this location when you save your grid preset, or whenever you update plugins on your system.

If this directory does not exist, it will be created.

In versions of CLC Genomics Server and CLC Science Server earlier than 5.0, this path needed to point at the clcgridworker script itself. To support backwards compatibility with existing setups, we ask that you do **not** use the name "clcgridworker" for a directory you wish your CLC Grid Worker to be deployed to.

Job category The name of the job category - a parameter passed to the underlying grid system.

Grid mode "Legacy" or "Resource Aware". Legacy mode is default when migrating an existing pre-6.5 server to 6.5 or later. Resource aware allows the grid preset to use the Shared native specification to submit jobs that do not utilize an entire execution node.

Native specification List of native parameters to pass to the grid e.g. associations to specific grid queues or memory requirements (see below). Clicking on the f(x) next to Native Specification pops up a box allowing the insertion of particular variables into the Native Specification box. This is described further below [6.2.7](#)

Shared native specification Native specification used for jobs that can share the execution node with other jobs. This is described further below [6.2.9](#)

Below are examples of OGE-specific arguments one might provide in the native specification field of a Grid Preset. Please see your grid scheduling documentation to determine what options are available for your scheduling system.

Example 1: To redirect standard output and error output, you might put the following in the Native specification field:

```
-o <path/to/standard_out> -e <path/to/error_out>
```

This corresponds to the following `qsub` command being generated:

```
qsub my_script -o <path/to/standard_out> -e <path/to/error_out>
```

Example 2: Use a specific OGE queue for all jobs.

```
-hard -l qname=<name_of_queue>
```

This corresponds to the following *qsub* command:

```
qsub my_script -q queue_name
```

f(x) - adding variables evaluated at run-time

Grid Presets are essentially static in nature, with most options being defined directly in the preset itself. In some cases though, it may be of interest to have variables that are evaluated at runtime. Currently, five such variables can be added to the Native Specification line:

USER_NAME The name of the user who is logged into the server and is submitting the analysis request. All grid jobs are submitted by the user that runs the CLC Server process, so this variable might be added to, for example, log usage statistics for actual users of the system, or to send an email to the an email account of a form that includes the contents of this variable. For example, the type of text that follows could be put into the Native specification field:

```
-M {USER_NAME}@yourmailserver.com
```

COMMAND_NAME The name of the CLC Server command to be executed on the grid by the *clcgridworker* executable.

COMMAND_ID The ID of the CLC Server command to be executed on the grid.

COMMAND_THREAD_MIN Evaluates to the minimum number of thread required to run the command being submitted. Only valid in Shared native specification.

COMMAND_THREAD_MAX Evaluates to the maximum number of threads supported by the command being submitted. Only valid in Shared native specification.

These variables can be added by the administrator directly into the Native Specification or Shared Native Specification box, by surrounding the variable name with curly brackets. Alternatively, to ensure the proper syntax, you can click on the *f(x)* link and choose the variable to insert.

These variables can be used by the administrator in any way that fits with the native grid system, and that does not cause clashes with the way the CLC Server and Grid Workers communicate. For example, in cases where grid usage is closely monitored, it may be desirable to include the user name of the analysis job in metadata reports, so that computer resource time can be logged. Another example might be to set an option such as `-q {COMMAND_NAME}` if there were, for example, certain commands to be submitted to queues of the same name as the commands.

Besides the above-mentioned variables, two functions exist for use in native specifications. Functions are invoked with the following syntax: `{#function arg1, arg2, [... argn]}`:

take_lower_of Evaluates to the lowest integer-value of its argument. The arguments are either a constant integer or a variable-name. If an argument is a string, which is not a variable-name, or if the variable expands to a non-integer, the argument is ignored. For instance `{#take_lower_of 8,4,FOO}` evaluates to 4 and ignores the non-integer, non-variable "FOO" string.

take_higher_of Evaluates to the highest integer-value of its argument. The arguments are either a constant integer or a variable-name. If an argument is a string, which is not a variable-name, or if the variable expands to a non-integer, the argument is ignored. For instance `{#take_higher_of 8, 4, FOO}` evaluates to 8 and ignores the non-integer, non-variable "FOO" string.

6.2.8 Controlling the number of cores utilized

In order to configure core usage, the native specification of the grid preset needs to be properly configured. This configuration depends on the grid system used. By default all cores on an execution node will be used.

All cores on an execution node will be used by default (this is not the case for older versions - before 4.01 - of CLC Genomics Server and CLC Science Server). Unless otherwise configured to limit the number of cores used for a job involving assembly or read mapping phases, a dedicated queue must then be setup, which only schedules a single job on any given machine at a time. Otherwise your CLC jobs may conflict with others running on the same execution host at the same time.

Resource Aware Grid Presets

If Resource Aware mode is enabled for a grid preset, algorithms can provide hints regarding their core/thread requirements. Enabling Resource Aware mode allows two separate native specification to be used to submit job:

The string entered in "Native Specification" is used for algorithms that require many resources and are therefore viewed as being "exclusive".

"Shared Native Specification" is used for algorithms that are highly CPU bound and which therefore can share an execution node with other algorithms.

To help configure the resource requirements the two placeholders `COMMAND_THREAD_MIN` and `COMMAND_THREAD_MAX` are used. They will be substituted at runtime with the actual minimum or maximum number of threads required by the task about to be scheduled on the grid.

Some grids allow threads to be allocated by requesting a range, other grids only allow a fixed number of threads to be requested. In order to support both scenarios, the `take_lower_of` and `take_higher_of` functions are provided which can be used in conjunction with the `COMMAND_THREAD_MIN` and `COMMAND_THREAD_MAX` placeholders. If you want to request the maximum number of threads supported by the command being executed, but want the value to be bound by 32, because you have no nodes with more than 32 cores, the following expansion can be used as shared native specification: `{#take_lower_of COMMAND_THREAD_MAX, 32}`.

If a grid preset is set to Legacy-mode, all jobs will be submitted using the Native Specification for exclusive jobs.

Configuration of OGE/SGE

1) CPU Core usage when not using parallel environment

By default the CLC Servers ignores the number of slots assigned to a grid job, and utilizes all cores of the execution host. That is, jobs will run on all cores of a execution host.

In the CLC Server, there is an environmental variable, which, when set to 1, will specify that the

number of allocated slots should be interpreted as the maximum number of cores a job should be run on. To set this environmental variable, add the following to the native specification of the grid preset:

```
-v CLC_USE_OGE_SLOTS_AS_CORES=1
```

In this case, the number of utilized cores is equal to the number of slots allocated by OGE for the job.

2) Limiting CPU core usage by utilizing parallel environment

The parallel environment feature can be used to limit the number of cores used by CLC Server, when running jobs on the grid. The syntax in the native specification for using parallel environments is:

```
-pe $PE_NAME $MIN_CORE-$MAX_CORE
```

When the parallel environments feature is used, the number of allocated slots is interpreted as the number of cores to be used. That is, the number of utilized cores is equal to the number of slots in this case.

The parallel environment, selected by its name, must be setup by the grid administrator (documentation provided by Oracle will cover this subject area), in such a way that the number of slots corresponds to the number of cores. \$MIN_CORE and \$MAX_CORE specify a range of cores, which the jobs submitted through this grid preset can run under. Care must be taken not to set \$MIN_CORE too high, as the job might never be run (e.g. if there is no system with that many cores available), and the submitting user will not be warned by this fact.

An example of a native specification using parallel environments is the following:

```
-l cfl=1 -l qname=32bit -pe clc 1-3.
```

Here, the *clc* parallel environment is selected, and 1 to 3 cores are requested.

Older versions of the CLC Genomics Server

CLC Genomics Server and CLC Science Server version 4.0 and older utilize CPU cores equal to the number of allocated slots, unless a parallel environment is in use, in which case the behaviour is the same as described previously. In many situations the number of allocated slots is 1, effectively resulting in CLC jobs running on one core only.

Configuration of PBS Pro

With PBS Pro it is not possible to specify a range of cores (at least not to our knowledge). Here one specifies exactly how many cores are needed. This request can be granted (the process is scheduled) or denied (the process is not scheduled). It is thus very important to choose a realistic number. The number of cores are requested as a resource: `-l nodes=1:ppn=X`, where X is the number of cores. As this resource is also designed to work with parallel system, the number of nodes is allowed to be larger than 1. For the sake of scheduling cores, it is vital that this parameter is kept at 1. An example of a native specification is: `-q bit32 -l nodes=1:ppn=2`, which will request two cores and be queued in the *bit32* queue.

Configuration of LSF

With LSF the number of cores to use is specified with the `-n` option. It can be used both with a single argument, and with two arguments. If only one argument is given, `-n X`, LSF interprets the

request to be fixed. I.e. exactly X cores are requested. If two arguments are provided, `-n X,Y`, they must be separated by a comma, and are interpreted as a range. I.e. allocate between X and Y cores.

6.2.9 Multi-job Processing on grid

As described in section 3.14.1, the CLC Server supports execution of multiple jobs at the same time on a job node or single server. This is also possible in grid setups. By providing resource information when submitting jobs to the grid, the underlying grid scheduler will be able to schedule multiple jobs on the execution nodes when appropriate.

Algorithms can either be exclusive, streaming, or non-exclusive. Exclusive algorithms are optimized to utilize the machine they are running on. They have very high I/O bandwidth, memory, or CPU requirements and therefore do not play well with other algorithms. Streaming algorithms are highly I/O intensive, and running two streaming algorithms on the same machine does not yield any advantages. For grid execution, streaming algorithms are treated as exclusive algorithms. See the list in Appendix section 11.5 for a list of non-exclusive algorithms.

Non-exclusive algorithms expose their CPU or thread usage, and this can be passed on to the grid scheduler when submitting jobs. In order to pass this information to the grid scheduler, the grid preset must be set to Resource Aware mode:

Go to:

Admin (gear) | Job distribution (grid)

and click 'Create New Preset...' or 'Edit...' and fill out the fields as described in section 6.2.7 and set 'Grid Mode' to 'Resource Aware'. This will bring up a new field called 'Shared native specification'.

When submitting non-exclusive algorithms the Shared native specification field is used as submission argument. Exclusive algorithms are submitted using the regular native specification.

The Shared native specification must be filled out such that at least the COMMAND_THREAD_MAX variable is passed properly to the grid (for hints see section 6.2.8).

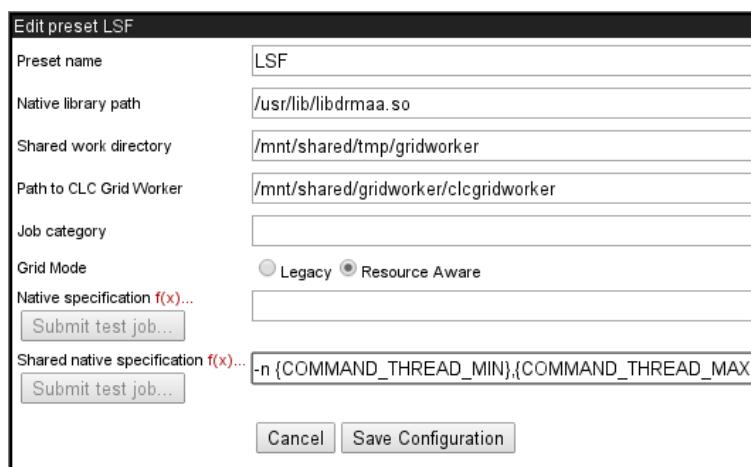


Figure 6.8: Grid preset configured for multi-job processing on LSF.

Figure 6.8 shows a Resource Aware grid preset setup for LSF.

Each CLC Grid Worker launched, whether it is to run alone on a node or run alongside a job already running on a particular node, will attempt to get a license from the CLC License Server. Once the job is complete, the license will be returned.

6.2.10 Distributed task execution on grid

This aspect is currently only relevant for *CLC Drug Discovery Server*.

When executing a distributed task in a grid environment, a number of task executors are scheduled on the grid using the "shared native specification" of the chosen grid preset. Once a task executor has been started on the grid, it will perform computations until the distributed task is completed. Any task executor which has not been run (but has been queued) will be canceled once the distributed task is complete.

The actual number of task executors depends on the "Maximum number of concurrently running task executors per distributed task"-setting. See section [6.1.5](#) for more information about this setting. Most task executors will request only a single thread (i.e. `COMMAND_THREAD_MIN` and `COMMAND_THREAD_MAX` are both 1), meaning that the maximum number of concurrently running task executors should be set to the number of cores that should be used to execute tasks on the grid. If the setting is 0, a task executer is queued for each sub-task created by the overall task. It is recommended not to use a value of 0.

6.2.11 Other grid worker options

Additional java options can be set for grid workers by creating a file called:

`clcgridworker.vmoptions`

in the same folder as the *deployed* `clcgridworker` script, that is, the `clcgridworker` script within the folder specified in the **Path to CLC Grid Worker** field of the grid preset.

For example, if a `clcgridworker.vmoptions` was created, containing the following two lines, it would, for the CLC Grid Worker specified in a given preset, set memory limits for the *CLC Server* java process and a temporary directory available from the grid nodes, overriding the defaults that would otherwise apply:

```
-Xmx1000m  
-Djava.io.tmpdir=/path/to/tmp
```

For each grid preset you created, you can create a `clcgridworker.vmoptions` file within the folder you specified in the **Path to CLC Grid Worker** field. So for example, if you had two grid presets, you could set two quite different memory limits for the *CLC Server* java process.

This might be a useful idea in the case where you wished to provide two queues, one for tasks with low overheads, such as import jobs and trimming jobs in the case of *CLC Genomics Server*, and one for tasks with higher overheads, such as *de novo* assemblies or read mappings in the case of *CLC Genomics Server* and virtual screening of ligands in the case of *CLC Drug Discovery Server*.

6.2.12 Testing a Grid Preset

There are two types of tests that can be run to check a Grid Preset. The first runs automatically whenever the *Save Configuration* button in the Grid Preset configuration window is pressed. This is a basic test that looks for the native library you have specified. The second type of test is optional, and is launched if the *Submit test job...* button is pressed. This submits a small test job to your grid and the information returned is checked for things that might indicate problems with the configuration. While the job is running, a window is visible highlighting the jobs progression as shown in figure 6.9.

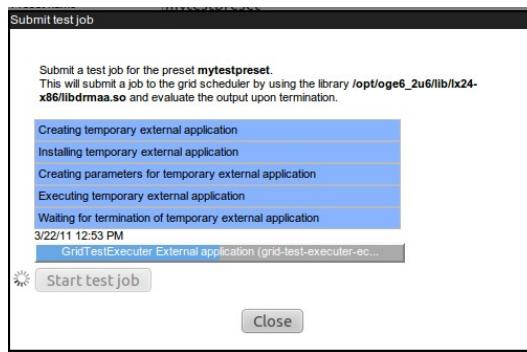


Figure 6.9: Testing a Grid Preset.

6.2.13 Client-side: starting CLC jobs on the grid

Installing the CLC Workbench Client Plugin

To submit jobs to the grid from within a CLC Workbench, users must be able to access the *CLC Server*, which means that the CLC Workbench Client Plugin must be installed in the Workbench, as described in section 2.10.

Starting grid jobs

Once the server side is configured, and the CLC Workbench Client Plugin has been installed in the CLC Workbench, an extra option will appear in the first dialog box presented when setting up a task that could be executed on the *CLC Server*. Users will be able to choose to execute such a task on their local machine, the *CLC Server* machine, or using any available grid presets. To submit to the grid is as simple as choosing from among the grid presets in the drop down box. See figure 6.10.

6.2.14 Grid Integration Tips

If you are having problems with your CLC Grid Integration, please check the following points:

- Does your system meets the requirements of the CLC Grid Integration tool 6.2.2? For example, please check that the machine the *CLC Server* is running on is configured as a submit host for your grid system, and please check that you are running Sun/Oracle Java 1.7 on all execution hosts.
- The user running the *CLC Server* process is the same user seen as the submitter of all jobs to the grid. Does this user exist on your grid nodes? Does it have permission to submit to

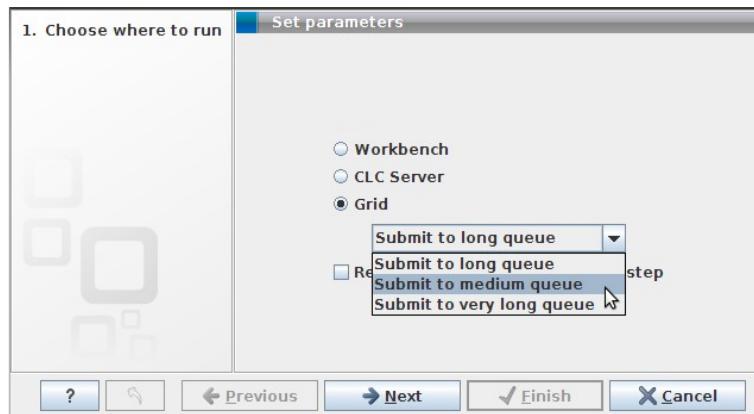


Figure 6.10: Starting the job on the grid.

the necessary queues, and to write to the shared directories identified in the Grid Preset(s) and any `clcgridworker.vmoptions` files?

- Are your *CLC Server* file locations mounted with the same path on the grid nodes as on the master *CLC Server* and accessible to the user that runs the *CLC Server* process?
- If you store data in a database, are all the grid nodes able to access that database, using the user account of the user running the *CLC Server* process?
- If you store data in a database, did you enter a machine name in the Host box of the Database Location field when setting up the Database Location using the *CLC Server* web administration form? In particular, a generic term such as `localhost` will not work, as the grid nodes will not be able to find the host with the database on it using that information.
- If you installed the *CLC Server* as root, and then later decided to run it as a non-privileged user, please ensure that you stop the server, recursively change ownership on the *CLC Server* installation directory and any data locations assigned to the *CLC Server*. Please restart the server as the new user. You may need to re-index your *CLC* data locations (section 3.2.3) after you restart the server.
- Is your java binary on the PATH? If not, then either add it to PATH, or edit the `clcgridworker` script in the *CLC Server* installation area, with the relative path from this location: `gridres/dist/clcgridworker`, and set the JAVA variable to the full path of your java binary. Then re-save each of your grid presets, so that this altered `clcgridworker` script is deployed to the location specified in the **Path to CLC Grid Worker** field of your preset.
- Is the `SGE_ROOT` variable set early enough in your system that it is included in the environment of services? Alternatively, did you edit the *CLC Server* startup script to set this variable? If so, the script is overwritten on upgrade - you will need to re-add this variable setting, either to the startup script, or system wide in such a way that it is available in the environment of your services.
- Is your java 64-bit, while your DRMAA library is 32-bit, or vice versa? These two things must be either both for 64-bit systems or both for 32-bit systems.

6.2.15 Understanding memory settings

Most work done by the *CLC Server* is done via its java process.

However, some tools involving de novo assembly or mapping phases (e.g. read mappings, RNA-seq analyses, smallRNA analyses, etc.) on *CLC Genomics Server* use external native binaries for the computational phases, and so do the tool for 2D-3D structure generation on *CLC Drug Discovery Server*.

Java process

For the grid worker **java process**, if there is a memory limit set in your `clcgridworker.vmoptions` file, this is the value that will be used. See section [6.2.11](#).

If there is no memory setting in your grid worker's `clcgridworker.vmoptions` file, then the following sources are referred to, in the order stated. As soon as a valid setting is found, that is the one that will be used:

1. Any virtual memory settings given in the grid preset, or if that is not set, then
2. Any physical memory settings given in the grid preset, or if that is not set, then
3. Half of the total memory present, with 50GB being the maximum set in this circumstance.

Please note that any nodes running a 32-bit operating system will have a maximum memory allocation for the java process of 1.2 GB.

External binaries

For the computationally intensive tools that include a phase using an external binary, the binary phase is not restricted by the amount of memory set for the java process. For this reason, we highly recommend caution if you plan to submit more jobs of these types to nodes that are being used simultaneously for other work.

6.3 Model III: Single Server setup

In this model, the master and execution node functionality is carried out by a single CLC Server instance. Here, the *CLC Server* software is installed on a single machine. Jobs submitted to the server are executed on this same machine.

To designate the system as a single server, after installation and starting the server, select the option `SINGLE_SERVER` from the drop down list of Server modes.

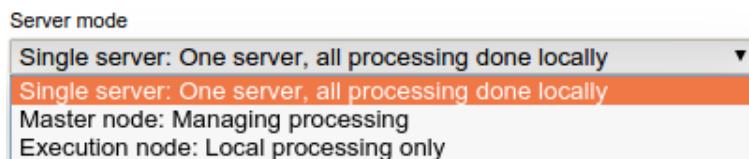


Figure 6.11: The configuration options for the types of machines running the **CLC Server**. The choices of relevance under normal circumstances are `SINGLE_SERVER` and `MASTER_NODE`. An administrator will not usually need to manually choose the `Execution Node` option. This option is there primarily to allow for troubleshooting.

You can then configure node hostname (usually `localhost`), port (usually `7777`), displayname, and CPU limit (figure [6.12](#)). The `info` function next to the "Master node host" field can be used to get information about the server. Clicking the text next to the input text fields will use this text

to populate the text fields. It is optional whether you wish to specify a CPU limit or just leave the field setting to "Unlimited".

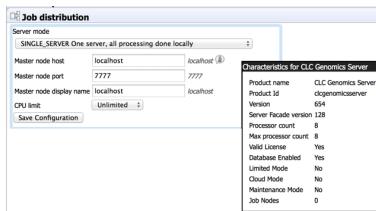


Figure 6.12: Add new job node.

For more information about the maximum amount of jobs that can be concurrently run on a single server (10), see section [3.14.3](#).

Chapter 7

BLAST

The CLC Server supports running BLAST jobs submitted from the workbenches that have BLAST tools and from *CLC Server Command Line Tools*. Users will be able to select data from Server **data locations** (see section 3.2.1) to search against other sequences held in Server data locations, or against BLAST databases stored in an area configured as an **import/export directory** (see section 3.3).

7.1 Adding directories for BLAST databases on the Server

In the web interface of the server, you can configure your Server for BLAST databases:

Admin (gear) | **BLAST Databases** (gear)

Here, you can add a folder where you want the Server to look for BLAST databases. However, before doing this, please ensure that the folder you will be adding has been configured as an **import/export directory** (see section 3.3). This is necessary because BLAST databases are not truly CLC data, and thus are stored outside data locations specified for CLC data. They need, however, to be stored somewhere accessible to *CLC Serverprocess* though, hence the need to put them in a directory configured as an import/export directory.

After the folder holding BLAST databases is configured as an Import/Export directory, it can be configured as a location that the *CLC Server* will look in for BLAST databases.

Do this by clicking on the **Edit BLAST Database Locations** button at the bottom of the area under the BLAST Databases area in the administrative interface.

This will bring up a dialog as shown in figure 7.1 where you can select which of the import/export directories you wish to use for storing BLAST databases.

Once added as a BLAST Database Location, the *CLC Server* will search this directory for any BLAST databases and list them under the BLAST tab in the web interface (see a section of this as an example in figure 7.2).

This overview is similar to the one you find in the Workbench BLAST manager for local databases including the following in formation:

- **Name.** The name of the BLAST database.



Figure 7.1: Adding import/export directories as BLAST database locations.

BLAST databases overview				
Name	Description	Date	Sequences	Type
NC_000001	Human makeDB test	2011-11-14	19	DNA
all_contig	Homo sapiens build 37.3 genome database (reference assembly GRCh37.p5 [GCF_000001405.17] and alternate assemblies HuRef [GCF_000002125.1] and CRA_TCAGchr7v2 [GCF_000002135.2])	2011-10-07	4900	DNA
allcontig_and_rna	mouse build 37 RNA, reference and alternate assemblies	2011-05-25	35640	DNA
alt_CRA_TCAGchr7v2_contig	alt_CRA_TCAGchr7v2_contig	2011-10-07	6	DNA
alt_HuRef_contig	alt_HuRef_contig	2011-10-07	4530	DNA
alt_contig	Mus musculus build 37 genome database (alternate assembly Mm Celera only)	2010-11-09	13033	DNA

Figure 7.2: Selecting database to BLAST against.

- **Description.** Detailed description of the contents of the database.
- **Date.** The date the database was created.
- **Sequences.** The number of sequences in the database.
- **Type.** The type can be either nucleotide (DNA) or protein.
- **Total size (1000 residues).** The number of residues in the database, either bases or amino acid.
- **Location.** The location of the database.

To the right of the Location information is a link labeled Delete that can be used to delete a BLAST database.

7.2 Adding and removing BLAST databases

Databases can be added in two ways:

- Place pre-formatted databases in the directory selected as BLAST database location on the server file system. The CLC Server will automatically detect the database files and list the database as target when running BLAST. You can download pre-formatted database from e.g. <ftp://ftp.ncbi.nih.gov/blast/db/>.

- Run the **Create BLAST Database** (➕) tool via your Workbench, and choose to run the function on the Server when offered the option in the Workbench Wizard. You will get a list of the BLAST database locations that are configured on your Server. The final window of the wizard offers you a location to save the output to. The output referred to is the log file for the BLAST database creation. The BLAST databases themselves are stored in the designated BLAST database folder you chose earlier in the setup process.

A note on permissions: To create BLAST databases on the Server, using the Workbench interface, the user **running the CLC Serverprocess** must have file system level write permission on the import/export directory that you have configured to hold BLAST database.

By default, if you do not change any permissions within *CLC Server*, all users logging into the *CLC Server*(e.g. via their Workbench, or via the Command Line Tools), will be able to create BLAST databases in the areas you have configured to hold BLAST databases.

If you wish to restrict the ability to create BLAST databases to these areas completely, but still wish your users to be able to access the BLAST databases to search against, then set the file system level permissions on the import/export directory so they are read-only.

When listing the databases as shown in figure 7.2, it is possible to delete the databases by clicking the **Delete** link at the far right-hand side of the database information.

Chapter 8

External applications

Command-line applications on the server machine can easily be made available via the graphical menu system of the Workbench. Such third-party applications can then be launched via the graphical menu system of CLC Workbenches that are connected to the CLC Server. These tools can access data on the machine the CLC Workbench is installed on, data stored on the CLC Server or data stored in areas of the server accessible to the CLC Server, depending on choices made by the server administrator.

The integration of third party external applications is configured in the CLC Server administrative web interface. Third party programs configured as External Applications are executed on the machine that the CLC Server is installed on. Thus, the server administrator has full control over the execution environment.

The *External Application Client Plugin* must be installed on the CLC Workbench for access to external applications from the CLC Workbench. This plugin can be found in the Workbench Plugin Manager.

An important note about the execution of External Applications: It is important to consider that, like other tasks executed via the CLC Server, any tool configured as an External Application, will be run as the **same logical user** that runs the CLC Server process itself. *If you plan to configure External Applications, we highly recommend that you run the CLC Server software as an un-privileged user.* Or, in other words, if your system's root user is running the CLC Server process, then tasks run via the External Applications functionality will also be executed by the root system user. This would be considered undesirable in most contexts.

Figure 8.1 shows an overview of the actions and data flow that occur when an integrated external applications is executed via the CLC Workbench.

In general terms the basic work flow is:

1. The user selects input data and parameters and starts the job from the Workbench
2. The server exports the input data to a temporary file
3. The server starts the command line application, using the parameters specified from the user and the temporary file as input

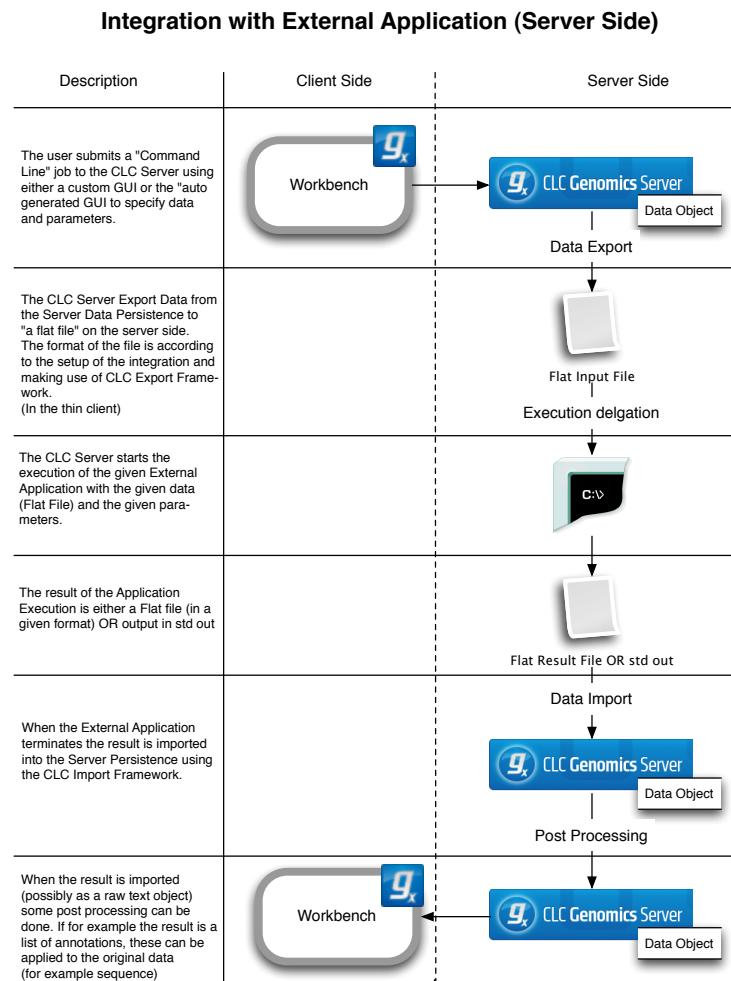


Figure 8.1: An overview of the external applications integration in this example illustrated with CLC Genomics Workbench and CLC Genomics Server.

4. When the command line application is done, the server imports output data back into the CLC environment, saving it in the data location on the server
5. The user is notified that the job is done, and the results are available for viewing and further analysis in the Workbench

Note that all files used and files created and saved are within the CLC environment. Temporary files are created outside the CLC environment during the execution of a third party tool, but are deleted after the process runs under normal circumstances.

The best way to describe the integration of third party command lines tools is through a series of examples. We start with a very basic example and work towards more complex setups.

8.1 Basic configuration

Many aspects of configuring external tools in the CLC Server can be described as we set up a very simple command. We have chosen the `cp` command, which will already be on your server.

The `cp` command requires at least two parameters, an input file and an output file. These

parameters are positional: the first filename given after the command is the input file, the second is the output file. Here we will just copy a FASTA file from one place in the *CLC Server* to another. This is a very inefficient way of doing this task, but it will illustrate how to integrate a command line tool without requiring you to install additional software on your system.

Under the External Applications tab of the *CLC Server* administrative web interface, click on the *New configuration* button. This brings up a window like the one shown in figure 8.2. In the text box labeled *External applications command name*, enter a name for this command. This will be what the end-users see in the menu option that they will be presented with via the Workbench. In the text box labeled *command line argument*, provide the command line. Start with the command, and within curly brackets, include any parameter that needs to be configured by the user. The names of the parameters inside the curly brackets will become the labels of the choices offered to the end-user when they start up this external application via their Workbench. Figure 8.2 shows how this looks if we give the *cp* command two parameters: *in* and *out*.

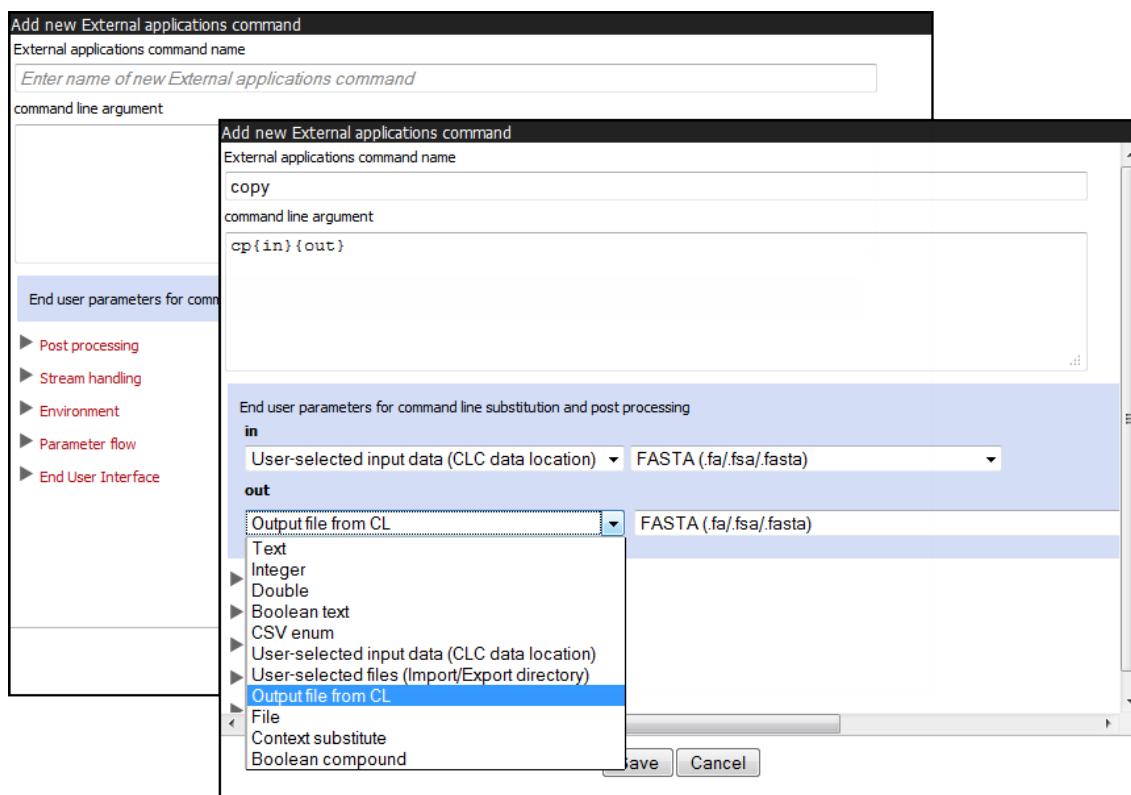


Figure 8.2: Setting up the *cp* command as an external application.

Two drop-down menus have now appeared in the blue shaded area of the window in figure 8.2. These are dynamically generated. Each parameter you enter in curly brackets in the command text box area will have a drop-down menu created for it. The text you entered within the curly brackets is used to label the entries in the administrative interface, and are also the labels used in the end-user interface presented via the Workbench.

The administrator now chooses the type of data each parameter will refer to. The options are:

- Text - The users are presented with a text box allowing them to enter a parameter value. The administrator can provide a default value if desired.
- Integer - Allows the user to enter a whole number. The administrator can choose a number

this option should be set to by default. If none is set, then 0 is the default.

- Double - Allows the user to enter a number. The administrator can choose a number this option should be set to by default. If none is set, then 0 is the default.
- Boolean text - This generates a checkbox in the end-user interface, labeled with the name of the parameter. If the user checks the box, the parameter is replaced with the given text. If the box is unchecked, the parameter will be empty.
- CSV enum - This allows the administrator to set a drop down list of parameter choices for the user. When selecting the CSV enum type, two text boxes are used to define the set of items that will be presented to the user. The first box defines the actual values in a comma separated list. The second text box defines the labels to display for each of the values. Again the items are comma separated. Make sure the values are unique and that a label is defined for each value.

For an example of this, please see section [8.8](#) on setting up Velvet as an external application.

- User-selected input data (CLC data location) - Users will be prompted to select an input file from those they have stored on the CLC Server.
- User-selected files (Import/Export directory) - Users will be prompted to select one or more input files among those stored in an Import/Export directory on the CLC Server. This will typically be non-.clc-files. Preselected files can be set.
- Output file from CL - Users will be prompted for a location to store a file that is created by the third-party application. An extra text box is also provided in the configuration so the administrator can specify a default name for the re-imported file. If no filename is provided by the administrator, the basename of the file from the system is used.
- File - Users can select an input file from their local machine's filesystem.
- Context substitute - This parameter is only for the Command Line and is not visible to the end user. The parameter results in substitution by a value in the context where the Command Line is run. Options are: CPU limit max cores: The configured limit at the server executing the Command Line. Name of user: The name of the user that has initiated the External Application.
- Boolean compound - This enables the creation of a checkbox, where if checked, the end-user is presented with another option (of your choice). If the check box is not checked, then that option will be grayed out. Here, the administrator can also choose if the box is to be checked or unchecked by default in the Workbench interface.

In the right hand side of figure [8.2](#) we set the parameters so that the input file to be sent to the system's copy command will be specified by the user, and we tell the system to export this file from the CLC Server as a FASTA file. We then configure the import of output file from the copy command back into the CLC Server, and specify that we are importing a FASTA file. When configuring standard bioinformatics third party applications, you are able to choose from many standard formats to export from, and to import back into, the CLC Server.

Once the configuration is complete and has been saved, the external application should now appear in the list in the administrative web interface.

The small checkbox to the left of the external application name should be checked. This means it is will be accessible to CLC Workbenches with the *CLC Workbench Client plugin* installed. If a particular external application needs to be removed from end-user access for a while, this small box can just be unchecked.

8.2 Post-processing

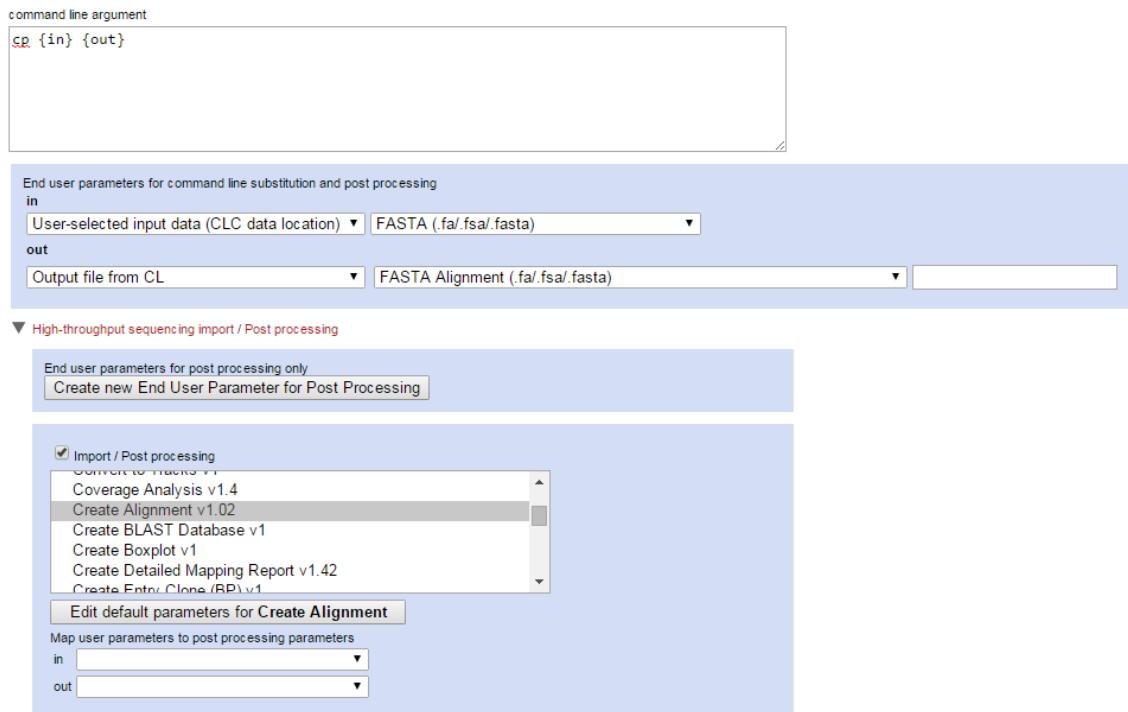


Figure 8.3: Adding the **Create Alignment** tool as post processing option to an external application.

Once the external application has successfully terminated, it is possible to post-process the output using one of the standard CLC tools¹. Continuing the example from the previous example we will create an alignment using the **Create Alignment** tool with the copied (and *re-imported*) FASTA sequences as input. To do this, we first enable the Post-processing by checking the **Do post process** checkbox in the **Post processing** menu, as can be seen in Fig. 8.3. It is then possible to choose between the tools currently available on the CLC Server, and in this example we select the **Create Alignment** tool.

8.2.1 Configuring the selected post processing tool

To configure the selected post processing tool we should provide input data and values for required parameters. Please observe that at the bottom of the post processing configuration menu seen in Fig. 8.3 the menu section **Map user parameters to post processing parameters** lists all parameters already defined for the external application (in this example, the *in* and *out* parameters). These can be re-used for the post processing tool by mapping them directly to either input data or specific parameters of the selected tool. This is done by configuring the mapping using the drop-down menu next to the parameter name. The mapping of a parameter to

¹The typical post processing tool is an importer that needs special end-user configuration in order to correctly import the result back into the CLC Server. See section 8.9 for an example of this.

another is constrained by the type compatibility of the parameters, so not all mappings will be possible for a parameter but only those that make sense based on the type of the parameter.

Configuring input data

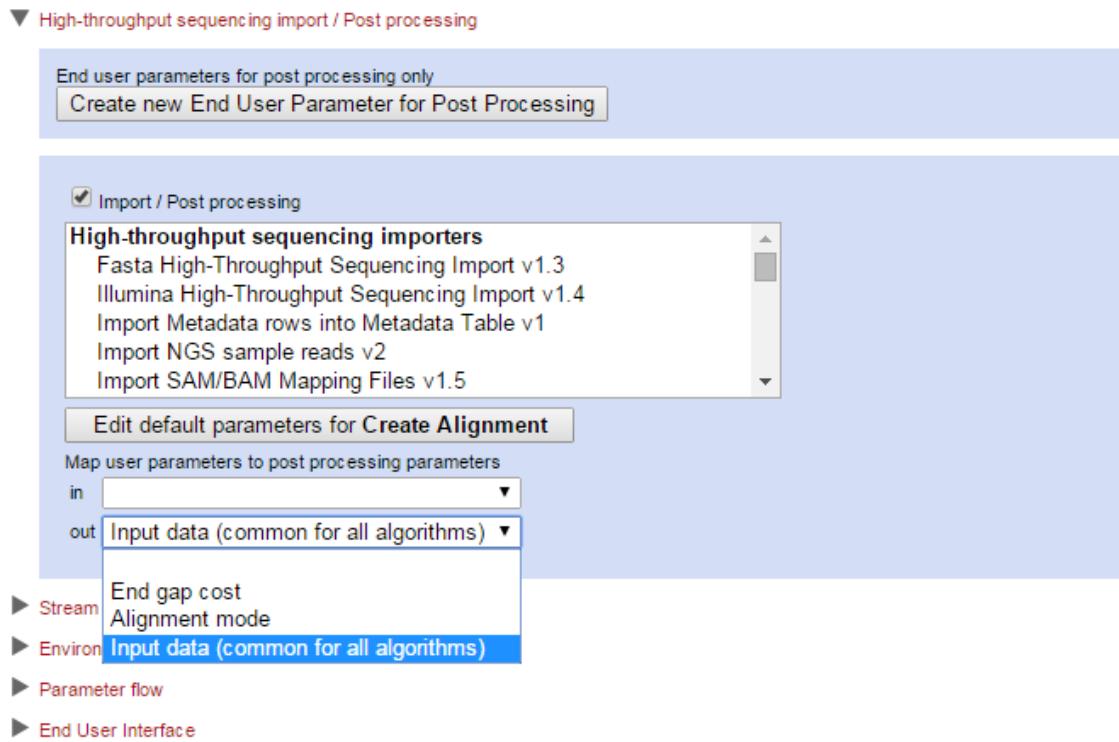


Figure 8.4: Mapping output of external application to input of the selected post processing tool.

To configure the input data for the selected post processing tool, we need to map a parameter to the "*Input data (common for all algorithms)*" item in drop-down menu of possible mappings. In our running example we will map the output of our external application (represented by the previously defined *out* parameter) to the input of the **Create Alignment** tool, which is done by choosing the "*Input data (common for all algorithms)*" item in the drop-down menu next to *out* parameter (see Fig. 8.4).

Configuring additional parameters

Additional parameters that may exist for the selected post processing tool can be configured by either:

1. Letting the end user configure the parameter. This is done by either
 - (a) mapping an existing parameter to a parameter of the post processing tool, or
 - (b) Creating a new end-user parameter for the post processing, by clicking the **Create New End User Parameter for Post Processing** button. This parameter will then appear in the list of parameters and should be mapped to a compatible parameter of the post processing tool.

In our running example we will create a parameter to let the end user configure the "Gap extension cost" parameter of the **Create Alignment** tool, see figure 8.5.

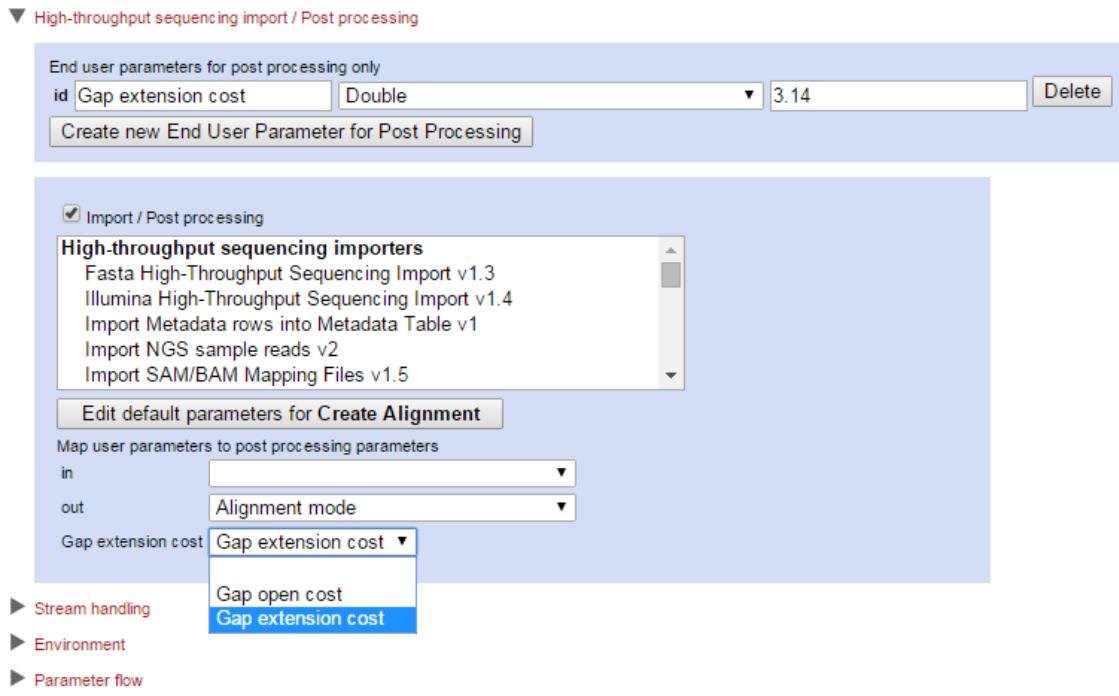


Figure 8.5: Creating a new end user parameter and mapping it to a post processing parameter.

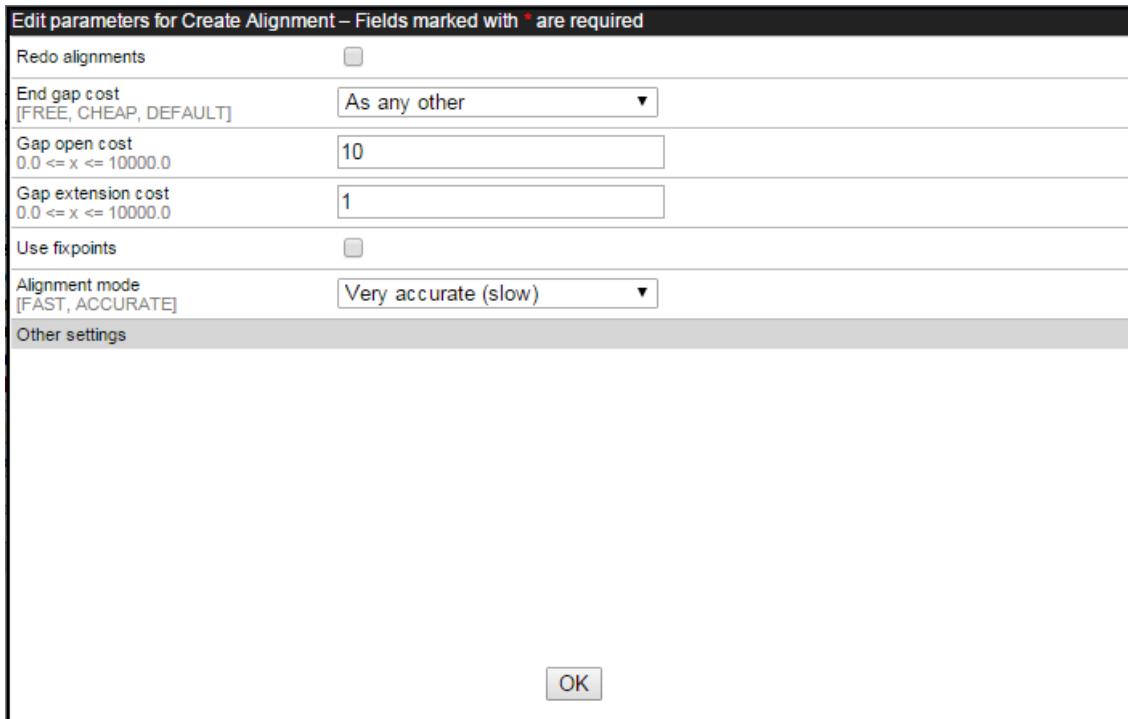


Figure 8.6: Configuring default values for post processing parameters.

- Configuring a default value for the parameter, which is done by clicking the button "Edit default parameters for X", where X is the name of the selected post processing tool. This will open a window where defaults for parameters of the post processing tool can be configured. In our running example, this can be seen in Fig. 8.6.

8.3 Stream handling

There is a general configuration of stream handling available.

The stream handling shown in figure 8.7 allows you to specify where standard out and standard error for the external application should be handled.

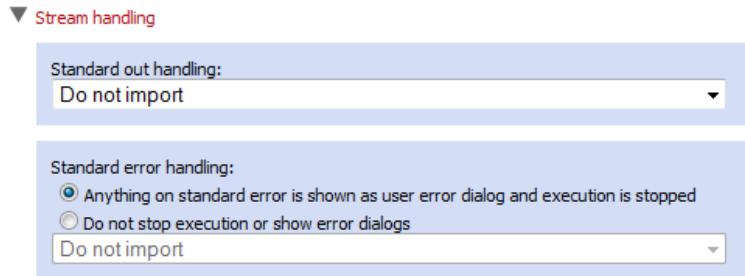


Figure 8.7: Stream handling.

Basically, you can choose to ignore it, or you can import it using one of the importers available on the server. For some applications, standard out produces the main result, so here it makes sense to choose an appropriate importer. But also for debugging purposes it can be beneficial to import standard out and standard error as text so that you can see it in the Workbench after a run.

8.4 Environment

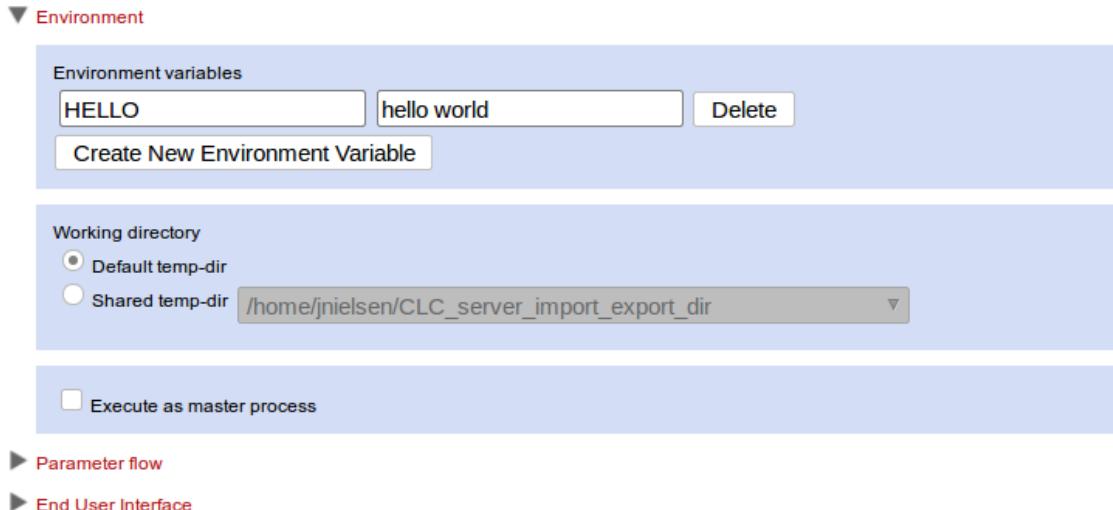


Figure 8.8: The menu for configuring the execution environment of the external application.

In the *Environment* sub-menu of the External Applications integration, it is possible to configure a few central aspects of the environment in which the external application will execute. A screenshot of the sub-menu can be seen in Fig. 8.8.

8.4.1 Environmental Variables

In this section it is possible to create and set a default value for environment variables that should be present for the external application when it executes. In the example of Fig. 8.8 an

environment variable named "*HELLO*" with value "*hello world*" will be present in the execution environment of the external application.

8.4.2 Working directory

Define the area where temporary files will be stored. The *Default temp-dir* option uses the directory specified by the `java.io.tmpdir` setting for your system. The *Shared temp-dir* option allows you to set one of the directories you have already specified as an *Import/export directory* as the area to be used for temporary files created.

Choosing the *Shared temp-dir* option means that temporary files created will be accessible to all execution nodes and the master server, without having to move them between machines.

For external applications that will be run on job nodes, one can choose either the *Shared temp-dir* or the *Default temp-dir* option. Here, the *default temp-dir* would not normally be an area shared between machines, and thus the choice of the *Default temp-dir* means that files will be moved between the master and job node(s).

For external applications that will be run on grid nodes, the *Share temp-dir* option **must** be chosen for the working directory.

If you configure the *Shared temp-dir* for an external application, this area must:

- Be configured in the Import/Export directories area under the Main Configuration tab (see section 3.3).
- Be a shared directory, accessible to your all machines that will execute the external application.

8.4.3 Execute as master process

The checkbox to **Execute as master process** can be checked if the process does not involve intensive processing on the server side. Setting this means that the process will always be run on the Master server. For a single server setup, this has no effect. However, in a system with execution nodes, checking this option results in the queue being effectively by-passed, as the job will be run directly on the master server. This choice will usually only make sense for tasks that require little RAM or cpu. Jobs run this way should will not actually block the queue - they just run as a master process.

8.5 Parameter flow

To aid in determining how the various parameters configured flow through the External Applications process, you can access small graphs showing how the parameters entered in the user parameters section will be used. You can see an example for the very simple copy command used as an example above in figure 8.9.

8.6 Running External Applications

External applications can be executed from both a *CLC Workbench* and the *CLC Server Command Line Tools*.

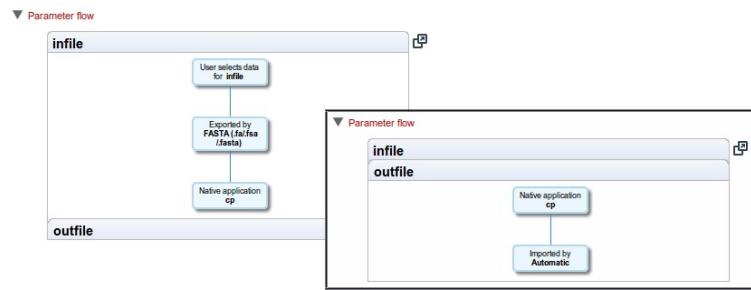


Figure 8.9: An example of the parameter overview facility.

8.6.1 Running from a CLC Workbench

External applications are executed from the CLC Genomics Workbench by going to:

Toolbox | External Applications (📁)

Note that external applications are only synchronized between the server and the workbench during login thus users will have to relogin to discover new external applications.

The configured and accessible external applications are available as individual tools as seen in figure 8.10.

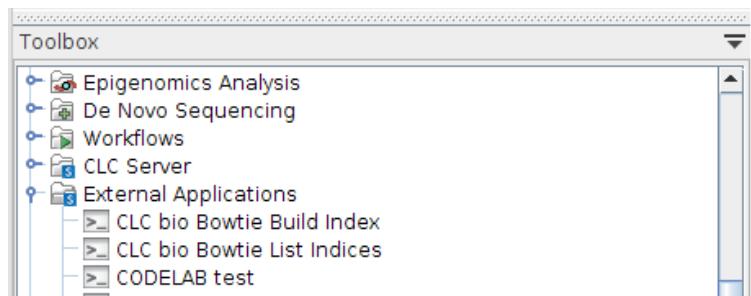


Figure 8.10: Selecting the external application to run.

When the *External Applications* item is launched, the dialog shown in figure 8.11 is displayed. There are two types of execution environment: The *CLC Server* environment, and grid presets. The *CLC Server* environment is always present, while grid presets are only shown if they have been configured as described in section 6.2.

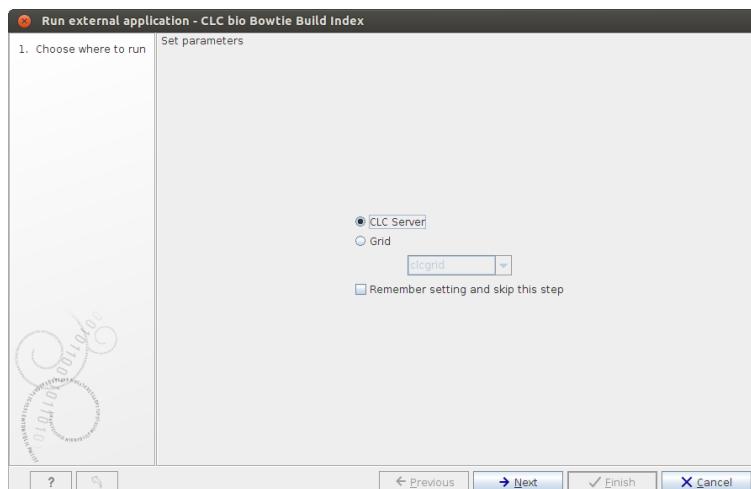


Figure 8.11: Selecting execution environment.

In order for an external application to be executable in a grid environment, its working directory must be configured as a shared temp-dir (see section [8.4.2](#) for details).

Clicking *Next* will display the wizard for providing values for the parameters as can be seen in figure [8.12](#). Here the *in* parameter is displayed as a CLC Object selection, as configured in section [8.1](#).

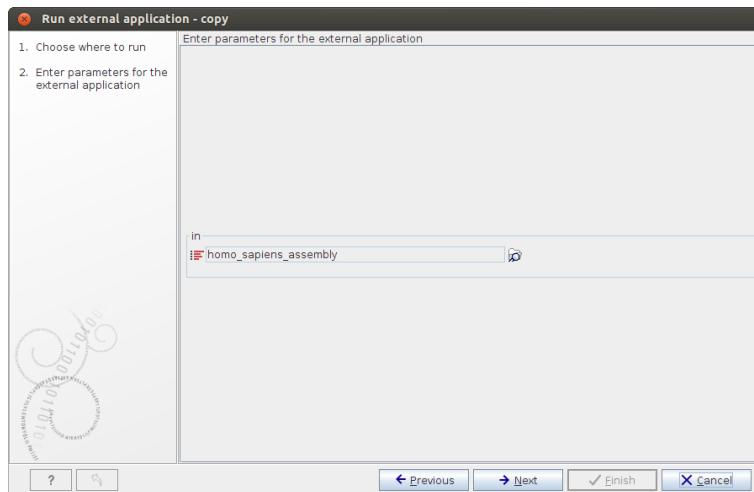


Figure 8.12: Providing the parameters to the external application.

8.6.2 Running from CLC Server Command Line Tools

The CLC Server Command Line Tools (CLT) allows algos, workflows and external applications to be invoked on a CLC Server from a command line and scripts. See the *CLC Server Command Line Tools User Manual* for more information.

When using the CLT to run external applications, the server execution context is chosen unless the *-G* is used to select a specific grid preset. As always, running the CLT with missing or invalid parameters, will provide a help text describing how to correct the situation. Trying to invoke the *copy* external application with no arguments yields the following output:

```
clcserver -S <HOSTNAME> -U <USER> -W <PASSWORD> -A copy
Message: Trying to log on to server
Message: Login successful
The following options are available through the command line and the types are as follows:
```

Type	Valid input
-----	-----
<Integer>	A decimal number in the range [-2147483648;2147483647] Example: 42
<Boolean>	The string true or false Example: true
<String>	Any valid string. It is recommended to enclose all strings in '' to avoid issues with the shell misinterpreting spaces or double quotes Example: 'text="My text"'
<ClcFileUrl>	A valid path to a file on the server or in the local file system Example: clc://serverfile/tmp/export
<ClcObjectUrl>	A valid path to a Clc object on the server or locally Example: clc://server/pstore1/Variant1

```

Option                                Description
-----
-A <Command>                         Command currently set to 'copy'
-C <Integer>                          Specify column width of help output.
-D <Boolean>                           Enable debug mode (default: false)
-G <Grid preset names>                Specify to execute on grid.
-H                                     Display general help.
-O <File>                             Output file.
-P <Integer>                           Server port number. (default: 7777)
-Q <Boolean>                           Quiet mode. No progress output.
                                         (default: false)
-S <String>                            Server hostname or IP-address of the
                                         CLC Server.
-U <String>                            Valid username for logging on to the
                                         CLC Server
-V                                     Display version.
-W <String>                            Clear text password or domain
                                         specific password token.
-d, --destination <ClcServerObjectUrl> Destination for import from External
                                         Application
--in <ClcServerObjectUrl>               Model object(s) to be exported to
                                         FASTA (.fa/.fsa/.fasta)

Error: Missing required options: d, in

```

Here we need to give both the `-d` and `--in` parameters in order for the external application being able to run.

8.7 Import and export

External application configurations can be exported and imported in order to facilitate backup and exchange of these configurations between servers. Please note that any installed application used by an external application configuration is not part of the export. Only the execution configuration set up in the administration interface is included.

8.7.1 Export

To export external application configurations, click the **Export configuration...** button.

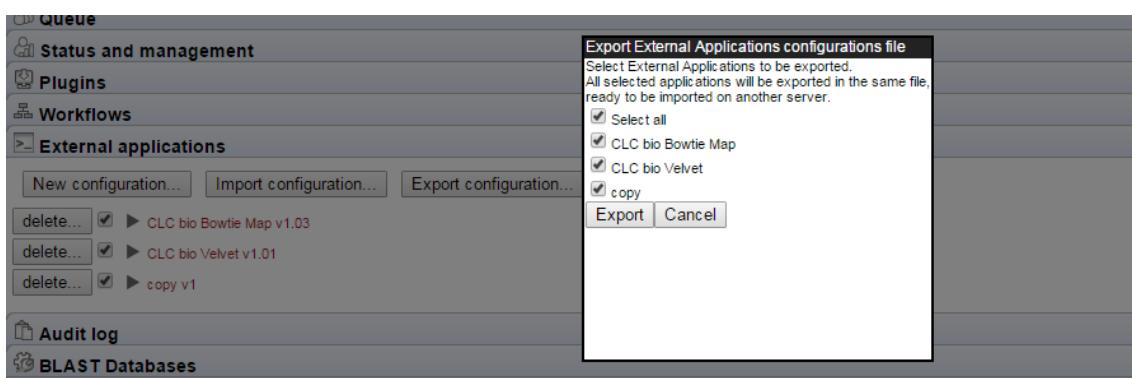


Figure 8.13: Exporting external applications configuration.

It is possible to export all external applications at once or to hand pick a subset to be exported. Select the applications to export and click **Export**. A configuration file is then downloaded and can be imported on the same or another server.

8.7.2 Import

To import a set of one or more external applications, click the **Import configuration...** button. Select the configuration to import and click **Import**.

You will then see a dialog confirming the import. If any of the imported configurations already existed, they have been overwritten and listed in the dialog.

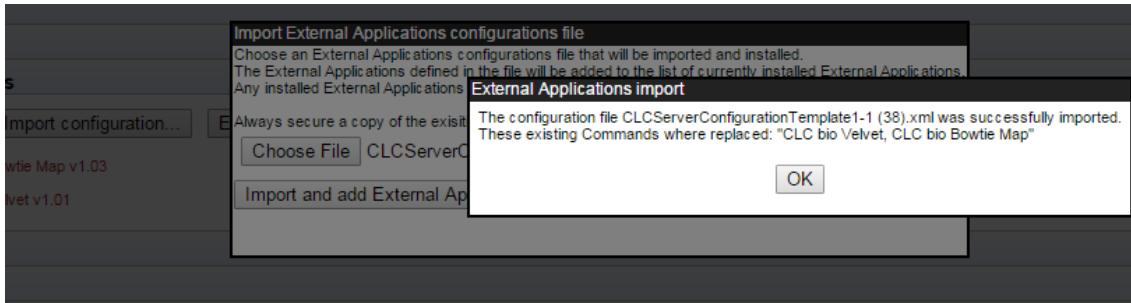


Figure 8.14: Exporting external applications configuration.

8.8 Velvet Integration

For demonstration of external applications integration, we are going to use Velvet as an example. Velvet [Zerbino and Birney, 2008] is a popular de novo assembler for next-generation sequencing data, and is therefore in particular relevant for CLC Genomics Server users. We have provided example scripts and configurations to set this up as an external application on CLC Server.

The velvet package includes two programs that need to be run consecutively. Because the external application on the CLC Server is designed to call one program, a script is needed to encapsulate this.

8.8.1 Installing Velvet

To get started, you need to do the following:

- Install Velvet on the server computer (download from <https://github.com/dzerbino/velvet/tree/master>). Note that if you have job nodes, it needs to be installed on all nodes that will be configured to run Velvet. We assume that Velvet is installed in /usr/local/velvet but you can just update the paths if it is placed elsewhere.
- Download the scripts and configuration files made by CLC bio from <http://www.clcbio.com/external-applications/velvet.zip>
- Unzip the file and place the clcbio folder and contents in the Velvet installation directory (this is the script tying the two Velvet program together). You need to edit the script if you did not place the Velvet binary files in /usr/local/velvet.
- Make sure execute permissions are set on the script and the executable files in the Velvet installation directory. Note that the user executing the files will be the user who started the Server process (if you are using the default start-up script, this will be *root*).

- Use the `velvet.xml` file as a new configuration on the server: Log into the server via the web interface and go to the **External applications** ( tab under **Admin** () and click **Import Configuration**.

When the configuration has been imported, click the **CLC bio Velvet** header and you should see a configuration as shown in figure 8.15.

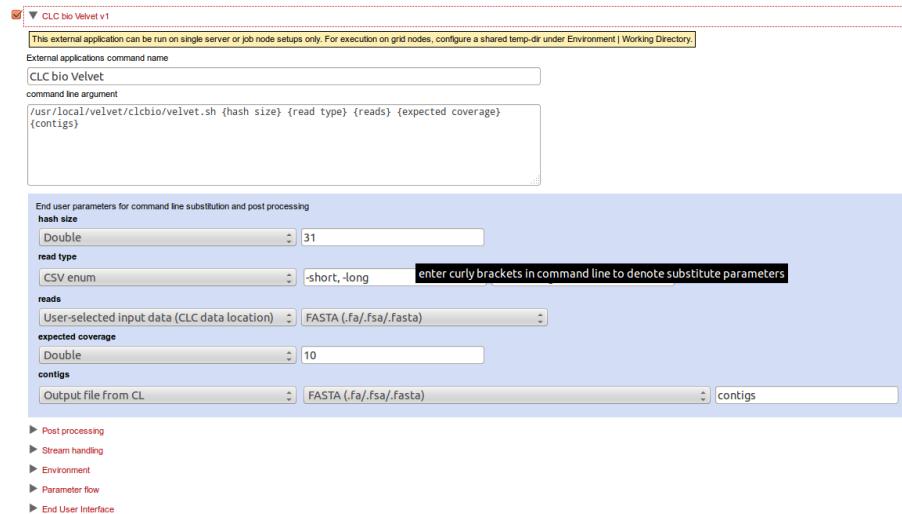


Figure 8.15: The Velvet configuration has been imported.

Update the path to the Velvet installation at the very top if necessary.

8.8.2 Running Velvet from the Workbench

Next step is to test if it can actually be executed. Open the Workbench with the **External Applications Client Plugin** installed. Go to:

Toolbox | **External Applications** () | **CLC bio Velvet** ()

When you have selected the execution environment the parameters must be configured in the dialog seen in figure 8.16.

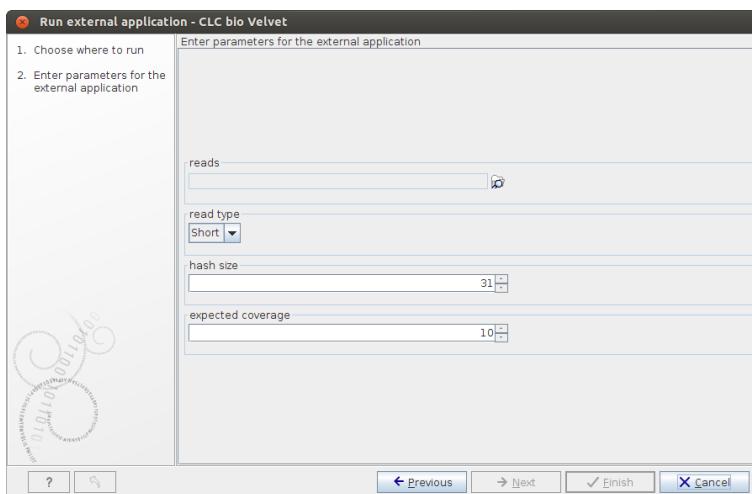


Figure 8.16: Configure Velvet parameters from the Workbench.

Select () some sequences, adjust the parameters accordingly and click **Next** and **Finish**.

The process that follows has four steps:

1. The sequencing reads are exported by the server to a FASTA file. The FASTA file is a temporary file that will be deleted when the process is done.
2. The velvet script is executed using this FASTA file and the user-specified parameters as input.
3. The resulting output file is imported into the save location specified in the save step of the Workbench dialog, and the user is notified that the process is done.
4. All temporary files are deleted

8.8.3 Understanding the Velvet configuration

We will now explain how the configuration that we made actually works. And hopefully this will make it possible for you to design your own integrations.

Going back to figure 8.15, there is a text field at the top. This is where the command expression is created, in this case:

```
/usr/local/velvet/clcbio/velvet.sh {hash size} {read type}  
{reads} {expected coverage} {contigs}
```

The first is the path to the script, and the following are parameters that are interpreted by the server when calling the script because they are surrounded by curly brackets { }. Note that each parameter entered in curly brackets gets an entry in the panel below the command line expression.

The first one, `hash size`, can be entered as a **Double** (which is a number in computer parlance) and it is thus up to the user to provide a value. A default value is entered here in the configuration (31).

The second one is the `read type` which has been configured as a **CSV enum** which is basically a list. The first part consists of the parameters to be used when calling the script (`-short`, `-long`), and the second part is the more human-readable representation that is shown in the Workbench (`Short`, `Long`).

The third parameter is `reads` which is the input data. When the **User-selected input data** option is chosen, a list of all the available export formats is presented. In this case, Velvet expects a fasta file. When a user starts Velvet from the Workbench, the server starts exporting the selected input data to a temporary fasta file before running the script.

The `expected coverage` is similar to `hash size`.

The last parameter is `contigs` which represents the output file. This time, a list of import data formats is available used to import the data back into the folder that the user selected as save destination.

The rest of the configurations listed below are not used in this example, see the Bowtie example below 8.9.

8.9 Bowtie Integration

Bowtie [Langmead et al., 2009] is a short-reads mapper that can map sequencing reads to a reference sequence. This could therefore be a relevant application for CLC Genomics Server users. In this example, we show how to integrate Bowtie via the External Applications functionality.

Here, when the user runs a Bowtie Mapping, they will select their sequencing reads, identify the pre-built index file of the reference sequence to use and set a few parameters via a standard Workbench wizard interface. When the mapping is launched, Bowtie is executed on the system.

To import a SAM or BAM file into CLC Server requires both that file and also a copy of the reference genome already in the CLC system. Bowtie itself uses pre-built index files rather than the reference sequences when the mapping is being carried out. However, as the reference sequences for a mapping are required when importing a SAM file, the Post-processing functionality of the External Applications setup allows the administrator to specify how the SAM file should be handled and requires that the user specifies the reference sequences when they set up the job.

8.9.1 Installing Bowtie

To get started:

- Install Bowtie from <http://bowtie-bio.sourceforge.net/index.shtml>. We assume that Bowtie is installed in /usr/local/bowtie but you can just update the paths if it is placed elsewhere.
- Download the scripts and configuration files made by CLC bio from <http://www.clcbio.com/external-applications/bowtie-example-2.zip>
- Place the `clcbio` folder and contents in the Bowtie installation directory. This is the script used to wrap the Bowtie functionality.
- Make sure execute permissions are set on the scripts and the executable files in the Bowtie installation directory. Note that the user executing the files will be the user who started the Server process (if you are using the default start-up script, this will be `root`).
- Use the `bowtie.xml` file as a new configuration on the server: Log into the server via the web interface and go to the **External applications** () tab under **Admin** () and click **Import Configuration**.

The `bowtie.xml` file contains configurations for three tools associated with Bowtie: CLC Bowtie build index, CLC Bowtie list indices and Bowtie Map. If you already have a set of indices you wish to use and the location of these is known to the system via the `BOWTIE_INDEXES`, then you can just use the Bowtie Map tool via the Workbench and specify the index to use by name.

Otherwise, you can build the index to use using the CLC Bowtie build index tool. Here, unless you edit the wrapper scripts in the files you download from CLC bio, the indices will be written to the directory indicated by the `BOWTIE_INDEXES` environmental variable. If you have not specified anything for this, indices will likely be written into the folder called `indexes` in the installation area of Bowtie. Please ensure that your users have appropriate write access to the area indices should be written to.

From ftp://ftp.cbcn.umd.edu/pub/data/bowtie_indexes/ you can download pre-built index files of many model organisms. Download the index files relevant for you and extract them into the `indexes` folder in the Bowtie installation directory.

The rest of this section focusses on understanding the integration of the Bowtie Map tool in particular.

8.9.2 Understanding the Bowtie configuration

Once the `bowtie.xml` has been imported, you can click the **CLC bio Bowtie Map** header to see the configuration as shown figure 8.17.

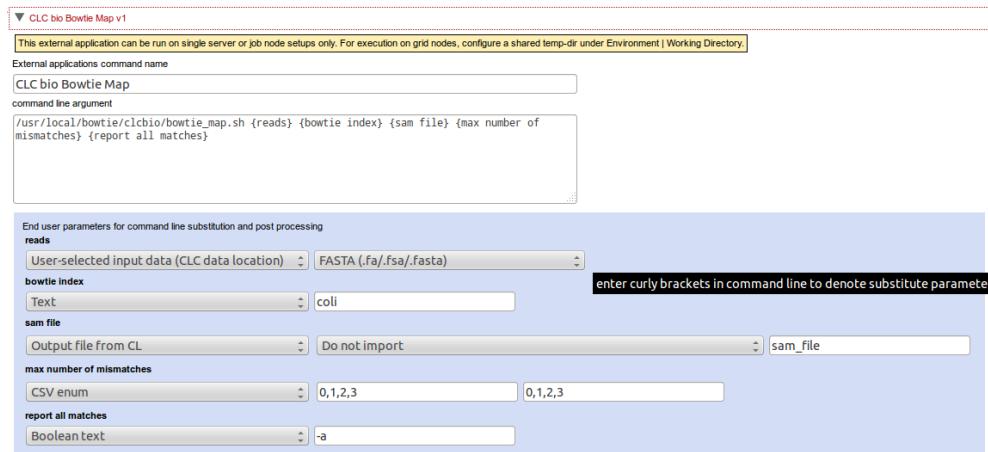


Figure 8.17: The Bowtie configuration has been imported.

The basic configuration is very much similar to the Velvet set-up (section 8.9).

The **reads** parameter type is **User-selected input data**, meaning that the users will be able to select the data to use. The type for this parameter is set to **FASTA (.fa/.fsa/.fasta)** meaning that the data selected by the user should be exported from the Server in fasta format. This is the format that Bowtie will then receive as input.

The **index** parameter will allow the user to specify the name of the index file to use in the mapping. This could be simplified for the user, and made less subject to error, if one were to choose **CSV enum** as a parameter type instead of type **Text**. This would allow an administrator to provide a fixed set of index files that the user could choose from via a drop-down menu in the Workbench Wizard.

The last two options **max number of mismatches** and **report all matches** are parameters that are passed to the Bowtie mapper using the value selected by the user in the Workbench Wizard.

The sam file parameter is set as **Output file from CL** and the option selected is **Do not import**. The **sam file** indicates what the output file from Bowtie should be called. A SAM or BAM format file is imported using the SAM/BAM import functionality of the Server, but this requires both the output from Bowtie as well as access to the reference sequences for the mapping. Thus, here we put off the import of the Bowtie output by choosing the option **Do not import**, allowing us to make use of the Post-processing functionality, where we can add a parameter to those the user will be presented with in the Wizard, this time asking for the reference sequences. This additional information will then allow import of the SAM file as a mapping object.

If you expand the **Post-processing** panel, you can see the logic needed to handle the SAM file from Bowtie together with the reference sequence provided by the user (see figure 8.18).

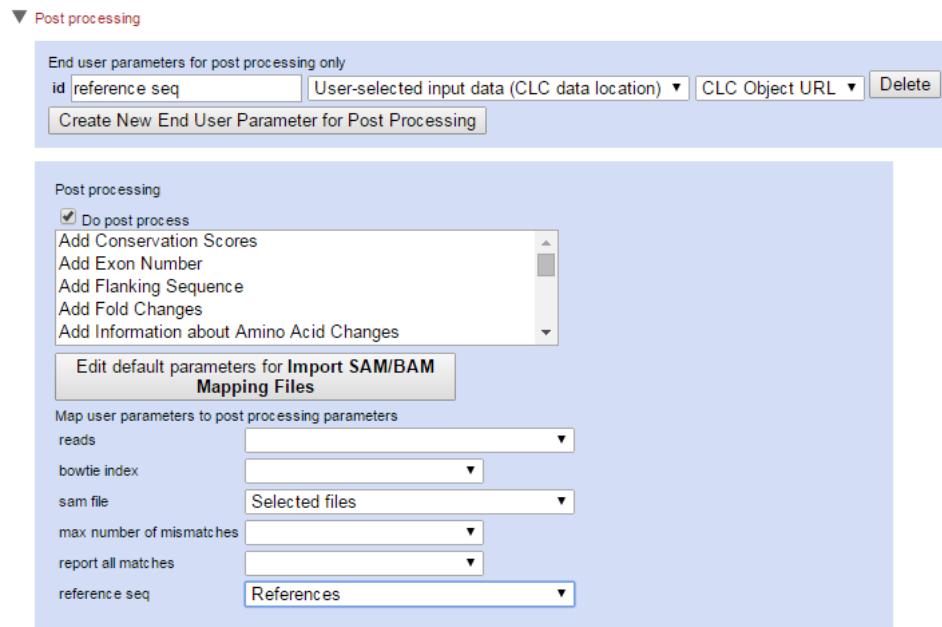


Figure 8.18: The Bowtie post-processing set-up.

At the top, there is a panel for specifying **End user parameters for post processing only** which in this case is the reference sequence.

The post-processing algorithm is then specified, in this case **Import SAM/BAM Files**. The input parameters for this import process are then specified below that. The parameters presented are those you specify within the Post-processing section itself, as well as all those parameters from the top section which could be used as input to the algorithm you have chosen to run.

Here, you get entries for **reads**, which is not relevant, as well as **reference seq**. This is because the system sees both of these as sequences, and does not have any way to interpret which may be the relevant sequence object for this job. The administrator can then choose which is relevant. Here it is the **reference seq** object, and so it is given the value **References**. This choice means that the user will get to select a reference sequence list via the Workbench Wizard when they are setting up their Bowtie mapping job. The sam file is chosen as the file to be imported.

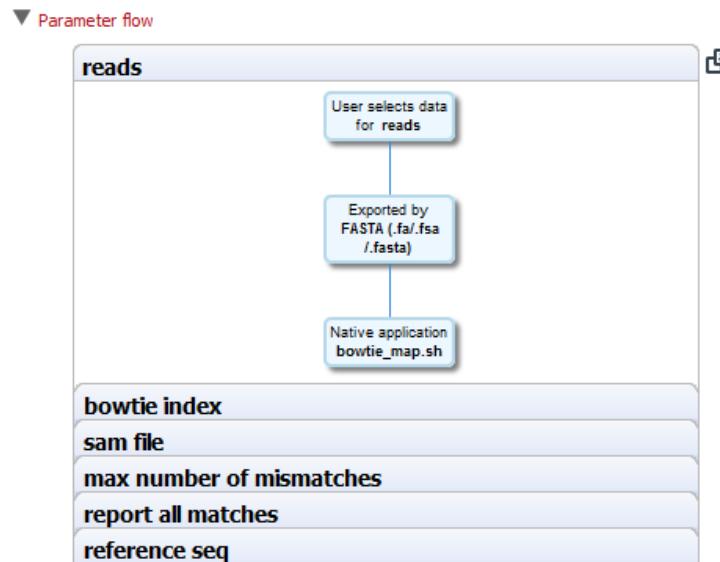
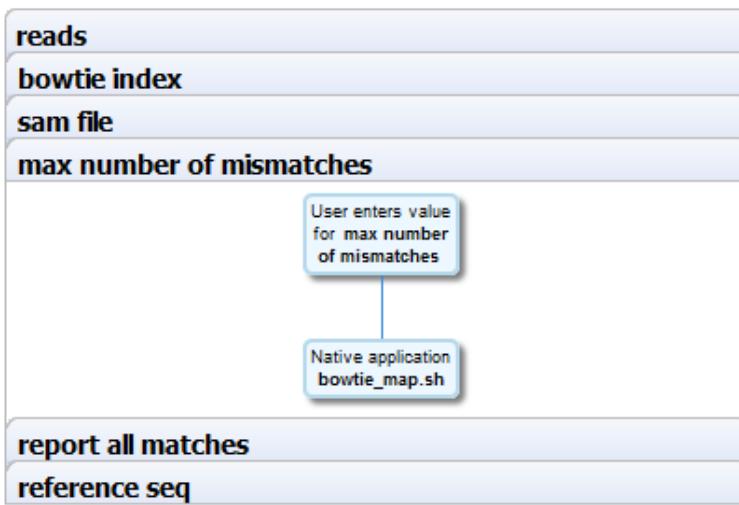
8.9.3 Parameter overview

Since the set-up and flow of parameters can be quite complex, there is a **Parameter flow** panel at the bottom of the configuration with a small graph for each parameter (see figure 8.19).

The **reads** parameter starts with user selecting data, and the sequences are exported in fasta format and used as input for the Bowtie script.

Figure 8.20 shows the **max number of mismatches** parameter which also starts with the user selecting a value that is passed to the Bowtie script.

Figure 8.21 shows the **reference seq** parameter which also starts with the user selecting data which is passed on to the SAM/BAM import.

Figure 8.19: The *reads* parameter.Figure 8.20: The *max number of mismatches* parameter flow.

8.9.4 Setting path for temporary data

The **Environment** handling shown in figure 8.22 allows you to specify a folder for temporary data and add additional environment variables to be set when running the external application.

In Bowtie, the post-processing step needs to access the SAM file. Thus, the working directory you set must be the directory where this SAM file will be placed, which will be in one of the directories you have configured as an Import/Export directory.

If you are running on a master-node setup, the directory you choose must be shared, that is, accessible to all nodes you plan to have as execution nodes for this task. This is because different stages of your task could be run on different nodes. For example, the export process could run on a different node than the actual execution of the Bowtie script and the post-processing. Thus, in a master-node setup, be it using grid or CLC execution nodes, having this shared temporary area eliminates the overhead of transferring the temporary files between job nodes.

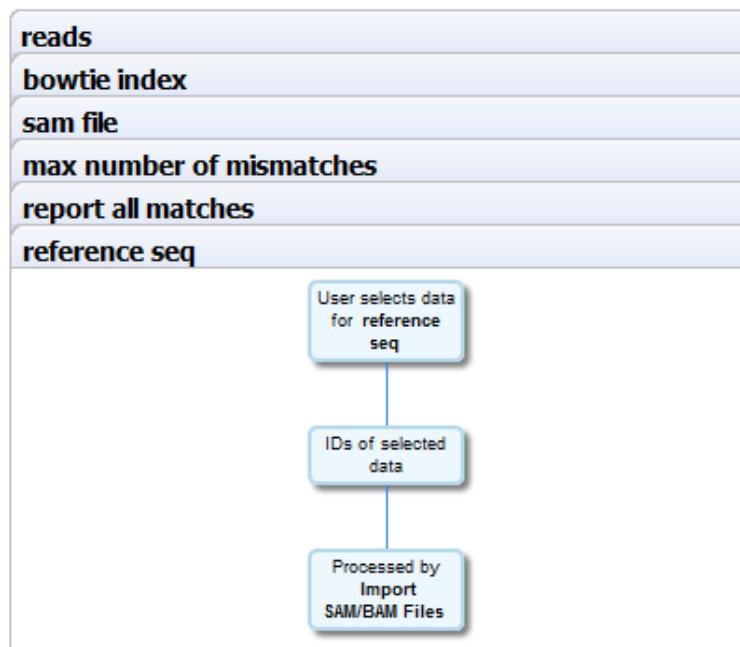


Figure 8.21: The reference seq parameter flow.

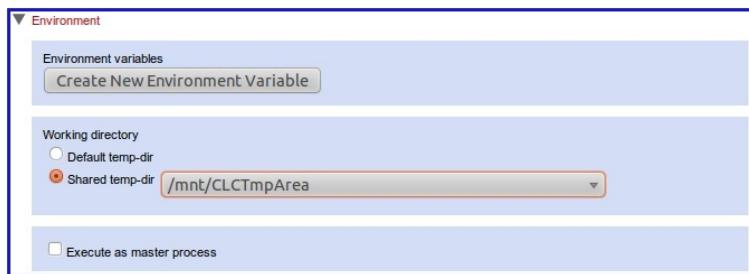


Figure 8.22: Temporary data should be defined for Bowtie.

8.9.5 Tools for building index files

We have also included scripts and configurations for building index files using the external applications on CLC Server. This also includes the possibility of listing the index files available. To get these to work, please make sure the path to the Bowtie installation directory is correct.

You should also note that the Bowtie distribution includes scripts to download index files of various organisms.

8.10 Troubleshooting

8.10.1 Checking the configuration

Since there is no check of consistency of the configuration when it has been set up, errors will only be seen on runtime when the application is executed. In order to help trouble-shooting in case of problems, there are a few things that can be done:

First, in the error dialog that will be presented in the workbench, you can see the actual command line call in the **Advanced** tab at the bottom. This can be a great help identifying syntax errors in the call.

Second, if you choose to import standard out and standard error as text, this will make it possible to check error messages posted by the external application (see figure 8.23).

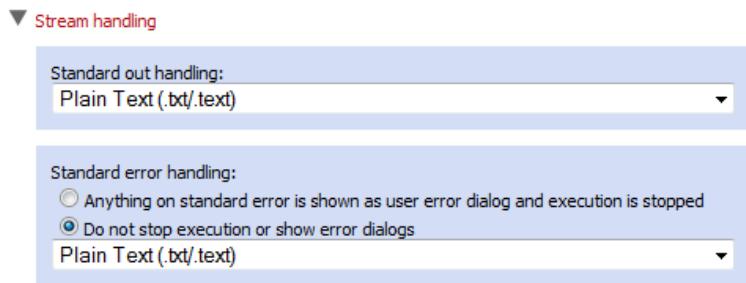


Figure 8.23: *Importing the result of standard error and standard out.*

Once the set-up is running and stable, you can deselect these options.

8.10.2 Check your third party application

- Is your third party application being found? Perhaps try giving the full path to it.
- If you are using someone else's configuration file, make sure the location to the third party application is correct for your system.
- If you are using someone else's wrapper scripts, make sure all locations referred to inside the script are correct for your system.
- Is your third party application executable?
- If there was a wrapper script being used to call the third party application, is that wrapper script executable?

8.10.3 Is your Import/Export directory configured?

For certain setups, you need to have Import/Export directories configured. Please refer to section 8.4.2 for more details on this.

8.10.4 Check your naming

If your users will only access the External Applications via the Workbench, then you do not have to worry about what name you choose when setting up the configuration. However, if they plan to use the **clcserver** program, from the CLC Command Line Tools, to interact with your CLC Server, then please ensure that you do not use the same name as any of the internal commands available. You can get a list of these by running the `clcserver` command, with your CLC Server details, and using the flag with no argument.

Example:

```
/clcserver -S localhost -P 7777 -U root -W default
```

```
<host> <port> <username> <password>
```

Chapter 9

Workflows

The *CLC Server* supports workflows that are created with the *CLC Workbenches*. A workflow consists of a series of tools where the output of one tool is connected as the input to another tool. For a workflow to be executable on a *CLC Server*, all tools in the workflow should be available on the server.

The workflow is created in the *CLC Workbench* and an installer file is created that can be installed on the *CLC Server*.

As an example from *CLC Genomics Workbench* or *Biomedical Genomics Workbench*, a workflow could pass data through read mapping, use the mapped reads as input for variant detection, and perform some filtering of the variant track.

9.1 Installing and configuring workflows

Workflows can be installed from the server web interface:

Admin (gear) | **Workflows (list)**

Click the **Install Workflow** button and select a workflow installer (for information about creating a workflow, please see the user manual of *CLC Genomics Workbench*, *Biomedical Genomics Workbench*, *CLC Main Workbench* or *CLC Drug Discovery Workbench* at <http://www.clcbio.com/usermanuals>).

Once installed, the workflow is listed with a validated (✓) or attention (⚠) status icon as shown in figure 9.1.

In this example, there are several workflow elements that can be configured. Simply click the box and you will see a dialog listing the parameters that need to be configured as well as an overview of all the parameters. An example is shown in figure 9.2.

In addition to the configuration of values for the open parameters, you can also specify which of those open parameters that should be locked (this means that the parameter cannot be changed when executing the workflow). Learn more about locking and unlocking parameters in the user manual of *CLC Genomics Workbench*, *CLC Main Workbench* or *CLC Drug Discovery Workbench* at <http://www.clcbio.com/usermanuals>.

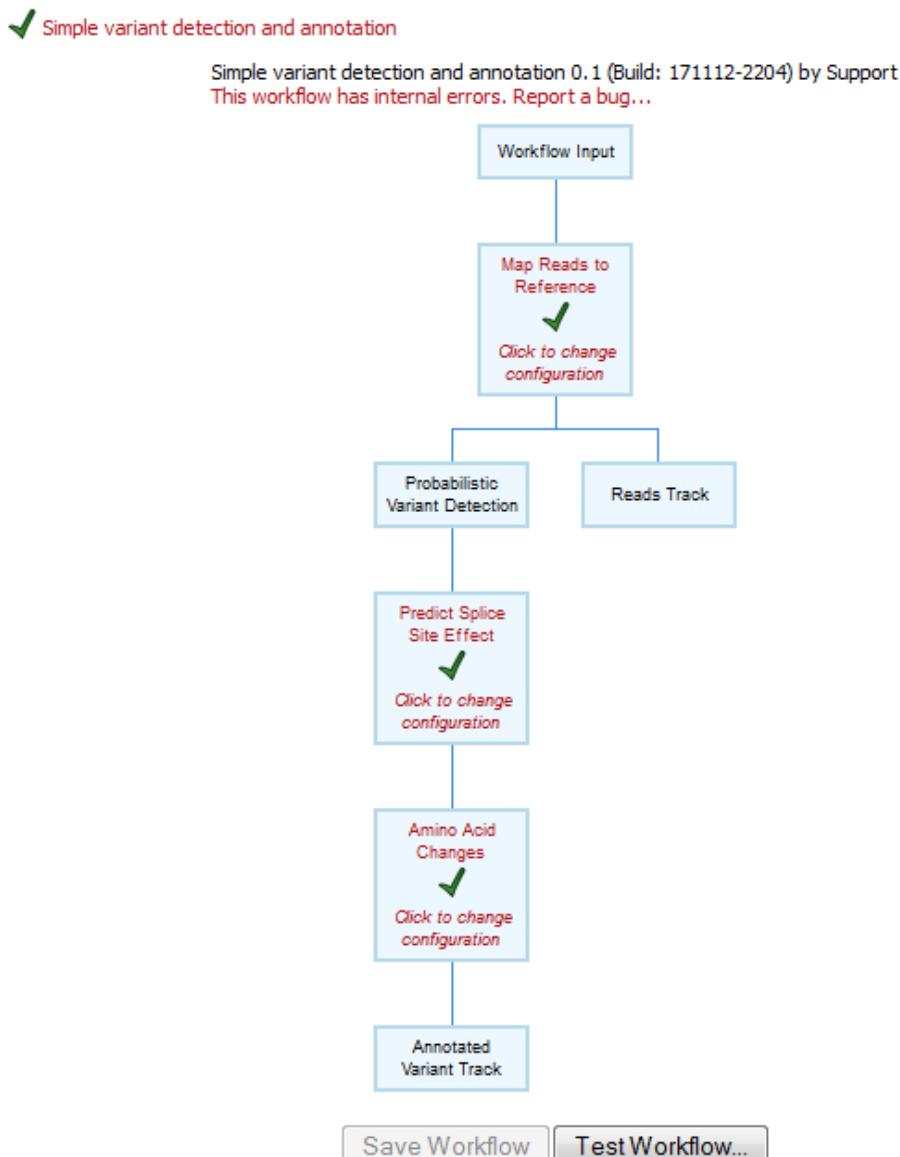


Figure 9.1: A workflow is installed and validated.

9.2 Executing workflows

Once a workflow is installed and validated, it becomes available for execution. When you log in on the server using the CLC Workbench, workflows installed on the server automatically become available in the **Toolbox** (see figure 9.3).

When you select it, you will be presented with a dialog as shown in figure 9.4 with the options of where to run the workflow.

This means that workflows installed on the server can be executed either on the server or in the workbench. In the same way, workflows installed in the workbench can be executed on the server as well as in the workbench. The only requirement is that both the tools that are part of the workflow and any reference data are available.

An important benefit of installing workflows on the server is that it provides the administrator an easy way to update and deploy new versions of the workflow, because any changes immediately

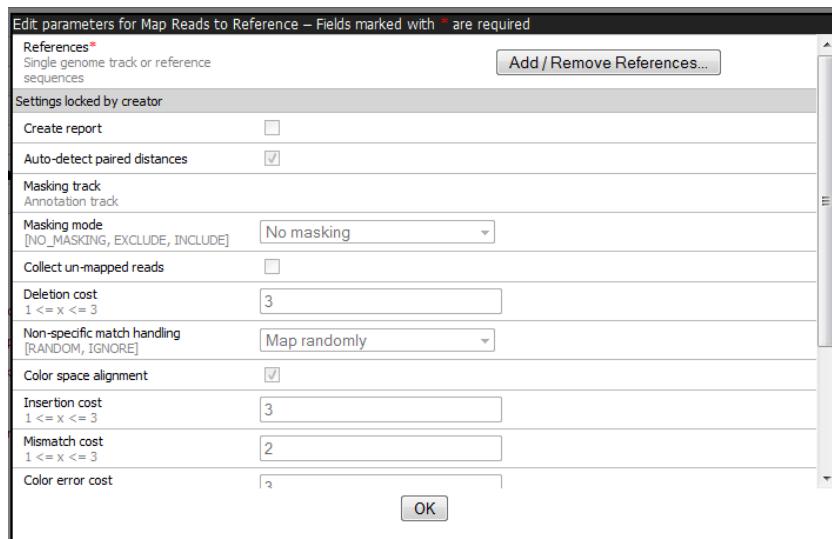


Figure 9.2: In this example only one parameter can be configured, the rest of the parameters are locked for the user.

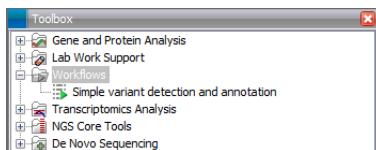


Figure 9.3: A workflow is installed and ready to be used.

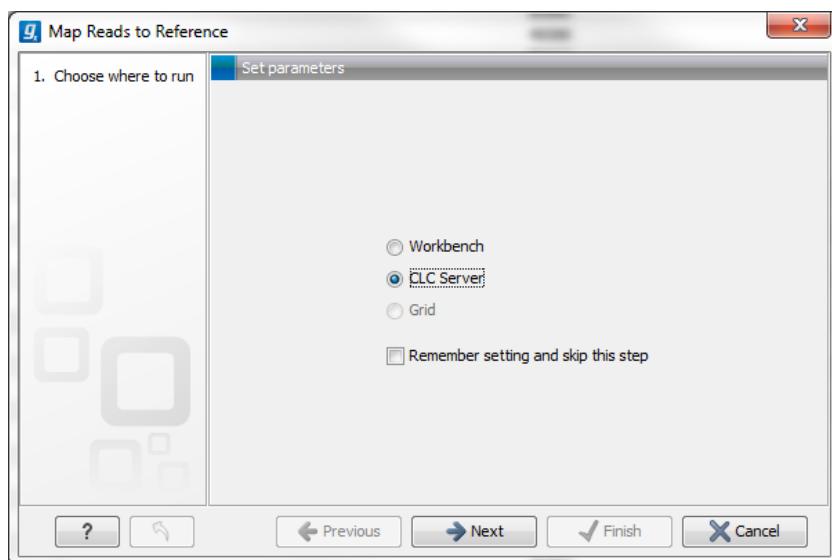


Figure 9.4: Selecting where to run the workflow.

take effect for all workbench users as well.

9.3 Automatic update of workflow elements

When new versions of the CLC Server are released, some of the tools that are part of a workflow may change. When this happens, the installed workflow may no longer be valid. If this is the case the workflow will be marked with an attention (!) symbol.

When a workflow is opened in the administrative interface, a button labeled "Migrate Workflow" will appear whenever tools used in the workflow have been updated (see figure 9.5).

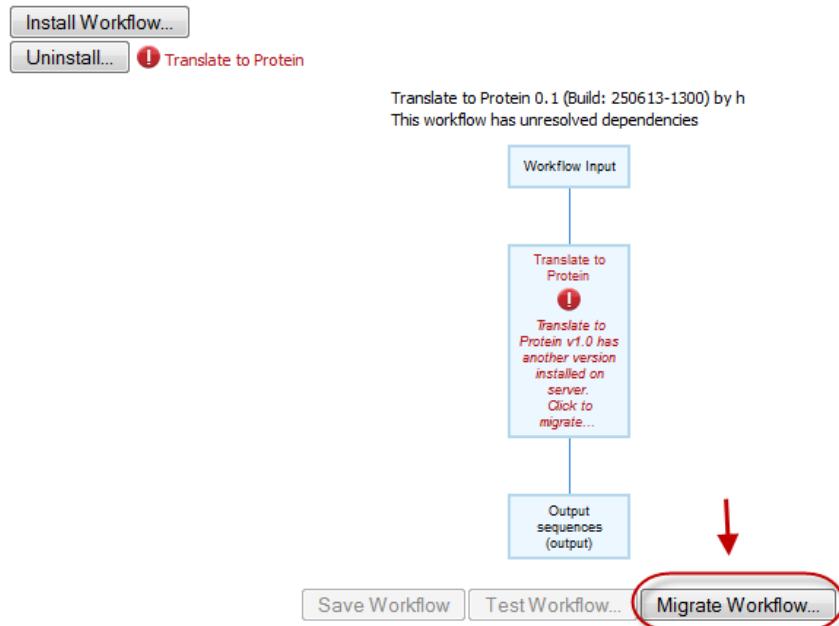


Figure 9.5: When updates are available a button labeled "Migrate Workflow" appears with information about which tools should be updated. Press "Migrate Workflow" to update the workflow. The workflow must be updated to be able to run the workflow.

Updating a workflow means that the tools in your workflow is updated with the most recent version of these particular tools. To update your workflow, press the **Migrate Workflow** button. This will bring up a pop-up dialog that contains information about the changes that you are about to accept. In case errors have occurred these will also be displayed here. The pop-up dialog allows to either accept the changes by pressing the "Migrate" button or cancel the update (figure 9.6).

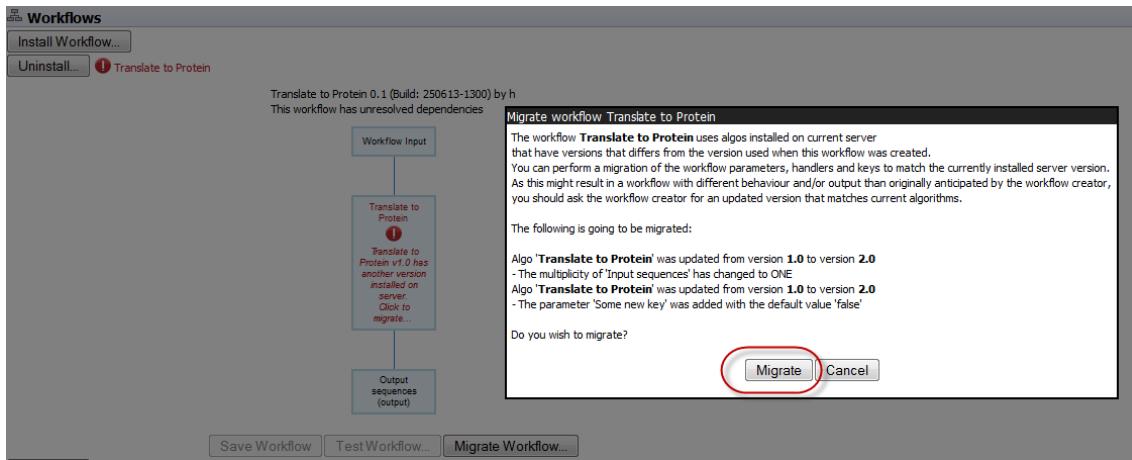


Figure 9.6: A pop-up box allows you to select whether you wish to update the workflow or not. Press "Migrate" to update the workflow.

Pressing "Migrate" will update the workflow, which then will be marked with a green check mark (✓). The updated workflow keeps the name of the original workflow. **Note!** In cases where new parameters have been added, these will be used with their default settings.

As there may be situations where it is important for you to keep the workflow in its original

form, a copy is created of the original workflow with the original name extended with "-backup (disabled)". This is shown in figure 9.7.



Figure 9.7: *In addition to the updated version of the workflow that now is marked with a green check mark, a copy is created of the original workflow with the original name extended with "-backup (disabled)".*

When clicking on the copy of the original workflow, a button labeled "Re-enable Workflow" appears (figure 9.8). Pressing this button will re-enable the original workflow and uninstall the updated workflow.



Figure 9.8: *After a workflow has been updated, it is possible to re-enable the original workflow.*

Chapter 10

Command line tools

CLC Server Command Line Tools is a command-line client for *CLC Server*. You can find a complete overview of usage for all commands at

http://www.clcsupport.com/clcservercommandlinetools/current/index.php?manual@EQUALS@@Usage_all_commands.html

If you would like to learn more about *CLC Server Command Line Tools*, we recommend that you read the *CLC Server Command Line Tools* manual found here (html version): <http://www.clcsupport.com/clcservercommandlinetools/current/index.php?manual=Introduction.html> or here (pdf version): http://www.clcbio.com/files/usermanuals/CLC_Server_Command_Line_Tools_User_Manual.pdf.

In the *CLC Server Command Line Tools* manual you can find information about how to download and install *CLC Server Command Line Tools*, the basic usage of the command line tools, and you can also find an example script that can be modified by the user.

Chapter 11

Appendix

11.1 Use of multi-core computers

Many tools in CLC Workbenches and Servers can make use of multi-core CPUs. This does not necessarily mean that all available CPU cores are used throughout the analysis. It means that these tools benefit from running on computers with multiple CPU cores.

Tools available differ between CLC Workbenches. In the table, the availability of these tools in different CLC Workbench Toolbox menus is indicated with an X.

Use of multi-core computers	Genomics	Drug Discovery	Biomedical Genomics
Basic Variant Detection	X		X
BLAST (will not scale well on many cores)	X		
Create Alignment	X	X	X
Create Detailed Mapping Report	X		X
Create Sequencing QC Report (will not scale well on more than four cores)	X		
De Novo Assembly	X		
Dock Ligands		X	
Download Reference Genome Data	X		
Extract and Count	X		X
Fixed Ploidy Variant Detection	X		X
Import Molecules from SMILES or 2D		X	
K-mer Based Tree Construction	X		
Large Gap Read Mapper (currently in beta)	X		
Local Realignment	X		X
Low Frequency Variant Detection	X		X
Map Reads to Contigs	X		
Map Reads to Reference	X		X
Maximum Likelihood Phylogeny	X		
Model Testing	X		
Probabilistic Variant Detection (legacy)	X		X
QC for Sequencing Reads (will not scale well on more than four cores)			X
Quality-based Variant Detection (legacy)	X		X
RNA-Seq Analysis	X		X
Screen Ligands		X	
Trim Sequences	X		X

11.2 Troubleshooting

If there are problems regarding the installation and configuration of the server, please contact support-clcbio@qiagen.com.

11.2.1 Check set-up

In order to check that your server has been set up correctly, you can run the **Check set-up** tool. Log in on the web interface of the server as an administrator and click the **Check Set-up** link at the upper right corner. This will show a dialog where you click **Generate Diagnostics Report**.

This will show a list of test that are performed on the system as shown in figure 11.1.

If any of the tests fail, it will be shown in the list. You can expand each of the tests to display more information about what the test is checking and information about the error if it fails.

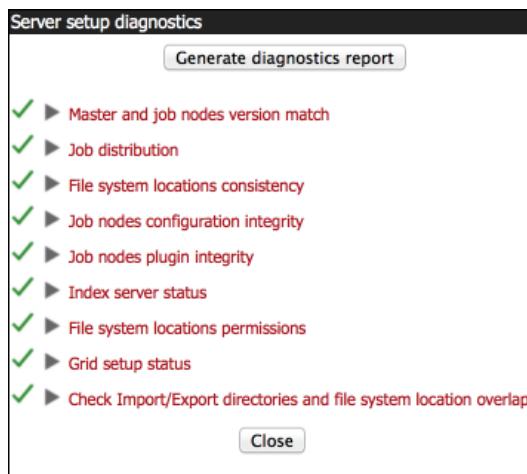


Figure 11.1: *Check system*. Failed elements will be marked with a red X. If you have not configured your Server to submit jobs to a local Grid system, or if you have and your setup is configured correctly, you will see a green checkmark beside the Grid setup status item in the diagnostic report.

11.2.2 Bug reporting

When contacting support-clcbio@qiagen.com regarding problems on the server, you will often be asked for additional information about the server set-up etc. In this case, you can easily send the necessary information by submitting a bug report:

Log in to the web interface of the server as administrator | report a bug (at the top right corner) | Enter relevant information with as much detail as possible | Submit Bug Report to CLC bio

You can see the bug report dialog in 11.2.

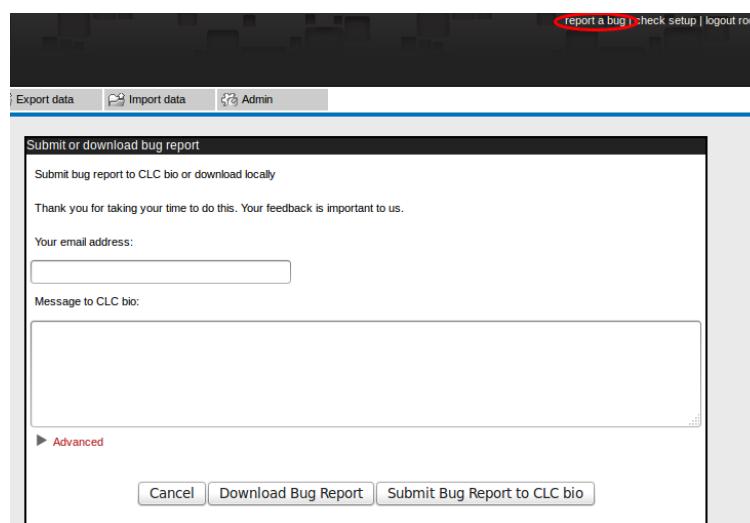


Figure 11.2: *Submitting a bug report to CLC bio*.

The bug report includes the following information:

- Log files
- A subset of the audit log showing the last events that happened on the server

- Configuration files of the server configuration

In a job node set-up you can include all this information from the job nodes as well by checking the **Include comprehensive job node info** checkbox in the **Advanced** part of the dialog.

If the server does not have access to the internet, you can **Download bug report**. This will create a zip file containing all the information and you can pass that on to CLC bio support. If the server has access to the internet, you can **Submit Bug Report to CLC bio**.

Note that the process of gathering the information for the bug report can take a while, especially for job node set-ups. If a Workbench user experiences a server-related error, it is also possible to submit a bug report from the Workbench error dialog. This report will include the same archive as when submitting a bug report from the web interface. All data sent to support-clcbio@qiagen.com is treated confidentially.

No password information is included in the bug report.

11.3 Database configurations

For CLC Server solutions where the license includes the add-on *CLC Bioinformatics Database*, support for data management in an SQL-type database is available.

11.3.1 Getting and installing JDBC drivers

For MySQL or Oracle databases, the appropriate JDBC driver must be available for the application. If you do not already have the appropriate JDBC driver, it needs to be downloaded from the provider and then placed in the `userlib` directory in the installation area of the CLC software.

Details for the MySQL JDBC Driver

1. Go to the page <http://dev.mysql.com/downloads/connector/j/> to download the driver.
2. Please choose the option **Platform Independent** when selecting a platform.
3. After clicking on the button to Download, you can login if you already have an Oracle Web account, or you can just click on the link that says **No thanks, just start my download** further down the page.
4. Uncompress the downloaded file and move the driver file, which will have a name of this form: `mysql-connector-java-X.X.XX-bin.jar`, to the folder called `userlib`.

Details for the Oracle JDBC Driver

1. Go to the page <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/database/enterprise-edition/jdbc-112010-090769.html>.
2. Select the version for your Oracle database version that will work with Java 1.7.
For example, for 11g, the `ojdbc6.jar` includes classes for use with JDK 1.7.
You will need an Oracle account to download the driver.

3. Move the driver jar file to the folder called `userlib`.

Completing the installation

After the JDBC driver is in the `userlib` folder, then:

- For a stand-alone Server instance, restart the Server software.
- For a CLC job node setup, the JDBC driver file must be placed in the `userlib` folder in the CLC software installation area on **the master node as well as each job node system**. The CLC software needs to be restarted after the driver is placed in this folder.
- If running a grid setup, the JDBC driver file is placed in the `userlib` folder in the CLC Server software installation area. After the driver file is in place, restart the Server software. This will deploy the changes to the grid workers.

11.3.2 Configurations for MySQL

For MySQL we recommend basing your configuration on the example configuration file `my-large.cnf` which is included in the MySQL distribution.

In addition the following changes should be made:

The `max_allowed_packet` should be increased to allow transferring large binary objects to and from the database. This is done by setting the option: `max_allowed_packet = 64M`

InnoDB must be available and configured for the MySQL instance to work properly as the CLC Database. You should enable the options in the InnoDB section of your configuration as suggested below:

```
# You can set .._buffer_pool_size up to 50 - 80 %
# of RAM but beware of setting memory usage too high
innodb_buffer_pool_size = 256M
innodb_additional_mem_pool_size = 20M
# Set .._log_file_size to 25 % of buffer pool size
innodb_log_file_size = 64M
innodb_log_buffer_size = 8M
innodb_flush_log_at_trx_commit = 1
innodb_lock_wait_timeout = 50
```

There appears to be a bug in certain versions of MySQL which can cause the cleanup of the query cache to take a very long time (some time many hours). If you experience this you should disable the query log by setting the following option: `query_cache_size= 0`

11.4 SSL and encryption

The CLC Server supports SSL communication between the Server and its clients (i.e. Workbenches or the *CLC Server Command Line Tools*). This is particularly relevant if the server is accessible over the internet as well as on a local network.

The default configuration of the server does not use SSL.

11.4.1 Enabling SSL on the server

A **server certificate** is required before SSL can be enabled on the CLC Server. This is usually obtained from a *Certificate Authority* (CA) like Thawte or Verisign (see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Certificate_authorities).

A **signed certificate** in a pkcs12 keystore file is also needed. The keystore file is either provided by the CA or it can be generated from the private key used to request the certificate and the signed-certificate file from the CA (see section [11.4.1](#)).

Copy the keystore file to the conf subdirectory of the CLC Server installation folder.

Next, the `server.xml` file in the `conf` subdirectory of the CLC Server installation folder has to be edited to enable SSL-connections. Add text like the following text to the `server.xml` file:

```
<Connector port="8443" protocol="HTTP/1.1" SSLEnabled="true"
           maxThreads="150" scheme="https" secure="true"
           clientAuth="false" sslProtocol="TLS"
           keystoreFile="conf/keystore.pkcs12" keystorePass="tomcat"
           keystoreType="PKCS12"
/>
```

Replace `keystore.pkcs12` with the name of your keystore file, and replace `tomcat` with the password for your keystore.

The above settings make SSL available on port 8443. The standard (non-SSL) port would still be 7777, or whatever port number you have configured it to.

Self-signed certificates can be generated if only connection encryption is needed. See http://www.akadia.com/services/ssh_test_certificate.html for further details.

Creating a PKCS12 keystore file

If the certificate is not supplied in a pkcs12 keystore file, it can be put into one by combining the private key and the signed certificate obtained from the CA by using `openssl`:

```
openssl pkcs12 -export -out keystore.pkcs12 -inkey private.key -in certificate.crt -name "tomcat"
```

This will take the private key from the file `private.key` and the signed certificate from `certificate.crt` and generate a pkcs12-store in the `keystore.pkcs12` file.

11.4.2 Logging in using SSL from the Workbench

When the Workbench connects to the CLC Server it automatically detects if Secure Socket Layer (SSL) should be used on the port it is connecting to or not.

If SSL is detected, the server's certificate will be verified and a warning is displayed if the certificate is not signed by a recognized Certificate Authority (CA) as shown in figure [11.3](#).

When such an "unknown" certificate has been accepted once, the warning will not appear again. It is necessary to log in again once the certificate has been accepted.

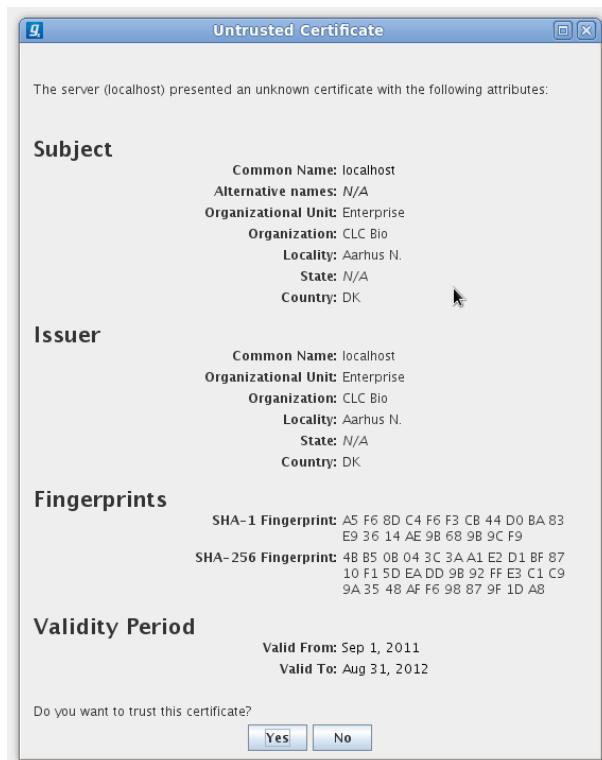


Figure 11.3: A warning is shown when the certificate is not signed by a recognized CA.

When logged into a server, information about the connection can be viewed by hovering the connection icon on the status-panel as shown in figure 11.4.

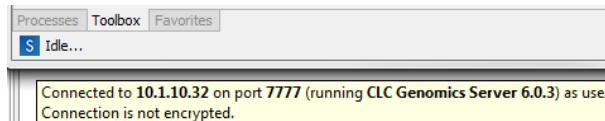


Figure 11.4: Showing details on the server connection by placing the mouse on the globe.

The icon is gray when the user is not logged in, and a pad lock is overlayed when the connection is encrypted via SSL.

11.4.3 Logging in using SSL from the CLC Server Command Line Tools

The CLC Server Command Line Tools will also automatically detect and use SSL if present on the port it connects to. If the certificate is untrusted the `clcserver` program will refuse to login:

```
./clcserver -S localhost -U root -W default -P 8443
Message: Trying to log into server
Error: SSL Handshake failed. Check certificate.
Option          Description
-----          -----
-A <Command>      Command to run. If not specified the list of commands on the server will be returned.
-C <Integer>      Specify column width of help output.
-D <Boolean>      Enable debug mode (default: false)
-G <Grid Preset value>  Specify to execute on grid.
-H               Display general help.
-I <Algorithm Command>  Get information about an algorithm
-O <file>          Output file.
-P <Integer>      Server port number. (default: 7777)
-Q <Boolean>      Quiet mode. No progress output. (default: false)
-S <String>         Server hostname or IP-address of the CLC Server.
-U <String>         Valid username for logging on to the CLC Server
-V               Display version.
-W <String>         Clear text password or domain specific password token.
```

In order to trust the certificate the `clcsserversslstore` tool must be used:

```
./clcsserversslstore -S localhost -U root -W default -P 8443
The server (localhost) presented an untrusted certificate with the following attributes:
SUBJECT
=====
Common Name      : localhost
Alternative Names : N/A
Organizational Unit: Enterprise
Organization      : CLC Bio
Locality         : Aarhus N.
State            : N/A
Country          : DK

ISSUER
=====
Common Name      : localhost
Organizational Unit: Enterprise
Organization      : CLC Bio
Locality         : Aarhus N.
State            : N/A
Country          : DK

FINGERPRINTS
=====
SHA-1           : A5 F6 8D C4 F6 F3 CB 44 D0 BA 83 E9 36 14 AE 9B 68 9B 9C F9
SHA-256          : 4B B5 0B 04 3C 3A A1 E2 D1 BF 87 10 F1 5D EA DD 9B 92 FF E3 C1 C9 9A 35 48 AF F6 98 87 9F 1D A8

VALIDITY PERIOD
=====
Valid From      : Sep 1, 2011
Valid To        : Aug 31, 2012
Trust this certificate? [yn]
```

Once the certificate has been accepted, the `clcserver` program is allowed to connect to the server.

11.5 Non-exclusive Algorithms

Below is a list of algorithms which are non-exclusive, meaning that multiple of these algorithms can be run on one job or grid node.

Algorithms marked as *Streaming* are I/O intensive and two streaming algorithms will not be run at the same time. When running on grid, *Streaming* algorithms are treated as exclusive, meaning that they will never run in conjunction with other algorithms (or themselves). The three Server types are B = Biomedical Genomics Server Extension, D = CLC Drug Discovery Server, and G = CLC Genomics Server.

Algorithm	Streaming	Server type
Add attB Sites		B, G
Add Conservation Scores	X	B
Add Exon Number	X	B
Add Flanking Sequence	X	B
Add Information about Amino Acid Changes	X	B
Add Information from Variant Databases	X	B
Add molecules to Project		D
Amino Acid Changes	X	G
Annotate and Merge Counts		B, G
Annotate from Known Variants	X	G
Annotate with Conservation Score	X	G
Annotate with Exon Numbers	X	G
Annotate with Flanking Sequences	X	G
Annotate with Nearby Gene Information		B, G
Annotate with Overlap Information	X	G

Algorithm	Streaming	Server type
Assemble Sequences		B, G
Assemble Sequences to Reference		B, G
BLAST at NCBI		B, D, G
Calculate Molecular Properties		D
ChIP-Seq Analysis		B, G
ChIP-Seq Analysis (legacy)		G
Compare Sample Variant Tracks	X	G
Convert DNA To RNA	X	G
Convert from Tracks	X	G
Convert RNA to DNA	X	G
Convert to Tracks	X	G
Count-based statistical analysis		G
Coverage Analysis		G
Create Alignment		D, G
Create BLAST Database		D, G
Create Detailed Mapping Report		G
Create Entry Clone (BP)		B, G
Create Expression Clone (LR)		B, G
Create GC Content Graph Track		B, G
Create Histogram		B, G
Create Mapping Graph Tracks		G
Create New Genome Browser View		B
Create Statistics for Target Regions		G
Create Track List		G
Create Tree		D, G
Demultiplex Reads		B, G
Dock Ligands		D
Download 3D Protein Structure Database	X	B, D, G
Empirical Analysis of DGE		B, G
Extract and Count		B, G
Extract Annotations		G
Extract Consensus Sequence		G
Extract Ligands		D
Extract Reads Based on Overlap		B, G
Extract Sequences	X	B, D, G
Fasta High-Throughput Sequencing Import	X	G
Filter against Control Reads	X	G
Filter against Known Variants	X	G
Filter Annotations on Name	X	G
Filter Based on Overlap	X	G
Filter Marginal Variant Calls	X	G
Filter Reference Variants	X	G
Find and Model Structure	X	D
Find Binding Sites and Create Fragments		B, G
Find Open Reading Frames		G
Fisher Exact Test	X	G
GO Enrichment Analysis		G

Algorithm	Streaming	Server type
Identify Enriched Variants in Case vs Control Group	X	B
Identify Graph Threshold Areas		B, G
Identify Highly Mutated Gene Groups and Pathways		B
Identify Variants with Effect on Splicing		B
Illumina High-Throughput Sequencing Import	X	B, G
Import molecules from SMILES or 2D		D
Import Molecules with 3D Coordinates		D
Import SAM/BAM Mapping Files	X	B, G
Import Tracks from File		B, G
InDels and Structural Variants		B, G
Ion Torrent High-Throughput Sequencing Import	X	B, G
Link Variants to 3D Protein Structure	X	B, G
Merge Annotation Tracks	X	G
Merge Overlapping Pairs		B, G
Merge Read Mappings	X	B, G
Motif Search		D, G
Gaussian Statistical Analysis		G
Predict Splice Site Effect		G
Probabilistic Variant Detection		B, G
QC for Read Mapping		B
QC for Target Sequencing		B
Quality-based Variant Detection		B, G
Remove False Positives	X	B
Remove Germline Variants	X	B
Remove Reference Variants	X	B
Reverse Complement Sequence		G
Reverse Sequence		G
Roche 454 High-Throughput Sequencing Import	X	B, G
Sanger High-Throughput Sequencing Import	X	B, G
Screen Ligands		D
Secondary Peak Calling		B, G
Select Genes by Name	X	B
Solid High-Throughput Sequencing Import	X	B, G
Translate to Protein		G
Trim Sequences		B, G
TRIO analysis		B, G
Whole Genome Coverage Analysis		B

11.6 DRMAA libraries

Distributed Resource Management Application API (DRMAA) libraries are provided by third parties. Please refer to the distributions for instructions for compilation and installation. CLC bio cannot troubleshoot nor provide support for issues with DRMAA libraries themselves. Please refer to the DRMAA providers if issues associated with building and installation occur. Information in this section of the manual is provided as a courtesy, but should not be considered a replacement for reading the documentation that accompanies the DRMAA distribution itself.

11.6.1 DRMAA for LSF

The source code for this library can be downloaded from <https://github.com/PlatformLSF/lsf-drmaa>. Please refer to the documentation that comes with the distribution for full instructions. Of particular note are the configure parameters "--with-lsf-inc" and "--with-lsf-lib" parameters, used to specify the path to LSF header files and libraries respectively.

11.6.2 DRMAA for PBS Pro

Source code for this library can be downloaded from <http://sourceforge.net/projects/pbspro-drmaa/>.

Please refer to the documentation that comes with the distribution for full instructions. Of particular note is the inclusion of the "--with-pbs=" parameter, used to specify the path to the PBS installation root. The configure script expects to be able to find lib/libpbs.a and include/pbs_ifl.h in the given root area, along with other files.

Please note that SSL is needed. The configure script expects that linking with "ssl" will work, thus libssl.so must be present in one of the system's library paths. On Red Hat and SUSE you will have to install openssl-devel packages to get that symlink (or create it yourself). The install procedure will install libdrmaa.so to the provided prefix (configure argument), which is the file the CLC Server needs to know about.

The PBS DRMAA library can be configured to work in various modes as described in the README file of the pbs-drmaa source code. We have experienced the best performance, when the CLC Server has access to the PBS log files and pbs-drmaa is configured with wait_thread 1.

11.6.3 DRMAA for OGE or SGE

OGE/SGE comes with a DRMAA library.

11.7 Consumable Resources

Setting up Consumable Resources with LSF

The following information was provided by IBM.

If you have questions or issues with setting up a consumable resource for LSF, please refer to your LSF documentation. For questions not covered there, please contact ruzhuchen@us.ibm.com and achristi@ca.ibm.com.

LSF has the ability to do "license scheduling" and ensure that CLC Server jobs running under LSF are only dispatched when there are available CLC Grid Worker licenses. When such scheduling is configured, CLC jobs for which no free licenses are available would stay in "pend" status, waiting for a CLC Grid Worker license to become available.

There are two parts to making use of this type of scheduling:

1. Configure the consumable resource in LSF.
2. Specify a clcbio license reservation when jobs are submitted to LSF.

Configuring the consumable resource in LSF

Add a consumable resource called clcbio in \$LSF_ENVDIR/lsf.shared:

```
Begin Resource
RESOURCENAME  TYPE  INTERVAL INCREASING DESCRIPTION # Keywords
    mips      Boolean ()      ()      (MIPS architecture)
...
...
    clcbio    Numeric ()      N      (clcbio license)
End Resource
```

Add the number of clcbio licenses in \$LSF_ENVDIR/lsf.cluster.<clustername>:

```
Begin ResourceMap
RESOURCENAME  LOCATION
# CLCBIO license resource
clcbio        (14@[all])  # 14 clcbio licenses can be used
#....
End Resource Map
```

This example shows a configuration for 14 CLC Grid Worker licenses, which means that up to 14 CLC jobs can be running on the LSF cluster at the same time. This integer needs to be changed to the number of licenses you own.

The configuration shown here assumes the CLC Grid Worker licenses can only be used in the LSF cluster as LSF will manage the free token count from the scheduling side.

In this context, LSF does not replace or directly talk to the LMX license server for CLC licenses. Rather, LSF manages the CLC Grid Worker license reservations internally.

Specify a clcbio license reservation when jobs are submitted to LSF

CLC jobs submitted to LSF need to have a clcbio license reservation specified.

This can be done in several different ways:

- via the CLC Grid Preset "Native Specification" field. (This is the most convenient method.) Simply add:

`-R "rusage[clcbio=1]"`

to this field.

- via the batch job submission command line
- using the RES_REQ line inside the lsb.queues file
- via an application profile (lsb.applications)

Important: After any LSF configuration file changes, one needs to reconfigure LSF for the changes to take effect. That is, run:

```
lsadmin reconfig  
badmin reconfig
```

These are "safe" commands to run. That is, pending LSF jobs will continue to "pend" in status and running LSF jobs will continue to run.

11.8 Parallel Algorithms

The following algorithms support distributed parallel execution on job nodes and in grid setups:

- Dock Ligands
- Screen Ligands

11.9 Third party libraries

The CLC Server includes a number of third party libraries.

Please consult the files named NOTICE and LICENSE in the server installation directory for the legal notices and acknowledgements of use.

For the code found in this product that is subject to the Lesser General Public License (LGPL) you can receive a copy of the corresponding source code by sending a request to our support team at support-clcbio@qiagen.com.

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