ChemmineR-V2: Analysis of Small Molecule and Screening Data

Yiqun Cao, Tyler Backman, Yan Wang, Thomas Girke February 21, 2011

1 Introduction

Chemmine R is an R package for analyzing small molecule and screening data. It contains functions for processing SDFs (structure data files), molecule depictions, structural similarity searching, clustering/diversity analyses of compound libraries with a wide spectrum of algorithms and utilities for managing complex data sets from high-throughput compound bio-assays.

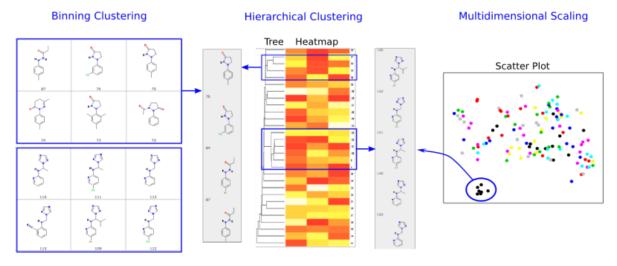


Figure 1: Selected functionalities provided by the *ChemmineR* package.

In addition, ChemmineR offers visualization functions for compound clustering results and chemical structures. The integration of chemoinformatic tools with the R programming environment has many advantages, such as easy access to a wide spectrum of statistical methods, machine learning algorithms and graphic utilities. The first version of this package was published in Cao et al. (2008). Since then many additional utilities have been added to the package and many more are under development for future releases.

2 Getting Started

2.1 Installation

The R software for running ChemmineR can be downloaded from CRAN (http://cran.at.r-project.org/). The ChemmineR package can be installed from R using the bioLite install command.

```
> source("http://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")
> biocLite("ChemmineR")
```

2.2 Loading the Package and Documentation

```
> library("ChemmineR") # Loads the package
```

```
> library(help="ChemmineR") # Lists all functions and classes
```

> vignette("ChemmineR") # Opens this PDF manual from R

2.3 Five Minute Tutorial

The following code gives an overview of the most important functionalities provided by *Chem-mineR*. Copy and paste of the commands into the R console will demonstrate these utilities.

Create Instances of *SDFset* class:

<<atomblock>>

```
> data(sdfsample)
> sdfset <- sdfsample
> sdfset # Returns summary of SDFset
An instance of "SDFset" with 100 molecules
> sdfset[1:4] # Subsetting of object
An instance of "SDFset" with 4 molecules
> sdfset[[1]] # Returns summarized content of one SDF
An instance of "SDF"
<<header>>
                            Molecule_Name
                                 "650001"
                                   Source
                    -OEChem-07071010512D"
                                  Comment
                              Counts_Line
" 61 64 0
                0 0 0 0 0999 V2000"
```

```
C9 C10 C11 C12 C13 C14 C15 C16
          C1
                  C2 C3
                          C5
                               C6
                                   C7
                                       C8
0_1
      7.0468 0.0839
                                                     0
                                                         0
                                                                 0
                                                                          0
                            0
                                0
                                    0
                                        0
                                                 0
0 2 12.2708
             1.0492
                                                                          0
H_60 1.8411 -1.5985
                        0
                            0
                                0
                                    0
                                        0
                                            0
                                                 0
                                                     0
                                                         0
                                                             0
                                                                          0
                                                 0
H_61 2.6597 -1.2843
                        0
                            0
                                0
                                    0
                                        0
                                            0
                                                     0
                                                         0
                                                             0
                                                                 0
                                                                          0
<<bondblock>>
     C1 C2 C3
                 C4
                     C5
                          C6
1
                  0
                       0
                               0
         23
63
     33
         60
              1
                  0
                       0
64
     33 61
                  0
                       0
                               0
              1
<datablock>> (33 data items)
          PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CID PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CANONICALIZED
                       "650001"
     PUBCHEM_CACTVS_COMPLEXITY PUBCHEM_CACTVS_HBOND_ACCEPTOR
                          "700"
                                                             "7"
                          "..."
> view(sdfset[1:4]) # Returns summarized content of many SDFs, not printed here
> as(sdfset[1:4], "list") # Returns complete content of many SDFs, not printed here
An SDFset is created during the import of an SD file:
> sdfset <- read.SDFset("http://faculty.ucr.edu/~tgirke/Documents/
                          R_BioCond/Samples/sdfsample.sdf")
Miscellaneous accessor methods for SDFset container:
> header(sdfset[1:4]) # Not printed here
> header(sdfset[[1]])
                             Molecule_Name
                                  "650001"
                                    Source
                    -OEChem-07071010512D"
                                   Comment
                               Counts_Line
" 61 64 0
               0 0 0 0 0 0999 V2000"
> atomblock(sdfset[1:4]) # Not printed here
> atomblock(sdfset[[1]])[1:4,]
```

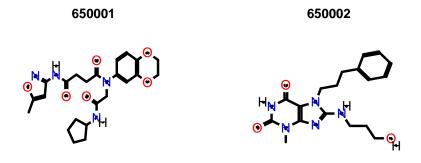
```
C1
                C2 C3 C5 C6 C7 C8 C9 C10 C11 C12 C13 C14 C15 C16
0_1 7.0468 0.0839
                                                    0
0_2 12.2708 1.0492
                                                                0
0_3 12.2708 3.1186
                    0
                       0
                          0
                             0
                                0
0 4 7.9128 2.5839
                    0
                       0
                          0
                             0
> bondblock(sdfset[1:4]) # Not printed here
> bondblock(sdfset[[1]])[1:4,]
  C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 C6 C7
  1 16 2 0
               0
  2 23
        1 0 0
  2 27
         1
            0 0 0 0
4 3 25
         1
            0
               0
> datablock(sdfset[1:4]) # Not printed here
> datablock(sdfset[[1]])[1:4]
          PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CID PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CANONICALIZED
                      "650001"
     PUBCHEM_CACTVS_COMPLEXITY PUBCHEM_CACTVS_HBOND_ACCEPTOR
                         "700"
                                                            "7"
Assigning compound IDs and keeping them unique:
> cid(sdfset)[1:4] # Returns IDs from SDFset object
[1] "CMP1" "CMP2" "CMP3" "CMP4"
> sdfid(sdfset)[1:4] # Returns IDs from SD file header block
[1] "650001" "650002" "650003" "650004"
> unique_ids <- makeUnique(sdfid(sdfset))</pre>
[1] "No duplicates detected!"
> cid(sdfset) <- unique_ids</pre>
Converting the data blocks in an SDFset to a matrix:
> blockmatrix <- datablock2ma(datablocklist=datablock(sdfset))</pre>
     # Converts data block to matrix
> numchar <- splitNumChar(blockmatrix=blockmatrix)</pre>
     # Splits to numeric and character matrix
```

> numchar[[1]][1:2,1:2] # Slice of numeric matrix

```
PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CID PUBCHEM_COMPOUND_CANONICALIZED
650001
                     650001
650002
                                                          1
                     650002
> numchar[[2]][1:2,10:11] # Slice of character matrix
       PUBCHEM_MOLECULAR_FORMULA
650001 "C23H28N4O6"
650002 "C18H23N5O3"
       PUBCHEM_OPENEYE_CAN_SMILES
650001 "CC1=CC(=NO1)NC(=0)CCC(=0)N(CC(=0)NC2CCCC2)C3=CC4=C(C=C3)OCCO4"
650002 "CN1C2=C(C(=0)NC1=0)N(C(=N2)NCCC0)CCCC3=CC=CC=C3"
Compute atom frequency matrix, molecular weight and formula:
> propma <- data.frame(MF=MF(sdfset), MW=MW(sdfset), atomcountMA(sdfset))</pre>
> propma[1:4, ]
                MF
                         MW C H N O S F Cl
650001 C23H28N4O6 456.4916 23 28 4 6 0 0 0
650002 C18H23N5O3 357.4069 18 23 5 3 0 0 0
650003 C18H18N4O3S 370.4255 18 18 4 3 1 0 0
650004 C21H27N5O5S 461.5346 21 27 5 5 1 0 0
Assign matrix data to data block:
> datablock(sdfset) <- propma
> datablock(sdfset[1])
$`650001`
          MF
                       MW
                                     С
                                                                              0
                                                                            "6"
                                                "28"
"C23H28N4O6"
               "456.4916"
                                   "23"
         "0"
                      "0"
                                    "0"
String searching in SDFset ():
> grepSDFset("650001", sdfset, field="datablock", mode="subset")
     # Returns summary view of matches. Not printed here.
>
> .
> grepSDFset("650001", sdfset, field="datablock", mode="index")
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Export SDFset to SD file:
> write.SDF(sdfset[1:4], file="sub.sdf", sig=TRUE)
```

Plot molecule structure of one or many SDFs:

> plot(sdfset[1:4], print=FALSE) # Plots structures to R graphics device



650003 650004

- > sdf.visualize(sdfset[1:4]) # Compound viewing in web browser Structure similarity searching and clustering:
- > apset <- sdf2ap(sdfset)</pre>
- > # Generate atom pair descriptor database for searching
- > cmp.search(apset, apset[1], type=3, cutoff = 0.3, quiet=TRUE)

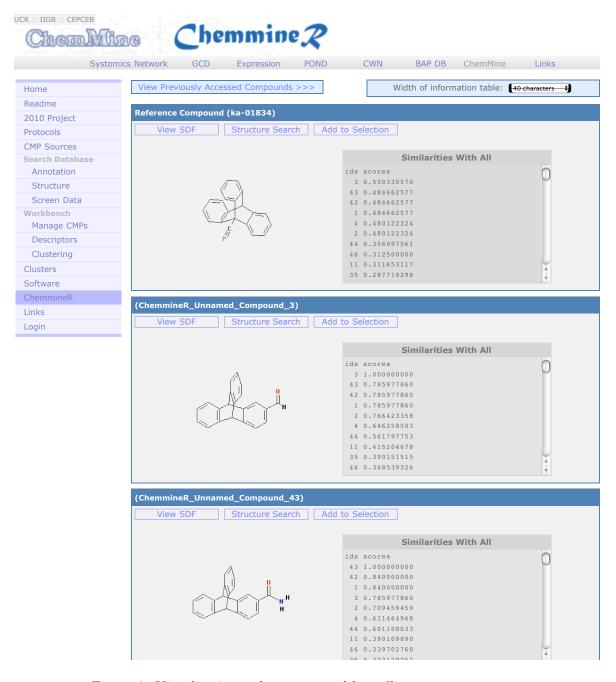


Figure 2: Visualization webpage created by calling sdf.visualize.

sorting result...

	ids	CLSZ_0.65	CLID_0.65	CLSZ_0.5	CLID_0.5
48	650049	2	48	2	48
49	650050	2	48	2	48
54	650059	2	54	2	54
55	650060	2	54	2	54

3 Overview of Classes and Functions

The following list gives an overview of the most important S4 classes, methods and functions available in the ChemmineR package. The help documents of the package provide much more detailed information on each utility. The standard R help documents for these utilities can be accessed with this syntax: ?function_name (e.g. ?cid) and ?class_name-class (e.g. ?"SDFset-class").

3.1 Molecular Structure Data

Classes

- SDFstr: intermediate string class to facilitate SD file import; not important for end user
- SDF: container for single molecule imported from an SD file
- SDFset: container for many SDF objects; most important structure container for end user

Functions/Methods

- Accessor methods for SDF/SDFset
 - Object slots: cid, header, atomblock, bondblock, datablock (sdfid, datablocktag)
 - Summary of SDFset: view
 - Matrix conversion of data block: datablock2ma, splitNumChar
 - String search in SDFset: grepSDFset
- Coerce one class to another
 - Standard syntax **as**(..., "...") works in most cases. For details see R help with ?"SDFset-class".
- Utilities
 - Atom frequencies: atomcountMA, atomcount
 - Molecular weight: MW
 - Molecular formula: MF
- Compound structure depictions
 - R graphics device: plot, plotStruc
 - Online: cmp.visualize

3.2 Structure Descriptor Data

Classes

- AP: container for atom pair descriptors of a single molecule
- APset: container for many AP objects; most important structure descriptor container for end user

Functions/Methods

- \bullet Create AP/APset instances
 - From *SDFset*: sdf2ap
 - From SD file: cmp.parse
 - Summary of AP/APset: view, db.explain
- Accessor methods for AP/APset
 - Object slots: ap, cid
- Coerce one class to another
 - Standard syntax **as**(..., "...") works in most cases. For details see R help with ?"APset-class".
- Structure Similarity comparisons and Searching
 - Compute pairwise similarities: cmp.similarity
 - Search APset database: cmp.search
 - Compute pairwise similarities: cmp.similarity
- AP-based Structure Similarity Clustering
 - Single-linkage binning clustering: cmp.cluster
 - Visualize clustering result with MDS: cluster.visualize
 - Size distribution of clusters: cluster.sizestat

4 Importing Compounds

The following code gives an overview of the most important import/export functionalities provided by *ChemmineR*. The example creates an instance of the *SDFset* class using as sample data set the first 100 compounds from this PubChem SD file (SDF): Compound_00650001_00675000.sdf.gz (ftp://ftp.ncbi.nih.gov/pubchem/Compound/CURRENT-Full/SDF/).

SDFs can be imported with the read. SDFset function:

```
> sdfset <- read.SDFset("http://faculty.ucr.edu/~tgirke/Documents/
+ R_BioCond/Samples/sdfsample.sdf")</pre>
```

Write objects of classes SDFset/SDFstr/SDF to SD file:

```
> write.SDF(sdfset[1:4], file="sub.sdf")
```

Writing customized *SDFset* to file containing *ChemmineR* signature, IDs from *SDFset* and no data block:

```
> write.SDF(sdfset[1:4], file="sub.sdf", sig=TRUE, cid=TRUE, db=NULL)
```

Example for injecting a custom matrix/data frame into the data block of an *SDFset* and then writing it to an SD file:

> props <- data.frame(MF=MF(sdfset), MW=MW(sdfset), atomcountMA(sdfset))</pre>

```
> datablock(sdfset) <- props
> write.SDF(sdfset[1:4], file="sub.sdf", sig=TRUE, cid=TRUE)

Indirect export via SDFstr object:

> sdf2str(sdf=sdfset[[1]], sig=TRUE, cid=TRUE)
> # Uses default components
> sdf2str(sdf=sdfset[[1]], head=letters[1:4], db=NULL)

Write SDF, SDFset or SDFstr classes to file:
> write.SDF(sdfset[1:4], file="sub.sdf", sig=TRUE, cid=TRUE, db=NULL)
> write.SDF(sdfstr[1:4], file="sub.sdf")
> cat(unlist(as(sdfstr[1:4], "list")), file="sub.sdf", sep="\n")
```

> datablock(sdfset[[1]])

6 Working with SDF/SDFset Classes

Several methods are available to return the different data components of SDF/SDFset containers in batches. The following examples list the most important ones. To save space their content is not printed in the manual.

```
> view(sdfset[1:4]) # Summary view of several molecules
> length(sdfset) # Returns number of molecules
> sdfset[[1]] # Returns single molecule from SDFset as SDF object
> sdfset[[1]][[2]] # Returns atom block from first compound as matrix
> sdfset[[1]][[2]][1:4,]
> c(sdfset[1:4], sdfset[5:8]) # Concatenation of several SDFsets
```

The grepSDFset function allows string matching/searching on the different data components in SDFset. By default the function returns a SDF summary of the matching entries. Alternatively, an index of the matches can be returned with the setting mode="index".

```
> grepSDFset("650001", sdfset, field="datablock", mode="subset")
     # To return index, set mode="index")
Utilities to maintain unique compound IDs:
> sdfid(sdfset[1:4])
     # Retrieves CMP IDs from Molecule Name field in header block.
> cid(sdfset[1:4])
     # Retrieves CMP IDs from ID slot in SDFset.
> unique_ids <- makeUnique(sdfid(sdfset))</pre>
     # Creates unique IDs by appending a counter to duplicates.
> cid(sdfset) <- unique_ids # Assigns uniquified IDs to ID slot
Subsetting by character, index and logical vectors:
> view(sdfset[c("650001", "650012")])
> view(sdfset[4:1])
> mylog <- cid(sdfset) %in% c("650001", "650012")</pre>
> view(sdfset[mylog])
Accessing SDF/SDFset components: header, atom, bond and data blocks
> atomblock(sdf); sdf[[2]]; sdf[["atomblock"]]
     # All three methods return the same component
> header(sdfset[1:4])
> atomblock(sdfset[1:4])
> bondblock(sdfset[1:4])
> datablock(sdfset[1:4])
> header(sdfset[[1]])
> atomblock(sdfset[[1]])
> bondblock(sdfset[[1]])
```

```
Replacement Methods:
```

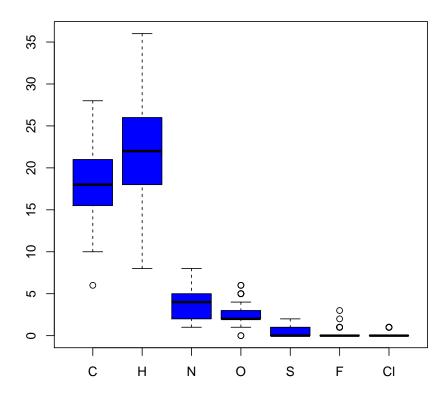
```
> sdfset[[1]][[2]][1,1] <- 999
> atomblock(sdfset)[1] <- atomblock(sdfset)[2]</pre>
> datablock(sdfset)[1] <- datablock(sdfset)[2]
Assign matrix data to data block:
> datablock(sdfset) <- as.matrix(iris[1:100,])</pre>
> view(sdfset[1:4])
Class coercions from SDFstr to list, SDF and SDFset:
> as(sdfstr[1:2], "list")
> as(sdfstr[[1]], "SDF")
> as(sdfstr[1:2], "SDFset")
Class coercions from SDF to SDFstr, SDFset, list with SDF sub-components:
> sdfcomplist <- as(sdf, "list")</pre>
> sdfcomplist <- as(sdfset[1:4], "list"); as(sdfcomplist[[1]], "SDF")</pre>
> sdflist <- as(sdfset[1:4], "SDF"); as(sdflist, "SDFset")</pre>
> as(sdfset[[1]], "SDFstr")
> as(sdfset[[1]], "SDFset")
Class coercions from SDFset to lists with components consisting of SDF or sub-components:
> as(sdfset[1:4], "SDF")
> as(sdfset[1:4], "list")
> as(sdfset[1:4], "SDFstr")
```

7 Molecular Property Functions

Several methods and functions are available to compute basic compound descriptors, such as molecular formula (MF), molecular weigth (MW) and atom frequencies.

```
> propma <- atomcountMA(sdfset)
> boxplot(propma, col="blue", main="Atom Frequency")
```





> boxplot(rowSums(propma), main="All Atom Frequency")

Compute MW and formula:

- > MW(sdfset[1:4]); MF(sdfset[1:4])
- > propma <- data.frame(MF=MF(sdfset), MW=MW(sdfset), atomcountMA(sdfset)); propma[1:4,]
- > datablock(sdfset) <- propma # Works with all SDF components
- > test <- apply(propma[1:4,], 1, function(x) data.frame(col=colnames(propma), value=x))
- > sdf.visualize(sdfset[1:4], extra = test)

The following shows an example for assigning the values stored in a matrix (e.g. property descriptors) to the data block components in an SDFset. Each matrix row will be assigned to the corresponding slot position in the SDFset.

- > datablock(sdfset) <- propma
- > datablock(sdfset)[1:4]

\$CMP1

\$CMP2

```
0
                                    Cl
"18" "23"
            "5"
                  "3"
                                   "O"
$CMP3
        Η
                    0
                                    Cl
"18" "18"
            "4"
                 "3"
                       "1"
                                   "0"
$CMP4
            "5"
                  "5"
                                   "0"
```

The data blocks in SDFs contain often important annotation information about compounds. The datablock2ma function returns this information as matrix for all compounds stored in an SDFset container. The splitNumChar function can then be used to organize all numeric columns in a numeric matrix and the character columns in a character matrix as components of a list object.

```
> datablocktag(sdfset, tag="PUBCHEM_NIST_INCHI")
> datablocktag(sdfset, tag="PUBCHEM_OPENEYE_CAN_SMILES")

Convert entire data block to matrix:
> blockmatrix <- datablock2ma(datablocklist=datablock(sdfset))
> # Converts data block to matrix
> numchar <- splitNumChar(blockmatrix=blockmatrix)
> # Splits matrix to numeric matrix and character matrix
> numchar[[1]][1:4,]; numchar[[2]][1:4,]
> # Splits matrix to numeric matrix and character matrix
> .
```

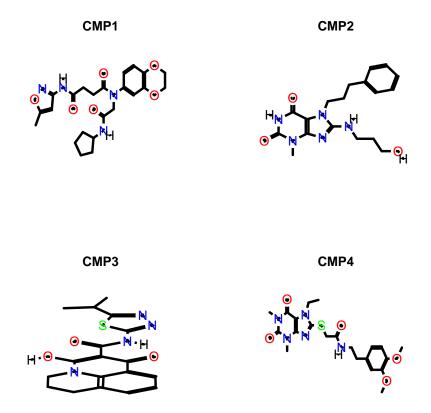
8 Rendering Chemical Structure Images

8.1 R Graphics Device

A new plotting function for compound structures has been added to the package recently. This function uses the native R graphics device for generating compound depictions. At this point this function is still in an experimental developmental stage but should become stable soon.

Plot Compound Structures with R's graphics device

```
> data(sdfsample); sdfset <- sdfsample
> plot(sdfset[1:4], print=FALSE) # 'print=TRUE' returns SDF summaries
```



Customize plot:

> plot(sdfset[1:4], griddim=c(2,2), print_cid=letters[1:4], print=FALSE,
+ noHbonds=FALSE)

8.2 Online with ChemMine Tools

Alternatively, one can visualize compound structures with a standard web browser using the online ChemMine Tools service. The service allows to display other information next to the structures using the extra argument of the sdf.visualize function. The following examples demonstrate, how one can plot and annotate structures by passing on extra data as vector of character strings, matrices or lists.

Plot structures using web service ChemMine Tools:

> sdf.visualize(sdfset[1:4])

Add extra annotation as vector:

> sdf.visualize(sdfset[1:4], extra=month.name[1:4])

Add extra annotation as *matrix*:

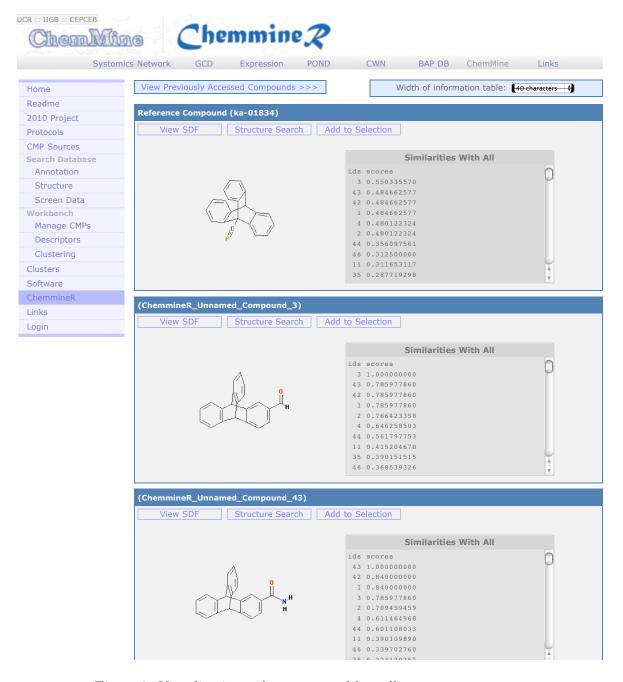


Figure 3: Visualization webpage created by calling sdf.visualize.

9 Similarity Comparisons and Searching

9.1 AP/APset Classes for Storing Atom Pair Descriptors

The function sdf2ap computes atom pair descriptors for one or many compounds (Carhart et al., 1985; Chen and Reynolds, 2002). It returns a searchable atom pair database stored in a container of class APset, which can be used for structural similarity searching and clustering. As similarity measure, the Tanimoto coefficient or related coefficients can be used. An APset object consists of one or many AP entries each storing the atom pairs of a single compound. Note: the deprecated cmp.parse function is still available which also generates atom pair descriptor databases, but directly from an SD file. Since the latter function is less flexible it may be discontinued in the future.

Generate atom pair descriptor database for searching:

```
> ap <- sdf2ap(sdfset[[1]]) # For single compound
> ap
An instance of "AP"
<<atom pairs>>
53688190976 53688190977 53688190978 53688190979 53688190980 ... length: 528
> apset <- sdf2ap(sdfset) # For many compounds.
> view(apset[1:4])
$`650001`
An instance of "AP"
<<atom pairs>>
53688190976 53688190977 53688190978 53688190979 53688190980 ... length: 528
$`650002`
An instance of "AP"
<<atom pairs>>
53688190976 53688190977 53688190978 53688190979 53689239552 ... length: 325
$`650003`
An instance of "AP"
<<atom pairs>>
52615496704 53688190976 53688190977 53689239552 53697627136 ... length: 325
```

```
$`650004`
An instance of "AP"
<<atom pairs>>
52617593856 52618642432 52619691008 52619691009 52628079616 ... length: 496
```

9.2 Large SDF and Atom Pair Databases

When working with large data sets it is often desirable to save the *SDFset* and *APset* containers as binary R objects to files for later use. This way they can be loaded very quickly into a new R session without recreating them every time from scratch.

Save and load of *SDFset* and *APset* containers:

```
> save(sdfset, file = "sdfset.rda", compress = TRUE)
> load("sdfset.rda")
> save(apset, file = "apset.rda", compress = TRUE)
> load("apset.rda")
```

9.3 Pairwise Compound Comparisons

The cmp.similarity function computes the atom pair similarity between two compounds using the Tanimoto coefficient as similarity measure.

```
> cmp.similarity(apset[1], apset[2])
[1] 0.2637037
> cmp.similarity(apset[1], apset[1])
[1] 1
```

9.4 Similarity Searching

The cmp.search function searches an atom pair database for compounds that are similar to a query compound. The following example returns a data frame where the rows are sorted by the Tanimoto similarity score (best to worst). The first column contains the indices of the matching compounds in the database. The argument cutoff can be a similarity cutoff, meaning only compounds with a similarity value larger than this cutoff will be returned; or it can be an integer value restricting how many compounds will be returned. When supplying a cutoff of 0, the function will return the similarity values for every compound in the database.

> cmp.search(apset, apset[1], type=3, cutoff = 0.2, quiet=TRUE)

```
index cid scores
1 1 650001 1.0000000
2 96 650102 0.3516643
3 67 650072 0.3117569
4 88 650094 0.3094629
5 15 650015 0.3010753
```

ChemMineR Manual References

Return main components of APset objects:

```
> cid(apset[1:4]) # Compound IDs
```

- > ap(apset[1:4]) # Atom pair descriptors
- > db.explain(apset[1]) # Return atom pairs in human readable format

Coerce APset to other objects:

```
> apset2descdb(apset) # Returns old list-style AP database
```

- > tmp <- as(apset, "list") # Returns list
- > as(tmp, "APset") # Converts list back to APset

10 Clustering Compound Structures

> cmp.cluster(db=apset, cutoff = c(0.65, 0.5))[1:4,] # Binning clustering using variable simi

References

- Y Cao, A Charisi, L C Cheng, T Jiang, and T Girke. ChemmineR: a compound mining framework for R. *Bioinformatics*, 24(15):1733–1734, Aug 2008. doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btn307. URL http://www.hubmed.org/display.cgi?uids=18596077.
- R.E. Carhart, D.H. Smith, and R. Venkataraghavan. Atom pairs as molecular features in structure-activity studies: definition and applications. *Journal of Chemical Information and Computer Sciences*, 25(2):64–73, 1985.
- X. Chen and C.H. Reynolds. Performance of Similarity Measures in 2D Fragment-Based Similarity Searching: Comparison of Structural Descriptors and Similarity Coefficients. *Journal of Chemical Information and Computer Sciences*, 42(6):1407–1414, 2002.