

Power Ranges in R

Using GRanges for efficient handling of genomic
annotation data

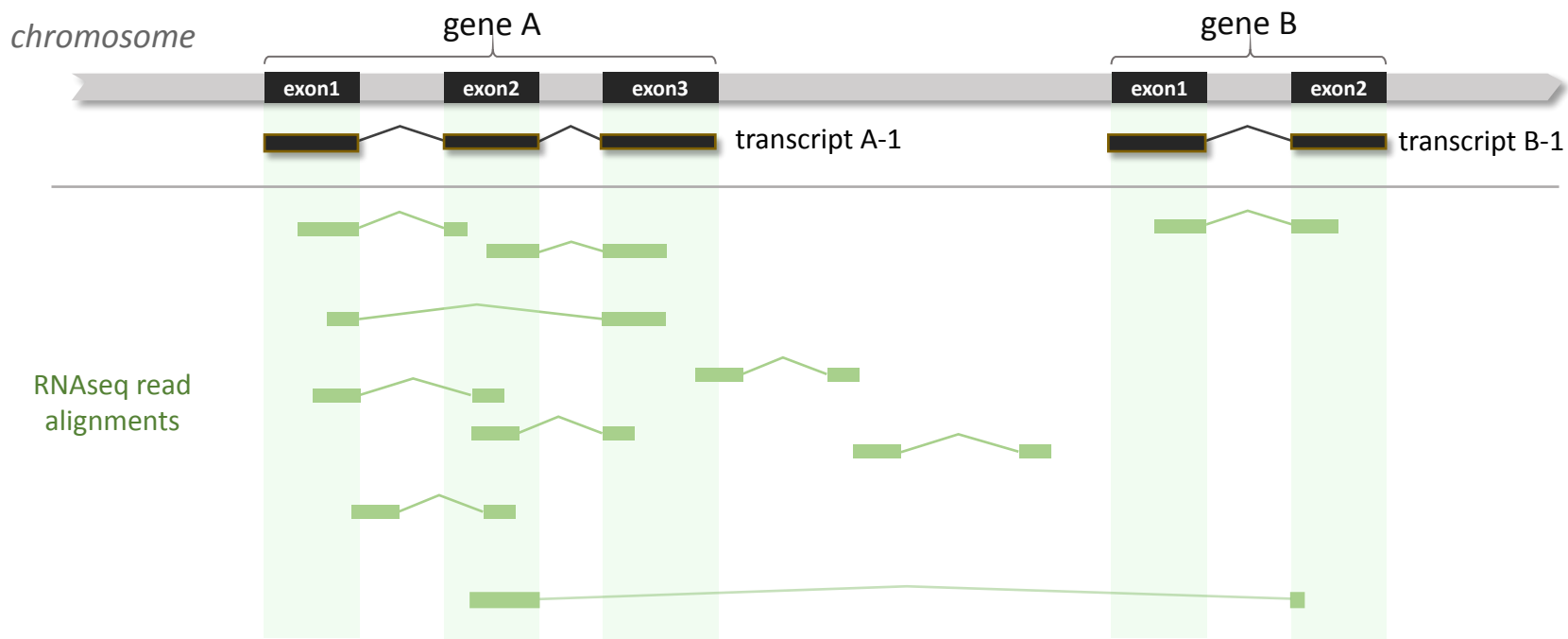
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2023/03/31

<https://github.com/gpertea/PowerRangesR>



GTF (Gene Transfer Format)

track		feature type		9th column: attributes						
chr1	HAVANA	transcript	9873504	9891995	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9873504	9874841	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9873504	9874841	.	+	0	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9877488	9877679	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9877488	9877679	.	+	0	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9888412	9888586	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9888412	9888586	.	+	0	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9891475	9891998	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9891475	9891995	.	+	2	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id "ENST0027448"; gene_name "ZNF366";



We need efficient algorithms & data structures for overlap queries on large sets of genomic ranges

GTF

chr1	HAVANA	transcript	9873504	9891995	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9873504	9874841	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9873504	9874841	.	+	0	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9877488	9877679	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9877488	9877679	.	+	0	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9888412	9888586	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9888412	9888586	.	+	0	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	exon	9891475	9891998	.	+	.	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";
chr1	HAVANA	CDS	9891475	9891995	.	+	2	gene_id	"ENSG0020601";	transcript_id	"ENST0027448";	gene_name	"ZNF366";

GRanges

metadata columns: **mcols**(GRanges)

(names)	seqnames	ranges	strand							
	<Rle>	<IRanges>	<Rle>	type	source	score	phase	gene_id	transcript_id	gene_name
	chr1	9873504-9891995	+	transcript	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9873504-9874841	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9873504-9874841	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	0	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9877488-9877679	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9877488-9877679	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	0	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9888412-9888586	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9888412-9888586	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	0	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9891475-9891998	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9891475-9891995	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	2	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366

GRanges

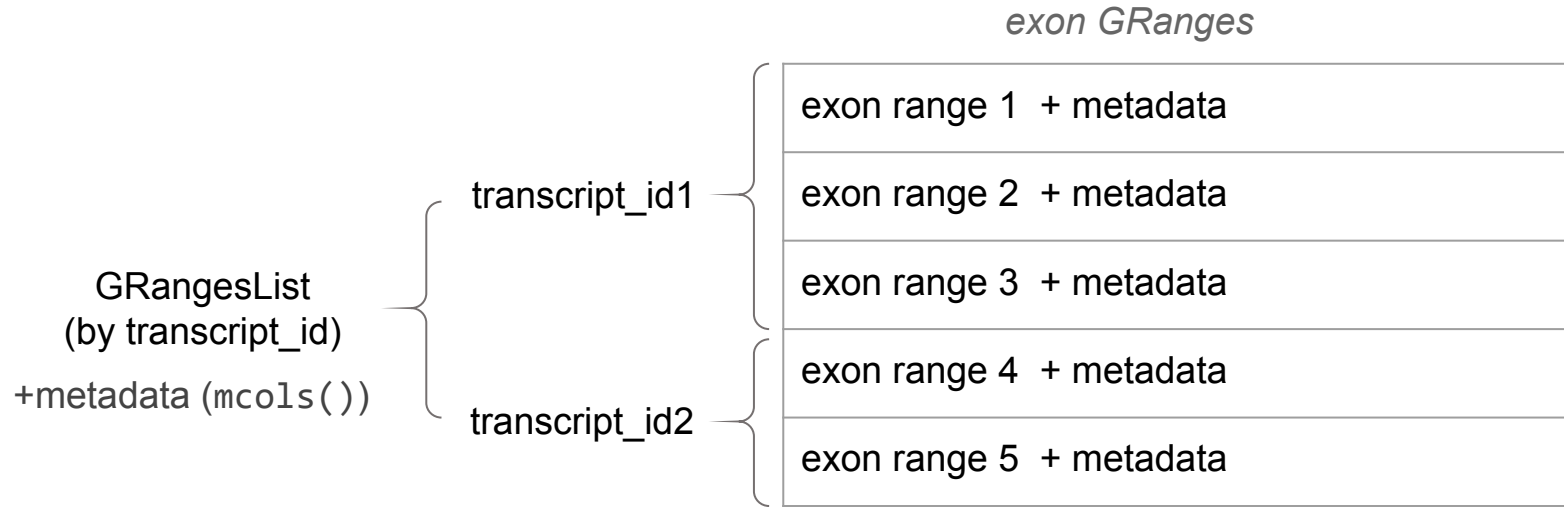
mcols()

<i>(names)</i>	<i>seqnames</i> <Rle>	<i>ranges</i> <IRanges>	<i>strand</i> <Rle>	<i>type</i>	<i>source</i>	<i>score</i>	<i>phase</i>	<i>gene_id</i>	<i>transcript_id</i>	<i>gene_name</i>
	chr1	9873504-9891995	+	transcript	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9873504-9874841	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9873504-9874841	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	0	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9877488-9877679	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9877488-9877679	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	0	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9888412-9888586	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9888412-9888586	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	0	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9891475-9891998	+	exon	HAVANA	.	.	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366
	chr1	9891475-9891995	+	CDS	HAVANA	.	2	ENSG0020601	ENST0027448	ZNF366

IRanges base class - implemented as a Nested Containment List (NCList)

$O(n + \log N)$ query time

GRangesList



```
annexgr <- anndata[anndata$type=='exon'] # exon GRanges only
## build a GRangesList of transcripts, with exons grouped by transcript_id
txgrl <- split(annexgr, annexgr$transcript_id)
```

Loading a reference annotation dataset

```
anngz ← 'data/gencode43.main.gtf.gz'  
anndata ← rtracklayer::import(anngz)
```

GRanges object with 3158401 ranges and 22 metadata columns:

	seqnames	ranges	strand	source	type	score	phase	gene_id	gene_type	gene_name
	<Rle>	<IRanges>	<Rle>	<factor>	<factor>	<numeric>	<integer>	<character>	<character>	<character>
[1]	chr1	11869-14409	+	HAVANA	gene	NA	<NA>	ENSG00000290825.1	lncRNA	DDX11L2
[2]	chr1	11869-14409	+	HAVANA	transcript	NA	<NA>	ENSG00000290825.1	lncRNA	DDX11L2
[3]	chr1	11869-12227	+	HAVANA	exon	NA	<NA>	ENSG00000290825.1	lncRNA	DDX11L2
[4]	chr1	12613-12721	+	HAVANA	exon	NA	<NA>	ENSG00000290825.1	lncRNA	DDX11L2
[5]	chr1	13221-14409	+	HAVANA	exon	NA	<NA>	ENSG00000290825.1	lncRNA	DDX11L2
...

```
> table(anndata$type)
```

gene	transcript	exon	CDS	start_codon	stop_codon	UTR	Selenocysteine
61704	216121	1443936	873937	96648	90325	375601	129

```
> length(anndata[anndata$type=='gene'])
```

```
> oi(mcols(anndata))
```

```
class: DFrame, typeof: S4 | dim: 3158401 x 22 | mem: 615.3 MB
```

findOverlaps()

```
ovls <- findOverlaps(qryGr, subjGr, type = c("any", "start", "end", "within", "equal"), ...)
```

Hits object with 8 hits and 0 metadata columns:

	<i>queryHits</i>	<i>subjectHits</i>
	<integer>	<integer>
[1]	1	4295
[2]	1	103503
[3]	3	106387
[4]	7	107678
[5]	12	109652
[6]	12	109728
[7]	25	110692
[8]	36	104995

`qryGr[queryHits(ovls)]` is paired with: `subjGr[subjectHits(ovls)]`

```
qryGr[queryHits(ovls)]$gene_name <- subjGr[subjectHits(ovls)]$gene_name
```


Example use cases

- getting the exonic length of all transcripts and genes in Gencode
- getting the set of known introns in Gencode
- I have a set of (novel) genomic features (introns, transcripts), what genes it overlaps in Gencode v43 and how?
- writing a FASTA file with the intergenic sequences (e.g. for Salmon decoy)
- writing a transcriptome FASTA file (transcript sequences)

