A quick introduction to GRanges and GRangesList objects

Hervé Pagès hpages on github@gmail.com

Michael Lawrence lawrence michael@gene.com

July 2015

GRanges objects

The GRanges() constructor GRanges accessors Vector operations on GRanges objects Range-based operations on GRanges objects

GRangesList objects

The GRangesList() constructor
GRangesList accessors
Vector operations on GRangesList objects
List operations on GRangesList objects
Range-based operations on GRangesList objects

Other resources

The GRanges class is a container for...

... storing a set of genomic ranges (a.k.a. genomic regions or genomic intervals).

- Each genomic range is described by a chromosome name, a start, an end, and a strand.
- start and end are both 1-based positions relative to the 5' end of the plus strand of the chromosome, even when the range is on the minus strand.
- start and end are both considered to be included in the interval (except when the range is empty).
- ► The width of the range is the number of genomic positions included in it. So width = end start + 1.
- end is always >= start, except for empty ranges (a.k.a. zero-width ranges) where end = start - 1.

Note that the start is always the leftmost position and the end the rightmost, even when the range is on the minus strand.

Gotcha: A TSS is at the *end* of the range associated with a transcript located on the minus strand.

The GRanges() constructor

```
> library (GenomicRanges)
> gr1 <- GRanges(seqnames=Rle(c("ch1", "chMT"), c(2, 4)),
              ranges=IRanges(16:21, 20),
              strand=rep(c("+", "-", "*"), 2))
> gr1
GRanges object with 6 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     seqnames
             ranges strand
        <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
 [1]
         ch1 16-20
 [2] ch1
             17-20
 [3] chMT 18-20
     chMT 19-20 +
 [4]
 [5] chMT
                   20
 [6]
     chMT
                21-20
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

```
> length(gr1)
[1] 6
> seqnames(gr1)
factor-Rle of length 6 with 2 runs
 Lengths: 2
 Values : ch1 chMT
Levels(2): ch1 chMT
> ranges(gr1)
IRanges object with 6 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
          start
                      end
                              width
      <integer> <integer> <integer>
  [1]
             16
                       20
                                  5
  [2]
             17
                       20
                                  4
  [3]
             18
                       20
                                  3
  Γ41
            19
                       20
  [5]
             20
                       20
  Γ61
             21
                       20
```

```
> start(gr1)
[1] 16 17 18 19 20 21
> end(gr1)
[1] 20 20 20 20 20 20
> width(gr1)
[1] 5 4 3 2 1 0
> strand(gr1)
factor-Rle of length 6 with 6 runs
 Lengths: 1 1 1 1 1 1
 Values : + - * + - *
Levels(3): + - *
> strand(gr1) <- c("-", "-", "+")
> strand(gr1)
factor-Rle of length 6 with 4 runs
 Lengths: 2 1 2 1
 Values : - + - +
Levels(3): + - *
```

```
> names(gr1) <- LETTERS[1:6]</pre>
> gr1
GRanges object with 6 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
   seqnames
             ranges strand
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
       ch1 16-20
      ch1 17-20
    chMT 18-20 +
   chMT 19-20 -
    chMT
          20
           21-20
     chMT
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
> names(gr1)
[1] "A" "B" "C" "D" "E" "F"
```

GRanges accessors: mcols()

Like with most Bioconductor vector-like objects, metadata columns can be added to a GRanges object:

```
> mcols(gr1) <- DataFrame(score=11:16, GC=seq(1, 0, length=6))</pre>
> gr1
GRanges object with 6 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
              ranges strand
                                             GC
                                 score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch1
              16-20
                                    11
                                            1.0
        ch1 17-20
 В
                                    12
                                            0.8
       chMT 18-20
                                   13
                                           0.6
                         +
       chMT 19-20
                          - 1
                                    14
                                           0.4
       chMT
                  20
                                   15
                                           0.2
       chMT 21-20
                                            0.0
                          + |
                                   16
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
> mcols(gr1)
DataFrame with 6 rows and 2 columns
                 GC
     score
  <integer> <numeric>
        11
                1.0
A
        12
                0.8
       13
              0.6
D
       14
               0.4
                0.2
        15
        16
                0.0
```

```
> seqinfo(gr1)
Sequinfo object with 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths:
  seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
 ch1
                   NΑ
                              NΑ
                                   <NA>
 chMT
                   NΑ
                              NA <NA>
> seqlevels(gr1)
[1] "ch1" "chMT"
> seqlengths(gr1)
 ch1 chMT
 NΑ
       NΑ
> seqlengths(gr1) <- c(50000, 800)
> seqlengths(gr1)
  ch1 chMT
50000
       800
```

Vector operations on GRanges objects

What we call vector operations are operations that work on any ordinary vector:

- length(), names()
- Single-bracket subsetting: [
- ► Combining: c()
- split(), relist()
- Comparing ==, !=, match(), %in%, duplicated(), unique()
- Ordering: <=, >=, <, >, order(), sort(), rank()

GRanges objects support all these $vector\ operations ==>$ They're considered vector-like objects.

Vector operations on GRanges objects: Single-bracket subsetting

```
> gr1[c("F", "A")]
GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames ranges strand
                                 score
                                             GC
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
           21-20
       chMT
                         +
                                   16
 F
           16-20
        ch1
                                   11
 seginfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> gr1[strand(gr1) == "+"]
GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
            ranges strand
                                 score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
           18-20 + |
 C
       chMT
                                   13
                                            0.6
       chMT
           21-20
                         + |
                                   16
                                           0.0
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Vector operations on GRanges objects: Single-bracket subsetting

```
> gr1 <- gr1[-5]
> gr1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
            ranges strand
                             score
                                       GC
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1
            16-20
                               11
                                      1.0
          17-20 - |
 В
       ch1
                              12
                                      0.8
      chMT 18-20 + |
                            13
                                      0.6
      chMT 19-20 - |
                              14
                                      0.4
          21-20
      chMT
                              16
                                      0.0
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Vector operations on GRanges objects: Combining

```
> gr2 <- GRanges(seqnames="ch2",
                 ranges=IRanges(start=c(2:1,2), width=6),
                score=15:13.
                 GC = seq(0, 0.4, length=3))
> gr12 <- c(gr1, gr2)
> gr12
GRanges object with 8 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
               ranges strand
                                                GC
    seqnames
                                   score
       <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1
                16-20
                                               1.0
                                      11
 В
         ch1
             17-20
                                      12
                                               0.8
        chMT
             18-20
                                     13
                                               0.6
         . . .
                . . . . . . . . . . . . .
                                     . . .
                                                . . .
         ch2
             2-7 * |
                                     15
                                               0.0
         ch2
                 1-6
                                               0.2
                                      14
         ch2
                  2-7
                                      13
                                               0.4
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Vector operations on GRanges objects: Comparing

```
> gr12[length(gr12)] == gr12
[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE FALSE
                                        TRUE
> duplicated(gr12)
[1] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE
                                        TRUE
> unique(gr12)
GRanges object with 7 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
             ranges strand
                                          GC
                               score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1
              16-20
                                  11
                                          1.0
 В
       ch1
           17-20
                                  12
                                         0.8
           18-20 + |
      chMT
                                 13
                                         0.6
           19-20 -
      chMT
                                         0.4
                                 14
           21-20 +
      chMT
                                16
                                        0.0
       ch2
                2-7
                        *
                                 15
                                         0.0
       ch2
               1-6
                                 14
                                         0.2
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Vector operations on GRanges objects: Ordering

```
> sort(gr12)
GRanges object with 8 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
              ranges strand
                                score
                                           GC
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch1
           16-20
                                  11
                                          1.0
           17 - 20
 В
       ch1
                                  12
                                          0.8
           18-20
       chMT
                                  13
                                          0.6
             1-6 * |
        ch2
                                 14
                                         0.2
        ch2
                2-7
                        *
                                 15
                                         0.0
        ch2
                2-7
                                  13
                                          0.4
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Splitting a GRanges object

```
> split(gr12, seqnames(gr12))
GRangesList object of length 3:
$ch1
GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames ranges strand
                              score
                                         GC
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1 16-20 - | 11
       ch1 17-20 - |
                               12
                                       0.8
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$chMT
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames ranges strand
                                         GC
                              score
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      chMT 18-20 + 13
                                       0.6
 D
      chMT 19-20 - |
                               14
                                       0.4
      chMT 21-20 + |
                               16
                                       0.0
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$ch2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
  segnames
            ranges strand
                             score
                                        GC
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      ch2
             2-7 * |
                            15
                                     0.0
      ch2 1-6 * |
                                     0.2
                              14
      ch2
           2-7
                               13
                                     0.4
```

Exercise 1

- a. Load the GenomicRanges package.
- b. Open the man page for the GRanges class and run the examples in it.
- c. Extract from GRanges object gr the elements (i.e. ranges) with a score between 4 and 8.
- d. Split gr by strand.

An overview of range-based operations

Intra range transformations

shift(), narrow(), resize(), flank()

Inter range transformations

range(), reduce(), gaps(), disjoin()

Range-based set operations

union(), intersect(), setdiff(),
punion(), pintersect(), psetdiff(),
pgap()

Coverage and slicing

coverage(), slice()

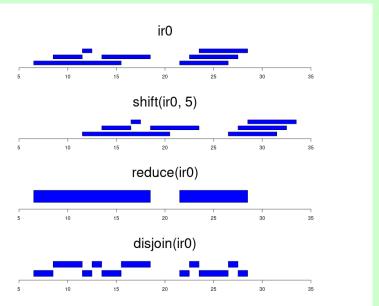
Finding/counting overlapping ranges

findOverlaps(), countOverlaps()

Finding the nearest range neighbor nearest(), precede(), follow()

and more...

Examples of some common range-based operations



Range-based operations on GRanges objects

```
> gr2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
     segnames
               ranges strand
                                 score
        <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
 [1]
         ch2
                  2-7
                                    15
                                            0.0
         ch2 1-6 * |
                                            0.2
 [2]
                                   14
 [3]
         ch2
                  2-7
                                   13
                                            0.4
 seginfo: 1 sequence from an unspecified genome; no seglengths
> shift(gr2, 50)
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
     segnames ranges strand
                                 score
                                             GC
        <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
 [1]
                52-57
         ch2
                                    15
                                            0.0
 [2]
         ch2 51-56 *
                                   14
                                            0.2
 [3] ch2 52-57 * |
                                   13
                                            0.4
 seqinfo: 1 sequence from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

```
> gr1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
             ranges strand
                              score
                                         GC
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1
              16-20
                                11
                                        1.0
       ch1 17-20 - |
                                12
                                        0.8
      chMT 18-20 + |
                                13
                                       0.6
          19-20 -
      chMT
                                14
                                       0.4
      chMT
           21-20
                                16
                                       0.0
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> resize(gr1, 12)
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames ranges strand
                                         GC
                              score
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1
               9-20
                                11
                                        1.0
          9-20 - |
                               12
                                        0.8
       ch1
      chMT 18-29 + |
                                13
                                       0.6
          9-20 - |
      chMT
                                14
                                       0.4
      chMT
          21-32
                                16
                                       0.0
 seginfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> gr1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
             ranges strand
                              score
                                         GC
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1
              16-20
                                11
                                        1.0
       ch1 17-20 - |
                               12
                                        0.8
      chMT 18-20 + |
                                13
                                       0.6
      chMT 19-20 -
                                14
                                       0.4
      chMT
           21-20
                                16
                                       0.0
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> flank(gr1, 3)
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
             ranges strand
                                         GC
   segnames
                              score
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1
              21-23
                                11
                                        1.0
       ch1 21-23 - |
                               12
                                        0.8
      chMT 15-17 + |
                               13
                                       0.6
          21-23 - |
      chMT
                                14
                                       0.4
      chMT
          18-20
                               16
                                       0.0
 seginfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> gr3 <- shift(gr1, c(35000, rep(0, 3), 100))
> width(gr3)[c(3,5)] <- 117
> gr3
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
               ranges strand
                               score
            <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
     <Rle>
       ch1 35016-35020 - |
                            11
                                          1.0
          17-20 - |
 В
       ch1
                                12
                                          0.8
      chMT 18-134 + |
                               13
                                       0.6
      chMT 19-20 - |
                               14
                                          0.4
    chMT 121-237
                                16
                                          0.0
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> range(gr3)
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
            ranges strand
     segnames
       <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
 [1]
         ch1 17-35020 -
 [2] chMT 18-237 +
 [3] chMT 19-20 -
 seginfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> gr3
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
             ranges strand
                                            GC
   seqnames
                                 score
             <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      <Rle>
        ch1 35016-35020
                                   11
                                            1.0
       ch1
                17-20
                                 12
                                            0.8
       chMT 18-134 + |
                                  13
                                           0.6
              19-20
      chMT
                                   14
                                           0.4
       chMT
           121-237
                                   16
                                           0.0
                          + |
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> reduce(gr3)
GRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     seqnames
             ranges strand
        <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
 [1]
        ch1
                  17-20
 [2] ch1 35016-35020
 [3] chMT 18-237 +
 [4]
     chMT
             19-20
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> gr3
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    segnames
                  ranges strand |
       <Rle>
               <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                                  1.0
         ch1
                   17-20
                              - 1
                                         12
                                                  0.8
        chMT
                18-134
                                         13
                                                  0.6
  n
        chMT
                19-20
                              - 1
                                         14
                                                  0.4
        chMT
              121-237
                              + |
                                         16
                                                  0.0
  seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> gaps(gr3)
GRanges object with 10 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
       seqnames
                   ranges strand
          <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
            ch 1
                 1-50000
            ch 1
                     1-16
           ch1 21-35015
   [8]
           chMT
                     1-18
   [9]
           chMT
                   21-800
  [10]
           chMT
                    1-800
  seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> gr3
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
                 ranges strand |
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch1 35016-35020
                                       11
                                                1.0
        ch 1
                  17-20
                                       12
                                                0.8
       chMT
               18-134
                            + |
                                       13
                                                0.6
       chMT
                19-20
                                       14
                                                0.4
       chMT
              121-237
                                       16
                                                0.0
 seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
> disjoin(gr3)
GRanges object with 6 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     seqnames
                   ranges strand
        <Rle>
                <IRanges> <Rle>
  [1]
          ch 1
                    17-20
  [2]
        ch1 35016-35020
  [3]
       chMT
                  18-120
  [4]
       chMT
                121-134
  [5]
        chMT
               135-237
  [6]
      chMT
                  19-20
 seginfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Exercise 2

Using GRanges object gr created at Exercise 1:

- a. Shift the ranges in gr by 1000 positions to the right.
- b. What method is called when doing shift() on a GRanges object? Find the man page for this method.

Coverage

```
> cvg12 <- coverage(gr12)
> cvg12
RleList of length 3
$ch1
integer-Rle of length 50000 with 4 runs
 Lengths: 15 1 4 49980 Values: 0 1 2 0
$chMT
integer-Rle of length 800 with 4 runs
 Lengths: 17 1 2 780
 Values: 0 1 2 0
$ch2
integer-Rle of length 7 with 3 runs
 Lengths: 1 5 1
 Values : 1 3 2
```

Coverage (continued)

```
> mean(cvg12)

ch1 chMT ch2
0.000180 0.006250 2.571429

> max(cvg12)

ch1 chMT ch2
2 2 3
```

Slicing the coverage

```
> s112 <- slice(cvg12, lower=1)
> s112
RleViewsList object of length 3:
$ch1
Views on a 50000-length Rle subject
views:
   start end width
[1] 16 20 5 [1 2 2 2 2]
$chMT
Views on a 800-length Rle subject
views:
   start end width
[1] 18 20 3 [1 2 2]
$ch2
Views on a 7-length Rle subject
views:
   start end width
[1] 1 7 7 [1 3 3 3 3 3 2]
> elementNROWS(s112)
ch1 chMT ch2
  1 1 1
> s112$chMT
```

Views on a 800-length Rle subject

findOverlaps()

Load aligned reads from a BAM file:

```
> library(pasillaBamSubset)
> untreated1_chr4()
[1] "/home/biocbuild/bbs-3.15-bioc/R/library/pasillaBamSubset/extdata/untreated1_chr4.bam"
> library(GenomicAlignments)
> reads <- readGAlignments(untreated1 chr4())</pre>
```

and store them in a GRanges object:

findOverlaps() (continued)

Load the gene ranges from a TxDb package:

```
> library(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene)
> txdb <- TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene
> dm3_genes <- genes(txdb)
```

and find the overlaps between the reads and the genes:

```
> hits <- findOverlaps(reads, dm3_genes)</pre>
> head(hits)
Hits object with 6 hits and 0 metadata columns:
     queryHits subjectHits
     <integer> <integer>
  [1]
          6296
                    11499
  Γ21
          6304 11499
  [3]
          6305 11499
  [4]
         6310 11499
  [5]
         6311
                 11499
  [6]
          6312 11499
 queryLength: 204355 / subjectLength: 15682
```

Exercise 3

- a. Recreate GRanges objects reads and dm3_genes from previous slides.
- b. What method is called when calling findOverlaps() on them? Open the man page for this method.
- c. Find the overlaps between the 2 objects but this time the strand should be ignored.

Exercise 4

In this exercise we want to get the exon sequences for the dm3 genome.

- a. Extract the exon ranges from txdb.
- b. Load the BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCS C.dm3 package.
- c. Use getSeq() to extract the exon sequences from the BSgenome object in BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.

The GRangesList class is a container for...

storing a list of compatible GRanges objects.

compatible means:

- they are relative to the same genome,
- AND they have the same metadata columns (accessible with the mcols() accessor).

The GRangesList() constructor

```
> grl <- GRangesList(gr3, gr2)</pre>
> grl
GRangesList object of length 2:
[[1]]
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames ranges strand
                               score
     <Rle>
            <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1 35016-35020 - | 11
                                        1.0
                              12
 В
      ch 1
          17-20 - |
                                        0.8
 С
      chMT 18-134 + |
                             13
                                        0.6
      chMT 19-20 - |
                              14
                                        0.4
      chMT 121-237
                               16
                                        0.0
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
[[2]]
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
  segnames ranges strand
                            score
                                       GC
    <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      ch2
            2-7 * |
                           15
                                      0.0
      ch2 1-6 * |
                           14 0.2
      ch2 2-7 * |
                             13
                                   0.4
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

GRangesList accessors

```
> length(grl)
[1] 2
```

```
> seqnames(grl)

RleList of length 2
[[1]]
factor-Rle of length 5 with 2 runs
Lengths: 2 3
Values: ch1 chMT
Levels(3): ch1 chMT ch2

[[2]]
factor-Rle of length 3 with 1 run
Lengths: 3
Values: ch2
Levels(3): ch1 chMT ch2
```

```
> strand(gr1)
RleList of length 2
[[1]]
factor-Rle of length 5 with 4 runs
  Lengths: 2 1 1 1
  Values: - + - +
Levels(3): + - *
[[2]]
factor-Rle of length 3 with 1 run
  Lengths: 3
  Values: *
Levels(3): + - *
```

```
> ranges(grl)
                                              > start(grl)
IRangesList object of length 2:
                                              IntegerList of length 2
[[1]]
                                              [[1]] 35016 17 18 19 121
IRanges object with 5 ranges and 0 metadata [[2]] 2 1 2
                    end
                            width
        start
                                              > end(grl)
    <integer> <integer> <integer>
                                              IntegerList of length 2
        35016
                  35020
                                              [[1]] 35020 20 134 20 237
           17
                     20
                                              [[2]] 7 6 7
                               117
           18
                    134
           19
                     20
                                              > width(grl)
          121
                    237
                               117
                                              IntegerList of length 2
                                              [[1]] 5 4 117 2 117
[[2]]
                                              [[2]] 6 6 6
IRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata
       start
                   end
                           width
   <integer> <integer> <integer>
```

```
> names(grl) <- c("TX1", "TX2")
> grl
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames ranges strand
                              score
     <Rle>
            <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1 35016-35020
                        - | 11
                                        1.0
          17-20 - |
 В
      ch1
                              12
                                        0.8
 С
      chMT 18-134 + |
                             13
                                        0.6
      chMT 19-20 - |
                              14
                                        0.4
      chMT 121-237 + |
                               16
                                        0.0
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
  segnames ranges strand
                                       GC
                            score
    <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      ch2
            2-7 * |
                           15
      ch2 1-6 * |
                            14
                                 0.2
      ch2 2-7 * |
                             13
                                   0.4
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> mcols(grl)$geneid <- c("GENE1", "GENE2")
> mcols(grl)
DataFrame with 2 rows and 1 column
        geneid
   <character>
TX1
         GENE 1
TX2
         GENE 2
> grl
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                 ranges strand
   seqnames
                                     score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch1 35016-35020
                             - 1
                                        11
                                                 1.0
        ch 1
                  17-20
                                        12
                                                 0.8
                                        13
       chMT
               18-134
                                                 0.6
       chMT
                19-20
                           - 1
                                        14
                                                 0.4
       chMT
             121-237
                                        16
                                                 0.0
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
              ranges strand |
   seqnames
                                  score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch2
                 2-7
                          .
                                              0.0
        ch2
                 1-6
                          .
                                     14
                                              0.2
        ch2
                 2-7
                          .
                                     13
                                              0.4
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Vector operations on GRangesList objects

Only the following vector operations are supported on GRangesList objects:

- length(), names()
- Single-bracket subsetting: [
- ► Combining: c()

Vector operations on GRangesList objects

```
> grl[c("TX2", "TX1")]
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
  segnames
          ranges strand
                            score
                                      GC
    <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      ch2
          2-7 * |
                          15
                                     0.0
      ch2 1-6 * |
                            14
                                    0.2
      ch2 2-7 * |
                             13
                                    0.4
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
          ranges strand
                              score
     <Rle>
            <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1 35016-35020 - |
                           11
                                        1.0
          17-20 - |
      ch1
                             12
                                        0.8
      chMT 18-134 + |
                               13
                                       0.6
      chMT 19-20 - |
                               14
                                      0.4
      chMT
          121-237
                                16
                                        0.0
```

seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome

Vector operations on GRangesList objects (continued)

```
> c(grl, GRangesList(gr3))
GRangesList object of length 3:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    segnames
                  ranges strand |
                                      score
       <Rle>
               <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                         11
                                                  1.0
  R
         ch 1
                   17-20
                                         12
                                                  0.8
  С
        chMT
                18-134
                              + |
                                         13
                                                  0.6
        chMT
                 19-20
                                         14
                                                  0.4
        chMT
               121-237
                                         16
                                                  0.0
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
              ranges strand |
                                   score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
                  2-7
        ch2
                           * I
                                               0.0
        ch2
                  1-6
                                               0.2
        ch2
                  2-7
                           * 1
                                      13
                                               0.4
  seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
[[3]]
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    seqnames
                  ranges strand |
                                      score
                                                   GC
              <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                         11
                                                  1.0
                   17-20
                                         12
                                                  0.8
         ch 1
        chMT
                18-134
                              + 1
                                         13
                                                  0.6
        chMT
                  19-20
                              - 1
                                         14
                                                  0.4
        chMT
               121-237
                              + 1
                                                  0.0
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

List operations on GRangesList objects

What we call *list operations* are operations that work on an ordinary list:

- Double-bracket subsetting: [[
- elementNROWS(), unlist()
- lapply(), sapply(), endoapply()
- mendoapply() (not covered in this presentation)

 ${\tt GRangesList}$ objects support all these list operations ==> They're considered list-like objects.

elementNROWS() and unlist()

```
> gr1[[2]]
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
  seqnames
           ranges strand
                                score
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch2
                2-7
                        * 1
       ch2
              1-6
                        * |
                                 14
                                          0.2
       ch2
                2-7
                        * |
                                 13
                                          0.4
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
> elementNROWS(grl)
TX1 TX2
 5 3
> unlisted <- unlist(grl, use.names=FALSE) # same as c(grl[[1]], grl[[2]])
> unlisted
GRanges object with 8 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
                ranges strand |
                                  score
                                              GC
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch1 35016-35020
                                     11
                                             1.0
 R
        ch 1
                 17-20
                          - 1
                                     12
                                             0.8
      chMT
            18-134
                       + 1 13
                                             0.6
        ch2
                 2-7
                       *
                                    15
                                             0.0
                 1-6
        ch2
                       * 1
                                     14
                                             0.2
        ch2
                 2-7
                           * I
                                     13
                                             0.4
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

relist()

```
> grl100 <- relist(shift(unlisted, 100), grl)
> grl100
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
              ranges strand
   segnames
                               score
     <R1e>
            <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch1 35116-35120
                        - | 11
                                         1.0
       ch1 117-120 -
 В
                               12
                                         0.8
 С
      chMT 118-234 + |
                             13
                                         0.6
      chMT 119-120 -
                               14
                                         0.4
      chMT 221-337
                               16
                                         0.0
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
  segnames ranges strand
                                       GC
                            score
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
      ch2
           102-107 * |
                            15
                                      0.0
      ch2 101-106 *
                            14
                                      0.2
      ch2 102-107 *
                              13
                                    0.4
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

endoapply()

```
> grl100b <- endoapply(grl, shift, 100)
> grl100b
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
                ranges strand |
                                    score
                                                 GC
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch1 35116-35120
                            - 1
                                       11
        ch 1
               117-120
                                       12
                                                0.8
 C
       chMT 118-234
                        + 1
                                       13
                                               0.6
       chMT 119-120
                        - 1
                                       14
                                                0.4
       chMT 221-337
                            + 1
                                       16
                                                0.0
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   sequames ranges strand |
                                 score
     <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch2 102-107
                         * 1
                                    15
                                             0.0
       ch2 101-106
                         * 1
                                             0.2
       ch2 102-107
                         * 1
                                    13
                                             0.4
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
> mcols(grl100)
DataFrame with 2 rows and 0 columns
> mcols(grl100b)
DataFrame with 2 rows and 1 column
        geneid
    <character>
TX1
         GENE 1
TX2
         GENE 2
```

Range-based operations on GRangesList objects

```
> grl
                                                                 > shift(grl, 100)
GRangesList object of length 2:
                                                                 GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
                                                                 $TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                                                                 GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    seqnames
                  ranges strand
                                      score
                                                                     seqnames
                                                                                   ranges strand |
                                                                                                       score
       <R1e>
              <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
                                                                        <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                                  1.0
                                                                          ch1 35116-35120
         ch 1
                   17-20
                                                  0.8
                                                                          ch1
                                                                                  117-120
                                                                                                          12
                                                                                                                   0.8
        chMT
                18-134
                              + |
                                                  0.6
                                                                         chMT
                                                                                  118-234
                                                                                               + |
                                                                                                          13
                                                                                                                   0.6
        chMT
                 19-20
                                                  0.4
                                                                         chMT 119-120
                                                                                                                   0.4
        chMT
                 121-237
                                         16
                                                  0 0
                                                                         chMT
                                                                                  221-337
                                                                                               + 1
                                                                                                          16
                                                                                                                   0 0
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
                                                                   seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
                                                                 $TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                                                                 GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
               ranges strand |
                                                                    seanames
                                                                                ranges strand |
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
                                                                       <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch2
                  2-7
                                               0.0
                                                                         ch2
                                                                               102-107
                                                                                                                0 0
        ch2
                  1-6
                                      14
                                               0.2
                                                                         ch 2 101-106
                                                                                            .
                                                                                                                0.2
        ch2
                  2-7
                                      13
                                               0.4
                                                                         ch 2 102-107
                                                                                                                0.4
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
                                                                   seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

shift(grl, 100) is equivalent to endoapply(grl, shift, 100)

```
> grl
                                                                 > flank(grl, 10)
GRangesList object of length 2:
                                                                 GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
                                                                  $TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                                                                 GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    seqnames
                  ranges strand
                                      score
                                                                      seqnames
                                                                                    ranges strand |
                                                                                                         score
       <R1e>
              <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
                                                                         <R1e>
                                                                                <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                                   1.0
                                                                           ch1 35021-35030
         ch 1
                   17-20
                                                   0.8
                                                                           ch1
                                                                                     21-30
                                                                                                                     0.8
        chMT
                 18-134
                                                   0.6
                                                                          chMT
                                                                                      8-17
                                                                                                + |
                                                                                                           13
                                                                                                                     0.6
        chMT
                 19-20
                                                   0.4
                                                                          chMT
                                                                                     21-30
                                                                                                                     0.4
        chMT
                 121-237
                              + |
                                         16
                                                   0 0
                                                                          chMT
                                                                                   111-120
                                                                                                + 1
                                                                                                            16
                                                                                                                     0 0
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
                                                                    seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
                                                                  $TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                                                                  GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
               ranges strand |
                                                                                 ranges strand |
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
                                                                        <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch2
                  2-7
                                                0 0
                                                                          ch2
                                                                                   -8-1
        ch2
                  1-6
                                       14
                                                0.2
                                                                          ch 2
                                                                                   -9-0
                                                                                                                  0.2
        ch2
                  2-7
                                      13
                                                0.4
                                                                          ch2
                                                                                   -8-1
                                                                                                                  0.4
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
                                                                    seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

flank(grl, 10) is equivalent to endoapply(grl, flank, 10)

```
> grl
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    seqnames
                  ranges strand |
                                      score
       <R1e>
              <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                                   1.0
         ch 1
                   17-20
                                                   0.8
        chMT
                18-134
                              + |
                                                   0.6
        chMT
                 19-20
                                                   0.4
        chMT
                 121-237
                              + |
                                         16
                                                   0.0
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
               ranges strand |
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch2
                  2-7
                                               0.0
        ch2
                  1-6
                                      14
                                               0.2
        ch2
                  2-7
                                      13
                                               0.4
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> range(grl)
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
      seqnames
                  ranges strand
         <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
  [1]
          ch1 17-35020
  [2]
          chMT
                  18-237
  [3]
          chMT
                   19-20
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
      seanames
                  ranges strand
         <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
  [1]
           ch2
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

range(grl) is equivalent to endoapply(grl, range)

```
> grl
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 5 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
    seqnames
                  ranges strand |
                                      score
       <R1e>
              <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
         ch1 35016-35020
                                                   1.0
         ch 1
                   17-20
                                                   0.8
        chMT
                 18-134
                              + |
                                                   0.6
        chMT
                 19-20
                                                   0.4
        chMT
                 121-237
                              + |
                                         16
                                                   0 0
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
               ranges strand |
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
        ch2
                  2-7
                                                0.0
        ch2
                  1-6
                                       14
                                                0.2
        ch2
                  2-7
                                      13
                                                0.4
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> reduce(grl)
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
      seqnames
                    ranges strand
         <R1e>
               <IRanges> <Rle>
  [1]
           ch 1
                     17-20
  [2]
          ch 1 35016-35020
  [3]
          chMT
                    18-237
          chMT
                     19-20
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
      seanames
                  ranges strand
         <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
           ch2
  seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

reduce(grl) is equivalent to endoapply(grl, reduce)

```
> gr12
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
    seqnames
               ranges strand |
                                   score
       <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
     chMT 18-134
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
   seqnames
            ranges strand
                                  score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch2
                 2-7 * 1
 seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
> gr13
GRangesList object of length 2:
GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
            ranges strand |
   segnames
                                score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       chMT
              22-130
                          + 1
                                     13
                                              0.6
 seginfo: 3 seguences from an unspecified genome
[[2]]
GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
   segnames
             ranges strand |
                                  score
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
       ch2
                 2-7 * 1
 seqinfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

```
> setdiff(grl2, grl3)
GRangesList object of length 2:
$TX1
GRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     seqnames
                 ranges strand
         <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
        chMT
                   18-21
         chMT 131-134
  [2]
  seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
$TX2
GRanges object with 0 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
   seqnames
              ranges strand
      <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
  seginfo: 3 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Other resources

- Great slides from Michael on ranges sequences and alignments: http://bioconductor.org/help/course-materials/2014/CSAMA2014/2_ Tuesday/lectures/Ranges_Sequences_and_Alignments-Lawrence.pdf
- ▶ Vignettes in the GenomicRanges package (browseVignettes("GenomicRanges")).
- GRanges and GRangesList man pages in the GenomicRanges package.
- Vignettes and GAlignments man page in the GenomicAlignments package.
- Bioconductor support site: http://support.bioconductor.org/
- ► The genomic ranges paper: Michael Lawrence, Wolfgang Huber, Hervé Pagès, Patrick Aboyoun, Marc Carlson, Robert Gentleman, Martin T. Morgan, Vincent J. Carey. Software for Computing and Annotating Genomic Ranges. PLOS Computational Biology, 4(3), 2013.