An introduction to *R* and *Bioconductor* for the analysis of high-throughput sequencing data

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1 Introduction

1.1 What is R/Bioconductor?

R is a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics. The latest news and updates can be found on the R website. More than 6000 packages are available on the Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN) to extend the functionalities of R. R is increasingly used in different fields, including life science [1].

With more than 2000 packages, Bioconductor is the largest project associated to R. It is dedicated to bioinformatics [2] and proposes 4 types of packages:

- Software packages are classical R packages containing new functions
- Annotation Data packages contain biological annotations wrapped in convenient R objects
- Experiment Data packages contain Experimental data
- Workflow packages were introduced more recently and contain examples of workflows based on Bioconductor packages

The *Bioconductor* website is a great resource to get the latest (frequent) updates and to find help and tutorials.

One of the most notable advantage of R and Bioconductor is the vast amount of learning resources available. In addition to package vignettes (i.e. documentation), the Bioconductor workflows and Conferences section are great resources.

1.2 Core and specialized packages

An enormous amount of work has been done by *Bioconductor* developpers to provide efficient tools for the analysis of genomic data (see for example this excellent overview of the use of *Bioconductor* in the context of genomic data [3]).

Some packages provide a core infrastructure for genomics by defining key classes / containers and the associated accessors. Others provide complete pipelines or integrated solutions for a general task. These packages allow to perform the main steps involved in the analysis of genomic data:

- Work with sequences and strings: Biostrings, BSgenome and BSgenome* annotation packages
- Manipulate raw FASTQ data files: ShortRead
- Align reads on a reference: Rsubread, QuasR
- Manipulate aligned reads: Rsamtools, GenomicAlignments
- Work with genomic ranges: IRanges, GenomicRanges
- Access annotations: *AnnotationDbi*, *OrganismDbi*, *GenomicFeatures*, etc.
- Importing/exporting tracks: rtracklayer, AnnotationHub, biomaRt, etc.
- Visualize genomic data: ggbio, Gviz, Sushi, etc.

Other packages are more focused on specific applications, such as:

- RNA-seq and differential analysis: limma, DESeq2, edgeR, DEXseq, spliceR, rnaSeqMap, etc.
- ChIP-seq: ChIPQC, chipseq, NarrowPeaks, DiffBind, MMDiff, epigenomix, jmosaics, etc.
- DNA methylation: bsseq, BiSeq, methylumi, minfi, Rnbeads, etc.
- ATAC-seq: ATACseqQC, esATAC, etc.
- CAGE-seq: TSSi, CAGEr, etc.
- DNAse-seq: DNaseR, etc.
- MNase-seq: PING, etc.
- 3C/4C/Hi-C: r3Cseq, FourCSeq, HiTC, InteractionSet, GenomicInterations, etc.

Some packages such as *QuasR* or *systemPipeR* aim at providing complete pipelines to be run from the *R* environment.

1.3 Content and usage of this document

This document presents several packages that constitute the core *Bioconductor* tools dedicated to the analysis of functional genomics data. The chapters correspond to general tasks commonly undertaken in genomic studies and for each task the main functions from the core packages are illustrated. 'R code' is easily recognized by the grey background and text outputs are color-coded and preceded by the ## symbols. There is a progression in the document and objects created in a chapter are often used in subsequent chapters. It is thus necessary to save your R session when you make a pause in the document:

```
save.image("MySession.RData")
```

and to load it back when you start again:

```
load("MySession.RData")
```

This document does not document core packages to perform genetic studies (i.e. analyze SNPs, CNVs, GWAS, etc.) because I am less familiar with them. This might be a future development of this document.

This document is largely inspired and borrrows a lot from the documents, courses and vignettes written by others. I am grateful to them for sharing their knowledge and skills. I hope this document will also be useful to others and I invite the reader to embrace the attitude of sharing and respect that generally characterizes the R and Bioconductor community (#rstats, @Bioconductor).

2 Manipulating strings and sequences in Bioconductor

In this section, we will provide examples on the use of the following packages:

Biostrings

- Rsamtools
- BSgenome
- BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3

2.1 Containers and accessors

First, we will see how to import sequences from a fasta file. We will use a file provided with the *Biostrings* package which contains the sequences 2000 bases upstream of the annotated transcription start sites (TSS) for the Drosophila melanogaster genome.

Get the file path:

Import the sequences as a DNAStringSet:

```
dm3_upstream = readDNAStringSet(dm3_upstream_filepath)
dm3_upstream
    A DNAStringSet instance of length 26454
##
          width seq
                                                            names
      [1] 2000 GTTGGTGGCCCACCAGTGCC...AGTTTACCGGTTGCACGGT NM_078863_up_2000...
##
      [2] 2000 TTATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGT...ACGGAAAGTCATCCTCGAT NM_001201794_up_2...
      [3] 2000 TTATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGT...ACGGAAAGTCATCCTCGAT NM_001201795_up_2...
      [4] 2000 TTATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGT...ACGGAAAGTCATCCTCGAT NM_001201796_up_2...
##
      [5] 2000 TTATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGT...ACGGAAAGTCATCCTCGAT NM_001201797_up_2...
##
##
      . . .
            . . . . . . .
## [26450] 2000 ATTTACAAGACTAATAAAGA...AATTAAATTTCAATAAAAC NM_001111010_up_2...
## [26451] 2000 GATATACGAAGGACGACCTG...GTTTGAGTTGTTATATATT NM_001015258_up_2...
## [26452] 2000 GATATACGAAGGACCTG...GTTTGAGTTGTTATATATT NM_001110997_up_2...
## [26453] 2000 GATATACGAAGGACGACCTG...GTTTGAGTTGTTATATATT NM_001276245_up_2...
## [26454] 2000 CGTATGTATTAGTTAACTCT...AAAGTGTAAGAACAAATTG NM_001015497_up_2...
```

Create a random sequence:

Load the whole Drosophila genome sequence:

```
## library(BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3)
Dmelanogaster
```

```
## Fly genome:
## # organism: Drosophila melanogaster (Fly)
## # provider: UCSC
## # provider version: dm3
## # release date: Apr. 2006
## # release name: BDGP Release 5
## # 15 sequences:
## # chr2L
                                                                chrU
              chr2R chr3L
                                   chr3R
                                             chr4
                                                      chrX
## # chrM
              chr2LHet chr2RHet chr3LHet chr3RHet chrXHet
                                                                chrYHet
## # chrUextra
## # (use 'seqnames()' to see all the sequence names, use the '$' or '[['
## # operator to access a given sequence)
names(Dmelanogaster)
## [1] "chr2L"
                  "chr2R"
                              "chr3L"
                                          "chr3R"
                                                     "chr4"
                                                                 "chrX"
## [7] "chrU"
                   "chrM"
                              "chr2LHet" "chr2RHet" "chr3LHet" "chr3RHet"
## [13] "chrXHet" "chrYHet"
                              "chrUextra"
Dmelanogaster$chr2L
## 23011544-letter "DNAString" instance
## seq: CGACAATGCACGACAGAGGAAGCAGAACAGATATT...ATATTTGCAAAATTTTGATGAACCCCCCTTTCAAA
```

Accessors:

```
dm3_upstream[[5]]
    2000-letter "DNAString" instance
## seq: TTATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGTTCCCGCAGCCAAAGC...AATTAATCGATAGATACGAAAGTCATCCTCGAT
toString(dm3_upstream[[5]][2:30])
## [1] "TATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGTTCCCGCAGCC"
subseq(dm3_upstream[[5]],start=2,end=30)
    29-letter "DNAString" instance
## seq: TATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGTTCCCGCAGCC
Views (dm3\_upstream[[5]], start=c(1, 11, 21), end=c(10, 20, 30))
## Views on a 2000-letter DNAString subject
## subject: TTATTTATGTAGGCGCCCGTTCCCGCAGCCAA...TTAATCGATAGATACGGAAAGTCATCCTCGAT
## views:
     start end width
##
## [1] 1 10
                 10 [TTATTTATGT]
         11 20
## [2]
                   10 [AGGCGCCCGT]
## [3]
         21 30
                   10 [TCCCGCAGCC]
```

Views objects are used to store a sequence together with ranges defined on this sequence. The ranges are said to represent *views* onto the sequence (see paragraph 3.4 for details on these objects).

Working with large FASTA files

The *Rsamtools* package (presented in paragraph 5) also provides interesting functions to work on large indexed FASTA files (e.g. containing a whole genome sequence). The short example below illustrates how to extract from a FASTA file a set of sequences defined by a *GRanges* (see paragraph 3.5 for details on *GRanges*):

```
## library(Rsamtools)
indFaEx_path=system.file("extdata","ce2dict1.fa",package="Rsamtools")
indFaEx=FaFile(indFaEx_path)
getSeq(indFaEx,
       GRanges(c("pattern01:3-10",
                 "pattern04:10-24")))
    A DNAStringSet instance of length 2
##
       width seq
                                                             names
          8 GAAACTAG
## [1]
                                                             pattern01
## [2]
          15 TTGTTGCAAATTTGA
                                                             pattern04
```

2.2 Sequence analysis and masks

Reverse complement of a sequence (see also the reverse and complement functions):

```
reverseComplement(dm3_upstream[[5]])
## 2000-letter "DNAString" instance
## seq: ATCGAGGATGACTTTCCGTATCTATCGATTAATTC...CTTTGGCTGCGGGAACGGGCGCCTACATAAATAA
```

Count the occurence of each base:

```
alphabetFrequency(dm3_upstream[1:2],baseOnly=TRUE,as.prob=TRUE)

## A C G T other

## [1,] 0.323 0.191 0.1875 0.2985 0

## [2,] 0.300 0.207 0.2230 0.2700 0
```

Get the GC content of a sequence:

```
letterFrequency(Dmelanogaster$chr2L,"CG",as.prob=TRUE)
## C|G
## 0.41835
```

Masked versions of BSgenome packages are generally available:

```
library("BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.masked")
```

Activate/deactivate the masks:

```
maskedgenome <- BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.masked #A MaskedBSgenome object
chrU <- maskedgenome$chrU #A MaskedDNAString object
active(masks(chrU)) #Only some masks are active
## AGAPS AMB RM TRF</pre>
```

```
## TRUE TRUE FALSE FALSE
active(masks(chrU)) <- TRUE #turn on all masks</pre>
chrUmask=injectHardMask(chrU) #Replaces the masked nucleotides by "+"
as(chrU,"XStringViews") #Get the unmasked regions
    Views on a 10049037-letter DNAString subject
## subject: TGCGTGCTACCACATCATGCAGTTTTCAAAGAA...AGCGCCTTTTTACGACCAACTGAGCGTACCAG
## views:
##
            start
                     end width
          3295
##
     [1]
                      3309 15 [GTGAGGCATCACAAC]
##
     [2]
            3537 3858 322 [CTGAAATTACGTTATAATTTA...ACTAATTTGCGGAATTCGAC]
     [3]
           4410 5172 763 [AGCGCGCAAGCAAGAGAGGGA...TATGTCGGTGAAATATTAAT]
     [4]
             5904
                      5991 88 [CAGGTGCCCTTCCAAAGCAAA...TTTGCACTGGATAAGACAAG]
##
                      6393 285 [CAAATTTGTAGAGGGGTGAGT...AAGCAACGCACCTCGACGTG]
##
     [5]
             6109
##
     . . .
## [8109] 10039126 10039126 1 [A]
## [8110] 10039540 10040228 689 [CAGCCATTTATTCTTATTTTC...ATTTTTAGTCGTCAGCGTTG]
## [8111] 10042946 10043532 587 [TATATAGAATATATTCGCCAA...ATTGGCAGGACAAGGCACAC]
## [8112] 10045835 10046264 430 [CTGTTTCCGTTGATTCCCGTT...TTTGCAAATTGAGCTCTAAA]
## [8113] 10046809 10046835 27 [TTTTATGGTTCGGTCAATTGTTTGGAT]
```

Hard masking changes the sequence itself while soft masking does not, as illustrated when extracting Views (see paragraph 3.4):

```
toString(Views(Dmelanogaster$chrU,start=1714848, width=12))
## [1] "GAGAGAGAGAGA"

toString(Views(chrU,start=1714848, width=12))
## Warning in Views(chrU, start = 1714848, width = 12): masks were dropped
## [1] "GAGAGAGAGAGA"

toString(Views(chrUmask,start=1714848, width=12))
## [1] "+++++++++++
```

Some functions take the masks into account without requiring hard masking. For example alphabetFrequency or, as shown below, the matchPattern function (see paragraph 2.3 for details on this function):

```
active(masks(chrU))['RM']=T #activate only RepeatMasker
length(matchPattern('GAGAGAGAGAGA',chrU))
## [1] 14
```

2.3 Pattern matching

Pattern matching is also frequently used in ChIP-seq experiments to search e.g. for binding sites of transcription factors.

Sequence motifs are typically used to represent the DNA regions bound by transcription factors and other regulatory proteins. There are several packages in *Bioconductor* to search for and identify such patterns in strings and sequences. A complete *Bioconductor* workflow illustrates the use of pattern matching for the identification of transcription factor binding sites.

Here, we will use the following additional packages:

- MotifDb
- seqLogo
- motifStack
- TFBSTools

Other packages of interest include rGADEM, TFBSTools, MotIV, BCRANK and motifRG.

FixMe: add a section on TFBSTools which has improved a lot in last version. Mention also motifbreakR PMID 26272984 for the impact of a SNP on a TF binding site

2.3.1 Searching and plotting motifs.

The MotifDb package allows to query different databases containing DNA motifs.

We search these databases for the response element of the ecdysone receptor (EcR):

```
EcRMotifs=MotifDb::query(MotifDb, "EcR")
EcRMotifs
## MotifDb object of length 3
## | Created from downloaded public sources: 2013-Aug-30
## | 3 position frequency matrices from 3 sources:
       FlyFactorSurvey:
## |
                            1
## |
            JASPAR_2014:
                            1
            jaspar2016:
                            1
## | 1 organism/s
          Dmelanogaster:
## Dmelanogaster-FlyFactorSurvey-EcR_SANGER_5_FBgn0000546
## Dmelanogaster-JASPAR_2014-EcR::usp-MA0534.1
## Dmelanogaster-jaspar2016-EcR::usp-MA0534.1
EcRMotifs[[1]]
```

The motif is represented as a Position-weight matrix

The package seqLogo allows to easily plot sequence logos:

Figure 1 shows EcR motif:

seqLogo(EcRMotifs[[1]])

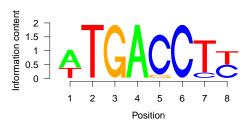


Figure 1: Sequence logo for EcR motif

Figure 2 its reverse complement:

seqLogo(reverseComplement(EcRMotifs[[1]]))

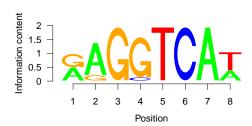


Figure 2: Sequence logo for EcR motif reverse complement

And Figure 3 the logo for the response element obtained from JASPAR:

seqLogo(EcRMotifs[[2]])

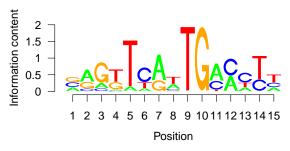
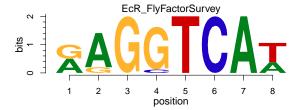


Figure 3: Sequence logo for EcR:Usp heterodimer

The second motif (from JASPAR) represented in Figure 3 is a binding site for the heterodimer composed of the ecdysone receptor (EcR) and its binding partner Ultraspiracle protein (Usp). This imperfect palindromic ecdysone response element is an inverted repeat of the consensus motif AGGTCA separated by 1 nucleotide (IR1).

The package *motifStack* provides additional plotting functionalities for sequence logos as shown in Figure 4:



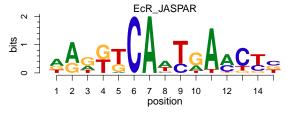


Figure 4: Sequence logos for EcR motifs using motifStack

2.3.2 TFBSTools

TFBS stands for Transcription Factor Binding Site. The *TFBSTools* package [?] includes several features to manipulate and analyze sequence motifs or potential TFBS:

- Containers for motifs (XMatrix), collections of motifs (XMatrixList), sets of motifs obtained with MEME (MotifSet) or from a motifSearch on a sequence (SiteSet)
- Containers and graphical representations of the most recent TFFM (Transcription Factor Flexible Model) motif representations
- Functions to convert between PWM (position-weight matrix), PFM (position frequency matrix) and ICM (information content matrix)
- Functions to compare motifs as matrices (PFMs/PWMs) or with IUPAC strings
- Functions to scan sequences or whole genome (searchSeq) and to scan aligned sequences (searchAln) or genomes (searchPairBSgenome)

- Functions to query the JASPAR database, using Bioconductor packages such as JAS-PAR2018
- Wrapper function for the de novo motif dicovery tool MEME

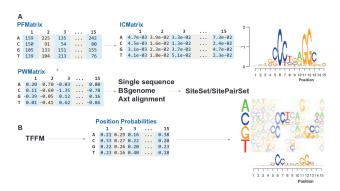


Figure 5: Common workflow and classes in *TFBSTools*Taken from the TFBSTools paper

2.3.3 Scanning a sequence with a Position-weight matrix.

We select the JASPAR motif:

```
EcrJASP=EcRMotifs[[grep("JASPAR_2014", names(EcRMotifs))]]
```

And search for this motif on both strands of chromosome 2L:

We can use the matchPWM function to search a motif directly in a BSgenome object. In this case, the search is automatically done on both strands and the function returns a convenient GRanges object (see 3.5 below).

```
EcRJASP_all <- matchPWM(EcrJASP, Dmelanogaster)</pre>
EcRJASP_all
## GRanges object with 74551 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
##
              seqnames
                                      ranges strand |
                                                          score
##
                 <Rle>
                                   <IRanges> <Rle> | <numeric> <DNAStringSet>
##
         [1]
                 chr2L
                              [ 5749, 5763]
                                                       8.221154 AAGTTTATTGCAATG
         [2]
                 chr2L
                              [ 8746, 8760]
                                                  +
                                                       8.375000 GAGGTCATTAACTTT
##
##
         [3]
                 chr2L
                              [14077, 14091]
                                                  + | 8.384615 AAATTCATTGAAATG
```

```
[4]
                chr2L
                             [27494, 27508]
                                                + | 8.201923 TAGATCAATGCCTTT
##
         [5]
                chr2L
                            [29314, 29328]
                                                + |
                                                     8.057692 CAATTCATTAACTTT
##
                                                          . . .
##
     [74547] chrUextra [28864987, 28865001]
                                            - | 8.028846 ACGTTTATTGAAGCT
    [74548] chrUextra [28947220, 28947234]
                                                - | 8.144231 GAATTAAATGAGCTT
##
    [74549] chrUextra [28961112, 28961126]
                                                     8.076923 CAGTTCAGTGCTCTG
##
    [74550] chrUextra [28971605, 28971619]
                                                     8.019231 GAGCTCAGTGAAGTA
    [74551] chrUextra [28977930, 28977944]
                                                     8.076923 CAGTTCAGTGCTCTG
##
     seginfo: 15 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

2.3.4 Scanning sequences with strings.

Scanning multiple sequences with one string.

A pattern or motif can also be represented as a character string possibly using the IUPAC ambiguity code. Here, for simplicity, we will represent ambiguities as 'N'.

To perform pattern matching, we define a consensus sequence for the IR1 ecdysone response element:

```
EcR_IR1_cons=consensusString(EcrJASP,ambiguityMap="N")
EcR_IR1_cons
## [1] "NAGTTCATTGACCTT"

EcR_IR1_cons=substring(EcR_IR1_cons,first=2)
EcR_IR1_cons
## [1] "AGTTCATTGACCTT"
```

Similarly, we can build consensus sequences for the EcR itself or for its binding partner Ultraspiracle (Usp):

Now, we search for the EcR consensus in chromosome 2L:

Note that we have found a perfect palindrome:

```
EcR_on_2L_all[width(EcR_on_2L_all)!=7]

## Views on a 23011544-letter DNAString subject

## subject: CGACAATGCACGACAGAGGAAGCAGATA...ATTTGCAAATTTTGATGAACCCCCCTTTCAAA

## views:

## start end width

## [1] 7208722 7208733 12 [AGGTCATGACCT]
```

Scanning multiple sequences with one string.

It is also possible to search for a single pattern in several subject sequences using the wmatchPattern.

Search for the EcR pattern in TSS upstream sequences:

```
EcR_on_up=vmatchPattern(EcR_cons, dm3_upstream)
```

Get the number of matches per subject element:

```
nmatch_per_seq = elementNROWS(EcR_on_up)
table(nmatch_per_seq)

## nmatch_per_seq
## 0 1 2 3
## 24765 1638 48 3
```

Let's take look at one of the upstream sequence with the maximum number of matches:

Scanning a sequence with multiple strings.

One may also search for multiple patterns in a single subject sequence using matchPDict. Get all PWM matrices available for Drosophila melanogaster:

```
dm_matrices = MotifDb::query(MotifDb,"dmelanogaster")
```

Keep only the motifs that are 8bp-long and get their consensus sequences:

```
motif_ln = sapply(dm_matrices,ncol)
dm_matrices = dm_matrices[motif_ln==8]
dm_motifs=DNAStringSet(sapply(dm_matrices,consensusString,ambiguityMap="N"))
```

Search for all these motifs in chromosome 2L:

```
mot8_on_2L=matchPDict(dm_motifs,Dmelanogaster$chr2L,fixed=FALSE)
summary(elementNROWS(mot8_on_2L)) #Number of matches
##
      Min. 1st Qu. Median
                              Mean 3rd Qu.
##
       268
               867
                      3289
                             57508 13143 4815391
head(unlist(mot8_on_2L)) #first 6 matches
## IRanges object with 6 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
                                                         end
                                                                 width
##
                                         <integer> <integer> <integer>
     Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M0111_1.02
##
                                               118
                                                         125
                                                                     8
##
     Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M0111_1.02
                                               196
                                                         203
                                                                     8
     Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M0111_1.02
                                               576
                                                         583
                                                                     8
     Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M0111_1.02
                                                                     8
                                               654
                                                         661
##
     Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M0111_1.02
                                              1034
                                                        1041
                                                                     8
     Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M0111_1.02
                                                                     8
                                              1112
                                                        1119
```

The motif most frequently found on chromosome 2L:

```
names(dm_motifs[which.max(elementNROWS(mot8_on_2L))])
## [1] "Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M5115_1.02"
toString(dm_motifs[[which.max(elementNROWS(mot8_on_2L))]])
## [1] "NNNNGNNN"
```

The motif less frequently found on chromosome 2L:

```
names(dm_motifs[which.min(elementNROWS(mot8_on_2L))])
## [1] "Dmelanogaster-cispb_1.02-M5018_1.02"
toString(dm_motifs[[which.min(elementNROWS(mot8_on_2L))]])
## [1] "CGCGCGAT"
```

Scanning multiple sequence with multiple strings.

Finally, some functions, still under development, are available to search for multiple patterns in multiple sequences.

Remove the motifs containing N bases and create a dictionary of motifs (the motifs must have the same length):

```
dm_mot8_dict=PDict(dm_motifs[sapply(dm_motifs,hasOnlyBaseLetters)])
```

Search for the motifs in TSS upstream sequences:

```
mot8_count_upstream=vcountPDict(dm_mot8_dict,dm3_upstream)
```

Number of motifs found:

```
apply(mot8_count_upstream,1,sum)
## [1] 975 566 1133 733 1445 1295 1133 920 498 521 9411 4366 399 292
```

```
## [15] 1281 1698 1698 761 475 2536 706
                                          706
                                                290 6162 2327
## [29]
        708 5781 1579 1340
                            702 4384 1939 6411
                                                473
                                                     823 4560
                                                               742
                                                                    714
                                                                         952
## [43]
       432 432 7916 6411
                            414
                                 419 1284 1103
                                                321
                                                     321
                                                          324 324 574 574
## [57] 6411 2527 3027 2549
                            469
                                 469
                                      885 1461
                                                532 6411
                                                          724 1284 2527 6411
## [71]
       724 1284 2527
                      885
                            515 6411
                                      724 1284 2527
                                                     885
```

Number of motif1 per upstream sequence:

```
table(mot8_count_upstream[1,])
##
## 0 1 2 3 5
## 25527 887 36 2 2
```

Number of motifs per upstream sequence:

```
nMot8_perSeq=apply(mot8_count_upstream,2,sum)
names(nMot8_perSeq)=names(dm3_upstream)
```

Plot in Figure 6 the number of upstream sequences as a function of the number of motifs:

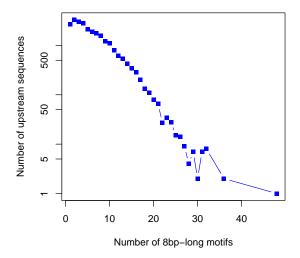


Figure 6: Motifs per upstream sequence

2.4 Sequence alignment

Sequence alignment is a common task in NGS bioinformatic pipelines. Most of the time, alignment of short or long reads is performed outside *R*, using dedicated NGS aligner.

Widely used short read aligners include:

- BWA [4, 5]
- Bowtie/Bowtie2 [6, 7]

Some aligners are also adapted to RNA-seq which often generates spliced reads:

- HiSat2 [8, 9]
- STAR [10]
- Subread [11]

There are *R* packages that provide interfaces to some of these aligners, such as *Rbowtie*, *Rbowtie*, *QuasR* or *Rsubread*.

Here, we only briefly present classical sequence alignement tools available in *Bioconductor*, mainly via the *Biostrings* package (see the vignette of this package for further examples, including on NGS data). In NGS analysis, these tools can be used to search for adapters or primer sequences for example.

2.4.1 Pairwise alignment.

The main function pairwiseAlignment provides functionalities to perform global (NeedlemanâĂŞWunsch), local (Smith-Waterman) and overlap (ends-free) pairwise alignments while tuning substitution scoring and gap penalties.

Align the consensus ecdysone receptor response element to a region of chromosome 2L were such a motif is present:

Align the consensus motifs for EcR and Usp on a TSS upstream sequence:

```
## score: 5.991251

Views(paln_EcRUsp)

## Views on a 2000-letter DNAString subject

## subject: CCATGCACTGGCCAGCGATAGCCCCATCTATCG...AGCCGCGAAATGAGGGGAAACCGAGCTGGAGC

## views:

## start end width

## [1] 779 785 7 [AGGGCAT]

## [2] 772 778 7 [GAGGTCA]

Views(dm3_upstream[[1780]],start=772,end=785)

## Views on a 2000-letter DNAString subject

## subject: CCATGCACTGGCCAGCGATAGCCCCATCTATCG...AGCCGCGAAATGAGGGGAAACCGAGCTGGAGC

## views:

## start end width

## [1] 772 785 14 [GAGGTCAAGGGCAT]
```

Global vs local alignment:

```
pairwiseAlignment('GTGTCAATACGACAGCAATCTG',
                  'AGTGTGAATTACAGCAAATCTCTGTT',
                  type='global')
## Global PairwiseAlignmentsSingleSubject (1 of 1)
## pattern: [1] GTGTCAATACGACAGCAA---TCTG
## subject: [2] GTGTGAATT--ACAGCAAATCTCTG
## score: -48.12697
pairwiseAlignment('GTGTCAATACGACAGCAATCTG',
                  'AGTGTGAATTACAGCAAATCTCTGTT',
                  type='local')
## Local PairwiseAlignmentsSingleSubject (1 of 1)
## pattern: [12] ACAGCAA
## subject: [11] ACAGCAA
## score: 13.87229
pairwiseAlignment('GTGTCAATACGACAGCAATCTG',
                  'AGTGTGAATTACAGCAAATCTCTGTT',
                  type='global-local')
## Global-Local PairwiseAlignmentsSingleSubject (1 of 1)
## pattern: [1] GTGTCAATACGACAGCAA-TCTG
## subject: [2] GTGTGAATT--ACAGCAAATCTC
## score: -16.008
```

Playing with gap penalties:

```
paln=pairwiseAlignment(DNAStringSet(c('GTGTCAATACGACAGCAATCTG', 'TAAGGTCATAGTGT')),
                      DNAString('TCGCCATAGGTCAATAGTGTGAATTACAGCAAATCTCTGTTCAATTTCTG'),
                      type='global-local')
pattern(paln)
## QualityAlignedXStringSet (1 of 2)
## [1] GTGTCAATACGACAGCAA-TCTG
subject(paln)
## QualityAlignedXStringSet (1 of 2)
## [17] GTGTGAATT--ACAGCAAATCTC
aligned(paln)
## A DNAStringSet instance of length 2
    width seq
## [1]
        50 -----GTGTCAATAACAGCAA-TCTG------
         50 -----TAAGGTC-ATAGTGT-----
Biostrings::score(paln)
## [1] -16.008003 -2.017499
pid(paln) # percentage identity
## [1] 73.91304 80.00000
compareStrings(paln) #symbolic representation of the alignment
## [1] "GTGT?AAT?++ACAGCAA-TCT?" "??AGGTC-ATAGTGT"
nedit(paln) #Levenshtein edit distance
## [1] 6 3
nmatch(paln) #also nmismatch(paln)
## [1] 17 12
insertion(paln)[[1]] #also deletion(paln)
```

```
## IRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
##
                             width
           start
                    end
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
   [1]
              10
                  11
Views(paln)
   Views on a 50-letter DNAString subject
## subject: TCGCCATAGGTCAATAGTGTGAATTACAGCAAATCTCTGTTCAATTTCTG
## views:
##
   start end width
## [1] 17 37 21 [GTGTGAATTACAGCAAATCTC]
## [2] 6 20 15 [ATAGGTCAATAGTGT]
coverage(paln)
## integer-Rle of length 50 with 5 runs
## Lengths: 5 11 4 17 13
    Values: 0 1 2 1 0
```

See the 'pairwise alignment' vignette of *Biostrings* for other utilities and accessors.

The stringDist function computes the Levenshtein edit distance or pairwise alignment score for a set of strings:

Using substitution matrices based on evolutionary models (other matrices are available):

Visualizing the alignment with the DECIPHER package

```
library(DECIPHER)
alnseqs <- c(aligned(pattern(paln)), aligned(subject(paln)))
BrowseSeqs(alnseqs)</pre>
```

2.4.2 Multiple alignment.

Several tools and algorithms are available to perform multiple sequence alignments (e.g. Multalin, ClustalW, T-Coffee or MUSCLE). *Biostrings* essentially allows to import and explore the resulting alignments. Examples are provided in the vignette of *Biostrings* and here.

FixMe: mention the msa BioC package, PMID 26315911

3 Manipulating genomic ranges

So far, we have essentially manipulated sequence data. However, we have already noticed that start-end coordinates along a sequence are also useful in some situations. These start-end coordinates define a range onto the sequence. As underlined by Martin Morgan: 1) ranges allow to represent a wide array of genomic data and annotations and 2) several biological questions reflect range-based queries. *Bioconductor* implements a number of tools to manipulate and analyze ranges and specifically genomic ranges [12]. In this section, we will mainly use the following 2 packages:

- IRanges
- GenomicRanges

We will also present the packages providing annotations as genomic ranges.

3.1 IRanges and accessors

Definition.

An IRanges object is defined as follow:

- defined by 2 vectors out of start, end, width (SEW; end = start + width 1)
- closed intervals (i.e. include end points)
- zero-width convention: $width \ge 0$; $end = start 1 \Leftrightarrow width = 0$
- can be named

A simple IRanges:

```
eg = IRanges(start = c(1, 10, 20),
              end = c(4, 10, 19),
              names = c("A", "B", "C"))
eg
## IRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
           start
                       end
                                width
##
       <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
               1
                         4
                                    4
     Α
     В
                         10
                                    1
##
              10
##
     C
              20
                         19
                                    0
```

A bigger IRanges:

```
set.seed(123) #For reproducibility
start = floor(runif(10000, 1, 1000))
end = start + floor(runif(10000, 0, 100))
ir = IRanges(start, end)
## IRanges object with 10000 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
                start end
                                   width
            <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
        [1]
                  288
                           319
##
        [2]
                  788
                           820
                  409
                           496
                                     88
##
        [3]
##
        [4]
                883
                          915
                                     33
##
                 940
                           952
                                     13
        [5]
##
                                     . . .
        . . .
                 . . .
                           . . .
               466
##
                           493
     [9996]
                                     28
##
     [9997]
                  899
                           984
                                      86
##
      [9998]
                  114
                           125
                                      12
##
     [9999]
                  571
                           596
                                      26
    [10000]
                  900
                           966
                                      67
```

Accessors and methods.

IRanges accessors:

```
length(ir)
## [1] 10000
ir[1:4]
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                        end
                                width
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
    [1]
              288
                        319
                                  32
                                   33
##
    [2]
              788
                        820
              409
                        496
                                   88
##
    [3]
              883
                        915
                                   33
##
    [4]
start(ir[1:4])
## [1] 288 788 409 883
width(ir[1:4])
## [1] 32 33 88 33
names(eg)
## [1] "A" "B" "C"
```

Other useful methods for IRanges

```
c(ir[1:2],ir[5:6]) #combining
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
```

```
start
                     end
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
    [1]
##
              288
                       319
                                  32
##
    [2]
              788
                        820
                                  33
##
    [3]
              940
                        952
                                  13
    [4]
              46
                        81
                                  36
sort(ir[1:4])
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
            start
                       end
                               width
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
   [1]
             288
                       319
                                 32
              409
                        496
                                  88
##
    [2]
##
    [3]
              788
                        820
                                  33
   [4]
              883
                        915
                                  33
rank(ir[1:4],ties="first")
## [1] 1 3 2 4
mid(ir[1:4]) # midpoints
## [1] 303 804 452 899
tile(ir[1:2],n=2) #returns an IRangesList (see below)
## IRangesList of length 2
## [[1]]
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
           start
                     end
                               width
      <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
   [1]
            288
                      303
                                  16
   [2]
              304
                        319
##
                                  16
##
## [[2]]
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
         start
                     end
                               width
##
     <integer> <integer> <integer>
## [1] 788
                       803
## [2]
              804
                        820
                                  17
ir[[1]]
## [1] 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305
## [19] 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319
as.integer(ir[1]) #equivalent but works on multiple ranges
## [1] 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305
## [19] 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319
unlist(ir[1]) #also equivalent but names can be added
## [1] 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305
## [19] 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319
rep(ir[1:2],each=2)
```

```
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                width
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
##
    [1]
              288
                        319
##
    [2]
               288
                         319
                                    32
##
    [3]
               788
                         820
                                    33
##
    [4]
              788
                         820
                                    33
isNormal(ir[1:4])
## [1] FALSE
isNormal(sort(ir[1:4])) #see ?'Ranges-class' for Normality definition
## [1] TRUE
isDisjoint(ir[1:4])
## [1] TRUE
match(ir[1:4],ir[4:1]) #see ?'Ranges-comparison' for Ranges comparison methods
## [1] 4 3 2 1
ir[1:4]>ir[4:1]
## [1] FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE
```

Other methods creating IRanges:

```
as(c(2:10,8,90:100), "IRanges") #from a vector of integers
## IRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
            start
                       end
                               width
##
        <integer> <integer>
##
    [1]
              2
                        10
##
    [2]
                8
                         8
                                   1
               90
                        100
    [3]
                                  11
successiveIRanges(width=rep(10,5),gap=10)
## IRanges object with 5 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
            start
                       end
                               width
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
    [1]
               1
                        10
##
    [2]
##
               21
                        30
                                  10
##
    [3]
               41
                         50
                                  10
##
    [4]
               61
                        70
                                  10
    [5]
               81
                        90
                                  10
whichAsIRanges(c(19, 5, 0, 8, 5)>=5) #transforms a logical vector in IRanges
## NormalIRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
            start
                       end
                               width
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
              1
                         2
    [1]
                                   2
                         5
                                   2
##
    [2]
                4
```

IRangesList.

It can be convenient to group ranges in a list (e.g. exons grouped by genes). *IRangesList* objects serve this purpose. Accessors and functions for *IRanges* generally work on *IRangesList* objects.

```
irl=split(ir,width(ir)) # an IRangesList
irl[[1]]
## IRanges object with 96 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
                         end
                                  width
             start
##
          <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
      [1]
                321
                          321
                                      1
##
      [2]
                600
                          600
##
      [3]
                184
                          184
                                      1
      [4]
                297
                          297
                                      1
##
##
     [5]
               276
                          276
                                      1
##
     . . .
                . . .
                          . . .
##
     [92]
               188
                          188
                                     1
##
     [93]
                308
                          308
                                      1
##
    [94]
                289
                          289
                                      1
##
    [95]
                936
                          936
                                      1
    [96]
                                      1
##
                669
                          669
start(irl)
## IntegerList of length 100
## [["1"]] 321 600 184 297 276 816 87 729 407 ... 858 52 85 188 308 289 936 669
## [["2"]] 915 576 706 235 678 647 451 138 ... 638 66 979 740 300 869 433 645
## [["3"]] 457 415 336 774 487 787 587 352 ... 264 60 607 292 709 418 552 102
## [["4"]] 253 75 429 4 785 24 464 869 433 ... 827 240 175 459 130 146 681 267
## [["5"]] 498 812 977 120 991 583 959 931 532 ... 157 871 538 209 8 37 39 443
## [["6"]] 372 298 241 61 363 351 847 37 916 ... 910 929 656 71 839 223 34 602
## [["7"]] 753 198 674 584 850 250 962 14 ... 457 175 731 758 953 212 551 153
## [["8"]] 895 803 784 358 366 536 530 323 ... 350 959 592 651 487 406 895 53
## [["9"]] 318 478 991 747 769 626 332 436 ... 114 546 928 69 415 219 568 546
## [["10"]] 467 674 225 194 464 87 494 364 ... 706 267 938 259 685 700 435 937
## <90 more elements>
head(elementNROWS(irl))
   1 2
             3
                    5
## 96 83 108 95 84 110
```

3.2 Intra-and inter-range operations

3.2.1 Intra-range operations

These operations apply on each range of an IRanges object:

```
ir[1:2]
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
```

```
start
                      end
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
    [1]
             288
                      319
                                32
   [2]
             788
                      820
                                33
shift(ir[1:2],shift=10)
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
           start
                    end
                            width
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
    [1]
             298
                      329
   [2]
             798
                      830
                                33
resize(ir[1:2], width=100, fix="start")
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
          start
                    end
                           width
       <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
             288
                      387
   [1]
                               100
   [2]
             788
                      887
                               100
flank(ir[1:2], width=100, start=T)
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
          start
                    end
                           width
       <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
   [1]
            188
                      287
                               100
   [2]
             688
                      787
                               100
narrow(ir[1:2],start=1,width=30) #here 'start' is relative
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     start
                   end
                             width
##
       <integer> <integer> <integer>
   [1]
             288
                      317
## [2]
             788
                      817
                                30
ir[1:2]+10
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     start end
                           width
      <integer> <integer> <integer>
          278
                      329
## [1]
##
   [2]
             778
                      830
                                 53
ir[1:2]-10
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
                   end
                             width
          start
      <integer> <integer> <integer>
## [1]
          298
                      309
                           12
   [2]
             798
                      810
                                13
ir[1:2]+c(0,10)
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
     start end width
##
       <integer> <integer> <integer>
```

```
[1]
               288
                          319
                                     32
##
     [2]
               778
                          830
                                     53
ir[1:4]*-10; ir[1:4]*10 # acts like a centered zoom
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
             start
                          end
                                  width
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
               144
                          463
##
     [2]
               639
                          968
                                    330
##
     [3]
                13
                          892
                                    880
                         1063
                                    330
##
     [4]
               734
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                          end
                                  width
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
##
     [1]
               302
                          304
     [2]
               803
                          805
                                      3
     [3]
               449
                          456
##
                                      8
     [4]
               898
                          900
                                      3
ir[1:2]*c(1,2) #zoom second range by 2X
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
             start
##
                          end
                                  width
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
               288
                          319
                                     32
     [2]
               796
                                     16
##
                          811
```

See help('intra-range-methods',package="IRanges") for other methods

3.2.2 Inter-range operations

Function to plot ranges (adapted from the *IRanges* vignette):

These inter-range operations, called *endomorphisms*, apply on a set of ranges and return a set of ranges:

```
irs=ir[which(start(ir) <= 100 \& end(ir) <= 100)[c(3:4,8,14,17:18)]] #select some ranges in [1:100]
irs
## IRanges object with 6 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
            start
                        end
                               width
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
    [1]
               25
                        44
##
    [2]
               46
                         60
                                   15
    [3]
               53
                         65
                                  13
##
               9
                                   25
    [4]
                         33
##
    [5]
               1
                         50
                                   50
##
                         96
                                  10
    [6]
               87
reduce(irs)
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
                        end
                               width
            start
##
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
               1
                         65
                                   65
##
    [2]
               87
                         96
                                   10
disjoin(irs)
## IRanges object with 10 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                 width
##
          <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
      [1]
               1
                          8
                                    8
                 9
##
      [2]
                          24
                                    16
                25
                         33
                                    9
##
     [3]
##
     [4]
               34
                         44
                                   11
##
      [5]
               45
                        45
                                    1
##
     [6]
               46
                         50
                                    5
               51
                        52
                                    2
##
     [7]
                53
                         60
                                    8
##
     [8]
                61
                          65
                                    5
##
     [9]
                87
                          96
##
    [10]
                                   10
gaps(irs)
## IRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
##
            start
                        end
                               width
        <integer> <integer> <integer>
                         86
##
   [1]
               66
coverage(irs)
## integer-Rle of length 96 with 11 runs
    Lengths: 8 16 9 11 1 5 2 8 5 21 10
    Values: 1 2 3 2 1 2 1 2 1 0 1
```

See help('inter-range-methods',package="IRanges") for other methods.

They are illustrated in Figure 7 using:

```
par(mfrow=c(5,1))
plotRanges(irs,xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
plotRanges(reduce(irs),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
plotRanges(disjoin(irs),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
plotRanges(gaps(irs),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
plot(1:100,c(coverage(irs),rep(0,4)),type="l",axes=F,xlab="",ylab="",lwd=3)
title(main="coverage",cex.main=2)
axis(side=2,lwd=2,cex.axis=2,at=0:3,labels=0:3)
axis(1,lwd=2,cex.axis=2,padj=1)
```

3.2.3 Set operations

See help('setops-methods',package="IRanges") for details. The union and intersect functions for *IRanges*:

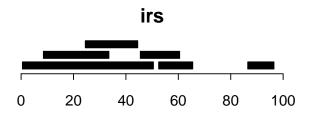
```
union(irs[1:3],irs[4:6])
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                  width
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
                 1
                          65
##
     [2]
                87
                          96
                                     10
intersect(irs[1:3],irs[4:6])
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                  width
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
     [1]
                25
                          44
##
                                     20
     [2]
                46
                          50
                                      5
```

Illustrated in Figure 8:

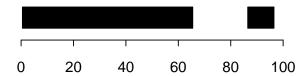
```
par(mfrow=c(4,1))
  plotRanges(irs[1:3],xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
  plotRanges(irs[4:6],xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
  plotRanges(union(irs[1:3],irs[4:6]),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
  plotRanges(intersect(irs[1:3],irs[4:6]),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
```

The **setdiff** function for asymmetric differences:

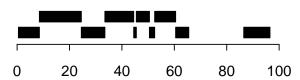
```
setdiff(irs[1:3],irs[4:6])
## IRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
             start
                         end
                                 width
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
    [1]
                51
                          65
setdiff(irs[4:6],irs[1:3])
## IRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
                        end
                                 width
##
             start
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
```



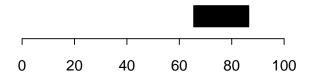
reduce(irs)



disjoin(irs)



gaps(irs)



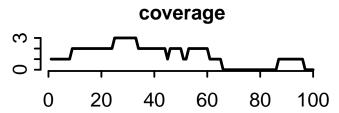


Figure 7: Inter-range operations

##	<i>‡</i> [1]	1	24	24
##	<i>‡</i> [2]	45	45	1
##	ŧ [3]	87	96	10

Illustrated in Figure 9:

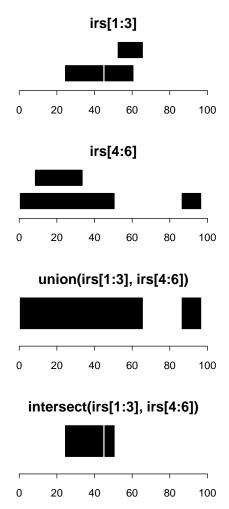


Figure 8: Union and intersect on IRanges

```
par(mfrow=c(4,1))
  plotRanges(irs[1:3],xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
  plotRanges(irs[4:6],xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
  plotRanges(setdiff(irs[1:3],irs[4:6]),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
  plotRanges(setdiff(irs[4:6],irs[1:3]),xlim=c(0,100),xaxis=T, cextitle=2, cexaxis=1.5)
```

The same functions can be applied in a parallel fashion (i.e. on the first elements of the provided IRanges, then on the second elements, etc.)

```
punion(irs[1:2],irs[4:5]) #element-wise (aka "parallel") union
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
                                 width
             start
                         end
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
                 9
                          44
                                     36
    [2]
                 1
                                     60
pintersect(irs[1:2],irs[4:5])
```

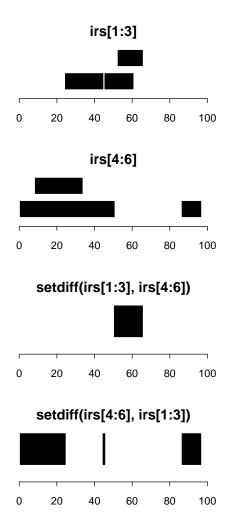


Figure 9: Asymetric differences with setdiff on IRanges

```
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                 width
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
                25
                          33
     [2]
                46
                          50
                                     5
psetdiff(irs[1:3],irs[4:6]) # asymmetric! difference
## IRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                 width
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
                34
                          44
                                    11
##
     [2]
                51
                          60
                                    10
     [3]
                53
                          65
                                    13
pgap(irs[1:3],irs[4:6])
## IRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                 width
```

```
<integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
                 34
                           33
                                        0
                 51
                                       0
##
     [2]
                           50
##
     [3]
                 66
                            86
                                       21
```

3.2.4 Nearest methods

See help('nearest-methods',package="IRanges") for details and examples:

```
nearest(irs[4:6],irs[1:3])
## [1] 1 1 3
distance(irs[4:6],irs[1:3])
## [1] 0 0 21
```

Other examples are provided in paragraph 3.5.4

Between ranges operations.

These are mainly methods to find overlaps between ranges. These functions are examplified below in paragraph 3.5.5. See help('find0verlaps-methods',package="IRanges") for details.

3.3 Rle

Run-length encoding is a data compression method highly adapted to long vectors containing repeated values (e.g. coverage on a whole chromosome). For example, the sequence $\{1,1,1,2,3,3\}$ can be represented as $values=\{1,2,3\}$ and the paired $runlengths=\{3,1,2\}$. In IRanges, the Rle class is used to represent run-length encoded (compressed) atomic vectors.

Rle objects:

```
set.seed(123)
lambda = c(rep(0.001, 3500), seq(0.001, 10, length = 500), #From IRanges vignette
            seq(10, 0.001, length = 500))
xRle=Rle(rpois(1e4,lambda))
yRle=Rle(rpois(1e4, lambda[c(251:length(lambda), 1:250)]))
xRle
## integer-Rle of length 10000 with 1630 runs
    Lengths: 326
                      1 1150
                                1 772
                                          1 ...
                                                   1 170
                                                              1 466
                                                                        1
                                                                           262
    Values :
                                1
                                     0
                                          1 ...
                                                   1
                                                              1
                                                                        1
yRle
```

```
## integer-Rle of length 10000 with 1616 runs
                                     1 ... 1 1
## Lengths: 1984 1 1268
                           1 15
                                                               1 1264
                                                      1
                                                           8
                          1 0
                                     1 ... 1
## Values: 0
                 1 0
                                                  0
                                                      1
                                                           0 1 0
as.vector(object.size(xRle)/object.size(as.vector(xRle))) #Gain of memory
## [1] 0.3532468
head(runValue(xRle))
## [1] 0 1 0 1 0 1
head(runLength(xRle))
## [1] 326
            1 1150 1 772
head(start(xRle)) #starts of the runs
## [1] 1 327 328 1478 1479 2251
head(end(xRle)) #ends of the runs
## [1] 326 327 1477 1478 2250 2251
nrun(xRle) #number of runs
## [1] 1630
findRun(as.integer(c(100,200,300,1200)),xRle)
## [1] 1 1 1 3
coverage(irs)
## integer-Rle of length 96 with 11 runs
## Lengths: 8 16 9 11 1 5 2 8 5 21 10
## Values: 1 2 3 2 1 2 1 2 1 0 1
```

These objects support a number of basic methods associated with R atomic vectors:

```
xRle+yRle
## integer-Rle of length 10000 with 2111 runs
## Lengths: 326  1 1150  1 506  1 ...  1 170  1 466
                                                           1 262
                          1 0
## Values: 0
                1 0
                                  1 ...
                                         1 0
                                                  1
xRle>0
## logical-Rle of length 10000 with 211 runs
   Lengths: 326 1 1150 1 772 ... 170 1 466
                                                          1 262
## Values : FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE ... FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE
xRle>yRle
## logical-Rle of length 10000 with 367 runs
## Lengths: 326 1 1150 1 772 ... 170 1 466
## Values : FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE ... FALSE TRUE FALSE TRUE FALSE
max(xRle)
## [1] 18
summary(xRle)
```

```
Min. 1st Qu. Median
                      Mean 3rd Qu.
## 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 0.9932 0.0000 18.0000
sqrt(xRle)
## numeric-Rle of length 10000 with 1630 runs
   Lengths:
                     326
                                                   262
   Values:
                       0
rev(xRle)
## integer-Rle of length 10000 with 1630 runs
   Lengths: 262
                1 466
                       1 170 1 ...
                                      1 772
                                                1 1150
                                                          326
                                                        1
   Values :
            0
               1 0
                         1
                             0
                                 1 ...
                                       1
table(xRle)
## xRle
           2
                3
                    4
                        5
                            6
                                7
                                           10
                                                           14
       1
                                               11
                                                   12
## 8200 201 198 202 212 184 167 146 140 101
                                           89
                                               49
                                                       25
                                                           12
                                                   51
   15
        16
           17
               18
   6 7
                2
union(xRle,yRle)
## integer-Rle of length 20 with 20 runs
Values: 0 1 3 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 10 13 17 14 16 15 18 22
cor(xRle,yRle)
## [1] 0.5690394
```

See ?'Rle-class' and ?'Rle-utils' for other methods.

There are useful functions to perform fixed-width running window summaries:

```
runmean(xRle,k=100) # See ?'Rle-runstat' for other examples
## numeric-Rle of length 9901 with 1852 runs
## Lengths: 227 100 1051 100 673 100 ... 100 71 100 367 100 163
   Values :
               0 0.01
                         0 0.01
                                0 0.01 ... 0.01 0 0.01
                                                             0 0.01
                                                                       0
#same result, more flexible but much slower:
Rle(aggregate(xRle, start = 1:(length(xRle)-99), width = 100, FUN = mean))
## numeric-Rle of length 9901 with 1852 runs
    Lengths: 227 100 1051 100 673 100 ... 100 71 100 367 100 163
               0 0.01
                        0 0.01
                                 0 0.01 ... 0.01
                                                    0 0.01
                                                             0 0.01
rung(xRle,k=100,i=10) #10th smallest value in windows of 100
## integer-Rle of length 9901 with 41 runs
                                                    2
    Lengths: 3558
                    7
                         2
                             6
                                  4 102 ...
                                               2
                                                       80
                                                            59
                                                                 53 1090
    Values :
                    1
                         0
                             1
                                  0 1 ...
                                               3
                                                    4
                                                        3
                                                             2
                                                                  1
               0
```

One typical application of *Rle* objects is to store the coverage of NGS reads along a chromosome. The coverage for all chromosomes can be stored in an *RleList* (see ?AtomicList for details) on which most functions defined for *Rle* objects would also work.

Practically, any variable defined along a genome can be represented as

- an RleList with one Rle for each chromosome
- the mcols (metadata columns) of a GRanges object (see 3.5 below)

Sometimes, it is desirable to manipulate several of these variables in the same object (e.g. for plotting with Gviz). The ?genomicvars help page provides usefull functions such as bindAsGRanges and mcolAsRleList to go from one representation to the other.

3.4 Views

As already mentioned, *Views* objects are used to store a sequence (a *Vector* object called the "subject") together with a set of ranges which define *views* onto the sequence. Specific subclasses exist for different classes of "subject" Vectors, such as *RleViews* from the *IRanges* package and *XStringViews* from the *Biostrings* package.

An RleViews object stores an Rle subject and its views:

```
coverage(irs)
## integer-Rle of length 96 with 11 runs
    Lengths: 8 16 9 11 1 5 2 8 5 21 10
    Values: 1 2 3 2 1 2 1 2 1 0 1
irs_views=Views(coverage(irs), start=c(-5, 10, 20, 90), end=c(10, 30, 50, 100))
irs_views #Views can be out of bound
## Views on a 96-length Rle subject
##
## views:
     start end width
## [1]
      -5 10
              16 [1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 ...]
        10 30
                ## [2]
## [3]
        20 50
                11 [1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...]
## [4]
        90 100
try(irs_views[[1]]) #but can't be extracted
irs_views[[2]]
## integer-Rle of length 21 with 2 runs
    Lengths: 15 6
    Values: 2 3
start(irs_views)
## [1] -5 10 20 90
```

See?'RleViews-class' for details.

Other ways to create Views:

```
Views(coverage(irs),irs[c(1,2,6)]) #use an IRanges to extract Views
## Views on a 96-length Rle subject
##
## views:
  start end width
## [1] 25 44
             46 60
             15 [2 2 2 2 2 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2]
## [2]
## [3]
       87 96
             10 [1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1]
Views(coverage(irs),coverage(irs)>=1) #or a logical Rle
## Views on a 96-length Rle subject
##
## views:
## start end width
## [1]
      1 65
             ## [2]
      87 96
             10 [1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1]
slice(coverage(irs),3) #use slice
## Views on a 96-length Rle subject
##
## views:
## start end width
## [1] 25 33
              9 [3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3]
successiveViews(coverage(irs), width=rep(20,4)) #get successive Views
## Views on a 96-length Rle subject
##
## views:
   start end width
## [1]
      1 20
            21 40
            ## [2]
            41 60
## [3]
## [4]
       61 80
```

XStringViews is used to store views on an XString object:

```
dmup_views=Views(dm3_upstream[[1]],irs[1:2])
dmup_views

## Views on a 2000-letter DNAString subject
## subject: GTTGGTGGCCCACCAGTGCCAAAATACACAAGA...CGTATAAAAGGCAAGTTTACCGGTTGCACGGT
## views:
## start end width
## [1] 25 44 20 [TACACAAGAAGAAGAAACAG]
## [2] 46 60 15 [ATCTTGACACTAAAA]

nchar(dmup_views)

## [1] 20 15

toString(dmup_views) #see ?'XStringViews-class' for other methods
```

```
## [1] "TACACAAGAAGAAACAG, ATCTTGACACTAAAA"
```

Furthermore there is a *ViewsList* virtual class. Its specialized subclass *RleViewsList* is useful to store coverage vectors along with their specific *views* over a set of chromosomes.

```
xyRleList=RleList(xRle,yRle)
xyRleList_views=Views(xyRleList,
                     IRangesList(IRanges(start=c(3700,4000),width=20),
                                 IRanges(yRle>17)+2))
xyRleList_views[[1]]
## Views on a 10000-length Rle subject
##
## views:
     start end width
## [1] 3700 3719
                    20 [1 0 2 7 2 9 5 3 3 6 4 4 3 7 5 5 3 5 8 1]
## [2] 4000 4019
                    20 [ 9 13 13 8 7 14 3 10 16 8 17 5 8 8 15 17 ...]
xyRleList_views[[2]]
## Views on a 10000-length Rle subject
##
## views:
     start end width
## [1] 3750 3754
                  5 [10 13 18 12 14]
## [2] 8250 8254
                    5 [12 8 22 10 9]
width(xyRleList_views)
## IntegerList of length 2
## [[1]] 20 20
## [[2]] 5 5
```

Specific functions are provided for fast looping over *Views* and *ViewsList* objects:

```
viewMins(irs_views) #same as min(irs_views)
## [1] 1 2 1 1
viewSums(irs_views) #same as sum(irs_views)
## [1] 12 48 70 7
viewWhichMaxs(irs_views) #get the (first) coordinate of viewMaxs (which.max also works)
## [1] 9 25 25 90
viewRangeMins(irs_views) #get the (first) range of viewMins
## IRanges object with 4 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
             start
                         end
                                 width
##
         <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
    [1]
                          8
                                     8
                1
                9
                          24
                                    16
##
    [2]
##
    [3]
                45
                          45
                                    1
     [4]
                87
                          96
                                    10
```

```
viewApply(irs_views,sd)
## [1] 0.4216370 0.4629100 0.5143113 0.00000000
viewMeans(xyRleList_views)
## NumericList of length 2
## [[1]] 4.15 10.35
## [[2]] 13.4 12.2
```

Note that the min,max,sum,mean,which.min and which.max functions now work on *Views* (but not on *RleViewsList* yet). The corresponding *view** functions might be deprecated in the future. See ?'view-summarization-methods' for details.

3.5 GenomicRanges

3.5.1 GRanges objects

Here, we will present some of the classes and functions defined in the *GenomicRanges* package. This package is central to most *Bioconductor* users who analyze NGS data, so you should consider reading thoroughly the excellent vignettes associated with this package. The main class defined in *GenomicRanges* is the *GRanges* class which acts as a container for genomic locations and their associated annotations (see ?GRanges). *GRanges* (and *GRangesList*) build on *IRanges* (and *IRangesList* respectively) with the following specificities:

- The informations on seqnames (typically chromosomes) and strand is stored along with the information on ranges (SEW)
- An optional seqinfo slot contains information on the sequences: names, length (se glengths), circularity and genome
- Optional metadata columns (mcols) containing additional informations on each range (e.g. score, GC content, etc.) which are stored as a DataFrame

By convention, in *Bioconductor* genomic coordinates:

- are 1-based
- are *left-most*, i.e. 'start' of ranges on the minus strand are the left-most coordinate, rather than the 5' coordinate
- represent closed intervals, i.e. the intervals contain start and end coordinates

The GRanges function can be used to create a GRanges object:

```
slotNames(genes)
## [1] "seqnames"
                          "ranges"
                                              "strand"
                                                                 "elementMetadata"
## [5] "seqinfo"
                          "metadata"
mcols(genes) = DataFrame(EntrezId=c("33155", "2768869"),
                           Symbol=c("CG11023", "CG34330"))
genome(genes)="dm3" #see ?seqinfo for details
genes
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
##
                seqnames ranges strand | EntrezId Symbol 
<Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <character>
    FBgn0031208 chr2L [ 7529, 9484] + | 33155
FBgn0085359 chrX [18962306, 18962925] - | 2768869
## FBgn0031208 chr2L [ 7529,
                                                                             CG11023
                                                                             CG34330
    seqinfo: 2 sequences from dm3 genome
```

The GRanges accessors include IRanges accessors and others:

```
width(genes)
## [1] 1956 620
names(genes)
## [1] "FBgn0031208" "FBgn0085359"
seqnames(genes)
## factor-Rle of length 2 with 2 runs
## Lengths: 1 1
## Values : chr2L chrX
## Levels(2): chr2L chrX
strand(genes)
## factor-Rle of length 2 with 2 runs
## Lengths: 1 1
## Values : + -
## Levels(3): + - *
ranges(genes)
## IRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
                  start end width
               <integer> <integer> <integer>
## FBgn0031208 7529 9484 1956
                                     620
## FBgn0085359 18962306 18962925
genes$Symbol
## [1] "CG11023" "CG34330"
mcols(genes)
## DataFrame with 2 rows and 2 columns
## EntrezId Symbol
```

```
<character> <character>
## 1
         33155
                  CG11023
        2768869
## 2
                   CG34330
seginfo(genes)
## Seqinfo object with 2 sequences from dm3 genome:
## seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
   chr2L
          23011544 NA
##
   chrX
              22422827
                            NA
                                    dm3
seqlevels(genes)
## [1] "chr2L" "chrX"
```

3.5.2 GRangesList

As for *IRangesList*, there is a *GRangesList* class which allows to store *GRanges* in a list-type object. This is typically used to store e.g. *GRanges* of exons arranged by transcripts or genes or *GRanges* of transcripts arranged by genes. The vignette of the *GenomicRanges* package provides a good example of 2 transcripts, one of which has 2 exons:

```
gr1 = GRanges(seqnames = "chr2", ranges = IRanges(3, 6),
             strand = "+", score = 5L, GC = 0.45)
gr2 = GRanges(seqnames = c("chr1", "chr1"),
              ranges = IRanges(c(7,13), width = 3),
              strand = c("+", "-"), score = 3:4, GC = c(0.3, 0.5))
grl = GRangesList("txA" = gr1, "txB" = gr2)
grl
## GRangesList object of length 2:
## $txA
## GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
         seqnames ranges strand | score
           <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
##
##
           chr2 [3, 6] + |
    [1]
                                            5
##
## $txB
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
         segnames ranges strand | score GC
           chr1 [ 7, 9] + | 3 0.3
chr1 [13, 15] - | 4 0.5
##
    [1]
##
    [2]
## seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
length(grl)
## [1] 2
elementNROWS(grl)
## txA txB
## 1 2
```

```
grl["txB","GC"]
## GRangesList object of length 1:
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 1 metadata column:
                    ranges strand |
                                          GC
##
        segnames
           <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <numeric>
##
    [1]
            chr1 [ 7, 9]
                           + |
                                         0.3
    [2]
            chr1 [13, 15]
                              - |
##
## seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
unlist(grl)
## GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
##
        segnames
                    ranges strand |
                                       score
##
           <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <numeric>
##
            chr2 [ 3, 6]
                              + |
                                        5
                                                 0.45
##
    txB
            chr1 [ 7, 9]
                              + |
                                           3
                                                  0.3
    txB
            chr1 [13, 15]
                             - |
                                                  0.5
##
    seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

Please refer to the vignette for further examples.

Most accessors and functions defined for *GRanges* also work on *GRangesList*. However, note that mcols(grl) now refers to metadata at the list level rather than at level of the individual *GRanges* objects.

3.5.3 Annotations as GenomicRanges: TxDb* packages

Here, we will briefly present the *Bioconductor* annotation packages which provide genome-wide annotations directly as *GRanges* and *GRangesList* objects. These packages, called $TxDb^*$ can be built using the *GenomicFeatures* package.

Here, we show how to extract information from the *TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene* package.

A GRanges object with the genomic coordinates for the genes can be obtained using:

```
Dmg=genes(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene,single.strand.genes.only=T)
Dmg
## GRanges object with 15682 ranges and 1 metadata column:
##
               seqnames
                                    ranges strand |
                                                       gene_id
                                 <IRanges> <Rle> | <character>
##
    FBgn0000003 chr3R [ 2648220, 2648518]
##
                                              + | FBgn0000003
##
    FBgn0000008 chr2R [18024494, 18060346]
                                               + | FBgn0000008
                                              - | FBgn0000014
##
    FBqn0000014 chr3R [12632936, 12655767]
##
    FBgn0000015 chr3R [12752932, 12797958]
                                              - | FBgn0000015
                 chr3L [16615470, 16640982]
    FBgn0000017
                                              - | FBgn0000017
##
##
          . . .
##
    FBqn0264723
                chr3L [12238610, 12239148]
                                              - | FBqn0264723
                                            + | FBgn0264724
    FBgn0264724 chr3L [15327882, 15329271]
```

```
## FBgn0264725 chr3L [12025657, 12026099] + | FBgn0264725

## FBgn0264726 chr3L [12020901, 12021253] + | FBgn0264726

## FBgn0264727 chr3L [22065469, 22065720] + | FBgn0264727

## ------

## seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
```

Other functions, such as transcripts, exons, cds, promoters, microRNAs and tRNAs allow to extract the corresponding genomic features.

A *GRangesList* object with the coordinates of the transcripts arranged by genes can be obtained using:

```
Dmt=transcriptsBy(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene,by="gene")
## GRangesList object of length 15682:
## $FBqn0000003
## GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
##
        segnames ranges strand | tx_id
                                                            tx_name
                          <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <character>
##
           <Rle>
##
           chr3R [2648220, 2648518]
                                        + | 17345 FBtr0081624
    [1]
##
## $FBgn0000008
## GRanges object with 3 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
##
                                ranges strand | tx_id
         seqnames
                                                          tx_name
   [1] chr2R [18024494, 18060339] + | 7681 FBtr0100521
           chr2R [18024496, 18060346] + | 7682 FBtr0071763
chr2R [18024938, 18060346] + | 7683 FBtr0071764
##
    [2]
##
    [3]
##
## $FBqn0000014
## GRanges object with 4 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                                ranges strand | tx_id
##
        segnames
                                                          tx name
##
   [1] chr3R [12632936, 12655767] - | 21863 FBtr0306337
##
   [2] chr3R [12633349, 12653845]
                                           - | 21864 FBtr0083388
    [3] chr3R [12633349, 12655300] - | 21865 FBtr0083387
[4] chr3R [12633349, 12655474] - | 21866 FBtr0300485
##
##
##
## ...
## <15679 more elements>
## seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
```

The functions exonsBy, cdsBy, intronsByTranscript, fiveUTRsByTranscript, threeUTRsByTranscript allow to extract the corresponding genomic features arranged in a *GRangesList* object.

Other functions including transcriptsBy0verlaps and exonsBy0verlaps allow to extract genomic features for genomic locations specified by a *GRanges* object:

```
exonsByOverlaps(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene,genes)
## GRanges object with 6 ranges and 1 metadata column:
##
         segnames
                                ranges strand |
                                                 exon_id
##
           <Rle>
                            <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer>
            chr2L [ 7529,
##
     [1]
                                8116]
                                           + |
                                                       1
##
     [2]
           chr2L [
                      8193,
                                85891
                                           + |
                                                       2
##
    [3]
           chr2L [ 8193,
                                9484]
                                                       3
                                           + |
                      8229,
##
    [4]
           chr2L [
                                 9484]
                                           + |
                                                       4
     [5]
           chr2L [
                      8668,
                                                       5
##
                                 9484]
                                           + |
            chrX [18962306, 18962925]
##
     [6]
                                                   75268
                                           - |
##
##
     seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
```

When a *TxDb* package is paired with an appropriate *BSgenome* object, it is relatively straightforward to extract DNA sequences providing a *GRanges* or a *GRangesList*

```
getSeq(BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3,Dmg[1:2])
     A DNAStringSet instance of length 2
##
      width sea
                                                            names
## [1] 299 TCGACTGGAAGGTTGGCAGCTT...GATATGGTTGGACCACAATCT FBgn0000003
## [2] 35853 CGCGGCGGTCGCATCGGAGTCG...TTTACCTGAAAAGCAATATAC FBgn0000008
Dmc=cdsBy(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene,by="tx")
cds_seq=extractTranscriptSeqs(BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3,Dmc[1:2])
##
    A DNAStringSet instance of length 2
     width seq
                                                            names
## [1] 855 ATGGGCGAGCGGGATCAGCCAC...GTATGGCAACGAATATATTGA 1
## [2] 1443 ATGGGCGAGCGGGATCAGCCAC...ATCGTCGACGGAGAGTTGTGA 2
translate(cds_seq)
    A AAStringSet instance of length 2
##
      width seq
                                                            names
        285 MGERDQPQSSERISIFNPPVYT...HDRFNEITQDDKSTVWQRIY* 1
## [1]
        481 MGERDQPQSSERISIFNPPVYT...QSEMLYFRKKMALEIVDGEL* 2
```

3.5.4 GRanges methods

Most if not all functions defined for *IRanges* objects are also defined for *GRanges* and *GRangesLlst* objects and they are generally *segnames*- and *strand*-aware. These include:

- intra-range operations (shift, etc.; see paragraph 3.2.1 and help('intra-range-meth ods', "GenomicRanges"))
- inter-range operations (reduce, etc.; see paragraph 3.2.2 and help('inter-range-methods', "GenomicRanges"))
- set operations (see paragraph 3.2.3 and help('setops-methods', "GenomicRanges"))
- nearest methods (nearest, etc.; see paragraph 3.2.4 and help('nearest-methods', "GenomicRanges"))

between ranges ("overlaps") operations presented below in paragraph 3.5.5

Here, we briefly illustrate some of these functions:

```
genes
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
                segnames
                                     ranges strand |
                                                         EntrezId
                                                                       Symbol
##
                   <Rle>
                                   <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <character>
##
    FBqn0031208
                   chr2L [ 7529,
                                       94841
                                                 + |
                                                           33155
                                                                      CG11023
##
                   chrX [18962306, 18962925]
                                                          2768869
    FBqn0085359
                                                 - |
                                                                      CG34330
##
    seginfo: 2 sequences from dm3 genome
genes2=Dmg[c(1:2,21:22,36:37)]
genes2
## GRanges object with 6 ranges and 1 metadata column:
##
                segnames
                                     ranges strand |
                                                          gene_id
##
                   <Rle>
                                   <IRanges> <Rle> | <character>
##
    FBgn0000003
                   chr3R [ 2648220, 2648518]
                                                + | FBgn0000003
##
    FBqn0000008
                   chr2R [18024494, 18060346]
                                                  + | FBgn0000008
##
    FBgn0000052 chr2L [ 6041178, 6045970]
                                                 - | FBgn0000052
##
    FBqn0000053
                 chr2L [ 7014861, 7023940]
                                                 - | FBgn0000053
                   chrX [20065478, 20067552] - | FBgn0000084
chrX [ 2586765, 2587919] - | FBgn0000092
##
    FBgn0000084
##
    FBqn0000092
##
##
    seginfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
sort(genes2)
## GRanges object with 6 ranges and 1 metadata column:
##
                segnames
                                     ranges strand |
                                                          gene_id
##
                   <Rle>
                                   <IRanges> <Rle> | <character>
##
    FBgn0000052
                   chr2L [ 6041178, 6045970] - | FBgn0000052
##
    FBgn0000053 chr2L [ 7014861, 7023940]
                                                 - | FBgn0000053
                 chr2R [18024494, 18060346]
##
    FBgn0000008
                                                 + | FBgn0000008
##
    FBgn0000003
                   chr3R [ 2648220, 2648518]
                                                  + | FBqn0000003
##
    FBgn0000092
                 chrX [ 2586765, 2587919]
                                                 - | FBgn0000092
                   chrX [20065478, 20067552]
    FBqn0000084
                                                  - | FBqn0000084
##
    seginfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
c(genes,genes2,ignore.mcols=T) #combine
## GRanges object with 8 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
                segnames
                                      ranges strand
##
                   <Rle>
                                    <IRanges> <Rle>
##
    FBqn0031208
                   chr2L [ 7529,
                                       9484]
                   chrX [18962306, 18962925]
##
    FBgn0085359
                 chr3R [ 2648220, 2648518]
##
    FBgn0000003
##
    FBqn0000008
                 chr2R [18024494, 18060346]
##
    FBqn0000052
                 chr2L [ 6041178, 6045970]
                   chr2L [ 7014861, 7023940]
##
    FBgn0000053
##
    FBgn0000084
                 chrX [20065478, 20067552]
                 chrX [ 2586765, 2587919]
    FBgn0000092
```

```
##
    seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
intersect(genes, c(genes2, Dmg['FBgn0031208'])) #set operations
## GRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
##
        segnames ranges strand
           <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
##
        chr2L [7529, 9484]
   [1]
##
    seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
nearest(genes, genes2) #nearest-methods
## [1] NA 5
nearest(genes,genes2,ignore.strand=T) #strand-aware by default
## [1] 3 5
precede(genes,genes2,ignore.strand=T)
## [1] 3 5
promoters(genes,upstream=200,downstream=1) #intra-range operations
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
##
                segnames
                                    ranges strand |
                                                        EntrezId
                                                                     Symbol
##
                  <Rle>
                                  <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <character>
    FBgn0031208
                  chr2L [ 7329, 7529]
##
                                               + |
                                                                    CG11023
                                                        33155
                chrX [18962925, 18963125]
##
    FBqn0085359
                                               - |
                                                         2768869
                                                                    CG34330
##
    -----
    seginfo: 2 sequences from dm3 genome
reduce(Dmt[[2]]) #inter-range operations
## GRanges object with 1 range and 0 metadata columns:
                   ranges strand
<IRanges> <Rle>
        seqnames
##
##
                           <IRanges> <Rle>
##
    [1]
         chr2R [18024494, 18060346]
##
    seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
##
```

See also help('GenomicRanges-comparison', "GenomicRanges") for other functions for comparing *GenomicRanges*.

3.5.5 Overlaps between ranges

A very common task on genomic ranges is to search for overlaps between sets of genomic ranges which corresponds to an operation between ranges. These functions are defined for several classes of objects, including *IRanges*, *GRanges* and their list-type counterparts *IRangesList* and *GRangesList* but also *Views* and *ViewsList* among others. Details on function definitions can be found using ?'findOverlaps-methods'.

As first example, let's count how many of the transcription start sites (TSS) in the Drosophila melanogaster genome are located at more than 500bp from another gene:

```
Dm_tss=unlist(reduce(promoters(Dmt,up=0,down=1))) #get all TSS
cov_tss_g500=countOverlaps(Dm_tss,Dmg+500) #strand-aware!
## Warning in valid.GenomicRanges.seqinfo(x, suggest.trim = TRUE): GRanges object
contains 3 out-of-bound ranges located on sequences
## chrYHet, chr3R, and chr3L. Note that only ranges located on a
## non-circular sequence whose length is not NA can be considered
## out-of-bound (use seqlengths() and isCircular() to get the lengths
## and circularity flags of the underlying sequences). You can use
## trim() to trim these ranges. See ¿trim, GenomicRanges-method' for
## more information.
table(cov_tss_q500)
## cov_tss_g500
## 1 2
                             5
                                         7
                                                      9
                  3
                       4
                                    6
                                                8
## 15586 4488
                                                      3
                490
                     116
                             65
                                   47
                                         18
sum(cov_tss_g500>1)
## [1] 5233
cov_tss_g500_bs=countOverlaps(Dm_tss,Dmg+500,ignore.strand=T) #both strands
## Warning in valid.GenomicRanges.seqinfo(x, suggest.trim = TRUE): GRanges object
contains 3 out-of-bound ranges located on sequences
## chrYHet, chr3R, and chr3L. Note that only ranges located on a
## non-circular sequence whose length is not NA can be considered
## out-of-bound (use seqlengths() and isCircular() to get the lengths
## and circularity flags of the underlying sequences). You can use
## trim() to trim these ranges. See ¿trim, GenomicRanges-method' for
## more information.
sum(cov_tss_g500_bs>1)
## [1] 10768
Getting the corresponding overlaps with findOverlaps:
fov_tss_g500_bs=findOverlaps(Dm_tss,Dmg+500,ignore.strand=T)
## Warning in valid.GenomicRanges.seqinfo(x, suggest.trim = TRUE): GRanges object
contains 3 out-of-bound ranges located on sequences
## chrYHet, chr3R, and chr3L. Note that only ranges located on a
## non-circular sequence whose length is not NA can be considered
## out-of-bound (use seqlengths() and isCircular() to get the lengths
## and circularity flags of the underlying sequences). You can use
## trim() to trim these ranges. See ¿trim, GenomicRanges-method' for
## more information.
Dmg[c(1,1383)]
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 1 metadata column:
##
                segnames
                                   ranges strand |
                                                         gene_id
##
                   <Rle>
                                  <IRanges> <Rle> | <character>
    FBgn0000003 chr3R [2648220, 2648518] + | FBgn0000003
                                              - | FBgn0011904
    FBqn0011904 chr3R [2648685, 2648757]
```

```
## ------
## seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
```

Now, imagine we have a set of 10K NGS reads:

And we want to select only the reads overlapping with those two genes:

```
sort(Dmg)[1:2]

## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 1 metadata column:

## seqnames ranges strand | gene_id

## <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle> | <character>

## FBgn0031208 chr2L [ 7529, 9484] + | FBgn0031208

## FBgn0263584 chr2L [21952, 24237] + | FBgn0263584

## ------

## seqinfo: 15 sequences (1 circular) from dm3 genome
```

We could use:

```
subsetByOverlaps(randomreads2L,sort(Dmg)[1:2])
## GRanges object with 1017 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
          seqnames
                         ranges strand
                       <IRanges> <Rle>
##
             <Rle>
##
      [1] chr2L [ 7780, 7879] *
      [2] chr2L [22284, 22383]
      [3] chr2L [22101, 22200]
##
      [4] chr2L [22375, 22474]
##
     [5] chr2L [22207, 22306]
##
##
            . . .
      . . .
   [1013] chr2L [22674, 22773]
##
##
   [1014] chr2L [23550, 23649]
##
   [1015] chr2L [22940, 23039]
##
   [1016] chr2L [22316, 22415]
    [1017] chr2L [ 8623, 8722]
##
    seqinfo: 1 sequence from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

or:

```
randomreads2L[overlapsAny(randomreads2L,sort(Dmg)[1:2])]

## GRanges object with 1017 ranges and 0 metadata columns:

## seqnames ranges strand

## <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>

## [1] chr2L [ 7780, 7879] *

## [2] chr2L [22284, 22383] *

## [3] chr2L [22101, 22200] *

## [4] chr2L [22375, 22474] *
```

```
[5]
               chr2L [22207, 22306]
##
        . . .
                 . . .
##
     [1013]
               chr2L [22674, 22773]
##
     [1014]
               chr2L [23550, 23649]
               chr2L [22940, 23039]
##
     [1015]
##
     [1016]
               chr2L [22316, 22415]
##
     [1017]
               chr2L [ 8623, 8722]
##
##
     seqinfo: 1 sequence from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

To count the number of reads overlapping with those 2 genes we could use:

```
assays(summarizeOverlaps(sort(Dmg)[1:2],randomreads2L,mode="Union"))$counts
## reads
## FBgn0031208 465
## FBgn0263584 552
```

Further examples of counting reads are provided in paragraph 5.6.

3.6 RangedData

The RangedData class is defined in the IRanges package. It contains genomic coordinates along with some values (typically a numerical variable) defined on these ranges. In practice, metadata (mcols) of a GRanges object can contain such data and the user would rather work with GRanges. However, we mention here the RangedData class because it is a more general data structure used in some packages (see for example the rtracklayer vignette).

4 Working with FASTQ files

In this paragraph, we present some functions from the *ShortRead* package which is primarily dedicated to manipulating and analyzing raw (not mapped) NGS reads contained in FASTQ files [13].

4.1 FASTQ format

During the sequencing process, raw data are generated (some sort of physical measurements) and processed (image analysis, signal processing, etc.) resulting in sequences and quality informations which are typically presented in FASTQ files. The FASTQ format contains both sequence and quality informations ("FASTQ = FASta + Quality"). Both sequences and Phred quality scores are encoded using ASCII printable characters. In a FASTQ file, the information for each read occupies 4 lines:

4.2 Reading FASTQ files

The simplest function to import a FASTQ files in R is:

The resulting object can be explored using:

```
myFastq
## class: ShortReadQ
## length: 20000 reads; width: 72 cycles
myFastq[1:5]
## class: ShortReadQ
## length: 5 reads; width: 72 cycles
head(sread(myFastq),3)
   A DNAStringSet instance of length 3
     width seq
## [1] 72 GTCTGCTGTATCTGTGTCGGGCTGTCTCGCGGG...TCAATGAAGGCCTGGAATGTCACTACCCCCAG
      72 CTAGGGCAATCTTTGCAGCAATGAATGCCAAT...AGTGGCTTTTGAGGCCAGAGCAGACCTTCGGG
        72 TGGGCTGTTCCTTCTCACTGTGGCCTGACTAA...GGCATTAAGAAAGAGTCACGTTTCCCAAGTCT
## [3]
head(quality(myFastq),3)
## class: FastqQuality
## quality:
## A BStringSet instance of length 3
    width seq
## [1] 72 HHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHEBDBB?B:BBGG...BFEFBDBD@DDECEE3>:?;@@@>?=BAB?##
         72 IIIIHIIIGIIIIIIHIIIIEGBGHIIIIHG...IIHIIIHIIIIIGIIIEGIIGBGE@DDGGGIG
      ## [3]
head(id(myFastq),3)
   A BStringSet instance of length 3
    width seq
## [1] 53 ERR127302.8493430 HWI-EAS350_0441:1:34:16191:2123#0/1
         53 ERR127302.21406531 HWI-EAS350_0441:1:88:9330:2587#0/1
## [2]
         55 ERR127302.22173106 HWI-EAS350_0441:1:91:10434:14757#0/1
encoding(quality(myFastq))
## ! " # $ % & ' ( ) * + , - . / 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
## 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
```

```
## : ; < = > ? @ A B C D E F G H I J K L M N 0 P Q R
## 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49
## S T U V W X Y Z [ \\ ] ^ _ ` a b c d e f g h i j k
## 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74
## l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z { | } ~ ~
## 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93

alphabet(sread(myFastq))
## [1] "A" "C" "G" "T" "M" "R" "W" "S" "Y" "K" "V" "H" "D" "B" "N" "-" "+" "."
```

However, FASTQ files are often too large to be imported at once in R. The first solution, often used to perform QA/QC, is to obtain a random sample of the reads:

```
set.seed(123)
fqs1K = FastqSampler(fq1_path,1000)
reads_sample=yield(fqs1K)
close(fqs1K) #close connection
reads_sample
## class: ShortReadQ
## length: 1000 reads; width: 72 cycles
```

The default sample size is 1 million reads which fits easily into memory.

If we need to work on all the reads, we would process the FASTQ file in chunks. In this trivial example we count the number of reads in the FASTQ file:

```
nr_myFastq=0
strm <- FastqStreamer(fq1_path,1000)
repeat {
          fq <- yield(strm)
          if (length(fq) == 0)
              break
          ## Get FASTQ chunk
                nr_myFastq=nr_myFastq+length(fq)
          ## Do something on the chunk
}
close(strm) #close the connection
nr_myFastq
## [1] 20000</pre>
```

4.3 Quality assessment on FASTQ files

One major reason to analyze FASTQ files is to evaluate the quality and potential biases associated with the sequencing process. Outside of R, the Fastqc tool is widely used to perform such an analysis. It uses a random sample drawn from the FASTQ file to obtain some statistics on the reads. One of its limitation is that it generates one report for each sample which does not simplify comparisons between the samples.

The *ShortRead* package provides efficient functions to generate an HTML QA report for multiple samples:

```
fqPath = system.file(package="ShortRead", "extdata", "E-MTAB-1147")
fqFiles = dir(fqPath, pattern="fastq.gz", full=TRUE)
coll = QACollate(QAFastqSource(fqFiles), QAReadQuality(),
                  QAAdapterContamination(), QANucleotideUse(),
                  QAQualityUse(), QASequenceUse(),
                  QAFrequentSequence(n=10), QANucleotideByCycle(),
                  QAQualityByCycle())
qa20nFastq = qa2(coll,BPPARAM=SerialParam(), verbose=FALSE)
## ga_report=report(ga20nFastg) #generate the report
## browseURL(ga_report) #display in your browser
slotNames(qa20nFastq)
## [1] "src"
                         "filtered"
                                            "flagged"
                                                              "listData"
                         "elementMetadata" "metadata"
## [5] "elementType"
names(qa20nFastq)
## [1] "QAReadQuality"
                                "QAAdapterContamination"
## [3] "QANucleotideUse"
                                "QAQualityUse"
## [5] "QASequenceUse"
                                "QAFrequentSequence"
## [7] "QANucleotideByCycle"
                                "QAQualityByCycle"
slotNames(qa20nFastq[["QANucleotideUse"]])
## [1] "addFilter" "useFilter" "values"
                                           "flag"
                                                        "html"
qa20nFastq[["QANucleotideUse"]]
## class: QANucleotideUse
## html template: /usr/lib/R/library/ShortRead/template.../QANucleotideUse.html
## useFilter: TRUE: addFilter: TRUE
```

As illustrated, individual results from the quality analysis can be extracted from the .QA object but this is not well documented yet, nor particularly easy.

An alternative is to use the qa function from which it is relatively easy to extract individual components and to generate separate plots such as Figure 10:

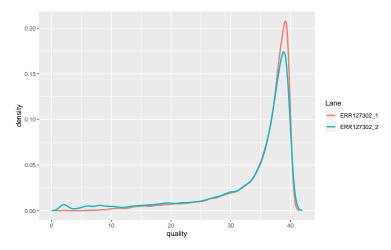


Figure 10: Distribution of average base quality

There are also other *Bioconductor* packages more or less dedicated to generate and plot QA/QC statistics from FASTQ files. These include the seqTools, qrqc and Rqc packages. The latter two packages make use of ggplot2 graphics. A couple examples using Rqc are illustrated in Figure 11

```
rqcResultSet = rqcQA(fqFiles,sample=T)
rqcCycleQualityPlot(rqcResultSet[1])
rqcCycleBaseCallsLinePlot(rqcResultSet[2])
```

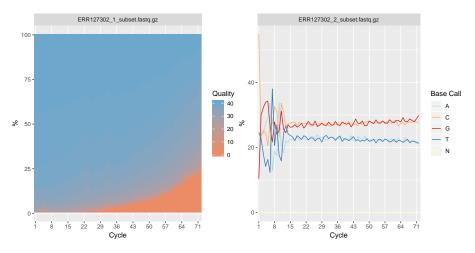


Figure 11: Examples of QC plots using the Rqc package

4.4 Reads filtering and trimming

Based on QA/QC it is sometimes advisable to perform read filtering and to trim the extremities of the reads. The *ShortRead* allows to perform such filtering and trimming steps with great flexibility. Note that the choices made below are only to illustrate the different functions, not to recommend some specific preprocessing in the general case. First, we create some filters:

Then, we create a function to apply filters and trimming on chunks of a FASTQ file:

```
FilterAndTrim = function(fl,destination=sprintf("%s_filtered",fl))
 stream = FastqStreamer(fl)
 on.exit(close(stream))
 ## open input stream
  repeat {
    fq=yield(stream)
   if (length(fq)==0)
     break
    ## get fastq chunk
    ###TRIM
    fq = narrow(fq,start=5,end=70)
    ## trim the first 4 and the last 2 bases
    ####FILTER
    fq = fq[myFilter(fq)]
    ## remove reads that:
     ## contain more than 1 N
     ## have median quality < 30
   writeFastq(fq, destination, mode="a")
    ## Append to fastq file
 }
}
```

Finally we apply this function on a FASTQ file:

5 Working with SAM/BAM files

5.1 Tools for SAM/BAM files

When a reference genome sequence is available, the reads are generally mapped to this reference using one of the NGS read aligner available (see paragraph 2.4). Note that R provides an interface to bowtie and SpliceMap [14] aligners via the *Rbowtie* package which is used in the pipeline of the *QuasR* package. The *Rsubread* package also provides a relatively complete pipeline for NGS data analysis. It includes a specific aligner (*Subread*) based on an original "seed-and-vote" mapping algorithm [11] as well as tools to count (*featureCounts*) the reads within genomic features [15] and to map exon junctions from RNA-seq data.

Once aligned, the reads and their genomic coordinates (defined by chromosome, position and strand) are typically returned in a SAM file [16]. A BAM file contains the same information as the corresponding SAM file but BAM is a binary format and thus BAM file size is reduced and its content is not human-readable. These files are often manipulated with Samtools, Picard Tools and Python scripts. A nice explanation of what SAM/BAM files contain can be found here.

Here, we will mainly use the following libraries:

- Rsamtools which provides an interface to samtools, bcftools and tabix (see https://github.com/samtools)
- GenomicAlignments which provides efficient tools to manipulate short genomic alignments

Examples of BAM files from single- and paired-read sequencing are provided in the *pasill-aBamSubset*.

5.2 Importing BAM files

5.2.1 Single-end reads

The path for the BAM file is obtained with:

```
sr_bamFile=untreated1_chr4() # from passilaBamSubset package
```

If the BAM file was not indexed yet (i.e. a .bai file present in the same directory and nammed as the .bam file), we could build such an index using:

```
indexBam(sr_bamFile)
```

Note that a number of other functions are available to manipulate SAM/BAM files, such as asSam/asBam, sortBam or mergeBam. See ?scanBam for details.

Now, we could define which regions of the genome we would like to import ('which'; note that here only chr4 is available in the BAM file but for the example we try to extract data from chr2L also), which columns of the BAM file we would like to import ('what') and possibly filters for unwanted reads ('flag'). These informations are stored in a ScanBamParam object:

```
which = RangesList("chr2L"=IRanges(7000,10000),
                   "chr4"=IRanges(c(75000,1190000),c(85000,1203000)))
scanBamWhat() #available fields
## [1] "qname"
                       "flag"
                                     "rname"
                                                    "strand"
                                                                  "pos"
## [6] "qwidth"
                       "mapq"
                                     "cigar"
                                                    "mrnm"
                                                                  "mpos"
## [11] "isize"
                       "seq"
                                     "qual"
                                                    "groupid"
                                                                  "mate_status"
what = c("rname", "strand", "pos", "qwidth", "seq")
flag=scanBamFlag(isDuplicate=FALSE)
param=ScanBamParam(which=which, what=what, flag=flag)
```

See ?ScanBamParam for other options and examples. As briefly illustrated it is easy to define filters (based on SAM flags using scanBamFlag or on tags present in the SAM/BAM files) when importing your BAM files.

Now, we use scanBam from Rsamtools to import the data in R:

```
mysrbam=scanBam(sr_bamFile,param=param)
class(mysrbam)

## [1] "list"

names(mysrbam)

## [1] "chr2L:7000-10000" "chr4:75000-85000" "chr4:1190000-1203000"

sapply(mysrbam,sapply,length)["rname",] #number of imported reads

## chr2L:7000-10000 chr4:75000-85000 chr4:1190000-1203000

## 0 304 736
```

The resulting object is a list which is not always easy to manipulate for downstream applications.

So we would rather use the readGAlignments from the GenomicAlignments package:

```
mysrbam2=readGAlignments(sr_bamFile,
                         param=ScanBamParam(which=which,
                                            what="seg",
                                            flag=flag))
mysrbam2[1:2]
## GAlignments object with 2 alignments and 1 metadata column:
##
         seqnames strand
                                     cigar
                                              qwidth
                                                         start
                                                                     end
##
            <Rle> <Rle>
                               <character> <integer> <integer> <integer>
     [1]
             chr4
                      + 21M13615N50M55N4M
                                                  75
                                                         72990
                                                                   86734
##
     [2]
             chr4
                       - 4M13615N50M55N21M
                                                         73007
                                                                   86751
```

```
width
                       njunc |
                                                    seq
##
                                         <DNAStringSet>
         <integer> <integer> |
                           2 | AAAAACTGCA...CGTAGCCACA
##
     [1]
             13745
##
     [2]
             13745
                            2 | ATACCTGTGA...TGGACGGCTG
##
     seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

Note that we have redefined the ScanBamParam. This is because **readGAlignments** comes with predefined fields to import and we just need to add those extra fields we want to import in the *ScanBamParam* parameter object. Here we imported the sequences to show that they are imported as a *DNAStringSet* but it is generally not necessary to keep these sequences once the reads have been mapped.

So we don't keep them for the next steps:

```
mysrbam2=readGAlignments(sr_bamFile,
                         param=ScanBamParam(which=which))
mysrbam2[1:2]
## GAlignments object with 2 alignments and 0 metadata columns:
##
         segnames strand
                                      cigar
                                               gwidth
                                                          start
                                                                       end
##
            <Rle> <Rle>
                                <character> <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
     [1]
             chr4
                       + 21M13615N50M55N4M
                                                   75
                                                          72990
                                                                     86734
     [2]
             chr4
                       - 4M13615N50M55N21M
                                                   75
                                                          73007
                                                                     86751
##
                       njunc
##
             width
##
         <integer> <integer>
             13745
                            2
##
     [1]
##
     [2]
             13745
                            2
##
     seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

The object returned is a GAlignments (see ?'GAlignments-class' for details and accessors).

These objects are highly similar to *GRanges*. They can be accessed with similar functions:

```
head(start(mysrbam2))
## [1] 72990 73007 73007 73007 73007
head(width(mysrbam2))
## [1] 13745 13745 13745 13745 13745
seqnames(mysrbam2)
## factor-Rle of length 1040 with 1 run
## Lengths: 1040
## Values: chr4
## Levels(8): chr2L chr2R chr3L chr3R chr4 chrM chrX chrYHet
cigar(mysrbam2)[1:3]
## [1] "21M13615N50M55N4M" "4M13615N50M55N21M" "4M13615N50M55N21M"
head(njunc(mysrbam2))
```

```
## [1] 2 2 2 2 2 2
```

They can be converted to GRanges:

```
granges(mysrbam2)[1:2]

## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:

## seqnames ranges strand

## <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>

## [1] chr4 [72990, 86734] +

## [2] chr4 [73007, 86751] -

## ------

## seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

And one can easily access the details of each read alignment as *GRanges* organized in a *GRangesList* using:

```
grglist(mysrbam2)[[1]] #only first read shown element here
## GRanges object with 3 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
        segnames
                       ranges strand
##
          <Rle>
                    <IRanges> <Rle>
##
   [1]
          chr4 [72990, 73010]
##
    [2]
           chr4 [86626, 86675]
##
          chr4 [86731, 86734]
    [3]
##
    seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
junctions(mysrbam2)[[1]] #and the corresponding junctions
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##
        segnames
                        ranges strand
           <Rle>
##
                     <IRanges> <Rle>
##
   [1]
          chr4 [73011, 86625]
##
    [2]
          chr4 [86676, 86730]
##
    seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

See below and in help('junctions-methods', "GenomicAlignments"), help('findOverlaps-methods', "GenomicAlignments") and help('coverage-methods', "GenomicAlignments") for other methods defined on *GAlignments* objects.

5.2.2 Paired-end reads

An example of paired-end data is available in the pasillaBamSubset package:

```
pr_bamFile=untreated3_chr4() # from passilaBamSubset package
```

We can extract these data using:

```
myprbam=readGAlignmentPairs(pr_bamFile,
```

```
param=ScanBamParam(which=which))
myprbam[1:2]
## GAlignmentPairs object with 2 pairs, strandMode=1, and 0 metadata columns:
         segnames strand :
                                   ranges --
                                                       ranges
                                <IRanges> --
            <Rle> <Rle> :
##
                                                    <IRanges>
                      - : [13711, 13747] -- [ 74403, 77053]
##
     [1]
             chr4
##
    [2]
             chr4
                       *: [74403, 77053] -- [955236, 964043]
     seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

The *GAlignmentPairs* class holds only read pairs (reads with no mate or with ambiguous pairing are discarded). Note that the readGalignmentPairs function has a strandMode argument to specify how to report the strand of a pair. For stranded protocols, depending how the libraries were generated, strandMode should be set to 1 (the default for e.g. directional Illumina protocol by ligation) or 2 (e.g. for dUTP or Illumina stranded TruSeq PE protocol). The individual reads can be accessed as *GAlignments* objects using:

```
myprbam[1] #first record
## GAlignmentPairs object with 1 pair, strandMode=1, and 0 metadata columns:
##
         segnames strand :
                                   ranges --
                                                     ranges
##
            <Rle> <Rle> :
                                <IRanges> --
                                                  <IRanges>
##
                      - : [13711, 13747] -- [74403, 77053]
     [1]
             chr4
##
     seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
first(myprbam[1]) #first sequenced fragment
## GAlignments object with 1 alignment and 0 metadata columns:
##
         seqnames strand
                             cigar
                                        qwidth
                                                   start
                                                               end
                                                                        width
##
            <Rle> <Rle> <character> <integer> <integer> <integer> <integer>
                                                   13711
##
     [1]
             chr4
                                 37M
                                            37
                                                              13747
                                                                           37
##
             niunc
##
         <integer>
##
     [1]
##
    seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
last(myprbam[1]) #last sequenced fragment
## GAlignments object with 1 alignment and 0 metadata columns:
##
         seqnames strand
                               cigar
                                        qwidth
                                                                        width
                                                   start
                                                               end
##
            <Rle> <Rle> <character> <integer> <integer> <integer> <integer>
##
                      + 33M2614N4M
                                                                         2651
     [1]
             chr4
                                            37
                                                   74403
                                                             77053
             njunc
##
##
         <integer>
     [1]
##
     seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
```

We could also use the readGAlignmentsList function which returns both mate-pairs and non-mates in a more classical "list-like" structure:

```
myprbam_list=readGAlignmentsList(pr_bamFile,
                                param=ScanBamParam(which=which))
myprbam_list[1:2]
## GAlignmentsList object of length 2:
## [[1]]
## GAlignments object with 2 alignments and 0 metadata columns:
##
        seqnames strand cigar qwidth start end width njunc
                     + 37M
                                 37 80628 80664
    [1]
            chr4
                                  37 80775 80811
            chr4
                        37M
                                                   37
                                                          0
##
    [2]
##
## [[2]]
## GAlignments object with 2 alignments and 0 metadata columns:
        seqnames strand cigar qwidth start end width njunc
##
    [1]
            chr4
                  + 37M
                                 37 81002 81038
                                                   37
    [2]
            chr4
                     - 37M
                                  37 83706 83742
                                                   37
##
##
## seqinfo: 8 sequences from an unspecified genome
table(elementNROWS(myprbam_list))
##
##
   1 2
## 74 287
summary(mcols(myprbam_list)$mate_status) #mate status as metadata
##
      mated ambiguous
                        unmated
```

Sometimes, it is desirable to process the BAM file in chunk. The <code>BamFile</code> allows to create a reference to a BAM file which can be opened, used in a loop and then closed (example taken from the excellent <code>HOWTO</code> vignette from the <code>GenomicRanges</code> package):

```
bf = BamFile(sr_bamFile,yieldSize=100000) #create reference
open(bf) #open connection
cvg = NULL #initialize

repeat {
   chunk <- readGAlignments(bf) #loop on the BAM file
   if (length(chunk) == 0L)
        break
   chunk_cvg <- coverage(chunk)
   if (is.null(cvg)) {
      cvg <- chunk_cvg
   } else {
      cvg <- cvg + chunk_cvg
   }
}
close(bf)</pre>
```

```
## integer-Rle of length 1351857 with 122061 runs
     Lengths:
                                          45 ...
                                                                        75 1659
                     27
                           5
                               12
                                     13
                                                    3 106
                                                             75 1600
     Values :
                           2
                                3
                                     4
                                           5 ...
                                                    6
                                                         0
                                                              1
                                                                        1
                      1
```

Note that such a loop is now directly performed by the <u>coverage</u> method for *BamFile* class. For details, see ?"coverage, GAlignments-method".

5.3 Some QA/QC on aligned reads

The qa function from the *ShortRead* also performs quality assessements on BAM files. Alternatively, a quick summary can be generated using:

```
quickBamFlagSummary(pr_bamFile)
##
                                 group |
                                            nb of |
                                                      nb of | mean / max
##
                                          records |
                                                     unique | records per
                                    of |
##
                               records | in group |
                                                     QNAMEs | unique QNAME
## All records..... A |
                                           175346 |
                                                      93620 | 1.87 / 10
    o template has single segment.... S |
                                               0 |
                                                          0 |
                                                               NA / NA
##
    o template has multiple segments. M |
                                                      93620 | 1.87 / 10
                                           175346 |
        - first segment..... F |
                                           88069 |
                                                      83413 | 1.06 / 8
        - last segment..... L |
                                                      82600 | 1.06 / 9
##
                                           87277
        - other segment..... 0 |
##
                                               0 |
                                                          0 |
                                                              NA / NA
##
## Note that (S, M) is a partitioning of A, and (F, L, 0) is a partitioning of M.
## Indentation reflects this.
##
## Details for group M:
##
    o record is mapped..... M1 |
                                          175346 |
                                                      93620 | 1.87 / 10
        - primary alignment..... M2 |
                                                      93620 | 1.87 / 10
##
                                           175346 |
##
        - secondary alignment..... M3 |
                                               0 |
                                                          0 |
                                                                NA / NA
##
    o record is unmapped..... M4 |
                                               0 |
                                                          0 |
                                                                NA / NA
##
## Details for group F:
    o record is mapped..... F1 |
                                                      83413 | 1.06 / 8
##
                                           88069 |
        - primary alignment..... F2 |
                                            88069 |
                                                      83413 | 1.06 / 8
##
                                               0 |
##
        - secondary alignment..... F3 |
                                                          0 |
                                                               NA / NA
    o record is unmapped..... F4 |
                                               0 |
                                                               NA / NA
                                                          0 |
##
## Details for group L:
##
    o record is mapped..... L1 |
                                                      82600 | 1.06 / 9
                                            87277 |
##
        - primary alignment..... L2 |
                                            87277 |
                                                      82600 | 1.06 / 9
        - secondary alignment..... L3 |
                                                          0 |
##
                                               0 |
                                                               NA / NA
                                               0 |
##
    o record is unmapped..... L4 |
                                                               NA / NA
                                                          0 |
```

This could allow to select relevant filters when importing the data in R.

5.4 Computing a coverage

Computing a coverage (number of reads aligning at a given position on the genome) on a *GAlignments* is straightforward:

```
cvg_sr=coverage(mysrbam2)
cvg_sr$chr4

## integer-Rle of length 1351857 with 1266 runs
## Lengths: 72989  17   4  2092 ...  5  6175  49 143448
## Values: 0  1  9  0 ...  1  0  1  0
```

The result is an *RleList* organized by chromosomes.

We can extract specific Views from this object:

```
which_chr4_gr=GRanges(segnames="chr4",
            ranges=which$chr4,strand="*") #convert imported intervals to GRanges
ex_chr4=exonsByOverlaps(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene,which_chr4_gr) #get exons
head(Views(cvg_sr$chr4, ranges(ex_chr4))) #extract Views
## Views on a 1351857-length Rle subject
##
## views:
##
   start end width
## [1] 77123 77175
            ## [2] 77866 78037
           ## [3] 80602 81041
## [4] 81196 81600
           ## [5] 83599 83750
## [6] 76457 76957
```

Note that the coverage function is not strand specific. If we want the coverage for the minus strand only, we could use:

It is sometimes necessary to shift or resize the reads before computing coverage. This is a typical situation in ChIP-seq data analysis when the binding of a transcription factor or a chromatin mark with punctuate enrichment is studied. Here, we load some ChIP-seq experimental data from the *MMDiffBamSubset* and import the reads as a *GAlignments* objet:

```
ranges=IRanges(3e6,5e6),
strand="*")))
```

Then we can compute the coverage after applying some tranformation on the reads (shift or resize):

```
coverage(ChIP_ga)$chr1
## integer-Rle of length 197195432 with 63367 runs
##
     Lengths:
                3000431
                               54
                                          70 ...
                                                                  17 192195393
                                           0 ...
    Values :
                                1
                                                         2
                                                                   1
coverage(ChIP_ga,shift=150)$chr1 #directly in coverage (!shift is not strand-aware)
## integer-Rle of length 197195432 with 63367 runs
                                          70 ...
##
     Lengths:
                3000581
                               54
                                                         9
                                                                  17 192195243
##
     Values:
                                1
                                           0 ...
                                                         2
                                                                   1
coverage(ChIP_ga,shift=150*as.numeric(paste(strand(ChIP_ga),"1",sep="")))$chr1 #now "strand-aware" shift
## integer-Rle of length 197195432 with 63427 runs
     Lengths:
                3000494
                               54
                                          33 ...
                                                        45
                                                                    9 192195260
     Values :
                                1
                                                         2
##
                                           0 ...
                                                                    1
                                                                              0
coverage(resize(granges(ChIP_ga),300))$chr1 #resize via a GRanges (strand-aware)
## integer-Rle of length 197195432 with 64106 runs
     Lengths:
                3000398
                               33
                                         124 ...
                                                        62
                                                                    9 192195164
     Values :
                                 1
                                           2 ...
                                                         2
                                                                              0
```

5.5 Finding peaks in read coverage

In ChIP-seq experiments, one often look for "peaks" (or broad regions in e.g. ChIP of chromatin marks or PolII) in the read coverage. This task, often called "peak calling" or "peak finding" can be performed outside of R with one of the numerous "peak callers" available such as MACS / MACS2, SPP or SICER (for broad regions). A number of specific and advanced tools also exist in R to perform peak calling such as: <code>BayesPeak</code>, <code>chipseq</code>, <code>bumphunter</code>, <code>exomePeak</code>, <code>CSAR</code>, <code>jmosaics</code> or <code>PICS</code>. Here, we only illustrate a naive approach to get a list of peaks by applying a single threshold on the coverage object using the <code>slice</code> function:

```
cvg_H3K4me3=coverage(resize(granges(ChIP_ga),300))
slice(cvg_H3K4me3,lower=20)$chr1
## Views on a 197195432-length Rle subject
##
## views:
##
       start
              end width
##
   [1] 3027290 3027346
                   [2] 3042723 3042728
                   6 [20 20 20 20 20 20]
   [3] 3042793 3042903
                  ##
   [4] 3042911 3042916
                   6 [20 20 20 20 20 20]
   [5] 3048694 3048705
                  12 [20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20]
##
   [6] 3048777 3048800
```

```
[7] 3052480 3052488
               9 [20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20]
##
  [8] 3052492 3052880
              ##
  [9] 3129266 3129557
              292 [20 20 20 21 21 22 22 22 21 21 21 21 22 24 ...]
       . . .
## [272] 4964448 4964489
              ## [273] 4976296 4976296
               1 [20]
              10 [20 20 20 20 20 21 21 21 21 21]
## [274] 4976308 4976317
## [276] 4977358 4977359
               2 [20 20]
## [277] 4977366 4977443
               ## [279] 4977615 4977630
              ## [280] 4978067 4978377
              311 [20 20 20 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 21 22 22 22 ...]
```

FixMe: more examples soon...maybe...

5.6 Counting reads / read summarization

Another common task is to count how many reads align to a set of genomic features. This counting operation is sometimes called read summarization or data reduction. It is typically done in RNA-seq experiments to produce a count matrix for subsequent analysis. The counts can be obtained on e.g. genes, transcripts or exons depending on the aim of the study. Some packages such as *Rsubread*, *QuasR* and *easyRNAseq* provide specific functions to perform the counting step. Here we only present the general function summarizeOverlaps from *GenomicAlignments*.

We want to count the reads aligning on the exons. So we first get the exons, organized by genes, which are located in our region of interest:

Then we use the summarizeOverlaps function to obtain the counts (Note that the counting is strand-aware by default!):

```
count_res=summarizeOverlaps(exbygn_chr4, mysrbam2, mode="Union")
count_res

## class: RangedSummarizedExperiment
## dim: 3 1
## metadata(0):
## assays(1): counts
## rownames(3): FBgn0002521 FBgn0004859 FBgn0264617
## rowData names(0):
## colnames(1): reads
## colData names(2): object records

assays(count_res)$counts
```

```
## reads
## FBgn0002521 346
## FBgn0004859 12
## FBgn0264617 117
```

Different count modes are available, as in HTSeq. These are illustrated in Figure 12.

	union	intersection _strict	intersection _nonempty
gene_A	gene_A	gene_A	gene_A
gene_A	gene_A	no_feature	gene_A
gene_A gene_A	gene_A	no_feature	gene_A
gene_A read gene_A	gene_A	gene_A	gene_A
gene_A gene_B	gene_A	gene_A	gene_A
gene_A gene_B	ambiguous	gene_A	gene_A
gene_A	ambiguous	ambiguous	ambiguous

Figure 12: Count modes
Taken from the HTSeq website

The result of summarizeOverlaps (here count_res) is a SummarizedExperiment object (See help(SummarizedExperiment, package="GenomicRanges") for details and accessors). This class is very similar to the eSet class (from the Biobase package) which is often used to analyze microarray data. In eSet objects, the features are typically microarray probes, probesets or genes corresponding to these probes. In summarizedExperiment objects, the features (i.e. rows) are ranges of interest. Figure 13 illustrates the structure of a SummarizedExperiment object.

To count reads from multiple BAM files we just need to enter the path to the BAM files as a character vector:

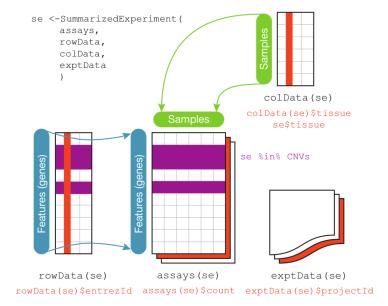


Figure 13: Structure of summarizedExperiment objects

Taken from [3]. The assays component contains the data as rectangular matrices. The rowData and col Data components contain metadata on the features and on the samples respectively. The exptData component contains experiment-level data. Code examples illustrate how to create a summarizedExperiment, subset it and access the components.

There are several options available to perform read counting with summarizeOverlaps. Some examples are provided below:

```
assays(summarizeOverlaps(exbygn_chr4,myprbam,mode="Union"))$counts
## FBqn0002521
                  97
## FBgn0004859
                   6
## FBgn0264617
                  32
assays(summarizeOverlaps(exbygn_chr4,myprbam,mode="Union", #ignore strand
                         ignore.strand=T))$counts
##
               reads
## FBgn0002521
                 192
## FBgn0004859
                   7
## FBgn0264617
                  50
assays(summarizeOverlaps(exbygn_chr4,mysrbam2,mode="Union"))$counts
               reads
## FBqn0002521
                 346
## FBgn0004859
                  12
## FBqn0264617
                 117
assays(summarizeOverlaps(exbygn_chr4,mysrbam2,mode="Union", #resize the reads to 100
                         preprocess.reads=function(x){resize(granges(x),100)}))$counts
               reads
## FBgn0002521
                 346
## FBgn0004859
```

```
## FBgn0264617 117
```

See ?summarizeOverlaps for details and examples.

The count matrix could then be used for normalization and differential analysis with the *DESeq2*, *edgeR*, *limma*, *DEXseq* packages for example.

6 More annotation packages in *Bioconductor*

6.1 Types of annotation packages

There are a number of annotation packages in *Bioconductor* which can be browsed here. Annotations are provided as *AnnotationDb* objects and the *AnnotationDbi* provides a common interface to these objects. The vignette of the *AnnotationDbi* provides a good introduction to the different types of package available. Figure 14, adapted from this vignette, illustrates the different types of *gene-* and *genome-*centered annotation packages available in *Bioconductor*.

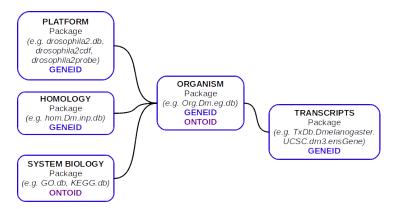


Figure 14: AnnotationDb packages
Adapted from the vignette of *AnnotationDbi*

There are gene-centric packages:

- Organism packages (OrgDb class; e.g. org.Dm.eg.db)
- Platform-level (essentially microarrays) packages (ChipDb class: e.g. drosophila2.db and the corresponding probe and cdf packages: drosophila2probe and drosophila2cdf)
- Homology packages (InparanoidDb class; e.g. hom.Dm.inp.db)
- System-biology packages (e.g. GO.db, KEGG.db, reactome.db)

And genome-centric packages:

- Transcriptome-oriented packages (TxDb class; e.g. TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene)
- Generic Genome feature packages (FeatureDb class, e.g. FDb.UCSC.tRNAs) that can be created with the GenomicFeatures package

In addition, *OrganismDb* packages were recently added based on the *OrganismDbi* package. These packages basically combine all the above packages in a single package. These are available for *Homo.sapiens*, *Mus.musculus* and *Rattus.norvegicus*. Finally packages are available in *Bioconductor* to enable the user to build his own annotation packages. These include *AnnotationForge* and *GenomicFeatures*.

6.2 Accessing annotations

There are 4 basic functions to access nearly all annotations:

- The column function shows the fields from which annotatios can be extracted
- The keytypes function shows the field from which annotations can be extracted AND which can be used as keys to access these annotations
- The keys function retrieves the keys themselves (i.e. values from a 'keytype' field used to access the annotation of the corresponding feature)
- The select function extracts the data from the *AnnotationDb* object from the *columns* specified and providing a set of *keys* of a given *keytype*.

In our examples, we will explore the main packages for Drosophila melanogaster:

- org.Dm.eg.db
- drosophila2.db and the corresponding drosophila2probe and drosophila2cdf packages
- hom.Dm.inp.db
- GO.db (not specific to D. melanogaster)
- TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene

First, we explore the *OrgDb* package which contains gene-level annotations:

```
## library(org.Dm.eg.db)
columns(org.Dm.eg.db)
   [1] "ACCNUM"
                       "ALIAS"
                                       "ENSEMBL"
                                                      "ENSEMBLPROT"
    [5] "ENSEMBLTRANS" "ENTREZID"
                                      "ENZYME"
                                                      "EVIDENCE"
## [9] "EVIDENCEALL" "FLYBASE"
                                      "FLYBASECG"
                                                      "FLYBASEPROT"
## [13] "GENENAME"
                                      "GOALL"
                                                      "MAP"
## [17] "ONTOLOGY"
                       "ONTOLOGYALL"
                                      "PATH"
                                                      "PMID"
## [21] "REFSEQ"
                       "SYMBOL"
                                      "UNIGENE"
                                                      "UNIPROT"
## help("PATH")
## keytypes(org.Dm.eg.db) #same as columns(org.Dm.eg.db) in this case
uniKeys = keys(org.Dm.eg.db, keytype="UNIPROT")[c(5,6,24)]
```

```
cols = c("SYMBOL", "GO")
select(org.Dm.eg.db,keys=uniKeys[1:2],columns=cols,keytype="UNIPROT")
## 'select()' returned 1:many mapping between keys and columns
##
      UNIPROT SYMBOL
                              GO EVIDENCE ONTOLOGY
## 1
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0000791
                                      IDA
                                                 CC
## 2
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0002165
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 3
                  G9a G0:0005634
      Q95RU8
                                      IDA
                                                 CC
## 4
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0005705
                                      IDA
                                                 CC
## 5
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0007614
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 6
                  G9a G0:0007616
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
       Q95RU8
## 7
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0008270
                                                 MF
                                      IEA
## 8
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0008345
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 9
       Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0010468
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 10 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0018024
                                      IDA
                                                 MF
## 11 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0035076
                                                 BP
                                      IGI
## 12 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0035220
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 13 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0046959
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 14 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0050688
                                                 BP
                                      IMP
## 15 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:0050775
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
                  G9a G0:0051567
## 16 Q95RU8
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 17 Q95RU8
                  G9a G0:1900111
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 18 Q9W5H1 CG13377 GO:0002121
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 19 Q9W5H1 CG13377 GO:0016319
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
## 20 Q9W5H1 CG13377 GO:0042048
                                      IMP
                                                 BP
```

The *GO.db* package can be used to retrieve information on the identified Gene Ontology categories (chosen also based on Evidence codes):

```
## library(GO.db)
mygos=c("G0:0002121","G0:0003858","G0:0016319")
select(GO.db,columns=columns(GO.db)[1:3],
       keys=mygos,keytype="GOID")
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
## 1 GO:0002121
## 2 GO:0003858
## 3 GO:0016319
## 1
## 3 The process whose specific outcome is the progression of the mushroom body over time, from its formation
     ONTOLOGY
##
## 1
           BP
## 2
           MF
## 3
           BP
```

We can also extract a whole table as a data.frame:

```
## ls("package:G0.db")

toTable(GOTERM)[1:3,1:4]

## go_id go_id.1 Term Ontology

## 1 GO:0000001 GO:00000001 mitochondrion inheritance BP

## 2 GO:0000002 GO:0000002 mitochondrial genome maintenance BP

## 3 GO:0000003 GO:0000003 reproduction BP
```

We can also search for a specific pattern in the keys:

```
keys(org.Dm.eg.db,keytype="SYMBOL",pattern="EcR")
## [1] "EcR"
               "DopEcR"
select(org.Dm.eg.db,keys=c("EcR","DopEcR"),
       columns=c("ENTREZID","CHR","FLYBASE","GENENAME"),keytype="SYMBOL")
## Warning in .deprecatedColsMessage(): Accessing gene location information via
'CHR','CHRLOC','CHRLOCEND'
## is deprecated. Please use a range based accessor like genes(), or
## select() with columns values like TXCHROM and TXSTART on a TxDb or
## OrganismDb object instead.
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
    SYMBOL ENTREZID CHR
                            FLYBASE
                                                          GENENAME
       EcR
              35540 2R FBgn0000546
                                                 Ecdysone receptor
               38539 3L FBgn0035538 Dopamine/Ecdysteroid receptor
## 2 DopEcR
```

ChipDb packages contain annotations based on microarray probes:

```
## library(drosophila2.db)
ls("package:drosophila2.db")[1:8]
## [1] "drosophila2"
                               "drosophila2ACCNUM"
## [3] "drosophila2ALIAS2PROBE" "drosophila2CHR"
## [5] "drosophila2CHRLENGTHS" "drosophila2CHRLOC"
## [7] "drosophila2CHRLOCEND"
                               "drosophila2.db"
## drosophila2.db #provides information on the underlying database
columns(drosophila2.db)[1:7]
## [1] "ACCNUM"
                      "ALIAS"
                                                    "ENSEMBLPROT"
                                     "ENSEMBL"
## [5] "ENSEMBLTRANS" "ENTREZID"
                                    "ENZYME"
select(drosophila2.db,columns=c("ENTREZID","SYMBOL","ENSEMBL"),
       keys=c("1639797_at","1627097_at","1628020_at"),keytype="PROBEID")
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
       PROBEID ENTREZID SYMBOL
                                    ENSEMBL
## 1 1639797_at 4379890 CG34109 FBgn0083945
## 2 1627097_at 318986 t-cup FBgn0051858
## 3 1628020_at 33366 CG15358 FBgn0031373
```

The associated *probe* and *cdf* packages provide information on microarray probe sequences and on position on the array respectively. They are mainly used by different methods during the analysis of Affymetrix microaray data:

```
## library(drosophila2probe)
## library(drosophila2cdf)
drosophila2probe[1:2,] #a data frame with probe sequences
##
                      sequence x y Probe.Set.Name
## 1 CCTGAATCCTGGCAATGTCATCATC 599 305
                                           1622893_at
## 2 ATCCTGGCAATGTCATCATCAATGG 267 45
                                           1622893_at
     Probe.Interrogation.Position Target.Strandedness
## 1
                              137
                                            Antisense
## 2
                              142
                                            Antisense
ls("package:drosophila2cdf")
## [1] "drosophila2cdf" "drosophila2dim" "i2xy"
                                                          "xy2i"
```

See the vignettes of the *AnnotationDbi* packages for details.

Homology *InparanoidDb* packages contain the gene orthologs for a number of species. They are extracted from the *Inparanoid database* [17] and can be interrogated both ways:

```
## library(hom.Dm.inp.db)
select(hom.Dm.inp.db,columns=c("HOMO_SAPIENS","CULEX_PIPIENS"),
       keys=c("FBpp0084497", "FBpp0077213"),keytype="DROSOPHILA_MELANOGASTER")
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
    DROSOPHILA_MELANOGASTER CULEX_PIPIENS
                                              HOMO_SAPIENS
## 1
                 FBpp0084497
                                CPIJ009610
## 2
                 FBpp0077213
                                CPIJ004808 ENSP00000362314
select(hom.Dm.inp.db,columns=c("HOMO_SAPIENS","DROSOPHILA_MELANOGASTER"),
       keys=c("CPIJ014347","CPIJ005780"),keytype="CULEX_PIPIENS")
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
     CULEX_PIPIENS DROSOPHILA_MELANOGASTER
                                              HOMO_SAPIENS
## 1
        CPIJ014347
                               FBpp0088446 ENSP00000303147
## 2
       CPIJ005780
                               FBpp0072468 ENSP00000360532
```

Finally, *TxDb* packages can also be interrogated using the same methods:

7 Import/export of genomic data

7.1 Bioconductor packages to import/export genomic data

In addition to annotation packages presented in paragraph 6, a number of *Bioconductor* software packages provide interfaces with online databases containing annotations and experimental data.

Here, we will give some examples with the following packages:

- rtracklayer [18]
- AnnotationHub
- biomaRt
- GEOquery
- SRAdb

7.2 The rtracklayer package

The main functionnality of the *rtracklayer* [18] is to import/export files in a number of different standard formats. These include GFF, BED, WIG, bigWig and bedGraph. Additionally, *rtracklayer* also provides functions to interact with genome browsers and in particular UCSC Genome Browser. However, we do not illustrate these functionnalities here.

First we get the path for some example files (from the Gviz package):

```
bamExFile_path=system.file(package="Gviz","extdata","test.bam")
gff3ExFile_path=system.file(package="Gviz","extdata","test.gff3")
gtfExFile_path=system.file(package="Gviz","extdata","test.gff2")
bedExFile_path=system.file(package="Gviz","extdata","test.bed")
wigExFile_path=system.file(package="Gviz","extdata","test.wig")
bedGraphExFile_path=system.file(package="Gviz","extdata","test.bedGraph")
```

The <u>import</u> and <u>export</u> functions of *rtracklayer* will adapt to the different file formats via the *format* argument. If this argument is missing the format is derived from the file extension. Here, we simply import these files using the <u>import</u> function without any other argument than the file path:

```
head(import(bedExFile_path))
## GRanges object with 6 ranges and 4 metadata columns:
         segnames
##
                                   ranges strand |
                                                            name
                                                                     score
            <Rle>
##
                                <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <numeric>
     [1]
             chr7 [127471197, 127472363]
                                                            Pos1
##
     [2]
             chr7 [127472364, 127473530]
                                                                         0
                                                            Pos2
##
     [3]
             chr7 [127473531, 127474697]
                                                            Pos3
                                                                         0
                                                + |
                                                                         0
##
     [4]
             chr7 [127474698, 127475864]
                                                            Pos4
##
     [5]
             chr7 [127475865, 127477031]
                                                            Neg1
                                                                         0
                                                - |
             chr7 [127477032, 127478198]
                                                                         0
##
     [6]
                                                            Neg2
```

```
itemRgb
                                       thick
##
         <character>
                                   <IRanges>
             #FF0000 [127471197, 127472363]
##
     [1]
##
     [2]
             #FF0000 [127472364, 127473530]
##
     [3]
             #FF0000 [127473531, 127474697]
##
     [4]
             #FF0000 [127474698, 127475864]
##
     [5]
             #0000FF [127475865, 127477031]
             #0000FF [127477032, 127478198]
##
##
     seginfo: 1 sequence from an unspecified genome; no seglengths
head(import(wigExFile_path)) #binned at 300bp
## GRanges object with 6 ranges and 1 metadata column:
##
         segnames
                                ranges strand |
                                                     score
##
            <Rle>
                             <IRanges> <Rle> | <numeric>
            chr19 [49302001, 49302300]
     [1]
                                            * |
                                                        - 1
     [2]
            chr19 [49302301, 49302600]
##
                                             * |
                                                     -0.75
##
     [3]
            chr19 [49302601, 49302900]
                                                      -0.2
##
     [4]
            chr19 [49302901, 49303200]
                                                      -0.1
                                             *
##
     [5]
            chr19 [49303201, 49303500]
                                                         0
            chr19 [49303501, 49303800]
##
     [6]
                                                      0.25
##
     seqinfo: 1 sequence from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
Rle(rep(import(wigExFile_path)$score,each=300)) #convert to Rle
## numeric-Rle of length 2700 with 9 runs
     Lengths:
               300
                      300
                            300
                                   300
                                               300
                                                     300
                                                           300
                                                                  300
                 -1 -0.75 -0.2 -0.1
##
     Values :
                                              0.25
                                                     0.4
                                                          0.55
```

Comment: Try to import the other files and see what you get. Also try to export files to different formats using the **export** function.

Note that a genome-wide coverage as an *RleList* object can be directly exported as WIG or bedGraph files using the export function from *rtracklayer*.

7.3 The AnnotationHub package

The *AnnotationHub* allows to easily retrieve a number of public datasets and annotation tracks as standard *Bioconductor* objects such as *GRanges* and *GRangesList*. Note however that many datasets have been pre-processed so the user relies on others for these steps. The datasets available come from e.g. ENSEMBL, NCBI, UCSC, ENCODE and Inparanoid). Here, we briefly illustrate the main commands used to retrieve results of interest. After loading the library, the user must create an *AnnotationHub* object:

```
library(AnnotationHub)

ah=AnnotationHub()

## updating metadata: retrieving 1 resource
## snapshotDate(): 2017-10-27
```

To explore this object we take a look at its metadata:

```
annot_ah=mcols(ah) #Informations on the different records
table(annot_ah$rdataclass) #type of files that can be retrieved
##
        AAStringSet
                           BigWigFile
                                                 biopax
                                                                ChainFile
                                10247
                                                                      1113
##
                                EnsDb
                                                 FaFile
         data.frame
                                                                  GRanges
                 24
                                  282
                                                   5122
                                                                    19268
##
      Inparanoid8Db
                                 list
                                                 MSnSet
                                                                 mzRident
##
                268
                                    2
                                                      1
                                                     Rle SQLiteConnection
##
            mzRpwiz
                                0rgDb
##
                  1
                                 1018
                                                   1586
##
         TwoBitFile
                                 TxDb
                                                VcfFile
##
               4027
                                    45
table(annot_ah$dataprovider) #providers
##
##
                           BroadInstitute
                                                                              ChEA
##
                                    18248
                                     CRIBI
                                                                             dbSNP
##
##
                                                                                 8
##
                                  Ensembl ftp://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/DATA/
##
                                     12003
##
                                  Gencode
                                                                         Genoscope
##
                                 Haemcode
##
                                                                       Inparanoid8
##
                                                                               268
##
                  MISO, VAST-TOOLS, UCSC
                                                                             NHLBI
##
                                                                                 1
        NIH Pathway Interaction Database
##
                                                                             Pazar
##
                                         9
                                                                                91
                                     PRIDE
                                                                            RefNet
##
##
                                         4
                                                                                 8
##
                                 Stanford
                                                                              UCSC
##
                                        24
                                                                             10337
##
                                      URGI
                                                                       UWashington
##
                                         1
                                                                                25
```

org Db objects are available in the hub:

```
query(ah,"orgDb") #search for available orgDb packages

## AnnotationHub with 1018 records

## # snapshotDate(): 2017-10-27

## # $dataprovider: ftp://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/DATA/

## # $species: Escherichia coli, Acanthamoeba castellanii_str._Neff, Acantha...

## # srdataclass: OrgDb

## # additional mcols(): taxonomyid, genome, description,

## # coordinate_1_based, maintainer, rdatadateadded, preparerclass,

## # tags, rdatapath, sourceurl, sourcetype

## # retrieve records with, e.g., 'object[["AH57964"]]'
```

```
##
               title
     AH57964 | org.Ag.eg.db.sqlite
##
##
     AH57965 | org.At.tair.db.sqlite
     AH57966 | org.Bt.eq.db.sqlite
##
     AH57967 | org.Cf.eq.db.sqlite
##
     AH57968 | org.Gg.eg.db.sqlite
##
##
     AH59987 | org.Pseudoalteromonas_piscicida.eg.sqlite
##
     AH59988 | org.Bacteroides_fragilis_YCH46.eg.sqlite
     AH59989 | org.Pseudomonas_mendocina_ymp.eg.sqlite
##
##
     AH59990 | org.Salmonella_enterica_subsp._enterica_serovar_Typhimurium_s...
     AH59991 | org.Acinetobacter_baumannii.eg.sqlite
##
query(ah,c("orgDb","Arabidopsis")) #those for Arabidopsis only
## AnnotationHub with 2 records
## # snapshotDate(): 2017-10-27
## # $dataprovider: ftp://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/DATA/
## # $species: Arabidopsis lyrata_subsp._lyrata, Arabidopsis thaliana
## # $rdataclass: OrgDb
## # additional mcols(): taxonomyid, genome, description,
## # coordinate_1_based, maintainer, rdatadateadded, preparerclass,
## # tags, rdatapath, sourceurl, sourcetype
## # retrieve records with, e.g., 'object[["AH57965"]]'
##
##
               title
##
     AH57965 | org.At.tair.db.sqlite
     AH59047 | org.Arabidopsis_lyrata_subsp._lyrata.eg.sqlite
newAt=ah[["AH57965"]] #retrieve the orgDb object
## loading from cache '/home/pmartin//.AnnotationHub/64711'
keytypes(newAt) #explore the object
                                                     "ENZYME"
## [1] "ARACYC"
                       "ARACYCENZYME" "ENTREZID"
## [5] "EVIDENCE"
                       "EVIDENCEALL" "GENENAME"
                                                     "G0"
## [9] "GOALL"
                       "ONTOLOGY"
                                      "ONTOLOGYALL"
                                                     "PATH"
## [13] "PMID"
                       "REFSEQ"
                                      "SYMBOL"
                                                     "TAIR"
select(newAt, keys="AT1G01010", keytype="TAIR", columns=c("REFSEQ", "ENTREZID", "GO"))
## 'select()' returned 1:many mapping between keys and columns
                                          GO EVIDENCE ONTOLOGY
          TAIR
                   REFSEQ ENTREZID
## 1 AT1G01010 NM_099983 839580 G0:0003700
                                                  ISS
## 2 AT1G01010 NM_099983 839580 G0:0005634
                                                  ISM
                                                             CC
## 3 AT1G01010 NM_099983 839580 G0:0006888
                                                  RCA
                                                            BP
## 4 AT1G01010 NM_099983 839580 G0:0007275
                                                  ISS
                                                            BP
## 5 AT1G01010 NM_099983
                           839580 GO:0043090
                                                  RCA
                                                            BP
## 6 AT1G01010 NP_171609
                           839580 GO:0003700
                                                  ISS
                                                            MF
## 7 AT1G01010 NP_171609
                           839580 GO:0005634
                                                  ISM
                                                            CC
## 8 AT1G01010 NP_171609
                           839580 GO:0006888
                                                  RCA
                                                             BP
## 9 AT1G01010 NP_171609
                           839580 GO:0007275
                                                             BP
                                                  ISS
```

```
## 10 AT1G01010 NP_171609 839580 GO:0043090 RCA BP
```

Note that it is also possible to select resources from the Hub using \$,subset and display

Another example with data from Roadmap Epigenomics project:

```
epiFiles=query(ah, "EpigenomeRoadMap")
epiFiles
## AnnotationHub with 18248 records
## # snapshotDate(): 2017-10-27
## # $dataprovider: BroadInstitute
## # $species: Homo sapiens
## # $rdataclass: BigWigFile, GRanges, data.frame
## # additional mcols(): taxonomyid, genome, description,
       coordinate_1_based, maintainer, rdatadateadded, preparerclass,
       tags, rdatapath, sourceurl, sourcetype
## # retrieve records with, e.g., 'object[["AH28856"]]'
##
##
               title
##
    AH28856 | E001-H3K4me1.broadPeak.gz
     AH28857 | E001-H3K4me3.broadPeak.gz
##
     AH28858 | E001-H3K9ac.broadPeak.gz
##
##
     AH28859 | E001-H3K9me3.broadPeak.gz
     AH28860 | E001-H3K27me3.broadPeak.gz
##
##
##
     AH49540 | E058_mCRF_FractionalMethylation.bigwig
     AH49541 | E059_mCRF_FractionalMethylation.bigwig
     AH49542 | E061_mCRF_FractionalMethylation.bigwig
##
     AH49543 | E081_mCRF_FractionalMethylation.bigwig
    AH49544 | E082_mCRF_FractionalMethylation.bigwig
unique(epiFiles$species) # sanity check
## [1] "Homo sapiens"
unique(epiFiles$genome) # sanity check
## [1] "hg19"
table(epiFiles$sourcetype) #types of files available
##
##
      BED BigWig
                    GTF
                           tab
                                  Zip
     8298
           9932
                      3
                             1
                                   14
head(sort(table(epiFiles$description), decreasing=TRUE)) #more precise description of the files available
##
## Bigwig File containing -log10(p-value) signal tracks from EpigenomeRoadMap Project
## Bigwig File containing fold enrichment signal tracks from EpigenomeRoadMap Project
      Narrow ChIP-seq peaks for consolidated epigenomes from EpigenomeRoadMap Project
##
##
##
       Broad ChIP-seq peaks for consolidated epigenomes from EpigenomeRoadMap Project
```

```
2534
      Gapped ChIP-seq peaks for consolidated epigenomes from EpigenomeRoadMap Project
##
##
                                                                                  2534
##
          Narrow DNasePeaks for consolidated epigenomes from EpigenomeRoadMap Project
##
                                                                                   131
query(ah , c("EpigenomeRoadMap","H3K36ME3","broadPeak","liver")) #a more precise query
## AnnotationHub with 5 records
## # snapshotDate(): 2017-10-27
## # $dataprovider: BroadInstitute
## # $species: Homo sapiens
## # $rdataclass: GRanges
## # additional mcols(): taxonomyid, genome, description,
       coordinate_1_based, maintainer, rdatadateadded, preparerclass,
       tags, rdatapath, sourceurl, sourcetype
## # retrieve records with, e.g., 'object[["AH29351"]]'
##
##
               title
##
     AH29351 | E066-H3K36me3.broadPeak.gz
    AH41908 | BI.Adult_Liver.H3K36me3.3.broadPeak.gz
     AH41909 | BI.Adult_Liver.H3K36me3.4.broadPeak.gz
     AH41910 | BI.Adult_Liver.H3K36me3.5.broadPeak.gz
##
     AH42615 | UCSD.Adult_Liver.H3K36me3.STL011.broadPeak.gz
k36Peaks=ah[["AH29351"]] #retrieve the data
## loading from cache '/home/pmartin//.AnnotationHub/34791'
k36Peaks # a GRanges object
## GRanges object with 199604 ranges and 5 metadata columns:
##
              seqnames
                                       ranges strand |
                                                               name
                                                                        score
                                    <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <numeric>
##
                 <Rle>
                 chr12 [133758469, 133774384]
          [1]
                                                             Rank_1
                                                                          158
                                                             Rank_2
                                                                          134
##
          [2]
                 chr19 [ 58695221, 58726784]
               chr19 [ 44670183, 44683357]
                                                                          133
          [3]
                                                    * |
                                                             Rank_3
                 chr9 [ 35694083, 35727997]
##
          [4]
                                                             Rank_4
                                                                          131
                                                    * |
                 chr19 [ 44509434, 44519252]
                                                                          131
##
          [5]
                                                   * |
                                                             Rank_5
##
##
     [199600]
                  chr9 [ 3634043, 3634277]
                                                   * | Rank_199600
                                                                            0
                  chr1 [182763503, 182763836]
##
     [199601]
                                                    * |
                                                       Rank_199601
                                                                            0
##
     [199602]
                  chr2 [173674414, 173674905]
                                                   * | Rank_199602
                                                                            0
                                                                            0
##
     [199603]
                  chr1 [117660710, 117661344]
                                                    * | Rank_199603
##
     [199604]
                  chr3 [ 75749824, 75750091]
                                                    * | Rank_199604
                                                                            0
##
              signalValue
                             pValue
                                       qValue
##
                <numeric> <numeric> <numeric>
##
          [1]
                  7.70772 18.84335 15.87884
##
          [2]
                  6.41733 16.12752 13.42749
##
          [3]
                  6.30442 15.98875 13.30686
##
                  6.47104 15.84522 13.15117
          [4]
                  6.51529 15.79857 13.16733
          [5]
##
##
     [199600]
                  1.45074
                            1.00778
                                      0.00937
```

```
1.44989 1.00766 0.00929
    [199601]
##
    [199602]
                 1.45868 1.00763 0.00937
##
    [199603]
                 1.44478 1.00691 0.00885
##
    [199604]
                1.43371 1.00530 0.00789
##
    seqinfo: 93 sequences (1 circular) from hg19 genome
metadata(k36Peaks)
## $AnnotationHubName
## [1] "AH29351"
##
## $`File Name`
## [1] "E066-H3K36me3.broadPeak.gz"
## $`Data Source`
## [1] "http://egg2.wustl.edu/roadmap/data/byFileType/peaks/consolidated/broadPeak/E066-H3K36me3.broadPeak.g.
## $Provider
## [1] "BroadInstitute"
## $Organism
## [1] "Homo sapiens"
## $`Taxonomy ID`
## [1] 9606
```

Another example with a chainfile: Lifting genomic coordinates from one genome build to another, requires a chain file. Here, we use the Lift0ver function from rtracklayer package to perform the lift over and use the chain file obtained from AnnotationHub.

```
query(ah,c("dm3","dm6","chainfile")) #search for a chain file
## AnnotationHub with 1 record
## # snapshotDate(): 2017-10-27
## # names(): AH15105
## # $dataprovider: UCSC
## # $species: Drosophila melanogaster
## # $rdataclass: ChainFile
## # $rdatadateadded: 2014-12-15
## # $title: dm3ToDm6.over.chain.gz
## # $description: UCSC liftOver chain file from dm3 to dm6
## # $taxonomyid: 7227
## # $genome: dm3
## # $sourcetype: Chain
## # $sourceurl: http://hgdownload.cse.ucsc.edu/goldenpath/dm3/liftOver/dm3T...
## # $sourcesize: NA
## # $tags: c("liftOver", "chain", "UCSC", "genome", "homology")
## # retrieve record with 'object[["AH15105"]]'
chain=ah[["AH15105"]] #retrieve the chain file
## loading from cache '/home/pmartin//.AnnotationHub/19200'
```

```
genes #Drosophila genes
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
               seqnames
                                   ranges strand |
                                                                   Symbol
##
                                                      EntrezId
                  <Rle>
                                 <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <character>
   FBgn0031208 chr2L [ 7529, 9484]
                                             + |
##
                                                       33155
                                                                  CG11023
                chrX [18962306, 18962925] - |
    FBgn0085359
                                                       2768869
                                                                  CG34330
##
   seqinfo: 2 sequences from dm3 genome
liftOver(genes, chain) #new coordinates
## GRangesList object of length 2:
## $FBqn0031208
## GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
##
        seqnames ranges strand | EntrezId
                                                    Symbol
##
                  <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <character>
##
          chr2L [7529, 9484]
                               + |
                                         33155
                                                   CG11023
   [1]
##
## $FBgn0085359
## GRanges object with 1 range and 2 metadata columns:
                             ranges strand | EntrezId Symbol
   [1]
          chrX [19068273, 19068892] - | 2768869 CG34330
##
## seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

Versions of the hub can be accessed and selected using:

```
possibleDates(ah)[1:10] # available dates for the Hub

## [1] "2013-03-19" "2013-03-21" "2013-03-26" "2013-04-04" "2013-04-29"

## [6] "2013-06-24" "2013-06-25" "2013-06-26" "2013-06-27" "2013-10-29"

snapshotDate(ah) #date currently in use (can be changed using <-)

## [1] "2017-10-27"</pre>
```

The location of the downloaded files and the Hub URL are accessed using:

```
hubCache(ah)
## [1] "/home/pmartin//.AnnotationHub"
hubUrl(ah)
## [1] "https://annotationhub.bioconductor.org"
```

The AnnotationHub can also be explored more interactively in a browser using:

```
d=display(ah)
```

7.4 The biomaRt package

The *biomaRt* package [19, 20] provides an interface to the Biomart web services. The so-called "Marts" represent a large family of annotation resources:

```
## library(biomaRt)
listMarts(host="www.ensembl.org")

## biomart version
## 1 ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL Ensembl Genes 93
## 2 ENSEMBL_MART_MOUSE Mouse strains 93
## 3 ENSEMBL_MART_SNP Ensembl Variation 93
## 4 ENSEMBL_MART_FUNCGEN Ensembl Regulation 93
```

Now can select the source (or "Mart") we want to use:

```
ens=useMart('ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL', host='www.ensembl.org')
ens
## Object of class 'Mart':
    Using the ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL BioMart database
    No dataset selected.
listDatasets(ens)[1:5,]
##
                        dataset
                                                        description
## 1
           mpahari_gene_ensembl Shrew mouse genes (PAHARI_EIJ_v1.1)
                                          Duck genes (BGI_duck_1.0)
## 2 aplatyrhynchos_gene_ensembl
          mauratus_gene_ensembl Golden Hamster genes (MesAur1.0)
## 4
          cjacchus_gene_ensembl
                                     Marmoset genes (ASM275486v1)
                                   Chimpanzee genes (Pan_tro_3.0)
## 5
       ptroglodytes_gene_ensembl
            version
## 1 PAHARI_EIJ_v1.1
## 2
       BGI_duck_1.0
## 3
          MesAur1.0
## 4
        ASM275486v1
## 5
        Pan_tro_3.0
rattus=useMart('ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL',
              host='www.ensembl.org',
              dataset='rnorvegicus_gene_ensembl')
```

Now we need to set up filters in order to get results focused on our objects of interest.

To get all the values ('keys') taken by a specific filter ('keytype'), we can use:

```
keys(rattus,keytype="chromosome_name")[1:5]
## [1] "1" "2" "3" "4" "5"
```

Unfortunately, the keys method does not work with all keytypes in biomaRt.

Once we know where to find the keys corresponding to our suject of interest, we use the getBM function to extract the information we selected:

```
goi=c('ENSRNOG00000012586','ENSRNOG00000018113') #genes of interest
getBM(attributes=c('ensembl_gene_id', 'strand',
                   'chromosome_name','start_position','end_position'),
                    filters = 'ensembl_gene_id',
                    values = goi, mart = rattus)
##
        ensembl_gene_id strand chromosome_name start_position end_position
## 1 ENSRN0G00000012586
                            -1
                                             5
                                                    172077282
                                                                 172078760
## 2 FNSRN0G00000018113
                             1
                                            17
                                                      66548818
                                                                   66551947
```

Note that when ENSEMBL is used as *Mart*, other functions are available, such as getSequence and getGene which are wrappers to GetBM.

The select method presented previously also works on *Mart* objects:

The vignette of the *biomaRt* provides several practical examples of queries to Biomart resources.

7.5 The *GEOquery* and *SRAdb* packages

The *GEOquery* package [21] retrieves data from the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) repository and the *SRAdb* package retrieves data from the Short Read Archive (SRA) repository. These resources are of primary importance for functional genomics and contain thousands of datasets. *SRAdb* also provides some functions to open and interact with the Integrative Genome Browser (IGV) which are not illustrated here.

Extracting data from GEO.

In GEO, the data are organized as

- Platforms (GPLxxx identifiers): info on microarray designs and sequencing platforms
- Samples (GSMxxx identifiers): sample-level data and protocols
- Series (GSExxx identifiers): data and information from a same experiment/project
- Dataset (GDSxxx identifiers): statistically comparable data obtained from a unique platform

The *GEOmetadb* package (not used here) aims at faciliating the search for relevant entries in the GEO database.

To automatically download all the raw data from a GEO entry (files can be huge!) in a new folder created in your working directory, use:

```
library(GEOquery)
RawGSE13149=getGEOSuppFiles('GSE13149') #!! large files !!
```

The getGEO allows to retrieve different types of data from GEO (GPL, GSM, GSE, GDS). Here, for a Series, the data are downloaded to a temporary directory and stored in R as an ExpressionSet.

```
gse13149=getGEO('GSE13149')
show(gse13149) #Here only one Expression Set
GEOeset=gse13149[[1]] #get the Expression Set
```

GEOquery is essentially dedicated to microarray data. While GEO microarray datasets are imported as relevant *ExpressionSet* and *limma MAList* objects, NGS data cannot be imported with *GEOquery*. Note that the *ChIPseeker* provides interesting functions to download bed files from ChIP-seq experiment directly from GEO.

Extracting data from SRA.

On the other hand, the *SRAdb* package is dedicated to retrieve NGS datasets from the NCBI Short Read Archive, many of which are also present in GEO.

The data available in SRA are:

- Studies (SRP/ERP/DRP identifiers): metadata describing a sequencing project or study
- Experiment (SRX/ERX/DRX identifiers): metadata describing the libraries, platform selection and protocols used in a particular sequencing experiment. An experiment may contain several Runs.
- Run (SRR/ERR/DRR identifiers): sequencing data for a particular sequencing experiment
- Sample (SRS/ERS/DRS identifiers): metadata describing the physical sample that has been the suject of the sequencing process
- Analysis (SRZ identifiers): A BAM file resulting from an analysis and the metadata describing the analysis performed

All these 5 types of objects are also regrouped in a virtual container called *Accession* (SRA/ERA/DRA identifiers) which are used to track the submission.

The *SRAdb* provides an SRAdb SQLite file updated regularly which allows to query the database and find relevant content. The corresponding file can be downloaded and uncompressed using:

```
library(SRAdb)
sqlfile = 'SRAmetadb.sqlite'
if(!file.exists('SRAmetadb.sqlite')) sqlfile <<- getSRAdbFile() #large file!!</pre>
```

To create a connection to the file use:

```
sra_con = dbConnect(SQLite(),sqlfile)
```

Explore the content of the database:

```
dbListTables(sra_con) #Tables available in the database
dbListFields(sra_con, "study") #Fields for the study table
colDesc=colDescriptions(sra_con=sra_con) #Description of the fields
```

colDesc contains a description of the different fields and their default values.

Query the database using SQL:

More examples in the *SRAdb* vignette.

Convert SRA identifiers and get their links. For examples, which runs and samples are associated with this study?:

```
sraConvert( 'SRP001007', sra_con = sra_con )
##    study submission    sample experiment    run
## 1 SRP001007    SRA009276    SRS004650    SRX007396    SRR020740
## 2 SRP001007    SRA009276    SRS004650    SRX007396    SRR020739
```

Queries with (getSRA):

More examples in the *SRAdb* vignette.

The ftp adresses of the files can be obtained with:

```
listSRAfile( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, fileType = 'sra' )
#or: getSRAinfo("SRX000122",sra_con,sraType="sra")
```

The function **getSRAfile** allows to download SRA accessions from NCBI SRA and Fastq files from EBI ENA.

Disconnect from the database with:

dbDisconnect(sra_con)

8 Visualization of genomic data

8.1 Introduction to *R* graphics for genomic data

Visualizing NGS data in specific genomic context is an excellent, although not sufficient, mean to assess data quality or the robustness and specificity of findings obtained from data analysis. A number of Genome Browsers are available for this task, such as UCSC Genome Browser, Gbrowse or IGV. They allow to interactively 'navigate' the genome and to display several annotation and data types. However, batch extraction of genome views is not always available. Here, we briefly illustrate some tools available in *Bioconductor* to assemble data in genome browser-like plots.

R is quite famous for the excellent quality of its graphics and its graphical capabilities in general (see CRAN Task view on graphics). R base graphics already provide a number of functionalities. The *lattice* package has provided a complementary approach. Later, the *ggplot2* package [22] has implemented the concepts presented in the book 'The Grammar of Graphics' [23] and is now widely used (see an example at paragraph 4.3). The *ggvis* further adds interactivity and web graphics to *ggplot2*.

In *Bioconductor* specific packages have been developed to plot genomic data and annotations (see *Bioconductor* Visualization View), in particular:

- Gviz which is illustrated in paragraph 8.2
- ggbio [24] which extends ggplot2 to genomic data visualization
- genomation which has some interesting functionalities to plot heatmaps and average profiles
- Sushi, which is particularly good to generate multipanel figures

Interactive graphs are increasingly being developped notably based on *shiny*.

8.2 The Gviz package

The *Gviz* package vignette is extremely well documented. Here we only briefly illustrate some basic functionnalities but the package allows much more and protein-related tracks can also be added using the *Pviz* package. *Gviz* defines a set of classes which support a wide range of standard formats (see Table 1) and can be created from the typical *Bioconductor* objects used for genomic data (see Table 2).

The first step is to define the region we are interested in. We are going to focus on the region of Drosophila melanogaster chromosome 4 previously defined in paragraph 5.2.1. First we define a *GRanges* object corresponding to this region:

Gviz class	File type	Extension	Details
Annotation Track	BED	.bed	Fields chrom, chromStart, chromEnd, strand, name and itemRbg
			used only (first 3 fields are mandatory)
	GFF	.gff, .gff1	Fields seqname, start, end, strand, feature and group are rec
			nized
	GFF2	.gff2	Same as above. Feature grouping can be provided as Group
			Parent attribute
	GFF3	.gff3	Same as above but feature grouping information has to be provide
			as the Parent attribute
	BAM	.bam	Streaming available. Start, end and strand information for
			reads are used. Reads ids are used for track item grouping
GeneRegion Track	GTF	.gtf	Gene, transcript and exon ids and names can be parsed from
			<pre>gene_id, gene_name, transcript_id, transcript_name, exon_id</pre>
			exon_name attributes
	GFF	.gff, .gff1	Supports very limited grouping. Not adapted to encode compl
			gene models.
	GFF2	.gff2	Same as GTF. Files could be renamed .gtf
	GFF3	.gff3	The gene-to-transcript and transcript-to-exon relationships are
			coded in the parent and type attribute. Most gff3 variants
			supported.
DataTrack Track	BedGraph	.bedGraph	
	WIG	.wig	
	BigWig	.bigWig, .bw	Streaming available.
	BAM	.bam	Streaming available. Read coverage only is extracted from the BA
			file.
Sequence Track	FASTA	.fa, .fasta	Streaming available only if an index file is found in the same dir
			tory as the fasta file.
	2Bit	.2bit	Streaming available.
Alignments Track	BAM	.bam	Streaming available. Always needs an index file in the same direct
			as the BAM file

Table 1: Gviz Track classes and standard NGS formats

Gviz class	Bioconductor class
Annotation Track	data.frame
	<i>IRanges</i>
	GRanges
	GRangesList
GeneRegion Track	data.frame
	<i>IRanges</i>
	GRanges
	GRangesList
	TxDb
DataTrack Track	data.frame
	<i>IRanges</i>
	GRanges
Sequence Track	DNAStringSet
	BSgenome

Table 2: Gviz Track classes and standard Bioconductor objects

```
ROI=GRanges(seqnames="chr4", ranges=which$chr4[1], strand="*")
Let's search for the motif 'TATAAA' in this region:
TATAAA_on_ROI=shift(union(ranges(matchPattern('TATAAA',
                                subseq(Dmelanogaster$chr4,start=start(ROI),end=end(ROI)))),
                  ranges(matchPattern('TTTATA',
                               subseq(Dmelanogaster$chr4,start=start(ROI),end=end(ROI))))),
                 start(R0I))
TATAAAgr=GRanges (seqnames="chr4",
                         ranges=TATAAA_on_ROI,
                         strand="*")
From this GRanges object, we can define an AnnotationTrack:
atrack=AnnotationTrack(TATAAAgr,name="TATAAA motif")
Next, we create a genome axis (i.e. genomic coordinates) track:
gtrack=GenomeAxisTrack()
An ideogram of the chromosome can be downloaded from UCSC using:
itrack=IdeogramTrack(genome="dm3",chromosome="chr4")
#I'm having some unresolved issues with these ideograms so I don't use them below
Let's take a look at our plot at this point (Figure 15):
plotTracks(list(gtrack,atrack)) #add itrack if possible
         Figure 15: Genome axis and TATAAA Annotationtracks
Then, we import Gene models from the TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene using:
grtrack=GeneRegionTrack(TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene,
                         start=start(ROI),
                         end=end(ROI),
                         genome="dm3",chromosome="chr4",
```

strack=SequenceTrack(Dmelanogaster, chromosome="chr4")
This gives Figure 16 where the sequence track is not visible (too small):

and sequence information using BS.genome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3:

name="Gene Model")

plotTracks(list(gtrack,atrack,grtrack,strack))

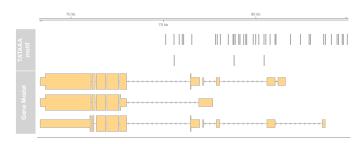


Figure 16: Visualizing Gene and Sequence Tracks

We can zoom in and out using for example (Figure 17):

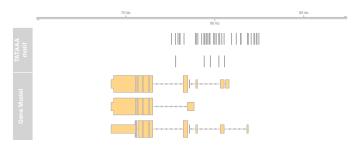


Figure 17: Zomming in and out

or (Figure 18):

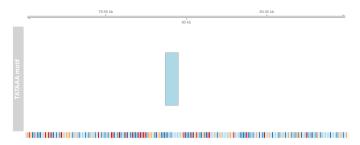


Figure 18: Zomming in

If we zoom enough we get the actual sequence (Figure 19):

Now we import some paired-end reads from a BAM file:

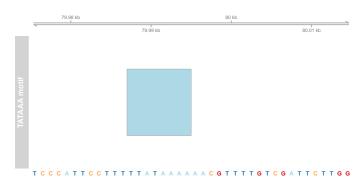


Figure 19: Zomming in some more to read the sequence

```
altrack=AlignmentsTrack(pr_bamFile, isPaired=TRUE)
```

And visualize these reads (Figure 20):

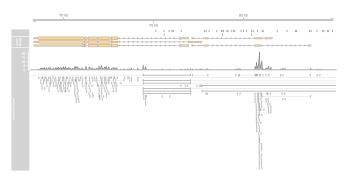


Figure 20: Visualizing Alignment Tracks

With a zoom and some more options (Figure 21):

Gviz has lots of functionalities to plot quantitative data associated to genomic positions (*DataTrack*). Here we provide a simple illustration based on simulated data:

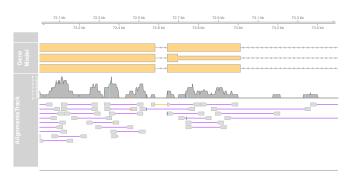


Figure 21: Visualizing Alignment Tracks

Which gives Figure 22

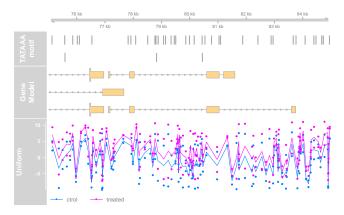


Figure 22: Visualizing Data Tracks

The *Gviz* package offers many more functionalities that are well illustrated in the package vignette.

9 Session info

- R version 3.4.4 (2018-03-15), x86_64-pc-linux-gnu
- Locale: LC_CTYPE=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_NUMERIC=C, LC_TIME=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_COLLATE=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_MONETARY=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_MESSAGES=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_PAPER=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_NAME=C, LC_ADDRESS=C, LC_TELEPHONE=C, LC_MEASUREMENT=fr_FR.UTF-8, LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
- Running under: Ubuntu 14.04.5 LTS
- Matrix products: default
- BLAS: /usr/lib/libblas/libblas.so.3.0
- LAPACK: /usr/lib/lapack/liblapack.so.3.0
- Base packages: base, datasets, graphics, grDevices, grid, methods, parallel, stats, stats4, utils
- Other packages: ade4 1.7-11, AnnotationDbi 1.40.0, AnnotationHub 2.10.1, Biobase 2.38.0, BiocGenerics 0.24.0, BiocParallel 1.12.0, BiocStyle 2.6.1, biomaRt 2.34.2, Biostrings 2.46.0, bitops 1.0-6, BSgenome 1.46.0, BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3 1.4.0, BSgenome.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.masked 1.3.99, DelayedArray 0.4.1, drosophila2cdf 2.18.0, drosophila2.db 3.2.3, drosophila2probe 2.18.0, GenomeInfoDb 1.14.0, GenomicAlignments 1.14.2, GenomicFeatures 1.30.3, GenomicRanges 1.30.3, GEOquery 2.46.15, ggplot2 3.0.0, GO.db 3.5.0, graph 1.56.0, grImport 0.9-0, Gviz 1.22.3, hom.Dm.inp.db 3.1.2, IRanges 2.12.0, knitr 1.20, matrixStats 0.53.1, MMDiffBamSubset 1.14.0, MotifDb 1.20.0, motifStack 1.22.4, MotIV 1.34.0, org.Dm.eg.db 3.5.0, pasillaBamSubset 0.16.0, RCurl 1.95-4.11, Rqc 1.12.0, Rsamtools 1.30.0, RSQLite 2.1.0, rtracklayer 1.38.3, S4Vectors 0.16.0, seqLogo 1.44.0, ShortRead 1.36.1, SRAdb 1.40.0, SummarizedExperiment 1.8.1, TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene 3.2.2, XML 3.98-1.11, XVector 0.18.0
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): acepack 1.4.1, AnnotationFilter 1.2.0, assertthat 0.2.0, backports 1.1.2, base64enc 0.1-3, bindr 0.1.1, bindrcpp 0.2.2, BiocInstaller 1.28.0, biovizBase 1.26.0, bit 1.1-12, bit64 0.9-7, blob 1.1.1, checkmate 1.8.5, cluster 2.0.7-1, colorspace 1.3-2, compiler 3.4.4, crayon 1.3.4, curl 3.2, data.table 1.11.0, DBI 1.0.0, dichromat 2.0-0, digest 0.6.15, dplyr 0.7.4, ensembldb 2.2.2, evaluate 0.10.1, foreign 0.8-70, Formula 1.2-2, GenomeInfoDbData 1.0.0, GenomicFiles 1.14.0, glue 1.3.0, gridExtra 2.3, gtable 0.2.0, highr 0.6, Hmisc 4.1-1, hms 0.4.2, htmlTable 1.11.2, htmltools 0.3.6, htmlwidgets 1.2, httpuv 1.4.1, httr 1.3.1, hwriter 1.3.2, interactiveDisplayBase 1.16.0, later 0.7.2, lattice 0.20-35, latticeExtra 0.6-28, lazyeval 0.2.1, limma 3.34.9, magrittr 1.5, markdown 0.8, MASS 7.3-50, Matrix 1.2-14, memoise 1.1.0, mime 0.5, munsell 0.5.0, nnet 7.3-12, pillar 1.2.2, pkgconfig 2.0.1, plyr 1.8.4, prettyunits 1.0.2, progress 1.2.0, promises 1.0.1, ProtGenerics 1.10.0, purrr 0.2.5, R6 2.2.2, RColorBrewer 1.1-2, Rcpp 0.12.18, readr 1.1.1, reshape2 1.4.3, rGADEM 2.26.0, rlang 0.2.2, rmarkdown 1.9, RMySQL 0.10.15, rpart 4.1-13, rprojroot 1.3-2, rstudioapi 0.7, scales 1.0.0, shiny 1.0.5, splines 3.4.4, splitstackshape 1.4.4, stringi 1.2.4, stringr 1.3.1, survival 2.42-3, tibble 1.4.2, tidyr 0.8.0, tools 3.4.4, VariantAnnotation 1.24.5, withr 2.1.2, xml2 1.2.0, xtable 1.8-2, yaml 2.1.19, zlibbioc 1.24.0

References

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