DNAPlotR package example (version 0.1)

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Abstract

This is a collection of examples of usage for the **DNAPlotR** package.

Keywords: visualization, alignment, display, genome, DNA, sequence, multiple sequence alignment, reference sequence.

1. General description

DNAPlotR allows rapid visual assessment of many DNA, RNA or amino acid sequences by plotting each sequence as a row of colors with each color representing a base/amino acid. A simple example of using the **DNAPlotR** package in R (Figure 1):

- > set.seed(1234)
- > fakeSeqs<-createFakeDNA(5000,500)</pre>
- > refSeq<-fakeSeqs[1]
- > fakeSeqs<-fakeSeqs[-1]</pre>
- > species<-sprintf('Species %s',sub(' [0-9]+\$','',names(fakeSeqs)))</pre>
- > par(mar=c(3.5,4.4,.5,7),mgp=c(2.5,1,0))
- > plotDNA(fakeSeqs,groups=species)

The package is also useful to visualize high-throughput, short read data in a given region (Figure 2):

- > set.seed(1234)
- > seqLength<-1000
- > fakeSeqs<-createFakeDNA(5000,seqLength,pGap=0)</pre>
- > refSeq<-fakeSeqs[1]</pre>
- > fakeSeqs<-fakeSeqs[-1]
- > potentialStarts<-1:(seqLength-99)</pre>
- > #leave a gap in sequences
- > potentialStarts<-potentialStarts[potentialStarts>550|potentialStarts<400]
- > startCoords<-sort(sample(potentialStarts,5000,TRUE))
- > endCoords<-startCoords+99
- > dummy<-paste(rep('-',seqLength),collapse='')</pre>
- > substring(fakeSeqs,1,startCoords)<-substring(dummy,1,startCoords)
- > substring(fakeSeqs,endCoords+1,seqLength) <- substring(dummy,endCoords+1,seqLength)
- > fakeSeqs<-replaceOuterGaps(fakeSeqs)</pre>
- > par(mar=c(3.5,4.4,.5,7),mgp=c(2.5,1,0))
- > plotDNA(fakeSeqs)

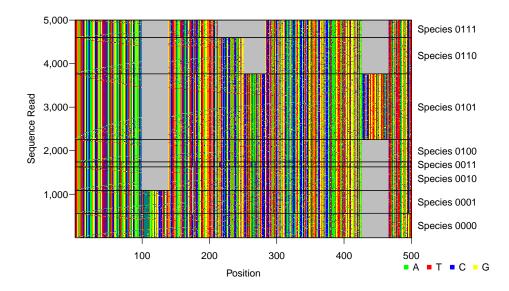


Figure 1: An example of a comparison of many sequences aligned against a reference

Amino acids can also be plotted although the larger number of amino acids makes comparisons somewhat more difficult (Figure 3). This is somewhat ameliorated by the use of a color scheme based on Jmol where amino acids with similar characteristics are colored similarly.

- > fakeAAs<-createFakeAA()</pre>
- > par(mar=c(3.5,4.4,.5,7),mgp=c(2.5,1,0))
- > plotAA(fakeAAs)

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Github: http://github.com/sherrillmix/dnaplotr

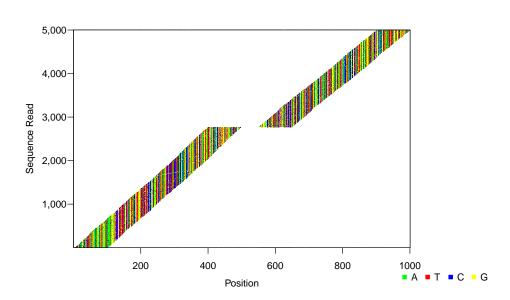


Figure 2: An example plot of short reads aligned against a reference sequence. The gap in coverage might indicate an indel, mapping problem or incorrect reference.

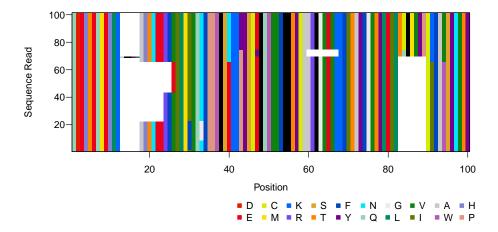


Figure 3: An example plot of amino acids