

dnaplotr package example (version 0.1)

Scott Sherrill-Mix

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)
> refSeq<-fakeSeqs[1]
> fakeSeqs<-fakeSeqs[-1]
> species<-sprintf('Species %s',sub('[0-9]+$','',names(fakeSeqs)))
> 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):

```
> seqLength<-1000
> fakeSeqs<-createFakeDNA(5000,seqLength,pGap=0)
> refSeq<-fakeSeqs[1]
> fakeSeqs<-fakeSeqs[-1]
> potentialStarts<-1:(seqLength-99)
> #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='')
> substring(fakeSeqs,1,startCoords)<-substring(dummy,1,startCoords)
> substring(fakeSeqs,endCoords+1,seqLength)<-substring(dummy,endCoords+1,seqLength)
> fakeSeqs<-replaceOuterGaps(fakeSeqs)
> par(mar=c(3.5,4.4,.5,1),mgp=c(2.5,1,0))
> plotDNA(fakeSeqs)
```

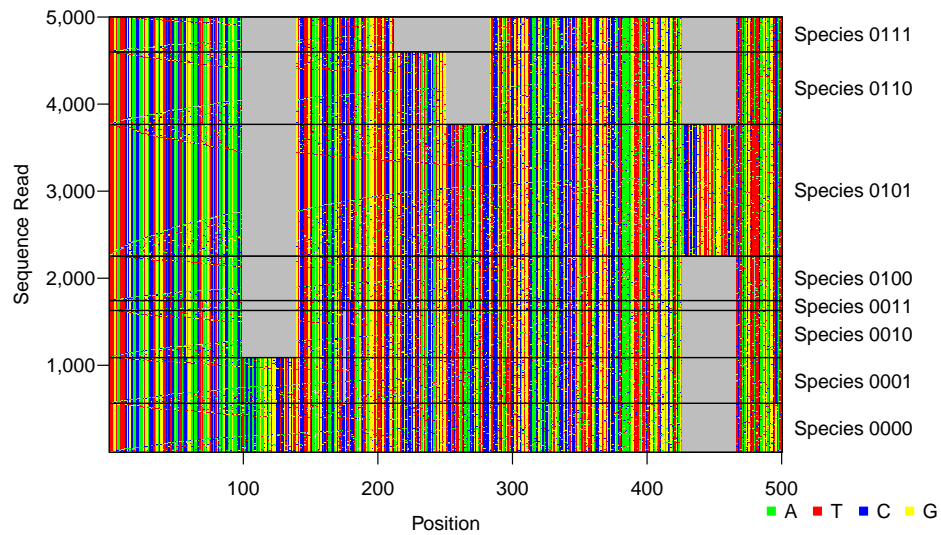


Figure 1: An example of a comparison of many sequences aligned against a reference

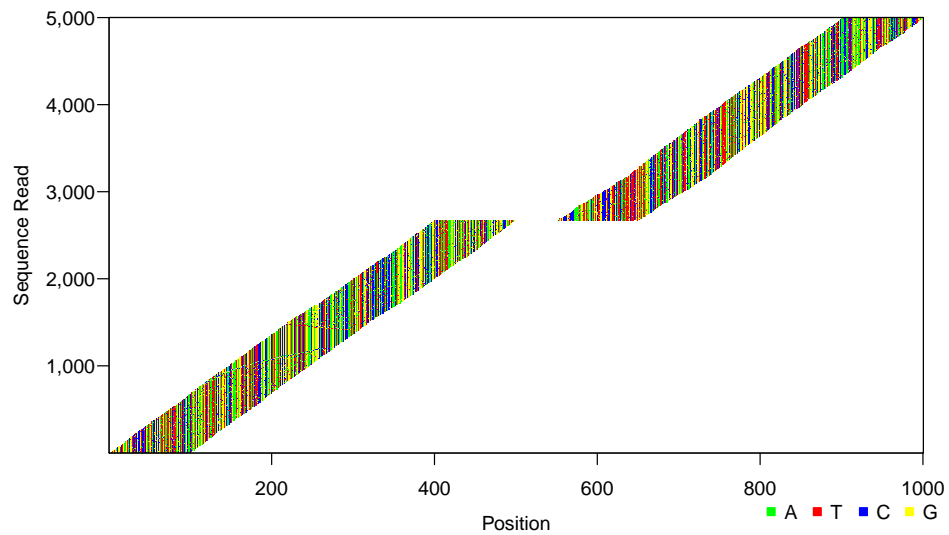


Figure 2: An example plot of short reads aligned against a reference sequence. The gap in coverage might indicate an indel, mapping problem or incorrect reference.

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()
> par(mar=c(3.5,4.4,.5,7),mgp=c(2.5,1,0))
> plotAA(fakeAAs)
```

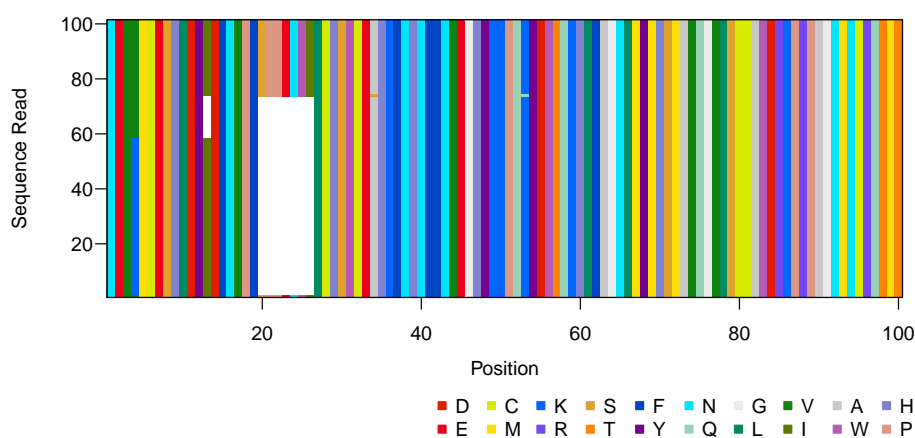


Figure 3: An example plot of amino acids

Affiliation:

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