1 Installation

rethomics is still under heavy development, so it cannot be uploaded to the CRAN (Comprehensive R Archive Network) – where most stable packages are – yet. Instead, we can install R using Hadley Wickham's popular devtools¹. Once you have devtools installed, it should be straightforward to install rethomics

```
> library(devtools)
> install_github("gilestrolab/rethomics", subdir = "rethomics")
```

Check for error messages. Then, ensure the package is installed by loading it:

> library(rethomics)

2 Loading data

2.1 Data structure

In rethomics the goal is to store *all* the behavioural data in one single dataframe, which is standard for subsequent statistical analysis. In such a dataframe, every row correspond to a single measurement; that is he position of one animal at one time. Every column describes a statistical variable such as t, and X and Y positions, but they can also hold information about arbitrary conditions such as treatment, sex, age, genotype and so on.

By convention:

- t, the variable holding the time, is always in seconds
- X and Y, are relative to the width of the region they come from, and the origin is top-left

For a single **experiment**, and when tracking a single animal (i.e. in a single **region**), your data table could look like:

```
path
        experiment_id region_id
                                    sex sleep_deprived id
1: female_FALSE_11.db
                              1 female
                                                 FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
2: female_FALSE_11.db
                              1 female
                                                 FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
3: female_FALSE_11.db
                              1 female
                                                 FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
4: female_FALSE_11.db
                              1 female
                                                 FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
5: female_FALSE_11.db
                              1 female
                                                 FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
```

¹installation instructions are available here

```
4167: female_FALSE_11.db
                                 1 female
                                                    FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
                                 1 female
                                                    FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
4168: female_FALSE_11.db
4169: female_FALSE_11.db
                                                    FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
                                 1 female
4170: female_FALSE_11.db
                                 1 female
                                                    FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
4171: female_FALSE_11.db
                                 1 female
                                                    FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
                                                           h phi has_interacted
            t
  1:
      12.166 0.5505208 0.565104167 0.005729167 0.001562500
                                                                          FALSE
      12.200 0.5510417 0.564062500 0.008854167 0.003645833
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
      12.233 0.5520833 0.563020833 0.009375000 0.005729167
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
      12.266 0.5515625 0.562500000 0.011458333 0.006770833
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
  5:
       12.300 0.5510417 0.561979167 0.011458333 0.007812500
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
4167: 151.633 0.6270833 0.002604167 0.009375000 0.003645833
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
4168: 151.666 0.6265625 0.002604167 0.007812500 0.003645833
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
4169: 151.833 0.6369792 0.001562500 0.003645833 0.001562500
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
4170: 151.966 0.6328125 0.001562500 0.004687500 0.001562500
                                                               0
                                                                          FALSE
4171: 152.100 0.6125000 0.003125000 0.004687500 0.004687500
                                                                          FALSE
```

The first thing you may notice is that the first few columns seem unnecessary as they have constant values. This is because they describe variables that vary between individuals, and we have only one individual.

In order to understand the need for additional columns, we can load data from multiple experiments:

- > library(rethomics)
- > data(multiple_iterative_y_mazes)
- > print(multiple_iterative_y_mazes)

```
experiment_id region_id
                                        sex sleep_deprived id
                                                                              path
    1: female_FALSE_11.db
                                   1 female
                                                      FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
    2: female_FALSE_11.db
                                   1 female
                                                      FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
                                                      FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
    3: female_FALSE_11.db
                                   1 female
    4: female_FALSE_11.db
                                   1 female
                                                      FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
    5: female_FALSE_11.db
                                   1 female
                                                      FALSE 11 female_FALSE_11.db
40426:
         male_FALSE_25.db
                                   1
                                       male
                                                      FALSE 25
                                                                 male_FALSE_25.db
40427:
         male_FALSE_25.db
                                       male
                                                      FALSE 25
                                                                 male_FALSE_25.db
                                   1
40428:
         male_FALSE_25.db
                                   1
                                       male
                                                      FALSE 25
                                                                 male_FALSE_25.db
40429:
                                                      FALSE 25
                                                                 male_FALSE_25.db
         male_FALSE_25.db
                                   1
                                       male
40430:
         male_FALSE_25.db
                                                      FALSE 25
                                                                 male_FALSE_25.db
                                   1
                                       male
             t.
                                                             h phi has_interacted
                                    у
        12.166 0.5505208 0.565104167 0.005729167 0.001562500
                                                                 0
                                                                             FALSE
    1:
        12.200 0.5510417 0.564062500 0.008854167 0.003645833
                                                                 0
    2:
                                                                             FALSE
        12.233 0.5520833 0.563020833 0.009375000 0.005729167
                                                                 0
                                                                             FALSE
        12.266 0.5515625 0.562500000 0.011458333 0.006770833
                                                                 0
                                                                             FALSE
        12.300 0.5510417 0.561979167 0.011458333 0.007812500
                                                                  0
                                                                             FALSE
```

 40426:
 191.966
 0.3661458
 0.005208333
 0.025520833
 0.011458333
 36
 FALSE

 40427:
 192.000
 0.3651042
 0.004687500
 0.024479167
 0.011458333
 37
 FALSE

 40428:
 192.033
 0.3645833
 0.004166667
 0.023958333
 0.011979167
 35
 FALSE

 40429:
 192.066
 0.3625000
 0.006770833
 0.021875000
 0.011979167
 0
 FALSE

 40430:
 192.100
 0.3625000
 0.006250000
 0.021875000
 0.010937500
 0
 FALSE

The data will always have two columns: **experiment_id** and **region_id**. Together, these columns form a key, that is combinations of experiment and region represent unique animals. in other words, we can identify, unambiguously, any animal from its region and experiment identifier. Instead of using the legacy data.frames, **rethomic** takes advantage of Matt Doyle's powerful data.table package². This makes it very easy and efficient to work with large amount of behavioural data. Common operation could involve filtering data and computing variable per condition or per individual. Let us go through several examples:

```
> library(rethomics)
> data(multiple_iterative_y_mazes)
> #We can simply call this data table `dt'
> dt <- multiple_iterative_y_mazes
> # keeping only females
> dt_female <- dt[sex == 'female',]</pre>
> # excluding any data point before 30 secondes (i.e. keeping >= 30s)
> dt_currated <- dt[t >= 30,]
> # Computing, per animal, the time spent in the experiment
> summary_dt = dt[,.(time_spent = max(t) - min(t)),
                  by=key(dt)]
> print(summary_dt)
        experiment_id region_id time_spent
1: female_FALSE_11.db
                               1
                                    139.934
2: female_FALSE_2.db
                               1
                                    149.300
   female_TRUE_11.db
                               1
                                    235.200
   female_TRUE_21.db
                               1
                                    147.866
     female_TRUE_4.db
5:
                               1
                                    181.000
6:
     female_TRUE_5.db
                               1
                                    184.567
7:
     female_TRUE_7.db
                               1
                                    231.133
8:
     male_FALSE_25.db
                               1
                                    184.634
```

Much more can be achieved using data.table, so I would strongly recommend to, at least, read the package introduction³.

²tutorial available at http://user2014.stat.ucla.edu/files/tutorial_Matt.pdf

 $^{^3 \}texttt{http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/data.table/vignettes/datatable-intro.pdf}$

2.2 Loading one file

In this section, we will focus on loading data generated by pysolovideo⁴ (i.e. .db files). In other words, we would like to load the data in the .db file as a data table structure such as the ones we described above. The function to load these data is called loadPsvData. It has many options, so it may be useful to read the documentation at some stage, but for now, we will just learn how to send a 'query' to obtain some data. I do not expect you to have already acquired any sort of data, so we will work with some of my samples, which I have enclosed within rethomics:

of variables) that you would like to include in the resulting data table. In order to do that, we can pass a *query* to loadPsvData. a query is simply a table that has a column named path, and other columns for arbitrary conditions:

When working with a large number of files/conditions, it would be more common to load query from a spreadsheet/CSV file. One the query is prepared, we can simply load all the associated data:

⁴https://github.com/gilestrolab/pySolo-Video

```
> dt <- loadPsvData(query,verbose=F)</pre>
> print(dt)
                              experiment_id region_id
              monitor_validation_subset.db
      1:
      2:
              monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                     1
      3:
              monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                     1
      4:
              monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                     1
      5:
              monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                     1
                                                    20
2402338: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
2402339: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                    20
2402340: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                    20
2402341: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                    20
2402342: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                    20
                                                                 path treatment
      1:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         drug_A
      2:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         drug_A
      3:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         drug_A
      4:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         drug_A
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
      5:
                                                                         drug_A
2402338: /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                        control
2402339: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                        control
2402340: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                        control
2402341: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                        control
2402342: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                        control
                                                            h phi mlog_L_x1000
      1:
             2.0 0.4914966 0.02380952 0.02380952 0.02040816 146
                                                                       -306000
      2:
             2.5 0.5034014 0.02380952 0.03401361 0.02040816
                                                                0
                                                                      -1858000
      3:
             3.0 0.5476190 0.02551020 0.04931973 0.02380952
                                                                6
                                                                      -1339000
      4:
             3.5 0.5952381 0.02551020 0.04931973 0.02551020
                                                                0
                                                                      -1308000
             4.0 0.6003401 0.02891156 0.04761905 0.02551020
                                                                0
                                                                      -2114000
      5:
2402338: 84224.5 0.7478705 0.04940375 0.03236797 0.02044293
                                                                      -1753000
                                                               10
2402339: 84225.0 0.7563884 0.05110733 0.02214651 0.02044293
                                                               54
                                                                      -1963000
2402340: 84225.5 0.7342419 0.04429302 0.04770017 0.02044293
                                                                3
                                                                      -1601000
2402341: 84226.0 0.7529813 0.04940375 0.04770017 0.01873935
                                                                3
                                                                      -1663000
2402342: 84226.5 0.7632027 0.04599659 0.04940375 0.01873935
                                                                      -1953000
         xy_dist_log10x1000 xor_dist has_interacted
      1:
                       -306
                                 1000
                                               FALSE
      2:
                      -1858
                                  580
                                               FALSE
      3:
                      -1339
                                 1000
                                               FALSE
```

997

346

FALSE

FALSE

-1308

-2114

4:

5:

2402338:	-1753	529	FALSE
2402339:	-1963	420	FALSE
2402340:	-1601	761	FALSE
2402341:	-1663	547	FALSE
2402342:	-1953	402	FALSE

Importantly, there is now a column named 'treatment' in your data. This means you can then conveniently study differences explained by that variable. You could imagine a scenario where you have done 50 experiments where you have changed both sex and genotype, and want to explain behavioural changes with these variables.

2.3 Fancier queries

In some cases, you may want to load only specific regions, and even add different conditions per region, within the same experiment. If you add a column in your query called region_id, only specified regions will be loaded (as opposed to all regions in the previous example).

```
query <- data.table(path=paths,
                      treatment=c("control", "drug_A"),
                      region_id=rep(1:20,each= 2))
 # We make a dummy query where we imagine that
> # every other reagion contains a female individual
> query[, sex := ifelse(region_id %% 2, "male", "female" )]
                                                           path treatment
    /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
1:
                                                                   control
2:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   drug_A
3:
   /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
4:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    drug_A
5:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
6:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   drug_A
7:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
8:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   drug_A
9:
     tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
10:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    drug_A
11:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
12:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    drug_A
    /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
13:
                                                                   control
14:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   drug_A
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
15:
                                                                   control
16:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   drug_A
17:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
18:
                                                                   drug_A
19: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   control
```

```
20:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
21: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
22:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
23:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
24:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
25:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
26:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
27:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
28:
                                                                     drug_A
29:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
30:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
31:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
32:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
33: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
34:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
35:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
36:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
37:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
38:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDH1Q/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
39:
    /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                    control
40:
         /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                     drug_A
                                                             path treatment
    region_id
                 sex
1:
            1
                male
2:
            1
                male
3:
            2 female
            2 female
4:
5:
            3
                male
            3
                male
6:
7:
            4 female
8:
            4 female
9:
            5
                male
10:
            5
                male
11:
            6 female
12:
            6 female
13:
            7
                male
14:
            7
                male
15:
            8 female
16:
            8 female
17:
            9
                male
18:
                male
19:
           10 female
20:
           10 female
21:
           11
                male
22:
           11
                male
```

12 female

23:

```
25:
           13
                male
26:
           13
                male
           14 female
27:
28:
           14 female
29:
           15
                male
30:
                male
           15
31:
           16 female
32:
           16 female
                male
33:
           17
34:
                male
           17
35:
           18 female
36:
           18 female
37:
           19
                male
38:
           19
                male
39:
           20 female
40:
           20 female
    region_id
> # Note that we load only regions lower than twenty
> # Now we can use our query
> dt <- loadPsvData(query,verbose=F)</pre>
> print(dt)
                                                                  path treatment
      1:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                          drug_A
      2:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                          drug_A
      3:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                          drug_A
      4:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                          drug_A
      5:
              /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                          drug_A
2095923: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         control
2095924: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         control
2095925: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         control
2095926: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         control
2095927: /tmp/RtmpRbDHlQ/db_files/tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                         control
         region_id
                       sex
                                                experiment_id
                                                                     t
      1:
                 1
                      male
                                monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   2.0 0.4914966
      2:
                 1
                     male
                                monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   2.5 0.5034014
      3:
                 1
                     male
                                monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   3.0 0.5476190
      4:
                 1
                      male
                                monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   3.5 0.5952381
                 1
                      male
                                monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                                   4.0 0.6003401
      5:
2095923:
                 20 female tube_monitor_validation_subset.db 84224.5 0.7478705
2095924:
                 20 female tube_monitor_validation_subset.db 84225.0 0.7563884
```

24:

12 female

```
2095925:
                20 female tube_monitor_validation_subset.db 84225.5 0.7342419
2095926:
                20 female tube_monitor_validation_subset.db 84226.0 0.7529813
2095927:
                20 female tube_monitor_validation_subset.db 84226.5 0.7632027
                                         h phi mlog_L_x1000 xy_dist_log10x1000
      1: 0.02380952 0.02380952 0.02040816 146
                                                     -306000
                                                                            -306
      2: 0.02380952 0.03401361 0.02040816
                                              0
                                                    -1858000
                                                                           -1858
      3: 0.02551020 0.04931973 0.02380952
                                              6
                                                    -1339000
                                                                           -1339
      4: 0.02551020 0.04931973 0.02551020
                                              0
                                                    -1308000
                                                                           -1308
      5: 0.02891156 0.04761905 0.02551020
                                              0
                                                    -2114000
                                                                           -2114
2095923: 0.04940375 0.03236797 0.02044293
                                             10
                                                    -1753000
                                                                           -1753
2095924: 0.05110733 0.02214651 0.02044293
                                                    -1963000
                                                                           -1963
                                             54
2095925: 0.04429302 0.04770017 0.02044293
                                              3
                                                    -1601000
                                                                           -1601
2095926: 0.04940375 0.04770017 0.01873935
                                              3
                                                    -1663000
                                                                           -1663
2095927: 0.04599659 0.04940375 0.01873935
                                                    -1953000
                                                                           -1953
         xor_dist has_interacted
      1:
             1000
                            FALSE
      2:
              580
                            FALSE
      3:
             1000
                            FALSE
      4:
              997
                            FALSE
              346
                            FALSE
      5:
                            FALSE
2095923:
              529
2095924:
              420
                            FALSE
2095925:
              761
                            FALSE
2095926:
              547
                            FALSE
              402
                            FALSE
2095927:
```

Note that there were some warnings, this is because some of the requested regions are not in the example data. Indeed, I only provided a small subset of available regions in order to reduce the size of the samples. Also, as before, our data table(dt) has additional columns for the conditions we added.

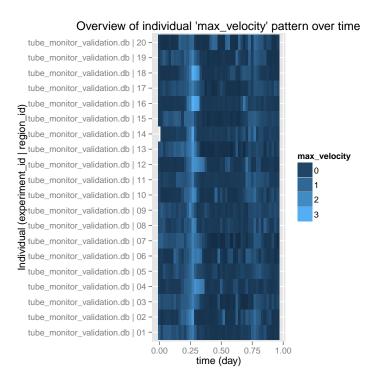
As a heads-up, lets see how one would use data table syntax to compute median x position per sex and treatment:

```
> summary <- dt[, .(median_x = median(x)),
                  by=c(key(dt), "sex")]
> print(summary)
                        experiment_id region_id
                                                    sex
                                                          median_x
1:
         monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                   male 0.05612245
2:
                                               2 female 0.14795918
        monitor_validation_subset.db
3:
         monitor_validation_subset.db
                                                   male 0.46088435
4:
         monitor_validation_subset.db
                                               8 female 0.52721088
5:
         monitor_validation_subset.db
                                              13
                                                   male 0.51788756
```

```
6:
                                             19
                                                  male 0.39693356
         monitor_validation_subset.db
7: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                              1
                                                  male 0.20136519
8: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                              6 female 0.39249147
9: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                              9
                                                  male 0.19112628
10: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                             11
                                                  male 0.70136519
11: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                             17
                                                  male 0.39931741
12: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                             19
                                                  male 0.66382253
13: tube_monitor_validation_subset.db
                                             20 female 0.64054514
```

2.4 Visualisation

This is the exciting part! Now we know how to load data, I will use preloaded data in the package. The tube_monitor_validation data set is one experiement with 20 regions. We would like to have an overview of the activity in each region as a graphical quality control:



> pl <- pl + geom_vline(aes(xintercept=c(0.5)),linetype=2,size=3)
> print(pl)

