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1 Abstract

Bioinformatics has become an important part of many areas of biology, and the methodology of extracting useful results from large amounts of raw data effectively and efficiently plays an essential role in analyzing and understanding bioinformatics data. Bioconductor contains plenty of resources of annotation data and experiment data, but it is not always easy and fast to query them.

Two R packages: Organism.dplyr and MultiExperimentDb are developed for easier use of genome wide annotation packages and comparison between multiple experiments. Organism.dplyr provides an integrated presentation of mapping between organism level information and genomic coordinates information, while MultiExperimentDb provides functionality for storing and comparing multiple bioinformatics experiments which contains large matrix data.

2 Introduction

3 Representing and accessing SQL-based bioinformatics resources

3.1 Background

Annotation packages in *Bioconductor* which hold organism level and genomic coordinates information are being used more and more by users who analyze of high-throughput genomic data.

OrgDb packages are used for mapping between a central gene identifier and other kinds of identifiers, while TxDb packages for connecting a set of genomic coordinates to various transcript oriented features. However, since organism level information and genomic coordinates information are stored in different packages/databases, mapping between gene identifiers and genomic ranges is not easy. For example, finding out transcript ranges according to accession number.

Organism.dplyr provides an alternative interface of gene identifier mapping functionality of the OrgDb packages (e.g.,org.Hs.eg.db) and the genome coordinate functionality of the TxDb packages (e.g., TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene).

3.2 Methods

3.2.1 Approach

3.2.1.1 Data representation

Package Organism.dplyr stores data using on disk sqlite database file combining data from a given 'TxDb' package and the corresponding 'org' package, thus one database contains information of gene identifiers and genomic coordinates. Once the database is created and stored at given directory, it can be accessed another time.

Data of OrgDb and TxDb are reconstructed and new tables are created in sqlite file. SQL codes for creating the database, including both schema and data, are stored in sql files, one file for each organism, separating from the rest of R codes. This strategy makes the SQL codes clean and easy to maintain.

A *src_organism* object is created by this package to point to the database. R Package dplyr (a grammar of data manipulation) could be applied to object created by this package.

3.2.1.2 Software development

Best practices are applied to the software development:

- Unit tests are created to make sure each module of the codes works properly.
- R Package roxygen2 is used for documentation of namespace and help pages.
- Object oriented programming is used for developing this package, and repeated codes are extracted to separate functions for reuse.

3.2.2 Features

This package provides functionalities of gene identifiers (entrez id, gene symbol, ensembl id, accession number, ipi number, go id, etc.) mapping, as well as mapping between identifiers and range coordinates (including different levels: gene, transcription, exon and cds).

Filters can be applied to genomic coordinates extractor functions, and all columns in the database can be possible filters. The filter functions give users flexibility of extracting genomic coordinates using combination of different conditions.

With all the data stored in sqlite file on disk, users need to create a $src_organism$ object to point to the database file, and only necessary data is brought into R instead of the whole database for each R command.

3.3 Results

3.3.1 Constructing a *src organism*

3.3.1.1 Make sqlite datebase from 'TxDb' package

The src_organism() constructor creates an on disk sqlite database file with data from a given 'TxDb' package and corresponding 'org' package. When dbpath is given, file is created at the given path, otherwise temporary file is created.

Running src_organism() without a given path will save the sqlite file to a tempdir():

```
src <- src_organism("TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene")</pre>
```

Alternatively you can provide explicit path to where the sqlite file should be saved.

```
src <- src_organism("TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene", "path/to/save/sqlite")</pre>
```

supported0rganisms() provides a list of organisms with corresponding 'org' and 'TxDb' packages being supported.

```
supportedOrganisms()
## # A tibble: 21 × 3
                                    0rgDb
                     organism
##
                       <chr>
                                    <chr>
## 1
                  Bos taurus org.Bt.eg.db
## 2 Caenorhabditis elegans org.Ce.eg.db
## 3 Caenorhabditis elegans org.Ce.eg.db
            Canis familiaris org.Cf.eg.db
## 5 Drosophila melanogaster org.Dm.eg.db
## 6 Drosophila melanogaster org.Dm.eq.db
## 7
                 Danio rerio org.Dr.eg.db
## 8
               Gallus gallus org.Gg.eg.db
## 9
                Homo sapiens org.Hs.eg.db
                Homo sapiens org.Hs.eg.db
## 10
## # ... with 11 more rows, and 1 more variables: TxDb <chr>
```

3.3.1.2 Make sqlite datebase from organism name

Organism name, genome and id could be specified to create sqlite database. Organism name (either Organism or common name) must be provided to create the database, if genome and/or id are not provided, most recent 'TxDb' package is used.

```
src <- src_ucsc("human", "path/to/save/sqlite")</pre>
```

3.3.1.3 Access existing sqlite file

Existing on disk sqlite file can be accessed without recreating the database.

```
path <- system.file("extdata", package = "Organism.dplyr")
src <- src_organism(dbpath = paste0(path, "/example.sqlite"))
src
## src: sqlite 3.11.1 [C:\Program Files\R\R-devel\library\Organism.dplyr\extdata\example.sqlite]
## tbls: id, id_accession, id_go, id_go_all, id_omim_pm, id_protein,
## id_transcript, ranges_cds, ranges_exon, ranges_gene, ranges_tx</pre>
```

3.3.2 Common operations

3.3.2.1 Basic operations

All methods from package [dplyr][] can be used for a src_organism object.

Look at all available tables.

Look at data from one specific table.

```
tbl(src, "id")
## Source: query [?? x 6]
## Database: sqlite 3.11.1 [C:\Program Files\R\R-devel\library\Organism.dplyr\extdata\example.sqlite]
##
        entrez
                 map
                              ensembl symbol
##
         <chr> <chr>
                               <chr>
                                         <chr>
## 1 100506674 5p12
                                 <NA> BRCAT54
## 2 102723839 <NA>
                                <NA> BRCAT107
## 3
     394269 17q21
                                <NA> BRCA1P1
     394269 17q21
## 4
                                 <NA> BRCA1P1
## 5 394269 17q21
## 6 394269 17q21
                                 <NA> BRCA1P1
                                 <NA> BRCA1P1
         5728 10q23.3 ENSG00000171862
## 7
                                          PTEN
## 8 5728 10q23.3 ENSG00000171862
## 9 5728 10q23.3 ENSG00000171862
                                          PTEN
                                          PTEN
        5728 10q23.3 ENSG00000171862 PTEN
## # ... with more rows, and 2 more variables: genename <chr>, alias <chr>
```

Look at fields of one table.

Below are some examples of querying tables using dplyr.

1. Gene symbol start with "BRCA"

```
tbl(src, "id") %>%
   filter(symbol %like% "BRCA%") %>%
   dplyr::select(entrez, map, ensembl, symbol) %>%
   distinct() %>% arrange(symbol) %>% collect()
## # A tibble: 7 × 4
     entrez map
##
                         ensembl symbol
      <chr> <chr>
##
                         <chr>
                                 <chr>
## 1
      672 17q21 ENSG00000012048
                                   BRCA1
      394269 17q21 <NA> BRCA1P1
## 2
## 3
         675 13q12.3 ENSG00000139618
                                   BRCA2
    60500 13q21
                     <NA>
                                   BRCA3
## 5 102723839
              <NA>
                            <NA> BRCAT107
## 6 100506674
             5p12
                           <NA> BRCAT54
## 7
        8068 11q23
                            <NA> BRCATA
```

2. Go info for gene symbol "PTEN"

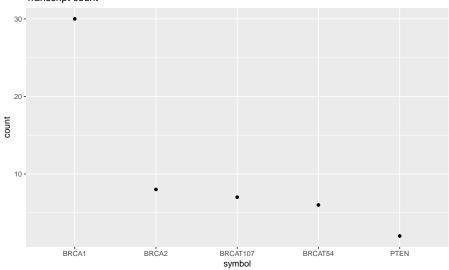
```
inner_join(tbl(src, "id"), tbl(src, "id_go")) %>%
    filter(symbol == "PTEN") %>%
    dplyr::select(entrez, ensembl, symbol, go, evidence, ontology)
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## Source: query [?? x 6]
## Database: sqlite 3.11.1 [C:\Program Files\R\R-devel\library\Organism.dplyr\extdata\example.sqlite]
##
## entrez ensembl symbol go evidence ontology
```

```
##
      <chr>
                      <chr>
                             <chr>
                                       <chr>
                                                 <chr>
                                                         <chr>
## 1
       5728 ENSG00000171862
                              PTEN G0:0000079
                                                  TAS
                                                            BP
                                                   IEA
                                                            MF
## 2
       5728 ENSG00000171862
                              PTEN G0:0000287
## 3
       5728 ENSG00000171862
                              PTEN G0:0001525
                                                   IEA
                                                            BP
## 4
       5728 ENSG00000171862
                              PTEN G0:0001933
                                                  IDA
                                                            BP
## 5
       5728 ENSG00000171862
                              PTEN G0:0001933
                                                   ISS
                                                            BP
## 6
       5728 ENSG00000171862 PTEN G0:0002902
                                                  IEA
                                                            BP
## 7
       5728 ENSG00000171862 PTEN G0:0004438
                                                  IDA
                                                            MF
## 8
       5728 ENSG00000171862 PTEN G0:0004721
                                                  IDA
                                                            MF
       5728 ENSG00000171862
## 9
                              PTEN G0:0004722
                                                  IDA
                                                            MF
## 10 5728 ENSG00000171862 PTEN G0:0004725
                                                  IDA
                                                            MF
## # ... with more rows
```

3. Genes transcripts count

```
txcount <- inner_join(tbl(src, "id"), tbl(src, "ranges_tx")) %>%
    dplyr::select(symbol, tx_id) %>%
    group_by(symbol) %>%
    summarise(count = count(symbol)) %>%
    dplyr::select(symbol, count) %>%
    arrange(desc(count)) %>%
    collect(n=Inf)
## Joining, by = "entrez"
txcount
## # A tibble: 5 \times 2
##
       symbol count
        <chr> <int>
##
## 1
        BRCA1
                 30
## 2 BRCAT54
                  8
                  7
## 3
        BRCA2
## 4
        PTEN
                  6
## 5 BRCAT107
                  2
```

Transcript count



4. Gene coordinates of symbol "PTEN" and "BRCA1" as GRanges

```
inner_join(tbl(src, "id"), tbl(src, "ranges_gene")) %>%
    filter(symbol %in% c("PTEN", "BRCA1")) %>%
    dplyr::select(gene_chrom, gene_start, gene_end, gene_strand,
                 symbol, map) %>%
    collect() %>% GenomicRanges::GRanges()
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## GRanges object with 2 ranges and 2 metadata columns:
##
        segnames
                              ranges strand |
                                                  symbol
                                                                   map
##
                            <IRanges> <Rle> | <character> <character>
    [1]
           chr10 [87863113, 87971930]
##
                                         + |
                                                     PTEN
                                                               10q23.3
           chr17 [43044295, 43170245]
                                                     BRCA1
                                                                 17q21
                                           - |
##
    seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

3.3.2.2 "select" interface

Methods select(), keytypes(), keys(), columns() and mapIds from *AnnotationDbi* are implemented for *src_organism* objects.

keytypes()

Use keytypes() to discover which keytypes can be passed to keytype argument of methods select() or keys().

```
keytypes(src)
## [1] "accnum"
                       "alias"
                                     "cds_chrom"
                                                    "cds_end"
## [5] "cds_id"
                      "cds_name"
                                     "cds_start"
                                                    "cds_strand"
                      "ensemblprot" "ensembltrans" "entrez"
## [9] "ensembl"
## [13] "enzyme"
                      "evidence"
                                     "evidenceall"
                                                    "exon_chrom"
## [17] "exon_end"
                      "exon_id"
                                      "exon_name"
                                                    "exon_rank"
## [21] "exon_start"
                      "exon_strand" "gene_chrom"
                                                    "gene_end"
## [25] "gene_start"
                      "gene_strand"
                                     "genename"
                                                    "go"
## [29] "goall"
                      "ipi"
                                      "map"
                                                    "omim"
## [33] "ontology"
                       "ontologyall"
                                     "pfam"
                                                    "pmid"
                      "refseq"
                                     "symbol"
## [37] "prosite"
                                                    "tx_chrom"
## [41] "tx_end"
                      "tx_id"
                                     "tx_name"
                                                    "tx_start"
## [45] "tx_strand"
                       "tx_type"
                                     "unigene"
                                                    "uniprot"
```

2. columns()

Use columns() to discover which kinds of data can be returned for the src_organism object.

```
columns(src)
## [1] "accnum"
                      "alias"
                                     "cds_chrom"
                                                    "cds_end"
## [5] "cds_id"
                      "cds_name"
                                     "cds_start"
                                                    "cds_strand"
## [9] "ensembl"
                      "ensemblprot"
                                     "ensembltrans" "entrez"
## [13] "enzyme"
                      "evidence"
                                     "evidenceall" "exon_chrom"
## [17] "exon_end"
                      "exon_id"
                                     "exon_name"
                                                    "exon_rank"
                      "exon_strand" "gene_chrom"
## [21] "exon_start"
                                                    "gene_end"
                      "gene_strand" "genename"
## [25] "gene_start"
                                                    "go"
## [29] "goall"
                      "ipi"
                                     "map"
                                                    "omim"
```

```
## [33] "ontology"
                        "ontologyall"
                                                        "pmid"
                                        "pfam"
                        "refseq"
## [37] "prosite"
                                        "symbol"
                                                        "tx_chrom"
## [41] "tx_end"
                        "tx_id"
                                        "tx_name"
                                                        "tx_start"
## [45] "tx_strand"
                        "tx_type"
                                        "unigene"
                                                        "uniprot"
```

3. keys()

keys() returns keys for the *src_organism* object. By default it returns the primary keys for the database, and returns the keys from that keytype when the keytype argument is used.

Keys of entrez

```
head(keys(src))
## [1] "100506674" "102723839" "394269" "5728" "60500" "672"
```

Keys of symbol

```
head(keys(src, "symbol"))
## [1] "BRCA1" "BRCA1P1" "BRCA2" "BRCA3" "BRCAT107" "BRCAT54"
```

select()

select() retrieves the data as a *tibble* based on parameters for selected keys columns and keytype arguments. If requested columns that have multiple matches for the keys, select_tbl() will return a *tibble* with one row for each possible match, and select() will return a data frame.

```
keytype <- "symbol"</pre>
keys <- c("PTEN", "BRCA1")</pre>
columns <- c("entrez", "tx_id", "tx_name", "exon_id")</pre>
select_tbl(src, keys, columns, keytype)
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## Source: query [?? x 5]
## Database: sqlite 3.11.1 [C:\Program Files\R\R-devel\library\Organism.dplyr\extdata\example.sqlite]
##
     symbol entrez tx_id
##
                             tx_name exon_id
      <chr> <chr> <int>
                               <chr>
##
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439447
## 1
## 2
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icg.4 439452
## 3
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439453
## 4
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439455
## 5
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439456
## 6 BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439457
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icg.4 439460
## 7
## 8
      BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439462
## 9 BRCA1 672 147976 uc002icq.4 439464
## 10 BRCA1
               672 147976 uc002icq.4 439465
## # ... with more rows
```

5. mapIds()

mapIds() gets the mapped ids (column) for a set of keys that are of a particular keytype. Usually returned as a named character vector.

```
mapIds(src, keys, column = "tx_name", keytype)
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## PTEN BRCA1
## "uc001kfb.4" "uc002icq.4"
```

3.3.2.3 Genomic coordinates extractors

Eleven genomic coordinates extractor methods are available in this package: transcripts(), exons(), cds(), genes(), promoters(), transcriptsBy(), exonsBy(), cdsBy(), intronsBy Transcript(), fiveUTRsByTranscript(), threeUTRsByTranscript(). Two versions of results are provided: tibble (transcripts_tbl()) and GRanges or GRangesList (transcripts()).

Filter can be applied to all extractor functions. A named list of vectors can be used to restrict the output, valid filters can be retrieved by possibleFilters().

```
possibleFilters()
                             "AliasFilter"
                                                  "Cds_chromFilter"
## [1] "AccnumFilter"
## [4] "Cds_idFilter"
                             "Cds_nameFilter"
                                                  "Cds_strandFilter"
                                                  "EnsembltransFilter"
## [7] "EnsemblFilter"
                             "EnsemblprotFilter"
## [10] "EntrezFilter"
                             "EnzymeFilter"
                                                  "EvidenceFilter"
## [13] "EvidenceallFilter" "Exon_chromFilter"
                                                  "Exon_idFilter"
## [16] "Exon_nameFilter"
                             "Exon_rankFilter"
                                                  "Exon_strandFilter"
## [19] "FlybaseFilter"
                             "Flybase_cgFilter"
                                                  "Flybase_protFilter"
## [22] "Gene_chromFilter"
                             "Gene_strandFilter" "GenenameFilter"
## [25] "GoFilter"
                             "GoallFilter"
                                                  "IpiFilter"
## [28] "MapFilter"
                             "MgiFilter"
                                                  "OmimFilter"
                             "OntologyallFilter"
                                                  "PfamFilter"
## [31] "OntologyFilter"
## [34] "PmidFilter"
                             "PrositeFilter"
                                                  "RefseqFilter"
## [37] "SymbolFilter"
                             "Tx_chromFilter"
                                                  "Tx_idFilter"
## [40] "Tx_nameFilter"
                             "Tx_strandFilter"
                                                  "Tx_typeFilter"
## [43] "UnigeneFilter"
                             "UniprotFilter"
                                                  "WormbaseFilter"
                                                  "Cds_endFilter"
## [46] "ZfinFilter"
                             "Cds_startFilter"
## [49] "Exon_startFilter"
                             "Exon_endFilter"
                                                  "Gene_startFilter"
## [52] "Gene_endFilter"
                             "Tx_startFilter"
                                                  "Tx_endFilter"
```

All filters take two parameters: value and condition, condition could be one of "==", "!=", "startsWith", "endsWith", ">", "<", ">=" and "<=", default condition is "==".

```
EnsemblFilter("ENSG00000171862")
## class: EnsemblFilter
## condition: ==
## value: ENSG00000171862
SymbolFilter("BRCA", "startsWith")
## class: SymbolFilter
## condition: startsWith
## value: BRCA
```

Besides, GRangesFilter() could also be used as filter for the methods with result displaying as *GRanges* or *GRangesList*.

```
GRangesFilter(as("chr10:87869000-87876000", "GRanges")))
transcripts_tbl(src, filter=filters)
## filter by 'granges' only supported by methods returning GRanges or GRangesList
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## Source: query [?? x 8]
## Database: sqlite 3.11.1 [C:\Program Files\R\R-devel\library\Organism.dplyr\extdata\example.sqlite]
##
   tx_chrom tx_start tx_end tx_strand tx_id
                                            tx_name symbol entrez
       <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <int>
                                              <chr> <chr> <chr>
##
       chr10 87863113 87971930 + 87010 uc001kfb.4 PTEN
## 1
                                                              5728
## 2 chr10 87863438 87942691
                                  + 87011 uc057ush.1 PTEN 5728
## 3 chr10 87864449 87867049
                                  + 87012 uc057usi.1 PTEN 5728
## 4 chr10 87864468 87894326
                                  + 87013 uc057usj.1 PTEN 5728
      chr10 87925523 87933487
chr10 87952199 87961309
## 5
                                   + 87016 uc057usm.1 PTEN 5728
## 6
                                   + 87017 uc057usn.1 PTEN 5728
transcripts(src, filter=filters)
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## GRanges object with 3 ranges and 4 metadata columns:
                            ranges strand |
##
        segnames
                                              tx_id
##
          <Rle>
                          <IRanges> <Rle> | <integer> <character>
    [1] chr10 [87863113, 87971930] + | 87010 uc001kfb.4
##
                                      + |
##
    [2] chr10 [87863438, 87942691]
                                               87011 uc057ush.1
   [3] chr10 [87864468, 87894326] + | 87013 uc057usj.1
##
##
            symbol
                       entrez
##
        <character> <character>
##
    [1]
            PTEN
                         5728
##
   [2]
             PTEN
                         5728
            PTEN
                         5728
##
    [3]
##
    seqinfo: 455 sequences (1 circular) from hg38 genome
```

Transcript coordinates of gene symbol equal to "PTEN" or "BRCA1", and transcript start position between 87863438 and 87933487.

```
transcripts_tbl(src, filter = list(
    SymbolFilter(c("PTEN", "BRCA1")),
    Tx_startFilter(87863438, ">="),
    Tx_startFilter(87933487, "<=")</pre>
))
## Joining, by = "entrez"
## Source: query [?? x 7]
## Database: sqlite 3.11.1 [C:\Program Files\R\R-devel\library\Organism.dplyr\extdata\example.sqlite]
##
    tx_chrom tx_start tx_end tx_strand tx_id
                                                          tx_name symbol
        <chr> <int> <int> <chr> <int>
                                                            <chr> <chr>
                                         + 87011 uc057ush.1 PTEN
## 1
        chr10 87863438 87942691
## 2 chr10 87864449 87867049 + 87012 uc057usi.1 PTEN
## 3 chr10 87864468 87894326 + 87013 uc057usj.1 PTEN
## 4 chr10 87925523 87933487 + 87016 uc057usm.1 PTEN
```

3.4 Discussion

3.4.1 Assessment of Organism.dplyr

3.4.1.1 Strengths

- Combine data of gene identifiers and genomic coordinates into one sqlite file
- Provide flexibility of filters for genomic coordinates extractor functions
- sqlite file can be stored on disk and it is easy to access multiple times

3.4.1.2 Weakness

- It takes longer time to create sqlite file the first time
- The sqlite file could be big in size

3.4.2 Future development

- Make filter functions more flexible by adding conditions (and, or) between filters
- Support more organisms

4 Coordinated on-disk representation of multiple bioinformatic experiments

4.1 Background

Package MultiExperimentDb provides functionality for storing and comparing multiple *SummarizedExperiment* objects, the data can be added to one object and stored on disk for reuse.

This package is designed for comparing data between different experiments, the experiments added to a *MultiExperimentDb* object should have some similarity such as common features or samples. This overlap allows features or samples to be extracted and viewed together across experiments by combining by row or column.

4.2 Methods

Package MultiExperimentDb creates a *MultiExperimentDb* object to store all data on disk, with assays data in matrix format stored in HDF5 file, and annotation data like rowData, colDate, rowRanges stored in sqlite database.

This design reduces the overall memory footprint and can provide faster random asses to subsets of data because we are indexing into data on disk vs making copies of in-memory objects. By storing large matrices on disk in HDF5 file and displaying in R using *DelayedMatrix* object, minimal data needs to be brought into R. This design fastens matrix data manipulation, including subset, binding, etc.

Data of *MultiExperimentDb* object with multiple SummarizedExperiments is stored in one sqlite file and one HDF5 file. Assay data in large matrix format is stored in HDF5 file, when one experiment is added, assay data of that experiment is added to the HDF5 file as one dataset with experiment name as dataset name. Rownames, colnames, rowdata, coldata, rowranges are stored in one sqlite database file and each experiment represented by one unique index and one unique experiment name.

4.3 Results

4.3.1 Constructing a MultiExperimentDb

The MultiExperimentDb() constructor creates an empty MultiExperimentDb instance. When hdf5path and sqlitepath are given, files are created at the given path(s), otherwise temporary files are created. An empty MultiExperimentDb object needs to be created as first step before adding any experiments.

Creating a *MultiExperimentDb* instance without given paths will save the hdf5 and sqlite files in a tempfile():

```
library(MultiExperimentDb)
medb <- MultiExperimentDb()</pre>
```

Alternatively you can provide explicit paths to where the files should be saved.

The class supports common operations such as length(), dim(), dimnames() etc.

loadMultiExperimentDb(hdf5path, sqlitepath) can be used to create a *MultiExperimentDb* object from existing hdf5 and sqlite files stored on disk. It can be used when experiments are added to *MultiExperimentDb* object and saved on disk, then need to be accessed another time.

```
path <- system.file("extdata", package = "MultiExperimentDb")</pre>
medb <- loadMultiExperimentDb(paste0(path, "/medb.h5"),</pre>
                               paste0(path, "/medb.sqlite"))
medb
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:/Program Files/R/R-devel/library/MultiExperimentDb/extdata/medb.h5
## sqlitepath: C:/Program Files/R/R-devel/library/MultiExperimentDb/extdata/medb.sqlite
## dim: 1300 8
## experiments:
     geuFPKM1 (1000 \times 6)
##
##
       rownames: ENSG00000152931.6, ENSG00000183696.9,
##
         ENSG00000139269.2, ..., ENSG00000161016.10, ENSG00000150787.3
       colnames: HG00096, HG00097, HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
##
##
     geuFPKM2 (1001 \times 6)
##
       rownames: ENSG00000115211.10, ENSG00000231419.2,
##
         ENSG00000196233.6, ..., ENSG00000167460.9, ENSG00000171208.5
##
       colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102, HG00103, HG00104
```

Get sqlite database path and HDF5 file path of a *MultiExperimentDb* object with the hdf5path() and sqlitepath() accessors.

```
hdf5path(medb)
## [1] "C:/Program Files/R/R-devel/library/MultiExperimentDb/extdata/medb.h5"
sqlitepath(medb)
## [1] "C:/Program Files/R/R-devel/library/MultiExperimentDb/extdata/medb.sqlite"
```

4.3.2 Common operations on a *MultiExperimentDb*

4.3.2.1 Adding data

An experiment (i.e., *SummarizedExperiment* object) can be added to a *MultiExperimentDb* instance with addExperiment(). Experiment names must be unique.

Add data to the MultiExperimentDb.

```
medb <- MultiExperimentDb()</pre>
library(geuvPack)
data(geuFPKM)
medb <- addExperiment(medb, geuFPKM[1:1000, 1:6], "geuFPKM1")</pre>
medb <- addExperiment(medb, geuFPKM[300:1300, 3:8], "geuFPKM2")</pre>
experimentNames(medb)
## [1] "geuFPKM1" "geuFPKM2"
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944719d928.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29443d1f77d3.sqlite
## dim: 1300 8
## experiments:
     geuFPKM1 (1000 \times 6)
       rownames: ENSG00000152931.6, ENSG00000183696.9,
##
         ENSG00000139269.2, ..., ENSG00000161016.10, ENSG00000150787.3
##
       colnames: HG00096, HG00097, HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
##
     geuFPKM2 (1001 \times 6)
       rownames: ENSG00000115211.10, ENSG00000231419.2,
##
##
         ENSG00000196233.6, ..., ENSG00000167460.9, ENSG00000171208.5
       colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102, HG00103, HG00104
```

4.3.2.2 Extract experiment and assay data

The experiment() function extracts a single experiment from a *MultiExperimentDb* as a *SummarizedExperiment* object, all methods of *SummarizedExperiment* can be applied, such as colData(), rowRanges(), etc.

```
se <- experiment(medb, "geuFPKM1")
colData(se)[, 1:3]
## DataFrame with 6 rows and 3 columns
## Source.Name Comment.ENA_SAMPLE. Characteristics.Organism.
## <character> <factor> <factor>
## HG00096 HG00096 ERS185276 Homo sapiens
```

```
## HG00097
              HG00097
                                                       Homo sapiens
                                ERS185206
                                                       Homo sapiens
## HG00099
              HG00099
                                ERS185128
## HG00100
              HG00100
                                ERS185086
                                                       Homo sapiens
## HG00101
              HG00101
                                ERS185085
                                                       Homo sapiens
## HG00102
                                                       Homo sapiens
              HG00102
                                ERS185453
rowRanges(se)[, 1:3]
## GRanges object with 1000 ranges and 3 metadata columns:
                       seqnames
                                               ranges strand |
##
                                             <IRanges> <Rle> | <factor>
                          <Rle>
                         chr5 [ 59783540, 59843484]
##
     ENSG00000152931.6
                                                                  HAVANA
##
     ENSG00000183696.9 chr7 [ 48128225, 48148330]
                                                                  HAVANA
     ENSG00000139269.2 chr12 [ 57846106, 57853063]
                                                            + |
                                                                  HAVANA
     ENSG00000169129.8 chr10 [116054583, 116164515]
##
                                                                  HAVANA
    ENSG00000134602.11 chrX [131157293, 131209971]
##
                                                           + |
                                                                  HAVANA
##
     ENSG00000169231.8
                          chr1 [155165379, 155178842]
                                                           - |
                                                                  HAVANA
##
     ENSG00000250937.2
                          chr12 [ 8404007,
                                             8450140]
                                                            + |
                                                                  HAVANA
                        chrX [ 13707244, 13728625]
##
     ENSG00000123595.5
                                                            + |
                                                                  HAVANA
##
                           chr8 [146015150, 146017972]
    ENSG00000161016.10
                                                            - |
                                                                  HAVANA
##
     ENSG00000150787.3
                          chr11 [112097088, 112140678]
                                                            + |
                                                                  HAVANA
##
                           type
                                    score
##
                       <factor> <numeric>
##
     ENSG00000152931.6
                           gene
                                     <NA>
##
     ENSG00000183696.9
                                     <NA>
                           gene
##
     ENSG00000139269.2
                           gene
                                     <NA>
##
     ENSG00000169129.8
                           gene
                                     <NA>
##
    ENSG00000134602.11
                           gene
                                     <NA>
##
                            . . .
                                      . . .
##
     ENSG00000169231.8
                           gene
                                     <NA>
##
     ENSG00000250937.2
                                     <NA>
                           gene
     ENSG00000123595.5
                           gene
                                     <NA>
##
                                     <NA>
    ENSG00000161016.10
                           gene
                                     <NA>
     ENSG00000150787.3
                           gene
##
    -----
    seqinfo: 25 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

Get a single assay as *DelayedMatrix* by calling the assay() function with the *MultiExperimentDb* and experiment name. It returns the HDF5Array assay data corresponding to the current *MultiExperimentDb* row and column selections, example is given in subsetting section.

```
assay(medb, "geuFPKM1")[, 1:3]
## DelayedMatrix object of 1000 x 3 doubles:
##
                          HG00096
                                        HG00097
                                                      HG00099
   ENSG00000152931.6
##
                        0.10185777
                                     0.07810952
                                                   0.04898067
##
   ENSG00000183696.9
                       8.18380495
                                     5.68691051
                                                   2.43465333
   ENSG00000139269.2
                       1.19991029
                                                   0.52161578
                                   1.57357170
   ENSG00000169129.8
                       0.83193983
                                     0.06977775
                                                   0.93108575
## ENSG00000134602.11 27.64642237 24.39557150
                                                 16.44537352
##
## ENSG00000169231.8 1.415487e+00 1.250576e+00 1.244898e+00
   ENSG00000250937.2 -3.594809e-03 -1.205084e-02 1.081309e-02
```

```
## ENSG00000123595.5 2.934674e+01 2.854369e+01 2.315665e+01
## ENSG00000161016.10 1.457868e+03 1.359101e+03 8.191642e+02
## ENSG00000150787.3 4.776680e+00 4.479469e+00 1.990667e+00
```

4.3.2.3 Subsetting

A *MultiExperimentDb* object can be subset by overlapping rows or columns using standard numeric indices or feature/column names.

Subset all experiments by common rownames.

```
medb[c("ENSG00000171603.11","ENSG00000230216.1"),,]
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944719d928.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29443d1f77d3.sqlite
## dim: 2 8
## experiments:
## geuFPKM1 (2 x 6)
## rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1
## colnames: HG00096, HG00097, HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
## geuFPKM2 (2 x 6)
## rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1
## colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00103, HG00104
```

Return a subset of the "geuFPKM1" experiment with specific rows and column names.

```
medb[1:6,c("HG00099","HG00101"),"geuFPKM1"]
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944719d928.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29443d1f77d3.sqlite
## dim: 6 2
## experiments:
## geuFPKM1 (6 x 2)
## rownames: ENSG00000152931.6, ENSG00000183696.9,
## ENSG00000139269.2, ENSG00000169129.8, ENSG00000134602.11,
## ENSG00000136237.12
## colnames: HG00099, HG00101
```

A *MultiExperimentDb* object can also be subset by a *GRanges* object. The grangesFromI dentifiers() helper creates a *GRanges* from and OrgDb, TxDb and specified 'keys' and 'keytypes'. This function uses select() with a specified OrgDb and TxDb package to convert given gene symbols or names to genomic positions. See ?grangesFromIdentifiers man page for details.

Convert gene symbols PTEN and BRCA1 to genomic position:

```
segnames
                                ranges strand |
                                                   gene_id
##
             <Rle>
                             <IRanges> <Rle> | <character>
##
    11152
             chrX [49074429, 49101170]
                                           - |
                                                     11152
##
    22883
             chr1 [ 9729026, 9824526]
                                           - |
                                                      22883
     672 chr17 [43044295, 43170245]
                                                       672
##
                                           - |
    seqinfo: 455 sequences (1 circular) from hg38 genome
```

Search all experiments by gene symbol BRCA1, CLSTN1 and WDR45:

```
medb <- medb[granges,,]</pre>
medb
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944719d928.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29443d1f77d3.sqlite
## dim: 3 8
## experiments:
    geuFPKM1 (2 x 6)
      rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1
       colnames: HG00096, HG00097, HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
##
     geuFPKM2 (3 x 6)
##
     rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1,
        ENSG00000172992.6
       colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102, HG00103, HG00104
assay(medb, "geuFPKM1")
## DelayedMatrix object of 2 x 6 doubles:
##
                       HG00096 HG00097 HG00099 HG00100
                                                               HG00101
## ENSG00000171603.11 21.474466 23.357203 13.218601 21.748905 22.694890
## ENSG00000230216.1 3.136087 5.162155 3.223215 5.606075 5.466393
                       HG00102
## ENSG00000171603.11 27.397227
## ENSG00000230216.1 5.279783
```

A MultiExperimentDb can be subset on all common rows across experiments:

```
intersectRownames(medb, rownames=NULL)
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944719d928.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29443d1f77d3.sqlite
## dim: 2 8
## experiments:
## geuFPKM1 (2 x 6)
## rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1
## colnames: HG00096, HG00097, HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
## geuFPKM2 (2 x 6)
## rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1
## colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00103, HG00104
```

or all common columns across experiments:

```
intersectColnames(medb, colnames=NULL)
## class: MultiExperimentDb
```

```
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944719d928.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29443d1f77d3.sqlite
## dim: 3 4
## experiments:
    geuFPKM1 (2 x 4)
##
##
       rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1
##
       colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
##
     geuFPKM2 (3 x 4)
       rownames: ENSG00000171603.11, ENSG00000230216.1,
##
##
         ENSG00000172992.6
##
       colnames: HG00099, HG00100, HG00101, HG00102
```

4.3.2.4 Combine by columns or rows

To look at assay data of all experiments together, combine all rows of assays in a *MultiExperimentDb* object with matching columns, numbers of columns of each experiments in the *MultiExperimentDb* object don't need to be the same. When the argument all.columns is TRUE, the output is a matrix with columns across all assays where missing values are represented with NA. Default is FALSE, only columns that exist in all assays display.

```
rbindme(medb)
## DelayedMatrix object of 5 x 4 doubles:
##
                       HG00099
                                 HG00100
                                           HG00101
## ENSG00000171603.11 13.218601 21.748905 22.694890 27.397227
## ENSG00000230216.1 3.223215 5.606075 5.466393 5.279783
## ENSG00000171603.11 13.218601 21.748905 22.694890 27.397227
## ENSG00000230216.1
                     3.223215 5.606075 5.466393 5.279783
## ENSG00000172992.6 10.875091 13.999134 16.376246 14.116252
rbindme(medb, all.columns=TRUE)
## DelayedMatrix object of 5 x 8 doubles:
                       HG00096
                                 HG00097
                                           HG00099
                                                             HG00103
                                                                       HG00104
## ENSG00000171603.11 21.474466 23.357203 13.218601
                                                                  NA
                                                                            NA
## ENSG00000230216.1 3.136087 5.162155 3.223215
                                                                  NA
## ENSG00000171603.11
                            NA
                                      NA 13.218601
                                                           26.124471 22.235168
## ENSG00000230216.1
                            NA
                                      NA 3.223215
                                                           7.324214 6.869039
## ENSG00000172992.6
                            NA
                                      NA 10.875091
                                                         . 17.132905 16.163483
```

Combine all columns of assays in a *MultiExperimentDb* object with matching rows, numbers of rows of each experiments in the *MultiExperimentDb* object don't need to be the same. When the argument all.rows is TRUE, the output is a matrix with rows across all assays where missing values are represented with NA. Default is FALSE, only rows that exist in all assays display.

```
cbindme(medb)
## DelayedMatrix object of 2 x 12 doubles:
                        HG00096
                                 HG00097
                                           HG00099
                                                              HG00103
                                                                       HG00104
## ENSG00000171603.11 21.474466 23.357203 13.218601
                                                          . 26.124471 22.235168
## ENSG00000230216.1
                     3.136087 5.162155 3.223215
                                                          . 7.324214 6.869039
cbindme(medb, all.rows=TRUE)
## DelayedMatrix object of 3 x 12 doubles:
##
                        HG00096
                                 HG00097
                                           HG00099
                                                              HG00103
                                                                       HG00104
```

```
## ENSG00000171603.11 21.474466 23.357203 13.218601 . 26.124471 22.235168

## ENSG00000230216.1 3.136087 5.162155 3.223215 . 7.324214 6.869039

## ENSG00000172992.6 NA NA NA NA . 17.132905 16.163483
```

4.3.3 Comparing treated vs untreated 'airway' data

This package is designed for comparing data between different experiments with similarity (overlapping features or samples across experiments). The construction of displaying assay data with *DelayedMatrix* object reduces memory usage and optimizes performance. Below is an example of analyzing data from multiple experiments using *MultiExperimentDb*.

In the example below, a *RangedSummarizedExperiment* object of read counts in genes for an RNA-Seq experiment on human airway smooth muscle cell lines is used. Two experiments are generated from airway: airway_untrt with four untreated cell lines and airway_trt with four treated cell lines.

Create an empty MultiExperimentDb object.

```
medb0 <- MultiExperimentDb()
```

Add data for treated and untreated experiments to the 'medb0' object.

```
library(airway)
data(airway)
medb0 <- addExperiment(medb0,</pre>
            airway[,colData(airway)$dex == "untrt"], "airway_untrt")
medb0 <- addExperiment(medb0,</pre>
            airway[,colData(airway)$dex == "trt"], "airway_trt")
experimentNames(medb0)
## [1] "airway_untrt" "airway_trt"
length(medb0)
## [1] 2
dim(medb0)
## [1] 64102
dimnames(medb0)
## CharacterList of length 2
## [[1]] ENSG00000000003 ENSG0000000005 ENSG00000000419 ... LRG_98 LRG_99
## [[2]] SRR1039508 SRR1039512 SRR1039516 ... SRR1039513 SRR1039517 SRR1039521
```

Comparing object sizes of the airway data in the original *RangedSummarizedExperiment* format to the *MultiExperimentDb* format we see the *MultiExperimentDb* object is much smaller.

```
format(object.size(airway), units = "Mb")
## [1] "58.9 Mb"

format(object.size(medb0), units = "Mb")
## [1] "8.3 Mb"
```

Subset the data by the BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene symbols.

```
granges <- grangesFromIdentifiers(org = "org.Hs.eg.db",</pre>
           keys = c("BRCA1", "BRCA2"), keytype = "SYMBOL",
           txdb = "TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene")
## 'select()' returned 1:1 mapping between keys and columns
medb0 <- medb0[granges,,]</pre>
medb0
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29447ba230f7.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944284c1d89.sqlite
## dim: 6 8
## experiments:
     airway_untrt (6 \times 4)
       rownames: ENSG00000012048, ENSG00000139618, ENSG00000215515,
         ENSG00000267002, ENSG00000267340, ENSG00000267595
##
       colnames: SRR1039508, SRR1039512, SRR1039516, SRR1039520
     airway_trt (6 x 4)
       rownames: ENSG00000012048, ENSG00000139618, ENSG00000215515,
##
         ENSG00000267002, ENSG00000267340, ENSG00000267595
##
       colnames: SRR1039509, SRR1039513, SRR1039517, SRR1039521
```

Look at data of experiment "airway_trt" after subset.

```
airway_trt <- experiment(medb0, "airway_trt")</pre>
colData(airway_trt)
## DataFrame with 4 rows and 9 columns
           SampleName cell dex
                                           albut
                                                        Run avgLength
               <factor> <factor> <factor> <factor> <factor> <factor> <factor> <integer>
## SRR1039509 GSM1275863 N61311 trt untrt SRR1039509
                                                                  126
## SRR1039513 GSM1275867 N052611
                                    trt untrt SRR1039513
                                                                   87
                                                                  126
## SRR1039517 GSM1275871 N080611
                                   trt untrt SRR1039517
## SRR1039521 GSM1275875 N061011
                                    trt untrt SRR1039521
                                                                  98
             Experiment Sample BioSample
##
              <factor> <factor>
                                    <factor>
## SRR1039509 SRX384346 SRS508567 SAMN02422675
## SRR1039513 SRX384350 SRS508572 SAMN02422670
## SRR1039517 SRX384354 SRS508576 SAMN02422673
## SRR1039521 SRX384358 SRS508580 SAMN02422677
rowRanges(airway_trt)
## GRangesList object of length 6:
## $ENSG00000012048
## GRanges object with 99 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
         segnames
                              ranges strand
                            <IRanges> <Rle>
##
            <Rle>
     [1]
             17 [41196312, 41197819]
##
     [2]
              17 [41196313, 41197819]
          17 [41197580, 41197819]
17 [41197646
             17 [41196822, 41197819]
     [3]
##
     [4]
##
     [5]
##
            17 [41277294, 41277376]
##
    [95]
            17 [41277294, 41277387]
    [96]
```

```
17 [41277294, 41277419]
    [97]
              17 [41277294, 41277467]
##
     [98]
##
    [99]
              17 [41277294, 41277468]
##
## ...
## <5 more elements>
## seqinfo: 2 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
assay(medb0, "airway_trt")
## DelayedMatrix object of 6 x 4 integers:
##
         SRR1039509 SRR1039513 SRR1039517 SRR1039521
## ENSG00000012048 98 95 168
## ENSG00000139618
                         54
                                   30
                                              55
                                                        40
## ENSG00000215515 0 0
## ENSG00000267002 35 24
## ENSG00000267340 1 3
                                               0
                                                         0
                                              40
                                                         45
                                                         1
                    3
## ENSG00000267595
                                     5
                                                          6
```

Combine all columns of assays in *medb* with matching rows to look at assay data of all experiments together. First four columns come from the treated data and the last four from untreated.

```
cbindme(medb0)
## DelayedMatrix object of 6 x 8 integers:
       SRR1039508 SRR1039512 SRR1039516 SRR1039520 SRR1039509
## ENSG00000012048
               322 418 326 265
## ENSG00000139618
                    67
                           79
                                            96
                                                     54
                                    66
## ENSG00000215515
                   0
                           0
                                    0
                                            0
                                                     0
                   77
                           84
## ENSG00000267002
                                    67
                                             60
                                                     35
## ENSG00000267340 5 7 10
## ENSG00000267595 3 2 4
                                     10
                                            8
                                                      1
                                             5
                                                      3
      SRR1039513 SRR1039517 SRR1039521
## ENSG00000012048 95 168
## ENSG00000139618
                    30
                            55
                                     40
## ENSG00000215515
                   0
                            0
                                     0
## ENSG00000267002
                    24
                            40
                                     45
## ENSG00000267340
                    3
                             9
                                     1
## ENSG00000267595
```

Restore data from disk and do another subset.

```
## colnames: SRR1039508, SRR1039512, SRR1039516, SRR1039520
## airway_trt (64102 x 4)
## rownames: ENSG00000000003, ENSG0000000005, ENSG000000000419,
## ..., LRG_98, LRG_99
## colnames: SRR1039509, SRR1039513, SRR1039517, SRR1039521
```

Search across treated and untreated for given rownames.

```
medb1[c("ENSG00000213613","ENSG00000267595"),,]
## class: MultiExperimentDb
## hdf5path: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file29447ba230f7.h5
## sqlitepath: C:\Users\YU19864\AppData\Local\Temp\RtmpicIbyY\file2944284c1d89.sqlite
## dim: 2 8
## experiments:
##
     airway_untrt (2 x 4)
       rownames: ENSG00000213613, ENSG00000267595
##
##
       colnames: SRR1039508, SRR1039512, SRR1039516, SRR1039520
##
    airway_trt (2 x 4)
##
       rownames: ENSG00000213613, ENSG00000267595
##
       colnames: SRR1039509, SRR1039513, SRR1039517, SRR1039521
```

4.4 Discussion

MultiExperimentDb package is created for storing and comparing different bioinformatic experiments in *SummarizedExperiment* format within one object, so the experiments added to a *MultiExperimentDb* object should have some similarity such as common features or samples. It can be used for analyzing data from multiple similar experiments. Also it works better with experiments which contains large data matrices (for example, microarray gene expression data, read counts in genes for RNA-Seq experiments, etc.) and small annotation data (rowData, colDate and rowRanges).

The size of HDF5 file is relatively small, but sqlite file can be big if annotation data is big. However, even when sqlite file is big, it is stored on disk, and when a *MultiExperimentDb* object is created to point to the sqlite file and HDF5 file, the object size is smaller than the original *SummarizedExperiment* objects. Besides, by using *DelayedMatrix* to display assay data in R, subset and binding functions return results quickly.

5 Summary and Conclusions

6 References

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7 Appendix

- 1. Organism.dplyr repository
- 2. MultiExperimentDb repository