

# Package ‘epivizr’

May 15, 2025

**Maintainer** Hector Corrada Bravo <hcorrada@gmail.com>

**Author** Hector Corrada Bravo, Florin Chelaru, Llewellyn Smith, Naomi Goldstein, Jayaram Kancherla, Morgan Walter, Brian Gottfried

**Version** 2.39.0

**License** Artistic-2.0

**Title** R Interface to epiviz web app

**Description** This package provides connections to the epiviz web app (<http://epiviz.cbcb.umd.edu>) for interactive visualization of genomic data. Objects in R/bioc interactive sessions can be displayed in genome browser tracks or plots to be explored by navigation through genomic regions. Fundamental Bioconductor data structures are supported (e.g., GenomicRanges and RangedSummarizedExperiment objects), while providing an easy mechanism to support other data structures (through package epivizrData). Visualizations (using d3.js) can be easily added to the web app as well.

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Depends** R (>= 3.0), methods,

**Imports** epivizrServer (>= 1.1.1), epivizrData (>= 1.3.4), GenomicRanges, S4Vectors, IRanges, bumphunter, GenomeInfoDb

**Suggests** testthat, roxygen2, knitr, Biobase, SummarizedExperiment, antiProfilesData, hgu133plus2.db, Mus.musculus, BiocStyle, minfi, rmarkdown

**Collate** 'EpivizChartMgr-class.R' 'EpivizApp-class.R' 'EpivizChart-class.R' 'restartEpiviz.R' 'settings\_utils.R' 'startEpiviz.R' 'vignette\_data.R'

**biocViews** Visualization, Infrastructure, GUI

**Video** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=099c4wUxozA>

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.0

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/epivizr>

**git\_branch** devel

**git\_last\_commit** abcca09

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2025-04-15

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.22

**Date/Publication** 2025-05-15

## Contents

EpivizApp-class . . . . .	2
EpivizChart-class . . . . .	3
EpivizChartMgr-class . . . . .	4
restartEpiviz . . . . .	5
show,EpivizChart-method . . . . .	6
startEpiviz . . . . .	7
tcga_colon_blocks . . . . .	8
tcga_colon_curves . . . . .	9
tcga_colon_expression . . . . .	9

<b>Index</b>	<b>11</b>
--------------	-----------

---

EpivizApp-class	<i>Class managing connection to epiviz application.</i>
-----------------	---

---

### Description

Class managing connection to epiviz application.

### Fields

`server` An object of class [EpivizServer](#) used to communicate with epiviz app.  
`data_mgr` An object of class [EpivizDataMgr](#) used to serve data to epiviz app.  
`chart_mgr` An object of class [EpivizChartMgr](#) used to manage charts added to epiviz app session.

### Methods

`get_current_location(callback)` Obtain current genome location on epiviz app and evaluate callback function on result.

**callback** A callback function to evaluate on response data. Response data will be a list with slots `seqName`, `start` and `end`

`get_ms_object(chart_id_or_object, index = 1)` Get object of class [EpivizData](#) used as a data source in a given chart.

**chart\_id\_or\_object** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or an id for a chart loaded to the epiviz app.

**index** Index into `.measurementslist` of chart object to obtain data object for.

`is_server_closed()` Check if underlying server connection is closed.

`load_remote_measurements()` Load remote measurements into R session.

`load_workspace(workspace_id = NULL)` load an epiviz workspace.

**workspace\_id** Workspace id to load from the database.

`navigate(chr, start, end)` Navigate to given position on the epiviz app.

`plot(data_object, datasource_name = NULL, send_request = TRUE, settings = NULL, colors = NULL, ...)`  
 Visualize data on epiviz app using its default chart type. Measurements from the data-object are first added to the epiviz app using the `add_measurements` method for class [EpivizData](#). See documentation for [register](#) for information on supported data types and the [EpivizData](#) class encapsulating this type of data. Once measurements are loaded, the `plot` method of class [EpivizChartMgr](#) is used to plot the data, using the default chart type for this type of data.

**data\_object** An object to plot in epiviz app.

**datasource\_name** Name to use for datasource, parses data\_object if missing or NULL

... Additional arguments passed to add\_measurements method for class [EpivizData](#)

print\_workspace(file\_name = NULL, file\_type = "pdf") Save epiviz workspace as a pdf or png.

save(file, include\_data = TRUE) Save EpivizApp object representation of a workspace into .RData file.

**file** (character) The name of the file to save the EpivizApp object into, ending in .rda.

**stop\_app** (logical) Stop the EpivizApp session.

**include\_data** (logical) Include EpivizApp's data when saving the EpivizApp object.

service(verbose = TRUE) Block interactive R session to service websocket requests.

slideshow(granges, n = length(granges), .callback = NULL) Navigate on epiviz app successively to given positions.

**granges** An object of class [GenomicRanges](#) indicating set of genomic regions to navigate in epiviz app.

**n** (integer) The number of regions in granges to navigate to.

**.callback** (function) function to call after navigating to each region. Used for testing purposes.

stop\_app() stop and clean connection to epiviz app.

---

EpivizChart-class      *Class encapsulating a chart in epiviz app*

---

## Description

Class encapsulating a chart in epiviz app

## Methods

get\_app\_id(id) Get chart's id assigned by epiviz app.

get\_colors() Get color palette applied to the chart.

get\_id() Get chart's id assigned by chart manager

get\_measurements() Get measurements for the chart.

get\_settings() Get custom settings for the chart.

get\_source\_name() Get chart's id assigned by chart manager

is\_connected() Returns TRUE if chart is connected to a chart on epiviz app.

print\_info() Print settings and color currently used in chart object.

set(settings = NULL, colors = NULL) Set settings and colors used in chart.

**settings** List of settings to apply.

**colors** Character vector of HEX colors to use in chart.

set\_app\_id(id) Set chart's id assigned by epiviz app.

set\_colors(colors) Set custom colors for the chart.

set\_id(id) Set chart's id assigned by chart manager.

set\_settings(settings) Set custom settings for the chart. Returns subset of valid settings.

**settings** List of settings to apply.

---

EpivizChartMgr-class *Class providing chart manager for epiviz app*

---

## Description

Class providing chart manager for epiviz app

## Methods

`add_chart(chart_object, send_request = TRUE)` Add a chart to the chart manager.

**chart\_object** an object of class [EpivizChart](#)

**send\_request** send request to app through websocket

`get_chart_colors(chart_object_or_id)` List colors used in a specific chart object.

**chart\_object\_or\_id** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or a string indicating the chart's id assigned by chart manager

`get_chart_settings(chart_object_or_id)` List chart settings for a specific chart object.

**chart\_object\_or\_id** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or a string indicating the chart's id assigned by chart manager

`is_server_closed()` Returns TRUE if underlying server is closed. See `is_closed` method in class [EpivizServer](#).

`list_chart_type_colors(chart_type)` List colors currently used in given chart type

`list_chart_type_settings(chart_type)` List available settings for a specific chart type.

**chart\_type** the name for a chart type in R (e.g., 'BlocksTrack', 'StackedLineTrack')

`list_chart_types(col_width = 80)` List charts types registered in epivizr with their default settings and colors. Returns a `data.frame` listing available chart types and a summary of the settings that can be modified.

**col\_width** Maximum length of settings list displayed.

`list_charts()` Return `data.frame` describing charts loaded by chart manager

`num_charts()` Return the number of charts currently loaded through manager.

`plot(measurement_object, settings = NULL, colors = NULL, send_request = TRUE)` Visualize data in an [EpivizData](#) object using its default chart type. The method `get_default_chart_type` in class [EpivizData](#) is used to determine which chart type is used.

**measurement\_object** an object of class [EpivizData](#)

**settings** list of settings to use in chart (uses default chart settings if NULL)

**colors** character vector of HEX colors to use in chart (uses default chart colors if NULL)

`print_chart(chart_object_or_id, file_name = NULL, file_type = c("pdf", "png"))` Print specific chart to file.

**chart\_object\_or\_id** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or a string indicating the chart's id assigned by chart manager.

**file\_name** Name of file to print to.

**file\_type** Type of file to print. One of pdf or png.

`print_chart_info(chart_object_or_id)` Print settings and colors used in a specific chart object.

**chart\_object\_or\_id** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or a string indicating the chart's id assigned by chart manager

`print_chart_type_info(chart_type)` Print settings and color information for a given chart type

**chart\_type** the name for a chart type in R (e.g., 'BlocksTrack', 'StackedLineTrack')

`register_chart_type( chart_type, js_chart_type = paste0("epiviz.plugins.charts.", chart_type), js_c`  
Register a chart type name to a JavaScript chart type in the epiviz app.

**chart\_type** the name to use for chart type in R (e.g., 'BlocksTrack')

**js\_chart\_type** the full JavaScript class name of the corresponding chart type (e.g. 'epiviz.plugins.charts.BlocksTra  
If missing it is taken from the `chart_type` argument

**js\_chart\_settings** custom settings that can be applied to this chart type in JS.

**js\_chart\_colors** default color palette applied to this chart type in JS.

`revisualize(chart_type, chart, ...)` Revisualize uses data the given chart and replots it in the given chart type. The argument `chart` must be non-NULL.

**chart\_type** a chart type registered using the `register_chart_type` method

**chart** a chart that includes measurements to be used in a new chart

`rm_all_charts()` Remove all charts loaded by chart manager.

`rm_chart(chart_object_or_id)` Remove chart from chart manager.

**chart\_object\_or\_id** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or a string indicating the chart's id assigned by chart manager

`set_chart_settings(chart_object_or_id, settings = NULL, colors = NULL)` Apply custom chart settings or colors to a chart object.

**chart\_object\_or\_id** An object of class [EpivizChart](#) or a string indicating the chart's id assigned by chart manager

**settings** a list of settings to apply to the chart

**colors** a list of (HEX code) colors to use in the chart

`visualize( chart_type, measurements = NULL, datasource = NULL, settings = NULL, colors = NULL, send_reo`  
Visualize data use the given chart type. One of arguments `measurements` or `datasource` must be non-NULL. If `measurements` is NULL, the `get_measurements` method in class [EpivizData](#) is used to decide which measurements are used in the chart

**chart\_type** a chart type registered using the `register_chart_type` method

**measurements** a list of [EpivizMeasurement](#) objects describing measurements to include in the chart

**datasource** an object of class [EpivizData](#), all available measurements from `datasource` are used as appropriate

---

restartEpiviz

*Restart epiviz app connection and workspace.*


---

## Description

Restart epiviz app connection and workspace.

## Usage

```
restartEpiviz(file, open_browser = TRUE, host = NULL, envir = parent.frame())
```

**Arguments**

file	(character) The name of the file that holds the EpivizApp object to be restarted, ending in .rda.
open_browser	(logical) browse to the epiviz URL before exiting function.
host	(character) name of epiviz app host to open at restart
envir	(environment) environment in which to evaluate expressions needed to reconstruct data sources

**Value**

An object of class [EpivizApp](#)

**Examples**

```
# see package vignette for example usage
app <- startEpiviz(non_interactive=TRUE, open_browser=TRUE)
file_name <- tempfile(fileext=".rda")
app$save(file=file_name)
app$stop_app()

app <- restartEpiviz(file=file_name, open_browser=FALSE)
```

---

show,EpivizChart-method

*Print information about EpivizChart*

---

**Description**

Print information about EpivizChart

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'EpivizChart'
show(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            an [EpivizChart](#) object

**Value**

Nothing, this function is called for its side-effects

---

startEpiviz	<i>Start epiviz app and create <a href="#">EpivizApp</a> object to manage connection.</i>
-------------	---

---

## Description

Start epiviz app and create [EpivizApp](#) object to manage connection.

## Usage

```
startEpiviz(
  host = NULL,
  http_port = NULL,
  path = NULL,
  use_devel = FALSE,
  chr = "chr11",
  start = 99800000,
  end = 103383180,
  debug = FALSE,
  workspace = NULL,
  scripts = NULL,
  gists = NULL,
  use_cookie = TRUE,
  register_function = .register_all_the_epiviz_things,
  open_browser = TRUE,
  server = NULL,
  browser_fun = utils::browseURL,
  ws_host = "localhost",
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

host	(character) use a host for the epiviz app other than the cbc.b.umd.edu hosts.
http_port	(integer) port at host serving the epiviz app.
path	(character) path at host where epiviz app is located.
use_devel	(logical) use the devel epiviz application server ( <a href="http://epiviz-dev.cbc.b.umd.edu">http://epiviz-dev.cbc.b.umd.edu</a> ).
chr	(character) chromosome to browse to on app startup.
start	(integer) start location to browse to on app startup.
end	(integer) end location to browse to on app startup.
debug	(logical) start epiviz app in debug mode.
workspace	(character) a workspace id to load in the epiviz app on startup.
scripts	(character) URLs for JavaScript plugin scripts to be imported when epiviz is loaded (see <a href="http://epiviz.cbc.b.umd.edu/help">http://epiviz.cbc.b.umd.edu/help</a> for details).
gists	(character) Ids for github gists ( <a href="http://gist.github.com">http://gist.github.com</a> ) containing JavaScript plugin scripts to be imported when epiviz is loaded (see <a href="http://epiviz.cbc.b.umd.edu/help">http://epiviz.cbc.b.umd.edu/help</a> for details).
use_cookie	(logical) use cookies within the epiviz app.

register_function	(function) function used to register actions and charts on the epiviz app.
open_browser	(logical) browse to the epiviz URL before exiting function.
server	(EpivizServer) if not NULL use this object as underlying WebSocket and HTTP server
browser_fun	(function) function used to browse to URL (browseURL by default)
ws_host	(character) host address to use for websocket connection ("localhost" by default)
...	additional parameters passed to <code>createServer</code> .

**Value**

An object of class `EpivizApp`

**Examples**

```
# see package vignete for example usage
app <- startEpiviz(non_interactive=TRUE, open_browser=TRUE)
app$stop_app()
```

---

tcga_colon_blocks	<i>Example methylation data (blocks) for epivizr vignette.</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Example results from methylation analysis of human chromosome 11 using the `minfi:minfi-package` package of TCGA 450k beadarray samples. This object contains large regions of methylation difference between tumor and normal samples obtained from `minfi:blockFinder()`.

**Usage**

```
data(tcga_colon_blocks)
```

**Format**

A `GRanges` object with 129 and `mcols`:

value average smooth methylation difference within block  
 area block area estimate ( $\text{abs}(\text{value}) * \text{length}$ )  
 cluster id of cluster blockgroup within which block occurs  
 indexStart index of first cluster in block  
 indexEnd index of last cluster in block  
 L number of clusters in block  
 clusterL number of probes in block  
 p.value permutation p.value based on difference conditioned on length  
 fwer family-wise error rate estimate based on difference conditioned on length  
 p.valueArea permutation p.value based on area  
 fwerArea family-wise error rate estimate based on area



**Source**

TCGA project: <https://tcga-data.nci.nih.gov/tcga/>

---

tcga_colon_curves	<i>Example methylation data (smoothed methylation levels) for epivizr vignette</i>
-------------------	--

---

**Description**

Example results from methylation analysis of human chromosome 11 using the `minfi:minfi-package` package of TCGA 450k beadarray samples. This object contains probe cluster level methylation estimates from `minfi:blockFinder()`.

**Usage**

```
data(tcga_colon_curves)
```

**Format**

A `GRanges` object with 7135 ranges and mcols:

id probe cluster id

type probe cluster type

blockgroup probe cluster block group

diff raw methylation percentage difference between normal and tumor

smooth smooth methylation percentage difference between normal and tumor

normalMean mean methylation estimate for normal samples

cancerMean mean methylation estimate for cancer samples

**Source**

TCGA project: <https://tcga-data.nci.nih.gov/tcga/>

---

tcga_colon_expression	<i>Example exon-level RNAseq data from TCGA project for epivizr vignette.</i>
-----------------------	---

---

**Description**

A `SummarizedExperiment::RangedSummarizedExperiment` object containing exon-level counts from RNAseq data for colon tumor and normal tissue from the TCGA project. Only exons in human chromosome 11 are included.

**Usage**

```
data(tcga_colon_expression)
```

**Format**

A `SummarizedExperiment::RangedSummarizedExperiment` object with 12,800 rows (exons) and 40 samples.

`assay(tcga_colon_expression)` exon-level count matrix

`colData(tcga_colon_expression)` a `DataFrame` containing sample information. Normal/Tumor status is given in column `sample_type`

**Value**

A `SummarizedExperiment::RangedSummarizedExperiment` object.

**Source**

TCGA project: <https://tcga-data.nci.nih.gov/tcga/>

# Index

createServer, 8

EpivizApp, 6–8  
EpivizApp (EpivizApp-class), 2  
EpivizApp-class, 2  
EpivizChart, 4–6  
EpivizChart (EpivizChart-class), 3  
EpivizChart-class, 3  
EpivizChartMgr, 2  
EpivizChartMgr (EpivizChartMgr-class), 4  
EpivizChartMgr-class, 4  
EpivizData, 2–5  
EpivizDataMgr, 2  
EpivizMeasurement, 5  
EpivizServer, 2, 4

GenomicRanges, 3  
GRanges, 8, 9

minfi::blockFinder(), 8, 9

plot, 2

register, 2  
restartEpiviz, 5

show, EpivizChart-method, 6  
startEpiviz, 7  
SummarizedExperiment::RangedSummarizedExperiment,  
9, 10

tcga\_colon\_blocks, 8  
tcga\_colon\_curves, 9  
tcga\_colon\_expression, 9