## Package 'gDNAx'

May 3, 2024

Type Package

Title Diagnostics for assessing genomic DNA contamination in RNA-seq data

Version 1.3.0

**Description** Provides diagnostics for assessing genomic DNA contamination in RNA-seq data, as well as plots representing these diagnostics. Moreover, the package can be used to get an insight into the strand library protocol used and, in case of strand-specific libraries, the strandedness of the data. Furthermore, it provides functionality to filter out reads of potential gDNA origin.

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2 gDNAx-package

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## **Description**

The gDNAx package provides diagnostics for assessing genomic DNA contamination in RNA-seq data, as well as plots representing these diagnostics. Moreover, the package can be used to get an insight into the strand library protocol used and, in case of strand-specific libraries, the strandedness of the data. Furthermore, it provides functionality to filter out reads of potential gDNA origin.

## **Details**

The main functions are:

- gDNAdx() calculate diagnostics for assessing the presence of genomic DNA in RNA-seq data over a subset of the alignments in the input BAM files.
- getDx() and plot() get and plot statistics on genomic DNA contamination levels, respectively.
- strandedness() obtain estimates of strandedness in RNA-seq data samples based on the proportion of reads aligning to the same or opposite strand as transcripts in the annotations.
- classifyStrandMode() classify the output of strandedness() into strand modes for each BAM file.

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• filterBAMtxFlag and filterBAMtx - filter alignments in a BAM file using criteria based on a transcriptome annotation.

For detailed information on usage, see the package vignette, by typing vignette("gDNAx").

All questions and bug reports should be posted to the Bioconductor Support Site:

```
https://support.bioconductor.org
```

The code of the development version of the package is available at the GitHub repository:

```
https://github.com/functionalgenomics/gDNAx
```

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#### See Also

Useful links:

- https://github.com/functionalgenomics/gDNAx
- Report bugs at https://github.com/functionalgenomics/gDNAx/issues

filterBAMtx

Filter alignments in a BAM file using a transcriptome

## **Description**

Filter alignments in a BAM file using criteria based on a transcriptome annotation.

Use 'filterBAMtxFlag()' to set what types of alignment in a BAM file should be filtered using the function 'filterBAMtx()', among being splice-compatible with one or more exon-exon junctions, splice-compatible exonic, splice-compatible exonic in a window, intronic or intergenic.

## Usage

```
filterBAMtx(
  object,
  path = ".",
  txflag = filterBAMtxFlag(),
  param = ScanBamParam(),
  yieldSize = 1e+06,
  wsize = 1000,
  wstep = 100,
  pstrness = 0.6,
  p.value = 0.05,
  p.adj.method = p.adjust.methods,
```

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```
verbose = TRUE,
BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
)

filterBAMtxFlag(
  isSpliceCompatibleJunction = FALSE,
  isSpliceCompatibleExonic = FALSE,
  isInStrandedWindow = FALSE,
  isIntronic = FALSE,
  isIntergenic = FALSE
)

testBAMtxFlag(flag, value)
```

#### **Arguments**

object gDNAx object obtained with the function 'gDNAdx()'.

path Directory where to write the output BAM files.

txflag A value from a call to the function 'filterBAMtxFlag()'.

param A 'ScanBamParam' object.

yieldSize (Default 1e6) Number of records in the input BAM file to yield each time the

file is read. The lower the value, the smaller memory consumption, but in the case of large BAM files, values below 1e6 records may decrease the overall

performance.

wsize (Default 1000) Window size employed when the argument txflag includes the

value isInStrandedWindow=TRUE.

wstep (Default 100) Window step employed when the argument txflag includes the

value isInStrandedWindow=TRUE.

pstrness (Default 0.6) Strandedness value above which we consider a target read align-

ment to occur in stranded window.

p.value (Default 0.05) Numeric value between 0 and 1 specifying the adjusted p-value

cutoff under which we reject the null hypothesis that a target read alignment occurs in a window with an strandedness value below the one given in the parameter pstrness. This parameter is only used when the argument txflag

includes the value isInStrandedWindow=TRUE.

p.adj.method (Default "holm") Method used to adjust p-values that are compared against the

cutoff value specified in the parameter p.value. Adjusted p-values are calculated using the base R function p.adjust() and this argument is directly passed

to the argument method of that function.

verbose (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating if progress should be reported through

the execution of the code.

BPPARAM An object of a BiocParallelParam subclass to configure the parallel execution

of the code. By default, a SerialParam object is used, which does not use any parallelization, with the flag progress=TRUE to show progress through the cal-

culations.

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#### isSpliceCompatibleJunction

(Default FALSE) Logical value indicating if spliced alignments overlapping a transcript in a "splice compatible" way should be included in the BAM file. For paired-end reads, one or both alignments must have one or more splice sites compatible with splicing. See OverlapEncodings.

## isSpliceCompatibleExonic

(Default FALSE) Logical value indicating if alignments without a splice site, but that overlap a transcript in a "splice compatible" way, should be included in the BAM file. For paired-end reads, none of the alignments must be spliced, and each pair can be in different exons (or in the same one), as long as they are "splice compatible". See OverlapEncodings.

#### isInStrandedWindow

(Default FALSE) Logical value indicating whether an alignment occurs in a stranded windows. More concretely, for each alignment, strandedness will be tested with respect to the rest of the alignments occurring in overlapping windows. This filter will assign a TRUE value when those tests are passed.

isIntronic (Default FALSE) Logical value indicating if alignments mapping to introns

should be included in the BAM file.

isIntergenic (Default FALSE) Logical value indicating if alignments aligned to intergenic

regions should be included in the BAM file.

flag A value from a call to the function 'filterBAMtxFlag()'.

value A character vector with the name of a flag.

#### Value

A vector of output filename paths.

## **Examples**

gDNAdx

gDNAdx

Calculate gDNA diagnostics

## **Description**

Calculate diagnostics for assessing the presence of genomic DNA (gDNA) in RNA-seq data over a subset of the alignments in the input BAM files.

Plot diagnostics calculated with gDNAdx()

Using the output from gDNAdx(), plot the genomic origin of the alignments.

Plot fragments length distributions estimated with gDNAdx()

## Usage

```
gDNAdx(
 bfl,
  txdb,
  singleEnd,
  strandMode,
  stdChrom = TRUE,
  yieldSize = 100000L,
  exonsBy = c("gene", "tx"),
 minnaln = 2e+05,
  useRMSK = TRUE,
  verbose = TRUE,
  BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx, ANY'
plot(x, group = 1L, labelpoints = FALSE, ...)
plotAlnOrigins(x, group = 1L)
plotFrgLength(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

bf1

A BamFile or BamFileList object, or a character string vector of BAM filenames.

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txdb A character string of a TxDb package, or a TxDb object, with gene and transcript

annotations. For accurate calculations, it is important that the version of these annotations matches the version of the annotations used to inform the alignment of spliced reads, by the short-read aligner software that generated the input BAM

files.

singleEnd (missing by default) Logical value indicating if reads are single (TRUE) or paired-

end (FALSE). When this argument is missing (default), its value will be estimated

automatically from the BAM files.

strandMode (missing by default) Integer value either 0, 1, 2 or NA, indicating how the strand

of a pair of read alignments should be inferred from the strand of the first and last alignments in the pair. See the GalignmentPairs class for further details. If singleEnd = TRUE, then strandMode is ignored. For unstranded RNA-seq libraries, use NA. When this argument is missing (default), its value will be esti-

mated automatically from the BAM files.

stdChrom (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating whether only alignments in the 'stan-

dard chromosomes' should be used. Consult the help page of the function keepStandardChromosomes from the package GenomeInfoDb for further infor-

mation.

yieldSize (Default 1e5) Number of records to read from each input BAM file to calculate

the diagnostics.

exonsBy (Default 'gene') Character string, either gene or tx, respectively specifying

whether exon annotations should be grouped by gene or by transcript, in the estimation of strandedness values. Consult the help page of the function exonsBy()

from the package GenomicFeatures for further information.

minnaln (Default 200000) Minimum number of read alignments overlapping exonic re-

gions considered necessary for a reliable estimation of strandedness values. A warning message is given if the number of such available alignments is smaller than the one given through this parameter. This parameter only applies if no

argument is given for the strandMode parameter.

useRMSK (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating if RepeatMasker annotations should

be used when building intergenic and intronic genomic ranges for gDNA estimation. If useRMSK=TRUE, then UCSC RepeatMasker annotations will be downloaded as AnnotationHub resources, and intergenic and intronic genomic ranges

will exclude them.

verbose (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating if progress should be reported through

the execution of the code.

BPPARAM An object of a BiocParallelParam subclass to configure the parallel execution

of the code. By default, a SerialParam object is used, which does not use any parallelization, with the flag progress=TRUE to show progress through the cal-

culations.

x A 'gDNAx' object.

group A string character vector or a factor, with as many values as BAM files analyzed

in 'x', whose values define groups among those BAM files.

labelpoints (Default FALSE) A logical indicator that labels points in those plots where each

point represents a BAM file. Labels correspond to the index number of the BAM

file in 'x'.

gDNAtx

... Named arguments to be passed to plot.

#### Value

A gDNAx object.

## **Examples**

```
library(gDNAinRNAseqData)
library(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene)
txdb <- TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene
# Retrieving BAM files
bamfiles <- LiYu22subsetBAMfiles()</pre>
bamfiles \leftarrow bamfiles[c(1,4,7)] # using a subset of samples
# Getting information about the gDNA concentrations of each BAM file
pdat <- LiYu22phenoData(bamfiles)</pre>
gdnax <- gDNAdx(bamfiles, txdb, singleEnd=FALSE, strandMode=NA)</pre>
gdnax
# plot gDNA diagnostic measures
plot(gdnax, group=pdat$gDNA, pch=19)
# plot origin of alignments per sample
plotAlnOrigins(gdnax, group=pdat$gDNA)
# plot fragments length distributions
plotFrgLength(gdnax)
```

gDNAtx

Remove gDNA contamination from RNA-seq data

## Description

Remove gDNA contamination from RNA-seq data by filtering read alignments in BAM files that putatively have a gDNA origin. This is currently a wrapper with convenient default values for the function filterBAMtx(), please use that function if you need greater control on how to filter RNA-seq alignments.

#### Usage

```
gDNAtx(
    x,
    path = ".",
    sbparam = NULL,
```

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```
yieldSize = 1000000L,
verbose = TRUE,
BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
```

#### **Arguments**

x gDNAx object obtained with the function gDNAdx().
path Directory where to write the filtered BAM files.

sbparam Either NULL (default) or a ScanBamParam object. The NULL value implies that

internally a ScanBamParam object is built with the following flags: isUnmappedQuery=FALSE,

is Proper Pair = !single End(x), is Secondary A lignment = FALSE, is Not Passing Quality Controls = FALSE, is Not Pas

isDuplicate=FALSE.

yieldSize (Default 1e6) Number of records in the input BAM file to yield each time the

file is read. The lower the value, the smaller memory consumption, but in the case of large BAM files, values below 1e6 records may decrease the overall

performance.

verbose (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating if progress should be reported through

the execution of the code.

BPPARAM An object of a BiocParallelParam subclass to configure the parallel execution

of the code. By default, a SerialParam object is used, which does not use any parallelization, with the flag progress=TRUE to show progress through the cal-

culations.

#### Value

A data. frame object with the number of filtered read alignments tallied by their origin.

#### **Examples**

```
library(gDNAinRNAseqData)
library(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene)
txdb <- TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene

## fetch sample BAM files
bamfiles <- LiYu22subsetBAMfiles()
bamfiles <- bamfiles[c(1,7)] # using a subset of samples

## diagnose gDNA contamination
gdnax <- gDNAdx(bamfiles, txdb, singleEnd=FALSE, strandMode=NA)

## remove gDNA contamination
dir <- tempdir()
fstats <- gDNAtx(gdnax, path=dir)
fstats
list.files(dir, pattern="*.bam$")</pre>
```

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 ${\it gDNAx\ class}$ 

## Description

This is a class for storing the results of a call to the 'gDNAdx()' function.

## Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
getDx(x)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
show(object)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
getIgc(x)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
getInt(x)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
singleEnd(x)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
strandMode(x)
## S4 replacement method for signature 'gDNAx'
strandMode(x) \leftarrow value
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
allStrandModes(x)
## S4 method for signature 'gDNAx'
strandedness(x, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

Х	A gDNAx object.
object	A gDNAx object.
value	Integer value either 0, 1, 2 or NA, indicating how the strand of a pair of read alignments should be inferred from the strand of the first and last alignments in the pair. See the GAlignmentPairs class for further detail.
	Further arguments when x is not a gDNAx object; see the help page of gDNAdx().

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#### Value

getIgc(): A GRanges object with intergenic ranges.

getInt(): A GRanges object with intron ranges.

singleEnd(): Logical value indicating whether the gDNAx object contains data from a single-end (TRUE) or a paired-end (FALSE) RNA-seq experiment.

strandMode(): Integer value indicating whether the gDNAx object contains data from an unstranded (NA), stranded with the first mate read indicating the real strand (1), or stranded with the last mate read indicating the real strand (2) from an RNA-seq experiment.

Vector of strand modes for each BAM file in the gDNAx object.

A data. frame object with strandedness values for each BAM file in the gDNAx object.

#### Slots

bfl A BamFileList object.

txdbpkg A TxDb object.

singleEnd Logical value indicating if reads are single (TRUE) or paired-end (FALSE).

strandMode Integer value either 0, 1, 2 or NA, indicating how the strand of a pair of read alignments should be inferred from the strand of the first and last alignments in the pair. See the GAlignmentPairs class for further detail.

allStrandModes Vector of integer values each of them corresponding to a strandMode value estimated from a BAM file.

stdChrom Logical value indicating whether only alignments in the 'standard chromosomes' should be used. Consult the help page of the function keepStandardChromosomes from the package GenomeInfoDb for further information.

readLength Integer value storing the read length.

yieldSize Integer value storing the number of alignments employed by the function gDNAdx().

diagnostics A 'data.frame' object storing the diagnostics calculated by the function 'gDNAdx()'.

strandedness A'data.frame' object storing the estimated values of strandedness, calculated when the argument strandMode is missing in the call to the function 'gDNAdx()'.

igcfrglen A 'list' object storing the fragment lengths derived from alignments in intergenic regions.

intfrglen A 'list' object storing the fragment lengths derived from alignments in intronic regions.

scjfrglen A 'list' object storing the fragment lengths derived from spliced-compatible junction alignments in transcripts.

scefrglen A 'list' object storing the fragment lengths derived from spliced-compatible exonic alignments in transcripts.

sicfrglen A 'list' object storing the fragment lengths derived from splice-incompatible alignments in transcripts.

intergenic A 'GRanges' object storing the intergenic feature annotations.

intronic A 'GRanges' object storing the intronic feature annotations.

transcripts A 'GRangesList' object storing the transcript annotations.

tx2gene A string character vector storing the correspondence between transcripts and genes according to an 'TxDb' object.

## **Examples**

```
library(gDNAinRNAseqData)
library(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene)
txdb <- TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene
bamfiles <- LiYu22subsetBAMfiles() # Retrieving BAM files</pre>
## one could simply call 'gDNAx(bamfiles, txdb)' but we give the arguments
## below to reduce time and verbosity when running this example
gdnax <- gDNAdx(bamfiles, txdb, singleEnd=FALSE, strandMode=NA,</pre>
                 useRMSK=FALSE, verbose=FALSE)
gdnax
# Getting statistics
dx <- getDx(gdnax)</pre>
head(dx)
gdnax
igc <- getIgc(gdnax)</pre>
head(igc, n=3)
int <- getInt(gdnax)</pre>
head(int, n=3)
singleEnd(gdnax)
strandMode(gdnax)
strandMode(gdnax) <- NA</pre>
allStrandModes(gdnax)
strandedness(gdnax)
```

 ${\tt gDNAx-pkg-deprecated} \quad \textit{Deprecated functions in package 'gDNAx'}$ 

## **Description**

The functions listed below are deprecated and provided for compatibility with the previous version of 'gDNAx' only, and will be defunct at the next release.

## **Details**

The following functions are deprecated and will be made defunct; use the replacement indicated below:

 $\bullet \ identify Strand Mode: strandedness, character-method ()\\$ 

 $identify {\tt StrandMode}$ 

Identify strandMode

#### **Description**

THIS FUNCTION HAS BEEN DEPRECATED, HAS BEEN REPLACED BY strandedness() AND WILL WILL BE DEFUNCT AT THE NEXT RELEASE.

Identify strandMode (strandedness) in RNA-seq data samples based on Given strandedness values calculated assuming either the same or the opposite strand of gene annotations, classify them into an strand mode according to cutoff values specified in the parameters.

Compute strandedness for each feature in RNA-seq data samples based on the proportion of reads aligning to the same strand as feature annotations in relation to the total number of reads aligning to that feature.

#### Usage

```
identifyStrandMode(
 bfl,
  txdb.
  singleEnd,
  stdChrom = TRUE,
  exonsBy = c("gene", "tx"),
 minnaln = 2e+05,
  verbose = TRUE,
  BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
)
## S4 method for signature 'character'
strandedness(
  х,
  txdb,
  singleEnd,
  stdChrom = TRUE,
  exonsBy = c("gene", "tx"),
 minnaln = 2e+05,
 verbose = TRUE,
 BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
)
## S4 method for signature 'BamFileList'
strandedness(
  х,
  txdb,
  singleEnd,
  stdChrom = TRUE,
  exonsBy = c("gene", "tx"),
```

```
minnaln = 2e+05,
  verbose = TRUE,
 BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
)
classifyStrandMode(
  strnessdat,
  strcutoff = 0.9,
 weakstrcutoff = 0.6,
 warnweakstr = TRUE
)
strnessByFeature(
  bfl,
  features,
  singleEnd = TRUE,
  strandMode = 1L,
 yieldSize = 1000000L,
  ambiguous = FALSE,
  p = 0.6
  verbose = TRUE,
 BPPARAM = SerialParam(progressbar = verbose)
)
```

#### **Arguments**

bfl A BamFile or BamFileList object, or a character string vector of BAM file-

names.

txdb A character string of a TxDb package, or a TxDb object, with gene and transcript

annotations. For accurate calculations, it is important that the version of these annotations matches the version of the annotations used to inform the alignment of spliced reads, by the short-read aligner software that generated the input BAM

files.

singleEnd (Default FALSE) Logical value indicating if reads are single (TRUE) or paired-

end (FALSE).

stdChrom (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating whether only alignments in the 'stan-

dard chromosomes' should be used. Consult the help page of the function keepStandardChromosomes() from the package GenomeInfoDb for further in-

formation.

exonsBy (Default 'gene') Character string, either gene or tx, respectively specifying

whether exon annotations should be grouped by gene or by transcript, in the estimation of strandedness values. Consult the help page of the function exonsBy()

from the package GenomicFeatures for further information.

minnaln (Default 200000) Minimum number of read alignments overlapping exonic re-

gions considered necessary for a reliable estimation of strandedness values. A warning message is given if the number of such available alignments is smaller

than the one given through this parameter.

verbose (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating if progress should be reported through

the execution of the code.

BPPARAM An object of a BiocParallelParam subclass to configure the parallel execution

of the code. By default, a SerialParam object is used, which does not use any parallelization, with the flag progress=TRUE to show progress through the cal-

culations.

x A BamFileList object.

strnessdat A data.frame object obtained with the function strandedness().

strcutoff (Default 0.9) Minimum cutoff above which a strandedness value is considered

to strongly support that read alignments originate from a specific strand.

weakstrcutoff (Default 0.6) Minimum cutoff above which a strandedness value is considered

to weakly support that read alignments originate from a specific strand.

warnweakstr (Default TRUE) Logical value indicating whether to warn the user when strand-

edness values only provide a weakly support for a specific strand.

features A GRanges or GRangesList object with annotations of features (e.g. genes,

transcripts, etc.).

strandMode (Default 1L) Numeric vector which can take values 0, 1, or 2. The strand mode

is a per-object switch on GalignmentPairs objects that controls the behavior of the strand getter. See GalignmentPairs class for further detail. If singleEnd =

TRUE, then strandMode is ignored.

yieldSize (Default 5e5) Field inherited from BamFile. The BAM is read by chunks.

yieldSize represents the number of records to read for each chunk.

ambiguous (Default FALSE) Logical value indicating if reads that overlap a region with

features annotated to both strands should be included in the strandedness value

computation.

p (Default 0.6) Numeric value for the exact binomial test performed for the strand-

edness value of each feature, representing the hypothesized probability of suc-

cess (i.e. the strandedness value expected for a non-stranded dataset).

#### **Details**

Identify strandMode (strandedness) in RNA-seq data samples based on the proportion of reads aligning to the same or opposite strand as transcripts in the annotations.

If the value in the "strandMode1" column is > 0.90, strandMode is set to 1L. If "strandMode2" column is > 0.90, strandMode is set to 2L. If "strandMode1" and "strandMode2" are comprised between 0.40 and 0.60, strandMode is set to NA If none of the three previous criteria are met, strandMode is set to "ambiguous". This criteria can be conservative in some cases (e.g. when there is genomic DNA contamination), for this reason we recommend to check the data.frame with strandedness values.

In case of single-end data, the same criteria are used, but the interpretation of strandMode = 1L and strandMode = 2L changes: when strandMode = 1L the strand of the read is concordant with the reference annotations, when strandMode = 2L the correct read strand is the opposite to the one of the read.

A subset of 200,000 alignments overlapping gene annotations are used to compute strandedness.

Strandedness is computed for each feature and BAM file according to the strandMode specified in case of paired-end data. For single-end, the original strand of reads is used. All alignments from the BAM file(s) are considered to compute the strandedness.

The p value should be close to 0.5, representing the strandedness expected for a non-stranded RNA-seq library.

#### Value

A list object with two elements:

- "strandMode": the strandMode of the sample(s) following GAlignmentPairs class definition. If all samples have the same strandMode, the length of the vector is 1. It can take values: NA (library is not strand-specific), 1 (strand of pair is strand of its first alignment), 2 (strand of pair is strand of its second alignment) or "ambiguous" (additional category used here for samples not fitting any of the three previous categories). See "Details" section below to know the classification criteria, as well as to how interpret results for single-end data.
- "Strandedness": data.frame with one row per sample and 3 columns. "strandMode1": proportion of alignments aligned to the same strand than a transcript according to the strand of its first alignment. "strandMode2": proportion of alignments aligned to the same strand than a transcript according to the strand of its second alignment. "ambiguous": alignments aligned to regions with transcripts in both strands.

A vector of integer values, NA, 1, or 2,

A SummarizedExperiment with three assays:

- "strness": contains strandedness values for each feature and sample.
- "counts": number of reads aligning to each feature on the same strand (according to strandMode).
- "counts\_invstrand": number of reads aligning to each feature but on the opposite strand (according to strandMode).

#### **Examples**

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