# Package 'wpm'

April 30, 2025

Type Package

Title Well Plate Maker

```
Version 1.19.0
Description The Well-Plate Maker (WPM) is a shiny application deployed as an R
      package. Functions for a command-line/script use are also available. The WPM
      allows users to generate well plate maps to carry out their experiments
      while improving the handling of batch effects. In particular, it helps
      controlling the ``plate effect" thanks to its ability to randomize samples
      over multiple well plates. The algorithm for placing the samples is inspired
      by the backtracking algorithm: the samples are placed at random while
      respecting specific spatial constraints.
License Artistic-2.0
biocViews GUI, Proteomics, MassSpectrometry, BatchEffect,
      ExperimentalDesign
Depends R (>= 4.1.0)
Imports utils, methods, cli, Biobase, SummarizedExperiment, config,
      golem, shiny, DT, ggplot2, dplyr, rlang, stringr,
      shinydashboard, shinyWidgets, shinycustomloader, RColorBrewer,
      logging
Encoding UTF-8
LazyData false
RoxygenNote 7.1.1
Suggests MSnbase, testthat, BiocStyle, knitr, rmarkdown
VignetteBuilder knitr
NeedsCompilation no
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      https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/wpm.html
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```

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backtracking

Backtracking Function

# Description

Function used to launch the backtracking algorithm on a dataframe with the corresponding plate parameters, number of iterations and special wells

```
backtracking(
  max_iter = 20,
  user_data,
  wells,
  rows,
  columns,
  nb_plates,
  constraint,
  prog = NULL
```

balancedGrpDistrib 3

#### **Arguments**

max\_iter numeric, the maximal number of iterations to do, default value is 20

user\_data dataframe, user samples to place randomly on the plate

wells dataframe, special wells not to be placed randomly on the plate

rows numeric, number of lines on the plate(s)

columns numeric, number of columns on the plate(s)

nb\_plates numeric, number of plates constraint character, spatial mode

prog progress bar used for shiny app only

#### Value

a dataframe containing user samples and special wells with their coordinates for the corresponding plates.

balancedGrpDistrib

Makes a balanced distribution of the elements between several plates.

## Description

This function makes it possible to distribute the samples equitably on several plates, taking into account the numbers in the groups (if there are any). This means that, for example, if 2 plates are to be filled, then 50 generally, all the plates are assigned the same number of elements. When the numbers do not allow it (in particular when the total number of elements to be allocated is not a multiple of the number of plates), there will be a slight difference in the number of samples on the plates.

# Usage

```
balancedGrpDistrib(d, nb_p, df_max_size)
```

## **Arguments**

d the user dataframe

nb\_p the number of plates to fill

df\_max\_size the maximum number of samples that can be placed on the current plate

# Value

a list of dataframes each corresponding to a plate to fill.

4 checkWpmInputs

| CHECKCOHSTI ATHLS CHECK IOI SDAHAI CO | kConstraints Check for spatial constraints |
|---------------------------------------|--|
|---------------------------------------|--|

# Description

Finds the neighbors of the current element (row, col) in the matrix m, depending on the chosen constraint pattern. Currently, there are only 3 valid patterns (NS, WE and NEWS)

## Usage

```
checkConstraints(m, row, col, mode)
```

# Arguments

| m    | matrix                                  |
|------|---|
| row  | current selected row in the matrix m    |
| col  | current selected column in the matrix m |
| mode | spatial constraint                      |

# Value

A vector containing the neighbors of element (row,col) of the matrix m.

checkWpmInputs Check the inputs for the wrapper function

# Description

Checks if all the inputs given to the function WrapperWPM are correct and intercompatible.

# Usage

```
checkWpmInputs(
   user_df,
   plate_dims,
   nb_plates,
   spatial_constraint,
   max_iteration
)
```

# Arguments

convertCSV 5

#### Value

returns an error message if a problem is found with some parameter.

convertCSV

Convert a CSV File into a valid dataframe for WPM

#### **Description**

This function converts a CSV into a dataframe to make it usable by the shiny application of wpm as well as by the wrapper function (version of wpm in command line). Be sure that the first column of the CSV file corresponds to samples names.

## Usage

```
convertCSV(dt_path, row_names = FALSE, gp_field = NULL, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
dt_path file path.

row_names logical value, indicates if the file has rownames or not.

gp_field the column name indicating the grouping factor for the samples in the csv. If there is no grouping factor, then gp_field must be set to NULL or "none".

... parameters to give to read.csv2 function
```

## Value

a list containing a dataframe containing the data of the imported CSV and a dataframe containing 3 fields (Sample, Group and ID) which will be used by WPM. Or NULL if there is an error when giving wrong parameters.

# **Examples**

6 convertSE

| convertESet | Convert the phenotype data of an ExpressionSet or MsnSet into a |
|-------------|---|
|             | dataframe for WPM   |

# Description

This function converts an ExpressionSet/MsnSet object into a dataframe to make it usable by the shiny application of wpm as well as by the wrapper function (version of wpm in command line)

# Usage

```
convertESet(eSet_obj, gp_field = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

eSet\_obj an ExpressionSet/MsnSet object containing the phenotype data
gp\_field character, corresponding to the phenotype data used to categorize samples into
distinct groups if any

## Value

a dataframe containing 3 fields: Sample, Group and ID.

## **Examples**

convertSE

Convert the phenotype data of a SummarizedExperiment into a dataframe for WPM

# Description

Convert the phenotype data of a SummarizedExperiment into a dataframe for WPM

```
convertSE(se_object, gp_field = NULL)
```

convertVector2Df 7

#### **Arguments**

se\_object a SummarizedExperiment object containing the phenotype data

gp\_field character, corresponding to the phenotype data used to categorize samples into

distinct groups if any

#### Value

a dataframe containing 3 fields: Sample, Group and ID.

## **Examples**

convertVector2Df

Convert a vector of plate coordinates into a dataframe

# Description

Function converting the format of "Letter-Digit" coordinates into a dataframe containing these coordinates in Row, Column.

## Usage

```
convertVector2Df(chr_wells, max_Row, max_Col, status = NA)
```

## **Arguments**

chr\_wells character string containing the wells
max\_Row integer, maximal number of lines in the plate

max\_Col integer, maximal number of columns in the plate

status character, the status of the wells

#### Value

result, dataframe containing wells coordinates

## **Examples**

```
# convert the vector of well coordinates into a dataframe
convertVector2Df("A1,C2,A3,B12,C42",3,42,"specify_status")
# supports uppercase / lowercase letters
convertVector2Df("a1,C2,A3,b12,C42",3,42,"specify_status")
```

8 defineBufferCoords

data\_test

Fictitious clinical data for demonstration.

#### **Description**

A demo dataset containing the age and other attributes of 193 fictitious patients. It aims to help the user to test the shiny application of the wpm package.

## Usage

```
data(data_test)
```

#### **Format**

A data frame with 193 rows and 7 variables

samples the samples to be analyzed representing fictitious patients.

**age** age of the patients under 5 age groups, in years (20-30;30-40;40-50;50-60;60-70)

**gender** gender of the patients, F (for Female) and M (for Male)

**treatment** the treatment each patient received, Ctrl (Control), treatment A, treatment B and treatment C

diabetes presence of diabetes, 0 (no) and 1 (yes)

gender-treatment A combination between the gender and treatment fields

age-diabetes A combination between the age and the diabetes fields

## Author(s)

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defineBufferCoords

Determines buffer wells coordinates on a plate

# Description

function to place the buffer solutions on the plate according to the selected mode: it generates a dataframe containing the row and column coordinates for each buffer solution.

## Usage

```
defineBufferCoords(p_lines, p_cols, mod = "none", start_buffer)
```

# **Arguments**

p\_lines number of rows on the plate p\_cols number of columns on the plate

mod character, can be "none", "by\_column", "by\_row" or "checkerboard"

start\_buffer character, "even" means that the buffers will be positioned on the even rows of

the plate. Otherwise, they will be positioned on the odd rows.

drawMap 9

#### Value

a dataframe containing the buffer wells with their coordinates.

drawMap

Generate a ggplot object of a plate plan

## **Description**

Function to plot the input dataframe containing the Sample names, the Row, Column coordinates, the group and the status

## Usage

```
drawMap(df, sample_gps, gp_levels, plate_lines, plate_cols, project_title)
```

## **Arguments**

```
dataframe containing user data and special wells if any.

sample_gps

number of distinct groups in the file before adding the special wells to df

gp_levels

is Group column levels before adding the special wells to df

plate_lines

plate_cols

integer, number of plate's lines

project_title

character, the user's project title
```

## Value

g, a ggplot object corresponding to the generated plate map.

# **Examples**

```
# example of data containing 5 biological samples, 2 forbidden wells,
# 2 buffers and 3 not random wells
user_data <- data.frame("Sample" = c(as.character(seq_len(5)), rep_len(NA, 7)),</pre>
                         "Group" = c(c("A", "B", "C", "A", "B"),
                                      rep_len("forbidden", 2),
                                      rep_len("buffer", 2),
                                      rep_len("fixed", 3)),
                         "ID" = c(seq_len(5), rep_len(NA, 7)),
                 "Well" = c("A2", "B3", "C3", "B4", "A3", "A1", "A4", "B2", "C2", "B1", "C1", "C4"),
                         "Status" = c(rep_len("toRandom", 5),
                                       rep_len("forbidden", 2),
                                       rep_len("buffer", 2),
                                       rep_len("fixed", 3)),
                         "Row" = c(1,2,3,2,1,1,1,2,3,2,3,3),
                         "Column" = c(2,3,3,4,3,1,4,2,2,1,1,4))
p <- "My Project"
gp_lvl <- levels(as.factor(c("A","B","C")))</pre>
drawMap(df = user_data, sample_gps = 3, gp_levels = gp_lvl, plate_lines = 3,
        plate_cols = 4, project_title = p)
```

# also works when giving a plate with more wells than the number of samples to place.

10 findNSneighbors

findNEWSneighbors

Find the 4 cardinal neighbors of an element of a matrix

## **Description**

Function for spatial contraints: the North, East, West and South neighbors of the current element (i,j) of the matrix m.

## Usage

```
findNEWSneighbors(m, i, j)
```

# **Arguments**

- m matrix
- i integer, line index in the matrix
- j integer, column index in the matrix

## Value

A vector containing the North, East, West and South neighbors of the element (i,j) of the matrix being processed.

findNSneighbors

Find the top and bottom neighbors of an element of a matrix

## **Description**

Function for spatial constraint that only looks for North (top) and South (bottom) neighbors of the current element (i,j) of the matrix m.

## Usage

```
findNSneighbors(m, i, j)
```

#### **Arguments**

- m matrix
- i integer, line index in the matrix
- j integer, column index in the matrix

#### Value

A vector containing the North and South neighbors of the element (i,j) of the matrix being processed.

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findWEneighbors

Find the left and right neighbors of an element of a matrix

## **Description**

Function for spatial constraint that only looks for West (left) and East (right) neighbors of the current element (i,j) of the matrix m.

# Usage

```
findWEneighbors(m, i, j)
```

# **Arguments**

```
m matrix
i integer, line index in the matrix
j integer, column index in the matrix
```

## Value

A vector containing the West and East neighbors of the element (i,j) of the matrix being processed

generateMap

Generate a plate map according to the input parameters

# Description

This function generates a plate map using a backtracking algorithm and returns a dataframe if success. If it fails to find a solution, returns NULL. If there are not enough wells to place all the samples, returns 0.

```
generateMap(
  user_df,
  nb_rows,
  nb_cols,
  df_forbidden,
  mod,
  max_it,
  updateProgress = NULL
)
```

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# **Arguments**

| user_df        | dataframe containing 9 features: Sample, ID, Group, Sample.name, Well, Status, Row, Column, Plate. See details.   |
|----------------|---|
| nb_rows        | numeric, number of lines on the plate   |
| nb_cols        | numeric, number of columns on the plate   |
| df_forbidden   | dataframe with the same structure than user_df, but for the forbidden, buffer solutions and Not randomized wells. |
| mod            | character, neighborhood spatial constraint  |
| max_it         | numeric, maximum number of attempts to generate a plate plan before returning a failure.                          |
| updateProgress | shiny object, reports progress to the user.   |

## **Details**

The dataframe is generated using dedicated functions of the wpm package: 'convertCSV()', 'convertESet()' or 'convertSE()'. But the user can also generate it by hand.

A number of attempts is allowed. Consequently, if the maximal number if attempts is reeched and no solution was found with the backtracking (i.e. the randomWalk does not return a dataframe), this function prints a warning message and returns NULL. If a solution is found, then it returns the dataframe.

#### Value

Returns a dataframe containing all the data of the plate map(s)

| joinDataframes | Binds multiple dataframes together |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
|                |                                    |

# Description

Function that merges dataframes that contain wells of different types. To do this, it verifies that all the conditions provided are compatible with each other in order to be able to launch WPM on this data.

```
joinDataframes(
  forbidden_w = NULL,
  buffer_w = NULL,
  fixed_w = NULL,
  nb_samples,
  totalNbWells,
  nb_p
)
```

randomWalk 13

#### **Arguments**

forbidden\_w dataframe, the forbidden wells
buffer\_w datarame, the buffer wells
fixed\_w dataframe, the quality control wells
nb\_samples numeric, the number of samples to place using the backtracking algorithm.
totalNbWells numeric, the total number of wells that can be filled.

nb\_p numeric, number of plates to fill

#### Value

a dataframe containing all the special wells

## **Description**

Returns the user dataframe updated after choosing randomly a well on the plate (matrix) and randomly choosing a sample ID that satisfies all the constraints.

#### Usage

```
randomWalk(m, toVisit, d, constraint)
```

#### **Arguments**

m is a matrix corresponding to the plate to be filled.

toVisit contains the wells in form "A1", and contains only the wells authorized to be

filled in

d is the dataframe containing the data supplied by the user.

constraint character string corresponding to the spatial constraint selected by the user

# Value

a dataframe corresponding to the user-supplied data. This dataframe is an updated version, where the columns 'Row' and 'Column' are filled with the coordinates of the chosen well. If no solution is found for the current selected well, then this function returns 1.

14 solveCell

| resample | Randomly take a number of elements in a vector |  |
|----------|--|--|
|          |  |  |

# Description

This function allows to pick up the last element in a vector when the parameter size is equal to 1. Passes parameters to 'sample.int' like size.

## Usage

```
resample(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x is a vector

... parameters given to the function sample.int

#### Value

a vector of length equal to size parameter.

solveCell Affects a sample to the chosen cell in the plate

#### **Description**

This function chooses a sample randomly from among those who respect the neighborhood constraints and who have not yet been assigned to a well.

# Usage

```
solveCell(m, d, i, j, already_drawn, constraint)
```

#### **Arguments**

| m | Matrix representing the plate plan. |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ٦ | Detaframa containing the complex    |

d Dataframe containing the samples to place.

i Line index of the chosen well.j Column index of the chosen well.

already\_drawn Vector of samples already affected to wells.

constraint Character. Corresponds to the neighborhood constraint mode.

#### Value

If there is no possibility to find a valid sample, the function returns an error value (1). If a sample is chosen, then this function returns two objects: \* \_\_m\_ The matrix updated with the new added sample. \* \_\_already\_drawn\_ The vector of already placed samples updated.

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wpm

Run the Shiny Application of Well Plate Maker

# Description

Run the Shiny Application of Well Plate Maker

# Usage

```
wpm(...)
```

## **Arguments**

. . . A series of options to be used inside the app.

## Value

a shiny application object with golem options

# **Examples**

```
if(interactive()) {wpm()}
```

wrapperWPM

Generate plate plans in a single step

## **Description**

Wrapper function that generates plate plans like the wpm shiny application. This feature allows the user to use the wpm package from the command line rather than going through a web application.

```
wrapperWPM(
  user_df,
  plate_dims,
  nb_plates,
  forbidden_wells = NULL,
  buffer_wells = NULL,
  fixed_wells = NULL,
  spatial_constraint = "none",
  max_iteration = 20
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

user\_df dataframe containing user data obtained with the 'convertCSV()' or 'convertE-

Set()' functions.

plate\_dims list, containing 2 values: the first is the number of plate's lines and second is the

number of plate's columns.

nb\_plates numeric, corresponds to the number of plates to fill

forbidden\_wells

character, the wells that will not be used at all for the experiment. This argument needs to be a character string giving the wells coordinates of the form "Letter-Number" (eg. "A1" for the well positionned in the first row/ first column of the

plate).

buffer\_wells character, the wells that will be used during experiment but without biological

sample in it. Same input structure as for forbidden\_wells parameter.

fixed\_wells character, the wells that will be used for Quality Control samples or standards

during the Experiment. Same input structure as for forbidden\_wells parameter.

spatial\_constraint

character, is the spatial constraint used to place the samples on the plate. It can also be called neighborhood constraint. Currently, the possible values are "none", "NS" (for North-South), "WE" (for West-East) and "NEWS" (North-

South-East-West).

max\_iteration numeric, maximal number of attemps for wpm to find a valid solution.

#### Value

a dataframe if wpm finds a solution.

## **Examples**

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