Package ‘rtracklayer’

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Title  R interface to genome annotation files and the UCSC genome browser

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LinkingTo  S4Vectors, IRanges, XVector

Description  Extensible framework for interacting with multiple genome browsers (currently UCSC built-in) and manipulating annotation tracks in various formats (currently GFF, BED, bedGraph, BED15, WIG, BigWig and 2bit built-in). The user may export/import tracks to/from the supported browsers, as well as query and modify the browser state, such as the current viewport.

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biocViews  Annotation,Visualization,DataImport

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Accessing the active view

Description
Get the active view.

Methods
The following methods are defined by rtracklayer.

object = "BrowserSession" activeView(object): Gets the active BrowserView from a browser session.

activeView(object) <- value: Sets the active BrowserView in a browser session.

asBED

Coerce to BED structure

Description
Coerce the structure of an object to one following BED-like conventions, i.e., with columns for blocks and thick regions.

Usage

asBED(x, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GRangesList'
asBED(x)
## S4 method for signature 'GAlignments'
asBED(x)
asGFF

Arguments

x Generally, a tabular object to structure as BED
... Arguments to pass to methods

Details

The exact behavior depends on the class of object.

GRangesList This treats object as if it were a list of transcripts, i.e., each element contains the exons of a transcript. The blockStarts and blockSizes columns are derived from the ranges in each element. Also, add name column from names(object).

GAlignments Converts to GRangesList via grglist and procedes accordingly.

Value

A GRanges, with the columns name, blockStarts and blockSizes added.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

Examples

## Not run:
library(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene)
exons <- exonsBy(TxDb_Hsapiens_UCSC_hg19_knownGene)
mcols(asBED(exons))

## End(Not run)

asGFF Coerce to GFF structure

Description

Coerce the structure of an object to one following GFF-like conventions, i.e., using the Parent GFF3 attribute to encode the hierarchical structure. This object is then suitable for export as GFF3.

Usage

asGFF(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'GRangesList'
asGFF(x, parentType = "mRNA", childType = "exon")
Arguments

- `x` Generally, a tabular object to structure as GFF(3)
- `parentType` The value to store in the type column for the top-level (e.g., transcript) ranges.
- `childType` The value to store in the type column for the child (e.g., exon) ranges.
- ... Arguments to pass to methods

Value

For the GRangesList method: A GRanges, with the columns: ID (unique identifier), Name (from names(x), and the names on each element of x, if any), type (as given by parentType and childType), and Parent (to relate each child range to its parent at the top-level).

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

Examples

```r
## Not run:
library(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene)
exons <- exonsBy(TxDb_Hsapiens_UCSC_hg19_knownGene)
mcols(asGFF(exons))
## End(Not run)
```

Description

Methods for import and export of GAlignments or GAlignmentPairs objects from and to BAM files, represented as BamFile objects.

Usage

```r
## S4 method for signature 'BamFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text, paired = FALSE,
       use.names = FALSE,
       param = ScanBamParam(...),
       genome = NA_character_, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,BamFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
```
BasicTrackLine-class

Class "BasicTrackLine"

Description

The type of UCSC track line used to annotate most types of tracks (every type except Wiggle).
BasicTrackLine-class

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("BasicTrackLine", ...) or parsed from a character vector track line with `as(text, "BasicTrackLine") or converted from a `GraphTrackLine using `as(wig, "BasicTrackLine").

Slots

- `itemRgb`: Object of class "logical" indicating whether each feature in a track uploaded as BED should be drawn in its specified color.
- `useScore`: Object of class "logical" indicating whether the data value should be mapped to color.
- `group`: Object of class "character" naming a group to which this track should belong.
- `db`: Object of class "character" indicating the associated genome assembly.
- `offset`: Object of class "numeric", a number added to all positions in the track.
- `url`: Object of class "character" referring to additional information about this track.
- `htmlUrl`: Object of class "character" referring to an HTML page to be displayed with this track.
- `name`: Object of class "character" specifying the name of the track.
- `description`: Object of class "character" describing the track.
- `visibility`: Object of class "character" indicating the default visible mode of the track, see `UCSTrackModes`.
- `color`: Object of class "integer" representing the track color (as from `col2rgb`).
- `colorByStrand`: Object of class "matrix" with two columns, as from `col2rgb`. The two colors indicate the color for each strand (positive, negative).
- `priority`: Object of class "numeric" specifying the rank of the track.

Extends

Class "TrackLine", directly.

Methods

- `as(object, "character")` Export line to its string representation.
- `as(object, "GraphTrackLine")` Convert this line to a graph track line, using defaults for slots not held in common.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

References

- [https://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/customTrack.html#TRACK](https://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/customTrack.html#TRACK) for the official documentation.

See Also

- `GraphTrackLine` for Wiggle/bedGraph tracks.
Description

A UCSC track line for graphical tracks.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("Bed15TrackLine", ...)` or parsed from a character vector track line with `as(text, "Bed15TrackLine")`.

Slots

expStep: A "numeric" scalar indicating the step size for the heatmap color gradient.

expScale: A positive "numeric" scalar indicating the range of the data to be \([-\text{expScale}, \text{expScale}]\) for determining the heatmap color gradient.

expNames: A "character" vector naming the the experimental samples.

name: Object of class "character" specifying the name of the track.

description: Object of class "character" describing the track.

visibility: Object of class "character" indicating the default visible mode of the track, see `UCSCTrackModes`.

color: Object of class "integer" representing the track color (as from `col2rgb`).

priority: Object of class "numeric" specifying the rank of this track.

Extends

Class "TrackLine", directly.

Methods

`as(object, "character")` Export line to its string representation.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

References


See Also

`export.bed15` for exporting bed15 tracks.
Description

These functions support the import and export of the UCSC BED format and its variants, including BEDGraph.

Usage

```r
## S4 method for signature 'BEDFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text, trackLine = TRUE,
       genome = NA, colnames = NULL,
       which = NULL, seqinfo = NULL, extraCols = character(),
       sep = c("\t", ""), na.strings=character(0L))
import.bed(con, ...)
import.bed15(con, ...)
import.bedGraph(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,BEDFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,BEDFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
       append = FALSE, index = FALSE,
       ignore.strand = FALSE, trackLine = NULL)
## S4 method for signature 'UCSCData,BEDFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
       trackLine = TRUE, ...)
export.bed(object, con, ...)
export.bed15(object, con, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,BED15File,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
       expNames = NULL, trackLine = NULL, ...)
export.bedGraph(object, con, ...)
```

Arguments

- `con`: A path, URL, connection or BEDFile object. For the functions ending in `.bed`, `.bedGraph` and `.bed15`, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the base export and import functions, the format must be indicated another way. If `con` is a path, URL or connection, either the file extension or the format argument needs to be one of “bed”, “bed15”, “bedGraph”, “bedpe”, “narrowPeak”, or “broadPeak”. Compressed files (“gz”, “bz2” and “xz”) are handled transparently.

- `object`: The object to export, should be a GRanges or something coercible to a GRanges. If targeting the BEDPE format, this should be something coercible to Pairs. If the object has a method for asBED (like GRangesList), it is called prior to
 coercion. This makes it possible to export a GRangesList or TxDb in a way that preserves the hierarchical structure. For exporting multiple tracks, in the UCSC track line metaformat, pass a GenomicRangesList, or something coercible to one.

**format**  
If not missing, should be one of “bed”, “bed15”, “bedGraph”, “bedpe”, “narrowPeak” or “broadPeak”.

**text**  
If con is missing, a character vector to use as the input

**trackLine**  
For import, an imported track line will be stored in a TrackLine object, as part of the returned UCSCData. For the UCSCData method on export, whether to output the UCSC track line stored on the object, for the other export methods, the actual TrackLine object to export.

**genome**  
The identifier of a genome, or a Seqinfo, or NA if unknown. Typically, this is a UCSC identifier like “hg19”. An attempt will be made to derive the seqinfo on the return value using either an installed BSgenome package or UCSC, if network access is available.

**colnames**  
A character vector naming the columns to parse. These should name columns in the result, not those in the BED spec, so e.g. specify “thick”, instead of “thickStart”.

**which**  
A GRanges or other range-based object supported by findOverlaps. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. This is much more efficient when the file is indexed with the tabix utility.

**index**  
If TRUE, automatically compress and index the output file with bgzf and tabix. Note that tabix indexing will sort the data by chromosome and start. Tabix supports a single track in a file.

**ignore.strand**  
Whether to output the strand when not required (by the existence of later fields).

**seqinfo**  
If not NULL, the Seqinfo object to set on the result. Ignored if genome is a Seqinfo object. If the genome argument is not NA, it must agree with genome(seqinfo).

**extraCols**  
A character vector in the same form as colClasses from read.table. It should indicate the name and class of each extra/special column to read from the BED file. As BED does not encode column names, these are assumed to be the last columns in the file. This enables parsing of the various BEDX-Y formats.

**sep**  
A character vector with a single character indicating the field separator, like read.table. This defaults to “\t”, as BEDtools requires, but BED files are also allowed to be whitespace separated (" ") according to the UCSC spec.

**na.strings**  
Character vector with strings, appended to the standard “.”, that represent an NA value.

**append**  
If TRUE, and con points to a file path, the data is appended to the file. Obviously, if con is a connection, the data is always appended.

**expNames**  
character vector naming columns in mcols(object) to export as data columns in the BED15 file. These correspond to the sample names in the experiment. If NULL (the default), there is an attempt to extract these from trackLine. If the attempt fails, no scores are exported.

...  
Arguments to pass down to methods to other methods. For import, the flow eventually reaches the BEDFile method on import. When trackLine is TRUE or the target format is BED15, the arguments are passed through export.ucsc, so track line parameters are supported.
Details

The BED format is a tab-separated table of intervals, with annotations like name, score and even sub-intervals for representing alignments and gene models. Official (UCSC) child formats currently include BED15 (adding a number matrix for e.g. expression data across multiple samples) and BEDGraph (a compressed means of storing a single score variable, e.g. coverage; overlapping features are not allowed). Many tools and organizations have extended the BED format with additional columns for particular use cases. The advantage of BED is its balance between simplicity and expressiveness. It is also relatively scalable, because only the first three columns (chrom, start and end) are required. Thus, BED is best suited for representing simple features. For specialized cases, one is usually better off with another format. For example, genome-scale vectors belong in BigWig, alignments from high-throughput sequencing belong in BAM, and gene models are more richly expressed in GFF.

The following is the mapping of BED elements to a GRanges object. NA values are allowed only where indicated. These appear as a “.” in the file. Only the first three columns (chrom, start and strand) are required. The other columns can only be included if all previous columns (to the left) are included. Upon export, default values are used to automatically pad the table, if necessary.

**chrom, start, end**  the ranges component.
**name**  character vector (NA’s allowed) in the name column; defaults to NA on export.
**score**  numeric vector in the score column, accessible via the score accessor. Defaults to 0 on export. This is the only column present in BEDGraph (besides chrom, start and end), and it is required.
**strand**  strand factor (NA’s allowed) in the strand column, accessible via the strand accessor; defaults to NA on export.

**thickStart, thickEnd**  IntegerRanges object in a column named thick; defaults to the ranges of the feature on export.

**itemRgb**  an integer matrix of color codes, as returned by col2rgb, or any valid input to col2rgb, in the itemRgb column; default is NA on export, which translates to black.

**blockSizes, blockStarts, blockCounts**  IntegerRangesList object in a column named blocks; defaults to empty upon BED15 export.

For BED15 files, there should be a column of scores in mcols(object) for each sample in the experiment. The columns are named according to the expNames (found in the file, or passed as an argument during export). NA scores are stored as “-10000” in the file.

Value

For a “bedpe” file, a Pairs object combining two GRanges. The name and score are carried over to the metadata columns.

Otherwise, a GRanges with the metadata columns described in the details.

BEDX+Y formats

To import one of the multitude of BEDX+Y formats, such as those used to distribute ENCODE data through UCSC (narrowPeaks, etc), specify the extraCols argument to indicate the expected names and classes of the special columns. We assume that the last length(extraCols) columns are special, and that the preceding columns adhere to the BED format. “narrowPeak” and “broadPeak”
types are handled explicitly by specifying these types as the format argument, rather than by using extraCols.

**BEDFile objects**

The **BEDFile** class extends **BiocFile** and is a formal representation of a resource in the BED format. To cast a path, URL or connection to a **BEDFile**, pass it to the **BEDFile** constructor. Classes and constructors also exist for the subclasses **BED15File**, **BEDGraphFile** and **BEDPEFile**.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence

**References**

https://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/customTrack.html http://bedtools.readthedocs.org/en/latest/content/general-usage.html

**Examples**

```r

# Not run:
test_bed_out_file <- BEDFile(test_bed_out)
export(test, test_bed_out_file)

# Not run:
export(test, test_bed_out, name = "Alternative name")

# Not run:
test_bed_gz <- paste(test_bed_out, ".gz", sep = "")
```
BigBedFile-class

Description

These functions support the import and export of the UCSC BigBed format, a compressed, binary form of BED with a spatial index and precomputed summaries. These functions do not work on Windows.

Usage

## S4 method for signature 'BigBedFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
       selection = BigBedSelection(which, ...),
       which = con, ...)
import.bb(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,BigBedFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,BigBedFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
       compress = TRUE, extraIndexes = "")
export.bb(object, con, ...)

Arguments

con
A path, URL or BigBedFile object. Connections are not supported. For the functions ending in .bb, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the export and import methods, the format must be indicated another way. If con is a path, or URL, either the file extension or the format argument needs to be “bigBed” or “bb”.

object
The object to export, should be GRanges.

format
If not missing, should be “bigBed” or “bb” (case insensitive).
text  Not supported.
selection  A BigBedSelection object indicating the ranges to load.
which  A range data structure coercible to IntegerRangesList, like a GRanges, or a BigBedFile. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. By default, the value is the BigBedFile itself. Its Seqinfo object is extracted and coerced to a IntegerRangesList that represents the entirety of the file.
compress  If TRUE, compress the data. No reason to change this.
extraIndexes  If set, make an index on each field in a comma separated list
...  Arguments to pass down to methods to other methods. For import, the flow eventually reaches the BigBedFile method on import.

BigBedFile objects

A BigWigFile object, an extension of BiocFile is a reference to a BigBed file. To cast a path, URL or connection to a BigBedFile, pass it to the BigBedFile constructor.

BigBed files are more complex than most track files, and there are a number of methods on BigBedFile for accessing the additional information:

seqinfo(x): Gets the Seqinfo object indicating the lengths of the sequences for the intervals in the file. No circularity or genome information is available.

When accessing remote data, the UCSC library caches data in the ‘/tmp/udcCache’ directory. To clean the cache, call cleanBigBedCache(maxDays), where any files older than maxDays days old will be deleted.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

Examples

if (.Platform$OS.type != "windows") {
  test_path <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
  test_bb <- file.path(test_path, "test.bb")

  ## Returns ranges with all fields
  gr <- import(test_bb)
  gr

  ## Returns ranges only for 'chr10'
  ## between 180185-180185 with all fields
  which <- GRanges(c("chr10"), IRanges(c(180185, 180185)))
  import(test_bb, which = which)

  ## Returns ranges only for 'chr10'
  ## between 180185-180185 with name and peak fields
  selection <- BigBedSelection(which, colnames = c("name", "peak"))
  import(test_bb, selection = selection)
## Not run:
```r
    test_bb_out <- file.path(tempdir(), "test_out.bb")
    export(test, test_bb_out)
    ## make an index for 'name'
    test_bb_out <- file.path(tempdir(), "test_out.bb")
    export(test, test_bb_out, extraIndexes = "name")
    ## End(Not run)
```

### Description

A BigBedSelection represents a query against a BigBed file, see `import.bb`. It is simply a `RangedSelection` with `colnames` parameter. `colnames` should be a character vector of column names. Default columns are "name", "score", "thick", "itemRgb" and "blocks", if non-empty, as that is the only column supported by BigBed.

### Constructor

`BigBedSelection(ranges = GRanges(), colnames = "score")`: Constructs a BigBedSelection with the given ranges and `colnames`. A character identifying a genome (see `GenomicSelection`), or a `BigBedFile`, in which case the ranges are derived from the bounds of its sequences.

### Coercion

`as(from, "BigBedSelection")`: Coerces from to a BigBedSelection object. Typically, from is a `GRanges` or a `IntegerRangesList`, the ranges of which become the ranges in the new BigBedSelection.

### Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

### Examples

```r
rl <- IRangesList(chr1 = IRanges::IRanges(c(1, 5), c(3, 6)))
BigBedSelection(rl)
as(rl, "BigBedSelection")  # same as above
# do not select any column
BigBedSelection(rl, character())
```
BigWigFile-class  BigWig Import and Export

Description

These functions support the import and export of the UCSC BigWig format, a compressed, binary form of WIG/BEDGraph with a spatial index and precomputed summaries. These functions do not work on Windows.

Usage

```r
## S4 method for signature 'BigWigFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
  selection = BigWigSelection(which, ...),
  which = con,
  as = c("GRanges", "RleList", "NumericList"), ...)
import.bw(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,BigWigFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,BigWigFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
  dataFormat = c("auto", "variableStep", "fixedStep",
    "bedGraph"), compress = TRUE, fixedSummaries = FALSE)
export.bw(object, con, ...)
```

Arguments

- `con` A path, URL or `BigWigFile` object. Connections are not supported. For the functions ending in `.bw`, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the export and import methods, the format must be indicated another way. If `con` is a path, or URL, either the file extension or the `format` argument needs to be “bigWig” or “bw”.
- `object` The object to export, should be an `RleList`, `IntegerList`, `NumericList`, `GRanges` or something coercible to a `GRanges`.
- `format` If not missing, should be “bigWig” or “bw” (case insensitive).
- `text` Not supported.
- `as` Specifies the class of the return object. Default is `GRanges`, which has one range per range in the file, and a score column holding the value for each range. For `NumericList`, one numeric vector is returned for each range in the selection argument. For `RleList`, there is one `Rle` per sequence, and that `Rle` spans the entire sequence.
- `selection` A `BigWigSelection` object indicating the ranges to load.
which is a range data structure coercible to \texttt{IntegerRangesList}, like a \texttt{GRanges}, or a \texttt{BigWigFile}. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. By default, the value is the \texttt{BigWigFile} itself. Its \texttt{Seqinfo} object is extracted and coerced to a \texttt{IntegerRangesList} that represents the entirety of the file.

dataFormat Probably best left to “auto”. Exists only for historical reasons.

compress If TRUE, compress the data. No reason to change this.

fixedSummaries If TRUE, compute summaries at fixed resolutions corresponding to the default zoom levels in the Ensembl genome browser (with some extrapolation): 30X, 65X, 130X, 260X, 450X, 648X, 950X, 1296X, 4800X, 19200X. Otherwise, the resolutions are dynamically determined by an algorithm that computes an initial summary size by initializing to 10X the size of the smallest feature and doubling the size as needed until the size of the summary is less than half that of the data (or there are no further gains). It then computes up to 10 more levels of summary, quadrupling the size each time, until the summaries start to exceed the sequence size.

... Arguments to pass down to methods to other methods. For import, the flow eventually reaches the \texttt{BigWigFile} method on import.

Value

A \texttt{GRanges} (default), \texttt{RleList} or \texttt{NumericList}. \texttt{GRanges} return ranges with non-zero score values in a score metadata column. The length of the \texttt{NumericList} is the same length as the selection argument (one list element per range). The return order in the \texttt{NumericList} matches the order of the \texttt{BigWigSelection} object.

BigWigFile objects

A \texttt{BigWigFile} object, an extension of \texttt{BiocFile} is a reference to a \texttt{BigWig} file. To cast a path, URL or connection to a \texttt{BigWigFile}, pass it to the \texttt{BigWigFile} constructor.

BigWig files are more complex than most track files, and there are a number of methods on \texttt{BigWigFile} for accessing the additional information:

\texttt{seqinfo(x)}: Gets the \texttt{Seqinfo} object indicating the lengths of the sequences for the intervals in the file. No circularity or genome information is available.

\texttt{summary(ranges = as(seqinfo(object), "GenomicRanges"), size = 1L, type = c("mean", "min", "max", "coverage", "sd"), defaultValue = \texttt{NA\_real\_}), as = c("GRangesList", "RleList", "matrix"), \ldots}: Aggregates the intervals in the file that fall into \texttt{ranges}, which should be something coercible to \texttt{GRanges}. The aggregation essentially compresses each sequence to a length of size. The algorithm is specified by \texttt{type}; available algorithms include the mean, min, max, coverage (percent sequence covered by at least one feature), and standard deviation. When a window contains no features, \texttt{defaultValue} is assumed. The result \texttt{type} depends on \texttt{as}, and can be a \texttt{GRangesList}, \texttt{RleList} or matrix, where the number elements (or rows) is equal to the length of \texttt{ranges}. For \texttt{as="matrix"}, there must be one unique value of \texttt{size}, which is equal to the number of columns in the result. The \texttt{as="matrix"} case is the only one that supports a \texttt{size} greater than the width of the corresponding element in \texttt{ranges}, where values are interpolated to yield the matrix result. The driving use case for this is visualization of
coverage when the screen space is small compared to the viewed portion of the sequence. The
operation is very fast, as it leverages cached multi-level summaries present in every BigWig
file.

If a summary statistic is not available / cannot be computed for a given range a warning is
thrown and the defaultValue NA_real_ is returned.

When accessing remote data, the UCSC library caches data in the ‘/tmp/udcCache’ directory. To
clean the cache, call cleanBigWigCache(maxDays), where any files older than maxDays days old
will be deleted.

BigWigFileList objects

A BigWigFileList() provides a convenient way of managing a list of BigWigFile instances.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

wigToBigWig for converting a WIG file to BigWig.

Examples

if (.Platform$OS.type != "windows") {
  test_path <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
  test_bw <- file.path(test_path, "test.bw")

  ## GRanges
  ## Returns ranges with non-zero scores.
  gr <- import(test_bw)
  gr

  which <- GRanges(c("chr2", "chr2"), IRanges(c(1, 300), c(400, 1000)))
  import(test_bw, which = which)

  ## RleList
  ## Scores returned as an RleList is equivalent to the coverage.
  ## Best option when 'which' or 'selection' contain many small ranges.
  mini <- narrow(unlist(tile(which, 50)), 2)
  rle <- import(test_bw, which = mini, as = "RleList")
  rle

  ## NumericList
  ## The 'which' is stored as metadata:
  track <- import(test_bw, which = which, as = "NumericList")
  metadata(track)

  ## Not run:
  test_bw_out <- file.path(tempdir(), "test_out.bw")
  export(test, test_bw_out)
## End(Not run)

bwf <- BigWigFile(test_bw)
track <- import(bwf)

seqinfo(bwf)

summary(bwf) # for each sequence, average all values into one
summary(bwf, range(head(track))) # just average the first few features
summary(bwf, size = seqlengths(bwf) / 10) # 10X reduction
summary(bwf, type = "min") # min instead of mean
summary(bwf, track, size = 10, as = "matrix") # each feature 10 windows

---

### BigWigSelection-class

Selection of ranges and columns

#### Description

A BigWigSelection represents a query against a BigWig file, see `import.bw`. It is simply a `RangedSelection` that requires its colnames parameter to be "score", if non-empty, as that is the only column supported by BigWig.

#### Constructor

`BigWigSelection(ranges = GRanges(), colnames = "score")`: Constructs a `BigWigSelection` with the given ranges and colnames. ranges can be either something coercible to a `IntegerRangesList`, a character identifying a genome (see `GenomicSelection`), or a `BigWigFile`, in which case the ranges are derived from the bounds of its sequences.

#### Coercion

`as(from, "BigWigSelection")`: Coerces from to a `BigWigSelection` object. Typically, from is a `GRanges` or a `IntegerRangesList`, the ranges of which become the ranges in the new `BigWigSelection`.

#### Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

#### Examples

rl <- IRangesList(chr1 = IRanges::IRanges(c(1, 5), c(3, 6)))

BigWigSelection(rl)

as(rl, "BigWigSelection") # same as above

# do not select the 'score' column
BigWigSelection(rl, character())
blocks-methods  Get blocks/exons

Description

Obtains the block ranges (subranges, usually exons) from an object, such as a GRanges imported from a BED file.

Usage

blocks(x, ...)

Arguments

x  The instance from which to obtain the block/exon information. Currently must be a GenomicRanges, with a metadata column of name “blocks” and of type IntegerRangesList. Such an object is returned by import.bed and asBED.

...  Additional arguments for methods

Value

A GRangesList with an element for each range in x. The original block ranges are relative to the start of the containing range, so the returned ranges are shifted to absolute coordinates. The seqname and strand are inherited from the containing range.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

import.bed for importing a track from BED, which can store block information; asBED for coercing a GenomicRanges into a BED-like structure that can be passed to this function.

browseGenome  Browse a genome

Description

A generic function for launching a genome browser.
**browseGenome**

**Usage**

browseGenome(object, ...)  
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges_OR_GenomicRangesList'

browseGenome(object,
   browser = "UCSC", range = base::range(object),
   view = TRUE, trackParams = list(), viewParams = list(),
   name = "customTrack", ...)

**Arguments**

- **object**: A `GRanges` object or a list of `GRanges` objects (e.g. a `GenomicRangesList` object).
- **browser**: The name of the genome browser.
- **range**: A genome identifier or a `GRanges` or `IntegerRangesList` to display in the initial view.
- **view**: Whether to open a view.
- **trackParams**: Named list of parameters to pass to `track<-`.
- **viewParams**: Named list of parameters to pass to `browserView`.
- **name**: The name for the track.
- **...**: Arguments passed to `browserSession`.

**Value**

Returns a `BrowserSession`.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence

**See Also**

`BrowserSession` and `BrowserView`, the two main classes for interfacing with genome browsers.

**Examples**

```r
## Not run:
## open UCSC genome browser:
browseGenome()
## to view a specific range:
range <- GRangesForUCSCGenome("hg19", "chr22", IRanges(20000, 50000))
browseGenome(range = range)
## a slightly larger range:
browseGenome(range = range, end = 75000)
## with a track:
track <- import(system.file("tests", "v1.gff", package = "rtracklayer"))
browseGenome(GRangesList(track))

## End(Not run)
```
BrowserSession-class

Class "BrowserSession"

Description

An object representing a genome browser session. As a derivative of TrackDb, each session contains a set of loaded tracks. In addition, it has a set of views, in the form of BrowserView instances, on those tracks. Note that this is a virtual class; a concrete implementation is provided by each backend driver.

Objects from the Class

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it. See browserSession for obtaining an instance of an implementation for a particular genome browser.

Methods

This specifies the API implemented by each browser backend. Note that a backend is not required to support all operations, and that each backend often has additional parameters for each of the methods. See the backend-specific documentation for more details. The only built-in backend is UCSCSession.

If a method is denoted as virtual, it must be implemented by the backend to support the corresponding feature. Otherwise, the fallback behavior is described.

virtual browserView(object, range = range(object), track = trackNames(object), ...) Constructs a BrowserView of range for this session.

virtual browserViews(object, ...) Gets the BrowserView instances belonging to this session.

activeView(object, ...) Returns the BrowserView that is currently active in the session. Fallback calls browserViews and queries each view with activeView.

range(x, ...) Gets the GRanges representing the range of the genome currently displayed by the browser (i.e. the range shown by the active view) or a default value (possibly NULL) if no views exist.

virtual getSeq(object, range = range(object), ...) gets a genomic sequence of range from this session.

virtual sequence(object, ...) <- value Loads a sequence into the session.

virtual track(object, name = deparse(substitute(track)), view = TRUE, ...) <- value Loads one or more tracks into the session and optionally open a view of the track.

x[[i]] <- value Loads the track value into session x, under the name i. Shortcut to above.

x$name <- value Loads the track value into session x, under the name name. Shortcut to above.

virtual track(object, ...) Gets a track from a session.

x[[i]] Gets the track named i from session x. A shortcut to track.

x$name Gets the track named name from session x. A shortcut to track.

virtual trackNames(object, ...) Gets the names of the tracks stored in this session.
browserSession-methods

```r
gene(x), genome(x) <- value  Gets or sets the genome identifier (e.g. "hg18") for the session.

virtual close(con, ...)  Close this session.

show(object, ...)  Output a textual description of this session.
```

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence

**See Also**

`browserSession` for obtaining implementations of this class for a particular genome browser.

---

**browserSession-methods**

*Get a genome browser session*

**Description**

Methods for getting browser sessions.

**Methods**

The following methods are defined by `rtracklayer`.

- **object = "character"** `browserSession(object, ...)`: Creates a `BrowserSession` from a genome browser identifier. The identifier corresponds to the prefix of the session class name (e.g. "UCSC" in "UCSCSession"). The arguments in ... are passed to the initialization function of the class.

- **object = "browserView"** Gets the `BrowserSession` for the view.

- **object = "missing"** Calls `browserSession("ucsc", ...)`.

---

**BrowserView-class**

*Class "BrowserView"*

**Description**

An object representing a genome browser view of a particular segment of a genome.

**Objects from the Class**

A virtual Class: No objects may be created from it directly. See `browserView` for obtaining an instance of an implementation for a particular genome browser.
Slots

`session`: Object of class "BrowserSession" the browser session to which this view belongs.

Methods

This specifies the API implemented by each browser backend. Note that a backend is not guaranteed to support all operations. See the backend-specific documentation for more details. The only built-in backend is `UCSCView`.

- `browserSession(object)` Obtains the `BrowserSession` to which this view belongs.
- `close(object)` Close this view.
- `range(object)` Obtains the `GRanges` displayed by this view.
- `trackNames(object)` Gets the names of the visible tracks in the view.
- `trackNames(object) <- value` Sets the visible tracks by their names.
- `show(object)` Outputs a textual description of this view.
- `visible(object)` Get a named logical vector indicating whether each track is visible.
- `visible(object) <- value` Set a logical vector indicating the visibility of each track, with the same names and in the same order as that returned by `visible(object)`.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

`browserView` for obtaining instances of this class.

browserView-methods  Getting browser views

Description

Methods for creating and getting browser views.

Usage

`browserView(object, range, track, ...)`

Arguments

- `object` The object from which to get the views.
- `range` The `GRanges` or `IntegerRangesList` to display. If there are multiple elements, a view is created for each element and a `BrowserViewList` is returned.
- `track` List of track names to make visible in the view.
- `...` Arguments to pass to methods
Methods

The following methods are defined by rtracklayer.

**object = "UCSCSession"** browserView(object, range = range(object), track = trackNames(object), imagewidth = 800, ...): Creates a BrowserView of range with visible tracks specified by track. The imagewidth parameter specifies the width of the track image in pixels. track may be an instance of UCSCTrackModes. Arguments in ... are passed to ucscTrackModes to create the UCSCTrackModes instance that will override modes indicated by the track parameter.

Examples

```
## Not run:
session <- browserSession()
browserView(session,
     GRangesForUCSCGenome("hg19", "chr2", IRanges(20000, 50000)))
## only view "knownGene" track
browserView(session, track = "knownGene")
```

## End(Not run)

BrowserViewList-class  Lists of BrowserView

Description

A formal list of BrowserView objects. Extends and inherits all its methods from Vector. Usually generated by passing multiple ranges to the browserView function.

Constructor

BrowserViewList(...): Concatenates the BrowserView objects in ... into a new BrowserViewList. This is rarely called by the user.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence
browserViews-methods  Getting the browser views

Description

Methods for getting browser views.

Methods

The following methods are defined by rtracklayer.

Gets the instances of BrowserView in the session.

See Also

object = "UCSCSession"  browserView for creating a browser view.

Examples

```r
## Not run:
session <- browseGenome()
browserViews(session)

## End(Not run)
```

Chain-class  Chain objects

Description

A Chain object represents a UCSC chain alignment, typically imported from a chain file, and is essentially a list of ChainBlock objects. Each ChainBlock has a corresponding chromosome (its name in the list) and is a run-length encoded alignment, mapping a set of intervals on that chromosome to intervals on the same or other chromosomes.

Accessor Methods

In the code snippets below, x and object are ChainBlock objects.

- ranges(x): Get the IntegerRanges object holding the starts and ends of the "from" ranges. Each range is a contiguous block of positions aligned without gaps to the other sequence.
- offset(x): Integer offset from the "from" start to the "end" start (which could be in another chromosome).
- score(x): The score for each mapping.
- space(x): The space (chromosome) of the "to" range.
- reversed(x): Whether the mapping inverts the region, i.e., the alignment is between different strands.
Import

A Chain object can be loaded from a UCSC chain format file simply by passing the path import function. If the file extension is not "chain", then either pass "chain" to the format argument, or cast the path to a ChainFile object. The import.chain function is provided as a (slight) convenience. It is documented below, along with the extra exclude argument to the import method.

```r
import.chain(con, exclude = "_", ...) # Imports a chain file named con as a Chain object,
                                         # a list of ChainBlocks. Alignments for chromosomes matching the exclude pattern are not
                                         # imported.
```

Note

A chain file essentially details many local alignments, so it is possible for the "from" ranges to map to overlapping regions in the other sequence. The "from" ranges are guaranteed to be disjoint (but do not necessarily cover the entire "from" sequence).

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

- `liftOver` for performing lift overs using a chain alignment

**cpneTrack**

**CPNE1 SNP track**

Description

A GRanges object (created by the GGtools package) with features from a subset of the SNPs on chromosome 20 from 60 HapMap founders in the CEU cohort. Each SNP has an associated data value indicating its association with the expression of the CPNE1 gene according to a Cochran-Armitage 1df test. The top 5000 scoring SNPs were selected for the track.

Usage

```r
data(cpneTrack)
```

Format

Each feature (row) is a SNP. The association test scores are accessible via `score`.

Source

Vince Carey and the GGtools package.
Examples

```r
data(cpneTrack)
plot(start(cpneTrack), score(cpneTrack))
```

---

**FastaFile-class**

**FastaFile objects**

**Description**

These functions support the import and export of the Fasta sequence format, using the Biostrings package.

**Usage**

```r
## S4 method for signature 'FastaFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
    type = c("DNA", "RNA", "AA", "B"), ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,FastaFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'XStringSet,FastaFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `con` A path or FastaFile object. URLs and connections are not supported. If `con` is not a FastaFile, either the file extension or the `format` argument needs to be “fasta”. Compressed files (“gz”, “bz2” and “xz”) are handled transparently.
- `object` The object to export, should be an XStringSet or something coercible to a DNAStringSet, like a character vector.
- `format` If not missing, should be “fasta”.
- `text` If `con` is missing, a character vector to use as the input
- `type` Type of biological sequence.
- `...` Arguments to pass down to `writeXStringSet` (export) or the `readDNAStringSet` family of functions (import).

**FastaFile objects**

The FastaFile class extends BioFile and is a formal representation of a resource in the Fasta format. To cast a path, URL or connection to a FastaFile, pass it to the FastaFile constructor.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence
See Also

These functions are implemented by the Biostrings `writeXStringSet` (export) and the `readDNAStringSet` family of functions (import).

See `export-methods` in the **BSgenome** package for exporting a **BSgenome** object as a FASTA file.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>genomeBrowsers</th>
<th>Get available genome browsers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Description**

Gets the identifiers of the loaded genome browser drivers.

**Usage**

```r
genomeBrowsers(where = topenv(parent.frame()))
```

**Arguments**

- `where` The environment in which to search for drivers.

**Details**

This searches the specified environment for classes that extend `BrowserSession`. The prefix of the class name, e.g. "ucsc" in "UCSCSession", is returned for each driver.

**Value**

A character vector of driver identifiers.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence

**See Also**

`browseGenome` and `browserSession` that create `browserSession` implementations given an identifier returned from this function.
GenomicData

Data on a Genome

Description

The rtracklayer package adds convenience methods on top of GenomicRanges and IntegerRangesList to manipulate data on genomic ranges.

Accessors

In the code snippets below, x is a GenomicRanges or IntegerRangesList object.

- `chrom(x), chrom(x) <- value`: Gets or sets the chromosome names for x. The length of value should equal the length of x.
- `score(x)`: Gets the “score” column from the element metadata of a GenomicRanges or GRangesList. Many track formats have a score column, so this is often used during export. The ANY fallback for this method simply returns NULL.

Constructor

`GenomicData(ranges, ..., strand = NULL, chrom = NULL, genome = NULL)`: Constructs a GRanges instance with the given ranges and variables in ... (see the GRanges constructor).

If non-NULL, the strand argument specifies the strand of each range. It should be a character vector or factor of length equal to that of ranges. All values should be either -, +, or *. To get the levels for strand, call `levels(strand())`.

The chrom argument is analogous to seqnames in the GRanges constructor.

The genome argument should be a scalar string. See the examples.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence and Patrick Aboyoun

Examples

```r
range1 <- IRanges(c(1,2,3), c(5,2,8))

## with some data ##
filter <- c(1L, 0L, 1L)
score <- c(10L, 2L, NA)
strand <- factor(c("+", NA, "-"), levels = levels(strand()))

## GRanges instance
gr <- GenomicData(range1, score, chrom = "chr1", genome = "hg18")
mcols(gr)["score"]
strand(gr) ## all 'x'
gr <- GenomicData(range1, score, filt = filter, strand = strand, chrom = "chr1")
mcols(gr)["filt"]
strand(gr) ## equal to 'strand'
```
GenomicSelection

Description

Convenience constructor of a `RangedSelection` object for selecting a data on a per-chromosome basis for a given genome.

Usage

```r
GenomicSelection(genome, chrom = NULL, colnames = character(0))
```

Arguments

- **genome**: A string identifying a genome. Should match the end of a BSgenome package name, e.g. "hg19".
- **chrom**: Character vector naming chromosomes to select.
- **colnames**: The column names to select from the dataset.

Value

A `RangedSelection` object, selecting entire chromosomes

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

`RangedSelection`, `BigWigSelection`

Examples

```r
# every chromosome from hg19
GenomicSelection("hg19")
# chr1 and 2 from hg19, with a score column
GenomicSelection("hg19", c("chr1", "chr2"), "score")
```
GFFFile-class

GFFFile objects

Description

These functions support the import and export of the GFF format, of which there are three versions and several flavors.

Usage

```r
## S4 method for signature 'GFFFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
   version = c("", "1", "2", "3"),
   genome = NA, colnames = NULL, which = NULL,
   feature.type = NULL, sequenceRegionsAsSeqinfo = FALSE)
import.gff(con, ...)
import.gff1(con, ...)
import.gff2(con, ...)
import.gff3(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,GFFFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,GFFFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
   version = c("1", "2", "3"),
   source = "rtracklayer", append = FALSE, index = FALSE)

## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRangesList,GFFFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
export.gff(object, con, ...)
export.gff1(object, con, ...)
export.gff2(object, con, ...)
export.gff3(object, con, ...)
```

Arguments

- `con`  
  A path, URL, connection or GFFFile object. For the functions ending in `.gff`, `.gff1`, etc, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the base export and import functions, the format must be indicated another way. If `con` is a path, URL or connection, either the file extension or the `format` argument needs to be one of “gff”, “gff1”, “gff2”, “gff3”, “gvf”, or “gtf”. Compressed files (“gz”, “bz2” and “xz”) are handled transparently.

- `object`  
  The object to export, should be a GRanges or something coercible to a GRanges. If the object has a method for asGFF, it is called prior to coercion. This makes it possible to export a GenomicRangesList or TxDb in a way that preserves the hierarchical structure. For exporting multiple tracks, in the UCSC track line metaformat, pass a GenomicRangesList, or something coercible to one.
format If not missing, should be one of “gff”, “gff1” “gff2”, “gff3”, “gvf”, or “gtf”.

version If the format is given as “gff”, i.e., it does not specify a version, then this should indicate the GFF version as one of “” (for import only, from the gff-version directive in the file or “1” if none), “1”, “2” or “3”.

text If con is missing, a character vector to use as the input.

gene The identifier of a genome, or a Seqinfo, or NA if unknown. Typically, this is a UCSC identifier like “hg19”. An attempt will be made to derive the Seqinfo on the return value using either an installed BSgenome package or UCSC, if network access is available.

colnames A character vector naming the columns to parse. These should name either fixed fields, like source or type, or, for GFF2 and GFF3, any attribute.

which A GRanges or other range-based object supported by findOverlaps. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. This is much more efficient when the file is indexed with the tabix utility.

feature.type NULL (the default) or a character vector of valid feature types. If not NULL, then only the features of the specified type(s) are imported.

sequenceRegionsAsSeqinfo If TRUE, attempt to infer the Seqinfo (seqlevels and seqlengths) from the “##sequence-region” directives as specified by GFF3.

source The value for the source column in GFF. This is typically the name of the package or algorithm that generated the feature.

index If TRUE, automatically compress and index the output file with bgzf and tabix. Note that tabix indexing will sort the data by chromosome and start. Tabix supports a single track in a file.

append If TRUE, and con points to a file path, the data is appended to the file. Obviously, if con is a connection, the data is always appended.

... Arguments to pass down to methods to other methods. For import, the flow eventually reaches the GFFFile method on import. When trackLine is TRUE or the target format is BED15, the arguments are passed through export.ucsc, so track line parameters are supported.

Details

The Generic Feature Format (GFF) format is a tab-separated table of intervals. There are three different versions of GFF, and they all have the same number of columns. In GFF1, the last column is a grouping factor, whereas in the later versions the last column holds application-specific attributes, with some conventions defined for those commonly used. This attribute support facilitates specifying extensions to the format. These include GTF (Gene Transfer Format, an extension of GFF2) and GVF (Genome Variation Format, an extension of GFF3). The rtracklayer package recognizes the “gtf” and “gvf” extensions and parses the extra attributes into columns of the result; however, it does not perform any extension-specific processing. Both GFF1 and GFF2 have been proclaimed obsolete; however, the UCSC Genome Browser only supports GFF1 (and GTF), and GFF2 is still in broad use.

GFF is distinguished from the simpler BED format by its flexible attribute support and its hierarchical structure, as specified by the group column in GFF1 (only one level of grouping) and
the `Parent` attribute in GFF3. GFF2 does not specify a convention for representing hierarchies, although its GTF extension provides this for gene structures. The combination of support for hierarchical data and arbitrary descriptive attributes makes GFF(3) the preferred format for representing gene models.

Although GFF features a `score` column, large quantitative data belong in a format like BigWig and alignments from high-throughput experiments belong in BAM. For variants, the VCF format (supported by the VariantAnnotation package) seems to be more widely adopted than the GVF extension.

A note on the UCSC track line metaformat: track lines are a means for passing hints to visualization tools like the UCSC Genome Browser and the Integrated Genome Browser (IGB), and they allow multiple tracks to be concatenated in the same file. Since GFF is not a UCSC format, it is not common to annotate GFF data with track lines, but rtracklayer still supports it. To export or import GFF data in the track line format, call `export.ucsc` or `import.ucsc`.

The following is the mapping of GFF elements to a GRanges object. NA values are allowed only where indicated. These appear as a “.” in the file. GFF requires that all columns are included, so export generates defaults for missing columns.

- `seqid`, `start`, `end` the ranges component.
- `source` character vector in the `source` column; defaults to “rtracklayer” on export.
- `type` character vector in the `type` column; defaults to “sequence_feature” in the output, i.e., SO:0000110.
- `score` numeric vector (NA’s allowed) in the `score` column, accessible via the `score` accessor; defaults to NA upon export.
- `strand` strand factor (NA’s allowed) in the `strand` column, accessible via the `strand` accessor; defaults to NA upon export.
- `phase` integer vector, either 0, 1 or 2 (NA’s allowed); defaults to NA upon export.
- `group` a factor (GFF1 only); defaults to the `seqid` (e.g., chromosome) on export.

In GFF versions 2 and 3, attributes map to arbitrary columns in the result. In GFF3, some attributes (`Parent`, `Alias`, `Note`, `DBxref` and `Ontology_term`) can have multiple, comma-separated values; these columns are thus always CharacterList objects.

**Value**

A GRanges with the metadata columns described in the details.

**GFFFile objects**

The GFFFile class extends BiocFile and is a formal representation of a resource in the GFF format. To cast a path, URL or connection to a GFFFile, pass it to the GFFFile constructor. The GFF1File, GFF2File, GFF3File, GVFFile and GTFFile classes all extend GFFFile and indicate a particular version of the format.

It has the following utility methods:

- `genome`: Gets the genome identifier from the “genome-build” header directive.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence
References

GFF1, GFF2 http://www.sanger.ac.uk/resources/software/gff/spec.html
GFF3 http://www.sequenceontology.org/gff3.shtml
GVF http://www.sequenceontology.org/resources/gvf.html
GTF http://mblab.wustl.edu/GTF22.html

Examples

test_path <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
test_gff3 <- file.path(test_path, "genes.gff3")

## basic import
test <- import(test_gff3)
test

## import.gff functions
import.gff(test_gff3)
import.gff3(test_gff3)

## GFFFile derivatives

### GFFFile derivatives

test_gff_file <- GFF3File(test_gff3)
import(test_gff_file)
test_gff_file <- GFFFile(test_gff3)
import(test_gff_file)
test_gff_file <- GFFFile(test_gff3, version = "3")
import(test_gff_file)

## from connection

test_gff_con <- file(test_gff3)
test <- import(test_gff_con, format = "gff")

## various arguments

import(test_gff3, genome = "hg19")
import(test_gff3, colnames = character())
import(test_gff3, colnames = c("type", "geneName"))

## 'which'

which <- GRanges("chr10:90000-93000")
import(test_gff3, which = which)

## Not run:

## 'append'

test_gff3_out <- file.path(tempdir(), "genes.gff3")

export(test[seqnames(test) == "chr10"], test_gff3_out)
export(test[seqnames(test) == "chr12"], test_gff3_out, append = TRUE)
import(test_gff3_out)

## 'index'

export(test, test_gff3_out, index = TRUE)
test_bed_gz <- paste(test_gff3_out, ".gz", sep = "")
### GRangesForUCSCGenome

**GRanges for a Genome**

**Description**

These functions assist in the creation of `Seqinfo` or `GRanges` for a genome.

**Usage**

```r
GRangesForUCSCGenome(genome, chrom = NULL, ranges = NULL, ...)
GRangesForBSGenome(genome, chrom = NULL, ranges = NULL, ...)

SeqinfoForUCSCGenome(genome)
SeqinfoForBSGenome(genome)
```

**Arguments**

- `genome` A string identifying a genome, usually one assigned by UCSC, like "hg19".
- `chrom` A character vector of chromosome names, or `NULL`.
- `ranges` A `IntegerRanges` object with the intervals.
- `...` Additional arguments to pass to the `GRanges` constructor.

**Details**

The genome ID is stored in the metadata of the ranges and is retrievable via the `genome` function. The sequence lengths are also properly initialized for the genome. This mitigates the possibility of accidentally storing intervals for the wrong genome.

`GRangesForUCSCGenome` obtains sequence information from the UCSC website, while `GRangesForBSGenome` looks for it in an installed `BSGenome` package. Using the latter is more efficient in the long-run, but requires downloading and installing a potentially large genome package, or creating one from scratch if it does not yet exist for the genome of interest.

**Value**

For the `GRangesFor*` functions, a `GRanges` object, with the appropriate `seqlengths` and `genome` ID.

The `SeqinfoFor*` functions return a `Seqinfo` for the indicated genome.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence
GraphTrackLine-class

Description

A UCSC track line for graphical tracks.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("GraphTrackLine", ...)` or parsed from a character vector track line with `as(text, "GraphTrackLine")` or converted from a `BasicTrackLine` using `as(basic, "GraphTrackLine")`.

Slots

- `altColor`: Object of class "integer" giving an alternate color, as from `col2rgb`.
- `autoScale`: Object of class "logical" indicating whether to automatically scale to min/max of the data.
- `alwaysZero`: Object of class "logical" indicating whether to fix the lower limit of the Y axis at zero.
- `gridDefault`: Object of class "logical" indicating whether a grid should be drawn.
- `maxHeightPixels`: Object of class "numeric" of length three (max, default, min), giving the allowable range for the vertical height of the graph.
- `graphType`: Object of class "character", specifying the graph type, either "bar" or "points".
- `viewLimits`: Object of class "numeric" and of length two specifying the data range (min, max) shown in the graph.
- `yLineMark`: Object of class "numeric" giving the position of a horizontal line.
- `yLineOnOff`: Object of class "logical" indicating whether the `yLineMark` should be visible.
- `windowingFunction`: Object of class "character", one of "maximum", "mean", "minimum", for removing points when the graph shrinks.
- `smoothingWindow`: Object of class "numeric" giving the window size of a smoother to pass over the graph.
- `type`: Scalar "character" indicating the type of the track, either "wig" or "bedGraph".
- `name`: Object of class "character" specifying the name of the track.
- `description`: Object of class "character" describing the track.
- `visibility`: Object of class "character" indicating the default visible mode of the track, see `UCSTrackModes`.
- `color`: Object of class "integer" representing the track color (as from `col2rgb`).
- `priority`: Object of class "numeric" specifying the rank of this track.

Extends

Class "TrackLine", directly.
Methods

as(object, "character") Export line to its string representation.
as(object, "BasicTrackLine") Convert this line to a basic UCSC track line, using defaults for slots not held in common.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

References


See Also

export.wig, export.bedGraph for exporting graphical tracks.

Ranges on a Genome

Description

Genomic coordinates are often specified in terms of a genome identifier, chromosome name, start position and end position. The rtracklayer package adds convenience methods to IntegerRangesList for the manipulation of genomic ranges. The spaces (or names) of IntegerRangesList are the chromosome names. The universe slot indicates the genome, usually as given by UCSC (e.g. "hg18").

Accessors

In the code snippets below, x is a IntegerRangesList object.

\( \text{chrom}(x), \text{chrom}(x) \leftarrow \text{value} \): Gets or sets the chromosome names for \( x \). This is an alias for \( \text{names}(x) \).

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence
**liftOver**

Lift intervals between genome builds

**Description**

A reimplementation of the UCSC liftover tool for lifting features from one genome build to another. In our preliminary tests, it is significantly faster than the command line tool. Like the UCSC tool, a chain file is required input.

**Usage**

```
liftOver(x, chain, ...)
```

**Arguments**

- `x` The intervals to lift-over, usually a `GRanges`.
- `chain` A `Chain` object, usually imported with `import.chain`, or something coercible to one.
- `...` Arguments for methods.

**Value**

A `GRangesList` object. Each element contains the ranges mapped from the corresponding element in the input (may be one-to-many).

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence

**References**

[https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgLiftOver](https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgLiftOver)

**Examples**

```r
## Not run:
chain <- import.chain("hg19ToHg18.over.chain")
library(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene)
tx_hg19 <- transcripts(TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene)
tx_hg18 <- liftOver(tx_hg19, chain)
## End(Not run)
```
Quickload-class

Description

The Quickload class represents a Quickload data source, essentially directory layout separating tracks and sequences by genome, along with a few metadata files. This interface abstracts those details and provides access to a Quickload at any URL supported by R (HTTP, FTP, and local files). This is an easy way to make data accessible to the Integrated Genome Browser (IGB).

Constructor

Quickload(uri = "quickload", create = FALSE): Constructs a new Quickload object, representing a repository at uri. If create is TRUE, and uri is writeable (i.e., local), the repository is created if it does not already exist. If it does exist, then a message is emitted to indicate that the repository was not recreated.

Accessor Methods

In the code snippets below, x represents a Quickload object.

  x$genome, x[["genome"]]: Get the QuickloadGenome object for the genome named genome. This is where all the data is stored.

length(x): number of genomes in the repository

uri(x): Get the URI pointing to the Quickload repository.

genome(x): Get the identifiers of the genomes present in the repository.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

Examples

  ql <- Quickload(system.file("tests", "quickload", package = "rtracklayer"))
  uri(ql)
  genome(ql)
  ql$T_species_Oct_2011
Description

A Quickload data source is a collection of tracks and sequences, separated by genome. This class, QuickloadGenome provides direct access to the data for one particular genome.

Constructor

QuickloadGenome(quickload, genome, create = FALSE, seqinfo = seqinfo(genome), title = toString(genome)): Constructs a new QuickloadGenome object, representing genome in the repository quickload (a URI string or a Quickload object).

The genome argument can be an ID corresponding to a genome (potentially) in quickload or an installed BSgenome package. It can also be any instance of a class which has methods for organism and releaseDate. A good example is BSgenome or any other derivative of GenomeDescription. Those items are necessary for constructing the canonical Quickload genome string (G_Species_Month_Year).

If create is TRUE, and the genome does not already exist, the genome will be created, using seqinfo for the sequence lengths and title for the display name of the genome in a UI. Creation only works if the repository is local and writeable. Reasonable defaults are used for seqinfo and title when the necessary methods are available (and they are for BSgenome).

Accessor Methods

In the code snippets below, x and object represent a Quickload object.

seqinfo(x), seqinfo(x) <- value: Gets or sets the Seqinfo object indicating the lengths of the sequences in the genome. No circularity information or genome identifier is stored.

quickload(x): Get the Quickload object that contains this genome.

uri(x): Get the uri pointing to the genome directory in the Quickload repository.

geno(x): Get the name of the genome, e.g. “H_sapiens_Feb_2009”.

releaseDate(x): Get the release portion of the genome name, e.g., “Feb_2009”.

organism(object): Get the organism portion of the genome name, e.g., “H sapiens”.

Data Access

length(x): number of datasets

names(x), trackNames(x): names of the datasets

mcols(x): merged metadata on the datasets

track(x, name), x$name: get the track called name
track(x, name, format = bestFileFormat(value), ...) <- value, x$name <- value: store the track value under name. Note that track storing is only supported for local repositories, i.e., those with a file:/// URI scheme.

Currently, supported value types include a GenomicRanges, GRangesList, or a file resource (copied to the repository). The file resource may be represented as a path, URL, Bioconductor BiocFile or RsamtoolsFile. If not a file name, value is written in format. For generic interval data, this means a BigWig file (if there is a numeric “score” column) or a BED file otherwise. An RleList (e.g., coverage) is output as BigWig. For UCSCData values, the format is chosen according to the type of track line. For RsamtoolsFile objects, the file and its index are copied.

The arguments in ... become attributes in the XML metadata. The “description” attribute is standard and is a blurb for describing the track in a UI. For the rest, the interpretation is up to the client. IGB supports an ever-growing list; please see its documentation.

referenceSequence(x): Get the reference sequence, as a DNAStringSet.
referenceSequence(x) <- value: Set the reference sequence, as a DNAStringSet. It is written as a 2bit file. This only works on local repositories.

Author(s)
Michael Lawrence

Examples

tests_dir <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
ql <- Quickload(file.path(tests_dir, "quickload"))
qlg <- QuickloadGenome(ql, "T_species_Oct_2011")
seqinfo(qlg)
organism(qlg)
releaseDate(qlg)
names(qlg)
mcols(qlg)
if (.Platform$OS.type != "windows") { # temporary
qlg$bedData
}

## Not run:
## populating the test repository
ql <- Quickload(file.path(tests_dir, "quickload"), create = TRUE)
reference_seq <- import(file.path(tests_dir, "test.2bit"))
names(reference_seq) <- "test"
qlg <- QuickloadGenome(ql, "T_species_Oct_2011", create = TRUE,
seqinfo = seqinfo(reference_seq))
referenceSequence(qlg) <- reference_seq
test_bed <- import(file.path(tests_dir, "test.bed"))
names(test_bed) <- "test"
qlg$bedData <- test_bed
test_bedGraph <- import(file.path(tests_dir, "test.bedGraph"))
names(test_bedGraph) <- "test"
start(test_bedGraph) <- seq(1, 90, 10)
width(test_bedGraph) <- 10
readGFF

Reads a file in GFF format

Description

Reads a file in GFF format and creates a data frame or DataFrame object from it. This is a low-level function that should not be called by user code.

Usage

readGFF(filepath, version=0,
columns=NULL, tags=NULL, filter=NULL, nrows=-1,
raw_data=FALSE)

GFFcolnames(GFF1=FALSE)

Arguments

filepath A single string containing the path or URL to the file to read. Alternatively can be a connection.
version readGFF should do a pretty descent job at detecting the GFF version. Use this argument only if it doesn’t or if you want to force it to parse and import the file as if its 9-th column was in a different format than what it really is (e.g. specify version=1 on a GTF or GFF3 file to interpret its 9-th column as the “group” column of a GFF1 file). Supported versions are 1, 2, and 3.
columns The standard GFF columns to load. All of them are loaded by default.
tags The tags to load. All of them are loaded by default.
filter
nrows -1 or the maximum number of rows to read in (after filtering).
raw_data
GFF1

Value

A DataFrame with columns corresponding to those in the GFF.

Author(s)

H. Pages
See Also

- **import** for importing a GFF file as a **GRanges** object.
- **makeGRangesFromDataFrame** in the **GenomicRanges** package for making a **GRanges** object from a data frame or **DataFrame** object.
- **makeTxDbFromGFF** in the **txdbmaker** package for importing a GFF file as a **TxDb** object.
- The **DataFrame** class in the **S4Vectors** package.

Examples

```r
## Standard GFF columns.
GFFcolnames()
GFFcolnames(GFF1=TRUE) # "group" instead of "attributes"

tests_dir <- system.file("tests", package="rtracklayer")
test_gff3 <- file.path(tests_dir, "genes.gff3")

## Load everything.
df0 <- readGFF(test_gff3)
head(df0)

## Load some tags only (in addition to the standard GFF columns).
my_tags <- c("ID", "Parent", "Name", "Dbxref", "geneID")
df1 <- readGFF(test_gff3, tags=my_tags)
head(df1)

## Load no tags (in that case, the "attributes" standard column
## is loaded).
df2 <- readGFF(test_gff3, tags=character(0))
head(df2)

## Load some standard GFF columns only (in addition to all tags).
my_columns <- c("seqid", "start", "end", "strand", "type")
df3 <- readGFF(test_gff3, columns=my_columns)
df3
table(df3$seqid, df3$type)
makeGRangesFromDataFrame(df3, keep.extra.columns=TRUE)

## Use the 'filter' argument to load only features of type "gene"
## or "mRNA" located on chr10.
my_filter <- list(type=c("gene", "mRNA"), seqid="chr10")
readGFF(test_gff3, columns=my_columns, tags=character(0), filter=my_filter)
```
sequence<-methods

sequence<-methods

Load a sequence

Description

Methods for loading sequences.

Methods

No methods are defined by rtracklayer for the sequence(object, ...) <- value generic.

TabixFile<-methods

TabixFile Import/Export

Description

These methods support the import and export of Rsamtools::TabixFileTabixFile objects. These are generally useful when working with tabix-indexed files that have a non-standard format (i.e., not BED nor GFF), as well as exporting an object with arbitrary columns (like a GRanges) to an indexed, tab-separated file. This relies on the tabix header, which indicates the columns in the file that correspond to the chromosome, start and end. The BED and GFF parsers handle tabix transparently.

Usage

## S4 method for signature 'TabixFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
    which = if (is.na(genome)) NULL
    else as(seqinfoForGenome(genome), "GenomicRanges"),
    genome = NA, header = TRUE, ...)
exportToTabix(object, con, ...)

Arguments

con

For import, a TabixFile object; for exportToTabix, a string naming the destination file.

object

The object to export. It is coerced to a data.frame, written to a tab-separated file, and indexed with tabix for efficient range-based retrieval of the data using import.

format

If any known format, like “bed” or “gff” (or one of their variants), then the appropriate parser is applied. If any other value, then the tabix header is consulted for the format. By default, this is taken from the file extension.

text

Ignored.
A range data structure coercible to `IntegerRangesList`, like a `GRanges`. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. The default is to use the range over the entire genome given by `genome`, if specified.

**genome**

The identifier of a genome, or `NA` if unknown. Typically, this is a UCSC identifier like “hg19”. An attempt will be made to derive the `seqinfo` on the return value using either an installed BSgenome package or UCSC, if network access is available.

**header**

If `TRUE`, then the header in the indexed file, which might include a track line, is sent to the parser. Otherwise, the initial lines are skipped, according to the `skip` field in the tabix index header.

**...**

Extra arguments to pass to the underlying import routine, which for non-standard formats is `read.table` or `write.table`.

**Value**

For `import`, a `GRanges` object.

For `exportToTabix`, a `TabixFile` object that is directly passable to `import`.

**Author(s)**

Michael Lawrence

**References**


**See Also**

`scanTabix` and friends

---

**targets**

*microRNA target sites*

---

**Description**

A data frame of human microRNA target sites retrieved from MiRBase. This is a subset of the `hsTargets` data frame in the `microRNA` package. See the `rtracklayer` vignette for more details.

**Usage**

`data(targets)`
track<–methods

Format

A data frame with 2981 observations on the following 6 variables.

name  The miRBase ID of the microRNA.
target The Ensembl ID of the targeted transcript.
chrom The name of the chromosome for target site.
start  Target start position.
end    Target stop position.
strand The strand of the target site, "+", or "-".

Source

The microRNA package, dataset hsTargets. Originally MiRBase (http://microrna.sanger.ac.uk/).

Examples

data(targets)
targetTrack <- with(targets,
    GenomicData(IRanges::IRanges(start, end),
                strand = strand, chrom = chrom))

track<–methods  Laying tracks

Description

Methods for loading tracks into genome browsers.

Usage

track(object, ...) <- value

Arguments

object A BrowserSession into which the track is loaded.
value  The track(s) to load.
...    Arguments to pass on to methods. Can be:
        • name The name(s) of the track(s) being loaded.
        • view Whether to create a view of the track after loading it.

See Also

track for getting a track from a session.
TrackHub-class

Examples

```r
## Not run:
session <- browserSession()
track <- import(system.file("tests", "v1.gff", package = "rtracklayer"))
track(session, "My Track") <- track

## End(Not run)
```

TrackDb-class

Track Databases

Description

The TrackDb class is an abstraction around a database of tracks. Implementations include BrowserSession derivatives and QuickloadGenome. Here, a track is defined as an interval dataset.

Accessor Methods

Every implementation should support these methods:

- `length(x)`: number of tracks
- `names(x), trackNames(x)`: names of the tracks
- `mcols(x)`: merged metadata on the tracks
- `track(x, name), x$name, x[[name]]`: get the track called `name`
- `track(x, name) <- value, x$name <- value, x[[name]] <- value`: store the track value under `name`. Different implementations will support different types for `value`. Generally, an interval data structure like GenomicRanges.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

TrackHub-class

TrackHub Access

Description

The TrackHub class represents a TrackHub data source, essentially directory layout separating tracks and sequences by genome, along with a few metadata files. This interface abstracts those details and provides access to a TrackHub at any URL supported by R (HTTP, FTP, and local files). This is an easy way to make data accessible to the UCSC Genome Browser.
Constructor

TrackHub(uri, create = FALSE): Constructs a new TrackHub object, representing a repository at uri. If create is TRUE, and uri is writeable (i.e., local), the repository is created if it does not already exist. If it does exist, then a message is emitted to indicate that the repository was not recreated.

Accessor Methods

In the code snippets below, x represents a TrackHub object.

x$genome, x["genome"]: Get the TrackHubGenome object for the genome named genome.

length(x): number of genomes in the repository.

uri(x): Get the URI pointing to the TrackHub repository.

genome(x): Get the identifiers of the genomes present in the repository.

writeTrackHub(x): Write hub content and genomes from memory representation to the hub file and genomes file. It also create resources if they are missing like genomes file and genome directory for newly add genome.

Data Access

Note that all storing methods(like hub()<-) are only supported for local repositories, i.e., those with a file:// URI scheme.

hub(x): get the value of hub.

hub(x) <- value: store the value of hub for x.

shortLabel(x): get the value of hub.

shortLabel(x) <- value: store the value of shortLabel for x.

longLabel(x): get the value of hub.

longLabel(x) <- value: store the value of longLabel for x.

genoemFile(x): get the value of hub.

genoemFile(x) <- value: store the value of genomesFile for x.

eemail(x): get the value of hub.

eemail(x) <- value: store the value of email for x.

descriptionUrl(x): get the value of hub.

descriptionUrl(x) <- value: store the value of descriptionUrl for x.

genoemField(x, name, field): Get the value of field for name genome.

genoemField(x, name, field) <- value: Set or Update the field and value for name genome.

genoemInfo(x, name): Get the Genome object for name genome.

genoemInfo(x) <- value: Add value (Genome object) to existing genomes list. Genome takes named arguments of all UCSC supported fields for genome file(like genome, trackDb, twoBitPath, etc).
Author(s)
Michael Lawrence

Examples

```r
th <- TrackHub(system.file("tests", "trackhub", package = "rtracklayer"))
uri(th)
genome(th)
length(th)
th$hg19
th[["hg19"]]
hub(th)
email(th)

## Not run:
hub(th) <- "new_hub"
writeTrackHub(th)

## End(Not run)
```

---

**TrackHubGenome-class**  
*TrackHub Genome Access*

**Description**

A TrackHub data source is a collection of tracks and sequences, separated by genome. This class, TrackHubGenome provides direct access to the data for one particular genome.

**Constructor**

`TrackHubGenome(trackhub, genome, create = FALSE)`: Constructs a new `TrackHubGenome` object, representing genome in the repository `trackhub` (a URI string or a `TrackHub` object).

The genome argument can be an ID corresponding to a genome (potentially) in `trackhub` or an installed BSgenome package.

If `create` is `TRUE`, and the trackDb file does not already exist, it will be created. Creation only works if the repository is local and writeable.

**Accessor Methods**

In the code snippets below, `x` represent a `TrackHubGenome` object.

- `uri(x)`: Get the uri pointing to the genome directory in the TrackHub repository.
- `genome(x)`: Get the name of the genome, e.g. “hg19”.
- `length(x)`: number of tracks
- `names(x), trackNames(x)`: names of the tracks
- `getTracks(x)`: Get the List of Track from the tracks
trackhub(x): Get the TrackHub object that contains this genome.
organism(x): Get the organism name for this genome, e.g., “H sapiens”.
trackField(x, name, field): Get the value of field for name track.
trackField(x, name, field) <- value: Store the field and value for name track.
writeTrackHub(x): Write tracks from memory representation to the trackDb file.

Data Access

track(x, name), x$name: get the track called name
track(x, name, format = bestFileFormat(value)) <- value, x$name <- value: store the track value under name. Note that track storing is only supported for local repositories, i.e., those with a file:// URI scheme.
Currently, supported value types include a GenomicRanges, GRangesList, or a file resource (copied to the repository). The file resource may be represented as a path, URL, BiocFile or RsamtoolsFile. If not a file name, value is written in format. For generic interval data, this means a BigWig file (if there is a numeric “score” column) or a BED file otherwise. An RleList (e.g., coverage) is output as BigWig. For UCSCData values, the format is chosen according to the type of track line. For RsamtoolsFile objects, the file and its index are copied.

referenceSequence(x): Get the reference sequence, as a DNAStringSet.
referenceSequence(x) <- value: Set the reference sequence, as a DNAStringSet. It is written as a 2bit file. This only works on local repositories.

Author(s)
Michael Lawrence

Examples

tests_dir <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
ch <- TrackHub(file.path(tests_dir, "trackhub"))
ch <- TrackHubGenome(ch, "hg19")
length(ch)
organism(ch)
names(ch)

## Not run:
ch <- TrackHub(file.path(tests_dir, "trackhub"), create = TRUE)
genomesFile(ch) <- "genomes.txt"
genomeInfo(ch) <- Genome(genome = "hg38", trackDb = "hg38/trackDb.txt")
genomeField(ch, "hg38", "twoBitPath") <- "hg38/seq.2bit"
writeTrackHub(ch)
ch <- TrackHubGenome(ch, "hg38", create = TRUE)
seq <- import(file.path(tests_dir, "test.2bit"))
referenceSequence(ch) <- seq
track(ch, "PeaksData") <- paste0(tests_dir, "/test.bigWig")
trackField(ch, "wgEncodeUWDefineDnaseGM12878FdrPeaks", "bigDataUrl") <- "hg38/wgEncodeCshlShortRnaSeq.bigWig"
trackField(ch, "wgEncodeUWDefineDnaseGM12878FdrPeaks", "color") <- "8,104,172"
writeTrackHub(ch)
## TrackLine-class

### Description

An object representing a "track line" in the UCSC format. There are two concrete types of track lines: BasicTrackLine (used for most types of tracks) and GraphTrackLine (used for graphical tracks). This class only declares the common elements between the two.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("TrackLine", ...)` or parsed from a character vector track line with `as(text, "TrackLine")`. But note that UCSC only understands one of the subclasses mentioned above.

### Slots

- **name**: Object of class "character" specifying the name of the track.
- **description**: Object of class "character" describing the track.
- **visibility**: Object of class "character" indicating the default visible mode of the track, see UCSCTrackModes.
- **color**: Object of class "integer" representing the track color (as from `col2rgb`).
- **priority**: Object of class "numeric" specifying the rank of this track.

### Methods

- **as(object, "character")** Export line to its string representation.

### Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

### References

https://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/customTrack.html#TRACK for the official documentation.

### See Also

BasicTrackLine (used for most types of tracks) and GraphTrackLine (used for Wiggle/bedGraph tracks).
tracks-methods

Accessing track names

Description
Methods for getting and setting track names.

Methods

The following methods are defined by rtracklayer for getting track names via the generic trackNames(object, ...).

Get the tracks loaded in the session.

object = "UCSCSession" object = "UCSCTrackModes" Get the visible tracks according to the modes (all tracks not set to "hide").

object = "UCSCView" Get the visible tracks in the view.
The following methods are defined by rtracklayer for setting track names via the generic trackNames(object) <- value.

object = "UCSCTrackModes" Sets the tracks that should be visible in the modes. All specified tracks with mode "hide" in object are set to mode "full". Any tracks in object that are not specified in the value are set to "hide". No other modes are changed.

object = "UCSCView" Sets the visible tracks in the view. This opens a new web browser with only the specified tracks visible.

TwoBitFile-class

2bit Files

Description
These functions support the import and export of the UCSC 2bit compressed sequence format. The main advantage is speed of subsequence retrieval, as it only loads the sequence in the requested intervals. Compared to the FA format supported by Rsamtools, 2bit offers the additional feature of masking and also has better support in Java (and thus most genome browsers). The supporting TwoBitFile class is a reference to a TwoBit file.

Usage

## S4 method for signature 'TwoBitFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
    which = as(seqinfo(con), "GenomicRanges"), ...)
## S4 method for signature 'TwoBitFile'
getSeq(x, which = as(seqinfo(x), "GenomicRanges"))
import.2bit(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,TwoBitFile,ANY'
TwoBitFile-class

export(object, con, format, ...)  
## S4 method for signature 'DNAStringSet,TwoBitFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format)
## S4 method for signature 'DNAStringSet,character,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
export.2bit(object, con, ...)

Arguments

con          A path, URL or TwoBitFile object. Connections are not supported. For the functions ending in .2bit, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the export and import methods, the format must be indicated another way. If con is a path, or URL, either the file extension or the format argument needs to be “twoBit” or “2bit”.
object, x     The object to export, either a DNAStringSet or something coercible to a DNAStringSet, like a character vector.
format        If not missing, should be “twoBit” or “2bit” (case insensitive).
text          Not supported.
which         A range data structure coercible to IntegerRangesList, like a GRanges, or a TwoBitFile. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. By default, the value is the TwoBitFile itself. Its Seqinfo object is extracted and coerced to a IntegerRangesList that represents the entirety of the file.
...           Arguments to pass down to methods to other methods. For import, the flow eventually reaches the TwoBitFile method on import. For export, the TwoBitFile methods on export are the sink.

Value

For import, a DNAStringSet.

TwoBitFile objects

A TwoBitFile object, an extension of BioCFile-class is a reference to a TwoBit file. To cast a path, URL or connection to a TwoBitFile, pass it to the TwoBitFile constructor.

A TwoBit file embeds the sequence information, which can be retrieved with the following:

seqinfo(x): Gets the Seqinfo object indicating the lengths of the sequences for the intervals in the file. No circularity or genome information is available.

Note

The 2bit format only supports A, C, G, T and N (via an internal mask). To export sequences with additional IUPAC ambiguity codes, first pass the object through replaceAmbiguities from the Biostrings package.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence
See Also

export-methods in the BSgenome package for exporting a BSgenome object as a twoBit file.

Examples

test_path <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
test_2bit <- file.path(test_path, "test.2bit")

test <- import(test_2bit)
test

test_2bit_file <- TwoBitFile(test_2bit)
import(test_2bit_file) # the whole file

which_range <- IRanges(c(10, 40), c(30, 42))
which <- GRanges(names(test), which_range)
import(test_2bit, which = which)

seqinfo(test_2bit_file)

## Not run:
test_2bit_out <- file.path(tempdir(), "test_out.2bit")
export(test, test_2bit_out)

## just a character vector
test_char <- as.character(test)
export(test_char, test_2bit_out)

## End(Not run)

UCSCData-class

Class "UCSCData"

Description

Each track in UCSC has an associated TrackLine that contains metadata on the track.

Slots

trackLine: Object of class "TrackLine" holding track metadata.

Methods

export.bed(object, con, variant = c("base", "bedGraph", "bed15"), color, trackLine = TRUE, ...)
Exports the track and its track line (if trackLine is TRUE) to con in the Browser Extended Display (BED) format. The arguments in ... are passed to export.ucsc.

export.bed15(object, con, expNames = NULL, ...) Exports the track and its track line (if trackLine is TRUE) to con in the Bed15 format. The data is taken from the columns named in expNames, which defaults to the expNames in the track line, if any, otherwise all column names. The arguments in ... are passed to export.ucsc.
**export.gff(object)** Exports the track and its track line (as a comment) to `con` in the General Feature Format (GFF).

**export.ucsc(object, con, subformat, ...)** Exports the track and its track line to `con` in the UCSC meta-format.

**as(object, "UCSCData")** Constructs a `UCSCData` from a GRanges instance, by adding a default track line and ensuring that the sequence/chromosome names are compliant with UCSC conventions. If there is a numeric score, the track line type is either "bedGraph" or "wig", depending on the feature density. Otherwise, "bed" is chosen.

**Author(s)**
Michael Lawrence

**See Also**
`import` and `export` for reading and writing tracks to and from connections (files), respectively.

---

**UCSCFile-class**

**UCSCFile objects**

**Description**

These functions support the import and export of tracks emulated within the UCSC track line metaformat, whereby multiple tracks may be concatenated within a single file, along with metadata mostly oriented towards visualization. Any `UCSCData` object is automatically exported in this format, if the targeted format is known to be compatible. The BED and WIG import methods check for a track line, and delegate to these functions if one is found. Thus, calling this API directly is only necessary when importing embedded GFF (rare), or when one wants to create the track line during the export process.

**Usage**

```r
## S4 method for signature 'UCSCFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text,
    subformat = "auto", drop = FALSE,
    genome = NA, ...)
import.ucsc(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,UCSCFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,UCSCFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRangesList,UCSCFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
    append = FALSE, index = FALSE, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'UCSCData,UCSCFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
```

---


subformat = "auto", append = FALSE, index = FALSE, ...)  
export.ucsc(object, con, ...)  

Arguments  

con  
A path, URL, connection or UCSCFile object. For the functions ending in .ucsc, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the base export and import functions, “ucsc” must be passed as the format argument.  

object  
The object to export, should be a GRanges or something coercible to a GRanges. For exporting multiple tracks pass a GenomicRangesList, or something coercible to one.  

format  
If not missing, should be “ucsc”.  

text  
If con is missing, should be “ucsc”.  

subformat  
The file format to use for the actual features, between the track lines. Must be a text-based format that is compatible with track lines (most are). If an BiocFile subclass other than UCSCFile is passed as con to import.ucsc or export.ucsc, the subformat is assumed to be the corresponding format of con. Otherwise it defaults to “auto”. The following describes the logic of the “auto” mode. For import, the subformat is taken as the type field in the track line. If none, the file extension is consulted. For export, if object is a UCSCData, the subformat is taken as the type in its track line, if present. Otherwise, the subformat is chosen based on whether object contains a “score” column. If there is a score, the target is either BEDGraph or WIG, depending on the structure of the ranges. Otherwise, BED is the target.  

geno-ce  
The identifier of a genome, or NA if unknown. Typically, this is a UCSC identifier like “hg19”. An attempt will be made to derive the seqinfo on the return value using either an installed BSgenome package or UCSC, if network access is available. This defaults to the db BED track line parameter, if any.  

drop  
If TRUE, and there is only one track in the file, return the track object directly, rather than embedding it in a list.  

append  
If TRUE, and con points to a file path, the data is appended to the file. Obviously, if con is a connection, the data is always appended.  

index  
If TRUE, automatically compress and index the output file with bgzf and tabix. Note that tabix indexing will sort the data by chromosome and start. Tabix supports a single track in a file.  

...  
Should either specify track line parameters or arguments to pass down to the import and export routine for the subformat.  

Details  
The UCSC track line permits the storage of multiple tracks in a single file by separating them with a so-called “track line”, a line belonging with the word “track” and containing various key=value pairs encoding metadata, most related to visualization. The standard fields in a track depend on the type of track being annotated. See TrackLine and its derivatives for how these lines are represented in R. The class UCSCData is an extension of GRanges with a formal slot for a TrackLine. Each GRanges in the returned GenomicRangesList has the track line stored in its metadata, under the trackLine key.
For each track object to be exported, if the object is not a UCSCData, and there is no trackLine element in the metadata, then a new track line needs to be generated. This happens through the coercion of object to UCSCData. The track line is initialized to have the appropriate type parameter for the subformat, and the required name parameter is taken from the name of the track in the input list (if any). Otherwise, the default is simply “R Track”. The db parameter (specific to BED track lines) is taken as genome(object) if not NA. Additional arguments passed to the export routines override parameters in the provided track line.

If the subformat is either WIG or BEDGraph, and the features are stranded, a separate track will be output in the file for each strand. Neither of those formats encodes the strand and disallow overlapping features (which might occur upon destranding).

Value

A GenomicRangesList unless drop is TRUE and there is only a single track in the file. In that case, the first and only object is extracted from the list and returned. The structure of that object depends on the format of the data. The GenomicRangesList contains UCSCData objects.

UCSCFile objects

The UCSCFile class extends BiocFile and is a formal representation of a resource in the UCSC format. To cast a path, URL or connection to a UCSCFile, pass it to the UCSCFile constructor.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

References

https://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/customTrack.html

ucscGenomes

Get available genomes on UCSC

Description

Get a data.frame describing the available UCSC genomes.

Usage

ucscGenomes(organism=FALSE)

Arguments

organism  A logical(1) indicating whether scientific name should be appended.

Details

For populating the organism column, the web url https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin is scraped for every assembly version to get the scientific name.
Value

A `data.frame` with the following columns:

- **db**: UCSC DB identifier (e.g. "hg18")
- **species**: The name of the species (e.g. "Human")
- **date**: The date the genome was built
- **name**: The official name of the genome build
- **organism**: The scientific name of the species (e.g. "Homo sapiens")

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

`UCSCSession` for details on specifying the genome.

Examples

```r
ucscGenomes()
```

---

UCSCSchema-class  

UCSC Schema

Description

This is a preliminary class that describes a table in the UCSC database. The description includes the table name, corresponding genome, row count, and a textual description of the format. In the future, we could provide more table information, like the links and sample data frame. This is awaiting a use-case.

Accessor methods

In the code snippets below, `x/object` is a UCSCSchema object.

- `genome(x)`: Get the genome for the table.
- `tableName(x)`: Get the name of the table.
- `nrow(x)`: Get the number of rows in the table.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence
Examples

## Not run:
```r
session <- browserSession()
genome(session) <- "mm9"
query <- ucscTableQuery(session, "knownGene")
schema <- ucscSchema(query)
nrow(schema)
```

## End(Not run)

---

**UCSCSession-class**

Class "UCSCSession"

Description

An implementation of *BrowserSession* for the UCSC genome browser.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `browserSession("ucsc", url = "https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin", ...)` The arguments in ... correspond to libcurl options, see *httr_options*. Setting these options may be useful e.g. for getting past a proxy.

Slots

- `url`: Object of class "character" holding the base URL of the UCSC browser.
- `hguid`: Object of class "numeric" holding the user identification code.
- `views`: Object of class "environment" containing a list stored under the name "instances". The list holds the instances of *BrowserView* for this session.

Extends

Class "BrowserSession", directly.

Methods

- `browserView(object, range = range(object), track = trackNames(object), ...)`: Creates a *BrowserView* of range with visible tracks specified by track. track may be an instance of *UCSCTrackModes*. Arguments in ... should match parameters to a *ucscTrackModes* method for creating a UCSCTrackModes instance that will be merged with and override modes indicated by the track parameter.

- `browserViews(object)`: Gets the *BrowserView* instances for this session.
- `range(x)`: Gets the GRanges last displayed in this session.
- `genome(x)`: Gets the genome identifier of the session, i.e. genome(range(x)).
- `seqinfo`: Gets the Seqinfo object with the lengths of the chromosomes in the current genome. No circularity information is available.
range(x) <- value  Sets value, usually a GRanges object or IntegerRangesList, as the range of session x. Note that this setting only lasts until a view is created or manipulated. This mechanism is useful, for example, when treating the UCSC browser as a database, rather than a genome viewer.

genome(x) <- value  Sets the genome identifier on the range of session x.

getSeq(object, range, track = "Assembly")  Gets the sequence in range and track.

track(object, name = names(track), format = "auto", ...) <- value  Loads a track, stored under name and formatted as format. The "auto" format resolves to "bed" for qualitative data. For quantitative data, i.e., data with a numeric score column, "wig" or "bedGraph" is chosen, depending on how well the data compresses into wig. The arguments in ... are passed on to export.ucsc, so they could be slots in a TrackLine subclass (and thus specify visual attributes like color) or parameters to pass on to the export function for format. The value may be either a range object (like a GRanges) or a file object (like a BEDFile).

track(object, name, range = range(object), table = NULL)  Retrieves a GRanges with features in range from track named name. Some built-in tracks have multiple series, each stored in a separate database table. A specific table may be retrieved by passing its name in the table parameter. See tableNames for a way to list the available tables.

getable(object, name, range = base::range(object), table = NULL): Retrieves the table indicated by the track name and table name, over range, as a data.frame. See getTable.

trackNames(object)  Gets the names of the tracks stored in the session.

ucscTrackModes(object)  Gets the default view modes for the tracks in the session.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

browserSession for creating instances of this class.
Details

There are six supported fields for a table query:

**provider** The provider should be a session, a genome identifier, or a TrackHub URI. session: The `UCSCSession` instance from the tables are retrieved. Although all sessions are based on the same database, the set of user-uploaded tracks, which are represented as tables, is not the same, in general.

**tableName** The name of the specific table to retrieve. May be NULL, in which case the behavior depends on how the query is executed, see below.

**range** A genome identifier, a `GRanges` or a `IntegerRangesList` indicating the portion of the table to retrieve, in genome coordinates. Simply specifying the genome string is the easiest way to download data for the entire genome, and `GRangesForUCSCGenome` facilitates downloading data for e.g. an entire chromosome.

**hubUrl** The URI of the specific TrackHub

**genome** A genome identifier of the specific TrackHub, only need to provide it if the provider is up of TrackHub URI.

**names** Names/accessions of the desired features

A common workflow for querying the UCSC database is to create an instance of `UCSCTableQuery` using the `ucscTableQuery` constructor, invoke `tableNames` to list the available tables for a track, and finally to retrieve the desired table either as a `data.frame` via `getTable` or as a track via `track`. See the examples.

The reason for a formal query class is to facilitate multiple queries when the differences between the queries are small. For example, one might want to query multiple tables within the track and/or same genomic region, or query the same table for multiple regions. The `UCSCTableQuery` instance can be incrementally adjusted for each new query. Some caching is also performed, which enhances performance.

Constructor

`ucscTableQuery(x, range = seqinfo(x), table = NULL, names = NULL, hubUrl = NULL, genome = NULL)`: Creates a `UCSCTableQuery` with the `UCSCSession`, genome identifier or TrackHub URI given as `x` and the table name given by the single string `table`. `range` should be a genome string identifier, a `GRanges` instance or `IntegerRangesList` instance, and it effectively defaults to `genome(x)`. If the genome is missing, it is taken from the provider. Feature names, such as gene identifiers, may be passed via `names` as a character vector.

Executing Queries

Below, `object` is a `UCSCTableQuery` instance.

`track(object)`: Retrieves the indicated table as a track, i.e. a `GRanges` object. Note that not all tables are available as tracks.

`getTable(object)`: Retrieves the indicated table as a `data.frame`. Note that not all tables are output in parseable form, and that UCSC will truncate responses if they exceed certain limits (usually around 100,000 records). The safest (and most efficient) bet for large queries is to download the file via FTP and query it locally.
tableNames(object): Gets the names of the tables available for the provider, table and range specified by the query.

Accessor methods

In the code snippets below, x/object is a UCSTableQuery object.

genome(x), genome(x) <- value: Gets or sets the genome identifier (e.g. “hg18”) of the object.
hubUrl(x), hubUrl(x) <- value: Gets or sets the TrackHub URI.
tableName(x), tableName(x) <- value: Get or set the single string indicating the name of the table to retrieve. May be NULL, in which case the table is automatically determined.
range(x), range(x) <- value: Get or set the GRanges indicating the portion of the table to retrieve in genomic coordinates. Any missing information, such as the genome identifier, is filled in using range(browserSession(x)). It is also possible to set the genome identifier string or a IntegerRangesList.
names(x), names(x) <- value: Get or set the names of the features to retrieve. If NULL, this filter is disabled.
ucscSchema(x): Get the UCSCSchema object describing the selected table.
ucscTables(genome, track): Get the list of tables for the specified track(e.g. “Assembly”) and genome identifier (e.g. “hg19”). Here genome and track must be a single non-NA string.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

Examples

## Not run:
# query using `session` provider
session <- browserSession()
genome(session) <- "mm9"
# choose the phastCons30way table for a portion of mm9 chr1
query <- ucscTableQuery(session, table = "phastCons30way",
    range = GRangesForUCSCGenome("mm9", "chr12",
    IRanges(57795963, 57815592)))

## list the table names
tableNames(query)
## retrieve the track data
track(query)  # a GRanges object
## get the multiz30waySummary track
tableName(query) <- "multiz30waySummary"
## get a data.frame summarizing the multiple alignment
getTable(query)

# query using "genome identifier" provider
query <- ucscTableQuery("hg18", table = "snpl29",
    names = c("rs10003974", "rs10087355", "rs10075230"))
ucscSchema(query)
getTable(query)
# query using `TrackHub URI` provider
    genome = "hg19", table = "ALFA_GLB")
getTable(query)

# get the list of tables for 'Assembly' track and 'hg19' genome identifier
ucscTables("hg19", "Assembly")

## End(Not run)

UCSCTrackModes-class  
Class "UCSCTrackModes"

Description
A vector of view modes ("hide", "dense", "full", "pack", "squish") for each track in a UCSC view.

Objects from the Class
Objects may be created by calls of the form `ucscTrackModes(object = character(), hide = character(), dense = character(), pack = character(), squish = character(), full = character())`, where `object` should be a character vector of mode names (with its names attribute specifying the corresponding track names). The other parameters should contain track names that override the modes in `object`. Later parameters override earlier ones, so, for example, if a track is named in `hide` and `full`, it is shown in the full view mode.

Slots
- `.Data`: Object of class "character" holding the modes ("hide", "dense", "full", "pack", "squish"), with its names attribute holding corresponding track names.
- `labels`: Object of class "character" holding labels (human-readable names) corresponding to each track/mode.

Extends
Class "character", from data part. Class "vector", by class "character", distance 2.

Methods
- `trackNames(object)` Gets the names of the visible tracks (those that do not have mode "hide").
- `trackNames(object) <- value` Sets the names of the visible tracks. Any tracks named in `value` are set to "full" if the are currently set to "hide" in this object. Any tracks not in `value` are set to "hide". All other modes are preserved.
- `object[i]` Gets the track mode of the tracks indexed by `i`, which can be any type of index supported by character vector subsetting. If `i` is a character vector, it indexes first by the internal track IDs (the names on `.Data`) and then by the user-level track names (the `labels` slot).
- `object[i] <- value` Sets the track modes indexed by `i` (in the same way as in `object[i]` above) to those specified in `value`. 

Description

Generics for getting and setting UCSC track visibility modes ("hide", "dense", "full", "pack", "squish").

Methods

The following methods are defined by \texttt{rtracklayer} for **getting** the track modes through the generic \texttt{ucscTrackModes(object, ...)}.

\begin{verbatim}
function(object, hide = character(), dense = character(), pack = character(), squish = character(), full = character())
\end{verbatim}

Creates an instance of \texttt{UCSCTrackModes} from \texttt{object}, a character vector of mode names, with the corresponding track ids given in the names attribute. Note that \texttt{object} can be a \texttt{UCSCTrackModes} instance, as \texttt{UCSCTrackModes} extends \texttt{character}. The other parameters are character vectors identifying the tracks for each mode and overriding the modes specified by \texttt{object}.

\begin{verbatim}
object = "character" object = "missing"
\end{verbatim}

The same interface as above, except \texttt{object} defaults to an empty character vector.

\begin{verbatim}
object = "UCSCView"
\end{verbatim}

Sets the modes for the tracks in the view.

\begin{verbatim}
object = "UCSCSession"
\end{verbatim}

Gets default modes for the tracks in the session. These are the modes that will be used as the default for a newly created view.

The following methods are defined by \texttt{rtracklayer} for **setting** the track modes through the generic \texttt{ucscTrackModes(object) <- value}.

\begin{verbatim}
object = "UCSCView", value = "UCSCTrackModes"
\end{verbatim}

Sets the modes for the tracks in the view.

\begin{verbatim}
object = "UCSCView", value = "character"
\end{verbatim}

Sets the modes from a character vector of mode names, with the corresponding track names given in the names attribute.

See Also

\texttt{trackNames} and \texttt{trackNames<-} for just getting or setting which tracks are visible (not of mode "hide").
Examples

# Tracks "foo" and "bar" are fully shown, "baz" is hidden
modes <- ucscTrackModes(full = c("foo", "bar"), hide = "baz")
# Update the modes to hide track "bar"
modes2 <- ucscTrackModes(modes, hide = "bar")

Description

An object representing a view of a genome in the UCSC browser.

Objects from the Class

Calling browserView(session, range = range(object), track = trackNames(object), browse = TRUE, ...) creates BrowserView of range with visible tracks specified by track. track may be an instance of UCSCTrackModes. Arguments in ... should match parameters to a ucscTrackModes method for creating a UCSCTrackModes instance that will be merged with and override modes indicated by the track parameter. If browse is TRUE (default), automatically launch a browser to display the view.

Slots

hgsid: Object of class "numeric", which identifies this view to UCSC.

session: Object of class "BrowserSession" to which this view belongs.

Extends

Class "BrowserView", directly.

Methods

activeView(object) Obtains a logical indicating whether this view is the active view.

range(object) Obtains the GRanges displayed by this view.

range(object) <- value Sets the GRanges or IntegerRangesList displayed by this view.

trackNames(object) Gets the names of the visible tracks in this view.

trackNames(object) <- value Sets the visible tracks by name.

visible(object) Get a named logical vector indicating whether each track is visible.

visible(object) <- value Set a logical vector indicating the visibility of each track, in the same order as returned by visible(object).

ucscTrackModes(object) Obtains the UCSCTrackModes for this view.

ucscTrackModes(object) <- value Sets the UCSCTrackModes for this view. The value may be either a UCSCTrackModes instance or a character vector that will be coerced by a call to ucscTrackModes.
Utilities

viewURL(x)  Gets the URL corresponding to the view x. Typically used when passing `browse=FALSE` to the constructor in order to display the view in another way.

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

See Also

`browserView` for creating instances of this class.

WIGFile-class  WIG Import and Export

Description

These functions support the import and export of the UCSC WIG (Wiggle) format.

Usage

```r
## S4 method for signature 'WIGFile,ANY,ANY'
import(con, format, text, genome = NA,
       trackLine = TRUE, which = NULL, seqinfo = NULL, ...)
import.wig(con, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY,WIGFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRanges,WIGFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
       dataFormat = c("auto", "variableStep", "fixedStep"),
       writer = .wigWriter, append = FALSE, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'GenomicRangesList,WIGFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'UCSCData,WIGFile,ANY'
export(object, con, format,
       trackLine = TRUE, ...)
export.wig(object, con, ...)
```

Arguments

- `con`  A path, URL, connection or `WIGFile` object. For the functions ending in `.wig`, the file format is indicated by the function name. For the base `export` and `import` functions, the format must be indicated another way. If `con` is a path, URL or connection, either the file extension or the `format` argument needs to be "wig". Compressed files ("gz", "bz2" and "xz") are handled transparently.
The object to export, should be a GRanges or something coercible to a GRanges. For exporting multiple tracks, in the UCSC track line metaformat, pass a GenomicRangesList, or something coercible to one.

If not missing, should be “wig”.

Whether to parse/output a UCSC track line. An imported track line will be stored in a TrackLine object, as part of the returned UCSCData.

The identifier of a genome, or NA if unknown. Typically, this is a UCSC identifier like “hg19”. An attempt will be made to derive the seqinfo on the return value using either an installed BSgenome package or UCSC, if network access is available.

If not NULL, the Seqinfo object to set on the result. If the genome argument is not NA, it must agree with genome(seqinfo).

A range data structure like IntegerRangesList or GRanges. Only the intervals in the file overlapping the given ranges are returned. This is inefficient; use BigWig for efficient spatial queries.

If TRUE, and con points to a file path, the data is appended to the file. Obviously, if con is a connection, the data is always appended.

Probably best left to “auto”. Exists only for historical reasons.

Function for writing out the blocks; for internal use only.

Arguments to pass down to methods to other methods. For import, the flow eventually reaches the WIGFile method on import. When trackLine is TRUE, the arguments are passed through export.ucsc, so track line parameters are supported.

The WIG format is a text-based format for efficiently representing a dense genome-scale score vector. It encodes, for each feature, a range and score. Features from the same sequence (chromosome) are grouped together into a block, with a single block header line indicating the chromosome. There are two block formats: fixed step and variable step. For fixed step, the number of positions (or step) between intervals is the same across an entire block. For variable step, the start position is specified for each feature. For both fixed and variable step, the span (or width) is specified in the header and thus must be the same across all features. This requirement of uniform width dramatically limits the applicability of WIG. For scored features of variable width, consider BEDGraph or BigWig, which is generally preferred over both WIG and BEDGraph. To efficiently convert an existing WIG or BEDGraph file to BigWig, call wigToBigWig. Neither WIG, BEDGraph nor BigWig allow overlapping features.

A GRanges with the score values in the score metadata column, which is accessible via the score function.

The WIGFile class extends BiocFile and is a formal representation of a resource in the WIG format. To cast a path, URL or connection to a WIGFile, pass it to the WIGFile constructor.
WIGFile-class

Author(s)

Michael Lawrence

References

https://genome.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/help/wiggle.html

Examples

test_path <- system.file("tests", package = "rtracklayer")
test_wig <- file.path(test_path, "step.wig")

## basic import calls
test <- import(test_wig)
test
import.wig(test_wig)
test_wig_file <- WIGFile(test_wig)
import(test_wig_file)
test_wig_con <- file(test_wig)
import(test_wig_con, format = "wig")
test_wig_con <- file(test_wig)
import(WIGFile(test_wig_con))

## various options
import(test_wig, genome = "hg19")
import(test_wig, trackLine = FALSE)
which <- as(test[3:4,], "IntegerRangesList")
import(test_wig, which = which)

## Not run:
## basic export calls

## appending

## passing track line parameters

## no track line

## gzip
test_wig.gz <- paste(test_wig_out, ".gz", sep = "")
export(test, test_wig.gz)

## End(Not run)

### wigToBigWig

**Convert WIG to BigWig**

**Description**

This function calls the Kent C library to efficiently convert a WIG file to a BigWig file, without loading the entire file into memory. This solves the problem where simple tools write out text WIG files, instead of more efficiently accessed binary BigWig files.

**Usage**

```r
wigToBigWig(x, seqinfo,
            dest = paste(file_path_sans_ext(x, TRUE), "bw", sep = "."),
            clip = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

- `x` Path or URL to the WIG file. Connections are not supported.
- `seqinfo` *Seqinfo* object, describing the genome of the data. All BigWig files must have this defined.
- `dest` The path to which to write the BigWig file. Defaults to `x` with the extension changed to “bw”.
- `clip` If TRUE, regions outside of seqinfo will be clipped, so that no error is thrown.

**Author(s)**

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**See Also**

*BigWig* import and export support
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