

Package ‘wigggleplotr’

August 7, 2025

Title Make read coverage plots from BigWig files
Version 1.33.0
Author Kaur Alasoo [aut, cre]
Maintainer Kaur Alasoo <kaur.alasoo@gmail.com>
Description Tools to visualise read coverage from sequencing experiments together with genomic annotations (genes, transcripts, peaks). Introns of long transcripts can be rescaled to a fixed length for better visualisation of exonic read coverage.
Depends R (>= 3.6)
Imports dplyr, ggplot2 (>= 2.2.0), GenomicRanges, rtracklayer, cowplot, assertthat, purrr, S4Vectors, IRanges, GenomeInfoDb
License Apache License 2.0
LazyData true
RoxygenNote 6.1.1
Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, biomaRt, GenomicFeatures, testthat, ensemblDb, EnsDb.Hsapiens.v86, org.Hs.eg.db, TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene, AnnotationDbi, AnnotationFilter
VignetteBuilder knitr
biocViews ImmunoOncology, Coverage, RNASeq, ChIPSeq, Sequencing, Visualization, GeneExpression, Transcription, AlternativeSplicing
git_url <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/wigggleplotr>
git_branch devel
git_last_commit f669792
git_last_commit_date 2025-04-15
Repository Bioconductor 3.22
Date/Publication 2025-08-06

Contents

getGenotypePalette	2
makeManhattanPlot	2

ncoa7_cdss	3
ncoa7_exons	4
ncoa7_metadata	4
pasteFactors	5
plotCoverage	5
plotCoverageFromEnsemblDb	7
plotCoverageFromUCSC	8
plotTranscripts	9
plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb	10
plotTranscriptsFromUCSC	10
wiggleplotr	11
Index	12

getGenotypePalette	Returns a three-colour palette suitable for visualising read coverage stratified by genotype
--------------------	--

Description

Returns a three-colour palette suitable for visualising read coverage stratified by genotype

Usage

getGenotypePalette(old = FALSE)

Arguments

old Return old colour palette (now deprecated).

Value

Vector of three colours.

Examples

getGenotypePalette()

makeManhattanPlot	Make a Manahattan plot of p-values
-------------------	------------------------------------

Description

The Manhattan plots is compatible with wiggleplotr read coverage and transcript strucutre plots. Can be appended to those using the cowplot::plot_grid() function.

Usage

makeManhattanPlot(pvalues_df, region_coords, color_R2 = FALSE,
data_track = TRUE)

Arguments

pvalues_df	Data frame of association p-values (required columns: track_id, p_nominal, pos)
region_coords	Start and end coordinates of the region to plot.
color_R2	Color the points according to R2 from the lead variant. Require R2 column in the pvalues_df data frame.
data_track	If TRUE, then remove all information from x-axis. Makes it easy to append to read coverage or transcript strcture plots using cowplot::plot_grid().

Value

ggplot2 object

Examples

```
data = dplyr::data_frame(track_id = "GWAS", pos = sample(c(1:1000), 200), p_nominal = runif(200, min = 0.000000)
makeManhattanPlot(data, c(1,1000), data_track = FALSE)
```

ncoa7_cdss

Coding sequences from 9 protein coding transcripts of NCOA7

Description

A dataset containing start and end coordinates of coding sequences (CDS) from nine protein coding transcripts of NCOA7.

Usage

```
ncoa7_cdss
```

Format

A GRangesList object with 9 elements:

element CDS start and end coordinates for a single transcript (GRanges object) ...

Source

<http://www.ensembl.org/>

ncoa7_exons	<i>Exons from 9 protein coding transcripts of NCOA7</i>
-------------	---

Description

A dataset containing start and end coordinates of exons from nine protein coding transcripts of NCOA7.

Usage

ncoa7_exons

Format

A GRangesList object with 9 elements:

element Exon start and end coordinates for a single transcript (GRanges object) ...

Source

<http://www.ensembl.org/>

ncoa7_metadata	<i>Gene metadata for NCOA7</i>
----------------	--------------------------------

Description

A a list of transcripts for NCOA7.

Usage

ncoa7_metadata

Format

A data.frame object with 4 columns:

transcript_id Ensembl transcript id.

gene_id Ensembl gene id.

gene_name Human readable gene name.

strand Strand of the transcript (either +1 or -1). ...

Source

<http://www.ensembl.org/>

pasteFactors	<i>Paste two factors together and preserved their joint order.</i>
--------------	--

Description

Paste two factors together and preserved their joint order.

Usage

```
pasteFactors(factor1, factor2)
```

Arguments

factor1	First factor
factor2	Second factor

Value

Factors factor1 and factor2 pasted together.

plotCoverage	<i>Plot read coverage across genomic regions</i>
--------------	--

Description

Also supports rescaling introns to constant length. Does not work on Windows, because rtracklayer cannot read BigWig files on Windows.

Usage

```
plotCoverage(exons, cdss = NULL, transcript_annotations = NULL,
  track_data, rescale_introns = TRUE, new_intron_length = 50,
  flanking_length = c(50, 50), plot_fraction = 0.1, heights = c(0.75,
  0.25), alpha = 1, fill_palette = c("#a1dab4", "#41b6c4", "#225ea8"),
  mean_only = TRUE, connect_exons = TRUE, transcript_label = TRUE,
  return_subplots_list = FALSE, region_coords = NULL,
  coverage_type = "area")
```

Arguments

exons	list of GRanges objects, each object containing exons for one transcript. The list must have names that correspond to transcript_id column in transcript_annotations data.frame.
cdss	list of GRanges objects, each object containing the coding regions (CDS) of a single transcript. The list must have names that correspond to transcript_id column in transcript_annotations data.frame. If cdss is not specified then exons list will be used for both arguments. (default: NULL).

transcript_annotations	Data frame with at least three columns: transcript_id, gene_name, strand. Used to construct transcript labels. (default: NULL)
track_data	data.frame with the metadata for the bigWig read coverage files. Must contain the following columns: • sample_id - unique id for each sample. • track_id - if multiple samples (bigWig files) have the same track_id they will be overlayed on the same plot, track_id is also used as the facet label on the right. • bigWig - path to the bigWig file. • scaling_factor - normalisation factor for each sample, useful if different samples sequenced to different depth and bigWig files not normalised for that. • colour_group - additional column to group samples into, is used as the colour of the coverage track.
rescale_introns	Specifies if the introns should be scaled to fixed length or not. (default: TRUE)
new_intron_length	length (bp) of introns after scaling. (default: 50)
flanking_length	Lengths of the flanking regions upstream and downstream of the gene. (default: c(50,50))
plot_fraction	Size of the random sub-sample of points used to plot coverage (between 0 and 1). Smaller values make plotting significantly faster. (default: 0.1)
heights	Specifies the proportion of the height that is dedicated to coverage plots (first value) relative to transcript annotations (second value). (default: c(0.75,0.25))
alpha	Transparency (alpha) value for the read coverage tracks. Useful to set to something < 1 when overlaying multiple tracks (see track_id). (default: 1)
fill_palette	Vector of fill colours used for the coverage tracks. Length must be equal to the number of unique values in track_data\$colour_group column.
mean_only	Plot only mean coverage within each combination of track_id and colour_group values. Useful for example for plotting mean coverage stratified by genotype (which is specified in the colour_group column) (default: TRUE).
connect_exons	Print lines that connect exons together. Set to FALSE when plotting peaks (default: TRUE).
transcript_label	If TRUE then transcript labels are printed above each transcript. (default: TRUE).
return_subplots_list	Instead of a joint plot return a list of subplots that can be joined together manually.
region_coords	Start and end coordinates of the region to plot, overrides flanking_length parameter.
coverage_type	Specifies if the read coverage is represented by either 'line', 'area' or 'both'. The 'both' option tends to give better results for wide regions. (default: area).

Value

Either object from cow_plot::plot_grid() function or a list of subplots (if return_subplots_list == TRUE)

Examples

```
require("dplyr")
require("GenomicRanges")
sample_data = dplyr::data_frame(sample_id = c("aipt_A", "aipt_C", "bima_A", "bima_C"),
  condition = factor(c("Naive", "LPS", "Naive", "LPS"), levels = c("Naive", "LPS")),
  scaling_factor = 1) %>%
  dplyr::mutate(bigWig = system.file("extdata", paste0(sample_id, ".str2.bw"), package = "wigglyplotr"))

track_data = dplyr::mutate(sample_data, track_id = condition, colour_group = condition)

selected_transcripts = c("ENST00000438495", "ENST00000392477") #Plot only two transcripts of the gens
## Not run:
plotCoverage(ncoa7_exons[selected_transcripts], ncoa7_cdss[selected_transcripts],
  ncoa7_metadata, track_data,
  heights = c(2,1), fill_palette = getGenotypePalette())

## End(Not run)
```

plotCoverageFromEnsemblDb

Plot read coverage directly from ensemblDb object.

Description

A wrapper around the plotCoverage function. See the documentation for ([plotCoverage](#)) for more information.

Usage

```
plotCoverageFromEnsemblDb(ensemldb, gene_names, transcript_ids = NULL,
  ...)
```

Arguments

ensemldb	ensemldb object.
gene_names	List of gene names to be plotted.
transcript_ids	Optional list of transcript ids to be plotted.
...	Additional parameters to be passed to plotCoverage.

Value

ggplot2 object

Examples

```
require("EnsDb.Hsapiens.v86")
require("dplyr")
require("GenomicRanges")
sample_data = dplyr::data_frame(sample_id = c("aipt_A", "aipt_C", "bima_A", "bima_C"),
  condition = factor(c("Naive", "LPS", "Naive", "LPS"), levels = c("Naive", "LPS")),
  scaling_factor = 1) %>%
```

```
dplyr::mutate(bigWig = system.file("extdata", paste0(sample_id, ".str2.bw"), package = "wigglyplotr"))

track_data = dplyr::mutate(sample_data, track_id = condition, colour_group = condition)
## Not run:
plotCoverageFromEnsemblDb(EnsDb.Hsapiens.v86, "NCOA7", transcript_ids = c("ENST00000438495", "ENST0000039247"),
track_data, heights = c(2,1), fill_palette = getGenotypePalette())

## End(Not run)
```

plotCoverageFromUCSC *Plot read coverage directly from UCSC OrgDb and TxDb objects.*

Description

A wrapper around the `plotCoverage` function. See the documentation for ([plotCoverage](#)) for more information.

Usage

```
plotCoverageFromUCSC(orgdb, txdb, gene_names, transcript_ids = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>orgdb</code>	UCSC OrgDb object.
<code>txdb</code>	UCSC TxDb object.
<code>gene_names</code>	List of gene names to be plotted.
<code>transcript_ids</code>	Optional list of transcript ids to be plotted.
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters to be passed to <code>plotCoverage</code> .

Value

ggplot2 object

Examples

```
require("dplyr")
require("GenomicRanges")
require("org.Hs.eg.db")
require("TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene")

orgdb = org.Hs.eg.db
txdb = TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene

sample_data = dplyr::data_frame(sample_id = c("a1pt_A", "a1pt_C", "b1ma_A", "b1ma_C"),
condition = factor(c("Naive", "LPS", "Naive", "LPS"), levels = c("Naive", "LPS")),
scaling_factor = 1) %>%
dplyr::mutate(bigWig = system.file("extdata", paste0(sample_id, ".str2.bw"), package = "wigglyplotr"))

track_data = dplyr::mutate(sample_data, track_id = condition, colour_group = condition)
## Not run:
#Note: This example does not work, because UCSC and Ensembl use different chromosome names
plotCoverageFromUCSC(orgdb, txdb, "NCOA7", transcript_ids = c("ENST00000438495.6", "ENST00000368357.7"),
```

```
track_data, heights = c(2,1), fill_palette = getGenotypePalette())

## End(Not run)
```

plotTranscripts	<i>Quickly plot transcript structure without read coverage tracks</i>
-----------------	---

Description

Quickly plot transcript structure without read coverage tracks

Usage

```
plotTranscripts(exons, cdss = NULL, transcript_annotations = NULL,
  rescale_introns = TRUE, new_intron_length = 50,
  flanking_length = c(50, 50), connect_exons = TRUE,
  transcript_label = TRUE, region_coords = NULL)
```

Arguments

exons	list of GRanges objects, each object containing exons for one transcript. The list must have names that correspond to transcript_id column in transcript_annotations data.frame.
cdss	list of GRanges objects, each object containing the coding regions (CDS) of a single transcript. The list must have names that correspond to transcript_id column in transcript_annotations data.frame. If cdss is not specified then exons list will be used for both arguments. (default: NULL)
transcript_annotations	Data frame with at least three columns: transcript_id, gene_name, strand. Used to construct transcript labels. (default: NULL)
rescale_introns	Specifies if the introns should be scaled to fixed length or not. (default: TRUE)
new_intron_length	length (bp) of introns after scaling. (default: 50)
flanking_length	Lengths of the flanking regions upstream and downstream of the gene. (default: c(50,50))
connect_exons	Print lines that connect exons together. Set to FALSE when plotting peaks (default: TRUE).
transcript_label	If TRUE then transcript labels are printed above each transcript. (default: TRUE).
region_coords	Start and end coordinates of the region to plot, overrides flanking_length parameter.

Value

ggplot2 object

Examples

```
plotTranscripts(ncoa7_exons, ncoa7_cdss, ncoa7_metadata, rescale_introns = FALSE)
```

```
plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb
```

Plot transcripts directly from ensemblDb object.

Description

A wrapper around the `plotTranscripts` function. See the documentation for ([plotTranscripts](#)) for more information.

Usage

```
plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb(ensemblDb, gene_names,
                             transcript_ids = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>ensemblDb</code>	ensemblDb object.
<code>gene_names</code>	List of gene names to be plotted.
<code>transcript_ids</code>	Optional list of transcript ids to be plotted.
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters to be passed to <code>plotTranscripts</code>

Value

ggplot2 object

Examples

```
require("EnsDb.Hsapiens.v86")
plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb(EnsDb.Hsapiens.v86, "NCOA7", transcript_ids = c("ENST00000438495", "ENST0000039
```

```
plotTranscriptsFromUCSC
```

Plot transcripts directly from UCSC OrgDb and TxDb objects.

Description

A wrapper around the `plotTranscripts` function. See the documentation for ([plotTranscripts](#)) for more information. Note that this function is much slower than ([plotTranscripts](#)) or ([plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb](#)) functions, because individually extracting exon coordinates from txdb objects is quite inefficient.

Usage

```
plotTranscriptsFromUCSC(orgdb, txdb, gene_names, transcript_ids = NULL,
                        ...)
```

Arguments

<code>orgdb</code>	UCSC OrgDb object.
<code>txdb</code>	UCSC TxDb object.
<code>gene_names</code>	List of gene names to be plot.
<code>transcript_ids</code>	Optional list of transcript ids to be plot. (default = NULL)
<code>...</code>	Additional parameters to be passed to <code>plotTranscripts</code>

Value

Transcript plot.

Examples

```
#Load OrgDb and TxDb objects with UCSC gene annotations
require("org.Hs.eg.db")
require("TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene")
orgdb = org.Hs.eg.db
txdb = TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.knownGene

plotTranscriptsFromUCSC(orgdb, txdb, "NCOA7", transcript_ids = c("ENST00000438495.6", "ENST00000368357.7"))
```

wigglyplotr

wigglyplotr

Description

wigglyplotr package provides tools to visualise transcript annotations ([plotTranscripts](#)) and plot sequencing read coverage over annotated transcripts ([plotCoverage](#)).

Details

You can also use convenient wrapper functions ([plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb](#)), ([plotCoverageFromEnsemblDb](#)), ([plotTranscriptsFromUCSC](#)) and ([plotCoverageFromUCSC](#)).

To learn more about wigglyplotr, start with the vignette: `browseVignettes(package = "wigglyplotr")`

Index

* datasets

- ncoa7_cdss, [3](#)
- ncoa7_exons, [4](#)
- ncoa7_metadata, [4](#)

getGenotypePalette, [2](#)

makeManhattanPlot, [2](#)

ncoa7_cdss, [3](#)

ncoa7_exons, [4](#)

ncoa7_metadata, [4](#)

pasteFactors, [5](#)

plotCoverage, [5](#), [7](#), [8](#), [11](#)

plotCoverageFromEnsemblDb, [7](#), [11](#)

plotCoverageFromUCSC, [8](#), [11](#)

plotTranscripts, [9](#), [10](#), [11](#)

plotTranscriptsFromEnsemblDb, [10](#), [10](#), [11](#)

plotTranscriptsFromUCSC, [10](#), [11](#)

wiggleplotr, [11](#)

wiggleplotr-package (wiggleplotr), [11](#)