

Package ‘VariantFiltering’

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Type Package

Title Filtering of coding and non-coding genetic variants

Description Filter genetic variants using different criteria such as inheritance model, amino acid change consequence, minimum allele frequencies across human populations, splice site strength, conservation, etc.

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VariantFiltering-package

Filtering of coding and non-coding genetic variants

Description

The VariantFiltering package filters coding and non-coding genetic variants using different criteria such as an inheritance model (autosomal recessive -both, homozygous and heterozygous-, autosomal dominant, X-linked and *de novo*), amino acid change consequence, minimum allele frequencies, cryptic splice site potential, conservation, etc.

Functions

- [autosomalRecessiveHomozygous](#) identify homozygous variants in the affected individual(s) while the unaffected ones present these same variants but in heterozygous state. Autosomal recessive inheritance pattern.
- [autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous](#) identify variants grouped by genes with two (or more) heterogeneous alleles (at least one on each allele, i.e. coming from each parent). Autosomal recessive inheritance pattern.
- [autosomalDominant](#) identify variants present in all the affected individual(s) discarding the ones that also occur in at least one of the unaffected subjects. Autosomal dominant inheritance pattern.
- [xLinked](#) identify variants that appear only in the X chromosome of the unaffected females as heterozygous, don't appear in the unaffected males analyzed and finally are present (as homozygous) in the affected male(s). X-linked inheritance pattern.
- [deNovo](#) identify variants in the affected individual that have not been inherited.
- [unrelatedIndividuals](#) annotate variants without filtering by any inheritance pattern.

Author(s)

Dei M. Elurbe and Robert Castelo.

Maintainer: Robert Castelo <robert.castelo@upf.edu>

References

Elurbe D.M., Mila, M., Castelo, R. VariantFiltering: filtering of coding and non-coding genetic variants, in preparation.

autosomalDominant *Autosomal dominant inheritance analysis*

Description

This function identifies variants present in all the affected individual(s) discarding the ones that also occur in at least one of the unaffected subjects.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'  
autosomalDominant(param,  
                  BPPARAM=bpparam("SerialParam"))
```

Arguments

param	A VariantFilteringParam object built from a multisample VCF file with at least one affected individual and zero or more unaffected ones, and from a PED file specifying the family relationships among individuals as well as their gender and phenotype status (affected or unaffected).
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of some of the tasks and calculations within this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Details

This function requires as an input a [VariantFilteringParam](#) class object built from an input multisample VCF file, along with a PED file.

Value

An object of class [VariantFilteringResults](#) including functional annotations on variants segregating according to an autosomal dominant inheritance model.

Author(s)

Dei M. Elurbe and R. Castelo

References

Elurbe D.M., Mila, M., Castelo, R. The VariantFiltering package, in preparation.

See Also

[autosomalRecessiveHomozygous](#) [autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous](#) [xLinked](#) [deNovo](#) [unrelatedIndividuals](#) [VariantFilteringResults](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

CEUvcf <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.vcf.bgz")
CEUped <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.ped")
param <- VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames=CEUvcf,
                              pedFilename=CEUped)
aDo <- autosomalDominant(param)
aDo

## End(Not run)
```

autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous

Autosomal recessive inheritance analysis: Heterozygous

Description

This function aims to analyze the variants of the unaffected individuals, storing and grouping the heterozygous ones by gene. The affected individuals ought present two or more different heterozygous changes in the gene, and at least one of them shall come from each parent.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'
autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous(param,
                                BPPARAM=bpparam("SerialParam"))
```

Arguments

param	A VariantFilteringParam object built from a multisample VCF file with at least one affected individual and two or more unaffected ones, and from a PED file specifying the family relationships among individuals as well as their gender and phenotype status (affected or unaffected).
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of some of the tasks and calculations within this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Arguments

param	A VariantFilteringParam object built from a multisample VCF file with at least one affected individual and zero or more unaffected ones, and from a PED file specifying the family relationships among individuals as well as their gender and phenotype status (affected or unaffected).
BPPARAM	An VariantFilteringParam object containing VCF file(s). From 1 to 5 independent files for affected individuals and 0 to 5 more for unaffected ones (up to 10 individuals). If the VCF is a multi-sample, it can contain the same amount of individuals divided likewise.

Details

This function requires as an input a [VariantFilteringParam](#) class object built from an input multisample VCF file, along with a PED file.

Value

An object of class [VariantFilteringResults](#) including functional annotations on all selected variants.

Author(s)

Dei M. Elurbe and R. Castelo

References

Elurbe D.M., Mila, M., Castelo, R. The [VariantFiltering](#) package, in preparation.

See Also

[autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous](#) [autosomalDominant](#) [xLinked](#) [deNovo](#) [unrelatedIndividuals](#)
[VariantFilteringResults](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:
library(VariantFiltering)

CEUvcf <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
                   "CEUtrio.vcf.bgz")
CEUped <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
                   "CEUtrio.ped")
param <- VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames=CEUvcf, pedFilename=CEUped)
reHo <- autosomalRecessiveHomozygous(param)
reHo

## End(Not run)
```

deNovo

De Novo variants analysis

Description

This function has been created in order to search for *de novo* variants in one individual, discarding the ones shared with his/her parents.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'  
deNovo(param,  
        BPPARAM=bpparam("SerialParam"))
```

Arguments

param	A VariantFilteringParam object built from a multisample VCF file with at least one affected individual and zero or more unaffected ones, and from a PED file specifying the family relationships among individuals as well as their gender and phenotype status (affected or unaffected).
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of some of the tasks and calculations within this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Details

This function requires as an input a [VariantFilteringParam](#) class object built from an input multisample VCF file, along with a PED file.

Value

An object of class [VariantFilteringResults](#) including functional annotations on all selected variants.

Author(s)

Dei M. Elurbe and R. Castelo

References

Elurbe D.M., Mila, M., Castelo, R. The VariantFiltering package, in preparation.

See Also

[autosomalRecessiveHomozygous](#) [autosomalDominant](#) [autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous](#) [xLinked](#) [VariantFilteringResults](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

CEUvcf <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.vcf.bgz")
CEUped <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.ped")
param <- VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames=CEUvcf,
                              pedFilename=CEUped)
deNo <- deNovo(param)
deNo

## End(Not run)
```

GenePhylostrataDb-class

PhastConsDb class

Description

Class for storing gene-level conservation information in the form of levels of phylogenetic strata; see Neme and Tautz (2013).

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'GenePhylostrataDb'
genePhylostrata(object)
## S4 method for signature 'GenePhylostrataDb'
genePhylostratum(object, ids)
## S4 method for signature 'GenePhylostrataDb'
annotateVariants(annObj, variantsGR, param ,BPPARAM)
## S4 method for signature 'GenePhylostrataDb'
organism(object)
```

Arguments

object	A GenePhylostrataDb object.
ids	A string character vector with the gene identifiers to fetch their phylostrata. These identifiers can be only either Ensembl Gene Identifiers (ENSGXXXXX) or Entrez Gene Identifiers.
annObj	A GenePhylostrataDb object.
variantsGR	A GRanges object with the variants to annotate.
param	A VariantFilteringParam-class object.
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Details

The GenePhylostrataDb class and associated methods serve the purpose of storing and manipulating gene-level conservation information in the form of levels of phylogenetic strata (Neme and Tautz, 2013). One such objects is created at loading time by the VariantFiltering package with the constructor function GenePhylostrataDb(), and it is called humanGenesPhylostrata.

Value

.

Author(s)

R. Castelo

Source

<http://genomebiology.com/content/supplementary/1471-2164-14-117-s1.xlsx>

References

Neme, R. and Tautz, D. Phylogenetic patterns of emergence of new genes support a model of frequent de novo evolution. BMC Genomics, 14:117, 2013

See Also

[phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19](#)

Examples

```
humanGenesPhylostrata
```

MafDb-class

MafDb class

Description

Class for annotation packages storing minimum allele frequency data.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'  
snpid2maf(mafdb, varID)  
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'  
knownVariantsMAFcols(mafdb)  
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'  
keytypes(x)  
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'  
keys(x, keytype)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'
columns(x)
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'
select(x, keys, columns, keytype)
## S4 method for signature 'MafDb'
annotateVariants(annObj, variantsGR, param, BPPARAM)
```

Arguments

mafdb	A MafDb object.
x	A MafDb object.
varID	A variant identifier, typically a rsxxxx dbSNP identifier.
keytype	the keytype that matches the keys used. For MafDb objects there is at the moment only one type of key which is the variant identifier provided by the original data manufacturer.
keys	the keys to select records from the database. All possible keys are turned by using the keys method.
columns	the columns or kinds of things that can be retrieved from the database. As with keys, all possible columns are returned by using the columns method.
annObj	A MafDb object.
variantsGR	A GRanges object with the variants to annotate.
param	A VariantFilteringParam-class object.
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Details

The MafDb class and associated methods serve the purpose of creating annotation packages that store minimum allele frequency data. Two such annotation packages are:

MafDb.ALL.wgs.phase1.release.v3.20101123	MAF values from the 1000 Genomes project downloaded in October 2013
MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137	MAF values from 6500 ESP exomes downloaded in March 2015 from ht

This object class tries to reduce the disk space required to store allele frequencies (AFs) for millions of SNPs by coding AF float values, which range between 0 and 1, into a single-byte raw object type. To achieve this, the original AF values are rounded and coded as follows:

- AF ≥ 0.01 & AF ≤ 1 values are rounded to 2 digits, where values 0.01, ..., 0.99, 1, are coded as raw byte values 1 to 100.
- AF ≥ 0.001 & AF < 0.01 values are rounded to 3 digits, where values 0.001, ..., 0.009 are coded as raw byte values 101 to 109.
- AF ≥ 0.0001 & AF < 0.001 are rounded to 4 digits, where values 0.0001, ..., 0.0009 are coded as raw byte values 111 to 119.

- AF ≥ 0.00001 & AF < 0.0001 are rounded to 5 digits, where values 0.00001, ..., 0.00009 are coded as raw byte values 121 to 129.
- AF < 0.00001 are rounded to 6 digits, where values 0, 0.000001, ..., 0.000009 are coded as raw byte values 130 to 139.
- AF NA values are coded to raw byte value of 255. Note that by default NA values are coded by the raw byte value 0 but this corresponds by default to the null string when raw byte values are coerced into char, which is problematic when storing this data as CHAR values in a SQLite database. This precludes using this original coding of NA values.

A further compression of these data is performed in the cases of variants with multiple alternative alleles. In those cases, instead of storing the AF of each alternate allele only the maximum AF value is stored.

Author(s)

R. Castelo

Source

<ftp://ftp.1000genomes.ebi.ac.uk>
<http://evs.gs.washington.edu/EVS>
<http://exac.broadinstitute.org>

See Also

[MafDb.ALL.wgs.phase1.release.v3.20101123 MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137 MafDb.ExAC.r0.3.sites](#)

Examples

```
## lookup allele frequencies for rs1129038, a SNP associated to blue and brown eye colors
## as reported by Eiberg et al. Blue eye color in humans may be caused by a perfectly associated
## founder mutation in a regulatory element located within the HERC2 gene inhibiting OCA2 expression.
## Human Genetics, 123(2):177-87, 2008 [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18172690]

if (require(MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137)) {
  MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137

  ## specialized interface
  knownVariantsMAFcols(MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137)
  snpid2maf(MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137, "rs1129038")

  ## standard AnnotationDbi interface
  keytypes(MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137)
  columns(MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137)
  select(MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137,
         keys="rs1129038", columns=c("varID", "AF"))
}
```

 PhastConsDb-class *PhastConsDb class*

Description

Class for annotation packages storing UCSC phastCons conservation scores.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'PhastConsDb'
annotateVariants(annObj, variantsGR, param, BPPARAM)
## S4 method for signature 'PhastConsDb,GRanges'
scores(object, gpos,
        summaryFun="mean",
        coercionFun="as.numeric",
        caching=TRUE)
```

Arguments

annObj	A PhastConsDb object.
variantsGR	A GRanges object with the variants to annotate.
param	A VariantFilteringParam-class object.
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.
object	A PhastConsDb object.
gpos	A GRanges object with positions from where to retrieve phastCons scores.
summaryFun	Function to summarize phastCons scores when more than one position is retrieved. By default is set to the arithmetic mean.
coercionFun	Function to coerce the stored phastCons scores, before the summary function is applied. By default phastCons scores are coerced to real values.
caching	Flag setting whether phastCons scores per chromosome should be kept cached in memory (TRUE, default) or not (FALSE). The latter option minimizes the memory footprint but slows down the performance when the scores() method is called multiple times.

Details

The PhastConsDb class and associated methods serve the purpose of creating annotation packages that store phastCons nucleotide-level conservation scores from the UCSC Genome Browser. Two such annotation packages are:

phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19 Nucleotide-level phastCons conservation scores from the UCSC Genome Browser calculated from multiple genome alignments from the human genome version hg19 to 99 vertebrate species.

phastCons7way.UCSC.hg38 Nucleotide-level phastCons conservation scores from the UCSC Genome Browser calculated from multiple genome alignments from the human genome version hg38 to 6 vertebrate species.

Author(s)

R. Castelo

Source

<http://genome.ucsc.edu>

See Also

[phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19](#) [phastCons7way.UCSC.hg38](#)

Examples

```
if (require(phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19)) {  
  library(GenomicRanges)  
  
  phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19  
  scores(phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19,  
         GRanges(seqnames="chr7", IRanges(start=117232380, width=5)))  
}
```

readAAradicalChangeMatrix

Read matrix of amino acid radical changes

Description

Function to read and parse a tab-separated file of amino acid properties into a matrix of logical values indicating whether the change of one amino acid by another can be considered radical or conservative according to the chemical properties specified in the input file.

Usage

```
readAAradicalChangeMatrix(file)
```

Arguments

file A file containing a classification of amino acids with respect to one or more chemical properties. Its particular format should match the one from the file called `AA_chemical_properties_HanadaGojoboriLi2006.tsv` found in the `extdata` folder of this package. This file is based on Table 1 from Hanada et al. (2006).

Details

The input file should contain one or more columns each of them forming a logical mask specifying sets of amino acids sharing some chemical property.

Value

An squared symmetric matrix with as many rows and columns as amino acids and whose cells contain logical values. These values are set to TRUE whenever the amino acid change implied by row and column is considered radical and FALSE when considered conservative. Amino acid changes within a chemical property are defined as conservative and radical otherwise.

Author(s)

R. Castelo

References

Hanada, K., Gojobori, T. and Li, W. Radical amino acid change versus positive selection in the evolution of viral envelope proteins. *Gene*, 385:83-88, 2006.

See Also

[VariantFilteringParam](#)

Examples

```
aamat <- readAARadicalChangeMatrix(file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
"AA_chemical_properties_HanadaGojoboriLi2006.tsv"))
aamat[1:5, 1:5]
```

unrelatedIndividuals *Analysis designed to be applied over a group of unrelated individuals*

Description

This function is designed to create an object to deepen into the variants presented by a group of unrelated individuals

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'
unrelatedIndividuals(param,
                    BPPARAM=bpparam("SerialParam"))
```

Arguments

param	A VariantFilteringParam object built from a multisample VCF file.
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of some of the tasks and calculations within this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Details

This function requires as an input a [VariantFilteringParam](#) class object built from an input multisample VCF file.

Value

An object of class [VariantFilteringResults](#) including functional annotations on all variants.

Author(s)

Dei M. Elurbe and R. Castelo

References

Elurbe D.M., Mila, M., Castelo, R. The VariantFiltering package, in preparation.

See Also

[autosomalRecessiveHomozygous autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous autosomalDominant deNovo xLinked VariantFilteringResults](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:  
  
CEUvcf <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.vcf.bgz")  
param <- VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames=CEUvcf)  
uInd <- unrelatedIndividuals(param)  
uInd  
  
## End(Not run)
```

VariantFilteringParam-class

VariantFiltering parameter class

Description

The class [VariantFilteringParam](#) is defined to ease configuring the call to the functions that filter input genetic variants according to a desired segregating inheritance model ([xLinked\(\)](#), [autosomalRecessiveHomozygous\(\)](#), etc).

Usage

```

VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames, pedFilename=NA_character_,
                      bsgenome="BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19",
                      orgdb="org.Hs.eg.db",
                      txdb="TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene",
                      snpdb="SNPlocs.Hsapiens.dbSNP.20120608",
                      spliceSiteMatricesFileNames=NA,
                      radicalAAchangeFilename=file.path(system.file("extdata",
                                                                    package="VariantFiltering"),
                                                         "AA_chemical_properties_HanadaGojoboriLi2006.tsv"),
                      codonusageFilename=file.path(system.file("extdata",
                                                                package="VariantFiltering"),
                                                     "humanCodonUsage.txt"),
                      geneticCode=getGeneticCode("SGC0"),
                      allTranscripts=FALSE,
                      otherAnnotations=c("MafDb.ESP6500SI.V2.SSA137",
                                         "MafDb.ALL.wgs.phase1.release.v3.20101123",
                                         "MafDb.ExAC.r0.3.sites",
                                         "PolyPhen.Hsapiens.dbSNP131",
                                         "SIFT.Hsapiens.dbSNP137",
                                         "phastCons100way.UCSC.hg19",
                                         "humanGenesPhylostrata"),
                      geneKeytype=NA_character_,
                      yieldSize=NA_integer_)
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'
show(object)
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'
x$name
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'
names(x)

```

Arguments

vcfFileNames	Character string of the input VCF file name.
pedFilename	Character string of the pedigree file name in PED format.
bsgenome	Character string of a genome annotation package (BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19 by default).
orgdb	Character string of a gene-centric annotation package (org.Hs.eg.db by default).
txdb	Character string of a transcript-centric annotation package (TxDb.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg19.knownGene by default). The package GenomicFeatures provides infrastructure to build such annotation packages from different sources such as online UCSC tracks, Biomart tables, or GFF files.
snpdb	Character string of a SNP-centric annotation package (SNPlocs.Hsapiens.dbSNP.20120608 by default).

spliceSiteMatricesFileNames	Names of text files containing position weight matrices for splice site recognition. The default NA value indicates that splice sites will not be scored. To use this feature assign to this argument the function <code>spliceSiteMatricesHuman()</code> . See the files (<code>hsap.donors.hmc10_15_1.ibn</code> and <code>hsap.acceptors.hmc10_15_1.ibn</code>) returned by this function for details on their format.
radicalAAchangeFilename	Name of a tab-separated text file containing chemical properties of amino acids. These properties are interpreted such that amino acid changes within a property are considered "conservative" and between properties are considered "radical". See the default file (<code>AA_chemical_properties_HanadaGojoboriLi2006.tsv</code>) for details on its format.
codonusageFilename	Name of a text file containing the codon usage.
geneticCode	Name character vector of length 64 describing the genetic code. The default value is <code>getGeneticCode("SGC0")</code> , the standard genetic code. An alternative genetic code, for instance, is <code>getGeneticCode("SGC1")</code> , the vertebrate mitochondrial genetic code. See getGeneticCode in the Biostings package for further details.
allTranscripts	Logical. This option allows the user to choose between working with all the transcripts affected by the variant (<code>allTranscripts=TRUE</code>) or with only one transcript per variant.
otherAnnotations	Character vector of names of annotation packages or annotation objects.
geneKeytype	Character vector of the type of key gene identifier provided by the transcript-centric (TxDb) annotation package to interrogate the organism-centric (OrgDb) annotation package. The default value (<code>NA_character_</code>) indicates that it will be assumed to be an Entrez identifier unless the values in the GENEID column returned by the TxDb package start with ENSG and then it will be assumed that they are Ensembl gene identifiers, or with one of NM_, NP_, NR_, XM_, XP_, XR_ or YP_ and then it will be assumed that they are RefSeq gene identifiers.
yieldSize	Number of variants to yield each time the input VCF file is read. This argument is passed to the TabixFile function when opening the input VCF file and it allows to iterate through the variants in chunks of the given size to limit the memory requirements. Its default value (<code>NA_integer_</code>) implies that the whole input VCF file will be read into main memory.
object	A VariantFilteringParam object created through <code>VariantFilteringParam()</code> .
x	A VariantFilteringParam object created through <code>VariantFilteringParam()</code> .
name	Slot name of a VariantFilteringParam object. Use <code>names()</code> to find out what these slots are.

Details

The class `VariantFilteringParam` serves as a purpose of simplifying the call to the inheritance model function and its subsequent annotation and filtering steps. It also groups all the parameters that the user can customize (i.e newer versions of the annotation packages, when available).

The method `VariantFilteringParam()` creates an `VariantFilteringParam` object used as an input argument to other functions such as `autosomalRecessiveHomozygous()`, etc.

The method `names()` allows one to see the names of the slots from a `VariantFilteringParam` object. Using the `$` operator, one can retrieve the values of these slots in an analogous way to a list.

Value

An `VariantFilteringParam` object is returned by the method `VariantFilteringParam`.

Author(s)

D.M. Elurbe, P. Puigdevall and R. Castelo

Examples

```
vfpar <- VariantFilteringParam(list.files(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
                                           "CEUtrio.vcf.bgz$", full.names=TRUE),
                              list.files(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
                                           "CEUtrio.ped", full.names=TRUE))

vfpar
names(vfpar)
vfpar$vcfFiles
```

VariantFilteringResults-class

VariantFilteringResults class

Description

The `VariantFilteringResults` class is used to store the kind of object obtained as a result of an analysis using the functions `unrelatedIndividuals()`, `autosomalRecessiveHomozygous()`, `autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous()`, `autosomalDominant()`, `deNovo()` and `xLinked()`. Its purpose is to ease the task of filtering and prioritizing the variants annotated by those functions.

Details

Variants are stored within a `VariantFilteringResults` object using a `VRanges` object, which also holds the variant annotations in its metadata columns. `VariantFiltering` adds the following core set of annotations.

LOCATION Region where the variant is located (coding, intronic, splice site, promoter, ...) as given by the function `locateVariants()` from the `VariantAnnotation` package.

LOCSTART Start position of the variant within the region defined by the `LOCATION` annotation.

GENEID Gene identifier derived with the transcript-centric annotation package given in the `txdb` argument of the `VariantFilteringParam()` function, typically an Entrez Gene identifier.

GENE Gene name given by HGNC derived with the gene-centric annotation package given in the `orgdb` argument of the `VariantFilteringParam()` function.

- TYPE** Type of variant, either a single nucleotide variant (SNV), an insertion, a deletion, a multi-nucleotide variant (MNV) or a deletion followed by an insertion (Delins). These types are determined using functions `isSNV()`, `isInsertion()`, `isDeletion()`, `isSubstitution()` and `isDelins()` from the VariantAnnotation package.
- dbSNP** dbSNP identifier derived by position from the annotation packages given in the `snpdb` argument of the `VariantFilteringParam()` function.
- cDNALOC** Location of the variant along the processed transcript, when the variant belongs to an exonic region.
- CONSEQUENCE** Consequence of the variant when located in the coding region (synonymous, nonsynonymous, missense, nonsense or frameshift) as given by the function `predictCoding()` from the VariantAnnotation package.
- TXNAME** Transcript name extracted from the TxDb annotation package given by the `txdb` argument of the `VariantFilteringParam()` function.
- HGVSc** HGVS description of the variant at genomic level.
- HGVSc** HGVS description of the variant at coding level.
- HGVSp** HGVS description of the variant at protein level.
- OMIM** OMIM identifier of the gene associated to the variant derived with the gene-centric annotation package given in the `orgdb` argument of the `VariantFilteringParam()` function.
- AAchangeType** In the case of coding variants, whether the amino acid change is conservative or radical according to the matrix of amino acid biochemical properties given in the argument `radicalAAchangeFilename` of the `VariantFilteringParam()` function.
- CRYP5ssREF** Score for the cryptic 5'ss for the REF allele respect to the ALT allele.
- CRYP5ssALT** Maximum score for a potential cryptic 5'ss created by the ALT allele.
- CRYP5ssPOS** Position of the allele respect to the position of the dinucleotide GT, considering those as positions 1 and 2.
- CRYP3ssREF** Score for the cryptic 3'ss for the REF allele respect to the ALT allele.
- CRYP3ssALT** Maximum score for a potential cryptic 3'ss created by the ALT allele.
- CRYP3ssPOS** Position of the allele respect to the position of the dinucleotide AG, considering those as positions 1 and 2.

Accessors

A `VariantFilteringResults` has the following set of accessor methods.

- `length(x)`: total number of variants stored internally within the `VRanges` object. Note that this number will be typically larger than the number of variants in the input VCF object because each of them is copied for each combination of alternate allele, annotated region and sample.
- `param(x)`: returns the `VariantFilteringParam` input parameter object employed in the call that produced the `VariantFilteringResults` object `x`.
- `inheritanceModel(x)`: returns the model of inheritance employed in the call that produced the `VariantFilteringResults` object `x`.
- `samples(object)`: active samples from which the current filtered variants were derived. If the `x` was obtained with `unrelatedIndividuals()`, then the `replace` method `samples(object)<-` can be used to restrict the subset of active samples. In every other case (`autosomalDominant()`, etc.) active samples cannot be changed.

- `resetSamples(object)`: set back as active samples the initial set of samples specified in the input parameter object.
- `sog(x)`: Sequence Ontology (SO) graph (actually, an acyclic digraph) returned as a `graphNEL` object, whose vertices are SO terms, edges represent ontology relationships and vertex attributes `vcfIdx` and `varIdx` contain what variants are annotated to each SO term. These annotations can be directly retrieved from the SO graph with the `nodeData()` function from the `graph` package. The `summary()` function described in this manual page allows one to tally the number of variants in each SO term throughout the entire SO hierarchy.
- `bamFiles(x)`: access and update the `BamViews` object containing references to BAM files from which the input VCF files were derived. Initially this is empty.
- `allVariants(x, groupBy="sample")`: returns a `VRangesList` object with all variants grouped by default by sample. Using the argument `groupBy` we can specify any metadata column to be used to group variants. If the value given to `groupBy` does not correspond to any such columns, a `VRanges` object with all variants together is returned.
- `filteredVariants(x, groupBy="sample")`: it works like `allVariants(x)` but instead of returning all variants, it returns only those who pass the active filters; see `filters()` and `cutoffs()` below.

Filters and cutoffs

The variants contained in a `VariantFilteringResults` object can be filtered using the `FilterRules` mechanism, defined in the `IRanges` package, by using the functions `filters()` and `cutoffs()` described below. There are additional functions, also described in this section, to facilitate this task on the set of core annotations provided by `VariantFiltering`.

- `filters(x)`: get the current `FilterRules` object that defines the available set of filter criteria that one can use to filter the variants contained in `x`. This can also be used as a replacement function `filters(x)<-` to update this set of filters. The actual filtering is done when calling the function `filteredVariants()`.
- `cutoffs(x)`: get and update cutoffs from the available filters.
- `softFilterMatrix(x)`: get and update the variant by filter matrix; see `softFilterMatrix()` in the `VariantAnnotation` package.
- `dbSNPpresent(x)`: flag whether to filter variants present or absent from dbSNP (NA -do not filter-, "Yes", "No").
- `variantType(x)`: filter by type of variant ("SNV", "Insertion", "Deletion", "MNV", "Delins").
- `variantLocation(x)`: filter by variant location ("coding", "intron", "threeUTR", "fiveUTR", "intergenic", "spliceSite", "promoter").
- `variantConsequence(x)`: filter by variant consequence ("synonymous", "nonsynonymous", "frameshift", "nonsense", "not translated").
- `aaChangeType(x)`: filter by type of change of amino acid ("Any", "Radical", "Conservative").
- `OMIMpresent(x)`: flag whether to filter variants whose associated genes are present or absent from OMIM (NA -do not filter-, "Yes", "No").
- `naMAF(x)`: flag whether NA maximum MAF values should be included in the filtered variants.
- `maxMAF(x)`: maximum MAF value that a variant may meet among the selected populations.

`minPhastCons(x)`: minimum phastCons score for nucleotide conservation (NA -do not filter-, [0-1]).

`minPhylostratum(x)`: minimum phylostratum for gene conservation (NA -do not filter-, [1-20]).

`MAFpop(x)`: selection of populations to use when filtering by maximum MAF value.

`minCRYP5ss(x)`: minimum weight matrix score on a cryptic 5'ss. NA indicates this filter is not applied.

`minCRYP3ss(x)`: minimum weight matrix score on a cryptic 3'ss. NA indicates this filter is not applied.

`minCUFC(x)`: minimum absolute codon-usage log2 fold-change.

Summarization, visualization and reporting

The following functions help in summarizing, visualizing and reporting the filtered variants.

`summary(object, method=c("SO", "SOfull", "bioc"))`: tally the current filtered set of variants to features. By default, features are Sequence Ontology (SO) terms to which variants are annotated by `VariantFiltering`. The `method` argument allows the user to change this default setting to tallying throughout the entire SO hierarchy. Both options, `SO` and `SOfull` can be used in combination with the `cutoff SOterms`; see the vignette. The option `method="bioc"` considers as features the regions and consequences annotated by functions `locateVariants()` and `predictCoding()` from the `VariantAnnotation` package. The result is returned as a `data.frame` object.

`plot(x, what, sampleName, flankingNt=20, showAlnNtCutoff=200, isPaired=FALSE, ...)`: Plot variants using the `Gviz` package. The argument `what` can be either a character vector specifying gene or variant identifiers or a chromosome name, or a `GRanges` object specifying a genomic region. The argument `sampleName` is optional and allows the user to plot the aligned reads and coverage from a specific sample, located in the plotted region, when the corresponding BAM file has been linked to the object with `bamFiles()`. The argument `flankingNt` is a number of nucleotides to extend the plotting region derived from the argument `what`. The argument `showAlnNtCutoff` is the region size cutoff below which it will be attempted to plot the aligned reads. The argument `isPaired` is passed directly to the `Gviz` function `AlignmentsTrack()` which streams over the BAM file to plot the reads and sets whether the BAM file contains single (default) or paired-end reads. Further arguments in `...` are passed to the `Gviz` function `plotTracks()` and can be used to fine-tune the final plot; see the vignette of `Gviz` to find out what these arguments are.

`reportVariants(x, type=c("shiny", "csv", "tsv"), file=NULL)`: Builds a report from the `VariantFilteringResult` object `x`. Using the `type` argument, the report can take the form of a flat file in CSV or TSV format or a web shiny app (default) that enables applying functional annotation filters in an interactive manner.

When the shiny app is closed this method returns a `VariantFilteringResult` object with the corresponding filters switched on or off according to how the app has been interactively used.

Author(s)

R. Castelo

Examples

```
## Not run:
library(VariantFiltering)

CEUvcf <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
                    "CEUtrio.vcf.gz")
CEUped <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"),
                    "CEUtrio.ped")
param <- VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames=CEUvcf, pedFileName=CEUped)
reHo <- autosomalRecessiveHomozygous(param)
naMAF(reHo) <- FALSE
maxMAF(reHo) <- 0.05
reHo
head(filteredVariants(reHo))
reportVariants(reHo, type="csv", file="reHo.csv")

## End(Not run)
```

WeightMatrix-class *Weight matrix class*

Description

Class for storing weight matrices that VariantFiltering uses to score potential cryptic splice sites.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'WeightMatrix'
width(x)
## S4 method for signature 'WeightMatrix'
conservedPositions(x)
## S4 method for signature 'WeightMatrix'
show(object)
## S4 method for signature 'WeightMatrix,DNAStringSet'
wmScore(object, dnaseqs)
## S4 method for signature 'WeightMatrix,character'
wmScore(object, dnaseqs)
```

Arguments

x	A WeightMatrix object.
object	A WeightMatrix object.
dnaseqs	Either a vector of character strings a DNAStringSet object, both of which store nucleotide sequences to be scored using the input WeightMatrix object.

Details

The `WeightMatrix` class and associated methods serve the purpose of enabling the `VariantFiltering` package to score synonymous and intronic genetic variants for potential cryptic splice sites. The class and the methods, however, are exposed to the end user since they could be useful for other analysis purposes.

The `VariantFiltering` package contains two weight matrices, one for 5'ss and another for 3'ss, which have been built by a statistical method that accounts for dependencies between the splice site positions, minimizing the rate of false positive predictions. The method concretely builds these models by inclusion-driven learning of Bayesian networks and further details can be found in the paper of Castelo and Guigo (2004).

The function `readWm()` reads a weight matrix stored in a text file in a particular format and returns a `WeightMatrix` object. See the `.ibn` files located in the `extdata` folder of the `VariantFiltering` package, as an example of this format.

The method `wmScore()` scores one or more sequences of nucleotides using the input `WeightMatrix` object. If the sequences are longer than the width of the weight matrix, this function will score every possible site within those sequences. It returns a vector of with the calculated scores. When the scores cannot be calculated because of a conserved position that does not occur in the sequence (i.e., absence of a GT dinucleotide with the 5'ss weight matrix), it returns NA as corresponding score value.

The method `width()` takes a `WeightMatrix` object as input and returns the number of positions of the weight matrix.

The method `conservedPositions()` takes a `WeightMatrix` object as input and returns the number of fully conserved positions in the weight matrix.

Value

.

Author(s)

R. Castelo

References

Castelo, R and Guigo, R. Splice site identification by idIBNs. *Bioinformatics*, 20(1):i69-i76, 2004.

Examples

```
wm <- readWm(file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "hsap.donors.hcmc10_15_1.ibn"))
width(wm)
conservedPositions(wm)
wmScore(wm, "CAGGTAGGA")
wmScore(wm, "CAGGAAGGA")
wmScore(wm, "CAGGTCCTG")
wmScore(wm, "CAGGTCGTGGAG")
```

xLinked

X-Linked inheritance analysis

Description

This function identifies variants that appear only in the X chromosome of the unaffected females as heterozygous, don't appear in the unaffected males analyzed and finally are present (as homozygous) in the affected male(s).

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VariantFilteringParam'
xLinked(param,
        BPPARAM=bpparam("SerialParam"))
```

Arguments

param	A VariantFilteringParam object built from a multisample VCF file with at least one affected individual and zero or more unaffected ones, and from a PED file specifying the family relationships among individuals as well as their gender and phenotype status (affected or unaffected).
BPPARAM	An object of class BiocParallelParam specifying parameters related to the parallel execution of some of the tasks and calculations within this function. See function bpparam() from the BiocParallel package.

Details

This function requires as an input a [VariantFilteringParam](#) class object built from an input multisample VCF file, along with a PED file.

Value

An object of class [VariantFilteringResults](#) including functional annotations on all selected variants.

Author(s)

Dei M. Elurbe and R. Castelo

References

Elurbe D.M., Mila, M., Castelo, R. The VariantFiltering package, in preparation.

See Also

[autosomalRecessiveHomozygous](#) [autosomalRecessiveHeterozygous](#) [autosomalDominant](#) [deNovo](#) [unrelatedIndividuals](#) [VariantFilteringResults](#)

Examples

```
## Not run:

## This actually won't run b/c in this trio de descendant is a female
CEUvcf <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.vcf.bgz")
CEUped <- file.path(system.file("extdata", package="VariantFiltering"), "CEUtrio.ped")
param <- VariantFilteringParam(vcfFileNames=CEUvcf,
                              pedFilename=CEUped)
xlid <- xLinked(param)
xlid

## End(Not run)
```

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