Package 'fastreeR'

July 23, 2025

```
Type Package
Title Phylogenetic, Distance and Other Calculations on VCF and Fasta
Version 1.99.1
biocViews Phylogenetics, Metagenomics, Clustering
Description Calculate distances, build phylogenetic trees or
      perform hierarchical clustering between the samples of a VCF or FASTA file.
     Functions are implemented in Java-11 and called via rJava.
     Parallel implementation that operates directly on the VCF or FASTA file
     for fast execution.
License GPL-3.0-only
Encoding UTF-8
Language en-US
LazyData false
Depends R (>= 4.4)
Imports ape, data.table, dynamicTreeCut, methods, R.utils, rJava,
     stats, stringr, utils
SystemRequirements Java (>= 11)
RoxygenNote 7.3.2
URL https://github.com/gkanogiannis/fastreeR,
     https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils
BugReports https://github.com/gkanogiannis/fastreeR/issues
Suggests BiocFileCache, BiocStyle, graphics, knitr, memuse, rmarkdown,
     spelling, testthat (>= 3.0.0)
VignetteBuilder knitr
Config/testthat/edition 3
git_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/fastreeR
git branch devel
git_last_commit 1ed9d1b
git_last_commit_date 2025-06-02
Repository Bioconductor 3.22
Date/Publication 2025-07-23
```

2 fastreeR-package

Author Anestis Gkanogiannis [aut, cre] (ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6441-0688)

Maintainer Anestis Gkanogiannis <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

Contents

	reeR-package fasti	reeR: Phylogenetic, Distance and Other Calculate	ions on VCE and
Index			13
	vcf2tree		11
	vcf2dist		8
	vcf2clusters		
	fasta2dist		5
	dist2clusters		3
	fastreeR-package		2

Description

Calculate distances, build phylogenetic trees or perform hierarchical clustering between the samples of a VCF or FASTA file. Functions are implemented in Java-11 and called via rJava. Parallel implementation that operates directly on the VCF or FASTA file for fast execution.

Author(s)

Maintainer: Anestis Gkanogiannis <anestis@gkanogiannis.com> (ORCID)

See Also

Useful links:

• https://github.com/gkanogiannis/fastreeR

Fasta Files

- https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils
- Report bugs at https://github.com/gkanogiannis/fastreeR/issues

dist2clusters 3

dist2clusters

Perform Hierarchical Clustering and tree pruning on a distance matrix

Description

Performs Hierarchical Clustering on a distance matrix (i.e. calculated with vcf2dist or fasta2dist) and generates a phylogenetic tree with agglomerative Neighbor Joining method (complete linkage) (as in dist2tree). The phylogenetic tree is then pruned with cutreeDynamic to get clusters (as in tree2clusters).

Usage

```
dist2clusters(
  inputDist,
  cutHeight = NULL,
  minClusterSize = 1,
  extra = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

inputDist Input distances file location (generated with vcf2dist or fasta2dist). File can

be gzip compressed. Or a dist distances object.

cutHeight Define at which height to cut tree. Default automatically defined.

minClusterSize Minimum size of clusters. Default 1.

extra Boolean whether to use extra parameters for the cutreeDynamic. verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Value

A list of:

- character vector of the generated phylogenetic tree in Newick format
- character vector of the clusters. Each row contains data for a cluster, separated by space. The id of the cluster, the size of the cluster (number of elements) and the names of its elements, Cluster id 0 contains all the objects not assigned to a cluster (singletons). Example clusters output:

```
0
   3
       Sample1
                Sample2
                          Sample3
1
   3
       Sample4
                Sample5
                          Sample6
2
   2
       Sample7
                Sample8
3
   2
       Sample9
                Sample0
```

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

4 dist2tree

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

```
my.clust <- dist2clusters(
    inputDist =
        system.file("extdata", "samples.vcf.dist.gz", package = "fastreeR"),
    verbose = TRUE
)</pre>
```

dist2tree

Generate phylogenetic tree from samples of a distance matrix

Description

Performs Hierarchical Clustering on a distance matrix (i.e. calculated with vcf2dist or fasta2dist) and generates a phylogenetic tree with agglomerative Neighbor Joining method (complete linkage).

Usage

```
dist2tree(inputDist, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

inputDist Input distances file location (generated with vcf2dist or fasta2dist). File can

be gzip compressed. Or a dist distances object.

verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Value

A character vector of the generated phylogenetic tree in Newick format.

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

```
my.tree <- dist2tree(
    inputDist =
    system.file("extdata", "samples.vcf.dist.gz", package = "fastreeR"),
    verbose = TRUE
)</pre>
```

fasta2dist 5

fasta2dist

Calculate distances between sequences of a FASTA file

Description

This function calculates a d2_S type dissimilarity measurement between the n sequences (which can represent samples) of a FASTA file. See doi:10.1186/s1285901611863 for more details.

Usage

```
fasta2dist(
    ...,
    outputFile = NULL,
    threads = 2,
    kmer = 6,
    normalize = FALSE,
    compress = TRUE,
    verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

... Input fasta files locations (uncompressed or gzip compressed).

outputFile Output distances file location.
threads Number of java threads to use.

kmer Kmer length to use for analyzing fasta sequences.

normalize Normalize on sequences length.

compress Compress output (adds .gz extension).

verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Value

A dist distances object of the calculation.

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

6 tree2clusters

tree2clusters	Perform Hierarchical Clustering and tree pruning on a phylogenetic
	tree

Description

The phylogenetic tree is pruned with cutreeDynamic to get clusters.

Usage

```
tree2clusters(
  treeStr,
  treeDistances = NULL,
  treeLabels = NULL,
  cutHeight = NULL,
  minClusterSize = 1,
  extra = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

treeStr A character vector of a phylogenetic tree in Newick format

treeDistances numeric matrix of distances, that were used to generate the tree. If NULL, it

will be inferred from tree branch lengths.

treeLabels A character vector of tree leaf labels.

cutHeight Define at which height to cut tree. Default automatically defined.

minClusterSize Minimum size of clusters. Default 1.

extra Boolean whether to use extra parameters for the cutreeDynamic. verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Value

• character vector of the clusters. Each row contains data for a cluster, separated by space. The id of the cluster, the size of the cluster (number of elements) and the names of its elements, Cluster id 0 contains all the objects not assigned to a cluster (singletons). Example clusters output:

```
0
   3
       Sample1
                 Sample2
                           Sample3
       Sample4
                 Sample5
                          Sample6
1
   3
2
   2
       Sample7
                 Sample8
       Sample9
                 Sample0
```

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

vcf2clusters 7

Examples

```
my.clust <- tree2clusters(
    treeStr = dist2tree(
        inputDist = system.file("extdata", "samples.vcf.dist.gz",
            package = "fastreeR"
        )
    ),
    verbose = TRUE
)</pre>
```

vcf2clusters

Perform Hierarchical Clustering and tree pruning on samples of VCF file

Description

Performs Hierarchical Clustering on a distance matrix calculated as in vcf2dist and generates a phylogenetic tree with agglomerative Neighbor Joining method (complete linkage) (as in dist2tree). The phylogenetic tree is then pruned with cutreeDynamic to get clusters (as in tree2clusters).

Usage

```
vcf2clusters(
  inputFile,
  threads = 2,
  cutHeight = NULL,
  minClusterSize = 1,
  extra = TRUE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

inputFile Input vcf file location (uncompressed or gzip compressed).

threads Number of java threads to use.

cutHeight Define at which height to cut tree. Default automatically defined.

minClusterSize Minimum size of clusters. Default 1.

extra Boolean whether to use extra parameters for the cutreeDynamic. verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Details

Biallelic or multiallelic (maximum 7 alternate alleles) SNP and/or INDEL variants are considered, phased or not. Some VCF encoding examples are:

- heterozygous variants : 1/0 or 0/1 or 0/2 or 1|0 or 0|1 or 0|2
- homozygous to the reference allele variants : 0/0 or 0|0
- homozygous to the first alternate allele variants : 1/1 or 1 | 1

8 vcf2dist

If there are n samples and m variants, an nxn zero-diagonal symmetric distance matrix is calculated. The calculated cosine type distance (1-cosine_similarity)/2 is in the range [0,1] where value 0 means completely identical samples (cosine is 1), value 0.5 means perpendicular samples (cosine is 0) and value 1 means completely opposite samples (cosine is -1).

The calculation is performed by a Java back-end implementation, that supports multi-core CPU utilization and can be demanding in terms of memory resources. By default a JVM is launched with a maximum memory allocation of 512 MB. When this amount is not sufficient, the user needs to reserve additional memory resources, before loading the package, by updating the value of the java.parameters option. For example in order to allocate 4GB of RAM, the user needs to issue options(java.parameters="-Xmx4g") before library(fastreeR).

Value

A list of:

- dist distances object.
- character vector of the generated phylogenetic tree in Newick format
- character vector of the clusters. Each row contains data for a cluster, separated by space. The id of the cluster, the size of the cluster (number of elements) and the names of its elements, Cluster id 0 contains all the objects not assigned to a cluster (singletons). Example clusters output:

```
0
       Sample1
                 Sample2
                           Sample3
   3
1
   3
       Sample4
                 Sample5
                           Sample6
2
   2
       Sample7
                 Sample8
   2
       Sample9
                 Sample0
```

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

```
my.clust <- vcf2clusters(
    inputFile = system.file("extdata", "samples.vcf.gz",
         package = "fastreeR"
    )
)</pre>
```

vcf2dist

Calculate distances between samples of a VCF file

Description

This function calculates a cosine type dissimilarity measurement between the n samples of a VCF file.

vcf2dist 9

Usage

```
vcf2dist(
  inputFile,
  outputFile = NULL,
  threads = 2,
  compress = FALSE,
  verbose = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

inputFile Input vcf file location (uncompressed or gzip compressed).

outputFile Output distances file location. threads Number of java threads to use.

compress Compress output (adds .gz extension).

verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Details

Biallelic or multiallelic (maximum 7 alternate alleles) SNP and/or INDEL variants are considered, phased or not. Some VCF encoding examples are:

- heterozygous variants : 1/0 or 0/1 or 0/2 or 1/0 or 0/1 or 0/2
- homozygous to the reference allele variants : 0/0 or 0|0
- homozygous to the first alternate allele variants: 1/1 or 1|1

If there are n samples and m variants, an nxn zero-diagonal symmetric distance matrix is calculated. The calculated cosine type distance (1-cosine_similarity)/2 is in the range [0,1] where value 0 means completely identical samples (cosine is 1), value 0.5 means perpendicular samples (cosine is 0) and value 1 means completely opposite samples (cosine is -1).

The calculation is performed by a Java backend implementation, that supports multi-core CPU utilization and can be demanding in terms of memory resources. By default a JVM is launched with a maximum memory allocation of 512 MB. When this amount is not sufficient, the user needs to reserve additional memory resources, before loading the package, by updating the value of the java.parameters option. For example in order to allocate 4GB of RAM, the user needs to issue options(java.parameters="-Xmx4g") before library(fastreeR).

Output file, if provided, will contain n+1 lines. The first line contains the number n of samples and number m of variants, separated by space. Each of the subsequent n lines contains n+1 values, separated by space. The first value of each line is a sample name and the rest n values are the calculated distances of this sample to all the samples. Example output file of the distances of 3 samples calculated from 1000 variants:

```
3 1000
Sample1 0.0 0.5 0.2
Sample2 0.5 0.0 0.9
Sample3 0.2 0.9 0.0
```

Value

A dist distances object of the calculation.

10 vcf2istats

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

vcf2istats

Calculate various per sample statistics from a VCF file

Description

Only biallelic SNPs are considered. For each sample, the following statistics are calculated:

- INDIV : Sample name
- N SITES: Total number of SNPs
- N_HET: Number of SNPs with heterozygous call (0/1 or 0|1 or 1/0 or 1|0)
- N_ALT : Number of SNPs with alternate homozygous call (1/1 or 1|1)
- N_REF : Number of SNPs with reference homozygous call (0/0 or 0|0)
- N_MISS: Number of SNPs with missing call (./. or .|.)
- P_HET: Percentage of heterozygous calls
- P_ALT : Percentage of alternate homozygous calls
- P_REF: Percentage of reference homozygous calls
- P_MISS : Percentage of missing calls (missing rate)

Usage

```
vcf2istats(inputFile, outputFile = NULL)
```

Arguments

```
inputFile Input vcf file location (uncompressed or gzip compressed).

outputFile Output samples statistics file location.
```

Value

A data. frame of sample statistics.

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

vcf2tree 11

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

```
my.istats <- vcf2istats(
    inputFile =
        system.file("extdata", "samples.vcf.gz", package = "fastreeR")
)</pre>
```

vcf2tree

Generate phylogenetic tree from samples of a VCF file

Description

This function calculates a distance matrix between the samples of a VCF file as in vcf2dist and performs Hierarchical Clustering on this distance matrix as in dist2tree. A phylogenetic tree is calculated with agglomerative Neighbor Joining method (complete linkage).

Usage

```
vcf2tree(inputFile, threads = 2, verbose = FALSE)
```

Arguments

inputFile Input vcf file location (uncompressed or gzip compressed).

threads Number of java threads to use.

verbose Logical. If TRUE, enables verbose output from the Java backend.

Details

Biallelic or multiallelic (maximum 7 alternate alleles) SNP and/or INDEL variants are considered, phased or not. Some VCF encoding examples are:

- heterozygous variants: 1/0 or 0/1 or 0/2 or 1 | 0 or 0 | 1 or 0 | 2
- homozygous to the reference allele variants: 0/0 or 0|0
- homozygous to the first alternate allele variants: 1/1 or 1|1

If there are n samples and m variants, an nxn zero-diagonal symmetric distance matrix is calculated. The calculated cosine type distance (1-cosine_similarity)/2 is in the range [0,1] where value 0 means completely identical samples (cosine is 1), value 0.5 means perpendicular samples (cosine is 0) and value 1 means completely opposite samples (cosine is -1).

The calculation is performed by a Java backend implementation, that supports multi-core CPU utilization and can be demanding in terms of memory resources. By default a JVM is launched with a maximum memory allocation of 512 MB. When this amount is not sufficient, the user needs to reserve additional memory resources, before loading the package, by updating the value of the java.parameters option. For example in order to allocate 4GB of RAM, the user needs to issue options(java.parameters="-Xmx4g") before library(fastreeR).

12 vcf2tree

Value

A character vector of the generated phylogenetic tree in Newick format.

Author(s)

Anestis Gkanogiannis, <anestis@gkanogiannis.com>

References

Java implementation: https://github.com/gkanogiannis/BioInfoJava-Utils

Examples

Index

```
* internal
    {\tt fastreeR-package, 2}
character, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12
cutreeDynamic, 3, 6, 7
data.frame, 10
dist, 3-5, 8, 9
dist2clusters, 3
dist2tree, 3, 4, 7, 11
fasta2dist, 3, 4, 5
{\tt fastreeR-package)}, 2
{\tt fastreeR-package}, {\tt 2}
matrix, 6
tree2clusters, 3, 6, 7
vcf2clusters, 7
vcf2dist, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11
vcf2istats, 10
vcf2tree, 11
```