# Package 'ballgown'

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Title Flexible, isoform-level differential expression analysis
<b>Description</b> Tools for statistical analysis of assembled transcriptomes, including flexible differential expression analysis, visualization of transcript structures, and matching of assembled transcripts to annotation.
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<b>Imports</b> GenomicRanges (>= 1.17.25), IRanges (>= 1.99.22), S4Vectors (>= 0.9.39), RColorBrewer, splines, sva, limma, rtracklayer (>= 1.29.25), Biobase (>= 2.25.0), GenomeInfoDb
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# Description

The ballgown package for analysis of transcript assemblies

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annotate\_assembly

match assembled transcripts to annotated transcripts

#### **Description**

match assembled transcripts to annotated transcripts

## Usage

```
annotate_assembly(assembled, annotated)
```

## Arguments

assembled GRangesList object representing assembled transcripts annotated GRangesList object representing annotated transcripts

#### **Details**

If gown is a ballgown object, assembled can be structure(gown)\$trans (or any subset). You can generate a GRangesList object containing annotated transcripts from a gtf file using the gffReadGR function and setting splitByTranscripts=TRUE.

## Value

data frame, where each row contains assembledInd and annotatedInd (indexes of overlapping transcripts in assembled and annotated), and the percent overlap between the two transcripts.

# Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
annot = gffReadGR(gtfPath, splitByTranscript=TRUE)
info = annotate_assembly(assembled=structure(bg)$trans, annotated=annot)
```

ballgown-class

Ballgown

## **Description**

S4 class for storing and manipulating expression data from assembled transcriptomes

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#### **Slots**

expr tables containing expression data for genomic features (introns, exons, transcripts)

structure genomic locations of features and their relationships to one another

indexes tables connecting components of the assembly and providing other experimental information (e.g., phenotype data and locations of read alignment files)

dirs directories holding data created by tablemaker

mergedDate date the ballgown object was created

meas which expression measurement(s) the object contains in its data slot. Vector of one or more of "rcount", "ucount", "mrcount", "cov", "cov\_sd", "mcov", "mcov\_sd", or "FPKM", if Tablemaker output is used, or one of "TPM" or "FPKM" if RSEM output is used. Can also be "all" for all measurements. See vignette for details.

RSEM TRUE if object was made from RSEM output, FALSE if object was made from Table-maker/Cufflinks output.

#### Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee, Leonardo Collado-Torres, Jeff Leek

## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
class(bg) #"ballgown"
dim(bg@expr$exon)
bg@structure$exon
head(bg@indexes$t2g)
head(bg@dirs)
bg@mergedDate
bg@meas
bg@RSEM
```

ballgown-constructor constructor function for ballgown objects

# Description

constructor function for ballgown objects

## Usage

```
ballgown(samples = NULL, dataDir = NULL, samplePattern = NULL,
bamfiles = NULL, pData = NULL, verbose = TRUE, meas = "all")
```

## **Arguments**

samples vector of file paths to folders containing sample-specific ballgown data (gener-

ated by tablemaker). If samples is provided, dataDir and samplePattern are

not used.

dataDir file path to top-level directory containing sample-specific folders with ballgown

data in them. Only used if samples is NULL.

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 $sample Pattern \quad regular\ expression\ identifying\ the\ subdirectories\ of \verb|\| dataDir\ containing\ data\ to$ 

be loaded into the ballgown object (and only those subdirectories). Only used if

samples is NULL.

bamfiles optional vector of file paths to read alignment files for each sample. If provided,

make sure to sort properly (e.g., in the same order as samples). Default NULL.

pData optional data. frame with rows corresponding to samples and columns corre-

sponding to phenotypic variables.

verbose if TRUE, print status messages and timing information as the object is con-

structed.

meas character vector containing either "all" or one or more of: "rcount", "ucount",

"mrcount", "cov", "cov\_sd", "mcov", "mcov\_sd", or "FPKM". The resulting ballgown object will only contain the specified expression measurements, for the appropriate features. See vignette for which expression measurements are

available for which features. "all" creates the full object.

#### **Details**

Because experimental data is recorded so variably, it is the user's responsibility to format pData correctly. In particular, it's really important that the rows of pData (corresponding to samples) are ordered the same way as samples or the dataDir/samplePattern combo. You can run file.path(path = dataDir,pattern = samplePattern) to see the sample order if samples was not used.

If you are creating a ballgown object for a large experiment, this function may run slowly and use a large amount of RAM. We recommend running this constructor as a batch job and saving the resulting ballgown object as an rda file. The rda file usually has reasonable size on disk, and the object in it shouldn't take up too much RAM when loaded, so the time and memory use in creating the object is a one-time cost.

#### Value

an object of class ballgown

#### Author(s)

Leonardo Collado-Torres, Alyssa Frazee

#### See Also

ballgownrsem, for loading RSEM output into a ballgown object

```
bg = ballgown(dataDir=system.file('extdata', package='ballgown'),
    samplePattern='sample')
pData(bg) = data.frame(id=sampleNames(bg), group=rep(c(1,0), each=10))
```

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ballgownrsem	load RSEM data into a ballgown object	

# Description

Loads results of rsem-calculate-expression into a ballgown object for easy visualization, processing, and statistical testing

# Usage

```
ballgownrsem(dir = "", samples, gtf, UCSC = TRUE,
  tfield = "transcript_id", attrsep = "; ", bamout = "transcript",
  pData = NULL, verbose = TRUE, meas = "all", zipped = FALSE)
```

# **Arguments**

dir	output directory containing RSEM output for all samples (i.e. for each run of rsem-calculate-expression)
samples	vector of sample names (i.e., of the sample_name arguments used in each RSEM run)
gtf	path to GTF file of genes/transcripts used in your RSEM reference. (where the reference location was denoted by the reference_name argument used in rsem-calculate-expression). RSEM references can be created with or without a GTF file, but currently the ballgown reader requires the GTF file.
UCSC	set to TRUE if gtf comes from UCSC: quotes will be stripped from transcript identifiers if so.
tfield	What keyword identifies transcripts in the "attributes" field of gtf? Default 'transcript_id'.
attrsep	How are attributes separated in the "attributes" field of gtf? Default '; ' (semicolon-space).
bamout	set to 'genome' ifoutput-genome-bam was used when running rsem-calculate-expression; set to 'none' ifno-bam-output was used when running rsem-calculate-expression; otherwise use the default ('transcript').
pData	data frame of phenotype data, with rows corresponding to samples. The first column of pData must be equal to samples, and rows must be in the same order as samples.
verbose	If TRUE (as by default), status messages are printed during data loading.
meas	character vector containing either "all" or one of "FPKM" or "TPM". The resulting ballgown object will only contain the specified expression measurement for the transcripts. "all" creates the full object.
zipped	set to TRUE if all RSEM results files have been gzipped (end) in ".gz").

# **Details**

Currently exon- and intron-level measurements are not available for RSEM-generated ballgown objects, but development is ongoing.

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#### Value

a ballgown object with the specified expression measurements and structure specified by GTF.

#### See Also

ballgown for reading Cufflinks/Tablemaker output

#### **Examples**

```
dataDir = system.file('extdata', package='ballgown')
gtf = file.path(dataDir, 'hg19_genes_small.gtf.gz')
rsemobj = ballgownrsem(dir=dataDir, samples=c('tiny', 'tiny2'), gtf=gtf,
    bamout='none', zipped=TRUE)
rsemobj
```

bg

Toy ballgown object

## Description

Small ballgown object created with simulated toy data, for demonstration purposes

## **Format**

```
a ballgown object: 100 transcripts, 633 exons, 536 introns
```

# Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
bg
# ballgown instance with 100 transcripts and 20 samples
```

checkAssembledTx

plot annotated and assembled transcripts together

## **Description**

plot annotated and assembled transcripts together

```
checkAssembledTx(assembled, annotated, ind = 1,
  main = "Assembled and Annotated Transcripts", customCol = NULL)
```

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## **Arguments**

a GRangesList object where the GRanges objects in the list represent sets of exons comprising assembled transcripts

annotated a GRangesList object where the GRanges objects in the list represent sets of

exons comprising annotated transcripts

ind integer; index of annotated specifying which annotated transcript to plot. All

transcripts (assembled and annotated) overlapping annotated[[ind]] will be

plotted. Default 1.

main optional character string giving the title for the resulting plot. Default: "Assem-

bled and Annotated Transcripts"

customCol optional vector of custom colors for the annotated transcripts. If not the same

length as the number of annotated transcripts in the plot, recycling or truncation

might occur.

#### Value

Plots annotated transcripts on the bottom panel (shaded in gray) and assembled transcripts on the top panel (shaded with diagonal lines).

#### Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

## **Examples**

```
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
annot = gffReadGR(gtfPath, splitByTranscript=TRUE)
data(bg)
checkAssembledTx(annotated=annot, assembled=structure(bg)$trans, ind=4)
```

clusterTranscripts

group a gene's assembled transcripts into clusters

## **Description**

group a gene's assembled transcripts into clusters

## Usage

```
clusterTranscripts(gene, gown, k = NULL, method = c("hclust", "kmeans"))
```

## **Arguments**

gene name of gene whose transcripts will be clustered. When using Cufflinks output,

usually of the form "XLOC\_#####"

gown ballgown object containing experimental data

k number of clusters to use

method clustering method to use. Must be one of "hclust", for hierarchical clustering,

or "kmeans", for k-means clustering.

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#### Value

list with elements clusters and pctvar. clusters contains columns "cluster" and "t\_id", and denotes which transcripts belong to which clusters. pctvar is only non-NULL when using k-means clustering and is the percentage of variation explained by these clusters, defined as the ratio of the between-cluster sum of squares to the total sum of squares.

#### Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

#### See Also

hclust, kmeans, plotLatentTranscripts for visualizing the transcript clusters

#### **Examples**

```
data(bg)
clusterTranscripts('XLOC_000454', bg, k=2, method='kmeans')
# transcripts 1294 and 1301 cluster together, 91% variation explained.
```

collapseTranscripts

cluster a gene's transcripts and calculate cluster-level expression

# Description

cluster a gene's transcripts and calculate cluster-level expression

# Usage

```
collapseTranscripts(gene, gown, meas = "FPKM", method = c("hclust",
    "kmeans"), k = NULL)
```

## **Arguments**

gene which gene's transcripts should be clustered

gown ballgown object

meas which transcript-level expression measurement to use ('cov', average per-base

coverage, or 'FPKM')

method which clustering method to use: 'hclust' (hierarchical clustering) or 'kmeans'

(k-means clustering).

k how many clusters to use.

#### Value

list with two elements:

- tab, a cluster-by-sample table of expression measurements (meas, either cov or FPKM), where the expression measurement for each cluster is the mean (for 'cov') or aggregate (for 'FPKM', as in gexpr) expression measurement for all the transcripts in that cluster. This table can be used as the gowntable argument to stattest, if differential expression results for transcript \*clusters\* are desired.
- cl output from clusterTranscripts that was run to produce tab, for reference. Cluster IDs in the cluster component correspond to row names of tab

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## Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

## See Also

```
\verb|hclust|, \verb|kmeans|, \verb|clusterTranscripts|, \verb|plotLatentTranscripts||
```

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
collapseTranscripts(bg, gene='XLOC_000454', meas='FPKM', method='kmeans')
```

contains

determine if one set of GRanges fully contains any of another set of GRanges

# Description

determine if one set of GRanges fully contains any of another set of GRanges

# Usage

```
contains(transcripts, cds)
```

# Arguments

transcripts GRangesList object (assume for now that it represents transcripts)

cds GRangesList object (assume for now that it represents sets of coding sequences)

## **Details**

If gown is a ballgown object, transcripts can be structure(gown)\$trans (or any subset).

#### Value

vector with length equal to length(transcripts), where each entry is TRUE if the corresponding transcript contains a coding sequence (i.e., is a superset of at least one entry of cds).

## Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

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dirs

extract paths to tablemaker output

## **Description**

extract paths to tablemaker output

## Usage

```
dirs(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
dirs(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

Χ

a ballgown object

## **Examples**

data(bg)
dirs(bg)

eexpr

extract exon-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

## **Description**

extract exon-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

# Usage

```
eexpr(x, meas = "rcount")
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
eexpr(x, meas = "rcount")
```

# **Arguments**

## Value

exon-by-sample matrix containing exon-level expression values (measured by meas). If meas is "all", or x@RSEM is TRUE, a data frame is returned, containing all measurements and location information.

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## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
exon_rcount_matrix = eexpr(bg)
exon_ucount_matrix = eexpr(bg, 'ucount')
exon_data_frame = eexpr(bg, 'all')
```

expr

extract expression components from ballgown objects

# Description

extract expression components from ballgown objects

# Usage

```
expr(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
expr(x)
```

# Arguments

Χ

a ballgown object

## Value

list containing elements intron, exon, and trans, which are feature-by-sample data frames of expression data.

## See Also

```
texpr, gexpr, eexpr, iexpr
```

```
data(bg)
names(expr(bg))
class(expr(bg))
dim(expr(bg)$exon)
```

expr<-

expr<-

Replacement method for expr slot in ballgown objects

#### **Description**

Replacement method for expr slot in ballgown objects

#### Usage

```
expr(x) <- value
## S4 replacement method for signature 'ballgown'
expr(x) <- value</pre>
```

## **Arguments**

x a ballgown object

value the updated value for expr(x) or a subcomponent

#### **Examples**

```
data(bg)
n = ncol(bg@expr$trans)
#multiply all transcript expression measurements by 10:
bg@expr$trans[,11:n] = 10*bg@expr$trans[11:n]
```

exprfilter

subset ballgown objects using an expression filter

## **Description**

Create a new ballgown object containing only transcripts passing a mean expression filter

## Usage

```
exprfilter(gown, cutoff, meas = "FPKM")
```

# Arguments

gown a ballgown object

cutoff transcripts must have mean expression across samples above this value to be

included in the return

meas how should transcript expression be measured? Default FPKM, but can also be

'cov'.

## Value

A new ballgown object derived from gown, but only containing transcripts (and associated exons/introns) with mean meas greater than cutoff across all samples.

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#### See Also

subset

## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
# make a ballgown object containing only transcripts with mean FPKM > 100:
over100 = exprfilter(bg, cutoff=100)
```

geneIDs

get gene IDs from a ballgown object

# Description

get gene IDs from a ballgown object

# Usage

```
geneIDs(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
geneIDs(x)
```

# Arguments

Х

a ballgown object

#### **Details**

This vector differs from that produced by geneNames in that geneIDs produces names of loci created during the assembly process, not necessarily annotated genes.

# Value

named vector of gene IDs included in the ballgown object. If object was created using Tablemaker, these gene IDs will be of the form "XLOC\_\*". Vector is named and ordered by corresponding numeric transcript ID.

# See Also

geneNames

```
data(bg)
geneIDs(bg)
```

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geneNames

get gene names from a ballgown object

# Description

get gene names from a ballgown object

## Usage

```
geneNames(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
geneNames(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

Χ

a ballgown object

#### **Details**

This vector differs from that produced by geneIDs in that geneNames produces \*annotated\* gene names that correspond to assembled transcripts. The return will be empty/blank/NA if the transcriptome assembly is de novo (i.e., was not compared to an annotation before the ballgown object was created). See getGenes for matching transcripts to gene names. Some entries of this vector will be empty/blank/NA if the corresponding transcript did not overlap any annotated genes.

## Value

named vector of gene names included in the ballgown object, named and ordered by corresponding numeric transcript ID.

## See Also

```
geneIDs
```

```
data(bg)
# this is a de novo assembly, so it does not contain gene info as it stands
# but we can add it:
annot = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
gnames = getGenes(annot, structure(bg)$trans, UCSC=FALSE)
gnames_first = lapply(gnames, function(x) x[1]) #just take 1 overlapping gene
expr(bg)$trans$gene_name = gnames_first
# now we can extract these gene names:
geneNames(bg)
```

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getAttributeField	extract a specific field of the "attributes" column of a data frame cre-
	ated from a GTF/GFF file

# Description

extract a specific field of the "attributes" column of a data frame created from a GTF/GFF file

#### Usage

```
getAttributeField(x, field, attrsep = "; ")
```

# **Arguments**

x vector representing the "attributes" column of GTF/GFF file

field name of the field you want to extract from the "attributes" column

attrsep separator for the fields in the attributes column. Defaults to '; ', the separator for GTF files outputted by Cufflinks.

#### Value

vector of nucleotide positions included in the transcript

#### Author(s)

Wolfgang Huber, in the davidTiling R package (LGPL license)

#### See Also

gffRead for creating a data frame from a GTF/GFF file, and http://useast.ensembl.org/info/website/upload/gff.html for specifics of the GFF/GTF file format.

# **Examples**

```
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
gffdata = gffRead(gtfPath)
gffdata$transcriptID = getAttributeField(gffdata$attributes,
    field = "transcript_id")
```

getGenes

label assembled transcripts with gene names

## **Description**

label assembled transcripts with gene names

```
getGenes(gtf, assembled, UCSC = TRUE, attribute = "gene_id")
```

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## **Arguments**

path to a GTF file containing locations of annotated transcripts

assembled GRangesList object, with each set of ranges representing exons of an assembled

transcript.

UCSC set to TRUE if you're using a UCSC gtf file. (Requires some extra text process-

ing).

attribute set to attribute name in gtf that gives desired gene identifiers. Default "gene\_id";

another commone one is "gene\_name" (for the gene symbol).

#### **Details**

chromosome labels in gtf and assembled should match. (i.e., you should provide the path to a gtf corrsponding to the same annotation you used when constructing assembled)

#### Value

an IRanges CharacterList of the same length as assembled, providing the name(s) of the gene(s) that overlaps each transcript in assembled.

#### Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee, Andrew Jaffe

## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
geneoverlaps = getGenes(gtfPath, structure(bg)$trans, UCSC=FALSE)
```

gexpr

extract gene-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

#### **Description**

For objects created with Cufflinks/Tablemaker, gene-level measurements are calculated by appropriately combining FPKMs from the transcripts comprising the gene. For objects created with RSEM, gene-level measurements are extracted directly from the RSEM output.

## Usage

```
gexpr(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
gexpr(x)
```

#### Arguments

x a ballgown object

# Value

gene-by-sample matrix containing per-sample gene measurements.

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## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
gene_matrix = gexpr(bg)
```

gffRead

read in GTF/GFF file as a data frame

## **Description**

read in GTF/GFF file as a data frame

# Usage

```
gffRead(gffFile, nrows = -1, verbose = FALSE)
```

# Arguments

gffFile name of GTF/GFF on disk

nrows number of rows to read in (default -1, which means read all rows)

verbose if TRUE, print status info at beginning and end of file read. Default FALSE.

#### Value

data frame representing the GTF/GFF file

## Author(s)

Kasper Hansen

#### See Also

```
getAttributeField to extract data from "attributes" column; http://useast.ensembl.org/
info/website/upload/gff.html for more information on the GTF/GFF file format.
```

```
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
annot = gffRead(gtfPath)
```

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gffReadGR

read in gtf file as GRanges object

#### **Description**

(very) light wrapper for rtracklayer::import

## Usage

```
gffReadGR(gtf, splitByTranscript = FALSE, identifier = "transcript_id",
    sep = "; ")
```

Only used if splitByTranscript is TRUE.

# Arguments

gtf name of GTF/GFF file on disk

splitByTranscript

if TRUE, return a GRangesList of transcripts; otherwise return a GRanges object containing all genomic features in gtf. Default FALSE.

identifier name of transcript identifier column of attributes field in gtf. Default "transcript\_id". Only used if splitByTranscript is TRUE.

sep field separator in the attributes field of gtf. Default "; " (semicolon + space).

## Value

if splitByTranscript is FALSE, an object of class GRanges representing the genomic features in gtf. If splitByTranscript is TRUE, an object of class GRangesList, where each element is a GRanges object corresponding to an annotated transcript (designated in names).

#### Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

#### See Also

gffRead for reading in a GTF file as a data frame rather than a GRanges/GRangesList object.

```
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
# read in exons as GRanges:
annotgr = gffReadGR(gtfPath)
# read in groups of exons as transcripts, in GRangesList:
transcripts_grl = gffReadGR(gtfPath, splitByTranscript=TRUE)
```

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iexpr

extract transcript-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

## **Description**

extract transcript-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

## Usage

```
iexpr(x, meas = "rcount")
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
iexpr(x, meas = "rcount")
```

# Arguments

x a ballgown object

meas type of measurement to extract. Can be "rcount", "ucount", "mrcount", or "all".

Default "rcount".

#### Value

intron-by-sample matrix containing the number of reads (measured as specified by meas) supporting each intron, in each sample. If meas is "all", a data frame is returned, containing all measurements and location information.

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
intron_rcount_matrix = iexpr(bg)
intron_data_frame = iexpr(bg, 'all')
```

indexes

extract the indexes from ballgown objects

## **Description**

extract the indexes from ballgown objects

# Usage

```
indexes(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
indexes(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

Χ

a ballgown object

indexes<-

#### Value

list containing elements e2t, i2t, t2g, bamfiles, and pData, where e2t and i2t are data frames linking exons and introns (respectively) to transcripts, t2g is a data frame linking transcripts to genes, and bamfiles and pData are described in ?ballgown.

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
names(indexes(bg))
class(indexes(bg))
head(indexes(bg)$t2g)
```

indexes<-

Replace method for indexes slot in ballgown objects

#### **Description**

Replace method for indexes slot in ballgown objects

#### Usage

```
indexes(x) <- value
## S4 replacement method for signature 'ballgown'
indexes(x) <- value</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x a ballgown objectvalue the updated value for indexes(x) or a subcomponent
```

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
indexes(bg)$bamfiles = paste0('/path/to/bamfolder/',
    sampleNames(bg), '_accepted_hits.bam')
```

last

get the last element

## **Description**

```
get the last element
```

## Usage

```
last(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

Χ

anything you can call tail on (vector, data frame, etc.)

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## **Details**

this function is made of several thousand lines of complex code, so be sure to read it carefully.

# Value

the last element of x

# Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

# **Examples**

```
last(c('h', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o'))
```

 ${\tt mergedDate}$ 

extract package version & creation date from ballgown object

# Description

extract package version & creation date from ballgown object

# Usage

```
mergedDate(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
mergedDate(x)
```

## **Arguments**

x a ballgown object

```
data(bg)
mergedDate(bg)
```

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pctOverlap

calculate percent overlap between two GRanges objects

#### **Description**

calculate percent overlap between two GRanges objects

#### Usage

```
pctOverlap(tx1, tx2)
```

# Arguments

tx1	GRanges object
tx2	GRanges object

#### **Details**

In the ballgown context, tx1 and tx2 are two transcripts, each represented by GRanges objects whose ranges represent the exons comprising the transcripts. The percent overlap is the number of nucleotides falling within both transcripts divided by the number of nucleotides falling within either transcript. Useful as a measure of transcript closeness (as it is essentially Jaccard distance).

#### Value

percent overlap between tx1 and tx2, as defined by the ratio of the intersection of tx1 and tx2 to the union of tx1 and tx2.

#### Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
gtfPath = system.file('extdata', 'annot.gtf.gz', package='ballgown')
annot_grl = gffReadGR(gtfPath, splitByTranscript=TRUE)
pctOverlap(structure(bg)$trans[[2]], annot_grl[[369]]) #79.9%
```

pData

extract phenotype data from a ballgown object

# **Description**

extract phenotype data from a ballgown object

```
pData(object)

## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
pData(object)
```

24 plotLatentTranscripts

## **Arguments**

```
object a ballgown object
```

#### Value

sample-by-phenotype data frame

#### **Examples**

```
data(bg)
pData(bg)
```

pData<-

Replacement method for pData slot in ballgown objects

#### **Description**

Replacement method for pData slot in ballgown objects

#### Usage

```
pData(object) <- value
## S4 replacement method for signature 'ballgown,ANY'
pData(object) <- value</pre>
```

# Arguments

object a ballgown object

value the updated value for pData(x).

#### **Examples**

```
# add "timepoint" covariate to ballgown object:
data(bg) # already contains pData
pData(bg) = data.frame(pData(bg), timepoint=rep(1:10, 2))
head(pData(bg))
```

plotLatentTranscripts cluster assembled transcripts and plot the results

# Description

This is an experimental, first-pass function that clusters assembled transcripts based on their overlap percentage, then plots and colors the transcript clusters.

```
plotLatentTranscripts(gene, gown, method = c("hclust", "kmeans"), k = NULL,
  choosek = c("var90", "thumb"), returncluster = TRUE,
  labelTranscripts = TRUE, ...)
```

25 plotMeans

## **Arguments**

gene	string, name of gene whose transcripts should be clustered (e.g., "XLOC_000001")		
gown	object of class ballgown being used for analysis		
method	clustering method to use. Currently can choose from hierarchical clustering (hclust) or K-means (kmeans). More methods are in development.		
k	number of transcripts clusters to use. By default, k is NULL and thus is chosen using a rule of thumb, but providing k overrides those rules of thumb.		
choosek	if k is not provided, how should the number of clusters be chosen? Must be one of "var90" (choose a k that explains 90 percent of the observed variation) or "thumb" (k is set to be approximately sqrt(n), where n is the total number of transcripts for gene)		
returncluster	if TRUE (as it is by default), return the results of the call to clusterTrancsripts so the data is available for later use. Nothing is returned if FALSE.		
labelTranscripts			

if TRUE (as it is by default), print transcript IDs on the y-axis

other arguments to pass to plotTranscripts . . .

#### Value

if returncluster is TRUE, the transcript clusters are returned as described in clusterTranscripts. A plot of the transcript clusters is also produced, in the style of plotTranscripts.

## Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

#### See Also

```
{\tt clusterTranscripts}, {\tt plotTranscripts}
```

## **Examples**

```
plotLatentTranscripts('XLOC_000454', bg, method='kmeans', k=2)
```

plotMeans

visualize transcript abundance by group

# **Description**

visualize transcript abundance by group

```
plotMeans(gene, gown, overall = FALSE, groupvar, groupname = "all",
 meas = c("cov", "FPKM", "rcount", "ucount", "mrcount", "mcov"),
 colorby = c("transcript", "exon"), legend = TRUE,
 labelTranscripts = FALSE)
```

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## **Arguments**

gene

	output, usually of the form "XLOC_######"	
gown	ballgown object containing experimental and phenotype data	
overall	if TRUE, color features by the overall (experiment-wide) mean rather than a group-specific mean $$	
groupvar	string representing the name of the variable denoting which sample belongs to which group. Can be "none" (if you want the study-wide mean), or must correspond to the name of a column of pData(gown). Usually a categorical variable.	
groupname	string representing which group's expression means you want to plot. Can be "none" (if you want the study-wide mean), "all" (if you want a multipanel plot of each group's mean expression), or any of the levels of groupvar.	
meas	type of expression measurement to plot. One of "cov", "FPKM", "rcount", "ucount", "mrcount", or "mcov". Not all types are valid for all features. (See description of tablemaker output for more information).	

one of "transcript" or "exon", indicating which feature's abundances should

name of gene whose transcripts will be plotted. When using Cufflinks/Tablemaker

dictate plot coloring.

legend if TRUE (as it is by default), a color legend is drawn on top of the plot indicating

the scale for feature abundances.

labelTranscripts

colorby

if TRUE, transcript ids are labeled on the left side of the plot. Default FALSE.

## Value

produces a plot of the transcript structure for the specified gene in the current graphics device, colored by study-wide or group-specific mean expression level.

## Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

#### See Also

```
plotTranscripts
```

```
data(bg)
plotMeans('XLOC_000454', bg, groupvar='group', meas='FPKM',
   colorby='transcript')
```

plotTranscripts 27

plotTranscripts	visualize structure of assembled transcripts	

# Description

visualize structure of assembled transcripts

# Usage

```
plotTranscripts(gene, gown, samples = NULL, colorby = "transcript",
  meas = "FPKM", legend = TRUE, labelTranscripts = FALSE, main = NULL,
  blackBorders = TRUE, log = FALSE, logbase = 2, customCol = NULL,
  customOrder = NULL)
```

# **Arguments**

gene	gene name of gene whose transcripts will be plotted. When using Cufflinks outpusually of the form "XLOC_######"	
gown	ballgown object containing experimental and phenotype data	
samples	vector of sample(s) to plot. Can be 'none' if only one plot (showing transcri structure in gray) is desired. Use sampleNames(gown) to see sample names for gown. Defaults to sampleNames(gown)[1].	
colorby	one of "transcript", "exon", or "none", indicating which feature's abundances should dictate plot coloring. If "none", all transcripts are drawn in gray.	
meas	which expression measurement to color features by, if any. Must match an available measurement for whatever feature you're plotting.	
legend	if TRUE (as it is by default), a color legend is drawn on top of the plot indicating scales for feature abundances.	
labelTranscrip		
	if TRUE, transcript ids are labeled on the left side of the plot. Default FALSE.	
main	optional string giving the desired plot title.	
blackBorders	if TRUE, exon borders are drawn in black. Otherwise, they are drawn in the same color as their transcript or exon. Switching blackBorders to FALSE can be useful for visualizing abundances for skinny exons and/or smaller plots, which can be the case when length(samples) is large.	
log	if TRUE, color transcripts on the log scale. Default FALSE. To account for expression values of 0, we add 1 to all expression values before taking the log.	
logbase	log base to use if log = TRUE. Default 2.	
customCol	an optional vector of custom colors to color transcripts by. There must be the same number of colors as transcripts in the gene being plotted.	
customOrder	an optional vector of transcript ids (matching ids in texpr(gown, 'all')\$t_id), indicating which order transcripts will appear in the plot. All transcripts in gene must appear in the vector exactly once.	

# Value

produces a plot of the transcript structure for the specified gene in the current graphics device.

28 sampleNames

## Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

#### See Also

```
plotMeans, plotLatentTranscripts
```

## **Examples**

sampleNames

get names of samples in a ballgown objects

## Description

get names of samples in a ballgown objects

# Usage

```
sampleNames(object)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
sampleNames(object)
```

## **Arguments**

object

a ballgown object

#### Value

vector of sample IDs for x. If pData exists, samples in its rows correspond to samples in sampleNames(x) (in order).

```
data(bg)
sampleNames(bg)
```

seqnames 29

seqnames

get sequence (chromosome) names from ballgown object

## **Description**

get sequence (chromosome) names from ballgown object

#### Usage

```
seqnames(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
seqnames(x)
```

## **Arguments**

Х

a ballgown object

#### Value

vector of sequence (i.e., chromosome) names included in the ballgown object

## **Examples**

```
data(bg)
seqnames(bg)
```

stattest

statistical tests for differential expression in ballgown

# Description

Test each transcript, gene, exon, or intron in a ballgown object for differential expression, using comparisons of linear models.

```
stattest(gown = NULL, gowntable = NULL, pData = NULL, mod = NULL,
mod0 = NULL, feature = c("gene", "exon", "intron", "transcript"),
meas = c("cov", "FPKM", "rcount", "ucount", "mrcount", "mcov"),
timecourse = FALSE, covariate = NULL, adjustvars = NULL, gexpr = NULL,
df = 4, getFC = FALSE, libadjust = NULL, log = TRUE)
```

30 stattest

#### **Arguments**

gown name of an object of class ballgown

gowntable matrix or matrix-like object with rownames representing feature IDs and columns

representing samples, with expression estimates in the cells. Provide the feature name with feature. You must provide exactly one of gown or gowntable. NB: gowntable is log-transformed within stattest if  $\log$  is TRUE, so provide un-

logged expression values in gowntable.

pData Required if gowntable is provided: data frame giving phenotype data for the

samples in the columns of gowntable. (Rows of pData correspond to columns of gowntable). If gown is used instead, it must have a non-null, valid pData slot

(and the pData argument to stattest should be left NULL).

mod object of class model.matrix representing the design matrix for the linear re-

gression model including covariates of interest

mod0 object of class model.matrix representing the design matrix for the linear re-

gression model without the covariates of interest.

feature the type of genomic feature to be tested for differential expression. If gown

is used, must be one of "gene", "transcript", "exon", or "intron". If gowntable is used, this is just used for labeling and can be whatever the rows

of gowntable represent.

meas the expression measurement to use for statistical tests. Must be one of "cov",

"FPKM", "rcount", "ucount", "mrcount", or "mcov". Not all expression measurements are available for all features. Leave as default if gowntable is pro-

vided.

timecourse if TRUE, tests whether or not the expression profiles of genomic features vary

over time (or another continuous covariate) in the study. Default FALSE. Natural splines are used to fit time profiles, so you must have more timepoints than

degrees of freedom used to fit the splines. The default df is 4.

covariate string representing the name of the covariate of interest for the differential ex-

pression tests. Must correspond to the name of a column of pData(gown). If

timecourse=TRUE, this should be the study's time variable.

adjustvars optional vector of strings representing the names of potential confounders. Must

correspond to names of columns of pData(gown).

gexpr optional data frame that is the result of calling gexpr(gown)). (You can speed

this function up by pre-creating gexpr(gown).)

df degrees of freedom used for modeling expression over time with natural cubic

splines. Default 4. Only used if timecourse=TRUE.

getFC if TRUE, also return estimated fold changes (adjusted for library size and con-

founders) between populations. Only available for 2-group comparisons at the

moment. Default FALSE.

libadjust library-size adjustment to use in linear models. By default, the adjustment is

defined as the sum of the sample's log expression measurements below the 75th percentile of those measurements. To use a different library-size adjustment, provide a numeric vector of each sample's adjustment value. Entries of this vector correspond to samples in in rows of pData. If no library size adjustment

is desired, set to FALSE.

log if TRUE, outcome variable in linear models is log(expression+1), otherwise it's

expression. Default TRUE.

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#### **Details**

At minimum, you need to provide a ballgown object or count table, the type of feature you want to test (gene, transcript, exon, or intron), the expression measurement you want to use (FPKM, cov, rcount, etc.), and the covariate of interest, which must be the name of one of the columns of the 'pData' component of your ballgown object (or provided pData). This covariate is automatically converted to a factor during model fitting in non-timecourse experiments.

By default, models are fit using log2(meas + 1) as the outcome for each feature. To disable the log transformation, provide 'log = FALSE' as an argument to 'stattest'. You can use the gowntable option if you'd like to to use a different transformation.

Library size adjustment is performed by default by using the sum of the log nonzero expression measurements for each sample, up to the 75th percentile of those measurements. This adjustment can be disabled by setting libadjust=FALSE. You can use mod and mod0 to specify alternative library size adjustments.

mod and mod0 are optional arguments. If mod is specified, you must also specify mod0. If neither is specified, mod0 defaults to the design matrix for a model including only a library-size adjustment, and mod defaults to the design matrix for a model including a library-size adjustment and covariate. Note that if you supply mod and mod0, covariate, timecourse, adjustvars, and df are ignored, so make sure your covariate of interest and all appropriate confounder adjustments, including library size, are specified in mod and mod0. By default, the library-size adjustment is the sum of all counts below the 75th percentile of nonzero counts, on the log scale (log2 + 1).

Full model details are described in the supplement of http://biorxiv.org/content/early/2014/03/30/003665.

#### Value

data frame containing the columns feature, id representing feature id, pval representing the pvalue for testing whether this feature was differentially expressed according to covariate, and qval, the estimated false discovery rate using this feature's signal strength as a significance cutoff. An additional column, fc, is included if getFC is TRUE.

#### Author(s)

Jeff Leek, Alyssa Frazee

## References

http://biorxiv.org/content/early/2014/03/30/003665

32 structure

```
meas='FPKM', covariate='time', timecourse=TRUE, adjustvars='group')

# custom model matrices:
### create example data:
set.seed(43)
sex = sample(c('M','F'), size=nrow(pData(bg)), replace=TRUE)
age = sample(21:52, size=nrow(pData(bg)), replace=TRUE)

### create design matrices:
mod = model.matrix(~ sex + age + pData(bg)$group + pData(bg)$time)
mod0 = model.matrix(~ pData(bg)$group + pData(bg)$time)

### build model:
adjusted_results = stattest(bg, feature='transcript', meas='FPKM', mod0=mod0, mod=mod)
```

structure

extract structure components from ballgown objects

## **Description**

extract structure components from ballgown objects

## Usage

```
structure(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
structure(x)
```

# Arguments

Χ

a ballgown object

#### Value

list containing elements intron, exon, and trans. exon and intron are GRanges objects, where each range is an exon or intron, and trans is a GRangesList object, where each GRanges element is a set of exons representing a transcript.

```
data(bg)
names(structure(bg))
class(structure(bg))
structure(bg)$exon
```

subset 33

subset

subset ballgown objects to specific samples or genomic locations

#### **Description**

subset ballgown objects to specific samples or genomic locations

# Usage

```
subset(x, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
subset(x, cond, genomesubset = TRUE)
```

#### **Arguments**

x a ballgown object

... further arguments to generic subset

cond Condition on which to subset. See details.

genomesubset if TRUE, subset x to a specific part of the genome. Otherwise, subset x to only

include specific samples. TRUE by default.

#### **Details**

To use subset, you must provide the cond argument as a string representing a logical expression specifying your desired subset. The subset expression can either involve column names of texpr(x,"all") (if genomesubset is TRUE) or of pData(x) (if genomesubset is FALSE). For example, if you wanted a ballgown object for only chromosome 22, you might call subset(x,"chr == 'chr22'"). (Be sure to handle quotes within character strings appropriately).

#### Value

a subsetted ballgown object, containing only the regions or samples satisfying cond.

# Author(s)

Alyssa Frazee

```
data(bg)
bg_twogenes = subset(bg, "gene_id=='XLOC_000454' | gene_id=='XLOC_000024'")
bg_twogenes
# ballgown instance with 4 assembled transcripts and 20 samples

bg_group0 = subset(bg, "group == 0", genomesubset=FALSE)
bg_group0
# ballgown instance with 100 assembled transcripts and 10 samples
```

34 tGene

texpr

extract transcript-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

# Description

extract transcript-level expression measurements from ballgown objects

# Usage

```
texpr(x, meas = "FPKM")
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
texpr(x, meas = "FPKM")
```

## **Arguments**

```
x a ballgown object

meas type of measurement to extract. Can be "cov", "FPKM", or "all". Default
"FPKM".
```

#### Value

transcript-by-sample matrix containing expression values (measured by meas). If meas is "all", a data frame is returned, containing all measurements and location information.

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
transcript_fpkm_matrix = texpr(bg)
transcript_data_frame = texpr(bg, 'all')
```

tGene

Connect a transcript to its gene

## **Description**

find the gene to which a transcript belongs

```
tGene(bg, transcript, tid = TRUE, gid = TRUE, warnme = TRUE)
```

transcriptIDs 35

## **Arguments**

bg ballgown object transcript transcript identifier

tid set to TRUE if transcript is a numeric transcript identifier (i.e., t\_id in expres-

sion tables), or FALSE if transcript is a named identifie (e.g., TCONS\_000001

or similar.

gid if FALSE, return the gene \*name\* associated with transcript in bg instead of

the gene \*id\*, which is returned by default. Take care to remember that not all ballgown objects include gene \*name\* information. (They do all include gene

IDs).

warnme if TRUE, and if gid is FALSE, print a warning if no gene name is available for

the transcript. This could either mean the transcript didn't overlap an annotated

gene, or that no gene names were included when bg was created.

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
tGene(bg, 10)
tGene(bg, 'TCONS_00000010', tid=FALSE)
tGene(bg, 10, gid=FALSE) #empty: no gene names included in bg.
```

transcriptIDs

get numeric transcript IDs from a ballgown object

# Description

get numeric transcript IDs from a ballgown object

## Usage

```
transcriptIDs(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
transcriptIDs(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

x a ballgown object

#### Value

vector of numeric transcript IDs included in the ballgown object

```
data(bg)
transcriptIDs(bg)
```

36 writeFiles

transcriptNames

get transcript names from a ballgown object

# Description

get transcript names from a ballgown object

## Usage

```
transcriptNames(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ballgown'
transcriptNames(x)
```

## **Arguments**

Х

a ballgown object

#### Value

vector of transcript names included in the ballgown object. If object was created using Cufflinks/Tablemaker, these transcript names will be of the form "TCONS\_\*". Return vector is named and ordered by corresponding numeric transcript ID.

# **Examples**

```
data(bg)
transcriptNames(bg)
```

writeFiles

write files to disk from ballgown object

# Description

create tablemaker-like files on disk from a ballgown object

# Usage

```
writeFiles(gown, dataDir)
```

## **Arguments**

gown ballgown object

dataDir top-level directory for sample-specific folders

```
data(bg)
writeFiles(bg, dataDir=getwd())
```

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