

Package ‘txdbmaker’

October 16, 2025

Title Tools for making TxDb objects from genomic annotations

Description A set of tools for making TxDb objects from genomic annotations from various sources (e.g. UCSC, Ensembl, and GFF files). These tools allow the user to download the genomic locations of transcripts, exons, and CDS, for a given assembly, and to import them in a TxDb object. TxDb objects are implemented in the GenomicFeatures package, together with flexible methods for extracting the desired features in convenient formats.

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txdbmaker-package	<i>Tools for making TxDb objects from genomic annotations</i>
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Description

The **txdbmaker** package contains a set of tools for making TxDb objects from genomic annotations from various sources (e.g. UCSC, Ensembl, and GFF files). These tools allow the user to download the genomic locations of transcripts, exons, and CDS, for a given assembly, and to import them in a TxDb object.

Note that **TxDb** objects are implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package, together with flexible methods for extracting the desired features in convenient formats.

Details

For a quick overview of the provided tools, please see the "Making TxDb Objects" vignette included in this package.

To access the vignette from your R session, run `browseVignettes(package="txdbmaker")`. This requires the **txdbmaker** package to be already installed.

Alternatively this vignette should also be available online here: <https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/vignettes/txdbmaker/inst/doc/txdbmaker.html>

makeFeatureDbFromUCSC *Making a FeatureDb object from annotations available at the UCSC Genome Browser*

Description

WARNING: The FeatureDb/makeFeatureDbFromUCSC/features code base is no longer actively maintained and FeatureDb-related functionalities might get deprecated in the near future.

The makeFeatureDbFromUCSC function allows the user to make a **FeatureDb** object from simple annotation tracks at UCSC. The tracks in question must (at a minimum) have a start, end and a chromosome affiliation in order to be made into a **FeatureDb**. This function requires a precise declaration of its first three arguments to indicate which genome, track and table wish to be imported. There are discovery functions provided to make this process go smoothly.

Usage

```
supportedUCSCFeatureDbTracks(genome)
```

```
supportedUCSCFeatureDbTables(genome, track)
```

```
UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema(genome,
                           track,
                           tablename)
```

```
makeFeatureDbFromUCSC(
  genome,
  track,
  tablename,
  columns = UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema(genome, track, tablename),
  url="https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/",
  goldenPath.url=getOption("UCSC.goldenPath.url"),
  chromCol,
  chromStartCol,
  chromEndCol,
  taxonomyId=NA)
```

Arguments

genome	genome abbreviation used by UCSC and listed in <code>list_UCSC_genomes()[, "genome"]</code> . For example: "hg18".
track	name of the UCSC track. Use <code>supportedUCSCFeatureDbTracks</code> to get the list of available tracks for a particular genome
tablename	name of the UCSC table containing the annotations to retrieve. Use the <code>supportedUCSCFeatureDbTables</code> utility function to get the list of supported tables for a track.
columns	a named character vector to list out the names and types of the other columns that the downloaded track should have. Use <code>UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema</code> to retrieve this information for a particular table.
url, goldenPath.url	use to specify the location of an alternate UCSC Genome Browser.
chromCol	If the schema comes back and the 'chrom' column has been labeled something other than 'chrom', use this argument to indicate what that column has been labeled as so we can properly designate it. This could happen (for example) with the knownGene track tables, which has no 'chromStart' or 'chromEnd' columns, but which DOES have columns that could reasonably substitute for these columns under particular circumstances. Therefore we allow these three columns to have arguments so that their definition can be re-specified
chromStartCol	Same thing as chromCol, but for renames of 'chromStart'
chromEndCol	Same thing as chromCol, but for renames of 'chromEnd'
taxonomyId	By default this value is NA and the organism inferred will be used to look up the correct value for this. But you can use this argument to override that and supply your own valid taxId here.

Details

`makeFeatureDbFromUCSC` is a convenience function that builds a tiny database from one of the UCSC track tables.

`supportedUCSCFeatureDbTracks` is a convenience function that returns potential track names that could be used to make `FeatureDb` objects.

`supportedUCSCFeatureDbTables` is a convenience function that returns potential table names for `FeatureDb` objects (table names go with a track name).

`UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema` is a convenience function that creates a named vector of types for all the fields that can potentially be supported for a given track. By default, this will be called on your specified tablename to include all of the fields in a track.

Value

A `FeatureDb` object for `makeFeatureDbFromUCSC`. Or in the case of `supportedUCSCFeatureDbTracks` and `UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema` a named character vector

Author(s)

M. Carlson

See Also

[list_UCSC_genomes](#) in the **UCSC.utils** package

Examples

```
## Display the list of genomes available at UCSC:
library(UCSC.utils)
list_UCSC_genomes()[ , "genome"]

## Display the list of Tracks supported by makeFeatureDbFromUCSC():
# supportedUCSCFeatureDbTracks("mm10")

## Display the list of tables supported by your track:
supportedUCSCFeatureDbTables(genome="mm10",
                             track="qPCR Primers")

## Display fields that could be passed in to colnames:
UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema(genome="mm10",
                         track="qPCR Primers",
                         tablename="qPcrPrimers")

## Retrieving a full transcript dataset for Mouse from UCSC:
fdb <- makeFeatureDbFromUCSC(genome="mm10",
                             track="qPCR Primers",
                             tablename="qPcrPrimers")

fdb
```

makeTxDb

Making a TxDb object from user supplied annotations

Description

makeTxDb is a low-level constructor for making a **TxDb** object from user supplied transcript annotations.

Note that the end user will rarely need to use makeTxDb directly but will typically use one of the high-level constructors [makeTxDbFromUCSC](#), [makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#), or [makeTxDbFromGFF](#).

Usage

```
makeTxDb(transcripts, splicings, genes=NULL,
         chrominfo=NULL, metadata=NULL,
         reassign.ids=FALSE, on.foreign.transcripts=c("error", "drop"))
```

Arguments

transcripts	Data frame containing the genomic locations of a set of transcripts.
splicings	Data frame containing the genomic locations of exons and CDS parts of the transcripts in transcripts.

<code>genes</code>	Data frame containing the genes associated to a set of transcripts.
<code>chrominfo</code>	Data frame containing information about the chromosomes hosting the set of transcripts.
<code>metadata</code>	2-column data frame containing meta information about this set of transcripts like organism, genome, UCSC table, etc... The names of the columns must be "name" and "value" and their type must be character.
<code>reassign.ids</code>	TRUE or FALSE. Controls how internal ids should be assigned for each type of feature i.e. for transcripts, exons, and CDS parts. For each type, if <code>reassign.ids</code> is FALSE (the default) and if the ids are supplied, then they are used as the internal ids, otherwise the internal ids are assigned in a way that is compatible with the order defined by ordering the features first by chromosome, then by strand, then by start, and finally by end.
<code>on.foreign.transcripts</code>	Controls what to do when the input contains <i>foreign transcripts</i> i.e. transcripts that are on sequences not in <code>chrominfo</code> . If set to "error" (the default)

Details

The `transcripts` (required), `splicings` (required) and `genes` (optional) arguments must be data frames that describe a set of transcripts and the genomic features related to them (exons, CDS parts, and genes at the moment). The `chrominfo` (optional) argument must be a data frame containing chromosome information like the length of each chromosome.

`transcripts` must have 1 row per transcript and the following columns:

- `tx_id`: Transcript ID. Integer vector. No NAs. No duplicates.
- `tx_chrom`: Transcript chromosome. Character vector (or factor) with no NAs.
- `tx_strand`: Transcript strand. Character vector (or factor) with no NAs where each element is either "+" or "-".
- `tx_start`, `tx_end`: Transcript start and end. Integer vectors with no NAs.
- `tx_name`: [optional] Transcript name. Character vector (or factor). NAs and/or duplicates are ok.
- `tx_type`: [optional] Transcript type (e.g. mRNA, ncRNA, snoRNA, etc...). Character vector (or factor). NAs and/or duplicates are ok.
- `gene_id`: [optional] Associated gene. Character vector (or factor). NAs and/or duplicates are ok.

Other columns, if any, are ignored (with a warning).

`splicings` must have N rows per transcript, where N is the nb of exons in the transcript. Each row describes an exon plus, optionally, the CDS part associated with this exon. Its columns must be:

- `tx_id`: Foreign key that links each row in the `splicings` data frame to a unique row in the `transcripts` data frame. Note that more than 1 row in `splicings` can be linked to the same row in `transcripts` (many-to-one relationship). Same type as `transcripts$tx_id` (integer vector). No NAs. All the values in this column must be present in `transcripts$tx_id`.
- `exon_rank`: The rank of the exon in the transcript. Integer vector with no NAs. (`tx_id`, `exon_rank`) pairs must be unique.

- `exon_id`: [optional] Exon ID. Integer vector with no NAs.
- `exon_name`: [optional] Exon name. Character vector (or factor). NAs and/or duplicates are ok.
- `exon_chrom`: [optional] Exon chromosome. Character vector (or factor) with no NAs. If missing then `transcripts$tx_chrom` is used. If present then `exon_strand` must also be present.
- `exon_strand`: [optional] Exon strand. Character vector (or factor) with no NAs. If missing then `transcripts$tx_strand` is used and `exon_chrom` must also be missing.
- `exon_start`, `exon_end`: Exon start and end. Integer vectors with no NAs.
- `cds_id`: [optional] ID of the CDS part associated with the exon. Integer vector. If present then `cds_start` and `cds_end` must also be present. NAs are allowed and must match those in `cds_start` and `cds_end`.
- `cds_name`: [optional] Name of the CDS part. Character vector (or factor). If present then `cds_start` and `cds_end` must also be present. NAs and/or duplicates are ok. Must contain NAs at least where `cds_start` and `cds_end` contain them.
- `cds_start`, `cds_end`: [optional] Start/end of the CDS part. Integer vectors. If one of the 2 columns is missing then all `cds_*` columns must be missing. NAs are allowed and must occur at the same positions in `cds_start` and `cds_end`.
- `cds_phase`: [optional] Phase of the CDS part. Integer vector. If present then `cds_start` and `cds_end` must also be present. NAs are allowed and must match those in `cds_start` and `cds_end`.

Other columns, if any, are ignored (with a warning).

`genes` should not be supplied if `transcripts` has a `gene_id` column. If supplied, it must have N rows per transcript, where N is the nb of genes linked to the transcript (N will be 1 most of the time). Its columns must be:

- `tx_id`: [optional] `genes` must have either a `tx_id` or a `tx_name` column but not both. Like `splicings$tx_id`, this is a foreign key that links each row in the `genes` data frame to a unique row in the `transcripts` data frame.
- `tx_name`: [optional] Can be used as an alternative to the `genes$tx_id` foreign key.
- `gene_id`: Gene ID. Character vector (or factor). No NAs.

Other columns, if any, are ignored (with a warning).

`chrominfo` must have 1 row per chromosome and the following columns:

- `chrom`: Chromosome name. Character vector (or factor) with no NAs and no duplicates.
- `length`: Chromosome length. Integer vector with either all NAs or no NAs.
- `is_circular`: [optional] Chromosome circularity flag. Logical vector. NAs are ok.

Other columns, if any, are ignored (with a warning).

Value

A [TxDb](#) object.

Author(s)

Hervé Pagès

See Also

- [makeTxDbFromUCSC](#), [makeTxDbFromBiomart](#), and [makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#), for making a **TxDb** object from online resources.
- [makeTxDbFromGRanges](#) and [makeTxDbFromGFF](#) for making a **TxDb** object from a **GRanges** object, or from a GFF or GTF file.
- **TxDb** objects implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package.
- [saveDb](#) and [loadDb](#) in the **AnnotationDbi** package for saving and loading a **TxDb** object as an SQLite file.

Examples

```
transcripts <- data.frame(
  tx_id=1:3,
  tx_chrom="chr1",
  tx_strand=c("-", "+", "+"),
  tx_start=c(1, 2001, 2001),
  tx_end=c(999, 2199, 2199))
splittings <- data.frame(
  tx_id=c(1L, 2L, 2L, 2L, 3L, 3L),
  exon_rank=c(1, 1, 2, 3, 1, 2),
  exon_start=c(1, 2001, 2101, 2131, 2001, 2131),
  exon_end=c(999, 2085, 2144, 2199, 2085, 2199),
  cds_start=c(1, 2022, 2101, 2131, NA, NA),
  cds_end=c(999, 2085, 2144, 2193, NA, NA),
  cds_phase=c(0, 0, 2, 0, NA, NA))

txdb <- makeTxDb(transcripts, splittings)
```

makeTxDbFromBiomart	<i>Make a TxDb object from annotations available on a BioMart database</i>
---------------------	--

Description

The `makeTxDbFromBiomart` function allows the user to make a **TxDb** object from transcript annotations available on a BioMart database.

Note that `makeTxDbFromBiomart` is being phased out in favor of [makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#).

Usage

```
makeTxDbFromBiomart(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL",
                    dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",
                    transcript_ids=NULL,
                    circ_seqs=NULL,
                    filter=NULL,
                    id_prefix="ensembl_",
                    host="https://www.ensembl.org",
                    port,
                    taxonomyId=NA,
                    mirBaseBuild=NA)

getChromInfoFromBiomart(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL",
                        dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",
                        id_prefix="ensembl_",
                        host="https://www.ensembl.org",
                        port)
```

Arguments

biomart	which BioMart database to use. Get the list of all available BioMart databases with the listMarts function from the biomaRt package. See the details section below for a list of BioMart databases with compatible transcript annotations.
dataset	which dataset from BioMart. For example: "hsapiens_gene_ensembl", "mmusculus_gene_ensembl", "dmelanogaster_gene_ensembl", "celegans_gene_ensembl", etc in the ensembl database. See the examples section below for how to discover which datasets are available in a given BioMart database.
transcript_ids	optionally, only retrieve transcript annotation data for the specified set of transcript ids. If this is used, then the meta information displayed for the resulting TxDb object will say 'Full dataset: no'. Otherwise it will say 'Full dataset: yes'.
circ_seqs	a character vector to list out which chromosomes should be marked as circular.
filter	Additional filters to use in the BioMart query. Must be a named list. An example is <code>filter=list(source="entrez")</code>
id_prefix	Specifies the prefix used in BioMart attributes. For example, some BioMarts may have an attribute specified as "ensembl_transcript_id" whereas others have the same attribute specified as "transcript_id". Defaults to "ensembl_".
host	The host URL of the BioMart. Defaults to <code>www.ensembl.org</code> .
port	The port to use in the HTTP communication with the host. This argument has been deprecated. It is handled by <code>useEnsembl</code> depending on the host input.
taxonomyId	By default this value is NA and the dataset selected will be used to look up the correct value for this. But you can use this argument to override that and supply your own taxId here (which will be independently checked to make sure its a real taxonomy id). Normally you should never need to use this.
mirBaseBuild	specify the string for the appropriate build Information from mirbase.db to use for microRNAs. This can be learned by calling <code>supportedMirBaseBuildValues</code> . By default, this value will be set to NA, which will inactivate the microRNAs accessor.

Details

makeTxDbFromBiomart is a convenience function that feeds data from a BioMart database to the lower level [makeTxDb](#) function. See [?makeTxDbFromUCSC](#) for a similar function that feeds data from the UCSC source.

Here is a list of datasets known to be compatible with makeTxDbFromBiomart (list updated on September 18, 2017):

1. All the datasets in the main Ensembl database. Get the list with:

```
mart <- biomaRt::useEnsembl(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL",  
                           host="https://www.ensembl.org")  
biomaRt::listDatasets(mart)
```

2. All the datasets in the Ensembl Fungi database. Get the list with:

```
mart <- biomaRt::useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="fungi_mart")  
biomaRt::listDatasets(mart)
```

3. All the datasets in the Ensembl Metazoa database. Get the list with:

```
mart <- biomaRt::useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="metazoa_mart")  
biomaRt::listDatasets(mart)
```

4. All the datasets in the Ensembl Plants database. Get the list with:

```
mart <- biomaRt::useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="plants_mart")  
biomaRt::listDatasets(mart)
```

5. All the datasets in the Ensembl Protists database. Get the list with:

```
mart <- biomaRt::useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="protists_mart")  
biomaRt::listDatasets(mart)
```

6. All the datasets in the Gramene Mart. Get the list with:

```
mart <- biomaRt::useEnsembl(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_PLANT",  
                           host="https://ensembl.gramene.org")  
biomaRt::listDatasets(mart)
```

Note that BioMart is not currently available for Ensembl Bacteria.

Also please note that not all these datasets have CDS information.

Value

A [TxDb](#) object for makeTxDbFromBiomart.

A data frame with 1 row per chromosome (or scaffold) and with columns chrom and length for [getChromInfoFromBiomart](#).

Author(s)

M. Carlson and H. Pagès

See Also

- [makeTxDbFromUCSC](#) and [makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#) for making a **TxDb** object from other online resources.
- [makeTxDbFromGRanges](#) and [makeTxDbFromGFF](#) for making a **TxDb** object from a **GRanges** object, or from a GFF or GTF file.
- The [listMarts](#), [useEnsembl](#), [listDatasets](#), and [listFilters](#) functions in the **biomaRt** package.
- The [supportedMiRBaseBuildValues](#) function for listing all the possible values for the `miRBaseBuild` argument.
- **TxDb** objects implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package.
- [makeTxDb](#) for the low-level function used by the `makeTxDbFrom*` functions to make the **TxDb** object returned to the user.

Examples

```
## -----
## A. BASIC USAGE
## -----

## We can use listDatasets() from the biomaRt package to list the
## datasets available in the "ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL" BioMart database:
library(biomaRt)
listMarts(host="https://www.ensembl.org")
mart <- useEnsembl(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL", host="https://www.ensembl.org")
datasets <- listDatasets(mart)
head(datasets)
subset(datasets, grepl("elegans", dataset, ignore.case=TRUE))

## Retrieve the full transcript dataset for Worm:
txdb1 <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(dataset="celegans_gene_ensembl")
txdb1

## Retrieve an incomplete transcript dataset for Human:
transcript_ids <- c(
  "ENST00000013894",
  "ENST000000268655",
  "ENST000000313243",
  "ENST000000435657",
  "ENST000000384428",
  "ENST000000478783"
)

if (interactive()) {
  txdb2 <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",
                             transcript_ids=transcript_ids)
  txdb2 # note that these annotations match the GRCh38 genome assembly
}

## -----
## B. ACCESSING THE EnsemblGenomes MARTS
```

```
## -----

library(biomaRt)

## Note that BioMart is not currently available for Ensembl Bacteria.

## -----
## --- Ensembl Fungi ---

mart <- useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="fungi_mart")
datasets <- listDatasets(mart)
datasets$dataset
yeast_txdb <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(biomart="fungi_mart",
                                dataset="scerevisiae_eg_gene",
                                host="https://fungi.ensembl.org")
yeast_txdb

## -----
## --- Ensembl Metazoa ---

## The metazoa mart is slow and at the same time it doesn't seem to
## support requests that take more than 1 min at the moment. So a call to
## biomaRt::getBM() will fail with a "Timeout was reached" error if the
## requested data takes more than 1 min to download. This unfortunately
## happens with the example below so we don't try to run it for now.

mart <- useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="metazoa_mart")
datasets <- listDatasets(mart)
datasets$dataset
worm_txdb <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(biomart="metazoa_mart",
                                dataset="celegans_eg_gene",
                                host="https://metazoa.ensembl.org")
worm_txdb

## Note that even if the dataset for Worm on Ensembl Metazoa contains
## the same transcript as on the main Ensembl database, the transcript
## type might be annotated with slightly different terms (e.g. antisense
## vs antisense_RNA):
filter <- list(tx_name="Y71G12B.44")
transcripts(worm_txdb, filter=filter, columns=c("tx_name", "tx_type"))
transcripts(txdb1, filter=filter, columns=c("tx_name", "tx_type"))

## -----
## --- Ensembl Plants ---

## Like the metazoa mart (see above), the plants mart is also slow and
## doesn't seem to support requests that take more than 1 min either.
## So we don't try to run the example below for now.

mart <- useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="plants_mart")
datasets <- listDatasets(mart)
```

```

datasets[ , 1:2]
athaliana_txdb <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(biomart="plants_mart",
                                     dataset="athaliana_eg_gene",
                                     host="https://plants.ensembl.org")

athaliana_txdb

## -----
## --- Ensembl Protists ---

mart <- useEnsemblGenomes(biomart="protists_mart")
datasets <- listDatasets(mart)
datasets$dataset
tgondii_txdb <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(biomart="protists_mart",
                                   dataset="tgondii_eg_gene",
                                   host="https://protists.ensembl.org")

tgondii_txdb

## -----
## C. USING AN Ensembl MIRROR
## -----

## You can use the 'host' argument to access the "ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL"
## BioMart database at a mirror (e.g. at uswest.ensembl.org). A gotcha
## when doing this is that the name of the database on the mirror might
## be different! We can check this with listMarts() from the biomaRt
## package:
if (interactive()) {

  listMarts(host="https://useast.ensembl.org")

  txdb3 <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL",
                              dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",
                              transcript_ids=transcript_ids,
                              host="https://useast.ensembl.org")

  txdb3
}
## Therefore in addition to setting 'host' to "uswest.ensembl.org", we
## might also need to specify the 'biomart' argument.

## -----
## D. USING FILTERS
## -----

## We can use listFilters() from the biomaRt package to get valid filter
## names:
mart <- useEnsembl(biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL",
                  dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",
                  host="https://www.ensembl.org")
head(listFilters(mart))

## Retrieve transcript dataset for Ensembl gene ENSG00000011198:
my_filter <- list(ensembl_gene_id="ENSG00000011198")

```

```

if (interactive()) {
  txdb4 <- makeTxDbFromBiomart(dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",
                              filter=my_filter)

  txdb4
  transcripts(txdb4, columns=c("tx_id", "tx_name", "gene_id"))
  transcriptLengths(txdb4)
}

## -----
## E. RETRIEVING CHROMOSOME INFORMATION ONLY
## -----

chrominfo <- getChromInfoFromBiomart(dataset="celegans_gene_ensembl")
chrominfo

```

makeTxDbFromEnsembl *Make a TxDb object from an Ensembl database*

Description

The `makeTxDbFromEnsembl` function creates a **`TxDb`** object for a given organism by importing the genomic locations of its transcripts, exons, CDS, and genes from an Ensembl database.

Note that it uses the **`RMariaDB`** package internally so make sure that this package is installed.

Usage

```

makeTxDbFromEnsembl(organism="Homo sapiens",
                    release=NA,
                    circ_seqs=NULL,
                    server="ensembl.db.ensembl.org",
                    username="anonymous", password=NULL, port=0L,
                    tx_attrib=NULL)

```

Arguments

organism	The <i>scientific name</i> (i.e. genus and species, or genus and species and subspecies) of the organism for which to import the data. Case is not sensitive. Underscores can be used instead of white spaces e.g. "homo_sapiens" is accepted.
release	The Ensembl release to query e.g. 89. If set to NA (the default), the current release is used.
circ_seqs	A character vector to list out which chromosomes should be marked as circular.
server	The name of the MySQL server to query. See https://www.ensembl.org/info/data/mysql.html for the list of Ensembl public MySQL servers. Make sure to use the server nearest to you. It can make a big difference!
username	Login username for the MySQL server.
password	Login password for the MySQL server.

port	Port of the MySQL server.
tx_attr	If not NULL, only select transcripts with an attribute of the given code, a string, like "gencode_basic".

Value

A [TxDb](#) object.

Note

makeTxDbFromEnsembl tends to be faster and more reliable than [makeTxDbFromBiomart](#).

Author(s)

H. Pagès

See Also

- [makeTxDbFromUCSC](#) and [makeTxDbFromBiomart](#) for making a [TxDb](#) object from other online resources.
- [makeTxDbFromGRanges](#) and [makeTxDbFromGFF](#) for making a [TxDb](#) object from a [GRanges](#) object, or from a GFF or GTF file.
- [TxDb](#) objects implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package.
- [makeTxDb](#) for the low-level function used by the makeTxDbFrom* functions to make the [TxDb](#) object returned to the user.

Examples

```
txdb <- makeTxDbFromEnsembl("Saccharomyces cerevisiae",
                             server="useastdb.ensembl.org")
txdb
```

makeTxDbFromGFF	<i>Make a TxDb object from annotations available as a GFF3 or GTF file</i>
-----------------	--

Description

The makeTxDbFromGFF function allows the user to make a [TxDb](#) object from transcript annotations available as a GFF3 or GTF file.

Usage

```
makeTxDbFromGFF(file,
                 format=c("auto", "gff3", "gtf"),
                 dataSource=NA,
                 organism=NA,
                 taxonomyId=NA,
                 circ_seqs=NULL,
                 chrominfo=NULL,
                 miRBaseBuild=NA,
                 metadata=NULL,
                 dbxrefTag)
```

Arguments

file	Input GFF3 or GTF file. Can be a path to a file, or an URL, or a connection object, or a GFF3File or GTFFile object.
format	Format of the input file. Accepted values are: "auto" (the default) for auto-detection of the format, "gff3", or "gtf". Use "gff3" or "gtf" only if auto-detection failed.
dataSource	A single string describing the origin of the data file. Please be as specific as possible.
organism	What is the Genus and species of this organism. Please use proper scientific nomenclature for example: "Homo sapiens" or "Canis familiaris" and not "human" or "my fuzzy buddy". If properly written, this information may be used by the software to help you out later.
taxonomyId	By default this value is NA and the organism provided will be used to look up the correct value for this. But you can use this argument to override that and supply your own taxonomy id here (which will be separately validated). Since providing a valid taxonomy id will not require us to look up one based on your organism: this is one way that you can loosen the restrictions about what is and isn't a valid value for the organism.
circ_seqs	A character vector to list out which chromosomes should be marked as circular.
chrominfo	Data frame containing information about the chromosomes. Will be passed to the internal call to makeTxDb . See ?makeTxDb for more information. Alternatively, can be a Seqinfo object.
miRBaseBuild	Specify the string for the appropriate build Information from mirbase.db to use for microRNAs. This can be learned by calling supportedMiRBaseBuildValues . By default, this value will be set to NA, which will inactivate the microRNAs accessor.
metadata	A 2-column data frame containing meta information to be included in the TxDb object. See ?makeTxDb for more information about the format of metadata.
dbxrefTag	If not missing, the values in the Dbxref attribute with the specified tag (like "GeneID") are used for the feature names.

Details

makeTxDbFromGFF is a convenience function that feeds data from the parsed file to the [makeTxDbFromGRanges](#) function.

Value

A [TxDb](#) object.

Author(s)

H. Pagès and M. Carlson

See Also

- [makeTxDbFromGRanges](#), which makeTxDbFromGFF is based on, for making a [TxDb](#) object from a [GRanges](#) object.
- The [import](#) function in the **rtracklayer** package (also used by makeTxDbFromGFF internally).
- [makeTxDbFromUCSC](#), [makeTxDbFromBiomart](#), and [makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#), for making a [TxDb](#) object from online resources.
- The [supportedMiRBaseBuildValues](#) function for listing all the possible values for the miRBaseBuild argument.
- [TxDb](#) objects implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package.
- [makeTxDb](#) for the low-level function used by the makeTxDbFrom* functions to make the [TxDb](#) object returned to the user.

Examples

```
## TESTING GFF3
gffFile <- system.file("extdata", "GFF3_files", "a.gff3", package="txdbmaker")
txdb <- makeTxDbFromGFF(gffFile,
                        dataSource="partial gtf file for Tomatoes for testing",
                        organism="Solanum lycopersicum")

## TESTING GTF, this time specifying some metadata and the chrominfo
gtfFile <- system.file("extdata", "GTF_files",
                       "GCA_002204515.1_Aaegl5.0_genomic.gtf.gz",
                       package="txdbmaker")
resource_url <- paste0("ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genomes/all/GCA/002/204/515/",
                       "GCA_002204515.1_Aaegl5.0/")
metadata <- data.frame(name="Resource URL", value=resource_url)
chrominfo <- data.frame(chrom="MF194022.1",
                        length=16790,
                        is_circular=TRUE,
                        genome="Aaegl5.0")
txdb2 <- makeTxDbFromGFF(gtfFile,
                        dataSource="NCBI",
                        organism="Aedes aegypti",
                        chrominfo=chrominfo,
                        metadata=metadata)
```

makeTxDbFromGRanges *Make a TxDb object from a GRanges object*

Description

The `makeTxDbFromGRanges` function allows the user to extract gene, transcript, exon, and CDS information from a [GRanges](#) object structured as GFF3 or GTF, and to return that information in a [TxDb](#) object.

Usage

```
makeTxDbFromGRanges(gr, drop.stop.codons=FALSE, metadata=NULL, taxonomyId=NA)
```

Arguments

<code>gr</code>	A GRanges object structured as GFF3 or GTF, typically obtained with <code>BiocIO::import()</code> .
<code>drop.stop.codons</code>	TRUE or FALSE. If TRUE, then features of type <code>stop_codon</code> are ignored. Otherwise (the default) the stop codons are considered to be part of the CDS and merged to them.
<code>metadata</code>	A 2-column data frame containing meta information to be included in the TxDb object. This data frame is just passed to <code>makeTxDb</code> , which <code>makeTxDbFromGRanges</code> calls at the end to make the TxDb object from the information extracted from <code>gr</code> . See <code>?makeTxDb</code> for more information about the format of metadata.
<code>taxonomyId</code>	By default this value is NA which will result in an NA field since there is no reliable way to infer this from a GRanges object. But you can use this argument to supply your own valid <code>taxId</code> here and if you do, then the <code>Organism</code> can be filled in as well

Value

A [TxDb](#) object.

Author(s)

Hervé Pagès

See Also

- `makeTxDbFromUCSC`, `makeTxDbFromBiomart`, and `makeTxDbFromEnsembl`, for making a [TxDb](#) object from online resources.
- `makeTxDbFromGFF` for making a [TxDb](#) object from a GFF or GTF file.
- The `import` generic function in the **BiocIO** package.
- The `asGFF` method for [TxDb](#) objects (`asGFF,TxDb-method`) for the reverse of `makeTxDbFromGRanges`, that is, for turning a [TxDb](#) object into a [GRanges](#) object structured as GFF.

- **TxDb** objects implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package.
- **makeTxDb** for the low-level function used by the makeTxDbFrom* functions to make the **TxDb** object returned to the user.

Examples

```
library(BiocIO) # for the import() function

## -----
## WITH A GRanges OBJECT STRUCTURED AS GFF3
## -----
GFF3_files <- system.file("extdata", "GFF3_files", package="txdbmaker")

path <- file.path(GFF3_files, "a.gff3")
gr <- import(path)
txdb <- makeTxDbFromGRanges(gr)
txdb

## Reverse operation:
gr2 <- asGFF(txdb)

## Sanity check (asGFF() does not propagate the CDS phase at the moment):
target <- as.list(txdb)
target$splicings$cds_phase <- NULL
stopifnot(identical(target, as.list(makeTxDbFromGRanges(gr2))))

## -----
## WITH A GRanges OBJECT STRUCTURED AS GTF
## -----
GTF_files <- system.file("extdata", "GTF_files", package="txdbmaker")

## test1.gtf was grabbed from http://mblab.wustl.edu/GTF22.html (5 exon
## gene with 3 translated exons):
path <- file.path(GTF_files, "test1.gtf")
gr <- import(path)
txdb <- makeTxDbFromGRanges(gr)
txdb

path <- file.path(GTF_files, "GCA_002204515.1_AaegL5.0_genomic.gtf.gz")
gr <- import(path)
txdb <- makeTxDbFromGRanges(gr)
txdb
```

Description

The `makeTxDbFromUCSC` function allows the user to make a [TxDb](#) object from transcript annotations available at the UCSC Genome Browser.

Note that it uses the **RMariaDB** package internally so make sure that this package is installed.

Usage

```
makeTxDbFromUCSC(genome="hg19", tablename="knownGene",
                  transcript_ids=NULL,
                  circ_seqs=NULL,
                  goldenPath.url=getOption("UCSC.goldenPath.url"),
                  taxonomyId=NA,
                  miRBaseBuild=NA)
```

```
supportedUCSCTables(genome="hg19")
```

```
browseUCSCtrack(genome="hg19", tablename="knownGene",
                 url="https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/")
```

Arguments

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| genome | The name of a UCSC genome assembly e.g. "hg19" or "panTro6". Get the list of UCSC genomes currently available with <code>list_UCSC_genomes()[, "genome"]</code> . |
| tablename | The name of the UCSC table containing the transcript genomic locations to retrieve. Use the <code>supportedUCSCTables</code> utility function to get the list of tables known to work with <code>makeTxDbFromUCSC</code> . |
| transcript_ids | Optionally, only retrieve transcript locations for the specified set of transcript ids. If this is used, then the meta information displayed for the resulting TxDb object will say 'Full dataset: no'. Otherwise it will say 'Full dataset: yes'. |
| circ_seqs | Like GRanges objects, SummarizedExperiment objects, and many other objects in Bioconductor, the TxDb object returned by <code>makeTxDbFromUCSC</code> contains a seqinfo component that can be accessed with <code>seqinfo()</code> . This component contains various sequence-level information like the sequence names, lengths, and circularity flag for the genome assembly of the TxDb object.

As far as we know the information of which sequences are circular is not available in the UCSC Genome Browser. However, for the most commonly used UCSC genome assemblies <code>makeTxDbFromUCSC</code> will get this information from a knowledge database stored in the GenomeInfoDb package (see ?registered_UCSC_genomes).

For less commonly used UCSC genome assemblies, <code>makeTxDbFromUCSC</code> will make a guess based on the chromosome names (e.g. chrM or 2micron will be assumed to be circular). Even though this works most of the time, it is not guaranteed to work <i>all the time</i> . So in this case a warning is issued. If you think the guess is incorrect then you can supply your own list of circular sequences (as a character vector) via the <code>circ_seqs</code> argument. |
| goldenPath.url | A single string specifying the URL to the UCSC goldenPath location where the chromosome sizes are expected to be found. |

url	Use to specify the location of an alternate UCSC Genome Browser.
taxonomyId	By default this value is NA and the organism inferred will be used to look up the correct value for this. But you can use this argument to supply your own valid taxId here.
miRBaseBuild	Specify the string for the appropriate build information from mirbase.db to use for microRNAs. This can be learned by calling supportedMiRBaseBuildValues. By default, this value will be set to NA, which will inactivate the microRNAs accessor.

Details

makeTxDbFromUCSC is a convenience function that feeds data from the UCSC source to the lower level [makeTxDb](#) function. See [?makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#) for a similar function that feeds data from an Ensembl database.

Value

For makeTxDbFromUCSC: A [TxDb](#) object.

For supportedUCSCTables: A data frame with 3 columns (tablename, track, and subtrack) and 1 row per table known to work with makeTxDbFromUCSC. IMPORTANT NOTE: In the returned data frame, the set of tables associated with a track with subtracks might contain tables that don't exist for the specified genome.

Author(s)

M. Carlson and H. Pagès

See Also

- [makeTxDbFromEnsembl](#) and [makeTxDbFromBiomart](#) for making a [TxDb](#) object from other online resources.
- [makeTxDbFromGRanges](#) and [makeTxDbFromGFF](#) for making a [TxDb](#) object from a [GRanges](#) object, or from a GFF or GTF file.
- [list_UCSC_genomes](#) in the **UCSC.utils** package to get the list of UCSC genomes.
- The [supportedMiRBaseBuildValues](#) function for listing all the possible values for the miRBaseBuild argument.
- [TxDb](#) objects implemented in the **GenomicFeatures** package.
- [makeTxDb](#) for the low-level function used by the makeTxDbFrom* functions to make the [TxDb](#) object returned to the user.

Examples

```
## Use list_UCSC_genomes() to obtain the list of all UCSC genomes:
library(UCSC.utils)
list_UCSC_genomes()[ , "genome"]

## To search genomes for a particular organism:
list_UCSC_genomes("human")
```

```
## Display the list of tables known to work with makeTxDbFromUCSC():
supportedUCSCTables("hg38")
supportedUCSCTables("hg19")

## Open the UCSC track page for a given organism/table:
browseUCSCTrack("hg38", tablename="knownGene")
browseUCSCTrack("hg19", tablename="knownGene")

browseUCSCTrack("hg38", tablename="ncbiRefSeqSelect")
browseUCSCTrack("hg19", tablename="ncbiRefSeqSelect")

browseUCSCTrack("hg19", tablename="pseudoYale60")

browseUCSCTrack("sacCer3", tablename="ensGene")

## Retrieve a full transcript dataset for Yeast from UCSC:
txdb1 <- makeTxDbFromUCSC("sacCer3", tablename="ensGene")
txdb1

## Retrieve an incomplete transcript dataset for Mouse from UCSC (only
## transcripts linked to Entrez Gene ID 22290):
transcript_ids <- c(
  "uc009uzf.1",
  "uc009uzg.1",
  "uc009uzh.1",
  "uc009uzi.1",
  "uc009uzj.1"
)

txdb2 <- makeTxDbFromUCSC("mm10", tablename="knownGene",
                          transcript_ids=transcript_ids)
txdb2
```

makeTxDbPackage

*Making a TxDb package from annotations available at the UCSC
Genome Browser, biomaRt or from another source.*

Description

A TxDb package is an annotation package containing a [TxDb](#) object.

The makeTxDbPackageFromUCSC function allows the user to make a [TxDb](#) package from transcript annotations available at the UCSC Genome Browser.

The makeTxDbPackageFromBiomart function allows the user to do the same thing as makeTxDbPackageFromUCSC except that the annotations originate from biomaRt.

Finally, the makeTxDbPackage function allows the user to make a [TxDb](#) package directly from a [TxDb](#) object.

Usage

```
makeTxDbPackageFromUCSC(  
  version=,  
  maintainer,  
  author,  
  destDir=".",  
  license="Artistic-2.0",  
  genome="hg19",  
  tablename="knownGene",  
  transcript_ids=NULL,  
  circ_seqs=NULL,  
  goldenPath.url=getOption("UCSC.goldenPath.url"),  
  taxonomyId=NA,  
  miRBaseBuild=NA)  
  
makeFDbPackageFromUCSC(  
  version,  
  maintainer,  
  author,  
  destDir=".",  
  license="Artistic-2.0",  
  genome="hg19",  
  track="tRNAs",  
  tablename="tRNAs",  
  columns = UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema(genome, track, tablename),  
  url="https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/",  
  goldenPath.url=getOption("UCSC.goldenPath.url"),  
  chromCol=NULL,  
  chromStartCol=NULL,  
  chromEndCol=NULL,  
  taxonomyId=NA)  
  
makeTxDbPackageFromBiomart(  
  version,  
  maintainer,  
  author,  
  destDir=".",  
  license="Artistic-2.0",  
  biomart="ENSEMBL_MART_ENSEMBL",  
  dataset="hsapiens_gene_ensembl",  
  transcript_ids=NULL,  
  circ_seqs=NULL,  
  filter=NULL,  
  id_prefix="ensembl_",  
  host="https://www.ensembl.org",  
  port,  
  taxonomyId=NA,  
  miRBaseBuild=NA)
```

```
makeTxDbPackage(txdb,
                version,
                maintainer,
                author,
                destDir=".",
                license="Artistic-2.0",
                pkgname=NULL,
                provider=NULL,
                providerVersion=NULL)
```

```
supportedMirBaseBuildValues()
```

```
makePackageName(txdb)
```

Arguments

version	What is the version number for this package?
maintainer	Who is the package maintainer? (must include email to be valid). Should be a person object, or something coercible to one, like a string. May be omitted if the author argument is a person containing someone with the maintainer role.
author	Who is the creator of this package? Should be a person object, or something coercible to one, like a character vector of names. The maintainer argument will be merged into this list.
destDir	A path where the package source should be assembled.
license	What is the license (and it's version)
biomart	which BioMart database to use. Get the list of all available BioMart databases with the listMarts function from the biomaRt package. See the details section below for a list of BioMart databases with compatible transcript annotations.
dataset	which dataset from BioMart. For example: "hsapiens_gene_ensembl", "mmusculus_gene_ensembl", "dmelanogaster_gene_ensembl", "celegans_gene_ensembl", etc in the ensembl database. See the examples section below for how to discover which datasets are available in a given BioMart database.
genome	name of a UCSC genome assembly e.g. "hg19" or "panTro6". Get the list of UCSC genomes currently available with list_UCSC_genomes() [, "genome"].
track	name of the UCSC track. Use supportedUCSCFeatureDbTracks to get the list of available tracks for a particular genome
tablename	name of the UCSC table containing the transcript annotations to retrieve. Use the supportedUCSCtables utility function to get the list of tables known to work with makeTxDbFromUCSC.
transcript_ids	optionally, only retrieve transcript annotation data for the specified set of transcript ids. If this is used, then the meta information displayed for the resulting TxDb object will say 'Full dataset: no'. Otherwise it will say 'Full dataset: yes'.
circ_seqs	a character vector to list out which chromosomes should be marked as circular.
filter	Additional filters to use in the BioMart query. Must be a named list. An example is filter=as.list(c(source="entrez"))

host	The host URL of the BioMart. Defaults to https://www.ensembl.org .
port	The port to use in the HTTP communication with the host. This argument has been deprecated. It is handled by <code>useEnsembl</code> depending on the host input.
id_prefix	Specifies the prefix used in BioMart attributes. For example, some BioMarts may have an attribute specified as "ensembl_transcript_id" whereas others have the same attribute specified as "transcript_id". Defaults to "ensembl_".
columns	a named character vector to list out the names and types of the other columns that the downloaded track should have. Use <code>UCSCFeatureDbTableSchema</code> to retrieve this information for a particular table.
url, goldenPath.url	use to specify the location of an alternate UCSC Genome Browser.
chromCol	If the schema comes back and the 'chrom' column has been labeled something other than 'chrom', use this argument to indicate what that column has been labeled as so we can properly designate it. This could happen (for example) with the knownGene track tables, which has no 'chromStart' or 'chromEnd' columns, but which DOES have columns that could reasonably substitute for these columns under particular circumstances. Therefore we allow these three columns to have arguments so that their definition can be re-specified
chromStartCol	Same thing as chromCol, but for renames of 'chromStart'
chromEndCol	Same thing as chromCol, but for renames of 'chromEnd'
txdb	A <code>TxDb</code> object that represents a handle to a transcript database. This object type is what is returned by <code>makeTxDbFromUCSC</code> , <code>makeTxDbFromUCSC</code> or <code>makeTxDb</code>
taxonomyId	By default this value is NA and the organism provided (or inferred) will be used to look up the correct value for this. But you can use this argument to override that and supply your own valid taxId here
miRBaseBuild	specify the string for the appropriate build Information from mirbase.db to use for microRNAs. This can be learned by calling <code>supportedMiRBaseBuildValues</code> . By default, this value will be set to NA, which will inactivate the microRNAs accessor.
pkgname	By default this value is NULL and does not need to be filled in (a package name will be generated for you). But if you override this value, then the package and it's object will be instead named after this value. Be aware that the standard rules for package names will apply, (so don't include spaces, underscores or dashes)
provider	If not given, a default is taken from the 'Data source' field of the metadata table.
providerVersion	If not given, a default is taken from one of 'UCSC table', 'BioMart version' or 'Data source' fields of the metadata table.

Details

`makeTxDbPackageFromUCSC` is a convenience function that calls both the `makeTxDbFromUCSC` and the `makeTxDbPackage` functions. The `makeTxDbPackageFromBiomart` follows a similar pattern and calls the `makeTxDbFromBiomart` and `makeTxDbPackage` functions. `supportedMiRBaseBuildValues` is a convenience function that will list all the possible values for the `miRBaseBuild` argument. `makePackageName` creates a package name from a `TxDb` object. This function is also used by `OrganismDbi`.

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