Package 'epiregulon'

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Description Gene regulatory networks model the underlying gene regulation hierarchies that drive gene expression and observed phenotypes. Epiregulon infers TF activity in single cells by constructing a gene regulatory network (regulons). This is achieved through integration of scATAC-seq and scRNA-seq data and incorporation of public bulk TF ChIP-seq data. Links between regulatory elements and their target genes are established by computing correlations between chromatin accessibility and gene expressions.

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2 epiregulon-package

Contents

epire	egulon-package	epiregulon: nomic data	Ger	ıe re	egui	lat	ory	ne	etw	ork	i ir	ıfe	rer	ісе	fr	on	ı s	in	gl	e c	el	l e	pi	ge	-
Index																									22
	pruneRegulon																								
	getTFMotifInfo optimizeMetacellNu																								
	getRegulon																								
	calculateP2G																								
	calculateActivity .																								
	addWeights aggregateAcrossCel																								
	addTFMotifInfo																								
	addMotifScore																								
	addLogFC																								
	epiregulon-package																								,

Description

Gene regulatory networks model the underlying gene regulation hierarchies that drive gene expression and observed phenotypes. Epiregulon infers TF activity in single cells by constructing a gene regulatory network (regulons). This is achieved through integration of scATAC-seq and scRNA-seq data and incorporation of public bulk TF ChIP-seq data. Links between regulatory elements and their target genes are established by computing correlations between chromatin accessibility and gene expressions.

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addLogFC 3

See Also

Useful links:

- https://github.com/xiaosaiyao/epiregulon/
- Report bugs at https://github.com/xiaosaiyao/epiregulon/issues

 ${\sf addLogFC}$

Add log fold changes of gene expression to regulons

Description

Add log fold changes of gene expression to regulons

Usage

```
addLogFC(
  expMatrix,
  clusters,
  regulon,
  pval.type = c("any", "some", "all"),
  sig_type = c("FDR", "p.value"),
  logFC_condition = NULL,
  logFC_ref = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

expMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object or matrix containing gene expression with genes in the rows and cells in the columns. Gene expression should be in logcounts
clusters	A character or integer vector of cluster or group labels for single cells
regulon	A data frame informing the gene regulatory relationship with the tf column representing transcription factors, idxATAC corresponding to the index in the peakMatrix and target column representing target genes
pval.type	String specifying how p-values are to be combined across pairwise comparisons for a given group/cluster.
sig_type	String specifying whether to use "FDR" or "p.value" for sig_cutoff
logFC_conditio	n
	A scalar or vector of string indicating the sample names to be compared against logFC_ref
logFC_ref	A scalar indicating the reference sample used to compute logFC. Default value is rest which is an average of all pairwise comparisons. Users can also specify a reference sample, for example, DMSO.
	additional parameters for scran::findMarkers

Value

A DataFrame of regulons with additional columns of logFC and significance

4 addMotifScore

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao

Examples

addMotifScore

Add Motif Scores

Description

Add Motif Scores

Usage

```
addMotifScore(
  regulon,
  field_name = "motif",
  peaks = NULL,
  pwms = NULL,
  species = c("human", "mouse"),
  genome = c("hg38", "hg19", "mm10"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

regulon A DataFrame consisting of tf (regulator) and target in the column names.

field_name Character string indicating the column name of the regulon to add the motif

information to

peaks A GRanges object indicating the peaks to perform motif annotation on if ArchR

project is not provided. The peak indices should match the re column in the

regulon

pwms A PWMatrixList for annotation of motifs using 'motifmatchr::matchMotifs'

addTFMotifInfo 5

species	Character string indicating species. Currently supported species is human or
	mouse
genome	Character string indicating the genomic build
	Additional arguments to pass into motifmatchr::matchMotifs

Value

A DataFrame with motif matches added with 1s indicating the presence of motifs and 0s indicating the absence of motifs

Examples

```
regulon <- S4Vectors::DataFrame(tf = c('AR','AR','AR','ESR1','ESR1','NKX2-1'),
idxATAC = 1:6)
peaks <- GenomicRanges::GRanges(seqnames = c('chr12','chr19','chr19','chr11','chr6','chr1'),
ranges = IRanges::IRanges(start = c(124914563,50850845, 50850844, 101034172, 151616327, 1000),
end = c(124914662,50850929, 50850929, 101034277, 151616394,2000)))
regulon <- addMotifScore(regulon, peaks=peaks)</pre>
```

addTFMotifInfo

Add TF binding motif occupancy information to the peak2gene object

Description

Add TF binding motif occupancy information to the peak2gene object

Usage

```
addTFMotifInfo(p2g, grl, peakMatrix = NULL)
```

Arguments

p2g	A Peak2Gene dataframe created by ArchR or getP2Glinks() function
grl	GRangeList object containing reference TF binding information. We recommend retrieving grl from getTFMotifInfo which contains TF occupancy data derived from public and ENCODE ChIP-seq peaks. Alternatively, if the users would like to provide a GRangeList of motif annotations. This can be derived using motifmatchr::matchMotifs. See details
peakMatrix	A matrix of scATAC-seq peak regions with peak ids as rows

Details

This function annotates each regulatory element with possible transcription factors. We can either provide a GRangeList of known ChIP-seq binding sites (TF occupancy) or positions of TF motifs (TF motifs). While public ChIP-seq data may not fully align with the ground truth TF occupancy in users' data (due to technical challenges of ChIP-seq or cell type nature of TF occupancy), it does offer a few important advantages over TF motif information:

1. TF occupancy allows co-activators to be included. Co-activators are chromatin modifiers that do not directly bind to DNA but nonetheless play an important role in gene regulation

6 addTFMotifInfo

2. TF occupancy can distinguish between members of the same class that may share similar motifs but that may have drastically different binding sites

If multiple ChIP-seq are available for the same TF, we merge the ChIP-seq data to represent an universal set of possible binding sites. The predicted TF occupancy is further refined by pruneRegulon.

If the users prefer to use TF motifs instead of TF occupancy, the users can create a GRangeList of motif annotation using motifmatchr::matchMotifs. Here, we demonstrate how to annotate peaks with cisbp motif database

Value

A data frame containing overlapping ids of scATAC-seq peak regions and reference TF binding regions

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao, Shang-yang Chen

```
set.seed(1)
# create a mock peak-to-gene matrix
p2g \leftarrow data.frame(idxATAC = c(rep(1,5), rep(2,5)), Chrom = 'chr1', idxRNA = 1:10,
Gene = paste0('Gene_',1:10),Correlation = runif(10, 0,1))
# create mock a GRanges list of TF binding sites
grl <- GRangesList('TF1' = GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',</pre>
ranges = IRanges(start = c(50,1050), width = 100)),
'TF2' = GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',
ranges = IRanges(start = c(1050), width = 100))
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for peak matrix
peak_gr <- GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',</pre>
             ranges = IRanges(start = seq(from = 1, to = 10000, by = 1000),
             width = 100))
peak\_counts \leftarrow matrix(sample(x = 0:4, size = 100*length(peak\_gr), replace = TRUE),
nrow = length(peak_gr), ncol = 100)
peak_sce <- SingleCellExperiment(list(counts = peak_counts))</pre>
rowRanges(peak_sce) <- peak_gr</pre>
rownames(peak_sce) <- paste0('peak',1:10)</pre>
```

addWeights 7

```
# create overlaps between p2g matrix, TF binding sites and peak matrix
overlap <- addTFMotifInfo(p2g, grl, peakMatrix = peak_sce)
utils::head(overlap)</pre>
```

addWeights

Calculate weights for the regulons by computing co-association between TF and target gene expression

Description

Calculate weights for the regulons by computing co-association between TF and target gene expression

Usage

```
addWeights(
  regulon,
  expMatrix = NULL,
  peakMatrix = NULL,
  exp_assay = "logcounts",
  peak_assay = "PeakMatrix",
  method = c("wilcoxon", "corr", "MI"),
  clusters = NULL,
  exp\_cutoff = 1,
  peak_cutoff = 0,
  block_factor = NULL,
  min_targets = 10,
  tf_re.merge = FALSE,
  aggregateCells = FALSE,
  useDim = "IterativeLSI_ATAC",
  cellNum = 10,
  BPPARAM = BiocParallel::SerialParam(progressbar = TRUE)
)
```

Arguments

regulon	A DataFrame object consisting of tf (regulator) and target in the column names.
expMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object containing gene expression information
peakMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object or matrix containing peak accessibility with peaks in the rows and cells in the columns
exp_assay	String specifying the name of the assay to be retrieved from the SingleCellExperiment object
peak_assay	String indicating the name of the assay in peakMatrix for chromatin accessibility
method	String specifying the method of weights calculation. Three options are available: wilcoxon, corr, and MI.
clusters	A vector corresponding to the cluster labels of the cells
exp_cutoff	A scalar indicating the minimum gene expression for transcription factor above which cell is considered as having expressed transcription factor.

8 addWeights

peak_cutoff	A scalar indicating the minimum peak accessibility above which peak is considered open.
block_factor	String specifying the field in the colData of the SingleCellExperiment object to be used as blocking factor (such as batch)
min_targets	Integer specifying the minimum number of targets for each tf in the regulon with 10 targets as the default
tf_re.merge	A logical to indicate whether to consider both TF expression and chromatin accessibility. See details.
aggregateCells	A logical to indicate whether to aggregate cells into groups determined by cell-Num. This option can be used to overcome data sparsity when using wilcoxon.
useDim	String indicating the name of the dimensionality reduction matrix in expMatrix used for cell aggregation
cellNum	A numeric specifying the number of cells per cluster for cell aggregation. Default is 10 .
BPPARAM	A BiocParallelParam object specifying whether summation should be parallelized. Use BiocParallel::SerialParam() for serial evaluation and use BiocParallel::MulticoreParam() for parallel evaluation

Details

This function estimates the regulatory potential of transcription factor on its target genes, or in other words, the magnitude of gene expression changes induced by transcription factor activity, using one of the four methods:

- corr correlation between TF and target gene expression
- MI mutual information between the TF and target gene expression
- wilcoxon effect size of the Wilcoxon test between target gene expression in cells jointly expressing all 3 elements vs cells that do not

Two measures (corr and wilcoxon) give both the magnitude and directionality of changes whereas MI always outputs positive weights. The correlation and mutual information statistics are computed on the pseudobulked gene expression or accessibility matrices, whereas the Wilcoxon method groups cells based on the joint expression of TF, RE and TG in each single cell.

When using the corr method, the default practice is to compute weights by correlating the pseudobulk target gene expression vs the pseudobulk TF gene expression. However, often times, an inhibitor of TF does not alter the gene expression of the TF. In rare cases, cells may even compensate by increasing the expression of the TF. In this case, the activity of the TF, if computed by TF-TG correlation, may show a spurious increase in its activity. As an alternative to gene expression, we may correlate the product of TF and RE against TG. When tf_re.merge is TRUE, we take the product of the gene expression and chromatin accessibility.

Value

A DataFrame with columns of corr and/or MI added to the regulon. TFs not found in the expression matrix and regulons not meeting the minimal number of targets were filtered out.

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao, Shang-yang Chen, Tomasz Wlodarczyk

Examples

```
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for gene expression matrix
expMatrix <- scuttle::mockSCE()</pre>
expMatrix <- scuttle::logNormCounts(expMatrix)</pre>
expMatrix$cluster <- sample(LETTERS[1:5], ncol(expMatrix), replace=TRUE)</pre>
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for peak matrix
peakMatrix <- scuttle::mockSCE()</pre>
rownames(peakMatrix) <- 1:2000</pre>
# create a mock regulon
regulon <- S4Vectors::DataFrame(tf=c(rep('Gene_0001',5), rep('Gene_0002',10)),</pre>
                       idxATAC=1:15,
                       target=c(paste0('Gene_000',2:6), paste0('Gene_00',11:20)))
# add weights to regulon
regulon.w <- addWeights(regulon=regulon, expMatrix=expMatrix, exp_assay='logcounts',</pre>
peakMatrix=peakMatrix, peak_assay='counts', clusters=expMatrix$cluster,
min_targets=5, method='wilcox')
# add weights with cell aggregation
expMatrix <- scater::runPCA(expMatrix)</pre>
regulon.w <- addWeights(regulon=regulon, expMatrix=expMatrix, exp_assay='logcounts',</pre>
\verb"peakMatrix=peakMatrix", peak\_assay='counts', clusters=expMatrix$cluster,
min_targets=5, method='wilcox', aggregateCells=TRUE, cellNum=3, useDim = 'PCA')
```

aggregateAcrossCellsFast

Aggregate cells in SingleCellExperiment

Description

Aggregate expression values across cells in SingleCellExperiment based on a grouping factor. This is primarily used to create pseudo-bulk profiles for each cluster/sample combination. It is wrapped around scrapper::aggregateAcrossCells, which relies on the C++ code.

Usage

```
aggregateAcrossCellsFast(
    sce,
    clusters,
    assay.name = "counts",
    fun_name = c("mean", "sum"),
    num.threads = 1,
    aggregateColData = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

sce

 $A\ Single Cell Experiment, Summarized Experiment\ or\ Ranged Summarized Experiment\ object$

10 calculateActivity

clusters A vector used as a grouping variable. The length should be equal to the number

of cells.

assay.name A character indicating the name of the assay containing the values to be aggre-

gated.

fun_name A character indicating the function used to aggregate data. The selection is

restricted to "mean" or "sum".

num. threads Integer specifying the number of threads to be used for aggregation.

aggregateColData

A logical specifying if the columns in the colData should be included in the output object. Only those columns are selected which can be decomposed by grouping variable into the vectors whose all elements are the same.

Value

A SingleCellExperiment object containing aggregated cells.

Examples

```
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for gene expression matrix
set.seed(1000)
example_sce <- scuttle::mockSCE()
ids <- sample(LETTERS[1:5], ncol(example_sce), replace=TRUE)
out <- aggregateAcrossCellsFast(example_sce, ids)</pre>
```

calculateActivity

Calculate the per cell activity of master regulators based on a regulon

Description

Calculate the per cell activity of master regulators based on a regulon

Usage

```
calculateActivity(
  expMatrix = NULL,
  exp_assay = "logcounts",
  regulon = NULL,
  normalize = FALSE,
  mode = "weight",
  method = deprecated(),
  genesets = NULL,
  clusters = NULL,
  FUN = c("mean", "sum")
)
```

Arguments

expMatrix

A SingleCellExperiment object containing gene expression information with rows representing genes and columns represent cells. Rownames (either gene symbols or geneID) must be consistent with the naming convention in the regulon.

calculateActivity 11

exp_assay	String specifying the name of the assay to be retrieved from the SingleCellExperiment object. Set to 'logcounts' as the default
regulon	A DataFrame object consisting of tf (regulator) and target in the column names, with additional columns indicating degree of association between tf and target such as 'mor' or 'corr' obtained from addWeights.
normalize	Logical indicating whether row means should be subtracted from expression matrix. default is FALSE
mode	String indicating the name of column to be used as the weights
method	String indicating the method for calculating activity. Available methods are weightedMean or aucell. Deprecated.
genesets	A list of genesets. Each list element can be a dataframe with the first column indicating the genes and second column indicating the weights. Alternatively, each list element is a character vector corresponding to the genes in the geneset. A feature set collection in the form of CompressedSplitDataFrameList that contains genes in the first column and weights in the second column. See details
clusters	A vector indicating cluster assignment
FUN	function to aggregate the weights

Details

This function calculates activity score from a regulon that is a DataFrame consisting of a tf column, a target column and a weight column. Alternatively, instead of a regulon, this function also accepts weighted signature sets where each gene set or signature is a data frame or unweighted signature sets where each gene set is a character vector. The user has the option of computing signature score by weighted mean of target gene expression or the relative ranking of the target genes computed by AUCell.

Value

A matrix of inferred transcription factor (row) activities in single cells (columns)

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao, Shang-yang Chen

12 calculateP2G

```
idxATAC = sample(1:100, 20),
                     # prune regulon
pruned.regulon <- pruneRegulon(expMatrix = gene_sce,</pre>
                              exp_assay = 'logcounts',
                             peakMatrix = peak_sce,
                             peak_assay = 'counts',
                             regulon = regulon,
                              clusters = gene_sce$Treatment,
                              regulon_cutoff = 0.5,
                              p_adj = TRUE
regulon.w <- addWeights(regulon = regulon,</pre>
                       expMatrix = gene_sce,
                       clusters = gene_sce$Treatment,
                       exp_assay = 'logcounts',
                       min_targets = 5,
                       method = 'corr')
# calculate activity
activity <- calculateActivity(expMatrix = gene_sce,</pre>
                             regulon = regulon.w,
                             exp_assay = 'logcounts')
# calculate cluster-specific activity if cluster-specific weights are supplied
regulon.w \$ weight <- matrix(runif(nrow(regulon.w) * 2, -1,1), nrow(regulon.w),2)
colnames(regulon.w$weight) <- c('treat1','treat2')</pre>
activity.cluster <- calculateActivity(gene_sce,</pre>
regulon = regulon.w, clusters = gene_sce$Treatment,
exp_assay = 'logcounts', FUN = 'mean')
# compute signature scores from weighted genesets
weighted_genesets <- list(set1 = data.frame(genes = c('Gene_1', 'Gene_2', 'Gene_3'),</pre>
weights = c(1,2,3)), set2 = data.frame(genes = c(Gene_4', Gene_5', Gene_6')), weights = c(4,5,6))
activity <- calculateActivity(gene_sce, genesets = weighted_genesets)</pre>
# compute signature scores from unweighted genesets
activity <- calculateActivity(gene_sce, genesets = unweighted_genesets)</pre>
```

calculateP2G

Establish peak to gene links based on correlations between ATAC-seq peaks and RNA-seq genes

Description

Establish peak to gene links based on correlations between ATAC-seq peaks and RNA-seq genes

calculateP2G 13

Usage

```
calculateP2G(
  peakMatrix = NULL,
  expMatrix = NULL,
  reducedDim = NULL,
  useDim = deprecated(),
  cutoff_stat = c("p_val", "FDR", "Correlation"),
  cutoff_sig = 0.05,
  cor\_cutoff = 0.5,
  cellNum = 100,
  maxDist = 250000,
  exp_assay = "logcounts",
  peak_assay = "counts",
  gene_symbol = "name",
  clusters = NULL,
  cor_method = c("pearson", "spearman", "kendall"),
  assignment_method = c("correlation", "nearest"),
  frac_RNA = 0,
  frac_ATAC = 0,
  nRandConns = 1e+05,
  batch_size = 20000,
  BPPARAM = BiocParallel::SerialParam(progressbar = TRUE),
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

peakMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object containing counts of chromatin accessibility at each peak region or genomic bin from scATAC-seq. rowRanges should contain genomic positions of the peaks in the form of GRanges.
expMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object containing gene expression counts from scRNA-seq. rowRanges should contain genomic positions of the genes in the form of GRanges. rowData should contain a column of gene symbols with column name matching the gene_symbol argument.
reducedDim	A matrix of dimension reduced values
useDim	String specifying the name of the reduced dimension matrix supplied by the user. Deprecated
cutoff_stat	A names of a statistic used to determine significant links to assign peak to gene links. Should be Correlation, p_val or FDR.
cutoff_sig	A numeric scalar to specify the p-value or FDR cutoff for the links between ATAC-seq peaks and RNA-seq genes . Default is set to 0.05.
cor_cutoff	A numeric scalar to specify the correlation cutoff between ATAC-seq peaks and RNA-seq genes to assign peak to gene links. Default correlation cutoff is 0.5. Takes effect only of cutoff_stat is set to Correlation.
cellNum	An object of the class CellNumSol returned by optimizeMetacellNumber or a numeric to specify the average number of cells per K-mean cluster.
maxDist	An integer to specify the base pair extension from transcription start start for overlap with peak regions
exp_assay	String indicating the name of the assay in expMatrix for gene expression

14 calculateP2G

peak_assay	String indicating the name of the assay in peakMatrix for chromatin accessibility
gene_symbol	String indicating the column name in the rowData of expMatrix that corresponds to gene symbol $$
clusters	A vector corresponding to the cluster labels for calculation of correlations within each cluster. If left NULL, correlation is calculated across all clusters. See details for the use of clusters
cor_method	String indicating which correlation coefficient is to be computed. One of 'pearson' (default), 'kendall', or 'spearman'.
assignment_met	hod
	String indicating the method used to assign target genes to regulatory elements. 'Correlation' is based on correlation between ATAC and RNA above a correlation threshold set by cor_cutoff. 'Nearest' assigns the closest expressed gene to regulatory element meeting a correlation threshold set by cor_cutoff. Set cor_cutoff to 0 if wishing to assign the closest expressed gene without any correlation cutoff
frac_RNA	An integer to indicate the fraction of cells expressing a gene. It is used to filter the gene expression matrix for expressed genes
frac_ATAC	An integer to indication the fraction of cells showing chromatin accessibility. It is used to filter the peak Matrix for open regions
nRandConns	An integer specifying the number of false connections between regulatory elements and target genes which will be used to calculate empirical p-values of correlation coefficients
batch_size	An integer specifying how many peak–gene pairs are processed per batch during parallel correlation calculations.
BPPARAM	A BiocParallelParam object specifying whether summation should be parallelized. Use BiocParallel::SerialParam() for serial evaluation and use BiocParallel::MulticoreParam() for parallel evaluation

Details

verbose

Cluster information is sometimes helpful to avoid the Simpsons's paradox in which baseline differences between cell lines or cell types can create artificial or even inverse correlations between peak accessibility and gene expression. If Cluster information is provided, correlation is performed within cell aggregates of each cluster.

A boolean indicating whether messages should be emitted during computation

Value

A DataFrame of Peak to Gene correlation

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao, Shang-yang Chen

```
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for gene expression matrix
set.seed(1000)
gene_sce <- scuttle::mockSCE()
gene_sce <- scuttle::logNormCounts(gene_sce)</pre>
```

getRegulon 15

```
gene_gr <- GenomicRanges::GRanges(seqnames = Rle(c('chr1', 'chr2', 'chr3','chr4'),</pre>
                    nrow(gene_sce)/4),
              ranges = IRanges(start = seq(from = 1, length.out=nrow(gene_sce), by = 1000),
                    width = 100)
rownames(gene_sce) <- rownames(gene_sce)</pre>
gene_gr$name <- rownames(gene_sce)</pre>
rowRanges(gene_sce) <- gene_gr</pre>
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for peak matrix
peak_gr <- GenomicRanges::GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',</pre>
                ranges = IRanges(start = seq(from = 1, to = 10000, by = 1000), width = 100))
peak_counts <- matrix(sample(x = 0:4, size = ncol(gene_sce)*length(peak_gr), replace = TRUE),</pre>
                       nrow = length(peak_gr), ncol=ncol(gene_sce))
peak_sce <- SingleCellExperiment(list(counts = peak_counts), colData = colData(gene_sce))</pre>
rowRanges(peak_sce) <- peak_gr</pre>
rownames(peak_sce) <- paste0('peak',1:10)</pre>
# create a mock reducedDim matrix
reducedDim_mat <- matrix(runif(ncol(gene_sce)*50, min = 0, max = 1), nrow = ncol(gene_sce), 50)</pre>
rownames(reducedDim_mat) <- colnames(gene_sce)</pre>
p2g <- calculateP2G(peakMatrix = peak_sce, expMatrix = gene_sce, reducedDim_mat,</pre>
                     cellNum = 20)
```

getRegulon Combine the TF binding info and peak to gene correlations to generate regulons

Description

Combine the TF binding info and peak to gene correlations to generate regulons

Usage

```
getRegulon(p2g, overlap, aggregate = FALSE, FUN = "mean")
```

Arguments

p2g	A Peak2Gene data frame created by ArchR or getP2Glinks() function
overlap	A data frame storing overlaps between the regions of the peak matrix with the bulk TF ChIP-seq binding sites computed from addTFMotifInfo
aggregate	logical to specify whether regulatory elements are aggregated across the same TF-target pairs
FUN	function to aggregate TF-target sharing different regulatory elements

Value

A DataFrame consisting of tf(regulator), target and a column indicating degree of association between TF and target such as 'mor' or 'corr'.

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao, Shang-yang Chen

16 getTFMotifInfo

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
# create a mock peak-to-gene matrix
p2g \leftarrow data.frame(idxATAC = c(rep(1,5), rep(2,5)), Chrom = 'chr1', idxRNA = 1:10,
target = paste\theta('Gene_-', 1:10), Correlation = runif(10, 0, 1))
# create a Granges list of TF binding sites
grl <- GRangesList('TF1' = GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',</pre>
ranges = IRanges(start = c(50,1050), width = 100)),
'TF2' = GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',
ranges = IRanges(start = c(1050), width = 100))
# Create a mock peak matrix
peak_gr <- GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',</pre>
                ranges = IRanges(start = seq(from = 1, to = 10000, by = 1000), width = 100))
peak_counts <- matrix(sample(x = 0:4, size = 100*length(peak_gr), replace = TRUE),</pre>
nrow = length(peak_gr),ncol = 100)
peak_sce <- SingleCellExperiment(list(counts = peak_counts))</pre>
rowRanges(peak_sce) <- peak_gr</pre>
rownames(peak_sce) <- paste0('peak', 1:10)</pre>
\mbox{\tt\#} create overlaps between p2g matrix, TF binding sites and peak matrix
overlap <- addTFMotifInfo(p2g, grl, peakMatrix = peak_sce)</pre>
utils::head(overlap)
# aggregate gene expression if the gene is bound by the same TF at regulatory elements
regulon <- getRegulon(p2g, overlap, aggregate = FALSE)</pre>
```

getTFMotifInfo

Retrieve TF binding sites or motif positions

Description

Combined transcription factor ChIP-seq data from ChIP-Atlas and ENCODE

Usage

```
getTFMotifInfo(
  genome = c("hg38", "hg19", "mm10"),
  source = c("atlas", "encode.sample", "atlas.sample", "atlas.tissue"),
  metadata = FALSE,
  mode = c("occupancy", "motif"),
  peaks = NULL,
  version = 2,
  peak_number = 1000
)
```

Arguments

genome

character string specifying the genomic build

getTFMotifInfo 17

source character string specifying the ChIP-seq data source and data specificity. Source

followed by dot and sample indicates sample-specific Chip-seq data. Adding .tissue to source string result in returning tissue specific data. Providing source name without suffix tells the function to return data merged from dif-

ferent tissues and samples.

metadata logical flag specifying whether to return data or metadata only

mode a string indicating whether to download a GRangelist of TF binding sites ('oc-

cupancy') or motif matches ('motif'). TF binding information is retrieved from scMultiome::tfBinding(). The motif information was obtained from chrom-VARmotifs (human_pwms_v2 and mouse_pwms_v2, version 0.2 with filtering

of cisBP motifs) and is also hosted on scMultiome.

peaks A GRanges object indicating the peaks to perform motif annotation on. The

peak indices should match the idxATAC column in the regulon.

version numeric indicating data version (for details see tfBinding)

peak_number numeric indicating threshold to be applied to the number of peaks per transcrip-

tion factor in the combined version of GenomicRanges (from all samples and

tissues).

Value

A list of TF binding sites as a GrangesList object.

References

ChIP-Atlas 2021 update: a data-mining suite for exploring epigenomic landscapes by fully integrating ChIP-seq, ATAC-seq and Bisulfite-seq data. Zou Z, Ohta T, Miura F, Oki S. *Nucleic Acids Research. Oxford University Press (OUP)*; 2022. doi:10.1093/nar/gkac199

ChIP-Atlas: a data-mining suite powered by full integration of public ChIP-seq data. Oki S, Ohta T, Shioi G, Hatanaka H, Ogasawara O, Okuda Y, Kawaji H, Nakaki R, Sese J, Meno C. *EMBO*; Vol. 19, EMBO reports. 2018. doi:10.15252/embr.201846255

ENCODE: https://www.encodeproject.org/

```
# retrieve TF binding info
getTFMotifInfo('mm10', 'atlas.sample')
getTFMotifInfo('hg38','atlas.tissue')
getTFMotifInfo('hg19','atlas')

# retrieve motif info
peaks <- GRanges(seqnames = c('chr12','chr19','chr19','chr11','chr6'),
ranges = IRanges(start = c(124914563,50850845, 50850844, 101034172, 151616327),
end = c(124914662,50850929, 50850929, 101034277, 151616394)))
grl <- getTFMotifInfo(genome = 'hg38', mode = 'motif', peaks=peaks)</pre>
```

```
optimizeMetacellNumber
```

Determine the optimal number of metacells to be used by calculateP2G function

Description

This function attempts to find the optimal value for the cellNum parameter, which is used by calculateP2G to define the number of metacells. The value of this parameter is critical: too many clusters may lead to insufficient signal integration to overcome the effect of data sparsity, whereas too few clusters may result in excessive averaging and loss of important biological variability.

Usage

```
optimizeMetacellNumber(
  peakMatrix,
  expMatrix,
  reducedDim,
  exp_assay,
  peak_assay,
  subsample_prop = 1,
  n_iter = 2,
  cellNumMin = NULL,
  cellNumMax = NULL,
  n_evaluation_points = 5,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

peakMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object containing counts of chromatin accessibility at
	each peak region or genomic bin from scATAC-seq. rowRanges should contain

genomic positions of the peaks in the form of GRanges.

expMatrix A SingleCellExperiment object containing gene expression counts from scRNA-

seq. rowRanges should contain genomic positions of the genes in the form of GRanges. rowData should contain a column of gene symbols with column name $\frac{1}{2}$

matching the gene_symbol argument.

reducedDim A matrix of dimension reduced values

exp_assay String indicating the name of the assay in expMatrix for gene expression

peak_assay String indicating the name of the assay in peakMatrix for chromatin accessibility

subsample_prop A numeric indicating the fraction of features from expMatrix and peakMatrix

used to optimize kNum

n_iter An integer indicating the number of iterations before in which the value of kNum

parameter is optimized

cellNumMin A numeric used to optimize value of cellNum parameter. Corresponds to the

lower bound for the average number of cells per K-mean cluster in the first iteration of the optimization algorithm. If cellNum is not NULL this parameter is

ignored.

pruneRegulon 19

cellNumMax

A numeric used to optimize value of cellNum parameter. Corresponds to the upper bound for the average number of cells per K-mean cluster in the first iteration of the optimization algorithm. If cellNum is not NULL this parameter is ignored.

n_evaluation_points

An integer defining how many metacells numbers are tested in the first iteration to find the optimal one. Must not be less than 3. If n_inter > 1 new evaluation points (metacell numbers) are added in the proximity of the current solution.

. . . Other arguments passed to calculateP2G function

Value

An object of the class CellNumSol to be passed to calculateP2G as cellNum paramater.

pruneRegulon

Prune regulons for true transcription factor - regulatory elements - target genes relationships

Description

Prune regulons for true transcription factor - regulatory elements - target genes relationships

Usage

```
pruneRegulon(
  regulon,
  expMatrix = NULL,
  peakMatrix = NULL,
  exp_assay = "logcounts",
 peak_assay = "PeakMatrix",
  test = c("chi.sq", "binom"),
  clusters = NULL,
  exp\_cutoff = 1,
  peak_cutoff = 0,
  regulon_cutoff = 0.05,
 p_adj = TRUE,
 prune_value = "pval",
  aggregateCells = FALSE,
  useDim = "IterativeLSI_ATAC",
 cellNum = 10,
 BPPARAM = BiocParallel::SerialParam(progressbar = TRUE)
)
```

Arguments

regulon

A dataframe informing the gene regulatory relationship with the tf column representing transcription factors, idxATAC corresponding to the index in the peak-Matrix and target column representing target genes

expMatrix

A SingleCellExperiment object or matrix containing gene expression with genes in the rows and cells in the columns

20 pruneRegulon

peakMatrix	A SingleCellExperiment object or matrix containing peak accessibility with peaks in the rows and cells in the columns
exp_assay	String indicating the name of the assay in expMatrix for gene expression
peak_assay	String indicating the name of the assay in peakMatrix for chromatin accessibility
test	String indicating whether binom or chi. sq test should be performed
clusters	A vector corresponding to the cluster labels of the cells if cluster-specific joint probabilities are also required. If left NULL, joint probabilities are calculated for all cells
exp_cutoff	A scalar indicating the minimum gene expression above which gene is considered active. Default value is 1. Applied to both transcription factors and target genes.
peak_cutoff	A scalar indicating the minimum peak accessibility above which peak is considered open. Default value is $\boldsymbol{0}$
regulon_cutoff	A scalar indicating the maximal value for p-value for a tf-idxATAC-target trio to be retained in the pruned regulon.
p_adj	A logical indicating whether p adjustment should be performed
prune_value	String indicating whether to filter regulon based on pval or padj.
aggregateCells	A logical to indicate whether to aggregate cells into groups determined by cell-Num. Use option to overcome data sparsity if needed
useDim	String indicating the name of the dimensionality reduction matrix in expMatrix used for cell aggregation
cellNum	An integer specifying the number of cells per cluster for cell aggregation. Default is 10 .
BPPARAM	A BiocParallelParam object specifying whether calculation should be parallelized. Default is set to BiocParallel::MulticoreParam()

Details

The function prunes the network by performing tests of independence on the observed number of cells jointly expressing transcription factor (TF), regulatory element (RE) and target gene (TG) vs the expected number of cells if TF/RE and TG are independently expressed.

In other words, if no regulatory relationship exists, the expected probability of cells expressing all three elements is P(TF, RE) * P(TG), that is, the product of (1) proportion of cells both expressing transcription factor and having accessible corresponding regulatory element, and (2) proportion of cells expressing target gene. The expected number of cells expressing all three elements is therefore n*P(TF, RE)*P(TG), where n is the total number of cells. However, if a TF-RE-TG relationship exists, we expect the observed number of cells jointly having all three elements (TF, RE, TG) to deviate from the expected number of cells predicted from an independent relationship.

If the user provides cluster assignment, the tests of independence are performed on a per-cluster basis in addition to providing all cells statistics. This enables pruning by cluster, and thus yields cluster-specific gene regulatory relationships.

We implement two tests, the binomial test and the chi-square test.

In the binomial test, the expected probability is P(TF, RE) * P(TG), and the number of trials is the number of cells, and the observed successes is the number of cells jointly expressing all three elements.

In the chi-square test, the expected probability for having all 3 elements active is also P(TF, RE) * P(TG) and the probability otherwise is 1- P(TF, RE) * P(TG). The observed cell count for the active category is the number of cells jointly expressing all three elements, and the cell count for the inactive category is n - n_triple.

pruneRegulon 21

Value

A DataFrame of pruned regulons with p-values indicating the probability of independence either for all cells or for individual clusters, z-score statistics for binomial tests or chi-square statistics for chi-square test and q-adjusted values.

Author(s)

Xiaosai Yao, Tomasz Włodarczyk

```
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for gene expMatrixession matrix
set.seed(1000)
gene_sce <- scuttle::mockSCE()</pre>
gene_sce <- scuttle::logNormCounts(gene_sce)</pre>
rownames(gene_sce) <- paste0('Gene_',1:2000)</pre>
# create a mock SingleCellExperiment object for peak matrix
peak_gr <- GRanges(seqnames = 'chr1',</pre>
                ranges = IRanges(start = seq(from = 1, to = 10000, by = 100), width = 100))
peak_counts <- matrix(sample(x = 0:4, size = ncol(gene_sce)*length(peak_gr), replace = TRUE),</pre>
                      nrow = length(peak_gr), ncol=ncol(gene_sce))
peak_sce <- SingleCellExperiment(list(counts = peak_counts), colData = colData(gene_sce))</pre>
rownames(peak_sce) <- paste0('Peak_',1:100)</pre>
# create a mock regulon
regulon <- data.frame(tf = c(rep('Gene_1',10), rep('Gene_2',10)),</pre>
                      idxATAC = sample(1:100, 20),
                      target = c(paste0('Gene_', sample(3:2000,10)),
                                  paste0('Gene_',sample(3:2000,10))))
# prune regulon
pruned.regulon <- pruneRegulon(expMatrix = gene_sce,</pre>
exp_assay = 'logcounts', peakMatrix = peak_sce, peak_assay = 'counts',
regulon = regulon, clusters = gene_sce$Treatment, regulon_cutoff = 0.5)
# add weights with cell aggregation
gene_sce <- scater::runPCA(gene_sce)</pre>
pruned.regulon <- pruneRegulon(expMatrix = gene_sce, exp_assay = 'logcounts',</pre>
peakMatrix = peak_sce, peak_assay = 'counts', regulon = regulon,
clusters = gene_sce$Treatment, regulon_cutoff = 0.5,
aggregateCells=TRUE, cellNum=3, useDim = 'PCA')
```

Index

```
* internal
     {\tt epiregulon-package}, {\tt 2}
addLogFC, 3
addMotifScore, 4
addTFMotifInfo, 5
addWeights, 7
{\tt aggregateAcrossCellsFast, 9}
{\tt calculateActivity}, {\color{red}10}
{\tt calculateP2G},\, {\color{red} 12}
epiregulon (epiregulon-package), 2
{\tt epiregulon-package}, {\tt 2}
getRegulon, 15
{\tt getTFMotifInfo,}~ \underline{16}
{\tt optimizeMetacellNumber, 18}
pruneRegulon, 6, 19
scMultiome::tfBinding(), 17
tfBinding, 17
```