Package 'primaryTranscriptAnnotation'

June 3, 2019

Type Package

Title Data-driven gene coordinate inference and assignment of annotations to transcriptional units identified de novo

Version 0.1.0

Author Warren Anderson, Mete Civelek, Michael Guertin

Maintainer Warren Anderson <warrena@virginia.edu>

Description This package was developed for two purposes: (1) to generate data-driven transcript annotations based on nascent transcript sequencing data, and (2) to annotate de novo identified transcriptional units (e.g., genes and enhancers) based on existing annotations such as those from (1). The code for this package was employed in analyses underlying our manuscript in preparation: Transcriptional mechanisms and gene regulatory networks underlying early adipogenesis (this note will be updated upon publication).

License NA

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

RoxygenNote 6.1.1

Imports bigWig, pracma, dplyr

R topics documented:

adjacent.gene.tss	
adjacent.gene.tts	
apply.TSS.coords	
gene.end.plot	
gene.overlaps	
get.end.intervals	
get.gene.end	
get.largest.interval	
get.TSS	
get.TTS	
multi.overlap.assign	
multi.overlaps	

adjacent.gene.tss

read.count.end	13
single.overlap.assign	14
single.overlaps	15
TSS.count.dist	16
TTS.count.dist	17
	18

Index

adjacent.gene.tss Function to identify transcription start sites (TSSs) for adjacent gene pairs

Description

We have identified adjacent gene pairs with overlaps based on manual analyses. We empirically define TSSs for these genes by binning the region spanned by both genes, fitting smooth spline curves to the binned read counts, and identifying the two largest peaks separated by a specified distance. We set a bin size and apply the constraint that the identified 'pause' peaks must be a given distance apart. The search region includes a specified distance upstream of the upstream-most gene. We shift the identified peaks upstream. For the spline fits, we set the number of knots to the number of bins divided by specified setting. See also get.TSS().

Usage

```
adjacent.gene.tss(fix.genes = NULL, bed.long = NULL, bw.plus = NULL,
bw.minus = NULL, bp.bin = NULL, shift.up = NULL,
delta.tss = NULL, knot.div = 4, knot.thresh = 5, diff.tss = 1000,
fname = "adjacentTSS.pdf")
```

Arguments

fix.genes	frame with upstream and downstream genes
bed.long	long gene annotations, see get.largest.interval()
bw.plus	plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	minus strand bigWig data
bp.bin	the interval will be separated into adjacent bins of this size
shift.up	look upstream of the long gene start by this amount to search for a viable TSS
delta.tss	amount by which to shift the identied TSS upstream of the identified interval
knot.div	the number of knots for the spline fit is defined as the number of bins covering the gene end divided by this number
knot.thresh	minimum number of knots
diff.tss	minimum distance between TSSs
fname	file name (.pdf) for output plots

adjacent.gene.tts

Value

A vector of TSSs, along with a plot. The titles for the plots indicate the upstream gene, the downstream gene, and the strand. For genes on the plus strand, the upstream gene is on the left. For the minus strand, the upstream gene is on the right. The red line denotes the spline fit and the vertical lines indicate the TSSs. The plot is intended for diagnostic purposes.

Examples

adjacent.gene.tts Function to identify gene ends (TTSs) for adjacent gene pairs

Description

We set the TTSs for the upstream genes to a given distance from the starts of the downstream genes for the adjacent gene pairs. See also adjacent.gene.tss().

Usage

```
adjacent.gene.tts(fix.genes = NULL, bed.long = NULL,
TSS.adjacent = NULL, dist.from.start = NULL)
```

Arguments

fix.genes	frame with upstream and downstream genes for adjacent gene pairs	
bed.long	$comprehensive \ gene \ annotations \ with \ large \ intervals \ defined \ by \ get. largest. interval()$	
TSS.adjacent	TSSs for adjancent genes, identified from adjacent.gene.tss()	
dist.from.start		
	distance between the TTS of the upstream gene and the TSS of the downstream	
	gene	

Value

A bed6 frame with TTSs for upstream genes in adjacent gene pairs

Examples

apply.TSS.coords *Apply previously identified TSSs to an existing gene annotation*

Description

This function will apply transcription start site (TSS) coordinates to a bed6 frame to incorporate the output from get.TSS() into an existing bed frame.

Usage

apply.TSS.coords(bed = NULL, tss = NULL)

Arguments

bed	bed6 file with comprehensive gene annotations
tss	TSS estimates, output from get.TSS(). Note that the TSS genes must be a subset of the genes in the bed6 data.

Value

A bed6 file with estimated TSSs incorporated

Examples

apply TSS coordinates to the expression-filtered long gene annotations bed.long.filtered.tss = apply.TSS.coords(bed=bed.long.filtered, tss=TSS.gene)

4

gene.end.plot

Description

This function can be used to evaluate the performance of get.gene.end() and get.TTS(). We also recommend visualizing the results of data-driven gene annotations using a genome browser.

Usage

```
gene.end.plot(bed = NULL, gene = NULL, bw.plus = NULL,
bw.minus = NULL, bp.bin = NULL, pk.thresh = 0.1, knot.div = 40,
knot.thresh = 5, cnt.thresh = 5, add.to.end = 50000,
tau.dist = 10000, frac.max = 1, frac.min = 0.2)
```

Arguments

bed	bed6 gene coordinates with gene end intervals for estimation of the TTS
gene	a specific gene for plotting
bw.plus	plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	minus strand bigWig data
bp.bin	the interval at the gene end will be separated into adjacent bins of this size
pk.thresh	the TTS is defined as pk.thresh percent of max peak of the spline fit
knot.div	the number of knots for the spline fit is defined as the number of bins covering the gene end divided by this number; increasing this parameter results and a smoother curve
knot.thresh	minimum number of knots, if knot.div gives a lower number, use this
cnt.thresh	read count number below which the TTS is not evaluated
add.to.end	the maximal length of the search region (bp)
tau.dist	distance constant for the exponential defining the region for peak detection
frac.max	maximal fraction of gene end region for peal detection
frac.min	minimal fraction of gene end region for peal detection

Value

A single plot is generated

gene.overlaps

Description

This function identifies gene overlaps that do not involve identical coordinates.

Usage

```
gene.overlaps(bed = NULL)
```

Arguments

bed

bed6 file with processed gene annotations

Value

A list with has.start.inside and is.a.start.inside. has.start.inside = bed6 file that documents genes in which there are starts of other genes. is.a.start.inside = bed6 file that documents genes that start inside other genes.

Examples

```
# run overlap analysis
overlap.data = gene.overlaps( bed = bed.long.filtered2.tss )
has.start.inside = overlap.data$has.start.inside
is.a.start.inside = overlap.data$is.a.start.inside
dim(has.start.inside)
dim(is.a.start.inside)
```

get.end.intervals Get intervals at the gene ends for transcription termination site (TTS) estimation

Description

We define regions at the gene ends to examine read counts for TTS identification. Note that transcription frequently extends beyond the poly-A site of a gene. To capture the end of transcription, it is critical to examine regions beyond annotated gene boundries. We evaluate evidence of transcriptional termination in regions extending from a 3' subset of the gene to a selected number of base pairs downstream of the most distal annotated gene end. We initiate the search region with the end of the largest gene annotation (see get.largest.interval()). We extend the search region up to a given distance past the annotated gene end. We also apply the constraint that a TTS cannot be identified closer than a specified distance to the previously identified TSS of a downstream gene. This analysis also incorporates the constraint that a gene end region identified cannot cross the TSS of a downstream gene, thereby preventing gene overlaps on a given strand. Thus, we clip the amount of bases added on to the gene end as necessary to avoid overlaps.

get.gene.end

Usage

```
get.end.intervals(bed = NULL, add.to.end = NULL, fraction.end = NULL,
    dist.from.start = NULL)
```

Arguments

bed	processed bed6 file with one entry per gene and identified TSSs
add.to.end	number of bases to add to the end of each gene to define the search region
fraction.end	fraction of the gene annotation to consider at the end of the gene
dist.from.star	t
	the maximal allowable distance between the end of one gene and the start of the
	next

Value

A bed6 for gene end evaluation

Examples

get.gene.end

Defining gene ends

Description

Given regions within which to search for TTSs, we opperationally define the TTSs by binning the gene end regions, counting reads within the bins, fitting smooth spline curves to the bin counts, and detecting points at which the curves decay towards zero. We applied the constraint that there must be a specified number of bases in the gene end interval, otherwise the TTS analysis is not applied. Similarly, if the number of knots identified is too low, then we set the number of knots to a specified threshold. For this analysis, we set a sub-region at the beginning of the gene end region and identify the maximal peak from the spline fit. Then we identify the point at which the spline fit decays to a threshold level of of the peak level. We reasoned that the sub-region should be largest for genes with the greatest numbers of clipped bases, because such cases occur when the conventional gene ends are proximal to identified TSSs, and we should include these entire regions for analysis of the TTS. Similarly, we reasoned that for genes with substantially less clipped bases, and correspondingly larger gene end regions with greater potential for observing enhancers or divergent transcripts, the sub-regions should be smaller sections of the upstream-most gene end region. We use an exponential model to define the sub-regions. The user should use the output of

get.end.intervals() as an input to this function. Note that gene ends will be set to zeros if there are no counts or if the interval is too small. This function calls get.TTS().

Usage

```
get.gene.end(bed = NULL, bw.plus = NULL, bw.minus = NULL,
bp.bin = NULL, pk.thresh = 0.1, knot.div = 40, knot.thresh = 5,
cnt.thresh = 5, add.to.end = 50000, tau.dist = 10000,
frac.max = 1, frac.min = 0.2)
```

Arguments

bed	bed6 gene coordinates with gene end intervals for estimation of the TTS
bw.plus	plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	minus strand bigWig data
bp.bin	the interval at the gene end will be separated into adjacent bins of this size
pk.thresh	the TTS is defined as pk.thresh percent of max peak of the spline fit
knot.div	the number of knots for the spline fit is defined as the number of bins covering the gene end divided by this number; increasing this parameter results and a smoother curve
knot.thresh	minimum number of knots, if knot.div gives a lower number, use this
cnt.thresh	read count number below which the TTS is not evaluated
add.to.end	the maximal length of the search region (bp)
tau.dist	distance constant for the exponential defining the region for peak detection
frac.max	maximal fraction of gene end region for peal detection
frac.min	minimal fraction of gene end region for peal detection

Value

A bed6 file with TTS estimates incorporated, zeros are present if the TTS could not be estimated. The output is a list including the bed frame along with several metrics (see example below and vignette).

get.largest.interval Get the largest interval for each gene, given multiple TSS and TTS annotations

Description

The input bed6 file can be derived from a gencode annotation file, as described in the vignette

Usage

get.largest.interval(bed = NULL)

Arguments

bed

bed6 frame with comprehensive gene annotations, defaults to NULL

Value

a bed6 frame with the largest annotation for each gene

Examples

```
# get intervals for furthest TSS and TTS +/- interval
bed.long = get.largest.interval(bed=dat0)
```

get.TSS

Select an optimal transcription start site (TSS) for each gene

Description

We set a range around each annotated gene start within which to search for a region of peak read density. Such regions of peak read density occur at 'pause sites' that are typically 20-80 bp from the TSS. Within each region around an annotated gene start, we translate a sliding window throughout to find the sub-region with maximal density. We determine the window with the maximal density out of all regions considered and define the TSS as the upstream boundry of this window, minus a shift of a specified amount. The output of this function should be processed using the function apply.TSS.coords().

Usage

```
get.TSS(bed = NULL, bw.plus = NULL, bw.minus = NULL,
bp.range = NULL, bp.delta = NULL, bp.bin = NULL,
delta.tss = NULL, cnt.thresh = NULL)
```

Arguments

bed	bed6 file with comprehensive gene annotations
bw.plus	plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	minus strand bigWig data
bp.range	range to be centered on each gene start for evaluating read counts. Note that the value should be divisible by 2
bp.delta	number of reads to move incrementally - sliding window interval
bp.bin	bin size for evaluating read counts within a given region
delta.tss	amount by which to shift the identied TSS upstream of the identified interval
cnt.thresh	read count number below which the TTS is not evaluated

Value

A vector of indentified transcription start site coordinates. Note that strand and chromosome information are not provided here.

Examples

ge	t.	. Т	Т	S

Estimate the transcription termination sites (TTSs)

Description

This function estimates the TTSs, this function is called by get.gene.end() and is not designed to be run on its own.

Usage

```
get.TTS(bed = NULL, bw = NULL, bp.bin = NULL, pk.thresh = NULL,
knot.div = NULL, cnt.thresh = NULL, knot.thresh = NULL,
add.to.end = NULL, tau.dist = NULL, frac.max = NULL,
frac.min = NULL)
```

Arguments

bed	bed6 gene coordinates with gene end intervals for estimation of the TTS
bw	plus or minus strand bigWig data
bp.bin	the interval at the gene end will be separated into adjacent bins of this size
pk.thresh	the TTS is defined as pk.thresh percent of max peak of the spline fit
knot.div	the number of knots for the spline fit is defined as the number of bins covering the gene end divided by this number
cnt.thresh	read count number below which the TTS is not evaluated
knot.thresh	minimum number of knots, if knot.div gives a lower number, use this
add.to.end	the maximal length of the search region (bp)
tau.dist	distance constant for the exponential defining the region for peak detection
frac.max	maximal fraction of gene end region for peal detection
frac.min	minimal fraction of gene end region for peal detection

Value

A vector of TTS coordinates

Examples

See get.gene.end()

multi.overlap.assign Function to assign identifiers for class5 overlap TUs

Description

This function is called inside of multiple.overlaps() and is not recommended to be used on its own.

Usage

```
multi.overlap.assign(fr = NULL, tss.thresh = NULL, delta.tss = NULL,
  delta.tts = NULL, cl = NULL)
```

Arguments

fr	= frame with full bedtools overlap data for a class5 TU with multiple internal annotations
tss.thresh	= number of bp a TU beginning can be off from an annotation in order to be assigned that annotation
delta.tss	= max distance between an upstream gene end and downstream gene start cl = multi-overlap class
delta.tts	max difference distance between and annotated gene end and the start of a down- stream gene before an intermediate TU id is assigned
cl	multi-overlap class

Value

A bed data with chr, start, end, id, class, and strand. Note that id = 0 for regions of large TUs that do no match input annotations.

Examples

See multiple.overlaps()

multi.overlaps

Assign identifiers to TUs with multiple gene overlaps

Description

This function will assign identifiers to TUs that overlapped with multiple genes. Trusted gene annotations are considered in terms of their degree of overlap with TUs identified in an unbiased manner. Marginal regions of TUs outside of gene overlaps are given generic identifiers.

Usage

```
multi.overlaps(overlaps = NULL, tss.thresh = NULL, delta.tss = NULL,
  delta.tts = NULL)
```

Arguments

overlaps	frame with bed intersect of inferred TUs (col1-6) with annotated TUs (col7-12) and overlaping bps (col14)
tss.thresh	number of bp a TU beginning can be off from an annotation in order to be assigned that annotation
delta.tss	max distance between an upstream gene end and downstream gene start
delta.tts	max difference distance between and annotated gene end and the start of a down- stream gene before an intermediate TU id is assigned

read.count.end

Value

A list with bed data (bed) and counts for each class (cnt5-8). bed = data with chr, start, end, id, class, and strand. cnt5 = count of TU from class 5 overlaps

Examples

read.count.end Select a regions containing the gene ends

Description

Select a fraction of the annotated gene end and consider an additional number of base pairs beyond the gene end within which to count reads

Usage

```
read.count.end(bed = NULL, bw.plus = NULL, bw.minus = NULL,
fraction.end = NULL, add.to.end = NULL)
```

Arguments

bed	a bed6 frame
bw.plus	plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	minus strand bigWig data
fraction.end	fraction of the annotated gene end $(0,1)$
add.to.end	number of base pairs beyond the gene end within which to count reads

Value

a list with counts and desity. counts = vector with end of gene counts for each gene. density = vector with end of gene densities for each gene.

Examples

single.overlap.assign Function to assign identifiers for class1 overlap TUs

Description

This function is called inside of single.overlaps() and is not recommended to be used on its own.

Usage

```
single.overlap.assign(fr = NULL, tss.thresh = NULL, delta.tss = NULL,
  delta.tts = NULL, cl = NULL)
```

Arguments

fr	frame with full bedtools overlap data for a class1 TU with multiple internal annotations
tss.thresh	number of bp a TU beginning can be off from an annotation in order to be assigned that annotation
delta.tss	max distance between an upstream gene end and downstream gene start
cl	multi-overlap class

Value

A bed data frame with chr, start, end, id, class, and strand. Note that id = 0 for regions of large TUs that do no match input annotations.

Examples

See single.overlaps()

14

single.overlaps

Description

This function will assign identifiers to TUs that overlapped with single genes. Trusted gene annotations are considered in terms of their degree of overlap with TUs identified in an unbiased manner. Marginal regions of TUs outside of gene overlaps are given generic identifiers.

Usage

```
single.overlaps(overlaps = NULL, tss.thresh = NULL, delta.tss = NULL,
    delta.tts = NULL)
```

Arguments

overlaps	frame with bed intersect of inferred TUs (col1-6) with annotated TUs (col7-12) and overlaping bps (col14)
tss.thresh	= number of bp a TU beginning can be off from an annotation in order to be assigned that annotation
delta.tss	max distance between an upstream gene end and downstream gene start
delta.tts	max difference distance between and annotated gene end and the start of a down- stream gene before an intermediate TU id is assigned

Value

A list with bed data (bed) and counts for each class (cnt1-4). bed = data with chr, start, end, id, class, and strand. cnt1 = count of TU from class 1 overlaps

TSS.count.dist

Get distances from identified transcription start sites (TSSs) to the nearest regions with peak reads

Description

This function was designed to evaluate the results of out TSS identification analysis. We specify a region centered on the TSS. We obtain read counts in bins that span this window. We sort the genes based on the bin with the maximal reads and we scale the data to the interval (0,1) for visualization. We compute the distances between the TSS and the bin with the max reads within the specified window.

Usage

TSS.count.dist(bed = NULL, bw.plus = NULL, bw.minus = NULL, window = NULL, bp.bin = NULL)

Arguments

bed	= bed file for TSS evaluation
bw.plus	= plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	= minus strand bigWig data
window	= region size, centered on the TSS for analysis
bp.bin	= the interval will be separated into adjacent bins of this size

Value

A list with three vector elements: raw, scaled, and dist. All outputs are organized based on TSS position (left-upstream). raw = binned raw counts. scaled = binned scaled counts (0,1). dist = upper bound distances (min(ldistsl) = bp.bin). See examples and vignette for more details.

TTS.count.dist

Description

We set a window around the TTS and segment the window into bins. To sort the read data, we compute cumulative counts of reads, and we sort based on the bin at which a specified percentage of the reads are found. We also take a ratio of gene counts downstream / upstream of the TTS with regions within an interval.

Usage

```
TTS.count.dist(bed = NULL, bw.plus = NULL, bw.minus = NULL,
window = NULL, bp.bin = NULL, frac.max = NULL,
ratio.region = NULL)
```

Arguments

bed	bed frame for TSS evaluation
bw.plus	plus strand bigWig data
bw.minus	minus strand bigWig data
window	region size, centered on the TTS for analysis
bp.bin	the interval will be separated into adjacent bins of this size
frac.max	fraction of cumulative distribution for sorting entries are sorted by indices min($cumsum(x)/sum(x)$) < frac.max
ratio.region	number of bp on either side of the TTS to evaluate the ratio entries

Value

A list with three elements: raw, scaled, and ratio. All outputs are organized based on TTS position (left-upstream, see frac.max). raw = binned raw counts. scaled = binned scaled counts (0,1). ratio = downstream(ratio.region) / upstream(ratio.region).

Index

adjacent.gene.tss, 2 adjacent.gene.tts, 3 apply.TSS.coords, 4 gene.end.plot, 5 gene.overlaps, 6 get.end.intervals, 6 get.gene.end, 7 get.largest.interval, 9 get.TSS, 9 get.TTS, 10 multi.overlap.assign, 11 multi.overlaps, 12 read.count.end, 13 single.overlap.assign, 14

single.overlaps, 15

TSS.count.dist, 16 TTS.count.dist, 17