Package 'DMRcate'

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Title Methylation array and sequencing spatial analysis methods

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Author Tim Peters

Description

De novo identification and extraction of differentially methylated regions (DMRs) from the human genome using Whole Genome Bisulfite Sequencing (WGBS) and Illumina Infinium Array (450K and EPIC) data. Provides functionality for filtering probes possibly confounded by SNPs and cross-hybridisation. Includes GRanges generation and plotting functions.

Depends R (>= 4.3.0)

Imports AnnotationHub, ExperimentHub, bsseq, GenomeInfoDb, limma, edgeR, minfi, missMethyl, GenomicRanges, plyr, Gviz, IRanges, stats, utils, S4Vectors, methods, graphics, SummarizedExperiment, biomaRt, grDevices

biocViews DifferentialMethylation, GeneExpression, Microarray,

MethylationArray, Genetics, DifferentialExpression, GenomeAnnotation, DNAMethylation, OneChannel, TwoChannel, MultipleComparison, QualityControl, TimeCourse, Sequencing, WholeGenome, Epigenetics, Coverage, Preprocessing, DataImport

Suggests knitr, RUnit, BiocGenerics,

IlluminaHumanMethylation450kanno.ilmn12.hg19, IlluminaHumanMethylationEPICanno.ilm10b4.hg19, IlluminaHumanMethylationEPICv2anno.20a1.hg38, FlowSorted.Blood.EPIC, tissueTreg, DMRcatedata, EPICv2manifest

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VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

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DMRcate-package

DMR calling from bisulfite sequencing and Illumina array data

Description

De novo identification and extraction of differentially methylated regions (DMRs) in the human genome using Illumina array and bisulfite sequencing data. DMRcate extracts and annotates differentially methylated regions (DMRs) using a kernel-smoothed estimate. Functions are provided for filtering probes possibly confounded by SNPs and cross-hybridisation. Includes GRanges generation and plotting functions.

Author(s)

Tim J. Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

References

Peters TJ, Buckley MJ, Statham A, Pidsley R, Samaras K, Lord RV, Clark SJ and Molloy PL. *De novo* identification of differentially methylated regions in the human genome. *Epigenetics & Chromatin* 2015, **8**:6, doi:10.1186/1756-8935-8-6

Peters TJ, Buckley MJ, Chen Y, Smyth GK, Goodnow CC and Clark SJ. Calling differentially methylated regions from whole genome bisulphite sequencing with DMRcate. *Nucleic Acids Research* 2021, **49**(19):e109. doi:10.1093/nar/gkab637.

changeFDR 3

```
#Subset to chr2 only
tcell <- tcell[seqnames(tcell) == "chr2",]</pre>
tcellms <- minfi::getM(tcell)</pre>
tcellms.noSNPs <- rmSNPandCH(tcellms, dist=2, mafcut=0.05)</pre>
tcell$Replicate[tcell$Replicate==""] <- tcell$Sample_Name[tcell$Replicate==""]</pre>
tcellms.noSNPs <- avearrays(tcellms.noSNPs, tcell$Replicate)</pre>
tcell <- tcell[,!duplicated(tcell$Replicate)]</pre>
tcell <- tcell[rownames(tcellms.noSNPs),]</pre>
colnames(tcellms.noSNPs) <- colnames(tcell)</pre>
assays(tcell)[["M"]] <- tcellms.noSNPs</pre>
assays(tcell)[["Beta"]] <- minfi::ilogit2(tcellms.noSNPs)</pre>
type <- factor(tcell$CellType)</pre>
design <- model.matrix(~type)</pre>
myannotation <- cpg.annotate("array", tcell,</pre>
                                arraytype = "EPICv1", analysis.type="differential",
                                design=design, coef=2)
dmrcoutput <- dmrcate(myannotation, lambda=1000, C=2)</pre>
results.ranges <- extractRanges(dmrcoutput, genome = "hg19")</pre>
groups <- c(CD8T="magenta", CD4T="forestgreen")</pre>
cols <- groups[as.character(type)]</pre>
DMR.plot(ranges=results.ranges, dmr=1,
          CpGs=minfi::getBeta(tcell), what="Beta",
          arraytype = "EPICv1", phen.col=cols, genome="hg19")
```

changeFDR

Change the individual CpG FDR thresholding for a CpGannotated object.

Description

Takes a CpGannotated-class object and a specified FDR > 0 and < 1, and re-indexes the object in order to call DMRs at the specified rate.

Usage

```
changeFDR(annot, FDR)
```

Arguments

annot A CpGannotated-class object, created by cpg.annotate or sequencing.annotate.

FDR The desired individual CpG FDR, which will index the rate at which DMRs are

called.

Details

The number of CpG sites called as significant by this function will set the post-smoothing threshold for DMR constituents in dmrcate.

Value

A re-indexed CpGannotated-class object.

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Author(s)

Tim Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

Examples

cpg.annotate

Annotate Illumina CpGs with their chromosome position and test statistic

Description

Annotate a matrix/GenomicRatioSet representing EPICv2, EPICv1 or 450K data with probe weights and chromosomal position. Provides replicate filtering and remapping functions for EPICv2 probes.

Usage

Arguments

datatype Character string representing the type of data being analysed.

object Either:

- A matrix of *M*-values, with unique Illumina probe IDs as rownames and unique sample IDs as column names or,

- A GenomicRatioSet, appropriately annotated.

what Does the data matrix contain Beta or M-values? Not needed if object is a Ge-

nomicRatioSet.

arraytype Is the data matrix sourced from EPIC or 450K data? Not needed if object is a

GenomicRatioSet.

epicv2Remap Logical indicating whether to remap 11,878 cross-hybridising EPICv2 probes to

their more likely CpG target (see Peters et al. 2024).

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epicv2Filter Strategy for filtering probe replicates that map to the same CpG site. "mean" takes the mean of the available probes; "sensitivity" takes the available probe

most sensitive to methylation change; "precision" either selects the available probe with the lowest variation from the consensus value (most precise), or takes the mean if that confers the lowest variation instead, "random" takes a single

probe at random from each replicate group.

analysis.type "differential" for dmrcate() to return DMRs; "variability" to return

VMRs; "ANOVA" to return "whole experiment" DMRs, incorporating all possible contrasts from the design matrix using the moderated *F*-statistics; "diffVar" to return differentially variable methylated regions, using the missMethyl package

to generate *t*-statistics.

design Study design matrix. Identical context to differential analysis pipeline in limma.

 $Must \ have \ an \ intercept \ if \ contrasts = {\tt FALSE}. \ Applies \ only \ when \ {\tt analysis.type}$

%in% c("differential", "ANOVA", "diffVar").

contrasts Logical denoting whether a limma-style contrast matrix is specified. Only appli-

cable when datatype="array" and analysis.type %in% c("differential",

"diffVar").

cont.matrix Limma-style contrast matrix for explicit contrasting. For each call to cpg.annotate,

only one contrast will be fit. Only applicable when datatype="array" and

analysis.type %in% c("differential", "diffVar").

fdr FDR cutoff (Benjamini-Hochberg) for which CpG sites are individually called

as significant. Used to index default thresholding in dmrcate(). **Highly recommended as the primary thresholding parameter for calling DMRs**. Not used

when analysis.type == "variability".

coef The column index in design corresponding to the phenotype comparison. Cor-

responds to the comparison of interest in design when contrasts=FALSE, otherwise must be a column name in cont.matrix. Only applicable when analysis.type

== "differential".

varFitcoef The columns of the design matrix containing the comparisons to test for dif-

ferential variability. If left NULL, will test all columns. Identical context to missMethyl::varFit(). Only applicable when analysis.type %in% "diffVar".

topVarcoef Column number or column name specifying which coefficient of the linear

model fit is of interest. It should be the same coefficient that the differential variability testing was performed on. Default is last column of fit object. Identical context to missMethyl::topVar(). Only applicable when analysis.type

%in% "diffVar".

... Extra arguments passed to the limma function lmFit() (analysis.type="differential").

Value

A CpGannotated-class.

Author(s)

Tim J. Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

References

Ritchie, M. E., Phipson, B., Wu, D., Hu, Y., Law, C. W., Shi, W., & Smyth, G. K. (2015). limma powers differential expression analyses for RNA-sequencing and microarray studies. *Nucleic Acids Research*, **43**(7), e47.

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Peters, T.J., Meyer, B., Ryan, L., Achinger-Kawecka, J., Song, J., Campbell, E.M., Qu, W., Nair, S., Loi-Luu, P., Stricker, P., Lim, E., Stirzaker, C., Clark, S.J. and Pidsley, R. (2024). Characterisation and reproducibility of the HumanMethylationEPIC v2.0 BeadChip for DNA methylation profiling. *BMC Genomics*, **25**, 251. doi:10.1186/s12864-024-10027-5.

Examples

CpGannotated-class

An object summarising individual CpG sites fitted to a given model

Description

An S4 class that stores output from either cpg.annotate or sequencing.annotate.

Slots

ranges: A GRanges object, containing CpG-level information to be passed to dmrcate. Mcols of this object include:

- stat: Per-CpG test statistic; t if from 1 imma or Wald if from DSS if using differential mode. Variance if using variability mode, sqrt(F) if using ANOVA mode, t if using diffVar mode.
- rawpval: Raw *p*-value from DMP fitting.
- diff: Methylation difference/coefficient. In beta space for cpg.annotate output and output passed from DSS::DMLtest(). In logit space for when a BSseq object is passed from sequencing.annotate. Not available for output passed from DSS::DMLtest.multiFactor(). Not applicable in variability, ANOVA or diffVar modes.
- ind.fdr: False discovery rate as calculated on individual CpG sites.
- is.sig: Logical determining whether a CpG site is individually significant or not. Can be adjusted using changeFDR.

betas: A matrix of per-CpG beta values matching the annotated loci.

Methods

CpGannotated objects have a show method that describes the data therein.

Author(s)

Tim Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

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Description

Plots an individual DMR (in context of possibly other DMRs) as found by dmrcate. Heatmaps are shown as well as proximal coding regions, smoothed methylation values (with an option for smoothed group means) and chromosome ideogram.

Usage

Arguments

flank

guments	
ranges	A GRanges object (ostensibly created by extractRanges()) describing DMR coordinates.
dmr	Index of ranges (one integer only) indicating which DMR to be plotted.
CpGs	Either: - A CpGannotated object (preferred), - A matrix of beta values for plotting, with unique Illumina probe IDs as rownames, - A GenomicRatioSet, annotated with the appropriate array and data types, or
	- A BSseq object containing per-CpG methylation and coverage counts for the samples to be plotted
what	Does CpGs (if a matrix) contain Beta or M-values? Not needed if object is a GenomicRatioSet or BSseq object.
arraytype	Is CpGs (if a matrix) sourced from EPIC or 450K data? Not needed if object is a GenomicRatioSet or BSseq object.
phen.col	Vector of colors denoting phenotypes of <i>all</i> samples described in CpGs. See vignette for worked example.
genome	Reference genome for annotating DMRs. Can be one of "hg19", "hg38" or "mm10" $$
labels	Vector of DMR names to be displayed. Defaults to names (ranges).

than 10bp or greater than 10kb.

Size, in base pairs, of the plotted region either side of the DMR. Cannot be less

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heatmap	Should the heatmap be plotted? Default is TRUE, but FALSE is useful when plot-
	ting large numbers of samples.
extra.ranges	Optional GRanges object. Will plot any range overlapping a DMR
extra.title	Vector of names for ranges from extra.ranges. Defaults to names (extra.ranges).

Value

A plot to the current device.

Author(s)

Tim J. Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>, Aaron Statham <a.statham@garvan.org.au>, Braydon Meyer <b.meyer@garvan.org.au>

Examples

dmrcate

DMR identification

Description

The main function of this package. Computes a kernel estimate against a null comparison to identify significantly differentially (or variable) methylated regions.

Usage

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Arguments

object A CpGannotated-class, created from cpg.annotate or sequencing.annotate.

lambda Gaussian kernel bandwidth for smoothed-function estimation. Also informs

DMR bookend definition; gaps >= lambda between significant CpG sites will be in separate DMRs. Support is truncated at 5*lambda. Default is 1000 nu-

cleotides. See details for further info.

C Scaling factor for bandwidth. Gaussian kernel is calculated where lambda/C =

sigma. Empirical testing shows for both Illumina and bisulfite sequencing data that, when lambda=1000, near-optimal prediction of sequencing-derived DMRs is obtained when C is approximately 2, i.e. 1 standard deviation of Gaussian

kernel = 500 base pairs. Cannot be < 0.2.

pcutoff Threshold to determine DMRs. Default implies indexing at the rate of individu-

ally significant CpGs and can be set on the CpGannotated-class object using cpg.annotate, sequencing.annotate or changeFDR. **Default highly recommended** unless you are comfortable with the risk of Type I error. If manually specified, this value will be set on the highly permissive kernel-smoothed FDR

values.

consec Use DMRcate in consecutive mode. Treats CpG sites as equally spaced.

conseclambda Bandwidth in *CpGs* (rather than nucleotides) to use when consec=TRUE. When

specified the variable lambda simply becomes the minumum distance separating

DMRs.

betacutoff Optional filter; removes any region from the results where the absolute mean

beta shift is less than the given value. Only available for Illumina array data and

results produced from DSS::DMLtest().

min.cpgs Minimum number of consecutive CpGs constituting a DMR.

Details

The values of lambda and C should be chosen with care. For array data, we currently recommend that half a kilobase represent 1 standard deviation of support (lambda=1000 and C=2). If lambda is too small or C too large then the kernel estimator will not have enough support to significantly differentiate the weighted estimate from the null distribution. If lambda is too large then dmrcate will report very long DMRs spanning multiple gene loci, and the large amount of support will likely give Type I errors. If you are concerned about Type I errors we highly recommend using the default value of pcutoff, although this will return no DMRs if no DM CpGs are returned by limma/DSS either.

Value

A DMResults object.

Author(s)

Tim J. Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>, Mike J. Buckley <Mike.Buckley@csiro.au>, Tim Triche Jr. <tim.triche@usc.edu>

References

Peters, T. J., Buckley, M.J., Chen, Y., Smyth, G.K., Goodnow, C. C. and Clark, S. J. (2021). Calling differentially methylated regions from whole genome bisulphite sequencing with DMRcate. *Nucleic Acids Research*, **49**(19), e109.

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Peters T.J., Buckley M.J., Statham, A., Pidsley R., Samaras K., Lord R.V., Clark S.J. and Molloy P.L. *De novo* identification of differentially methylated regions in the human genome. *Epigenetics & Chromatin* 2015, **8**:6, doi:10.1186/1756-8935-8-6

Wand, M.P. & Jones, M.C. (1995) Kernel Smoothing. Chapman & Hall.

Duong T. (2013) Local significant differences from nonparametric two-sample tests. *Journal of Nonparametric Statistics*. 2013 **25**(3), 635-645.

Examples

DMRcate-internal

Internal DMRcate objects and functions

Description

Internal DMRcate objects and functions

DMResults-class

Initial storage object for called DMRs - class

Description

An S4 class that stores DMR information as output from dmrcate.

Slots

This class has eight slots, summarising DMR information to be passed to extractRanges:

coord: DMR coordinates in UCSC style.

no.cpgs: Number of constituent CpG sites of DMR.

min_smoothed_fdr: Minimum FDR of the smoothed estimate.

Stouffer: Stouffer summary transform of the **individual** CpG *p*-values (FDR-corrected).

HMFDR: Harmonic mean of the **individual** CpG *p*-values (FDR-corrected).

Fisher: Fisher combined probability transform of the **individual** CpG *p*-values (FDR corrected).

maxdiff: Maximum differential/coefficient within the DMR (logit2-space for sequencing mode).

meandiff: Mean differential/coefficient across the DMR (logit2-space for sequencing mode).

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Methods

DMResults objects have a show method describing the number of DMRs called.

Author(s)

Tim Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

extractRanges

Create a GRanges object from dmrcate output.

Description

Takes a DMResults object and produces the corresponding GRanges object.

Usage

```
extractRanges(dmrcoutput, genome = c("hg19", "hg38", "mm10"))
```

Arguments

dmrcoutput A DMResults object.

genome Reference genome for annotating DMRs with promoter overlaps. Can be one of

"hg19", "hg38" or "mm10". Ranges are assumed to map to the reference stated;

there is no liftover.

Value

A GRanges object.

Author(s)

Tim Triche Jr. <tim.triche@usc.edu>, Tim Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

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getCollapsedBetas

Extract a beta matrix from a CpGannotated object.

Description

Retrieves the matrix of per-CpG beta values matching the annotated loci. For EPICv2 data, these betas have been (optionally) remapped to more likely target, and collapsed to one value per CpG. See cpg.annotate for details on EPICv2 replicate filtering.

Usage

```
getCollapsedBetas(annot, ranges=NULL)
```

Arguments

annot A CpGannotated-class object, created by cpg.annotate.

ranges A GRanges object, over which the desired beta values are subsetted.

Details

Only applicable to CpGannotated objects that have been created by cpg.annotate; for those created by sequencing.annotate please use bsseq::getMeth.

Value

A matrix of beta values, with individual CpG coordinates as rownames.

Author(s)

Tim Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

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rmSNPandCH Filter probes

Description

Filters a matrix of M-values (or beta values) by distance to SNP/variant. Also (optionally) removes cross-hybridising probes and sex-chromosome probes. Also removes "rs" and "nv" probes from the matrix.

Usage

```
\label{eq:rmsnpandch} rmSNPandCH(object, dist = 2, mafcut = 0.05, and = TRUE, rmcrosshyb = TRUE, \\ rmXY = FALSE)
```

Arguments

object	A matrix of M-values or beta values, with unique Illumina probe IDs as rownames.
dist	Maximum distance (from CpG to SNP/variant) of probes to be filtered out. See details for when Illumina occasionally lists a CpG-to-SNP distance as being < 0.
mafcut	Minimum minor allele frequency of probes to be filtered out.
and	If TRUE, the probe must have at least 1 SNP binding to it that satisfies both requirements in dist and mafcut for it to be filtered out. If FALSE, it will be filtered out if either requirement is satisfied. Default is TRUE.
rmcrosshyb	If TRUE, filters out probes found by Peters et al. (2024) (EPICv2), Pidsley and Zotenko et al. (2016) (EPICv1) or Chen et al. (2013) (450K) to be cross-reactive with areas of the genome not at the site of interest. Default is TRUE.
rmXY	If TRUE, filters out probe hybridising to sex chromosomes. Or-operator applies when combined with other 2 filters.

Details

Probes in -1:dist will be filtered out for any integer specification of dist. When a probe is listed as being "-1" nucleotides from a SNP, that SNP is immediately adjacent to the end of the probe, and is likely to confound the measurement, in addition to those listed as 0, 1 or 2 nucleotides away. See vignette for further details.

Value

A matrix, attenuated from object, with rows corresponding to probes matching user input filtered out.

Author(s)

Tim Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

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References

Pidsley R, Zotenko E, Peters TJ, Lawrence MG, Risbridger GP, Molloy P, Van Dijk S, Muhlhausler B, Stirzaker C, Clark SJ. Critical evaluation of the Illumina MethylationEPIC BeadChip microarray for whole-genome DNA methylation profiling. *Genome Biology*. 2016 17(1), 208.

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Peters, T.J., Meyer, B., Ryan, L., Achinger-Kawecka, J., Song, J., Campbell, E.M., Qu, W., Nair, S., Loi-Luu, P., Stricker, P., Lim, E., Stirzaker, C., Clark, S.J. and Pidsley, R. (2024). Characterisation and reproducibility of the HumanMethylationEPIC v2.0 BeadChip for DNA methylation profiling. *BMC Genomics* **25**, 251. doi:10.1186/s12864-024-10027-5.

Examples

```
library(ExperimentHub)
eh <- ExperimentHub()
ALLbetas <- eh[["EH9451"]]
ALLbetas <- ALLbetas[1:1000,]
ALLMs <- minfi::logit2(ALLbetas)
ALLMs.noSNPs <- rmSNPandCH(ALLMs, rmcrosshyb = FALSE)</pre>
```

sequencing.annotate

Annotate a bisulfite sequencing experiment (WGBS or RRBS) with probe weights and chromosomal position.

Description

Either: - Annotate a BSseq object with chromosome position and test statistic, or - Parse output from DSS::DMLtest() or DSS::DMLtest.multiFactor() into a CpGannotated object.

Usage

Arguments

obj	$A\ BS seq\ object\ or\ data. frame\ output\ from\ DSS:: DMLtest()\ or\ DSS:: DMLtest.multiFactor().$
methdesign	Methylation study design matrix describing samples and groups. Use of edgeR::modelMatrixMethoto make this matrix is highly recommended, since it transforms a regular model.matrix (as one would construct for a microarray or RNA-Seq experiment) into a "two-channel" matrix representing methylated and unmethylated reads for each sample. Only applicable when obj is a BSseq object.
all.cov	If TRUE, only CpG sites where all samples have > 0 coverage will be retained. If FALSE, CpG sites for which some (not all) samples have coverage=0 will be retained.
contrasts	Logical denoting whether a limma-style contrast matrix is specified. Only applicable when obj is a BSseq object.
cont.matrix	Limma-style contrast matrix for explicit contrasting. For each call to sequencing. annotate,

only one contrast will be fit. Only applicable when obj is a BSseq object.

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FDR cutoff (Benjamini-Hochberg) for which CpG sites are individually called as significant. Used to index default thresholding in dmrcate(). Highly recommended as the primary thresholding parameter for calling DMRs. Only applicable when obj is a BSseq object.

Coef

The column index in design corresponding to the phenotype comparison. Corresponds to the comparison of interest in design when contrasts=FALSE, otherwise must be a column name in cont.matrix. Only applicable when obj is a BSseq object.

... Extra arguments passed to the limma function lmFit(). Only applicable when

obj is a BSseq object.

Value

A CpGannotated-class.

Author(s)

Tim J. Peters <t.peters@garvan.org.au>

References

Peters, T. J., Buckley, M.J., Chen, Y., Smyth, G.K., Goodnow, C. C. and Clark, S. J. (2021). Calling differentially methylated regions from whole genome bisulphite sequencing with DMRcate. *Nucleic Acids Research*, **49**(19), e109.

Ritchie, M. E., Phipson, B., Wu, D., Hu, Y., Law, C. W., Shi, W., & Smyth, G. K. (2015). limma powers differential expression analyses for RNA-sequencing and microarray studies. *Nucleic Acids Research*, **43**(7), e47.

```
library(ExperimentHub)
library(SummarizedExperiment)
library(bsseq)
library(GenomeInfoDb)
eh = ExperimentHub()
bis_1072 <- eh[["EH1072"]]
pData(bis_1072) <- data.frame(replicate=gsub(".*-", "", colnames(bis_1072)),</pre>
                    tissue=substr(colnames(bis_1072), 1, nchar(colnames(bis_1072))-3),
                    row.names=colnames(bis_1072))
colData(bis\_1072) \\ \$tissue <- gsub("-", "\_", colData(bis\_1072) \\ \$tissue)
bis_1072 <- renameSeqlevels(bis_1072, mapSeqlevels(seqlevels(bis_1072), "UCSC"))</pre>
bis_1072 <- bis_1072[seqnames(bis_1072)=="chr19",]
bis_1072 <- bis_1072[240201:240300,]
tissue <- factor(pData(bis_1072)$tissue)</pre>
tissue <- relevel(tissue, "Liver_Treg")</pre>
design <- model.matrix(~tissue)</pre>
                                      "", colnames(design))
colnames(design) <- gsub("tissue",</pre>
colnames(design)[1] <- "Intercept"</pre>
rownames(design) <- colnames(bis_1072)</pre>
methdesign <- edgeR::modelMatrixMeth(design)</pre>
cont.mat <- limma::makeContrasts(treg_vs_tcon=Lymph_N_Treg-Lymph_N_Tcon,</pre>
                                    fat_vs_ln=Fat_Treg-Lymph_N_Treg,
                                    skin_vs_ln=Skin_Treg-Lymph_N_Treg,
                                    fat_vs_skin=Fat_Treg-Skin_Treg,
```

sequencing.annotate

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