# Package 'alabaster.vcf'

**Title** Save and Load Variant Data to/from File

**Version** 1.4.0

**Date** 2024-01-02

**Description** Save variant calling SummarizedExperiment to file and load them back as VCF objects.
This is a more portable alternative to serialization of such objects into RDS files.
Each artifact is associated with metadata for further interpretation;
downstream applications can enrich this metadata with context-specific properties.

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**Depends** alabaster.base, VariantAnnotation

**Imports** methods, S4Vectors, alabaster.se, alabaster.string, Rsamtools

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, BiocStyle, testthat

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**biocViews** DataImport, DataRepresentation

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# Contents

## readVCF

*Read a VCF object from disk*

### Description

Read a [VCF](#) object from its on-disk representation.

### Usage

```
readVCF(path, metadata, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| path | String containing a path to a directory, usually generated by the [saveObject](#) method for [VCF](#) object.s |
| metadata | Named list of metadata for this object, see [readObjectFile](#) for details. |
| ... | Further arguments passed to internal [altReadObject](#) calls. |

### Value

A [VCF](#) object.

### Author(s)

Aaron Lun

### See Also

[saveObject,VCF-method](#), to save VCF objects to disk.

### Examples

```
fl <- system.file("extdata", "structural.vcf", package="VariantAnnotation")
vcf <- readVcf(fl)

tmp <- tempfile()
saveObject(vcf, tmp)
readObject(tmp)
```

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saveObject,VCF-method   *Save a VCF object to disk*

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### Description

Save a VCF object to its on-disk representation, namely a VCF file with the same contents.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VCF'
saveObject(x, path, ...)
```

### Arguments

| | |
|---|---|
| x | Any instance of a VCF class or one of its subclasses. |
| path | String containing the path to a directory in which to save x. |
| ... | Further arguments to pass to specific methods. |

### Value

x is saved to file inside path, and NULL is returned.

### Author(s)

Aaron Lun

### See Also

readVCF, to read a VCF object back to the R session.

### Examples

```
fl <- system.file("extdata", "structural.vcf", package="VariantAnnotation")
vcf <- readVcf(fl)

tmp <- tempfile()
saveObject(vcf, tmp)
```

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