# Package 'BiocGenerics'

April 10, 2023

Title S4 generic functions used in Bioconductor

**Description** The package defines many S4 generic functions used in Bioconductor.

biocViews Infrastructure

URL https://bioconductor.org/packages/BiocGenerics

BugReports https://github.com/Bioconductor/BiocGenerics/issues

Version 0.44.0 License Artistic-2.0 Encoding UTF-8

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**Depends** R (>= 4.0.0), methods, utils, graphics, stats

Imports methods, utils, graphics, stats

**Suggests** Biobase, S4Vectors, IRanges, GenomicRanges, DelayedArray, Biostrings, Rsamtools, AnnotationDbi, affy, affyPLM, DESeq2, flowClust, MSnbase, annotate, RUnit

Collate S3-classes-as-S4-classes.R utils.R normarg-utils.R replaceSlots.R aperm.R append.R as.data.frame.R as.list.R as.vector.R cbind.R colSums.R do.call.R duplicated.R eval.R Extremes.R format.R funprog.R get.R grep.R is.unsorted.R lapply.R mapply.R match.R mean.R nrow.R order.R paste.R rank.R rep.R row\_colnames.R sets.R sort.R start.R subset.R t.R table.R tapply.R unique.R unlist.R unsplit.R relist.R var.R which.R which.min.R boxplot.R image.R density.R IQR.R mad.R residuals.R weights.R xtabs.R annotation.R combine.R dbconn.R dge.R dims.R fileName.R normalize.R Ontology.R organism\_species.R path.R plotMA.R plotPCA.R score.R strand.R toTable.R type.R updateObject.R testPackage.R zzz.R

git\_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/BiocGenerics

git\_branch RELEASE\_3\_16
git\_last\_commit d7cd9c1

git\_last\_commit\_date 2022-11-01 Date/Publication 2023-04-10

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# Description

S4 generic functions needed by many Bioconductor packages.

BiocGenerics-package S4 generic functions for Bioconductor

#### **Details**

We divide the generic functions defined in the **BiocGenerics** package in 2 categories: (1) functions already defined in base R and explicitly promoted to generics in BiocGenerics, and (2) Bioconductor specific generics.

# (1) Functions defined in base R and explicitly promoted to generics in the BiocGenerics package:

Generics for functions defined in package base:

```
BiocGenerics::aperm
BiocGenerics::append
BiocGenerics::as.data.frame
BiocGenerics::as.list
BiocGenerics::as.vector
```

```
• BiocGenerics::rbind, BiocGenerics::cbind
  • BiocGenerics::colSums, BiocGenerics::rowSums, BiocGenerics::colMeans, BiocGenerics::rowMeans
  • BiocGenerics::do.call
  • BiocGenerics::duplicated, BiocGenerics::anyDuplicated
  • BiocGenerics::eval
  • Extremes: BiocGenerics::pmax, BiocGenerics::pmin, BiocGenerics::pmax.int, BiocGenerics::pmin.int
  • BiocGenerics::format
  • funprog: BiocGenerics::Reduce, BiocGenerics::Filter, BiocGenerics::Find, BiocGenerics::Map,
   BiocGenerics::Position
  • BiocGenerics::get, BiocGenerics::mget
  • BiocGenerics::grep, BiocGenerics::grepl
  • BiocGenerics::is.unsorted
  • BiocGenerics::lapply, BiocGenerics::sapply
  • BiocGenerics::mapply
  • BiocGenerics::match, BiocGenerics::%in%
  • BiocGenerics::nrow, BiocGenerics::ncol, BiocGenerics::NROW, BiocGenerics::NCOL
  • BiocGenerics::order
  • BiocGenerics::paste
  • BiocGenerics::rank
  • BiocGenerics::rep.int
  • BiocGenerics::rownames, BiocGenerics::rownames<-, BiocGenerics::colnames, BiocGenerics::colnames<
  • sets: BiocGenerics::union, BiocGenerics::intersect, BiocGenerics::setdiff
  • BiocGenerics::sort
  • BiocGenerics::start, BiocGenerics::start<-, BiocGenerics::end, BiocGenerics::end<-,
    BiocGenerics::width, BiocGenerics::width<-, BiocGenerics::pos</pre>
  • BiocGenerics::subset
  • BiocGenerics::t
  • BiocGenerics::table
  • BiocGenerics::tapply
  • BiocGenerics::unique
  • BiocGenerics::unlist
  • BiocGenerics::unsplit
  • BiocGenerics::which
  • BiocGenerics::which.min, BiocGenerics::which.max
Generics for functions defined in package utils:
  • BiocGenerics::relist
Generics for functions defined in package graphics:
```

• BiocGenerics::boxplot • BiocGenerics::image

Generics for functions defined in package stats:

• BiocGenerics::density

BiocGenerics::residualsBiocGenerics::weightsBiocGenerics::xtabs

# (2) Bioconductor specific generics:

- annotation, annotation<-
- combine
- dbconn, dbfile
- counts, counts<-, design, design<-, dispTable, dispTable<-, sizeFactors, sizeFactors<-, conditions, conditions<-, estimateSizeFactors, estimateDispersions, plotDispEsts</li>
- dims, nrows, ncols,
- fileName
- normalize
- Ontology
- organism, organism<-, species, species<-
- path, path<-, basename, basename<-, dirname, dirname<-
- plotMA
- plotPCA
- score, score<-
- strand, strand<-, invertStrand
- toTable
- type, type<-
- updateObject

## Note

More generics can be added on request by sending an email to the Bioc-devel mailing list:

```
http://bioconductor.org/help/mailing-list/
```

Things that should NOT be added to the **BiocGenerics** package:

- Internal generic primitive functions like length, dim, `dim<-`, etc... See ?InternalMethods for the complete list. There are a few exceptions though, that is, the **BiocGenerics** package may actually redefine a few of those internal generic primitive functions as S4 generics when for example the signature of the internal generic primitive is not appropriate (this is the case for BiocGenerics::cbind).
- S3 and S4 group generic functions like Math, Ops, etc... See ?groupGeneric and ?S4groupGeneric for the complete list.
- Generics already defined in the **stats4** package.

#### Author(s)

The Bioconductor Dev Team

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#### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- setGeneric and setMethod for defining generics and methods.

## **Examples**

```
## List all the symbols defined in this package:
ls('package:BiocGenerics')
```

annotation

Accessing annotation information

# **Description**

Get or set the annotation information contained in an object.

# Usage

```
annotation(object, ...)
annotation(object, ...) <- value</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

object An object containing annotation information.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

value The annotation information to set on object.

## See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- annotation,eSet-method in the **Biobase** package for an example of a specific annotation method (defined for eSet objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
annotation
showMethods("annotation")
library(Biobase)
showMethods("annotation")
selectMethod("annotation", "eSet")
```

aperm 7

aperm

Transposing an array-like object

# **Description**

Transpose an array-like object by permuting its dimensions.

This is a multidimensional generalization of the t() operator used for 2D-transposition.

NOTE: This man page is for the aperm *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::aperm for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
aperm(a, perm, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

a An array-like object.

perm, ... See ?base::aperm for a description of these arguments.

#### Value

A transposed version of array-like object a, with subscripts permuted as indicated by the perm vector.

## See Also

- base::aperm for the default aperm method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- aperm, Delayed Array-method in the Delayed Array package for an example of a specific aperm method (defined for Delayed Array objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
aperm # note the dispatch on the 'a' arg only
showMethods("aperm")
selectMethod("aperm", "ANY") # the default method
```

8 append

# Description

Append (or insert) elements to (in) a vector-like object.

NOTE: This man page is for the append *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::append for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like or data-frame-like) not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
append(x, values, after=length(x))
```

## **Arguments**

| X      | The vector-like object to be modified.   |
|--------|--|
| values | The vector-like object containing the values to be appended to x. values would typically be of the same class as x, but not necessarily. |
| after  | A subscript, after which the values are to be appended.  |

#### Value

See ?base::append for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as x and of length length(x) + length(values).

# See Also

- base::append for the default append method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- append, Vector, Vector-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific append method (defined for Vector objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
append # note the dispatch on the 'x' and 'values' args only showMethods("append") selectMethod("append", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

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as.data.frame

Coerce to a data frame

## Description

Generic function to coerce to a data frame, if possible.

NOTE: This man page is for the as.data.frame *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::as.data.frame for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
as.data.frame(x, row.names=NULL, optional=FALSE, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x The object to coerce.
row.names, optional, ...
See ?base::as.data.frame for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

An ordinary data frame.

See ?base::as.data.frame for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- base::as.data.frame for the default as.data.frame method.
- toTable for an alternative to as.data.frame.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- as.data.frame, DataFrame-method in the **S4Vectors** package, and as.data.frame, IntegerRanges-method in the **IRanges** package, for examples of specific as.data.frame methods (defined for DataFrame and IntegerRanges objects, respectively).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
as.data.frame # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only showMethods("as.data.frame") selectMethod("as.data.frame", "ANY") # the default method
```

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as.list

Coerce to a list

# Description

Generic function to coerce to a list, if possible.

NOTE: This man page is for the as.list *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::as.list for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

#### Usage

```
as.list(x, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

x The object to coerce.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

#### Value

An ordinary list.

# See Also

- base::as.list for the default as.list method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- as.list,List-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific as.list method (defined for List objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
as.list
showMethods("as.list")
selectMethod("as.list", "ANY") # the default method
library(S4Vectors)
showMethods("as.list")
## The as.list() method for List objects:
selectMethod("as.list", "List")
```

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as.vector

Coerce an object into a vector

## **Description**

Attempt to coerce an object into a vector of the specified mode. If the mode is not specified, attempt to coerce to whichever vector mode is considered more appropriate for the class of the supplied object.

NOTE: This man page is for the as.vector *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::as.vector for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
as.vector(x, mode="any")
```

## Arguments

x The object to coerce.

mode See ?base::as.vector for a description of this argument.

#### Value

A vector.

See ?base::as.vector for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- base::as.vector for the default as.vector method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- as.vector,Rle-method and as.vector,AtomicList-method in the S4Vectors and IRanges packages, respectively, for examples of specific as.vector methods (defined for Rle and AtomicList objects, respectively).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

```
as.vector # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
showMethods("as.vector")
selectMethod("as.vector", "ANY") # the default method
```

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boxplot

Box plots

# Description

Produce box-and-whisker plot(s) of the given (grouped) values.

NOTE: This man page is for the boxplot *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?graphics::boxplot for the default method (defined in the **graphics** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
boxplot(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x, ... See ?graphics::boxplot.
```

#### Value

See ?graphics::boxplot for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

# See Also

- graphics::boxplot for the default boxplot method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- boxplot, AffyBatch-method in the **affy** package for an example of a specific boxplot method (defined for AffyBatch objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
boxplot
showMethods("boxplot")
selectMethod("boxplot", "ANY") # the default method
library(affy)
showMethods("boxplot")
## The boxplot() method for AffyBatch objects:
selectMethod("boxplot", "AffyBatch")
```

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cbind

Combine objects by rows or columns

## Description

rbind and cbind take one or more objects and combine them by columns or rows, respectively.

NOTE: This man page is for the rbind and cbind *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::cbind for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like or matrix-like) not supported by the default methods.

# Usage

```
rbind(..., deparse.level=1)
cbind(..., deparse.level=1)
```

## **Arguments**

... One or more vector-like or matrix-like objects. These can be given as named arguments.

deparse.level See ?base::cbind for a description of this argument.

## Value

See ?base::cbind for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input objects.

#### See Also

- base::cbind for the default rbind and cbind methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- rbind,RectangularData-method and cbind,DataFrame-method in the **S4Vectors** package for examples of specific rbind and cbind methods (defined for RectangularData derivatives and DataFrame objects, respectively).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
rbind # note the dispatch on the '...' arg only
showMethods("rbind")
selectMethod("rbind", "ANY") # the default method

cbind # note the dispatch on the '...' arg only
showMethods("cbind")
```

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```
selectMethod("cbind", "ANY") # the default method
library(S4Vectors)
showMethods("rbind")
## The rbind() method for RectangularData derivatives:
selectMethod("rbind", "RectangularData")
## The cbind() method for DataFrame objects:
selectMethod("cbind", "DataFrame")
```

colSums

Form Row and Column Sums and Means

## **Description**

Form row and column sums and means for rectangular objects..

NOTE: This man page is for the rowSums, colSums, rowMeans, and colMeans *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::colSums for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically array-like) not supported by the default methods.

## Usage

```
colSums (x, na.rm=FALSE, dims=1, ...)
rowSums (x, na.rm=FALSE, dims=1, ...)
colMeans(x, na.rm=FALSE, dims=1, ...)
rowMeans(x, na.rm=FALSE, dims=1, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
    x A rectangular object, like a matrix or data frame.
    na.rm, dims See ?base::colSums for a description of these arguments.
    ... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.
```

## Value

See ?base::colSums for the value returned by the default methods.

- base::colSums for the default colSums, rowSums, colMeans, and colSums methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- colSums, Delayed Matrix-method in the **Delayed Array** package for an example of a specific colSums method (defined for Delayed Matrix objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

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#### **Examples**

```
colSums
showMethods("colSums")
selectMethod("colSums", "ANY") # the default method
```

combine

Combining or merging different Bioconductor data structures

# Description

The combine generic function handles methods for combining or merging different Bioconductor data structures. It should, given an arbitrary number of arguments of the same class (possibly by inheritance), combine them into a single instance in a sensible way (some methods may only combine 2 objects, ignoring . . . in the argument list; because Bioconductor data structures are complicated, check carefully that combine does as you intend).

## Usage

```
combine(x, y, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

x One of the values.

y A second value.

.. Any other objects of the same class as x and y.

#### **Details**

There are two basic combine strategies. One is an intersection strategy. The returned value should only have rows (or columns) that are found in all input data objects. The union strategy says that the return value will have all rows (or columns) found in any one of the input data objects (in which case some indication of what to use for missing values will need to be provided).

These functions and methods are currently under construction. Please let us know if there are features that you require.

## Value

A single value of the same class as the most specific common ancestor (in class terms) of the input values. This will contain the appropriate combination of the data in the input values.

#### Methods

The following methods are defined in the **BiocGenerics** package:

```
combine(x=ANY, missing) Return the first (x) argument unchanged.
```

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combine(data.frame, data.frame) Combines two data.frame objects so that the resulting data.frame contains all rows and columns of the original objects. Rows and columns in the returned value are unique, that is, a row or column represented in both arguments is represented only once in the result. To perform this operation, combine makes sure that data in shared rows and columns are identical in the two data.frames. Data differences in shared rows and columns usually cause an error. combine issues a warning when a column is a factor and the levels of the factor in the two data.frames are different.

combine(matrix, matrix) Combined two matrix objects so that the resulting matrix contains all rows and columns of the original objects. Both matricies must have dimnames. Rows and columns in the returned value are unique, that is, a row or column represented in both arguments is represented only once in the result. To perform this operation, combine makes sure that data in shared rows and columns are all equal in the two matricies.

Additional combine methods are defined in the **Biobase** package for AnnotatedDataFrame, Assay-Data, MIAME, and eSet objects.

#### Author(s)

Biocore

#### See Also

- combine, Annotated Data Frame, Annotated Data Frame-method, combine, Assay Data, Assay Data, method, combine, MIAME, MIAME-method, and combine, eSet, eSet-method in the Biobase package for additional combine methods.
- merge for merging two data frames (or data-frame-like) objects.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

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```
w <- data.frame(w=4:8,</pre>
       y=factor(letters[4:8], levels=letters[1:8]),
       row.names=letters[4:8])
combine(w, x, y)
# y is converted to 'factor' with different levels
df1 <- data.frame(x=1:5,y=letters[1:5], row.names=letters[1:5])</pre>
df2 <- data.frame(z=3:7,y=letters[3:7], row.names=letters[3:7])</pre>
try(combine(df1, df2)) # fails
# solution 1: ensure identical levels
y1 <- factor(letters[1:5], levels=letters[1:7])</pre>
y2 <- factor(letters[3:7], levels=letters[1:7])
df1 <- data.frame(x=1:5,y=y1, row.names=letters[1:5])</pre>
df2 <- data.frame(z=3:7,y=y2, row.names=letters[3:7])</pre>
combine(df1, df2)
# solution 2: force column to be 'character'
df1 <- data.frame(x=1:5,y=I(letters[1:5]), row.names=letters[1:5])</pre>
\label{eq:df2} $$ df2 <- data.frame(z=3:7,y=I(letters[3:7]), row.names=letters[3:7])$ 
combine(df1, df2)
## COMBINING TWO MATRICES
## -----
m <- matrix(1:20, nrow=5, dimnames=list(LETTERS[1:5], letters[1:4]))</pre>
combine(m[1:3,], m[4:5,])
combine(m[1:3, 1:3], m[3:5, 3:4]) # overlap
```

dbconn

Accessing SQLite DB information

# Description

Get a connection object or file path for a SQLite DB

## Usage

```
dbconn(x)
dbfile(x)
```

#### **Arguments**

х

An object with a SQLite connection.

# Value

dbconn returns a connection object to the SQLite DB containing x's data.

dbfile returns a path (character string) to the SQLite DB (file) containing x's data.

18 density

#### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- dbconn, Annotation Db-method in the **Annotation Dbi** package for an example of a specific dbconn method (defined for dbconn objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

# **Examples**

```
dbconn
showMethods("dbconn")
dbfile
showMethods("dbfile")

library(AnnotationDbi)
showMethods("dbconn")
selectMethod("dbconn", "AnnotationDb")
```

density

Kernel density estimation

# **Description**

The generic function density computes kernel density estimates.

NOTE: This man page is for the density *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::density for the default method (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
density(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x, ... See ?stats::density.
```

## Value

See ?stats::density for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

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#### See Also

- stats::density for the default density method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- density,flowClust-method in the **flowClust** package for an example of a specific density method (defined for flowClust objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

# **Examples**

```
density
showMethods("density")
selectMethod("density", "ANY") # the default method
```

dge

Accessors and generic functions used in the context of count datasets

#### **Description**

These generic functions provide basic interfaces to operations on and data access to count datasets.

## Usage

```
counts(object, ...)
counts(object, ...) <- value
design(object, ...)
design(object, ...) <- value
dispTable(object, ...)
dispTable(object, ...) <- value
sizeFactors(object, ...)
sizeFactors(object, ...) <- value
conditions(object, ...) <- value
estimateSizeFactors(object, ...)
plotDispEsts(object, ...)</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

| object | Object of class for which methods are defined, e.g., CountDataSet, DESeqSummarizedExperiment or ExonCountSet. |
|--------|---|
| value  | Value to be assigned to corresponding components of object; supported types depend on method implementation.  |
|        | Further arguments, perhaps used by metohds  |

20 dims

#### **Details**

For the details, please consult the manual pages of the methods in the **DESeq**, **DESeq2**, and **DEXSeq** packages and the package vignettes.

#### Author(s)

```
W. Huber, S. Anders
```

#### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

dims

Get the dimensions of each element of a list-like object

## Description

Get the dimensions, number of rows, or number of columns, of each element of a list-like object.

Note that these functions are the *vectorized versions* of corresponding functions dim(), nrow(), and ncol(), in the same fashion that lengths() is the *vectorized version* of length.

## Usage

```
dims(x, use.names=TRUE)
nrows(x, use.names=TRUE)
ncols(x, use.names=TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

use.names

x List-like object (or environment) where all the list elements are expected to be array-like objects with the *same number of dimensions*.

array-like objects with the same number of aimensions.

Logical indicating if the names on x should be propagated to the returned matrix

(as its rownames) or vector (as its names).

## Value

For dims(): Typically a numeric matrix with one row per list element in x and one column per dimension in these list elements (they're all expected to have the same number of dimensions). The i-th row in the returned matrix is a vector containing the dimensions of the i-th list element in x. More formally:

```
dims(x)[i, ] is <math>dim(x[[i]])
```

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for any valid i. By default the names on x, if any, are propagated as the rownames of the returned matrix, unless use.names is set to FALSE.

For nrows() or ncols(): A numeric vector with one element per list element in x. The i-th element in the returned vector is the number of rows (or columns) of the i-th list element in x. More formally:

```
nrows(x)[i] is nrow(x[[i]]) and ncols(x)[i] is ncol(x[[i]])
```

for any valid i. By default the names on x, if any, are propagated on the returned vector, unless use.names is set to FALSE.

#### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- dims, DataFrameList-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific dims method (defined for DataFrameList objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

#### **Examples**

```
dims
showMethods("dims")

library(IRanges)
showMethods("dims")
selectMethod("dims", "DataFrameList")
```

do.call

Execute a function call

#### **Description**

do.call constructs and executes a function call from a name or a function and a list of arguments to be passed to it.

NOTE: This man page is for the do.call *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::do.call for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

#### Usage

```
do.call(what, args, quote=FALSE, envir=parent.frame())
```

22 duplicated

#### **Arguments**

The default method expects either a function or a non-empty character string naming the function to be called. See ?base::do.call for the details.

Specific methods can support other objects. Please refer to the documentation of a particular method for the details.

The default method expects a *list* of arguments to the function call (the names attribute of args gives the argument names). See ?base::do.call for the details.

Specific methods can support other objects. Please refer to the documentation of a particular method for the details.

quote, envir

See ?base::do.call for a description of these arguments.

#### Value

The result of the (evaluated) function call.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- base::do.call for the default do.call method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

#### **Examples**

```
do.call # note the dispatch on the 'what' and 'args' args only
showMethods("do.call")
selectMethod("do.call", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

duplicated

Determine duplicate elements

# **Description**

Determines which elements of a vector-like or data-frame-like object are duplicates of elements with smaller subscripts, and returns a logical vector indicating which elements (rows) are duplicates.

NOTE: This man page is for the duplicated and anyDuplicated *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::duplicated for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like or data-frame-like) not supported by the default method.

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#### **Usage**

```
duplicated(x, incomparables=FALSE, ...)
anyDuplicated(x, incomparables=FALSE, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x A vector-like or data-frame-like object.
incomparables, ...
See ?base::duplicated for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

The default duplicated method (see ?base::duplicated) returns a logical vector of length N where N is:

- length(x) when x is a vector;
- nrow(x) when x is a data frame.

Specific duplicated methods defined in Bioconductor packages must also return a logical vector of the same length as x when x is a vector-like object, and a logical vector with one element for each row when x is a data-frame-like object.

The default anyDuplicated method (see ?base::duplicated) returns a single non-negative integer and so must the specific anyDuplicated methods defined in Bioconductor packages.

anyDuplicated should always behave consistently with duplicated.

#### See Also

- base::duplicated for the default duplicated and anyDuplicated methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- duplicated,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific duplicated method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
duplicated
showMethods("duplicated")
selectMethod("duplicated", "ANY") # the default method
anyDuplicated
showMethods("anyDuplicated")
selectMethod("anyDuplicated", "ANY") # the default method
```

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eval

Evaluate an (unevaluated) expression

## **Description**

eval evaluates an R expression in a specified environment.

NOTE: This man page is for the eval *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::eval for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

# **Arguments**

An object to be evaluated. May be any object supported by the default method (see ?base::eval) or by the additional methods defined in Bioconductor packages.

envir

The environment in which expr is to be evaluated. May be any object supported by the default method (see ?base::eval) or by the additional methods defined in Bioconductor packages.

enclos

See ?base::eval for a description of this argument.

## Value

See ?base::eval for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

# See Also

- base::eval for the default eval method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- eval,expression, Vector-method in the IRanges package for an example of a specific eval method (defined for when the expr and envir arguments are an expression and a Vector object, respectively).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
eval # note the dispatch on 'expr' and 'envir' args only
showMethods("eval")
selectMethod("eval", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

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evalq

Evaluate an (unevaluated) expression

## Description

evalq evaluates an R expression (the quoted form of its first argument) in a specified environment.

NOTE: This man page is for the evalq wrapper defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::evalq for the function defined in the **base** package. This wrapper correctly delegates to the eval generic, rather than base::eval.

#### Usage

# **Arguments**

expr Quoted to form the expression that is evaluated.

envir The *environment* in which expr is to be evaluated. May be any object supported

by methods on the eval generic.

enclos See ?base::evalq for a description of this argument.

# Value

```
See ?base::evalq.
```

#### See Also

• base::evalq for the base evalq function.

#### **Examples**

```
evalq # note just a copy of the original evalq
```

Extremes

Maxima and minima

#### **Description**

 $\verb|pmax|, \verb|pmin|, \verb|pmax|. int and \verb|pmin|. int return the parallel maxima and minima of the input values.$ 

NOTE: This man page is for the pmax, pmin, pmax.int and pmin.int *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::pmax for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like or matrix-like) not supported by the default methods.

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#### Usage

```
pmax(..., na.rm=FALSE)
pmin(..., na.rm=FALSE)

pmax.int(..., na.rm=FALSE)
pmin.int(..., na.rm=FALSE)
```

#### **Arguments**

... One or more vector-like or matrix-like objects.

na.rm See ?base::pmax for a description of this argument.

#### Value

See ?base::pmax for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input objects.

#### See Also

- base::pmax for the default pmax, pmin, pmax.int and pmin.int methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- pmax,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific pmax method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
pmax
showMethods("pmax")
selectMethod("pmax", "ANY") # the default method

pmin
showMethods("pmin")
selectMethod("pmin", "ANY") # the default method

pmax.int
showMethods("pmax.int")
selectMethod("pmax.int", "ANY") # the default method

pmin.int
showMethods("pmin.int", "ANY") # the default method
```

fileName 27

fileName

Accessing the file name of an object

# **Description**

Get the file name of an object.

## Usage

```
fileName(object, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

object An object with a file name.

. . . Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

#### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- fileName,MSmap-method in the **MSnbase** package for an example of a specific fileName method (defined for MSmap objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

# **Examples**

```
fileName
showMethods("fileName")

library(MSnbase)
showMethods("fileName")
selectMethod("fileName", "MSmap")
```

format

Format an R object for pretty printing

#### **Description**

Turn an R object into a character vector used for pretty printing.

NOTE: This man page is for the format *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::format for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

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## Usage

```
format(x, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

- x The object to format.
- ... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

#### Value

A character vector that provides a "compact representation" of x. This character vector is typically used by print.data.frame to display the columns of a data.frame object. See ?base::print.data.frame for more information.

#### See Also

- base::format for the default format method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

# **Examples**

```
format
showMethods("format")
selectMethod("format", "ANY") # the default method
```

funprog

Common higher-order functions in functional programming languages

# Description

Reduce uses a binary function to successively combine the elements of a given list-like or vector-like object and a possibly given initial value. Filter extracts the elements of a list-like or vector-like object for which a predicate (logical) function gives true. Find and Position give the first or last such element and its position in the object, respectively. Map applies a function to the corresponding elements of given list-like or vector-like objects.

NOTE: This man page is for the Reduce, Filter, Find, Map and Position *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::Reduce for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically list-like or vector-like) not supported by the default methods.

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#### Usage

```
Reduce(f, x, init, right=FALSE, accumulate=FALSE)
Filter(f, x)
Find(f, x, right=FALSE, nomatch=NULL)
Map(f, ...)
Position(f, x, right=FALSE, nomatch=NA_integer_)
```

## **Arguments**

```
f, init, right, accumulate, nomatch
See ?base::Reduce for a description of these arguments.

x A list-like or vector-like object.
... One or more list-like or vector-like objects.
```

#### Value

See ?base::Reduce for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default methods.

#### See Also

- base::Reduce for the default Reduce, Filter, Find, Map and Position methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- Reduce,List-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific Reduce method (defined for List objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
Reduce # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only showMethods("Reduce") selectMethod("Reduce", "ANY") # the default method Filter # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only showMethods("Filter") selectMethod("Filter", "ANY") # the default method Find # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only showMethods("Find") selectMethod("Find", "ANY") # the default method Map # note the dispatch on the '...' arg only showMethods("Map") selectMethod("Map", "ANY") # the default method Position # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
```

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```
showMethods("Position")
selectMethod("Position", "ANY") # the default method
```

get

Return the value of a named object

# **Description**

Search for an object with a given name and return it.

NOTE: This man page is for the get and mget *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::get for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (list-like or environment-like) not supported by the default methods.

#### Usage

```
get(x, pos=-1, envir=as.environment(pos), mode="any", inherits=TRUE)
mget(x, envir, mode="any", ifnotfound, inherits=FALSE)
```

# **Arguments**

x For get: A variable name (or, more generally speaking, a *key*), given as a single string.

For mget: A vector of variable names (or keys).

envir Where to look for the key(s). Typically a list-like or environment-like object. pos, mode, inherits, ifnotfound

See ?base::get for a description of these arguments.

#### **Details**

See ?base::get for details about the default methods.

## Value

For get: The value corresponding to the specified key.

For mget: The list of values corresponding to the specified keys. The returned list must have one element per key, and in the same order as in x.

See ?base::get for the value returned by the default methods.

- base::get for the default get and mget methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- get, ANY, Bimap, missing-method in the **AnnotationDbi** package for an example of a specific get method (defined for Bimap objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

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#### **Examples**

```
get # note the dispatch on the 'x', 'pos' and 'envir' args only
showMethods("get")
selectMethod("get", c("ANY", "ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
mget # note the dispatch on the 'x' and 'envir' args only
showMethods("mget")
selectMethod("mget", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

grep

Pattern Matching and Replacement

# **Description**

Search for matches to argument 'pattern' within each element of a character vector.

NOTE: This man page is for the grep and grep1 *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::grep for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

#### Usage

## **Arguments**

```
The pattern for searching in x, such as a regular expression.

X The character vector (in the general sense) to search.

ignore.case, perl, value, fixed, useBytes, invert

See ?base::grep for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

See ?base::grep for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

- base::grep for the default grep and grep1 methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

image image

## **Examples**

```
grep # note the dispatch on 'pattern' and 'x' args only
showMethods("grep")
selectMethod("grep", "ANY") # the default method
```

image

Display a color image

# **Description**

Creates a grid of colored or gray-scale rectangles with colors corresponding to the values in z. This can be used to display three-dimensional or spatial data aka *images*.

NOTE: This man page is for the image *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?graphics::image for the default method (defined in the **graphics** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
image(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x, ... See ?graphics::image.
```

## **Details**

See ?graphics::image for the details.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

- graphics::image for the default image method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- image, AffyBatch-method in the **affy** package for an example of a specific image method (defined for AffyBatch objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

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#### **Examples**

```
image
showMethods("image")
selectMethod("image", "ANY") # the default method
library(affy)
showMethods("image")
## The image() method for AffyBatch objects:
selectMethod("image", "AffyBatch")
```

IQR

The Interquartile Range

# **Description**

Compute the interquartile range for a vector.

NOTE: This man page is for the IQR *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::IQR for the default method (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
IQR(x, na.rm = FALSE, type = 7)
```

# Arguments

```
x, na.rm, type See ?stats::IQR.
```

## Value

See ?stats:: IQR for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

## See Also

- stats:: IQR for the default IQR method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
IQR
showMethods("IQR")
selectMethod("IQR", "ANY") # the default method
```

34 is.unsorted

is.unsorted

Test if a vector-like object is not sorted

## **Description**

Test if a vector-like object is not sorted, without the cost of sorting it.

NOTE: This man page is for the is.unsorted *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::is.unsorted for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like) not supported by the default method.

#### Usage

```
is.unsorted(x, na.rm=FALSE, strictly=FALSE, ...)
```

# **Arguments**

#### Value

See ?base::is.unsorted for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

## Note

#### TO DEVELOPERS:

The is.unsorted method for specific vector-like objects should adhere to the same underlying order used by the order, sort, and rank methods for the same objects.

- base::is.unsorted for the default is.unsorted method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- is.unsorted, Genomic Ranges-method in the **Genomic Ranges** package for an example of a specific is.unsorted method (defined for Genomic Ranges objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

lapply 35

#### **Examples**

```
is.unsorted # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only showMethods("is.unsorted") selectMethod("is.unsorted", "ANY") # the default method
```

lapply

Apply a function over a list-like or vector-like object

# Description

lapply returns a list of the same length as X, each element of which is the result of applying FUN to the corresponding element of X.

sapply is a user-friendly version and wrapper of lapply by default returning a vector, matrix or, if simplify="array", an array if appropriate, by applying simplify2array(). sapply(x, f, simplify=FALSE, USE.NAMES=FALSE) is the same as lapply(x, f).

NOTE: This man page is for the lapply and sapply *S4 generic functions* defined in the **Bioc-Generics** package. See ?base::lapply for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically list-like or vector-like) not supported by the default methods.

## Usage

```
lapply(X, FUN, ...)
sapply(X, FUN, ..., simplify=TRUE, USE.NAMES=TRUE)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
X A list-like or vector-like object.

FUN, ..., simplify, USE.NAMES

See ?base::lapply for a description of these arguments.
```

# Value

See ?base::lapply for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default methods. In particular, lapply and sapply(simplify=FALSE) should always return a list.

- base::lapply for the default lapply and sapply methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- lapply,List-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific lapply method (defined for List objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

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## **Examples**

```
lapply # note the dispatch on the 'X' arg only
showMethods("lapply")
selectMethod("lapply", "ANY") # the default method
sapply # note the dispatch on the 'X' arg only
showMethods("sapply")
selectMethod("sapply", "ANY") # the default method
```

mad

Median Absolute Deviation

# **Description**

Compute the median absolute deviation for a vector, dispatching only on the first argument, x.

NOTE: This man page is for the mad *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::mad for the default method (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
mad(x, center = median(x), constant = 1.4826,
    na.rm = FALSE, low = FALSE, high = FALSE)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x, center, constant, na.rm, low, high See ?stats::mad.
```

#### Value

See ?stats::mad for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- stats::mad for the default mad method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
mad
showMethods("mad")
selectMethod("mad", "ANY") # the default method
```

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mapply

Apply a function to multiple list-like or vector-like arguments

### **Description**

mapply is a multivariate version of sapply. mapply applies FUN to the first elements of each . . . argument, the second elements, the third elements, and so on. Arguments are recycled if necessary.

NOTE: This man page is for the mapply *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::mapply for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically list-like or vector-like) not supported by the default methods.

## Usage

```
mapply(FUN, ..., MoreArgs=NULL, SIMPLIFY=TRUE, USE.NAMES=TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

```
FUN, MoreArgs, SIMPLIFY, USE.NAMES

See ?base::mapply for a description of these arguments.

One or more list-like or vector-like objects of strictly positive length.
```

One or more list-like or vector-like objects of strictly positive length, or all of zero length.

### Value

See ?base::mapply for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

# See Also

- base::mapply for the default mapply method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
mapply # note the dispatch on the '...' arg only
showMethods("mapply")
selectMethod("mapply", "ANY") # the default method
```

38 match

match

Value matching

#### **Description**

match returns a vector of the positions of (first) matches of its first argument in its second.

%in% is a binary operator that returns a logical vector of the length of its left operand indicating if the elements in it have a match or not.

NOTE: This man page is for the match and %in% *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::match for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like) not supported by the default methods.

# Usage

```
\label{eq:match} \mbox{match}(\mbox{x, table, nomatch=NA\_integer\_, incomparables=NULL, } \mbox{...}) \\ \mbox{x %in% table}
```

## **Arguments**

```
    x, table Vector-like objects (typically of the same class, but not necessarily).
    nomatch, incomparables
    See ?base::match for a description of these arguments.
    ... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.
```

# Value

The same as the default methods (see ?base::match for the value returned by the default methods). Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default methods.

#### Note

The default base::match method (defined in the **base** package) doesn't have the ... argument. We've added it to the generic function defined in the **BiocGenerics** package in order to allow specific methods to support additional arguments if needed.

#### See Also

- base::match for the default match and %in% methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- match, Hits, Hits-method and %in%, Rle, ANY-method in the **S4Vectors** package for examples of specific match and %in% methods (defined for Hits and Rle objects, respectively).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

mean 39

#### **Examples**

```
match # note the dispatch on the 'x' and 'table' args only
showMethods("match")
selectMethod("match", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method

`%in%`
showMethods("%in%")
selectMethod("%in%", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

mean

Arithmetic Mean

# **Description**

Generic function for the (trimmed) arithmetic mean.

NOTE: This man page is for the mean *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::mean for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like) not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
mean(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x typically a vector-like object see mean
```

#### Value

See ?base::mean for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input object.

#### See Also

- base:: mean for the default mean method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- mean,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific mean method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
mean
showMethods("mean")
selectMethod("mean", "ANY") # the default method
```

40 normalize

normalize

Normalize an object

# **Description**

A generic function which normalizes an object containing microarray data or other data. Normalization is intended to remove from the intensity measures any systematic trends which arise from the microarray technology rather than from differences between the probes or between the target RNA samples hybridized to the arrays.

## Usage

```
normalize(object, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

object A data object, typically containing microarray data.
... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

#### Value

An object containing the normalized data.

## See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- normalize, AffyBatch-method in the **affy** package and normalize, MSnExp-method in the **MSnbase** package for examples of specific normalize methods (defined for AffyBatch and MSnExp objects, respectively).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

```
normalize
showMethods("normalize")
library(affy)
showMethods("normalize")
selectMethod("normalize", "AffyBatch")
```

nrow 41

nrow

The number of rows/columns of an array-like object

### **Description**

Return the number of rows or columns present in an array-like object.

NOTE: This man page is for the nrow, ncol, NROW and NCOL *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::nrow for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically matrix- or array-like) not supported by the default methods.

### Usage

nrow(x)
ncol(x)
NROW(x)
NCOL(x)

# **Arguments**

Х

A matrix- or array-like object.

# Value

A single integer or NULL.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default methods.

### See Also

- base::nrow for the default nrow, ncol, NROW and NCOL methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- nrow, DataFrame-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific nrow method (defined for DataFrame objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
nrow
showMethods("nrow")
selectMethod("nrow", "ANY") # the default method

ncol
showMethods("ncol")
selectMethod("ncol", "ANY") # the default method
```

Ontology Ontology

```
NROW
showMethods("NROW")
selectMethod("NROW", "ANY") # the default method

NCOL
showMethods("NCOL")
selectMethod("NCOL", "ANY") # the default method
```

Ontology

Generic Ontology getter

# Description

Get the Ontology of an object.

# Usage

Ontology(object)

# **Arguments**

object

An object with an Ontology.

### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- Ontology, GOTerms-method in the **AnnotationDbi** package for an example of a specific Ontology method (defined for GOTerms objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
Ontology
showMethods("Ontology")

library(AnnotationDbi)
showMethods("Ontology")
selectMethod("Ontology", "GOTerms")
```

order 43

order

Ordering permutation

# Description

order returns a permutation which rearranges its first argument into ascending or descending order, breaking ties by further arguments.

NOTE: This man page is for the order *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::order for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like) not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
order(..., na.last=TRUE, decreasing=FALSE, method=c("auto", "shell", "radix"))
```

## **Arguments**

```
... One or more vector-like objects, all of the same length.

na.last, decreasing, method

See ?base::order for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

The default method (see ?base::order) returns an integer vector of length N where N is the common length of the input objects. This integer vector represents a permutation of N elements and can be used to rearrange the first argument in . . . into ascending or descending order (by subsetting it).

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should also return an integer vector representing a permutation of N elements.

#### Note

### TO DEVELOPERS:

Specific order methods should preferably be made "stable" for consistent behavior across platforms and consistency with base::order(). Note that C qsort() is *not* "stable" so order methods that use qsort() at the C-level need to ultimately break ties by position, which can easily be done by adding a little extra code at the end of the comparison function passed to qsort().

```
order(x, decreasing=TRUE) is not always equivalent to rev(order(x)).
```

order, sort, and rank methods for specific vector-like objects should adhere to the same underlying order that should be conceptually defined as a binary relation on the set of all possible vector values. For completeness, this binary relation should also be incarnated by a <= method.

44 organism\_species

### See Also

- base::order for the default order method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- order,IntegerRanges-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific order method (defined for IntegerRanges objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

## **Examples**

```
order
showMethods("order")
selectMethod("order", "ANY") # the default method
```

organism\_species

Organism and species accessors

# **Description**

Get or set the organism and/or species of an object.

# Usage

```
organism(object)
organism(object) <- value
species(object)
species(object) <- value</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

object An object to get or set the organism or species of.

value The organism or species to set on object.

#### Value

organism should return the *scientific name* (i.e. genus and species, or genus and species and subspecies) of the organism. Preferably in the format "Genus species" (e.g. "Homo sapiens") or "Genus species subspecies" (e.g. "Homo sapiens neanderthalensis").

species should of course return the species of the organism. Unfortunately there is a long history of misuse of this accessor in Bioconductor so its usage is now discouraged (starting with BioC 3.1).

organism\_species 45

#### Note

#### TO DEVELOPERS:

species has been historically misused in many places in Bioconductor and is redundant with organism. So implementing the species accessor is now discouraged (starting with BioC 3.1). The organism accessor (returning the *scientific name*) should be implemented instead.

#### See Also

- http://bioconductor.org/packages/release/BiocViews.html#\_\_\_Organism for browsing the annotation packages currently available in Bioconductor by organism.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- organism, character-method and organism, chromLocation-method in the **annotate** package for examples of specific organism methods (defined for character and chromLocation objects).
- species, Annotation Db-method in the **Annotation Dbi** package for an example of a specific species method (defined for Annotation Db objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
## organism() getter:
organism
showMethods("organism")
library(annotate)
showMethods("organism")
selectMethod("organism", "character")
selectMethod("organism", "chromLocation")
## organism() setter:
`organism<-`
showMethods("organism<-")</pre>
## species() getter:
species
showMethods("species")
library(AnnotationDbi)
selectMethod("species", "AnnotationDb")
## species() setter:
`species<-`
showMethods("species<-")</pre>
```

46 paste

paste

Concatenate strings

### **Description**

paste concatenates vectors of strings or vector-like objects containing strings.

NOTE: This man page is for the paste *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::paste for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like objects containing strings) not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
paste(..., sep=" ", collapse=NULL, recycle0=FALSE)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
... One or more vector-like objects containing strings.

sep, collapse, recycle0

See ?base::paste for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

See ?base::paste for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input objects.

#### See Also

- base::paste for the default paste method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- paste,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific paste method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
paste
showMethods("paste")
selectMethod("paste", "ANY") # the default method
```

path 47

path

Accessing the path of an object

#### **Description**

Get or set the path of an object.

# Usage

```
path(object, ...)
path(object, ...) <- value</pre>
basename(path, ...)
basename(path, ...) <- value</pre>
dirname(path, ...)
dirname(path, ...) <- value</pre>
## The purpose of the following methods is to make the basename() and
## dirname() getters work out-of-the-box on any object for which the
## path() getter works.
## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
basename(path, ...)
## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
dirname(path, ...)
## The purpose of the following replacement methods is to make the
## basename() and dirname() setters work out-of-the-box on any object
## for which the path() getter and setter work.
## S4 replacement method for signature 'character'
basename(path, ...) <- value</pre>
## S4 replacement method for signature 'ANY'
basename(path, ...) <- value</pre>
## S4 replacement method for signature 'character'
dirname(path, ...) <- value</pre>
## S4 replacement method for signature 'ANY'
dirname(path, ...) <- value</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

object

An object containing paths. Even though it will typically contain a single path, object can actually contain an arbitrary number of paths.

48 path

. . . Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

value For path<-, the paths to set on object.

For basename<- or dirname<-, the basenames or dirnames to set on path.

path A character vector *or an object containing paths*.

### Value

A character vector for path(object), basename(path), and dirname(path). Typically of length 1 but not necessarily. Possibly with names on it for path(object).

#### See Also

- base::basename for the functions the basename and dirname generics are based on.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- path,RsamtoolsFile-method in the **Rsamtools** package for an example of a specific path method (defined for RsamtoolsFile objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
## GENERIC FUNCTIONS AND DEFAULT METHODS
showMethods("path")
`path<-`
showMethods("path<-")</pre>
basename
showMethods("basename")
`basename<-`
showMethods("basename<-")</pre>
dirname
showMethods("dirname")
`dirname`
showMethods("dirname<-")</pre>
## Default basename() and dirname() getters:
selectMethod("basename", "ANY")
selectMethod("dirname", "ANY")
## Default basename() and dirname() setters:
selectMethod("basename<-", "character")</pre>
```

plotMA 49

```
selectMethod("basename<-", "ANY")
selectMethod("dirname<-", "character")
selectMethod("dirname<-", "ANY")</pre>
## OBJECTS CONTAINING PATHS
## -----
## Let's define a simple class to represent objects that contain paths:
setClass("A", slots=c(stuff="ANY", path="character"))
a <- new("A", stuff=runif(5),</pre>
              path=c(one="path/to/file1", two="path/to/file2"))
## path() getter:
setMethod("path", "A", function(object) object@path)
path(a)
## Because the path() getter works on 'a', now the basename() and
## dirname() getters also work:
basename(a)
dirname(a)
## path() setter:
setReplaceMethod("path", "A",
    function(object, ..., value)
    {
        if (length(list(...)) != 0L) {
            dots <- match.call(expand.dots=FALSE)[[3L]]</pre>
            stop(BiocGenerics:::unused_arguments_msg(dots))
        object@path <- value
        object
    }
)
a <- new("A", stuff=runif(5))</pre>
path(a) <- c(one="path/to/file1", two="path/to/file2")</pre>
path(a)
## Because the path() getter and setter work on 'a', now the basename()
## and dirname() setters also work:
basename(a) <- toupper(basename(a))</pre>
path(a)
dirname(a) <- "~/MyDataFiles"</pre>
path(a)
```

50 plotPCA

### **Description**

A generic function which produces an MA-plot for an object containing microarray, RNA-Seq or other data.

## Usage

```
plotMA(object, ...)
```

# Arguments

object A data object, typically containing count values from an RNA-Seq experiment or microarray intensity values.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

### Value

Undefined. The function exists for its side effect, producing a plot.

### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- plotMA in the **limma** package for a function with the same name that is not dispatched through this generic function.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

### **Examples**

```
showMethods("plotMA")
suppressWarnings(
  if(require("DESeq2"))
    example("plotMA", package="DESeq2", local=TRUE)
)
```

plotPCA

PCA-plot: Principal Component Analysis plot

# Description

A generic function which produces a PCA-plot.

# Usage

```
plotPCA(object, ...)
```

rank 51

# Arguments

object A data object, typically containing gene expression information.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

### Value

Undefined. The function exists for its side effect, producing a plot.

#### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- plotPCA in the **DESeq2** package for an example method that uses this generic.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

# **Examples**

```
showMethods("plotPCA")
suppressWarnings(
  if(require("DESeq2"))
    example("plotPCA", package="DESeq2", local=TRUE)
)
```

rank

Ranks the values in a vector-like object

### **Description**

Returns the ranks of the values in a vector-like object. Ties (i.e., equal values) and missing values can be handled in several ways.

NOTE: This man page is for the rank *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::rank for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
rank(x, na.last=TRUE,
    ties.method=c("average", "first", "last", "random", "max", "min"),
    ...)
```

52 rank

# **Arguments**

```
x A vector-like object.
na.last, ties.method
```

See ?base::rank for a description of these arguments.

. . . Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

Note that base::rank (the default method) only takes the x, na.last, and ties.method arguments.

#### Value

See ?base::rank for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### Note

#### TO DEVELOPERS:

See note in ?BiocGenerics::order about "stable" order.

order, sort, and rank methods for specific vector-like objects should adhere to the same underlying order that should be conceptually defined as a binary relation on the set of all possible vector values. For completeness, this binary relation should also be incarnated by a <= method.

#### See Also

- base::rank for the default rank method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- rank, Vector-method in the S4Vectors package for an example of a specific rank method (defined for Vector objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
rank # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
showMethods("rank")
selectMethod("rank", "ANY") # the default method
```

relist 53

### **Description**

relist is a generic function with a few methods in order to allow easy inversion of unlist(x).

NOTE: This man page is for the relist *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?utils::relist for the default method (defined in the **utils** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
relist(flesh, skeleton)
```

## **Arguments**

flesh A vector-like object.

skeleton A list-like object. Only the "shape" (i.e. the lengths of the individual list ele-

ments) of skeleton matters. Its exact content is ignored.

#### Value

A list-like object with the same "shape" as skeleton and that would give flesh back if unlist()ed.

#### See Also

- utils::relist for the default relist method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- relist, ANY, List-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific relist method (defined for when skeleton is a List object).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
relist
showMethods("relist")
selectMethod("relist", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

54 rep

rep

Replicate elements of a vector-like object

# **Description**

rep.int replicates the elements in x.

NOTE: This man page is for the rep.int *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::rep.int for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like) not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
rep.int(x, times)
```

# **Arguments**

x The object to replicate (typically vector-like).

times See ?base::rep.int for a description of this argument.

#### Value

See ?base::rep.int for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input object.

### See Also

- base::rep.int for the default rep.int, intersect, and setdiff methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- rep.int,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific rep.int method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
rep.int
showMethods("rep.int")
selectMethod("rep.int", "ANY") # the default method
```

residuals 55

residuals

Extract model residuals

# **Description**

residuals is a generic function which extracts model residuals from objects returned by modeling functions.

NOTE: This man page is for the residuals *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::residuals for the default method (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
residuals(object, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

```
object, ... See ?stats::residuals.
```

### Value

Residuals extracted from the object object.

### See Also

- stats::residuals for the default residuals method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- residuals, PLM set-method in the **affyPLM** package for an example of a specific residuals method (defined for PLM set objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
residuals
showMethods("residuals")
selectMethod("residuals", "ANY") # the default method
```

56 row+colnames

row+colnames

Row and column names

#### **Description**

Get or set the row or column names of a matrix-like object.

NOTE: This man page is for the rownames, `rownames<-`, colnames, and `colnames<-` *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::rownames for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically matrix-like) not supported by the default methods.

### Usage

```
rownames(x, do.NULL=TRUE, prefix="row")
rownames(x) <- value

colnames(x, do.NULL=TRUE, prefix="col")
colnames(x) <- value</pre>
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x A matrix-like object.

do.NULL, prefix
See ?base::rownames for a description of these arguments.

value Either NULL or a character vector equal of length equal to the appropriate dimension.
```

#### Value

The getters will return NULL or a character vector of length nrow(x) for rownames and length ncol(x) for colnames(x).

See ?base::rownames for more information about the default methods, including how the setters are expected to behave.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default methods.

# See Also

- base::rownames for the default rownames, `rownames<-`, colnames, and `colnames<-` methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- rownames, DataFrame-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific rownames method (defined for DataFrame objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

S3-classes-as-S4-classes 57

### **Examples**

```
## rownames() getter:
rownames # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
showMethods("rownames")
selectMethod("rownames", "ANY") # the default method
## rownames() setter:
`rownames<-`
showMethods("rownames<-")</pre>
selectMethod("rownames<-", "ANY") # the default method</pre>
## colnames() getter:
colnames # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
showMethods("colnames")
selectMethod("colnames", "ANY") # the default method
## colnames() setter:
`colnames<-`
showMethods("colnames<-")</pre>
selectMethod("colnames<-", "ANY") # the default method
```

```
S3-classes-as-S4-classes
```

S3 classes as S4 classes

# **Description**

Some old-style (aka S3) classes are turned into formally defined (aka S4) classes by the **Bioc-Generics** package. This allows S4 methods defined in Bioconductor packages to use them in their signatures.

### **Details**

S3 classes currently turned into S4 classes:

- connection class and subclasses: connection, file, url, gzfile, bzfile, unz, pipe, fifo, sockconn, terminal, textConnection, gzcon. Additionally the character\_OR\_connection S4 class is defined as the union of classes character and connection.
- others: AsIs, dist

## See Also

setOldClass and setClassUnion in the methods package.

58 score

score

Score accessor

# **Description**

Get or set the score value contained in an object.

## Usage

```
score(x, ...)
score(x, ...) <- value</pre>
```

### **Arguments**

x An object to get or set the score value of.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

value The score value to set on x.

### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- score, Genomic Ranges-method in the **Genomic Ranges** package for an example of a specific score method (defined for Genomic Ranges objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
score
showMethods("score")

'score<-'
showMethods("score<-")

library(GenomicRanges)

showMethods("score")
selectMethod("score", "GenomicRanges")

showMethods("score<-")
selectMethod("score<-")</pre>
```

sets 59

sets Set operations

## **Description**

Performs set union, intersection and (asymmetric!) difference on two vector-like objects.

NOTE: This man page is for the union, intersect and setdiff *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::union for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like) not supported by the default methods.

### Usage

```
union(x, y, ...)
intersect(x, y, ...)
setdiff(x, y, ...)
```

### Arguments

x, y Vector-like objects (typically of the same class, but not necessarily).

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

#### Value

See ?base::union for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input objects.

#### Note

The default methods (defined in the **base** package) only take 2 arguments. We've added the ... argument to the generic functions defined in the **BiocGenerics** package so they can be called with an arbitrary number of effective arguments. For union or intersect, this typically allows Bioconductor packages to define methods that compute the union or intersection of more than 2 objects. However, for setdiff, which is conceptually a binary operation, this typically allows methods to add extra arguments for controlling/altering the behavior of the operation. Like for example the ignore.strand argument supported by the setdiff method for GenomicRanges objects (defined in the **GenomicRanges** package). (Note that the union and intersect methods for those objects also support the ignore.strand argument.)

#### See Also

- base::union for the default union, intersect, and setdiff methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.

60 sort

union, Genomic Ranges, Genomic Ranges method in the Genomic Ranges package for examples of specific union, intersect, and setdiff methods (defined for Genomic Ranges objects).

• BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

### **Examples**

```
union
showMethods("union")
selectMethod("union", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method

intersect
showMethods("intersect")
selectMethod("intersect", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method

setdiff
showMethods("setdiff")
selectMethod("setdiff", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

sort

Sorting a vector-like object

### Description

Sort a vector-like object into ascending or descending order.

NOTE: This man page is for the sort *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::sort for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
sort(x, decreasing=FALSE, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

```
x A vector-like object.

decreasing, ...

See ?base::sort for a description of these arguments.
```

### Value

See ?base::sort for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

start 61

#### Note

#### TO DEVELOPERS:

See note in ?BiocGenerics::order about "stable" order.

order, sort, and rank methods for specific vector-like objects should adhere to the same underlying order that should be conceptually defined as a binary relation on the set of all possible vector values. For completeness, this binary relation should also be incarnated by a <= method.

#### See Also

- base::sort for the default sort method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- sort, Vector-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific sort method (defined for Vector objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

### **Examples**

```
sort # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
showMethods("sort")
selectMethod("sort", "ANY") # the default method
```

start

The start(), end(), width(), and pos() generic getters and setters

### **Description**

Get or set the start, end, width, or single positions stored in an object.

NOTE: This man page is for the start, `start<-`, end, `end<-`, width, `width<-`, and pos *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::start for the start and end S3 generics defined in the **stats** package.

### **Usage**

```
start(x, ...)
start(x, ...) <- value
end(x, ...)
end(x, ...) <- value
width(x)
width(x, ...) <- value
pos(x)</pre>
```

62 start

# **Arguments**

| X     | For the start(), end(), and width() getters/setters: an object containing start, |
|-------|--|
|       | end, and width values.   |
|       | For the pos{} getter: an object containing single positions.                     |
|       | Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.                               |
| value | The start, end, or width values to set on x.                                     |

### Value

See specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages.

#### See Also

- stats::start in the stats package for the start and end S3 generics.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- start, IRanges-method in the **IRanges** package for examples of specific start, end, and width methods (defined for IRanges objects).
- pos, UnstitchedIPos-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific pos method (defined for UnstitchedIPos objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
## start() getter:
start
showMethods("start")
library(IRanges)
showMethods("start")
selectMethod("start", "IRanges") # start() getter for IRanges objects
## start() setter:
`start<-`
showMethods("start<-")</pre>
selectMethod("start<-", "IRanges") # start() setter for IRanges objects</pre>
## end() getter:
end
showMethods("end")
selectMethod("end", "IRanges") # end() getter for IRanges objects
## end() setter:
`end<-`
showMethods("end<-")</pre>
selectMethod("end<-", "IRanges") # end() setter for IRanges objects</pre>
## width() getter:
```

strand 63

strand

Accessing strand information

# **Description**

Get or set the strand information contained in an object.

# Usage

```
strand(x, ...)
strand(x, ...) <- value
unstrand(x)
invertStrand(x)
## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
invertStrand(x)</pre>
```

### Arguments

x An object containing strand information.

.. Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

value The strand information to set on x.

#### **Details**

All the strand methods defined in the **GenomicRanges** package use the same set of 3 values (called the "standard strand levels") to specify the strand of a genomic location: +, -, and \*. \* is used when the exact strand of the location is unknown, or irrelevant, or when the "feature" at that location belongs to both strands.

Note that unstrand is not a generic function, just a convenience wrapper to the generic strand() setter (strand<-) that does:

64 strand

```
strand(x) <- "*"
x</pre>
```

The default method for invertStrand does:

```
strand(x) <- invertStrand(strand(x))
x</pre>
```

#### Value

If x is a vector-like object, strand(x) will typically return a vector-like object *parallel* to x, that is, an object of the same length as x where the i-th element describes the strand of the i-th element in x.

unstrand(x) and invertStrand(x) return a copy of x with the strand set to " $\star$ " for unstrand or inverted for invertStrand (i.e. "+" and "-" switched, and " $\star$ " untouched).

### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- strand, GRanges-method in the **GenomicRanges** package for an example of a specific strand method (defined for GRanges objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
strand
showMethods("strand")

`strand<-`
showMethods("strand<-")

unstrand

invertStrand
showMethods("invertStrand")
selectMethod("invertStrand", "ANY") # the default method

library(GenomicRanges)

showMethods("strand")
selectMethod("strand", "missing")
strand()

showMethods("strand<-")</pre>
```

subset 65

subset

Subsetting vector-like, matrix-like and data-frame-like objects

# Description

Return subsets of vector-like, matrix-like or data-frame-like objects which meet conditions.

NOTE: This man page is for the subset *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::subset for the subset S3 generic defined in the **base** package.

# Usage

```
subset(x, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

x A vector-like, matrix-like or data-frame-like object to be subsetted.

Additional arguments (e.g. subset, select, drop), for use in specific methods. See ?base::subset for more information.

#### Value

An object similar to x containing just the selected elements (for a vector-like object), or the selected rows and columns (for a matrix-like or data-frame-like object).

# See Also

- base::subset in the base package for the subset S3 generic.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- subset,RectangularData-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific subset method (defined for RectangularData derivatives).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
subset
showMethods("subset")
selectMethod("subset", "ANY") # the default method
library(S4Vectors)
showMethods("subset")
## The subset() method for RectangularData derivatives:
selectMethod("subset", "RectangularData")
```

66 t

Matrix Transpose

# Description

Given a rectangular object x, t returns the transpose of x.

NOTE: This man page is for the t *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::t for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically array-like) not supported by the default method.

### Usage

t(x)

### **Arguments**

Х

A matrix-like or other rectangular object.

### Value

See ?base::t for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input object.

### See Also

- base::t for the default t method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- t,Hits-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific t method (defined for Hits objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

# **Examples**

```
t
showMethods("t")
selectMethod("t", "ANY") # the default method
```

t

table 67

table

Cross tabulation and table creation

### **Description**

table uses the cross-classifying factors to build a contingency table of the counts at each combination of factor levels.

NOTE: This man page is for the table *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::table for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

#### Usage

```
table(...)
```

#### **Arguments**

One or more objects which can be interpreted as factors (including character strings), or a list (or data frame) whose components can be so interpreted.

### Value

See ?base::table for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should also return the type of object returned by the default method.

#### See Also

- base::table for the default table method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- table,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific table method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
table
showMethods("table")
selectMethod("table", "ANY") # the default method
```

68 tapply

|     |   |   | _ |    |
|-----|---|---|---|----|
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Apply a function over a ragged array

# Description

tapply applies a function to each cell of a ragged array, that is to each (non-empty) group of values given by a unique combination of the levels of certain factors.

NOTE: This man page is for the tapply *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::tapply for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically list-like or vector-like) not supported by the default method.

### Usage

```
tapply(X, INDEX, FUN=NULL, ..., default=NA, simplify=TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

Χ

The default method expects an atomic object, typically a vector. See ?base::tapply

for the details.

Specific methods can support other objects (typically list-like or vector-like). Please refer to the documentation of a particular method for the details.

INDEX

The default method expects a list of one or more factors, each of same length as X. See ?base::tapply for the details.

Specific methods can support other objects (typically list-like). Please refer to the documentation of a particular method for the details.

FUN, ..., default, simplify

See ?base::tapply for a description of these arguments.

#### Value

See ?base::tapply for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- base::tapply for the default tapply method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- tapply, Vector, ANY-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific tapply method (defined for Vector objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

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### **Examples**

```
tapply # note the dispatch on the 'X' and 'INDEX' args only
showMethods("tapply")
selectMethod("tapply", c("ANY", "ANY")) # the default method
```

testPackage

Run RUnit package unit tests

### **Description**

testPackage helps developers implement unit tests using the **RUnit** testing conventions.

### Usage

```
testPackage(pkgname=NULL, subdir="unitTests", pattern="^test_.*\\.R$",
    path=getwd())
```

# Arguments

| pkgname | The name of the package whose installed unit tests are to be run. A missing or NULL value implies that the testPackage command will look for tests within the package source directory indicated by path. |
|---------|---|
| subdir  | A character(1) vector providing the subdirectory in which unit tests are located. The directory is searched first in the (installed or source) package root, or in a subdirectory inst/ below the root.   |
| pattern | A character(1) regular expression describing the file names to be evaluated; typically used to restrict tests to a subset of all test files.  |
| path    | A character(1) directory path indicating, when pkgname is missing or NULL, where unit tests will be searched. path can be any location at or below the package root.                                      |

#### **Details**

This function is not exported from the package namespace, and must be invoked using triple colons, BiocGenerics:::testPackage(); it is provided primarily for the convenience of developers.

When invoked with missing or NULL pkgname argument, the function assumes that it has been invoked from within the package source tree (or that the source tree is located above path), and finds unit tests in subdir="unitTests" in either the base or inst/ directories at the root of the package source tree. This mode is useful when developing unit tests, since the package does not have to be re-installed to run an updated test.

When invoked with pkgname set to the name of an installed package, unit tests are searched for in the installed package directory.

## Value

The function returns the result of RUnit::runTestSuite invoked on the unit tests specified in the function call.

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### See Also

http://bioconductor.org/developers/how-to/unitTesting-guidelines/

### **Examples**

```
## Run unit tests found in the library location where
## BiocGenerics is installed
BiocGenerics:::testPackage("BiocGenerics")
## Not run: ## Run unit tests for the package whose source tree implied
## by getwd()
BiocGenerics:::testPackage()
## End(Not run)
```

toTable

An alternative to as.data.frame()

# **Description**

toTable() is an S4 generic function provided as an alternative to as.data.frame().

# Usage

```
toTable(x, ...)
```

#### **Arguments**

x The object to turn into a data frame.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

### Value

A data frame.

#### See Also

- The as.data.frame *S4 generic* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- toTable,Bimap-method in the **AnnotationDbi** package for an example of a specific toTable method (defined for Bimap objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

type 71

### **Examples**

```
toTable
showMethods("toTable")

library(AnnotationDbi)
showMethods("toTable")
selectMethod("toTable", "Bimap")
```

type

Accessing the type of an object

# **Description**

Get or set the type of an object.

Note that type and type<- are defined as *S4 generic functions* and what *type* means exactly (and what type() returns) depends on the objects for which type and/or type<- methods are defined.

### Usage

```
type(x)
type(x) <- value

## Methods defined in the BiocGenerics package:

## S4 method for signature 'vector'
type(x)

## S4 method for signature 'array'
type(x)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'vector'
type(x) <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'array'
type(x) <- value</pre>
```

# **Arguments**

Х

Any object for which the type() getter or setter is defined. Note that objects will either: not support the getter or setter at all, or support only the getter, or support the getter and setter.

value

The type to set on x (assuming x supports the type() setter). value is typically (but not necessarily) expected to be a single string (i.e. a character vector of length 1).

### Value

type(x) returns the type of x, typically (but not necessarily) as a single string (i.e. as a character vector of length 1).

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### See Also

- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- type, ANY-method in the **DelayedArray** package for the default type method.
- type,PairwiseAlignments-method in the **Biostrings** package for an example of a specific type method (defined for PairwiseAlignments objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

## **Examples**

```
type
showMethods("type")
`type<-`
showMethods("type<-")</pre>
## The BiocGenerics package defines methods for ordinary vector
## and array objects:
m <- matrix(11:22, nrow=3)</pre>
             # equivalent to 'typeof(m)' or 'storage.mode(m)'
type(m) <- "raw" # equivalent to 'storage.mode(m) <- "raw"'</pre>
type(m)
selectMethod("type", "array")
selectMethod("type<-", "array")</pre>
## Examples of methods defined in other packages:
library(DelayedArray)
showMethods("type")
selectMethod("type", "ANY") # the default "type" method
library(Biostrings)
showMethods("type")
## The type() method for PairwiseAlignments objects:
selectMethod("type", "PairwiseAlignments")
```

unique

Extract unique elements

### **Description**

unique returns an object of the same class as x (typically a vector-like, data-frame-like, or array-like object) but with duplicate elements/rows removed.

NOTE: This man page is for the unique *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::unique for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages

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can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-like or data-frame-like) not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
unique(x, incomparables=FALSE, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x A vector-like, data-frame-like, or array-like object. incomparables, ...

See ?base::unique for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

See ?base::unique for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input object.

unique should always behave consistently with BiocGenerics::duplicated.

## See Also

- base::unique for the default unique method.
- BiocGenerics::duplicated for determining duplicate elements.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- unique,Rle-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific unique method (defined for Rle objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

## **Examples**

```
unique
showMethods("unique")
selectMethod("unique", "ANY") # the default method
```

unlist

Flatten list-like objects

## Description

Given a list-like object x, unlist produces a vector-like object obtained by concatenating (conceptually thru c) all the top-level elements in x (each of them being expected to be a vector-like object, typically).

NOTE: This man page is for the unlist *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::unlist for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

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#### Usage

```
unlist(x, recursive=TRUE, use.names=TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

```
x A list-like object.
recursive, use.names
See ?base::unlist for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

See ?base::unlist for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- base::unlist for the default unlist method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- unlist, List-method in the S4Vectors package for an example of a specific unlist method (defined for List objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

## **Examples**

```
unlist # note the dispatch on the 'x' arg only
showMethods("unlist")
selectMethod("unlist", "ANY") # the default method
```

unsplit

Unsplit a list-like object

# **Description**

Given a list-like object value and grouping f, unsplit produces a vector-like object x by conceptually reversing the split operation value  $\leftarrow$  split(x, f).

NOTE: This man page is for the unsplit *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::unsplit for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
unsplit(value, f, drop=FALSE)
```

updateObject 75

## **Arguments**

| value | A list-like object.   |
|-------|---|
| f     | A factor or other grouping object that corresponds to the f symbol in value $<$ -split(x, f). |
| drop  | See ?base::unsplit for a description of this argument.  |

## Value

See ?base::unsplit for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

## See Also

- base::unsplit for the default unsplit method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- unsplit,List-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific unsplit method (defined for List objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

# **Examples**

```
unsplit # note the dispatch on the 'value' and 'f' args only
showMethods("unsplit")
selectMethod("unsplit", "ANY") # the default method
```

updateObject

Update an object to its current class definition

# **Description**

updateObject is a generic function that returns an instance of object updated to its current class definition.

## Usage

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## **Arguments**

| object   | Object to be updated for updateObject and updateObjectFromSlots.   |
|----------|--|
|          | Object for slot information to be extracted from for getObjectSlots.   |
|          | Additional arguments, for use in specific updateObject methods.  |
| verbose  | TRUE or FALSE, indicating whether information about the update should be reported. Use message to report this information. |
| objclass | Optional character string naming the class of the object to be created.  |

#### **Details**

Updating objects is primarily useful when an object has been serialized (e.g., stored to disk) for some time (e.g., months), and the class definition has in the mean time changed. Because of the changed class definition, the serialized instance is no longer valid.

updateObject requires that the class of the returned object be the same as the class of the argument object, and that the object is valid (see validObject). By default, updateObject has the following behaviors:

updateObject(ANY, ..., verbose=FALSE) By default, updateObject uses heuristic methods to determine whether the object should be the 'new' S4 type (introduced in R 2.4.0), but is not. If the heuristics indicate an update is required, the updateObjectFromSlots function tries to update the object. The default method returns the original S4 object or the successfully updated object, or issues an error if an update is required but not possible. The optional named argument verbose causes a message to be printed describing the action. Arguments ... are passed to updateObjectFromSlots.

updateObject(environment, ..., verbose=FALSE) Visit each element in environment, applying updateObject(environment[[elt]], ..., verbose=verbose)

updateObject(formula, ..., verbose=FALSE) Do nothing; the environment of the formula may be too general (e.g., R\_GlobalEnv) to attempt an update.

updateObject(envRefClass, ..., verbose=FALSE) Attempt to update objects from fields using a strategy like updateObjectFromSlots Method 1.

updateObjectFromSlots(object, objclass=class(object), ..., verbose=FALSE) is a utility function that identifies the intersection of slots defined in the object instance and objclass definition. Under Method 1, the corresponding elements in object are then updated (with updateObject(elt, ..., verbose=verbose)) and used as arguments to a call to new(class, ...), with ... replaced by slots from the original object. If this fails, then Method 2 tries new(class) and assigns slots of object to the newly created instance.

getObjectSlots(object) extracts the slot names and contents from object. This is useful when object was created by a class definition that is no longer current, and hence the contents of object cannot be determined by accessing known slots.

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## Value

updateObject returns a valid instance of object.

updateObjectFromSlots returns an instance of class objclass.

getObjectSlots returns a list of named elements, with each element corresponding to a slot in object.

#### See Also

- updateObjectTo in the **Biobase** package for updating an object to the class definition of a template (might be useful for updating a virtual superclass).
- valid0bject for testing the validity of an object.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

```
updateObject
showMethods("updateObject")
selectMethod("updateObject", "ANY") # the default method
library(Biobase)
## update object, same class
data(sample.ExpressionSet)
obj <- updateObject(sample.ExpressionSet)</pre>
setClass("UpdtA", representation(x="numeric"), contains="data.frame")
setMethod("updateObject", "UpdtA",
    function(object, ..., verbose=FALSE)
    {
        if (verbose)
            message("updateObject object = 'A'")
        object <- callNextMethod()</pre>
        object@x <- -object@x
        object
    }
)
a <- new("UpdtA", x=1:10)
## See steps involved
updateObject(a)
removeMethod("updateObject", "UpdtA")
removeClass("UpdtA")
```

78 var

var

Variance and Standard Deviation

## **Description**

var and sd compute the variance and standard deviation of a vector x.

NOTE: This man page is for the var and sd, *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::var and ?stats::sd for the default methods (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically array-like) not supported by the default method.

#### Usage

```
var(x, y = NULL, na.rm = FALSE, use)
sd(x, na.rm = FALSE)
```

# Arguments

```
x a vector-like object
y a vector-like object, or NULL
na.rm, use see var
```

# Value

See ?stats::var and ?stats::sd for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages will typically return an object of the same class as the input object.

#### See Also

- stats::var and stats::sd for the default methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
var
showMethods("var")
selectMethod("var", "ANY") # the default method
```

weights 79

weights

Extract model weights

## **Description**

weights is a generic function which extracts fitting weights from objects returned by modeling functions.

NOTE: This man page is for the weights *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::weights for the default method (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

# Usage

```
weights(object, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

```
object, ... See ?stats::weights.
```

#### Value

Weights extracted from the object object.

See ?stats::weights for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- stats::weights for the default weights method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- weights, PLM set-method in the **affyPLM** package for an example of a specific weights method (defined for PLM set objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
weights
showMethods("weights")
selectMethod("weights", "ANY") # the default method
```

80 which

which

Which values in an object are considered TRUE?

## **Description**

Give the indices of the values in a vector-, array-, or list-like object that are considered TRUE, allowing for array indices in the case of an array-like object.

NOTE: This man page is for the which *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::which for the default method (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-, array-, or list-like) not supported by the default methods.

## Usage

```
which(x, arr.ind=FALSE, useNames=TRUE)
```

# **Arguments**

```
x An object, typically with a vector-, array-, or list-like semantic.
arr.ind, useNames

See ?base::which for a description of these arguments.
```

#### Value

See ?base::which for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default method.

#### See Also

- base::which for the default which method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- which, Delayed Array-method in the **Delayed Array** package for an example of a specific which method (defined for Delayed Array objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
which
showMethods("which")
selectMethod("which", "ANY") # the default method
library(DelayedArray)
showMethods("which")
## The which() method for DelayedArray objects:
selectMethod("which", "DelayedArray")
```

which.min 81

which.min

What's the index of the first min or max value in an object?

## Description

Determines the location (i.e. index) of the (first) minimum or maximum value in an object.

NOTE: This man page is for the which.min and which.max *S4 generic functions* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?base::which.min for the default methods (defined in the **base** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects (typically vector-, array-, or list-like) not supported by the default methods.

# Usage

```
which.min(x, ...) which.max(x, ...)
```

## Arguments

x An object, typically with a vector-, array-, or list-like semantic.

... Additional arguments, for use in specific methods.

#### Value

See ?base::which.min for the value returned by the default methods.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should behave as consistently as possible with the default methods.

## Note

The default methods (defined in the **base** package) only take a single argument. We've added the ... argument to the generic functions defined in the **BiocGenerics** package so they can be called with an arbitrary number of effective arguments. This typically allows methods to add extra arguments for controlling/altering the behavior of the operation. Like for example the global argument supported by the which.max method for NumericList objects (defined in the **IRanges** package).

#### See Also

- base::which.min for the default which.min and which.max methods.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- which.max, NumericList-method in the **IRanges** package for an example of a specific which. max method (defined for NumericList objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the **BiocGenerics** package.

82 xtabs

## **Examples**

```
which.min
showMethods("which.min")
selectMethod("which.min", "ANY") # the default method
which.max
showMethods("which.max")
selectMethod("which.max", "ANY") # the default method
library(IRanges)
showMethods("which.max")
## The which.max() method for NumericList objects:
selectMethod("which.max", "NumericList")
```

xtabs

Cross tabulation

## Description

xtabs creates a contingency table (optionally a sparse matrix) from cross-classifying factors, usually contained in a data-frame-like object, using a formula interface.

NOTE: This man page is for the xtabs *S4 generic function* defined in the **BiocGenerics** package. See ?stats::xtabs for the default method (defined in the **stats** package). Bioconductor packages can define specific methods for objects not supported by the default method.

## Usage

```
xtabs(formula=~., data=parent.frame(), subset, sparse=FALSE,
    na.action, addNA=FALSE, exclude=if(!addNA)c(NA, NaN),
    drop.unused.levels=FALSE)
```

# **Arguments**

```
formula, subset, sparse, na.action, addNA, exclude, drop.unused.levels

See ?stats::xtabs for a description of these arguments.

data A data-frame-like object.
```

## Value

See ?stats::xtabs for the value returned by the default method.

Specific methods defined in Bioconductor packages should also return the type of object returned by the default method.

xtabs 83

# See Also

- stats::xtabs for the default xtabs method.
- showMethods for displaying a summary of the methods defined for a given generic function.
- selectMethod for getting the definition of a specific method.
- xtabs, DataFrame-method in the **S4Vectors** package for an example of a specific xtabs method (defined for DataFrame objects).
- BiocGenerics for a summary of all the generics defined in the BiocGenerics package.

```
xtabs # note the dispatch on the 'data' arg only
showMethods("xtabs")
selectMethod("xtabs", "ANY") # the default method
library(S4Vectors)
showMethods("xtabs")
## The xtabs() method for DataFrame objects:
selectMethod("xtabs", "DataFrame")
```

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