Package 'vissE'

February 21, 2025

Title Visualising Set Enrichment Analysis Results

Version 1.15.0

Description This package enables the interpretation and analysis of results from a gene set enrichment analysis using network-based and text-mining approaches. Most enrichment analyses result in large lists of significant gene sets that are difficult to interpret. Tools in this package help build a similarity-based network of significant gene sets from a gene set enrichment analysis that can then be investigated for their biological function using text-mining approaches.

biocViews Software, GeneExpression, GeneSetEnrichment, NetworkEnrichment, Network

License GPL-3
Encoding UTF-8

LazyDataCompression bzip2

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Depends R (>= 4.1)

Imports igraph, methods, plyr, ggplot2, scico, RColorBrewer, tm, ggwordcloud, GSEABase, reshape2, grDevices, ggforce, msigdb, ggrepel, textstem, tidygraph, stats, scales, ggraph

Suggests testthat, org.Hs.eg.db, org.Mm.eg.db, patchwork, singscore, knitr, rmarkdown, prettydoc, BiocStyle, pkgdown, covr

URL https://davislaboratory.github.io/vissE

BugReports https://github.com/DavisLaboratory/vissE/issues

VignetteBuilder knitr

git_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/vissE

git_branch devel

git_last_commit 090cdb9

git_last_commit_date 2024-10-29

Repository Bioconductor 3.21

Date/Publication 2025-02-20

2 vissE-package

Author Dharmesh D. Bhuva [aut, cre] (ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6398-9157),
Ahmed Mohamed [ctb]

Maintainer Dharmesh D. Bhuva

 bhuva .d@wehi.edu.au>

Contents

viss	E-package v	issE:	Vi.	suc	ılis	ing	Se	t E	Eni	ric	hn	ıer	ıt 2	An	al	ysi	is I	Re.	su	lts						
Index																										17
	plotMsigWordcloud .				•			•						•				•		•	 •	•			•	15
	plotMsigPPI																									
	plotMsigNetwork																									12
	plotGeneStats																									10
	hgsc																									10
	getMsigExclusionList																									9
	findMsigClusters																									8
	computeMsigWordFre	eq																								7
	computeMsigOverlap																									6
	computeMsigNetwork	Ξ																								5
	characteriseGeneset .																									4
	bhuvad_theme																									3
	vissE-package																									2

Description

This package enables the interpretation and analysis of results from a gene set enrichment analysis using network-based and text-mining approaches. Most enrichment analyses result in large lists of significant gene sets that are difficult to interpret. Tools in this package help build a similarity-based network of significant gene sets from a gene set enrichment analysis that can then be investigated for their biological function using text-mining approaches.

Details

This package supports four workflows to enhance gene set enrichment analysis:

- 1. Clustering results from a gene set enrichment analysis (e.g. using limma::fry, singscore or GSEA). The functions required for this analysis are computeMsigOverlap, computeMsigNetwork and plotMsigNetwork.
- 2. Interpreting gene set clusters (identified in the first analysis) by performing text-mining of gene set names and descriptions. The main function required to perform text-mining of gene sets is plotMsigWordcloud. Other functions can be used to access intermmediate results.
- 3. Visualise gene-level statistics for gene set clusters identified in the first analysis to link back gene set clusters to the genes of interest. This can be done using the plotGeneStats function.
- 4. Identifying gene sets similar to a list of genes identified from a DE analysis using set overlap measures. This can be done using the characteriseGeneset function.

bhuvad_theme 3

Author(s)

Maintainer: Dharmesh D. Bhuva

 bhuva .d@wehi.edu.au> (ORCID)

Other contributors:

• Ahmed Mohamed <mohamed.a@wehi.edu.au> [contributor]

See Also

Useful links:

- https://davislaboratory.github.io/vissE
- Report bugs at https://github.com/DavisLaboratory/vissE/issues

 ${\tt bhuvad_theme}$

Custom theme

Description

Custom theme

Usage

```
bhuvad_theme(rl = 1.1)
```

Arguments

rl

a numeric, scaling factor to apply to text sizes

Value

```
a ggplot2 theme
```

```
p1 = ggplot2::ggplot()
p1 + bhuvad_theme()
```

4 characteriseGeneset

characteriseGeneset Functionally cha

Functionally characterise a list of genes

Description

This function can be used to perform a network-based enrichment analysis of a list of genes. The list of genes are characterised based on their similarity with gene sets from the MSigDB. A network of similar gene sets is retrieved using this function.

Usage

```
characteriseGeneset(
   gs,
   thresh = 0.2,
   measure = c("ovlapcoef", "jaccard"),
   gscolcs = c("h", "c2", "c5"),
   org = c("auto", "hs", "mm")
)
```

Arguments

gs	a GeneSet object, representing the list of genes that need to be characterised.
thresh	a numeric, specifying the threshold to discard pairs of gene sets.
measure	a character, specifying the similarity measure to use: ari for the Adjusted Rand Index, jaccard for the Jaccard Index and ovlapcoef for the Overlap Coefficient.
gscolcs	a character, listing the MSigDB collections to use as a background (defaults to h, c2, and c5). Collection types can be retrieved using msigdb::listCollections().
org	a character, specifying the organism to use. This can either be "auto" (default), "hs" or "mm".

Value

an igraph object, containing gene sets that are similar to the query set. The network contains relationships between results of the query too.

```
library(GSEABase)
data(hgsc)

#create a geneset using one of the Hallmark gene sets
mySet <- GeneSet(
  geneIds(hgsc[[2]]),
  setName = 'MySet',
  geneIdType = SymbolIdentifier()
)</pre>
```

computeMsigNetwork 5

```
#characterise the custom gene set
ig <- characteriseGeneset(mySet)
plotMsigNetwork(ig)</pre>
```

compute MsigNetwork

Compute a network using computed gene set overlap

Description

Computes an igraph object using information on gene sets and gene sets computed using the computeMsigOverlap() function.

Usage

```
computeMsigNetwork(genesetOverlap, msigGsc)
```

Arguments

genesetOverlap a data.frame, containing results of an overlap analysis computed using the computeMsigOverlap() function.

msigGsc a GeneSetCollection object, containing gene sets used to compute overlap.

Value

an igraph object

```
data(hgsc)
ovlap <- computeMsigOverlap(hgsc)
ig <- computeMsigNetwork(ovlap, hgsc)</pre>
```

computeMsigOverlap

Compute gene set overlap

Description

Compute overlap between gene sets from a GeneSetCollection using the Jaccard index or the overlap coefficient. These values can then be used to compute a network of gene set overlaps.

Usage

```
computeMsigOverlap(
  msigGsc1,
  msigGsc2 = NULL,
  thresh = 0.25,
  measure = c("ari", "jaccard", "ovlapcoef")
)
```

Arguments

msigGsc1 a GeneSetCollection object.

msigGsc2 a GeneSetCollection object or NULL if pairwise overlaps are to be computed.

thresh a numeric, specifying the threshold to discard pairs of gene sets.

measure a character, specifying the similarity measure to use: ari for the Adjusted Rand

Index, jaccard for the Jaccard Index and ovlapcoef for the Overlap Coeffi-

cient.

Value

a data.frame, containing the overlap structure of gene sets represented as a network in the simple interaction format (SIF).

```
data(hgsc)
ovlap <- computeMsigOverlap(hgsc)</pre>
```

computeMsigWordFreq

Compute word frequencies for a single MSigDB collection

Description

Compute word frequencies for a single MSigDB collection

Usage

```
computeMsigWordFreq(
  msigGsc,
  weight = NULL,
  measure = c("tfidf", "tf"),
  version = msigdb::getMsigdbVersions(),
  org = c("auto", "hs", "mm"),
  rmwords = getMsigExclusionList(),
  idf = NULL
)
```

Arguments

msigGsc	a GeneSetCollection object, containing gene sets from the MSigDB. The GSEABase::getBroadSets() function can be used to parse XML files downloaded from MSigDB.
weight	a named numeric vector, containing weights to apply to each gene-set. This can be -log10(FDR), -log10(p-value) or an enrichment score (ideally unsigned).
measure	a character, specifying how frequencies should be computed. "tf" uses term frequencies and "tfidf" (default) applies inverse document frequency weights to term frequencies.
version	a character, specifying the version of msigdb to use (see msigdb::getMsigdbVersions()).
org	a character, specifying the organism to use. This can either be "auto" (default), "hs" or "mm".
rmwords	a character vector, containing an exclusion list of words to discard from the analysis.
idf	a list of named numeric vectors, specifying inverse document frequencies to use to penalise terms from gene-set names and short descriptions. This should be a vector of length 2 with names "Name" and "Short". Numeric vectors should contain weights and names should represent the term. Precomputed versions can be retrieved using the msigdb::getMsigdbIDF().

Value

a list, containing two data.frames summarising the results of the frequency analysis on gene set names and short descriptions.

8 findMsigClusters

Examples

```
data(hgsc)
freq <- computeMsigWordFreq(hgsc, measure = 'tfidf')</pre>
```

findMsigClusters

Identify gene-set clusters from a gene-set overlap network

Description

This function identifies gene-set clusters from a gene-set overlap network produced using vissE. Various graph clustering algorithms from the igraph package can be used for clustering. Gene-set clusters identified are then sorted based on their size and a given statistic of interest (absolute of the statistic is maximised per cluster).

Usage

```
findMsigClusters(
   ig,
   genesetStat = NULL,
   minSize = 2,
   alg = igraph::cluster_walktrap,
   algparams = list()
)
```

Arguments

ig	an igraph object, containing a network of gene set overlaps computed using
	CALL AND CONTRACTOR OF THE CON

computeMsigNetwork().

genesetStat a named numeric, containing statistics for each gene-set that are to be used in

cluster prioritisation. If NULL, clusters are prioritised based on their size (num-

ber of gene-sets in them).

minSize a numeric, stating the minimum size a cluster can be (default is 2).

alg a function, from the igraph package that should be used to perform graph-

clustering (default is igraph::cluster_walktrap). The function should pro-

duce a communities object.

algparams a list, specifying additional parameters that are to be passed to the graph cluster-

ing algorithm.

Details

Gene-sets clusters are identified using graph clustering and are prioritised based on a combination of cluster size and optionally, a statistic of interest (e.g., enrichment scores). A product-of-ranks approach is used to prioritise clusters when gene-set statistics are available. In this approach, clusters are ranked based on their cluster size (largest to smallest) and on the median absolute statistic

getMsigExclusionList 9

of gene-sets within it (largest to smallest). The product of these ranks is computed and clusters are ranked based on these product-of-rank statistic (smallest to largest).

When prioritising using cluster size and gene-set statistics, if statistics for some gene-sets in the network are missing, only the size is used in cluster prioritisation.

Value

a list, containing gene-sets that belong to each cluster. Items in the list are organised based on prioritisation.

Examples

```
data(hgsc)
ovlap <- computeMsigOverlap(hgsc, thresh = 0.25)
ig <- computeMsigNetwork(ovlap, hgsc)
findMsigClusters(ig)</pre>
```

getMsigExclusionList Exclusion list of words for MSigDB gene set text mining

Description

List of words to discard when performing text mining MSigDB gene set names and short descriptions.

Usage

```
getMsigExclusionList(custom = c())
```

Arguments

custom

a character vector, containing list of words to add onto existing exclusion list.

Value

a character vector, containing words to be excluded from the text mining analysis.

```
getMsigExclusionList('remove')
```

10 plotGeneStats

hgsc

The Hallmark collection from the MSigDB

Description

The molecular signatures database (MSigDB) is a collection of over 25000 gene expression signatures. Signatures in v7.2 are divided into 9 categories. The Hallmarks collection contains gene expression signatures representing molecular processes that are hallmarks in cancer development and progression.

Usage

hgsc

Format

A GeneSetCollection object with 50 GeneSet objects representing the 50 Hallmark gene expression signatures.

References

Subramanian, A., Tamayo, P., Mootha, V. K., Mukherjee, S., Ebert, B. L., Gillette, M. A., ... & Mesirov, J. P. (2005). Gene set enrichment analysis: a knowledge-based approach for interpreting genome-wide expression profiles. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 102(43), 15545-15550.

Liberzon, A., Subramanian, A., Pinchback, R., Thorvaldsdóttir, H., Tamayo, P., & Mesirov, J. P. (2011). Molecular signatures database (MSigDB) 3.0. Bioinformatics, 27(12), 1739-1740.

Liberzon, A., Birger, C., Thorvaldsdóttir, H., Ghandi, M., Mesirov, J. P., & Tamayo, P. (2015). The molecular signatures database hallmark gene set collection. Cell systems, 1(6), 417-425.

plotGeneStats

Plot gene statistics for clusters of gene sets

Description

This function plots gene statistics against gene frequencies for any given cluster of gene sets. The plot can be used to identify genes that are over-represented in a cluster of gene-sets (identified based on gene-set overlaps) and have a strong statistic (e.g. log fold-chage or p-value).

plotGeneStats 11

Usage

```
plotGeneStats(
   geneStat,
   msigGsc,
   groups,
   statName = "Gene-level statistic",
   topN = 5
)
```

Arguments

geneStat a named numeric, containing the statistic to be displayed. The vector must be

named with either gene Symbols or Entrez IDs depending on annotations in

msigGsc.

msigGsc a GeneSetCollection object, containing gene sets from the MSigDB. The GSEABase::getBroadSets()

function can be used to parse XML files downloaded from MSigDB.

groups a named list, of character vectors or numeric indices specifying node groupings.

Each element of the list represent a group and contains a character vector with

node names.

statName a character, specifying the name of the statistic.

topN a numeric, specifying the number of genes to label. The top genes are those with

the largest count and statistic.

Value

a ggplot object, plotting the gene-level statistic against gene frequencies in the cluster of gene sets.

```
library(GSEABase)

data(hgsc)
groups <- list('g1' = names(hgsc)[1:25], 'g2' = names(hgsc)[26:50])

#create statistics
allgenes = unique(unlist(geneIds(hgsc)))
gstats = rnorm(length(allgenes))
names(gstats) = allgenes

#plot
plotGeneStats(gstats, hgsc, groups)</pre>
```

12 plotMsigNetwork

plotMsigNetwork	Plot a gene set overlap network
-----------------	---------------------------------

Description

Plots a network of gene set overlap with overlap computed using the computeMsigOverlap() and a graph created using computeMsigNetwork().

Usage

```
plotMsigNetwork(
   ig,
   markGroups = NULL,
   genesetStat = NULL,
   nodeSF = 1,
   edgeSF = 1,
   lytFunc = "graphopt",
   lytParams = list(),
   rmUnmarkedGroups = FALSE,
   maxGrp = 12
)
```

Arguments

ig	an igraph object, containing a network of gene set overlaps computed using computeMsigNetwork().
markGroups	a named list, of character vectors. Each element of the list represent a group and contains a character vector with node names. Up to 12 groups can be visualised in the plot.
genesetStat	a named numeric, statistic to project onto the nodes. These could be p-values, log fold-changes or gene set score from a singscore-based analysis.
nodeSF	a numeric, indicating the scaling factor to apply to node sizes.
edgeSF	a numeric, indicating the scaling factor to apply to edge widths.
lytFunc	a character, specifying the layout to use (see ggraph::create_layout()).
lytParams	a named list, containing additional parameters needed for the layout (see ggraph::create_layout()).
rmUnmarkedGrou	ps
	a logical, indicating whether unmarked groups should be removed from the network (TRUE) or retained (FALSE - default).

a numeric, specifying the maximum number of groups to plot.

Value

maxGrp

```
a ggplot2 object
```

plotMsigPPI 13

Examples

```
data(hgsc)
ovlap <- computeMsigOverlap(hgsc, thresh = 0.15)
ig <- computeMsigNetwork(ovlap, hgsc)
groups <- list(
   'g1' = c("HALLMARK_HYPOXIA", "HALLMARK_GLYCOLYSIS"),
   'g2' = c("HALLMARK_INTERFERON_GAMMA_RESPONSE")
)
plotMsigNetwork(ig, markGroups = groups)</pre>
```

plotMsigPPI

Plot PPI network for gene-set clusters identified using vissE

Description

This function plots the protein-protein interaction (PPI) network for a gene-set cluster identified using vissE. The international molecular exchange (IMEx) PPI is used to obtain PPIs for genes present in a gene-set cluster.

Usage

```
plotMsigPPI(
  ppidf,
  msigGsc,
  groups,
  geneStat = NULL,
  statName = "Gene-level statistic",
  threshConfidence = 0,
  threshFrequency = 0.25,
  threshStatistic = 0,
  threshUseAbsolute = TRUE,
  topN = 5,
  nodeSF = 1,
  edgeSF = 1,
  lytFunc = "graphopt",
  lytParams = list()
)
```

Arguments

ppidf a data.frame, containing a protein-protein interaction from the IMEx database.

This can be retrieved from the msigdb::getIMEX() function.

msigGsc a GeneSetCollection object, containing gene sets from the MSigDB. The GSEABase::getBroadSets() function can be used to parse XML files downloaded from MSigDB.

14 plotMsigPPI

a named list, of character vectors or numeric indices specifying node groupings. groups

Each element of the list represent a group and contains a character vector with

node names.

geneStat a named numeric, containing the statistic to be displayed. The vector must be

named with either gene Symbols or Entrez IDs depending on annotations in

msigGsc.

statName a character, specifying the name of the statistic.

threshConfidence

a numeric, specifying the confidence threshold to apply to determine high confidence interactions. This should be a value between 0 and 1 (default is 0).

threshFrequency

a numeric, specifying the frequency threshold to apply to determine more frequent genes in the gene-set cluster. The frequecy of a gene is computed as the proportion of gene-sets to which the gene belongs. This should be a value be-

tween 0 and 1 (default is 0.25).

threshStatistic

a numeric, specifying the threshold to apply to gene-level statistics (e.g. a log fold-change). This should be a value between 0 and 1 (default is 0).

threshUseAbsolute

a logical, indicating whether the threshStatistic threshold should be applied to absolute values (default TRUE). This can be used to threshold on statistics

such as the log fold-chage from a differential expression analysis.

a numeric, specifying the number of genes to label. The top genes are those with topN

the largest count and statistic.

nodeSF a numeric, indicating the scaling factor to apply to node sizes.

edgeSF a numeric, indicating the scaling factor to apply to edge widths.

lytFunc a character, specifying the layout to use (see ggraph::create_layout()).

a named list, containing additional parameters needed for the layout (see ggraph::create_layout()). lytParams

Value

a ggplot object with the protein-protein interaction networks plot for each gene-set cluster.

```
data(hgsc)
grps = list('early' = 'HALLMARK_ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_EARLY', 'late' = 'HALLMARK_ESTROGEN_RESPONSE_LATE')
ppi = msigdb::getIMEX(org = 'hs', inferred = TRUE)
plotMsigPPI(ppi, hgsc, grps)
```

plotMsigWordcloud 15

plotMsigWordcloud

Compute and plot word frequencies for multiple MSigDB collections

Description

Given a gene set collection, this function computes the word frequency of gene set names from the Molecular Signatures Database (MSigDB) collection (split by _). Word frequencies are also computed using short descriptions attached with each gene set object.

Usage

```
plotMsigWordcloud(
   msigGsc,
   groups,
   weight = NULL,
   measure = c("tfidf", "tf"),
   version = msigdb::getMsigdbVersions(),
   org = c("auto", "hs", "mm"),
   rmwords = getMsigExclusionList(),
   type = c("Name", "Short"),
   idf = NULL
)
```

Arguments

msigGsc	a GeneSetCollection object, containing gene sets from the MSigDB. The GSEABase::getBroadSets() function can be used to parse XML files downloaded from MSigDB.
groups	a named list, of character vectors or numeric indices specifying node groupings. Each element of the list represent a group and contains a character vector with node names.
weight	a named numeric vector, containing weights to apply to each gene-set. This can be -log10(FDR), -log10(p-value) or an enrichment score (ideally unsigned).
measure	a character, specifying how frequencies should be computed. "tf" uses term frequencies and "tfidf" (default) applies inverse document frequency weights to term frequencies.
version	a character, specifying the version of msigdb to use (see msigdb::getMsigdbVersions()).
org	a character, specifying the organism to use. This can either be "auto" (default), "hs" or "mm".
rmwords	a character vector, containing an exclusion list of words to discard from the analysis.
type	a character, specifying the source of text mining. Either gene set names (Name) or descriptions (Short) can be used.

16 plotMsigWordcloud

idf

a list of named numeric vectors, specifying inverse document frequencies to use to penalise terms from gene-set names and short descriptions. This should be a vector of length 2 with names "Name" and "Short". Numeric vectors should contain weights and names should represent the term. Precomputed versions can be retrieved using the msigdb::getMsigdbIDF().

Value

a ggplot object.

```
data("hgsc")
groups <- list('g1' = names(hgsc)[1:25], 'g2' = names(hgsc)[26:50])
plotMsigWordcloud(hgsc, groups, rmwords = getMsigExclusionList())</pre>
```

Index

```
* datasets
    hgsc, 10
* internal
    vissE-package, 2
bhuvad_theme, 3
characteriseGeneset, 2, 4
computeMsigNetwork, 2, 5
computeMsigNetwork(), 8, 12
computeMsigOverlap, 2, 6
computeMsigOverlap(), 5, 12
computeMsigWordFreq, 7
{\tt findMsigClusters, 8}
{\tt getMsigExclusionList}, 9
GSEABase::getBroadSets(), 7, 11, 13, 15
hgsc, 10
msigdb::getIMEX(), 13
msigdb::getMsigdbIDF(), 7, 16
msigdb::listCollections(),4
plotGeneStats, 2, 10
plotMsigNetwork, 2, 12
plotMsigPPI, 13
plotMsigWordcloud, 2, 15
vissE (vissE-package), 2
vissE-package, 2
```