

Package ‘HybridExpress’

January 30, 2026

Title Comparative analysis of RNA-seq data for hybrids and their progenitors

Version 1.6.0

Date 2023-10-17

Description HybridExpress can be used to perform comparative transcriptomics analysis of hybrids (or allopolyploids) relative to their progenitor species. The package features functions to perform exploratory analyses of sample grouping, identify differentially expressed genes in hybrids relative to their progenitors, classify genes in expression categories ($N = 12$) and classes ($N = 5$), and perform functional analyses. We also provide users with graphical functions for the seamless creation of publication-ready figures that are commonly used in the literature.

License GPL-3

URL <https://github.com/almeidasilvaf/HybridExpress>

BugReports <https://support.bioconductor.org/tag/HybridExpress>

biocViews Software, FunctionalGenomics, GeneExpression, Transcriptomics, RNASeq, Classification, DifferentialExpression

Encoding UTF-8

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Imports ggplot2, patchwork, rlang, DESeq2, SummarizedExperiment, stats, methods, RColorBrewer, ComplexHeatmap, grDevices, BiocParallel

Suggests BiocStyle, knitr, sessioninfo, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

Config/testthat/edition 3

VignetteBuilder knitr

Depends R (>= 4.3.0)

LazyData false

git_url <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/HybridExpress>

git_branch RELEASE_3_22

git_last_commit b3f2227

git_last_commit_date 2025-10-29

Repository Bioconductor 3.22

Date/Publication 2026-01-29

Author Fabricio Almeida-Silva [aut, cre] (ORCID:

<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5314-2964>>),

Lucas Prost-Boxoen [aut] (ORCID:

<<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2779-9097>>),

Yves Van de Peer [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4327-3730>>)

Maintainer Fabricio Almeida-Silva <fabricio_almeidasilva@hotmail.com>

Contents

HybridExpress-package	2
add_midparent_expression	3
add_size_factors	4
deg_counts	4
deg_list	5
expression_partitioning	5
get_deg_counts	6
get_deg_list	6
go_chlamy	8
ora	8
pca_plot	10
plot_expression_partitions	11
plot_expression_triangle	12
plot_partition_frequencies	12
plot_samplecor	13
se_chlamy	14
Index	15

HybridExpress-package *HybridExpress: Comparative analysis of RNA-seq data for hybrids and their progenitors*

Description

HybridExpress can be used to perform comparative transcriptomics analysis of hybrids (or allopolyploids) relative to their progenitor species. The package features functions to perform exploratory analyses of sample grouping, identify differentially expressed genes in hybrids relative to their progenitors, classify genes in expression categories ($N = 12$) and classes ($N = 5$), and perform functional analyses. We also provide users with graphical functions for the seamless creation of publication-ready figures that are commonly used in the literature.

Author(s)

Maintainer: Fabricio Almeida-Silva <fabricio_almeidasilva@hotmail.com> (ORCID)

Authors:

- Lucas Prost-Boxoen (ORCID)
- Yves Van de Peer <yves.vandepeer@psb.vib-ugent.be> (ORCID)

See Also

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/almeidasilva/HybridExpress>
- Report bugs at <https://support.bioconductor.org/tag/HybridExpress>

add_midparent_expression

Add midparent expression to SummarizedExperiment object

Description

Add midparent expression to SummarizedExperiment object

Usage

```
add_midparent_expression(
  se,
  coldata_column = "Generation",
  parent1 = "P1",
  parent2 = "P2",
  method = "mean",
  weights = c(1, 1)
)
```

Arguments

<code>se</code>	A SummarizedExperiment object with a count matrix and sample metadata.
<code>coldata_column</code>	Character indicating the name of column in <code>colData(se)</code> where information on the generation are stored. Default: "Generation".
<code>parent1</code>	Character indicating which level of the variable <code>coldata_column</code> represents parent 1. Default: "P1".
<code>parent2</code>	Character indicating which level of the variable <code>coldata_column</code> represents parent 2. Default: "P2".
<code>method</code>	Character indicating the method to use to create midparent values. One of 'mean' (default), 'sum', or 'weightedmean'.
<code>weights</code>	Numeric vector of length 2 indicating the weights to give to parents 1 and 2 (respectively) if <code>method == "weightedmean"</code> . Setting <code>method == "weightedmean"</code> is used sometimes when parents have different ploidy levels. In such cases, the ploidy levels of parents 1 and 2 can be passed in a vector. Default: <code>c(1, 2)</code> .

Value

A SummarizedExperiment object.

Examples

```
data(se_chlamy)
new_se <- add_midparent_expression(se_chlamy)
```

add_size_factors	<i>Add size factors to normalize count data by library size or by biomass</i>
------------------	---

Description

Add size factors to normalize count data by library size or by biomass

Usage

```
add_size_factors(se, spikein = FALSE, spikein_pattern = "ERCC")
```

Arguments

se	A SummarizedExperiment object with a count matrix and sample metadata.
spikein	Logical indicating whether or not to normalize data using spike-ins. If FALSE, data will be normalized by library size. Default: FALSE.
spikein_pattern	Character with the pattern (regex) to use to identify spike-in features in the count matrix. Only valid if spikein_norm = TRUE.

Value

A SummarizedExperiment object as in **se**, but with an extra column in the colData slot named "sizeFactor". This column contains size factors that will be used by DESeq2 when performing differential expression analyses.

Examples

```
data(se_chlamy)
se_norm <- add_size_factors(se_chlamy)
```

deg_counts	<i>Data frame with frequencies (absolute and relative) of DEGs per contrast</i>
------------	---

Description

This object was obtained with `get_deg_counts()` using the example data set **deg_list**.

Usage

```
data(deg_counts)
```

Format

A data frame with the frequencies (absolute and relative) of up- and down-regulated genes in each contrast. Relative frequencies are calculated relative to the total number of genes in the count matrix used for differential expression analysis.

Examples

```
data(deg_counts)
```

deg_list	<i>List of differentially expressed genes for all contrasts</i>
----------	---

Description

This object was obtained with `get_deg_list()` using the example data set **se_chlamy**.

Usage

```
data(deg_list)
```

Format

A list of data frames with gene-wise test statistics for differentially expressed genes for each contrast. Contrasts are "P2_vs_P1", "F1_vs_P1", "F1_vs_P2", and "F1_vs_midparent", where the ID before 'vs' represents the numerator, and the ID after 'vs' represents the denominator.

Examples

```
data(deg_list)
```

expression_partitioning	<i>Partition genes in groups based on their expression patterns</i>
-------------------------	---

Description

Partition genes in groups based on their expression patterns

Usage

```
expression_partitioning(deg_list)
```

Arguments

deg_list	A list of data frames with gene-wise test statistics for differentially expressed genes as returned by <code>get_deg_list()</code> .
----------	--

Value

A data with the following variables:

Gene Character, gene ID.

Category Factor, expression group. Category names are numbers from 1 to 12.

Class Factor, expression group class. One of "UP" (transgressive up-regulation), "DOWN" (transgressive down-regulation), "ADD" (additivity), "ELD_P1" (expression-level dominance toward the parent 1), or "ELD_P2" (expression-level dominance toward the parent 2).

Examples

```
data(deg_list)
exp_partitions <- expression_partitioning(deg_list)
```

get_deg_counts	<i>Get a count table of differentially expressed genes per contrast</i>
----------------	---

Description

Get a count table of differentially expressed genes per contrast

Usage

```
get_deg_counts(deg_list)
```

Arguments

deg_list	A list of data frames with gene-wise test statistics for differentially expressed genes as returned by <code>get_deg_list()</code> .
----------	--

Value

A data frame with the following variables:

contrast Character, contrast name.

up Numeric, number of up-regulated genes.

down Numeric, number of down-regulated genes.

total Numeric, total number of differentially expressed genes.

perc_up Numeric, percentage of up-regulated genes.

perc_down Numeric, percentage of down-regulated genes.

perc_total Numeric, percentage of differentially expressed genes.

Examples

```
data(deg_list)
deg_counts <- get_deg_counts(deg_list)
```

get_deg_list	<i>Get a table of differential expression statistics with DESeq2</i>
--------------	---

Description

Get a table of differential expression statistics with **DESeq2**

Usage

```
get_deg_list(
  se,
  coldata_column = "Generation",
  parent1 = "P1",
  parent2 = "P2",
  offspring = "F1",
  midparent = "midparent",
  lfcThreshold = 0,
  alpha = 0.01,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>se</code>	A SummarizedExperiment object with a count matrix and sample metadata.
<code>coldata_column</code>	Character indicating the name of column in <code>colData(se)</code> where information on the generation are stored. Default: "Generation".
<code>parent1</code>	Character indicating which level of the variable <code>coldata_column</code> represents parent 1. Default: "P1".
<code>parent2</code>	Character indicating which level of the variable <code>coldata_column</code> represents parent 2. Default: "P2".
<code>offspring</code>	Character indicating which level of the variable <code>coldata_column</code> represents the offspring (hybrid or allopolyploid). Default: "F1"
<code>midparent</code>	Character indicating which level of the variable <code>coldata_column</code> represents the midparent value. Default: "midparent", as returned by <code>add_midparent_expression()</code> .
<code>lfcThreshold</code>	Numeric indicating the log2 fold-change threshold to use to consider differentially expressed genes. Default: 0.
<code>alpha</code>	Numeric indicating the adjusted P-value threshold to use to consider differentially expressed genes. Default: 0.01.
<code>...</code>	Additional arguments to be passed to <code>DESeq2::results()</code> .

Value

A list of data frames with DESeq2's gene-wise tests statistics for each contrast. Each data frame contains the same columns as the output of `DESeq2::results()`. Contrasts (list names) are:

P2_vs_P1 Parent 2 (numerator) versus parent 1 (denominator).

F1_vs_P1 Offspring (numerator) versus parent 1 (denominator).

F1_vs_P2 Offspring (numerator) versus parent 2 (denominator).

F1_vs_midparent Offspring (numerator) versus midparent (denominator).

The data frame with gene-wise test statistics in each list element contains the following variables:

baseMean Numeric, base mean.

log2FoldChange Numeric, log2-transformed fold changes.

lfcSE Numeric, standard error of the log2-transformed fold changes.

stat Numeric, observed test statistic.

pvalue Numeric, p-value.

padj Numeric, P-value adjusted for multiple testing.

The list contains two additional attributes named **ngenes** (numeric, total number of genes), and **plot-data**, which is a 3-column data frame with variables "gene" (character, gene ID), "IFC_F1_vs_P1" (numeric, log2 fold change between F1 and P1), and "IFC_F1_vs_P2" (numeric, log2 fold change between F1 and P2).

Examples

```
data(se_chlamy)
se <- add_midparent_expression(se_chlamy)
se <- add_size_factors(se, spikein = TRUE)
deg_list <- get_deg_list(se)
```

go_chlamy	<i>Data frame with GO terms annotated to each gene of Chlamydomonas reinhardtii</i>
-----------	---

Description

Data were obtained from Phytozome and processed so that each row contains only one GO term (long format).

Usage

```
data(go_chlamy)
```

Format

A 2-column data frame with columns **gene** (character, gene ID), and **GO** (character, name of GO term.)

Examples

```
data(go_chlamy)
```

ora	<i>Perform overrepresentation analysis for a set of genes</i>
-----	---

Description

Perform overrepresentation analysis for a set of genes

Usage

```
ora(
  genes,
  annotation,
  column = NULL,
  background,
  correction = "BH",
  alpha = 0.05,
  min_setsize = 5,
  max_setsize = 500,
  bp_param = BiocParallel::SerialParam()
)
```

Arguments

<code>genes</code>	Character vector containing genes for overrepresentation analysis.
<code>annotation</code>	Annotation data frame with genes in the first column and functional annotation in the other columns. This data frame can be exported from Biomart or similar databases.
<code>column</code>	Column or columns of annotation to be used for enrichment. Both character or numeric values with column indices can be used. If users want to supply more than one column, input a character or numeric vector. Default: all columns from annotation .
<code>background</code>	Character vector of genes to be used as background for the overrepresentation analysis.
<code>correction</code>	Multiple testing correction method. One of "holm", "hochberg", "hommel", "bonferroni", "BH", "BY", "fdr" or "none". Default is "BH".
<code>alpha</code>	Numeric indicating the adjusted P-value threshold for significance. Default: 0.05.
<code>min_setsize</code>	Numeric indicating the minimum gene set size to be considered. Gene sets correspond to levels of each variable in annotation). Default: 5.
<code>max_setsize</code>	Numeric indicating the maximum gene set size to be considered. Gene sets correspond to levels of each variable in annotation). Default: 500.
<code>bp_param</code>	BiocParallel back-end to be used. Default: BiocParallel::SerialParam()

Value

A data frame of overrepresentation results with the following variables:

term Character, functional term ID/name.

genes Numeric, intersection length between input genes and genes in a particular functional term.

all Numeric, number of all genes in a particular functional term.

pval Numeric, P-value for the hypergeometric test.

padj Numeric, P-value adjusted for multiple comparisons using the method specified in parameter **adj**.

category Character, name of the grouping variable (i.e., column name of **annotation**).

Examples

```

data(se_chlamy)
data(go_chlamy)
data(deg_list)

# Perform ORA for up-regulated genes in contrast F1_vs_P1
up_genes <- deg_list$F1_vs_P1
up_genes <- rownames(up_genes[up_genes$log2FoldChange > 0, ])

background <- rownames(se_chlamy)

ora(up_genes, go_chlamy, background = background)

```

pca_plot

*Perform a principal component analysis (PCA) and plot PCs***Description**

Perform a principal component analysis (PCA) and plot PCs

Usage

```

pca_plot(
  se,
  PCs = c(1, 2),
  ntop = 500,
  color_by = NULL,
  shape_by = NULL,
  add_mean = FALSE,
  palette = NULL
)

```

Arguments

se	A SummarizedExperiment object with a count matrix and sample metadata.
PCs	Numeric vector indicating which principal components to show in the x-axis and y-axis, respectively. Default: c(1, 2).
ntop	Numeric indicating the number of top genes with the highest variances to use for the PCA. Default: 500.
color_by	Character with the name of the column in colData(se) to use to group samples by color. Default: NULL.
shape_by	Character with the name of the column in colData(se) to use to group samples by shape. Default: NULL.
add_mean	Logical indicating whether to add a diamond symbol with the mean value for each level of the variable indicated in color_by . Default: FALSE
palette	Character vector with colors to use for each level of the variable indicated in color_by . If NULL, a default color palette will be used.

Value

A ggplot object with a PCA plot showing 2 principal components in each axis along with their % of variance explained.

Examples

```
data(se_chlamy)
se <- add_midparent_expression(se_chlamy)
se$Ploidy[is.na(se$Ploidy)] <- "midparent"
se$Generation[is.na(se$Generation)] <- "midparent"
pca_plot(se, color_by = "Generation", shape_by = "Ploidy", add_mean = TRUE)
```

plot_expression_partitions

Plot expression partitions

Description

Plot expression partitions

Usage

```
plot_expression_partitions(
  partition_table,
  group_by = "Category",
  palette = NULL,
  labels = c("P1", "F1", "P2")
)
```

Arguments

partition_table	A data frame with genes per expression partition as returned by expression_partitioning().
group_by	Character indicating the name of the variable in partition_table to use to group genes. One of "Category" or "Class". Default: "Category".
palette	Character vector with color names to be used for each level of the variable specified in group_by . If group_by = "Category", this must be a vector of length 12. If group_by = "Class", this must be a vector of length 5. If NULL, a default color palette will be used.
labels	A character vector of length 3 indicating the labels to be given for parent 1, offspring, and parent 2. Default: c("P1", "F1", "P2").

Value

A ggplot object with a plot showing genes in each expression partition.

Examples

```
data(deg_list)
partition_table <- expression_partitioning(deg_list)
plot_expression_partitions(partition_table)
```

```
plot_expression_triangle
```

Plot a triangle of comparisons of DEG sets among generations

Description

Plot a triangle of comparisons of DEG sets among generations

Usage

```
plot_expression_triangle(deg_counts, palette = NULL, box_labels = NULL)
```

Arguments

<code>deg_counts</code>	Data frame with number of differentially expressed genes per contrast as returned by <code>get_deg_counts</code> .
<code>palette</code>	Character vector of length 4 indicating the colors of the boxes for P1, P2, F1, and midparent, respectively. If NULL, a default color palette will be used.
<code>box_labels</code>	Character vector of length 4 indicating the labels of the boxes for P1, P2, F1, and midparent, respectively. Default: NULL, which will lead to labels "P1", "P2", "F1", and "Midparent", respectively.

Details

The expression triangle plot shows the number of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) for each contrast. Numbers in the center of the lines (in bold) indicate the total number of DEGs, while numbers near boxes indicate the number of up-regulated genes in each generation of the triangle.

Value

A ggplot object with an expression triangle.

Examples

```
data(deg_counts)
plot_expression_triangle(deg_counts)
```

```
plot_partition_frequencies
```

Plot a barplot of gene frequencies per expression partition

Description

Plot a barplot of gene frequencies per expression partition

Usage

```
plot_partition_frequencies(
  partition_table,
  group_by = "Category",
  palette = NULL,
  labels = c("P1", "F1", "P2")
)
```

Arguments

partition_table	A data frame with genes per expression partition as returned by <code>expression_partitioning()</code> .
group_by	Character indicating the name of the variable in partition_table to use to group genes. One of "Category" or "Class". Default: "Category".
palette	Character vector with color names to be used for each level of the variable specified in group_by . If group_by = "Category", this must be a vector of length 12. If group_by = "Class", this must be a vector of length 5. If NULL, a default color palette will be used.
labels	A character vector of length 3 indicating the labels to be given for parent 1, offspring, and parent 2. Default: <code>c("P1", "F1", "P2")</code> .

Value

A ggplot object with a barplot showing gene frequencies per partition next to explanatory line plots depicting each partition.

Examples

```
data(deg_list)
partition_table <- expression_partitioning(deg_list)
plot_partition_frequencies(partition_table)
```

plot_samplecor	<i>Plot a heatmap of pairwise sample correlations with hierarchical clustering</i>
----------------	--

Description

Plot a heatmap of pairwise sample correlations with hierarchical clustering

Usage

```
plot_samplecor(
  se,
  coldata_cols = NULL,
  rowdata_cols = NULL,
  ntop = 500,
  cor_method = "pearson",
  palette = "Blues",
  ...
)
```

Arguments

se	A SummarizedExperiment object with a count matrix and sample metadata in the colData slot. If a rowData slot is available, it can also be used for clustering rows.
coldata_cols	A vector (either numeric or character) indicating which columns should be extracted from colData(se) .
rowdata_cols	A vector (either numeric or character) indicating which columns should be extracted from rowData(se) .
ntop	Numeric indicating the number of top genes with the highest variances to use for the PCA. Default: 500.
cor_method	Character indicating the correlation method to use. One of "pearson" or "spearman". Default: "pearson".
palette	Character indicating the name of the color palette from the RColorBrewer package to use. Default: "Blues".
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <code>ComplexHeatmap::pheatmap()</code> . These arguments can be used to control heatmap aesthetics, such as show/hide row and column names, change font size, activate/deactivate hierarchical clustering, etc. For a complete list of the options, see <code>?ComplexHeatmap::pheatmap()</code> .

Value

A heatmap of hierarchically clustered pairwise sample correlations.

Examples

```
data(se_chlamy)
se <- add_midparent_expression(se_chlamy)
se$Ploidy[is.na(se$Ploidy)] <- "midparent"
se$Generation[is.na(se$Generation)] <- "midparent"
plot_samplecor(se, ntop = 500)
```

se_chlamy	<i>Expression data (in counts) for 3 Chlamydomonas lines (P1, P2, and F1)</i>
-----------	---

Description

Two lines (referred to as parent 1 and parent 2) with different ploidy levels were crossed to generate an allopolyploid (F1).

Usage

```
data(se_chlamy)
```

Format

A SummarizedExperiment object with an assay (count) and colData.

Examples

```
data(se_chlamy)
```

Index

- * **datasets**
 - deg_counts, [4](#)
 - deg_list, [5](#)
 - go_chlamy, [8](#)
 - se_chlamy, [14](#)
- * **internal**
 - HybridExpress-package, [2](#)
- add_midparent_expression, [3](#)
- add_size_factors, [4](#)
- deg_counts, [4](#)
- deg_list, [5](#)
- expression_partitioning, [5](#)
- get_deg_counts, [6](#)
- get_deg_list, [6](#)
- go_chlamy, [8](#)
- HybridExpress (HybridExpress-package), [2](#)
- HybridExpress-package, [2](#)
- ora, [8](#)
- pca_plot, [10](#)
- plot_expression_partitions, [11](#)
- plot_expression_triangle, [12](#)
- plot_partition_frequencies, [12](#)
- plot_samplecor, [13](#)
- se_chlamy, [14](#)