Package 'VISTA'

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Type Package

Title Visualization and Integrated System for Transcriptomic Analysis

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Description The VISTA (Visualization and Integrated System for Transcriptomic Analysis) platform streamlines
differential expression workflows by wrapping DESeq2 and edgeR into a SummarizedExperiment-based container with consistent metadata. The package includes visualization utilities, MSigDB enrichment helpers, and optional deconvolution support to simplify interactive exploration of RNA-seq experiments.

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Suggests airway, BiocStyle, circlize, ComplexHeatmap, DT, EnhancedVolcano, ggpointdensity, ggridges, ggalluvial, ggcorrplot, ggrain, ggvenn, enrichplot, knitr, magrittr, patchwork, org.Hs.eg.db, org.Mm.eg.db, quarto, rmarkdown, yaml, writexl, testthat (>= 3.0.0), uwot, xCell2

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`.align_de_to_counts` *Align a DE table to reference gene order; add NA rows for missing genes. Keeps a real* `gene_id` *column and returns a base data.frame. Canonical column order: gene_id, baseMean, log2fc, lfcSE, stat, pvalue, padj, regulation, ...*

Description

Align a DE table to reference gene order; add NA rows for missing genes. Keeps a real `gene_id` column and returns a base data.frame. Canonical column order: gene_id, baseMean, log2fc, lfcSE, stat, pvalue, padj, regulation, ...

Usage

```
.align_de_to_counts(
  df,
  ref_rn,
  id_col = NULL,
  strict = FALSE,
  warn_missing = TRUE
)
```

`.categorize_deg_results`
Categorize Differential Expression Results (DESeq2 or edgeR)

Description

This function classifies genes as "Up", "Down", or "Other" based on fold-change and p-value thresholds. It supports input from DESeq2 (`DESeqResults`), edgeR (e.g., `topTags()`), or a general tibble/data frame.

Usage

```
.categorize_deg_results(
  de_results,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = c("padj", "pvalue", "FDR", "PValue")
)
```

Arguments

de_results	A differential expression results object. Can be a DESeqResults object, an edgeR topTags() table, or a data frame/tibble containing fold changes and p-values.
log2fc_cutoff	Numeric; minimum absolute log2 fold change to classify a DEG. Default is 1.
pval_cutoff	Numeric; p-value or FDR threshold to define significance. Default is 0.05.
p_value_type	String; which column to use for filtering significance. One of "padj", "pvalue", "FDR", "PValue". Default is "padj".

Value

A tibble with gene IDs, fold changes, p-values, and a new regulation column, indicating the category of each gene:

- "Up": Genes with log2 fold change >= log2fc_cutoff and p-value <= pval_cutoff.
- "Down": Genes with log2 fold change <= -log2fc_cutoff and p-value <= pval_cutoff.
- "Other": Genes not meeting the above criteria.

.cluster_log2fc_matrix

Cluster genes by their log2FC profiles using k-means

Description

Cluster genes by their log2FC profiles using k-means

Usage

```
.cluster_log2fc_matrix(df, gene_id_col = "display_gene", k = 3)
```

Arguments

df	A long data.frame with columns: gene_id_col, comparison, log2fc.
gene_id_col	Character string of column name for gene IDs (e.g. "gene_name" or "display_gene").
k	Number of clusters.

Value

A data.frame with gene IDs and cluster assignments.

`.EnhancedVolcano2` *Enhanced volcano plot with smart column detection & coloring*

Description

Internal helper that wraps EnhancedVolcano and colors points by regulation.

- If `regulation_col` is present (e.g., "Up"/"Down"/"Other"), it is used.
- Otherwise, regulation is derived from FC/P cutoffs.

Usage

```
.EnhancedVolcano2(
  toptable,
  lab,
  x = NULL,
  y = NULL,
  pCutoff = 1e-04,
  FCcutoff = 1.5,
  col_by_regul = TRUE,
  regulation_col = NULL,
  col_up = "#b2182b",
  col_down = "#2166ac",
  col_others = "#e0e0e0",
  return_keyvals = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`toptable`	data.frame with DE results.
`lab`	Character vector of labels (same length as nrow(toptable)).
`x`	FC column name (auto-detected if NULL).
`y`	P/P-adj column name (auto-detected if NULL).
`pCutoff`	Numeric; P-value cutoff. Default 1e-4.
`FCcutoff`	Numeric; symmetric scalar or c(down, up). Default 1.5.
`col_by_regul`	Logical; color by regulation. Default TRUE.
`regulation_col`	Optional column in `toptable` to use directly (expects levels Up/Down/Other).
`col_up`	col_down, col_others Colors.
`return_keyvals`	Logical; invisibly return the computed `keyvals`. Default FALSE.
`...`	Passed to EnhancedVolcano::EnhancedVolcano()

Value

ggplot object (and invisibly the `keyvals` if `return_keyvals=TRUE`)

.filter_genes *Filter genes by user-specified IDs or variability*

Description

This internal function subsets the normalized expression matrix to retain only selected genes (by name) or top variable genes (by variance).

Usage

```
.filter_genes(mat, genes = NULL, top_n_genes = NULL)
```

Arguments

`mat`	A numeric matrix with genes as rows and samples as columns.
`genes`	Optional character vector of gene IDs to retain.
`top_n_genes`	Optional integer; the number of top variable genes to keep.

Value

A filtered matrix.

.plot_corr_heatmap *Plot a correlation heatmap from a matrix*

Description

Plot a correlation heatmap from a matrix

Usage

```
.plot_corr_heatmap(
  cor_mat,
  vis_method = "square",
  plot_type = "full",
  show_diagonal = TRUE,
  show_corr_values = TRUE,
  col_corr_values = "black",
  size_corr_values = 4,
  cluster_samples = TRUE,
  scale_range = NULL
)
```

Arguments

cor_mat	A symmetric correlation matrix.
vis_method	Type of shape for visualization: "square" or "circle".
plot_type	Type of plot: "full", "lower", or "upper".
show_diagonal	Logical; whether to show diagonal values.
show_corr_values	Logical; whether to label correlation values.
col_corr_values	Color for text labels.
size_corr_values	Numeric size of text labels.
cluster_samples	Logical; whether to cluster samples hierarchically.
scale_range	Optional numeric vector of length 2 to fix the color scale.

Value

A ggplot2 heatmap.

.plot_mds *Plot MDS Coordinates*

Description

Internal plotting function for rendering MDS results using `ggplot2`.

Usage

```
.plot_mds(
  mds_df,
  group_col,
  circle_size,
  label_replicates,
  sample_colors,
  color_vals
)
```

Arguments

mds_df	A data frame with MDS coordinates and sample metadata.
group_col	The grouping column used for coloring points.
circle_size	Size of the points.
label_replicates	Logical; whether to label each point with the sample name.
sample_colors	Logical; whether to color points by group.
color_vals	Named color vector for groups.

Value

A ggplot object.

`.plot_pca` *Plot PCA results using ggplot2*

Description

Internal function that creates a PCA plot using ggplot2 with optional coloring, labeling, clustering ellipses, and customizable color palettes.

Usage

```
.plot_pca(
  pca_df,
  group_col,
  circle_size,
  label_replicates,
  sample_colors,
  show_clusters,
  color_vals,
  pca
)
```

Arguments

`pca_df`	A data frame of PCA coordinates and metadata (from `.prepare_pca_dataframe()`).
`group_col`	Column name used for grouping/coloring samples.
`circle_size`	Point size for the scatter plot.
`label_replicates`	Logical; whether to display sample labels.
`sample_colors`	Logical; whether to color by group.
`show_clusters`	Logical; whether to draw ellipses for group clusters.
`color_vals`	Named color vector for groups.
`pca`	Original PCA object used to compute variance explained for axis labels.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

.prepare_corr_matrix *Prepare correlation matrix from normalized expression*

Description

Prepare correlation matrix from normalized expression

Usage

```
.prepare_corr_matrix(mat, meta, corr_method = "pearson")
```

Arguments

mat	A numeric matrix of log-normalized gene expression (genes × samples).
corr_method	Correlation method; one of "pearson", "kendall", or "spearman".

Value

A correlation matrix.

.prepare_mds_dataframe *Prepare MDS Data Frame*

Description

Internal helper to convert MDS coordinates and sample metadata into a plottable data frame.

Usage

```
.prepare_mds_dataframe(mds, meta)
```

Arguments

mds	A matrix of MDS coordinates from `cmdscale()`.
meta	A data frame with sample metadata.

Value

A tidy data frame for MDS plotting.

.prepare_pca_dataframe

Prepare PCA result as a tidy data frame

Description

Converts PCA output and metadata into a tidy format suitable for ggplot2. Includes PC1 and PC2 scores and merges with sample metadata.

Usage

```
.prepare_pca_dataframe(pca, meta)
```

Arguments

pca	A PCA object returned by stats::prcomp().
meta	A sample metadata data frame, typically from .prepare_sample_metadata().

Value

A data frame containing PCA components and sample metadata.

.prepare_sample_metadata

Prepare sample metadata with optional filtering and group ordering

Description

This internal helper returns a sample metadata data.frame from a VISTA object, optionally filtered by specific sample groups. The function also ensures the grouping column is treated as a factor with appropriate level ordering, either based on user input (sample_group) or on original appearance.

Usage

```
.prepare_sample_metadata(x, sample_group = NULL, group_column = NULL)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups to include, based on the group_column.

Details

This is a general-purpose metadata preparation function intended to support multiple downstream plotting or reporting utilities.

Value

A filtered `data.frame` containing sample metadata and a `sample` column.

`.run_deseq_comparisons` *Perform pairwise DE comparisons using DESeq2 results*

Description

Perform pairwise DE comparisons using DESeq2 results

Usage

```
.run_deseq_comparisons(
  dds,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  log2fc_cutoff,
  pval_cutoff,
  p_value_type
)
```

Arguments

`dds`	A DESeq2 object after running DESeq().
`group_column`	The column used for grouping in the design formula.
`group_numerator`	Vector of numerator group names.
`group_denominator`	Vector of denominator group names.
`log2fc_cutoff`	Absolute log2 fold-change cutoff for DEG classification.
`pval_cutoff`	P-value threshold for DEG classification.
`p_value_type`	Column to use for p-value filtering ("padj" or "pvalue").

Value

A list with:

- `comparisons`: List of DEG result tibbles (with gene ID and fold changes)
- `deg_summary`: Summary table of DEG counts by regulation

.tidy_de_results *Standardize Differential Expression Results*

Description

Harmonize DE results (DESeq2/edgeR) to a common schema and ensure gene IDs are stored as rownames. Returns S4Vectors::DataFrame.

Usage

```
.tidy_de_results(tbl, rowname_col = NULL)
```

Arguments

tbl	data.frame/tibble or S4Vectors::DataFrame with DE results.
rowname_col	optional column to promote to rownames if missing.

Value

S4Vectors::DataFrame with rownames = gene IDs and columns like log2FC, pvalue, padj (if present), baseMean/AveExpr mapped to baseMean, etc.

as_vista *Coerce SummarizedExperiment to VISTA*

Description

Convert a pre-existing `SummarizedExperiment` into a valid `VISTA` object.

Usage

```
as_vista(
  se,
  assay_name = "norm_counts",
  group_column,
  comparisons = list(),
  deg_summary = list(),
  cutoffs = list(),
  group_palette = "Dark 3",
  validate = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

se	A SummarizedExperiment object.
assay_name	Assay in se to use as norm_counts (default: "norm_counts").
group_column	Grouping column in colData(se).
comparisons	Optional named list of differential expression tables.
deg_summary	Optional named list of DEG summary tables.
cutoffs	Optional named list of threshold metadata.
group_palette	Palette name for group colors.
validate	Logical; run object validation before returning.

Value

A VISTA object.

Examples

```
mat <- matrix(rnorm(60), nrow = 10)
rownames(mat) <- paste0("gene", seq_len(nrow(mat)))
colnames(mat) <- paste0("sample", seq_len(ncol(mat)))
se <- SummarizedExperiment::SummarizedExperiment(
  assays = list(norm_counts = mat),
  colData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    cond = rep(c("A", "B"), each = 3),
    row.names = colnames(mat)
  ),
  rowData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    gene_id = rownames(mat),
    row.names = rownames(mat)
  )
)
v <- as_vista(se, group_column = "cond")
v
```

---

benchmark_vista_equivalence

Benchmark VISTA against standalone differential-expression backends

---

Description

Run VISTA and direct DESeq2, edgeR, and limma pipelines with matched preprocessing, contrast definitions, and DEG thresholds, then compare the resulting tables, DEG calls, normalized matrices, and critical plot inputs.

Usage

```
benchmark_vista_equivalence(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  methods = c("deseq2", "edger", "limma"),
  min_counts = 10,
  min_replicates = 1,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = "padj",
  covariates = NULL,
  design_formula = NULL,
  tolerance = 1e-08,
  return_plots = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

counts	Raw counts (matrix/data.frame) with a gene-id column and sample columns.
sample_info	Data frame with sample metadata.
column_geneid	Column name in counts that contains gene identifiers.
group_column	Column in sample_info used to group samples.
group_numerator	Character vector of numerator groups for pairwise comparisons.
group_denominator	Character vector of denominator groups.
methods	Character vector of backends to benchmark. Any subset of c("deseq2", "edger", "limma").
min_counts	Minimum total counts per gene to retain.
min_replicates	Minimum samples per group meeting filtering criteria.
log2fc_cutoff	Absolute log2 fold-change threshold for DEG calling.
pval_cutoff	P-value (or adjusted p-value) threshold.
p_value_type	Either "padj" or "pvalue".
covariates	Optional character vector of additional sample_info columns.
design_formula	Optional model formula (or formula string) including group_column.
tolerance	Numeric tolerance used for floating-point comparisons.
return_plots	Logical; if TRUE, return paired VISTA/reference plots for MA, volcano, DEG count, and PCA views.

Value

A list with fields `valid`, `comparison_summary`, `visual_summary`, and `methods`. Each element of `methods` contains the VISTA object, direct backend results, structural validation output, self-consistency checks, and optional plot objects.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
si <- as.data.frame(sample_info(v))
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
count_subset <- count_data[seq_len(500), c("gene_id", si$sample_names), drop = FALSE]

bm <- benchmark_vista_equivalence(
  counts = count_subset,
  sample_info = si,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  methods = "limma",
  min_counts = 5,
  min_replicates = 1
)

bm$comparison_summary


data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

target_groups <- c("control", "treatment1")
sample_subset <- sample_metadata[sample_metadata$cond_long %in% target_groups, ]
count_subset <- count_data[seq_len(150), c("gene_id", sample_subset$sample_names)]

bm <- benchmark_vista_equivalence(
  counts = count_subset,
  sample_info = sample_subset,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  methods = c("deseq2", "edger"),
  min_counts = 5,
  min_replicates = 1
)

bm$comparison_summary
bm$visual_summary
```

count_data *Example RNA-seq count matrix shipped with VISTA*

Description

A count matrix derived from the Bioconductor `airway` dataset and formatted for VISTA examples. The first column stores Ensembl gene IDs; the remaining columns are sample-level counts.

Usage

```
data(count_data)
```

Format

A tibble with 63,677 rows and 9 columns.

gene_id Character column storing Ensembl gene identifiers.

SRR1039508 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039508.

SRR1039509 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039509.

SRR1039512 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039512.

SRR1039513 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039513.

SRR1039516 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039516.

SRR1039517 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039517.

SRR1039520 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039520.

SRR1039521 Numeric count values for airway sample SRR1039521.

Source

Derived from the `airway` Bioconductor dataset.

create_vista *Create a VISTA Object with Internal DE Analysis*

Description

This wrapper performs differential expression (DE) analysis (DESeq2, edgeR, limma, or both) and returns a fully initialized `VISTA` object. The object stores expression matrices and annotations in the SummarizedExperiment core, while all DE outputs and configuration live in `metadata(vista)`:

- `$de_results`: named `SimpleList` of per-contrast DE tables
- `$de_summary`: named `SimpleList` of summary tables
- `$de_cutoffs`: list of thresholds/method options
- `$group`: list with `column`, `palette`, `colors`

Usage

```
create_vista(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  method = c("deseq2", "edger", "limma", "both"),
  min_counts = 10,
  min_replicates = 1,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = "padj",
  covariates = NULL,
  design_formula = NULL,
  consensus_mode = c("intersection", "union"),
  consensus_log2fc = c("mean", "deseq2", "edger"),
  result_source = NULL,
  group_palette = "Dark 2",
  comparison_palette = "Dark 3",
  validate = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

counts	Raw counts (matrix/data.frame) with a gene-id column and sample columns.
sample_info	Data frame with sample metadata. Must contain sample_names (or have row-names equal to sample columns in counts) and the group_column.
column_geneid	Column name in counts that contains gene identifiers.
group_column	Column in sample_info used to group samples.
group_numerator	Character vector of numerator groups for pairwise comparisons.
group_denominator	Character vector of denominator groups (same length/order as numerator).
method	"deseq2", "edger", "limma", or "both".
min_counts	Minimum total counts per gene to retain (default: 10).
min_replicates	Minimum samples per group meeting min_counts (default: 1).
log2fc_cutoff	Absolute LFC threshold for DEG calling (default: 1).
pval_cutoff	p-value (raw or adjusted) threshold (default: 0.05).
p_value_type	Which p-value column to use ("padj" or "pvalue"). Default: "padj".
covariates	Optional character vector of additional sample_info columns to adjust for. These are included as additive terms in the DE design.
design_formula	Optional model formula (or formula string) overriding automatic construction from group_column + covariates. Must include group_column.

consensus_mode When method = "both", how to define consensus calls: "intersection" (both methods significant in same direction) or "union" (either method significant; discordant directions excluded).

consensus_log2fc When method = "both", how to populate consensus log2fc: "mean", "deseq2", or "edger".

result_source Active DE source used in metadata(v)$de_results. For method = "both", one of "consensus", "deseq2", "edger". For single-method runs, this must match method.

group_palette Qualitative palette name for colorspace::qualitative_hcl(). One of c("Pastel 1","Dark 2","Dark 3","Set 2","Set 3","Warm","Cold","Harmonic","Dynamic"). Default: "Dark 2".

comparison_palette Qualitative palette name used to assign colors per comparison (stored in metadata(v)$comparison$colo Defaults to "Dark 3".

validate Logical; if TRUE (default), run full validate_vista() checks before returning the object.

Details

Contrast names follow "numerator_VS_denominator". Each DE table must have rownames identical to the final norm_counts rownames. When method = "both", method-specific and consensus DE tables are stored in metadata(v)$de_results_by_method and metadata(v)$de_summary_by_method, and the active source is tracked in metadata(v)$de_active_source.

Value

A VISTA object:

- **assays(v)**: norm_counts (matrix)
- **colData(v)**: sample_info (DataFrame)
- **rowData(v)**: row_data (DataFrame)
- **metadata(v)**: de_results, de_summary, de_cutoffs, group, comparison, provenance

See Also

as_vista, VISTA-class, qualitative_hcl

Examples

```
# Load example data
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

# Create VISTA object with DESeq2 (default method)
vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(100), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
```

```
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  log2fc_cutoff = 0.6,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05
)

# Examine the VISTA object
vista

# Access comparisons
names(comparisons(vista))

# View DEG summary
deg_summary(vista)

# View cutoffs used
cutoffs(vista)

# Multiple comparisons example

vista_multi <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data,
  sample_info = sample_metadata,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cell",
  group_numerator = c("N052611", "N080611"),
  group_denominator = c("N61311", "N61311"),
  method = "edger",
  log2fc_cutoff = 1.0,
  pval_cutoff = 0.01
)
```

`derive_vista_metadata` *Derive starter sample metadata from count sample names*

Description

`derive_vista_metadata()` creates a starter `sample_info` table from count sample names. It is intended for projects where users have count columns but do not yet have a separate metadata sheet. The derived table can be edited, passed through `read_vista_metadata()`, and then aligned with `match_vista_inputs()`.

Usage

```
derive_vista_metadata(
  counts,
```

```
  column_geneid = NULL,
  sample_names = NULL,
  parser = c("auto", "split", "regex", "none"),
  split = "_",
  fields = NULL,
  pattern = NULL,
  sample_column = "sample_names",
  repair_sample_names = c("auto", "none"),
  return_type = c("data.frame", "template"),
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

counts	Count input accepted by `read_vista_counts()`, or the list returned by `read_vista_counts()`.
column_geneid	Optional gene identifier column for raw tabular count inputs. Ignored when `counts` is the list output of `read_vista_counts()`.
sample_names	Optional explicit sample names to derive metadata from. When supplied, these override names extracted from `counts`.
parser	Metadata parsing mode. `"auto"` tries a simple delimiter-based split when sample names have a consistent structure. `"split"` uses `split` explicitly. `"regex"` uses `pattern`. `"none"` returns only the `sample_names` column.
split	Delimiter used when `parser = "split"` or when `"auto"` chooses split-based parsing.
fields	Optional field names for parsed metadata columns. When omitted, VISTA uses `part_1`, `part_2`, etc.
pattern	Regular expression used when `parser = "regex"`. Capture groups are mapped to `fields` in order.
sample_column	Name of the sample identifier column in the returned metadata. Default is `"sample_names"`.
repair_sample_names	Strategy passed to `read_vista_counts()` when sample names are taken from `counts`. One of `"auto"` or `"none"`.
return_type	Return `"data.frame"` (default) or `"template"`. Both return a data frame; `"template"` adds empty placeholder columns for `group` and `batch`.
verbose	Logical; print an informational derivation summary.

Value

A data frame containing `sample_names` plus any parsed metadata columns.

Examples

```
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")
```

```
counts_in <- count_data[seq_len(8), c("gene_id", sample_metadata$sample_names[seq_len(6)]), drop = FALSE]
meta <- derive_vista_metadata(
  counts_in,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  parser = "regex",
  pattern = "SRR(\\d+)",
  fields = "run_id"
)
head(meta)
```

---

enrichMsigDB *Perform MSigDB over-representation analysis on a VISTA object*

Description

This function performs ORA on a set of genes from a VISTA object. Gene identifiers stored as "ENSG00000187634:SAMD11" will be split at the colon and the appropriate part extracted based on `from_type`. Genes are then optionally converted via `orgdb` to match the identifier type required by the MSigDB gene sets.

Usage

```
enrichMsigDB(
  x,
  gene_list,
  from_type = "SYMBOL",
  orgdb,
  msigdb_category = "H",
  msigdb_subcategory = NULL,
  species = "Mus musculus",
  background = NULL,
  col_genetype = "GENETYPE",
  feature_type = "protein-coding",
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A VISTA object.
`gene_list`	A non-empty character vector of gene identifiers. This argument is required and must not be `NULL`.
`from_type`	Identifier type of the genes in `gene_list`. One of `"SYMBOL"`, `"ENSEMBL"`, or `"ENTREZID"` (default `"SYMBOL"`). Ensembl IDs have version suffixes stripped automatically.
`orgdb`	An `OrgDb` object used for ID conversion. If omitted, a default is chosen based on `species`: `org.Mm.eg.db` for mouse, `org.Hs.eg.db` for human.

msigdb_category
: MSigDB category (e.g. "H", "C2", "C5"). Default "H".

msigdb_subcategory
: Optional MSigDB sub-collection (e.g. "BP" for C5). Default NULL.

species
: Species name for MSigDB (default "Mus musculus").

background
: Optional character vector of background gene IDs. If NULL, all features in the VISTA object (optionally filtered by feature_type) are used.

col_genetype
: Column name in rowData(x) used to filter the background by gene type (default "GENETYPE").

feature_type
: Gene type to retain in the background when background is NULL (default "protein-coding").

...
: Additional arguments to pass to clusterProfiler::enricher().

Value

A list containing a single enrichResult object named "enrich".

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(as.character(row_data(v)$gene_id), 20)
if (requireNamespace('msigdbr', quietly = TRUE)) {
 out <- try(enrichMsigDB(v, gene_list = genes, from_type = 'ENSEMBL', msigdb_category = 'H'), silent = TRUE)
  if (!inherits(out, 'try-error')) out
}
```

---

example_vista *Build a small example VISTA object*

Description

Creates a lightweight VISTA object from built-in package datasets (count_data and sample_metadata) for use in examples and tutorials. The default call returns a precomputed object to keep examples and package checks fast. Non-default argument combinations fall back to rebuilding the object from the packaged example inputs.

Usage

```
example_vista(n_genes = 150, n_per_group = 3, method = "deseq2")
```

Arguments

n_genes
: Number of genes to include (default 150).

n_per_group
: Number of samples per group (control and treatment1) to include (default 3).

method
: Differential expression backend passed to create_vista().

Value

A VISTA object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
v
```

`export_vista_assets` *Export a complete VISTA asset bundle*

Description

Generates a standardized folder with selected VISTA plots, tabular outputs, and a manifest describing all saved files.

Usage

```
export_vista_assets(
  x,
  out_dir = "vista_assets",
  sample_comparison = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  include_plots = c("pca", "mds", "corr_heatmap", "deg_bar", "volcano", "ma",
    "expression_heatmap"),
 include_data = c("comparison", "norm_counts", "sample_info", "row_data", "deg_summary",
    "cutoffs"),
  plot_format = "png",
  width = 8,
  height = 6,
  heatmap_height = 10,
  units = "in",
  dpi = 300,
  top_n_labels = 50,
  heatmap_n_genes = 60,
  write_excel = FALSE,
  overwrite = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
out_dir	Output directory for exported assets.
sample_comparison	Optional comparison to use for comparison-specific outputs. Defaults to the first available comparison.

display_id	Optional gene identifier column used in labeling for volcano/MA/heatmap plots.
include_plots	Character vector of plot keys to export. Supported: "pca", "mds", "corr_heatmap", "deg_bar", "deg_pie", "deg_donut", "volcano", "ma", "expression_heatmap".
include_data	Character vector of data keys passed to save_vista_data().
plot_format	Plot format (e.g. "png" or "pdf").
width	Base plot width.
height	Base plot height.
heatmap_height	Height used specifically for expression heatmap export.
units	Plot dimension units.
dpi	Raster resolution for plots.
top_n_labels	Number of top genes to annotate in MA plots.
heatmap_n_genes	Number of top genes used in exported expression heatmaps.
write_excel	Logical; if TRUE, also writes a combined XLSX workbook for all requested include_data tables (requires **writexl**).
overwrite	Logical; if FALSE, aborts when out_dir already contains files.

Value

Invisibly, a list with out_dir, sample_comparison, manifest, plot_files, and data_files.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
out_dir <- file.path(tempdir(), "vista_assets_example")
res <- export_vista_assets(
  v,
  out_dir = out_dir,
  include_plots = "pca",
  include_data = "comparison"
)
names(res)
```

---

get_celltype_barplot *Plot cell-type composition as stacked bars*

Description

Plot cell-type composition as stacked bars

Usage

```
get_celltype_barplot(
  x,
  group_column = NULL,
  sample_names = NULL,
  base_size = 12,
  cell_types = NULL,
  top_n = NULL,
  collapse_other = TRUE,
  normalize = c("sample", "none"),
  facet_by = c("group", "none")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
group_column	Optional column in sample_info(x) used to facet/order samples. If NULL, uses the active VISTA group column when available.
sample_names	Optional character vector of sample names to include.
base_size	Base font size.
cell_types	Optional character vector of cell types to keep.
top_n	Optional top-N cell types by mean score (ignored when cell_types is provided).
collapse_other	Logical; collapse non-selected cell types into "Other".
normalize	One of "sample" (default; per-sample relative scores) or "none".
facet_by	Faceting mode: "group" (default) or "none".

Value

A ggplot object.

Examples

```
mat <- matrix(rpois(20, lambda = 20), nrow = 5)
rownames(mat) <- paste0("gene", seq_len(5))
colnames(mat) <- paste0("sample", seq_len(4))
se <- SummarizedExperiment::SummarizedExperiment(
  assays = list(norm_counts = mat),
  colData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    cond = c("A", "A", "B", "B"),
    row.names = colnames(mat)
  ),
  rowData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    gene_id = rownames(mat),
    row.names = rownames(mat)
  )
)
```

```
v <- as_vista(se, group_column = "cond")
md <- S4Vectors::metadata(v)
md$cell_fractions <- data.frame(
  fibroblast = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5),
  epithelial = c(0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5),
  row.names = colnames(mat)
)
S4Vectors::metadata(v) <- md
get_celltype_barplot(v, group_column = "cond")
```

`get_celltype_group_dotplot` *Plot group-level deconvolution scores as dot plot*

Description

Plot group-level deconvolution scores as dot plot

Usage

```
get_celltype_group_dotplot(
  x,
  group_column = NULL,
  cell_types = NULL,
  top_n = 12,
  summary_fun = c("mean", "median"),
  error = c("se", "sd", "none"),
  add_points = TRUE,
  point_size = 2.5,
  base_size = 12
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A VISTA object.
`group_column`	Column in `sample_info(x)` that defines groups. If `NULL`, uses the active VISTA group column when available.
`cell_types`	Optional character vector of cell types to include.
`top_n`	Number of top cell types by mean score when `cell_types` is `NULL`.
`summary_fun`	One of `"mean"` or `"median"` for group summary.
`error`	Error-bar type: `"se"`, `"sd"`, or `"none"`.
`add_points`	Logical; overlay sample-level jittered points.
`point_size`	Point size for summary points.
`base_size`	Base font size.

Value

A ggplot object.

Examples

```
mat <- matrix(rpois(20, lambda = 20), nrow = 5)
rownames(mat) <- paste0("gene", seq_len(5))
colnames(mat) <- paste0("sample", seq_len(4))
se <- SummarizedExperiment::SummarizedExperiment(
  assays = list(norm_counts = mat),
  colData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    cond = c("A", "A", "B", "B"),
    row.names = colnames(mat)
  ),
  rowData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    gene_id = rownames(mat),
    row.names = rownames(mat)
  )
)
v <- as_vista(se, group_column = "cond")
md <- S4Vectors::metadata(v)
md$cell_fractions <- data.frame(
  fibroblast = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5),
  epithelial = c(0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5),
  row.names = colnames(mat)
)
S4Vectors::metadata(v) <- md
get_celltype_group_dotplot(v, group_column = "cond")
```

---

get_celltype_heatmap *Plot cell-type deconvolution heatmap*

Description

Plot cell-type deconvolution heatmap

Usage

```
get_celltype_heatmap(
  x,
  group_column = NULL,
  sample_names = NULL,
  cell_types = NULL,
  top_n = 20,
  transform = c("none", "zscore", "log1p"),
  cluster_rows = TRUE,
  cluster_columns = TRUE,
  label = FALSE,
  base_size = 11,
```

```
  return_type = c("plot", "matrix", "both")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
group_column	Optional grouping column from sample_info(x). If provided and cluster_columns = FALSE, samples are ordered by this group.
sample_names	Optional character vector of sample names to include.
cell_types	Optional character vector of cell types to include.
top_n	Number of top cell types by mean score when cell_types is NULL.
transform	One of "none", "zscore", or "log1p".
cluster_rows	Logical; hierarchical cluster cell types.
cluster_columns	Logical; hierarchical cluster samples.
label	Logical; overlay numeric values on tiles.
base_size	Base font size.
return_type	One of "plot", "matrix", or "both".

Value

A ggplot object, matrix, or list depending on return_type.

Examples

```
mat <- matrix(rpois(20, lambda = 20), nrow = 5)
rownames(mat) <- paste0("gene", seq_len(5))
colnames(mat) <- paste0("sample", seq_len(4))
se <- SummarizedExperiment::SummarizedExperiment(
  assays = list(norm_counts = mat),
  colData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    cond = c("A", "A", "B", "B"),
    row.names = colnames(mat)
  ),
  rowData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    gene_id = rownames(mat),
    row.names = rownames(mat)
  )
)
v <- as_vista(se, group_column = "cond")
md <- S4Vectors::metadata(v)
md$cell_fractions <- data.frame(
  fibroblast = c(0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5),
  epithelial = c(0.8, 0.7, 0.6, 0.5),
  row.names = colnames(mat)
)
S4Vectors::metadata(v) <- md
get_celltype_heatmap(v, group_column = "cond")
```

get_cell_fractions *Retrieve stored cell fraction estimates*

Description

Retrieve stored cell fraction estimates

Usage

```
get_cell_fractions(x)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.

Value

A data.frame of cell fraction estimates with samples in rows.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
if (requireNamespace('xCell2', quietly = TRUE)) {
  vx <- try(run_cell_deconvolution(v, method = 'xCell2'), silent = TRUE)
  if (!inherits(vx, 'try-error')) head(get_cell_fractions(vx))
}
```

get_chromosome_plot *Plot gene positions along chromosomes using a TxDb*

Description

Retrieves gene coordinates on the fly from a user-supplied TxDb and plots selected genes along chromosomes, optionally colouring by a numeric value and labeling the most variable genes.

Usage

```
get_chromosome_plot(
  x,
  txdb,
  keytype = "GENEID",
  id_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  value_column = NULL,
  comparison = NULL,
  group_value = NULL,
```

```
  label_top_n = 20,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  line_length = 0.02,
  line_width = 0.6,
  filter_chrom = NULL,
  value_label = NULL,
  use_data_range = FALSE,
  force_fc_limits = FALSE,
  scale_mode = c("diverging", "sequential"),
  scale_low = NULL,
  scale_mid = NULL,
  scale_high = NULL,
  scale_midpoint = 0
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
txdb	A TxDb object (e.g., from **GenomicFeatures**).
keytype	Key type in the TxDb matching id_column (default "GENEID").
id_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used to match to TxDb keys. When NULL, rownames(x) are used as keys.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to label (alternative to label_top_n). When provided, all genes are plotted but only these are labeled. Defaults to NULL (no explicit label set).
value_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used for colouring.
comparison	Optional comparison name; when supplied, uses log2fc from metadata(x)$de_results[[comparison] for colouring. If multiple comparisons are provided, one panel per comparison is shown (log2FC clipped to +/-2).
group_value	Optional group label (from group_column); when supplied, uses mean expression for that group for colouring (assay norm_counts).
label_top_n	Integer; number of genes with largest |value| (or random if no value) to label. Ignored when genes is provided. Set to 0 to disable labels.
display_id	Optional column in rowData(x) to use for point labels (fallback to gene_id/rownames).
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for identifier mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
line_length	Horizontal half-length (in megabases) of the tick used to mark each gene position. Default 0.02. Increase for longer ticks.
line_width	Line width of the tick marks. Default 0.6.
filter_chrom	Optional character vector of chromosomes to keep (e.g., c("chr1","chr2")). When NULL, all chromosomes returned by the TxDb are shown.

value_label	Optional legend title override for the colour scale.
scale_mode	Colour scale mode: "diverging" (default) or "sequential".
scale_low	Optional low-end colour override.
scale_mid	Optional midpoint colour override (used with diverging scale).
scale_high	Optional high-end colour override.
scale_midpoint	Numeric midpoint passed to ggplot2::scale_color_gradient2() when scale_mode = "diverging".

Details

The genes argument is only used as an explicit label set (all genes are still plotted). Values in genes must match either the rownames of x or the values in id_column when that is supplied. For example, if id_column = "ENTREZID", then genes should contain Entrez IDs to be labeled. When multiple comparisons are supplied, value_column and group_value are ignored and the plot is facetted by comparison with a fixed +/-2 log2FC scale.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

---

get_corr_heatmap *Draw a sample correlation heatmap*

Description

Plots sample-sample correlation matrix derived from normalized counts with optional clustering and annotations.

Usage

```
get_corr_heatmap(
  x,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  corr_method = "pearson",
  triangle = c("full", "lower", "upper"),
  cluster_by = c("correlation", "group", "input", "none"),
  show_diagonal = TRUE,
  label = TRUE,
  show_corr_values = NULL,
  label_color = "black",
  col_corr_values = NULL,
  label_size = 4,
  limits = NULL,
  base_size = 12,
```

```
  viridis_option = "viridis",
  viridis_direction = 1,
  viridis_begin = 0,
  viridis_end = 1
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups (referencing group_column) to include.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info defining the grouping used for filtering.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to limit the matrix.
corr_method	Correlation method passed to stats::cor() (e.g., "pearson").
triangle	Either "full", "lower", or "upper" to control which triangle is drawn.
cluster_by	Ordering strategy for samples: "correlation" (default), "group", "input", or "none".
show_diagonal	Logical; include the correlation diagonal when TRUE.
label	Logical; overlay correlation coefficients as text.
show_corr_values	Deprecated alias for label. When supplied, it overrides label.
label_color	Color for the text labels.
col_corr_values	Deprecated alias for label_color. When supplied, it overrides label_color.
label_size	Numeric text size multiplier.
limits	Optional numeric vector of length two giving limits for the color scale.
base_size	Base theme size.
viridis_option	Character viridis palette name.
viridis_direction	Integer (1 or -1) controlling palette direction.
viridis_begin, viridis_end	Palette endpoints between 0 and 1.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_corr_heatmap(v)
print(p)
```

`get_deg_alluvial` *Plot alluvial diagram showing gene regulation transitions across comparisons*

Description

Plot alluvial diagram showing gene regulation transitions across comparisons

Usage

```
get_deg_alluvial(x, sample_comparisons, show_other = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`x`	A VISTA object (DE results in `comparisons(x)`).
`sample_comparisons`	Character vector of comparison names to include (>= 2).
`show_other`	Logical; include "Other" genes. Default FALSE.

Value

A ggplot object.

Examples

```
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")
si <- as.data.frame(sample_metadata[seq_len(8), ], stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
trt_idx <- which(si$cond_long == "treatment1")
si$cond_long[trt_idx] <- rep(c("treatment1", "treatment2"), length.out = length(trt_idx))
si$groups <- si$cond_long
v <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(120), c("gene_id", si$sample_names)],
  sample_info = si,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = c("treatment1", "treatment2"),
  group_denominator = c("control", "control"),
  min_counts = 5,
  min_replicates = 1
)
if (requireNamespace('ggalluvial', quietly = TRUE)) {
  p <- get_deg_alluvial(v, sample_comparisons = names(comparisons(v)))
  print(p)
}
```

get_deg_count_barplot *Barplot of DEG counts (Up/Down) across comparisons*

Description

Barplot of DEG counts (Up/Down) across comparisons

Usage

```
get_deg_count_barplot(
  x,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  label = TRUE,
  base_size = 12,
  colors = c(Up = "red4", Down = "blue4"),
  facet_by = c("none", "regulation", "comparison"),
  facet_scales = "fixed"
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing DEG summaries.
sample_comparisons	Optional character vector of comparison names to display.
label	Logical; overlay numeric counts above bars when TRUE.
base_size	Numeric base font size for the plot.
colors	Named vector giving fill colors for "Up" and "Down" bars.
facet_by	Either "none", "regulation", or "comparison" describing the facet variable. Use "none" for a single panel.
facet_scales	Scale option passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_deg_count_barplot(v)
print(p)
```

get_deg_count_donutplot *Donut chart of DEG counts (Up/Down) across comparisons*

Description

Donut chart of DEG counts (Up/Down) across comparisons

Usage

```
get_deg_count_donutplot(
  x,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  label = c("both", "count", "percent", "none"),
  label_digits = 1,
  base_size = 12,
  colors = c(Up = "red4", Down = "blue4"),
  show_other = FALSE,
  other_color = "grey70",
  text_color = "black",
  facet_by = c("comparison", "none"),
  ncol = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing DEG summaries.
sample_comparisons	Optional character vector of comparison names to display.
label	Label mode: "both" (default), "count", "percent", or "none".
label_digits	Integer number of decimals used for percentage labels.
base_size	Numeric base font size for the plot.
colors	Named vector giving fill colors for "Up" and "Down" slices. When show_other = TRUE, an "Other" entry may also be supplied.
show_other	Logical; when TRUE, include non-DE genes as an "Other" slice using other_color unless overridden in colors.
other_color	Fill colour used for the "Other" slice when show_other = TRUE and colors does not include "Other".
text_color	Colour used for donut label text.
facet_by	Either "comparison" (default) to draw one donut per comparison, or "none" for a single donut.
ncol	Optional number of columns when faceting.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_deg_count_donutplot(v)
print(p)
```

`get_deg_count_pieplot` *Pie chart of DEG counts (Up/Down) across comparisons*

Description

Pie chart of DEG counts (Up/Down) across comparisons

Usage

```
get_deg_count_pieplot(
  x,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  label = c("both", "count", "percent", "none"),
  label_digits = 1,
  base_size = 12,
  colors = c(Up = "red4", Down = "blue4"),
  show_other = FALSE,
  other_color = "grey70",
  text_color = "black",
  facet_by = c("comparison", "none"),
  ncol = NULL
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object containing DEG summaries.
`sample_comparisons`	Optional character vector of comparison names to display.
`label`	Label mode: `"both"` (default), `"count"`, `"percent"`, or `"none"`.
`label_digits`	Integer number of decimals used for percentage labels.
`base_size`	Numeric base font size for the plot.
`colors`	Named vector giving fill colors for `"Up"` and `"Down"` slices. When `show_other = TRUE`, an `"Other"` entry may also be supplied.
`show_other`	Logical; when `TRUE`, include non-DE genes as an `"Other"` slice using `other_color` unless overridden in `colors`.

other_color	Fill colour used for the "Other" slice when show_other = TRUE and colors does not include "Other".
text_color	Colour used for pie label text.
facet_by	Either "comparison" (default) to draw one pie per comparison, or "none" for a single pie.
ncol	Optional number of columns when faceting.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_deg_count_pieplot(v)
print(p)
```

---

get_deg_venn_diagram *DEG Venn diagram*

Description

Visualizes overlaps between DEG sets for two to four comparisons.

Usage

```
get_deg_venn_diagram(
  x,
  sample_comparisons,
  regulation = "Up",
  palette = "Set 2",
  auto_scale = FALSE,
  show_percentage = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_comparisons	Character vector of 2–4 comparison names to include in the Venn diagram.
regulation	One of "Up", "Down", "Both", or "All" selecting which genes to include.
palette	Qualitative palette name passed to colorspace::qualitative_hcl() for fill colors.
auto_scale	Logical; pass through to ggvenn::ggvenn() to scale circles by size.
show_percentage	Logical; request percentage labels from ggvenn::ggvenn().
...	Additional arguments forwarded to ggvenn::ggvenn().

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comps <- names(comparisons(v))
if (length(comps) >= 2) {
  p <- get_deg_venn_diagram(v, sample_comparisons = comps[seq_len(2)])
  print(p)
}
```

`get_enrichment_chord` *Chord diagram of enrichment gene–pathway relationships*

Description

Draws a chord diagram linking genes to the enriched pathways they belong to. Chords can be coloured by fold-change, regulation direction, or source pathway.

Usage

```
get_enrichment_chord(
  x,
  vista = NULL,
  sample_comparison = NULL,
  pathways = NULL,
  top_n = 8,
  pathway_column = c("Description", "ID"),
  gene_column = c("auto", "geneID", "core_enrichment"),
  gene_sep = "/",
  min_pathways = 1,
  max_genes = 50,
  gene_order_by = c("none", "foldchange", "abs_foldchange"),
  gene_id_column = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  color_by = c("foldchange", "regulation", "pathway"),
  up_color = "#D73027",
  down_color = "#1A9850",
  other_color = "grey70",
  pathway_colors = NULL,
  transparency = 0.4,
  gap_degree = 2,
  label_cex = 0.7,
  title = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	An enrichResult, gseaResult, or compareClusterResult from clusterProfiler, or a list containing an enrich element (e.g. output of get_msigdb_enrichment()).
vista	Optional VISTA object. Required when color_by is "foldchange" or "regulation".
sample_comparison	Character scalar naming the DE comparison in vista to pull log2FC values from. Required when vista is supplied.
pathways	Optional character vector of pathway names to include. Matches against pathway_column.
top_n	Number of top pathways to display when pathways is NULL (default 8).
pathway_column	Column in the enrichment result to match pathway names: "Description" (default) or "ID".
gene_column	Column storing gene members: "auto" (default), "geneID", or "core_enrichment".
gene_sep	Delimiter separating genes in gene_column (default "/").
min_pathways	Minimum number of pathways a gene must appear in to be shown. Set to 2 to display only hub genes shared across terms. Default 1 (show all genes).
max_genes	Maximum number of genes to display (default 50). A safety cap for readability.
gene_order_by	Order of gene sectors in the chord plot: "none" (default), "foldchange" (descending log2FC), or "abs_foldchange" (descending absolute log2FC). Fold-change based ordering requires vista + sample_comparison.
gene_id_column	Column in rowData(vista) used to map enrichment gene IDs to vista rownames (for FC lookup).
display_id	Column in rowData(vista) providing display-friendly gene names.
color_by	How to colour chords: "foldchange" (continuous gradient), "regulation" (Up / Down / Other), or "pathway" (source pathway). Falls back to "pathway" when vista is NULL.
up_color	Colour for up-regulated genes (default "#D73027").
down_color	Colour for down-regulated genes (default "#1A9850").
other_color	Colour for non-significant genes (default "grey70").
pathway_colors	Optional named vector of colours for pathway sectors. When NULL, colours are generated from an HCL palette.
transparency	Chord transparency, 0–1 (default 0.4).
gap_degree	Gap between sectors in degrees (default 2).
label_cex	Text size for sector labels (default 0.7).
title	Optional plot title.

Details

The plot reveals **hub genes** (those driving multiple enriched terms) and pathway redundancy (terms sharing many genes). This complements get_enrichment_plot() (which shows significance) and get_pathway_heatmap() (which shows expression patterns).

Value

Invisibly returns a list with:

gene_data Tibble of genes with pathway membership and (optionally) fold-change values.

hub_genes Character vector of genes appearing in two or more pathways.

The chord diagram is drawn as a side effect.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
  v,
  sample_comparison = names(comparisons(v))[1],
  regulation = "Both",
  msigdb_category = "H",
  from_type = "ENSEMBL"
)
get_enrichment_chord(msig, top_n = 5)


data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(200), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = names(comparisons(vista))[1],
  regulation = "Up", from_type = "ENSEMBL"
)

# Simple: pathway-coloured chords
get_enrichment_chord(msig)

# With fold-change colouring
get_enrichment_chord(
  msig, vista = vista,
  sample_comparison = names(comparisons(vista))[1],
  color_by = "foldchange"
)

# Hub genes only (shared across 2+ pathways)
pw_long <- get_pathway_genes(msig, return_type = "long")
if (any(table(pw_long$gene) >= 2)) {
```

```
  get_enrichment_chord(msig, min_pathways = 2)
}
```

`get_enrichment_plot` *Plot enrichment results using -log10(FDR)*

Description

Generates a dot plot of enrichment results for `enrichResult`, `gseaResult`, or `compareClusterResult` objects (including those returned by `enrichMsigDB()`). Points are sized by gene/set count and coloured by -log10(FDR). For compareCluster results, the plot is faceted by cluster with top terms selected per cluster.

Usage

```
get_enrichment_plot(x, top_n = 10, title = NULL)
```

Arguments

`x`	An object of class `enrichResult`, `gseaResult`, or `compareClusterResult`.
`top_n`	Integer; number of top terms to plot (per cluster for compareCluster).
`title`	Optional plot title.

Value

A `ggplot2` object.

Examples

```
## Not run:
v <- example_vista()
com <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
if (requireNamespace('msigdbr', quietly = TRUE)) {
 ms <- try(get_msigdb_enrichment(v, sample_comparison = com, regulation = 'Up', from_type = 'ENSEMBL'), silent = TR
 if (!inherits(ms, 'try-error') && !is.null(ms$enrich)) print(get_enrichment_plot(ms$enrich))
}

## End(Not run)
```

get_expression_barplot *Plot gene expression as barplots*

Description

Displays selected genes as grouped summary bars or individual sample-level bars. By default, expression is summarized per group with mean ± SD bars. With by = "sample", each sample is drawn separately.

Usage

```
get_expression_barplot(
  x,
  genes,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  stats_group = FALSE,
  facet_scale = "free_y",
  facet_scales = facet_scale,
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  p.label = "p.signif",
  comparisons = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  by = c("group", "sample"),
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  fill_by = NULL,
  facet_by = c("auto", "gene", "none")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
genes	Character vector (<=25 genes) to plot.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups (from group_column) to include.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info to use for grouping samples.
log_transform	Logical; log2-transform expression before plotting.
stats_group	Logical; add statistical comparisons between groups when TRUE.
facet_scale	Scaling option passed to facet_wrap() (deprecated; use facet_scales).
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() when faceting by gene.

facet_nrow, facet_ncol
: Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.

p.label
: Label format for ggpubr::stat_compare_means().

comparisons
: Optional list of specific group comparisons for stat_compare_means().

display_id
: Optional ID/column name to use for labels/facets. If supplied and present in rowData(x), those values are used; otherwise falls back to ID mapping.

display_from
: Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id is not found in rowData).

display_orgdb
: Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.

by
: One of "group" (default; summarize replicates by group) or "sample" (show one bar per sample).

sample_order
: Ordering used when by = "sample": "input" preserves the current sample order, "group" groups samples by group_column, and "expression" ranks samples by mean expression across the selected genes.

fill_by
: Fill mapping for by = "sample" barplots. Use "group" (default) or any discrete column from the joined plotting data, such as a sample metadata column or "sample". Group-summary barplots (by = "group") only support group-based fill because each bar already represents an aggregated group mean.

facet_by
: Faceting mode: "auto" (default; facet by gene when more than one gene is requested), "gene", or "none". For multiple genes, "none" falls back to "gene" to preserve readability.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
# Create VISTA object
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(200), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

# Plot expression for select genes
genes <- rownames(vista)[seq_len(3)]
get_expression_barplot(vista, genes = genes)

# With statistics
get_expression_barplot(vista, genes = genes, stats_group = TRUE)
```

```
# Without log transformation
get_expression_barplot(vista, genes = genes, log_transform = FALSE)
```

`get_expression_boxplot` *Plot gene expression distributions as boxplots*

Description

Displays per-sample or per-group distributions for selected genes using normalized counts. The x-axis unit is controlled by `by`, and faceting is controlled explicitly by `facet_by`.

Usage

```
get_expression_boxplot(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  facet_scales = "free_y",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  stats_group = FALSE,
  p.label = "p.signif",
  comparisons = NULL,
  pool_genes = FALSE,
  by = "group",
  facet_by = "auto",
  fill_by = NULL,
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression")
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object.
`genes`	Optional character vector of genes to display (<=20). Defaults to all genes.
`sample_group`	Optional character vector specifying which groups (as defined by `group_column`) to include.
`group_column`	Optional column name in `sample_info` used as the grouping variable.
`log_transform`	Logical; apply log2(x + 1) transform before plotting.

display_id	Optional column in rowData(x) to use for gene labels (facets).
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id is not found in rowData).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() (default "free_y").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
stats_group	Logical; add statistical comparisons between groups when TRUE. Only supported when by = "group".
p.label	Label format for ggpubr::stat_compare_means().
comparisons	Optional list of specific group comparisons for stat_compare_means().
pool_genes	Logical; when TRUE, pool selected genes into one distribution per x-axis category (scenario 1).
by	When pool_genes = TRUE, either "group" or "sample" (x-axis and optional fill). When pool_genes = FALSE, either "group" or "gene" (x-axis for per-gene distributions).
facet_by	Faceting control: for pooled genes, "group" or "none"; for per-gene, "none" (default) or "gene". "auto" selects the most readable layout.
fill_by	Fill mapping. Special values are "group", "gene", and "x" (the plotted x-axis variable, when available). You may also supply a discrete column from the joined plotting data, such as a sample metadata column or "sample".
sample_order	Ordering used when sample names are shown on the x-axis: "input", "group", or "expression".

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 3)
p <- get_expression_boxplot(v, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

---

get_expression_chromosome_plot

Chromosome plot for expression

Description

Convenience wrapper around get_chromosome_plot() for expression-based colouring (optional group mean, rowData columns, or assay columns).

Usage

```
get_expression_chromosome_plot(
  x,
  txdb,
  keytype = "GENEID",
  id_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  value_column = NULL,
  value_from = c("rowdata", "assay"),
  value_assay = "norm_counts",
  facet_value_columns = FALSE,
  side_by_side_groups = FALSE,
  paginate = TRUE,
  panels_per_page = 24,
  summarise_replicates = FALSE,
  summarise_method = c("mean", "median"),
  group_value = NULL,
  label_n = 20,
  label_genes = c("top", "all", "none"),
  display_id = NULL,
  line_length = 0.02,
  line_width = 0.6,
  filter_chrom = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  value_label = "log2(mean expr)"
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
txdb	A TxDb object (e.g., from **GenomicFeatures**).
keytype	Key type in the TxDb matching id_column (default "GENEID").
id_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used to match to TxDb keys. When NULL, rownames(x) are used as keys.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to label (alternative to label_top_n). When provided, all genes are plotted but only these are labeled. Defaults to NULL (no explicit label set).
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups (from group_column) used to subset assay columns when value_from = "assay".
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info used for sample_group selection and replicate summarisation.
value_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used for colouring.
value_from	Source for value_column data: "rowdata" (default) or "assay". When "assay", the selected assay column is copied into rowData temporarily for colouring.

value_assay Assay name to pull values from when value_from = "assay". Default "norm_counts".

facet_value_columns
Ignored (kept for compatibility); multiple value_columns are always arranged in a chromosome-by-column grid.

side_by_side_groups
Logical; when plotting multiple value_columns, arrange one row per chromosome with one panel per selected sample/group. This is useful for direct side-by-side group comparison.

paginate Logical; when TRUE, split large multi-panel chromosome plots into pages to avoid patchwork viewport-size errors.

panels_per_page
Maximum number of panels per page when paginate = TRUE. Set to NULL to disable automatic paging.

summarise_replicates
Logical; when TRUE and value_from = "assay", aggregate replicates by group_column before plotting.

summarise_method
"mean" or "median" summarisation used when summarise_replicates = TRUE.

group_value Optional group label (from group_column); when supplied, uses mean expression for that group for colouring (assay norm_counts).

label_n Integer; number of genes with the largest absolute values to label when genes is not supplied. Set to 0 to disable automatic labels.

label_genes One of "top" (default), "all", or "none" controlling chromosome text labels when genes is not supplied.

display_id Optional column in rowData(x) to use for point labels (fallback to gene_id/rownames).

line_length Horizontal half-length (in megabases) of the tick used to mark each gene position. Default 0.02. Increase for longer ticks.

line_width Line width of the tick marks. Default 0.6.

filter_chrom Optional character vector of chromosomes to keep (e.g., c("chr1","chr2")). When NULL, all chromosomes returned by the TxDb are shown.

log_transform Logical; when group_value is used (and value_column is NULL) or when value_from = "assay", apply log2(x + 1) before coloring.

value_label Optional legend title override for the colour scale.

Details

- If multiple value_columns are supplied, one plot is produced per column with its own colour legend titled by that column. Chromosomes are laid out top-down in a single column: for each chromosome, plots for all value_columns appear sequentially. Legends for each column are shown only on the first occurrence (at the bottom) to avoid overlap. Requires **patchwork**; otherwise a list of plots is returned.
- Set side_by_side_groups = TRUE to place selected groups/samples in separate columns for each chromosome (same-row comparison).
- paginate = TRUE automatically splits large panel collections into a list of patchwork pages, which prevents "viewport too small" rendering errors in IDE plot panes.

- For value_from = "assay", colours follow the VISTA ecosystem: group colours are used when summarise_replicates = TRUE, while sample colours are derived from group colours when plotting individual replicates.
- For value_from = "assay" with value_column = NULL, all selected assay columns are used (samples after sample_group filtering, or groups after replicate summarisation).
- Labels are kept consistent across value_columns: if genes is provided it is used for all panels; otherwise the top label_n (by absolute value in the first value_column) are used for all panels.
- When value_from = "assay", the specified assay column is copied into rowData on the fly so it can be used for colouring.
- When group_value is provided (and no value_column), colouring is based on log2 mean expression for that group (assay norm_counts), using a data-driven colour scale. Ignored when value_column is supplied.

Value

A ggplot2 object or a list of ggplot2 objects when multiple value_columns are provided and **patchwork** is unavailable.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- try(get_expression_chromosome_plot(v), silent = TRUE)
if (!inherits(p, 'try-error')) print(p)
```

---

get_expression_density

Plot expression distributions as density curves

Description

Shows expression distributions pooled across the selected genes, coloured by group (or sample), with optional faceting by group or sample.

Usage

```
get_expression_density(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  facet_scales = "free",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  alpha = 0.4,
```

```
  adjust = 1,
  color_by = c("group", "sample"),
  facet_by = c("none", "group", "sample"),
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  palette = NULL,
  colors = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
genes	Optional character vector of genes to display. Defaults to all genes.
sample_group	Optional character vector specifying which groups (as defined by group_column) to include.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info used as the grouping variable.
log_transform	Logical; apply log2(x + 1) transform before plotting.
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() (default "free").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
alpha	Numeric transparency for density fill.
adjust	Bandwidth adjustment factor passed to geom_density().
color_by	Either "group" (default) or "sample" to choose fill/color variable.
facet_by	One of "none" (default), "group", or "sample" to facet densities.
sample_order	Ordering for sample-level display: "input", "group", or "expression".
palette	Optional qualitative palette name used when generating colours.
colors	Optional named character vector of manual colours overriding palette.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 3)
p <- get_expression_density(v, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

get_expression_heatmap *Expression heatmap*

Description

Summarizes expression for selected genes/groups via ComplexHeatmap with optional transformations and annotations. With only a `VISTA` object, the function will plot the top variable genes across all samples.

Usage

```
get_expression_heatmap(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  top_n = 50,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  value_transform = c("zscore", "log2", "raw"),
  summarise_replicates = TRUE,
  summarise_method = c("mean", "median"),
  convert_rowmeans = FALSE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  repair_genes = FALSE,
  show_row_names = NULL,
  label_size = 10,
  label_specific_rows = NULL,
  label_specific_rows_gp = grid::gpar(fontsize = 5),
  show_column_names = TRUE,
  cluster_rows = TRUE,
  show_row_dend = TRUE,
  cluster_columns = TRUE,
  kmeans_k = NULL,
  annotate_columns = FALSE,
  cluster_by = NULL,
  column_anno_palette = "Dark 3",
  column_anno_colors = NULL,
  color_default = TRUE,
  col = NULL,
  heatmap_name = NULL,
  show_heatmap_legend = TRUE,
  return_type = c("heatmap", "clusters", "both"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to display. When omitted, VISTA selects the top variable genes across the included samples.
top_n	Integer number of genes to select automatically when genes = NULL. Defaults to 50.
sample_group	Character vector of group labels specifying which samples to include (based on the selected grouping column).
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info used to interpret sample_group.
value_transform	One of "zscore", "log2", or "raw" controlling how expression values are transformed.
summarise_replicates	Logical; average replicates per group before plotting when TRUE.
summarise_method	"mean" or "median" summarization used when summarise_replicates = TRUE.
convert_rowmeans	Logical; subtract row means prior to plotting.
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for row labels. If supplied
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when
repair_genes	Logical; if TRUE, split gene_id strings such as ID:SYMBOL to display the symbol.
show_row_names	Logical; display row names (genes) beside the heatmap. When NULL, VISTA turns labels on automatically for auto-selected genes.
label_size	Numeric font size for row names.
label_specific_rows	Optional character vector of row names to highlight via anno_mark().
label_specific_rows_gp	grid::gpar() object controlling the highlighted row labels.
show_column_names	Logical; draw column names when TRUE.
cluster_rows	Logical; cluster rows when drawing the heatmap.
show_row_dend	Logical; display the row dendrogram.
cluster_columns	Logical; cluster columns.
kmeans_k	Optional integer specifying the number of k-means clusters to compute for rows.
annotate_columns	Logical or character vector. TRUE adds the group_column annotation and also includes cluster_by when supplied; a character vector adds multiple annotations from sample_info.
cluster_by	Optional annotation column used to split/cluster columns. Defaults to the first annotation column when annotate_columns is enabled.

column_anno_palette
: Qualitative palette name used for the column annotation.

column_anno_colors
: Optional named list of annotation color vectors. Each element should be a named character vector keyed by the levels of one annotation column.

color_default
: Logical; use the default blue-white-red palette when TRUE. Set to FALSE to supply col.

col
: Optional circlize::colorRamp2 function used when color_default = FALSE.

heatmap_name
: Optional legend title.

show_heatmap_legend
: Logical; display the heatmap legend.

return_type
: "heatmap", "clusters", or "both" selecting the returned object.

...
: Additional arguments passed to ComplexHeatmap::Heatmap().

Value

An object returned by this function.

A ComplexHeatmap object, a cluster data frame, or a list containing both depending on return_type.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 20)
if (requireNamespace('ComplexHeatmap', quietly = TRUE) &&
    requireNamespace('circlize', quietly = TRUE)) {
  hm <- get_expression_heatmap(
    v,
    genes = genes,
    sample_group = unique(as.character(sample_info(v)$cond_long)),
    return_type = 'heatmap'
  )
  ComplexHeatmap::draw(hm)
}
v <- example_vista()
if (requireNamespace("ComplexHeatmap", quietly = TRUE) &&
    requireNamespace("circlize", quietly = TRUE)) {
  hm <- get_expression_heatmap(v, return_type = "heatmap")
  ComplexHeatmap::draw(hm)
}
```

---

get_expression_joyplot

Plot expression distributions as ridgelines

Description

Shows per-group (or per-sample) expression distributions pooled across the selected genes using ridge (joy) plots. Genes are pooled; no faceting to keep shapes comparable.

Usage

```
get_expression_joyplot(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  alpha = 0.7,
  scale = 1.2,
  y_by = c("group", "sample"),
  color_by = c("group", "sample"),
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  palette = NULL,
  colors = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
genes	Optional character vector of genes to display. Defaults to all genes.
sample_group	Optional character vector specifying which groups (as defined by group_column) to include.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info used as the grouping variable.
log_transform	Logical; apply log2(x + 1) transform before plotting.
alpha	Numeric transparency for fills.
scale	Numeric scaling factor for ridges (passed to geom_density_ridges()).
y_by	Either "group" (default) or "sample" to choose the y-axis (ridge) grouping.
color_by	Either "group" (default) or "sample" to choose fill colors.
sample_order	Ordering for sample-level display: "input", "group", or "expression".
palette	Optional qualitative palette name used when generating colours.
colors	Optional named character vector of manual colours overriding palette.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 3)
p <- get_expression_joyplot(v, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

`get_expression_lineplot` *Gene expression line plot*

Description

Plots normalized expression for selected genes across samples or summarized groups with optional transformations and group faceting.

Usage

```
get_expression_lineplot(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  facet_scales = "free_y",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  stats_group = FALSE,
  p.label = "p.signif",
  comparisons = NULL,
  pool_genes = FALSE,
  by = c("sample", "group"),
  facet_by = c("auto", "group", "gene", "none"),
  fill_by = NULL,
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  value_transform = NULL,
  palette = NULL,
  colors = NULL,
  line_width = 1,
  point_size = 2,
  base_size = 12
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object.
`genes`	Character vector of gene identifiers to plot.
`sample_group`	Optional character vector specifying which groups (values taken from `group_column`) to include.
`group_column`	Optional column name in `sample_info` defining the grouping/faceting variable.

log_transform	Logical; log2-transform expression values before plotting.
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for gene labels. If supplied and present in rowData(x), those values are used.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (reserved for compatibility with other expression plotting APIs).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.
facet_scales	Scaling option passed to facet_wrap().
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
stats_group	Logical retained for API consistency. Statistical overlays are not currently added by get_expression_lineplot().
p.label	Label format retained for API consistency with other expression plots.
comparisons	Optional list of comparisons retained for API consistency.
pool_genes	Logical; when TRUE, average the selected genes into a single trajectory.
by	Plot unit: "sample" (default) or "group" to average replicates before plotting.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "auto" (default), "none", "group", or "gene".
fill_by	Argument retained for API consistency; ignored because line plots use colour rather than fill.
sample_order	Ordering used for sample-level plots: "input", "group", or "expression".
value_transform	Deprecated compatibility alias for transformation choice; one of "log2", "zscore", or "none".
palette	Optional qualitative palette name used for gene colours.
colors	Optional named character vector of manual gene colours.
line_width	Line width.
point_size	Point size.
base_size	Base theme size.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 3)
p <- get_expression_lineplot(v, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

get_expression_lollipop *Plot expression as a lollipop chart*

Description

Displays selected genes as stem-and-dot (lollipop) plots. By default, expression is summarized per group (mean across replicates). With by = "sample", the plot shows individual samples.

Usage

```
get_expression_lollipop(
  x,
  genes,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  by = c("group", "sample"),
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  facet_by = c("auto", "gene", "none"),
  log_transform = TRUE,
  facet_scale = "free_y",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  point_size = 6,
  line_size = 1.2,
  label = TRUE,
  label_digits = 1,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
genes	Character vector (<=15 genes) to plot.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups (from group_column) to include.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info to use for grouping samples.
by	One of "group" (default; summarize replicates by group) or "sample" (show individual samples).
sample_order	Ordering used when by = "sample": "input" preserves the current sample order, "group" groups samples by group_column, and "expression" ranks samples by mean expression across the selected genes.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "auto" (default; facet by gene when more than one gene is requested), "gene", or "none". For multiple genes, "none" falls back to "gene" to avoid unreadable combined panels.

log_transform	Logical; log2-transform expression before plotting.
facet_scale	Scaling option passed to facet_wrap() when plotting multiple genes.
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
point_size	Numeric size of the dots.
line_size	Numeric size of the stems.
label	Logical; draw numeric labels above the dots.
label_digits	Integer; digits to show in labels when label = TRUE.
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for labels/facets. If supplied and present in rowData(x), those values are used; otherwise falls back to ID mapping.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id is not found in rowData).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.

Value

An object returned by this function.

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 5)
p <- get_expression_lollipop(v, genes = genes)
print(p)
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(200), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

genes <- rownames(vista)[seq_len(3)]
get_expression_lollipop(vista, genes = genes)
get_expression_lollipop(vista, genes = genes[seq_len(2)], by = "sample")
```

get_expression_matrix *Retrieve an expression matrix from a VISTA object*

Description

Returns the specified assay (default "norm_counts") with optional gene/sample subsetting, replicate summarization by group, and simple transformations.

Usage

```
get_expression_matrix(
  x,
  assay_name = "norm_counts",
  genes = NULL,
  sample_names = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  summarise = FALSE,
  transform = c("none", "log2", "zscore")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
assay_name	Assay to extract (default: "norm_counts").
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to keep.
sample_names	Optional character vector of sample IDs (or group labels when summarise = TRUE) to keep.
group_column	Optional column in sample_info used when summarising replicates. Defaults to the stored group_column.
summarise	Logical; if TRUE, averages replicates per group_column.
transform	One of "none", "log2", or "zscore" applied after subsetting and optional summarisation. Z-scores are computed within the selected samples/columns.

Value

A numeric matrix with genes in rows and samples (or groups) in columns.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
m <- get_expression_matrix(v)
dim(m)
```

`get_expression_raincloud` *Raincloud plot of expression values*

Description

Uses `ggrain::geom_rain()` to combine a half-violin, boxplot, and jittered points per sample/group to show distribution, summary, and individual values.

Usage

```
get_expression_raincloud(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  by = "group",
  value_transform = c("log2", "zscore", "none"),
  summarise = FALSE,
  facet_by = c("auto", "gene", "none"),
  fill_by = NULL,
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  rain_side = c("r", "l", "f", "f1x1", "f2x2"),
  id.long.var = NULL,
  alpha = 0.5,
  point_size = 1.5,
  p.label = "p.signif",
  stats_group = FALSE,
  stats_method = "t.test",
  label = FALSE,
  label_column = "gene",
  label_size = 3,
  label_max_overlaps = 50,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object.
`genes`	Optional character vector of gene IDs to include; defaults to all genes selected by the plotting mode.
`sample_group`	Optional subset of groups (values of `group_column`) to keep.

group_column Grouping column in sample_info; defaults to the stored grouping.

by Plot unit. Violin plots currently support only "group".

value_transform
Deprecated compatibility alias. "log2" maps to log_transform = TRUE, "none" maps to FALSE, and "zscore" applies a per-gene z-score transform.

summarise Logical; when TRUE, collapse replicates within each group for each gene (one value per gene per group). This is useful for pooled multi-gene raincloud plots where each dot represents one gene-level summary in a group.

facet_by Faceting mode. Uses the same argument pattern as get_expression_boxplot(), but pool_genes = TRUE falls back to "none" because pooled violins already aggregate across genes.

fill_by Fill mapping. Uses the same values as get_expression_boxplot(), including discrete sample metadata columns.

facet_nrow, facet_ncol
Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.

sample_order Ordering for sample-level display before values are grouped into violins.

rain_side Side specification passed to ggrain::geom_rain(); one of "r", "l", "f", "f1x1", or "f2x2".

id.long.var Optional column name passed to ggrain::geom_rain() as id.long.var to identify repeated measurements.

alpha Alpha for jittered points.

point_size Point size for jittered points.

p.label Label type passed to ggpubr::stat_compare_means().

stats_group Logical; add pairwise statistical tests when TRUE.

stats_method Statistical method passed to ggpubr::stat_compare_means().

label Logical; add text labels to points using ggrepel.

label_column Column name in the plotting data used for labels. Defaults to "gene" for expression raincloud plots.

label_size Text size for point labels.

label_max_overlaps
Maximum overlaps passed to ggrepel::geom_text_repel().

display_id Optional ID/column name to use for labels. If supplied and present in rowData(x), those values are used; otherwise falls back to ID mapping.

display_from Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id is not found in rowData).

display_orgdb Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.

Details

id.long.var controls which repeated unit is connected by lines in ggrain::geom_rain().

Recommended usage for expression raincloud plots:

- `id.long.var = NULL` (default): best for clean distribution summaries.
- `id.long.var = "gene"`: best when plotting a small number of genes and showing gene-level trajectories across x levels.
- `id.long.var = "<subject_id_column>"`: best for paired/repeated-measure designs when a subject ID exists in `sample_info`.
- `id.long.var = "sample"` or the grouping variable is usually less informative and can over-connect points.
- Point labels (`label = TRUE`) work best with `facet_by = "none"` or a small number of genes.

For identifier display consistency with other VISTA plotting functions, set `display_id` (for example, `"SYMBOL"`). When provided, `genes` can be given in that ID space, and default point labels use the mapped display IDs.

Value

A `ggplot2` object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 5)
p <- get_expression_raincloud(v, genes = genes, summarise = TRUE)
print(p)
```

---

get_expression_scatter

Compare normalized expression between two samples or groups

Description

Plots gene-level expression for two selected samples or group means, colours points by local density (viridis), labels the most divergent genes, and reports Pearson/Spearman correlation.

Usage

```
get_expression_scatter(
  x,
  sample_x,
  sample_y,
  by = c("sample", "group"),
  group_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  label_n = 20,
  label_size = 3,
  method = c("pearson", "spearman"),
  display_id = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_x	First sample or group to plot (character scalar).
sample_y	Second sample or group to plot (character scalar).
by	One of "sample" (use individual samples) or "group" (average replicates within group_column before plotting). Default "sample".
group_column	Column in sample_info used when by = "group" (defaults to stored grouping column).
genes	Optional character vector of genes to include; defaults to all.
log_transform	Logical; apply log2(x + 1) transform. Default TRUE.
label_n	Integer; number of most divergent genes to label (ranked by |x - y|). Set to 0 to disable labels.
label_size	Numeric size for labeled genes.
method	Correlation method for the subtitle; "pearson" (default) or "spearman".
display_id	Optional column in rowData(x) to use for point labels (fallback to gene_id/rownames when not available).

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
si <- as.data.frame(sample_info(v))
genes <- head(rownames(v), 50)
p <- get_expression_scatter(
  v,
  sample_x = si$sample_names[1],
  sample_y = si$sample_names[2],
  genes = genes
)
print(p)
```

---

get_expression_violinplot

Violin plot of expression values

Description

Mirrors the main user-facing arguments of get_expression_boxplot() so the two geoms can be swapped with minimal code changes. Violin plots currently keep group-based semantics (by = "group") because a violin requires replicate-level distributions within groups rather than one value per sample.

Usage

```
get_expression_violinplot(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  log_transform = TRUE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  facet_scales = "free_y",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  stats_group = FALSE,
  p.label = "p.signif",
  comparisons = NULL,
  pool_genes = FALSE,
  by = "group",
  facet_by = c("auto", "gene", "none"),
  fill_by = NULL,
  sample_order = c("input", "group", "expression"),
  value_transform = NULL,
  summarise = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to include; defaults to all genes selected by the plotting mode.
sample_group	Optional subset of groups (values of group_column) to keep.
group_column	Grouping column in sample_info; defaults to the stored grouping.
log_transform	Logical; log2-transform expression values before plotting.
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for labels/facets. If supplied and present in rowData(x), those values are used.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (reserved for compatibility with get_expression_boxplot()).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData (reserved for compatibility with get_expression_boxplot()).
facet_scales	Scaling option passed to facet_wrap().
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
stats_group	Logical; add statistical comparisons between groups when TRUE.
p.label	Label format for ggpubr::stat_compare_means().
comparisons	Optional list of specific group comparisons for stat_compare_means().

pool_genes	Logical; pool all selected genes into one violin per group.
by	Plot unit. Violin plots currently support only "group".
facet_by	Faceting mode. Uses the same argument pattern as get_expression_boxplot(), but pool_genes = TRUE falls back to "none" because pooled violins already aggregate across genes.
fill_by	Fill mapping. Uses the same values as get_expression_boxplot(), including discrete sample metadata columns.
sample_order	Ordering for sample-level display before values are grouped into violins.
value_transform	Deprecated compatibility alias. "log2" maps to log_transform = TRUE, "none" maps to FALSE, and "zscore" applies a per-gene z-score transform.
summarise	Logical retained for compatibility. Violin plots always use replicate-level values, so summarise = TRUE is ignored with a warning.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
genes <- head(rownames(v), 4)
p <- get_expression_violinplot(v, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

---

get_foldchange_barplot

Plot fold-change barplots across comparisons for selected genes

---

Description

Plots log2 fold changes for selected genes across one or more comparisons. facet_by controls per-gene or per-comparison layout explicitly.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_barplot(
  x,
  genes,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  coord_flip = FALSE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  sort_by = c("input", "log2fc", "abs_log2fc"),
  facet_scales = "free_y",
```

```
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  facet_by = c("auto", "gene", "comparison", "none")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing differential expression results.
genes	Character vector of gene IDs to plot.
sample_comparisons	Optional character vector of comparison names to include; defaults to all available.
coord_flip	Logical; flip axes when TRUE.
display_id	Optional column in rowData(x) to use for gene labels. Input gene matching still uses gene_id.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for identifier mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
sort_by	How to order genes when faceting: "input" (use supplied order), "log2fc" (descending log2FC of the first comparison), or "abs_log2fc" (descending max absolute log2FC across comparisons).
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() when faceting (default "free_y").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "auto" (default), "gene", "comparison", or "none".

Value

An object returned by this function.

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- head(as.character(comparisons(v)[[comp]]$gene_id), 10)
p <- get_foldchange_barplot(v, sample_comparison = comp, genes = genes)
print(p)
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(200), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
```

```
  group_denominator = "control"
)

genes <- rownames(vista)[seq_len(3)]
get_foldchange_barplot(vista, genes = genes)
get_foldchange_barplot(vista, genes = genes, facet_by = "gene")
```

`get_foldchange_boxplot` *Plot fold-change distributions across comparisons*

Description

Builds boxplots of log2 fold changes for selected genes and comparisons, optionally adding statistics.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_boxplot(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  facet_scales = "free_x",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  facet_by = c("auto", "comparison", "none"),
  p.label = "p.signif",
  stats_group = FALSE,
  stats_method = "t.test"
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object containing differential expression results.
`genes`	Optional character vector of gene IDs to include.
`sample_comparisons`	Optional character vector of comparison names to plot.
`display_id`	Optional ID/column name used to interpret `genes` and, when possible, map fold-change gene identifiers to display-friendly labels.
`display_from`	Optional source ID type for mapping when `display_id` is not present in `rowData(x)`.
`display_orgdb`	Optional `OrgDb` object used for identifier mapping when `display_id` is not present in `rowData(x)`.

facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() when facet_by != "none" (default "free_x").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "auto" (default), "comparison", or "none".
p.label	Label type passed to ggpubr::stat_compare_means().
stats_group	Logical; add pairwise statistical tests when TRUE.
stats_method	Statistical method passed to ggpubr::stat_compare_means().

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- head(as.character(comparisons(v)[[comp]]$gene_id), 10)
p <- get_foldchange_boxplot(v, sample_comparison = comp, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

---

get_foldchange_chromosome_plot

Chromosome plot for fold change

Description

Convenience wrapper around get_chromosome_plot() for fold-change colouring. When multiple comparisons are supplied, panels are facetted by comparison with log2FC clipped to +/-2.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_chromosome_plot(
  x,
  txdb,
  keytype = "GENEID",
  id_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_comparison = NULL,
  value_column = NULL,
  label_n = 20,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  line_length = 0.02,
  line_width = 0.6,
  filter_chrom = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
txdb	A TxDb object (e.g., from **GenomicFeatures**).
keytype	Key type in the TxDb matching id_column (default "GENEID").
id_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used to match to TxDb keys. When NULL, rownames(x) are used as keys.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to label (alternative to label_top_n). When provided, all genes are plotted but only these are labeled. Defaults to NULL (no explicit label set).
sample_comparison	Optional comparison name (or vector of names) used for fold-change colouring.
value_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used for colouring.
label_n	Integer; number of genes with the largest absolute fold-change to label when genes is not supplied. Set to 0 to disable labels.
display_id	Optional column in rowData(x) to use for point labels (fallback to gene_id/rownames).
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for identifier mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
line_length	Horizontal half-length (in megabases) of the tick used to mark each gene position. Default 0.02. Increase for longer ticks.
line_width	Line width of the tick marks. Default 0.6.
filter_chrom	Optional character vector of chromosomes to keep (e.g., c("chr1","chr2")). When NULL, all chromosomes returned by the TxDb are shown.

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- try(get_foldchange_chromosome_plot(v, sample_comparison = names(comparisons(v))[1]), silent = TRUE)
if (!inherits(p, 'try-error')) print(p)
```

---

get_foldchange_heatmap *Fold-change heatmap*

Description

Visualizes log2 fold-change matrices across comparisons with ComplexHeatmap, supporting clustering and annotations. With only a VISTA object, the function will plot the top DE genes across the stored comparisons.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_heatmap(
  x,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  top_n = 10,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  repair_genes = FALSE,
  show_row_names = NULL,
  label_size = 10,
  label_specific_rows = NULL,
  label_specific_rows_gp = grid::gpar(fontsize = 5),
  show_column_names = TRUE,
  cluster_rows = TRUE,
  show_row_dend = TRUE,
  cluster_columns = TRUE,
  kmeans_k = NULL,
  annotate_columns = FALSE,
  column_anno_palette = "Set2",
  color_default = TRUE,
  col = NULL,
  heatmap_name = NULL,
  show_heatmap_legend = TRUE,
  return_type = c("heatmap", "clusters", "both"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object with stored differential expression results.
sample_comparisons	Optional character vector of comparison names to include. Defaults to all available comparisons.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to display. When omitted, VISTA selects the top DE genes from each comparison by absolute log2 fold-change.
top_n	Integer number of genes to select per comparison when genes = NULL. Defaults to 10.
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for plot labels. If supplied
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when
repair_genes	Logical; attempt to simplify gene_id strings by removing prefixes.
show_row_names	Logical; draw row (gene) names. When NULL, VISTA turns labels on automatically for auto-selected genes.
label_size	Numeric font size for row names.

label_specific_rows
: Optional character vector of genes to highlight with `anno_mark()`.

label_specific_rows_gp
: `grid::gpar()` object controlling highlighted labels.

show_column_names
: Logical; draw column labels.

cluster_rows
: Logical; cluster rows.

show_row_dend
: Logical; display the row dendrogram.

cluster_columns
: Logical; cluster columns.

kmeans_k
: Optional integer specifying the number of k-means clusters for rows.

annotate_columns
: Logical; add annotation bars keyed to the sample grouping column.

column_anno_palette
: Qualitative palette name used for column annotations.

color_default
: Logical; use the default diverging palette when `TRUE`. Set to `FALSE` to supply `col`.

col
: Optional `circlize::colorRamp2` color function used when `color_default = FALSE`.

heatmap_name
: Optional legend title.

show_heatmap_legend
: Logical; display the heatmap legend.

return_type
: `"heatmap"`, `"clusters"`, or `"both"` selecting the returned value.

...
: Additional arguments forwarded to `ComplexHeatmap::Heatmap()`.

Value

An object returned by this function.

A `ComplexHeatmap` object, a cluster data frame, or a list containing both depending on `return_type`.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- unique(stats::na.omit(as.character(comparisons(v)[[comp]]$gene_id)))[seq_len(20)]
if (requireNamespace('ComplexHeatmap', quietly = TRUE) &&
    requireNamespace('circlize', quietly = TRUE)) {
  hm <- get_foldchange_heatmap(
    v,
    sample_comparisons = comp,
    genes = genes,
    return_type = 'heatmap'
  )
  ComplexHeatmap::draw(hm)
}
v <- example_vista()
```

```
if (requireNamespace("ComplexHeatmap", quietly = TRUE) &&
    requireNamespace("circlize", quietly = TRUE)) {
  hm <- get_foldchange_heatmap(v, return_type = "heatmap")
  ComplexHeatmap::draw(hm)
}
```

`get_foldchange_lineplot` *Fold-change line plot across comparisons*

Description

Plots log2 fold-change trajectories for selected genes across multiple comparisons, optionally clustering genes.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_lineplot(
  x,
  sample_comparisons,
  genes = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  km = NULL,
  facet_by = c("none", "cluster"),
  facet_scales = "fixed",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  alpha = 0.5,
  palette = NULL,
  show_summary = TRUE,
  summary_color = NULL,
  summary_linewidth = 1,
  summary_fun = c("median", "mean"),
  base_size = 14
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object containing differential expression results.
`sample_comparisons`	Character vector of comparison names to include.
`genes`	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to plot. Defaults to all genes.
`display_id`	Optional ID/column name used to interpret `genes` and map the returned cluster table to display-friendly labels.

display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for identifier mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
km	Optional integer specifying the number of k-means clusters to compute; NULL disables clustering.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "none" (default) or "cluster" when k-means clustering is requested.
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() when facet_by = "cluster" (default "fixed").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
alpha	Numeric alpha applied to individual gene lines.
palette	Optional named or unnamed color vector used for cluster lines.
show_summary	Logical; overlay a summary line per cluster when TRUE.
summary_color	Color used for the summary line. When NULL, uses the first comparison color (if stored) for consistency across plots.
summary_linewidth	Numeric line width for the summary line.
summary_fun	Character string selecting "median" or "mean" for the summary statistic.
base_size	Numeric base theme size.

Value

An object returned by this function.

A list with plot (the ggplot2 object) and clustered_data (gene-to-cluster assignments).

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- head(as.character(comparisons(v)[[comp]]$gene_id), 5)
p <- get_foldchange_lineplot(v, sample_comparison = comp, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

---

get_foldchange_lollipop

Fold-change plotting helpers (overview)

Description

One-stop doc for fold-change plots:

- get_foldchange_barplot(): log2FC by comparison (bars).
- get_foldchange_boxplot(): log2FC distributions per comparison (boxes).
- get_foldchange_lollipop(): log2FC stems/dots; supports 1–2 comparisons.
- get_foldchange_lineplot(): log2FC trajectories across comparisons (optional clustering).

Usage

```
get_foldchange_lollipop(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  genes = NULL,
  sort_by = c("input", "log2fc", "abs_log2fc"),
  palette = NULL,
  point_size = 6,
  line_size = 1.2,
  label = TRUE,
  label_digits = 2,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  dodge_width = 0.5,
  facet_scales = "free_y",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  facet_by = c("auto", "gene", "comparison", "none")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_comparison	Character vector of length 1 or 2 naming the comparison(s) to plot (must exist in metadata(x)$de_results).
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to include. When NULL, all genes in the specified comparison(s) are shown.
sort_by	How to sort genes on the y-axis: "input" (use supplied order), "log2fc" (descending log2FC; for two comparisons uses the first comparison), or "abs_log2fc" (descending max abs log2FC across comparisons).
palette	For a single comparison, named vector of colors for "pos", "neg", and "zero" sign classes (set to NULL to disable color by sign). For two comparisons, a named or unnamed vector of colors with one entry per comparison (defaults to a qualitative palette).
point_size	Numeric size of dots.
line_size	Numeric size of stems (linewidth).
label	Logical; draw numeric labels next to the dots.
label_digits	Integer; digits to show in labels when label = TRUE.
display_id	Optional column in rowData(x) used to interpret genes and to label plotted genes.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for identifier mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).

dodge_width	Horizontal separation between comparisons when plotting two comparisons on the same axis.
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() when facet_by != "none" (default "free_y").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "auto" (default), "gene", "comparison", or "none".

Details

Shared arguments: x (VISTA with DE results), sample_comparisons/sample_comparison, genes, display_id for label mapping, sort_by (where supported), faceting controls (facet_*), and comparison colours pulled from Plot log2 fold changes as a lollipop chart (one or two comparisons)

Extracts log2 fold changes from stored differential expression results and plots them as stems and dots, with labels and a zero reference line. You can optionally provide two comparisons; in that case both comparisons are drawn side-by-side, coloured by comparison.

Value

An object returned by this function.

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- head(as.character(comparisons(v)[[comp]]$gene_id), 10)
p <- get_foldchange_lollipop(v, sample_comparison = comp, genes = genes)
print(p)
vista <- example_vista()
comp_name <- names(comparisons(vista))[1]
genes <- rownames(vista)[seq_len(3)]
get_foldchange_lollipop(vista, sample_comparison = comp_name, genes = genes)
```

---

get_foldchange_matrix *Extract a log2 fold-change matrix*

Description

Returns a gene-by-comparison matrix of log2 fold changes stored in a VISTA object.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_matrix(x, sample_comparisons = NULL, genes = NULL)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing differential expression results.
sample_comparisons	Optional character vector of comparison names. Defaults to all available comparisons.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers. When omitted, all genes present in `row_data(x)` are returned.

Value

A numeric matrix with genes in rows and comparisons in columns.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
mat <- get_foldchange_matrix(v)
dim(mat)
```

---

get_foldchange_raincloud

Raincloud plot of fold-change distributions across comparisons

---

Description

Uses `ggrain::geom_rain()` to display log2 fold-change distributions for selected comparisons, with optional statistical testing across comparisons.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_raincloud(
  x,
  genes = NULL,
  sample_comparisons = NULL,
  facet_scales = "free_x",
  facet_nrow = NULL,
  facet_ncol = NULL,
  facet_by = c("auto", "comparison", "none"),
  rain_side = c("r", "l", "f", "f1x1", "f2x2"),
  id.long.var = NULL,
  alpha = 0.5,
  point_size = 1.5,
  p.label = "p.signif",
  stats_group = FALSE,
  stats_method = "t.test",
  label = FALSE,
  label_column = "gene_id",
```

```
  label_size = 3,
  label_max_overlaps = 50,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing differential expression results.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to include.
sample_comparisons	Optional character vector of comparison names to plot.
facet_scales	Facet scales argument passed to facet_wrap() when facet_by != "none" (default "free_x").
facet_nrow, facet_ncol	Optional layout passed to facet_wrap() when faceting.
facet_by	Faceting mode: "auto" (default), "comparison", or "none".
rain_side	Side specification passed to ggrain::geom_rain(); one of "r", "l", "f", "f1x1", or "f2x2".
id.long.var	Optional column name passed to ggrain::geom_rain() as id.long.var to identify repeated measurements.
alpha	Alpha for jittered points.
point_size	Point size for jittered points.
p.label	Label type passed to ggpubr::stat_compare_means().
stats_group	Logical; add pairwise statistical tests when TRUE.
stats_method	Statistical method passed to ggpubr::stat_compare_means().
label	Logical; add text labels to points using ggrepel.
label_column	Column name in the plotting data used for labels. Defaults to "gene_id" for fold-change raincloud plots.
label_size	Text size for point labels.
label_max_overlaps	Maximum overlaps passed to ggrepel::geom_text_repel().
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for labels. If supplied and present in rowData(x), those values are used; otherwise falls back to ID mapping.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id is not found in rowData).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.

Details

`id.long.var` controls which repeated unit is connected by lines in `ggrain::geom_rain()`.

Recommended usage for fold-change raincloud plots:

- `id.long.var = NULL` (default): best for clean distribution summaries.
- `id.long.var = "gene_id"`: most useful option; connects each gene across comparisons.
- `id.long.var = "comparison"` is generally not useful because comparison is already on the x-axis.
- Continuous value columns (e.g. `log2FoldChange`) are not suitable identifiers for line connections.
- Point labels (`label = TRUE`) work best with `facet_by = "none"` unless only a small set of genes is shown.

For identifier display consistency with other VISTA plotting functions, set `display_id` (for example, `"SYMBOL"`). When provided, `genes` can be given in that ID space, and default point labels use the mapped display IDs.

Value

A `ggplot2` object.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- head(as.character(comparisons(v)[[comp]]$gene_id), 20)
p <- get_foldchange_raincloud(v, sample_comparison = comp, genes = genes)
print(p)
```

---

get_foldchange_scatter

Fold-change scatterplot between two comparisons

Description

Plots log2 fold changes from two stored comparisons against each other, with points coloured by concordant/discordant regulation based on the cutoffs saved in the `VISTA` object.

Usage

```
get_foldchange_scatter(
  x,
  sample_comparisons,
  genes = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
```

```
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  label_n = 0,
  alpha = 0.5,
  geometry = c("point", "hex"),
  method = c("pearson", "spearman"),
  colors = c(`Up/Up` = "#1b9e77", `Down/Down` = "#7570b3", `Up/Down` = "#d95f02",
    `Down/Up` = "#e7298a", Other = "grey70"),
  point_size = 1.5,
  label_size = 3,
  base_size = 12
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing DE results.
sample_comparisons	Character vector of length 2 naming the comparisons.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers used to subset the comparison overlap before plotting.
display_id	Optional ID/column name used to interpret genes and to label highlighted points.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for identifier mapping when display_id is not present in rowData(x).
label_n	Integer; number of most extreme points to label (by |log2FC1| + |log2FC2|).
alpha	Point transparency.
geometry	Geometry used for the data layer: "point" or "hex".
method	Correlation method for the subtitle; "pearson" or "spearman".
colors	Named vector of concordance colours.
point_size	Point size used when geometry = "point".
label_size	Text size for labeled genes.
base_size	Base theme size.

Details

Points are coloured by concordance status using fixed colours:

- Up/Up = #1b9e77
- Down/Down = #7570b3
- Up/Down = #d95f02
- Down/Up = #e7298a
- Other = grey70

Regulation is derived from the log2fc and pval cutoffs stored in cutoffs(x) (and p_value_type from the same list, defaulting to "padj").

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
## Not run:
data('count_data', package = 'VISTA')
data('sample_metadata', package = 'VISTA')
cell_levels <- unique(sample_metadata$cell)
if (length(cell_levels) >= 3) {
 v <- create_vista(count_data[seq_len(150), ], sample_metadata, column_geneid = 'gene_id', group_column = 'cell',
             group_numerator = cell_levels[2:3], group_denominator = rep(cell_levels[1], 2),
                   min_counts = 5, min_replicates = 1)
  comp_names <- names(comparisons(v))[seq_len(2)]
  p <- get_foldchange_scatter(v, sample_comparisons = comp_names)
  print(p)
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

get_genes_by_regulation

Get Genes by Regulation

Description

Extract gene IDs by regulation class from selected comparisons in a VISTA object.

Usage

```
get_genes_by_regulation(
  x,
  sample_comparisons,
  regulation = "Both",
  top_n = NULL,
  display_id = NULL,
  return_type = c("list", "table")
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_comparisons	Character vector of comparison names to include.
regulation	One of "Up", "Down", "Both", or "All" (default: "Both").
top_n	Optional integer limiting each comparison to the top DE genes ranked by absolute log2 fold change after regulation filtering.

display_id	Optional column name in rowData(x) to append when return_type = "table", for example "SYMBOL".
return_type	Either "list" (default) to return gene ID vectors or "table" to return one data frame per comparison with gene metadata.

Value

A named list of character vectors (one per comparison) when return_type = "list", or a named list of data frames when return_type = "table".

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
genes <- get_genes_by_regulation(v, sample_comparisons = comp, regulation = 'Up', top_n = 20)
str(genes, max.level = 1)
```

---

get_go_enrichment *Run GO enrichment directly from a VISTA comparison*

Description

Run GO enrichment directly from a VISTA comparison

Usage

```
get_go_enrichment(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  regulation = c("Up", "Down", "Both", "All"),
  ont = c("BP", "MF", "CC"),
  from_type = "SYMBOL",
  orgdb = NULL,
  species = "Mus musculus",
  background = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object with DE results.
sample_comparison	Comparison name to use.
regulation	One of "Up", "Down", "Both", or "All"; selects genes.
ont	GO ontology: "BP", "MF", or "CC".
from_type	Identifier type in the DE tables (default "SYMBOL").

orgdb	OrgDb object; defaults to mouse/human based on species.
species	Species name to infer default OrgDb.
background	Optional background gene set; default uses all features.
...	Passed to clusterProfiler::enrichGO().

Value

A list with enrich containing an enrichResult.

Examples

```
## Not run:
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
if (requireNamespace('org.Mm.eg.db', quietly = TRUE)) {
 out <- try(get_go_enrichment(v, sample_comparison = comp, ont = 'BP', from_type = 'ENSEMBL',
                              orgdb = org.Mm.eg.db::org.Mm.eg.db), silent = TRUE)
  if (!inherits(out, 'try-error')) out
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

get_gsea *Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) from a VISTA comparison*

Description

Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) from a VISTA comparison

Usage

```
get_gsea(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  set_type = c("msigdb", "go", "kegg"),
  from_type = "SYMBOL",
  orgdb = NULL,
  species = "Mus musculus",
  msigdb_category = "H",
  msigdb_subcategory = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object with DE results.
sample_comparison	Comparison name to use.
set_type	One of "msigdb", "go", or "kegg" selecting the gene set source.
from_type	Identifier type in the DE tables (default "SYMBOL").
orgdb	OrgDb object; defaults to mouse/human based on species.
species	Species name to infer default OrgDb.
msigdb_category, msigdb_subcategory	Passed to msigdbr::msigdbr() when set_type = "msigdb".
...	Additional arguments forwarded to the underlying GSEA function: clusterProfiler::GSEA() (msigdb TERM2GENE), gseGO(), or gseKEGG() depending on set_type.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
## Not run:
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
if (requireNamespace('msigdbr', quietly = TRUE)) {
 out <- try(get_gsea(v, sample_comparison = comp, set_type = 'msigdb', from_type = 'ENSEMBL', species = 'Homo sapie
  if (!inherits(out, 'try-error')) out
}

## End(Not run)
```

---

get_kegg_enrichment *Run KEGG enrichment directly from a VISTA comparison*

Description

Run KEGG enrichment directly from a VISTA comparison

Usage

```
get_kegg_enrichment(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  regulation = c("Up", "Down", "Both", "All"),
  from_type = "SYMBOL",
  orgdb = NULL,
  species = "Mus musculus",
  kegg_species = NULL,
```

```
  background = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object with DE results.
sample_comparison	Comparison name to use.
regulation	One of "Up", "Down", "Both", or "All"; selects genes.
from_type	Identifier type in the DE tables (default "SYMBOL").
orgdb	OrgDb object; defaults to mouse/human based on species.
species	Species name to infer default OrgDb.
kegg_species	KEGG organism code (e.g., "mmu" or "hsa"). If NULL, inferred from species.
background	Optional background gene set; default uses all features.
...	Passed to clusterProfiler::enrichGO().

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comp <- names(comparisons(v))[1]
if (requireNamespace('org.Mm.eg.db', quietly = TRUE)) {
 out <- try(get_kegg_enrichment(v, sample_comparison = comp, from_type = 'ENSEMBL', orgdb = org.Mm.eg.db::org.Mm.e
  if (!inherits(out, 'try-error')) out
}
```

---

get_ma_plot *Generate MA plot from a VISTA object*

Description

Create an MA plot (log2 fold change vs mean expression) for a selected comparison contained in a VISTA object. Genes are coloured by their regulation class and the top results can be optionally labeled with gene IDs.

Usage

```
get_ma_plot(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  point_size = 1.2,
  alpha = 0.6,
  colors = c(Up = "#a40000", Down = "#16317d", Other = "gray70"),
  label_n = 0,
  label_size = 3,
  repair_genes = FALSE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_comparison	Character scalar naming the comparison to plot. Must match one of `names(comparisons(x))`.
point_size	Numeric point size. Default: 1.2.
alpha	Numeric transparency (0-1). Default: 0.6.
colors	Named character vector of colors for `"Up"`, `"Down"`, and `"Other"` genes.
label_n	Integer number of genes to label. Default: 0.
label_size	Text size for labels. Default: 3.
repair_genes	Logical; if `TRUE`, attempt to shorten gene identifiers to symbols by stripping prefixes. Default: `FALSE`.
display_id	Optional ID/column name to use for labels. If supplied and present in `rowData(x)`, those values are used; otherwise falls back to ID mapping.
display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when `display_id` is not found in `rowData`).
display_orgdb	Optional `OrgDb` used for ID mapping when `display_id` is set but not found in `rowData`.

Value

A `ggplot` MA plot.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_ma_plot(v, sample_comparison = names(comparisons(v))[1])
print(p)
```

get_mds_plot *Generate an MDS plot for samples in a VISTA object*

Description

Runs classical multidimensional scaling on normalized counts, optionally restricting to groups or genes.

Usage

```
get_mds_plot(
  x,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  top_n_genes = NULL,
  label = FALSE,
  label_size = 3,
  point_size = 10,
  shape_by = NULL,
  shape_values = NULL,
  color_by = NULL,
  use_vista_colors = NULL,
  palette = NULL,
  colors = NULL,
  use_group_colors = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups to include (based on the column specified by group_column).
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info to use for grouping/filtering.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to restrict the matrix.
top_n_genes	Optional integer selecting the top variable genes to include.
label	Logical; draw sample labels when TRUE.
label_size	Numeric size of sample labels when label = TRUE.
point_size	Numeric size for points.
shape_by	Optional column name in sample_info used to map point shape. When NULL, shapes are not mapped.
shape_values	Optional vector of shapes passed to scale_shape_manual() when shape_by is set. Use a named vector to map shapes to specific levels.

color_by — Optional column name in sample_info used for point colour. Defaults to the active grouping column.

use_vista_colors — Deprecated alias for use_group_colors. When supplied, it overrides use_group_colors.

palette — Optional qualitative palette name used when generating colours for non-group metadata levels.

colors — Optional named character vector of manual colours overriding both palette and stored VISTA colours.

use_group_colors — Logical; when TRUE, prefer the stored VISTA group colours when colouring by the grouping column.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_mds_plot(v)
print(p)
```

---

get_msigdb_enrichment *Run MSigDB enrichment directly from a VISTA comparison*

Description

Convenience wrapper that pulls regulated genes from a stored differential expression comparison in a VISTA object and runs enrichMsigDB() on them.

Usage

```
get_msigdb_enrichment(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  regulation = c("Up", "Down", "Both", "All"),
  from_type = "SYMBOL",
  orgdb,
  msigdb_category = "H",
  msigdb_subcategory = NULL,
  species = "Mus musculus",
  background = NULL,
  col_genetype = "GENETYPE",
  feature_type = "protein-coding",
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object with DE results in metadata(x)$de_results.
sample_comparison	Character scalar naming the comparison to use.
regulation	One of "Up", "Down", "Both", or "All"; selects which genes to send to enrichment.
from_type	Identifier type of the genes in the DE table (passed to enrichMsigDB(), default "SYMBOL"). Ensembl versions are stripped automatically.
orgdb	An OrgDb object used for ID conversion (passed through). If omitted, the default is chosen from species (mouse/human).
msigdb_category	MSigDB category (e.g., "H", "C2", "C5"). Default "H".
msigdb_subcategory	Optional MSigDB sub-collection. Default NULL.
species	Species name for MSigDB (default "Mus musculus").
background	Optional background gene set (passed to enrichMsigDB()). Default NULL uses all features in x (optionally filtered by feature_type).
col_genetype	Column in rowData(x) used to filter background by gene type. Default "GENETYPE".
feature_type	Gene type to retain in the background when filtering. Default "protein-coding".
...	Additional arguments forwarded to enrichMsigDB().

Value

A list with enrich containing an enrichResult.

Examples

```
if (requireNamespace("msigdbr", quietly = TRUE)) {
  vista <- example_vista()
  comp <- names(comparisons(vista))[1]
  msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
    vista,
    sample_comparison = comp,
    regulation = "Both",
    msigdb_category = "H",
    from_type = "ENSEMBL"
  )
  class(msig$enrich)
}


# Create VISTA object
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(200), ],
```

```
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)
comp <- names(comparisons(vista))[1]

# Run MSigDB enrichment on upregulated genes
msig_up <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = comp,
  regulation = "Up",
  msigdb_category = "H",  # Hallmark gene sets
  from_type = "ENSEMBL"
)

if (!is.null(msig_up$enrich)) {
  # View results
  head(msig_up$enrich)
  # Visualize enrichment
  get_enrichment_plot(msig_up$enrich)
}

# Enrichment for downregulated genes
msig_down <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = comp,
  regulation = "Down",
  msigdb_category = "C2"  # Curated gene sets
)
```

`get_pairwise_corr_plot` *Plot pairwise correlations between samples*

Description

Uses GGally::ggpairs on normalized expression to display correlations among samples from selected groups/genes.

Usage

```
get_pairwise_corr_plot(
  x,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
```

```
  sample_order = c("input", "group"),
  value_transform = c("log2", "none"),
  title = "Pairwise Sample Correlations"
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups (from the column specified by group_column) used to subset samples.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info defining the grouping used for filtering.
genes	Optional character vector of gene IDs to include; defaults to all genes.
sample_order	Ordering for selected samples: "input" keeps the current order, while "group" sorts by group_column.
value_transform	Value transformation: "log2" (default) or "none".
title	Plot title.

Value

An object returned by this function.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_pairwise_corr_plot(v)
print(p)
```

---

get_pathway_genes *Extract genes from enriched pathways*

Description

Parses pathway-level gene members from an enrichment result and returns either a long table, pathway-indexed list, or a unique vector of genes.

Usage

```
get_pathway_genes(
  x,
  pathways = NULL,
  top_n = 10,
  pathway_column = c("Description", "ID"),
  gene_column = c("auto", "geneID", "core_enrichment"),
  gene_sep = "/",
  return_type = c("long", "list", "vector")
)
```

Arguments

x	An enrichResult/gseaResult, or a list containing element enrich (e.g. output from get_msigdb_enrichment()).
pathways	Optional character vector of pathway names to keep. Matches against pathway_column.
top_n	Number of top pathways to use when pathways is NULL. Ranking uses p.adjust (then pvalue) when available. Default: 10.
pathway_column	Which enrichment column to match pathway names against: "Description" (default) or "ID".
gene_column	Which column stores pathway members. "auto" (default) uses "geneID" when present, otherwise "core_enrichment".
gene_sep	Delimiter used in pathway gene strings (default "/").
return_type	One of "long", "list", or "vector".

Value

Depending on return_type:

- "long": data frame with pathway_id, pathway, and gene.
- "list": named list of character vectors (genes per pathway).
- "vector": unique character vector of genes.

Examples

```
if (requireNamespace("msigdbr", quietly = TRUE)) {
  vista <- example_vista()
  msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
    vista,
    sample_comparison = names(comparisons(vista))[1],
    regulation = "Both",
    msigdb_category = "H",
    from_type = "ENSEMBL"
  )
  pathway_tbl <- get_pathway_genes(msig, top_n = 5, return_type = "long")
  head(pathway_tbl)
}


data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data,
  sample_info = sample_metadata,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)
```

```
msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = names(comparisons(vista))[1],
  regulation = "Up",
  species = "Homo sapiens",
  from_type = "ENSEMBL"
)

pathway_tbl <- get_pathway_genes(msig, top_n = 5, return_type = "long")
head(pathway_tbl)
```

`get_pathway_heatmap` *Plot pathway-specific expression heatmaps from enrichment output*

Description

This wrapper bridges enrichment results and expression heatmaps. It extracts genes from selected pathways (via `get_pathway_genes()`), maps them to the `VISTA` feature IDs, and forwards to `get_expression_heatmap()`.

Usage

```
get_pathway_heatmap(
  x,
  enrichment,
  sample_group = NULL,
  pathways = NULL,
  top_n = 5,
  pathway_column = c("Description", "ID"),
  gene_column = c("auto", "geneID", "core_enrichment"),
  gene_sep = "/",
  gene_mode = c("union", "intersection"),
  gene_id_column = NULL,
  max_genes = NULL,
  return_type = c("heatmap", "both", "genes"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object.
`enrichment`	An `enrichResult`/`gseaResult`, or a list with element `enrich` as returned by `get_*_enrichment()` helpers.
`sample_group`	Character vector of group labels to include (same semantics as `get_expression_heatmap()`).

pathways	Optional pathway names to include. When NULL, top pathways are selected using top_n.
top_n	Number of top pathways used when pathways = NULL. Default: 5.
pathway_column	Pathway matching column, "Description" (default) or "ID".
gene_column	Pathway gene-member column. "auto" uses "geneID" or "core_enrichment" based on availability.
gene_sep	Delimiter used to parse pathway gene strings (default "/").
gene_mode	How to combine pathway genes for plotting: "union" (default) or "intersection".
gene_id_column	Optional column in rowData(x) used to map enrichment genes back to VISTA rownames (e.g., "SYMBOL" or "ENTREZID"). Leave NULL when enrichment genes already match VISTA rownames.
max_genes	Optional cap on the number of genes passed to the heatmap.
return_type	One of "heatmap" (default), "both", or "genes".
...	Additional arguments passed to get_expression_heatmap().

Value

Depending on return_type:

- "heatmap": a ComplexHeatmap object from get_expression_heatmap().
- "both": list with heatmap, genes, and pathway_genes.
- "genes": character vector of mapped genes selected for plotting.

Examples

```
if (requireNamespace("msigdbr", quietly = TRUE)) {
  vista <- example_vista()
  msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
    vista,
    sample_comparison = names(comparisons(vista))[1],
    regulation = "Both",
    msigdb_category = "H",
    from_type = "ENSEMBL"
  )
  genes <- get_pathway_heatmap(
    vista,
    enrichment = msig,
    sample_group = c("control", "treatment1"),
    top_n = 3,
    return_type = "genes"
  )
  head(genes)
}


data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")
```

```
vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data,
  sample_info = sample_metadata,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

msig <- get_msigdb_enrichment(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = names(comparisons(vista))[1],
  regulation = "Up",
  species = "Homo sapiens",
  from_type = "ENSEMBL"
)

get_pathway_heatmap(
  vista,
  enrichment = msig,
  sample_group = c("control", "treatment1"),
  top_n = 3,
  value_transform = "zscore",
  annotate_columns = TRUE,
  summarise_replicates = FALSE
)
```

`get_pca_plot` *PCA plot*

Description

Uses normalized counts to compute principal components and plot samples, optionally restricting to selected groups or genes.

Usage

```
get_pca_plot(
  x,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  top_n_genes = NULL,
  label = FALSE,
  label_size = 3,
  point_size = 10,
  shape_by = NULL,
```

```
  shape_values = NULL,
  sample.seed = 123,
  show_clusters = FALSE,
  color_by = NULL,
  use_vista_colors = NULL,
  palette = NULL,
  colors = NULL,
  use_group_colors = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object containing normalized counts.
sample_group	Optional character vector of group labels (taken from the column specified by group_column, defaulting to the stored grouping column) used to subset samples prior to PCA. Use NULL to include all samples.
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info to use for grouping. Defaults to the stored grouping column.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to restrict the PCA input matrix. When NULL, all genes are used.
top_n_genes	Optional integer selecting the top most variable genes to include. Ignored when genes is supplied.
label	Logical; if TRUE, sample names are drawn next to the points.
label_size	Numeric size of sample labels when label = TRUE.
point_size	Numeric size of the plotted points.
shape_by	Optional column name in sample_info used to map point shape. When NULL, shapes are not mapped.
shape_values	Optional vector of shapes passed to scale_shape_manual() when shape_by is set. Use a named vector to map shapes to specific levels.
sample.seed	Deprecated/unused; retained for backward compatibility.
show_clusters	Logical; add normal ellipses per group when TRUE.
color_by	Optional column name in sample_info used to map point colour. Defaults to the active grouping column.
use_vista_colors	Deprecated alias for use_group_colors. When supplied, it overrides use_group_colors.
palette	Optional qualitative palette name used when generating colours for non-group metadata levels.
colors	Optional named character vector of manual colours overriding both palette and stored VISTA colours.
use_group_colors	Logical; when TRUE, prefer the stored VISTA group colours when colouring by the grouping column.

Value

A ggplot object showing the first two PCs.

Examples

```
# Create VISTA object
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(200), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

# Basic PCA plot
get_pca_plot(vista)

# With sample labels
get_pca_plot(vista, label = TRUE)

# Using top variable genes
get_pca_plot(vista, top_n_genes = 100)

# With confidence ellipses
get_pca_plot(vista, show_clusters = TRUE)
```

---

get_umap_plot *Generate a UMAP plot for samples in a VISTA object*

Description

Runs UMAP on normalized counts, optionally restricting to selected groups or genes. UMAP is intended for exploratory sample-level structure.

Usage

```
get_umap_plot(
  x,
  sample_group = NULL,
  group_column = NULL,
  color_by = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  top_n_genes = NULL,
  label = FALSE,
  label_size = 3,
  point_size = 10,
  shape_by = NULL,
```

```
  shape_values = NULL,
  n_neighbors = 15,
  min_dist = 0.1,
  metric = "euclidean",
  seed = 123,
  use_vista_colors = NULL,
  palette = NULL,
  colors = NULL,
  use_group_colors = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
sample_group	Optional character vector of groups to include (based on group_column).
group_column	Optional column name in sample_info used for filtering/grouping. Defaults to the stored grouping column.
color_by	Optional column name in sample_info used for point color. Defaults to group_column.
genes	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to restrict the matrix.
top_n_genes	Optional integer selecting top variable genes to include.
label	Logical; draw sample labels when TRUE.
label_size	Numeric label size when label = TRUE.
point_size	Numeric point size.
shape_by	Optional column name in sample_info used to map point shape.
shape_values	Optional vector passed to scale_shape_manual() when shape_by is set.
n_neighbors	UMAP n_neighbors parameter.
min_dist	UMAP min_dist parameter.
metric	UMAP distance metric.
seed	Integer random seed passed to UMAP.
use_vista_colors	Deprecated alias for use_group_colors. When supplied, it overrides use_group_colors.
palette	Optional qualitative palette name used when generating colours for non-group metadata levels.
colors	Optional named character vector of manual colours overriding both palette and stored VISTA colours.
use_group_colors	Logical; when TRUE, prefer the stored VISTA group colours when colouring by the grouping column.

Value

A ggplot object with UMAP1/UMAP2 coordinates.

Examples

```
if (requireNamespace("uwot", quietly = TRUE)) {
  vista <- example_vista()
  get_umap_plot(vista, top_n_genes = 50)
}
```

`get_volcano_plot` *Generate a volcano plot for a comparison in a VISTA object*

Description

Wraps EnhancedVolcano to visualize log2FC vs p-values for a selected comparison.

Usage

```
get_volcano_plot(
  x,
  sample_comparison,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  label_genes = NULL,
  label_size = 3,
  point_size = 1,
  colors = c(Up = "#a40000", Down = "#007e2f", Other = "grey"),
  repair_genes = TRUE,
  display_id = NULL,
  display_from = NULL,
  display_orgdb = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

`x`	A `VISTA` object containing differential expression results.
`sample_comparison`	Character scalar naming the comparison to display.
`log2fc_cutoff`	Numeric absolute log2 fold-change threshold used to color significant points.
`pval_cutoff`	Numeric p-value threshold used to color significant points.
`label_genes`	Optional character vector of gene identifiers to force-label.
`label_size`	Numeric label text size.
`point_size`	Numeric point size.
`colors`	Named colour vector with entries for `"Up"`, `"Down"`, and `"Other"`.
`repair_genes`	Logical; when `TRUE`, split `gene_id` values like `ID:SYMBOL` to display the symbol.
`display_id`	Optional ID/column name to use for plot labels. If supplied and present in `rowData(x)`, those values are used; otherwise falls back to ID mapping.

display_from	Optional source ID type for mapping (used when display_id is not found in rowData).
display_orgdb	Optional OrgDb object used for ID mapping when display_id is set but not found in rowData.
...	Additional parameters forwarded to EnhancedVolcano::EnhancedVolcano().

Value

A ggplot2 object.

Examples

```
vista <- example_vista()
comps <- names(comparisons(vista))
get_volcano_plot(vista, sample_comparison = comps[1])


# Create VISTA object
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data,
  sample_info = sample_metadata,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

# Basic volcano plot
comps <- names(comparisons(vista))
get_volcano_plot(vista, sample_comparison = comps[1])

# With custom thresholds
get_volcano_plot(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = comps[1],
  log2fc_cutoff = 1.5,
  pval_cutoff = 0.01
)

# Highlight specific genes
genes_of_interest <- rownames(vista)[seq_len(5)]
get_volcano_plot(
  vista,
  sample_comparison = comps[1],
  label_genes = genes_of_interest
)
```

match_vista_inputs *Match count and metadata inputs for VISTA*

Description

match_vista_inputs() aligns standardized counts and sample metadata so they can be passed directly to create_vista(). It accepts the raw output from read_vista_counts() or a count data frame/matrix plus sample metadata.

Usage

```
match_vista_inputs(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid = NULL,
  sample_column = NULL,
  reorder = TRUE,
  drop_unmatched = FALSE,
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

counts	Standardized counts from read_vista_counts(), or a compatible count matrix/data frame.
sample_info	Sample metadata from read_vista_metadata() or a data frame coercible to that format.
column_geneid	Optional gene identifier column for raw tabular counts. Ignored when counts is the list output of read_vista_counts().
sample_column	Optional sample identifier column in sample_info.
reorder	Logical; if TRUE (default), reorder sample_info to match count columns.
drop_unmatched	Logical; if TRUE, keep only the intersection of count samples and metadata samples. Otherwise mismatches raise an error.
verbose	Logical; print an informational alignment summary.

Value

A list with standardized counts, aligned sample_info, column_geneid, sample_names, sample_name_map, row_data, and a small report.

Examples

```
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

cnt <- read_vista_counts(
```

```
  count_data[seq_len(25), ],
  format = "matrix",
  gene_id_column = "gene_id",
  verbose = FALSE
)
si <- read_vista_metadata(
  sample_metadata[sample_metadata$sample_names %in% cnt$sample_names, ],
  verbose = FALSE
)
matched <- match_vista_inputs(cnt, si, verbose = FALSE)

matched$column_geneid
identical(matched$sample_info$sample_names, colnames(matched$counts)[-1])
```

`print.VISTA` *Print a VISTA object like a SummarizedExperiment*

Description

Forwards to SummarizedExperiment's `show()` so the output is identical to a plain SE. Invisibly returns `x`.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'VISTA'
print(x, ...)
```

Arguments

`x`	A VISTA object.
`...`	Ignored.

Value

The input object `x`, returned invisibly.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
print(v)
```

read_vista_counts *Read and standardize count inputs for VISTA*

Description

read_vista_counts() helps standardize common RNA-seq count inputs into a count table that can be passed directly to create_vista(). It supports plain matrices/data frames, featureCounts outputs, STAR gene counts, HTSeq-count outputs, tximport-like lists, and RSEM gene result files.

Usage

```
read_vista_counts(
  x,
 format = c("auto", "matrix", "featurecounts", "star", "htseq", "tximport", "rsem"),
  gene_id_column = NULL,
  sample_columns = NULL,
  sample_names = NULL,
  annotation_columns = NULL,
  count_column = NULL,
  tx2gene = NULL,
  counts_from = c("counts", "abundance", "length"),
  drop_technical = TRUE,
  remove_special_rows = TRUE,
  make_unique_ids = FALSE,
  repair_sample_names = c("auto", "none"),
  return_type = c("list", "data.frame", "matrix"),
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	Count input. Supported values depend on format and include a matrix, data frame, single file path, vector of file paths, or a tximport-like list with counts, abundance, and/or length.
format	Input format. One of "auto", "matrix", "featurecounts", "star", "htseq", "tximport", or "rsem".
gene_id_column	Optional gene identifier column in tabular inputs. When omitted, VISTA uses common names such as gene_id/Geneid, or falls back to rownames for matrices/data frames with unique rownames.
sample_columns	Optional character vector of sample count columns to retain from tabular inputs.
sample_names	Optional sample names to use when x is a vector of per-sample files.
annotation_columns	Optional feature annotation columns to retain in the returned row_data.
count_column	Optional count column selector for formats that expose multiple count choices. For STAR, use one of "unstranded", "stranded_first", or "stranded_second". For RSEM, this defaults to "expected_count".

`tx2gene` Optional two-column mapping used to summarize transcript-level tximport-like inputs to genes. The first column should contain transcript IDs and the second column gene IDs.

`counts_from` Which matrix to extract from a tximport-like input: `"counts"`, `"abundance"`, or `"length"`.

`drop_technical` Logical; when `TRUE`, drop known technical summary rows from STAR/HTSeq inputs.

`remove_special_rows` Logical; alias for `drop_technical`, retained for clarity in file-based imports.

`make_unique_ids` Logical; if `TRUE`, duplicate gene IDs are repaired with `make.unique()`. Otherwise duplicated gene IDs raise an error.

`repair_sample_names` Strategy for repairing sample column names. `"auto"` (default) strips common file-path and alignment/count suffixes when the repaired names are unique, while `"none"` leaves sample columns unchanged. In automatic mode VISTA currently:

- strips directory paths to the basename
- uses the parent directory for generic quantification files such as `quant.sf` or `abundance.tsv`
- removes common RNA-seq output suffixes such as `Aligned.sortedByCoord.out.bam`, `ReadsPerGene.out.tab`, `.genes.results`, `.isoforms.results`, `.bam`, and `.fastq.gz`
- removes common lane/read suffixes such as `_S1_L001_R1_001`, `_L001_R2_001`, `_R1`, and `_R2`

Repaired names are only applied when they remain non-empty and unique. Otherwise VISTA keeps the original count column names and records the unchanged mapping in `sample_name_map`.

`return_type` Return `"list"` (default), standardized `"data.frame"`, or numeric `"matrix"`.

`verbose` Logical; print an informational import summary.

Details

Internally, VISTA uses a format-specific importer for each supported input type, then normalizes the result into a common structure with:

- a count table with a `gene_id` column plus sample columns
- optional feature metadata in `row_data`
- sample names inferred from columns or file names
- an auditable `sample_name_map` showing original and repaired names

Value

If `return_type = "list"`, a list with:

counts A standardized count table with `gene_id` plus sample columns.

row_data Feature metadata aligned to the count table.

column_geneid Always "gene_id" for the standardized output.

sample_names Sample columns in the standardized count table.

sample_name_map A two-column mapping of original and repaired sample names.

input_format Resolved import format.

report Basic import summary.

If return_type = "data.frame", returns the standardized count table. If return_type = "matrix", returns a numeric matrix with gene IDs as rownames.

Examples

```
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")

cnt <- read_vista_counts(
  count_data[seq_len(25), ],
  format = "matrix",
  gene_id_column = "gene_id"
)

head(cnt$counts[, seq_len(4)])
cnt$sample_names
```

---

read_vista_metadata *Read and standardize sample metadata for VISTA*

Description

read_vista_metadata() standardizes a sample sheet for use as sample_info in create_vista(). It infers or creates the required sample_names column using the same conventions VISTA already accepts in the constructor.

Usage

```
read_vista_metadata(
  x,
  sample_column = NULL,
  required_columns = NULL,
  drop_empty = TRUE,
  standardize_names = TRUE,
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	Sample metadata as a data frame or file path.
sample_column	Optional column to use as sample_names. If omitted, VISTA uses an existing sample_names column, non-default rownames, or common aliases such as sample, sample_id, or Run.
required_columns	Optional character vector of columns that must be present after import.
drop_empty	Logical; if TRUE, remove columns that are entirely NA or empty strings.
standardize_names	Logical; if TRUE, coerce the final sample_names column to character and set rownames to match it.
verbose	Logical; print an informational import summary.

Value

A data frame suitable for use as sample_info in create_vista().

Examples

```
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

si <- read_vista_metadata(sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ])
head(si$sample_names)
```

---

run_cell_deconvolution

Run Cell Deconvolution on Bulk RNA-seq from VISTA Object

Description

Estimates cell-type proportions in bulk RNA-seq using single-cell reference or xCell2.

Usage

```
run_cell_deconvolution(
  x,
  method = c("xCell2"),
  single_cell_reference = NULL,
  reference_labels = NULL,
  gene_id_type = c("auto", "symbol", "ensembl", "ensembl_symbol"),
  xcell2_reference = NULL,
  xcell2_min_shared_genes = NULL,
  transform = c("log2", "raw"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
method	Deconvolution method. Currently only "xCell2" is supported.
single_cell_reference	Reserved for future reference-based methods (ignored).
reference_labels	Reserved for future reference-based methods (ignored).
gene_id_type	Type of gene identifiers: "auto", "symbol", "ensembl", or "ensembl_symbol".
xcell2_reference	Optional xCell2 reference object or dataset name (e.g., "DICE_demo.xCell2Ref"). Used when xCell2 exposes xCell2Analysis().
xcell2_min_shared_genes	Optional numeric shortcut for xCell2's minSharedGenes argument (when supported by the installed xCell2 API).
transform	Expression transformation: "log2" or "raw".
...	Additional arguments passed to the specific method.

Value

VISTA object with cell_fractions added to metadata.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
if (requireNamespace('xCell2', quietly = TRUE)) {
  out <- try(run_cell_deconvolution(v, method = 'xCell2'), silent = TRUE)
  if (!inherits(out, 'try-error')) out
}
```

---

run_deseq_analysis *Run Differential Expression Analysis with DESeq2, edgeR, or limma-voom*

Description

These functions encapsulate the standard RNA-seq analysis workflow using DESeq2 (run_deseq_analysis), edgeR (run_edger_analysis), or limma-voom (run_limma_analysis), including: gene filtering, design matrix setup, normalization, model fitting, differential testing, DEG classification ("Up", "Down", "Other"), and result formatting.

Both methods return output in a harmonized structure ready for downstream use in create_vista or standalone DEG summaries.

Usage

```
run_deseq_analysis(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  covariates = NULL,
  design_formula = NULL,
  min_counts = 10,
  min_replicates = 1,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = "padj"
)

run_edger_analysis(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  covariates = NULL,
  design_formula = NULL,
  min_counts = 10,
  min_replicates = 1,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = "FDR"
)

run_limma_analysis(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  covariates = NULL,
  design_formula = NULL,
  min_counts = 10,
  min_replicates = 1,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = "FDR"
)
```

Arguments

counts	A data frame or matrix of raw counts with one gene per row. Must include a column defined by column_geneid, and column names must match entries in sample_info$sample_names.
sample_info	A data frame with sample metadata. Must contain sample_names and the specified grouping column.
column_geneid	A string identifying the column name containing gene identifiers.
group_column	The name of the column in sample_info that defines experimental groups.
group_numerator	A character vector of numerator group(s) for fold-change comparisons.
group_denominator	A character vector of denominator group(s) for fold-change comparisons.
covariates	Optional character vector of additional sample_info columns to adjust for.
design_formula	Optional model formula (or formula string). When provided, it overrides automatic design construction from group_column + covariates. Must include group_column.
min_counts	Minimum total read count across all samples to retain a gene. Default: 10.
min_replicates	Minimum number of replicates within each group that must exceed min_counts. Default: 1.
log2fc_cutoff	Absolute log2 fold-change threshold to define DEGs. Default: 1.
pval_cutoff	P-value or adjusted p-value cutoff for significance. Default: 0.05.
p_value_type	For DESeq2: one of "padj" or "pvalue". For edgeR/limma: one of "FDR" or "PValue".

Details

Perform differential expression (DE) analysis across multiple group comparisons using DESeq2, edgeR, or limma-voom. These functions process raw count data, normalize it, execute pairwise group-level tests, and return standardized DEG outputs compatible with VISTA-based visualization and analysis.

- For DESeq2, normalization is performed via DESeq, and DE testing uses results.
- For edgeR, normalization uses calcNormFactors, and testing uses glmLRT.
- For limma, normalization uses calcNormFactors + voom, and testing uses eBayes.

Low-abundance filtering is applied before model fitting. Gene regulation status is determined via .categorize_deg_results() based on user thresholds.

All output comparison results are internally standardized via .tidy_de_results() to ensure a uniform column schema compatible with VISTA plotting tools.

Value

A named list with components:

- `norm_counts`: Matrix of normalized expression values (CPM for edgeR/limma, DESeq2-normalized counts).
- `sample_info`: Updated sample metadata.
- `row_data`: Gene-level metadata, including mean expression.
- `comparisons`: Named list of DEG result tibbles (one per comparison), each containing standardized columns: `gene_id`, `log2fc`, `pvalue`, `p.adj`, and `regulation`.
- `deg_summary`: List of summary tables showing DEG regulation counts.

See Also

create_vista, DESeq, glmLRT, voom

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
si <- as.data.frame(sample_info(v))
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
counts_small <- count_data[seq_len(200), c("gene_id", si$sample_names), drop = FALSE]
limma_results <- run_limma_analysis(
  counts = counts_small,
  sample_info = si,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  min_counts = 5,
  min_replicates = 1
)
names(limma_results$comparisons)
```

---

run_vista_report *Generate a publication-ready VISTA workflow report*

Description

Builds a `VISTA` object (or uses a precomputed one), computes a comprehensive single-comparison analysis panel, exports publication assets, and renders an automated Quarto HTML/PDF report from YAML-driven parameters.

Usage

```
run_vista_report(config, output_file = "vista-report.html")
```

Arguments

config	Path to a YAML config file (see template at inst/reports/vista-report-template.yml) or a named list of parameters.
output_file	Optional output filename overriding config$output_file.

Details

The report focuses on one differential comparison (primary_comparison) and includes:

- QC plots (PCA, MDS, correlation heatmap),
- DE plots (volcano, MA, DEG bar/pie/donut summaries),
- expression-focused views (boxplot, fold-change barplot, expression heatmap),
- enrichment outputs (MSigDB/GO/KEGG when available),
- downloadable artifacts (tables + plots + optional zip bundle),
- interactive HTML tables via **DT** when installed.

Value

Invisibly, the normalized output report path.

Examples

```
## Not run:
data('count_data', package = 'VISTA')
data('sample_metadata', package = 'VISTA')
cfg <- list(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(100), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = 'gene_id',
  group_column = 'cond_long',
  group_numerator = 'treatment1',
  group_denominator = 'control',
  include_msigdb = FALSE, include_go = FALSE, include_kegg = FALSE
)
if (requireNamespace('quarto', quietly = TRUE)) {
  out <- tempfile(fileext = '.html')
  try(run_vista_report(cfg, output_file = out), silent = TRUE)
}

## End(Not run)
```

`sample_metadata` *Sample metadata accompanying the VISTA airway example counts*

Description

Metadata describing each column in `count_data`, including friendly sample names and the experimental group assignment used throughout the vignettes and tests.

Usage

```
data(sample_metadata)
```

Format

A tibble with 8 rows and 13 columns:

sample_names Character identifiers matching the column names in `count_data`.

groups Group labels used in examples (`"control"`, `"treatment1"`).

cond_long Long-form condition labels (`"control"`, `"treatment1"`).

cond_short Short-form condition labels (`"CTRL"`, `"TREAT1"`).

SampleName Original sample label from the airway colData.

dex Original airway treatment labels (`"untrt"`/`"trt"`).

cell Donor/cell-line identifiers from airway.

albut Original airway albuterol indicator.

Run SRA run identifier (also copied into `sample_names`).

avgLength Average transcript length metadata from airway.

Experiment SRA experiment accession from airway.

Sample SRA sample accession from airway.

BioSample NCBI BioSample accession from airway.

Source

Derived from the `airway` Bioconductor dataset.

See Also

count_data

save_vista_data *Save VISTA tabular outputs to disk*

Description

Exports selected data components from a VISTA object to CSV/TSV/RDS/XLSX.

Usage

```
save_vista_data(
  x,
  what = c("comparison", "comparisons", "norm_counts", "sample_info", "row_data",
    "deg_summary", "cutoffs"),
  file,
  sample_comparison = NULL,
  format = NULL,
  include_rownames = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
what	Character vector specifying which object(s) to export. Supported values are "comparison", "comparisons", "norm_counts", "sample_info", "row_data", "deg_summary", and "cutoffs".
file	Output file path.
sample_comparison	Optional comparison name used when what includes "comparison". Defaults to the first comparison in comparisons(x).
format	Output format. One of "csv", "tsv", "rds", "xlsx". If NULL, inferred from file extension.
include_rownames	Logical; include meaningful row identifiers (e.g., gene IDs or sample names) as explicit columns where applicable.

Value

Invisibly, the normalized output file path.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
save_vista_data(v, what = "comparison", file = tempfile(fileext = ".csv"), format = "csv")
```

save_vista_plot *Save a VISTA plot object to disk*

Description

Saves plot objects returned by VISTA plotting functions to file. Supports both ggplot-like objects (saved via `ggplot2::ggsave()`) and ComplexHeatmap objects (`Heatmap` / `HeatmapList`) saved via graphics devices.

Usage

```
save_vista_plot(
  plot,
  file,
  width = 8,
  height = 6,
  units = "in",
  dpi = 300,
  device = NULL,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

plot	A plot object. Typically ggplot, patchwork, Heatmap, or HeatmapList.
file	Output file path.
width	Plot width.
height	Plot height.
units	Units for width and height. One of "in", "cm", "mm", or "px".
dpi	Resolution for raster outputs.
device	Optional graphics device (e.g. "png", "pdf"). If NULL, inferred from file extension (defaults to "png" when missing).
...	Additional arguments passed to ggplot2::ggsave() for ggplot-like objects.

Value

Invisibly, the normalized output file path.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
p <- get_pca_plot(v)
out_file <- tempfile(fileext = ".pdf")
save_vista_plot(p, file = out_file, width = 7, height = 5, units = "in")
```

set_de_source *Set active DE source in a VISTA object*

Description

Switches the DE result source used by all downstream VISTA plotting and accessor functions that read the active metadata slots.

Usage

```
set_de_source(
  object,
  source = c("deseq2", "edger", "limma", "consensus", "active")
)
```

Arguments

object	A VISTA object.
source	One of "active", "deseq2", "edger", "limma", or "consensus". When "active", the currently active DE source is kept.

Value

A modified VISTA object with updated active DE source.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista(method = "both")
v <- set_de_source(v, "edger")
names(comparisons(v, source = "active"))
```

set_rowdata *Set or append rowData annotations on a VISTA object*

Description

Accepts a data.frame/tibble/DataFrame of gene-level annotations, aligns it to the VISTA row order, and stores it in rowData(x). Rows are matched by a key column (default: tries gene_id or rownames); Ensembl version suffixes can be stripped for matching.

Usage

```
set_rowdata(
  x,
  annotations = NULL,
  orgdb = NULL,
  key_col = NULL,
  keytype = NULL,
 columns = c("SYMBOL", "GENENAME", "ENSEMBL", "ENTREZID", "TXCHROM", "TXSTART", "TXEND"),
  drop_version = TRUE,
  overwrite = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
annotations	Optional data.frame/tibble/DataFrame with one row per gene and a column containing the gene IDs to match against rownames(x). If omitted, annotations are pulled from orgdb.
orgdb	Optional OrgDb object; when supplied (and annotations is NULL), annotations are retrieved via AnnotationDbi::select().
key_col	Name of the column in annotations that holds the gene IDs. If NULL, the function will try gene_id, gene, ENSEMBL, SYMBOL, or use rownames(annotations). Ignored when annotations is NULL and orgdb is used.
keytype	Key type for orgdb lookups (e.g., "ENSEMBL", "SYMBOL"). If NULL, inferred from rownames(x) (ENSEMBL if they start with "ENS", otherwise SYMBOL).
columns	Character vector of OrgDb columns to retrieve when using orgdb. Default: c("SYMBOL","GENENAME","ENSEMBL","ENTREZID","TXCHROM","TXSTART","TXEND"). The TXCHROM/TXSTART/TXEND fields carry basic genomic coordinates when available in the OrgDb.
drop_version	Logical; if TRUE, strips Ensembl version suffixes (e.g., .1) from both the VISTA rownames and the key column/keys before matching.
overwrite	Logical; if TRUE, replaces existing rowData. If FALSE, new columns are appended (overwriting by name when names collide).

Details

OrgDb packages rarely include full genomic coordinates; the default TXCHROM/TXSTART/TXEND columns may therefore be NA unless your OrgDb provides them. For reliable coordinates, fetch them from an EnsDb/TxDb (via genes() or biomaRt/AnnotationHub), build an annotation table keyed on your gene IDs, and supply that via the annotations argument. When fetching from an OrgDb, only columns available in that database will be filled.

Value

The updated VISTA object with rowData populated/appended.

Examples

```
vista <- example_vista()
custom_annot <- data.frame(
  gene_id = rownames(vista)[seq_len(10)],
  custom_info = paste0("Info_", seq_len(10))
)
vista2 <- set_rowdata(vista, annotations = custom_annot, key_col = "gene_id")
head(SummarizedExperiment::rowData(vista2)$custom_info)


# Load example VISTA object
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(100), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

# Add annotations from OrgDb (human)
if (requireNamespace("org.Hs.eg.db", quietly = TRUE)) {
  vista <- set_rowdata(
    vista,
    orgdb = org.Hs.eg.db::org.Hs.eg.db,
    columns = c("SYMBOL", "GENENAME", "ENTREZID")
  )

  # View updated rowData
  head(SummarizedExperiment::rowData(vista))
}

# Or provide custom annotations
custom_annot <- data.frame(
  gene_id = rownames(vista)[seq_len(10)],
  custom_info = paste0("Info_", seq_len(10))
)
vista <- set_rowdata(vista, annotations = custom_annot, key_col = "gene_id")
```

`set_vista_comparison_colors` *Set manual comparison colors in a VISTA object*

Description

Updates metadata(x)$comparison$colors using a user-supplied named color vector. Comparison colors are used in fold-change and comparison-level plots. The color map must include all currently active comparisons.

Usage

```
set_vista_comparison_colors(object, color_map)
```

Arguments

object	A VISTA object.
color_map	Named character vector of colors, with names equal to comparison names (for example "A_VS_B").

Value

A modified VISTA object with updated comparison colors.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
comps <- names(comparisons(v))
if (length(comps)) {
  cmap <- stats::setNames(rep('#1b9e77', length(comps)), comps)
  set_vista_comparison_colors(v, cmap)
}
```

---

set_vista_group_colors

Set manual group colors in a VISTA object

Description

Updates metadata(x)$group$colors using a user-supplied named color vector. This controls group-level coloring across VISTA plots that use group mapping (for example PCA, MDS, and expression plots). The color map must include all groups currently present in the object.

Usage

```
set_vista_group_colors(object, color_map)
```

Arguments

object	A VISTA object.
color_map	Named character vector of colors, with names equal to group labels.

Value

A modified VISTA object with updated group colors.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
groups <- unique(as.character(sample_info(v)$cond_long))
gmap <- stats::setNames(c('#1b9e77', '#d95f02')[seq_along(groups)], groups)
set_vista_group_colors(v, gmap)
```

---

validate_vista *Validate a VISTA object*

Description

Performs structural and metadata contract checks on a VISTA object. Use level = "core" for invariants that all VISTA objects must satisfy, or level = "full" to additionally validate method-specific metadata used by advanced workflows.

Usage

```
validate_vista(x, level = c("core", "full"), error = TRUE)
```

Arguments

x	A VISTA object.
level	Validation depth. One of "core" or "full".
error	Logical; if TRUE, aborts on validation failures. If FALSE, returns the validation report and emits a warning when issues are found.

Value

Invisibly returns a list with fields valid, level, and issues.

Examples

```
mat <- matrix(rnorm(60), nrow = 10)
rownames(mat) <- paste0("gene", seq_len(nrow(mat)))
colnames(mat) <- paste0("sample", seq_len(ncol(mat)))
se <- SummarizedExperiment::SummarizedExperiment(
  assays = list(norm_counts = mat),
  colData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    cond = rep(c("A", "B"), each = 3),
    row.names = colnames(mat)
  ),
  rowData = S4Vectors::DataFrame(
    gene_id = rownames(mat),
    row.names = rownames(mat)
```

```
  )
)
v <- as_vista(se, group_column = "cond")
validate_vista(v)
```

`validate_vista_deep` *Deep validation of VISTA differential-expression fidelity*

Description

This validator combines `validate_vista()` with backend-to-backend numerical equivalence checks against standalone DESeq2, edgeR, and limma runs.

Usage

```
validate_vista_deep(
  counts,
  sample_info,
  column_geneid,
  group_column,
  group_numerator,
  group_denominator,
  methods = c("deseq2", "edger", "limma"),
  min_counts = 10,
  min_replicates = 1,
  log2fc_cutoff = 1,
  pval_cutoff = 0.05,
  p_value_type = "padj",
  covariates = NULL,
  design_formula = NULL,
  tolerance = 1e-08,
  return_plots = FALSE,
  error = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

`counts`	Raw counts (matrix/data.frame) with a gene-id column and sample columns.
`sample_info`	Data frame with sample metadata.
`column_geneid`	Column name in `counts` that contains gene identifiers.
`group_column`	Column in `sample_info` used to group samples.
`group_numerator`	Character vector of numerator groups for pairwise comparisons.
`group_denominator`	Character vector of denominator groups.

methods	Character vector of backends to benchmark. Any subset of c("deseq2", "edger", "limma").
min_counts	Minimum total counts per gene to retain.
min_replicates	Minimum samples per group meeting filtering criteria.
log2fc_cutoff	Absolute log2 fold-change threshold for DEG calling.
pval_cutoff	P-value (or adjusted p-value) threshold.
p_value_type	Either "padj" or "pvalue".
covariates	Optional character vector of additional sample_info columns.
design_formula	Optional model formula (or formula string) including group_column.
tolerance	Numeric tolerance used for floating-point comparisons.
return_plots	Logical; if TRUE, return paired VISTA/reference plots for MA, volcano, DEG count, and PCA views.
error	Logical; if TRUE, abort when any discrepancy is detected.

Value

Invisibly returns the full benchmark report.

Examples

```
v <- example_vista()
si <- as.data.frame(sample_info(v))
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
count_subset <- count_data[seq_len(500), c("gene_id", si$sample_names), drop = FALSE]

report <- validate_vista_deep(
  counts = count_subset,
  sample_info = si,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  methods = "limma",
  min_counts = 5,
  min_replicates = 1,
  error = FALSE
)

report$valid


data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

target_groups <- c("control", "treatment1")
sample_subset <- sample_metadata[sample_metadata$cond_long %in% target_groups, ]
count_subset <- count_data[seq_len(150), c("gene_id", sample_subset$sample_names)]
```

```
validate_vista_deep(
  counts = count_subset,
  sample_info = sample_subset,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  methods = c("deseq2", "edger"),
  min_counts = 5,
  min_replicates = 1
)
```

VISTA-accessors *Accessor Methods for VISTA Object*

Description

These accessor functions expose the analysis components stored in a VISTA object. Core expression matrices and annotations live in the underlying SummarizedExperiment, while differential expression results, summaries, and configuration details are kept inside metadata(x).

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
comparisons(object, source = "active")

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
deg_summary(object, source = "active")

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
cutoffs(object)

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
norm_counts(object, summarise = FALSE)

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
sample_info(object)

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
row_data(object)

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
group_colors(object)

## S4 method for signature 'VISTA'
group_palette(object)
```

Arguments

object	An object of class VISTA.
source	Which DE result source to use for comparisons()/deg_summary(). One of "active", "deseq2", "edger", "limma", or "consensus". "active" uses the currently selected source stored in metadata.
summarise	Logical. If TRUE, returns mean-normalized counts grouped by the grouping column stored in the VISTA object (e.g., condition or treatment). Default is FALSE.

Value

The content of the respective slot or processed data:

comparisons A named list of differential expression tables stored in metadata(x)$de_results.

deg_summary A named list of DEG summary tables stored in metadata(x)$de_summary.

cutoffs A list of analysis thresholds held in metadata(x)$de_cutoffs (empty list if absent).

norm_counts A matrix of normalized counts, optionally averaged by group.

sample_info A DataFrame of sample metadata.

row_data A DataFrame of gene-level annotation (e.g., baseMean, gene ID).

group_colors A named character vector of colours from metadata(x)$group$colors.

group_palette The qualitative palette name stored in metadata(x)$group$palette.

See Also

create_vista(), as_vista(), run_deseq_analysis()

Examples

```
# Create example VISTA object
data("count_data", package = "VISTA")
data("sample_metadata", package = "VISTA")

vista <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data[seq_len(100), ],
  sample_info = sample_metadata[seq_len(6), ],
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control"
)

# Access differential expression comparisons
comps <- comparisons(vista)
names(comps)
comparisons(vista, source = "active")

# View DEG summary statistics
deg_summary(vista)
```

```
# Get analysis cutoffs
cutoffs(vista)

# Access normalized counts
nc <- norm_counts(vista)
head(nc)

# Get group-summarized counts
nc_summary <- norm_counts(vista, summarise = TRUE)
head(nc_summary)

# Access sample metadata
sample_info(vista)

# Access gene-level annotations
head(row_data(vista))

# Get group colors
group_colors(vista)

# Get palette name
group_palette(vista)

# For method = "both", inspect method-specific outputs

vista_both <- create_vista(
  counts = count_data,
  sample_info = sample_metadata,
  column_geneid = "gene_id",
  group_column = "cond_long",
  group_numerator = "treatment1",
  group_denominator = "control",
  method = "both",
  result_source = "consensus"
)
comparisons(vista_both, source = "deseq2")
comparisons(vista_both, source = "edger")
vista_both <- set_de_source(vista_both, "edger")
```

`VISTA-class` *VISTA S4 Class Definition*

Description

The `VISTA` class extends `SummarizedExperiment`. All analysis metadata (DE results, summaries, cutoffs, grouping info, etc.) is stored in the `metadata()` slot of the object.

Details

Core elements stored in `metadata(v)`:

- `$de_results`: named `SimpleList` of DE result tables.
- `$de_summary`: named `SimpleList` of DEG summary tables.
- `$de_cutoffs`: named list of thresholds (log2FC, p-value type/cutoff, method settings).
- `$group`: list with `column`, `palette`, `colors` describing the grouping/fill scheme.
- `$provenance`: list with constructor version, timestamp, session info.
- `$vista_schema_version`: metadata schema tag used for compatibility checks.

Feature-level annotations live in `rowData(v)`, sample metadata in `colData(v)`, and normalized counts (and any additional assays) in `assay(v, "norm_counts")` by default. Use `create_vista()` as the primary end-user constructor. Advanced users can convert an existing `SummarizedExperiment` with `as_vista()`.

Value

A `VISTA` S4 object.

See Also

`create_vista`, `as_vista`, `validate_vista`

Examples

```
methods::showClass('VISTA')
```

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