Package 'scTreeViz'

November 12, 2026

Type Package

Title R/Bioconductor package to interactively explore and visualize single cell RNA-seq datasets with hierarhical annotations

Version 1.18.0

Description scTreeViz provides classes to support interactive data aggregation and visualization of single cell RNA-seq datasets with hierarchies for e.g. cell clusters at different resolutions. The `TreeIndex` class provides methods to manage hierarchy and split the tree at a given resolution or across resolutions. The `TreeViz` class extends `SummarizedExperiment` and can performs quick aggregations on the count matrix defined by clusters.

License Artistic-2.0

Depends R (>= 4.0), methods, epivizr, SummarizedExperiment

Imports data.table, S4Vectors, digest, Matrix, Rtsne, httr, igraph, clustree, scran, sys, epivizrData, epivizrServer, ggraph, scater, Seurat, SingleCellExperiment, ggplot2, stats, utils

Suggests knitr, BiocStyle, testthat, SC3, scRNAseq, rmarkdown, msd16s, metagenomeSeq, epivizrStandalone, GenomeInfoDb

VignetteBuilder knitr

biocViews Visualization, Infrastructure, GUI, SingleCell

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

Collate 'TreeIndex-class.R' 'TreeIndex-methods.R' 'TreeViz-class.R' 'TreeViz-methods.R' 'startTreeViz.R' 'TreeVizApp-class.R' 'EpivizTreeData-class.R' 'helper-functions.R' 'ClusterHierarchy-class.R'

RoxygenNote 7.1.1

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

git_branch RELEASE_3_23

git_last_commit ee2f52b

git_last_commit_date 2026-04-28

Repository Bioconductor 3.23

Date/Publication 2026-11-11

Author Jayaram Kancherla [aut, cre],
Hector Corrada Bravo [aut],
Kazi Tasnim Zinat [aut],
Stephanie Hicks [aut]

Maintainer Jayaram Kancherla <jayaram.kancherla@gmail.com>

Contents

.generate_hierarchy_tree . . . 2
.generate_leaf_of_table . . . 3
.generate_nodes_table . . . 4
.generate_node_ids . . . 4
.replaceNAFeatures . . . 5
ClusterHierarchy . . . 5
ClusterHierarchy-class . . . 6
createFromSCE . . . 6
createFromSeurat . . . 7
createTreeViz . . . 8
EpivizTreeData-class . . . 9
set_gene_list . . . 10
show,TreeViz-method . . . 10
startTreeviz . . . 12
TreeIndex . . . 13
TreeIndex-class . . . 14
TreeViz . . . 14
TreeViz-class . . . 15
TreeVizApp-class . . . 15
[,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method . . . 15

Index **18**

`.generate_hierarchy_tree` *generate hierarchy tree*

Description

generate hierarchy tree

Usage

```
.generate_hierarchy_tree(hierarchy, feature_order)
```

Arguments

`hierarchy`	hierarchy as a data.table
`feature_order`	order of the tree if different from colnames

Value

a data frame object

`.generate_leaf_of_table` *generate leaf of table*

Description

generate leaf of table

Usage

```
.generate_leaf_of_table(
  hierarchy_tree,
  node_ids_table,
  nodes_table,
  feature_order
)
```

Arguments

`hierarchy_tree`	hierarchy as a data.table
`node_ids_table`	node ids
`nodes_table`	nodes table
`feature_order`	order of the tree if different from colnames

Value

a data frame object

.generate_nodes_table *generate nodes table tree*

Description

generate nodes table tree

Usage

```
.generate_nodes_table(hierarchy_tree, node_ids_table, feature_order)
```

Arguments

hierarchy_tree	hierarchy as a data.table
node_ids_table	node ids
feature_order	order of the tree if different from colnames

Value

a data frame object

.generate_node_ids *generate node ids in the tree*

Description

generate node ids in the tree

Usage

```
.generate_node_ids(hierarchy_tree, feature_order)
```

Arguments

hierarchy_tree	hierarchy as a data.table
feature_order	order of the tree if different from colnames

Value

a data frame object

.replaceNAFeatures *replace if there are NA's in the hierarchy*

Description

replace if there are NA's in the hierarchy

Usage

```
.replaceNAFeatures(replacing_na_obj_fData, feature_order)
```

Arguments

replacing_na_obj_fData	hierarchy data table
feature_order	order of the tree if different from colnames

Value

a data frame object

ClusterHierarchy *Creates a new ClusterHierarchy object.*

Description

Works as a validation check for multiple issues user passed dataframe might have. For example, multiple root nodes, incompatible naming, multiple parents of a single node, etc This function performs all this checks and tries to resolve the issues by making changes in cluster assignment User can give either col_regex or columns option to filter the columns or specify the column order

Usage

```
ClusterHierarchy(hierarchy, col_regex = NULL, columns = NULL)
```

Arguments

hierarchy	hierarchy as a dataFrame
col_regex	Regular Expression for choosing columns
columns	Vector containing list of columns to choose from with ordering

Value

'ClusterHierarchy" return an object of class ClusterHierarchy containing cluster information that ensures a valid dataframe for treeviz input

Examples

```
n=64
# create a hierarchy
df<- data.frame(cluster0=rep(1,n))
for(i in seq(1,5)){
  df[[paste0("cluster",i)]]<- rep(seq(1:(2**i)),each=ceiling(n/(2**i)),len=n)
}
clus_hier<-ClusterHierarchy(df, col_regex = "clus")
```

`ClusterHierarchy-class` *ClusterHierarchy class to manage treeviz cluster data*

Description

ClusterHierarchy class to manage treeviz cluster data

`createFromSCE` *Creates a 'TreeViz" object from 'SingleCellExperiment'. Generates clusters based on Walktrap algorithm if no default is provided*

Description

Creates a 'TreeViz" object from 'SingleCellExperiment'. Generates clusters based on Walktrap algorithm if no default is provided

Usage

```
createFromSCE(
  object,
  check_coldata = FALSE,
  col_regex = NULL,
  columns = NULL,
  reduced_dim = c("TSNE")
)
```

Arguments

`object`	'SingleCellExperiment' object to be visualized
`check_coldata`	whether to colData of 'SingeCellExperiment' object for cluster information or not
`col_regex`	common regular expression shared across all columns with cluster information
`columns`	vector containing columns with cluster information
`reduced_dim`	Vector of Dimensionality reduction information provided in 'SingeCellExperiment' object to be added in 'TreeViz' (if exists)

Value

'TreeViz' Object

Examples

```
library(SingleCellExperiment)
library(scater)
sce <- mockSCE()
sce <- logNormCounts(sce)
sce <- runTSNE(sce)
sce <- runUMAP(sce)
set.seed(1000)
for (i in  seq_len(5)) {
clust.kmeans <- kmeans(reducedDim(sce, "TSNE"), centers = i)
sce[[paste0("clust", i)]] <- factor(clust.kmeans$cluster)
}
treeviz <-createFromSCE(sce, check_coldata = TRUE, col_regex = "clust", reduced_dim = c("TSNE", "UMAP"))
```

---

createFromSeurat *Creates a 'TreeViz' object from 'Seurat'*

Description

Creates a 'TreeViz' object from 'Seurat'

Usage

```
createFromSeurat(
  object,
  check_metadata = FALSE,
  col_regex = "*snn*",
  columns = NULL,
  reduced_dim = c("TSNE")
)
```

Arguments

object	'Seurat' class containing cluster information at different resolutions
check_metadata	whether to metaData of 'Seurat' object for cluster information or not
col_regex	common regular expression shared across all columns with cluster information
columns	vector containing columns with cluster information
reduced_dim	Vector of Dimensionality reduction information provided in 'Seurat' object to be added in 'TreeViz' (if exists)

Value

'TreeViz' Object

Examples

```
library(Seurat)
data(pbmc_small)
pbmc <- pbmc_small
treeviz<- createFromSeurat(pbmc, check_metadata = TRUE, reduced_dim = c("pca","tsne"))
```

`createTreeViz` *Creates 'TreeViz' object from hierarchy and count matrix*

Description

Provided with a count matrix and a dataframe or 'ClusterHierarchy' object, this module runs the necessary checks on the dataframe and tries to convert it to a tree by making necessary changes. Returns the 'TreeViz' object if a tree is successfully generated from dataframe, throws error otherwise

Usage

```
createTreeViz(clusters, counts)
```

Arguments

`clusters`	'ClusterHierarchy' object or a dataframe containing cluster information at different resolutions
`counts`	matrix Dense or sparse matrix containing the count matrix

Value

'TreeViz" Object

Examples

```
n=64
# create a hierarchy
df<- data.frame(cluster0=rep(1,n))
for(i in seq_len(5)){
  df[[paste0("cluster",i)]]<- rep(seq(1:(2**i)),each=ceiling(n/(2**i)),len=n)
}
# generate a count matrix
counts <- matrix(rpois(6400, lambda = 10), ncol=n, nrow=100)
colnames(counts)<- seq_len(64)
# create a `TreeViz` object
treeViz <- createTreeViz(df, counts)
```

EpivizTreeData-class *Data container for MRexperiment objects*

Description

Used to serve hierarchical data (used in e.g., icicle plots and heatmaps).

Methods

`df_to_tree(root, df)` Helper function to recursively build nested response for getHierarchy

root Root of subtree

df data.frame containing children to process

`get_default_chart_type()` Get name of default chart type for this data type

`get_measurements()` Get description of measurements served by this object

`getCombined( measurements = NULL, seqName, start = 1, end = 1000, order = NULL, nodeSelection = NULL, select`
Return the counts aggregated to selected nodes for the given samples

measurements Samples to get counts for

seqName name of datasource

start Start of feature range to query

end End of feature range to query

order Ordering of nodes

nodeSelection Node-id and selectionType pairs

selectedLevels Current aggregation level

`getHierarchy(nodeId = NULL)` Retrieve feature hierarchy information for subtree with specified root

nodeId Feature identifier with level info

`getReducedDim(method = NULL, gene = NULL)` Compute PCA over all features for given samples

method which dimension to access

gene send expression of a gene back with the dimensions

`getRows( measurements = NULL, start = 1, end = 1000, selectedLevels = 3, selections = NULL )`
Return the sample annotation and features within the specified range and level for a given sample and features

measurements Samples to retrieve for

start Start of feature range to query

end End of feature range to query

selections Node-id and selectionType pairs

selectedLevels Current aggregation level

`propagateHierarchyChanges( selection = NULL, order = NULL, selectedLevels = NULL, request_with_labels = F`
Update internal state for hierarchy

selection Node-id and selectionType pairs

order Ordering of features

selectedLevels Current aggregation level

request_with_labels For handling requests using fData entries from MRexperiment

`row_to_dict(row)` Helper function to format each node entry for getHierarchy response

row Information for current node.

`searchTaxonomy(query = NULL, max_results = 15)` Return list of features matching a text-based query

query String of feature for which to search

max_results Maximum results to return

---

set_gene_list *Sets gene list for visualization*

Description

Sets gene list for visualization

Usage

```
set_gene_list(treeviz, genes)
```

Arguments

`treeviz`	TreeViz object
`genes`	list of genes to use

Value

TreeViz object set with gene list

---

show,TreeViz-method *show object*

Description

show object

Method to aggregate a TreeViz object

Method to aggregate a TreeViz object

Generic method to register data to the epiviz data server

plot tree from TreeViz

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'TreeViz'
show(object)

aggregateTree(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeViz'
aggregateTree(
  x,
  selectedLevel = 3,
  selectedNodes = NULL,
  aggFun = colSums,
  start = 1,
  end = NULL,
  by = "row",
  format = "TreeViz"
)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeViz'
register(object, tree = "row", columns = NULL, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeViz,ANY'
plot(x, y)
```

Arguments

object	The object to register to data server
x	treeviz object
...	Additional arguments passed to object constructors
selectedLevel	level to select nodes from
selectedNodes	used to set states on individual nodes to define a cut on the tree
aggFun	aggregate function to use, by default colSums if by="row", rowSums if by="col"
start, end	indices to filter nodes
by	"row" to aggregate the TreeIndex on rowData, "col" to aggregate TreeIndex on colData
format	return format can be one of "counts" or "TreeViz"
tree	Is tree over rows or columns of the object (default: "row")
columns	Name of columns containing data to register
y	none

Value

describe a TreeIndex object

a generic

a Treeviz object or type specified by format

An EpivizTreeData-class object

Dataframe containing cluster information at different resolutions

Functions

- show,TreeViz-method:
- aggregateTree:
- aggregateTree,TreeViz-method:
- register,TreeViz-method:
- plot,TreeViz,ANY-method:

Examples

```
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
mbiome <- TreeViz(SimpleList(counts=counts), rowData=tree)
aggregateTree(mbiome)
```

```
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
mbiome <- TreeViz(SimpleList(counts=counts), rowData=tree)
aggregateTree(mbiome)
```

```
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
mbiome <- TreeViz(SimpleList(counts=counts), rowData=tree)
plot(mbiome)
```

---

startTreeviz *Start treeviz app and create TreeVizApp object to manage connection.*

Description

Start treeviz app and create TreeVizApp object to manage connection.

Usage

```
startTreeviz(
  data = NULL,
  genes = NULL,
  top_genes = 100,
  host = "http://epiviz.cbcb.umd.edu/treeviz",
  register_function = .register_all_treeviz_things,
  delay = 2L,
  ...
)
```

Arguments

data	TreeViz object to explore
genes	(character vector) genes (rownames) to include in heatmap
top_genes	(integer) number of top variable genes to include in the heatmap
host	(character) host address to launch.
register_function	(function) function used to register actions and charts on the treeviz app.
delay	(integer) number of seconds to wait for application to load in browser
...	additional parameters passed to startEpiviz.

Value

An object of class TreeVizApp

See Also

TreeVizApp

Examples

```
# see package vignette for example usage
app <- startTreeviz(non_interactive=TRUE, open_browser=FALSE)
app$stop_app()
```

TreeIndex *create a new TreeIndex object*

Description

create a new TreeIndex object

Usage

```
TreeIndex(hierarchy = NULL, feature_order = NULL)
```

Arguments

hierarchy	hierarchy as a data.table
feature_order	order of the tree if different from colnames

Value

a 'TreeIndex' object

Examples

```
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
```

TreeIndex-class *TreeIndex class to manage and query hierarchical data*

Description

TreeIndex class to manage and query hierarchical data

TreeViz *The TreeViz class.*

Description

SummarizedExperiment-like class for datasets that have hierarchies on either rowData or colData. For microbiome data, rowData is a tree hierarchy For single cell data, colData is a tree hierarchy

Usage

```
TreeViz(assays = SimpleList(), rowData = NULL, colData = NULL, ...)
```

Arguments

assays	simple list of counts
rowData	rowData
colData	colData
...	other parameters for SummarizedExperiment

Value

a 'TreeViz' object

Examples

```
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
mbiome <- TreeViz(SimpleList(counts=counts), rowData=tree)
```

`TreeViz-class` *TreeViz class wrapper for SummarizedExperiment objects*

Description

TreeViz class wrapper for SummarizedExperiment objects

`TreeVizApp-class` *Class managing connection to metaviz application.*

Description

Class managing connection to metaviz application.

Methods

`plotGene(gene = NULL, datasource_name = "SCRNA_1")` Plot a bar plot for a gene across cell types

gene gene to extract expression values

datasource_name object to extract from (automatically selected)

`[,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method` *Subset TreeIndex*

Description

Subset TreeIndex

Generic method to get nodes at a tree level

Method to get nodes at a tree level

Generic method for possible node states

Method to get possible node states a node state is 0 if removed, 1 if expanded to show children & 2 if counts are aggregated to the node

Generic method to split the tree

splitAt divides the TreeIndex into groups defined by the level, node selections and filters(start, end)

Show the TreeIndex object

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY'
x[i, j, ..., drop = FALSE]

getNodes(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeIndex'
getNodes(x, selectedLevel = NULL)

getNodeStates(x)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeIndex'
getNodeStates(x)

splitAt(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeIndex'
splitAt(
  x,
  selectedLevel = 3,
  selectedNodes = NULL,
  start = 1,
  end = NULL,
  format = "list"
)

## S4 method for signature 'TreeIndex'
show(object)
```

Arguments

x	TreeIndex object
i, j	indices to subset or keep
...	other parameters
drop	drop the dimensions of the object. defaults to FALSE
selectedLevel	tree level to select nodes from
selectedNodes	used to set states on individual nodes to define a cut on the tree
start, end	indices to filter nodes by
format	return format can be one of "list" or "TreeIndex"
object	TreeIndex object

Value

a ‘TreeIndex‘ subset object

a generic

levels at node cut

node state

node states

a generic

a 'TreeIndex' object or type set in format

object description of the 'TreeIndex' object

Examples

```
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
getNodes(tree)
library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
getNodes(tree)

library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
splitAt(tree)


library(metagenomeSeq)
data(mouseData)
counts <- MRcounts(mouseData)
hierarchy <- fData(mouseData)
tree <- TreeIndex(hierarchy)
splitAt(tree)
```

Index

.generate_hierarchy_tree, 2
.generate_leaf_of_table, 3
.generate_node_ids, 4
.generate_nodes_table, 4
.replaceNAFeatures, 5
[,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method, 15

aggregateTree *(*show,TreeViz-method*)*, 10
aggregateTree,TreeViz-method
*(*show,TreeViz-method*)*, 10

ClusterHierarchy, 5
ClusterHierarchy-class, 6
createFromSCE, 6
createFromSeurat, 7
createTreeViz, 8

EpivizTreeData *(*EpivizTreeData-class*)*, 9
EpivizTreeData-class, 9

getNodes
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15
getNodes,TreeIndex-method
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15
getNodeStates
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15
getNodeStates,TreeIndex-method
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15

plot,TreeViz,ANY-method
*(*show,TreeViz-method*)*, 10

register,TreeViz-method
*(*show,TreeViz-method*)*, 10

set_gene_list, 10

show,TreeIndex-method
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15
show,TreeViz-method, 10
splitAt
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15
splitAt,TreeIndex-method
([,TreeIndex,ANY,ANY,ANY-method*)*,
15
startEpiviz, *13*
startTreeviz, 12

TreeIndex, 13
TreeIndex-class, 14
TreeViz, 14
TreeViz-class, 15
TreeVizApp, *12, 13*
TreeVizApp *(*TreeVizApp-class*)*, 15
TreeVizApp-class, 15