

An Introduction to *GenomeInfoDb*

Martin Morgan, Herve Pages, Marc Carlson, Sonali Arora

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Functionality for all existing organisms	1
2.1	genomeStyles	1
2.2	extractSeqlevels	2
2.3	extractSeqlevelsByGroup	3
2.4	seqlevelsStyle	3
2.5	seqlevelsInGroup	3
2.6	orderSeqlevels	4
2.7	rankSeqlevels	4
2.8	mapSeqlevels	4
2.9	renameSeqlevels	5
2.10	dropSeqlevels	5
2.11	keepSeqlevels	6
2.12	keepStandardChromosomes	6
3	Classes inside GenomeInfoDb package	7
3.1	Genome-Description class	7
3.2	SeqInfo class	8
4	Examples	11
4.1	converting seqlevel styles (eg:UCSC to NCBI)	11
4.2	converting styles and removing unwanted seqlevels	11
5	Session Information	12

1 Introduction

The *GenomeInfoDb* provides an interface to access seqlevelsStyles (such as UCSC, NCBI, Ensembl) and their supported mappings for organisms. For instance, for *Homo sapiens*, seqlevelsStyle "UCSC" maps to "chr1", "chr2", ..., "chrX", "chrY". The section below introduces these functions with examples.

2 Functionality for all existing organisms

2.1 genomeStyles

The genomeStyles lists out for each organism, the seqlevelsStyles and their mappings.

```
seqmap <- genomeStyles()
head(seqmap,n=2)

## $Arabidopsis_thaliana
##   circular auto sex NCBI TAIR10
## 1 FALSE TRUE FALSE 1 1
## 2 FALSE TRUE FALSE 2 2
## 3 FALSE TRUE FALSE 3 3
## 4 FALSE TRUE FALSE 4 4
## 5 FALSE TRUE FALSE 5 5
## 6 TRUE FALSE FALSE MT Mt
## 7 FALSE FALSE TRUE Ptld Pt
##
## $Caenorhabditis_elegans
##   circular auto sex NCBI UCSC Ensembl
## 1 FALSE TRUE FALSE I chrI I
## 2 FALSE TRUE FALSE II chrII II
## 3 FALSE TRUE FALSE III chrIII III
## 4 FALSE TRUE FALSE IV chrIV IV
## 5 FALSE TRUE FALSE V chrV V
## 6 FALSE FALSE TRUE X chrX X
## 7 TRUE TRUE FALSE MT chrM MtDNA
```

Organism's supported by GenomeInfoDb can be found by :

```
names(genomeStyles())
## [1] "Arabidopsis_thaliana"      "Caenorhabditis_elegans"    "Canis_familiaris"
## [4] "Cyanidioschyzon_merolae"   "Drosophila_melanogaster" "Homo_sapiens"
## [7] "Mus_musculus"              "Oryza_sativa"           "Populus_trichocarpa"
## [10] "Saccharomyces_cerevisiae"  "Zea_mays"                "rattus_norvegicus"
```

If one knows the organism one is interested in, then we can directly access the information for the given organism along. Each function accepts an argument called species which as "genus species", the default is "Homo sapiens". In the following example we list out only the first five entries returned by the code snippet.

```
head(genomeStyles("Homo_sapiens"),5)
##   circular auto sex NCBI UCSC dbSNP
## 1 FALSE TRUE FALSE 1 chr1 ch1
## 2 FALSE TRUE FALSE 2 chr2 ch2
## 3 FALSE TRUE FALSE 3 chr3 ch3
## 4 FALSE TRUE FALSE 4 chr4 ch4
## 5 FALSE TRUE FALSE 5 chr5 ch5
```

We can also check if a given style is supported by GenomeInfoDb for a given species. For example, if we want to know if "UCSC" mapping is supported for "Homo sapiens" we can ask :

```
"UCSC" %in% names(genomeStyles("Homo_sapiens"))
## [1] TRUE
```

2.2 extractSeqlevels

We can also extract the desired seqlevelsStyle from a given organism using the `extractSeqlevels`

```
extractSeqlevels(species="Arabidopsis_thaliana", style="NCBI")
## [1] "1"     "2"     "3"     "4"     "5"     "MT"    "Pltd"
```

2.3 extractSeqlevelsByGroup

We can also extract the desired seqlevelsStyle from a given organism based on a group (Group - 'auto' denotes autosomes, 'circular' denotes circular chromosomes and 'sex' denotes sex chromosomes; the default is all chromosomes are returned).

```
extractSeqlevelsByGroup(species="Arabidopsis_thaliana", style="NCBI",
                        group="auto")
## [1] "1" "2" "3" "4" "5"
```

2.4 seqlevelsStyle

We can find the seqname Style for a given character vector by using the seqlevelsStyle

```
seqlevelsStyle(paste0("chr", c(1:30)))
## [1] "UCSC"
seqlevelsStyle(c("2L", "2R", "X", "Xhet"))
## [1] "NCBI"
```

2.5 seqlevelsInGroup

We can also subset a given character vector containing seqnames using the seqlevelsInGroup. We currently support 3 groups: 'auto' for autosomes, 'sex' for allosomes/sex chromosomes and circular for 'circular' chromosomes. The user can also provide the style and species they are working with. In the following examples, we extract the sex, auto and circular chromosomes for Homo sapiens :

```
newchr <- paste0("chr", c(1:22, "X", "Y", "M", "1_gl000192_random", "4_ctg9_hap1"))
seqlevelsInGroup(newchr, group="sex")
## [1] "chrX" "chrY"

seqlevelsInGroup(newchr, group="auto")
## [1] "chr1"  "chr2"  "chr3"  "chr4"  "chr5"  "chr6"  "chr7"  "chr8"  "chr9"  "chr10"
## [11] "chr11" "chr12" "chr13" "chr14" "chr15" "chr16" "chr17" "chr18" "chr19" "chr20"
## [21] "chr21" "chr22"

seqlevelsInGroup(newchr, group="circular")
## [1] "chrM"

seqlevelsInGroup(newchr, group="sex", "Homo_sapiens", "UCSC")
## [1] "chrX" "chrY"
```

if we have a vector containing seqnames and we want to verify the species and style for them , we can use:

```
seqnames <- c("chr1", "chr9", "chr2", "chr3", "chr10")
all(seqnames %in% extractSeqlevels("Homo_sapiens", "UCSC"))

## [1] TRUE
```

2.6 orderSeqlevels

The `orderSeqlevels` can return the order of a given character vector which contains seqnames. In the following example, we show how you can find the order for a given seqnames character vector.

```
seqnames <- c("chr1", "chr9", "chr2", "chr3", "chr10")
orderSeqlevels(seqnames)

## [1] 1 3 4 2 5

seqnames[orderSeqlevels(seqnames)]

## [1] "chr1"  "chr2"  "chr3"  "chr9"  "chr10"
```

2.7 rankSeqlevels

The `rankSeqlevels` can return the rank of a given character vector which contains seqnames. In the following example, we show how you can find the rank for a given seqnames character vector.

```
seqnames <- c("chr1", "chr9", "chr2", "chr3", "chr10")
rankSeqlevels(seqnames)

## [1] 1 4 2 3 5
```

2.8 mapSeqlevels

Returns a matrix with 1 column per supplied sequence name and 1 row per sequence renaming map compatible with the specified style. If `best.only` is TRUE (the default), only the "best" renaming maps (i.e. the rows with less NAs) are returned.

```
mapSeqlevels(c("chrII", "chrIII", "chrM"), "NCBI")

##   chrII chrIII   chrM
##   "II"  "III"  "MT"
```

We also have several seqlevel utility functions. Let us construct a basic GRanges and show how these functions can be used. .

```
gr <- GRanges(paste0("ch", 1:35), IRanges(1:35, width=5))
gr

## GRanges object with 35 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##   seqnames      ranges strand
##   <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
##   [1]     ch1      [1, 5]    *
##   [2]     ch2      [2, 6]    *
##   [3]     ch3      [3, 7]    *
##   [4]     ch4      [4, 8]    *
##   [5]     ch5      [5, 9]    *
##   ...
##   [31]    ch31     [31, 35]   *
##   [32]    ch32     [32, 36]   *
##   [33]    ch33     [33, 37]   *
##   [34]    ch34     [34, 38]   *
##   [35]    ch35     [35, 39]   *
##   -----
##   seqinfo: 35 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

As you can see , we have "ch" instead of "chr" for chromosome names. We can use `renameSeqlevels` to change the "ch" to "chr"

2.9 `renameSeqlevels`

As the first argument - it takes the object whose seqlevels we need to change, and as the second argument it takes a named vector which has the changes.

```
newnames <- paste0("chr",1:35)
names(newnames) <- paste0("ch",1:35)
head(newnames)

##      ch1     ch2     ch3     ch4     ch5     ch6
## "chr1" "chr2" "chr3" "chr4" "chr5" "chr6"

gr <- renameSeqlevels(gr,newnames)
gr

## GRanges object with 35 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##           seqnames      ranges strand
##           <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
## [1]     chr1     [1, 5]    *
## [2]     chr2     [2, 6]    *
## [3]     chr3     [3, 7]    *
## [4]     chr4     [4, 8]    *
## [5]     chr5     [5, 9]    *
## ...
## [31]    chr31    [31, 35]   *
## [32]    chr32    [32, 36]   *
## [33]    chr33    [33, 37]   *
## [34]    chr34    [34, 38]   *
## [35]    chr35    [35, 39]   *
## -----
## seqinfo: 35 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

Humans have just 22 primary chromosomes - but here we have some extra seqlevels which we want to remove - there are several ways we can achieve this:

2.10 `dropSeqlevels`

Here the second argument is the seqlevels that you want to drop.

```
dropSeqlevels(gr,paste0("chr",23:35))

## GRanges object with 22 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##           seqnames      ranges strand
##           <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
## [1]     chr1     [1, 5]    *
## [2]     chr2     [2, 6]    *
## [3]     chr3     [3, 7]    *
## [4]     chr4     [4, 8]    *
## [5]     chr5     [5, 9]    *
## ...
## [18]    chr18    [18, 22]   *
## [19]    chr19    [19, 23]   *
```

```
## [20] chr20 [20, 24] *
## [21] chr21 [21, 25] *
## [22] chr22 [22, 26] *
## -----
## seqinfo: 22 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

2.11 keepSeqlevels

Here the second argument is the seqlevels that you want to keep.

```
keepSeqlevels(gr, paste0("chr",1:22))

## GRanges object with 22 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##      seqnames      ranges strand
##          <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
## [1]   chr1     [1, 5]   *
## [2]   chr2     [2, 6]   *
## [3]   chr3     [3, 7]   *
## [4]   chr4     [4, 8]   *
## [5]   chr5     [5, 9]   *
## ...
## [18]  chr18    [18, 22]  *
## [19]  chr19    [19, 23]  *
## [20]  chr20    [20, 24]  *
## [21]  chr21    [21, 25]  *
## [22]  chr22    [22, 26]  *
## -----
## seqinfo: 22 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

2.12 keepStandardChromosomes

This function internally uses the pre-defined tables inside GenomeInfoDb to find the correct seqlevels according to the style of the object.

```
keepStandardChromosomes(gr)

## GRanges object with 35 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##      seqnames      ranges strand
##          <Rle> <IRanges> <Rle>
## [1]   chr1     [1, 5]   *
## [2]   chr2     [2, 6]   *
## [3]   chr3     [3, 7]   *
## [4]   chr4     [4, 8]   *
## [5]   chr5     [5, 9]   *
## ...
## [31]  chr31    [31, 35]  *
## [32]  chr32    [32, 36]  *
## [33]  chr33    [33, 37]  *
## [34]  chr34    [34, 38]  *
## [35]  chr35    [35, 39]  *
## -----
## seqinfo: 35 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths
```

One can also specify the optional species argument to be more precise.

```

plantgr <- GRanges(c(1:5,"MT","Pltd"), IRanges(1:7,width=5))
keepStandardChromosomes(plantgr, species="Arabidopsis thaliana")

## GRanges object with 7 ranges and 0 metadata columns:
##      seqnames      ranges strand
##      <Rle> <IRanges>  <Rle>
## [1]      1  [1,  5]      *
## [2]      2  [2,  6]      *
## [3]      3  [3,  7]      *
## [4]      4  [4,  8]      *
## [5]      5  [5,  9]      *
## [6]    MT  [6, 10]      *
## [7]   Pltd  [7, 11]      *
##
## -----
## seqinfo: 7 sequences from an unspecified genome; no seqlengths

```

3 Classes inside *GenomeInfoDb* package

3.1 Genome-Description class

We also provide a Genome Description class which can be used in the following way:

```

library(BSgenome.Celegans.UCSC.ce2)
class(Celegans)

## [1] "BSgenome"
## attr(,"package")
## [1] "BSgenome"

is(Celegans, "GenomeDescription")

## [1] TRUE

provider(Celegans)

## [1] "UCSC"

seqinfo(Celegans)

## Seqinfo object with 7 sequences (1 circular) from ce2 genome:
##      seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##      chrI      15080483     FALSE    ce2
##      chrII     15279308     FALSE    ce2
##      chrIII    13783313     FALSE    ce2
##      chrIV     17493791     FALSE    ce2
##      chrV      20922231     FALSE    ce2
##      chrX     17718849     FALSE    ce2
##      chrM      13794       TRUE     ce2

gendesc <- as(Celegans, "GenomeDescription")
class(gendesc)

## [1] "GenomeDescription"
## attr(,"package")
## [1] "GenomeInfoDb"

gendesc

```

```

## | organism: Caenorhabditis elegans (Worm)
## | provider: UCSC
## | provider version: ce2
## | release date: Mar. 2004
## | release name: WormBase v. WS120
## | ---
## | seqlengths:
## |   chrI    chrII   chrIII   chrIV    chrV    chrX    chrM
## |   15080483 15279308 13783313 17493791 20922231 17718849   13794

provider(gendesc)
## [1] "UCSC"

seqinfo(gendesc)

## Seqinfo object with 7 sequences (1 circular) from ce2 genome:
##   seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##   chrI      15080483     FALSE    ce2
##   chrII     15279308     FALSE    ce2
##   chrIII    13783313     FALSE    ce2
##   chrIV     17493791     FALSE    ce2
##   chrV      20922231     FALSE    ce2
##   chrX      17718849     FALSE    ce2
##   chrM       13794      TRUE     ce2

bsgenomeName(gendesc)
## [1] "BSgenome.Celegans.UCSC.ce2"

```

3.2 SeqInfo class

```

## Note that all the arguments (except 'genome') must have the
## same length. 'genome' can be of length 1, whatever the lengths
## of the other arguments are.
x <- Seqinfo(seqnames=c("chr1", "chr2", "chr3", "chrM"),
             seqlengths=c(100, 200, NA, 15),
             isCircular=c(NA, FALSE, FALSE, TRUE),
             genome="toy")
length(x)
## [1] 4
seqnames(x)
## [1] "chr1" "chr2" "chr3" "chrM"
names(x)
## [1] "chr1" "chr2" "chr3" "chrM"
seqlevels(x)
## [1] "chr1" "chr2" "chr3" "chrM"
seqlengths(x)
## chr1 chr2 chr3 chrM
## 100 200 NA 15

```

```
isCircular(x)

##  chr1  chr2  chr3  chrM
##    NA FALSE FALSE  TRUE

genome(x)

##  chr1  chr2  chr3  chrM
## "toy" "toy" "toy" "toy"

x[c("chrY", "chr3", "chr1")] # subset by names

## Seqinfo object with 3 sequences from 2 genomes (NA, toy):
##  seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##  chrY          NA        NA  <NA>
##  chr3          NA      FALSE   toy
##  chr1         100       NA   toy

## Rename, drop, add and/or reorder the sequence levels:
xx <- x
seqlevels(xx) <- sub("chr", "ch", seqlevels(xx)) # rename
xx

## Seqinfo object with 4 sequences (1 circular) from toy genome:
##  seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##  ch1        100       NA   toy
##  ch2        200      FALSE   toy
##  ch3          NA      FALSE   toy
##  chM         15       TRUE   toy

seqlevels(xx) <- rev(seqlevels(xx)) # reorder
xx

## Seqinfo object with 4 sequences (1 circular) from toy genome:
##  seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##  chM        15       TRUE   toy
##  ch3          NA      FALSE   toy
##  ch2        200      FALSE   toy
##  ch1        100       NA   toy

seqlevels(xx) <- c("ch1", "ch2", "chY") # drop/add/reorder
xx

## Seqinfo object with 3 sequences from 2 genomes (toy, NA):
##  seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##  ch1        100       NA   toy
##  ch2        200      FALSE   toy
##  chY          NA       NA  <NA>

seqlevels(xx) <- c(chY="Y", ch1="1", "22") # rename/reorder/drop/add
xx

## Seqinfo object with 3 sequences from 2 genomes (NA, toy):
##  seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##  Y          NA       NA  <NA>
##  1         100      NA   toy
##  22        NA       NA  <NA>

y <- Seqinfo(seqnames=c("chr3", "chr4", "chrM"),
             seqlengths=c(300, NA, 15))
```

```

y
## Seqinfo object with 3 sequences from an unspecified genome:
##   seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##   chr3         300      NA    <NA>
##   chr4         NA       NA    <NA>
##   chrM        15       NA    <NA>

merge(x, y) # rows for chr3 and chrM are merged

## Warning in .Seqinfo.mergexy(x, y): Each of the 2 combined objects has sequence levels not in
## the other:
## - in 'x': chr1, chr2
## - in 'y': chr4
## Make sure to always combine/compare objects based on the same reference
## genome (use suppressWarnings() to suppress this warning).

## Seqinfo object with 5 sequences (1 circular) from 2 genomes (toy, NA):
##   seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##   chr1        100      NA    toy
##   chr2        200     FALSE  toy
##   chr3        300     FALSE  toy
##   chrM        15      TRUE  toy
##   chr4        NA      NA    <NA>

suppressWarnings(merge(x, y))

## Seqinfo object with 5 sequences (1 circular) from 2 genomes (toy, NA):
##   seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##   chr1        100      NA    toy
##   chr2        200     FALSE  toy
##   chr3        300     FALSE  toy
##   chrM        15      TRUE  toy
##   chr4        NA      NA    <NA>

## Note that, strictly speaking, merging 2 Seqinfo objects is not
## a commutative operation, i.e., in general 'z1 <- merge(x, y)'
## is not identical to 'z2 <- merge(y, x)'. However 'z1' and 'z2'
## are guaranteed to contain the same information (i.e. the same
## rows, but typically not in the same order):
suppressWarnings(merge(y, x))

## Seqinfo object with 5 sequences (1 circular) from 2 genomes (toy, NA):
##   seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##   chr3        300     FALSE  toy
##   chr4        NA      NA    <NA>
##   chrM        15      TRUE  toy
##   chr1        100      NA    toy
##   chr2        200     FALSE  toy

## This contradicts what 'x' says about circularity of chr3 and chrM:
isCircular(y)[c("chr3", "chrM")] <- c(TRUE, FALSE)
y

## Seqinfo object with 3 sequences (1 circular) from an unspecified genome:
##   seqnames seqlengths isCircular genome
##   chr3        300      TRUE  <NA>
##   chr4        NA       NA    <NA>
##   chrM        15      FALSE  <NA>

```

```
if (interactive()) {
  merge(x, y) # raises an error
}
```

4 Examples

4.1 converting seqlevel styles (eg:UCSC to NCBI)

A quick example using *Drosophila Melanogaster*. The txdb object contains seqlevels in UCSC style, we want to convert them to NCBI

```
txdb <- TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dm3.ensGene
seqlevels(txdb)

## [1] "chr2L"      "chr2R"      "chr3L"      "chr3R"      "chr4"       "chrX"       "chrU"
## [8] "chrM"       "chr2LHet"   "chr2RHet"   "chr3LHet"   "chr3RHet"   "chrXHet"   "chrYHet"
## [15] "chrUextra"

genomeStyles("Drosophila melanogaster")

##   circular   sex  auto  NCBI      UCSC          Ensembl
## 1 FALSE FALSE TRUE   2L    chr2L           2L
## 2 FALSE FALSE TRUE   2R    chr2R           2R
## 3 FALSE FALSE TRUE   3L    chr3L           3L
## 4 FALSE FALSE TRUE   3R    chr3R           3R
## 5 FALSE FALSE TRUE    4    chr4            4
## 6 FALSE  TRUE FALSE   X    chrX            X
## 7  TRUE FALSE FALSE  MT  chrM dmel_mitochondrion_genome
## 8 FALSE FALSE FALSE 2LHet chr2LHet         2LHet
## 9 FALSE FALSE FALSE 2Rhet chr2RHet         2RHet
## 10 FALSE FALSE FALSE 3LHet chr3LHet         3LHet
## 11 FALSE FALSE FALSE 3RHet chr3RHet         3RHet
## 12 FALSE FALSE FALSE Xhet  chrXHet          XHet
## 13 FALSE FALSE FALSE Yhet  chrYHet          YHet
## 14 FALSE FALSE FALSE Un   chrU             U
## 15 FALSE FALSE FALSE <NA> chrUextra        Uextra

mapSeqlevels(seqlevels(txdb), "NCBI")

##   chr2L     chr2R     chr3L     chr3R     chr4     chrX     chrU     chrM     chr2LHet
##   "2L"     "2R"     "3L"     "3R"     "4"     "X"     "Un"     "MT"     "2LHet"
##   chr2RHet chr3LHet chr3RHet chrXHet chrYHet chrUextra
##   "2Rhet"  "3LHet"  "3RHet"  "Xhet"  "Yhet"  NA
```

4.2 converting styles and removing unwanted seqlevels

Suppose we read in a Bam file or a BED file and the resulting GRanges have a lot of seqlevels which are not required by your analysis or you want to rename the seqlevels from the current style to your own style (eg:UCSC to NCBI), we can use the functionality provided by GenomeInfoDb to do that.

Let us say that we have extracted the seqlevels of the Seqinfo object(say GRanges from a BED file) in a variable called "sequence".

```

sequence <- seqlevels(x)

## sequence is in UCSC format and we want NCBI style
newStyle <- mapSeqlevels(sequence,"NCBI")
newStyle <- newStyle[complete.cases(newStyle)] # removing NA cases.

## rename the seqlevels
x <- renameSeqlevels(x,newStyle)

## keep only the seqlevels you want (say autosomes)
auto <- extractSeqlevelsByGroup(species="Homo sapiens", style="NCBI",
                                 group="auto")
x <- keepSeqlevels(x,auto)

```

5 Session Information

Here is the output of `sessionInfo` on the system on which this document was compiled:

```
toLatex(sessionInfo())
```

- R version 3.1.3 (2015-03-09), x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
- Locale: LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8, LC_NUMERIC=C, LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8, LC_COLLATE=C, LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8, LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8, LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8, LC_NAME=C, LC_ADDRESS=C, LC_TELEPHONE=C, LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8, LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
- Base packages: base, datasets, grDevices, graphics, methods, parallel, stats, stats4, utils
- Other packages: AnnotationDbi 1.28.2, BSgenome 1.34.1, BSgenome.Celegans.UCSC.ce2 1.4.0, Biobase 2.26.0, BiocGenerics 0.12.1, Biostrings 2.34.1, GenomeInfoDb 1.2.5, GenomicFeatures 1.18.7, GenomicRanges 1.18.4, IRanges 2.0.1, S4Vectors 0.4.0, TxDb.Dmelanogaster.UCSC.dmelanogaster 3.0.0, XVector 0.6.0, rtracklayer 1.26.3
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): BBmisc 1.9, BatchJobs 1.6, BiocParallel 1.0.3, BiocStyle 1.4.1, DBI 0.3.1, GenomicAlignments 1.2.2, RCurl 1.95-4.5, RSQLite 1.0.0, Rsamtools 1.18.3, XML 3.98-1.1, base64enc 0.1-2, biomaRt 2.22.0, bitops 1.0-6, brew 1.0-6, checkmate 1.5.2, codetools 0.2-11, digest 0.6.8, evaluate 0.5.5, fail 1.2, foreach 1.4.2, formatR 1.1, highr 0.4.1, iterators 1.0.7, knitr 1.9, sendmailR 1.2-1, stringr 0.6.2, tools 3.1.3, zlibbioc 1.12.0