

Introduction to Bioconductor

Useful Information

- Web page: www.bioconductor.org
- Mailing list:
bioconductor@stat.math.ethz.ch
- You can install from GUI or using `install.packages`

Vignettes

- Bioconductor has adopted a new documentation paradigm, the vignette.
- A **vignette** is an **executable document** consisting of a collection of documentation text and code chunks.
- Vignettes form **dynamic, integrated, and reproducible statistical documents** that can be automatically updated if either data or analyses are changed.
- Vignettes can be generated using the `Sweave` function from the `R tools` package.
- Use `.find.package` to get the original Rnw file

Classes and Methods

- Objects in R can be complicated. Example are lists
- We can also define classes - objects that follow a particular format
- Methods are functions, such as plot, that behave differently depending on class

exprSet class

<code>exprs</code>	Matrix of expression measures, genes x samples
<code>se.exprs</code>	Matrix of SEs for expression measures, genes x samples
<code>phenoData</code>	Sample level covariates, instance of class <code>phenoData</code>
<code>annotation</code>	Name of annotation data
<code>description</code>	MIAME information
<code>notes</code>	Any notes

phenoData class

<code>pData</code>	Matrix of samples x covariates
<code>varLabels</code>	List describing each covariate
