## Package 'primirTSS'

May 12, 2025

```
Maintainer Pumin Li <ipumin@163.com>
Description A fast, convenient tool to identify the TSSs of miRNAs by
     integrating the data of H3K4me3 and Pol II as well as combining the
     conservation level and sequence feature, provided within both command-line
     and graphical interfaces, which achieves a better performance than the
     previous non-cell-specific methods on miRNA TSSs.
License GPL-2
Encoding UTF-8
LazyData true
RoxygenNote 7.1.0
Depends R (>= 3.5.0)
Imports GenomicRanges (>= 1.32.2), S4Vectors (>= 0.18.2), rtracklayer
     (>= 1.40.3), dplyr (>= 0.7.6), stringr (>= 1.3.1), tidyr (>=
     0.8.1), Biostrings (>= 2.48.0), purrr (>= 0.2.5),
     BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38 (>= 1.4.1),
     phastCons100way.UCSC.hg38 (>= 3.7.1), GenomicScores (>= 1.4.1),
     shiny (>= 1.0.5), Gviz (>= 1.24.0), BiocGenerics (>= 0.26.0),
     IRanges (>= 2.14.10), TFBSTools (>= 1.18.0), JASPAR2018 (>=
     1.1.1), tibble (>= 1.4.2), R.utils (>= 2.6.0), stats, utils
Suggests knitr, rmarkdown
VignetteBuilder knitr
biocViews ImmunoOncology, Sequencing, RNASeq, Genetics, Preprocessing,
     Transcription, GeneRegulation
URL https://github.com/ipumin/primirTSS
```

BugReports http://github.com/ipumin/primirTSS/issues

git\_url https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/primirTSS

git\_branch RELEASE\_3\_21

Title Prediction of pri-miRNA Transcription Start Site

Author Pumin Li [aut, cre], Qi Xu [aut], Jie Li [aut], Jin Wang [aut]

**Version** 1.26.0

2 find\_tss

```
git_last_commit 63d93c5
git_last_commit_date 2025-04-15
Repository Bioconductor 3.21
Date/Publication 2025-05-11
```

## **Contents**

	find_tss
	peak_join
	peak_merge
	plot_primiRNA
	primirTSS
	run_primirTSSapp
	trans_cor
Index	11

find\_tss

Predict TSSs of miRNA

## **Description**

Search for putative TSSs of miRNA, together with integrating available data such as H3K4me3 data, Pol II data, miRNA expression data, and protein-coding gene data, as well as provide the transcriptional regulation relationship between TF and miRNA.

## Usage

```
find_tss(
  bed_merged,
  expressed_mir = "all",
  flanking_num = 1000,
  threshold = 0.7,
  ignore_DHS_check = TRUE,
  DHS,
  allmirdhs_byforce = TRUE,
  expressed_gene = "all",
  allmirgene_byforce = TRUE,
  seek_tf = FALSE,
  tf_n = 1000,
  min.score = 0.8
)
```

find\_tss 3

#### **Arguments**

bed\_merged Peaks from ChIP-seq data to be provided for analysis can be H3K4me3 peaks,

Pol II peaks or both. Notice that peaks are supposed to be merged(see also peak\_merge) before find\_TSS if using only one kind of peak data, while peaks should be firstly merged and then join together(see also peak\_join) if both

H3K4me3 data and Pol II are input.

expressed\_mir This parameter allows users to specify certain miRNAs, the TSSs of which they

want to search for by providing a list of miRNAs(e.g., expressed miRNAs in a certain cell-line). If expressed\_mir is not specified, the default value of the parameter is "all" and the function will acquiescently employ all the miRNAs

currently listed on "miRbase" database.

flanking\_num A parameter in Eponine model to detect TSSs. It is concluded that a peak sig-

nal with flanking regions of C-G enrichment are important to mark TSSs. The

default value is 1000.

threshold The threshold for candidate TSSs scored with Eponine method. The default

value is 0.7.

ignore\_DHS\_check

The process of DHS\_check further assists to filter putative TSSs. When there is a DHS peak that locates within 1 kb upstream of a putative TSS, this predicted TSS will be retained for its character is consistent with that of an authentic TSS. Or the TSSs with no DHSs locating within 1 kb upstream of them would be

discarded.

DHS ChIP-seq data of DNase I hypersensitive sites(DHSs).

allmirdhs\_byforce

When we use DHS data to check the validity of TSSs, there is a possibility where no DHSs locates within 1 kb upstream of all putative TSSs and all these putative TSSs might be filtered out by our method resulting no outputs. While "allmirdhs\_byforce = TRUE", it ensures to output at least 1 most possible TSS even if the nearest DHS signal locates more than 1 kb upstream of this

TSS.

expressed\_gene Users can specify genes expressed in certain cell-lines that are analyzed. Or the default value is "all", which means all the expressed genes annotated on

Ensemble will be employed.

allmirgene\_byforce

While integrating expressed\_gene data to improve prediction, there might be a circumstance where all the putative TSS are discarded. To prevent this condition, users are allowed to use "allmirgene\_byforce = TRUE" to ensure at least

1 putative TSS for each miRNA will be output.

seek\_tf With the result of predicted TSSs, seek\_tf provides users with an option to pre-

dict related TFs for miRNA. The data of transcription factors refer to JASPAR2018

database.

tf\_n TFBS locates on the upstream of the TSS of a certain TF, which is considered

as the promoter region. tf\_n set the length of promoter region for predicting

transcription regulation between miRNAs and TFs.

min.score The threshold for scoring transcription factor binding sites. A single absolute

value between 0 and 1.

4 find\_tss

#### Value

The first part of the result returns details of predicted TSSs, composed of seven columns: mir\_name, chrom, stem\_loop\_p1, stem\_loop\_p2, strand mir\_context, tss\_type gene and predicted\_tss:

mir\_name: Name of miRNA.

chrom: Chromosome.

stem\_loop\_p1: The start site of a stem-loop.

stem\_loop\_p2: The end site of a stem-loop.

strand: Polynucleotide strands. (+/-)

mir\_context: The relative positon relationship between stem-loop and protein-coding gene. (intra/inter)

tss\_type: Four types of predicted TSSs. See the section below TSS types for details. (host\_TSS/intra\_TSS/overlap\_int

gene: Ensembl gene ID

predicted\_tss: Predicted transcription start sites(TSSs).

pri\_tss\_distance: The distance between a predicted TSS and the start site of the stem-loop.

## TSS types

TSSs are catalogued into 4 types as below.

host\_TSS The TSSs of miRNA that are close to the TSS of protein-coding gene implying they may share the same TSS, on the condition where mir\_context is "intra". (See above: Value-mir\_context)

intra\_TSS The TSSs of miRNA that are NOT close to the TSS of the protein-coding gene, on the condition where mir\_context is "intra".

overlap\_inter\_TSS The TSSs of miRNA are catalogued as "overlap\_inter\_TSS" when the primiRNA gene overlaps with Ensembl gene, on the condition where "mir\_context" is "inter".

inter\_inter\_TSS The TSSs of miRNA are catalogued as "inter\_inter\_TSS" when the miRNA gene does NOT overlap with Ensembl gene, on the condition where "mir\_context" is "inter".

(See Xu HUA et al 2016 for more details)

#### Log

The second part of the result returns logs during the process of prediction: find\_nearest\_peak\_log If no peaks locate in the upstream of a stem-loop to help determine putative TSSs of miRNA, we will fail to find the nearest peak and this miRNA will be logged in find\_nearest\_peak\_log.

eponine\_score\_log For a certain miRNA, if none of the candidate TSSs scored with Eponine method meet the threshold we set, we will fail to get an eponine score and this miRNA will be logged in eponine\_score\_log.

DHS\_check\_log For a certain miRNA, if no DHS signals locate within 1 kb upstream of each putative TSSs, these putative TSSs will be filtered out and this miRNA will be logged in DHS\_check\_log.

gene\_filter\_log For a certain miRNA, when integrating expressed\_gene data to improve prediction, if no putative TSSs are confirmed after considering the relative position relationship among TSSs, stem-loops and expressed genes, this miRNA will be filtered out and logged in gene\_filter\_log.

peak\_join 5

#### Reference

Xu Hua, Luxiao Chen, Jin Wang\*, Jie Li\* and Edgar Wingender\*, Identifying cell-specific microRNA transcriptional start sites. Bioinformatics 2016, 32(16), 2403-10.

#### **Examples**

peak\_join

Integrate H3K4me3 data and Pol II data.

#### **Description**

Integrate peaks from H3K4me3 and Pol II data. To conduct the overlappd ranges for the further analysis by imposing H3K4me3 peaks on Pol II peaks, if both of these two different kinds of ChIP-seq data are available.

## Usage

```
peak_join(peak1, peak2)
```

#### **Arguments**

peak1	H3K4me3 peaks. Merged peak data as GRange object by fucntion peak_merge
peak2	Pol II peaks. Merged peak data as GRange object by fucntion peak_merge

#### Value

A GRanges object. The joined peaks for the following analysis to search for TSSs.

#### **Detail**

Peak1 and peak2 are signals seperately from the ChIP-seq data of H3K4me3 and Pol II data that to be integrated. The data is GRange object containing three columns Chrom, Ranges, Strand. And the order of these two kinds of data when input as peak1 and peak2 can be swapped.

6 peak\_merge

#### **Examples**

peak\_merge

Merge adjacent peaks within H3K4me3 or Pol II data.

## Description

Merge the adjacent segments provided as GRange object from original data. This function will merge adjacent peaks the distance between which is less than n base pairs apart and then return the merged segments.

#### Usage

```
peak_merge(peak, n = 250)
```

## **Arguments**

peak A GRange object. The peaks to be merged from one certain ChIP-seq data, such as H3K4me3 data or Pol II data.

n A number. n stipulates the distance(bp, base pair) between two seperate peaks within which they should be merged.

#### Value

A GRanges object. The merged peaks for the following analysis to search for TSSs.

## **Examples**

plot\_primiRNA 7

plot\_primiRNA

Plot the result of prediction for miRNA

#### **Description**

For each miRNA, plot the position of TSS, pri-miRNA, related Ensemble gene, eponine socre and conservation score according to the result of prediction using primirTSS.

## Usage

```
plot_primiRNA(
   expressed_mir,
   bed_merged,
   flanking_num = 1000,
   threshold = 0.7,
   ignore_DHS_check = TRUE,
   DHS,
   allmirdhs_byforce = TRUE,
   expressed_gene = "all",
   allmirgene_byforce = TRUE)
```

#### **Arguments**

expressed\_mir

This parameter allows users to specify certain miRNAs, the TSSs of which they want to search for by providing a list of miRNAs(e.g. expressed miRNAs in a certain cell-line). If expressed\_mir is not specified, the default value of the parameter is "all" and the function will acquiescently employ all the miRNAs currently listed on "miRbase" database.

bed\_merged

Peaks from ChIP-seq data to be provided for analysis can be H3K4me3 peaks, Pol II peaks or both. Notice that peaks are supposed to be merged(see also peak\_merge) before find\_TSS if using only one kind of peak data, while peaks should be firstly merged and then join together(see also peak\_join) if both H3K4me3 data and Pol II are input.

flanking\_num

A parameter in Eponine model to detect TSSs. It is concluded that a peak signal with flanking regions of C-G enrichment are important to mark TSSs. The default value is 1000.

threshold

Threshold for candidate TSSs scored with Eponine method. The default value is 0.7.

ignore\_DHS\_check

The process of DHS\_check further assist to filter putative TSSs. When there are a DHS peak that locates within 1 kb upstream of a putative TSS, this predicted TSS will be retain for it character is consistent with that of an authentic TSS. Or the TSSs with no DHSs locating within 1 kb upstream of them would be discard.

DHS

ChIP-seq data of DNase I hypersensitive sites(DHSs).

8 plot\_primiRNA

allmirdhs\_byforce

When we use DHS data to check the validity of TSSs, there is possibility where no DHSs locates within 1 kb upstream of all putative TSSs and all these putative TSSs might be filtered out by our method resulting no outputs. While "allmirdhs\_byforce = TRUE", it ensures to output at least 1 most possible TSS even if the nearest DHS signal locates more than 1 kb upsteam of this TSS.

expressed\_gene Users can speicify genes expressed in certain cell-lines that is analyzed. Or the default value is "all", which means all the expressed genes annotated on Ensemble will be employed.

allmirgene\_byforce

While integrating expressed\_gene data to improve prediction, there might be a circumstance where all the putative TSS are discarded. To prevent this condition, users are allowed to use "allmirgene\_byforce = TRUE" to ensure at least 1 putative TSS for each miRNA will be output.

#### **Details**

NOTICE that this function is used for visualizing the predicted result of ONLY ONE specific miRNA every single time.

#### Value

There will be six tracks plotted as return:

Chrom: Position of miRNA on the chromosome.

hg38: Reference genome coordinate in hg38.

pri-miRNA: Position of pri-miRNA.

Ensemble genes: Position of related protein-coding gene.

eponine score: Score of best putative TSS conducted by eponine method.

conservation score: Conservation score should be integrated with eponine score to find out putative TSSs.

#### **Examples**

```
expressed_mir <- "hsa-mir-5697"
bed_merged <- data.frame(</pre>
  chrom = c("chr1", "chr1", "chr1", "chr1", "chr2"),
  start = c(9180799, 9201483, 9234339, 9942202, 9830615),
  end = c(9183889, 9202580, 9235853, 9944469, 9917994),
  stringsAsFactors = FALSE
bed_merged <- as(bed_merged, "GRanges")</pre>
## Not run:
plot_primiRNA(expressed_mir, bed_merged)
## End(Not run)
```

primirTSS 9

primirTSS

primirTSS: Search for putative TSSs of miRNA

## Description

A fast, convenient tool to identify the TSSs of miRNAs by integrating the data of H3K4me3 and Pol II as well as combining the conservation level and sequence feature, provided within both command-line and graphical interfaces, which achieves a better performance than the previous noncell-specific methods on miRNA TSSs.

#### **Detail**

See find\_tss for deailted instruction to predict TSSs of miRNA; See run\_primirTSSapp to predict TSSs of miRNA using graphical web interface.

#### Author(s)

Maintainer: Pumin Li <ipumin@163.com>

Other contributors: Qi Xu <xuqi@vip.qq.com>

#### See Also

Useful links: Xu HUA et al

run\_primirTSSapp

Predict TSSs of miRNA using a graphical web interface.

#### **Description**

A graphical web interface is provided for users to achieve the functions of find\_tss and plot\_primiRNA to intuitively and conveniently predict putative TSSs of miRNA.

## Usage

run\_primirTSSapp()

#### **Details**

Users can refer documents of the two functions mentioned ABOVE for details.

#### Value

A graphical interface.

10 trans\_cor

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
run_primirTSSapp()
## End(Not run)
```

trans\_cor

transform one hg coordinates to another

## Description

Convert coordinates between different genomes when necessary.

#### Usage

```
trans_cor(peak, hg_from, hg_to)
```

## Arguments

peak A GRange object. The genome, the coordinates of which need to be coverted.

hg\_from The genome are coverting from. This parameter can be "hg18", "hg19" or

"hg38", etc.

hg\_to Which type the genome is converting to. This parameter can be "hg18", "hg19"

or "hg38", etc. NOTICE hg\_from and hg\_to should be different from each

other.

#### Value

A GRanges object.

#### **Examples**

# **Index**

```
find_tss, 2, 9
peak_join, 3, 5, 7
peak_merge, 3, 6, 7
plot_primiRNA, 7, 9
primirTSS, 9
run_primirTSSapp, 9, 9
trans_cor, 10
```