Basics of Reporting Tools

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1 Introduction

Frequently, when performing an analysis, it is helpful to be able to share these results in several formats at once: as HTML tables, csv files or even as R data packages. ReportingTools attempts to make this as painless as possible. At its heart, ReportingTools is nothing more than a set of S4 classes that describe what kinds of reports to generate, and a set of S4 methods that describe how to publish something in that format. In this vignette we will highlight the fundamentals of ReportingTools. ReportingTools has several methods for displaying microarray and RNA-seq results; for more details, please refer to the corresponding vignettes.

2 Basics of Reporting

The easiest type of report to generate is a csv file. This is done using the CSVFile class and the publish method. To start we'll create a data.frame that we'll use throughout the vignette.

```
> my.df <- data.frame(EGID = c("103", "104", "105", "106", "107"),
                      RPKM = c(4, 5, 3, 100, 75),
                      DE = c("Yes", "Yes", "No", "No", "No"))
> my.df
 EGID RPKM DE
  103
          4 Yes
2
  104
          5 Yes
3
  105
          3
             No
4
  106
        100
             No
5 107
         75
             No
```

Next, we'll create the CSVFile object to which we'll publish our results.

```
> library(ReportingTools)
> csvFile <- CSVFile(shortName = "my_csv_file",
+ reportDirectory = "./reports/")
> publish(my.df, csvFile)
```

Obviously, this isn't much less work than just calling write.csv on the data.frame itself, but this is really just a toy example. We can also publish the data.frame as an HTML report.

```
> htmlRep <- HTMLReport(shortName = "my_html_file",
+ reportDirectory = "./reports/")
> publish(my.df, htmlRep)
> finish(htmlRep)
```

It's necessary to call finish on the HTMLReport, to allow the contents to be written to the file.

It's also possible to publish the same object in two separate formats at once.

```
> csvFile2 <- CSVFile(shortName = "my_csv_file2",
+     reportDirectory = "./reports/")
> htmlRep2 <- HTMLReport(shortName = 'my_html_file2',
+     reportDirectory = "./reports/")
> publish(my.df, list(csvFile2, htmlRep2))
> finish(htmlRep2)
```

The same few lines of code could be used to publish, for example, the results of a limma differential expression analysis, or the results of a Gene Ontology analysis, all without worrying about coercing the objects to a tabular format ourselves. For more information, see the microarray and RNA-seq vignettes.

my_html_file

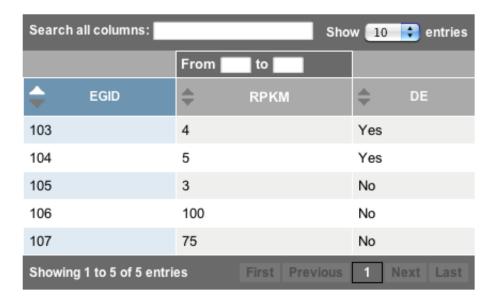


Figure 1: Resulting page created by publish for my.df.

my_html_file2

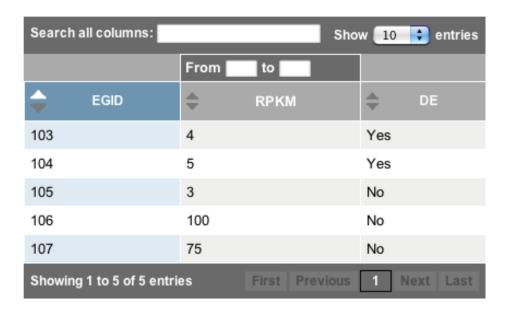


Figure 2: Resulting page created by calling publish for my.df to htmlRep2.

3 Adding plots or text to a report

To add additional text or plots to a report, simply open the report with HTMLReport , write to it (e.g., with hwriter functions), and then call publish on the original data frame and finish the report. Below we make a simple plot and then add it and some descriptive text to our report.

4 Styled Tables

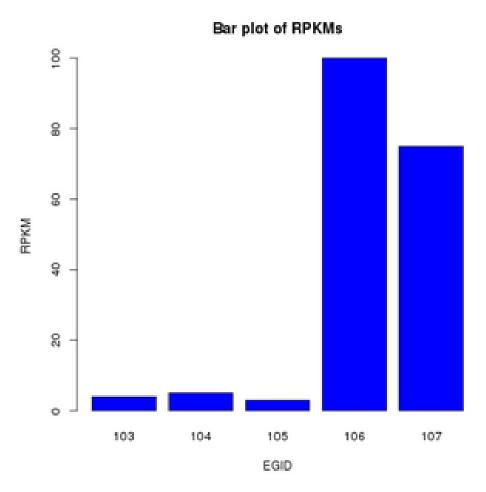
If you have a preferred table style, defined in css, it's easy to style your tables consistently using the link.css parameter when creating an HTMLReport. Below we use a simpler table format.

5 More advanced reporting

For publishing experimental results, including how to publish a limma-based linear model and an edgeR RNA-seq analysis, please see the relevant vignette. Example output is shown below.

my_html_file3

Bar chart of results



Results Table

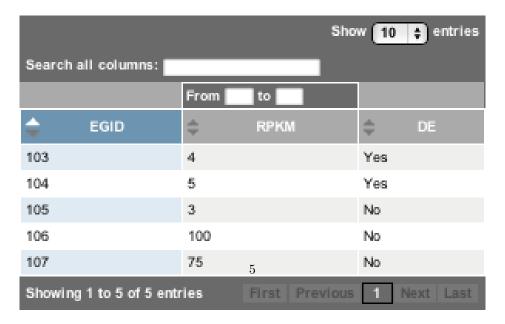


Figure 3: Resulting page created after adding additional figures and text.

my_html_file4

Analysis of BCR/ABL translocation differential expression

Show	10 💠 entries		
Searc	h all columns:		
EGII	D From	to	DE
EGII	D	RPKM	DE
103	4		Yes
104	5		Yes
105	3		No
106	100		No
107	75		No
	ing 1 to 5 of 5 entri revious1NextLast	ies	
EGID	RPKMDE		

Figure 4: Resulting page created by calling publish for my.df with specific styling.

Figure 5: Resulting page created for analysis of a microarray study with limma@.