

Package: HDF5DataFrame (via r-universe)

June 4, 2026

Version 0.99.1

Date 2025-04-23

Title HDF5-backed DataFrame objects and methods

Description Implements bindings for h5 files that are compatible with Bioconductor S4 data structures, namely the DataFrame and DelayedArray. This allows HDF5-backed data to be easily used as data frames with arbitrary sets of columns.

License MIT + file LICENSE

Depends R (>= 4.5.0), DelayedArray, S4Vectors

Imports stats, methods, BiocGenerics, h5mread

Suggests testthat, knitr, HDF5Array, rhdf5

biocViews DataRepresentation, Infrastructure, Software

VignetteBuilder knitr

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Encoding UTF-8

URL <https://github.com/BIMSBbioinfo/HDF5DataFrame>

BugReports <https://github.com/BIMSBbioinfo/HDF5DataFrame/issues>

Config/pak/sysreqs libssl-dev zlib1g-dev

Repository <https://artur-man.r-universe.dev>

Date/Publication 2025-09-20 13:51:25 UTC

RemoteUrl <https://github.com/Artur-man/HDF5DataFrame>

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha 4d62ea45c480d31acbf6d16018858c112f9edb8d

Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| HDF5ColumnSeed | 2 |
| HDF5ColumnSeed-class | 4 |
| HDF5ColumnVector-class | 4 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| HDF5DataFrame | 5 |
| HDF5DataFrame-class | 7 |
| subsetting-utils | 8 |

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Index | 9 |
|--------------|----------|

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| HDF5ColumnSeed | <i>HDF5ColumnSeed</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------|

Description

Represent a column of a HDF5-based data frame as a 1-dimensional [DelayedArray](#). This allows us to use HDF5-backed data inside [DataFrame](#) without loading them into memory.

Usage

```
HDF5ColumnSeed(path, name, column, type = NULL, length = NULL)
```

```
HDF5ColumnVector(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
DelayedArray(seed)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
dim(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
type(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
path(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
extract_array(x, index)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|---|
| path | String containing a path to a HDF5-based data frame. |
| name | String containing the HDF5 group of the h5 file. |
| column | String containing the name of the column inside the file. |
| type | String specifying the type of the data. If NULL, this is determined by inspecting the file. Users may specify this to avoid a look-up, or to coerce the output into a different type. |
| length | Integer containing the number of rows. If NULL, this is determined by inspecting the file. This should only be supplied for efficiency purposes, to avoid a file look-up on construction. |


```

type = type(meta.data_list[[1]])

# methods
dim(columnseed)
path(columnseed)
type(columnseed)

```

HDF5ColumnSeed-class *HDF5ColumnSeed Class*

Description

The HDF5ColumnSeed class for [HDF5ColumnVector](#).

Arguments

| | |
|--------|--|
| path | The path (as a single string or H5File object) to the HDF5 file (.h5 or .h5ad) where the dataset is located. |
| name | The name of the dataset in the HDF5 file. |
| column | the names of the columns, see HDF5ColumnVector |
| length | the length of the HDF5Array . |

HDF5ColumnVector-class *HDF5ColumnVector Class*

Description

The HDF5ColumnVector class for each column of a [HDF5DataFrame](#) class

Arguments

| | |
|------|--|
| seed | An HDF5ColumnSeed object |
|------|--|

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| HDF5DataFrame | <i>HDF5-backed DataFrame</i> |
|---------------|------------------------------|

Description

Create a HDF5-backed [DataFrame](#), where the data are kept on disk until requested.

Usage

```
HDF5DataFrame(x, name, columns = NULL, nrows = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
nrow(x)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
length(x)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
path(object)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
rownames(x)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
names(x)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
rownames(x) <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame,ANY'
names(x) <- value

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame,ANY,ANY'
x[[i, j, ...]]

## S4 replacement method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame,ANY,ANY,ANY'
x[[i, j, ...]] <- value

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
cbind(..., deparse.level = 1)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

`x, object` A set of HDF5Arrays that are the columns of the HDF5DataFrame object.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| name | String containing the HDF5 group of the h5 file. |
| columns | Character vector containing the names of columns in a HDF5-based data frame. If NULL, this is determined from path. |
| nrows | Integer scalar specifying the number of rows in a HDF5-based data frame. If NULL, this is determined from path. |
| value | rownames, names or new columns for HDF5DataFrame object |
| i | Depends on the usage |
| j | Depends on the usage |
| ... | arguments passed to other methods |
| deparse.level | See <code>?base::cbind</code> for a description of description of these arguments. |
| row.names, optional | See <code>?base::as.data.frame</code> for a description of these arguments. |

Value

A [HDF5DataFrame](#) object where each column is a [HDF5ColumnVector](#).

[HDF5DataFrame](#) object

number of rows of [HDF5DataFrame](#) object

length of [HDF5DataFrame](#) object

path to hdf5 file of [HDF5DataFrame](#) object

rownames of [HDF5DataFrame](#) object

names of columns of [HDF5DataFrame](#) object

[HDF5DataFrame](#) object

data.frame object

Author(s)

Artür Manukyan

Examples

```
# libraries
library(rhdf5)
library(HDF5Array)
library(HDF5DataFrame)

# h5
output_h5ad <- tempfile(fileext = ".h5")
h5createFile(output_h5ad)
h5createGroup(output_h5ad, group = "metadata")

# data
data("chickwts")
metadata <- chickwts
```

```

# set metadata
meta.data_list <- list()
for(i in 1:ncol(metadata)){
  cur_column <- as.vector(subset(metadata,
                                select = colnames(metadata)[i]))[[1]]
  if(is.character(cur_column) || is.factor(cur_column))
    cur_column <- as.character(cur_column)
  cur_column <- as.array(cur_column)
  meta.data_list[[colnames(metadata)[i]]] <-
    writeHDF5Array(cur_column,
                   output_h5ad,
                   name = paste0("metadata", "/",
                                 colnames(metadata)[i]),
                   with.dimnames = FALSE)
}
metadata_large <-
  HDF5DataFrame(meta.data_list,
                name = "metadata",
                columns = names(meta.data_list))

# coerce to data.frame
metadata_large <- as.data.frame(metadata_large)

# cbind
metadata_large <- cbind(metadata_large, metadata)

```

HDF5DataFrame-class *HDF5DataFrame Class*

Description

The HDF5DataFrame class is a DataFrame subclass for representing datasets with arbitrary collections of columns stored in HDF5.

Arguments

| | |
|---------|--|
| path | The path (as a single string or H5File object) to the HDF5 file (.h5 or .h5ad) where the dataset is located. |
| name | The name of the group in the HDF5 file. |
| columns | the names of the columns, see HDF5ColumnVector |
| nrows | the number of rows of the DataFrame. |

subsetting-utils *subsetting-utils*

Description

Low-level utility functions and classes to support subsetting of vector-like objects. They are not intended to be used directly. See [extractROWS](#).

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame,ANY'  
extractROWS(x, i)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'  
extractCOLS(x, i)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'  
replaceROWS(x, i, value)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'  
replaceCOLS(x, i, value)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| x | HDF5DataFrame object |
| i | row/column index or name |
| value | vector to be replaced |

Value

HDF5DataFrame object

HDF5DataFrame object

Index

[[, HDF5DataFrame, ANY, ANY-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

[[, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

[[<- , HDF5DataFrame, ANY, ANY, ANY-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

[[<- , HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

as.data.frame, 6

as.data.frame, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

cbind, 6

cbind, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

DataFrame, 2, 5

DelayedArray, 2

DelayedArray, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

dim, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

extract_array, 3

extract_array, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

extractCOLS, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

extractCOLS, HDF5DataFrame-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

extractROWS, 8

extractROWS, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

HDF5Array, 4

HDF5ColumnSeed, 2, 4

HDF5ColumnSeed-class, 4

HDF5ColumnVector, 4, 6, 7

HDF5ColumnVector (HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

HDF5ColumnVector-class, 4

HDF5DataFrame, 4, 5, 6

HDF5DataFrame-class, 7

length, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

names, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

names<- , HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

names<- , HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

nrow, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

path, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

path, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

replaceCOLS, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

replaceCOLS, HDF5DataFrame-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

replaceROWS, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

replaceROWS, HDF5DataFrame-method
(subsetting-utils), 8

rownames, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

rownames<- , HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

subsetting-utils, 8

type, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2