Short overview of the *sequences* package

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1 Introduction

The dummy *sequences* package is used to illustrate the *Advanced R programming and package development*. It describes classes and methods to manipulate generic and biological sequences. If you are interested in real sequence manipulation in R, have a look at *Biostrings*[^1], *seqinr*[^2] or *ape*[^3] and possibly others.

2 Using *sequences*

Let’s start by loading the package and read a fasta sequence that is provided with the package.

```r
library("sequences")

## Loading required package: Rcpp
## This is package 'sequences'

fastafilename <- dir(system.file(package="sequences", dir="extdata"),
    full.name=TRUE,  
    pattern="fasta$")

fastafilename
## [1] "/tmp/Rtmp6egddS/Rinst42111894325b/sequences/extdata/aDnaSeq.fasta"

myseq <- readFasta(fastafilename[1])
myseq
```


[^2]: [http://seqinr.r-forge.r-project.org/](http://seqinr.r-forge.r-project.org/)

[^3]: [http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/ape/index.html](http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/ape/index.html)
## Object of class DnaSeq
## Id: example dna sequence
## Length: 132
## Alphabet: A C G T
## Sequence: AGCATACGACGACGACTACGACACTACGACACTACGACTACGACTACGACTACGACTACGACACTACGACATCAGACACTACAGACTACTACGACTACAGACATCAGACACTACATATTTACATCATCAGAGATTATATTAACATCAGACATCGACACATCATCATCAGCATCAT

Printing the sequence displays it’s sequence numbering the lines.

```r
print(myseq)
```

## > example dna sequence
## 1 AGCATACGA
## 10 CGACTACGAC
## 20 ACTACGACAT
## 30 CAGACACTAC
## 40 AGACTACTAC
## 50 GACTACAGAC
## 60 ATCAGACACT
## 70 ACATATTAC
## 80 ATCATCAGAG
## 90 ATTATATTAA
## 100 CATCAGACAT
## 110 CGACACTCA
## 120 TCATCAGCAT
## 130 CAT

This creates an instance of class DnaSeq that can be transcribed with the `transcribe` method.

```r
transcribe(myseq)
```

## Object of class RnaSeq
## Id: example dna sequence -- transcribed
## Length: 132
## Alphabet: A C G U
## Sequence: AGCAUACGACGACGACUACGACACUCAGACACACUACGACACUCUACGACUACGACUACGACAGACACAUACUACGACUACGACUACGACUACGACUACGACUAAUUU
Figure 1: Number of A, C, G and T bases in the `myseq` object.
3 Background

This package is developed as part of the *Advanced R programming and package development* (ARPD) course, taught by Laurent Gatto and Robert Stojnic. The course has originally been set up and run as an intense 1 day course in the Graduate School of Life Sciences of the University of Cambridge. Since March 2011, the course has been run on a regular basis in the Bioinformatics Teaching Facility in the Department of Genetics, Cambridge.

In November 2011 and December 2012, 2 day courses were taught at the EMBL in Heidelberg, at Wolfgang Huber’s invitation (see figure 2).

![Figure 2: Delegates and organisers, EMBL, Heidelberg, 28 - 29 November 2011](image)

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4 Session information

- R Under development (unstable) (2014-11-01 r66923),
  x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu

- Locale: LC_CTYPE=en_GB.UTF-8, LC_NUMERIC=C, LC_TIME=en_GB.UTF-8,
  LC_COLLATE=C, LC_MONETARY=en_GB.UTF-8, LC_MESSAGES=en_GB.UTF-8,
  LC_PAPER=en_GB.UTF-8, LC_NAME=C, LC_ADDRESS=C, LC_TELEPHONE=C,
  LC_MEASUREMENT=en_GB.UTF-8, LC_IDENTIFICATION=C

- Base packages: base, datasets, grDevices, graphics, methods, stats, utils

- Other packages: Rcpp 0.11.3, sequences 0.5.9

- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): evaluate 0.5.5, formatR 1.0,
  highr 0.4, knitr 1.8, stringr 0.6.2, tools 3.2.0