

Package ‘RbowtieCuda’

January 22, 2026

Type Package

Title An R Wrapper for nvBowtie and nvBWT, a rewritten version of Bowtie2 for cuda

Version 1.2.0

Date 2025-10-12

Description This package provides an R wrapper for the popular Bowtie2 sequencing read aligner, optimized to run on NVIDIA graphics cards. It includes wrapper functions that enable both genome indexing and alignment to the generated indexes, ensuring high performance and ease of use within the R environment.

License BSD_3_clause + file LICENSE

Depends R (>= 4.5.0)

Encoding UTF-8

Imports methods

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, RUnit, BiocGenerics

SystemRequirements C++20, GNU make, cmake, CUDA Toolkit(>=10), MSVC, libthrust-dev, libcub-dev, gcc, g++

Archs x64

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

biocViews Sequencing, Alignment, Preprocessing, Coverage

VignetteBuilder knitr

Config/testthat/edition 3

NeedsCompilation yes

Author c(Jacopo Pantaleoni [aut],
Nuno Subtil [aut],
Samuel Simon Sanchez [aut],
Franck RICHARD [aut, cre],
role = c("`aut", "`cre"))

Maintainer Franck RICHARD <franck.richard@winstars.net>

BugReports <https://github.com/FranckRICHARD01/RbowtieCuda/issues>

URL <https://github.com/FranckRICHARD01/RbowtieCuda>,
<https://belacqua-labo.ovh/bioinformatic/RbowtieCuda>

git_url <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/RbowtieCuda>

git_branch RELEASE_3_22
git_last_commit 5051fea
git_last_commit_date 2025-10-29
Repository Bioconductor 3.22
Date/Publication 2026-01-22

Contents

.callbinary2	2
nvbio_tests	3
nvBowtie	3
nvBowtie_usage	4
nvBowtie_version	5
nvBWT	5
Index	7

.callbinary2	<i>Make system call for binaries</i>
--------------	--------------------------------------

Description

Function that makes a system call for the RbowtieCuda binaries. Note that it is not designed to be used outside the package.

Usage

.callbinary2(bin1, args1, path = NULL)

Arguments

- bin1 Character. The binary used for the system call.
- args1 Character. The arguments to pass to the binary.
- path Character Optional: If passed to function, returns the path.

Value

An invisible Integer of call status. The value is 0 when there is not any mistakes.

Author(s)

Franck RICHARD

Examples

.callbinary2(bin1 = "nvBowtie", args1 = "--version")

nvbio_tests

Print unit tests

Description

Calling nvbio_tests() performs alignment tests

Usage

```
nvbio_tests()
```

Value

The return value is the string "nvbio test passed." when there is not any mistakes.

Author(s)

Franck RICHARD

Examples

```
nvbio_tests()
```

nvBowtie

nvBowtie align function

Description

nvBowtie is a GPU-accelerated re-engineering of Bowtie2, a very widely used short-read aligner.

Usage

```
nvBowtie(index, output_file, options, seq1, seq2 = NULL)
```

Arguments

index	Character vector. Index file created by nvBWT.
output_file	Character vector. The alignment output file (.sam o .bam)
options	Character vector. Specify additional options here to customize the processing. For a complete list of available options, type nvBowtie_usage().
seq1	Character vector. For single-end sequencing, it contains sequence file paths. For paired-end sequencing, it can be file path with #1 mates paired with file paths in seq2.
seq2	Character vector. It contains file paths with #2 mates paired with file path in seq1. For single-end sequencing files, it must be NULL.

Details

We've introduced several new features to nvBowtie. You can now perform alignments using the WFA method by including the `--wfa` (or `--scoring wfa`) parameter. The WFA method requires a large amount of RAM on the graphics card. We therefore recommend using an Nvidia card with 8GB or more. Please note that this feature is still experimental; it currently supports only end-to-end alignments and does not yet allow customization of scoring parameters. By default, it uses the following scoring: `match:0, mismatch:1, gap_open:1` and `gap_ext:1`. Additionally, the `--cache-writes` parameter optimizes disk write operations, resulting in faster alignments. This functionality requires 4GB of RAM and is limited to paired-end alignments.

Value

An invisible Integer of call status. The value is 0 when there is not any mistakes Otherwise the value is non-zero.

References

Langmead, B., & Salzberg, S. L. (2012). Fast gapped-read alignment with Bowtie 2. *Nature methods*, 9(4), 357-359.

Examples

```
td <- tempdir()

## Building index
fa_file <- system.file(package='RbowtieCUDA', 'extdata', 'bt2', 'refs', 'lambda_virus.fa')
nvBWT(myinput=fa_file, output=file.path(td, 'index'), options='')

## Alignments
read_1 <- system.file(package='RbowtieCUDA', 'extdata', 'bt2', 'reads', 'reads_1.fastq')
read_2 <- system.file(package='RbowtieCUDA', 'extdata', 'bt2', 'reads', 'reads_2.fastq')

## Sam file created with paired-end files (paired mates are here reverse-forward)
nvBowtie(file.path(td, 'index'), file.path(td, 'my_result.sam'), options='--rf', seq1=read_1, seq2=read_2)

## Bam file created with single-end file
nvBowtie(file.path(td, 'index'), file.path(td, 'my_result.bam'), options='', seq1=read_1)
```

nvBowtie_usage

Print available arguments that can be passed to nvBowtie()

Description

Calling `nvBowtie_usage()` prints available arguments that can be passed to the `nvBowtie()` function.

Usage

```
nvBowtie_usage()
```

Value

An invisible Integer of call status. The value is 0 when there is not any mistakes Otherwise the value is non-zero.

Author(s)

Franck RICHARD

References

Langmead, B., & Salzberg, S. L. (2012). Fast gapped-read alignment with Bowtie 2. *Nature methods*, 9(4), 357-359.

Examples

```
nvBowtie_usage()
```

nvBowtie_version	<i>Print version information</i>
------------------	----------------------------------

Description

Calling nvBowtie_version() displays the version information of the RbowtieCuda package in use.

Usage

```
nvBowtie_version()
```

Value

An invisible Integer of call status. The value is 0 when there is not any mistakes.

Author(s)

Franck RICHARD

Examples

```
nvBowtie_version()
```

nvBWT	<i>nvBWT : builds the BWT indices of the reference FASTA files</i>
-------	--

Description

This function can be use to call wrapped nvBWT binary.

Usage

```
nvBWT(myinput, output, options = NULL)
```

Arguments

myinput	Character vector. A path to a .fa file
output	Character vector. A path to a index file used for the alignment output.
options	Character vector. Options Example: --verbosity

Details

Available options:

-v		--verbosity	int (0-6) [5]	// select the verbosity level
-m		--max-length	int [inf]	// clamp input length
-b		--byte-packing	[default]	// output a byte-encoded .pac file
-w		--word-packing		// output a word-encoded .wpac file
				// (more efficient)
-c		--crc		// compute CRCs
-d		--device		// select a cuda device

Value

An invisible Integer of call status. The value is 0 when there is not any mistakes Otherwise the value is non-zero.

Author(s)

Franck RICHARD

References

Langmead, B., & Salzberg, S. L. (2012). Fast gapped-read alignment with Bowtie 2. *Nature methods*, 9(4), 357-359.

Examples

```
td <- tempdir()
fa_file <- system.file(package='RbowtieCuda', 'extdata', 'bt2', 'refs', 'lambda_virus.fa')
nvBWT(myinput=fa_file, output=file.path(td, 'index'), options='')
```

Index

`.callbinary2`, [2](#)

`nvbio_tests`, [3](#)

`nvBowtie`, [3](#)

`nvBowtie_usage`, [4](#)

`nvBowtie_version`, [5](#)

`nvBWT`, [5](#)