

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked

January 21, 2026

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked

Full masked genomic sequences for Homo sapiens (UCSC version hg38)

Description

Full genomic sequences for Homo sapiens as provided by UCSC (genome hg38, based on assembly GRCh38.p14 since 2023/01/31). The sequences are the same as in BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38, except that each of them has the 4 following masks on top: (1) the mask of assembly gaps (AGAPS mask), (2) the mask of intra-contig ambiguities (AMB mask), (3) the mask of repeats from Repeat-Masker (RM mask), and (4) the mask of repeats from Tandem Repeats Finder (TRF mask). Only the AGAPS and AMB masks are "active" by default. The sequences are stored in MaskedDNAString objects.

Note

The masks in this BSgenome data package were made from the following source data files:

AGAPS masks: gap.txt.gz, downloaded from <https://hgdownload.soe.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/hg38/database/>

RM masks: hg38.p14.fa.out.gz, downloaded from <https://hgdownload.soe.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/hg38/bigz/>

TRF masks: hg38.p14.trf.bed.gz, downloaded from <https://hgdownload.soe.ucsc.edu/goldenPath/hg38/bigs/>

See ?[BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38](#) in the **BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38** package for information about how the sequences were obtained.

See ?[BSgenomeForge](#) and the BSgenomeForge vignette (vignette("BSgenomeForge")) in the **BSgenome** software package for how to create a BSgenome data package.

Author(s)

The Bioconductor Dev Team

See Also

- [BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38](#) in the **BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38** package for information about how the sequences were obtained.
- [BSgenome](#) objects in the **BSgenome** software package.
- The [seqinfo](#) getter and [Seqinfo](#) objects in the **GenomeInfoDb** package.
- The [seqlevelsStyle](#) getter and setter in the **GenomeInfoDb** package.
- [MaskedDNAString](#) objects in the **Biostrings** package.
- The [available.genomes](#) function in the **BSgenome** software package.
- The BSgenomeForge vignette (vignette("BSgenomeForge")) in the **BSgenome** software package for how to create a BSgenome data package.

Examples

```
BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked
mbsg <- BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked
head(seqlengths(mbsg))
seqinfo(mbsg)

mbsg$chr1 # a MaskedDNAString object!
## To get rid of the masks altogether:
unmasked(mbsg$chr1) # same as BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38$chr1

if ("AGAPS" %in% masknames(mbsg)) {

  ## Check that the assembly gaps contain only Ns:
  checkOnlyNsInGaps <- function(seq)
  {
    ## Replace all masks by the inverted AGAPS mask
    masks(seq) <- gaps(masks(seq)["AGAPS"])
    unique_letters <- uniqueLetters(seq)
    if (any(unique_letters != "N"))
      stop("assembly gaps contain more than just Ns")
  }

  ## A message will be printed each time a sequence is removed
  ## from the cache:
  options(verbose=TRUE)

  for (seqname in seqnames(mbsg)) {
    cat("Checking sequence", seqname, "... ")
    seq <- mbsg[[seqname]]
    checkOnlyNsInGaps(seq)
    cat("OK\n")
  }
}

## -----
## Genome-wide motif searching
## -----

## See the GenomeSearching vignette in the BSgenome software
## package for some examples of genome-wide motif searching using
## Biostrings and the BSgenome data packages:
if (interactive())
```

```
vignette("GenomeSearching", package="BSgenome")
```

Index

* **data**

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked,
[1](#)

* **package**

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked,
[1](#)

available.genomes, [2](#)

BSgenome, [2](#)

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38, [1](#), [2](#)

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked, [1](#)

BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked-package
(BSgenome.Hsapiens.UCSC.hg38.masked),
[1](#)

BSgenomeForge, [1](#)

MaskedDNAString, [2](#)

Seqinfo, [2](#)

seqinfo, [2](#)

seqlevelsStyle, [2](#)