

Package ‘iSEEindex’

May 26, 2026

Title iSEE extension for a landing page to a custom collection of data sets

Version 1.11.0

Date 2024-10-09

Description This package provides an interface to any collection of data sets within a single iSEE web-application. The main functionality of this package is to define a custom landing page allowing app maintainers to list a custom collection of data sets that users can selected from and directly load objects into an iSEE web-application.

License Artistic-2.0

URL <https://github.com/iSEE/iSEEindex>

BugReports <https://support.bioconductor.org/t/iSEEindex>

biocViews Software, Infrastructure

Encoding UTF-8

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Depends SummarizedExperiment, SingleCellExperiment

Imports BiocFileCache, DT, iSEE, methods, paws.storage, rintrojs, shiny, shinydashboard, shinyjs, stringr, urltools, utils

Suggests BiocStyle, covr, knitr, RefManageR, rmarkdown, markdown, scRNAseq, sessioninfo, testthat (>= 3.0.0), yaml

Config/testthat/edition 3

VignetteBuilder knitr

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

git_branch devel

git_last_commit ce60d55

git_last_commit_date 2026-04-28

Repository Bioconductor 3.24

Date/Publication 2026-05-25

Author Kevin Rue-Albrecht [aut, cre] (ORCID:

<<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3899-3872>>),

Thomas Sandmann [ctb] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6601-8890>>),

Federico Marini [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3252-7758>>),

Denali Therapeutics [fnd]

Maintainer Kevin Rue-Albrecht <kevinrue67@gmail.com>

Contents

iSEEindex-package	2
iSEEindex	3
iSEEindexHttpsResource-class	7
iSEEindexLocalhostResource-class	8
iSEEindexRcallResource-class	9
iSEEindexResource-class	10
iSEEindexResource-generics	11
iSEEindexRunrResource-class	12
iSEEindexS3Resource-class	13
Index	15

iSEEindex-package	<i>iSEEindex: iSEE extension for a landing page to a custom collection of data sets</i>
-------------------	---

Description

This package provides an interface to any collection of data sets within a single iSEE web-application. The main functionality of this package is to define a custom landing page allowing app maintainers to list a custom collection of data sets that users can select from and directly load objects into an iSEE web-application.

Author(s)

Maintainer: Kevin Rue-Albrecht <kevinrue67@gmail.com> ([ORCID](#))

Authors:

- Federico Marini <marinif@uni-mainz.de> ([ORCID](#))

Other contributors:

- Thomas Sandmann <tomsing1@gmail.com> ([ORCID](#)) [contributor]
- Denali Therapeutics [funder]

See Also

Useful links:

- <https://github.com/iSEE/iSEEindex>
- Report bugs at <https://support.bioconductor.org/t/iSEEindex>

iSEEindex

*iSEEindex App***Description**

Generate an **iSEE** app that includes a landing page enabling users to choose from a custom set of data sets and initial configuration states prepared by the app maintainer.

Usage

```
iSEEindex(
  bfc,
  FUN.datasets,
  FUN.initial = NULL,
  default.add = TRUE,
  default.position = c("first", "last"),
  app.title = NULL,
  body.header = NULL,
  body.footer = NULL
)
```

Arguments

<code>bfc</code>	An BiocFileCache() object.
<code>FUN.datasets</code>	A function that returns a list of metadata for available data sets.
<code>FUN.initial</code>	A function that returns a list of metadata for available initial configuration states.
<code>default.add</code>	Logical scalar indicating whether a default initial configuration should be added as a choice in the Shiny <code>selectizeInput()</code> . See iSEEindex() .
<code>default.position</code>	Character scalar indicating whether the default initial configuration should be added as the "first" or "last" option in the Shiny <code>selectizeInput()</code> .
<code>app.title</code>	Character string to specify the desired title to be displayed in the main window of the dashboard. Defaults to <code>NULL</code> , which displays some info on the versions of the <code>iSEEindex</code> and <code>iSEE</code> packages.
<code>body.header</code>	UI element to display <i>above</i> the main landing page body.
<code>body.footer</code>	UI element to display <i>below</i> the main landing page body.

Value

An `iSEE::iSEE()` app with a custom landing page using a [BiocFileCache\(\)](#) to cache a selection of data sets.

Data Sets

The function passed to the argument `FUN.datasets` must return a list that contains metadata about the available data sets.

For each data set, required metadata are:

id A unique identifier for the data set.

title A short human-readable title for the data set, displayed in the 'Info' panel when the data set is selected.

uri A Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) that indicates the location of the data file that contains the data set.

description A more detailed description of the data set, displayed in the 'Info' panel when the data set is selected.

Example:

```
list(
  list(
    id = "dataset01",
    title = "Dataset 01",
    uri = "https://example.com/1.rds",
    description = "My first data set."
  ),
  list(
    id = "dataset02",
    title = "Dataset 02",
    uri = "https://example.com/1.rds",
    description = "My second data set."
  )
)
```

The individual sub-lists may also contain optional named metadata specific to individual [iSEEindexResource](#) classes (refer to the help page of those classes for details).

Important: The `id` value is used to identify the data set file in the **BiocFileCache**. Thus, we recommend using a dedicated `BiocFileCache()` for the app, using the `BiocFileCache(cache)` argument to specify an on-disk location (directory path) for the dedicated cache.

Initial Configurations

The function passed to the argument `FUN.initial` must return a `list` that contains metadata about the available initial configurations, or `NULL` in the absence of any custom initial configuration (default settings will be applied to all data sets.).

For each initial configuration, required metadata are:

id A unique identifier for the initial configuration.

title A short human-readable title for the initial configuration, representing the initial configuration in the 'Initial settings' dropdown menu.

uri A Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) that indicates the location of the R script that contains the initial configuration.

description A more detailed description of the initial configuration, displayed in the 'Configure and launch' panel when the initial configuration is selected.

For each initial configuration, optional metadata are:

datasets A series of data set identifiers for which the configuration should be made available. If missing, the configuration will be available for all data sets.

Example:

```
list(
  list(
    id = "config01",
    datasets = c("dataset01")
    title = "Configuration 01",
    uri = "https://example.com/1.R",
    description = "My first configuration."
  ),
  list(
    id = "config02",
    title = "Configuration 02",
    uri = "https://example.com/2.R",
    description = "My second configuration."
  )
)
```

The individual sub-lists may also contain additional optional named metadata specific to individual [iSEEindexResource](#) classes (refer to the help page of those classes for details).

Author(s)

Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
library("BiocFileCache")
bfc <- BiocFileCache(cache = tempdir())

dataset_fun <- function() {
  x <- yaml::read_yaml(system.file(package = "iSEEindex", "example.yaml"))
  x$datasets
}

initial_fun <- function() {
  x <- yaml::read_yaml(system.file(package = "iSEEindex", "example.yaml"))
  x$initial
}

app <- iSEEindex(bfc, dataset_fun, initial_fun)

if (interactive()) {
  shiny::runApp(app, port = 1234)
}

## Alternatively, with the example based on using runr calls

dataset_fun_tonsils <- function() {
  x <- yaml::read_yaml(
    system.file("tonsils_example", "tonsil_package.yaml", package = "iSEEindex")
  )
  x$datasets
}

initial_fun_tonsils <- function() {
  x <- yaml::read_yaml(
    system.file("tonsils_example", "tonsil_package.yaml", package = "iSEEindex")
  )
}
```

```

    )
    x$initial
  }

library("shiny")
header_tonsils <- fluidRow(
  shinydashboard::box(
    width = 12, collapsible = TRUE, collapsed = TRUE,
    title = "How to explore the Tonsil Atlas datasets",
    includeMarkdown(
      system.file("tonsils_example", "header_tonsils.md", package = "iSEEindex")
    )
  )
)
footer_tonsils <- fluidRow(
  shinydashboard::box(
    width = 12,
    includeMarkdown(
      system.file("tonsils_example", "footer_tonsils.md", package = "iSEEindex")
    )
  )
)

app_tonsils <- iSEEindex(bfc,
  dataset_fun_tonsils,
  initial_fun_tonsils,
  default.add = TRUE,
  default.position = "last",
  app.title = "iSEE loves the Tonsil Data Atlas",
  body.header = header_tonsils,
  body.footer = footer_tonsils)

if (interactive()) {
  shiny::runApp(app_tonsils, port = 5678)
}

## This example shows that it is possible to mix different types of resources
## Some provide the path, some directly the object

dataset_fun_mix <- function() {
  x <- yaml::read_yaml(
    system.file("mixed_resources.yaml", package = "iSEEindex")
  )
  x$datasets
}
initial_fun_mix <- function() {
  x <- yaml::read_yaml(
    system.file("mixed_resources.yaml", package = "iSEEindex")
  )
  x$initial
}

app_mixed <- iSEEindex(bfc,
  dataset_fun_mix,
  initial_fun_mix,
  default.add = TRUE,

```

```
    default.position = "last",
    app.title = "iSEE loves multiple resource types")

if (interactive()) {
  shiny::runApp(app_mixed, port = 4242)
}
```

iSEEindexHttpsResource-class

The iSEEindexHttpsResource class

Description

The `iSEEindexHttpsResource` class represents a resource accessible through an HTTPS link. A URI for this type of resource uses the prefix “https://”.

Usage

```
iSEEindexHttpsResource(x)
```

Arguments

`x` List of metadata. See Details.

Details

Required metadata:

uri Character scalar. URI of the resource.

Value

The constructor function `iSEEindexHttpsResource()` returns an object of class `iSEEindexHttpsResource`.

Slot overview

This class inherits all slots from its parent class [iSEEindexResource](#).

Supported methods

In the following code snippets, `x` is an instance of a [iSEEindexHttpsResource](#) class. Refer to the documentation for each method for more details on the remaining arguments.

- `precache(x, bfc, id, ...)` caches the resource located at the given URI using **BiocFile-Cache** and returns the file path to the cached file.

Author(s)

Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
iSEEindexHttpsResource(list(uri = "https://example.com"))
```

iSEEindexLocalhostResource-class

The iSEEindexLocalhostResource class

Description

The `iSEEindexLocalhostResource` class represents a resource accessible through a local filepath. A URI for this type of resource uses the prefix “localhost://”.

Usage

```
iSEEindexLocalhostResource(x)
```

Arguments

`x` List of metadata. See Details.

Details

Required metadata:

uri Character scalar. URI of the resource.

Value

The constructor function `iSEEindexLocalhostResource()` returns an object of object of class `iSEEindexLocalhostResource`.

Slot overview

This class inherits all slots from its parent class [iSEEindexResource](#).

Supported methods

In the following code snippets, `x` is an instance of a [iSEEindexLocalhostResource](#) class. Refer to the documentation for each method for more details on the remaining arguments.

- `precache(x, ...)` trims the `localhost://` prefix, and caches a copy of the resource located at the resulting file path using **BiocFileCache**, before returning the file path to the cached file.

Absolute and relative paths

Absolute and relative paths are both supported.

Absolute paths require an additional / (forward slash) following the double forward slash // separating the scheme component of the URI.

For instance:

- `localhost://path/to/file` refers to the relative path `path/to/file` (relative to the working directory when the Shiny application is launched).
- `localhost:///path/to/file` refers to the absolute path `/path/to/file`.

Author(s)

Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
iSEEindexLocalhostResource(list(uri = "localhost:///example/absolute/path"))  
iSEEindexLocalhostResource(list(uri = "localhost://example/relative/path"))
```

iSEEindexRcallResource-class

The iSEEindexRcallResource class

Description

The `iSEEindexRcallResource` class represents a resource accessible through the result of an R call. A URI for this type of resource uses the prefix “`rcall://`”.

Usage

```
iSEEindexRcallResource(x)
```

Arguments

`x` List of metadata. See Details.

Details

Required metadata:

uri Character scalar. R call which, once evaluated, produces a character scalar that is the URI of the resource.

Value

The constructor function `iSEEindexRcallResource()` returns an object of object of class `iSEEindexRcallResource`.

URI format

The URI must contain valid R code, once the prefix `rcall://` is removed. The code must return the path to an existing file on the local filesystem.

For instance:

```
rcall://system.file(package='iSEEindex', 'ReprocessedAllenData_config_01.R')
```

Slot overview

This class inherits all slots from its parent class [iSEEindexResource](#).

Supported methods

In the following code snippets, `x` is an instance of a `iSEEindexRcallResource` class. Refer to the documentation for each method for more details on the remaining arguments.

- `precache(x, ...)` trims the `rcall://` prefix, evaluates the remainder of the URI as R code, and caches a copy of the resource located at the resulting file path using `BiocFileCache`, before returning the file path to the cached file.

Author(s)

Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
iSEEindexRcallResource(list(
  uri = "rcall://system.file(package='iSEEindex', 'ReprocessedAllenData_config_01.R')")
))
```

iSEEindexResource-class

The iSEEindexResource class

Description

The `iSEEindexResource` class is a virtual class from which classes of supported resource must be derived.

Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'iSEEindexResource'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'iSEEindexResource'
precache(x, bfc, id, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>object</code>	An <code>iSEEindexResource</code> object.
<code>x</code>	An <code>iSEEindexResource</code> object.
<code>bfc</code>	A <code>BiocFileCache()</code> object.
<code>id</code>	A data set identifier as a character scalar.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to and from other methods.

Value

`show()` returns `NULL` after displaying a summary of the object.

`precache()` throws an error if no method is found for the derived class.

Slot overview

- `uri`, a character scalar specifying the URI of a resource.

Supported methods

In the following code snippets, `x` is an instance of a `iSEEindexResource` class. Refer to the documentation for each method for more details on the remaining arguments.

- `precache(x, bfc, id, ...)` throws an error, encouraging users to develop a method for derived classes that are not supported yet.

Author(s)

Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
showClass("iSEEindexResource")
```

iSEEindexResource-generics

Generics for iSEEindexResources Objects

Description

An overview of the generics for `iSEEindexResources` objects.

Usage

```
precache(x, bfc, id, ...)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	An <code>iSEEindexResource</code> object.
<code>bfc</code>	A <code>BiocFileCache()</code> object.
<code>id</code>	A data set identifier as a character scalar.
<code>...</code>	additional arguments passed to and from other methods.

Value

`precache()` returns the file path to the cached copy of a resource fetched from a given URI.

Preparing and caching resources

`precache(x, bfc, id, ...)` retrieves and caches a resource from an URI, caches it, and returns the path to the cached file.

Author(s)

Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
library(BiocFileCache)
bfc <- BiocFileCache(cache = tempdir())

x <- iSEEindexRcallResource(list(
  uri = "rcall://system.file(package='iSEEindex','ReprocessedAllenData_config_01.R')")
))
precache(x, bfc, "ID0")
```

iSEEindexRunrResource-class

The iSEEindexRunrResource class

Description

The iSEEindexRunrResource class represents an SE object, obtained directly through an R call.

Usage

```
iSEEindexRunrResource(x)
```

Arguments

x List of metadata. See Details.

Details

A URI for this type of resource uses the prefix “runr://”.

Required metadata:

uri Character scalar. URI of the resource.

Value

The constructor function iSEEindexRunrResource() returns an object of object of class iSEEindexRunrResource.

Supported methods

In the following code snippets, x is an instance of a [iSEEindexRunrResource](#) class. Refer to the documentation for each method for more details on the remaining arguments.

- `precache(x, bfc, id, ...)` caches the resource located at the given URI using **BiocFileCache** and returns the file path to the cached file.

Examples

```
iSEEindexRunrResource(list(
  uri = "runr://HCAATonsilData::HCAATonsilData(assayType = 'RNA', cellType = 'epithelial')")
))
```

`iSEEindexS3Resource-class`*The iSEEindexS3Resource class*

Description

The `iSEEindexS3Resource` class represents a cloud storage resource accessible via the `paws.storage` R package. A URI for this type of resource uses the prefix “s3://”.

Usage

```
iSEEindexS3Resource(x)
```

Arguments

`x` List of metadata. See Details.

Details

Required metadata:

uri Character scalar. URI of the resource.

Value

The constructor function `iSEEindexS3Resource()` returns an object of object of class `iSEEindexS3Resource`.

Slot overview

This class inherits all slots from its parent class `iSEEindexResource`.

Furthermore, this class defines the additional slot(s) below:

region AWS region.

Supported methods

In the following code snippets, `x` is an instance of a `iSEEindexS3Resource` class. Refer to the documentation for each method for more details on the remaining arguments.

- `precache(x, ..., temp_dir = tempdir())` trims the `s3://` prefix, parses information encoded in the remainder of the URI, downloads the resource from AWS S3 using that information, and caches a copy of the resource located at the resulting file path using `BiocFileCache`, before returning the file path to the cached file.

URI format

The URI must correspond to an existing file in an AWS S3 compatible cloud storage system.

For instance:

```
s3://bucket/prefix/index.rds
```

For details about authentication, see section “AWS Credentials” below.

Pre-caching

Additional arguments to the `precache(x, ..., temp_dir = tempdir())`:

`temp_dir` Scalar character, the directory to store the downloaded file in before it is handed over to **BiocFileCache**. This directory will be created recursively if it doesn't already exist.

AWS Credentials and region settings

For detailed information, please consult the [paws R package documentation](#).

Currently, you must have the [AWS Command Line Interface](#) installed to use AWS SSO with **paws.storage**.

A default AWS region can be set in the file `~/.aws/config`. For instance:

```
[default]
region=eu-west-2
```

Optionally, a field named `region` can be added in the list of resource metadata to set the AWS S3 region for each individual resource, e.g.

```
- id: ID1
  title: ReprocessedAllenData
  uri: s3://example/ReprocessedAllenData.rds
  description: |
    Reprocessed Allen Data.
  region: eu-west-2
```

Regions set in individual resource metadata override the default AWS region set in `~/.aws/config` (if any). The region metadata does not need to be set for resources that should use the default region, and resource classes that do not require region information.

If a default region is NOT set in `~/.aws/config`, then the region **MUST** be set in the metadata.

Credentials for all services can be set in the AWS shared credentials file `~/.aws/credentials`. For instance:

```
[default]
aws_access_key_id=your AWS access key
aws_secret_access_key=your AWS secret key
```

Author(s)

Thomas Sandmann, Kevin Rue-Albrecht

Examples

```
# Without region metadata
metadata <- list(uri = "s3://example/path/to/bucket")
x <- iSEEindexS3Resource(metadata)
str(x)

# With region metadata
# NOTE: The @region slot is set to NA pending bugfix (see above).
metadata <- list(uri = "s3://example/path/to/bucket", region = "eu-west-2")
x <- iSEEindexS3Resource(metadata)
str(x)
```

Index

- * **internal**
 - iSEEindex-package, [2](#)
- BiocFileCache(), [3](#), [10](#), [11](#)
- iSEE::iSEE(), [3](#)
- iSEEindex, [3](#)
- iSEEindex(), [3](#)
- iSEEindex-package, [2](#)
- iSEEindexHttpsResource, [7](#)
- iSEEindexHttpsResource
 - (iSEEindexHttpsResource-class), [7](#)
- iSEEindexHttpsResource-class, [7](#)
- iSEEindexLocalhostResource, [8](#)
- iSEEindexLocalhostResource
 - (iSEEindexLocalhostResource-class), [8](#)
- iSEEindexLocalhostResource-class, [8](#)
- iSEEindexRcallResource, [10](#)
- iSEEindexRcallResource
 - (iSEEindexRcallResource-class), [9](#)
- iSEEindexRcallResource-class, [9](#)
- iSEEindexResource, [4](#), [5](#), [7–11](#), [13](#)
- iSEEindexResource-class, [10](#)
- iSEEindexResource-generics, [11](#)
- iSEEindexRunrResource, [12](#)
- iSEEindexRunrResource
 - (iSEEindexRunrResource-class), [12](#)
- iSEEindexRunrResource-class, [12](#)
- iSEEindexS3Resource, [13](#)
- iSEEindexS3Resource
 - (iSEEindexS3Resource-class), [13](#)
- iSEEindexS3Resource-class, [13](#)

- precache, [7](#), [8](#), [10–14](#)
- precache (iSEEindexResource-generics), [11](#)
- precache, iSEEindexHttpsResource-method (iSEEindexHttpsResource-class), [7](#)
- precache, iSEEindexLocalhostResource-method (iSEEindexLocalhostResource-class), [8](#)
- precache, iSEEindexRcallResource-method (iSEEindexRcallResource-class), [9](#)
- precache, iSEEindexResource-method (iSEEindexResource-class), [10](#)
- precache, iSEEindexRunrResource-method (iSEEindexRunrResource-class), [12](#)
- precache, iSEEindexS3Resource-method (iSEEindexS3Resource-class), [13](#)

- show, iSEEindexResource-method (iSEEindexResource-class), [10](#)