Using the SRAdb Package to Query the Sequence Read Archive

Jack Zhu*and Sean Davis†

Genetics Branch, Center for Cancer Research,
National Cancer Institute,
National Institutes of Health

March 30, 2016

1 Introduction

High throughput sequencing technologies have very rapidly become standard tools in biology. The data that these machines generate are large, extremely rich. As such, the Sequence Read Archives (SRA) have been set up at NCBI in the United States, EMBL in Europe, and DDBJ in Japan to capture these data in public repositories in much the same spirit as MIAME-compliant microarray databases like NCBI GEO and EBI ArrayExpress.

Accessing data in SRA requires finding it first. This R package provides a convenient and powerful framework to do just that. In addition, SRAdb features functionality to determine availability of sequence files and to download files of interest.

SRA currently store aligned reads or other processed data that relies on alignment to a reference genome. Please refer to the SRA handbook (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK47537/) for details. NCBI GEO also often contain aligned reads for sequencing experiments and the SRAdb package can help to provide links to these data as well. In combination with the GEOmetadb and GEOquery packages, these data are also, then, accessible.

2 Getting Started

Since SRA is a continuously growing repository, the SRAdb SQLite file is updated regularly. The first step, then, is to get the SRAdb SQLite file from the online location. The download and uncompress steps are done automatically with a single command, getSRAdbFile.

*zhujack@mail.nih.gov
†sdavis2@mail.nih.gov

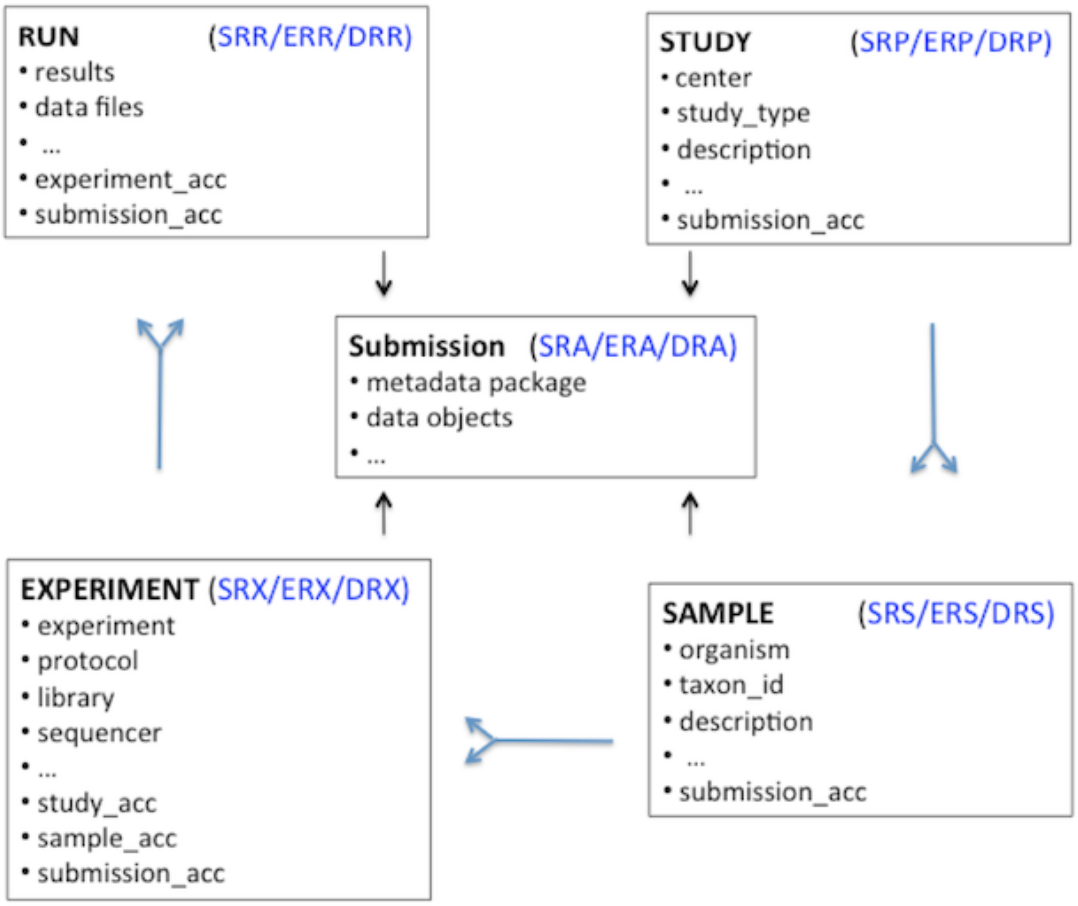

Figure 1: A graphical representation (sometimes called an *Entity-Relationship Diagram*) of the relationships between the main tables in the SRAdb package.

```
> library(SRAdb)
> sqlfile <- 'SRAmetadb.sqlite'
> if(!file.exists('SRAmetadb.sqlite')) sqlfile <<- getSRAdbFile()
```

The default storage location is in the current working directory and the default filename is "SRAmetadb.sqlite"; it is best to leave the name unchanged unless there is a pressing reason to change it. Note: the above downloading and uncompressing steps could take quite a fews moments due to file size, depdending on your network bandwidth. If interested, it can be timed using the following commands:

```
> timeStart <- proc.time()
> sqlfile <- getSRAdbFile()
> proc.time() - timeStart
```

Since this SQLite file is of key importance in SRAdb, it is perhaps of some interest to know some details about the file itself.

```
> file.info('SRAmetadb.sqlite')
```

```
                         size isdir mode
SRAmetadb.sqlite 18171175936 FALSE  644
                              mtime
SRAmetadb.sqlite 2016-03-30 18:32:17
                              ctime
SRAmetadb.sqlite 2016-03-30 18:32:17
                              atime uid gid
SRAmetadb.sqlite 2016-03-30 18:32:17 691 692
                     uname      grname
SRAmetadb.sqlite biocbuild phs_compbio
```

Then, create a connection for later queries. The standard DBI functionality as implemented in RSQLite function `dbConnect` makes the connection to the database. The `dbDisconnect` function disconnects the connection.

```
> sra_con <- dbConnect(SQLite(),sqlfile)
```

For further details, at this time see `help('SRAdb-package')`.

3 Using the SRAdb package

3.1 Interacting with the database

The functionality covered in this section is covered in much more detail in the DBI and RSQLite package documentation. We cover enough here only to be useful. The `dbListTables` function lists all the tables in the SQLite database handled by the connection object `sra_con` created in the previous section. A simplified illustration of the relationship between the SRA main data types is shown in the Figure 1.

```
> sra_tables <- dbListTables(sra_con)
> sra_tables

 [1] "col_desc"        "experiment"
 [3] "fastq"           "metaInfo"
 [5] "run"             "sample"
 [7] "sra"             "sra_ft"
 [9] "sra_ft_content"  "sra_ft_segdir"
[11] "sra_ft_segments" "study"
[13] "submission"
```

There is also the `dbListFields` function that can list database fields associated with a table.

```
> dbListFields(sra_con,"study")

 [1] "study_ID"             "study_alias"
 [3] "study_accession"      "study_title"
 [5] "study_type"           "study_abstract"
 [7] "broker_name"          "center_name"
 [9] "center_project_name"  "study_description"
[11] "related_studies"      "primary_study"
[13] "sra_link"             "study_url_link"
[15] "xref_link"            "study_entrez_link"
[17] "ddbj_link"            "ena_link"
[19] "study_attribute"      "submission_accession"
[21] "sradb_updated"
```

Sometimes it is useful to get the actual SQL schema associated with a table. Here, we get the table schema for the *study* table:

```
> dbGetQuery(sra_con,'PRAGMA TABLE_INFO(study)')

   cid                 name type notnull
1    0             study_ID REAL       0
2    1          study_alias TEXT       0
3    2      study_accession TEXT       0
4    3          study_title TEXT       0
5    4           study_type TEXT       0
6    5       study_abstract TEXT       0
7    6          broker_name TEXT       0
8    7          center_name TEXT       0
9    8  center_project_name TEXT       0
10   9    study_description TEXT       0
```

```
11  10      related_studies TEXT       0
12  11        primary_study TEXT       0
13  12             sra_link TEXT       0
14  13       study_url_link TEXT       0
15  14            xref_link TEXT       0
16  15    study_entrez_link TEXT       0
17  16            ddbj_link TEXT       0
18  17             ena_link TEXT       0
19  18      study_attribute TEXT       0
20  19 submission_accession TEXT       0
21  20        sradb_updated TEXT       0
   dflt_value pk
1        <NA>  0
2        <NA>  0
3        <NA>  0
4        <NA>  0
5        <NA>  0
6        <NA>  0
7        <NA>  0
8        <NA>  0
9        <NA>  0
10       <NA>  0
11       <NA>  0
12       <NA>  0
13       <NA>  0
14       <NA>  0
15       <NA>  0
16       <NA>  0
17       <NA>  0
18       <NA>  0
19       <NA>  0
20       <NA>  0
21       <NA>  0
```

The table "col_desc" contains information of filed name, type, descritption and default values:

```
> colDesc <- colDescriptions(sra_con=sra_con)[1:5,]
> colDesc[, 1:4]
```

```
  col_desc_ID table_name         field_name
1           1 submission                 ID
2           2 submission          accession
3           3 submission              alias
```

```
4           4 submission submission_comment
5           5 submission              files
     type
1     int
2 varchar
3 varchar
4    text
5    text
```

3.2 Writing SQL queries and getting results

Select 3 records from the *study* table and show the first 5 columns:

```
> rs <- dbGetQuery(sra_con,"select * from study limit 3")
> rs[, 1:3]

  study_ID study_alias study_accession
1        1   DRP000001       DRP000001
2        2   DRP000002       DRP000002
3        3   DRP000003       DRP000003
```

Get the SRA study accessions and titles from SRA study that study_type contains "Transcriptome". The "%" sign is used in combination with the "like" operator to do a "wildcard" search for the term "Transcriptome" with any number of characters after it.

```
> rs <- dbGetQuery(sra_con, paste( "select study_accession,
+         study_title from study where",
+        "study_description like 'Transcriptome%'",sep=" "))
> rs[1:3,]

  study_accession
1       ERP000233
2       ERP000350
3       ERP000527

1 Identification of the expression profile of Staphylococcus aureus grown in the presenc
2
3                                                          Transcriptome Analysis of the
```

Of course, we can combine programming and data access. A simple `sapply` example shows how to query each of the tables for number of records.

```
> getTableCounts <- function(tableName,conn) {
+   sql <- sprintf("select count(*) from %s",tableName)
```

```
+   return(dbGetQuery(conn,sql)[1,1])
+ }
> do.call(rbind,sapply(sra_tables[c(2,4,5,11,12)],
+         getTableCounts, sra_con, simplify=FALSE))

                  [,1]
experiment      1745298
metaInfo              2
run             2179911
sra_ft_segments  542500
study             67692
```

Get some high-level statistics could be to helpful to get overall idea about what data are availble in the SRA database. List all study types and number of studies contained for each of the type:

```
> rs <- dbGetQuery(sra_con, paste( "SELECT study_type AS StudyType,
+         count( * ) AS Number FROM `study` GROUP BY study_type order
+         by Number DESC ", sep=""))
> rs

                 StudyType Number
1   Whole Genome Sequencing  29003
2                     Other  20925
3    Transcriptome Analysis   9575
4              Metagenomics   6092
5       Population Genomics    753
6               Epigenetics    651
7                     <NA>    374
8          Exome Sequencing    181
9           Cancer Genomics     96
10  Pooled Clone Sequencing     31
11       Synthetic Genomics      9
12 Transcriptome Sequencing      1
13 Whole Genome Sequencing       1
```

List all Instrument Models and number of experiments for each of the Instrument Models:

```
> rs <- dbGetQuery(sra_con, paste( "SELECT instrument_model AS
+         'Instrument Model', count( * ) AS Experiments FROM `experiment`
+         GROUP BY instrument_model order by Experiments DESC", sep=""))
> rs
```

	Instrument Model
1	Illumina HiSeq 2000
2	Illumina MiSeq
3	Illumina HiSeq 2500
4	454 GS FLX Titanium
5	Illumina Genome Analyzer II
6	<NA>
7	Illumina Genome Analyzer IIx
8	unspecified
9	454 GS FLX
10	Illumina Genome Analyzer
11	454 GS Junior
12	Ion Torrent PGM
13	AB SOLiD 4 System
14	Illumina HiSeq 1000
15	454 GS FLX+
16	NextSeq 500
17	PacBio RS II
18	PacBio RS
19	454 GS
20	Helicos HeliScope
21	Complete Genomics
22	Illumina HiSeq 1500
23	AB 5500xl Genetic Analyzer
24	AB SOLiD System 3.0
25	HiSeq X Ten
26	AB 5500 Genetic Analyzer
27	Illumina HiScanSQ
28	Ion Torrent Proton
29	454 GS 20
30	AB 3730xL Genetic Analyzer
31	AB SOLiD System 2.0
32	AB SOLiD System
33	MinION
34	Illumina HiSeq 4000
35	AB SOLiD 3 Plus System
36	AB SOLiD 4hq System
37	AB 5500xl-W Genetic Analysis System
38	Illumina HiSeq 3000
39	AB 3130 Genetic Analyzer
40	AB 3130xL Genetic Analyzer
41	Illumina NextSeq 500

42	AB 3730 Genetic Analyzer	
43	NextSeq 550	
44	454 GS FLX	
45	AB 3500xL Genetic Analyzer	
46	AB SOLiD PI System	
47	HiSeq X Five	
48	Illumina Genome Analyzer IIx	
49	AB 310 Genetic Analyzer	
50	AB 3500 Genetic Analyzer	

	Experiments
1	878142
2	197916
3	141300
4	109563
5	100263
6	78674
7	50052
8	36309
9	30628
10	17744
11	14075
12	13558
13	10027
14	9192
15	8103
16	8016
17	6513
18	5338
19	4392
20	3831
21	3165
22	2656
23	2632
24	2511
25	1890
26	1811
27	1713
28	1472
29	980
30	602
31	466
32	426

```
33          350
34          269
35          194
36          158
37          109
38           81
39           70
40           27
41           20
42           19
43           14
44           10
45            9
46            2
47            2
48            2
49            1
50            1
```

List all types of library strategies and number of runs for each of them:

```
> rs <- dbGetQuery(sra_con, paste( "SELECT library_strategy AS
+          'Library Strategy', count( * ) AS Runs FROM `experiment`
+          GROUP BY library_strategy order by Runs DESC", sep=""))
> rs
```

```
         Library Strategy   Runs
1                     WGS 579021
2               AMPLICON 297316
3                RNA-Seq 255068
4                    WXS 214611
5                  OTHER 139515
6                   <NA>  78674
7              POOLCLONE  49541
8                ChIP-Seq  48682
9                   SELEX  21657
10         Bisulfite-Seq  12260
11             miRNA-Seq   9660
12                 CLONE   8923
13                   WGA   7938
14                   EST   3461
15            VALIDATION   3284
16               RAD-Seq   1816
17             ncRNA-Seq   1672
```

```
18              MeDIP-Seq   1492
19 DNase-Hypersensitivity   1486
20                FL-cDNA   1478
21                 Tn-Seq   1358
22              MNase-Seq   1330
23                RIP-Seq   1131
24                MBD-Seq   1078
25                MRE-Seq   1051
26                    WCS    513
27       Targeted-Capture    453
28               CLONEEND    326
29                    CTS    186
30              FAIRE-seq    174
31                  Hi-C     78
32               ChIA-PET     29
33              FINISHING     24
34    Synthetic-Long-Read     12
```

3.3 Conversion of SRA entity types

Large-scale consumers of SRA data might want to convert SRA entity type from one to others, e.g. finding all experiment accessions (SRX, ERX or DRX) and run accessions (SRR, ERR or DRR) associated with "SRP001007" and "SRP000931". Function sraConvert does the conversion with a very fast mapping between entity types.

Covert "SRP001007" and "SRP000931" to other possible types in the SRAmetadb.sqlite:

```
> conversion <- sraConvert( c('SRP001007','SRP000931'), sra_con = sra_con )
> conversion[1:3,]

      study submission    sample experiment
1 SRP000931  SRA009053 SRS003460  SRX006131
2 SRP000931  SRA009053 SRS003456  SRX006125
3 SRP000931  SRA009053 SRS003453  SRX006122
        run
1 SRR018265
2 SRR018259
3 SRR018256
```

Check what SRA types and how many entities for each type:

```
> apply(conversion, 2, unique)

$study
[1] "SRP000931" "SRP001007"
```

```
$submission
[1] "SRA009053" "SRA009276"

$sample
 [1] "SRS003460" "SRS003456" "SRS003453"
 [4] "SRS003458" "SRS003455" "SRS003454"
 [7] "SRS003462" "SRS003461" "SRS003459"
[10] "SRS003457" "SRS003464" "SRS003463"
[13] "SRS004650"

$experiment
 [1] "SRX006131" "SRX006125" "SRX006122"
 [4] "SRX006127" "SRX006124" "SRX006123"
 [7] "SRX006133" "SRX006132" "SRX006129"
[10] "SRX006130" "SRX006128" "SRX006126"
[13] "SRX006135" "SRX006134" "SRX007396"

$run
 [1] "SRR018265" "SRR018259" "SRR018256"
 [4] "SRR018261" "SRR018258" "SRR018257"
 [7] "SRR018267" "SRR018266" "SRR018263"
[10] "SRR018264" "SRR018262" "SRR018260"
[13] "SRR018269" "SRR018268" "SRR020739"
[16] "SRR020740"
```

3.4 Full text search

Searching by regular table and field specific SQL commands can be very powerful and if you are familiar with SQL language and the table structure. If not, SQLite has a very handy module called Full text search (fts3), which allow users to do Google like search with terms and operators. The function getSRA does Full text search against all fields in a fts3 table with terms constructed with the Standard Query Syntax and Enhanced Query Syntax. Please see http://www.sqlite.org/fts3.html for detail.

Find all run and study combined records in which any given fields has "breast" and "cancer" words, including "breast" and "cancer" are not next to each other:

```
> rs <- getSRA( search_terms = "breast cancer",
+         out_types = c('run','study'), sra_con )
> dim(rs)

[1] 17688    23
```

```
> rs <- getSRA( search_terms = "breast cancer",
+         out_types = c("submission", "study", "sample",
+         "experiment", "run"), sra_con )
> # get counts for some information interested
> apply( rs[, c('run','sample','study_type','platform',
+         'instrument_model')], 2, function(x)
+         {length(unique(x))} )

            run          sample
          17688           12149
     study_type        platform
              9               6
instrument_model
             27

>
```

If you only want SRA records containing exact phrase of "breast cancer", in which "breast" and "cancer" do not have other characters between other than a space:

```
> rs <- getSRA (search_terms ='"breast cancer"',
+         out_types=c('run','study'), sra_con)
> dim(rs)

[1] 14731    23
```

Find all sample records containing words of either "MCF7" or "MCF-7":

```
> rs <- getSRA( search_terms ='MCF7 OR "MCF-7"',
+         out_types = c('sample'), sra_con )
> dim(rs)

[1] 2494   10
```

Find all submissions by GEO:

```
> rs <- getSRA( search_terms ='submission_center: GEO',
+      out_types = c('submission'), sra_con )
> dim(rs)

[1] 11157     6
```

Find study records containing a word beginning with 'Carcino':

```
> rs <- getSRA( search_terms ='Carcino*',
+      out_types = c('study'), sra_con=sra_con )
> dim(rs)

[1] 675  12
```

3.5 Download SRA data files

List ftp addresses of the fastq files associated with "SRX000122":

```
> rs = listSRAfile( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, fileType = 'sra' )
```

The above function does not check file availability, size and date of the sra data files on the server, but the function getSRAinfo does this, which is good to know if you are preparing to download them:

```
> rs = getSRAinfo ( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, sraType = "sra" )
> rs[1:3,]
```

```
1 ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/sra-instant/reads/ByExp/sra/SRX/SRX000/SRX000122/
2 ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/sra-instant/reads/ByExp/sra/SRX/SRX000/SRX000122/
3 ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/sra-instant/reads/ByExp/sra/SRX/SRX000/SRX000122/
  experiment     study    sample       run
1  SRX000122 SRP000098 SRS000290 SRR000648
2  SRX000122 SRP000098 SRS000290 SRR000649
3  SRX000122 SRP000098 SRS000290 SRR000650
  size(KB)         date
1      281 Jan 19  2012
2   130940 Jan 19  2012
3      844 Jan 19  2012
```

Next you might want to download sra data files from the ftp site. The getSRAfile function will download all available sra data files associated with "SRR000648" and "SRR000657" from the NCBI SRA ftp site to the current directory:

```
> getSRAfile( c("SRR000648","SRR000657"), sra_con, fileType = 'sra' )
```

```
        run     study    sample experiment
1 SRR000648 SRP000098 SRS000290  SRX000122
2 SRR000657 SRP000098 SRS000290  SRX000122

1 ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/sra-instant/reads/ByExp/sra/SRX/SRX000/SRX000122/
2 ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/sra-instant/reads/ByExp/sra/SRX/SRX000/SRX000122/
```

Then downloaded sra data files can be easily converted into fastq files using fastq-dump in SRA Toolkit (http://trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Traces/sra/sra.cgi?view=software):

```
> ## system ("fastq-dump SRR000648.lite.sra")
```

Or directly download fastq files from EBI using ftp protocol:

```
> getFASTQinfo( c("SRR000648","SRR000657"), sra_con, srcType = 'ftp' )
> getSRAfile( c("SRR000648","SRR000657"), sra_con, fileType = 'fastq' )
```

3.6 Download SRA data files using fasp protocol

Curretly both NCBI and EBI supports fasp protocol for downloading SRA data files, which has several advantages over ftp protocol, including high-speed transfering large files over long distance. Please check EBI or NCBI web site or Aspera (http://www.asperasoft.com/) for details. SRAdb has indcluded two wraper functions for using ascp command line program (fasp protocol) to download SRA data files frm either the NCBI or EBI, which is included in in Aspera Connect software. But, due to complexity of installaton of the software and options within it, the funcitons develpped here ask users to supply main ascp comands.

Download fastq files from EBI ftp siteusing fasp protocol:

```
> ## List fasp addresses for associated fastq files:
> listSRAfile ( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, fileType = 'fastq', srcType='fasp')
> ## get fasp addresses for associated fastq files:
> getFASTQinfo( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, srcType = 'fasp' )
> ## download fastq files using fasp protocol:
> # the following ascpCMD needs to be constructed according custom
> # system configuration
> # common ascp installation in a Linux system:
> ascpCMD <-  'ascp -QT -l 300m -i
+  /usr/local/aspera/connect/etc/asperaweb_id_dsa.putty'
> ## common ascpCMD for a Mac OS X system:
> # ascpCMD <- "'/Applications/Aspera Connect.app/Contents/
> #  Resources/ascp' -QT -l 300m -i '/Applications/
> # Aspera Connect.app/Contents/Resources/asperaweb_id_dsa.putty'"
>
> getSRAfile( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, fileType = 'fastq',
+         srcType = 'fasp',  ascpCMD = ascpCMD )
```

Download sra files from NCBI using fasp protocol:

```
> ## List fasp addresses of sra files associated with "SRX000122"
> listSRAfile( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, fileType = 'sra', srcType='fasp')
> ## download sra files using fasp protocol
> getSRAfile( c("SRX000122"), sra_con, fileType = 'sra',
+  srcType = 'fasp',  ascpCMD = ascpCMD )
```

The downloading messege will show signigicant faster downloading speed than the ftp protocol:

' SRR000658.sra 100Completed: 159492K bytes transferred in 5 seconds (249247K bits/sec), in 1 file. ... '

4 Interactive views of sequence data

Working with sequence data is often best done interactively in a genome browser, a task not easily done from R itself. We have found the Integrative Genomics Viewer (IGV) a high-performance visualization tool for interactive exploration of large, integrated datasets, increasing usefully for visualizing sequence alignments. In SRAdb, functions `startIGV`, `load2IGV` and `load2newIGV` provide convenient functionality for R to interact with IGV. Note that for some OS, these functions might not work or work well.

Launch IGV with 2 GB maximum usable memory support:

```
> startIGV("mm")
```

IGV offers a remort control port that allows R to communicate with IGV. The current command set is fairly limited, but it does allow for some IGV operations to be performed in the R console. To utilize this functionality, be sure that IGV is set to allow communication via the "enable port" option in IGV preferences. To load BAM files to IGV and then manipulate the window:

```
> exampleBams = file.path(system.file('extdata',package='SRAdb'),
+   dir(system.file('extdata',package='SRAdb'),pattern='bam$'))
> sock <- IGVsocket()
> IGVgenome(sock, 'hg18')
> IGVload(sock, exampleBams)
> IGVgoto(sock, 'chr1:1-1000')
> IGVsnapshot(sock)
```

5 Graphic view of SRA entities

Due to the nature of SRA data and its design, sometimes it is hard to get a whole picture of the relationship between a set of SRA entities. Functions of `entityGraph` and `sraGraph` in this package generate graphNEL objects with edgemode='directed' from input data.frame or directly from search terms, and then the `plot` function can easily draw a diagram.

Create a graphNEL object directly from full text search results of terms 'primary thyroid cell line'

```
> library(SRAdb)
> library(Rgraphviz)
> g <- sraGraph('primary thyroid cell line', sra_con)
> attrs <- getDefaultAttrs(list(node=list(
+         fillcolor='lightblue', shape='ellipse')))
> plot(g, attrs=attrs)
> ## similiar search as the above, returned much larger data.frame and graph is too cl
> g <- sraGraph('Ewing Sarcoma', sra_con)
> plot(g)
>
```

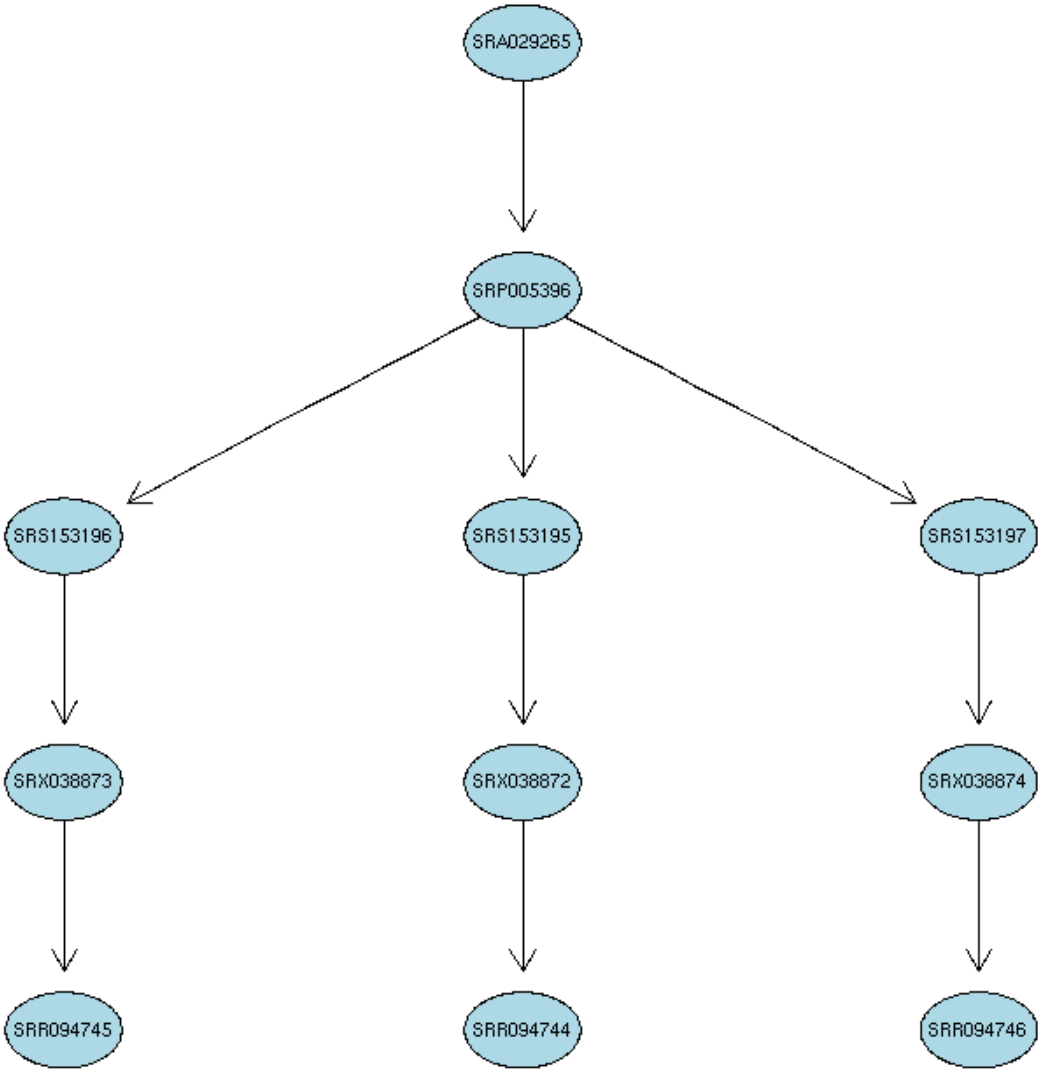

Figure 2: A graphical representation of the relationships between the SRA entities.

Please see the Figure 2 for an example diagram.

It's considered good practise to explicitely disconnect from the database once we are done with it:

```
> dbDisconnect(sra_con)

[1] TRUE
```

6 Example use case

This sesection will use the functionalities in the SRAdb package to explore data from the 1000 genomes project. Mainly,

1. Get some statistics of meta data and data files from the 1000 genomes project using the SRAdb 2. Download data files 3. Load bam files into the IGV from R 4. Create some snapshoots programmtically from R

```
> library(SRAdb)
> setwd('1000g')
> if( ! file.exists('SRAmetadb.sqlite') ) {
+         sqlfile <- getSRAdbFile()
+ } else {
+         sqlfile <- 'SRAmetadb.sqlite'
+ }
> sra_con <- dbConnect(SQLite(),sqlfile)
> ## get all related accessions
> rs <- getSRA( search_terms = '"1000 Genomes Project"',
+         sra_con=sra_con, acc_only=TRUE)
> dim(rs)
> head(rs)
> ## get counts for each data types
> apply( rs, 2, function(x) {length(unique(x))} )
```

After you decided what data from the 1000 Genomes, you would like to download data files from the SRA. But, it might be helpful to know file size before downloading them:

```
> runs <- tail(rs$run)
> fs <- getSRAinfo( runs, sra_con, sraType = "sra" )
```

Now you can download the files through ftp protocol:

```
> getSRAfile( runs, sra_con, fileType ='sra', srcType = "ftp" )
```

Or, you can download them through fasp protocol:

```
> ascpCMD <- "'/Applications/Aspera Connect.app/Contents/Resources/ascp' -QT -l 300m -
> sra_files = getSRAfile( runs, sra_con, fileType ='sra', srcType = "fasp", ascpCMD = a
```

Next you might want to convert the downloaded sra files into fastq files:

```
> for( fq in basename(sra_files$fasp) ) {
+         system ("fastq-dump SRR000648.lite.sra")
+ }
```

... to be compeleted.

7 sessionInfo

- R version 3.2.4 Revised (2016-03-16 r70336), `x86_64-pc-linux-gnu`
- Locale: `LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8`, `LC_NUMERIC=C`, `LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8`, `LC_COLLATE=C`, `LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8`, `LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8`, `LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8`, `LC_NAME=C`, `LC_ADDRESS=C`, `LC_TELEPHONE=C`, `LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8`, `LC_IDENTIFICATION=C`
- Base packages: base, datasets, grDevices, graphics, methods, stats, utils
- Other packages: DBI 0.3.1, RCurl 1.95-4.8, RSQLite 1.0.0, SRAdb 1.28.1, bitops 1.0-6, graph 1.48.0
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): Biobase 2.30.0, BiocGenerics 0.16.1, GEOquery 2.36.0, XML 3.98-1.4, parallel 3.2.4, stats4 3.2.4, tools 3.2.4