

Package ‘hypergraph’

May 2, 2026

Title A package providing hypergraph data structures

Version 1.85.0

Author Seth Falcon, Robert Gentleman

Description A package that implements some simple capabilities for representing and manipulating hypergraphs.

Maintainer Bioconductor Package Maintainer

<maintainer@bioconductor.org>

License Artistic-2.0

Depends R (>= 2.1.0), methods, utils, graph

Suggests BiocGenerics, RUnit

LazyLoad yes

Collate AllClasses.R AllGenerics.R kCores.R methods-Hyperedge.R
methods-Hypergraph.R

biocViews GraphAndNetwork

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

git_branch devel

git_last_commit c8d08af

git_last_commit_date 2026-04-28

Repository Bioconductor 3.24

Date/Publication 2026-05-01

Contents

DirectedHyperedge	2
DirectedHyperedge-class	2
Hyperedge	3
Hyperedge-class	4
Hypergraph	5
Hypergraph-class	5
kCoresHypergraph	6
l2hel	7
vCoverHypergraph	8
Index	10

DirectedHyperedge *Constructor for DirectedHyperedge objects*

Description

A convenience constructor for [DirectedHyperedge-class](#) objects

Usage

```
DirectedHyperedge(head, tail, label = "")
```

Arguments

head	Character vector of nodes that are part of the head of the hyperedge
tail	Character vector of nodes that part of the tail of the hyperedge
label	A character string describing the directed hyperedge

Value

An object of class [DirectedHyperedge-class](#)

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also

[DirectedHyperedge-class](#) [Hyperedge-class](#) [Hypergraph-class](#)

DirectedHyperedge-class

Class DirectedHyperedge

Description

This class represents directed hyperedges in a [Hypergraph-class](#). A directed hyperedge consists of two disjoint sets of nodes, those in the tail and those in the head of the hyperedge. Directed hyperedges are sometimes called hyperarcs.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("DirectedHyperedge", head, tail, label)`. You can also use the convenience function [DirectedHyperedge](#).

Slots

tail: Character vector of nodes in the tail of the hyperedge
 head: Character vector of nodes in the head of the hyperedge
 label: Character string describing the directed hyperedge

Extends

Class "Hyperedge", directly.

Methods

head signature($x = \text{"DirectedHyperedge"}$): Return a vector containing the nodes in the head of the hyperedge

tail signature($x = \text{"DirectedHyperedge"}$): Return a vector containing the nodes in the tail of the hyperedge

initialize signature($\text{.Object} = \text{"DirectedHyperedge"}$): Create a new instance.

nodes signature($\text{object} = \text{"DirectedHyperedge"}$): Return a vector containing all nodes present in the hyperedge.

show signature($\text{object} = \text{"DirectedHyperedge"}$): Print me

toUndirected signature($\text{.Object} = \text{"DirectedHyperedge"}$): Return a [Hyperedge-class](#) object that results from coercing to an undirected hyperedge.

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also

[DirectedHyperedge](#) [Hyperedge](#) [Hyperedge-class](#) [Hypergraph-class](#)

Examples

```
head <- LETTERS[1:4]
tail <- LETTERS[19:21]
label <- "Directed hyperedge"
dhe <- new("DirectedHyperedge", head=head, tail=tail, label=label)
```

Hyperedge

Constructor for Hyeredge objects

Description

A convenience constructor for [Hyperedge-class](#) objects

Usage

```
Hyperedge(nodes, label = "")
```

Arguments

nodes Character vector of nodes that are part of the hyperedge

label A character string describing the hyperedge

Value

An object of class [Hyperedge-class](#)

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also[Hyperedge-class](#) [Hypergraph-class](#)

Hyperedge-class*Class Hyperedge*

Description

A Hyperedge object represents a hyperedge in a hypergraph, that is, a subset of the nodes of a hypergraph.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("Hyperedge", nodes, label)`. You can also use the convenience function `Hyperedge` to create instances. This is especially useful for creating a list of Hyperedge instances using [lapply](#).

Slots

head: A vector of mode "character" containing the node labels that are a part of the hyperedge

label: An arbitrary "character" string describing this hyperedge

Methods

initialize signature(.Object = "Hyperedge"): Create an instance

label signature(object = "Hyperedge"): Return the value of the label slot

label<- signature(object = "Hyperedge", value = "character"): Set the label slot.

nodes signature(object = "Hyperedge"): Return a vector containing the nodes in the hyperedge

show signature(object = "Hyperedge"): Print a textual summary of the hyperedge

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also[Hyperedge](#) [Hypergraph-class](#) [DirectedHyperedge-class](#)**Examples**

```
nodes <- LETTERS[1:4]
label <- "Simple hyperedge"
## Use the convenience constructor
he <- Hyperedge(nodes, label)
```

Hypergraph

Constructor for Hypergraph objects

Description

A convenience constructor for `link{Hypergraph-class}` objects

Usage

```
Hypergraph(nodes, hyperedges)
```

Arguments

nodes A vector of nodes (character)
hyperedges A list of [Hyperedge-class](#) objects

Value

An object of class [Hypergraph-class](#)

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also

[Hypergraph-class](#) [Hyperedge-class](#) [DirectedHyperedge-class](#)

Hypergraph-class

Class Hypergraph

Description

A hypergraph consists of a set of nodes and a set of hyperedges. Each hyperedge is a subset of the node set. This class provides a representation of a hypergraph that is (hopefully) useful for computing.

Objects from the Class

Objects can be created by calls of the form `new("Hypergraph", nodes, hyperedges)`. You can also use the convenience function `Hypergraph`. The `nodes` argument should be a character vector of distinct labels representing the nodes of the hypergraph. The `hyperedges` argument must be a list of [Hyperedge-class](#) objects.

Slots

nodes: A "character" vector specifying the nodes
hyperedges: A "list" of [Hyperedge-class](#) objects

Methods

- hyperedges** signature(.Object = "Hypergraph"): Return the list of Hyperedge objects
- hyperedgeLabels** signature(.Object = "Hypergraph"): Return a character vector of labels for the Hyperedge objects in the hypergraph.
- inciMat** signature(.Object = "Hypergraph"): Return the incidence matrix representation of this hypergraph
- inciMat2HG** signature(.Object = "matrix"): Return the hypergraph representation of this incidence matrix
- initialize** signature(.Object = "Hypergraph"): Create an instance
- nodes** signature(object = "Hypergraph"): Return the vector of nodes (character vector)
- numNodes** signature(object = "Hypergraph"): Return the number of nodes in the hypergraph
- toGraphNEL** signature(.Object = "Hypergraph"): Return the graphNEL representation of the hypergraph (a bipartite graph)

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also

[Hyperedge-class DirectedHyperedge-class graphNEL-class](#)

Examples

```
nodes <- LETTERS[1:4]
hEdges <- lapply(list("A", LETTERS[1:2], LETTERS[3:4]), "Hyperedge")
hg <- new("Hypergraph", nodes=nodes, hyperedges=hEdges)
```

kCoresHypergraph

Find all the k-cores in a hypergraph

Description

Find all the k-cores in a hypergraph

Usage

```
kCoresHypergraph(hg)
```

Arguments

hg an instance of the Hypergraph class

Details

A k-core in a hypergraph is a maximal subhypergraph where (a) no hyperedge is contained in another, and (b) each node is adjacent to at least k hyperedges in the subgraph.

The implementation is based on the algorithm by E. Ramadan, A. Tarafdar, A. Pothen, 2004.

Value

A vector of the core numbers for all the nodes in *g*.

Author(s)

Li Long <li.long@isb-sib.ch>

References

A hypergraph model for the yeast protein complex network, Ramadan, E. Tarafdar, A. Pothen, A., Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium, 2004. Proceedings. 18th International.

Examples

```
# to turn the snacoreex.gxl (from RBGL package) graph to a hypergraph
# this is a rough example
kc_hg_n <- c("A", "C", "B", "E", "F", "D", "G", "H", "J", "K", "I", "L", "M", "N", "O", "P", "Q", "R", "S", "T", "U")
kc_hg_e <- list(c("A", "C"), c("B", "C"), c("C", "E"), c("C", "F"), c("E", "D"), c("E", "F"), c("D", "G"), c("D", "H"))
kc_hg_he <- lapply(kc_hg_e, "Hyperedge")
kc_hg <- new("Hypergraph", nodes=kc_hg_n, hyperedges=kc_hg_he)

kCoresHypergraph(kc_hg)
```

l2hel

Create lists of Hyperedge objects

Description

Conveniently create lists of [Hyperedge-class](#) instances.

Usage

```
l2hel(e)
```

Arguments

e A list of character vectors. Each element of the list represents a hyperedge and the character vector value specifies the nodes of the hypergraph that are part of the hyperedge. The names of the list elements, if found, will be used as the label for the corresponding Hyperedge object.

Value

A list of Hyperedge-class objects. If the list *e* did not have names, the labels of the Hyperedges will be set to its index in the list coerced to character.

Author(s)

Seth Falcon

See Also

[Hyperedge-class](#) [Hypergraph-class](#)

Examples

```
edges <- list("e1"="A", "e2"=c("A", "B"), "e3"=c("C", "D"))
hEdgeList <- l2he1(edges)
```

vCoverHypergraph

Approximate minimum weight vertex cover in a hypergraph

Description

Approximate minimum weight vertex cover in a hypergraph

Usage

```
vCoverHypergraph(hg, vW=rep(1, numNodes(hg)))
```

Arguments

hg	an instance of the Hypergraph class
vW	vertex weights

Details

Hypergraph g has non-negative weights on its vertices. The minimum weight vertex cover problem is to find a subset of vertices C such that C includes at least one vertex from each hyperedge and the sum of the weights of the vertices in C is minimum. This problem is NP-hard.

We implement the greedy algorithm to approximate near-optimal solution, proposed by E. Ramadan, A. Tarafdar, A. Pothen, 2004.

Value

A list of vertices from hypergraph g .

Author(s)

Li Long <li.long@isb-sib.ch>

References

A hypergraph model for the yeast protein complex network, Ramadan, E. Tarafdar, A. Pothen, A., Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium, 2004. Proceedings. 18th International.

Examples

```
# to turn the snacoreex.gxl graph (from RBGL package) to a hypergraph
# this is a rough example
kc_hg_n <- c("A", "C", "B", "E", "F", "D", "G", "H", "J", "K", "I", "L", "M", "N", "O", "P", "Q", "R", "S", "T", "U")
kc_hg_e <- list(c("A", "C"), c("B", "C"), c("C", "E"), c("C", "F"), c("E", "D"), c("E", "F"), c("D", "G"), c("D", "H"))
kc_hg_he <- lapply(kc_hg_e, "Hyperedge")
kc_hg <- new("Hypergraph", nodes=kc_hg_n, hyperedges=kc_hg_he)

vCoverHypergraph(kc_hg)
```

Index

* classes

- DirectedHyperedge, 2
- DirectedHyperedge-class, 2
- Hyperedge, 3
- Hyperedge-class, 4
- Hypergraph, 5
- Hypergraph-class, 5
- l2hel, 7

* models

- kCoresHypergraph, 6
- vCoverHypergraph, 8

DirectedHyperedge, 2, 2, 3

DirectedHyperedge-class, 2

head (DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

head, DirectedHyperedge-method
(DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

Hyperedge, 3, 3, 4

Hyperedge-class, 4

hyperedgeLabels (Hypergraph-class), 5

hyperedgeLabels, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

hyperedges (Hypergraph-class), 5

hyperedges, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

Hypergraph, 5

Hypergraph-class, 5

inciMat (Hypergraph-class), 5

inciMat, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

inciMat2HG (Hypergraph-class), 5

inciMat2HG, matrix-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

initialize, DirectedHyperedge-method
(DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

initialize, Hyperedge-method
(Hyperedge-class), 4

initialize, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

kCoresHypergraph, 6

l2hel, 7

label (Hyperedge-class), 4

label, Hyperedge-method
(Hyperedge-class), 4

label<- (Hyperedge-class), 4

label<- , Hyperedge, character-method
(Hyperedge-class), 4

lapply, 4

nodes, DirectedHyperedge-method
(DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

nodes, Hyperedge-method
(Hyperedge-class), 4

nodes, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

numNodes, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

show, DirectedHyperedge-method
(DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

show, Hyperedge-method
(Hyperedge-class), 4

tail (DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

tail, DirectedHyperedge-method
(DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

toGraphNEL (Hypergraph-class), 5

toGraphNEL, Hypergraph-method
(Hypergraph-class), 5

toUndirected (DirectedHyperedge-class),
2

toUndirected, DirectedHyperedge-method
(DirectedHyperedge-class), 2

vCoverHypergraph, 8