

Package: HDF5DataFrame (via r-universe)

June 4, 2026

Version 0.99.3

Date 2026-01-20

Title HDF5-backed DataFrame objects and methods

Description HDF5DataFrame is an R/Bioconductor package for HDF5-backed DataFrame objects and methods. This allows HDF5-backed data to be easily used as data frames with arbitrary sets of columns.

License MIT + file LICENSE

Depends R (>= 4.5.0), DelayedArray, S4Vectors

Imports stats, methods, BiocGenerics, h5mread, rhdf5, HDF5Array

Suggests BiocStyle, testthat, knitr

biocViews DataRepresentation, Infrastructure, Software

VignetteBuilder knitr

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Encoding UTF-8

URL <https://github.com/BIMSBbioinfo/HDF5DataFrame>

BugReports <https://github.com/BIMSBbioinfo/HDF5DataFrame/issues>

Config/pak/sysreqs libssl-dev zlib1g-dev

Repository <https://bimsbbioinfo.r-universe.dev>

Date/Publication 2026-01-20 21:36:55 UTC

RemoteUrl <https://github.com/BIMSBbioinfo/HDF5DataFrame>

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha 61c52cb4ee940e623363ac7fdaa67766ed6947fa

Contents

HDF5ColumnSeed	2
HDF5ColumnSeed-class	4
HDF5ColumnVector-class	4
HDF5DataFrame	5

HDF5DataFrame-class	7
subsetting-utils	7
writeHDF5DataFrame	8

Index 10

HDF5ColumnSeed	<i>HDF5ColumnSeed</i>
----------------	-----------------------

Description

Represent a column of a HDF5-based data frame as a 1-dimensional [DelayedArray](#). This allows us to use HDF5-backed data inside [DataFrame](#) without loading them into memory.

Usage

```
HDF5ColumnSeed(path, name, column, type = NULL, length = NULL)
```

```
HDF5ColumnVector(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
DelayedArray(seed)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
dim(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
type(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
path(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'HDF5ColumnSeed'
extract_array(x, index)
```

Arguments

path	String containing a path to a HDF5-based data frame.
name	String containing the HDF5 group of the h5 file.
column	String containing the name of the column inside the file.
type	String specifying the type of the data. If NULL, this is determined by inspecting the file. Users may specify this to avoid a look-up, or to coerce the output into a different type.
length	Integer containing the number of rows. If NULL, this is determined by inspecting the file. This should only be supplied for efficiency purposes, to avoid a file look-up on construction.


```

                                type = type(meta.data_list[[1]]))

# methods
dim(columnseed)
path(columnseed)
type(columnseed)

```

HDF5ColumnSeed-class *HDF5ColumnSeed Class*

Description

The HDF5ColumnSeed class for [HDF5ColumnVector](#).

Arguments

path	The path (as a single string or H5File object) to the HDF5 file where the dataset is located.
name	The name of the dataset in the HDF5 file.
column	the names of the columns, see HDF5ColumnVector
length	the length of the HDF5Array .

HDF5ColumnVector-class *HDF5ColumnVector Class*

Description

The HDF5ColumnVector class for each column of a [HDF5DataFrame](#) class

Arguments

seed	An HDF5ColumnSeed object
------	--

HDF5DataFrame	<i>HDF5-backed DataFrame</i>
---------------	------------------------------

Description

Create a HDF5-backed [DataFrame](#), where the data are kept on disk until requested.

Usage

```
HDF5DataFrame(filepath, name = "", columns = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
nrow(x)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
length(x)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
path(object)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
rownames(x)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
names(x)

## S4 replacement method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
rownames(x) <- value

## S4 replacement method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
names(x) <- value

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
x[[i, j, ...]]

## S4 replacement method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
x[[i, j, ...]] <- value

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
cbind(..., deparse.level = 1)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = FALSE, ...)
```

Arguments

filepath	NULL or the path (as a single string) to the (new or existing) HDF5 file where to write the dataset.
----------	--


```

                                name = "metadata",
                                replace = TRUE)

metadata_large <- HDF5DataFrame(filepath = output_hdf5, name = "metadata")

# coerce to data.frame
metadata_large <- as.data.frame(metadata_large)

# cbind
metadata_large <- cbind(metadata_large, metadata)

```

HDF5DataFrame-class *HDF5DataFrame Class*

Description

The HDF5DataFrame class is a DataFrame subclass for representing datasets with arbitrary collections of columns stored in HDF5.

Arguments

path	The path (as a single string or H5File object) to the HDF5 file where the dataset is located.
name	The name of the group in the HDF5 file.
columns	the names of the columns, see HDF5ColumnVector

subsetting-utils *subsetting-utils*

Description

Low-level utility functions and classes to support subsetting of vector-like objects. They are not intended to be used directly. See [extractROWS](#).

Usage

```

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame,ANY'
extractROWS(x, i)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
extractCOLS(x, i)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
replaceROWS(x, i, value)

## S4 method for signature 'HDF5DataFrame'
replaceCOLS(x, i, value)

```

Arguments

x	HDF5DataFrame object
i	row/column index or name
value	vector to be replaced

Value

HDF5DataFrame object
HDF5DataFrame object

writeHDF5DataFrame *writeHDF5DataFrame*

Description

A function for writing an data frames to an HDF5 file.

Usage

```
writeHDF5DataFrame(x, filepath, name = "", replace = FALSE)
```

Arguments

x	data.frame
filepath	NULL or the path (as a single string) to the (new or existing) HDF5 file where to write the dataset. See writeHDF5Array
name	NULL or the name of the HDF5 group to write columns of the dataset.
replace	replace

Value

HDF5DataFrame object

Examples

```
# libraries
library(rhdf5)
library(HDF5Array)
library(HDF5DataFrame)

# h5
output_hdf5 <- tempfile(fileext = ".h5")

# data
data("chickwts")
metadata <- chickwts
```


Index

`[[`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`[[<-`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`as.data.frame`, 6

`as.data.frame`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`cbind`, 6

`cbind`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

DataFrame, 2, 5

DelayedArray, 2

DelayedArray, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

`dim`, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

`extract_array`, 3

`extract_array`, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

`extractCOLS`, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

`extractCOLS`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

`extractROWS`, 7

`extractROWS`, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

HDF5Array, 4

HDF5ColumnSeed, 2, 4

HDF5ColumnSeed-class, 4

HDF5ColumnVector, 4, 6, 7

HDF5ColumnVector (HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

HDF5ColumnVector-class, 4

HDF5DataFrame, 4, 5, 6

HDF5DataFrame-class, 7

`length`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`names`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`names<-`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`nrow`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`path`, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

`path`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`replaceCOLS`, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

`replaceCOLS`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

`replaceROWS`, HDF5DataFrame, ANY-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

`replaceROWS`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(subsetting-utils), 7

`rownames`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

`rownames<-`, HDF5DataFrame-method
(HDF5DataFrame), 5

subsetting-utils, 7

`type`, HDF5ColumnSeed-method
(HDF5ColumnSeed), 2

`writeHDF5Array`, 8

`writeHDF5DataFrame`, 8