`MALDIquantForeign`: Import/Export routines for `MALDIquant`

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Abstract

`MALDIquantForeign` provides routines for importing/exporting different file formats into/from `MALDIquant`.
This vignette describes the usage of the `MALDIquantForeign` package.

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Contents

Foreword

`MALDIquantForeign` is free and open source software for the `R` (R Core Team, 2014) environment and under active development. If you use it, please support the project by citing it in publications:

> Gibb, S. and Strimmer, K. (2012). MALDIquant: a versatile R package for the analysis of mass spectrometry data. *Bioinformatics*, 28(17):2270–2271

If you have any questions, bugs, or suggestions do not hesitate to contact me (`mail@sebastiangibb.de`).
Please visit `http://strimmerlab.org/software/maldiquant/`.

1 Introduction

`MALDIquant` should be device and platform independent. That's why it has not any import/export functions.
`MALDIquantForeign` fills this gap and provides import/export routines for various file formats:

```
> supportedFileFormats()
```

```
$import
 [1] "txt"       "tab"       "csv"       "fid"       "ciphergen"
 [6] "mzxml"     "mzml"      "imzml"     "analyze"   "cdf"

$export
[1] "tab"  "csv"  "msd"  "mzml"
```

2 Setup

After starting `R` we could install `MALDIquant` and `MALDIquantForeign` directly from `CRAN` using `install.packages`:

```
> install.packages(c("MALDIquant", "MALDIquantForeign"))
```

Before we can use `MALDIquant` and `MALDIquantForeign` we have to load the packages.

```
> library("MALDIquant")
> library("MALDIquantForeign")
```

3 Import

`MALDIquantForeign` provides an `import` function that tries to auto-detect the correct file type. Because this would never be perfect `MALDIquantForeign` offers also many `import*` functions like `importBrukerFlex`, `importMzMl`, etc. Please see the manual page of `import` for a complete list (`?import`).

First we try to import some example data in Bruker Daltonics *flex-series file format using the `import` function.

```
> ## get the example directory
> exampleDirectory <- system.file("exampledata",
+                                 package="MALDIquantForeign")
>
```

```
> spectra <- import(file.path(exampleDirectory,
+                             "brukerflex"),
+                   verbose=FALSE)
> spectra[[1]]

S4 class type            : MassSpectrum
Number of m/z values     : 5
Range of m/z values      : 226.762 - 230.51
Range of intensity values: 1e+00 - 5e+00
Memory usage             : 7.773 KiB
Name                     : brukerflex.
File                     : /tmp/Rtmpwb6IJJ/Rinst22da6ba4e923/MALDIquantForeign/exa
```

Next we use the `importBrukerFlex` function (the result is the same as above).

```
> spectra <- importBrukerFlex(file.path(exampleDirectory,
+                                       "brukerflex"),
+                             verbose=FALSE)
> spectra[[1]]

S4 class type            : MassSpectrum
Number of m/z values     : 5
Range of m/z values      : 226.762 - 230.51
Range of intensity values: 1e+00 - 5e+00
Memory usage             : 7.773 KiB
Name                     : brukerflex.
File                     : /tmp/Rtmpwb6IJJ/Rinst22da6ba4e923/MALDIquantForeign/exa
```

`MALDIquantForeign` supports compressed files, too (*zip*, *tar.*{*bz2*, *gz*,*xz*}).

```
> spectra <- importCsv(file.path(exampleDirectory, "compressed",
+                                "csv.tar.gz"), verbose=FALSE)
> spectra[[1]]

S4 class type            : MassSpectrum
Number of m/z values     : 5
```

```
Range of m/z values      : 1 - 5
Range of intensity values: 6 - 10
Memory usage             : 1.406 KiB
File                     : /tmp/RtmpZYm3Sr/MALDIquantForeign_uncompress/csv_22ef5f

> spectra <- importCsv(file.path(exampleDirectory, "compressed",
+                                "csv.zip"), verbose=FALSE)
> spectra[[1]]

S4 class type            : MassSpectrum
Number of m/z values     : 5
Range of m/z values      : 1 - 5
Range of intensity values: 6 - 10
Memory usage             : 1.406 KiB
File                     : /tmp/RtmpZYm3Sr/MALDIquantForeign_uncompress/csv_22ef60
```

Remote files are supported as well. Data are taken from Tan et˜al. (2006).

```
> spectra <- import(paste0("http://www.meb.ki.se/",
+                          "~yudpaw/papers/spikein_xml.zip"),
+                   centroided=FALSE, verbose=TRUE)
```

If you want to read peak lists (centroided data) instead of spectra data you have to set `centroided=TRUE`.

```
> peaks <- import(file.path(exampleDirectory, "ascii.txt"),
+                 centroided=TRUE, verbose=FALSE)
> peaks

[[1]]
S4 class type            : MassPeaks
Number of m/z values     : 5
Range of m/z values      : 1 - 5
Range of intensity values: 6 - 10
Range of snr values      : NA - NA
Memory usage             : 1.602 KiB
File                     : /tmp/Rtmpwb6IJJ/Rinst22da6ba4e923/MALDIquantForeign/exa
```

4 Export

The export routines in `MALDIquantForeign` are very similar to the import routines. Please see manual page of `export` for a complete list of supported export routines (`?export`).

First we create a simple list of `MassSpectrum` objects using `createMassSpectrum`.

```
> spectra <- list(
+   createMassSpectrum(mass=1:5, intensity=1:5),
+   createMassSpectrum(mass=1:5, intensity=6:10))
```

Now we want to export the first spectrum into a CSV file.

```
> export(spectra[[1]], file="spectrum1.csv")
> import("spectrum1.csv")

1 files of type='csv' found.

[[1]]
S4 class type            : MassSpectrum
Number of m/z values     : 5
Range of m/z values      : 1 - 5
Range of intensity values: 1 - 5
Memory usage             : 1.406 KiB
File                     : /tmp/Rtmpwb6IJJ/Rbuild22da7a1e612e/MALDIquantForeign/vi
```

Exporting every file by hand is cumbersome. We want to export the whole list of spectra. Instead of `file` we use `path` now to specify a directory. Please note that we have to add the file type/format information now (we can use the `type` argument or the corresponding `export*` function). If the path doesn't exists we will get an error. To force `export` to create/overwrite the given path, we set the argument `force=TRUE`.

```
> export(spectra, type="csv", path="spectra", force=TRUE)
> list.files("spectra")

[1] "1.csv" "2.csv"
```

5 Analyse Mass Spectrometry Data

Please have a look at the corresponding vignette shipped with `MALDIquant` and the `MALDIquant` website: `http://strimmerlab.org/software/maldiquant/`.

```
> vignette(topic="MALDIquant", package="MALDIquant")
```

6 Session Information

- R version 3.1.1 (2014-07-10), `x86_64-pc-linux-gnu`
- Base packages: base, datasets, grDevices, graphics, methods, stats, utils
- Other packages: MALDIquant˜1.11, MALDIquantForeign˜0.9, knitr˜1.6
- Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): XML˜3.98-1.1, base64enc˜0.1-2, digest˜0.6.4, downloader˜0.3, evaluate˜0.5.5, formatR˜0.10, highr˜0.3, readBrukerFlexData˜1.7, readMzXmlData˜2.7, stringr˜0.6.2, tools˜3.1.1

References

Gibb, S. and Strimmer, K. (2012). MALDIquant: a versatile R package for the analysis of mass spectrometry data. *Bioinformatics*, 28(17):2270–2271.

R Core Team (2014). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria.

Tan, C.˜S., Ploner, A., Quandt, A., Lehtiö, J., and Pawitan, Y. (2006). Finding regions of significance in SELDI measurements for identifying protein biomarkers. *Bioinformatics*, 22(12):1515–1523.