

MSnbase input/output capabilities

Laurent Gatto

lg390@cam.ac.uk

Cambridge Center for Proteomics

Kathryn S. Lilley Group

University of Cambridge

August 27, 2012

Abstract

This vignette describes MSnbase’s input and output capabilities.

Keywords: Mass Spectrometry (MS), proteomics, infrastructure, IO.

Contents

1	Overview	1
2	Data input	1
3	Data output	2

1 Overview

MSnbase’s aims are to facilitate the reproducible analysis of mass spectrometry data within the R environment, from raw data import and processing, feature quantification, quantification and statistical analysis of the results. Data import functions for several formats are provided and intermediate or final results can also be saved or exported. These capabilities are presented below.

2 Data input

Raw data Data stored in one of the published XML-based formats. i.e. `mzXML` (Pedrioli et al., 2004), `mzData` (Orchard et al., 2007) or `mzML` (Martens et al., 2010), can be imported with the `readMSData` method, which makes use of the `mzR` package to create `MSnExp` objects. The files can be in profile or centroided mode. See `?readMSData` for details.

Peak lists Peak lists in the `mgf` format¹ can be imported using the `readMgfData`. In this case, the peak data has generally been pre-processed by other software. See `?readMgfData` for details.

Quantitation data Third party software can be used to generate quantitative data and exported as a spreadsheet (generally comma or tab separated format). This data as well as any additional metadata can be imported with the `readMSnSet` function. See `?readMSnSet` for details.

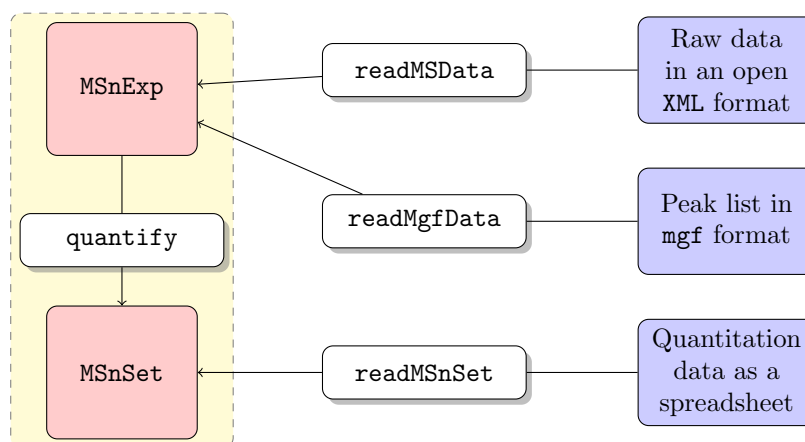


Figure 1: Illustration of `MSnbase` input capabilities. The white and red boxes represent R functions/methods and objects respectively. The blue boxes represent different disk storage formats.

3 Data output

RData files R objects can most easily be stored on disk with the `save` function. It creates compressed binary images of the data representation that can later be read back from the file with the `load` function.

Peak lists `MSnExp` instances as well as individual spectra can be written as `mgf` files with the `writeMgfData` method. Note that the metadata in the original R object can not be included in the file. See `?writeMgfData` for details.

Quantitation data Quantitation data can be exported to spreadsheet files with the `write.exprs` method. Feature metadata can be appended to the feature intensity values. See `?writeMgfData` for details.

¹http://www.matrixscience.com/help/data_file_help.html#GEN

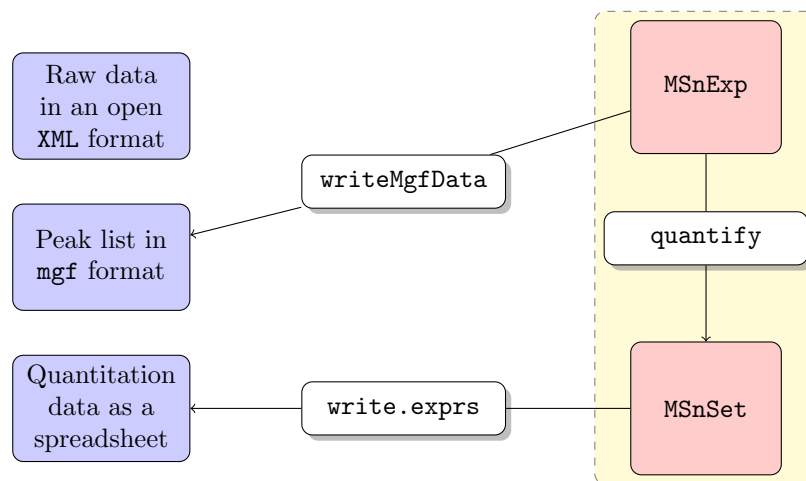


Figure 2: Illustration of **MSnbase** output capabilities. The white and red boxes represent R functions/methods and objects respectively. The blue boxes represent different disk storage formats.

References

- Lennart Martens, Matthew Chambers, Marc Sturm, Darren Kesner, Fredrik Levander, Jim Shofstahl, Wilfred H Tang, Andreas Rømp, Steffen Neumann, Angel D Pizarro, Luisa Montecchi-Palazzi, Natalie Tasman, Mike Coleman, Florian Reisinger, Puneet Souda, Henning Hermjakob, Pierre-Alain Binz, and Eric W Deutsch. mzml - a community standard for mass spectrometry data. *Molecular & Cellular Proteomics : MCP*, 2010. doi: 10.1074/mcp.R110.000133.
- Sandra Orchard, Luisa Montecchi-Palazzi, Eric W Deutsch, Pierre-Alain Binz, Andrew R Jones, Norman Paton, Angel Pizarro, David M Creasy, Jacek Wojcik, and Henning Hermjakob. Five years of progress in the standardization of proteomics data 4th annual spring workshop of the hupo-proteomics standards initiative april 23-25, 2007 école nationale supérieure (ens), lyon, france. *Proteomics*, 7(19):3436–40, 2007. doi: 10.1002/pmic.200700658.
- Patrick G A Pedrioli, Jimmy K Eng, Robert Hubley, Mathijs Vogelzang, Eric W Deutsch, Brian Raught, Brian Pratt, Erik Nilsson, Ruth H Angeletti, Rolf Apweiler, Kei Cheung, Catherine E Costello, Henning Hermjakob, Sequin Huang, Randall K Julian, Eugene Kapp, Mark E McComb, Stephen G Oliver, Gilbert Omenn, Norman W Paton, Richard Simpson, Richard Smith, Chris F Taylor, Weimin Zhu, and Ruedi Aebersold. A common open representation of mass spectrometry data and its application to proteomics research. *Nat. Biotechnol.*, 22(11):1459–66, 2004. doi: 10.1038/nbt1031.