

ENCODExplorerData

October 22, 2025

ENCODExplorerData	<i>ENCODExplorerData</i>
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Description

This package aims to ease access to ENCODE file metadata by converting them into an easy-to-use `data.table`.

Details

The main feature of ENCODExplorerData are the two ENCODE file metadata data tables exported through AnnotationHub, [encode_df_lite](#) and [encode_df_full](#)). While these can be accessed directly like any other `data.table`, we recommend using the **ENCODExplorer** companion package, which contains utility functions for querying them, using the online ENCODE search function, downloading selected files, and retrieving control-treatment experimental designs from ENCODE.

This package also exposes functions for regenerating up-to-date versions of the metadata tables. See the [fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables](#), [generate_encode_df_lite](#) and [generate_encode_df_full](#) functions for more details.

See Also

[encode_df_lite](#), [encode_df_full](#), [fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables](#), [generate_encode_df_lite](#), [generate_encode_df_full](#)

<code>clean_table</code>	<i>Clean a data.frame that was produced by fetch_table_from_ENCODE_REST</i>
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Description

`data.frames` produced when converting JSON to `data.frame` with the `fromJSON` function will sometime have columns that are lists and/or columns that are `data.frames`.

Usage

```
clean_table(table)
```

Arguments

`table` The table produced by the `fetch_table_from_ENCODE_REST` function.

Details

This function will either remove columns that are not relevant and convert columns to a vector or `data.frame`.

Value

a `data.frame` corresponding to the cleaned version of the input `data.frame`.

Examples

```
clean_table(ENCODEExplorerData:::fetch_table_from_ENCODE_REST("award"))
```

encode_df_full	<i>ENCODE file metadata, Full version</i>
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Description

Metadata for the files made available by ENCODE database as a [data.table](#) object. See `inst/scripts/make-data.R` for the generation process. `encode_df_full` contains all processed metadata columns, including content md5sums, cloud URLs, etc. Operations on `encode_df_full` will take longer than those on [encode_df_lite](#), but may be required if some of the extra metadata columns are necessary for your needs.

Format

A data table

See Also

[generate_encode_df_full](#), [encode_df_lite](#)

Examples

```
# You can use AnnotationHub to retrieve encode_df_full.
library(AnnotationHub)
hub <- AnnotationHub()
myfiles <- subset(hub, title=="ENCODE File Metadata (Full, 2019-04-12 build)")

# You can then have a look at the metadata of the retrieved object.
myfiles

# Finally, you can access the data.table itself by indexing into the
# object returned by subset.
myfiles[[1]]
```

encode_df_lite	<i>ENCODE file metadata, Light version</i>
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Description

Metadata for the files made available by ENCODE database as a [data.table](#) object. See `inst/scripts/make-data.R` for the generation process. `encode_df_lite` contains a curated subset of the full metadata and is faster to load and easier to work with than [encode_df_full](#).

Format

A data table

See Also

[generate_encode_df_lite](#), [encode_df_full](#)

Examples

```
# You can use AnnotationHub to retrieve encode_df_lite.
library(AnnotationHub)
hub <- AnnotationHub()
myfiles <- subset(hub, title=="ENCODE File Metadata (Light, 2019-04-12 build)")

# You can then have a look at the metadata of the retrieved object.
myfiles

# Finally, you can access the data.table itself by indexing into the
# object returned by subset.
myfiles[[1]]
```

<code>fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables</code>	<i>Fetches and preprocess the raw metadata tables from ENCODE.</i>
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Description

Fetches and preprocess the raw metadata tables from ENCODE.

Usage

```
fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables(
  cache_filename = "tables.RDA",
  types = get_encode_types(),
  overwrite = FALSE,
  precache = NULL
)
```

Arguments

cache_filename A file name for caching the selected tables into.

types The names of the tables to extract using the ENCODE rest api.

overwrite If cache_filename already exists, should it be overwritten? Default: FALSE.

precache A path to cache the raw metadata as returned by ENCODE and parsed using jsonlite. If NULL, no caching is performed. Default: FALSE.

Value

A list with all selected tables from ENCODE.

Examples

```
fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables(cache_filename = "platform.RDA", types = "platform")
file.remove("platform.RDA")
```

```
generate_encode_df_full
```

Given the raw ENCODE tables, this generate a data.table with the full set of file metadata columns.

Description

Given the raw ENCODE tables, this generate a data.table with the full set of file metadata columns.

Usage

```
generate_encode_df_full(tables)
```

Arguments

tables A list of ENCODE metadata tables as loaded by fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables.

Value

a data.table containing relevant metadata for all ENCODE files.

Examples

```
## Not run:
  tables = fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables()
  export_ENCODEdb_matrix(tables = tables)

## End(Not run)
```

`generate_encode_df_lite`*Extract file metadata from the full set of ENCODE metadata tables.*

Description

Extract file metadata from the full set of ENCODE metadata tables.

Usage

```
generate_encode_df_lite(tables)
```

Arguments

`tables` A list of ENCODE metadata tables as loaded by `fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables`.

Value

a `data.table` containing relevant metadata for all ENCODE files.

Examples

```
## Not run:
  tables = fetch_and_clean_raw_ENCODE_tables()
  export_ENCODEdb_matrix(tables = tables)

## End(Not run)
```

`get_encode_types`*A list of known tables from ENCODE database.*

Description

The type (table) names are extracted from the schema list from ENCODE-DCC github repository:
<https://github.com/ENCODE-DCC/encoded/tree/master/src/encoded/schemas>

Usage

```
get_encode_types()
```

Details

The data is extracted using the github api: <https://developer.github.com/guides/getting-started/>

Value

a vector of character with the names of the known tables in the ENCODE database.

Examples

```
get_encode_types()
```

get_schema_urls	<i>Returns the URLs for downloading the XML schemas from ENCODE's github.</i>
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Description

Returns the URLs for downloading the XML schemas from ENCODE's github.

Usage

```
get_schema_urls()
```

Value

a character vector of schema download URLs.

Examples

```
ENCODEExplorerData::get_schema_urls()
```

get_schemas	<i>Extract the schemas from ENCODE's github</i>
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Description

The JSONs are fetched from: <https://github.com/ENCODE-DCC/encoded/tree/master/src/encoded/schemas>

Usage

```
get_schemas()
```

Details

The data is extracted using the github api: <https://developer.github.com/guides/getting-started/>

The data is then downloaded using the jsonlite package.

Value

a list of schemas.

Examples

```
ENCODEExplorerData::get_schemas()
```

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