

# Package ‘DECIPHER’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Database Enabled Code for Ideal Probe Hybridization Employing R

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**biocViews** Clustering, Genetics, Sequencing, Infrastructure,DataImport, Visualization, Microarray, QualityControl

**Description** A toolset that assist in the design of hybridization probes.

**Depends** R (>= 2.13.0), Biostrings (>= 2.16), RSQLite (>= 0.9),IRanges, stats

**Imports** Biostrings, RSQLite, IRanges, stats

**LinkingTo** Biostrings, RSQLite, IRanges, stats

**License** GPL-3

**LazyData** yes

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DECIPHER-package	<i>Database Enabled Code for Ideal Probe Hybridization Employing R</i>
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## Description

Database Enabled Code for Ideal Probe Hybridization Employing R (DECIPHER) is a software toolset that can be used for deciphering and managing DNA sequences efficiently using the R statistical programming language. The program is designed to be used with non-destructive workflows that guide the user through the process of importing, maintaining, analyzing, manipulating, and exporting a massive amount of DNA sequences. Some functionality of the program is provided online through web tools. DECIPHER is an ongoing project at the University of Wisconsin Madison and is freely available for download.

## Details

Package: DECIPHER  
 Type: Package  
 Depends: R (>= 2.13.0), Biostrings (>= 2.16), RSQLite (>= 0.9), IRanges, stats  
 Imports: Biostrings, RSQLite, IRanges, stats  
 LinkingTo: Biostrings, RSQLite, IRanges, stats  
 License: GPL-3  
 LazyLoad: yes

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**Author(s)**

Erik Wright

Maintainer: Erik Wright &lt;DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu&gt;

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Add2DB*Add Data To A Database*

---

**Description**

Adds a data.frame to a database table by row.names.

**Usage**

```
Add2DB(myData,
        dbFile,
        tblName = "DNA",
        verbose = TRUE,
        ...)
```

**Arguments**

myData	Data frame containing information to be added to the dbFile.
dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table in which to add the data.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display each query as it is sent to the database.
...	Additional expressions to add as part of a where clause in the query. Further arguments provided in ... will be added to the query separated by " and " as part of the where clause.

**Details**

Data contained in myData will be added to the tblName by its respective row.names.

**Value**

Returns TRUE if the data was added successfully.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[Seqs2DB](#), [SearchDB](#), [BrowseDB](#)

**Examples**

```
# Create a sequence database
gen <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.gen", package="DECIPHER")
dbConn <- dbConnect(SQLite(), ":memory:")
Seqs2DB(gen, "GenBank", dbConn, "Bacteria")

# Identify the sequence lengths
l <- IdLengths(dbConn)

# Add lengths to the database
Add2DB(l, dbConn)

# View the added lengths
BrowseDB(dbConn)
dbDisconnect(dbConn)
```

---

BrowseDB

*View A Database Table In A Web Browser*

---

**Description**

Opens an html file in a web browser to show the contents of a table in a database.

**Usage**

```
BrowseDB(dbFile,
  htmlFile = paste(tempdir(), "/db.html", sep = ""),
  tblName = "DNA",
  identifier = "",
  limit = -1,
  orderBy = "row_names",
  maxChars = 50,
  ...)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
htmlFile	Character string giving the location where the html file should be written.
tblName	Character string specifying the table to view.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
limit	Number of results to display. The default (-1) does not limit the number of results.
orderBy	Character string giving the column name for sorting the results. Defaults to the order of entries in the database. Optionally can be followed by " ASC" or " DESC" to specify ascending (the default) or descending order.
maxChars	Maximum number of characters to display in each column.
...	Additional expressions to add as part of a where clause in the query. Further arguments provided in ... will be added to the query separated by " and " as part of the where clause.

**Value**

Creates a table containing all the fields of the database table and opens it in the web browser for easy viewing.

Returns TRUE if the html file was written successfully.

**Note**

If viewing a table containing sequences, the sequences are purposefully not shown in the output.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[BrowseSequences](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
BrowseDB(db)
```

---

BrowseSequences

*View Sequences In A Web Browser*

---

### Description

Opens an html file in a web browser to show the sequences in a DNAStrngSet.

### Usage

```
BrowseSequences(myDNAStrngSet,  
                htmlFile = paste(tempdir(), "/dna.html", sep = ""),  
                colorBases=TRUE,  
                highlight=0,  
                ...)
```

### Arguments

myDNAStrngSet	A DNAStrngSet object of sequences.
htmlFile	Character string giving the location where the html file should be written.
colorBases	Logical specifying whether to color each type of base (A, C, G, and T) the same color.
highlight	Numeric specifying which sequence in the set to use for comparison or 0 to color every sequence (default).
...	Additional arguments to be passed directly to ConsensusSequence.

### Details

Some web browsers cannot quickly display a large amount data, so it is recommended to use `color = FALSE` (the default) when viewing a large DNAStrngSet.

### Value

Creates an html file containing sequence data and opens it in a web browser for easy viewing. The viewer has the sequence name on the left, position legend on the top, number of characters on the right, and consensus sequence on the bottom.

Returns TRUE if the html file was written successfully.

### Author(s)

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

### See Also

[BrowseDB](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
dna <- SearchDB(db)
BrowseSequences(dna[1:5], colorBases=TRUE)
```

---

 CalculateEfficiencyArray

*Predicts the Hybridization Efficiency of Probe/Target Sequence Pairs*

---

**Description**

Calculates the Gibb's free energy and hybridization efficiency of probe/target pairs at varying concentrations of the denaturant formamide.

**Usage**

```
CalculateEfficiencyArray(probe,
                        target,
                        FA = 0,
                        dGini = 1.96,
                        Po = 10^-2.0021,
                        m = 0.1731,
                        temp = 42,
                        deltaGrules = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

probe	A DNASTringSet object or character vector with pairwise-aligned probe sequences in 5' to 3' orientation.
target	A DNASTringSet object or character vector with pairwise-aligned target sequences in 5' to 3' orientation.
FA	A vector of one or more formamide concentrations (as percent v/v).
dGini	The initiation free energy. The default is 1.96 [kcal/mol].
Po	The effective probe concentration.
m	The m-value defining the linear relationship of denaturation in the presence of formamide.
temp	Equilibrium temperature in degrees Celsius.
deltaGrules	Free energy rules for all possible base pairings in quadruplets. If NULL, defaults to the parameters obtained using NimbleGen microarrays and a Linear Free Energy Model developed by Yilmaz <i>et al.</i>

**Details**

This function calculates the free energy and hybridization efficiency (HE) for a given formamide concentration ([FA]) using the linear free energy model given by:

$$HE = Po * exp[-(dG_0 + m * FA)/RT]/(1 + Po * exp[-(dG_0 + m * FA)/RT])$$

Probe and target input sequences must be entered in pairwise alignment, such as that given by `pairwiseAlignment`. Only "A", "C", "G", "T", and "-" characters are permitted in the probe sequence.

If `deltaGrules` is NULL then the rules defined in `data(deltaGrules)` are used.

**Value**

A matrix with the predicted Gibb's free energy (dG) and hybridization efficiency (HE) at each concentration of formamide ([FA]).

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**References**

Yilmaz LS, Loy A, Wright ES, Wagner M, Noguera DR (2012) Modeling Formamide Denaturation of Probe-Target Hybrids for Improved Microarray Probe Design in Microbial Diagnostics. PLoS ONE 7(8): e43862. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0043862.

**See Also**

[deltaGrules](#)

**Examples**

```
probes <- c("AAAAACGGGGAGCGGGGGGATACTG", "AAAAACTCAACCCGAGGAGCGGGGG")
targets <- c("CAACCCGGGGAGCGGGGGGATACTG", "TCGGGCTCAACCCGAGGAGCGGGGG")
result <- CalculateEfficiencyArray(probes, targets, FA=0:40)
dG0 <- result[, "dG_0"]
HE0 <- result[, "HybEff_0"]
plot(result[1, 1:40], xlab="[FA]", ylab="HE", main="Probe/Target # 1", type="l")
```

---

CalculateEfficiencyPCR

*Predicts Amplification Efficiency of Primer Sequences*

---

**Description**

Calculates the amplification efficiency of primers from their hybridization efficiency and elongation efficiency at the target site.

**Usage**

```
CalculateEfficiencyPCR(primer,  
                      target,  
                      temp,  
                      P,  
                      ions,  
                      batchSize = 1000,  
                      taqEfficiency = TRUE,  
                      maxDistance = 0.4,  
                      maxGaps = 2)
```

**Arguments**

primer	A DNASTringSet object or character vector with unaligned primer sequences in 5' to 3' orientation.
target	A DNASTringSet object or character vector with unaligned target or non-target sequences in 5' to 3' orientation.
temp	Numeric specifying the annealing temperature used in the PCR reaction.
P	Numeric giving the molar concentration of primers in the reaction.
ions	Numeric giving the molar sodium equivalent ionic concentration. Values may range between 0.01M and 1M.
batchSize	Integer specifying the number of primers to simulate hybridization per batch. See the Description section below.
taqEfficiency	Logical determining whether to make use of elongation efficiency and maxDistance to increase predictive accuracy for <i>Taq</i> DNA Polymerase amplifying primers with mismatches near the 3' terminus. Note that this should be set to FALSE if using a high-fidelity polymerase with 3' to 5' exonuclease activity.
maxDistance	Numeric specifying the maximal fraction of mismatched base pairings on a rolling basis beginning from the 3' end of the primer. Only used if taqEfficiency is TRUE.
maxGaps	Integer specifying the maximum number of insertions or deletions (indels) in the primer/target alignment. Only used if taqEfficiency is TRUE.

**Details**

Amplification of pairwise primer/target pairs is simulated *in silico*. A complex model of hybridization is employed that takes into account the side reactions resulting in probe-folding, target-folding, and primer-dimer formation. The resulting hybridization efficiency is multiplied by the elongation efficiency to predict the overall efficiency of amplification.

Free energy is obtained from system calls to UNAFold, which must be properly installed (see the Notes section below). Primer/target pairs are sent to UNAFold in batches of batchSize, which prevents systems calls from being too many characters.

**Value**

A vector of predicted efficiencies for amplifying each primer/target pair of sequences.

**Note**

The program UNAFold (<http://mfold.rna.albany.edu/?q=DINAMelt/software>) must be installed in a location accessible by the system. For example, the following code should print the installed UNAFold version when executed from the R console: `system("hybrid -V")`.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**References**

Coming Soon!

**See Also**

[DesignPrimers](#), [TileSeqs](#)

**Examples**

```
primers <- c("AAAACGGGGAGCGGGGG", "AAAACTCAACCCGAGGAGCGCGT")
targets <- reverseComplement(DNAStringSet(primers))
# not run (must have UNAFold installed first):
#CalculateEfficiencyPCR(primers, targets, temp=75, P=4e-7, ions=.225)
```

---

ConsensusSequence      *Create A Consensus Sequence*

---

**Description**

Forms a consensus sequence representing a set of sequences.

**Usage**

```
ConsensusSequence(myDNAStringSet,
                  threshold = 0.05,
                  ambiguity = TRUE,
                  noConsensusChar = "N",
                  minInformation = 0.75,
                  ignoreNonBases = FALSE,
                  includeTerminalGaps = FALSE,
                  verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>myDNAStrngSet</code>	A DNAStrngSet object of aligned sequences.
<code>threshold</code>	Maximum fraction of sequence information that may be lost in forming the consensus.
<code>ambiguity</code>	Logical specifying whether to consider ambiguity as split between their respective nucleotides. Degeneracy codes are specified in the IUPAC_CODE_MAP.
<code>noConsensusChar</code>	Single character from the DNA_ALPHABET giving the base to use when there is no consensus in a position.
<code>minInformation</code>	Minimum fraction of information required to form consensus in each position.
<code>ignoreNonBases</code>	Logical specifying whether to count gap ("-") or mask ("+") characters towards the consensus.
<code>includeTerminalGaps</code>	Logical specifying whether or not to include terminal gaps ("-") characters on each end of the sequence) into the formation of consensus.
<code>verbose</code>	Logical indicating whether to print the elapsed time upon completion.

**Details**

Two key parameters control the degree of consensus. The default `threshold` (0.05) indicates that at least 95% of sequence information will be represented by the consensus sequence. The default `minInformation` (0.75) specifies that at least 75% of sequences must contain the information in the consensus, otherwise the `noConsensusChar` is used.

If `ambiguity = TRUE` (the default) then degeneracy codes are split between their respective bases according to the IUPAC\_CODE\_MAP. For example, an "R" would count as half an "A" and half a "G". If `ambiguity = FALSE` then degeneracy codes are not considered in forming the consensus. If `includeNonBases = TRUE` (the default) then gap ("-") and mask ("+") characters are counted towards the consensus, otherwise they are omitted from development of the consensus.

**Value**

A DNAStrngSet with a single consensus sequence.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[IdConsensus](#), [Seqs2DB](#)

**Examples**

```
dna <- DNAStrngSet(c("ANGCT-", "-ACCT-"))
ConsensusSequence(dna)
# returns "ANSCT-"
```

---

CreateChimeras	<i>Creates Artificial Chimeras</i>
----------------	------------------------------------

---

### Description

Creates artificial random chimeras from a set of sequences.

### Usage

```
CreateChimeras(myDNAStringSet,
               numChimeras = 10,
               numParts = 2,
               minLength = 80,
               maxLength = Inf,
               minChimericRegionLength = 30,
               randomLengths = TRUE,
               includeParents = TRUE,
               verbose = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

myDNAStringSet	A DNASTringSet object with aligned sequences.
numChimeras	Number of chimeras desired.
numParts	Number of chimeric parts from which to form a single chimeric sequence.
minLength	Minimum length of the complete chimeric sequence.
maxLength	Maximum length of the complete chimeric sequence.
minChimericRegionLength	Minimum length of the chimeric region of each sequence part.
randomLengths	Logical specifying whether to create random length chimeras in addition to random breakpoints.
includeParents	Whether to include the parents of each chimera in the output.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display progress.

### Details

Forms a set of random chimeras from the input set of (typically good quality) sequences. The chimeras are created by merging random sequences at random breakpoints. These chimeras can be used for testing the accuracy of the [FindChimeras](#) or other chimera finding functions.

### Value

A DNASTringSet object containing chimeras. The names of the chimeras are specified as "parent #1 name [chimeric region] (distance from parent to chimera), ...".

If includeParents = TRUE then the parents of the the chimeras are included at the end of the result. The parents are made to be the same length as the chimera if randomLengths = TRUE. The names of the parents are specified as "parent #1 name [region] (distance to parent #2, ...)".

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[FindChimeras](#), [Seqs2DB](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
dna <- SearchDB(db)
chims <- CreateChimeras(dna)
BrowseSequences(chims)
```

---

DB2FASTA

*Export Database Sequences to FASTA File*

---

**Description**

Exports a database containing sequences to a FASTA formatted file of sequences.

**Usage**

```
DB2FASTA(file,
         dbFile,
         tblName = "DNA",
         identifier = "",
         limit = -1,
         replaceChar = NULL,
         orderBy = "row_names",
         append = FALSE,
         comments = TRUE,
         removeGaps = "none",
         verbose = TRUE,
         ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>file</code>	Character string giving the location where the FASTA file should be written.
<code>dbFile</code>	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
<code>tblName</code>	Character string specifying the table in which to extract the data.
<code>identifier</code>	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
<code>limit</code>	Number of results to display. The default (-1) does not limit the number of results.

replaceChar	Optional character used to replace any sequence characters not present in the DNA_ALPHABET. If NULL (the default) then no replacement occurs and the sequences are exported identical to how they were upon import.
orderBy	Character string giving the column name for sorting the results. Defaults to the order of entries in the database. Optionally can be followed by " ASC" or " DESC" to specify ascending (the default) or descending order.
append	Logical indicating whether to append the results to the existing file.
comments	Logical specifying whether to add the value of any database fields into the FASTA record description separated by semicolons.
removeGaps	Determines how gaps are removed in the sequences. This should be (an unambiguous abbreviation of) one of "none", "all" or "common".
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display status.
...	Additional expressions to add as part of a where clause in the query. Further arguments provided in ... will be added to the query separated by " and " as part of the where clause.

**Value**

Writes a FASTA formatted file containing the sequences in the database.

Returns TRUE if the file was written successfully.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
tf <- tempfile()
DB2FASTA(tf, db, limit=10)
file.show(tf)
unlink(tf)
```

---

deltaGrules

*Free Energy of Hybridization of Probe/Target Quadruplets*

---

**Description**

The 8D array works with four adjacent base pairs of the probe and target sequence at a time. Each dimension has five elements defining the residue at that position ("A", "C", "G", "T", or "-"). The array contains the standard Gibb's free energy change of probe binding (dG, [kcal/mol]) for every quadruple base pairing.

**Usage**

```
data(deltaGrules)
```



```

annealingTemp = 64,
P = 4e-07,
monovalent = 0.07,
divalent = 0.003,
dNTPs = 8e-04,
minEfficiency = 0.8,
worstScore = -Inf,
numPrimerSets = 0,
minProductSize = 75,
maxProductSize = 1200,
maxSearchSize = 1500,
batchSize = 1000,
maxDistance = 0.4,
primerDimer = 1e-07,
ragged5Prime = TRUE,
taqEfficiency = TRUE,
verbose = TRUE)

```

### Arguments

tiles	A set of tiles representing each group of sequences, as in the format created by the function TileSeqs.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. Determines the target group(s) for which primers will be designed. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
start	Integer specifying the starting position in the alignment where potential forward primer target sites begin. Preferably a position that is included in most sequences in the alignment.
end	Integer specifying the ending position in the alignment where potential reverse primer target sites end. Preferably a position that is included in most sequences in the alignment.
minLength	Integer providing the minimum length of primers to consider in the design.
maxLength	Integer providing the maximum length of primers to consider in the design, which must be less than or equal to the maxLength of tiles.
maxPermutations	Integer providing the maximum number of permutations considered as part of a forward or reverse primer set.
minCoverage	Numeric giving the minimum fraction of the target group's sequences that must be covered with the primer set.
minGroupCoverage	Numeric giving the minimum fraction of the target group that must have sequence information (not terminal gaps) in the region covered by the primer set.
annealingTemp	Numeric indicating the desired annealing temperature that will be used in the PCR experiment.
P	Numeric giving the molar concentration of primers in the reaction.

monovalent	The molar concentration of monovalent ([Na] and [K]) ions in solution that will be used to determine a sodium equivalent concentration.
divalent	The molar concentration of divalent ([Mg]) ions in solution that will be used to determine a sodium equivalent concentration.
dNTPs	Numeric giving the molar concentration of free nucleotides added to the solution that will be used to determine a sodium equivalent concentration.
minEfficiency	Numeric giving the minimum efficiency of hybridization desired for the primer set. Note that an efficiency of 99
worstScore	Numeric specifying the score cutoff to remove target sites from consideration. For example, a worstScore of -5 will remove all primer sets scoring below -5, although this may eventually result in no primer sets meeting this criteria.
numPrimerSets	Integer giving the optimal number of primer sets (forward and reverse primer sets) to design. If set to zero then all possible forward and reverse primers are returned, but the primer sets minimizing potential false positives are not chosen.
minProductSize	Integer giving the minimum number of nucleotides desired in the PCR product.
maxProductSize	Integer giving the maximum number of nucleotides desired in the PCR product.
maxSearchSize	Integer giving the maximum number of nucleotides to search for false priming upstream and downstream of the expected binding site.
batchSize	Integer specifying the number of primers to simulate hybridization per batch. See the Description section below.
maxDistance	Numeric specifying the maximal fraction of mismatched base pairings on a rolling basis beginning from the 3' end of the primer.
primerDimer	Numeric giving the maximum amplification efficiency of primer-dimer products.
ragged5Prime	Logical specifying whether the 5' end or 3' end of primer permutations targeting the same site should be varying lengths.
taqEfficiency	Logical determining whether to make use of elongation efficiency and maxDistance to increase predictive accuracy for <i>Taq</i> DNA Polymerase amplifying primers with mismatches near the 3' terminus. Note that this should be set to FALSE if using a high-fidelity polymerase with 3' to 5' exonuclease activity.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display progress.

## Details

Primers are designed for use with *Taq* DNA Polymerase to maximize sensitivity and specificity for the target group of sequences. The design makes use of *Taq*'s bias against certain 3' terminal mismatch types in order to increase specificity further than can be achieved with hybridization efficiency alone.

Primers are designed from a set of tiles to target each identifier while minimizing affinity for all other tiled groups. Arguments provide constraints that ensure the designed primer sets meet the specified criteria as well as being optimized for the particular experimental conditions. A search is conducted through all tiles in the same alignment position to estimate the chance of cross-amplification with a non-target group.

If numPrimers is greater than or equal to one then the set of forward and reverse primers that minimizes potential false positive overlap is returned. This will also initiate a thorough search through all target sites upstream and downstream of the expected binding sites to ensure that the primers do not bind to nearby positions. Lowering the maxSearchSize will speed up the thorough search at the expense of potentially missing an unexpected target site. The number of possible primer sets assessed is increased with the size of numPrimers.

### Value

A different data.frame will be returned depending on number of primer sets requested. If no primer sets are required then columns contain the forward and reverse primers for every possible position scored by their potential to amplify other identified groups. If one or more primer sets are requested then columns contain information for the optimal set of forward and reverse primers that should be used in combination to give the fewest potential false positives.

### Note

The program OligoArrayAux (<http://mfold.rna.albany.edu/?q=DINAMelt/OligoArrayAux>) must be installed in a location accessible by the system. For example, the following code should print the installed OligoArrayAux version when executed from the R console: `system("hybrid-min -V")`.

### Author(s)

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

### References

Coming Soon!

### See Also

[CalculateEfficiencyPCR](#), [TileSeqs](#)

### Examples

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
# not run (must have OligoArrayAux installed first):
#tiles <- TileSeqs(db, identifier=c("Acinetobacter", "Pseudomonas"))
#primers <- DesignPrimers(tiles, identifier="Acinetobacter", start=280, end=420, minProductSize=50, numPrimerSets=1)
```

---

DistanceMatrix

*Calculate the Distance Between DNA Sequences*

---

### Description

Calculates a distance matrix for a DNAStrngSet. Each element of the distance matrix corresponds to the dissimilarity between two sequences in the DNAStrngSet.

**Usage**

```
DistanceMatrix(myDNAStrngSet,
               includeTerminalGaps = FALSE,
               penalizeGapLetterMatches = TRUE,
               penalizeGapGapMatches = FALSE,
               removeDuplicates = FALSE,
               correction = "none",
               verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>myDNAStrngSet</code>	A DNAStrngSet object of aligned sequences.
<code>includeTerminalGaps</code>	Logical specifying whether or not to include terminal gaps ("- characters on each end of the sequence) into the calculation of distance.
<code>penalizeGapLetterMatches</code>	Logical specifying whether or not to consider gap-to-letter matches as mismatches.
<code>penalizeGapGapMatches</code>	Logical specifying whether or not to consider gap-to-gap matches as mismatches.
<code>removeDuplicates</code>	Logical specifying whether to remove any identical sequences from the DNAStrngSet before calculating distance. If FALSE (the default) then the distance matrix is calculated with the entire DNAStrngSet provided as input.
<code>correction</code>	The substitution model used for distance correction. This should be (an unambiguous abbreviation of) one of "none" or "Jukes-Cantor".
<code>verbose</code>	Logical indicating whether to display progress.

**Details**

The uncorrected distance matrix represents the percent distance between each of the sequences in the DNAStrngSet. Ambiguity can be represented using the characters of the IUPAC\_CODE\_MAP. For example, the distance between an 'N' and any other base is zero.

If `includeTerminalGaps = FALSE` then terminal gaps are not included in sequence length. This can be faster since only the positions common to each two sequences are compared. If `removeDuplicates = TRUE` then the distance matrix will only represent unique sequences in the DNAStrngSet. This is can be faster because less sequences need to be compared. For example, if only two sequences in the set are exact duplicates then one is removed and the distance is calculated on the remaining set. Note that the distance matrix can still contain values of 100% after removing duplicates because only exact duplicates are removed without taking into account ambiguous matches represented by the IUPAC\_CODE\_MAP or the treatment of gaps.

The elements of the distance matrix can be referenced by dimnames corresponding to the names of the DNAStrngSet. Additionally, an attribute named "correction" specifying the method of correction used can be accessed using the function `attr`.

**Value**

A symmetric matrix where each element is the distance between the sequences referenced by the respective row and column. The dimnames of the matrix correspond to the names of the DNASTringSet. Sequences with no overlapping positions in the alignment are given a value of NA.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[IdClusters](#)

**Examples**

```
# defaults compare intersection of internal ranges:
dna <- DNASTringSet(c("ANGCT-", "-ACCT-"))
d <- DistanceMatrix(dna)
# d[1,2] is still 1 base in 4 = 0.25

# compare union of internal ranges:
dna <- DNASTringSet(c("ANGCT-", "-ACCT-"))
d <- DistanceMatrix(dna, includeTerminalGaps=TRUE)
# d[1,2] is now 2 bases in 5 = 0.40

# compare the entire sequence ranges:
dna <- DNASTringSet(c("ANGCT-", "-ACCT-"))
d <- DistanceMatrix(dna, includeTerminalGaps=TRUE,
                    penalizeGapGapMatches=TRUE)
# d[1,2] is now 3 bases in 6 = 0.50
```

---

FindChimeras

*Find Chimeras In A Sequence Database*

---

**Description**

Finds chimeras present in a database of sequences. Makes use of a reference database of (presumed to be) good quality sequences.

**Usage**

```
FindChimeras(dbFile,
             tblName = "DNA",
             identifier = "",
             dbFileReference,
             batchSize = 100,
             minNumFragments = 20000,
```

```

tb.width = 5,
multiplier = 20,
minLength = 70,
minCoverage = 0.6,
overlap = 100,
minSuspectFragments = 6,
showPercentCoverage = FALSE,
add2tbl = FALSE,
maxGroupSize = -1,
minGroupSize = 100,
verbose = TRUE)

```

### Arguments

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file to be checked for chimeric sequences.
tblName	Character string specifying the table in which to check for chimeras.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
dbFileReference	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the reference database file of (presumed to be) good quality sequences. A 16S reference database is available from <a href="http://DECIPHER.cee.wisc.edu">DECIPHER.cee.wisc.edu</a> .
batchSize	Number sequences to tile with fragments at a time.
minNumFragments	Number of suspect fragments to accumulate before searching through other groups.
tb.width	A single integer [1..14] giving the number of nucleotides at the start of each fragment that are part of the trusted band.
multiplier	A single integer specifying the multiple of fragments found out-of-group greater than fragments found in-group in order to consider a sequence a chimera.
minLength	Minimum length of a chimeric region in order to be considered as a chimera.
minCoverage	Minimum fraction of coverage necessary in a chimeric region.
overlap	Number of nucleotides at the end of the sequence that the chimeric region must overlap in order to be considered a chimera.
minSuspectFragments	Minimum number of suspect fragments belonging to another group required to consider a sequence a chimera.
showPercentCoverage	Logical indicating whether to list the percent coverage of suspect fragments in each chimeric region in the output.
add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
maxGroupSize	Maximum number of sequences searched in a group. A value of less than 0 means the search is unlimited.

<code>minGroupSize</code>	The minimum number of sequences in a group to be considered as part of the search for chimeras. May need to be set to a small value for reference database with mostly small groups.
<code>verbose</code>	Logical indicating whether to display progress.

### Details

The algorithm works by finding suspect fragments that are uncommon in the group where the sequence belongs, but very common in another group where the sequence does not belong. Each sequence in the `dbFile` is tiled into short sequence segments called fragments. If the fragments are infrequent in their respective group in the `dbFileReference` then they are considered suspect. If enough suspect fragments from a sequence meet the specified constraints then the sequence is flagged as a chimera.

The default parameters are optimized for full-length 16S sequences (> 1,000 nucleotides). Shorter 16S sequences require optimal parameters that are different than the defaults. These are: `minLength = 40`, and `minSuspectFragments = 2`.

Groups are determined by the identifier present in each database. For this reason, the groups in the `dbFile` should exist in the groups of the `dbFileReference`. The reference database is assumed to contain many sequences of only good quality.

If a reference database is not present then it is feasible to create a reference database by using the input database as the reference database. Removing chimeras from the reference database and then iteratively repeating the process can result in a clean reference database.

For non-16S sequences it may be necessary to optimize the parameters for the particular sequences. The simplest way to perform an optimization is to experiment with different input parameters on artificial chimeras such as those created using [CreateChimeras](#). Adjusting input parameters until the maximum number of artificial chimeras are identified is the easiest way to determine new defaults.

### Value

A `data.frame` containing only the sequences that meet the specifications for being chimeric. The `chimera` column contains information on the chimeric region and to which group it belongs. The `row.names` of the `data.frame` correspond to those of the sequences in `dbFile`.

### Author(s)

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

### References

ES Wright et al. (2011) "DECIPHER: A Search-Based Approach to Chimera Identification for 16S rRNA Sequences." *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, doi:10.1128/AEM.06516-11.

### See Also

[CreateChimeras](#), [Add2DB](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
# It is necessary to set dbFileReference to the file path of the
# 16S reference database available from DECIPHER.cee.wisc.edu
chimeras <- FindChimeras(db, dbFileReference=db)
```

FormGroups

*Forms Groups By Rank***Description**

Agglomerates sequences into groups in a certain size range based on taxonomic rank.

**Usage**

```
FormGroups(dbFile,
           tblName = "DNA",
           goalSize = 1000,
           minGroupSize = 500,
           maxGroupSize = 10000,
           add2tbl = FALSE,
           verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table where the rank information is located.
goalSize	Number of sequences required in each group to stop adding more sequences.
minGroupSize	Minimum number of sequences in each group required to stop trying to recombine with a larger group.
maxGroupSize	Maximum number of sequences in each group allowed to continue agglomeration.
add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to print database queries and other information.

**Details**

Form groups uses the rank field in the dbFile table to group sequences with similar taxonomic rank. Requires that rank information be present in the tblName, such as that created when importing sequences from a GenBank file.

Beginning with the least common ranks, the algorithm agglomerates groups with similar ranks until the goalSize is reached. If the group size is below minGroupSize then further agglomeration is attempted with a larger group. If additional agglomeration results in a group larger than maxGroupSize then the agglomeration is undone so that the group is smaller.

**Value**

Returns a `data.frame` of rank and id for each group. If `add2tbl` is not `FALSE` then the `tblName` is updated with the group as the identifier.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[IdentifyByRank](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
g <- FormGroups(db, goalSize=10, minGroupSize=5, maxGroupSize=20)
```

---

IdClusters

*Cluster Sequences By Distance*

---

**Description**

Groups the sequences represented by a distance matrix into clusters of similarity.

**Usage**

```
IdClusters(myDistMatrix,
           method = "UPGMA",
           cutoff = -Inf,
           showPlot = FALSE,
           asDendrogram = FALSE,
           myDNAStrngSet = NULL,
           add2tbl = FALSE,
           dbFile = NULL,
           verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>myDistMatrix</code>	A symmetric $N \times N$ distance matrix with the values of dissimilarity between $N$ sequences.
<code>method</code>	An agglomeration method to be used. This should be (an unambiguous abbreviation of) one of "complete", "single", "UPGMA", "average", "NJ" or "ML".
<code>cutoff</code>	A vector with the maximum branch length separating the sequences in the same cluster. If <code>asDendrogram=TRUE</code> then only one cutoff may be specified.
<code>showPlot</code>	Logical specifying whether or not to plot the resulting dendrogram.
<code>asDendrogram</code>	Logical. If <code>TRUE</code> the object returned is of class <code>dendrogram</code> .

myDNAStringSet	DNAStringSet used in the creation of myDistMatrix. Only necessary if method="ML".
add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
dbFile	A connection to a SQLite database or character string giving the path to the database file. Only necessary if add2tbl is not FALSE.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display progress.

## Details

Groups the input sequences into clusters using a set dissimilarities representing the distance between  $N$  sequences. Initially a phylogenetic tree is formed using the specified method. Then each leaf (sequence) of the tree is assigned to a cluster based on its branch lengths to the other leaves (sequences).

A number of different clustering methods are provided. The method `complete` assigns clusters using complete-linkage so that sequences in the same cluster are no more than cutoff percent apart. The method `single` assigns clusters using single-linkage so that sequences in the same cluster are within cutoff of at least one other sequence in the same cluster. UPGMA or average (the default) assigns clusters using average-linkage which is a compromise between the sensitivity of complete-linkage clustering to outliers and the tendency of single-linkage clustering to connect distant relatives that do not appear to be closely related.

NJ uses the Neighbor-Joining method proposed by Saitou and Nei that does not assume lineages evolve at the same rate (the molecular clock hypothesis). The NJ method is typically the most phylogenetically accurate of the above distance based methods. ML creates a neighbor-joining tree and then prints the negative log likelihood of the tree. Presently ML does not adjust the neighbor joining tree to maximize its likelihood.

If a `add2tbl=TRUE` then the resulting data.frame is added/updated into column(s) of the default table "DNA" in `dbFile`. If `add2tbl` is a character string then the result is added to the specified table name in `dbFile`. The added/updated column names are printed if `verbose=TRUE`.

## Value

If `asDendrogram=FALSE` (the default), returns a data.frame with a column for each cutoff specified. The row.names of the data.frame correspond to the dimnames of `myDistMatrix`. Each one of  $N$  sequences is assigned to one of  $M$  clusters. If `asDendrogram=TRUE`, returns an object of class `dendrogram` that can be used for further manipulation and plotting. Leaves of the dendrogram are randomly colored by cluster number.

## Author(s)

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

## References

- Felsenstein, J. (1981) Evolutionary trees from DNA sequences: a maximum likelihood approach. *Journal of Molecular Evolution*, **17**(6), 368-376
- Saitou, N. and Nei, M. (1987) The neighbor-joining method: a new method for reconstructing phylogenetic trees. *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, **4**(4), 406-425.

**See Also**

[DistanceMatrix](#), [Add2DB](#)

**Examples**

```
# using the matrix from the original paper by Saitou and Nei
m <- matrix(0,8,8)
m[2:8,1] <- c(7, 8, 11, 13, 16, 13, 17)
m[3:8,2] <- c(5, 8, 10, 13, 10, 14)
m[4:8,3] <- c(5, 7, 10, 7, 11)
m[5:8,4] <- c(8, 11, 8, 12)
m[6:8,5] <- c(5, 6, 10)
m[7:8,6] <- c(9, 13)
m[8,7] <- c(8)

# returns an object of class "dendrogram"
myClusters <- IdClusters(m, cutoff=10, method="NJ", showPlot=TRUE, asDendrogram=TRUE)

# example of specifying a cutoff
# returns a data frame
IdClusters(m, cutoff=c(2,6,10,20))
```

---

IdConsensus

*Create Consensus Sequences by Groups*

---

**Description**

Forms a consensus sequence representing the sequences in each group.

**Usage**

```
IdConsensus(dbFile,
            tblName = "DNA",
            identifier = "",
            colName = "cluster",
            add2tbl = FALSE,
            verbose = TRUE,
            ...)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table in which to form consensus.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
colName	Column containing the group name of each sequence.

add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display progress.
...	Additional arguments to be passed directly to ConsensusSequence.

### Details

Creates a consensus sequence for each of the distinct groups defined in colName. The resulting DNASTringSet contains as many consensus sequences as there are groups in colName. For example, it is possible to create a set of consensus sequences with one consensus sequence for each "id" or "cluster".

### Value

A DNASTringSet object containing the consensus sequence for each group. The names of the DNASTringSet contain the number of sequences and name of each group.

### Author(s)

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

### See Also

[Seqs2DB](#)

### Examples

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
con <- IdConsensus(db, colName="id")
BrowseSequences(con, colorBases=TRUE)
```

---

IdentifyByRank

*Identify By Taxonomic Rank*

---

### Description

Identifies sequences by a specific level of their taxonomic rank.

### Usage

```
IdentifyByRank(dbFile,
               tblName = "DNA",
               level = 3,
               add2tbl = FALSE,
               verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table where the rank information is located.
level	Level of the taxonomic rank.
add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to print database queries and other information.

**Details**

Simply identifies a sequence by a specific level of its taxonomic rank. Requires that rank information be present in the tblName, such as that created when importing sequences from a GenBank file.

If the specified level of rank does not exist then the closest rank is chosen. This makes it possible to determine the lowest level classification (e.g., genus) by specifying level = 100.

**Value**

A data.frame with the rank and corresponding identifier as "id".

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[FormGroups](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
ids <- IdentifyByRank(db)
```

---

IdLengths	<i>Determine the Number of Bases, Nonbases, and Width of Each Sequence</i>
-----------	--

---

**Description**

Counts the number of bases (A, C, G, T) and ambiguities/degeneracies in each sequence.

**Usage**

```
IdLengths(dbFile,
           tblName = "DNA",
           identifier = "",
           add2tbl = FALSE,
           verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table where the sequences are located.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display progress.

**Value**

A data.frame with the number of bases, nonbases, and width of each sequence. The width is defined as the sum of bases and nonbases in each sequence. The row.names of the data.frame correspond to the "row\_names" in the tblName of the dbFile.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[Add2DB](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
l <- IdLengths(db)
```

---

SearchDB

*Obtain Specific Sequences from A Database*

---

**Description**

Returns the set of sequences meeting the search criteria.

**Usage**

```
SearchDB(dbFile,
         tblName = "DNA",
         identifier = "",
         limit = -1,
         replaceChar = "-",
         orderBy = "row_names",
         countOnly = FALSE,
         removeGaps = "none",
         verbose = TRUE,
         ...)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table where the sequences are located.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
limit	Number of results to display. The default (-1) does not limit the number of results.
replaceChar	Optional character used to replace any characters of the sequence that are not present in the DNA_ALPHABET.
orderBy	Character string giving the column name for sorting the results. Defaults to the order of entries in the database. Optionally can be followed by " ASC" or " DESC" to specify ascending (the default) or descending order.
countOnly	Logical specifying whether to return only the number of sequences.
removeGaps	Determines how gaps are removed in the sequences. This should be (an unambiguous abbreviation of) one of "none", "all" or "common".
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display queries as they are sent to the database.
...	Additional expressions to add as part of a where clause in the query. Further arguments provided in ... will be added to the query separated by " and " as part of the where clause.

**Details**

If RNA is present in the database then all U's are converted to T's before creating the DNAStrngSet.

**Value**

A DNAStrngSet with the sequences that meet the specified criteria. The names of the DNAStrngSet correspond to the value in the "row\_names" column of the database.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[Seqs2DB](#), [DB2FASTA](#)

**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
dna <- SearchDB(db)
```

---

**Seqs2DB***Add Sequences from Text File to Database*

---

**Description**

Adds sequences to a database.

**Usage**

```
Seqs2DB(seqs,  
        type,  
        dbFile,  
        identifier,  
        tblName = "DNA",  
        chunkSize = 99999,  
        replaceTbl = FALSE,  
        verbose = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

seqs	Either a character string specifying the file path to the file containing the sequences, or a DNASTringSet object.
type	The type of sequences being imported. This should be (an unambiguous abbreviation of) one of "FASTA", "GenBank", or "DNASTringSet".
dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file. If the dbFile does not exist then a new database is created at this location.
identifier	Character string specifying the "id" to give the imported sequences in the database.
tblName	Character string specifying the table in which to add the sequences.
chunkSize	Number of lines of the seqs to read at a time. For very large sequence files, using 1e7 results in a quicker import than the default (99999), but only if enough memory is available.
replaceTbl	Logical. If FALSE (the default) then the sequences are appended to any already existing in the table. If TRUE then any sequences already in the table are overwritten.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display each query as it is sent to the database.

**Details**

Sequences are imported into the database in chunks of lines specified by chunkSize. The sequences can then be identified by searching the database for the identifier provided. Sequences are added to the database verbatim, so that no sequence information is lost when the sequences are exported from the database.

**Value**

The total number of sequences in the database table is returned after import.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**

[SearchDB](#), [DB2FASTA](#)

**Examples**

```
gen <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.gen", package="DECIPHER")
dbConn <- dbConnect(SQLite(), ":memory:")
Seqs2DB(gen, "GenBank", dbConn, "Bacteria")
BrowseDB(dbConn)
dbDisconnect(dbConn)
```

---

TerminalChar

*Determine the Number of Terminal Characters*

---

**Description**

Counts the number of terminal characters for every sequence in a DNASTringSet. Terminal characters are defined as a specific character repeated at the beginning and end of a sequence.

**Usage**

```
TerminalChar(myDNASTringSet,
             char = "-")
```

**Arguments**

myDNASTringSet A DNASTringSet object of sequences.  
char A single character giving the terminal character to count.

**Value**

A matrix containing the results for each sequence in its respective row. The first column contains the number of leading char, the second contains the number of trailing char, and the third contains the total number of characters in between.

**Author(s)**

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

**See Also**[IdLengths](#)**Examples**

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
dna <- SearchDB(db)
t <- TerminalChar(dna)
```

---

 TileSeqs

---

*Form a Set of Tiles for Each Group of Sequences.*


---

**Description**

Creates a set of tiles that represent each group of sequences in the database for downstream applications.

**Usage**

```
TileSeqs(dbFile,
         tblName = "DNA",
         identifier = "",
         minLength = 26,
         maxLength = 27,
         maxTilePermutations = 10,
         minCoverage = 0.9,
         add2tbl = FALSE,
         verbose = TRUE,
         ...)
```

**Arguments**

dbFile	A SQLite connection object or a character string specifying the path to the database file.
tblName	Character string specifying the table of sequences to use for forming tiles.
identifier	Optional character string used to narrow the search results to those matching a specific identifier. If "" then all identifiers are selected.
minLength	Integer providing the minimum number of nucleotides in each tile. Typically the same or slightly less than maxLength.
maxLength	Integer providing the maximum number of nucleotides in each tile. Tiles are designed primarily for this length, which should ideally be slightly greater than the maximum length of oligos used in downstream functions.
maxTilePermutations	Integer specifying the maximum number of tiles in each target site.

minCoverage	Numeric providing the fraction of coverage that is desired for each target site in the group. For example, a minCoverage of 0.9 request that additional tiles are added until 90
add2tbl	Logical or a character string specifying the table name in which to add the result.
verbose	Logical indicating whether to display progress.
...	Additional arguments to be passed directly to SearchDB.

### Details

This function will create a set of overlapping tiles representing each target site in an alignment of sequences. The most common tile permutations are added until the minimum group coverage is obtained.

Target sites with one more more tiles not meeting a set of requirements are marked with `misprime` equals TRUE. Requirements are a minimum group coverage, minimum length, and a maximum length. Additionally, tiles are required not to contain more than four runs of a single base or four di-nucleotide repeats.

### Value

A data.frame with a row for each tile, and multiple columns of information. The `row_names` column gives the row number. The `start`, `end`, `start_aligned`, and `end_aligned` columns provide positioning of the tile in a consensus sequence formed from the group. The column `misprime` is a logical specifying whether the tile meets the specified constraints. The columns `width` and `id` indicate the tiles length and group of origin, respectively.

The `coverage` field gives the fraction of sequences containing the tile in the group that encompass the tiles start and end positions in the alignment, whereas the `groupCoverage` contains the fraction of all sequences in the group containing a tile at their respective target site. For example, if 10

The final column, `target_site`, provides the sequence of the tile.

### Note

If `add2tbl` is TRUE then the tiles will be added to the database table that currently contains the sequences used for tiling. The added tiles may cause interference when querying a table of sequences. Therefore, it is recommended to add the tiles to their own table, for example, by using `add2tbl="Tiles"`.

### Author(s)

Erik Wright <DECIPHER@cae.wisc.edu>

### See Also

[DesignPrimers](#)

### Examples

```
db <- system.file("extdata", "Bacteria_175seqs.sqlite", package="DECIPHER")
tiles <- TileSeqs(db, identifier="Pseudomonas")
```

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