

# Package ‘miLAG’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Calculates Microbial Lag Duration (on the Population Level) from  
Provided Growth Curve Data

**Version** 1.0.5

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**Description** Microbial growth is often measured by growth curves i.e. a table of population sizes and times of measurements.

This package allows to use such growth curve data to determine the duration of "microbial lag phase" i.e. the time needed for microbes to restart divisions.

It implements the most commonly used methods to calculate the lag duration, these methods are discussed and described in Opalek et.al. 2022.

Citation: Smug, B. J., Opalek, M., Necki, M., & Wloch-Salamon, D. (2024). Microbial lag calculator: A shiny-based application and an R package for calculating the duration of microbial lag phase. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, 15, 301–307 <[doi:10.1111/2041-210X.14269](https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.14269)>.

**License** GPL-3

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---

calc\_baranyi\_fit\_lag    *calc\_baranyi\_fit\_lag*

---

## Description

Calculates lag based on fitting baranyi model to data

## Usage

```
calc_baranyi_fit_lag(
  data,
  n0,
  init_lag = NULL,
  init_gr_rate = NULL,
  algorithm = "auto",
  max_iter = 100
)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
n0	a data frame describing initial biomass for each of the curves, i.e. it has two obligatory columns: "curve_id", "N0"
init_lag	initial value for the lag parameter, defaults to NULL in which case it will be approximated based on the data
init_gr_rate	initial value for the growth rate, defaults to NULL in which case it will be approximated based on the data
algorithm	eg. "auto", "Levenberg-Marquardt", "port", defaults to "auto"
max_iter	Maximum number of iterations, defaults to 100

**Value**

growth curve data with additional columns ('lag', and predicted biomass 'predicted')

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calc_lag	<i>calc_lag</i>
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---

**Description**

The main function that calculates lags based on growth curve data, selected method and parameters and returns an extended growth rate data frame (extended by multiple columns with parameters related to lag calculation)

**Usage**

```
calc_lag(data, method, pars)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
method	method of lag calculation, choose one of the following: "exponential", "biomass increase", "max growth acceleration", "parameter fitting to a model"
pars	a list of parameters. Get.default.parameters function can be used to get the default ones. Otherwise create your own list with the following names: - model: if method = "parameter fitting to a model", one of the following models needs to be chosen: "logistic", "baranyi" - n0_method: first.observation" if the first point is taken as the initial biomass or "minimal.observation" if the minimal biomass is taken as the initial point. In "healthy" growth curves these options should be equivalent but sometimes a drop in OD/biomass is observed at the beginning of a growth curve. In this case it is not obvious what to assume the initial biomass

is. - tangent\_method "local.regression" (if the tangent is fitted to a number of points around the maximal growth rate) or "to.point" (if the tangent is fitted only to the point where the growth rate is maximal); defaults to "to.point" - threshold: A value of the biomass increase that we can surely associate with the end of the lag phase rather than random variation durinh the lag. Defaults to  $10^2$  - curve\_points: if tangent.method = "local.regression" then curve\_points is the number of points the line is fitted to; defaults to 3 i.e. the point with the maximal uptake rate one point before and one point after - init\_gr\_rate: if logistic model is fitted. Defaults to NULL in which case the initial value will be based on the data - init\_lag: if a logistic model is fitted, Defaults to NULL in which case the initial value will be based on the data - algorithm: if method = "parameter fitting to a model", nls algorithm to run the model fit; defaults to "auto" which will choose the best between bounded and unbounded "Levenberg-Marquardt" and bounded "port" - max\_iter = if method = "parameter fitting to a model", the maximum number of nls iterations, defaults to 100

### Value

growth curve data (time, biomass, curve\_id) with the following additional columns: log\_biomass, lag, line\_slope, line\_intercept, lag\_calc\_method, predicted\_data, diff, second\_deriv\_b, tangent\_point, threshold

---

calc\_lagistic\_fit\_lag *calc\_lagistic\_fit\_lag*

---

### Description

Calculates lag based on fitting logistic model to data

### Usage

```
calc_lagistic_fit_lag(
  data,
  n0,
  init_gr_rate = NULL,
  init_K = NULL,
  init_lag = NULL,
  algorithm,
  max_iter,
  return_all_params = FALSE,
  min_b = 0.2,
  min_a = 0.8
)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
n0	a data frame describing initial biomass for each of the curves, i.e. it has two obligatory columns: "curve_id", "N0"
init_gr_rate	initial value for the growth rate, defaults to NULL in which case it will be approximated based on the data
init_K	initial value for the saturation parameter K, defaults to NULL in which case it will be approximated based on the data
init_lag	initial value for the lag parameter, defaults to NULL in which case it will be approximated based on the data
algorithm	eg. "auto", "Levenberg-Marquardt", "port"
max_iter	Maximum number of iterations
return_all_params	defaults to FALSE, TRUE if you also want to get K and growth.rate apart from lag
min_b	defaults to 0.2; mina and minb define where to look for exponential phase: it will be where the biomass is between min + (max-min)*(lower.bound.for.gr TO upper.bound.for.gr)
min_a	defaults to 0.8

**Value**

growth curve data with additional columns ('lag', and predicted biomass 'predicted'), and the fitting object if return.all.params was set to TRUE

---

calc\_lag\_fit\_to\_baranyi\_with\_lag  
*calc\_lag\_fit\_to\_baranyi\_with\_lag*

---

**Description**

Runs nlsLM/nls algorithms with three different parameter setups to fit the best Logistic model parameters to our data and chooses the best model

**Usage**

```
calc_lag_fit_to_baranyi_with_lag(
  gr_curve,
  LOG10N0 = NULL,
  init_lag = NULL,
  init_mumax = NULL,
  init_LOG10Nmax = NULL,
```

```

algorithm = "auto",
max_iter = 100,
lower_bound = c(0, 0, 0, 0)
)

```

### Arguments

<code>gr_curve</code>	data from one specific growth curve with these two columns: time and biomass
<code>LOG10N0</code>	the decimal logarithm of initial biomass
<code>init_lag</code>	initial value for the lag parameter
<code>init_mumax</code>	initial value for the mumax parameter
<code>init_LOG10Nmax</code>	initial value for the LOG10Nmax parameter
<code>algorithm</code>	defaults to "auto" which chooses between bounded and unbounded Levenberg-Marquardt method and the bounded port method
<code>max_iter</code>	max. number of iterations; defaults to 100
<code>lower_bound</code>	lower bound for the bounded nls optimisation; defaults to 0

### Value

lag and the nls fitting object with parameters fitted to logistic model

---

```

calc_lag_fit_to_logistic_with_lag
      calc_lag_fit_to_logistic_with_lag

```

---

### Description

Runs nlsLM/nls algorithm of the user's choice to fit the Logistic model parameters to our data

### Usage

```

calc_lag_fit_to_logistic_with_lag(
  gr_curve,
  n0,
  init_gr_rate = init_gr_rate,
  init_K = init_K,
  init_lag = init_lag,
  algorithm = "auto",
  max_iter = 100,
  lower_bound = c(0, 0, 0)
)

```

**Arguments**

gr_curve	data from one specific growth curve with these two columns: time and biomass
n0	the initial biomass
init_gr_rate	initial value for the growth rate
init_K	initial value for the saturation parameter K
init_lag	initial value for the lag parameter
algorithm	defaults to "auto" which chooses between bounded and unbounded Levenberg-Marquardt method and the bounded port method
max_iter	max. number of iterations; defaults to 100
lower_bound	lower bound for the bounded nls optimization; defaults to 0

**Value**

lag and the nls fitting object with parameters fitted to logistic model

---

```
choose_lag_fit_algorithm_baranyi
      choose_lag_fit_algorithm_baranyi
```

---

**Description**

Runs nlsLM/nls algorithms with three different parameter setups to fit the best Baranyi parameters to our data and chooses the best model

**Usage**

```
choose_lag_fit_algorithm_baranyi(
  gr_curve,
  LOG10N0,
  init_lag,
  init_mumax,
  init_LOG10Nmax,
  max_iter,
  lower_bound
)
```

**Arguments**

gr_curve	data from one specific growth curve with the following columns: LOG10N, t
LOG10N0	init value for the LOG10N0 parameter
init_lag	initial value for the lag
init_mumax	initial value for the mumax parameter
init_LOG10Nmax	initial value for the LOG10Nmax parameter
max_iter	max. number of iterations
lower_bound	lower bound for the bounded nls optimization;

**Value**

the best nls fitting object with parameters fitted to Baranyi model (lowest Res.Sum Sq provided that all coefficients are nonnegative)

---

```
choose_lag_fit_algorithm_logistic
      choose_lag_fit_algorithm_logistic
```

---

**Description**

Runs nlsLM/nls algorithms with three different parameter setups to fit the best Logistic model parameters to our data and chooses the best model

**Usage**

```
choose_lag_fit_algorithm_logistic(
  gr_curve,
  n0,
  init_gr_rate = init_gr_rate,
  init_K = init_K,
  init_lag = init_lag,
  max_iter = 100,
  lower_bound = c(0, 0, 0)
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>gr_curve</code>	data from one specific growth curve with the following columns: LOG10N, t
<code>n0</code>	the initial biomass
<code>init_gr_rate</code>	initial value for the growth rate
<code>init_K</code>	initial value for the saturation parameter K
<code>init_lag</code>	initial value for the lag parameter
<code>max_iter</code>	max. number of iterations; defaults to 100
<code>lower_bound</code>	lower bound for the bounded nls optimization; defaults to 0

**Value**

the best nls fitting object with parameters fitted to logistic model (lowest Res.Sum Sq provided that all coefficients are nonnegative)



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compare_algorithms	<i>compare_algorithms</i>
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**Description**

Compares results of 3 objects obtained from running nls

**Usage**

```
compare_algorithms(nls_LM_no_bound, nls_PORT, nlsres_LM)
```

**Arguments**

nls_LM_no_bound	first object resulting from running nls
nls_PORT	second object resulting from running nls
nlsres_LM	third object resulting from running nls

**Value**

the best fitting object (lowest Res.Sum Sq provided that all coefficients are nonnegative)

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cut_the_data	<i>cut_the_data</i> Subsets the data frame containing only the observations up to the specified maximum time
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---

**Description**

cut\_the\_data Subsets the data frame containing only the observations up to the specified maximum time

**Usage**

```
cut_the_data(data, max_time)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
max_time	max. time at which we want to cut the growth curve data

**Value**

cut data

---

fit_exp_lag	<i>fit_exp_lag</i>
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---

**Description**

Fits the lag to multiple growth curves based on the basic tangent method

**Usage**

```
fit_exp_lag(data, tangent_method, n0, curve_points = 3)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
tangent_method	"local.regression" (if the tangent is fitted to a number of points around the maximal growth rate) or "to.point" (if the tangent is fitted only to the point where the growth rate is maximal); defaults to "to.point"
n0	the initial biomass (a tangent line crossing N0 line will determine the lag)
curve_points	if tangent_method = "local.regression" then curve_points is the number of points the line is fitted to; defaults to 3 i.e. the point with the maximal uptake rate one point before and one point after

**Value**

growth curve data (as input) together with additional columns: lag, line.intercept and line.slope

---

fit_exp_lag_to_curve	<i>fit_exp_lag_to_curve</i>
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---

**Description**

Fits the lag to one growth curve based on the basic tangent method

**Usage**

```
fit_exp_lag_to_curve(data, n0, tangent_method = "to.point", curve_points = 3)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", This is data from one growth curve only, one (mean) observation per time
n0	the initial biomass (a tangent line crossing N0 line will determine the lag)
tangent_method	"local.regression" (if the tangent is fitted to a number of points around the maximal growth rate) or "to.point" (if the tangent is fitted only to the point where the growth rate is maximal); defaults to "to.point"
curve_points	if tangent_method = "local.regression" then curve_points is the number of points the line is fitted to; defaults to 3 i.e. the point with the maximal uptake rate one point before and one point after

**Value**

line\_slope: slope of the tangent line, line\_intercept: intercept of the tangent line, lag: lag, tangent\_points: i.e a data frame of all points selected for fitting the line

---

fit_max_infl_lag	<i>fit_max_infl_lag</i>
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---

**Description**

Fits the lag to multiple growth curves based on the max growth acceleration method It finds where the second derivative is the largest

**Usage**

```
fit_max_infl_lag(data)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass",and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
------	---

**Value**

growth curve data (as input) together with additional columns: lag, log.biomass, time.diff, time.av, second.deriv.b, biomass.increase

---

```
get_all_methods_lag  get_all_methods_lag
```

---

### Description

Runs the main function that calculates lags based on growth curve data based on all possible methods.

### Usage

```
get_all_methods_lag(data, biomass_incr_threshold, pars = NULL)
```

### Arguments

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
biomass_incr_threshold	A value of the biomass increase that we can surely associate with the end of the lag phase rather than random variation during the lag. Needs to be set specifically to avoid unconscious use of the value set by default. If set to NULL, the value from pars will be taken
pars	a list of parameters. defaults to the ones set by get_def_pars function. Otherwise create your own list with the following names: - model: if method = "parameter fitting to a model" , one of the following models needs to be chosen: "logistic", "baranyi" - n0_method: first.observation" if the first point is taken as the initial biomass or "minimal.observation" if the minimal biomass is taken is the initial point. In "healthy" growth curves these options should be equivalent but sometimes a drop in OD/biomass is observed at the beginning of a growth curve. In this case it is not obvious what to assume the initial biomass is. - tangent.method "local.regression" (if the tangent is fitted to a number of points around the maximal growth rate) or "to.point" (if the tangent is fitted only to the point where the growth rate is maximal); defaults to "to.point" - threshold: A value of the biomass increase that we can surely associate with the end of the lag phase rather than random variation during the lag. Defaults to 10 <sup>2</sup> - curve_points: if tangent_method = "local.regression" then curve_points is the number of points the line is fitted to; defaults to 3 i.e. the point with the maximal uptake rate one point before and one point after - init_growth.rate: if logistic model is fitted. Defaults to NULL in which case the initial value will be based on the data - init_lag: if a logistic model is fitted, Defaults to NULL in which case the initial value will be based on the data - algorithm: if method = "parameter fitting to a model", nls algorithm to run the model fit; defaults to "auto" which will choose the best between bounded and unbounded "Levenberg-Marquardt" and bounded "port" - max_iter = if method = "parameter fitting to a model", the maximum number of nls iterations, defaults to 100

**Value**

growth curve data (time, biomass, curve\_id) with the column: lag\_calculation\_method, and with the following additional columns: log\_biomass, lag, line\_slope, line\_intercept, lag\_calculation\_method, predicted\_data, diff, second\_deriv\_b, tangent\_point, threshold Note that each growth curve will appear

---

get_def_pars	<i>get_def_pars Set defaults parameters used by calc_lag function</i>
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---

**Description**

get\_def\_pars Set defaults parameters used by calc\_lag function

**Usage**

```
get_def_pars()
```

**Value**

list of parameters

---

get_init_pars_baranyi	<i>get_init_pars_baranyi</i>
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---

**Description**

Finds reasonable approximation for baranyi growth curve parameters (init\_mumax, lag) based on the growth curve and some initial values These approximations will be used as the initial values for the proper optimization algorithm run later.

**Usage**

```
get_init_pars_baranyi(
  data_this_curve,
  this_n0,
  init_lag,
  init_gr_rate,
  min_b = 0.2,
  min_a = 0.8
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data_this_curve</code>	data from one specific growth curve with these two columns: time and biomass
<code>this_n0</code>	the initial biomass
<code>init_lag</code>	initial value for the lag parameter
<code>init_gr_rate</code>	initial value for the growth rate
<code>min_b</code>	defaults to 0.2; <code>min_a</code> and <code>min_b</code> define where to look for exponential phase: it will be where the biomass is between $\min + (\max - \min) * (\min_a \text{ TO } \min_b)$
<code>min_a</code>	defaults to 0.8

**Value**

list of parameters: `init_mumax`, `init_lag`

---

```
get_init_pars_logistic
      get_init_pars_logistic
```

---

**Description**

Finds reasonable approximation for logistic growth curve parameters (K, lag, growth rate) based on the growth curve and some initial values. These approximations will be used as the initial values for the proper optimization algorithm run later.

**Usage**

```
get_init_pars_logistic(
  data_this_curve,
  this_n0,
  init_K,
  init_lag,
  init_gr_rate,
  min_b = 0.2,
  min_a = 0.8
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data_this_curve</code>	data from one specific growth curve with these two columns: time and biomass
<code>this_n0</code>	the initial biomass
<code>init_K</code>	initial value for the saturation parameter K
<code>init_lag</code>	initial value for the lag parameter
<code>init_gr_rate</code>	initial value for the growth rate
<code>min_b</code>	defaults to 0.2; <code>min_a</code> and <code>min_b</code> define where to look for exponential phase: it will be where the biomass is between $\min + (\max - \min) * (\min_a \text{ TO } \min_b)$
<code>min_a</code>	defaults to 0.8

**Value**

list of parameters: init\_K, init\_lag, init\_gr\_rate,

---

get_lag	<i>get_lag</i>
---------	----------------

---

**Description**

The most basic function that calculates lags based on growth curve data, selected method and parameters. It uses calc\_lag function and strips the results to only get lag parameter for each growth curve id.

**Usage**

```
get_lag(data, method, pars)
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
method	method of lag calculation, choose one of the following: "exponential", "biomass increase", "max growth acceleration", "parameter fitting to a model"
pars	a list of parameters. Get.default.parameters function can be used to get the default ones. Otherwise create your own list with the following names: - model: if method = "parameter fitting to a model", one of the following models needs to be chosen: "logistic", "baranyi" - n0_method: first.observation" if the first point is taken as the initial biomass or "minimal.observation" if the minimal biomass is taken as the initial point. In "healthy" growth curves these options should be equivalent but sometimes a drop in OD/biomass is observed at the beginning of a growth curve. In this case it is not obvious what to assume the initial biomass is. - tangent_method "local.regression" (if the tangent is fitted to a number of points around the maximal growth rate) or "to.point" (if the tangent is fitted only to the point where the growth rate is maximal); defaults to "to.point" - threshold: A value of the biomass increase that we can surely associate with the end of the lag phase rather than random variation during the lag. Defaults to 10 <sup>2</sup> - curve_points: if tangent.method = "local.regression" then curve_points is the number of points the line is fitted to; defaults to 3 i.e. the point with the maximal uptake rate one point before and one point after - init_gr_rate: if logistic model is fitted. Defaults to NULL in which case the initial value will be based on the data - init_lag: if a logistic model is fitted, Defaults to NULL in which case the initial value will be based on the data - algorithm: if method = "parameter fitting to a model", nls algorithm to run the model fit; defaults to "auto" which will choose the best between bounded and unbounded "Levenberg-Marquardt" and bounded "port" - max_iter = if method = "parameter fitting to a model", the maximum number of nls iterations, defaults to 100

**Value**

lag per each curve\_id

---

get_n0	<i>get_n0</i>
--------	---------------

---

**Description**

Gets the initial biomass to relate to

**Usage**

```
get_n0(biomass, n0_method)
```

**Arguments**

biomass	vector of biomass (chronologically ordered as in growth curve)
n0_method	"first.observation" if the first point is taken as the initial biomass or "minimal.observation" if the minimal biomass is taken as the initial point. In "healthy" growth curves these options should be equivalent but sometimes a drop in OD/biomass is observed at the beginning of a growth curve. In this case it is not obvious what to assume the initial biomass is.

**Value**

a value of the initial biomass (either the first observation or the minimum value depending on the parameter N0.method)

---

get_theme	<i>get_theme</i>
-----------	------------------

---

**Description**

This function sets a ggplot theme without grid. The theme removes the major and minor grid lines, sets a white background with a gray border and adjusts the text size.

**Usage**

```
get_theme(text_size = 12)
```

**Arguments**

text_size	defaults to 12
-----------	----------------

**Value**

a ggplot theme



---

lag\_biomass\_incr      *lag\_biomass\_incr*

---

### Description

Fits the lag to multiple growth curves based on the biomass increase method

### Usage

```
lag_biomass_incr(data, threshold, n0)
```

### Arguments

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass", and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
threshold	A value of the biomass increase that we can surely associate with the end of the lag phase rather than random variation during the lag
n0	the initial biomass (lag will be defined as the time point where the difference between biomass and N0 reaches a predefined threshold)

### Value

growth curve data (as input) together with additional columns: N0, increase.from.N0, lag

---

make\_grwoth\_curve\_df      *make\_grwoth\_curve\_df*

---

### Description

Create a growth curve data frame that can be later passed to the lag calculation functions

### Usage

```
make_grwoth_curve_df(time, biomass, curve_id = NULL)
```

### Arguments

time	numeric vector of times when biomass was measured (chronologically ordered as in growth curve)
biomass	numeric vector of measured biomass values (chronologically ordered as in growth curve)
curve_id	character vector of growth curve identifiers (i.e. if there are multiple measurements done at the same time point, they should have different curve_id)

**Value**

a data frame representing growth curve data

---

plot_data	<i>plot_data</i>
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---

**Description**

Plots the provided growth curve (one single growth curve) on logarithmic scale

**Usage**

```
plot_data(data_new, log10_transform = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

data_new	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass"
log10_transform	if to plot y axis (biomass) on log10 scale

**Value**

ggplot object with a growth curve

---

plot_lag_fit	<i>plot_lag_fit</i>
--------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

Plots the provided growth curve (one single growth curve) together with the calculated lag and and the rationale for lag calculation

**Usage**

```
plot_lag_fit(data_new, print_lag_info = TRUE, log10_transform = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

data_new	a data frame output by Calculate.Lag function: it needs to have the following columns: "time", "biomass", "tangent.point", "predicted.data", "threshold", "N0", "second.deriv.b", "line.intercept", "line.slope"
print_lag_info	if set to "TRUE" prints the lag length on the graph
log10_transform	if to plot y axis (biomass) on log10 scale

**Value**

ggplot object with a growth curve

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smooth_data	<i>smooth_data Smoothens growth curves data</i>
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**Description**

smooth\_data Smoothens growth curves data

**Usage**

```
smooth_data(data, smooth_kind = "3RS3R")
```

**Arguments**

data	a data frame with two required columns names: "time" and "biomass",and one optional column: "curve_id" This is data from may come from multiple growth curves
smooth_kind	kind used for the smooth functions, defaults to "3RS3R"

**Value**

smoothened data

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