

# Package ‘SCORPIUS’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Inferring Developmental Chronologies from Single-Cell RNA Sequencing Data

**Version** 1.0.9

**Description** An accurate and easy tool for performing linear trajectory inference on single cells using single-cell RNA sequencing data. In addition, 'SCORPIUS' provides functions for discovering the most important genes with respect to the reconstructed trajectory, as well as nice visualisation tools.  
Cannoodt et al. (2016) <[doi:10.1101/079509](https://doi.org/10.1101/079509)>.

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://github.com/rcannood/SCORPIUS>,  
<http://rcannood.github.io/SCORPIUS/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/rcannood/SCORPIUS/issues>

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**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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**Suggests** anndata, covr, knitr, reticulate, rmarkdown, Seurat, SingleCellExperiment, testthat (>= 2.1.0)

**NeedsCompilation** no

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SCORPIUS-package	<i>SCORPIUS: Trajectory inference from single-cell RNA sequencing data.</i>
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## Description

SCORPIUS orders single cells with regard to an implicit timeline, such as cellular development or progression over time.

## Dimensionality Reduction functions

[reduce\\_dimensionality](#)

## Trajectory Inference functions

[infer\\_trajectory](#), [infer\\_initial\\_trajectory](#), [reverse\\_trajectory](#), [gene\\_importances](#), [extract\\_modules](#)

## Visualisation functions

[draw\\_trajectory\\_plot](#), [draw\\_trajectory\\_heatmap](#)

## Datasets

[generate\\_dataset](#), [ginhoux](#)

## References

Cannoodt R. et al., SCORPIUS improves trajectory inference and identifies novel modules in dendritic cell development, bioRxiv (Oct., 2016). [doi:10.1101/079509](https://doi.org/10.1101/079509) (PDF).

## Examples

```
## Load dataset from Schlitzer et al., 2015
data("ginhoux")

## Reduce dimensionality and infer trajectory with SCORPIUS
space <- reduce_dimensionality(ginhoux$expression, "spearman")
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)

## Visualise
draw_trajectory_plot(
  space,
  path = traj$path,
  progression_group = ginhoux$sample_info$group_name
)
```

---

draw\_trajectory\_heatmap

*Draw time-series heatmap*

---

## Description

draw\_trajectory\_heatmap draws a heatmap in which the samples are ranked according their position in an inferred trajectory. In addition, the progression groups and feature modules can be passed along to further enhance the visualisation.

## Usage

```
draw_trajectory_heatmap(
  x,
  time,
  progression_group = NULL,
  modules = NULL,
  show_labels_row = FALSE,
  show_labels_col = FALSE,
  scale_features = TRUE,
  progression_group_palette = NULL,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

x	A numeric matrix or a data frame with one row per sample and one column per feature.
time	A numeric vector containing the inferred time points of each sample along a trajectory.
progression_group	NULL or a vector (or factor) containing the groupings of the samples (default NULL).

**modules**            NULL or a data frame as returned by [extract\\_modules](#).  
**show\_labels\_row**        TRUE if the labels of the rows are to be plotted (default FALSE).  
**show\_labels\_col**        TRUE if the labels of the cols are to be plotted (default FALSE).  
**scale\_features**    TRUE if the values of each feature is to be scaled (default TRUE).  
**progression\_group\_palette**    A named vector palette for the progression group.  
**...**                    Optional arguments to [pheatmap](#)

## Value

The output of the [pheatmap](#) function.

## Examples

```

## Generate a dataset
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes=500, num_samples=300, num_groups=4)
expression <- dataset$expression
space <- reduce_dimensionality(expression, ndim=2)
groups <- dataset$sample_info$group_name
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)
time <- traj$time

gimp <- gene_importances(expression, traj$time, num_permutations = 0, ntree = 10000)
gene_sel <- gimp[1:50,]
expr_sel <- expression[,gene_sel$gene]

## Draw a time series heatmap
draw_trajectory_heatmap(expr_sel, time)

## Also show the progression groupings
draw_trajectory_heatmap(expr_sel, time, progression_group=groups)

## Use a different palette
draw_trajectory_heatmap(
  expr_sel, time, progression_group=groups,
  progression_group_palette = setNames(RColorBrewer::brewer.pal(4, "Set2"), paste0("Group ", 1:4))
)

## Group the genes into modules and visualise the modules in a heatmap
modules <- extract_modules(scale_quantile(expr_sel))
draw_trajectory_heatmap(expr_sel, time, progression_group=groups, modules=modules)

```

---

draw\_trajectory\_plot *Visualise SCORPIUS*

---

### Description

draw\_trajectory\_plot is used to plot samples after performing dimensionality reduction. Additional arguments can be provided to colour the samples, plot the trajectory inferred by SCORPIUS, and draw a contour around the samples.

### Usage

```
draw_trajectory_plot(  
  space,  
  progression_group = NULL,  
  path = NULL,  
  contour = FALSE,  
  progression_group_palette = NULL,  
  point_size = 2,  
  point_alpha = 1,  
  path_size = 0.5,  
  path_alpha = 1,  
  contour_alpha = 0.2  
)
```

### Arguments

space	A numeric matrix or a data frame containing the coordinates of samples.
progression_group	NULL or a vector (or factor) containing the groupings of the samples (default NULL).
path	A numeric matrix or a data frame containing the coordinates of the inferred path.
contour	TRUE if contours are to be drawn around the samples.
progression_group_palette	A named vector palette for the progression group.
point_size	The size of the points.
point_alpha	The alpha of the points.
path_size	The size of the path (if any).
path_alpha	The alpha of the path (if any).
contour_alpha	The alpha of the contour (if any).

### Value

A ggplot2 plot.

## Examples

```

## Generate a synthetic dataset
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes = 500, num_samples = 300, num_groups = 4)
space <- reduce_dimensionality(dataset$expression, ndim = 2)
groups <- dataset$sample_info$group_name

## Simply plot the samples
draw_trajectory_plot(space)

## Colour each sample according to its group
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = groups)

## Add contours to the plot
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = groups, contour = TRUE)

## Plot contours without colours
draw_trajectory_plot(space, contour = TRUE)

## Infer a trajectory and plot it
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = groups, path = traj$path)
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = groups, path = traj$path, contour = TRUE)

## Visualise gene expression
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = dataset$expression[,1])

```

---

extract_modules	<i>Extract modules of features</i>
-----------------	------------------------------------

---

## Description

extract\_modules uses adaptive branch pruning to extract modules of features, which is typically done on the smoothed expression returned by [gene\\_importances](#).

## Usage

```

extract_modules(
  x,
  time = NULL,
  suppress_warnings = FALSE,
  verbose = FALSE,
  ...
)

```

## Arguments

**x** A numeric matrix or a data frame with  $M$  rows (one per sample) and  $P$  columns (one per feature).

time	(Optional) Order the modules according to a pseudotime
suppress_warnings	Whether or not to suppress warnings when $P > 1000$
verbose	Whether or not Mclust will print output or not
...	Extra parameters passed to <a href="#">Mclust</a>

**Value**

A data frame containing meta-data for the features in `x`, namely the order in which to visualise the features in and which module they belong to.

**See Also**

[gene\\_importances](#)

**Examples**

```
## Generate a dataset and visualise
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes=300, num_samples=200, num_groups=4)
expression <- dataset$expression
group_name <- dataset$sample_info$group_name
space <- reduce_dimensionality(expression, ndim=2)
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)
time <- traj$time
draw_trajectory_plot(space, path=traj$path, group_name)

## Select most important genes (set ntree to at least 10000!)
gimp <- gene_importances(expression, traj$time, num_permutations = 0, ntree = 1000)
gene_sel <- gimp[1:50,]
expr_sel <- expression[,gene_sel$gene]

## Group the genes into modules and visualise the modules in a heatmap
modules <- extract_modules(scale_quantile(expr_sel))
draw_trajectory_heatmap(expr_sel, time, group_name, modules)
```

---

generate_dataset	<i>Generate a synthetic dataset</i>
------------------	-------------------------------------

---

**Description**

`generate_dataset` generates an synthetic dataset which can be used for visualisation purposes.

**Usage**

```
generate_dataset(
  num_samples = 400,
  num_genes = 500,
  num_groups = 4
)
```

**Arguments**

num\_samples      The number of samples the dataset will contain.  
num\_genes        The number of genes the dataset will contain.  
num\_groups        The number of groups the samples will be split up in.

**Value**

A list containing the expression data and the meta data of the samples.

**See Also**

[SCORPIUS](#)

**Examples**

```
## Generate a dataset
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes = 200, num_samples = 400, num_groups = 4)

## Reduce dimensionality and infer trajectory with SCORPIUS
space <- reduce_dimensionality(dataset$expression, ndim = 2)
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)

## Visualise
draw_trajectory_plot(space, path=traj$path, progression_group=dataset$sample_info$group_name)
```

---

gene_importances	<i>Calculate the importance of a feature</i>
------------------	--

---

**Description**

Calculates the feature importance of each column in x in trying to predict the time ordering.

**Usage**

```
gene_importances(  
  x,  
  time,  
  num_permutations = 0,  
  ntree = 10000,  
  ntree_perm = ntree/10,  
  mtry = ncol(x) * 0.01,  
  num_threads = 1,  
  ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	A numeric matrix or a data frame with $M$ rows (one per sample) and $P$ columns (one per feature).
<code>time</code>	A numeric vector containing the inferred time points of each sample along a trajectory as returned by <code>infer_trajectory</code> .
<code>num_permutations</code>	The number of permutations to test against for calculating the p-values (default: 0).
<code>ntree</code>	The number of trees to grow (default: 10000).
<code>ntree_perm</code>	The number of trees to grow for each of the permutations (default: <code>ntree / 10</code> ).
<code>mtry</code>	The number of variables randomly samples at each split (default: 1% of features).
<code>num_threads</code>	Number of threads. Default is 1.
<code>...</code>	Extra parameters passed to <code>ranger</code> .

**Value**

a data frame containing the importance of each feature for the given time line

**Examples**

```
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes=500, num_samples=300, num_groups=4)
expression <- dataset$expression
group_name <- dataset$sample_info$group_name
space <- reduce_dimensionality(expression, ndim=2)
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)
# set ntree to at least 1000!
gene_importances(expression, traj$time, num_permutations = 0, ntree = 1000)
```

---

ginhoux

*scRNA-seq data of dendritic cell progenitors.*


---

**Description**

This dataset contains the expression values of the top 2000 most variable genes for 248 dendritic cell progenitors. Each cell is in one of three maturation stages: MDP, CDP or PreDC. The levels of the factor in `sample.info` are ordered according to the maturation process.

The number of genes had to be reduced specifically for reducing the package size of SCORPIUS. Use the following code to download the original data:

```
download.file("https://github.com/rcannood/SCORPIUS/raw/master/data-raw/ginhoux_orig.rds", destfile
ginhoux <- readRDS("local.rds")
# do something with ginhoux
```

**Usage**

ginhoux

**Format**

A list containing two data frames, expression (248x2000) and sample\_info (248x1).

**Source**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE60783>

**References**

Schlitzer A, Sivakamasundari V, Chen J, Sumatoh HR et al. Identification of cDC1- and cDC2-committed DC progenitors reveals early lineage priming at the common DC progenitor stage in the bone marrow. Nat Immunol 2015 Jul;16(7):718-28. PMID: 26054720

**See Also**

[SCORPIUS](#)

---

infer\_initial\_trajectory

*Infer an initial trajectory through space*

---

**Description**

infer\_initial\_trajectory infers an initial trajectory for [infer\\_trajectory](#) by clustering the points and calculating the shortest path through cluster centers. The shortest path takes into account the euclidean distance between cluster centers, and the density between those two points.

**Usage**

```
infer_initial_trajectory(space, k)
```

**Arguments**

space	A numeric matrix or a data frame containing the coordinates of samples.
k	The number of clusters

**Value**

the initial trajectory obtained by this method

---

infer\_trajectory      *Infer linear trajectory through space*

---

### Description

infer\_trajectory infers a trajectory through samples in a given space in a four-step process:

1. Perform  $k$ -means clustering
2. Calculate distance matrix between cluster centers using a custom distance function
3. Find the shortest path connecting all cluster centers using the custom distance matrix
4. Iteratively fit a curve to the given data using principal curves

### Usage

```
infer_trajectory(
  space,
  k = 4,
  thresh = 0.001,
  maxit = 10,
  stretch = 0,
  smoother = "smooth_spline",
  approx_points = 100
)
```

### Arguments

space	A numeric matrix or a data frame containing the coordinates of samples.
k	The number of clusters to cluster the data into.
thresh	convergence threshold on shortest distances to the curve.
maxit	maximum number of iterations.
stretch	A stretch factor for the endpoints of the curve, allowing the curve to grow to avoid bunching at the end. Must be a numeric value between 0 and 2.
smoother	choice of smoother. The default is "smooth_spline", and other choices are "lowess" and "periodic_lowess". The latter allows one to fit closed curves. Beware, you may want to use <code>iter = 0</code> with <code>lowess()</code> .
approx_points	Approximate curve after smoothing to reduce computational time. If FALSE, no approximation of the curve occurs. Otherwise, <code>approx_points</code> must be equal to the number of points the curve gets approximated to; preferably about 100.

### Value

A list containing several objects:

- path: the trajectory obtained by principal curves.
- time: the time point of each sample along the inferred trajectory.

**See Also**

[reduce\\_dimensionality](#), [draw\\_trajectory\\_plot](#)

**Examples**

```
## Generate an example dataset and visualise it
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes = 200, num_samples = 400, num_groups = 4)
space <- reduce_dimensionality(dataset$expression, ndim = 2)
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = dataset$sample_info$group_name)

## Infer a trajectory through this space
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)

## Visualise the trajectory
draw_trajectory_plot(space, path=traj$path, progression_group = dataset$sample_info$group_name)
```

---

reduce\_dimensionality *Dimensionality reduction*

---

**Description**

`reduce_dimensionality` performs an eigenanalysis of the given dissimilarity matrix and returns coordinates of the samples represented in an `ndim`-dimensional space.

**Usage**

```
reduce_dimensionality(
  x,
  dist = c("spearman", "pearson", "euclidean", "cosine", "manhattan"),
  ndim = 3,
  num_landmarks = 1000
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	a numeric matrix
<code>dist</code>	the distance metric to be used; can be any of the metrics listed in <a href="#">dynutils::calculate_distance()</a> .
<code>ndim</code>	the maximum dimension of the space which the data are to be represented in; must be in 1, 2, ..., n-1.
<code>num_landmarks</code>	the number of landmarks to be selected.

**Value**

A matrix containing the coordinates of each sample, represented in an `ndim`-dimensional space.

**See Also**

[SCORPIUS](#)

**Examples**

```
## Generate an example dataset
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes = 200, num_samples = 400, num_groups = 4)

## Reduce the dimensionality of this dataset
space <- reduce_dimensionality(dataset$expression, ndim = 2)

## Visualise the dataset
draw_trajectory_plot(space, progression_group = dataset$sample_info$group_name)
```

---

reverse\_trajectory      *Reverse a trajectory*

---

**Description**

Since the direction of the trajectory is not specified, the ordering of a trajectory may be inverted using `reverse_trajectory`.

**Usage**

```
reverse_trajectory(trajectory)
```

**Arguments**

trajectory      A trajectory as returned by [infer\\_trajectory](#).

**Value**

The same trajectory, but in the other direction.

**See Also**

[infer\\_trajectory](#)

**Examples**

```
## Generate an example dataset and infer a trajectory through it
dataset <- generate_dataset(num_genes = 200, num_samples = 400, num_groups = 4)
group_name <- dataset$sample_info$group_name
space <- reduce_dimensionality(dataset$expression, ndim = 2)
traj <- infer_trajectory(space)

## Visualise the trajectory
draw_trajectory_plot(space, group_name, path = traj$path)

## Reverse the trajectory
reverse_traj <- reverse_trajectory(traj)
draw_trajectory_plot(space, group_name, path = reverse_traj$path)

plot(traj$time, reverse_traj$time, type = "l")
```

---

 ti\_scorpilus

*Infer a trajectory using SCORPIUS*


---

### Description

Pass this object to `dynwrap::infer_trajectory()`.

### Usage

```
ti_scorpilus(
  distance_method = "spearman",
  ndim = 3L,
  k = 4L,
  thresh = 0.001,
  maxit = 10L,
  stretch = 0,
  smoother = "smooth_spline"
)
```

### Arguments

distance_method	A character string indicating which correlationcoefficient (or covariance) is to be computed. One of "pearson", "spearman" (default), or "cosine". Domain: spearman, pearson, cosine. Default: spearman. Format: character.
ndim	The number of dimensions in the new space. Domain: U(2, 20). Default: 3. Format: integer.
k	The number of clusters to cluster the data into to construct the initial trajectory. Domain: U(1, 20). Default: 4. Format: integer.
thresh	principal_curve parameter; convergence threshold on shortest distances to the curve. Domain: $e^U(-11.51, 11.51)$ . Default: 0.001. Format: numeric.
maxit	principal_curve parameter; maximum number of iterations. Domain: U(0, 50). Default: 10. Format: integer.
stretch	principal_curve parameter; a factor by which the curve can be extrapolated when points are projected. Domain: U(0, 5). Default: 0. Format: numeric.
smoother	principal_curve parameter; choice of smoother. Domain: smooth_spline, lowess, periodic_lowess. Default: smooth_spline. Format: character.

### Value

A dynwrap TI method.

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