Advanced scRNA-seq Cheatsheet

The tables below consist of valuable functions or commands that will help you through this module.

Each table represents a different library/tool and its corresponding commands.

You may also be interested in the following additional cheatsheets:

- Download the PDF for the Introduction to R and Tidyverse cheatsheet
- Download the PDF for the Introduction to Single-Cell RNA sequencing cheatsheet
- Download the PDF for the SCE and Seurat object comparison cheatsheet

Please note that these tables are not intended to tell you all the information you need to know about each command.

The hyperlinks found in each piece of code will take you to the documentation for further information on the usage of each command. Please be aware that the documentation will generally provide information about the given function's most current version (or a recent version, depending on how often the documentation site is updated). This will usually (but not always!) match what you have installed on your machine. If you have a different version of R or other R packages, the documentation may differ from what you have installed.

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scater

Read the scater package documentation, and a vignette on its usage.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
scater	plotReducedDim()	Plot reduced dimensions	Plot a given reduced dimension slot from a SingleCellExperiment object by its name
scater	plotUMAP()	Plot UMAP	Plot the "UMAP"-named reduced dimension slot from a SingleCellExperiment object
scater	plotExpression()	Plot expression	Plot expression values for all cells in a SingleCellExperiment object, using the logcounts assay by default

miQC

Read the miQC package documentation, and a vignette on its usage.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
miQC	mixtureModel()	Mixture model	Fit a miQC mixture model to a SingleCellExperiment object for use in filtering
miQC	filterCells()	Filter cells	Filter cells from a SingleCellExperiment object based on a miQC model, returning a filtered SingleCellExperiment object
miQC	plotMetrics()	Plot metrics	Plot percent of mitochondrial reads against the number of unique genes found for each cell
miQC	plotModel()	Plot model	<pre>miQC::plotMetics() with the miQC fitted model overlaid</pre>
miQC	<pre>plotFiltering()</pre>	Plot filtering	Plot percent of mitochondrial reads against the number of unique genes found, coloring points based on whether they will be filtered out or not

batchelor and harmony

Read the batchelor package documentation, and a vignette on its usage.

Read the harmony package documentation, and a vignette on its usage.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
batchelor	MultiBatchPCA()	Multi-batch PCA	Perform PCA across multiple gene expression matrices, weighted by batch size
batchelor	fastMNN()	Fast mutual nearest neighbors correction	Perform integration on an SCE object with mutual nearest neighbors using the fastMNN algorithm, returning an SCE object with batch-corrected principal components
harmony	HarmonyMatrix()	Perform harmony integration on a matrix	Perform integration with harmony on either a matrix of principle components or gene expression, returning a matrix of batch-corrected principal components

SingleR

Read the SingleR package documentation, and an e-book on its usage.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
SingleR	trainSingleR()	Train the SingleR classifier	Build a SingleR classifier model object from an annotated reference dataset
SingleR	classifySingleR()	Classify cells with SingleR	Use a SingleR model object to assign cell types to the cells in an SCE object
SingleR	SingleR()	Annotate scRNA-seq data	Combines trainSingleR() and classifySingleR() to assign cell types to an SCE object from an annotated reference dataset

pheatmap and EnhancedVolcano

Read the pheatmap package documentation.

Read the EnhancedVolcano package documentation, and vignette on its usage.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
pheatmap	pheatmap()	Pretty heatmap	Plot a (pretty!) clustered heatmap
EnhancedVolcano	EnhancedVolcano()	Enhanced volcano	Plot a volcano plot to visualize differential expression analysis results

DESeq2 and pseudo-bulking functions

Read the DESeq2 package documentation, and a vignette on its usage.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
scuttle	aggregateAcrossCells()	Aggregate data across groups of cells	Sum counts for each combination of features across groups of cells, commonly used to pseudo-bulk SCE counts
DESeq2	DESeqDataSet()	DESeq Dataset	Establish a DESeq object from a pseudo- bulked SingleCellExperiment object or a bulk SummarizedExperiment object
DESeq2	<pre>estimateSizeFactors()</pre>	Estimate size factors	Estimate size factors which are used to normalize counts for differential expression analysis
DESeq2	rlog()	Apply a regularized log transformation	Log2-transform counts in a DESeq object for differential expression analysis
DESeq2	plotPCA()	Sample PCA plot for transformed data	Plot sample PCA from a log-transformed DESeq object to check for batch effects
DESeq2	DESeq()	Perform differential expression analysis	Perform differential expression: Estimate size factors, transform data, estimate dispersions, and perform testing.
DESeq2	plotDispEsts()	Plot dispersion estimates	Plot dispersion estimates from a fitted DESeq object to evaluate model fit
DESeq2	results()	Extract results from a DESeq analysis	Extract results from a fitted DESeq object into a data frame
DESeq2	resultsNames()	Extract results names	Return coefficient names from a fitted DESeq object
DESeq2	lfcShrink()	Shrink log2 fold changes	Add shrunken log2-fold changes to a results table produced by DESeq2::results()

tidyverse functions

purrr functions

Read the purr package documentation and a vignette on its usage, and download the purr package cheatsheet.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
purrr	map()	map	Apply a function across each element of list; return a list

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
purrr	imap()	imap	Apply a function across each element of list and its index/names; return a list
purrr	map2()	map2	Apply a function across each element of two lists at a time; return a list
purrr	reduce()	Reduce	Reduce a list to a single value by applying a given function

Note that purrr::map() functions can take advantage of R's new (as of version 4.1.0) anonymous function syntax:

```
# One-line syntax:
\(x) # function code goes here #

# Multi-line syntax:
\(x) {
    # function code goes  #
    # inside the curly braces #
}

# Example: Use an anonymous function with `purrr::map()`
# to get the colData's rownames for each SCE in `list_of_sce_objects`
purrr::map(
    list_of_sce_objects,
    \(x) rownames(colData(x))
}
```

ggplot2 functions

Read the ggplot2 package documentation and an overall reference for ggplot2 functions, and download the ggplot2 package cheatsheet.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
ggplot2	geom_bar()	Barplot	Creates a barplot of counts for a given categorical variable when added as a layer to a ggplot() object
ggplot2	<pre>scale_fill_brewer()</pre>	Add brewer fill scale	Apply a Brewer "fill" color palette to a categorical variable in a ggplot() object
ggplot2	guides()	Guides	Function to customize legend ("guide") appearance
ggplot2	<pre>facet_grid()</pre>	Facet grid	Plot individual panels using specified variables to subset the data across rows and/or columns of a grid
ggplot2	vars()	Vars	Helper function to specify variables to facet_grid() or facet_wrap()
ggplot2	theme_bw()	Black and white theme	Display ggplot with gridlines but a white background
ggplot2	theme()	Theme	Customize elements of a ggplot plot theme

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
ggplot2	element_text()	Element text	Customize textual elements of a ggplot theme

dplyr, tidyr, stringr, and tibble functions

Read the full documentation and download cheatsheets (where available) for these tidyverse packages at the following links:

- dplyr documentation and dplyr cheatsheet
- tidyr documentation and tidyr cheatsheet
- stringr documentation and stringr cheatsheet
- tibble documentation

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
dplyr	pull()	Pull	Extract a single column from a data frame into a stand- alone vector
dplyr	count()	Count	Count the number of observations in each group of a data frame
dplyr	left_join()	Left join	Joins two data frames together, retaining only rows present in the first ("left") argument to the function
dplyr	relocate()	Relocate	Change column order in a data frame by relocating one or more columns
dplyr	case_when()	Case when	Return a value based on a set of TRUE / FALSE comparisons; a vectorized if-else
tidyr	pivot_longer()	Pivot longer	Convert a "wide" format data frame to a "long" format data frame
tibble	as_tibble()	As tibble	Convert an object to a tibble
stringr	str_detect()	String detect	Returns TRUE / FALSE if a string contains a given substring
stringr	str_starts()	String starts	Returns TRUE / FALSE if a string starts with a given substring

Pathway analysis

msigdbr

Read the msigdbr package documentation and its vignette.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
msigdbr	msigdbr_species()	List msigdbr - supported species	Lists the species msigdbr supports

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
msigdbr	msigdbr()	Retrieve gene set	Retrieves gene sets and member genes in long data frame format

clusterProfiler and enrichplot

Read the clusterProfiler package documentation (PDF).

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
clusterProfiler	GSEA()	Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA)	Performs a universal gene set enrichment analysis on given preranked (sorted) named vector of statistics, where the names in the vector are gene identifiers of gene sets
enrichplot	<pre>gseaplot()</pre>	GSEA plot	Produces a plot displaying the distribution of gene set and enrichment score

AUCell and GSEABase

Read the AUCell package documentation and its vignette.

Library/Package	Piece of Code	What it's called	What it does
GSEABase	GeneSet()	Gene set	Constructs a gene set as a GeneSet object for use with AUCell
GSEABase	GeneSetCollection()	Gene set collection	Constructs a collection of gene sets as a GeneSetCollection object for use with AUCell
AUCell	AUCell_buildRankings()	Build cell rankings	Builds a ranking of genes for each cell that is used to calculate the recovery curve
AUCell	AUCell_calcAUC()	Calculate AUC	Calculates the area under the recovery curve (AUC) for each gene set in each cell
AUCell	AUCell_exploreThresholds()	Explore thresholds	Calculates thresholds in AUC values that can be used to assign cells; optionally makes assignments and produces histograms