

# Package ‘SlimR’

July 29, 2025

**Title** Marker-Based Package for Single-Cell and Spatial-Transcriptomic Annotation

**Version** 1.0.3

## Description

Annotating single-cell and spatial-transcriptomic (ST) data based on the Marker dataset. It supports the creation of a unified marker list, `Markers_list`, using sources including: the package's built-in curated species-specific cell type and marker reference databases (e.g., 'Cell-marker2', 'PanglaoDB'), Seurat objects containing cell label information, or user-provided Excel tables mapping cell types to markers.

Based on the `Markers_list`, 'SlimR' can iterate through different cell types to generate corresponding annotation reference plots (e.g., 'Markers\_Dotplot', 'Metric\_Heatmap', 'Mean\_expression\_Box\_plot'). Furthermore, it enables one-click generation of an annotation heatmap ('Annotation\_Heatmap') visualizing the relationship between input cell types and the reference marker list. For more details see Kabacoff (2015, ISBN:9781617291388) and Hu et al. (2023) <[doi:10.1093/nar/gkac947](https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkac947)> and Franzén et al. (2019) <[doi:10.1093/nar/gkz111](https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkz111)>

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calculate_probability	<i>Calculate gene set expression and infer probabilities with control datasets (Use in package)</i>
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---

## Description

Calculate gene set expression and infer probabilities with control datasets (Use in package)

## Usage

```
calculate_probability(
  object,
  features,
  assay = NULL,
  cluster_col = NULL,
  min_expression = 0.1,
  specificity_weight = 3
)
```

## Arguments

object	Enter a Seurat object.
features	Enter one or a set of markers.
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = NULL".

- cluster\_col

Enter the meta.data column in the Seurat object to be annotated, such as "seurat\_cluster". Default parameters use "cluster\_col = NULL".
- min\_expression

The min\_expression parameter defines a threshold value to determine whether a cell's expression of a feature is considered "expressed" or not. It is used to filter out low-expression cells that may contribute noise to the analysis. Default parameters use "min\_expression = 0.1".
- specificity\_weight

The specificity\_weight parameter controls how much the expression variability (standard deviation) of a feature within a cluster contributes to its "specificity score." It amplifies or suppresses the impact of variability in the final score calculation. Default parameters use "specificity\_weight = 3".

Value

Average expression of genes in the input "Seurat" object given "cluster\_col" and given "features".

---

Cellmarker2	<i>Cellmarker2 dataset</i>
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---

Description

A dataset containing marker genes for different cell types from Cellmarker2

Usage

Cellmarker2

Format

A data frame with 8 columns:

Details

This dataset is used to filter and create a standardized marker list. The dataset can be filtered based on species, tissue class, tissue type, cancer type, and cell type to generate a list of marker genes for specific cell types.

Source

<http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/>

---

Cellmarker2_raw	<i>Cellmarker2 raw dataset</i>
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---

**Description**

A dataset containing marker genes for different cell types from Cellmarker2

**Usage**

Cellmarker2\_raw

**Format**

A data frame with 20 columns contained in the Cellmarker2 database:

**Details**

This dataset is used to filter and create a standardized marker list. The dataset can be filtered based on species, tissue class, tissue type, cancer type, and cell type to generate a list of marker genes for specific cell types.

**Source**

<http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/>

---

Cellmarker2_table	<i>Cellmarker2 table</i>
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---

**Description**

A dataset containing marker genes for different cell types from Cellmarker2

**Usage**

Cellmarker2\_table

**Format**

A list contain different types like species, tissue\_class, tissue\_type, cancer\_type, cell\_type

**Details**

This list is used to choose filters for creation of standardized marker list.

**Source**

<http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/>

---

Celltype\_annotation\_Box

*Uses "marker\_list" to generate Box plot for cell annotation*


---

## Description

Uses "marker\_list" to generate Box plot for cell annotation

## Usage

```
Celltype_annotation_Box(
  seurat_obj,
  gene_list,
  species,
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = NULL,
  metric_names = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

seurat_obj	Enter the Seurat object with annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data to be annotated.
gene_list	A list of cells and corresponding gene controls, the name of the list is cell type, and the first column of the list corresponds to markers. Lists can be generated using functions such as "Markers_filter_Cellmarker2 ()", "Markers_filter_PanglaoDB ()", "read_excel_markers ()", "read_seurat_markers ()", etc.
species	This parameter selects the species "Human" or "Mouse" for standard gene format correction of markers entered by "Marker_list".
cluster_col	Enter annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data of the Seurat object to be annotated. Default parameters use "cluster_col = "seurat_clusters"".
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = "RNA"".
save_path	The output path of the cell annotation picture. Default parameters use "save_path = "/.SlimR/Celltype_annotation_Bar/"".
metric_names	Warning: Do not enter information. This parameter is used to check if "Marker_list" conforms to the SlimR output.

## Value

The cell annotation picture is saved in "save\_path".

**Examples**

```
## Not run: Celltype_annotation_Box(seurat_obj = sce,
  gene_list = Markers_list,
  species = "Human",
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = file.path(tempdir(), "SlimR_Celltype_annotation_Box")
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

Celltype\_annotation\_Cellmarker2

*Uses "marker\_list" from Cellmarker2 for cell annotation*


---

**Description**

Uses "marker\_list" from Cellmarker2 for cell annotation

**Usage**

```
Celltype_annotation_Cellmarker2(
  seurat_obj,
  gene_list,
  species,
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = NULL,
  min_counts = 1
)
```

**Arguments**

seurat_obj	Enter the Seurat object with annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data to be annotated.
gene_list	Enter the standard "Marker_list" generated by the Cellmarker2 database for the SlimR package, generated by the "Markers_filter_Cellmarker2 ()" function.
species	This parameter selects the species "Human" or "Mouse" for standard gene format correction of markers entered by "Marker_list".
cluster_col	Enter annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data of the Seurat object to be annotated. Default parameters use "cluster_col = "seurat_clusters"".
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = "RNA"".
save_path	The output path of the cell annotation picture. Default parameters use "save_path = "/SlimR/Celltype_annotation_Cellmarker2/"".

**min\_counts**      The minimum number of counts of genes in "Marker\_list" entered. This number represents the number of the same gene in the same species and the same location in the Cellmarker2 database used for annotation of this cell type. Default parameters use "min\_counts = 1".

### Value

The cell annotation picture is saved in "save\_path".

### Examples

```
## Not run: Celltype_annotation_Cellmarker2(seurat_obj = sce,
      gene_list = Markers_list_Cellmarker2,
      species = "Human",
      cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
      assay = "RNA",
      save_path = file.path(tempdir(), "SlimR_Celltype_annotation_Cellmarker2")
    )

## End(Not run)
```

---

Celltype\_annotation\_Excel

*Uses "marker\_list" from Excel input for cell annotation*

---

### Description

Uses "marker\_list" from Excel input for cell annotation

### Usage

```
Celltype_annotation_Excel(
  seurat_obj,
  gene_list,
  species,
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = NULL,
  metric_names = NULL
)
```

### Arguments

**seurat\_obj**      Enter the Seurat object with annotation columns such as "seurat\_cluster" in meta.data to be annotated.

**gene\_list**      Enter the standard "Marker\_list" generated by the Excel files database for the SlimR package, generated by the "read\_excel\_markers()" function.

species	This parameter selects the species "Human" or "Mouse" for standard gene format correction of markers entered by "Marker_list".
cluster_col	Enter annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data of the Seurat object to be annotated. Default parameters use "cluster_col = "seurat_clusters"".
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = "RNA"".
save_path	The output path of the cell annotation picture. Default parameters use "save_path = "/SlimR/Celltype_annotation_Excel/"".
metric_names	Warning: Do not enter information. This parameter is used to check if "Marker_list" conforms to the Excel files output.

**Value**

The cell annotation picture is saved in "save\_path".

**Examples**

```
## Not run: Celltype_annotation_Excel(seurat_obj = sce,
  gene_list = Markers_list_Excel,
  species = "Human",
  cluster_col = "RNA_snn_res.0.4",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = file.path(tempdir(), "SlimR_Celltype_annotation_Excel")
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

Celltype\_annotation\_Heatmap

*Uses "marker\_list" to generate heatmaps for cell annotation*

---

**Description**

Uses "marker\_list" to generate heatmaps for cell annotation

**Usage**

```
Celltype_annotation_Heatmap(
  seurat_obj,
  gene_list,
  species,
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  min_expression = 0.1,
  specificity_weight = 3
)
```



**Arguments**

<code>seurat_obj</code>	Enter the Seurat object with annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data to be annotated.
<code>gene_list</code>	A list of cells and corresponding gene controls, the name of the list is cell type, and the first column of the list corresponds to markers. Lists can be generated using functions such as "Markers_filter_Cellmarker2 ()", "Markers_filter_PanglaoDB ()", "read_excel_markers ()", "read_seurat_markers ()", etc.
<code>species</code>	This parameter selects the species "Human" or "Mouse" for standard gene format correction of markers entered by "Marker_list".
<code>cluster_col</code>	Enter annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data of the Seurat object to be annotated. Default parameters use "cluster_col = "seurat_clusters"".
<code>assay</code>	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = "RNA".
<code>min_expression</code>	The min_expression parameter defines a threshold value to determine whether a cell's expression of a feature is considered "expressed" or not. It is used to filter out low-expression cells that may contribute noise to the analysis. Default parameters use "min_expression = 0.1".
<code>specificity_weight</code>	The specificity_weight parameter controls how much the expression variability (standard deviation) of a feature within a cluster contributes to its "specificity score." It amplifies or suppresses the impact of variability in the final score calculation. Default parameters use "specificity_weight = 3".

**Value**

The heatmap of the comparison between "cluster\_col" in the Seurat object and the given gene set "gene\_list" needs to be annotated.

**Examples**

```
## Not run: Celltype_annotation_Heatmap(seurat_obj = sce,
  gene_list = Markers_list,
  species = "Human",
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  min_expression = 0.1,
  specificity_weight = 3
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

Celltype\_annotation\_PanglaoDB

*Uses "marker\_list" from PanglaoDB for cell annotation*


---

## Description

Uses "marker\_list" from PanglaoDB for cell annotation

## Usage

```
Celltype_annotation_PanglaoDB(
  seurat_obj,
  gene_list,
  species,
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = NULL,
  metric_names = NULL
)
```

## Arguments

seurat_obj	Enter the Seurat object with annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data to be annotated.
gene_list	Enter the standard "Marker_list" generated by the PanglaoDB database for the SlimR package, generated by the "Markers_filter_PanglaoDB ()" function.
species	This parameter selects the species "Human" or "Mouse" for standard gene format correction of markers entered by "Marker_list".
cluster_col	Enter annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data of the Seurat object to be annotated. Default parameters use "cluster_col = "seurat_clusters"".
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = "RNA"".
save_path	The output path of the cell annotation picture. Default parameters use "save_path = "./SlimR/Celltype_annotation_PanglaoDB/"".
metric_names	Warning: Do not enter information. This parameter is used to check if "Marker_list" conforms to the PanglaoDB database output.

## Value

The cell annotation picture is saved in "save\_path".

**Examples**

```
## Not run: Celltype_annotation_PanglaoDB(seurat_obj = sce,
  gene_list = Markers_list_panglaoDB,
  species = "Human",
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = file.path(tempdir(), "SlimR_Celltype_annotation_PanglaoDB")
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

Celltype\_annotation\_Seurat

*Uses "marker\_list" from Seurat object for cell annotation*


---

**Description**

Uses "marker\_list" from Seurat object for cell annotation

**Usage**

```
Celltype_annotation_Seurat(
  seurat_obj,
  gene_list,
  species,
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = NULL,
  metric_names = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

seurat_obj	Enter the Seurat object with annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data to be annotated.
gene_list	Enter the standard "Marker_list" generated by the Seurat object database for the SlimR package, generated by the "read_seurat_markers()" function.
species	This parameter selects the species "Human" or "Mouse" for standard gene format correction of markers entered by "Marker_list".
cluster_col	Enter annotation columns such as "seurat_cluster" in meta.data of the Seurat object to be annotated. Default parameters use "cluster_col = "seurat_clusters"".
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = "RNA"".
save_path	The output path of the cell annotation picture. Default parameters use "save_path = "./SlimR/Celltype_annotation_Seurat/"". "
metric_names	Warning: Do not enter information. This parameter is used to check if "Marker_list" conforms to the Seurat object output.

**Value**

The cell annotation picture is saved in "save\_path".

**Examples**

```
## Not run: Celltype_annotation_Seurat(seurat_obj = sce,
  gene_list = Markers_list_Seurat,
  species = "Human",
  cluster_col = "seurat_clusters",
  assay = "RNA",
  save_path = file.path(tempdir(), "SlimR_Celltype_annotation_Seurat")
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

Markers\_filter\_Cellmarker2

*Create Marker\_list from the Cellmarkers2 database*

---

**Description**

Create Marker\_list from the Cellmarkers2 database

**Usage**

```
Markers_filter_Cellmarker2(
  df,
  species = NULL,
  tissue_class = NULL,
  tissue_type = NULL,
  cancer_type = NULL,
  cell_type = NULL,
  cell_name = NULL,
  marker = NULL,
  counts = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

df	Standardized Cellmarkers2 database. It is read as data(Cellmarkers2) in the SlimR library.
species	Species information in Cellmarkers2 database. The default input is "Human" or "Mouse".The input can be retrieved by "Cellmarkers2_table". For more information,please refer to <a href="http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/">http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/</a> on Cellmarkers2's official website.

tissue_class	Tissue_class information in Cellmarkers2 database. The input can be retrieved by "Cellmarkers2_table". For more information, please refer to <a href="http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/">http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/</a> on Cellmarkers2's official website.
tissue_type	Tissue_type information in Cellmarkers2 database. The input can be retrieved by "Cellmarkers2_table". For more information, please refer to <a href="http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/">http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/</a> on Cellmarkers2's official website.
cancer_type	Cancer_type information in Cellmarkers2 database. The input can be retrieved by "Cellmarkers2_table". For more information, please refer to <a href="http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/">http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/</a> on Cellmarkers2's official website.
cell_type	Cell_type information in Cellmarkers2 database. The input can be retrieved by "Cellmarkers2_table". For more information, please refer to <a href="http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/">http://117.50.127.228/CellMarker/</a> on Cellmarkers2's official website.
cell_name	Warning: Do not enter information, this parameter is used to return results for saving
marker	Warning: Do not enter information, this parameter is used to return results for saving
counts	Warning: Do not enter information, this parameter is used to return results for saving

**Value**

The standardized "Marker\_list" in the SlimR package

**Examples**

```
Cellmarker2 <- SlimR::Cellmarker2
Markers_list_Cellmarker2 <- Markers_filter_Cellmarker2(
  Cellmarker2,
  species = "Human",
  tissue_class = "Intestine",
  tissue_type = NULL,
  cancer_type = NULL,
  cell_type = NULL,
  cell_name = NULL,
  marker = NULL,
  counts = NULL
)
```

---

Markers\_filter\_PanglaoDB

*Create Marker\_list from the PanglaoDB database*

---

**Description**

Create Marker\_list from the PanglaoDB database

**Usage**

```
Markers_filter_PanglaoDB(df, species_input, organ_input)
```

**Arguments**

df	Standardized PanglaoDB database. It is read as data(PanglaoDB) in the SlimR library.
species_input	Species information in PanglaoDB database. The default input is "Human" or "Mouse".The input can be retrieved by "PanglaoDB_table". For more information, please refer to <a href="https://panglaodb.se/">https://panglaodb.se/</a> on PanglaoDB's official website.
organ_input	Organ type information in the PanglaoDB database. The input can be retrieved by "PanglaoDB_table".For more information, please refer to <a href="https://panglaodb.se/">https://panglaodb.se/</a> on PanglaoDB's official website.

**Value**

The standardized "Marker\_list" in the SlimR package

**Examples**

```
PanglaoDB <- SlimR::PanglaoDB
Markers_list_panglaoDB <- Markers_filter_PanglaoDB(
  PanglaoDB,
  species_input = 'Human',
  organ_input = 'GI tract'
)
```

---

PanglaoDB

*PanglaoDB dataset*


---

**Description**

A dataset containing marker genes for different cell types from PanglaoDB

**Usage**

```
PanglaoDB
```

**Format**

A data frame with 9 columns:

**Details**

This dataset is used to filter and create a standardized marker list.'

**Source**

<https://panglaodb.se/>

---

PanglaoDB_raw	<i>PanglaoDB raw dataset</i>
---------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

A dataset containing marker genes for different cell types from PanglaoDB

**Usage**

PanglaoDB\_raw

**Format**

A data frame with 14 columns contained in the PanglaoDB database:

**Details**

This dataset is used to filter and create a standardized marker list.'

**Source**

<https://panglaodb.se/>

---

PanglaoDB_table	<i>PanglaoDB table</i>
-----------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

A dataset containing marker genes for different cell types from PanglaoDB

**Usage**

PanglaoDB\_table

**Format**

A list contain different types like species, organ, cell type.

**Details**

This list is used to choose filters for creation of standardized marker list.

**Source**

<https://panglaodb.se/>

---

plot_mean_expression	<i>Counts average expression of gene set and plots Boxplot (Use in package)</i>
----------------------	---

---

### Description

Counts average expression of gene set and plots Boxplot (Use in package)

### Usage

```
plot_mean_expression(object, features, assay = NULL, cluster_col = NULL)
```

### Arguments

object	Enter a Seurat object.
features	Enter one or a set of markers.
assay	Enter the assay used by the Seurat object, such as "RNA". Default parameters use "assay = NULL".
cluster_col	Enter the meta.data column in the Seurat object to be annotated, such as "seurat_cluster". Default parameters use "cluster_col = NULL".

### Value

Average expression box plot of genes in the input "Seurat" object given "cluster\_col" and given "features".

---

read_excel_markers	<i>Create "Marker_list" from Excel files ".xlsx"</i>
--------------------	--

---

### Description

Create "Marker\_list" from Excel files ".xlsx"

### Usage

```
read_excel_markers(path)
```

### Arguments

path	The path information of Marker files stored in ".xlsx" format. The Sheet name in the file is filled with cell type. The first line of each Sheet is the table head, the first column is filled with markers information, and the following column is filled with mertic information.
------	--



**Value**

The standardized "Marker\_list" in the SlimR package.

**Examples**

```
## Not run: Markers_list_Excel <- read_excel_markers(
  "D:/Laboratory/Marker_load.xlsx"
)

## End(Not run)
```

---

read_seurat_markers	Create "Marker_list" from Seurat object
---------------------	---

---

**Description**

Create "Marker\_list" from Seurat object

**Usage**

```
read_seurat_markers(df, sort_by = "avg_log2FC", gene_filter = 20)
```

**Arguments**

df	Dataframe generated by "FindAllMarkers" function, recommend to use parameter "group.by = "Cell_type"" and "only.pos = TRUE".
sort_by	Marker sorting parameter, select "avg_log2FC" or "p_val_adj". Default parameters use "sort_by = "avg_log2FC"".
gene_filter	The number of markers left for each cell type based on the "sort_by" parameter's level of difference. Default parameters use "gene_fliter = 20"

**Value**

The standardized "Marker\_list" in the SlimR package.

**Examples**

```
library(Seurat)
data("pbmc_small")
sce <- pbmc_small
seurat_markers <- FindAllMarkers(sce,
                                group.by = "RNA_snn_res.1",
                                only.pos = TRUE)
Markers_list_Seurat <- read_seurat_markers(seurat_markers,
sort_by = "avg_log2FC",
gene_filter = 10
)
```

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