

# Package ‘stIHC’

January 12, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Spatial Transcriptomics Iterative Hierarchical Clustering

**Version** 0.1.0

## Description

Spatial transcriptomics iterative hierarchical clustering ('stIHC'), is a method for identifying spatial gene co-expression modules, defined as groups of genes with shared spatial expression patterns. The method is applicable across spatial transcriptomics technologies with differing spatial resolution, and provides a framework for investigating the spatial organisation of gene expression in tissues. For further details, see Higgins C., Li J.J., Carey M. <[doi:10.1002/qub.2.70011](https://doi.org/10.1002/qub.2.70011)>.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Depends** R (>= 4.0.0)

**Imports** fdaPDE, stats, cluster, mclust

**Suggests** testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown, covr

**RoxxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Config/testthat.edition** 3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Catherine Higgins [aut, cre],  
Jingyi Jessica Li [aut],  
Michelle Carey [aut]

**Maintainer** Catherine Higgins <catherine.higgins@ucd.ie>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2026-01-12 18:50:10 UTC

## Contents

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| stIHC        | 2 |
| <b>Index</b> | 3 |

---

**stIHC***Spatial Transcriptomics Iterative Hierarchical Clustering*

---

## Description

Spatial Transcriptomics Iterative Hierarchical Clustering

## Usage

```
stIHC(data)
```

## Arguments

**data** data frame with columns x, y for spatial coordinates and subsequent columns containing observations.

## Value

A list with elements:

**label** Vector of cluster labels.

**mean\_clusters\_mat**

Matrix of cluster means.

**clusters**

List of matrices, each matrix contains the observations belonging to that cluster.

## Examples

```
## Load example data within the package
rds_path <- system.file("extdata", "spatial_data.rds", package = "stIHC")
example_data <- readRDS(rds_path)

## Run stIHC
stihc = stIHC(example_data)

## Inspect cluster assignments
table(stihc$label)
```

# **Index**

[stIHC, 2](#)