

# Package ‘scca’

May 9, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Single-Cell Correlation Based Cell Type Annotation

**Version** 0.1.1

**Maintainer** Mohamed Soudy <Mohmedsoudy2009@gmail.com>

**Description** Performing cell type annotation based on cell markers from a unified database. The approach utilizes correlation-based approach combined with association analysis using Fisher-exact and phyper statistical tests (Upton, Graham JG. (1992) <[DOI:10.2307/2982890](https://doi.org/10.2307/2982890)>).

**License** GPL (>= 3)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**Imports** Seurat, dplyr, plyr, scales, HGNCHELPER, openxlsx

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.0

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Mohamed Soudy [aut, cre],  
Sophie LE BARS [aut],  
Enrico Glaab [aut]

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2024-03-13 11:40:02 UTC

## Contents

calculate_cor_mat . . . . .	2
calculate_normalized_ratio . . . . .	2
correct_gene_symbols . . . . .	3
enrich_genes . . . . .	4
filter_correlation . . . . .	4
filter_list . . . . .	5
fisher_test . . . . .	6
match_characters . . . . .	6
phyper_test . . . . .	7
process_clus . . . . .	8
process_database . . . . .	8
process_markers . . . . .	9

scca . . . . .	10
sctype . . . . .	11

<b>Index</b>	<b>12</b>
--------------	-----------

---

calculate_cor_mat	<i>Performs aggregation based on cell clusters and condition. Then, it calculates correlation matrix of genes</i>
-------------------	---

---

### Description

This Function is used to perform cell aggregation by averaging the expression of scRNA-seq matrix and then perform correlation matrix

### Usage

```
calculate_cor_mat(expression_mat, condition = NULL, clusters, assay = "RNA")
```

### Arguments

expression_mat	Seurat object that contains the expression matrix.
condition	column name of the condition in th meta data of the Seurat object.
clusters	column name of the cluster numbers in the meta data of the Seurat object.
assay	the assay to be used default is set to RNA

### Value

correlation matrix of genes.

### Author(s)

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

calculate_normalized_ratio	<i>Calculate cell scores based on number of genes</i>
----------------------------	---

---

### Description

This Function is used to calculate cell scores based on number of genes

### Usage

```
calculate_normalized_ratio(vec)
```

**Arguments**

`vec` list of genes of cell types.

**Value**

vector of cell scores based on the number of overlapped genes with the input matrix.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

`correct_gene_symbols` *Process the cell markers names*

---

**Description**

This Function is used to return the cell markers names processed for the sctype approach

**Usage**

```
correct_gene_symbols(markers)
```

**Arguments**

`markers` list of unique cell markers.

**Value**

vector of genes names which overlap with the correlation matrix.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

enrich\_genes      *Performs parallel function on two lists*

---

### Description

This Function is used to perform parallel function on two lists

### Usage

```
enrich_genes(ref_list, overlap_list, func)
```

### Arguments

ref_list	reference list.
overlap_list	overlap list.
func	function to be applied.

### Value

list where each element is the result of applying the function 'func' to the corresponding elements of 'ref\_list' and 'overlap\_list'.

### Author(s)

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

filter\_correlation      *Filter the genes based on specific correlation threshold*

---

### Description

This Function is used to filter the gene correlation matrix based on user-defined threshold

### Usage

```
filter_correlation(cor_mat, gene_list, threshold = 0.7)
```

### Arguments

cor_mat	correlation matrix generated from calculate_cor_mat function.
gene_list	cell markers that passed threshold.
threshold	absolute correlation threshold.

**Value**

vector of gene names that pass user-defined correlation threshold.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

filter_list	<i>Process the cell markers that overlap between the cell markers and scRNA matrix</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

This Function is used to return the cell markers that overlap between the cell markers and scRNA matrix

**Usage**

```
filter_list(gene_list, passed_cells)
```

**Arguments**

gene\_list      list of unique genes of cell types.  
passed\_cells    cells types that pass the specified threshold.

**Value**

list of cell types which genes are found in the input matrix.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

fisher_test	<i>Performs fisher exact test to get the significant overlap between genes for cell type assignment</i>
-------------	---

---

**Description**

This Function is used to perform fisher exact test to get cell types

**Usage**

```
fisher_test(ref, gene_overlap)
```

**Arguments**

ref	reference gene set.
gene_overlap	genes that pass the correlation threshold.

**Value**

vector of p-value and overlap.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

**Examples**

```
fisher_test(c("PAX8", "PAX6", "TP53", "AOC3", "LIPF"), c("LIPF", "PAX8", "PAX6", "TP53", "TSHB", "AOC3"))
```

---

match_characters	<i>Process the cell markers that pass specific threshold in the gene correlation matrix</i>
------------------	---

---

**Description**

This Function is used to return the cell markers that pass specific threshold in the gene correlation matrix

**Usage**

```
match_characters(genes, gene_mat)
```

**Arguments**

genes            list of unique genes of cell types.  
gene\_mat        correlation matrix of genes.

**Value**

vector of genes names which overlap with the correlation matrix.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and  
Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

phyper\_test            *Performs phyper test to get the significant overlap between genes for  
cell type assignment*

---

**Description**

This Function is used to perform phyper test to get cell types

**Usage**

phyper\_test(ref, overlap)

**Arguments**

ref                reference gene set.  
overlap            genes that pass the correlation threshold.

**Value**

vector of p-value and overlap.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and  
Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

**Examples**

```
phyper_test(c("PAX8", "PAX6", "TP53", "AOC3", "LIPF"), c("LIPF", "PAX8", "PAX6", "TP53", "TSHB", "AOC3"))
```

---

process\_clus                      *Gets the associated cell types using correlation-based approach*

---

### Description

This Function is used to get the associated cell clusters using correlation-based approach

### Usage

```
process_clus(cluster, sobj, assay="RNA", clus, markers, cor_m, m_t=0.9, c_t=0.7, test="p")
```

### Arguments

cluster	associated cluster name.
sobj	Seurat object.
assay	assay to be used default is set to RNA.
clus	cell clusters.
markers	cell markers database.
cor_m	gene correlation matrix.
m_t	overlap threshold between cell markers and expression matrix.
c_t	correlation threshold between genes.
test	statistical test that check if overlap is significant could be "p" for phyper or "f" for fisher.

### Value

data frame of proposed cell types.

### Author(s)

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

process\_database                      *Process the database for the sctype approach*

---

### Description

This Function is used to process the database that will be used for sctype approach

### Usage

```
process_database(database_name = "sctype", org = 'a', tissue, tissue_type = 'n')
```

**Arguments**

database_name	name of the database to be used that can be 'sctype' or 'UMD'.
org	name of organism to be used that can be 'h' for human, 'm' for mouse, and 'a' for all markers.
tissue	specified tissue from which the data comes.
tissue_type	tissue type whether 'a' for all types 'n' for normal tissues only or "c" for cancer tissues.

**Value**

vector of genes names which overlap with the correlation matrix.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

process\_markers      *Process the cell markers database and return the processed list*

---

**Description**

This Function is used to process the cell markers database and return the processed list

**Usage**

```
process_markers(markers_df)
```

**Arguments**

markers\_df      data frame with markers named as gene\_original and cell names as cell type.

**Value**

list of lists of the processed markers

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

`sccca`*Run the pipeline for the cell type assignment*

---

**Description**

This Function is used to run the main pipeline that does the cell type assignment

**Usage**

```
sccca(sobj, assay="RNA", cluster, marker, tissue, tt="a", cond, m_t=0.9, c_t=0.7, test="p", org="a")
```

**Arguments**

<code>sobj</code>	Seurat object.
<code>assay</code>	assay to be used default is set to RNA.
<code>cluster</code>	colname in the meta.data that have the cell cluster numbers.
<code>marker</code>	cell markers database path.
<code>tissue</code>	specified tissue from which the data comes.
<code>tt</code>	tissue type whether 'a' for all types 'n' for normal tissues only or "c" for cancer tissues.
<code>cond</code>	colname in the meta.data that have the condition names.
<code>m_t</code>	overlap threshold between cell markers and expression matrix.
<code>c_t</code>	correlation threshold between genes.
<code>test</code>	statistical test that check if overlap is significant could be "p" for phyper or "f" for fisher.
<code>org</code>	organism to be used that can be 'h' for human, 'm' for mouse, and 'a' for all markers.

**Value**

list of Seurat object that have the assigned clusters, and top 3 proposed cell types.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

---

sctype *Run the sctype approach as it's implemented by Ianevski, A., Giri, A.K. and Aittokallio, T.*

---

**Description**

This Function is used to run the sctype approach with faster implementation

**Usage**

```
sctype(sobj, assay="RNA", tissue, tt="a", clus, org="a", scaled=T, database="sctype")
```

**Arguments**

sobj	Seurat object.
assay	assay to be used default is set to RNA.
tissue	specified tissue from which the data comes.
tt	tissue type whether 'a' for all types 'n' for normal tissues only or 'c' for cancer tissues.
clus	colname in the mata.data that have the cell cluster numbers.
org	organism to be used that can be 'h' for human, 'm' for mouse, and 'a' for all markers.
scaled	indicates whether the matrix is scaled (TRUE by default)
database	name of the database to be used that can be 'sctype' or 'UMD'

**Value**

vector of genes names which overlap with the correlation matrix.

**Author(s)**

Mohmed Soudy <Mohamed.soudy@uni.lu> and Sohpie LE BARS <sophie.lebars@uni.lu> and Enrico Glaab <enrico.glaab@uni.lu>

# Index

`calculate_cor_mat`, [2](#)  
`calculate_normalized_ratio`, [2](#)  
`correct_gene_symbols`, [3](#)

`enrich_genes`, [4](#)

`filter_correlation`, [4](#)  
`filter_list`, [5](#)  
`fisher_test`, [6](#)

`match_characters`, [6](#)

`phyper_test`, [7](#)  
`process_clus`, [8](#)  
`process_database`, [8](#)  
`process_markers`, [9](#)

`scca`, [10](#)  
`sctype`, [11](#)