

# Package: SingleCellComplexHeatMap (via r-universe)

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**Type** Package

**Title** Complex Heatmaps for Single Cell Expression Data with Dual Information Display

**Version** 0.1.2

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**Description** Creates complex heatmaps for single cell RNA-seq data that simultaneously display gene expression levels (as color intensity) and expression percentages (as circle sizes). Supports gene grouping, cell type annotations, and time point comparisons. Built on top of 'ComplexHeatmap' and integrates with 'Seurat' objects. For more details see Gu (2022) <doi:10.1002/imt.2.43> and Hao (2024) <doi:10.1038/s41587-023-01767-y>.

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**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Depends** R (>= 4.0.0)

**Imports** ComplexHeatmap (>= 2.10.0), Seurat (>= 4.0.0), dplyr (>= 1.0.0), tidyr (>= 1.0.0), RColorBrewer, circlize (>= 0.4.0), grid, grDevices, stats, magrittr

**Suggests** testthat (>= 3.0.0), knitr, rmarkdown, viridis, devtools, BiocManager, ggsci, SeuratObject

**URL** <https://github.com/FanXuRong/SingleCellComplexHeatMap>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/FanXuRong/SingleCellComplexHeatMap/issues>

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Config/pak/sysreqs** cmake libglpk-dev make libicu-dev libpng-dev libuv1-dev libxml2-dev libssl-dev perl python3 zlib1g-dev

**Repository** <https://fanxurong.r-universe.dev>

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create\_cell\_annotations  
*Create Cell Type and Time Point Annotations for Heatmap Columns*

---

## Description

Parses column names to extract time points and cell types, creates annotations and reorders matrices.

## Usage

```
create_cell_annotations(  
  exp_mat,  
  percent_mat,  
  split_pattern = "_",  
  time_position = 1,  
  celltype_start = 2,  
  time_points_order = NULL,  
  cell_types_order = NULL,  
  time_color_palette = "Accent",  
  celltype_color_palette = "Dark2",  
  show_time_annotation = TRUE,  
  show_celltype_annotation = TRUE,  
  time_point_title = "Time Point",  
  cell_type_title = "Cell Type"  
)
```

## Arguments

exp_mat	Expression matrix with samples as columns
percent_mat	Percentage matrix with samples as columns
split_pattern	Character string used to split column names (default: "_")
time_position	Integer indicating position of time point in split names (default: 1)

**celltype\_start** Integer indicating starting position of cell type in split names (default: 2)  
**time\_points\_order** Character vector specifying order of time points (default: NULL for automatic)  
**cell\_types\_order** Character vector specifying order of cell types (default: NULL for automatic)  
**time\_color\_palette** Character string specifying palette name OR character vector of colors for time points (default: "Accent")  
**celltype\_color\_palette** Character string specifying palette name OR character vector of colors for cell types (default: "Dark2")  
**show\_time\_annotation** Logical indicating whether to show time point annotation (default: TRUE)  
**show\_celltype\_annotation** Logical indicating whether to show cell type annotation (default: TRUE)  
**time\_point\_title** Character string for time point annotation title (default: "Time Point")  
**cell\_type\_title** Character string for cell type annotation title (default: "Cell Type")

**Value**

A list containing `exp_mat_ordered` (reordered expression matrix), `percent_mat_ordered` (reordered percentage matrix), `col_annotation` (ComplexHeatmap column annotation object), `col_split_factor` (factor for column splitting based on time points), and `annotation_df` (data frame with column annotations).

**See Also**

[create\\_single\\_cell\\_complex\\_heatmap](#), [prepare\\_expression\\_matrices](#)

**Examples**

```

# Load a small example Seurat object
data("pbmc_small", package = "SeuratObject")
pbmc_small$timepoint <- sample(c("0h", "6h"), ncol(pbmc_small), replace = TRUE)
pbmc_small$timepoint_celltype <- paste(pbmc_small$timepoint, pbmc_small$RNA_snn_res.0.8, sep = "_")
features <- c("CD3D", "CD79A", "MS4A1")

# Prepare expression matrices first
matrices <- prepare_expression_matrices(pbmc_small, features, group_by = "timepoint_celltype")

# Create cell annotations with custom ordering
col_annotations <- create_cell_annotations(
  exp_mat = matrices$exp_mat,
  percent_mat = matrices$percent_mat,
  split_pattern = "_",
  time_points_order = c("0h", "6h"),
  cell_types_order = levels(pbmc_small$RNA_snn_res.0.8)

```

```
)
# Access results
ordered_exp_mat <- col_annotatons$exp_mat_ordered
```

---

```
create_gene_annotatons
```

*Create Gene Group Annotations for Heatmap Rows*

---

## Description

Creates gene grouping annotations and reorders expression matrices based on gene classifications.

## Usage

```
create_gene_annotatons(
  exp_mat,
  percent_mat,
  gene_classification,
  color_palette = "Set1",
  sort_within_groups = TRUE,
  annotation_title = "Gene Group"
)
```

## Arguments

exp_mat	Expression matrix with genes as rows
percent_mat	Percentage matrix with genes as rows
gene_classification	Named list where names are group labels and values are character vectors of gene names
color_palette	Character string specifying palette name OR character vector of colors (default: "Set1")
sort_within_groups	Logical indicating whether to sort genes within each group (default: TRUE)
annotation_title	Character string for annotation title (default: "Gene Group")

## Value

A list containing exp\_mat\_ordered (reordered expression matrix), percent\_mat\_ordered (reordered percentage matrix), row\_annotation (ComplexHeatmap row annotation object), row\_split\_factor (factor for row splitting), and annotation\_df (data frame with gene annotations).

**See Also**

[create\\_single\\_cell\\_complex\\_heatmap](#), [prepare\\_expression\\_matrices](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load a small example Seurat object
data("pbmc_small", package = "SeuratObject")
features <- c("CD3D", "CD79A", "MS4A1", "GZMK", "CCL5")

# Prepare expression matrices first
matrices <- prepare_expression_matrices(pbmc_small, features, group_by = "RNA_snn_res.0.8")

# Define gene groups
gene_groups <- list(
  "T-cell Markers" = c("CD3D", "GZMK", "CCL5"),
  "B-cell Markers" = c("CD79A", "MS4A1")
)

# Create gene annotations
annotations <- create_gene_annotations(
  exp_mat = matrices$exp_mat,
  percent_mat = matrices$percent_mat,
  gene_classification = gene_groups,
  color_palette = "Set1"
)

# Access results
ordered_exp_mat <- annotations$exp_mat_ordered
```

---

create\_single\_cell\_complex\_heatmap

*Create Complex Heatmap for Single Cell Expression Data*

---

**Description**

Creates a complex heatmap that displays both gene expression levels (as color intensity) and expression percentages (as circle sizes) for single cell RNA-seq data. This function provides extensive customization options while maintaining ease of use.

**Usage**

```
create_single_cell_complex_heatmap(
  seurat_object,
  features,
  gene_classification = NULL,
  group_by = "seurat_clusters",
  idents = NULL,
  time_points_order = NULL,
```

```
cell_types_order = NULL,
color_range = c(-1, 0, 2),
color_palette = NULL,
max_circle_size = 2,
row_fontsize = 8,
col_fontsize = 9,
col_name_rotation = 90,
row_title_fontsize = 10,
col_title_fontsize = 10,
show_heatmap_legend = TRUE,
show_percentage_legend = TRUE,
legend_side = "right",
cell_border_color = "grey80",
split_pattern = "-",
gene_color_palette = "Set1",
time_color_palette = "Accent",
celltype_color_palette = "Dark2",
show_gene_grouping = NULL,
show_time_annotation = TRUE,
show_celltype_annotation = TRUE,
split_by = "time",
merge_legends = TRUE,
percentage_legend_title = "Expression %",
percentage_legend_labels = c("0%", "25%", "50%", "75%", "100%"),
percentage_breaks = NULL,
return_data = FALSE,
save_plot = NULL,
plot_width = 10,
plot_height = 8,
plot_dpi = 300,
assay = NULL,
slot = "scale.data",
cluster_cells = TRUE,
cluster_features = TRUE,
clustering_distance_rows = "euclidean",
clustering_distance_cols = "euclidean",
clustering_method_rows = "complete",
clustering_method_cols = "complete",
color_palette_main = c("blue", "white", "red"),
annotation_colors = NULL,
show_feature_names = TRUE,
feature_names_gp = NULL,
legend_title = "Expression",
gene_group_title = "Gene Group",
time_point_title = "Time Point",
cell_type_title = "Cell Type",
show_cell_borders = TRUE,
show_column_annotation = TRUE,
```

```

    gene_name_mapping = NULL,
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

**seurat\_object** A Seurat object containing single cell data

**features** Character vector of gene names to plot

**gene\_classification** Named list where names are group labels and values are character vectors of gene names (default: NULL for no gene grouping)

**group\_by** Character string specifying the metadata column to group by (default: "seurat\_clusters")

**idents** Numeric or character vector specifying which cell groups to include (default: NULL for all)

**time\_points\_order** Character vector specifying order of time points. Only affects display order, not data filtering (default: NULL for automatic)

**cell\_types\_order** Character vector specifying order of cell types. Only affects display order, not data filtering (default: NULL for automatic)

**color\_range** Numeric vector specifying color mapping break points for expression values. Its length must match **color\_palette** if **color\_palette** is a vector. (default: c(-1, 0, 2))

**color\_palette** Character vector specifying colors for expression heatmap. Its length must match **color\_range**. If NULL, a default palette (viridis or **color\_palette\_main**) is generated to match **color\_range** length (default: NULL)

**max\_circle\_size** Numeric specifying maximum circle radius in mm. This applies to the highest percentage value in **percentage\_breaks** (default: 2)

**row\_fontsize** Numeric specifying row name font size (default: 8)

**col\_fontsize** Numeric specifying column name font size (default: 9)

**col\_name\_rotation** Numeric specifying column name rotation angle (default: 90)

**row\_title\_fontsize** Numeric specifying row title font size (default: 10)

**col\_title\_fontsize** Numeric specifying column title font size (default: 10)

**show\_heatmap\_legend** Logical indicating whether to show heatmap legend (default: TRUE)

**show\_percentage\_legend** Logical indicating whether to show percentage legend (default: TRUE)

**legend\_side** Character string specifying legend position (default: "right")

**cell\_border\_color** Character string specifying cell border color (default: "grey80")

`split_pattern` Character string used to split column names for parsing (default: "\_")  
`gene_color_palette` Character string specifying palette name OR character vector of colors for gene groups (default: "Set1")  
`time_color_palette` Character string specifying palette name OR character vector of colors for time points (default: "Accent")  
`celltype_color_palette` Character string specifying palette name OR character vector of colors for cell types (default: "Dark2")  
`show_gene_grouping` Logical indicating whether to show gene grouping (default: TRUE if `gene_classification` provided)  
`show_time_annotation` Logical indicating whether to show time point annotation (default: TRUE)  
`show_celltype_annotation` Logical indicating whether to show cell type annotation (default: TRUE)  
`split_by` Character string specifying how to split columns: "time", "celltype", or "none" (default: "time")  
`merge_legends` Logical indicating whether to merge legends (default: TRUE)  
`percentage_legend_title` Character string for percentage legend title (default: "Expression %")  
`percentage_legend_labels` Character vector for percentage legend labels  
`percentage_breaks` Numeric vector specifying actual percentage values corresponding to labels  
`return_data` Logical; if TRUE, return underlying data instead of drawing only  
`save_plot` File path to save the drawn heatmap (PNG)  
`plot_width` Numeric; width in inches for saving  
`plot_height` Numeric; height in inches for saving  
`plot_dpi` Numeric; resolution (DPI) for saved plot  
`assay` Seurat assay name to extract data from  
`slot` Seurat slot name within assay (e.g., "scale.data", "data")  
`cluster_cells` Logical; whether to cluster columns (cells)  
`cluster_features` Logical; whether to cluster rows (features)  
`clustering_distance_rows` Distance metric for row clustering  
`clustering_distance_cols` Distance metric for column clustering  
`clustering_method_rows` Clustering method for rows

clustering_method_cols	Clustering method for columns
color_palette_main	Fallback color palette when viridis unavailable
annotation_colors	Named list of custom annotation colors
show_feature_names	Logical; whether to show feature (row) names
feature_names_gp	gpar object controlling feature name appearance
legend_title	Character; title for main heatmap legend
gene_group_title	Character string for gene group annotation title (default: "Gene Group")
time_point_title	Character string for time point annotation title (default: "Time Point")
cell_type_title	Character string for cell type annotation title (default: "Cell Type")
show_cell_borders	Logical indicating whether to show cell border lines (default: TRUE)
show_column_annotation	Logical indicating whether to show column annotations (default: TRUE)
gene_name_mapping	Named character vector for mapping gene names, where names are original gene names and values are display names (default: NULL)
...	Additional arguments passed to ComplexHeatmap::Heatmap()

**Value**

A ComplexHeatmap object. If return\_data is TRUE, returns a list containing the heatmap object and underlying data matrices.

---

```
prepare_expression_matrices
```

*Prepare Expression and Percentage Matrices from Seurat DotPlot*

---

**Description**

Extracts and reshapes expression data from a Seurat DotPlot object into matrices suitable for complex heatmap visualization.

**Usage**

```
prepare_expression_matrices(
  seurat_object,
  features,
  group_by = "seurat_clusters",
  idents = NULL,
  split_pattern = "_",
  time_position = 1,
  celltype_start = 2
)
```

**Arguments**

seurat_object	A Seurat object containing single cell data
features	Character vector of gene names to plot
group_by	Character string specifying the metadata column to group by (default: "seurat_clusters")
idents	Numeric or character vector specifying which cell groups to include (default: NULL for all)
split_pattern	Character string used to split column names for parsing (default: "_")
time_position	Integer indicating position of time point in split names (default: 1)
celltype_start	Integer indicating starting position of cell type in split names (default: 2)

**Value**

A list containing exp\_mat (matrix of scaled expression values), percent\_mat (matrix of expression percentages), and dotplot\_data (original DotPlot data frame).

**See Also**

[create\\_single\\_cell\\_complex\\_heatmap](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load a small example Seurat object
data("pbmc_small", package = "SeuratObject")
features <- c("CD3D", "CD79A", "MS4A1")

# Basic usage
matrices <- prepare_expression_matrices(
  seurat_object = pbmc_small,
  features = features,
  group_by = "RNA_snn_res.0.8"
)

# Access the results
expression_matrix <- matrices$exp_mat
percentage_matrix <- matrices$percent_mat
```

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