# Package 'scBubbletree'

July 26, 2025

Type Package

Title Quantitative visual exploration of scRNA-seq data

**Version** 1.11.0

**Description** scBubbletree is a quantitative method for the visual exploration of scRNA-seq data, preserving key biological properties such as local and global cell distances and cell density distributions across samples. It effectively resolves overplotting and enables the visualization of diverse cell attributes from multiomic single-cell experiments. Additionally, scBubbletree is user-friendly and integrates seamlessly with popular scRNA-seq analysis tools, facilitating comprehensive and intuitive data interpretation.

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**Depends** R (>= 4.2.0)

**Imports** reshape2, BiocParallel, ape, scales, Seurat, ggplot2, ggtree, patchwork, proxy, methods, stats, base, utils, dplyr

Suggests BiocStyle, knitr, testthat, cluster, SingleCellExperiment

**Encoding** UTF-8

NeedsCompilation no

biocViews Visualization, Clustering, SingleCell, Transcriptomics, RNASeq

BugReports https://github.com/snaketron/scBubbletree/issues

 ${\bf URL}\ {\tt https://github.com/snaketron/scBubbletree}$ 

**SystemRequirements** Python (>= 3.6), leidenalg (>= 0.8.2)

RoxygenNote 6.1.1

VignetteBuilder knitr

 $\textbf{git\_url} \ \, \textbf{https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/scBubbletree}$ 

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 $scBubbletree-package \ \it The\ R\ package\ scBubbletree$ 

# Description

Method for quantitative visualization of single cell RNA-seq data

# **Details**

This package contains functions for clustering, hierarchical grouping of clusters and visualization of scRNA-seq data.

# Author(s)

Authors and maintainers:

• Simo Kitanovski <simokitanovski@uni-due.de>(ORCID)

# See Also

Useful links:

- https://github.com/snaketron/scBubbletree
- Report bugs at https://github.com/snaketron/scBubbletree/issues

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compare_bubbletrees	Comparison of two bubbletrees generated from the same scRNA-seq data
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# **Description**

compare\_bubbletrees takes as its main input two bubbletrees generated from the **same input data** but potentially with different input parameters (e.g. clustering method or resolutions).

It then does the following two operations:

- 1. computes the Jaccard distance (JD) and the intersection between paris of clusters from the two bubbletrees. This is visualized as a heatmap.
- 2. it visualizes the two bubbletrees together with the heatmap.

# Usage

#### **Arguments**

```
btd_1 bubbletree object

btd_2 bubbletree object

tile_text_size integer, size of tile labels (default = 3)

tile_bw logical, tile grayscale (tile_bw = TRUE) vs. color (tile_bw = FALSE, default)

ratio_heatmap nummeric, probability (default = 0.5) that dictates the relative width and height of the heatmap and the bubbletrees
```

# Details

compare\_bubbletrees takes as its main input two bubbletrees generated from the **same input data** but potentially with different input parameters (e.g. clustering method or resolutions).

It then does the following two operations:

- 1. computes the Jaccard distance and the intersection between paris of clusters from the two bubbletrees. This is visualized as a heatmap.
- 2. it visualizes the two bubbletrees together with the heatmap.

# Value

comparison ggplot2 objects assembled by R-package patchwork

m data.frame object with JD and intersection for each pair of clusters from the two bubbletrees

### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

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### See Also

get\_k, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, d\_500, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles

# **Examples**

```
# input data
data("d_500", package = "scBubbletree")
A <- d_500$A
btd_1 \leftarrow get_bubbletree_graph(x = A,
                               n_start = 20,
                               iter_max = 100,
                               algorithm = "original",
                               knn_k = 50,
                               hclust_method = "average",
                               hclust_distance = "euclidean",
                               cores = 1,
                               round_digits = 2,
                               show_simple_count = FALSE)
btd_2 <- get_bubbletree_kmeans(x = A,</pre>
                                k = 8,
                                cores = 1,
                                round_digits = 1,
                                show_simple_count = FALSE,
                                kmeans_algorithm = "MacQueen",
                                hclust_distance = "euclidean",
                                hclust_method = "average")
btd_comparison <- compare_bubbletrees(btd_1 = btd_1,</pre>
                                       btd_2 = btd_2,
                                       tile_bw = FALSE,
                                       tile_text_size = 3,
                                        ratio_heatmap = 0.5)
# plot
btd_comparison$tree_comparison
# data.frame of heatmap data
btd_comparison$m
```

d\_500 Dataset: 500 PBMCs

# Description

d\_500 is a list with 3 elements:

1. A = numeric matrix  $A^500x15$  with n=500 rows for PBMCs and f=15 principal components.

 $d_{-}ccl$  5

2. f = character vector f of length 500. Each element in f represents the predicted cell type of a specific cell.

3. fs = numeric matrix containing normalized gene expressions of 12 marker genes in 500 cells.

# Usage

```
data("d_500", package = "scBubbletree")
```

### **Format**

Format of d\_500: list

### **Details**

This data is a sample drawn from a larger dataset of 2,700 PBMCs. The original dataset was processed as described in vignette (accessed 23, Sep, 2022):

https://satijalab.org/seurat/articles/multimodal\_reference\_mapping.html

See R script inst/script/get\_d\_500.R to see how this dataset was created.

#### **Source**

https://satijalab.org/seurat/articles/multimodal\_reference\_mapping.html

### **Examples**

```
data("d_500", package = "scBubbletree")
A <- d_500$A
base::dim(A)

f <- d_500$f
base::table(f)

fs <- d_500$fs
base::dim(fs)</pre>
```

 $d_ccl$ 

Dataset: scRNA-seq data of 3,918 cells from 5 adenocarcinoma cell lines

# Description

d\_ccl is a list with 3 elements:

- 1. A = numeric matrix with n=3,918 rows for cells and f=15 principal components
- 2. m = data.frame meta data
- 3. e = numeric matrix containing normalized gene expressions of 5 marker genes

### Usage

```
data("d_ccl", package = "scBubbletree")
```

#### **Format**

Format of d\_ccl: list

#### **Details**

d\_ccl is a scRNA-seq dataset containing a mixture of 3,918 cells from five human lung adenocarcinoma cell lines (HCC827, H1975, A549, H838 and H2228). The dataset is available here:

https://github.com/LuyiTian/sc\_mixology/blob/master/data/ sincell\_with\_class\_5cl.RData

The library has been prepared with 10x Chromium platform and sequenced with Illumina NextSeq 500 platform. Raw data has been processed with Cellranger. The tool demuxlet has been used to predict the identity of each cell based on known genetic differences between the different cell lines.

See R script inst/script/get\_d\_ccl.R to see how this dataset was created.

#### **Source**

https://github.com/LuyiTian/sc\_mixology/blob/master/data/ sincell\_with\_class\_5cl.RData

#### References

Tian, Luyi, et al. "Benchmarking single cell RNA-sequencing analysis pipelines using mixture control experiments." Nature methods 16.6 (2019): 479-487

# **Examples**

```
data("d_ccl", package = "scBubbletree")
A <- d_ccl$A
base::dim(A)

m <- d_ccl$m
utils::head(m)
e <- d_ccl$e
base::dim(e)</pre>
```

get\_bubbletree\_dummy

Build bubbletree from matrix A of low-dimensional projections and vector cs of externally generated cluster IDs

# Description

get\_bubbletree\_dummy takes two main inputs:

- 1. numeric matrix  $A^{n \times f}$ , which represents a low-dimensional projection (obtained e.g. by PCA) of the original high-dimensional scRNA-seq data, with n rows as cells and f columns as low-dimension features.
- 2. vector cs of cluster IDs of each cell

The function  $get_bubbletree_dummy$  performs one main operation. It organizes the bubbles (defined by cs) in a hierarchical dendrogram (bubbletree) which represents the hierarchical relationships between the clusters (bubbles).

get\_bubbletree\_dummy

#### **Usage**

```
get_bubbletree_dummy(x,
                      B = 200,
                      N_{eff} = 100,
                      hclust_distance = "euclidean",
                      hclust_method = "average",
                      cores = 1,
                      round_digits = 2,
                      show_simple_count = FALSE,
                      verbose = TRUE)
```

### **Arguments**

numeric matrix ( $A^{n \times f}$  with n cells, and f low-dimensional projections of the Х

original single cell RNA-seq dataset)

vector, cluster IDs cs

integer, number of bootstrap iterations to perform in order to generate bubbletree В

N\_eff integer, number of cells to draw randomly from each cluster when computing

inter-cluster distances

hclust\_distance

distance measure to be used: euclidean (default) or manhattan, see documenta-

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tion of stats::dist

hclust\_method agglomeration method to be used, default = average. See documentation of

stats::hclust

cores integer, number of PC cores for parallel execution

integer, number of decimal places to keep when showing the relative frequency round\_digits

of cells in each bubble

show\_simple\_count

logical, if show\_simple\_count=T, cell counts in each bubble will be divided by 1,000 to improve readability. This is only useful for samples that are composed

of millions of cells.

verbose logical, progress messages

### **Details**

This function is similar to get\_bubbletree\_kmeans and get\_bubbletree\_graph but skips the clustering step. See the documentation of the respective functions.

# Value

input x matrix Α k number of clusters

**NULL** km

ph boot\_ph: bootstrap dendrograms  $H_b$ ; main\_ph: bubbletree H

two phlogenies: ph\_c = phylogenity constructed from bubble centroids (comph\_data

puted from  $A^{n \times f}$ ); ph\_p = main\_ph = phylogeny constructed from intercell

inter-cluster distances used to generate the dendrograms pair\_dist

cluster cluster assignments of each cell input\_par list of all input parameters tree ggtree bubbletree object

tree\_simple simplified ggtree bubbletree object

tree\_meta meta-data associated with the bubbletree

### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

#### See Also

get\_k, get\_r, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_bubbletree\_comparison, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles, d\_500

# **Examples**

 $get\_bubbletree\_graph$  Louvain clustering and hierarchical grouping of k' clusters (bubbles)

#### **Description**

 ${\tt get\_bubbletree\_graph}$  has two main inputs:

- 1. numeric matrix  $A^{n \times f}$ , which represents a low-dimensional projection (obtained e.g. by PCA) of the original high-dimensional scRNA-seq data, with n rows as cells and f columns as low-dimension features.
- 2. clustering resolution r

The function get\_bubbletree\_graph performs two main operations. First, it performs Louvain clustering to identify groups (bubbles) of transcriptionally similar cells; second, it organizes the bubbles in a hierarchical dendrogram (bubbletree) which adequatly represents inter-cluster relationships.

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#### **Usage**

### **Arguments**

x numeric matrix  $(A^{n \times f})$  with n cells, and f low-dimensional projections of the original single cell RNA-seq dataset)

r number, clustering resolution

B integer, number of bootstrap iterations to perform in order to generate bubble-tree. If B=200 (default), cluster centroids are used to compute inter-cluster distances and  $N_{eff}$  is ignored, i.e. all cells are used to compute centroids.

N\_eff integer, number of cells to draw randomly from each cluster when computing inter-cluster distances.

n\_start, iter\_max

parameters for Louvain clustering, see documentation of function FindClusters, R-package Seurat

algorithm character, four clustering algorithms: 'original', 'LMR', 'SLM' and 'Leiden', see documentation of function FindClusters, R-package Seurat

knn\_k integer, defines k for the k-nearest neighbor algorithm, see documentation of function FindClusters, R-package Seurat

hclust\_method the agglomeration method to be used (default = average). See documentation of

hclust\_distance

distance measure to be used: euclidean (default) or manhattan, see documentation of stats::dist

cores integer, number of PC cores for parallel execution

stats::hclust

round\_digits integer, number of decimal places to keep when showing the relative frequency of cells in each bubble

show\_simple\_count

logical, if show\_simple\_count=T, cell counts in each bubble will be divided by 1,000 to improve readability. This is only useful for samples that are composed of millions of cells.

verbose logical, progress messages

#### **Details**

For Louvain clustering get\_bubbletree\_graph uses the function FindClusters implemented in R-package Seurat. For additional information on the clustering procedure see the documentation of FindClusters. To organize the resulting clusters in a hierarchical dendrogram, then the following steps are performed:

- 1. In bootrap iteration b from 1:B
- 2. draw up to  $N_{eff}$  number of cells at random from each cluster without replacement
- 3. compute distances (in space  $A^{n \times f}$ ) between all pairs of cells in cluster i and cluster j
- 4. compute mean distance between cluster i and j and populate inter-cluster distance matrix  $D_h^{k \times k}$
- 5. perform hierarchical clustering with user-specified agglomeration method based on  $D_b^{k\times k}$  to generate dendrogram  $H_b$
- 6. quantify branch robustness in H by counting how many times each branch is found among bootrap dendrograms  $H_b$

#### Value

A	input x matrix
k	number of clusters
r	clustering resolution
ph	boot_ph: bootstrap dendrograms $H_b$ ; main_ph: bubbletree $H$
ph_data	two phlogenies: $ph_c = phylogenity$ constructed from bubble centroids (computed from $A^{n \times f}$ ); $ph_p = main_ph = phylogeny$ constructed from intercell distances
pair_dist	inter-cluster distances used to generate the dendrograms
cluster	cluster assignments of each cell
input_par	list of all input parameters
tree	ggtree bubbletree object
tree_simple	simplified ggtree bubbletree object
tree_meta	meta-data associated with the bubbletree

# Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

# See Also

get\_k, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_bubbletree\_comparison, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, d\_500, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles

#### **Examples**

```
N_eff = 100,
n_start = 20,
iter_max = 100,
algorithm = "original",
knn_k = 20,
hclust_method = "average",
hclust_distance = "euclidean",
cores = 1,
round_digits = 2,
show_simple_count = FALSE)
```

b\$tree

get\_bubbletree\_kmeans k-means clustering and hierarchical grouping of k clusters (bubbles)

# **Description**

get\_bubble\_kmeans takes two main inputs:

- 1. numeric matrix  $A^{n \times f}$ , which represents a low-dimensional projection (obtained e.g. by PCA) of the original high-dimensional scRNA-seq data, with n rows as cells and f columns as low-dimension features.
- 2. number k of clusters

The function get\_bubble\_kmeans performs two main operations. First, it performs k-means clustering to identify groups (bubbles) of transcriptionally similar cells. Second, it organizes the bubbles in a hierarchical dendrogram (bubbletree) which adequatly represents inter-cluster relationships.

# Usage

# Arguments

X	numeric matrix $(A^{n \times j})$ with n cells, and f low-dimensional projections of the
	original single cell RNA-seq dataset)
k	integer, number of clusters
В	integer, number of bootstrap iterations to perform in order to generate bubbletree
N_eff	integer, number of cells to draw randomly from each cluster when computing inter-cluster distances

n\_start, iter\_max, kmeans\_algorithm

parameters for k-means clustering, see documentation of function k-means, R-

package stats

hclust\_distance

distance measure to be used: euclidean (default) or manhattan, see documenta-

tion of stats::dist

hclust\_method the agglomeration method to be used, default = average. See documentation of

stats::hclust

cores integer, number of PC cores for parallel execution

round\_digits integer, number of decimal places to keep when showing the relative frequency

of cells in each bubble

show\_simple\_count

logical, if show\_simple\_count=T, cell counts in each bubble will be divided by 1,000 to improve readability. This is only useful for samples that are composed

of millions of cells.

verbose logical, progress messages

### **Details**

For k-means clustering get\_bubble\_kmeans uses the function kmeans implemented in R-package stats (version 4.2.0). For additional information on the clustering procedure see the documentation of kmeans. To organize the resulting clusters in a hierarchical dendrogram these steps are performed:

- 1. In bootrap iteration b from 1:B
- 2. draw up to  $N_{eff}$  number of cells at random from each cluster without replacement
- 3. compute distances (in space  $A^{n \times f}$ ) between pairs of cells in cluster i and cluster j
- 4. compute mean distance between cluster i and j and populate inter-cluster distance matrix  $D_h^{k \times k}$
- 5. perform hierarchical clustering with user-specified agglomeration method based on  $D_b^{k \times k}$  to generate dendrogram  $H_b$
- 6. quantify branch robustness in H by counting how many times each branch is found among the bootrap dendrograms  $H_b$

### Value

A input matrix x k number of clusters

km k-means clustering results identical to those generated by function k-means from

R-package stats

ph boot\_ph: bootstrap dendrograms  $H_b$ ; main\_ph: bubbletree H

ph\_data two phlogenies: ph\_c = phylogenity constructed from bubble centroids (com-

puted from  $A^{n \times f}$ ); ph\_p = main\_ph = phylogeny constructed from intercell

distances

pair\_dist inter-cluster distances used to generate the dendrograms

cluster cluster assignments of each cell input\_par list of all input parameters tree ggtree bubbletree object

tree\_simple simplified ggtree bubbletree object tree\_meta meta-data associated with the bubbletree

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#### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

#### See Also

get\_k, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, d\_500, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles, get\_bubbletree\_comparison

# **Examples**

b\$tree

get\_cat\_tiles

Visualization of categorical cell features using tile plots

# Description

get\_cat\_tiles creates tile plot to visualize the relative frequency of categorical cell features between and within the bubbles of a bubbletree

# Usage

# **Arguments**

btd bubbletree object
f character vector, categorical cell features

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integrate\_vertical

logical, if integrate\_vertical=TRUE: relative frequency of the features is shown in each bubble, if integrate\_vertical=FALSE: relative frequencies of the features is above within each bubble.

is shown within each bubble

round\_digits integer, number of decimal places to keep when showing the relative frequency

of cells in each bubble

tile\_text\_size integer, size of tile labels

x\_axis\_name character, x-axis title

rotate\_x\_axis\_labels

logical, should the x-axis labels be shown horizontally (rotate\_x\_axis\_labels =

FALSE) or vertically (rotate\_x\_axis\_labels = TRUE)

tile\_bw logical, tile grayscale (tile\_bw = TRUE) vs. color (tile\_bw = FALSE, default)

### **Details**

get\_cat\_tiles uses two main inputs:

- 1. bubbletree object
- 2. character vector of categorical cell features.

The order of the cells used to generat the bubbletree (input 1.) should correspond to the order of cells in the vector of categorical cell features (input 2.)

This function computes:

- 1. with integrate\_vertical=T: relative frequencies of each feature across the different bubbles
- 2. with integrate\_vertical\=F: within-bubble relative frequencies (composition) of different features

### Value

plot ggplot2, tile plot

table data.frame, raw data used to generate the plot

### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

# See Also

get\_k, get\_r get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, get\_num\_tile, get\_num\_violins, d\_500

# **Examples**

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get\_gini

Gini impurity index computed for a clustering solution and a vector of categorical cell feature labels

# Description

How well is a set of categorical feature labels (e.g. cell type predictions) partitioned accross the different clusters of a clustering solution? We can assess this using the Gini impurity index (see details below).

Inputs are two equal-sized vectors:

- 1) clusters IDs
- 2) labels

Output:

- 1) cluster-specific purity -> Gini impurity (GI) index
- 2) clustering solution impurity -> Weighted Gini impurity (WGI) index

# Usage

```
get_gini(labels, clusters)
```

# Arguments

labels character or numeric vector of labels

clusters character or numeric vector of cluster IDs

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#### **Details**

To quantify the purity of a cluster (or bubble) i with  $n_i$  number of cells, each of which carries one of L possible labels (e.g. cell type), we computed the Gini impurity index:

$$GI_i = \sum_{j=1}^{L} \pi_{ij} (1 - \pi_{ij}),$$

with  $\pi_{ij}$  as the relative frequency of label j in cluster i. In homogeneous ('pure') clusters most cells carry a distinct label. Hence, the  $\pi$ 's are close to either 1 or 0, and GI takes on a small value close to zero. In 'impure' clusters cells carry a mixture of different labels. In this case most  $\pi$  are far from either 1 or 0, and GI diverges from 0 and approaches 1. If the relative frequencies of the different labels in cluster i are equal to the (background) relative frequencies of the labels in the sample, then cluster i is completely 'impure'.

To compute the overall Gini impurity of a bubbletree, which represents a clustering solution with k bubbles, we estimated the weighted Gini impurity (WGI) by computing the weighted (by the cluster size) average of the GIs:

$$WGI = \sum_{i=1}^{k} GI_i n_i / n,$$

with  $n_i$  as the number of cells in cluster i and  $n = \sum_i n_i$ .

#### Value

gi Gini impurity of each bubble

wgi Weighted Gini impurity index of the bubbletree

# Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

#### See Also

get\_k, get\_r, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_gini\_k, d\_500

# Examples

get\_gini\_k

Gini impurity index computed for a list of clustering solutions obtained by functions get\_k or get\_r and a vector of categorical cell feature labels

## **Description**

Given The Gini impurity (GI) index allows us to quantitatively evaluate how well a set of labels (categorical features) are split across a set of bubbles. We have a completely perfect split (GI = 0) when each bubble is 'pure', i.e. each bubble contains labels coming from distinct a class. In contrast to this, we have completely imperfect split (GI = 1) when the relative frequency distribution of the labels in each bubble is identical to the background relative frequency distribution of the labels.

Cell type predictions are a type of categorical features that are often used to evaluate the goodness of the clustering. get\_gini\_k takes as input: 1) a vector of labels for each cell (e.g. cell types) and

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2) object returned by function  $get_k$  or  $get_r$ . Then it computes for each k or r the cluster purity and weightred gini impurity of each clustering solution mean GI, which is another way of finding an optimal clustering resolution.

#### Usage

```
get_gini_k(labels, obj)
```

# **Arguments**

labels character/factor vector of labels
obj object returned by functions get\_k or get\_r

#### **Details**

To quantify the purity of a cluster (or bubble) i with  $n_i$  number of cells, each of which carries one of L possible labels (e.g. cell type), we computed the Gini impurity index:

$$GI_i = \sum_{j=1}^{L} \pi_{ij} (1 - \pi_{ij}),$$

with  $\pi_{ij}$  as the relative frequency of label j in cluster i. In homogeneous ('pure') clusters most cells carry a distinct label. Hence, the  $\pi$ 's are close to either 1 or 0, and GI takes on a small value close to zero. In 'impure' clusters cells carry a mixture of different labels. In this case most  $\pi$  are far from either 1 or 0, and GI diverges from 0 and approaches 1. If the relative frequencies of the different labels in cluster i are equal to the (background) relative frequencies of the labels in the sample, then cluster i is completely 'impure'.

To compute the overall Gini impurity of a bubbletree, which represents a clustering solution with k bubbles, we estimated the weighted Gini impurity (WGI) by computing the weighted (by the cluster size) average of the GIs:

$$WGI = \sum_{i=1}^{k} GI_i n_i / n,$$

with  $n_i$  as the number of cells in cluster i and  $n = \sum_i n_i$ .

#### Value

gi\_summary GI for each bubble of a clustering solution with clustering resolution k or r wgi\_summary WGI for each clustering solution with clustering resolution k or r

#### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

### See Also

get\_k, get\_r, get\_gini, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, d\_500, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles

# Examples

```
# input data
data("d_500", package = "scBubbletree")
A <- d_500$A
f <- d_500$f</pre>
```

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```
b_k \leftarrow get_k(x = A,
           ks = 1:5,
           B_gap = 5,
           n_start = 100,
           iter_max = 200,
           kmeans_algorithm = "MacQueen",
           cores = 1)
b_r \leftarrow get_r(x = A,
            rs = c(0.1, 0.5, 1),
            B_gap = 5,
            n_start = 20,
            iter_max = 100,
            algorithm = "original",
            cores = 1)
get_gini_k(labels = f, obj = b_k)
get_gini_k(labels = f, obj = b_r)
```

get\_k

Finding optimal number k of clusters

# Description

To perform k-means clustering we must specify a number k of clusters. Data-driven metrics, such as the Gap statistic or the within-cluster sum of squares (WCSS), can be used to infer appropriate k from the data. get\_k computes the Gap statistic and WCSS for a number of clusters ks.

# Usage

# **Arguments**

verbose

Χ	numeric matrix $A^{nxy}$ with $n$ cells, and $f$ low-dimensional projections	
ks	integer vector, $k$ values to consider	
B_gap	integer, number of Monte Carlo ("bootstrap") samples taken when computing the Gap statistic (see documentation of function clusGap, R-package cluster)	
n_start, iter_max, kmeans_algorithm		
	parameters for k-means clustering, see documentation of function kmeans, $R\textsubscript{-}$ package stats	
cores	integer, number of PC cores for parallel execution	

logical, progress messages

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#### **Details**

To compute the Gap statistic get\_k adapts the algorithm of function clustGap from R-package cluster (version 2.1.3). For k-means clustering get\_k uses the function kmeans implemented in R-package stats (version 4.2.0). For additional information see the respective documentations.

### Value

```
boot_obj The results: k-means clustering solutions, the Gap statistic and WCSS gap_stats_summary, wcss_stats_summary main results; Gap statistic and WCSS estimates. Means, standard errors and 95% confidence intervals are provided for each k gap_stats, wcss_stats intermediate results; Gap statistic and WCSS estimates for each k and bootstrap iteration b
```

### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

#### See Also

get\_r, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, d\_500, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles

### **Examples**

get\_num\_cell\_tiles

Visualization of numeric features of individual cells using tile plots

# **Description**

get\_num\_cell\_tiles creates one heatmap from the cells in each bubble. The heatmap visualizes a gradient of the sorted (from high to low) values of a numeric feature (e.g. expression of a certain gene) among the cells of that bubble.

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#### **Usage**

## **Arguments**

btd bubbletree object

f numeric vector, numeric cell feature

x\_axis\_name character, x-axis title feature\_name character, color legend title

rotate\_x\_axis\_labels

logical, should the x-axis labels be shown horizontally (rotate\_x\_axis\_labels

= FALSE) or vertically (rotate\_x\_axis\_labels = TRUE)

tile\_bw logical, tile grayscale (tile\_bw = TRUE) vs. color (tile\_bw = FALSE, default)

#### **Details**

get\_num\_cell\_tiles uses two main inputs:

- 1. bubbletree object
- 2. numeric vector of a numeric cell feature.

The order of the cells used to generate the bubbletree (input 1.) should correspond to the order of cell features in input vector f (input 2.)

This function does the following procedure for each bubble: 1. sort and rank the cells in each bubble: rank = 1 for the cell with the highest f value, rank = n for the bubble with the lowest f value 2. draw a heatmap with x=rank, y=bubble, tile-color=f

#### Value

plot ggplot2, tile plot

table data.frame, raw data used to generate the plot

# Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

# See Also

get\_k, get\_r get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, get\_cat\_tile, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, d\_500, d\_ccl

### **Examples**

```
# input data
data("d_500", package = "scBubbletree")
A <- d_500$A
f <- as.vector(d_500$fs[,1])</pre>
```

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```
b <- get_bubbletree_kmeans(x = A, k = 8)
g <- get_num_cell_tiles(btd = b, f = f)
b$tree|g$plot</pre>
```

get\_num\_tiles

Visualization of numeric cell features using tile plots

### **Description**

get\_num\_tiles creates tile plot to visualize a summary (e.g. mean, median or sum) of a numeric cell feature (e.g. gene expression of a specific gene) in each bubble of a bubbletree

# Usage

# **Arguments**

```
btd
                  bubbletree object
fs
                  numeric vector or matrix, numeric cell features
summary_function
                  character, "mean", "median" or "sum", "pct nonzero", "pct zero", summaries are
round_digits
                  integer, number of decimal places to keep when showing the relative frequency
                  of cells in each bubble
tile_text_size integer, size of tile labels
x_axis_name
                  character, x-axis title
rotate_x_axis_labels
                  logical, should the x-axis labels be shown horizontally (rotate_x_axis_labels
                  = FALSE) or vertically (rotate_x_axis_labels = TRUE)
                  logical, tile grayscale (tile_bw = TRUE) vs. color (tile_bw = FALSE, default)
tile_bw
```

### **Details**

get\_num\_tiles uses two main inputs:

- 1. bubbletree object
- 2. numeric vector or matrix of numeric cell features.

The order of the cells used to generat the bubbletree (input 1.) should correspond to the order of cells in the vector/matrix of numeric cell features (input 2.)

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This function computes summaries of numeric cell feature in each bubble: 1. mean = mean of feature 2. median = median of feature 3. sum = sum of feature 4. pct nonzero = sum of cells with feature > 0.5. pct zero = sum of cells with feature = 0.5.

Important note: NA and NULL values are omitted.

#### Value

```
plot ggplot2, tile plot
table data.frame, raw data used to generate the plot
```

### Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

#### See Also

```
get_k, get_r get_bubbletree_dummy, get_bubbletree_kmeans, get_bubbletree_graph, get_gini, get_gini_k, get_cat_tile, get_num_violins, d_500, d_ccl
```

# **Examples**

b\$tree|g\$plot

get\_num\_violins

Visualization of numeric cell features using violin plots

# **Description**

get\_num\_violins creates violin plot to visualize the distribution of of numeric cell features (e.g. gene expressions) in each bubble of a bubbletree

# Usage

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#### **Arguments**

```
btd bubbletree object

fs numeric vector or matrix, numeric cell features

x_axis_name character, x-axis title

rotate_x_axis_labels

logical, should the x-axis labels be shown horizontally (rotate_x_axis_labels

= FALSE) or vertically (rotate_x_axis_labels = TRUE)
```

#### **Details**

get\_num\_violins uses two main inputs:

- 1. bubbletree object
- 2. numeric vector or matrix of numeric cell features.

The order of the cells used to generat the bubbletree (input 1.) should correspond to the order of cells in the vector/matrix of numeric cell features (input 2.)

This function visualizes densities of numeric cell feature in the different bubble.

# Value

```
plot ggplot2, violin plot
table data.frame, raw data used to generate the plot
```

# Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

### See Also

```
get_k, get_r get_bubbletree_dummy, get_bubbletree_kmeans, get_bubbletree_graph, get_gini, get_gini_k, get_cat_tile, get_num_tiles, d_500
```

# **Examples**

b\$tree|g\$plot

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get\_r

Finding optimal clustering resulution r and number of communities k'

# **Description**

To perform Louvain clustering we must specify a clustering resulution r. Data-driven metrics, such as the Gap statistic or the within-cluster sum of squares (WCSS) can be used to infer appropriate r from the data. get\_r computes the Gap statistic and WCSS for a vector of clustering resolutions rs.

# Usage

## **Arguments**

	х	numeric matrix $A^{nxf}$ with $n$ cells, and $f$ low-dimensional projections
	rs	number vector, $r$ values to consider
	B_gap	integer, number of Monte Carlo ("bootstrap") samples taken when computing the Gap statistic (see documentation of function clusGap, R-package cluster)
n_start, iter_max		
		parameters for Louvain clustering, see documentation of function $FindClusters$ , R-package $Seurat$
	algorithm	character, four clustering algorithms: 'original', 'LMR', 'SLM' and 'Leiden', see documentation of function FindClusters, $R$ -package Seurat
	knn_k	integer, defines $k$ for the $k\mbox{-nearest}$ neighbor algorithm, see documentation of function FindClusters, R-package Seurat
	cores	integer, number of PC cores for parallel execution
	verbose	logical, progress messages

#### **Details**

To compute the Gap statistic get\_r adapts the algorithm of function clustGap from R-package cluster (version 2.1.3). For Louvain clustering get\_r uses the function FindClusters implemented in the R-package Seurat. For additional information see the respective documentations.

# Value

```
boot_obj The results: k-means clustering solutions, the Gap statistic and WCSS gap_stats_summary, wcss_stats_summary main results; Gap statistic and WCSS estimates. Means, standard errors and 95\% confidence intervals are provided for each r and k^\prime
```

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```
{\tt gap\_stats}, {\tt wcss\_stats}
```

intermediate results; Gap statistic and WCSS estimates for each r and  $k^\prime$  and bootstrap iteration b

# Author(s)

Simo Kitanovski <simo.kitanovski@uni-due.de>

# See Also

 $get\_k, get\_bubbletree\_dummy, get\_bubbletree\_graph, get\_bubbletree\_kmeans, get\_gini, get\_gini\_k, \\ d\_500, get\_num\_tiles, get\_num\_violins, get\_cat\_tiles, d\_ccl$ 

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