

# Package ‘Spaniel’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Spatial Transcriptomics Analysis

**Version** 1.0.0

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**Description** Spaniel includes a series of tools to aid the quality control and analysis of Spatial Transcriptomics data. The package contains functions to create either a Seurat object or SingleCellExperiment from a count matrix and spatial barcode file and provides a method of loading a histological image into R. The spanielPlot function allows visualisation of metrics contained within the S4 object overlaid onto the image of the tissue.

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**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Depends** R (>= 3.6), Seurat, SingleCellExperiment,  
SummarizedExperiment, dplyr

**Imports** methods, ggplot2, scater (>= 1.13.27), shiny, jpeg, magrittr,  
utils, S4Vectors

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, testthat, devtools

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 6.1.1.9000

**Collate** 'utilities.R' 'addClusterCols.R' 'parseImage.R' 'readData.R'  
'removeSpots.R' 'spaniel\_plot\_internals.R' 'spatialPlot.R'  
'shinySpaniel.R'

**biocViews** SingleCell, RNASeq, QualityControl, Preprocessing,  
Normalization, Visualization, Transcriptomics, GeneExpression,  
Sequencing, Software, DataImport, DataRepresentation,  
Infrastructure, Coverage, Clustering

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## R topics documented:

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|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| createSCE | <i>Create a SingleCellExperiment Object From Spatial Transcriptomics Data</i> |
|-----------|---|

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### Description

This function converts a count matrix into a SingleCellExperiment object. The barcodes for each spot are added to the coldata of the SingleCellExperiment object and are used in plotting the data.

### Usage

```
createSCE(counts, barcodeFile, projectName=projectName,
           sectionNumber=sectionNo)
```

### Arguments

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| counts        | Raw count matrix or data frame where each row represents a gene and each column represents barcoded location on a spatial transcriptomics slide. The columns should be named using the spot barcode (eg "GTCCGATATGATTGCGC")       |
| barcodeFile   | a tab separated barcode file supplied by Spatial Transcriptomics. The file should contains three column: The first column contains the Spatial Transcriptomics barcode, the second and third column equate to the x and y location |
| projectName   | The name of the project which is stored in the Seurat Object.  |
| sectionNumber | The location of the sample on the slide  |

### Value

A SingleCellExperiment Object

### Examples

```
## Data is taken from DOI: 10.1126/science.aaf2403
examplecounts <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                                   "extdata/counts.rds"))
exampleBarcodes <- file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                              "1000L2_barcodes.txt")
seuratOb <- createSCE(examplecounts,
                     exampleBarcodes,
                     projectName = "TestProj",
                     sectionNumber = 1)
```

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|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| createSeurat | <i>Create a Seurat Object From Spatial Transcriptomics Data</i> |
|--------------|---|

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## Description

This function converts a count matrix into a Seurat object. The barcodes for each spot are added to the metadata of the Seurat object and are used in plotting the data.

## Usage

```
createSeurat(counts, barcodeFile, projectName = projectName,  
             sectionNumber = sectionNo)
```

## Arguments

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| counts        | Raw count matrix or data frame where each row represents a gene and each column represents barcoded location on a spatial transcriptomics slide. The columns should be named using the spot barcode (eg "GTCCGATATGATTGC-CGC")     |
| barcodeFile   | a tab separated barcode file supplied by Spatial Transcriptomics. The file should contains three column: The first column contains the Spatial Transcriptomics barcode, the second and third column equate to the x and y location |
| projectName   | The name of the project which is stored in the Seurat Object.  |
| sectionNumber | The location of the sample on the slide  |

## Value

A Seurat Object

## Examples

```
## Data is taken from DOI: 10.1126/science.aaf2403  
examplecounts <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),  
                                   "extdata/counts.rds"))  
exampleBarcodes <- file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),  
                              "1000L2_barcodes.txt")  
SeuratObj <- createSeurat(examplecounts,  
                          exampleBarcodes,  
                          projectName = "TestProj",  
                          sectionNumber = 1  
                          )
```

---

|                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| markClusterCol | <i>markClusterCol</i> |
|----------------|-----------------------|

---

**Description**

A function to mark the columns containing cluster information in the metadata or colData of a Seurat or SCE object. Columns are marked with "cluster\_" prefix.

**Usage**

```
markClusterCol(object, pattern)
```

**Arguments**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| object  | Either a Seurat or SCE object containing clustering information |
| pattern | pattern indicating which columns contain cluster information    |

**Value**

A Seurat or SCE object

**Examples**

```
SeuratObj <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                               "extdata/SeuratData.rds"))
SeuratObj <- markClusterCol(SeuratObj, "res")
```

---

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| parseImage | <i>This function parses a HE image to use as the background for plots</i> |
|------------|---|

---

**Description**

This function parses a HE image to use as the background for plots

**Usage**

```
parseImage(imgFile)
```

**Arguments**

|         |                        |
|---------|------------------------|
| imgFile | Path to the image file |
|---------|------------------------|

**Value**

A rasterized grob

**Examples**

```
imgFile <- file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                     "HE_Rep1_resized.jpg")
img <- parseImage(imgFile)
```

---

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| removeSpots | <i>removeSpots</i> |
|-------------|--------------------|

---

**Description**

A function to filter spots from analysis. It requires selectSpots to be run first.

**Usage**

```
removeSpots(sObj, pointsToRemove = "points_to_remove.txt")
```

**Arguments**

sObj Either a Seurat object (version 3) or a SingleCellExperiment object containing barcode coordinates in the metadata (Seurat) or colData (SingleCellExperiment).

pointsToRemove path to points to remove file. Default is "points\_to\_remove.txt"

**Value**

A filtered Seurat or SingleCellExperiment Object

**Examples**

```
seuratObj <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                               "extdata/SeuratData.rds"))
toRemove <- file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                      "points_to_remove.txt")
sObjFiltered <- removeSpots(sObj = seuratObj, pointsToRemove = toRemove)
```

---

|                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| runShinySpaniel | <i>RunShinySpaniel</i> |
|-----------------|------------------------|

---

**Description**

A function to visualise Spatial Transcriptomics. It requires a preprocessed Seurat Object or a SingleCellExperiment object as well as a rasterised image saved as an .rds object. There are 4 plots available in the app showing: a) the number of genes detected per spot, b) the number of reads detected per spot, c) clustering results, d) the gene expression of a selected gene." To view the clustering results the columns of the meta.data or colData containing clustering results must be prefixed with cluster\_ . This can be done by using the markClusterCol() function included in Spaniel.

**Usage**

```
runShinySpaniel()
```

**Value**

Runs a Shiny App

**Examples**

```
## mark the columns of metadata/colData that contain clustering
## information see ?markClusterCol for more details#
sObj <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                           "extdata/SeuratData.rds"))
sObj <- markClusterCol(sObj, "res")

### parse background image
imgFile <- file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                     "HE_Rep1_resized.jpg")
img <- parseImage(imgFile)

## run shinySpaniel (upload data.rds and image.rds in the shiny app)
## Not Run:
# runShinySpaniel()
```

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selectSpots

*selectSpots*


---

**Description**

A function to select spots to remove from analysis

**Usage**

```
selectSpots(sObj, imgObj)
```

**Arguments**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| sObj   | Either a Seurat object (version 3) or a SingleCellExperiment object containing barcode coordinates in the metadata (Seurat) or colData (SingleCellExperiment). |
| imgObj | a ggplot grob (see parseImage function)  |

**Value**

Runs a shiny application

**Examples**

```
## Run the shiny app (Not run):
# selectSpots(sObj, imgObj)

# Click on the spots to remove from downstream analysis. Once all the spots
# have been selected close the shiny app window. A list of spots is
# stored in a text file called points_to_remove.txt in the working directory.

# Once this step has been run a filtered Seurat or SCE object can be
# created using removeSpots (see removeSpots for more details)
```

spanielPlot

*Spatial Transcriptomics Plot***Description**

This function overlays information from a Seurat object or SingleCellExperiment object containing barcodes onto a H & E image. There are 4 plots available showing a) the number of genes detected per spot, b) the number of reads detected per spot, c) clustering results, d) the gene expression of a selected gene.

**Usage**

```
spanielPlot(object, grob, plotType = c("NoGenes",
                                      "CountsPerSpot",
                                      "Cluster",
                                      "Gene"),
            gene= NULL, clusterRes = NULL, customTitle = NULL,
            scaleData = TRUE, showFilter = NULL, ptSize = 2,
            ptSizeMin = 0, ptSizeMax = 5)
```

**Arguments**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| object      | Either a Seurat object (version 3) or a SingleCellExperiment object containing barcode coordinates in the metadata (Seurat) or colData (SingleCellExperiment).  |
| grob        | an grob to be used as the background image see(parseImage)  |
| plotType    | There are 5 types of plots available: 1) NoGenes - This shows the number of genes per spot and uses information from "nFeature_RNA" column of Seurat object or "detected" from a SingleCellExperiment object. 2) CountsPerSpot - This shows the number of counts per spot. It uses information from "nCount_RNA" column of Seurat object or "sum" from a singleCellExperiment object. 3) Cluster - This plot is designed to show clustering results stored in the meta.data or colData of an object 4) Gene- This plot shows the expression of a single gene. This plot uses scaled/normalised expressin data from the scale.data slot of Seurat object or logcounts of a SingleCellExperiment object. 5) Other - A generic plot to plot any column from the meta.data or colData of an object. |
| gene        | Gene to plot  |
| clusterRes  | which cluster resolution to plot  |
| customTitle | Specify plot title (optional)   |
| scaleData   | Show scaled data on plot (default is TRUE)  |
| showFilter  | Logical filter showing pass/fail for spots  |
| ptSize      | Point size used for cluster plot default is 2   |
| ptSizeMin   | Minimum point size used for QC and Gene Expression plots default is 0   |
| ptSizeMax   | Maximum point size used for QC and Gene Expression plots default is 5   |

**Value**

A ggplot spatial transcriptomics plot

**Examples**

```
## Data is taken from DOI: 10.1126/science.aaf2403
SeuratObj <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                                "extdata/SeuratData.rds"))
imgFile <- readRDS(file.path(system.file(package = "Spaniel"),
                                "extdata/image.rds"))

## Counts per spot with a QC filter
minGenes <- 2000
minUMI <- 300000
filter <- SeuratObj$nFeature_RNA > minGenes &
           SeuratObj$nCount_RNA > minUMI
spanielPlot(object = SeuratObj, grob = imgFile,
            plotType = "CountsPerSpot",
            showFilter = filter)

## Cluster plot
spanielPlot(object = SeuratObj, grob = imgFile,
            plotType = "Cluster",
            clusterRes = "cluster_RNA_snn_res.0.6")

## Gene plot
spanielPlot(object = SeuratObj, grob = imgFile,
            plotType = "Gene",
            gene= "Nrgn")
```



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