

# Package ‘scDesign3’

May 19, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** A unified framework of realistic in silico data generation and statistical model inference for single-cell and spatial omics

**Version** 1.11.0

**Description** We present a statistical simulator, scDesign3, to generate realistic single-cell and spatial omics data, including various cell states, experimental designs, and feature modalities, by learning interpretable parameters from real data. Using a unified probabilistic model for single-cell and spatial omics data, scDesign3 infers biologically meaningful parameters; assesses the goodness-of-fit of inferred cell clusters, trajectories, and spatial locations; and generates in silico negative and positive controls for benchmarking computational tools.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** false

**Depends** R (>= 4.3.0)

**Imports** dplyr, tibble, stats, methods, mgcv, gamlss, gamlss.dist, SummarizedExperiment, SingleCellExperiment, mclust, mvtnorm, parallel, pbmcapply, umap, ggplot2, irlba, viridis, BiocParallel, matrixStats, Matrix, sparseMVN, coop

**Suggests** mvnfast, igraph, rvinecopulib, knitr, rmarkdown, testthat (>= 3.0.0), RefManageR, sessioninfo, BiocStyle

**biocViews** Software, SingleCell, Sequencing, GeneExpression, Spatial

**URL** <https://github.com/SONGDONGYUAN1994/scDesign3>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/SONGDONGYUAN1994/scDesign3/issues>

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**git\_url** <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/scDesign3>

**git\_branch** devel

**git\_last\_commit** 61b5ba5

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2026-04-28

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.24

**Date/Publication** 2026-05-18

**Author** Dongyuan Song [aut, cre] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1114-1215>),  
 Qingyang Wang [aut] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1051-609X>),  
 Chenxin Jiang [aut] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0005-7369-4116>)

**Maintainer** Dongyuan Song <dongyuansong@ucla.edu>

## Contents

ba	2
construct_data	3
example_count	4
example_sce	5
extract_para	5
fit_copula	7
fit_marginal	10
ga	11
gamlss.ba	12
gamlss.ga	13
perform_lrt	13
plot_reduceddim	14
pseudotime	16
scdesign3	16
simu_new	19
sparse_cov	22
<b>Index</b>	<b>23</b>

---

ba	<i>Functions from gamlss/gamlss.add with bugs fixed</i>
----	---

---

### Description

An additive function to be used while fitting GAMLSS models. The interface for bam() in the **mgcv** package.

### Usage

```
ba(formula, control = ba.control(...), ...)
```

### Arguments

formula	A formula of the model.
control	The control of the model fitting.
...	Other arguments.

### Value

A xvar list.

**ba**

NA

**Examples**

```
print("No example")
```

---

construct_data	<i>Construct the input data (covariate matrix and expression matrix)</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

This function constructs the input data for [fit\\_marginal](#).

**Usage**

```
construct_data(
  sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype,
  pseudotime,
  spatial,
  other_covariates,
  ncell = dim(sce)[2],
  corr_by,
  parallelization = "mcmapply",
  BPPARAM = NULL
)
```

**Arguments**

sce	A SingleCellExperiment object.
assay_use	A string which indicates the assay you will use in the sce. Default is 'counts'.
celltype	A string of the name of cell type variable in the colData of the sce. Default is 'cell_type'.
pseudotime	A string or a string vector of the name of pseudotime and (if exist) multiple lineages. Default is NULL.
spatial	A length two string vector of the names of spatial coordinates. Default is NULL.
other_covariates	A string or a string vector of the other covariates you want to include in the data.
ncell	The number of cell you want to simulate. Default is dim(sce)[2] (the same number as the input data). If an arbitrary number is provided, the function will use Vine Copula to simulate a new covariate matrix.
corr_by	A string or a string vector which indicates the groups for correlation structure. If '1', all cells have one estimated corr. If 'ind', no corr (features are independent). If others, this variable decides the corr structures.

**parallelization**

A string indicating the specific parallelization function to use. Must be one of 'mcmapply', 'bpmapply', or 'pbmcmapply', which corresponds to the parallelization function in the package parallel, BiocParallel, and pbmcmapply respectively. The default value is 'mcmapply'.

**BPPARAM**

A MulticoreParam object or NULL. When the parameter parallelization = 'mcmapply' or 'pbmcmapply', this parameter must be NULL. When the parameter parallelization = 'bpmapply', this parameter must be one of the MulticoreParam object offered by the package 'BiocParallel'. The default value is NULL.

**Details**

This function takes a SingleCellExperiment object as the input. Based on users' choice, it constructs the matrix of covariates (explanatory variables) and the expression matrix (e.g., count matrix for scRNA-seq).

**Value**

A list with the components:

count\_mat The expression matrix

dat The original covariate matrix

newCovariate The simulated new covariate matrix, is NULL if the parameter ncell is default

filtered\_gene The genes that are excluded in the marginal and copula fitting steps because these genes only express in less than two cells.

**Examples**

```
data(example_sce)
my_data <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "1"
)
```

---

example\_count

*A sparse matrix with example data*

---

**Description**

A sparse matrix with example data

**Usage**

```
data("example_count")
```

**Format**

A dgCMatix with 100 rows (genes) and 2087 cols (cells)

**Value**

The corresponding sparse matrix object 'example\_count'

---

example_sce	<i>A SingleCellExperiment object containing both cell type and pseudo-time</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

A SingleCellExperiment object containing both cell type and pseudotime

**Usage**

```
data("example_sce")
```

**Format**

A dataset with 10 rows (genes) and 1289 cols (cells)

**Value**

The corresponding SingleCellExperiment object

---

extract_para	<i>Extract the parameters of each cell's distribution</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

extract\_para generates parameter matrices which determine each cell's distribution

**Usage**

```
extract_para(
  sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  marginal_list,
  n_cores,
  family_use,
  new_covariate,
  parallelization = "mcmapply",
  BPPARAM = NULL,
  data
)
```

**Arguments**

sce	A SingleCellExperiment object.
assay_use	A string which indicates the assay you will use in the sce. Default is 'counts'.
marginal_list	A list of fitted regression models from <a href="#">fit_marginal</a> for each gene in sce.
n_cores	An integer. The number of cores to use.
family_use	A string of the marginal distribution. Must be one of 'poisson', 'nb', 'zip', 'zinb' or 'gaussian', which represent 'poisson distribution', 'negative binomial distribution', 'zero-inflated poisson distribution', 'zero-inflated negative binomial distribution', and 'gaussian distribution' respectively.
new_covariate	A data.frame which contains covariates of targeted simulated data from <a href="#">construct_data</a> and the correlation group assignment for each cell in the column 'corr_group'.
parallelization	A string indicating the specific parallelization function to use. Must be one of 'mcmapply', 'bpmapply', or 'pbmcmapply', which corresponds to the parallelization function in the package parallel, BiocParallel, and pbmcmapply respectively. The default value is 'mcmapply'.
BPPARAM	A MulticoreParam object or NULL. When the parameter parallelization = 'mcmapply' or 'pbmcmapply', this parameter must be NULL. When the parameter parallelization = 'bpmapply', this parameter must be one of the MulticoreParam object offered by the package 'BiocParallel'. The default value is NULL.
data	A dataframe which is used when fitting the gamlss model

**Details**

The function takes the new covariate (if use) from [construct\\_data](#) and marginal models from [fit\\_marginal](#).

**Value**

A list with the components:

mean\_mat A cell by feature matrix of the mean parameter.

sigma\_mat A cell by feature matrix of the sigma parameter (for Gaussian, the variance; for NB, the dispersion.).

zero\_mat A cell by feature matrix of the zero-inflation parameter (only non-zero for ZIP and ZINB).

**Examples**

```
data(example_sce)
my_data <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "1"
)
my_marginal <- fit_marginal(
  data = my_data,
```

```

mu_formula = "s(pseudotime, bs = 'cr', k = 10)",
sigma_formula = "1",
family_use = "nb",
n_cores = 1,
usebam = FALSE
)
my_copula <- fit_copula(
sce = example_sce,
assay_use = "counts",
marginal_list = my_marginal,
family_use = c(rep("nb", 5), rep("zip", 5)),
copula = "vine",
n_cores = 1,
input_data = my_data$dat
)
my_para <- extract_para(
sce = example_sce,
marginal_list = my_marginal,
n_cores = 1,
family_use = c(rep("nb", 5), rep("zip", 5)),
new_covariate = my_data$new_covariate,
data = my_data$dat
)

```

---

fit\_copula

*Fit the copula model*


---

## Description

fit\_copula fits the copula model.

## Usage

```

fit_copula(
sce,
assay_use,
input_data,
empirical_quantile = FALSE,
marginal_list,
family_use,
copula = "gaussian",
DT = TRUE,
pseudo_obs = FALSE,
epsilon = 1e-06,
family_set = c("gaussian", "indep"),
important_feature = "all",
if_sparse = FALSE,
correlation_function = "default",
n_cores,
parallelization = "mcmapply",
BPPARAM = NULL
)

```

**Arguments**

sce	A SingleCellExperiment object.
assay_use	A string which indicates the assay you will use in the sce. Default is 'counts'.
input_data	The input data, which is one of the output from <a href="#">construct_data</a> .
empirical_quantile	Please only use it if you clearly know what will happen! A logic variable. If TRUE, DO NOT fit the copula and use the EMPIRICAL CDF values of the original data; it will make the simulated data fixed (no randomness). Default is FALSE. Only works if ncell is the same as your original data.
marginal_list	A list of fitted regression models from <a href="#">fit_marginal</a> .
family_use	A string or a vector of strings of the marginal distribution. Must be one of 'poisson', 'nb', 'zip', 'zinb' or 'gaussian'.
copula	A string of the copula choice. Must be one of 'gaussian' or 'vine'. Default is 'gaussian'. Note that vine copula may have better modeling of high-dimensions, but can be very slow when features are >1000.
DT	A logic variable. If TRUE, perform the distributional transformation to make the discrete data 'continuous'. This is useful for discrete distributions (e.g., Poisson, NB). Default is TRUE. Note that for continuous data (e.g., Gaussian), DT does not make sense and should be set as FALSE.
pseudo_obs	A logic variable. If TRUE, use the empirical quantiles instead of theoretical quantiles for fitting copula. Default is FALSE.
epsilon	A numeric variable for preventing the transformed quantiles to collapse to 0 or 1.
family_set	A string or a string vector of the bivariate copula families. Default is c("gaussian", "indep").
important_feature	A numeric value or vector which indicates whether a gene will be used in correlation estimation or not. If this is a numeric value, then gene with zero proportion greater than this value will be excluded from gene-gene correlation estimation. If this is a vector, then this should be a logical vector with length equal to the number of genes in sce. TRUE in the logical vector means the corresponding gene will be included in gene-gene correlation estimation and FALSE in the logical vector means the corresponding gene will be excluded from the gene-gene correlation estimation. The default value for is "all" (a special string which means no filtering).
if_sparse	A logic variable. Only works for Gaussian copula (family_set = "gaussian"). If TRUE, a thresholding strategy will make the corr matrix sparse.
correlation_function	A string. If 'default', the function from Rfast; if 'coop', the function from coop, which calls BLAS.
n_cores	An integer. The number of cores to use.
parallelization	A string indicating the specific parallelization function to use. Must be one of 'mcmapply', 'bpmapply', or 'pbmcmapply', which corresponds to the parallelization function in the package parallel, BiocParallel, and pbmcmapply respectively. The default value is 'mcmapply'.

**BPPARAM** A `MulticoreParam` object or `NULL`. When the parameter `parallelization = 'mcmapply'` or `'pbmcmapply'`, this parameter must be `NULL`. When the parameter `parallelization = 'bpmapply'`, this parameter must be one of the `MulticoreParam` object offered by the package `'BiocParallel'`. The default value is `NULL`.

## Details

This function takes the result from `fit_marginal` as the input and fit the copula model on the residuals.

## Value

A list with the components:

`new_mvu` A matrix of the new multivariate uniform distribution from the copula.

`copula_list` A list of the fitted copula model. If using Gaussian copula, a list of correlation matrices; if vine, a list of vine objects.

`model_aic` A vector of the marginal AIC and the copula AIC.

`model_bic` A vector of the marginal BIC and the copula BIC.

## Examples

```
data(example_sce)
my_data <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "1"
)
my_marginal <- fit_marginal(
  data = my_data,
  mu_formula = "s(pseudotime, bs = 'cr', k = 10)",
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 1,
  usebam = FALSE
)
my_copula <- fit_copula(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  marginal_list = my_marginal,
  family_use = c(rep("nb", 5), rep("zip", 5)),
  copula = "vine",
  n_cores = 1,
  input_data = my_data$dat
)
```

---

fit_marginal	<i>Fit the marginal models</i>
--------------	--------------------------------

---

### Description

fit\_marginal fits the per-feature regression models.

### Usage

```
fit_marginal(
  data,
  predictor = "gene",
  mu_formula,
  sigma_formula,
  family_use,
  n_cores,
  usebam = FALSE,
  edf_flexible = FALSE,
  parallelization = "mcmapply",
  BPPARAM = NULL,
  trace = FALSE,
  simplify = FALSE,
  filter_cells = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

data	An object from <a href="#">construct_data</a> .
predictor	A string of the predictor for the gam/gamlss model. Default is "gene". This is just a name.
mu_formula	A string of the mu parameter formula. It follows the format of formula in <a href="#">bam</a> . Note: if the formula has multiple smoothers (s()) (we do not recommend this), please put the one with largest k (most complex one) as the first one.
sigma_formula	A string of the sigma parameter formula
family_use	A string or a vector of strings of the marginal distribution. Must be one of 'binomial', 'poisson', 'nb', 'zip', 'zinb' or 'gaussian', which represent 'poisson distribution', 'negative binomial distribution', 'zero-inflated poisson distribution', 'zero-inflated negative binomial distribution', and 'gaussian distribution' respectively.
n_cores	An integer. The number of cores to use.
usebam	A logic variable. If use <a href="#">bam</a> for acceleration.
edf_flexible	A logic variable. It uses simpler model to accelerate the marginal fitting with a mild loss of accuracy. If TRUE, the fitted regression model will use the fitted relationship between Gini coefficient and the effective degrees of freedom on a random selected gene sets. Default is FALSE.
parallelization	A string indicating the specific parallelization function to use. Must be one of 'mcmapply', 'bpmapply', or 'pbmcmapply', which corresponds to the parallelization function in the package <code>parallel</code> , <code>BiocParallel</code> , and <code>pbmapply</code> respectively. The default value is 'mcmapply'.

BPPARAM	A <code>MulticoreParam</code> object or <code>NULL</code> . When the parameter <code>parallelization = 'mcmapply'</code> or <code>'pbmcmapply'</code> , this parameter must be <code>NULL</code> . When the parameter <code>parallelization = 'bpmapply'</code> , this parameter must be one of the <code>MulticoreParam</code> object offered by the package <code>'BiocParallel'</code> . The default value is <code>NULL</code> .
trace	A logic variable. If <code>TRUE</code> , the warning/error log and runtime for <code>gam/gamlss</code> will be returned. will be returned, <code>FALSE</code> otherwise. Default is <code>FALSE</code> .
simplify	A logic variable. If <code>TRUE</code> , the fitted regression model will only keep the essential contains for <code>predict</code> . Default is <code>FALSE</code> .
filter_cells	A logic variable. If <code>TRUE</code> , when all covariates used for fitting the <code>GAM/GAMLSS</code> model are categorical, the code will check each unique combination of categories and remove cells in that category if it has all zero gene expression for each fitted gene.

### Details

The function takes the result from `construct_data` as the input, and fit the regression models for each feature based on users' specification.

### Value

A list of fitted regression models. The length is equal to the total feature number.

### Examples

```
data(example_sce)
my_data <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "1"
)
my_marginal <- fit_marginal(
  data = my_data,
  mu_formula = "s(pseudotime, bs = 'cr', k = 10)",
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 1,
  usebam = FALSE
)
```

### Description

An additive function to be used while fitting `GAMLSS` models. The interface for `gam()` in the `mgcv` package.

**Usage**

```
ga(formula, envir, control = ga.control(...), ...)
```

**Arguments**

formula	A formula of the model.
envir	The environment.
control	The control of the model fitting.
...	Other arguments.

**Value**

A xvar list.

**ga**

NA

**Examples**

```
print("No example")
```

---

gamlss.ba

*Support for Function ba()*

---

**Description**

This is support for the smoother functions `ba()` interfaces for Simon Wood's `bam()` functions from package **mgcv**. It is not intended to be called directly by users. From `gamlss.add::gamlss.ba`.

**Usage**

```
gamlss.ba(x, y, w, xeval = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	The explanatory variables
y	Iterative y variable
w	Iterative weights
xeval	If <code>xeval=TRUE</code> then prediction is used
...	Other arguments

**Value**

Not used

**Examples**

```
print("No example")
```

---

gamlss.ga	<i>Support for Function ga()</i>
-----------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

This is support for the smoother functions `ga()` interfaces for Simon Wood's `gam()` functions from package **mgcv**. It is not intended to be called directly by users. From `gamlss.add:gamlss.ga`.

**Usage**

```
gamlss.ga(x, y, w, xeval = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

<code>x</code>	The explanatory variables
<code>y</code>	Iterative y variable
<code>w</code>	Iterative weights
<code>xeval</code>	If <code>xeval=TRUE</code> then prediction is used
<code>...</code>	Other arguments

**Value**

Not used

**Examples**

```
print("No example")
```

---

perform_lrt	<i>Perform the likelihood ratio test</i>
-------------	--

---

**Description**

`perform_lrt` performs the likelihood ratio test to compare two list of marginal models.

**Usage**

```
perform_lrt(alter_marginal, null_marginal)
```

**Arguments**

<code>alter_marginal</code>	A list of marginal models from the alternative hypothesis.
<code>null_marginal</code>	A list of marginal models from the null hypothesis. It must be strictly nested in the alternative model.

**Details**

The function takes two lists of marginal models (by default, the first list is the alternative and the second is the null) from `fit_marginal`. Note that LRT only makes sense for NESTED models. This can be quite tricky if you use penalized-splines (e.g., for trajectory data).

**Value**

A data.frame of the LRT result.

**Examples**

```

data(example_sce)
my_data <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "cell_type"
)

my_data2 <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "pseudotime",
  ncell = 10000
)

my_marginal1 <- fit_marginal(
  data = my_data,
  mu_formula = "1",
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 1,
  usebam = FALSE
)
my_marginal2 <- fit_marginal(
  data = my_data,
  mu_formula = "s(pseudotime, bs = 'cr', k = 10)",
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 1,
  usebam = FALSE
)
my_fit1 <- lapply(my_marginal1, function(x)x$fit)
my_fit2 <- lapply(my_marginal2, function(x)x$fit)
my_pvalue <- perform_lrt(my_fit2, my_fit1)

```

---

plot\_reduceddim

*Dimensionality reduction and visualization*

---

**Description**

plot\_reduceddim performs the dimensionality reduction

## Usage

```
plot_reduceddim(  
  ref_sce,  
  sce_list,  
  name_vec,  
  assay_use = "logcounts",  
  pc_umap = TRUE,  
  n_pc = 50,  
  center = TRUE,  
  scale. = TRUE,  
  if_plot = TRUE,  
  shape_by = NULL,  
  color_by,  
  point_size = 1  
)
```

## Arguments

ref_sce	The reference sce.
sce_list	A list of synthetic sce.
name_vec	A vector of the names of each dataset. The length should be <code>length(sce_list) + 1</code> , where the first name is for <code>ref_sce</code> .
assay_use	A string which indicates the assay you will use in the sce. Default is 'logcounts'.
pc_umap	A logic value of whether using PCs as the input of UMAP. Default is TRUE.
n_pc	An integer of the number of PCs.
center	A logic value of whether centering the data before PCA. Default is TRUE.
scale.	A logic value of whether scaling the data before PCA. Default is TRUE.
if_plot	A logic value of whether returning the plot. If FALSE, return the reduced dimensions of each dataset.
shape_by	A string which indicates the column in <code>colData</code> used for shape.
color_by	A string which indicates the column in <code>colData</code> used for color.
point_size	A numeric value of the point size in the final plot. Default is 1.

## Details

This function takes a reference sce and a list of new sces, performs the dimensionality reduction on the reference data, projects the synthetic datasets on the same low dimensional space, then visualize the results.

## Value

The ggplot or the data.frame of reduced dimensions.

---

pseudotime	<i>A numeric vector of pseudotime values</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

A numeric vector of pseudotime values

**Usage**

```
data("pseudotime")
```

**Format**

A numeric vector with 2087 values

**Value**

The corresponding pseudotime of the 'example\_count'

---

scdesign3	<i>The wrapper for the whole scDesign3 pipeline</i>
-----------	---

---

**Description**

scdesign3 takes the input data, fits the model and

**Usage**

```
scdesign3(
  sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype,
  pseudotime = NULL,
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates,
  ncell = dim(sce)[2],
  mu_formula,
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 2,
  correlation_function = "default",
  usebam = FALSE,
  edf_flexible = FALSE,
  corr_formula,
  empirical_quantile = FALSE,
  copula = "gaussian",
  if_sparse = FALSE,
  fastmvn = FALSE,
  DT = TRUE,
  pseudo_obs = FALSE,
```

```

family_set = c("gauss", "indep"),
important_feature = "all",
nonnegative = TRUE,
nonzerovar = FALSE,
return_model = FALSE,
simplify = FALSE,
parallelization = "mcmapply",
n_rep = 1,
BPPARAM = NULL,
trace = FALSE
)

```

### Arguments

sce	A SingleCellExperiment object.
assay_use	A string which indicates the assay you will use in the sce. Default is 'counts'.
celltype	A string of the name of cell type variable in the colData of the sce. Default is 'cell_type'.
pseudotime	A string or a string vector of the name of pseudotime and (if exist) multiple lineages. Default is NULL.
spatial	A length two string vector of the names of spatial coordinates. Default is NULL.
other_covariates	A string or a string vector of the other covariates you want to include in the data.
ncell	The number of cell you want to simulate. Default is <code>dim(sce)[2]</code> (the same number as the input data).
mu_formula	A string of the mu parameter formula
sigma_formula	A string of the sigma parameter formula
family_use	A string of the marginal distribution. Must be one of 'poisson', 'nb', 'zip', 'zinb' or 'gaussian'.
n_cores	An integer. The number of cores to use.
correlation_function	A string. If 'default', the function from Rfast; if 'coop', the function from coop, which calls BLAS.
usebam	A logic variable. If use <a href="#">bam</a> for acceleration in marginal fitting.
edf_flexible	A logic variable. It is used for accelerating for spatial model if k is large in 'mu_formula'. Default is FALSE.
corr_formula	A string of the correlation structure.
empirical_quantile	Please only use it if you clearly know what will happen! A logic variable. If TRUE, DO NOT fit the copula and use the EMPIRICAL CDF values of the original data; it will make the simulated data fixed (no randomness). Default is FALSE. Only works if ncell is the same as your original data.
copula	A string of the copula choice. Must be one of 'gaussian' or 'vine'. Default is 'gaussian'. Note that vine copula may have better modeling of high-dimensions, but can be very slow when features are >1000.
if_sparse	A logic variable. Only works for Gaussian copula ( <code>family_set = "gaussian"</code> ). If TRUE, a thresholding strategy will make the corr matrix sparse.

<code>fastmvn</code>	An logical variable. If TRUE, the sampling of multivariate Gaussian is done by <code>mvnfast</code> , otherwise by <code>mvtnorm</code> . Default is FALSE. It only matters for Gaussian copula.
<code>DT</code>	A logic variable. If TRUE, perform the distributional transformation to make the discrete data 'continuous'. This is useful for discrete distributions (e.g., Poisson, NB). Default is TRUE. Note that for continuous data (e.g., Gaussian), DT does not make sense and should be set as FALSE.
<code>pseudo_obs</code>	A logic variable. If TRUE, use the empirical quantiles instead of theoretical quantiles for fitting copula. Default is FALSE.
<code>family_set</code>	A string or a string vector of the bivariate copula families. Default is <code>c("gauss", "indep")</code> . For more information please check package <code>rvinecoplib</code> .
<code>important_feature</code>	A numeric value or vector which indicates whether a gene will be used in correlation estimation or not. If this is a numeric value, then gene with zero proportion greater than this value will be excluded from gene-gene correlation estimation. If this is a vector, then this should be a logical vector with length equal to the number of genes in <code>sce</code> . TRUE in the logical vector means the corresponding gene will be included in gene-gene correlation estimation and FALSE in the logical vector means the corresponding gene will be excluded from the gene-gene correlation estimation. The default value is "all" (a special string which means no filtering).
<code>nonnegative</code>	A logical variable. If TRUE, values $< 0$ in the synthetic data will be converted to 0. Default is TRUE (since the expression matrix is nonnegative).
<code>nonzerovar</code>	A logical variable. If TRUE, for any gene with zero variance, a cell will be replaced with 1. This is designed for avoiding potential errors, for example, PCA. Default is FALSE.
<code>return_model</code>	A logic variable. If TRUE, the marginal models and copula models will be returned. Default is FALSE.
<code>simplify</code>	A logic variable. If TRUE, the fitted regression model will only keep the essential contains for predict, otherwise the fitted models can be VERY large. Default is FALSE.
<code>parallelization</code>	A string indicating the specific parallelization function to use.
<code>n_rep</code>	An integer number. The number of replicates of simulated new count matrix. Default is 1. Must be one of 'mcmapply', 'bpmapply', or 'pbmcmapply', which corresponds to the parallelization function in the package <code>parallel</code> , <code>BiocParallel</code> , and <code>pbmccapply</code> respectively. The default value is 'mcmapply'.
<code>BPPARAM</code>	A <code>MultiCoreParam</code> object or NULL. When the parameter <code>parallelization = 'mcmapply'</code> or 'pbmcmapply', this parameter must be NULL. When the parameter <code>parallelization = 'bpmapply'</code> , this parameter must be one of the <code>MultiCoreParam</code> object offered by the package 'BiocParallel'. The default value is NULL.
<code>trace</code>	A logic variable. If TRUE, the warning/error log and runtime for <code>gam/gamlss</code> will be returned, FALSE otherwise. Default is FALSE.

## Value

A list with the components:

`new_count` A matrix of the new simulated count (expression) matrix.

`new_covariate` A `data.frame` of the new covariate matrix.

model\_aic The model AIC.

marginal\_list A list of marginal regression models if return\_model = TRUE.

corr\_list A list of correlation models (conditional copulas) if return\_model = TRUE.

### Examples

```
data(example_sce)
my_simu <- scdesign3(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  mu_formula = "s(pseudotime, bs = 'cr', k = 10)",
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 2,
  usebam = FALSE,
  edf_flexible = FALSE,
  corr_formula = "pseudotime",
  copula = "gaussian",
  if_sparse = TRUE,
  DT = TRUE,
  pseudo_obs = FALSE,
  ncell = 1000,
  return_model = FALSE
)
```

---

simu\_new

*Simulate new data*

---

### Description

simu\_new generates new simulated data based on fitted marginal and copula models.

### Usage

```
simu_new(
  sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  mean_mat,
  sigma_mat,
  zero_mat,
  quantile_mat = NULL,
  copula_list,
  n_cores,
  fastmvn = FALSE,
  family_use,
  nonnegative = TRUE,
  nonzerovar = FALSE,
```

```

    input_data,
    new_covariate,
    important_feature = "all",
    parallelization = "mcmapply",
    BPPARAM = NULL,
    filtered_gene
)

```

## Arguments

sce	A SingleCellExperiment object.
assay_use	A string which indicates the assay you will use in the sce. Default is 'counts'.
mean_mat	A cell by feature matrix of the mean parameter.
sigma_mat	A cell by feature matrix of the sigma parameter.
zero_mat	A cell by feature matrix of the zero-inflation parameter.
quantile_mat	A cell by feature matrix of the multivariate quantile.
copula_list	A list of copulas for generating the multivariate quantile matrix. If provided, the quantile_mat must be NULL.
n_cores	An integer. The number of cores to use.
fastmvn	An logical variable. If TRUE, the sampling of multivariate Gaussian is done by mvnfast, otherwise by mvtnorm. Default is FALSE.
family_use	A string of the marginal distribution. Must be one of 'poisson', 'binomial', 'nb', 'zip', 'zinb' or 'gaussian'.
nonnegative	A logical variable. If TRUE, values < 0 in the synthetic data will be converted to 0. Default is TRUE (since the expression matrix is nonnegative).
nonzerovar	A logical variable. If TRUE, for any gene with zero variance, a cell will be replaced with 1. This is designed for avoiding potential errors, for example, PCA.
input_data	A input count matrix.
new_covariate	A data.frame which contains covariates of targeted simulated data from <a href="#">construct_data</a> .
important_feature	important_feature A string or vector which indicates whether a gene will be used in correlation estimation or not. If this is a string, then this string must be either "all" (using all genes) or "auto", which indicates that the genes will be automatically selected based on the proportion of zero expression across cells for each gene. Gene with zero proportion greater than 0.8 will be excluded from gene-gene correlation estimation. If this is a vector, then this should be a logical vector with length equal to the number of genes in sce. TRUE in the logical vector means the corresponding gene will be included in gene-gene correlation estimation and FALSE in the logical vector means the corresponding gene will be excluded from the gene-gene correlation estimation. The default value for is "all".
parallelization	A string indicating the specific parallelization function to use. Must be one of 'mcmapply', 'bpmapply', or 'pbmcmapply', which corresponds to the parallelization function in the package parallel, BiocParallel, and pbmcmapply respectively. The default value is 'mcmapply'.

BPPARAM	A MulticoreParam object or NULL. When the parameter parallelization = 'mcmapply' or 'pbmcmapply', this parameter must be NULL. When the parameter parallelization = 'bpmapply', this parameter must be one of the MulticoreParam object offered by the package 'BiocParallel'. The default value is NULL.
filtered_gene	A vector or NULL which contains genes that are excluded in the marginal and copula fitting steps because these genes only express in less than two cells. This can be obtain from <a href="#">construct_data</a>

## Details

The function takes the new covariate (if use) from [construct\\_data](#), parameter matrices from [extract\\_para](#) and multivariate Unifs from [fit\\_copula](#).

## Value

A feature by cell matrix of the new simulated count (expression) matrix or sparse matrix.

## Examples

```

data(example_sce)
my_data <- construct_data(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  celltype = "cell_type",
  pseudotime = "pseudotime",
  spatial = NULL,
  other_covariates = NULL,
  corr_by = "1"
)
my_marginal <- fit_marginal(
  data = my_data,
  mu_formula = "s(pseudotime, bs = 'cr', k = 10)",
  sigma_formula = "1",
  family_use = "nb",
  n_cores = 1,
  usebam = FALSE
)
my_copula <- fit_copula(
  sce = example_sce,
  assay_use = "counts",
  marginal_list = my_marginal,
  family_use = c(rep("nb", 5), rep("zip", 5)),
  copula = "vine",
  n_cores = 1,
  input_data = my_data$dat
)
my_para <- extract_para(
  sce = example_sce,
  marginal_list = my_marginal,
  n_cores = 1,
  family_use = c(rep("nb", 5), rep("zip", 5)),
  new_covariate = my_data$new_covariate,
  data = my_data$dat
)
my_newcount <- simu_new(
  sce = example_sce,

```

```

mean_mat = my_para$mean_mat,
sigma_mat = my_para$sigma_mat,
zero_mat = my_para$zero_mat,
quantile_mat = NULL,
copula_list = my_copula$copula_list,
n_cores = 1,
family_use = c(rep("nb", 5), rep("zip", 5)),
input_data = my_data$dat,
new_covariate = my_data$new_covariate,
important_feature = my_copula$important_feature,
filtered_gene = my_data$filtered_gene
)

```

---

sparse\_cov

*This function computes the thresholding sparse covariance/correlation estimator with the optimal threshold level.*

---

### Description

Part from Chenxin Jiang

### Usage

```

sparse_cov(
  data,
  method = c("cv", "qiu"),
  operator = c("hard", "soft", "scad", "al"),
  corr = TRUE
)

```

### Arguments

data	The data matrix.
method	The choice of method to select the optimal threshold level.
operator	The choice of the thresholding operator.
corr	The indicator of computing correlation or covariance matrix.

### Value

The thresholding sparse covariance/correlation estimator.

### Examples

```
print("No example")
```

# Index

## \* datasets

example\_count, 4  
example\_sce, 5  
pseudotime, 16

ba, 2

bam, 10, 17

construct\_data, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 20, 21

example\_count, 4

example\_sce, 5

extract\_para, 5, 21

fit\_copula, 7, 21

fit\_marginal, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13

ga, 11

gamlss.ba, 12

gamlss.ga, 13

perform\_lrt, 13

plot\_reduceddim, 14

pseudotime, 16

scdesign3, 16

simu\_new, 19

sparse\_cov, 22