# Package 'Ibex'

October 24, 2025

**Title** Methods for BCR single-cell embedding

Version 0.99.34

**Description** Implementation of the Ibex algorithm for single-cell embedding based on BCR sequences. The package includes a standalone function to encode BCR sequence information by amino acid properties or sequence order using tensorflow-based autoencoder. In addition, the package interacts with SingleCellExperiment or Seurat data objects.

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**Encoding** UTF-8

LazyData false

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

**biocViews** Software, ImmunoOncology, SingleCell, Classification, Annotation, Sequencing

**Depends** R (>= 4.5.0)

**Imports** basilisk, immApex (>= 1.3.2), methods, Matrix, reticulate (>= 1.43.0), rlang, SeuratObject, scRepertoire, SingleCellExperiment, stats, SummarizedExperiment, tensorflow, tools

**Suggests** basilisk.utils, BiocStyle, bluster, dplyr, ggplot2, kableExtra, knitr, markdown, mumosa, patchwork, Peptides, rmarkdown, scater, spelling, testthat (>= 3.0.0), utils, viridis

SystemRequirements Python (via basilisk)

VignetteBuilder knitr

Language en-US

URL https://github.com/BorchLab/Ibex/

BugReports https://github.com/BorchLab/Ibex/issues

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE)

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## **Description**

Ibex implements methods for embedding B-cell receptor (BCR) sequences from single-cell assays into a continuous latent space. It supports amino-acid property-based and sequence-order encodings via a TensorFlow autoencoder, and interoperates with common single-cell containers such as **SingleCellExperiment** and **SeuratObject**.

#### **Details**

## **Key features**

- Encode BCR sequence information using biochemical properties or raw sequence order (TensorFlow autoencoder).
- Interoperate with **SingleCellExperiment** and **SeuratObject** for downstream analysis and visualization.
- Utilities for loading pretrained models and managing dependencies in an isolated basilisk environment.

## **Getting started**

browseVignettes("Ibex")

combine Expanded BCR

**Models and caching** Pretrained encoders can be retrieved with aa.model.loader(), which validates against internal metadata and caches downloaded artifacts; see the function help for cache location and behavior.

**Python/TensorFlow note** Ibex uses **basilisk** to provision an isolated Python environment at runtime; no manual setup is usually required.

#### Author(s)

Maintainer: Nick Borcherding <ncborch@gmail.com>

#### See Also

```
https://github.com/BorchLab/Ibex
https://github.com/BorchLab/Ibex/issues
```

combineExpandedBCR

combineBCR for CDR1/2/3 sequences

## **Description**

This function enhances BCR processing by incorporating additional sequence information from CDR1 and CDR2 regions before applying the BCR combination logic. The function depends on scRepertoire::combineBCR().

## Usage

```
combineExpandedBCR(
  input.data,
  samples = NULL,
  ID = NULL,
  call.related.clones = TRUE,
  threshold = 0.85,
  removeNA = FALSE,
  removeMulti = FALSE,
  filterMulti = TRUE,
  filterNonproductive = TRUE)
```

## **Arguments**

ΙD

input.data List of filtered contig annotations.

samples Character vector. Labels of samples (required).

call.related.clones

Logical. Whether to call related clones based on nucleotide sequence and V gene. Default is TRUE.

Character vector. Additional sample labeling (optional).

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threshold	Numeric. Normalized edit distance for clone clustering. Default is 0.85.	
removeNA	Logical. Whether to remove any chain without values. Default is FALSE.	
removeMulti	Logical. Whether to remove barcodes with more than two chains. Default is FALSE.	
filterMulti	Logical. Whether to select the highest-expressing light and heavy chains. Default is $TRUE$ .	
filterNonproductive		
	Logical Whather to remove peneroductive chains Default is TDIE	

\_

Logical. Whether to remove nonproductive chains. Default is TRUE.

## Value

A list of consolidated BCR clones with expanded CDR sequences.

#### See Also

```
scRepertoire::combineBCR()
```

## **Examples**

CoNGAfy

Reduce a Single-Cell Object to Representative Cells

## **Description**

This function generates a single-cell object with a reduced representation of RNA expression by clone. The approach is inspired by the method introduced in CoNGA. Users can generate either a mean representation of features by clone or identify a representative cell using count-based minimal Euclidean distance. Please read and cite the original work by the authors of CoNGA.

## Usage

```
CoNGAfy(
  input.data,
  method = "dist",
  features = NULL,
  assay = "RNA",
  meta.carry = c("CTaa", "CTgene")
)
```

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## **Arguments**

input.data A single-cell dataset in Seurat or SingleCellExperiment format. method Character. Specifies the method to reduce the dataset: • "mean" - Computes the mean expression of selected features across cells in each clonotype. • "dist" - Uses PCA reduction to identify the cell with the minimal Euclidean distance within each clonotype group. features Character vector. Selected genes for the reduction. If NULL (default), all genes are used. Character. The name of the assay or assays to include in the output. Defaults to assay the active assay. Character vector. Metadata variables to carry over from the input single-cell meta.carry object to the output.

# Value

A reduced single-cell object where each clonotype is represented by a single cell.

## **Examples**

filter.cells

Filter Single-Cell Data Based on CDR3 Sequences

## Description

This function subsets a Seurat or SingleCellExperiment object, removing cells where the CTaa column is missing or contains unwanted patterns.

#### Usage

```
filter.cells(sc.obj, chain)
```

## Arguments

sc.obj A Seurat or SingleCellExperiment object.
chain Character. Specifies the chain type ("Heavy" or "Light").

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#### Value

A filtered Seurat or SingleCellExperiment object.

ibex\_example A SingleCellExperiment object with 200 randomly-sampled B cells with BCR sequences from the 10x Genomics  $2k\_BEAM-Ab\_Mouse\_HEL\_5pv2$  dataset.

## **Description**

This object includes normalized gene expression values, metadata annotations, and B cell clonotype information derived from  $10x\ V(D)J$  sequencing. It is intended as a small example dataset for testing and demonstration purposes.

#### **Format**

A SingleCellExperiment object with 32,285 genes (rows) and 200 cells (columns).

**assays** List of matrices containing expression values: counts (raw counts) and logcounts (log-transformed).

rowData Empty in this example (no gene-level annotations).

**colData** A DataFrame with 14 columns of cell metadata, including: - orig.ident: Original sample identity. - nCount\_RNA: Total number of counts per cell. - nFeature\_RNA: Number of detected genes per cell. - cloneSize: Size of each clone. - ident: Cluster assignment.

reducedDims Contains dimensionality reductions: PCA, pca, and apca.

**altExp** One alternative experiment named BEAM containing additional expression data.

## **Description**

This function runs the Ibex algorithm to generate latent vectors from input data. The output can be returned as a matrix, with options to choose between deep learning autoencoders or geometric transformations based on the BLOSUM62 matrix.

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## Usage

#### **Arguments**

input.data

Input data, which can be:

- A Single Cell Object in Seurat or SingleCellExperiment format
- The output of scRepertoire::combineBCR() or combineExpandedBCR()

chain

Character. Specifies which chain to analyze:

- "Heavy" for the heavy chain
- "Light" for the light chain

method

Character. The algorithm to use for generating latent vectors:

- "encoder" Uses deep learning autoencoders
- "geometric" Uses geometric transformations based on the BLOSUM62 matrix

encoder.model

Character. The type of autoencoder model to use:

- "CNN" CDR3 Convolutional Neural Network-based autoencoder
- "VAE" CDR3 Variational Autoencoder
- "CNN.EXP" CDR1/2/3 CNN
- "VAE.EXP" CDR1/2/3 VAE

encoder.input

Character. Specifies the input features for the encoder model. Options include:

- Amino Acid Properties: "atchleyFactors", "crucianiProperties", "kideraFactors", "MSWHIM", "tScales", "zScales"
- "OHE" for One Hot Encoding

geometric.theta

Numeric. Angle (in radians) for the geometric transformation. Only used when method = "geometric".

species

Character. Default is "Human" or "Mouse".

verbose

Logical. Whether to print progress messages. Default is TRUE.

## Value

A matrix of latent vectors generated by the specified method.

ibex\_vdj

## See Also

```
immApex::propertyEncoder(), immApex::geometricEncoder()
```

## **Examples**

ibex\_vdj

Full filtered\_annotated\_contig.csv from the 10x 2k\_BEAM-Ab\_Mouse\_HEL\_5pv2

## Description

This dataset contains single-cell V(D)J sequencing annotations from the 10x Genomics BEAM-Ab Mouse dataset. It includes V(D)J gene calls, CDR regions, productivity information, and clonotype assignments for each contig.

#### **Format**

A data frame with 6 rows and 35 columns:

barcode Character. Unique cell barcode.

is\_cell Logical. Whether the barcode is identified as a cell.

contig\_id Character. Unique identifier for each contig.

**high\_confidence** Logical. Whether the contig is high confidence.

length Integer. Length of the contig.

chain Character. Chain type (e.g., IGH, IGK).

**v\_gene** Character. V gene annotation.

**d\_gene** Character. D gene annotation.

**j\_gene** Character. J gene annotation.

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**c\_gene** Character. C gene annotation.

full\_length Logical. Whether the contig is full-length.

**productive** Logical. Whether the contig is productive.

fwr1 Character. Amino acid sequence for Framework Region 1.

fwr1\_nt Character. Nucleotide sequence for FWR1.

cdr1 Character. Amino acid sequence for CDR1.

cdr1\_nt Character. Nucleotide sequence for CDR1.

fwr2 Character. Amino acid sequence for FWR2.

fwr2\_nt Character. Nucleotide sequence for FWR2.

cdr2 Character. Amino acid sequence for CDR2.

cdr2\_nt Character. Nucleotide sequence for CDR2.

fwr3 Character. Amino acid sequence for FWR3.

fwr3\_nt Character. Nucleotide sequence for FWR3.

**cdr3** Character. Amino acid sequence for CDR3.

cdr3\_nt Character. Nucleotide sequence for CDR3.

fwr4 Character. Amino acid sequence for FWR4.

**fwr4\_nt** Character. Nucleotide sequence for FWR4.

**reads** Integer. Number of reads supporting the contig.

umis Integer. Number of UMIs supporting the contig.

raw\_clonotype\_id Character. Clonotype ID from 10x output.

raw\_consensus\_id Character. Consensus ID from 10x output.

exact\_subclonotype\_id Integer. Exact subclonotype grouping.

runIbex

Ibex Single-Cell Calculation

## **Description**

This function applies the Ibex algorithm to single-cell data, integrating seamlessly with Seurat or SingleCellExperiment pipelines. The algorithm generates latent dimensions using deep learning or geometric transformations, storing the results in the dimensional reduction slot. runIbex will automatically subset the single-cell object based on amino acid sequences present for the given chain selection.

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## Usage

```
runIbex(
  sc.data,
  chain = "Heavy",
 method = "encoder",
 encoder.model = "VAE",
  encoder.input = "atchleyFactors",
  geometric.theta = pi,
  reduction.name = "Ibex",
  species = "Human",
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

#### **Arguments**

sc.data

A single-cell dataset, which can be:

- A Seurat object
- A SingleCellExperiment object

chain

Character. Specifies the chain to analyze:

- "Heavy" for the heavy chain
- "Light" for the light chain

method

Character. Algorithm to use for generating latent dimensions:

- "encoder" Uses deep learning autoencoders
- "geometric" Uses geometric transformations based on the BLOSUM62 matrix

encoder.model

Character. The type of autoencoder model to use:

- "CNN" CDR3 Convolutional Neural Network-based autoencoder
- "VAE" CDR3 Variational Autoencoder
- "CNN.EXP" CDR1/2/3 CNN
- "VAE.EXP" CDR1/2/3 VAE

encoder.input

Character. Input features for the encoder model:

- Amino Acid Properties: "atchleyFactors", "crucianiProperties", "kideraFactors", "MSWHIM", "tScales"
- "OHE" One Hot Encoding

geometric.theta

Numeric. Angle (in radians) for geometric transformation. Used only when method = "geometric".

reduction. name Character. The name to assign to the dimensional reduction. This is useful for running Ibex with multiple parameter settings and saving results under different

species

Character. Default is "Human" or "Mouse".

verbose

Logical. Whether to print progress messages. Default is TRUE.

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# Value

An updated Seurat or SingleCellExperiment object with Ibex dimensions added to the dimensional reduction slot.

# **Examples**

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