

Package ‘spatialSimGP’

May 15, 2026

Title Simulate Spatial Transcriptomics Data with the Mean-variance Relationship

Version 1.7.0

Description This packages simulates spatial transcriptomics data with the mean-variance relationship using a Gaussian Process model per gene.

URL <https://github.com/kinnaryshah/spatialSimGP>

BugReports <https://github.com/kinnaryshah/spatialSimGP/issues>

Imports SpatialExperiment, MASS, SummarizedExperiment

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Encoding UTF-8

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0), SExampleData, ggplot2, knitr

biocViews Spatial, Transcriptomics, GeneExpression

Depends R (>= 4.4)

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Config/testthat/edition 3

VignetteBuilder knitr

git_url <https://git.bioconductor.org/packages/spatialSimGP>

git_branch devel

git_last_commit 4c53af5

git_last_commit_date 2026-04-28

Repository Bioconductor 3.24

Date/Publication 2026-05-14

Author Kinnary Shah [aut, cre] (ORCID:

<<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7098-2116>>),

Boyi Guo [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2950-2349>>),

Stephanie C. Hicks [aut] (ORCID:

<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7858-0231>>)

Maintainer Kinnary Shah <kinnaryshahh@gmail.com>

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spatial_simulate	<i>Simulate SpatialExperiment object</i>
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Description

Simulate a SpatialExperiment object with spatially varying genes

Usage

```
spatial_simulate(
  n_genes,
  proportion,
  coords,
  range_sigma.sq,
  range_beta,
  length_scale,
  length_scale_option = "fixed"
)
```

Arguments

n_genes	an integer specifying the number of genes to simulate.
proportion	a numeric value specifying the proportion of genes that will have no spatially varying patterns.
coords	a matrix of coordinates.
range_sigma.sq	a numeric vector of length 2 specifying the range of the spatial variance parameter.
range_beta	a numeric vector of length 2 specifying the range of the mean expression value.
length_scale	if length_scale_option is "fixed", a numeric value specifying the length scale parameter. If length_scale_option is "unique", a numeric vector of length n_genes specifying the length scale parameter for each gene.
length_scale_option	a character string specifying the length scale option. Options are "fixed" for a single length scale for all genes or "unique" for a unique length scale for each gene.

Details

This function simulates a SpatialExperiment object with spatially varying genes. The function takes in the number of genes to simulate, the proportion of genes that will have no spatially varying patterns, a matrix of coordinates, the range of the spatial variance parameter, the range of the mean expression value, the length scale parameter, and the length scale option.

Value

A SpatialExperiment object with the simulated data.

Examples

```
library(STexampleData)

set.seed(1)
n_genes <- 1
proportion <- 0.5
range_sigma.sq <- c(0.2, 3)
range_beta <- c(0.5, 9)
length_scale <- 60

spe_demo <- Visium_mouseCoronal()
colData(spe_demo)$subset <- ifelse(
  colData(spe_demo)$array_row > 20 &
  colData(spe_demo)$array_row < 65 &
  colData(spe_demo)$array_col > 30 &
  colData(spe_demo)$array_col < 65,
  TRUE, FALSE
)
spe_demo <- spe_demo[, colData(spe_demo)$subset]
coords <- spatialCoords(spe_demo)

spe <- spatial_simulate(n_genes, proportion, coords, range_sigma.sq, range_beta,
  length_scale, length_scale_option = "fixed")
```

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