

# Package ‘COTAN’

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**Type** Package

**Title** COexpression Tables ANalysis

**Version** 1.3.0

**Description** Statistical and computational method to analyze the co-expression of gene pairs at single cell level. It provides the foundation for single-cell gene interactome analysis. The basic idea is studying the zero UMI counts' distribution instead of focusing on positive counts; this is done with a generalized contingency tables framework. COTAN can effectively assess the correlated or anti-correlated expression of gene pairs. It provides a numerical index related to the correlation and an approximate p-value for the associated independence test. COTAN can also evaluate whether single genes are differentially expressed, scoring them with a newly defined global differentiation index. Moreover, this approach provides ways to plot and cluster genes according to their co-expression pattern with other genes, effectively helping the study of gene interactions and becoming a new tool to identify cell-identity marker genes.

**URL** <https://github.com/seriph78/COTAN>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/seriph78/COTAN/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 4.1)

**License** GPL-3

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## R topics documented:

add.row.to.meta . . . . .	3
automatic.COTAN.object.creation . . . . .	4
clean . . . . .	5
cotan_analysis . . . . .	6
drop.genes.cells . . . . .	6
ERCC.cotan . . . . .	7
ERCCraw . . . . .	8
est.min.parameters . . . . .	8
extract.coex . . . . .	9
fun_linear . . . . .	9
get.a . . . . .	10
get.cell.number . . . . .	10
get.cell.size . . . . .	11
get.coex . . . . .	12
get.constitutive.genes . . . . .	12
get.expected.ct . . . . .	13
get.GDI . . . . .	14
get.gene.coexpression.space . . . . .	14
get.genes . . . . .	15
get.lambda . . . . .	16
get.metadata . . . . .	16
get.normdata . . . . .	17
get.nu . . . . .	18
get.observed.ct . . . . .	18
get.pval . . . . .	19
get.rawdata . . . . .	20
get.subset . . . . .	20
initRaw . . . . .	21
mat2vec_rfast . . . . .	22

<i>add.row.to.meta</i>	3
plot_GDI . . . . .	22
plot_general.heatmap . . . . .	23
plot_heatmap . . . . .	24
raw.dataset . . . . .	25
scCOTAN-class . . . . .	26
vec2mat_rfast . . . . .	27
<b>Index</b>	<b>28</b>

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<i>add.row.to.meta</i>	<i>add.row.to.meta</i>
------------------------	------------------------

---

### Description

This function is used to add a line of information to the information data frame (metadata).

### Usage

```
add.row.to.meta(object, text.line)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
add.row.to.meta(object, text.line)
```

### Arguments

object            a COTAN object  
text.line        an array containing the information

### Value

the updated COTAN object

### Examples

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
text <- c("Test", "This is a test")
ERCC.cotan <- add.row.to.meta(ERCC.cotan, text)
get.metadata(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

```
automatic.COTAN.object.creation
    automatic.COTAN.object.creation
```

---

## Description

automatic.COTAN.object.creation

## Usage

```
automatic.COTAN.object.creation(
  df,
  out_dir,
  GEO,
  sc.method,
  cond,
  mt = FALSE,
  mt_prefix = "^mt",
  cores = 1
)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame'
automatic.COTAN.object.creation(
  df,
  out_dir,
  GEO,
  sc.method,
  cond,
  mt = FALSE,
  mt_prefix = "^mt",
  cores = 1
)
```

## Arguments

df	dataframe with the row counts
out_dir	directory for the output
GEO	GEO or other code that identify the dataset
sc.method	Type of single cell RNA-seq method used
cond	A string that will identify the sample or condition. It will be part of the final file name.
mt	A boolean (default F). If T mitochondrial genes will be kept in the analysis, otherwise they will be removed.
mt_prefix	is the prefix that identify the mitochondrial genes (default is the mouse prefix: "^mt")
cores	number of cores to be used

**Value**

It return the COTAN object. It will also store it directly in the output directory

**Examples**

```
data("raw.dataset")
obj <- automatic.COTAN.object.creation(df= raw.dataset,
out_dir = tempdir(),
GEO = "test_GEO",
sc.method = "test_method",
cond = "test")
```

---

clean

*clean*

---

**Description**

Main function that can be used to check and clean the dataset. It also produce (using the function `fun_linear`) and store the estimators for `nu` and `lambda`. It also fill the `raw.norm` (`raw / nu`) and `n_cell` (the initial number of cells in the dataset)

**Usage**

```
clean(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
clean(object)
```

**Arguments**

`object` COTAN object

**Value**

a list of objects containing: "cl1" is the first cell cluster, "cl2" is the second cell cluster, "pca.cell.2" is a ggplot2 cell pca plot, "object" is the COTAN object with saved the estimated `lambda` and `mu`, "mu\_estimator", "D" "pca\_cells" pca numeric data.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
ttm <- clean(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

cotan\_analysis      *cotan\_analysis*

---

### Description

This is the main function that estimates the a vector to store all the negative binomial dispersion factors. It need to be run after [clean](#)

### Usage

```
cotan_analysis(object, cores = 1)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
cotan_analysis(object, cores = 1)
```

### Arguments

object            A COTAN object  
 cores            number of cores to use. Default is 11.

### Value

a COTAN object

### Examples

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
ERCC.cotan <- cotan_analysis(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

drop.genes.cells      *drop.genes.cells*

---

### Description

This finction remove an array of genes and/or cells from the original object raw matrix.

### Usage

```
drop.genes.cells(object, genes = c(), cells = c())

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
drop.genes.cells(object, genes = c(), cells = c())
```

**Arguments**

object            a COTAN object  
 genes            an array of gene names  
 cells            an array of cell names

**Value**

the original object but with the raw matrix without the indicated cells and/or genes.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
genes.to.rem = names(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[1:10])
cells.to.rem = names(get.cell.size(ERCC.cotan)[1:10])
ERCC.cotan = drop.genes.cells(ERCC.cotan,genes.to.rem,cells.to.rem )
```

---

ERCC.cotan	<i>COTAN object</i>
------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

The COTAN object for the ERCC dataset.

**Usage**

```
ERCC.cotan
```

**Format**

A structure with:

**raw** the raw dataset: 88 fake genes for 1015 fake cells

**raw.norm** raw divided for nu

**coex**

**nu** UDE

**lambda** average gene expression

**a**

**hk** genes expressed in all cells

**n\_cells** final number of cells

**meta** meta data

**Source**

<https://support.10xgenomics.com/single-cell-gene-expression/datasets/1.1.0/ercc?>

---

ERCCraw	<i>Raw ERCC dataset</i>
---------	-------------------------

---

**Description**

ERCC dataset

**Usage**

ERCCraw

**Format**

A data frame

**Source**

ERCC

---

est.min.parameters	<i>est.min.parameters</i>
--------------------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

This function estimates the nu and a parameters to minimize the...

**Usage**

```
est.min.parameters(object, par)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
est.min.parameters(object, par)
```

**Arguments**

object	A COTAN object
par	A vector of inicial a and log(nu)

**Value**

vector

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
```



---

extract.coex	<i>extract.coex</i>
--------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract a complete or a prtial coex matrix from the COTAN object.

**Usage**

```
extract.coex(object, genes = "all")

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
extract.coex(object, genes = "all")
```

**Arguments**

object	A COTAN object
genes	A vector of gene names. These will be on the columns of the final data frame. By defaults the function will use all genes.

**Value**

the coex values data frame

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
coex <- extract.coex(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

fun_linear	<i>fun_linear</i>
------------	-------------------

---

**Description**

Internal function to estimate the cell efficiency

**Usage**

```
fun_linear(object)
```

**Arguments**

object	COTAN object
--------	--------------

**Value**

a list of object (dist\_cells, to\_clust, pca\_cells, t\_to\_clust, mu\_estimator, object)

---

`get.a`*get.a*

---

**Description**

This function extract the a array.

**Usage**

```
get.a(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'  
get.a(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object

**Value**

the a array.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")  
get.a(ERCC.cotan)[1:10]
```

---

`get.cell.number`*get.cell.number*

---

**Description**

This function extract number of analysed cells.

**Usage**

```
get.cell.number(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'  
get.cell.number(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object

**Value**

the cell number value.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")  
get.cell.number(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

`get.cell.size`            *get.cell.size*

---

**Description**

This function extract the cell raw library size.

**Usage**

```
get.cell.size(object)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'  
get.cell.size(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object

**Value**

an array with the library sizes

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")  
get.cell.size(ERCC.cotan)[1:10]
```

---

```
get.coex          get.coex
```

---

**Description**

This function estimates and stores the coex matrix in the coex field. It need to be run after [cotan\\_analysis](#)

**Usage**

```
get.coex(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.coex(object)
```

**Arguments**

```
object          A COTAN object
```

**Value**

It returns a COTAN object

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
obj <- get.coex(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

```
get.constitutive.genes
get.constitutive.genes This function return the genes expressed in all
cells in the dataset.
```

---

**Description**

`get.constitutive.genes` This function return the genes expressed in all cells in the dataset.

**Usage**

```
get.constitutive.genes(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.constitutive.genes(object)
```

**Arguments**

```
object          A COTAN object
```

**Value**

an array containing all genes expressed in all cells

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
get.constitutive.genes(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

<i>get.expected.ct</i>	<i>get.expected.ct</i>
------------------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

This function is used to get the expected contingency table for a given pair of genes.

**Usage**

```
get.expected.ct(object, g1, g2)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.expected.ct(object, g1, g2)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	The cotan object
<code>g1</code>	A gene
<code>g2</code>	The other gene

**Value**

A contingency table as dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
g1 <- get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)), 1)]
g2 <- get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)), 1)]
while (g1 %in% get.constitutive.genes(ERCC.cotan)) {
  g1 <- get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)), 1)]
}

while (g2 %in% get.constitutive.genes(ERCC.cotan)) {
  g2 <- get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)), 1)]
}
get.expected.ct(object = ERCC.cotan, g1 = g1, g2 = g2)
```

---

<code>get.GDI</code>	<i>get.GDI</i>
----------------------	----------------

---

**Description**

This function produce a dataframe with the GDI for each genes.

**Usage**

```
get.GDI(object, type = "S")

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.GDI(object, type = "S")
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	A COTAN object
<code>type</code>	Type of statistic to be used. Default is "S": Pearson's chi-squared test statistics. "G" is G-test statistics

**Value**

A dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
quant.p <- get.GDI(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

<code>get.gene.coexpression.space</code>	<i>get.gene.coexpression.space</i>
--	------------------------------------

---

**Description**

To make the GDI more specific, it may be desirable to restrict the set of genes against which GDI is computed to a selected subset  $V$  with the recommendation to include a consistent fraction of cell-identity genes, and possibly focusing on markers specific for the biological question of interest (for instance neural cortex layering markers). In this case we denote it as local differentiation index (LDI) relative to  $V$ .

**Usage**

```
get.gene.coexpression.space(object, n.genes.for.marker = 25, primary.markers)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.gene.coexpression.space(object, n.genes.for.marker = 25, primary.markers)
```

**Arguments**

object            The COTAN object.

n.genes.for.marker            The number of genes correlated with the primary markers that we want to consider. By default this is 25.

primary.markers            A vector of primary marker names.

**Value**

A dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
df <- get.gene.coexpression.space(ERCC.cotan, n.genes.for.marker = 10,
primary.markers=get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)),5)])
```

---

get.genes	<i>get.genes</i>
-----------	------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract all genes in the dataset.

**Usage**

```
get.genes(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.genes(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object

**Value**

a gene array

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[1:10]
```

---

<code>get.lambda</code>	<i>get.lambda</i>
-------------------------	-------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract the lambda array (mean expression for each gene).

**Usage**

```
get.lambda(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.lambda(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object

**Value**

the lambda array.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
get.lambda(ERCC.cotan)[1:10]
```

---

<code>get.metadata</code>	<i>get.metadata</i>
---------------------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract the meta date stored for the dataset.

**Usage**

```
get.metadata(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.metadata(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object



**Value**

the metatdata dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")  
get.metadata(ERCC.cotan)
```

---

<code>get.normdata</code>	<i>get.normdata</i>
---------------------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract the normalized count table.

**Usage**

```
get.normdata(object)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'  
get.normdata(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            A COTAN object

**Value**

the normalized count dataframe (divided by nu).

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")  
get.normdata(ERCC.cotan)[1:10,1:10]
```

---

<code>get.nu</code>	<code>get.nu</code>
---------------------	---------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract the nu array.

**Usage**

```
get.nu(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.nu(object)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	A COTAN object
---------------------	----------------

**Value**

the nu array.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
get.nu(ERCC.cotan)[1:10]
```

---

<code>get.observed.ct</code>	<code>get.observed.ct</code>
------------------------------	------------------------------

---

**Description**

This function is used to get the observed contingency table for a given pair of genes.

**Usage**

```
get.observed.ct(object, g1, g2)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.observed.ct(object, g1, g2)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	The cotan object
<code>g1</code>	A gene
<code>g2</code>	The other gene

**Value**

A contingency table as dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
g1 <- get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)), 1)]
g2 <- get.genes(ERCC.cotan)[sample(length(get.genes(ERCC.cotan)), 1)]
get.observed.ct(object = ERCC.cotan, g1 = g1, g2 = g2)
```

---

get.pval	<i>get.pval</i>
----------	-----------------

---

**Description**

This function computes the p-values for genes in the COTAN object. It can be used genome-wide or setting some specific genes of interest. By default it computes the p-values using the S statistics ( $\chi^2$ )

**Usage**

```
get.pval(object, gene.set.col = c(), gene.set.row = c(), type_stat = "S")

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.pval(object, gene.set.col = c(), gene.set.row = c(), type_stat = "S")
```

**Arguments**

object	a COTAN object
gene.set.col	an array of genes. It will be put in columns. If left empty the function will do it genome-wide.
gene.set.row	an array of genes. It will be put in rows. If left empty the function will do it genome-wide.
type_stat	By default it computes the S ( $\chi^2$ )

**Value**

a p-value matrix

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
ERCC.cotan <- get.pval(ERCC.cotan, type_stat="S")
```

---

<code>get.rawdata</code>	<i>get.rawdata</i>
--------------------------	--------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract the raw count table.

**Usage**

```
get.rawdata(object)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.rawdata(object)
```

**Arguments**

`object`            A COTAN object

**Value**

the raw count dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
get.rawdata(ERCC.cotan)[1:10,1:10]
```

---

<code>get.subset</code>	<i>get.subset</i>
-------------------------	-------------------

---

**Description**

This function extract the row data for a subset of clusters.

**Usage**

```
get.subset(object, cluster.names)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
get.subset(object, cluster.names)
```

**Arguments**

`object`            A COTAN object  
`cluster.names`    A cluster names array

**Value**

the subset raw count dataframe

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
```

---

*initRaw*

*initRaw*

---

**Description**

It starts to fill some fields of cotan object.

**Usage**

```
initRaw(object, GEO, sc.method = "10X", cond)

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
initRaw(object, GEO, sc.method = "10X", cond)
```

**Arguments**

<code>object</code>	the dataframe containing the raw data: it should be a <code>data.frame</code> , not a matrix.
<code>GEO</code>	a code reporting the GEO identification or other specific dataset code
<code>sc.method</code>	a string reporting the method used for the sequencing
<code>cond</code>	a string reporting the specific sample condition or time point

**Value**

A COTAN object to store all information

**Examples**

```
data("raw.dataset")
obj <- new("scCOTAN", raw = raw.dataset)
obj <- initRaw(obj, GEO="code" , sc.method="10X", cond = "mouse dataset")
```

---

mat2vec_rfast	<i>mat2vec_rfast</i>
---------------	----------------------

---

**Description**

mat2vec\_rfast

**Usage**

```
mat2vec_rfast(mat)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix'
mat2vec_rfast(mat)
```

**Arguments**

mat                    a symmetric matrix with all genes as row and column names

**Value**

a list formed by two arrays: "genes" with the gene names and "values" with all unique values.

**Examples**

```
mat <- matrix(0,nrow = 10, ncol = 10)
mat <- Rfast::lower_tri.assign(mat,c(1:55),diag = TRUE)
mat <- Rfast::upper_tri.assign(mat,v = Rfast::upper_tri(Rfast::transpose(mat)))
v <- mat2vec_rfast(mat)
```

---

plot_GDI	<i>plot_GDI</i>
----------	-----------------

---

**Description**

This function directly evaluate and plot the GDI for a sample.

**Usage**

```
plot_GDI(object, cond, type = "S")

## S4 method for signature 'scCOTAN'
plot_GDI(object, cond, type = "S")
```

**Arguments**

object	A COTAN object
cond	A string corresponding to the condition/sample (it is used only for the title)
type	Type of statistic to be used. Default is "S": Pearson's chi-squared test statistics. "G" is G-test statistics

**Value**

A ggplot2 object

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
plot_GDI(ERCC.cotan, cond = "ERCC")
```

---

plot\_general.heatmap *plot\_general.heatmap*

---

**Description**

This function is used to plot an heatmap made using only some genes, as markers, and collecting all other genes correlated with these markers with a p-value smaller than the set threshold. Than all relations are plotted. Primary markers will be plotted as groups of rows. Markers list will be plotted as columns.

**Usage**

```
plot_general.heatmap(
  prim.markers = c("Satb2", "Bcl11b", "Cux1", "Fezf2", "Tbr1"),
  markers.list = c(),
  dir,
  condition,
  p_value = 0.001,
  symmetric = TRUE
)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
plot_general.heatmap(
  prim.markers = c("Satb2", "Bcl11b", "Cux1", "Fezf2", "Tbr1"),
  markers.list = c(),
  dir,
  condition,
  p_value = 0.001,
  symmetric = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

prim.markers	A set of genes plotted as rows.
markers.list	A set of genes plotted as columns.
dir	The directory where the COTAN object is stored.
condition	The prefix for the COTAN object file.
p_value	The p-value threshold
symmetric	A boolean: default F. If T the union of prim.markers and marker.list is sets as both rows and column genes

**Value**

A ggplot2 object

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
data_dir <- tempdir()
saveRDS(ERCC.cotan, file = file.path(data_dir,"ERCC.cotan.RDS"))
# some genes
primary.markers <- c("ERCC-00154","ERCC-00156","ERCC-00164")
#a example of named list of different gene set
gene.sets.list <- list("primary.markers"=primary.markers,
                      "2.R" = c("ERCC-00170","ERCC-00158"),
                      "3.S"=c("ERCC-00160","ERCC-00162"))
plot_general.heatmap(prim.markers = primary.markers, p_value = 0.05, markers.list =gene.sets.list ,
condition ="ERCC" ,dir = paste0(data_dir,"/"))
```

---

plot\_heatmap

*plot\_heatmap*

---

**Description**

This is the function that create the heatmap of one or more COTAN object.

**Usage**

```
plot_heatmap(p_val.tr = 0.05, df_genes, sets, conditions, dir)

## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
plot_heatmap(p_val.tr = 0.05, df_genes, sets, conditions, dir)
```



**Arguments**

p_val.tr	p-value threshold. Default is 0.05
df_genes	this is a list of gene array. The first array will define genes in the columns.
sets	This is a numeric array indicating from which fields of the previous list will be considered
conditions	An array of prefixes indicating the different files.
dir	The directory in which are all COTAN files (corresponding to the previous prefixes)

**Value**

a ggplot object

**Examples**

```
data("ERCC.cotan")
data_dir <- tempdir()
saveRDS(ERCC.cotan, file = file.path(data_dir, "ERCC.cotan.RDS"))
# some genes
primary.markers <- c("ERCC-00154", "ERCC-00156", "ERCC-00164")
#a example of named list of different gene set
gene.sets.list <- list("primary.markers"=primary.markers,
                      "2.R" = c("ERCC-00170", "ERCC-00158"),
                      "3.S"=c("ERCC-00160", "ERCC-00162"))
plot_heatmap(p_v = 0.05, df_genes =gene.sets.list ,
             sets =c(2,3) ,conditions =c("ERCC") ,dir = paste0(data_dir, "/"))
```

---

raw.dataset

*Raw sample dataset*


---

**Description**

A subsample of a real sc-RNAseq dataset

**Usage**

```
raw.dataset
```

**Format**

A data frame with 2000 genes and 815 cells:

**Source**

GEO GSM2861514

---

`scCOTAN-class``scCOTAN-class`

---

**Description**

Define my COTAN structure

**Value**

the object class

**Slots**

`raw` ANY. To store the raw data matrix

`raw.norm` ANY. To store the raw data matrix divided for the cell efficiency estimated (nu)

`coex` ANY. The coex matrix (sparse)

`nu` vector.

`lambda` vector.

`a` vector.

`hk` vector.

`n_cells` numeric.

`meta` data.frame.

`yes_yes` ANY.

`clusters` vector.

`cluster_data` data.frame.

**Examples**

```
data("ERCCraw")
obj <- new("scCOTAN",raw = data)
```

---

vec2mat_rfast	<i>vec2mat_rfast</i>
---------------	----------------------

---

**Description**

vec2mat\_rfast

**Usage**

```
vec2mat_rfast(x, genes = "all")  
  
## S4 method for signature 'list'  
vec2mat_rfast(x, genes = "all")
```

**Arguments**

x	a list formed by two arrays: "genes" with the gene names and "values" with all unique values.
genes	a vector with all wanted genes or "all". By default is equal to "all" in this way it recreate the entire coex dataframe.

**Value**

a dataframe

**Examples**

```
v <- list("genes" = paste0("gene.",c(1:10)), "values"=c(1:55))  
genes <- c("gene.3", "gene.4", "gene.7")  
df <- vec2mat_rfast(v, genes)  
df2 <- vec2mat_rfast(v)
```

# Index

## \* datasets

- ERCC.cotan, 7
- ERCCraw, 8
- raw.dataset, 25
  
- add.row.to.meta, 3
- add.row.to.meta, scCOTAN-method (add.row.to.meta), 3
- automatic.COTAN.object.creation, 4
- automatic.COTAN.object.creation, data.frame-method (automatic.COTAN.object.creation), 4
  
- clean, 5, 6
- clean, scCOTAN-method (clean), 5
- cotan\_analysis, 6, 12
- cotan\_analysis, scCOTAN-method (cotan\_analysis), 6
  
- drop.genes.cells, 6
- drop.genes.cells, scCOTAN-method (drop.genes.cells), 6
  
- ERCC.cotan, 7
- ERCCraw, 8
- est.min.parameters, 8
- est.min.parameters, scCOTAN-method (est.min.parameters), 8
- extract.coex, 9
- extract.coex, scCOTAN-method (extract.coex), 9
  
- fun\_linear, 9
  
- get.a, 10
- get.a, scCOTAN-method (get.a), 10
- get.cell.number, 10
- get.cell.number, scCOTAN-method (get.cell.number), 10
- get.cell.size, 11
- get.cell.size, scCOTAN-method (get.cell.size), 11
- get.coex, 12
- get.coex, scCOTAN-method (get.coex), 12
- get.constitutive.genes, 12
- get.constitutive.genes, scCOTAN-method (get.constitutive.genes), 12
- get.expected.ct, 13
- get.expected.ct, scCOTAN-method (get.expected.ct), 13
- get.GDI, 14
- get.GDI, scCOTAN-method (get.GDI), 14
- get.gene.coexpression.space, 14
- get.gene.coexpression.space, scCOTAN-method (get.gene.coexpression.space), 14
- get.genes, 15
- get.genes, scCOTAN-method (get.genes), 15
- get.lambda, 16
- get.lambda, scCOTAN-method (get.lambda), 16
- get.metadata, 16
- get.metadata, scCOTAN-method (get.metadata), 16
- get.normdata, 17
- get.normdata, scCOTAN-method (get.normdata), 17
- get.nu, 18
- get.nu, scCOTAN-method (get.nu), 18
- get.observed.ct, 18
- get.observed.ct, scCOTAN-method (get.observed.ct), 18
- get.pval, 19
- get.pval, scCOTAN-method (get.pval), 19
- get.rawdata, 20
- get.rawdata, scCOTAN-method (get.rawdata), 20
- get.subset, 20
- get.subset, scCOTAN-method (get.subset),

20

`initRaw`, [21](#)

`initRaw`, `scCOTAN`-method (`initRaw`), [21](#)

`mat2vec_rfast`, [22](#)

`mat2vec_rfast`, `matrix`-method  
(`mat2vec_rfast`), [22](#)

`plot_GDI`, [22](#)

`plot_GDI`, `scCOTAN`-method (`plot_GDI`), [22](#)

`plot_general.heatmap`, [23](#)

`plot_general.heatmap`, `ANY`-method  
(`plot_general.heatmap`), [23](#)

`plot_heatmap`, [24](#)

`plot_heatmap`, `ANY`-method (`plot_heatmap`),  
[24](#)

`raw.dataset`, [25](#)

`scCOTAN` (`scCOTAN`-class), [26](#)

`scCOTAN`-class, [26](#)

`vec2mat_rfast`, [27](#)

`vec2mat_rfast`, `list`-method  
(`vec2mat_rfast`), [27](#)