

# Package ‘slingshot’

April 12, 2022

**Title** Tools for ordering single-cell sequencing

**Version** 2.2.1

**Description** Provides functions for inferring continuous, branching lineage structures in low-dimensional data. Slingshot was designed to model developmental trajectories in single-cell RNA sequencing data and serve as a component in an analysis pipeline after dimensionality reduction and clustering. It is flexible enough to handle arbitrarily many branching events and allows for the incorporation of prior knowledge through supervised graph construction.

**License** Artistic-2.0

**Depends** R (>= 4.0), prncurve (>= 2.0.4), stats, TrajectoryUtils

**Imports** graphics, grDevices, igraph, matrixStats, methods, S4Vectors, SingleCellExperiment, SummarizedExperiment

**Suggests** BiocGenerics, BiocStyle, clusterExperiment, DelayedMatrixStats, knitr, mclust, mgcv, RColorBrewer, rgl, rmarkdown, testthat, uwot, covr

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**LazyData** false

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**biocViews** Clustering, DifferentialExpression, GeneExpression, RNASeq, Sequencing, Software, Sequencing, SingleCell, Transcriptomics, Visualization

**BugReports** <https://github.com/kstreet13/slingshot/issues>

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

**git\_branch** RELEASE\_3\_14

**git\_last\_commit** b93c716

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2022-04-07

**Date/Publication** 2022-04-12

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## R topics documented:

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| as.PseudotimeOrdering . . . . .             | 2         |
| as.SlingshotDataSet . . . . .               | 3         |
| embedCurves . . . . .                       | 4         |
| getCurves . . . . .                         | 6         |
| getLineages . . . . .                       | 9         |
| newSlingshotDataSet . . . . .               | 12        |
| pairs-SlingshotDataSet . . . . .            | 14        |
| plot-SlingshotDataSet . . . . .             | 16        |
| plot3d-SlingshotDataSet . . . . .           | 18        |
| predict,PseudotimeOrdering-method . . . . . | 19        |
| slingBranchGraph . . . . .                  | 20        |
| slingBranchID . . . . .                     | 21        |
| slingClusterLabels . . . . .                | 22        |
| slingCurves . . . . .                       | 22        |
| slingLineages . . . . .                     | 23        |
| slingMST . . . . .                          | 24        |
| slingParams . . . . .                       | 25        |
| slingPseudotime . . . . .                   | 27        |
| slingReducedDim . . . . .                   | 28        |
| slingshot . . . . .                         | 29        |
| SlingshotDataSet . . . . .                  | 35        |
| SlingshotDataSet-class . . . . .            | 36        |
| slingshotExample . . . . .                  | 38        |
| <b>Index</b>                                | <b>39</b> |

---

as.PseudotimeOrdering *Conversion to PseudotimeOrdering*

---

### Description

This function converts objects that contain slingshot results into a [PseudotimeOrdering](#).

**Usage**

```
as.PseudotimeOrdering(x, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'  
as.PseudotimeOrdering(x)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'  
as.PseudotimeOrdering(x)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'  
as.PseudotimeOrdering(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an object containing slingshot output.  
...                  additional arguments to pass to object-specific methods.

**Value**

A PseudotimeOrdering object containing the slingshot results from the original object, x.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")  
rd <- slingshotExample$rd  
cl <- slingshotExample$cl  
library(SingleCellExperiment)  
u <- matrix(rpois(140*50, 5), nrow = 50)  
sce <- SingleCellExperiment(assays = list(counts = u),  
                              reducedDims = SimpleList(PCA = rd),  
                              colData = data.frame(clus = cl))  
sce <- slingshot(sce, clusterLabels = 'clus', reducedDim = 'PCA')  
as.PseudotimeOrdering(sce)
```

---

as.SlingshotDataSet    *Conversion to SlingshotDataSet*

---

**Description**

This function converts objects that contain slingshot results into a SlingshotDataSet.

**Usage**

```
as.SlingshotDataSet(x, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'  
as.SlingshotDataSet(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
as.SlingshotDataSet(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
as.SlingshotDataSet(x)
```

### Arguments

`x` an object containing slingshot output.  
`...` additional arguments to pass to object-specific methods.

### Value

A `SlingshotDataSet` object containing the slingshot results from the original object, `x`.

### See Also

[PseudotimeOrdering](#)

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
as.SlingshotDataSet(pto)
```

---

embedCurves

*Embed trajectory in new space*

---

### Description

This function takes the output of [slingshot](#) (or [getCurves](#)) and attempts to embed the curves in a different coordinate space than the one in which they were constructed. This should be considered a visualization tool, only.

### Usage

```
embedCurves(x, newDimRed, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering,matrix'
embedCurves(
  x,
  newDimRed,
  shrink = NULL,
  stretch = NULL,
```

```

    approx_points = NULL,
    smoother = NULL,
    shrink.method = NULL,
    ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment,matrix'
embedCurves(
  x,
  newDimRed,
  shrink = NULL,
  stretch = NULL,
  approx_points = NULL,
  smoother = NULL,
  shrink.method = NULL,
  ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment,character'
embedCurves(
  x,
  newDimRed,
  shrink = NULL,
  stretch = NULL,
  approx_points = NULL,
  smoother = NULL,
  shrink.method = NULL,
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| x             | an object containing <a href="#">slingshot</a> output.   |
| newDimRed     | a matrix representing the new coordinate space in which to embed the curves.   |
| ...           | Additional parameters to pass to scatter plot smoothing function, smoother.  |
| shrink        | logical or numeric between 0 and 1, determines whether and how much to shrink branching lineages toward their average prior to the split.  |
| stretch       | numeric factor by which curves can be extrapolated beyond endpoints. Default is 2, see <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .   |
| approx_points | numeric, whether curves should be approximated by a fixed number of points. If FALSE (or 0), no approximation will be performed and curves will contain as many points as the input data. If numeric, curves will be approximated by this number of points; preferably about 100 (see <a href="#">principal_curve</a> ). |
| smoother,     | choice of scatter plot smoother. Same as <a href="#">principal_curve</a> , but "loess" option is replaced with "loess" for additional flexibility.   |
| shrink.method | character denoting how to determine the appropriate amount of shrinkage for a branching lineage. Accepted values are the same as for kernel in <a href="#">density</a>   |

(default is "cosine"), as well as "tricube" and "density". See 'Details' for more.

### Details

Many of the same parameters are used here as in `getCurves`. This function attempts to translate curves from one reduced dimensional space to another by predicting each dimension as a function of pseudotime (ie. the new curve is determined by a series of scatterplot smoothers predicting the coordinates in the new space as a function of pseudotime). Because the pseudotime values are not changed, this amounts to a single iteration of the iterative curve-fitting process used by `getCurves`.

Note that non-linear dimensionality reduction techniques (such as tSNE and UMAP) may produce discontinuities not observed in other spaces. Use caution when embedding curves in these spaces.

### Value

a `PseudotimeOrdering` object containing curves in the new space.

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
rd2 <- cbind(rd[,2] + rnorm(nrow(rd)), -rd[,1] + rnorm(nrow(rd)))
pto.new <- embedCurves(pto, rd2)
pto.new

plot(rd2, col = cl, asp = 1)
lines(SlingshotDataSet(pto.new), lwd = 3)
```

---

getCurves

*Construct Simultaneous Principal Curves*

---

### Description

This function constructs simultaneous principal curves, the second step in Slingshot's trajectory inference procedure. It takes a (specifically formatted) `PseudotimeOrdering` object, as is returned by the first step, `getLineages`. The output is another `PseudotimeOrdering` object, containing the simultaneous principal curves, pseudotime estimates, and lineage assignment weights.

### Usage

```
getCurves(data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
getCurves(
  data,
```

```

    shrink = TRUE,
    extend = "y",
    reweight = TRUE,
    reassign = TRUE,
    thresh = 0.001,
    maxit = 15,
    stretch = 2,
    approx_points = NULL,
    smoother = "smooth.spline",
    shrink.method = "cosine",
    allow.breaks = TRUE,
    ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
getCurves(data, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
getCurves(data, ...)

```

### Arguments

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| data     | a data object containing lineage information provided by <a href="#">getLineages</a> , to be used for constructing simultaneous principal curves. Supported types include <a href="#">SingleCellExperiment</a> , <a href="#">SlingshotDataSet</a> , and <a href="#">PseudotimeOrdering</a> (recommended).   |
| ...      | Additional parameters to pass to scatter plot smoothing function, smoother.   |
| shrink   | logical or numeric between 0 and 1, determines whether and how much to shrink branching lineages toward their average prior to the split (default = TRUE).  |
| extend   | character, how to handle root and leaf clusters of lineages when constructing the initial, piece-wise linear curve. Accepted values are 'y' (default), 'n', and 'pc1'. See 'Details' for more.  |
| reweight | logical, whether to allow cells shared between lineages to be reweighted during curve fitting. If TRUE (default), cells shared between lineages will be iteratively reweighted based on the quantiles of their projection distances to each curve. See 'Details' for more.  |
| reassign | logical, whether to reassign cells to lineages at each iteration. If TRUE (default), cells will be added to a lineage when their projection distance to the curve is less than the median distance for all cells currently assigned to the lineage. Additionally, shared cells will be removed from a lineage if their projection distance to the curve is above the 90th percentile and their weight along the curve is less than 0.1. |
| thresh   | numeric, determines the convergence criterion. Percent change in the total distance from cells to their projections along curves must be less than thresh. Default is 0.001, similar to <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .   |
| maxit    | numeric, maximum number of iterations (default = 15), see <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .   |

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| stretch       | numeric factor by which curves can be extrapolated beyond endpoints. Default is 2, see <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .  |
| approx_points | numeric, whether curves should be approximated by a fixed number of points. If FALSE (or 0), no approximation will be performed and curves will contain as many points as the input data. If numeric, curves will be approximated by this number of points (default = 150 or #cells, whichever is smaller). See 'Details' and <a href="#">principal_curve</a> for more. |
| smoother      | choice of scatter plot smoother. Same as <a href="#">principal_curve</a> , but "lowess" option is replaced with "loess" for additional flexibility.   |
| shrink.method | character denoting how to determine the appropriate amount of shrinkage for a branching lineage. Accepted values are the same as for kernel in <a href="#">density</a> (default is "cosine"), as well as "tricube" and "density". See 'Details' for more.   |
| allow.breaks  | logical, determines whether curves that branch very close to the origin should be allowed to have different starting points.  |

## Details

This function constructs simultaneous principal curves (one per lineage). Cells are mapped to curves by orthogonal projection and pseudotime is estimated by the arclength along the curve (also called lambda, in the [principal\\_curve](#) objects).

When there is only a single lineage, the curve-fitting algorithm is nearly identical to that of [principal\\_curve](#). When there are multiple lineages and `shrink > 0`, an additional step is added to the iterative procedure, forcing curves to be similar in the neighborhood of shared points (ie., before they branch).

The `approx_points` argument, which sets the number of points to be used for each curve, can have a large effect on computation time. Due to this consideration, we set the default value to 150 whenever the input dataset contains more than that many cells. This setting should help with exploratory analysis while having little to no impact on the final curves. To disable this behavior and construct curves with the maximum number of points, set `approx_points = FALSE`.

The `extend` argument determines how to construct the piece-wise linear curve used to initiate the recursive algorithm. The initial curve is always based on the lines between cluster centers and if `extend = 'n'`, this curve will terminate at the center of the endpoint clusters. Setting `extend = 'y'` will allow the first and last segments to extend beyond the cluster center to the orthogonal projection of the furthest point. Setting `extend = 'pc1'` is similar to 'y', but uses the first principal component of the cluster to determine the direction of the curve beyond the cluster center. These options typically have limited impact on the final curve, but can occasionally help with stability issues.

When `shrink = TRUE`, we compute a percent shrinkage curve,  $w_l(t)$ , for each lineage, a non-increasing function of pseudotime that determines how much that lineage should be shrunk toward a shared average curve. We set  $w_l(0) = 1$  (complete shrinkage), so that the curves will always perfectly overlap the average curve at pseudotime 0. The weighting curve decreases from 1 to 0 over the non-outlying pseudotime values of shared cells (where outliers are defined by the 1.5\*IQR rule). The exact shape of the curve in this region is controlled by `shrink.method`, and can follow the shape of any standard kernel function's cumulative density curve (or more precisely, survival curve, since we require a decreasing function). Different choices of `shrink.method` to have no discernable impact on the final curves, in most cases.



When `reweight = TRUE`, weights for shared cells are based on the quantiles of their projection distances onto each curve. The distances are ranked and converted into quantiles between 0 and 1, which are then transformed by  $1 - q^2$ . Each cell's weight along a given lineage is the ratio of this value to the maximum value for this cell across all lineages.

### Value

An updated [PseudotimeOrdering](#) object containing the pseudotime estimates and lineage assignment weights in the assays. It will also include the original information provided by `getLineages`, as well as the following new elements in the metadata:

- `curves` A list of [principal\\_curve](#) objects.
- `slingParams` Additional parameters used for fitting simultaneous principal curves.

### References

Hastie, T., and Stuetzle, W. (1989). "Principal Curves." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 84:502–516.

### See Also

[slingshot](#)

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- getLineages(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
pto <- getCurves(pto)

# plotting
sds <- as.SlingshotDataSet(pto)
plot(rd, col = cl, asp = 1)
lines(sds, type = 'c', lwd = 3)
```

### Description

This function constructs the minimum spanning tree(s) on clusters of cells, the first step in Slingshot's trajectory inference procedure. Paths through the MST from an origin cluster to leaf node clusters are interpreted as lineages.

**Usage**

```

getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,matrix'
getLineages(
  data,
  clusterLabels,
  reducedDim = NULL,
  start.clus = NULL,
  end.clus = NULL,
  dist.method = "slingshot",
  use.median = FALSE,
  omega = FALSE,
  omega_scale = 1.5,
  times = NULL,
  ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,character'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,ANY'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet,ANY'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering,ANY'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame,ANY'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,numeric'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,factor'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment,ANY'
getLineages(data, clusterLabels, reducedDim = NULL, ...)

```

**Arguments**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| data          | a data object containing the matrix of coordinates to be used for lineage inference. Supported types include matrix, <a href="#">SingleCellExperiment</a> , <a href="#">SlingshotDataSet</a> , and <a href="#">PseudotimeOrdering</a> . |
| clusterLabels | each cell's cluster assignment. This can be a single vector of labels, or a #cells  |

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
|             | by #clusters matrix representing weighted cluster assignment. Either representation may optionally include a "-1" group meaning "unclustered."   |
| ...         | Additional arguments to specify how lineages are constructed from clusters.  |
| reducedDim  | (optional) the dimensionality reduction to be used. Can be a matrix or a character identifying which element of reducedDim(data) is to be used. If multiple dimensionality reductions are present and this argument is not provided, the first element will be used by default.  |
| start.clus  | (optional) character, indicates the starting cluster(s) from which lineages will be drawn.   |
| end.clus    | (optional) character, indicates which cluster(s) will be forced to be leaf nodes in the graph.   |
| dist.method | (optional) character, specifies the method for calculating distances between clusters. Default is "slingshot", see <a href="#">createClusterMST</a> for details.   |
| use.median  | logical, whether to use the median (instead of mean) when calculating cluster centroid coordinates.  |
| omega       | (optional) numeric or logical, this granularity parameter determines the distance between every real cluster and the artificial cluster, .OMEGA. In practice, this makes omega the maximum allowable distance between two connected clusters. By default, omega = Inf. If omega = TRUE, the maximum edge length will be set to the median edge length of the unsupervised MST times a scaling factor (omega_scale, default = 1.5). This value is provided as a potentially useful rule of thumb for datasets with outlying clusters or multiple, distinct trajectories. See outgroup in <a href="#">createClusterMST</a> . |
| omega_scale | (optional) numeric, scaling factor to use when omega = TRUE. The maximum edge length will be set to the median edge length of the unsupervised MST times omega_scale (default = 3). See outscale in <a href="#">createClusterMST</a> .   |
| times       | numeric, vector of external times associated with either clusters or cells. See <a href="#">defineMSTPaths</a> for details.  |

## Details

Given a reduced-dimension data matrix  $n$  by  $p$  and a set of cluster identities (potentially including a "-1" group for "unclustered"), this function infers a tree (or forest) structure on the clusters. This work is now mostly handled by the more general function, [createClusterMST](#).

The graph of this structure is learned by fitting a (possibly constrained) minimum-spanning tree on the clusters, plus the artificial cluster, .OMEGA, which is a fixed distance away from every real cluster. This effectively limits the maximum branch length in the MST to the chosen distance, meaning that the output may contain multiple trees.

Once the graph is known, lineages are identified in any tree with at least two clusters. For a given tree, if there is an annotated starting cluster, every possible path out of a starting cluster and ending in a leaf that isn't another starting cluster will be returned. If no starting cluster is annotated, one will be chosen by a heuristic method, but this is not recommended.

**Value**

An object of class [PseudotimeOrdering](#). Although the final pseudotimes have not yet been calculated, the assay slot of this object contains two elements: pseudotime, a matrix of NA values; and weights, a preliminary matrix of lineage assignment weights. The reducedDim and clusterLabels matrices will be stored in the [cellData](#). Additionally, the metadata slot will contain an [igraph](#) object named mst, a list of parameter values named slingParams, and a list of lineages (ordered sets of clusters) named lineages.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- getLineages(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')

# plotting
sds <- as.SlingshotDataSet(pto)
plot(rd, col = cl, asp = 1)
lines(sds, type = 'l', lwd = 3)
```

---

newSlingshotDataSet     *Initialize an object of class SlingshotDataSet*

---

**Description**

Constructs a SlingshotDataSet object. Additional helper methods for manipulating SlingshotDataSet objects are also described below. We now recommend using [PseudotimeOrdering](#) objects, instead.

**Usage**

```
newSlingshotDataSet(reducedDim, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame,ANY'
newSlingshotDataSet(reducedDim, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,numeric'
newSlingshotDataSet(reducedDim, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,factor'
newSlingshotDataSet(reducedDim, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,ANY'
newSlingshotDataSet(reducedDim, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,character'
newSlingshotDataSet(reducedDim, clusterLabels, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'matrix,matrix'
newSlingshotDataSet(
  reducedDim,
  clusterLabels,
  lineages = list(),
  adjacency = matrix(NA, 0, 0),
  curves = list(),
  slingParams = list()
)
```

### Arguments

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| reducedDim    | matrix. An n by p numeric matrix or data frame giving the coordinates of the cells in a reduced dimensionality space.       |
| clusterLabels | character. A character vector of length n denoting each cell's cluster label.   |
| ...           | additional components of a SlingshotDataSet to specify. This may include any of the following:                              |
| lineages      | list. A list with each element a character vector of cluster names representing a lineage as an ordered set of clusters.    |
| adjacency     | matrix. A binary matrix describing the connectivity between clusters induced by the minimum spanning tree.                  |
| curves        | list. A list of <a href="#">principal_curve</a> objects produced by <a href="#">getCurves</a> .                             |
| slingParams   | list. Additional parameters used by Slingshot. These may specify how the minimum spanning tree on clusters was constructed: |

- `start.clus` character. The label of the root cluster.
- `end.clus` character. Vector of cluster labels indicating the terminal clusters.
- `start.given` logical. A logical value indicating whether the initial state was pre-specified.
- `end.given` logical. A vector of logical values indicating whether each terminal state was pre-specified
- `dist` matrix. A numeric matrix of pairwise cluster distances.

They may also specify how simultaneous principal curves were constructed:

- `shrink` logical or numeric between 0 and 1. Determines whether and how much to shrink branching lineages toward their shared average curve.
- `extend` character. Specifies the method for handling root and leaf clusters of lineages when constructing the initial, piece-wise linear curve. Accepted values are 'y' (default), 'n', and 'pc1'. See [getCurves](#) for details.
- `reweight` logical. Indicates whether to allow cells shared between lineages to be reweighted during curve-fitting. If TRUE, cells shared between lineages will be iteratively reweighted based on the quantiles of their projection distances to each curve.

- `reassign` logical. Indicates whether to reassign cells to lineages at each iteration. If TRUE, cells will be added to a lineage when their projection distance to the curve is less than the median distance for all cells currently assigned to the lineage. Additionally, shared cells will be removed from a lineage if their projection distance to the curve is above the 90th percentile and their weight along the curve is less than 0.1.
- `shrink.method` character. Denotes how to determine the amount of shrinkage for a branching lineage. Accepted values are the same as for `kernel` in the density function (default is "cosine"), as well as "tricube" and "density". See [getCurves](#) for details.
- Other parameters specified by [principal\\_curve](#).

### Value

A `SlingshotDataSet` object with all specified values.

### See Also

[PseudotimeOrdering](#)

### Examples

```
rd <- matrix(data=rnorm(100), ncol=2)
cl <- sample(letters[seq_len(5)], 50, replace = TRUE)
sds <- newSlingshotDataSet(rd, cl)
```

---

`pairs-SlingshotDataSet`

*Pairs plot of Slingshot output*

---

### Description

A tool for quickly visualizing lineages inferred by `slingshot`.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'SlingshotDataSet'
pairs(
  x,
  type = NULL,
  show.constraints = FALSE,
  col = NULL,
  pch = 16,
  cex = 1,
  lwd = 2,
  ...,
  labels,
```

```

horInd = seq_len(nc),
verInd = seq_len(nc),
lower.panel = FALSE,
upper.panel = TRUE,
diag.panel = NULL,
text.panel = textPanel,
label.pos = 0.5 + has.diag/3,
line.main = 3,
cex.labels = NULL,
font.labels = 1,
row1atop = TRUE,
gap = 1
)

```

### Arguments

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| x                | a SlingshotDataSet with results to be plotted.  |
| type             | character, the type of output to be plotted, can be one of "lineages", curves, or both (by partial matching), see Details for more.       |
| show.constraints | logical, whether or not the user-specified initial and terminal clusters should be specially denoted by green and red dots, respectively. |
| col              | character, color vector for points.   |
| pch              | integer or character specifying the plotting symbol, see <a href="#">par</a> .  |
| cex              | numeric, amount by which points should be magnified, see <a href="#">par</a> .  |
| lwd              | numeric, the line width, see <a href="#">par</a> .  |
| ...              | additional parameters for plot or axis, see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| labels           | character, the names of the variables, see <a href="#">pairs</a> .  |
| horInd           | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| verInd           | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| lower.panel      | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| upper.panel      | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| diag.panel       | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| text.panel       | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| label.pos        | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| line.main        | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| cex.labels       | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| font.labels      | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| row1atop         | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |
| gap              | see <a href="#">pairs</a> .   |

**Details**

If type == 'lineages', straight line connectors between cluster centers will be plotted. If type == 'curves', simultaneous principal curves will be plotted.

When type is not specified, the function will first check the curves slot and plot the curves, if present. Otherwise, lineages will be plotted, if present.

**Value**

returns NULL.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = "1")
pairs(SlingshotDataSet(pto))
```

---

plot-SlingshotDataSet *Plot Slingshot output*

---

**Description**

Tools for visualizing lineages inferred by slingshot.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'SlingshotDataSet'
plot(
  x,
  type = NULL,
  linInd = NULL,
  show.constraints = FALSE,
  add = FALSE,
  dims = seq_len(2),
  asp = 1,
  cex = 2,
  lwd = 2,
  col = 1,
  ...
)

## S3 method for class 'SlingshotDataSet'
lines(x, type = NULL, dims = seq_len(2), ...)
```



**Arguments**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| x                | a SlingshotDataSet with results to be plotted.   |
| type             | character, the type of output to be plotted, can be one of "lineages", "curves", or "both" (by partial matching), see Details for more.              |
| linInd           | integer, an index indicating which lineages should be plotted (default is to plot all lineages). If col is a vector, it will be subsetted by linInd. |
| show.constraints | logical, whether or not the user-specified initial and terminal clusters should be specially denoted by green and red dots, respectively.            |
| add              | logical, indicates whether the output should be added to an existing plot.   |
| dims             | numeric, which dimensions to plot (default is 1:2).  |
| asp              | numeric, the y/x aspect ratio, see <a href="#">plot.window</a> .   |
| cex              | numeric, amount by which points should be magnified, see <a href="#">par</a> .   |
| lwd              | numeric, the line width, see <a href="#">par</a> .   |
| col              | character or numeric, color(s) for lines, see <a href="#">par</a> .  |
| ...              | additional parameters to be passed to <a href="#">lines</a> .  |

**Details**

If type == 'lineages', straight line connectors between cluster centers will be plotted. If type == 'curves', simultaneous principal curves will be plotted.

When type is not specified, the function will first check the curves slot and plot the curves, if present. Otherwise, lineages will be plotted, if present.

**Value**

returns NULL.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = "1")
plot(SlingshotDataSet(pto), type = 'b')

# add to existing plot
sds <- as.SlingshotDataSet(pto)
plot(rd, col = 'grey50', asp = 1)
lines(sds, lwd = 3)
```

---

 plot3d-SlingshotDataSet

*Plot Slingshot output in 3D*


---

### Description

Tools for visualizing lineages inferred by slingshot.

### Usage

```
plot3d.SlingshotDataSet(
  x,
  type = NULL,
  linInd = NULL,
  add = FALSE,
  dims = seq_len(3),
  aspect = "iso",
  size = 10,
  col = 1,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| x      | a SlingshotDataSet with results to be plotted.   |
| type   | character, the type of output to be plotted, can be one of "lineages", curves, or both (by partial matching), see Details for more.                  |
| linInd | integer, an index indicating which lineages should be plotted (default is to plot all lineages). If col is a vector, it will be subsetted by linInd. |
| add    | logical, indicates whether the output should be added to an existing plot.   |
| dims   | numeric, which dimensions to plot (default is 1:3).  |
| aspect | either a logical indicating whether to adjust the aspect ratio or a new ratio, see <a href="#">plot3d</a> .  |
| size   | numeric, size of points for MST (default is 10), see <a href="#">plot3d</a> .  |
| col    | character or numeric, color(s) for lines, see <a href="#">par</a> .  |
| ...    | additional parameters to be passed to lines3d.   |

### Details

If type == 'lineages', straight line connectors between cluster centers will be plotted. If type == 'curves', simultaneous principal curves will be plotted.

When type is not specified, the function will first check the curves slot and plot the curves, if present. Otherwise, lineages will be plotted, if present.

**Value**

returns NULL.

**Examples**

```
library(rgl)
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
rd <- cbind(rd, rnorm(nrow(rd)))
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = "1")
sds <- SlingshotDataSet(pto)
plot3d.SlingshotDataSet(sds, type = 'b')

# add to existing plot
plot3d(rd, col = 'grey50', aspect = 'iso')
plot3d.SlingshotDataSet(sds, lwd = 3, add = TRUE)
```

---

predict,PseudotimeOrdering-method

*Predict from a Slingshot model*

---

**Description**

Map new observations onto simultaneous principal curves fitted by `slingshot`.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
predict(object, newdata = NULL)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
predict(object, newdata = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <code>object</code>  | a <a href="#">PseudotimeOrdering</a> or <a href="#">SlingshotDataSet</a> containing simultaneous principal curves to use for prediction.                   |
| <code>newdata</code> | a matrix or data frame of new points in the same reduced-dimensional space as the original input to <code>slingshot</code> (or <code>getLineages</code> ). |

**Details**

This function is a method for the generic function `predict` with inputs being either a `PseudotimeOrdering` or `SlingshotDataSet`. If no `newdata` argument is provided, it will return the original results, given by `object`.

**Value**

An object of the same type as object, based on the input newdata. New cells are treated as "unclustered", but other metadata is preserved. The curves slot represents the projections of each new cell onto the existing curves. As with standard slingshot output, the lineage-specific pseudotimes and assignment weights can be accessed via the functions [slingPseudotime](#) and [slingCurveWeights](#).

**See Also**

[slingshot](#)

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')

x <- cbind(runif(100, min = -5, max = 10), runif(100, min = -4, max = 4))
predict(pto, x)
```

---

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <code>slingBranchGraph</code> | <i>Construct graph of slingshot branch labels</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|

---

**Description**

Builds a graph describing the relationships between the different branch assignments.

**Usage**

```
slingBranchGraph(x, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
slingBranchGraph(x, thresh = NULL, max_node_size = 100)
```

**Arguments**

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <code>x</code>             | an object containing slingshot output, generally either a <a href="#">PseudotimeOrdering</a> or <a href="#">SingleCellExperiment</a> .                                   |
| <code>...</code>           | additional arguments passed to object-specific methods.  |
| <code>thresh</code>        | weight threshold for assigning cells to lineages. A cell's weight on a certain lineage must be greater than this value (default = 1/L, for L lineages).                  |
| <code>max_node_size</code> | the size of the largest node in the graph, for plotting (all others will be drawn proportionally). Default is 100. See <a href="#">igraph.plotting</a> for more details. |

**Value**

an igraph object representing the relationships between lineages.

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl)
slingBranchGraph(pto)
```

---

|               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| slingBranchID | <i>Get slingshot branch labels</i> |
|---------------|------------------------------------|

---

### Description

Summarizes the lineage assignment weights from slingshot results as a single vector. This is represented by a categorical variable indicating which lineage (or combination of lineages) each cell is assigned to.

### Usage

```
slingBranchID(x, ...)
```

## S4 method for signature 'ANY'

```
slingBranchID(x, thresh = NULL)
```

### Arguments

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| x      | an object containing slingshot output, generally either a <a href="#">PseudotimeOrdering</a> or <a href="#">SingleCellExperiment</a> .              |
| ...    | additional arguments passed to object-specific methods.   |
| thresh | weight threshold for assigning cells to lineages. A cell's weight on a certain lineage must be at least this value (default = 1/L, for L lineages). |

### Value

a factor variable that assigns each cell to a particular lineage or set of lineages.

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl)
slingBranchID(pto)
```

---

slingClusterLabels      *Extract cluster labels used by Slingshot*

---

**Description**

Extract the cluster labels used by [slingshot](#).

**Usage**

```
slingClusterLabels(x)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
slingClusterLabels(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
slingClusterLabels(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
slingClusterLabels(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                      an object containing [slingshot](#) output.

**Value**

Typically returns a matrix of cluster assignment weights (#cells by #clusters). Rarely, a vector of cluster labels.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingClusterLabels(pto)
```

---

slingCurves              *Extract simultaneous principal curves*

---

**Description**

Extract the simultaneous principal curves from an object containing [slingshot](#) output.

**Usage**

```
slingCurves(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
slingCurves(x, as.df = FALSE)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
slingCurves(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
slingCurves(x, as.df = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

`x` an object containing `slingshot` output.

`...` additional parameters to be passed to object-specific methods.

`as.df` logical, whether to format the output as a `data.frame`, suitable for plotting with `ggplot`.

**Value**

A list of smooth lineage curves, each of which is a `principal_curve` object.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingCurves(pto)
```

---

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <code>slingLineages</code> | <i>Extract the Slingshot lineages</i> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|

---

**Description**

Extract lineages (represented by ordered sets of clusters) identified by `slingshot`.

**Usage**

```
slingLineages(x)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
slingLineages(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
slingLineages(x)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
slingLineages(x)
```

### Arguments

`x` an object containing `slingshot` output.

### Value

A list of lineages, represented by ordered sets of clusters.

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingLineages(pto)
```

---

slingMST

*Extract Slingshot minimum spanning tree*

---

### Description

Extract the minimum spanning tree from an object containing `slingshot` output.

### Usage

```
slingMST(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
slingMST(x, as.df = FALSE)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
slingMST(x, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
slingMST(x, as.df = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

`x` an object containing `slingshot` output.

`...` additional parameters to be passed to object-specific methods.

`as.df` logical, whether to format the output as a `data.frame`, suitable for plotting with `ggplot`.



**Value**

In most cases, output is an [igraph](#) object representing the MST. If `x` is a `SlingshotDataSet`, then output is an adjacency matrix representing the MST.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingMST(pto)
```

---

slingParams

*Methods for parameters used by Slingshot*


---

**Description**

Extracts additional control parameters used by Slingshot in lineage inference and fitting simultaneous principal curves.

**Usage**

```
slingParams(x)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
slingParams(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
slingParams(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
slingParams(x)
```

**Arguments**

`x` an object containing [slingshot](#) output.

**Value**

The list of additional parameters used by Slingshot. These include parameters related to the cluster-based minimum spanning tree:

- `start.clus` character. The label of the root cluster, or a vector of cluster labels giving the root clusters of each disjoint component of the graph.
- `end.clus` character. Vector of cluster labels indicating terminal clusters.
- `start.given` logical. A logical value indicating whether the initial state was pre-specified.

- `end.given` logical. A vector of logical values indicating whether each terminal state was pre-specified
- `omega` numeric or logical. Granularity parameter determining the maximum edge length for building the MST. See [getLineages](#).
- `omega_scale` numeric. Scaling factor used for setting maximum edge length when `omega = TRUE`. See [getLineages](#).

They may also specify how simultaneous principal curves were constructed (for a complete listing, see [getCurves](#)):

- `shrink` logical or numeric between 0 and 1. Determines whether and how much to shrink branching lineages toward their shared average curve.
- `extend` character. Specifies the method for handling root and leaf clusters of lineages when constructing the initial, piece-wise linear curve. Accepted values are 'y' (default), 'n', and 'pcl'. See [getCurves](#) for details.
- `reweight` logical. Indicates whether to allow cells shared between lineages to be reweighted during curve-fitting. If TRUE, cells shared between lineages will be iteratively reweighted based on the quantiles of their projection distances to each curve.
- `reassign` logical. Indicates whether to reassign cells to lineages at each iteration. If TRUE, cells will be added to a lineage when their projection distance to the curve is less than the median distance for all cells currently assigned to the lineage. Additionally, shared cells will be removed from a lineage if their projection distance to the curve is above the 90th percentile and their weight along the curve is less than 0.1.
- `shrink.method` character. Denotes how to determine the amount of shrinkage for a branching lineage. Accepted values are the same as for `kernel` in the density function (default is "cosine"), as well as "tricube" and "density". See [getCurves](#) for details.
- `approx_points` numeric. Number of points to use in estimating curves. See [getCurves](#) for details.
- `allow.breaks` logical. Whether to allow curves that diverge very early on in a trajectory to have different starting points.
- Other parameters specified by [principal\\_curve](#).

## Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingParams(pto)
```

---

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| slingPseudotime | <i>Get Slingshot pseudotime values</i> |
|-----------------|--|

---

## Description

Extract the matrix of pseudotime values or cells' weights along each lineage.

## Usage

```
slingPseudotime(x, ...)  
  
slingCurveWeights(x, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'  
slingPseudotime(x, na = TRUE)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'  
slingPseudotime(x, na = TRUE)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'  
slingPseudotime(x, na = TRUE)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'  
slingCurveWeights(x, as.probs = FALSE)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'  
slingCurveWeights(x)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'  
slingCurveWeights(x, as.probs = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| x        | an object containing <code>slingshot</code> output.   |
| ...      | additional parameters to be passed to object-specific methods.  |
| na       | logical. If TRUE (default), cells that are not assigned to a lineage will have a pseudotime value of NA. Otherwise, their arclength along each curve will be returned.  |
| as.probs | logical. If FALSE (default), output will be the weights used to construct the curves, appropriate for downstream analysis of individual lineages (ie. a cell shared between two lineages can have two weights of 1). If TRUE, output will be scaled to represent probabilistic assignment of cells to lineages (ie. a cell shared between two lineages will have two weights of 0.5). |

**Value**

slingPseudotime: an n by L matrix representing each cell's pseudotime along each lineage.  
slingCurveWeights: an n by L matrix of cell weights along each lineage.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingPseudotime(pto)
slingCurveWeights(pto)
```

---

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| slingReducedDim | <i>Extract dimensionality reduction used by Slingshot</i> |
|-----------------|---|

---

**Description**

Extract the dimensionality reduction used by [slingshot](#).

**Usage**

```
slingReducedDim(x)

## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'
slingReducedDim(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
slingReducedDim(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'
slingReducedDim(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    an object containing [slingshot](#) output.

**Value**

A matrix of coordinates.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')
slingReducedDim(pto)
```

---

`slingshot`*Perform trajectory inference with Slingshot*

---

## Description

Perform trajectory inference with Slingshot

Perform trajectory inference by (1) identifying lineage structure with a cluster-based minimum spanning tree, and (2) constructing smooth representations of each lineage using simultaneous principal curves. This function wraps the `getLineages` and `getCurves` functions and is the primary function of the `slingshot` package.

## Usage

```
slingshot(data, clusterLabels, ...)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'matrix,character'
```

```
slingshot(  
  data,  
  clusterLabels,  
  reducedDim = NULL,  
  start.clus = NULL,  
  end.clus = NULL,  
  dist.method = "slingshot",  
  use.median = FALSE,  
  omega = FALSE,  
  omega_scale = 1.5,  
  times = NULL,  
  shrink = TRUE,  
  extend = "y",  
  reweight = TRUE,  
  reassign = TRUE,  
  thresh = 0.001,  
  maxit = 15,  
  stretch = 2,  
  approx_points = NULL,  
  smoother = "smooth.spline",  
  shrink.method = "cosine",  
  allow.breaks = TRUE,  
  ...  
)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'matrix,matrix'
```

```
slingshot(  
  data,  
  clusterLabels,  
  reducedDim = NULL,
```

```
start.clus = NULL,
end.clus = NULL,
dist.method = "slingshot",
use.median = FALSE,
omega = FALSE,
omega_scale = 1.5,
times = NULL,
shrink = TRUE,
extend = "y",
reweight = TRUE,
reassign = TRUE,
thresh = 0.001,
maxit = 15,
stretch = 2,
approx_points = NULL,
smoother = "smooth.spline",
shrink.method = "cosine",
allow.breaks = TRUE,
...
)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet,ANY'
slingshot(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'data.frame,ANY'
slingshot(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,numeric'
slingshot(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,factor'
slingshot(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'matrix,ANY'
slingshot(data, clusterLabels, ...)

## S4 method for signature 'ClusterExperiment,ANY'
slingshot(
  data,
  clusterLabels,
  reducedDim = NULL,
  start.clus = NULL,
  end.clus = NULL,
  dist.method = "slingshot",
  use.median = FALSE,
  omega = FALSE,
  omega_scale = 1.5,
  times = NULL,
```

```

    shrink = TRUE,
    extend = "y",
    reweight = TRUE,
    reassign = TRUE,
    thresh = 0.001,
    maxit = 15,
    stretch = 2,
    approx_points = NULL,
    smoother = "smooth.spline",
    shrink.method = "cosine",
    allow.breaks = TRUE,
    ...
)

## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment,ANY'
slingshot(
  data,
  clusterLabels,
  reducedDim = NULL,
  start.clus = NULL,
  end.clus = NULL,
  dist.method = "slingshot",
  use.median = FALSE,
  omega = FALSE,
  omega_scale = 1.5,
  times = NULL,
  shrink = TRUE,
  extend = "y",
  reweight = TRUE,
  reassign = TRUE,
  thresh = 0.001,
  maxit = 15,
  stretch = 2,
  approx_points = NULL,
  smoother = "smooth.spline",
  shrink.method = "cosine",
  allow.breaks = TRUE,
  ...
)

```

### Arguments

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| data          | a data object containing the matrix of coordinates to be used for lineage inference. Supported types include <code>matrix</code> , <a href="#">SingleCellExperiment</a> , <a href="#">SlingshotDataSet</a> , and <a href="#">PseudotimeOrdering</a> .       |
| clusterLabels | each cell's cluster assignment. This can be a single vector of labels, or a <code>#cells</code> by <code>#clusters</code> matrix representing weighted cluster assignment. Either representation may optionally include a "-1" group meaning "unclustered." |

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| ...         | Additional parameters to pass to scatter plot smoothing function, smoother.   |
| reducedDim  | (optional) the dimensionality reduction to be used. Can be a matrix or a character identifying which element of <code>reducedDim(data)</code> is to be used. If multiple dimensionality reductions are present and this argument is not provided, the first element will be used by default.  |
| start.clus  | (optional) character, indicates the starting cluster(s) from which lineages will be drawn.  |
| end.clus    | (optional) character, indicates which cluster(s) will be forced to be leaf nodes in the graph.  |
| dist.method | (optional) character, specifies the method for calculating distances between clusters. Default is "slingshot", see <a href="#">createClusterMST</a> for details.  |
| use.median  | logical, whether to use the median (instead of mean) when calculating cluster centroid coordinates.   |
| omega       | (optional) numeric, this granularity parameter determines the distance between every real cluster and the artificial cluster, <code>.OMEGA</code> . In practice, this makes omega the maximum allowable distance between two connected clusters. By default, <code>omega = Inf</code> . If <code>omega = TRUE</code> , the maximum edge length will be set to the median edge length of the unsupervised MST times a scaling factor ( <code>omega_scale</code> , default = 3). This value is provided as a potentially useful rule of thumb for datasets with outlying clusters or multiple, distinct trajectories. See <code>outgroup</code> in <a href="#">createClusterMST</a> . |
| omega_scale | (optional) numeric, scaling factor to use when <code>omega = TRUE</code> . The maximum edge length will be set to the median edge length of the unsupervised MST times <code>omega_scale</code> (default = 1.5). See <code>outscale</code> in <a href="#">createClusterMST</a> .  |
| times       | numeric, vector of external times associated with either clusters or cells. See <a href="#">defineMSTPaths</a> for details.   |
| shrink      | logical or numeric between 0 and 1, determines whether and how much to shrink branching lineages toward their average prior to the split (default = TRUE).  |
| extend      | character, how to handle root and leaf clusters of lineages when constructing the initial, piece-wise linear curve. Accepted values are 'y' (default), 'n', and 'pc1'. See 'Details' for more.  |
| reweight    | logical, whether to allow cells shared between lineages to be reweighted during curve fitting. If TRUE (default), cells shared between lineages will be iteratively reweighted based on the quantiles of their projection distances to each curve. See 'Details' for more.  |
| reassign    | logical, whether to reassign cells to lineages at each iteration. If TRUE (default), cells will be added to a lineage when their projection distance to the curve is less than the median distance for all cells currently assigned to the lineage. Additionally, shared cells will be removed from a lineage if their projection distance to the curve is above the 90th percentile and their weight along the curve is less than 0.1.   |
| thresh      | numeric, determines the convergence criterion. Percent change in the total distance from cells to their projections along curves must be less than <code>thresh</code> . Default is 0.001, similar to <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .   |



|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <code>maxit</code>         | numeric, maximum number of iterations (default = 15), see <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .   |
| <code>stretch</code>       | numeric factor by which curves can be extrapolated beyond endpoints. Default is 2, see <a href="#">principal_curve</a> .  |
| <code>approx_points</code> | numeric, whether curves should be approximated by a fixed number of points. If FALSE (or 0), no approximation will be performed and curves will contain as many points as the input data. If numeric, curves will be approximated by this number of points (default = 150 or #cells, whichever is smaller). See 'Details' and <a href="#">principal_curve</a> for more. |
| <code>smoother</code>      | choice of scatter plot smoother. Same as <a href="#">principal_curve</a> , but "lowess" option is replaced with "loess" for additional flexibility.   |
| <code>shrink.method</code> | character denoting how to determine the appropriate amount of shrinkage for a branching lineage. Accepted values are the same as for kernel in <a href="#">density</a> (default is "cosine"), as well as "tricube" and "density". See 'Details' for more.   |
| <code>allow.breaks</code>  | logical, determines whether curves that branch very close to the origin should be allowed to have different starting points.  |

## Details

Given a reduced-dimensional data matrix  $n$  by  $p$  and a vector of cluster labels (or matrix of soft cluster assignments, potentially including a  $-1$  label for "unclustered"), this function performs trajectory inference using a cluster-based minimum spanning tree on the clusters and simultaneous principal curves for smooth, branching paths.

The graph of this structure is learned by fitting a (possibly constrained) minimum-spanning tree on the clusters, plus the artificial cluster, `.OMEGA`, which is a fixed distance away from every real cluster. This effectively limits the maximum branch length in the MST to the chosen distance, meaning that the output may contain multiple trees.

Once the graph is known, lineages are identified in any tree with at least two clusters. For a given tree, if there is an annotated starting cluster, every possible path out of a starting cluster and ending in a leaf that isn't another starting cluster will be returned. If no starting cluster is annotated, one will be chosen by a heuristic method, but this is not recommended.

When there is only a single lineage, the curve-fitting algorithm is nearly identical to that of [principal\\_curve](#). When there are multiple lineages and `shrink > 0`, an additional step is added to the iterative procedure, forcing curves to be similar in the neighborhood of shared points (ie., before they branch).

The `approx_points` argument, which sets the number of points to be used for each curve, can have a large effect on computation time. Due to this consideration, we set the default value to 150 whenever the input dataset contains more than that many cells. This setting should help with exploratory analysis while having little to no impact on the final curves. To disable this behavior and construct curves with the maximum number of points, set `approx_points = FALSE`.

The `extend` argument determines how to construct the piece-wise linear curve used to initiate the recursive algorithm. The initial curve is always based on the lines between cluster centers and if `extend = 'n'`, this curve will terminate at the center of the endpoint clusters. Setting `extend = 'y'` will allow the first and last segments to extend beyond the cluster center to the orthogonal projection of the furthest point. Setting `extend = 'pc1'` is similar to 'y', but uses the first principal component of the cluster to determine the direction of the curve beyond the cluster center. These

options typically have limited impact on the final curve, but can occasionally help with stability issues.

When `shrink = TRUE`, we compute a percent shrinkage curve,  $w_l(t)$ , for each lineage, a non-increasing function of pseudotime that determines how much that lineage should be shrunk toward a shared average curve. We set  $w_l(0) = 1$  (complete shrinkage), so that the curves will always perfectly overlap the average curve at pseudotime 0. The weighting curve decreases from 1 to 0 over the non-outlying pseudotime values of shared cells (where outliers are defined by the  $1.5 \times \text{IQR}$  rule). The exact shape of the curve in this region is controlled by `shrink.method`, and can follow the shape of any standard kernel function's cumulative density curve (or more precisely, survival curve, since we require a decreasing function). Different choices of `shrink.method` to have no discernable impact on the final curves, in most cases.

When `reweight = TRUE`, weights for shared cells are based on the quantiles of their projection distances onto each curve. The distances are ranked and converted into quantiles between 0 and 1, which are then transformed by  $1 - q^2$ . Each cell's weight along a given lineage is the ratio of this value to the maximum value for this cell across all lineages.

## Value

An object of class `PseudotimeOrdering` containing the pseudotime estimates and lineage assignment weights in the assays. The `reducedDim` and `clusterLabels` matrices will be stored in the `cellData`. Additionally, the metadata slot will contain an `igraph` object named `mst`, a list of parameter values named `slingParams`, a list of lineages (ordered sets of clusters) named `lineages`, and a list of `principal_curve` objects named `curves`.

## References

Hastie, T., and Stuetzle, W. (1989). "Principal Curves." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 84:502-516.

Street, K., et al. (2018). "Slingshot: cell lineage and pseudotime inference for single-cell transcriptomics." *BMC Genomics*, 19:477.

## Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
cl <- slingshotExample$cl
pto <- slingshot(rd, cl, start.clus = '1')

# plotting
sds <- as.SlingshotDataSet(pto)
plot(rd, col = cl, asp = 1)
lines(sds, type = 'c', lwd = 3)
```

---

SlingshotDataSet      *Extract Slingshot output*

---

### Description

This is a convenience function to extract a SlingshotDataSet from an object containing `slingshot` output. However, we now recommend using a `PseudotimeOrdering` object, in most cases. The SlingshotDataSet is, however, still used for plotting purposes.

### Usage

```
SlingshotDataSet(data, ...)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SingleCellExperiment'  
SlingshotDataSet(data)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'  
SlingshotDataSet(data)  
  
## S4 method for signature 'PseudotimeOrdering'  
SlingshotDataSet(data)
```

### Arguments

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <code>data</code> | an object containing <code>slingshot</code> output.      |
| <code>...</code>  | additional arguments to pass to object-specific methods. |

### Value

A SlingshotDataSet object containing the output of `slingshot`.

### See Also

[PseudotimeOrdering](#), [as.SlingshotDataSet](#)

### Examples

```
data("slingshotExample")  
rd <- slingshotExample$rd  
cl <- slingshotExample$cl  
library(SingleCellExperiment)  
u <- matrix(rpois(140*50, 5), nrow = 50)  
sce <- SingleCellExperiment(assays = list(counts = u),  
                           reducedDims = SimpleList(PCA = rd),  
                           colData = data.frame(clus = cl))  
sce <- slingshot(sce, clusterLabels = 'clus', reducedDim = 'PCA')  
SlingshotDataSet(sce)
```

---

 SlingshotDataSet-class

*Class SlingshotDataSet*


---

### Description

This was the original class for storing slingshot results, but we now generally recommend using the [PseudotimeOrdering](#) class, instead. Most slingshot functions will still work with SlingshotDataSet objects, but will return PseudotimeOrdering objects, by default. To update old SlingshotDataSet objects, we have provided the [as.PseudotimeOrdering](#) conversion function. The only functions that require SlingshotDataSet objects are the plotting functions.

The SlingshotDataSet class holds data relevant for performing lineage inference with the slingshot package, primarily a reduced dimensional representation of the data and a set of cluster labels.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
show(object)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet,ANY'
reducedDim(x)

## S4 method for signature 'SlingshotDataSet'
reducedDims(x)
```

### Arguments

|        |                            |
|--------|----------------------------|
| object | a SlingshotDataSet object. |
| x      | a SlingshotDataSet object. |

### Value

The accessor functions reducedDim, clusterLabels, lineages, adjacency, curves, and slingParams return the corresponding elements of a SlingshotDataSet. The functions slingPseudotime and slingCurveWeights extract useful output elements of a SlingshotDataSet, provided that curves have already been fit with either slingshot or getCurves.

### Methods (by generic)

- show: a short summary of a SlingshotDataSet object.
- reducedDim: returns the matrix representing the reduced dimensional dataset.

**Slots**

- `reducedDim` matrix. An  $n$  by  $p$  numeric matrix or data frame giving the coordinates of the cells in a reduced dimensionality space.
- `clusterLabels` matrix or character. An  $n$  by  $K$  matrix of weights indicating each cell's cluster assignment or a character vector of cluster assignments, which will be converted into a binary matrix.
- `lineages` list. A list with each element a character vector of cluster names representing a lineage as an ordered set of clusters.
- `adjacency` matrix. A binary matrix describing the adjacency between clusters induced by the minimum spanning tree.
- `curves` list. A list of `principal_curve` objects produced by `getCurves`.
- `slingParams` list. Additional parameters used by Slingshot. These may specify how the minimum spanning tree on clusters was constructed:
- `start.clus` character. The label of the root cluster, or a vector of cluster labels giving the root clusters of each disjoint component of the graph.
  - `end.clus` character. Vector of cluster labels indicating terminal clusters.
  - `start.given` logical. A logical value indicating whether the initial state was pre-specified.
  - `end.given` logical. A vector of logical values indicating whether each terminal state was pre-specified.
  - `omega` numeric or logical. Granularity parameter determining the maximum edge length for building the MST. See `getLineages`.
  - `omega_scale` numeric. Scaling factor used for setting maximum edge length when `omega = TRUE`. See `getLineages`.

They may also specify how simultaneous principal curves were constructed (for a complete listing, see `getCurves`):

- `shrink` logical or numeric between 0 and 1. Determines whether and how much to shrink branching lineages toward their shared average curve.
- `extend` character. Specifies the method for handling root and leaf clusters of lineages when constructing the initial, piece-wise linear curve. Accepted values are 'y' (default), 'n', and 'pc1'. See `getCurves` for details.
- `reweight` logical. Indicates whether to allow cells shared between lineages to be reweighted during curve-fitting. If TRUE, cells shared between lineages will be iteratively reweighted based on the quantiles of their projection distances to each curve.
- `reassign` logical. Indicates whether to reassign cells to lineages at each iteration. If TRUE, cells will be added to a lineage when their projection distance to the curve is less than the median distance for all cells currently assigned to the lineage. Additionally, shared cells will be removed from a lineage if their projection distance to the curve is above the 90th percentile and their weight along the curve is less than 0.1.
- `shrink.method` character. Denotes how to determine the amount of shrinkage for a branching lineage. Accepted values are the same as for `kernel` in the density function (default is "cosine"), as well as "tricube" and "density". See `getCurves` for details.
- `approx_points` numeric. Number of points to use in estimating curves. See `getCurves` for details.

- allow.breaks logical. Whether to allow curves that diverge very early on in a trajectory to have different starting points.
- Other parameters specified by [principal\\_curve](#).

**See Also**

[PseudotimeOrdering](#)

---

slingshotExample      *Bifurcating lineages data*

---

**Description**

This simulated dataset contains a low-dimensional representation of two bifurcating lineages (rd) and a vector of cluster labels generated by k-means with  $K = 5$  (c1).

**Usage**

```
data("slingshotExample")
```

**Format**

rd is a matrix of coordinates in two dimensions, representing 140 cells. c1 is a numeric vector of 140 corresponding cluster labels for each cell.

**Source**

Simulated data provided with the slingshot package.

**Examples**

```
data("slingshotExample")
rd <- slingshotExample$rd
c1 <- slingshotExample$c1
slingshot(rd, c1)
```

# Index

- \* **datasets**
  - slingshotExample, 38
- as.PseudotimeOrdering, 2, 36
- as.PseudotimeOrdering,PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (as.PseudotimeOrdering), 2
- as.PseudotimeOrdering,SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (as.PseudotimeOrdering), 2
- as.PseudotimeOrdering,SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (as.PseudotimeOrdering), 2
- as.SlingshotDataSet, 3, 35
- as.SlingshotDataSet,PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (as.SlingshotDataSet), 3
- as.SlingshotDataSet,SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (as.SlingshotDataSet), 3
- as.SlingshotDataSet,SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (as.SlingshotDataSet), 3
- cellData, 12, 34
- createClusterMST, 11, 32
- defineMSTPaths, 11, 32
- density, 5, 8, 33
- embedCurves, 4
- embedCurves,PseudotimeOrdering,matrix-method
  - (embedCurves), 4
- embedCurves,SingleCellExperiment,character-method
  - (embedCurves), 4
- embedCurves,SingleCellExperiment,matrix-method
  - (embedCurves), 4
- getCurves, 4, 6, 13, 14, 26, 29, 37
- getCurves,PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (getCurves), 6
- getCurves,SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (getCurves), 6
- getCurves,SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (getCurves), 6
- getLineages, 6, 7, 9, 26, 29, 37
- getLineages,data.frame,ANY-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,matrix,ANY-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,matrix,character-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,matrix,factor-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,matrix,matrix-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,matrix,numeric-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,PseudotimeOrdering,ANY-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,SingleCellExperiment,ANY-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- getLineages,SlingshotDataSet,ANY-method
  - (getLineages), 9
- igraph, 12, 25, 34
- igraph.plotting, 20
- lines, 17
- lines.SlingshotDataSet
  - (plot-SlingshotDataSet), 16
- newSlingshotDataSet, 12
- newSlingshotDataSet,data.frame,ANY-method
  - (newSlingshotDataSet), 12
- newSlingshotDataSet,matrix,ANY-method
  - (newSlingshotDataSet), 12
- newSlingshotDataSet,matrix,character-method
  - (newSlingshotDataSet), 12
- newSlingshotDataSet,matrix,factor-method
  - (newSlingshotDataSet), 12
- newSlingshotDataSet,matrix,matrix-method
  - (newSlingshotDataSet), 12
- newSlingshotDataSet,matrix,numeric-method
  - (newSlingshotDataSet), 12
- pairs, 15

- pairs-SlingshotDataSet, [14](#)
- pairs.SlingshotDataSet
  - (pairs-SlingshotDataSet), [14](#)
- par, [15](#), [17](#), [18](#)
- plot, SlingshotDataSet, ANY-method
  - (plot-SlingshotDataSet), [16](#)
- plot-SlingshotDataSet, [16](#)
- plot.SlingshotDataSet
  - (plot-SlingshotDataSet), [16](#)
- plot.window, [17](#)
- plot3d, [18](#)
- plot3d-SlingshotDataSet, [18](#)
- plot3d.SlingshotDataSet
  - (plot3d-SlingshotDataSet), [18](#)
- predict, PseudotimeOrdering-method, [19](#)
- predict, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (predict, PseudotimeOrdering-method), [19](#)
- principal\_curve, [5](#), [7–9](#), [13](#), [14](#), [23](#), [26](#), [32–34](#), [37](#), [38](#)
- PseudotimeOrdering, [2](#), [4](#), [6](#), [7](#), [9](#), [10](#), [12](#), [14](#), [19–21](#), [31](#), [34–36](#), [38](#)
- reducedDim, SlingshotDataSet, ANY-method
  - (SlingshotDataSet-class), [36](#)
- reducedDims, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (SlingshotDataSet-class), [36](#)
- show, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (SlingshotDataSet-class), [36](#)
- SingleCellExperiment, [7](#), [10](#), [20](#), [21](#), [31](#)
- slingBranchGraph, [20](#)
- slingBranchGraph, ANY-method
  - (slingBranchGraph), [20](#)
- slingBranchID, [21](#)
- slingBranchID, ANY-method
  - (slingBranchID), [21](#)
- slingClusterLabels, [22](#)
- slingClusterLabels, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingClusterLabels), [22](#)
- slingClusterLabels, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingClusterLabels), [22](#)
- slingClusterLabels, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingClusterLabels), [22](#)
- slingCurves, [22](#)
- slingCurves, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingCurves), [22](#)
- slingCurves, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingCurves), [22](#)
- slingCurves, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingCurves), [22](#)
- slingCurveWeights, [20](#)
- slingCurveWeights (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingCurveWeights, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingCurveWeights, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingCurveWeights, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingLineages, [23](#)
- slingLineages, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingLineages), [23](#)
- slingLineages, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingLineages), [23](#)
- slingLineages, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingLineages), [23](#)
- slingMST, [24](#)
- slingMST, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingMST), [24](#)
- slingMST, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingMST), [24](#)
- slingMST, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingMST), [24](#)
- slingParams, [25](#)
- slingParams, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingParams), [25](#)
- slingParams, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingParams), [25](#)
- slingParams, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingParams), [25](#)
- slingPseudotime, [20](#), [27](#)
- slingPseudotime, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingPseudotime, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingPseudotime, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingPseudotime), [27](#)
- slingReducedDim, [28](#)
- slingReducedDim, PseudotimeOrdering-method
  - (slingReducedDim), [28](#)
- slingReducedDim, SingleCellExperiment-method
  - (slingReducedDim), [28](#)
- slingReducedDim, SlingshotDataSet-method
  - (slingReducedDim), [28](#)
- slingshot, [4](#), [5](#), [9](#), [20](#), [22–25](#), [27](#), [28](#), [29](#), [35](#)
- slingshot, ClusterExperiment, ANY-method
  - (slingshot), [29](#)



slingshot,data.frame,ANY-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,matrix,ANY-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,matrix,character-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,matrix,factor-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,matrix,matrix-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,matrix,numeric-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,SingleCellExperiment,ANY-method  
(slingshot), 29

slingshot,SlingshotDataSet,ANY-method  
(slingshot), 29

SlingshotDataSet, 7, 10, 19, 31, 35

SlingshotDataSet,PseudotimeOrdering-method  
(SlingshotDataSet), 35

SlingshotDataSet,SingleCellExperiment-method  
(SlingshotDataSet), 35

SlingshotDataSet,SlingshotDataSet-method  
(SlingshotDataSet), 35

SlingshotDataSet-class, 36

slingshotExample, 38