

# Package ‘DeepTarget’

February 27, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Deep characterization of cancer drugs

**Version** 1.4.0

**Description** This package predicts a drug’s primary target(s) or secondary target(s) by integrating large-scale genetic and drug screens from the Cancer Dependency Map project run by the Broad Institute. It further investigates whether the drug specifically targets the wild-type or mutated target forms. To show how to use this package in practice, we provided sample data along with step-by-step example.

**License** GPL-2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**biocViews** GeneTarget, GenePrediction, Pathways, GeneExpression, RNASeq, ImmunoOncology, DifferentialExpression, GeneSetEnrichment, ReportWriting, CRISPR

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Suggests** BiocStyle, knitr, rmarkdown

**Imports** fgsea, ggplot2, stringr, ggpubr, BiocParallel, pROC, stats, grDevices, graphics, depmap, readr, dplyr

**Depends** R (>= 4.2.0)

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

**git\_branch** RELEASE\_3\_22

**git\_last\_commit** 5b8241e

**git\_last\_commit\_date** 2025-10-29

**Repository** Bioconductor 3.22

**Date/Publication** 2026-02-27

**Author** Sanju Sinha [aut],  
Trinh Nguyen [aut, cre] (ORCID:  
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6606-6948>>),  
Ying Hu [aut]

**Maintainer** Trinh Nguyen <[trinh.nguyen@nih.gov](mailto:trinh.nguyen@nih.gov)>

## Contents

computeCor . . . . .	2
Depmap2DeepTarget . . . . .	3
DMB . . . . .	3
DoInteractExp . . . . .	4
DoInteractMutant . . . . .	5
DoPWY . . . . .	6
DTR . . . . .	7
OntargetM . . . . .	8
plotCor . . . . .	9
plotSim . . . . .	10
PredMaxSim . . . . .	11
PredTarget . . . . .	12
<b>Index</b>	<b>14</b>

---

computeCor	<i>Compute a correlation between the every gene vs each drug response</i>
------------	---

---

### Description

Compute correlations between the viability of cell lines after CRISPR Knock Out of each gene and of the same cell lines after drug treatment.

### Usage

```
computeCor(DrugName, DRS, GES)
```

### Arguments

DrugName	Drug Name
DRS	Drug's response scores
GES	Gene effect scores from Knock-out method such as CRISPR.

### Value

a list of matrices for the interesting drugs, where each matrix containing gene names with the correlation values and P values associated with response scores from a given drug ID.

### Author(s)

sanjushin7, Trinh Nguyen

### Examples

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[,"broad_id_trimmed"]
S.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
```

```
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out ) <- S.Drugs
head(sim.out)
```

---

Depmap2DeepTarget	<i>Retrieval and preparation of input data required from Depmap to Deeptarget package.</i>
-------------------	--

---

### Description

Retrieve gene expression, Cripr, mutation data from KO method, and drug matrix and then preparation the matrix compatible as input for Deeptarget.

### Usage

```
Depmap2DeepTarget(FileN,version)
```

### Arguments

FileN	File Named used as input for DeepTarget: "CCLE_expression.csv", "CRISPRGeneEffect.csv", "OmicsSomaticMutations.csv", or "secondary-screen-dose-response-curve-parameters.csv"
version	Version of data

### Value

a data frame for each required input data

### Author(s)

Trinh Nguyen, Ying Hu, and sanju

### Examples

```
library(readr)
library(depmap)
# expresion
CCLE.exp <- Depmap2DeepTarget("CCLE_expression.csv","19Q4")
```

---

DMB	<i>Predicting Drug Mutant Binding for mutant or non-mutant form</i>
-----	---

---

### Description

Predicting whether the drug is likely bind to mutant or non-mutant form and also generates the plot for visualization.

### Usage

```
DMB(DrugName,GOI,Pred,Mutant,DRS,GES,plot=TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

DrugName	Drug of interest
GOI	Gene of interest
Pred	Prediction object resulting from both PredTarget and PredMaxSim functions to predict whether it is a primary target or secondary target
Mutant	Mutant matrix
DRS	Drug response matrix
GES	Gene Effect Scores
plot	Default is TRUE for plotting

**Value**

The plot of viability after KO as the X-axis vs drug response in a mutant target as the Y-axis.

**Author(s)**

sanjushinha7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
S.Drugs <- c('K70301465', 'K09951645')
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
d.mt <- OntargetM$mutations_mat
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
DrugTargetSim <- PredTarget(sim.out,Meta.data)
Drug.Gene.max.sim <- PredMaxSim(sim.out,Meta.data)
identical ( DrugTargetSim[,1],Drug.Gene.max.sim[,1])
Pred.d <- cbind (DrugTargetSim,Drug.Gene.max.sim)
DOI = 'dabrafenib'
GOI = 'BRAF'
DMB (DOI,GOI,Pred.d,d.mt,sec.prism,KO.GES)
```

---

DoInteractExp

*Compute the interaction between the drug and KO expression*

---

**Description**

Computes interaction between the drug and KO expression in term of lower vs higher expression using linear model.

**Usage**

```
DoInteractExp(Predtargets,Exp,DRS, GES,CutOff=3)
```

**Arguments**

Predtargets	a dataframe of drugs information and their most targeted gene with stats of correlation
Exp	Expression matrix
DRS	Drug scores matrix
GES	Gene effect scores matrix from KO method
CutOff	desired cut-off for low expression

**Value**

A list of drug names with their interaction values from two groups low and high expression based on the desired cut-off.

drug1	interaction with estimate and P vals from the linear model
drug2	interaction with estimate and P vals from the linear model
drugN	interaction with estimate and P vals from the linear model

**Author(s)**

sanjushin7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[, "broad_id_trimmed"]
S.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs, function(x) computeCor(x, sec.prism, KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
DrugTargetSim <- PredTarget(sim.out, D.M = Meta.data)
d.expr <- OntargetM$expression_20Q4
ExpInteract <- DoInteractExp (DrugTargetSim, d.expr, sec.prism, KO.GES, CutOff = 2)
```

---

DoInteractMutant	<i>Compute interaction between the drug and KO expression in term of mutant vs non-mutant</i>
------------------	---

---

**Description**

Compute interaction between the drug and KO expression in term of mutant vs non-mutant

**Usage**

```
DoInteractMutant(Predtargets, Mutant, DRS, GES)
```

**Arguments**

Predtargets	a dataframe of drugs information and their most targeted gene with stats of correlation
Mutant	Mutant matrix
DRS	Drug scores matrix
GES	Gene effect scores matrix from KO method

**Value**

A list of drug names with their interaction values from two groups mutant and non-mutant

drug1	interaction with estimate and P vals from the linear model
drug2	interaction with estimate and P vals from the linear model
drugN	interaction with estimate and P vals from the linear model

**Author(s)**

sanjusinha7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[,"broad_id_trimmed"]
S.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
sim <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
DrugTargetSim <- PredTarget(sim,Meta.data)
d.mt <- OntargetM$mutations_mat
MutantInteract <- DoInteractMutant (DrugTargetSim,d.mt,sec.prism,KO.GES)
```

---

DoPWY

*Provide a probability score for each pathway for the primary of mechanism of action (MOA) of a drug*

---

**Description**

Predicts a Primary Target at a pathway Level. It next finds the pathways that are most enriched in the genes with high DKS scores. It does this by performing a pathway enrichment test on the ranked gene list by DKS score. The output is a data frame of pathway-level probabilities for each drug to be the primary of mechanism of action.

**Usage**

```
DoPWY(Sim.GES.DRS,D.M)
```

**Arguments**

Sim.GES.DRS      The list of result from "GetSim" function.  
 D.M                meta data from drug

**Value**

a list of drugs, where each of them is data frame containing the pathway level probability to be a primary of mechanism of action.

drug1             a dataframe contain the pathway level probability to be a primary MOA  
 drug2             a dataframe contain the pathway level probability to be a primary MOA  
 drugN             a dataframe contain the pathway level probability to be a primary MOA

**Author(s)**

sanjushin7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[, "broad_id_trimmed"]
S.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
sim <- bplapply(S.Drugs, function(x) computeCor(x, sec.prism, KO.GES))
names(sim) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
Pwy.Enr <- DoPWY(sim, Meta.data)
```

---

DTR

---

*Predicting Drug Target Response (DTR) for primary or secondary targets*


---

**Description**

Predicting whether the drug is likely response to primary or secondary targets and also generates the plot for visualization.

**Usage**

```
DTR(DN, GN, Pred, Exp, DRS, GES, CutOff= 3, plot = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

DN                Drug of interest  
 GN                Gene of interest  
 Pred             Prediction object, an output result from prediction whether it is a primary target or secondary target  
 Exp              Expression matrix

DRS	Drug response matrix
GES	Gene Effect Scores
plot	whether users want to plot, default is true
CutOff	cutoff value for gene expression of gene of interest high or low

**Value**

viability after KO vs drug response of gene of interest low vs high cut-off values set by users

**Author(s)**

sanjusinha7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
S.Drugs <- c('K70301465', 'K09951645')
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
d.expr <- OntargetM$expression_20Q4
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
DrugTargetSim <- PredTarget(sim.out,Meta.data)
Drug.Gene.max.sim <- PredMaxSim(sim.out,Meta.data)
identical ( DrugTargetSim[,1],Drug.Gene.max.sim[,1] )
Pred.d <-cbind (DrugTargetSim,Drug.Gene.max.sim )
DOI = 'ibrutinib'
GOI ='BTK'
DTR(DOI,GOI,Pred.d,d.expr,sec.prism,KO.GES,CutOff= 2)
```

---

OntargetM

*An object containing a small part of the data from the Cancer Dependency Map ([depmap.org](http://depmap.org)) to demonstrate in DeepTarget pipeline*

---

**Description**

An object containing Viability matrix after CRISPR-KO; Viability after Drug Treatment; Drug metadata from Broad, mutation matrix, and expression matrix with common cell-lines and common drugs. This is a subset of the total data due to memory constraints, full data can be downloaded from [depmap.org/portal](http://depmap.org/portal).

**Usage**

```
data("OntargetM")
```

**Format**

A list of one dataframe and 4 matrices

DrugMetadata a dataframe containing 11 unique drugs as rownames with their associated information: broad\_id\_trimmed as ID of the drug, name, target, drug\_category, and moa as columns

secondary\_prism a viability scores matrix (after Drug Treatment) with 16 drugs as row names across 392 unique celllines as column names

avana\_CRISPR a Gene effect scores (after CRISPR-KO) matrix for 487 genes as row names across 392 unique celllines as column names

mutations\_mat Mutation binary matrix for 476 genes as row names across 392 unique cell lines as column names; 0 is WT; 1 is mutated

expression\_20Q4 Expression matrix for 550 genes as row names across 392 unique celllines as column names

**Details**

For a full list data used in the paper, please use the link below to download data

**Source**

DrugMetadata: Please download full data from this link [https://depmap.org/repurposing/#:~:text=Corseello\\_supplemental\\_tables.xlsx](https://depmap.org/repurposing/#:~:text=Corseello_supplemental_tables.xlsx)

Secondary prism: please download full data from this link <https://depmap.org/portal/download/all/?releasename=PRISM+Repurposing+19Q4&filename=secondary-screen-dose-response-curve-parameter.csv>

avana\_CRISPR: please download full data from this link <https://depmap.org/portal/download/all/?releasename=DepMap+Public+22Q4&filename=CRISPRGeneEffect.csv>

mutations\_mat: Please download full data from this link <https://depmap.org/portal/download/all/?releasename=DepMap+Public+22Q4&filename=OmicsSomaticMutations.csv>

expression\_20Q4: Please download full data of file named "CCLE\_expression.csv" from this link <https://depmap.org/portal/download/all/>

**Examples**

```
data(OntargetM)
```

---

plotCor

*Plot the correlation*

---

**Description**

Plot the correlation of a predicted target

**Usage**

```
plotCor(DN, GN, Pred, DRS, GES, plot=TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

DN	Drug Name
GN	Gene Name
Pred	Output from prediction object
DRS	Drug response score
GES	Gene Effect scores
plot	default is plot=TRUE

**Value**

Correlation plot

**Author(s)**

sanjusinha7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
S.Drugs <- c('K70301465', 'K09951645')
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
d.expr <- OntargetM$expression_20Q4
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
DrugTargetSim <- PredTarget(sim.out,Meta.data)
Drug.Gene.max.sim <- PredMaxSim(sim.out,Meta.data)
identical ( DrugTargetSim[,1],Drug.Gene.max.sim[,1] )
Pred.d <-cbind (DrugTargetSim,Drug.Gene.max.sim )
DOI = 'ibrutinib'
GOI = 'BTK'
plotCor (DOI,GOI,Pred.d,sec.prism,KO.GES)
```

---

plotSim

*Plot the similarity between correlation values and P vals for all genes.  
The top 5 genes are labeled.*

---

**Description**

Plot the similarity between correlation values and P val;

**Usage**

```
plotSim(dx,dy,clr=NULL, plot=TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

dx	a matrix of p vals
dy	a matrix of correlation vals
clr	Desired range of color
plot	default plot =TRUE

**Value**

a plot of similarity

**Author(s)**

Ying Hu,Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[,"broad_id_trimmed"]
Sample.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
sim.out <- bplapply(Sample.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- Sample.Drugs
P.Values=vapply(sim.out, function(x) x[,1],FUN.VALUE=numeric(nrow(sim.out[[1]])))
estimate.cor.values=vapply(sim.out, function(x) x[,2],FUN.VALUE=numeric(nrow(sim.out[[1]])))
par(mar=c(4,4,5,2), xpd=TRUE, mfrow=c(3,3));
plotSim(dx=P.Values,dy=estimate.cor.values);
```

---

PredMaxSim

*Predict the most similar gene to the drug response*

---

**Description**

Predicts the gene that has the most similarity associated with drug's response scores from the set of all genes.

**Usage**

```
PredMaxSim (Sim.GES.DRS,D.M)
```

**Arguments**

Sim.GES.DRS	similarity between Drug's response scores and Gene effect scores from Knock-out method such as CRISPR
D.M	Drug Metadata

**Value**

a dataframe of drug(s) information with the most predicted gene(s) with the max corelation value(s), P value(s), and FDR value(s).

**Author(s)**

sanjushinha7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data (OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[,"broad_id_trimmed"]
S.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
Drug.Gene.max.sim <- PredMaxSim(sim.out,Meta.data)
```

---

PredTarget

*Prediction of the most similar known targeted gene.*

---

**Description**

Predicts the gene that has the most similarity to a drug's response scores. This is done based on selecting a gene that has the most correlation across the known targeted genes by their drug.

**Usage**

```
PredTarget(Sim.GES.DRS,D.M)
```

**Arguments**

Sim.GES.DRS	similarity between Drug's response scores and Gene effect scores from Knock-out method such as CRISPR.
D.M	Drug Metadata

**Value**

a dataframe of drug(s) information with the most known predicted gene(s) with the max correlation value(s), P value(s), and FDR value(s).

**Author(s)**

sanjushinha7, Trinh Nguyen

**Examples**

```
library(BiocParallel)
data(OntargetM)
set.seed (12345)
All.Drugs <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata[,"broad_id_trimmed"]
S.Drugs <- sample(All.Drugs, 5)
KO.GES <- OntargetM$avana_CRISPR
sec.prism <- OntargetM$secondary_prism
```

```
sim.out <- bplapply(S.Drugs,function(x) computeCor(x,sec.prism,KO.GES))
names(sim.out) <- S.Drugs
Meta.data <- OntargetM$DrugMetadata
DrugTargetSim <- PredTarget(sim.out,Meta.data)
```

# Index

## \* datasets

OntargetM, 8

computeCor, 2

Depmap2DeepTarget, 3

DMB, 3

DoInteractExp, 4

DoInteractMutant, 5

DoPWY, 6

DTR, 7

OntargetM, 8

plotCor, 9

plotSim, 10

PredMaxSim, 11

PredTarget, 12