

# Package ‘dorothea’

September 11, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Collection Of Human And Mouse TF Regulons

**Version** 1.21.0

**Description** DoRothEA is a gene regulatory network containing signed transcription factor (TF) - target gene interactions. DoRothEA regulons, the collection of a TF and its transcriptional targets, were curated and collected from different types of evidence for both human and mouse. A confidence level was assigned to each TF-target interaction based on the number of supporting evidence.

**URL** <https://saezlab.github.io/dorothea/>,  
<https://github.com/saezlab/dorothea>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/saezlab/dorothea/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 4.0)

**License** GPL-3 + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**LazyDataCompression** xz

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**biocViews** ExperimentData, Homo\_sapiens\_Data, Mus\_musculus\_Data

**Imports** dplyr, magrittr, bcellViper, decoupleR,

**Suggests** Biobase, BiocStyle, OmnipathR, viper, knitr, pheatmap,  
pkgdown, rmarkdown, Seurat, SingleCellExperiment,  
SummarizedExperiment, testthat (>= 2.1.0), tibble, tidyr, utils

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|                  |                                                            |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| dorothea-package | <i>dorothea: Collection Of Human And Mouse TF Regulons</i> |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|

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## Description

This package contains human and mouse TF regulons.

## Author(s)

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**See Also**

Useful links:

- <https://saezlab.github.io/dorothea/>
- <https://github.com/saezlab/dorothea>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/saezlab/dorothea/issues>

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df2regulon

*Construction of dorothea regulons for viper analysis*


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**Description**

This function converts DoRothEA's regulons that are stored in a table to the format required by the [viper](#) function.

**Usage**

```
df2regulon(df)
```

**Arguments**

df                      A regulon table from dorothea package.

**Value**

Regulons in the viper format.

**Examples**

```
# accessing (human) dorothea regulons
# for mouse regulons: data(dorothea_mm, package = "dorothea")
data(dorothea_hs, package = "dorothea")
# convert to the format required by viper
viper_regulons = df2regulon(dorothea_hs)
```

---

dorothea\_hs

*Human DoRothEA*


---

**Description**

A table reporting signed human TF-target interactions. This database covers in total 1395 TFs targeting 20,244 genes with 486,676 unique interactions. In addition, each TF is accompanied with an empirical confidence level that was derived from the number of supporting evidences for this TF/interaction. The range is from A (high quality) to E (low quality).

**Format**

A table of human TF-target interactions:

**tf** TF identifier as HGNC symbols

**confidence** Summary confidence score classifying regulons based on their quality

**target** target identifier as HGNC symbols

**mor** mode of regulation indicating the effect of a TF on the target

**Source**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6673718/>

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dorothea\_hs\_pancancer *Human DoRothEA (pancancer)*

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**Description**

A table reporting signed human TF-target interactions for cancer application. The difference to "dorothea\_hs" is that TCGA gene expression data was used instead of GTEx to infer the networks with ARACNE. This database covers in total 1344 TFs targeting 20,582 genes with 213,230 unique interactions. In addition, each TF is accompanied with an empirical confidence level that was derived from the number of supporting evidences for this TF/interaction. The range is from A (high quality) to E (low quality).

**Format**

A table of human TF-target interactions:

**tf** TF identifier as HGNC symbols

**confidence** Summary confidence score classifying regulons based on their quality

**target** target identifier as HGNC symbols

**mor** mode of regulation indicating the effect of a TF on the target

**Source**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6673718/>

---

dorothea\_mm*Mouse DoRothEA*

---

**Description**

A table reporting signed human TF-target interactions. This database covers in total 1179 TFs targeting 17,410 genes with 410,455 unique interactions. In addition, each TF is accompanied with an empirical confidence level that was derived from the number of supporting evidences for this TF/interaction. The range is from A (high quality) to E (low quality).

**Format**

A table of mouse TF-target interactions:

**tf** TF identifier as MGI symbols

**confidence** summary confidence score classifying regulons based on their quality

**target** target identifier as MGI symbols

**mor** mode of regulation indicating the effect of a TF on the target

**Source**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31525460>

---

dorothea\_mm\_pancancer*Mouse DoRothEA (pancancer)*

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**Description**

A table reporting signed human TF-target interactions. The difference to "dorothea\_mm" is that TCGA gene expression data was used instead of GTEx to infer the networks with ARACNE. This database covers in total 1096 TFs targeting 17,695 genes with 187,955 unique interactions. In addition, each TF is accompanied with an empirical confidence level that was derived from the number of supporting evidences for this TF/interaction. The range is from A (high quality) to E (low quality).

**Format**

A table of mouse TF-target interactions:

**tf** TF identifier as MGI symbols

**confidence** summary confidence score classifying regulons based on their quality

**target** target identifier as MGI symbols

**mor** mode of regulation indicating the effect of a TF on the target

**Source**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31525460>

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|                 |                                                  |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| entire_database | <i>Entire database with associated meta data</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------|

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### Description

This table lists all human TF-target interactions that were derived from the four lines of evidences. Each interaction is assigned a confidence score based on the number of supporting evidences. The table provides also all required information to trace back the origin of the interaction.

### Source

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6673718/>

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|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| run_viper | <i>VIPER wrapper</i> |
|-----------|----------------------|

---

### Description

This function is a convenient wrapper for the [run\\_viper](#) function using DoRothEA regulons.

### Usage

```
run_viper(input, regulons, options = list(), tidy = FALSE, assay_key = "RNA")
```

### Arguments

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| input     | An object containing a gene expression matrix with genes (HGNC/MGI symbols) in rows and samples in columns. The object can be a simple matrix/data frame or more complex objects such as <a href="#">ExpressionSet</a> , <a href="#">Seurat</a> or <a href="#">SingleCellExperiment</a> objects. |
| regulons  | <a href="#">DoRothEA</a> regulons in table format.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| options   | A list of named options to pass to <a href="#">viper</a> such as minsize or method. These options should not include, eset or regulon.                                                                                                                                                           |
| tidy      | Logical, whether computed TF activities scores should be returned in a tidy format.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| assay_key | Only applies if the input is a <a href="#">Seurat</a> object. It selects the name of the assay from where to extract the normalized expression data.                                                                                                                                             |

### Value

A matrix of normalized enrichment scores for each TF across all samples. Of note, if you provide Bioconductor objects as input the function will return this object with added TF activities at appropriate slots. e.g. Seurat object with a new assay called dorothea. For all other inputs the function will return a matrix. If tidy is TRUE the normalized enrichment scores are returned in a tidy format (not supported for Bioconductor objects).

**Examples**

```
# use example gene expression matrix from bcellViper package
library(bcellViper)
data(bcellViper, package = "bcellViper")
# accessing (human) dorothea regulons
# for mouse regulons: data(dorothea_mm, package = "dorothea")
data(dorothea_hs, package = "dorothea")
# run viper
tf_activities <- run_viper(dset, dorothea_hs,
  options = list(method = "scale", minsize = 4,
    eset.filter = FALSE, cores = 1,
    verbose = FALSE))
```

---

%>%

*Pipe operator*

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**Description**

See `magrittr::%>%` for details.

**Usage**

```
lhs %>% rhs
```

**Value**

lhs

**Examples**

```
c(1:10) %>% mean()
```

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