

Supplementary Materials - CellDepot: A unified repository for scRNAseq data and visual exploration

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Chapter 1

Preface

This is a *supplementary materials* written in Markdown, which provides the detailed guide for CellDepot web portal.

Chapter 2

Getting start with CellDepot

2.1 Sources of annotation and metadata

The original metadata information of each scRNA-seq dataset is retrieved from h5ad file, which is a preferred way of sharing and storing an on-disk representation of anndata object. When importing the dataset to the system, user inputs additional metadata information as shown in (4.6). Both metadata are collected and stored in a MySQL database table that is presented at <http://celldepot.bxgenomics.com> and Biogen internal instance, <http://go.biogen.com/CellDepot>.

2.2 Data format, availability, and preparation

CellDepot requires scRNA-seq data in h5ad file where the expression matrix is stored in CSC (compressed sparse column) instead of CSR (compressed sparse row) format to improve the speed of data retrieving. For example, designating genes as columns in the h5ad file creates the interactive plot five times faster than as rows. Just in case, we provide sample scripts to help users generate h5ad files. Having gene expression matrix, metadata, and layout files, users can easily combine and convert their data to h5ad file by following this R script on <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot/blob/main/toH5ad.R>. In the case of lacking layout file, users can also create h5ad file by following the Jupyter notebook <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot/blob/main/raw2h5ad.ipynb> with custom python script tailored to their own data. Categorical features extracted from a h5ad file are shown in the ‘annotation groups’ column of the table on CellDepot home page, while the numerical features are shown as the histograms in the rightmost panel on cellxgene VIP. (4.4.2)

2.3 CellDepot platform and installation

The public version of CellDepot web portal is hosted at the web site, <http://celldepot.bxgenomics.com> and Biogen internal link <http://go.biogen.com/CellDepot>. It is implemented with MySQL database, an advanced search engine, and powerful interactive visualizing tools that allow users to explore attributes of datasets as well as scRNA-seq analysis results. Also, users can intentionally select single-cell RNA-seq datasets on the web interface by simply browsing the online dataset table or applying advanced search to perform the cross-dataset comparison. Moreover, CellDepot also provides comprehensive data analysis tools via an embedded interactive visualization plugin. To host private datasets, local instance of CellDepot on Unix server can be installed by following the guide here, https://celldepot.bxgenomics.com/celldepot_manual/install_environment.php.

2.4 How to set up cron job?

The following cron job entry is needed to convert h5ad file to CSC format on the background,

```
@hourly <user-name> cd /var/www/html/celldepot/app/core; php ./api_toCSC_h5ad.php
```

Note: Please make sure that the user has the permission to write in the data directory.

2.5 CellDepot API (Application Programming Interface)

The CellDepot API web service provides a direct way to generate figures for users to share or embed in web page. For example, the following URL will generate a gene expression violin plot across cell clusters for IRAK4 gene for the data set with ID equaling one, https://celldepot.bxgenomics.com/celldepot/app/core/api_gene_plot.php?ID=1&Genes=IRAK4&Plot_Type=violin&Subsampling=0&n=0&g=0&Project_Group=CLUSTER. The complete format of the URL and explanation of parameters are detailed in the online documentation, https://celldepot.bxgenomics.com/celldepot_manual/api_gene_plot.php.

2.6 Code availability

The source code, links to tutorials and other supplementary documents are provided at <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot>. With broad adoption and contribution in mind, CellDepot is released under the MIT open-source license. The detailed instruction of local installation is available at https://celldepot.bxgenomics.com/celldepot_manual.

2.7 Online tutorials

To better assist biologists to use CellDepot and integrated cellxgene VIP visual analytical tool, we created online easy-to-access HTML tutorials with step-by-step guides available at <https://interactivereport.github.io/CellDepot/bookdown/docs/SITutorial.html> for CellDepot and https://interactivereport.github.io/cellxgene_VIP/tutorial/docs/how-to-use-cellxgene-vip.html for cellxgene VIP, respectively. In addition, a question mark next to the title of each VIP function module provides a direct way to reach the corresponding section of the HTML document for help.

Chapter 3

Supplemental Tables

Table S1 - Comparison matrix of web portal tools

Table link: <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot/blob/gh-pages/bookdown/S1.csv>

Web application repository	CellDepot	Corpora Data Portal	gEAR	CHARTS	SCANNER	Single Cell Portal	Sfaria	Repro-Genomics	PanglaoDB	Expression Atlas	scRNA-SeqDB	conquer	Jingle-Bells	Human Cell ATLAS
Year	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019	2019	2018	2017	2017
Main function														
Database Explorer	Y	Y	Y	Y	NA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Query Search	Advanced	NA	Basic I	NA	Intermediate	Advanced	Basic II	Intermediate	Advanced	Intermediate	Basic I	Basic I	Basic I	Advanced
Data Analysis Explorer	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate - Advanced	NA	Basic	Intermediate	Intermediate	Basic - Intermediate	Basic	NA	NA
Visualization features	Violin, dot, heatmap, bar, QC, scatter, density, embedding plots	Bar, scatter, embedding plots	Violin, dot, line, bar, QC, embedding plots, genome browser	Bar, embedding plots	Violin, dot, scatter, heatmap, embedding plots	Violin, scatter, heatmap, embedding plots	NA	Violin, density, scatter plots, genome browser	Bar, QC, scatter, embedding plots	Heatmap, scatter, embedding plots	Scatter, bar plots	Scatter, QC plots	Genome browser	NA
Scalability and Capacity														
Time to interactive	3.5 s	0.9 s	5.5 s	13.2 s	5.5 s	5.6 s	0.8 s	4.7 s	0.8 s	1.4 s	1.3 s	1.9 s	1.1 s	1.1 s
Total blocking time	30 ms	50 ms	470 ms	10,020 ms	60 ms	100 ms	0 ms	300 ms	0 ms	40 ms	0 ms	100 ms	0 ms	0 ms
Cumulative layout shift	0.033	0.596	0.733	0.329	0.004	0.04	0.162	0	0.001	0.281	0	0.127	0.015	0.001
Memory footprint	36,784K	33,252K	42,032K	559,568K	47,800K	73,188K	25,964K	45,696K	32,036K	32,912K	26,536K	34,380K	45,160K	49,472K
Instant MAX CPU	32.7	15.6	54.2	237.3	49.8	144.1	29.6	51.1	7.7	74.0	26.5	35.9	26.5	21.9
Total number of datasets	270	174	163	21	52	387 (*)	177	140	237 (1368)	229	38	40	120	165
Data type supported														
Datasets	diverse	diverse	hearing/brain	tumor	diverse	diverse	diverse	reproduction	diverse	diverse	diverse	diverse	immune-related	diverse
Datatypes	Single-cell	Single-cell	Single-cell, Epigenetics	Single-cell	Single-cell	Single-cell	Single-cell	Single-cell, Multi-omics	Single-cell	Single-cell, Proteomics	Single-cell	Single-cell	Single-cell	Single-cell, Multi-omics
Links														
Source Code link	https://github.com/interactiveresearch/CellID-epot	https://github.com/chanzuckerberg/corpora-data-portal	https://github.com/IGS/gEAR	https://github.com/stewart-lab/CHARTS	https://github.com/Guooshuai/Cai/scanner	https://github.com/broadinstitute/single-cell-portal_core	https://github.com/thaislab/sfaira-portal	https://github.com/fchalmers/rgv	https://github.com/oscar-franzen/PanglaoDB	https://github.com/ebi-gene-expression-group/atlas	NA	https://github.com/mcsone/sonconquer-comparison	https://github.com/NoSks0/SmpMdE0?resourcekey=0-s7Qw02qR8VhkS7hfdE9nPg	https://github.com/HumanCellAtlas/Atlas/
Demo link	http://cellid.epot.bxgenomics.com/	https://cellxgene.czi.science.com/	https://umgear.org	https://charts.morgridge.org	https://www.thecelllab.com/scanner/	https://singlecell.broadinstitute.org/single-cell-portal/	https://theislab.github.io/sfaira-nouest.org/	https://rgv.genouest.org/	https://panglaoDB.aodb.se	https://www.ebi.ac.uk/quicksearch/home	https://bioinformatics.uth.edu/scRNA-seqdb/	http://iml.spentict.on.uzh.ch/n3838/conquer/	https://jinglebells.s.bgu.ac.il/	https://data.humancellatlas.org/

Note: The criteria for query search and data analysis explorer please see Table S2 and S3.

Table S2 - Criterion for query search

Table link: <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot/blob/gh-pages/bookdown/S2.csv>

Query.Search	Keyword.Search	Multiple.Object.Search	Category.Filters
Basic S2	Y		
Basic II			Y
Intermediate	Y		Y
Advanced	Y	Y	Y

Table S3 - Criterion for data analysis explorer

Table link: <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot/blob/gh-pages/bookdown/S3.csv>

Data.Analysis.Explorer	Analyze.scRNAseq.Data	Analyze.Gene.Expression	Customize.Displays
Basic	Y		
Intermediate	Y	Y	
Advanced	Y	Y	Y

Table S4 - Project metadata captured in CellDepot

Table link: <https://github.com/interactivereport/CellDepot/blob/gh-pages/bookdown/S4.csv>

General.Category	Expected.Variable.Type	Description
Annotation Groups	String	categorical features from h5ad file
Cell Count	Integer	numbers of cell in study
Actions	Link	three options: 1) Study summary information; 2) Data visualization and analysis; 3) Update project information
Custom Accession	String	Customized accession name for individual project
Description	String	Additional information
DOI	Link	Digital Object Identifier
File Name	String	h5ad file name
File Size	Integer	size of h5ad file
Gene Count	Integer	numbers of gene in study
Name	Link	project name
Notes	String	study notes
PMC ID	Link	
Publication Title		
PubMed ID	Link	
Species	String	
URL	Link	
Year	String	

Chapter 4

Supplemental Tutorial

CellDepot is a scRNA-seq data portal consisting of a relational database management system, a graphical query builder, and data visualization tools, which can be accessed via the link, <http://celldpot.bxgenomics.com> for public datasets or a link to private installation, e.g., <http://go.biogen.com/CellDepot> for Biogen internal data collection. This is the supplemental tutorial providing detailed instructions. Clicking on a figure will bring up the enlarged view.

The screenshot shows the CellDepot homepage. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'Import Projects', 'Create Project', 'Browse Projects', 'Search Projects', 'Project Filters', 'Search Genes', 'Admin Tools', and 'Tutorial'. The 'Admin Tools' and 'Tutorial' tabs are highlighted with a red box and a callout stating: "Import Projects in batch, Create Project and Admin Tools are only for admin users". Below the navigation bar is a search section with a 'Search:' label, a dropdown for 'Please select a field to search:', a 'Contains' dropdown, and a search input field. A red callout points to the search input field with the text: 'Main functionalities available to all users'. Below the search section are buttons for 'Column Settings', 'Export Selected', 'Export All', 'Delete Project', and 'Search Genes'. Below these buttons, it says 'Showing 271 records:'. Below that is a table with columns: 'Actions', 'Custom Accession', 'Species', 'Year', 'DOI', 'Cell Count', 'Gene Count', and 'Publication Title'. A red callout points to the 'Species' column header with the text: 'Click on a column to sort'. The table contains 10 rows of data. At the bottom right of the table, there is a pagination bar with 'Previous', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '...', '11', and 'Next'.

Figure S1. CellDepot Homepage. Functions designated to different user roles are highlighted in red callout boxes. The interface contains multiple tabs at the top of the homepage, which correspond to major functionalities of CellDepot. All users can explore the existing datasets loaded in the public CellDepot for visualization and analysis while only admin users can upload datasets to a CellDepot instance, public or private.

4.1 Browse Projects

Users can customize columns to be displayed by clicking on the green 'Column Settings' button. In addition, all or selected entries could be exported in CSV format. A quick search box is provided on the top-right corner of the table while building a complex query is exemplified in Figure S3 (4.2).

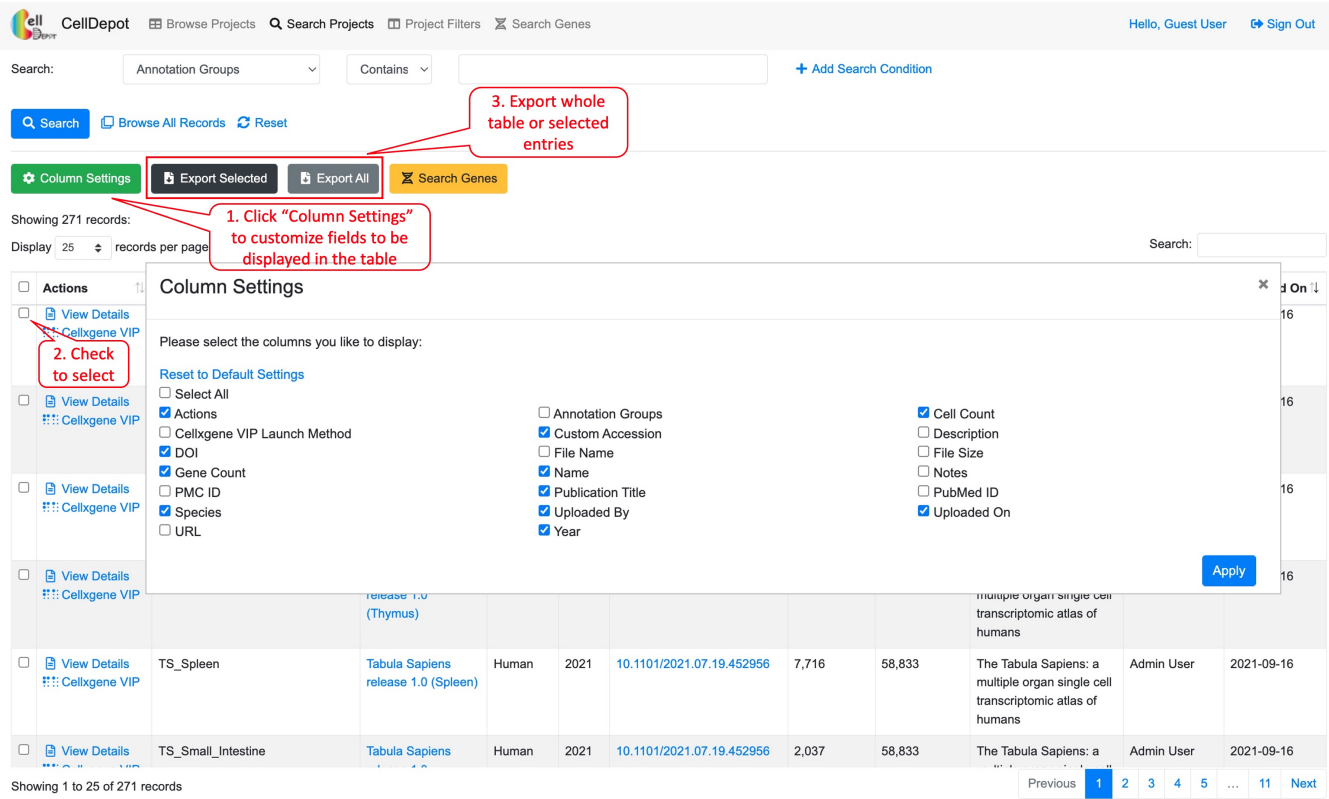


Figure S2. Browsing projects in a personalized view.

4.2 Search Projects

This function allows users to search projects of interest, which can be accessed through the homepage as well. Users can search projects by 17 attributes in multiple logic conditions: annotation groups, cell count, cellxgene VIP launch method, Custom accession, description, DOI, file name, file size, gene count, name, notes, PMC ID, Publication Title, PubMed ID, Species, URL, and/or Year.

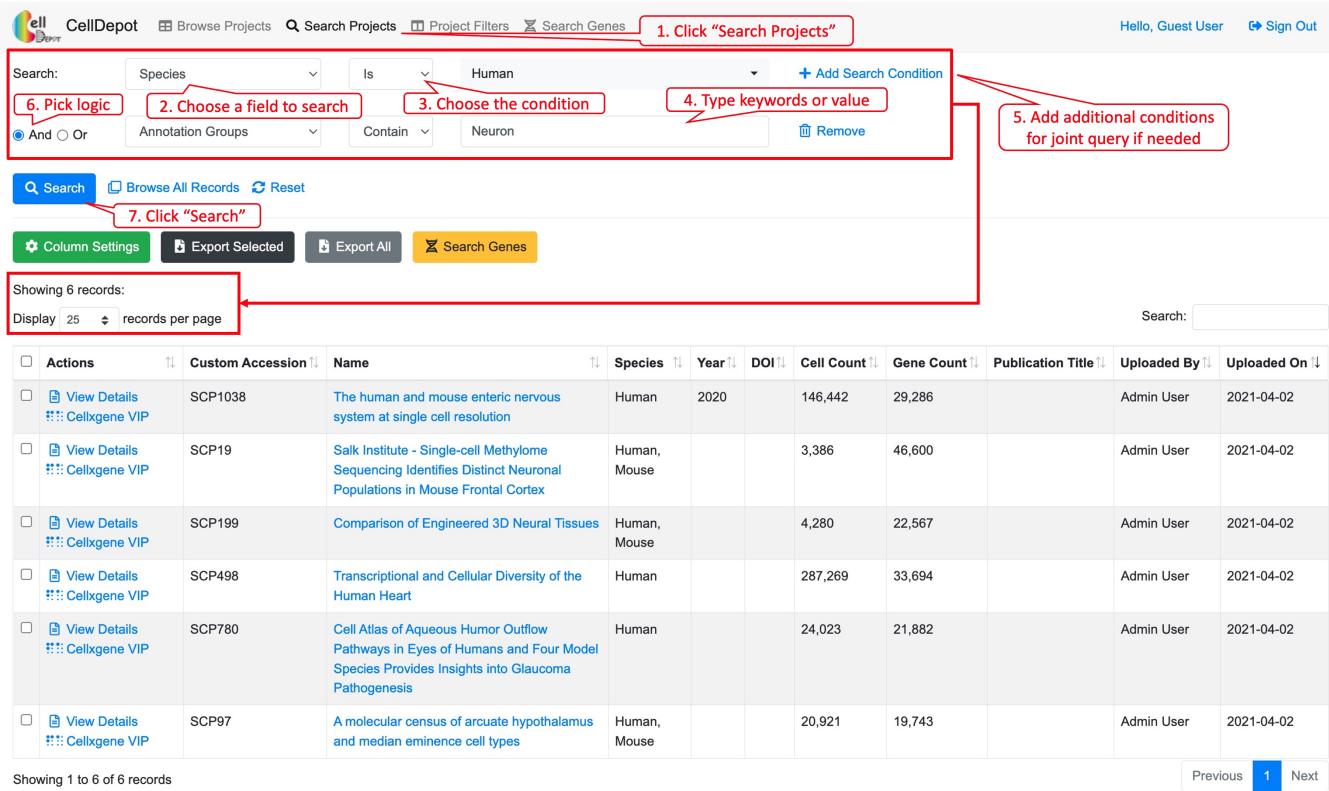


Figure S3. Workflow of searching projects by using the graphical multi-logic, multi-condition query builder. Six datasets are identified when searching by ‘Species is Human’ and ‘Annotation Group contains Neuron’.

4.3 Project Filters

This function lists the filtered datasets simply based on AND logic operation of checked items under various categories. It is a friendly feature for first-time users as they may not be familiar with the design of the database to construct more complex query.

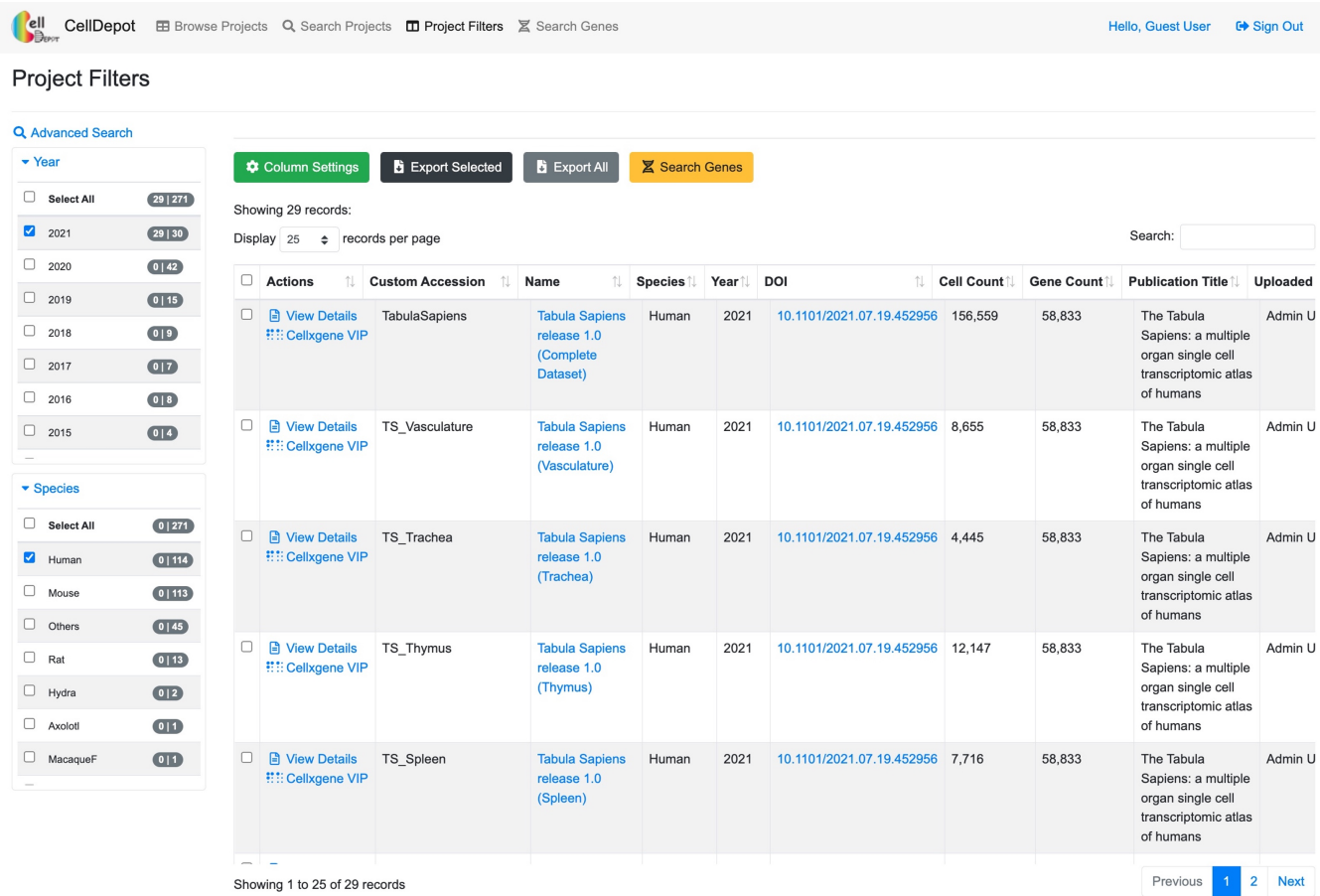


Figure S4. The ‘Project Filters’ page. 29 records are identified by filtering criteria of ‘Year’ equaling 2021 and ‘Species’ being human.

4.4 Visualize Datasets

4.4.1 View Details

The dataset information consists of project summary and annotation groups. The project summary is provided by admin users when uploading projects while annotation groups are retrieved from uploaded h5ad files.

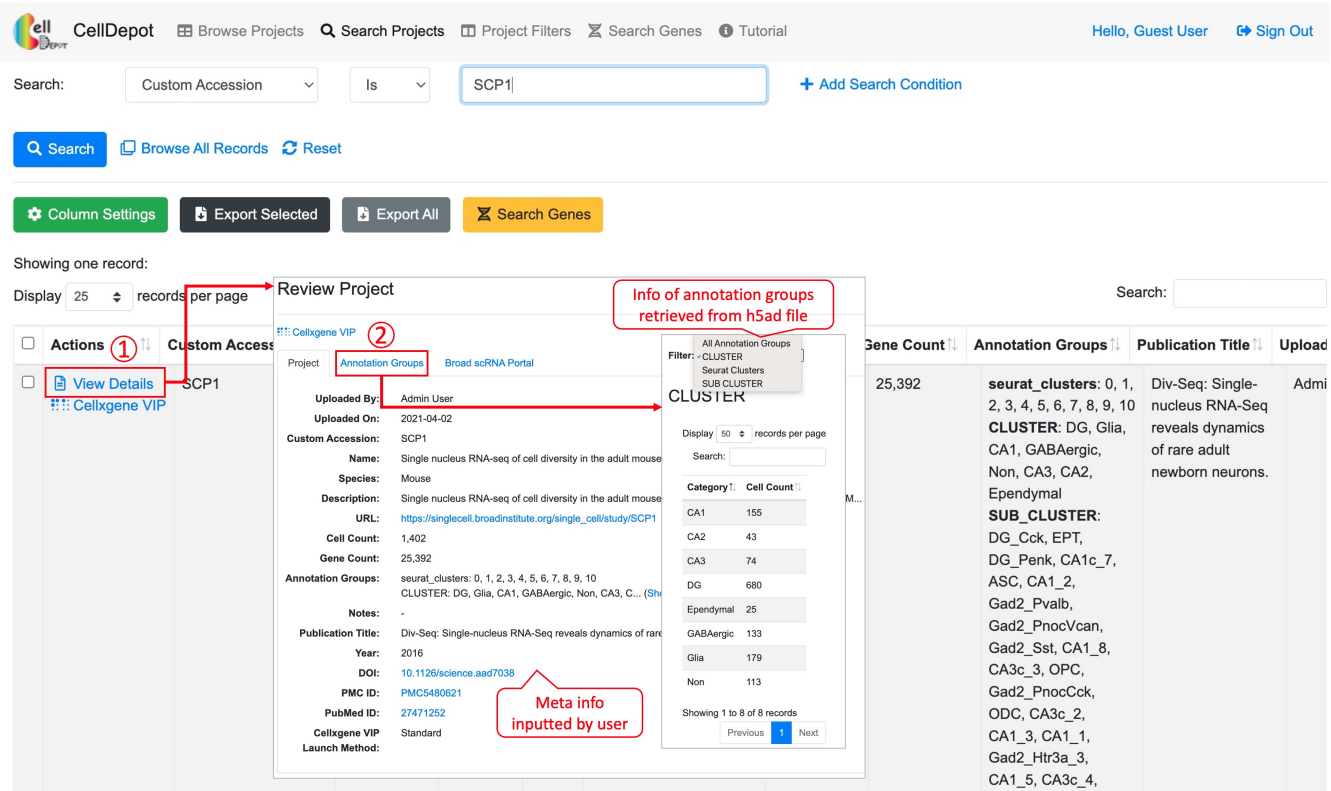


Figure S5. How to view details of a dataset. Steps are outlined by red circled numbers.

4.4.2 Data Visualization and Analysis by cellxgene VIP

CellDepot is not only a database management system, but also a web portal for visualizing and analyzing scRNA-seq datasets through embedded cellxgene VIP tool. By clicking 'cellxgene VIP' to access functional modules on the menu, users can perform advanced data visualization and analysis. To learn how to use cellxgene VIP, please go to https://interactivereport.github.io/cellxgene_VIP/tutorial/docs/how-to-use-cellxgene-vip.html.

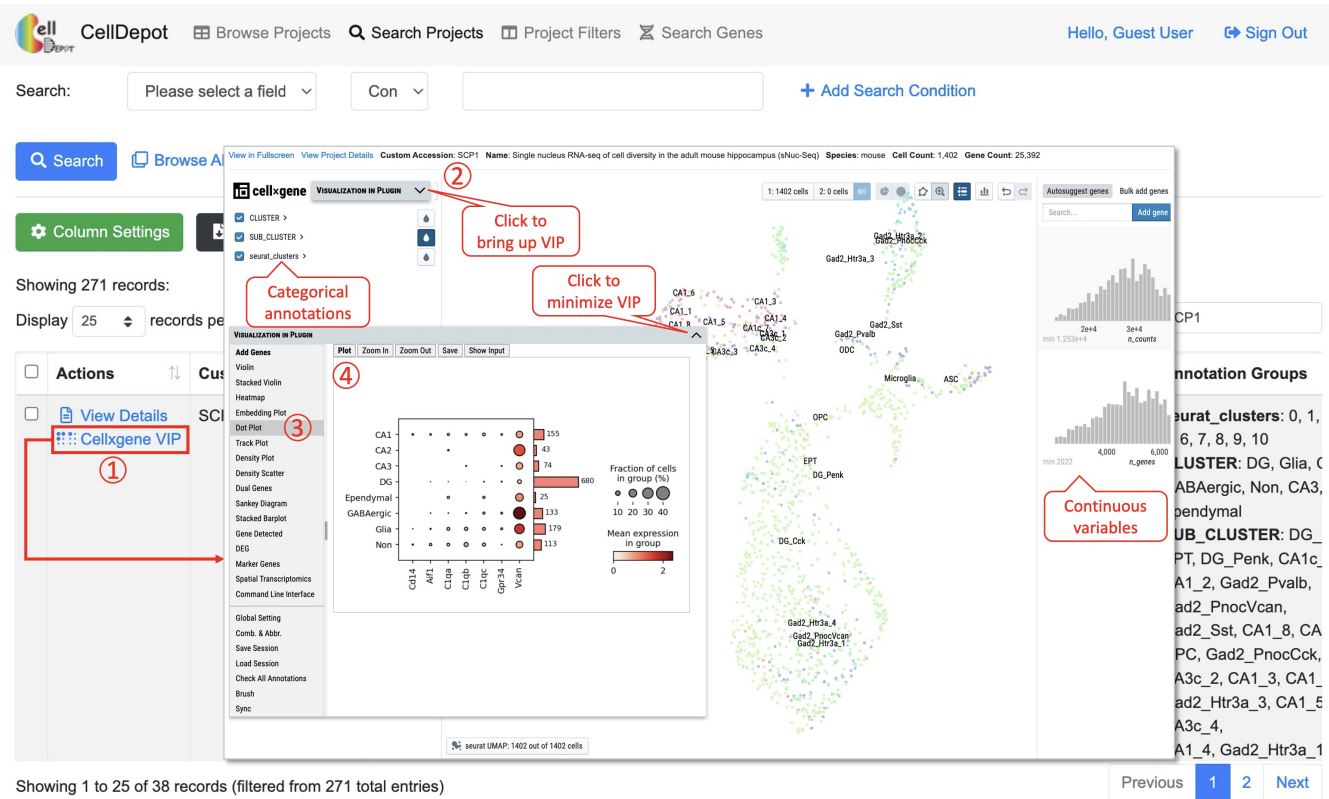


Figure S6. Visualization and analysis of a scRNA-seq dataset by cellxgene VIP.

4.4.3 Case Study 1

Exploration and visualization of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) between two types of cells.

As shown in Figure S7a, two types of cells, Astrocytes (1036 cells) and Oligodendrocytes (4417 cells) are selected. By running differential gene expression analysis with one of the built-in statistical methods such as Welch's t-test, we detected 1578 (DEGs), including 715 up-regulated and 853 down-regulated genes in astrocytes compared to oligodendrocytes (Figure S7a). The expression of the top four DEGs among the cell types indicates that gene MBP, ST18 and RNF220 are expressed explicitly in oligodendrocytes, while gene PITPNC3 is expressed mainly in astrocytes and endothelial cells (Figure S7b).

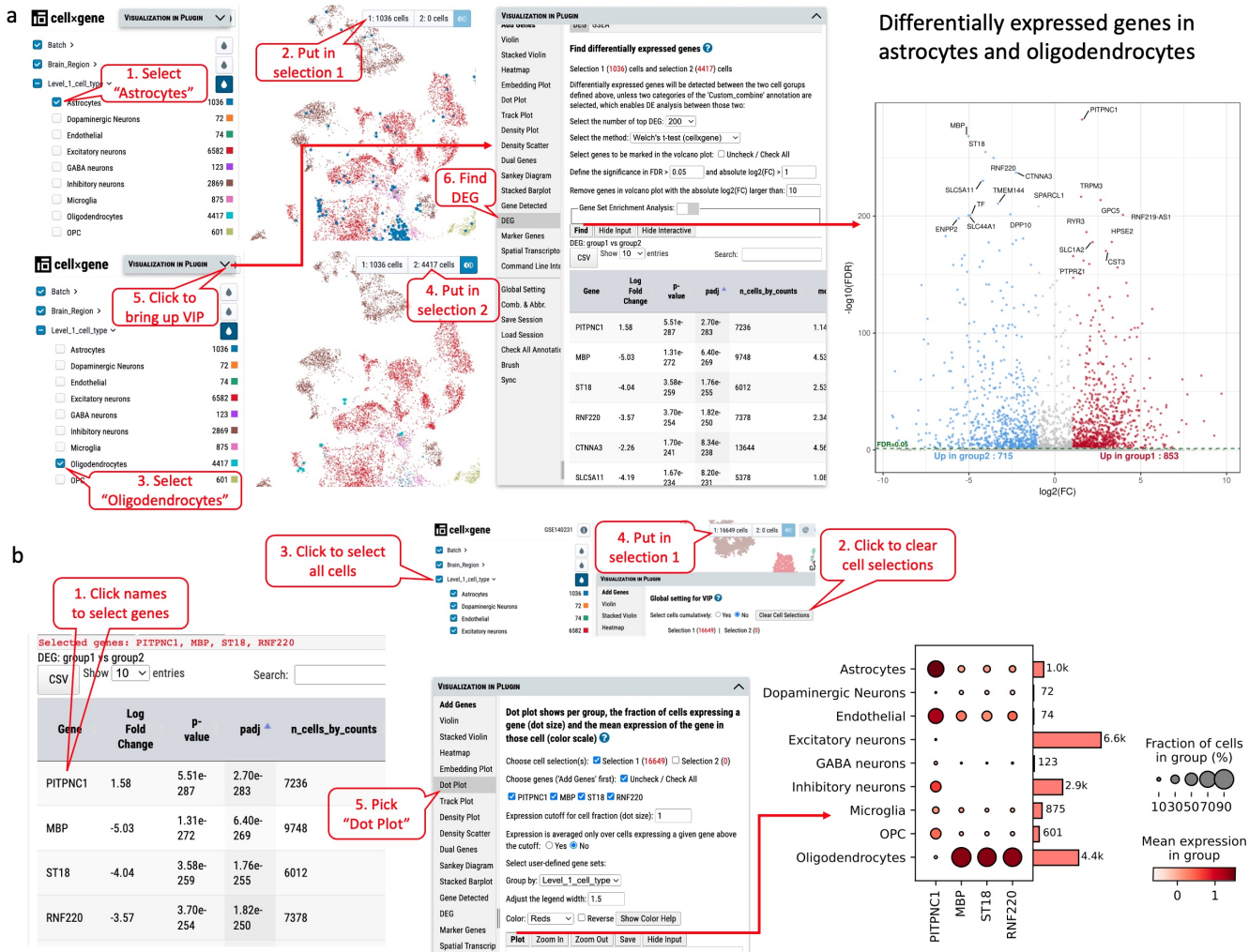


Figure S7. Exploration of differentially expressed genes in dataset GSE140231 through cellxgene VIP. (a) Identifying differentially expressed genes in astrocytes and oligodendrocytes. (b) The expression of top four genes in various cell types as shown in dot plot.

4.5 Search Genes

This tab allows searching on genes of interest with the expression cutoff. The search outcome provides users a list of projects in which genes of interest are expressed above the cutoff. Each project displays a link to project page and a plot if applicable. This plot can be either a violin plot or dot plot showing the gene expression level in a selected annotation group. Further, under "Advanced Options", users can define the range of expression color scale and the percentage represented by the largest dot to have expression data from various projects plotted in a unified manner.

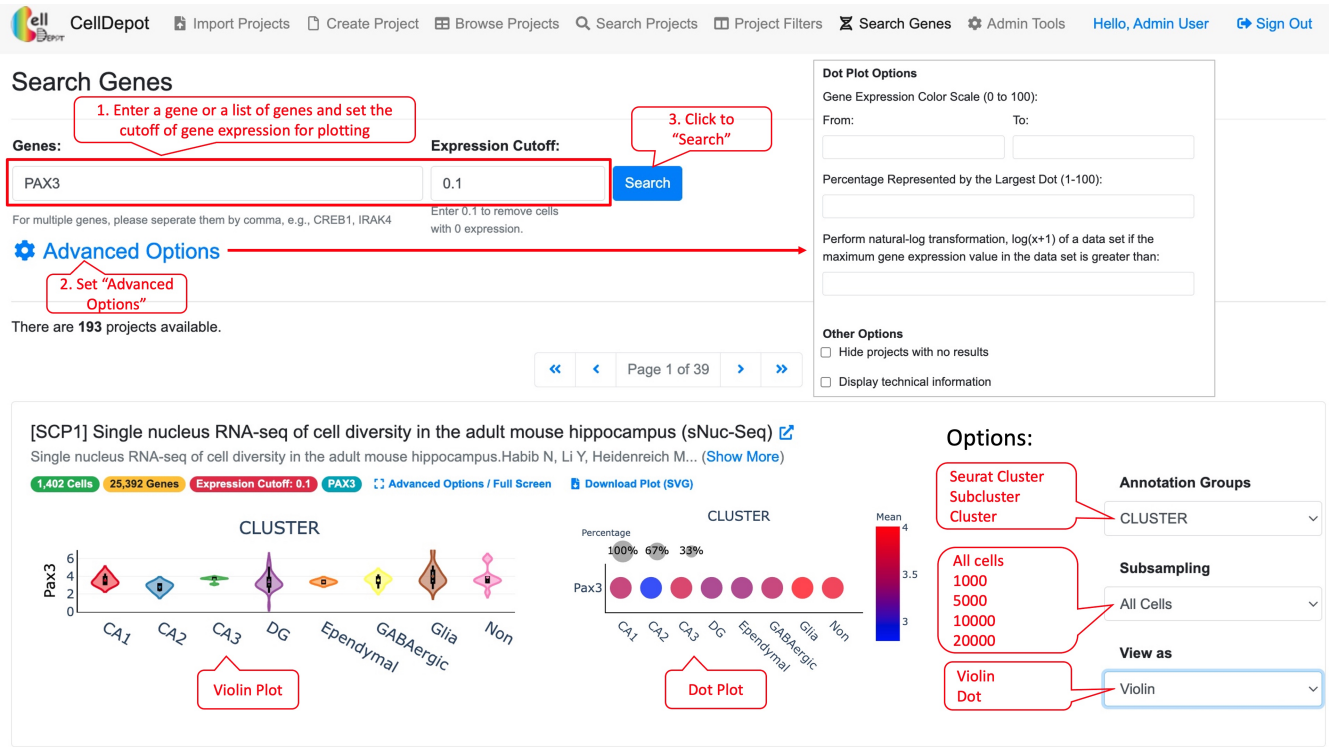


Figure S8. Steps to find gene expression level of a gene in projects under ‘Search Genes’ tab. The final plot can be customized by available options listed in red callout boxes on the left side.

4.5.1 Case Study 2

Cross-project comparison of skeletal muscle marker genes PAX3, PAX7, PITX2, MYF5, MYF6, MYOD1, MYOG, NEB, and MYH3 among the datasets whose species is human and cell type is myogenic.

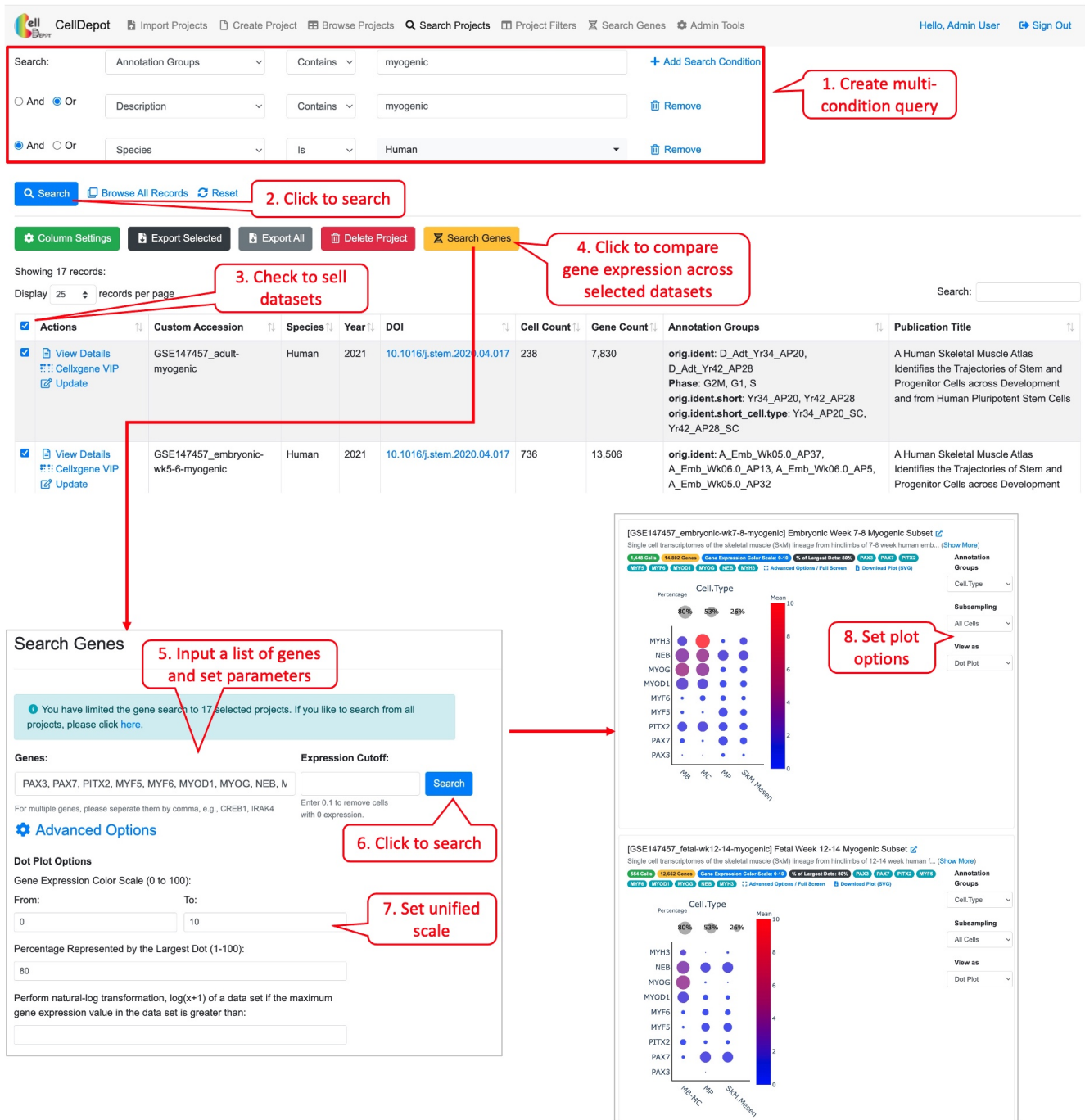


Figure S9. Workflow of conducting the cross-project comparison of a list of genes among the selected datasets.

4.6 Import Projects

The functionality is limited to admin users. To upload new projects to CellDepot database in batch, two types of files are required: 1) .h5ad files and 2) project information file in CSV (Comma Separated Values) format. First, the prepared h5ad files are required to be copied to a folder defined in the configuration file, e.g., /data/celldepot/all_h5ad_files/. Afterwards, admin users navigate to the CellDepot home page, click 'Import Projects' at the top menu, then 'Download Example File' to fill in meta information of datasets into the downloaded template for submission. In addition, there are two cellxgene VIP launch modes to chosen from, 'Standard' and 'Preload in Memory'. 'Standard' mode is for infrequently used datasets while 'Preload in Memory' should be selected to speed up loading and responding time of frequently used large datasets. After the metadata file is uploaded, CellDepot will automatically convert the dataset to CSC format if needed through a cron job (2.4). To explore the

detail of imported datasets, users can enter ‘Browse Projects’ page and then search these datasets by user assigned ‘Custom Accession’ identifiers.

The screenshot shows the 'Import Projects' workflow in CellDepot. It includes a table of example datasets, a file upload section, a launch method selection, and a search results table.

1. Click "Import Projects"

Please make sure that the h5ad files are available here: `/raid/data/single_cell_portal/all_h5ad_files/`

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	accession	name	Species	description	DOI	Project_link	Notes	PMCID	PMID	Year	Titles	file
2	SCP1	Single nucleus RNA-se mouse		Project Descr	10.1126/scie	https://singlecell.broadins		PMC5480621	27471252	2016	Div-Seq: Sing	SCP1.h5ad
3	SCP10	Glioblastoma intra-tui human			10.1126/scie	https://singlecell.broadins		PMC4123637	24925914	2014	Single-cell RN	SCP10.h5ad

2. Download example file and modify based on your datasets

3. Upload the modified file

Projects *: Choose File No file chosen

Cellgene VIP Launch Method: Standard

4. Select "Preload in memory" for frequently used datasets, otherwise "Standard"

5. Click to submit

6. Search a dataset by "Custom Accession"

Search: Custom Accession Is SCP1 + Add Search Condition

Showing one record:

Display 25 records per page

Actions	Custom Accession	Species	Year	DOI	Cell Count	Gene Count	Annotation Groups	Publication Title
View Details Cellgene VIP Update	SCP1	Mouse	2016	10.1126/science.aad7038	1,402	25,392	seurat_clusters: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 CLUSTER: DG, Glia, CA1, GABAergic, Non, CA3, CA2, Ependymal SUB_CLUSTER: DG_Cck, EPT, DG_Penk, CA1c_7, ASC, CA1_2, Gad2_Pvalb, Gad2_PnocVcan,	Div-Seq: Single-nucleus RNA-Seq reveals dynamics of rare adult newborn neurons.

Figure S10. Workflow of how to import new datasets.

4.7 Create Project

Besides batch uploading under “Import Projects” tab, admin user can use the online form under this tab to submit information of a project.

4.8 Update a Project

Project information including launch mode can be modified by admin users by clicking on ‘Update’ link of a project under ‘Actions’ column in the table.

Cell
Depot

Import Projects

Create Project

Browse Projects

Search Projects

Project Filters

Search Genes

Admin Tools

Hello, Admin User

Sign Out

Search:

Custom Accession

Is

S

Search

Browse All Records

Reset

Column Settings

Export Selected

Export All

Showing one record:

Display 25 records per page

<input type="checkbox"/>	Actions	Custom Accession	Species	Year
<input type="checkbox"/>	<div><div>View Details</div><div>Cellxgene VIP</div><div>Update</div></div>	SCP1	Mouse	2016

Update Project

Name *

Single nucleus RNA-seq of cell diversity in the adult mouse hippocampus (sNuc)

Description:

Single nucleus RNA-seq of cell diversity in the adult mouse hippocampus Habib N, Li Y, Holdenreich M, Swiech L, Avraham-Davidi I, Trombetta J, Hession C, Zhang F, Rieger A. Div-Seq: Single-nucleus RNA-Seq reveals dynamics of rare adult newborn neurons Science. 28 Jul 2016 DOI: 10.1126/science.1252111

Custom Accession *

SCP1

Species:

Mouse

URL:

https://singlecell.broadinstitute.org/single_cell/study/SCP1

Notes:

Publication Title:

Div-Seq: Single-nucleus RNA-Seq reveals dynamics of rare adult newborn neu

Year:

2016

DOI:

10.1126/science.1252111

PMC ID:

PMC5480621

PubMed ID:

27471252

Cellxgene VIP Launch Method:

Standard

Save

+ Add Search Condition

Search:

Cell Count	Annotation Groups	Publication Title
392	seurat_clusters: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 CLUSTER: DG, Glia, CA1, GABAergic, Non, CA3, CA2, Ependymal SUB_CLUSTER: DG_Cck, EPT, DG_Penk, CA1c_7, ASC, CA1_2, Gad2_Pvalb, Gad2_PnocVcan,	Div-Seq: Single-nucleus RNA-Seq reveals dynamics of rare adult newborn neurons.