

Genome Informatics Workshop: An Introduction to GWAS in plink and R

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Introduction

In this workshop we will explore the basics of performing Genomewide Association Studies (GWAS) using a combination of the software **plink** (<http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/~purcell/plink/>) and **R** (<http://www.r-project.org/>).

At a later stage (a separate workshop) we will also introduce the **GenABEL** package which offers additional functionality of genomic association analyses in **R**.

This workshop is written to be accessible to a range of people, from those that have never performed any command-line work, to those that just want a refresher. As such I have written it to include clear and straightforward outlines of all **R** and **plink** operations, most of the time stepping through these one line at a time.

Before we start

If you are attending this workshop in person it is likely you have also attended the Introduction to **R** and **RStudio** workshop the day before. If not (or if you just want a refresher) I am including a brief overview on obtaining and installing the required software for the current workshop. If you would like more detailed information, please feel free to access my detailed overview of **R** and **RStudio** which I have made available on my website, [here](#). I am also working on converting the pdf version of this manual to an on-line interactive gitbook version, the beta version of this product is available [here](#) for those that are interested.

Credit where credit is due

I would like to thank all authors of the various pieces of software that are used throughout this workshop, I have included links and important information throughout the document should people be interested in contacting these individuals.

I would also like to thank Shaun Purcell, the original developer of **plink**, for an excellent piece of software. Also his 2008 GWAS tutorial inspired the design of this workshop, so I am grateful to him for making that freely available to modify and distribute (it made my job here a lot easier!).

Installing R and RStudio

Installation of **R** is fairly straightforward, although it differs slightly between platforms. All platforms have binaries (executable installers) available, and these are recommended for most users. If you want to build **R** from source you'll need the suitable compilers depending on your platform.

Required Software

Below are links to the **R** project and **RStudio** websites.

- R: www.r-project.org/
 - Windows: <http://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows>
 - Linux: <http://cran.r-project.org/bin/linux>
 - Mac OS X: <http://cran.r-project.org/bin/macosx>
- RStudio: <http://rstudio.org/>

Windows R installation

The bin/windows directory of a CRAN site contains binaries for a base distribution and a large number of add-on packages from CRAN to run on Windows XP or later on ix86 CPUs (including AMD64/Intel644 chips and Windows x64). You can locate the above directory via this link: <http://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows/base/>

Installation is via the installer – “R-3.2.1-win.exe” is current stable release. Once downloaded just double-click on the icon and follow the instructions. When installing on a 64-bit version of Windows the options will include 32- or 64-bit versions of R (and the default is to install both). You can uninstall R from the Control Panel or from the (optional) R program group on the Start Menu.

Linux R installation

At the time of writing there are four Linux distributions that have R binaries available; Debian, Redhat, Sues and Ubuntu. They are located here: <http://cran.r-project.org/bin/linux>. I’m not sure if these binaries would work under alternate distributions (likely in most cases, but your mileage may vary).

The R source code can be downloaded and compiled with little hassle on most Linux distros. A guide for compiling R can be found here: <http://cran.r-project.org/doc/manuals/R-admin.pdf>

Example installation under Debian/Ubuntu to install the complete R system, use:

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install r-base
```

Mac OS R installation

There is a nice FAQ on R for Mac OS X users which is frequently maintained and updated regularly. It can be found here: <http://cran.r-project.org/bin/macosx/RMacOSX-FAQ.html>

The ‘bin/macosx’ directory of a CRAN site contains binaries for OS X for a base distribution and a large number of add-on packages from CRAN to run on OS X 10.5/6/7.

The simplest way to install R on Mac is to use ‘R-3.2.1.pkg’: just double click on the icon.

Note: I apologise for the lack of Mac OS support throughout this document, I have never used a Mac before coming from a Windows start and am now very much entrenched in the Linux environment. I’ll try my best to provide links to support for Mac users where possible.

RStudio

“RStudio is a new integrated development environment (IDE) for R. RStudio combines an intuitive user interface with powerful coding tools to help you get the most out of R.”

RStudio is an IDE that works with the standard version of R that is freely available from CRAN. Like R, RStudio is available under a free software license. The goal of RStudio is to provide a powerful tool that is easy for beginners to grasp and at the same time offers increased productivity for advanced users.

I chose RStudio for this workshop as I believe it makes R easier to understand and operate, and allows an easier transition from the typical gui environment that most users are used to. It has features such as syntax highlighting and code completion that aid in the learning of the R language, and the object and history browser allow the user to see and understand how R is working behind the scenes – you can even convince yourself that your data is loaded by clicking on it and seeing a nice spread sheet like view!

There are of course many alternatives if you decide you don't like RStudio, or just feel like trying something different. A list of gui projects is available here: http://sciviews.org/_rgui. R Commander is apparently very good and will be quite familiar for people who have used SPSS, link here: <http://socerv.mcmaster.ca/jfox/Misc/Rcmdr>

Download and Installation

RStudio is available for Windows, Linux and Mac OS X (10.5+). The software can be downloaded from <http://rstudio.org/download/desktop>. This page will attempt to determine the best download for your system, but you may also choose from the list below.

Like R, there are pre-compiled binary install files available for most popular OS. If yours is not listed, and none of the binaries work, then you should download the source code and compile RStudio on your system.

There is also a nice option to download a zip/tarball version of RStudio. This version doesn't require installation, so if you plan to use it on a system where you don't have admin/root privileges this is the one you want to download. This version is also ideal to install on USB data sticks – giving you a portable version that you can travel with.

Note: RStudio is still in beta, thus you may come across an error or two. However updates are released frequently and the community are only too happy to help out. I have been running RStudio on Windows XP/7/Server 2008, Ubuntu and Debian with zero issues as yet. Current stable version is 0.99.447 – as of the 24th June 2015.

plink

PLINK is a free, open-source whole genome association analysis toolset, designed to perform a range of basic, large-scale analyses in a computationally efficient manner.

plink has long been one of the major pieces of software used for case/control GWAS analyses. It's lightweight design, ease of use and speed have made it widely popular. A recent update to the long-standing 2009 version (v1.07) has seen a dramatic shift in terms of capability and performance. The new 1.9 version of plink is capable of working with next-gen sequencing data while maintaining the speed of the previous version. Even though we will be dealing with a small number of SNPs generated from an array platform we will be using this new version in our workshop.

Version 1.9 software and documentation can be found here: <https://www.cog-genomics.org/plink2>

For reference, the 1.07 version of plink can be found here: <http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/~purcell/plink/>.

plink has excellent documentation in the form of an on-line manual found at the above links, I encourage everyone to get familiar with this. It is my opinion that the older 1.07 version manual is much more detailed and informative - so I suggest starting here for the basics. Some of the functionality has changed between versions, but the staples seem to have stayed the same. The documentation for 1.9 is fine and will hopefully get better as development continues.

Setting up for this workshop

I have made all the required files, code, and software available through a GitHub repository. This should hopefully make it reasonably straight forward for us to get up and running.

Download the archive

This is probably the easiest way for most people to get the required files. The repository I have created can be found on my GitHub account, titled “Intro_to_GWAS”, https://github.com/sirselim/Intro_to_GWAS.

If you point your browser to this address you find yourself in the “Intro_to_GWAS” repository. You should see an option on the right hand side to download the repository as a zip (‘Download ZIP’). Download this file and then extract it to a suitable place on your system.

Clone into the repository

If you are familiar with git and GitHub you will be able to easily clone into the repository from your local machine. The below is how I would do this on Linux:

```
git clone https://github.com/sirselim/Intro_to_GWAS.git
```

Unzip the example data

The example data has been compressed and can be found in the ‘example/’ directory. We will need to extract the files for use in this workshop. We can do this in R using `unzip()`:

```
unzip('example/example_data.zip')
```

Download the version of plink you require

```
## [1] "unix"
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
## [1] "I'm a penguin."
```

```
## [1] "I'm a penguin."
```

‘Installing’ plink

I say installing, but we are really just going to be placing the `plink` binary in a specific directory and calling it from there.

`plink` is a standalone program that runs from the command line. If you were running `plink` straight from the command-line this is a very basic example of what you would enter:

```
bin/plink --file example/wgas1
```

To be able to use `plink` from within R we have to use the `system()` function. So to perform the example above we need to run the following within R:

```
# as plink is an external program commands need to be wrapped in the R system() function
system('bin/plink --file example/wgas1')
# you should see the basic overview of plink functions
```

Is plink running in R? When running the above what do you see?

Hopefully upon running the above call you should see an overview output from **plink**. It will give you some basic information about the software itself, the arguments entered, detail on system resources and then information on the contents of our genotype data. In this example we see that **plink** reports that there are **228694** variants (SNPs) for **90** people. If this is all performing as expected we can move on.

plink file structure and data recoding

Explain a little about ped/map file structure and contents...

```
# call plink to read example SNP data, convert to binary ped format and run basic QC
bin/plink --file example/wgas1 --out example/wgas2
```

Now we will create binary plink files from the original ped/map data:

```
# convert the example data from ped/map to binary ped (much 'faster' format)
system('bin/plink --file example/wgas1 --out example/wgas2')
```

GWAS: Genomewide Association Study

Now that we've got the software installed and up and running we are ready to begin.

First we need to ensure that our working directory is the base directory of the repository that we downloaded earlier.

```
getwd() # check working directory
```

Quality Control in plink (QC)

```
# perform QC minor allele freq = 0.05 missing individuals missing SNP Hardy
# Weinberg Eq
system("bin/plink --bfile example/wgas2 --maf 0.01 --geno 0.05 --mind 0.05 --hwe 0.001 --make-bed --out
```

Basic GWAS (association testing)

```
# now perform a basic association analysis
system('bin/plink --bfile example/wgas3 --assoc --out example/example_analysis')
# load the association results into R
assoc.results <- read.table('example/example_analysis.assoc', head = T)
```

Exploring association statistics

```
# examine the results
```

```
head(assoc.results)
```

```
##      CHR      SNP      BP A1      F_A      F_U A2 CHISQ      P      OR
## 1    1  rs3094315  792429  G 0.14890 0.08537  A 1.6840 0.1944 1.8750
## 2    1  rs4040617  819185  G 0.13540 0.08537  A 1.1110 0.2919 1.6780
## 3    1  rs4075116 1043552  C 0.04167 0.07317  T 0.8278 0.3629 0.5507
## 4    1  rs9442385 1137258  T 0.37230 0.42680  G 0.5428 0.4613 0.7966
## 5    1  rs11260562 1205233  A 0.02174 0.03659  G 0.3424 0.5585 0.5852
## 6    1  rs6685064 1251215  C 0.38540 0.43900  T 0.5253 0.4686 0.8013
```

```
tail(assoc.results)
```

```
##      CHR      SNP      BP A1      F_A      F_U A2 CHISQ      P      OR
## 179488 22 rs6151429 49353621  C 0.04167 0.02439  T 0.40530 0.52440 1.7390
## 179489 22 rs6009945 49379357  C 0.28120 0.46340  A 6.33100 0.01187 0.4531
## 179490 22 rs9616913 49405670  C 0.14580 0.06098  T 3.34000 0.06762 2.6290
## 179491 22 rs739365 49430460  C 0.45830 0.35370  T 2.00300 0.15700 1.5460
## 179492 22 rs6010063 49447077  G 0.42710 0.46340  A 0.23650 0.62680 0.8632
## 179493 22 rs9616985 49519949  C 0.03125 0.03659  T 0.03865 0.84410 0.8495
```

```
# explore p-values
```

```
summary(assoc.results$P)
```

```
##      Min.   1st Qu.   Median     Mean   3rd Qu.     Max.
## 0.0000005 0.1950000 0.4486000 0.4635000 0.7254000 1.0000000
```

```
table(assoc.results$P <= 0.05)
```

```
##
## FALSE  TRUE
## 166204 13289
```

Correcting for multiple-testing burden

In R

```
# create an adjusted p-value column
```

```
assoc.results$adj_P <- p.adjust(assoc.results$P, method = 'BH', n = nrow(assoc.results))
summary(assoc.results$adj_P)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median     Mean 3rd Qu.     Max.
## 0.06375 0.77170 0.89650 0.85590 0.96550 1.00000
```

```
table(assoc.results$adj_P <= 0.1)
```

```
##
## FALSE  TRUE
## 179489    4
```

In plink

You can also apply adjustment in plink using the `--adjust` argument.

Genomic inflation factor and population structure

The genomic inflation factor (λ) is defined as the ratio of the median of the empirically observed distribution of the test statistic to the expected median, thus quantifying the extent of the bulk inflation and the excess false positive rate.

$$[\lambda = \text{median}(\chi^2)/0.456]$$
$$[\chi^2_{\text{adjusted}} = \chi^2/\lambda]$$

Genomic inflation factor (λ) and quantile–quantile (Q–Q) plots were used to compare the genome-wide distribution of the test statistic with the expected null distribution. Inflated (λ) values or residual deviations in the Q–Q plot may point to undetected sample duplications, unknown familial relationships, a poorly calibrated test statistic, systematic technical bias or gross population stratification.

We can calculate this manually in R from our association statistics:

```
# for CHISQ
z <- sqrt(assoc.results$CHISQ)
# for P value
# z <- qnorm(assoc.results$P/2)
## calculates lambda
lambda = round(median(z^2)/.454,3)
```

From our association statistics we conclude that our λ is **1.265**, thus we confirm genomic inflation (which we expected to see as we now know there is population stratification).

It should also be noted that **plink** calculates the genomic inflation factor when using the `--adjust` command in an association analyses. When the `--adjust` command is used, the log file records the inflation factor calculated for the genomic control analysis, and the mean chi-squared statistic (that should be 1 under the null).

Q-Q plotting

The Q–Q plot is a useful visual tool to mark deviations of the observed distribution from the expected null distribution.

To generate our Q–Q plots we will be using the **Haplin** package available from CRAN ([here](#)). This package produces really ‘pretty’ Q–Q plots (in my opinion), and includes useful information such as 95% Confidence Intervals. First we’ll make sure the package is installed and available:

```
# install Haplin
install.packages('Haplin')
```

Then we’ll load the **Haplin** package:

```
# load package
library("Haplin")
```

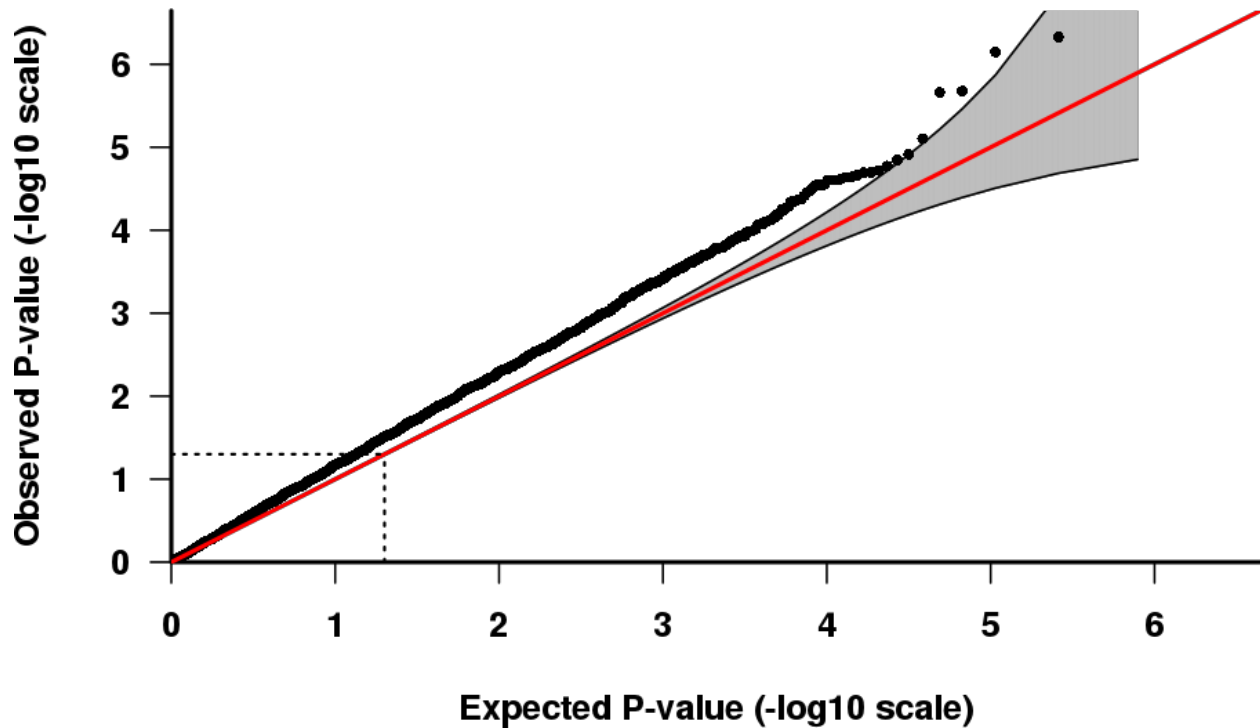


Figure 1: Q-Q plot of initial unadjusted plink association results with 95% CI.

Now we can generate the Q-Q plot using the `pQQ()` function:

```
pQQ(assoc.results$P)
```

As indicated by our inflated λ calculated from above we see deviation from the expected in our Q-Q plot, confirming genomic inflation.

Manhattan plotting

A Manhattan plot is named for its abstract similarity to the skyscrapers of the Manhattan skyline, and is a visual method of portraying GWAS results. Throughout the course of this workshop you'll get lots of practise making your own Manhattan plots. For this first one just keep in mind our inflated λ , so we now know to take this result with a large grain of salt!

To generate Manhattan plots I like to use a very useful package called `qqman`, the CRAN version is available from [here](#), with the source code also available on [GitHub](#). This package is created and maintained by Stephen Turner, who also has a really cool, informative blog called [Getting Genetics Done](#) that I advise everyone to check out.

We're going to download and install the latest version of `qqman` from GitHub:

```
# download the latest version of qqman from Stephen Turners GitHub repository
library(devtools) # used to install packages from source
install_github("stephenturner/qqman", ref="dev")
```

Now we load the `qqman` package:


```
# load package
library("qqman")
```

Now to create the Manhattan plot:

```
# generate a Manhattan plot of your results
manhattan(assoc.results)
```

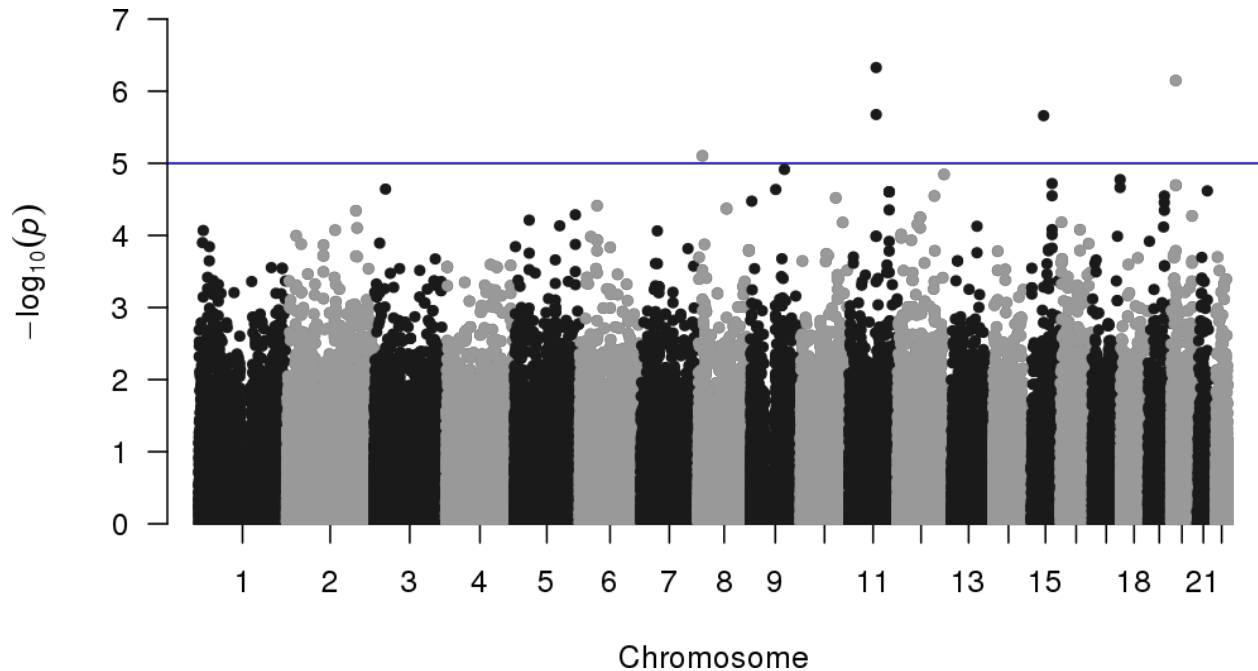


Figure 2: GWAS Manhattan plot of initial association results

I'd also like to note that Stephen's package also has the option to create Q-Q plots using the `qq()` function. Feel free to try it out with your results to date. What do you notice?

Exploring population effects on association results

The example data actually contains genotype and phenotype data from two distinct populations, a Chinese population and a Japanese population. This information can be provided to plink in the form of a covariate file - such a file has been provided for you in the for of the `pop.cov` file.

First lets load this into R and explore the numbers.

```
# load GWAS population information
pop.cov <- read.table('example/pop.cov')
# name the columns (family ID, individual ID, and population)
names(pop.cov) <- c('FAMID', 'IID', 'POP')
# assign levels to the population column
pop.cov$POP <- factor(pop.cov$POP, labels = c('Chinese', 'Japanese'))
# check population information
table(pop.cov$POP)

##
## Chinese Japanese
##      45      45
```

Running a stratified association in plink

Now lets run a stratified analysis in plink which allows us to adjust for population effects when performing association tests.

```
# stratified GWAS in plink
system("bin/plink --bfile example/wgas3 --assoc --mh --within example/pop.cov --out example/example_anal")

# read in the stratified results
assoc.strat <- read.table('example/example_analysis_strat.cmh', head = T)
```

Now we will calculate our genomic inflation factor:

```
# for CHISQ
z <- sqrt(assoc.strat$CHISQ)
# for P value
# z <- qnorm(assoc.results$P/2)
## calculates lambda
lambda.strat = round(median(z^2)/.454,3)
```

We see that λ is **1.019**, much better!

For completeness the Q-Q plot:

```
pQQ(assoc.strat$P)
```

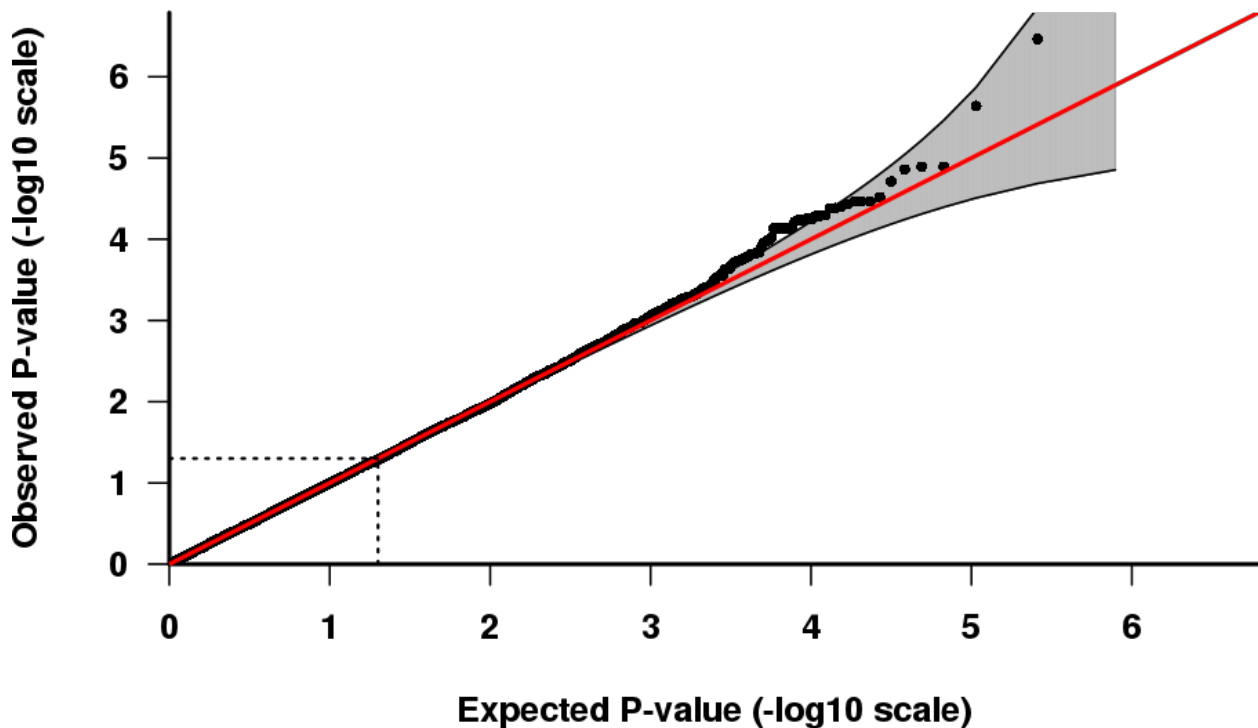


Figure 3: Q-Q plot of population adjusted plink association results with 95% CI.

Now we can generate a new Manhattan plot which we should have more confidence in.

```
# generate a Manhattan plot of the stratified results
manhattan(assoc.strat)
```

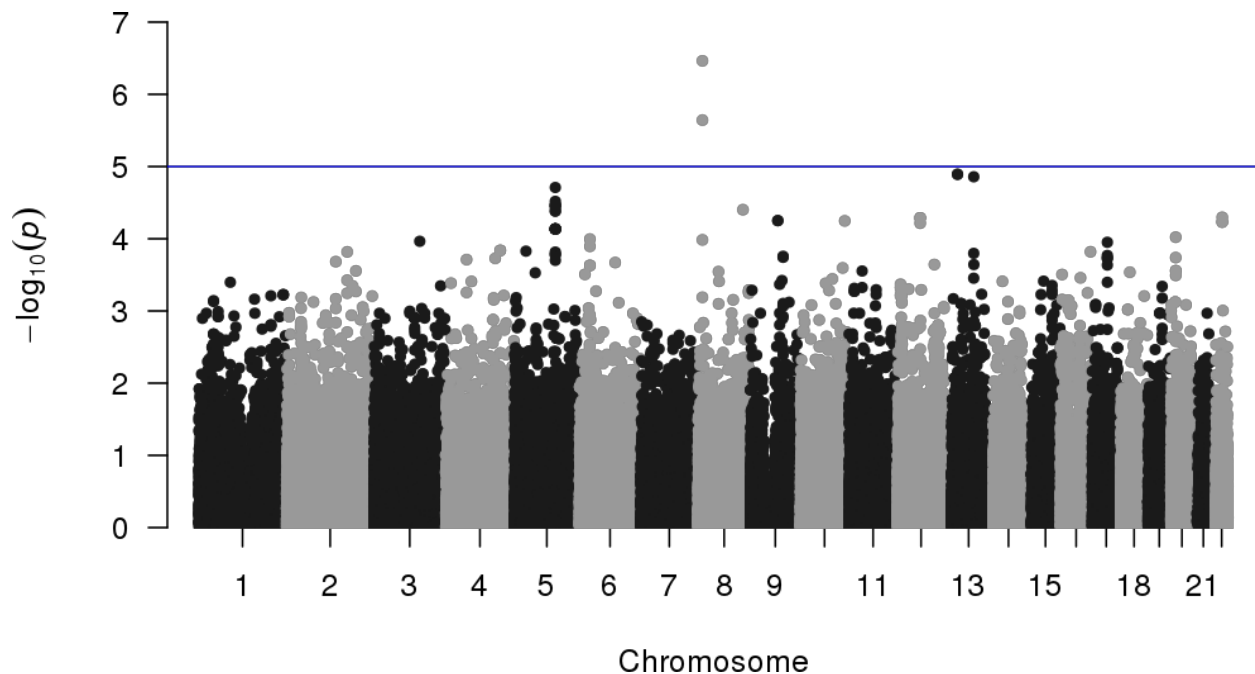


Figure 4: GWAS Manhattan plot of stratified association results. In this test we have accounted for population effects.

Exploring population stratification further using PCA and MDS

This section covers a more in-depth look at identifying and visualising population stratification within a cohort. We will be using a combination of different R packages:

- `gdsfmt` [bioconductor](#)
 - “This package provides a high-level R interface to CoreArray Genomic Data Structure (GDS) data files, which are portable across platforms and include hierarchical structure to store multiple scalable array-oriented data sets with metadata information. It is suited for large-scale datasets, especially for data which are much larger than the available random-access memory.”
- `SNPRelate` [bioconductor](#)
 - “SNPRelate is also designed to accelerate two key computations on SNP data using parallel computing for multi-core symmetric multiprocessing computer architectures: Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and relatedness analysis using Identity-By-Descent measures.”

Download and install the GitHub versions of both packages:

```
# gdsfmt
install_github("zhengxwen/gdsfmt")
# SNPRelate
install_github("zhengxwen/SNPRelate")
```

For the sake of this workshop the gds file has already been created from the `plink` genotype data we were using earlier. Now to load the packages and open a link to our gds file (genotype data):

```
# load required packages
library("gdsfmt")
```

```

library("SNPRelate")
# load the gds file (genotype data of the same cohort as before, just in gds format)
genofile <- snpgdsOpen('example/test.gds')

# genotype info for the first 5 SNPs of the first 3 individuals
read.gdsn(index.gdsn(genofile, "genotype"), start = c(1,1), count = c(5,3))

##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,]    0    0    0
## [2,]    0    0    0
## [3,]    1    1    0
## [4,]    0    0    1
## [5,]    1    1    0

# perform the PCA
# set a random seed
set.seed(1500)
# Try different LD thresholds for sensitivity analysis
snpset <- snpgdsLDpruning(genofile, ld.threshold = 0.4)

## SNP pruning based on LD:
## Excluding 0 SNP on non-autosomes
## Excluding 0 SNP (monomorphic: TRUE, < MAF: NaN, or > missing rate: NaN)
## Working space: 89 samples, 179510 SNPs
## Using 1 (CPU) core
## Sliding window: 500000 basepairs, Inf SNPs
## |LD| threshold: 0.4
## Chromosome 1: 32.56%, 4966/15250
## Chromosome 2: 32.24%, 4680/14516
## Chromosome 3: 33.26%, 3956/11894
## Chromosome 4: 35.51%, 3482/9805
## Chromosome 5: 32.37%, 3758/11608
## Chromosome 6: 31.26%, 3590/11483
## Chromosome 7: 34.27%, 3163/9230
## Chromosome 8: 32.51%, 3137/9650
## Chromosome 9: 33.56%, 2926/8719
## Chromosome 10: 30.65%, 3387/11052
## Chromosome 11: 30.76%, 3081/10015
## Chromosome 12: 34.20%, 3167/9260
## Chromosome 13: 35.86%, 2207/6154
## Chromosome 14: 35.05%, 2045/5835
## Chromosome 15: 36.02%, 2053/5699
## Chromosome 16: 34.34%, 2129/6200
## Chromosome 17: 39.13%, 1880/4804
## Chromosome 18: 36.38%, 1857/5104
## Chromosome 19: 41.94%, 1223/2916
## Chromosome 20: 33.31%, 1679/5041
## Chromosome 21: 36.98%, 915/2474
## Chromosome 22: 37.31%, 1045/2801
## 60326 SNPs are selected in total.

# Get all selected snp id
snpset.id <- unlist(snpset)

```

```

# Run PCA
pca.snp <- snpgdsPCA(genofile, snp.id = snpset.id, num.thread = 2)

## Principal Component Analysis (PCA) on SNP genotypes:
## Excluding 119184 SNPs on non-autosomes
## Excluding 0 SNP (monomorphic: TRUE, < MAF: NaN, or > missing rate: NaN)
## Working space: 89 samples, 60326 SNPs
## Using 2 (CPU) cores
## PCA: the sum of all working genotypes (0, 1 and 2) = 2177894
## PCA: Wed Jun 24 12:04:37 2015 0%
## PCA: Wed Jun 24 12:04:38 2015 100%
## PCA: Wed Jun 24 12:04:38 2015 Begin (eigenvalues and eigenvectors)
## PCA: Wed Jun 24 12:04:38 2015 End (eigenvalues and eigenvectors)

# variance proportion (%)
pc.percent <- pca.snp$varprop*100
head(round(pc.percent, 2))

## [1] 1.77 1.26 1.24 1.23 1.22 1.21

# make a data.frame (used for plotting)
tab.pca <- data.frame(sample.id = pca.snp$sample.id,
                      EV1 = pca.snp$eigenvect[,1], # the first eigenvector
                      EV2 = pca.snp$eigenvect[,2], # the second eigenvector
                      pop = as.factor(c(rep('Chinese', 45), rep('Japanese', 44))),
                      stringsAsFactors = FALSE)

# view the head of this data.frame
head(tab.pca)

##   sample.id      EV1      EV2    pop
## 1 NA18524 -0.10588863 0.095591513 Chinese
## 2 NA18526 -0.10388360 -0.002753589 Chinese
## 3 NA18529 -0.09525804 0.003146420 Chinese
## 4 NA18532 -0.08771483 -0.133993565 Chinese
## 5 NA18537 -0.10406642 0.064147394 Chinese
## 6 NA18540 -0.09847035 0.022680463 Chinese

plot(tab.pca$EV2, tab.pca$EV1, xlab="eigenvector 2", ylab="eigenvector 1",
     col = ifelse(tab.pca$pop == 'Chinese', 'blue', 'orange'), pch = 19)
legend("bottomleft", legend = levels(tab.pca$pop), pch = 19, col = c('blue', 'orange'), bty = 'n')

We can explore additional principal component scores:

lbls <- paste("PC", 1:4, "\n", format(pc.percent[1:4], digits = 2), "%", sep = "")
pairs(pca.snp$eigenvect[,1:4], col = ifelse(tab.pca$pop == 'Chinese', 'blue', 'orange'), labels = lbls)

Parallel coordinates plot for the top principal components:

library(MASS)

datpop <- factor(tab.pca$pop)
parcoord(pca.snp$eigenvect[,1:16], col = datpop)

pop_code <- datpop

```

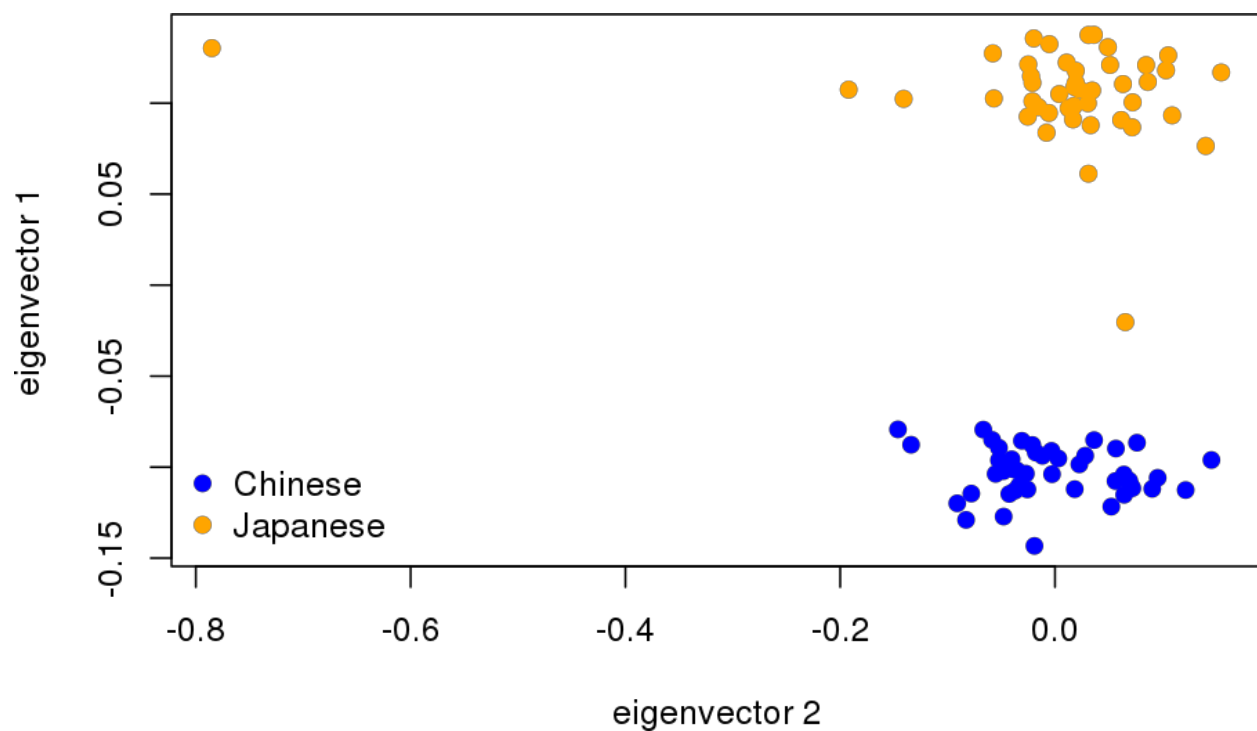


Figure 5: PCA plot of LD-pruned SNP data showing population stratification.

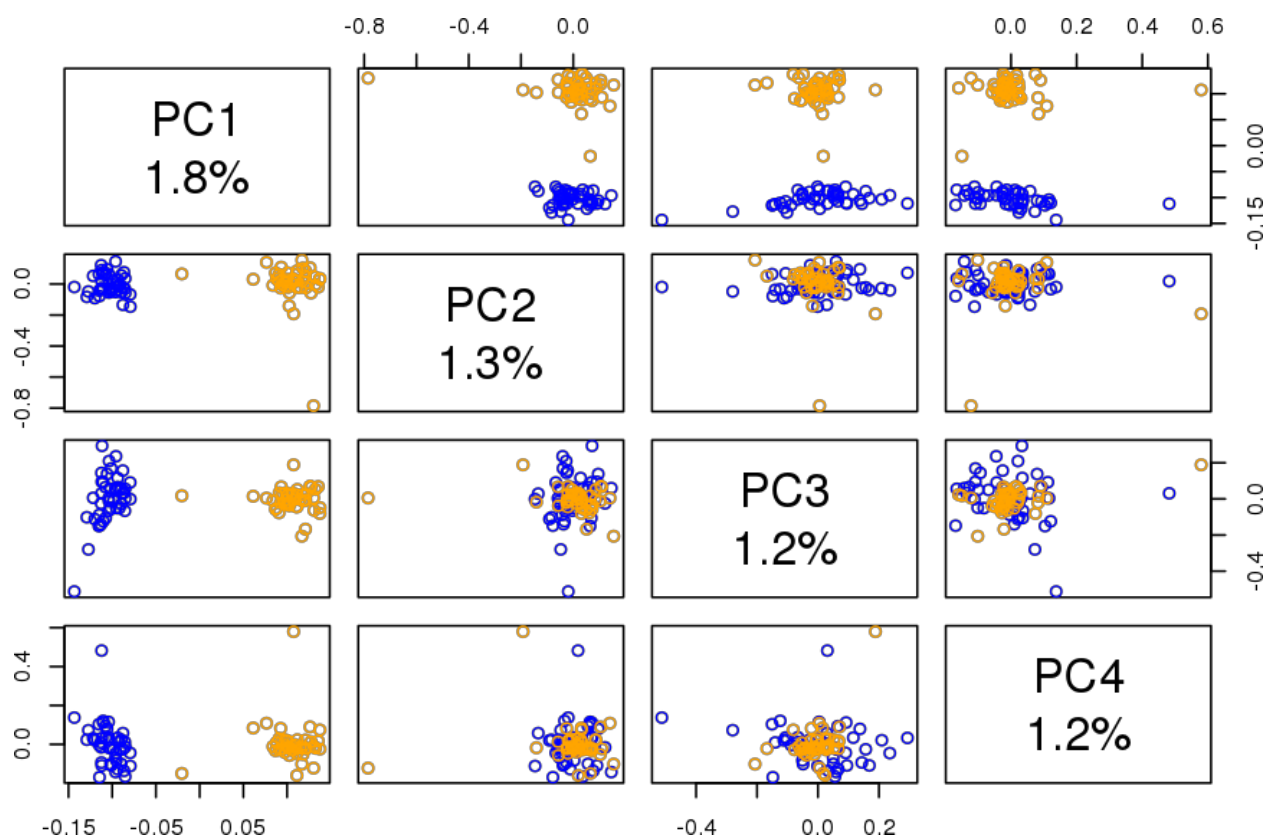


Figure 6: Multiple PCA plots showing the relationship between the first 4 components.

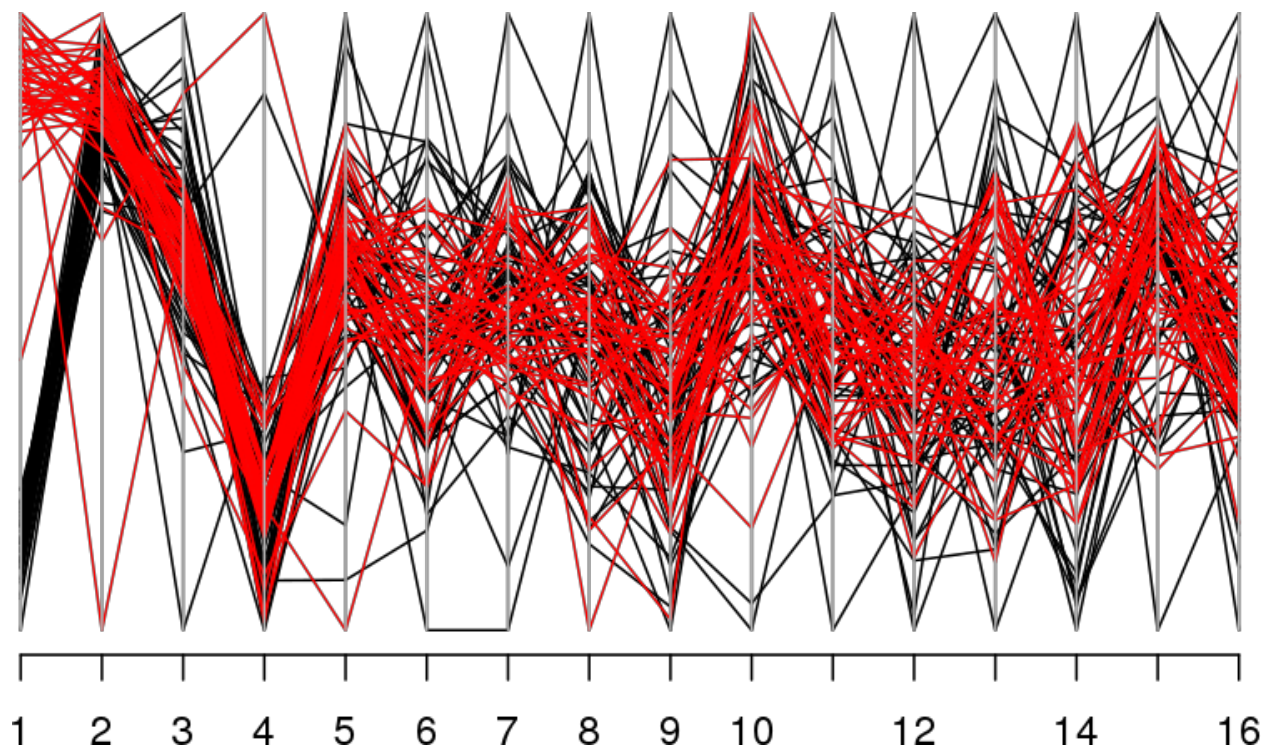


Figure 7: Parallel coordinates plot for the top principal components.

Identity by state (IBS) Analysis

For the n individuals in a sample, `snpGdsIBS()` can be used to create a $n \times n$ matrix of genome-wide average IBS pairwise identities:

```
# generate ibs matrix
ibs <- snpGdsIBS(genofile, num.thread = 2)

## Identity-By-State (IBS) analysis on SNP genotypes:
## Excluding 0 SNP on non-autosomes
## Excluding 0 SNP (monomorphic: TRUE, < MAF: NaN, or > missing rate: NaN)
## Working space: 89 samples, 179510 SNPs
## Using 2 (CPU) cores
## IBS: the sum of all working genotypes (0, 1 and 2) = 7375697
## IBS: Wed Jun 24 12:04:38 2015    0%
## IBS: Wed Jun 24 12:04:38 2015   100%
```

To perform multidimensional scaling analysis on the $n \times n$ matrix of genome-wide IBS pairwise distances:

```
loc <- cmdscale(1 - ibs$ibs, k = 2)
x <- loc[, 1]; y <- loc[, 2]
race <- as.factor(pop_code)
# create plot
plot(x, y, col = ifelse(tab.pca$pop == 'Chinese', 'blue', 'orange'), xlab = "", ylab = "", pch = 19)
legend("topright", legend = levels(race), text.col = c('blue', 'orange'), bty = 'n')
```

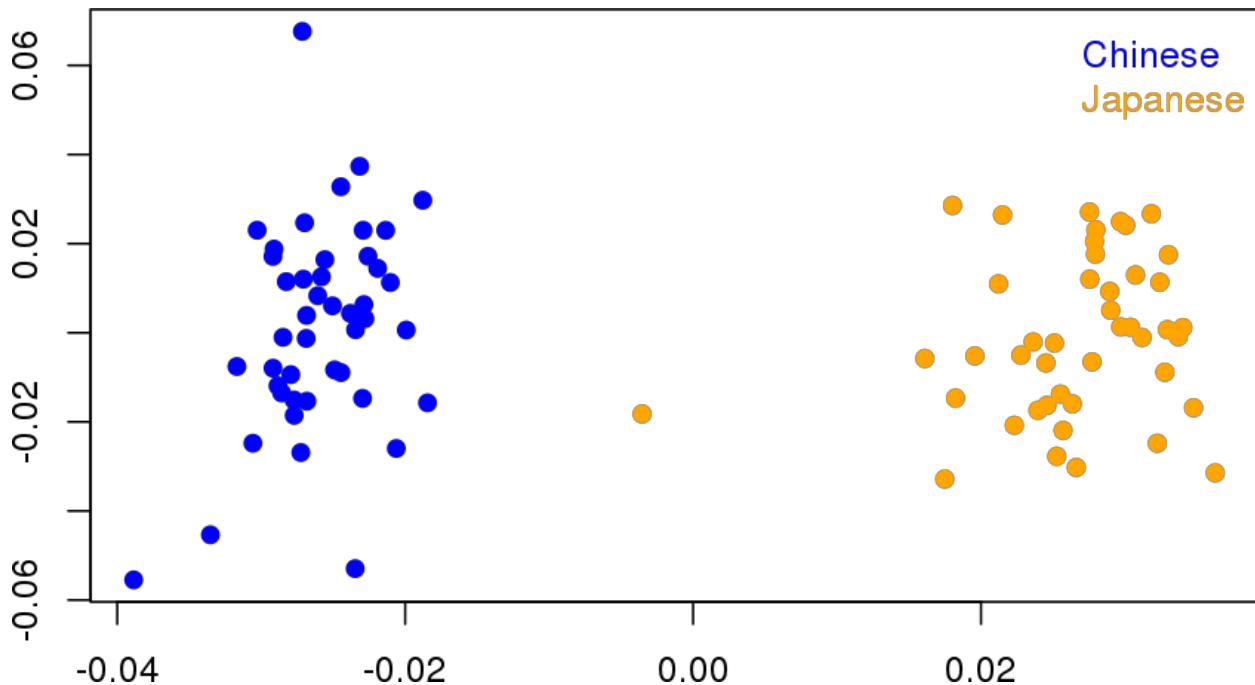



Figure 8: MDS plot of IBS matrix shows clear separation of both populations.

Adding in additional data

Imagine that you obtained the results above and performed some targeted genotyping around the Chr 8 SNPs of interest. We are able to merge that data back into the original GWAS set and rerun our analyses.

Merging data in plink

```
# plink data merge
system("bin/plink --bfile example/wgas3 --merge example/extra.ped example/extra.map --make-bed --out ex
```

Rerun stratified association analysis

```
# stratified analysis
system("bin/plink --bfile example/followup --assoc --mh --within example/pop.cov --out example/followup

# load data into R
followup.results <- read.table('example/followup_analysis_strat.cmh', head = T)
```

Association results and Manhattan plot of ‘new’ dataset

Again we will calculate our genomic inflation factor:

```
# for CHISQ
z <- sqrt(followup.results$CHISQ)
# for P value
# z <- qnorm(followup.results$P/2)
## calculates lambda
lambda.add = round(median(z^2)/.454,3)
```


We see that λ is **1.019**, the same as before - we only added a few extra SNPs so this isn't a surprise.
Now the Q-Q plot:

```
pQQ(followup.results$P)
```

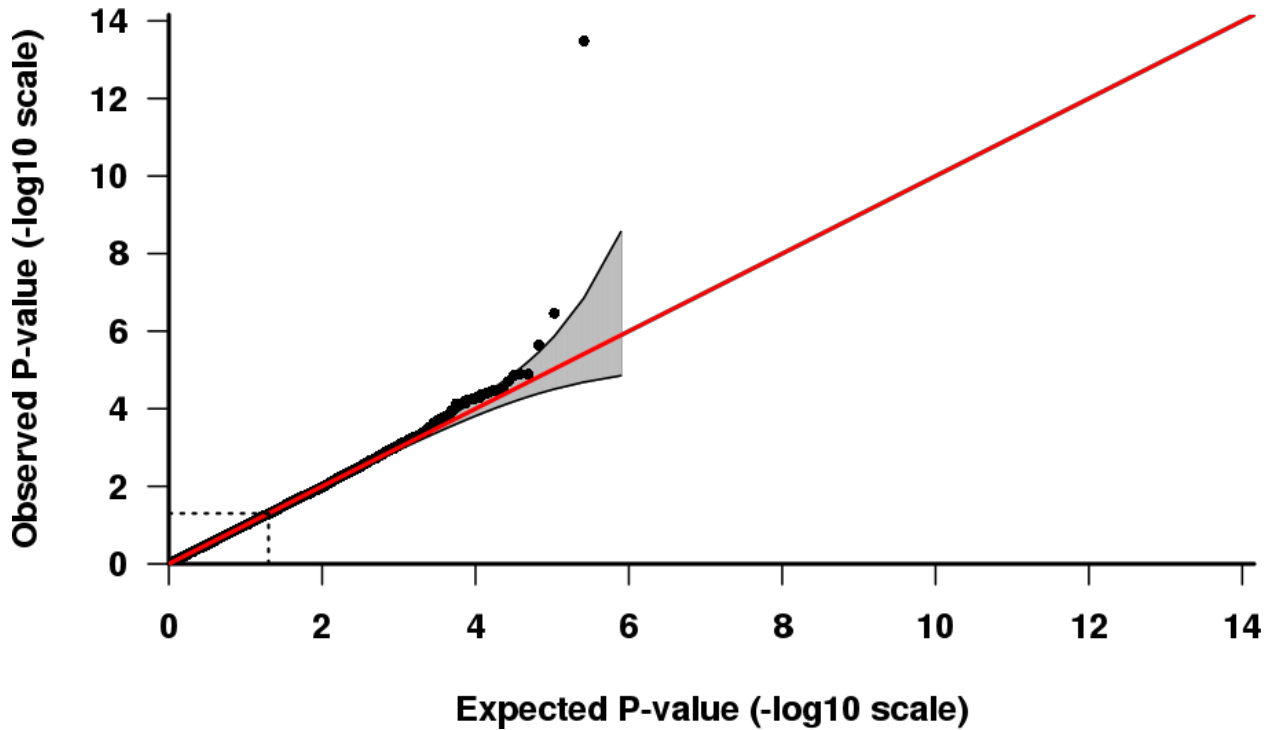


Figure 9: Q-Q plot of ammdended population adjusted plink association results with 95% CI.

...and finally the Manhattan plot:

```
# Manhattan plot
manhattan(followup.results)
```

We can also explore the top 'hits' in our results:

```
head(followup.results[order(followup.results$P),], n = 10)
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	MAF	A2	CHISQ	P	OR
## 85075	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	0.4045	A	57.54	3.305e-14	0.01914
## 85077	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	0.4775	G	25.99	3.432e-07	0.09950
## 85079	8	rs2460338	12914531	G	0.4775	C	22.35	2.277e-06	0.09967
## 133850	13	rs4941815	35207635	C	0.4663	T	19.04	1.280e-05	6.53600
## 133852	13	rs4943327	35209062	T	0.4663	C	19.04	1.280e-05	6.53600
## 136481	13	rs9531117	80316559	T	0.2159	C	18.89	1.386e-05	7.13300
## 57992	5	rs839220	113956183	C	0.1910	T	18.24	1.949e-05	12.19000
## 57990	5	rs373386	113942503	C	0.2706	G	17.40	3.033e-05	8.69300
## 57984	5	rs444800	113925807	G	0.2640	C	17.17	3.424e-05	8.34400
## 57986	5	rs454540	113926349	A	0.2640	C	17.17	3.424e-05	8.34400
##	SE	L95	U95						

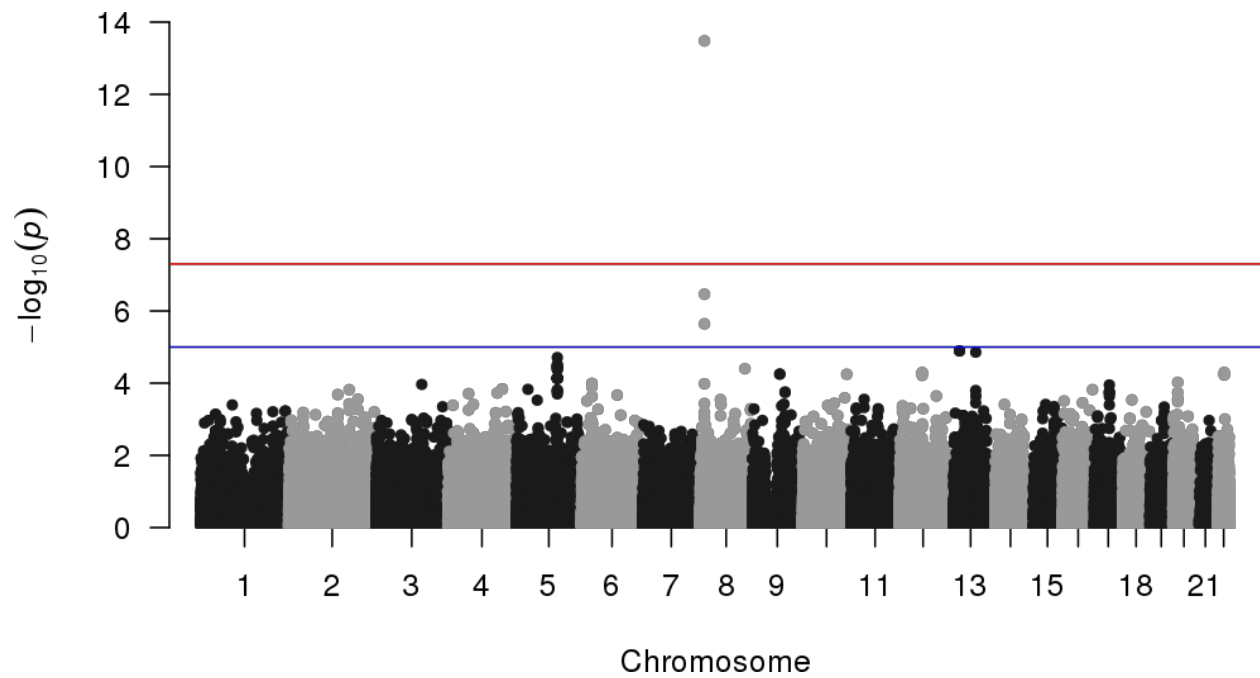


Figure 10: Updated Manhattan plot showing with additional genotype data for the Chr 8 region of interest.

##	85075	0.7713	0.004222	0.0868
##	85077	0.5164	0.036160	0.2738
##	85079	0.5605	0.033220	0.2990
##	133850	0.4643	2.631000	16.2400
##	133852	0.4643	2.631000	16.2400
##	136481	0.5345	2.502000	20.3300
##	57992	0.6368	3.499000	42.4700
##	57990	0.5456	2.984000	25.3300
##	57984	0.5363	2.917000	23.8700
##	57986	0.5363	2.917000	23.8700

Exploring genotype associations

More detailed analysis of association results using `plink`. In this section we will cover the following:

- advanced population-specific effects (allele freq, etc.)
- examine genotype models
- explore sex-specific effects

Population-specific effects

So now that we have established that there are 2 populations in our data set we can examine whether this association varies between them. When using the Cochran-Mantel-Haenszel test, we can request an additional Breslow-Day test for heterogeneous odds ratios between strata. Following this, we will use two alternate approaches that use different statistical methods to answer the same question (i.e is the effect different between Chinese and Japanese individuals?)

The previous analyses showed that the SNP rs11204005 was the most highly associated when using the stratified CMH test before adding the additional genotype data. With the addition of the extra data we saw that rs7835221 was now the most significantly associated SNP. We are going to extra both of these SNPs and further investigate the effects of population stratification on their association.

```
# extract SNPs
system('bin/plink --bfile example/followup --recode --snps rs11204005,rs7835221 --out example/tophit')
```

First we will examine genotyping rate and Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium for rs11204005 and rs7835221

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --hardy --all --missing --out example/results')
# load results
results.lmiss <- read.table('example/results.lmiss', head = T)
results.hwe <- read.table('example/results.hwe', head = T)
# explore
results.lmiss
```

```
##   CHR      SNP N_MISS N_GENO F_MISS
## 1    8 rs7835221      0     89      0
## 2    8 rs11204005      0     89      0
```

```
results.hwe
```

```
##   CHR      SNP TEST A1 A2      GENO O.HET. E.HET.      P
## 1    8 rs7835221  ALL  G  A 21/30/38 0.3371 0.4818 0.004593
## 2    8 rs7835221  AFF  G  A  1/11/36 0.2292 0.2342 1.000000
## 3    8 rs7835221 UNAFF G  A 20/19/2 0.4634 0.4036 0.462300
## 4    8 rs11204005  ALL  A  G 21/43/25 0.4831 0.4990 0.831900
## 5    8 rs11204005  AFF  A  G  4/23/21 0.4792 0.4373 0.741600
## 6    8 rs11204005 UNAFF A  G 17/20/4 0.4878 0.4497 0.736000
```

Repeat stratified CMH test for association with disease for rs11204005 and rs7835221 with Breslow-Day test for heterogeneity

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --assoc --within example/pop.cov --bd --out example/results')
# load results
results <- read.table('example/results.cmh', head = T)
# explore
results
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	MAF	A2	CHISQ	P	OR	SE
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	0.4045	A	57.54	3.305e-14	0.01914	0.7713
## 2	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	0.4775	G	25.99	3.432e-07	0.09950	0.5164
##		L95	U95	CHISQ_BD	P_BD					
## 1		0.004222	0.0868	0.08109	0.7758					
## 2		0.036160	0.2738	1.01900	0.3128					

Repeat stratified test for association with disease for rs11204005 and rs7835221 using a different approach (partitioning effects into total, between and within strata)

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --assoc --within example/pop.cov --homog --out example/results')
# load results
results <- read.table('example/results.homog', head = T)
# explore
results
```

##	CHR	SNP	A1	A2	F_A	F_U	N_A	N_U	TEST	CHISQ	DF	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	G	A	NA	NA	NA	NA	TOTAL	32.0600	2	1.095e-07
## 2	8	rs7835221	G	A	NA	NA	NA	NA	ASSOC	31.9500	1	1.584e-08
## 3	8	rs7835221	G	A	NA	NA	NA	NA	HOMOG	0.1082	1	7.422e-01
## 4	8	rs7835221	G	A	0.06522	0.6739	22	68	1	14.7400	1	1.236e-04
## 5	8	rs7835221	G	A	0.16670	0.9000	74	14	2	17.3200	1	3.162e-05
## 6	8	rs11204005	A	G	NA	NA	NA	NA	TOTAL	19.3300	2	6.362e-05
## 7	8	rs11204005	A	G	NA	NA	NA	NA	ASSOC	18.5800	1	1.628e-05
## 8	8	rs11204005	A	G	NA	NA	NA	NA	HOMOG	0.7435	1	3.885e-01
## 9	8	rs11204005	A	G	0.19570	0.6014	22	68	1	9.8930	1	1.659e-03
## 10	8	rs11204005	A	G	0.36670	0.9000	74	14	2	9.4320	1	2.132e-03
##		OR										
## 1		NA										
## 2		NA										
## 3		NA										
## 4		0.03376										
## 5		0.02222										
## 6		NA										
## 7		NA										
## 8		NA										
## 9		0.16120										
## 10		0.06433										

Repeat test for association with disease for rs11204005 and rs7835221 using a different approach (logistic regression, including population as a covariate)

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --assoc --logistic --covar example/pop.cov --out example/results')
# load results
results <- read.table('example/results.assoc.logistic', head = T, as.is = T)
# explore
results
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	TEST	NMISS	OR	STAT	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	ADD	89	0.01237	-4.633	3.603e-06
## 2	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	COV1	89	198.50000	3.680	2.331e-04
## 3	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	ADD	89	0.06667	-4.330	1.489e-05
## 4	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	COV1	89	79.15000	4.680	2.871e-06

Explicitly test for between-population heterogeneity using logistic regression allowing for an interaction effect

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --assoc --logistic --covar example/pop.cov --interaction --out example/results')
# load results
results <- read.table('example/results.assoc.logistic', head = T)
# explore
results
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	TEST	NMISS	OR	STAT	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	ADD	89	0.0080	-1.6590	0.097030
## 2	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	COV1	89	146.2000	2.1290	0.033290
## 3	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	ADDxCOV1	89	1.3580	0.1607	0.872300
## 4	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	ADD	89	0.2918	-0.6450	0.518900
## 5	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	COV1	89	319.1000	2.6550	0.007936
## 6	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	ADDxCOV1	89	0.3366	-0.7811	0.434800

The above analyses suggest that the association is equally present in both populations (make a note of what the precise results are that suggest this). Next, we can ask the more basic question of whether allele frequency (not the odds ratio for association) differs between the two groups. This involves using the population label as the phenotype of an association test rather than as a covariate.

Explicitly test whether allele frequency for rs11204005 and rs7835221 differs between populations

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --assoc --pheno example/pop.cov --out example/results')
# load results
results <- read.table('example/results.assoc', head = T)
# explore
results
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	F_A	F_U	A2	CHISQ	P	OR
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	0.2841	0.5222	A	10.4700	0.00121	0.3631
## 2	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	0.4545	0.5000	G	0.3685	0.54380	0.8333

Explicitly test whether allele frequency for rs11204005 and rs7835221 differs between populations, allowing for association with disease

```
# plink assoc
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --logistic --pheno example/pop.cov --covar example/followup.fam
# load results
results <- read.table('example/results.assoc.logistic', head = T)
# explore
results
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	TEST	NMISS	OR	STAT	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	ADD	89	5.849	2.245	2.476e-02
## 2	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	COV4	89	212.000	3.715	2.033e-04
## 3	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	ADD	89	4.466	2.727	6.400e-03
## 4	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	COV4	89	73.770	4.708	2.498e-06

These results would suggest that the frequency does indeed differ (again, make a note of exactly why this is).

Genotype models

For simplicity in this Practical, we will ignore the effect of population for subsequent exercises. This would not be advised with real data, as in this case, we in fact know that both allele frequency and disease rate differ between populations. It would therefore normally be important to perform analysis within-population or to include population as a covariate.

The previous association statistics were all based on allelic models (that each extra copy of the risk allele increases risk equally). We can also ask whether specific genotype configurations (heterozygotes versus homozygotes) have specific risk profiles.

Test genotypic models for rs11204005 and rs7835221

```
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --model --cell 1 --out example/results')
# load results
results.mod <- read.table('example/results.model', head = T)
# explore
results.mod
```

##	CHR	SNP	A1	A2	TEST	AFF	UNAFF	CHISQ	DF	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	G	A	GENO	1/11/36	20/19/2	49.50	2	1.783e-11
## 2	8	rs7835221	G	A	TREND	13/83	59/23	48.17	1	3.906e-12
## 3	8	rs7835221	G	A	ALLELIC	13/83	59/23	62.64	1	2.485e-15
## 4	8	rs7835221	G	A	DOM	12/36	39/2	44.44	1	2.623e-11
## 5	8	rs7835221	G	A	REC	1/47	20/21	26.75	1	2.320e-07
## 6	8	rs11204005	A	G	GENO	4/23/21	17/20/4	19.39	2	6.171e-05
## 7	8	rs11204005	A	G	TREND	31/65	54/28	19.35	1	1.087e-05
## 8	8	rs11204005	A	G	ALLELIC	31/65	54/28	19.97	1	7.882e-06
## 9	8	rs11204005	A	G	DOM	27/21	37/4	12.65	1	3.755e-04
## 10	8	rs11204005	A	G	REC	4/44	17/24	13.46	1	2.434e-04

Test genotypic models for rs11204005 and rs7835221 using logistic regression

```
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --logistic --genotype --out example/results')
# load results
results.log <- read.table('example/results.assoc.logistic', head = T)
# explore
results.log
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	TEST	NMISS	OR	STAT	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	ADD	89	5.849	2.245	2.476e-02
## 2	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	COV4	89	212.000	3.715	2.033e-04
## 3	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	ADD	89	4.466	2.727	6.400e-03
## 4	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	COV4	89	73.770	4.708	2.498e-06

Test genotypic models for rs11204005 and rs7835221 using logistic regression with an alternate genotypic coding

```
system('bin/plink --file example/tophit --logistic --genotypic --hethom --out example/results')
# load results
results.hethom <- read.table('example/results.assoc.logistic', head = T)
# explore
results.hethom
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	TEST	NMISS	OR	STAT	P
## 1	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	HOM	89	0.002778	-4.686	2.786e-06
## 2	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	HET	89	0.032160	-4.195	2.732e-05
## 3	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	GENO_2DF	89	NA	26.310	1.932e-06
## 4	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	HOM	89	0.044820	-3.987	6.681e-05
## 5	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	HET	89	0.219000	-2.428	1.518e-02
## 6	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	GENO_2DF	89	NA	15.900	3.528e-04

These analyses suggest that the effect is an allele-dosage one, rather than showing dominant or recessive non-additivity.

Sex-specific effects

Next, in the same manner as we tested for between-population heterogeneity, we can ask whether the effect varies between males and females. We do this first by performing sex-specific analyses; second, by including sex as a covariate in a logistic regression model.

LD analysis and plotting

```
# load required packages
library("genetics")
library("LDheatmap")
library("RColorBrewer")
```

First we will need to isolate the region of interest from the genotype data. We can do this several ways, for now we will concentrate of using `plink` for this purpose.

There are multiple ways to extract just specific SNPs for analysis; this section describes options that use the command-line directly; the next section describes other methods that read a file containing the information.

Based on a single chromosome (`-chr`)

To analyse only a specific chromosome use:

```
plink --file data --chr 8
```

```
head(followup.results[order(followup.results$P),])
```

##	CHR	SNP	BP	A1	MAF	A2	CHISQ	P	OR	SE	
##	85075	8	rs7835221	12878098	G	0.4045	A	57.54	3.305e-14	0.01914	0.7713
##	85077	8	rs11204005	12895576	A	0.4775	G	25.99	3.432e-07	0.09950	0.5164
##	85079	8	rs2460338	12914531	G	0.4775	C	22.35	2.277e-06	0.09967	0.5605
##	133850	13	rs4941815	35207635	C	0.4663	T	19.04	1.280e-05	6.53600	0.4643
##	133852	13	rs4943327	35209062	T	0.4663	C	19.04	1.280e-05	6.53600	0.4643
##	136481	13	rs9531117	80316559	T	0.2159	C	18.89	1.386e-05	7.13300	0.5345
##			L95	U95							
##	85075	0.004222	0.0868								
##	85077	0.036160	0.2738								
##	85079	0.033220	0.2990								
##	133850	2.631000	16.2400								
##	133852	2.631000	16.2400								
##	136481	2.502000	20.3300								

Based on a range of SNPs (`-from` and `-to`)

To select a specific range of markers (that must all fall on the same chromosome) use, for example:

```
plink --bfile mydata --from rs7835221 --to rs2460338
```

Based on single SNP (and window) (`-snp` and `-window`)

Alternatively, you can specify a single SNP and, optionally, also ask for all SNPs in the surrounding region, with the `-window` option:

```
plink --bfile mydata --snp rs7835221 --window 100
```

which extracts only SNPs within +/- 100kb of rs7835221, our most significantly associated SNP on chr 8.

We are going to use the last option to extract a ~100kb region around our most significantly associated hit on chr 8:

```
# extract 200kb window around peak on chr 8
system('bin/plink --bfile example/followup --snp rs7835221 --window 150 --recode --transpose --out exam
```

Load the extracted SNP data into R:

```
snp.data <- read.table('example/chr8_ldregion.tped', head = F, as.is = T)
sample.data <- read.table('example/chr8_ldregion.tfam', head = F, as.is = T)

# genetate the LDheatmap
rgb.palette <- colorRampPalette(rev(c("white", "cadetblue"))), space = "rgb")
snp.list <- c('rs7835221', 'rs11204005', 'rs2460338')

# ldhm <- LDheatmap(example.geno, genetic.distances = snpDist, distances = 'physical', LDmeasure = "r",
#                      SNP.name = colnames(example.geno), title = "Pairwise LD", flip = F, text = T, color = rgb.palette)

ldhm.all <- LDheatmap(example.geno, genetic.distances = snpDist, distances = 'physical', LDmeasure = "r",
                      title = "Pairwise LD (both populations)", flip = F, text = T, color = rgb.palette)
LDheatmap.marks(ldhm.all, 8, 10, gp=gpar(cex=2), pch = "*")
# highlight our cluster of interesting SNPs
LDheatmap.highlight(ldhm.all, 7, 12, fill = "NA", col = "grey25", lwd = 1, lty = 2)

# LD plot - Chinese
ldhm.CH <- LDheatmap(CH.geno, genetic.distances = snpDist, distances = 'physical', LDmeasure = "r",
                    SNP.name = snp.list, title = "Pairwise LD (CH)", flip = F, text = T, color = rgb.palette)
LDheatmap.marks(ldhm.CH, 8, 10, gp=gpar(cex=2), pch = "*")
# highlight our cluster of interesting SNPs
LDheatmap.highlight(ldhm.all, 7, 12, fill = "NA", col = "grey25", lwd = 1, lty = 2)

# LD plot - Japanese
ldhm.JP <- LDheatmap(JP.geno, genetic.distances = snpDist, distances = 'physical', LDmeasure = "r",
                    SNP.name = snp.list, title = "Pairwise LD (JP)", flip = F, text = T, color = rgb.palette)
LDheatmap.marks(ldhm.CH, 8, 10, gp=gpar(cex=2), pch = "*")
# highlight our cluster of interesting SNPs
LDheatmap.highlight(ldhm.all, 7, 12, fill = "NA", col = "grey25", lwd = 1, lty = 2)
```

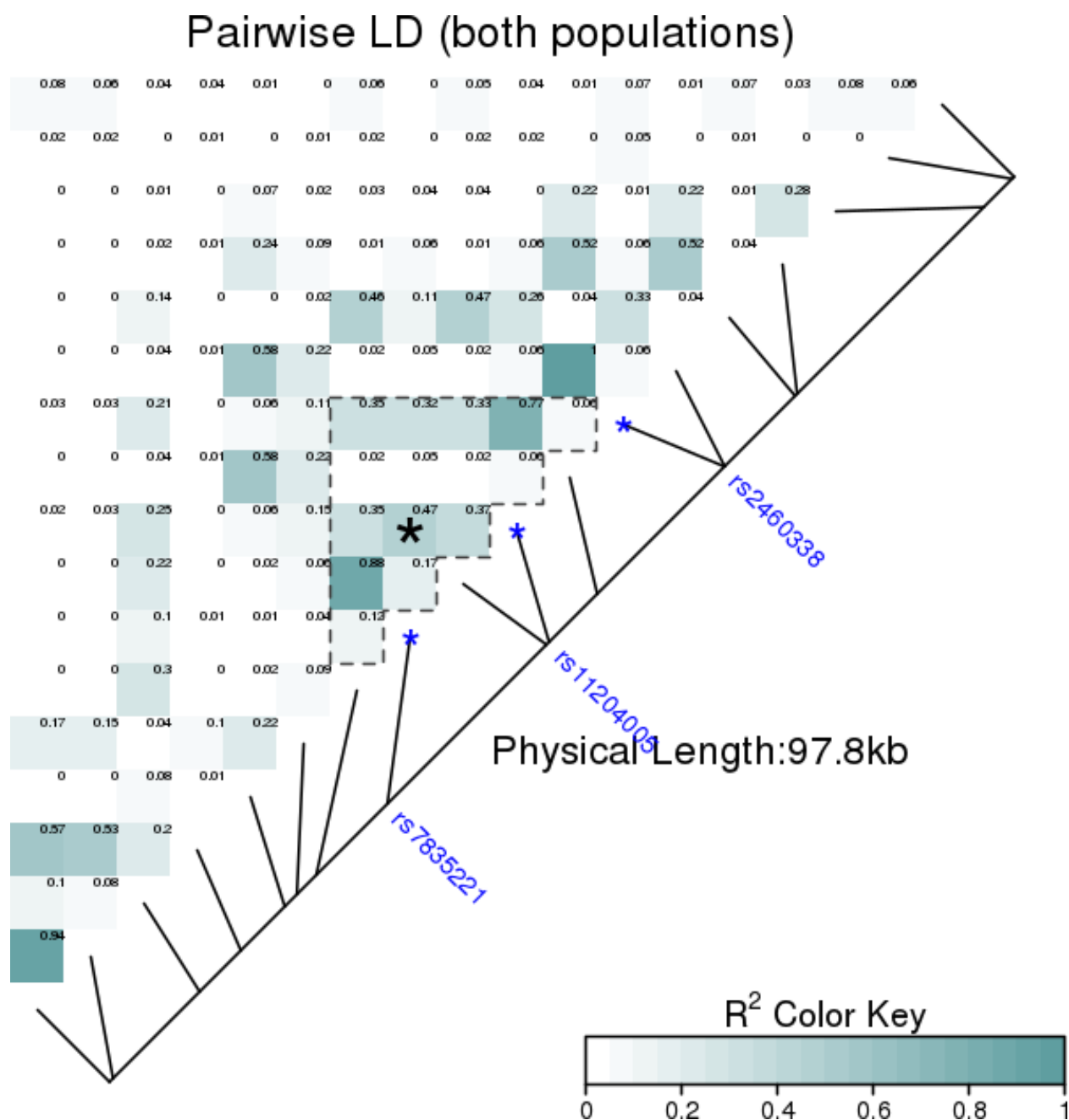


Figure 11: LD plot of chr 8 region for both populations combined.

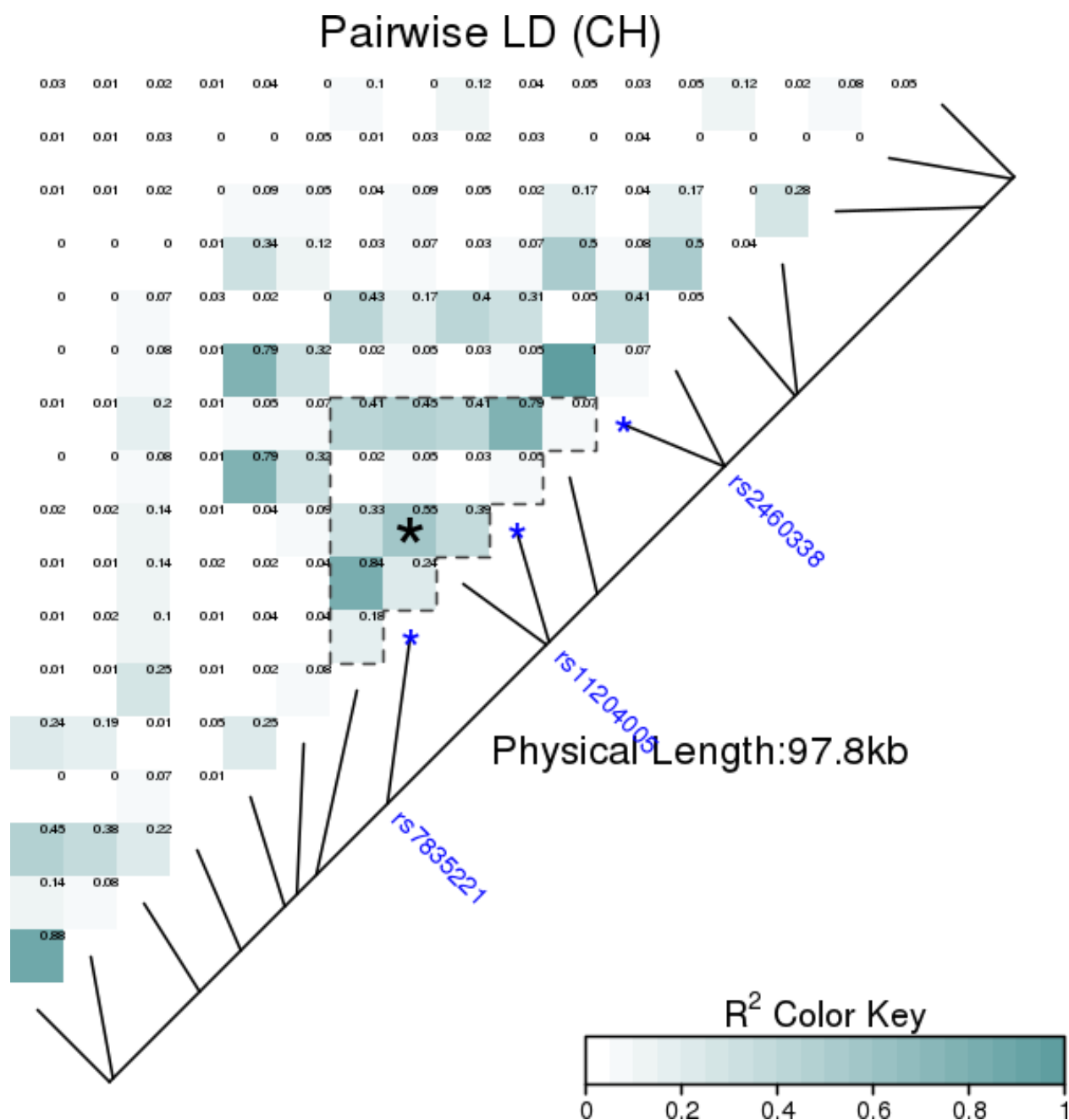


Figure 12: LD plot of chr 8 region for the Chinese population.

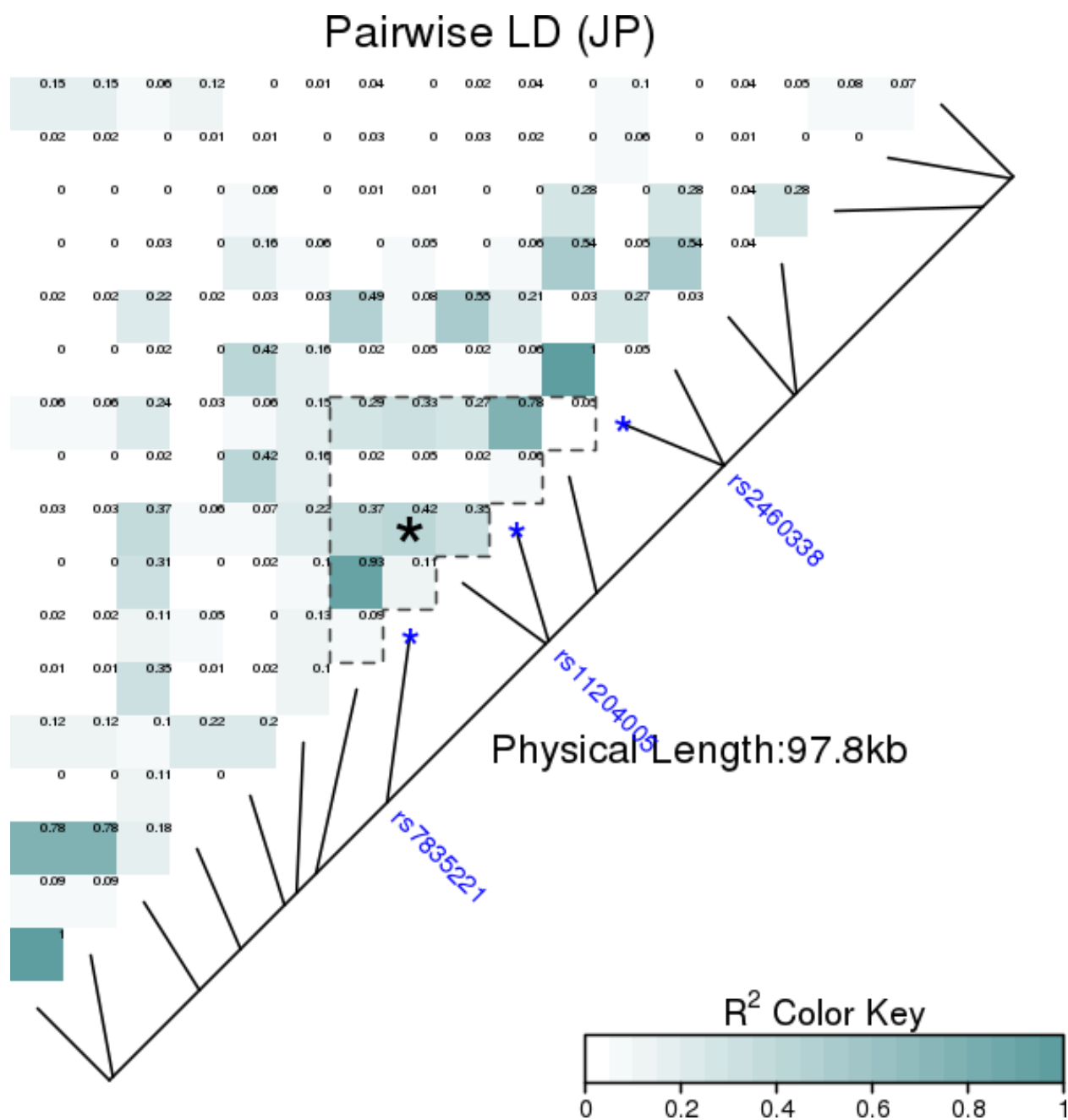


Figure 13: LD plot of chr 8 region for the Japanese population.

Exploring haplotypes and haplotype associations

Use `plink` to determine whether there are any haplotypic associations at the chr 8 region of interest.

Summary

Thanks for attending.