

Use ggbreak to effectively utilize plotting space to deal with large datasets and outliers

Shuangbin Xu[#], Meijun Chen[#], Tingze Feng, Li Zhan, Lang Zhou, Guangchuang Yu^{*}

[#] These authors contributed equally to this work ^{*} Correspondence: Guangchuang Yu <gcyu1@smu.edu.cn>

1 Example 1: Automatically wrap plot with long x-axis scale

```
library(ggplot2)
library(ggbreak)
library(aplot)

# import output data from Protscale
data <- read.table(file = "../data/7MWE_A.csv", sep = ",", header = F, fill = T)
colnames(data) <- c("Position", "Score")
head(data)

##   Position  Score
## 1         5 -2.744
## 2         6 -2.533
## 3         7 -1.944
## 4         8 -1.600
## 5         9 -0.967
## 6        10 -0.967

data2 <- data.frame(
  Position = c(2728, 2729, 3228),
  Score = c(-4.033, -4.033, 3.122),
  Type = c("min", "min", "max")
)

p <- ggplot() +
  geom_line(
    data = data,
    mapping = aes(
      x = Position,
      y = Score
    ),
    color = "#83cbac"
  ) +
  geom_point(
    data = data2,
    mapping = aes(
      x = Position,
      y = Score,
      color = Type
    )
  ) +
  geom_hline(
    yintercept = 0,
    color = "grey",
    linetype = "dashed"
  ) +
  expand_limits(y = c(-4.5, 3.5)) +
  theme_classic() +
  theme(
    axis.text = element_text(size = 14),
```

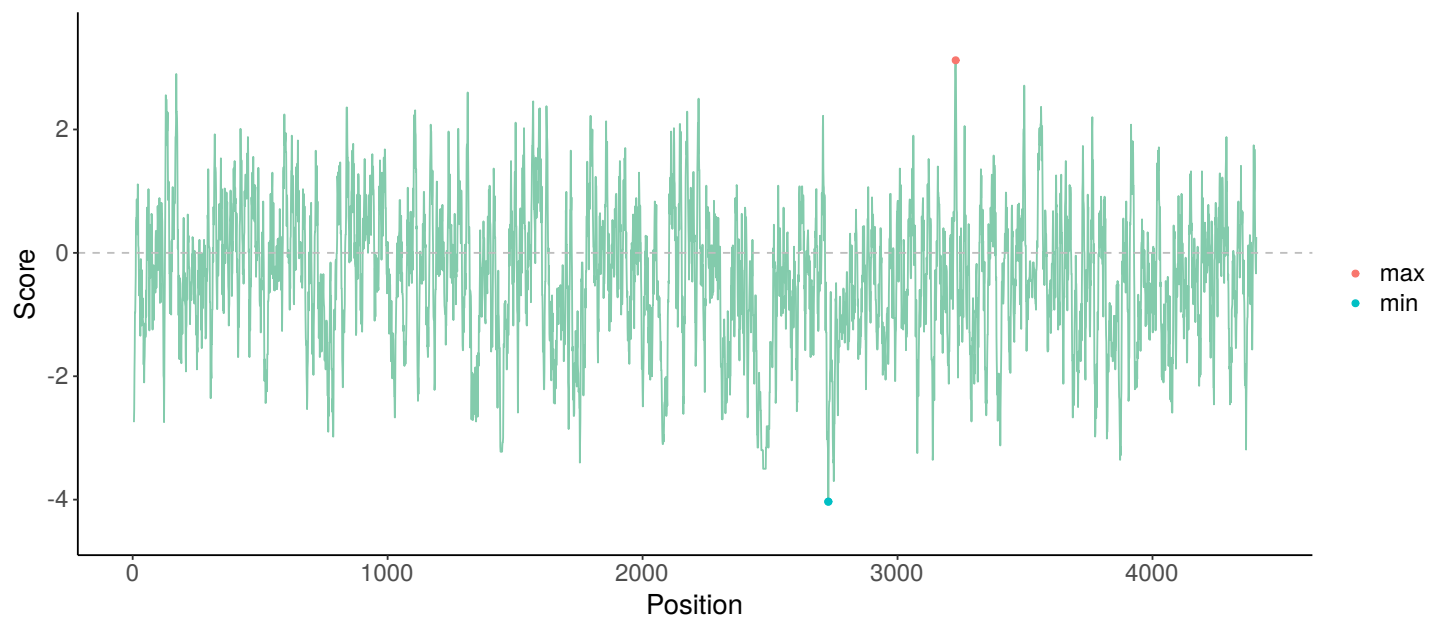
```

    axis.title = element_text(size = 16),
    legend.title = element_blank(),
    legend.text = element_text(size = 14)
  )
# scale_wrap of ggbreak can wrap the ggplot object to multiple
# rows plot to make it easier to read, the n parameter means the
# number of subplot pieces.
p1 <- p +
  scale_wrap(n=4) +
  annotate("rect", xmin=2432, xmax=2512, ymin=-4.5, ymax=4, fill='#57c3c2', alpha = 0.2) +
  annotate("rect", xmin=2716, xmax=2813, ymin=-4.5, ymax=4, fill='#57c3c2', alpha = 0.2) +
  annotate("rect", xmin=3219, xmax=3233, ymin=-4.5, ymax=4, fill='#ef475d', alpha = 0.2) +
  annotate("rect", xmin=3547, xmax=3571, ymin=-4.5, ymax=4, fill='#ef475d', alpha = 0.2)

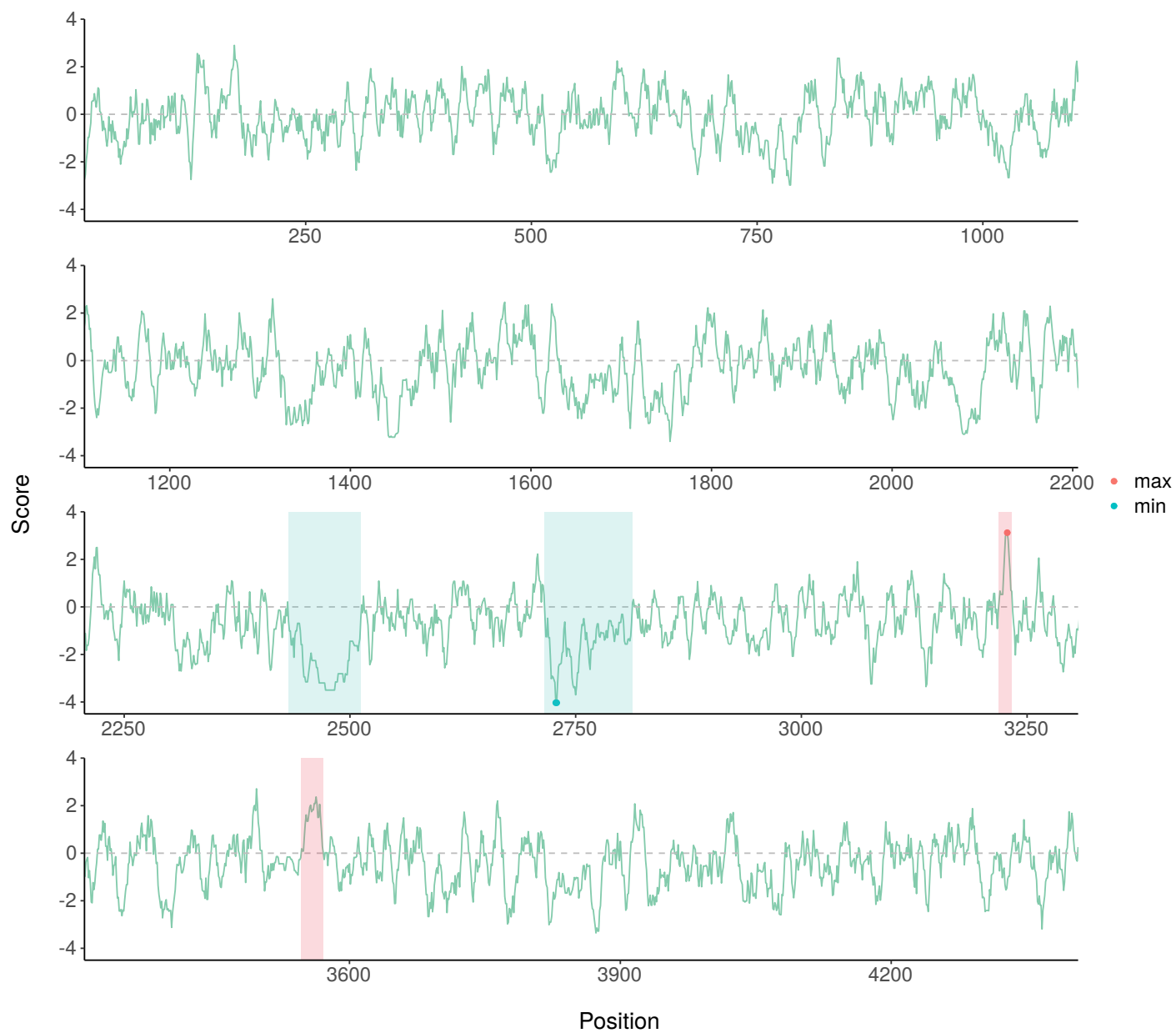
plot_list(p, p1, ncol=1, tag_levels = 'A', tag_size = rel(2), heights=c(1, 2))

```

A



B



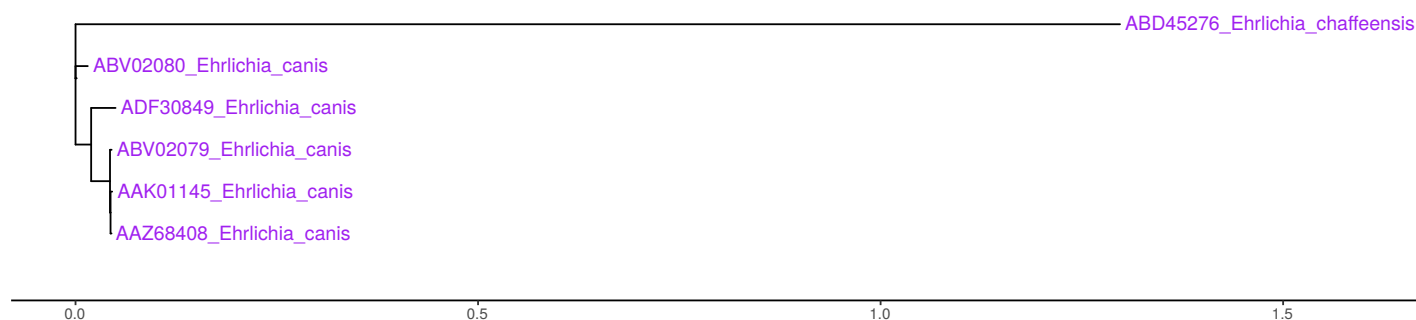
2 Example 2: Shrank outlier branch of a phylogenetic tree

```
library("ggtree")
library("treeio")
library("ggbreak")
library("aplot")
library("ggplot2")

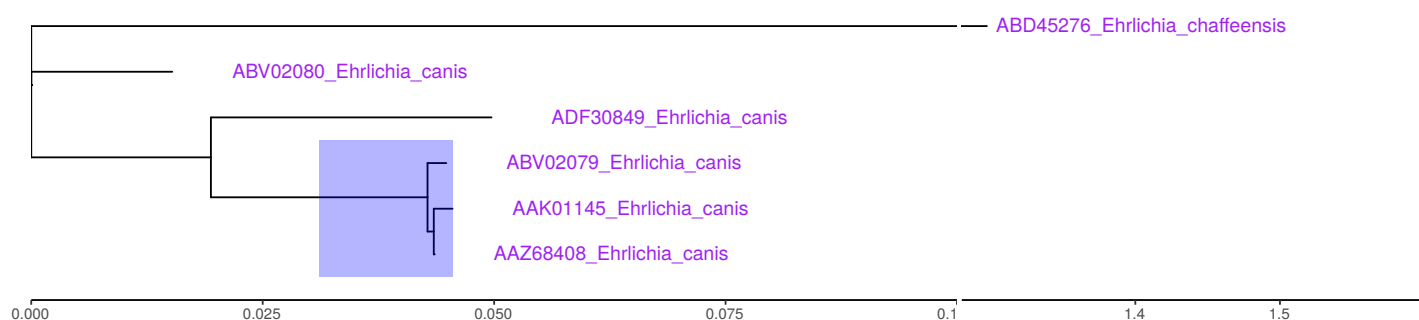
treedata <- read.newick(file = "../data/gp200.nwk")
p <- ggtree(
  treedata,
  ladderize=FALSE
) +
  expand_limits(x = c(0, 1.6), y = c(0, 7)) +
  geom_tiplab(size = 4, color = "purple") +
  theme_tree2()

# In the example, the scale_x_break of ggbreak is used to set an x axis break point for the
# ggtree plot, breaks parameter means the break point. Here, the plot will be split two subplots
# ticklabels parameter means the x axis ticks labels of subplot.
# scales parameter means the relative width of subplot to the first subplot (left subplot)
# in the example
p1 <- p +
  scale_x_break(
    breaks = c(0.1, 1.28),
    ticklabels = c(1.4, 1.5),
    scales = 0.5
  ) +
  geom_highlight(
    node = 9,
    fill = "blue",
    alpha = 0.3
  ) +
  theme(
    plot.margin = margin(
      t = 2,
      r = 2,
      b = 2,
      l = 2,
      unit = "cm"
    )
  )
plot_list(p, p1, ncol=1, tag_levels = 'A', tag_size = rel(2))
```

A



B



3 Example 3: Cut Manhattan plot to create more space for annotation

```
library("ggbreak")
library("aplot")
library("ggplot2")
library("dplyr")

snp <- read.table(file = "../data/GCST90007012_buildGRCh37.tsv",
                  header = T, fill = T)
head(snp)

##   variant_id p_value chromosome base_pair_location effect_allele  beta
## 1  rs3131972  0.3586           1           752721             A   10.880
## 2  rs11240777 0.4565           1           798959             A    8.063
## 3  rs4970383  0.3810           1           838555             A  -10.080
## 4  rs4475691  0.8293           1           846808             T    3.277
## 5  rs7537756  0.2872           1           854250             G   14.660
## 6  rs13302982 0.8938           1           861808             A    1.374
##   standard_error
## 1             11.85
## 2             10.82
## 3             11.49
## 4             15.19
## 5             13.76
## 6             10.28

snp$chromosome <- factor(snp$chromosome, levels = sort(unique(snp$chromosome)))

p1 <- ggplot(
  data = snp,
  mapping = aes(
    x = chromosome,
```

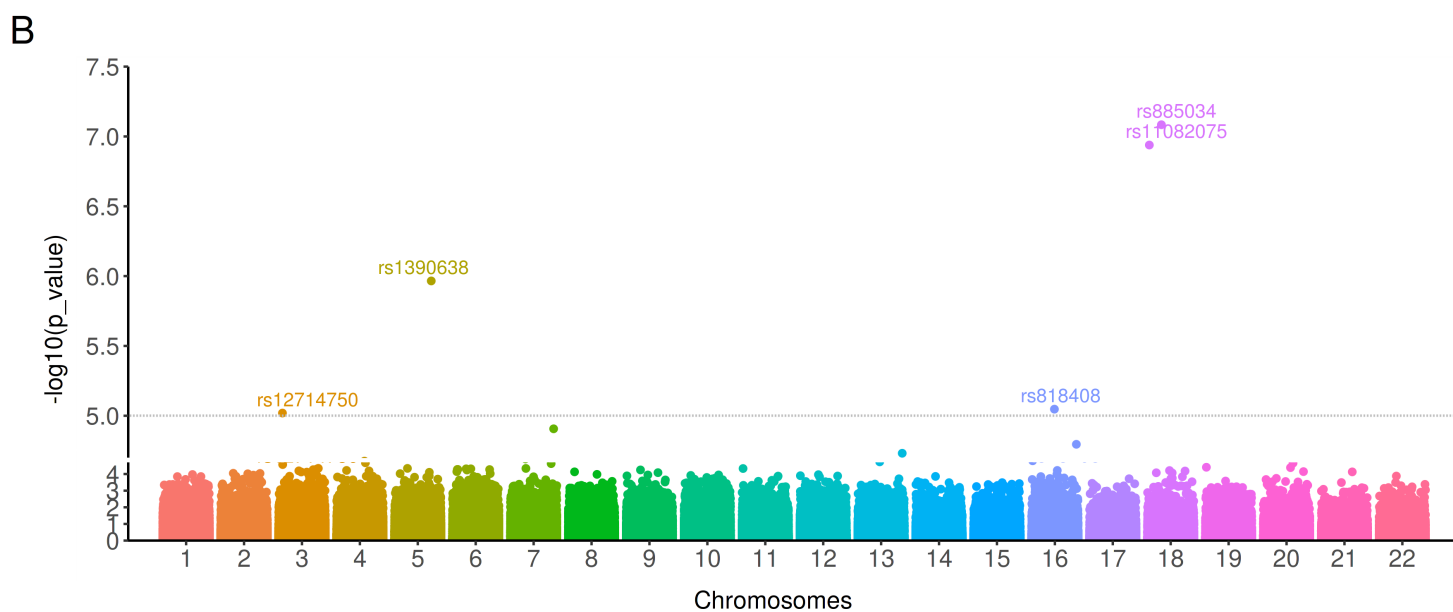
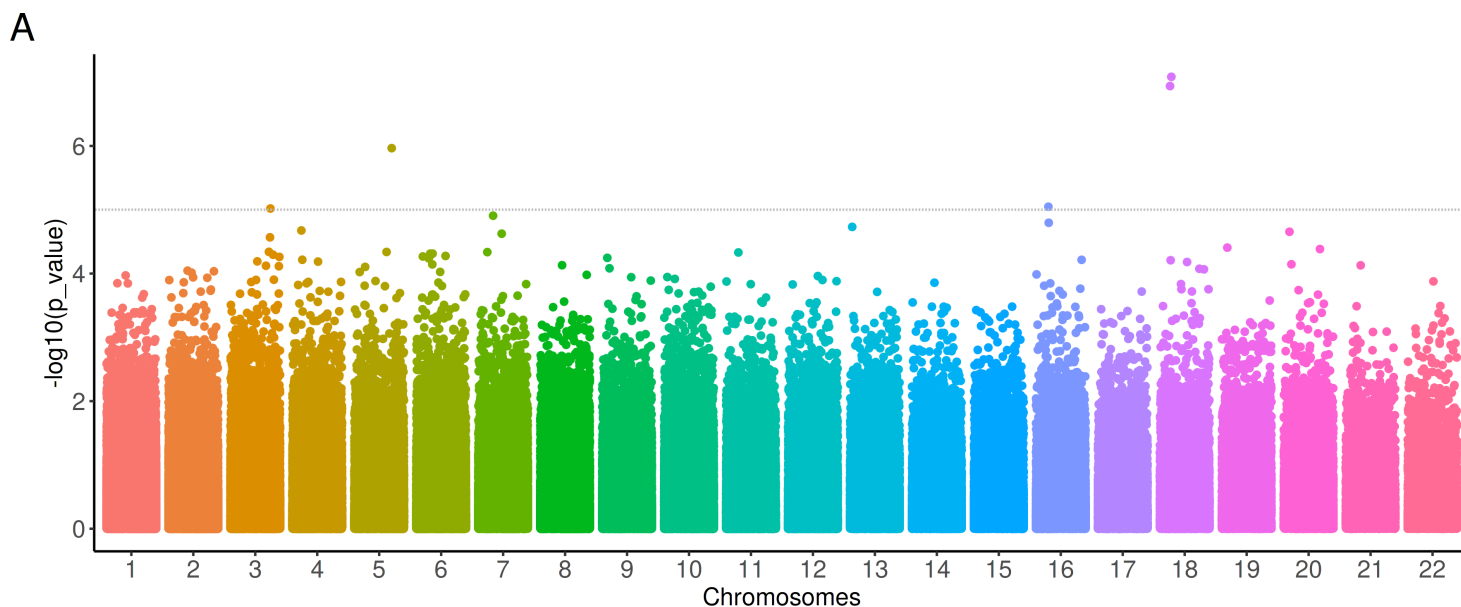
```

        y = -log10(p_value),
        color = chromosome)
) +
geom_jitter() +
geom_abline(
  intercept = 5,
  slope = 0,
  color = "grey",
  linetype = "dashed"
) +
theme_classic() +
xlab("Chromosomes") +
theme(
  legend.position = "none",
  axis.title = element_text(size = 14),
  axis.text = element_text(size = 14)
)

p2 <- p1 +
  scale_y_cut(
    breaks = 4.7,
    which = 2,
    scales = 0.2
  ) +
  geom_text(
    data=snp %>% filter(-log10(p_value) >= 5),
    mapping = aes(label = variant_id),
    nudge_x = 0.1,
    nudge_y = 0.1
  ) +
  expand_limits(x=c(0, 23), y=c(0, 7.5))

plot_list(p1, p2, ncol=1, tag_levels = 'A', tag_size = rel(2))

```



4 Example 4: Display discontinuous axis on a bar chart

```
library("ggprism")
library("ggbreak")
library("ggplot2")

data1 <- read.table(file = "../data/data1.txt",
                    header = TRUE, sep = "\t", dec = ".")
data1$Species.name <- factor(data1$Species.name,
                             levels = rev(unique(data1$Species.name)))
load("../data/sigdata.rda")

p1 <- ggplot(
  data = data1,
  mapping = aes(
    x = Species.name,
    weight = Mean,
    fill = group
  )
)
```

```

) +
geom_bar(position = 'dodge') +
labs(y = 'Relative abundance(%)', x = NULL) +
coord_flip() +
theme_prism()

p2 <- ggplot(
  data = data1,
  mapping = aes(
    x = Species.name,
    weight = log10(Mean+1),
    fill = group
  )
) +
geom_bar(position = 'dodge') +
labs(y = 'log10(Relative abundance+1)', x = NULL) +
coord_flip() +
theme_prism()

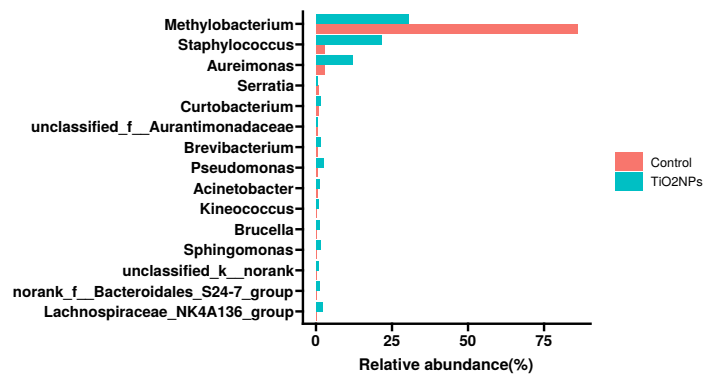
p3 <- p1 +
scale_y_break(c(32, 84), scales = 0.5, ticklabels=c(84, 85, 86)) +
scale_y_break(c(3.5, 10), scales = 0.5, ticklabels = c(15, 25))

p4 <- p3 +
geom_text(
  data = sigdata,
  mapping = aes(
    x = Species,
    y = Mean,
    label = sig
  ),
  vjust=-0.1
)

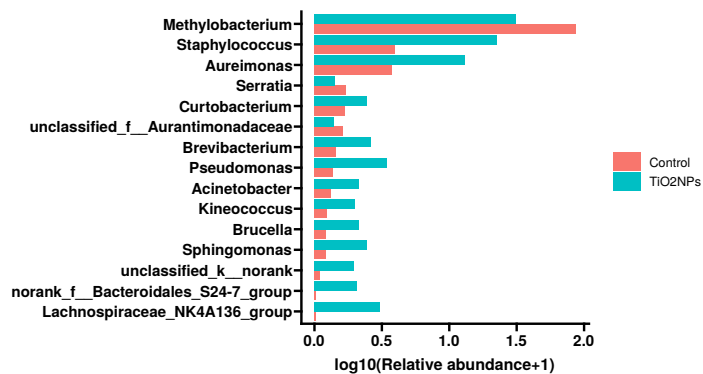
plot_list(p1, p2, p3, p4, byrow=T, tag_levels = 'A', tag_size = rel(2))

```

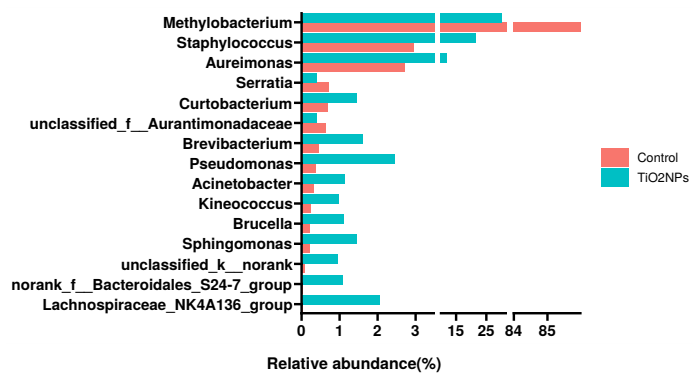

A



B



C



D

