



Automated Visualisation of Experimental Designs

Emi Tanaka

Biological Data Science Institute, Australian National University
Research School of Finance, Actuarial Studies and Statistics, Australian National University



Australian
National
University



The Grammar of Experimental Designs

- 🖥️ A computational framework that treats experimental design as an object that is declaratively defined by a series of composable functions.
- 📄 Implemented in the `edibble` R-package.

```
library(edibble)
```

- ➡️ The final output is an **e**xperimental **d**esign table (or **t**ibble).

Completely Randomised Design

- 🍴 Suppose we have an experiment to compare high-carb and low-carb diets on the weight.
- We can gather twenty subjects in total.

```
crd <- design("Diet experiment") %>%
  set_units(subject = 20) %>%
  set_trts(diet = c("Low-carb", "High-carb")) %>%
  allot_trts(diet ~ subject) %>%
  assign_trts("random", seed = 2023) %>%
  serve_table()
```

Randomised Complete Block Design

- 👤 We may recognise that `sex` is an influencing factor on the response.
- We may choose to block subjects by sex.
- We assign equal number of subjects for each sex.

```
rcbdx <- design("Diet experiment by sex") %>%
  set_units(sex = c("F", "M"),
            subject = 20) %>%
  allot_units(sex ~ subject) %>%
  assign_units("systematic") %>%
  set_trts(diet = c("Low-carb", "High-carb")) %>%
  allot_trts(diet ~ subject) %>%
  assign_trts("random", seed = 2023)
```

📄 At this stage, the edibble design object is in a network form (a pair of directed acyclic graphs).

```
rcbdx

Diet experiment by sex
└─sex (2 levels)
   └─subject (20 levels)
      └─diet (2 levels)
Allotment:
• diet ~ subject
• sex ~ subject
Assignment: random
```

- The same *unit structure* can alternatively be defined as below.

```
rcbd_alt <- design("Diet experiment by sex") %>%
  set_units(sex = c("F", "M"),
            subject = nested_in(sex, 10))
```

Split-Plot Design

- 🚶 The experimenter may wish to also see the effect of exercise in addition to the diet.
- The *treatment structure* is then 2×2 factorial.
- The experimenter has a constraint on allocation of exercise – it has to be done by session, which comprises of five subjects of one sex.
- Different diets can be assigned to each subject.
- The experimenter conducts two sessions for each sex.
- This constraint in the allocation of treatment results in a split-plot design.

```
spd <- design("Diet & exercise experiment") %>%
  set_units(sex = c("F", "M"),
            session = nested_in(sex, 2),
            subject = nested_in(session, 5)) %>%
  set_trts(diet = c("Low-carb", "High-carb"),
            exercise = c("Intense", "Light")) %>%
  allot_trts(diet ~ subject,
             exercise ~ session) %>%
  assign_trts("random", seed = 2023) %>%
  serve_table()
```

- 📄 The output here is in the tabular form.

```
spd
```

```
# Diet & exercise experiment
# An edibble: 20 x 5
  sex    session    subject    diet exercise
<unit(2)> <unit(4)> <unit(20)> <trt(2)> <trt(2)>
1      F session1 subject1 High-carb Light
2      F session1 subject2 Low-carb  Light
3      F session1 subject3 Low-carb  Light
4      F session1 subject4 Low-carb  Light
5      F session1 subject5 High-carb Light
6      F session2 subject6 Low-carb  Intense
7      F session2 subject7 High-carb Intense
8      F session2 subject8 Low-carb  Intense
9      F session2 subject9 Low-carb  Intense
10     F session2 subject10 High-carb Intense
# i 10 more rows
# i Use `print(n = ...)` to see more rows
```

Visualising Experimental Designs

- 💡 We leverage the structure that is already specified in an edibble design object.
- 📄 Implemented in the `deggust` R-package.

```
library(deggust)
```

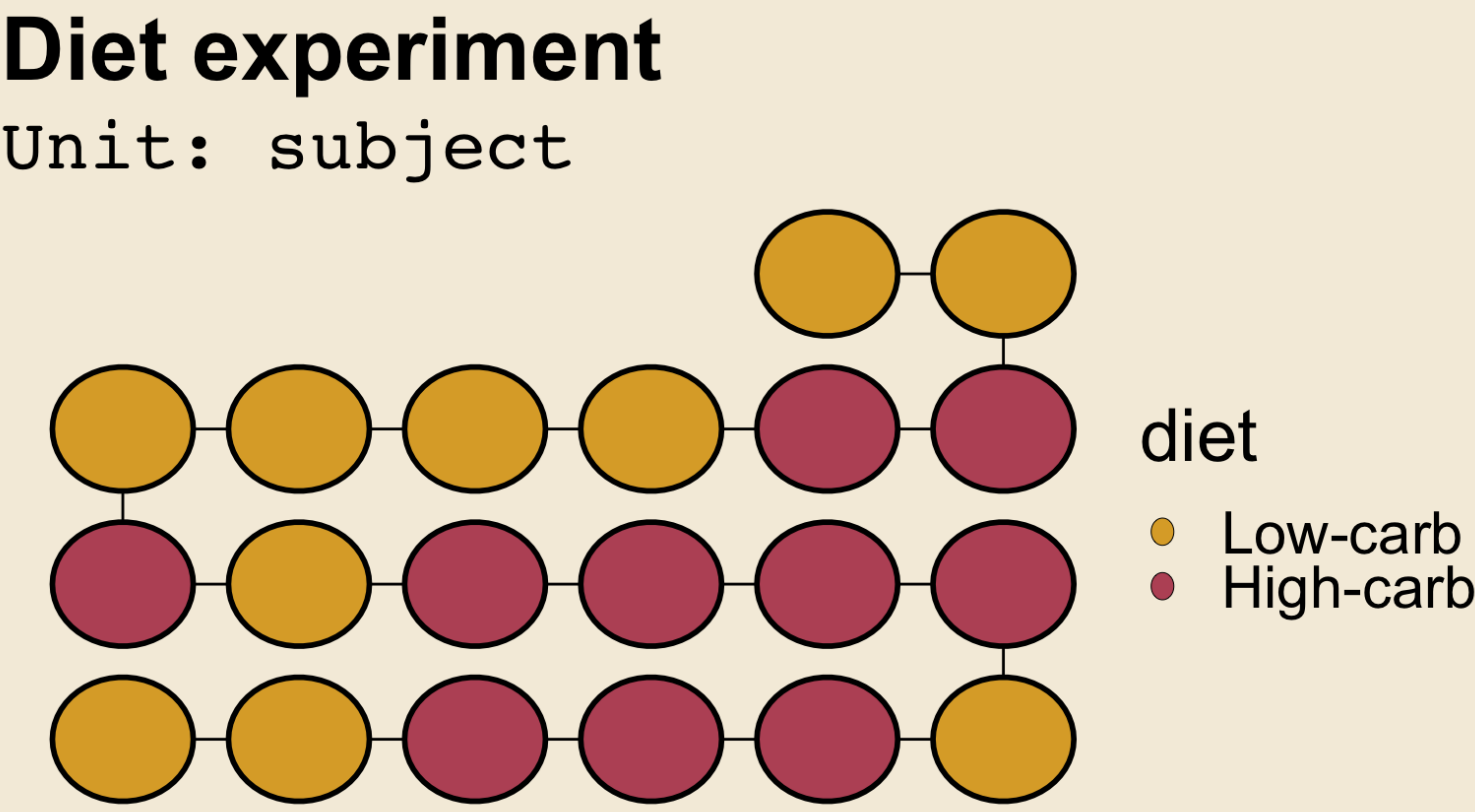
- 🍴 To degust is to savor appreciatively.
- ⊕ To deggust is to visualise edibble design objects appreciatively.
- ➡️ The final output is a **d**esign of **e**xperiments as a **g**gplot object.

Visualise your edibble design using only one command:

```
autoplot()
```

Completely Randomised Design

```
autoplot(crd)
```



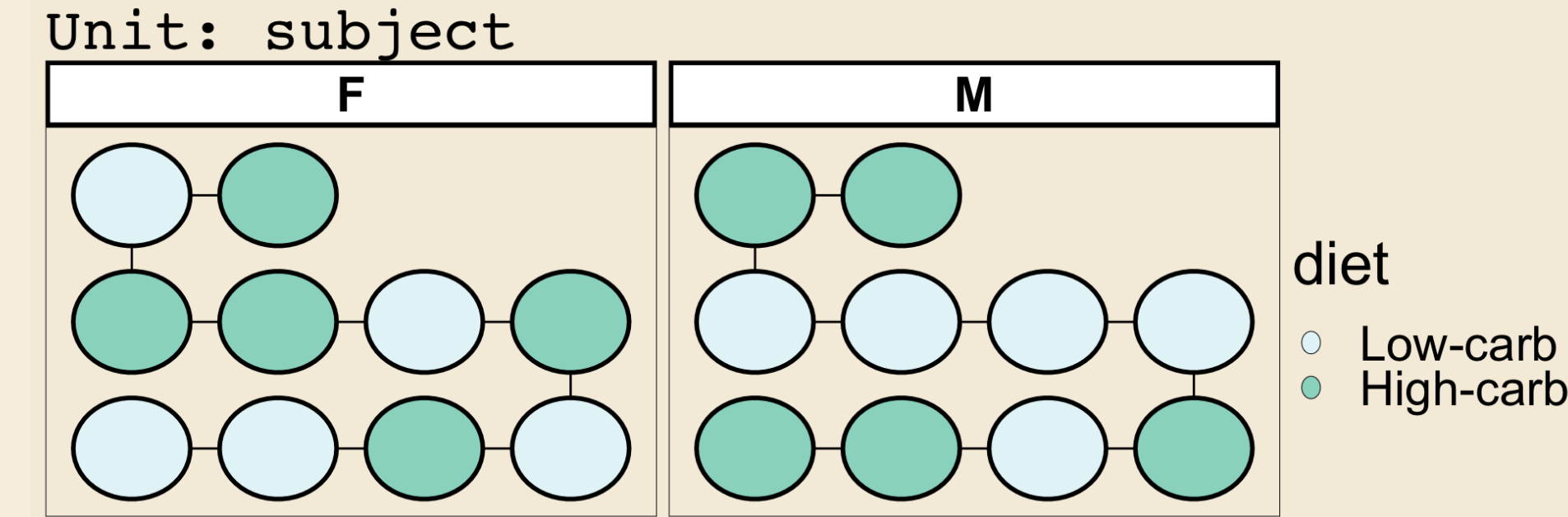
Randomised Complete Block Design

- Customise using `ggplot2` functions!

```
autoplot(serve_table(rcbdx)) +
```

```
ggplot2::scale_fill_brewer(palette = 2)
```

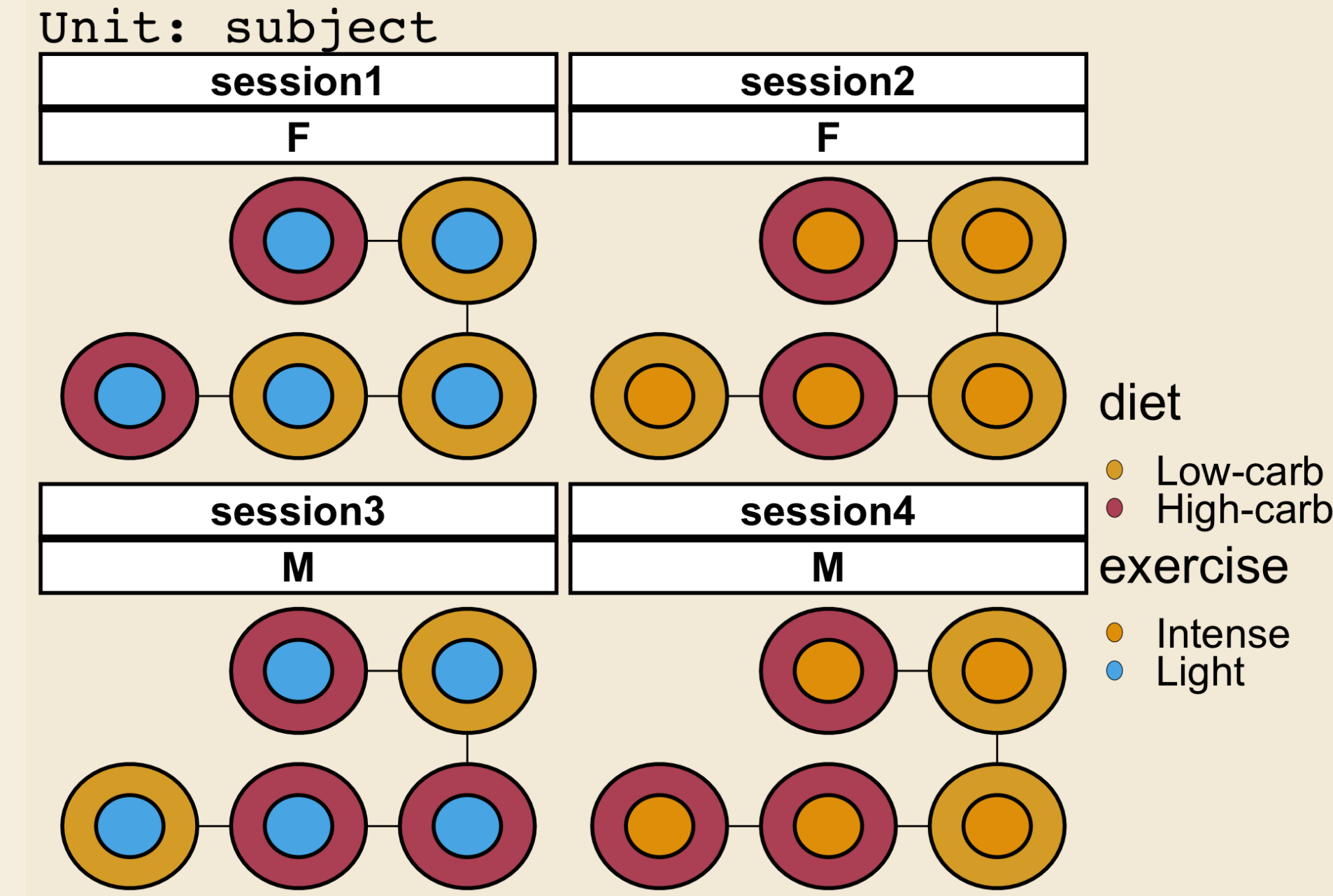
Diet experiment by sex



Split-Plot Design

```
autoplot(spd)
```

Diet & exercise experiment



See More

- `edibble` and `deggust` R-packages are available on CRAN or get the latest development at 📄 emitanaka/edibble and 📄 emitanaka/deggust.
- Find the HTML version of this poster at <https://emitanaka.org/JSM2023poster>.
- For more information and references, see <https://emitanaka.org/research/edibble-design>.

Acknowledgement

This poster was made using `posterdown` R-package.