bbeaR - Egg Allergy Example

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Contents

About	1
Installation	2
Raw Data Import	2
Quality Control of the Raw Data	5
Data Normalization	8
QC of Normalized Data	9
Distributions	9
Technical Replicates	11
Averaging Technical Replicates	14
Differential Analysis - Limma Modeling	16
Protein Topology Plot	18

About

The **Bead-Based Epitope Assay** (BBEA) can be used to quantify the amount of epitope- or peptide-specific antibodies (e.g., IgE) in plasma or serum samples. A detailed assay description is outlined in this publication

In this tutorial, we will analyze a dataset of the immuniglobulin (Ig)E profiles in egg allergic children. The levels of IgE to 58 peptides (15-mer, 12 amino acid overlap), covering the entire sequence of hen's egg-white ovomucoid protein, were measured using BBEA in 38 allergic children and 6 controls.

We will start by installing bbeaR and reading in the BBEA's raw data (alternatively, one can load an R dataset that comes with this package). We will look at several quality control (QC) measures and normalize the data. Then we will create a topology plot, to highlight immunodominant regions on the ovomucoid protein. At the end, we will demonstrate an approach to identify epitope-specific (es)IgE that are different between allergic children and controls, using limma modeling framework.

Installation

bbeaR is an R package and is installed using a standard github code:

```
library(devtools)
install_github('msuprun/bbeaR')
```

Loading additional packages that will be used in the analyses.

```
library(bbeaR)
library(plyr)
library(stringr)
library(ggplot2)
library(gridExtra)
library(pheatmap)
library(RColorBrewer)
library(limma)
```

Raw Data Import

44 patient samples were assayed in duplicates, ran within the same batch on one 96-well plate. The run additionally inleuded two positive control pools (aka "PP", a mix of plasma from several allergic patients), a negative pool (aka "NP", a mix of plasma from several healthy patients), and 2 wells without any sample (aka "Buffer", for a background quantification).

The original .csv files from the Luminex-200 assay, generated with the xPONENT® software, can be downloaded here [link].

We need to create a plate layout using the create.plate.db() function. This layout will be used in the import and some of the plotting functions. The only input to this function is the direction of the plate read (horizontal or vertical).

```
1 <- create.plate.db(direction = "horizontal")
plate.design.db <- l$plate.design.db
plate.design <- l$plate.design
plate.design</pre>
```

```
## [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8] [,9] [,10] [,11] [,12] 
## [1,] "A1" "A2" "A3" "A4" "A5" "A6" "A7" "A8" "A9" "A10" "A11" "A12" 
## [2,] "B1" "B2" "B3" "B4" "B5" "B6" "B7" "B8" "B9" "B10" "B11" "B12" 
## [3,] "C1" "C2" "C3" "C4" "C5" "C6" "C7" "C8" "C9" "C10" "C11" "C12" 
## [4,] "D1" "D2" "D3" "D4" "D5" "D6" "D7" "D8" "D9" "D10" "D11" "D12" 
## [5,] "E1" "E2" "E3" "E4" "E5" "E6" "E7" "E8" "E9" "E10" "E11" "E12" 
## [6,] "F1" "F2" "F3" "F4" "F5" "F6" "F7" "F8" "F9" "F10" "F11" "F12" 
## [7,] "G1" "G2" "G3" "G4" "G5" "G6" "G7" "G8" "G9" "G10" "G11" "G12" 
## [8,] "H1" "H2" "H3" "H4" "H5" "H6" "H7" "H8" "H9" "H10" "H11" "H12"
```

Then read a .csv file of the one plate.

Note: a separate tutorial (Milk Allergy Example) has an example of importing and processing multiple plates.

```
bbeaEgg <- bbea.read.csv(fname = "BBEA_OVM_58p_IgE_patients.csv")</pre>
```

```
## [1] "Reading file: BBEA_OVM_58p_IgE_patients.csv"
```

The bbea list object contains several elements, extracted from the assay's output.

```
names(bbeaEgg)
```

```
## [1] "Median" "NetMFI" "Count" "AssayInfo" "pData"
```

The Median, NetMFI, and Count are matrices with rows as Analytes (epitopes) and columns as Samples.

The **Median** are the Median Flourescence Intensities (MFIs) and the **NetMFI** are the Medians normalized to background. In our example, **Median** and **NetMFI** have exactly same values, since normalization was not selected during the assay run. This post has more details about the Luminex outputs.

```
bbeaEgg$Median[1:5, 1:2]
```

```
##
               OVM_58p_IgE_patients_1(1,A1) OVM_58p_IgE_patients_2(1,A2)
## Analyte 7
                                         1.0
                                         1.0
                                                                          1
## Analyte 8
## Analyte 10
                                         0.5
                                                                          0
                                                                          1
## Analyte 12
                                         1.0
                                                                          0
## Analyte 15
                                         1.0
```

The **Count** are the numbers of beads counted per analyte, and is important quality control measure.

```
bbeaEgg$Count[1:5, 1:2]
```

```
OVM_58p_IgE_patients_1(1,A1) OVM_58p_IgE_patients_2(1,A2)
##
## Analyte 7
                                          80
                                                                         91
## Analyte 8
                                          75
                                                                         84
## Analyte 10
                                         132
                                                                        114
                                                                         87
## Analyte 12
                                         129
## Analyte 15
                                         102
                                                                         81
```

The **AssayInfo** saves parameters of the assay.

bbeaEgg\$AssayInfo[1:15, 1:2]

```
##
                               V1
                                                       ٧2
## 1
                                                  xPONENT
                          Program
## 2
                            Build
                                                3.1.971.0
                                                6/25/2019
## 3
                             Date
## 4
                               SN
                                           LX10014268401
## 5
## 6
                            Batch
                                   OVM_58p_IgE_patients
## 7
                          Version
                                                        1
## 8
                         Operator
                    ComputerName
                                            XPONENT31-PC
## 9
```

Finally, bbea.read.csv() creates a **phenotype** (**p**)**Data** that has some basic information about the samples and the assay run.

```
colnames(bbeaEgg$pData)
```

```
[1] "Location"
                             "Sample"
                                                  "filename"
##
    [4] "File"
                             "Plate"
                                                  "SampleNumber"
   [7] "Well.Number"
                             "Well.Letter"
                                                  "Well_coord"
## [10] "print.plate.order"
                             "letters_numeric"
                                                  "Plate.Date"
## [13] "Plate.Time"
                             "Plate.TimeHR"
                                                  "CountSum"
## [16] "CountMean"
                             "CountMin"
                                                  "CountMax"
```

```
bbeaEgg$pData[1:2, 1:2]
```

```
## Location Sample
## OVM_58p_IgE_patients_1(1,A1) 1(1,A1) 1901-r1
## OVM_58p_IgE_patients_2(1,A2) 2(1,A2) 1901-r2
```

We can now add extrenal information about the samples and analytes.

Load already imported data that includes **p**henotype (clinical) **d**ata *PDegg* and an annotation file *AnnotEgg*. Note: this will also load a *bbea* list object (generated in the previous steps).

```
data(Egg)
```

The annotation **AnnotEgg** dataset contains the mapping of Luminex beads (Analytes) to the peptides/epitopes.

```
dim(AnnotEgg)
```

```
## [1] 58 5
```

head(AnnotEgg)

```
Analyte Peptide Protein PeptideName lableName
## OVM-001 Analyte 38 OVM-001
                                   MVO
                                                001
                                                          001
## OVM-002 Analyte 40 OVM-002
                                   MVO
                                                002
                                                          002
## OVM-003 Analyte 41 OVM-003
                                   MVO
                                                003
                                                          003
                                                004
## OVM-004 Analyte 42 OVM-004
                                   MVO
                                                          004
## OVM-005 Analyte 44 OVM-005
                                   MVO
                                                005
                                                          005
                                                006
## OVM-006 Analyte 71 OVM-006
                                   OVM
                                                          006
```

Changing the bbeaEgg object to have peptide names instead of analyte numbers.

The **PDegg** dataset has clinical information about our samples.

```
dim(PDegg)
## [1] 44 4
head(PDegg)
```

```
##
    PTID Age Egg.sIgE
                                Group
## 1 1901 NA
                    NA Atopic Control
## 2 1002 16
                    NA Atopic Control
## 3 1503
          2
                 2.29
                          Egg Allergy
           7
## 4 1774
                 16.80
                          Egg Allergy
## 5 1005
           7
                 76.70
                          Egg Allergy
## 6 1606
                 35.20
                          Egg Allergy
```

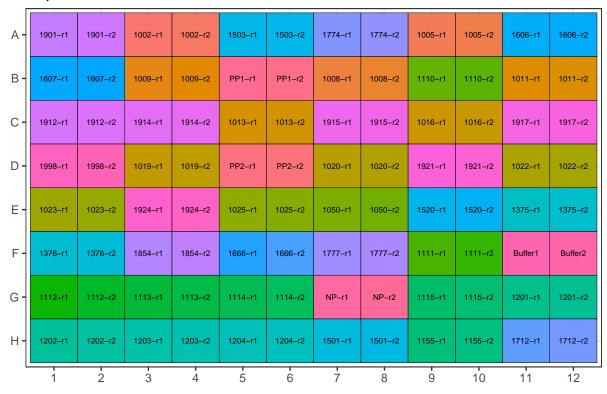
We will clean up the pData and then merge it with PDegg. This step is not necessary, but will be useful when we do statistical modelling.

Quality Control of the Raw Data

Layout of the experimental plate.

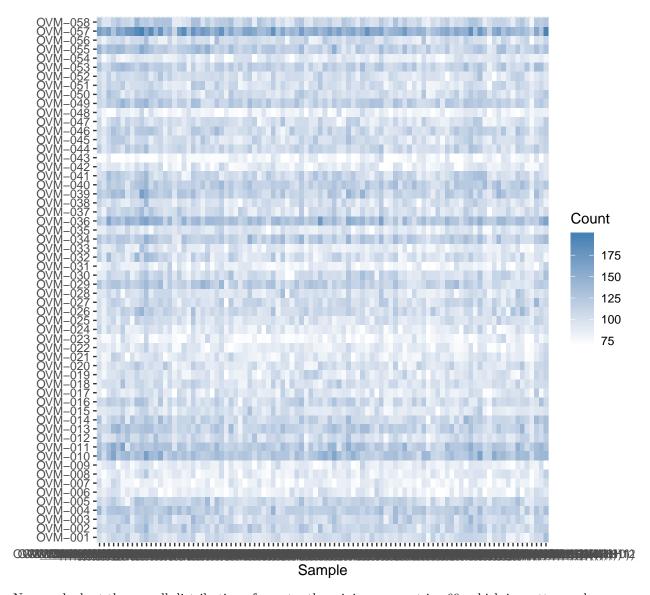
Tip: to make sure no position bias is present in the data, samples have to be randomzied among wells and plates, as outlined in this publication.

Experimental Date: 20190625

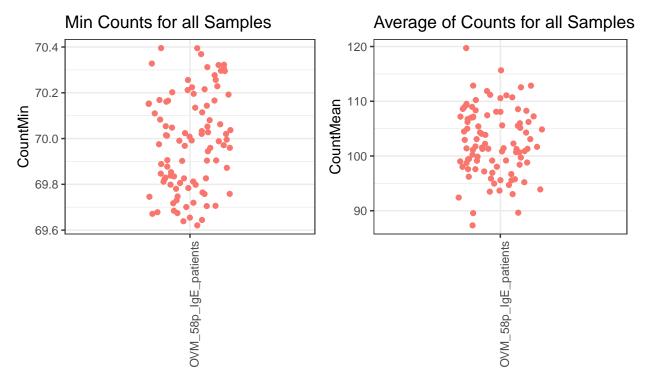


We want to make sure that there are no missing samples or analytes. This would be reflected by the very low counts (<25).

The heatmap shows that all samples and analytes are were included.



Now we look at the overall distribution of counts: the minimum count is \sim 69, which is pretty good.



Our counts looks good, so we don't need to exclude any samples. However, if this were not the case, samples with low counts can be removed using the bbea.subset() function, only keeping samples with average counts > 25.

```
bbea.sub <- bbea.subset(bbeaEgg, statement = (bbeaEgg$pData$CountMean > 25))
```

Data Normalization

We convert the **Median** to normalized \mathbf{nMFI} by taking the \log_2 of values and subtracting the average of the background wells. Note: the *Sample* column of the \mathbf{pData} should include a "Buffer" string in the wells dedicated for the background.

```
bbeaEgg$pData$Sample # samples 71 & 72 are the background wells
```

```
[1] "1901-r1" "1901-r2" "1002-r1" "1002-r2" "1503-r1" "1503-r2" "1774-r1"
    [8] "1774-r2" "1005-r1" "1005-r2" "1606-r1" "1606-r2" "1607-r1" "1607-r2"
##
   [15] "1009-r1" "1009-r2" "PP1-r1" "PP1-r2"
                                                "1008-r1" "1008-r2" "1110-r1"
   [22] "1110-r2" "1011-r1" "1011-r2" "1912-r1" "1912-r2" "1914-r1" "1914-r2"
   [29] "1013-r1" "1013-r2" "1915-r1" "1915-r2" "1016-r1" "1016-r2" "1917-r1"
   [36] "1917-r2" "1998-r1" "1998-r2" "1019-r1" "1019-r2" "PP2-r1"
   [43] "1020-r1" "1020-r2" "1921-r1" "1921-r2" "1022-r1" "1022-r2" "1023-r1"
   [50] "1023-r2" "1924-r1" "1924-r2" "1025-r1" "1025-r2" "1050-r1" "1050-r2"
   [57] "1520-r1" "1520-r2" "1375-r1" "1375-r2" "1376-r1" "1376-r2" "1854-r1"
       "1854-r2" "1666-r1" "1666-r2" "1777-r1" "1777-r2" "1111-r1" "1111-r2"
   [71] "Buffer1" "Buffer2" "1112-r1" "1112-r2" "1113-r1" "1113-r2" "1114-r1"
   [78] "1114-r2" "NP-r1"
                            "NP-r2"
                                      "1115-r1" "1115-r2" "1201-r1" "1201-r2"
   [85] "1202-r1" "1202-r2" "1203-r1" "1203-r2" "1204-r1" "1204-r2" "1501-r1"
  [92] "1501-r2" "1155-r1" "1155-r2" "1712-r1" "1712-r2"
```

```
bbeaN <- MFI2nMFI(bbeaEgg,</pre>
                   offset = 0.5, # a constant to add to avoid taking a log of O
                   rmNeg = TRUE) # if a value of a sample is below background, assign "O"
## [1] "OVM_58p_IgE_patients"
names(bbeaN)
## [1] "nMFI"
                                              "AssayInfo" "pData"
                    "NetMFI"
                                  "Count"
bbeaN$nMFI[1:5, 1:2]
           OVM_58p_IgE_patients_1(1,A1) OVM_58p_IgE_patients_2(1,A2)
##
## OVM-009
                                0.7924813
                                                                 0.000000
## OVM-031
                                1.5849625
                                                                 1.584963
## OVM-011
                                0.0000000
                                                                 0.000000
## OVM-014
                                1.5849625
                                                                 1.584963
## OVM-020
                                0.0000000
                                                                 0.000000
R object of class ExpressionSet eset is convenient for a high-thoughtput data analysis.
bbea object can be converted to eset:
eset <- nMFI2Eset(nMFI.object = bbeaN)</pre>
eset
```

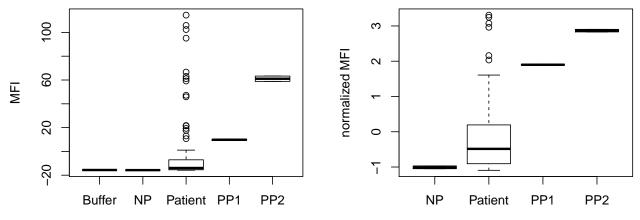
```
## ExpressionSet (storageMode: lockedEnvironment)
## assayData: 58 features, 94 samples
     element names: exprs
## protocolData: none
## phenoData
##
     sampleNames: OVM_58p_IgE_patients_1(1,A1)
##
       OVM_58p_IgE_patients_2(1,A2) ... OVM_58p_IgE_patients_96(1,H12) (94
##
       total)
##
     varLabels: PTID Location ... Group (23 total)
     varMetadata: labelDescription
##
## featureData: none
## experimentData: use 'experimentData(object)'
## Annotation:
```

QC of Normalized Data

Distributions

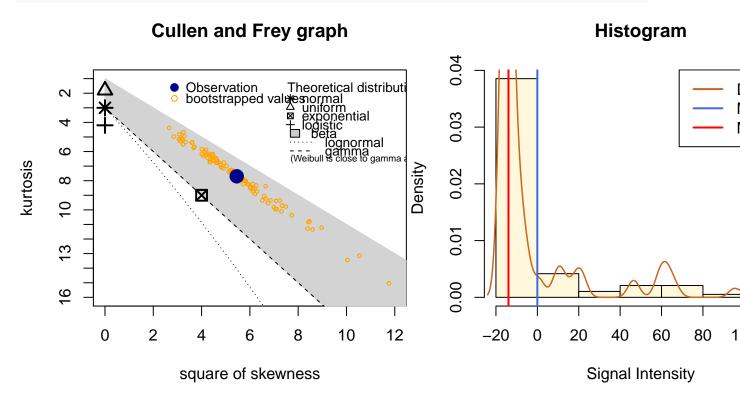
Overall distribution:

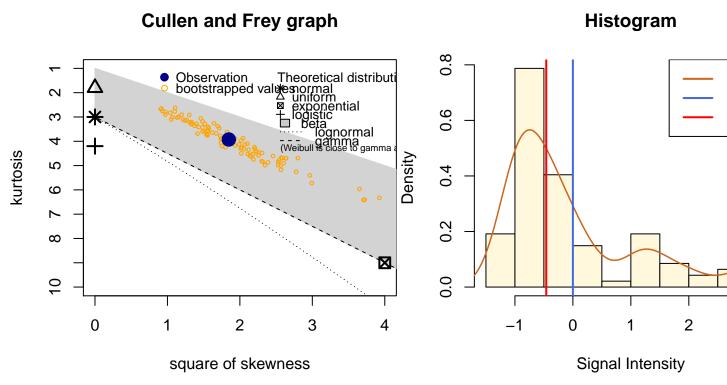
Since there are different levels of the antibody to each peptide, the data will be scaled before plotting. Y-axis of the boxplot represents a mean MFI or nMFI of 50 scaled peptides.



Cullen-Frey plots can be used to evaluate the distribution of the data. It shows how the skewness and kurtosis of our data compare to the theoretical distributions. CullenFreyPlot() function is a wrapper of the fitdistribus::descdist().

CullenFreyPlot(adjMFI, filename = "QC.CullenFrey.MFI")





We can see that while both MFI and nMFI data are skewed, nMFI data is closer to log-normal rather than exponential distributions.

Technical Replicates

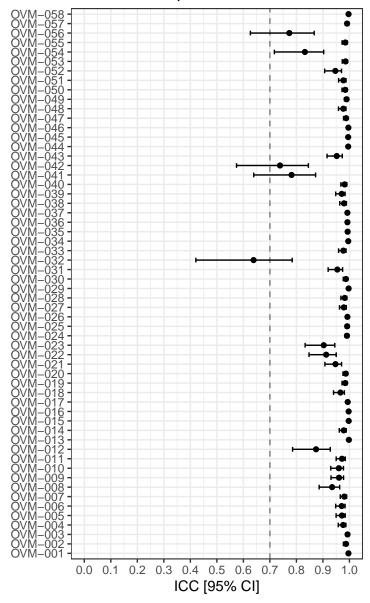
Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC) is used to evaluate agreement among technical replicates for each peptide, where 0 means no agreement, and 1 is a perfect agreement.

The function returns the ICC and a 95% confidence interval.

```
icc.db <- getICCbyPeptide(eset,</pre>
                          UR=c("PTID", "Plate")) # what is the unit of replication? in this case, it is
head(icc.db)
##
           Peptide
                         ICC
                                    LCI
                                              UCI
## OVM-009 OVM-009 0.9606181 0.9305577 0.9778404
## OVM-031 OVM-031 0.9542997 0.9197155 0.9742303
## OVM-011 OVM-011 0.9718032 0.9499818 0.9841880
## OVM-014 OVM-014 0.9784793 0.9617347 0.9879478
## OVM-020 OVM-020 0.9862967 0.9756282 0.9923270
## OVM-023 OVM-023 0.9030485 0.8328782 0.9447205
ggplot(icc.db, aes(x = Peptide, y = ICC)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0.7, color = "grey50", linetype = 2) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_errorbar(aes(ymax = UCI, ymin = LCI), width = 0.5) +
  scale_y\_continuous(limits = c(0, 1), breaks = seq(0, 1, 0.1)) +
```

```
labs(x = "", y = ("ICC [95% CI]"), title = "ICC across replicates") +
theme_bw() + coord_flip()
```

ICC across replicates



1 OVM-001 9.102478 16.04143 2.291632 1.170530

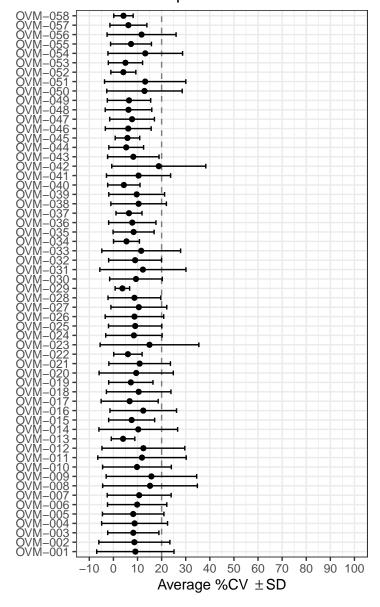
Coefficient of Variation (CV) is used to estimate varibaility of the replicates. Generally, for biological assays the desired CV is below 20%.

```
## 3 OVM-003 8.253370 10.61832 1.516903 4.876598
## 4 OVM-004 8.788103 13.67184 1.953120 0.000000
## 5 OVM-005 8.209540 12.74839 1.821199 0.000000
## 6 OVM-006 9.849911 12.29611 1.756588 3.142697

ggplot(cv.db, aes(x = Peptide,y = mean.cv)) +
    geom_hline(yintercept = 20, color = "grey50", linetype = 2) +
    geom_point() +
    geom_errorbar(aes(ymax = mean.cv + sd.cv, ymin = mean.cv - sd.cv),width = 0.5) +
    scale_y_continuous(limits = c(-10,100),breaks = seq(-10,100,10)) +
    labs(x = "", y = expression("Average %CV "%+-%"SD"), title = "CV across replicates") +
    theme_bw() + coord_flip()
```

CV across replicates

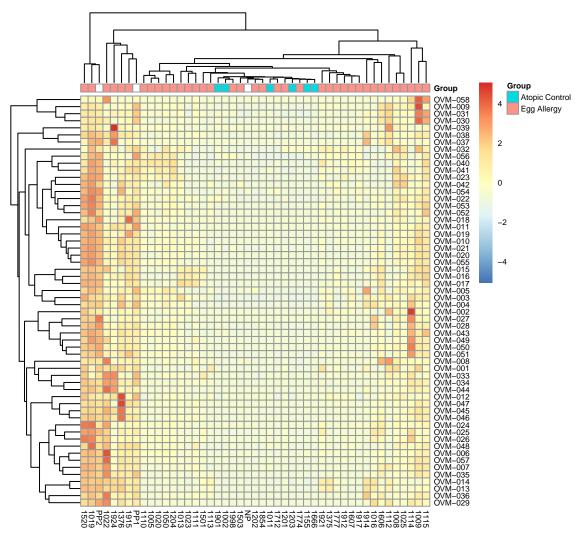
2 OVM-002 8.692819 14.74045 2.105779 0.000000



Averaging Technical Replicates

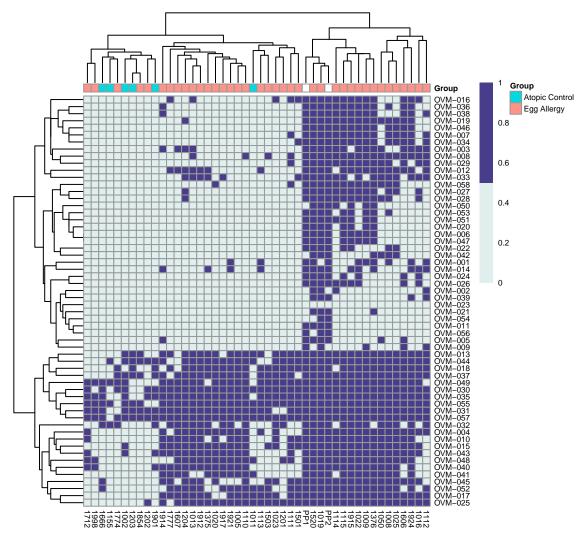
If there are no samples to exclude based on ICC, CV and QC of counts, technical replicates can be averaged for the downstream analyses.

```
eset.avg <- getAveragesByReps(eset, UR = 'PTID')</pre>
eset.avg
## ExpressionSet (storageMode: lockedEnvironment)
## assayData: 58 features, 47 samples
## element names: exprs
## protocolData: none
## phenoData
##
    rowNames: 1002 1005 ... PP2 (47 total)
    varLabels: PTID Location ... uf (24 total)
##
##
   varMetadata: labelDescription
## featureData: none
## experimentData: use 'experimentData(object)'
## Annotation:
exprs(eset.avg)[1:5,1:3]
                1002
                          1005
                                     1008
##
## OVM-009 0.3962406 0.7924813 2.1961587
## OVM-031 1.5849625 1.5849625 2.8073549
## OVM-011 0.0000000 0.0000000 0.7369656
## OVM-014 0.7924813 1.5849625 2.8073549
## DVM-020 0.0000000 0.0000000 1.4036775
pheatmap(exprs(eset.avg), scale = "row", fontsize = 6,
         annotation_col = subset(pData(eset.avg), select = Group))
```



The heatmap shows that few of the patients have higher IgE levels to several ovonucoid peptides.

Another useful statistic of IgE levels is a binary value of whether the IgE an epitope is "present". It can be defined as "present" if the MFI 2-3 standard deviations above the background (aka "Buffer" wells). Sometimes it might be more important to compare the MFI to negative control samples rather than the buffer. This can be easily achieved by specifying a desired string (e.g., "NegativeControl" or "NP") in the buffer.name argument of binarizeMFIbySD().



The blue color reprsents peptide-specific IgE antibodies detected in our samples.

Differential Analysis - Limma Modeling

We are interested in identifying peptide-specific IgE antibodies that are different between egg allergic patients and atopic controls. Atopic controls are patients that are not allergic to egg but have other types of allergies.

For this, we will use a limma framework where a linear model is fit to every peptide.

```
contr_d <- subset(contr_d, select=Allergic_vs_Controls)</pre>
fitm <- eBayes(contrasts.fit(fit,contr_m)) # marginal group means</pre>
ebfit <- eBayes(contrasts.fit(fit,contr_d), trend=TRUE) # lgFCH allergic vs controls</pre>
par(mfrow = c(1, 1))
plotSA(ebfit) # this plot shows that we have a variance trend, so we should keep trend=TRUE in the eBay
     4.
sqrt(sigma)
     3
     1.0
     0.8
     9.0
                                          1.5
                  0.5
                              1.0
                                                      2.0
                                                                  2.5
                                                                              3.0
                                   Average log-expression
D <- decideTests(ebfit, method = "separate", adjust.method = "none",
                 p.value = 0.05, lfc = log2(1))
t(summary(D)) # number of significant peptides
                         Down NotSig Up
## Allergic vs Controls
                                  51
# Table of top peptide-specific IgE antibodies
topTable(ebfit, number=10)
               logFC
                       AveExpr
                                             P. Value adj. P. Val
## OVM-003 2.5566883 2.2426355 2.866741 0.005948507 0.1757321 -2.416145
## OVM-014 2.9364076 3.1476426 2.503801 0.015419553 0.1757321 -3.052960
## OVM-004 1.1397038 0.9842896 2.328726 0.023742196 0.1757321 -3.337743
## OVM-005 0.9838123 0.8496561 2.230536 0.029993222 0.1757321 -3.490561
## OVM-001 2.4363516 2.1041219 2.155915 0.035675735 0.1757321 -3.603246
## OVM-015 2.2767442 2.0008656 2.119685 0.038760804 0.1757321 -3.656859
## OVM-017 1.8205973 1.6069205 2.059586 0.044393440 0.1757321 -3.744178
## OVM-016 2.1669335 1.9635633 1.989332 0.051866367 0.1757321 -3.843657
## OVM-051 1.5296773 1.9327391 1.968229 0.054312795 0.1757321 -3.872984
## OVM-040 0.7422013 0.7033638 1.940260 0.057707254 0.1757321 -3.911452
```

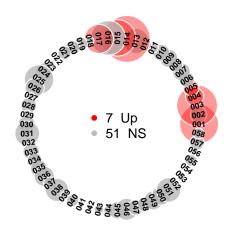
We have identified 7 peptide-specific IgE antibodies that are higher in the allergic group. In this exmaple, we have a small control group (n=6), so the p-values were not corrected for multiple comparison.

Significant peptide-specific IgE can be visualized using the "area circle" plot.

Area of the circle is proportional to the absolute value of the difference (Allergic vs Controls). Color of the circle indicates the direction (Higher/Up=red, Lower/Down=blue, Non-Significant (NS)=grey) and significance. User needs to make sure that the Annotation file has a column named "lableName", as it will be used to print names of the epitopes.

```
Run_doNetCirclePlot(ebfit, D, AnnotEgg, fname = "lmFit.EAvsAC.")
```

IgFCH @ Allergic_vs_Controls



Protein Topology Plot

We can now use our experimental data to overlay it on the amino acid sequence of the protein. Ovomucoid doesn't have a complete 3D crystal structure, so a "topology" plot can be helpful in identifying specific areas on a protein that are recognized by patients' IgE.

First, we need to create a protein layout. We will use *drawProteins* package to download information about the protein sequence from the UniProt database. The meta data inludes amino acid (aa) positions of SIGNAL and CHAIN sequences, as well as information about reactive sites, glycosylation, disulfate bridges.

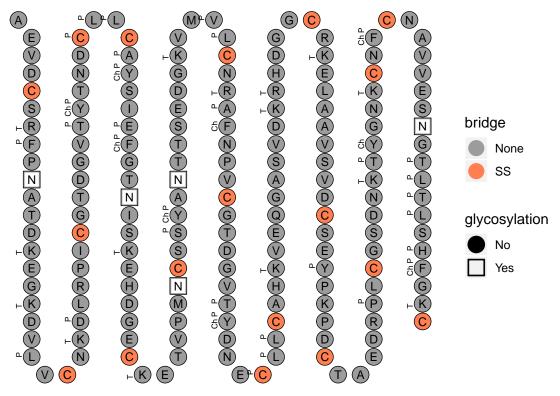
```
json <- drawProteins::get_features("P01005")</pre>
```

[1] "Download has worked"

getTopologyPlotDB() function will construct a dataframe that can be used for plotting. The getEnzymeCuts() function is based on the R package cleaver and can add sites of enzymatic cuts (by trypsin, pepsin, and chymotrypsin).

```
ovm_plotDB <- getTopologyPlotDB(ovm_p01005_aaseq, # a character string with amino acid sequence
                                ymax = 20, # number of amino acids in one column
                                offset = 3, # the first few amino acids to be below the rest of the plo
                                meta = TRUE, # do we have the metadata
                                metadb = ovm_p01005_meta) # metadata dataframe
ovm_plotDB <- getEnzymeCuts(ovm_p01005_aaseq, # a character string with amino acid sequence
                            topo = TRUE, # do we have a dataframe generated with getTopologyPlotDB()
                            topodb = ovm_plotDB, # name of the getTopologyPlotDB() dataframe
                            rmsignal = TRUE, # remove the signal peptide chain?
                            signalend = 24) # at what residue does the signal chain end
ovm_plotDB<-mutate(ovm_plotDB,</pre>
                   EnzymeRmSignal = ifelse(is.na(EnzymeRmSignal), "", EnzymeRmSignal))
makeTopologyPlotBase(subset(ovm_plotDB, type != "Signal")) +
  geom_point(size = 5.5, color='black', aes(shape = glycosylation)) +
  geom_point(size = 5, aes(color = disulf, shape = glycosylation)) +
  scale_shape_manual(values = c(19, 0, 11), labels = c("No", "Yes")) +
  scale_color_manual("bridge", values = c("grey61", "coral"), labels = c("None", "SS")) +
  geom text(aes(label = AA), size = 3) +
  labs(title = paste("Ovomucoid (P01005)")) +
  geom_text(data = subset(ovm_plotDB, EnzymeRmSignal != ""), aes(label = EnzymeRmSignal),
            size = 2, vjust = -1.7, angle = 90)
```

Ovomucoid (P01005)

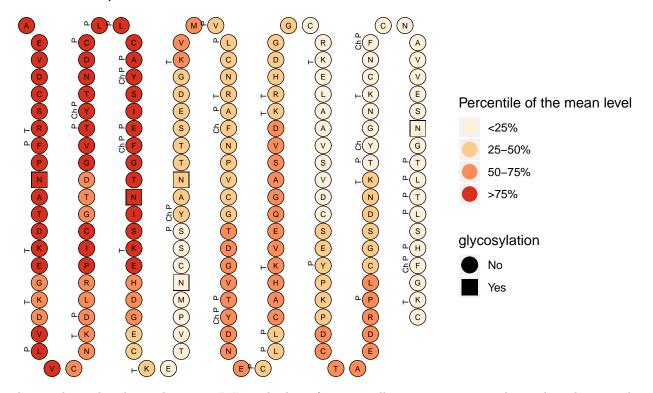


The plot shows that several Asparagine (N) residues are glycosilated; the Cysteine residues colored in orange form disulfade bridges; and there are many potential enzymatic cleavage sites (P=Pepsin; T=Trypsin, Ch=Chymotrypsin).

Now we will overlay this topology plot with our experimental data to see if any residues stand out.

```
# Getting sequences of the overlapping peptides (overlap by 12 aa, offset 3)
peptDB OVM <- do.call("rbind", sapply(seq(1, nchar(ovm p01005 aaseqCHAIN), 3),</pre>
                                   function(i){
                                     substr(ovm p01005 aaseqCHAIN, i, 14 + i)
                                     }, simplify = FALSE))
peptDB_OVM <- subset(mutate(as.data.frame(peptDB_OVM),</pre>
                           Peptide = paste0("OVM-", str_pad(1:nrow(peptDB_OVM), 3, pad = "0")),
                           Peptide.Number = 1 : nrow(peptDB OVM)),
                    nchar(as.character(V1)) == 15)
colnames(peptDB_OVM)[1] <- "Sequence"</pre>
# generate topology dataframe by using the means of the egg allergic patients
dbt <- getTopologynMFI(eset = eset.avg[,which(eset.avg$Group == "Egg Allergy")],</pre>
                      peptideDB = peptDB_OVM,
                      topoDB = ovm_plotDB,
                      endSignal = ovm_signalEnd)
# assigning percentiles to the average level for each peptide
dbt$avgp <- cut(dbt$avg,
               include.lowest = TRUE, labels = c("<25\%", "25-50\%", "50-75\%", ">75\"))
makeTopologyPlotBase(subset(dbt, type != "Signal")) +
```

Mean nMFI's percentile for each amino acid



The topology plot shows that most IgE antibodies of our egg allergic patients were directed to the several groups of amino acids in the N-terminal of the ovomucoid protein.