

25-VanLeijsen

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Reference

Van Leijsen et al. (2017). Plasma AB (Amyloid-B) Levels and Severity and Progression of Small Vessel Disease. Stroke, 16(5), 351–359. <https://doi.org/10.1161/STROKEAHA.117.019810>

We first load the appropriate packages

```
## Loading required package: survival
## Loading required package: carData
##
## Attaching package: 'car'
## The following object is masked from 'package:biostatUZH':
##
##      logit
```

Notes from reading methods section

- Dependant variable: AB38
- The independant variables
- 1 or more microbleeds (n = 81)
- no microbleed (n=405)
- 1 or more lacunes (n = 132)
- no lacunes (n = 355)
- Covariate: age, sex and hypertension

```
stats.orig.IV = data.frame(
  Fvalue = NA,
  df1 = NA,
  df2 = NA,
  pvalue = "<0.01") # for microbleed presence and for lacune presence groups

stats.orig.allCV = data.frame(
  Fvalue = NA,
  df1 = NA,
  df2 = NA,
  pvalue = NA)
```

Reading data

Data is loaded, reshaped if necessary, and factors are specified.

```

data = read_excel("../results/data/25-VanLeijsen/VanLeijsen-1.xlsx")
data = data.frame(data)
str(data)

## 'data.frame': 487 obs. of 9 variables:
## $ mb_presence_b : num 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 0 ...
## $ lac_presence_b: num 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 ...
## $ AB38 : num 23.7 29.7 26.7 33.5 16.6 38.4 27.1 31.8 24.4 30.1 ...
## $ AB40 : num 224 225 195 243 131 ...
## $ AB42 : num 55.8 63.6 63.9 62.3 57.4 72.1 64.8 62.7 60.2 64 ...
## $ age : num 73.8 69 74.3 64 71.7 ...
## $ sex : num 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ hypertension : num 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 ...
## $ tbv_b : num 955 1111 1069 1053 1025 ...

data$mb_presence_b = data$mb_presence_b == 1
data$lac_presence_b = data$lac_presence_b == 1
data$sex.factor = NA
data$sex.factor[data$sex == 1] = "male"
data$sex.factor[data$sex == 2] = "female"
data$sex.factor[data$sex.factor == "male"] = 1
data$sex.factor[data$sex.factor == "female"] = 0
data$sex.factor = as.factor(data$sex.factor)
data$hypertension.factor = NA
data$hypertension = data$hypertension == 1

data$Group.factor = NA # only used for table
data[data$mb_presence_b == TRUE,]$Group.factor = "microbleed"
data[data$mb_presence_b == FALSE,]$Group.factor = "no microbleed"
data[data$lac_presence_b == TRUE,]$Group.factor = "lacunes"
data[data$lac_presence_b == FALSE,]$Group.factor = "no lacunes"
unique(data$Group.factor)

## [1] "lacunes" "no lacunes"

data$Group.factor = factor(data$Group.factor,
                           levels = c("no microbleed", "microbleed",
                                       "no lacunes", "lacunes"))

```

Descriptives

Number of samples and mean (SD) in levels of the independant variables. We reproduce the mean and sd values of Table 2 of this study

```

a = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$AB38[data$mb_presence_b == 0]), sd(data$AB38[data$mb_presence_b == 0]))
b = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$AB38[data$mb_presence_b == 1]), sd(data$AB38[data$mb_presence_b == 1]))

c = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$AB38[data$lac_presence_b == 0]), sd(data$AB38[data$lac_presence_b == 0]))
d = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$AB38[data$lac_presence_b == 1]), sd(data$AB38[data$lac_presence_b == 1]))

idx = c(1, 3, 2, 4) # sorting as in publication
tab.dv = array(NA, dim=c(4,3))
tab.dv[,1] = levels(data$Group.factor)
tab.dv[,2] = c("405", "81", "355", "132")

```

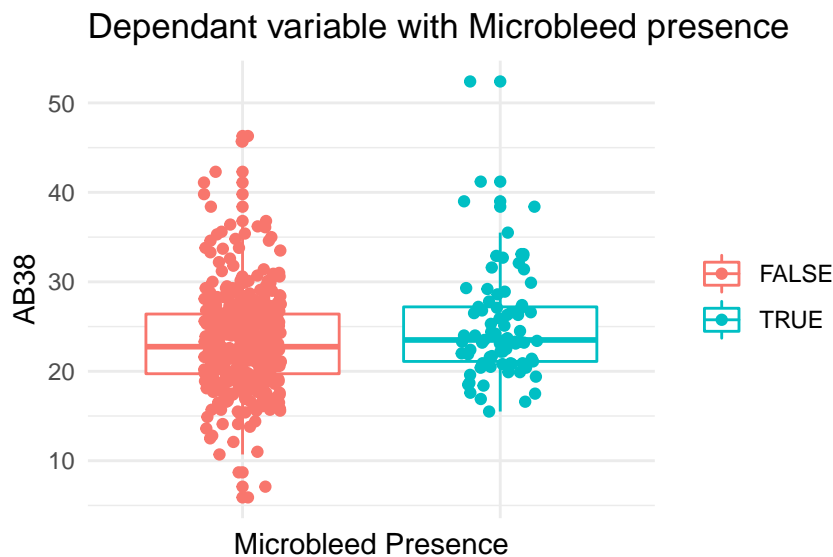
```
tab.dv[,3] = c(a, b, c, d)
colnames(tab.dv) = c("group", "n", "mean (SD)")
print(tab.dv)
```

```
##      group      n    mean (SD)
## [1,] "no microbleed" "405" "23.2 (5.5)"
## [2,] "microbleed"    "81"  "25.2 (6.1)"
## [3,] "no lacunes"    "355" "23.1 (5.5)"
## [4,] "lacunes"       "132" "24.7 (5.9)"
```

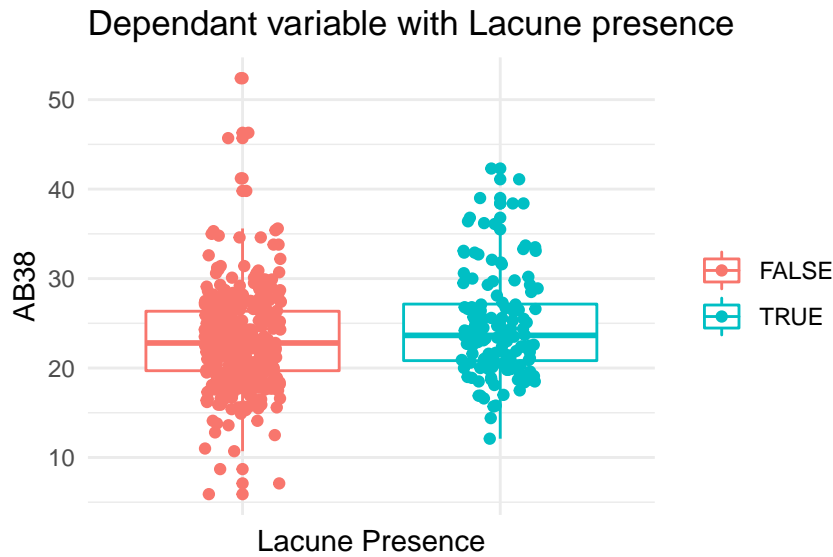
boxplot with DV

- Upon visual inspection, each level of each independent group seem to have a similar outcome effect.

```
#IV : mb_presence_b
ggplot(data, aes(y=AB38, x = mb_presence_b, color =mb_presence_b )) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(width = 0.15, height = 0)) +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_blank(), legend.title = element_blank()) +
  xlab("Microbleed Presence") + ylab("AB38") +
  ggtitle("Dependant variable with Microbleed presence")
```



```
#IV : lac_presence_b
ggplot(data, aes(y=AB38, x = lac_presence_b, color =lac_presence_b )) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(width = 0.15, height = 0)) +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_blank(), legend.title = element_blank()) +
  xlab("Lacune Presence") + ylab("AB38") +
  ggtitle("Dependant variable with Lacune presence")
```



Descriptives

COV with boxplot

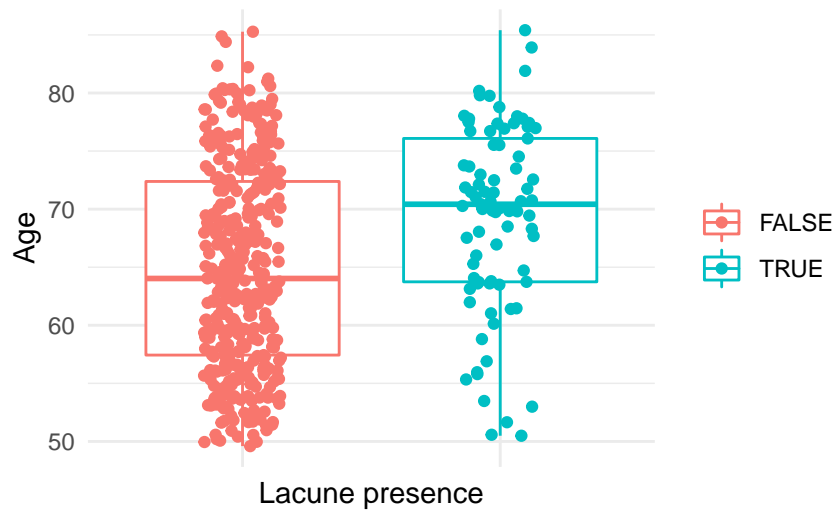
```
e = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$age[data$mb_presence_b == 0]),
            sd(data$age[data$mb_presence_b == 0]))
f = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$age[data$mb_presence_b == 1]),
            sd(data$age[data$mb_presence_b == 1]))
g = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$age[data$lac_presence_b == 0]), sd(data$age[data$lac_presence_b == 0]))
h = sprintf("%.1f (%.1f)", mean(data$age[data$lac_presence_b == 1]), sd(data$age[data$lac_presence_b == 1]))

idx = c(1, 3, 2, 4) # sorting as in publication
tab.cv = array(NA, dim=c(4,3))
tab.cv[,1] = levels(data$Group.factor)
tab.cv[,2] = c("405", "81", "355", "132")
tab.cv[,3] = c(e,f,g,h)
colnames(tab.cv) = c("group", "n", "mean (SD)")
print(tab.cv)
```

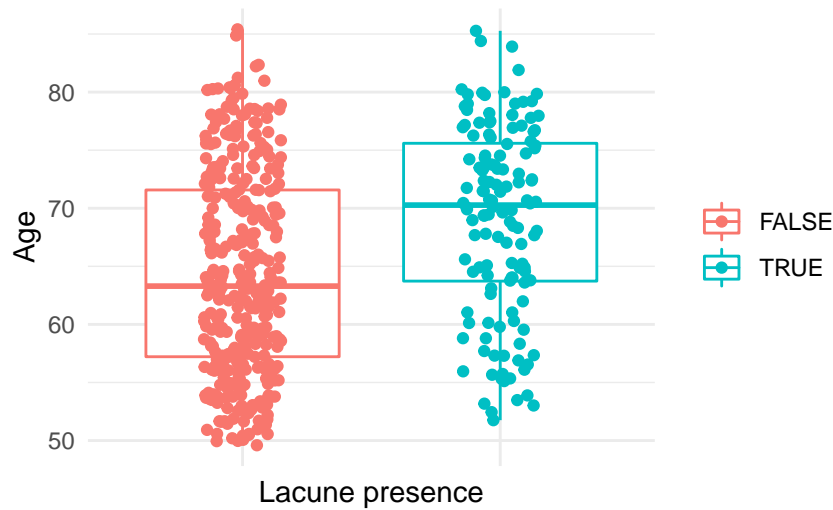
```
##      group      n    mean (SD)
## [1,] "no microbleed" "405" "64.9 (8.7)"
## [2,] "microbleed"    "81"  "69.4 (8.1)"
## [3,] "no lacunes"    "355" "64.4 (8.6)"
## [4,] "lacunes"       "132" "69.0 (8.2)"
```

- Age upon visual inspection is similar between groups

```
ggplot(data,
       aes(y=age, x=mb_presence_b, color=mb_presence_b)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(width = 0.15, height = 0)) +
  theme(legend.title = element_blank()) + theme_minimal() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_blank(), legend.title = element_blank()) +
  labs(x = "Lacune presence", y = "Age", title = "" )
```



```
ggplot(data,
  aes(y=age, x=lac_presence_b, color=lac_presence_b)) +
  geom_boxplot() +
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(width = 0.15, height = 0)) +
  theme(legend.title = element_blank()) + theme_minimal() +
  theme(axis.text.x = element_blank(), legend.title = element_blank()) +
  labs(x = "Lacune presence", y = "Age", title = "" )
```



Main analysis ANCOVA

```
stats.orig.IVmicrobleed = data.frame(
  Fvalue = NA,
  df1 = NA,
  df2 = NA,
  pvalue = "<0.01")

stats.orig.IVlacunes = data.frame(
  Fvalue = NA,
  df1 = NA,
```

```
df2 = NA,
pvalue = "<0.01")
```

We verify the p values stated in Table 2 with respect to variables. There is evidence of significance that Age as a covariate contribute to variance in outcome ($p = 3.825e-13$)

```
# Orthogonal contrasts
contrasts(data$mb_presence_b) = contr.helmert(2)
contrasts(data$lac_presence_b) = contr.helmert(2)

#contrasts(data$IV)<-cbind(c(-2,1,1), c(0,-1,1))
fit <- aov(AB38 ~ age + sex.factor + hypertension + mb_presence_b*lac_presence_b , data = data)
summary(fit) # we use interaction term because we have lacunes yes microbleeds no

##              Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
## age           1     887    887.0   30.123 6.58e-08 ***
## sex.factor    1       0       0.5    0.016  0.8982
## hypertension  1    147    146.9    4.990  0.0260 *
## mb_presence_b  1    100     99.8    3.388  0.0663 .
## lac_presence_b  1     32     31.9    1.084  0.2983
## mb_presence_b:lac_presence_b  1     24     23.8    0.809  0.3688
## Residuals    480  14134     29.4
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

result = Anova(fit, type = 3) # this is not a balanced study, since ordering of variables matter, we use type III
print(result)

## Anova Table (Type III tests)
##
## Response: AB38
##              Sum Sq  Df F value    Pr(>F)
## (Intercept)   1675.1   1 56.8892 2.327e-13 ***
## age           463.6   1 15.7452 8.354e-05 ***
## sex.factor     0.0   1  0.0005  0.98161
## hypertension  124.8   1  4.2371  0.04009 *
## mb_presence_b   64.9   1  2.2049  0.13823
## lac_presence_b   4.5   1  0.1521  0.69673
## mb_presence_b:lac_presence_b   23.8   1  0.8091  0.36883
## Residuals    14133.9 480
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

stats.rep.IVmicrobleeds = data.frame(Fvalue = sprintf("%.2f",result$`F value`[5]),
                                     df1 = result$Df[5],
                                     df2 = result$Df[8],
                                     pvalue = formatPval(result$`Pr(>F)`[5]))

stats.rep.IVlacunes = data.frame(Fvalue = sprintf("%.2f",result$`F value`[6]),
                                 df1 = result$Df[6],
                                 df2 = result$Df[8],
                                 pvalue = formatPval(result$`Pr(>F)`[6]))

stats.rep.CVage = data.frame(Fvalue = sprintf("%.2f",result$`F value`[2]),
                             df1 = result$Df[2],
                             df2 = result$Df[8],
```

```

        pvalue = formatPval(result$`Pr(>F)`[2]))

stats.rep.CVsex = data.frame(Fvalue = sprintf("%.2f",result$`F value`[3]),
                             df1 = result$Df[3],
                             df2 = result$Df[8],
                             pvalue = formatPval(result$`Pr(>F)`[3]))

stats.rep.CVhypertension = data.frame(Fvalue = sprintf("%.2f",result$`F value`[4]),
                                       df1 = result$Df[4],
                                       df2 = result$Df[8],
                                       pvalue = formatPval(result$`Pr(>F)`[4]))

```

Comparing ANCOVA in original study with reanalysis

Independant variable

```

tab.IV = rbind(stats.orig.IVmicrobleed, stats.orig.IVlacunes, stats.rep.IVmicrobleeds, stats.rep.IVlacunes)
rownames(tab.IV) = c("original study microbleed", "original Study lacunes", "reanalysis for IV microbleeds", "reanalysis for IV lacunes")
print(t(tab.IV))

```

```

##          original study microbleed original Study lacunes
## Fvalue NA                      NA
## df1     NA                      NA
## df2     NA                      NA
## pvalue  "<0.01"                  "<0.01"
##          reanalysis for IV microbleeds presence
## Fvalue  "2.20"
## df1     " 1"
## df2     "480"
## pvalue  "0.14"
##          reanalysis for IV lacunes presence
## Fvalue  "0.15"
## df1     " 1"
## df2     "480"
## pvalue  "0.70"

```

Covariate

- The study does not report results from covariate of age

```

tab.CV = rbind(stats.orig.allCV, stats.rep.CVage, stats.rep.CVsex, stats.rep.CVhypertension)
rownames(tab.CV) = c("original CV age,sex,hypertension", "reanalysis age", "reanalysis sex", "reanalysis hypertension")
print(t(tab.CV))

```

```

##          original CV age,sex,hypertension reanalysis age reanalysis sex
## Fvalue NA                      "15.75"      "0.00"
## df1     NA                      " 1"          " 1"
## df2     NA                      "480"         "480"
## pvalue  NA                      "< 0.0001"    "0.98"
##          reanalysis hypertension
## Fvalue  "4.24"

```

```
## df1      " 1"
## df2      "480"
## pvalue   "0.04"
```

Assumptions

1. Homogeneity of variance

- ANOVA/ANCOVA is fairly robust in terms of the error rate when sample sizes are equal.
- When groups with larger sample sizes have larger variances than the groups with smaller sample sizes, the resulting F-ratio tends to be conservative. That is, it's more likely to produce a non-significant result when a genuine difference does exist in the population.
- Conversely, when the groups with larger sample sizes have smaller variances than the groups with smaller sample sizes, the resulting F-ratio tends to be liberal and can inflate the false positive rate.
- In this study, statistical descriptives show that the highest and lowest variances seem close. Also, there is homogeneity of variance as p values exceed 0.05 for the Levene's test

```
tapply(data$AB38, data$mb_presence_b, sd)
```

```
##      FALSE      TRUE
## 5.471873 6.069102
```

```
tapply(data$AB38, data$lac_presence_b, sd)
```

```
##      FALSE      TRUE
## 5.459909 5.870429
```

```
leveneTest(AB38 ~ lac_presence_b, data = data)
```

```
## Levene's Test for Homogeneity of Variance (center = median)
##      Df F value Pr(>F)
## group  1  1.3772 0.2412
##      485
```

```
leveneTest(AB38 ~ mb_presence_b, data = data)
```

```
## Levene's Test for Homogeneity of Variance (center = median)
##      Df F value Pr(>F)
## group  1  0.0912 0.7628
##      485
```

2. Independence between covariate and IV

- The Independent variable of this study have evidence of significant effect to the covariate Age and Hypertension (for Lacune presence only). The assumption thus does not hold for Age and for Hypertension for the lacunes group which may influence the interpretation of the results from the ANCOVA analysis. The variable sex is independent to the independent variable and is an appropriate covariate to include.
- As a way of comparison, we perform a two way anova to assess the main effect of two independent variables without covariates and find that there is evidence of significant influence of Independent variables to Dependent variable.

```
fit.cvage = aov(age ~ lac_presence_b + mb_presence_b, data = data)
summary(fit.cvage)
```



```
##           Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
## lac_presence_b    1   2039   2039.3   28.649 1.34e-07 ***
## mb_presence_b     1    638    637.9    8.962  0.0029 **
## Residuals       484   34453     71.2
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

fit.cvsex = glm(sex.factor ~ lac_presence_b + mb_presence_b, family = binomial, data = data)
summary(fit.cvsex)

##
## Call:
## glm(formula = sex.factor ~ lac_presence_b + mb_presence_b, family = binomial,
##      data = data)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -1.438  -1.261   0.995   1.096   1.096
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)    0.39432    0.12815   3.077  0.00209 **
## lac_presence_b1 0.12588    0.10835   1.162  0.24532
## mb_presence_b1  0.07466    0.12967   0.576  0.56476
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
##      Null deviance: 665.32  on 486  degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 663.09  on 484  degrees of freedom
## AIC: 669.09
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4

fit.cvhypertension = glm(hypertension ~ lac_presence_b + mb_presence_b, family = binomial, data = data)
summary(fit.cvhypertension)

##
## Call:
## glm(formula = hypertension ~ lac_presence_b + mb_presence_b,
##      family = binomial, data = data)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -2.0765  -1.5009   0.5632   0.8853   0.8853
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)    1.3837    0.1705   8.118 4.75e-16 ***
## lac_presence_b1 0.5133    0.1426   3.599  0.00032 ***
## mb_presence_b1  0.1359    0.1600   0.849  0.39573
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
```

```
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
## Null deviance: 567.12 on 486 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 548.58 on 484 degrees of freedom
## AIC: 554.58
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
fit.main <- aov(AB38 ~ mb_presence_b + lac_presence_b, data = data) #checking DV and IV alone
summary(fit.main)

##              Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
## mb_presence_b   1     251   250.81    8.133 0.00453 **
## lac_presence_b   1     147   147.43    4.781 0.02926 *
## Residuals      484   14926    30.84
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

3. Homogeneity of regression slopes

- There is no evidence of significant interaction between covariate and independent variable. Thus we can assume homogeneity of regression slope.

```
#alternatively Anova(aov(AB38 ~age*mb_presence_b + age + mb_presence_b, data = data), type = 3)
fit.hrs_mic = aov(AB38 ~ age*mb_presence_b, data = data)
Anova(fit.hrs_mic, type=3) # no evidence of interaction, there is homogeneity of IV levels across age
```

```
## Anova Table (Type III tests)
##
## Response: AB38
##              Sum Sq  Df F value    Pr(>F)
## (Intercept)    581.2   1 19.6293 1.164e-05 ***
## age            528.9   1 17.8617 2.841e-05 ***
## mb_presence_b   16.5   1  0.5560  0.4562
## age:mb_presence_b  28.4   1  0.9603  0.3276
## Residuals    14301.0 483
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

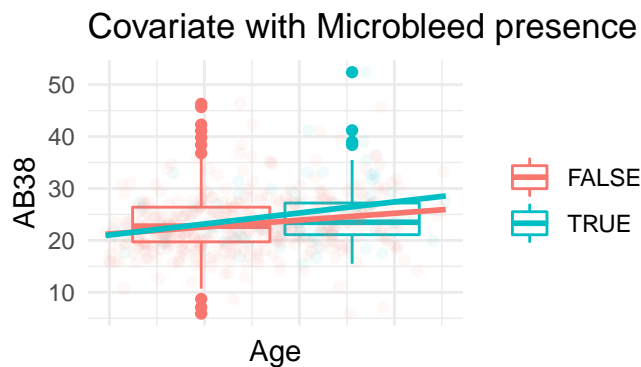
```
fit.hrs_lac = aov(AB38 ~ age*lac_presence_b, data = data)
Anova(fit.hrs_lac, type=3)
```

```
## Anova Table (Type III tests)
##
## Response: AB38
##              Sum Sq  Df F value    Pr(>F)
## (Intercept)   1056.2   1 35.5735 4.750e-09 ***
## age           616.0   1 20.7488 6.639e-06 ***
## lac_presence_b   4.1   1  0.1398  0.7087
## age:lac_presence_b 10.4   1  0.3490  0.5550
## Residuals    14340.2 483
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

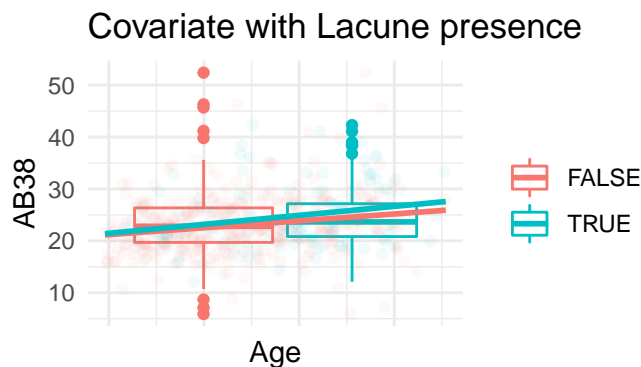
Independence of Covariate with Independent Variables (Visual inspection of Homogeneity of Regression slopes)

- Visually, the two levels of each independent variable follows the same pattern - there seems to be independence of Covariate versus independent variable.

```
ggplot(data, aes(y=AB38, x= age, color= mb_presence_b)) +  
  geom_boxplot() +  
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(width = 0.15, height = 0), alpha = 0.05) +  
  geom_smooth(formula = y ~ x, method=lm, se=FALSE, fullrange=TRUE) +  
  theme_minimal() +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_blank(), legend.title = element_blank()) +  
  xlab("Age") + ylab("AB38") + ggtitle("Covariate with Microbleed presence")
```



```
ggplot(data, aes(y=AB38, x= age, color= lac_presence_b)) +  
  geom_boxplot() +  
  geom_point(position = position_jitter(width = 0.15, height = 0), alpha = 0.05) +  
  geom_smooth(formula = y ~ x, method=lm, se=FALSE, fullrange=TRUE) +  
  theme_minimal() +  
  theme(axis.text.x = element_blank(), legend.title = element_blank()) +  
  xlab("Age") + ylab("AB38") + ggtitle("Covariate with Lacune presence")
```



Statistics, Published by Sage Pub, UK.

Reference : Field, Miles & Miles (2012), Discovering