Analysis of DNA methylation's mediation of differential expression

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Load required packages

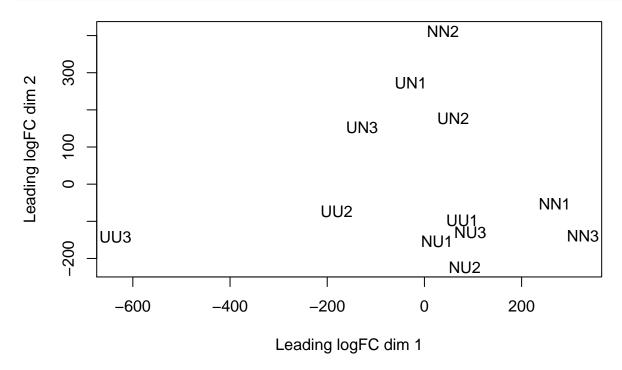
```
# Load required packages
library(edgeR)
library(tidyverse)
library(ape)
library(vegan)
library(data.table)
library(plyr)
library(mediation)
library(brms)
```

Read in data, add metadata

```
# Read in csv of read counts per gene
gene_counts <- read.csv("Input_data/gene_read_counts.csv")</pre>
exon_perc_meth <- read.csv("Input_data/meth_exon_perc_meth.csv")</pre>
int_perc_meth <- read.csv("Input_data/meth_intron_perc_meth.csv")</pre>
pr_perc_meth <- read.csv("Input_data/meth_promoter_perc_meth.csv")</pre>
# Remove duplicated transcripts
n_occur_gc <- data.frame(table(gene_counts$Geneid))</pre>
n_occur_gc <- n_occur_gc[n_occur_gc$Freq > 1, ]
n_occur_gc <- n_occur_gc$Var1</pre>
gene_counts <- gene_counts[!gene_counts$Geneid %in% n_occur_gc,]</pre>
#Make gene id matrix rowname
row.names(gene_counts) <- gene_counts$Geneid</pre>
gene_counts <- subset(gene_counts,</pre>
                        select = -c(Geneid,
                                     Chr,
                                     Start,
                                     End,
                                     Strand,
                                     Length))
```

```
# Replace sample IDs with simple names
colnames( gene counts ) <- c( "NN1", "NN2", "NN3", "NU1", "NU2", "NU3",</pre>
                       "UN1", "UN2", "UN3", "UU1", "UU2", "UU3")
# Create treatment group df
Mat = c( "N","N","N","N","N","N",
         """, """, """, """, """, """ )
Dev = c("N","N","N","U","U","U","U",
          "N","N","N","U","U","U")
targets_gc <- data.frame( Mat = c( "N","N","N","N","N","N","N",</pre>
                                      "U","U","U","U","U","U","U"),
                            Dev = c( "N", "N", "N", "U", "U", "U",
                                      "N","N","N","U","U","U"))
ex_meth <- t(exon_perc_meth[-c(1,2)])</pre>
targets_gc$grouping <- paste( targets_gc$Mat,</pre>
                                targets gc$Dev,
                                sep="_" )
# Round counts (if necessary() for use in edgeR
data_input_gc <- round( gene_counts )</pre>
```

Normalize RNAseq read counts and plot PCOA



Print MDS plot MDS

```
## An object of class MDS
## $dim.plot
## [1] 1 2
##
## $distance.matrix
##
            NN1
                      NN2
                               NN3
                                         NU1
                                                  NU2
                                                           NU3
                                                                     UN1
                                                                              UN2
## NN1
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0.0000
                                               0.0000
                                                        0.0000
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
## NN2 584.8778
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0.0000
                                               0.0000
                                                        0.0000
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
## NN3 164.2569 690.8519
                            0.0000
                                     0.0000
                                               0.0000
                                                        0.0000
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
                                     0.0000
## NU1 343.8254 586.6116 399.9130
                                               0.0000
                                                        0.0000
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
## NU2 339.1218 653.9205 383.7000 129.9180
                                               0.0000
                                                        0.0000
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
## NU3 381.6145 563.4832 437.3479 207.2959 181.5580
                                                        0.0000
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
## UN1 476.2352 250.7085 587.2041 444.6359 521.9478 469.7774
                                                                  0.0000
                                                                           0.0000
## UN2 343.9600 324.4443 452.7283 367.8115 430.3751 388.9985 173.9963
                                                                           0.0000
## UN3 467.5155 442.8330 576.2921 414.7813 486.8882 495.5666 252.0502 234.3086
## UU1 348.1560 535.2235 412.0827 182.3233 184.9990 142.1535 422.4316 333.7291
```

```
## UU2 507.0227 554.5517 583.8177 264.0301 327.8696 325.5127 406.5706 374.9803
## UU3 913.7975 896.9307 967.5739 687.2252 750.0288 782.2148 750.4284 775.8103
##
            UN3
                      UU1
                               UU2 UU3
                            0.0000
         0.0000
                  0.0000
## NN1
## NN2
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
## NN3
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
## NU1
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
         0.0000
                  0.0000
## NU2
                            0.0000
                                     0
## NU3
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
                  0.0000
## UN1
         0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
## UN2
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
## UN3
         0.0000
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
## UU1 429.8790
                  0.0000
                            0.0000
                                     0
## UU2 328.5532 275.8539
                            0.0000
                                     0
## UU3 616.8622 757.3709 506.5889
                                     0
##
## $cmdscale.out
##
             [,1]
                         [,2]
        268.07014 -52.44675
## NN1
## NN2
         38.14360 412.20797
## NN3
        326.24056 -139.76526
## NU1
         25.89297 -154.62485
## NU2
         82.98686 -224.32252
## NU3
         94.45667 -129.66317
## UN1
        -28.16867
                   272.23348
## UN2
         59.28169
                   176.65190
## UN3 -128.38485
                   152.25925
         77.94444
## UU1
                   -98.14957
## UU2 -180.64416 -72.74681
## UU3 -635.81925 -141.63368
##
## $top
## [1] 500
##
## $gene.selection
   [1] "pairwise"
##
##
## $x
##
          NN1
                      NN2
                                 NN3
                                             NU1
                                                        NU2
                                                                    NU3
                                                                                UN1
##
    268.07014
                           326.24056
                                        25.89297
                                                               94.45667 -28.16867
                38.14360
                                                   82.98686
##
                      UN3
                                 UU1
                                             UU2
                                                        UU3
          UN2
##
     59.28169 -128.38485
                            77.94444 -180.64416 -635.81925
##
## $y
                                 NN3
                                             NU1
                                                        NU2
                                                                                UN1
##
          NN1
                      NN2
                                                                    NU3
##
    -52.44675
               412.20797 -139.76526 -154.62485 -224.32252 -129.66317
                                                                         272.23348
##
          UN2
                      UN3
                                 UU1
                                             UU2
##
    176.65190
               152.25925
                          -98.14957
                                      -72.74681 -141.63368
##
## $axislabel
## [1] "Leading logFC dim"
# Run pcoa on gene read counts
pcoa_gc <- pcoa( vegdist( t( DGEList_log <- cpm ( DGEList,</pre>
```

```
log = TRUE,
                                                 prior.count = 2 ) ),
                         method = "euclidean" ) / 1000 )
# Print sample scores across vectors
head( pcoa_gc$vectors )
##
            Axis.1
                         Axis.2
                                       Axis.3
                                                     Axis.4
                                                                   Axis.5
## NN1 -0.026568073 -0.008656190 0.0070963478 0.0074712453 0.0047101833
## NN2 -0.024468794 -0.003034360 0.0141527713 0.0068743690 0.0081443602
## NN3 -0.032824963 -0.009636454 0.0060014416 0.0171324908 -0.0010127111
## NU1 0.009074835 -0.027294437 0.0009254015 -0.0154988856 -0.0088824152
## NU2 0.012371072 -0.029667844 0.0042784348 -0.0154089285 -0.0002445781
## NU3 0.015286171 -0.028287756 -0.0001437379 0.0005923961 0.0040426530
##
             Axis.6
                           Axis.7
                                        Axis.8
                                                     Axis.9
                                                                 Axis.10
## NN1 -0.0007604117 -0.0009807580 0.002225455 0.008623741 -0.006098279
## NN2 -0.0011895572 0.0076329778 -0.002907772 0.011244749 0.025510481
## NN3 0.0053392889 -0.0116135967 0.002412909 -0.003173279 -0.018145058
## NU1 -0.0114768357 0.0123880511 -0.017211751 0.012510254 -0.011534077
## NU2 -0.0012441025 0.0007414662 0.029566590 -0.004650000 0.002464760
## NU3 0.0122129146 -0.0072038874 -0.017021373 -0.021985404 0.008377531
##
           Axis.11
## NN1 0.029261362
## NN2 -0.009893666
## NN3 -0.017051700
## NU1 -0.005029752
## NU2 -0.001978285
## NU3 0.005028531
```

Wrangle data

Melt matrices of read counts and methylation counts into one tabular, merged data frame. This is required for fitting lm() or glm.nb() models.

```
exon_perc_meth$geneid <- gsub("-tr.*", "", exon_perc_meth$V41)
int_perc_meth$geneid <- gsub("transcript:", "",</pre>
                           gsub("-tr.*", "", int_perc_meth$V41))
all_gw_p_meth <- rbind(exon_perc_meth,
                        int_perc_meth)
all_gw_p_meth <- aggregate(all_gw_p_meth[c(2:14)], list(all_gw_p_meth$geneid), FUN = mean)
all_gw_meth <- melt(all_gw_p_meth[-c(2)],</pre>
                    id = c("Group.1"))
all_gw_meth$Group.1 <- gsub("transcript:", "", all_gw_meth$Group.1)
names(all_gw_meth) [names(all_gw_meth) == 'value'] <- 'all_gw_meth'</pre>
all_gw_meth$sample_gene <- paste(all_gw_meth$variable,</pre>
                                    all_gw_meth$Group.1,
                                    sep = "_")
tab_exp_df$sample_gene <- paste(tab_exp_df$variable,</pre>
                                    tab_exp_df$geneid,
                                    sep = "_")
# Merge logCPM and exon methylation datasets
tab_exp_df3 <- merge(tab_exp_df,</pre>
                      all_gw_meth[-c(2)],
                     by = "sample_gene")
```

Fit structural equation models to transcripts

```
# Fit SEM models
lm1s <- dlply(tab_exp_df3, c("geneid"), function(df)
lm(all_gw_meth ~ Mat_treat + Dev_treat, data = df))

lm2s <- dlply(tab_exp_df3, c("geneid"), function(df)
lm(value ~ Mat_treat + Dev_treat + all_gw_meth, data = df))

## If dev treat contains NA coefficient, remove from lm1 and lm2
# First, convert lm's to coefficient df's
lm1_coefs <- list()

for (i in 1:length(lm1s)) {
    lm1_coefs[[i]] <- as.data.frame(lm1s[[i]] $effects)[2,1]
}
names(lm1_coefs) <- names(lm1s)

lm2_coefs <- list()

for (i in 1:length(lm2s)) {</pre>
```

Mediation analysis

```
# Mediation of maternal DE effect by DM
mat_mediations <- list() # Create list to add vcov results to

for (i in 1:length(lm1s)) {
   tryCatch({mat_mediations[[i]] <- summary(mediate(lm1s[[i]], lm2s[[i]], sims = 1000, treat = "Mat_treat }, error=function(e){})
}
names(mat_mediations) <- names(lm1s)

save(mat_mediations, file = "mat_mediations.RData")</pre>
```

Report significant mediated effects

```
# Extract p-values for indirect effects: E -> M -> GE
ind_p_m <- list()

for (i in 1:length(mat_mediations)) {
   ind_p_m[[i]] <- mat_mediations[[i]]$d0.p
}
names(ind_p_m) <- names(mat_mediations)

# Extract indirect effect confidence intervals
ind_ci_m <- list()

for (i in 1:length(mat_mediations)) {
   ind_ci_m[[i]] <- data.frame(t(as.data.frame(mat_mediations[[i]]$d0.ci)))</pre>
```

```
names(ind_ci_m) <- names(mat_mediations)</pre>
ind_p_vm <- list()</pre>
# Create df with geneid and indirect effect puals
for (i in 1:length(ind_p_m)) {
new_value_m <- as.numeric(ind_p_m[[i]])</pre>
ind_p_vm <- c(ind_p_vm, new_value_m)</pre>
ind_ci_m_df <- bind_rows(ind_ci_m, .id = "column_label")</pre>
ind_ci_vm <- list()</pre>
# Create df with geneid and indirect effect puals
ind_p_dfm <- as.data.frame(t(data.frame(ind_p_vm)))</pre>
ind_p_dfm$fdr <- p.adjust(ind_p_dfm$V1, method = "fdr")</pre>
nrow(filter(ind_p_dfm, fdr < 0.05)) # 21 genes</pre>
## [1] 21
# Filter to include only transcripts with significant mediation parameter estimate
sig_dev_meth_dfm <- filter(ind_ci_m_df, X2.5. > 0 & X97.5. > 0 | X2.5. < 0 & X97.5. < 0) # 66 mat indir
nrow(sig_dev_meth_dfm)
## [1] 66
```

Export parameters from mediation analysis

```
# Extract mediation effect
prop_m <- list()

for (i in 1:length(mat_mediations)) {
   prop_m[[i]] <- mat_mediations[[i]]$n1
}
   names(prop_m) <- names(mat_mediations)

prop_m_df <- as.data.frame(t(bind_rows(prop_m, .id = "column_label")))
prop_m_df$geneid <- rownames(prop_m_df)

do_m <- list()

for (i in 1:length(mat_mediations)) {
   do_m[[i]] <- mat_mediations[[i]]$d0
}

names(do_m) <- names(mat_mediations)</pre>
```

```
d0_m_df <- as.data.frame(t(bind_rows(d0_m, .id = "column_label")))</pre>
d0_m_df$geneid <- rownames(d0_m_df)</pre>
int params df <- merge(d0 m df, prop m df, by = "geneid")
names(ind ci m df)[names(ind ci m df) == "column label"] <- "geneid"</pre>
int params df <- merge(int params df,
                         ind ci m df,
                         by = "geneid")
# Extract proportion mediated and ci's and merge with parameter df
pr_ci_m <- list()</pre>
for (i in 1:length(mat_mediations)) {
pr_ci_m[[i]] <- data.frame(t(as.data.frame(mat_mediations[[i]]$n1.ci)))</pre>
names(pr_ci_m) <- names(mat_mediations)</pre>
pr_ci_m_df <- bind_rows(pr_ci_m, .id = "column_label")</pre>
names(pr ci m df)[names(pr ci m df) == "column label"] <- "geneid"</pre>
int_params_df <- merge(int_params_df,</pre>
                         pr_ci_m_df,
                         by = "geneid")
```

Filter mediation genes according to likelihood of causal direction

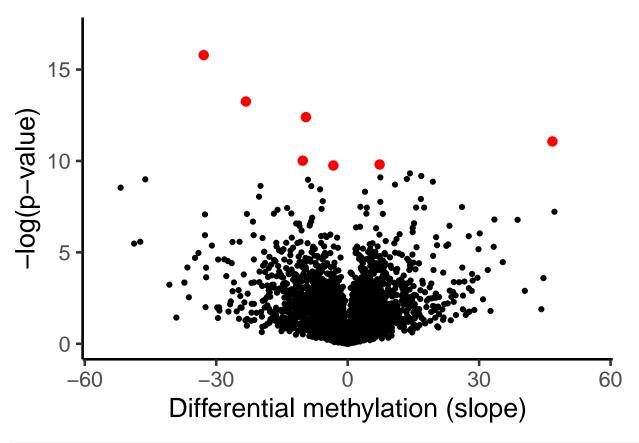
```
# Run line below to prevent RStan from producing a message asking you to install RTools
options(buildtools.check = function(action) TRUE )
## Filter genes based on likelihood of causal direction using looped brms models and bayes_factor tests
tab_exp_df3_filt <- filter(tab_exp_df3, geneid %in% sig_dev_meth_dfm$column_label)
# Fit 'triangle' models
triangle_brms <- dlply(tab_exp_df3_filt, c("geneid"), function(df)</pre>
brm(bf(value ~ Mat_treat + Dev_treat + all_gw_meth) +
                      bf(all_gw_meth ~ Mat_treat + Dev_treat) +
                      set_rescor(FALSE),
         data = df,
         family = gaussian(),
         iter = 20000,
         save_mevars = TRUE,
         save_pars = save_pars(all = TRUE)))
save(triangle_brms, file = "triangle_brms.RData")
# Fit 'straight line' models
straight_brms <- dlply(tab_exp_df3_filt, c("geneid"), function(df)</pre>
 brm(bf(value ~ Mat_treat + Dev_treat) +
```

```
bf(all_gw_meth ~ value) +
                     set_rescor(FALSE),
         data = df,
         family = gaussian(),
         iter = 20000,
         save_mevars = TRUE,
         save_pars = save_pars(all = TRUE)))
save(straight_brms, file = "straight_brms.RData")
# Apply Bayes factor tests with for loop
bf_list <- list()</pre>
for (i in 1:length(triangle_brms)) {
bf_list[[i]] <- bayes_factor(triangle_brms[[i]], straight_brms[[i]])</pre>
names(bf_list) <- names(triangle_brms)</pre>
save(bf_list, file = "bf_list.RData")
load("bf_list.RData")
# Extract bf values
bf_vals <- list()</pre>
for (i in 1:length(bf_list)) {
bf_vals[[i]] <- as.data.frame(bf_list[[i]]$bf)</pre>
names(bf_vals) <- names(bf_list)</pre>
# Convert list of bf's to df
bf_vals_df <- bind_rows(bf_vals, .id = "column_label")</pre>
# Count and summarize genes with support for
mean(bf_vals_df\(^\text{bf_list[[i]]\(^\text{bf}'\)) # 186.7349
## [1] 186.5799
sd(bf_vals_df$'bf_list[[i]]$bf') # 512.1488
## [1] 510.8494
filt_bf <- filter(bf_vals_df, 'bf_list[[i]]$bf' > 1)
nrow(filt_bf) # 51 or 77.27%
## [1] 51
```

Plot and export figures

```
## Volcano plot of DM across gene bodies predicted by structural model
lm1_coefs_df <- as.data.frame(t(bind_rows(lm1_coefs, .id = "column_label")))</pre>
lm1_coefs_df$geneid <- rownames(lm1_coefs_df)</pre>
lm1_pvals_df <- as.data.frame(t(bind_rows(lm1_pvals, .id = "column_label")))</pre>
lm1_pvals_df$geneid <- rownames(lm1_pvals_df)</pre>
lm1_p_coef_df <- merge(lm1_coefs_df,</pre>
                        lm1_pvals_df,
                        by = "geneid")
lm1_p_coef_df$fdr <- p.adjust(lm1_p_coef_df$V1.y, method = "fdr")</pre>
# Plot volcano plot of maternal sig DM gene bodies
lm1_p_coef_df$sig <- ifelse(lm1_p_coef_df$fdr < 0.05, "Yes", "No")</pre>
count(lm1_p_coef_df$sig)
##
        x freq
## 1
      No 5834
## 2 Yes
## 3 <NA>
mat_meth_volcano <- ggplot(data = lm1_p_coef_df,</pre>
                            aes(x = V1.x, y = -log(V1.y),
                                color = sig, size = sig)) +
  geom_point() +
  theme_classic(base_size = 20) +
 theme(legend.position = "none") +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("Black", "Red")) +
  scale_size_manual(values = c(1.5, 3)) +
  scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0 , 17)) +
  scale_x_continuous(limits = c(-55, 55)) +
 labs(x = "Differential methylation (slope)", y = "-log(p-value)")
# Export volcano plot
png( "med_meth_volcano.png", units = "in", width = 7,
      height = 7,
      res = 600)
mat_meth_volcano
## Warning: Removed 8 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
dev.off()
## pdf
##
```

Warning: Removed 8 rows containing missing values (geom_point).



```
# Plot volcano of dev sig DM
lm1_coef_d <- list()

for (i in 1:length(lm1s)) {
   lm1_coef_d[[i]] <- as.data.frame(lm1s[[i]]$effects)[3,1]
}
names(lm1_coef_d) <- names(lm1s)

lm1_pval_d <- list()

# Report significant DM gene bodies

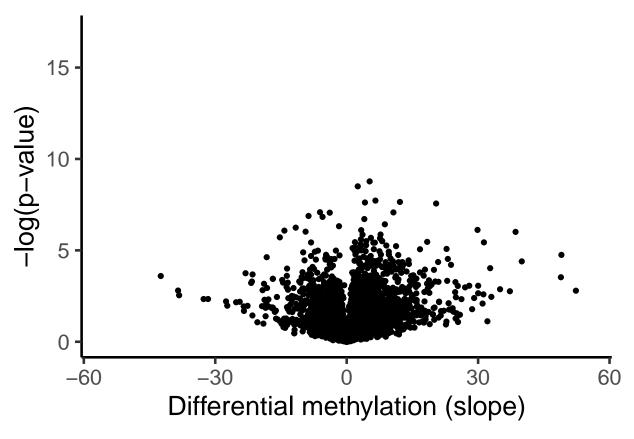
for (i in 1:length(lm1s)) {
   lm1_pval_d[[i]] <- as.data.frame(anova(lm1s[[i]]))[2,5]
}</pre>
```

Warning in anova.lm(lm1s[[i]]): ANOVA F-tests on an essentially perfect fit are
unreliable
Warning in anova.lm(lm1s[[i]]): ANOVA F-tests on an essentially perfect fit are
unreliable

```
names(lm1_pval_d) <- names(lm1s)</pre>
as.data.frame(anova(lm2s[[1]]))[2,5]
## [1] 0.03407576
lm1_coef_d_df <- as.data.frame(t(bind_rows(lm1_coef_d, .id = "column_label")))</pre>
lm1_coef_d_df$geneid <- rownames(lm1_coef_d_df)</pre>
lm1_pval_d_df <- as.data.frame(t(bind_rows(lm1_pval_d, .id = "column_label")))</pre>
lm1_pval_d_df$geneid <- rownames(lm1_pval_d_df)</pre>
lm1_p_coef_d_df <- merge(lm1_coef_d_df,</pre>
                        lm1 pval d df,
                        by = "geneid")
lm1_p_coef_d_df$fdr <- p.adjust(lm1_p_coef_d_df$V1.y, method = "fdr")</pre>
# Plot volcano plot of dev sig DM gene bodies
lm1_p_coef_d_df$sig <- ifelse(lm1_p_coef_d_df$fdr < 0.05, "Yes", "No")</pre>
count(lm1_p_coef_d_df$sig)
##
        x freq
## 1 No 5841
## 2 <NA>
dev_meth_volcano <- ggplot(data = lm1_p_coef_d_df,</pre>
                            aes(x = V1.x, y = -log(V1.y),
                                color = sig, size = sig)) +
  geom_point() +
 theme_classic(base_size = 20) +
  theme(legend.position = "none") +
  scale_color_manual(values = c("Black", "Red")) +
  scale_size_manual(values = c(1.5, 3)) +
  scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0 , 17)) +
  scale_x_continuous(limits = c(-55, 55)) +
 labs(x = "Differential methylation (slope)", y = "-log(p-value)")
# Export bf_dens plot
png( "dev_meth_volcano.png", units = "in", width = 7,
      height = 7,
      res = 600)
dev_meth_volcano
## Warning: Removed 9 rows containing missing values (geom_point).
dev.off()
## pdf
##
```

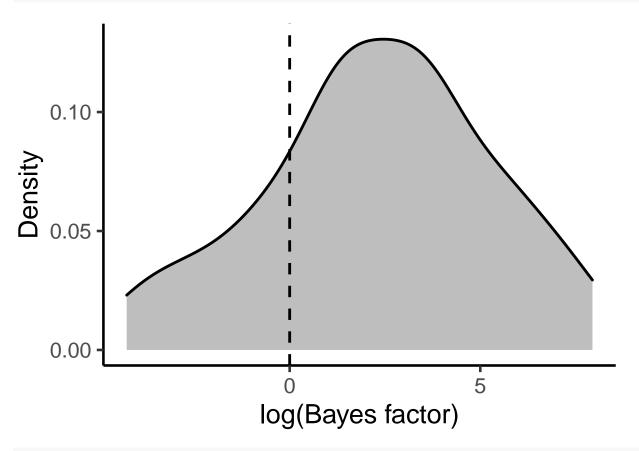
```
{\tt dev\_meth\_volcano}
```

Warning: Removed 9 rows containing missing values (geom_point).



pdf ## 2





```
# 62% of mediated effects are in genes with positive correlations between expression and methylation
med_genes_plot <- ggplot(data = filter(tab_exp_df3, Group.1 %in% sig_dev_meth_dfm$column_label &
                       Group.1 %in% filt_bf$column_label),
       aes(y = value, x = all_gw_meth)) +
  geom_point(aes(color = Mat_treat)) +
  geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = TRUE) +
  theme_classic(base_size = 20) +
  facet_wrap(~Group.1, scale = "free", nrow = 5) +
  theme(strip.text = element_blank(),
        strip.background = element_blank(),
       axis.text = element_blank(),
       axis.ticks = element_blank(),
        legend.position = "none") +
  labs(y = "CPM", x = "% GBM", color = "Maternal treatment")
# Export bf_dens plot
png( "med_genes_plot.png", units = "in", width = 12,
     height = 7,
     res = 600)
med_genes_plot
```

'geom_smooth()' using formula 'y ~ x'

```
dev.off()
## pdf
##
  2
med_genes_plot
## 'geom_smooth()' using formula 'y ~ x'
        % GBM
# Plot mediated effects against their proportion of total mediated
```

```
# Plot mediated effects against their proportion of total mediated
int_params_df$color <- ifelse(int_params_df$geneid %in% filt_bf$column_label, "Red", "Black")

med_effect_plot <-
    ggplot(data = filter(int_params_df, geneid %in% sig_dev_meth_dfm$column),
        aes(y = abs(V1.y), x = V1.x)) +

#geom_errorbar(aes(xmin = X2.5..x, xmax = X97.5..x), width = 0, color = "lightgrey") +

geom_point(aes(color = color, size = color)) +

geom_smooth(method = "lm", se = TRUE, formula = y-poly(x,2), fill = "skyblue", alpha = 0.25) +

theme_classic(base_size = 20) +

theme(legend.position = "none") +

scale_color_manual(values = c("Black", "Red")) +

scale_size_manual(values = c(1.5, 3)) +

labs(y = "Proportion mediated", x = "Maternal mediation effect")

# Export med_effect_plot
png( "med_effect_plot.png", units = "in", width = 7,</pre>
```

```
height = 7,
  res = 600 )

med_effect_plot

dev.off()

## pdf
```

##

