

Statistical Methods for Quantitative MS-based Proteomics: Blocking - Wrap-up

Lieven Clement

[statOmics](#), Ghent University

Contents

1	Import Data and Preprocessing	1
1.1	Data	1
1.2	Preprocessing	3
1.3	Data Exploration: what is impact of blocking?	6
1.4	Modeling and inference	11
1.5	CRD analysis	11
2	Advantage of Blocking: comparison between designs	13
2.1	Volcano plots	13
2.2	Anova table: Q7TPR4, Alpha-actinin-1	15
2.3	Comparison Empirical Bayes standard deviation in msqrob2	16

This is part of the online course [Proteomics Data Analysis \(PDA\)](#)

1 Import Data and Preprocessing

1.1 Data

Click to see code

```
library(tidyverse)
library(limma)
library(QFeatures)
library(msqrob2)
library(plotly)
library(ggplot2)
library(data.table)
library(gridExtra)
```

```
peptidesTable <- fread("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/statOmics/PDA21/data/quantification/mouseTcel")
int64 <- which(sapply(peptidesTable,class) == "integer64")
for (j in int64) peptidesTable[[j]] <- as.numeric(peptidesTable[[j]])
```

```
peptidesTable2 <- fread("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/statOmics/PDA21/data/quantification/mouseTcel")
int64 <- which(sapply(peptidesTable2,class) == "integer64")
for (j in int64) peptidesTable2[[j]] <- as.numeric(peptidesTable2[[j]])
```

```
peptidesTable3 <- fread("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/statOmics/PDA21/data/quantification/mouseTcel")
int64 <- which(sapply(peptidesTable3,class) == "integer64")
```

```
for (j in int64) peptidesTable3[[j]] <- as.numeric(peptidesTable3[[j]])
```

```
quantCols <- grep("Intensity ", names(peptidesTable))
pe <- readQFeatures(
  assayData = peptidesTable,
  fnames = 1,
  quantCols = quantCols,
  name = "peptideRaw")
rm(peptidesTable)
gc()
```

```
##          used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) limit (Mb) max used (Mb)
## Ncells  8508746 454.5   15402548 822.6      NA 12240530 653.8
## Vcells 44744676 341.4    73599965 561.6    16384 73599965 561.6
```

```
gc()
```

```
##          used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) limit (Mb) max used (Mb)
## Ncells  8508727 454.5   15402548 822.6      NA 12240530 653.8
## Vcells 44738202 341.4    73599965 561.6    16384 73599965 561.6
```

```
quantCols2 <- grep("Intensity ", names(peptidesTable2))
pe2 <- readQFeatures(
  assayData = peptidesTable2,
  fnames = 1,
  quantCols = quantCols2,
  name = "peptideRaw")
rm(peptidesTable2)
gc()
```

```
##          used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) limit (Mb) max used (Mb)
## Ncells  8420609 449.8   15402548 822.6      NA 12240530 653.8
## Vcells 38133384 291.0    73599965 561.6    16384 73599965 561.6
```

```
gc()
```

```
##          used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) limit (Mb) max used (Mb)
## Ncells  8420608 449.8   15402548 822.6      NA 12240530 653.8
## Vcells 38129101 291.0    73599965 561.6    16384 73599965 561.6
```

```
quantCols3 <- grep("Intensity ", names(peptidesTable3))
pe3 <- readQFeatures(
  assayData = peptidesTable3,
  fnames = 1,
  quantCols = quantCols3,
  name = "peptideRaw")
rm(peptidesTable3)
gc()
```

```
##          used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) limit (Mb) max used (Mb)
## Ncells  8420195 449.7   15402548 822.6      NA 12240530 653.8
## Vcells 29445000 224.7    73599965 561.6    16384 73599965 561.6
```

```
gc()
```

```
##          used (Mb) gc trigger (Mb) limit (Mb) max used (Mb)
## Ncells  8420120 449.7   15402548 822.6      NA 12240530 653.8
```

```
## Vcells 29440442 224.7 73599965 561.6 16384 73599965 561.6
```

```
### Design
colData(pe)$celltype <- substr(
  colnames(pe[["peptideRaw"]]),
  11,
  14) |>
  unlist() |>
  as.factor()

colData(pe)$mouse <- pe[[1]] |>
  colnames() |>
  strsplit(split="[ ]") |>
  sapply(function(x) x[3]) |>
  as.factor()

colData(pe2)$celltype <- substr(
  colnames(pe2[["peptideRaw"]]),
  11,
  14) |>
  unlist() |>
  as.factor()

colData(pe2)$mouse <- pe2[[1]] |>
  colnames() |>
  strsplit(split="[ ]") |>
  sapply(function(x) x[3]) |>
  as.factor()

colData(pe3)$celltype <- substr(
  colnames(pe3[["peptideRaw"]]),
  11,
  14) |>
  unlist() |>
  as.factor()

colData(pe3)$mouse <- pe3[[1]] |>
  colnames() |>
  strsplit(split="[ ]") |>
  sapply(function(x) x[3]) |>
  as.factor()
```

1.2 Preprocessing

1.2.0.1 Log-transform [Click to see code to log-transform the data](#)

- Peptides with zero intensities are missing peptides and should be represent with a NA value rather than 0.

```
pe <- zeroIsNA(pe, "peptideRaw") # convert 0 to NA
pe2 <- zeroIsNA(pe2, "peptideRaw") # convert 0 to NA
pe3 <- zeroIsNA(pe3, "peptideRaw") # convert 0 to NA
```

- Logtransform data with base 2

```
pe <- logTransform(pe, base = 2, i = "peptideRaw", name = "peptideLog")
pe2 <- logTransform(pe2, base = 2, i = "peptideRaw", name = "peptideLog")
pe3 <- logTransform(pe3, base = 2, i = "peptideRaw", name = "peptideLog")
```

1.2.1 Filtering

Click to see details on filtering

1. Remove peptides that map to multiple proteins

We remove PSMs that could not be mapped to a protein or that map to multiple proteins (the protein identifier contains multiple identifiers separated by a ;).

```
pe <- filterFeatures(
  pe, ~ Proteins != "" & ## Remove failed protein inference
    !grepl(";", Proteins)) ## Remove protein groups
```

```
## 'Proteins' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe2 <- filterFeatures(
  pe2, ~ Proteins != "" & ## Remove failed protein inference
    !grepl(";", Proteins)) ## Remove protein groups
```

```
## 'Proteins' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe3 <- filterFeatures(
  pe3, ~ Proteins != "" & ## Remove failed protein inference
    !grepl(";", Proteins)) ## Remove protein groups
```

```
## 'Proteins' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

2. Remove reverse sequences (decoys) and contaminants

We now remove the contaminants, peptides that map to decoy sequences, and proteins which were only identified by peptides with modifications.

```
pe <- filterFeatures(pe, ~Reverse != "+")
```

```
## 'Reverse' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe <- filterFeatures(pe, ~ Potential.contaminant != "+")
```

```
## 'Potential.contaminant' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe2 <- filterFeatures(pe2, ~Reverse != "+")
```

```
## 'Reverse' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe2 <- filterFeatures(pe2, ~ Potential.contaminant != "+")
```

```
## 'Potential.contaminant' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe3 <- filterFeatures(pe3, ~Reverse != "+")
```

```
## 'Reverse' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

```
pe3 <- filterFeatures(pe3, ~ Potential.contaminant != "+")
```

```
## 'Potential.contaminant' found in 2 out of 2 assay(s).
```

3. Drop peptides that were identified in less than three sample

We keep peptides that were observed at least three times.

```
nObs <- 3
n <- ncol(pe[["peptideLog"]])
pNA <- (n-nObs)/n
pe <- filterNA(pe, pNA = pNA, i = "peptideLog")
nrow(pe[["peptideLog"]])

## [1] 38782

n <- ncol(pe2[["peptideLog"]])
pNA <- (n-nObs)/n
pe2 <- filterNA(pe2, pNA = pNA, i = "peptideLog")
nrow(pe2[["peptideLog"]])

## [1] 37898

n <- ncol(pe3[["peptideLog"]])
pNA <- (n-nObs)/n
pe3 <- filterNA(pe3, pNA = pNA, i = "peptideLog")
nrow(pe3[["peptideLog"]])

## [1] 43984
```

1.2.2 Normalization

[Click to see code to normalize the data](#)

```
pe <- normalize(pe,
               i = "peptideLog",
               name = "peptideNorm",
               method = "center.median")

pe2 <- normalize(pe2,
                i = "peptideLog",
                name = "peptideNorm",
                method = "center.median")

pe3 <- normalize(pe3,
                i = "peptideLog",
                name = "peptideNorm",
                method = "center.median")
```

1.2.3 Summarization

[Click to see code to summarize the data](#)

```
pe <- aggregateFeatures(pe,
                       i = "peptideNorm",
                       fcol = "Proteins",
                       na.rm = TRUE,
                       name = "protein")
```

```
## Your quantitative and row data contain missing values. Please read the
## relevant section(s) in the aggregateFeatures manual page regarding the
## effects of missing values on data aggregation.
```

```
## Aggregated: 1/1
```

```
pe2 <- aggregateFeatures(pe2,  
  i = "peptideNorm",  
  fcol = "Proteins",  
  na.rm = TRUE,  
  name = "protein")
```

```
## Your quantitative and row data contain missing values. Please read the  
## relevant section(s) in the aggregateFeatures manual page regarding the  
## effects of missing values on data aggregation.
```

```
## Aggregated: 1/1
```

```
pe3 <- aggregateFeatures(pe3,  
  i = "peptideNorm",  
  fcol = "Proteins",  
  na.rm = TRUE,  
  name = "protein")
```

```
## Your quantitative and row data contain missing values. Please read the  
## relevant section(s) in the aggregateFeatures manual page regarding the  
## effects of missing values on data aggregation.
```

```
## Aggregated: 1/1
```

1.2.4 Filtering proteins with too many missing values

We want to have at least two observed protein intensities for each group so we set the minimum number of observed values at 4. We still have to check for the observed proteins if that is the case.

For block design more clever filtering can be used. E.g. we could imply that we have both cell types in at least two animals...

```
nObs <- 4  
n <- ncol(pe[["protein"]])  
pNA <- (n-nObs)/n  
pe <- filterNA(pe, pNA = pNA, i = "protein")  
  
n <- ncol(pe2[["protein"]])  
pNA <- (n-nObs)/n  
pe2 <- filterNA(pe2, pNA = pNA, i = "protein")  
  
n <- ncol(pe3[["protein"]])  
pNA <- (n-nObs)/n  
pe3 <- filterNA(pe3, pNA = pNA, i = "protein")
```

1.3 Data Exploration: what is impact of blocking?

Click to see code

```
levels(colData(pe3)$mouse) <- paste0("m",1:7)  
mdsObj3 <- plotMDS(assay(pe3[["protein"]]), plot = FALSE)  
mdsOrig <- colData(pe3) %>%  
  as.data.frame %>%  
  mutate(mds1 = mdsObj3$x,  
    mds2 = mdsObj3$y,  
    lab = paste(mouse,celltype,sep="_")) %>%  
  ggplot(aes(x = mds1, y = mds2, label = lab, color = celltype, group = mouse)) +
```

```

geom_text(show.legend = FALSE) +
geom_point(shape = 21) +
geom_line(color = "black", linetype = "dashed") +
xlab(
  paste0(
    mdsObj3$axislabel,
    " ",
    1,
    " (",
    paste0(
      round(mdsObj3$var.explained[1] *100,0),
      "%",
    ),
    ")",
  )
) +
ylab(
  paste0(
    mdsObj3$axislabel,
    " ",
    2,
    " (",
    paste0(
      round(mdsObj3$var.explained[2] *100,0),
      "%",
    ),
    ")",
  )
) +
ggtitle("Original (RCB)")

levels(colData(pe)$mouse) <- paste0("m",1:4)
mdsObj <- plotMDS(assay(pe[["protein"]]), plot = FALSE)
mdsRCB <- colData(pe) %>%
  as.data.frame %>%
  mutate(mds1 = mdsObj$x,
    mds2 = mdsObj$y,
    lab = paste(mouse,celltype,sep="_")) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = mds1, y = mds2, label = lab, color = celltype, group = mouse)) +
  geom_text(show.legend = FALSE) +
  geom_point(shape = 21) +
  geom_line(color = "black", linetype = "dashed") +
  xlab(
    paste0(
      mdsObj$axislabel,
      " ",
      1,
      " (",
      paste0(
        round(mdsObj$var.explained[1] *100,0),
        "%",
      ),
      ")",
    )
  )

```

```

    )
  ) +
  ylab(
    paste0(
      mdsObj$axislabel,
      " ",
      2,
      " (",
      paste0(
        round(mdsObj$var.explained[2] *100,0),
        "% "
      ),
      ")"
    )
  ) +
  ggtitle("Randomized Complete Block (RCB)")

levels(colData(pe2)$mouse) <- paste0("m",1:8)
mdsObj2 <- plotMDS(assay(pe2[["protein"]]), plot = FALSE)
mdsCRD <- colData(pe2) %>%
  as.data.frame %>%
  mutate(mds1 = mdsObj2$x,
         mds2 = mdsObj2$y,
         lab = paste(mouse,celltype,sep="_")) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = mds1, y = mds2, label = lab, color = celltype, group = mouse)) +
  geom_text(show.legend = FALSE) +
  geom_point(shape = 21) +
  xlab(
    paste0(
      mdsObj$axislabel,
      " ",
      1,
      " (",
      paste0(
        round(mdsObj2$var.explained[1] *100,0),
        "% "
      ),
      ")"
    )
  ) +
  ylab(
    paste0(
      mdsObj$axislabel,
      " ",
      2,
      " (",
      paste0(
        round(mdsObj2$var.explained[2] *100,0),
        "% "
      ),
      ")"
    )
  )

```

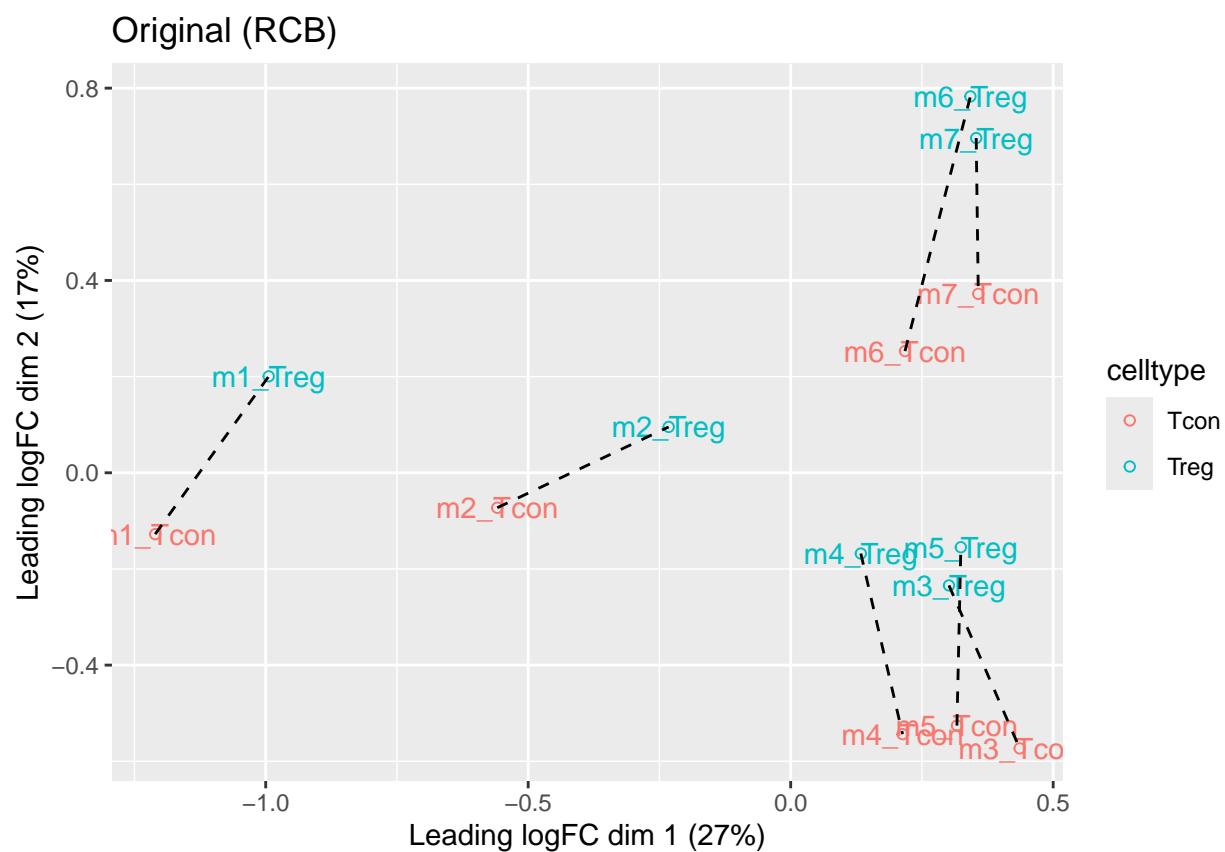


```

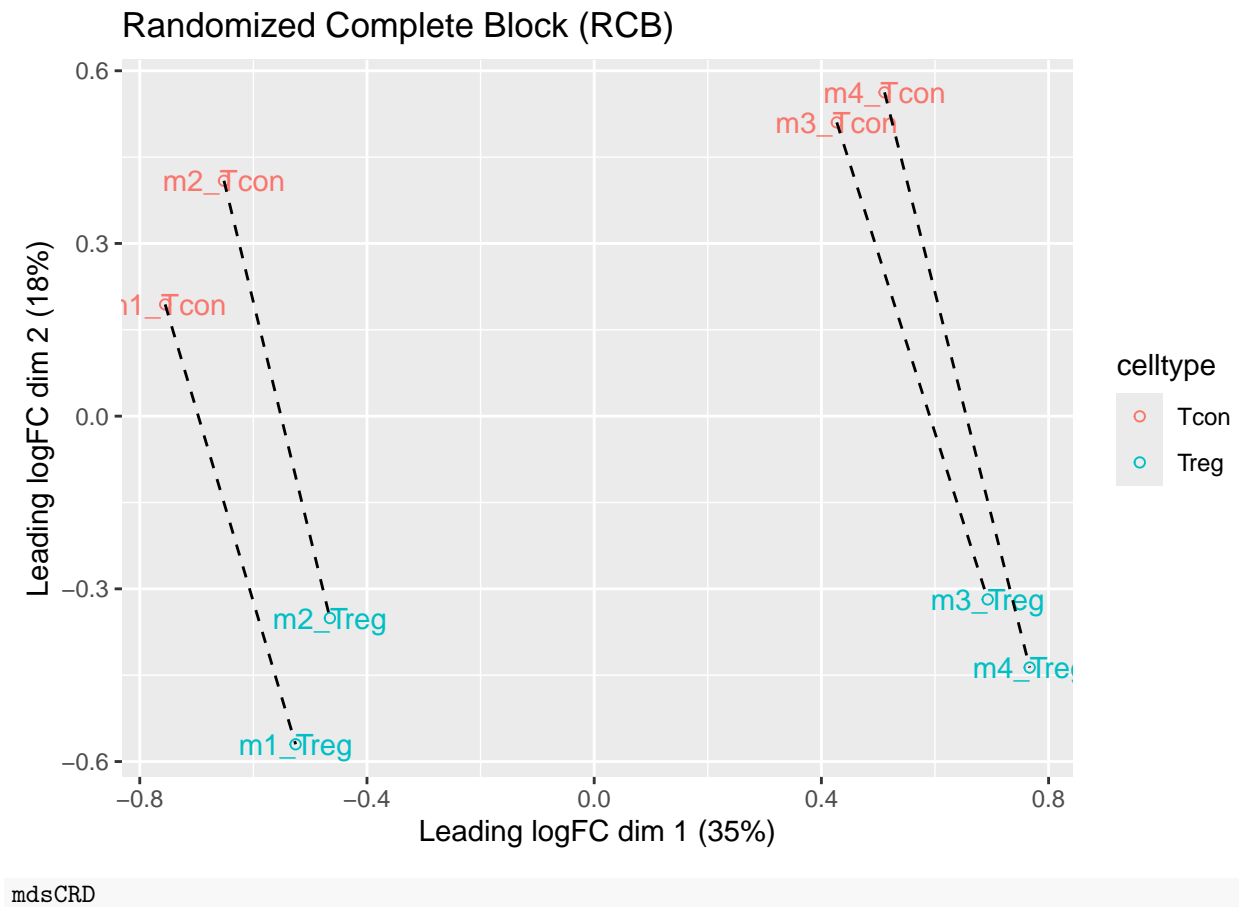
) +
ggtitle("Completely Randomized Design (CRD)")

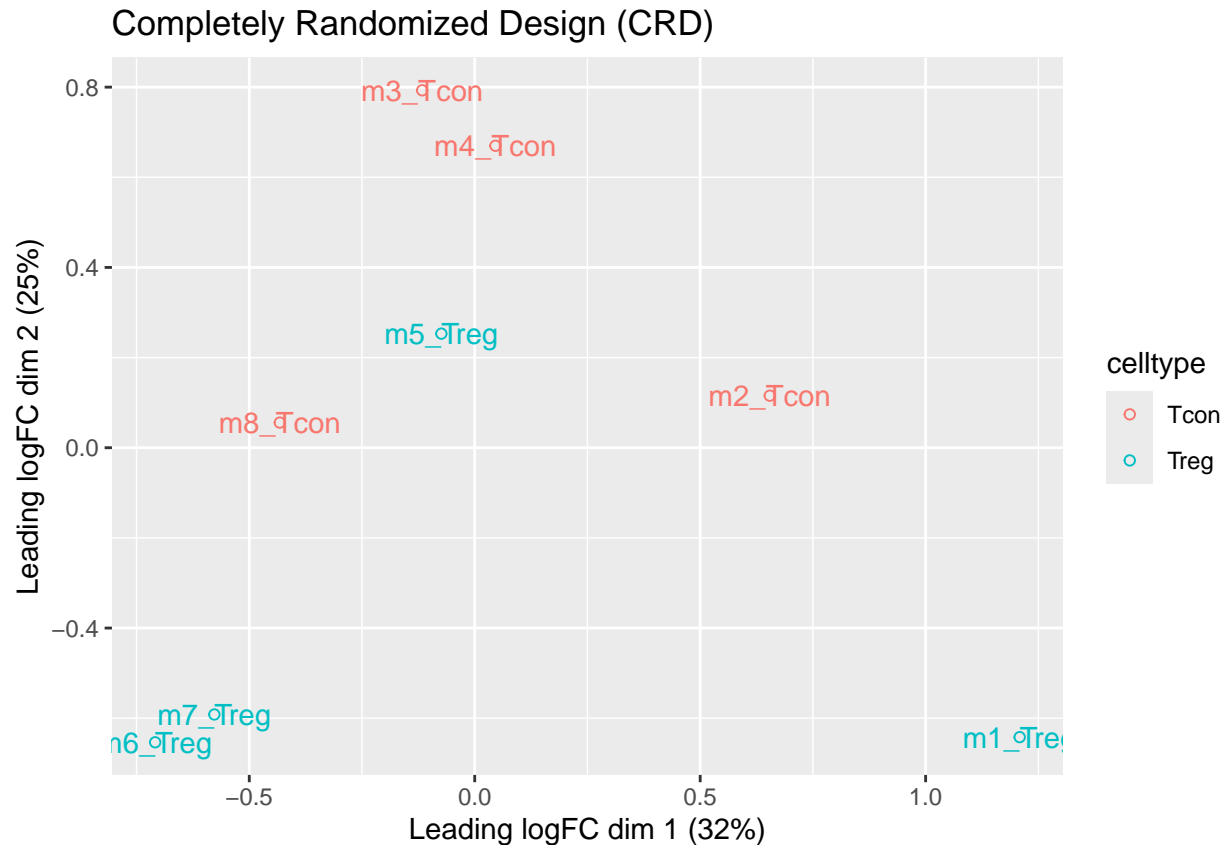
```

mdsOrig



mdsRCB





- We observe that the leading fold change is according to mouse
- In the second dimension we see a separation according to cell-type
- With the Randomized Complete Block design (RCB) we can remove the mouse effect from the analysis!

1.4 Modeling and inference

1.4.1 RCB analysis

```
pe <- msqrob(
  object = pe,
  i = "protein",
  formula = ~ celltype + mouse)
```

1.4.2 RCB wrong analysis

```
pe <- msqrob(
  object = pe,
  i = "protein",
  formula = ~ celltype, modelColumnName = "wrongModel")
```

1.5 CRD analysis

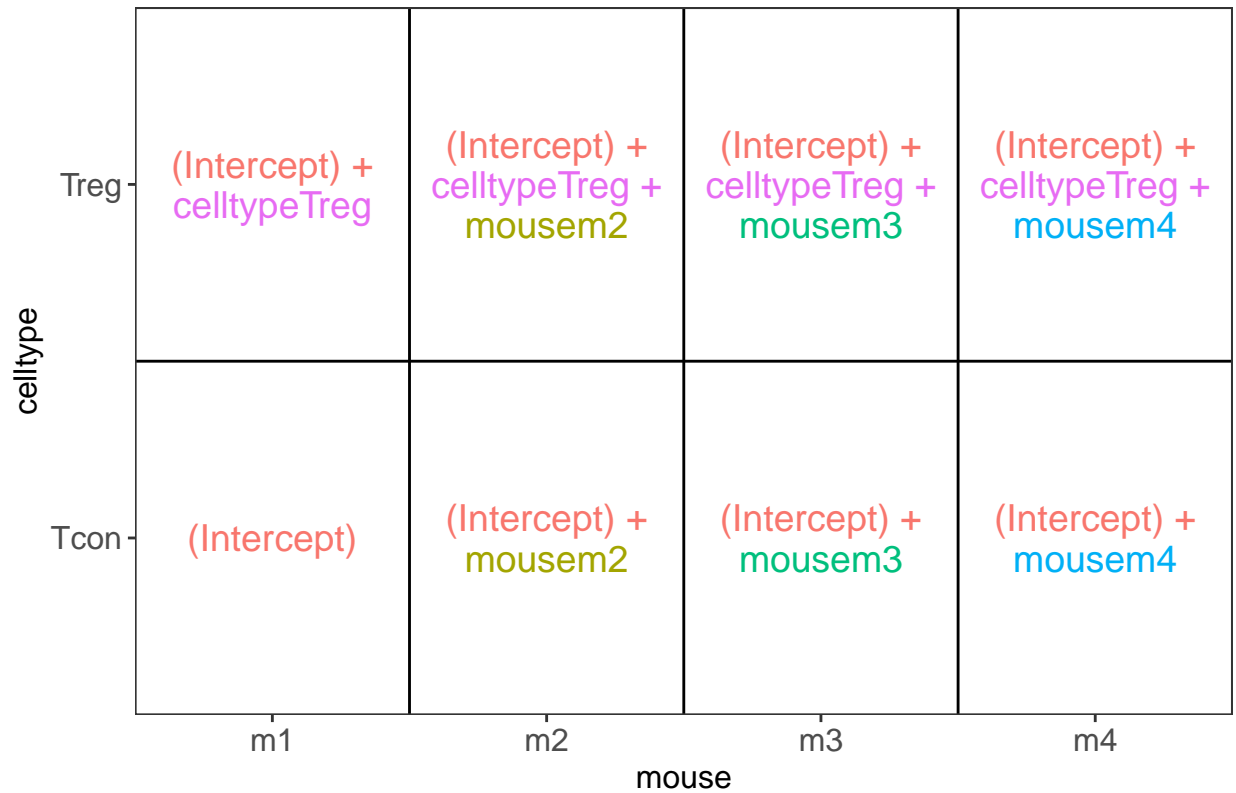
```
pe2 <- msqrob(
  object = pe2,
  i = "protein",
```

```
formula = ~ celltype)
```

1.5.1 Inference

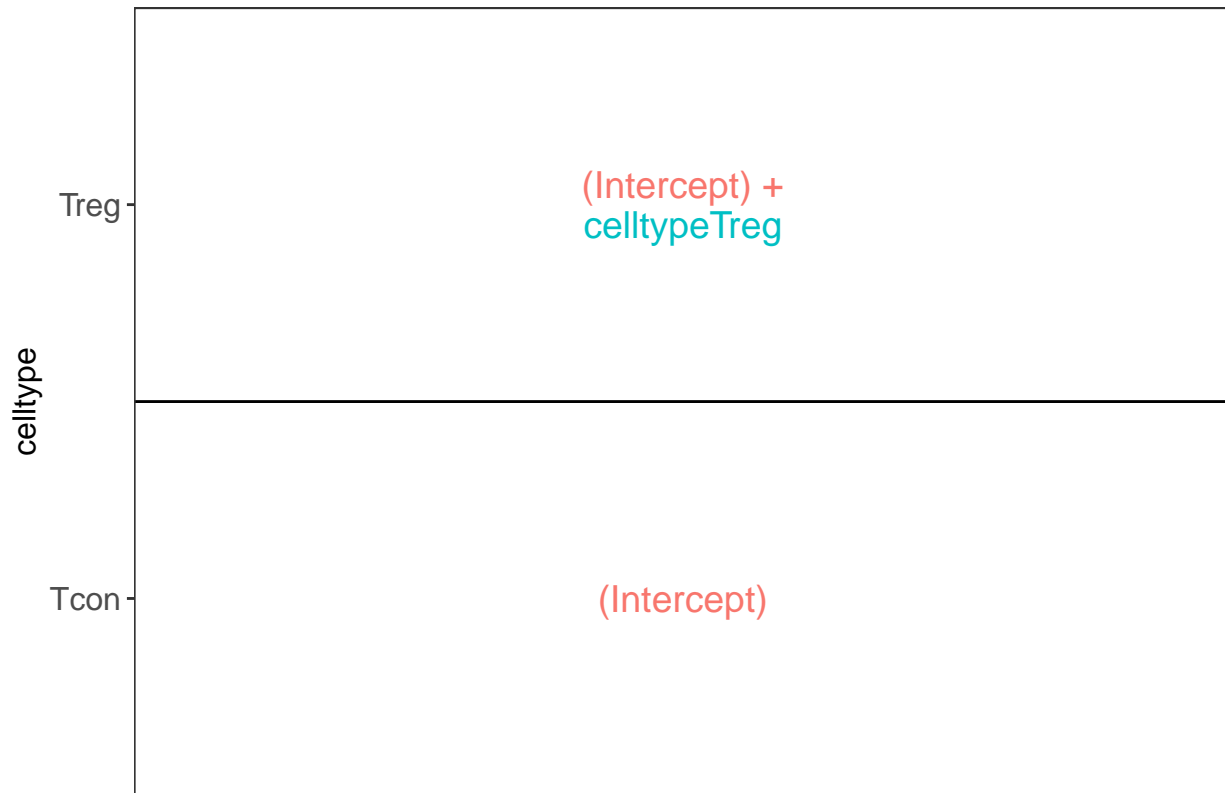
```
library(ExploreModelMatrix)
VisualizeDesign(colData(pe), ~ celltype + mouse)$plotlist
```

```
## [[1]]
```



```
VisualizeDesign(colData(pe2), ~ celltype)$plotlist
```

```
## [[1]]
```



```
L <- makeContrast("celltypeTreg = 0", parameterNames = c("celltypeTreg"))
pe <- hypothesisTest(object = pe, i = "protein", contrast = L)
pe <- hypothesisTest(object = pe, i = "protein", contrast = L, modelColumn = "wrongModel", resultsColumn = "wrongModel")
pe2 <- hypothesisTest(object = pe2, i = "protein", contrast = L)
```

2 Advantage of Blocking: comparison between designs

2.1 Volcano plots

Click to see code

```
volcanoRCB <- ggplot(
  rowData(pe[["protein"]])$celltypeTreg,
  aes(x = logFC, y = -log10(pval), color = adjPval < 0.05)
) +
  geom_point(cex = 2.5) +
  scale_color_manual(values = alpha(c("black", "red"), 0.5)) +
  theme_minimal() +
  ggtitle(paste0("RCB: \n",
    sum(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$celltypeTreg$adjPval<0.05, na.rm=TRUE),
    " significant"))

volcanoRCBwrong <- ggplot(
  rowData(pe[["protein"]])$wrongcelltypeTreg,
  aes(x = logFC, y = -log10(pval), color = adjPval < 0.05)
) +
```

```

geom_point(cex = 2.5) +
scale_color_manual(values = alpha(c("black", "red"), 0.5)) +
theme_minimal() +
ggtitle(paste0("RCB wrong: \n",
               sum(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$wrongcelltypeTreg$adjPval<0.05,na.rm=TRUE),
               " significant"))

volcanoCRD <- ggplot(
  rowData(pe2[["protein"]])$celltypeTreg,
  aes(x = logFC, y = -log10(pval), color = adjPval < 0.05)
) +
  geom_point(cex = 2.5) +
  scale_color_manual(values = alpha(c("black", "red"), 0.5)) +
  theme_minimal() +
  ggtitle(paste0("CRD: \n",
                 sum(rowData(pe2[["protein"]])$celltypeTreg$adjPval<0.05,na.rm=TRUE),
                 " significant"))

```

```

grid.arrange(volcanoRCB,volcanoCRD, volcanoRCBwrong,ncol=2)

```

```

## Warning: Removed 453 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_point()`).

```

```

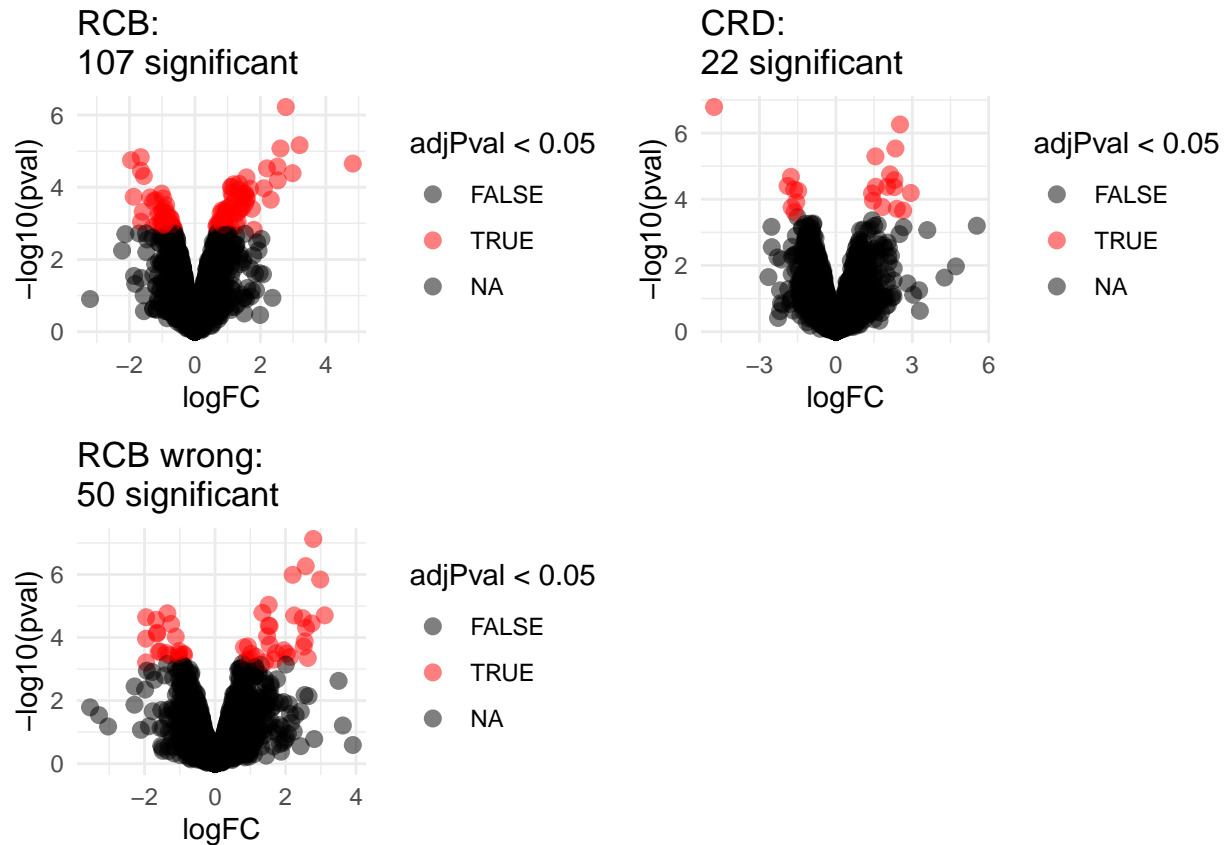
## Warning: Removed 133 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_point()`).

```

```

## Warning: Removed 55 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_point()`).

```



2.2 Anova table: Q7TPR4, Alpha-actinin-1

Disclaimer: the Anova analysis is only for didactical purposes. In practice we assess the hypotheses using msqrob2.

- We illustrate the power gain of blocking using an Anova analysis on 1 protein.
- Note, that msqrob2 will perform a similar analysis, but, it uses robust regression and it uses an empirical Bayes estimator for the variance.

```
prot <- "Q7TPR4"
dataHlp <- colData(pe) %>%
  as.data.frame %>%
  mutate(intensity=assay(pe[["protein"]])[prot,],
         intensityCRD=assay(pe2[["protein"]])[prot,])

anova(lm(intensity~ celltype + mouse, dataHlp))
```

```
## Analysis of Variance Table
##
## Response: intensity
##           Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
## celltype   1  5.4816   5.4816  483.074 0.0002062 ***
## mouse      3  0.4275   0.1425   12.557 0.0332459 *
## Residuals  3  0.0340   0.0113
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

```

anova(lm(intensity~ celltype,dataHlp))

## Analysis of Variance Table
##
## Response: intensity
##           Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
## celltype   1 5.4816   5.4816  71.264 0.0001508 ***
## Residuals   6 0.4615   0.0769
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

anova(lm(intensityCRD~ celltype,dataHlp))

## Analysis of Variance Table
##
## Response: intensityCRD
##           Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value    Pr(>F)
## celltype   1 5.3495   5.3495  61.763 0.0002245 ***
## Residuals   6 0.5197   0.0866
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

```

2.3 Comparison Empirical Bayes standard deviation in msqrob2

Click to see code

```

accessions <- rownames(pe[["protein"]])[rownames(pe[["protein"]])%in%rownames(pe2[["protein"]])]
dat <- data.frame(
  sigmaRBC = sapply(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[accessions], getSigmaPosterior),
  sigmaRBCwrong = sapply(rowData(pe[["protein"]])$wrongModel[accessions], getSigmaPosterior),
  sigmaCRD <- sapply(rowData(pe2[["protein"]])$msqrobModels[accessions], getSigmaPosterior)
)

plotRBCvsWrong <- ggplot(data = dat, aes(sigmaRBC, sigmaRBCwrong)) +
  geom_point(alpha = 0.1, shape = 20) +
  scale_x_log10() +
  scale_y_log10() +
  geom_abline(intercept=0,slope=1)
plotCRDvsWrong <- ggplot(data = dat, aes(sigmaCRD, sigmaRBCwrong)) +
  geom_point(alpha = 0.1, shape = 20) +
  scale_x_log10() +
  scale_y_log10() +
  geom_abline(intercept=0,slope=1)
plotRBCvsCRD <- ggplot(data = dat, aes(sigmaRBC, sigmaCRD)) +
  geom_point(alpha = 0.1, shape = 20) +
  scale_x_log10() +
  scale_y_log10() +
  geom_abline(intercept=0,slope=1)

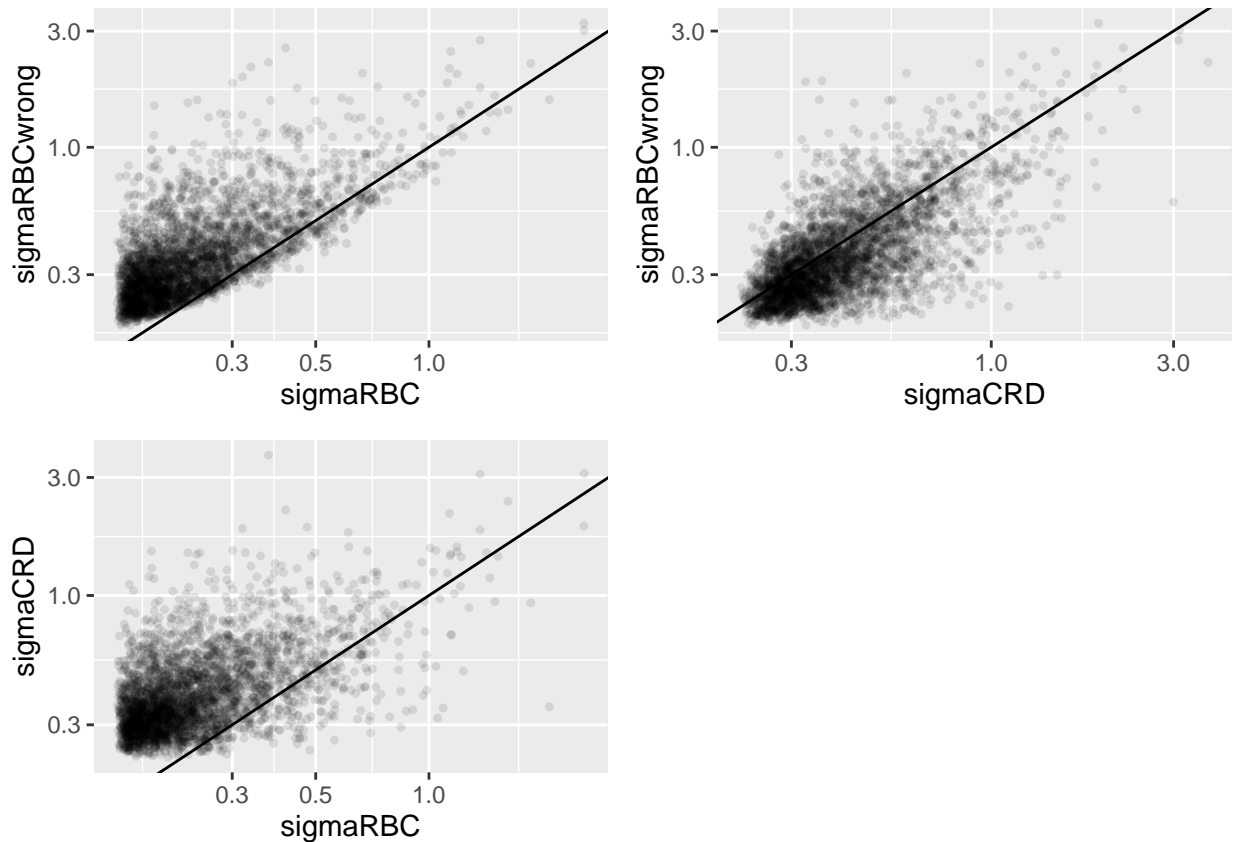
grid.arrange(
  plotRBCvsWrong,
  plotCRDvsWrong,
  plotRBCvsCRD,
  nrow=2)

## Warning: Removed 316 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range

```



```
## (`geom_point()`).
## Warning: Removed 124 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_point()`).
## Warning: Removed 351 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_point()`).
```



- We clearly observe that the standard deviation of the protein expression in the RCB is smaller for the majority of the proteins than that obtained with the CRD
- The standard deviation of the protein expression RCB where we perform a wrong analysis without considering the blocking factor according to mouse is much larger for the majority of the proteins than that obtained with the correct analysis.
- Indeed, when we ignore the blocking factor in the RCB design we do not remove the variability according to mouse from the analysis and the mouse effect is absorbed in the error term. The standard deviation then becomes very comparable to that observed in the completely randomised design where we could not remove the mouse effect from the analysis.
- Why are some of the standard deviations for the RCB with the correct analysis larger than than of the RCB with the incorrect analysis that ignored the mouse blocking factor?
- Can you think of a reason why it would not be useful to block on a particular factor?