

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curves

Statistics for proteomics

William E Fondrie

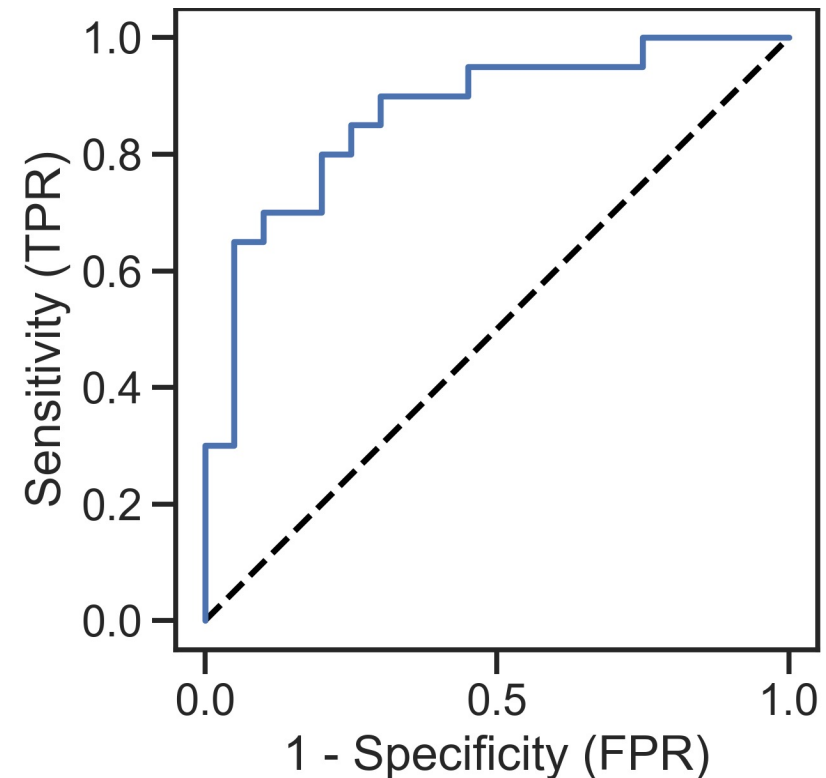
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What are receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves?

- First used in WWII for the analysis of radio signals
- Assess performance at a binary classification task:
 - Does this patient have this disease?
 - Is this tissue cancerous?
 - Do these two proteins interact?

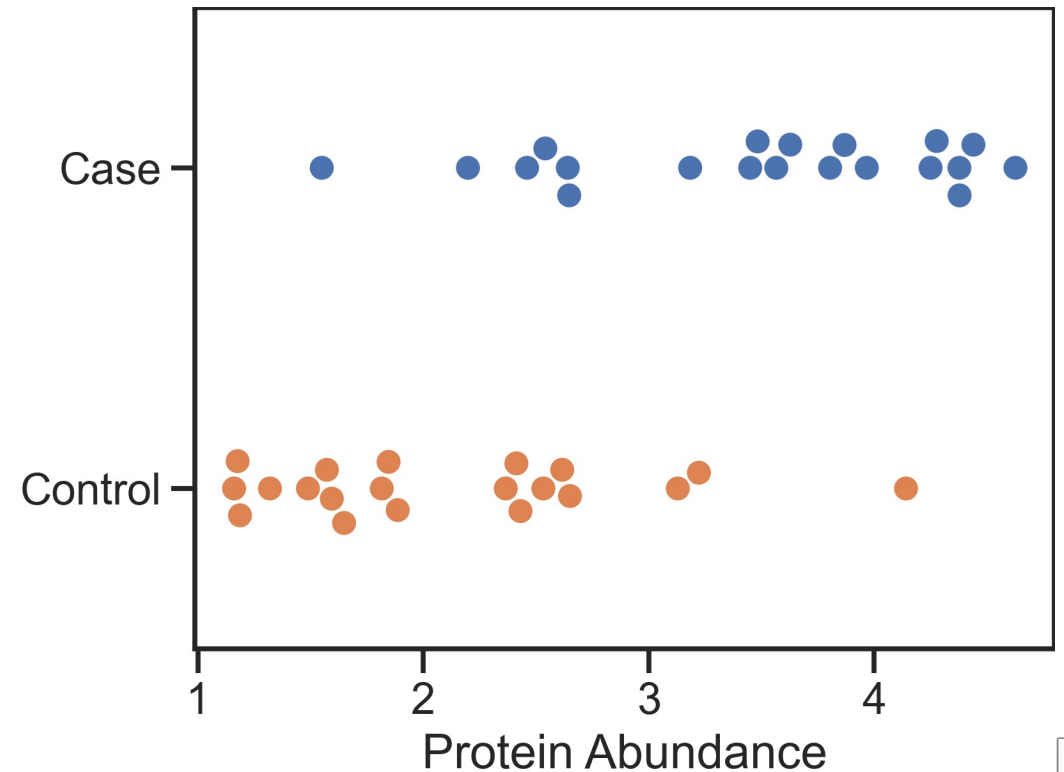


Our example binary classification task

Predict whether a patient has a disease from the abundance of a single protein biomarker.

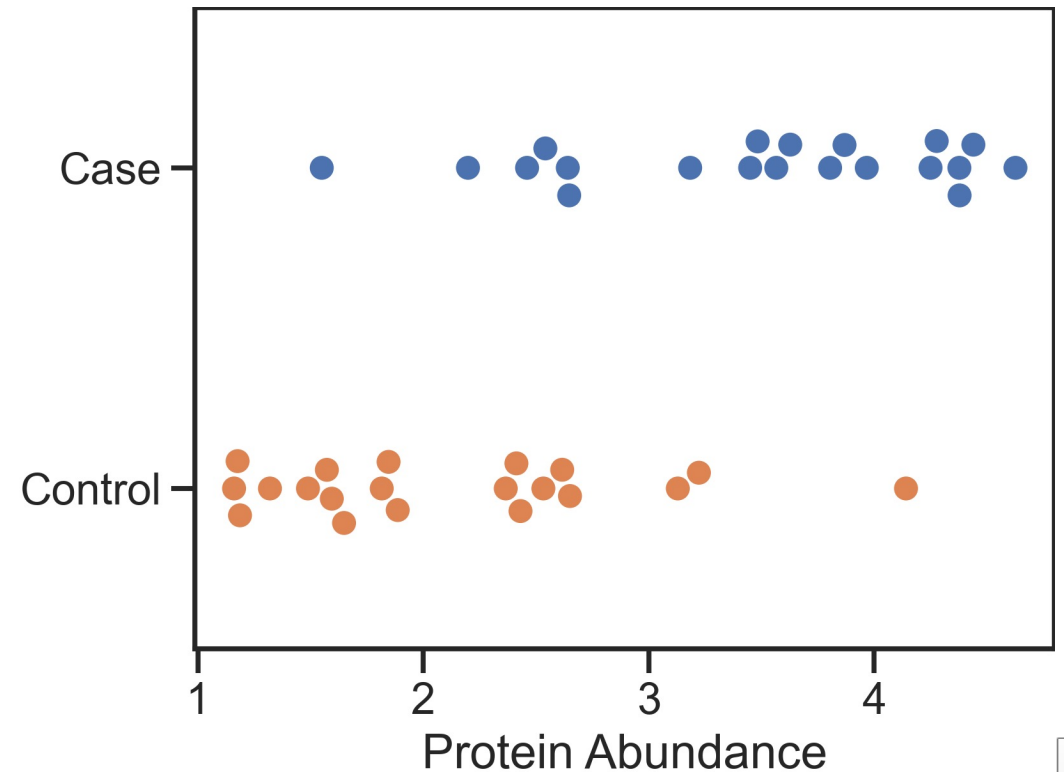
- Measurements from 20 cases and 20 controls

How well does our biomarker perform?



Sensitivity and specificity are useful metrics

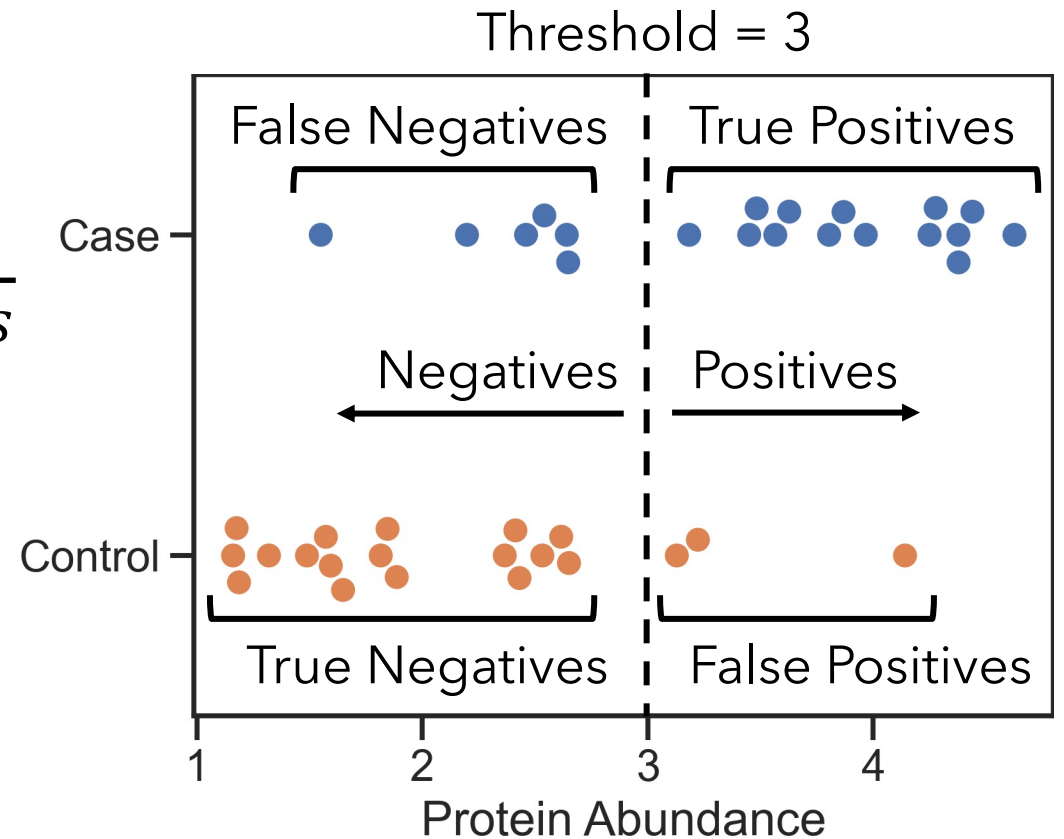
- Sensitivity is the proportion of positives (cases) that are correctly identified.
- Specificity is the proportion of negatives (controls) that are correctly identified.



How do we calculate sensitivity and specificity?

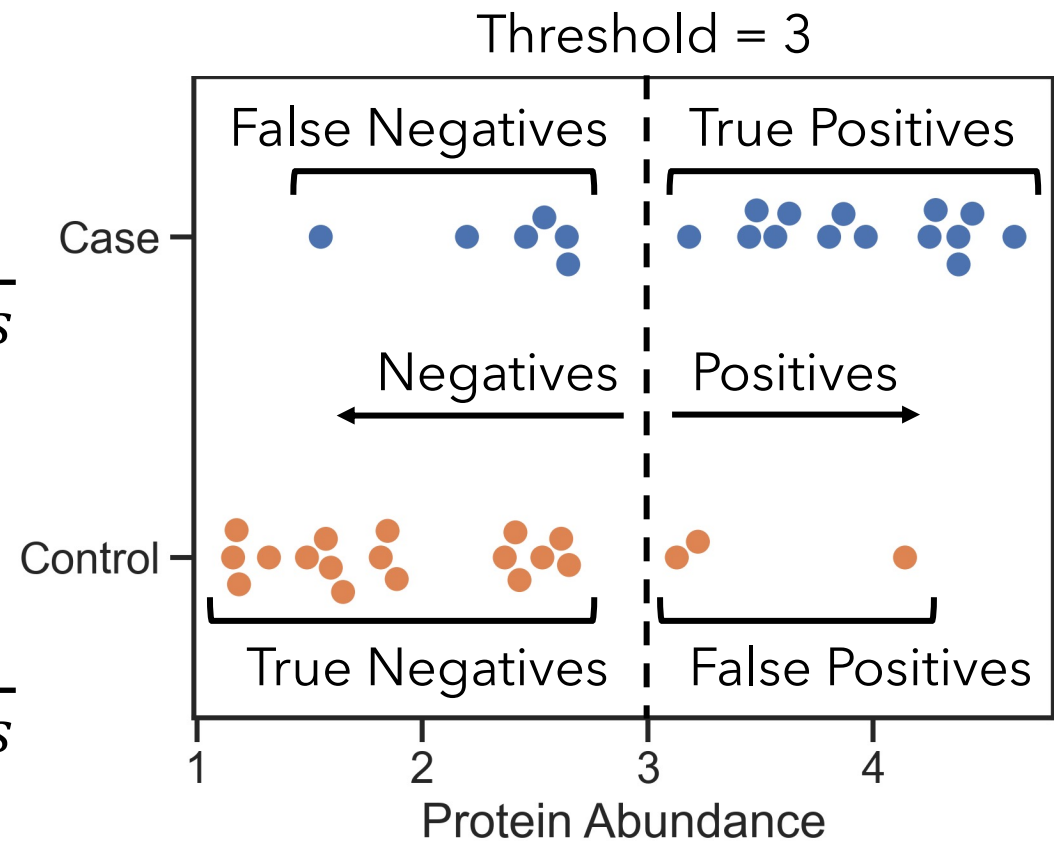
- Sensitivity

$$= \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Negatives}}$$



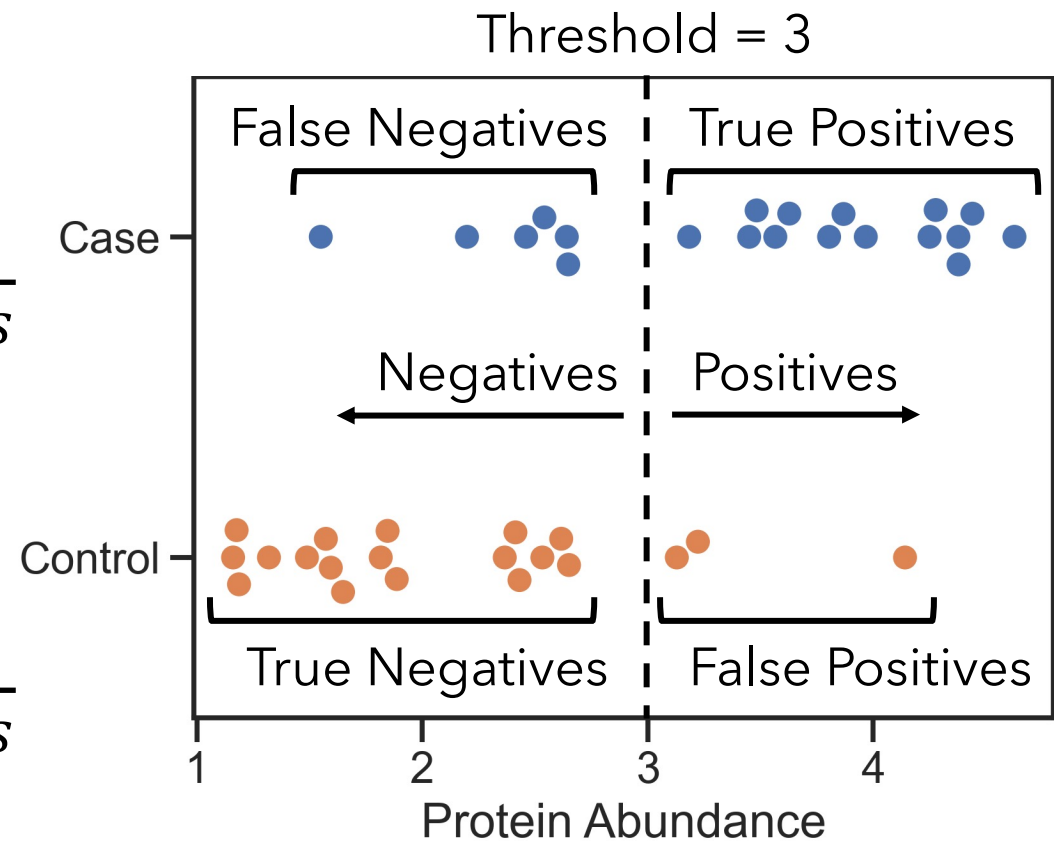
How do we calculate sensitivity and specificity?

- Sensitivity = $14 / (14 + 6) = 0.70$
$$= \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Negatives}}$$
- Specificity
$$= \frac{\text{True Negatives}}{\text{True Negatives} + \text{False Positives}}$$

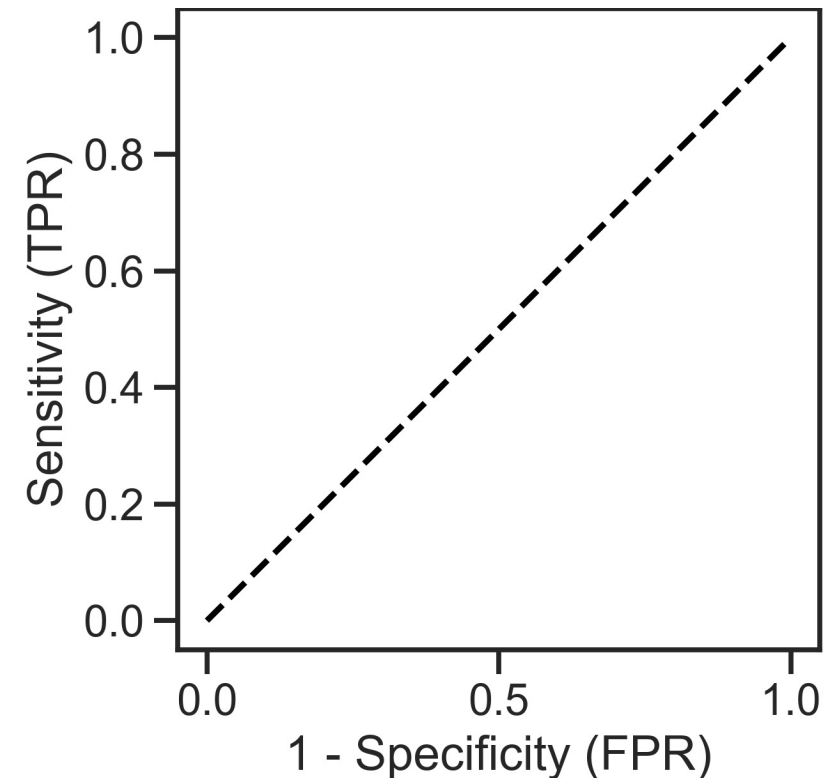
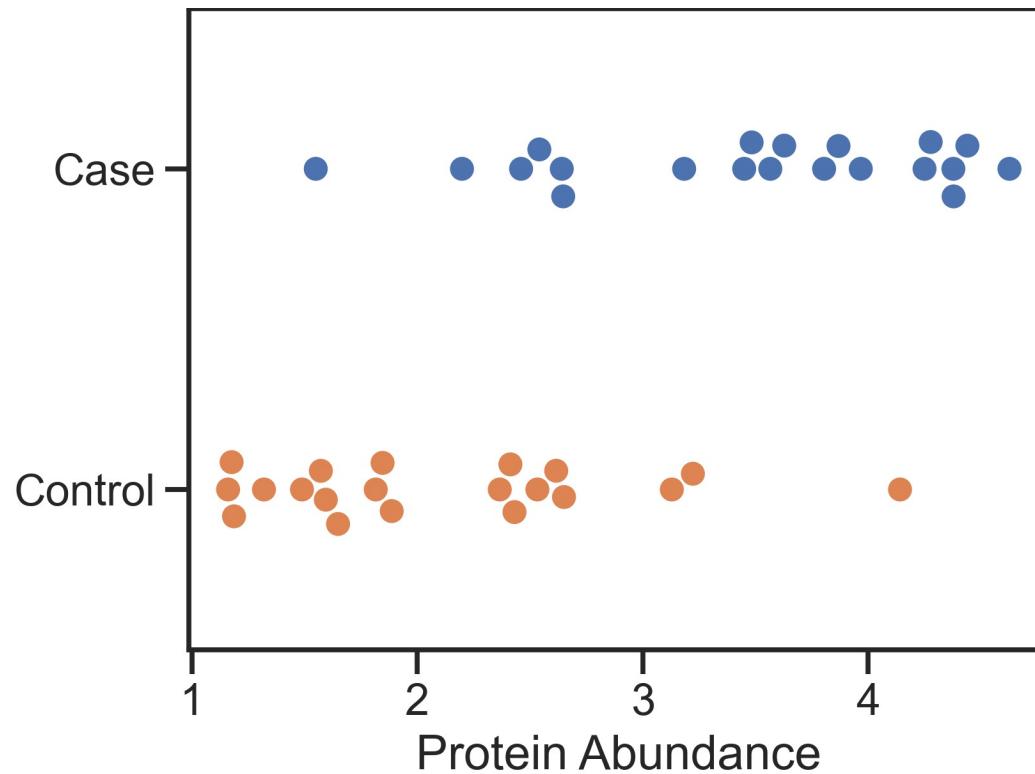


How do we calculate sensitivity and specificity?

- Sensitivity = $14 / (14 + 6) = 0.70$
$$= \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Negatives}}$$
- Specificity = $17 / (17 + 3) = 0.85$
$$= \frac{\text{True Negatives}}{\text{True Negatives} + \text{False Positives}}$$



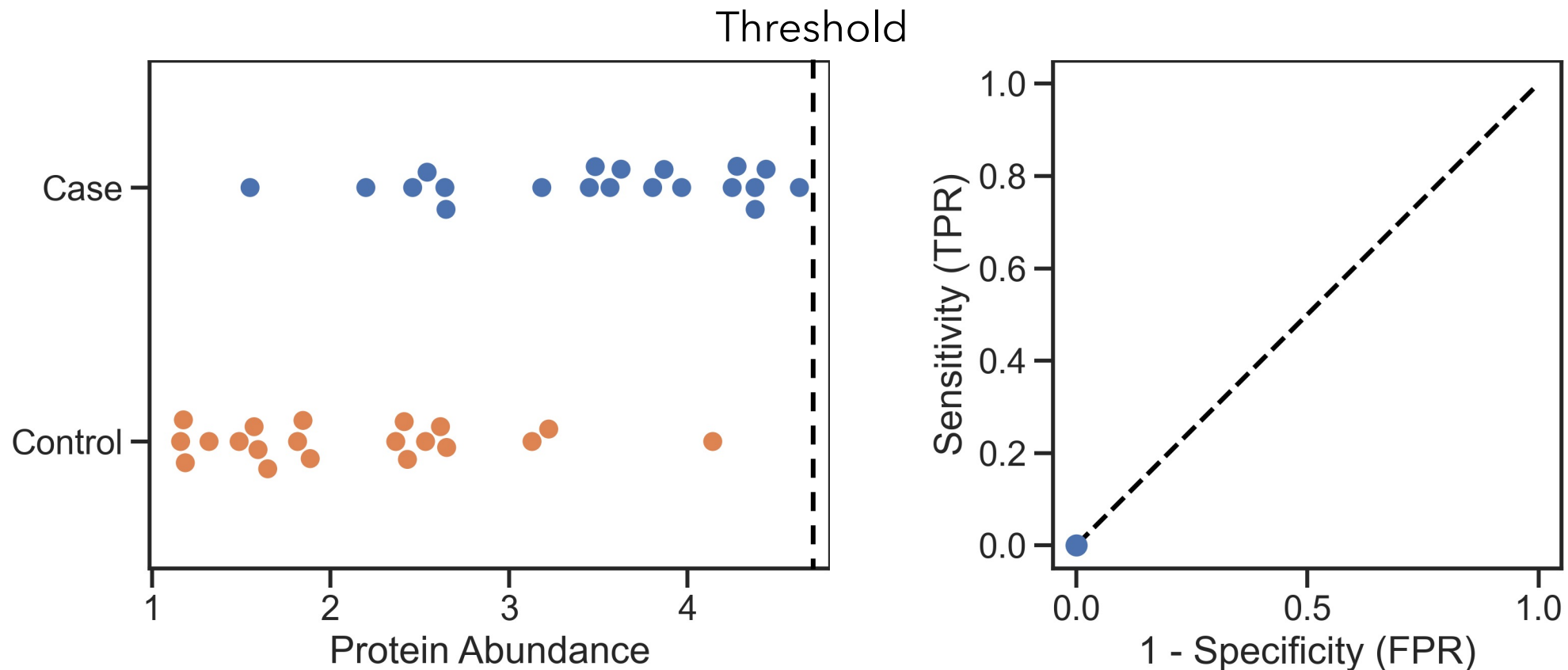
ROC curves show the sensitivity and specificity across all thresholds



TPR = True Positive Rate, FPR = False Positive Rate



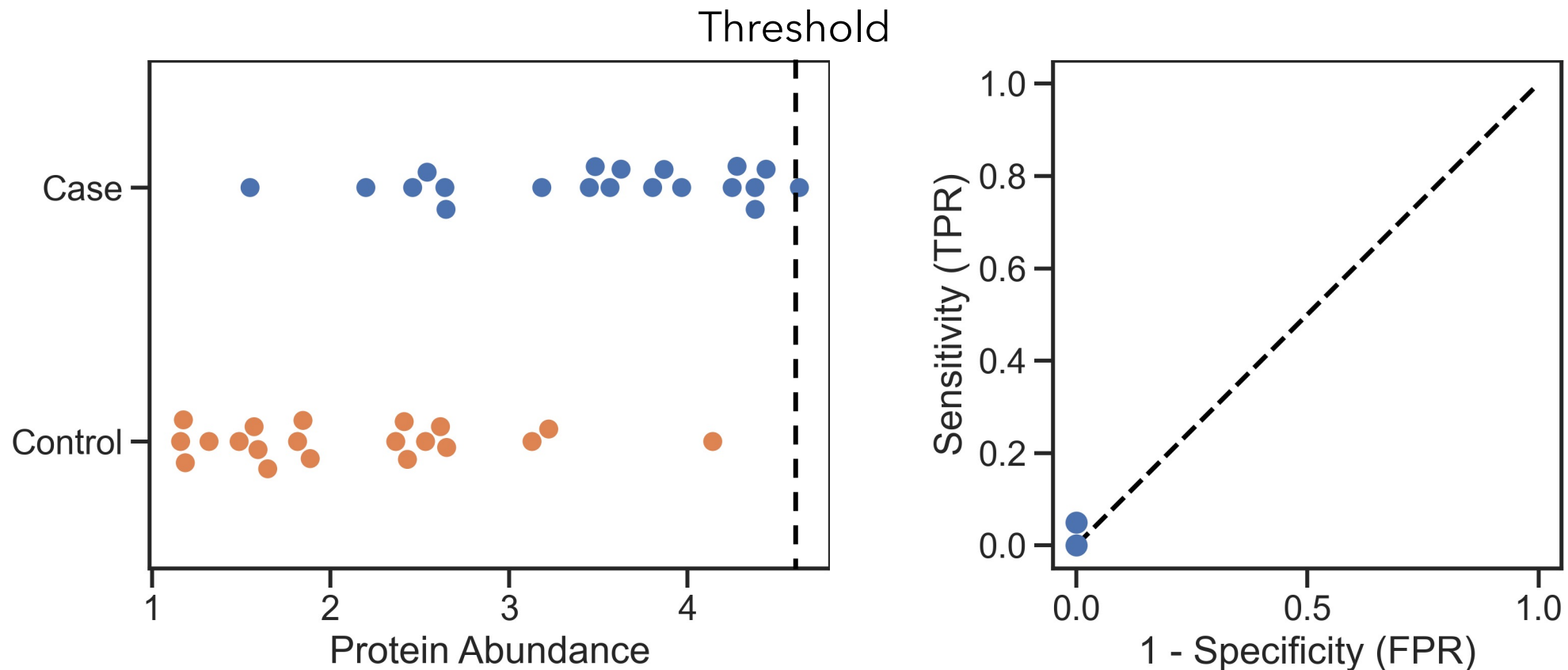
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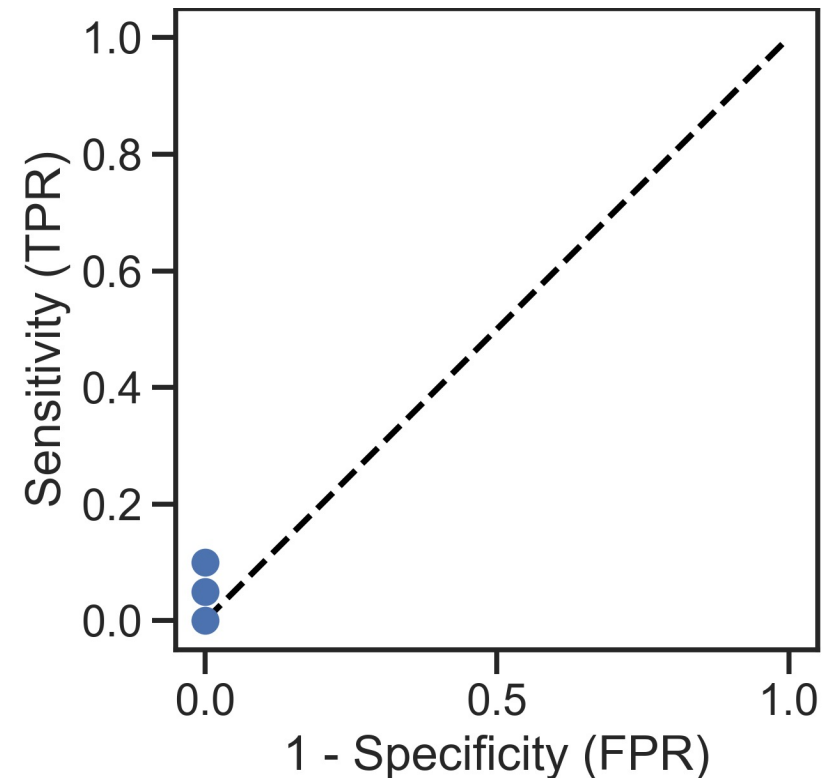
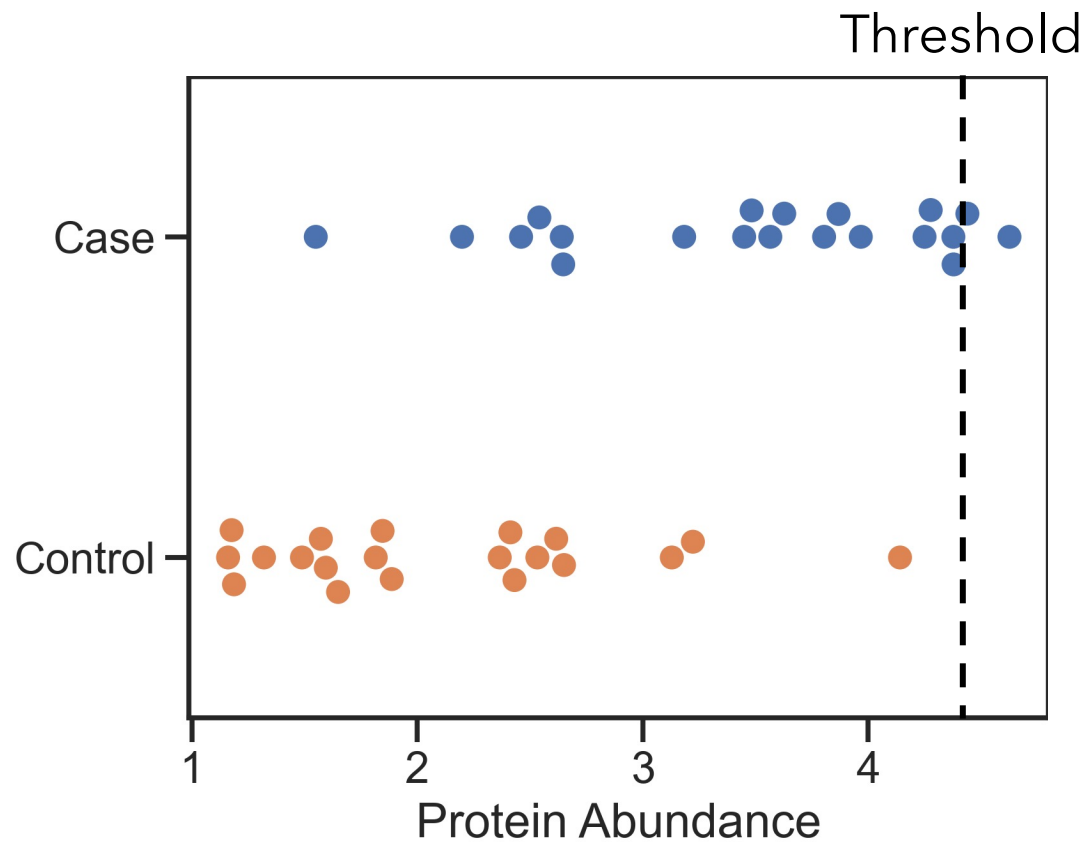
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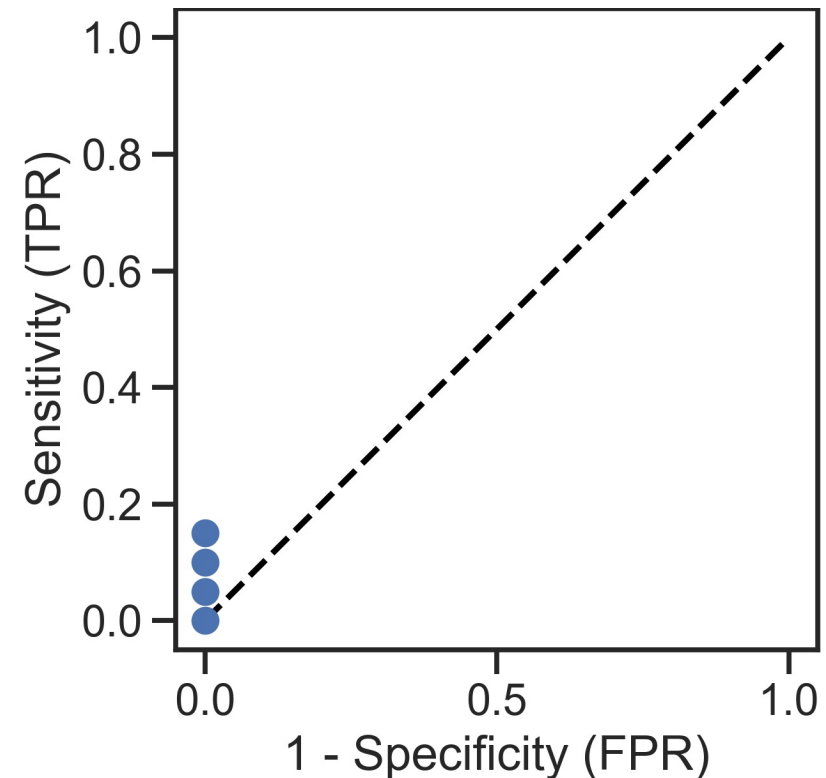
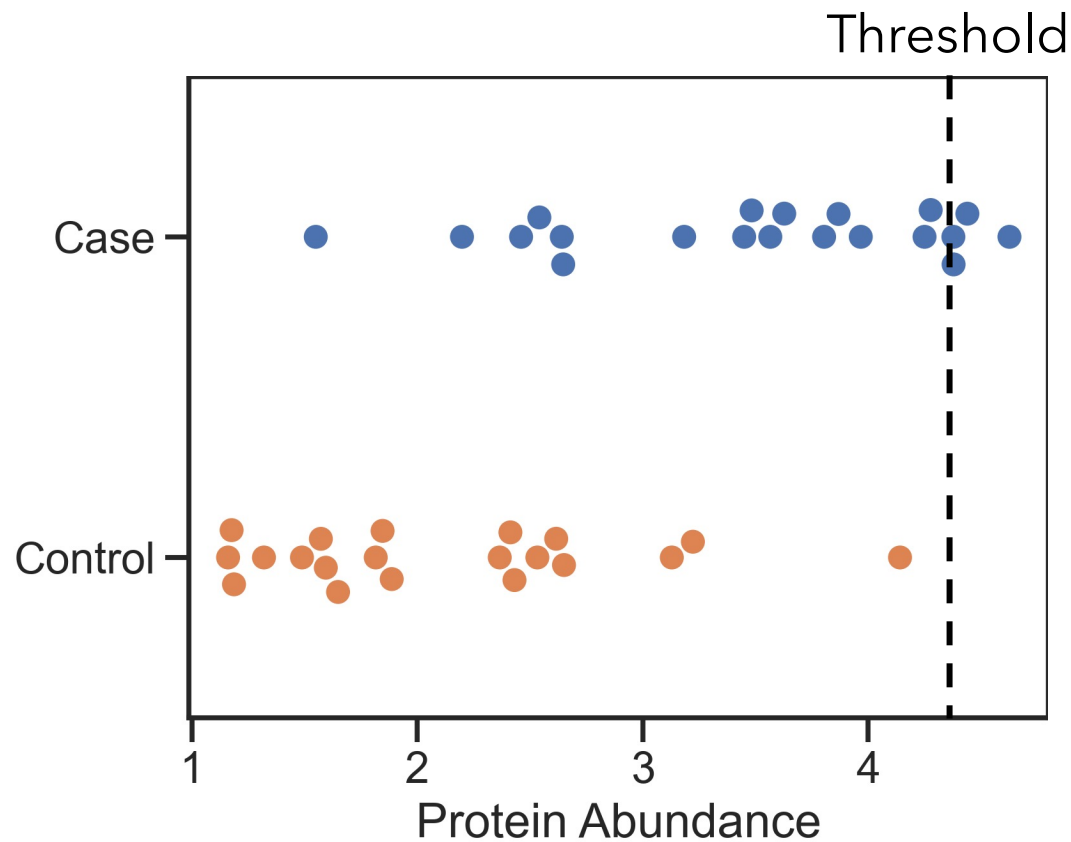
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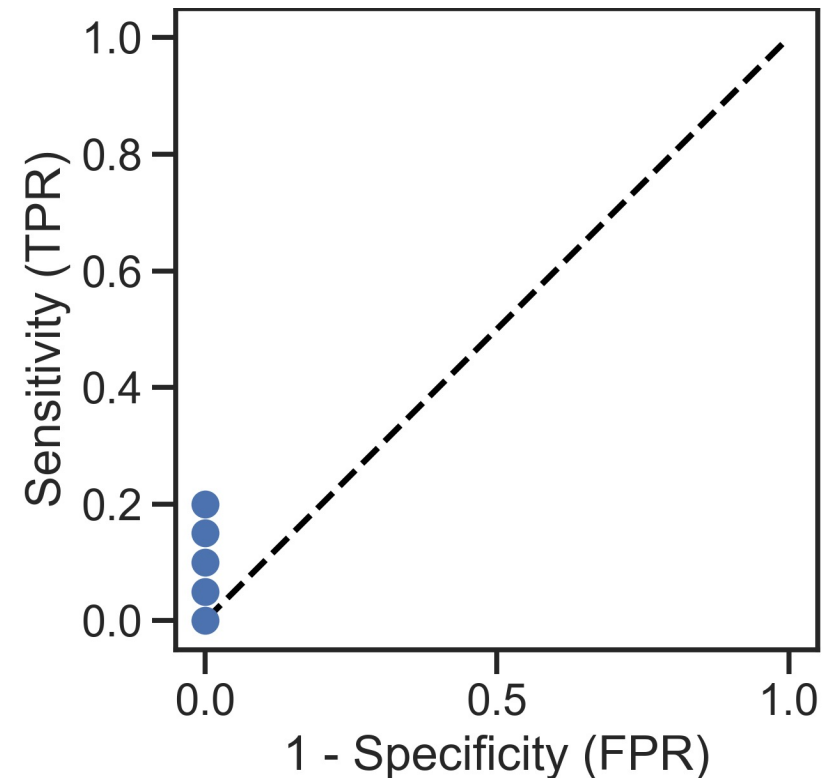
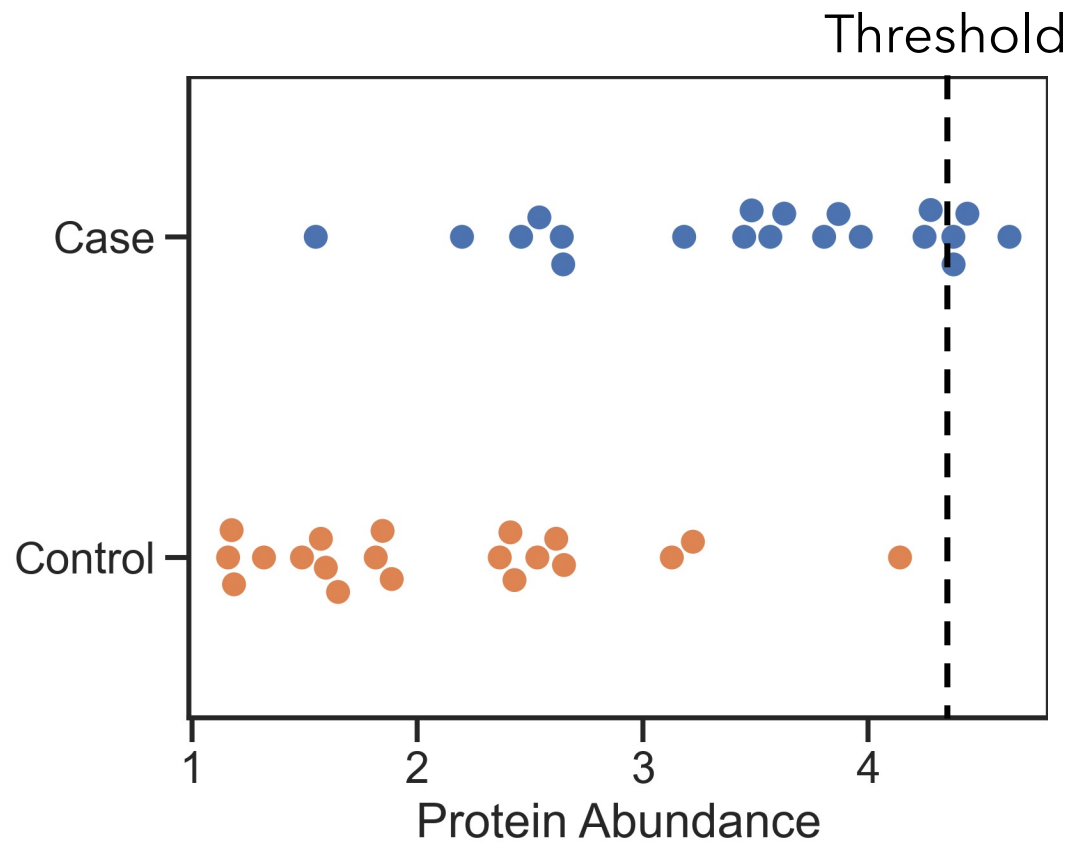
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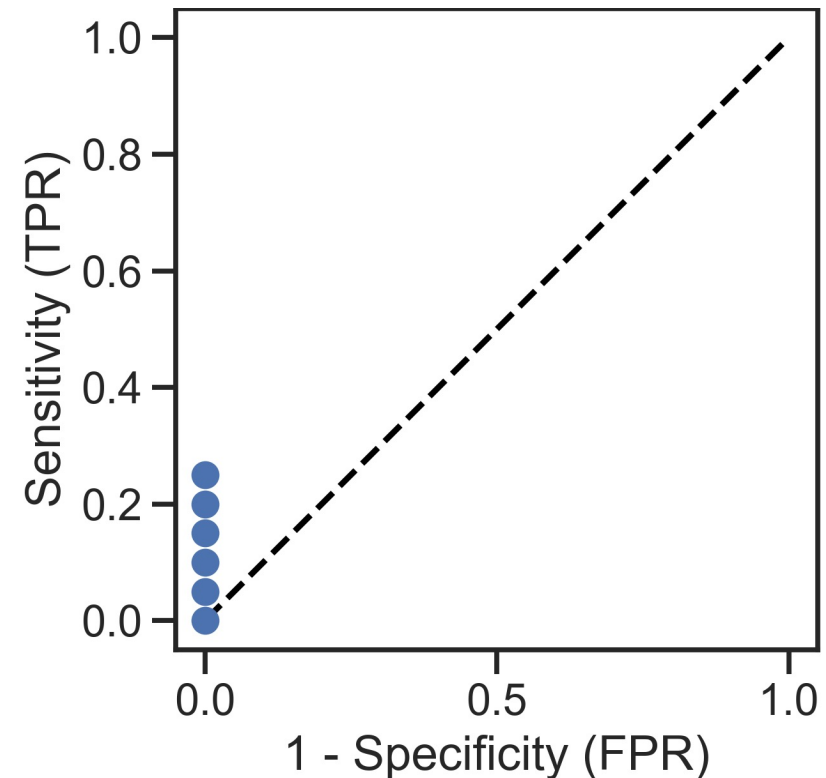
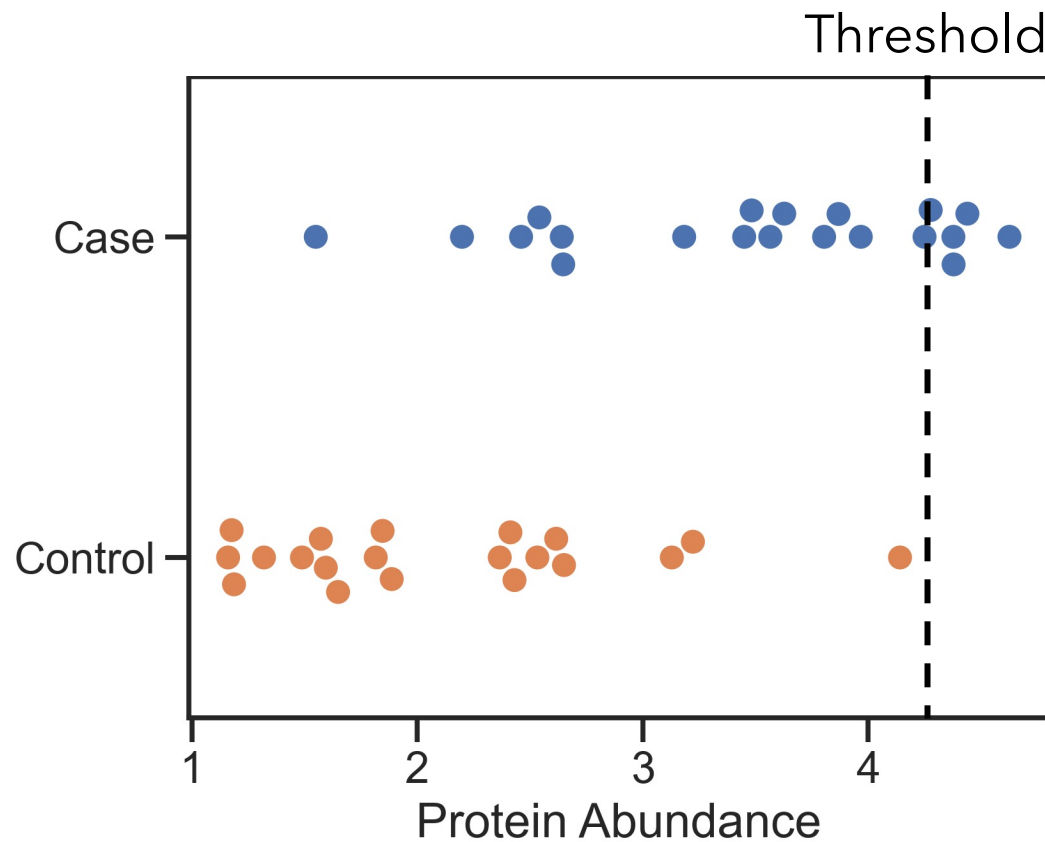
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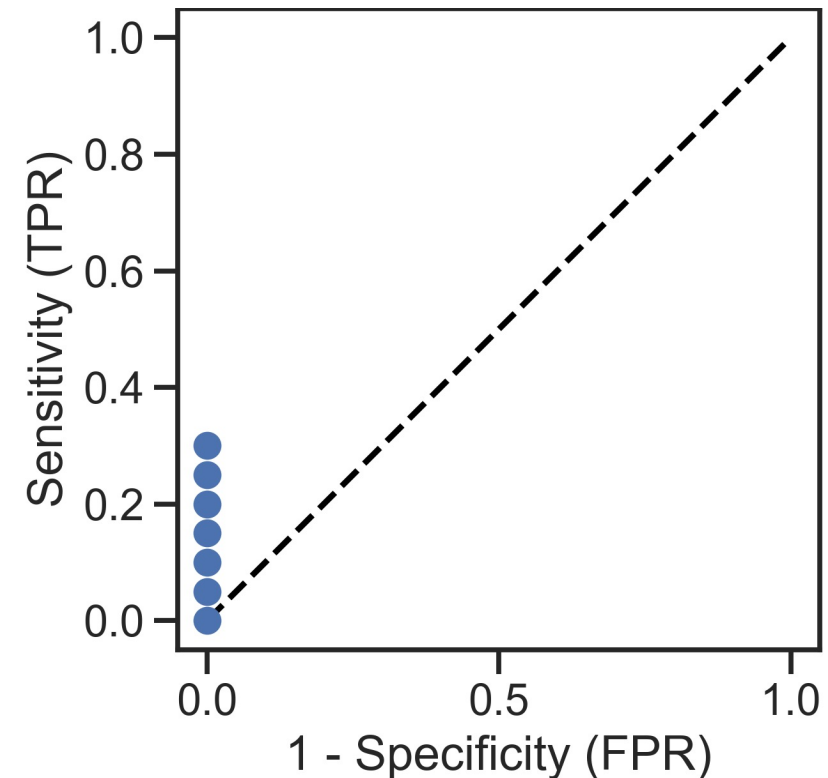
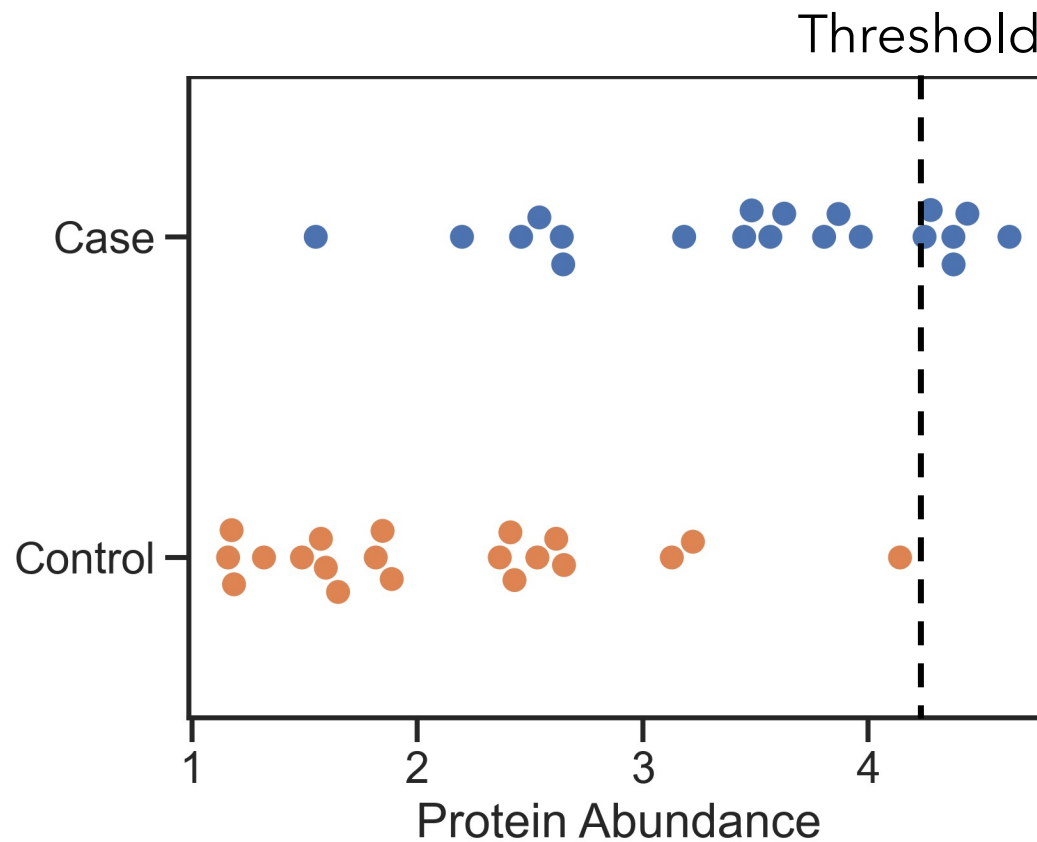
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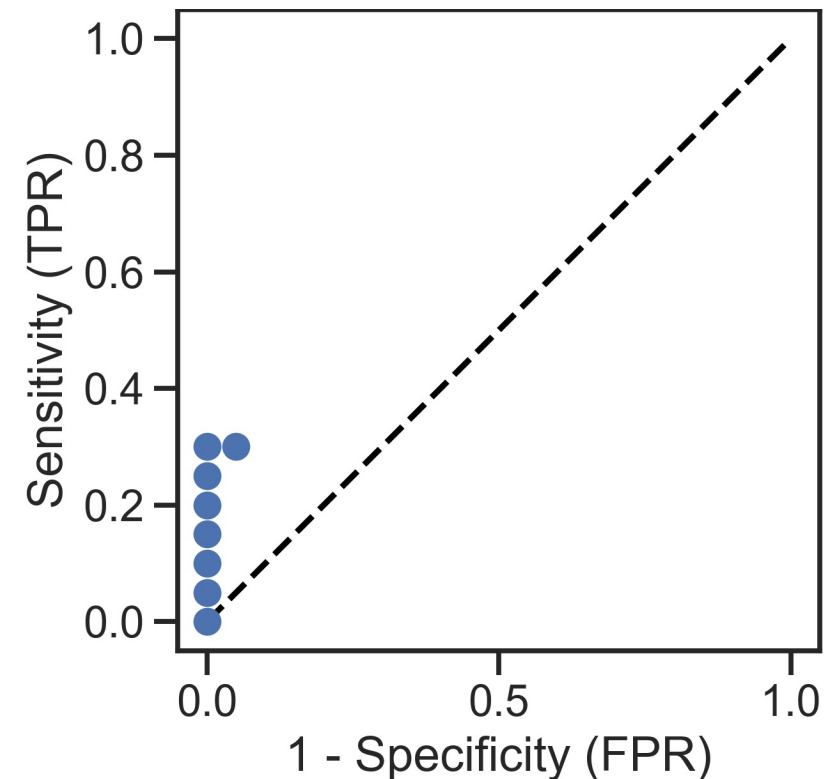
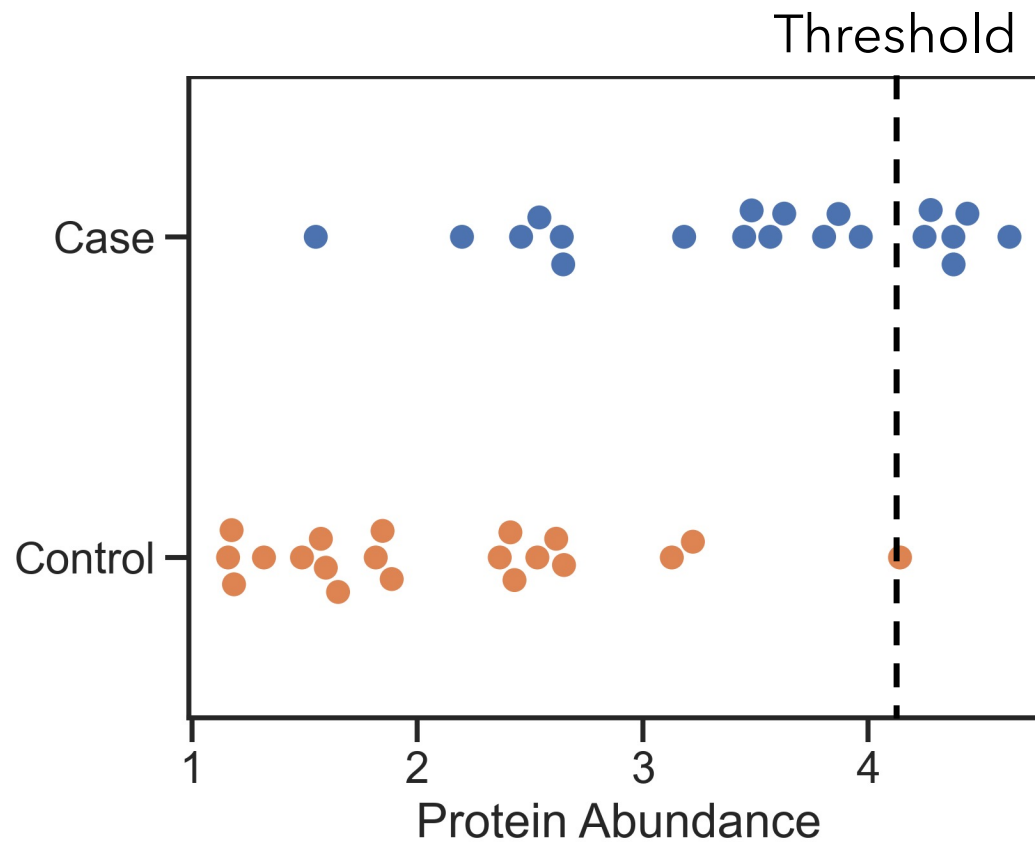
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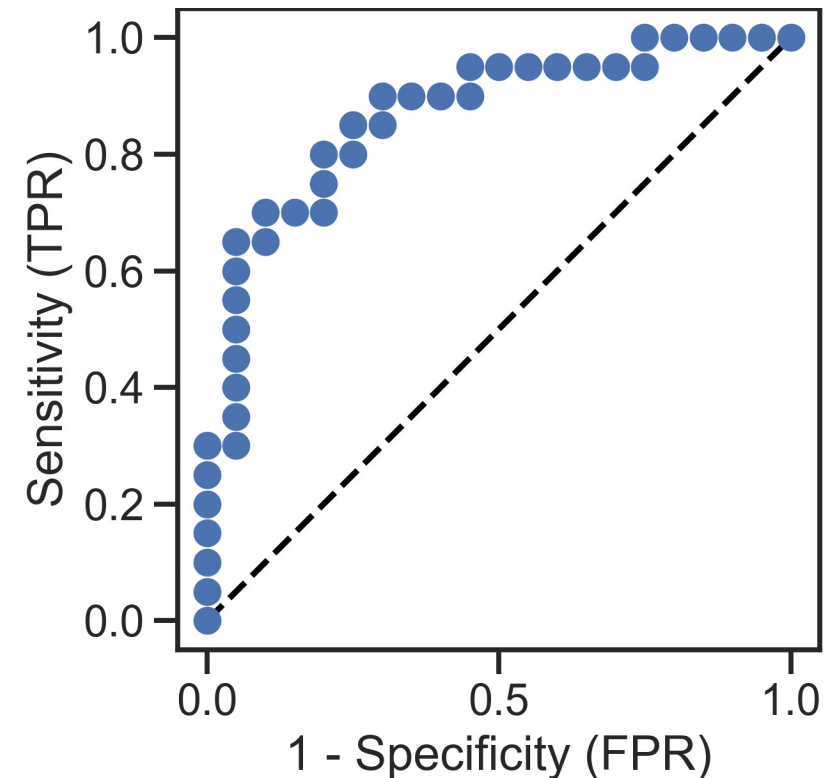
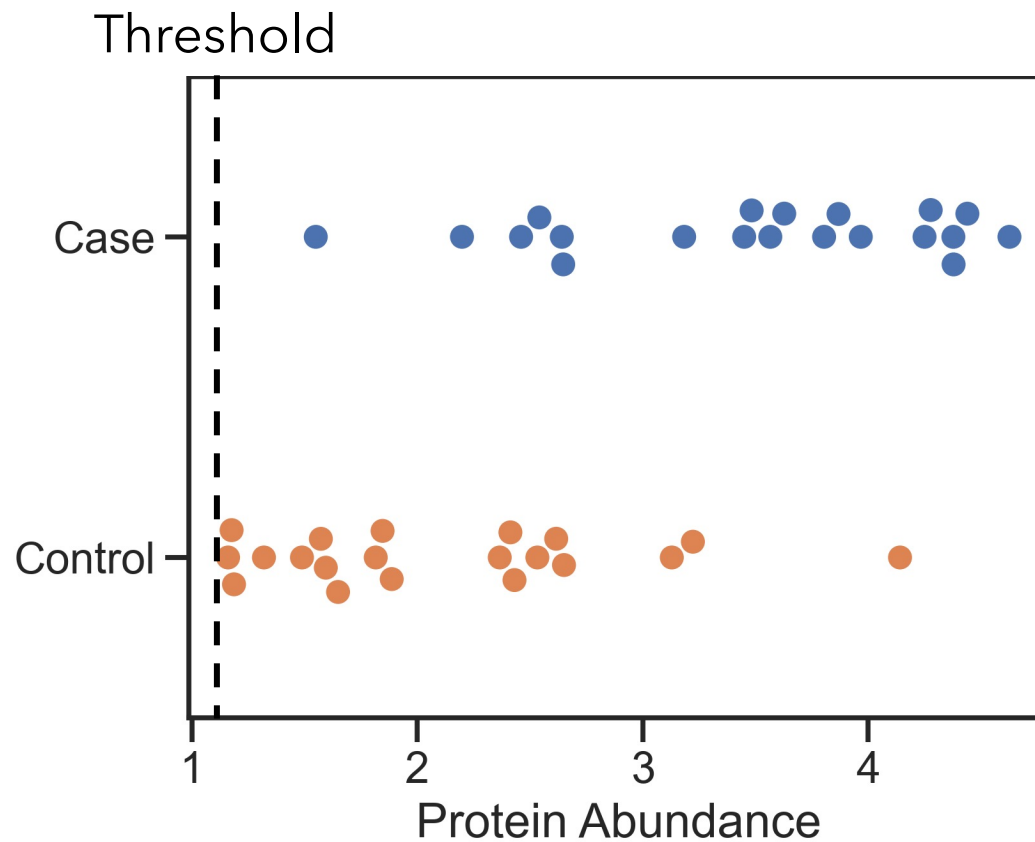
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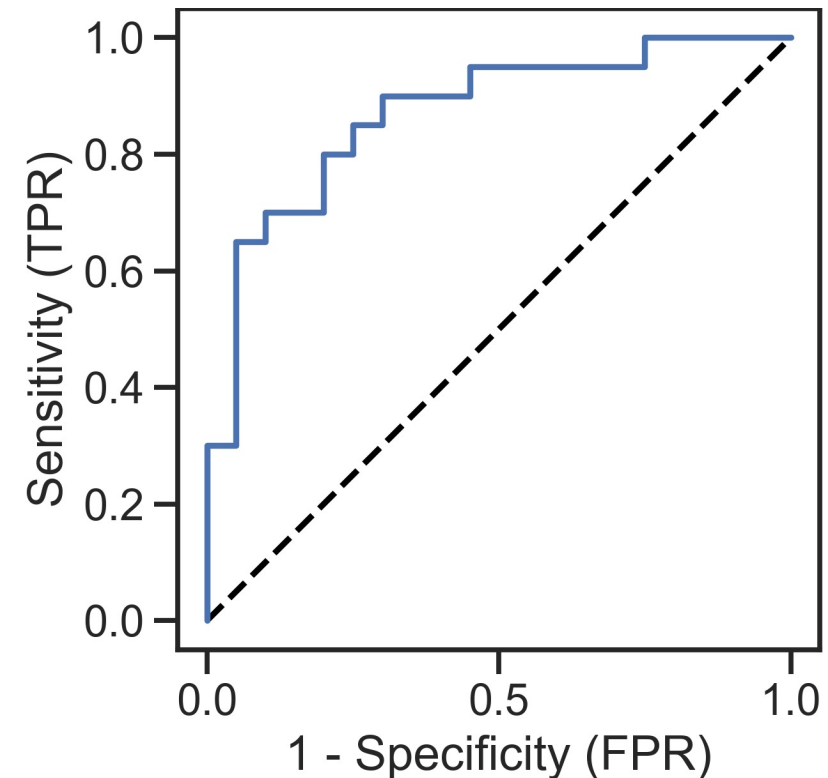
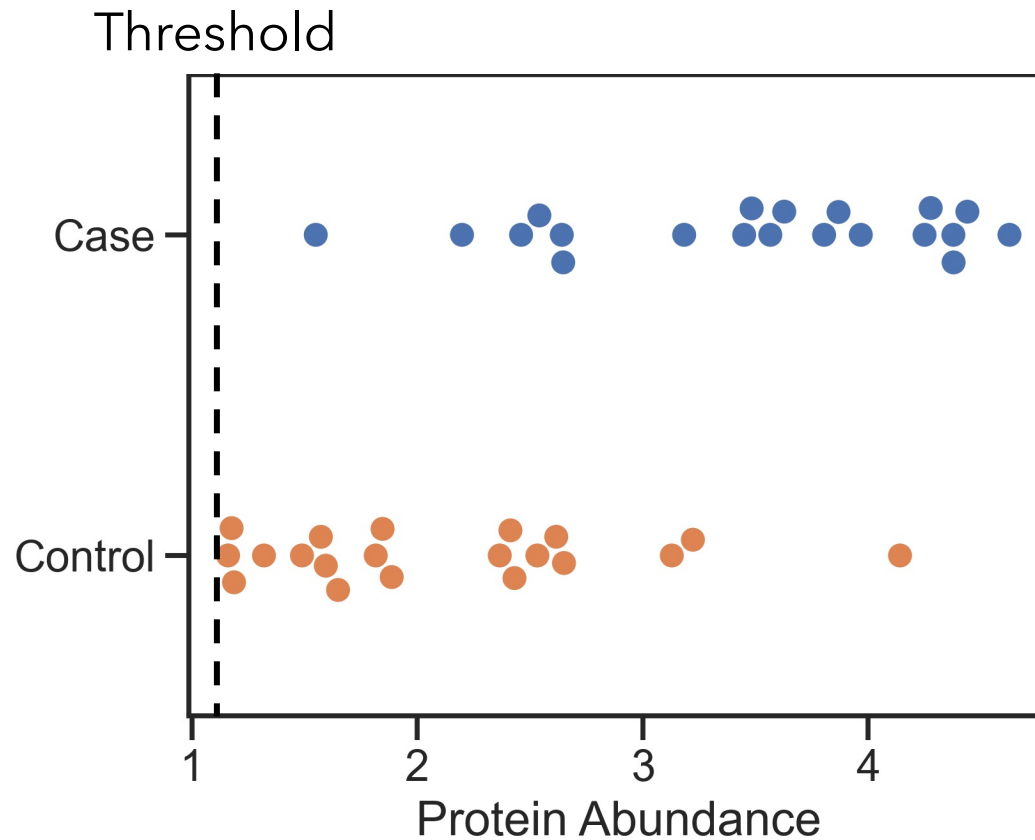
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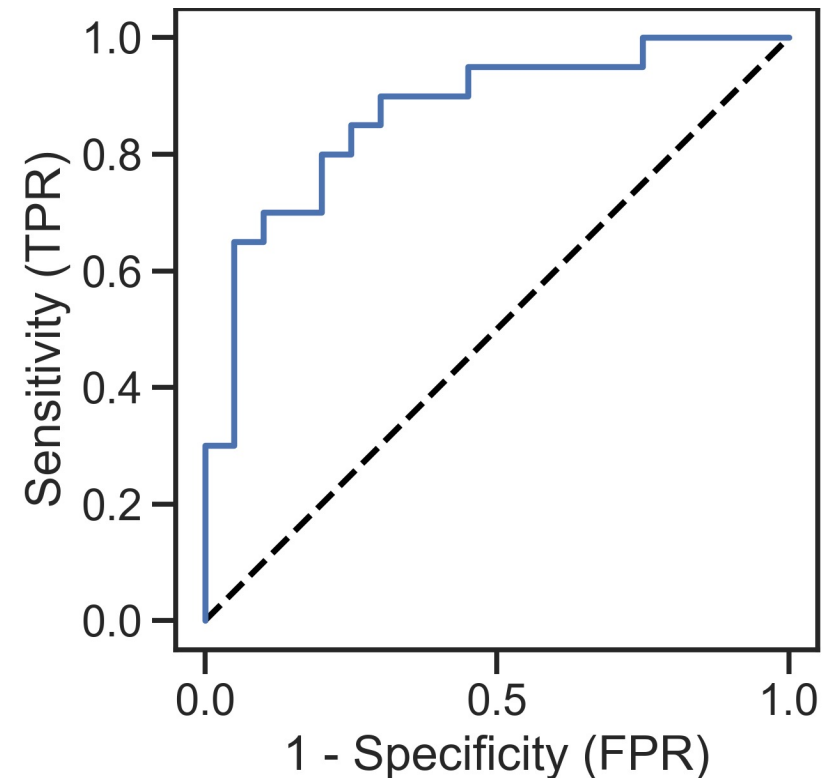


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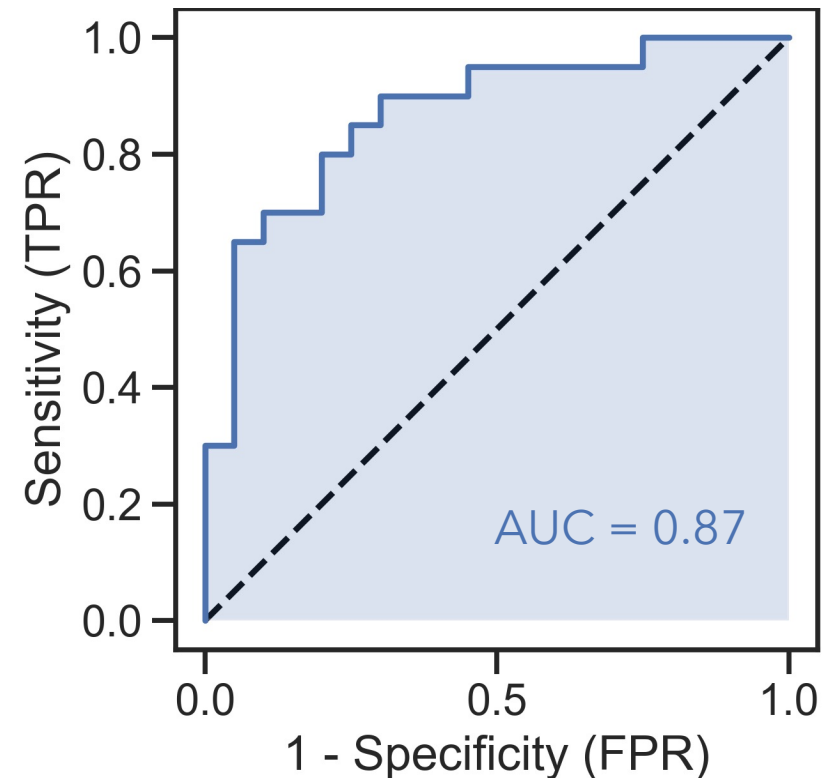
How do we evaluate ROC curves?

- The dashed line indicates the performance of randomly guessing.



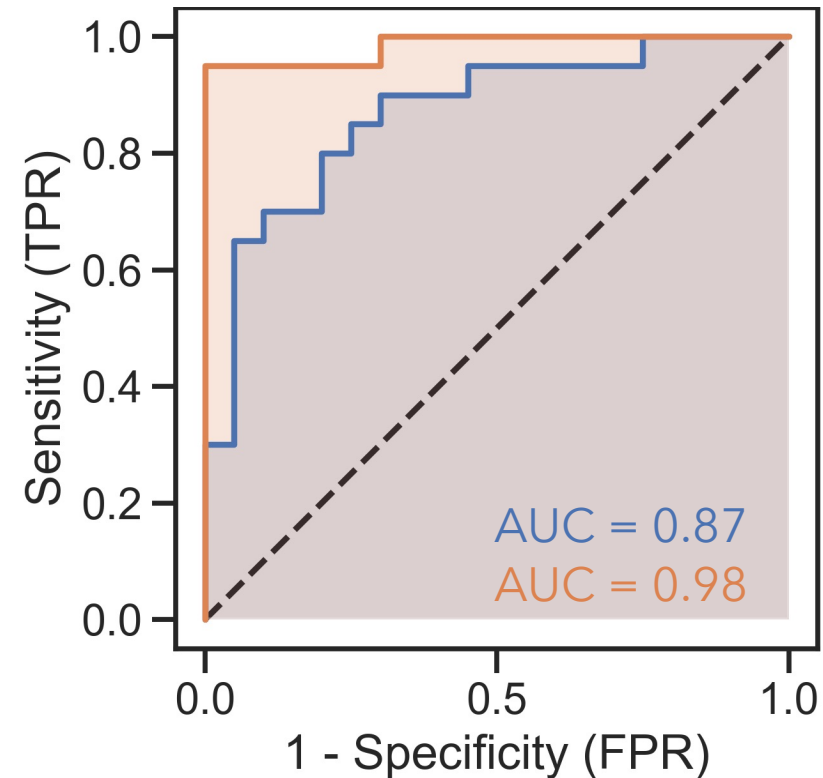
How do we evaluate ROC curves?

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- The area under the curve (AUC) provides an overall measure of performance.



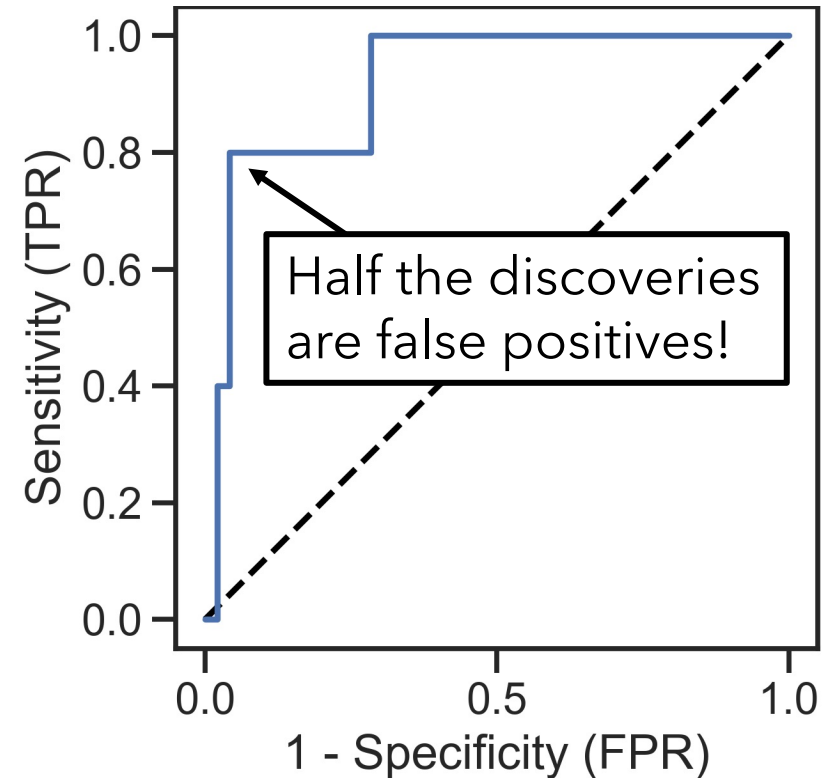
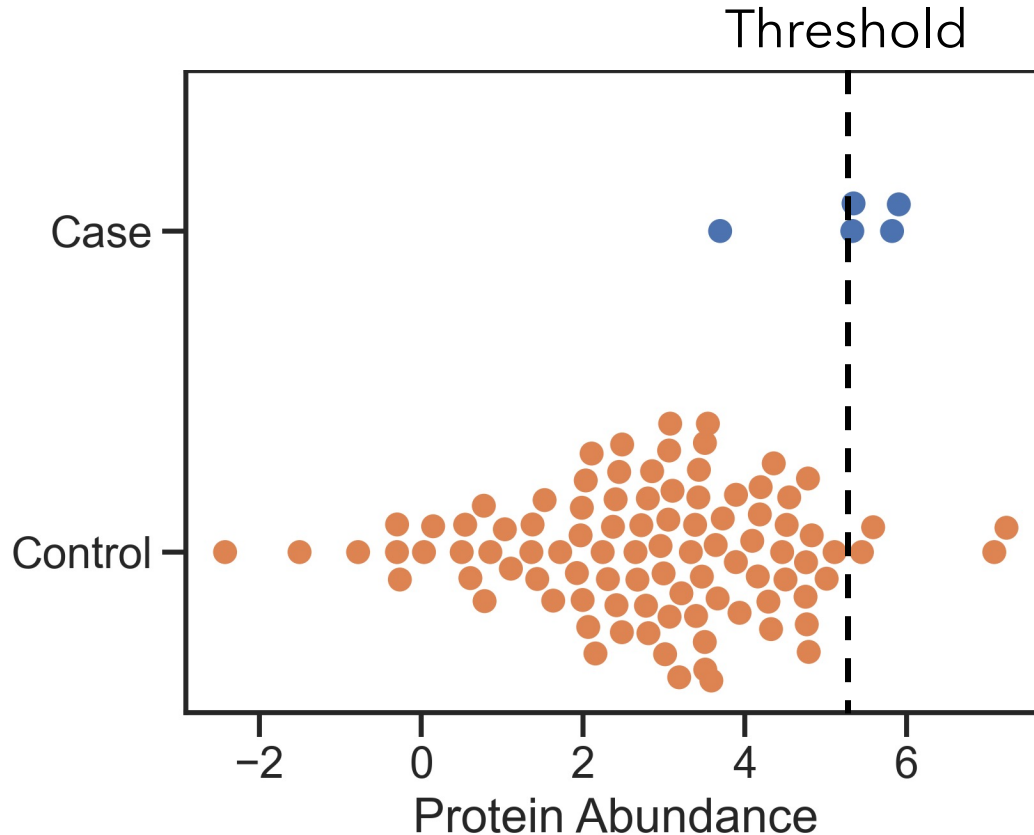
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- The dashed line indicates the performance of randomly guessing.
- The area under the curve (AUC) provides an overall measure of performance.



ROC curves can be misleading when the classes are imbalanced

What if we had only 5 cases and 95 controls in our data?



There are many other metrics we can use

