



# Metastats 2.0

An improved method and software for analyzing  
metagenomic data

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Abstract:

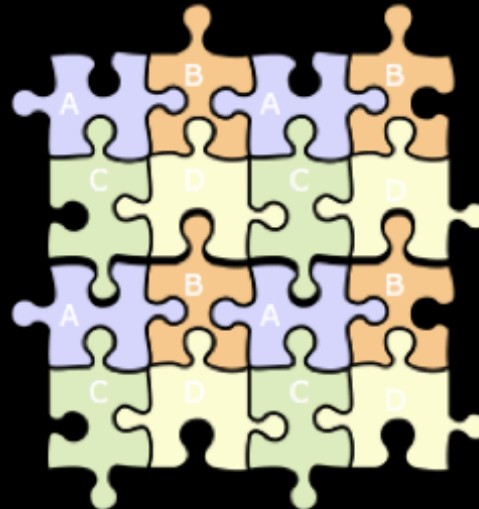
Here we present major improvements to Metastats software and underlying statistical methods.

- 1) A mixed-model zero-inflated Gaussian distribution.
- 2) A novel normalization method.

# Application Background

- ▶ What is metagenomics?
- ▶ Why is it important?
- ▶ What do I hope to do?

From: GPILS716 Claire M. Fraser-Liggett



Environmental sample – multiple sources of DNA

A	B
C	D

# Application Background

Detection of differential abundance!

Definition: A count,  $c_{ij}$  is the number of reads annotated as a particular taxa  $i$  for the  $j$ th sample



	S1	S2	.....	S(N-1)	SN
T1	$c(1,1)$	$c(1,2)$	.....	$c(1,N-1)$	$c(1,N)$
T2	$c(2,1)$	$c(2,2)$			.
.	.				.
.	.				.
T(M-1)	$c(M-1,1)$				.
TM	$c(M,1)$		.....		$c(M,N)$

# Hypothesis

$$H_0 := \mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0$$

$$H_1 := \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

$$P_{H_0}(t \notin A_\alpha) \leq \alpha$$

- Pvalues
  - P-value is the probability that one observing a test statistic the same or more extreme than what was observed (under  $H_0$ )
  - (probability of rejecting hypothesis when it's true)
  - We will reject our null hypothesis when our p-value is less than our significance level (alpha). I.e. significant

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# Statistical Methods for Detecting Differentially Abundant Features in Clinical Metagenomic Samples

James Robert White<sup>1</sup>, Niranjan Nagarajan<sup>2</sup>, Mihai Pop<sup>3\*</sup>

$$\bar{X}_{it} = \frac{1}{n_t} \sum_{j \in \text{treatment } t} f_{ij}$$

$$s_{it}^2 = \frac{1}{n_t - 1} \sum_{j \in \text{treatment } t} (f_{ij} - \bar{X}_{it})^2$$



$$t_i = \frac{\bar{X}_{i1} - \bar{X}_{i2}}{(s_{i1}^2/n_1 + s_{i2}^2/n_2)^{.5}}$$



$$p_i = \frac{|\{t_i^{ob} \mid |t_i^{ob}| \geq |t_i| b \in 1 \dots B\}|}{B}$$

# Statistical Methods for Detecting Differentially Abundant Features in Clinical Metagenomic Samples

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Too slow! Can't handle large datasets

- More and more data coming daily!
- Lots of for loops
- Error

Doesn't account for depth of coverage

Many “spurious” zeros

Normalization induces spurious correlations  
important in time series analyses



# Loading data

- New

```
classes <-c("character",rep("numeric",length(subjects)));
dat3 <- read.table(file,header=FALSE,skip=ctcounter+1,sep="\t",colClasses=classes);

taxa<- dat3[,1];
taxa<-as.matrix(taxa);
# load remaining counts
matrix <- array(0, dim=c(length(taxa),length(subjects)));
for(i in (1:length(subjects))) {
  matrix[,i] <- as.numeric(dat3[,i+1]);
}
```

- Old

```
dat2 <- read.table(file,header=TRUE,sep="\t");
# load remaining counts
matrix <- array(0, dim=c(length(taxa),length(subjects)));
for(i in 1:length(taxa)){
  for(j in 1:length(subjects)){
    matrix[i,j] <- as.numeric(dat2[i,j+1]);
  }
}
```





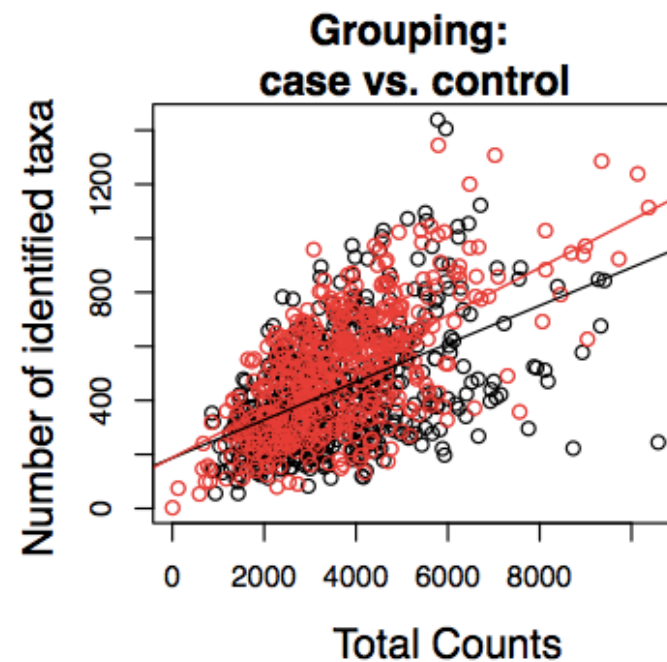
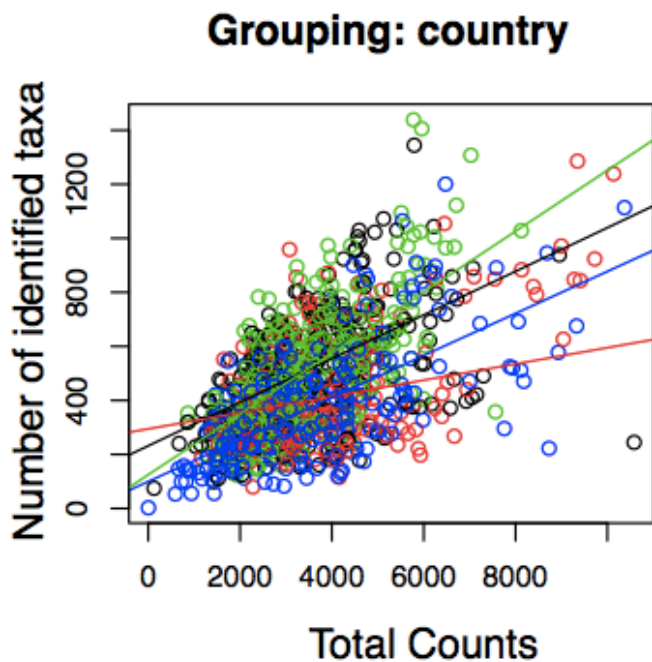
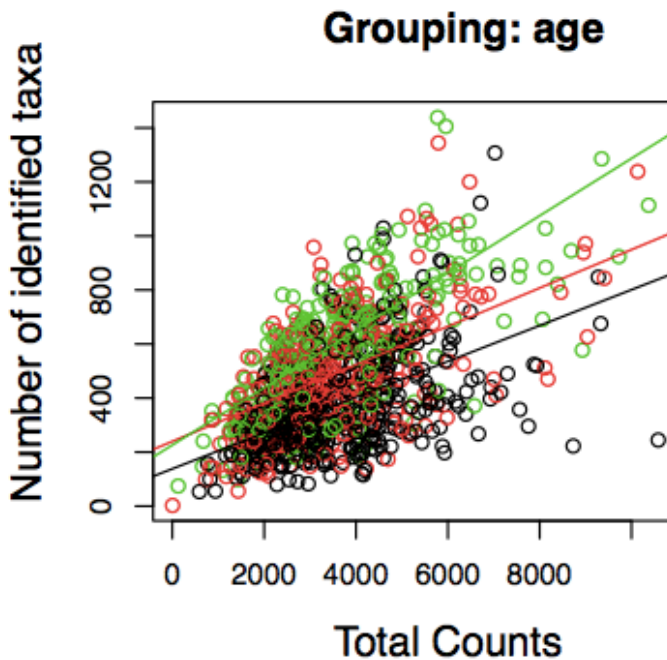
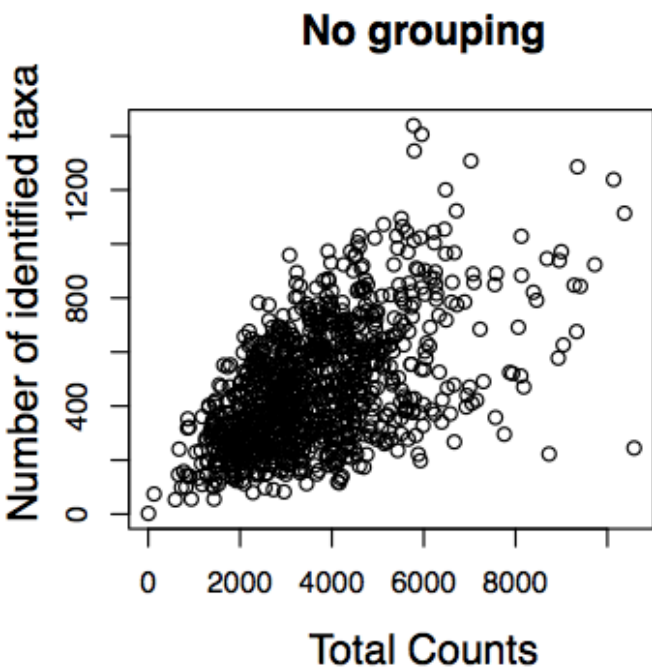
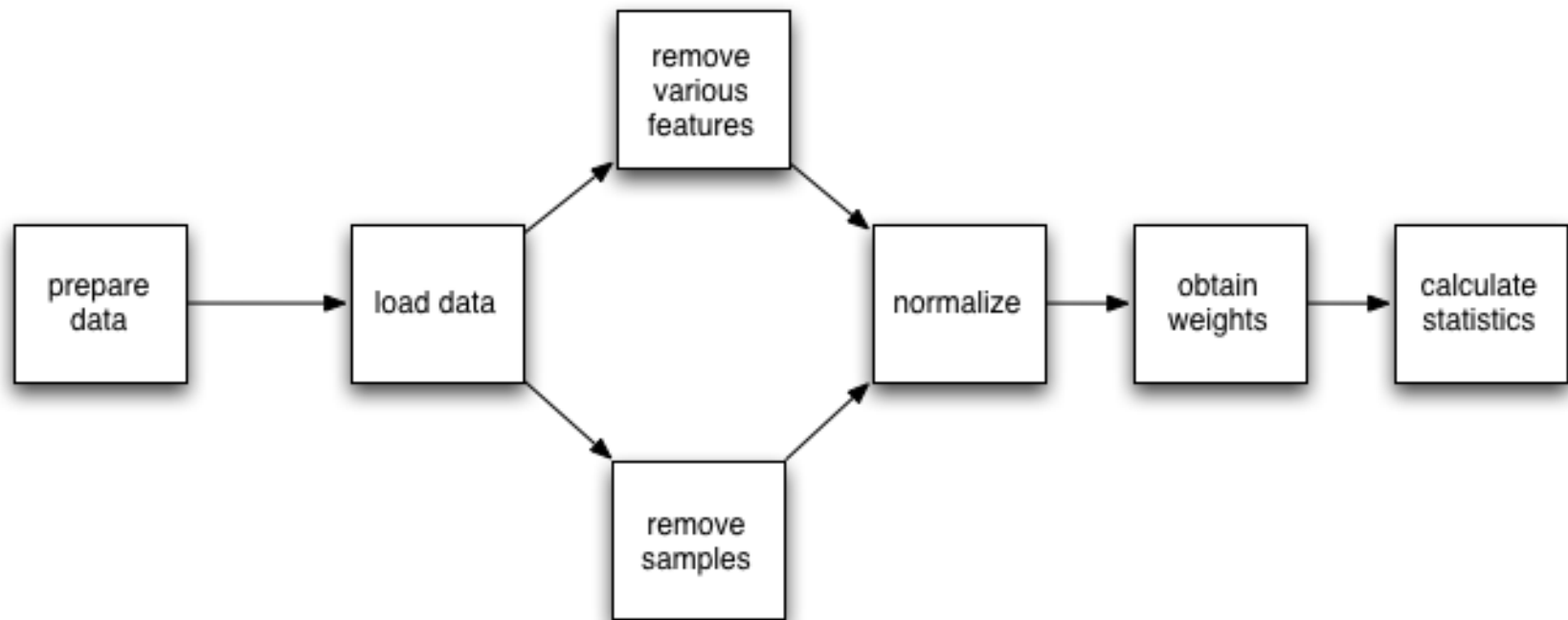


FIG B:  
BLACK = AGE 0  
RED = AGE 1  
GREEN = AGE 2

FIG C:  
BLACK =  
COUNTRY 0  
RED =  
COUNTRY 1  
GREEN =  
COUNTRY 2  
BLUE =  
COUNTRY 3

FIG D:  
BLACK = CASE  
RED = CONTROL



# Metastats Workflow

# Normalization

- Ratio Normalization:

- What are the issues with it??

$$y_{Aj} = c_{Aj} / (c_{1j} + \dots + c_{Aj} + c_{Bj} + \dots c_{Mj})$$

- Spurious correlation [1]

- False negatives [2]

- False positives [2]

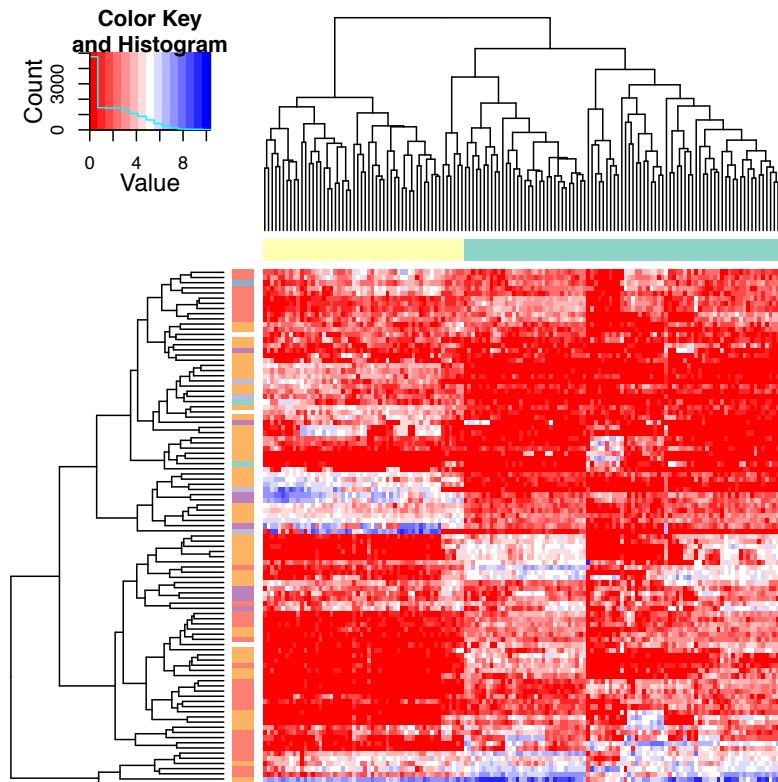
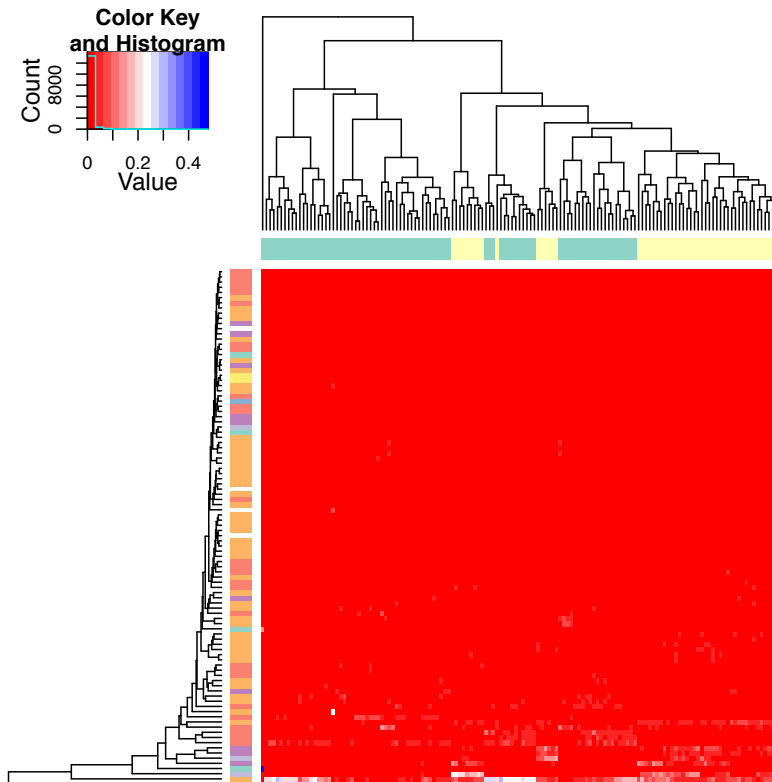
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<sup>1</sup> Pearson, Mathematical Contributions to the Theory of Evolution. On a Form of Spurious Correlation Which May Arise When Indices Are Used in the Measurement of Organs

<sup>2</sup> Bullard et. al., Evaluation of statistical methods for normalization and differential expression in mRNA-Seq experiments, BMC Bioinformatics, 2010

# Normalization

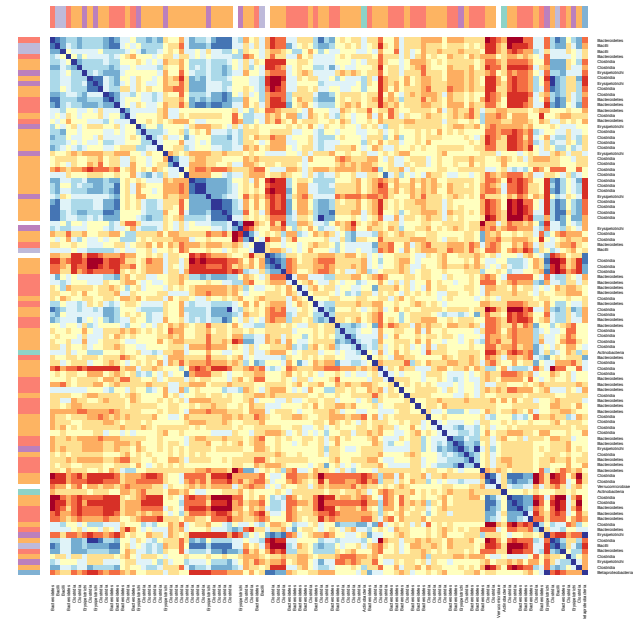
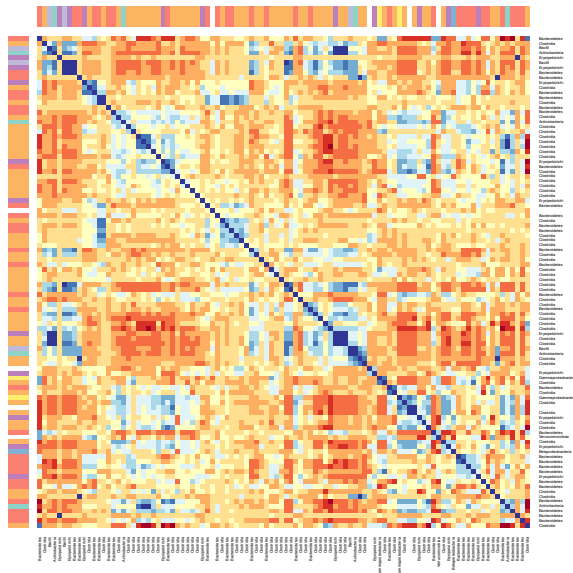
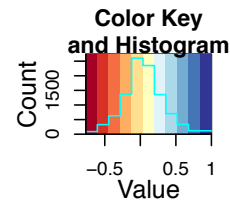
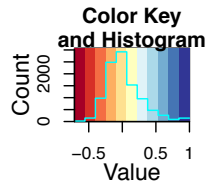
1. Cumulative Distribution Normalization
  1. Followed by the old method for testing, a
2. Cumulative Sum Normalization
  1. Followed by EM-algorithm



# Normalization

1. Cumulative Distribution Normalization
  1. Followed by the old method for testing, a

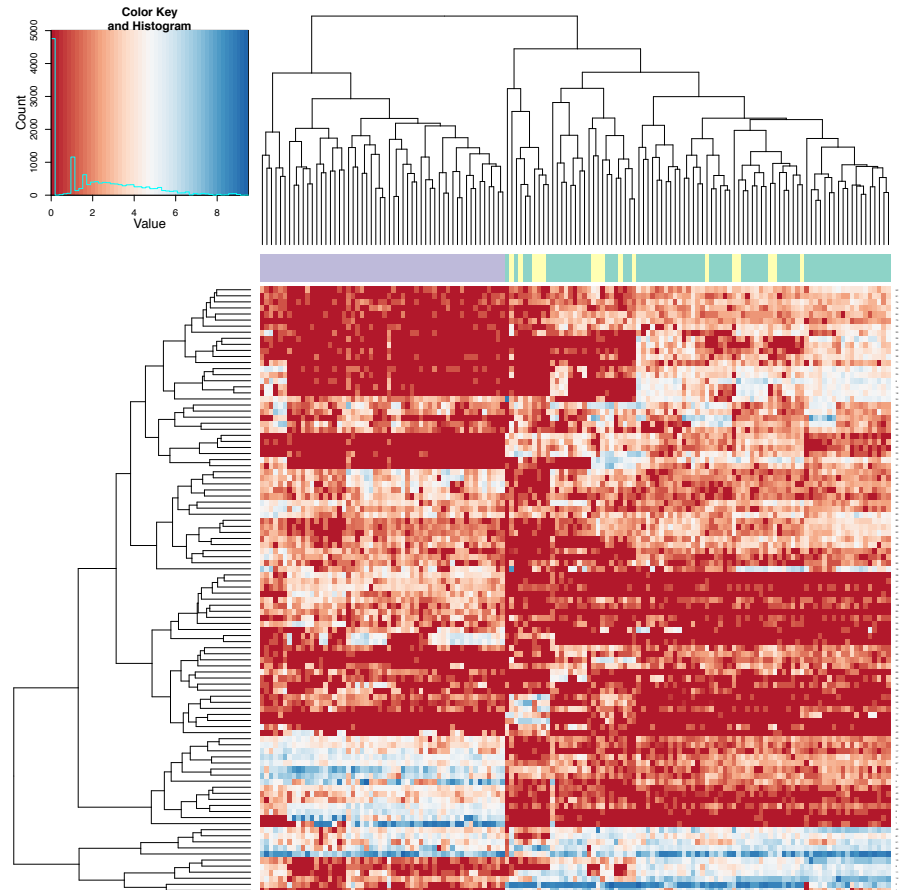
2. Cumulative Sum Normalization
  1. Followed by EM-algorithm





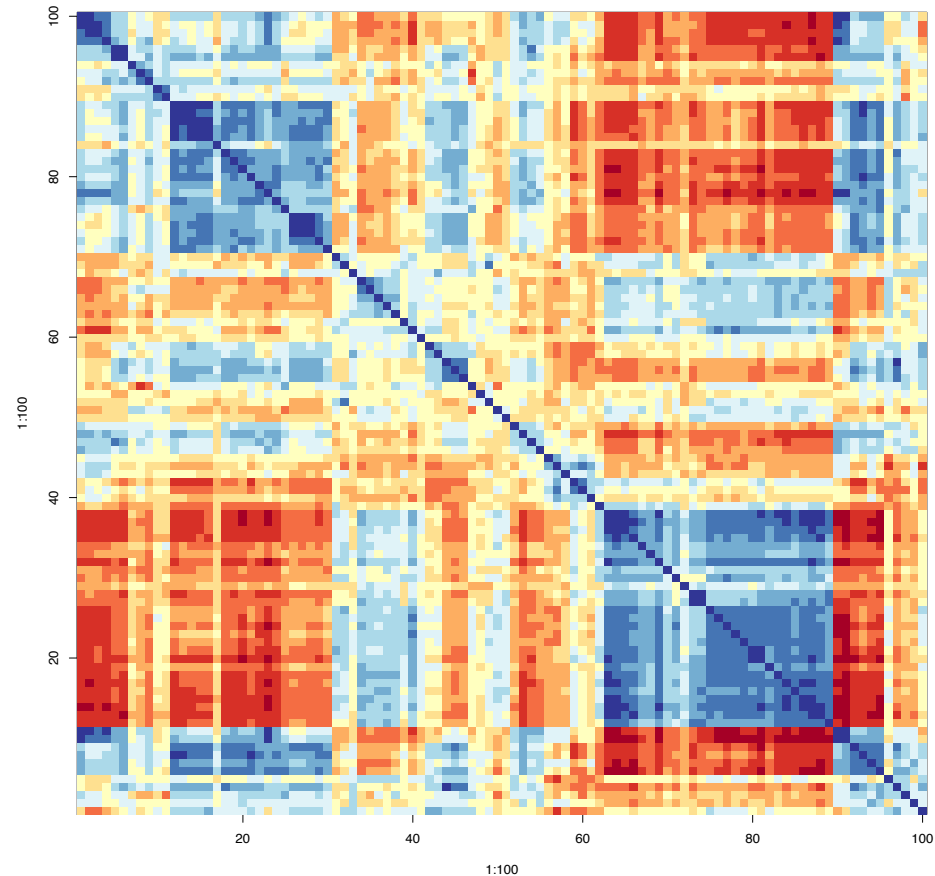
# Normalization

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# Cumulative Distribution Normalization

- bin samples into groups,  $G_m$ , of similar zeros proportions at the OTU level; (meant to account for Zeros)
  1. given  $n_i$  samples  $\in G_m$  all of length  $p$ , form  $X_m$  of dimension  $p \times n_i$ ;
  2. sort each column of  $X_i$  to obtain  $X_{m,sort}$ ;
  3. replace each column of  $X_{m,sort}$  with the cumulative sum of that column;
  4. take the means across rows of  $X_{m,sort}$  and assign the mean to each element in the row to get  $X'_{m,sort}$  and take the inverse of the cumulative norm;
  5. get  $X_{m,normalized}$  by rearranging each column of  $X'_{m,sort}$  to have the same ordering of the original  $X_m$
  6. force new-nonzero features, back to zero
- scale each group's normalized counts to the median of the groups.

Genes are sampled preferentially as sequencing yield increases (# PCR cycles biases as well).

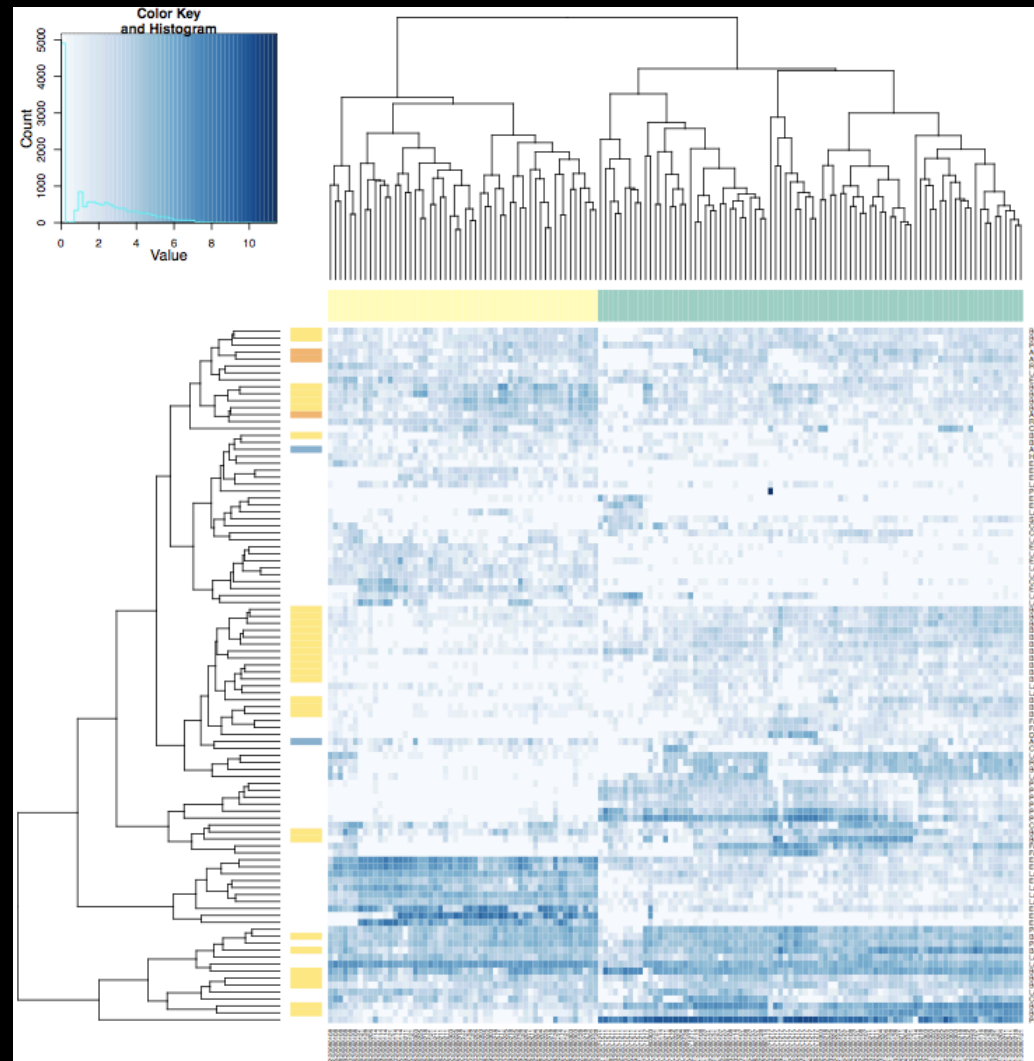
Unlike RNA-seq data<sup>c</sup>, we assume **finite capacity** in metagenomic communities:

$$S_{95j} = \sum_i c_{ij} \leq q_{95j}$$

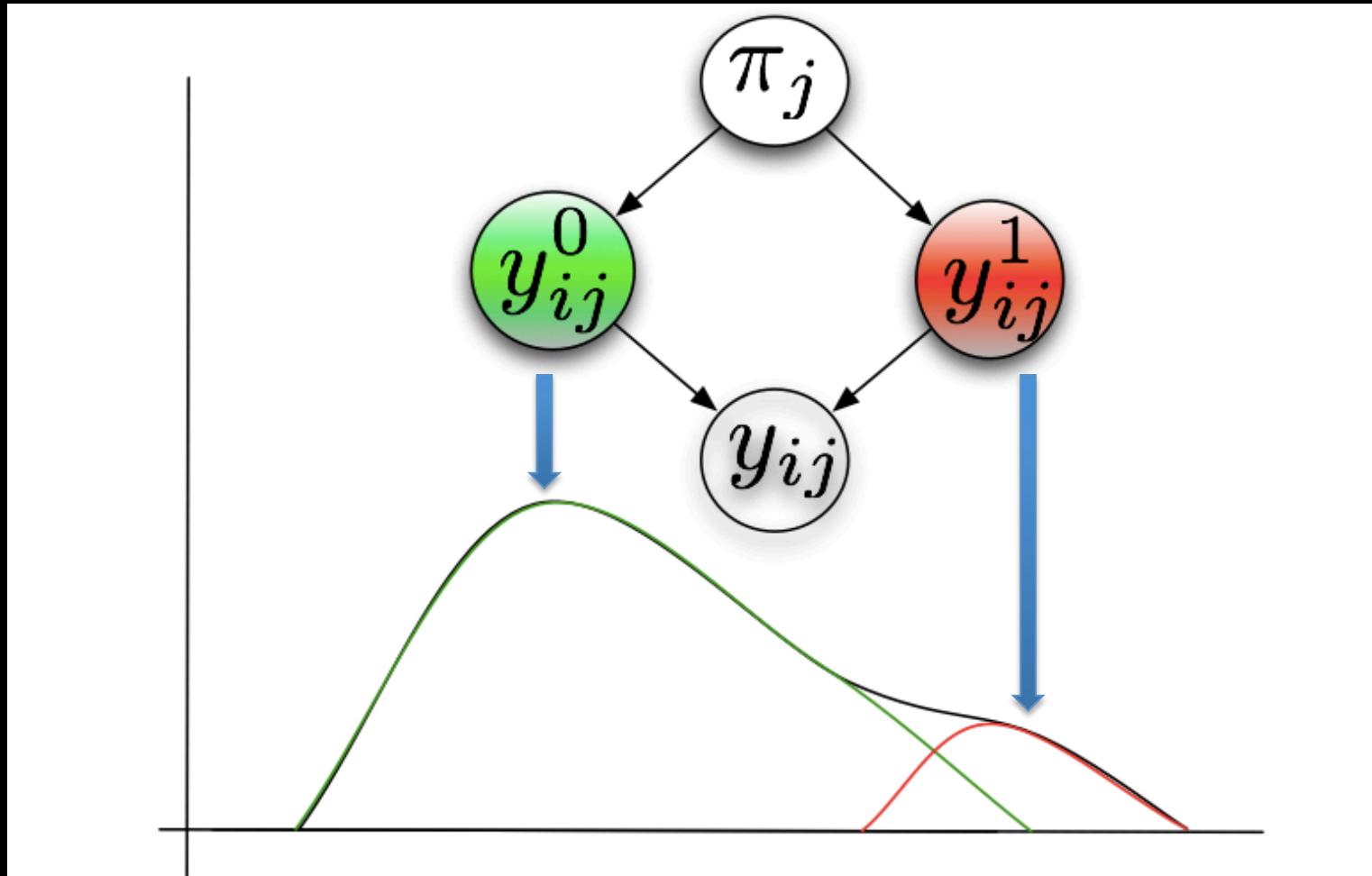
This procedure addresses the issues:

- ▶ constraints communities with respect to a total capacity
- ▶ No undue influence on features that are preferentially sampled.

<sup>c</sup>RNA-seq data normalization:  $y_{ij} = c_{ij} / q_{75j}$



$$f_{total}(y_{ij}; \theta) = \pi \cdot f_0(y_{ij}) + (1 - \pi) \cdot f_1(y_{ij})$$



# Approach: Zero-inflated Gaussian

- Counts are log transformed as:  $y_{ij} = \log_2(c_{ij} + 1)$
- Mixture of point mass,  $f_{\{0\}}$ , at zero and a count distribution  $f_{count}(y; \mu, \sigma^2) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- Mixture parameter  $\pi_j$
- Values  $\theta = \{S_j, \beta_0, \beta_1, \mu_i, \sigma_i^2\}$
- Density is:

$$f_{zig}(y_{ij}; \theta) = \pi_j(S_j) \cdot f_{\{0\}}(y_{ij}) + (1 - \pi_j(S_j)) \cdot f_{count}(y_{ij}; \mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$$

# Zero-inflated Gaussian

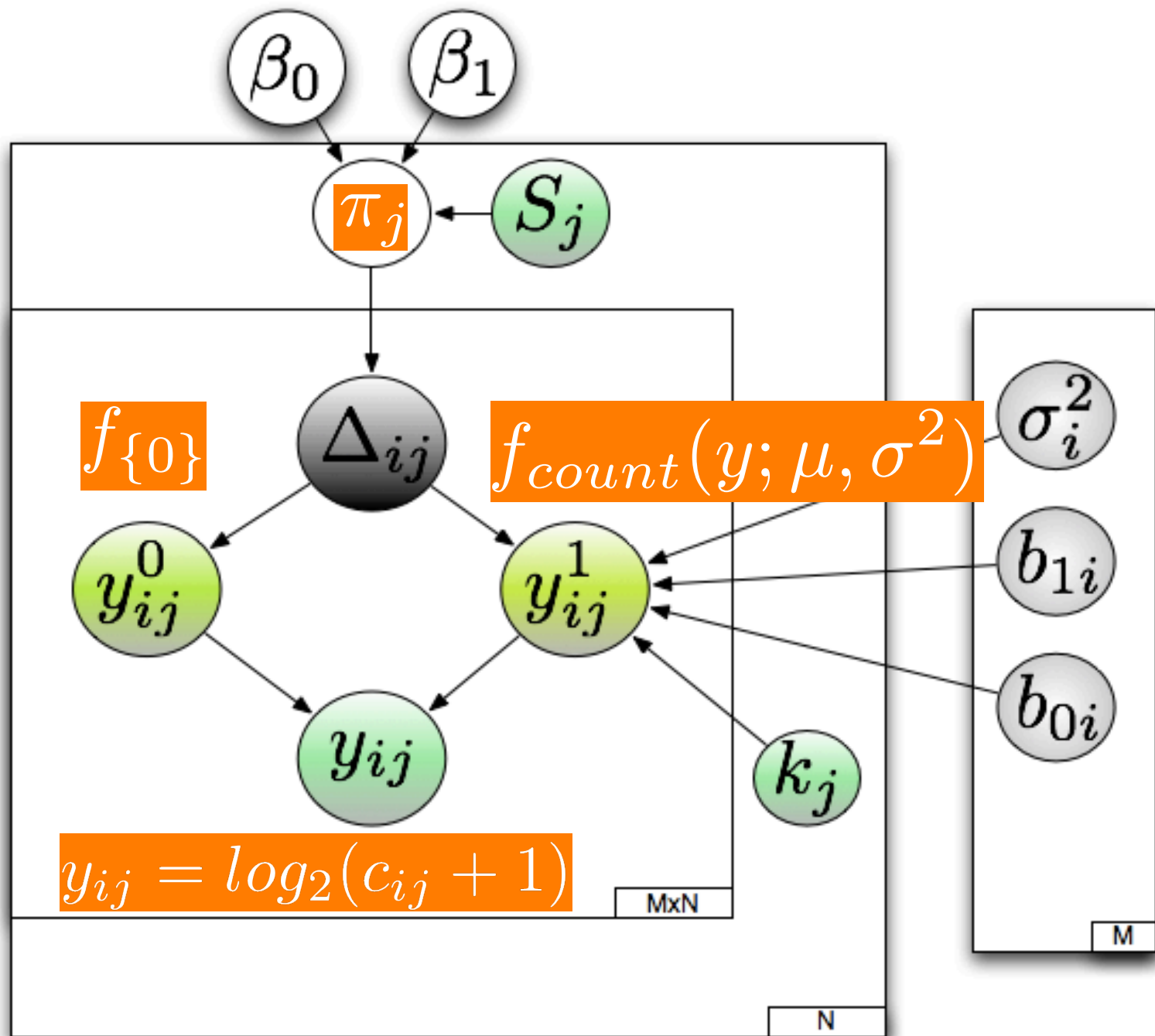
- And a mean specified as:

$$E(y_{ij}|k(j)) = \pi_j \cdot 0 + (1 - \pi_j) \cdot (b_{i0} + b_{i1} \cdot k(j))$$

Or  $y_{ij} = \log_2(c_{ij} + 1)$

$$E(y_{ij}|k(j)) = \pi_j \cdot 0 + (1 - \pi_j) \cdot (b_{i0} + b_{i1} \cdot k(j) + \eta_i \log_2(s_{95_j}))$$

- Where  $k_j$  is our class label





# Algorithm:

1. Preprocess Data
2. Take initial guesses for the expected value of the latent indicator variables.
  - $ij$  positions with counts  $> 0$ , the value is 0, else .5

*For  $i$  in  $1.....M$ :*

3. Expectation
4. Maximize
5. Calculate negative log-likelihoods for each feature

*Repeat*

7. Permute class membership (labels)
8. Calculate new t-statistic, permute and calculate p-values

# ***Expectation***-Maximization

E-step:

Estimates responsibilities,

$$z_{ij} = Pr(\Delta_{ij} = 1 | \hat{\theta}, y_{ij}) = E(\Delta_{ij} | \hat{\theta}, y_{ij})$$

as:

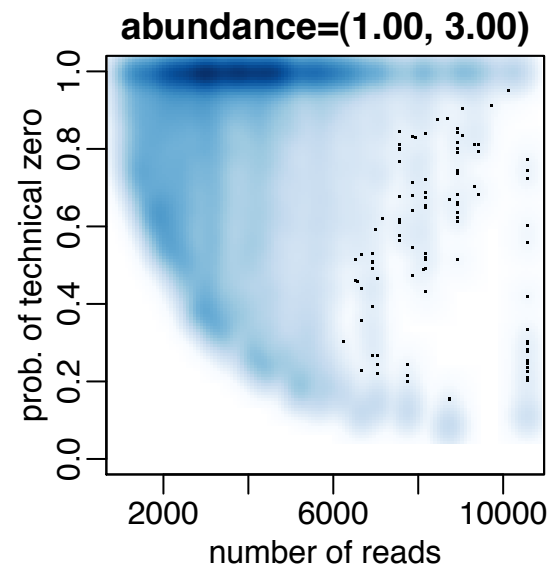
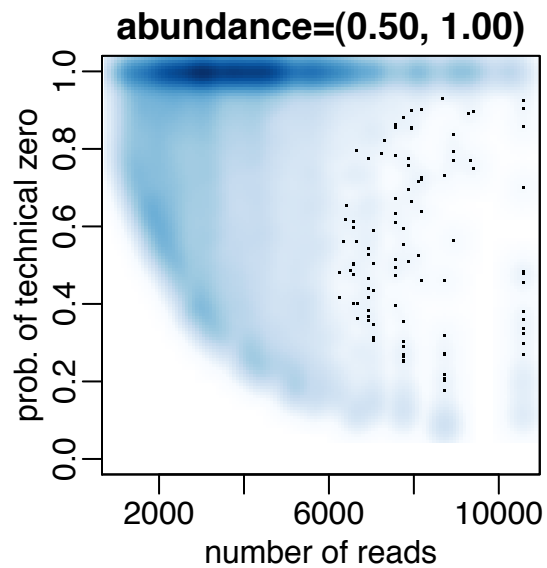
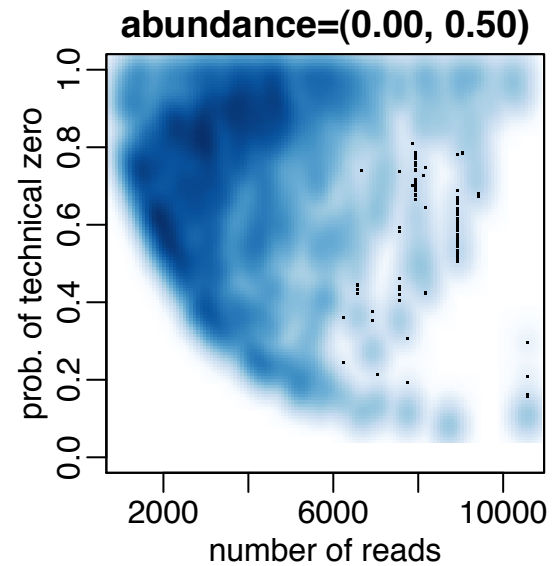
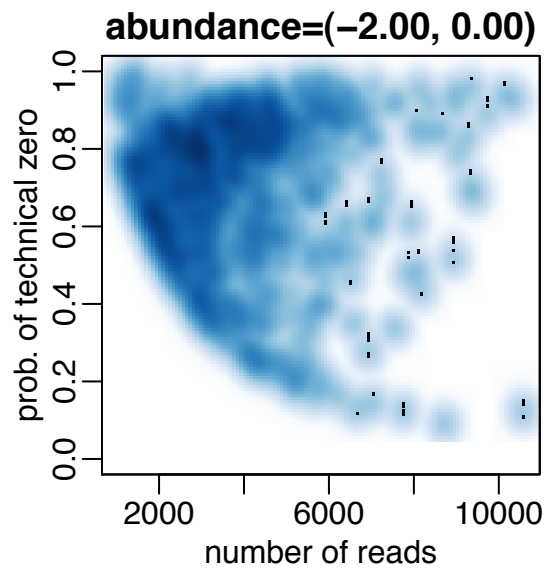
$$\hat{z}_{ij} = \frac{\hat{\pi}_j \cdot I_{\{0\}}(y_{ij})}{\hat{\pi}_j \cdot I_{\{0\}}(y_{ij}) + (1 - \hat{\pi}_j) \cdot f_{count}(y_{ij}; \hat{\theta}_{ij})}$$

# Algorithm continued

- Permute the labels  $K_j$
- Compute  $t_i^{ob} = \frac{b_{1i}}{(\sigma_i^2 / \sum(1 - z_{ij}))^{.5}}$
- Divided by the newly weighted standard error.
- Calculate  $p_i = \frac{\{|t_i^{ob}| \geq |t_i| b \in 1 \dots B\}}{B}$

# Validation

- For normalization methods it was always checked by hand that the proper normalization was calculated.
- Ensured that data is loaded properly, etc.
- Next up is to compare non-zero matrix results with another method, the log model fit, to ensure exact same results.
- Simulate data for known quantities (known difference, small variance) and see how model reacts.



# Eta

# No eta

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# Project Schedule

- November 30:
  - Preprocessing data
  - Finish normalization codes
  - **Finished**
- December 15:
  - Continue reading
  - Finish Zig model
  - Midyear report
  - **Finished** (except report)

# Project Schedule

- Done up to now:
  - Wrote cleanup scripts
  - Wrote cumulative sum normalization scripts
  - Wrote cumulative distribution normalization script
  - Wrote EM algorithm subroutines
  - Prepared scripts to compare various methods
  - Validated by hand loading scripts
  - Validated normalization scripts
  - Validated EM algorithm with non-zero matrix
  - Produced heatmaps of normalized data
  - Produced smoothed scatterplots of the probabilities of weights



# Project Schedule

- To do:
  - Finish validating EM Algorithm
  - Check robustness of normalization method by FDR methods
    - Permute counts (within features) ...
  - Compare calculated p-values, t-statistics, fold changes to:
    - Old metastats, log, log with eta parameter, Zig no eta parameter
  - Testing of method with simulated data:
    - Compare to Kruskal-Wallis, old method, etc (ROC Curves)
  - Testing and analysis of various datasets including:
    - Gnotobiotic mice
    - Gates dysentery data
  - Parallelize (if necessary)

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