Genetically diverse *Plasmodium falciparum* infections, within-host competition and symptomatic malaria in humans.

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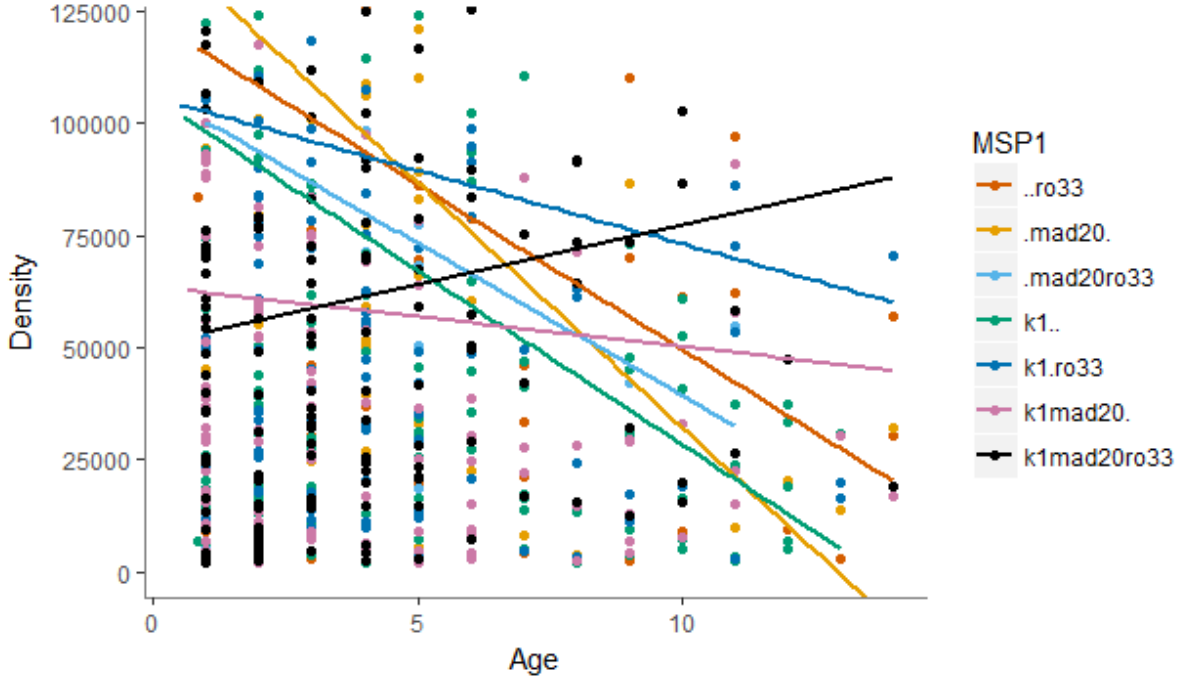
A statistical analysis using a subset consisting of individuals ≤14 year-old (same age range as the K1+MAD20+RO33+ group) on all alleles.

	Df	Deviance	Resid. Df	Resid. Dev	Pr(>Chi)	
NULL			703	908.73		
Age	1	20.7743	702	887.95	5.167e-06	***
MSP1	6	20.5855	696	867.37	0.0021771	**
MSP2	2	1.5577	694	865.81	0.4589397	
Age:MSP1	6	23.1005	688	842.71	0.0007635	***
Age:MSP2	2	1.6307	686	841.08	0.4424736	
MSP1:MSP2	12	19.1153	674	821.96	0.0857834	.



This analysis confirms that: (i) Parasite density was significantly influenced by the *msp1* allelic family with highest parasitaemia observed for MAD20, followed by RO33 and K1; (ii) density decreased with patient age; and (iii) there was a significant age by *msp1* interaction such that parasite density decreased with age except for the patients harboring the triple infection K1+MAD20+RO33.