



**S10 Fig: Multidimensional scaling (MDS) plot of participant sex**

The multidimensional scaling (MDS) plots the Euclidian distances between samples with the x and y axis representing the sample distances between samples of read counts normalized by depth but not covariates. Each row of plots in represent dimension 1 to 5 respectively (represented by the x-axis) and shown with the combination of the other dimensions on the y-axis. Samples are colored for sex (female and male) as depicted in the legend. Separation is seen in dimension 4 and 5.