Genomic Relationship Matrix

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Background

- Breeding value model uses genomic breeding values g as random effects
- Variance-covariance matrix of g are proposed to be proportional to matrix G

$$var(g) = G * \sigma_g^2$$

where G is called **genomic relationship matrix** (GRM)

Properties of G

- genomic breeding values g are linear combinations of q
- g as deviations, that means E(g) = 0
- var(g) as product between G and σ²_g where G is the genomic relationship matrix
- ► G should be similar to A

Change of Identity Concept

- A is based on identity by descent
- G is based on identity by state (including ibd), assuming that the same allele has the same effect
- IBS can only be observed with SNP-genotype data

Identity



Linear Combination

- SNP marker effects (a values) from marker effect model are in vector q
- Genomic breeding values from breeding value model are determined by

$$g = U \cdot q$$

Matrix U is determined by desired properties of g

Deviation

- Genomic breeding values are defined as deviation from a certain basis
- $\rightarrow E(g) = 0$
 - How to determine matrix U such that E(g) = 0

Equivalence Between Models

Decomposition of phenotypic observation y_i with

Marker effect model

$$y_i = w_i^T \cdot q + e_i$$



$$y_i = g_i + e_i$$

▶ g_i and w_i^T · q represent the same genetic effects and should be equivalent in terms of variability

Expected Values

• Required:
$$E(g_i) = 0$$

• But:
$$E(w_i^T \cdot q) = q^T \cdot E(w_i)$$

- ► Take *q* as constant SNP effects
- Assume w_i to be the random variable with:

$$w_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{with probability} \quad p^2 \\ 0 & \text{with probability} \quad 2p(1-p) \\ -1 & \text{with probability} \quad (1-p)^2 \end{cases}$$

 $\rightarrow E(w_i)$: For a single locus

$$E(w_i) = 1 * p^2 + 0 * 2p(1-p) + (-1)(1-p)^2 = p^2 - 1 + 2p - p^2 = 2p - 1 \neq 0$$

Specification of g

$$g_i = (w_i^T - s_i^T) \cdot q$$
 with $s_i = E(w_i) = 2p - 1$

Resulting in

$$g = U \cdot q = (W - S) \cdot q$$

with matrix *S* having columns *j* with all elements equal to $2p_j - 1$ where p_j is the allele frequency of the SNP allele associated with the positive effect.

Genetic Variance

Requirement:
$$var(g) = G * \sigma_g^2$$

Result from Gianola et al. (2009):

$$\sigma_g^2 = \sigma_q^2 * \sum_{j=1}^k (1 - 2p_j(1 - p_j))$$

From earlier: $g = U \cdot q$

$$var(g) = var(U \cdot q) = U \cdot var(q) \cdot U^{T} = UU^{T}\sigma_{q}^{2}$$

Combining

$$\mathsf{var}(g) = UU^{\mathsf{T}}\sigma_q^2 = \mathsf{G}*\sigma_q^2*\sum_{j=1}^k (1-2p_j(1-p_j))$$

Genomic Relationship Matrix

$$G = \frac{UU^{T}}{\sum_{j=1}^{k} (1 - 2p_{j}(1 - p_{j}))}$$

How To Compute G

- Read matrix W
- ► For each column *j* of *W* compute frequency *p_j*
- Compute matrix S and $\sum_{j=1}^{k} (1 2p_j(1 p_j))$ from p_j
- Compute U from W and \tilde{S}
- Compute G