Applied Statistical Methods - Exercise 4

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Problem 1: Traditional Predicted Breeding Values

Given the following data set with observations and a pedigree for a group of animals.

| Animal | Observation |
|--------|-------------|
| 1 | 100.430 |
| 2 | 103.396 |
| 3 | 114.458 |
| 4 | 100.068 |
| 5 | 104.144 |
| 6 | 117.524 |
| 7 | 97.744 |
| 8 | 111.926 |
| 9 | 103.486 |
| 10 | 97.914 |
| 11 | 104.651 |
| 12 | 115.714 |
| 13 | 86.900 |
| 14 | 101.097 |
| 15 | 102.795 |
| 16 | 112.182 |
| 17 | 109.295 |
| 18 | 105.271 |
| 19 | 91.744 |
| 20 | 101.132 |
| 21 | 107.385 |

Table 1: Phenotypic Observations

The observations in Table 1 can be read from

 $https://charlotte-ngs.github.io/gelasmss2021/data/data_ex04_p01_phe.csv.$

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The pedigree showing the ancestral relationships is shown below

Table 2: Pedigree

| Animal | Sire | Dam |
|--------|------|-----|
| 1 | NA | NA |
| 2 | NA | NA |
| 3 | NA | NA |

| 4 | NA | NA |
|----|----|----|
| 5 | NA | NA |
| 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 7 | 1 | 3 |
| 8 | 2 | 5 |
| 9 | 1 | 5 |
| 10 | 7 | 8 |
| 11 | 7 | 8 |
| 12 | 6 | 9 |
| 13 | 7 | 8 |
| 14 | 7 | 9 |
| 15 | 6 | 8 |
| 16 | 6 | 9 |
| 17 | 6 | 8 |
| 18 | 6 | 8 |
| 19 | 7 | 8 |
| 20 | 6 | 9 |
| 21 | 7 | 8 |
| | | |

The pedigree can be read from

 $https://charlotte-ngs.github.io/gelasmss2021/data/data_ex04_p01_ped.csv$

Your Task

Predict breeding values for the animals given in the dataset and in the pedigree without using any genotypic information using a BLUP animal model. Set up the mixed model equations for the BLUP animal model and use the function getAInv() of package pedigreemm to get the inverse of the relationship matrix.

Hints

• Use a mixed linear model with a constant intercept as a fixed effect and the breeding values of all animals as random effects. Hence the following model can be assumed

$$y = Xb + Zu + e$$

where y is the vector of all observations, b has just one element and X has one column with all ones. The vector u contains the breeding values for all animals. The matrix Z links the breeding values to the phenotypic observations. The random errors are represented by the vector e.

• Then residual variance σ_e^2 can be assumed to be $\sigma_e^2 = 75$. The genetic additive variance σ_u^2 is $\sigma_u^2 = 25$

Problem 2: Prediction of Genomic Breeding Values Using GBLUP

Use the same phenotypic observations as in Problem 1. In addition to that we use genomic information available in

https://charlotte-ngs.github.io/gelasmss2021/data/data_ex04_p02_gen.csv

Your Tasks

Predict the genomic breeding values using the GBLUP approach.

Hints

• Use an analogous mixed linear effect model as was used in Problem 1. Instead of the vector of breeding values use the vector g of genomic breeding values as random effects of the model. Hence the following model can be assumed

$$y = Xb + Zg + \epsilon$$

where y is the vector of all observations, b has just one element and X has one column with all ones. The vector g contains the genomic breeding values for all animals. The matrix Z links the breeding values to the phenotypic observations. The random errors are represented by the vector e.

- Use the genomic relationship matrix in the mixed model equations
- The ratio λ of between the variances is assumed to be the same as in Problem 1.
- If the inverse of the genomic relationship matrix cannot be computed, adjust the genomic relationship matrix with the numerator relationship matrix A according to the following formula

$$G^* = 0.95 * G + 0.05 * A$$

where G is the matrix determined based on the given data and the nummerator relationship matrix A can be computed with the function pedigreemm::getA() from package pedigreemm.