



High resolution copy number variable regions in Brown Swiss dairy cattle and their value as markers

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Background

CNVs are duplications, insertions and deletions of chromosomal segments in comparison to a reference genome



- CNVs recognized as substantial source of genetic variation
- CNVs are summarized to copy number variable regions (CNVRs) at the population level





Objective

- valuate potential contribution of CNVs as genetic markers for GWAS & GS in cattle
 - Polymorphic information content (PIC) of CNV loci
 - correlations between SNPs residing in CNVRs and their underlying CNVs
 - LD of SNPs residing in CNVRs with SNPs surrounding the CNVRs (adjacent SNPs)







Data for SNP array based CNV detection

- > 192 BS bulls genotyped with Illumina HD chip
- > Log R Ratios (LRR) total signal intensities
- > B allele frequencies (BAF) allelic intensity ratio values



LRR & BAF values for 735,239 SNPs on UMD3.1 autosome







Material & Methods – 1 CNV calling

> CNV calling in 164 stringently quality filtered bulls

- PennCNV¹ & genoCN²
- reliable CNV calls ≥3 consecutive SNPs of the same type

1 Wang et al. (2007) doi: 10.1101/gr.6861907 2 Sun et al. (2009) doi: 10.1093/nar/gkp493





Material & Methods – 2 definition of CNVRs

- within each algorithm summarisation of CNVs to CNVRs
 - union set of CNVs¹



 \leftrightarrow

- high confidence set of CNVRs for population genetic analysis
 - intersection of overlapping CNVRs of same type² across algorithms







Material & Methods – 3 identification of "real" alleles

genoCN¹ employs a 3 copy number state model

- 0-1-2 copies per haploid
- possible alleles: 0, A, B, AA, BB and AB
- total allelic content with highest posterior probability
 - eg. cn=3 AAB , possible alleles AA,B or AB,A
 - not equivalent to knowing the real alleles
- > allele calling & phasing with polyHap² v2.0







Material & Methods – 4 population genetic characterization

$$\blacktriangleright PIC = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i^2$$

LD between SNPs residing within CNVRs and their underlying CNV

- standard metrics incorrect¹
- $-r_{c}^{2}$ correctly quantifies covariance¹

1 Wineinger (2011) doi: 10.3389/fgene.2011.00017





Material & Methods – 5 population genetic characterization

Global LD between SNPs in CNVRs & neighbouring SNPs: Wn (Cramer's V^{1,2})



1 Cramer (1946) Mathematical Models of Statistics

2 Zhao (2007) Gap: Genetic Analysis Package. Journal of Statistical Software 23 (8):1-18





Results -1 number of alleles in CNVRs







Results - 2 Polymorphic Information Content



cn=2: copy number normal
cn≠2: copy number variable





Results - 3 LD between SNPs in CNVRs & underlying CNV









Results – 4 Global LD between neighbouring SNPs and SNPs in CNVRs







Conclusions

- **CNVs are valuable genetic markers**
 - high PIC
 - not sufficiently tagged by SNPs on HD chip

- Thank you for your attention!





Quality filtering







Distances





























 Unphased SNVC genotype at SNVC1 and SNVC2

SNVC1	SNVC2
AAG	ССТ

Figure 1 from Kato et al. (2011) doi: 10.1534/g3.111.000174