



# A framework to incorporate knowledge on gene interaction into genomic relationship

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# Common prediction approach: A linear marker effect model



Linear mixed model

$$y = \mu + M\beta + \epsilon,$$

where  $y$  denotes the vector of phenotypes, which is assumed to be a linear function of SNP effects  $\beta_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\beta^2)$  and  $\epsilon$  a random error term ( $\epsilon_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$ ).



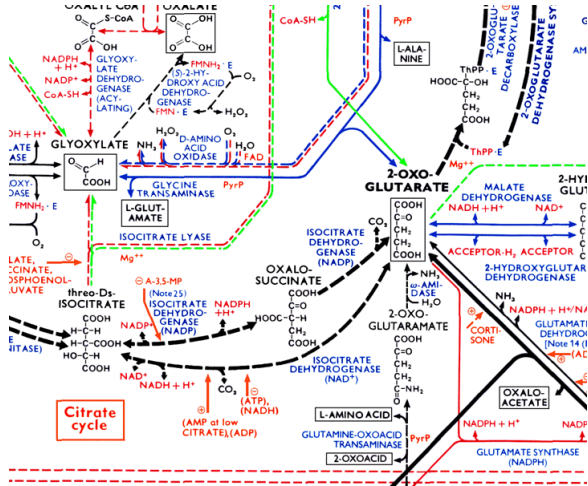
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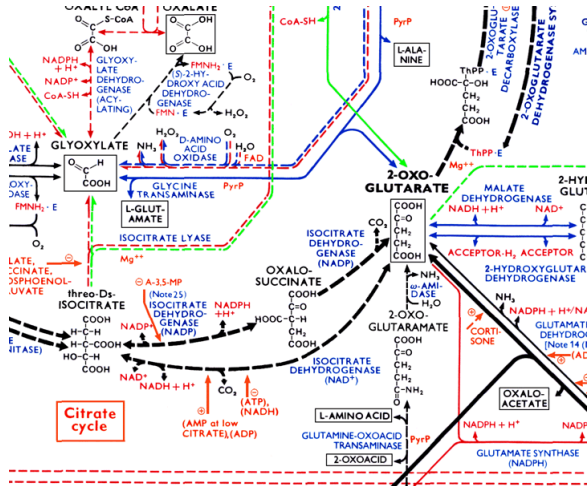
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- ▶ Limitation: only additive effects accounted for





How to incorporate interactions in the model?

# The epistasis model



A generalization to a model with polynomials of degree two:

$$y_i = \mu + M_{i\bullet}\beta + \sum_{k=1, \dots, p; l=k+1, \dots, p} M_{ik}M_{il}h_{kl} + \epsilon_i$$

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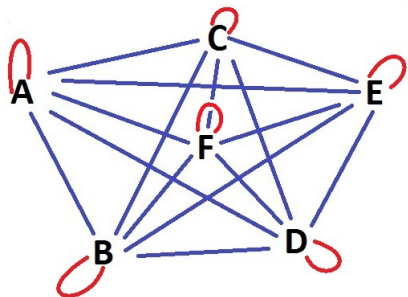
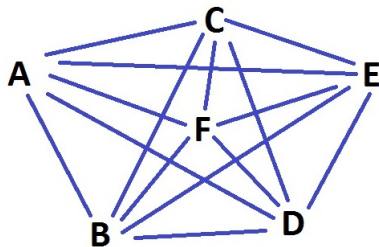
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*two-locus* epistasis model or

$$y_i = \mu + M_{i\bullet}\beta + \sum_{k,l=1, \dots, p} M_{ik}M_{il}h_{kl} + \epsilon_i$$

*dominance* + *two-locus* epistasis model with  $h_{kl} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_h^2)$ .

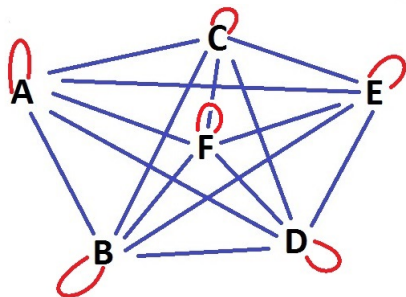
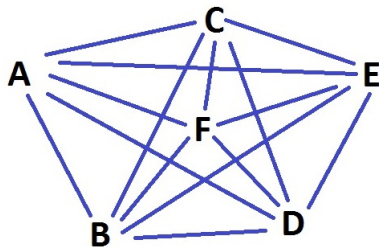
## The epistasis model



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## The epistasis model



- ▶ Obvious problem: Parametric inflation of the model.
- ▶ Do we need to estimate all effects to use the model for genomic prediction?

# Equivalence of models



Well-known:

$$y = \mu + M\beta + \epsilon \hat{=} y = \mu + g + \epsilon$$

with  $g \sim \mathcal{N}_n(0, \sigma_\beta^2 MM')$ .

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- ▶ GBLUP model has advantages since the number of markers  $p$  usually exceeds the number of genotyped individuals.
- ▶ Is there an analogous equivalence for the epistasis models?

# Equivalence of models



For the epistatic models, we have

$$y_i = \mu + M_{i\bullet}\beta + \sum_{k,l=1,\dots,p} M_{ik}M_{il}h_{kl} + \epsilon_i \hat{=} y = \mu + g + a + \epsilon$$

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$$a \sim \mathcal{N}_n(0, \sigma_h^2 ((MM' \circ MM') - (M \circ M)(M \circ M)'))$$

for the two-locus model, where  $\circ$  represents the Hadamard product.



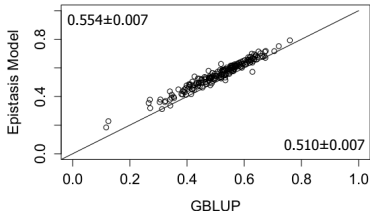
## Test on a wheat dataset (Crossa et al., 2010)

(599 lines, 1279 DArT markers encoded by  $\{0, 1\}$ , four different environments, trait: grain yield)

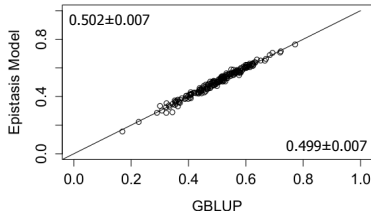
# GBLUP vs. Epistasis model $y = \mu + a + \epsilon$ with $a \sim \mathcal{N}_n(0, \sigma_h^2 MM' \circ MM')$



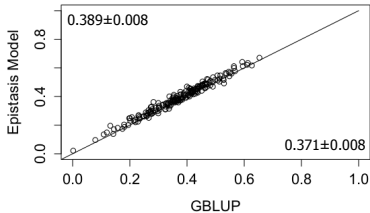
**Predictive ability, Environment 1**



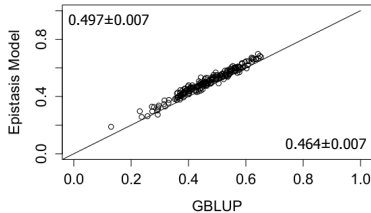
**Predictive ability, Environment 2**



**Predictive ability, Environment 3**

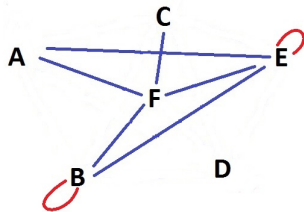
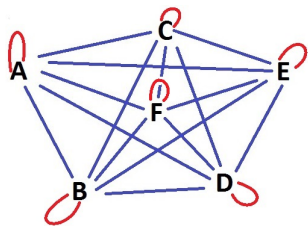


**Predictive ability, Environment 4**





# A relationship matrix based on a subset of interactions



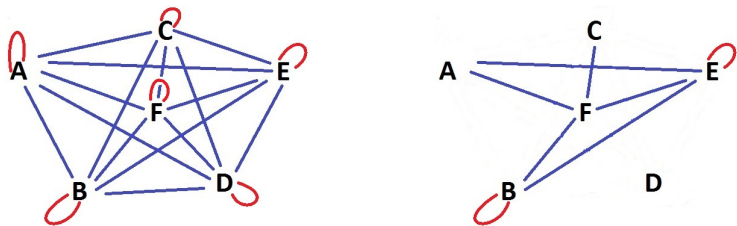
The interaction of marker  $k$  and  $j$  translates into the matrix

$$(M_{\bullet k} M'_{\bullet k}) \circ (M_{\bullet j} M'_{\bullet j}) \sigma_h^2$$

where  $M_{\bullet k}$  denotes the  $k$ th column of  $M$  reflecting the marker realizations of all genotypes at position  $k$ .



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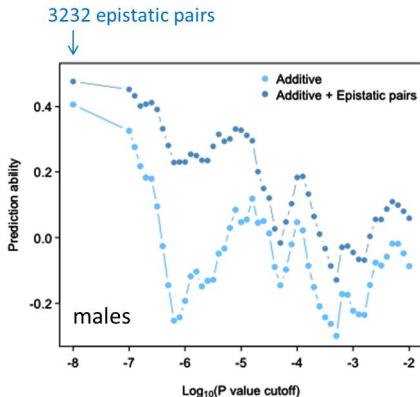
- ▶ Trait-specific, network based relationship matrices can be built by summing over the matrices of the individual interactions.

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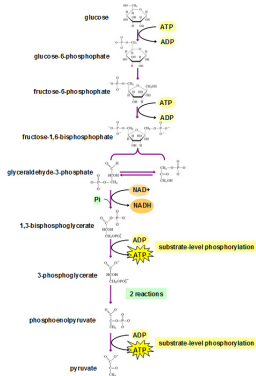
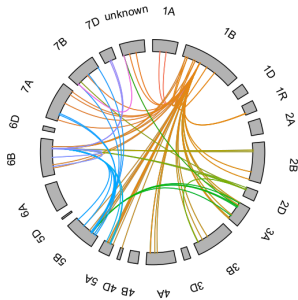


Example: Chill coma recovery in the *Drosophila* Genome Reference Panel (DGRP) (Ober et al., 2015).

# Outlook



- ▶ Goal: Translating available informations on gene interaction and biochemical pathways into interaction within the epistasis model.



# Acknowledgements



KWS SAAT SE is gratefully acknowledged for funding this research



Johannes W.R. Martini

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