Sparse single-step genomic Best Linear Unbiased Prediction in crossbreeding schemes

J. Vandenplas, M.P.L. Calus, J. ten Napel





Breed4Food is dedicated to be the leading research consortium in animal breeding, genetics and genomics enabling the Breed4Food partners to breed better products to benefit society's needs.





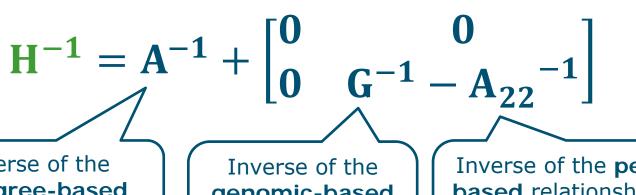






Single-step GBLUP

Unified BLUP procedure considering simultaneously genotyped and non-genotyped animals



Inverse of the **pedigree-based** relationship matrix

Inverse of the **genomic-based** relationship matrix

Inverse of the pedigreebased relationship matrix associated with genotyped animals

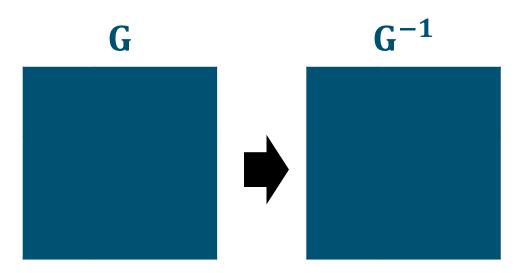


Creation and inversion of G and A₂₂

ssGBLUP more and more implemented

BUT

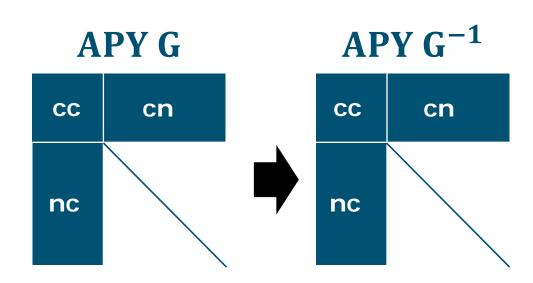
infeasible for $> \sim 100,000$ genotyped animals?



- High computational costs High storage (dense G⁻¹)



Algorithm for Proven and Young animals



- Core/non-core animals
- Lower computational costs
- Lower storage

→ Limitations removed



Aim

APY successfully tested with single-breed data



Applicable for crossbreeding schemes?

Simulation - pedigree

- **3** breeds (A, B, C)
 - Unrelated / Related
 - 10 discrete generations
 - 30 males 6,250 females (Ne ~ 120)
- Crossbreds (BC and A(BC))
 - 30 males 6,250 females from gen. 6 to 9
- Random matings
- Litter size: 2



Simulation - genotypes

- 89,000 genotypes randomly sampled
 - Generations 6 to 10
 - ~21,000 / breed
 - 10,000 BC
 - 16,000 A(BC)
 - 18 chromosomes ~52,000 SNP



Simulation - phenotypes

- 126,000 phenotypes randomly sampled
 - 1 trait/breed composition
 - Polygenic effect: 5%
 - Generations 5 to 9
 - ~33,333 / breed
 - All genotyped BC and A(BC) = phenotyped



5-trait ssGBLUP

- G matrix
 - Allele frequencies across all animals
 - 5% polygenic
- Random core animals
 - A, B, C animals
 - A, B, C, BC, and A(BC) animals
 - Total: 4000 13,000 (15,000)
- 5 replicates

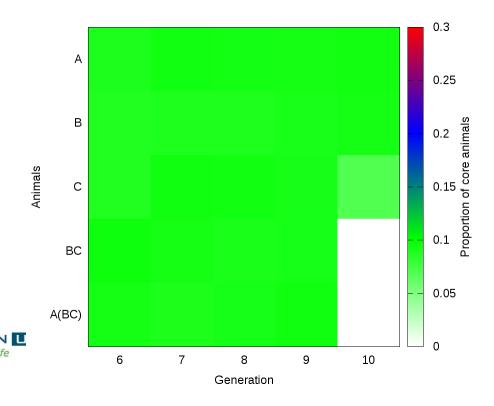


Core animals - representation

Due to properties of the genotype dataset

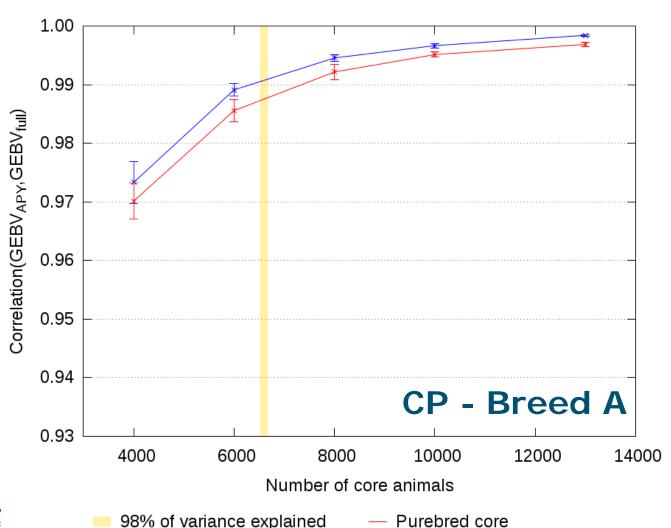


Similar representation of genotyped animals in all generations (and all breed compositions)



Validation - unrelated

Purebred animals (10th generation) without phenotype

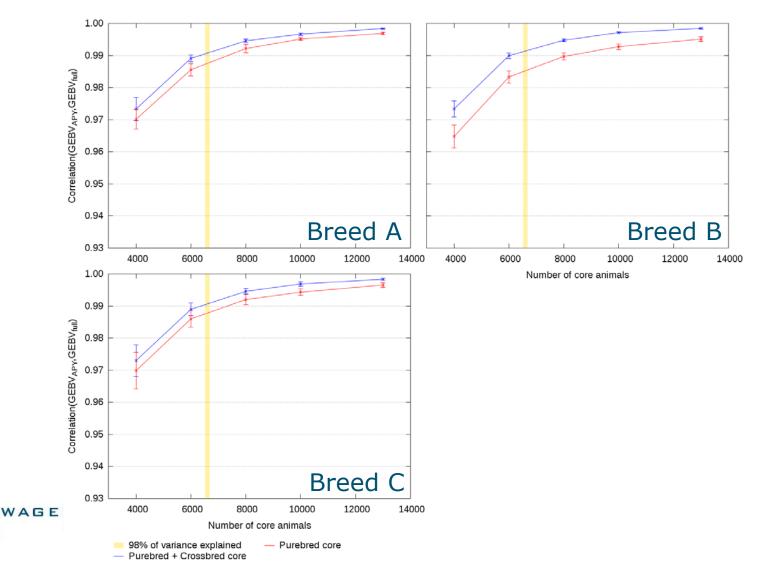




98% of variance explained Purebred + Crossbred core

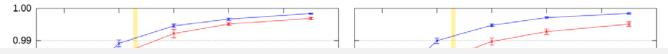
Validation - unrelated

Purebred animals (10th generation) without phenotype



Validation - unrelated

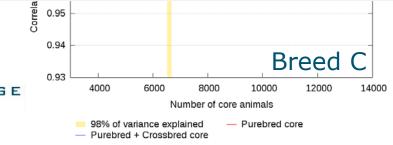
Purebred animals (10th generation) without phenotype



More accurate approximations of GEBV if core animals from

- all generations
- all breed compositions

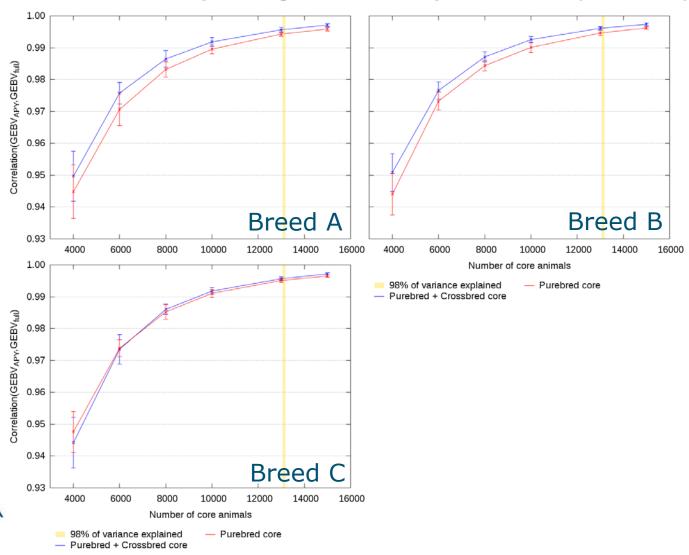
Number of core animals ≥ number of largest eigenvalues explaining 98% of variation of raw **G** matrix





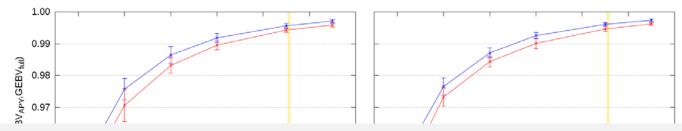
Validation - related

Purebred animals (10th generation) without phenotype



Validation - related

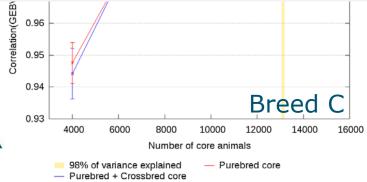
Purebred animals (10th generation) without phenotype



Breed composition representation less required

Possible explanation:

Purebred animals share more independent chromosome segments





Conclusions

- APY is applicable in (simulated) crossbreeding schemes
- Number of core animals
 - Number of largest eigenvalues explaining 98% of variation of raw G matrix
- Core animals must represent
 - all generations (Ostersen et al., 2016)
 - all breed compositions



Thank you!





