

# Inbreeding depression of semen quality traits in cattle: estimation and mapping

Maja **Ferenčaković**

Ino **Curik**

Miroslav **Kaps**

Johann **Sölkner**



University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia  
BOKU, Vienna, Austria



# Inbreeding depression: linear regression Y on $F_{PED}$

## EFFECT OF INBREEDING ON THE GROWTH CURVES OF HEIGHT AT WITHERS, WEIGHT, AND HEART GIRTH OF HOLSTEIN FEMALES

G. A. BAKER, S. W. MEAD, AND W. M. REGAN  
*University of California, Davis*

70 years

**Journal of Dairy Science**

Volume 28, Issue 8, August **1945**, Pages 607-610

# Inbreeding depression: linear regression Y on $F_{ROH}$

**Simulation:** Keller et al., 2011

3-5 years

**Cattle:** Bjelland et al., 2013; Pryce 2014; Howard et al., 2015  
Curik et al., 2012 (4<sup>th</sup>ICQG, Edinburgh) → 2011-2016

?

# Aims of the talk

**1. To estimate inbreeding depression** for semen quality in 554 Austrian Fleckvieh bulls (19 720 ejaculates)

**2. To compare models estimating inbreeding depression** with respect to different inbreeding coefficients;

$F_{\text{PED}}$ ,  $F_{\text{PED5}}$ ,  $F_{\text{IS}}$ ,  $F_{\text{ROH}>2 \text{ MB}}$ ,  $F_{\text{ROH}_{2-4 \text{ MB}}}$ ,  $F_{\text{ROH}>4 \text{ Mb}}$ ,  $F_{\text{ROH}>8 \text{ Mb}}$ ,  $F_{\text{ROH}>16 \text{ Mb}}$

**3. To identify regions contributing to inbreeding depression** by utilising ROH-based GWAS mapping

# “Global” estimation of inbreeding depression

## Univariate mixed models:

- total number of spermatozoa ( $10^9$ ): BOXCOX  $\rightarrow [(TNS^{0.3}-1)/0.3]$
- percent of live spermatozoa (%)

**Random effect:** bulls

**Fixed effects:** age of bull

month of collection

year of collection

days between successive ejaculates

semen collector

AI station

**Covariates:**

**Inbreeding coefficients:**

-  $F_{PED}$ ,  $F_{PED5}$ ,

-  $F_{HOM}$  ( $F_{IS}$ ),

-  $F_{ROH2-4Mb}$ ,  $F_{ROH>2Mb}$ ,  $F_{ROH>4Mb}$ ,  $F_{ROH>8Mb}$ ,  $F_{ROH>16Mb}$



# “Global” inbreeding depression: total number of spermatozoa

Inbreeding coefficient	Regression coefficient <sup>REML</sup> (SE)	$\Delta\text{AIC}^{\text{ML}}$ (43907.5)
$F_{\text{PED}}$	<b>** -5.80 (1.94)</b>	<b>0.0</b>
$F_{\text{ROH}2-4 \text{ Mb}}$	<b>** -11.40 (4.00)</b>	<b>0.8</b>
$F_{\text{ROH}>2 \text{ Mb}}$	* -2.72 (1.22)	3.9
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>		
$F_{\text{ROH}>4 \text{ Mb}}$	-1.91 (1.31)	6.5
$F_{\text{PED5}}$	-2.81 (2.03)	7.0
$F_{\text{ROH}>8 \text{ Mb}}$	-1.91 (1.51)	7.3
$F_{\text{IS}}$	-0.49 (0.77)	8.5
$F_{\text{ROH}>16 \text{ Mb}}$	-0.78 (2.16)	8.8

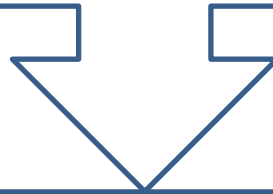
# “Global” inbreeding depression: percent of live spermatozoa

Inbreeding coefficient	Regression coefficient <sup>REML</sup> (SE)	$\Delta\text{AIC}^{\text{ML}}$ (131867.0)
$F_{\text{ROH}2-4 \text{ Mb}}$	<b>-46.68 (35.06)</b>	<b>0.0</b>
$F_{\text{PED}}$	12.93 (17.05)	2.6
$F_{\text{ROH}>2 \text{ Mb}}$	-12.18 (10.66)	2.9
$F_{\text{IS}}$	-9.94 (6.73)	2.9
$F_{\text{ROH}>16 \text{ Mb}}$	3.79 (18.88)	3.0
$F_{\text{PED5}}$	-4.23 (17.72)	3.1
$F_{\text{ROH}>4 \text{ Mb}}$	-9.06 (11.45)	3.4
$F_{\text{ROH}>8 \text{ Mb}}$	-3.07 (13.19)	3.7

# Genetic architecture of inbreeding depression (dominance)

$F_{PED}$

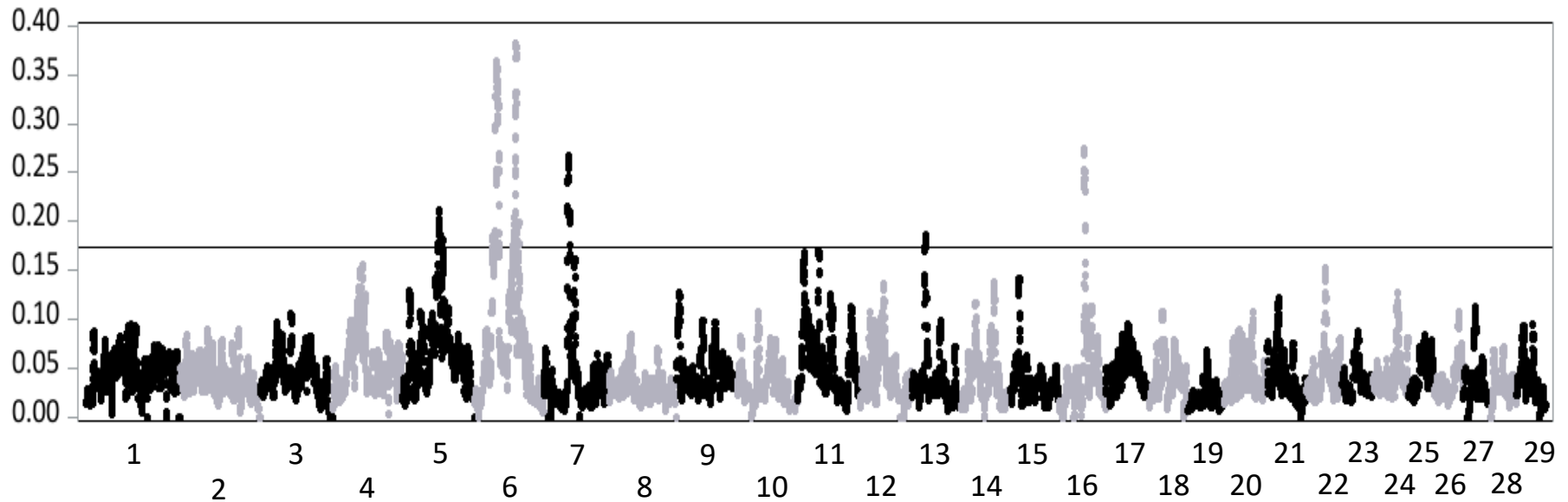
- without sampling variation ( $F_{litter} = \text{constant}$ )
- equal for all loci ( $F_{\text{neutral loci}} = F_{\text{selected loci}}$ )
- **evenly distributed autozygosity across the genome**
- Polygenic inheritance: “infinitesimal model” (dominance)



$F_{ROH}$

- with sampling variation ( $F_{litter} \neq \text{constant}$ )
- not equal for all loci ( $F_{\text{neutral loci}} \neq F_{\text{selected loci}}$ )
- **unevenly distributed autozygosity across the genome**
- Polygenic inheritance: “infinitesimal model” (dominance)
- Oligogenic inheritance (**major genes**)
- Mixed inheritance (**major genes + polygenic component**)

# Genome-wide frequency of $F_{ROH>2\text{ Mb}}$ appearance



“Global” estimation of inbreeding depression



“Local” estimation of inbreeding depression  
ROH-based GWAS mapping



## Univariate mixed models:

- total number of spermatozoa ( $10^9$ ):  $\text{BOXCOX} \rightarrow [(TNS^{0.3}-1)/0.3]$
- percent of live spermatozoa (%)

**Random effect:** bull

**Fixed effects:** age of bull

month of collection

year of collection

days between successive ejaculates

semen collector

AI station

**Covariates:**

**Additive effects; SNP (0, 1, 2)**

**ROH>2 Mb effects; SNP (0, 1)**

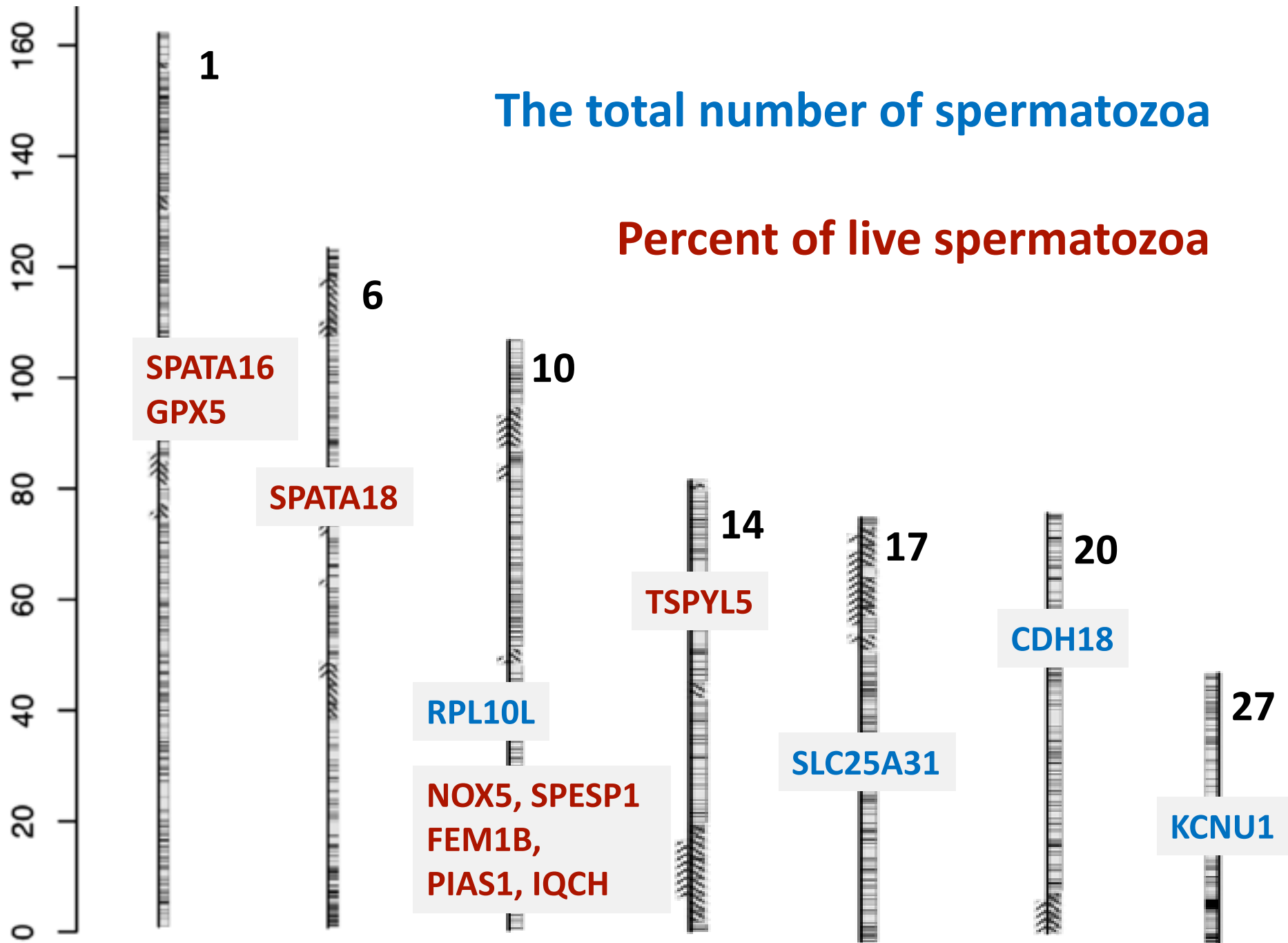


Adjustment for multiple comparison – chromosome-wise:

Gao et al., 2008 (effective number of independent tests)  $\rightarrow$  Holm, 1979

# The total number of spermatozoa

## Percent of live spermatozoa



## The total number of spermatozoa

- **RPL10L**: helping to inactivated X-linked genes in spermatogenesis
- **SLC25A31**: sperm flagellar energy carrier protein
- **CDH18**: significant influence on sperm motility
- **KCNU1**: codes testis specific potassium channel

## Percent of live spermatozoa

- **SPATA16**: associated with male infertility in humans
- **GPX5**: marker of boar sperm quality
- **SPESP1** : involved in the fusion of sperm with the egg plasma membrane
- **SPATA18**: encodes a so-called “mitochondrion-eating protein”
- **TSPYL5**: linked to male idiopathic infertility
- **NOX5**: regulate redox-dependent processes in lymphocytes and spermatozoa
- **PIAS1**: plays a role in maintenance of spermatogenesis
- **IQCH**: play a regulatory role in spermatogenesis
- **FEM1B**: maturation of epithelial cells involved in prostate gland development

To be confirmed by analysing sequence data – in progress

1. Evidence of **inbreeding depression** for **the total number of spermatozoa**
2. Comparable estimates of inbreeding depression among  $F_{\text{PED}}$  and  $F_{\text{ROH}}$  inbreeding coefficients
3. Ability of ROH-based GWAS mapping to **identify regions contributing to inbreeding depression**

### Genetic architecture of inbreeding depression (dominance)

- Polygenic component → linear regression ( $F_{\text{PED}}$  &  $F_{\text{ROH}}$ )
- Major genes (regions) → ROH-based GWAS mapping
- Alternatives → dissection of inbreeding depression (Curik et al., in press)

# Acknowledgments



Ministry of Science,  
Education and Sports



Österreichische Austauschdienst GmbH  
Austrian Agency for International  
Cooperation in Education & Research

**GOLDEN HELIX**  
*Accelerating the Quest for Significance™*

# Thank you for your attention!

icurik@agr.hr

johann.soelkner@boku.ac.at



mferncakovic@agr.hr

mkaps@agr.hr