Not all inbreeding is depressing

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Inbreeding

The mating between relatives

F = probability alleles are
"identical by descent" (IBD)



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Inbreeding depression

Decrease in performance due to inbreeding

Cause: increased homozygosity of deleterious recessive alleles

 Depression expressed per 1% increase in F



inbreeding (F)

Recent and ancient inbreeding

 Hypothesis: recent F more harmful than ancient F, because of purging

Purging = removal of deleterious recessive alleles by selection



Data

 38,792 first-parity cows, calved 2012-2016

- Phenotypes:
 - Protein yield (305-d)
 - Calving interval
 - > SCS day 151-400
 - > (+ 6 other traits)



Inbreeding

- Total inbreeding based on:
 - Pedigree (mean NCG = 6.2)
 - Regions of homozygosity (ROH), using 75k genotypes

 Split total inbreeding into components based on age of inbreeding (3 methods)

Model

• For total inbreeding:

$$y_{ijk} = \mu + HY_i + month_j + \alpha * age_k + \beta * F_k + cow_k + e_{ijk}$$

Results total inbreeding

- Unfavourable effect for all traits
- Pedigree and ROH similar results

	F based on			
Trait	Pedigree	ROH		
Protein yield	-1.27	-1.20		
Calving interval	0.46	0.48		
SCS day 151-400	0.86	0.86		

P < 0.05 P < 0.01

Model

For total inbreeding:

$$y_{ijk} = \mu + HY_i + month_j + \alpha * age_k + \beta * F_k + cow_k + e_{ijk}$$

• For *n* age-based components:

$$y_{ijk} = \mu + HY_i + month_j + \alpha * age_k + \sum_{l=1}^n \beta_l * F_{kl} + cow_k + e_{ijk}$$

Method 1: generation-based

- Total inbreeding:
 - \succ *F*_{tot} = inbreeding on A, B & C

- Split F_{tot} into generation-based components:
 - \succ $F_{\leq 4}$ = inbreeding on A & B
 - \succ F_5 = inbreeding on C
 - ≻ Etc.



Results 1: generation-based

- For yield traits, inbreeding on recent generations more harmful
- For other traits, no clear difference across generations



Method 2: purging-based

If ancestors were inbred, purging

- Split F_{tot} into purging-based components:
 - \succ *F*_{ancestral} = "purged" inbreeding
 - \succ *F_{new}* = "unpurged" inbreeding



Results 2: purging-based

- For 7 out of 9 traits, new inbreeding more harmful than ancestral
- Difference most evident for yield traits



Method 3: ROH-based

Longer ROHs = more recent inbreeding

- Five length classes:
 - ≻ ≥16 Mb
 - ≻ 8-16 Mb
 - ≻ 4-8 Mb
 - ≻ 2-4 Mb
 - ≻ 1-2 Mb



Results 3: ROH-based

- Results differ across traits
- Overall, both long and short ROH contribute to depression



Age of inbreeding as length of ROH (in Mb)

Take home messages

Inbreeding depression for all traits

Not all inbreeding is depressing

Next: assess purging with genomic time series (?)







Generation based (all traits)



Purging based (all traits)



Kalinowski's new and ancestral inbreeding

ROH based (all traits)



Length class of ROH (in Mb)

Correlations



Pedigree completeness



Distributions of *F*-measures



Differences in population (+/- 2 SD of F)

	F_{PED}			F _{ROH}			F _{GRM}		
Trait	Low	High	Diff	Low	High	Diff	Low	High	Diff
MY	8,229	7,953	-274	8,284	7,898	-386	8,293	7,889	-404
FY	347.6	336.4	-11.2	349.1	334.9	-14.2	348.7	335.3	-13.4
PY	287.6	278.4	-9.2	289.4	276.6	-12.8	289.5	276.5	-13.0
CI	392.3	395.7	3.4	391.4	396.6	5.2	391.4	396.6	5.2
IFL	39.4	40.4	1.0	38.5	41.3	2.8	38.1	41.7	3.6
CR	64.9	62.7	-2.2	65.2	62.4	-2.8	65.3	62.3	-3.0
SCS400	1,578	1,584	6	1,576	1,586	10	1,576	1,586	10

Phenotypes

Group	Trait
Yield	Milk yield (305-d)
	Fat yield (305-d)
	Protein yield (305-d)
Fertility	Calving interval
	Interval calving to first insemination
	Interval first to last insemination
	Conception rate
Udder health	SCS day 1-150
	SCS day 151-400