

and  $A$ .

- From Linear Algebra it is known that symmetric matrices can be decomposed into a product of three factors:

$$A = L \cdot D \cdot L^T$$

where  $L$  is lower triangular matrix  $\Rightarrow$

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $D$  is a diagonal matrix

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & d_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Based on LDL-decomposition of  $A$ , we can write

$$A^{-1} = (L^T)^{-1} \cdot D^{-1} \cdot L^{-1}$$

and  $(L^T)^{-1}$ ,  $D^{-1}$  and  $L^{-1}$  are ~~very~~ easy to compute

To get to  $L$  and  $D$ , we are going to have a look at different decompositions of breeding values:

- breeding value  $u_i$  of animal  $i$  can be written as