

Recap:

2023-11-10

(6)

□ Central topic :

Use linear mixed effects (LME) to predict breeding values

□ Why LME:

Because breeding values of related individuals are correlated, for animals i and j sharing some common ancestor, we have

$$\text{cov}(u_i, u_j) \neq 0$$

□ LME: in matrix-vector notation

$$y = X\beta + Z u + e$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the LME equation:

- y : known vector of observations
- $X\beta$: unknown vector of fixed effects (herd, sex, breed, ...) or covariates such as breast circumference
- $Z u$: unknown vector of random breeding values
- e : unknown vector of random residuals

Matrices: X, Z known design matrices