

Genomic Prediction Workshop - Davos 2015

Introduction to Genomic Prediction

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Genomics



Dictionary

ge•no•mics |jē'nōmiks, -'näm- , |

plural noun [treated as sing.]

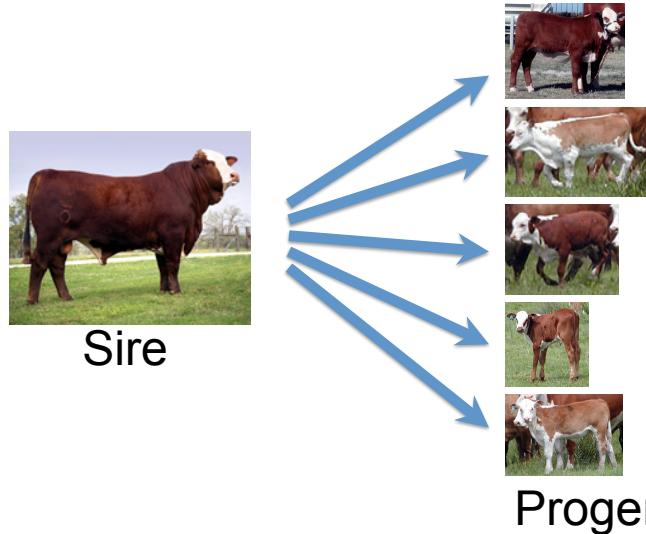
the branch of molecular biology concerned with the structure, function, evolution, and mapping of genomes.

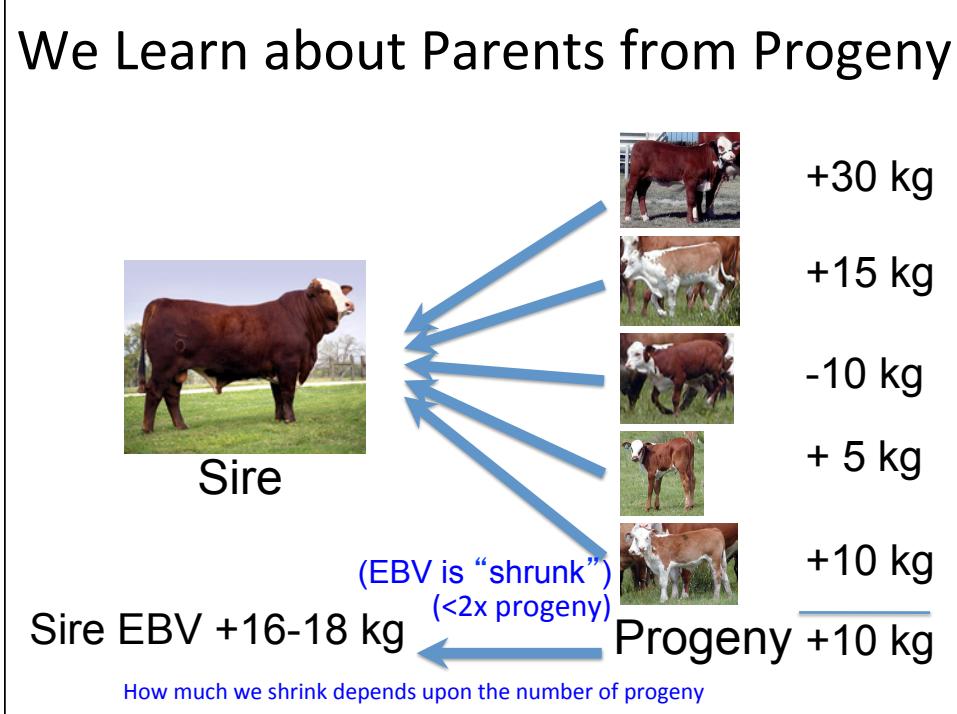
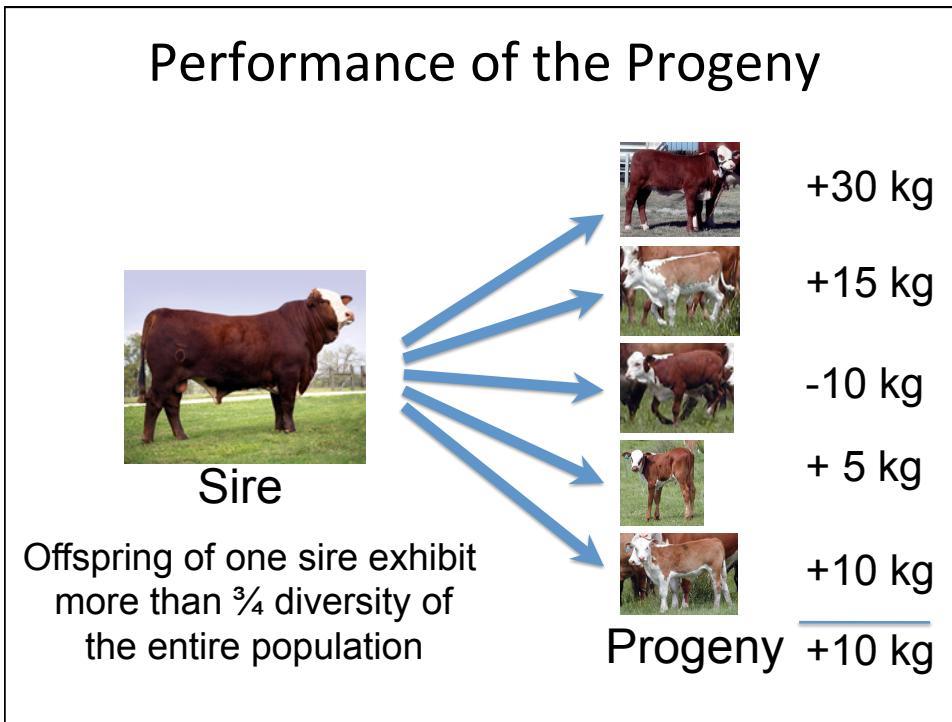
ORIGIN 1980s: from *genome* '**the complete set of genes present in an organism**' + *-ics*.

Genomic Prediction

- Ranking candidates for selection using knowledge of the “complete set of genes” *along with conventional pedigree and performance information*
 - Using everything we’ve got to obtain the most accurate EPD/EBV (at as young an age as possible)

Suppose we generate 100 progeny on
1 bull





EBVs on widely-used old sires are accurate



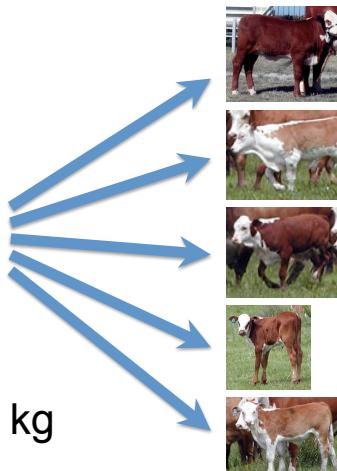
With enough progeny,
this is usually close to
the bulls true EBV/EPD
(not surprisingly!)

Sire EBV +16-18 kg

Suppose we generate new progeny



Sire
Sire EBV +16-18 kg



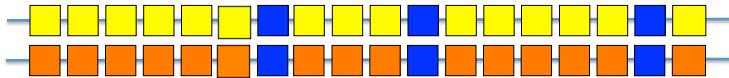
Progeny

Expect them
to be 8-9 kg
heavier than
those from an
average sire

Some will be more
others will be less
but we can't tell
which are better
without "buying"
more information

Chromosomes are a sequence of base pairs

Part of 1 pair
of chromosomes



Cattle usually have 30 pairs of chromosomes

One member of each pair inherited from the sire, one from the dam

Each chromosome has about 100 million base pairs (A, G, T or C)

About 3 billion describe the animal

- █ Blue base pairs represent genes
- █ Yellow represents the strand inherited from the sire
- █ Orange represents the strand inherited from the dam

A common error is the
substitution of one base pair
for another
Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP)

Errors in duplication

- Most are repaired
- Some will be transmitted
- Some of those may influence performance
 - Some will be beneficial, others harmful

Inspection of whole genome sequence

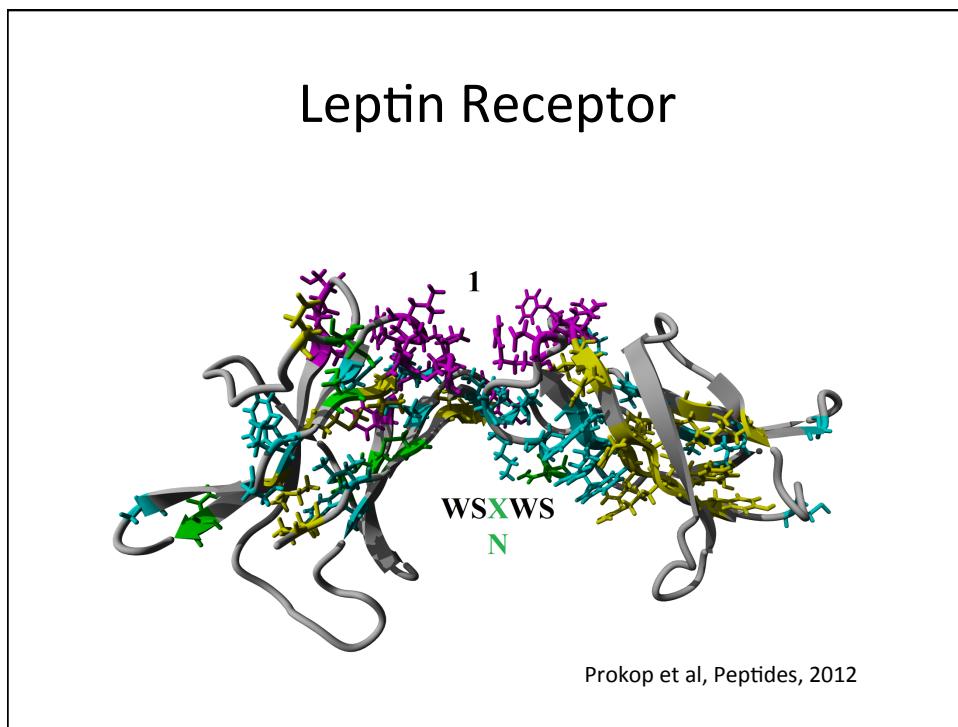
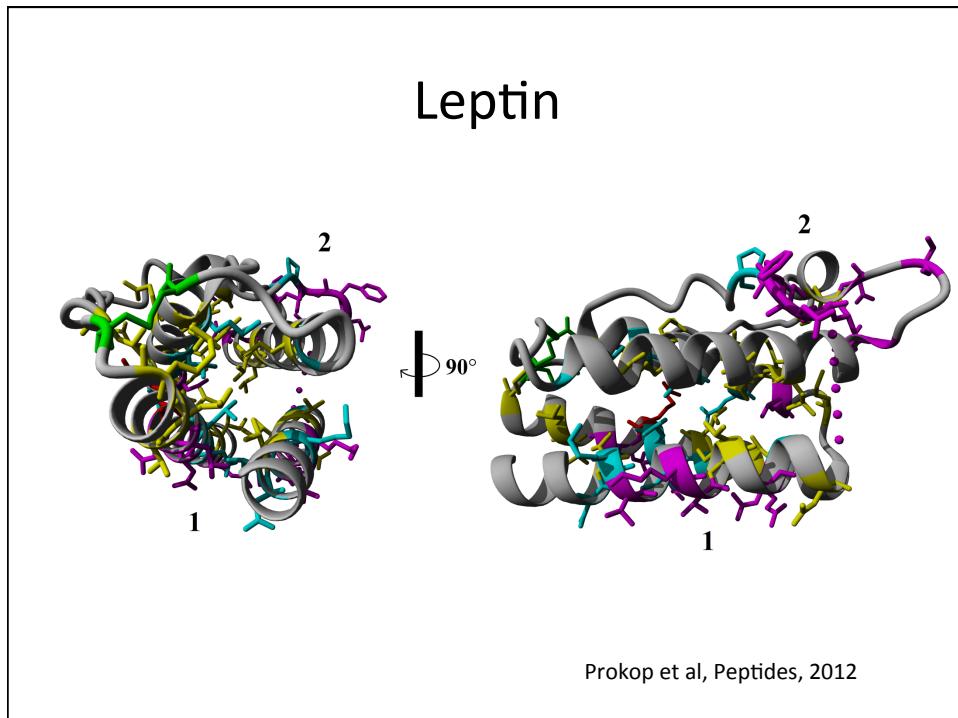
- Demonstrate historical errors
- And occasional new (de novo) mutations

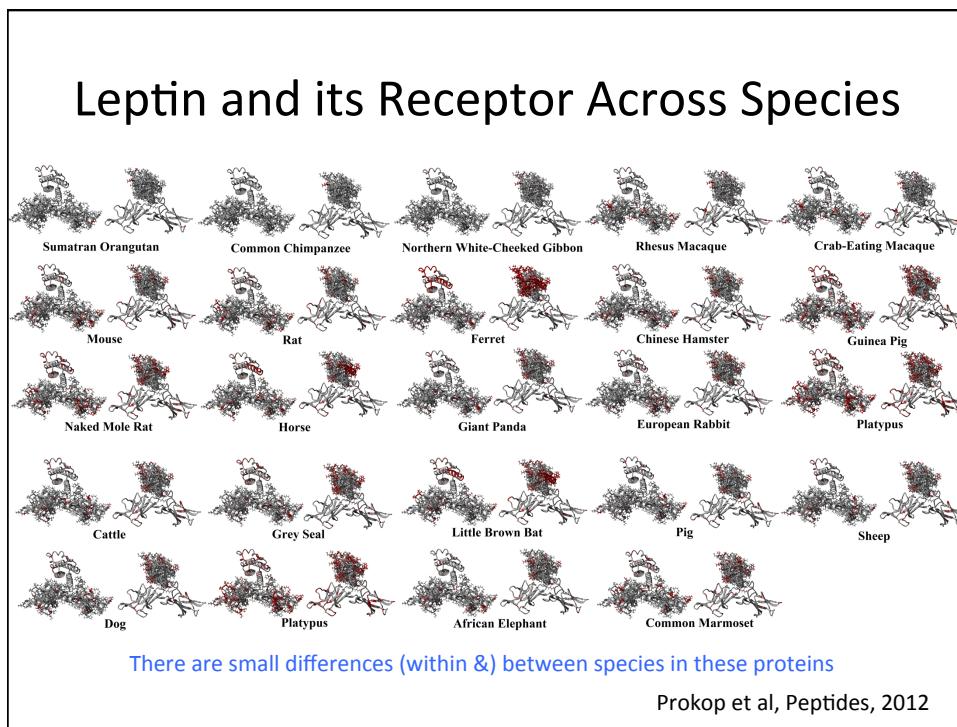
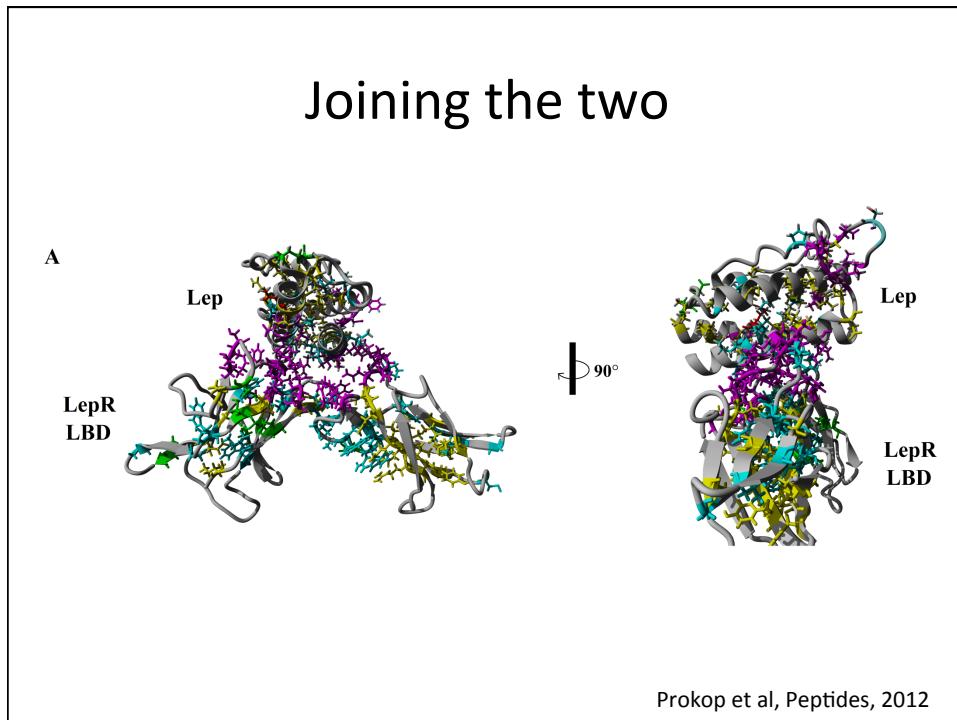
Mutations

- Could cause complete loss-of-function of the gene (ie the gene is “broken”)
 - These can sometimes be catastrophic when an individual is homozygous and carries 2 copies of the broken gene
 - For examples DUMPS, Citrullinemia, BLAD, etc

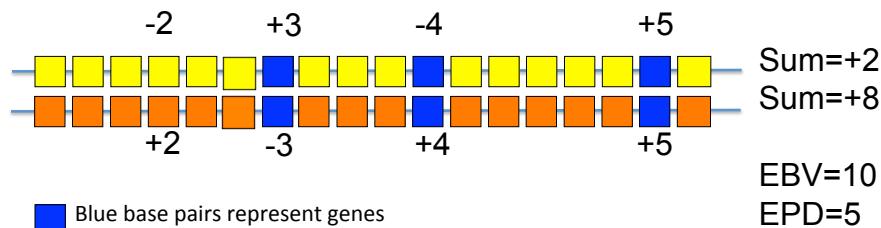
Mutations

- Could cause complete loss-of-function of the gene (ie the gene is “broken”)
- Could increase or decrease expression level
- The variant might change amino acid sequence to cause subtle changes to the shape of the protein products making them function a little better or a little worse
 - Natural or artificial selection will favour the variants that improve fitness in that particular climatic and environmental circumstance



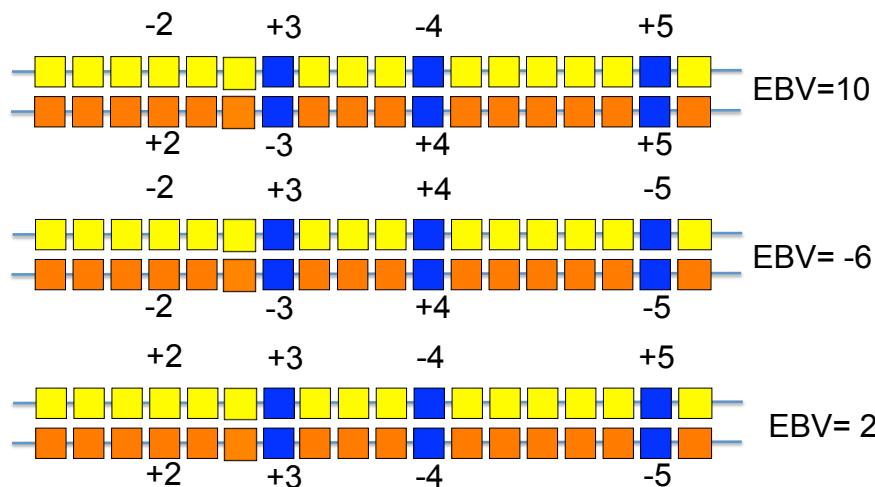


EBV is sum of the Gene Effects

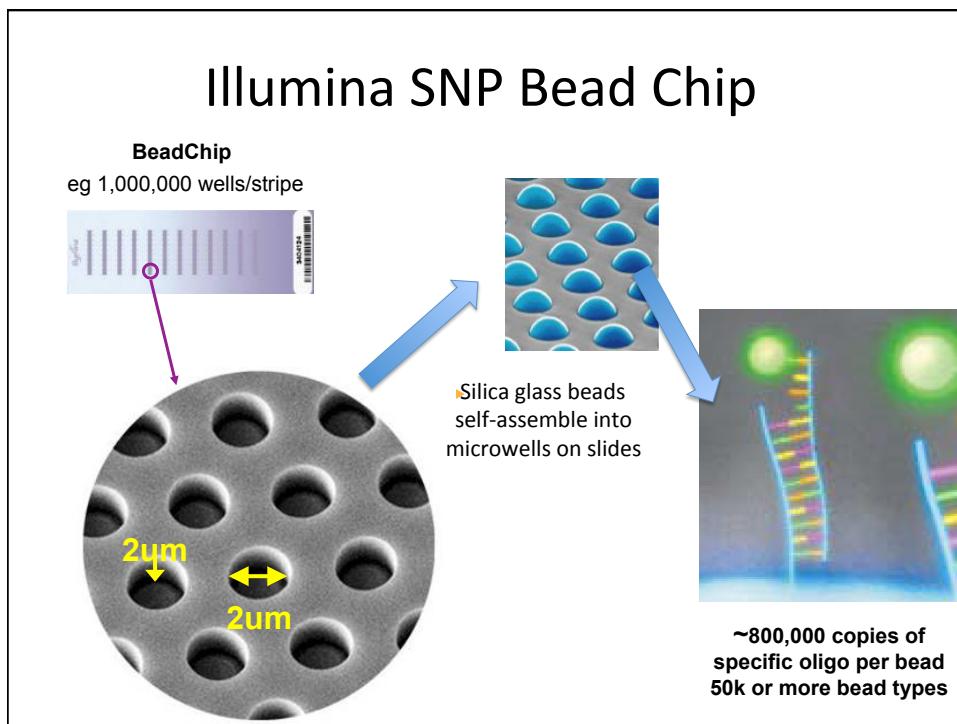
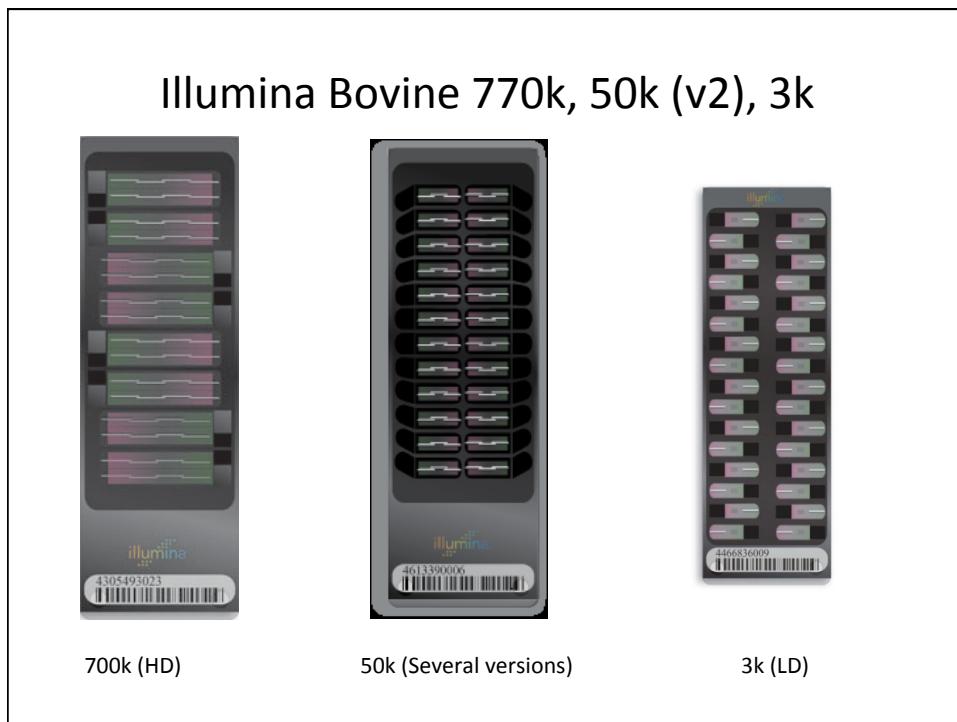


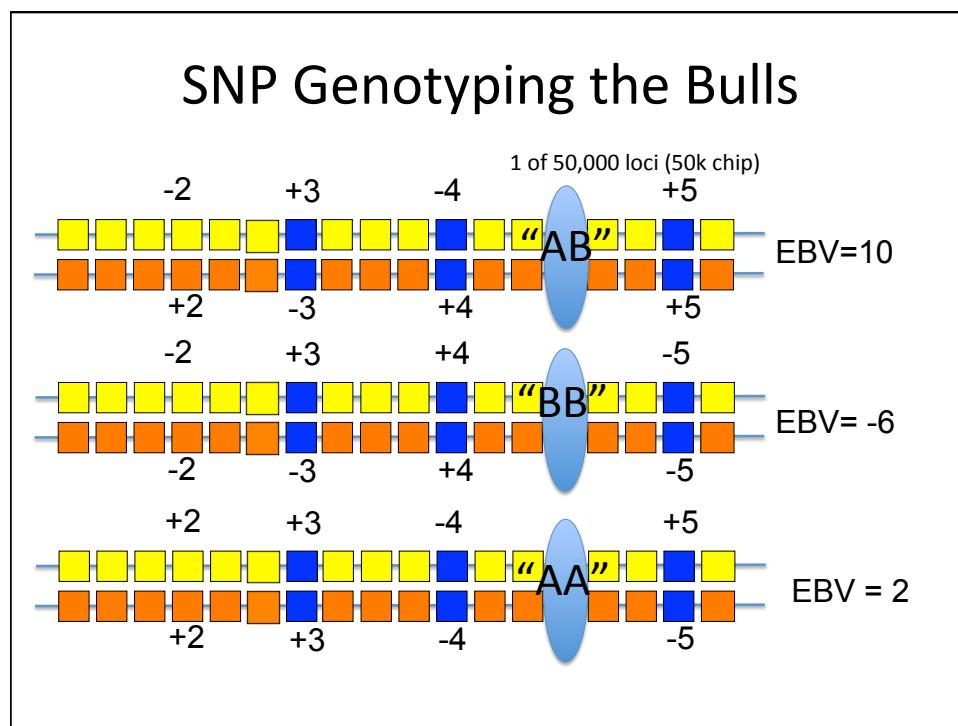
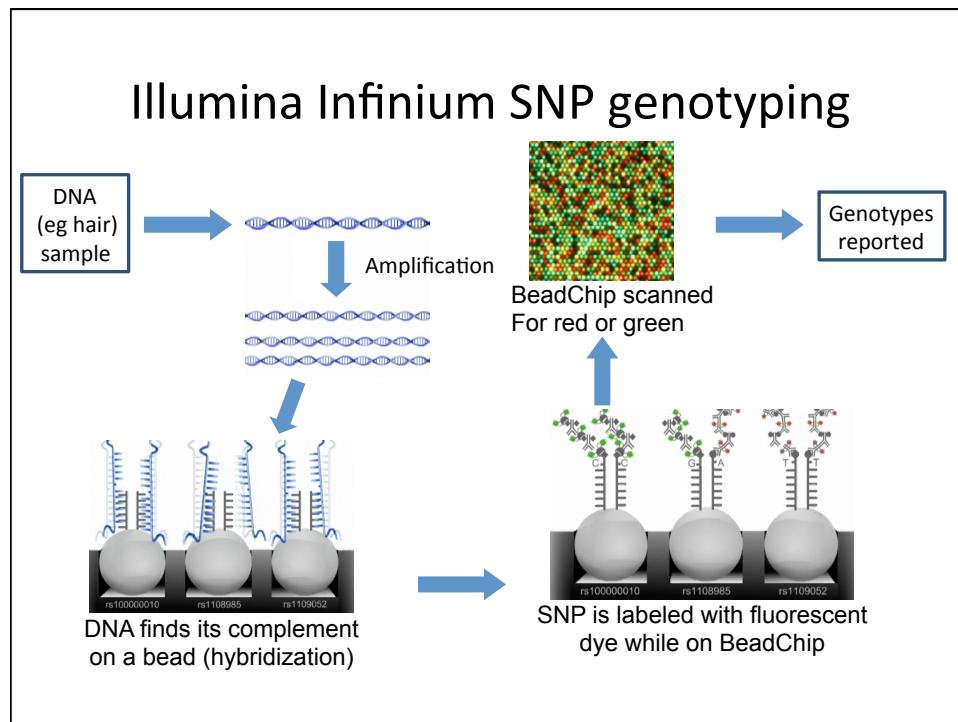
EPD is HALF the sum of the gene effects

Consider 3 Bulls

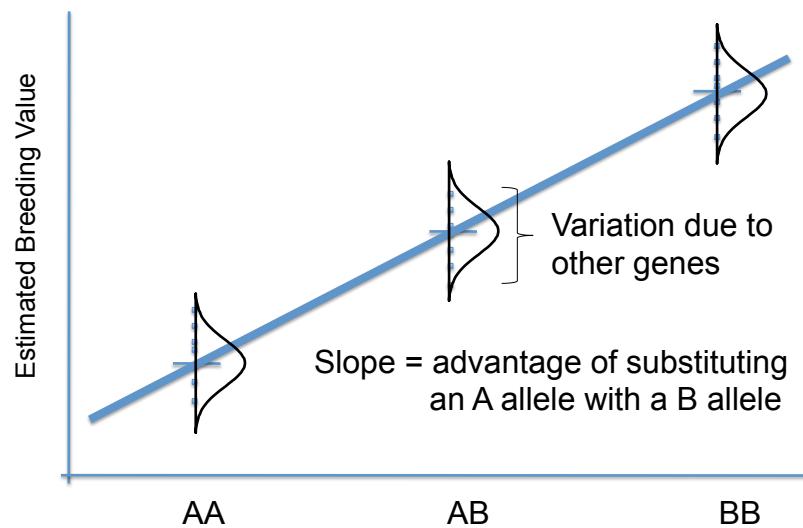


Below-average bulls will have some above-average alleles and vice versa!

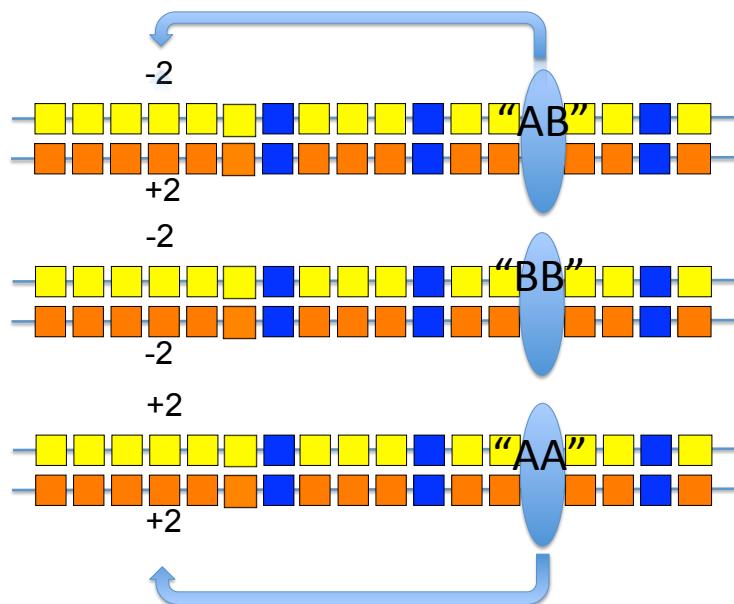


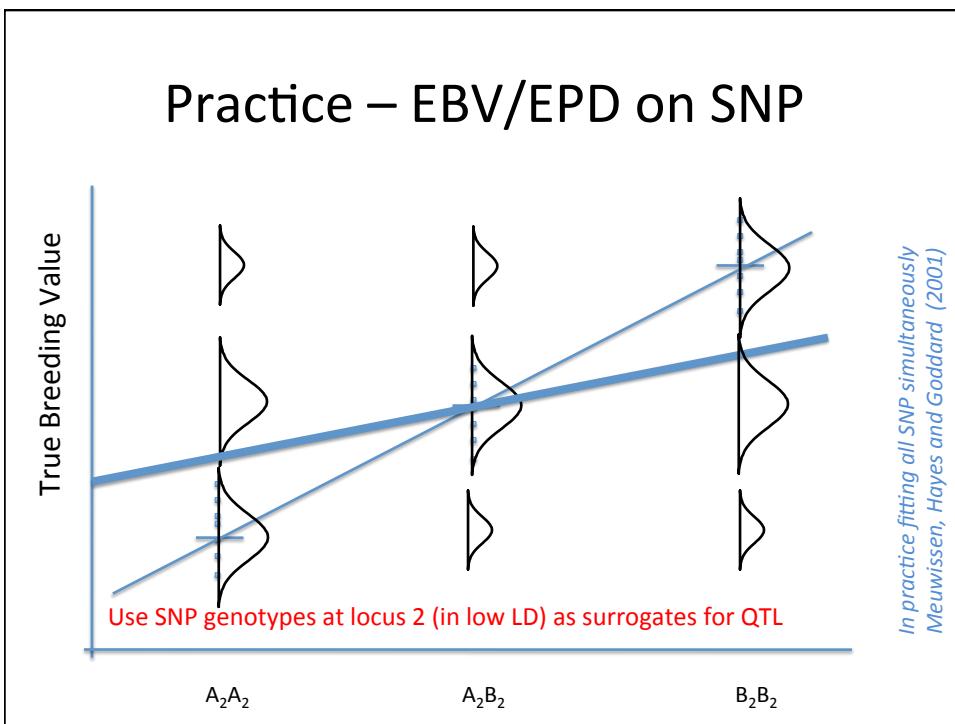
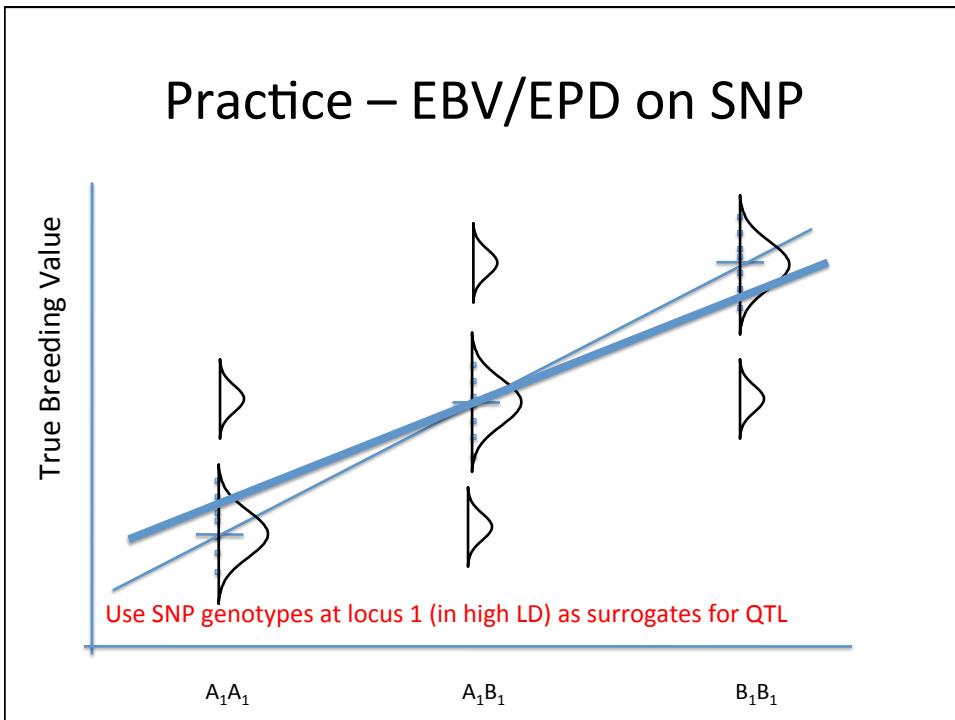


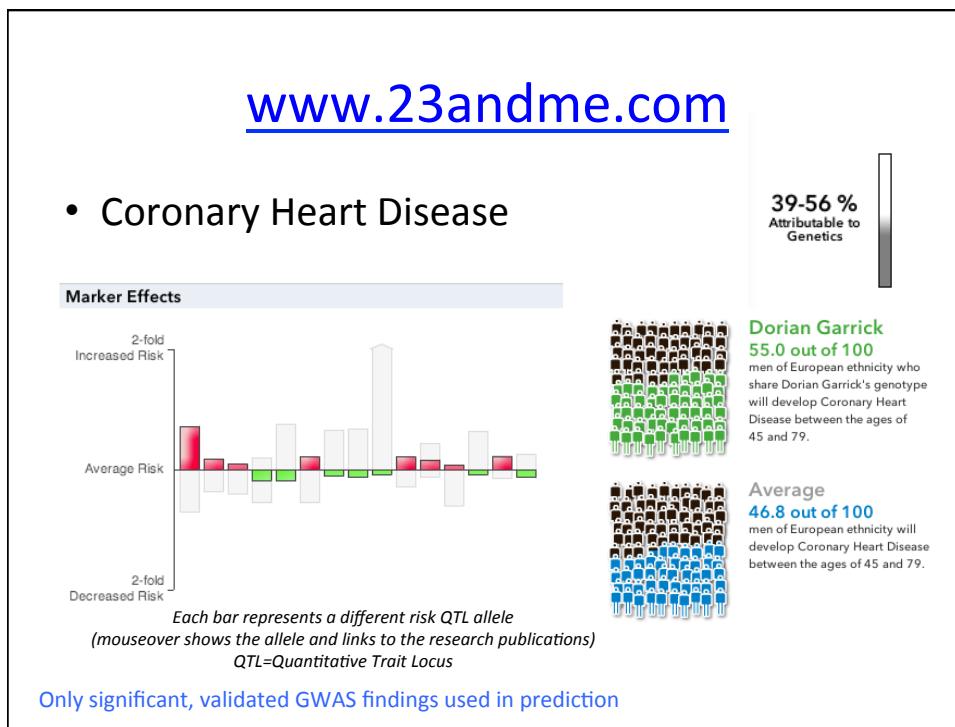
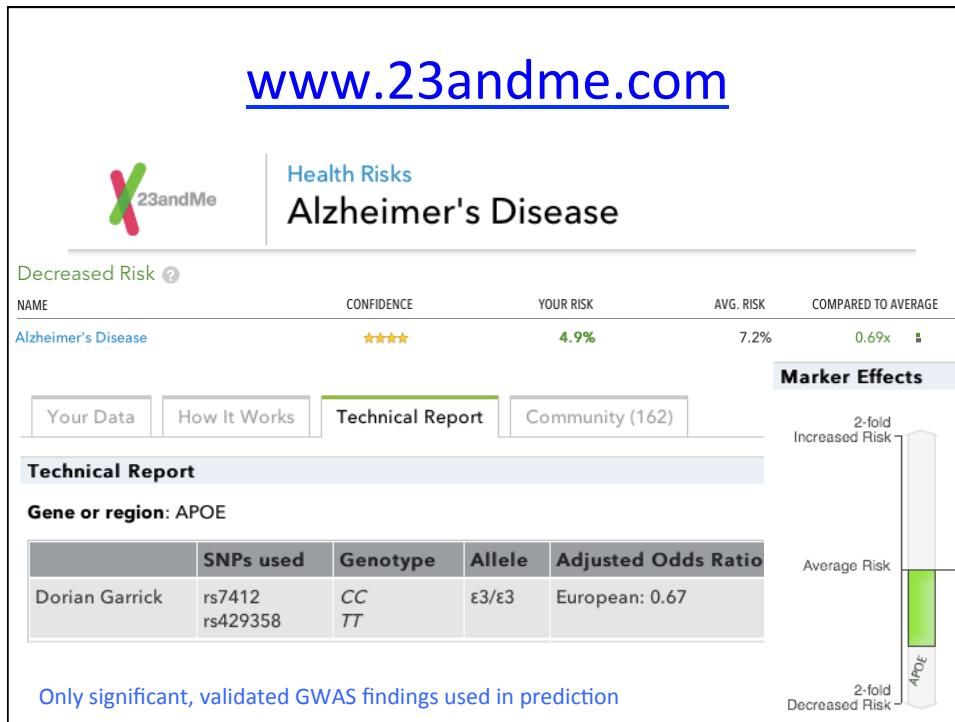
Regress performance on SNP genotype

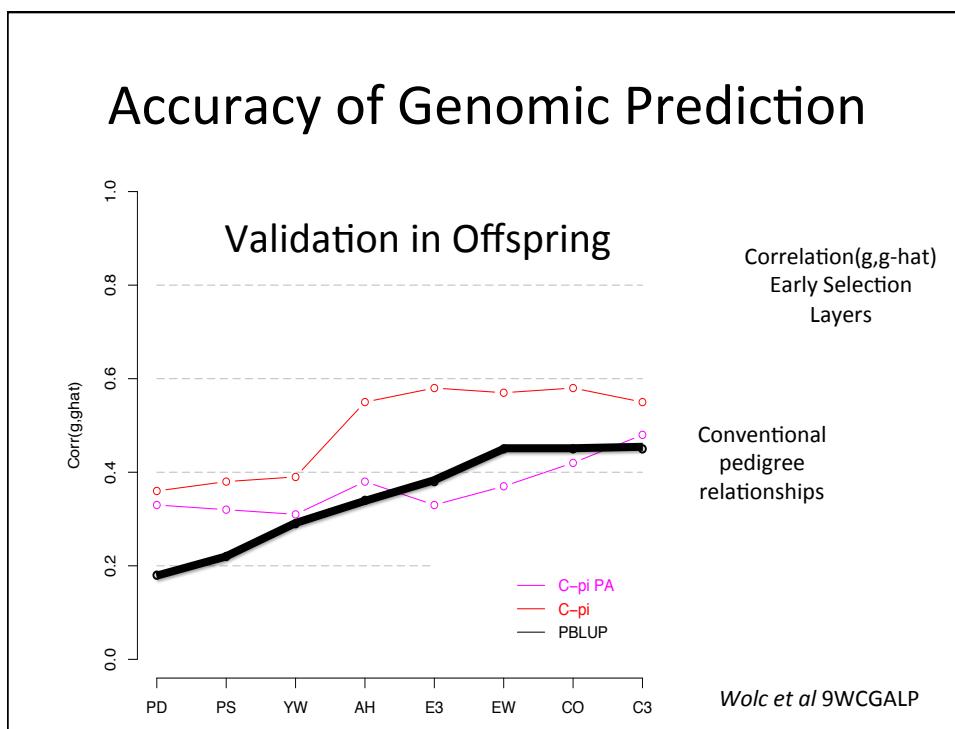
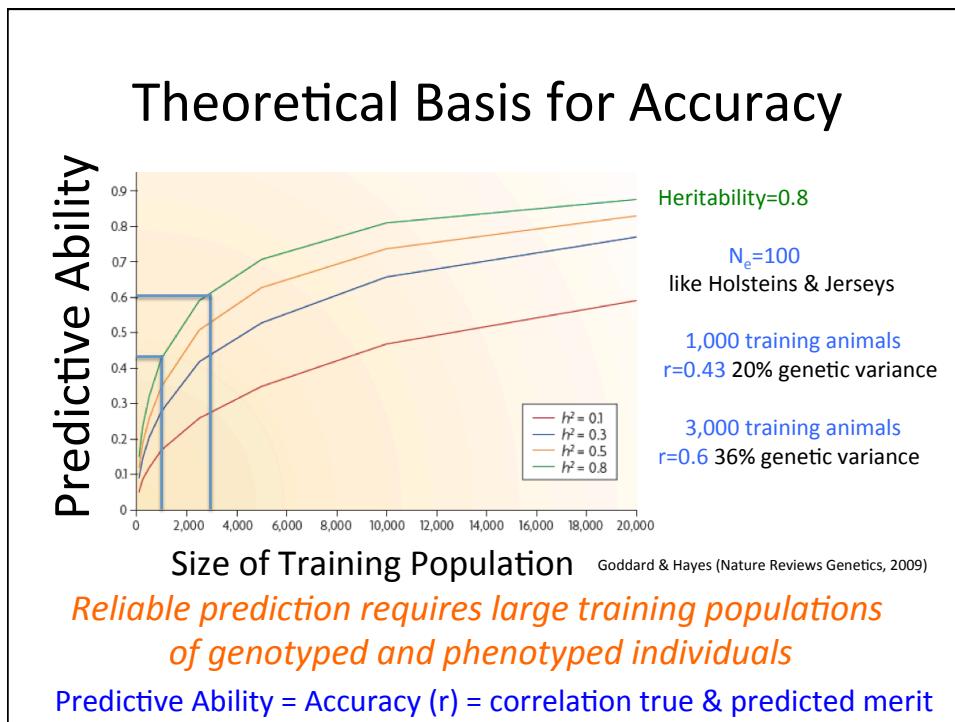


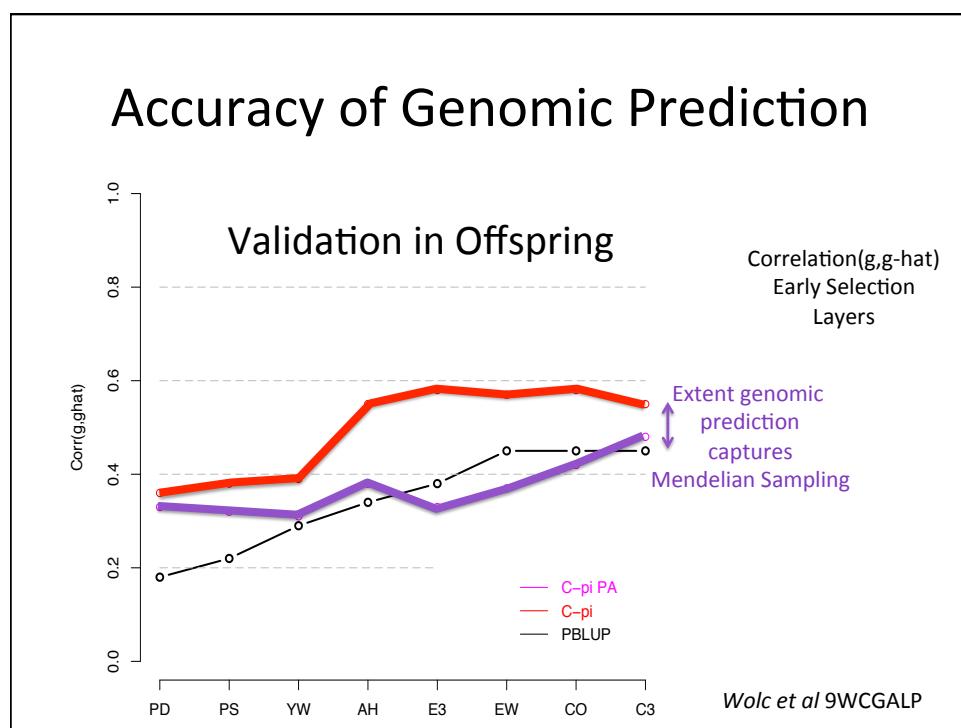
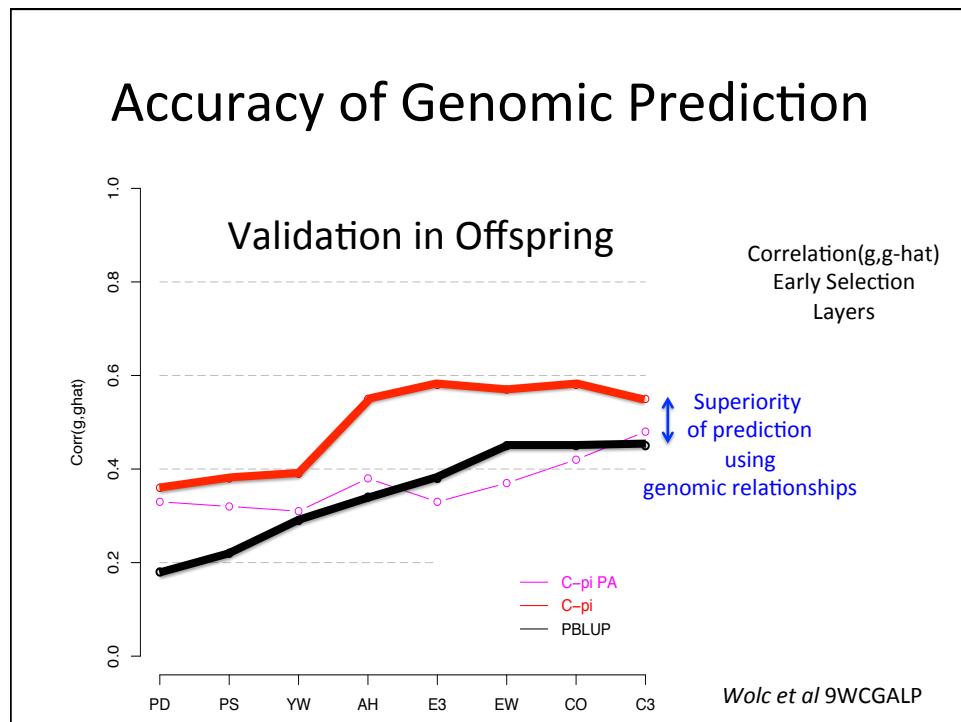
Linkage Disequilibrium (LD)











Genome-Wide Association Studies (GWAS)

- Use a historical population of bulls and cows with EBV information that have been genotyped with 50k panels
- Derive an EBV for every chromosome fragment (we call this **training**), and find the regions with biggest effects

Cut genome into 2,700 1Mb windows

#SNPs	%Var	Cum%Var	map_pos	Regions with biggest effects
11	7.10	7.10	7_93	
28	3.70	10.80	20_4	
22	1.34	12.14	13_58	
22	1.23	13.37	26_34	
9	0.92	14.29	6_29	
25	0.89	16.09	4_75	
26	0.79	16.88	4_114	
23	0.65	17.53	2_121	
17	0.61	18.14	18_55	
25	0.60	18.74	8_88	

Angus Birth Weight

Major Regions for Birth Weight

Chr_mb	Angus	Hereford	Limousin	Simment al	Gelbvieh	Genetic Variance %
7_93	7.10	5.85	0.02	0.18	0.02	
6_38-39	0.47	8.48	5.90	16.3	4.75	
20_4	3.70	7.99	0.07	1.53	0.03	
14_24-26	0.42	0.01	0.71	3.05	8.14	

Some of these same regions have big effects on one or more of weaning weight, yearling weight, marbling, ribeye area, calving ease

Iowa State University (ISU)

- A land-grant institution with responsibilities for research, teaching and extension
 - Such activities have been applied to genetic improvement of animals since 1930's when Iowa State Professor, Dr JL Lush, wrote the first textbook on animal breeding
 - That tradition continues just as strongly today as we research the role of genomics for improvement

Summary

- Genomics will increase accuracy of evaluation
 - The technology is **starting to mature** but works better in some traits and breeds than in others
 - It works better with **greater amounts of data**
 - Genomic prediction will **get more accurate** than it is today if we continue to undertake research
- This workshop will explain the statistical basis for methods of genomic prediction and GWAS