

# Variable selection in high-dimensional genetic data

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## Setting

- We are concerned with the analysis of data in which we are attempting to predict an outcome  $Y$  using a number of explanatory factors  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots$ , some of which may not be particularly useful

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- Regression models are an attractive framework for approaching problems of this type, and the focus today will be on extending classical regression modeling to deal with high-dimensional data

# Classical Methods

- A nice and powerful toolbox for analyzing the more traditional datasets where the sample size ( $N$ ) is far **greater than** the number of covariates ( $p$ ):
  - ▶ linear regression, logistic regression, LDA, QDA, glm,
  - ▶ regression spline, smoothing spline, kernel smoothing, local smoothing, GAM,
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$$\mathbf{X}_{n \times p} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1p} \\ x_{21} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1p} \\ x_{31} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{np} \end{bmatrix}$$

	Sepal.Length	Sepal.Width	Petal.Length	Petal.Width	Species
1	5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	setosa
2	4.9	3.0	1.4	0.2	setosa
3	4.7	3.2	1.3	0.2	setosa
4	4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	setosa
5	5.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	setosa
6	5.4	3.9	1.7	0.4	setosa
7	4.6	3.4	1.4	0.3	setosa
8	5.0	3.4	1.5	0.2	setosa
9	4.4	2.9	1.4	0.2	setosa
10	4.9	3.1	1.5	0.1	setosa
11	5.4	3.7	1.5	0.2	setosa
12	4.8	3.4	1.6	0.2	setosa
13	4.8	3.0	1.4	0.1	setosa
14	4.3	3.0	1.1	0.1	setosa
15	5.8	4.0	1.2	0.2	setosa

# Classical Linear Regression

Data:  $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$  iid from

$$y = \mathbf{x}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + \epsilon$$

where  $E(\epsilon|\mathbf{x}) = 0$ , and  $\dim(x) = p$ . To include an intercept, we can set  $\mathbf{x}_1 \equiv 1$ . Using Matrix notation:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \epsilon$$

The least squares estimator

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{LS} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2$$

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- **Question:** How to find the important variables  $\mathbf{x}_j$ ?

## Best-subset Selection (Beal et al. 1967, Biometrika)

Predictor set	model
None of $x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4$	$E(Y) = \beta_0$
$x_1$	$E(Y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1$
$x_2$	$E(Y) = \beta_0 + \beta_2 x_2$
$x_3$	$E(Y) = \beta_0 + \beta_3 x_3$
$x_4$	$E(Y) = \beta_0 + \beta_4 x_4$
$x_1 x_2$	$E(Y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2$
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$x_1 x_4$	$E(Y) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_4 x_4$
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# Which variables are important?

- Scientists know only a small subset of variables (such as genes) are important for the response variable.
- An old Idea: try all possible subset models and pick the best one.
- Fit a subset of predictors to the linear regression model. Let  $S$  be the subset predictors, e.g.,  $S = \{1, 3, 7\}$ .

$$C_p = \frac{\text{RSS}_S}{\sigma^2} - (n - 2|S|) = \frac{\text{RSS}_S}{\sigma^2} + 2|S| - n$$

- We pick the model with the smallest  $C_p$  value.

## Model selection criteria

Minimizing  $C_p$  is equivalent to minimizing

$$\|\underline{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}_S \widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_S\|^2 + 2|S|\sigma^2.$$

which is AIC score.

Many popular model selection criteria can be written as

$$\|\underline{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{X}_S \widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_S\|^2 + \lambda|S|\sigma^2.$$

- BIC uses  $\lambda = \sigma \sqrt{\log(n)/n}$ .

## Remarks

Best subset selection plus model selection criteria (AIC, BIC, etc.)

- Computing all possible subset models is a combinatorial optimization problem (NP hard)
- Instability in the selection process (Breiman, 1996)

## Ridge Regression (Hoerl & Kennard 1970, Technometrics)

- $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_2^2$
- $\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_2^2 = \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2$

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- $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{Ridge} = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y} \rightarrow$  exact solution
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- Let  $\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{I}_{p \times p}$

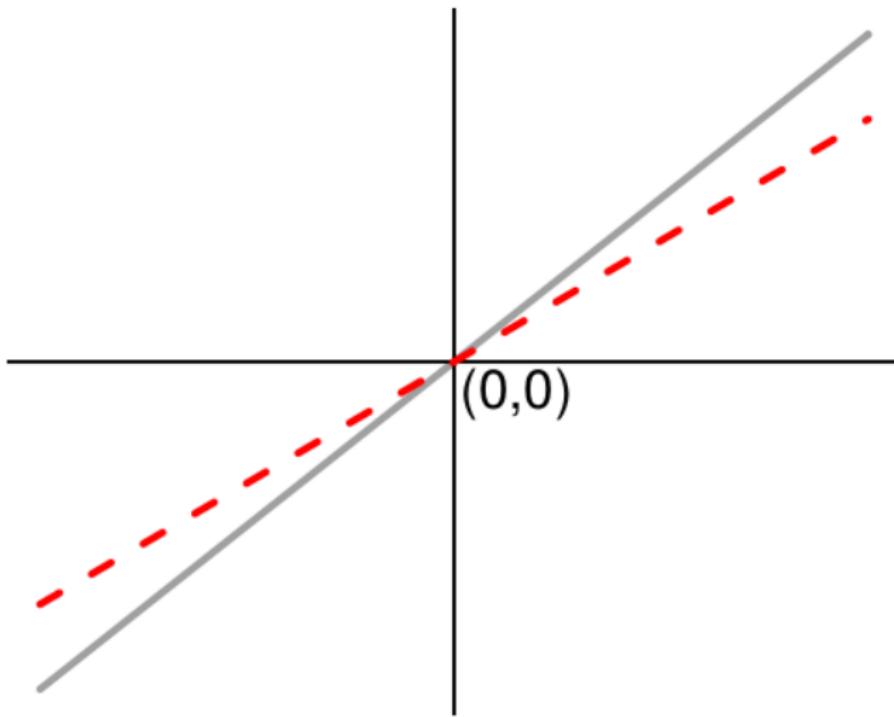
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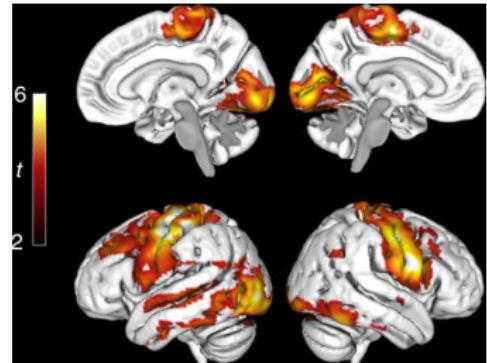
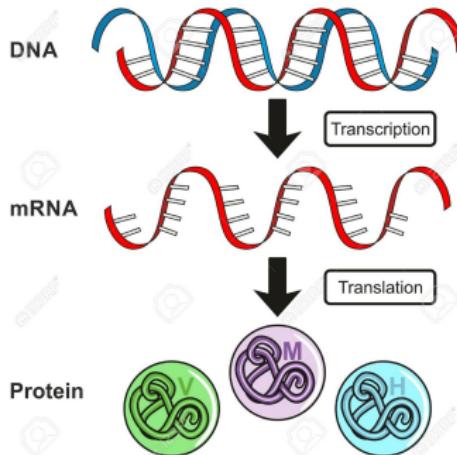
$$\hat{\beta}_{j(Ridge)} = \frac{\hat{\beta}_{j(MCO)}}{1 + \lambda}$$

## Least squares vs. Ridge

Ridge



# High-dimensional data ( $n \ll p$ )



$$\mathbf{X}_{n \times p} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1p} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{np} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Why can't we fit OLS to High-dimensional data?

a

Training data:  
(n = 2)

ID	weight	age	sex
1	80	40	0
2	60	20	1

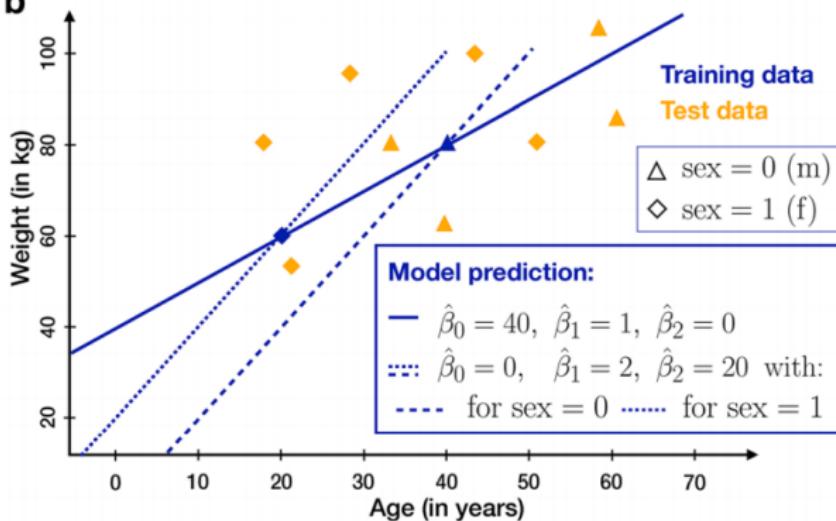
Model to fit:

$$\text{weight} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot \text{age} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{sex} + \epsilon$$

→ Solutions:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_0 &= 40, & \hat{\beta}_1 &= 1, & \hat{\beta}_2 &= 0 \\ && \vdots && & \text{with } \epsilon = 0 \\ \hat{\beta}_0 &= 0, & \hat{\beta}_1 &= 2, & \hat{\beta}_2 &= 20\end{aligned}$$

b



# High-dimensional data ( $n \ll p$ )

- We will let
  - ▶  $n$  denote the number of independent sampling units (e.g., number of patients)
  - ▶  $p$  denote the number of features recorded for each unit

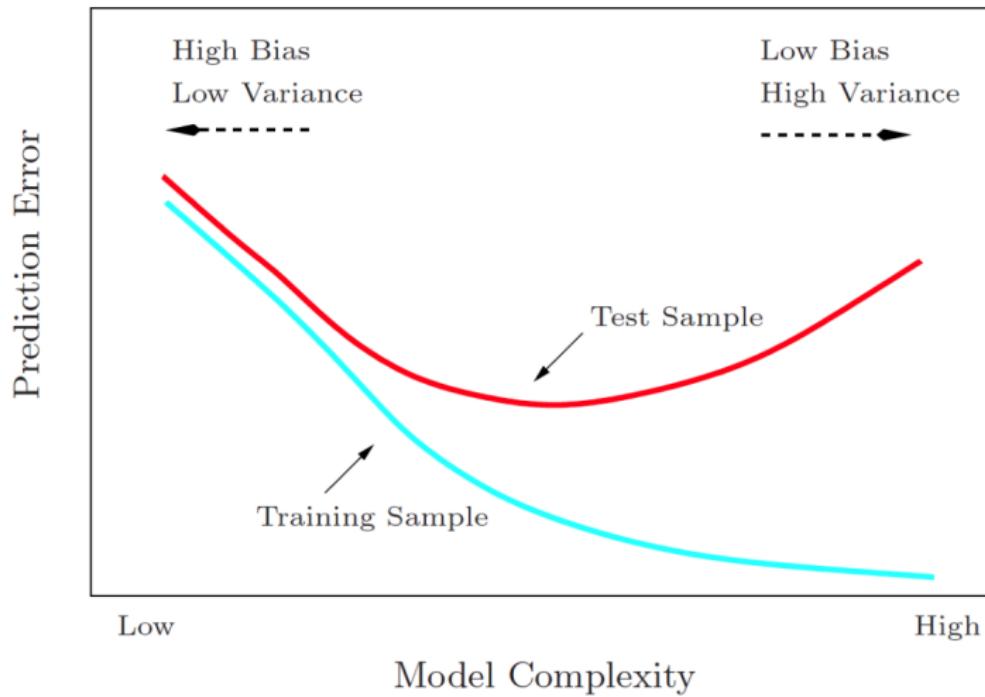
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  - ▶ This certainly includes the case where  $p > n$

# High-dimensional data ( $n \ll p$ )

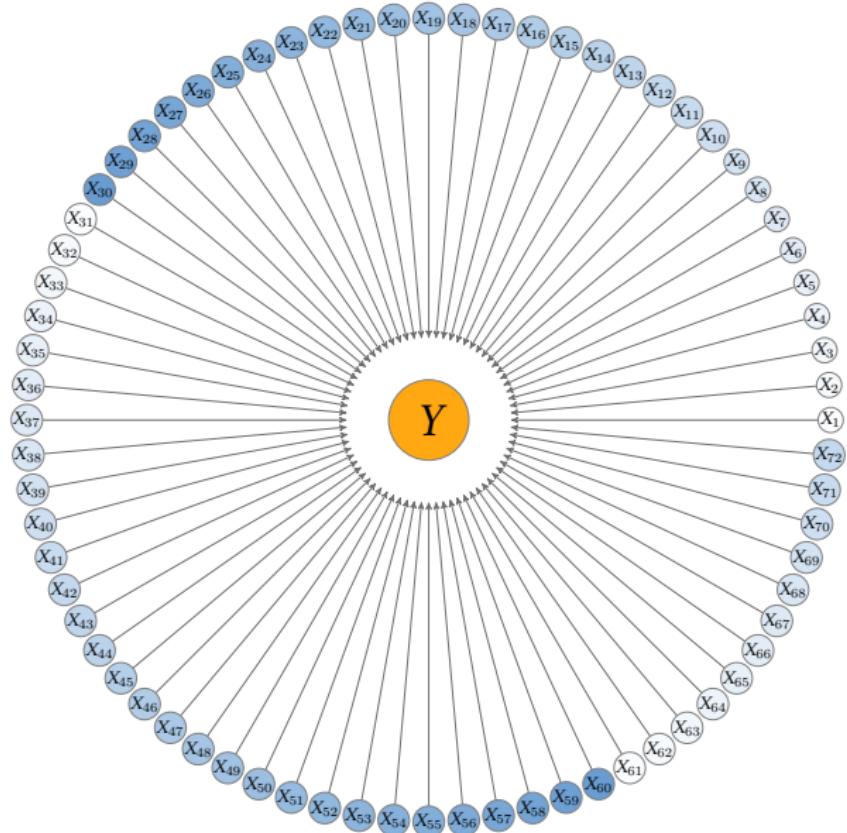
- We will let
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  - ▶  $p$  denote the number of features recorded for each unit
- In high-dimensional data,  $p$  is large with respect to  $n$ 
  - ▶ This certainly includes the case where  $p > n$
  - ▶ However, the ideas we discuss in this course are also relevant to many situations in which  $p < n$ ; for example, if  $n = 100$  and  $p = 80$ , we probably don't want to use ordinary least squares

# A fundamental picture for data science

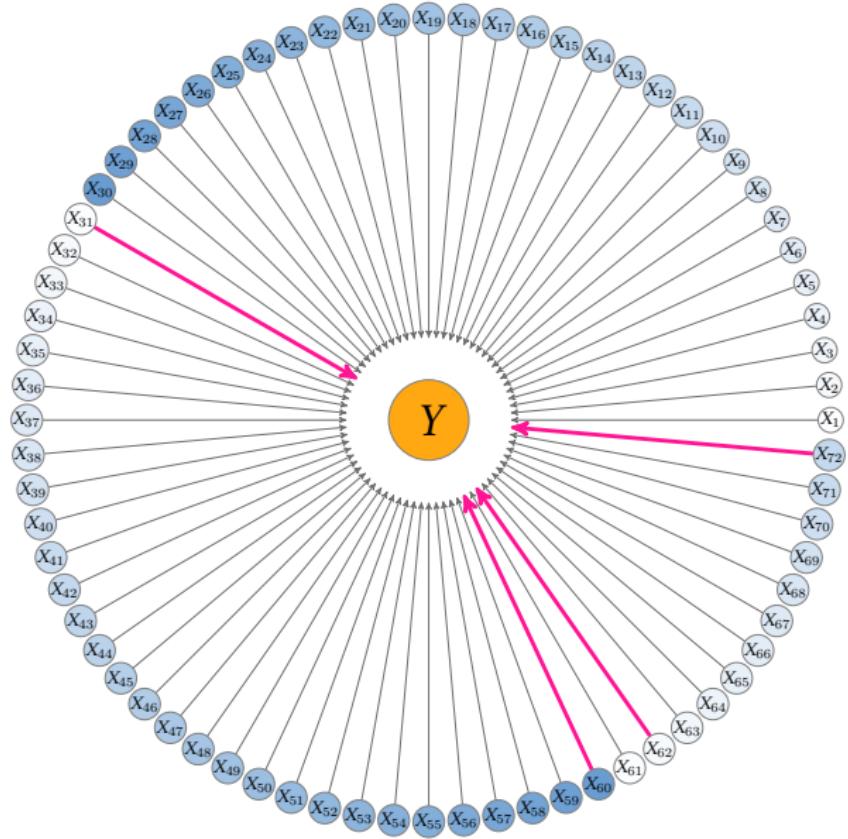




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**Use a procedure that does well in sparse problems, since no procedure does well in dense problems.<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup>The elements of statistical learning. Springer series in statistics, 2001.

# Bet on Sparsity Principle

**Use a procedure that does well in sparse problems, since no procedure does well in dense problems.<sup>1</sup>**

- We often don't have enough data to estimate so many parameters
- Even when we do, we might want to identify a **relatively small number of predictors** ( $k < N$ ) that play an important role
- Faster computation, easier to understand, and stable predictions on new datasets.

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How would you schedule a meeting of 20 people?

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March 2017												
11 participants	Thu 9	Fri 10	Sat 11	Sun 12	Mon 13	Tue 14	Wed 15	Thu 16	Fri 17	Sat 18	Sun 19	
	5:00 PM – 9:00 PM	5:00 PM – 9:00 PM	8:00 AM – 3:00 PM	3:00 PM – 9:00 PM	1:00 PM – 9:00 PM							
JayZ	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	
Evan									✓	✓	✓	✓
Omar	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Caitlin	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	
Austin	✓	✓	✓									
Ethan			✓	✓				✓		✓		
Max	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tycho	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Janavi Chadha		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Charlotte										✓		✓
Darshanye	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓			
Your name	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
March 2017												
	7	8	7	4	0	6	1	0	7	8	9	2



# UKBiobank

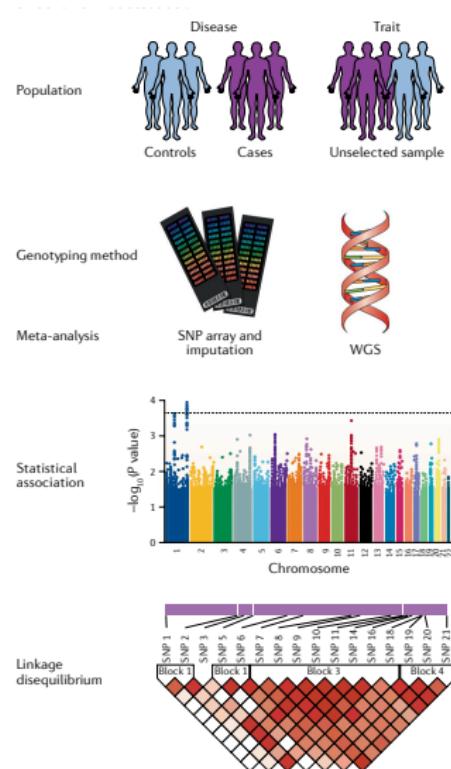
- Données de génotypage sont issues de 500 000 individus d'origine caucasienne recrutés au Royaume-Uni
- La puce UKBioBANK comporte plus de 800 000 SNPs
- Grand nombre de variables réponses (ex. maladie, densité minérale osseuse)
- Objectif: Quelles variables explicatives sont associées à la variable réponse?



## Un échantillon

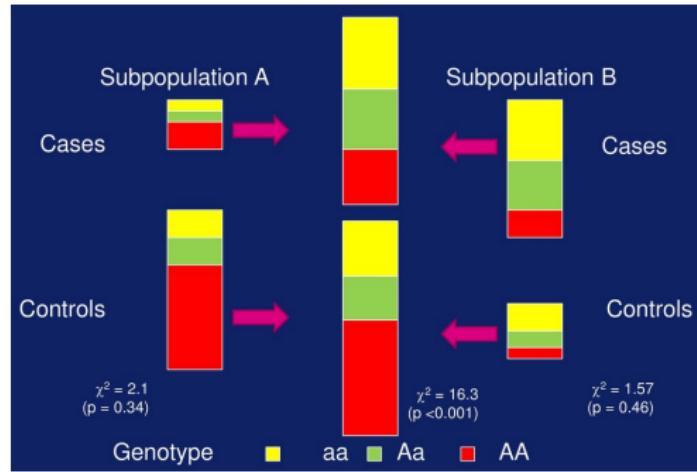
	ID	Response	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
1	2610781	-1.255	1	2	0	0	0	1
2	4114347	-0.339	1	2	0	2	0	1
3	4399930	-0.6	1	2	1	1	0	1
4	2081319	0.809	1	2	0	1	0	2
5	1347380	0.279	2	2	0	0	0	0
6	3262449	-0.421	2	2	0	1	0	1
7	4870063	-0.454	2	2	0	0	0	2
8	1141212	1.383	2	2	1	1	1	0
9	2997954	-2.29	1	2	0	0	0	1
10	5805218	2.289	1	2	0	1	1	1

# GWAS



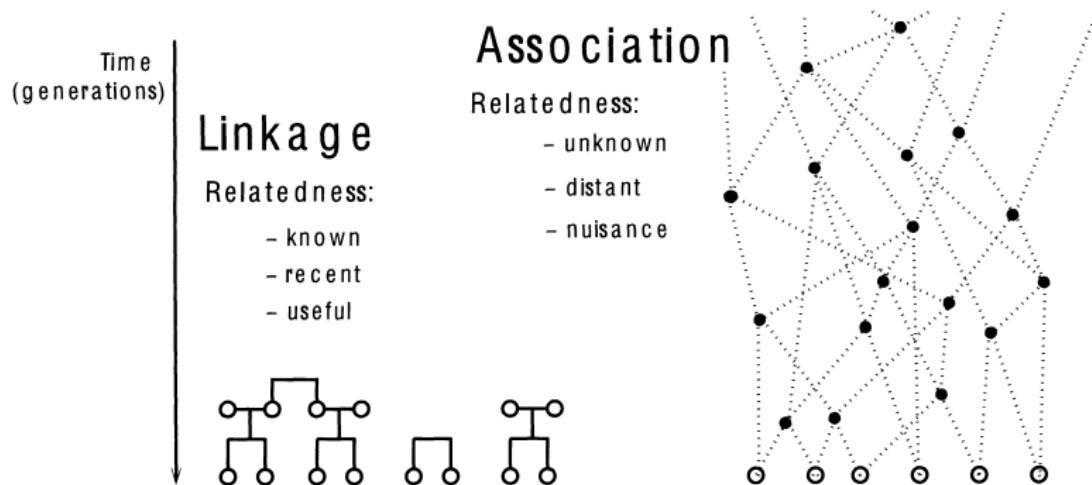
<sup>1</sup>Tam V. et al. Benefits and limitations of genome-wide association studies. Nat Rev Genet (2019)

# Confounding



# Population structure

- Les GWAS comparent des individus non apparentés, mais «non apparentés» en fait signifie que les relations sont **inconnues** et présumées éloignées.



<sup>1</sup>Astle and Balding. Population structure and cryptic relatedness in genetic association studies. Statistical Science (2009)

# Les observations ne sont pas indépendants

- Les observations sont **corrélées**, mais cette relation est souvent **inconnue**
- Cependant, elle peut être **estimée** à partir des données

ID	Response	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
1 2610781	-1.255	1	2	0	0	0	1
2 4114347	-0.339	1	2	0	2	0	1
3 4399930	-0.6	1	2	1	1	0	1
4 2081319	0.809	1	2	0	1	0	2
5 1347380	0.279	2	2	0	0	0	0
6 3262449	-0.421	2	2	0	1	0	1
7 4870063	-0.454	2	2	0	0	0	2
8 1141212	1.383	2	2	1	1	1	0
9 2997954	-2.29	1	2	0	0	0	1
10 5805218	2.289	1	2	0	1	1	1

## La matrice de parenté (kinship)

- Soit  $kinship$  une liste de SNP utilisée pour estimer la matrice de parenté
- Soit  $X_{kinship}$  une matrice de génotype normalisée  $n \times q$ .
- Une matrice de parenté ( $\Phi$ ) peut être calculée comme:

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{q-1} X_{kinship} X_{kinship}^\top \quad (1)$$

## Test d'association avec un modèle mixte linéaire (LMM)

$$\mathbf{Y} = \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j \cdot \text{SNP}_j + \mathbf{P} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{P} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \eta\sigma^2 \boldsymbol{\Phi}) \quad \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (1 - \eta)\sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

- $\sigma^2$  est la variance totale du phénotype
- $\eta \in [0, 1]$  est l'héritabilité du phénotype
- $\mathbf{Y} | (\eta, \sigma^2) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \eta\sigma^2 \boldsymbol{\Phi} + (1 - \eta)\sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$

## Régression ridge (Hoerl & Kennard 1970, Technometrics), Lasso (Tibshirani 1996, JRSSB)

- $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{ridge} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_2^2$
- $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}^{lasso} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i - \sum_{j=1}^p x_{ij} \beta_j \right)^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j|$

Lasso, ridge, ect. ne sont pas directement applicable au LMM

## Procédure en deux étapes

- Étape 1: Ajuster un LMM sous l'hypothèse nul avec un seul effet aléatoire

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{P} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\mathbf{P} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \eta\sigma^2 \boldsymbol{\Phi}) \quad \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (1 - \eta)\sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

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- Étape 2: Utilisez les résidus de l'étape 1 comme nouvelle réponse *indépendante*

# Procédure en deux étapes

X\_kinship

	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
ID1	2	2	2	2	2	2
ID2	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID3	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID4	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID5	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID6	1	2	2	2	1	2
ID7	2	2	2	2	1	2
ID8	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID9	0	2	2	2	1	2
ID10	1	2	2	1	2	2

# Procédure en deux étapes

$\mathbf{X}_{\text{kinship}}$

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ID3	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID4	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID5	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID6	1	2	2	2	1	2
ID7	2	2	2	2	1	2
ID8	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID9	0	2	2	2	1	2
ID10	1	2	2	1	2	2



$\mathbf{X}_{\text{kinship}} \mathbf{X}_{\text{kinship}}^T$

	ID1	ID2	ID3	ID4	ID5	ID6	ID7	ID8	ID9	ID10
ID1	0.97	0	0	0	-0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	0.03
ID2	0	1	0	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	0	0
ID3	0	0	0.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0.03	-0.01	-0.01
ID4	0	-0.01	0.01	1.03	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
ID5	-0.02	0	0.01	0.04	0.97	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03
ID6	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	1.02	0	0	0	0.01
ID7	0.02	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	1	0.02	0.02	0
ID8	-0.01	0	0.03	0.01	0.01	0	0.02	1.01	0.01	0
ID9	-0.02	0	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0.02	0.01	1.04	0.01
ID10	0.03	0	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0	0	0.01	0.95

# Procédure en deux étapes

**X<sub>kinship</sub>**

	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
ID1	2	2	2	2	2	2
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ID3	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID4	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID5	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID6	1	2	2	2	1	2
ID7	2	2	2	2	1	2
ID8	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID9	0	2	2	2	1	2
ID10	1	2	2	1	2	2



**X<sub>kinship</sub> X<sub>kinship</sub><sup>T</sup>**

Response
-1.255
-0.339
-0.6
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-0.421
-0.454
1.383
-2.29
2.289



	ID1	ID2	ID3	ID4	ID5	ID6	ID7	ID8	ID9	ID10
ID1	0.97	0	0	0	-0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	0.03
ID2	0	1	0	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	0	0
ID3	0	0	0.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0.03	-0.01	-0.01
ID4	0	-0.01	0.01	1.03	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
ID5	-0.02	0	0.01	0.04	0.97	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03
ID6	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	1.02	0	0	0	0.01
ID7	0.02	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	1	0.02	0.02	0
ID8	-0.01	0	0.03	0.01	0.01	0	0.02	1.01	0.01	0
ID9	-0.02	0	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0.02	0.01	1.04	0.01
ID10	0.03	0	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0	0	0.01	0.95

**Y**

Motivating Dataset

**P**

**+**

**E**

# Procédure en deux étapes

Step 1:

Y

Response
-1.255
-0.339
-0.6
0.809
0.279
-0.421
-0.454
1.383
-2.29
2.289



P

	ID1	ID2	ID3	ID4	ID5	ID6	ID7	ID8	ID9	ID10
ID1	0.97	0	0	0	-0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	0.03
ID2	0	1	0	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	0	0
ID3	0	0	0.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0.03	-0.01	-0.01
ID4	0	-0.01	0.01	1.03	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
ID5	-0.02	0	0.01	0.04	0.97	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03
ID6	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	1.02	0	0	0	0.01
ID7	0.02	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	1	0.02	0.02	0
ID8	-0.01	0	0.03	0.01	0.01	0	0.02	1.01	0.01	0
ID9	-0.02	0	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0.02	0.01	1.04	0.01
ID10	0.03	0	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0	0	0.01	0.95

+ E<sub>1</sub>

Step 2:

Residuals  
from Step 1



	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
ID1	2	2	2	2	2	2
ID2	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID3	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID4	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID5	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID6	1	2	2	2	2	1
ID7	2	2	2	2	1	2
ID8	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID9	0	2	2	2	1	2
ID10	1	2	2	1	2	2

+ E<sub>2</sub>

# Procédure en deux étapes

Step 1:

Y

Response
-1.255
-0.339
-0.6
0.809
0.279
-0.421
-0.454
1.383
-2.29
2.289



P

	ID1	ID2	ID3	ID4	ID5	ID6	ID7	ID8	ID9	ID10
ID1	0.97	0	0	0	-0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	0.03
ID2	0	1	0	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	0	0
ID3	0	0	0.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0.03	-0.01	-0.01
ID4	0	-0.01	0.01	1.03	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
ID5	-0.02	0	0.01	0.04	0.97	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03
ID6	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	1.02	0	0	0	0.01
ID7	0.02	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	1	0.02	0.02	0
ID8	-0.01	0	0.03	0.01	0.01	0	0.02	1.01	0.01	0
ID9	-0.02	0	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0.02	0.01	1.04	0.01
ID10	0.03	0	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0	0	0.01	0.95

+ E<sub>1</sub>

Step 2: Residuals from Step 1



	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
ID1	2	2	2	2	2	2
ID2	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID3	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID4	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID5	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID6	1	2	2	2	1	2
ID7	2	2	2	2	1	2
ID8	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID9	0	2	2	2	1	2
ID10	1	2	2	1	2	2

+ E<sub>2</sub>

- Dans les tests d'association, on sait qu'il souffre d'énormes pertes de puissance (Oualkacha et al. Gene. Epi. (2013))



# Notre proposition

- Nous proposons, `gmmix`, une procédure en **une seule étape** qui contrôle simultanément les populations structurées et effectue une sélection de variables dans les modèles mixtes linéaires

PLOS GENETICS

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Simultaneous SNP selection and adjustment for population structure in high dimensional prediction models

Sahir R. Bhatnagar<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Yi Yang<sup>3</sup>, Tianyuan Lu<sup>4,5</sup>, Erwin Schurr<sup>6</sup>, JC Loredo-Osti<sup>7</sup>, Marie Forest<sup>8</sup>, Karim Oualkacha<sup>9</sup>, Celia M. T. Greenwood<sup>1,4,5,10,11</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>R package: [sahirbhatnagar.com/gmmix](http://sahirbhatnagar.com/gmmix), <https://cran.r-project.org/package=gmmix>

# ggmix: une procédure en une seule étape

Y

Response
-1.255
-0.339
-0.6
0.809
0.279
-0.421
-0.454
1.383
-2.29
2.289

X

	Gene1	Gene2	Gene3	Gene4	Gene5	Gene6
ID1	2	2	2	2	2	2
ID2	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID3	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID4	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID5	0	2	2	2	2	2
ID6	1	2	2	2	1	2
ID7	2	2	2	2	1	2
ID8	1	2	2	2	2	2
ID9	0	2	2	2	1	2
ID10	1	2	2	1	2	2

~

P

ID1	ID2	ID3	ID4	ID5	ID6	ID7	ID8	ID9	ID10
ID1 0.97	0	0	0	-0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	0.03
ID2 0	1	0	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	0	0
ID3 0	0	0.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0.03	-0.01	-0.01
ID4 0	-0.01	0.01	1.03	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
ID5 -0.02	0	0.01	0.04	0.97	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03
ID6 0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	1.02	0	0	0	0.01
ID7 0.02	-0.01	0	-0.01	-0.01	0	1	0.02	0.02	0
ID8 -0.01	0	0.03	0.01	0.01	0	0.02	1.01	0.01	0
ID9 -0.02	0	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0	0.02	0.01	1.04	0.01
ID10 0.03	0	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0	0	0.01	0.95

+

E

<sup>1</sup>R package: [sahirbhatnagar.com/ggmx](http://sahirbhatnagar.com/ggmx), <https://cran.r-project.org/package=ggmx>

# Data and Model

- Phenotype:  $\mathbf{Y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- SNPs:  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{X}_1; \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$ , where  $p \gg n$
- Twice the Kinship matrix or Realized Relationship matrix:  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$
- Regression Coefficients:  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)^T \in \mathbb{R}^p$
- Polygenic random effect:  $\mathbf{P} = (P_1, \dots, P_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- Error:  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- We consider the following LMM with a single random effect:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Y} &= \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{P} + \varepsilon \\ \mathbf{P} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \eta\sigma^2\Phi) \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, (1 - \eta)\sigma^2\mathbf{I})\end{aligned}$$

- $\sigma^2$  is the phenotype total variance
- $\eta \in [0, 1]$  is the phenotype heritability (narrow sens)
- $\mathbf{Y}|(\beta, \eta, \sigma^2) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{X}\beta, \eta\sigma^2\Phi + (1 - \eta)\sigma^2\mathbf{I})$

# Likelihood

- The negative log-likelihood is given by

$$-\ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) \propto \frac{n}{2} \log(\sigma^2) + \frac{1}{2} \log(\det(\mathbf{V})) + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})^T \mathbf{V}^{-1} (\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \eta \boldsymbol{\Phi} + (1 - \eta) \mathbf{I}$$

- Assume the spectral decomposition of  $\boldsymbol{\Phi}$

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{U}^\top$$

- $\mathbf{U}$  is an  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrix and  $\mathbf{D}$  is an  $n \times n$  diagonal matrix
- One can write

$$\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{U}(\eta \mathbf{D} + (1 - \eta) \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{U}^\top = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{U}^\top$$

with  $\mathbf{W} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{w}_i)_{i=1}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_i = \eta \mathbf{D}_{ii} + (1 - \eta)$

# Likelihood

- Projection of  $\mathbf{Y}$  (and columns of  $\mathbf{X}$ ) into  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{U})$  leads to a simplified correlation structure for the transformed data:  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{Y}$
- $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} | (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \eta, \sigma^2) \sim \mathcal{N}(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{W})$ , with  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{U}^\top \mathbf{X}$
- The negative log-likelihood can then be expressed as

$$-\ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) \propto \frac{n}{2} \log(\sigma^2) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \log(w_i) + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} - \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\boldsymbol{\beta})^\top \mathbf{W}^{-1} (\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} - \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\boldsymbol{\beta})$$

# Likelihood

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- For fixed  $\sigma^2$  and  $\eta$ , solving for  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  is a weighted least squares problem

# Penalized Maximum Likelihood Estimator

- Define the objective function:

$$Q_\lambda(\Theta) = -\ell(\Theta) + \lambda \sum_j p_j(\beta_j)$$

- $p_j(\cdot)$  is a penalty term on  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p$
- An estimate of the model parameters  $\hat{\Theta}_\lambda$  is obtained by

$$\hat{\Theta}_\lambda = \arg \min_{\Theta} Q_\lambda(\Theta)$$

## Block Relaxation (De Leeuw, 1994)

To solve for the optimization problem we use a block relaxation technique

Set  $k \leftarrow 0$ , initial values for the parameter vector  $\Theta^{(0)}$  and  $\epsilon$ ;

**for**  $\lambda \in \{\lambda_{\max}, \dots, \lambda_{\min}\}$  **do**

**repeat**

$$\text{For } j = 1, \dots, p, \beta_j^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \arg \min_{\beta_j} Q_\lambda \left( \boldsymbol{\beta}_{-j}^{(k)}, \eta^{(k)}, \sigma^2^{(k)} \right)$$

$$\eta^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \arg \min_{\eta} Q_\lambda \left( \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(k+1)}, \eta, \sigma^2^{(k)} \right)$$

$$\sigma^2^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \arg \min_{\sigma^2} Q_\lambda \left( \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(k+1)}, \eta^{(k+1)}, \sigma^2 \right)$$

$$k \leftarrow k + 1$$

**until** convergence criterion is satisfied:  $\|\Theta^{(k+1)} - \Theta^{(k)}\|_2 < \epsilon$ ;

**end**

**Algorithm 1:** Block Relaxation Algorithm

# Coordinate Gradient Descent Method

- We take advantage of smoothness of  $\ell(\Theta)$
- We approximate  $Q_\lambda(\Theta)$  by a strictly convex quadratic function (using gradient)
- We use CGD to calculate a descent direction
- To achieve the descent property for the objective function, we employ further line search

---

<sup>1</sup>Tseng P& Yun S. Math. Program., Ser. B, (2009)

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**Theorem [Convergence]** <sup>1</sup>:

If  $\{\Theta^{(k)}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a sequence of iterates generated by the iteration map of Algorithm 1, then each cluster point (i.e. limit point) of  $\{\Theta^{(k)}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is a stationary point of  $Q_\lambda(\Theta)$

---

<sup>1</sup>Tseng P& Yun S. Math. Program., Ser. B, (2009)

# Choice of the tuning parameter

- We use the BIC:

$$BIC_{\lambda} = -2\ell(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\sigma}^2, \hat{\eta}) + c \cdot \hat{df}_{\lambda}$$

- $\hat{df}_{\lambda}$  is the number of non-zero elements in  $\hat{\beta}_{\lambda}$  plus two <sup>1</sup>
- Several authors <sup>2</sup> have used this criterion for variable selection in mixed models with  $c = \log n$
- Other authors <sup>3</sup> have proposed  $c = \log(\log(n)) * \log(n)$

---

<sup>1</sup>Zou et al. The Annals of Statistics, (2007)

<sup>2</sup>Bondell et al. Biometrics (2010)

<sup>3</sup>Wang et al. JRSS(Ser. B), (2009)



## Simulation study

- We simulated data from the model  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\beta + \mathbf{P} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$
- We used heritability  $\eta = \{0.1, 0.3\}$ , number of covariates  $p = 5,000$ , number of *kinship* SNPs  $k = 10,000$ , percentage of *causal* SNPs  $c = \{0\%, 1\%\}$  and  $\sigma^2 = 1$ .
- In addition to these parameters, we also varied the amount of overlap between the *causal* list and the *kinship* list:
  1. None of the *causal* SNPs are included in *kinship* set.
  2. All of the *causal* SNPs are included in the *kinship* set.
- These were meant to contrast the model behavior when causal SNPs are included in both the main effects and random effects vs. when the causal SNPs are only included in the main effects.
- These scenarios are motivated by the current standard of practice in GWAS where the candidate marker is excluded from the calculation of the kinship matrix.
- This approach becomes much more difficult to apply in large-scale multivariable models where there is likely to be overlap between the variables in the design matrix and kinship matrix.

## Simulation study results

- Both the lasso+PC and twostep selected more false positives compared to ggmmix
- Overall, we observed that variable selection results and RMSE for ggmmix were similar regardless of whether the causal SNPs were in the kinship matrix or not.
- This result is encouraging since in practice the kinship matrix is constructed from a random sample of SNPs across the genome, some of which are likely to be causal, particularly in polygenic traits.
- In particular, our simulation results show that the principal component adjustment method may not be the best approach to control for confounding by population structure, particularly when variable selection is of interest.

# Real data applications

## 1. UK Biobank

- ▶ 10,000 LD-pruned SNPs (Essentially un-correlated variables) to predict standing height in 18k related individuals
- ▶ Standing height is highly polygenic (many variables associated with response)

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## 2. GAW20 Simulated dataset

- ▶ 50,000 SNPs (all on chromosome 1) to predict high-density lipoproteins in 679 related individuals
- ▶ Not much correlation between causal SNP and others
- ▶ Very sparse signals (only 1 causal variant)

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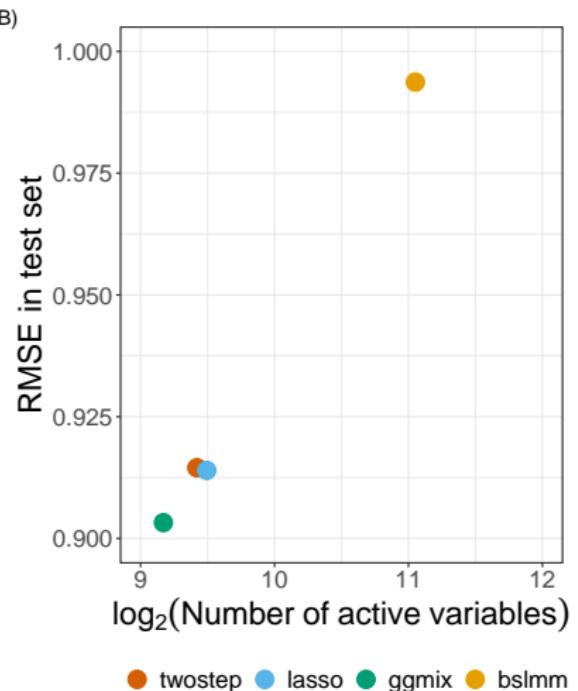
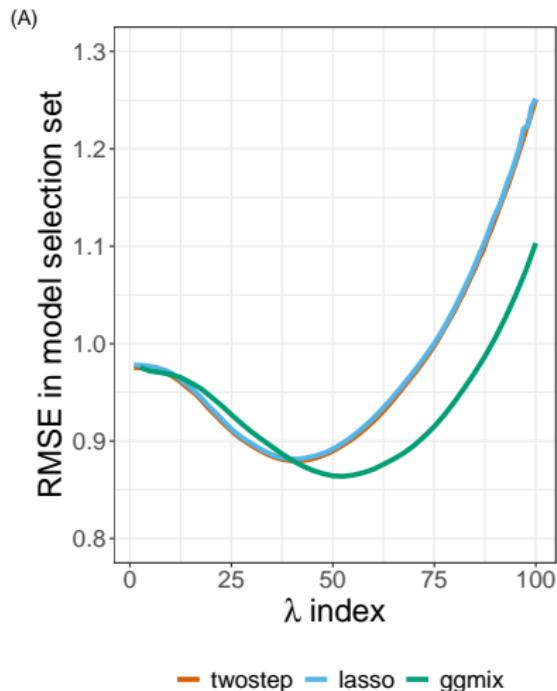
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- ▶ 50,000 SNPs (all on chromosome 1) to predict high-density lipoproteins in 679 related individuals
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- ▶ Very sparse signals (only 1 causal variant)

## 3. Mouse Crosses

- ▶ Find loci associated with mouse sensitivity to mycobacterial infection
- ▶ 189 samples, and 625 microsatellite markers
- ▶ Highly correlated variables

# Results: UK Biobank



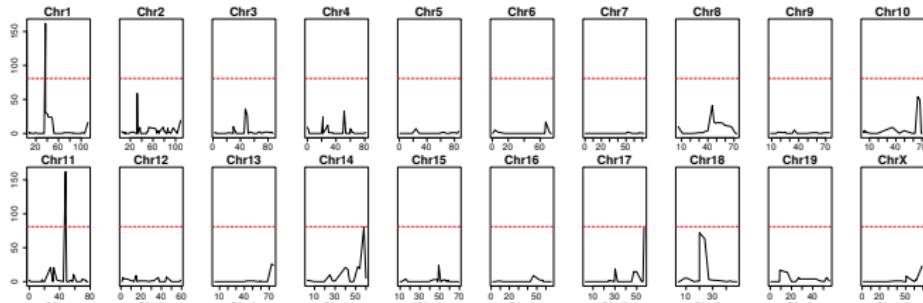
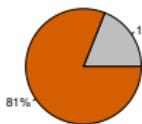
## Results: GAW20

Method	Median number of active variables (Inter-quartile range)	RMSE (SD)
twostep	1 (1 - 11)	0.3604 (0.0242)
lasso	1 (1 - 15)	0.3105 (0.0199)
ggmix	1 (1 - 12)	0.3146 (0.0210)
BSLMM	40,737 (39,901 - 41,539)	0.2503 (0.0099)

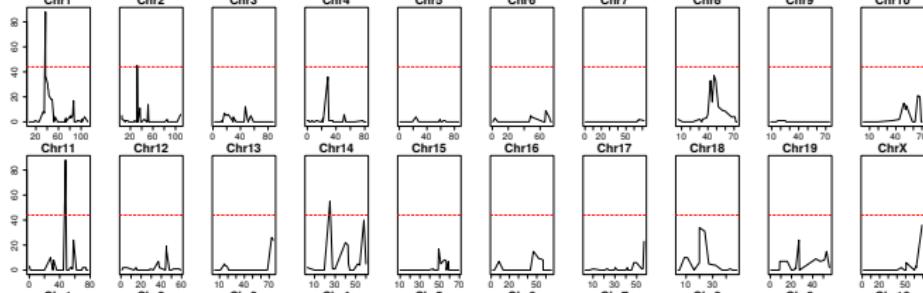
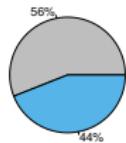
**Table:** Summary of model performance based on 200 GAW20 simulations. Five-fold cross-validation root-mean-square error was reported for each simulation replicate.

# Results: Mouse crosses

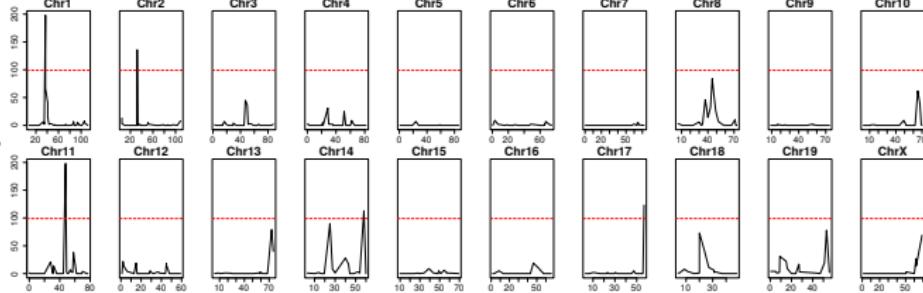
(a) twostep



(b) lasso



(c) ggmix

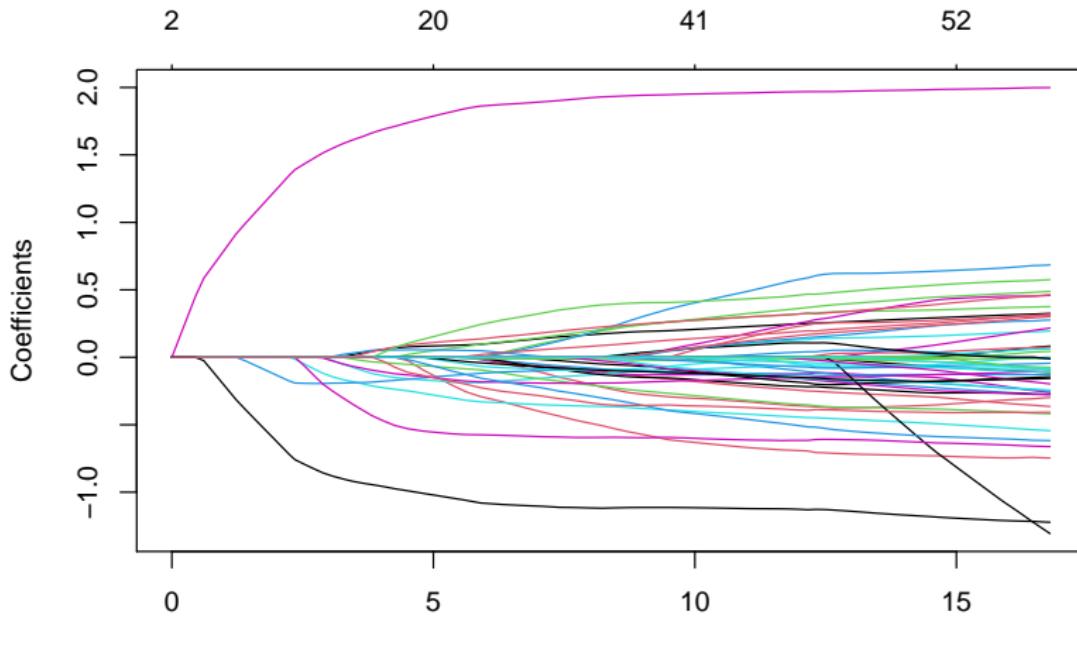


# Discussion

- La procédure en deux étapes conduit à un grand nombre de faux positifs et de faux négatifs
- L'ajustement de la composante principale dans `lasso` peut ne pas être suffisant pour contrôler la confusion, en particulier lorsqu'il y a beaucoup de corrélation entre les observations
- `gmmix` fonctionne bien même lorsque les variables causales sont utilisées dans le calcul de la matrice de parenté
- `gmmix` a montré la plus grande amélioration par rapport à `twostep` et `lasso` quand il y avait des variables hautement corrélées avec beaucoup de structure (exemple de croix de souris)

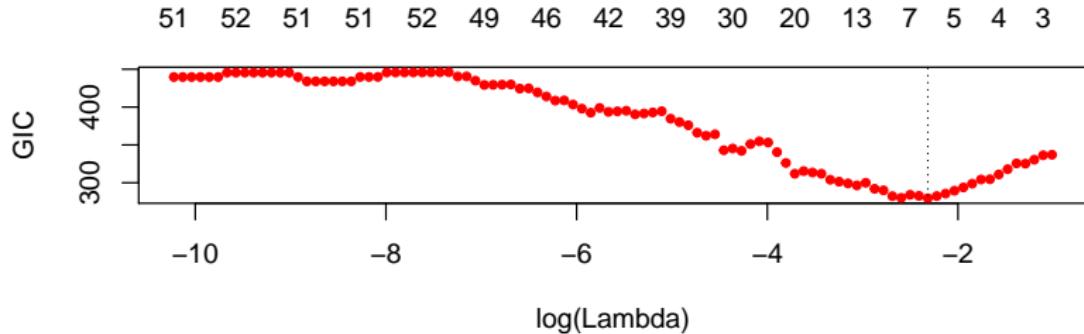
# ggmix R package

```
library(ggmix)
data("admixed")
fit <- ggmix(x = admixed$xtrain,
             y = admixed$ytrain,
             kinship = admixed$kin_train)
plot(fit)
```



# ggmix R package

```
hdbic <- gic(fit)  
plot(hdbic)
```



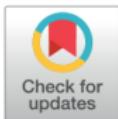
```
coef(hdbic, type = "nonzero")  
  
## 1  
## (Intercept) -0.03598164  
## X302 -0.17617815  
## X524 1.34917874  
## X538 -0.72073279  
## eta 0.99000000  
## sigma2 1.60477653
```



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Development of a polygenic risk score to improve screening for fracture risk: A genetic risk prediction study

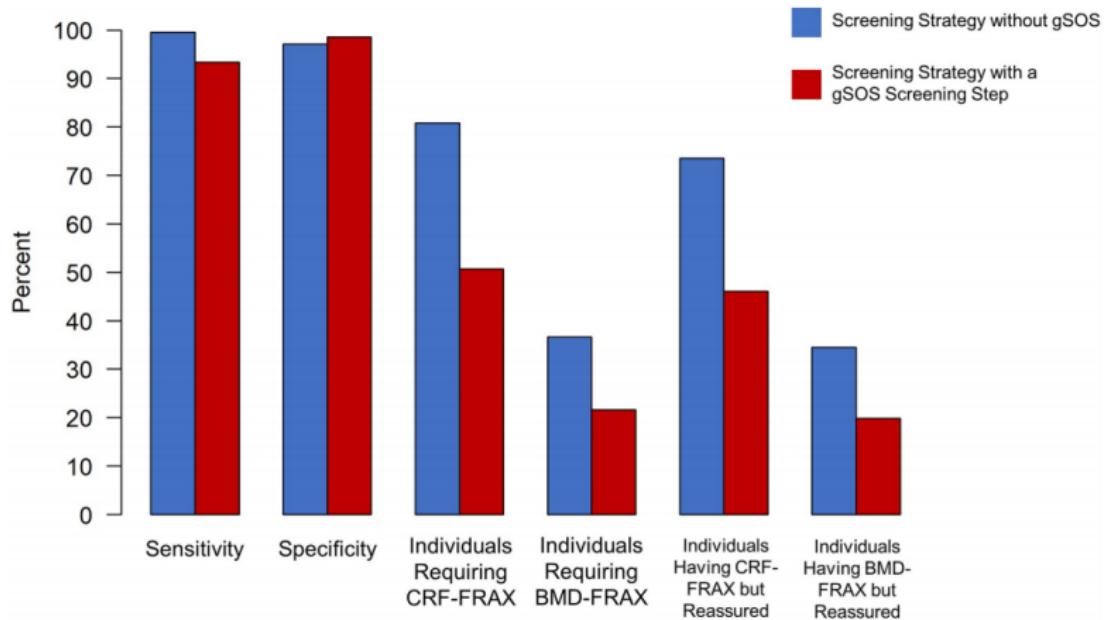
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## OPEN ACCESS

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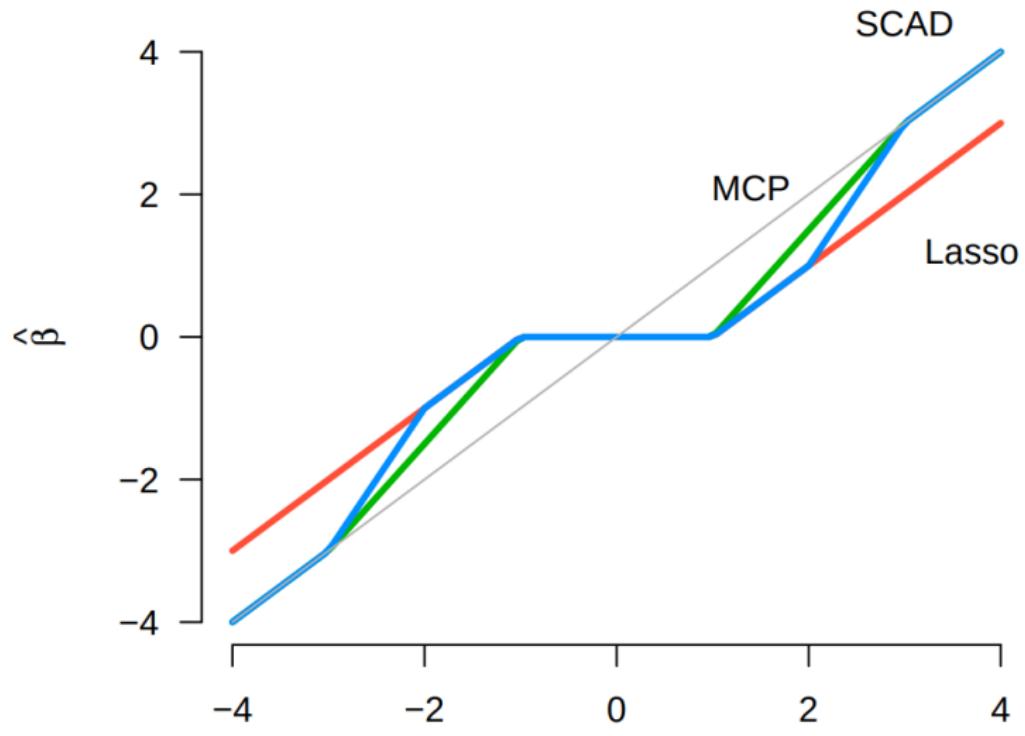


**Fig 6. Performance characteristics of screening with and without a gSOS screening step.** BMD-FRAX, bone-mineral-density-based Fracture Risk Assessment Tool; CRF-FRAX, clinical-risk-factor-based Fracture Risk Assessment Tool.

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003152.g006>



SCAD (Fan et Li, JASA, 2001), MCP (Zhang, Ann. Stat., 2010)



## Computational challenges

- Past approaches for optimization for SCAD/MCP relies upon descent method, first- or second- order
- e.g., sparsenet (Mazumder et al. 2011) uses coordinate descent with full step size, whose coordinate update cycles through
$$\tilde{\beta}_j = S_{\gamma_k} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \tilde{y}_i^j) x_{ij}, \lambda_\ell \right), \text{ where } \tilde{y}_i^j = \sum_{k \neq j} x_{ik} \tilde{\beta}_k$$
- However, coordinate descent is difficult to vectorize, and rate of convergence is difficult of establish – though past literature suggests  $O(1/k)$  rate of convergence for ISTA

# Our proposal: Accelerated gradient (AG) method

## Improving Convergence for Nonconvex Composite Programming

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Received: date / Accepted: date

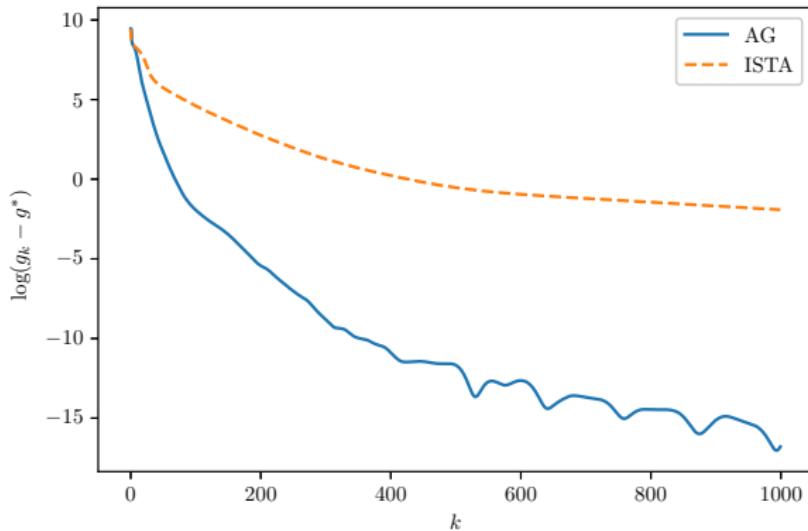
**Abstract** High-dimensional nonconvex composite problems are popular in today's machine learning and statistical genetics research. Recently, Ghadimi and Lan [1] proposed an algorithm to optimize nonconvex high-dimensional problems. There are several parameters in their algorithm that are to be set before running the algorithm. It is not trivial how to choose these parameters nor there is, to the best of our knowledge, an explicit rule how to select the parameters to make the algorithm converges faster. We analyze Ghadimi and Lan's algorithm to gain an interpretation based on the inequality constraints for convergence and the upper bound for the norm of the gradient analogue. Our interpretation of their algorithm suggests this to be a damped accelerated gradient scheme. Based on this, we propose an approach how to select the parameters to improve convergence of the algorithm. Our numerical studies using high-dimensional nonconvex sparse learning problems, motivated by image denoising and statistical genetics applications, show that convergence can be made, on average, considerably faster than that of the conventional ISTA algorithm for such optimization problems with over 10000 variables should the parameters be chosen using our proposed approach.

**Keywords** Accelerated Gradient · Composite Optimization · Nonconvex Optimization

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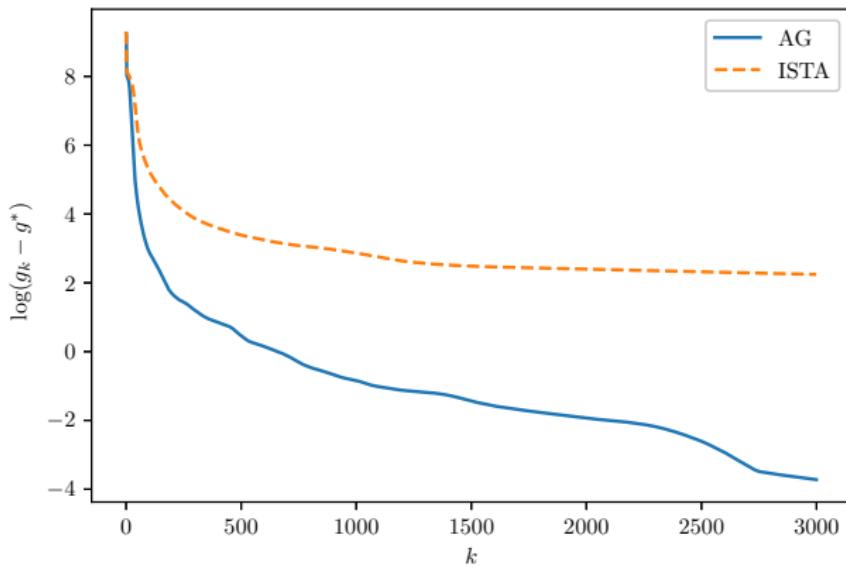
<sup>1</sup><https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.10629>

# Numerical Study for SCAD



$\mathbf{x}_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ ,  $\varepsilon_i \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{generate}} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ ,  $\sigma^2 = \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{generate}}\|^2}{3}$ ,  
 $\boldsymbol{\tau}_{\text{generate}} \in \mathbb{R}^{10006}$  is a sparse constant vector with 6 values of  
1.23(intercept), 3, 4, 5, 6, 59 as true effect coefficients and 10000 values of  
0. Start point:  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_0 = \mathbf{1}_{10006}$ ,  $a = 3.7$ ,  $\lambda = 0.6$ .

# Numerical Study for MCP



Simulation settings here is same as before in SCAD,  $\gamma = 2.5$ ,  $\lambda = 0.6$ .



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## casebase: An Alternative Framework For Survival Analysis and Comparison of Event Rates

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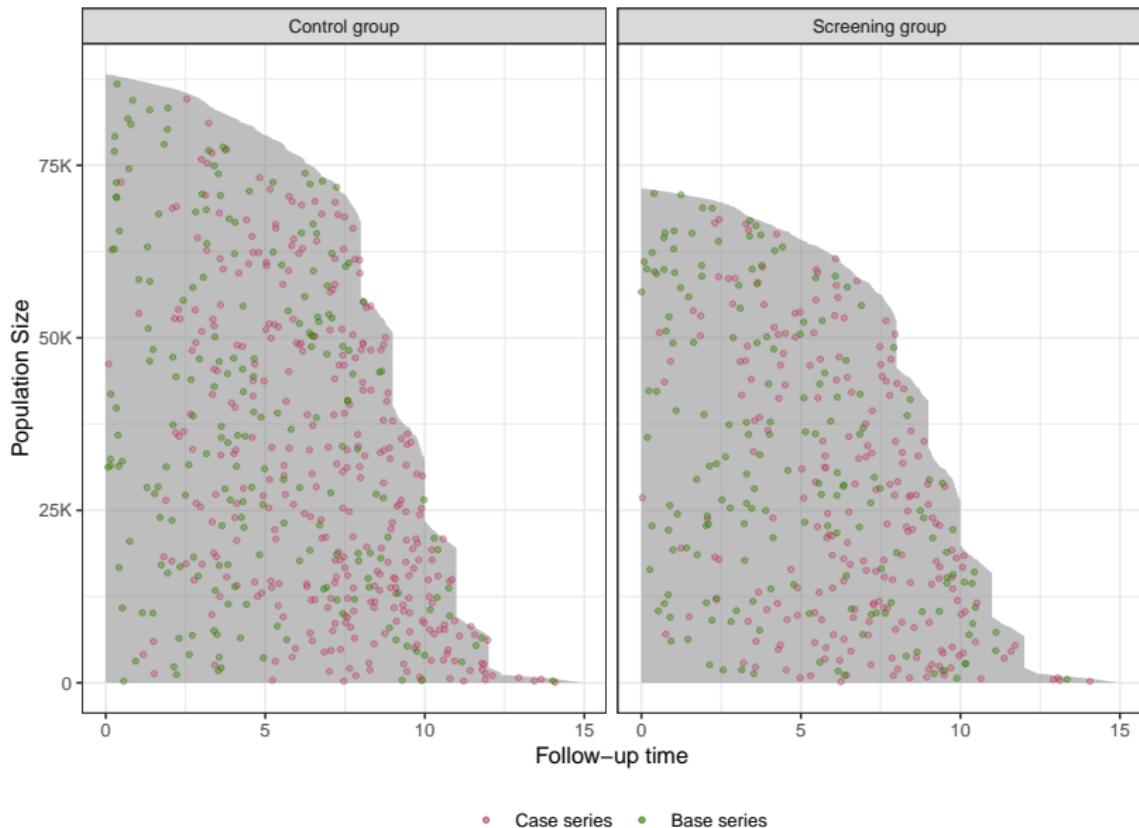
Olli Saarela  
University of Toronto

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<sup>1</sup><https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.10264>,

<https://cran.r-project.org/package=casebase>

# Case-base sampling



## Case-base sampling

- The unit of analysis is a person-moment.
- Case-base sampling reduces the model fitting to a familiar logistic regression.
- The sampling process is taken into account using an offset term.
- By sampling a large base series, the information loss eventually becomes negligible.
- This framework can easily be used with time-varying covariates (e.g. time-varying exposure). We can fit any hazard  $\lambda$  of the following form:

$$\log \lambda(t; \alpha, \beta) = g(t; \alpha) + \beta X$$

- Different choices of the function  $g$  leads to familiar parametric families:
  - ▶ Exponential:  $g$  is constant.
  - ▶ Gompertz:  $g(t; \alpha) = \alpha t$ .
  - ▶ Weibull:  $g(t; \alpha) = \alpha \log t$



## Orientations futures

- `ggmix` est limité par le nombre d'individus (ne s'applique pas à l'ensemble de la cohorte UK Biobank de 500k) → approximations de rang inférieur de la matrice de parenté
- Problèmes de mémoire lorsque le nombre de covariables dans le modèle dépasse 50k → stratégies de mappage de mémoire (par exemple `biglasso` de Zeng et Breheny (2017))
- Extension aux données multivariées, longitudinales, combinaisons de plusieurs cohortes → Plusieurs effets aléatoires.

## Remerciements

### **CRSNG RGPIN-2020-05133**

- Kai Yang: Non-convex optimization
- Jesse Islam: High-dimensional survival analysis



Kai Yang, PhD (c)



Jesse Islam, PhD (c)



**NSERC  
CRSNG**

# Remerciements

## MiCM

- Julien St-Pierre: LMM with multiple random effects, longitudinal data, combining multiple cohorts



Julien St-Pierre, PhD (c)



# Remerciements

## CIHR Project Grant, CANSSI CRT

- Zeyu Bian: Low-rank approximations, memory mapping
- Mohan Zhao: Multivariate outcomes and matrix covariates



Zeyu Bian, PhD (c)



Mohan Zhao, BSc (c)

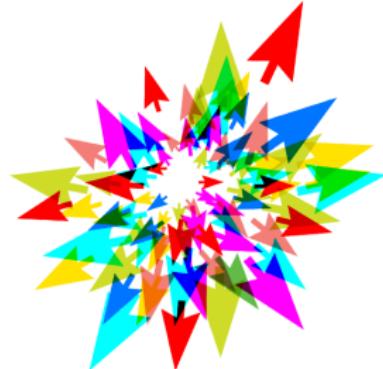


# Remerciements

- Masoud Asgharian (McGill)
- Tianyuan Lu (McGill)
- Yi Yang (McGill)
- Karim Oualkacha (UQÀM)
- Celia Greenwood (Lady Davis Institute)
- Erica Moodie (McGill)
- James Hanley (McGill)
- Maxime Turgeon (UManitoba)
- Olli Saarela (UofT)
- Luda Diatchenko (McGill)
- UK Biobank Resource under project number 27449. We appreciate the generosity of UK Biobank volunteers



**compute** | **calcul**  
canada | canada



## References

1. **Yang K**, Asgharian M, Bhatnagar SR (2020+). Improving Rate of Convergence for Nonconvex Composite Programming. *Submitted to Optimization Letters*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.10629>.
2. Bhatnagar SR, Turgeon M, **Islam J**, Hanley JA, Saarela O (2020+). casebase: An Alternative Framework For Survival Analysis and Comparison of Event Rates. *Submitted to Journal of Statistical Software*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.10264>.
3. Bhatnagar SR, Yang Y, Lu T, Schurr E, Loredo-Osti JC, Forest M, Oualkacha K, Greenwood CMT (2020). Simultaneous SNP selection and adjustment for population structure in high dimensional prediction models. *PLoS Genetics* 16(5): e1008766. DOI [10.1371/journal.pgen.1008766](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgen.1008766).

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# Session Info

```
R version 4.0.2 (2020-06-22)
Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu (64-bit)
Running under: Pop!_OS 20.10

Matrix products: default
BLAS:    /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/openblas-pthread/libblas.so.3
LAPACK:  /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/openblas-pthread/libopenblas-p0.3.10.so

attached base packages:
[1] stats      graphics   grDevices utils      datasets   methods    base

other attached packages:
[1] ggmix_0.0.1 knitr_1.31

loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
[1] lattice_0.20-41 codetools_0.2-16 glmnet_4.1-1     foreach_1.5.1
[5] grid_4.0.2      magrittr_2.0.1   evaluate_0.14   highr_0.8
[9] stringi_1.5.3   Matrix_1.2-18   splines_4.0.2   iterators_1.0.13
[13] tools_4.0.2     stringr_1.4.0   survival_3.2-3  xfun_0.21
[17] compiler_4.0.2  shape_1.4.5
```