

Module 3: Heritability and Reliability Estimations in R

Fundamentals of Genomic Prediction and Data-Drive Crop Breeding

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Load the Libraries

```
> # Load the Required Libraries
> rm(list=ls()) # Remove previous work
> library(easypackages)
> libraries("dplyr", "reshape2", "readxl", "lme4", "arm")
```

Upload the Phenotypic Data Sets

Here we will use the Rainfed Rice Breeding Trial data of IRRI which has 192 entries, 2 replications and 5 blocks and experimental design is Alpha lattice.

```
> # Read the saved csv file, if working directly
> demo.data.filtered<-read.csv(file="demo.data.filtered2.csv",
+                                 header = TRUE)
> str(demo.data.filtered)
```

```
'data.frame': 1600 obs. of 11 variables:
 $ Environment: chr "Env1" "Env1" "Env1" "Env1" ...
 $ Plot       : int 59 19 27 127 132 92 106 82 199 57 ...
 $ Genotype   : int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
 $ Rep        : int 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
 $ Block      : int 2 1 1 4 4 3 3 3 5 2 ...
 $ Row        : int 2 1 1 4 4 3 3 3 5 2 ...
 $ Column     : int 19 19 27 7 12 12 26 2 39 17 ...
 $ Line.type  : chr "Entry" "Entry" "Entry" "Entry" ...
 $ DTF        : int 94 78 87 87 94 94 82 87 82 85 ...
```

```

$ HT          : num  118 116 108 116 134 ...
$ Yield       : num  5873 5844 5777 6284 5703 ...

> # factor conversion if below are not in factors
> columns<-c("Environment", "Genotype", "Rep", "Block",
+             "Row", "Column", "Line.type")
> demo.data.filtered[, columns]<-lapply(columns, function(x) as.factor(demo.data.filtered[[x]]))
> demo.data.filtered$Yield<-as.numeric(demo.data.filtered$Yield)
> demo.data.filtered$HT<-as.numeric(demo.data.filtered$HT)
> demo.data.filtered$DTF<-as.numeric(demo.data.filtered$DTF)
> # Subset the required columns
> demo.data.filtered<-demo.data.filtered[, c("Environment", "Genotype",
+                                              "Rep", "Block", "Row", "Column",
+                                              "Line.type", "Yield", "HT", "DTF")]
> # First we will arrange the rows and columns for spatial analysis.
> # Now we will subset the environments and Yields for analysis
> demo.data.filtered<-data.frame(demo.data.filtered%>% group_by(Environment)%>%arrange(Row, Column))
> demo.data.filtered<-data.frame(demo.data.filtered%>% arrange(Environment)) # Arrange by environment

```

Run the Model to Estimate Heritability

- Here in this section we will use open source R package called **lme4** to run the mixed-model and extract variance components
- More on this R package can be found here lme4 Tutorial 1, and lme4 Tutorial 2.

Heritability Based on Single Environment

- First let us subset the data for one environment to show how to perform the analysis for one trial or environment in lme4 R package
- We will run models which are feasible in lme4 R package.
- We will use basic models and show how to extract the results
- Subset the data for one environment first.

```

> # Subset the environment 1
> sub.data<-subset(demo.data.filtered, Environment=="Env1")
> sub.data<-droplevels.data.frame(sub.data)

```

Run the mixed model

Model 1.lme4

- The model described below is:

$$y_{ijk} = \mu + g_i + r_j + b_{jk} + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

y_{ijk} = is the effect of i th genotype in j th replication and k th block within the j th replication

μ = overall mean

g_i = random effect of the i th genotype

r_j = fixed effect of the j th replication

b_{jk} = random effect of k th block nested within j replication

ε_{ijk} = residual error

here we assume errors are independent and identically distributed $\epsilon \sim iidN(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$

```
> # Now apply model  
> model1<-lmer(Yield~Rep+(1|Genotype)+(1|Rep:Block), data =sub.data)
```

Extract Results and Variance Components

- Here we will summarize the results using `summary()` function.
- The first few lines of output indicate that the model was fitted by REML as well as the value of the REML criterion.
- The second piece of the summary output provides information regarding the random-effects and residual variation.
- The third piece of the summary output provides information regarding the fixed-effects and the fourth piece of summary output provides information regarding the correlation of fixed effects.

```
> # Summarise the results  
> summary(model1)
```

```
Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']  
Formula: Yield ~ Rep + (1 | Genotype) + (1 | Rep:Block)  
Data: sub.data
```

REML criterion at convergence: 6239.3

Scaled residuals:

| Min | 1Q | Median | 3Q | Max |
|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| -1.90048 | -0.59387 | 0.03899 | 0.60311 | 1.71001 |

Random effects:

| Groups | Name | Variance | Std.Dev. |
|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Genotype | (Intercept) | 431861 | 657.2 |
| Rep:Block | (Intercept) | 28499 | 168.8 |
| Residual | | 193255 | 439.6 |

Number of obs: 394, groups: Genotype, 197; Rep:Block, 10

Fixed effects:

| | Estimate | Std. Error | t value |
|-------------|----------|------------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 5233.19 | 94.20 | 55.552 |
| Rep2 | 60.38 | 115.60 | 0.522 |

Correlation of Fixed Effects:

| (Intr) |
|-------------|
| Rep2 -0.614 |

Extract variance components

- Here we will extract variance components

```
> Ve<- VarCorr(model1)  
> Ve
```

| Groups | Name | Std.Dev. |
|----------|-------------|----------|
| Genotype | (Intercept) | 657.16 |

```
Rep:Block (Intercept) 168.82
Residual                 439.61
```

ANOVA for fixed effects

```
> # ANOVA
> anova(model1)
```

| | npar | Sum Sq | Mean Sq | F value |
|-----|------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Rep | 1 | 52724.26 | 52724.26 | 0.2728223 |

Extract the Fixed effects

- Here will show how to extract the BLUEs.

```
> BLUEs<-fixef(model1)
> BLUEs
```

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| (Intercept) | Rep2 |
| 5233.1856 | 60.3794 |

Extract the Random effects

- Here will show how to extract the BLUPs.

```
> # Extract the Random effects
> BLUPs<-data.frame(Blups.yield=ranef(model1)$Genotype)
> GV<-data.frame(BLUp.GY=coef(model1)$Genotype[,1]) #Genotype values (Blups +Intercept)
```

Heritability

- Here will show how to calculate the heritability. Two approaches will be show how to estimate heritability: 1) Based on Variance components and 2) Based on Cullis et al. 2006 is also $1 - \frac{\bar{V}_{BLUP}}{2\sigma^2 g}$. Where \bar{V}_{BLUP} is mean variance difference of two genotypes based on BLUPs and $\sigma^2 g$ is variance of genotypes.

Heritability Based on Varaince Components

```
> # Extract the variance components
> Ve<- data.frame (VarCorr(model1))
> Ve
```

| grp | var1 | var2 | vcov | sdcor |
|-----------|-------------|------|-----------|----------|
| Genotype | (Intercept) | NA | 431860.94 | 657.1613 |
| Rep:Block | (Intercept) | NA | 28498.55 | 168.8151 |
| Residual | NA | NA | 193254.94 | 439.6077 |

```

> # Now calculate heritability using variance components
> genotype.var=Ve[1,4]
> error.var=Ve[2,4]
> # Now heritability
> h2=genotype.var/(genotype.var+error.var)*100
> h2

```

[1] 93.8095

Reliability based on Cullis et al.

```

> # Reliability
> std.err<-se.ranef(model1)$Genotype
> v_BLUP<- mean(std.err)
> # Heritability/Reliability
> h2<- (1-((v_BLUP)^2/(Ve[1,4]*2)))*100
> h2

```

[1] 90.55036

Heritability Based on MET Analysis

Model 2.lme4

- Here we will analyze all the environments jointly and extract the single BLUPs for each genotype.
- We will use mixed model analysis in lme4 r package model.
- We will treat genotypes as random and environment as fixed effect.

Combined ANOVA

- Here ANOVA will be generated for all the factor levels.
- Replications are nested with environments and Blocks are within Replications which are nested within environments.

```

> # Linear model to get ANOVA
> demo.data.filtered$Environment<-as.factor(demo.data.filtered$Environment)
> model.anova<-lm(formula = Yield~Genotype+Environment+Genotype*Environment+Environment:Rep+ Environment:Rep:Block)
> # Get ANOVA
> anova(model.anova)

```

| | Df | Sum Sq | Mean Sq | F value | Pr(>F) |
|-----------------------|-----|------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Genotype | 199 | 547177221 | 2749634 | 5.577295 | 0.00e+00 |
| Environment | 3 | 2081940510 | 693980170 | 1407.653397 | 0.00e+00 |
| Genotype:Environment | 588 | 1002589262 | 1705084 | 3.458553 | 0.00e+00 |
| Environment:Rep | 4 | 22794162 | 5698541 | 11.558788 | 0.00e+00 |
| Environment:Rep:Block | 32 | 37568681 | 1174021 | 2.381358 | 3.54e-05 |
| Residuals | 754 | 371725774 | 493005 | NA | NA |

Significant differences are observed for all factors and genotype by environment interactions are significant

Combined Analysis in lme4

- The model we will use is give below:

$$y_{ijkl} = \mu + g_i + e_j + (ge)_{ij} + r_{jk} + b_{jkl} + \epsilon_{ijklm}$$

μ = overall mean

g_i = random effect of the i th genotype

e_j = random effect of the j th environment

$(ge)_{ij}$ = is the interaction effect of i th genotypes with the j th environment

r_{jk} = fixed effect of the k th replication nested within j th environment

$\$b_{\{jkl\}}$ = random effect of l th block nested with j environment and k th replication\$

ϵ_{ijkl} = residual error

here we assume residuals are independent and identically distributed

- Mixed models are powerful tools to handle assumptions of linear model Read this one
- We will extract variance components and also calculate heritability.

```
> demo.data.filtered$Environment<-as.factor(demo.data.filtered$Environment)
> Model3.lme4<-lmer(Yield~Rep+(1|Genotype)+(1|Environment)+  
+ (1|Block), data=demo.data.filtered)
```

Summary of MET results

- In summary we will get following summarized results: 1) Description of model we used, 2) Random effects and variances, 3) Fixed effects, 4) Correlation of fixed effects

```
> summary(Model3.lme4)
```

```
Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
Formula: Yield ~ Rep + (1 | Genotype) + (1 | Environment) + (1 | Block)
Data: demo.data.filtered
```

REML criterion at convergence: 26571.7

Scaled residuals:

| Min | 1Q | Median | 3Q | Max |
|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| -3.7537 | -0.5702 | -0.0115 | 0.4669 | 5.3187 |

Random effects:

| Groups | Name | Variance | Std.Dev. |
|-------------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Genotype | (Intercept) | 205131 | 452.9 |
| Block | (Intercept) | 7224 | 85.0 |
| Environment | (Intercept) | 1789049 | 1337.6 |
| Residual | | 1033082 | 1016.4 |

Number of obs: 1581, groups: Genotype, 200; Block, 5; Environment, 4

Fixed effects:

| | Estimate | Std. Error | t value |
|-------------|----------|------------|---------|
| (Intercept) | 4740.65 | 671.60 | 7.059 |

```
Rep2      -151.88      51.13  -2.971
```

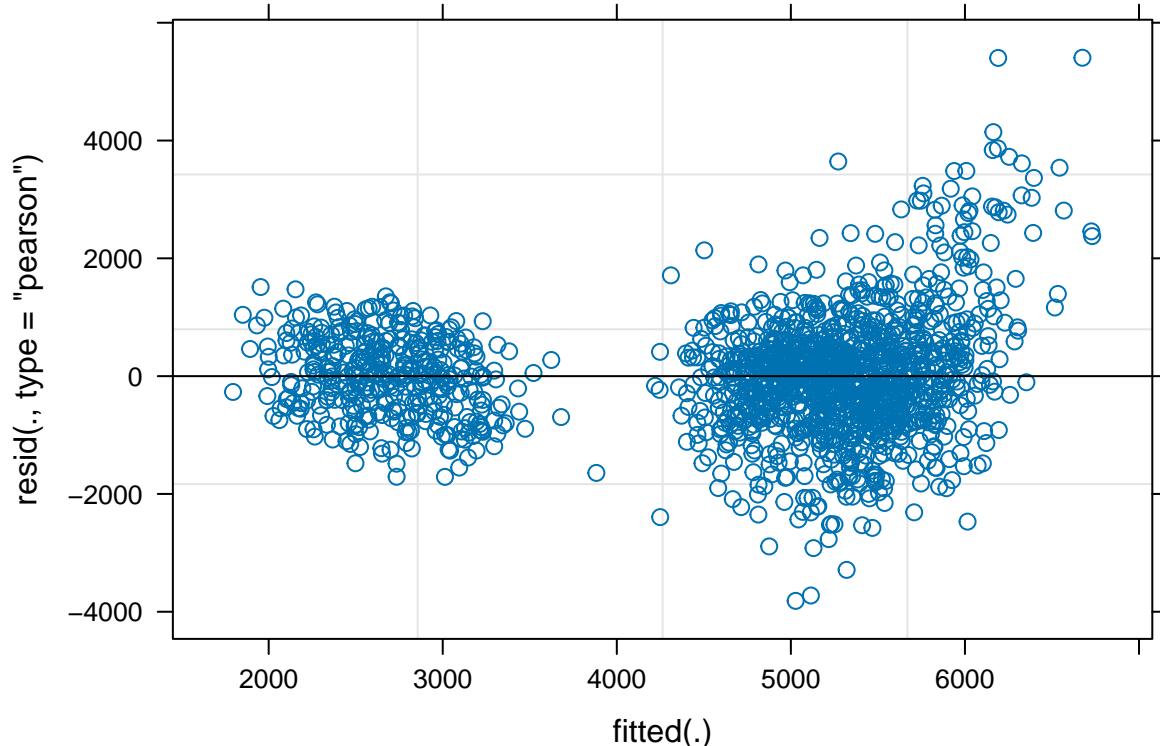
```
Correlation of Fixed Effects:
```

```
  (Intr)  
Rep2 -0.038
```

Plot of model

- With the plot function model we will get the residuals vs fitted values

```
> plot(Model3.lme4)
```



Reliability Using Mean Difference

- Based on Cullis et al.2006

```
> # Extract the variance components  
> Ve<- data.frame (VarCorr(Model3.lme4))  
> Ve
```

| grp | var1 | var2 | vcov | sdcor |
|-------------|-------------|------|-------------|------------|
| Genotype | (Intercept) | NA | 205131.050 | 452.91395 |
| Block | (Intercept) | NA | 7224.397 | 84.99645 |
| Environment | (Intercept) | NA | 1789048.808 | 1337.55329 |
| Residual | NA | NA | 1033082.471 | 1016.40665 |

```
> std.err<-se.ranef(Model3.lme4)$Genotype  
> v_BLUP<- mean(std.err)  
> # Heritability/Reliability
```

```
> h2<- (1-((v_BLUP)^2/(Ve[1,4]*2)))*100  
> h2
```

```
[1] 80.29987
```

Additional Resources

- Here In this section we have provided additional R resources where similar analysis and mixed models can be run:
- Fitting linear mixed-effects models using lme4
- Linear Mixed-Effects Models Using R
- sommer: Solving Mixed Model Equations in R
- robustlmm
- Introduction to Linear Mixed Models
- Computing Heritability and Selection Response From Unbalanced Plant Breeding Trials
- Estimating Broad-Sense Heritability with Unbalanced Data from Agricultural Cultivar Trials

For any suggestions or comments, please feel to reach at waseem.hussain@cgiar.org; m.anumalla@cgiar.org; m.catolos@cgiar.org

If your experiment needs a statistician, you need a better experiment - Ernest Rutherford