

Effectiveness of a new strategy for the computation of transmission probabilities using partial pedigrees. A simulation study

Mayer M., Tuchscherer A. and Reinsch N.
Research Unit Genetics and Biometry,
FBN Dummerstorf, Germany

mmayer@fbn-dummerstorf.de



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Requirements for the recursive algorithms

2 Requirements:

1. Known and ordered **pedigree information** (individual, sire, dam identification).
2. **transmission probabilities** for the QTL alleles (conditional on marker information) for all non-founder individuals.



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Objectives of this presentation

- Short presentation of a new strategy for the computation of transmission probabilities, especially when marker information is missing.
- Simulation study to show the effectiveness of the proposed strategy using a data structure of practical relevance.



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Our strategy for the computation of transmission probabilities

1. The complete pedigree is partitioned into relatively small partial pedigrees.
2. Using these partial pedigrees (IBD-)identity states according Gillois (1964) are computed for the **parent-progeny pairs** (e.g. MERLIN, SIMWALK2).
3. From these identity states the transmission probabilities are computed.



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Simulation design I

The present simulation study is based on the pedigree structure and marker information of a data set, which was used for marker assisted BLUP evaluation for the trait somatic cell score in the German Holstein population.



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Simulation design II

- 12008 records with the identification of the individual itself and its sire and its dam.
- 6520 individuals genotyped for **one particular marker**.
- Highly polymorphic marker (# = 15; Allelfr. 33%, 14%, 12% ...)
- The simulation was based on the given pedigree structure. For the base animals a paternal and a maternal marker allele was randomly assigned according to the frequency distribution above. Thereafter with equal probability either the paternal or the maternal marker allele was transmitted to the progeny.
- 100 simulated data sets.



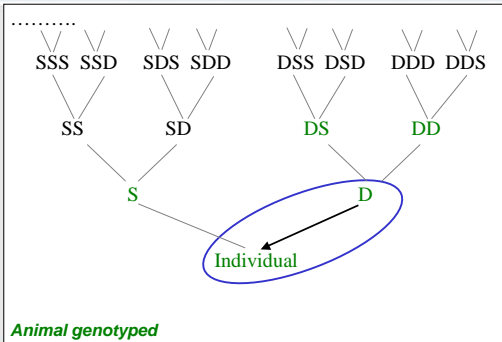
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Computation of transmission probabilities Complete marker information I



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Computation of transmission probabilities Complete marker information II

The transmission probabilities in the past are irrelevant for the actual (parent → progeny) transmission probabilities.

(The identity states and thus relationship coefficients calculated from these states are not independent from the size of the (partial) pedigree).

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Incomplete marker information and family types

Binary code (5 positions):

1. position: individual genotyped (1=yes, 0=no)?
2. position: sire genotyped?
3. position: dam genotyped?
4. position: dams sire genotyped?
5. position: dams dam genotyped?

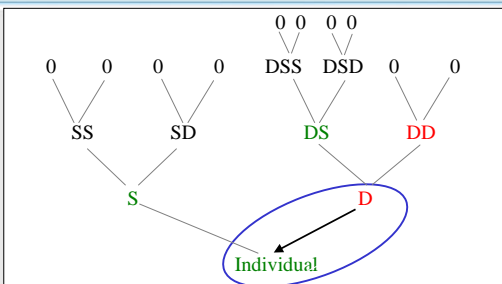
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Most common family types

Family type 11010:	2187
Family type 11000:	2135
Family type 11110:	686
Family type 10010:	635
Family type 10000:	371
Family type 11100:	246
Family type 10110:	93
Family type 11111:	79
...	

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Partial pedigrees for the computation of transmission probabilities



Family type 11010:
Partial pedigree and marker information (no marker info)

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Differences between estimated and true transmission probabilities for family type 11010 (n = 2187), r = 0

difference	rel. frequency
0 - 0.05	33.6 %
0.05 - 0.15	11.1 %
0.15 - 0.25	23.3 %
0.25 - 0.35	3.6 %
0.35 - 0.45	9.6 %
0.45 - 0.55	3.8 %
0.55 - 0.65	6.3 %
0.65 - 0.75	1.6 %
0.75 - 0.85	6.0 %
0.85 - 0.95	1.3 %
0.95 - 1.00	0.0 %
mean: 0.234	

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Differences between estimated and true transmission probabilities across all family types (n = 6508)

difference	rel. frequency
0 – 0.05	12.3 %
0.05 – 0.15	2.7 %
0.15 – 0.25	5.7 %
0.25 – 0.35	4.0 %
0.35 – 0.45	3.3 %
0.45 – 0.55	66.2 %
0.55 – 0.65	2.3 %
0.65 – 0.75	1.8 %
0.75 – 0.85	1.5 %
0.85 – 0.95	0.3 %
0.95 – 1.00	0.0 %
mean: 0.411	

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Differences in the estimates of transmission probabilities between standard and 5-generation partial pedigrees

Family type	Mean absolute differences estimates	estimated-true
11010	0.004	0.001
11000	0.005	0.001
11110	0.011	0.006
10010	0.006	0.001
10000	0.009	0.002
11100	0.056	0.030
10110	0.016	0.009
11111	0.000	0.000
all	0.008	0.003

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Conclusions

- In situations where marker information is missing the proposed algorithm can be used with high effectiveness for the computation of transmission probabilities and thus gametic or genotypic relationship matrices.
- This strategy can deal with pedigrees of arbitrary size and is very efficient under computational aspects.

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References

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