

A SNP MACE model for international genomic evaluation: - technical challenges and possible solutions

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Overview

Current status of (inter)national conventional and genomic evaluations

- A SNP MACE model for international evaluation
- Solving algorithms for the SNP MACE model
- Approximation of prediction error (co)variances
- Further development and extension
 - Different SNP sets across countries
 Countries use MACE info as phenotypes



International evaluation based on SNP effects



- Concept of a SNP based international evaluation (Goddard, 2011)
- A SNP-Focus Model replacing the Animal Model (Schaeffer, 2014)
- Interbull estimation of SNP effects (Goddard, 2016)
- A SNP MACE model proposed (Goddard, 2017)
 - Interbull Technical Workshop, Slovenia
- Interbull project on the SNP MACE model



A SNP MACE model

A SNP genomic model for <u>Multiple Across</u> <u>Country</u> <u>Evaluation</u>

 $\mathbf{g}_i^N = \Longrightarrow \mathbf{g}_i$ [1]

for country i (i = 1, ..., c)

• A SNP BLUP model for national genomic evaluation

$$\mathbf{y}_i = \mu_i \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{Z}_i \mathbf{g}_i^N + \mathbf{e}_i$$
[2]

where \mathbf{y}_i is phenotype after absorbing all other effects (including the residual polygenic effect)

$$var(\mathbf{e}_i) = \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} = diag\{n_{ik}\sigma_{e_i}^{-2}\}$$

 $var(\mathbf{g}_i) = \mathbf{B}_i \sigma_i^2$ with DGV variance σ_i^2

$$\mathbf{B}_i = \frac{1}{\sum_j 2p_{ij}(1-p_{ij})} \mathbf{I} = \theta_i \mathbf{I}$$

SNP genetic (co)variances between countries (I)



A (co)variance matrix for countries (i = 1, ..., c) for a single SNP marker $G_{cou} =$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 \theta_1 & r_{12} \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \sqrt{\theta_1 \theta_2} & \cdots & r_{1c} \sigma_1 \sigma_c \sqrt{\theta_1 \theta_c} \\ & \sigma_2^2 \theta_2 & \cdots & r_{2c} \sigma_2 \sigma_c \sqrt{\theta_2 \theta_c} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ symm. & & \sigma_c^2 \theta_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} & \cdots & g_{1c} \\ & g_{22} & \cdots & g_{2c} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ symm. & & g_{cc} \end{bmatrix}$$

Its inverse
$$\mathbf{G}_{cou}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} g^{11} & g^{12} & \cdots & g^{1c} \\ g^{22} & \cdots & g^{2c} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ symm. & & & g^{cc} \end{bmatrix}$$



SNP genetic (co)variances between countries (II)

Genetic (co)variance matrix for ALL SNP effects (ordered by countries)

$$\operatorname{var} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{g}_1 \\ \mathbf{g}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{g}_c \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}_{\operatorname{cou}} \otimes \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} g_{11}\mathbf{I} & g_{12}\mathbf{I} & \cdots & g_{1c}\mathbf{I} \\ g_{22}\mathbf{I} & \cdots & g_{2c}\mathbf{I} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ symm. & & & g_{cc}\mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

Its inverse
$$\mathbf{G}^{-1} = \mathbf{G}_{cou}^{-1} \otimes \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} g^{11}\mathbf{I} & g^{12}\mathbf{I} & \cdots & g^{1c}\mathbf{I} \\ & g^{22}\mathbf{I} & \cdots & g^{2c}\mathbf{I} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ symm. & & & g^{cc}\mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

Inter-SNP genetic correlations: within or between countries are all 0

Intra-SNP genetic correlations between countries to be estimated

Set to country correlations as in current MACE



Mixed model equations of the SNP MACE model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & g^{ii} \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{\Psi}_{ii}^{+} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & g^{ii^{+}} \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{'} + \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{+} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{'} + \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{+} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{'} + \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{+} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{'} + \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{+} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & g^{i^{+}i^{+}} \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$



 $\mathbf{x} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \hat{\mu}_i \\ \hat{\mathbf{g}}_i \\ \vdots \\ \hat{\mu}_{i^+} \\ \hat{\mathbf{g}}_{i^+} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{g}_{i^+} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{i} \mathbf{z}'_i \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{y}_i \\ \mathbf{z}'_i \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{y}_i \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{z}'_i \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{y}_i \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{z}'_i \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{i^+} \\ \mathbf{z}'_i \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{i^+} \end{bmatrix}$ Zero residual covariances between countries $\Psi_{i i^+} = \mathbf{0}$, if the countries do not use MACE EBV for national genomic evaluation





Solving the mixed model equations

- MME of the SNP MACE model have special structures:
 - Data contribution by country, zero residual covariances (off-diagonals)
 - SNP genetic contribution: only diagonal and sub-diagonals $\neq 0$
 - Block-diagonal matrix in the SNP-major order
- Identical processes for every country or every SNP \rightarrow parallel computing
- PCG algorithm using multiple cores

$$\mathbf{C} \mathbf{v} = \{\mathbf{Z}'_{i} \mathbf{R}^{-1}_{i} \mathbf{Z}_{i}\} \mathbf{v} + \{\mathbf{G}^{-1}_{cou}\} \mathbf{v}$$
for country *i*
for every SNP marker *j*

parallelised by countries parallelised by SNP markers

Conditioner may be the inverted diagonal block for country *i*

$$\mathbf{M}_i = (\mathbf{Z}_i' \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_i + \mathbf{G}^{ii})^{-1}$$

the matrix \mathbf{M}_i is also used in reliability calculation.

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Calculation of prediction error (co)variances

- Countries need to calculate reliabilities of DGV (sum of all SNP effects)
- Not only reliabilities of MACE SNP effect estimates but also (co)reliabilities between the SNP effect estimates
 - the whole PEC block of 50k x 50k
- Absorbing all the other countries into own SNP effects

$$C_{i} = (Z_{i}'R_{i}^{-1}Z_{i} + G^{ii}) - \sum_{j \neq i} G^{ij} (Z_{j}'R_{j}^{-1}Z_{j} + G^{jj})^{-1}G^{ji}$$

= $(Z_{i}'R_{i}^{-1}Z_{i} + g^{ii}I) - \sum_{j \neq i} g^{ij}I(Z_{j}'R_{j}^{-1}Z_{j} + G^{jj})^{-1}g^{ji}I$
= $(Z_{i}'R_{i}^{-1}Z_{i} + g^{ii}I) - (g^{ij})^{2}\sum_{j \neq i} M_{j}$

- Invert the own block matrix C_i^{-1}
- Provide the PEC matrix to countries C_i^{-1}



Three methods for handling different sets of SNP markers

- Method 1: conversion of country SNP effects to a common set
- Method 2: conversion of SNP effects for GBLUP models
- Method 3: direct modelling heterogeneous sets of SNP markers



 \mathbf{g}_i^N

 \mathbf{g}_{c}^{N}

Method 1: Conversion of country SNP effects to a common set of SNP markers

- SNP effects of national set of SNP markers for *i*-th country:
- SNP effects of a common set of SNP markers:
- Define DGV of all reference animals with own set of SNP markers:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{Z}_i \mathbf{g}_i^N$$

A SNP BLUP model is fitted to model the DGV of reference animals:

$$\mathbf{u}_{i} = \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} \mathbf{g}_{c}^{N} + \boldsymbol{\xi}$$

$$(\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} + \sigma_{i}^{-2} \mathbf{B}_{c}^{-1}) \mathbf{g}_{c}^{N} = \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{u}_{i}$$

$$\mathbf{g}_{c}^{N} = (\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} + \sigma_{i}^{-2} \mathbf{B}_{c}^{-1})^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} (\mathbf{Z}_{i} \mathbf{g}_{i}^{N})$$

Additional data needed for the conversion

$$\mathbf{Z}_i^c \, \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_i \qquad \qquad \mathbf{Z}_i^c \, \mathbf{R}_i^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_i^c$$

 $\mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}$

in addition to

Back conversion of MACE SNP effect estimates to the own SNP set



Method 2: Conversion of country SNP effects for GBLUP models

- Country uses a GBLUP model with its own SNP set
- Assumption: equal GEBV for reference animals with both SNP sets
- For all reference animals: GEBV vector
- Genomic relationship matrix for all reference animals is invertible:
- Estimate SNP effects of the common set

$$\mathbf{g}_i^c = (1-k)\mathbf{B}_c\mathbf{Z}_i^c \mathbf{G}_{rel}^{-1}\mathbf{u}_i^*$$

Equal genomic relationship matrices

$$(1-k)\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c}\mathbf{B}_{c}\mathbf{Z}_{i}^{c}+k\mathbf{A}_{i}=(1-k)\mathbf{Z}_{i}\mathbf{B}_{i}\mathbf{Z}_{i}+k\mathbf{A}_{i}$$

U,

 \mathbf{G}_{rel}^{-1}

Summary



- The SNP MACE model is an efficient tool for utilizing phenotype info of foreign reference animals
 - Particularly useful for new traits with large-scale genotyped cows
- No requirement for direct access to original national genotype and phenotype data
 - Keep the current infra-structure of national evaluation systems
- Parallel computing for efficiently solving the SNP MACE equations
 - No more pedigree relationship matrix, difficult to be parallelized
- Direct modelling different sets of SNP reduces the need for conversion to a common set of SNP markers
- A gain in accuracy of prediction is expected, especially for novel traits



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Method 3: Direct modelling of SNP effects of different marker sets

Cross reference two SNP sets for a country pair (same allele coding)



- Same modelling of SNP/DGV variances as in national genomic evaluations
- Correct covariance of DGV for any pair of countries
- But **covariances of SNP** are only correct for countries with fewer markers

Considering the SNP array differences



- Modelling SNP effect covariances between countries
 - Country A with more SNPs with unequal SNP covariance: less optimal
 - Country B with fewer SNPs with equal SNP covariance: exact modelling
 - But DGV covariance is correct for both countries
- For every one of all country pairs:
 - Set up a SNP cross-reference table
 - Determine the SNP covariances for each country pair
 - In case of a change in SNP arrays in one country, re-do the SNP cross-referencing with all the other countries
- Advantages of the procedure Method 3:
 - Countries do not have to be forced to use the same SNP arrays
 - SNP effects conversion to the common SNP set is not needed
- Disadvantages of Method 3:
 - More work of the SNP MACE, particularly when countries change their SNP sets
 - Approximate inverse of G matrix

Residual covariances to be modelled as the procedure for genetic covariances

Introduction



- Interbull MACE / GMACE evaluation for bulls / genomic bulls
 - Based on national conventional / genomic evaluation
- National genomic evaluation uses MACE EBV of foreign reference bulls
 - Significant increase in accuracy of genomic prediction
 - Fear of domination of foreign reference bulls on own SNP effects
 - Negative impact of genomic pre-selection on conventional EBV of bulls
 - Single-step national evaluation beneficial
- LD info of foreign reference cows NOT used in own SNP effect estimation
 - More countries add cows into national reference population
 - No MACE for cows, exchanging genotype of millions of cows infeasible
- Novel traits have relatively small national reference population
 - MACE bull evaluation perhaps not ready yet
 - Expected to have the largest gain in accuracy of prediction



An example with 2 countries and 3 SNP markers (1)



Only the products of matrices or vectors are available, not the matrices or vectors themselves

$$\mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{i}}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{i}} \rightarrow \{\varphi_{\mathbf{1}s_{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}}}\}$$
$$\mathbf{Z}_{\mathbf{i}}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{i}} \rightarrow \{\Delta_{\mathbf{2}s_{\mathbf{2}}}\}$$



An example with 2 countries and 3 SNP markers (2)



Order: SNP markers within country (in country-major order)



An example with 2 countries and 3 SNP markers (3)



Order: countries within SNP marker (in SNP-major order)

$$\mathbf{G}_{cou}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 \theta_1 & \sigma_{12} \sqrt{\theta_1 \theta_2} \\ \sigma_{12} \sqrt{\theta_1 \theta_2} & \sigma_2^2 \theta_2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

Why not fitting the residual polygenic effect?



- Needs to know the identifications of reference animals
- Needs to directly access genotypes and phenotypes of reference animals
 - Keep the infra-structure of current national evaluation systems
- In future, millions of cows will be added to ref. pop. worldwide
 - Exchange of genotypes of millions of reference cows may be infeasible
 - Estimating RPG of the millions of cows for all countries is challenging

A SNP MACE model: SNP effect covariances



Country ; SNP=marker ; referencemanimal

k = 1,...,*n*

Countries may have different sets of SNP markers

$$\operatorname{var}\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{g}_{1} \\ \mathbf{g}_{2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{g}_{c} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{1}^{2} \mathbf{B}_{1} & \sigma_{12} \mathbf{B}_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1c} \mathbf{B}_{1c} \\ & \sigma_{2}^{2} \mathbf{B}_{2} & \cdots & \sigma_{2c} \mathbf{B}_{2c} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ symm. & & \sigma_{c}^{2} \mathbf{B}_{c} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{G}$$

DGV variance of country i,

DGV covarjance between countries i and i^+ .

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{B}_{i,i^{+}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{j} 2 p_{ij} (1 - p_{ij})}} \sqrt{\sum_{j} 2 p_{i^{+}j} (1 - p_{i^{+}j})} \mathbf{f}_{j} \mathbf{F}_{same SNP} \text{ set} \\ \mathbf{B}_{i,i^{+}} &= \sqrt{p_{i} p_{i^{+}}} \mathbf{F}_{i,i^{+}} \mathbf$$



National data for the SNP MACE evaluation: replacing the deregression step of national bull EBV in MACE

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i} + \sigma_{i}^{-2}\mathbf{B}_{i}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mu}_{i} \\ \hat{\mathbf{g}}_{i}^{N} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}'\mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{y}_{i} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i}'\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{y}_{i} \end{bmatrix}$$

Re-written as:

$$(\mathbf{\Psi}_i + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \sigma_i^{-2} \mathbf{B}_i^{-1} \end{bmatrix}) \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mu}_i \\ \hat{\mathbf{g}}_i^N \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{\Delta}_i$$

Least-square part of the LHS of MME:

$$\boldsymbol{\Psi}_{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^{\prime} \mathbf{Z}_{i} \ \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_{i} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1}^{\prime} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_{i} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i} \ \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Z}_{i} \ \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_{i} \end{bmatrix}$$

Right-hand-side of the MME:

$$\boldsymbol{\Delta}_{i} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^{\prime} \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{\prime} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{i} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{\prime} \mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{i} \end{bmatrix}$$



Mixed model equations of the SNP MACE model

Residual covariance: $\Psi_{ii^+} = (\mathbf{Z}_i \mathbf{R}_i^{-\frac{1}{2}})(\mathbf{R}_{i^+}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{Z}_{i^+})$

 $\Psi_{ii^{+}} = 0$ when countries use only national phenotypes for SNP effect estimation



Mixed model equations of the SNP MACE model (mu)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Z}_{i}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{G}^{u} \end{bmatrix} \cdots \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{\Psi}_{u^{*}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{G}^{u^{*}} \end{bmatrix} & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i^{*}}^{-1}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{1}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i^{*}}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i^{*}} \\ \mathbf{Z}_{i^{*}}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i^{*}}^{-1}\mathbf{1} & \mathbf{Z}_{i^{*}}^{\mathsf{r}}\mathbf{R}_{i^{*}}^{-1}\mathbf{Z}_{i^{*}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{G}^{v^{*}t} \end{bmatrix} & \vdots \\ \end{bmatrix}$$







Method 2: Conversion of country SNP effects using the genomic relationship matrix: DGV

- Country uses a SNP BLUP model with its own SNP set
- Assumption: equal DGV for reference animals with both SNP sets
- DGV genomic relationship matrix for all reference animals is invertible:

$$\mathbf{G}_{rel_c}^{-1} = (\mathbf{Z}_i^c \, \mathbf{B}_c \mathbf{Z}_i^c)^{-1} = (\mathbf{Z}_i^{} \, \mathbf{B}_i \mathbf{Z}_i^{})^{-1} = \mathbf{G}_{rel_i}^{-1}$$

SNP marker cross-referencing (7 own SNPs, 4 common SNPs)

$$\mathbf{B}_{c,i} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

SNP effects converted to the common set: $\mathbf{g}_{i}^{c} = \mathbf{B}_{c,i} \mathbf{Z}_{i} \mathbf{G}_{rel-i}^{-1} (\mathbf{Z}_{i} \mathbf{g}_{i})$

Back conversion of MACE SNP effects to own SNP set:

$$\mathbf{g}_i = \mathbf{B}_{c,i}' \mathbf{Z}_c' \mathbf{G}_{rel_c}^{-1} (\mathbf{Z}_c \mathbf{g}_i^c)$$