

### A Continuous Genomic Evaluation System for German Holsteins

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#### Introduction: frequency of genomic evaluation

Genomic evaluation for German Holstein

- 3 major evaluations following Interbull MACE
  - Deregressing national and MACE EBV of bulls
  - Estimating SNP effects for all traits
- Monthly genomic evaluation
  - Official GEBV
- German industry demands on more frequent genomic evaluations
  - Reduce costs of keeping (culled) candidates on farm
  - Genomic selection of embryos on a weekly basis



## A continuous genomic evaluation system for German Holsteins

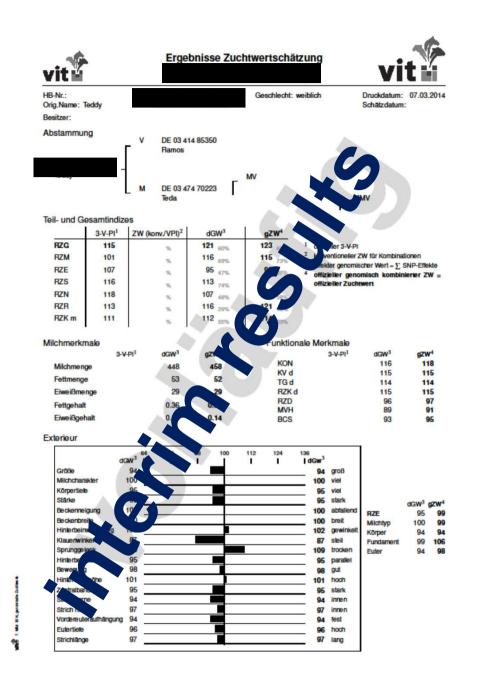


- A genomic model with SNP effects for German Holsteins
  SNP effects by traits and allele frequencies for DGV calculation
- Pedigree index automatically calculated in vit system for new (genotyped) animals
- Changes in genomic evaluation methods in the new system
  Standard chip (50K) now with missing genotypes NOT filled via imputing
  Selection index for TMI (RZG) replaced with a fixed formula (DGV)
  No longer bottom-up wise for calculating TMI or sub-indices (GEBV)

#### **Technical issues for implementation**



- Source programs in Java/SQL instead of Fortran/SAS
- Parameter files obtained from official genomic evaluations
- Automatic notification of genotype providers about interim genomic evaluation results
- Animals in standard 50K chip get GEBV just-in-time (no imputation)
- Genotype imputing for non-standard chips
  - Most candidates genotyped with LD, EuroG10K, GGP, GHD, etc.
    - Imputing on a bi-weekly basis as currently requested
  - Embryos in 50K have lower call rates than real animals
    - Imputing on a weekly basis
  - Full imputation with findhap version 2
    - c.a. 2 hours on 40 CPUs and 100 Gb RAM for 113,910 genotyped animals
  - The continuous system was introduced in March 2014





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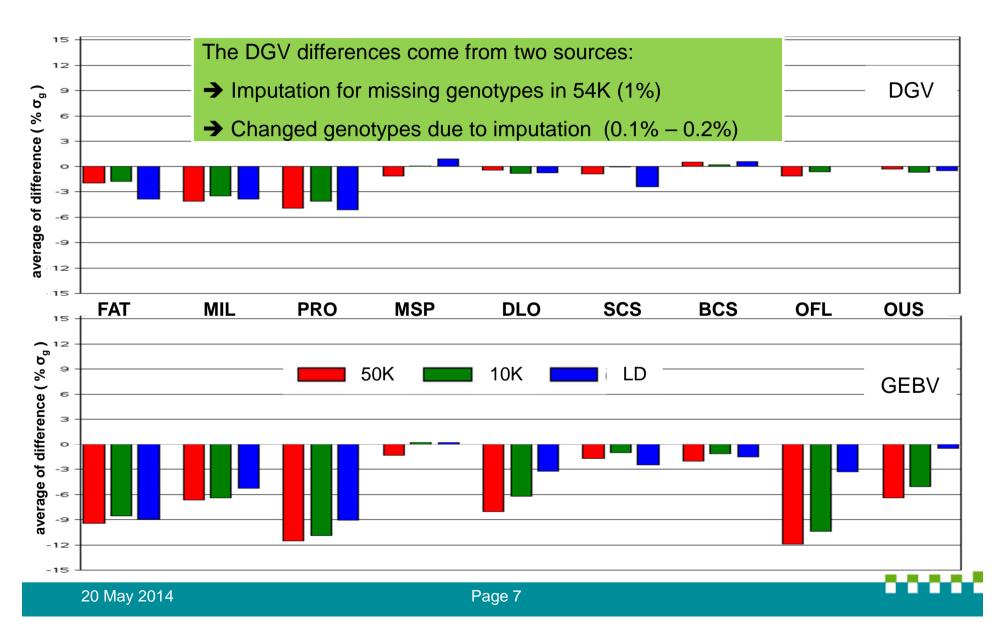
#### A validation study of the continuous system

Monthly genomic evaluation April 2014

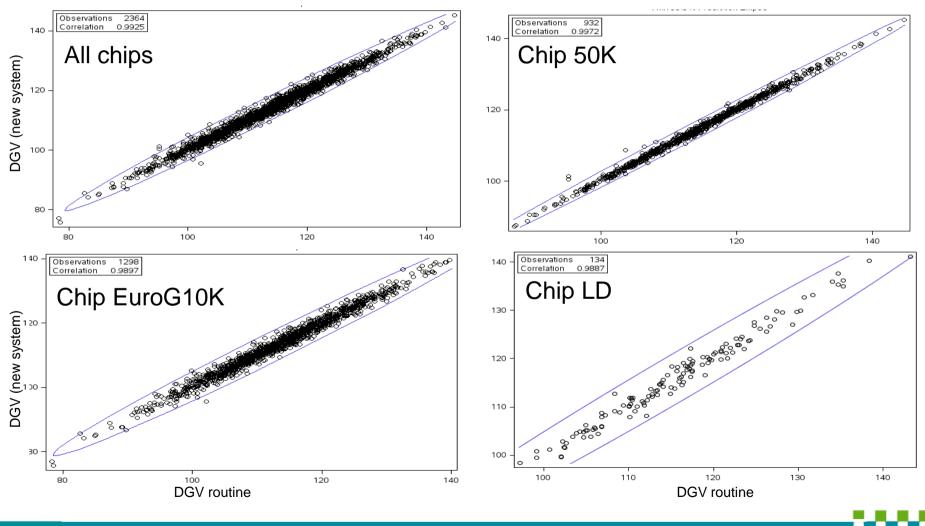
- 113,910 genotyped animals & 338,761 animals in pedigree
- 45,613 SNPs for DGV calculation
- 27,175 Holstein bulls in genomic reference population
- The continuous just-in-time genomic evaluation system
  - 921 animals and 60 embryos genotyped with 50K chip
  - 1340 animals genotyped with EuroG10K
  - 134 animals with Illumina LD chip
- Full genotype imputation with findhap v2
  - 34,115 animals with 50K v1 chip
  - 62,486 animals with 50K v2 chip (including embryos)
  - 14,221 animals with EuroG10K chip
  - 3,081 animals with LD chip

#### DGV and GEBV standardized differences between the continuous and routine genomic evaluations





#### GEBV correlations between the continuous and routine evaluations for SCS in RBV by chips

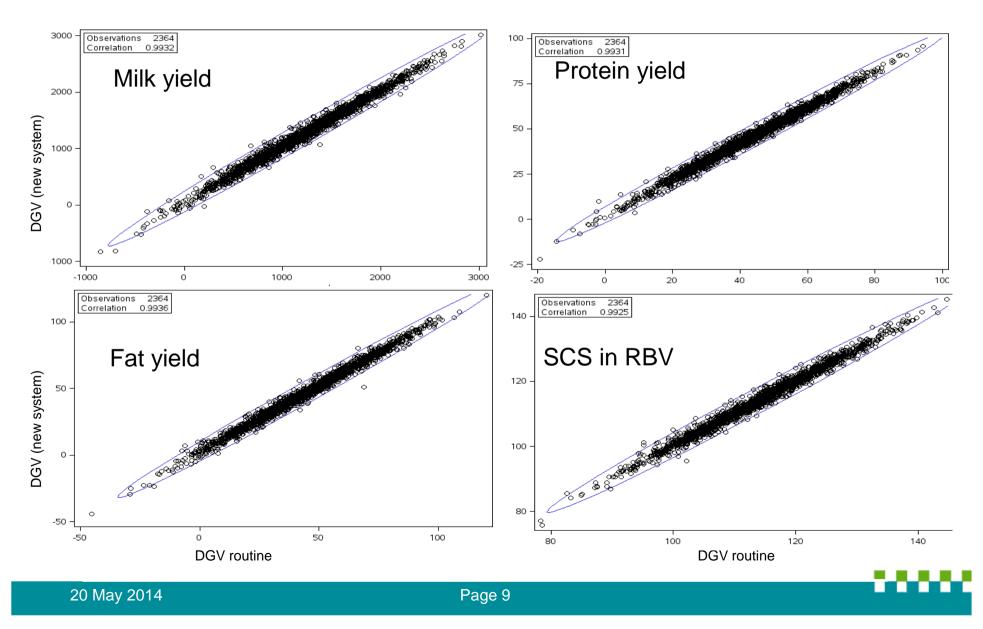


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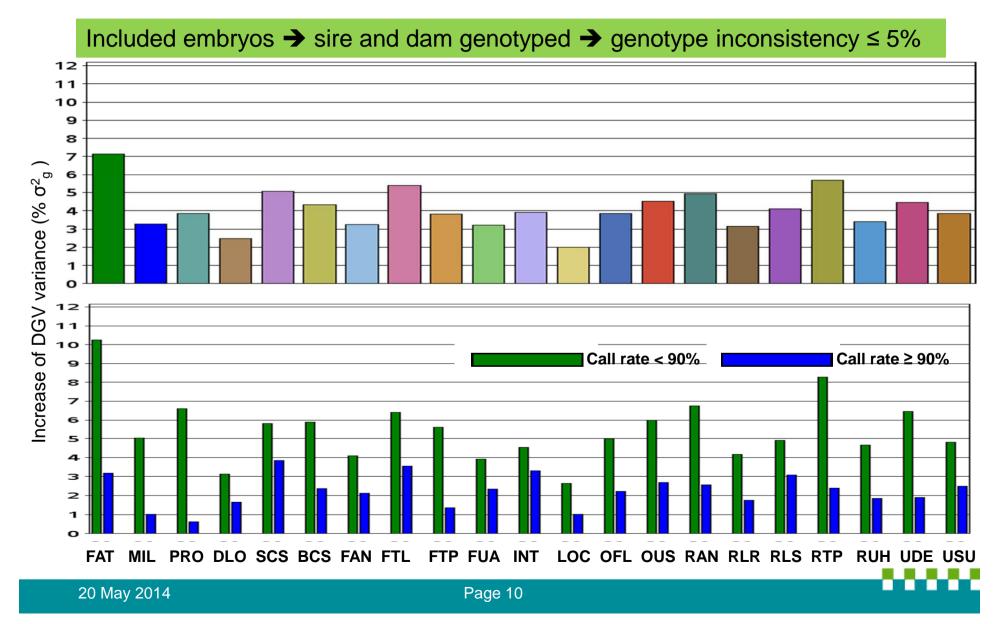
## GEBV correlations between the continuous and routine evaluations for traits





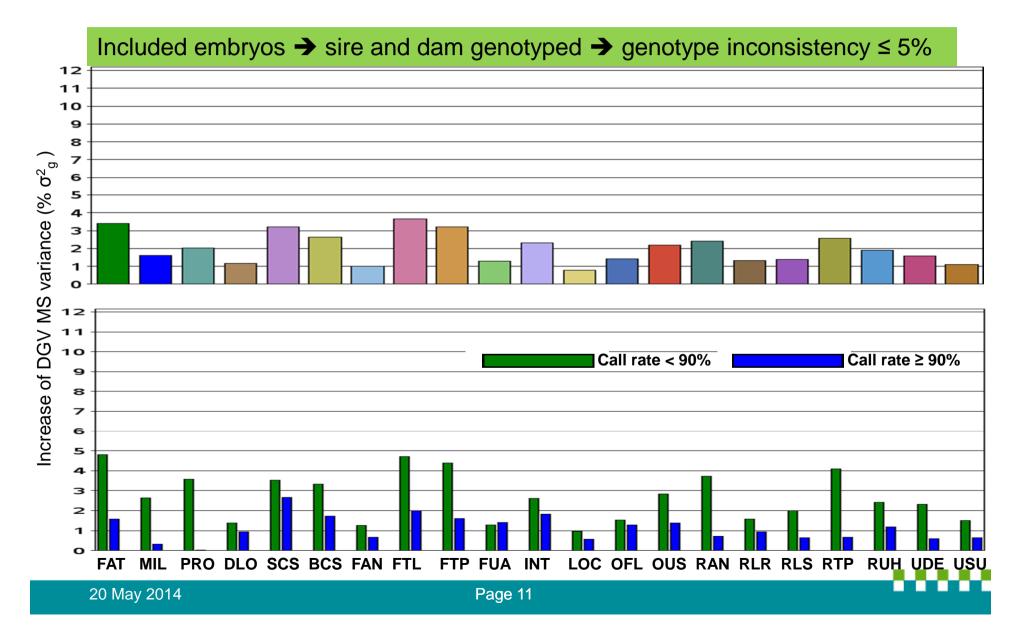
## Increase of DGV variance due to imputing for embryos (N=372)





## Increase of DGV Mendelian sampling variance due to imputing for embryos (N=372)





#### **Conclusions and Summary**



- The continuous genomic evaluation system implemented
  - As a supplement to official monthly genomic evaluations
  - With positive responses and support by the industry
- Results of the new system confirmed in a validation study
  - Correlations > 0.99 for all traits
  - Average of difference -0.04 0.01 σ<sub>g</sub>
  - More changes in GEBV than DGV due to different PI calculations
- Genotype imputing important for embryos in 50K
  - Increase in DGV variance and Mendelian sampling variance
  - To improve genotypes using parents genotypes in future
  - To compare genotypes and DGV between embryos and calves in future
- Improve timely pedigree completeness of genotyped animals
- Routinely conduct validations for the new system
- Minimise differences in statistical methods with the official evaluation

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Thank you for your attention