



Developments for the VikingRED

- VikingRED + NRF
- Population structure
 - Description
 - “Exploiting”

VikingRED + Norwegian Red



A “REAL” JOINT NORDIC GENOMIC EVALUATION



Genomic predictions based on a joint reference population for Scandinavian red breeds

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Joint Reference Population

- Norwegian Red
 - ~ 2800 bulls
 - 54k & 25k (imputed to 54k) SNP chip
- VikingRED
 - ~ 4,400 bulls
 - 54k SNP chip

Training & Validation

- **Statistic**
 - $r^2(\text{DGV}, \text{DPRF}) / \text{rel}(\text{DPFR})$
- **Method**
 - GBLUP

Birth year = 2001

Training

↓ Validation

| | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------|
| DFS | 2847 < N < 3593 | N = 1035 |
| NRF | N = 2563 | N = 281 |

Validation VikingRED

| Trait | REF _{VikingRED} | REF _{all} | Δr^2_{DGV} |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Milk | 0.367 | 0.399 | 0.032 |
| Fat | 0.461 | 0.481 | 0.020 |
| Protein | 0.355 | 0.381 | 0.026 |
| Fertility | 0.289 | 0.282 | -0.007 |
| Birth | 0.218 | 0.244 | 0.025 |
| Calving | 0.161 | 0.179 | 0.018 |
| Udder health | 0.241 | 0.254 | 0.013 |
| Feet & Legs | 0.274 | 0.283 | 0.009 |
| Udder conform | 0.328 | 0.342 | 0.014 |
| Milking ability | 0.299 | 0.321 | 0.023 |
| Temperament | 0.303 | 0.313 | 0.010 |
| Mean | 0.305 | 0.323 | 0.018 |

Min

Max

Validation Norwegian Red

| Trait | REF _{NRF} | REF _{all} | Δr^2_{DGV} |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Milk | 0.36 | 0.38 | 0.02 |
| Fat | 0.38 | 0.45 | 0.07 |
| Protein | 0.28 | 0.39 | 0.11 |
| SCC | 0.37 | 0.40 | 0.03 |
| Mastitis | 0.26 | 0.23 | -0.03 |
| NR56 heifers | 0.16 | 0.10 | -0.06 |
| NR56 cows | 0.17 | 0.14 | -0.03 |
| CFI | 0.11 | 0.10 | -0.01 |
| Calving interval | 0.15 | 0.10 | -0.05 |
| Mean | 0.247 | 0.254 | 0.007 |

Min

Max

Factors affecting genomic reliability

↑ Larger reference population

↓ Different traits

- Genetic correlation for production: 0.9
- Genetic correlation for fertility: 0.8

↓ Different (but related) populations

- Larger effective population



In the pipeline ...

- Revisit imputation
 - One joint imputation
- Genomic prediction models
 - Variable selection models
 - Haplotype-based models
 - Unified single-step model



EXPLORING POPULATION STRUCTURE

Characterization of Linkage disequilibrium in a Danish, Swedish and Finnish Red Breed Cattle Population

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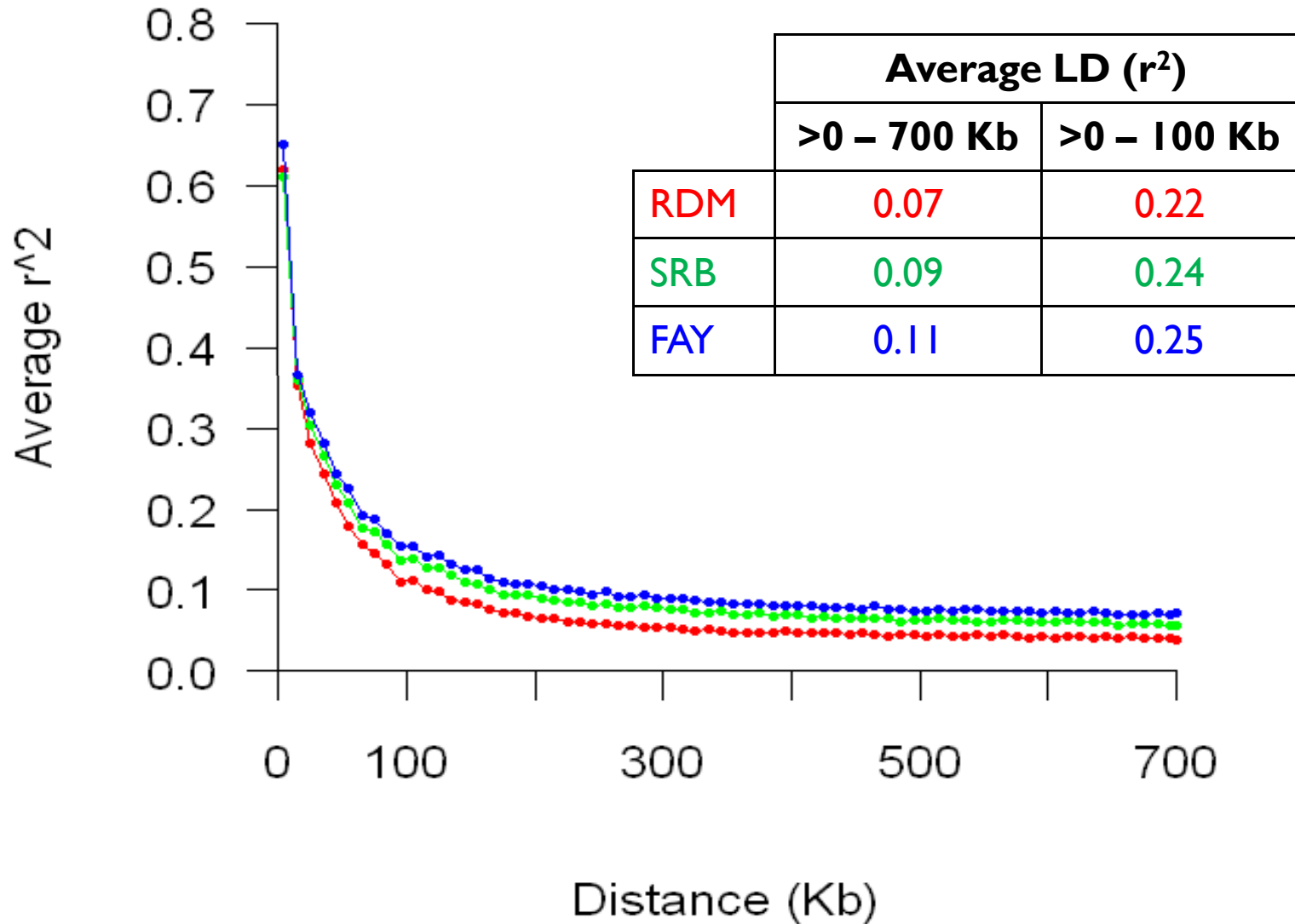
³Aarhus University, Tjele, Denmark

11th EAAP, 31st August 2011

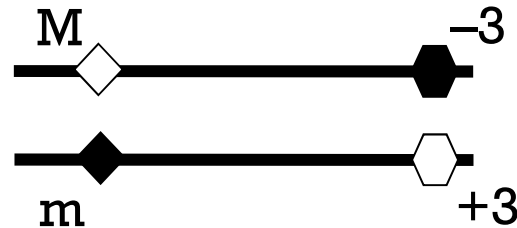
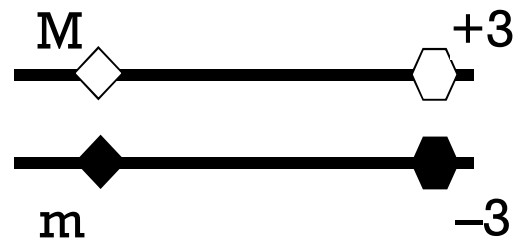
Stavanger, Norway



Average LD

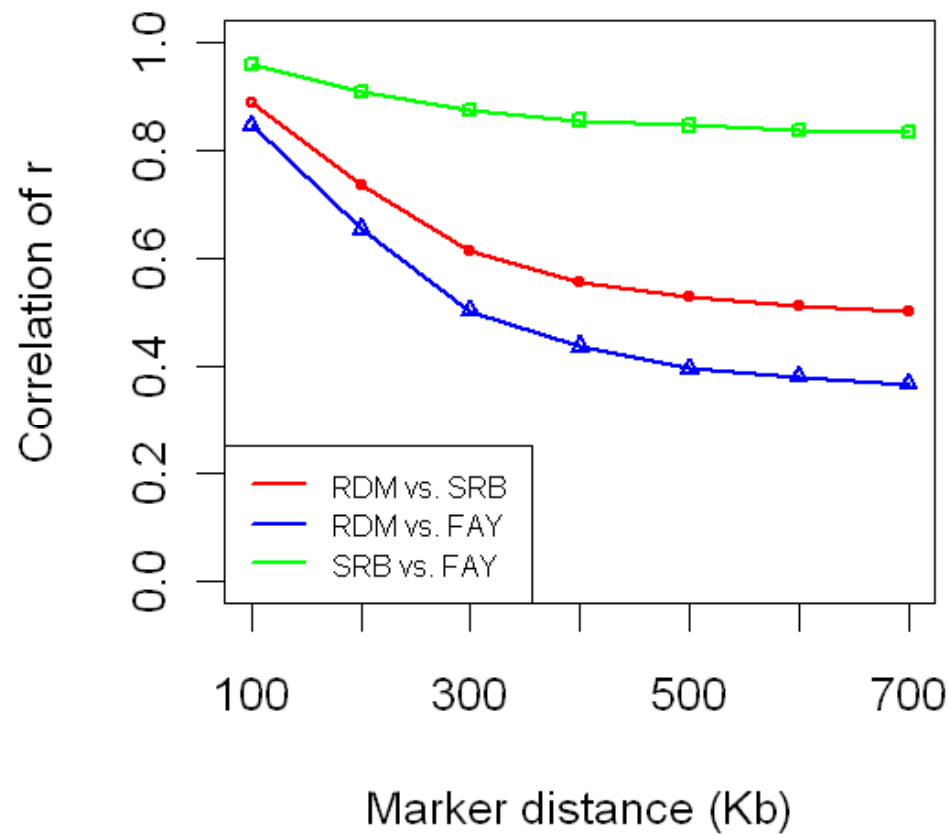


Persistency of phase



Different association of marker allele M with QTL allele across populations?

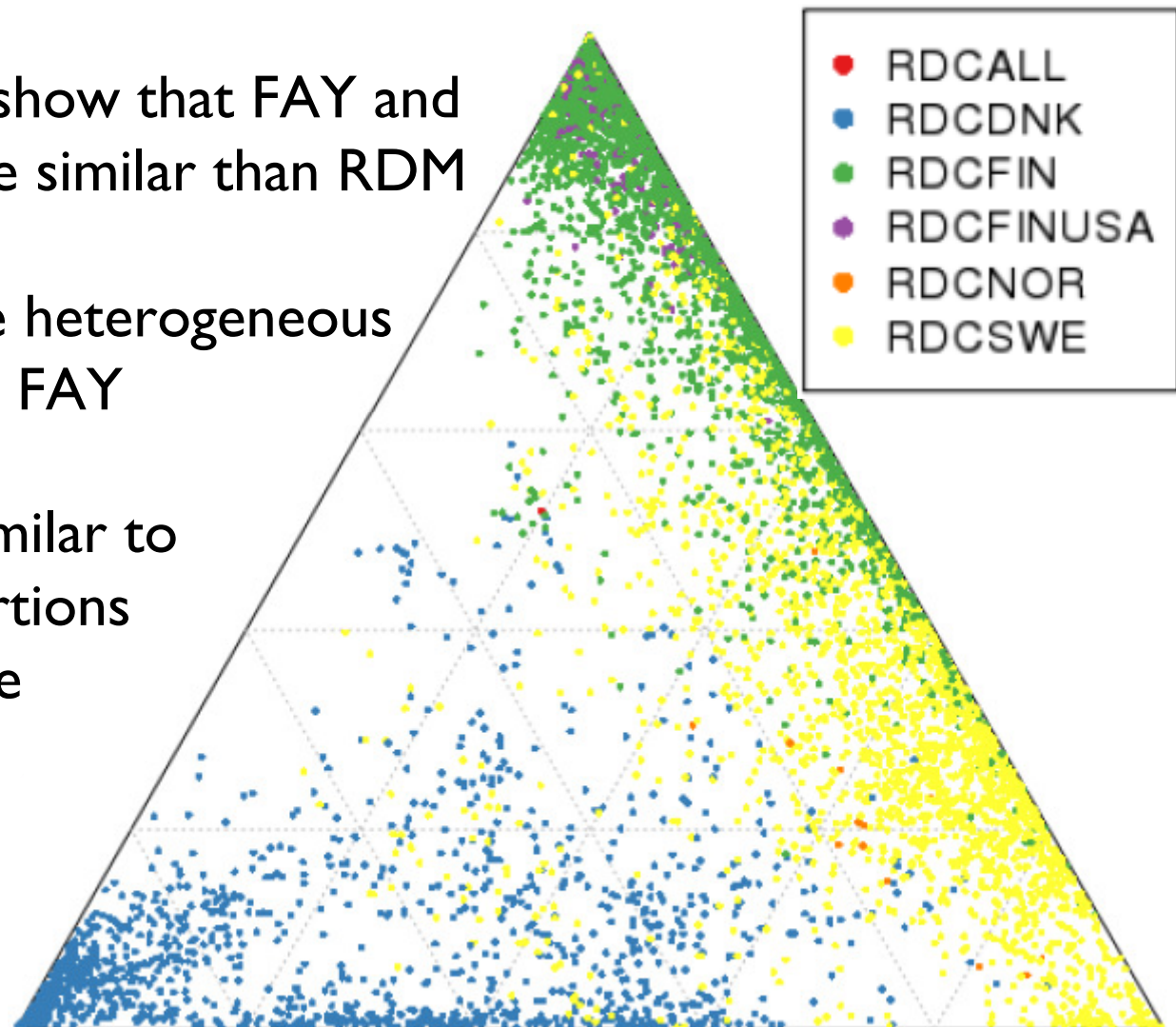
Persistency of marker phase



| | RDM-SRB | RDM-FAY | SRB-FAY |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| P. Phase (0-100kb) | 29.1% (16.5%) | 33.2% (19.0%) | 15.6% (9.1%) |
| Corr. of r (0-100kb) | 0.68 (0.89) | 0.58 (0.85) | 0.89 (0.96) |

Genotyped-based grouping of animals

- All methods show that FAY and SRB are more similar than RDM
- RDM is more heterogeneous than SRB and FAY
- Groupings similar to breed proportions from pedigree





EXPLOITING POPULATION STRUCTURE



Across breed multi-trait random regression genomic predictions in the Nordic Red dairy cattle

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Use of breed proportions

- GBLUP with random regression on breed proportions
- Difficult to estimate variance components
- Slight improvement in reliability



In the pipeline ...

- Use genotype-based "breed"-proportions
- Haplotype blocks
 - Structuring haplotypes according to breed
 - QTL-assisted genomic prediction
- Use by-products of imputation

VikingRED + Nordic Holsteins

◦ **IMPUTATION AND
HD**

How does imputation work?

- **Identify** haplotypes in population using many markers
- **Track** haplotypes with fewer markers
- e.g., use 5 SNP to track 25 SNP

- 5 SNP:

22020



- 25 SNP: 2022020002002002000202200



Genomic prediction using high-density SNP markers in Nordic Holstein and Red (RDC)

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Joint Reference Population

- VikingRed
 - ~ 4,400 bulls
 - HD SNP chip for 706 bulls
 - Rest 54k SNP chip imputed to HD
- Nordic Holstein
 - ~ 4,500 bulls
 - HD SNP chip for 557
 - Rest 54k SNP chip imputed to HD

Allele error rate of imputation

| | Training | Test | %error |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| VikingRED | 556 | 100 | 0.96 |
| Holstein | 457 | 100 | 0.77 |

RDM: 1.75%, SRB: 0.59%, FIN: 0.54%



Training & Validation

- **Statistic**
 - $r^2(\text{DGV}, \text{DPRF}) / \text{rel}(\text{DPFR})$
- **Method**
 - GBLUP
 - Bayesian mixture model

Training & Validation

YoB = Oct 2001



Training

Validation

| | | |
|------|-------------|-------------|
| Hol | N = ~ 3,100 | N = ~ 1,400 |
| VRed | N = ~ 3,500 | N = ~ 900 |

Cross-validation Reliability

| Viking RED | GBLUP | | | Bayesian Mixture | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | 54k | HD | Δr^2_{DGV} | 54k | HD | Δr^2_{DGV} |
| Protein | 0.346 | 0.358 | 0.012 | 0.346 | 0.359 | 0.013 |
| Fertility | 0.297 | 0.304 | 0.007 | 0.299 | 0.307 | 0.008 |
| Udder health | 0.244 | 0.257 | 0.013 | 0.243 | 0.259 | 0.016 |
| Average | 0.296 | 0.306 | 0.010 | 0.296 | 0.308 | 0.012 |

Cross-validation Reliability

| Holstein | GBLUP | | | Bayesian Mixture | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | 54k | HD | Δr^2_{DGV} | 54k | HD | Δr^2_{DGV} |
| Protein | 0.425 | 0.429 | 0.004 | 0.435 | 0.440 | 0.005 |
| Fertility | 0.404 | 0.413 | 0.007 | 0.406 | 0.416 | 0.010 |
| Udder health | 0.370 | 0.370 | 0.000 | 0.375 | 0.376 | 0.001 |
| Average | 0.400 | 0.404 | 0.004 | 0.405 | 0.410 | 0.005 |

Factors affecting genomic reliability

↑ Larger reference population

↓ More (SNP) effects to estimate



Summary

- Marginal increases in reliability
- Short horizon in validation