Models for the use and inference of identity-by-descent in populations

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With acknowledgement to Sharon Browning, Chaozhi Zheng, and Chris Glazner.

A model too complex to use



• Full specification of ancestry is the *ancestral recombination graph* or ARG: Figure due to Chaozhi Zheng.

• MCMC sampling of the ARG (Kuhner et al.) or of its sequential Markov approximations, (Zheng et al.) is hard (even for 100 kbp).

Main problem: Our interest is in long lengths (> 1
 Mbp) and short time depths
 < 50 generations. Most of the ARG is irrelevant.

Genetic variation, Association, and Descent

• There is a large amount of variation in our genomes: at about 1 in 1000 bp, there will be two different possible alleles (a and b). These are SNPs; single nucleotide polymorphisms.

 \bullet The data are genetic marker (SNP) data X at known locations in the genome, and trait data Y (qualitative or quantitative).

 \bullet The goal is to find where in the genome are there DNA variants that affect the trait values $\mathbf{Y}.$

 \bullet Direct testing for an association between ${\bf Y}$ and allelic type ${\bf X}$ at each SNP location ignores the fact that DNA descends in blocks.

• Also ignores the fact that functional genes are blocks of DNA and is confounded by allelic heterogeneity: many ways to mess up a local block of DNA that is a functional gene.

• Instead consider association in descent of X and Y: DNA is identical by descent (*ibd*) if it is a copy of the same DNA in a common ancestor.

Relatedness is the source of allelic association

- A new causal mutation, o, arises.
 Associations of interest come from descent of small chromosome segments over many generations.
- The association is maintained by genetic linkage.
- Associations also arise from demographic history and random genetic drift, resulting in differing allele frequencies among population subdivisions.





- Both are forms of relatedness; the first can signal a causal location.
- Idea of *ibd*-based mapping is to detect excess location-specific relatedness (identity by descent, *ibd*) \mathbf{Z} at test locations, among individuals of similar phenotype.

Case-control study: Excess relatedness among cases

• In association tests, we compare frequency of an allele in N_1 cases vs N_2 controls, at dense test SNP locations across the genome:

$$\left(\frac{1}{2N_1}\sum_{\text{cases}}X_i - \frac{1}{2N_2}\sum_{\text{cont.}}X_i\right)$$

where $X_i = 0, 1, 2$ is number of alleles of specified type in *i*.

• In *ibd* test, we compare the frequency of *ibd* between M_1 case-case pairs and M_2 case-(non-case) or (non-case)-(non-case) pairs:

$$\left(\frac{1}{M_1}\sum_{\text{case-case}} Z_i - \frac{1}{M_2}\sum_{\text{other}} Z_i\right)$$

where $Z_i = 1$ or 0 as pair does/does not share genome by descent at test location.

- To adjust for population heterogeneity or structure, adjust for the genome-wide average in each group.
- Assess significance by permutation of case-control labels.
 (No distributional assumptions.)

Simulation Study: is there enough power?

• Study by Sharon Browning.

• Long population evolutionary simulation at $N_e = 10^4$ with mutation, selection and recombination. Then run forward at larger population ($N_e = 10^5$) for G = 25 generations.



• Each simulation is a 200kb region, with central 10kb containing also causal SNPs arising in the population simulation.

- Retain 100 common SNPs; best in alternating 1kb blocks. These are used for association mapping.
- \bullet Individuals with \geq 1 causal variant alleles in the 5 central 1kb blocks are cases with prob 0.1
- Note the *ibd* (location-specific relatedness), Z, is assumed known.

Results of the simulation study

- Results from Browning and Thompson, Genetics, April 2012.
- Properties of simulated causal variants.

selec	# var.	var.freq.	total freq.	max assoc R^2
-tion			of var-hap.	w/marker SNP
0.0005	11-16	0.00015-0.0060	0.045-0.13	0.91-1.00
0.001	9-14	0.00010-0.0031	0.019-0.050	0.28-1.00
0.002	8-13	0.00010-0.0020	0.0097-0.031	0.06-0.52
0.005	7-10	0.000088-0.001	0.0045-0.011	0.03-0.16

• Power of tests in large population: $N_e = 10^5$ for 25 generations.

selec	# cases=	power	power	association
-tion	# controls	assoc.	ibd	vs. <i>ibd</i>
0.0005	500	0.87	0.57	assoc.
0.001	500	0.65	0.53	Not-Sig
0.002	1000	0.53	0.87	ibd
0.005	3000	0.47	0.90	ibd

Mendelian segregation: Identity by descent

Mendel's first law (1866); Each individual has two genome copies; one maternal, one paternal. At every location, to each offspring independently, a parent copies a random one of his/her two copies.
DNA is identical by descent (*ibd*) if it is a copy of the same DNA in a common ancestor.



• DNA that is *ibd* is (with high probability) the same allelic type, whereas non-*ibd* DNA is of independent allelic type.

• Whether or not pedigree relationships are known, *ibd* underlies patterns of phenotypic similarity among relatives.

In a pedigree: *ibd* relative to the founders may be inferred given marker data X and pedigree prior.
 In a population: *ibd* at a locus may be inferred from local marker data haplotypes X (e.g. • and •).



- Or $\Pr(Y_E, Y_C, Y_D) = \sum_{\bullet} \sum_{\bullet} (\Pr(Y_E | \bullet, \bullet) q(\bullet) q(\bullet))$ $\sum_{\bullet} (\Pr(Y_C | \bullet, \bullet) q(\bullet) \sum_{\bullet} (\Pr(Y_D | \bullet, \bullet) q(\bullet)))$
- Given *ibd*, the pedigree is no longer relevant.
 The *ibd* may come from a pedigree or population inference.
 A population probability model is needed to provide h.

Multiple *ibd* among closely related individuals



- Edges are observed individuals; nodes represent *ibd* genome. For example: G, D, and F carry FGL "4": B, J, E and D carry "13".
- The *ibd* state at a locus is a partition of the gametes of observed individuals: $({Ap}, {Am, Bm, Jm, Gp}, {Gm, Dm, Fm}, {Cp, Cm, Ep, Hp}, {Bp, Jp, Dp, Em}, {Hm, Fp}, {Kp}, {Km, Up, Wp}, {Um, Vp}, {Wm, Vm}).$

Trait-related *ibd* in population samples

• In a population, *ibd* levels may be lower, and partitions simpler, but trait-related *ibd* can still indicate causal locations.

• Edges are individuals observed for a trait. Two edges sharing a node indicate *ibd* of those individuals at that locus.



• In regions of the genome with causal DNA, we should detect a clustering of *ibd* associated with trait similarity.

• Assess significance by permutation of trait values.

Inheritance of chromosome segments



same parental chromosome

• Each mat/pat genome of 3×10^9 bp (~ 3,000 Mbp) is packaged into 22 chromosomes sized from 51 to 245 Mbp.

- Chromosomes are inherited in large chunks, $\sim~10^8 \rm bp$ or 100 Mbp.
- In any meiosis, crossovers occur as a Poisson process along the chromosome, rate 1 per 10^8 bp.
- Over m meioses, collectively crossovers occur as a Poisson process, rate m per 10^8 bp.
- The distance to the next crossover is exponential with mean $10^8/m$ bp.
- Exponential distributions have standard deviation equal to the mean.

ibd in remote relatives; (K. P. Donnelly, 1983)



• *ibd* segments are rare but not short. The human genome is short. $_{13}^{13}$

Detecting *ibd* among individuals in populations

For model-based inference of *ibd* Z from SNP data X:
—need a model for the process of *ibd* Z along the chromosome,
—need a model for the SNP data X given Z.

• Each SNP alone gives almost no information, but *ibd* comes in segments, with more and larger segments in closer relatives.

• DNA chunks that are *ibd* from a recent common ancestor are the same allelic type for the SNPs in the chunk (with high probability).

DNA that is not *ibd* will be of "independent" allelic type basically, there will be differences at many SNPs.

For model-based inference of *ibd*, use common variation!
 Models require allele and/or haplotype frequencies;
 Only for common SNPs can we have good estimates of the relevant population allele and local haplotype frequencies.

Realizing *ibd* segments from ${\bf X}$ in populations

• Two-haplotype model (Leutenegger et al. 2003)



• Two-parameter Markov model: marginal prob β , rate change α . In reality, *ibd* is not Markov and expected segment length depends on # meioses to the common ancestor.

• *ibd* \Rightarrow same allele; non-*ibd* \Rightarrow independent alleles. Allow error so different alleles can still be *ibd*.

• Given a model, a standard HMM forward-backward algorithm gives realizations of *ibd* $\{Z(j); j = 1, ..., \ell\}$ given X, jointly over j, where X are allele types on the chromosomes over all loci.

Model for pointwise *ibd* among multiple gametes

- Ewens' sampling formula (ESF; Ewens, 1971) was originally developed to model allelic variation, but provides a one-parameter model for the partition of any n exchangeable objects.
- Each partition Z of n gametes into $k = |\mathbf{Z}|$ *ibd* groups v

$$\pi_n(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{\Gamma(\theta) \ \theta^{|\mathbf{Z}|}}{\Gamma(n+\theta)} \prod_{v \in \mathbf{Z}} (|v|-1)!$$

• If $|\mathbf{Z}| = k$ and \mathbf{Z} has a_j groups of size j

$$\pi_n(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{\Gamma(\theta) \ \theta^k}{\Gamma(n+\theta)} \prod_j ((j-1)!)^{a_j}$$

with $k = \sum_j a_j$, $n = \sum_j j a_j$.

 \bullet Note for two gametes b and c, the probability of 1 group size 2 is

$$\pi_2(\mathbf{Z} = \{b, c\}) = \frac{\theta}{\theta(1+\theta)}((2-1)!)^1 = \frac{1}{(1+\theta)} \equiv \beta$$

is the probability of *ibd* between two gametes.

The Chinese restaurant process for building the ESF

• Tavaré and Ewens, 1997.

• Given a state with n people, at k tables, with a_j tables at which there are j people.

— New person sits at an empty table with probability $\propto (1 - \beta)$, and to join each group of size j with prob. $\propto j\beta$.

•
$$k = \sum_j a_j, n = \sum_j j a_j.$$

• Example: New gamete g added to
$$Z = (a, c, f), (b, e), (d) \sim \pi_6(\cdot)$$
 which has $k = 3, a_3 = a_2 = a_1 = 1$:

g joins	probability	new state Z^*	state character
(a, c, f)	$3\beta/(1+5\beta)$	(a,c,f,g),(b,e),(d)	$k = 3, a_4 = a_2 = a_1 = 1$
(b,e)	2eta/(1+5eta)	(a,c,f),(b,e,g),(d)	$k = 3, a_3 = 2, a_1 = 1$
(d)	eta/(1+5eta)	(a,c,f),(b,e),(d,g)	$k = 3, a_3 = 1, a_2 = 2$
(\cdot)	(1-eta)/(1+5eta)	(a,c,f),(b,e),(d),(g)	$k = 4, a_3 = a_2 = 1, a_1 = 2$

If $Z \sim \pi_6(\cdot)$, then $Z^* \sim \pi_7(\cdot)$. (*n* changes from 6 to 7.)

Changing *ibd* partitions across the chromosome



• Partition: $({Ap}, {Am, Bm, Jm, Gp}, {Gm, Dm, Fm}, {Cp, Cm, Ep, Hp}, {Bp, Jp, Dp, Em}, {Hm, Fp}, {\underline{Kp}}, {Km, Up, Wp}, {Um, Vp}, {Wm, Vm}).$

- Becomes: $({Ap}, {Am, Bm, \underline{Jm}, Gp}, {Gm, Dm, Fm, Kp}, {Cp, Cm, Ep, Hp}, {Bp, Jp, Dp, Em}, {Hm, Fp}, {Km, Up, Wp}, {Um, Vp}, {Wm, Vm}).$
- Becomes: $({Ap}, {Am, Bm, Gp}, {Gm, Dm, Fm, Kp}, {Cp, Cm, Ep, Hp}, {Bp, Jp, Dp, Em}, {Jm}, {Hm, Fp}, {Km, Up, Wp}, {Um, Vp}, {Wm, Vm}).$

• Recombination events in the ancestry of the gametes will move them among elements of the partition – we need a model for this process.

ibd partitions at a locus: the coalescent ARG

• The coalescent traces co-ancestry of chromosomes at a particular locus, back to the most recent common ancestor (MRCA).

• *ibd* is always relative. Relative to time t generations ago; Z = ((a, c, f)(b, e)(d)). Changing t, changes Z. Pairwise *ibd* probability β is surrogate for t.

• Along a chromosome, the coalescent changes due to recombination events, and we have the *ancestral recombination graph* (ARG).

For example:

e

t

r1: $((b,e),(d)) \leftrightarrow ((b),(e,d))$

 If chromosomes share a recombination breakpoint, changes may involve > 1 chrom.
 For example:

r2: $((a,c,f),(d)) \leftrightarrow ((a),(c,f,d))$

• But ARG model is too complex for genome-wide use.

Model for changing *ibd* among multiple gametes

- Modified CRP due to Chaozhi Zheng, allows any 1 gamete to move from one *ibd* subset to another, and has ESF as equil. dsn.
- Potential changes in *ibd* occur at some rate α per Mbp along the chromosome, a normalized recombination rate ρ .
- At a potential change point:

- First, an *extra* gamete, *, is proposed as a singleton with prob. $\propto (1 - \beta)$, and to join each group of size j with prob. $\propto j\beta$. - Next, one of the n + 1 gametes is selected for deletion, and, if not deleted, * is given the identity of the deleted gamete.

• Exa	amples only, (each	"dies" prob 1/7):		
* joins	probability	interim state	dies	new Z^*
(a,c,f)	$3\beta/(1+5\beta)$	(a, c, f, *), (b, e), (d)	d	(a,c,d,f),(b,e)
(b,e)	2eta/(1+5eta)	$(a,c,f),(b,e,\boldsymbol{*}),(d)$	b	(a, c, f), (b, e), (d)
(d)	eta/(1+5eta)	$(a,c,f),(b,e),(d,\boldsymbol{*})$	e	(a, c, f), (b), (d, e)
(\cdot)	$(1 - \beta)/(1 + 5\beta)$	(a, c, f), (b, e), (d), (*)	*	(a, c, f), (b, e), (d)

A note about models

• In pedigrees and in populations, Mendelian segregation and the crossover processes along a chromosome are real.

	Pedigrees	Populations
Model	Mendelian segregation	Ewens sampling formula
	and crossover process	or coalescent
Prior for inferring	Yes	Yes
ibd from ${f X}$	(if correct)	
Null distribution	Yes	NO
for ${f Z}$	(if correct)	

• In pedigrees, we can base both *ibd* realizations and null distribution directly on this highly informative prior.

 \bullet In populations, the models based on ESF provides a good prior for realizations of ibd given ${\bf X}$ – because the data dominate.

• The model is only a (flexible) prior; can be made more flexible e.g. by including a component allowing a transition to a realization from $\pi_n(\mathbf{Z})$ independent of current state with small probability δ .

Realizing *ibd* partitions among multiple gametes

• We want joint inference, but for more than 6 gametes, the HMM is impractical – the number of partitions (*ibd* states) gets huge.

Two possible MCMC approaches (for haploid gametes) :
 —Chaozhi Zheng – full Bayesian MCMC of parameters, transition points and *ibd* transitions, given haplotype data.

-Chris Glazner – particle filter Monte Carlo approach.

• Another approach (due to Chris Glazner); (Results below). Building the *ibd* state across a chromosome by adding diploid individuals successively to the *ibd* state, sampling from approximate conditionals, constrained by current state:

Sample *ibd* among A, B, C: first sample $(\mathbf{Z}(A,B)|X_A,X_B)$, then $(\mathbf{Z}(B,C)|\mathbf{Z}(A,B),X_B,X_C)$, then $(\mathbf{Z}(A,C)|\mathbf{Z}(B,C),\mathbf{Z}(A,B),X_A,X_C)$. Likelihood is "*Product of approximate conditionals*"

• Using Markov models for latent *ibd*, with marker data \mathbf{X} dependent on the latent *ibd* state, we can realize *ibd* \mathbf{Z} among gametes of individuals not known to be related.

An example of related individuals in a population



• Causal DNA descends from magenta founder to the three green families.

• Quantitative trait is simulated on green families, given genotypes at the causal locus.

• Descent across the chromosome is simulated given descent at the causal locus.

• SNP marker data are simulated on the three green families, given each SNP marker location descent. Lod scores based on inferred *ibd*; No pedigree info!

• Results due to Chris Glazner.



• If data can be phased (i.e. we can identify the haplotypes that make up the genotypes of the observed individuals) we can almost perfectly recover the true-*ibd* curve.

Summary: Genetic analyses can be based on inferred *ibd*

- Modeling descent is important: *ibd* measures relevant locationspecific relatedness, whether in pedigrees or in populations
- Modeling genomes is important: our genomes are not 3 million exchangeable SNPs. In terms of *ibd* segments, human genomes are short.
- Models are important: Models do not mimic reality. Models provide a map to assess inferences and information.
- Models should be flexible:
- an unvalidated pedigree prior is not flexible.
- assuming no error in marker data is not flexible.

• In pedigrees and populations, modern SNP data, X enable realizations of *ibd* given X, but the source of the *ibd* inference is almost irrelevant to analysis. (Pedigrees, if correct, provide a "true null".)

• Genetic analyses can be based on inferred *ibd*.