

Statistical analyses used for gene mapping of human diseases

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Human disease genetic mapping



Human disease genetic mapping

Mendelian disease



Complex disease



Linkage analysis

Genetic association analysis

Linkage analysis

Linkage analysis

50.0

100.0

Chromosome 6 Position (cM)



40.0

120.0

80.0

Chromosome 12 Position (cM)

Model parameters explicitly, estimate them, and the lod score, a kind of likelihood ratio, is evaluated.

Likelihood calculation

Elston-Stewart algorithm

Lander-Green algorithm

MCMC based algorithm

Linkage analysis

• Successes of linkage analysis

A polymorphic DNA marker genetically linked to Huntington's disease

James F. Gusella^{*}, Nancy S. Wexler^{†|}, P. Michael Conneally[†], Susan L. Naylor^{*}, Mary Anne Anderson^{*}, Rudolph E. Tanzi^{*}, Paul C. Watkins^{*†}, Kathleen Ottina^{*}, Margaret R. Wallace[‡], Alan Y. Sakaguchi[§], Anne B. Young[‡], Ira Shoulson[‡], Ernesto Bonilla[#] & Joseph B. Martin^{*} Gusella et al, Nature 1983

 \rightarrow Huntingtin gene

- Cystic fibrosis
- Familial breast cancer (BRCA1 / BRCA2)
- possibly, Familial hypercholesterolemia (LDLR)

They are Mendelian diseases

Gene mapping study

Mendelian disease



Complex disease



Linkage analysis

Genetic association analysis

Genetic association study



(Balding DJ. Nat Rev Genet 2006; 7:781-91.)

Allele frequency might differ between Case and Control Detect it by using association testing

Do association test ... why?

			age	181	Association				
en de la company	which we have a subscription of a				Singlet	ons	Sib pairs		
Genotypic risk ratio (γ)	Frequency of disease allele A (<i>p</i>)	Probability of allele sharing (Y)	No. of families required (<i>N</i>)	Probability of transmitting disease allele A <i>P</i> (tr-A)	Proportion heterozygo parents (Het)	of us (<i>N</i>)	(Het)	(<i>N</i>)	
4.0	0.01	0.520	4260	0.800	0.048	1098	0.112	235	
	0.10	0.597	185	0.800	0.346	150	0.537	48	
	0.50	0.576	297	0.800	0.500	103	0.424	61	
	0.80	0.529	2013	0.800	0.235	222	0.163	161	
2.0	0.01	0.502	296,710	0.667	0.029	5823	0.043	1970	
- ANDERIN	0.10	0.518	5382	0.667	0.245	695	0.323	264	
a	0.50	0.526	2498	0.667	0.500	340	0.474	180	
	0.80	0.512	11,917	0.667	0.267	640	0.217	394	
1.5	0.01	0.501	4,620,807	0.600	0.025	19,320	0.031	7776	
	0.10	0.505	67,816	0.600	0.197	2218	0.253	941	
	0.50	0.510	17,997	0.600	0.500	949	0.490	484	
	0.80	0.505	67,816	0.600	0.286	1663	0.253	941	

Comparison of linkage and association studies. Number of families needed for identification of a disease gene.

Risch N and Merikangas K. Science 1996; 273: 1516.

Linkage disequilibrium

• Suppose two genetic loci

Chromosome

- Alleles at these loci are independent if ...
 - these two loci locate on different chromosomes because of Mendel's law of segregation
 - these two loci locate on the same chromosome, but their distance is long enough to become independent because of repetitive meiotic recombination
- Otherwise they are associated, in other words, in linkage disequilibrium (LD). If locus 1 and 2 are in LD, and locus 1 is the causative locus, then locus 2 would also show association.

Linkage disequilibrium

 LD is defined as "non-random sharing of combinations of variants"

When $f_A = 0.1$ and $f_B = 0.4$



Non-random sharing

	В	b
Α	0.00	0.10
а	0.40	0.50

 $f_{AB} = f_A f_B$

 $f_{AB} \neq f_A f_B$

$$D_{AB} = f_{AB} - f_A f_B$$

$$r^2 = \frac{D^2}{f_A f_a f_B f_b}$$



No need to genotype all the variants in a region ... it is enough to select some SNPs which are in LD with other variants.

In general, a SNP set which have r^2 value above 0.8 with the other SNPs is called "tagSNPs".

Simple statistical genetics calculation can show that N/r^2 sample size is needed to achieve the same power to detect association with the "tagSNPs".

The International HapMap consortium. Nature 2005.

Commercial SNP arrays based on HapMap tag SNPs



Genome-wide association study (GWAS)



Q-Q plot for quality control

 GWAS uses hundreds of thousands of SNP results, and the quality must be assured by Quality Control processes. And this can be evaluated by Q-Q plot.





Figure 2 Quantile-quantile plots of Cochran-Armitage test statistics. The ranked, observed values for 6,322 nsSNPs are plotted against the values expected for sampling from a χ^2 distribution with one degree of freedom (the distribution expected under the null hypothesis).

Figure 3 Quantile-quantile plots of Cochran-Armitage test statistics of 4,629 nsSNPs with half-call rates <0.5% and a difference in call rates between cases and controls of no more than 5%.

Clayton D et al. Nat Genet 2005; 37: 1423.

Population stratificaiton

 Population stratification can cause false positives



Marchini J et al. Nat Genet 2004; 36: 512.

Principal component analysis



Score for PC1



Score for PC2



Principal component analysis





(Heath, SC et al. EJHG 2008; 16: 1413.)

Principal component analysis



Mixed Linear Model Association

- Relatedness between individuals in case or in control could cause spurious association since it can increase / decrease allele frequency irrespective of disease status.
- Typically, sample filtration is performed to remove 1st and 2nd degree relatedness, and possibly more.
- Mixed Linear Model Association (MLMA) is a solution to adjust any levels of relatedness

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{u} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$
$$\operatorname{Var}(\mathbf{u}) = \sigma_g^2 \mathbf{K}$$

K: matrix of pairwise genetic similarity

GWAS for Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD)

European Cases ~ 1,000: European Controls ~ 4,000 -> 2 GW signals



(Leveillard T, Kamatani Y, Lathrop M et al. Unpublished data)

Japanese Cases ~ 1,500: Japanese Controls ~ 20,000 -> 2 GW signals



(Arakawa S et al. Nat Genet 2011;43:1001-5)

GWAS yields disease susceptible loci with confident associations and with robustness.

Imputation

Observed data at 3 genetic loci
T/C, A/A, T/C

Image: Construct haplotypes
Image: Construct haplotype construct haplot

Imputation



- The reference template is typically HapMap panel or 1000 genomes panel.
- Observed loci are typically from SNP arrays, of which loci are "tagSNPs" from HapMap or from 1000 genomes results.

Imputation (Marchini's model)

$P(G_i|H,\theta,\rho) = \sum_z P(G_i|Z,\theta)P(Z|H,\rho)$

- G_i : vector of genotypes of individual i
- H: population haplotypes
- θ : other parameters
- ρ: recombination map across the genome
- Z: 2 copies of haplotypes from population, which form individual genotypes

Imputation (Marchini's model)

$$P(G_i|H,\theta,\rho) = \sum_z P(G_i|Z,\theta)P(Z|H,\rho)$$

Emission probability : governed by mutation rate



Transition probability : governed by recombination rate (ρ)

Imputation (Marchini's model)

$$P(G_i|H,\theta,\rho) = \sum_z P(G_i|Z,\theta)P(Z|H,\rho)$$

Transition probability

$$Pr(\{Z_{il}^{(1)}, Z_{il}^{(2)}\} \to \{Z_{i(l+1)}^{(1)}, Z_{i(l+1)}^{(2)}\}|H) = \begin{cases} \left(e^{-\frac{\rho_l}{N}} + \frac{1 - e^{-\frac{\rho_l}{N}}}{N}\right)^2 & Z_{il}^{(1)} = Z_{i(l+1)}^{(1)}, Z_{il}^{(2)} = Z_{i(l+1)}^{(2)} \\ \left(e^{-\frac{\rho_l}{N}} + \frac{1 - e^{-\frac{\rho_l}{N}}}{N}\right)\left(\frac{1 - e^{-\frac{\rho_l}{N}}}{N}\right) & Z_{il}^{(1)} = Z_{i(l+1)}^{(1)}, Z_{il}^{(2)} \neq Z_{i(l+1)}^{(2)} \\ & Z_{il}^{(1)} \neq Z_{i(l+1)}^{(1)}, Z_{il}^{(2)} = Z_{i(l+1)}^{(2)} \\ \left(\frac{1 - e^{-\frac{\rho_l}{N}}}{N}\right)^2 & Z_{il}^{(1)} \neq Z_{i(l+1)}^{(1)}, Z_{il}^{(2)} \neq Z_{i(l+1)}^{(2)} \end{cases}$$
(3)

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & & & G_{il} \\ & & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \\ & & 0 & (1-\lambda)^2 & 2\lambda(1-\lambda) & \lambda^2 \\ H_{Z_{il}^{(1)}l} + H_{Z_{il}^{(2)}l} & 1 & \lambda(1-\lambda) & \lambda^2 + (1-\lambda)^2 & \lambda(1-\lambda) \\ & & 2 & \lambda^2 & 2\lambda(1-\lambda) & (1-\lambda)^2 \end{array}$$

Emission probability

Application of imputation



Meta-analysis of AMD GWAS

Cases ~ 1,000: Controls ~ 4,000 > 2 GW signals



Cases ~ 17,000: Controls ~ 60,000 > 19 GW signals



(The AMD Gene Consortium. Nat Genet 2013;45:433-9)

Genome-wide meta-analysis can increase statistical power, and enables us to identify tens of susceptible loci for a disease trait or a quantitative trait.

Creating drugs using gene mapping result



Linkage analysis and positional cloning identified *PCSK9* as a novel causative locus for autosomal dominant hypercholesterolemia (Abifadel M et al. Nat Genet 2003;34:154)



GWAS confirmed that *PCSK9* was also associated with LDL cholesterol level in general population (Global Lipids Genetics Consortium. Nat Genet 2013; 45: 1274, and several other reports.)

Functional role of PCSK9 protein was revealed...



Effect of a Monoclonal Antibody to PCSK9 on LDL Cholesterol

Evan A. Stein, M.D., Ph.D., Scott Mellis, M.D., Ph.D., George D. Yancopoulos, M.D., Ph.D., Neil Stahl, Ph.D., Douglas Logan, M.D., And a new drug lowering LDL cholesterol is going to be approved

Estimation of heritability (GWAS)

• By using "genome-wide significant" SNPs,

$$h^2 = \sum_{i} 2f_i(1 - f_i)\beta_i^2$$

calculates aggregate contribution of significant SNPs under additive genetic model, when values $\{0,1,2\}$ are given to each biallelic genotype (for example, A/A, A/a, and a/a). β_i is an effect size at locus i.

• This should be equal to "narrow-sense heritability"

Estimation of heritability

Polygenic model

$$P = G + E$$
$$h^2 = \frac{V_G}{V_P}$$

- G: genetic effect
- E: residuals (supposed to be environmental effect)
- P: phenotypic value

Polygenic model



Polygenic model

• Narrow-sense heritability

$$h^2 = \frac{V_A}{V_P}$$

• Broad-sense heritability

$$H^{2} = \frac{V_{G}}{V_{P}} = \frac{V_{A} + V_{D} + V_{AA} + V_{AD} + V_{AAA} + \cdots}{V_{P}}$$

Estimation of heritability (twin study)

• Covariance of twins

$$Cov_{mz} = V_A + V_{C,mz}$$

$$Cov_{dz} = \frac{1}{2}V_A + V_{C,dz}$$

Monozygotic twins

Dizygotic twins

Estimation of heritability (twin study)

• Covariance of twins

$$Cov_{mz} = V_A + V_{C,mz}$$

$$Cov_{dz} = \frac{1}{2}V_A + V_{C,dz}$$

$$2(r_{mz} - r_{dz}) = \frac{V_A}{V_P} = h^2$$

Estimation of heritability (twin study)

 Covariance of twins under the existence of dominance and epistasis effects

$$Cov_{mz} = V_A + V_D + V_{AA} + V_{AD} + V_{AAA} + \dots + V_{C,mz}$$
$$Cov_{dz} = \frac{1}{2}V_A + \frac{1}{4}V_D + \frac{1}{4}V_{AA} + \frac{1}{8}V_{AD} + \frac{1}{8}V_{AAA} + \dots + V_{C,dz}$$

$$2(r_{mz} - r_{dz}) = \frac{V_A + \frac{3}{2}V_D + \frac{3}{2}V_{AA} + \frac{7}{4}V_{AD} + \frac{7}{4}V_{AAA} + \cdots}{V_P} > h^2$$

Missing heritability

The explained variance using genomewide significant loci (red bars) are much smaller than the heritability estimates from twin studies, which are expressed as 100% in the right plot.



Polygenic score analysis



Purcell et al. did not find any GW significant Schizophrenia locus.

But they gave "polygenic risk score" to <0.1 <0.2 <0.3 <0.3 <0.4 <0.5 thousands of genetic variants, and tried to see predictive value of this.

> They showed that polygenic risk scores could predict schizophrenia in an independent sample but not in nonpsychiatric diseases.

Most notably they showed similar polygenic background behind schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

Altogether, these indicate polygenic nature of complex disease genetics.

(The International Schizophrenia Consortium. Nature 2009; 460: 748.)

Estimation of SNP heritability

• Mixed model with total genotypic effects

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{u} + \epsilon$$
 $\operatorname{var}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}'\sigma_u^2 + \mathbf{I}\sigma_\epsilon^2$

y: phenotype β : fixed effects (age, sex, ...) X: covariate values of fixed effect terms W: standardized genotype matrix u: SNP effects as random effects $\mathbf{u} \sim N\left(0, \mathbf{I}\sigma_u^2\right)$ $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim N\left(0, \mathbf{I}\sigma_{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}}^2\right)$

(Jian Yang et al. Nat Genet 2010; 42: 565.)

Estimation of SNP heritability

Mixed model with total genotypic effects

 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{u} + \epsilon$ $\operatorname{var}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}'\sigma_u^2 + \mathbf{I}\sigma_\epsilon^2$

- By taking $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}'/N$ and $\sigma_g^2 = N\sigma_u^2$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{g} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \qquad \operatorname{var}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{A}\sigma_g^2 + \mathbf{I}\sigma_\epsilon^2$$

(Jian Yang et al. Nat Genet 2010; 42: 565.)

Estimation of SNP heritability

Table 1 Estimation of phenotypic variance explained from genetic relationships among unrelated individuals by restrictedmaximum likelihood

		No. SNPs	L(H ₀) ^a	$L(H_1)^b$	LRT ^c	$\sigma_{ m g}^2$ (s.e.)	$\sigma_{\rm e}^2$ (s.e.)	$\sigma_{\rm P}^2$ (s.e.)	h ^{2 d} (s.e.)
295K SNPs	Raw	294,831	-1950.89	-1936.12	29.53	0.445 (0.084)	0.546 (0.082)	0.991 (0.023)	0.449 (0.083)
	Adj. ^e	294,831	-1950.89	-1936.12	29.53	0.532 (0.101)	0.458 (0.098)	0.991 (0.023)	0.537 (0.100)
295K/516K SNPs ^f	Raw	294,831/516,345	-1950.89	-1935.94	29.89	0.449 (0.085)	0.536 (0.083)	0.986 (0.022)	0.456 (0.085)
	Adj.	294,831/516,345	-1950.89	-1935.87	30.04	0.536 (0.101)	0.449 (0.099)	0.985 (0.022)	0.544 (0.101)

^alog-likelihood under the null hypothesis that $\sigma_g^2 = 0$. ^blog-likelihood under the alternative hypothesis that $\sigma_g^2 \neq 0$; ^clog-likelihood ratio test statistic, $LRT = 2[L(H_1) - L(H_0)]$. ^dEstimate of variance explained by all SNPs, with its s.e. given in the parentheses. ^eRaw estimate of genetic relationship adjusted for prediction error with equation (9) (assuming c = 0). ^fThe genetic relationships are estimated from 1,318 individuals with 516,345 SNPs, and the other 2,607 individuals with 294,831 SNPs. See Online Methods for definitions of notations.

- GW significant SNPs can only explain ~ 5% of height variance
- However, all SNPs could explain ~ 45%.
- This implicates that human height would be determined by hundreds or thousands of genetic variants, and most of them have not been discovered because of low statistical power.
- This explained variance is still lower than twin study's heritability (80-90%). It is suggested that "SNPs" act as markers, true causative variants (possibly low frequency) are more informative and may increase explained variance.

Current understanding of complex disease genetics



(Witte JS et al. Nat Rev Genet 2014; 15: 765.)

Other estimation methods of SNP heritability

Current methods **MultiBLUP** Risk Score Stepwise Two-region MHC/non-MHC Trait BLUP $(-\log_{10}(P))$ Regression BSLMM Adaptive **Bipolar** Disorder 0.270.25(1)0.020.27 0.270.27Coronary Artery Disease 0.130.12(1)0.08 0.150.130.16 Crohn's Disease 0.320.28(1)0.180.34 0.290.36 Hypertension 0.150.14(1)0.00 0.140.140.17**Rheumatoid** Arthritis 0.210.28(3)0.320.330.350.37Type 1 Diabetes 0.250.34(5)0.540.560.590.57Type 2 Diabetes 0.160.14(1)0.100.170.160.18 Average across 7 traits 0.210.220.180.280.270.30

Table 1. Prediction of case/control status for WTCCC1 human traits

(Speed D and Balding DJ. Genome Res 2014 published in advance.)

Current targets ...

- Larger and larger GWAS: to capture common variants with small effect sizes
- Low frequency variants, structural variants: some of them have not been captured by SNP array
- Heritable epigenetic marks: data not obtained by SNP array, but the existence of parent-of origin effect indicates its involvement
- **Epistasis (gene-gene interaction)**: could show heritability beyond additive effects. A few analyses succeeded to identify it, but not enough
- **Gene-environmental interaction**: sophisticated epidemiological sample would be necessary, and statistical geneticists typically do not have it

Closing remarks

- We are analyzing BioBankJapan samples; ~200,000 disease samples from 47 diseases and ~ 30,000 population controls, all of them are Japanese and have ~ 1,000,000 SNP genotype results.
- Our main aim at now is to find out low-frequency variants by combining this data with Whole Genome Sequencing results.
- We are welcome to collaborate with researchers who want to use our "big" data and apply statistically sophisticated analysis!

