# BLUP How it works

A joint evaluation of all animals,

- •uses all additive genetic relationships
- •uses all data on all animal jointly

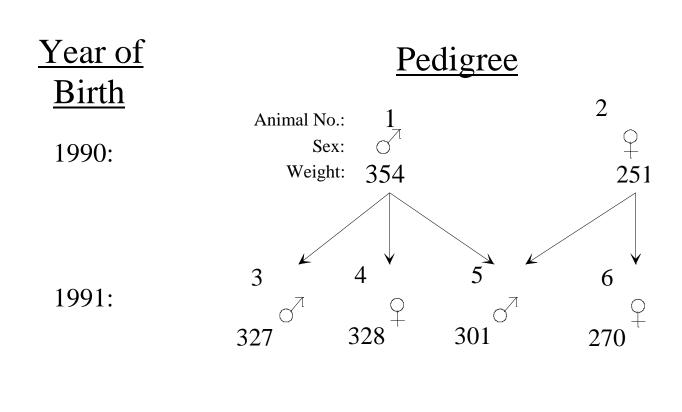
It works as a linear model (correcting different effects for each other),

•jointly estimates animal effects and fixed effects (herds)

but has Selection Index properties (Regression with "heritability")

# Estimating EBV's with linear models

example:



1992: (Animal 7 is unrelated to the others.)

#### **Example BLUP model**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b} \\ \hat{u} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X'X & X'Z \\ Z'X & Z'Z + \lambda A^{-1} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} X'y \\ Z'y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b} \\ \hat{u} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X'X & X'Z \\ Z'X & Z'Z + \lambda A^{-1} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} X'y \\ Z'y \end{pmatrix}$$

Counting records in different herds

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b} \\ \hat{u} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X'X & X'Z \\ Z'X & Z'Z + \lambda A^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X'y \\ Z'y \end{pmatrix}$$

Counting animals in diff. herds

| (î   | ١        | Г 7  | 1   | 3   | 1    | 1      | 1/   | 1    | 1   | 1    | 17 | - 1 | (2161) |   | (311.94) |   |
|--|----------|------|-----|-----|------|--------|------|------|-----|------|----|-----|--------|---|----------|---|
| $\left(\hat{\mathbf{b}}_{\text{mean}}\right)$    | 1        | /    | 1   | 3   | 1    | 1      |      | 1    | 1   | 1    | 1  |     | 2101   |   | 311.94   |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{b}}_{1990}$                        |          | 1    | 3   | 1   | 1    | 1      | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0    | -1 |     | 275    |   | -9.15    |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{b}}_{1991}$                        | •        | 3    | 1   | 5   | 0    | 0      | 1    | 1    | 1   | 1    | -1 |     | 896    |   | -8.90    |   |
| 1991   |          | <br> |     |     |      |        |      |      |     |      |    |     |        |   |          |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_1$                             |          | 1    | 1   | 0   | 19/6 | 1/2    | -2/3 | -2/3 | - 1 | 0    | 0  |     | 354    |   | 28.26    |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_2$                             | <u> </u> | 1    | 1   | 0   | 1/2  | 17 / 6 | 0    | 0    | - 1 | -2/3 | 0  |     | 251    | = | -28.85   |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_3$                             | _        | 1    | 0   | 1   | -2/3 | 0      | 7/3  | 0    | 0   | 0    | 0  |     | 327    |   | 18.34    |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_4$                             |          | 1    | 0   | 1   | -2/3 | 0      | 0    | 7/3  | 0   | 0    | 0  |     | 328    |   | 18.77    |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{5}$                           |          | 1    | 0   | 1   | - 1  | - 1    | 0    | 0    | 3   | 0    | 0  |     | 301    |   | -0.87    |   |
| $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{6}$                           |          | 1    | 0   | 1   | 0    | -2/3   | 0    | 0    | 0   | 7/3  | 0  |     | 270    |   | -22.40   |   |
| $\left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{7}\right\rangle$ | )        | 1    | - 1 | - 1 | 0    | 0      | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0    | 2  |     | (330)  |   | ( 0 )    | ļ |
|  | _ =      |      |     |     |      |        |      |      |     |      |    |     |        |   |          |   |

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{b} \\ \hat{u} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X'X & X'Z \\ Z'X & Z'Z + \lambda A^{-1} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} X'y \\ Z'y \end{pmatrix}$$

Counting animals' records and their relationships and heritability

# The relationships matrix

What is 
$$Z'Z + A-1\frac{\sigma^2 e}{\sigma^2 g}$$
??

All elements are straightforward, except the inverse of A, i.e. the inverse of the Numerator Relationship Matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/4 & 1 & 1/4 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 1 & 1/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 0 & 1/4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = 1 \text{ if } h^2 = 0.5$$

$$\lambda = 3 \text{ if } h^2 = 0.25$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 13/6 & 1/2 & -2/3 & -2/3 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 11/6 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -2/3 & 0 \\ -2/3 & 0 & 4/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -2/3 & 0 & 0 & 4/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -2/3 & 0 & 0 & 4/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2/3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

#### The need to shrink!

'wrong' single-animal version : uhat = y - Xb

Correct is to regress properly: uhat=Va/(Va+Ve)(y-Xb)

Divide top and bottom by  $V_a$ : uhat = 1/(1+(Ve/Va))(y-Xb)

Back to multi-animal:  $\hat{u} = (Z'Z + A^{-1}\frac{\sigma^2 e}{\sigma^2 g})-1Z'(y - x_b)$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_1 \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_2 \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_3 \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_4 \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_5 \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_6 \\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} .410 & .030 & .117 & .117 & .127 & -.008 & 0 \\ -.030 & .435 & -.008 & -.008 & .135 & .124 & 0 \\ .117 & -.008 & .462 & .033 & .036 & -.002 & 0 \\ .117 & -.008 & .033 & .462 & .036 & -.002 & 0 \\ .127 & .135 & .036 & .036 & .421 & .039 & 0 \\ -.008 & .124 & -.002 & -.002 & .039 & .464 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & .5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 45.3 \\ -57.7 \\ 18.3 \\ 19.3 \\ -7.7 \\ -38.7 \\ 21.3 \end{pmatrix}$$

BLP is the same as the classical selection index, except that there is a custom set of index weights for each candidate animal whose breeding value is to be estimated.

**BLUP** accounts for selection, genetic trend.....

EBV of animals 1 and 2 are zero – on average
EBV of animals 3-6 are above zero – on average Why?

#### **BLUP EQUATIONS**

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{b}}_{\text{mean}} \\ \hat{\mathbf{b}}_{1990} \\ \hat{\mathbf{b}}_{1991} \\ \hat{\mathbf{b}}_{1} \\$$

- Write out equations:

For **animal 6**:

$$\frac{\mu + b_{1991} - \frac{2}{3}\hat{u}_2 + \frac{7}{3}\hat{u}_6 = 270}{\Rightarrow} \hat{u}_6 = \frac{3}{7}(270 - \mu - b_{1991}) + \frac{2}{7}\hat{u}_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{u}_6 = \frac{3}{7}(270 - \mu - b_{1991} - \frac{1}{2}\hat{u}_2) + \frac{1}{2}\hat{u}_2$$

Similarly for **animal 5**:

$$\mu + b_{1991} - \hat{u}_1 - \hat{u}_2 + 3\hat{u}_5 = 301$$

$$\frac{\Rightarrow}{\hat{u}_5 = \frac{1}{3}(301 - \mu - b_{1991} - \frac{1}{2}(\hat{u}_1 + \hat{u}_2)) + \frac{1}{2}(\hat{u}_1 + \hat{u}_2)}$$

EBV is estimated as a deviation of an expected mean

(FE + family mean)

#### animal 2:

$$\mu + b_{1990} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{u}_1 + \frac{17}{6}\hat{u}_2 - \hat{u}_5 - \frac{2}{3}\hat{u}_6 = 251$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\hat{u}_2 = \frac{6}{17}(251 - \mu - b_{1990}) - \frac{6}{17}(\hat{u}_5 - \frac{1}{2}\hat{u}_1) + \frac{4}{17}\hat{u}_6}{}$$

parents: - own record

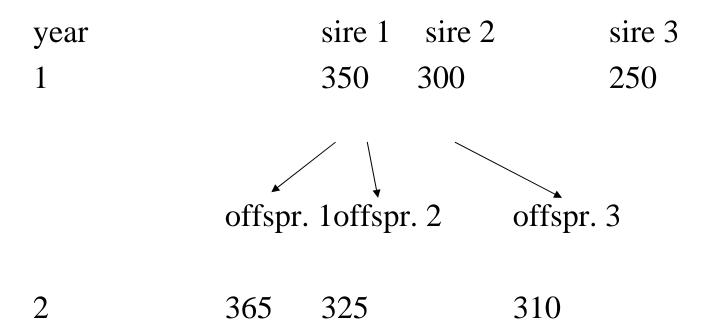
-progeny records

-correction for mates

Weights are same as in selection index

**BLUP** accounts for selection!!

#### Animals are from selected parents



as years/generations go by, the genetic mean changes

- need to account for selection (evaluate jointly)
- calculate genetic trend from increase in EBV over years

# EBV's without BLUP (within year)

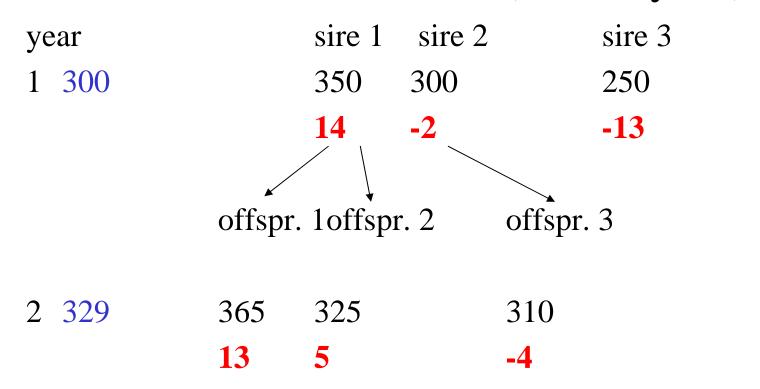
| year  | sire 1 | sire 2 | sire 3 |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 300 | 350    | 300    | 250    |
|       | 13     | 0      | -13    |

offspr. 1 offspr. 2 offspr. 3

2 333 365 325 310

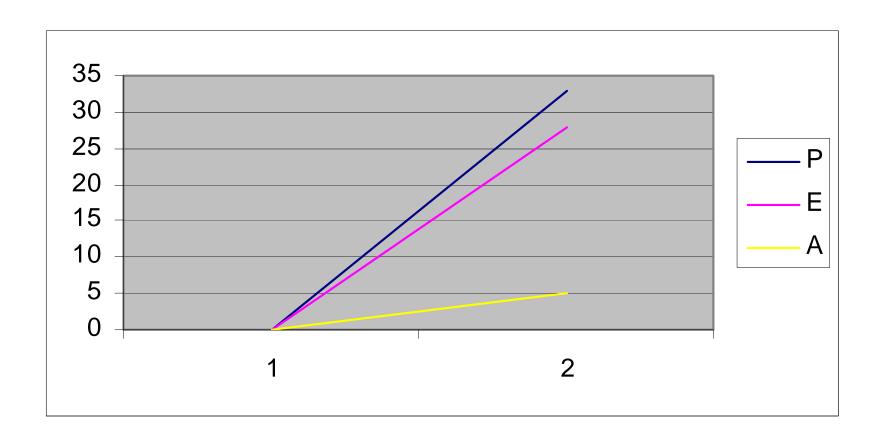
8 -2 -6

# EBV's with BLUP (across year)



as years/generations go by, the genetic mean changes

- need to account for selection (evaluate jointly)
- calculate genetic trend from increase in EBV over years



BLUP allows to separate between environmental and

#### **Genetic Trend**

Simply as mean EBV's per year of birth

# Genetic Properties of the animal model

- Numerator Relationships Matrix

# NRM is constructed using recurrent rules

$$a_{ii} = (1+F_i)$$

$$F_i = 0.5a_{sd}$$

$$a_{ij} = 0.5 a_{i,js} + 0.5a_{i,jd} \quad \text{for } i \neq j$$

#### Consider a vector u with additive genetic values

(breeding values)

$$var(u) = A\sigma_a^2$$

$$\mathbf{u_p} = .5\mathbf{u_s} + .5\mathbf{u_d} + \mathbf{ms}$$

write u as

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{P} \, \mathbf{u} + \boldsymbol{\phi}$$

(I-P) 
$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{\phi}$$
  
 $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})^{-1} \mathbf{\phi}$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_b \\ u_p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ P_{21} & P_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_b \\ u_p \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} u_b \\ \phi \end{pmatrix}$$

BV's are linear function of independent genetic values!

See example!

$$\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})^{-1} \, \mathbf{\phi}$$
$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{T} \, \mathbf{\phi}$$

#### T describes the flow of genes

 $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.375 & .25 & .75 & 0 & .5 & 1 & 0 \\ .4375 & 0.125 & 0.875 & 0 & 0.25 & 0.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

# The matrix D is a diagonal

d<sub>i</sub>=1 if no parents are known,

 $d_i$ = .75 if one of the parents is known

d<sub>i</sub>= .5 if both parents are known.

P is a matrix with at most two elements of 0.5 in each row, one in the column for each parent

# derive rules for A<sup>-1</sup>

$$A^{-1} = [TDT']^{-1} = (I-P')D^{-1}(I-P)$$

Multiplication of (I-P') and (I-P) gives symmetric matrix

$$(I-P')(I-P) = I - (P + P') + P'P$$

- 1 on diagonal
- -0.5 for a parent-progeny
- 0.25 between mates (and on parents diagonal)

Multiply with  $d_i^{-1} = 1$ , 4/3 or 2 see example!

# Rules for A-inverse

| pedigree knowledge:      | element added to              |                       | value     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| no parents known (i,0,0) | animals' diagonal             | i,i                   | 1.0       |
| one parent known         |                               |                       |           |
| (i,j,0) or $(i,0,k)$     | animals' diagonal             | i,i                   | 1.0 * 4/3 |
|                          | parent-offspring off-diagonal | i,j and j,i           |           |
|                          |                               | or I,k and k,i        | -0.5* 4/3 |
|                          | parents' diagonal             | j,j or k,k            | 0.25* 4/3 |
| two parents known        |                               |                       |           |
| (i,j,k)                  | animals' diagonal             | i,i                   | 1.0 * 2   |
|                          | parent-offspring off-diagonal | i,j; j,i; i,k and k,i | -0.5* 2   |
|                          | parents' diagonal             | j,j and k,k           | 0.25* 2   |
|                          | mates' off-diagonal           | j,k and k,j           | 0.25 * 2  |

Deriving rules for A-inverse in case of inbreeding

var(u)= (1+F) is the diagonal for inbred animal  
= 
$$\frac{1}{4} \text{var}(u_s) + \frac{1}{4} \text{var}(u_d) + \frac{1}{2} \text{cov}(u_s, u_d) + \text{var}(\phi)$$

so that the within family variance is equal to

$$var(\phi) = (1+F_i) - \frac{1}{4}(1+F_s) - \frac{1}{4}(1+F_d) - F_i$$
  
= \frac{1}{2}(1-\frac{1}{2}(F\_s+F\_d)

MS term variance reduced if parents are inbred

# Deriving rules for A-inverse in case of inbreeding

# MS term variance reduced if parents are inbred

The diagonal for D becomes

$$\mathbf{d_i} = 1 - 0.25 a_{ss} - 0.25 a_{dd} = \frac{1}{2} (1 - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{F_s} + \mathbf{F_d}))$$

And if only one parent known:

$$\mathbf{d_{ii}} = 1-0.25a_{jj} = 3/4-0.25F_{j}$$

note that we need diagonal of A!

Further, rules are same as with no inbreeding

1 \*d<sub>ii</sub> on diagonal

-0.5 \*d<sub>ii</sub> for a parent-progeny

0.25 \* d<sub>ii</sub> between mates (and on parents diagonal)

algorithms: Quaas, Tier et al., Meuwissen and Luo

### Bulmer effect: Variance reduces after selection

(P-males=10%, P-females = 50%)

| Gen | VA    | V(sire) | V(dam) | Herit | Mean  | R     |
|-----|-------|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1   | 1.000 | 0.584   | 0.682  | 0.500 | 0     | 0.902 |
| 2   | 0.817 | 0.511   | 0.583  | 0.450 | 0.902 | 0.773 |
| 3   | 0.774 | 0.493   | 0.559  | 0.436 | 1.676 | 0.741 |
| 4   | 0.763 | 0.488   | 0.553  | 0.433 | 2.417 | 0.733 |
| 5   | 0.760 | 0.487   | 0.552  | 0.432 | 3.151 | 0.731 |
| 6   | 0.759 | 0.487   | 0.551  | 0.432 | 3.882 | 0.731 |
| 7   | 0.759 | 0.487   | 0.551  | 0.432 | 4.613 | 0.730 |
| 8   | 0.759 | 0.487   | 0.551  | 0.432 | 5.344 | 0.730 |
| 9   | 0.759 | 0.486   | 0.551  | 0.432 | 6.075 | 0.730 |
| 10  | 0.759 | 0.486   | 0.551  | 0.432 | 6.806 | 0.730 |

# Mixed models account for changes of variance due to gametic disequilibrium

Pearson's result gives the variance of a variable x after selection on a correlated variable y as

$$\sigma_{sx}^{2} = \sigma_{x}^{2} - \text{cov}(x, y)^{2} \sigma_{y}^{-2} (1 - (\sigma_{ys}^{2} / \sigma_{y}^{2}))$$

$$= \sigma_{x}^{2} - \text{cov}(x, y)^{2} \sigma_{y}^{-2} \sigma_{x}^{-2} (1 - (1 - k)) \sigma_{x}^{2} =$$

$$= (1 - r^{2}k) \sigma_{x}^{2}$$

Using Pearson's result, we can write the genetic variance in a selected group (after mass selection) as (1-h<sup>2</sup>k)

result also found by Bulmer (1971)

#### Henderson 1975 Kennedy & Sorenson 1988

if the base population is unselected, and the next generation descends from the best parents of the previous generation, than both generations can be evaluated in an unbiased fashion.

Although the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation animals are not random animals (but from selected parents), they are unselected within their families.

In <u>statistical terms</u>, the distribution (i.e. mean as well as variance) of the second generation <u>conditional on</u> the first generation is not affected by selection.

In <u>quantitative genetic terminology</u>, this conditional variance is equal to the within family variance, or the Mendelian sampling variance. The parental contributions are evaluated unbiasedly if their contemporaries that they were selected from are in the model

# Recall A = TDT' where T describes the flow of genes

breeding values can be written as  $a = T\phi$ ,

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ .375 & .25 & .75 & 0 & .5 & 1 & 0 \\ .4375 & 0.125 & 0.875 & 0 & 0.25 & 0.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

base population must be unselected Mendelian sampling terms not affected by selection then effects of linkage disequilibrium and inbreeding are accommodated Which variance is to be used?

'base population' variance variance in later generation t

but we are mainly interested in the variation in each generation generated by Mendelian Sampling

both variances are valid!

Is base really unselected?

# Genetic groups

- Consider them as fixed effect in the model
- But add those to breeding values......
- EBV<sub>across</sub> = EBV<sub>within</sub> + group\_solution
- Grouping needed whenever there is a genetic difference in base animals
  - (to account for selection: breeds, origin,....)
- Only need to group the unknown parents
  - Remember that relationships matrix accounts for other selection

# Example of genetic groups

Michael Angus 315 Mean Angus 300 Whiskey Hereford 315 Mean Hereford 320

|                  | $\overline{\mathrm{EBV}}_{\mathrm{within}}$ | <u>EBV</u> <sub>across</sub> |
|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Michael Angus    | + 6   | + 6                          |
| Whiskey Hereford | - 2   | + 18                         |

# The mixed model including grouping would now be

$$y=Xb+ZQg+Za^*+e$$

$$a=Qg+a^*$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} X'X & X'ZQ & X'Z \\ Q'Z'X & Q'Z'ZQ & Q'Z'Z \\ Z'X & Z'ZQ & Z'Z + \alpha A^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b \\ g \\ a^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X'y \\ Q'Z'y \\ Z'y \end{bmatrix}$$

# Modified Equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} X'X & 0 & X'Z \\ 0 & \alpha Q'A^{-1}Q & -\alpha Q'A^{-1} \\ Z'X & -\alpha A^{-1}Q & Z'Z + \alpha A^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b \\ g \\ a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X'y \\ 0 \\ Z'y \end{bmatrix}$$

Can use rules for A-inverse to form the grouping equations

Groups are 'phantom parents'

# Rules for pedigree with groups

 $b_i = 4/(2 + number of parents of animal i assigned to groups)$ 

#### Then add:

- b<sub>i</sub> to the (i,i) element of A<sup>-1</sup>
- $-b_i/2$  to the (i,s), (i,d), (s,i) and (d,i) elements of  $A^{-1}$
- $b_i/4$  to the (s,s), (s,d), (d,s) and (d,d) elements of  $A^{-1}$

| Calf                                 | Sire                       | Dam                             |                                      |                                   |   |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
|                                      |                            |                                 | Calf                                 | Sire                              | Dam   |
| 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8 | unknown unknown  1 3 1 4 3 | unknown unknown unknown 2 2 5 6 | 1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8 | G1<br>G1<br>1<br>3<br>1<br>4<br>3 | G2<br>G2<br>G2<br>G2<br>2<br>2<br>2<br>5<br>6 |
|                                      |                            |                                 |                                      |                                   |   |

# The flow of genes is described

G1 G2 A1 A2
$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.25 & 0.5 & 0.5 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.375 & .25 & .75 & 0 & .5 & 1 & 0 \\ .4375 & 0.125 & 0.875 & 0 & 0.25 & 0.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Conclusion on across breed evaluations

- First have first moments correct
  - grouping/fixed effects/heterosis etc

- Then worry about second moments
  - Variance if pure- and crossbreds