

4.2 Multilocus linkage analysis

4.2.1 Meiosis indicators at multiple loci

- For multiple loci, $j, j=1, \dots, L$
 - $S_{ij} = 0$ if gene at meiosis i locus j is parent's maternal
 - $= 1$ if gene at meiosis i locus j is parent's paternal.
- We define $Sv(j) = \{S_{ij}; i=1, \dots, m\}$, for $j=1, \dots, L$
 - $S_{ij} = \{S_{ij}; j=1, \dots, L\}$, for $i=1, \dots, m$

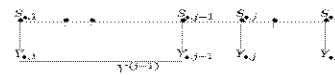
where m is the number of meioses in the pedigree, and L the number of loci along the chromosome.
- Dependence of the $\{S_{ij}\}$:
 - S_{ij} are independent over $i, i=1, \dots, m$.
 - S_{ij} are independent for loci j on different chromosome pairs
 - $Sv(j)$ are dependent among loci j on the same chromosome pair

4.2.2 Conditional independence (no interference)

- Assume that L loci are ordered $1, \dots, L$ along the chromosome
- Let the intervals between successive loci be $l(1), \dots, l(L-1)$.
- Let $T(i, j)=1$ if a gamete resulting from meiosis i is recombinant on interval $l(j)$, and $T(i, j)=0$ otherwise ($j=1, \dots, L-1$).
- Then, in a given meiosis i
 - $T(i, j) = 1$ if $S_{ij} \neq S_{i,j+1}$,
 - and $T(i, j) = 0$ if $S_{ij} = S_{i,j+1}$, for $j=1, \dots, L-1$.
- A model for S_{ij} is equivalent to a model for $\{T(i,1), \dots, T(i,L-1)\}$.
- The simplest models for meiosis assume *no interference*.
- In this case the $T(i,j)$ are independent over i and j .
- Then the S_{ij} are first-order Markov over loci j , with meioses i always being independent.
- One way to express this is that
 - $P(S_{ij} | S_{i1}, \dots, S_{i,j-1}) = P(S_{ij} | S_{i,j-1})$ so that
 - $P(S_{ij}) = P(S_{i1}) \prod_{j=2}^L P(S_{ij} | S_{i,j-1})$ or,
 - combining the meioses
 - $P(\{S_{ij}\}) = P(Sv(1)) \prod_{j=2}^L P(Sv(j) | Sv(j-1))$ (see also 4.2.4).

- Another way of expressing this Markov dependence is through the probability of any given indicator S_{ij} conditional on all the others.
- S_{ij} given $S_{-i(j)} = \{S_{ik}; (k) \neq (j)\}$, depends only on the indicators for the same meiosis and the two neighboring loci.
- For $s=0,1$, $P(S_{ij}=s | S_{-i(j)}) = P(S_{ij}=s | S_{i,j-1}, S_{i,j+1})$ which is proportional to
 - $p(j-1)^{s-S_{i,j-1}} \times (1-p(j-1))^{1-s-S_{i,j-1}} \times$
 - $\times p(j)^{s-S_{i,j+1}} \times (1-p(j))^{1-s-S_{i,j+1}}$ where
 - $p(j) = P(T(i,j) = 1) = P(S_{ij} \neq S_{i,j+1})$ is the recombination frequency in $l(j)$.
- Note that the equation just counts the recombination/non-recombination events in intervals $l(j-1)$ and $l(j)$, implied by the three indicators $(S_{i,j-1}, S_{ij}=s, S_{i,j+1})$.
- Recall in Chapter 2 we discussed for a single locus the equations
 - $P(Y) = \sum_{\{S_{ij}\}} P(Y | \{S_{ij}\}) P(\{S_{ij}\}) = \sum_{\{S_{ij}\}} P(Y | J(\{S_{ij}\})) P(\{S_{ij}\})$
 - $= \sum_J P(Y | J) P(J)$, where J was the ibd pattern determined by $\{S_{ij}\}$.
- There are fewer ibd patterns than values of $\{S_{ij}\}$. However, although the component S_{ij} are Markov over loci j , gene ibd patterns are not.
- Different values of $Sv(j)$ may give rise to the same ibd pattern at locus j . Grouping the states of a Markov chain does not, in general, produce a Markov chain. So to use the Markov dependence, we have to use $\{S_{ij}\}$.

4.2.3 The hidden Markov structure



- The conditional independence structure of data, in the absence of genetic interference.
- The figure shows the Markov dependence of the $Sv(j)$.
- Also the data $Yv(j)$ at locus j depends only on the inheritance $Sv(j)$ at that locus, (and on allele frequencies etc. for locus j).
- Given $Sv(j)$, $\{Yv(k), k=j+1, \dots, L\}$, $Yv(j)$, and $Sv(j-1)$ are mutually independent.
- OR, given $Sv(j)$, $\{Yv(k), k=1, \dots, j-1\} = Yv(j-1)$, $Yv(j)$, and $Sv(j+1)$ are mutually independent.

4.2.4 Baum algorithm for total probability

- For data observations $Y=(Yv(j), j=1, \dots, L)$, we want to compute $P(Y)$.
- Due to the first-order Markov dependence of the $Sv(j)$, we have
 - $P(Y) = \sum_{\{S_{ij}\}} P(\{S_{ij}\}, Y) = \sum_{\{S_{ij}\}} P(Y | \{S_{ij}\}) P(\{S_{ij}\})$
 - $= \sum_{\{S_{ij}\}} (P(Sv(1)) \prod_{j=2}^L P(Sv(j) | Sv(j-1)))$
 - $(\prod_{j=1}^L P(Yv(j) | Sv(j)))$.
- We can go forwards. Let $Y^{\wedge}(j) = (Yv(1), \dots, Yv(j))$, the data along the chromosome up to and including locus j . Note $Y = Y^{\wedge}(L)$.
- Now define the joint probability
 - $R^*_{-j}(s) = P(Yv(k), k=1, \dots, j-1, Sv(j)=s) = P(Y^{\wedge}(j-1), Sv(j)=s)$
 - with $R^*_{-1}(s) = P(Sv(1)=s)$.
- Then for $j=1, 2, \dots, L-1$
 - $R^*_{-j+1}(s) = \sum_{s^*} P(Sv(j+1)=s^* | Sv(j)=s) R^*_{-j}(s^*)$
 - $P(Yv(j) | Sv(j)=s^*) R^*_{-j}(s^*)$,
- With $P(Y) = \sum_{s^*} P(Yv(L) | Sv(L)=s^*) R^*_{-L}(s^*)$.

4.2.5 Lander-Green algorithm

- We can compute $P(Yv(j) | Sv(j))$ for simple traits—recall the example at end of Chapter 2. Then the computation method of 4.2.4 can be applied.
- However this exact computation is limited to small pedigrees. If there are m meioses on the pedigree, then $Sv(j)$ can take 2^m values. Computations involve, for each locus, transitions from the 2^m values of $Sv(j)$ to the 2^m values of $Sv(j+1)$.
- Computation is of order $L \cdot 2^m \cdot 2^m = L \cdot 4^m$. For Genehunter, for a pedigree with n individuals, f of whom are founders, $m = 2n - 3f$, and $m \leq 16$.
- Additionally, for each locus and for each value of $Sv(j)$, we must compute $P(Yv(j) | Sv(j))$. Although this is easy for given $Sv(j)$, this limits size of pedigree.
- Actually better algorithms using independence of meioses give us a factored HMM which means we can get an algorithm of order $L \cdot m \cdot 2^m$ but it is still exponential in pedigree size.
- The map-specific lod score is $\log_{10} (L(d)/L(\infty))$, where d is the hypothesized chromosomal location of the trait locus measured in genetic distance, and $d=\infty$ corresponds to $p=1/2$, or absence of linkage. (For Genehunter, distances are relative to first marker at $d=0$.)
- The location score is defined as $2 \log_e (L(d)/L(\infty))$. Under appropriate conditions, this statistic has approximately a chi-squared distribution in the absence of linkage.
- We consider lod scores for the location d , rather than location scores.
- Genehunter, Allegro, and Merlin are packages using this general approach.

4.2.6 EM algorithm for estimating genetic maps

- Consider the complete-data log-likelihood

$$\log P(\{S_{ij}\}, Y) = \log (P(Sv(1)) + \sum_{j=2}^L \log (P(Sv(j) | Sv(j-1)) + \sum_{j=2}^L \log (P(Yv(j) | Sv(j))))$$
- Now recombination parameters enter through

$$\log (P(Sv(j) | Sv(j-1))) = R_{\{m,j-1\}} \log(\rho_{\{m,j-1\}}) + (M_m - R_{\{m,j-1\}}) \log (1 - \rho_{\{m,j-1\}}) + R_{\{f,j-1\}} \log(\rho_{\{f,j-1\}}) + (M_f - R_{\{f,j-1\}}) \log (1 - \rho_{\{f,j-1\}})$$
- where $R_{\{m,j-1\}} = \sum_{i \text{ male}} | S_{\{i,j\}} - S_{\{i,j-1\}} |$ is the number of recombinations in interval $i(j-1)$ in male meioses, $\rho_{\{m,j-1\}}$ the recombination rate, and M_m is the total number of male meioses scored in the pedigree.
- and similarly $R_{\{f,j-1\}}$, $\rho_{\{f,j-1\}}$ and M_f for female meioses.
- The expected complete-data log-likelihood requires only computation of

$$R^*_{\{m,j-1\}} = E (R_{\{m,j-1\}} | Y) = \sum_{i \text{ male}} E (| S_{ij} - S_{j-1} | | Y)$$
and similarly $R^*_{\{f,j-1\}}$.

- Since the complete-data log-likelihood is a simple binomial log-likelihood, the M-step sets the new estimate of $\rho_{\{m,j-1\}}$ to $R^*_{\{m,j-1\}}/M_m$, and similarly for all intervals $j=2,3,\dots,L$ and for both the male and female meioses.
- Note that $P(Sv(j-1), Sv(j) | Y) = P(Sv(j-1), Sv(j), Y) / P(Y)$ and $P(Sv(j-1), Sv(j), Y) = P(Y^{(j-2)}, Sv(j-1)) P(Yv(j-1) | Sv(j-1)) P(Sv(j) | Sv(j-1)) P(Yv(j) | Sv(j)) P(Yv(j+1), \dots, Yv(L) | Sv(j))$
- The first term is just the $R^*_{\{j-1\}}(Sv(j-1))$ we had in the Baum algorithm, the second and fourth are just single-locus probabilities of data given inheritance, the third is just the recombination/non-recombination transitions, and the final one can be computed by backwards (conditional) version of the Baum algorithm.
- Note there are many different forms of the Baum algorithm 4.2.4, all closely related but providing probabilities of slightly different events.
- The EM algorithm is thus readily implemented to provide maximum likelihood (MLE) estimates of recombination frequencies for all intervals and for both sexes.