Whole genome association studies

Introduction and practical Boulder, March 2009



Associating phenotypic and genotypic variation





Analytic tools to perform, validate and enhance basic single SNP WGAS, e.g.:



Imputation of ungenotyped SNPs

- 1) Increase coverage
- 2) Facilitate meta-analysis across platforms
- 3) Quality control (drop SNP/re-impute)



Age-related macular degeneration

Complement Factor H Polymorphism in Age-Related Macular Degeneration

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nature genetics

Common variation in three genes, including a noncoding variant in *CFH*, strongly influences risk of age-related macular degeneration

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Progress in type 2 diabetes and Crohn's disease



Slide courtesy of Mark Daly

Bipolar WGAS of 10,648 samples



Sample	Cases	Controls	P-value
STEP	7.4%	5.8%	0.0013
WTCCC	7.6%	5.9%	0.0008
EXT	7.3%	4.7%	0.0002
Total	7.5%	5.6%	9.1 × 10 ⁻⁹

Sample	Case	Controls	<i>P</i> -value
STEP	35.7%	32.4%	0.0015
WTCCC	35.7%	31.5%	0.0003
EXT	35.3%	33.7%	0.0108
Total	35.6%	32.4%	7 × 10 ⁻⁸

Ferreira et al (Nature Genetics, 2008)

Main focus of many association studies:



Further reading on association mapping and interpretation of GWAS findings







The case of the missing heritability

When scientists opened up the human genome, they expected to find the genetic components of common traits and diseases. But they were nowhere to be seen. **Brendan Maher** shines a light on six places where the missing loot could be stashed away.

Altshuler, Daly & Lander (2008) *Science*

Manolio, Brooks & Collins (2008) *JCI*

Maher (2008) Nature

Practical session

- Data are in ~pshaun/prac2/
- Software required: PLINK and Haploview
- PDF with instructions is ~pshaun/instruct.pdf
- Work through until section "Empirical assessment of population stratification"
- Use PLINK website for help (<u>http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/purcell/plink/</u>)