Title

Accurate, ultra-low coverage genome reconstruction and association studies in Hybrid

Swarm mapping populations

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Abstract

Genetic association studies seek to uncover the link between genotype and phenotype,

and often utilize inbred reference panels as a replicable source of genetic variation.

However, inbred reference panels can differ substantially from wild populations in their

genotypic distribution, patterns of linkage-disequilibrium, and nucleotide diversity. As a

result, associations discovered using inbred reference panels may not reflect the

genetic basis of phenotypic variation in natural populations. To address this problem,

we evaluated a mapping population design where dozens to hundreds of inbred lines

are outbred for few (e.g. five) generations, which we call the Hybrid Swarm. The Hybrid

Swarm approach has likely remained underutilized relative to pre-sequenced inbred

lines due to the costs of genome-wide genotyping. To reduce sequencing costs and

make the Hybrid Swarm approach feasible, we developed a computational pipeline that

reconstructs accurate whole genomes from ultra-low-coverage (0.05X) sequence data

in Hybrid Swarm populations derived from ancestors with phased haplotypes, modeling

genetic variation from the Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel as well as variation from

neutral simulations encompassing a range of diversity levels. Next, we compared the

power and precision of GWAS using the Hybrid Swarm, inbred lines, recombinant

inbred lines (RILs), and highly outbred populations across a range of effect sizes and

genetic architectures. Our simulations show that these different mapping panels vary in

their power and precision, largely depending on the architecture of the trait. Notably,

both the Hybrid Swarm and RILs outperform inbred lines for quantitative traits, but not

for monogenic ones. Taken together, our results demonstrate the feasibility of the

Hybrid Swarm as a cost-effective method of fine-scale genetic mapping.

Introduction

Genetic mapping studies seek to describe the link between genotype and phenotype.

For experimental crosses, mapping was traditionally conducted by scoring the

phenotypes of recombinant offspring descended from a limited number of parental lines.

While such QTL mapping studies can have high power to detect associations, they offer

minimal mapping resolution (Cheng *et al.* 2010), often detecting broad regions of

phenotypic association (Bergland *et al.* 2012). If linkage disequilibrium is lowered,

spurious associations become rarer (Li *et al.* 2005) and associations can be resolved at

the gene or nucleotide level, as in GWAS of large outbred populations (Nikpay *et al.*

2015; Wu *et al.* 2017; Monir and Zhu 2017). However, GWAS suffer from reduced

power to detect associations, necessitating a large sample size relative to QTL mapping

(Spencer *et al.* 2009).

To generate higher resolution mapping populations than the traditional biparental F2

design, Multiparental Populations (MPPs) are commonly used. By crossing together

multiple inbred lines, researchers can produce genetically diverse mapping populations

without sampling wild individuals. MPPs are commonly used for the dissection of

complex traits in model organisms (Chesler *et al.* 2008; Kover *et al.* 2009; King *et al.*

2012b) and agriculturally important crops (Huang *et al.* 2012; Singh *et al.* 2013; Krämer

et al. 2014). The mapping resolution of MPPs depends on the extent of linkage

disequilibrium, and resolution is improved by allowing for more recombination between

haplotypes.

One alternative approach for generating a high-resolution mapping population is to

substitute extensive recombination for increased haplotype diversity (Mott *et al.* 2000;

Chia *et al.* 2005). By crossing dozens to hundreds of inbred lines for a limited number of

generations, heterozygous mapping populations can be generated quickly with

sufficiently reduced LD to detect associations with high resolution. Unfortunately, the

many-haplotypes few-generations method is not without its drawbacks. First, including

many haplotypes decreases the frequency of the rarest alleles, reducing power to

detect associations. Second, such an outbred population would require recurring

genotyping efforts (Yang *et al.* 2018) unlike pre-sequenced homozygous lines. The net

requirement of genotyping a large sample size may explain the widespread use of pre-

genotyped inbred reference panels for genetic association experiments in model

systems (Cao *et al.* 2011; Huang *et al.* 2011; King *et al.* 2012b; MacKay *et al.* 2012;

Srivastava *et al.* 2017; Noble *et al.* 2019). However, with the advent of inexpensive DNA

sequencing, the cost of individually based genome-wide genotyping becomes

defensible, opening the door for a range of experimental designs aimed at addressing

open questions in quantitative biology.

Here, we describe computational methods that allow for cost-effective association

mapping with a large outbred population. The Hybrid Swarm is founded by dozens to

hundreds of inbred lines, crossed for a limited number of generations. To reduce

genotyping costs of the Hybrid Swarm, we developed and evaluated a pipeline to

reconstruct whole genomes using ultra-low coverage sequencing data. We developed

and tested our pipeline by reconstructing whole genomes for thousands of simulated

Hybrid Swarm individuals. Our simulated genomes draw from natural variation in the

Drosophila melanogaster Genetic Reference Panel (DGRP), as well as from variation

generated from coalescent models representing a broad range of genetic diversity

parameters for common model systems. We show that the Hybrid Swarm approach

allows for highly accurate genotyping (average 99.9% genotypic accuracy) from ultra-

low-coverage (0.005-0.05X) whole-genome individual-based sequencing. We then

perform simulated GWAS, across a range of genetic architectures, to describe the

power and precision of association mapping in the Hybrid Swarm compared to inbred

lines, recombinant inbred lines, and a highly outbred (F_{50}) population. Our

computational tools are capable of efficiently simulating low-coverage reconstruction

and GWAS power analysis of any model system. Together, our results show the

feasibility of cost-effective association mapping in a large outbred multi-parental

population.

94   **Methods**

Generating and preparing simulated reference panels.

In order to evaluate low-coverage reconstruction for various degrees of genetic

diversity, we generated reference panels using haplotypes produced by coalescent

models across a range of genetic diversity levels. Haplotypes were generated using the

R (R Core Team 2016) package *scrm* (Paul R. Staab *et al.* 2015) and subsequently

restructured into VCF file format (Danecek et al. 2011). We generated ten independent

panels for each of all 18 combinations of population size ($N_e = 10^4, 10^5, 10^6$), mutation

rate ($\mu = 10^{-9}, 5 \times 10^{-9}, 10^{-8}$), and number of haplotypes (32, 128). The value θ for

each simulation was defined as $4N_e\mu$. We simulated a chromosome-length locus of 25

Mb with a recombination rate of 1.5 cM/Mb. SNP positions output by *scrm* (a decimal

within the range of 0 to 1) were converted to base pair positions by multiplying the

decimal by chromosome length (25 $\times10^6$ base pairs for our simulations) and rounding

down to the nearest integer. Any sites with more than two alleles were converted to a

biallelic site by discarding tertiary or quaternary alleles. Genotype values were re-coded

as polarized signed integers: +1 for reference and -1 for alternate alleles. For every

position, reference and alternate alleles were defined by randomly selecting one of the

twelve non-repeating pairs of nucleotides. Reference genome FASTA files were

created with a custom python script that generated a 25 million length string of

nucleotide characters with weighted probability to achieve 45% GC-content, followed by

replacing variable positions with their respective reference alleles.

Preparing DGRP haplotype data

As a case study of low-coverage genome reconstruction in a model system, we

incorporated wild fruit fly genetic diversity from the Drosophila Genetic Reference Panel

(MacKay *et al.* 2012) DGRP freeze 2 as available from the *Drosophila* Genome Nexus

(Lack *et al.* 2015). To minimize missing data, we included the 129 lines (out of 205)

which exhibited aligned whole genome FASTA files with less than 50% of nucleotides

indicated by the ambiguity character N. We excluded insertions, deletions, fixed sites,

and sites with more than two alleles. Any heterozygous genotype calls were masked as

missing data. Diploid genotypes were re-coded as a single signed integer value, with +1

for homozygous reference, -1 for homozygous alternate, and 0 for missing data. This

resulted in a polarized VCF file containing only biallelic SNPs and only homozygous (or

missing) genotype calls.

Simulating Mapping Populations for Reconstruction

Our analyses necessitated a method of storing genotype information for thousands of

individuals across thousands of simulations. To do so, we developed a forward-

simulator in R that stores ancestral haplotype block maps instead of explicit genotypes.

Recombinant individual genotypes can then be reconstituted by extracting ancestral

genotypes from ancestor and base pair position indices. This approach leverages

information redundancy that exists between related individuals in recombinant

populations, achieving between three and four orders of magnitude of compression

relative to a VCF file. For example, a compressed VCF file representing a population

containing 5000 diploid genotypes is approximately 6.5 GB, compared to approximately

3.5 MB for a haplotype block file. This reduced file size is what allowed us to generate

and store 28,000 total independent GWAS simulations (500 each for 56 parameter

combinations). When haplotype block ancestry is known and recorded, as is possible

with simulations, genotypes must only be recorded once (for the ancestral founders).

We simulated Hybrid Swarms through random mating over five non-overlapping

generations at a population size of 10,000. Simulations proceeded in the following

manner: first, a subset of either 32 or 128 founders was selected. Then, of that founder

subset, 10,000 individuals were sampled with replacement. All possible founders were

chosen with equal probability and assigned male or female sex with a 1:1 ratio, where

sex was determined by the presence of a designated sex chromosome. Sexual

reproduction was simulated by random sampling of recombinant gametes from male-

female pairs. Once 10,000 recombinant progeny were generated, the parental

generation was discarded. Reproduction continued until the F_5 population was

achieved. Recombination frequency was modeled as a Poisson process with an

expected value $\lambda = \Sigma(Morgans)$ per chromosome. For simulations of Drosophila

populations based on DGRP chromosomes, recombination occurred only in females,

with recombination frequency and position based on values from Comeron et al (2012).

158 For populations founded by simulated haplotypes, recombination occurred in both

159 sexes, with recombination occurring uniformly across each chromosome (Supplemental

160 Figure S1).

162 **Simulating and Mapping Sequencing Data**

163 We used *wgsim* (Li 2011) to generate simulated reads. To achieve a desired level of

164 sequencing coverage $C = 0.05$ or 0.005, we generated $N = (C \times S)/(2 \times L)$ reads per

165 chromosome, with read length $L = 100$ bp and chromosome length S bp. We specified a

166 base error rate of 0.001 and an indel fraction of 0. Remaining *wgsim* parameters were

167 left as default.

169 We assembled paired end reads using *PEAR* (Zhang *et al.* 2014) and separately

170 aligned the assembled and unassembled groups to a reference genome with *bwa*

171 0.7.14 using the BWA-MEM algorithm (Li 2013). Reads from DGRP-derived populations

172 were mapped to the *D. melanogaster* reference genome v5.39, and reads from

173 coalescent-derived populations were mapped to their respective simulated reference

174 genomes. After converting mapped reads to compressed BAM format with *samtools*

175 1.3.1 (Li *et al.* 2009), we removed PCR duplicates with *Picard tools* 2.0.1 (Broad

176 Institute 2015a).

178 **Most Likely Ancestors Selection**

179 To make chromosome reconstructions in the hybrid swarm computationally tractable

180 (Figure 1), we developed a method of accurately selecting a subset of most likely

181 ancestors for any single chromosome. We then used that ancestor subset to reconstruct

182 haplotype blocks using the *RABBIT* package (Zheng *et al.* 2015) in Mathematica.

183 RABBIT operates as a Hidden Markov Model (HMM) using the Viterbi algorithm to

184 return the most likely series of parental combinations (hidden states) across the

185 genome (SNP positions) given the observations (sequenced alleles). For every position

186 in the genome, the Viterbi algorithm evaluates relative likelihoods of transitioning to any

187 possible hidden state. Because the hidden states in our case are ancestor

188 combinations, there will be $(N^2 + N)/2$ combinations of N haplotypes to evaluate at

every site. This number of evaluations is tractable at smaller values of N but grows at a

quadratic rate. For example, increasing the number of founding haplotypes from 8 to

128 is a 16-fold increase in haplotypes, but it would incur orders of magnitude increases

in computational effort (Figure 1). Thus, in order to make reconstructions in *RABBIT*

computationally tractable for hybrid swarm individuals, it is necessary to identify a

subset of founders that accurately includes the true ancestors contributing to any given

chromosome.

We used the software package *HARP* (Kessner *et al.* 2013) to rank the population

founding lines based on likelihood of being a true ancestor of a chromosome to be

reconstructed. *HARP* was originally developed to estimate haplotype frequencies from

pooled sequence data, and we co-opted it to assess relative likelihood that any founder

contributed to a genomic window. We ran *HARP* with non-overlapping 100 kb windows

with a minimum frequency cutoff 0.0001, producing output which can be visualized as a

heat map of ancestor likelihood across the chromosome. A custom *R* script analyzed

this *HARP* output and ranked all possible founders in terms of likelihood of contribution

for a given chromosome. Briefly, a chromosome-wide significance threshold was

calculated, e.g. the 95% or 99% quantile of all likelihoods across all founders and all

chromosome windows. Then, every potential ancestor for each 100 kb window was

classified as falling above or below this threshold. Founding lines were then ranked in

descending order of the number of windows passing the threshold. We examined two

measures of effectiveness for this method across a range of quantile threshold values

(90%, 95%, 99%, and 99.9%) when selecting up to a maximum number of most likely

ancestral haplotypes. The first measure is the number of true ancestral founders

excluded; the second measure is the fraction of the chromosome derived from

ancestors missing from the selected subset.

Chromosome Reconstruction with RABBIT

We used the MAGIC reconstruct method of the Mathematica package RABBIT (Zheng

et al. 2015) to perform chromosome reconstructions, which has been shown to be

accurate for genotype estimation at sequencing coverage at 0.05X for a variety of

multiparent populations (Zheng *et al.* 2018). RABBIT requires three inputs: observed

genotypes in the individual being reconstructed; map distance (in cM units) of the same

loci; and genotypes for the potential ancestors at those same loci. For DGRP-derived

simulated populations, we specified map distance based on values reported by

Comeron et al. (2012) by performing linear interpolation of cumulative map units (cM) as

a function of base pair position. For populations derived from simulated haplotyopes, we

used a linear function of 37.5 cM over each 25 Mb chromosome. To specify genotype

information, we first counted reference and alternate reads using the Genome Analysis

Toolkit *ASEReadCounter* (Broad Institute 2015b). Because it is not possible to make

confident homozygote genotype calls from low coverage sequencing data where most

sites are observed only once and or twice, we only included diploid genotype

observations for sites where both reference and alternate alleles were observed. As

RABBIT allows for an ambiguous allele character, for all sites where only reference or

alternate reads were observed (but not both), we included one ambiguous allele.

To minimize memory and runtime requirements, we included at most 5,000 SNPs per

chromosome, selected for maximum ancestor-discerning information content. If an

observed (sequenced) allele is common, it will only slightly narrow down the possibility

of ancestors. If a sequenced allele is rare—at the most extreme, unique to one

individual—it provides greater information from which founder that site is derived. Thus,

we designate information-rich sites as those where the frequency of the sequenced

allele is the lowest with respect to the pool of most likely ancestors. In order to sample

sites with high information content spread throughout the chromosome, we used an

iterative approach. First, we included all heterozygous sites (i.e. where reference and

alternate alleles are both observed). Then, 10% of all SNPs were randomly sampled,

and we retained up to the top 0.2% most informative sites, repeating the random

sampling and retention until we designated 5,000 SNPs. In principle, this approach

could be applied in an iterative manner surrounding recombination breakpoints to fine

map their location.

We ran RABBIT independently for each chromosome using the Viterbi decoding

function under the joint model, with all other RABBIT parameters left at default. RABBIT

output was converted to a phased chromosome haplotype map, which we then used to

extract and concatenate genotype information from a VCF file containing founder

genotypes. To calculate genotype reconstruction accuracy, we first imported true

(simulated) and estimated (reconstructed) genotypes using a custom *R* script. We

measured the fraction of all remaining sites where the estimated diploid genotype is

identical to the originally simulated diploid genotype, excluding fixed sites with respect

to the founding haplotypes, and excluding any sites with missing genotype information.

To ensure our measurement of reconstruction accuracy is consistent across all

individuals, we excluded the Y and X chromosomes, which are hemizygous in males.

To measure accuracy of estimated frequency of recombination events, true and

estimated recombination counts were first summed over both copies of each

chromosome in a simulated individual. This removed the possibility of introducing error

by comparing the wrong copies of chromosomes. Only detectable recombination events

were considered, i.e. those that did not occur between homologous haplotypes. We

then calculated Lin's concordance correlation coefficient (ρ) between the true and

estimated recombination counts using the *epi.ccc* function of the *R* package *epiR*

(Stevenson 2018).

Chromosome Reconstruction with STITCH

We estimated genotypes with alternative software, STITCH, which is capable of

estimating genotypes without reference panels (Davies *et al.* 2016). For assessing

STITCH genotype estimate accuracy, we generated and mapped simulated reads for

chromosome 2L at 0.05X coverage for 5000 individuals in a F_5 Hybrid Swarm

population (N=10000 individuals per generation). Because STITCH draws inference

from haplotypes between related individuals, genotype estimate accuracy is expected to

increase with greater numbers of sequenced individuals. To capture the effect of

sample size on STITCH accuracy, we ran STITCH for sample sizes from 100 to 5000

sequenced individuals. We calculated genotype estimate accuracy as the fraction of

variable sites with a correct diploid genotype estimate using a custom R script. Because

STITCH memory requirements increase with greater values of *k* (founding haplotypes),

it was not possible to evaluate *k*=128 founders, or to use the *diploid* estimation model.

As a result, we limited our evaluations to 32-founder populations, using the

pseudoHaploid model.

Modeling Computational Complexity of Chromosome Reconstruction

To estimate the rate at which computational requirements grows with data input, we

performed chromosome reconstructions with varying numbers of potential founders and

markers (SNPs). This allows us to extrapolate the runtime and memory for performing

the most resource intensive chromosome reconstructions (i.e. those with > 40 founding

lines). To generate runtime and memory usage data, we performed 900 reconstructions

using varying sizes of RABBIT input for a single example individual 2L chromosome.

Reconstructions included the four true ancestors of the simulated individual, plus 0 to 32

additional haplotypes (for a total of between 4 and 36 founders, in steps of 4) and a

random selection of marker SNPs (between 500 and 5000 in steps of 500). Ten

replicates, each with a unique random set of SNPs, was conducted for each

combination of N founding lines and S SNPs using a single core on the University of

Virginia computing cluster, with total runtime and peak memory usage as reported from

the SLURM workload manager (CPUtime and MaxRSS, respectively). We then

modeled the mean runtime and memory usage (averaged across 10 replicates per

parameter combination) as a function of number of founding lines and number of SNPs

fed into RABBIT. For runtime, simulations involving 8 or fewer founding lines were

omitted from the regression model because they ran too quickly to resolve non-zero

runtime. Memory was modeled as $Memory(GB) = 7.367 \times 10^{-9} \times SN^4 + 0.0316$, while

runtime was modeled as $Runtime(Minutes) = [1.189 \times 10^{-3} \times N^2 + 1.038 \times 10^{-6} \times$

$SN^2 + 2.649 \times 10^{-4} \times S]^2$.

Simulating Mapping Populations for GWAS

We performed GWAS on mapping populations produced by random sampling and

permutation of the previously-described forward-simulated populations. Although the

forward simulator we developed is efficient, it would not have been computationally

feasible to simulate 500 fully independent mapping populations (per parameter

combination) in a reasonable amount of time. Instead, we generated ten independent

forward-simulated populations, and for each of those, generated fifty randomly

permuted subsets. For a single simulated mapping population, we began by sampling a

random subset of 5,000 individuals, out of 10,000 total individuals generated by

forward-simulation. Though our simulations sampled with replacement, this is optional

and easily defined during forward-simulation. We performed a permutation of haplotype

ancestry with a new, randomly-ordered (equally sized) subset of founders. The

permutation of ancestry was one-to-one, e.g. all haplotype blocks that were previously

derived from founder X would be translated to founder Y, and blocks previously derived

from Y would in turn be mapped to founder Z. An overview of our forward-simulator is

shown in Supplemental Figure S2.

In addition to Hybrid Swarm populations, which we ran through the simulated

sequencing and mapping pipeline, we generated four additional types of mapping

populations for comparing GWAS performance: Highly outbred (F_{50}) populations; Inbred

Lines (ILs) to represent the DGRP; and Recombinant Inbred Lines (RILs), similar to the

Drosophila Synthetic Population Resource, or DSPR (King *et al.* 2012a)

The F_{50} populations were generated with 128 founders in same manner as the Hybrid

Swarm, except that populations were simulated over fifty non-overlapping generations

of recombination instead of five generations. The ten resulting forward-simulated

populations were resampled and permuted as we did with the Hybrid Swarms.

We simulated ten initial sets of 800 RILs using the same forward-simulator as previously

described, each initialized with a random subset of eight DGRP haplotypes. Populations

randomly recombined at a population size of 10,000 for fifty non-overlapping

generations, after which 800 random male-female pairs of individuals were isogenzied

through 25 generations of full-sibling mating. This scenario roughly corresponds to the

DSPR. For computational simplicity, after the 25 generations of isogenization we

removed any remaining residual heterozygosity by forcing the identity of a second

chromosome copy to be identical to the first copy. We then sampled 5,000 draws (with

replacement) of the 800 RILs followed by ancestry permutation as described above.

To simulate GWAS on Inbred Lines, no forward-simulation was necessary. For a single

simulated population, we first randomly selected 128 DGRP lines with high coverage

and low levels of heterozygosity as the set of founders. Then, those 128 lines were

randomly sampled with replacement 5,000 times. As with hybrid swarm and RILs, for

any parameter combination we generated a total of 500 mapping populations.

Assigning GWAS Phenotypes

Our GWAS simulation uses a liability model, where an observable binary phenotype is

produced from an underlying continuous trait, known as its liability (Xu and Atchley

1996). Using the liability framework, we assign case or control phenotypes to mapping

populations derived from DGRP chromosome 2L haplotypes. First, a genotype-

dependent risk score is calculated for every individual, which is translated into

probabilities for case or control group assignment. We parameterized our model such

that individuals begin with equivalent odds of being assigned to case or control groups,

and that probability is modified depending on allele status at causal loci. For a given

simulation, N causal loci are randomly selected with equal probability out of all

segregating sites in the mapping population. The effect of individual causal loci are

simulated as a Gaussian variable drawn with a small extent of noise (sd=0.005) with an

expected (mean) value dependent on the allele frequency at that locus. Intermediate

frequency loci (i.e. allele frequency = 0.5) are simulated to contribute on average no

effect on case/control assignment; alleles near fixation decrease risk; rare alleles

increase risk. The linear center of the curve, where most individual risk scores exist

under the parameter combinations used in our simulations, approximates additive

genetic architecture. The sigmoid tails allow for the continuous risk score to translate to

a phenotype necessarily bounded by zero and one. The relationship between allele

frequency, risk score, and phenotypic assignment is diagrammed in Supplemental

Figure S6. Note that we performed GWAS simulations assuming 100% genotype

accuracy.

Assessing GWAS accuracy

To generate p-values, we performed a χ^2 test of independence for reference and

alternate allele counts between case and control groups. To do so most efficiently, we

developed a method of aggregating allele counts compatible with our haplotype map

format. Briefly, haplotype map breakpoints across all individuals are sorted in ascending

order. When iterating through ascending unique start and stop positions, between any

pair of breakpoints, all SNPs will be comprised of the same number of each founding

haplotype. Haplotype IDs could then be counted and sorted in the same column position

order as the table containing polarized allele status (-1 for alternate, +1 for reference).

Multiplying the genotype table by the haplotype count vector results in final allele

counts, polarized negative for alternate alleles and positive for reference alleles. For

inbred mapping populations, we corrected for non-independent allele draws by dividing

the χ^2 value by two. Our association testing workflow is visually described in

Supplemental Figure S7.

To measure GWAS accuracy, we generated Receiver Operator Characteristic (ROC)

curves and calculated Area Under the Curve (AUC) using the *R* package *pROC* (Turck

et al. 2011) in the manner described by Marigorta *et al.* (2018). To summarize GWAS

accuracy across replicate simulations, we also generated a single representative ROC

curve by averaging sensitivity across specificity values.

Genomic Inflation Factor

We calculated genomic inflation factor (GIF, λ_{1000}) as the value of $\chi^2_{observed}/\chi^2_{expected}$

with two degrees of freedom. Because GIF increases with sample size, we performed a

correction to report λ_{1000}, the level of GIF expected with a sample size of 1,000 case

and 1,000 control individuals (Freedman *et al.* 2004). Simulations used to calculate GIF

were identical to those for simulated GWAS, but included autosome arms 2R, 3L, and

3R in addition to 2L. In order to discriminate site as linked or unlinked to causal loci, all

causal loci were forced to exist on the same chromosome.

Data Availability Statement

The code used to generate, process, and plot our data is available on GitHub:

https://github.com/cory-weller/HS-reconstruction-gwas

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Results
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Computational Complexity of Chromosome Reconstruction

To determine reasonable limits for numbers of SNPs and haplotypes used for

chromosome reconstruction with RABBIT, we modeled peak memory usage and

runtime across a range of input sizes. Peak memory grew linearly with number of SNPs

used, and at a greater-than-linear rate with haplotypes (Figure 1A). The runtime of

RABBIT increased at a greater-than-linear rate for both number of SNPs and number of

haplotypes, with the *N* parameter contributing most to resource cost (Figure 1B). These

models allowed us to estimate resource requirements at greater numbers of haplotypes

(Figure 1, C & D) which would be unfeasible to measure empirically. We find that

utilizing more than ~32 founders makes computational costs too demanding, and

therefore developed a heuristic rule to identify the most-likely set of ancestors of

ancestors.

Most-Likely-Ancestor Selection

To reduce computational requirements of haplotype reconstructions with RABBIT, we

developed and evaluated an algorithm for selecting a minimum representative set of

Most-Likely-Ancestors (MLAs). This step required optimizing a discrimination threshold

for values calculated with HARP (Kessner *et al.* 2013, see methods). We found that

HARP thresholds of 0.95 and 0.99 discerned a minimal subset of founding lines that

include a given chromosome's true ancestors, and represented most of that individual's

genomic ancestry (Figure 3). The threshold of 0.99 performed slightly better when 128

founding lines were used to found a population, while the threshold of 0.95 performed

slightly better with only 32 founding lines. At these thresholds, outcomes were

asymptotic by 16 founding lines, a computationally tractable number for RABBIT (Figure

1). Populations simulated with genetic variation derived from coalescent models

described above included the parameters $N_e = 10^6$ and $\mu = 5 \times 10^{-9}$. HARP thresholds

of 0.95 and 0.99 perform similarly well across a range of N_e and μ, suggesting this is a

reasonable starting point for optimizing the pipeline for other populations (Supplemental

Figure S3, A). Surprisingly, reducing sequencing coverage by a factor of ten (from

0.05X to 0.005X) resulted in similar levels of ancestor selection accuracy (Supplemental

Figure S3, B), demonstrating that additional coverage may not necessarily improve

reconstruction accuracy. For simplicity, we next conducted all genome reconstructions

with the 0.99 threshold at a simulated sequencing coverage of 0.05X.

Reconstruction Accuracy

Chromosome reconstruction (workflow diagrammed in Supplemental Figure S2) of

simulated F_5 Hybrid Swarm genomes at 0.05X sequencing coverage yielded highly

accurate genotype estimates (Figure 4). The median percent of sites with correctly

estimated genotypes was greater than 99.9% whether the population was founded by

32 or 128 founding lines, or made use of DGRP or coalescent haplotypes ($N_e = 10^6$ and

$\mu = 5 \times 10^{-9}$). We additionally report reconstruction accuracy in coalescent-derived

populations across a range of N_e and μ values in supplemental Figure S4. As expected,

reconstruction accuracy improves with genetic diversity (i.e. greater θ, equal to $4N_e\mu$).

For simulations founded by DGRP lines, 80.5% of reconstructed chromosomes from 32-

founder populations exhibited > 99.9% accuracy, with the remaining 19.5% of

reconstructions contributing to a long tail with a minimum of 84.37%. Increasing the

number of founding lines to 128 resulted in genotype accuracy above 99% for all cases

(minimum: 99.4%), with 83% of reconstructed chromosomes achieving greater than

99.9% accuracy.

Although median accuracy for coalescent-derived populations was equivalent to that of

DGRP-derived populations (99.9%), coalescent-derived populations with 32 founders

exhibited a greater number of low-accuracy reconstructions. While 82.5% of simulations

with 32 coalescent haplotypes were at least 99% accurate, the remaining 17.5% of

reconstructions contributing to a long tail with a minimum accuracy of 59.7%. Increasing

the number of founding lines to 128 resulted in 96.3% of simulations being greater than

99% accurate, with a minimum accuracy of 89.6%.

Next, we examined the accuracy of our estimates of recombination number, per

individual. The number of recombination events estimated from chromosome

reconstruction was most accurate for populations founded by 128 lines (Table 1).

Reconstructions of DGRP- and Coalescent-derived chromosomes yielded

recombination count estimates that were 98.6% and 95.6% concordant with their

respective true recombination counts (Lin's concordance correlation coefficient, ρ).

When populations were founded by 32 lines, recombination count estimates were more

inaccurate, with DGRP- and Coalescent-derived reconstructions achieving 50.2% and

75.9% concordance with their respective true recombination counts. For 32-founder

populations, DGRP-derived reconstructions tended to slightly overestimate

recombination counts, while the same counts were underestimated for coalescent-

derived populations

Hyper-recombinant estimates (i.e. $\geq$ 10 recombination events for our simulations) were

a faithful proxy for inaccurate reconstructions, though inaccurate reconstructions weren't

necessarily hyper-recombinant (Figure 4A; Figure S4). The cause of these hyper-

recombinant reconstructions is not always clear, but frequently appears due to

RABBIT's estimation switching between closely-related haplotypes. Within DGRP-

derived 32-founder populations, hyper-recombinant individuals were below the sixth

percentile of genotype accuracy (N=6/400 simulations, genotype accuracy

range=92.8%-98.8%). For coalescent-derived 32-founder populations, hyper-

recombinant individuals fell in the bottom 9% of genotype accuracy (N=3/400

simulations, genotype accuracy range = 92.1%-95.6%). For coalescent-derived 32-

founder populations, 4.25% (17/400) of reconstructions without hyper-recombinant

estimates exhibited lower genotype accuracy than the least accurate hyper-recombinant

simulation (range = 59.7%-92.1%). Similarly, for DGRP-derived 32-founder populations,

2.5% (10/400) of reconstructions without hyper-recombinant estimates exhibited lower

genotype accuracy than the least accurate hyper-recombinant simulation (range =

82.3%-92.8%).

Reducing sequencing coverage by an order of magnitude from 0.05X to 0.005X resulted

in more frequent over-estimation of recombination, though overall median genotype

accuracy remained above 99% (Figure S5). At 0.005X coverage, hyper-recombinant

reconstructions exhibited genotype estimates with accuracy below 99%, while the

remaining simulations (with lower recombinant counts) achieved above 99% genotype

accuracy. For populations founded by 32 DGRP lines and sequenced at 0.005X

coverage, 14% of simulations produced hyper-recombinant estimates (N=56/400), of

which only 26.8% (N=15/56) surpassed 99% genotype accuracy (median=98.5%). The

remaining 86% of simulations (N=344/400) that were not hyper-recombinant retained

greater accuracy, with 89% of simulations resulting in at least 99% genotype accuracy

(median=99.5). Increasing the number of founding DGRP lines from 32 to 128 at 0.005X

coverage failed to eliminate hyper-recombinant estimates. With 128 founding lines,

14.5% of simulations were hyper-recombinant (N=58/400), of which 24.1% (N=14/58)

surpassed 99% genotype accuracy (median=98.6%). The 85.5% of simulations that

were not hyper-recombinant (N=342/400), exhibited accurate genotype estimates, with

86.5% (296/342) of simulations achieving over 99% genotype accuracy (median=99.6).

We also performed genotype estimation using STITCH (Davies *et al.* 2016, see

Materials and Methods for computational limitations). As expected, STITCH accuracy

improved with greater sample size of *N* sequenced individuals (Figure 5), providing

68.5% genotype accuracy with *N*=100, increasingly approximately linearly until 94.5%

accuracy at *N*=3000, and providing 99% accuracy with *N*=4000.

GWAS Accuracy

GWAS accuracy was evaluated from the Area Under the Curve (AUC) of Receiver

Operator Characteristic (ROC) curves (Figure 6). An AUC of 1.0 represents a 100%

accurate classifier where the most significant p-values from GWAS are causal loci,

while an AUC of 0.5 would be expected from randomly permuted data. Because the

modeled genotype-phenotype strength is determined by a user-defined coefficient for

effect size, we are not concerned with the specific AUC values reported here—but

rather the relative ranking across population types.

Hybrid Swarm populations resulted in GWAS performance at least as accurate as any

other population tested (Figure 6). Across all modeled architectures, 128-founder Hybrid

Swarms yielded GWAS accuracy similar to that of the F50 populations. For single-locus

traits, 32-founder Hybrid Swarms outperformed 128-founder populations. However, as

simulated traits become more complex, involving more loci, 128-founder populations

become more accurate.

Recombinant Inbred Lines performed well across the entire spectrum of parameters

evaluated, and this advantage was more pronounced for modeled traits of small effect

(Figure 6C, E). The only category for which RILs were outperformed was for single-

locus traits of large effect (Figure 6B), for which Inbred Lines and 32-founder Hybrid

Swarms fared best..

Inbred Lines yielded the most accurate single-locus GWAS, but also the least accurate

multi-locus GWAS results (Figure 6). This multi-locus handicap for Inbred Lines was

exacerbated when traits were modeled with larger effects. We suspect that the

decreased accuracy of association mapping using inbred lines is due to linkage to

causal sites, as well as spurious long-distance linkage (see below).

We also evaluated the GWAS accuracy that results when crossing 32 or 128 founders

to generate F1 and F2 mapping populations (Supplemental Figure S7). For single-locus

simulations, the number of generations of recombination did not influence accuracy,

although 32-founder populations performed better than 128-founders. For multi-locus

simulations, GWAS accuracy improved with greater generations of recombination, and

this effect was more pronounced with 10-locus traits compared to 5-locus traits.

Genomic Inflation Factor

If individuals are assigned to case and control groups with equal probability, then the

resulting χ^2 statistics should follow the expected distribution. If individuals are not sorted

into groups randomly, i.e. allele state at a causal SNP dictates nonrandom group

assignment, then χ^2 values for that SNP should be inflated to some extent. Nonrandom

associations between a causal SNP and other loci can inflated test statistics across a

chromosome, or across a whole genome. The genome-wide inflation factor (λ) can be

expressed as the ratio of observed and expected median χ^2 values, and represents the

extent of inflated association signal. Because the median expected χ^2 statistic

increases with sample size, we report λ_{1000}, a sample-size-corrected value that is

comparable across studies (Freedman *et al.* 2004). We calculated λ_{1000} aggregated

across three groups: genome-wide (across all autosomes); on the autosome arm

containing the causal allele (linked); and for sites on the autosome physically unlinked

to the causal allele.

The relative ranking of GIF remained the same between a mono- and polygenic

architecture with Inbred Lines producing the greatest GIF, and outbred F50 populations

producing the lowest GIF (Figure 7). Interestingly, Inbred Lines display elevated GIF

genome-wide, even for sites physically unlinked to causal loci, suggesting spurious

long-distance linkage disequilibrium. The Hybrid Swarm, propagated for at least two

generations, was able to decrease GIF at unlinked loci and by five generations, the

problem was ameliorated.

585
586   **Discussion**

Here, we show that the Hybrid Swarm is a viable method for association mapping using

outbred population. We first demonstrate that ultra-low coverage (0.05X), individual-

based whole genome sequencing can be used to reconstruct accurate diploid genomes

for species across a range of diversity levels (Figure 4, Supplemental Figure S4).

Genome reconstruction accurately infers a reduced subset of most-likely-ancestors

(Figure 3) and is computationally efficient (Figure 1). Unlike STITCH, reconstruction

accuracy for our pipeline is not dependent upon the number of individuals genotyped

(Figure 4). Next, we demonstrate that association mapping using the Hybrid Swarm has

GWAS performance comparable to other mapping methods (Figure 6), including various

types of inbred lines and completely outbred populations. Lastly, we have described a

set of computational tools to simulate various mapping populations (including genome

reconstructions, and GWAS), enabling this method to easily be applied to a variety of

organisms.

Considerations of the Hybrid Swarm approach

The Hybrid Swarm approach is applicable to a wide variety of organisms and

experimental designs, conferring potential benefits over inbred reference panels. These

benefits are realized in three primary ways by: (1) allowing researchers to address

questions that require heterozygotes; 2) reducing labor and the influence of block-

effects; and 3) breaking down linkage-disequilibrium and population structure that arises

from the sampling of individuals from the wild. These benefits are possible due to the

ability to accurately reconstruct genomes from ultra-low-coverage sequencing data, i.e.

from cost-effective diluted DNA library preparation for a large number of individuals

(Baym *et al.* 2015).

We evaluated simulated Hybrid Swarms founded by 32 or 128 founders to determine

the effect of founding haplotype count on reconstruction accuracy and GWAS

performance. One might expect 32-founder populations to yield more accurate

reconstructions than 128-founder populations due to greater likelihood of selecting a

true ancestor from a smaller pool of ancestors. Yet, 32-founder populations were less

accurate in our DGRP simulations (Figure 4), and for some coalescent-based

simulations (Supplemental Figure S4). The difference in reconstruction accuracy is

perhaps due to the inverse relationship between SNP frequency and information

content. In a 128-way cross, rare information-rich SNPs are only likely to exist (and be

sampled during low-coverage sequencing) if nucleotide diversity is high. The DGRP

haplotypes happen to exist in a parameter space with higher nucleotide diversity,

resulting in 128-way reconstructions being more accurate. For GWAS, 32-founder

populations tended to perform better than 128-founder populations if the simulated trait

was controlled by a single locus. Taking these two factors into consideration, broadly

speaking, a Hybrid Swarm with fewer founding haplotypes may be more appropriate for

reconstructing genomes when genetic diversity in the founding lines is low, or if the trait

of interest is presumably controlled by one or few loci. Conversely, a greater number of

founders may be desired when genetic diversity is high, or the trait of interest is likely to

be complex.

The Hybrid Swarm method is not limited to populations founded by inbred lines, as the

technique can be applied to populations where phased genomes are available for all

outbred founders. Phasing the outbred founders could be accomplished in two basic

ways. For instance, phased genomes could be generated using a variety of long-read

sequencing technologies (Pollard *et al.* 2018). Alternatively, trio- and quartet-phasing

methods (Patterson *et al.* 2015), coupled with high coverage sequence data from the

outbred parents plus a limited (≤2) number of F1 offspring, would enable accurate

phasing of parents to be used for reconstruction of downstream recombinant genomes.

One experimental consideration is the effects of drift and selection that operates during

the generation of the Hybrid Swarm. However, it is not clear that such processes will

affect the ability to reconstruct genomes nor the specific outcome of GWAS, unless the

trait of interest was under strong selection itself. What may be more likely is the

reduction of haplotypic diversity due to drift or selection will change the power to detect

associations, as we see in the differences between 32- and 128-way crosses

(Supplemental Figure S7). The distribution of haplotypes can also be skewed by line-

specific differences in fitness or fecundity, with such differences being observed for

DGRP lines (Horváth and Kalinka 2016). To attenuate haplotype dropout, it may be

prudent to seed a Hybrid Swarm with a large population of directed F1 hybrids produced

by round-robin crosses. The F1 population would then be followed by a limited number

of generations (e.g., 4-5) of random outbreeding. The production of directed F1 hybrids

would facilitate the phasing of parents, in the case that they were themselves outbred.

Representation of heterozygotes

One clear difference between inbred and outbred mapping populations is the presence

of heterozygotes. On the one hand, the presence of heterozygotes in outbred

populations decreases power to detect association relative to inbred lines for an (semi-)

additive allele with a given effect size (Figure 6). However, the reduced statistical power

of association mapping in outbred populations may be ameliorated by reduced

inbreeding depression (Lee *et al.* 2017) and by the ability to assess the heterozygous

effects of alleles.

The ability to assess heterozygous effects of alleles will provide valuable insights into

several interesting aspects of biology, such as the nature of dominance and the identity

of regulatory polymorphisms governing allele-specific expression in a variety of

heterogenous genomes. An increased understanding of dominance relationships and

regulatory polymorphisms is important for advancing our understanding of quantitative

trait variation and evolution. For instance, several theoretical models have shown that

context dependent dominance of quantitative fitness traits can underlie the stable

maintenance of polymorphisms subject to seasonally variable (Wittmann *et al.* 2017) or

sexually antagonistic (Connallon and Chenoweth 2019) selection. The ability to

efficiently map loci with context dependent dominance relationships will aid in the

understanding of the stability and abundance of polymorphisms maintained by these

forms of balancing selection.

Regulatory polymorphisms are known to underlie genetic variation in expression (Brem

et al. 2002; Cavet *et al.* 2003; Rockman and Kruglyak 2006) and this expression

variation can potentially be resolved to exact nucleotide differences (Grosveld *et al.*

1987; Rave-Harel *et al.* 1997; Bosma *et al.* 2002). The resulting differences in

expression can manifest as phenotypic changes to drive local adaptation (Kudaravalli

et al. 2009; Fraser *et al.* 2010; Fraser 2011, 2013). Allele-specific expression (ASE)

arising from cis-acting regulatory factors is a common mechanism to produce heritable

differences in expression (Yan *et al.* 2002; Cowles *et al.* 2002; Lo *et al.* 2003; Doss

2005). Because allelic expression biases are only produced (and detectable) in

heterozygotes, Hybrid Swarm populations facilitate the study of regulatory genetic

variation (i.e. ASE) as a driver of local adaptation in a variety of organisms.

Undirected outbreeding in a common environment

The Hybrid Swarm approach involves propagation of a single large outbred population,

primarily via undirected crossing. This design confers benefits over alternatives of either

rearing inbred lines separately or performing controlled crosses. The relative value of

these benefits may vary across organisms and experimental designs.

Rearing organisms in a common environment reduces the influence of random block

effects that result from rearing in separate enclosures or defined areas. Therefore,

studies examining genotype-by-environment interactions can dramatically expand the

number of environmental factors used because all individuals were previously reared in

a common environment, enabling a Hybrid Swarm to be randomly scatted across

environmental treatments. This feature is in contrast to rearing each inbred family

across all environments, a practice which generally limits the number of environmental

treatments used. Rearing individuals in a common environment also likely reduces

genotype-environment correlation that could be exacerbated by vial effects.

Random outbreeding of a single population can require less labor compared to

performing controlled crosses or serial propagation of inbred lines. The relative value of

these benefits is likely to be species specific. For instance, for larger animals (e.g.,

mice), controlled crosses may be logistically easier than a randomly mating swarm. For

many other species, however, the Hybrid Swarm would be logistically advantageous.

The cost of maintaining inbred reference panels also varies among taxa, most notably

between those species which can be kept as seeds or in a cryogenically preserved

state. For other species, such as flies, the monetary and environmental cost of

maintaining hundreds to thousands of inbred-lines may be prohibitive. The maintenance

of large panels of inbred lines also poses the risk of contamination, necessitating

frequent re-genotyping to confirm fidelity to previously sequenced genomes.

One potential drawback of the randomly outbred method is the aforementioned loss of

haplotypes due to genetic drift. If such dropout is a major concern, it could be

attenuated by directed F1 mating, followed by random crosses for the subsequent

generations. A second drawback of the Hybrid Swarm is the lack of genetic replicates

for phenotyping. Inbred panels allow for a single genotype to be phenotyped multiple

times, reducing the effects of error associated with phenotyping and micro-

environmental variation (Mackay and Huang 2018). Because this benefit is typically not

possible in the Hybrid Swarm (unless clones can be propagated), the Hybrid Swarm

method represents a tradeoff, reducing the influence of block effects while increasing

error associated with phenotyping.

Hybrid Swarm breaks down population structure and linkage disequilibrium

Recombination between lines in the Hybrid Swarm approach allows for greater

dissection of functional polymorphisms segregating between genetically structured

populations. If an association study incorporates haplotypes from multiple distinct

source populations, causal variants would segregate along with other linked variants.

Thus, to identify genetic mechanisms of local adaptation and trait variation in general, it

is necessary to minimize false positives from linked non-causal loci. Corrections due to

relatedness can reduce the type I error rate to some degree (Yu *et al.* 2006; Price *et al.*

2010; Yang *et al.* 2014), and can be further reduced by a greater extent of

recombination. Therefore, the Hybrid Swarm approach allows researchers to tailor the

mapping population to the traits of interest, by perhaps selecting founders from diverse

origins to test specific hypotheses about the distribution of functional variation in the

wild.

A limited number of rounds of recombination during the propagation of the Hybrid

Swarm also reduces long-distance linkage disequilibrium within a panel of inbred lines

derived from a single locality. Long-distance LD results from correlated occurrence of

rare variants (Huang *et al.* 2014), potentially contributing to false positives in GWAS

(Figure 6). This is reflected in our simulations by genome-wide inflation of λ, even

across physically unlinked chromosomes, whereas two or more generations of

recombination were sufficient to reduce this inflation (Figure 7).

Computational Considerations

The simulations conducted for this analysis were made feasible by three primary

innovations. First, the haplotype block file format allowed us to leverage information

redundancy between related individuals and store highly compressed, lossless

genotype information. With nearly 1/2000th the file size of a compressed VCF file,

haplotype block files greatly reduced both the disk storage footprint and time required

for disk write operations. Second, instead of performing forward-time simulations for

every single iteration of GWAS, permuted subsets of simulated populations allowed for

more rapid GWAS simulations. The format of haplotype block files facilitated

permutations of the ancestry contained within a population's mosaic haplotypes,

generating novel population genetic structure while preserving the forward-simulator's

influence of drift and meiotic recombination (Figure 2). Third, instead of extracting site-

specific genotypes for every individual in the GWAS analysis, we decreased the number

of computational operations by performing aggregate counts across all sites between

adjacent recombination events in the population (Figure 3).

Imputation is commonly combined with low or reduced-representation sequencing as a

method of cost-effective genotyping. Software such as Beagle (Browning and Browning

2016) and IMPUTE2 (Howie *et al.* 2011) are able to utilize hundreds of representative

haplotypes as priors (Howie *et al.* 2012; Das *et al.* 2018), and have only been evaluated

with 20 to 200-fold greater sequencing depth, i.e. 1-10X. We chose to compare our

reconstruction method to that of STITCH, which was most directly able to interface with

our pipeline's BAM files produced from ultra-low-coverage sequencing data. While

STITCH was able to accurately estimate genotypes, this was only the case for large

sample sizes, while our pipeline's genotype estimation accuracy is independent of

sample size (Figure 4).

The process of haplotype reconstruction in outbred individuals as mosaics of ancestral

haplotypes is commonly limited to no more than a dozen founder haplotypes, because

every diplotype combination is evaluated (Gatti *et al.* 2014; Zan *et al.* 2019).. For our

reconstruction method to be computationally tractable, the subset of most-likely-

ancestors must be small (less than 20 or so) and include accurately-inferred ancestors.

Should the number of recombination events grow too numerous, this condition becomes

more difficult to enforce. This fact underscores the importance of choosing an

appropriate number of generations for crossing, informed by known or estimated rates

of recombination.

To simplify computational requirements during GWAS, we chose to simulate

case/control phenotypes. This allowed for rapid association tests of our simulated

GWAS (Figure 5), enabling us to conduct power analyses across a range of conditions.

Because these discrete phenotypes were the product of an underlying quantitative trait

(Supplemental Figure S6), we effectively modeled an additive trait with low penetrance.

Our observed patterns of GWAS accuracy (Figure 6) should therefore apply to

quantitative traits in general. Further, our GWAS simulations were conducted with exact

genotypes, which would be analogous to presuming genotype calls for the mapping

population were 100% accurate. While our method — or any other method — cannot

estimate genotypes with such precision, our observed genotype error rate (0.01% on

average, Figure 4), distributed randomly across all individuals in a mapping population,

should not influence the conclusions of our observed GWAS accuracy in any

meaningful way.

The use of haplotype-based association tests, instead of the SNP-based statistics we

employed, can achieve increased power (albeit with reduced mapping resolution), by

performing tests on haplotypes across genomic windows (Long *et al.* 2014). While the

utility of haplotype-based methods in the Hybrid Swarm is not known with certainty, we

speculate that such haplotype-based methods would be less effective for the Hybrid

Swarm compared to inbred populations comprised of a limited number of unique

haplotypes. The utility of haplotype-based tests will depend on the number of unique

haplotypes founding a mapping population; as more haplotypes are included, the

population will more closely resemble a population composed of (nearly) unique

haplotypes. In the parameter regime described here (thousands of individuals sampled

from 32- or 128-way crosses), any haplotype would be expected to segregate at <

0.05% (and unique diplotypes even more rare), yielding low statistical power for

haplotype-based association testing.

Simulating the Hybrid Swarm Approach

At minimum, the Hybrid Swarm approach requires a sequenced set of individuals for

founding a recombinant population. Although our simulations presented here were

conducted with inbred founding lines, genome reconstructions can similarly be

performed with any phased genomes. For example, 16 phased outbred founders could

be treated as 32 independent haplotypes. Optionally, a recombination rate map for the

population can be provided, otherwise recombination is assumed to occur with equal

user-defined probability across any chromosome.

As a first step, power analyses using our rapid association test simulation pipeline will

inform choices of sample size and mapping population design (Figure 3). After

determining a feasible sample size for a given SNP of minimum percent variation

explained, researchers can evaluate the accuracy of low-coverage chromosome

reconstructions for a simulated proposed mapping population. Note that while we

performed association tests in a case/control framework, the relative power of the

Hybrid Swarm is expected to be the same for quantitative traits, which could garner

additional power from sampling individuals from phenotypic extremes (Li *et al.* 2011).

For our simulations, we parameterized chromosome reconstructions using a maximum

of $N = 16$ most-likely ancestors (MLAs) and $S = 5000$ SNPs, which required less than 3

GB of memory and completed in under 5 minutes on a single core. However, these

values may not be ideal for all systems. It may be necessary to select greater number of

MLAs prior to reconstruction if haplotypes are difficult to differentiate due to being less

divergent (i.e. exhibiting lower θ_π) than those simulated here. For example,

reconstruction accuracy was low for coalescent-derived mapping populations modeled

with $\theta = 4 \times 10^{-5}$ (Supplemental Figure S8), which may reflect those of *C. elegans*

(Barriere and Félix 2005). Further, 5000 SNPs may be an over- or under-estimate of

those required in other systems. Because recombination between haplotypes can only

be inferred at sampled variable sites, SNP density directly influences how close inferred

breakpoints will be resolved with respect to their actual position. However, our choice of

5000 SNPs is a conservative threshold; RABBIT can accommodate more, depending on

SNP density and recombination rate, with modest (linear) increases in computational

resources. The models described in Figure 1 can be used to estimate the memory and

runtime required for a given number of input ancestor haplotypes. Note that while our

pipeline is able to accommodate arbitrarily large numbers of founding haplotypes, this is

only because a small number of generations ensures that any single chromosome is

composed of a small subset of those founders. As the number of generations increases,

so too will the number of ancestors contributing to recombinant chromosomes. If

recombination rates are known, one can model recombination events as a Poisson

process depending on the number of generations of recombination. From the resulting

model, a ceiling of number of generations can be chosen that ensures with some

probability that any single chromosome is a combination of ≤ 16 (or any other threshold)

ancestors.

To evaluate whether low coverage sequencing data will yield accurate genotype

estimates for a given proposed mapping population, researchers can test reconstruction

accuracy *in silico*. We provide a convenient forward-simulation R script for this purpose

that generates output in the haplotype map format (Figure 2). Simulated individuals can

then be ran through the simulated sequencing and mapping pipeline at a desired level

of coverage. After generating simulated mapped individuals, researchers can optimize

the number of MLAs and HARP threshold that provide most effective MLA selection for

their mapping population (Figure 4). This step may reveal haplotypes that are

consistently problematic or inaccurately chosen, which can be excluded from further

simulations (and when generating the true mapping population). Researchers can then

perform chromosome reconstruction using the optimized MLA selection parameters and

evaluate whether accuracy is acceptable (Figure 5).

After performing chromosome reconstructions, a quality control step may be applied

whereby troublesome regions are masked. For example, a reconstructed chromosome

with a sequence of short recombination blocks could be masked prior to evaluating

genotyping accuracy or performing association testing. In our simulations, it was

surprisingly difficult to diagnose exact factors contributing to the least accurate

reconstructions. However, these highly recombinant reconstructions still achieved 90-

99% accuracy, suggesting that accuracy may be achieved even for anomalous hyper-

recombinant individuals (Figure 5). Optimized parameters can then be applied to a

genuine mapping population akin to the simulated one.

Conclusions

An outbred high-resolution mapping population that can be generated in little time is an

attractive option for researchers, but such mapping populations have been prohibited by

genotyping costs or computational requirements to impute genotypes from ultra-low

coverage sequencing data. Our work demonstrates the feasibility of the Hybrid Swarm

as a cost-effective method of fine-scale genetic mapping in an outbred population and

provides a computationally efficient framework for GWAS power analysis.

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1090   **Figures and Figure Legends**

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Figure 1. Resource usage of RABBIT during haplotype reconstruction.
All reconstructions involve the same simulated 2L chromosome arm comprised of four
haplotypes. Simulations included varied numbers of founding haplotypes (*N*) and a
randomly selected set of markers (number of SNPs, *S*, incremented in steps of 500). All
simulations included, at minimum, the four true haplotypes for the simulated individual.
In **A** and **B**, points depict the mean of empirical values (over 10 replicates) and gray
lines depict the defined regression models. Regression models for memory usage and
runtime are extrapolated over a greater range for number of founding haplotypes in **C**
and **D**, respectively.

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E. Haplotype Map File Format

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Figure 2. Basic structure of the forward simulator pipeline.

Inbred founding lines (**A**) are randomly intercrossed to produce a recombinant

population (**B**). Rapid generation of independent mapping populations is achieved by

random down-sampling (**C**) and permutation of ancestry (**D**). Population genetic data is

encoded in a highly compressed format **(E)** that references the positions of haplotype

blocks instead of genotypes at every site, enabling us to generate 500 mapping

populations for a given parameter combination.

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Figure 3. Optimization curves for Most-Likely-Ancestor (MLA) selection.

To ensure reconstruction was both accurate and computationally feasible, we selected

the smallest set of most-likely-ancestors that still represent the greatest fraction of to-

be-reconstructed genomes. Increasing the upper limit for the number of MLAs chosen

improves the fraction of genome represented with diminishing returns. The HARP

threshold of 0.99 performed best for 128-founder populations, for both DGRP-derived

and coalescent-derived simulations. Conversely, 32-founder populations performed best

with a HARP threshold of 0.95. Data shown reports means across 400 replicates made

up of 100 simulated individuals (4 autosomes each for coalescent simulations, 4

autosome arms each for DGRP simulations) per parameter combination. Coalescent-

derived populations described here were simulated with $N_e = 10^6$ and $\mu = 5 \times 10^{-9}$.

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Figure 4. Genotype estimation accuracy for Hybrid Swarm populations.

A: Reconstructions were performed for populations simulated as being founded by

either 32 or 128 inbred lines at 0.05X sequencing coverage with up to 16 MLAs as

determined with a HARP threshold of 0.99. Accuracy, calculated as the per-

chromosome fraction of variable sites with a correct diploid genotype estimate, is shown

on logit-transformed scale. Values are coded depending on the number of estimated

recombination events, with highly recombinant estimates (≥10 recombination events)

displayed as an ✕. Each parameter combination includes 400 reconstructed autosomes

(individual circles) for 100 simulated individuals. The coalescent-derived individuals

displayed here were simulated with an effective population size of $N_e = 1 \times 10^6$ and

mutation rate $\mu = 5 \times 10^{-9}$. **B**: Genotyping accuracy of STITCH for simulated 32-

founder F$_5$ hybrid swarm populations sequenced at 0.05X coverage. Genotype

accuracy improves with greater numbers of sequenced individuals, as STITCH infers

missing genotypes from other haplotypes in the population. Boxes represent the median

and interquartile range; whiskers extending to the lower and upper bounds of the 95%

quantiles. See methods for parameters used.

Figure 5. Schematic for rapid association testing with the haplotype block files. For a given population represented by a haplotype map file (**A**), all SNPs between sorted breakpoints (indicated by dashed lines) will share identical aggregated haplotype frequencies (**B**). Haplotype frequencies are multiplied by a founder genotype matrix (**C**) where alleles are coded reference (black cells) and alternate (white cells). Conditional row sums of the resulting matrix (**D**) yields reference and alternate frequencies at each locus (**E**), to be used for χ^2 tests of independence.

Figure 6. Receiver Operator Characteristic (ROC) curves for GWAS simulations. ROC curves represent the aggregate of 500 GWAS simulations per parameter combination. To generate single representative ROC curves across 500 GWAS simulations per population, we stepped through all specificity values and calculated the mean sensitivity. Inset boxplots display the distribution of AUCs, with whiskers spanning the middle 95% of data.

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Figure 7. Genomic Inflation Factor (GIF, λ_{1000}) for simulated GWAS with monogenic

trait of with a large effect locus, or multi-locus trait of smaller individual effects.

GIF is calculated genome-wide (across all autosomes); on the autosome arm containing

the causal allele (linked); and for sites on the autosome physically unlinked to the

causal allele. λ is calculated as the ratio of observed to expected χ^2 values, and a

correction is performed to produce the null expectation given the sample size had

actually been 1000 individuals (see Materials and Methods for details). Data are

averaged over 500 simulated GWAS, each comprised of 5000 individuals sampled with

replacement, phenotypically assigned in a case-control framework. Boxes represent the

median and interquartile range; whiskers extending to the lower and upper bounds of

the 95% quantiles. Hybrid Swarm populations here used 128 founders. **Outbred**: F_{50}

population founded by 128 inbred lines.

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Population	N Founders	ρ	$\overline{\Delta}$	σ_Δ
DGRP	128	0.986	-0.015	0.25
DGRP	32	0.502	0.17	2.15
Coalescent	128	0.956	-0.17	0.44
Coalescent	32	0.759	-0.31	1.26

Table 1. Accuracy of estimated number of recombination events following chromosome reconstruction.
 A high concordance correlation coefficient (Lin's ρ) indicates agreement between estimated and true recombination counts for 400 reconstructed chromosomes (coalescent-derived populations) or chromosome arms (DGRP-derived populations). Coalescent-derived populations are described across a range of values for effective population size N_e and mutation rate μ. $\overline{\Delta}$ and σ_Δ denote mean and standard deviation, respectively, of difference between estimated and true recombination counts. Reconstructions were performed with a maximum of 16 most-likely-ancestors with a HARP threshold of 0.99 (see methods for more details). The coalescent-derived populations described here were simulated with an effective population size of $N_e = 1 \times 10^6$ and mutation rate $\mu = 5 \times 10^{-9}$.

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Figure S1. Recombination probability functions used for simulated individuals.

Recombination is modeled as a Poisson process, with position sampled from linear

interpolation of recombination rates measured in *Drosophila melanogaster* by Comeron

et al. (2012). The frequency of recombination samples cumulative map distance (inset,

e.g. a 99 cM chromosome is modeled as a Poisson variable with an expected value of

$\lambda = 0.99$). For DGRP-derived individuals, recombination was simulated for full

chromosomes two and three, and reconstructions were then conducted independently

for arms 2L, 2R, 3L, and 3R.

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Figure S2. Workflow for reconstructing whole genomes from ultra-low coverage

sequencing data.

Three required inputs are sequencing reads (.fastq), a reference genome (.fasta), and

homozygous (or phased) founder haplotypes (.vcf file). A recombination map can

optionally be provided for use with RABBIT to inform variation in recombination rates

across chromosomes. Flowchart designed in draw.io.

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1207 **Figure S3**. Optimization curves for Most-Likely-Ancestor inclusion for additional

1208 parameter combinations.

1209 A: SCRM (coalescent) derived populations across different parameters; B: accuracy is
1210 similar for both 0.05X and 0.005X sequencing coverage in populations simulated with
1211 DGRP genomes.

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Figure S4. Accuracy of genome reconstruction for simulated, coalescent-derived F_5

hybrid swarm individuals.

 Reconstructions were performed for populations simulated as being founded by either

32 or 128 inbred lines for various effective population sizes (N_e) and mutation rates (μ).

Accuracy is represented on a logit scale, as most points occur above 90%.

Reconstructed chromosomes estimated to have $\geq$10 recombination events are denoted

by an $\times$, offset from the bulk of the distributions. Each parameter combination includes

400 reconstructed chromosomes (from 100 simulated individuals).

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Figure S5. Accuracy of genome reconstruction for simulated, DGRP-derived F$_5$ hybrid

swarm individuals.

Reconstructions were performed for populations simulated as being founded by either

32 or 128 inbred lines for two levels of ultra-low sequencing coverage. Accuracy is

represented on a logit scale, as most points occur above 90%. Reconstructed

chromosomes estimated to have ≥10 recombination events are denoted by an ✕, offset

from the bulk of the distributions . Each parameter combination includes 400

reconstructed chromosomes (from 100 simulated individuals).

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Figure S6. Liability phenotype model for GWAS simulations.

for transforming additive risk scores to probability of assignment to the case population,

i.e. probability of developing a disease. Rare alleles increase risk score, which in turns

increases probability of being assigned a case phenotype. A: The relationship between

allele frequency and effect on liability risk score. Simulations were modeled as larger or

smaller effect with a user-defined effect size coefficient. B: Logistic transformation of the

form $y = (1 + e^{-x})^{-1}$ translates the liability score into probability of being assigned to

case population. Most simulated individuals inhabit the linear portion of the curve,

exemplifying additive genetics. Because phenotypic assignment is necessarily bounded

by zero and one, simulated individuals that happen to inherit many loci of large effect

will display antagonistic pleiotropy, where the combined effect of multiple loci is less

than the sum of individual effects.

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Figure S7. Receiver Operator Characteristic (ROC) curves for additional GWAS simulations.

To generate single representative ROC curves across 500 GWAS simulations per population, we stepped through all specificity values and calculated the mean sensitivity. Inset boxplots display the median and interquartile range of Area Under the Curve (AUC) distributions, with whiskers spanning the middle 95% of data. **ILs**: inbred lines. **HS**: Hybrid Swarm populations founded by 32 or 128 lines.

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Population	Coverage	N Founders	N_e	μ	ρ	$\overline{\Delta}$	σ_Δ
DGRP	0.005X	128	-	-	0.201	3.06	3.11
DGRP	0.005X	32	-	-	0.201	3.15	2.81
DGRP	0.05X	128	-	-	0.986	-0.015	0.25
DGRP	0.05X	32	-	-	0.502	0.17	2.15
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^4	1×10^{-9}	0.029	-2.72	1.60
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^4	1×10^{-9}	0.219	-1.84	1.50
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^5	1×10^{-9}	0.288	-1.57	1.64
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^5	1×10^{-9}	0.761	-0.53	0.99
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^6	1×10^{-9}	0.742	-0.46	1.09
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^6	1×10^{-9}	0.754	-0.42	1.22
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^4	5×10^{-9}	0.203	-2.03	1.73
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^4	5×10^{-9}	0.622	-0.89	1.17
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^5	5×10^{-9}	0.652	-0.64	1.41
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^5	5×10^{-9}	0.782	-0.26	1.16
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^6	5×10^{-9}	0.956	-0.17	0.44
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^6	5×10^{-9}	0.759	-0.31	1.26
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^4	1×10^{-8}	0.238	-1.65	1.86
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^4	1×10^{-8}	0.745	-0.66	1.05
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^5	1×10^{-8}	0.776	-0.34	1.12
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^5	1×10^{-8}	0.846	-0.25	0.93
Coalescent	0.05X	128	10^6	1×10^{-8}	0.937	-0.22	0.56
Coalescent	0.05X	32	10^6	1×10^{-8}	0.833	-0.32	0.95

Table S1. Accuracy of estimated number of recombination events following

chromosome reconstruction.

A high concordance correlation coefficient (Lin's ρ) indicates agreement between

estimated and true recombination counts for 400 reconstructed chromosomes

(coalescent-derived populations) or chromosome arms (DGRP-derived populations).

Coalescent-derived populations are described across a range of values for effective

population size N_e and mutation rate μ. $\overline{\Delta}$ and σ_Δ denote mean and standard deviation,

respectively, for difference between estimated and true recombination count.

Reconstructions were performed with a maximum of 16 most-likely-ancestors with a

HARP threshold of 0.99 (see methods for more details).