

Private Genomes and Public Alleles

Richard Mott^{*1}, Christian Fischer², Pjotr Prins² and Robert W Davies³

¹ Genetics Institute, University College London, Gower St London WC1E 6BT.

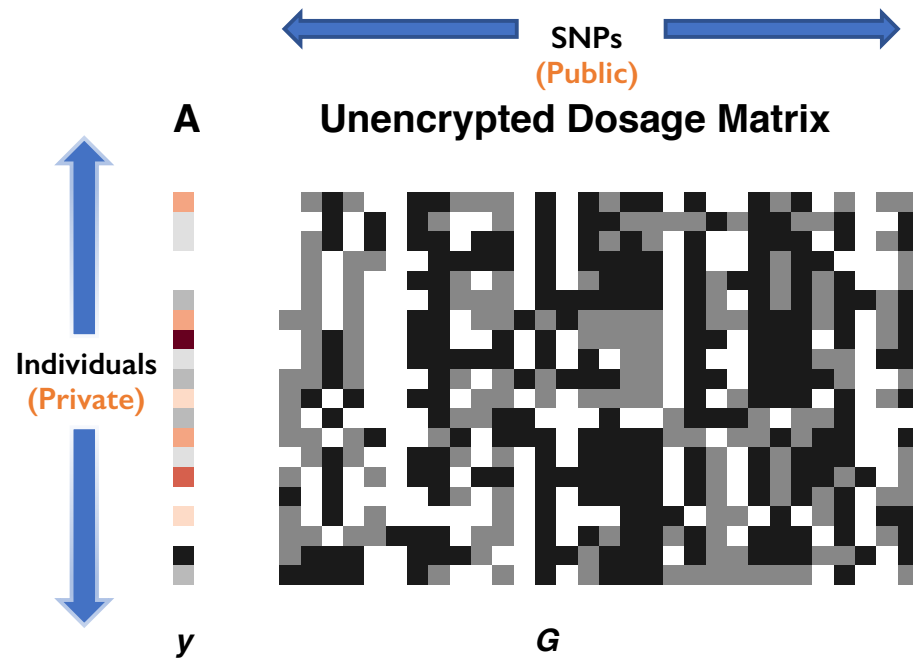
² Genetics, Genomics and Informatics, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, 71 S Manassas St, Memphis TN, USA

³ Department of Statistics, University of Oxford, 29 St Giles', Oxford OX1 3LB, UK

*Corresponding author: r.mott@ucl.ac.uk



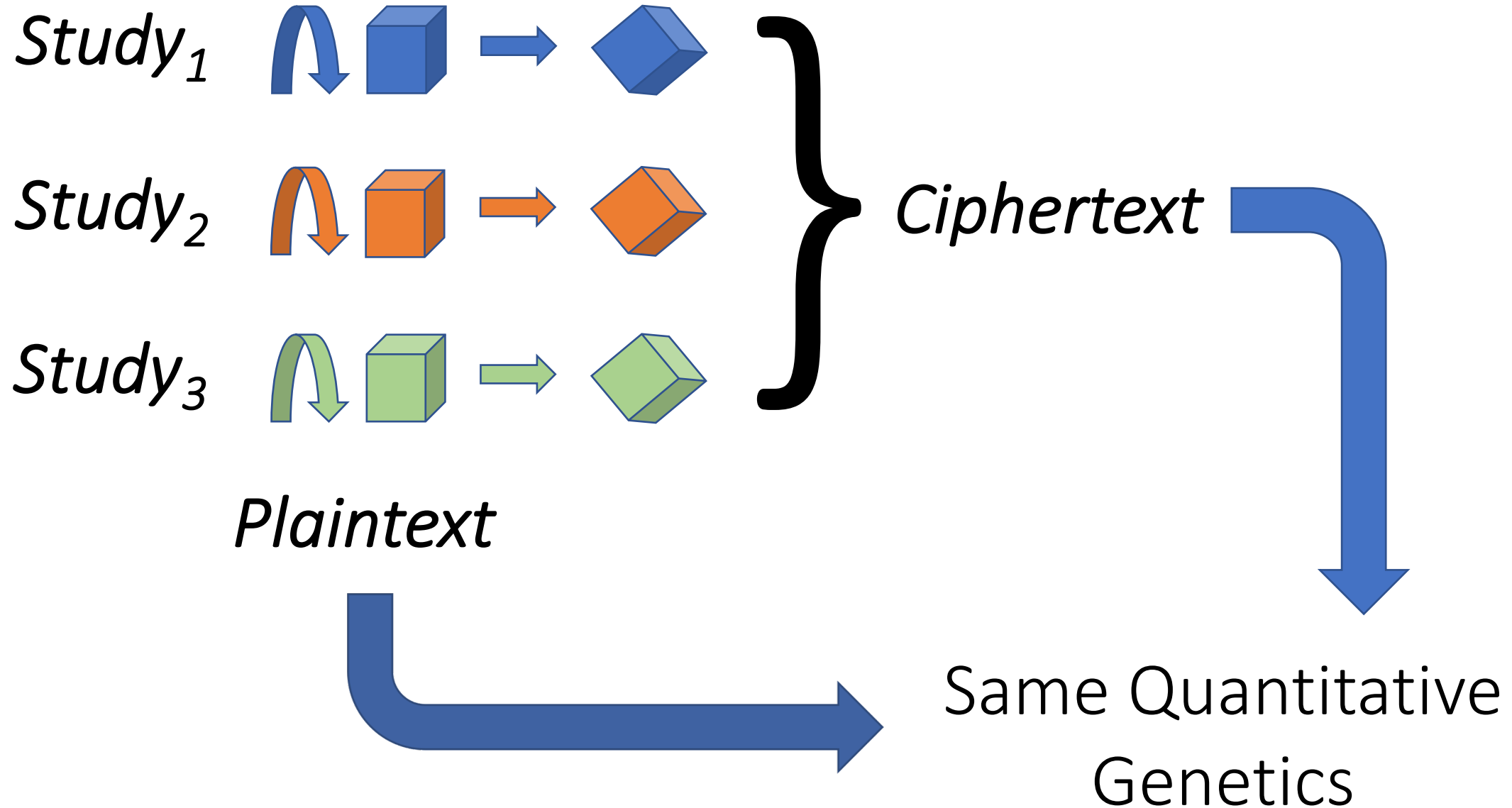
Aims



- Disguise genotypes of individuals (rows)
- Preserve relationships between columns:
 - phenotype vs genotypes – association, heritability
 - genotypes vs genotypes - linkage disequilibrium

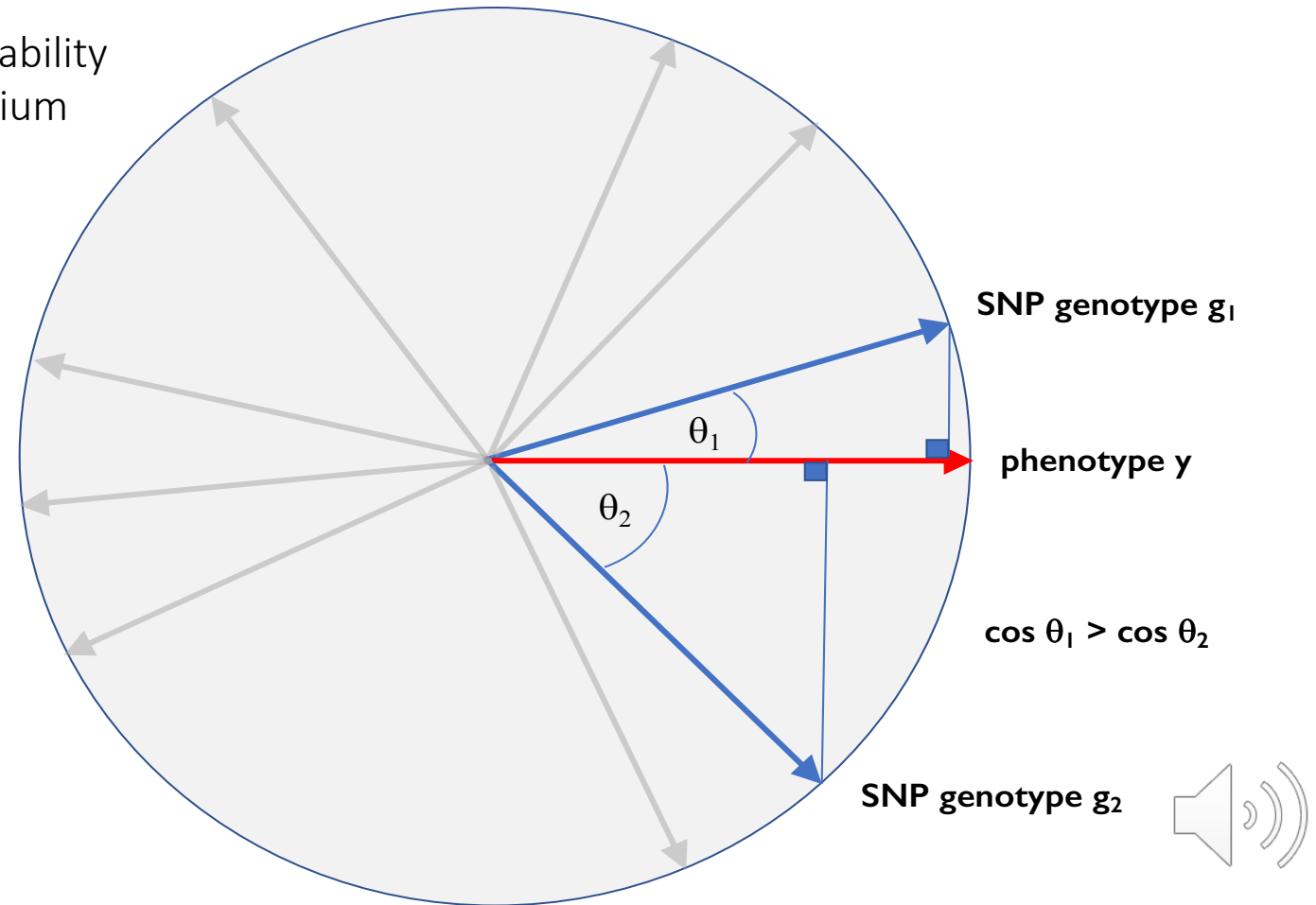


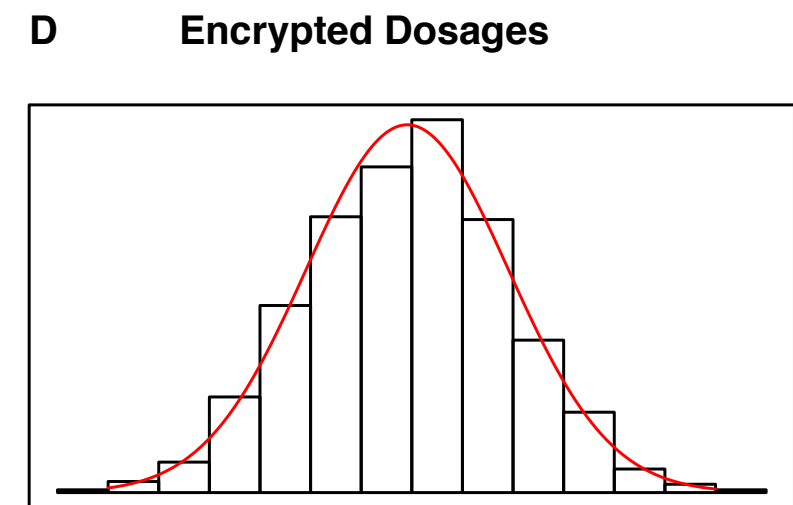
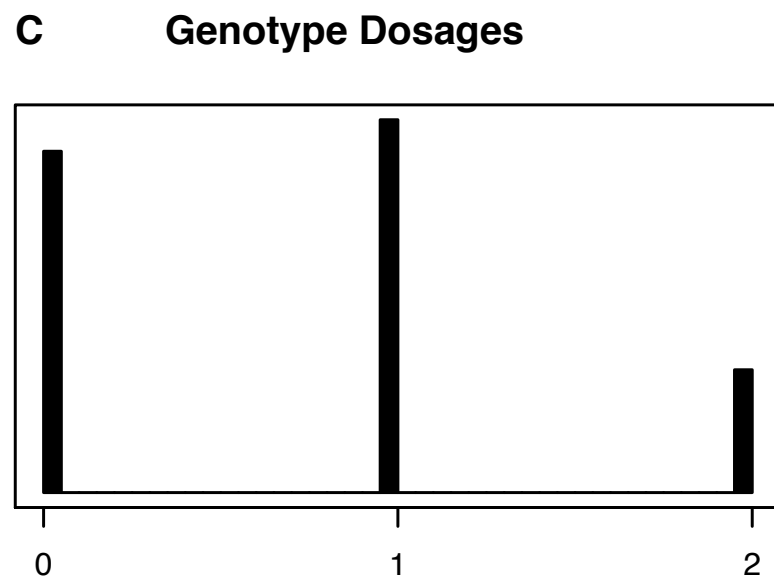
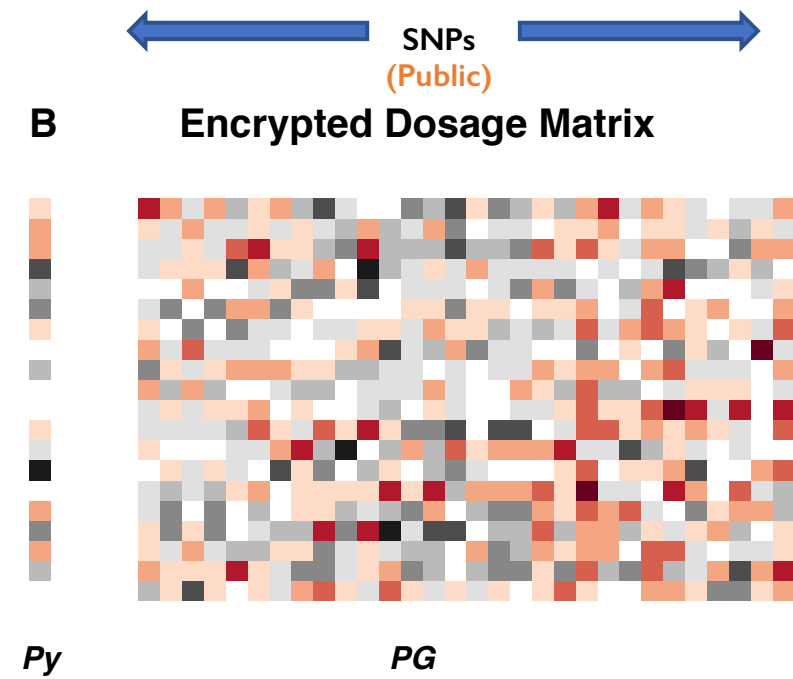
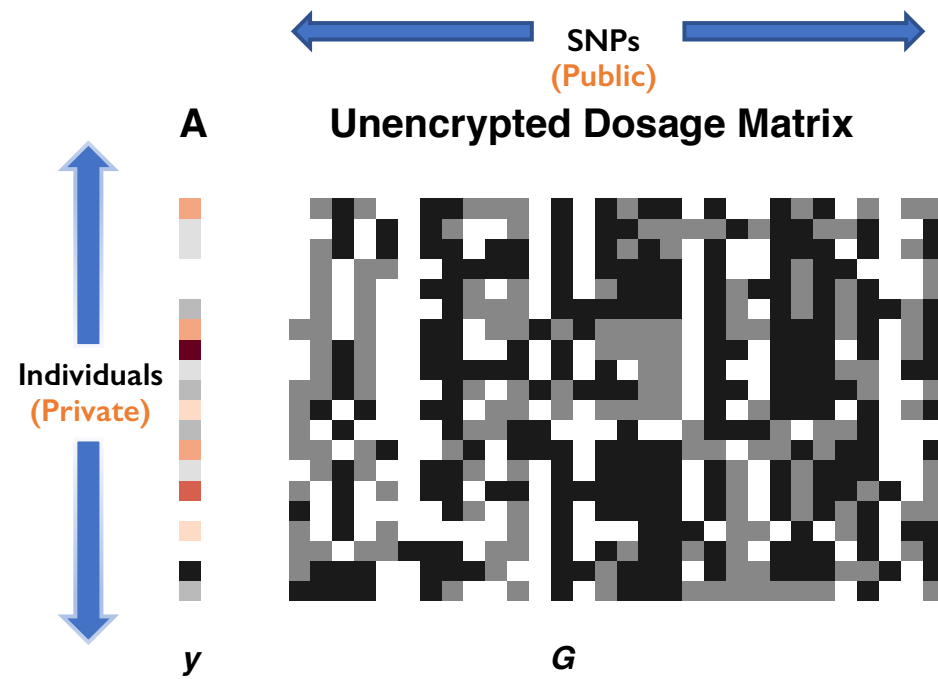
Homomorphic Genotype Encryption

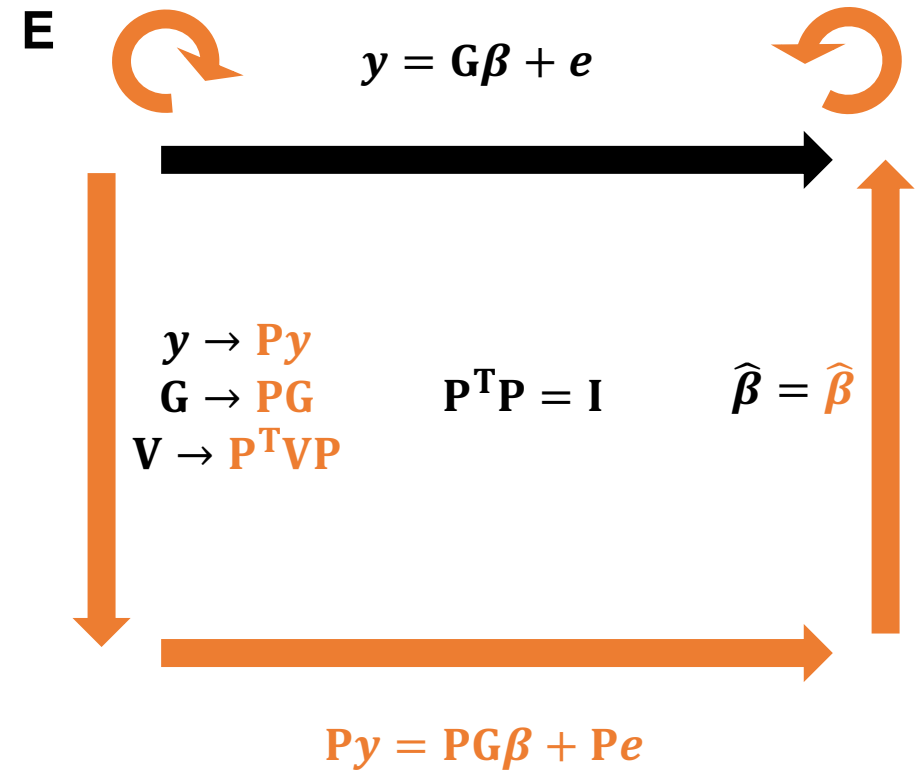
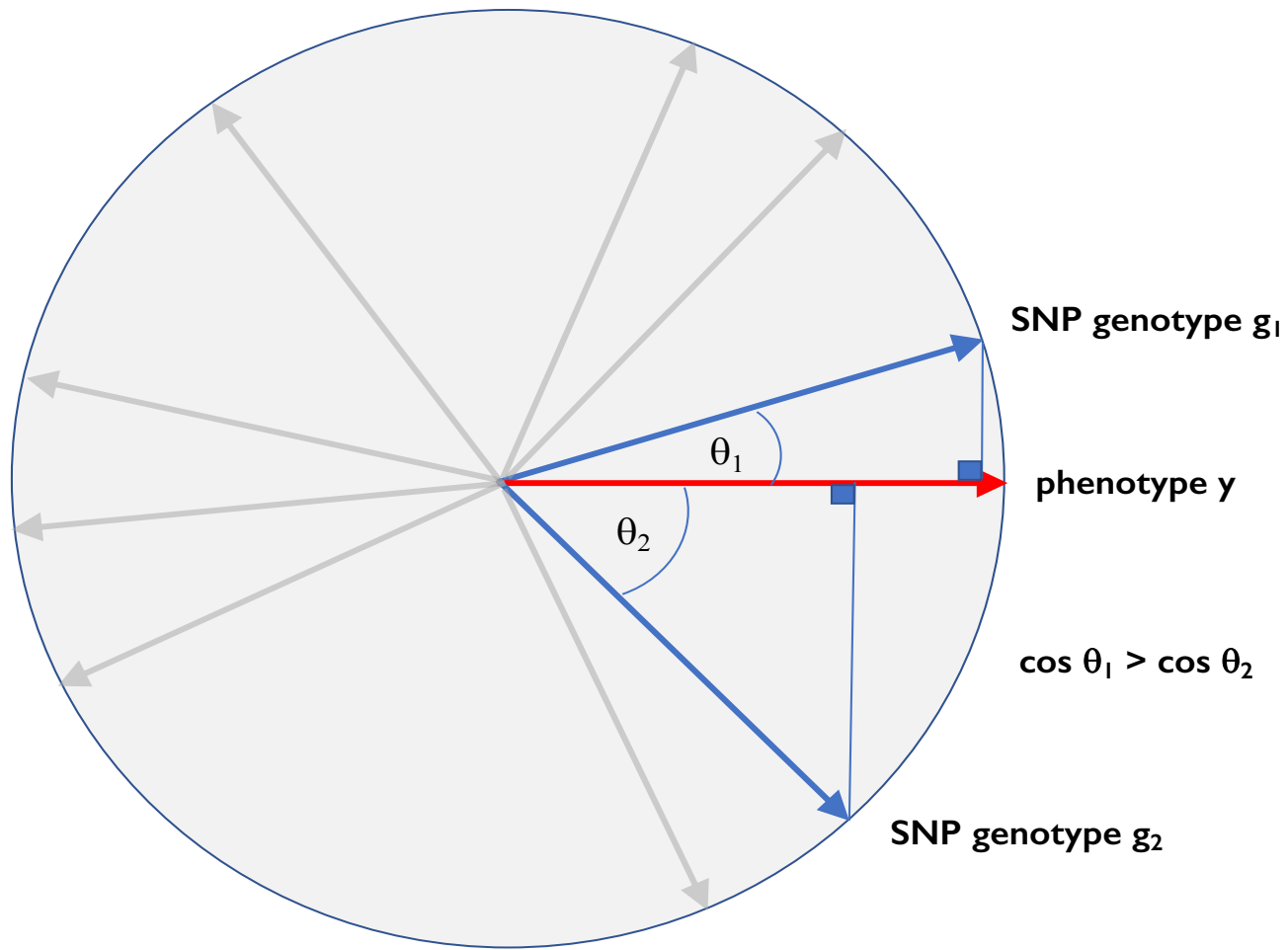


Homomorphic Genotype Encryption

- Disguise genotypes of individuals (rows)
- Preserve relationships between columns:
 - phenotype vs genotypes – association, heritability
 - genotypes vs genotypes - linkage disequilibrium

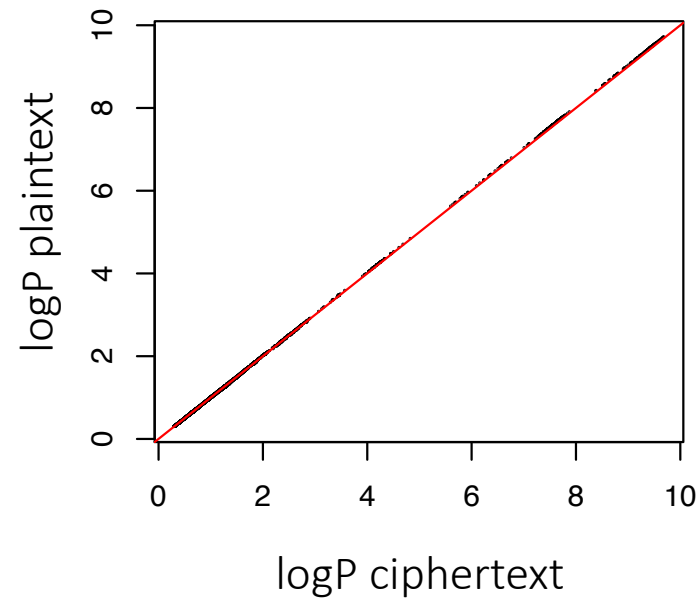






GWAS p-values are unchanged

GWAS for Platelet levels in 2000 outbred mice



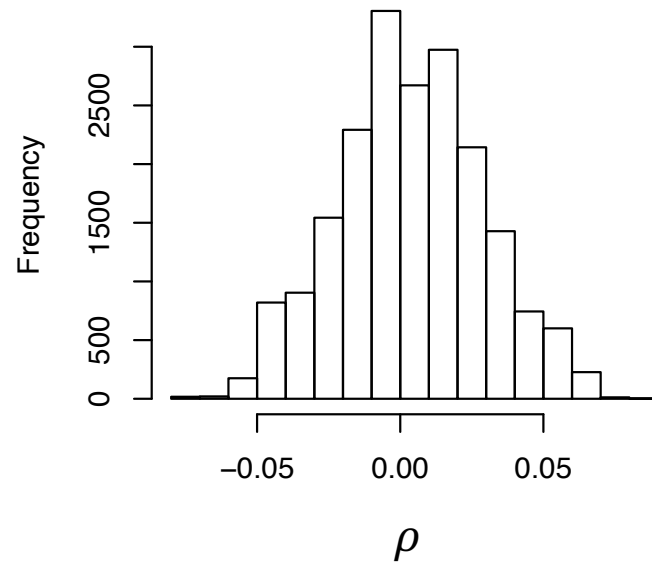
Plaintext $h^2 = 0.0253$

Ciphertext $h^2 = 0.0250$

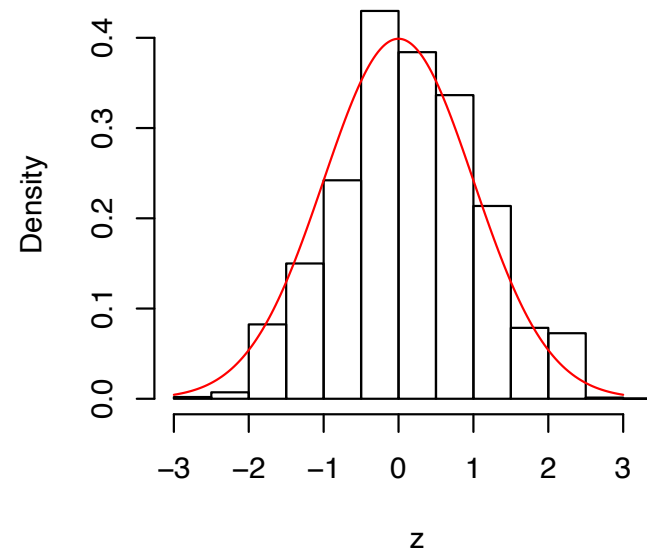


Random Correlations of plaintext vs ciphertext

Pearson Correlations of plaintext and ciphertext



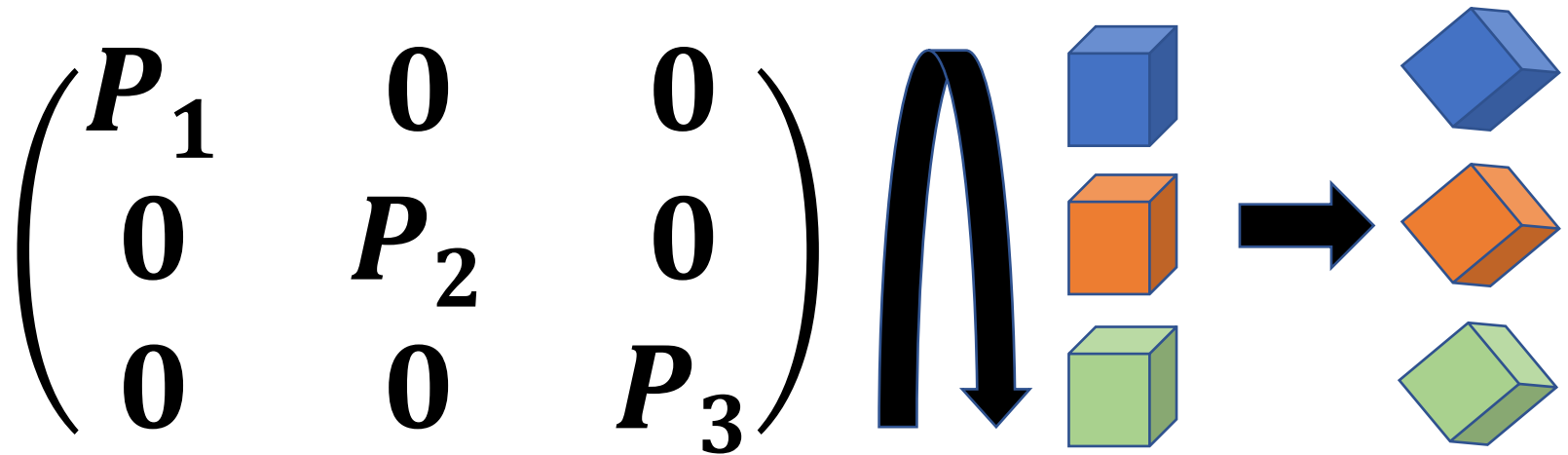
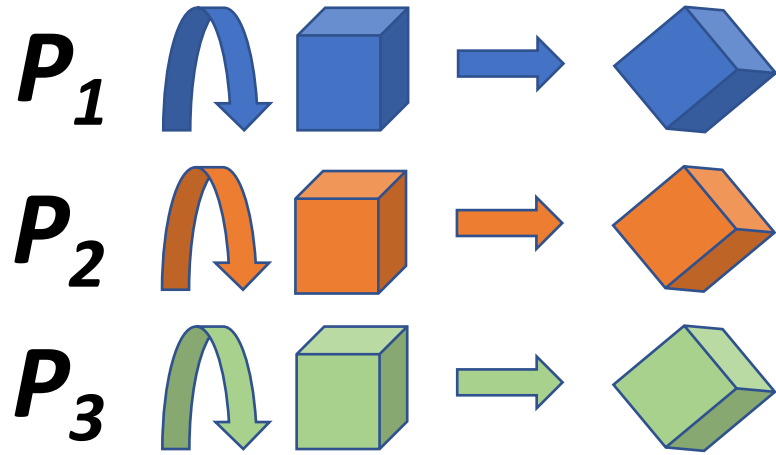
Z-transformed Pearson Correlations



$$z = \rho \sqrt{\frac{n-2}{1-\rho^2}} \sim N(0,1)$$



Federated Mega Analysis

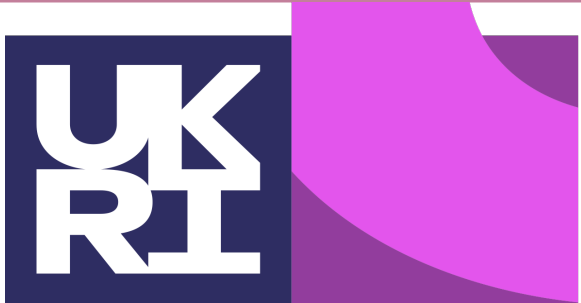


Summary

- Orthogonal Transformations map plaintext genotypes to cyphertext
- Preserves Genetic Association estimates, p-values, heritability
- Works for mixed models to control for unequal relatedness
- Its security is presented as a **challenge to the community**
 - Decrypting N individuals requires finding NxN orthogonal matrix key
 - $N(N-1)/2$ free parameters: (e.g. N=10k implies 50M parameters)
 - We don't know if decryption is possible, but it is certainly hard.
 - Can you find a way to decrypt?
- BioRxiv <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.04.02.021865>
- Paper accepted for publication in Genetics
- <https://github.com/encryption4genetics>



Funding and Acknowledgements



**Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council**

BBSRC Grants BB/S017372/1, BB/R01356X/1,
BB/P024726/1, BB/M011585/1



UT Center for Integrative and Translational Genomics
and funds from the UT-ORNL Governor's Chair,
NIGMS grant R01GM123489 and
NIDA grant P30DA044223.

Thanks to Rob Williams, University of Tennessee

