

Applying genotypic principal component scores as latent phenotypes in genome-wide and epistatic analyses of soybean agronomic traits.

Simon Lackey^{1,2†}, Siwar Haidar^{1,2†}, Martin Charette¹, Louise O'Donoghue³, Istvan Rajcan⁴, Francois Belzile⁵, Ashkan Golshani², Elroy Cober^{1*}, Bahram Samanfar^{1,2*}

Author affiliations:

¹Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa Research and Development Centre, Ottawa, ON, Canada

²Department of Biology, Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON, Canada

³CÉROM, Centre de recherche Sur Les Grains Inc., Saint-Mathieu de Beloeil, QC, Canada

⁴Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON, Canada

⁵Department of Phytology, Institut de Biologie Intégrative et des Systèmes (IBIS), Université de Laval, Québec City, QC, Canada

*Contact information for corresponding authors:

Bahram Samanfar, bahram.samanfar@agr.gc.ca

Elroy Cober, elroy.cober@agr.gc.ca

† co-first authors

1 Assemble starter files in correct format

- Genotype file in .vcf format
- Phenotype file in .txt format with Family ID (FID), Individual ID (IID), and Phenotype Name with FID and IID matching the names in the .vcf file

	A	B	C	
1	FID	IID	oil	
2	FC20160517_5_BC22_s1	FC20160517_5_BC22_s1	19.8	
3	FC20160517_5_BC23_s1	FC20160517_5_BC23_s1	21.3	
4	FC20160517_5_BC24_s1	FC20160517_5_BC24_s1	20.2	
5	FC20160517_1_BC50_s1	FC20160517_1_BC50_s1	21.8	

- Note: Depending on the nature of your dataset FID and IID may not be the same, you may have multiple individuals belonging to the same family
- Set file four column .txt file with no headings: first column is chromosome number, second column is start in base pairs, third column is end in base pairs, fourth column is the trait

	A	B	C	D
1	14	191942	191942	oil
2	4	3466680	3466680	oil
3	15	5786875	5786875	oil
4	5	31424775	31424775	oil
5	4	46247981	46247981	oil
6				

- Note: Depending on the epistatic analysis you are running you may set boundaries where column B and column C have different values. Having the same value forces the analysis to use only that SNP in the calculation of epistatic effects.

2 Using PLINK v1.9 combine genotype and phenotype in .bed, .bim, and .fam format

- `plink --vcf GWAS_SNPs.vcf --double-id --allow-no-sex --make-bed --pheno oil.txt --pheno-name oil --out GWES_oil`
- Note: see PLINK documentation for additional modifiers and descriptions of their functions

3 Using PLINK v1.07 make a set for set by all epistatic analysis

- `plink --bfile GWES_oil --make-set oilset.txt --write-set`
- Note: see PLINK documentation for additional modifiers and descriptions of their functions

4 Using PLINK v1.07 to run set by all epistatic analysis

- `plink --bfile GWES_oil --epistasis --epi1 0.0000001 --set-test --set plink.set --set-by-all --allow-no-sex --out epi_results_oil`
- Note: see PLINK documentation for additional modifiers and descriptions of their functions

5 Read and interpret results in Microsoft Excel

- Open Microsoft Excel first, then open the .qt or .qt.summary files generated in your PLINK directory
- .qt file contains all counted and reported epistatic interactions based on modifiers from Step 4
- .qt.summary displays the set SNPs with the best epistatic partner detected

Supplementary Fig. S6: Workflow used to identify epistatic interactions in a set by all epistatic analysis using SNPs identified by GWAS of gPCs of agronomic traits in soybean. All analysis was carried out using R Studio and PLINK. Additional information related to scripts and modifiers used in the analysis can be found at <https://zzz.bwh.harvard.edu/plink/> (v1.07) and <https://www.cog-genomics.org/plink/> (v1.9)