

# Mapping quantitative trait loci in mice

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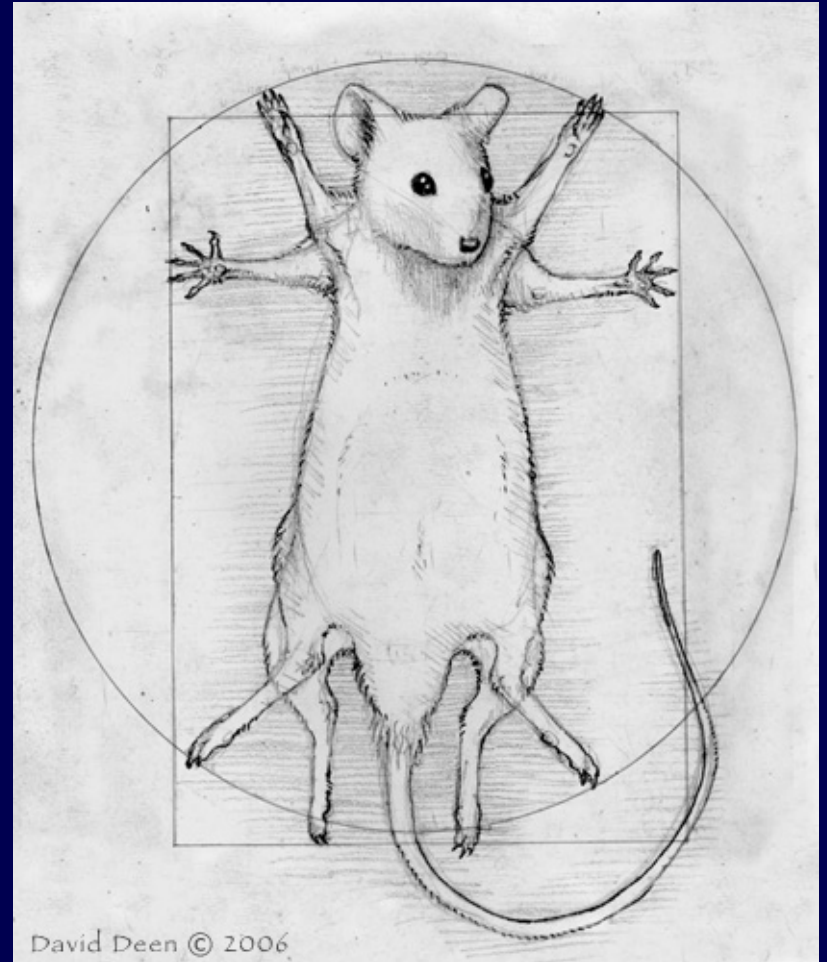
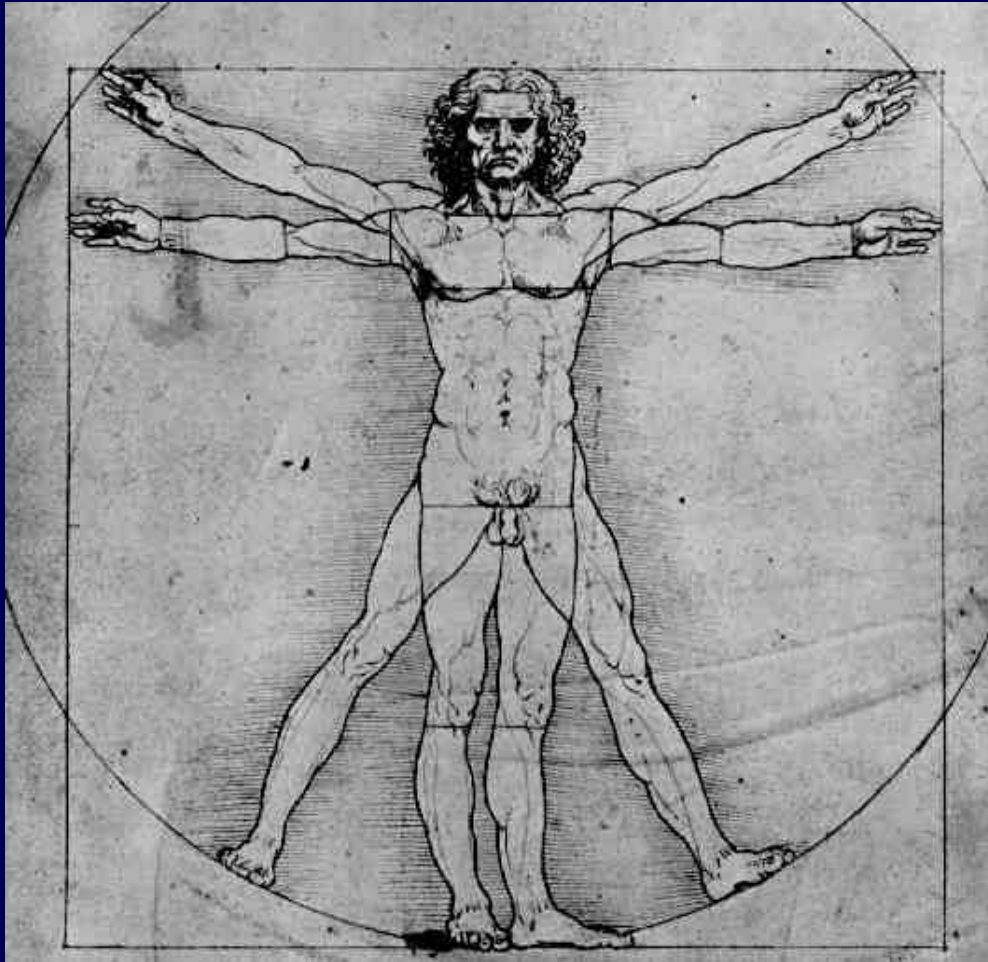
Karl W Broman

Biostatistics & Medical Informatics  
University of Wisconsin – Madison

[www.biostat.wisc.edu/~kbroman](http://www.biostat.wisc.edu/~kbroman)

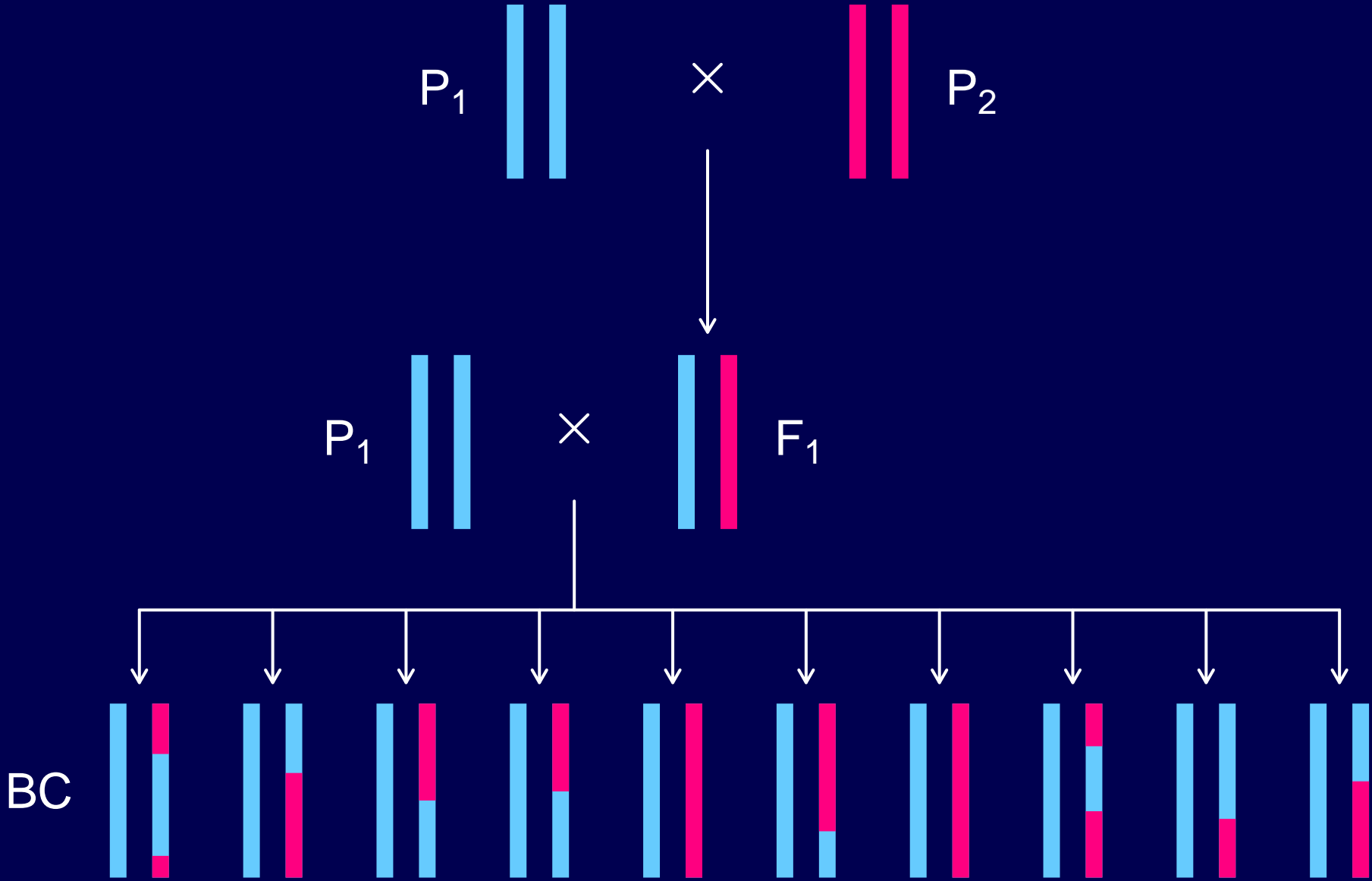


# Human vs mouse

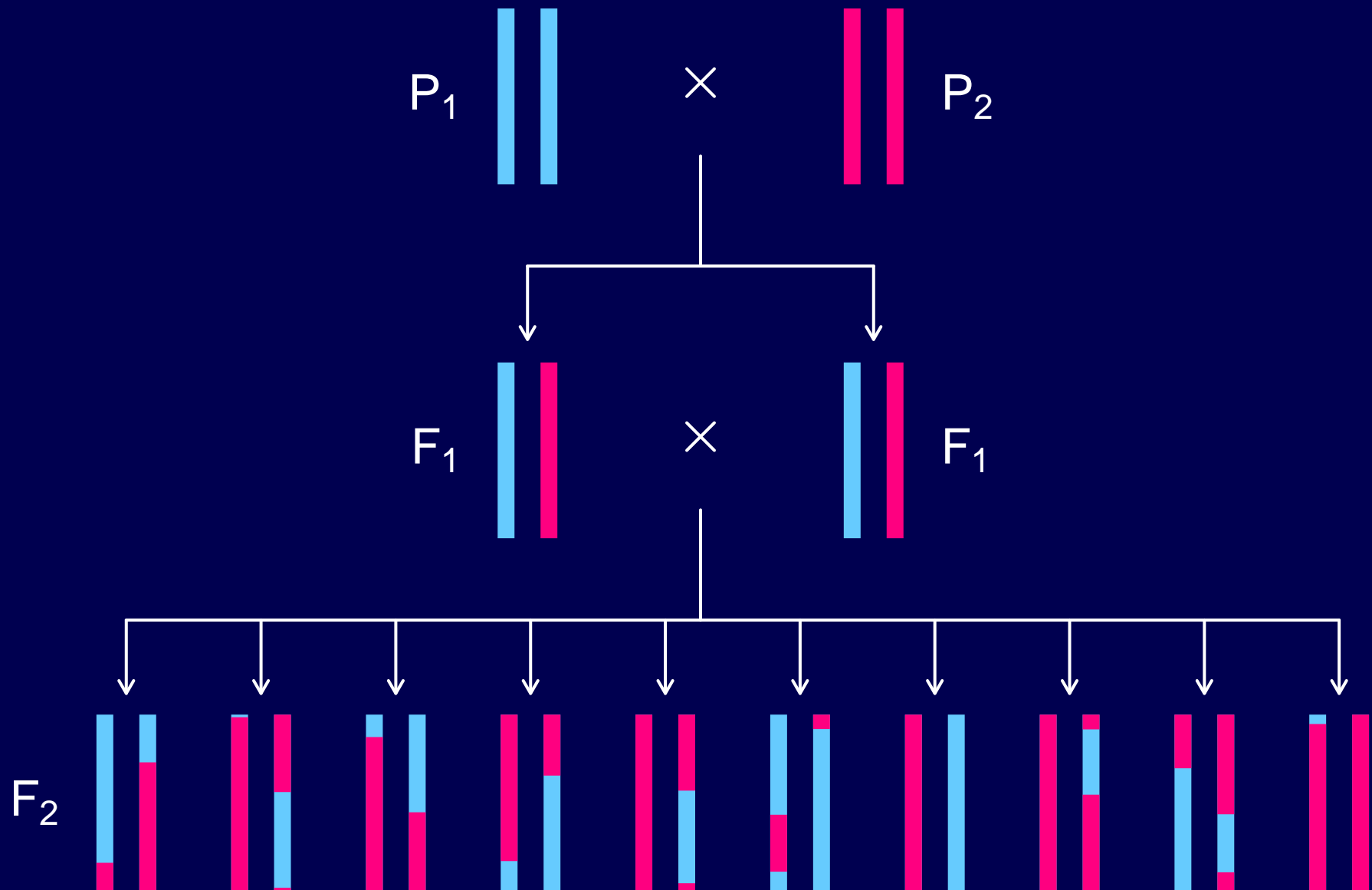


[www.daviddeen.com](http://www.daviddeen.com)

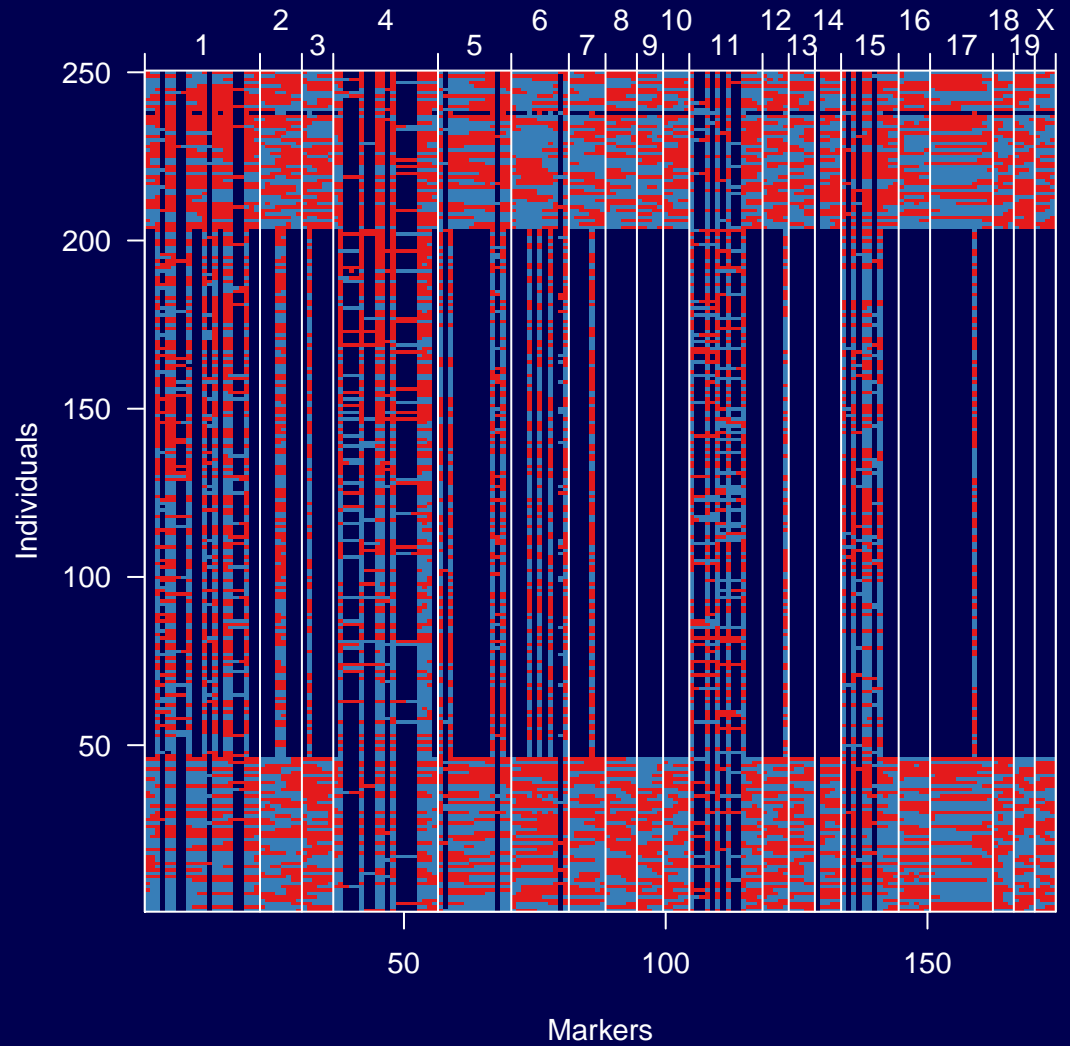
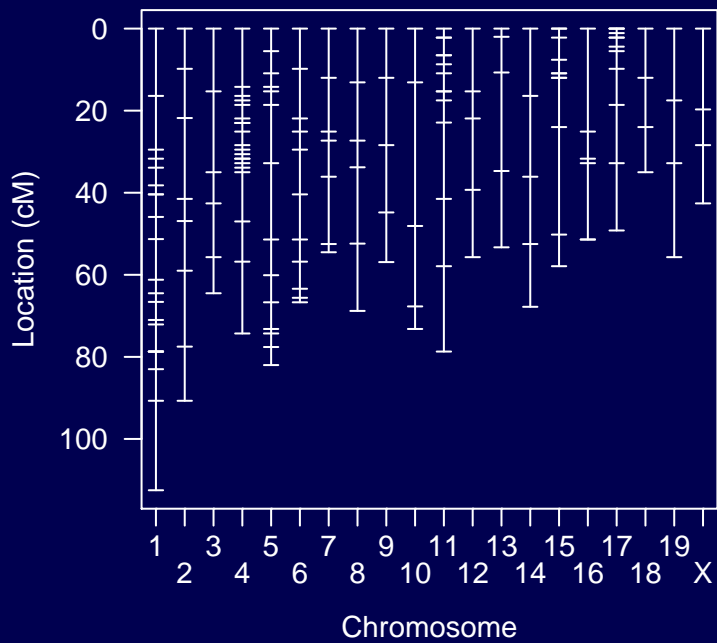
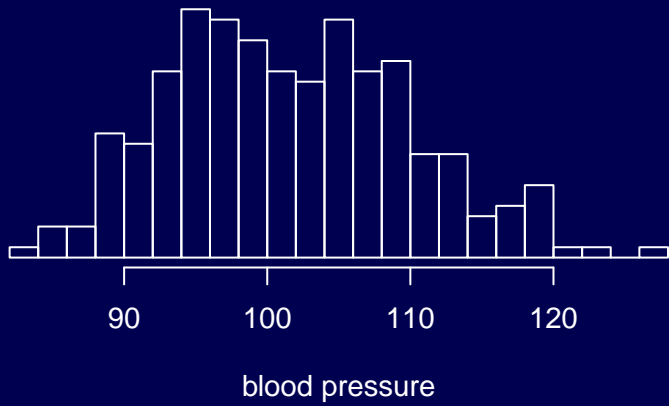
# Backcross



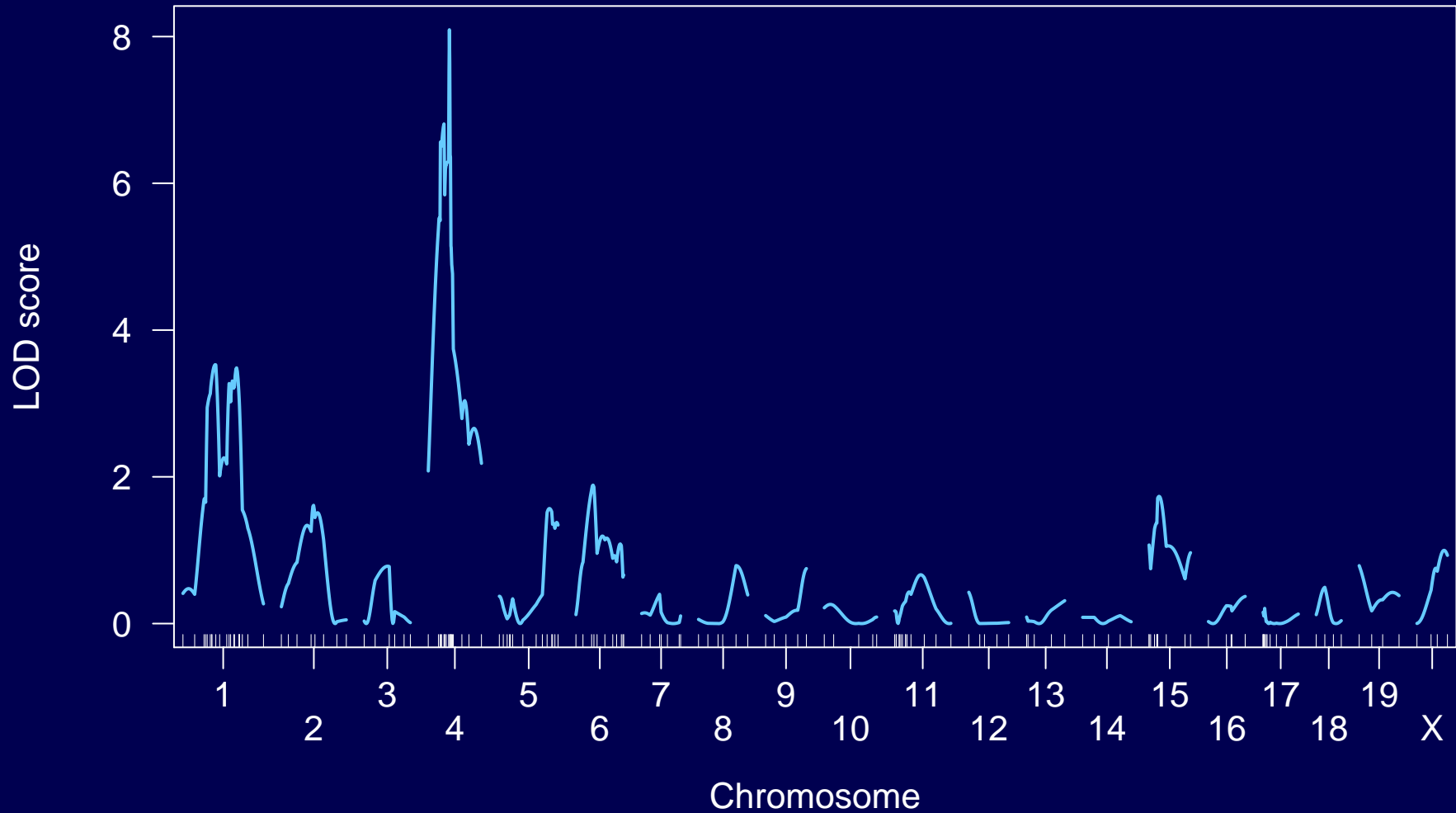
# Intercross



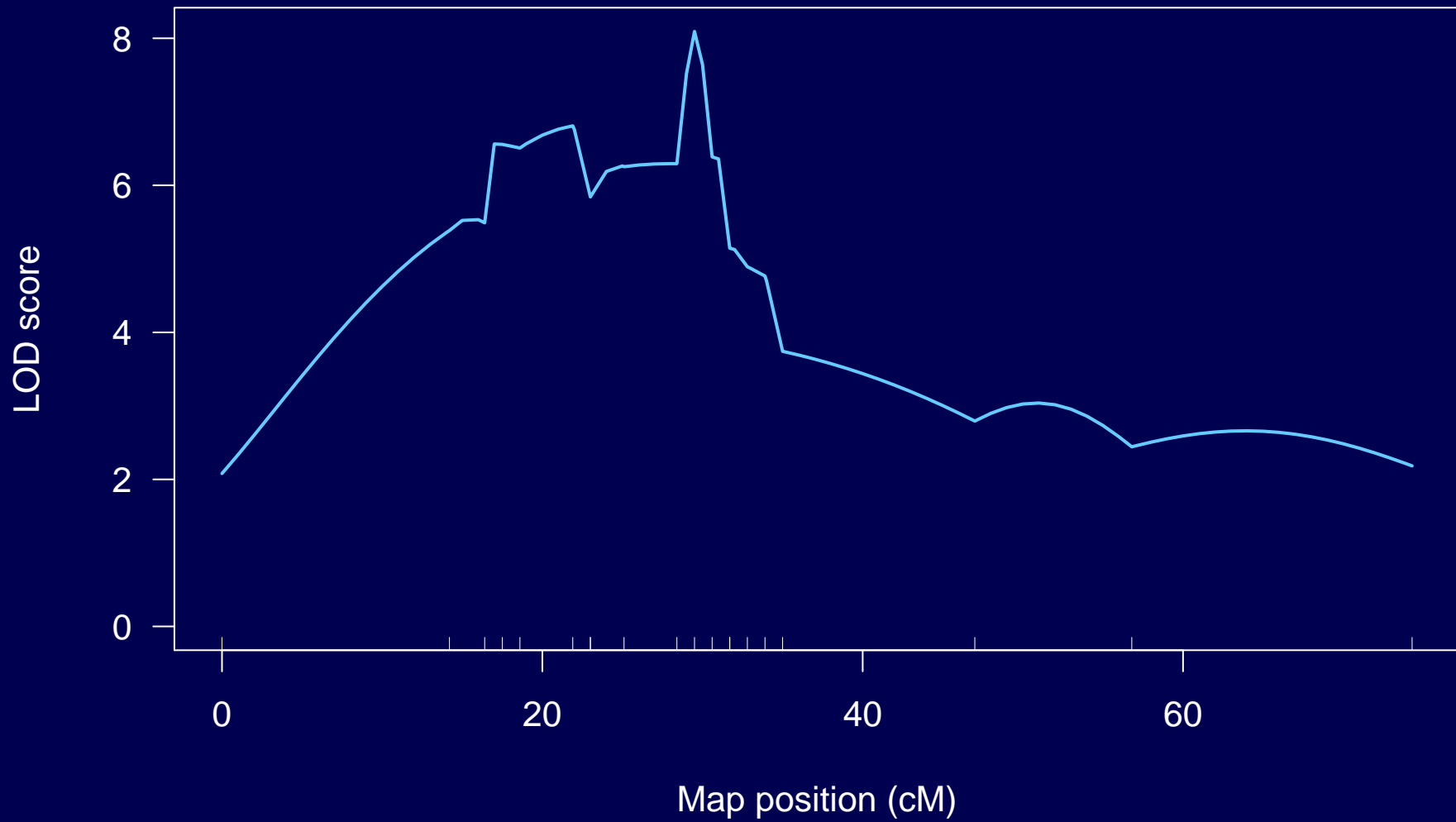
# Data



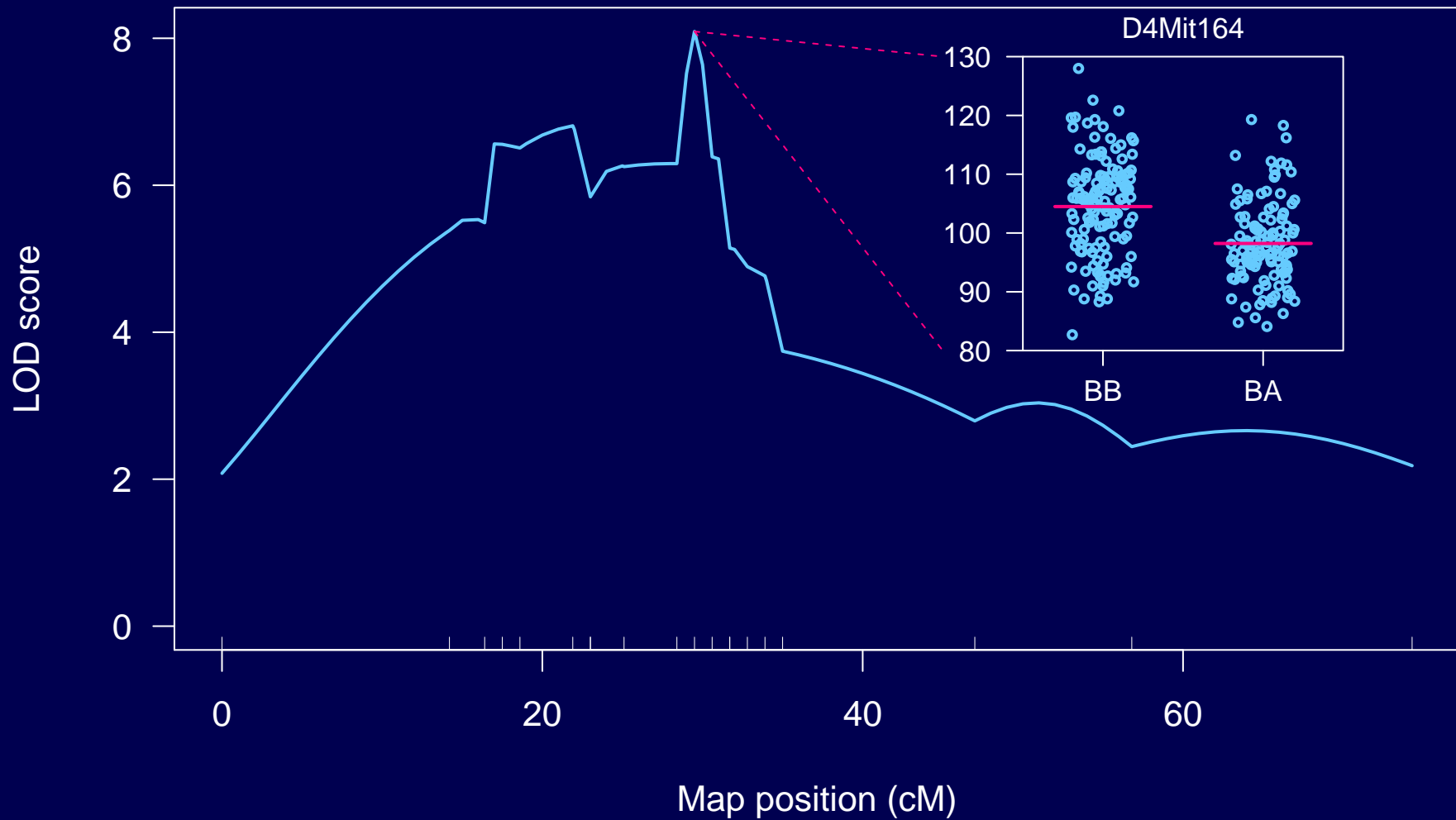
# LOD curves



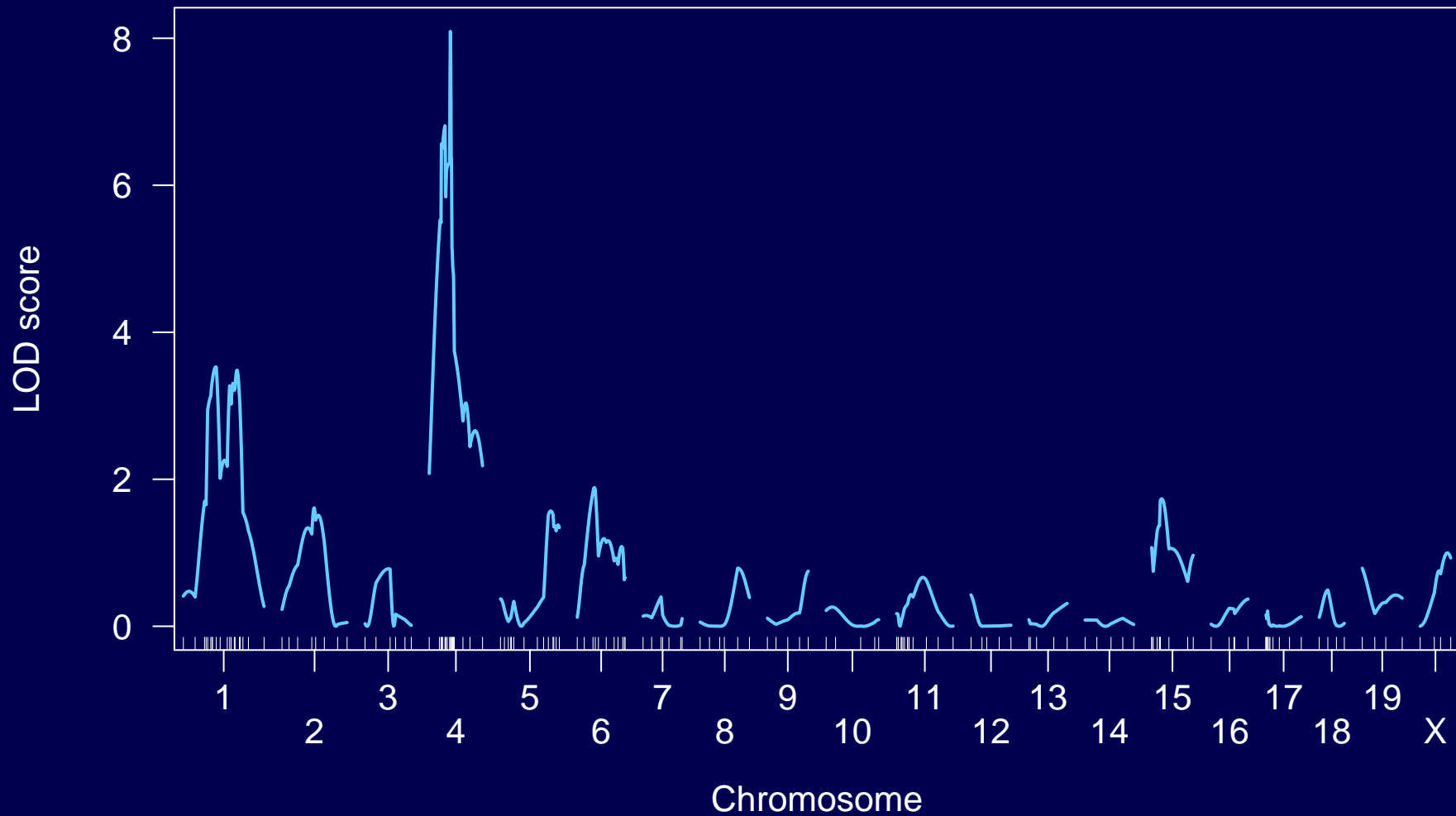
# LOD curves



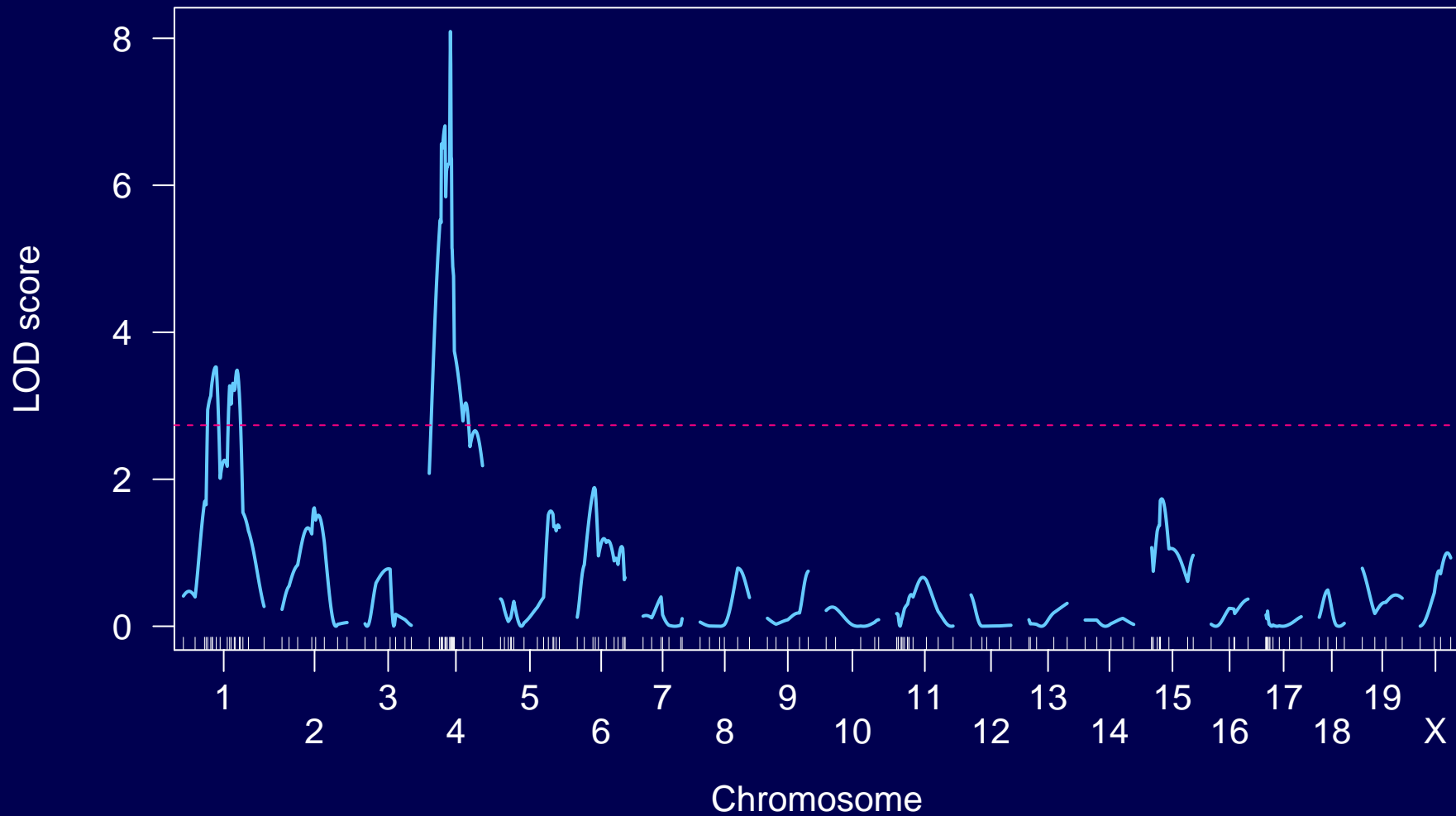
# LOD curves



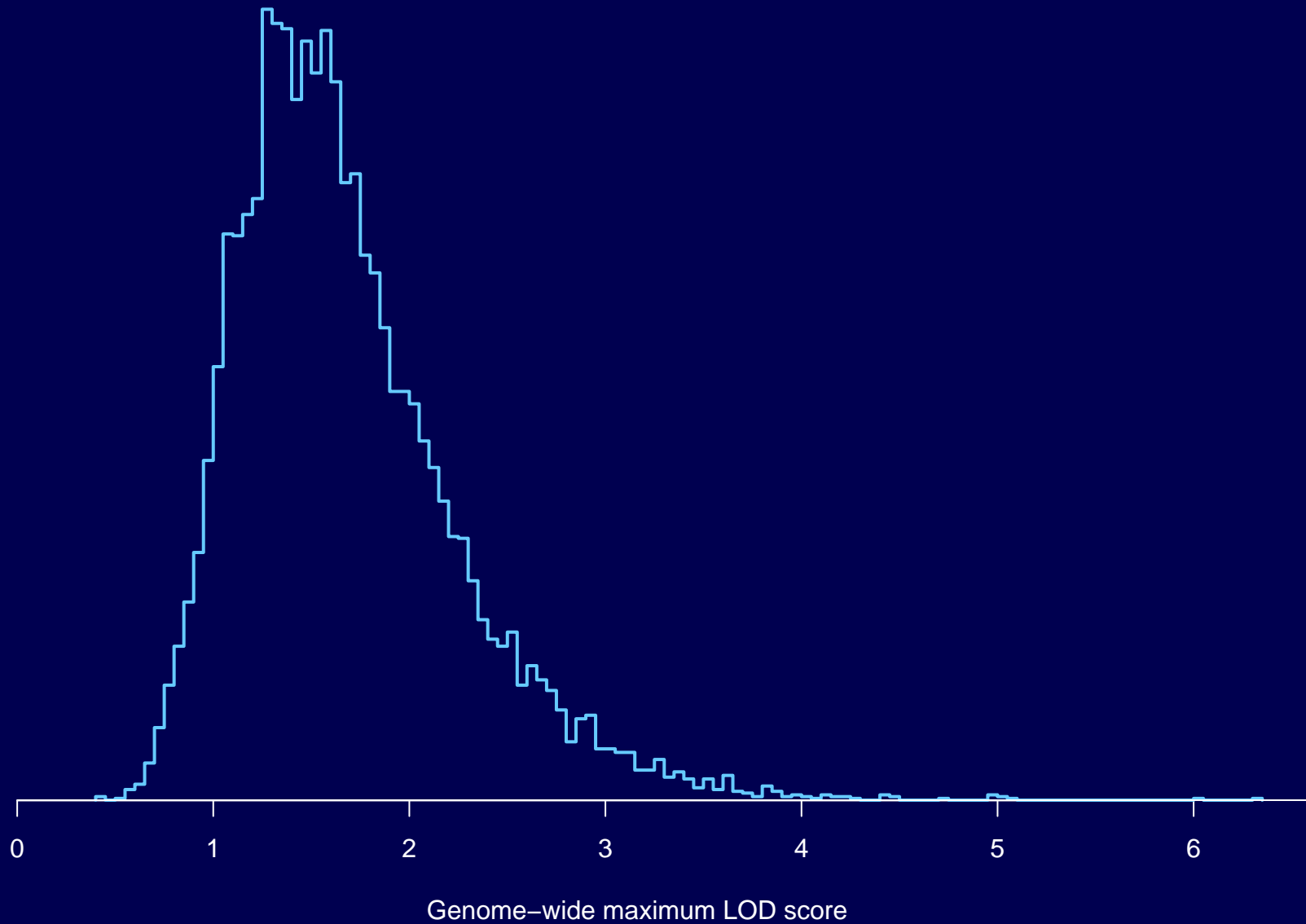
# LOD curves



# LOD curves

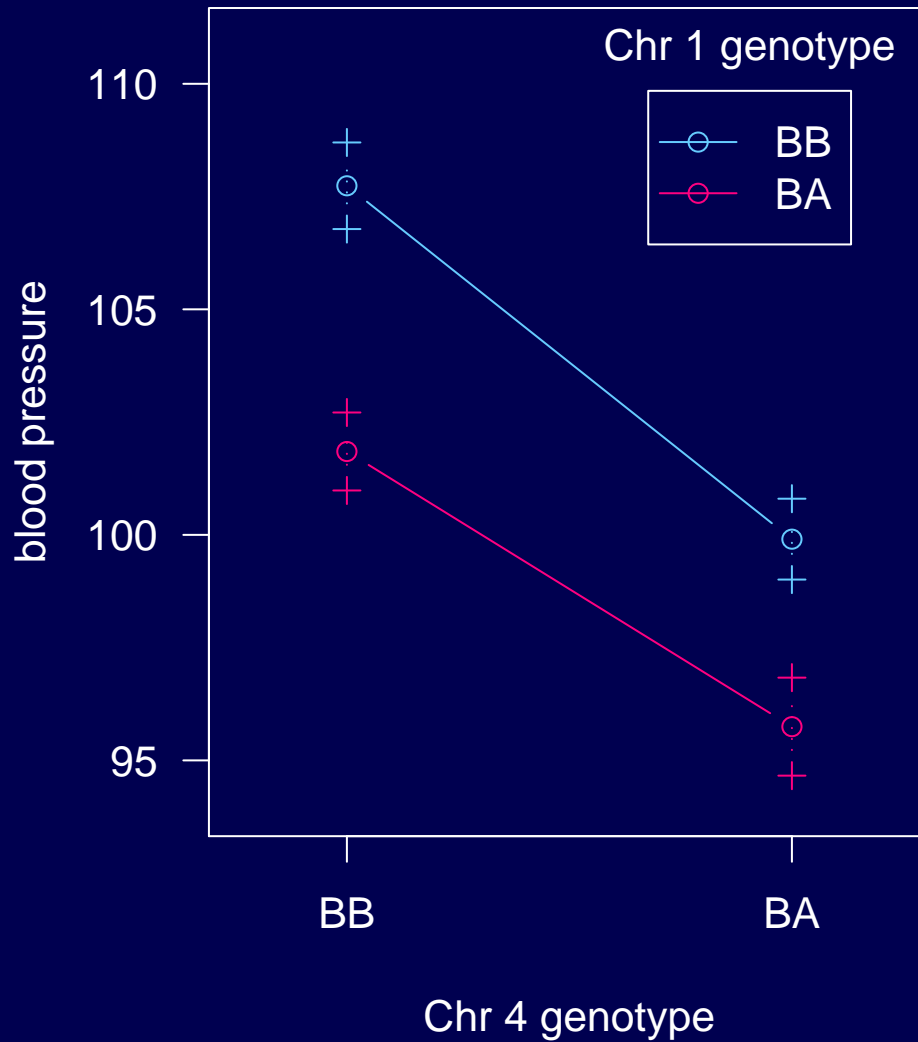


# Permutation results

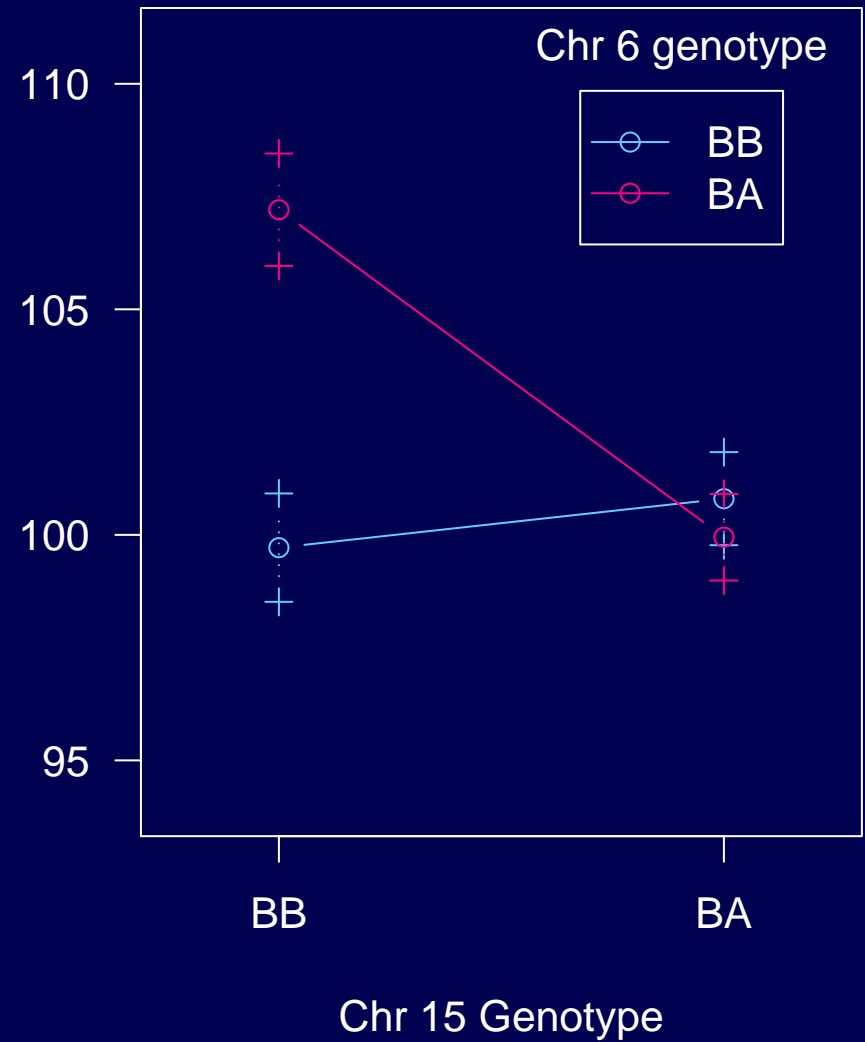


# Epistasis

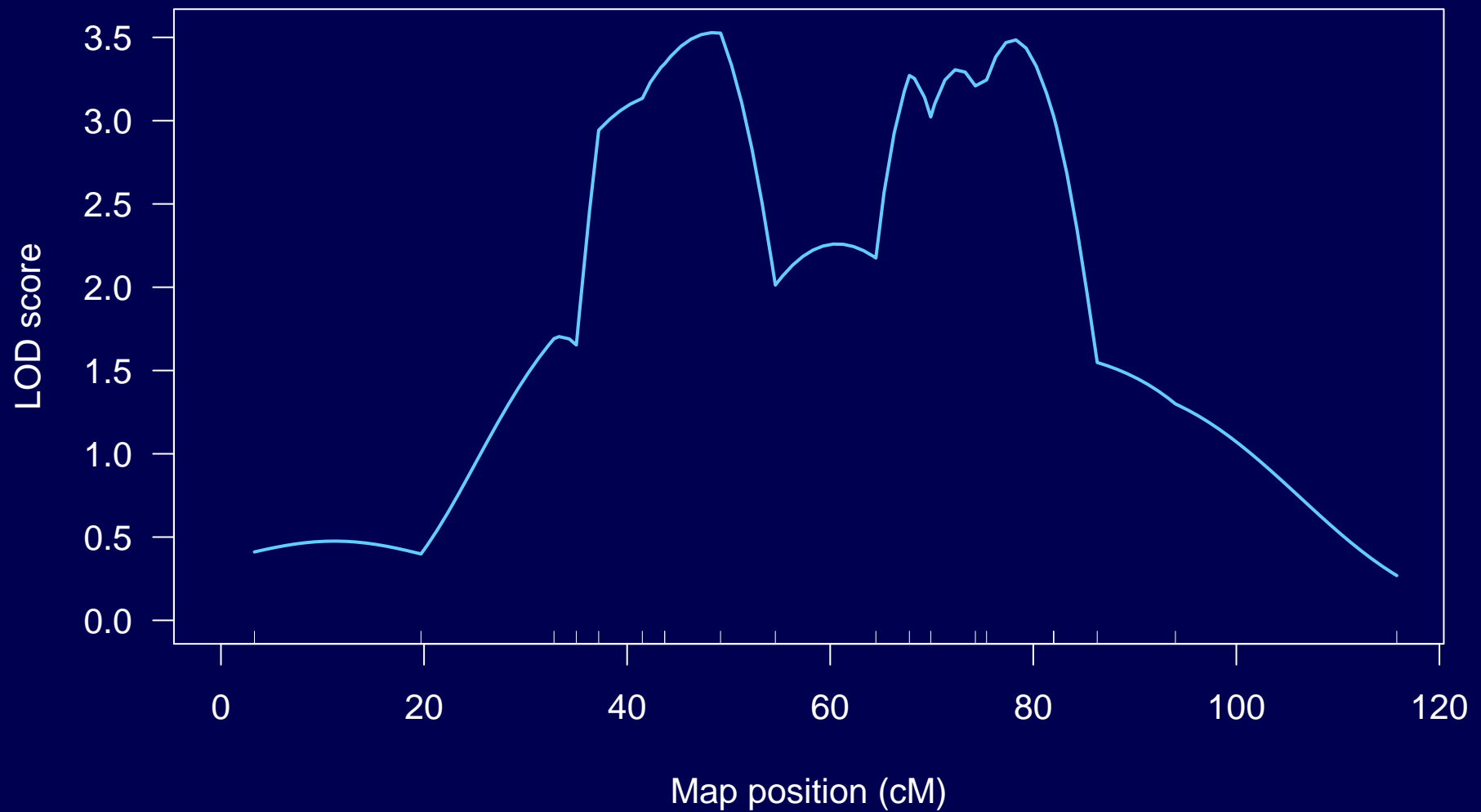
1 x 4



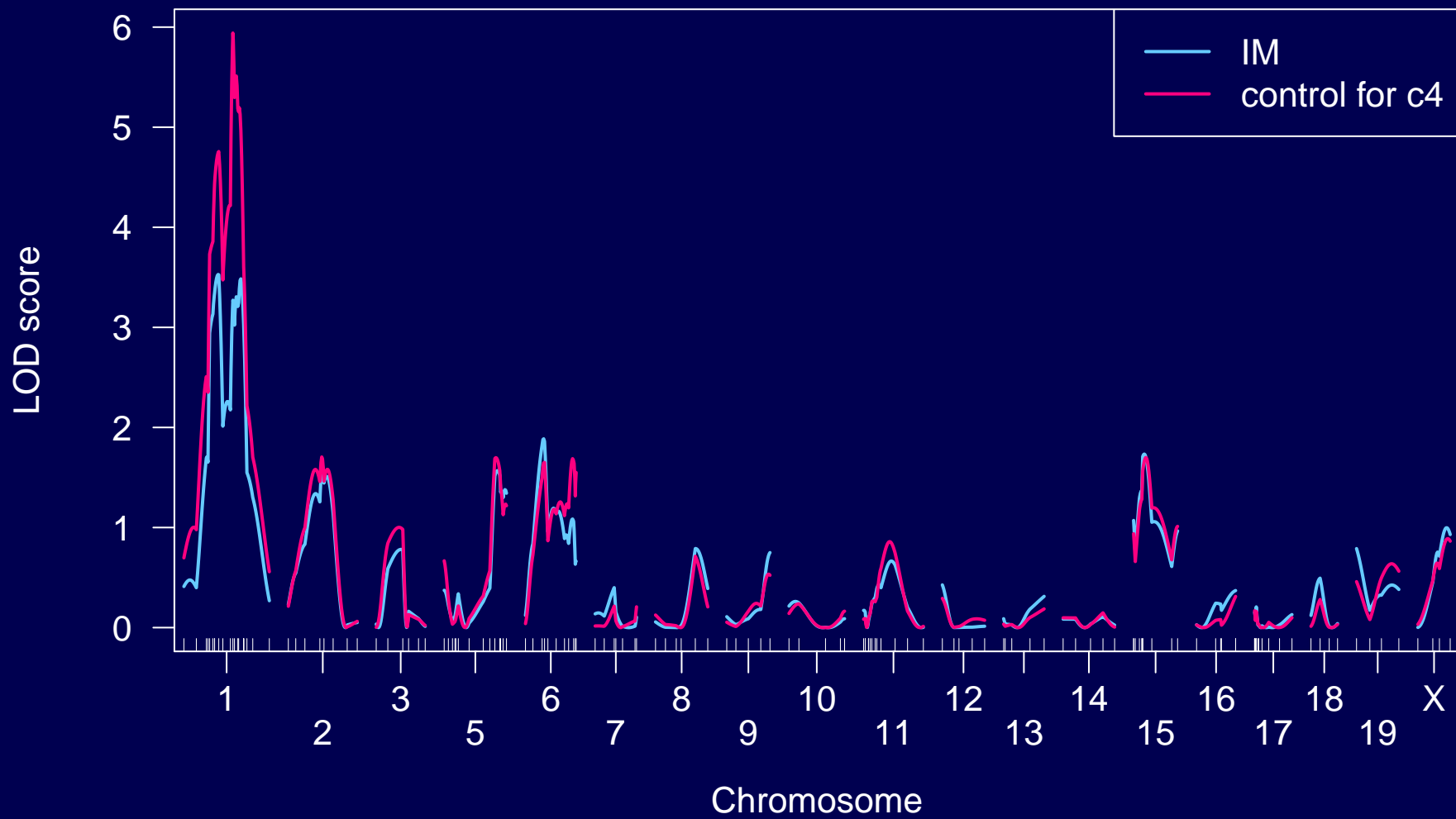
6 x 15



# Linked QTL?



# Control for chr 4



# Model selection

- Choose class of models
- Fit a model
- Search model space
- Compare models

# Target

- Selection of a model includes two types of errors:
  - Miss important terms (QTLs or interactions)
  - Include extraneous terms
- Identify as many correct terms as possible, while controlling the rate of inclusion of extraneous terms.
- More concerned about extraneous loci than about extraneous interactions.

# What is special here?

- Goal: identify the major players
- A continuum of ordinal-valued covariates (the genetic loci)
- Association among the covariates
  - Loci on different chromosomes are independent
  - Along chromosome, a very simple (and known) correlation structure

# Additive QTL

Simple situation:

- Dense markers
- Complete genotype data
- No epistasis

$$y = \mu + \sum \beta_j \mathbf{q}_j + \epsilon \quad \text{which } \beta_j \neq 0?$$

$$\text{pLOD}(\gamma) = \text{LOD}(\gamma) - \mathbf{T} |\gamma|$$

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$$0 \text{ vs } 1 \text{ QTL: } \text{pLOD}(\emptyset) = 0$$

$$\text{pLOD}(\{\lambda\}) = \text{LOD}(\lambda) - \mathbf{T}$$

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$$\text{pLOD}(\gamma) = \text{LOD}(\gamma) - T |\gamma|$$

For the mouse genome:

$$T = 2.69 \text{ (BC) or } 3.52 \text{ (F}_2\text{)}$$

# Experience

- Controls rate of inclusion of extraneous terms
- Forward selection over-selects
- Forward selection followed by backward elimination works as well as MCMC
- Need to define performance criteria
- Need large-scale simulations

# Epistasis

$$\mathbf{y} = \mu + \sum \beta_j \mathbf{q}_j + \sum \gamma_{jk} \mathbf{q}_j \mathbf{q}_k + \epsilon$$

$$\text{pLOD}(\gamma) = \text{LOD}(\gamma) - T_m |\gamma|_m - T_i |\gamma|_i$$

$T_m$  = as chosen previously

$T_i$  = ?

# Idea 1

Imagine there are two additive QTL and consider a 2d, 2-QTL scan.

$$T_i = 95\text{th percentile of the distribution of} \\ \max \text{LOD}_f(s, t) - \max \text{LOD}_a(s, t)$$

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For the mouse genome:

$$T_m = 2.69 \text{ (BC) or } 3.52 \text{ (F}_2\text{)}$$

$$T_i^H = 2.62 \text{ (BC) or } 4.28 \text{ (F}_2\text{)}$$

## Idea 2

Imagine there is one QTL and consider a 2d, 2-QTL scan.

$$T_m + T_i = 95\text{th percentile of the distribution of} \\ \max \text{LOD}_f(s, t) - \max \text{LOD}_1(s)$$

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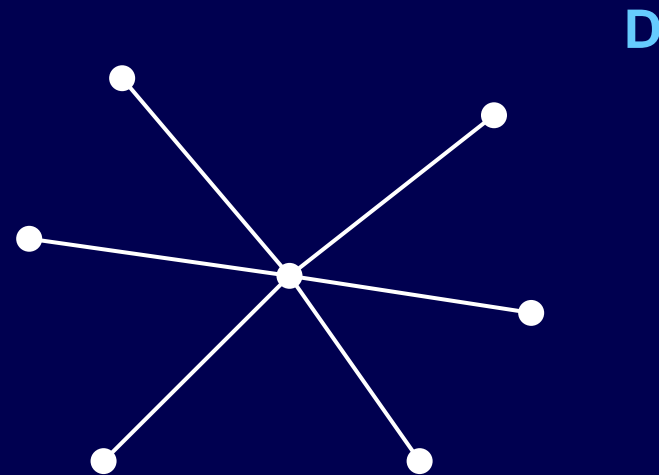
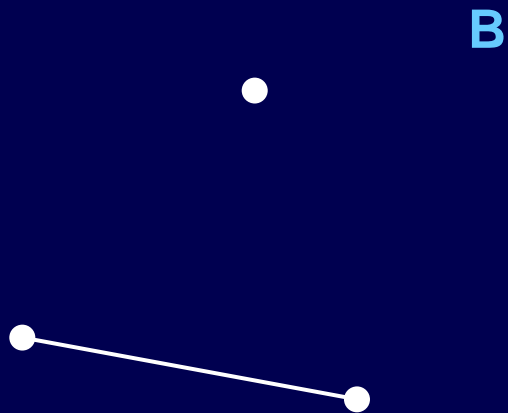
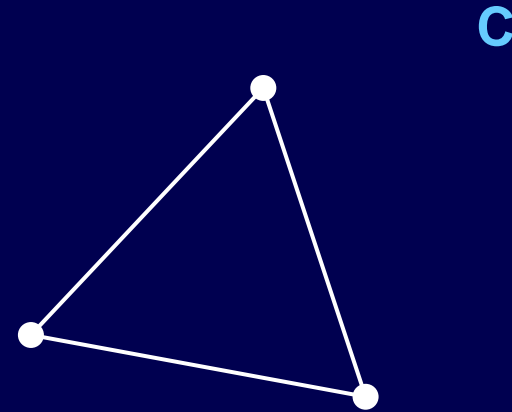
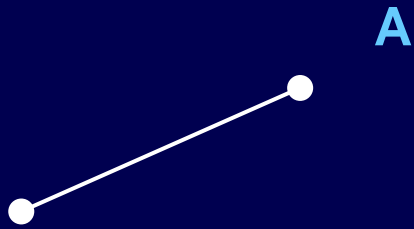
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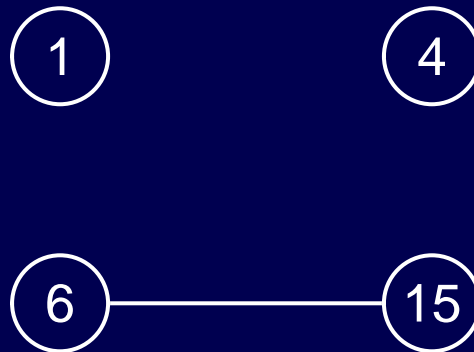
$$T_i^H = 2.62 \text{ (BC) or } 4.28 \text{ (F}_2\text{)}$$

$$T_i^L = 1.19 \text{ (BC) or } 2.69 \text{ (F}_2\text{)}$$

# Models as graphs

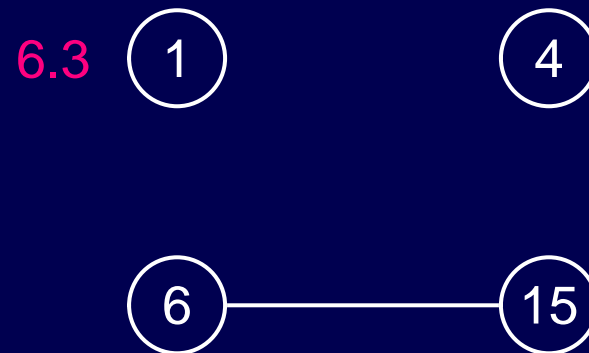


# Results



LOD = 23.1

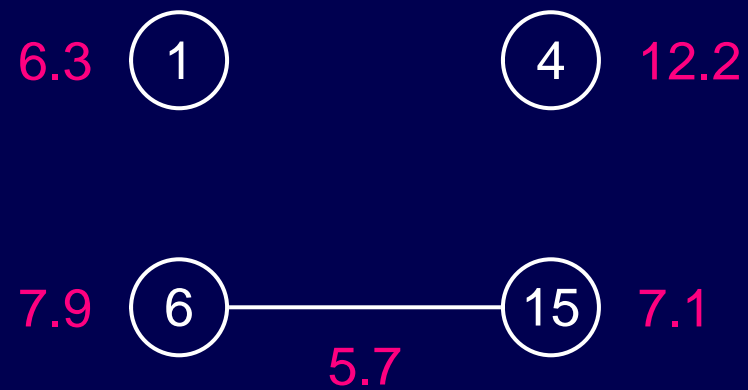
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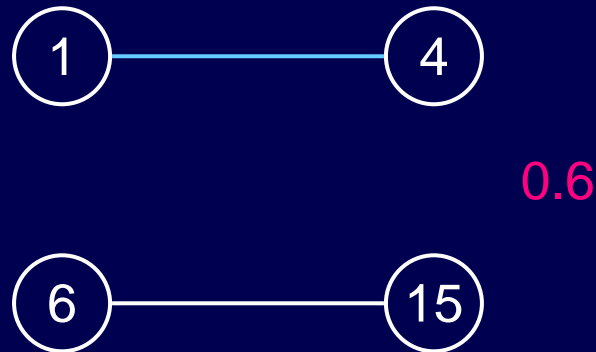
$$T_m = 2.69 \quad T_i^H = 2.62 \quad T_i^L = 1.19 \quad T_m + T_i^H = 5.31 \quad T_m + T_i^L = 3.88 \quad 2T_m = 5.38$$

# Results



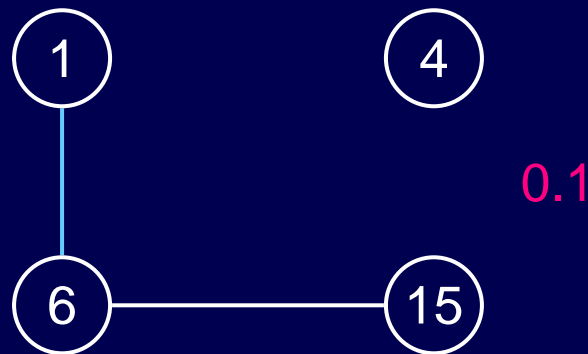
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# Add an interaction?



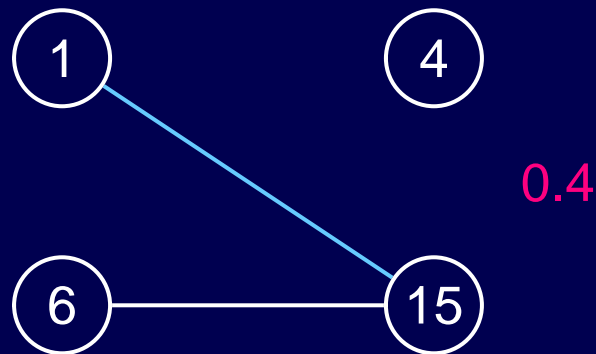
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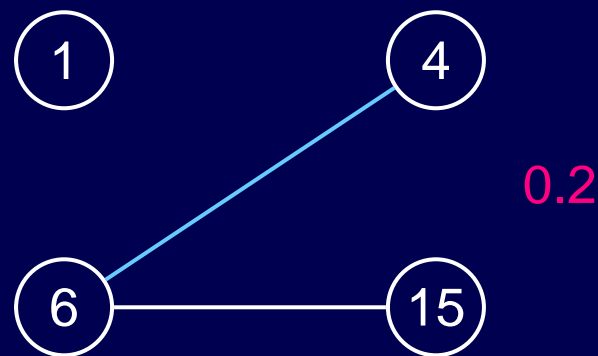
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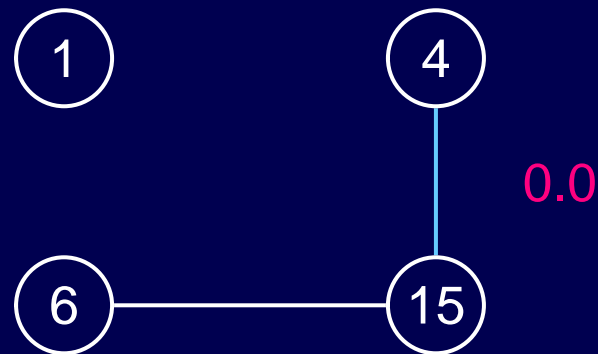
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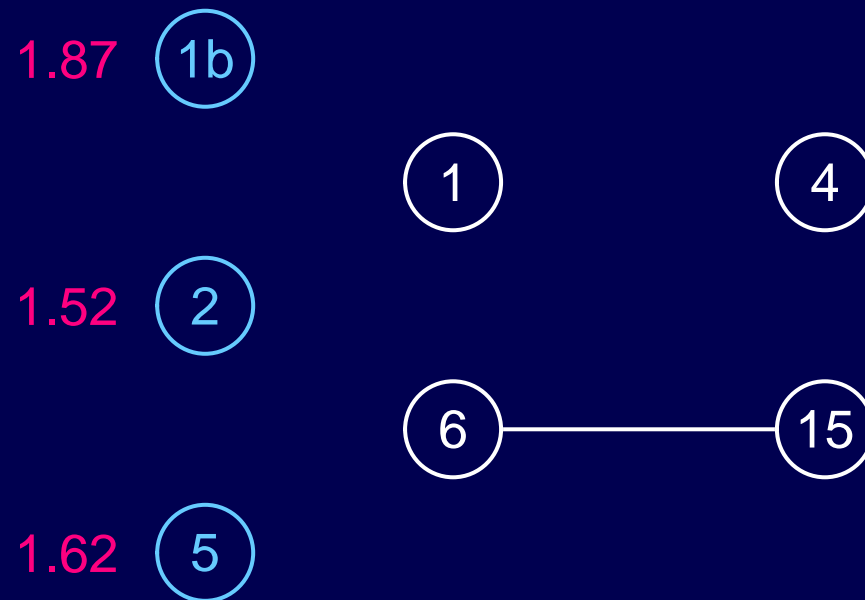
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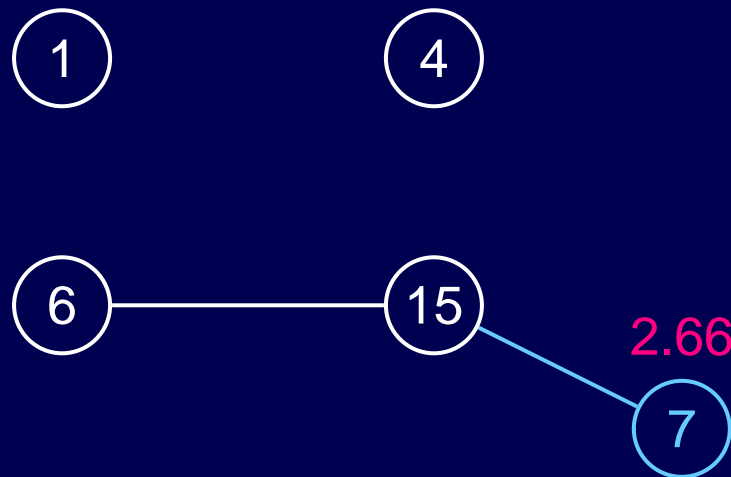
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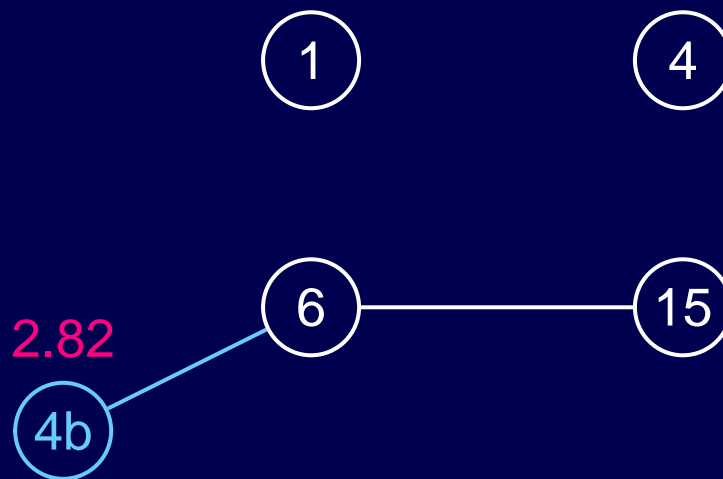
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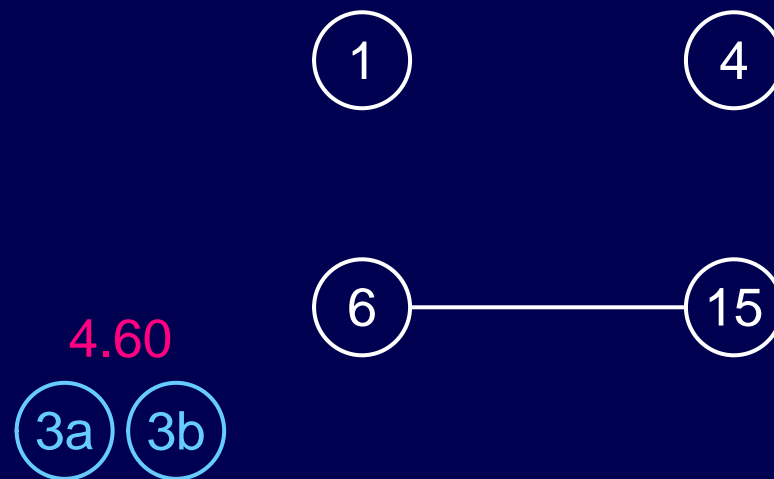
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# Add a pair of QTL?



$$T_m = 2.69 \quad T_i^H = 2.62 \quad T_i^L = 1.19 \quad T_m + T_i^H = 5.31 \quad T_m + T_i^L = 3.88 \quad 2T_m = 5.38$$

# To do

- Improve search procedures
- X chromosome
- QTL  $\times$  covariate interactions
- Measuring model uncertainty
- Measuring uncertainty in QTL location

# Summary

- QTL mapping is a model selection problem
- The criterion for comparing models is most important
- We're focusing on a penalized likelihood method and believe we have a practical solution

Manichaikul A, Moon JY, Sen Ś, Yandell BS, Broman KW (2009) A model selection approach for the identification of quantitative trait loci in experimental crosses, allowing epistasis. *Genetics* 181:1077–1086

# Acknowledgments

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Bev Paigen	Jackson Laboratory