

# Non parametric vs. GBLUP model for genomic evaluation with large reference population in Holstein cattle

*N. Charfeddine<sup>1</sup>, S. T. Rodríguez-Ramilo<sup>1,2</sup>, J. A. Jiménez-Montero<sup>3</sup>,  
M. J. Carabaño<sup>2</sup> and Ó. González- Recio<sup>2,4</sup>*



<sup>1</sup> CONAFE, Madrid. Spain

<sup>2</sup> INIA, Madrid, Spain

<sup>3</sup> UPM, Madrid, Spain

<sup>4</sup> Biosciences Research Division, Victoria, Australia



# BACKGROUND



- November 2012:  
Official Genomic Evaluation was implemented in SPAIN
- ❖ Genomic model:  
NON PARAMETRIC MODEL: R-BOOSTING

Ongoing monitoring showed underestimation of true values for some traits:  
Rear legs side view, Rear legs rear view, Overall Feet & legs  
Longevity and Days open



# OBJECTIVE

The aim of this study was:

To compare the non parametric model :  
**Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Spaces Regression (RKHS)**

with the most popular parametric models :

**GBLUP (GB)**

**GBLUP with polygenic effect (GBP)**

# GENOTYPES



EUROGENOMICS reference population

After edits

**18, 443 genotyped bulls were used**

**After editing : 36,971 SNPs were used**

# PHENOTYPES

## Sire deregressed Proofs (DRP)

### Reference (training) set:

Sires < 2005 with EBV  
INTERBULL Jan'2009

### Validation set :

Sires 2005-2007 with EBV in  
INTERBULL Dec'2011  
Minimum EDC= 15



| Traits                      | $h^2$        | Reference set | Validation set |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Production traits</b>    |              |               |                |
| Milk yield (MY)             | <b>0.28</b>  | 14487         | 3943           |
| Fat yield (FY)              | <b>0.28</b>  | 14487         | 3940           |
| Protein yield (PY)          | <b>0.28</b>  | 14487         | 3938           |
| Fat % (FP)                  | <b>0.35</b>  | 14487         | 3940           |
| Protein % (PP)              | <b>0.31</b>  | 14487         | 3938           |
| <b>Type traits</b>          |              |               |                |
| Stature (STA)               | <b>0.45</b>  | 14308         | 3782           |
| Chest width (CW)            | <b>0.17</b>  | 13127         | 3733           |
| Body depth (BD)             | <b>0.27</b>  | 13751         | 3573           |
| Angularity (ANG)            | <b>0.25</b>  | 13126         | 3943           |
| Rump angle (RA)             | <b>0.34</b>  | 14261         | 3062           |
| Rump width (RW)             | <b>0.31</b>  | 14249         | 3943           |
| Rear legs side view (RLSV)  | <b>0.16</b>  | 14308         | 3752           |
| Rear legs rear view (RLRV)  | <b>0.11</b>  | 12141         | 3790           |
| Foot angle (FA)             | <b>0.12</b>  | 13450         | 3688           |
| Fore udder attachment (FUA) | <b>0.19</b>  | 13516         | 3689           |
| Rear udder attachment (RUA) | <b>0.23</b>  | 12900         | 3706           |
| Suspensory ligament (SL)    | <b>0.21</b>  | 14304         | 3178           |
| Udder depth (UD)            | <b>0.30</b>  | 14306         | 3767           |
| Fore teat placement (FTP)   | <b>0.30</b>  | 14357         | 3685           |
| Rear teat placement (RTP)   | <b>0.30</b>  | 12044         | 3760           |
| Teat length (TL)            | <b>0.29</b>  | 14306         | 3771           |
| Feet & legs (FL)            | <b>0.15</b>  | 13664         | 2889           |
| <b>Functional Traits</b>    |              |               |                |
| Somatic cell score (SCS)    | <b>0.175</b> | 14487         | 3938           |
| Longevity (LONG)            | <b>0.115</b> | 13854         | 226            |
| Days open (DO)              | <b>0.043</b> | 14198         | 3753           |

# Non parametric GENOMIC MODELS



## RKHS (Gianola et al.2006)

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{K}\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \mathbf{e}$$

,Where:

$\mathbf{y}$  : vector of DR proofs in the training set

$\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}$ : parametric term ( $\mathbf{1}\mu$ )

$\mathbf{K}\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  : nonparametric term

$\mathbf{K}$  : is a positive definite matrix of kernels = Genomic Matrix (VanRaden, 2008)

$\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  : is a vector of nonparametric coefficients distributed as  $N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}^{-1}\sigma_{\alpha}^2)$

$$\mathbf{e} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{N}^{-1}\sigma_e^2)$$

Genomic breeding value  $u = \mathbf{K}\boldsymbol{\alpha}$

RKHS was solved in a Bayesian context using Gibbs Sampling

# Parametric GENOMIC MODELS

**GB**

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{1}\mu + \mathbf{Zg} + \mathbf{e}$$

,where:

$\mathbf{y}$  : vector of DR proofs of sires in the training set

$\mu$  : Overall mean

$\mathbf{Z}$ : incidence matrix

$\mathbf{g}$  : vector of random marker effects .

$$\mathbf{g} \sim N(0, \mathbf{G} \sigma_g^2)$$

$\mathbf{e}$  : random residual effect  $\mathbf{e} \sim N(0, \mathbf{I} \sigma_e^2)$

**Genomic breeding value  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{Zg}$**

$\mathbf{G}^{-1}$  and  $\mathbf{G}^{-1}_\omega$  were calculated using program provided by Ismo Strandén.  
G-BLUP solutions were calculated using Mix99

**GBP**

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{1}\mu + \mathbf{Zg}_\omega + \mathbf{e}$$

,where:

$$\mathbf{g}_\omega = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{g}$$

$\mathbf{u}$ : vector of residual polygenic effects

$\mathbf{g}$ : vector of random marker effects

$$Var(\mathbf{g}_\omega) = [\omega \mathbf{A} + (1-\omega) \mathbf{G}] \sigma_{g_\omega}^2 \quad G_\omega = \omega A + (1-\omega) G^*$$

$\mathbf{A}$ : pedigree-based relationship matrix

$\mathbf{G}^*$ : adjusted genomic relationship matrix (Gao et al., 2012)

$\omega$ : ratio of residual polygenic to total additive genetic variance

$$\mathbf{e} : \text{random residual effect } \mathbf{e} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I} \sigma_e^2)$$

W [ GBP-5%  
GBP-10% ]



# CRITERIA FOR MODEL COMPARISON

- Weighted Pearson Correlation between Predicted DGV and DRP
- Regression coefficient of DRP on DGV
- Mean Square Error
- Selection effectiveness: Percentage of bulls truly ranked

**Mean and Confidence intervals were estimated using  
Bootstrapped samples**

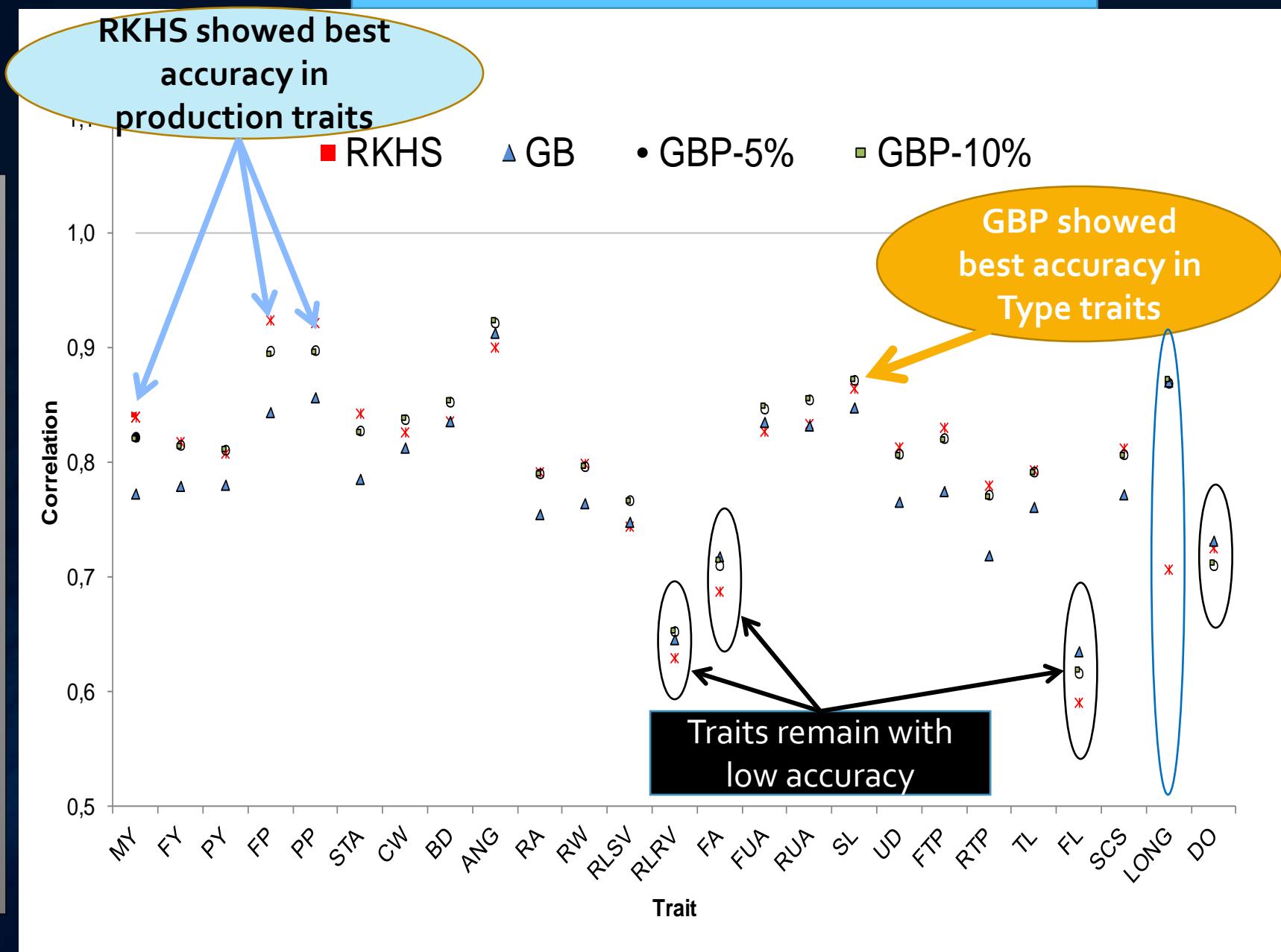
1000 samples were drawn with  
replacement from the whole testing set

# RESULTS

## CORRELATION

- CI overlapped across models
- RKHS showed best accuracy than simple GB
- GB results improved including polygenic effect
- GBP-5% and GBP-10% showed the same accuracy

Figure 1. Correlation of predictions

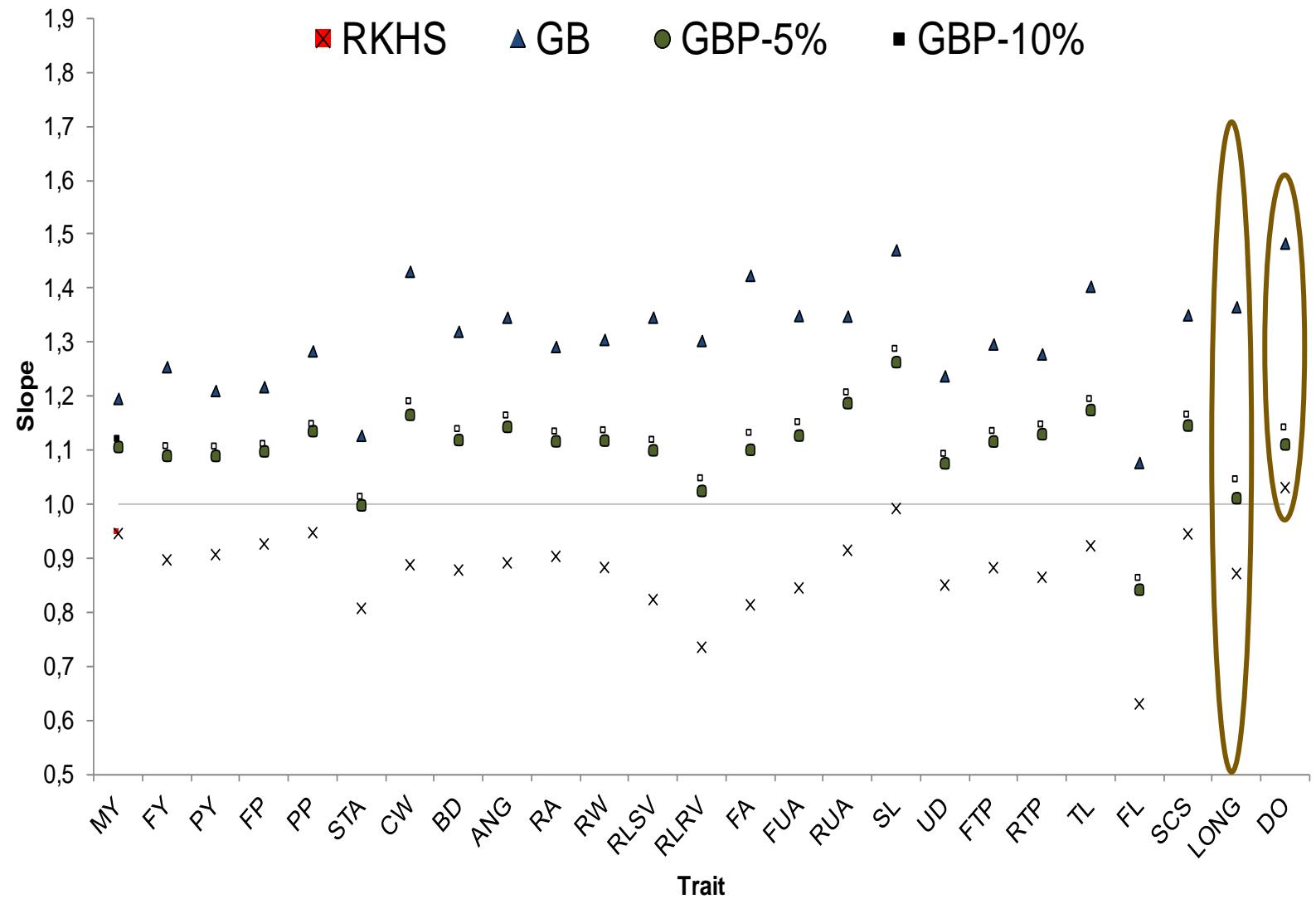


# RESULTS

## REGRESSION COEFFICIENT

- RKHS b-values < 1
- GB b-values > 1.
- GBP led to less bias than GB
- GBP-5% showed slightly better result than GBP-10%
- LONG and DO CI overlapped across models

Figure 2. slope of predictions



# RESULTS

## MEAN SQUARED ERROR



### Production traits

| Trait | RKHS  | GB                                   | GBP-5%                               | GBP-10%                              |
|-------|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| MY    | <b>177438.45</b><br>(169456.35 - 185618.44) | 237846.66<br>(227314.84 - 247675.13) | 196069.36<br>(187370.43 - 204453.62) | 198435.17<br>(190483.75 - 207213.51) |
| FY    | <b>300.36</b> (287.43 - 315.38)             | 358.92 (343.71 - 374.58)             | 307.86 (295.32 - 322.29)             | 310.79 (297.58 - 325.50)             |
| PY    | <b>210.49</b> (200.32 - 219.33)             | 271.67 (260.71 - 283.52)             | 227.00 (217.10 - 237.71)             | 229.06 (217.27 - 239.22)             |
| FP    | <b>0.02</b> (0.02 - 0.02)                   | 0.03 (0.03 - 0.03)                   | <b>0.02</b> (0.02 - 0.02)            | <b>0.02</b> (0.02 - 0.03)            |
| PP    | <b>0.01</b> (0.01 - 0.01)                   | <b>0.01</b> (0.01 - 0.01)            | <b>0.01</b> (0.01 - 0.01)            | <b>0.01</b> (0.01 - 0.01)            |

- RKHS showed smaller MSE in production traits

# RESULTS

## MEAN SQUARED ERROR

- MSE CI overlapped across models
- GBP showed smaller MSE in type traits
- GBP-5% and GBP-10% showed similar MSE

### Type traits

| Trait | RKHS                      | GB                 | GBP-5%                    | GBP-10%                   |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| STA   | 0.51 (0.49 - 0.54)        | 0.54 (0.52 - 0.56) | <b>0.47</b> (0.45 - 0.49) | <b>0.47</b> (0.45 - 0.49) |
| CW    | 1.39 (1.33 - 1.46)        | 1.50 (1.43 - 1.57) | <b>1.37</b> (1.31 - 1.44) | 1.38 (1.32 - 1.44)        |
| BD    | 1.03 (0.98 - 1.08)        | 1.08 (1.03 - 1.13) | <b>0.99</b> (0.95 - 1.04) | 1.00 (0.95 - 1.04)        |
| ANG   | 0.83 (0.78 - 0.87)        | 0.91 (0.86 - 0.96) | <b>0.82</b> (0.77 - 0.86) | <b>0.82</b> (0.77 - 0.87) |
| RA    | 0.82 (0.78 - 0.86)        | 0.91 (0.87 - 0.95) | <b>0.81</b> (0.77 - 0.85) | 0.82 (0.78 - 0.86)        |
| RW    | <b>0.84</b> (0.80 - 0.88) | 0.94 (0.89 - 0.98) | <b>0.84</b> (0.80 - 0.88) | <b>0.84</b> (0.81 - 0.89) |
| RLSV  | 1.31 (1.24 - 1.37)        | 1.32 (1.25 - 1.39) | <b>1.24</b> (1.18 - 1.30) | <b>1.24</b> (1.19 - 1.31) |
| RLRV  | 2.02 (1.93 - 2.12)        | 2.02 (1.92 - 2.11) | <b>1.93</b> (1.83 - 2.02) | 1.94 (1.85 - 2.03)        |
| FA    | 2.21 (2.11 - 2.32)        | 2.23 (2.12 - 2.34) | <b>2.15</b> (2.06 - 2.27) | <b>2.15</b> (2.05 - 2.25) |
| FUA   | <b>1.25</b> (1.19 - 1.31) | 1.44 (1.38 - 1.51) | 1.27 (1.21 - 1.33)        | 1.28 (1.22 - 1.33)        |
| RUA   | <b>0.99</b> (0.94 - 1.04) | 1.20 (1.14 - 1.25) | 1.03 (0.98 - 1.08)        | 1.04 (0.99 - 1.09)        |
| SL    | <b>1.30</b> (1.24 - 1.37) | 1.57 (1.50 - 1.65) | 1.40 (1.33 - 1.47)        | 1.42 (1.35 - 1.49)        |
| UD    | <b>0.71</b> (0.68 - 0.74) | 0.85 (0.81 - 0.89) | <b>0.71</b> (0.68 - 0.75) | 0.72 (0.69 - 0.76)        |
| FTP   | <b>0.67</b> (0.64 - 0.71) | 0.81 (0.77 - 0.85) | 0.69 (0.66 - 0.72)        | 0.70 (0.67 - 0.73)        |
| RTP   | <b>0.60</b> (0.58 - 0.63) | 0.70 (0.67 - 0.74) | 0.61 (0.58 - 0.64)        | 0.62 (0.59 - 0.64)        |
| TL    | <b>0.79</b> (0.75 - 0.83) | 0.90 (0.85 - 0.94) | 0.80 (0.76 - 0.84)        | 0.81 (0.77 - 0.85)        |
| FL    | 2.32 (2.22 - 2.44)        | 2.39 (2.27 - 2.52) | <b>2.29</b> (2.17 - 2.39) | 2.30 (2.18 - 2.40)        |



# RESULTS

## MEAN SQUARED ERROR



### Functional traits

| Trait | RKHS                            | GB                       | GBP-5%                   | GBP-10%                         |
|-------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SCS   | <b>93.78</b> (89.75 - 98.55)    | 109.93 (104.78 - 114.54) | 96.95 (92.72 - 101.12)   | 97.84 (93.66 - 102.54)          |
| LONG  | 546.86 (448.09 - 649.12)        | 470.10 (383.25 - 553.54) | 463.45 (376.62 - 548.32) | <b>461.52</b> (381.03 - 550.24) |
| DO    | <b>409.63</b> (384.94 - 434.70) | 413.87 (387.97 - 438.51) | 410.64 (387.59 - 435.65) | 412.10 (387.93 - 437.77)        |

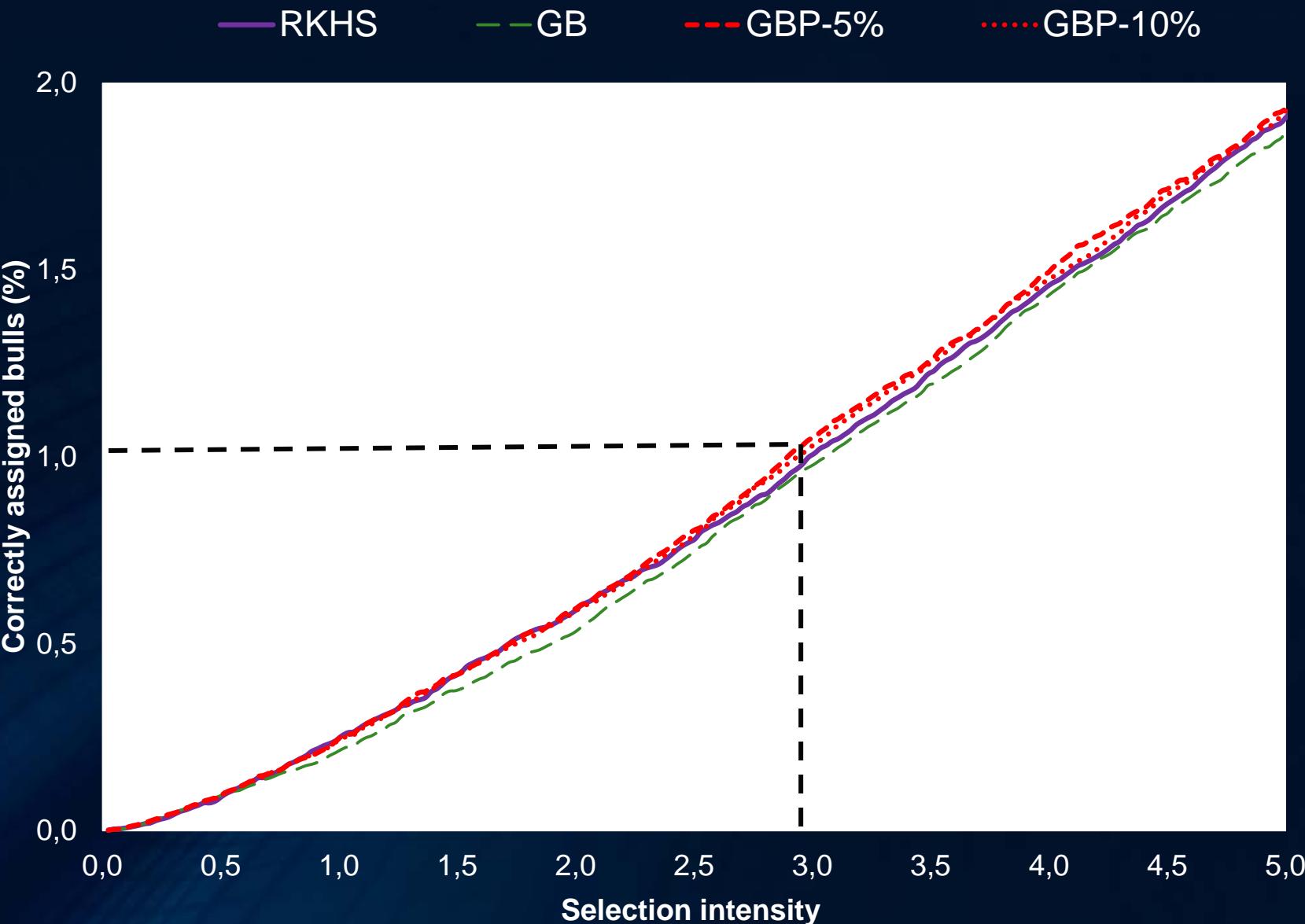
- RKHS showed smaller MSE in SCS and DO
- GBP-10% showed smaller MSE in LONG
- CI overlapped in DO
- CI>> in LONG

# RESULTS

## SELECTION EFFECTIVENESS

- Parametric and Non parametric models showed similar effectiveness in ranking top bulls
- Polygenic effect improve slightly bull ranking by GBLUP model

Figure 3. Percentage of correctly assigned bulls for a given selection intensity



# CONCLUSIONS



- RKHS performed better results than simple GBLUP model
- Polygenic effect improved GBLUP results and matched those of RKHS
- RKHS involve a slight overestimation while GBLUP display an underestimation
- The weighting factors (5 and 10%) of polygenic effect showed similar results for most traits
- Inclusion of polygenic effect in RKHS approach could further improve its performance
- Further research is needed to improve results of some traits and to optimize the computational requirements of RKHS approach

Merci!

