

Import Merlin PED DAT

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Overview

This import script imports PED/DAT files created in MERLIN. File delimiters may be comma, whitespace or tab and allele delimiters may be whitespace or '/'. The data may include several phenotype, covariate and genotype columns.

Recommended Directory Location

Save the script to the following directory:

***..\Application Data\Golden Helix SVS\UserScripts\SVS\Import**

Note: The **Application Data** folder is a hidden folder on Windows operating systems and its location varies between XP and Vista. The easiest way to locate this directory on your computer is to open SVS and select **Tools >Open Folder > UserScripts Folder**. If saved to the proper folder, this script will be accessible from the Project Navigator **Import** menu.

Expected File Formats

The dat file has a row for each marker and phenotype/covariate excluding the first five fixed fields. The files may be comma, whitespace, or tab delimited. The script will look for appropriate columns for type and label.

The ped file is a rectangular delimited text file. Delimiter may be comma, whitespace or tab, however whitespace-delimited is only allowed if the allele delimiter is '/'. The first five columns are fixed and must contain Family ID, Patient ID, Father ID, Mother ID, and Sex. Sex is encoded 1 (male) and 2 (female). The following column types and labels are specified in the dat file.

The Sex column and all columns of type 'A' are expected to be encoded missing/1/2 and converted to ?/0/1 after import. Regardless of where phenotype/covariate columns are found in the dat file, they will appear before the genotype columns in SVS. If no affection or quantitative column is found, an affection status column of all missing values is added after import (to conform to SVS Pedigree format).

Using the Script

1. Open a new or current SVS project and choose **Import >Import Merlin PED DAT**.
2. Choose an appropriate base dataset name, allele delimiter and missing value indicator.
3. Choose the PED and DAT files and their delimiters. Click **OK**.