

General Heterogeneous Moran Processes

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October 13, 2025

1 Introduction

2 Literature Review

3 Model

In this section, we will look at the underlying model of the heterogeneous Moran process. We define the following:

- N **ordered** individuals
- k types A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k
- A state space S given by the set of ordered N -tuples with entries of type A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k . Note that $|S| = k^N$
- A fitness function $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$

Let $h(V, U)$ denote the Hamming distance between two states V and U . We consider a Markov chain, where for the transition $V = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_N) \rightarrow U = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_N)$, the transition probability is defined as follows:

$$P(V, U) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sum_{v_i=u_{i^*}} f(v_i)}{\sum_{v_i} f(v_i)} & \text{if } h(V, U) = 1, \text{ differing at position } i^* \\ 0 & \text{if } h(V, U) > 1 \\ 1 - \sum_{U \in S \setminus \{V\}} P(V, U) & \text{if } h(V, U) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

The final case is given by the following notion. V can transition to itself through the removal of any constituting individual, and the duplication of any individual which shared a type with the removed one. Thus, directly calculating $P(V, V)$ would require a large amount of computational time and effort. However, we can observe that a transition of some sort must occur, and so we simply take the probability of not transitioning to any **different** state as $P(V, V)$.

An important case which proceeds from (1) is that of a transition $V \rightarrow U$ where U contains an individual of a *type* not found in V . For example, the transition $(0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 2)$. This would be forbidden by the intuition of a Moran process - i.e the new individual being the duplication of another individual in V . However, we can see that the standard formula yields $P(V, U) = 0$ because $\nexists v_i \in V : v_i = u_{i^*}$. Following this, we see that (1) also correctly gives us $P(V, U) = 0$ for any **absorbing** $V \neq U$.