

# Demographic history

Jason Hodgson

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Looking at the change in population sizes.

## 1 The fixation of neutral mutations

For any locus,  $2N\mu$  mutations enter a population each generation. Each new neutral mutation has a probability of being fixed equal to its initial frequency. The average number of substitutions per locus per generation is equal to the product of these:

$$2N\mu \times 1/(2N) = \mu \quad (1)$$

$$time to fixation = 4N_e \quad (2)$$

**Constant populations:** Drift mutation equation, mutation and fixation balanced, amount of genetic variation remains constant

**Expanding populations** Mutations faster than fixation, amount of genetic variation increases, excess of rare polymorphisms

**Contracting populations** Fixation faster than mutations, amount of genetic variation decreases, rare polymorphisms go extinct