

Math 112B/212B, Introduction to Mathematical Biology, Homework 7

Suppose a cell colony consists of two types of cells: type 0 and type 1. Cells of type 1 can divide at rate L and mutate into cells of type 0 with probability u . They can also die with rate D . Cells of type 0 can only transform into cells of type 1, at a rate γ , by a process that is not coupled with division. Denote by i the number of cells of type 0 and by j the number of cells of type 1. We have the following probabilities: during time Δt ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prob}(i, j \rightarrow i-1, j+1) &= \gamma i \Delta t, \\ \text{Prob}(i, j \rightarrow i, j+1) &= Lj(1-u)\Delta t, \\ \text{Prob}(i, j \rightarrow i+1, j) &= Lju\Delta t, \\ \text{Prob}(i, j \rightarrow i, j-1) &= Dj\Delta t, \\ \text{Prob}(i, j \rightarrow i, j) &= 1 - \Delta t(\gamma i + (L + D_j)). \end{aligned}$$

Assume that initially, the number of cells of type 0 is $M_0 > 0$ and the number of cells of type 1 is $M_1 > 0$.

1. Denote by $\varphi_{i,j}(t)$ the probability to have i cells of type 0 and j cells of type 1 at time t . Derive the Kolmogorov forward equation for $\varphi_{i,j}(t)$ and formulate the initial value problem. It should look like this:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\varphi}_{0,0} &= \dots, \\ \dot{\varphi}_{0,j} &= \dots, \quad j > 0, \\ \dot{\varphi}_{i,0} &= \dots, \quad i > 0, \\ \dot{\varphi}_{i,j} &= \dots, \quad i > 0, j > 0, \\ \varphi_{i,j}(0) &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

2. Define the expected number of cells of the two types as

$$X \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{i,j} i, \quad Y \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{i,j} j.$$

Derive the initial value problem for these average populations. It should look like this:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{X} &= \dots, \\ \dot{Y} &= \dots, \\ X(0) &= \dots, \quad Y(0) = \dots \end{aligned}$$

Optional: solve this linear system of ODEs.

3. Introduce the probability generating function:

$$\Psi(x, y, t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \varphi_{i,j} x^i y^j,$$

where x and y are NOT the same as the mean values in the previous problem. Derive a PDE for $\Psi(x, y, t)$ together with the initial condition. It should look like this:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x} \dots + \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial y} \dots, \\ \Psi(x, y, 0) &= \dots\end{aligned}$$