

# Competition and space structure in an efficient population genetics model of carcinogenesis

---

Tommaso Tarchi

September 26, 2023

University of Trieste

# Introduction

---

**Title:** Efficient simulation under a population genetics model of carcinogenesis

**Authors:** Zhu Tianqi, Hu Yucheng, Ma Zhi-Ming, Zhang De-Xing, Li Tiejun, Yang Ziheng

**Year:** 2011

**Journal:** Bioinformatics

**Volume:** 27

**Number:** 6

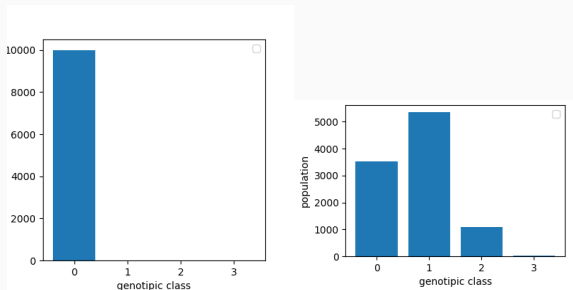
**Pages:** 837-843

## Genotypic space

From the paper: "It is now generally accepted that the rate-limiting step in the process of carcinogenesis is the accumulation of new mutations. [...] Here we develop a hybrid algorithm that can efficiently simulate the evolutionary processes of large populations."

# Genotypic space

From the paper: "It is now generally accepted that the rate-limiting step in the process of carcinogenesis is the accumulation of new mutations. [...] Here we develop a hybrid algorithm that can efficiently simulate the evolutionary processes of large populations."



**Figure 1:** example of population distribution in the genotypic space at  $t = 0$  (left) and  $t = \text{waiting time}$  (right).

# Fixed-population assumptions

- Fixed population.

# Fixed-population assumptions

- Fixed population.
- Fitness landscape:  $f_i = 1.01^i$ .

# Fixed-population assumptions

- Fixed population.
- Fitness landscape:  $f_i = 1.01^i$ .
- Constant and uniform mutation rate ( $\mu$ ).



# Fixed-population assumptions

- Fixed population.
- Fitness landscape:  $f_i = 1.01^i$ .
- Constant and uniform mutation rate ( $\mu$ ).
- Possible events:
  1. a type  $j$  cell is **replaced** by a type  $j'$  one, with rate:

$$a_{jj'} = \frac{x_j f_{j'} x_{j'}}{\sum_{l=0}^{m-1} f_l x_l};$$

2. a type  $j$  cell **mutates** into a type  $j + 1$  one, with rate:

$$a_j = \mu x_j.$$

# Dynamic-population assumptions

- Variable population.

# Dynamic-population assumptions

- Variable population.
- Fitness landscape:  $f_i = 1.01^i$ .

# Dynamic-population assumptions

- Variable population.
- Fitness landscape:  $f_i = 1.01^i$ .
- Constant and uniform mutation rate ( $\mu$ ).

# Dynamic-population assumptions

- Variable population.
- Fitness landscape:  $f_i = 1.01^i$ .
- Constant and uniform mutation rate ( $\mu$ ).
- Possible events:
  1. a type  $j$  cell is **born**, with rate:

$$a_j^b = \frac{\tilde{N}(t) f_j x_j}{\sum_{l=0}^{m-1} f_l x_l},$$

where  $\tilde{N}(t)$  is a parameter capable of controlling the population size;

2. a type  $j$  cell **dies**, with rate:

$$a_j^d = x_j;$$

3. a type  $j$  cell **mutates** into a type  $j + 1$  one, with rate:

$$a_j^m = \mu x_j.$$

## Pseudocode:

1. Compute events rates.
2. Apply Gillespie algorithm to sample time to next event  $e$  and next event.
3. Update time to  $t' = t + e$  and system's state.
4. If population of the  $m$ -th genotypic class is different from zero, set waiting time to  $t'$  and stop, otherwise go back to step 1.

# Hybrid algorithm

## Pseudocode:

1. Compute events rates.
2. Partition events in **critical** and **non-critical** ones.
3. Determine tau-leaping step length  $\tau$ .
4. Determine (by Gillespie's method) time to next critical event  $e$ .
5. If  $e < \tau$ , update system's state according to Gillespie algorithm, otherwise go directly to next step.
6. Let  $h = \min(e, \tau)$ ; update system's state applying tau-leaping algorithm over time  $h$ .
7. Update time to  $t' = t + h$ .
8. If population of the  $m$ -th genotypic class is different from zero, set waiting time to  $t'$  and stop, otherwise go back to step 1.

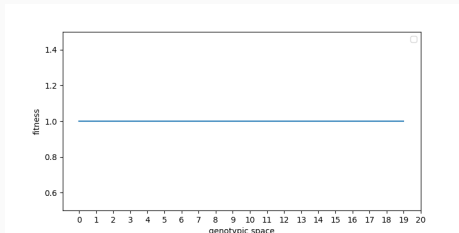
My humble contribute

---



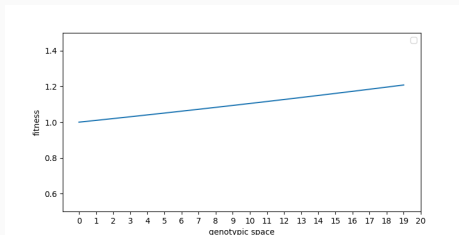
# Fitness landscapes

1. Flat:  $f_i = 1$



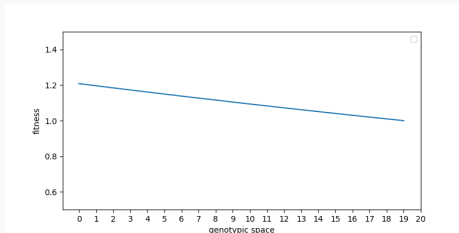
# Fitness landscapes

1. Flat:  $f_i = 1$
2. Static increasing:  $f_i = 1.01^i$



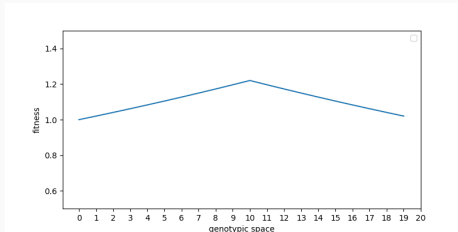
# Fitness landscapes

1. Flat:  $f_i = 1$
2. Static increasing:  $f_i = 1.01^i$
3. Static decreasing:  $f_i = 1.01^{m-i-1}$



# Fitness landscapes

1. Flat:  $f_i = 1$
2. Static increasing:  $f_i = 1.01^i$
3. Static decreasing:  $f_i = 1.01^{m-i-1}$
4. Static 'mountain':  $f_i = 1.01^{m-|m-2i|}$



# Modelling competition

Two assumptions:

- the closer two organisms in the phenotypic space, the more the competition for resources
- the phenotype is strongly correlated to the genotype

# Modelling competition

## Two assumptions:

- the closer two organisms in the phenotypic space, the more the competition for resources
- the phenotype is strongly correlated to the genotype

## Result:

The more 'crowded' a portion of the genotypic space, the lower the fitness of the organisms in that region.

# Fitness landscapes

1. Flat:  $f_i = 1$
2. Static increasing:  $f_i = 1.01^i$
3. Static decreasing:  $f_i = 1.01^{m-i-1}$
4. Static 'mountain':  $f_i = 1.01^{m-|m-2i|}$
5. Static 'mountain' + dynamic:  $f_i = 1.01^{m-|m-2i|} - \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \frac{x_j}{N} \frac{|i-j|}{m}$
6. static decreasing + dynamic:  $f_i = 1.01^{m-i-1} - \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \frac{x_j}{N} \frac{|i-j|}{m}$

## Spatial structure (naive)

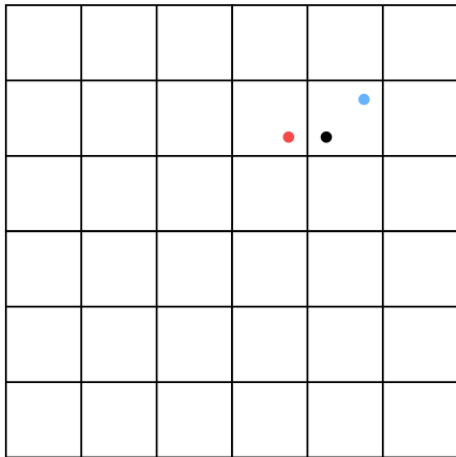


Figure 2: 'world' of the spatial model with resolution=16.



## Spatial structure (less naive)

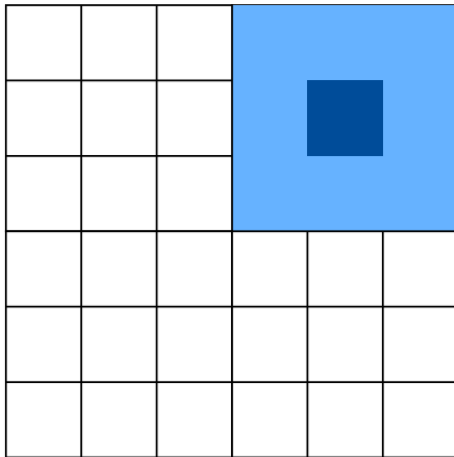


Figure 3: 'world' of the spatial model with resolution=16.

# Spatial structure (less naive)

Three possible events:

1. a type  $j$  cell is born, with rate:

$$a_j^b = \frac{\tilde{N}(t)}{4} \frac{f_j x'_j}{\sum_{l=0}^{m-1} f_l x'_l}, x'_i = x_i + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\{ngb\}} x_k$$

where  $res$  is the resolution and  $\#ngb$  is the number of neighbour areas;

2. a type  $j$  cell dies, with rate:

$$a_j^d = \frac{N}{N + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\{ngb\}} N_k} x'_j;$$

3. a type  $j$  cell mutates into a type  $j + 1$  one, with rate:

$$a_j^m = \frac{N}{N + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\{ngb\}} N_k} \mu x'_j.$$

## Spatial structure (less naive)

Time to next event was **heuristically** fixed by taking at each iteration:

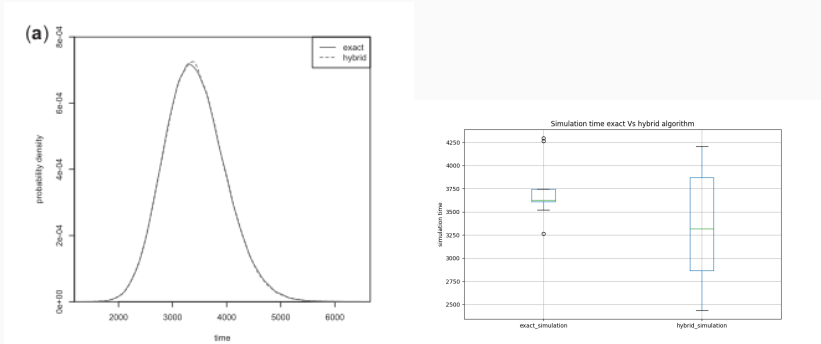
$$e = \min(\{e\}_{areas}) + \frac{\max(\{e\}_{areas}) - \min(\{e\}_{areas})}{2},$$

where  $\{e\}_{areas}$  is the set of times to next critical event computed on each area.

## Simulation results

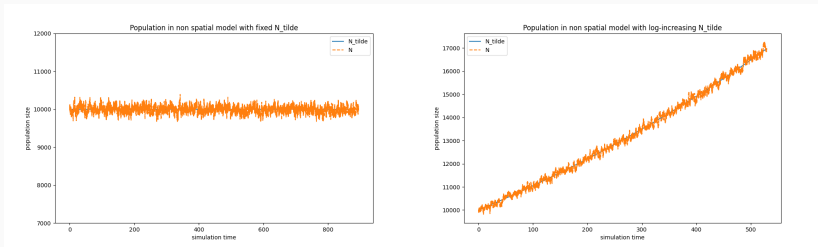
---

# Reproducing results of the original paper



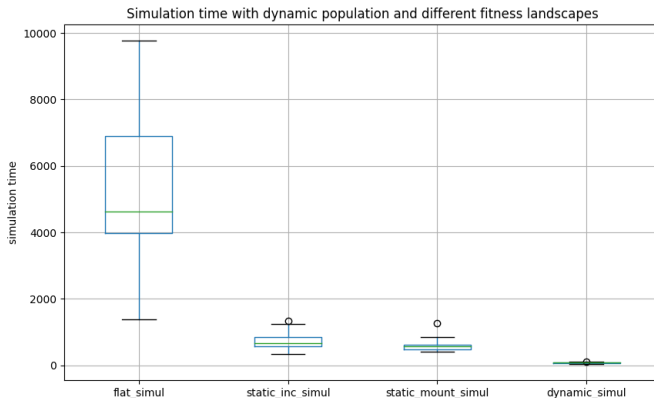
**Figure 4:** comparison of waiting time obtained with fixed-population exact and hybrid algorithms in original paper (**left**) and our work (**right**); parameters:  $N = 10^3$ ,  $m = 20$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-3}$ , fitness: static increasing.

# Reproducing results of the original paper



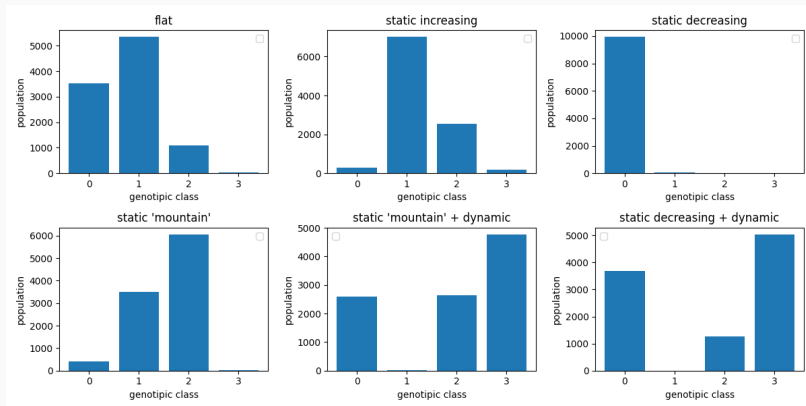
**Figure 5:** behaviour of  $N$  and  $N\_tilde$  in time in our dynamic-population model with constant (**left**) and increasing (**right**)  $\tilde{N}$ ; parameters:  $N = 10^4$ ,  $m = 4$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ , fitness: static increasing.

# Changing the fitness landscape



**Figure 6:** waiting time obtained with fixed-population hybrid model for different fitness landscapes; parameters:  $N = 10^4$ ,  $m = 4$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ ; **note:** static *increasing* fitness did not converge within an acceptable time.

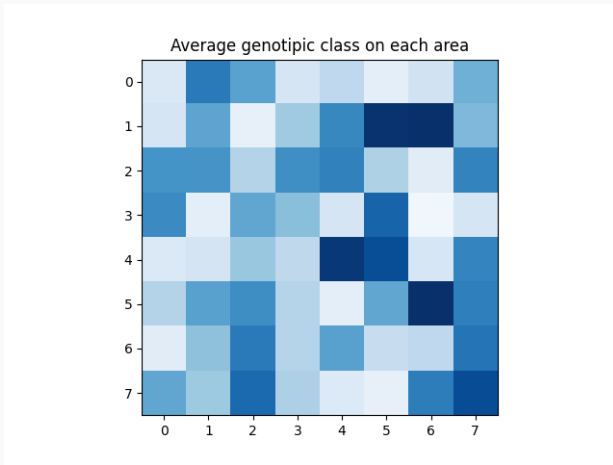
# Changing the fitness landscape



**Figure 7:** final state obtained with fixed-population hybrid model for different fitness landscapes; parameters:  $N = 10^4$ ,  $m = 4$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ .

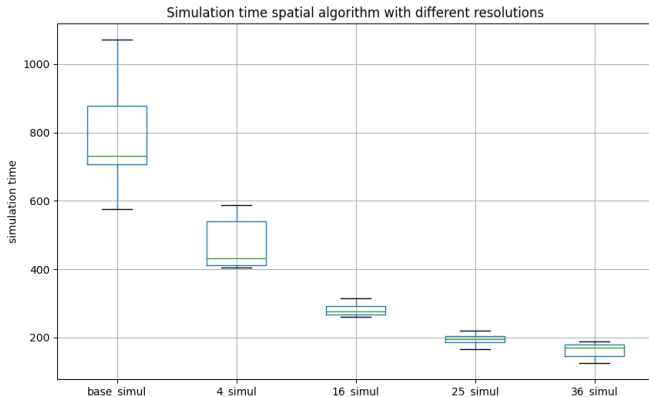


# Introducing space



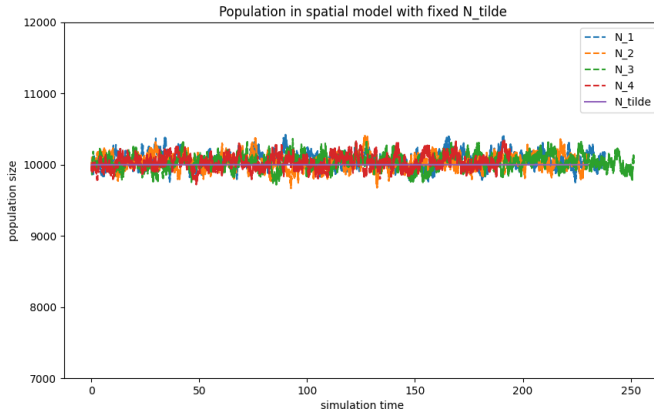
**Figure 8:** final distribution of the average genotypic class in space obtained with spatial model; parameters:  $\tilde{N} = 10^4$  (constant),  $m = 4$ , resolution = 64,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ , fitness: static increasing.

# Waiting time in spatial model



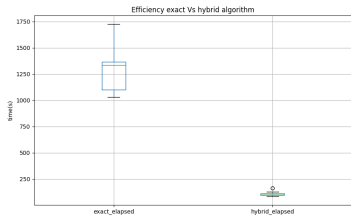
**Figure 9:** waiting time obtained with spatial model for different resolutions (from 1 to 36); parameters:  $\tilde{N} = 10^4$  (constant),  $m = 4$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ , fitness: static increasing.

# Population in spatial model

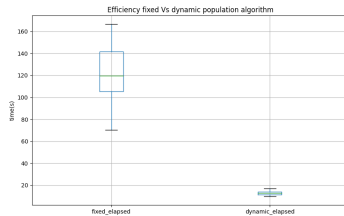


**Figure 10:**  $N$ 's behaviour in time for four simulations of the same spatial model; parameters:  $\tilde{N} = 10^4$ ,  $m = 4$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ , resolution = 16, fitness: static increasing.

# An efficiency study

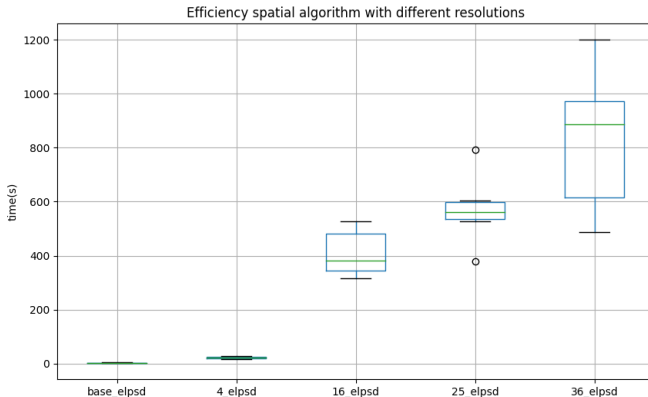


**Figure 11:** efficiency (in seconds) for fixed-population exact and hybrid models; parameters:  $N = 10^3$ ,  $m = 20$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-3}$ , fitness: static increasing.



**Figure 12:** efficiency (in seconds) for fixed-population and dynamic-population hybrid models; parameters:  $N (\tilde{N}) = 10^3$ ,  $m = 20$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-3}$ , fitness: static increasing.

# An efficiency study



**Figure 13:** efficiency (in seconds) of spatial model for different resolutions (from 1 to 36); parameters:  $\tilde{N} = 10^4$  (constant),  $m = 4$ ,  $\mu = 10^{-4}$ , fitness: static increasing.

Thank you!