

# Imperfect strategy transmission can reverse the role of population viscosity on the evolution of altruism

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1 **Abstract**

2 Population viscosity, *i.e.*, low emigration out of the natal deme, leads to high  
3 within-deme relatedness, which is beneficial to the evolution of altruistic behav-  
4 ior when social interactions take place among deme-mates. However, a detri-  
5 mental side-effect of low emigration is the increase in competition among re-  
6 lated individuals. The evolution of altruism depends on the balance between  
7 these opposite effects. This balance is already known to be affected by details  
8 of the life-cycle; we show here that it further depends on the fidelity of strategy  
9 transmission from parents to their offspring. We consider different life-cycles  
10 and identify thresholds of parent-offspring strategy transmission inaccuracy, above  
11 which higher emigration can increase the frequency of altruists maintained in  
12 the population. **EXPLAIN RESULT** Predictions were first obtained analytically  
13 assuming weak selection and equal deme sizes, then confirmed with stochastic  
14 simulations relaxing these assumptions. This result challenges the notion that  
15 the evolution of altruism **REMOVE REQUIRE** requires limited dispersal.

## 16 **Introduction**

17 In his pioneering work on the evolution of social behavior, Hamilton suggested  
18 that altruistic behavior would be associated to limited dispersal (Hamilton, 1964,  
19 p. 10). This notion, that tighter links between individuals are beneficial to the  
20 evolution of altruism, has been shown to hold in a number of population struc-  
21 tures (see *e.g.* Ohtsuki et al., 2006; Taylor et al., 2007a; Lehmann et al., 2007; Allen  
22 et al., 2017). The rationale is that altruism is favored when altruists interact  
23 more with altruists than defectors do (Hamilton, 1975, p. 141; Fletcher & Doe-  
24 beli, 2009), a condition that is met in viscous populations, *i.e.*, populations with  
25 limited dispersal.

26 Yet, living next to your kin also implies competing against them (West et al.,  
27 2002), which is detrimental to the evolution of altruism. The evolution of so-  
28 cial traits hence depends on the balance between the positive effects of inter-  
29 actions with related individuals and the detrimental consequences of kin com-  
30 petition. Under specific conditions, the two effects can even compensate each  
31 other, thereby annihilating the impact of population viscosity on the evolution  
32 of altruism. First identified with computer simulations (Wilson et al., 1992), this  
33 cancellation result was analyzed by Taylor (1992a) in a model with synchronous  
34 generations (*i.e.*, Wright-Fisher model) and a subdivided population of constant,  
35 infinite size. The cancellation result was later extended to heterogeneous pop-  
36 ulations (Rodrigues & Gardner, 2012, with synchronous generations and infinite  
37 population size), and other life-cycles, with generic regular population struc-  
38 tures (Taylor et al., 2011, with synchronous generations but also with continuous  
39 generations and Birth-Death updating). However, small changes in the model's  
40 assumptions, such as overlapping generations (Taylor & Irwin, 2000) or the pres-  
41 ence of empty sites (Alizon & Taylor, 2008) can tip the balance back in the favor  
42 of altruism. This high dependence on life-cycle specificities highlights the dif-  
43 ficulty of making general statements about the role of spatial structure on the

44 evolution of altruism. In this study, we will consider three different life-cycles:  
45 Wright-Fisher, where the whole population is renewed at each time step, and two  
46 Moran life-cycles (Birth-Death and Death-Birth), where a single individual dies  
47 and is replaced at each time step. These life-cycles are classically used in stud-  
48 ies on altruism in structured populations. Even though they differ by seemingly  
49 minor details, they are known to have very different outcomes in models with  
50 perfect parent-offspring transmission (*e.g.*, Taylor, 1992a; Rousset, 2004; Ohtsuki  
51 et al., 2006; Lehmann et al., 2007; Taylor, 2010).

52 A large number of studies on the evolution of social behavior consider simple  
53 population structures (typically, homogeneous populations *sensu* Taylor et al.  
54 (2007a)) and often also infinite population sizes (but see Allen et al., 2017, for  
55 results on any structure). These studies also make use of weak selection approx-  
56 imations, and commonly assume rare (*e.g.*, Leturque & Rousset, 2002; Taylor  
57 et al., 2007b; Tarnita & Taylor, 2014) or absent mutation (for models assuming  
58 infinite population sizes, or models concentrating on fixation probabilities; see  
59 Lehmann & Rousset, 2014; Van Cleve, 2015, for recent reviews). Often, these sim-  
60 plifying assumptions are a necessary step towards obtaining explicit analytical  
61 results. Although artificial, simple population structures (*e.g.*, regular graphs, or  
62 subdivided populations with demes of equal sizes) help reduce the dimension-  
63 ality of the system under study, in particular when the structure of the popula-  
64 tion displays symmetries such that all sites behave the same way in expectation.  
65 Weak selection approximations are crucial for disentangling spatial moments  
66 (Lion, 2016), that is, changes in global *vs.* local frequencies (though they can in  
67 some cases be relaxed, as in Mullan & Lehmann, 2014). Mutation, however, is  
68 usually ignored by classical models of inclusive fitness because these models as-  
69 sume infinite population sizes, so that there is no need to add mechanisms that  
70 restore genetic diversity (Tarnita & Taylor, 2014). In populations of finite size,  
71 this diversifying effect can be obtained thanks to mutation.

72 When strategy transmission is purely genetic, it makes sense to assume that  
73 mutation is relatively infrequent. Even in this case, though, mutations from “so-  
74 cial” to “non-social” types cannot always be neglected. For instance, experi-  
75 ments with the bacteria *Pseudomonas fluorescens* have identified transitions be-  
76 tween populations dominated by the ancestral “solitary” Smooth Morph type  
77 and mat-forming “social” Wrinkly Spreaders, that can be re-invaded by Smooth  
78 Morphs not contributing to the formation of the mat (hence described as “cheaters”).  
79 The transitions between the different types are due to spontaneous mutations  
80 (Hammerschmidt et al., 2014). In addition to genetic transmission, a social strat-  
81 egy can also be culturally transmitted from parent to offspring. In this case, “re-  
82 bellion” (as in Frank’s Rebellious Child Model (Frank, 1997)) does not have to  
83 be infrequent. It is therefore important to understand the impact of imperfect  
84 strategy transmission on the evolution of social behavior, in particular because  
85 it known that imperfect strategy transmission can alter the evolutionary dynam-  
86 ics of social traits, in particular in spatially structured populations (see *e.g.*, Allen  
87 et al., 2012; Débarre, 2017, for graph-structured populations).

88 Here, we want to explore the consequences of imperfect strategy transmis-  
89 sion from parents to their offspring on the evolution of altruistic behavior in  
90 subdivided populations<sup>1</sup>. The question was tackled by Frank (1997), but (as ac-  
91 knowledged in the legend of Fig.7), with a non “fully dynamic model”. Related-  
92 ness was treated like a parameter, which precluded the exploration of the effects  
93 of population viscosity on the evolution altruism.

94 For each of the three life-cycles that we consider, we compute the expected  
95 (*i.e.*, long-term) frequency of altruists maintained in a subdivided population,  
96 and investigate how this frequency is affected by mutation and emigration. We  
97 find that, contrary to what happens with perfect strategy transmission, higher  
98 emigration can increase the expected frequency of altruists in the population.

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<sup>1</sup>Note that for the sake of concision, we use the word “mutation” throughout the paper, keeping in mind that strategy transmission does not have to be genetic.

## 99 **Model and methods**

### 100 **Assumptions**

101 We consider a population of size  $N$ , subdivided into  $N_D$  demes connected by  
 102 dispersal, each deme hosting exactly  $n$  individuals (*i.e.*, each deme contains  $n$   
 103 sites, each of which is occupied by exactly one individual; we have  $nN_D = N$ ).  
 104 Each site has a unique label  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq N$ . There are two types of individuals in  
 105 the population, altruists and defectors. The type of the individual living at site  $i$   
 106 ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ) is given by an indicator variable  $X_i$ , equal to 1 if the individual is an  
 107 altruist, and to 0 if it is a defector. The state of the entire population is given by  
 108 a  $N$ -long vector  $\mathbf{X}$ . For a given population state  $\mathbf{X}$ , the proportion of altruists is  
 109  $\bar{X} = \sum_{i=1}^N X_i$ . All symbols are summarized in table A1.

110 Reproduction is asexual. The offspring of altruists are altruists themselves  
 111 with probability  $1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}$ , and are defectors otherwise ( $0 < \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} \leq 1/2$ ). Similarly,  
 112 the offspring of defectors are defectors with probability  $1 - \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}$ , and are altruists  
 113 otherwise ( $0 < \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1} \leq 1/2$ ). Our calculations will be simpler if we introduce the  
 114 following change of parameters:

{eq:changemut}

$$\nu = \frac{\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}}{\mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} + \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}} \quad (0 < \nu < 1), \text{ and} \quad (1a) \quad \{\text{eq:nu}\}$$

$$\mu = \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} + \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1} \quad (0 < \mu \leq 1). \quad (1b) \quad \{\text{eq:mu}\}$$

115 The composite parameter  $\nu$  corresponds to the expected frequency of altruists  
 116 in the population at the mutation-drift balance (*i.e.*, in the absence of selection;  
 117 see Appendix A for details). We call  $\nu$  the “mutation bias” parameter. Parameter  
 118  $\mu$  is the sum of the two mutation probabilities. In the absence of selection, at the  
 119 mutation-drift equilibrium, the correlation between the type of offspring and  
 120 the type of their parent is  $1 - \mu$  (see Appendix A for details for the calculation).  
 121 We call  $\mu$  the mutation intensity.

122 An individual of type  $X_k$  expresses a social phenotype  $\phi_k = \delta X_k$ , where  $\delta$  is

assumed to be small ( $\delta \ll 1$ ). Social interactions take place within each deme, benefits are shared with the  $n - 1$  other deme-mates. We assume that social interactions affect individual fecundity;  $f_k$  denotes the fecundity of the individual at site  $k$ . We denote by  $b$  the sum of the marginal effects of deme-mates' phenotypes on the fecundity of a focal individual, and by  $-c$  the marginal effect of a focal individual's phenotype on its own fecundity ( $c \leq b$ ; see system (A22) for formal definitions).

Offspring remain in the parental deme with probability  $1 - m$ ; when they do, they land on any site of the deme with equal probability (including the very site of their parent). With probability  $m$ , offspring emigrate to a different deme, chosen uniformly at random among the other demes. Denoting by  $d_{ij}$  the probability of moving from site  $i$  to site  $j$ , we have

$$d_{ij} = \begin{cases} d_{\text{in}} = \frac{1-m}{n} & \text{if both sites are in the same deme;} \\ d_{\text{out}} = \frac{m}{(N_D-1)n} & \text{if the two sites are in different demes,} \end{cases} \quad (2) \quad \{\text{eq: defD}\}$$

with  $0 < m < 1 - \frac{1}{N_D}$ . (This upper bound is here to ensure that within-deme relatedness  $R$ , which will be defined later in the article, remains positive.)

We denote by  $B_i = B_i(\mathbf{X}, \delta)$  the expected number of successful offspring of the individual living at site  $i$  (successful means alive at the next time step), and by  $D_i = D_i(\mathbf{X}, \delta)$  the probability that the individual living at site  $i$  dies. Both depend on the state of the population  $\mathbf{X}$ , but also on the way the population is updated from one time step to the next, *i.e.*, on the chosen life-cycle (also called updating rule). We also define

$$W_i := (1 - \mu)B_i + 1 - D_i, \quad (3) \quad \{\text{eq: defW}\}$$

a particular definition of fitness, where the number of offspring produced ( $B_i$ ) is scaled by the parent-offspring type correlation  $(1 - \mu)$ .

We will specifically explore three different life-cycles. At the beginning of

each step of each life-cycle, all individuals produce offspring, that can be mutated; then these juveniles move, within the parental deme or outside of it, and land on a site. The next events occurring during the time step depend on the life-cycle:

**Moran Birth-Death** : One of the newly created juveniles is chosen at random; it kills the adult who was living at the site, and replaces it; all other juveniles die.

**Moran Death-Birth** : One of the adults is chosen to die (uniformly at random among all adults). It is replaced by one of the juveniles who had landed in its site. All other juveniles die.

**Wright-Fisher** : All the adults die. At each site of the entire population, one of the juveniles that landed there is chosen and establishes at the site.

## Methods

### Analytical part

The calculation steps to obtain the expected (*i.e.*, long-term) proportion of altruists are given in Appendix B. They go as follows: first, we write an equation for the expected frequency of altruists in the population at time  $t + 1$ , conditional on the composition of the population at time  $t$ ; we then take the expectation of this quantity and consider large times  $t$ . After this, we write a first order expansion for phenotypic differences  $\delta$  close to 0 (this corresponds to weak selection approximation).

The formula involves quantities that can be identified as neutral probabilities of identity by descent  $Q_{ij}$ . These quantities correspond to the probability that individuals living at site  $i$  and  $j$  share a common ancestor and that no mutation occurred on either lineage since that ancestor, in a model with no selection ( $\delta = 0$ ) and with mutation probability  $\mu$ ; this is the “mutation definition” of iden-



172 tity by descent (Rousset & Billiard, 2000). In a subdivided population like ours,  
 173 there are three possible values of  $Q_{ij}$ :

$$Q_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } i = j, \\ Q_{\text{in}} & \text{when } i \neq j \text{ and both sites are in the same deme,} \\ Q_{\text{out}} & \text{when both sites are in different demes.} \end{cases} \quad (4) \quad \{\text{eq:Q3}\}$$

174 These neutral probabilities of identity by descent depend on the chosen life-  
 175 cycle, and are also computed by taking the long-term expectation of conditional  
 176 expectations after one time step (see Appendix C.1 and C.2 and supplementary  
 177 Mathematica file (Wolfram Research, Inc., 2017).)

#### 178 **Stochastic simulations**

179 We also ran stochastic simulations (coded in C). The simulations were run for  $10^8$   
 180 generations (one generation is one time step for the Wright-Fisher life-cycle, and  
 181  $N$  time steps for the Moran life-cycles). For each set of parameters and life-cycle,  
 182 using R (R Core Team, 2015), we estimated the long-term frequency of altruists  
 183 by sampling the population every  $10^3$  generations and computing the average  
 184 frequency of altruists. All scripts are available at  
 185 <https://flodebarre.github.io/SocEvolSubdivPop/>

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## 186 Results

### 187 Expected frequencies of altruists for each life-cycle

188 For each of the life-cycles that we consider, the expected frequency of altruists in  
 189 the population,  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$ , can be approximated as

$$\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] \approx \nu + \frac{\delta}{\mu B^*} \nu(1-\nu)(1-Q_{\text{out}}) \times \left[ \underbrace{\frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\bullet}}(-c) + \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\text{in}}}b}_{-\mathcal{C}} + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\bullet}}b + (n-1)\frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\text{in}}}(-c) + (n-2)\frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\text{in}}}b \right)}_{\mathcal{B}} \underbrace{\frac{Q_{\text{in}} - Q_{\text{out}}}{1 - Q_{\text{out}}}}_R \right], \quad (5) \quad \{\text{eq:EXapprox}\}$$

190 with  $W$  as defined in eq. (3). (Calculations leading to eq. (5) are presented in Ap-  
 191 pendix B; notations are recapitulated in table A1.)

192 The expected frequency of altruists in the population is approximated, under  
 193 weak selection ( $\delta \ll 1$ ), by the sum of what it would be in the absence of se-  
 194 lection ( $\mathbb{E}_0[\bar{X}] = \nu$ ), plus a deviation from this value, scaled by  $\delta$ . The  $-\mathcal{C}$  term  
 195 corresponds to the effects of a change of a focal individual's phenotype on its  
 196 own fitness (with the fitness definition given in eq. (3)). The  $\mathcal{B}$  term corresponds  
 197 to the sum of the effects of the change of deme-mates' phenotypes on an indi-  
 198 vidual's fitness. It is multiplied by  $R$ , which is relatedness.

199 The parametrization proposed in eq. (1) allows us to decouple the effects of  
 200 the two new mutation parameters,  $\nu$  and  $\mu$ . The mutation bias  $\nu$ , which was  
 201 defined in eq. (1a), does not affect the sign of the second ("deviation") term in  
 202 eq. (5); it only appears in the  $\nu(1-\nu)$  product. The mutation intensity  $\mu$ , however,  
 203 affects the values of  $W$ ,  $Q_{\text{in}}$  and  $Q_{\text{out}}$ . The presence of  $\mu$  at the denominator in  
 204 eq. (5) may look ominous; however, both  $R$  and  $(1 - Q_{\text{out}})/\mu$  have a finite limit  
 205 when  $\mu \rightarrow 0$ .

206 The different terms depend on the chosen life-cycle. We first focus on relat-  
 207 edness  $R$ .

## 208 **Relatedness $R$**

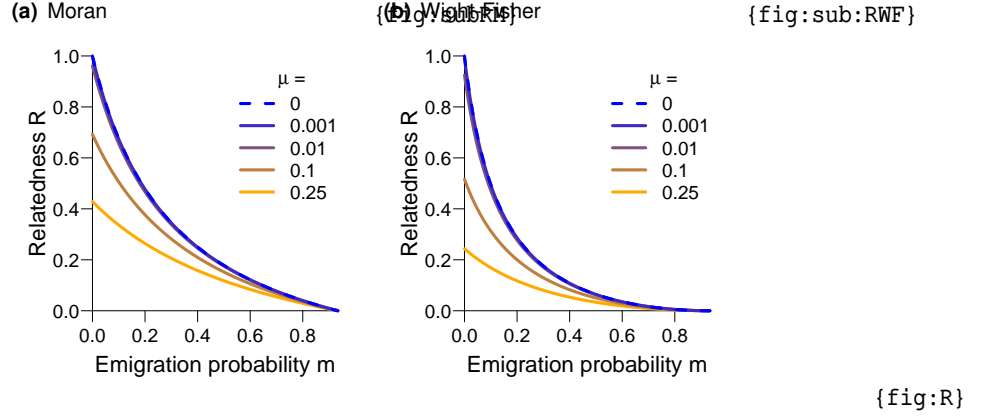
209 Within-deme relatedness depends on the number of individuals that are born at  
 210 each time step, and hence on the chosen life-cycle. Recall that in a Moran life-  
 211 cycle (denoted by M), one individual is updated at each time step, while under a  
 212 Wright-Fisher life-cycle (denoted by WF),  $N$  individuals – the whole population  
 213 – are updated at each time step. The formulas for relatedness for any number  
 214 of demes  $N_D$  and mutation intensity  $\mu$  are presented in Appendix C.2 (eq. (A44)  
 215 and eq. (A50)). When we let the number of demes go to infinity ( $N_D \rightarrow \infty$ ) and  
 216 the intensity of mutation be vanishingly small ( $\mu \rightarrow 0$ ), we recover the classical  
 217 formulas for relatedness as limit cases (eq. (A45) and eq. (A51)).

218 The effects of emigration  $m$  and mutation intensity  $\mu$  on relatedness are rep-  
 219 resented in figure 1. For  $0 < m < 1 - 1/N_D$ , within-deme relatedness is positive,  
 220 and it decreases with  $m$  and with  $\mu$  (the mutation bias  $v$  has no effect). The effect  
 221 of the mutation intensity  $\mu$  on relatedness is strongest at low emigration proba-  
 222 bilities  $m$ . As  $m$  increases, the relatedness values for different mutation intensi-  
 223 ties get closer, until they all hit zero for  $m = 1 - 1/N_D$  (the emigration probability  
 224 such that an offspring is equally likely to land in its parent's deme or in any other  
 225 deme, *i.e.*, such that there is no proper population subdivision anymore).

## 226 **Primary and secondary effects**

227 We now turn to the  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $-\mathcal{C}$  terms of eq. (5), which also depend on the cho-  
 228 sen life-cycle. We further decompose these terms into primary (subscript P) and  
 229 secondary (subscript S) effects (West & Gardner, 2010):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{B} &= \mathcal{B}_P + \mathcal{B}_S, \\
 -\mathcal{C} &= \underbrace{-\mathcal{C}_P}_{\text{Primary effect}} + \underbrace{-\mathcal{C}_S}_{\text{Secondary effect}}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$



**Figure 1:** Within-deme relatedness of pairs of individuals  $R$ , as a function of the emigration probability  $m$ , for different values of the mutation probability  $\mu$  (from 0 [blue] to 0.25 [orange]), and for the two types of life-cycles ((a): Moran, (b): Wright-Fisher). Other parameters:  $n = 4$  individuals per deme,  $N_D = 15$  demes.

230 Primary effects correspond to unmediated consequences of interactions (they  
 231 are included in  $\frac{\partial W}{\partial f_i}$ ). Secondary effects correspond to consequences of interac-  
 232 tions mediated by other individuals, including competition.

### 233 Primary effects

234 Primary effects are the same for all the life-cycles that we consider:

$$\mathcal{B}_P^{\text{BD}} = \mathcal{B}_P^{\text{DB}} = \mathcal{B}_P^{\text{WF}} = (1 - \mu)b, \quad (7a)$$

$$-\mathcal{C}_P^{\text{BD}} = -\mathcal{C}_P^{\text{DB}} = -\mathcal{C}_P^{\text{WF}} = (1 - \mu)(-c), \quad (7b)$$

235 and they do not depend on the emigration probability  $m$  (see Appendix B.2 for  
 236 details of the calculations).

237 As we have seen above, the relatedness terms  $R^{\text{M}}$  and  $R^{\text{WF}}$  decrease with  $m$   
 238 (keeping  $m < 1 - 1/N_D$ ; see figure 1). Consequently, if we ignored secondary  
 239 effects, we would conclude that the expected frequency of altruists in the popu-  
 240 lation  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  decreases as the emigration probability  $m$  increases. However, sec-  
 241 ondary effects play a role as well.

## 242 Secondary effects

243 Secondary effects take competition into account, that is, how the change in the  
 244 fecundity of an individual affects the fitness of another one. As shown already  
 245 in models with nearly perfect strategy transmission (Grafen & Archetti, 2008),  
 246 competition terms depend on the chosen life-cycle, because life-cycle details  
 247 affect the distance at which competitive effects are felt. Given the way the model  
 248 is formulated, we have  $-\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{B}/(n-1)$  for the life-cycles that we consider (see  
 249 Appendix B.2 for details of the calculations).

250 Under the Moran Birth-Death life-cycle, both the probability of reproducing  
 251 and the probability of dying depend on the composition of the population. We  
 252 obtain the following secondary effects: {eq:secondary}

$$-\mathcal{C}_S^{\text{BD}} = \frac{\mathcal{B}_S^{\text{BD}}}{n-1} = -(b-c) \left( -\frac{\mu}{N} + \frac{1-m}{n} \right). \quad (8a) \quad \text{{eq:BDsec}}$$

253 The competitive effects are the same for the Moran Death-Birth and Wright-  
 254 Fisher life-cycles. In both cases, the probabilities of dying are constant, so we  
 255 can factor  $(1-\mu)$  in the equations:

$$-\mathcal{C}_S^{\text{DB}} = \frac{\mathcal{B}_S^{\text{DB}}}{n-1} = -\mathcal{C}_S^{\text{WF}} = \frac{\mathcal{B}_S^{\text{WF}}}{n-1} = -(b-c)(1-\mu) \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right). \quad (8b) \quad \text{{eq:DBsec}}$$

256 These secondary effects (eq. (8a) and eq. (8b)) remain negative for the range  
 257 of emigration values that we consider ( $0 < m < 1 - 1/N_D$ ), and increase with  $m$ . In  
 258 other words, the intensity of competition decreases as emigration  $m$  increases.

259 While the value of these secondary effects increases with emigration  $m$ , re-  
 260 latedness  $R$ , by which they are eventually multiplied in eq. (5), decreases with  
 261  $m$ . We therefore cannot determine the overall effect of emigration  $m$  on the ex-  
 262 pected frequency of altruists in the population by inspecting the different terms  
 263 of eq. (5) in isolation. For each life-cycle, we need to consider the entire equa-  
 264 tions to know the overall effect of the emigration probability  $m$  on the expected

frequency of altruists  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  and on how it is affected by the (in)fidelity of parent-offspring transmission  $\mu$ .

### Changes of the expected frequency of altruists with the emigration probability $m$

The rather lengthy formulas that we obtain are relegated to the Appendix and supplementary Mathematica file, and we concentrate here on the results.

#### Moran Birth-Death

For the Moran Birth-Death life-cycle, we find that the expected frequency of altruists  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  is a monotonic function of the emigration probability  $m$ . The direction of the change depends on the value of the mutation probability  $\mu$  compared to a threshold value  $\mu_c^{\text{BD}}$ . When  $\mu < \mu_c^{\text{BD}}$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  decreases with  $m$ , while when  $\mu > \mu_c^{\text{BD}}$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  increases with  $m$ . The critical value  $\mu_c^{\text{BD}}$  is given by

$$\mu_c^{\text{BD}} = 1 - \frac{b - c + \sqrt{(b - c)(4bN^2 + b - c)}}{2bN} \quad (9) \quad \{\text{eq:mucBD}\}$$

(recall that  $N$  is the total size of the population,  $N = nN_D$ .) This result is illustrated in figure 2(b); with the parameters of the figure,  $\mu_c^{\text{BD}} \approx 0.026$ . The threshold value increases with both deme size  $n$  and number of demes  $N_D$ , up to a maximum value  $1 - \sqrt{1 - c/b}$  (equal to 0.034 with our parameters.)

With this life-cycle however, the expected frequency of altruists  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  remains lower than  $v$ , its value in the absence of selection (*i.e.*, when  $\delta = 0$ ).

#### Moran Death-Birth

The relationship between  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  and  $m$  is a bit more complicated for the Moran Death-Birth life-cycle. For simplicity, we concentrate on what happens starting from low emigration probabilities (*i.e.*, on the sign of the slope of  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  as a func-

tion of  $m$  when  $m \rightarrow 0$ ). If the benefits  $b$  provided by altruists are relatively low  
 ( $b < c(n+1)$ ),  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  initially increases with  $m$  provided the mutation probability  
 $\mu$  is greater than a threshold value  $\mu_c^{\text{DB}}$  given in eq. (10) below; otherwise, when  
 the benefits are high enough,  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  initially increases with  $m$  for any value of  $\mu$ .  
 Combining these results, we write

$$\mu_c^{\text{DB}} = \begin{cases} \frac{(n+1)c - b}{(2n-1)b - (n-1)c} & \text{if } b < c(n+1), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (10) \quad \{\text{eq:mucDB}\}$$

When  $b < c(n+1)$ , the mutation threshold does not depend on the number of  
 demes  $N_D$ , but increases with deme size  $n$ . In figure 2(a), the parameters are  
 such that  $\mu_c^{\text{DB}} = 0$ .

When  $\mu > \mu_c^{\text{DB}}$ , the expected frequency of altruists  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$  reaches a maximum  
 at an emigration probability  $m_c^{\text{DB}}$  (whose complicated equation is given in the  
 supplementary Mathematica file), as can be seen in figure 2(a). When the muta-  
 tion probability gets close to 0 ( $\mu \rightarrow 0$ ),  $m_c^{\text{DB}}$  also gets close to 0.

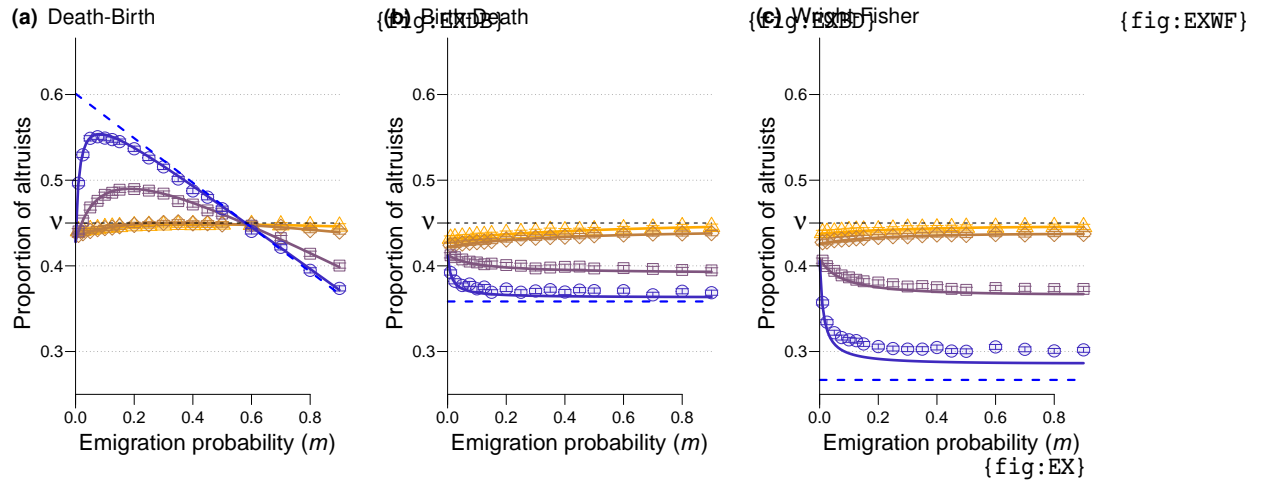
With the Death-Birth life-cycle, the expected frequency of altruists is higher  
 than its neutral value  $v$  for intermediate values of the emigration probability  $m$   
 (unless  $\mu \rightarrow 0$ , in which case the lower bound tends to 0).

### Wright-Fisher

Under a Wright-Fisher updating, the expected frequency of altruists in the pop-  
 ulation reaches an extremum at the highest admissible emigration value  $m =$   
 $1 - \frac{1}{N_D}$ . This extremum is a maximum when the mutation probability is higher  
 than a threshold value  $\mu_c^{\text{WF}}$  given by

$$\mu_c^{\text{WF}} = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{c}{b}}, \quad (11)$$

and it is a minimum otherwise. With the parameters of figure 2(c),  $\mu_c^{\text{WF}} = 0.034$ .



**Figure 2:** Expected proportion of altruists under weak selection, as a function of the emigration probability  $m$ , for different mutation values ( $\mu = 0.001$  (blue, dots),  $0.01$  (purple, squares),  $0.1$  (brown, diamonds),  $0.25$  (orange, triangles); the dashed blue lines correspond to  $\mu = 0$ ) and different life-cycles ((a) Moran Death-Birth, (b) Moran Birth Death, (c) Wright-Fisher). The curves are the analytical results, the points are the output of numerical simulations. Parameters:  $\delta = 0.005$ ,  $\nu = 0.45$ ,  $b = 15$ ,  $c = 1$ ,  $n = 4$  individuals per deme,  $N_D = 15$  demes.

308 With the Wright-Fisher life-cycle however, the expected frequency of altruists  
 309 remains below its value in the absence of selection,  $\nu$ .

### 310 Relaxing key assumptions

311 To derive our analytical results, we had to make a number of simplifying as-  
 312 sumptions, such as the fact that selection is weak ( $\delta \ll 1$ ), and the fact that  
 313 the structure of the population is regular (all demes have the same size  $n$ ). We  
 314 checked with numerical simulations the robustness of our results when these  
 315 key assumptions are relaxed.

316 **Strong selection** When selection is strong, the patterns that we identified not  
 317 only still hold but are even more marked, as shown on figure A1.



318 **Heterogeneity in deme sizes** To relax the assumption of equal deme sizes, we  
 319 randomly drew deme sizes at the beginning of simulations, with sizes ranging  
 320 from 2 to 6 individuals and on average  $\bar{n} = 4$  individuals per deme as previously.  
 321 As shown in figure A2, the patterns initially obtained with a homogeneous pop-  
 322 ulation structure are robust when the structure is heterogeneous.

323 **No self-replacement** For the Moran model, it may seem odd that an offspring  
 324 can replace its own parent (which can occur since  $d_{ii} \neq 0$ ). Figure A3, plotted  
 325 with dispersal probabilities preventing immediate replacement of one's own par-  
 326 ent (for all sites  $i$ ,  $d_{ii} = d_{\text{self}} = 0$ ;  $d_{\text{in}} = (1 - m)/(n - 1)$  for two different sites in the  
 327 same deme,  $d_{\text{out}}$  remaining unchanged), confirms that this does affect our con-  
 328 clusions.

329 **Infinite number of demes** Our results are obtained in a population of finite  
 330 size (the figures are drawn with  $N_D = 15$  demes), but still hold when the size of  
 331 the population is larger. Figure 3(b) shows the range of emigration and mutation  
 332 values such that altruism is favored, plotted also for  $N_D \rightarrow \infty$ .

333 **Same graphs for dispersal and social interactions** Compared to graphs classi-  
 334 cally used in evolutionary graph theory (*e.g.*, regular random graphs, grids), the  
 335 island model is particular because the interaction graph and the dispersal graph  
 336 are different: interactions take place only within demes ( $e_{\text{out}} = 0$ ), while offspring  
 337 can disperse out of their natal deme ( $d_{\text{out}} > 0$ ). One may wonder whether our re-  
 338 sult depends on this difference between the two graphs. Figure A4 shows that the  
 339 result still holds when the dispersal and interaction graphs are the same. In this  
 340 figure indeed, we let a proportion  $m$  (equal to the dispersal probability) of inter-  
 341 actions occur outside of the deme where the individuals live, and set  $d_{\text{self}}$ , the  
 342 probability of self replacement, equal to 0, so that the dispersal and interactions  
 343 graphs are the same. Our conclusions remain unchanged.

## 344 Discussion

### 345 The expected frequency of altruists in a subdivided population can in- 346 crease with the probability of emigration

347 Assuming that the transmission of a social strategy (being an altruist or a defec-  
348 tor) from a parent to its offspring could be imperfect, we found that the expected  
349 frequency of altruists maintained in a population could increase with the prob-  
350 ability  $m$  of emigration out of the parental deme, a parameter tuning population  
351 viscosity. This result can seem surprising, because it contradicts the conclusions  
352 obtained under the assumption of nearly perfect strategy transmission (*i.e.*, in  
353 the case of genetic transmission, when mutation is very weak or absent). Under  
354 nearly perfect strategy transmission indeed, increased population viscosity (*i.e.*,  
355 decreased emigration probability) is either neutral (Taylor, 1992a, and dashed  
356 lines in figures 2(b)–(c)) or favorable (Taylor et al., 2007a, and dashed lines in  
357 figure 2(a)) to the evolution of altruistic behavior.

### 358 Quantitative vs. qualitative measures

359 Often, evolutionary success is measured qualitatively, by comparing a quantity  
360 (an expected frequency, or, in models with no mutation, a probability of fixation)  
361 to the value it would have in the absence of selection. In our model, this amounts  
362 to saying that altruism is favored whenever  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] > \nu$  ( $\nu$  is plotted as a horizon-  
363 tal dashed line in figure 2). Some of our conclusions change if we switch to this  
364 qualitative measure of evolutionary success: Under the Moran Birth-Death and  
365 Wright-Fisher life-cycles, population viscosity does not promote the evolution of  
366 altruism – actually, these two life-cycles cannot ever promote altruistic behavior  
367 for any regular population structure (Taylor et al., 2011), whichever the probabil-  
368 ity of mutation (Débarre, 2017). However, under a Moran Death-Birth life-cycle  
369 (figure 2(a)), altruism can be favored only at intermediate emigration probabil-

ities. Starting for initially low values of  $m$ , increasing the emigration probability can still favor the evolution of altruism under this qualitative criterion (see figure 3(b).)

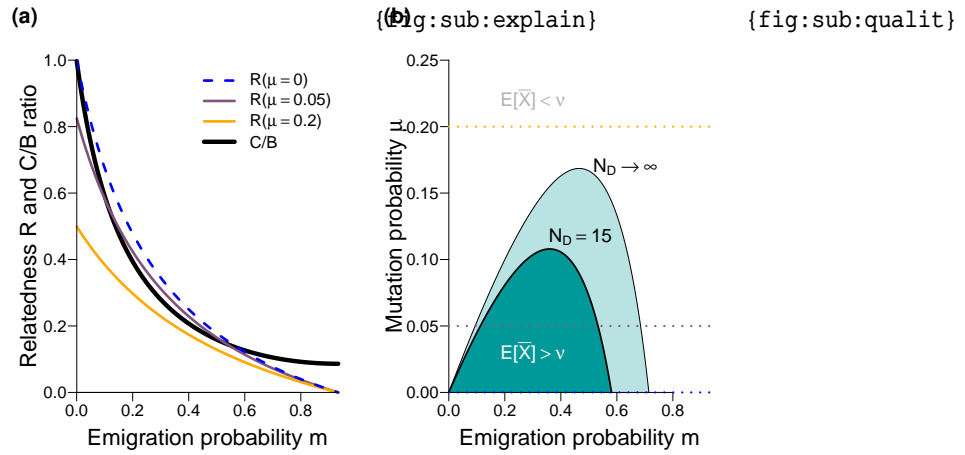
### Interpreting the effect of $m$ on $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$

To better understand the role played by the mutation intensity  $\mu$ , we focus on the qualitative condition for the evolution of altruism ( $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] > \nu$ ); and on the Death-Birth life-cycle, since this qualitative condition is not satisfied in the two other life-cycles. Having made sure that  $\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}} > 0$  (as shown in the supplementary Mathematical file), the qualitative condition for altruism to be favored is given by

$$\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] > \nu \Leftrightarrow R^{\text{M}} > \frac{\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}}{\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}}. \quad (12) \quad \{\text{eq:BCcond}\}$$

With the Death-Birth life-cycle, the  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}/\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}$  ratio does not change with the mutation probability  $\mu$  (the  $(1 - \mu)$  factors simplified out), but the ratio decreases with the emigration probability  $m$  (with  $0 < m < 1 - 1/N_D$ ; see the thick black curve in figure 3(a)). This decrease of the  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}/\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}$  ratio is due to secondary effects (competition) diminishing as emigration increases. Relatedness, on the other hand, decreases with both  $\mu$  and  $m$  (see figure 3(a)). We need to explain the effect of the emigration probability  $m$  on condition (12) for different values of mutation intensity  $\mu$ .

When the emigration probability  $m$  is high, relatedness gets closer to zero for all values of mutation intensity  $\mu$ , while the  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}/\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}$  remains positive; condition (12) is not satisfied. On the other hand, when the emigration probability  $m$  is vanishingly small,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow 0} R^{\text{M}} \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}}{\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}}$ , the two only being equal when  $\mu = 0$ . Hence, condition (12) is satisfied for vanishingly low  $m$  only when strategy transmission is perfect. Finally, as  $m$  increases to intermediate values, the  $\frac{\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}}{\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}}$  ratio decreases with a steeper slope than relatedness  $R$ , so that the curves can cross provided the mutation probability  $\mu$  is not too high, *i.e.*, that  $R$  was not ini-



**Figure 3:** Understanding the effect of emigration  $m$  on whether altruism is favored in the Death-Birth life-cycle. (a) Comparison of the  $C/B$  ratio (thick black curve) and relatedness  $R$  (thin curves) for different values of the mutation probability  $\mu$  (same color code as previously). (b)  $(m, \mu)$  combinations for which  $E[\bar{X}] > v$ . The dotted horizontal lines correspond to the mutation values used in panel (a). Unless specified, all other parameters are the same as in figure 2.

396 tially too low already. Hence, for no too high mutation intensity, there is a range  
 397 of emigration values  $m$  such that condition (12) is satisfied.

### 398 The result is due to secondary effects

399 The result, that frequency of altruists can increase with the emigration probab-  
 400 ity  $m$ , may seem counterintuitive. It is the case because verbal explanations for  
 401 the evolution of altruism often rely on primary effects only. Relatedness  $R$  de-  
 402 creases with  $m$ , so it may be tempting to conclude that increases in the emigra-  
 403 tion probability  $m$  are necessarily detrimental to the evolution of altruism. How-  
 404 ever, secondary effects play an opposite role, as competition decreases with  $m$ ,  
 405 and the effect is strongest at low values of  $m$  (see the black curve on figure 3(a);  
 406 in the absence of secondary effects, it would just be a horizontal line).

407 Secondary effects are less straightforward to understand than primary ef-  
 408 fects, and yet they play a crucial role for social evolution in spatially structured

409 populations. Competition among relatives is for instance the reason for Taylor  
410 (1992b)’s cancellation result. Similarly, the qualitative differences between the  
411 Moran Birth-Death and Moran Death-Birth life-cycles is explained by the dif-  
412 ferent scales of competition that the two life-cycle produce (Grafen & Archetti,  
413 2008; Débarre et al., 2014). Secondary effects are also behind the evolution of  
414 social behaviors such as spite (West & Gardner, 2010).

### 415 **How small is small and how large is large?**

416 Our results were derived under the assumption of weak selection, assuming that  
417 the phenotypic difference between altruists and defectors is small ( $\delta \ll 1$ ). We  
418 considered any fidelity of transmission (any  $\mu$  between 0 and 1) and population  
419 size. However, most models considering subdivided populations assume nearly  
420 perfect strategy transmission ( $\mu \rightarrow 0$ ) and infinite population sizes (number of  
421 demes  $N_D \rightarrow \infty$ ). The point is technical, but it is important to know that the or-  
422 der in which these limits are taken matters, *i.e.*, one needs to specify how small  
423  $\mu$  and  $\delta$  are compared to the inverse size of the population. This remark com-  
424 plements findings by Sample & Allen (2017), who highlighted the quantitative  
425 differences between different orders of weak selection and large population lim-  
426 its.

### 427 **Imperfect transmission and Rebellious Children**

428 Our model bears resemblance to the Rebellious Child Model by Frank (1997),  
429 who studied the evolution of a vertically transmitted cultural trait in an asexually  
430 reproducing population. In Frank’s model, however, relatedness  $r$  is treated as  
431 a fixed parameter (as acknowledged in the legend of Figure 7 in Frank (1997)).  
432 Our model is mechanistic; relatedness  $r$  necessarily depends on the mutation  
433 probability  $\mu$ , because probabilities of identity by descent do.

434 Mutation was also previously included in models investigating the mainte-

nance of cooperative microorganisms in the presence of cheaters (Brockhurst et al., 2007; Frank, 2010). In both of these models however, only loss-of-function mutation was considered, which corresponds to setting the mutation bias at  $\nu = 0$  in our model. This means that the all-cheaters state is absorbing; no matter how favored cooperators may otherwise be, in the long run, a finite population will only consist of cheaters.

## Cultural transmission

Strategy transmission does not have to be genetic: it can be cultural. In our model, strategy transmission occurs upon reproduction, so this is a case of vertical cultural transmission.

The model could nevertheless be interpreted as a representation of horizontal transmission, if we described reproduction as an instance of an individual convincing another one to update its strategy. The Moran Death-Birth model can be interpreted as a modified imitation scheme (Boyd & Richerson, 2002; Ohtsuki et al., 2006) – with a specific function specifying who is imitated –, with mutation (Kandori et al., 1993). First, we choose uniformly at random an individual who may change its strategy; with probability  $\mu$  the individual chooses a random strategy (altruistic with probability  $\nu$ ), and with probability  $1 - \mu$  it imitates another individual. Who is imitated depends on the distance to the focal individual (with probability  $m$  it is a random individual in another deme) and on the “fecundities” of those individuals (as shown in table A2). With this interpretation of the updating rule however, there is not reproduction nor death anymore.

It remains to be investigated how imperfect strategy transmission would affect the effect of population viscosity on the evolution of altruism in a model implementing both reproduction and horizontal cultural transmission (as in Lehmann et al., 2008). Such a model could then contrast the effects of imperfect genetic transmission and imperfect horizontal cultural transmission.

## 462 **Coevolution of dispersal and social behavior**

463 This work also raises the question of what would happen if dispersal (*e.g.*, the  
464 emigration probability  $m$ ) could evolve as well. Recent work on the topic has  
465 shown that under some conditions disruptive selection could take place, lead-  
466 ing to a polymorphism between sessile altruists and mobile defectors (Parvinen,  
467 2013; Mullan et al., 2017). The assumptions of these studies however differ from  
468 ours in important ways, in that they consider continuous traits and use an adap-  
469 tive dynamics framework, where, notably, mutations are assumed to be very  
470 rare. It remains to be investigated how non-rare and potentially large mutations  
471 would affect their result.

## 472 **Acknowledgements**

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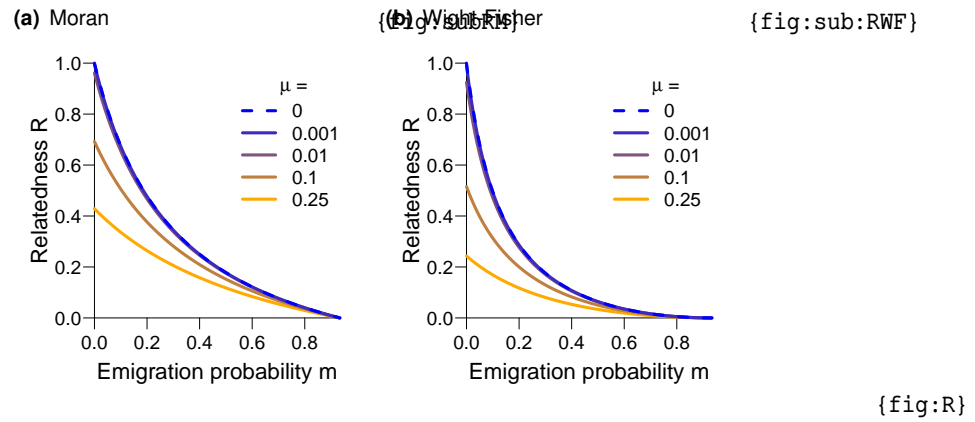
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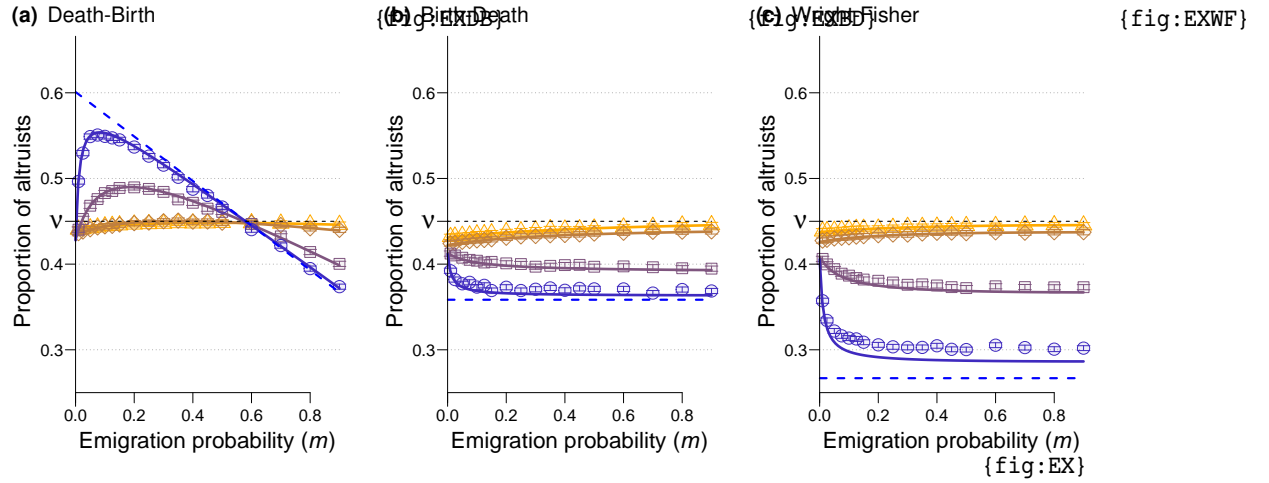
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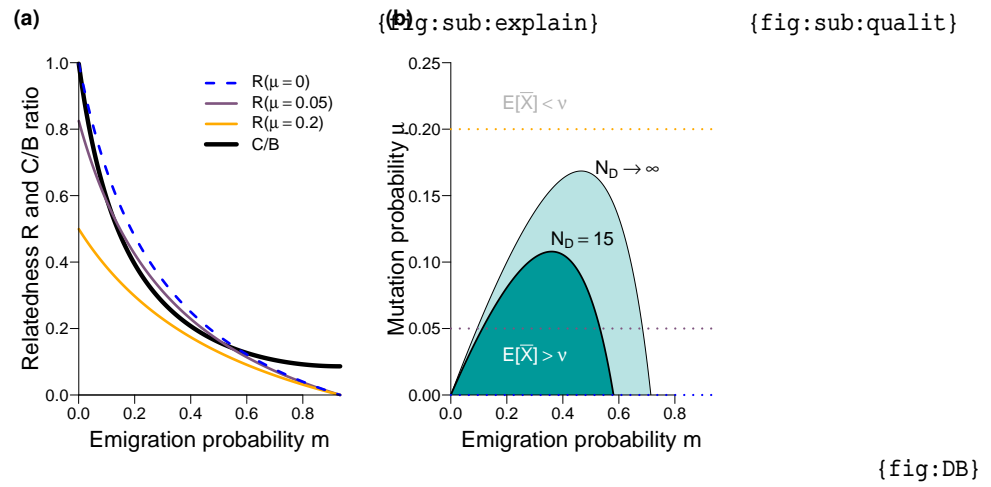
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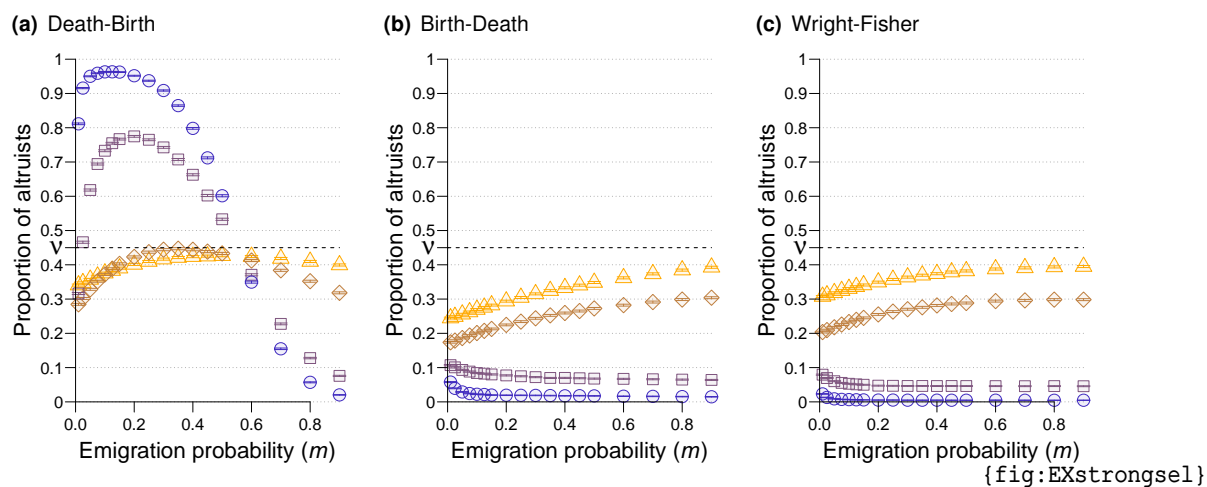
**Figure 1:** Within-deme relatedness of pairs of individuals  $R$ , as a function of the emigration probability  $m$ , for different values of the mutation probability  $\mu$  (from 0 [blue] to 0.25 [orange]), and for the two types of life-cycles ((a): Moran, (b): Wright-Fisher). Other parameters:  $n = 4$  individuals per deme,  $N_D = 15$  demes.



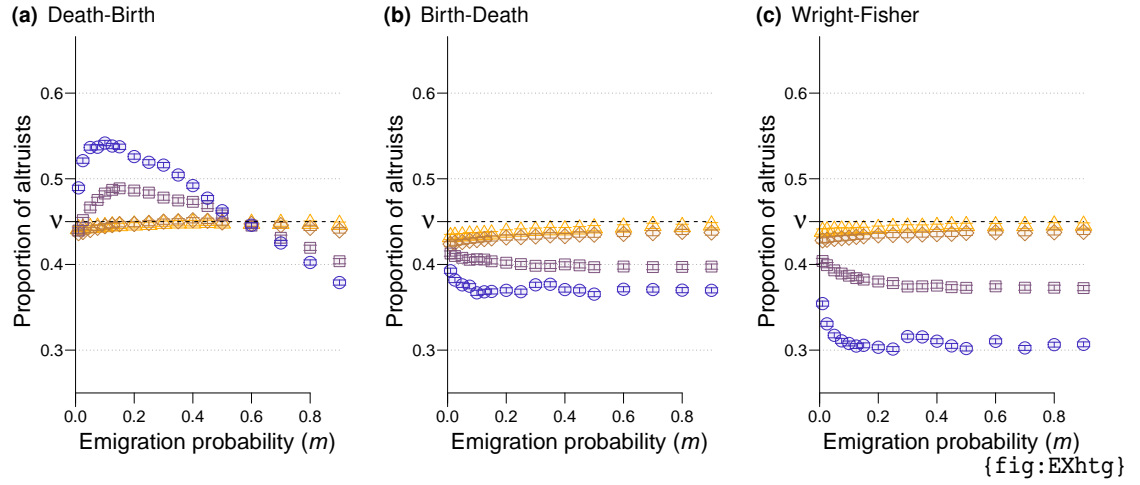
**Figure 2:** Expected proportion of altruists under weak selection, as a function of the emigration probability  $m$ , for different mutation values ( $\mu = 0.001$  (blue, dots),  $0.01$  (purple, squares),  $0.1$  (brown, diamonds),  $0.25$  (orange, triangles); the dashed blue lines correspond to  $\mu = 0$ ) and different life-cycles ((a) Moran Death-Birth, (b) Moran Birth Death, (c) Wright-Fisher). The curves are the analytical results, the points are the output of numerical simulations. Parameters:  $\delta = 0.005$ ,  $v = 0.45$ ,  $b = 15$ ,  $c = 1$ ,  $n = 4$  individuals per deme,  $N_D = 15$  demes.



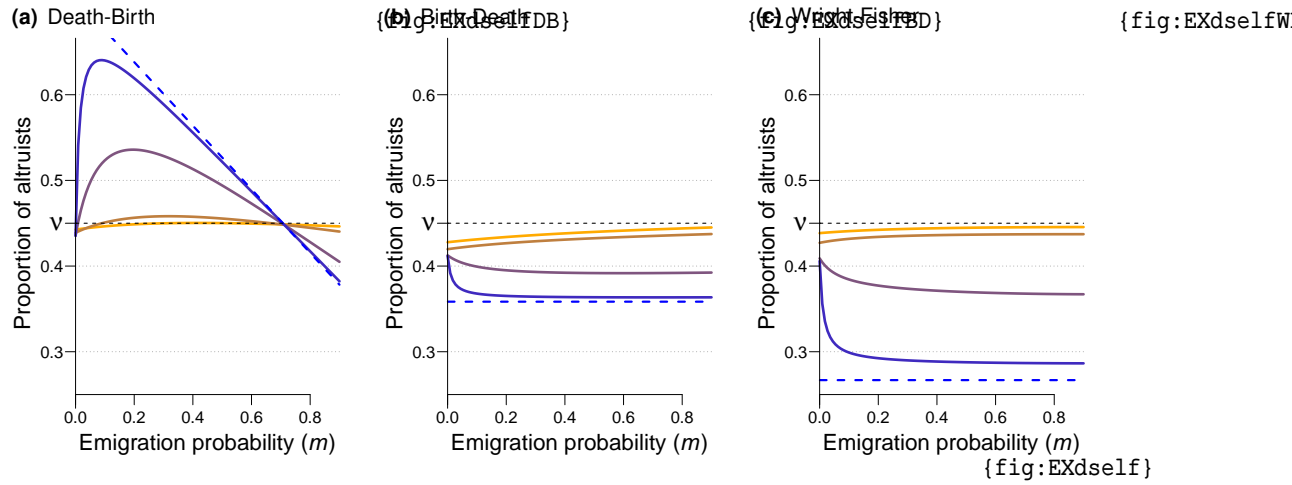
**Figure 3:** Understanding the effect of emigration  $m$  on whether altruism is favored in the Death-Birth life-cycle. (a) Comparison of the  $C/B$  ratio (thick black curve) and relatedness  $R$  (thin curves) for different values of the mutation probability  $\mu$  (same color code as previously). (b)  $(m, \mu)$  combinations for which  $E[\bar{X}] > v$ . The dotted horizontal lines correspond to the mutation values used in panel (a). Unless specified, all other parameters are the same as in figure 2.



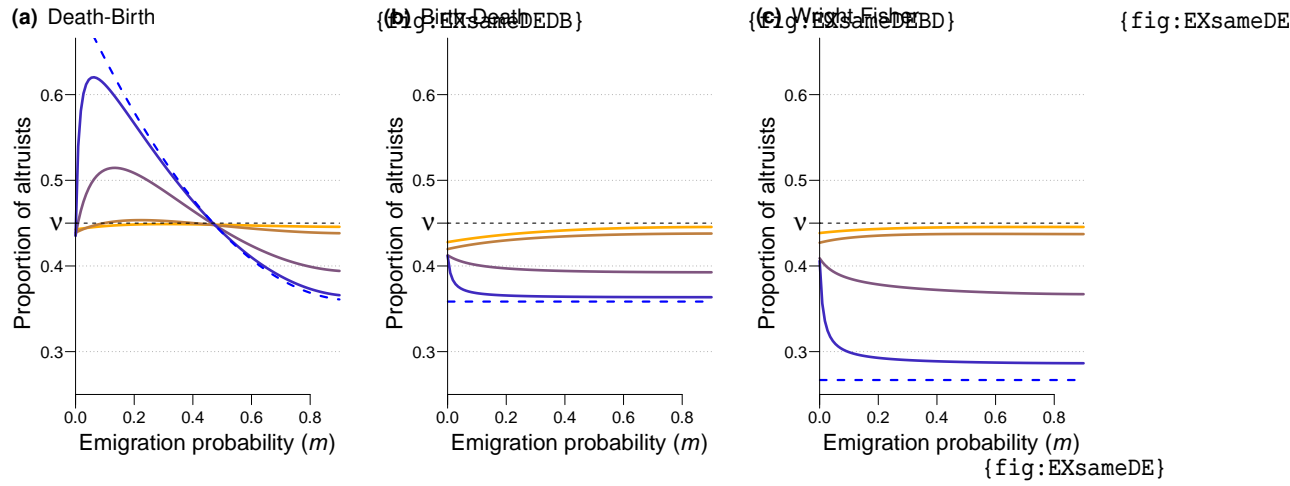
**Figure A1:** Equivalent of figure 2 (simulations only) but with strong selection ( $\delta = 0.1$ ); please note the change of scale on the vertical axis. All other parameters and legends are identical to those of figure 2 (increasing mutation probabilities from blue dots to orange triangles).



**Figure A2:** Equivalent of figure 2 (simulations only) but with a heterogeneous population structure: deme sizes range from 1 to 5 individuals per deme, the average deme size is 4 as in figure 2; all other parameters and legend are identical to those of figure 2.



**Figure A3:** Equivalent of figure 2 (analysis only), with no self-replacement ( $d_{ii} = d_{\text{self}} = 0$  for all sites).



**Figure A4:** Equivalent of figure 2 (analysis only), with equal dispersal and interaction graphs (*i.e.*, no self-replacement [ $d_{ii} = d_{\text{self}} = 0$  for all sites], and a proportion  $m$  of the interactions occurring outside of the home deme).



## Supplementary Table

$b$	Sum of the marginal effects of deme-mates' phenotypes on focal individual's fecundity (benefit)
$\mathcal{B}$	Sum of the marginal effects of deme-mates' phenotypes on the fitness $W$ of a focal individual
$B_i$	Expected number of successful offspring of the individual living at site $i$ (r.v.)
$B^*$	Value of $B_i$ for all sites, in the absence of selection ( $\delta = 0$ )
$c$	Marginal effect of a focal individual's phenotype on its own fecundity (cost)
$\mathcal{C}$	Marginal effect of an individual's phenotype on its own fitness $W$
$d_{ij}$	Dispersal probability from site $i$ to site $j$
$D_i$	Probability that the individual currently living at site $i$ is dead at the end of the time step (r.v.)
$e_{ij}$	Interaction probability from site $i$ to site $j$
$f_i$	Fecundity of the individual currently living at site $i$ (r.v.)
$n$	Deme size
$N_D$	Number of demes
$N$	Total population size ( $N = N_D n$ )
$m$	Emigration probability
$P_{ij}$	(Long-term) Expected state of the pair of sites ( $i, j$ )
$Q_{ij}$	(Long-term) Probability of identity by descent of individuals at sites $i$ and $j$
$R$	Pairwise within-deme relatedness (see eq. (5))
$W_i$	Measure of fitness, counting offspring only when unmutated (see eq. (3))
$X_i$	Indicator variable, equal to 1 if site $i$ is occupied by an altruist, to 0 otherwise (r.v.)
$\bar{X}$	Frequency of altruists in the population (r.v.)
$\delta$	Phenotypic distance between altruists and defectors; strength of selection
$\phi_i$	Phenotype of the individual living at site $i$ ; $\phi_i = \delta X_i$ (r.v.)
$\mu$	Mutation probability
$\nu$	Mutation bias: probability that mutant is altruist
P	Subscript corresponding to primary effects
S	Subscript corresponding to secondary effects
•	Subscript used to denote a focal individual
in	Subscript used when $i \neq j$ and the two sites are in the same deme
out	Subscript used when the two sites $i$ and $j$ are in different demes
self	Subscript used when $i = j$
0	Sub- or superscript meaning that a quantity is evaluated at $\delta = 0$
BD	Superscript corresponding to the Moran Birth-Death model
DB	Superscript corresponding to the Moran Death-Birth model
M	Superscript corresponding to a Moran model
WF	Superscript corresponding to the Wright-Fisher model

{tab:symbols}

**Table A1:** List of symbols. "r.v." means *random variable*.

# Appendix

## A Mutation parameters

{sec:app:mutation}

In the main text, we first introduce effective mutation parameters:  $\mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}$ , the probability that an altruist has defector offspring, and  $\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}$ , the probability that a defector has altruist offspring.

### A.1 Expected frequency of altruists at the mutation drift balance

Let  $Y$  be the type of a randomly chosen individual in the population, and let  $Y'$  be the type of a randomly chosen individual at the next time step. Given a frequency  $v$  of altruists in the population, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] = v, \quad (\text{A1a})$$

$$\mathbb{E}[Y'] = v(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}) + (1 - v)\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}. \quad (\text{A1b})$$

The expected frequency of altruists is found by solving  $\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mathbb{E}[Y']$ , and we obtain

$$v = \frac{\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}}{\mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} + \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}}. \quad (\text{A2}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:nuformula}\}$$

### A.2 Parent-offspring correlation at the mutation drift balance

We can then compute the parent-offspring type correlation at the mutation-drift balance. First, let us compute the parent-offspring covariance:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}[Y Y'] &= \mathbb{E}[Y Y'] - \mathbb{E}[Y']\mathbb{E}[Y] \\ &= v(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}) - (v(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}) + (1 - v)\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1})v \\ &= v(1 - v)(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} - \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A3}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Cov}\}$$

Then, the standard deviations are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_Y &= \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[Y^2] - \mathbb{E}[Y]^2} = \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[Y] - \mathbb{E}[Y]^2} \\ &= \sqrt{v(1 - v)}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:SD1}\}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{Y'} &= \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[Y'^2] - \mathbb{E}[Y']^2} = \sqrt{\mathbb{E}[Y'] - \mathbb{E}[Y']^2} \\ &= \sqrt{v(1 - v)(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} - \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}) - (v(1 - v)(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} - \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}))^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:SD2}\}$$

The parent-offspring correlation is given by

$$\text{Corr}[Y Y'] = \frac{\text{Cov}[Y Y']}{\sigma_Y \sigma_{Y'}};$$

using the formulas eq. (A3)–(A5), and replacing  $v$  by its value (mutation-drift

599 equilibrium, eq. (A2)), we obtain

$$\text{Corr}[Y Y'] = 1 - (\mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} + \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}) = 1 - \mu. \quad (\text{A6})$$

### 600 **A.3 Redefining the mutation scheme**

{sec:app:mutnew}

601 If we denote by  $X_i$  the type of a given parent, then the expected type of one of its  
602 offspring is

$$\mathbb{E}[X'_i | X_i] = X_i(1 - \mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}) + (1 - X_i)\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}. \quad (\text{A7a}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:expoff}\}$$

603 Replacing  $\mu_{1 \rightarrow 0}$  and  $\mu_{0 \rightarrow 1}$  by equivalent combinations of  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ , *i.e.*,

$$\mu_{1 \rightarrow 0} = \mu(1 - \nu) \text{ and } \mu_{0 \rightarrow 1} = \mu\nu, \quad (\text{A7b})$$

604 then eq. (A7a) becomes

$$\mathbb{E}[X'_i | X_i] = X_i(1 - \mu) + \mu\nu. \quad (\text{A7c}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:expoff2}\}$$

605 We can redefine the mutation scheme and interpret eq. (A7c) as follows. Parents  
606 transmit their strategy to their offspring with probability  $1 - \mu$ ; with probability  
607  $\mu$ , offspring do not inherit their strategy from their parent but instead get one  
608 randomly: with probability  $\nu$ , they become altruists, with probability  $1 - \nu$  they  
609 become defectors. With this alternative description, we can call “mutants” indi-  
610 viduals who have the same type as their parent.

## B Expected frequency of altruists

{sec:app:EX}

### B.1 For a generic life-cycle

{sec:app:generic}

We want to compute the expected proportion of altruists in the population. We represent the state of the population at a given time  $t$  using indicator variables  $X_i(t)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , equal to 1 if the individual living at site  $i$  at time  $t$  is an altruist, and equal to 0 if it is a defector; these indicator variables are gathered in a  $N$ -long vector  $\mathbf{X}(t)$ . The set of all possible population states is  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}^N$ . The proportion of altruists in the population is written  $\bar{X}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N X_i(t)$ . We denote by  $B_{ji}(X(t), \delta)$ , written  $B_{ji}$  for simplicity, the probability that the individual at site  $j$  at time  $t+1$  is the newly established offspring of the individual living at site  $i$  at time  $t$ . The expected number of successful offspring produced by the individual living at site  $i$  at time  $t$  is given by  $B_i = \sum_{j=1}^N B_{ji}$ . We denote by  $D_i(X(t), \delta)$  ( $D_i$  for simplicity) the probability that the individual living at site  $i$  at time  $t$  has been replaced (*i.e.*, died) at time  $t+1$ . These quantities depend on the chosen life-cycle and on the state of the population; they are given in table A2 for each of the life-cycles that we consider.

Life-cycle	$B_{ji}$	$D_i$
Moran Birth-Death	$d_{ij} \frac{f_i}{\sum_{k=1}^N f_k}$	$\frac{\sum_{j=1}^N d_{ji} f_j}{\sum_{k=1}^N f_k}$
Moran Death-Birth	$\frac{1}{N} \frac{d_{ij} f_i}{\sum_{k=1}^N d_{kj} f_k}$	$\frac{1}{N}$
Wright-Fisher	$\frac{d_{ij} f_i}{\sum_{k=1}^N d_{kj} f_k}$	1

{tab:BD}

**Table A2:** Formulas of  $B_{ji}$  and  $D_i$  for each of the life-cycles that we consider;  $f_i$  (shorthand notation for  $f_i(X, \delta)$ ) is the fecundity of the individual living at site  $i$ , and  $d_{ji}$  is a dispersal probability, given in eq. (2).

Since a dead individual is immediately replaced by one new individual,

$$D_i = \sum_{j=1}^N B_{ji} \quad (\text{A8a}) \quad \{\text{eq:DBequiv}\}$$

holds for all sites  $i$ . The structure of the population is also such that in the absence of selection ( $\delta = 0$ , so that  $f_i = 1$  for all sites  $1 \leq i \leq N$ ), all individuals have the same probability of dying and the same probability of having successful offspring (*i.e.*, of having offspring that become adults at the next time step), so that

$$D_i^0 = \sum_{j=1}^N B_{ji}^0 = B_i^0 =: B^*, \quad (\text{A8b}) \quad \{\text{eq:DBRV}\}$$

where the <sup>0</sup> subscript means that the quantities are evaluated for  $\delta = 0$ . This also implies that  $B_{ij}^0$  and  $D_i^0$  do not depend on the state  $\mathbf{X}$  of the population. For the Moran life-cycles,  $B^* = 1/N$ , while for the Wright-Fisher life-cycle,  $B^* = 1$ . (The difference between eq. (A8b) and eq. (A8a) is that we are now considering offspring produced by  $i$  landing on  $j$ ).

Given that the population is in state  $\mathbf{X}(t)$  at time  $t$ , the expected frequency of altruists at time  $t + 1$  is given by

$$\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}(t+1)|\mathbf{X}(t)] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [B_i(1-\mu)X_i + (1-D_i)X_i + B_i\mu\nu]. \quad (\text{A9a}) \quad \{\text{eq:conditionalchange}\}$$

The first term within the brackets corresponds to births of unmutated offspring from parents who are altruists ( $X_i$ ). The second term corresponds to the survival of altruists. The third term corresponds to the births of mutants who became altruists (which occurs with probability  $\nu$ ), whichever the type of the parent.

Given that there is no absorbing population state (a lost strategy can always be recreated by mutation), there is a stationary distribution of population states; the expected frequency of altruists does not change anymore for large times  $t$  (realized frequencies of course keep changing). We denote by  $\xi(\mathbf{X}, \delta, \mu)$  the probability that the population is in state  $\mathbf{X}$ , given the strength of selection  $\delta$  and the mutation probability  $\mu$ . Taking the expectation of eq. (A9a) ( $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] = \sum_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega} \bar{X} \xi(\mathbf{X}, \delta, \mu)$ ), we obtain, after reorganizing:

$$0 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N (B_i(1-\mu)X_i - D_i X_i) + \sum_{i=1}^N B_i \mu \nu \right] \xi(\mathbf{X}, \delta, \mu). \quad (\text{A10}) \quad \{\text{eq:statdist}\}$$

Now, we use the assumption of weak selection ( $\delta \ll 1$ ) and consider the first-order expansion of eq. (A10) for  $\delta$  close to 0.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N (B_i^0(1-\mu)X_i - D_i^0 X_i) + \sum_{i=1}^N B_i^0 \mu \nu \right] \xi(\mathbf{X}, 0, \mu) \\ & + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\partial B_i(1-\mu) - D_i}{\partial \delta} X_i \right) + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial B_i}{\partial \delta} \mu \nu \right] \xi(\mathbf{X}, 0, \mu) \\ & + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N (B_i^0(1-\mu)X_i - D_i^0 X_i) + \sum_{i=1}^N B_i^0 \mu \nu \right] \frac{\partial \xi(\mathbf{X}, \delta, \mu)}{\partial \delta}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A11}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:TaylorDetail}\}$$

where all the derivatives are evaluated for  $\delta = 0$ . The first line of eq. (A11) is equal to zero, because  $B_i^0 = D_i^0 = B^*$  (eq. (A8b)), and because in the absence of selection ( $\delta = 0$ ), the expected state of every site  $i$  is  $\mathbb{E}_0[X_i] = \sum_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega} X_i \xi(\mathbf{X}, 0, \mu) = \nu$  (recall that  $\nu$  is the mutation bias parameter). The second terms of the second and third lines are both zero, because for all the life-cycles that we consider, the total number of births in the population during one time step ( $\sum_{i=1}^N B_i$ ) does not depend on population phenotypic composition (it is exactly 1 death for the Moran life-cycles, and exactly  $N$  for the Wright-Fisher life-cycle). Eq. (A11) then

660 becomes

$$0 = \frac{\delta}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ \sum_{X \in \Omega} \left( \frac{\partial B_i}{\partial \delta} (1 - \mu) - \frac{\partial D_i}{\partial \delta} \right) X_i \xi(\mathbf{X}, 0, \mu) - \sum_{X \in \Omega} \mu B^* X_i \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial \delta} \right] + O(\delta^2), \quad (\text{A12}) \quad \{\text{eq:weaksel0}\}$$

661 where the derivatives are evaluated at  $\delta = 0$ . For conciseness, we define

$$W_i = (1 - \mu) B_i + (1 - D_i), \quad (\text{A13}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:defW}\}$$

662 a measure of fitness counting offspring only when they are unmutated (in the  
663 sense of the alternate mutation scheme described in Appendix A.3). With this,  
664 using the expectation notation, and denoting by  $\mathbb{E}_0[\cdot]$  expectations under  $\delta = 0$ ,  
665 we can rewrite and reorganize eq. (A12) as

$$\delta \mu B^* \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} = \frac{\delta}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_0 \left[ \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \delta} X_i \right] + O(\delta^2). \quad (\text{A14}) \quad \{\text{eq:weaksel0reorg}\}$$

666 Now, we use a first time the law of total probabilities, taking individual pheno-  
667 types  $\phi_k$  are intermediate variables:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \delta} &= \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_k} \frac{\partial \phi_k}{\partial \delta} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_k} X_k, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A15}) \quad \{\text{eq:totalproba1}\}$$

668 by definition of  $\phi_k$  ( $\phi_k = \delta X_k$ ), and where the derivatives are evaluated for all  
669  $\phi_i = 0$ . Introducing the notation  $P_{ij} = \mathbb{E}_0[X_i X_j]$  (expected state of a pair of sites),  
670 eq. (A14) becomes

$$\delta \mu B^* \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} = \frac{\delta}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_k} P_{ik} + O(\delta^2). \quad (\text{A16}) \quad \{\text{eq:weaksel1}\}$$

671 So far, we have not used the specificities of the population structure that we  
672 consider. Once we have fixed a focal individual  $i$ , in expectation there are only  
673 three types of individuals: the focal itself (denoted by “•”),  $n - 1$  other individu-  
674 als in the focal’s deme (denoted by “in”), and  $N - n$  individuals in other demes  
675 (denoted by “out”). We note that given that the size of the population is fixed  
676 ( $\sum_{i=1}^N (B_i - D_i) = 0$ ), and given that the total number of births does not depend  
677 on population composition in the life-cycles that we consider,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \delta} = 0,$$

678 which we can rewrite as (Rousset & Billiard, 2000, p.817–818)

$$\frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_i} + (n - 1) \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_{\text{in}}} + (N - n) \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_{\text{out}}} = 0. \quad (\text{A17}) \quad \{\text{eq:derivsumW}\}$$

679 With this, eq. (A16) becomes

$$\delta\mu B^* \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} = \frac{\delta}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_i} + (n-1) \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_{\text{in}}} \frac{P_{\text{in}} - P_{\text{out}}}{P_{ii} - P_{\text{out}}} \right) (P_{ii} - P_{\text{out}}) + O(\delta^2). \quad (\text{A18}) \quad \{\text{eq:weaksel1CBRP}\}$$

680 We can also replace the  $P$  terms by

$$\begin{aligned} P_{ij} &= Q_{ij}v + (1 - Q_{ij})v^2 \\ &= v^2 + v(1 - v)Q_{ij}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A19}) \quad \{\text{eq:QP}\}$$

681 In Appendix C.1, using recursions on  $P_{ij}$ , we will see that  $Q_{ij}$  can be interpreted  
682 as a probability of identity by descent, *i.e.*, the probability that the individuals at  
683 sites  $i$  and  $j$  have a common ancestor and that no mutation (using the alterna-  
684 tive mutation scheme described in Appendix A.3) has occurred on either lineage  
685 since the ancestor. Eq. (A18) becomes

$$\delta\mu B^* \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} = \frac{\delta}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \underbrace{\frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_i}}_{-C} + \underbrace{(n-1) \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_{\text{in}}}}_B \underbrace{\frac{Q_{\text{in}} - Q_{\text{out}}}{1 - Q_{\text{out}}}}_R \right) (1 - Q_{\text{out}})v(1 - v) + O(\delta^2). \quad (\text{A20}) \quad \{\text{eq:weaksel1CBR}\}$$

686 We can further decompose the derivatives, now using the fecundities  $f_\ell$  as  
687 intermediate variables, *i.e.*,

$$\frac{\partial W_i}{\partial \phi_k} = \sum_{\ell=1}^N \frac{\partial W_i}{\partial f_\ell} \frac{\partial f_\ell}{\partial \phi_k}. \quad (\text{A21})$$

688 With our notation, and given that social interactions take place within demes  
689 and affect fecundity, we have \{\text{eq:derivf}\}

$$\left. \frac{\partial f_\ell}{\partial \phi_\ell} \right|_{\delta=0} = -c, \quad (\text{A22a})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f_\ell}{\partial \phi_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\delta=0} = \frac{b}{n-1}, \quad (\text{A22b})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f_\ell}{\partial \phi_{\text{out}}} \right|_{\delta=0} = 0. \quad (\text{A22c})$$

690 Eq. (A20) then becomes (using notation  $\bullet$  to refer to the focal individual itself,  
691 and where  $W = W_i$ , since the derivatives are the same for all  $i$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\mu B^* \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} &= \delta v(1 - v)(1 - Q_{\text{out}}) \times \\ &\quad \left( \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_\bullet} (-c) + \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\text{in}}} b \right)}_{-C} + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_\bullet} b + (n-1) \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\text{in}}} (-c) + (n-2) \frac{\partial W}{\partial f_{\text{in}}} b \right)}_B \underbrace{\frac{Q_{\text{in}} - Q_{\text{out}}}{1 - Q_{\text{out}}}}_R \right) + O(\delta^2). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A23}) \quad \{\text{eq:weaksel2}\}$$

692 (As previously, all derivatives are evaluated at  $\delta = 0$ .)

693 Finally, we obtain a first-order approximation of the expected frequency of  
 694 altruists in the population with

$$\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] = \nu + \delta \left. \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} \right|_{\delta=0} + O(\delta^2), \quad (\text{A24}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:EXgeneric}\}$$

695 where  $\nu = \mathbb{E}_0[\bar{X}]$  (expected frequency in the absence of selection), and where  
 696  $\left. \frac{\partial \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]}{\partial \delta} \right|_{\delta=0}$  is obtained from eq. (A23). We then need to replace the  $B_i$  and  $D_i$   
 697 terms by their formulas for each life-cycle; they are given in table A2.

## 698 B.2 Derivatives for the specific life-cycles {\sec:app:dW}

699 We use the formulas presented in table A2 and the definition of  $W = W_i$  given  
 700 in eq. (A13) for each life-cycle. In eq. (A26), eq. (A28) and eq. (A30), the first  
 701 lines within parentheses correspond to primary effects, and the second line to  
 702 secondary effects.

### Moran Birth-Death {\eq:dWBD}

$$\left. \frac{\partial W^{\text{BD}}}{\partial f_{\bullet}} \right|_{\delta=0} = (1-\mu) \left( \frac{1}{N} - \frac{1}{N^2} \right) - \left( \frac{1-m}{nN} - \frac{1}{N^2} \right) = \frac{1-\mu}{N} + \frac{\mu}{N^2} - \frac{1-m}{nN}, \quad (\text{A25a})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial W^{\text{BD}}}{\partial f_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\delta=0} = (1-\mu) \left( -\frac{1}{N^2} \right) - \left( \frac{1-m}{nN} - \frac{1}{N^2} \right) = \frac{\mu}{N^2} - \frac{1-m}{nN}. \quad (\text{A25b})$$

703 With these derivatives, eq. (5) becomes

$$\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] \approx \nu + \frac{\delta}{\mu} \nu (1-\nu) (1-Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{M}}) \times \left[ \underbrace{\left( \frac{(1-\mu)(-c)}{+(b-c) \left( \frac{\mu}{N} - \frac{1-m}{n} \right)} \right)}_{-C^{\text{BD}}} + \underbrace{\left( \frac{(1-\mu)b}{+(b-c)(n-1) \left( \frac{\mu}{N} - \frac{1-m}{n} \right)} \right)}_{B^{\text{BD}}} \right] \underbrace{\left( \frac{Q_{\text{in}}^{\text{M}} - Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{M}}}{1 - Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{M}}} \right)}_{R^{\text{M}}}, \quad (\text{A26}) \quad \{\text{eq:EXBD}\}$$

704 In addition, for both Moran life-cycles, we have  $B_{\text{M}}^* = 1/N$ . The secondary ef-  
 705 fects (second line in the parentheses in eq. (A26)) include competitive effects  
 706 on the probability of reproducing, and consequences of social interactions on  
 707 the probability that a given individual dies. Note that the secondary effects re-  
 708 main negative for the realistic range of emigration values that we consider (*i.e.*,  
 709  $m < 1 - 1/N_D$ ).

{\eq:dWDB}



### Moran Death-Birth

$$\left. \frac{\partial W^{\text{DB}}}{\partial f_{\bullet}} \right|_{\delta=0} = \frac{1-\mu}{N} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right) \right], \quad (\text{A27a})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial W^{\text{DB}}}{\partial f_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\delta=0} = -\frac{1-\mu}{N} \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right). \quad (\text{A27b})$$

710 With the Death-Birth life-cycle, eq. (5) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] \approx & \nu + \frac{\delta}{\mu} \nu (1-\nu) (1-Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{M}}) \times \\ & \left[ \underbrace{\left( \frac{(1-\mu)(-c)}{-(b-c)(1-\mu) \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right)} \right)}_{-\mathcal{C}^{\text{DB}}} + \underbrace{\left( \frac{(1-\mu)b}{-(b-c)(n-1)(1-\mu) \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right)} \right)}_{\mathcal{B}^{\text{DB}}} \right] \underbrace{\frac{Q_{\text{in}}^{\text{M}} - Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{M}}}{1 - Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{M}}}}_{R^{\text{M}}}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A28}) \quad \{\text{eq:EXDB}\}$$

711 With this life-cycle, Death occurs first, and the probability of dying is indepen-  
 712 dent from the state of the population (since we assume that social interactions  
 713 affect fecundity. We can therefore factor  $(1-\mu)$  in all terms. The primary ef-  
 714 fects (first lines in the parentheses) remain the same as with the Birth-Death  
 715 life-cycle. However, the Death-Birth life-cycle leads to different secondary ef-  
 716 fects compared to the Birth-Death life-cycle: competition occurs at a different  
 717 scale (Grafen & Archetti, 2008). Finally, with this life-cycle as we defined it, the  
 718 probabilities of identity by descent are the same as with the Birth-Death model.

{eq:dWWF}

### Wright-Fisher

$$\left. \frac{\partial W^{\text{WF}}}{\partial f_{\bullet}} \right|_{\delta=0} = (1-\mu) \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right) \right], \quad (\text{A29a})$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial W^{\text{WF}}}{\partial f_{\text{in}}} \right|_{\delta=0} = -(1-\mu) \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right). \quad (\text{A29b})$$

719 For the Wright-Fisher life-cycle, we have  $B_{\text{WF}}^* = 1$ . Replacing the derivatives pre-  
 720 sented in eq. (A29) into eq. (5), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\bar{X}] \approx & \nu + \frac{\delta}{\mu} \nu (1-\nu) (1-Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{WF}}) \times \\ & \left[ \underbrace{\left( \frac{(1-\mu)(-c)}{-(b-c)(1-\mu) \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right)} \right)}_{-\mathcal{C}^{\text{WF}}} + \underbrace{\left( \frac{(1-\mu)b}{-(b-c)(n-1)(1-\mu) \left( \frac{(1-m)^2}{n} + \frac{m^2}{N-n} \right)} \right)}_{\mathcal{B}^{\text{WF}}} \right] \underbrace{\frac{Q_{\text{in}}^{\text{WF}} - Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{WF}}}{1 - Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{WF}}}}_{R^{\text{WF}}}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A30}) \quad \{\text{eq:EXWF}\}$$

721 The only – but important – different between eq. (A30) and eq. (A28) is the value  
 722 of the probabilities of identity by descent, because the number of individuals  
 723 that are updated at each time step differs.

## 724 C Probabilities of identity by descent

### 725 C.1 Expected state of pairs of sites and probabilities of identity by de- 726 scent

{sec:app:IBD}

727 Here we show the link between the expected state of a pair of sites  $P_{ij}$  and prob-  
728 abilities of identity by descent  $Q_{ij}$ . In our derivation of  $\mathbb{E}[\bar{X}]$ ,  $P_{ij}$  is the quantity  
729 that appears, but most studies use  $Q_{ij}$ . Both are evaluated in the absence of  
730 selection ( $\delta = 0$ ).

#### 731 C.1.1 Moran model

732 In a Moran model, exactly one individual dies and one individual reproduces  
733 during one time step. Given a state  $\mathbf{X}$  at time  $t$ , at time  $t + 1$  both sites  $i$  and  
734  $j \neq i$  are occupied by altruists, if  $i$  it was the case at time  $t$  and neither site was  
735 replaced by a non-altruist (first term in eq. (A31)), or  $ij$  if exactly one of the two  
736 sites was occupied by a non-altruist at time  $t$ , but the site was replaced by an  
737 altruist (second and third terms of eq. (A31)):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j(t+1) | X(t) = \mathbf{X}] = & X_i X_j \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{N} (d_{ki} + d_{kj}) ((1 - X_k)(1 - \mu) + \mu(1 - \nu)) \right) \\ & + X_i(1 - X_j) \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{N} d_{kj} (X_k(1 - \mu) + \mu\nu) \\ & + X_j(1 - X_i) \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{N} d_{ki} (X_k(1 - \mu) + \mu\nu). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A31}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Pi jM1}\}$$

738 We take the expectation of this quantity, and consider that the stationary dis-  
739 tribution is reached ( $t \rightarrow \infty$ ); then  $\mathbb{E}[X_i X_j(t+1)] = \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j(t)]$ , and we obtain

$$P_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{k=1}^N (1 - \mu) (d_{kj} P_{ki} + d_{ki} P_{kj}) \right) + \mu\nu^2 \quad (i \neq j), \quad (\text{A32}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Pi jM}\}$$

740 while  $P_{ii} = \nu$ .

741 Now we substitute  $P_{ij} = \nu^2 + \nu(1 - \nu)Q_{ij}$  in eq. (A32), we obtain

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N (1 - \mu) (d_{ki} Q_{kj} + d_{kj} Q_{ki}), \quad (\text{A33}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Qi jM}\}$$

742 and we realize that  $Q_{ij}$  is the probability that the individuals at sites  $i$  and  $j \neq i$   
743 are identical by descent. To compute it indeed, we need to pick which site was  
744 last updated (equal probabilities), then who was the parent ( $k$ ); the other indi-  
745 vidual needs to be identical by descent to the parent, and no mutation should  
746 have occurred ( $1 - \mu$ ).

### 747 **C.1.2 Wright-Fisher model**

748 In a Wright-Fisher model, all individuals are replaced at each time step, so we  
 749 directly consider the state of the parents:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j(t+1) | X(t) = \mathbf{X}] = & \sum_{k, \ell=1}^N d_{ki} d_{\ell j} \left( X_k X_\ell (1 - \mu + \mu v)^2 \right. \\ & + (X_k(1 - X_\ell) + (1 - X_k)X_\ell) (1 - \mu + \mu v)(\mu v) \\ & \left. + (1 - X_k)(1 - X_\ell)(\mu v)^2 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (A34) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Pi jWF1}\}$$

750 The first term of eq. (A34) corresponds to both parents being altruists, and hav-  
 751 ing altruist offspring; the second line corresponds to exactly one parent being  
 752 altruist, and the third line to both parents being non-altruists (in this latter case,  
 753 the two offspring have to be both mutants to be altruists).

754 Taking the expectation and simplifying, we obtain

$$P_{ij} = \sum_{k, \ell=1}^N (P_{kl}(1 - \mu)^2) + (2 - \mu)\mu v^2. \quad (A35) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Pi jWF}\}$$

755 Replacing  $P_{ij}$  by  $v^2 + v(1 - v)Q_{ij}$ , eq. (A35) becomes

$$Q_{ij} = \sum_{k, \ell=1}^N d_{ki} d_{\ell j} Q_{k\ell} (1 - \mu)^2. \quad (A36) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Qi jWF}\}$$

756 Again,  $Q_{ij}$  corresponds to a probability of identity by descent: the individuals at  
 757 sites  $i$  and  $j$  are identical by descent if their parents were and if neither mutated  
 758  $((1 - \mu)^2)$ .

## 759 C.2 Probabilities of identity by descent in a subdivided population {sec:app:Qsubdiv}

760 Two individuals are said to be identical by descent if there has not been any mu-  
 761 tation on either lineage since their common ancestor. Because of the structure  
 762 of the population, there are only three types of pairs of individuals, and hence  
 763 three different values of the probabilities of identity by descent of pairs of sites  
 764  $Q_{ij}$ :

$$Q_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } i = j; \\ Q_{\text{in}} & \text{when } i \neq j \text{ and both sites are in the same deme;} \\ Q_{\text{out}} & \text{when sites } i \text{ and } j \text{ are in different demes.} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A37})$$

765 The values of  $Q_{\text{in}}$  and  $Q_{\text{out}}$  depend on the type of life-cycle that we consider.

766 Here, we will use formulas derived in Débarre (2017) for “two-dimensional  
 767 population structures”. The name comes from the fact that we only need two  
 768 types of transformations to go from any site to any other site in the population:  
 769 permutations on the deme index, and permutations on the within-deme index.  
 770 We rewrite site labels ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ) as  $(\ell_1, \ell_2)$ , where  $\ell_1$  is the index of the deme ( $1 \leq$   
 771  $\ell_1 \leq N_D$ ) and  $\ell_2$  the position of the site within the deme ( $1 \leq \ell_2 \leq n$ ). Then, we  
 772 introduce notations  $\tilde{d}_{i_1, i_2}$  and  $\tilde{Q}_{i_1, i_2}$ , that correspond to the dispersal probability and  
 773 probability of identity by descent to a site at distances  $i_1$  and  $i_2$  in the among-  
 774 demes and within-deme dimensions (e.g.,  $\tilde{d}_{i_1, i_2} = d_{j_1, j_2'}$  where  $j_1 = i_1$  and  $j_2' = i_2$ ).

775 Also, in this section, we distinguish between  $d_{\text{self}} = d_{ii}$  and  $d_{\text{in}}$  (in the main  
 776 text,  $d_{\text{self}} = d_{\text{in}}$ ).

### 777 C.2.1 Moran model

778 In Débarre (2017), it was shown that

$$\tilde{Q}_{r_1, r_2} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{q_1=0}^{N_1-1} \sum_{q_2=0}^{N_2-1} \frac{\mu \lambda'_M}{1 - (1 - \mu) \tilde{D}_{q_1, q_2}} \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi q_1 r_1}{N_1}\right) \exp\left(i \frac{2\pi q_2 r_2}{N_2}\right) \quad (\text{A38a}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Q2DM}\}$$

779 with

$$\tilde{D}_{q_1, q_2} = \sum_{\ell_1=0}^{N_1-1} \sum_{\ell_2=0}^{N_2-1} \tilde{d}_{\ell_1, \ell_2} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_1 \ell_1}{N_1}\right) \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_2 \ell_2}{N_2}\right), \quad (\text{A38b}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:D2D}\}$$

780 and  $\lambda'_M$  such that  $\tilde{Q}_0 = 1$ . Let us first compute  $\tilde{D}_{q_1, q_2}$  in the case of a subdivided  
 781 population, with  $N_1 = N_D$  and  $N_2 = n$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}_{q_1, q_2} &= d_{\text{self}} + \sum_{\ell_2=1}^{N_2-1} d_{\text{in}} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_2 \ell_2}{N_2}\right) + \sum_{\ell_1=1}^{N_1-1} \sum_{\ell_2=0}^{N_2-1} d_{\text{out}} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_1 \ell_1}{N_1}\right) \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_2 \ell_2}{N_2}\right) \\ &= d_{\text{self}} + (\delta_{q_2} (N_2 - 1) + (1 - \delta_{q_2}) (-1)) d_{\text{in}} + (\delta_{q_1} (N_1 - 1) + (1 - \delta_{q_1}) (-1)) (\delta_{q_2} N_2) d_{\text{out}} \\ &= d_{\text{self}} + (\delta_{q_2} N_2 - 1) d_{\text{in}} + (\delta_{q_1} N_1 - 1) \delta_{q_2} N_2 d_{\text{out}}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A39a})$$

782 ( $\delta_q$  is equal to 1 when  $q$  is equal to 0 modulo the relevant dimension, and to 0  
 783 otherwise). So for the three types of distances that we need to consider (distance  
 784 0, distance to another deme-mate, distance to individual in another deme), and  
 785 with  $N_1 = N_D$  and  $N_2 = n$ , we obtain

{eq:app:Dsystem}

$$\tilde{D}_0 = 1, \quad (\text{A40a})$$

$$\tilde{D}_{q_1} = 1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D - 1} \quad (q_1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{N_1}), \quad (\text{A40b})$$

$$\tilde{D}_{q_1} = d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}} \quad (q_2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{N_2}). \quad (\text{A40c})$$

786 So for  $\tilde{Q}$ , using system (A40) in eq. (A38a),

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{Q}_{r_1} &= \frac{\mu \lambda'_M}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu) \tilde{D}_0} + \sum_{q_2=1}^{N_2-1} \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu) \tilde{D}_{q_2}} \exp\left(-\iota \frac{2\pi q_2 r_2}{N_2}\right) \right. \\ &\quad + \sum_{q_1=1}^{N_1-1} \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu) \tilde{D}_{q_1}} \exp\left(-\iota \frac{2\pi q_1 r_1}{N_1}\right) \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{q_1=1}^{N_1-1} \sum_{q_2=1}^{N_2-1} \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu) \tilde{D}_{q_1}} \exp\left(-\iota \frac{2\pi q_1 r_1}{N_1}\right) \exp\left(-\iota \frac{2\pi q_2 r_2}{N_2}\right) \right] \\ &= \frac{\mu \lambda'_M}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (\delta_{r_2} N_2 - 1) \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D - 1})} (\delta_{r_1} N_1 - 1) \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (\delta_{r_1} N_1 - 1)(\delta_{r_2} N_2 - 1) \right]. \quad (\text{A41}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Q2DMSol}\} \end{aligned}$$

787 In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{Q}_0 &= \frac{\mu \lambda'_M}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (n - 1) + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D - 1})} (N_D - 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (N_D - 1)(n - 1) \right] \\ &= 1. \quad (\text{A42a}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:Q2D1}\} \end{aligned}$$

788 We find  $\lambda'_M$  using eq. (A42a). Let's now go back to eq. (A41): when  $r_1 = 0$ , the two  
 789 individuals are in the same deme. They are different when  $r_2 \neq 0$ , and so:

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\text{in}} &= \frac{\mu \lambda'_M}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (-1) + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D - 1})} (D - 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (D - 1)(-1) \right]. \quad (\text{A42b}) \end{aligned}$$

790 And when  $r_1 \neq 0$ , the two individuals are in different demes:

$$Q_{\text{out}} = \frac{\mu \lambda'_M}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{\mu} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} (-1) + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D - 1})} (-1) + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)(d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})} \right]. \quad (\text{A42c})$$

791 With  $d_{\text{self}} = d_{\text{in}} = (1 - m)/n$ , we eventually obtain:

{eq:QM}

$$Q_{\text{in}}^M = \frac{(1 - \mu)(m + \mu(N_D(1 - m) - 1))}{(1 - \mu)m(N_D\mu(n - 1) + 1) + (N_D - 1)\mu(\mu(n - 1) + 1)}, \quad (\text{A43a})$$

$$Q_{\text{out}}^M = \frac{(1 - \mu)m}{(1 - \mu)m(N_D\mu(n - 1) + 1) + (N_D - 1)\mu(\mu(n - 1) + 1)}. \quad (\text{A43b})$$

792 The probability that two different deme-mates are identical by descent,  $Q_{\text{in}}^M$ , de-  
 793 creases monotonically with the emigration probability  $m$ , while  $Q_{\text{out}}^M$  monoton-  
 794 ically increases with  $m$  (see figure A5(a)).

795 When the mutation probability  $\mu$  is vanishingly small ( $\mu \rightarrow 0$ ), both  $Q_{\text{in}}^M$  and  
 796  $Q_{\text{out}}^M$  are equal to 1: in the absence of mutation indeed, the population ends up  
 797 fixed for one of the two types, and all individuals are identical by descent. Note  
 798 that we obtain a different result if we first assumed that the size of the popu-  
 799 lation is infinite ( $N_D \rightarrow \infty$ ), because the order of limits matters; for instance,  
 800  $\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} Q_{\text{out}}^M = 0$ .

801 Using eq. (A43), relatedness under the Moran model is given by

$$R^M = \frac{(1 - \mu)(N_D(1 - m) - 1)}{N_D(1 - \mu)m(n - 1) + (N_D - 1)(1 + \mu(n - 1))}. \quad (\text{A44}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:RM}\}$$

802 When there is an infinite number of demes ( $N_D \rightarrow \infty$ ) and mutation is vanish-  
 803 ingly small ( $\mu \rightarrow 0$ ), we have

$$\lim_{\mu \rightarrow 0} \lim_{N_D \rightarrow \infty} R^M = \lim_{N_D \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{\mu \rightarrow 0} R^M = \frac{1 - m}{1 + m(n - 1)}. \quad (\text{A45}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:RMLim}\}$$

### 804 C.2.2 Wright-Fisher

805 For the Wright-Fisher updating, the equation for  $\tilde{Q}$  is different:

$$\tilde{Q}_{r_1 r_2} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{q_1=0}^{N_1-1} \sum_{q_2=0}^{N_2-1} \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (\tilde{D}_{q_1})^2} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_1 r_1}{N_1}\right) \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_2 r_2}{N_2}\right), \quad (\text{A46})$$

806 with  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$  given in eq. (A38b). In a subdivided population, with  $N_1 = N_D$  and  $N_2 = n$ ,  
 807 this becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{Q}_{r_1 r_2} &= \frac{1}{N} \left[ \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_0)^2} + \sum_{q_2=1}^{N_2-1} \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{q_2})^2} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_2 r_2}{N_2}\right) \right. \\
 &\quad + \sum_{q_1=1}^{N_1-1} \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{q_1})^2} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_1 r_1}{N_1}\right) \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{q_1=1}^{N_1-1} \sum_{q_2=1}^{N_2-1} \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{q_1})^2} \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_1 r_1}{N_1}\right) \exp\left(-i \frac{2\pi q_2 r_2}{N_2}\right) \right] \\
 &= \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})^2} (\delta_{q_2} N_2 - 1) \right. \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D-1})^2} (\delta_{q_1} N_1 - 1) \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})^2} (\delta_{q_1} N_1 - 1) (\delta_{q_2} N_2 - 1) \right] \\
 &= \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})^2} (\delta_{q_2} N_2 - 1) \delta_{q_1} N_1 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D-1})^2} (\delta_{q_1} N_1 - 1) \right]. \tag{A47} \quad \{\text{eq:app:Q2DWFsol}\}
 \end{aligned}$$

808 To find  $\lambda'_{WF}$ , we solve  $\tilde{Q}_0 = 1$ , i.e.,

$$1 = \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2} + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})^2} (N_2 - 1) N_1 + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D-1})^2} (N_1 - 1) \right]. \tag{A48a}$$

809 Then from eq. (A47) we deduce

$$Q_{\text{in}} = \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2} - \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (d_{\text{self}} - d_{\text{in}})^2} N_1 + \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (1 - m - \frac{m}{N_D-1})^2} (N_1 - 1) \right]. \tag{A48b}$$

810 and

$$Q_{\text{out}} = \frac{\mu \lambda'_{WF}}{N} \left[ \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2} - \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2 (1 - m - \frac{m}{d-1})^2} \right]. \tag{A48c}$$

811 With  $d_{\text{self}} = d_{\text{in}} = (1 - m)/n$ , we obtain:

{eq:QWF}

$$Q_{\text{in}}^{\text{WF}} = \frac{-N_D + M_1 + M_2}{(n - 1)N_D + M_1 + M_2}, \tag{A49a}$$

$$Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{WF}} = \frac{-\frac{1}{N_D-1} M_1 + M_2}{(n - 1)N_D + M_1 + M_2}, \tag{A49b}$$

812 with

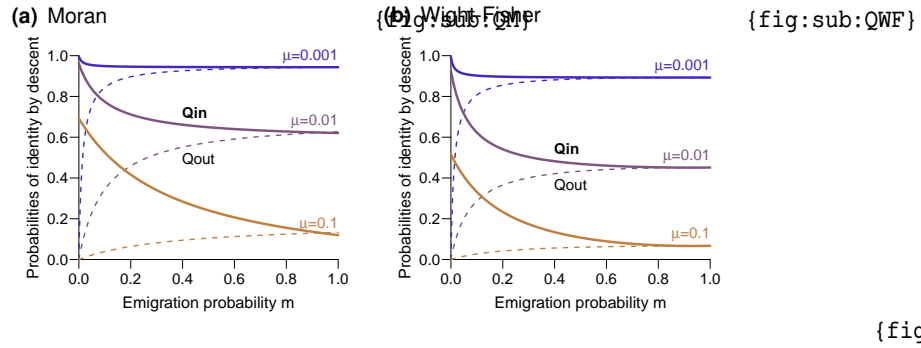
$$M_1 = \frac{N_D - 1}{1 - \frac{(1 - \mu)^2 (N_D (1 - m) - 1)^2}{(N_D - 1)^2}} \text{ and } M_2 = \frac{1}{1 - (1 - \mu)^2}.$$

(These formulas are compatible with, *e.g.*, results presented by Cockerham & Weir (1987), adapted for haploid individuals).

In the Wright-Fisher life-cycle,  $Q_{\text{in}}^{\text{WF}}$  decreases until  $m = m_c^{\text{WF}} = \frac{N_D - 1}{N_D}$ , while  $Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{WF}}$  follows the opposite pattern. The threshold value  $m_c^{\text{WF}}$  corresponds to an emigration probability so high that  $d_{\text{in}} = d_{\text{out}}$ .

The two probabilities of identity by descent go to 1 when the mutation probability  $\mu$  is very small ( $\mu \rightarrow 0$ ), except if we first assume that the number of demes is very large ( $N_D \rightarrow \infty$ ); for instance, with this life-cycle as well,  $\lim_{N_D \rightarrow \infty} Q_{\text{out}}^{\text{WF}} = 0$ .

Also, because more sites (all of them, actually) are updated at each time step,  $Q_{\text{in}}$  is lower for the Wright-Fisher updating than for a Moran updating, under which only one site is updated at each time step (compare figure A5(a) and A5(b)).



**Figure A5:** Probabilities of identity by descent, for two different individuals within the same deme ( $Q_{\text{in}}$ , full curves) and two individuals in different demes ( $Q_{\text{out}}$ , dashed curves), as a function of the emigration probability  $m$ , for different values of the mutation probability  $\mu$  (0.001, 0.01, 0.1), and for the two types of life-cycles ((a): Moran, (b): Wright-Fisher). Other parameters:  $n = 4$  individuals per deme,  $N_D = 15$  demes.

Combining the formulas presented in eq. (A49), we obtain

$$R^{\text{WF}} = \frac{(1 - N_D(1 - m))^2(1 - \mu)^2}{D^{\text{WF}}}, \quad (\text{A50}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:RWF}\}$$

with

$$D^{\text{WF}} = 1 - N_D(2(1 + m(n - 1)) - N_D(1 + (2 - m)m(n - 1))) - 2\mu + 2(N_D(N_D(1 - m) - 2)(1 - m)(n - 1) + n)\mu - (1 - N_D(1 - m))^2(n - 1)\mu^2.$$

When the number of demes is very large and mutation is vanishingly small,



829 eq. (A50) reduces to

$$\lim_{\mu \rightarrow 0} \lim_{N_D \rightarrow \infty} R^{\text{WF}} = \lim_{N_D \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{\mu \rightarrow 0} R^{\text{WF}} = \frac{(1-m)^2}{1 + (2-m)m(n-1)}. \quad (\text{A51}) \quad \{\text{eq:app:RWFlim}\}$$