

# Replicating a Model:

## Adaptation as Information Restriction: The Hot Stove Effect

By Jerker Denrell and James G. March

Presented by James Paine  
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### Adaptation as Information Restriction: The Hot Stove Effect

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#### Abstract

Individuals and social systems are often portrayed as risk averse and resistant to change. Such propensities are characteristically attributed to individual, organizational, and cultural traits such as risk aversion, uncertainty-avoidance, discounting, and an unwillingness to change. This paper explores an alternative interpretation of such phenomena. We show how the reproduction of successful actions inherent in adaptive processes, such as learning and competitive selection and reproduction, results in a bias against alternatives that initially may appear to be worse than they actually are. In particular, learning and selection are biased against both risky and novel alternatives. Because the biases are products of the tendency to reproduce success that is inherent in the sequential sampling of adaptation, they are in-built whenever the reproduction of success is attempted. In particular, when adaptation is slow, made implicit, or recalled less reliably, the propensity to engage in risky and novel activities is increased. These propensities against the error of rejecting potentially good alternatives in inadequate experimental evidence are useful, however. They increase the likelihood of persisting with alternatives that are poor in the long run as well as in the short run.

(Organizational Learning, Selection, Risk Taking, Change, Replication, Reinforcement)

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that it is in—and stop there, lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove lid again—and that is well, but also she will never sit down on a cold one. (Twee 1997, p. 124)

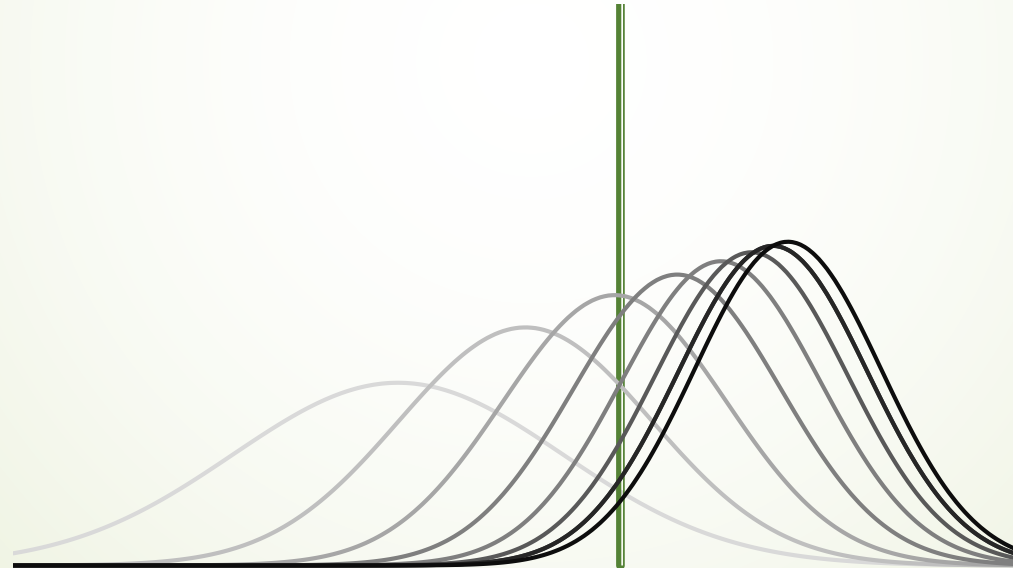
Individuals and social systems are often portrayed as risk averse and resistant to change. A standard interpretation of such propensities attributes them to individual, organizational, and cultural traits. Within this interpretation, risk aversion and change aversion are fundamental properties of individuals and organizations. The tendencies reflected in these traits may vary among individuals

and groups and may be segmented or overcome by incentives, norms, selection, or situational factors (March 1994, pp. 40–55), but the traits themselves are fixed and unexplained. This paper explores an alternative interpretation of risk taking and change in social systems, one that pictures these propensities as evolving from experience at the individual or population level. In particular, we show how the reproduction of success, inherent in the sequential sampling of adaptive processes, results in a bias against both risky and novel alternatives.

#### Adaptation as Sequential Sampling

Modern treatments of organizational development over time are primarily variations on two themes of adaptation. The first theme is experiential learning, the idea that organizations and the people in them modify their actions on the basis of an evaluation of their experience (Cyert and March 1963, Huber 1991, Huberman and Pankratz 1999). The second theme is competitive selection and reproduction, the idea that organizations and the people in them are essentially unchanging, but survive and reproduce at different rates depending on their performance (Hannan and Freeman 1977, Nelson and Winter 1982, Aldrich 1999).

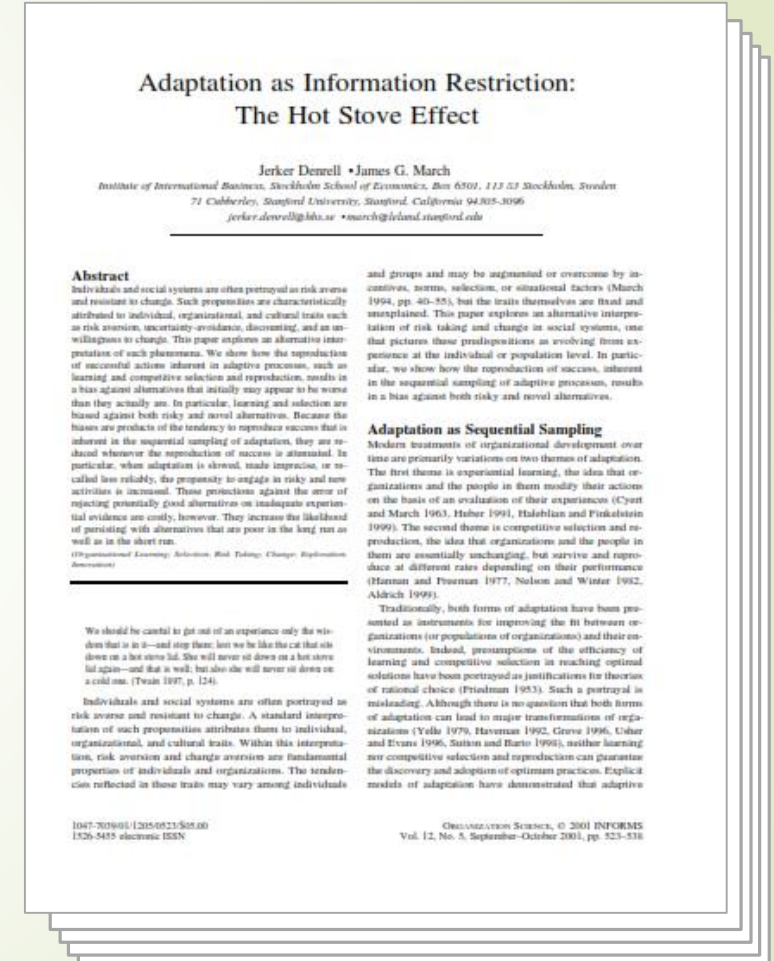
Traditionally, both forms of adaptation have been presented as instruments for improving the fit between organizations (or populations of organizations) and their environments. Indeed, presumptions of the efficiency of learning and competitive selection in reaching optimal solutions have been portrayed as justifications for theories of rational choice (Probst 1983). Such a portrayal is misleading. Although there is no question that both forms of adaptation can lead to major transformations of organizations (Valla 1979, Hirschman 1982, Gross 1996, Cohen and Evans 1996, Sutton and Baro 1999), neither learning nor competitive selection and reproduction can guarantee the discovery and adoption of optimum practices. Explicit models of adaptation have demonstrated that adaptive



```
LearnParm in 1:length(D)) {  
  d = D[LearnParm]  
  
  for (elim in 1:length(W)) { #step through each elimination percentage w  
    w = W[elim]  
  
    #Initialize the data matrix for firm performance of each firm type  
    PerfList$Performance = 0  
    PerfList$type = append(rep(1,round(RiskyFract*agents)),rep(2,agents-round  
  
    #set the initial competency to c0 before stepping forward through time p  
    PerfList$c = append(rep(c0,round(RiskyFract*agents)),rep(NA,agents-round  
  
    #Get the number of firms to eliminate each round based on the value of w  
    kills = round(w*nrow(PerfList))  
  
    for (t in 1:(periods)) {  
      if (fulldetail == 1) {  
        cat("\014")  
        print(paste0("Replication",rplct," of ", replications))  
        print(paste0("d value: ", d))  
        print(paste0("w value: ", w))  
        print(paste0("Time Period: ", (t-1), " of ", periods))  
      }  
  
      for (n in 1:agents) {  
  
        #Determine the firm performance based on its type  
  
        if (PerfList$type[n] == 1) {  
          #Get the st dev based on the current competency c  
          stdev = (S/PerfList[c[n]]^k  
          avg = PerfList[c[n]]*X  
          #store the performance for this agent  
          PerfList$Performance[n] = rnorm(1, mean = avg, sd = stdev)  
  
          #update the agent's competency with the risky process for the use  
          PerfList[c[n] = PerfList[c[n] + d*(1-PerfList[c[n])  
        }  
  
        if (PerfList$type[n] == 2) {  
          #For these agents, the performance is a constant  
          PerfList$Performance[n] = Y  
        }  
      }  
    } #next agent n  
  
    #order, from worst to best, based on performance from worst to best  
    #PerfList$Rank = rank(PerfList$Performance, ties.method = "r")  
    #Elim = nrow(PerfList)-kills  
    #PerfList = PerfList[PerfList$Rank >= Elim,]  
  }  
}
```

# Paper Background

- Published in Organization Science in 2001
- “Hot Stove” effect can be summarized as the over-correction (or basis) away from risky behavior due to early negative experiences
- Modeling is based on individual/firm choosing one of two alternatives
  - One with ‘certain’ outcomes
  - Another with ‘risky’ (normally distributed) outcomes
- ‘Aspiration level’ as benchmark of outcomes for agent-level simulations
- Relative performance with thresholding as benchmark for multi-agent (or multi-firm) simulations
- ‘Competence’ as mechanism for experiential learning improvements



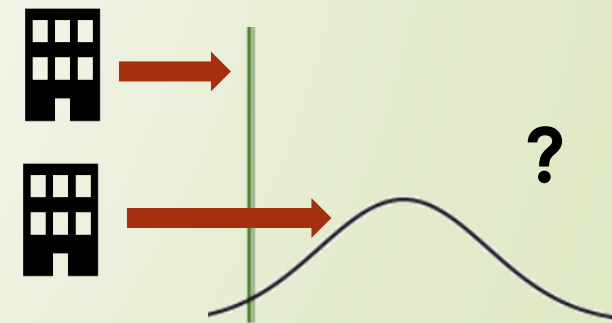
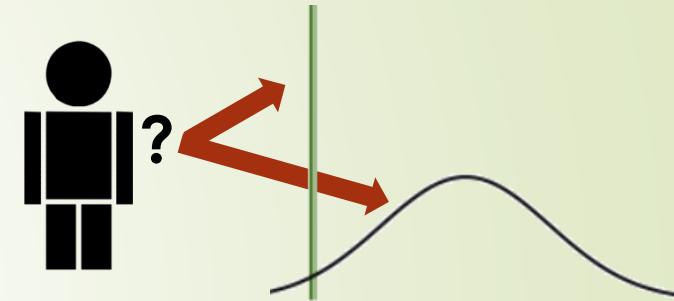
# Model Details

## ► Experiential Learning

- 5,000 simulated individuals draw from either a 'certain' or 'risky' (normally distributed) payout
- Payout histories are recorded as the 'aspiration level'
- IF the payout exceeds the aspiration level, the probability of choosing that choice increases *linearly as a function of a parameter 'a'*
- Explores the number of individuals still making 'risky' choices after 50 time steps as a function of the linear parameter  $a$

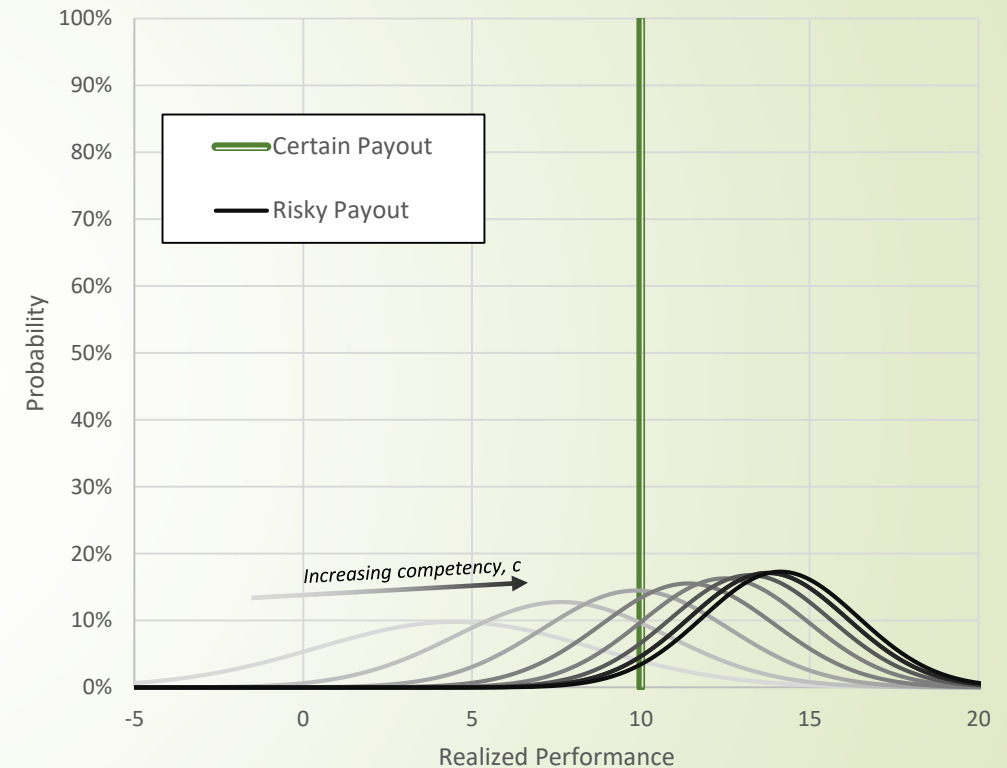
## ► Competitive Selection

- 100 simulated firms are categorized as always either drawing from the risky or certain payouts
- Overall performance is assessed after each period, with some fraction  $w$  of the worst performers being replaced
- New firms are populated each round proportionally (or randomly)
- Explores the number of firms of the risky type still surviving at the end of 50 rounds as a function of the parameter  $w$



# Model Details

- Competency as an Extension to both models
  - Competency  $c_t$  is analogous to learning by doing
  - After an individual/firm draws from the risky payout, their competency increases
    - $c_{t+1} = c_t + d(1 - c_t)$
    - This increases the expectation  $\mu_t = c_t X$
    - And reduces the variance  $\sigma_t = \left(\frac{s}{c_t}\right)^k$
  - The more times an individual samples the risky distribution, or the longer a risky firm survives, the better the expectation
  - Varying  $d$  varies the speed at which competency approaches 1





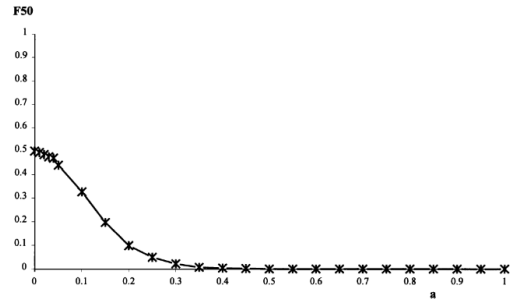
# Model Details

## Without Competency Mechanism

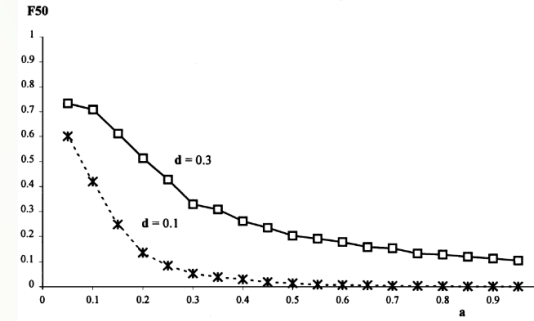
## With Competency Mechanism

Experiential

**Figure 1** The Fraction of 5,000 Individuals Who Choose the Risky Alternatives at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $a$ . Based on Averages from 25 Sets of 5,000 Simulations Where  $X = 10$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 10$ ,  $b = 0.5$

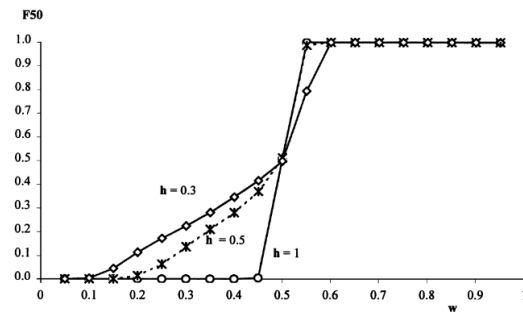


**Figure 2** The Fraction of 5,000 Individuals Who Choose the New Alternative at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $a$  and  $d$ . Each Line Is Based on Averages from 19 Sets of 5,000 Simulations Where  $X = 15$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 5$ ,  $k = 0.5$ ,  $c_0 = 0.3$ , and  $b = 0.5$

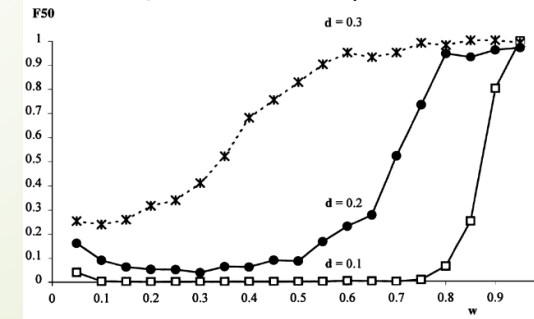


Competitive Selection

**Figure 3** The Fraction of the Population Who Choose the Risky Alternative at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $w$  and  $h$ . Each Line Is Based on Averages from 19 Sets of 1,000 Simulations Where  $X = 10$ ,  $Y = 10$ , and  $S = 10$ . The Constant Population Size is 100.



**Figure 4** The Fraction of the Population Who Choose the New Alternative at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $w$  and  $d$  when  $h = 0.5$ . Each Line Is Based on Averages from 19 Sets of 100 Simulations Where  $X = 15$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 5$ ,  $k = 0.5$ , and  $c_0 = 0.3$ . The Constant Population Size is 100.



# Replication

- Recreated the 4 model variations
  - R as the programming language
  - Two structural methods used:
    - Experiential: Array based memory allocation (full history retained)
    - Competitive: Data Frame based memory allocation (history overwritten)
  - Code written to be flexible to explore full parameter spaces
  - Additional mechanisms and triggers incorporated
    - Competitive: cumulative performance and inter-generational competency transfer
- Matched the model terminology and structure from Denrell and March
- For all but one, used the published parameter values and visually compared my results to Denrell and March

```
d = D[LearnParm]

for (elim in 1:length(w)) { #step through each elimination

  w = w[elim]

  #Initialize the data matrix for firm performance of e
  PerfList$Performance = 0
  PerfList$Type = append(rep(1,round(RiskyFract*agents)))

  #Set the initial competency to c0 before stepping for
  PerfList$c = append(rep(c0,round(RiskyFract*agents)))

  #Get the number of firms to eliminate each round based
  kills = round(w*nrow(PerfList))

  for (t in 1:(periods)) {

    if (fulldetail == 1) {
      cat("\014")
      print(paste0("Replication ",rplct," of ", replica
      print(paste0("d value: ", d))
      print(paste0("w value: ", w))
      print(paste0("Time Period: ", (t-1), " of ", per
    }

    for (n in 1:agents) {

      #Determine the firm performance based on its type

      if (PerfList$Type[n] == 1) {
        #Get the st dev based on the current competency
        stdev = (s/PerfList$c[n])^k
        avg = PerfList$c[n]*x
        #store the performance for this agent
        PerfList$Performance[n] = rnorm(1, mean = avg,

        #Update the agent's competency with the risky p
        PerfList$c[n] = PerfList$c[n] + d*(1-PerfList$c

      }

      if (PerfList$Type[n] == 2) {

        #For these agents, the performance is a constan
        PerfList$Performance[n] = Y

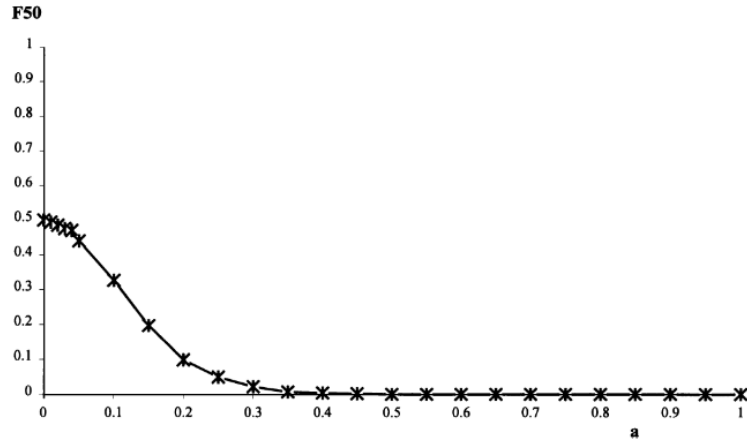
      }

    } #next agent n
  }
}
```

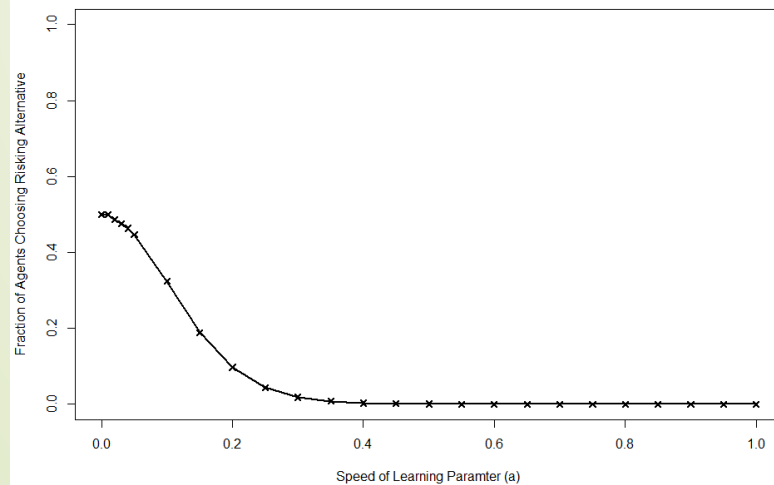
# Experiential Model Recreations – Directional Results

Paper Outputs

**Figure 1** The Fraction of 5,000 Individuals Who Choose the Risky Alternatives at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $a$ . Based on Averages from 25 Sets of 5,000 Simulations Where  $X = 10$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 10$ ,  $b = 0.5$

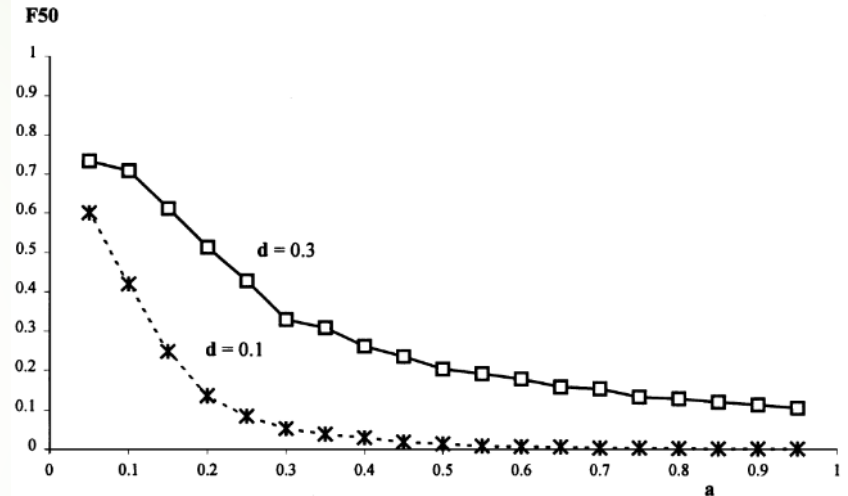


Replication outputs

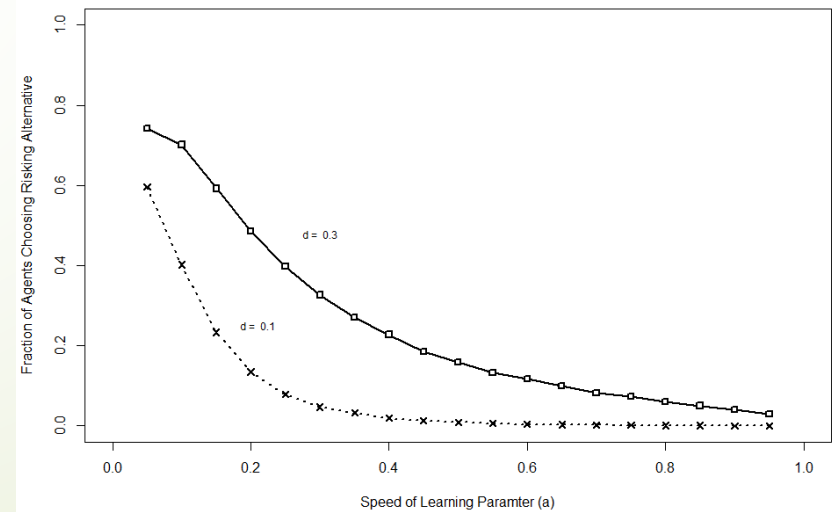


Paper Outputs

**Figure 2** The Fraction of 5,000 Individuals Who Choose the New Alternative at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $a$  and  $d$ . Each Line Is Based on Averages from 19 Sets of 5,000 Simulations Where  $X = 15$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 5$ ,  $k = 0.5$ ,  $c_0 = 0.3$ , and  $b = 0.5$



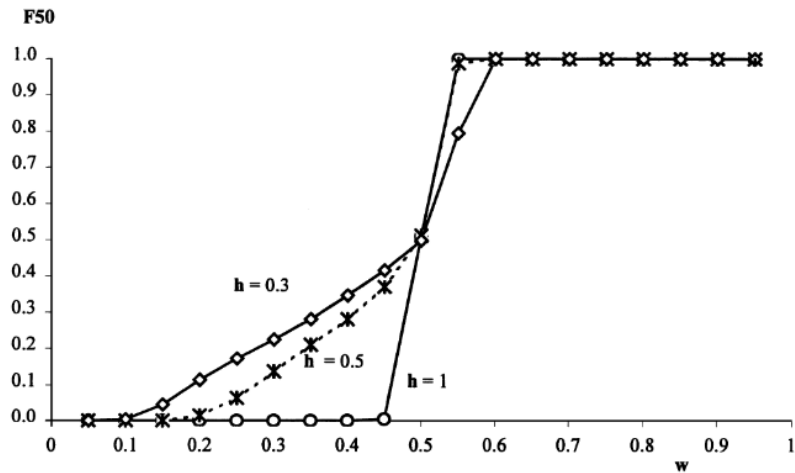
Replication outputs



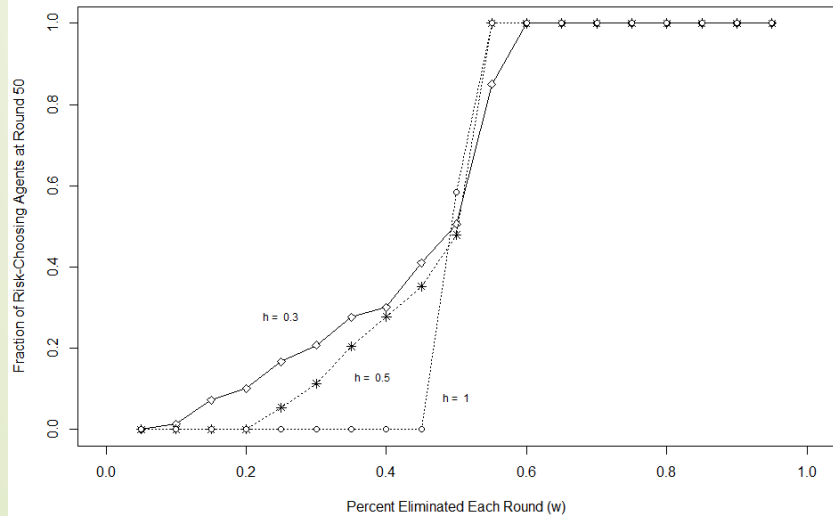
# Competitive Selection Model Recreations – Directional Results

Paper Outputs

**Figure 3** The Fraction of the Population Who Choose the Risky Alternative at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $w$  and  $h$ . Each Line Is Based on Averages from 19 Sets of 1,000 Simulations Where  $X = 10$ ,  $Y = 10$ , and  $S = 10$ . The Constant Population Size is 100.

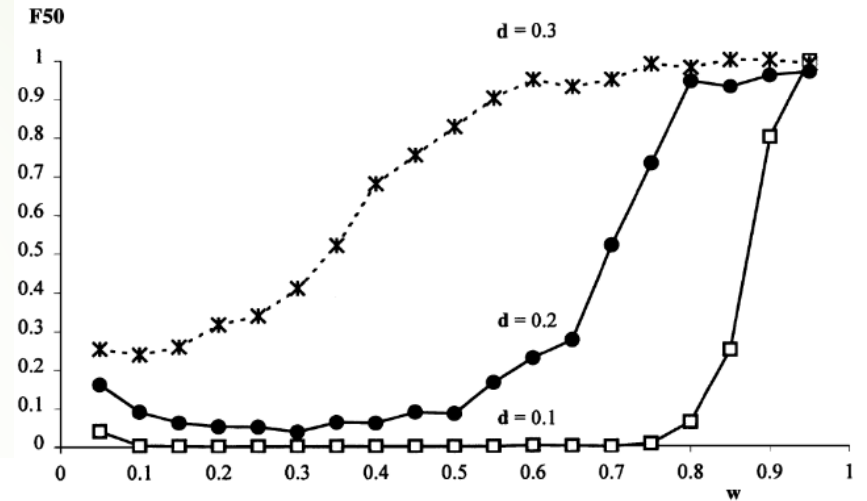


Replication outputs

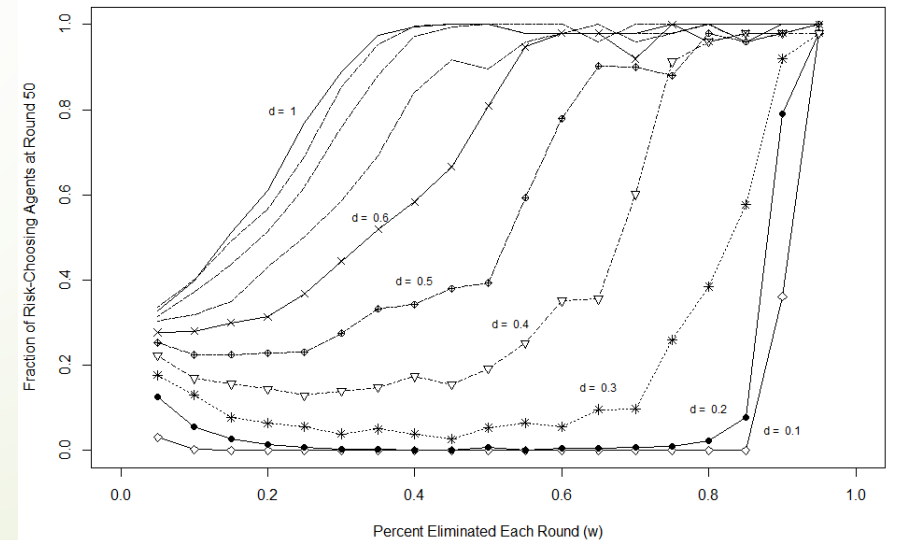


Paper Outputs

**Figure 4** The Fraction of the Population Who Choose the New Alternative at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $w$  and  $d$  when  $h = 0.5$ . Each Line Is Based on Averages from 19 Sets of 100 Simulations Where  $X = 15$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 5$ ,  $k = 0.5$ , and  $c_0 = 0.3$ . The Constant Population Size is 100.







Replication outputs\*





# R Script Demos

	Without Competency Mechanism	With Competency Mechanism
Experiential	 1-BasicHotStove.R	 2-CompetenceHotStove.R
Competitive Selection	 3-SurvivalHotStove.R	 4-CompetenceSurvivalHotStove.R

# Critiques on Model Formulation

- Exact number of replications of the model is obfuscated, and only implied from the graph descriptions
  - For the experiential learning models, the 5000 agents are implied to be run only once
  - For the Competitive Selection models, the first model is implied to be repeated 10 times while the second appears to have been *run only once*
- In experiential learning, the aspirations are one-sided and probability updates are linear
  - Aspirations are relative to choice 1 only (not immediately clear in the paper)
  - Changes to probability are only *if* aspiration is exceeded/missed, and then change by a constant factor no matter the distance of the realization from the aspiration
  - Not immediately clear on how to extend to >2 choices

The Fraction of 5,000 Individuals Who Choose the Risky Alternatives at the End of Period 50 as a Function of  $a$ . Based on Averages from 25 Sets of 5,000 Simulations Where  $X = 10$ ,  $Y = 10$ ,  $S = 10$ ,  $b = 0.5$

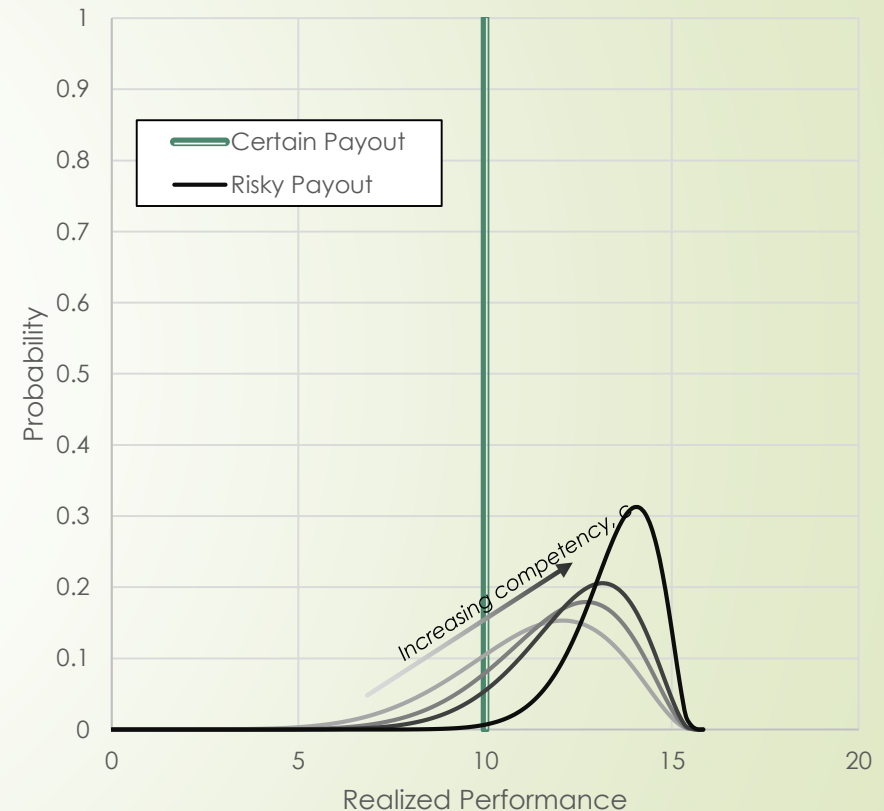
$$L_{t+1} = L_t(1 - b) + O_t b$$

$$P_{t+1} = \begin{cases} P_t + a(1 - P_t) & \text{if } O_t > L_t \\ (1 - a)P_t & \text{if } O_t < L_t \\ P_t & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$



# Extensions and Suggestions

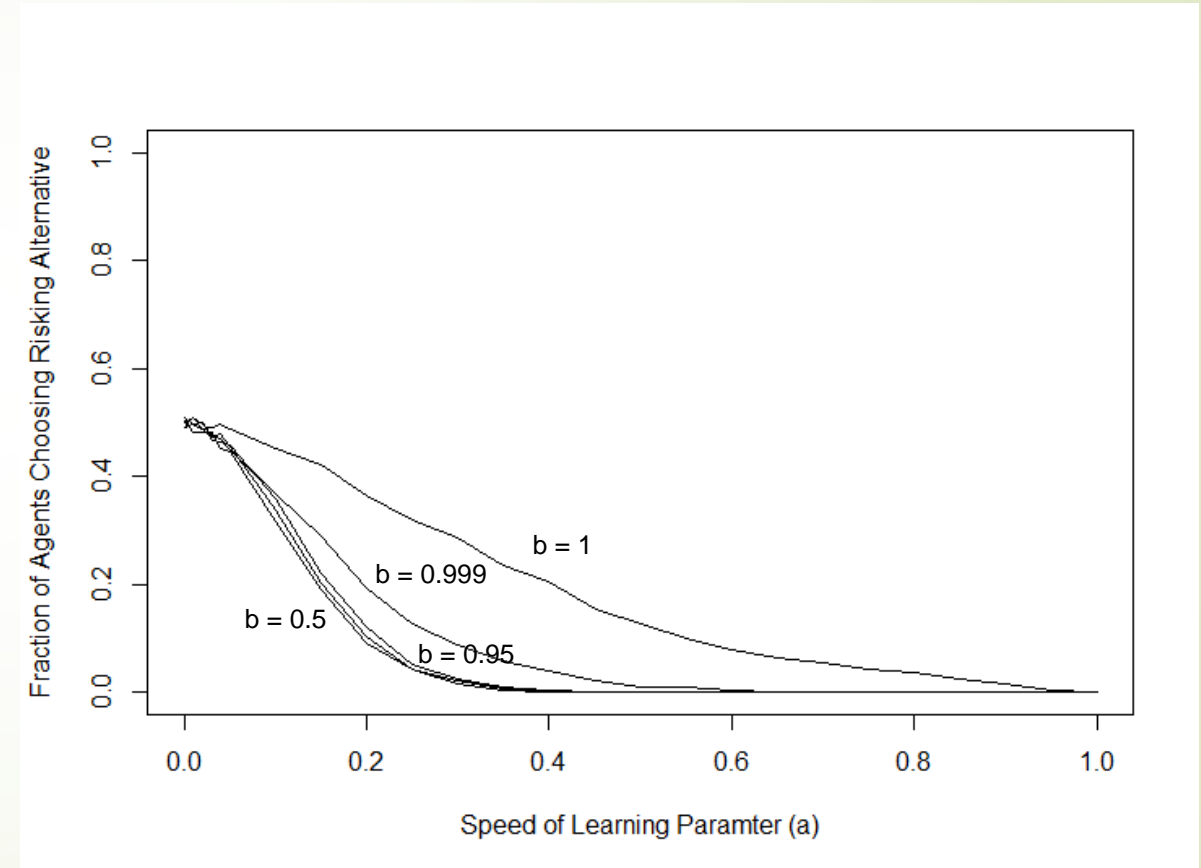
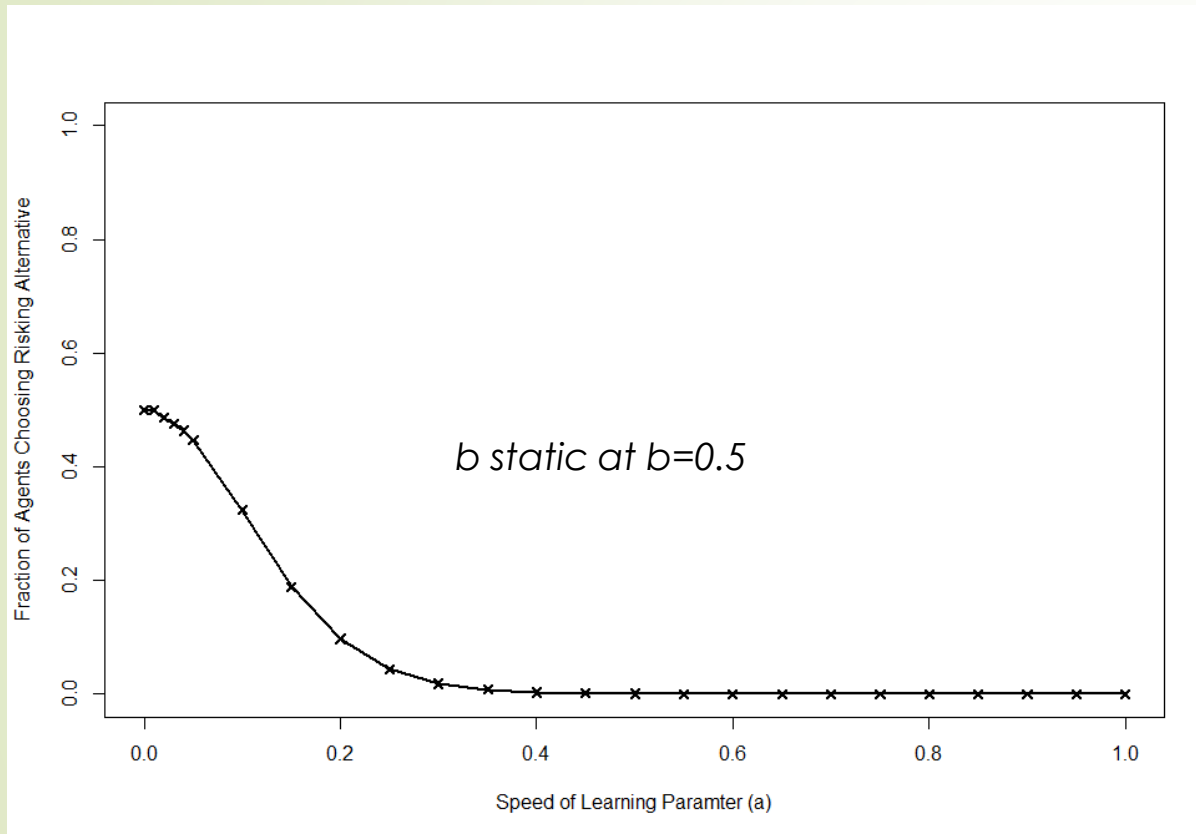
- Create more generalized envelopes of parameter interactions
- Vary at least over all parameters mentioned in the model
  - The authors do not vary over  $b$  and only talk about varying over  $k$
- Show all results, specifically learning transference in the competitive survival models
- Make competitive survival more realistic
  - Start with low number of risky firms
  - Perhaps use beta distribution to reflect more realistic starting state for new risky process
  - Evaluate based on *cumulative* performance, not period-by-period
- Explore dynamics of the system in the time periods before  $t=50$





# Extensions and Suggestions

- Varying over additional parameters, like  $b$  as seen below, yields additional behavior

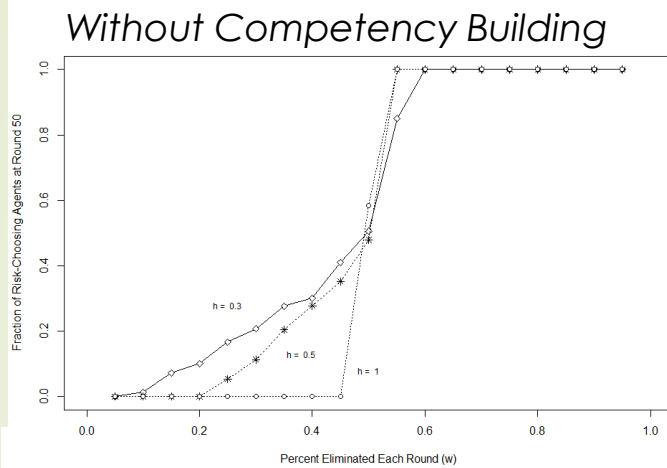


Increasing  $b$  (rate at which aspiration incorporates new information) yields threshold near 1 at which 'Risky' agent suddenly becomes much more prevalent in the system

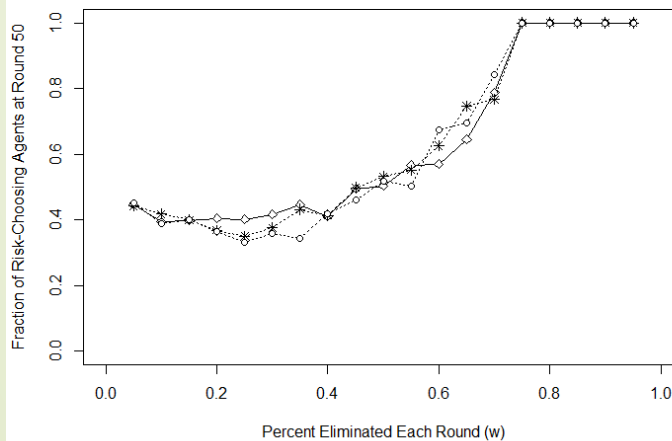
# Extensions and Suggestions

- Evaluate cumulative survival based on *cumulative* performance

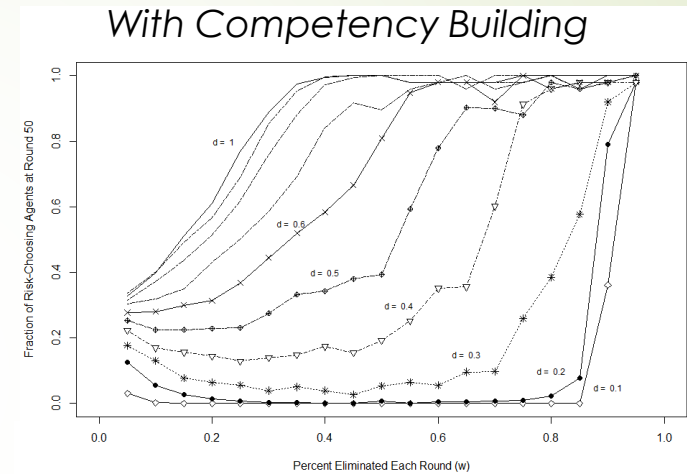
Period-By-Period



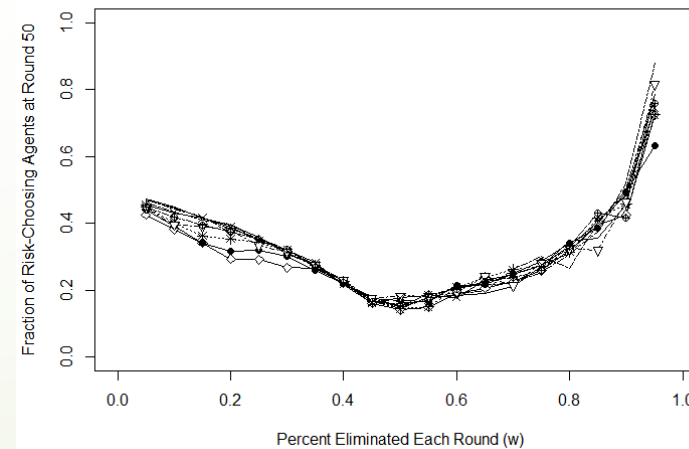
Cumulative



Period-By-Period



Cumulative



*d* and *h* matter less in aggregate when performance is cumulative, and the behavior is more generalizable

```

#Model Replication
#Adaptation as Information Restriction
#Jerker Denrell, James G. March, 2001

#Created by James Paine
#15.879 - Simulation Models in Social and Behavioral Sciences
#February 22, 2019

#####PART 1 - EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITHOUT COMPETENCY BUILDING#####

###System Parameters

#Expectation of the 'risky' alternative
X = 10
#Standard deviation of the 'risky' alternative
S = 10

#Expectation of the 'certain' alternative
Y = 10

#Rate at which aspirations adjust to experience
b= 0.5

###Simulation Paramters
periods = 50
agents = 5000
replications = 2

A = seq(from = 0, to = 0.045, by = ((0.05-0)/5))
A = append(A,seq(from = 0.05, to = 1, by = ((1-0)/20)))
A

#Note P is the probability that the RISKY alternative is chosen
#This is a two-choice system, so the probability of the certain
# choice is 1-P for any timestep t

#Note on array indicies
#P[n,t,a] and L[n,t,a] and k[n,t,a] where
# n = agent number
# t = period number
# P = probability of choosing the risky choice
# example: P[50,20] = 0.25 means that agent #50 had a 25% chance of
# choosing the risky choice at time period 20

#IN the below sampling, choice 1 is the 'Risky' alternative

#Initialize the probability array P and the aspiration array L
#initalize the GLOBAL probability and q array spaces
P = array(data = NA, dim = c(agents,periods+1,length(A),replications))
L = array(data = NA, dim = c(agents,periods+1,length(A),replications))
k = array(data = NA, dim = c(agents,periods+1,length(A),replications))
FractX = array(data = NA, dim = c(periods+1,length(A),replications))

##Initialize the simluation

```

```

#Initialize the probabilities at t=0
P[,1,,]=0.5

#Initialize the aspirations at t=0
L[,1,,] = P[,1,,]*X+(1-P[,1,,])*Y

#debug param
n=1
t=1
SoL = 1
rep = 1
#

for (rep in 1:replications) {

  for (SoL in 1:length(A)) {

    a = A[SoL]

    for (t in 1:(periods+1)) {

      cat("\014")
      print(paste0("Replication ", rep," of ", replications))
      print(paste0("a value: ", a))
      print(paste0("Time Period: ", (t-1), " of ", periods))

      for (n in 1:agents) {

        #print(paste0("Agent: ", n, " of ", agents))

        #Probabilistically get agent n's choice
k[n,t,SoL,rep]=sample(c(1:2),1,replace=FALSE,prob=c(P[n,t,SoL,rep], (1-
P[n,t,SoL,rep])))

        #Get the realized value from either the risky or certain
distributions
        if (k[n,t,SoL,rep] == 1) {
          O = rnorm(1, mean = X, sd = S)
        } else {
          O = Y
        }

        if ((t+1)<=(periods+1)) {

          #Get the aspirations for next round
          L[n,t+1,SoL,rep] = L[n,t,SoL,rep]*(1-b)+O*b

          #Update the probability of choosing the risky alternative based on
the
          #   current aspiration L and the realized value O

          P[n,t+1,SoL,rep] = P[n,t,SoL,rep]

```



```

    #"...if the first alternative is tried..."
    if (k[n,t,SoL,rep] == 1) {
        #"...AND yields an outcome better than the aspiration at time t"
        if (O > L[n,t,SoL,rep]) {
            #The probability increases in the following way:"
            P[n,t+1,SoL,rep]=P[n,t,SoL,rep] + a*(1-P[n,t,SoL,rep])

            #"...OR yields an outcome that is worse than the aspiration
            } else if (O < L[n,t,SoL,rep]) {
                P[n,t+1,SoL,rep] = (1-a)*P[n,t,SoL,rep]

            }
        }

    #...or if the second alternative is tried..."
    if (k[n,t,SoL,rep] == 2) {
        #"...AND yields an outcome worse than the aspiration at time t"
        if (O < L[n,t,SoL,rep]) {
            #The probability increases in the following way:"
            P[n,t+1,SoL,rep]=P[n,t,SoL,rep] + a*(1-P[n,t,SoL,rep])

            #"...OR yields an outcome that is better than the aspiration
            } else if (O > L[n,t,SoL,rep]) {
                P[n,t+1,SoL,rep] = (1-a)*P[n,t,SoL,rep]

            }
        }

    }

} # Next Agent n

# Determine fractions of choices at each time step (t) and Speed of
Learning (a) value
NumX = sum(k[,t,SoL,rep] == 1)
NumY = sum(k[,t,SoL,rep] == 2)
FractX[t,SoL,rep] = NumX/(NumX+NumY)

} # Next time period t

} # Next parameter a value

} # Next replication

#Average each replication and determine the standard deviation
FractX_avg = apply(FractX, c(1,2), mean)
FractX_sd = apply(FractX, c(1,2), sd)

#Get Confidence intervals for plotting
CI = 0.999
SD_mod = qnorm(1-CI,lower.tail=FALSE)/sqrt(replications)
FractX_UCI = FractX_avg + SD_mod*FractX_sd

```

```

FractX_LCI = FractX_avg - SD_mod*FractX_sd
FractX_UCI[FractX_UCI>1] = 1
FractX_LCI[FractX_LCI<0] = 0

#Full plot of all rounds of last replication
Rep = replications
matplot(A,t(FractX[,Rep]), typ = "l", pch=4, col = "grey", lwd=1, lty =1,
        xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
        xlab = "Speed of Learning Paramter (a)", ylab = "Fraction of Agents
Choosing Risking Alternative"
)

#Plot of last round of specific replication
Round = periods
Rep = 2
plot(A,FractX[Round,,Rep], typ = "l", pch=4, col = "black", lwd=2, lty =1,
     xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
     xlab = "Speed of Learning Paramter (a)", ylab = "Fraction of Agents
Choosing Risking Alternative"
)
points(A,FractX[Round,,Rep], typ = "p", pch=4, lwd=2)

#Full plot all rounds of the mean of all replications
matplot(A,t(FractX_avg[,]), typ = "l", pch=4, col = "grey", lwd=1, lty =1,
        xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
        xlab = "Speed of Learning Paramter (a)", ylab = "Fraction of Agents
Choosing Risking Alternative"
)

##FIGURE 1 RECREATION
Round = periods
plot(A,FractX_avg[Round,], typ = "l", pch=4, col = "black", lwd=2, lty =1,
     xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
     xlab = "Speed of Learning Paramter (a)", ylab = "Fraction of Agents
Choosing Risking Alternative"
)
points(A,FractX_avg[Round,], typ = "p", pch=4, lwd=2)

#arrows(A,FractX_LCI[Round,], A, FractX_UCI[Round,], length=0.05, angle=90,
code=3)

```

```

#Model Replication
#Adaptation as Information Restriction
#Jerker Denrell, James G. March, 2001

#Created by James Paine
#15.879 - Simulation Models in Social and Behavioral Sciences
#February 22, 2019

#####PART 2 - EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH COMPETENCY BUILDING#####

###System Parameters

#Expectation of the 'risky' or 'new' alternative
X = 15
#Standard deviation of the 'risky' or 'new' alternative
S = 5

#Expectation of the 'certain' alternative
Y = 10

#Rate at which aspirations adjust to experience
b= 0.5

#Initial Competence of agents with the 'risky alternative
c0 = 0.3

#Rate of standard deviation decrease as a function of competence (see page
527)
k = 0.5

###Simulation Paramters
periods = 50
agents = 5000
replications = 5

#Display full iteration details - adds time, only use for small replications
fulldetail = 0

#Create arrays to range over for later plotting
A = seq(from = .05, to = 0.95, by = ((0.95-0.05)/18))
D = c(0.1,0.3)

#Note P is the probability that the RISKY alternative is chosen
#This is a two-choice system, so the probability of the certain
# choice is 1-P for any timestep t

#Note on array indicides
#P[n,t,a] and L[n,t,a] and choice[n,t,a] where
# n = agent number
# t = period number
# P = probability of choosing the risky choice
# example: P[50,20] = 0.25 means that agent #50 had a 25% chance of
# choosing the risky choice at time period 20

```

```

#IN the below sampling, choice 1 is the 'Risky' alternative

#Initialize the probability array P and the aspiration array L
#initialize the GLOBAL probability and q array spaces
P = array(data = NA, dim =
c(agents,periods+1,length(A),length(D),replications))
L = array(data = NA, dim = c(agents,periods+1,length(A),
length(D),replications))
choice = array(data = NA, dim = c(agents,periods+1,length(A),
length(D),replications))
FractX = array(data = NA, dim = c(periods+1,length(A),
length(D),replications))
c = array(data = NA, dim = c(agents,periods+1,replications))
##Initialize the simulation

#Initialize the probabilities at t=0
P[,1,,,]=0.5

#Initialize the aspirations at t=0
L[,1,,,] = P[,1,,,]*X+(1-P[,1,,,])*Y

#Initialize the competencies at t=0
c[,1,] = c0

n=1
t=1
SoL = 1
LearnParm = 1
SoL = 1

starttime = proc.time()

for (rep in 1:replications) {

  if (fulldetail != 1) {
    cat("\014")
    print(paste0("Replication ",rep," of ", replications))
    print(paste0("Elapsed time since last replication: ",(proc.time() -
starttime)[3],"s"))
    print(paste0("Avg Replication time: ",(proc.time() - starttime)[3]/rep,"s
per replication"))
    print(paste0("Est Time Remaining: ",((proc.time() -
starttime)[3]/rep)*(replications-rep),"s"))

  }

  for (LearnParm in 1:length(D)) {

    d = D[LearnParm]

    for (SoL in 1:length(A)) { #Note: a is the 'speed of learning'

      a = A[SoL]

      for (t in 1:(periods+1)) {

```



```

if (fulldetail == 1) {
  cat("\014")
  print(paste0("Replication ",rep," of ", replications))
  print(paste0("d value: ", d))
  print(paste0("a value: ", a))
  print(paste0("Time Period: ", (t-1), " of ", periods))
}

for (n in 1:agents) {

  #print(paste0("Agent: ", n, " of ", agents))

  #Probabilistically get agent n's choice
  # Note, here choice 1 is the 'risky' or 'new' alternative

choice[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]=sample(c(1:2),1,replace=FALSE,prob=c(P[n,t,SoL,
LearnParm,rep], (1-P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep])))

  #Get the realized value from either the risky or certain
distributions
  if (choice[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] == 1) {

    #Get the st dev based on the current competency c
    stdev = (S/c[n,t,rep])^k
    avg = c[n,t,rep]*X
    #Get the performance experienced
    O = rnorm(1, mean = avg, sd = stdev)
  } else {
    O = Y
  }

  if ((t+1)<=(periods+1)) {

    #Get the aspirations for next round
    L[n,t+1,SoL,LearnParm,rep] = L[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]*(1-b)+O*b

    #Update the probability of choosing the risky alternative based
on the
    #   current aspiration L and the realized value O

    P[n,t+1,SoL,LearnParm,rep] = P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]

    #"...if the first/new alternative is tried..."
    if (choice[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] == 1) {

      #"...Competence increases with each utilization"
      c[n,t+1,rep]=c[n,t,rep] + d*(1-c[n,t,rep])

      #"...AND yields an outcome better than the aspiration at time
t"
      if (O > L[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]) {
        #The probability increases in the following way:"
        P[n,t+1,SoL,LearnParm,rep]=P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] + a*(1-
P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep])

        #"...OR yields an outcome that is worse than the aspiration

```

```

    } else if (O < L[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]) {
      P[n,t+1,SoL,LearnParm,rep] = (1-a)*P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]
    }
  }

  #...or if the second/existing alternative is tried...
  if (choice[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] == 2) {

    c[n,t+1,rep]=c[n,t,rep]

    #"...AND yields an outcome worse than the aspiration at time t"
    if (O < L[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]) {
      #The probability increases in the following way:"
      P[n,t+1,SoL,LearnParm,rep]=P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] + a*(1-
P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep])

      #"...OR yields an outcome that is better than the aspiration
    } else if (O > L[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]) {
      P[n,t+1,SoL,LearnParm,rep] = (1-a)*P[n,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep]
    }

  }

}

} # Next Agent n

# Determine fractions of choices at each time step (t) and Speed of
Learning (a) value
NumX = sum(choice[,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] == 1)
NumY = sum(choice[,t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] == 2)
FractX[t,SoL,LearnParm,rep] = NumX/(NumX+NumY)

} # Next time period t

} # Next speed of learning parameter a value

} # Next learning paramter d value

} # Next replication

#Average each replication and determine the standard deviation
FractX_avg = apply(FractX, c(1,2,3), mean)
FractX_sd = apply(FractX, c(1,2,3), sd)

#Plot specific repitition and round combo
rep = 1
Round = 50
plot(A,FractX[Round,,1,rep], typ = "l", col = "black", lwd=2, lty =1,
      xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),

```

```

        xlab = "Speed of Learning Paramter (a)", ylab = "Fraction of Agents
Choosing Risking Alternative")
    points(A,FractX[Round,,1,rep], typ = "p", pch=4, lwd=2)
    lines(A,FractX[Round,,2,rep], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=2, lty=1)
    points(A,FractX[Round,,2,rep], typ = "p", pch=0, lwd=2)
    text(c(0.21,0.3),c(0.25,0.48),paste("d = ", D), cex = .75)

```

```
##FIGURE 2
```

```

Round = 50
plot(A,FractX_avg[Round,,1], typ = "l", col = "black", lwd=2, lty=3,
      xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
      xlab = "Speed of Learning Paramter (a)", ylab = "Fraction of Agents
Choosing Risking Alternative")
points(A,FractX_avg[Round,,1], typ = "p", pch=4, lwd=2)
lines(A,FractX_avg[Round,,2], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=2, lty=1)
points(A,FractX_avg[Round,,2], typ = "p", pch=22, lwd=2, bg = "white")
text(c(0.21,0.3),c(0.25,0.48),paste("d = ", D), cex = .75)

```

```

#Model Replication
#Adaptation as Information Restriction
#Jerker Denrell, James G. March, 2001

#Created by James Paine
#15.879 - Simulation Models in Social and Behavioral Sciences
#February 22, 2019

#####PART 3 - COMPETITIVE SURVIVAL WITHOUT COMPETENCY BUILDING#####

###System Parameters

#Expectation of the 'risky' or 'new' alternative
X = 10
#Standard deviation of the 'risky' or 'new' alternative
S = 10

#Expectation of the 'certain' alternative
Y = 10

###Simulation Paramters
replications = 5
firms = 2
periods = 50
agents = 100
RiskyFract = 0.5

#See page 529 for descriptions of each reproduction mechanism
# 1 = Uniformly random
# 2 = proportional to number of surviving firms
# 3 = proportional to total performance of surviving firms
# 4 = proportional to average performance of surviving firms
ReproductionMechanism = 2

#Set to FALSE to match the paper
#Do the surviving firms keep their previous performance round-by-round?
CummulativePerformance = FALSE

#Display full iteration details - adds time, only use for small replications
fulldetail = 0

#Create arrays to range over for later plotting
W = seq(from = .05, to = 0.95, by = ((0.95-0.05)/18))
H = c(0.3, 0.5, 1)

#t = time period (note, the paper is indexed relative to t=0, but here it's
relative to t=1)
#w = fraction of the population eliminated each time period
#h = affects the sensitivity of reproduction to the aggregate performance of
a type (see page 529)

#Create a data frame to keep track of the performance of each firm
PerfList = data.frame(matrix(NA, ncol = 4, nrow = agents), stringsAsFactors =
FALSE)
colnames(PerfList) = c("Agent", "Type", "Performance", "Rank")

```



```

#Create an array to keep track of the fraction of X (or 1) type firms at the
end of each run
FractX = array(data=NA, dim=c(length(W),length(H), replications))

t=1
n = 1
w = 0.3
h = 0.3
sens = 1
elim = 1

starttime = proc.time()

for (rep in 1:replications) {

  if (fulldetail != 1) {
    cat("\014")
    print(paste0("Replication ",rep," of ", replications))
    print(paste0("Elapsed time since last replication: ",(proc.time() -
starttime)[3]))
    print(paste0("Avg Replication time: ",(proc.time() - starttime)[3]/rep,"
per replication"))
    print(paste0("Est Time Remaining: ",((proc.time() -
starttime)[3]/rep)*(replications-rep)))

  }

  for (sens in 1: length(H)) {

    h = H[sens]

    for (elim in 1:length(W)) { #step through each elimination percentage w

      w = W[elim]

      #Initialize the data matrix for firm performance of each firm type
      PerfList$Agent = seq.int(1,agents)
      PerfList$Performance = 0
      PerfList$Type = append(rep(1,round(RiskyFract*agents)),rep(2,agents-
round(RiskyFract*agents)))

      #Get the number of frims to eliminate each round based on the value of w
      kills = round(w*nrow(PerfList))

      for (t in 1:(periods+1)) {

        if (fulldetail == 1) {
          cat("\014")
          print(paste0("Replication ",rep," of ", replications))
          print(paste0("h value: ", h))
          print(paste0("w value: ", w))
          print(paste0("Time Period: ", (t-1), " of ", periods))
        }

        for (n in 1:agents) {

```

```

#Determine the firm performance based on its type

if (CumulativePerformance == TRUE) {
  CumPerf = 1
} else{
  CumPerf = 0
}

if (PerfList$Type[n] == 1) {
  PerfList$Performance[n] = (CumPerf*PerfList$Performance[n]) +
rnorm(1, mean = X, sd = S)
}

if (PerfList$Type[n] == 2) {
  PerfList$Performance[n] = (CumPerf*PerfList$Performance[n]) + Y
}
} #next agent n

#Order based on performance from worst to best
PerfList$Rank = rank(PerfList$"Performance",ties.method = "random")
PerfList = PerfList[order(PerfList$"Rank"),]

SurviveList = PerfList[(kills+1):agents,]

#Determine the various performance factors for the survivors that
affect reproduction

T1 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 1)*SurviveList$Performance)
T2 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 2)*SurviveList$Performance)

N1 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 1))
N2 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 2))

A1 = T1/N1
A2 = T2/N2

#Define reproduction probability based on user choices

if (ReproductionMechanism == 1) { #uniformly random replacement
  r1 = 1/firms
} else { #replacements proportional to the amount/performance of
firms

  #Avoid erroneous rates when one population is totally eliminated
  if (N1 == 0) {
    r1 = 0
  } else if (N2 == 0) {
    r1 = 1
  } else {

    if (ReproductionMechanism == 2) {
      r1 = N1^h/(N1^h+N2^h)
    } else if (ReproductionMechanism == 3) {
      r1 = T1^h/(T1^h+T2^h)
    } else if (ReproductionMechanism == 4) {
      r1 = A1^h/(A1^h+A2^h)
    }
  }
}

```

```

    }
  }
}

#Generate new firms based on the reproduction probabilities
NewTypes = sample(c(1:2),kills,replace=TRUE,prob=c(r1,1-r1))

#Record the new firm types
PerfList[1:kills,]$Type = NewTypes
#Reset the new firms performance to 0
PerfList[1:kills,]$Performance = 0

} # Next time period t

FractX[elim,sens,rep] = sum(PerfList$Type == 1)/agents

} # next elimination percentage w

} # next sensitivity factor h

} # next replication

endtime = proc.time()

ElapsedTime = endtime-starttime
ElapsedTime

#Average each replication and determine the standard deviation
FractX_avg = apply(FractX, c(1,2), mean)
FractX_sd = apply(FractX, c(1,2), sd)

rep=1
matplot(W,FractX[,rep], typ = "l", pch=4, col = "black", lwd=1, lty =1,
        xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
        xlab = "Percent Eliminated Each Round (w)", ylab = "Fraction of Risk-
Choosing Agents at Round 50"
)

matplot(W,FractX_avg, typ = "l", pch=4, col = "black", lwd=1, lty =1,
        xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
        xlab = "Percent Eliminated Each Round (w)", ylab = "Fraction of Risk-
Choosing Agents at Round 50"
)

##Plot of Figure 3 on page 530
plot(W,FractX_avg[,1], typ = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty =1,
     xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
     xlab = "Percent Eliminated Each Round (w)", ylab = "Fraction of Risk-
Choosing Agents at Round 50")
points(W,FractX_avg[,1], typ = "p", pch=23, lwd=1, bg = "white")
lines(W,FractX_avg[,2], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 3)
points(W,FractX_avg[,2], typ = "p", pch=8, lwd=1.5)
lines(W,FractX_avg[,3], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 3)
points(W,FractX_avg[,3], typ = "p", pch=21, lwd=1.5, bg = "white")
#text(c(0.25,0.38,0.5),c(0.28,0.13,0.08),paste("h = ", H), cex = .75)

```

```

#Model Replication
#Adaptation as Information Restriction
#Jerker Denrell, James G. March, 2001

#Created by James Paine
#15.879 - Simulation Models in Social and Behavioral Sciences
#February 22, 2019

#####PART 4 - COMPETITIVE SURVIVAL WITH COMPETENCY BUILDING#####

###System Parameters

#Expectation of the 'risky' or 'new' alternative
X = 15
#Standard deviation of the 'risky' or 'new' alternative
S = 5

#Expectation of the 'certain' alternative
Y = 10

###Simulation Paramters
replications = 5
firms = 2
periods = 50
agents = 100
RiskyFract = 0.5
h = 0.5
k = 0.5
c0 = 0.3

#See page 529 for descriptions of each reproduction mechanism
# 1 = Uniformly random
# 2 = proportional to number of surviving firms
# 3 = proportional to total performance of surviving firms
# 4 = proportional to average performance of surviving firms
ReproductionMechanism = 2

#Set to FALSE to match the paper
#Do the surviving firms keep their previous performance round-by-round?
CummulativePerformance = TRUE

LearningTransfer = FALSE

#Display full iteration details - adds time, only use for small replications
fulldetail = 0

#Create arrays to range over for later plotting
W = seq(from = .05, to = 0.95, by = ((0.95-0.05)/18))
#D = c(0.1,0.2,0.3,0.4,0.5,0.6,0.7,0.8,0.9,1.0)
D = c(0.1,0.4,0.6)

#t = time period (note, the paper is indexed relative to t=0, but here it's
relative to t=1)
#w = fraction of the population eliminated each time period
#h = affects the sensitivity of reproduction to the aggregate performance of
a type (see page 529)

```

```

#Create a data frame to keep track of the performance of each firm
PerfList = data.frame(matrix(NA, ncol =3, nrow = agents), stringsAsFactors =
FALSE)
colnames(PerfList) = c("Type","Performance","c")

#Create an array to keep track of the fraction of X (or 1) type firms at the
end of each run
FractX = array(data=NA, dim=c(length(W),length(D), replications))

starttime = proc.time()

for (rplct in 1:replications) {

  if (fulldetail != 1) {
    cat("\014")
    print(paste0("Replication ",rplct," of ", replications))
    print(paste0("Elapsed time since last replication: ",(proc.time() -
starttime)[3],"s"))
    print(paste0("Avg Replication time: ",(proc.time() -
starttime)[3]/rplct,"s per replication"))
    print(paste0("Est Time Remaining: ",((proc.time() -
starttime)[3]/rplct)*(replications-rplct),"s"))

  }

  for (LearnParm in 1:length(D)) {

    d = D[LearnParm]

    for (elim in 1:length(W)) { #step through each elimination percentage w

      w = W[elim]

      #Initialize the data matrix for firm performance of each firm type
      PerfList$Performance = 0
      PerfList$Type = append(rep(1,round(RiskyFract*agents)),rep(2,agents-
round(RiskyFract*agents)))

      #Set the initial competency to c0 before stepping forward through time
      periods
      PerfList$c = append(rep(c0,round(RiskyFract*agents)),rep(NA,agents-
round(RiskyFract*agents)))

      #Get the number of firms to eliminate each round based on the value of w
      kills = round(w*nrow(PerfList))

      for (t in 1:(periods)) {

        if (fulldetail == 1) {
          cat("\014")
          print(paste0("Replication ",rplct," of ", replications))
          print(paste0("d value: ", d))
          print(paste0("w value: ", w))
          print(paste0("Time Period: ", (t-1), " of ", periods))
        }
      }
    }
  }
}

```

```

for (n in 1:agents) {

  if (CumulativePerformance == TRUE) {
    CumPerf = 1
  } else{
    CumPerf = 0
  }

  #Determine the firm performance based on its type

  if (PerfList$Type[n] == 1) {
    #Get the st dev based on the current competency c
    stdev = (S/PerfList$c[n])^k
    avg = PerfList$c[n]*X
    #store the performance for this agent
    PerfList$Performance[n] = (CumPerf*PerfList$Performance[n]) +
rnorm(1, mean = avg, sd = stdev)

    #Update the agent's competency with the risky process for the use
in the next round (if they survive)
    PerfList$c[n] = PerfList$c[n] + d*(1-PerfList$c[n])

  }

  if (PerfList$Type[n] == 2) {

    #For these agents, the performance is a constant
    PerfList$Performance[n] = (CumPerf*PerfList$Performance[n]) + Y

  }

} #next agent n

#Order, from worst to best, based on performance from worst to best
#PerfList$Rank = rank(PerfList$"Performance",ties.method = "random")
#PerfList = PerfList[order(PerfList$"Rank"),]
PerfList = PerfList[order(PerfList$"Performance"),]

#Get list of surviving firms (bottom of ordered list)
SurviveList = PerfList[(kills+1):agents,]

#Determine the various performance factors for the survivors that
affect reproduction

T1 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 1)*SurviveList$Performance)
T2 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 2)*SurviveList$Performance)

N1 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 1))
N2 = sum((SurviveList$Type == 2))

A1 = T1/N1
A2 = T2/N2

#Define reproduction probability based on user choices

```



```

    if (ReproductionMechanism == 1) { #uniformly random replacement
      r1 = 1/firms
    } else { #replacements proportional to the ammount/performance of
firms

      #Avoid erroneous rates when one population is totally eliminated
      if (N1 == 0) {
        r1 = 0
      } else if (N2 == 0) {
        r1 = 1
      } else {

        if (ReproductionMechanism == 2) {
          r1 = N1^h/(N1^h+N2^h)
        } else if (ReproductionMechanism ==3) {
          r1 = T1^h/(T1^h+T2^h)
        } else if (ReproductionMechanism ==4) {
          r1 = A1^h/(A1^h+A2^h)
        }

      }
    }

    #Generate new firms based on the reproduction probabilities
    NewTypes = sample(c(1:2),kills,replace=TRUE,prob=c(r1,1-r1))

    #Record the new firm types
    PerfList[1:kills,]$Type = NewTypes
    #Reset the new firms performance to NA
    PerfList[1:kills,]$Performance = 0

    #Reset new firms of type 1 to the baseline competency with the
process

    AvgC = mean(SurviveList[SurviveList$Type==1,]$c)

    if (LearningTransfer == TRUE) {
      NewC = AvgC
    } else {
      NewC = c0
    }

    NewComp = replace(replace(NewTypes, NewTypes==2, NA),NewTypes==1,
NewC)
    PerfList[1:kills,]$c = NewComp

    sum(PerfList$Type == 1)/agents

  } # Next time period t

  FractX[elim,LearnParm,rplct] = sum(PerfList$Type == 1)/agents

} # next elimination percentage w

} # next learning speed paramter d

```

```

} # next replication

endtime = proc.time()

(ElapsedTime = endtime-starttime)

#Average each replication and determine the standard deviation
FractX_avg = apply(FractX, c(1,2), mean)
FractX_sd = apply(FractX, c(1,2), sd)

##Plot of Figure 4 on page 530

matplot(W,FractX_avg[,], typ = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 1,
        xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
        xlab = "Percent Eliminated Each Round (w)", ylab = "Fraction of Risk-
Choosing Agents at Round 50")

##Figure 4

plot(W,FractX_avg[,1], typ = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 1,
     xlim=c(0,1), ylim=c(0,1),
     xlab = "Percent Eliminated Each Round (w)", ylab = "Fraction of Risk-
Choosing Agents at Round 50")
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,2], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 1)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,3], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 3)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,4], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 4)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,5], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 6)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,6], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 1)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,7], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 6)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,8], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 6)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,9], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 6)
  lines(W,FractX_avg[,10], type = "l", col = "black", lwd=1, lty = 1)
  points(W,FractX_avg[,1], typ = "p", pch=23, lwd=1, bg = "white")
  points(W,FractX_avg[,2], typ = "p", pch=21, lwd=1.5, bg = "black")
  points(W,FractX_avg[,3], typ = "p", pch=8, lwd=1.5)
  points(W,FractX_avg[,4], typ = "p", pch=25, lwd=1.5, bg = "white")
  points(W,FractX_avg[,5], typ = "p", pch=10, lwd=1.5)
  points(W,FractX_avg[,6], typ = "p", pch=4, lwd=1.5)

text(c(0.9,0.8,0.65,.53,.4,.34,.22),c(0.05,0.1,0.15,.3,.4,.55,.8),paste("d =
", D[c(1:6,10)]), cex = .75)

```