

Non-Vertical Cultural Transmission, Assortment, and the Evolution of Cooperation

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This work was carried out under the supervision of **Dr. Yoav Ram** from the School
6 of Zoology, Faculty of Life Sciences, Tel Aviv University.

Abstract

8 Cultural evolution of cooperation under vertical and non-vertical cultural transmission is studied,
and conditions are found for fixation and coexistence of cooperation and defection. The evolution
10 of cooperation is facilitated by its horizontal transmission and by an association between social
interactions and horizontal transmission. The effect of oblique transmission depends on the horizontal
12 transmission bias. Stable polymorphism of cooperation and defection can occur, and when it does,
reduced association between social interactions and horizontal transmission evolves, which leads to a
14 decreased frequency of cooperation and lower population mean fitness. The deterministic conditions
are compared to outcomes of stochastic simulations of structured populations. Parallels are drawn
16 with Hamilton's rule incorporating relatedness and assortment.

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1 Introduction

32 Cooperative behavior can reduce an individual's fitness and increase the fitness of its conspecifics or
33 competitors [1]. Nevertheless, cooperative behavior appears to occur in many animals [2], including
34 humans, primates [3], rats [4], birds [5, 6], and lizards [7]. Evolution of cooperative behavior has
35 been an important focus of research in evolutionary theory since at least the 1930s [8]. Since the work
36 of Hamilton [9] and Axelrod and Hamilton [1], theories for the evolution of cooperative and altruistic
37 behaviors have been intertwined often under the rubric of *kin selection*. Kin selection theory posits
38 that natural selection is more likely to favor cooperation between more closely related individuals. The
39 importance of *relatedness* to the evolution of cooperation and altruism was demonstrated by Hamilton
40 [9], who showed that an allele that determines cooperative behavior will increase in frequency if the
41 reproductive cost to the actor that cooperates, c , is less than the benefit to the recipient, b , times the
42 relatedness, r , between the recipient and the actor. This condition is known as *Hamilton's rule*:

$$c < b \cdot r, \quad (1)$$

44 where the relatedness coefficient r measures the probability that an allele sampled from the cooperator
45 is identical by descent to one at the same locus in the recipient.

46 There is an ongoing debate about to what extent kin selection explains evolution of cooperation and
47 altruism. It has been suggested that kin selection to explain the cooperative behaviour of eusocial
48 insects like the honey bee. The most significant argument against kin selection is that cooperation can
49 evolve with zero relatedness [10]. This makes Hamilton's rule incomplete according to Wilson [10].
50 Foster et al. [11] reject this claim. They argue that altruism without relatedness can not evolve. They
51 refer us to Hamilton who claimed that relatedness can arise without recent common ancestry. Wilson
52 also criticises kin selection on the grounds that environmental or ecological factors probably be more
53 important than relatedness in determining social actions. On the other hand, Foster et al. [11] argue
54 that kin selection does not ignore ecology. Hamilton's rule shows that environmental factors causing
55 a high benefit: cost ratio will favour cooperation.

56 Beside kin selection, two other major theories were suggested to explain to evolution of cooperation.

58 **Reciprocity** suggests repeating interactions or individual recognition as key factors for explaining the
59 evolution of cooperation. In *direct reciprocity* there are a repeated encounters between the same two
60 individuals. In every encounter, each player has a choice between cooperation and defection. If I
61 cooperate now, you may cooperate later. Hence, it may pay off to cooperate. This game-theoretic
62 framework is known as the *repeated Prisoner's Dilemma*. Direct reciprocity can only lead to the
63 evolution of cooperation if the cost is smaller than w the probability for another encounter between
64 the same two individuals multiplied by the benefit,

$$c < b \cdot w. \quad (2)$$

66 Direct reciprocity assumes that both players are in a position to cooperate. Direct reciprocity can
67 not explain cooperation in asymmetric interactions[12]. In humans, such interactions happen often,

68 for example, humans donate money. *Indirect reciprocity* has been suggested to explain this behavior.
 Nowak [13] claims that direct reciprocity is like a barter economy based on the immediate exchange
 70 of goods, while indirect reciprocity resembles the invention of currency. The currency that "fuels the engines" of indirect reciprocity is *reputation*. However, reciprocity assumes repeating interactions and
 72 therefore, has difficulty explaining evolution of cooperation if no repeating interactions occurs.

Group Selection theory posits that cooperation is favoured because of the advantage to the whole
 74 group, if selection acts at the group level in addition to the individual level. A common model for group
 selection work as is: the population is divided into groups. In each group there are cooperators, which
 76 help other group members, and defectors, which do not help. Individuals reproduce proportional to
 their fitness. Offspring are added to the same group. If a group reaches a certain size it can split to
 78 two groups. A group that grows faster will split more often. Groups of cooperators grow faster than
 groups of defectors. Therefore, cooperation can evolve in this model when

$$80 \quad \frac{b}{c} > 1 + \frac{n}{m}, \quad (3)$$

where n is the maximum group size and m is the number of groups.

82

All three theories mentioned above assume that cooperation is genetically determined. This raise
 84 the question, is it possible that cooperation is determined by environmental or social influences.
 Cooperative behavior may be subject to *cultural transmission*, which allows an individual to acquire
 86 attitudes or behavioral traits from other individuals in its social group through imitation, learning, or
 other modes of communication [14, 15]. Cultural transmission may be modeled as vertical, horizontal,
 88 or oblique: vertical transmission occurs between parents and offspring, horizontal transmission occurs
 between individuals from the same generation, and oblique transmission occurs to offspring from the
 90 generation to which their parents belong (i.e. from non-parental adults). Evolution under either of these
 transmission models can be be more rapid than under pure vertical transmission [14, 16, 17].

92 Eshel and Cavalli-Sforza [18] studied a related model for the evolution of cooperative behavior. Their
 model included *assortative meeting*, or non-random encounters, where a fraction m of individuals in
 94 the population each interact specifically with an individual of the same phenotype, and a fraction $1 - m$
 interacts with a randomly chosen individual. Such assortative meeting may be due, for example, to
 96 population structure or active partner choice. In their model, cooperative behavior can evolve if [18,
 eq. 3.2]

$$98 \quad c < b \cdot m, \quad (4)$$

where b and c are the benefit and cost of cooperation¹.

100 The role of assortment in the evolution of altruism was emphasized by Fletcher and Doebeli [19].
 They found that in a *public-goods* game, altruism will evolve if cooperative individuals experience
 102 more cooperation, on average, than defecting individuals, and "thus, the evolution of altruism requires

¹In an extended model, which allows an individual to encounter N individuals before choosing a partner, the right hand side is multiplied by $E[N]$, the expected number of encounters [18, eq. 4.6].

(positive) assortment between focal *cooperative* players and cooperative acts in their interaction

104 environment." With some change in parameters, this condition is summarized by [19, eq. 2.3]

$$c < b \cdot (p_C - p_D), \quad (5)$$

106 where p_C is the probability that a cooperator receives help, and p_D is the probability that a defector receives help². Bijma and Aanen [20] obtained a result related to inequality 5 for other games.

108 Cooperation can also evolve when interactions are determined by population structure. For example, Ohtsuki et al. [21] studied populations on graphs with average degree k , that is, the average individual 110 has k potential interaction partners. Assuming that selection is weak and that the population size is much larger than k (i.e. sparse structure), they found that cooperative behaviour can evolve if [21]

$$112 \quad c < b \cdot \frac{1}{k}. \quad (6)$$

They thus interpret $1/k$ as *social relatedness* or *social viscosity* [21].

114 Feldman et al. [22] introduced the first model for the evolution of altruism by cultural transmission with kin selection and demonstrated that if the fidelity of cultural transmission of altruism is φ , then 116 the condition for evolution of altruism in the case of sib-to-sib altruism is [22, Eq. 16]

$$c < b \cdot \varphi - \frac{1 - \varphi}{\varphi}. \quad (7)$$

118 In inequality 7, φ replaces relatedness (r in inequality 1) or assortment (m in inequality 4), but the effective benefit $b \cdot \varphi$ is reduced by $(1 - \varphi)/\varphi$. This shows that under a cultural transmission, the condition 120 for the evolutionary success of altruism entails a modification of Hamilton's rule (inequality 1).

Both Woodcock [23] and Lewin-Epstein et al. [24] demonstrated that non-vertical transmission can help 122 explain the evolution of cooperative behavior, the former using simulations with cultural transmission, the latter using a model where cooperation is mediated by host-associated microbes. Indeed, models 124 in which microbes affect their host's behavior [24, 25, 26] are mathematically similar to models of cultural transmission, and they also emphasize the role of non-vertical transmission [14].

126 Handley and Mathew [27] studied the importance of culture on human behavior. They showed that the probability of individual to cooperate with unrelated strangers from a different group in transient 128 interactions corresponds to the degree of cultural similarity between those groups. Therefore, they have suggested that group-level selection on culturally differentiated populations can explain cooperation 130 between unrelated humans from different groups.

To understand the evolution of cooperation we are going to use *replicator dynamics*. The replicator 132 in replicator dynamics has the ability to make one or more copies of itself. The replicator can be a gene, a phenotype, a strategy in a game and etc. In evolutionary game theory context replicator 134 is a different strategy in the game. For example, in the case of cooperation whether the individual

²Inequality 5 generalizes inequalities 1 and 4 by substituting $p_C = r + p$, $p_D = p$ and $p_C = m + (1-m)p$, $p_D = (1-m)p$, respectively, where p is the frequency of cooperators.

is a cooperative or a defector. In replicator dynamics we assume large population of replicators,
136 which interact with respect to their frequency. Interactions of different replicator affect the fitness
138 according to some payoff matrix. This payoff matrix depends on the game which is played. The
140 most common game to describe cooperation is the *Prisoner's Dilemma*[28]. Similar to dominant
strategies bringing forth Nash equilibria when games are repeated, strategies in replicator dynamics
142 can become evolutionary stable. Such strategies are called *evolutionarily stable strategies (ESS)*.
Such strategies cannot be invaded by any other strategy that is initially rare. Evolutionarily stable
144 strategies maximize the expected fitness of its replicators and therefore, maximize the population mean
fitness. A fundamental question is to test if natural selection, operating within the framework of known
146 genetical models, leads to ESS. The answer to the question above is that natural selection in many
cases does not lead to an increase in the population mean fitness. Therefore, it is not generally true
148 that natural selection does operate as to maximize the average individual fitness resulting in an ESS.
Sacks [29] even showed that natural selection at a diploid locus model, when relative fitnesses of the
150 different genotypes are functions of gene frequency, leads to stable equilibrium gene frequencies that
corresponds to not maximum mean fitness. Instead of searching for evolutionarily stable strategies,
152 we focus on *evolutionary genetic stability (EGS)*[30]. EGS occurs when the frequencies of types
(genotypes, phenotypes etc.) remains stable. Here, we study both *local stability* and *external stability*.
154 *Local stability* occurs when a system near the equilibrium will approach it. *External stability* [31, 32]
is local stability of the equilibrium to invasion by a modifier allele m . One of the main questions in
the evolution of cooperation is under what conditions such invasions are possible, or in other words
under what conditions the system is externally unstable?
156 Here, we study models for the cultural evolution of cooperation that include both vertical and non-
vertical transmission. In our models behavioral changes are mediated by cultural transmission that
158 can occur specifically during social interactions. For instance, there may be an association between
the choice of partner for social interaction and the choice of partner for cultural transmission, or when
160 an individual interacts with an individual of a different phenotype, exposure to the latter may lead the
former to convert its phenotype. Our results demonstrate that cultural transmission, when associated
162 with social interactions, can enhance the evolution of cooperation even when genetic transmission
cannot, partly because it facilitates the generation of assortment [19], and partly because it diminishes
164 the effect of selection (due to non-vertical transmission from non-reproducing individuals [17]).

2 Models

166 2.1 Basic Model

Consider a large population whose members can have one of two phenotypes: $\phi = A$ for cooperators or $\phi = B$ for defectors. An offspring inherits its phenotype from its parent via vertical transmission with probability v or from a random individual in the parental population via oblique transmission with probability $(1 - v)$ (Figure 1a). Following Ram et al. [17], given that the parent's phenotype is ϕ and assuming uni-parental inheritance [33], the conditional probability that the phenotype ϕ' of the offspring is A is

$$P(\phi' = A | \phi) = \begin{cases} v + (1 - v)p, & \text{if } \phi = A \\ (1 - v)p, & \text{if } \phi = B \end{cases}, \quad (8)$$

174 where $p = P(\phi = A)$ is the frequency of A among all adults in the parental generation.

Not all adults become parents, and we denote the frequency of phenotype A among parents by \dot{p} . Therefore, the frequency \hat{p} of phenotype A among juveniles (after selection and vertical and oblique transmission) is

$$178 \quad \hat{p} = \dot{p}[v + (1 - v)p] + (1 - \dot{p})[(1 - v)p] = v\dot{p} + (1 - v)p. \quad (9)$$

Individuals are assumed to interact according to a *Prisoner's Dilemma*. Specifically, individuals interact in pairs; a cooperator suffers a fitness cost $0 < c < 1$, and its partner gains a fitness benefit b , where we assume $c < b$. Figure 1a shows the payoff matrix, i.e. the fitness of an individual with phenotype ϕ_1 when interacting with a partner of phenotype ϕ_2 . The choice of Prisoner's Dilemma as the interaction model was motivated by the fact that prisoner's dilemma is a common game used to study evolution of cooperation[1], [34], [28]. Although we decided to focus on Prisoner's Dilemma, other games such as stag hunt[35] may be a better explanation of cooperation behavior in humman[36].

Social interactions occur randomly: two juvenile individuals with phenotype A interact with probability \hat{p}^2 , two juveniles with phenotype B interact with probability $(1 - \hat{p})^2$, and two juveniles with different phenotypes interact with probability $2\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})$. Horizontal cultural transmission occurs between pairs of individuals from the same generation. It occurs between socially interacting partners with probability α , or between a random pair with probability $1 - \alpha$ (see Figure 1b). However, horizontal transmission is not always successful, as one partner may reject the other's phenotype. The probability of successful horizontal transmission of phenotypes A and B are T_A and T_B , respectively (Table 1, Figure 1d). Thus, the frequency p' of phenotype A among adults in the next generation, after horizontal transmission, is

$$196 \quad p' = \hat{p}^2[\alpha + (1 - \alpha)(\hat{p} + (1 - \hat{p})(1 - T_B))] + \\ \hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})[\alpha(1 - T_B) + (1 - \alpha)(\hat{p} + (1 - \hat{p})(1 - T_B))] + \\ (1 - \hat{p})\hat{p}[\alpha T_A + (1 - \alpha)\hat{p}T_A] + (1 - \hat{p})^2[(1 - \alpha)\hat{p}T_A] \\ = \hat{p}^2(T_B - T_A) + \hat{p}(1 + T_A - T_B). \quad (10)$$

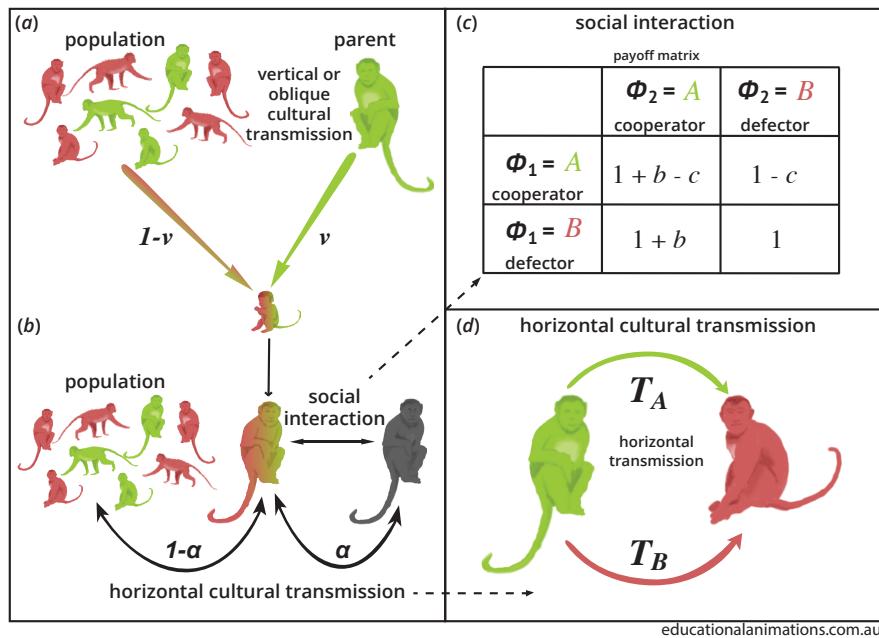


Figure 1: Model illustration. **(a)** First, offspring inherit their parent's phenotype via vertical cultural transmission with probability v , or the phenotype of a random non-parental adult via oblique cultural transmission with probability $1 - v$. **(b)** Second, adults socially interact in pairs in a Prisoner's Dilemma game. Horizontal cultural transmission occurs from a random individual in the population, with probability $1 - \alpha$, or from the social partner, with probability α , where α is the interaction-transmission association parameter. **(c)** The Prisoner's Dilemma payoff matrix shows the fitness of phenotype ϕ_1 when interacting with phenotype ϕ_2 . **(d)** The probabilities of successful horizontal cultural transmission of phenotypes A (cooperator) and B (defector) are T_A and T_B , respectively.

The frequency of A among parents (i.e. after selection) follows a similar dynamic, but also includes

198 the effect of natural selection, and is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{w}\dot{p}' = & \hat{p}^2(1+b-c)[\alpha + (1-\alpha)(\hat{p} + (1-\hat{p})(1-T_B))] + \\ & \hat{p}(1-\hat{p})(1-c)[\alpha(1-T_B) + (1-\alpha)(\hat{p} + (1-\hat{p})(1-T_B))] + \\ & (1-\hat{p})\hat{p}(1+b)[\alpha T_A + (1-\alpha)\hat{p}T_A] + (1-\hat{p})^2[(1-\alpha)\hat{p}T_A], \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

200 where fitness values are taken from Figure 1c and Table 1, and the population mean fitness is

$\bar{w} = 1 + \hat{p}(b - c)$. Starting from Eq. 9 with $\dot{p}' = v\dot{p}' + (1-v)p'$, we substitute p' from Eq. 10 and \dot{p}'

202 from Eq. 11 and obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{p}' = & \frac{v}{\bar{w}} \left[\hat{p}^2(1+b-c) \left(1 - (1-\hat{p})(1-\alpha)T_B \right) \right] + \\ & \frac{v}{\bar{w}} \left[\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})(1-c) (\hat{p}(1-\alpha)T_B + 1 - T_B) \right] + \\ & \frac{v}{\bar{w}} \left[\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})(1+b) (\hat{p}(1-\alpha) + \alpha)T_A \right] + \\ & \frac{v}{\bar{w}} (1-\hat{p})^2 \hat{p}(1-\alpha)T_A + (1-v)\hat{p}^2(T_B - T_A) + (1-v)\hat{p}(1+T_A - T_B). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

204 Table 2 lists the model variables and parameters.

2.2 Invasion Model

206 In this section, we extend the model described in subsection 2.1. We assume coexistence of both
phenotypes (cooperators and defectors) and that the frequency of each phenotype stays stable over time.

208 Hence, we assume that we start from a stable equilibrium. Denote the frequency of cooperators in
the population as \hat{p}^* and frequency of defectors as $1 - \hat{p}^*$.

210 We investigate the evolution of interaction-transmission association α . We assume that the initial
population has interaction-transmission association α_1 . What would happen to cooperators frequency

212 if a new mutation would occur that changed the interaction-transmission association to a different value
 α_2 without direct effect on fitness? Here, the invaders are the individuals with interaction-transmission

214 association α_2 . Figure 2 illustrates the invasion.

Table 1: Interaction frequency, fitness, and transmission probabilities.

Phenotype ϕ_1	Phenotype ϕ_2	Frequency	Fitness of ϕ_1	$P(\phi_1 = A)$ via horizontal transmission:	
				from partner, α	from population, $(1 - \alpha)$
A	A	\hat{p}^2	$1 + b - c$	1	$\hat{p} + (1 - \hat{p})(1 - T_B)$
A	B	$\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})$	$1 - c$	$1 - T_B$	$\hat{p} + (1 - \hat{p})(1 - T_B)$
B	A	$\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})$	$1 + b$	T_A	$\hat{p}T_A$
B	B	$(1 - \hat{p})^2$	1	0	$\hat{p}T_A$

Table 2: Model variables and parameters.

Symbol	Description	Values
A	Cooperator phenotype	
B	Defector phenotype	
p	Frequency of phenotype A among adults	$[0, 1]$
\hat{p}	Frequency of phenotype A among parents	$[0, 1]$
\hat{p}	Frequency of phenotype A among juveniles	$[0, 1]$
v	Vertical transmission rate	$[0, 1]$
c	Cost of cooperation	$(0, 1)$
b	Benefit of cooperation	$c < b$
α	Probability of interaction-transmission association	$[0, 1]$
T_A, T_B	Horizontal transmission rates of phenotype A and B	$(0, 1)$

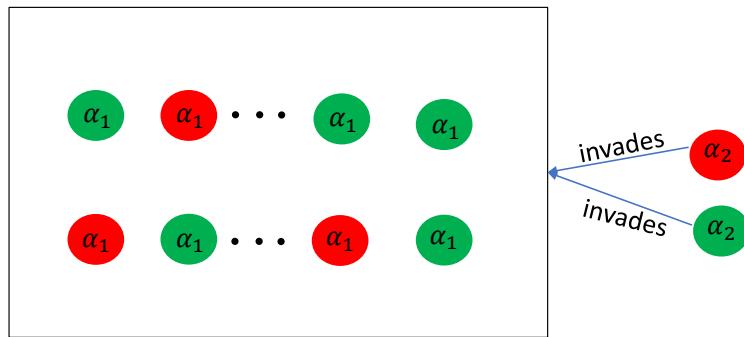


Figure 2: Invasion model illustration. Starting from stable equilibrium with coexistence of both phenotypes. A mutation that affected only the interaction-transmission association α invades the population

2.3 Population structure model

216 Interaction-transmission association may also emerge from population structure. Consider a pop-
ulation colonizing a two-dimensional grid of size 100-by-100, where each site is inhabited by one
218 individual, similarly to the model of Lewin-Epstein and Hadany [25]. Each individual is characterized
by its phenotype: either cooperator, A , or defector, B . Initially, each site in the grid is randomly
220 colonized by either a cooperator or a defector, with equal probability. In each generation, half of the
individuals are randomly chosen to "initiate" interactions, and these initiators interact with a random
222 neighbor (i.e. individual in a neighboring site) in a Prisoner's Dilemma game (Figure 1c) and a random
neighbor (with replacement) for horizontal cultural transmission (Figure 1b). The expected number of
224 each of these interactions per individual per generation is one, but the realized number of interactions
can be zero, one, or even more than one, and in every interaction both individuals are affected, not just
226 the initiator. The effective interaction-transmission association α in this model is the probability that
the same neighbor is picked for both interactions, or $\alpha = 1/M$, where M is the number of neighbors.
228 On an infinite grid, $M = 8$ (i.e. Moore neighbourhood [37]), but on a finite grid M can be lower
in neighbourhoods close to the grid border. As before, T_A and T_B are the probabilities of successful
230 horizontal transmission of phenotypes A and B , respectively.

The order of the interactions across the grid at each generation is random. After all interactions take
232 place, an individual's fitness is determined by $w = 1 + b \cdot n_b - c \cdot n_c$, where n_b is the number of interactions
that individual had with cooperative neighbors, and n_c is the number of interactions in which that
234 individual cooperated (note that the phenotype may change between consecutive interactions due to
horizontal transmission). Then, a new generation is produced, and the sites can be settled by offspring
236 of any parent, not just the neighboring parents. Selection is global, rather than local, in accordance
with our deterministic model: The parent is randomly drawn with probability proportional to its
238 fitness, divided by the sum of the fitness values of all potential parents. Offspring are assumed to have
the same phenotype as their parents (i.e. $v = 1$).

240 3 Results

We determine the equilibria of the model in Eq. 12 and analyze their local stability. We then analyze
242 the evolution of a modifier of interaction-transmission association, α . Finally, we compare derived conditions to outcomes of stochastic simulations with a structured population.

244 3.1 Evolution of cooperation

To learn about the evolution of cooperation we investigate local stability of the equilibria of the model
246 in Eq. 12. The equilibria are the solutions of $\hat{p}' - \hat{p} = 0$. Note that Eq. 12 may look simple cubic polynomial. However, because \bar{w} is a function of \hat{p} , Eq. 12 is not simple polynomial but a fractional
248 polynomial. The solution of fractional polynomial is not trivial and that is why it is better to find the equilibria and analyze the stability. Let $f(\hat{p}) = \bar{w}(\hat{p}' - \hat{p})$. Then, using *SymPy* [38], a Python library
250 for symbolic mathematics, this simplifies to

$$f(\hat{p}) = \bar{w}(\hat{p}' - \hat{p}) = \beta_1 \hat{p}^3 + \beta_2 \hat{p}^2 + \beta_3 \hat{p} , \quad (13)$$

252 where

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1 &= [c(1 - v) - b(1 - \alpha v)](T_A - T_B) , \\ \beta_2 &= -\beta_1 - \beta_3 , \\ \beta_3 &= \alpha b v T_A - c v (1 - T_B) + (T_A - T_B) . \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

254 If $T = T_A = T_B$ then $\beta_1 = 0$ and $\beta_3 = -\beta_2 = \alpha b v T - c v (1 - T)$, and $f(\hat{p})$ becomes a quadratic polynomial,

$$f(\hat{p}) = \hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})[\alpha b v T - c v (1 - T)] . \quad (15)$$

Clearly the only two equilibria are the fixations $\hat{p} = 0$ and $\hat{p} = 1$, which are locally stable if
258 $f'(\hat{p}) < 0$ near the equilibrium (see Appendix A), where $f'(\hat{p}) = (1 - 2\hat{p})[\alpha b v T - c v (1 - T)]$, so that

$$\begin{aligned} f'(0) &= \alpha b v T - c v (1 - T) , \\ f'(1) &= -\alpha b v T + c v (1 - T) . \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

In the general case where $T_A \neq T_B$, the coefficient β_1 is not necessarily zero, and $f(\hat{p})$ is a cubic
262 polynomial. Therefore, three equilibria may exist, two of which are $\hat{p} = 0$ and $\hat{p} = 1$, and the third is

$$\hat{p}^* = \frac{\beta_3}{\beta_1} = \frac{\alpha b v T_A - c v (1 - T_B) + (T_A - T_B)}{[c(1 - v) - b(1 - \alpha v)](T_A - T_B)} . \quad (17)$$

Note that the sign of the cubic (Eq. 13) at positive (negative) infinity is equal (opposite) to the sign of
266 β_1 . If $T_A > T_B$, then

$$\beta_1 < [c(1 - \alpha v) - b(1 - \alpha v)](T_A - T_B) = (1 - \alpha v)(c - b)(T_A - T_B) < 0 , \quad (18)$$

268 since $c < b$ and $\alpha v < 1$. Hence the signs of the cubic at positive and negative infinity are negative and positive, respectively. First, if $\beta_3 < \beta_1$ then $1 < \hat{p}^*$. Also, $f'(0) < 0$ and $f'(1) > 0$; that is, fixation

270 of the defector phenotype B is the only locally stable feasible equilibrium. Second, if $\beta_1 < \beta_3 < 0$
 271 then $0 < \hat{p}^* < 1$ and therefore $f'(0) < 0$ and $f'(1) < 0$ so that both fixations are locally stable
 272 and \hat{p}^* separates the domains of attraction. Third, if $0 < \beta_3$ then $\hat{p}^* < 0$ and therefore $f'(0) > 0$
 273 and $f'(1) < 0$; that is, fixation of the cooperator phenotype A is the only locally stable legitimate
 274 equilibrium.

Similarly, if $T_A < T_B$, then

$$276 \quad \beta_1 > [c(1 - \alpha v) - b(1 - \alpha v)](T_A - T_B) = (1 - \alpha v)(c - b)(T_A - T_B) > 0 , \quad (19)$$

since $c < b$ and $\alpha v < 1$, and the signs of the cubic at positive and negative infinity are positive and
 277 negative, respectively. First, if $\beta_3 < 0$ then $\hat{p}^* < 0$ and therefore $f'(0) < 0$ and $f'(1) > 0$; that
 278 is, fixation of the defector phenotype A is the only locally stable legitimate equilibrium. Second, if
 279 $0 < \beta_3 < \beta_1$ then $0 < \hat{p}^* < 1$ and therefore $f'(0) > 0$ and $f'(1) > 0$; that is, both fixations are locally
 280 unstable and \hat{p}^* is a stable polymorphic equilibrium. Third, if $\beta_1 < \beta_3$ then $\hat{p}^* > 1$ and therefore
 281 $f'(0) > 0$ and $f'(1) < 0$, and fixation of the cooperator phenotype A is the only locally stable feasible
 282 equilibrium.

284 This analysis can be summarized as follows:

1. *Fixation of cooperation:* if (i) $T = T_A = T_B$ and $c < b \cdot \frac{\alpha T}{1-T}$; or if (ii) $T_A > T_B$ and $0 < \beta_3$; or if
 285 (iii) $T_A < T_B$ and $\beta_1 < \beta_3$.
2. *Fixation of the defection:* if (iv) $T = T_A = T_B$ and $c > b \cdot \frac{\alpha T}{1-T}$; or if (v) $T_A > T_B$ and $\beta_3 < \beta_1 < 0$;
 286 or if (vi) $T_A < T_B$ and $\beta_3 < 0$.
3. *polymorphism of both phenotypes at \hat{p}^* :* if (vii) $T_A < T_B$ and $0 < \beta_3 < \beta_1$.
- 290 4. *Fixation of either phenotype depending on initial frequency:* if (viii) $T_A > T_B$ and $\beta_1 < \beta_3 < 0$.

Define the following cost thresholds, γ_1 and γ_2 , and the vertical transmission threshold, \hat{v} ,

$$292 \quad \gamma_1 = \frac{b v \alpha T_A + (T_A - T_B)}{v(1 - T_B)}, \quad \gamma_2 = \frac{b v \alpha T_B + (1 + b)(T_A - T_B)}{v(1 - T_B) + (1 - v)(T_A - T_B)}, \quad \hat{v} = \frac{T_B - T_A}{1 - T_A} . \quad (20)$$

We now proceed to use the cost thresholds, γ_1 and γ_2 , and the vertical transmission threshold, \hat{v} (Eq. 20).
 294 First, assume $T_A < T_B$. $\beta_3 < 0$ requires $\gamma_1 < c$. For $\beta_3 < \beta_1$ we need $c[v(1 - T_B) + (1 - v)(T_A - T_B)] >$
 295 $b v \alpha T_B + (1 + b)(T_A - T_B)$. Note that the expression in the square brackets is positive if and only if
 296 $v > \hat{v}$. Thus, for $\beta_3 < \beta_1$ we need $v > \hat{v}$ and $\gamma_2 < c$ or $v < \hat{v}$ and $c < \gamma_2$, and for $0 < \beta_3 < \beta_1$ we need
 297 $v > \hat{v}$ and $\gamma_2 < c < \gamma_1$, or $v < \hat{v}$ and $c < \min(\gamma_1, \gamma_2)$. For $\beta_1 < \beta_3$ we need $v > \hat{v}$ and $c < \gamma_2$ or $v < \hat{v}$
 298 and $\gamma_2 < c$. However, some of these conditions cannot be met, since $v < \hat{v}$ implies $c < 1 < \gamma_2$.

Second, assume $T_A > T_B$. $\beta_3 > 0$ requires $\gamma_1 > c$. For $\beta_1 < \beta_3$ we need $c[v(1 - T_B) + (1 - v)(T_A - T_B)] <$
 300 $b v \alpha T_B + (1 + b)(T_A - T_B)$. Thus for $\beta_1 < \beta_3$ we need $v > \hat{v}$ and $c < \gamma_2$ or $v < \hat{v}$ and $c > \gamma_2$. But $\hat{v} < 0$
 when $T_A > T_B$, and therefore we have $\beta_1 < \beta_3$ if $c < \gamma_2$. Similarly, we have $\beta_3 < \beta_1$ if $c > \hat{v}$.

302 Then we have the following result.

304 **Result 1.** With vertical, horizontal, and oblique transmission, the cultural evolution of a cooperation
 follows one of the following scenarios in terms of the cost thresholds γ_1 and γ_2 and the vertical
 306 transmission threshold \hat{v} (Eq. 20):

1. Fixation of cooperation: if (i) $T_A \geq T_B$ and $c < \gamma_1$; or if (ii) $T_A < T_B$ and $v > \hat{v}$ and $c < \gamma_2$.
- 308 2. Fixation of defection: if (iii) $T_A \geq T_B$ and $\gamma_2 < c$; or if (iv) $T_A < T_B$ and $\gamma_1 < c$.
- 310 3. Stable polymorphism: if (v) $T_A < T_B$ and $v < \hat{v}$ and $c < \gamma_1$; or if (vi) $T_A < T_B$ and $v > \hat{v}$ and
 $\gamma_2 < c < \gamma_1$.
4. Unstable polymorphism: if (vii) $T_A > T_B$ and $\gamma_1 < c < \gamma_2$.

312 Thus, cooperation can take over the population if it has either a horizontal transmission advantage, or
 if it has a horizontal transmission disadvantage, but the vertical transmission rate is high enough. In
 314 either case, the cost of cooperation must be small enough. A stable polymorphism can exist between
 316 cooperation and defection only if defection has a horizontal transmission advantage. In this case,
 318 the existence of a stable polymorphism depends on the interplay between the benefit and cost of
 cooperation and the vertical transmission rate. These conditions are illustrated in Figures 3a, 3b, 4a,
 320 and 4b. Note that *stable* and unstable polymorphism are also called, respectively, *coexistence* and
bistable competition.

322 Much of the literature on evolution of cooperation focuses on conditions for an initially rare cooperative
 phenotype to invade a population of defectors. The following remarks address this condition.

322

Remark 1. If the initial frequency of cooperation is very close to zero, then its frequency will increase
 324 if the cost of cooperation is low enough,

$$c < \gamma_1 = \frac{b\alpha T_A + (T_A - T_B)}{v(1 - T_B)} . \quad (21)$$

326 This unites the conditions for fixation of cooperation and for stable polymorphism, both of which
 entail instability of the state where defection is fixed, $\hat{p} = 0$.

328 Importantly, increasing interaction-transmission association α increases the cost threshold ($\partial\gamma_1/\partial\alpha >$
 0), making it easier for cooperation to increase in frequency when initially rare. Similarly, increasing
 330 the horizontal transmission of cooperation, T_A , increases the threshold ($\partial\gamma_1/\partial T_A > 0$), facilitating
 the evolution of cooperation ((Figure 4a and 4b). However, increasing the horizontal transmission of
 332 defection, T_B , can increase or decrease the cost threshold, but it increases the cost threshold when
 the threshold is already above one ($c < 1 < \gamma_1$): $\partial\gamma_1/\partial T_B$ is positive when $T_A > \frac{1}{1+\alpha bv}$, which
 334 gives $\gamma_1 > 1/v$. Therefore, increasing T_B decreases the cost threshold and limits the evolution of
 cooperation, but only if $T_A < \frac{1}{1+\alpha bv}$.

336 Increasing the vertical transmission rate, v , can either increase or decrease the cost threshold, depending
 on the horizontal transmission bias, $T_A - T_B$, because $\text{sign}(\partial\gamma_1/\partial v) = -\text{sign}(T_A - T_B)$. When $T_A < T_B$
 338 we have $\partial\gamma_1/\partial v > 0$, and as the vertical transmission rate increases, the cost threshold increases,

making it easier for cooperation to increase when rare (Figure 3b). In contrast, when $T_A > T_B$ we get

$\partial\gamma_1/\partial v < 0$, and therefore as the vertical transmission rate increases, the cost threshold decreases, making it harder for cooperation to increase when rare (Figure 3a).

In general, this condition cannot be formulated in the form of Hamilton's rule due to the bias in horizontal transmission, represented by $T_A - T_B$. If $T_A = T_B$, then, from Result 1 and inequality 21, cooperation will take over the population from any initial frequency if the cost is low enough,

$$c < b \cdot \frac{\alpha T}{1 - T}, \quad (22)$$

and regardless of the vertical transmission rate, v . This condition can be interpreted as a version of Hamilton's rule ($c < b \cdot r$, inequality 1) or as a version of inequality 5, where $\alpha T/(1 - T)$ can be regarded as the *effective relatedness* or *effective assortment*, respectively. Note that the right-hand side of inequality 22 equals γ_1 when $T = T_A = T_B$.

From inequality 21, without interaction-transmission association ($\alpha = 0$), cooperation will increase when it is rare if there is horizontal transmission bias for cooperation, $T_A > T_B$, and

$$c < \frac{T_A - T_B}{v(1 - T_B)}. \quad (23)$$

Figure 4a illustrates this condition (for $v = 1$), which is obtained by setting $\alpha = 0$ in inequality 21.

In this case, the benefit of cooperation, b , does not affect the evolution of cooperation, and the outcome is determined only by cultural transmission. Further, inequality 21 shows that with perfect interaction-transmission association ($\alpha = 1$), cooperation will increase when rare if

$$c < \frac{bvT_A + (T_A - T_B)}{v(1 - T_B)}. \quad (24)$$

In the absence of oblique transmission, $v = 1$, the only equilibria are the fixation states, $\dot{p} = 0$ and $\dot{p} = 1$, and cooperation will evolve from any initial frequency (i.e. $\dot{p}' > \dot{p}$) if inequality 24 applies (Figure 4). This is similar to case of microbe-induced cooperation studied by Lewin-Epstein et al. [24]; therefore when $v = 1$, this remark is equivalent to their eq. 1.

It is interesting to examine the general effect of interaction-transmission association α on the evolution of cooperation. Define the interaction-transmission association thresholds, a_1 and a_2 , as

$$a_1 = \frac{c \cdot v(1 - T_A) - (T_A - T_B)(1 + b - c)}{b \cdot v \cdot T_B}, \quad a_2 = \frac{c \cdot v(1 - T_B) - (T_A - T_B)}{b \cdot v \cdot T_A}. \quad (25)$$

Remark 2. Cooperation will increase when rare if interaction-transmission association is high

enough, specifically if $a_2 < \alpha$.

Figures 3c and 3d illustrate this condition. With horizontal transmission bias for cooperation, $T_A > T_B$,

cooperation can fix from any initial frequency if $a_2 < \alpha$ (green area in the figures). With horizontal bias favoring defection, $T_A < T_B$, cooperation can fix from any frequency if α is large enough, $a_1 < \alpha$ (green area with $T_A < T_B$), and can reach stable polymorphism if α is intermediate, $a_2 < \alpha < a_1$

(yellow area). Without horizontal bias, $T_A = T_B$, fixation of cooperation occurs if α is high enough,

372 $\frac{c}{b} \cdot \frac{1-T}{T} < \alpha$ (inequality 22; in this case $a_1 = a_2$).

Interestingly, because $\text{sign}(\partial a_2 / \partial v) = \text{sign}(T_A - T_B)$, the effect of the vertical transmission rate v

374 on a_1 and a_2 depends on the horizontal transmission bias. That is, if $T_A > T_B$, then evolution of
cooperation is facilitated by oblique transmission, whereas if $T_A < T_B$, then evolution of cooperation
376 is facilitated by vertical transmission (Figures 3c and 3d).

378 Next, we examine the roles of vertical and oblique transmission in the evolution of cooperation.

Fixation of cooperation is possible only if the vertical transmission rate is high enough,

380
$$v > \hat{v} = \frac{T_B - T_A}{1 - T_A}. \quad (26)$$

This condition is necessary for fixation of cooperation, but it is not sufficient. If horizontal transmission

382 is biased for cooperation, $T_A > T_B$, cooperation can fix with any vertical transmission rate (because
 $\hat{v} < 0$). In contrast, if horizontal transmission is biased for defection, $T_A < T_B$, cooperation can fix
384 only if the vertical transmission rate is high enough: in this case oblique transmission can prevent
fixation of cooperation (see Figures 3b and 3d).

386 With only vertical transmission ($v = 1$), from inequality 21, cooperation increases when rare if

$$c < \frac{baT_A + (T_A - T_B)}{1 - T_B}, \quad (27)$$

388 which can also be written as

$$\frac{c(1 - T_B) - (T_A - T_B)}{bT_A} < \alpha. \quad (28)$$

390 In the absence of vertical transmission ($v = 0$), from recursion 12 we see that the frequency of the
cooperator phenotype among adults increases every generation, i.e. $p' > p$, if there is a horizontal
392 transmission bias in favor of cooperation, namely $T_A > T_B$. That is, if $v = 0$, then selection plays no
role in the evolution of cooperation (i.e. b and c do not affect \hat{p}'). The dynamics are determined solely
394 by differential horizontal transmission of the two phenotypes. With no bias in horizontal transmission,
 $T_A = T_B$, phenotype frequencies do not change, $\hat{p}' = \hat{p}$.

396 Cooperation and defection can coexist at frequencies \hat{p}^* and $1 - \hat{p}^*$ (Eq. 17). When it is feasible,
this equilibrium is stable or unstable under the conditions of Result 1, parts 3 and 4, respectively.

398 The yellow and blue areas in Figures 4 and 3 show cases of stable and unstable polymorphism,
respectively. When \hat{p}^* is unstable, cooperation will fix if its initial frequency is $\hat{p} > \hat{p}^*$, and defection
400 will fix if $\hat{p} < \hat{p}^*$ as shown in Figure 5a. \hat{p}^* is unstable when there is horizontal transmission bias
for cooperation, $T_A > T_B$, and the cost is intermediate, $\gamma_1 < c < \gamma_2$. Figure 4d shows $\hat{p}' - \hat{p}$ as a
402 function of \hat{p} and Figure 5 shows the frequency of cooperation over time in both stable and unstable
equilibrium regimes.

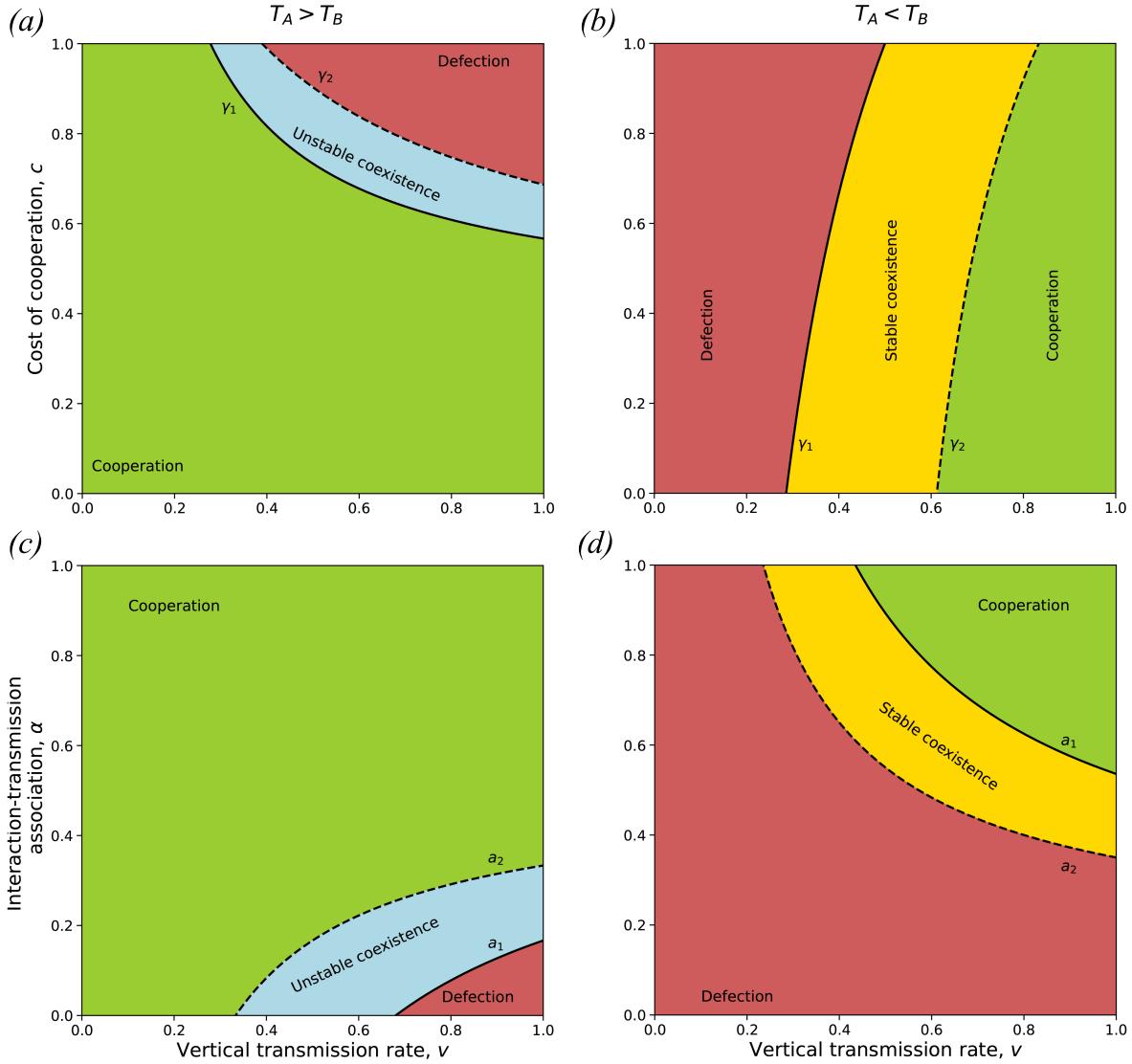


Figure 3: Evolution of cooperation under vertical, oblique, and horizontal cultural transmission.

The figure shows parameter ranges for global fixation of cooperation (green), global fixation of defection (red), fixation of either cooperation or defection depending on the initial conditions, i.e. unstable polymorphism (blue), and stable polymorphism of cooperation and defection (yellow). In all cases the vertical transmission rate v is on the x-axis. **(a-b)** Cost of cooperation c is on the y-axis and the cost thresholds γ_1 and γ_2 (Eqs. 20) are represented by the solid and dashed lines, respectively. **(c-d)** Interaction-transmission association α is on the y-axis and the interaction-transmission association thresholds a_1 and a_2 (Eqs. 25) are represented by the solid and dashed lines, respectively. Horizontal transmission is biased in favor of cooperation, $T_A > T_B$, in **(a)** and **(c)**, or defection, $T_A < T_B$, in **(b)** and **(d)**. Here, $T_A = 0.5$, and **(a)** $b = 1.2$, $T_B = 0.4$, $\alpha = 0.4$; **(b)** $b = 2$, $T_B = 0.7$, $\alpha = 0.7$; **(c)** $b = 1.2$, $T_B = 0.4$, $c = 0.5$; **(d)** $b = 2$, $T_B = 0.7$, $c = 0.5$.

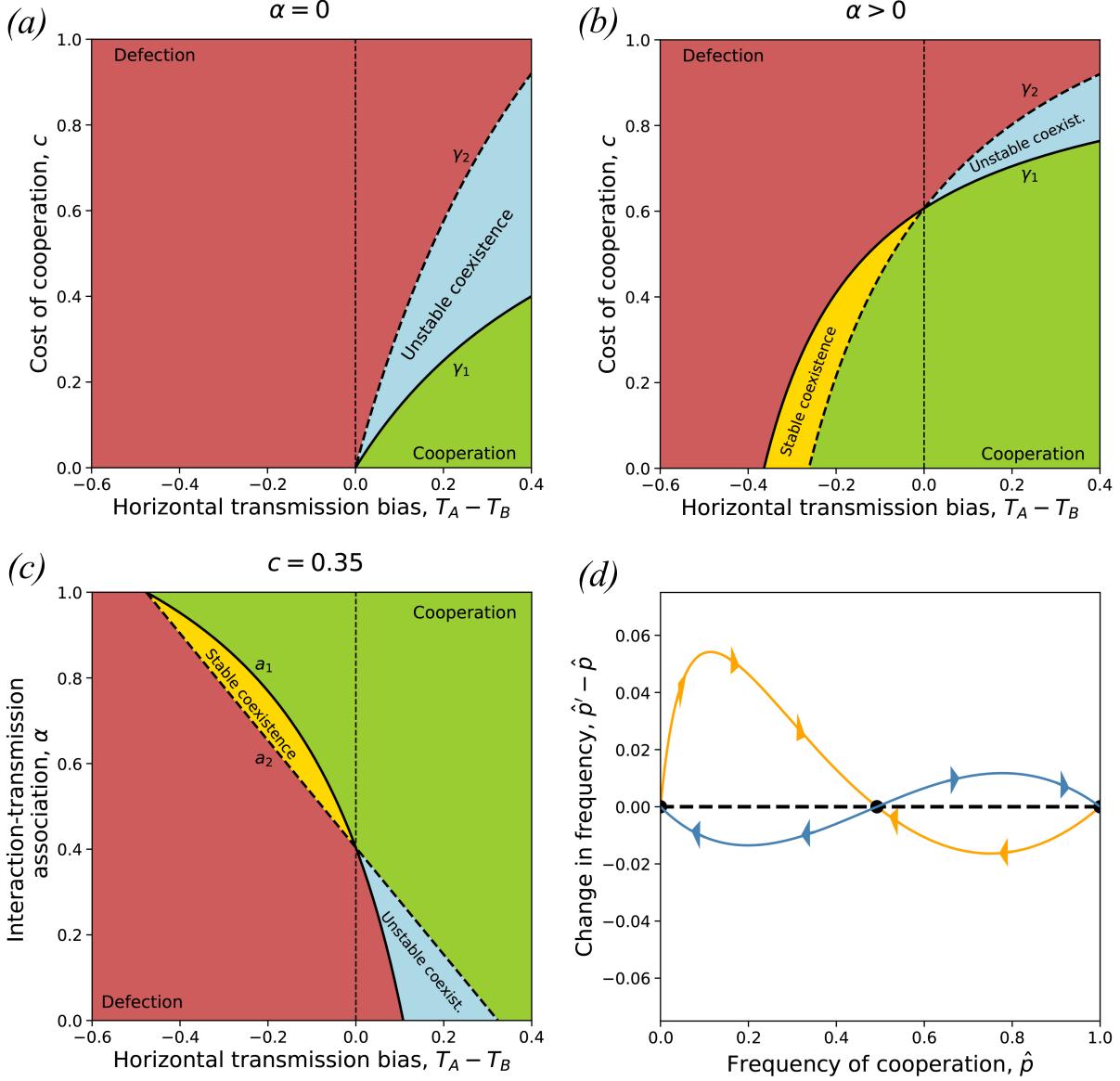


Figure 4: Evolution of cooperation under vertical and horizontal cultural transmission ($v=1$).

The figure shows parameter ranges for global fixation of cooperation (green), global fixation of defection (red), fixation of either cooperation or defection depending on the initial conditions, i.e. unstable polymorphism (blue), and stable polymorphism of cooperation and defection (yellow). **(a-c)** The horizontal transmission bias ($T_A - T_B$) is on the x-axis. In panels **(a)** and **(b)**, the cost of cooperation c is on the y-axis and the cost thresholds γ_1 and γ_2 (Eq. 20) are the solid and dashed lines, respectively. In panel **(c)**, interaction-transmission association α is on the y-axis and the interaction-transmission association thresholds a_1 and a_2 (Eqs. 25) are the solid and dashed lines, respectively. Here, $b = 1.3$, $T_A = 0.4$, $v = 1$, (a) $\alpha = 0$, (b) $\alpha = 0.7$, (c) $c = 0.35$. **(d)** Change in frequency of cooperation among juveniles ($\hat{p}' - \hat{p}$) as a function of the frequency (\hat{p}), see Eq. 12. The orange curve shows convergence to a stable polymorphism ($T_A = 0.4$, $T_B = 0.9$, $b = 12$, $c = 0.35$, $v = 1$, and $\alpha = 0.45$). The blue curve shows fixation of either cooperation or defection, depending on the initial frequency ($T_A = 0.5$, $T_B = 0.1$, $b = 1.3$, $c = 0.904$, $v = 1$, and $\alpha = 0.4$). Black circles show the three equilibria.

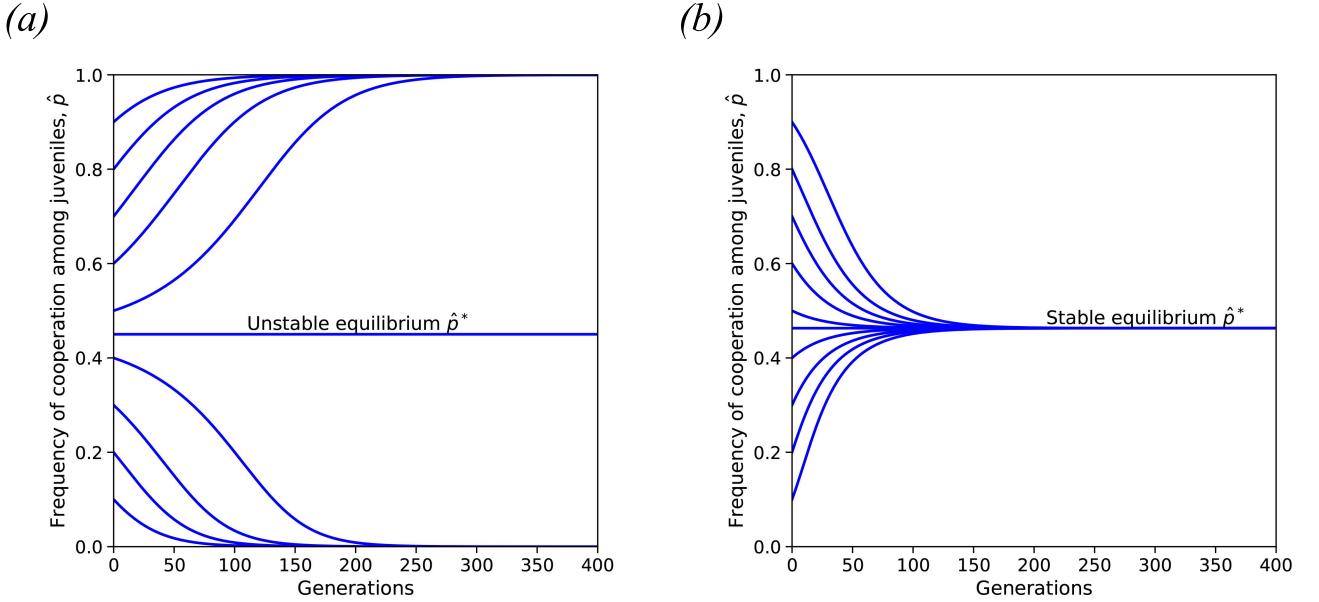


Figure 5: Unstable and stable equilibrium dynamics The figure shows the frequency of cooperation over time (generations) starting from different initial frequencies. In (a) the system has unstable equilibrium and therefore, all the curves are moving away from it. In (b) the system has stable equilibrium and therefore, all the curves moves towards it. Here, $T_A = 0.5$, $c = 0.5$, $v = 0.59$ and (a) $T_B = 0.4$, $\alpha = 0.1$ and $b = 1.2$. (b) $T_B = 0.7$, $\alpha = 0.6$ and $b = 2.3$.

404 3.2 Evolution of interaction-transmission association

We now focus on the evolution of interaction-transmission association, assuming that the population
406 is initially at a stable polymorphism of the two phenotypes, cooperation A and defection B , where the
frequency of A among juveniles is \hat{p}^* (Eq. 17). Note that for a stable polymorphism, there must be
408 horizontal bias for defection, $T_A < T_B$, and an intermediate cost of cooperation, $\gamma_2 < c < \gamma_1$ (Eq. 20),
see Figure 4b. The equilibrium population mean fitness is $\bar{w}^* = 1 + \hat{p}^*(b - c)$, which is increasing
410 in \hat{p}^* , and \hat{p}^* is increasing in α (Appendix B). Therefore, \bar{w}^* increases as α increases. But can this
population-level advantage lead to the evolution of increased α ?

412 To answer this question, we add a “modifier locus” [31, 39, 40, 41] that determines the value of α
but has no direct effect on fitness. This locus has two alleles, M and m , which induce interaction-
414 transmission associations α_1 and α_2 , respectively. Suppose that the population has evolved to a stable
equilibrium \hat{p}^* when only allele M is present. We study the local stability of this equilibrium to
416 invasion by the modifier allele m ; this is called “external stability” [31, 32].

Denote the frequencies of the pheno-genotypes AM , BM , Am , and Bm by $\hat{\mathbf{p}} = (\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \hat{p}_3, \hat{p}_4)$. The

418 frequencies of the pheno-genotypes in the next generation are defined by the recursion system,

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{w}\hat{p}'_1 = & v\hat{p}_1x(1+b-c)(1-(1-\alpha_1)(1-x)T_B) + \\
& v\hat{p}_1(1-x)(1-c)(1-\alpha_1T_Bx-T_B(1-x)) + \\
& v\hat{p}_2x(1+b)T_A(x+\alpha_1(1-x)) + \\
& v\hat{p}_2(1-x)x(1-\alpha_1)T_A + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_1(1-(1-x)T_B) + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_2xT_A, \\
\bar{w}\hat{p}'_2 = & v\hat{p}_1x(1+b-c)(1-\alpha_1)(1-x)T_B + \\
& v\hat{p}_1(1-x)(1-c)(\alpha_1T_B+(1-\alpha_1)(1-x)T_B) + \\
& v\hat{p}_2x(1+b)(1-\alpha_1T_A(1-x)-T_Ax) + \\
& v\hat{p}_2(1-x)(1-(1-\alpha_1)xT_A) + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_2(1-xT_A) + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_1T_B(1-x), \\
\bar{w}\hat{p}'_3 = & \hat{p}_3x(1+b-c)(1-(1-\alpha_2)(1-x)T_B) + \\
& \hat{p}_3(1-x)(1-c)(1-\alpha_2T_Bx-T_B(1-x)) + \\
& \hat{p}_4x(1+b)T_A(x+\alpha_2(1-x)) + \\
& \hat{p}_4(1-x)x(1-\alpha_2)T_A + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_3(1-(1-x)T_B) + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_4xT_A, \\
\bar{w}\hat{p}'_4 = & \hat{p}_3x(1+b-c)(1-\alpha_2)(1-x)T_B + \\
& \hat{p}_3(1-x)(1-c)(\alpha_2T_B+(1-\alpha_2)(1-x)T_B) + \\
& \hat{p}_4x(1+b)(1-\alpha_2T_A(1-x)-T_Ax) + \\
& \hat{p}_4(1-x)(1-(1-\alpha_2)xT_A) + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_4(1-xT_A) + \\
& (1-v)\hat{p}_3T_B(1-x),
\end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

420 where $x = \hat{p}_1 + \hat{p}_3$ is the total frequency of the cooperative phenotype A , and $\bar{w} = 1 + (b - c)x$ is the population mean fitness.

422 The stable equilibrium where only allele M is present is $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^* = (\hat{p}^*, 1 - \hat{p}^*, 0, 0)$, where

$$\hat{p}^* = \frac{\alpha bvT_A - cv(1 - T_B) + (T_A - T_B)}{[c(1 - v) - b(1 - \alpha_1 v)](T_A - T_B)}, \tag{30}$$

424 setting $\alpha = \alpha_1$ in Eq. 17. \hat{p}^* is a feasible polymorphism ($0 < \hat{p}^* < 1$) if $T_A < T_B$ and $\gamma_2 < c < \gamma_1$ (Result 1).

426 The local stability of $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*$ to the introduction of allele m is determined by the linear approximation \mathbf{L}^* of the transformation in Eq. 29 near $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*$ (i.e. the Jacobian of the transformation at the equilibrium).

428 \mathbf{L}^* is known to have a block structure, with the diagonal blocks occupied by the matrices \mathbf{L}_{in}^* and \mathbf{L}_{ex}^*
[31, 32]. The latter is the external stability matrix: the linear approximation to the transformation
430 near $\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*$ involving only the pheno-genotypes Am and Bm , derived from Eq. 29, with $\bar{w}^* = 1 + (b - c)\hat{p}^*$
as the stable population mean fitness,

432
$$\mathbf{L}_{ex}^* = \frac{1}{\bar{w}^*} \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & l_{12} \\ l_{21} & l_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\bar{w}^*} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_3}{\partial \hat{p}_3}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) & \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_3}{\partial \hat{p}_4}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) \\ \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_4}{\partial \hat{p}_3}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) & \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_4}{\partial \hat{p}_4}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (31)$$

Because we already assumed that \mathbf{p}^* is internally stable at the beginning of the analysis (i.e. locally
434 stable to small perturbations in the frequencies of AM and BM), the stability of \mathbf{p}^* is determined by
the eigenvalues of the external stability matrix \mathbf{L}_{ex}^* . This is a positive matrix, and due to the Perron-
436 Frobenius theorem, the leading eigenvalue of \mathbf{L}_{ex}^* is real and positive. Thus, if the leading eigenvalue is
less (greater) than one, then the equilibrium \mathbf{p}^* is externally stable (unstable) and allele m cannot (can)
438 invade the population of allele M . The eigenvalues of \mathbf{L}_{ex}^* are the roots of the characteristic polynomial,
 $R(\lambda)$, which is a quadratic with a positive leading coefficient. Therefore, $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \pm\infty} R(\lambda) = \infty$, and the
440 leading eigenvalue is less than one (implying stability) if and only if $R(1) > 0$ and $R'(1) > 0$. Thus,
a sufficient condition for external instability of \mathbf{p}^* is $R(1) < 0$. $R(\lambda)$ is defined as a determinant,
442 $R(\lambda) = \det(\mathbf{L}_{ex}^* - \lambda \mathbf{I})$, where \mathbf{I} is the 2-by-2 identity matrix. We will use SymPy [38], a Python library
for symbolic mathematics to simplify $R(1)$ in the general case when $0 < v \leq 1$ (We did a full analysis
444 without SymPy for the special case when $v = 1$ in Appendix C),

$$R(1) = \frac{cv\hat{p}^*[T_A b \hat{p}^{*2}(v\alpha_2 - 1) - 2T_A b \hat{p}^* v\alpha_2 + T_A b \hat{p}^*(1 + v\alpha_2)]}{b\hat{p}(b\hat{p}^* - 2\hat{p}^* + 2) + c\hat{p}^*(c\hat{p}^* - 2) + 1} \\ + \frac{cv\hat{p}^*[T_A c \hat{p}^{*2}(1 - v) + T_A c \hat{p}^*(v - 1) - T_A \hat{p}^*(1 - c) + T_A]}{b\hat{p}(b\hat{p}^* - 2\hat{p}^* + 2) + c\hat{p}^*(c\hat{p}^* - 2) + 1} \\ + \frac{cv\hat{p}^*[T_B b \hat{p}^{*2}(1 - v\alpha_2) + T_B b \hat{p}^2(v\alpha_2 - 1) + T_B c \hat{p}^{*2}(v - 1)]}{b\hat{p}(b\hat{p}^* - 2\hat{p}^* + 2) + c\hat{p}^*(c\hat{p}^* - 2) + 1} \\ + \frac{cv\hat{p}^*[T_B c \hat{p}^*(1 - v) + T_B c v(1 - \hat{p}^* + T_B(\hat{p}^* - 1) + cv(\hat{p}^* - 1))]}{b\hat{p}(b\hat{p}^* - 2\hat{p}^* + 2) + c\hat{p}^*(c\hat{p}^* - 2) + 1} \quad (32)$$

446 We should find when $R(1) < 0$. Using SymPy we saw that when $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2$, $R(1) = 0$ which means that
there is an eigenvalue that is equal to 1. Now, assume that $\epsilon = \alpha_2 - \alpha_1$. Using the derivative of $R(1)$
448 with respect to ϵ we will find the sign of $R(1)$ when $\alpha_2 < \alpha_1$.

$$\frac{\partial R(1)}{\partial \epsilon} = \frac{cbv^2 \hat{p}^* [(T_A - T_B) \hat{p}^{*2} + (T_B - 2T_A) \hat{p}^* + T_A]}{(\hat{p}^*(b - c) + 1)^2} \quad (33)$$

450 The denominator is always positive. The numerator is quadratic polynomial of \hat{p}^* with the following
roots:

452
$$\hat{p}_1^* = \frac{T_A}{T_A - T_B} \quad \hat{p}_2^* = 1 \quad (34)$$

We assumed $T_B > T_A$ thus, $\hat{p}_1^* < 0$. The quadratic polynomial has negative leading coefficient
454 ($T_A - T_B$), and therefore, the numerator is positive for any $\hat{p}_1^* < \hat{p}^* < 1$. Thus, the derivative of $R(1)$
with respect to ϵ is positive for any ϵ and $R(1)$ grows as $\alpha_2 - \alpha_1$ grows. Therefore, because $R(1)$ grows
456 as $\alpha_2 - \alpha_1$ grows and $R(1) = 0$ when $\alpha_2 - \alpha_1 = 0$, we get that $R(1) < 0$ if and only if $\alpha_2 < \alpha_1$. This is

a sufficient condition for external instability. In addition, we also saw that $\frac{\partial R(1)}{\partial \epsilon} > 0$ for every ϵ which
458 makes $\alpha_2 < \alpha_1$ necessary and sufficient condition for successful invasion (external instability).

Result 2. *From a stable polymorphism between cooperation and defection, a modifier allele can
460 successfully invade the population if it decreases the interaction-transmission association α .*

This reduction principle entails that successful invasions will reduce the frequency of cooperation, as
462 well as the population mean fitness (Figure 6). Furthermore, if we a modifier allele that decreases α
464 appears and invades the population from time to time, then the value of α will continue to decrease,
466 further reducing the frequency of cooperation and the population mean fitness. This evolution will
proceed as long as there is a stable polymorphism, that is, as long as $a_2 < \alpha < a_1$ (Remark 2,
Figure 4c). Thus, we can expect the value of α to approach a_2 , the frequency of cooperation to fall to
zero, and the population mean fitness to decrease to one (Figure 6).

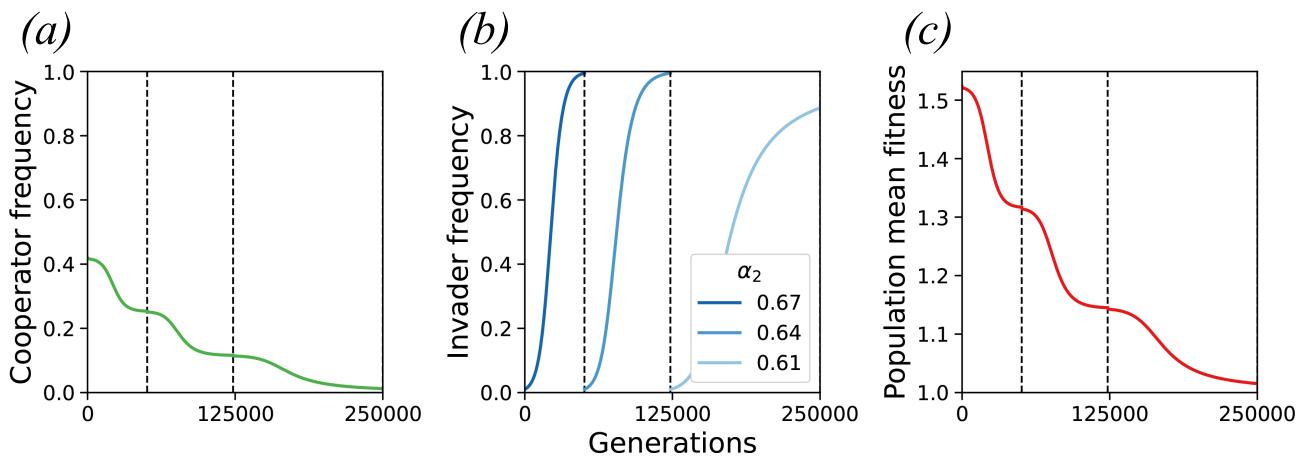


Figure 6: Reduction principle for interaction-transmission association. Consecutive fixation of modifier alleles that reduce interaction-transmission association α in numerical simulations of evolution with two modifier alleles (Eq. D1). When an invading modifier allele is established in the population (frequency $> 99.95\%$), a new modifier allele that reduces interaction-transmission association by 5% is introduced (at initial frequency 0.5%). **(a)** The frequency of the cooperative phenotype A over time. **(b)** The frequency of the invading modifier allele m over time. **(c)** The population mean fitness (\bar{w}) over time. Here, $v = 1$, $c = 0.05$, $b = 1.3$, $T_A = 0.4 < T_B = 0.7$, initial interaction-transmission association $\alpha_1 = 0.7$, lower interaction-transmission association threshold $a_2 = 0.605$.

468 **3.3 Population structure**

Here, we are going to run stochastic simulations to learn more about evolution of Cooperation when
470 the population is structured. The model is described in subsection 2.3. All the simulations in this
section were made by Ohad Lewin-Epstein from Tel Aviv University. The outcomes of stochastic
472 simulations with such a structured population are shown in Figure 7, which demonstrates that the
highest cost of cooperation c that permits the evolution of cooperation agrees with the conditions
474 derived above for our model without population structure or stochasticity. An example of stochastic
stable polymorphism is shown in Figure 7c. Changing the simulation so that selection is local (i.e.
476 sites can only be settled by offspring of neighboring parents) had only a minor effect on the agreement
with the derived conditions (Figure 8).

478 These comparisons between the deterministic unstructured model and the stochastic structured model
show that the conditions derived for the deterministic model can be useful for predicting the dynamics
480 under complex scenarios. Moreover, this structured population model demonstrates that our parameter
for interaction-transmission association, α , can represent local interactions between individuals.

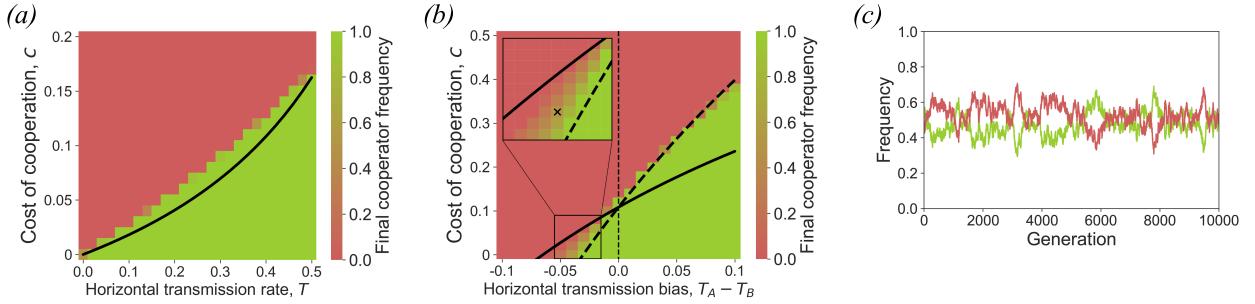


Figure 7: Evolution of cooperation in a structured population. (a-b) The expected frequency of cooperators in a structured population after 10,000 generations is shown (red for 0%, green for 100%) as a function of both the cost of cooperation, c , on the y-axis, and either the symmetric horizontal transmission rate, $T = T_A = T_B$, on the x-axis of panel (a), or the transmission bias, $T_A - T_B$, on the x-axis of panel (b). Black curves represent the cost thresholds for the evolution of cooperation in a well-mixed population with interaction-transmission association, where $\alpha = 1/8$ in inequality 22 for panel (a) and in Eqs. 20 for panel (b). The inset in panel (b) focuses on an area of the parameter range in which neither phenotype is fixed throughout the simulation, maintaining a stochastic locally stable polymorphism [42]. This stochastic polymorphism is illustrated in panel (c), which shows the frequency of cooperators (green) and defectors (red) over time for the parameter set marked by an x in panel (b). In all cases, the population evolves on a 100-by-100 grid. Cooperation and horizontal transmission are both local between neighbouring sites, and each site has 8 neighbours. Selection operates globally (see Figure S2 for results from a model with local selection). Simulations were stopped at generation 10,000 or if one of the phenotypes fixed. 50 simulations were executed for each parameter set. Benefit of cooperation, $b = 1.3$; perfect vertical transmission $v = 1$. (a) Symmetric horizontal transmission, $T = T_A = T_B$; (b) Horizontal transmission rate T_A is fixed at 0.4, and T_B varies, $0.3 < T_B < 0.5$. (c) Horizontal transmission rates $T_A = 0.4 < T_B = 0.435$ and cost of cooperation $c = 0.02$.

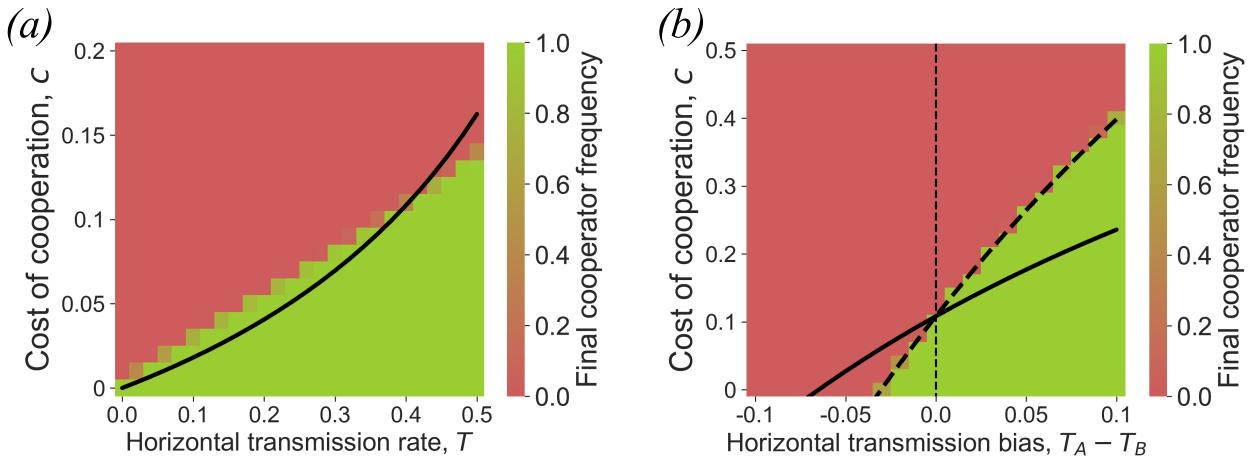


Figure 8: Evolution of cooperation in a structured population with local selection. The expected frequency of cooperators in a structured population after 10,000 generations is shown (red for 0%, green for 100%) as a function of both the cost of cooperation (c) on the y-axis, and the symmetric horizontal transmission rate ($T = T_A = T_B$) on the x-axis of panel (a), or the transmission bias $T_A - T_B$ on the x-axis of panel (b). Cooperation and horizontal transmission are both local between neighbouring sites, and each site had 8 neighbours. Selection operates locally (see Figure 4 for results from a model with global selection). The black curves represent the cost thresholds for the evolution of cooperation in a well-mixed population with interaction-transmission association, where $\alpha = 1/8$ in inequality 14 for panel (a) and in Eqs. 12 for panel (b). The population evolves on a 100-by-100 grid. Simulations were stopped at generation 10,000 or if one of the phenotypes fixed. 50 simulations were executed for each parameter set. Here, benefit of cooperation, $b = 1.3$; perfect vertical transmission $v = 1$. (a) Symmetric horizontal transmission, $T = T_A = T_B$. (b) Horizontal transmission rate T_A is fixed at 0.4, and T_B varies, $0.3 < T_B < 0.5$.

482 4 Discussion

Under a combination of vertical, oblique, and horizontal transmission with payoffs in the form
484 of a Prisoner’s Dilemma game, cooperation or defection can either fix or coexist, depending on
the relationship between the cost and benefit of cooperation, the horizontal transmission bias, and
486 the association between social interaction and horizontal transmission (Result 1, Figures 3 and 4).

Importantly, cooperation can increase when initially rare (i.e. invade a population of defectors) if and
488 only if, rewriting inequality 21, $c \cdot v(1 - T_B) < b \cdot v\alpha T_A + (T_A - T_B)$, namely, the effective cost of
cooperation (left-hand side) is smaller than the effective benefit plus the horizontal transmission bias
490 (right-hand side). This condition cannot be formulated in the form of Hamilton’s rule, $c < b \cdot r$, due to
the effect of biased horizontal transmission, represented by $(T_A - T_B)$. Remarkably, a polymorphism
492 of cooperation and defection can be stable if horizontal transmission is biased in favor of defection
 $(T_A < T_B)$ and both c and α are intermediate (yellow areas in Figures 3 and 4).

494 We find that stronger interaction-transmission association α leads to evolution of higher frequency
of cooperation and increased population mean fitness. Nevertheless, when cooperation and defection
496 coexist, α is expected to be reduced by natural selection, leading to extinction of cooperation and
decreased population mean fitness (Result 2, Figure 6). With $\alpha = 0$, the benefit of cooperation cannot
498 facilitate its evolution; it can only succeed if horizontal transmission is biased in its favor.

Indeed, in our model, horizontal transmission plays a major role in the evolution of cooperation:
500 increasing the transmission of cooperation, T_A , or decreasing the transmission of defection, T_B , facilitates
the evolution of cooperation. However, the effect of oblique transmission is more complicated.
502 When there is horizontal transmission bias in favor of cooperation, $T_A > T_B$, increasing the rate of
oblique transmission, $1 - v$, will facilitate the evolution of cooperation. In contrast, when the bias is
504 in favor of defection, $T_A < T_B$, higher rates of vertical transmission, v , are advantageous for cooperation,
and the rate of vertical transmission must be high enough ($v > \hat{v}$) for cooperation to fix in the
506 population.

Our deterministic model provides a good approximation to outcomes of simulations of a complex
508 stochastic model with population structure in which individuals can only interact with and transmit
to their neighbors. In these structured populations interaction-transmission association arises due to
510 both social interactions and horizontal cultural transmission being local (Figure 7 and Figure 8). We
did not find any significant difference between local and global selection.

512 In this work, we have studied a cultural evolution model in which interactions are modeled as a
Prisoner’s Dilemma game. We also assumed that in each generation individuals have only one
514 meaningful interaction. It would be interesting to investigate a model in which multiple games are
played in each generation. This would make the model more realistic and more complicated to solve.
516 To overcome the math complication, numerical simulations can be used. The model can be further
expanded by changing the game to Stag Hunt game. Tomasello et al. [36] claim that Stag Hunt game
518 can better explain evolution of cooperation in humans, because humans often collaborate in Stag Hunt
type situations in which all participants had alternatives but anticipated an even greater benefit from

520 successful capturing of the stag [43]. Therefore, changing the model so each interaction would be
model as Stag Hunt game could help us better understand cooperartion in humans.

522 In our model we assumed that the model parameters such as vertical transmission(v), horizontal trans-
mission (T_A, T_B), benfit from cooperartion (b), cost of cooperartion (c) and interaction-transmission
524 association (α) do not change over time. However, in reality things are changing. For example, during
different time of the year, behavior can be changed due to weather [44], predator abundance [45] and
526 food abundance [46]. This could lead to changes in the model parameters. Further investigation is
needed to learn about the effect of such changes in behavior.

528 Mechanism that was suggested by Traxler and Spichtig [47] showed that *conditional cooperation*
based on norm-dependent relational utilities, i.e. individual will only cooperate if it knows that others
530 will cooperate too, can sustain cooperation in a community – provided that cooperation is already at
a high frequency. Unlike *conditional cooperation*, interaction-transmission association can sustain
532 cooperation in a community even if cooperation is initially rare. Morsky and Akcay [48] suggested
that false beliefs on the frequencies of the cooperator can affect the individual decision whether to
534 cooperate or not. If the individual over-estimates the number of cooperators it will be more likely to
cooperate. This false belief can help sustain cooperation even if cooperartion is initially rare.

536 Feldman et al. [22] studied the dynamics of an altruistic phenotype with vertical cultural transmission
and a gene that modifies the transmission of the phenotype. Their results are very sensitive to
538 this genetic modification: without it, the conditions for invasion of the altruistic phenotype reduce
to Hamilton’s rule. Further work is needed to incorporate such genetic modification of cultural
540 transmission into our model. Woodcock [23] stressed the significance of non-vertical transmission for
the evolution of cooperation and carried out simulations with Prisoner’s Dilemma payoffs but without
542 horizontal transmission or interaction-transmission association ($\alpha = 0$). Nevertheless, his results
demonstrated that it is possible to sustain altruistic behavior via cultural transmission for a substantial
544 length of time. He further hypothesized that horizontal transmission can play an important role in the
evolution of cooperation, and our results provide strong evidence for this hypothesis.

546 To understand the role of horizontal transmission, we first review the role of *assortment*. Eshel and
Cavalli-Sforza [18] showed that altruism can evolve when the tendency for *assortative meeting*, i.e.
548 for individuals to interact with others of their own phenotype, is strong enough. Fletcher and Doebeli
[19] further argued that a general explanation for the evolution of altruism is given by *assortment*: the
550 correlation between individuals that carry an altruistic trait and the amount of altruistic behavior in
their interaction group (see also Bijma and Aanen [20]). They suggested that to explain the evolution of
552 altruism, we should seek mechanisms that generate assortment, such as population structure, repeated
interactions, and individual recognition. Our results highlight another mechanism for generating
554 assortment: an association between social interactions and horizontal transmission that creates a
correlation between one’s partner for interaction and the partner for transmission. This mechanism
556 does not require repeated interactions, population structure, or individual recognition. We show that
high levels of such interaction-transmission association greatly increase the potential for evolution of
558 cooperation. With enough interaction-transmission association, cooperation can increase in frequency

when initially rare even when there is horizontal transmission bias against it ($T_A < T_B$).

- 560 How does non-vertical transmission generate assortment? Lewin-Epstein et al. [24] and Lewin-Epstein
and Hadany [25] suggested that microbes that induce their hosts to act altruistically can be favored
562 by selection, which may help to explain the evolution of cooperation. Indeed, it has been shown
that microbes can mediate behavioral changes in their hosts [49, 50]. Therefore, natural selection
564 on microbes may favor manipulation of the host so that it cooperates with others. From the kin
selection point-of-view, if microbes can be transmitted *horizontally* from one host to another during
566 host interactions, then following horizontal transmission the recipient host will carry microbes that
are closely related to those of the donor host, even when the two hosts are (genetically) unrelated.
568 From the assortment point-of-view, infection by behavior-determining microbes during interactions
effectively generates assortment because a recipient of help may be infected by a behavior-determining
570 microbe and consequently become a helper. Cultural horizontal transmission can similarly generate
assortment between cooperators and enhance the benefit of cooperation if cultural transmission and
572 helping interactions occur between the same individuals, i.e. when there is interaction-transmission
association, so that the recipient of help may also be the recipient of the cultural trait for cooperation.
574 Thus, with horizontal transmission, “assortment between focal cooperative players and cooperative
acts in their interaction environment” [19] is generated not because the helper is likely to be helped,
576 but rather because the helped is likely to become a helper.

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688 Appendices

Appendix A Local stability criterion

690 Let $f(p) = \lambda \cdot (p' - p)$, where $\lambda > 0$, and 0 and 1 are equilibria, that is, $f(0) = 0$ and $f(1) = 0$.

Set $p > p^* = 0$. Using a linear approximation for $f(p)$ near 0, we have

$$692 \quad p' < p \Leftrightarrow f(p)/p < 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{f'(0) \cdot p + O(p^2)}{p} < 0 \Leftrightarrow f'(0) + O(p) < 0. \quad (\text{A1})$$

Therefore, by definition of big-O notation, if $f'(0) < 0$ then there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that for any local
694 perturbation $0 < p < \epsilon$, it is guaranteed that $0 < p' < p$; that is, p' is closer to zero than p .

Set $p < p^* = 1$ Using a linear approximation for $f(p)$ near 1, we have

$$696 \quad 1 - p' < 1 - p \Leftrightarrow -\frac{f(p)}{1 - p} < 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{f'(1)(p - 1) + O((p - 1)^2)}{p - 1} < 0 \Leftrightarrow f'(1) - O(1 - p) < 0. \quad (\text{A2})$$

Therefore, if $f'(1) < 0$ then there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that for any $1 - \epsilon < 1 - p < 1$ we have $1 - p' < 1 - p$;
698 that is, p' is closer to one than p .

Appendix B Effect of interaction-transmission association on mean fitness

700 To determine the effect of increasing α on the stable population mean fitness, $\bar{w}^* = 1 + (b - c)\hat{p}^*$, we
702 must analyze its effect on \hat{p}^* ,

$$\frac{\partial \hat{p}^*}{\partial \alpha} = \frac{bT_A - c(1 - T_B) + (T_A - T_B)}{b(1 - \alpha)^2(T_B - T_A)}. \quad (\text{B1})$$

704 Note that stable polymorphism implies $c < \gamma_1$, and because $\alpha < 1$, we have

$$c < \gamma_1 = \frac{b\alpha T_A + (T_A - T_B)}{1 - T_B} < \frac{bT_A + (T_A - T_B)}{1 - T_B}. \quad (\text{B2})$$

706 Therefore, the numerator in Eq. B1 is positive. Since $T_A < T_B$, the denominator in Eq. B1 is also
positive, and hence the derivative $\partial \hat{p}^*/\partial \alpha$ is positive. Thus, the population mean fitness increases as
708 interaction-transmission association α increases.

710 Appendix C Reduction principle

Here, we assume perfect vertical transmission $v = 1$. We start from Eq. 31 and we substitute $v = 1$
 712 and we get

$$\mathbf{L}_{ex}^* = \frac{1}{\bar{w}^*} \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} & l_{12} \\ l_{21} & l_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\bar{w}^*} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_3}{\partial \hat{p}'_3}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) & \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_3}{\partial \hat{p}'_4}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) \\ \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_4}{\partial \hat{p}'_3}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) & \frac{\partial \bar{w} \hat{p}'_4}{\partial \hat{p}'_4}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}^*) \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\frac{1}{\bar{w}^*} \begin{bmatrix} (1 + b\dot{p}^* - c)(1 - T_B(1 - \dot{p}^*)) + b\dot{p}^*\alpha_2 T_B(1 - \dot{p}^*) & (1 + b\dot{p}^*)T_A\dot{p}^* + b\dot{p}^*\alpha_2 T_A(1 - \dot{p}^*) \\ (1 + b\dot{p}^* - c)T_B(1 - \dot{p}^*) - b\dot{p}^*\alpha_2 T_B(1 - \dot{p}^*) & (1 + b\dot{p}^*)(1 - T_A\dot{p}^*) - b\dot{p}^*\alpha_2 T_A(1 - \dot{p}^*) \end{bmatrix} \quad (C1)$$

714 Since multiplication by a positive factor doesn't change the sign, and using the properties of the determinant, we have

$$716 \quad \begin{aligned} \text{sign } R(1) &= \text{sign } \det(\mathbf{L}_{ex}^* - \mathbf{I}) = \text{sign } (\bar{w}^*)^2 \det(\mathbf{L}_{ex}^* - \mathbf{I}) = \\ \text{sign } \det(\bar{w}^* \mathbf{L}_{ex}^* - \bar{w}^* \mathbf{I}) &= \text{sign } \det \begin{bmatrix} l_{11} - \bar{w}^* & l_{12} \\ l_{21} & l_{22} - \bar{w}^* \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned} \quad (C2)$$

where l_{ij} are defined in Eq. 31. Adding the second row in Eq. C2 to the first row, which does not
 718 change the determinant, and substituting $\bar{w}^* = 1 + (b - c)\dot{p}^*$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{sign } R(1) &= \text{sign } \det \begin{bmatrix} -c(1 - \dot{p}^*) & c\dot{p}^* \\ (1 - \dot{p}^*)[(1 + b\dot{p}^* - c)T_B - b\alpha_2 T_B \dot{p}^*] & \dot{p}^*[-(1 + b\dot{p}^*)T_A - b\alpha_2 T_A(1 - \dot{p}^*) + c] \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \text{sign} \left[c\dot{p}^*(1 - \dot{p}^*) \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ (1 + b\dot{p}^* - c)T_B - b\alpha_2 T_B \dot{p}^* & -(1 + b\dot{p}^*)T_A - b\alpha_2 T_A(1 - \dot{p}^*) + c \end{bmatrix} \right] = \\ &= \text{sign } \det \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ (1 + b\dot{p}^* - c)T_B - b\alpha_2 T_B \dot{p}^* & -(1 + b\dot{p}^*)T_A - b\alpha_2 T_A(1 - \dot{p}^*) + c \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned} \quad (C3)$$

720 since $c > 0, 0 < \dot{p}^* < 1$. That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{sign } R(1) &= \text{sign } [(1 + b\dot{p}^*)T_A + b\alpha_2 T_A(1 - \dot{p}^*) - c - (1 + b\dot{p}^* - c)T_B + b\dot{p}^*\alpha_2 T_B] = \\ &\quad \text{sign } [(1 + b(1 - \alpha_2)\dot{p}^*)(T_A - T_B) + b\alpha_2 T_A - c(1 - T_B)]. \end{aligned} \quad (C4)$$

722 Substituting \dot{p}^* from Eq. 30, we get

$$\begin{aligned} R(1) < 0 \Leftrightarrow & [c(1 - T_B) - b\alpha_1 T_A - (T_A - T_B)] \frac{1 - \alpha_2}{1 - \alpha_1} - c(1 - T_B) + b\alpha_2 T_A + (T_A - T_B) < 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ & (1 - \alpha_2)[c(1 - T_B) - b\alpha_1 T_A - (T_A - T_B)] < (1 - \alpha_1)[c(1 - T_B) - b\alpha_2 T_A - (T_A - T_B)] \Leftrightarrow \\ & -b\alpha_1 T_A - \alpha_2 c(1 - T_B) + \alpha_2(T_A - T_B) < -b\alpha_2 T_A - \alpha_1 c(1 - T_B) + \alpha_1(T_A - T_B) \Leftrightarrow \\ & \alpha_1[c(1 - T_B) - bT_A - (T_A - T_B)] < \alpha_2[c(1 - T_B) - bT_A - (T_A - T_B)] \Leftrightarrow \\ & \alpha_1[bT_A + (T_A - T_B) - c(1 - T_B)] > \alpha_2[bT_A + (T_A - T_B) - c(1 - T_B)]. \end{aligned} \quad (C5)$$

724 We assumed $c < \gamma_1$, and since $0 \leq \alpha_1 \leq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} c < \gamma_1 = \frac{b\alpha_1 T_A + (T_A - T_B)}{1 - T_B} &\Leftrightarrow \\ 0 < b\alpha_1 T_A + (T_A - T_B) - c(1 - T_B) &\Rightarrow \\ 0 < bT_A + (T_A - T_B) - c(1 - T_B) . \end{aligned} \tag{C6}$$

726 Combining inequalities C5 and C6, we find that $R(1) < 0$ if and only if $\alpha_1 > \alpha_2$, which is a sufficient condition for external instability. Therefore, if α_2 , the interaction-transmission association of the 728 invading modifier allele m , is less than α_1 , the interaction-transmission association of the resident allele M , then invasion will be successful.

730 Determining a necessary and sufficient condition for successful invasion is more complicated, requiring analysis of the sign of $R'(1)$. We did it in the general case (starting from Eq. 33).