

STATS 700-002 Class 7.  
Complex Population Dynamics and the Coalescent Under  
Neutrality

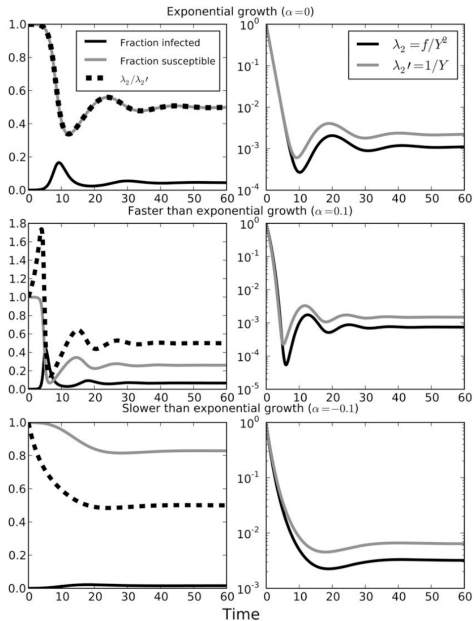
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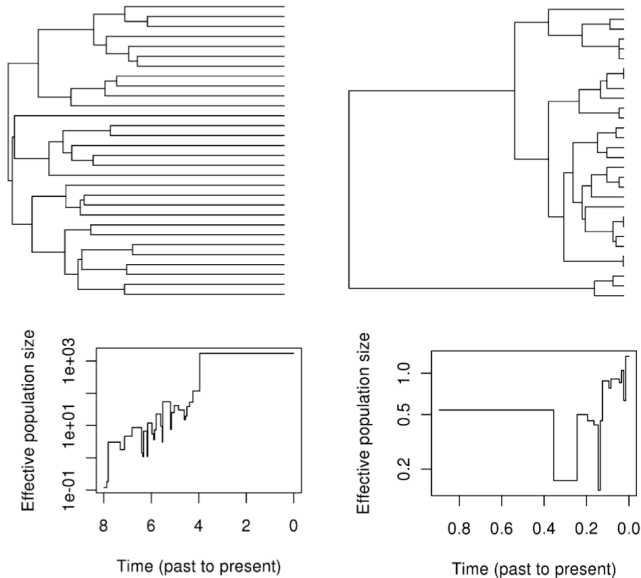
## Outline

Volz, E. M. (2012) Complex population dynamics and the coalescent under neutrality. *Genetics* **190**: 187–201. doi:10.1534/genetics.111.134627

- ▶ The first approach to phylodynamic likelihood for a compartment model with a structured population
- ▶ Supposes that the model dynamics are determined by a system of differential equations



**Figure 1** (Left) The fraction of the population susceptible and infected is shown over time for model (16). (Right) The rates of coalescence  $\lambda_2 = f/Y^2$  and  $\lambda_2' = 1/Y$ . In all solutions to Equation 16,  $N = 10^4$ ,  $\beta = 2$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\eta = \frac{1}{10}$ . The incidence scaling factor  $\alpha$  is varied for each row:  $\alpha = 0$  (top),  $\alpha = \frac{1}{10}$  (middle), and  $\alpha = -\frac{1}{10}$  (bottom).



**Figure 2** Simulated genealogies (top) and corresponding skyline estimates of  $N_e$  (bottom) for exponential growth (left) and FTE growth (right). Simulations were of a pure-birth process with monotonically increasing population sizes. Samples of 30 taxa were taken during a period of growth (either exponential or FTE) at the point when a population size of  $Y = 2 \times 10^4$  was reached. In the exponential case, the skyline is unbiased for the harmonic mean of  $Y/2\beta$  within each interval. In the FTE case, the skyline underestimates population size.

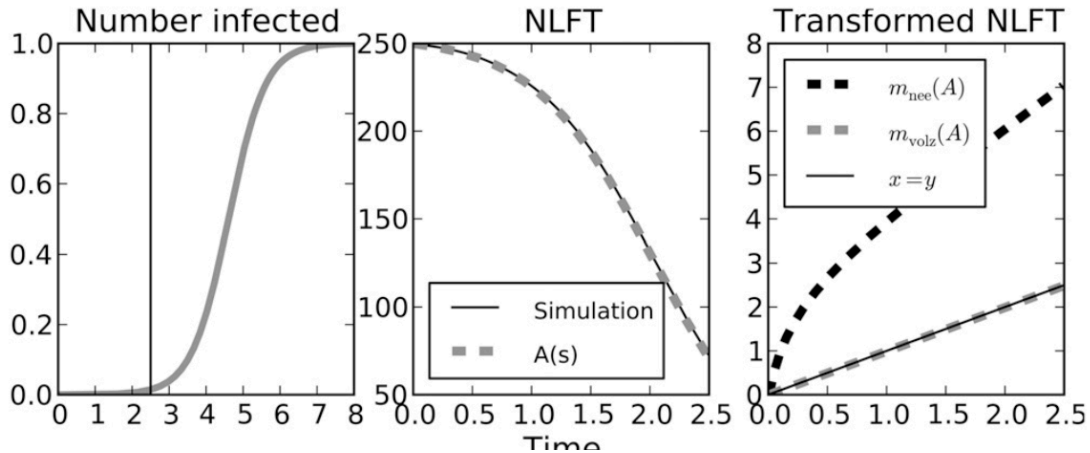
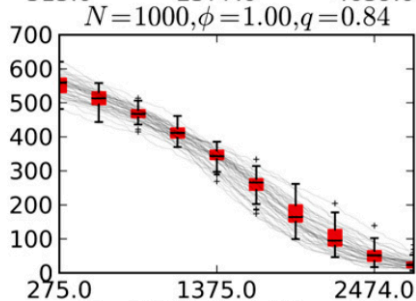
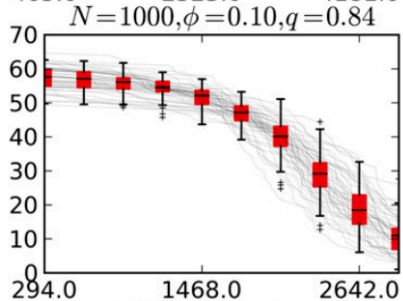
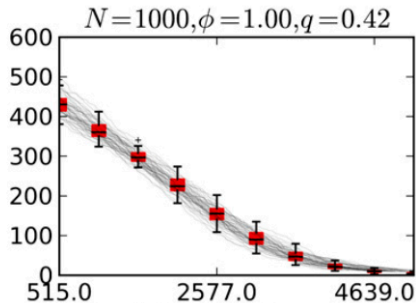
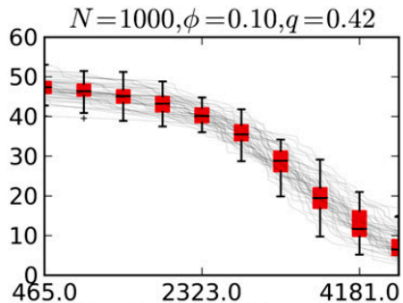
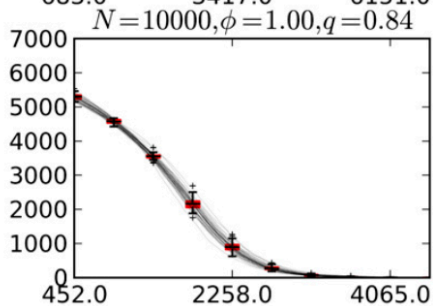
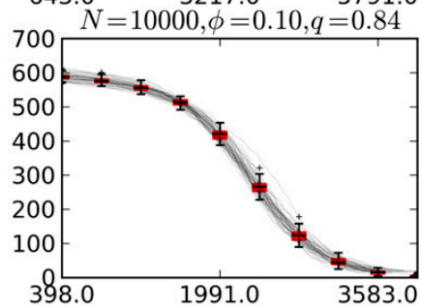
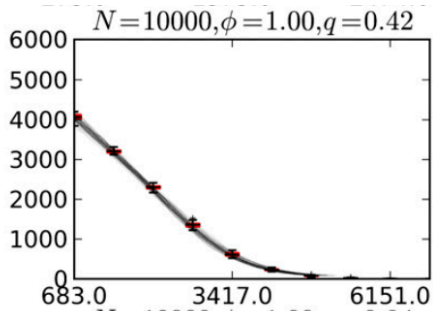
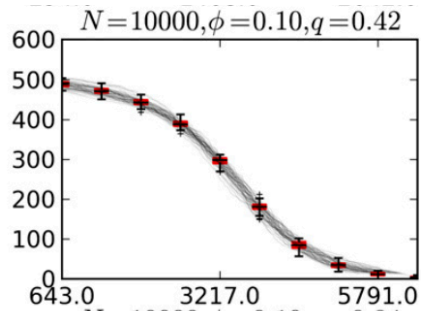


Fig 3.  $n = 250$  samples at  $t = 2.5$ .



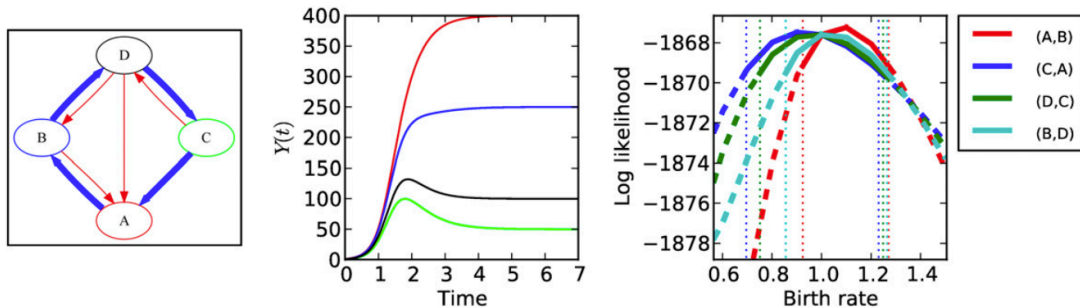


NLFT (Fig 5)



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**Fig 6.** (Left) Model with  $m = 5$  states, four birth terms, and seven migration terms. Blue arrows are logistic birth terms. Red arrows are migration. (Center) The population size  $Y_k$  over time for each of 5 states. (Right) Likelihood profile of four (relative) birth rates and 95% CIs.

## Branching process approximations

- ▶ Why does Volz describe his method as a branching process approximation?
- ▶ How is the branching process approximation related to the assumption of a large population with a low sampling fraction?
- ▶ How would you assess the inaccuracy incurred by the branching process approximation in a particular application?

## Deterministic population dynamics

- ▶ What are the benefits and weaknesses for data analysis of making an assumption of deterministic population dynamics?
  - ▶ This is a question about the population model, not its relationship to phylodynamic data.
- ▶ Is a branching process approximation to the phylodynamic model more suitable in a deterministic or stochastic population model, or are those decisions separate?

## The Riccati equation

- ▶ How do you solve Eq. (20)?
- ▶ Is the proposed solution in Eq. (22) correct?