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NPTEL

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Courses » Introduction to Evolutionary Dynamics

Announcements Course Ask a Question Progress



## Unit 5 - Week 4

### Course outline

How to access the portal?

Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

Week 4

- Lecture 16 : Integrating Reproduction, Selection and Mutation
- Lecture 17 : Obtaining Fitness Landscapes Experimentally
- Lecture 18 : NK Model of Fitness Landscape
- Lecture 19 : Modelling Evolution on Fitness Landscapes – 1
- Lecture 20 : Modelling Evolution on Fitness Landscapes – 2
- Quiz : Week 4 Assessment
- Week 4 Assessment Solutions

Week 5

Week 6

Week 7

### Week 4 Assessment

The due date for submitting this assignment has passed. **Due on 2017-08-23, 23:59 IST**  
As per our records you have not submitted this assignment.

1) When would the Mutation matrix Q resemble an identity matrix? Tick all correct. **1 point**

- When DNA replication is guaranteed to be error-free
- When mutations are very common
- Mutations are not permitted
- Never

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*When DNA replication is guaranteed to be error-free*

*Mutations are not permitted*

2) \_\_\_\_\_ aids induction of diversity, \_\_\_\_\_ weeds out diversity. **1 point**

- Reproduction, Selection
- Selection, Mutation
- Selection, Reproduction
- Mutation, Selection

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*Mutation, Selection*

3) What determines if the population will evolve into a local peak or a global peak? Tick all correct. **1 point**

- Ruggedness of the landscape
- Position of the starting genotype of the population
- The mutations that fix initially, determine the future mutations the population may evolve into
- The population carrying capacity

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*Position of the starting genotype of the population*

*The mutations that fix initially, determine the future mutations the population may evolve into*

*Ruggedness of the landscape*

4) Why is it extremely difficult to obtain a fitness landscape experimentally? Tick all correct. **1 point**

- The fraction of neighbour nodes from a node on a sequence space decreases exponentially with sequence length L

## Week 8

- The size of the sequence space increases exponentially with the length of the sequence
- The number of experiments to obtain the fitnesses associated with the entire landscape is very large
- It is not difficult

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*The size of the sequence space increases exponentially with the length of the sequence*

*The number of experiments to obtain the fitnesses associated with the entire landscape is very large*

5) Would a population evolving on a single peaked fitness landscape ever be composed entirely of only the fittest genotype, i.e.  $X_{\text{fittest}} = 1$ ? Tick all correct. 1 point

- Yes, if the population is small
- No, not on a single peaked landscape
- No, because of new mutations emerging, a steady-state  $X_{\text{fittest}}$  will always be less than 1
- Yes, when the optimal genotype is reached,  $X_{\text{fittest}} = 1$

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*No, because of new mutations emerging, a steady-state  $X_{\text{fittest}}$  will always be less than 1*

6) What are the assumptions in the NK Model? 1 point

- There is no relationship between sequences in the sequence space
- The landscape is rugged
- Fitness of the organism is the sum of individual contribution from components
- Binary String

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*Fitness of the organism is the sum of individual contribution from components*

*Binary String*

7) What is controlled by the tuneable parameter K in the NK model? 1 point

- The fitness contribution of one block is dependent on K length of the sequence
- The fitness contribution of one block is dependent on K other sequences
- Nothing
- The fitness contribution of one block is dependent on K other blocks

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*The fitness contribution of one block is dependent on K other blocks*

8) Find the fitness of the sequence 010101, given that  $K=0$ , and fitness contribution of 0 is 5, for 1 is 2. 1 point

- 21
- 20
- 19
- 22

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*21*

9) Which property of the fitness landscape, does the value of K describe? 1 point

- Amount of Ruggedness. As K increases, ruggedness increases.
- Amount of sequence neighbours. As K increases, neighbours increase.
- Amount of Ruggedness. As K increases, ruggedness decreases.
- Amount of sequence neighbours. As K increases, neighbours decrease.

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*Amount of Ruggedness. As K increases, ruggedness increases.*

10) Find the hamming distance between 123456789 and 123465789. 1 point

- 1
- 2
- 4
- 0

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

2

11) Is it possible to mutate into a sequence that is 2 Hamming distance away in one step? Justify. 1 point

- No, because only one mutation can happen at a time.
- Yes, by acquiring 2 mutations in one replication cycle. Possible only if the genotype has high fitness.
- Yes, by acquiring 2 mutations in one replication cycle. However since the probability of mutation is low, such an occurrence will be very rare.
- No, because selection will not favour it.

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

*Yes, by acquiring 2 mutations in one replication cycle. However since the probability of mutation is low, such an occurrence will be very rare.*

12) What is the hamming distance between two distinct sequences that are at 1 Hamming distance away from one parent sequence? 1 point

- 0
- 2
- 3
- 1

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**

2

13) Why is it reasonable to assume that mutant genotypes do not mutate back into the parent genotype, when all genotypes have same fitness? 1 point

- The parent genotype is too far away, other mutant sequences are closer to access.
- It is not a reasonable assumption, because the absolute probability is non-zero and will lead to a wrong conclusion.
- The parent genotype is only one possibility among the many other genotypes the mutant species could mutate into. Thus, relatively the probability is very low, and assumed as zero.
- The parent genotype is less fit, therefore such a back mutation is not favoured by selection.

**No, the answer is incorrect.**

**Score: 0**

**Accepted Answers:**



*The parent genotype is only one possibility among the many other genotypes the mutant species could mutate into. Thus, relatively the probability is very low, and assumed as zero.*

◀ Previous Page

End ▶



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