

# Supporting Information: Repeatability of evolution on epistatic landscapes

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## General Probability Generating Functions

In the main text we considered only the case where each individual has to die or divide in every time step. Here we relax this assumption and consider a more realistic scenario where only some individuals proliferate or die, whereas others do not take any action at all (Fig. A.1). Then, the probability generating functions for the four types: wild type, individuals with mutation  $A$ , individuals with mutation  $B$ , and individuals with both mutations are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} f_{ab}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{ab} + (1 - b_{ab} - d_{ab})s_{ab} + b_{ab}((1 - \mu_A - \mu_B)s_{ab} + \mu_A s_{Ab} + \mu_B s_{aB})^2, \\ f_{Ab}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{Ab} + (1 - b_{Ab} - d_{Ab})s_{Ab} + b_{Ab}((1 - \mu_B^A)s_{Ab} + \mu_B^A s_{AB})^2, \\ f_{aB}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{aB} + (1 - b_{aB} - d_{aB})s_{aB} + b_{aB}((1 - \mu_A^B)s_{aB} + \mu_A^B s_{AB})^2, \\ f_{AB}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{AB} + (1 - b_{AB} - d_{AB})s_{AB} + b_{AB}s_{AB}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

The functions are similar to the scenario of binary splitting (cf. Eq. 8 in the main text). There is only one term added:  $(1 - b_i - d_i)s_i$ ,  $i \in \{ab, Ab, aB, AB\}$  which denotes the case of the individual neither dividing nor dying. To make the model even more realistic one could also

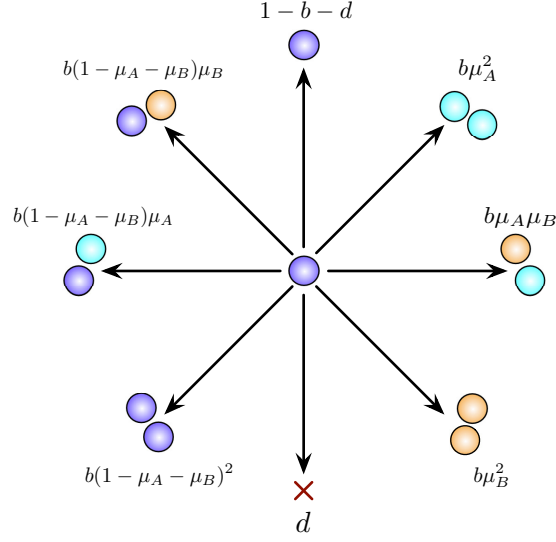


Figure A.1: **Process described by the general pgf.** An individual can either die, proliferate, or neither and just live. If it proliferates the offspring can mutate. In case of including back mutations additional mutation terms appear leading as in Eq. (A.2).

include back mutations,

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{ab}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{ab} + (1 - b_{ab} - d_{ab})s_{ab} + b_{ab}((1 - \mu_A - \mu_B)s_{ab} + \mu_A s_{Ab} + \mu_B s_{aB})^2 \\
 f_{Ab}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{Ab} + (1 - b_{Ab} - d_{Ab})s_{Ab} + b_{Ab}((1 - \mu_{ab}^A - \mu_B^A)s_{Ab} + \mu_{ab}^A s_{ab} + \mu_B^A s_{AB})^2 \\
 f_{aB}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{aB} + (1 - b_{aB} - d_{aB})s_{aB} + b_{aB}((1 - \mu_{ab}^B - \mu_A^B)s_{aB} + \mu_{ab}^B s_{ab} + \mu_A^B s_{AB})^2 \\
 f_{AB}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) &= d_{AB} + (1 - b_{AB} - d_{AB})s_{AB} \\
 &\quad + b_{AB}((1 - \mu_A^{AB} - \mu_B^{AB})s_{AB} + \mu_A^{AB} s_{Ab} + \mu_B^{AB} s_{aB})^2
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{A.2}$$

- 5 If the fitness landscape is rugged, i.e. having multiple local optima, they would be inaccessible
- 6 from certain “downstream” directions if back mutations are not allowed. Hence allowing back
- 7 mutations, allows to have a rugged fitness landscape with local optima accessible from multiple
- 8 directions. The probability generating functions seem more complex, but the principle of the
- 9 computation as discussed in the main text does not change at all.

## 10 Time distribution

11 Here, we give a more detailed description on how to calculate the time distribution for the  
 12 minimal model with four types, and two paths, but with back mutations.

1. Calculate the extinction probability of the final mutant type  $AB$  as in [1]

$$e_{AB} = \frac{d_{AB} + b_{AB} (\mu_A^{AB} + \mu_B^{AB})^2}{b_{AB}(1 - \mu_A^{AB} - \mu_B^{AB})^2}. \quad (\text{A.3})$$

13 Note, that without back mutations the extinction probability reduces to  $e_{AB} = \frac{d_{AB}}{b_{AB}}$  as in  
 14 the main text.

2. Until some  $t_{max}$  calculate recursively

$$\begin{aligned} f_{AB}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{AB} + (1 - b_{AB} - d_{AB})f_{AB}^{\circ(t-1)} \\ &\quad + b_{AB} \left( (1 - \mu_A^{AB} - \mu_B^{AB})f_{AB}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_A^{AB}f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_B^{AB}f_{aB}^{\circ(t-1)} \right)^2, \\ f_{aB}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{aB} + (1 - b_{aB} - d_{aB})f_{aB}^{\circ(t-1)} + b_{aB} \left( (1 - \mu_A^B - \mu_{aB}^B)f_{aB}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_{aB}^Bf_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_A^Bf_{AB}^{\circ(t-1)} \right)^2, \\ f_{Ab}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{Ab} + (1 - b_{Ab} - d_{Ab})f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + b_{Ab} \left( (1 - \mu_B^A - \mu_{aB}^A)f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_{aB}^A f_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_B^A f_{AB}^{\circ(t-1)} \right)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) := f_{ab}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{ab} + (1 - b_{ab} - d_{ab})f_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} \\ &\quad + b_{ab} \left( (1 - \mu_A - \mu_B)f_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_A f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_B f_{aB}^{\circ(t-1)} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

15 where  $f_{aB}^{\circ(0)} = f_{Ab}^{\circ(0)} = f_{ab}^{\circ(0)} = 1$  and  $f_{AB}^{\circ(0)} = e_{AB}$ . Note, that without back mutations  
 16 these functions would not be coupled anymore and one can first calculate  $f_{Ab}^t$  and  $f_{aB}^t$   
 17 for all  $t$ , since those functions would not depend on  $f_{ab}$ . Moreover,  $f_{AB}^{\circ(t)}$  would be equal  
 18 to  $e_{AB} \forall t$ . Hence, one would not need to recursively calculate  $f_{AB}^{\circ(t)}$ . However, the  
 19 complexity does not change.

3. The probability to get the final, successful  $AB$  mutant, i.e. an individual that produces a lineage that does not die out again, exactly at time  $t$  is

$$\tau(t) = f^N(t-1) - f^N(t). \quad (\text{A.5})$$

20 where  $N$  is the number of individuals in the beginning. Calculating this for all  $t \in$   
 21  $\{0, \dots, t_{max}\}$  we obtain the time distribution.

## 22 Single-Path time distribution

23 Here, we explain the computation of the probability distribution of the pathway via type  $Ab$   
 24 exemplarily. Allowing back mutations it is unclear how to specify different mutational pathways.  
 25 For instance for the pathway  $ab \rightarrow aB \rightarrow ab \rightarrow Ab \rightarrow AB$  it is obscure to say via which type  
 26 the final mutant has been reached. Obviously the final mutant has been reached via type  $Ab$ , but  
 27 it might be necessary for the population to first reach type  $aB$ . Hence,  $aB$  might play a vital  
 28 role for reaching  $AB$ , too. For this reason we neglect back mutations in the computation of the  
 29 path probabilities, thus guaranteeing clear distinguishable pathways.

Let  $Ab(t)$  ( $aB(t)$ ) denote the random variable, that there is an  $AB$  mutant until time  $t$  via pathway  $Ab$  ( $aB$ ). Thus,  $\neg Ab(t)$  corresponds to the random variable, that there is no  $AB$  mutant until time  $t$  via pathway  $Ab$ . Then the probability, that the first mutant arises exactly at time  $t$  via pathway  $Ab$  (i.e. not via pathway  $aB$  beforehand) is

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{Ab}(t) &= P(Ab(t) \cap \neg Ab(t-1) \cap \neg aB(t-1)) \\ &= P(\neg Ab(t-1) \cap \neg aB(t-1)) - P(\neg Ab(t) \cap \neg aB(t-1)). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

The first term is calculated by the pgf as in Eq. (A.1). For the second term however, the time points for the different pathways are different. Let us derive a recursive function for this second term at this point. To do so, let us first consider the extinction probability for the subprocess of  $Ab \rightarrow AB$ , where the process starts with one  $Ab$  individual. As discussed previously, this extinction probability within  $t-1$  time steps can be recursively calculated by its probability generating function

$$f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} = d_{Ab} + (1 - b_{Ab} - d_{Ab})f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-2)} + b_{Ab} \left( (1 - \mu_B^A)f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-2)} + \mu_B^A e_{AB} \right)^2, \quad (\text{A.7})$$

with  $f_{Ab}^{\circ(0)} = 1$ . Similarly, the extinction probability for the subprocess  $aB \rightarrow AB$  within  $t-2$  time steps can be calculated recursively using the probability generating function for  $aB$

$$f_{aB}^{\circ(t-2)} = d_{aB} + (1 - b_{aB} - d_{aB})f_{aB}^{\circ(t-3)} + b_{aB} \left( (1 - \mu_A^B)f_{aB}^{\circ(t-3)} + \mu_A^B e_{AB} \right)^2, \quad (\text{A.8})$$

with  $f_{aB}^{\circ(0)} = 1$ . When we now consider the extinction probability of the whole process starting with an individual of type  $ab$ , we see that it can either go extinct right away, or if it divides we can refer to the individual extinction probabilities for the different types (in case of mutation), i.e. their probability generating functions

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(t)} &:= d_{ab} + (1 - b_{ab} - d_{ab})\bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + b_{ab} \left( (1 - \mu_A - \mu_B)f_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_A f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_B f_{aB}^{\circ(t-2)} \right)^2 \\ &= \bar{f}_{ab}(f_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)}, f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)}, f_{aB}^{\circ(t-2)}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

30 with  $\bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(0)} = 1$ ,  $f_{Ab}^{\circ(0)} = 1$ , and  $f_{aB}^{\circ(0)} = 1$ . Note, that in contrast to the normal probability gener-  
 31 ating function, here the probability generating function for type aB has one time step less, which  
 32 agrees with the second term in A.6. To not confuse this modified probability generating function  
 33 with the common one, we use the *bar-notation*. Again, no probability generating function for  
 34 the  $AB$ -type is necessary, since the actual extinction probability for this type is used.

We define this recursive function as

$$\bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(t)}(s_{ab}, s_{Ab}, s_{aB}, s_{AB}) := \bar{f}^{(Ab)}(t). \quad (\text{A.10})$$

35 The index  $Ab$  denotes, that this is the modified probability generating function for the pathway  
 36 via  $Ab$ .

37 With this we now describe the algorithm for the path probability.

- 38 1. Calculate the extinction probability of the final mutant type  $AB$  as above.
- 39 2. Until some  $t_{max}$  calculate recursively  $f(t)$  as explained above in Eq. A.4.
- 40 3. Until some  $t_{max}$  calculate recursively

$$\begin{aligned} f_{aB}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{aB} + (1 - b_{aB} - d_{aB})f_{aB}^{\circ(t-1)} + b_{aB} \left( (1 - \mu_A^B)f_{aB}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_A^B e_{AB} \right)^2, \\ f_{Ab}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{Ab} + (1 - b_{Ab} - d_{Ab})f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + b_{Ab} \left( (1 - \mu_B^A)f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_B^A e_{AB} \right)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f}^{(Ab)}(t) := \bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(t)} &= d_{ab} + (1 - b_{ab} - d_{ab})\bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} \\ &+ b_{ab} \left( (1 - \mu_A - \mu_B)\bar{f}_{ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_A f_{Ab}^{\circ(t-1)} + \mu_B f_{aB}^{\circ(t-2)} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

41 where  $f_{aB}^0 = f_{aB}^{-1} = f_{Ab}^0 = f_{ab}^0 = 1$ . Note, that the only difference is that the probability  
 42 generating function of types not along the pathway considered is one time step behind  
 43 (marked in red). This is also the reason, why there are two initial conditions needed for  
 44 type  $aB$ .

4. The probability to get the final, successful  $AB$  mutant exactly at time  $t$  via path  $Ab$  and not getting a successful  $AB$  mutant beforehand is then computed by

$$\rho_{Ab} = f^N(t-1) - \left( \bar{f}^{(Ab)}(t) \right)^N. \quad (\text{A.12})$$

45 Analogously one can calculate the path probability for reaching the final mutant via  $aB$ .  
 46 Note, that while this computation gives the correct path probabilities, the sum over all paths

47 can be slightly greater than the overall time distribution. This is due to the fact, that in time  
48 discrete systems the final mutant can be reached by different pathways at the same time. In the  
49 description here, such cases count for all pathways that succeed at the time.

## 50 **References**

51 [1] K. B. Athreya and P. E. Ney. *Branching Processes*. Springer, Berlin, 1972.