

# Supplementary Note for Measuring Intolerance to Mutation in Human Genetics

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## 1 Simulating PTV Counts

### 1.1 Background

The basis of our forward simulations was developed in Simons *et al.* (2014)<sup>1</sup> and further modified in Amorim *et al.* (2017)<sup>2</sup> and Simons *et al.* (2018)<sup>3</sup>. A key modification here, is that instead of simulating the frequencies of deleterious alleles, we are interested in recording the distinct number of segregating sites in a population for a finite number of mutational opportunities  $M$ .

Our model assumes that each mutational opportunity is a biallelic site in a diploid individual. Following our notation from the main manuscript, we assume that there are two possible alleles at a site: wild-type ( $A$ ) and deleterious ( $D$ ). Here, protein truncating variants (PTVs) are modeled as the  $D$  allele. At each site, mutations from  $A \rightarrow D$  arise at a rate  $u$  per-gamete per-generation and can only arise on a background currently free of other PTV mutations (as is highly likely). Generations are formed by Wright-Fisher sampling with selection, modeled by choosing parents for each generation according to their fitness. The fitnesses of individuals with genotypes  $AA$ ,  $AD$ , and  $DD$  are 1,  $1 - hs$ , and  $1 - s$ , respectively, where  $s$  is the selection coefficient and  $h$  is the dominance coefficient. We assume no intragenic recombination.

### 1.2 Constant Population Size Model

We considered a human gene of typical length *i.e.*, 225 PTV mutational opportunities —the average number in the human genome. Mutations arise at rate  $u = 1.5 \times 10^{-8}$  per mutational opportunity  $M$ . While this value of  $u$  is only approximate, it yields realistic numbers of PTVs; the qualitative conclusions are the same for other choices. We first simulated PTVs in a constant population of diploid individuals of size  $N = 100,000$ , reflective of the more recent time period relevant to the dynamics of deleterious mutations<sup>2</sup>, and ran each simulation for  $10N$  generations. The number of segregating PTVs are estimated from a sample size of diploid 33,370 individuals drawn at present, to match the number of non-Finnish Europeans (NFE) in ExAC<sup>4</sup>.

### 1.3 Plausible Demographic Model

We simulated the dynamics of PTVs under a plausible model of changes in the effective population size of Europeans inferred by Schiffels & Durbin (2014)<sup>5</sup>. Again, we considered a human gene with  $M=225$  and  $u = 1.5 \times 10^{-8}$ . Each simulation begins with a constant population size  $N$  of 14,448 (the ancestral size inferred by<sup>5</sup>) and a burn-in of  $10N$  generations to create an equilibrium distribution of segregating sites. The first population size change occurs 55,490 generations ago. Following<sup>3</sup>, the population size changes and the generations they occur at are determined by piecing together the multiple sequentially Markovian coalescent (MSMC) inferences from European (CEU) HapMap individuals<sup>5</sup> of four haplotypes for times corresponding to  $< 170$  Kya and two haplotypes for more ancient times

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> 170 Kya. At the last generation, corresponding to the present, the number of PTVs segregating in the population are estimated from a sample size matching the number of NFE individuals in ExAC<sup>4</sup>.

## 2 Calculating pLI

Lek *et al.* consider that a gene can belong to one of three categories: null, recessive, and haploinsufficient ( $c \in \{Null, Rec, HI\}$ )<sup>4</sup>. For a gene  $i$ , the probability of being loss-of-function intolerant, pLI, is defined as:

$$pLI_i = \frac{p(Z_i = HI | \pi_{HI}, PTV_i)}{\sum_c p(Z_i = c | \pi_c, PTV_i)} \quad (1)$$

where  $Z$  is the unobserved class label,  $PTV_i$  represents the observed number of PTVs in gene  $i$ , and  $\pi_c$  represents the proportion of all genes that belong to category  $c$ . Using an expectation-maximization algorithm, Lek *et al.* find the maximum-likelihood estimate (MLE) for  $\pi_{HI}$  used in the calculation of pLI. Here, we used the MLE of  $\pi$ , *i.e.*, the final mixing weights of each category, obtained from ExAC ( $\pi_{Null} = 0.208$ ,  $\pi_{Rec} = 0.489$ , and  $\pi_{HI} = 0.304$ )<sup>4</sup>. The probability of a gene ( $p(Z_i = c | \pi_c, PTV_i)$ ) belonging to each category  $c$  is found as:

$$p(Z_i = c | \pi_c, PTV_i) = \frac{Pois(PTV_i | N\lambda_c)\pi_c}{\sum_c Pois(PTV_i | N\lambda_c)\pi_c} \quad (2)$$

where  $Pois$  is the Poisson likelihood,  $N$  is the sample size, and  $\lambda_c$  is the expected amount of depletion of PTVs for a category  $c$  ( $\lambda_{Null} = 1$ ,  $\lambda_{Rec} = 0.463$ ,  $\lambda_{HI} = 0.089$ ). Thus,  $N\lambda_c$  is the expected number of PTVs in a gene for a category  $c$ . Lek *et al.* find the expected number of PTVs under neutrality ( $N\lambda_{Null}$ ) in each gene using a method introduced by<sup>6</sup>. Here, in our simulations for a given gene we determined the expected number of PTVs under neutrality by averaging over  $10^6$  replicates with  $h = 0$  and  $s = 0$ . Then, using this number as  $N\lambda_{Null}$  we calculated pLI for any observed number of PTVs (*i.e.*,  $PTV_i$ ) generated in a given simulation replicate of that gene with various  $h$  and  $s$  parameter combinations. Since we used the true expected number of PTVs under neutrality, rather than an estimate (as is the case in practice<sup>4</sup>), we are somewhat under-estimating the variability in pLI scores.

## 3 Data Availability

The C++ code and accompanying scripts used for analysis and visualization are available [online](#).

## References

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