

The Family of F Coefficients

The Inbreeding coefficient, f

The Math: Derived from the coefficient of consanguinity(kinship): Pr(that 2 randomly chosen alleles are Identical By Descent (IBD))

The Concept: The probability that an INDIVIDUAL has two alleles at a locus that are IBD

$$f = \sum_{i=1}^p \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n_i} (1 + f_{ai})$$

Inbreeding and heterozygosity

Some really ugly math reduces & tells us that inbreeding reduces heterozygosity:

$$H_f = H_r(1 - f)$$

Which rearranges to:

$$f = \frac{H_r - H_f}{H_r}$$

Which looks a lot like testing deviation from HW...

Inbreeding and heterozygosity

Thus there are two interpretations of f , the *inbreeding coefficient*

1. f is the probability that two alleles within an individual are IBD, and
2. f is the proportionate reduction in heterozygosity of an inbred population relative to the reference population

The Family of F coefficients

Sewell Wright, 1951

We can use this deviation from heterozygosity to measure population subdivision:

- Within Subpopulations (F_{IS})
- Due to Subdivision Alone (F_{ST})
- Within a total population (F_{IT})

Within Subpops: F_{IS}

Assuming that all populations are the same size, the average deviation in heterozygosities within subpops is:

$$F_{IS} = \frac{H_S - H_I}{H_S}$$

Factors affecting within population: drift, selection, inbreeding, assortative mating; can vary from -1 to +1

Due to subdivision: F_{ST}

Assuming all pops the same size, the avg. deviation in heterozygosities due to subdivision alone is:

$$F_{ST} = \left(\frac{H_T - H_S}{H_T} \right)$$

Factors affecting among subpops: drift, selection, Wahlund Effect; can vary from 0 to +1

Total population: F_{IT}

Assuming all pops the same size,
average deviation in total population:

$$F_{IT} = \frac{H_T - H_I}{H_T}$$

Factors affecting at level of total pop:
drift, selection, inbreeding, Wahlund;
can vary from -1 to +1

The family of F coefficients...

These terms are NOT additive:

$$(1 - F_{IT}) = (1 - F_{IS})(1 - F_{ST})$$

F_{ST} - dev. due to subdivision

- This is the most commonly used of the 3
- Used to elucidate population structure
- Higher value indicates more division/less gene flow
- Several variations exist:

F_{ST} - alternate versions

Nei's (1973,1977) G_{ST} developed for cases of multiple loci. His *Coefficient of Gene Diversity* looks like F_{ST} , but takes into account expected gene diversity based on multiple alleles. G_{ST} and F_{ST} are often used interchangeably in the literature.

F_{ST} - alternate versions

Hedrick (1999, 2005) pointed out some problems with Nei's G_{ST} - namely that the range may not vary from 0 to 1 (as F_{ST} does) and can be small even if the subpops have non-overlapping alleles

He proposed a standardization:

Hedrick, 2005, *Evolution* 59(8) that is worth reading if you work with msats or mtDNA

F_{ST} - alternate versions

Slatkin (1995) proposed R_{ST} as a statistic to estimate demographic parameters from microsatellite loci.

- assumes generalized stepwise mutation model at msat loci w/in same species
- using R_{ST} and F_{ST} together may shed light on time scales of populations of interest

F_{ST} - alternate versions

Weir and Cockerham (1984) proposed Θ for *pairs* of alleles between individuals within populations.

- Depends on population size and history
- Doesn't depend on sampling scheme:
numbers of alleles/locus, sample size per population, number of populations sampled

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For anyone keeping score, this paper has been cited 3460X

So why can't we just use F_{ST} all the time?

- “ Under certain conditions, inappropriate for gene flow estimation & can lead to incorrect or absurd conclusions” (Neigel 2002)
- When gene flow is weak/ N_e is large- small amounts of gene flow can overcome weak drift and give an F_{ST} near 0
- When F_{ST} is small, the variance of its estimator generates a large variance in estimator of N_m

So why can't we just use F_{ST} all the time?

If drift and gene flow are both weak...

- Can calculate precise equilibrium F_{ST} , but observed value may differ due to time to reach equilibrium
- This is particularly applicable to large, historically connected populations that are now isolated

So why can't we just use F_{ST} all the time?

If drift and gene flow are both weak...

- Effects of other forces (e.g. mutation and selection) may be significant. (esp. mutation)
- When N_e is small (<1000) and rate of mutation is lower than migration, insensitive to mutation rate
- Large populations, markers with high mutation rates (e.g. mtDNA, msats), effect of mutation can be high

So why can't we just use F_{ST} all the time?

- F_{ST} estimates are based on cumulative effects
- b/c of this averaging, not good estimates between specific pairs w/in networks or for estimating instantaneous rates of gene flow

