PATTERNS OF SINGLE-GENE INHERITANCE

Part 1

Genetics implies variation

- Genetics = study of inheritance of characters (= traits = features)
- No genetics if no variation







Artificial cross-pollinization



Cross 2 pure strains that differ for 1 character (monohybrid cross)



> All purple: not simple dilution



3:1 Ratio

Fixed proportions of phenotypes in offspring



Prior Hypothesis: trait dilution



Prior Hypothesis: trait dilution



Prior Hypothesis: trait dilution



Cross 2 pure strains that differ for 1 character (monohybrid cross)



Prior hypothesis: trait dilution

Experimental evidence





Cross 2 pure strains that differ for 1 character (monohybrid cross)



- Smooth or wrinkled
- All F1 individuals are smooth (= filia 1)
 S character is dominant, wrinkled is récessif
- But wrinkled character reappeasr in F2 !
 25% of F2 individuals are wrinkled
- Best explianed by INDEPENDANT SEGREGATION of 2 allelomorphic variants of one hereditary factor: S or s

The 7 character differences studied by Mendel





Dihybrid cross (2 characters)

- Independent assortment of hereditary character
- Ratio 9:3:3:1 of phenotypes



Punnett square



_	SY	Sy	sY	sy
sy	<mark>sS</mark> yY	sSyy	<mark>ss</mark> yY	ssyy
	1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4
	Smooth	Smooth	rough	rough
	Yellow	green	Yellow	green

Backcross

- Cross F1 hybrid (SsYy) with a double recessive homozygote (ssyy)
- Unmasks the genotype of the F1
 hybrid
- With independent assortment of hereditary factors, expect phenotypes in the following proportions: .25/.25/.25/.25

Mendel's observations

- Uniformity of hybrids in first generation (F1)
- Independent segregation of several couples of characters in second generation (F2)
 - « purity of gametes: each contain only one hereditary factor for one character » = one allele of each gene
- Independent disjunction of characters in F2

Mendel's laws

1. Law of **segregation**

Each gamete contains or or the other of the two allelomorphic factors (alleles)
 later found to fit meiotic separation of pat and mat chromosomes

2. Law of independent assortment

 Pairs of alleles from different genes enter gametes independetly of one another

except if genes closely located on same chromosome (linkage)

Independant segregation of the two alleles of each gene

Loci, genes, alleles, mutation

- Locus = position in genome
 - gene, or contiguous genes (HLA locus), or SNP, any piece of DNA
- Alleles = alternative variants at one locus
 - Prevailing allele = wild type
- Mutation = change in an allele causing a change in phenotype
- Genotype = individual set of alleles at one locus, or several loci, or whole genome (*music score*)
- Phenotype = observable expression of a genotype (concert)
 - Morphological
 - Clinical
 - Cellular
 - Biochemical
 - ...
- Pleiotropy = diversity of phenotypic effects
- Gene = ?





Sexual reproduction



The genome: 20.000 genes, 2 copies each





Synteny, linkage, LD

- Synteny = location on the same chromosome
 = pieces of one colinear DNA molecule
- Linkage = synteny close enough for transmission together in >50% gametes
- LDisequilibrium = association of particular alleles at linked loci
 < close linkage / recent ancestor

Meiosis produces diversity by assembly



Ultimate origin of diversity = mutation

Meiotic Recombinations (crossing-overs)



- 1 cM = distance between loci that are separated in 1% gametes
 - =>genetic distance, genetic map
 - (genetic linkage map)
- 1 cM <u>≈</u> 1Mb. 3000 cM, 3 Gb.
- Recombinations mix the alleles
 => equilibrium
- At least 1 Cr-ov per chromosomal arm

Genetic linkage map (cM), physical map (Mb)



 $1 \text{ cM} \equiv 1 \text{ Mb} (1.000.000 \text{ bp})$

Hemochromatosis: excessive avidity for iron

- Genetic basis, essentially AR, HFE gene
- HFE gene linked to HLA-A gene



 Mutated allele HFE* C282Y which causes hemochromatosis is associated with allele HLA-A3





Linkage disequilibrium LD

- HLA-A3 :
 - General population : 15%
 - Hemochromatosis : 70%
- Mutation appeared 1! x not too long ago

Most common HFE mutation appeared 70 generations ago in a celtic, HLA-A3 subject



Linkage disequilibrium(LD)

- Locus K,L,M,N Locus a,b,c,d
 a remains with K
 f(a,K) >> f(a) . f(K)
 - Locus P,Q,R Locus x, y

 $f(x,P) = f(x) \cdot f(P)$



Genetic characters / disorders (traits)

• Single-gene (monofactorial)

Mendelian: fixed proportions in offspring

+ mtDNA: maternal-inherited

Chromosomal

• Complex

Phenotype inheritance from single-gene cause

- AD Htz mutation
- AR Bi-allelic mutation
- X-linked Hemizygous mutation
- maternal mtDNA mutation

NECESSARY and SUFFICIENT to cause disease

>5000 diseases. See http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?db=omim

MUTATION AFFECTING HEALTH as % of live birth

X-linked Total gene mutation :	<u>0.25</u> <u>0.05</u> 1.20
 GENOME / CHROMOSOME MUTATION Autosomal trisomies (mainly T21) Other unbalanced autosomal aberrations Balanced autosomal aberrations XO, XXX, XXY 	0.14 0.06 0.19 <u>0.21</u>

Impact of genetic diseases





* 3% [live] newborns

** 3 % general population

Symbols in pedigree charts



Asy for e

1

Asymptomatic Carrier male, female for dominant autosomal trait)
Working pedigree





Ovarian cancer

consanguinity

- Always enquire specifically about consanguinity
 - Are your parents cousins? (first cousins, ...)
 - Are your grandparents (!) « cross-related » ?
- Annotate the pedigree, also if not consanguineous : 'n.c.'





Degrees of relationship



Patterns of single gene inheritance

AUTOSOMAL DOMINANT

<u>AD phenotype</u>: vertical transmission. Genotype: hts mutation in autosome.



- Risk in each offspring = 50%
- M et F equally affected, equally transmitting
- Male to male transmission possible
- *: Neomutation (fresh mutation): AD disease starts here.
 - No ethnical prevalence (rare exceptions).
 - Increased mean paternal age.

Punnett square Probability of genotype in offspring



Huntington : autosomal dominant inheritance

NATURE VOL. 306 17 NOVEMBER 1983

Gusella et al.



=> One single genetic factor causes disease (monofactorial, genetic).

Huntington disease





(a) Normal volunteer (Courtesy of Dr M. Lowry, Hull, UK.)



(b) Huntington's disease

- Neurons in striatum (caudate nucleus) degenerate
- ↓ GABA

AD = approximation

• Dominance: phenotype independent of 2nd allele

 Semi-dominance (incomplete dominance): hmz expresses trait more than htz : eg, achondro lasia
 Co-dominance:

both alleles expressed : eg, ABO blood group

Dominant



 $RR = Rw \neq ww$



Clinical variability of genetic phenotypes

- **PENETRANCE**: % of mutation carriers who express phenotype
- **EXPRESSIVITY**: clinical severity of the phenotype.



Incomplete penetrance:

* « non-penetrant » subject :

=> Age-related penetrance

=> Sex-related penetrance

Incomplete penetrance

PENETRANCE: % of mutation carriers who express phenotype







Incomplete penetrance



Age-related penetrance

<u>MEN2</u>

- Medullary Thyroid Carcin Pheochromocytoma hyperPTH
- Some have MTC < 15 yrs
- 30% have no sign at 70 yrs



Sex- and age- related penetrance





Struewing et al. 1997, NEJM 336: 1401-8.

Incomplete penetrance



Male-limited precocious puberty is a sex-limited AD dis. expressed only in males



Figure 7-7 Male-limited precocious puberty, a sex-limited autosomal dominant disorder expressed exclusively in males. This child, at 4.75 years, is 120 cm in height (above the 97th percentile for his age). Note the muscle bulk and precocious development of the external genitalia. Epiphyseal fusion occurs at an early age, and affected persons are relatively short as adults.



Figure 7-8 Part of a large pedigree of male-limited precocious puberty in the family of the child shown in Figure 7-7. This autosomal dominant disorder can be transmitted by affected males or by unaffected carrier females. Male-to-male transmission shows that inheritance is autosomal, not X-linked. Transmission of the trait through carrier females shows that inheritance cannot be Y-linked. Arrow indicates proband.

Variable expressivity

Mecanisms :

- Genetic
 - Mutated locus, 2nd allele
 - Modifyer gene(s)
 - Dynamic Mutations (rare)
- Epigenetic
- Environnemental
- Stochastic



NF1



Variable expressivity, intrafamilial

- Same family, same mutation
- Hence, mere detection of mutation (eg prenatally) does not predict severity
- Especially if loss-of-fn mutation
- ex: NF1



Huntington : anticipation



Anticipation = clinical observation (phenotype)

Molecular correlate : progressive expansion of triplets with generations

Near-mendelian inheritance

- Penetrance all-or-nothing presence of phenotype (on/off button)
 - Complete penetrance
 - Incomplete penetrance
- Expressivity quantitative (volume button)
 - Mild, moderate, severe expressivity
- Phenocopy acquired, non-inherited mimic
- Anticipation increased expressivity over generations

Huntington Disease(HD)

1	TTGCTGTGTGAGGCAGAACCTGCGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG	SCCCC
121	CGCGGCCCCGCCTCCGCCGGCGCACGTCTGGGACGCCAAGGCGCCGTGGGGGGCTGCCGGGACGGGTCCAAGATGGACGGCCGCTCAGGTTCTGCTTTTACCTGCGGCCCAGAGCCC	CATTC
241 1	ATTGCCCCGGTGCTGAGCGGCGCGCGCGAGTCGGCCGAGGCCTCCGGGGACTGCCGGGGGGGG	TCAAG
361 16	TCCTTCCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAG	CTCAG
481 56	CCGCCGCCGCAGGCACAGCCGCTGCTGCCTCAGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGGCCG	S S
601 96	GCTACCAAGAAAGACCGTGTGAATCATTGTCTGACAATATGTGAAAACATAGTGGCACAGTCTGTCAGAAATTCTCCAGAATTTCAGAAACTTCTGGGCATCGCTATGGAACTTT A T K K D R V N H C L T I C E N I V A Q S V R N S P E F Q K L L G I A M E L F	TTCTG
721 1 36	CTGTGCAGTGATGACGCAGAGTCAGATGTCAGGATGGTGGCTGACGAATGCCTCAACAAAGTTATCAAAGCTTTGATGGATTCTAATCTTCCAAGGTTACAGCTCGAGCTCTATA L C S D D A E S D V R M V A D E C L N K V I K A L M D S N L P R L Q L E L Y P	AGGAA E
841 176	ATTAAAAAGAATGGTGCCCCTCGGAGTTTGCGTGCCCTGTGGAGGTTTGCTGAGCTGGCTCACCTGGTTCGGCCTCAGAAATGCAGGCCTTACCTGGTGAACCTTCTGCCGT I K K N G A P R S L R A A L W R F A E L A H L V R P Q K C R P Y L V N L L P (GCCTG
961 216	ACTCGAACAAGCAAGAGACCCGAAGAATCAGTCCAGGAGACCTTGGCTGCAGCTGTTCCCAAAATTATGGCTTCTTTTGGCAATTTGGAAATGACAATGAAAATTAAGGTTTTGT T R T S K R P E E S V Q E T L A A A V P K I M A S F G N F A N D N E I K V L L	TAAAG K
1081 256	GCCTTCATAGCGAACCTGAAGTCAAGCTCCCCCACCATTCGGCGGCAGCGCGGCTGGATCAGCAGTGGGCATCTGCCAGCACTCAAGAAGGACACAATATTTCTATAGTTGGCTAC A F I A N L K S S S P T I R R T A A G S A V S I C Q H S R R T Q Y F Y S W L I	TAAAT N

- (CAG)n, coding for (GIn)n, N-term part
- n is polymorphic, < 35 , stable, in general population
- n est > 40 in HD chromosomes . And unstable when transmitted, especially through male.
- Larger n causes more severe disease. Explains 2/3 of variability.

HD: dynamic mutation



- $n \uparrow \Rightarrow age at onset \downarrow$.
- Statistical only.
 No reliable individual predictions.
- Anticipation parallels 1 n over generations.

Ascertainment bias (not linked to anticipation)



- A: retrospective: patients who consulted because of symptoms
 → biased for increased severity, earlier onset
- B: prospective: mutation carriers.
 - \rightarrow Includes those who would not have consulted.

Variable expressivity interpreted as anticipation



May be reported as possible anticipation



Not reported as possible anticipation

Less frequent (reduced fitness)

Some mecanism for dominance

Most genes have robust functional reserve:

>10% gene activity (e.g. enzymic) enough for normal fn ==> why phenotype in htz?

- Haploinsufficiency (>50% not enough)
- Gain of toxic fn
- Dominant negative effet (multimer)
- Somatic mutation of 2nd allele frequent
- Dose effect (triplication)
- Ectopic expression

- →Acute intermittent Porphyria
- \rightarrow Huntington
- \rightarrow Marfan, THR,
- \rightarrow Cancers héréditaires
- \rightarrow Charcot Marie Tooth
- → Corticoids-remediable HTN

Dominant negative (antimorphic) alleles



- Mutated allele loses fn AND interferes with wt allele
- >1 subunit (dimers, multimers):
 1 mutation hampers whole structure





- Usually causse more severe phenotype than null mutation
 - Ostogenesis imperfecta
 - Marfan

Mutations affect Fitness

- Natural selection favours or hampers chances to transmit gene
 - Survival, up to reproducing age
 - Find a mate (sexual selection)
 - Be fertile
 - Raise children to reach reproducing age
 - ...
- Positive selection (adaptive change)
- Negative selection (purifying selection)
 - Fitness = (# offspring) / (mean # offspring in population)

ex: f=.95

after 10 generations: $.95^{10} = .60$ after 20 generations: $.95^{20} = .36$ after 100 generations: $.95^{100} = .0060$

New mutations (fresh mut, neomutations)

- Sporadic. No ethnic preponderance
- Cause a fraction of AD cases, disease-specific
- Fraction reflect effect of disease on fitness (f)
 - f = (No offspring of individual) / (mean No offspring in population)

\neg

disease	% neomutations
Huntington Chorea	< 1%
Fam Adenom Polyposis	10-25%
Polykystosis	25%
NF1	50%
Tuberous sclerosis	80%
Achondroplasia	90%
Lethal OI	~100%

New mutation lethal OI

- Procollagen gene, hts mutation, lethal phenotype (fitness = 0)
- New mutations only



Achondroplasia





- FGFR3 gene
- Neomutations
 => no LD with
 close markers in
 different subjects

New mutations are more frequent in male germ-line + paternal age effect



DNA replication: mutation rate 10^{-10} 2 x 3.10⁹ bp/cell 10^{11} cells

This is true for point mutations

Large deletions are more frequent in female transmission

New mutations in AD disease

- f = fitness μ = mutation rate / generation q = allele frequency
- µ = (1-f)q $f = 0 \rightarrow q = \mu$









Neomutation in germline



- Affects one allele
- In one gamete
- heterozygous
- May be lethal in utero
- Or asymptomatic
- Or in between: phenotype in heterozygous carrier subject

Typically

- 30-60 new point mut in newborn
- Of which 1 is in coding sequence
Mosaic



Neomutation in one postmitotic cell during development

Heterozygous

Phenotype if mutation produces dominant effect in mutated cells

Somatic mosaic: segmental NF1



FC Victor Dermatology Online Journal 11 (4): 20

NF1 gene mutation, in population of patient's cells Sporadic





Mosaic



Neomutation in one postmitotic cell during development Heterozygous Phenotype if mutation produces dominant effect in mutated cells Proportion of mutation in individual = 0 - 50%

Somatic and/or germ-line mosaic



Germ-line mosaic in lethal OI

- Procollagen gene, hts mutation, lethal phenotype (fitness = 0)
- New mutations only
- 2 affected children here because germ-line mosaic in father (no mutation in bone cells)



Germ-line mosaics





Figure 7-18 Pedigrees demonstrating two affected siblings with the autosomal dominant disorder Marfan syndrome (Family A) and the X-linked condition Becker muscular dystrophy (Family B). In Family A, the affected children have the same point mutation inherited from their father, who is unaffected and does not carry the mutation in DNA from examined somatic tissues. He must have been a mosaic for the *FBN1* mutation in his germline. In Family B, the affected children have the same point mutation inherited from their mother who is unaffected and does not carry the mutation in his germline. In Family B, the affected children have the same point mutation inherited from their mother who is unaffected and does not carry the mutation in DNA from examined somatic tissues. She must have been a mosaic for the *DMD* mutation in her germline.

Parent-of-origin effect

See part about Genomic Imprinting



Figure 7-19 Pedigree of a family with paraganglioma syndrome 1 caused by a mutation in the *SDHD* gene. Individuals II-1, II-2, II-4, III-2, III-3, III-9, III-10, IV-6, IV-7, IV-11, and IV-14 each inherited the mutation from their mothers but are unaffected. However, when the males in this group pass on the mutation, those children can be affected. In addition to the imprinting, the family also demonstrates the effect of reduced and age-dependent penetrance in the children (III-6, IV-10, IV-17) of heterozygous fathers. The + and – symbols refer to the presence or absence of the *SDHD* mutation in this family.

Gene interactions



Siamese cat Himalayan mouse Himalayan rabbit

•

t° -sensitive allele in C gene of colour deposition. Recessive. C^h/C^h prevents colour deposition in warmer parts of the body

 Albino cat: No pigment produced (tyrosinase -/-)





EPISTASIS

epistatic gene (Albino) masks the effect of another gene (Siamese)





Siamese albino







Non-Siamese albino

Patterns of single-gene inheritance

AUTOSOMAL RECESSIVE



AR phenotype: horizontal transmission

Genotype: bi-allelic mutations, one gene, autosome



- Heterozygote, healthy carrier
- We all are healthy carriers of hts mutation which, when hms, cause severe disease
 - ~1 mutation compatible with post-natal life
 - 2-3 mutations causing miscarriage / nonimplantation (?)



<u>AR phenotype</u>: **bi-allelic** mutations,

loss of function



- Same parental mutation => hmz
- Different parental mutations
 - => compound htz

AR phenotype: bi-allelic mutations,

loss of function



- Same parental mutation => hmz
- Different parental mutations
 - => compound htz

Loss of function: variable

- Complete (severe mutation)
- Partial (mild mutation)
- Minimal (minor mutation, polymorphism)

Probability of being a carrier, AR disease



PS Harper, Practical Genetic Counselling, 6th ed

Cystic Fibrosis, CF



- Syndrome :
 - COPD
 - Pancreatic insufficiency
 - Na et CI elevated in sweat
- Vas deferens agenesis (CBAVD)
- No MR

 1/2500 children affected at birth 1/25 healthy carriers

Genetic counselling in CF

•



Cystic Fibrosis (Northern EU) 1/2500

– Carriers in general population (1/25)

Genetic counselling in CF

•



Cystic Fibrosis (Northern EU) 1/2500

– Carriers in general population (1/25)

$$-$$
 Risk = 1/2 x 1/25 x 1/4 = 1/200

Genetic counselling in CF



Cystic Fibrosis (Northern EU) 1/2500 affected at birth – Carriers in general population 1/25

Genotype – phenotype correlation

- Pancreatic sufficiency is concordant in sibs
 - Depends on mutation



- Lung disease severity is less concordant
 - Depends on mutation and on environment (Pseudomonas infection, ...)

Variable expressivity, AR disease (CF)



Increased gene activity removes phenotypic features



CBAVD, AMR and CF

- Assisted Medical Reproduction for men with CBAVD
- 4% of partner women are CF carriers
- If carrier, offspring at risk of CBAVD and of CF





bi-allelic mutations

homozygote

compound heterozygote



Heterogeneity of mutations

- Practical nomenclature A / a of alleles conceals a great diversity of DNA sequences : a = a₁ + a₂ + a₃ + ... + a_n
- Ex: CF (CFTR gene): mutations with complete loss of function
 - Many missense mutations G551D, N1303K
 - Many nonsense mutations W1282X, G542X
 - Many indels DF508
 - Many splicing mutations 1717-1 G>A
 - Many chromosomal mutations

All severe mutations = allele « a » in A,a nomenclature All are silent in htz, and cause CF when hmz or compound htz

Allelic heterogeneity



- CF: one gene, one locus
- Many mutations
- Ethnic prevalences





AR transmission = approximation

- CF is truly recessive (?)
- HbS carriers have some signs if hypoxia
- Beta-thalassemia carriers have microcytosis (sometimes low Hb)
- Some carriers of Wilson disease have low Ceruloplasmin
 - Because their 2nd allele is hypomorphic?