

**SFB 680**  
**Molecular Basis of**  
**Evolutionary Innovations**

# **Dynamics of adaptation in asexual and sexual populations**

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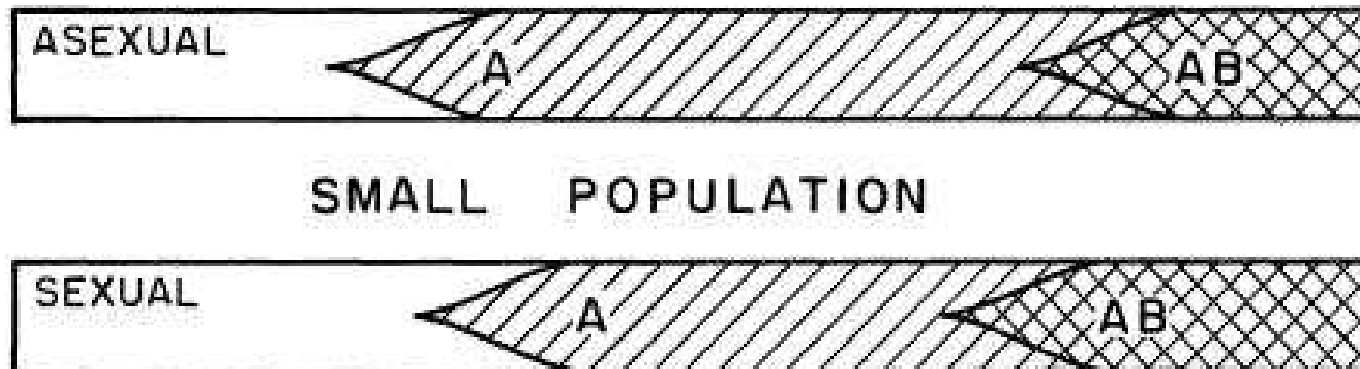
- Clonal interference in asexual populations
- Adaptation in the house-of-cards model
- Effects of recombination in an empirical fitness landscape

Joint work with Su-Chan Park and Arjan de Visser

# The Muller-Fisher mechanism for the advantage of sex

J.F. Crow & M. Kimura, Am. Nat. 99, 439 (1965)

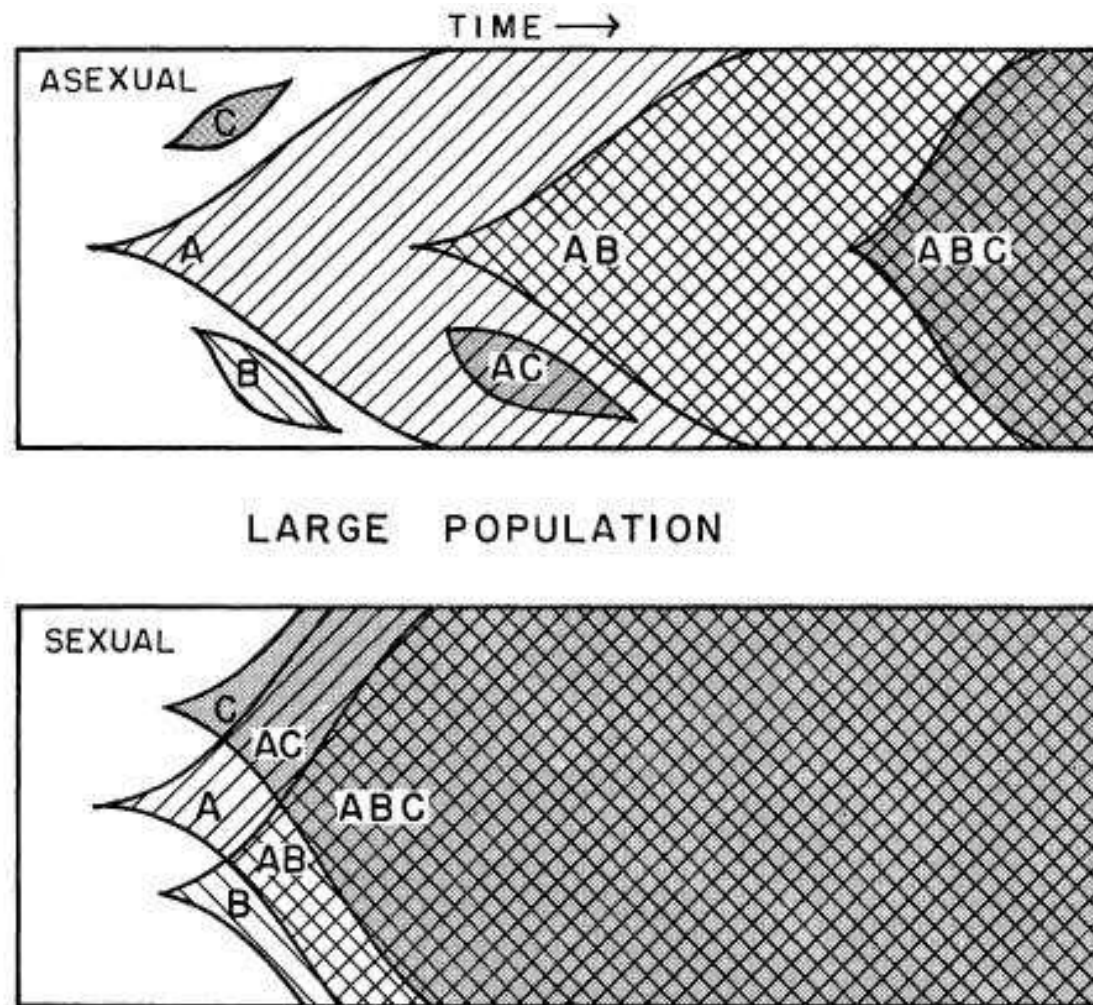
- Dynamics of an adapting population:



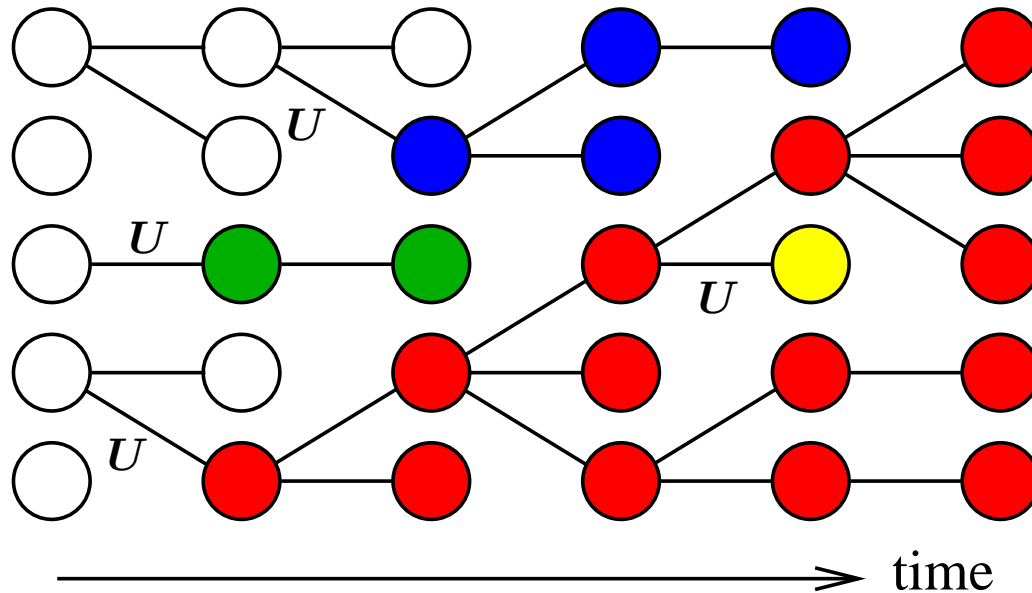
**periodic selection**

# The Muller-Fisher mechanism for the advantage of sex

- **Clonal interference** slows down the adaptation of asexual populations



# The Wright-Fisher model



- Constant population size  $N$ , discrete non-overlapping generations
- Each individual chooses an ancestor from the preceding generation
- Individual  $i$  is chosen with probability  $\sim w_i$  **Wrightian fitness**
- Mutations occur with probability  $U$  per individual and generation

# Fixation

- When a single mutant of fitness  $w'$  is introduced into a monomorphic population of fitness  $w$ , the outcome for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  is either fixation (all  $w'$ ) or loss of the mutation (all  $w$ )
- Fixation probability for the Wright-Fisher model (Kimura, 1962)

$$\pi_N(s) \approx \frac{1 - e^{-2s}}{1 - e^{-2Ns}}, \quad s = \frac{w'}{w} - 1 \quad \text{selection coefficient}$$

- Under **strong selection**: ( $N|s| \gg 1$ ) deleterious mutations ( $s < 0$ ) cannot fix, while beneficial mutations ( $s > 0$ ) fix with probability

$$\pi(s) = 1 - e^{-2s} \approx 2s, \quad s \ll 1$$

- Mean time to fixation of a beneficial mutation:

$$t_{\text{fix}} \approx \frac{\ln N}{s}$$

# Mutation and fitness model

- **Infinite sites approximation:**

Each mutation creates a new genotype, no recurrent mutations

- **Multiplicative model:** Fitness of offspring  $w'$  related to parental fitness  $w$  by

$$w \rightarrow w' = w(1 + s)$$

with selection coefficient  $s$  chosen randomly from a distribution  $P(s)$

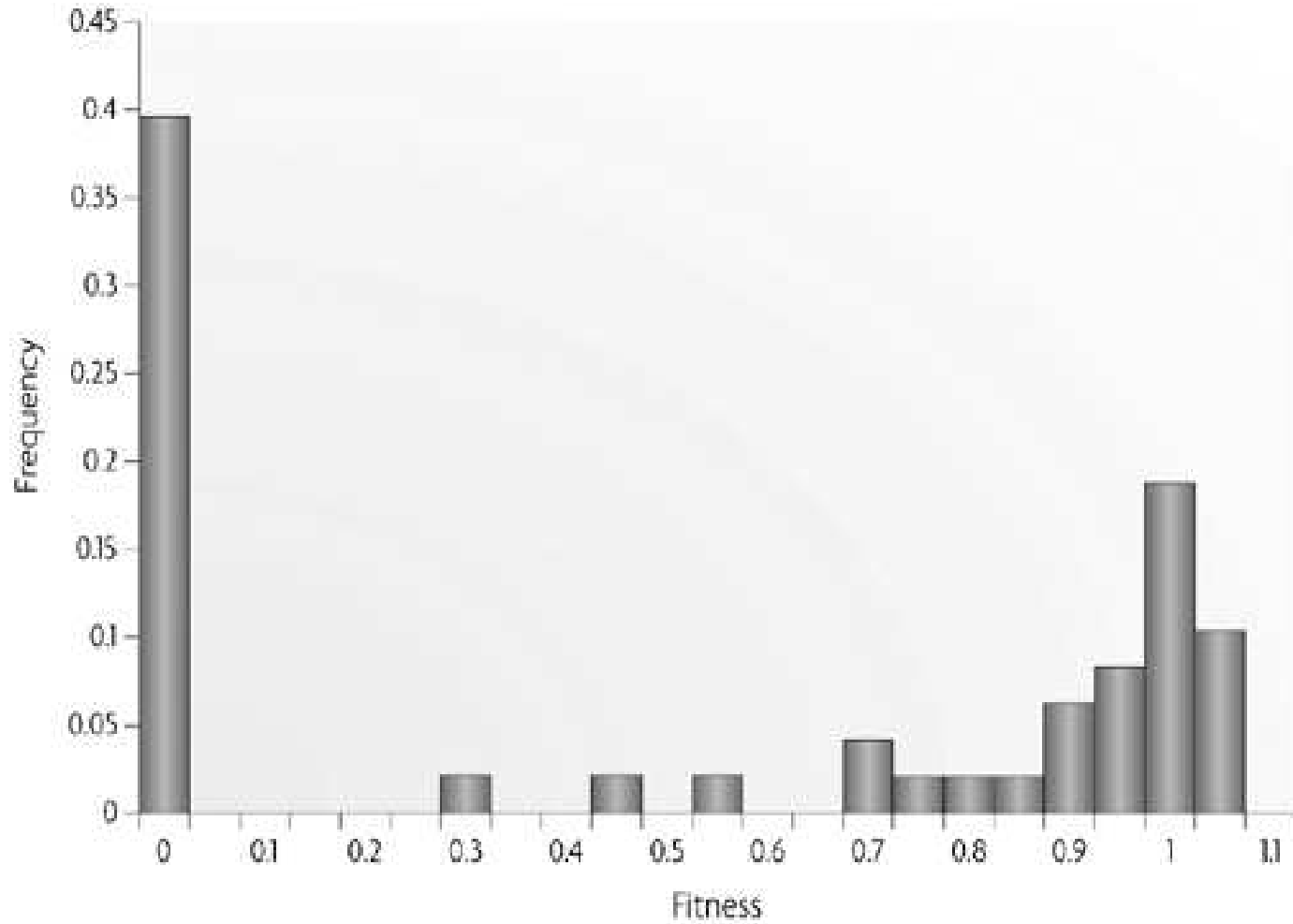
- Extremal statistics arguments suggest that the distribution of selection coefficients for **beneficial** mutations is exponential:

H.A. Orr, *Genetics* **163**, 1519 (2003)

$$P_b(s) = s_b^{-1} e^{-s/s_b}, \quad s > 0$$

- Beneficial mutations occur with probability  $U_b$

## An empirical fitness distribution (VS virus)



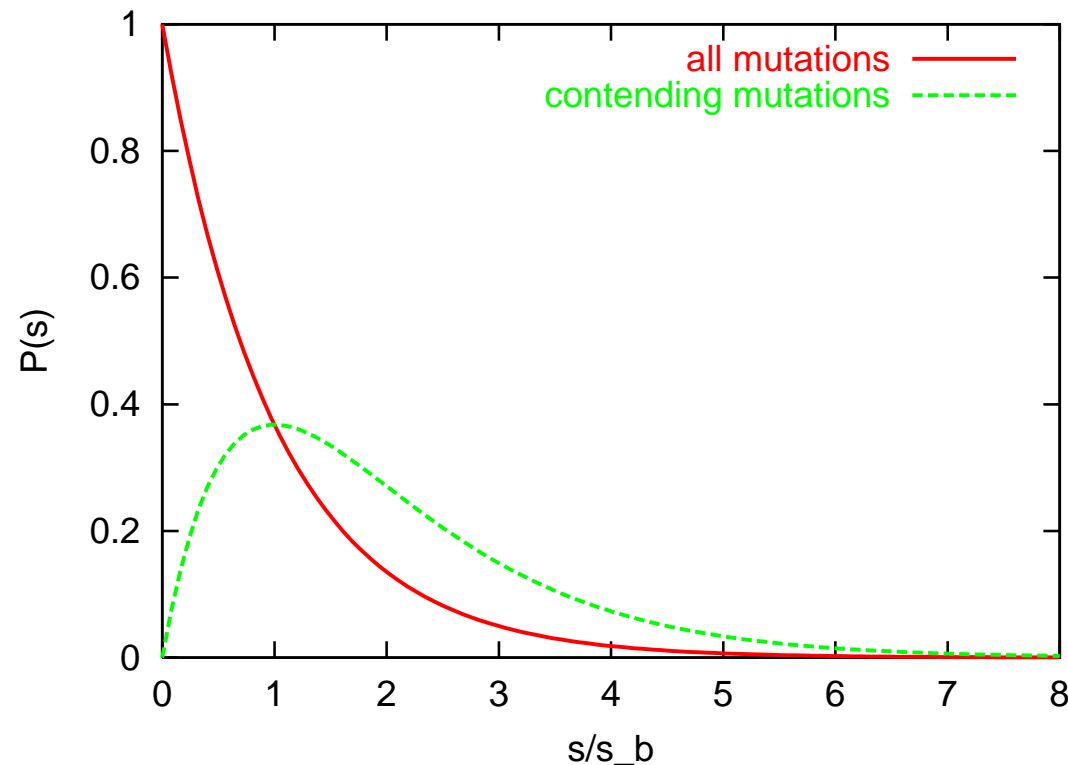
Nature Reviews | Genetics

from: A. Eyre-Walker & P.D. Keightley, Nat. Rev. Gen. **8**, 610 (2007)

# Contending mutations

- Beneficial mutations are most likely to get lost by genetic drift in the early (stochastic) regime of the fixation process

⇒ mutations become **contenders** with probability  $\pi(s) \approx 2s$

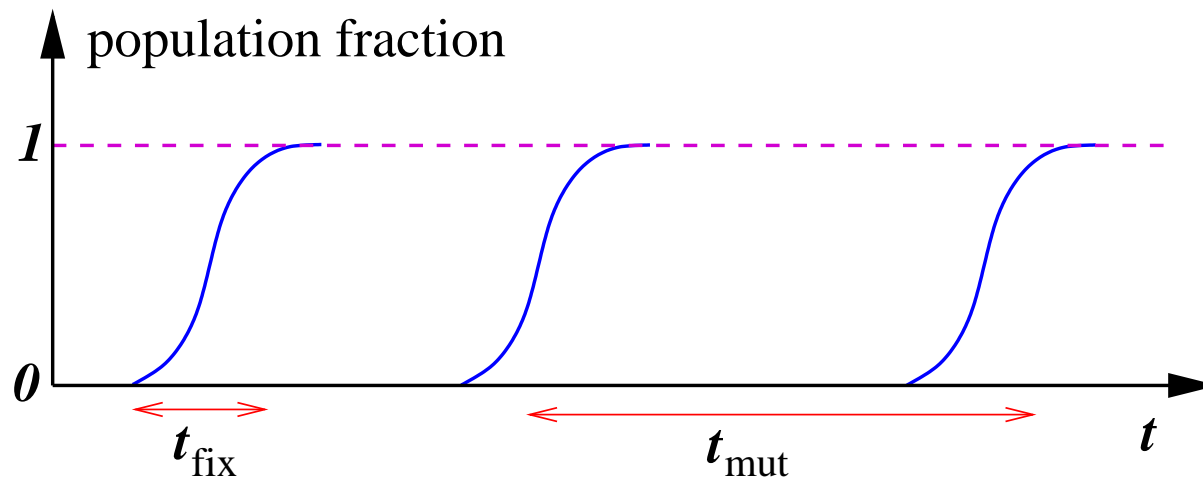


- Probability distribution of **contending mutations**:  $P_c(s) \sim sP_b(s) \sim se^{-s/s_b}$



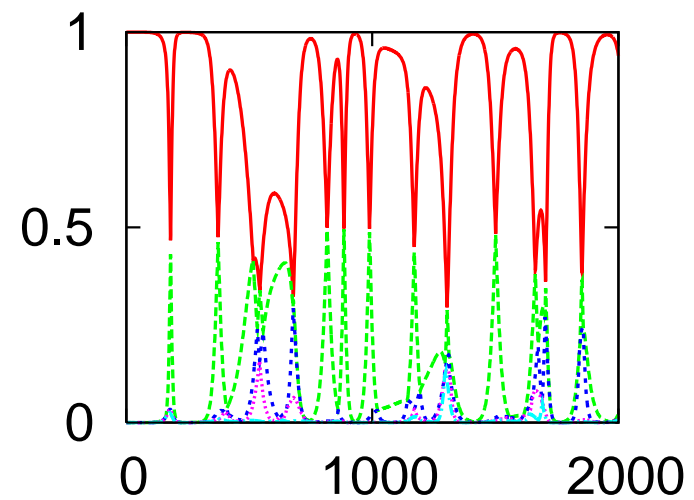
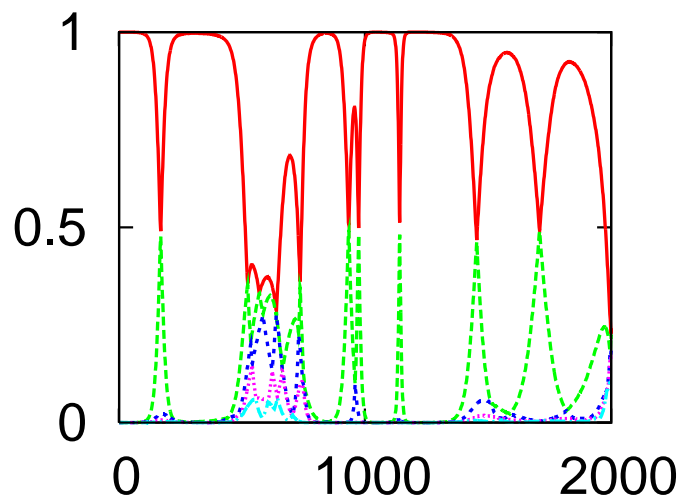
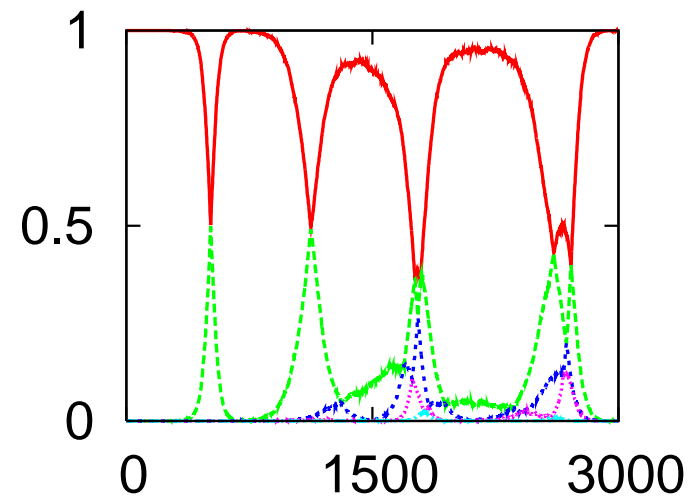
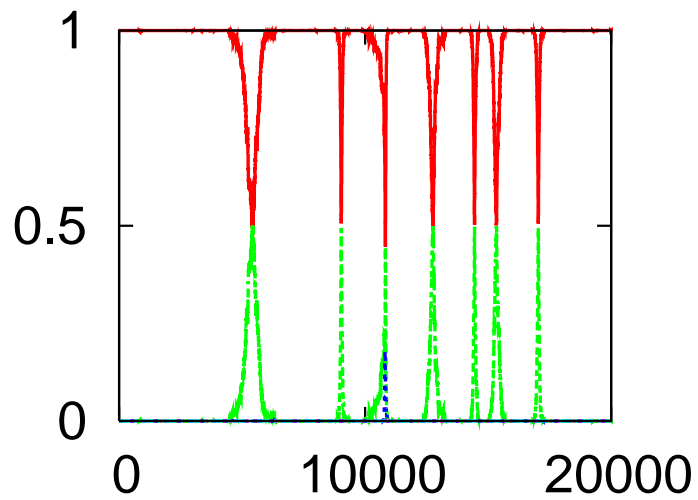
# Periodic selection vs. clonal interference

- Contending mutations arise at rate  $2s_bNU_b = 1/t_{\text{mut}}$
- Periodic selection requires  $t_{\text{fix}} \ll t_{\text{mut}}$



- In the periodic selection regime every contending mutation is fixed  
 $\Rightarrow$  rate of adaptation  $R = 2s_b/t_{\text{mut}} = 4s_b^2NU_b$
- Beneficial mutations **interfere** when  $t_{\text{fix}} \gg t_{\text{mut}}$  or  $2NU_b \ln N \gg 1$
- Clonal interference is inevitable for large  $N$  [provided  $U_b$  is constant!]

## Wright-Fisher dynamics for $U_b = 10^{-6}, s_b = 0.02$



$N = 10^4, 10^5, 10^6, 10^7$

# The Gerrish-Lenski theory of clonal interference

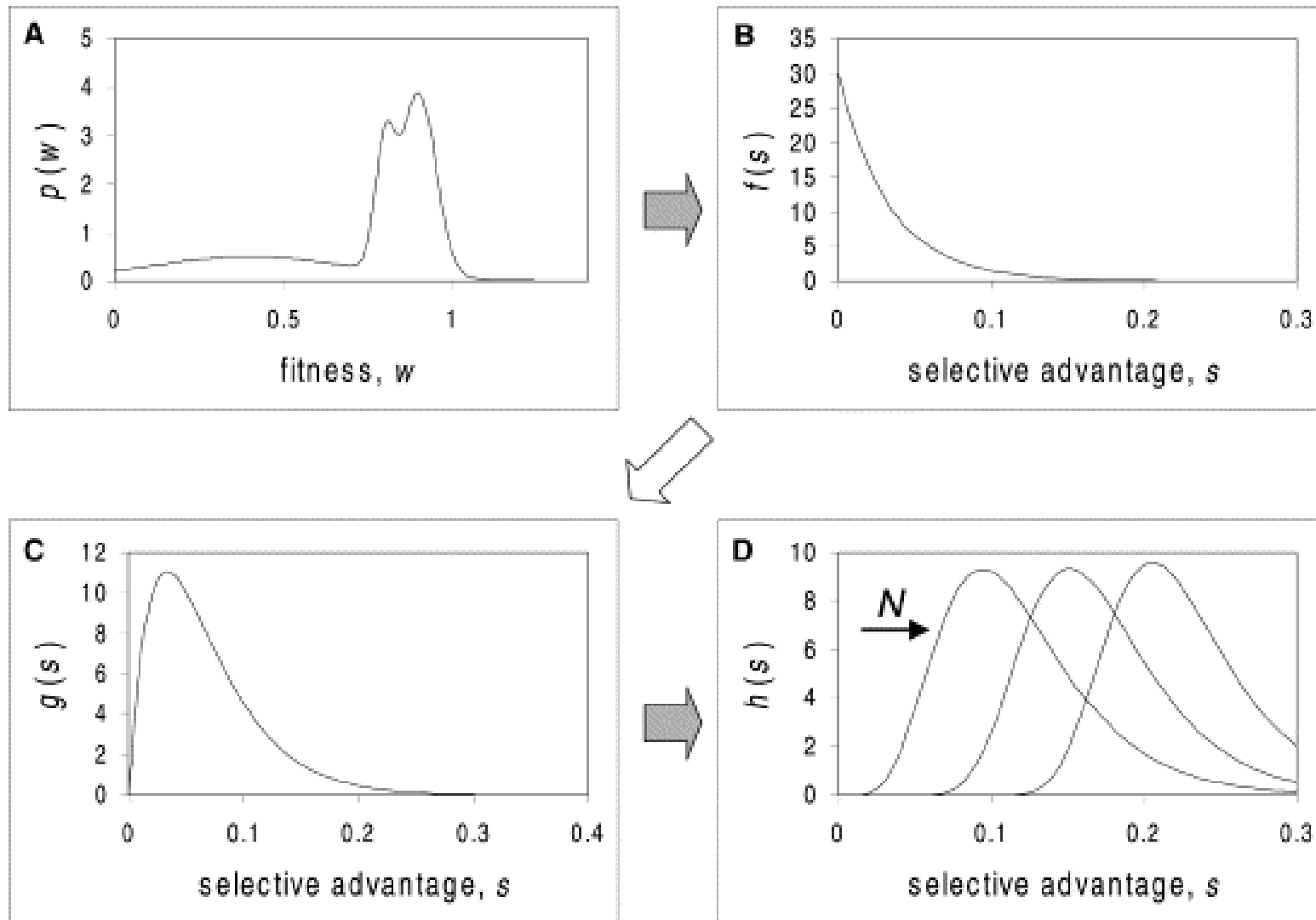
P.J. Gerrish, R.E. Lenski, *Genetica* **102/103**, 127 (1998)

- **Key idea:** A contending mutation  $s$  survives clonal competition if no superior mutation  $s' > s$  arises during the time to fixation of  $s$ .
- The survival probability is  $\exp[-\lambda(s)]$  with

$$\lambda(s) = NU_b t_{\text{fix}} \int_s^\infty ds' P_c(s') = \frac{N \ln NU_b}{s} \int_s^\infty ds' \pi(s') s_b^{-1} \exp[-s'/s_b]$$

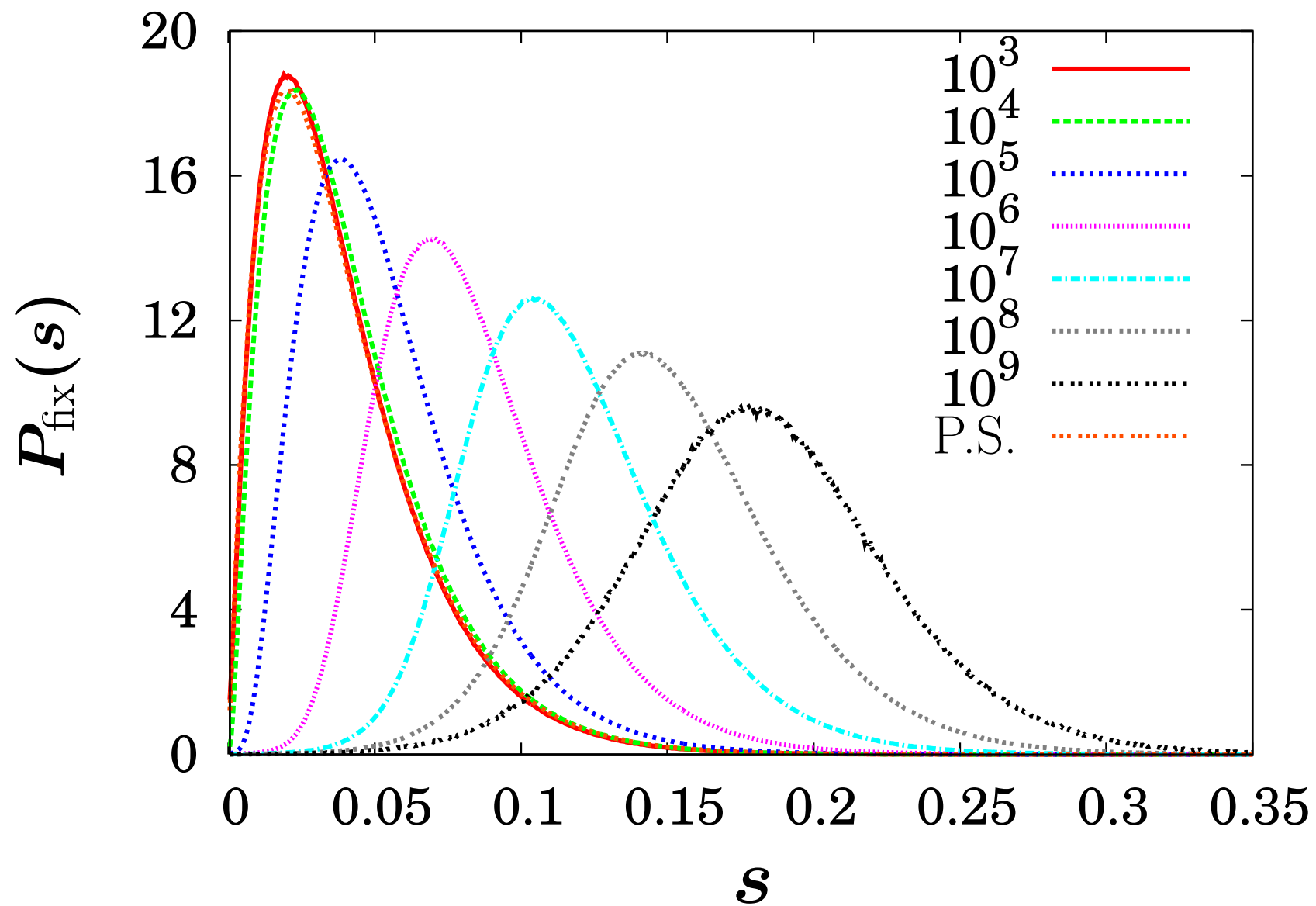
- GL theory does not (explicitly) account for the complex interaction of different clones. In particular, the possibility of beneficial mutations arising within a growing clone (**multiple mutations**) is ignored.
- **Qualitative predictions:**  
Clonal interference reduces the rate of substitution  $E[k]$  but increases the mean selection coefficient of fixed mutations  $E[s]$ .

## Summary so far:



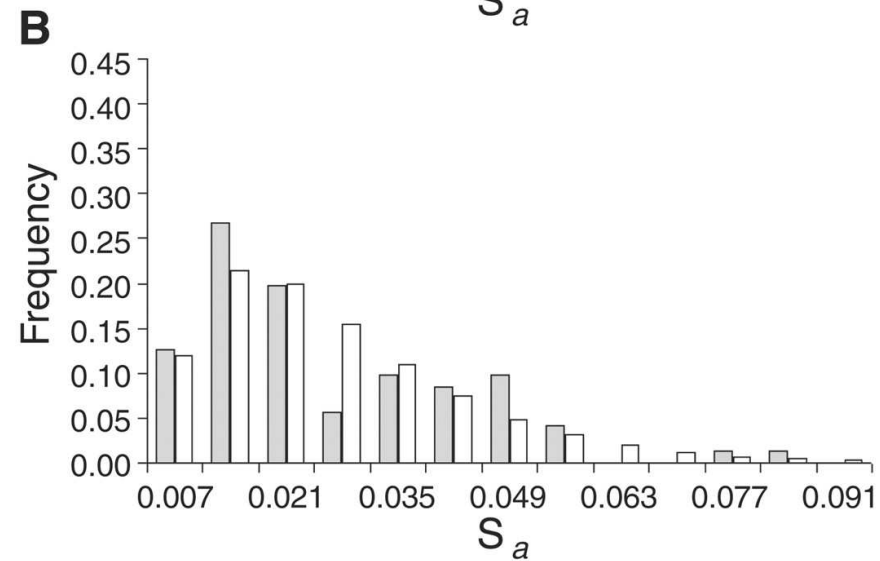
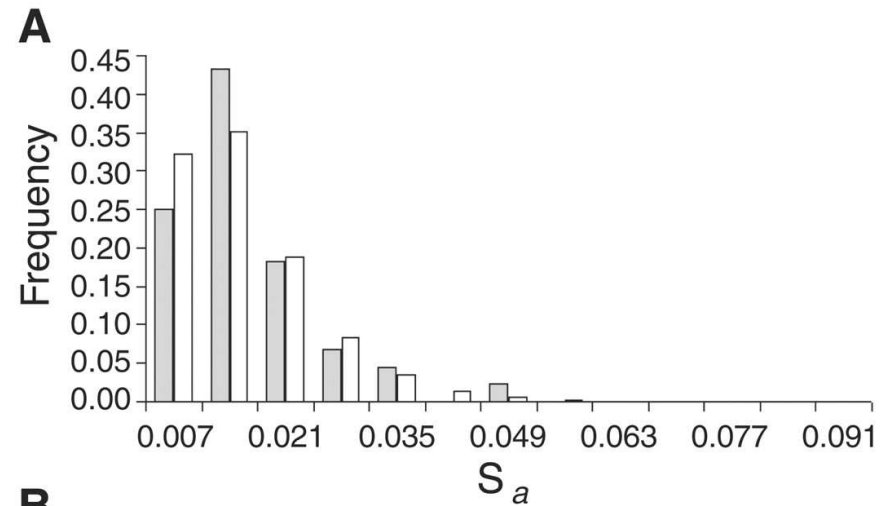
D.E. Rozen, J.A.G.M. de Visser, P.J. Gerrish, *Curr. Biol.* **12**, 1040 (2002)

## Distribution of fixed mutations: Simulation



# Distribution of mutational effects: Experiments (*E. coli*)

L. Perfeito et al., Science **317**, 813 (2007)

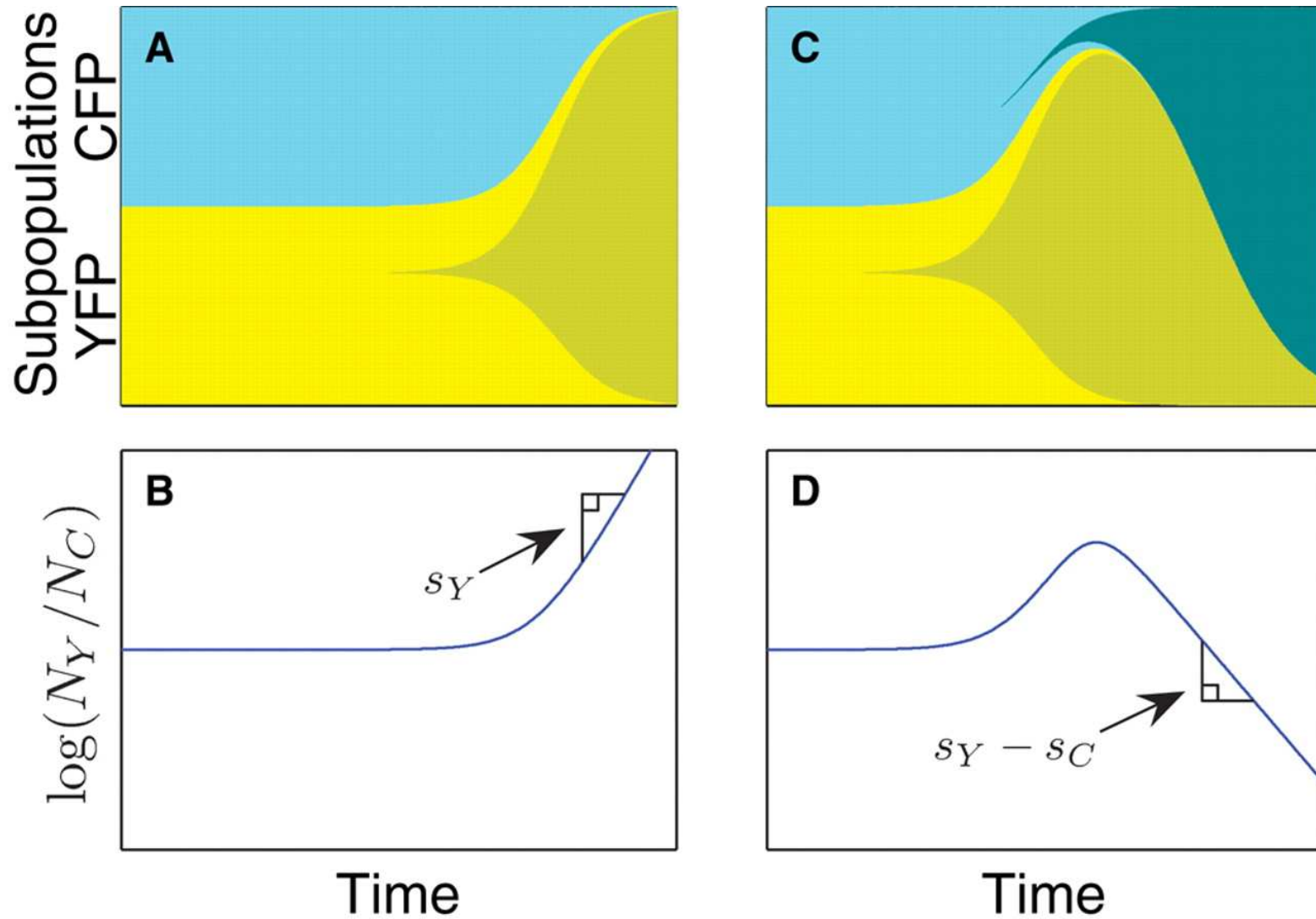


**A:**  $N = 2 \times 10^4$

**B:**  $N = 10^7$

# Measuring selection coefficients in evolution experiments

M. Hegreness et al., Science **311**, 161 (2006)



# GL-theory: Quantitative predictions for large $N$

C.O. Wilke, *Genetics* **167**, 2045 (2004); S.C. Park & JK, *PNAS* **104**, 18135 (2007)

- Rate of substitution:  $\gamma \approx 0.577215\dots$  Euler's constant

$$E[k] \approx \frac{s_b}{\ln N} [\ln(U_b N \ln N) + \gamma - 1] \rightarrow s_b$$

- Mean selection coefficient of fixed mutations:

$$E[s] \approx s_b [\ln(U_b N \ln N) + \gamma]$$

- Rate of adaptation:  $E[w]$ : mean population fitness

$$R = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln E[w]}{t} \approx E[s]E[k] \rightarrow s_b^2 \ln(U_b N \ln N)$$

- **Logarithmic** dependence on the mutation supply  $NU_b$



# Extremal statistics estimates

- Probability to find a selection coefficient larger than  $S$  :

$$\text{Prob}[s > S] = \int_S^{\infty} P_b(s) ds = e^{-s/s_b}$$

- The largest selection coefficient  $s_{\max}$  in  $t$  generations is determined by

$$\text{Prob}[s > s_{\max}] = \frac{1}{NU_b t} \Leftrightarrow s_{\max} = s_b \ln(NU_b t)$$

- Self-consistency requires that  $t = t_{\text{fix}}(s_{\max}) = \ln N / s_{\max}$

$$\Rightarrow s_{\max} = s_b \ln(NU_b \ln N / s_{\max}) \Rightarrow s_{\max} = E[s] \approx s_b \ln(NU_b \ln N)$$

- Rate of substitution:

$$E[k] = \frac{1}{t_{\text{fix}}(s_{\max})} = \frac{s_{\max}}{\ln N} \approx \frac{s_b}{\ln N} \ln(NU_b \ln N)$$

# Other mutation distributions

- Extremal statistics for  $P_b(s) \sim \exp[-(s/s_b)^\beta]$  yields

$$s_{\max} \sim s_b (\ln N)^{1/\beta}, \quad E[k] \sim s_b (\ln N)^{1/\beta-1}, \quad R \sim s_b^2 (\ln N)^{2/\beta-1}$$

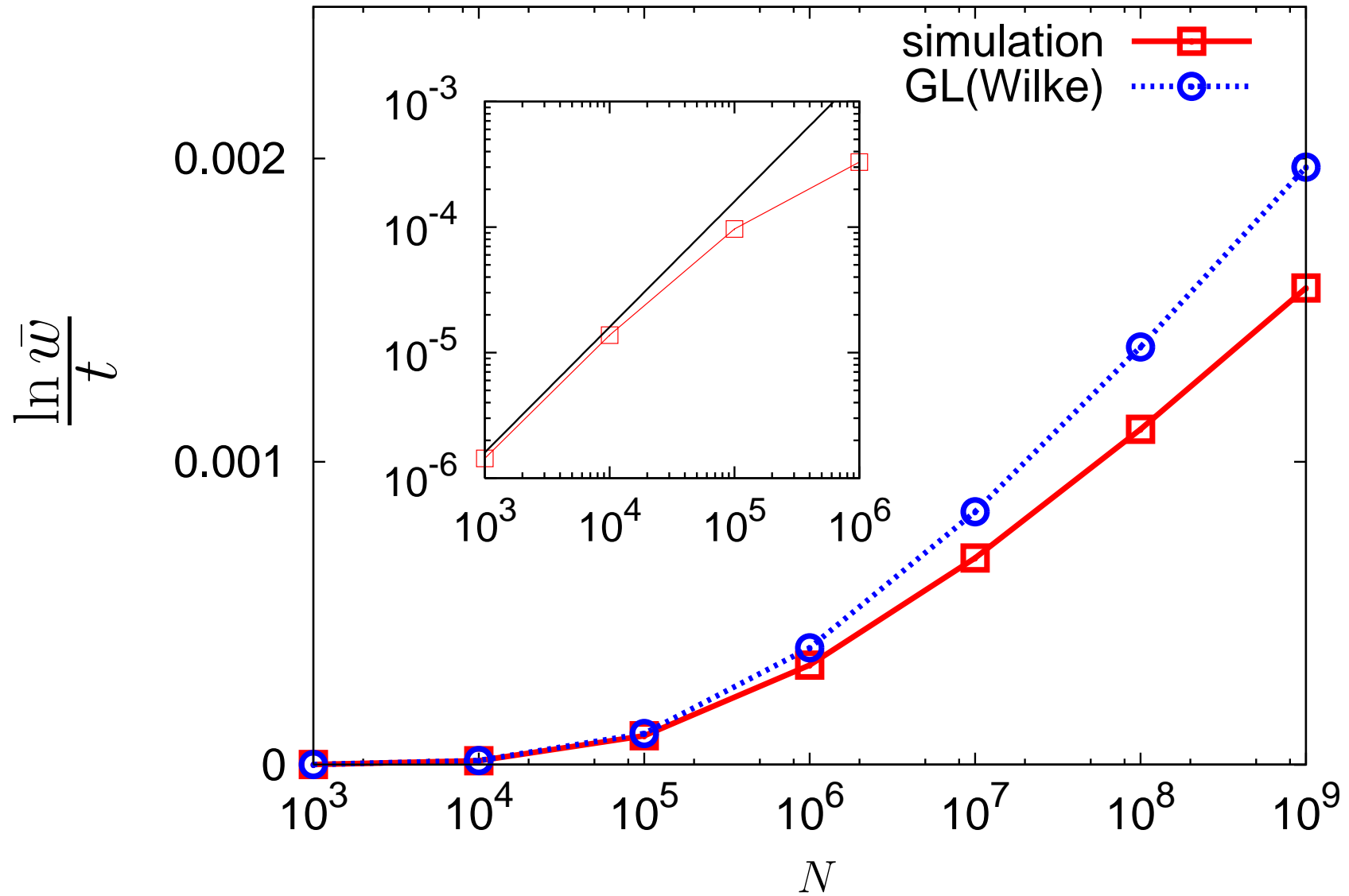
- Compare to behavior for mutations of single strength  $P_b(s) = \delta(s - s_0)$ :

$$R \approx \frac{2s_0^2 \ln N}{\ln^2(U_b/s_0)} \sim s_0^2 \ln N$$

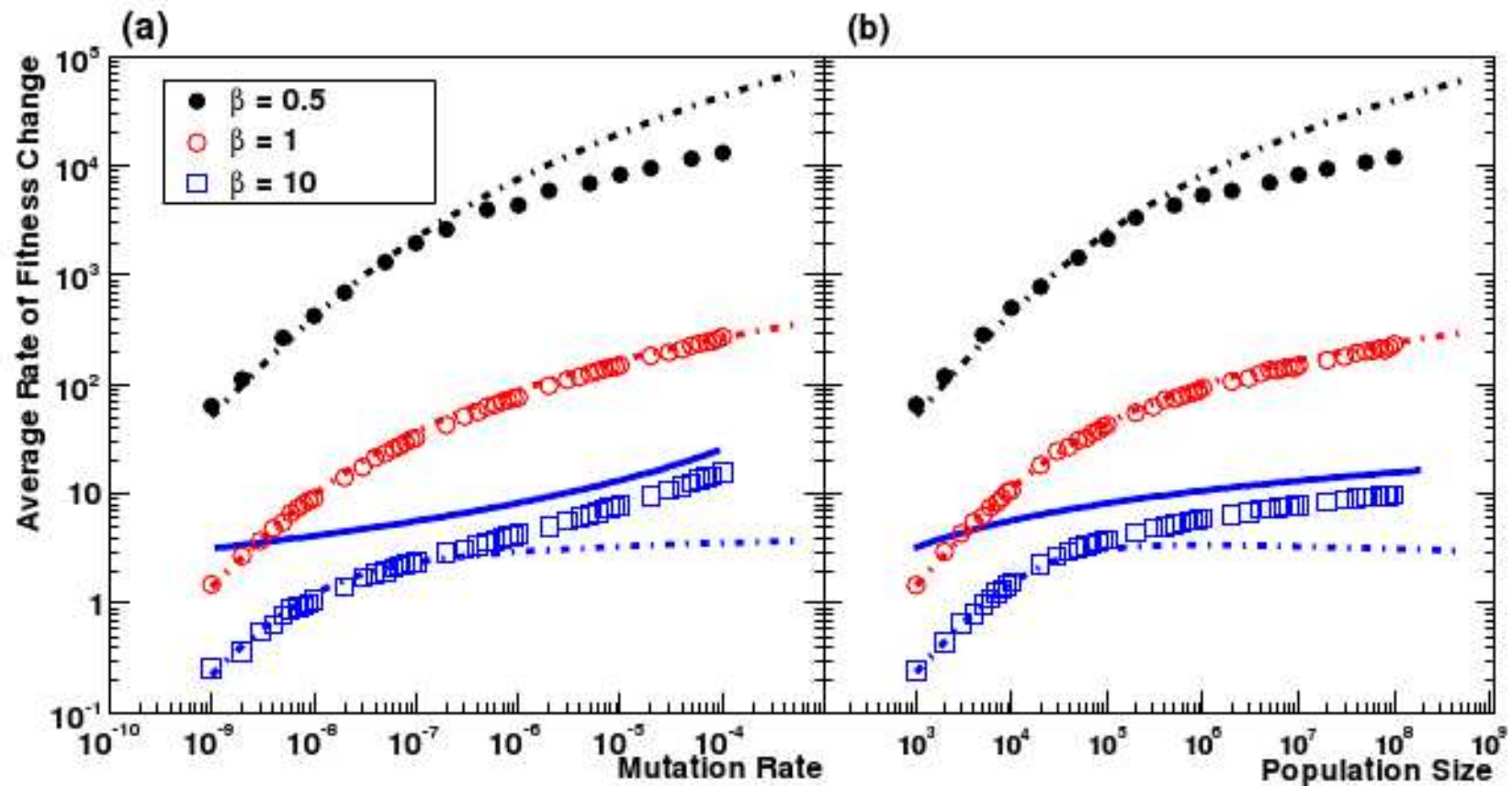
M.M. Desai & D.S. Fisher, *Genetics* **176**, 1759 (2007)

- Adaptation driven by
  - (i) single mutations of large effect for  $\beta < 1$
  - (ii) multiple mutations of average effect for  $\beta > 1$
- The “standard case”  $\beta = 1$  is marginal

## Rate of adaptation: Simulations



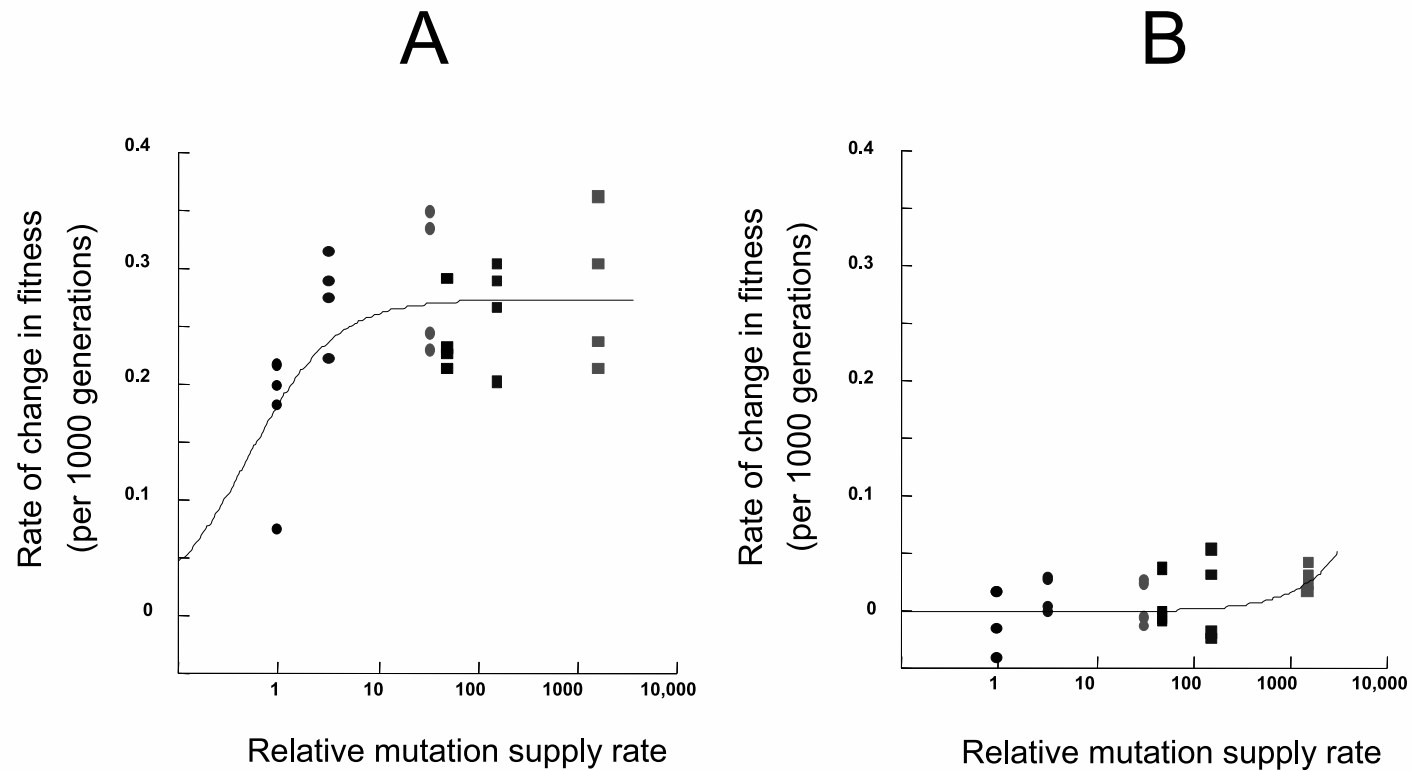
## Simulations for other mutation distributions



C.A. Fogle, J.L. Nagle, M.M. Desai, arXiv:0804.1116v1

# Rate of adaptation: Experiments

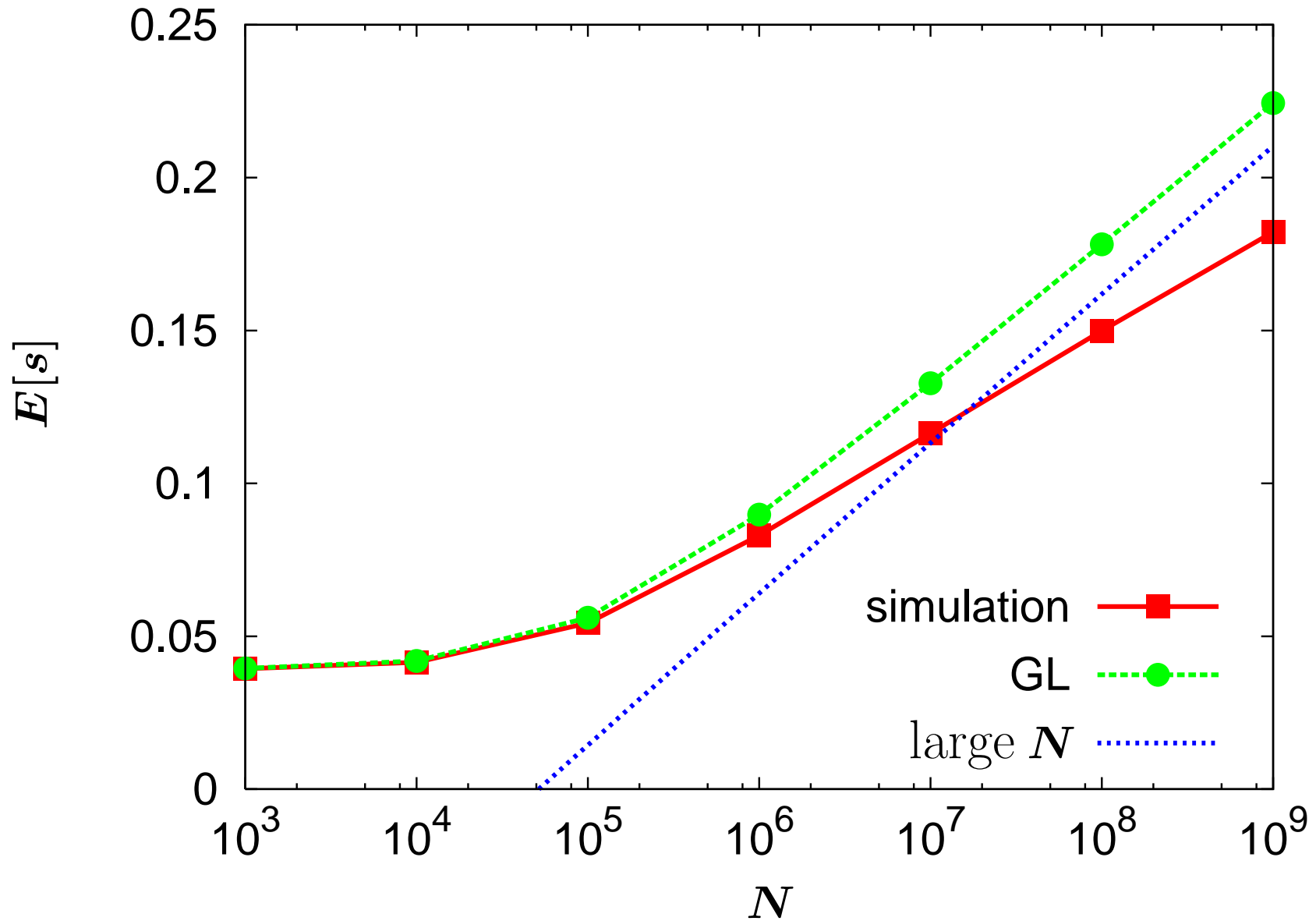
J.A.G.M. de Visser et al., *Science* **283**, 404 (1999)



**non-adapted**

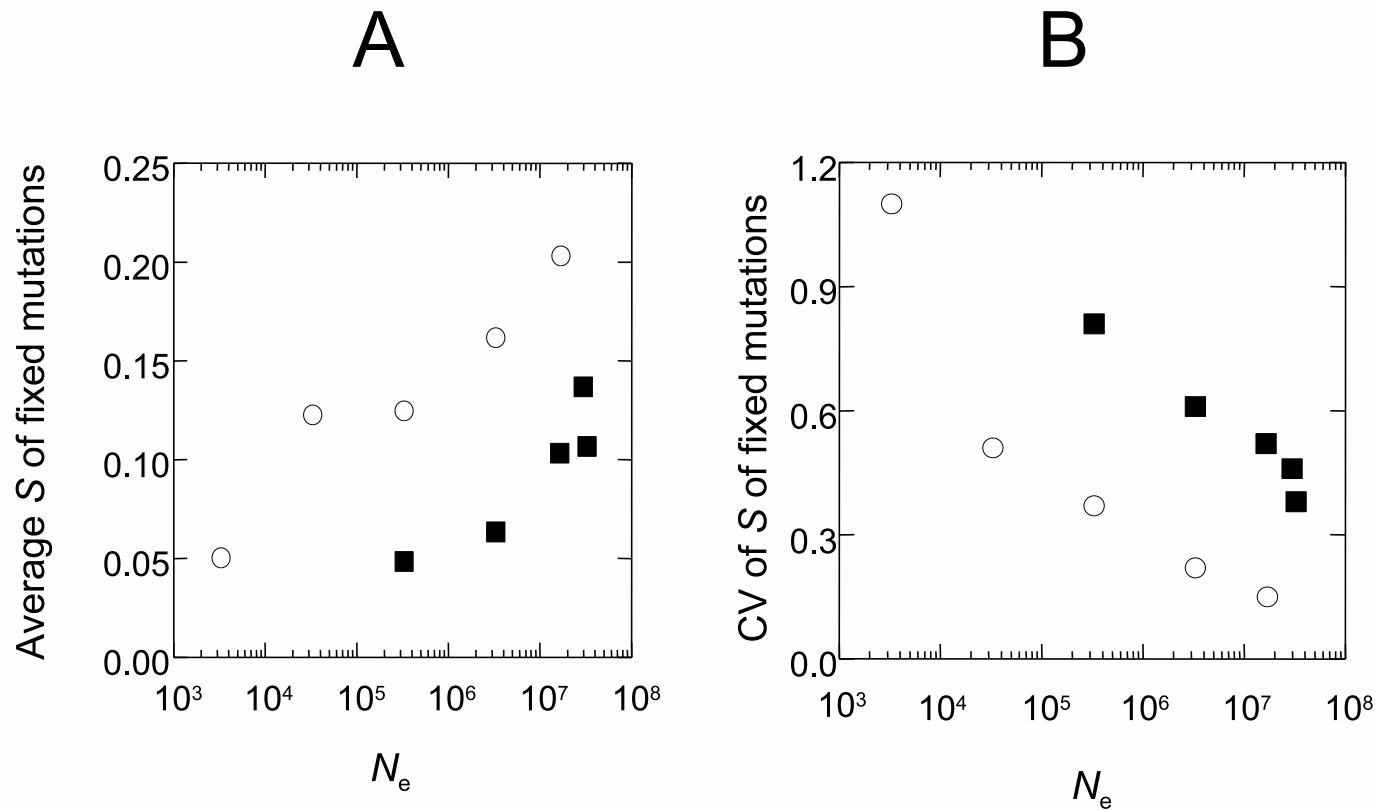
**adapted**

## Selection coefficient of fixed mutations: Simulations

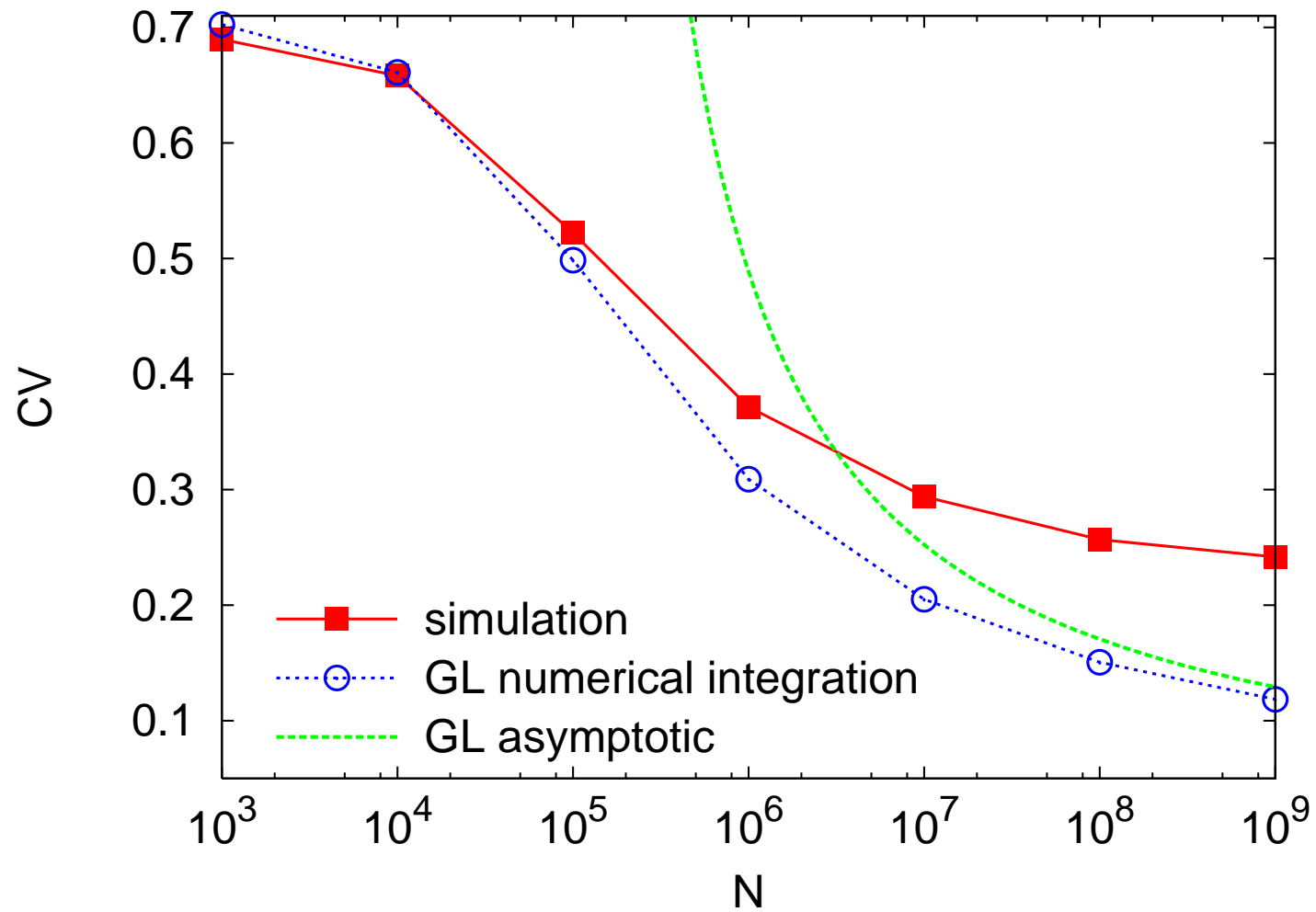


# Selection coefficient of fixed mutations: Experiments

J.A.G.M. de Visser & D.E. Rozen, *J. Evol. Biol.* **18**, 779 (2005)



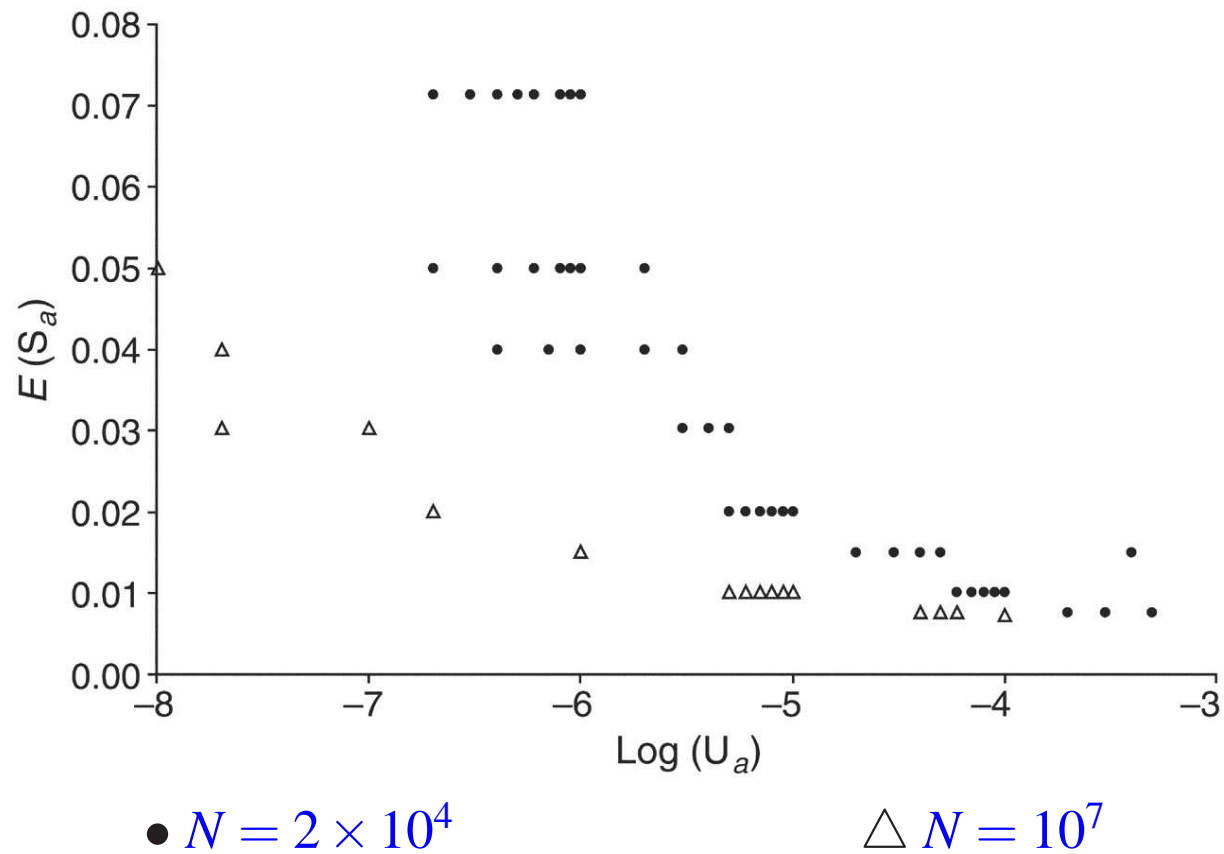
## Coefficient of variation from simulations





# Reconstruction of model parameters from experiments?

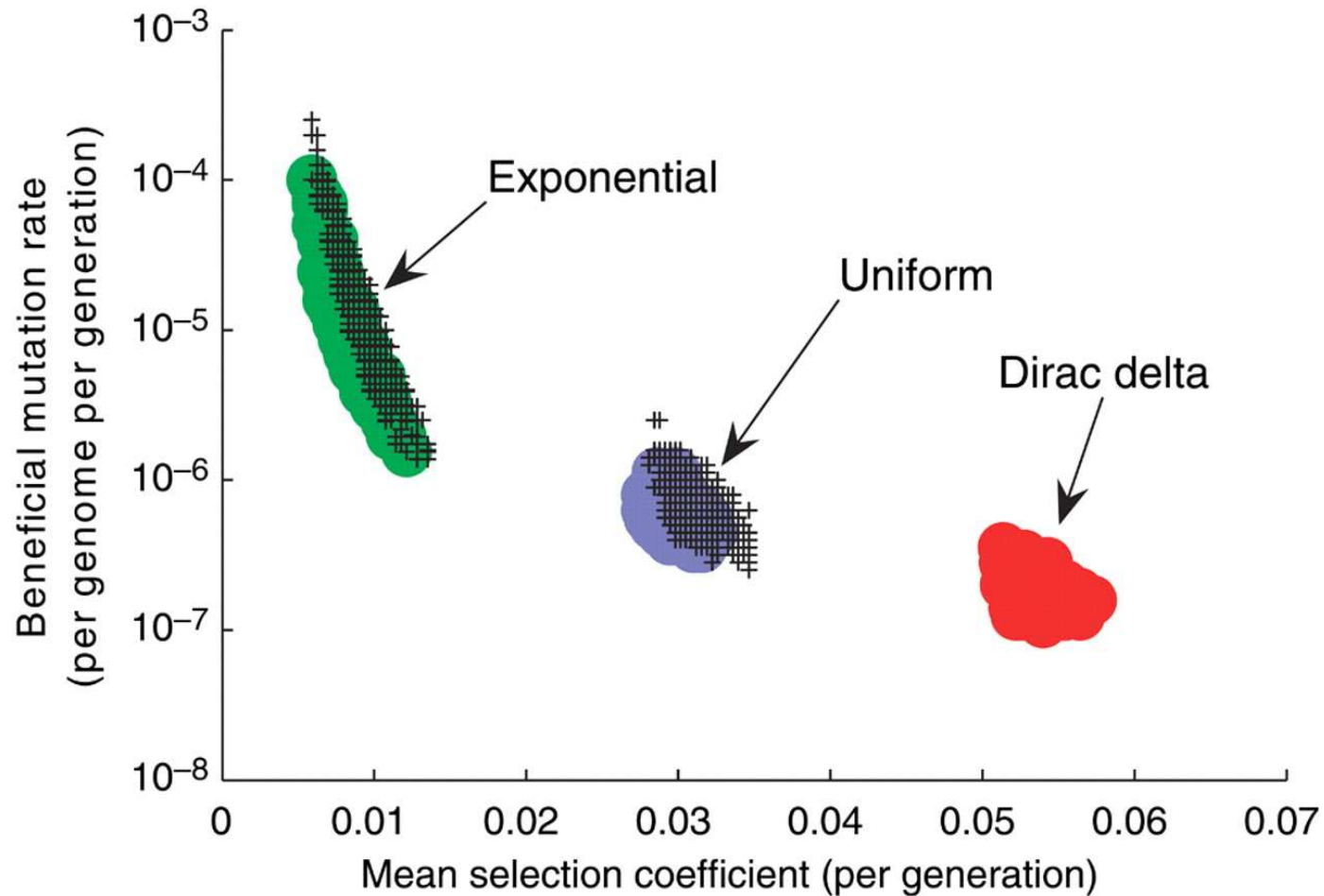
L. Perfeito et al., Science **317**, 813 (2007)



- Figure shows simulated parameters consistent with experiments

# Reconstruction of model parameters from experiments?

M. Hegreness et al., Science **311**, 161 (2006)



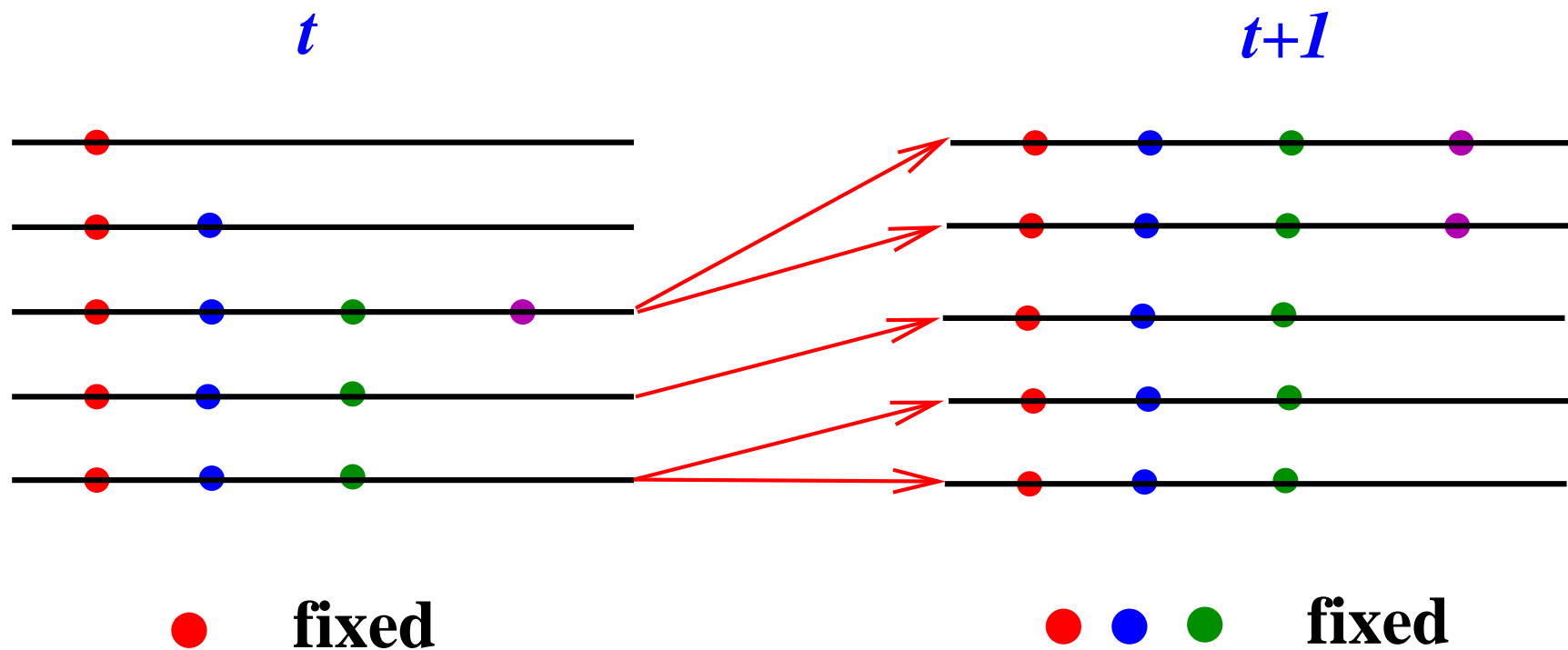
- Estimate of  $U_b$  and  $s_b$  depends on the choice of  $P_b(s)$ !

# **The role of multiple mutations**

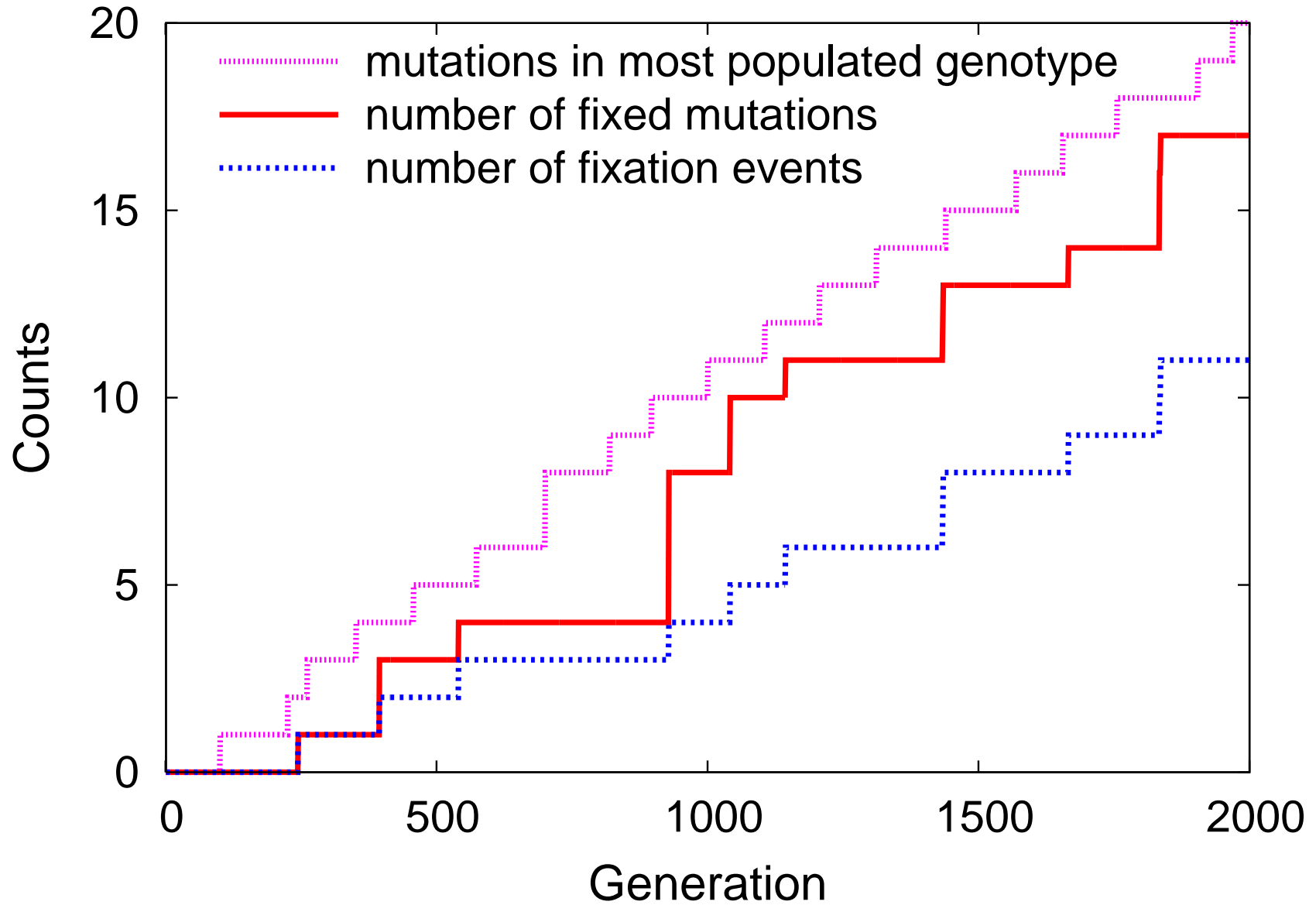


# Fixation of multiple mutations

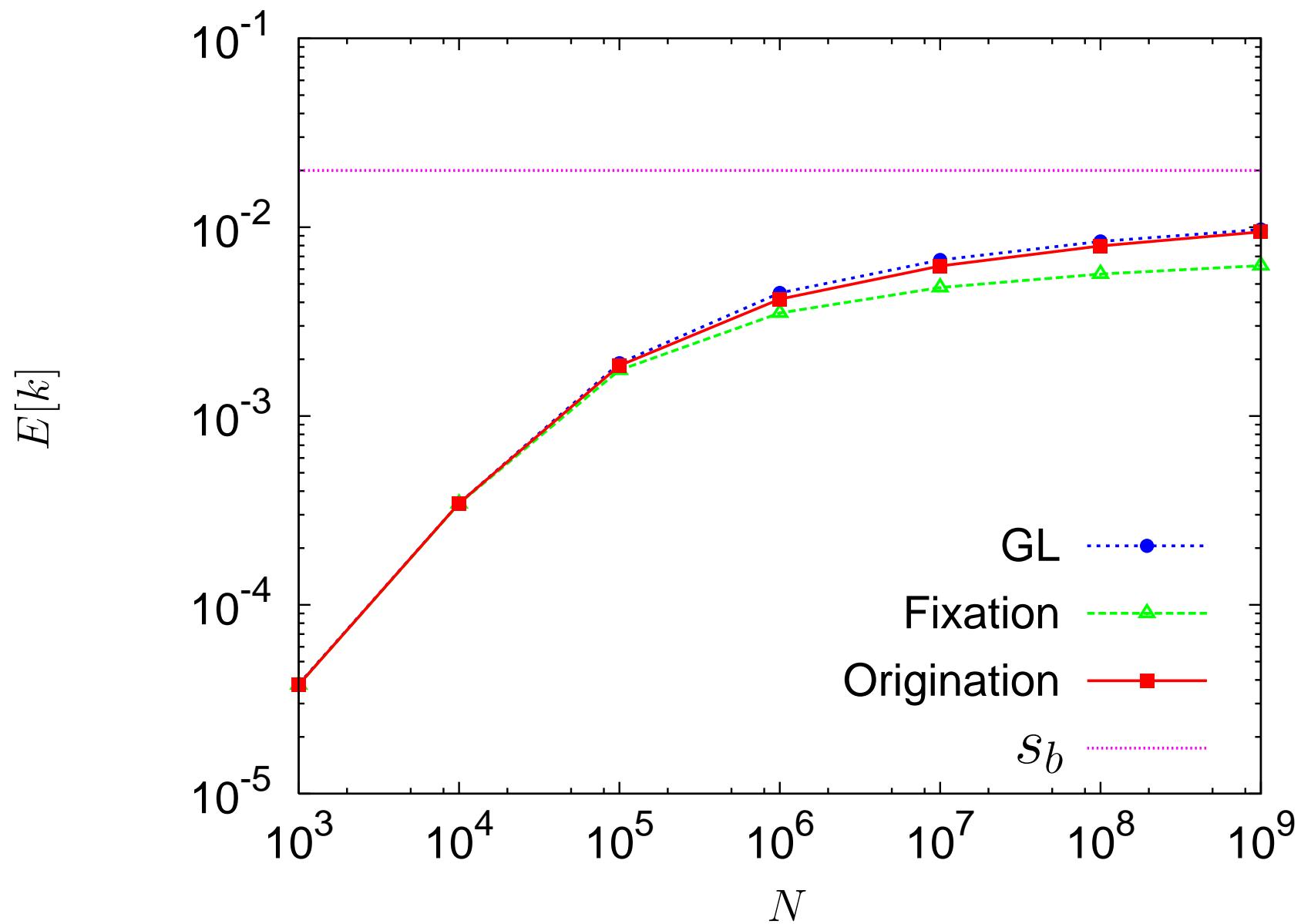
Fixation: Change in the genotype of the **most recent common ancestor**



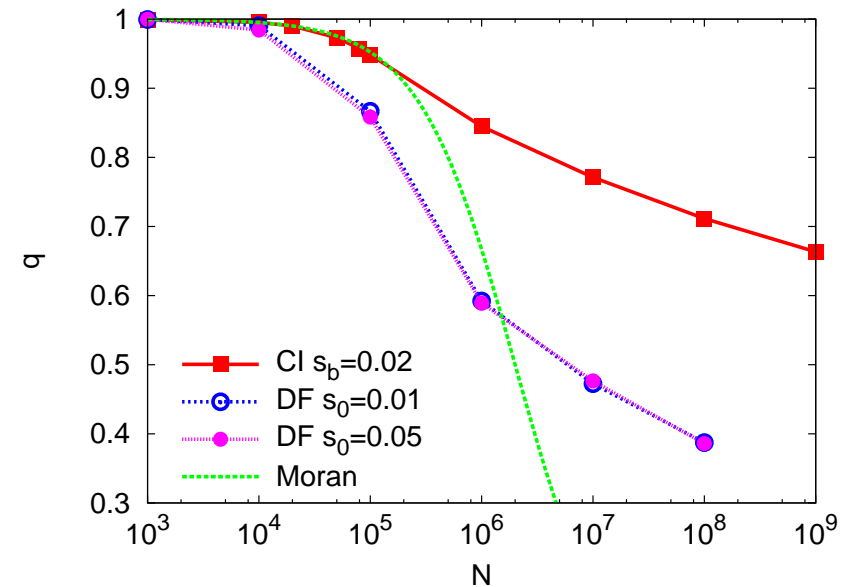
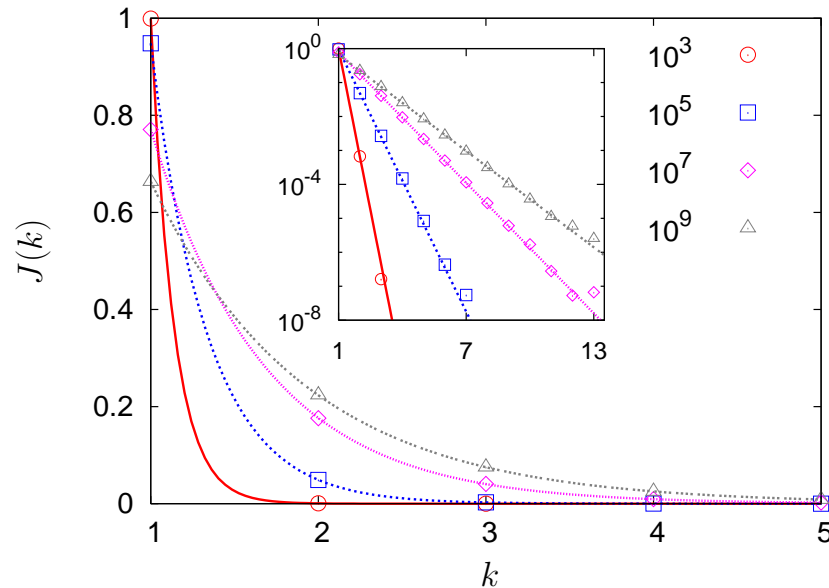
## Mutation and fixation processes [ $N = 10^9$ ]



## Rate of substitution: Simulations



# Distribution of the number of simultaneously fixed mutations



- Geometric distribution  $J(k) = q(1 - q)^{k-1}$  with mean  $1/q$
- Geometric distribution with  $q(N) = 2/(2 + NU)$  is exact in the neutral case (Watterson, 1982)
- Stronger effect of multiple mutations for  $P_b(s) = \delta(s - s_0)$



# The rhythm of microbial adaptation

P.J. Gerrish, Nature **413**, 299 (2001)

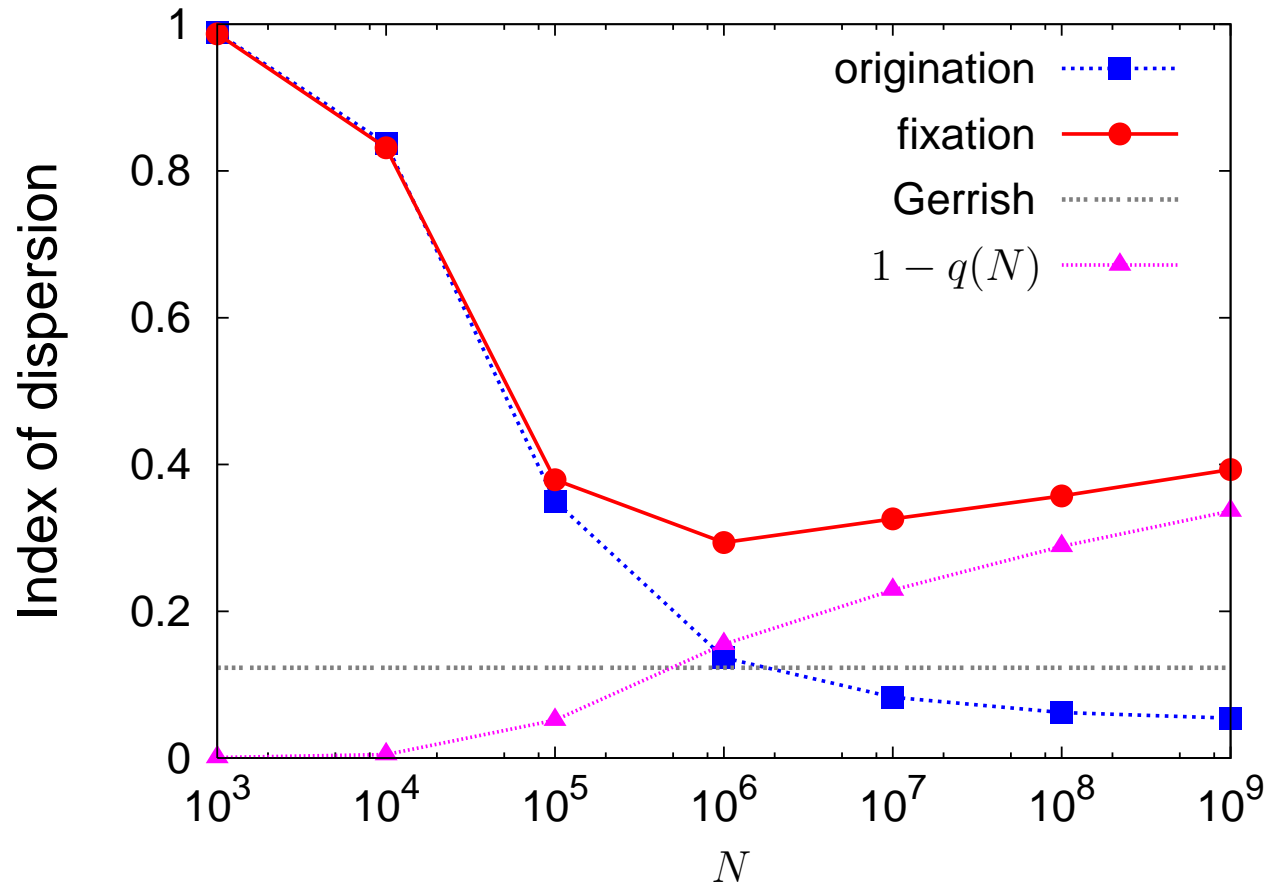
- Statistics of the number  $n(t)$  of substitution events up to time  $t$  ?
- The **index of dispersion** of the substitution process is the ratio of the variance of  $n(t)$  to the mean:

$$I = \frac{\text{Var}[n(t)]}{E[n(t)]}$$

- In the periodic selection regime  $I = 1$  (Poisson statistics)
- GL-theory predicts a universal, sub-Poissonian limit in the clonal interference regime:

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} I(N) = 2e^{-\gamma} - 1 \approx 0.123$$

# The rhythm of origination and fixation



- Origination process becomes regular ( $I \rightarrow 0$ ) for large  $N$
- Index of dispersion of fixation process  $I \approx 1 - q \rightarrow 1$  for  $N \rightarrow \infty$

# Fitness landscapes and epistasis

- **So far:** Fitness effects of different beneficial mutations are independent
- **Epistasis** implies **interactions** between the effects of different mutations
- General setting: Genome of  $L$  binary loci (**sites**)  $i = 1, \dots, L$  at which a mutation can be present ( $\sigma_i = 1$ ) or absent ( $\sigma_i = 0$ )
- A **fitness landscape** is a function  $w(\sigma)$  on the set of  $2^L$  genotype sequences  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_L)$
- In the absence of epistatic interactions  $w(\sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^L \omega_i(\sigma_i)$
- **What is the effect of epistasis on asexual and sexual adaptation?**
- **How epistatic are real fitness landscapes?**

# The house-of-cards model

S.C. Park, JK, JSTAT (2008) P04014

- Infinite sites model with mutant fitnesses  $w$  drawn randomly and independently from mutation distribution  $g(w)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  maximally epistatic fitness landscape

- In the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$  the population fitness distribution evolves according to

$$f_{t+1}(w) = (1 - U) \frac{w f_t(w)}{\bar{w}_t} + U g(w) \quad \bar{w}_t : \text{mean fitness}$$

- Mutation-selection balance for  $g(w)$  with bounded support Kingman (1978)
- For unbounded  $g(w) \sim \exp[-(w/w_0)^\beta]$  mean fitness grows as

$$\bar{w}_t \approx C_\beta w_0 (1 - U) t^{1/\beta} \quad 1 - U : \text{mutational load}$$

## Finite populations and records

- At long times beneficial mutations are rare events:

$$U_b(t) = U \text{Prob}[w > \overline{w}_t] = U \int_{\overline{w}_t}^{\infty} dw g(w) \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } t \rightarrow \infty$$

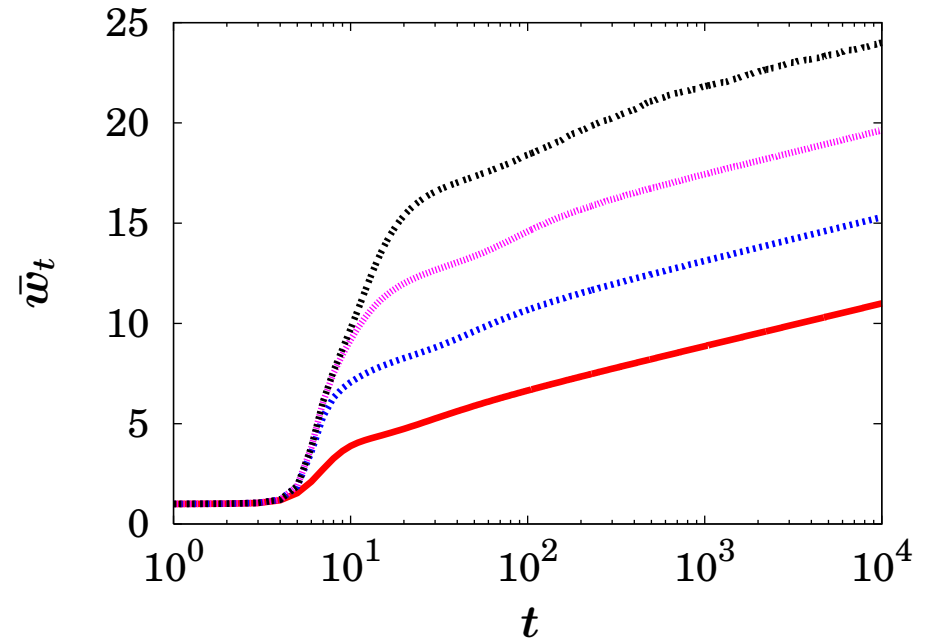
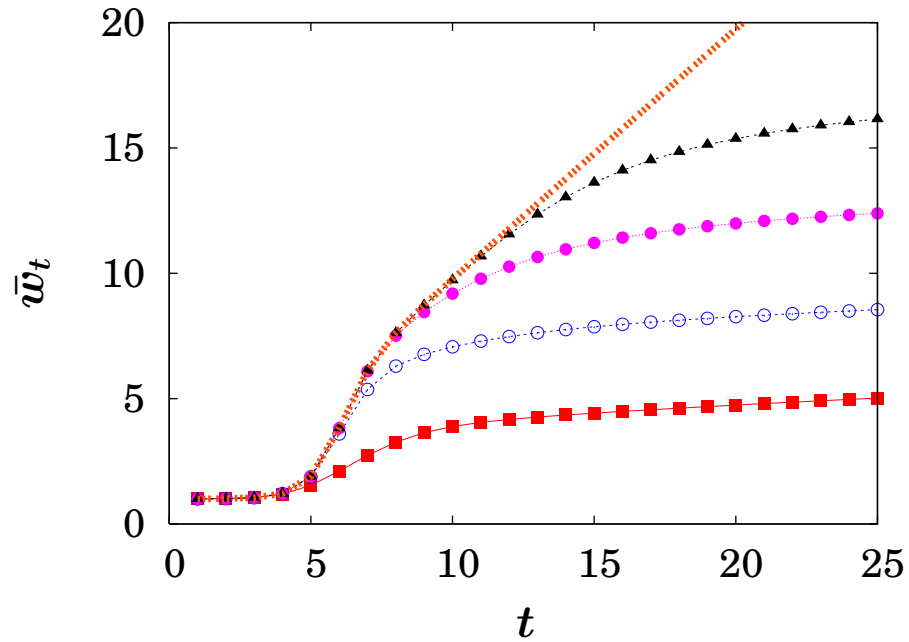
- For  $U \ll 1$  the effect of deleterious mutations can be neglected as well  
 $\Rightarrow$  approximation by a **diluted record process**  $w_t^{\text{DRP}}$ , in which mutants of fitness  $w' > w$  replace current genotype  $w$  with the **fixation probability**

$$\pi(s) = 1 - e^{-2s}, \quad s = w'/w - 1.$$

- To leading order  $\overline{w}_t^{\text{DRP}}$  is equal to the largest fitness value encountered up to time  $t$  [=standard record process], with corrections that can be systematically computed
- Deleterious mutations rescale the fitness according to

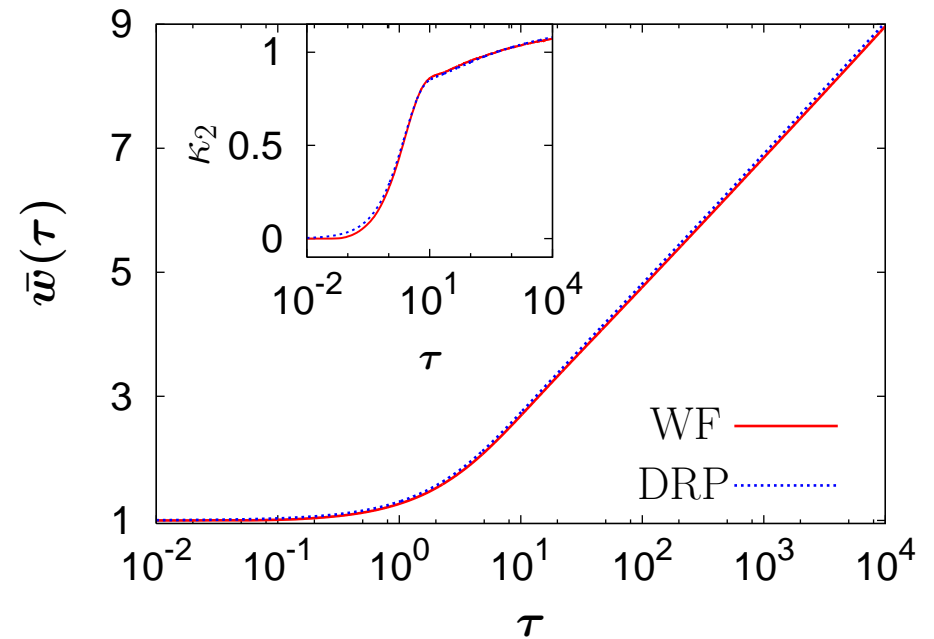
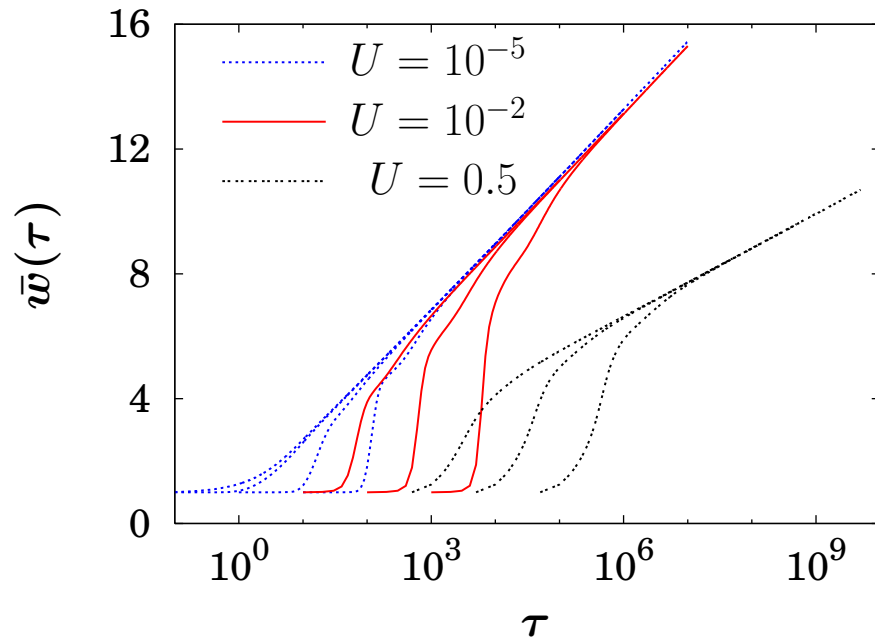
$$\overline{w}_t \approx (1 - U) \overline{w}_t^{\text{DRP}} \approx (1 - U) \ln(NUt) \text{ for } g(w) = e^{-w}$$

# Simulations: Finite vs. infinite populations



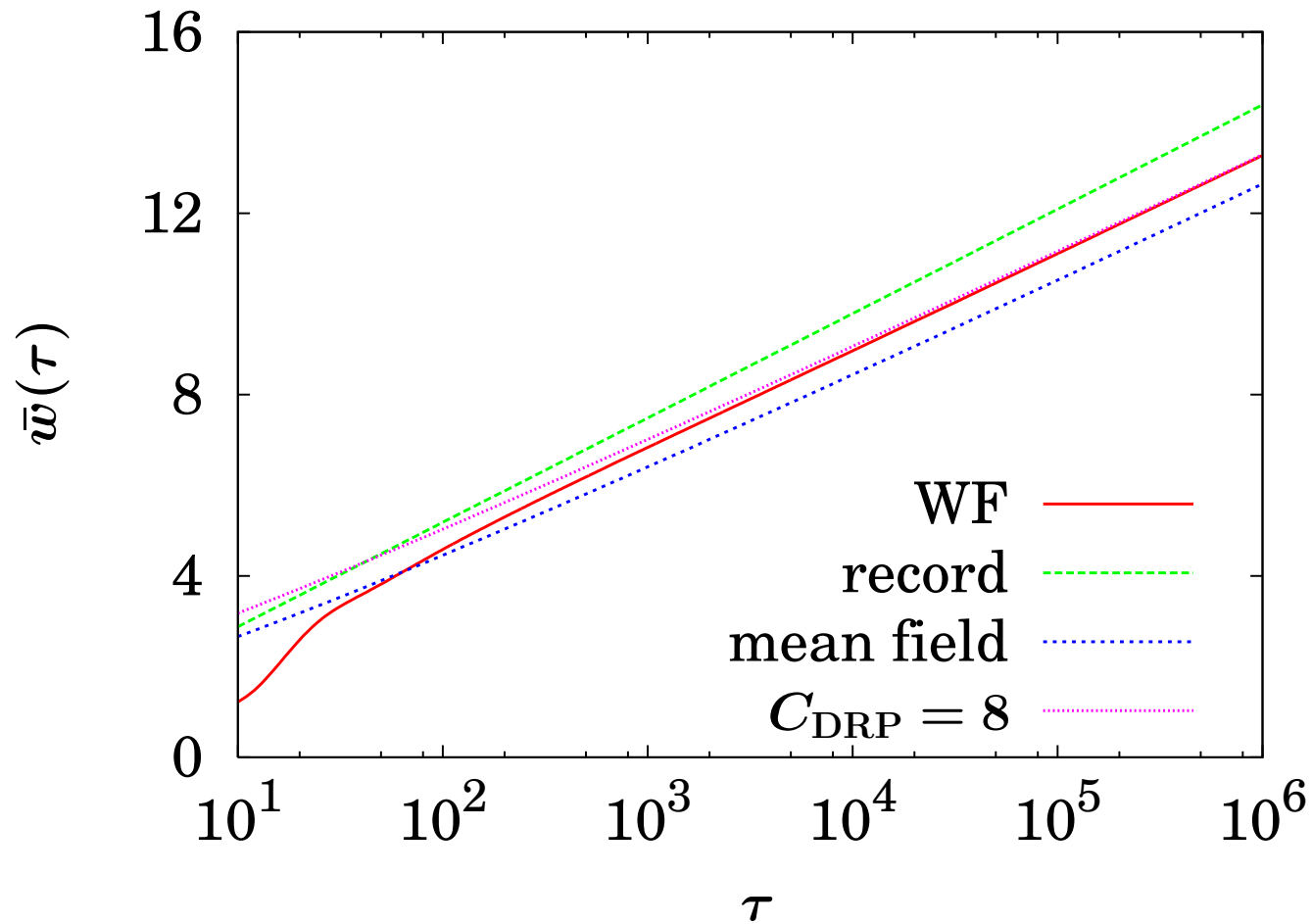
$$U = 0.01, N = 10^3, 10^5, 10^7, 10^9, \infty$$

# Comparison to the diluted record process



- scaled time  $\tau = NUt$
- fitness variance  $\kappa_2 \rightarrow \text{const.}$

# Diluted record process: Bounds and approximations

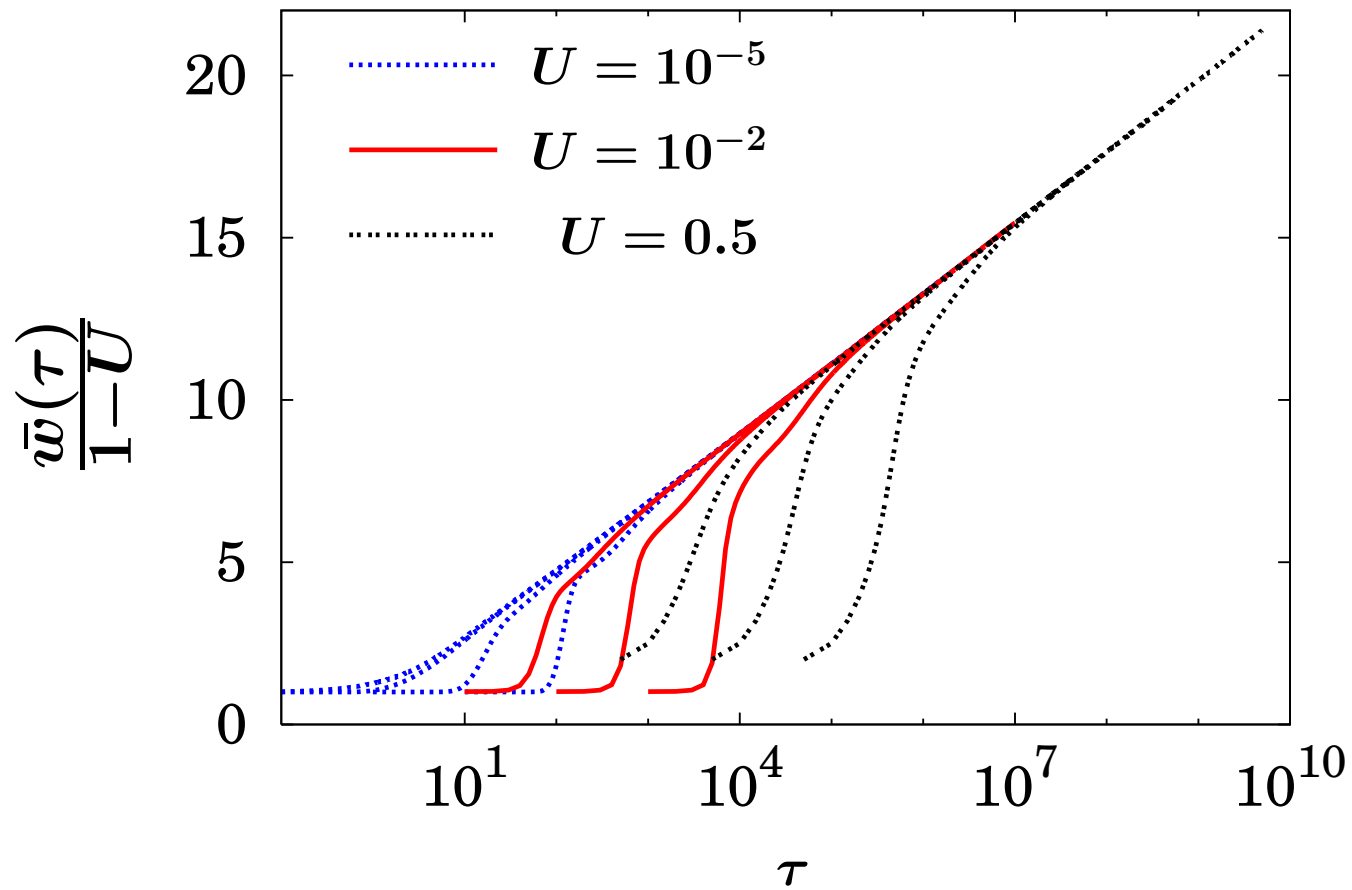


record process: upper bound

mean field approximation: lower bound



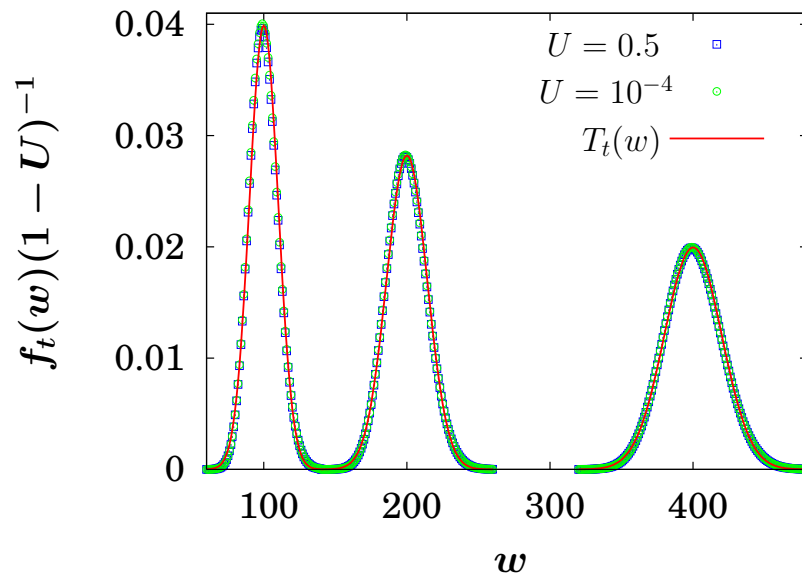
# Finite populations at arbitrary $U$



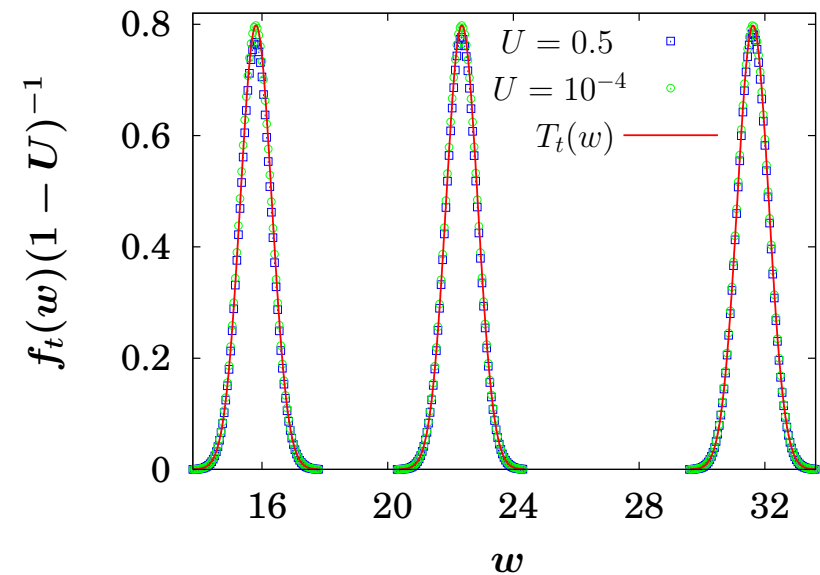
$$N = 10^3, 10^4, 10^5$$

# Bimodality of fitness distribution

exponential  $g(w)$



Gaussian  $g(w)$



- Asymptotic decomposition

$$f_t(w) \approx Ug(w) + (1-U)T_t(w)$$

with a “traveling wave” contribution  $T_t(w)$  holds for finite and infinite populations

# Empirical fitness landscapes for *Aspergillus niger*

J.A.G.M. de Visser, S.C. Park, JK, arXiv:0807.3002

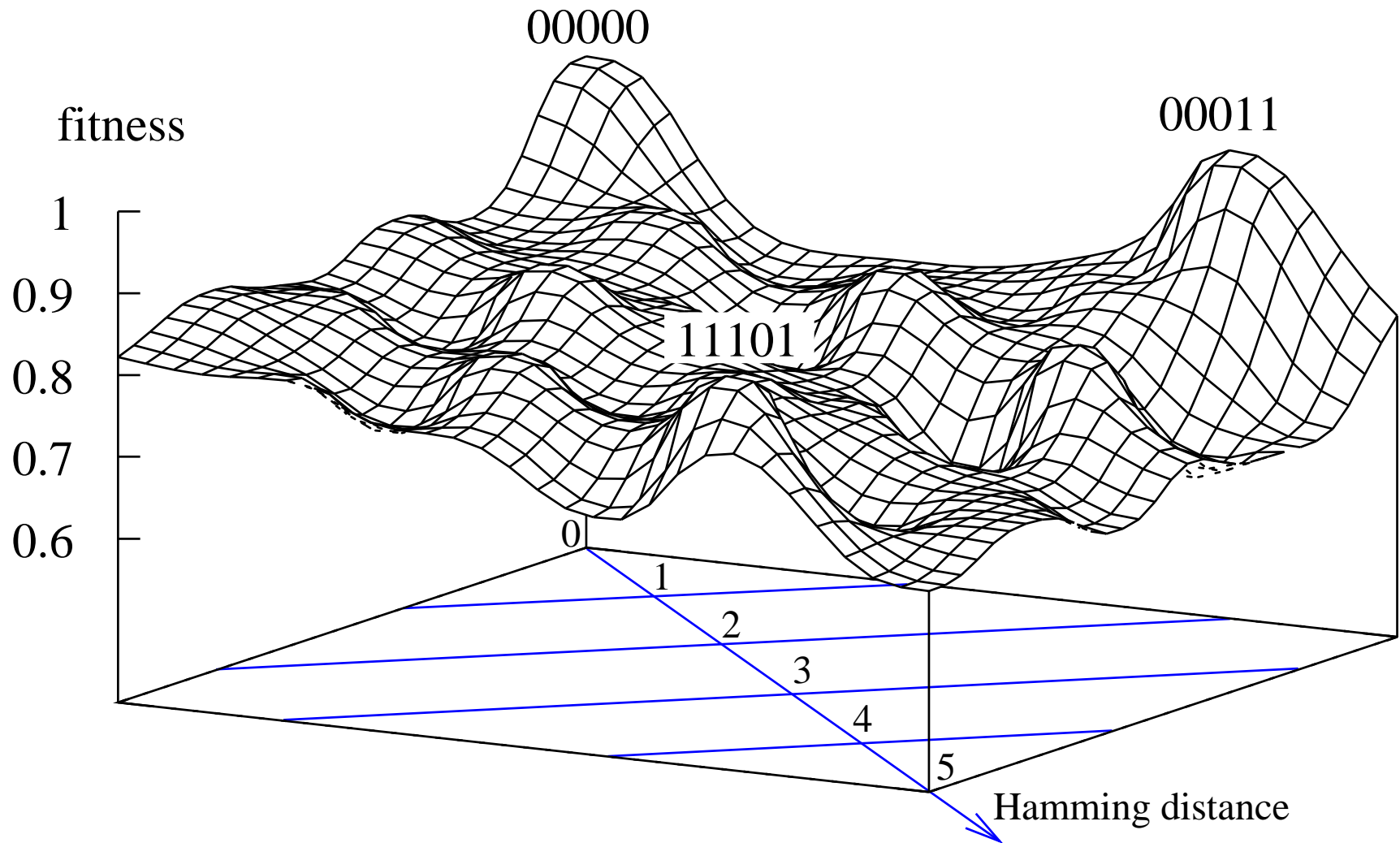


Figures courtesy of Mycology Online & N.D. Read (Edinburgh)

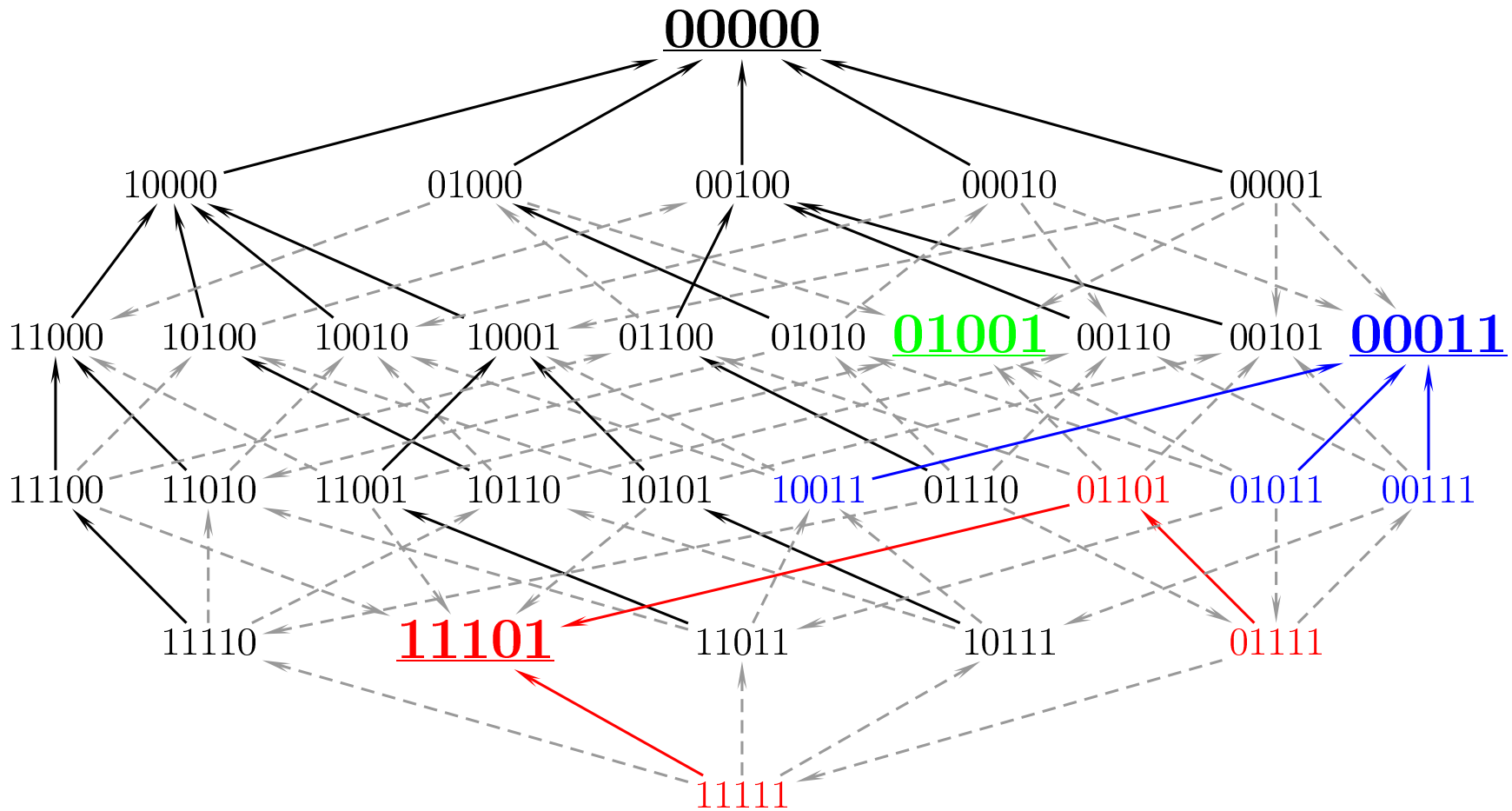
- 7 marker mutations known to be individually deleterious
- Fitness measurements of 186 strains, including 2 complete sets of  $2^5 = 32$  combinations of  $L = 5$  binary mutations

J.A.G.M. de Visser et al. (1997)

# The *A. niger* fitness landscape: An artist's impression



## The *A. niger* fitness landscape: Arrow graph



- Ruggedness: Several local fitness maxima (underlined)
- Most paths  $11111 \rightarrow 00000$  are selectively inaccessible

# Effect of recombination on adaptation

- **Free recombination:** Offspring chooses each locus at random from one of the two parents; e.g.,

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 11101 \\ 10100 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow 11101 \ 10101 \ 11100 \ 10100$$

with equal probability

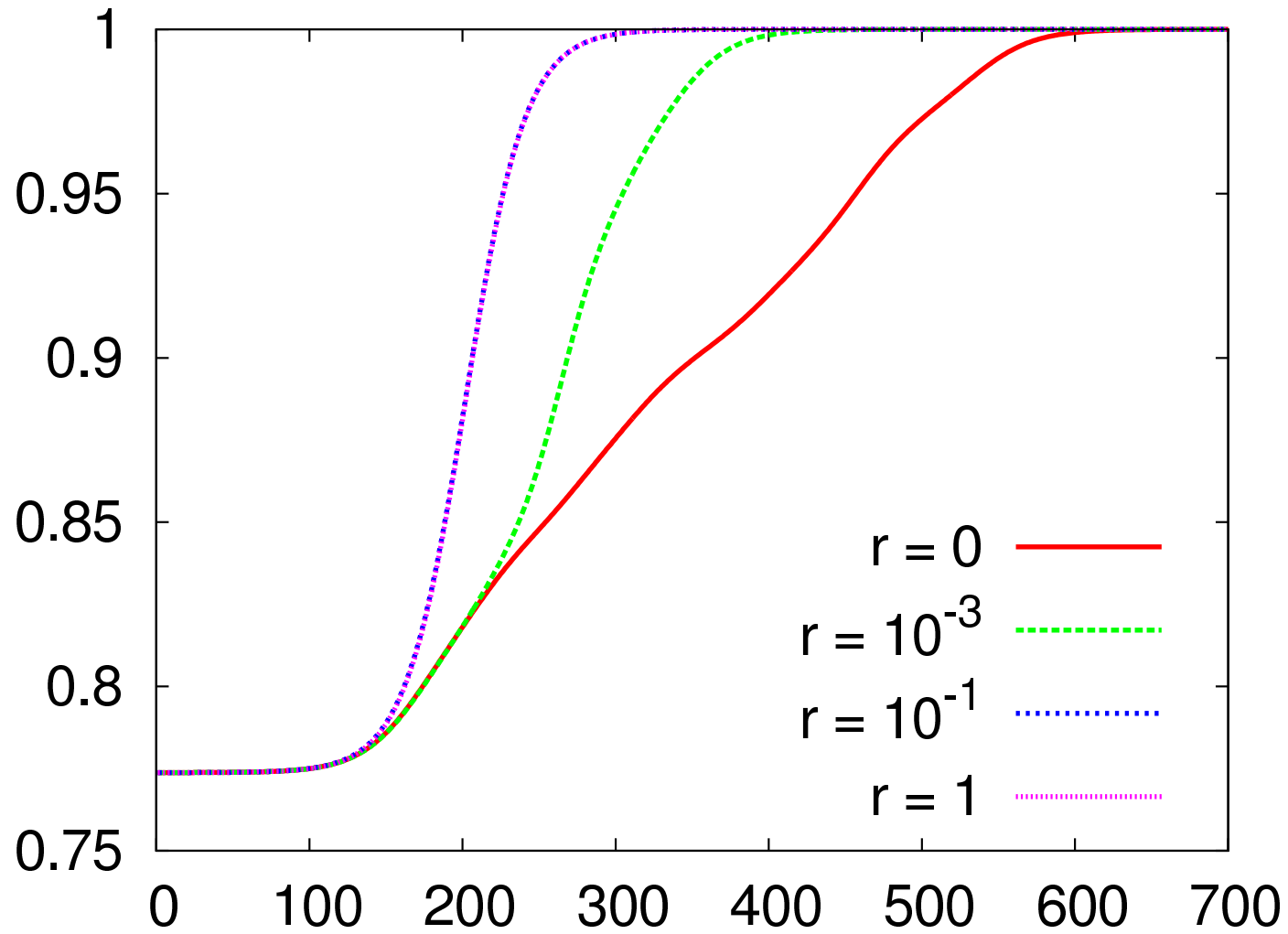
- Recombination occurs with probability  $r$  per individual and generation

## Expectation from two-locus models:

I. Eshel, M.W. Feldman, *Th. Pop. Biol.* **1**, 88 (1970)

- Recombination speeds up (**slows down**) adaptation in the presence of negative (**positive**) epistasis
- Transition from a lower to a higher fitness peak can be completely suppressed by recombination

## Multiplicative landscape: Fisher-Muller-effect



$$U = 10^{-5}, N = 10^7$$

# Infinite populations in the *A. niger* landscape

