

In search of the Goldilocks zone for hybrid speciation

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Abstract

Hybridization has recently gained considerable interest both as a unique window for observing speciation mechanisms and as a potential engine of speciation. The latter remains a controversial topic. It has been hypothesized that the reciprocal sorting of genetic incompatibilities from parental species could result in hybrid speciation, when the hybrid population maintains a mixed combination of the parental incompatibilities that prevents further gene exchange with both parental populations. However, the specifics of the purging/sorting process of multiple incompatibilities have not been examined theoretically.

We here investigate the allele-frequency dynamics of an isolated hybrid population that results of a single hybridization event. Using models of 2 or 4 loci, we investigate the fate of one or two genetic incompatibilities of the Dobzhansky-Muller type (DMIs). We study how various parameters affect both the sorting/purging of the DMIs and the probability of observing hybrid speciation by reciprocal sorting. We find that the probability of hybrid speciation is strongly dependent on the genetic architecture (i.e. the order and recombination distance between loci along chromosomes), the population size of the hybrid population, and the initial relative contribution of the parental populations to the hybrid population. We identify a Goldilocks zone for specific genetic architectures and intermediate recombination rates, in which hybrid speciation becomes highly probable. While an equal contribution of parental populations to the hybrid populations maximizes the hybrid speciation probability in the Goldilocks zone, other genetic architectures yield asymmetric maxima that are unintuitive on first sight. We provide an explanation for this pattern, and discuss our results both with respect to the best conditions for observing hybrid speciation in nature and their implications for patterns of introgression in hybrid zones.

1 Introduction

The role of hybridization for adaptation and speciation is an ongoing question that has been widely investigated and discussed Barton and Bengtsson (1986); Rieseberg (1997); Arnold et al. (1999); Buerkle et al. (2000); Barton (2001); Mallet (2007); Abbott et al. (2013); Servedio et al. (2013); Nieto Feliner et al. (2017); Schumer et al. (2018). On the one hand, hybridization may serve as a source of genetic variation. Various examples of adaptive introgression have been reported, reviewed in Hedrick (2013), and it has been argued that hybridization may provide the fuel for adaptive radiations Seehausen (2013). On the other hand, gene flow between diverging population may slow down or even reverse speciation either by purging isolating barriers or by one population swamping the other (Seehausen et al., 2008; Turissini et al., 2017). Thus, hybridization may act both as an engine of speciation and boost to genetic variation and as a detrimental mechanism that reduces population fitness and promotes extinction. This duality makes hybridization an important subject of study not only from an evolutionary but also a conservation biology point of view.

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42 Hybrid speciation describes a scenario in which hybridization is essential for the formation
43 of a “daughter” species that is isolated from both its parental species. The term “hybrid spe-
44 ciation” covers different scenarios that can be distinguished by the mechanism responsible for
45 the buildup of reproductive isolation. In the case of polyploidization, the newly formed species
46 consists of a fusion the genome of the two parents. The parents can be of the same species
47 (autopolyploidization, although the hybrid species tends to be outcompeted by the parental
48 diploid (Mallet, 2007)), or different ones (allopolyploidization), resulting in a single-step speci-
49 ation event. In contrast, homoploid speciation (or recombinational speciation) corresponds to
50 the formation of a hybrid species without a change in the ploidy level. This mechanism requires
51 the existence of genetic barriers between the parental populations and the newly formed hybrid
52 population, while still allowing the formation of sufficiently fit F1 hybrids. Despite this apparent
53 paradox, numerous empirical cases have recently been reported Schwarz et al. (2005); Mavárez
54 et al. (2006); Larsen et al. (2010); Hermansen et al. (2011); Kang et al. (2013); Yakimowski
55 and Rieseberg (2014); Lamichhaney et al. (2018). Whether all of these represent true cases
56 of homoploid hybrid speciation has been subject to debate. This debate has been led mainly
57 around the definition of hybrid speciation and the resulting implications for the reported cases
58 of empirical evidence (Schumer et al., 2014; Nieto Feliner et al., 2017; Schumer et al., 2018).
59 However, to our knowledge there exists little work that has evaluated the probability of hybrid
60 speciation theoretically.

61 Buerkle et al. (2000) studied the specific case of hybrid speciation via 2 overlapping parental
62 inversions. Their simulations suggested a rather narrow parameter range in which hybrid spe-
63 ciation is possible, and indicated that (among other restrictions) high fertility of F1 hybrids
64 is necessary to produce a stable hybrid population, which, as a consequence, is only poorly
65 isolated from its parental species. Moreover, (Schumer et al., 2015) studied the conditions for
66 reciprocal sorting of parental (Bateson-)Dobzhansky-Muller incompatibilities (DMIs; (Bateson,
67 1909; Dobzhansky, 1936; Muller, 1942)). A DMI consists of two (individually neutral or bene-
68 ficial) alleles at different loci that are negatively epistatic, i.e., their combination is deleterious.
69 Because epistasis in a DMI is by definition asymmetric (Orr, 1995), a single DMI is a poor
70 barrier to gene flow and will eventually be purged from the population (Barton and Bengtsson,
71 1986; Gavrillets, 1997; Bank et al., 2012). However, if multiple DMIs exist between two species,
72 in a hybrid population they might be resolved reciprocally with respect to the parental allelic
73 origin, which can result in a hybrid species that is isolated from both parental populations. This
74 model was proposed in (Schumer et al., 2015). The authors demonstrated via simulations that
75 pairs of DMIs can trigger hybrid speciation when the derived (incompatible) alleles are strongly
76 beneficial in the hybrid population.

77 Here, we provide a detailed analysis of Schumer’s model in which we identify several param-
78 eters that greatly influence the probability of hybrid speciation via DMIs when direct selection
79 on the derived alleles is less strong. Specifically, we quantify how the population size, the initial
80 contribution of parental alleles, and the the genetic architecture affect the probability of hybrid
81 speciation. As genetic architecture, we define the relative position of the different loci involved in
82 the hybrid incompatibilities that contribute to the species barriers (see also figure 1). Consistent
83 with (Schumer et al., 2015), we define the hybrid speciation as the successful reciprocal sorting
84 of incompatibilities, independent of the amount of isolation they confer. We discuss both weak
85 and strong isolating barriers and consider recessive and codominant architectures of the DMIs
86 (Turelli and Orr, 2000; Bank et al., 2012), which differ considerably in their sorting patterns.
87 Our results indicate that the genetic arrangement of the DMIs plays an essential role, such that
88 a specific arrangement can make hybrid speciation almost unavoidable, whereas a different one
89 may make hybrid speciation impossible for otherwise unaltered parameter values. Thus, we
90 identify a Goldilocks zone of hybrid speciation, in which an interplay of various factors may
91 make hybrid speciation more likely than previously assumed.

2 Model

We consider a single population model of constant size N in discrete generations. We model four diallelic loci, A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2 ; the lower-case letter corresponds to the ancestral allele and the upper-case letter to the derived one. Note that we do not detail here the two-locus model as it is fully included in the four-locus model. It can be obtained by keeping only loci A_1 and B_1 . Derived alleles at the different loci are under direct selection (soft selection), with α_k the (direct) fitness effect of allele A_k and β_k of allele B_k . Selection happens in the diploid phase of the life cycle. In addition, negative epistasis, ϵ_k , (which determines the strength of hybrid incompatibility) happens in a pairwise fashion between the derived A_k and B_k alleles (with $k \in \{1, 2\}$). Dominance affects only the epistatic interactions. In this manuscript, we focus mainly on two cases of dominance, which have proven representative of the general patterns (Bank et al., 2012): a recessive scenario and a codominant scenario, illustrated in figure 1. We introduce ϕ_k^n a mathematical placeholder used to distinguish between the recessive and codominant scenario at the k DMI, with n the number of pairs of incompatible alleles. Note that $n = 1, n = 2$ and $n = 4$ correspond to the H_0, H_1 and H_2 incompatibilities in Turelli and Orr (2000). Therefore, for a codominant DMI, ϕ_k^n is always equal to one $\forall n \in 0, 1, 2, 4$ while for a recessive DMI, the effect of epistasis is masked for the double heterozygote genotype, i.e. $\phi_k^1 = 0$ while $\forall n \in 0, 2, 4, \phi_k^n = 1$.

The population is initially composed of two single genotypes, since it results from secondary contact between two parental populations 1 and 2; i_p denotes the contribution of the parental population 1 to the newly formed hybrid population. We assume that the parental population 1 is fixed for the $A_1b_1A_2b_2/A_1b_1A_2b_2$ genotype and the parental population 2 for $a_1B_1a_2B_2/a_1B_1a_2B_2$. The fitness of a genotype composed of haplotypes i and j is given by:

$$\omega^{ij} = \prod_{k=1}^2 (1 + \alpha_k)^{X_k^i + X_k^j} (1 + \beta_k)^{Y_k^i + Y_k^j} \left(1 + (\phi_k^{(X_k^i + X_k^j) * (Y_k^i + Y_k^j)} * \epsilon_k) \right)^{(X_k^i + X_k^j) * (Y_k^i + Y_k^j)}, \quad (1)$$

where X_k^i is the number of alleles A_k in haplotype i , Y_k^i the number of alleles B_k in haplotype i .

Mating is random. We assume that the parents generate an infinite pool of gametes, from which zygotes are formed through multinomial sampling $M(2N, p_1, \dots, p_{16})$.

As introduced above, hybrid speciation is defined as the fixation of an haplotype that is incompatible both two parental haplotypes, see table 1. Indeed, if an individual homozygous for the $A_1b_1a_2B_2$ haplotype is backcrossed with an individual from, e.g. parental population 1, then the second DMI is expressed either in the F1 generation (codominant case) or in the F2 generation (recessive one). Similar introduction of such $A_1b_1a_2B_2/A_1b_1a_2B_2$ individual in the parental population 2 leads to the expression of the first DMI. This definition corresponds to an early stage mechanism, leading to an hybrid population that is only partially isolated from both parental population. Note that full isolation is impossible in this setting, as the barriers responsible for the full reproductive isolation, will also prevent the formation of the hybrid population in the first place.

We consider all possible genetic architectures formed by the two DMIs; they are illustrated in Figure 2. There are 6 different ways to organize the 4 loci along a single chromosome (assuming the chromosome does not have an orientation). The two DMIs can be “adjacent”, “crossed”, or “nested” (Fig. 2). Genetic distance between adjacent loci X and Y is given by $0 \leq r_{XY} \leq 0.5$. The distance between non-adjacent loci X and Y, separated by a single locus W, is given as follows $r_{XY} = r_{XW}(1 - r_{WY}) + r_{WY}(1 - r_{XW})$. If the four loci are spread across multiple chromosomes, this represents a special case of the single chromosome scenarios presented above, in which one or more recombination rates are set to 0.5. If not otherwise specified, we assume that all loci are located on different chromosomes, i.e. $r_{XY} = 0.5$.

Ancestral haplotype	$a_1b_1a_2b_2$
Parental pop. 1 haplotype	$A_1b_1A_2b_2$
Parental pop. 2 haplotype	$a_1B_1a_2B_2$
Hybrid haplotypes	$A_1b_1a_2B_2$ or $a_1B_1A_2b_2$
Partly diverged haplotypes	$A_1b_1a_2b_2$ or $a_1B_1a_2b_2$ or $a_1b_1A_2b_2$ or $a_1b_1a_2B_2$
1 st incompatibility haplotypes	$A_1B_1a_2b_2$ or $A_1B_1A_2b_2$ or $A_1B_1a_2B_2$
2 nd incompatibility haplotypes	$a_1b_1A_2B_2$ or $a_1B_1A_2B_2$ or $A_1b_1A_2B_2$
Both incompatibilities haplotype	$A_1B_1A_2B_2$

Table 1: Classification of possible haplotypes for the “adjacent” linkage architecture.

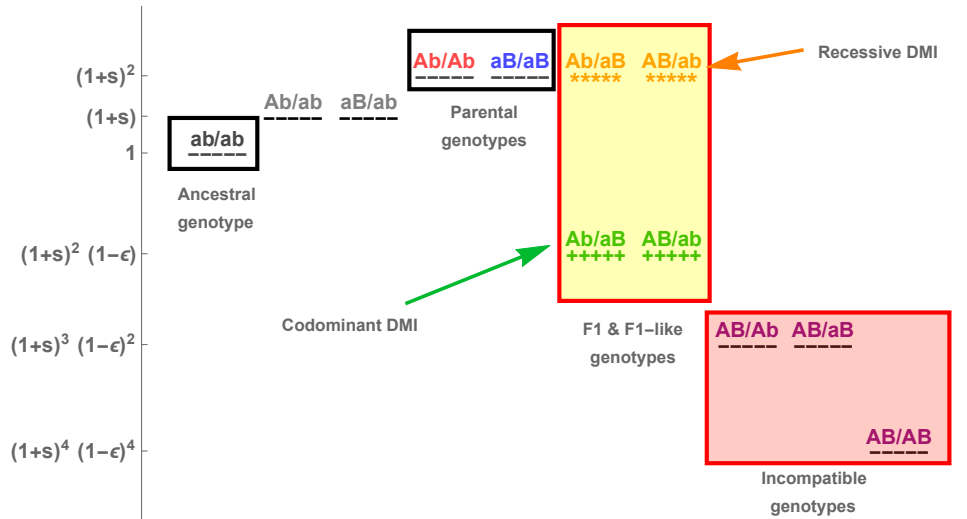


Figure 1: Fitness landscape of the 16 genotypes in the two-locus model, highlighting the effect of dominance of the incompatibility on the fitness of F1 hybrids. For simplicity, we illustrate the case of $\alpha = \beta = s$. Note that there is only 10 genotypes represented here, as we do not distinguish between the parental origin of each haplotype.

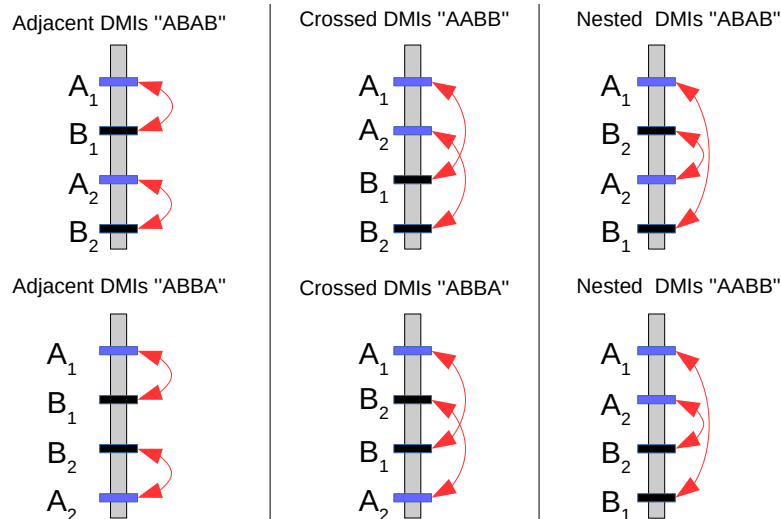


Figure 2: Illustration of all 6 different linkage architectures possible along a single chromosome. The A_k loci are given in blue and B_k in black. Red arrows show the incompatible interactions. The name of each architecture depends on the arrangements of the two incompatibilities and the order of the A and B loci.

138 Simulations are implemented in C++ and end when the population is monomorphic. Note
139 that the deterministic case (i.e., in the absence of drift, $N \rightarrow \infty$) can be obtained by skipping
140 the multinomial sampling step during zygote formation.

3 Results

3.1 Resolution of a single DMI

143 In the first part, we focus on the resolution of a single DMI following the formation of
144 the hybrid population. With a single DMI, hybrid speciation according to our definition is
145 impossible, because one of the negatively interacting partners in the DMI will invariably be
146 lost, which makes the maintenance of a genetic barrier to both parental species impossible.
147 We characterize the resolution of the genetic conflict resulting from the contact between two
148 diverged populations by quantifying: the probability of fixation of the different haplotypes, the
149 time of resolution of the DMI (i.e., the time until at least one of the incompatible alleles is lost)
150 and the time to fixation of a single haplotype. For this section, we only focus on the A_1 and B_1
151 loci and drop the indices as they do not carry any information.

152 **3.1.1 Dynamics following secondary contact** In a single randomly mating population
153 such as the hybrid population we consider here, a DMI cannot be maintained unless directional
154 selection is large as compared with the epistatic effect of the incompatibility Bank et al. (2012).
155 This is because the formation of hybrid individuals initially leads to negative selection against
156 both derived haplotypes. These haplotypes suffer from the incompatibility, either directly by
157 forming an unfit hybrid genotypes or indirectly through the production of unfit offspring. In
158 contrast, the ancestral haplotype has an advantage as soon as it appears and rises in frequency,
159 because it only forms compatible genotypes and produces compatible offspring (assuming that
160 the proportion of incompatible AB haplotypes in the population remains low). As soon as
161 the ancestral type becomes frequent or either of the derived types becomes rare, this marginal
162 advantage disappears, and the ancestral type will either be swamped by the more frequent
163 derived type (in the case of direct selection acting on the derived alleles, i.e., if $\alpha, \beta > 0$), or
164 segregate neutrally (if $\alpha, \beta = 0$). The incompatibility is usually resolved in favor of the more
165 frequent derived allele (if they have similar fitness effects), one main determining factor being
166 the initial frequency ratio between the two derived alleles (Fig. S2). Direct selection, as well
167 as codominance of the incompatibility, reduces the impact of genetic drift (i.e., the outcome
168 converges to the deterministic case). Indeed, once the DMI is resolved, selection increases the
169 probability of fixation of a single derived allele (Haldane, 1927; Kimura, 1962). The codominance
170 of the incompatibility shortens the time required to resolve the DMI (Fig. 3), and therefore
171 reduces the time spent at low frequencies, where loss of the derived alleles because of drift is a
172 likely outcome.

173 **3.1.2 Recombination has opposite effects under different dominance schemes** Re-
174 combination, because of its dual nature, has a converse impact on the outcome of an hybridiza-
175 tion event, depending on the dominance, as illustrated in Figure 3 for haplotype Ab . Indeed,
176 recombination breaks the association between the alleles of the parental haplotype and therefore
177 leads to the formation of both the incompatible haplotype AB and the ancestral haplotype ab .
178 On the one hand, this allows the expression of the incompatibility through the formation of the
179 AB haplotype, leading to a faster sorting of the derived alleles. On the other hand, building a
180 genotype with the ancestral haplotype protects both parental haplotypes from suffering from the
181 genetic incompatibility, leading to a slower sorting of the derived alleles. The balance between
182 these two effects is different for a recessive and a codominant DMI, leading to this opposite
183 behavior.

184 In the recessive case, recombination is necessary for the expression of the incompatibility.
185 Thus, the need to form the incompatible haplotype overcomes any cost of generating the an-

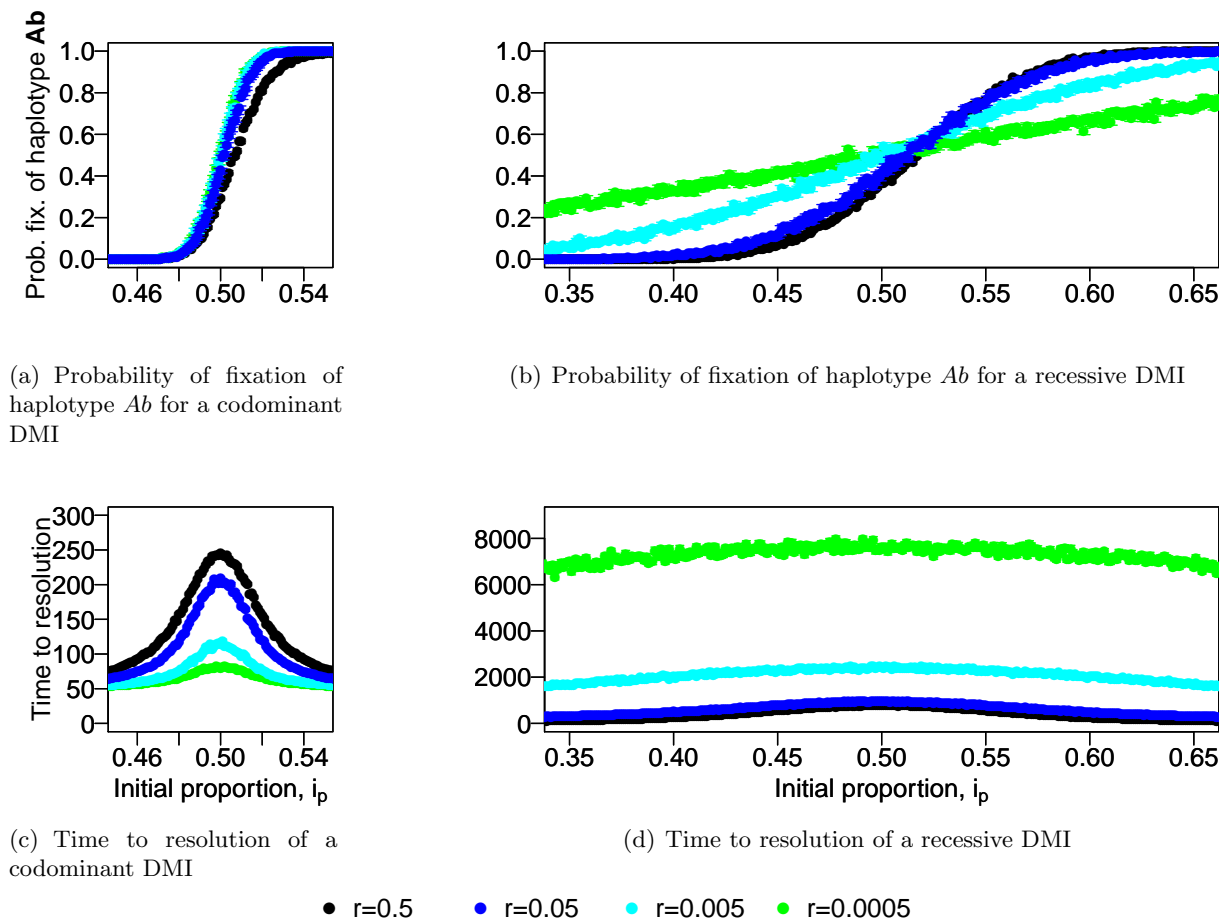


Figure 3: Recombination affects in a contrary manner the resolution of a codominant DMI while it speeds it up for a recessive one. We represent the probability of fixation of the *Ab* haplotype (top) for different recombination rates and different dominance schemes (codominant left, recessive right). We also illustrated (bottom) the time to resolve the genetic conflict (i.e., either allele *A* or *B* is lost). Each value is estimated over 1000 independent simulations. Note the much larger scale (x30) for panel d). Parameters used: $\alpha = \beta = 0.001$, $\epsilon = 0.2$, $N = 5000$.

186 central haplotype. An increase in recombination therefore always accelerates the resolution of a
187 recessive DMI. This reduces the time the derived alleles spend at low frequency, which makes
188 them less susceptible to being lost through genetic drift. This, in turn, reduces the probability
189 that the ancestral haplotype becomes fixed.

190 In the codominant case, the incompatibility is already expressed in the F1 generation. Re-
191 combination is not necessary to express the incompatibility and therefore slows down the res-
192 olution of the DMI, as the ancestral haplotype prevents the effective purging of the parental
193 haplotypes through the formation of ab/Ab or ab/AB individuals. In this situation, both de-
194 rived alleles remain at a lower frequency much longer than in the recessive model, which makes
195 them more likely to be both lost through genetic drift, resulting in the fixation of the ancestral
196 haplotype.

197 3.2 Resolution of two DMIs and hybrid speciation

198 We now focus on the simultaneous resolution of two independent DMIs. Expanding from
199 what we learned above, we now consider what happens when two incompatibilities exist between
200 the parental populations. In contrast to the case of a single DMI, a new evolutionary outcome,
201 namely hybrid speciation, becomes feasible with more than one DMI. By “hybrid speciation”, we
202 mean the reciprocal sorting of the two DMIs, i.e. fixation of either alleles A_1 and B_2 or A_2 and
203 B_1 . Such a hybrid population will then be genetically isolated from both parental populations.

204 **3.2.1 Isolation of the hybrid population by opposite resolution of two DMIs** Hy-
205 brid speciation is obtained through the reciprocal sorting of the two DMIs. Given the observed
206 shape of the fixation probability of a derived allele in a single DMI case as a function of the
207 initial contribution of both parental populations (Fig. 3), hybrid speciation should be observable
208 only around a symmetric contact, and this condition should be more stringent for codominant
209 incompatibilities than recessive ones (cf. Fig. 4). In Figure 4, we test this expectation by
210 comparing the probability of hybrid speciation for two DMIs that are located on separate chro-
211 mosomes (i.e., the “adjacent” architecture from Fig. 2; colored dots in Fig. 4), with the expected
212 probability of resolving two independent single DMIs for opposite derived alleles (e.g. first DMI
213 resolved towards allele A and the second one for allele B ; black dots). In the recessive case, the
214 prediction for independent DMIs matches the hybrid speciation probability. In the codominant
215 case, the independent expectation overestimates the probability of hybrid speciation. This can
216 be explained by the faster resolution of the DMIs in the codominant model, which, even in
217 the case of free recombination, leaves insufficient time for the two DMIs to become uncoupled
218 and independently resolved, as the A_1 and A_2 loci start in maximum linkage disequilibrium.
219 In the codominant case, this effect is amplified at low recombination rates as, in that case, the
220 resolution of the DMIs happens even faster (Fig. S4), therefore preserving more of the initial
221 linkage disequilibrium. This leads to a positive correlation between the fixation of the different
222 A_i alleles (as well as B_j alleles), Fig. S3. For the recessive case, the resolution of the two DMIs
223 remains independent as it takes much longer to resolve the DMI.

224 Figure S4 illustrates the mean time to resolve both DMIs in opposite directions conditioned
225 on the outcome being hybrid speciation. Recombination has the same effect on the resolution of
226 two DMIs than it did for a single one: it accelerates the resolution of recessive DMIs and slows
227 down the resolution of codominant ones. However, the average resolution time is not affected by
228 the initial proportion of the parental species; only trajectories that quickly resolve in the right
229 direction can contribute to hybrid speciation, and we are conditioning on this outcome.

230 **3.2.2 The linkage map determines which alleles survive** Fig. 5 illustrates the effect
231 of recombination and the genetic architecture on hybrid speciation, when all loci are on the
232 same chromosome (as opposed to one DMI per chromosome, as illustrated in Fig. 4). As
233 mentioned above, for codominant DMIs, recombination, on the one hand, allows the formation
234 of the hybrid haplotype and helps to reduce the initial linkage disequilibrium. On the other

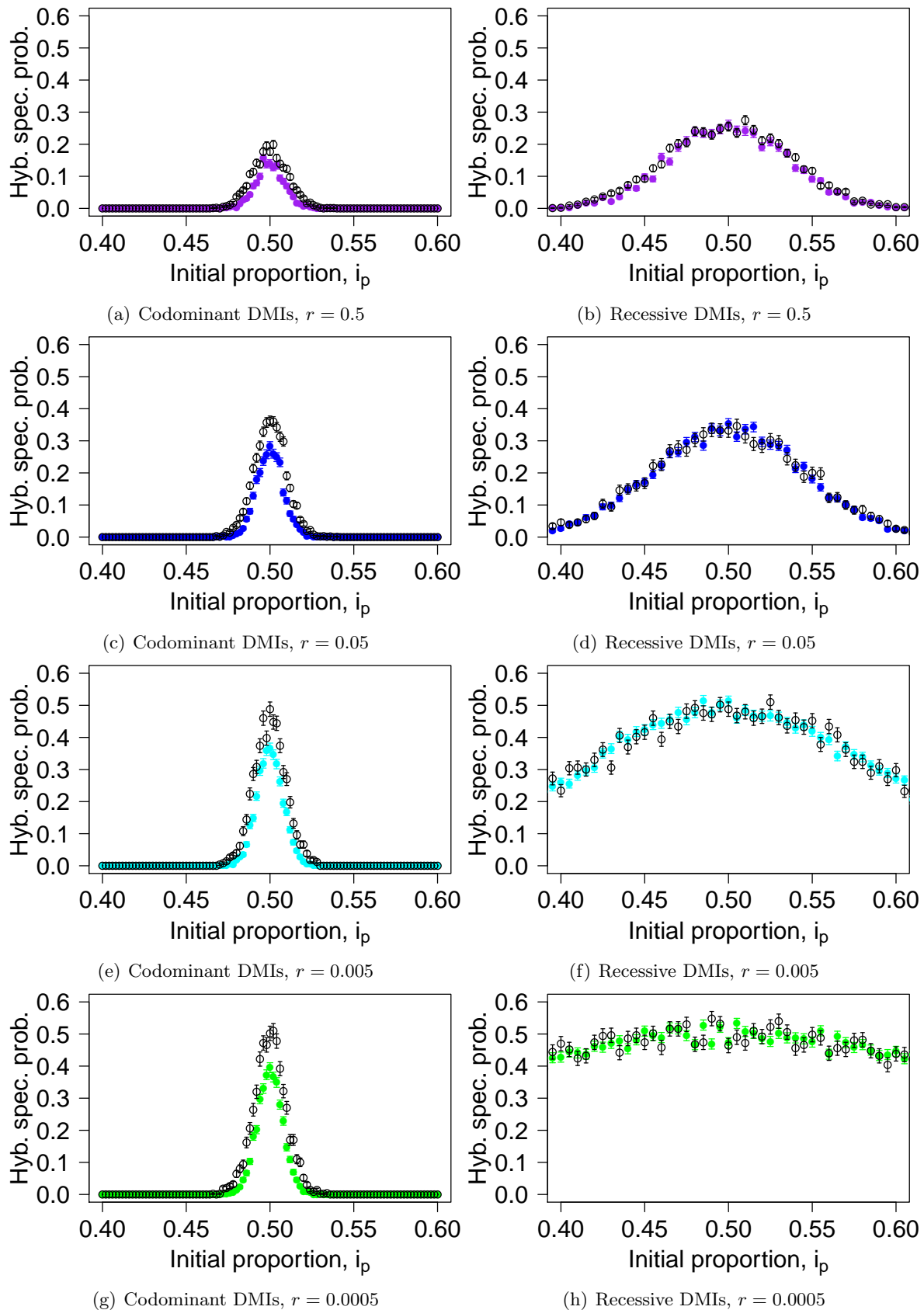


Figure 4: Hybrid speciation probability for codominant (left panels) and recessive (right panels) DMIs. The colored dots correspond to the probability of hybrid speciation for two DMIs situated on different chromosomes ($r_{23} = 0.5$). The genetic distance between the interacting loci is indicated below each panel ($r_{12} = r_{34} = r$). The black dots correspond to the predicted hybrid speciation probability based on the resolution of a single DMI. The fast resolution of the codominant DMIs leads to a correlation between their fate, which makes hybrid speciation less likely. Parameters used are $\alpha_i = \beta_i = .001$, $N = 5000$, $\epsilon = 0.2$. Each dot is obtained for 1000 replicates.

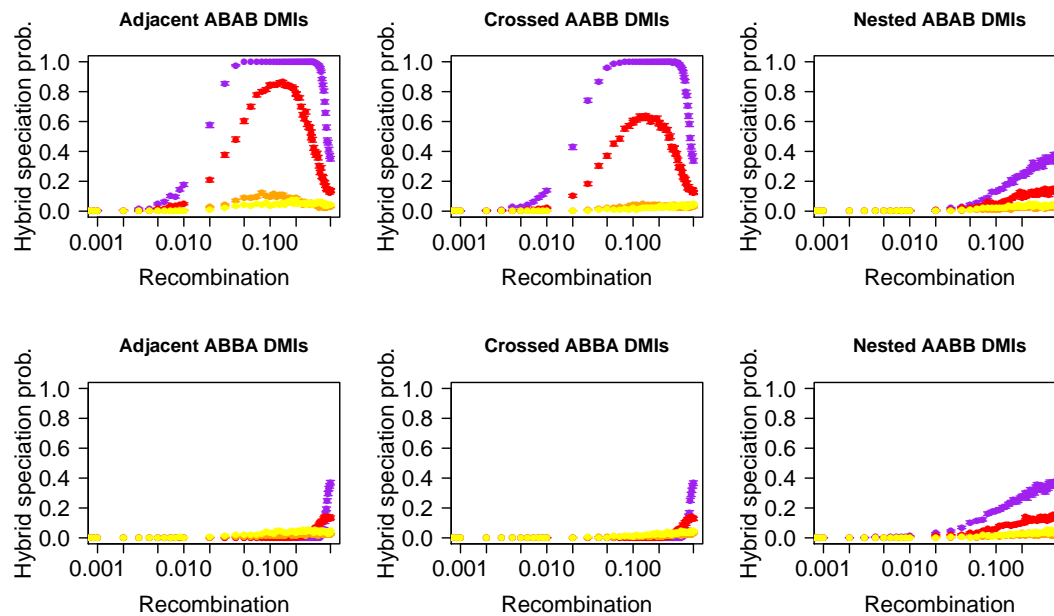


Figure 5: Hybrid speciation probability is a nonlinear function of recombination. We consider that all four loci have the same selective advantage ($\alpha_k = \beta_j = .001$) and are equidistant along a single chromosome. The hybrid speciation probability is plotted for different population sizes: yellow corresponds to $N = 50$, orange to $N = 500$, red to $N = 5000$ and purple to $N = 50000$. Epistasis ($\epsilon = 0.2$) is here codominant but we obtain qualitatively the same results for recessive incompatibilities see Fig. S7. The contribution of both parental populations here is symmetric ($i_p = 0.5$).

235 hand, it slows down the resolution of the DMI through the formation of compatible haplotypes.
 236 Depending on the balance between these two effects, recombination impacts the probability of
 237 hybrid speciation differently.

238 Assuming a symmetric contact, we observe that two of the genetic architectures, the “ad-
 239 jacent ABAB” and “crossed AAB B” ones, in which the A_1 and B_2 are on the edge of the
 240 chromosome, exhibit a non-monotonic behavior with maximum hybrid speciation probability
 241 for intermediate recombination rates. This behavior is most extreme for large population size
 242 and indeed corresponds to the deterministic outcome for these two genetic architectures. More
 243 precisely, we observe a local maximum of hybrid speciation probability for recombination rates
 244 around $r = 0.1$. The “adjacent ABAB” and “crossed AAB B” architectures, that show this
 245 behavior, are characterized by a higher marginal fitness of the A_2 and B_1 alleles compared to
 246 the other alleles in the deterministic case, which promotes hybrid speciation. For all other archi-
 247 tectures either either A_1 and A_2 or A_2 and B_2 have the highest marginal fitness, see Fig S5.
 248 The higher fitness stems from the production of the $a_1B_1a_2b_2$ and $a_1b_1A_2b_2$ haplotypes (for the
 249 “adjacent ABAB” architecture) that are relatively free of epistasis in the F2 generation. The
 250 outcomes of a single recombination event per genome for all 6 architectures are given in Table 2
 251 and illustrates how the “adjacent ABAB” and “crossed AAB B” architectures stand out in the
 252 production of the haplotypes that are needed of hybrid speciation. Importantly, recombination
 253 is necessary to generate these haplotypes, but too much recombination will cancel their advan-
 254 tage. Indeed, for $r = 0.5$, all haplotypes are produced in the same frequency in the absence
 255 of selection. This dual effect of recombination leads therefore to the observed maximum in the
 256 hybrid speciation probability for intermediate recombination rates. When the DMIs are located
 257 on two different chromosomes (as in Fig 4), this effect does not appear. Indeed, while recom-
 258 bination still breaks linkage disequilibrium, it no longer generates the relatively “epistasis-free”
 259 haplotype and therefore leads to a monotonous increase in the hybrid speciation probability with

Genetic architecture	F1 hybrid	Single recombination event between:		
		loci 1 and 2	loci 2 and 3	loci 3 and 4
Adj. ABAB		$A_1B_1a_2B_2$ $a_1b_1A_2b_2$	$A_1b_1a_2B_2$ $a_1B_1A_2b_2$	$A_1b_1A_2B_2$ $a_1B_1a_2b_2$
Adj. ABBA		$A_1B_1B_2a_2$ $a_1b_1b_2A_2$	$A_1B_1b_2a_2$ $a_1b_1B_2A_2$	$A_1b_1b_2a_2$ $a_1B_1B_2A_2$
Crossed AABB		$A_1a_2B_1B_2$ $a_1A_2b_1b_2$	$A_1A_2B_1B_2$ $a_1a_2b_1b_2$	$A_1A_2b_1B_2$ $a_1a_2B_1b_2$
Crossed ABBA		$A_1B_2B_1a_2$ $a_1b_2b_1A_2$	$A_1B_2b_1a_2$ $a_1b_2B_1A_2$	$A_1b_2b_1a_2$ $a_1B_2B_1A_2$
Nested AABB		$A_1a_2B_2B_1$ $a_1A_2b_2b_1$	$A_1A_2B_2B_1$ $a_1a_2b_2b_1$	$A_1A_2b_2B_1$ $a_1a_2B_2b_1$
Nested ABAB		$A_1B_2a_2B_1$ $a_1b_2A_2b_1$	$A_1b_2a_2B_1$ $a_1B_2A_2b_1$	$A_1b_2A_2B_1$ $a_1B_2a_2b_1$

Table 2: Haplotypes produced in the F2 breakdown, assuming a single recombination event, explains how different genetics architectures leads to different outcomes for the same loci. By identifying the relatively “epistasis-free” haplotype formed, one can infer whether hybrid speciation may be a likely outcome. In blue, we highlight these “epistasis-free” haplotypes that are important for hybrid speciation and in yellow for fixation of the parental haplotype from population 1.

260 increasing recombination rate. This behavior, specific to the “adjacent ABAB” and “crossed
261 AABB” genetic architectures is observed both for codominant and recessive DMIs.

262 As illustrated in Fig. S7, the recessive case is qualitatively similar to the codominant one.
263 We recover the distinctive pattern between genetic architectures, where the “adjacent ABAB”
264 and “crossed AABB” architectures are more likely to generate hybrid speciation for intermediate
265 recombination rates. However, for the “adjacent ABBA” and “crossed ABBA” genetic archi-
266 tectures, the recessive case differs from the codominant by the existence of two local maxima
267 for the hybrid speciation probability as a function of recombination. These two architectures
268 are characterized by in indirect selective advantage of one of the two parental haplotypes over
269 the other, as shown in table 2, as the partially derived haplotypes $A_1b_1b_2a_2$ and $a_1b_1b_2A_2$
270 are more likely to form than their counterparts ($a_1B_1b_2a_2$ or $a_1b_1B_2a_2$, see Table 2), which leads
271 to a slightly higher marginal fitness of the $A_1b_1b_2A_2$ haplotype compared to $a_1B_1B_2a_2$. The
272 first maximum is obtained at large intermediate recombination rates; it corresponds to the one
273 observed for codominant DMIs. However, a second one can be observed at lower recombination
274 rate if the population size reaches certain sizes. It results from a subtle balance between drift,
275 recombination and selection, which we explain in detail in the Supplement.

276 Lastly, the hybrid speciation probability for codominant versus recessive DMIs differs sig-
277 nificantly when considering lethal incompatibilities, (see Fig. S6). Hybrid speciation becomes

impossible for codominant DMIs because no viable hybrids can be produced. This is not the case for recessive incompatibilities, as they can partially escape the strong selection against hybrids. In fact, due to the masking effect provided in F1 and F1-like genotypes, we observe an almost indistinguishable pattern for deleterious ($\epsilon = -0.2$) and lethal ($\epsilon = -0.99$) recessive DMIs. Similarly, the time to observed hybrid speciation seems identical between the deleterious and lethal recessive cases.

Figure 5 also illustrates the impact of the population size on the outcome. In general a larger population size results in a higher probability of hybrid speciation. This is especially true when the deterministic outcome corresponds to hybrid speciation (i.e. the “adjacent ABAB” and “crossed AABB” architectures). Derived alleles are less likely to be lost during the reciprocal sorting of the genetic incompatibilities. The main exception to this rule exists when the deterministic outcome is the fixation of one parental haplotype. In that case, an intermediate population size will maximize the likelihood of hybrid speciation, as illustrated in Figure 5 for the “adjacent ABBA” and “Crossed ABBA” architectures (and Figure S7 and S9). This intermediate value corresponds to a balance between a strong drift regime in which the ancestral and “epistasis free” haplotypes are most likely to fix, and the deterministic regime in which the $A_1b_1b_2A_2$ parental haplotype fixes.

3.2.3 Symmetric contact is not always the best condition for hybrid speciation

Fig. 5 was obtained for $i_p = 0.5$, i.e. when both parental populations contribute equally to the hybrid population. It corresponds the case that is the most frequently investigated Schumer et al. (2015). Fig. 6 illustrates what happens when we release this assumption. From the single-DMI dynamics, one would expect a decrease in the hybrid speciation probability as illustrated in Fig. 5. This is not always true. Depending on the genetic architecture, the probability of hybrid speciation may be higher for asymmetric contributions from the parental populations. This phenomenon is also observed for intermediate recombination rate; thus, only a consideration of dominance scheme, recombination rate, and symmetry together allows for an accurate statement on the hybrid speciation probability (see Fig. 6). Table 2 provides us with an explanation for the observed pattern: for intermediate recombination rate ($r \approx 1/3$), there is on average one recombination event per haplotype. For the two architectures concerned (“adjacent ABBA” and “crossed ABBA”), in this scenario and with perfect symmetry, both alleles A_1 and A_2 have a marginal fitness that is slightly higher than alleles B_1 and B_2 (Fig. S5), which leads to the fixation of the parental haplotype $A_1b_1b_2A_2$ in the deterministic case. Therefore, a lower initial frequency of these alleles at the initial contact balances this selective advantage, which results in higher hybrid speciation probabilities than under symmetry. This behavior was only observed for the two architectures discussed above (“adjacent ABBA” and “crossed ABBA”). Indeed, for all other architectures, the two derived alleles that got a slight indirect selective are A_2 and B_1 for “adjacent ABAB” and “crossed AABB” (which corresponds to the cases of high probabilities of hybrid speciation) or A_2 and B_2 for the two “nested” architectures. In both cases, since the symmetry between the A and B alleles is respected, hybrid speciation is more likely at $i_p = 0.5$.

4 Discussion

We here characterized the purging process of single and multiple DMIs upon formation of an hybrid population. Specifically, we quantified the effects of the genetic architecture and the dominance of the epistatic interactions on the reciprocal sorting of incompatibilities, which has been proposed as a mechanism to induce homoploid hybrid speciation. We found that for the exact same set of loci, their order along the chromosome can increase the likelihood of observing hybrid speciation by more than an order of magnitude. We demonstrate that the main determinant of this pattern is which haplotypes are formed during the F2 breakdown. For the genetic architectures that promote hybrid speciation, there exists a Goldilocks zone in which an intermediate recombination rate maximizes the hybrid speciation probability. In addition, we show that symmetric contact of incompatible loci that are under equal selection pressure does

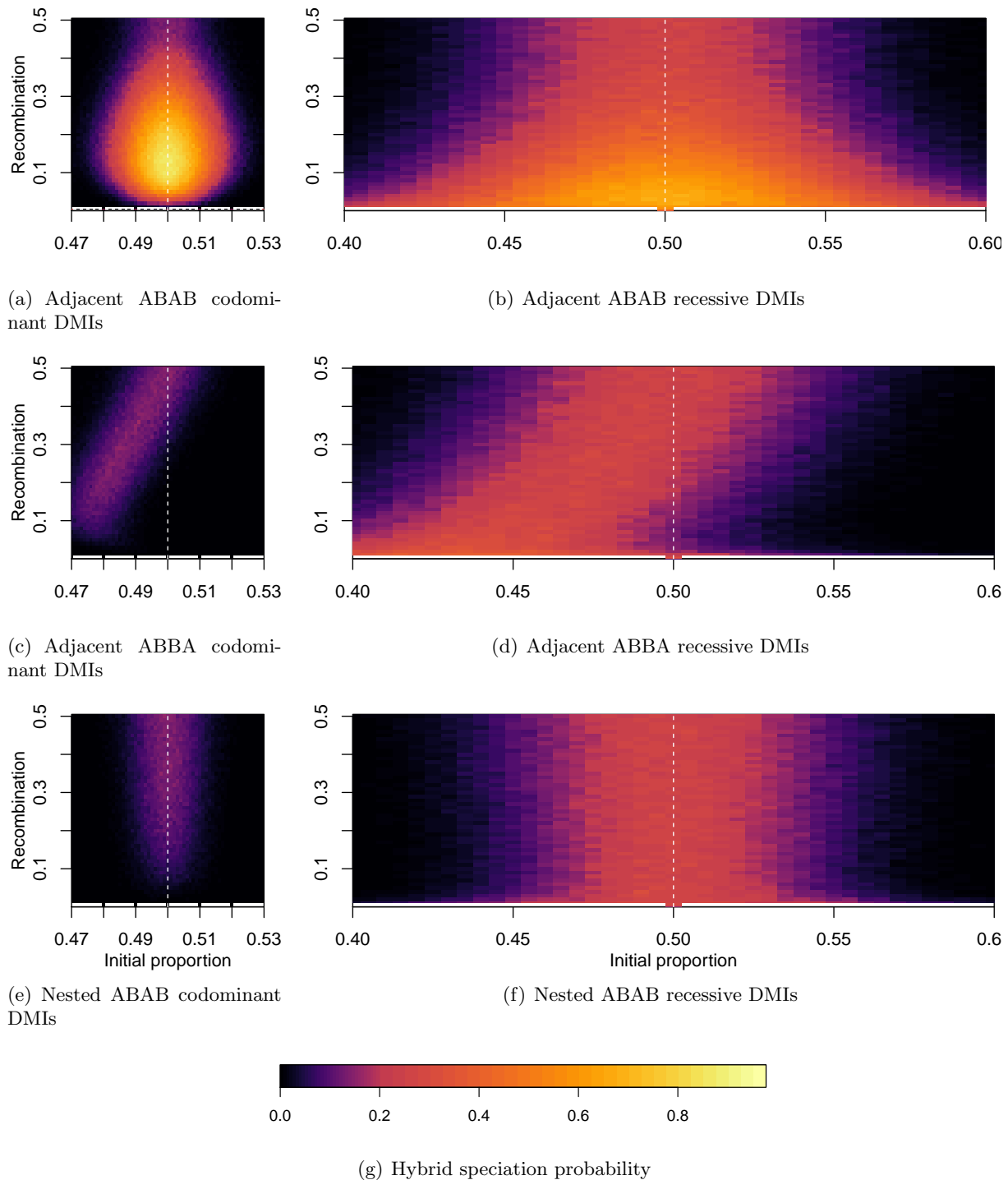


Figure 6: Probability of hybrid speciation for both recessive and codominant DMIs as a function of the genetic distance and the initial contribution of both parental species. We represent how different genetic architectures generate different unexpected pattern: for the “adjacent ABAB” architecture, we observe a Goldilock zone for recombination; for the “adjacent ABBA”, hybrid speciation is no longer symmetric along the $i_p = 0.5$ axis (the white dashed line).

328 not always generate the highest probability of hybrid speciation, and that this result cannot
329 be predicted from the study of independent DMIs. Finally, for recessive DMIs in which the F1
330 generation does not suffer a fitness disadvantage, reciprocal sorting is similarly probable with
331 intermediate and strong epistasis. Conversely, hybrid speciation with lethal codominant DMIs
332 is impossible.

333 **Genetic architecture, genomic islands of divergence and speciation** In this manuscript,
334 we quantified the probability of hybrid speciation in a minimal model that considers various ge-
335 nomic parameters. The importance of this question has been recently emphasized by Abbott
336 et al. (2013) “Thus, an important challenge in studies of hybrid speciation is to ask whether
337 there is an ‘optimal’ genetic distance for homoploid hybrid speciation (Arnold et al., 1999; Gross,
338 2012).” Although Abbott et al. (2013) were mainly referring to the degree of divergence and
339 thus, to the number of DMIs that have established between two species, we can add an addi-
340 tional important factor to their list: the genetic arrangement of the isolating barriers, and the
341 recombination rate between them. Our results demonstrate that intermediate recombination
342 rates and specific genetic architectures maximize the probability of hybrid speciation.

343 We can speculate whether the presence of multiple DMIs should increase the probability of
344 hybrid speciation. Based on our results, we believe that too should depend on the nature of the
345 incompatibilities: additional recessive DMIs should increase the hybrid speciation probability
346 while more codominant DMIs should reduce it. Indeed, for codominant DMIs, the fixation of
347 the different A_k (resp. B_k) is correlated (Fig. S3) despite them being located on different
348 chromosomes. Recombination is not sufficient to decrease the initial linkage disequilibrium.
349 Adding additional loci will result in stronger selection against F1 individuals. As we have seen
350 (Fig. S6), for lethal DMIs, hybrid speciation is impossible. Extrapolating from these two
351 observations, we expect that adding more DMIs will create stronger selective pressure against
352 the F1 hybrids, which leads to a stronger correlation in the fixation of the different A_k alleles.
353 We postulate that this effect will outpace the increase in hybrid speciation probability due to
354 having more chances to have at least one pair of reciprocal sorting. On the other hand, since
355 F1 hybrid do not suffer a fitness cost in the case of recessive DMIs, and since the fixation of
356 the different A_k is not correlated, we believe that a higher number of recessive DMIs should
357 increase the probability of hybrid speciation. Indeed, stronger epistasis seems to not) affect the
358 probability of hybrid speciation in the recessive model (Fig. S6 and S7) Thus, having more than
359 two recessive DMIs should increase the chances that at least two are “reciprocally sorted”.

360 When discussed in the more general context of speciation, our results can be integrated in
361 the discussion about genomic islands of divergence (Via, 2012; Feder et al., 2012). Indeed, during
362 the speciation process, these islands of divergence are formed around the first genes involved in
363 reproductive isolation. These genes will reduce the gene flow locally around them, favoring the
364 accumulation of weakly locally adapted mutations in their vicinity, forming those islands. Since
365 the barrier loci need to be apart from each other to eventually form a genome-wide barrier, the
366 formation of islands of divergence (in our model corresponding to a close distance between the
367 A loci or the B loci) is not necessarily helpful for speciation. Indeed, if the loci are in tight
368 linkage, then the reciprocal sorting of the DMIs is quite unlikely as the sorting at the different
369 A loci will be positively correlated. In addition, as shown by Yeaman (2013), locally adaptive
370 loci tend to be rearranged into clusters. This suggests that optimal configuration for hybrid
371 speciation may be quite rare, especially since the time window in which it can happen may be
372 restricted by this rearrangement mechanism.

373 **The probability of hybrid speciation in nature** Our results imply that while specific
374 genetic architectures may indeed induce hybrid speciation with high probability, it remains on
375 average unlikely, which is consistent with putative cases of homoploid hybrid speciation observed
376 in nature Schwarz et al. (2005); Mavárez et al. (2006); Larsen et al. (2010); Hermansen et al.
377 (2011); Kang et al. (2013); Yakimowski and Rieseberg (2014); Lamichhaney et al. (2018). Re-
378 cently, Runemark et al. (2018) reported that the Italian sparrow hybrid species resulted from

379 multiple occurrence of hybridization events between the Spanish and House sparrow along the
380 Mediterranean Sea, suggesting that it may not be that rare. The resolution of all hybridization
381 events towards a single mitochondrial origin (i.e. all Italian sparrow possess an House spar-
382 row mitochondrial DNA) suggests that either the mitochondria play an important role in the
383 sorting of the incompatibilities, or that there is an asymmetry in the formation of the different
384 hybrid population, in which Spanish sparrow males mate with House sparrow females. In this
385 manuscript, we only focus on autosomal chromosomes, who are inherited equally from both par-
386 ents; the potential interplay between organelles and sex chromosomes may add to the complexity
387 of the system; for an analytical comparison between dynamics of a single DMI on autosomal
388 chromosome versus sex chromosome see Höllinger and Hermisson (2017). Nevertheless, we pre-
389 dict a similar pattern for specific genetic architectures (“adjacent ABAB” and “crossed AABB”).
390 In these cases, hybrid speciation can become highly probably and result in the repeatability of
391 a hybrid speciation even. In addition, for both of these architectures the reciprocal sorting of
392 the DMIs is not random but happens for only one of the two possible “hybrid” haplotypes.
393 Finally, we consider a single contact event without any further interactions with both parental
394 populations, which makes our analysis more similar to the colonization of a new environment.
395 Continuous gene flow from one or both parental population should further reduce the probability
396 of hybrid speciation, because migration creates selective pressure against the hybrid haplotype.

397 **The nature of genetic incompatibilities** Both theoretical considerations and empirical
398 evidence suggest that most DMIs should be recessive (Orr, 1993; Presgraves, 2003). However,
399 any kind of dominance pattern of the epistatic interactions can in theory exist (Coyne and
400 Orr, 2004). Here, we showed that codominant incompatibilities are resolved much faster than
401 recessive ones. This indicates that we are less likely to observe the former in a polymorphic
402 state whenever a hybridizing population is sampled. Therefore, the frequent observation of
403 recessive incompatibilities (Presgraves, 2003) may not necessarily reflect the true proportion of
404 recessive incompatibilities but rather a sampling bias. Another simplifying assumption that one
405 could consider when studying multiple DMIs is independence of the fate of the non-interacting
406 alleles. Here, we compared the differences between how DMIs on different chromosomes and
407 independent DMIs are resolved. Whereas independent and unlinked DMIs behave similarly in
408 the recessive case, in the codominant case hybrid speciation is less likely than expected from
409 the prediction based on independent loci. That is because despite the absence of physical
410 linkage, recombination does not break linkage disequilibrium fast enough to separate the fate
411 of the different alleles. Thus, our work demonstrates that extrapolation from one to multiple
412 incompatibility pairs is not straightforward. In the case of lethal incompatibilities, only recessive
413 DMIs can be involved in hybrid speciation because the F1 generation in the codominant case
414 does not survive to reproduce. Surprisingly, although a lethal recessive incompatibility generates
415 a stronger genetic barrier to gene flow than a non-lethal recessive DMIs (Bank et al., 2012), the
416 strength of epistasis does not affect the probability of hybrid speciation. Thus, an accumulation
417 of weak recessive DMI pairs could result in optimal conditions for hybrid speciation. The
418 results presented here correspond to the initialization of the reproductive isolation of the hybrid
419 population from its parental sources. In this situation, since the genetic barrier will be weak,
420 the buildup of additional isolating barriers is necessary to fully form a new hybrid species. Note
421 that this later stage is similar to the parapatric model of speciation, therefore the current theory
422 applies (Servedio and Noor, 2003).

423 **Time to hybrid speciation** Schumer et al. (2015) argued that hybrid speciation happens
424 quickly, as corroborated by the latest empirical evidence Lamichhaney et al. (2018). We arrive
425 at a more detailed view of the time to hybrid speciation: whereas codominant DMIs are indeed
426 resolved quickly, this not the case for recessive mutations. Nevertheless, both codominant and
427 recessive DMIs lead to similar times to hybrid speciation. This apparent contradiction appears
428 because only fast resolving recessives DMIs result in hybrid speciation. In addition, after reso-
429 lution of the DMIs, the derived alleles still need to become fixed; this process is usually faster

430 in recessive populations. Lastly, codominants DMIs resolve much faster when recombination
431 is rare; however this almost never leads to hybrid speciation. Thus, in the codominant case,
432 only the slowest resolving cases, in which linkage disequilibrium is broken, are likely to generate
433 hybrid species. The time to hybrid speciation tends to scale with the size of the hybrid popula-
434 tion. Therefore, the short time to reproductive isolation reported in the empirical examples is
435 reflecting the size of the hybrid population and not necessarily an inherent property of hybrid
436 speciation. Lastly, the time to resolution of the DMIs (A_1 or B_1 is lost as well as A_2 or B_2) does
437 not depend on the initial proportion the two parental population contributed. Therefore, even
438 if longitudinal data were available, these would not be informative on the demographic history
439 of the hybrid population.

440 **Population size and selection** In our model, we consider populations of constant size. If
441 one relaxes this assumption (i.e. switching from soft selection to hard selection), one would
442 expect hybrid speciation to be more rare for at least two reasons. First, selection against the
443 different derived alleles in the early purging phase is stronger; indeed with soft selection the
444 effect of a mutation is weighted by the mean fitness of the population. Therefore, in maladapted
445 populations, the effect of deleterious mutations is slightly dampened. Second, the expected
446 decrease in population size that is associated with the purging phase increases the impact of
447 drift, which means that reciprocal sorting is less likely even in favorable genetic architectures
448 (as selection is not strong enough to counteract its effect). Lastly, even if the DMIs are resolved
449 in opposite direction, the different derived alleles will be at low frequency when their interact-
450 ing partner is lost, and therefore far more likely to be lost by drift subsequently. Overall, this
451 implies that hybrid speciation via reciprocal sorting is on average less likely than illustrated
452 here. Furthermore, this kind of contact between two diverged populations (or species) is usually
453 geographically restricted, and therefore happens for small populations. However, this apparent
454 rarity of hybrid speciation can be counteracted by the frequent formation of hybrid popula-
455 tions; this could suggest that the reported cases of homoploid speciation, may simply reflect a
456 geographical distribution conducive to the formation and isolation of hybrid population. The
457 Italian Sparrow seems to fit this scenario remarkably well (Runemark et al., 2018). Lastly, a
458 (Lamichhaney et al., 2018) has recently provided an example, where the number of founding
459 individuals of the new species is $N = 3$. The search for signs of hybrid speciation in very large
460 populations, for example yeast, would be an exciting avenue for hybrid speciation research in
461 the future.

5 Conclusion

462 The probability of hybrid speciation is subject to continuing debate (Schumer et al., 2015;
463 Nieto Feliner et al., 2017; Schumer et al., 2018). The reciprocal sorting of parental incompat-
464 ibilities has been proposed as one credible mechanism to achieve hybrid speciation. Our work
465 legitimates the existing disagreement by demonstrating that the hybrid speciation probability
466 via reciprocal parental incompatibility sorting is highly variable and dependent on the genetic
467 architecture and the dominance type of the involved incompatibilities. Specifically, the genetic
468 architecture determines not only whether hybrid speciation is achievable or not, but also whether
469 equal or unequal initial proportions of the parental populations are favorable for hybrid speci-
470 ation. In addition, we show that across all studied scenarios, intermediate recombination rates
471 maximize the likelihood of reciprocal sorting; i.e., interactions on the same chromosome are
472 favorable for hybrid speciation. Altogether, our work enables the important conclusion that in
473 nature, hybrid speciation via reciprocal sorting of incompatibilities should indeed be rare; at the
474 same time however, it can become almost deterministic (and, thus, repeatable) under optimal
475 genetic and demographic circumstances.
476

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