The relative impact of evolving pleiotropy and mutational correlation on trait divergence.

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Abstract

Both pleiotropic connectivity and mutational correlations can restrict the divergence of traits under directional selection, but it is unknown which is more important in trait evolution. In order to address this question, we create a model that permits within-population variation in both pleiotropic connectivity and mutational correlation, and compare their relative importance to trait evolution. Specifically, we developed an individual-based, stochastic model where mutations can affect whether a locus affects a trait and the extent of mutational correlations in a population, under the corridor selection model (some traits under directional selection and others under stabilizing selection). We find that traits can diverge whether there is evolution in pleiotropic connectivity or mutational correlation but when both can evolve then evolution in pleiotropic connectivity is more likely to allow for divergence to occur. The most common genotype found in this case is characterized by having one locus that maintains connectivity to all traits and another that loses connectivity to the traits under stabilizing selection (subfunctionalization). This genotype is favoured because it allows the subfunctionalized locus to accumulate greater effect size alleles, contributing to increasingly divergent trait values in the traits under directional selection without changing the trait values of the other traits (genetic modularization). These results provide evidence that partial subfunctionalization of pleiotropic loci may be

a common mechanism of trait divergence under regimes of corridor selection.

Keywords: Pleiotropy, Correlated Mutation, Genetic Architecture, Correlational Selection, Modularity, Mutation

1 Introduction

2 One of the central problems in evolutionary biology is understanding the
 3 processes through which new traits arise. One process that can lead to the
 4 creation of new traits is when existing traits become differentiated from one
 5 another because they are selected for a new purpose (Rueffler et al., 2012).
 6 There has long been evidence that this occurs through gene duplication fol-
 7 lowed by trait divergence (Muller, 1936; Ohno, 1970; Rastogi and Liberles,
 8 2005). One example in vertebrates is the differentiation of forelimbs from
 9 hind limbs, where the same gene that was responsible for both fore and
 10 hind limb identity in development diverged (Graham and McGonnell, 1999;
 11 Minguillon et al., 2009; Petit et al., 2017). In this case, the paralogous genes
 12 *Tbx4/Tbx5* that encode transcription factors for fore/hindlimb identity likely
 13 evolved from the same ancestral gene, and their expression differentiated after
 14 duplication (Minguillon et al., 2009). Somehow during functional divergence,
 15 there was break in the constraints of genetic architecture that determined the
 16 variational ability of the traits to respond to selection as independent mod-
 17 ules (Wagner and Altenberg, 1996; Hansen, 2006).

18 *Where do genetic correlations and modularity in traits come from on a molec-*
 19 *ular level?*

20 Modular structure in phenotypic covariations are found in a wide range of
 21 organisms, including yeast, round worms and mice (Wang et al., 2010). The
 22 underlying genetic architectures producing these covariations between traits
 23 are beginning to become more clear, but are still not certain. Constraints
 24 may stem from pleiotropic connections between loci and traits, where they
 25 may or may not create genetic covariation between the traits (Baatz and

Wagner, 1997; Kenney-Hunt et al., 2008; Smith, 2016). The pleiotropic effect on constraints comes in two forms: a multi-trait genic effect or a multi-trait mutational effect (Stern, 2000). A multi-trait genic effect is when a gene product (e.g. enzyme, transcription factor, etc.) has an effect on more than one trait by having multiple substrates or binding sites. This may constrain the evolution of separate traits (even without creating genetic correlations (Wagner, 1989; Baatz and Wagner, 1997)) because the overall fitness effect of a mutation beneficial for one trait will have a larger deleterious effect proportional to the number of traits it affects (Orr, 2000; Welch and Waxman, 2003). A multi-trait mutational effect is when a single mutation induces a change in more than one trait. Of course, pleiotropic mutations are dependent on the gene being pleiotropic, but correlations in mutational effects create genetic correlations which can constrain trait divergence in addition to the constraints caused by pleiotropic genic effects (Lande, 1979; Arnold, 1992; Stern, 2000). Both types of pleiotropic effects can evolve as a result of directional selection to allow for the differentiation of traits, but it is not known which is most important in constraining or facilitating evolution (Chebib and Guillaume, 2017)

Previous models of selection on pleiotropic constraints

When there is variation in the pleiotropic effects of genes on traits or the extent of correlation in mutational effects in a population, they can both evolve in response to selection (Jones et al., 2007; Pavlicev et al., 2011; Jones et al., 2014; Melo and Marroig, 2015). Previous multi-trait models of evolution looked at the effect of selection on genetic architecture evolution, and their predictions are all dependent on the details of selection (Melo et al., 2016). Pavlicev et al. (2011) developed a deterministic model for evolution of pleiotropic gene effects under selection where polymorphic loci (rQTLs) could affect the strength of correlation between traits. Selection on all traits in the same direction favoured alleles that increased the correlations between traits. Whereas, when there was directional selection on one trait and sta-

bilizing selection on another (called the corridor model of selection), alleles that lowered correlations between traits were favoured by evolution. Melo and Marroig (2015) developed an individual-based, stochastic model where pleiotropic connections between 500 additive loci and ten traits were variable and mutable. They found similar results as directional selection on all traits in a module led to increased correlations between traits and under the corridor model of selection, traits diverging from another became separate modules in their genetic correlations. But neither of these models explicitly allowed correlational mutations to evolve. Another group of researchers allowed mutational correlation between two traits to evolve in simulation by allowing it to be determined by ten unlinked, additive loci (Jones et al., 2003, 2007). They found that patterns of mutational correlation evolved to match correlational selection but only investigated stabilizing selection without divergence between traits, and also did not explicitly allow for pleiotropic connections to evolve.

Both pleiotropic connections (genic effects) and mutational pleiotropy (mutational effects) affect the ability of traits to diverge from one another. Whether pleiotropic connectivity or mutational correlation is more important remains to be seen (Chebib and Guillaume, 2017). Here we attempt to answer this question using stochastic simulations of populations, where individuals can vary in both pleiotropic connections and mutational effects, and divergent selection on some traits but not others will lead to divergent trait evolution.

Methods

Simulation development

We modified the individual-based, forward-in-time, population genetics simulation software **Nemo** (v2.3.4) to allow for the evolution of pleiotropic connectivity and mutational correlations (Guillaume and Rougemont, 2006). This was done by implementing the capability for the pleiotropic connections between alleles and traits in diploid individuals to be removed or added

at a rate given by the pleiotropic mutation rate (μ_{pleio}), which determined whether a trait-specific allelic effect of a locus was added to a trait value in that individual (Figure 1A). Each individual had a separate set of loci that held two allelic values for each pairwise mutational correlation between traits and which mutated at a rate given by the pleiotropic mutation rate (μ_{mutcor}) (Figure 1B). Whenever a mutation occurred at the genic effect level, at a rate given by the genic mutation rate (μ), the two alleles of each mutational correlation locus were averaged and the set of correlations were combined with equal mutational variances for all traits ($\alpha^2 = 0.1$) to make up the **M**-matrix that gave the parameter values for random sampling of mutational effects from a multivariate Gaussian distribution. Mutational effects were then added to the existing allelic values (continuum-of-alleles model; Crow and Kimura, 1964). Since each individual carried its own alleles for the genic effects on traits, the pleiotropic connectivity of genic alleles to traits, and the mutational correlations of effects on genic effects, combined with mutability on all three, there was the capacity of creating variation in the population on which differential selection could act.

Experimental design

To understand the impact of directional selection on the structure of genetic architecture, simulations were run with a population of individuals that had two additive loci underlying four traits. The initial conditions were highly constrained to divergent evolution with full pleiotropy (each locus affecting every trait) and strong mutational correlations between trait pairs ($\rho_\mu = 0.99$). Traits all began with a value of 2 with each allele of each locus having a value of 0.5 since trait values were calculated for each trait by summing the allelic values of all loci affecting that trait (2 alleles x 2 loci x 0.5 = 2). Gaussian stabilizing selection was applied and determined the survival probability of juveniles, whose fitness was calculated as $w = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} ((\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\theta})^T \cdot \boldsymbol{\Omega}^{-1} \cdot (\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\theta})) \right]$, where $\mathbf{z}$ is the individual trait value vector, $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is the vector of local optimal trait values (all values initialized at 2),

Figure 1: Pictorial representation of simulation model. **A** - Genetic architecture with an example of allelic values (genotype) of 2 loci, trait values (phenotype) of 4 traits, and the pleiotropic connectivity between them. Here, Trait 1 (and Trait 4) has a value of 2 determined by the sum of allelic values connected to it from Locus 1 ($0.5 + 0.5$) and Locus 2 ($0.5 + 0.5$). Traits 2 and 3 have the same value of 1.5 but for different reasons. For Trait 2, both alleles of Locus 1 have a value of 0.25 and both alleles of Locus 2 have a value of 0.5 ($0.25 + 0.25 + 0.5 + 0.5 = 1.5$), whereas for Trait 3 both alleles of Locus 1 are connected to it but only one allele of Locus 2 ($0.5 + 0.5 + 0.5 + 0 = 1.5$). **B** - An example of the creation of the mutation matrix (**M**-matrix) used for random sampling multivariate mutational effects with 6 loci representing each pairwise combination between 4 traits in an individual. Each locus has 2 alleles whose values represent correlations in mutational effects between traits that are averaged together and combined with the averages of the other mutational correlation loci into the off-diagonal elements of the **M**-matrix.

115 and Ω is the selection variance-covariance matrix ($n \times n$, for n traits) describ-
 116 ing the multivariate Gaussian selection surface. The Ω matrix was set as a
 117 diagonal matrix with diagonal elements $\omega^2 = 5$ (strength of selection scales
 118 inversely with ω^2), and off-diagonal elements set for modular correlational se-
 119 lection with no correlation between modules ($\rho_{\omega 13} = \rho_{\omega 14} = \rho_{\omega 23} = \rho_{\omega 24} = 0$)
 120 and strong correlation within modules ($\rho_{\omega 12} = \rho_{\omega 34} = 0.9$). Divergent di-
 121 rectional selection proceeded by maintaining static optimal trait values for
 122 traits 3 and 4 ($\theta_3 = \theta_4 = 2$) and increasing the optimal trait values for traits
 123 1 and 2 by 0.001 per generation (corridor model of selection *sensu* Wagner
 124 (1984); Bürger (1986)).

125 In order to compare the differential effects of evolving pleiotropic connec-
 126 tions and evolving mutational correlations on trait divergence, nine different

simulations were run with all combinations of three different rates of mutation in pleiotropic connections and mutational correlations (μ_{pleio} and μ_{mutcor} = 0, 0.001 or 0.01) representing no evolution, and mutation rates below, at and above the allelic mutation rate ($\mu = 0.001$), respectively. Simulations were also run with initial mutational correlations between all pairs set to 0 ($\rho_{\mu} = 0$) to compare highly constrained genetic architecture to ones with no constraints in the direction of mutational effects.

Unless otherwise specified, each simulation was run with 500 initially monomorphic (variation is introduced through mutations) individuals for 5000 generations of divergent, directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (followed by 5000 generations of stabilizing selection) in order to observe general patterns of average trait value divergence, population fitness, genetic correlation, pleiotropic degree and mutational correlation. In the case of pleiotropic degree, the two loci affecting trait values were sorted into a high and low pleiotropic degree locus for each individual before average over populations or replicates so that differential effects of the two loci were not averaged out in the final analysis. Individuals were hermaphrodites mating at random within a population, with non-overlapping generations. Statistics were averaged over 50 replicate simulations of each particular set of parameter values.

Results

Trait divergence and genetic modularity under genetic constraints

In the absence of genetic architecture evolution ($\mu_{pleio} = \mu_{mutcor} = 0$), trait modules are still capable of divergence, but do not follow trait optima closely since traits 3 and 4 get pulled away from their optima as traits 1 and 2 increase to follow theirs (Figure 2). With the introduction of variation in genetic architecture through mutation ($\mu_{pleio} = \mu_{mutcor} > 0$), average trait values follow their optima more closely and the capability of trait divergence increases as mutation rates in genetic architecture increases, which

leads to higher average populations fitness values by generation 5000 (Figure 3). Also by generation 5000, simulations with higher genetic architecture mutation rates ($\mu_{pleio} \geq 0.001$ or $\mu_{mutcor} = 0.01$) have distinctly modular genetic correlation structures with stronger correlations between traits 1 and 2 than between traits 3 and 4 (Figure 4). But at the highest pleiotropic connection mutation rate ($\mu_{pleio} = 0.01$) the genetic integration of trait 3 with 4 (and even trait 1 with 2) is no longer as strong. An increase in pleiotropic connection evolution has a greater effect on trait divergence and genetic modularization in a population when compared to the same increase in mutational correlation evolution, which is evident when either μ_{pleio} or μ_{mutcor} is the same as the allelic mutation rate ($\mu = 0.001$). Even when the mutational correlation mutation rate is at the highest tested ($\mu_{mutcor} = 0.01$), an increase in the pleiotropic connectivity mutation rate still improves the ability for traits to diverge, which can be seen in the decrease in variance over replicate simulations (Figure 2).

Effects of pleiotropic connectivity and mutational correlation evolution on rate and extent of divergent evolution

When evolution of pleiotropic connections is possible ($\mu_{pleio} > 0$) the most common allele in almost all cases is one that maintains connections to traits 1 and 2, but has lost connections to traits 3 and 4 after two mutational events. This allele is found in locus 1 or 2 at a frequency of 0.873 averaged over the populations of all simulations where evolution of pleiotropic connections is possible. The allele goes to fixation or near fixation in one locus where its pleiotropic degree decreases from four to two, and this happens more rapidly as μ_{pleio} increases (Figure 5). The decrease in pleiotropic degree resulting from the increase in frequency of this allele coincides with the modularization of genetic correlations, the divergence of traits and the increase in fitness. The proportion of times in which this particular allele becomes common in locus 1 or in locus 2 is approximately equal over all simulations (0.491 and 0.509, respectively, over 300 simulations) and never is observed in both loci

Figure 2: Trait value divergence over 5,000 generations of directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (Module 1) followed by 5,000 generations of stabilizing selection for different combinations of mutation rate in pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) and mutational correlations (μ_{mutcor}). Orange – average values of traits 1 and 2; Blue – average values of traits 3 and 4; Black – trait value optima for modules 1 and 2. Shaded regions show standard errors of the mean for 50 replicate simulations.

Figure 3: Average population fitness after 5,000 generations of directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (Module 1) for different combinations of mutation rate in pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) and mutational correlations (μ_{mutcor}). All error bars represent standard errors of the mean for 50 replicate simulations.

Figure 4: Genetic correlations between traits after 5,000 generations of directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (Module 1) for different combinations of mutation rate in pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) and mutational correlations (μ_{mutcor}). Red – higher genetic correlation. White – no genetic correlation

186 in any one individual.

187 When the mutation rate for pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) is zero, muta-
 188 tional correlation evolution can still lead to divergence but this takes longer,
 189 does not diverge as fully, and therefore has lower fitness. This occurs by a
 190 general decrease in all mutational correlations between traits with the rate of
 191 decrease determined by the mutation rate of mutational correlations (Figure
 192 6). When mutational correlation mutation rate is higher than the pleiotropic
 193 mutation rate then genotypic patterns do emerge where one locus is discon-
 194 nected to trait 3 combines with lower mutational correlations between traits
 195 1 and 4 or 2 and 4, **or** a locus disconnected to trait 4 combines with lower
 196 mutational correlations between traits 1 and 3 or 2 and 3 (at frequencies of
 197 0.16 and 0.10 over 50 replicates, respectively).

198 *Effect of mutational correlation initial conditions set to zero ($\rho_{\mu} = 0$ versus*
 199 *$\rho_{\mu} = 0.99$)*

200 In simulations where all mutational correlations are initialized at zero,
 201 there is little to no constraint on trait divergence despite full pleiotropic
 202 connectivity. This can be observed in trait values that follow their optima
 203 closely, leading to little reduction in fitness as optima for traits 1 and 2
 204 diverge from traits 3 and 4, with little evolution in mutational correlations
 205 and pleiotropic degree during divergent selection (Figure 7). There are still
 206 patterns of genetic architecture evolution as alleles with lowered pleiotropic
 207 degree still emerge in the populations, but fixation is not common nor are
 208 any allelic patterns of mutational correlations.

209 Discussion

210 *Pleiotropy and mutational correlation can lead to trait divergence*

211 Previous models of genetic architecture evolution have shown that evolu-
 212 tion in pleiotropy and mutational correlation can influence genetic correlation
 213 between traits and therefore responses to selection, but as far as we are aware

Figure 5: Average number of traits connected to each locus over 5,000 generations of directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (Module 1) followed by 5,000 generations of stabilizing selection for different combinations of mutation rate in pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) and mutational correlations (μ_{mutcor}). Loci are sorted so that locus with higher pleiotropic degree (Locus H) is always shown above and lower pleiotropic degree (Locus L) shown below. Shaded regions show standard errors of the mean for 50 replicate simulations.

Figure 6: Average within and between module mutational correlation over 5,000 generations of directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (Module 1) followed by 5,000 generations of stabilizing selection for different combinations of mutation rate in pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) and mutational correlations (μ_{mutcor}). Orange – mutational correlation between traits 1 and 2 (within Module 1); Blue – mutational correlation between traits 3 and 4 (within Module 2); Black – average mutational correlations between traits 1 and 3, 1 and 4, 2 and 3, and 2 and 4 (between Module 1 and 2). Shaded regions show standard errors of the mean for 50 replicate simulations.

Figure 7: Average trait value, fitness, mutational correlation and pleiotropic degree, when all ρ_{μ} are initialized to 0, over 5,000 generations of directional selection on traits 1 and 2 (Module 1) followed by 5,000 generations of stabilizing selection for different combinations of mutation rate in pleiotropic connections (μ_{pleio}) and mutational correlations (μ_{mutcor}). For pleiotropic degree, loci are sorted so that locus with higher pleiotropic degree (Locus H) is always shown above and lower pleiotropic degree (Locus L) shown below. Orange – trait 1 and 2 values or mutational correlation between traits 1 and 2 (Module 1); Blue – trait 3 and 4 values or mutational correlation between traits 3 and 4 (Module 2); Black – average mutational correlations between traits 1 and 3, 1 and 4, 2 and 3, and 2 and 4 (between Module 1 and 2). Shaded regions show standard errors of the mean for 50 replicate simulations.

214 this is the first time both have been allowed to evolve in the same model to
 215 look at the relative effects of the two in constraining or facilitating evolu-
 216 tionary divergence. When genetic architectures are highly constraining to
 217 the divergent evolution of some traits from others, then the importance of
 218 genetic architecture evolution can clearly facilitate the rate and extent of
 219 trait divergence. Although genetic architecture may evolve through changes
 220 in pleiotropic connectivity between genes and traits, and changes in the mu-
 221 tational correlations between traits, the former leads to a greater release of
 222 genetic constraints and faster adaptation. A qualitative distinction exists
 223 between these two types of genetic constraints for two reasons. First, genetic
 224 constraints based on mutational correlation distributions are more difficult
 225 targets of selection compared to pleiotropic connections since distributions
 226 are cumulative phenotypes (in each generation there is only a sample of the
 227 distribution on which selection can act), whereas a single allele that differs
 228 in its pleiotropic connectivity is a phenotype on its own. Second, mutational
 229 correlations are dependent on pleiotropic connections to be effectual on traits,
 230 whereas the latter can affect the rate of adaptation regardless of mutational
 231 correlation (Baatz and Wagner, 1997; Chebib and Guillaume, 2017).

232 The results of this study corroborate results from previous models of
 233 pleiotropic evolution. We observe that divergent selection in the form of
 234 the corridor model leads to modular genetic architecture with greater ge-
 235 netic correlations between traits *within* modules and lower correlations *be-*
 236 *tween* modules. This was also the case in both Melo and Marroig (2015)
 237 and Pavlicev et al. (2011) under the corridor model. They observed higher
 238 genetic correlations in modules under directional selection than under stabi-
 239 lizing selection which can also be seen in the patterns of genetic correlation
 240 we observed where traits 1 and 2 (traits under directional selection) had
 241 higher correlations between them than between traits 3 and 4 (traits under
 242 stabilizing selection). Unfortunately, it is unclear whether patterns of partial
 243 modular pleiotropy were responsible for the emergence of modularity in Melo

244 and Marroig (2015) as was found in our study. Jones et al. (2007) found
 245 “extreme” variation among replicates in the average mutational correlation
 246 observed when it was capable of evolving as was observed in our study (as
 247 well as when simulations were run with the same parameter values as the
 248 Jones et al. (2007) study; Supplemental Figure S1). The same “indeter-
 249 minacy in the evolution” of mutational correlation is likely responsible for
 250 the variation among replicates due to an unstable equilibrium in the adap-
 251 tive landscape (Lande (1980); Zhang and Hill (2002); Jones et al. (2007);
 252 Supplemental Figure S2).

253 *Patterns of pleiotropy*

254 What explains the emergence of one dominant genotype that has one lo-
 255 cus losing its connections to traits 3 and 4, and the other locus maintaining
 256 full pleiotropy? When mutational correlations are strong, modularization
 257 should arise so that mutational effects can increase traits 1 and 2 values
 258 without also increasing traits 3 and 4, (especially when stabilizing selection
 259 is strong compared to directional selection). Had stabilizing selection been
 260 weaker and/or directional selection been much stronger, then more loci af-
 261 fecting the traits would have increased the proportion of advantageous muta-
 262 tions allowing for divergence (Hansen, 2003). For the same reason, we don’t
 263 observe complete modularization with one locus only connected to traits 1
 264 and 2, and the other only connected to traits 3 and 4. With both loci con-
 265 tributing to traits 1 and 2, there is more mutational input from which larger
 266 effects to increase their values may appear, giving support to the idea that
 267 intermediate levels of integration will maximize evolvability when pleiotropic
 268 effects are all positive (Hansen, 2003). Also, since we were interested in the
 269 evolution of genetic architecture with trait divergence after gene duplication
 270 we started our simulations with a highly constrained, monomorphic popu-
 271 lation. This makes evolution in our model dependent on mutation and as
 272 traits diverged, the negative effects of pleiotropy increased, leading to modu-
 273 larization in the genetic architecture. But when mutation rates are high, and

selection acts primarily on standing genetic variation (from many mutations of small effects), pleiotropy is less constraining and integrated genetic architectures (both loci affecting all traits in our simulation) are more evolvable (as the analytical model of Pavlicev and Hansen (2011) shows). Therefore, if variation in pleiotropic connections and mutational correlations exist within duplicated loci in a population prior to divergent selection we may expect that many possible combinations of alleles that allow for increased variation and reduced covariation between traits could also exist. In that scenario, modularization may not be associated with trait divergence. In our simulations there is a glimpse of evolvability less modularity when mutational correlation is initialized to zero and traits are able to diverge following their respective optima closely without a decrease in fitness.

The results we obtain in this study are also related to work done on the evolutionary fate of duplicated, pleiotropic genes (Ohno, 1970; Hahn, 2009; Innan and Kondrashov, 2010; Guillaume and Otto, 2012). Previous models describe the conditions under which both genes remained fully pleiotropic which is expected to be favorable when there is selection for increased dosage as we had for traits 1 and 2 (Ohno, 1970). There is some empirical evidence of this in ribosomal RNA, histone genes, as well as amylase genes in humans with high starch diets (Zhang, 2003; Perry et al., 2007; Qian et al., 2010). Other models describe when one or both genes lose their connection to some traits, known as subfunctionalization, if there is a relaxation of selection after duplication (Force et al., 1999; Lynch and Force, 2000). There is also plenty of empirical evidence that this has occurred in vertebrate limb evolution, as discussed in the introduction, as well as pathway specialization in plants (Bomblies and Doebley, 2006; Des Marais and Rausher, 2008). The difference in our results compared to models with selection for increased dosage is that in our model there is only selection for higher values in traits 1 and 2, whereas selection for increased values in all four traits is expected to maintain all pleiotropic connections. The difference compared to neutral

models where subfunctionalization is the result is that in our model there is no relaxation of selection due to duplication and redundancy. The maintenance of pleiotropy in one gene and subfunctionalization in the other (the most common outcome in our simulations) is predicted to occur under specific conditions where there is asymmetry in either the fitness effects of traits or in the expression levels of genes but this prediction was the result of a model where there is competitive allocation of a gene's resources to the functions of one trait or another (as opposed to a trade-off at the fitness level in our model (Guillaume and Otto, 2012)). Additionally, mutations in this competitive allocation model can change the pleiotropic degree of genes in increments along a continuum (instead of connected or disconnected), so it is difficult to determine whether these similar observations result through the same mechanisms.

Conclusion

Both pleiotropic connections and mutational correlations can constrain the divergence of traits under directional selection from traits under stabilizing selection but when both can evolve trait divergence occurs because pleiotropic connections are broken between loci and traits under stabilizing selection. This is the result of pleiotropic connectivity being an easier target of selection than a distribution of mutational effects. The most commonly observed genotype includes one locus that maintains connectivity to both traits under directional selection and both traits under stabilizing selection, and the other locus losing its connection to the traits under stabilizing selection (subfunctionalization). The subfunctionalization of one locus allows it to contribute to increasingly divergent trait values in the traits under directional selection without changing the trait values of the other traits which leads to separate genetic modules. These results indicate that partial subfunctionalization is sufficient to allow genetic modularization and the divergence of traits with little to no loss of average fitness.

333 Supplemental

Figure S1: Average mutational correlation ρ_μ values for different values of correlational selection ρ_ω . Parameter values were chosen to match those used in Jones et al. 2007 wherever possible and averages were taken over values from every five generations after burn-in between generation 10,000 and 20,000. Number of loci = 50, Number of traits = 2, $N = 2372$, $\omega^2 = 9$, $\mu = 0.0002$, $\mu_{mutcor} = 0.002$, and $\alpha^2 = 0.05$.

Figure S2: Average fitness for different values of mutational correlation (static). Parameter values were chosen to match those used in Jones et al. 2007 wherever possible and averages were taken over values from every five generations after burn-in between generation 10,000 and 15,000. Number of loci = 50, Number of traits = 2, $N = 2372$, $\omega^2 = 9$, $\rho_\omega = 0.75$, $\mu = 0.0002$, and $\alpha^2 = 0.05$.

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