

## Population and Evolutionary Genetics

# Equilibrium population

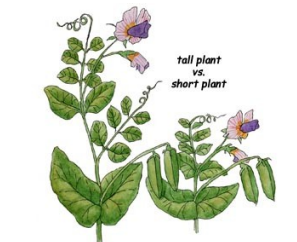
Aristotelis C. Papageorgiou, MBG DPTH, [apapage@mbg.duth.gr](mailto:apapage@mbg.duth.gr)

# Gregor Mendel

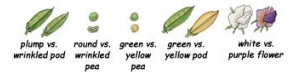
- He discovered the binary nature of heredity
- The probability of carrying an allele to the next generation is  $\frac{1}{2}$
- Traits are inherited randomly
- Mendel's work remained unknown until 1900



Gregor Mendel (1822-1884)

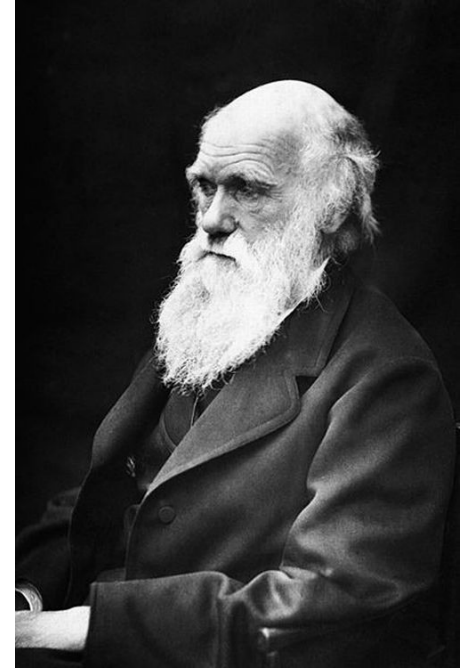


Traits that Mendel observed:



# Charles Darwin

- He described the mechanism of natural selection in evolution
- He founded a dynamic evolutionary theory
- He didn't use any math
- He did not explain the mechanism of inheritance



Charles Darwin (1809–1882)

# Discovery of Mendel's Laws (1900)



Carl Erich Correns  
(1864 - 1933)



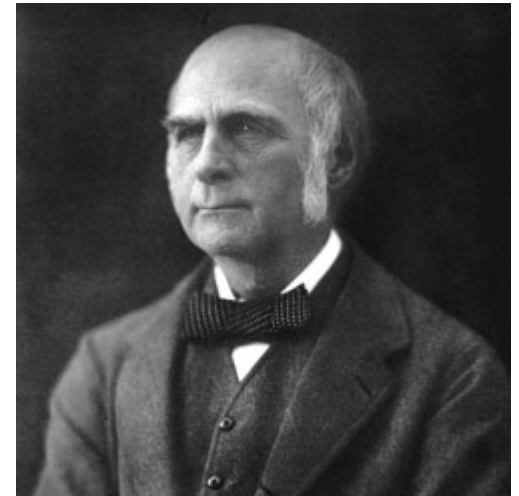
Hugo Marie de Vries  
(1848 - 1935)



Erich Tschermak  
(1871 - 1962)

# Francis Galton

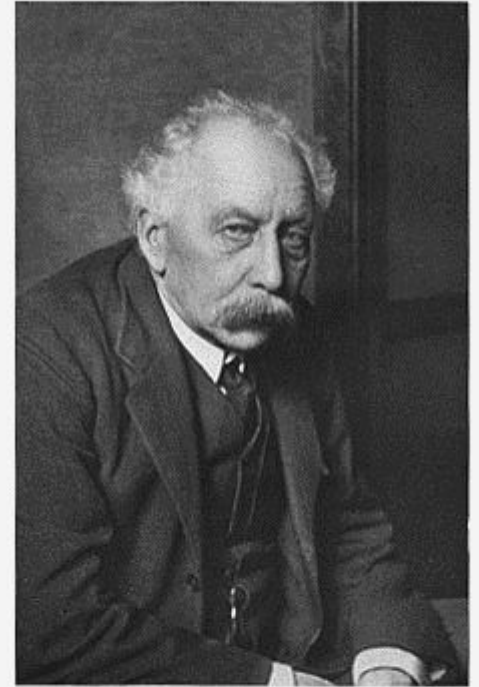
- Statistician, psychologist, sociologist, anthropologist, explorer, geneticist
- Founder of "Eugenics" and "Social Darwinism"
- He studied biometric differences in human populations
- He proposed an alternative theory of inheritance to that of Mendel (**biometric approach**)



Francis Galton (1822–1911)

# William Bateson

- He defended **Mendelism** and became the founder of genetics as a science
  - With Charles Davenport and Wilhelm Johannsen
- By the 1930s, Mendelian inheritance was broadly accepted



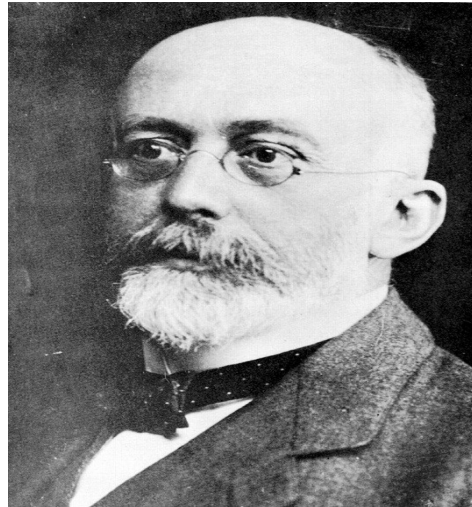
*W. Bateson*

William Bateson (1861-1926)

# Hardy & Weinberg Solve a Paradox (1908)

- It was believed that for distinct Mendelian characters, all pairs of phenotypes in a population would eventually reach a ratio of 3:1 with the dominant allele increasing and the recessive allele decreasing in frequency
  - Yule argued that "since brachydactyly is a prevalent disease, in time we will meet three individuals with brachydactyly and one normal"
    - In fact, brachydactyly is a very rare disease
  - Hardy replied that "it is utterly untenable to think that a dominant character will tend to spread through the population while a recessive will tend to disappear"

Yule 1902,  
Castle 1903,  
Pearson 1904



Wilhelm Weinberg  
(1862–1937)

1908



Godfrey Harold Hardy  
(1877–1947)

Hardy, GH (1908). "Mendelian proportions in a mixed population". *Science* **28**: 49–50.

Weinberg, W. (1908). "Über den Vererbung der Vererbung beim Menschen". *Jahreshefte des Vereins für vaterländische Naturkunde in Württemberg* **64**: 368–382.



# Estimation of genotype frequencies

		pollen ♂	
		<b>B</b> 1/2	<b>b</b> 1/2
pistil ♀	<b>B</b> 1/2	<b>BB</b> 1/4	<b>Bb</b> 1/4
	<b>b</b> 1/2	<b>Bb</b> 1/4	<b>bb</b> 1/4

- Mendel estimates phenotype and genotype frequencies among the offspring based on the genotype of the parents of a single cross
- Can we estimate the genotype frequencies in a population?
  - Yes, if there is **random reproduction!**

# Mendelian, panmictic or random mating population

- A population where mating between adult individuals occurs randomly is called a **Mendelian** population
  - A population with two sexes and adult (sexually mature) individuals
  - All possible mating events are **equally likely**
    - Random mating population
- The probability of interbreeding between individuals with a particular genotype or phenotype is equal to the product of their frequencies in the population

# Random play

Female gametes (frequency)

	A (p)	a (Q)
Male gametes (frequency)		
A (p)	AA (p <sup>2</sup> )	Ah (pq)
a (Q)	Ah (pq)	aa (q <sup>2</sup> )

$$P = p^2$$

$$H = pq + pq = 2\ p q$$

$$Q = q^2$$

*Hardy's approach*

Mating pair	Frequency of mating pair	Mendelian probabilities of offspring (zygotes)		
		AA	Aa	aa
AA × AA	$G_{AA} \times G_{AA} = G_{AA}^2$	1	0	0
AA × Aa	$G_{AA} \times G_{Aa} = G_{AA}G_{Aa}$	1/2	1/2	0
Aa × AA	$G_{Aa} \times G_{AA} = G_{AA}G_{Aa}$	1/2	1/2	0
AA × aa	$G_{AA} \times G_{aa} = G_{AA}G_{aa}$	0	1	0
aa × AA	$G_{aa} \times G_{AA} = G_{AA}G_{aa}$	0	1	0
Aa × Aa	$G_{Aa} \times G_{Aa} = G_{Aa}^2$	1/4	1/2	1/4
Aa × aa	$G_{Aa} \times G_{aa} = G_{Aa}G_{aa}$	0	1/2	1/2
aa × Aa	$G_{aa} \times G_{Aa} = G_{Aa}G_{aa}$	0	1/2	1/2
aa × aa	$G_{aa} \times G_{aa} = G_{aa}^2$	0	0	1
Total Offspring		$G'_{AA}$	$G'_{Aa}$	$G'_{aa}$

Weinberg's approach

Summing zygotes over all mating types:

$$G'_{AA} = G_{AA}^2 + \frac{1}{2} [2G_{AA}G_{Aa}] + \frac{1}{4}G_{Aa}^2 = [G_{AA} + \frac{1}{2}G_{Aa}]^2 = p^2$$

$$G'_{Aa} = \frac{1}{2}[2G_{AA}G_{Aa}] + 2G_{AA}G_{aa} + \frac{1}{2}G_{Aa}^2 + \frac{1}{2}[2G_{Aa}G_{aa}] = 2[G_{AA} + \frac{1}{2}G_{Aa}][G_{aa} + \frac{1}{2}G_{Aa}] = 2pq$$

$$G'_{aa} = \frac{1}{4}G_{Aa}^2 + \frac{1}{2}[2G_{Aa}G_{aa}] + G_{aa}^2 = [G_{aa} + \frac{1}{2}G_{Aa}]^2 = q^2$$

Alan R. Templeton.  
Population Genetics and  
Microevolutionary  
Theory, 2nd Edition  
(2021)

Note: Female genotypes are indicated first in the mating pair, male genotypes second.

# 1st conclusion from HW

- In a randomly mating population, knowing the allele frequencies in one generation, we can calculate the genotype frequencies in the next generation!

$$P' = p^2$$

$$H' = 2 p q$$

$$Q' = q^2$$

Calculate the allele frequencies in the next generation,  $p'$  and  $q'$

# Next generation allele frequencies

$$P' = p^2$$

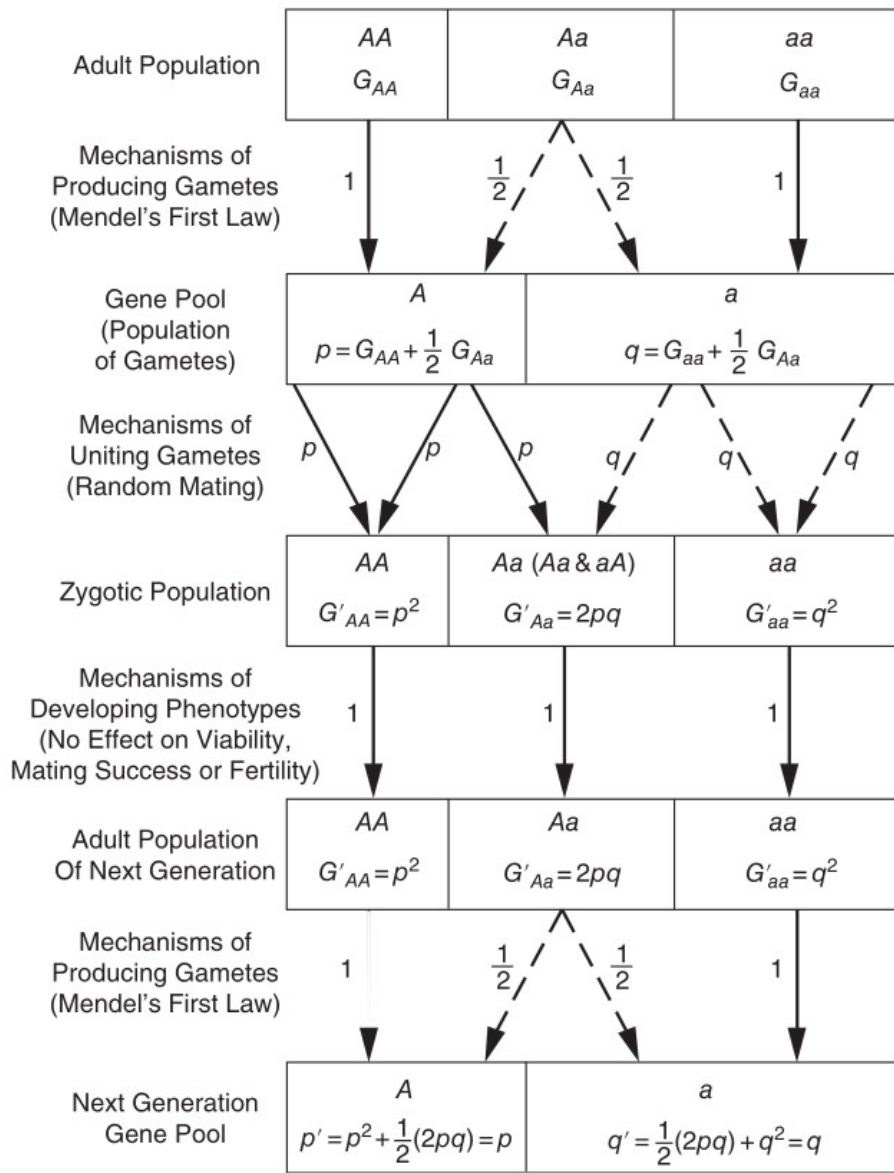
$$H' = 2pq$$

$$Q' = q^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} p' &= P' + H'/2 = p^2 + 2pq/2 = p^2 + pq \\ &= p(p+q) = p \end{aligned}$$

$$p+q=1$$

$$\begin{aligned} q' &= Q' + H'/2 = q^2 + 2pq/2 = q^2 + pq \\ &= q(p+q) = q \end{aligned}$$



In a randomly mating population, allele frequencies from generation to generation do not change!

Alan R. Templeton. Population Genetics and Microevolutionary Theory, 2nd Edition (2021)

## 2nd conclusion from HW

- In a randomly mating population, allele frequencies from generation to generation do not change!
- This is an **equilibrium population**

$$p' = p$$

$$Q' = q$$

Calculate the allele frequencies in the next generation,  $p'$  and  $q'$



# Example

## Σπερματοζωάρια

Συχν. (A) = 0,7

Συχν. (a) = 0,3

Συχν. (A) = 0,7

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Συχν. (AA)} &= \\ 0,7 \times 0,7 & \\ = 0,49 &\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Συχν. (Aa)} &= \\ 0,7 \times 0,3 & \\ = 0,21 &\end{aligned}$$

Ωάρια

Συχν. (a) = 0,3

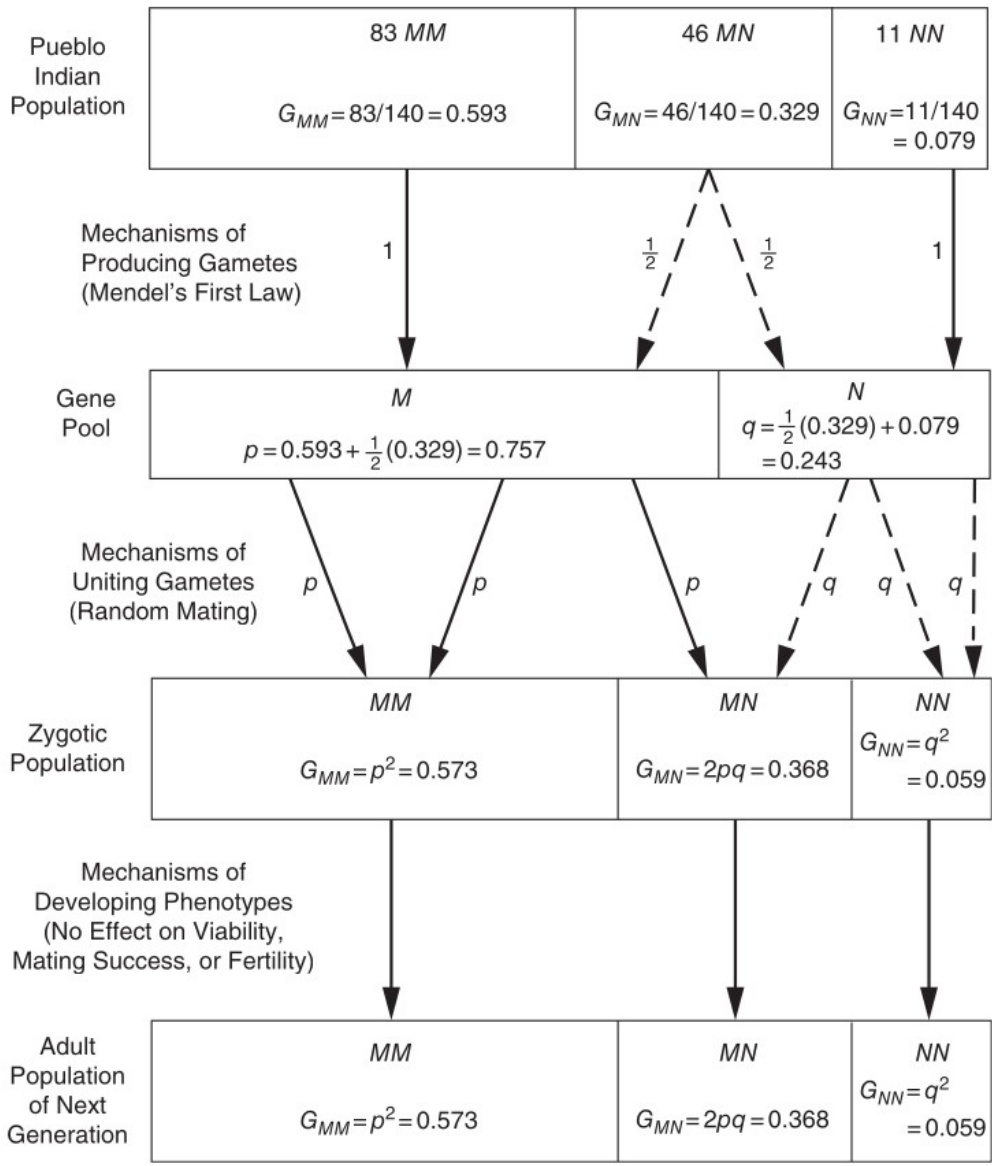
$$\begin{aligned}\text{Συχν. (aA)} &= \\ 0,3 \times 0,7 & \\ = 0,21 &\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Συχν. (aa)} &= \\ 0,3 \times 0,3 & \\ = 0,09 &\end{aligned}$$

$$P' = p^2$$

$$H' = 2pq$$

$$Q' = q^2$$



# Example

Application of the Hardy–Weinberg model to a sample of Pueblo Indians scored for their genotypes at the autosomal **MN blood group locus**.

$P' = p^2$

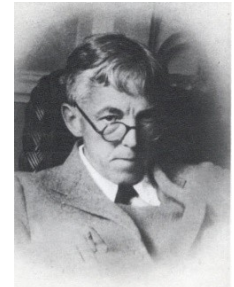
$H' = 2pq$

$Q' = q^2$

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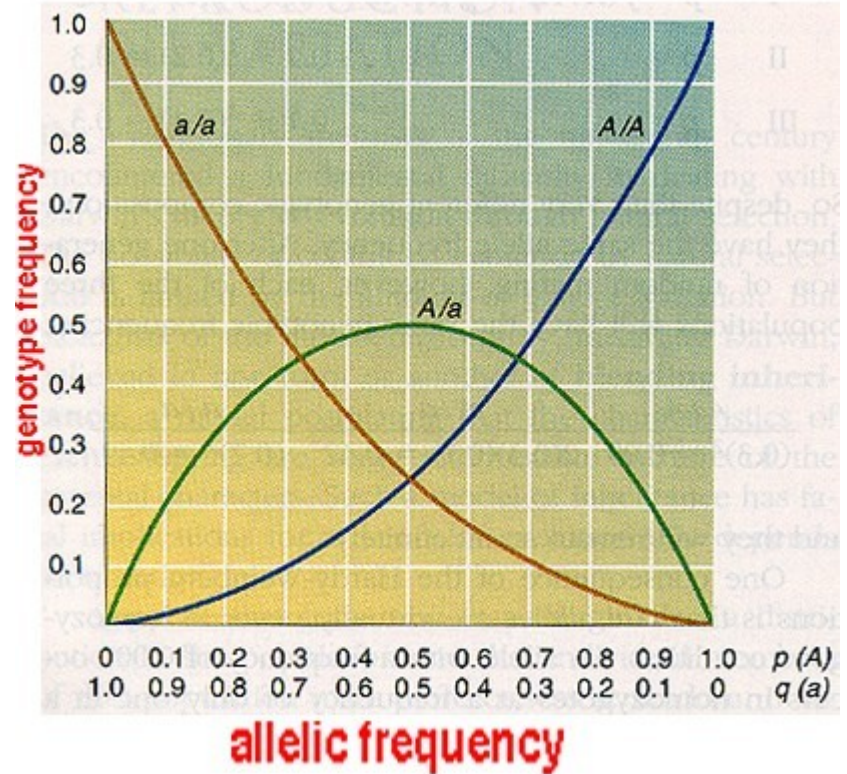
# Hardy-Weinberg Law

- The most basic model in population genetics
  - When we have random reproduction, after one generation we can calculate the genotype frequencies of a population as a binomial function of the allele frequencies
  - If other evolutionary factors (e.g. selection) are absent, and reproduction remains random, then these frequencies do not change from generation to generation



# Binomial development

- $p^2+2pq+q^2= (p+q)^2$
- It means that with random reproduction, alleles A and a with frequencies p and q are randomly combined in pairs
  - Why every two?

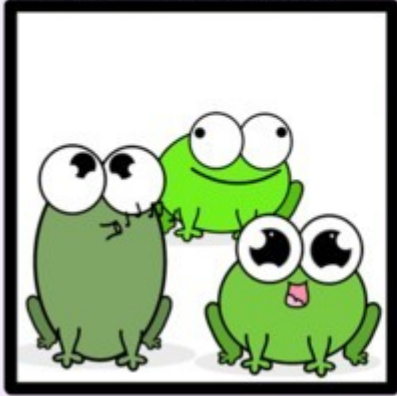


# Conditions for the validity of the HW theorem

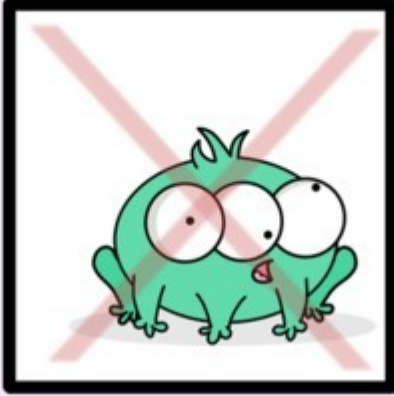
- Diploid organism
- Sexual reproduction
- Non-overlapping generations
- Population size infinite
- Same allelic frequencies in males and females
- Random pairing of individuals (mixture)
- No Selection
- No influx of alleles into the population (immigration or mutation)

# Assumptions of Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium

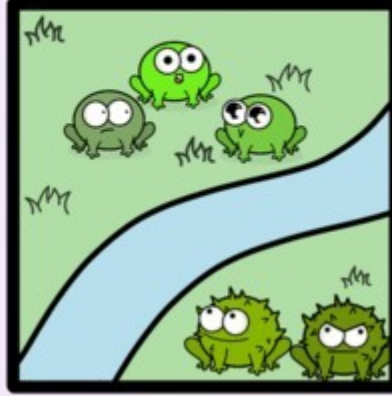
1. No selection



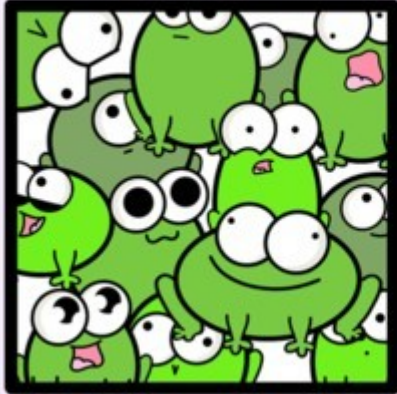
2. No Mutation



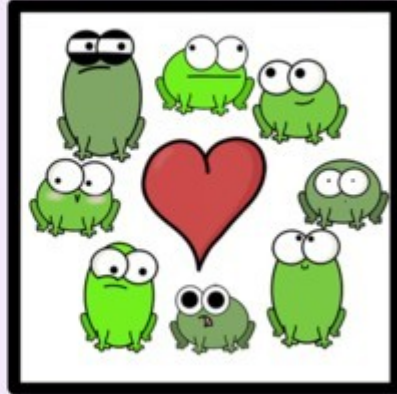
3. No Migration



4. Large Population



5. Random Mating



@AmoebaSisters

Conditions for  
the validity of the  
HW theorem

# Understanding Mendel's and Hardy-Weinberg's laws

- The relationship (dominant or recessive) between the alleles does not matter
- For a population in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium, there is no tendency for an allele to become extinct or dominant
- This ability to maintain genetic diversity is one of the most important features of Mendelian genetics in contrast to older theories of blended inheritance.

# Genetic diversity

- Based on the HW law, genetic diversity has an inherent (mathematical) tendency to be conserved
- An equilibrium population does not change over time
  - Evolution, however, concerns changes in the genetic composition of populations
  - The equilibrium population is the "null" hypothesis of evolution
- By breaking the equilibrium population conditions one by one, we can study evolutionary forces at the genetic level!



# More than 2 alleles

- Hardy Weinberg's law also applies in the case that we have 3 alleles (A, B, and C) with frequencies  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $r$ :
  - $(p + q + r)^2 = p^2 + 2pq + q^2 + 2pr + 2qr + r^2$
- For 4 alleles (A, B, C, and D) with frequencies  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ , and  $s$  respectively are:
  - $(p + q + r + s)^2 = p^2 + 2pq + q^2 + 2pr + 2qr + r^2 + 2ps + 2qs + 2rs + s^2$
- Generally:  $P_{ii} = P_i^2$      $P_{ij} = 2p_i p_j$

# The HW theorem for sex-linked genes

Sex-linked locus A (A,a), equal allelic frequencies between males and females, equal number of males and females:

		Male gametes - X		Male gametes - Y
		$X^A(p)$	$X^a(Q)$	
Females gametes	$X^A(p)$	$X^AX^A(p^2)$	$X^AX^a(pq)$	$X^AY (p)$
	$X^a(Q)$	$X^aX^A(q.p.)$	$X^aX^a(q^2)$	$X^aY (q)$

Genotypic frequencies of females equal H-W frequencies, while males equal allele frequencies

# Inquiry

- In some African population, 4% of the (equilibrium) population is born with a severe form of sickle cell disease. What percentage of the population (roughly) has the greatest susceptibility to contracting malaria?

# Inquiry

- A microsatellite has five alleles that each occur at a frequency of 0.2. What percentage of the (equilibrium) population will be heterozygotes?

# Inquiry

- A disease is caused by a recessive sex-linked gene. In a large (equilibrium) population where mating is random, the disease affects one man in 10. What is the frequency of affected women?

# Inquiry

- An autosomal recessive disease has a carrier frequency of  $1/50$ . What is the probability that the first child of a random couple will have the disease?

# Inquiry

- In a sample of 990 individuals from a European population the following frequencies were found for the MN blood group system genotypes:
- 439 MM, 421 MN, 130 NN
  - What is the observed and what is the expected heterozygosity?

# Inquiry

- You have sampled from a population in which you know that the frequency of the recessive homozygous genotype ( $aa$ ) is 36%. Using this 36%, calculate the following:
  - the frequency of genotype “ $aa$ ”,
  - the frequency of the allele “ $a$ ”,
  - the frequency of the “ $A$ ” allele,
  - the frequencies of the genotypes “ $AA$ ” and “ $Aa$ ” and the frequencies of the two possible phenotypes if “ $A$ ” is dominant.



# Inquiry

- If in an admixed population (equilibrium) the frequency of phenotype A (A dominant against recessive  $\alpha$ ) is 0.19, what is the frequency of heterozygous genotypes?

# Inquiry

- The HALn recessive allele of the HAL gene (HALN, HALn) is responsible for the positive reaction of pigs to halothane. In a population of 1000 Large White pigs one in 400 pigs was found to react positively to halothane.
  - Estimate the number of normal pigs that are carriers of the recessive allele.

