

POPTREE2

Software for construction of population trees from allele frequency
data and computing other population statistics with
Windows-interface

User guide

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Table of contents

1. Introduction
2. Getting started
 - 2.1 Installing POPTREE2 on your computer
 - 2.2 Example files
3. Running POPTREE2
 - 3.1 Starting POPTREE2
 - 3.2 Specifying input files
 - 3.3 Choosing computational methods
 - 3.4 Choosing distance measures
 - 3.5 Bootstrap tests
 - 3.6 Carrying out computation
 - 3.7 Output
 - 3.7.1 "NJ tree" or "UPGMA tree"
 - 3.7.2 Distance matrix
 - 3.7.3 "Gst or H"
 - 3.8 Terminating POPTREE2
4. Input file formats
5. Neighbor-joining (NJ) and UPGMA trees
6. Measures of genetic distance between populations
 - 6.1 D_A distance
 - 6.2 Nei's standard genetic distance without sample size correction (D_{ST})
 - 6.3 Nei's standard genetic distance with sample size correction (\hat{D}_{ST})
 - 6.4 F_{ST}^* distance
 - 6.5 Distance measures developed for microsatellite DNA data
 - 6.6 $(\delta u)^2$ distance
 - 6.7 D_{SW} distance
 - 6.8 Numbers of repeats for allelic specification in the input file
 - 6.9 Efficiencies of distance measures for constructing phylogenetic trees
7. Heterozygosity and G_{ST}
 - 7.1 Heterozygosity
 - 7.2 Number of alleles per locus
 - 7.3 G_{ST}
8. Displays of phylogenetic trees
9. References
10. Author contact

1. Introduction

POPTREE2 constructs phylogenetic trees from allele frequency data by using the neighbor-joining (NJ) method (Saitou and Nei 1987) and the unweighted pair-group method with arithmetic mean (UPGMA) (Sneath and Sokal 1973). Bootstrap tests (Felsenstein 1985) can be performed for the phylogenetic trees. Some population statistics are also computed.

Distance measures that can be used for the phylogeny construction are as follows:

- (i) D_A distance (Nei et al. 1983)
- (ii) Nei's standard genetic distance (D_{ST}) (Nei 1972)
- (iii) F_{ST}^* distance (Latter 1972)
- (iv) $(\delta\mu)^2$ distance (Goldstein et al. 1995)
- (v) D_{SW} distance (Shriver et al. 1995)

$(\delta\mu)^2$ distance and D_{SW} distance can be used only for microsatellite DNA data, in which alleles are represented by the number of repeats. By contrast, D_A , D_{ST} , and F_{ST}^* can be used for any kind of allele frequency data.

In addition to construction of the phylogenetic trees, POPTREE2 can compute the following quantities:

- (1) Average heterozygosity and its standard error for each population
- (2) Number of alleles for each population
- (3) G_{ST} , a measure of genetic differentiation among subdivided populations for multiple alleles (Nei 1973)
- (4) Values of the distance measures (i) – (v)

In POPTREE2 all the computations can be done through Windows-interface and the display of phylogenetic trees can easily be changed, copied to other applications, and printed

by using icons.

2. Getting started

2.1 Installing POPTREE2 on your computer

Download POPTREE2.zip on your PC and uncompress it. Under the POPTREE2 folder, data folder, pgogram folder, and POPTREE2 icon will appear.

2.2 Example files

There are two example files in the data folder.

test.dat: example input file [modified from Deka et al. (1995)]

test.nj: example treefile

3. Running POPTREE2

First, prepare your allele frequency data in the format as described in the section 4. Open the example file test.dat with Notepad or Word. Looking at the example file test.dat will help the preparation of your input file.

To run POPTREE2, click the POPTREE2 icon. The “POPTREE2” window will appear. Specify the input file, and choose the computational method in the “POPTREE2” window, as described in the following.

3.1 Starting POPTREE2

Double click the POPTREE2 icon in the POPTREE2 folder. “POPTREE2” window will appear.

3.2 Specifying input file

Click the "Data input" box at the upper-left corner of the "POPTREE2" window. An input file can be specified here. Please see section 4 for the format of the input file. If the input file is specified, the content will appear on the lower box of the "POPTREE2" window.

3.3 Choosing computational methods

Choose the computational method in the "Output" box of the upper section of the "POPTREE2" window.

The following three options are available.

(1) "NJ tree": construction of a neighbor-joining (NJ) tree and calculation of the distance matrix

(2) "UPGMA tree": construction of a UPGMA tree and calculation of the distance matrix

(3) "Gst or H": computation of heterozygosity and G_{ST}

Please see section 5 for the NJ method and the UPGMA and section 7 for heterozygosity and G_{ST} .

3.4 Choosing distance measures

If you want to construct an "NJ tree" or "UPGMA tree" as you choose in 3.3, choose the distance measure to be used for tree construction in the "Distance" box of the upper section of the "POPTREE2" window. The following four options are available [see the details of distance measures in section 6].

(1) "Da": D_A distance

(2) “Dst”: Nei's standard genetic distance (D_{ST})

(3) “Fst”: F_{ST}^* distance (F_{ST}^*)

(3) “Dmyu”: $(\delta\mu)^2$ distance

(4) “Dsw”: D_{SW} distance

“Dmyu” [$(\delta\mu)^2$] and “Dsw” (D_{SW}) are applicable only for microsatellite data. The number of repeats [it can be a relative value (see section 6)] for each allele has to be specified in the input file for the computation of “Dmyu” [$(\delta\mu)^2$] and “Dsw” (D_{SW}). To compute “Da” (D_A), “Dst” (D_{ST}), and “Fst” (F_{ST}^*), the repeat number of each allele is not necessary.

3.5 Bootstrap tests

If you would like to do a bootstrap test for the NJ or UPGMA tree, check the "Bootstrap test" box at the upper section of the “POPTREE2” window. Then, specify the number of bootstrap replications to be done in a box on the right side of the "Bootstrap test" box.

3.6 Carrying out computation

Click the "Run POPTREE2" box at the upper section of the “POPTREE2” window and the computation will be done.

3.7 Output

3.7.1 "NJ tree" or "UPGMA tree"

If you choose "NJ tree" or "UPGMA tree" in 3.3, the phylogenetic tree will be displayed in the "Phylogeny" window after clicking the "Run POPTREE2" box. You can change the shape of the tree by using the icons at the second row of the "Phylogeny" window [see section 8 for the details].

3.7.2 Distance matrix

If you choose "NJ tree" or "UPGMA tree" in 3.3, the distance values used for tree construction will be shown in the "Output" window. To see the distance matrix, click the "Output" box at the top row of the "POPTREE2" window.

Below the distance matrix in the "Output" window, the phylogenetic tree constructed is shown in Newick format. If you put this part in a separate file, this file can be used as an input file of MEGA (Tamura et al. 2007) and other software. MEGA has more options for displaying the tree. The Newick format of phylogenetic tree can also be saved in a file in the "Phylogeny" window (see section 8).

The content of the "Output" window can be saved in a file by clicking the "Save" box in the upper section of the "Output" window.

3.7.3 "Gst or H"

If you choose "Gst or H" in 3.3, the heterozygosities and G_{ST} computed for all populations will appear in the "Output" window. The number of alleles will also be shown below the heterozygosity and G_{ST} values [see details in section 7].

The results of the computation can be saved in a file by clicking the "Save" box in the upper section of the "Output" window.

3.8 Terminating POPTREE2

If you click the "×" box at the upper-right corner of the "POPTREE2" window, POPTREE2 will be terminated.

4. Input file format

Please look at the example file test.dat. The first line indicates the number of populations. In the following lines the population names are shown. Each population name is shown in one line. Then, allele frequency data are shown.

```
n populations
```

```
1 population1
```

```
2 population2
```

```
3 population3
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
@locus 1 locusname
```

```
allele1
```

```
allele2
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
#the number of chromosomes examined in each population
```

```
@locus 2 locusname
```

```
.
```

```
.
```


The line for different alleles consists of the number of nucleotide repeats for microsatellite DNA loci (the name of allele for other data) and allele frequencies of populations separated by "*".

XX * frq1 frq2 frq3 ...

XX is the number of repeats for microsatellite DNA (not the fragment size) or for the name of an allele for other kinds of data. frq1, frq2, and frq3 are frequencies of the allele for populations 1, 2, and 3. After all allele frequencies for one locus are shown, the number of chromosomes (not the number of individuals) examined is shown. The line for the number of chromosomes should start with "#".

The number of repeats and the number of chromosomes do not have to be integer. If you use only D_A , D_{ST} , and F_{ST}^* distances, XX does not have to be the number of repeats for an allele and can be anything. The numbers of repeats for alleles are necessary for the computation of $(\delta\mu)^2$ and D_{SW} distances (see section 6).

n populations

1 population1

2 population2

3 population3

.

.

.

@locus 1 locusname

1	*	.2600	.0942	.0000	..
2	*	.0000	.0000	.0054	..
2.5	*	.0000	.0000	.0000	..

.

.

.

#

	100	138	186	...
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

@locus 2 locusname

.

.

5. Neighbor-joining (NJ) and UPGMA trees

In the NJ method (Saitou and Nei 1987), starting from a star-tree (all branches are connected to one node), a pair of taxa (populations) which gives the smallest sum of branch lengths are combined into a cluster and form a composite taxa. This process is repeated until an unrooted tree is produced. The branch lengths are computed by the least-squares method in each step.

In the UPGMA (Sneath and Sokal 1973), a pair of taxa with the smallest distance are combined into one cluster and form a composite taxa. This process is repeated until a rooted tree is made. The branch lengths are calculated so that the sum of the branch lengths from the taxa to the node connecting the two taxa is half the distance of the two taxa. In the UPGMA, the molecular clock (rate constancy) is implicitly assumed (Chakraborty 1977). If the rate constancy approximately holds, the UPGMA can be efficient in constructing the correct tree topology (Takezaki and Nei 1996).

In the bootstrap test (Felsenstein 1985), the loci are resampled with replacement in

POPTREE2. The phylogenetic tree is constructed with the distance values calculated from the same number of resampled loci as that of the original input dataset in each replication. The number of replications in which the branch (the grouping of the taxa separated by the branch) appeared is counted and the proportion of this number in the total replications is shown in percent on the branch of the tree in the “Phylogeny” window. In the case of the UPGMA tree, the bootstrap numbers are counted by removing the root of the tree.

NJ and UPGMA produce bifurcating trees. However, in the phylogenetic tree displayed in the “Phylogeny” window, the branches with length zero or negative values are treated as though they do not exist. Because of this treatment a multifurcating node sometimes appears.

See Nei and Kumar (2000) for the NJ and UPGMA methods.

6. Measures of genetic distance between populations

6.1 D_A distance

D_A distance (Nei et al. 1983) is defined by

$$D_A = 1 - \frac{1}{r} \sum_j^r \sum_i^{m_j} \sqrt{x_{ij}y_{ij}}$$

where x_{ij} and y_{ij} are the frequencies of the i -th allele at the j -th locus in populations X and Y, respectively, m_j is the number of alleles at the j -th locus, and r is the number of loci used.

Note that Cavalli-Sforza and Edwards' (1967) chord distance (D_C) is

$$D_C = (2/\pi r) \sum_j^r \sqrt{2(1 - \sum_i^{m_j} \sqrt{x_{ij}y_{ij}})}.$$

D_C for the j -th locus measures the chord distance of populations X and Y represented on the multidimensional hypersphere with coordinates of allele frequencies of this locus. The angle

(θ_j) of the two populations is given by $\cos \theta_j = \sum_i^{m_j} \sqrt{x_{ij}y_{ij}}$.

6.2 Nei's standard genetic distance without sample size correction (D_{ST})

Nei's standard genetic distance without sample size correction (D_{ST}) (Nei 1972) is defined by

$$D_{ST} = -\ln \frac{J_{XY}}{\sqrt{J_X J_Y}}$$

where $J_X = \sum_j^r \sum_i^{m_j} x_{ij}^2 / r$ and $J_Y = \sum_j^r \sum_i^{m_j} y_{ij}^2 / r$ are average homozygosities over loci in populations X and Y, respectively, and $J_{XY} = \sum_j^r \sum_i^{m_j} x_{ij} y_{ij} / r$.

6.3 Nei's standard genetic distance with sample size correction (\hat{D}_{ST})

Unbiased estimators of J_X and J_Y are $\hat{J}_X = \frac{1}{r} \sum_j^r (n_{Xj} \sum_i^{m_j} x_{ij}^2 - 1) / (n_{Xj} - 1)$, and

$\hat{J}_Y = \frac{1}{r} \sum_j^r (n_{Yj} \sum_i^{m_j} y_{ij}^2 - 1) / (n_{Yj} - 1)$, where n_{Xj} and n_{Yj} are the number of chromosomes examined

at the j -th locus for populations X and Y, respectively. An unbiased estimate of D_{ST} can be obtained by replacing J_X and J_Y with \hat{J}_X and \hat{J}_Y , as shown below (Nei 1978).

$$\hat{D}_{ST} = -\ln \frac{\hat{J}_{XY}}{\sqrt{\hat{J}_X \hat{J}_Y}}.$$

where $\hat{J}_{XY} = J_{XY}$. In POPTREE, D_{ST} is computed with this formula.

In the infinite allele model (Kimura and Crow 1964), the expectation of D_{ST} increases linearly with time for populations under the mutation-drift balance. That is, $E(D_{ST}) = E(\hat{D}_{ST}) = 2vt$, where v is the mutation rate per locus per generation and t is the time in generations after the divergence of the two populations. In the infinite allele model a new allele is always created by a new mutation, and it can apply to classical markers such as blood groups and isozymes and other markers such as single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP).

6.4 F_{ST}^* distance

F_{ST}^* distance (Latter 1972) is given by

$$F_{ST}^* = \frac{(\hat{J}_X + \hat{J}_Y)/2 - \hat{J}_{XY}}{1 - \hat{J}_{XY}}$$

where \hat{J}_X , \hat{J}_Y , and \hat{J}_{XY} are unbiased estimators of J_X , J_Y , J_{XY} and computed by the formulas shown in 6.3 in POPTREE2.

The expectation of F_{ST}^* is given by

$$E(F_{ST}^*) = 1 - e^{-t/(2N)}$$

if populations with the effective size N diverged t generations ago and the allele frequencies change under the effect of genetic drift (Nei 1987, p 359).

6.5 Distance measures developed for microsatellite DNA data

In the case of microsatellite DNA data, most of the changes by mutation are changes of the number of nucleotide repeats, and the majority of the repeat number changes occur by one. The mutational pattern of microsatellite loci roughly follows the stepwise mutation model (Ohta and Kimura 1973), in which the state of allele increases or decreases by one with an equal probability (Estoup, Jarne, and Cornuet 2002; Ellegren 2004). By taking into account the mutational pattern of microsatellite loci, $(\delta\mu)^2$ distance (Goldstein et al. 1995) and D_{SW} (Shriver et al. 1995) were developed.

6.6 $(\delta\mu)^2$ distance

$(\delta\mu)^2$ distance (Goldstein et al. 1995) is given by

$$(\delta\mu)^2 = \sum_j^r (\mu_{X_j} - \mu_{Y_j})^2 / r,$$

where $\mu_{X_j} (= \sum_i ix_{ij})$ and $\mu_{Y_j} (= \sum_i iy_{ij})$ are average number of repeats of allele at the j -th

locus. and x_{ij} and y_{ij} are the frequencies of the allele with i repeats at the j -th locus in populations X and Y. Under the stepwise mutation model (Ohta and Kimura 1973), $(\delta\mu)^2$ increases linearly with time for populations under the mutation-drift balance. $E[(\delta\mu)^2] = 2\nu t$, where ν is a mutation rate per locus per generation and t is the number of generations after the two populations diverged.

6.7 D_{SW} distance

D_{SW} distance (Shriver et al. 1995) is given by

$$D_{SW} = W_{XY} - (W_X + W_Y)/2,$$

where $W_X = \sum_k \sum_{i \neq j} |i - j| x_{ik} x_{jk} / r$, $W_Y = \sum_k \sum_{i \neq j} |i - j| y_{ik} y_{jk} / r$, $W_{XY} = \sum_k \sum_{i \neq j} |i - j| x_{ik} y_{jk} / r$.

x_{ij} and y_{ij} are the frequencies of the allele with i repeats at the j -th locus in populations X and Y.

6.8 Number of repeats for allelic specification in the input file

In microsatellite DNA data the actual number of repeats of an allele is often unknown, but the fragment size (bp) of an allele is presented. If the repeat unit size (usually 2-5 bp) is known for the locus, (fragment size)/(repeat unit size) can be specified as the allele size in the input file for the computation of $(\delta\mu)^2$ and D_{SW} . In the computation of $(\delta\mu)^2$ and D_{SW} , the number of nucleotides in the flanking regions outside the repeat region (divided by the repeat unit size) is subtracted.

6.9 Efficiencies of distance measures for constructing phylogenetic trees

Although $(\delta\mu)^2$ and D_{SW} were developed for microsatellite DNA data by taking into account the mutational pattern, the efficiency of these distance measures for constructing phylogenetic trees is low particularly for the data with a small number of loci. The

probabilities of obtaining the correct tree topology were much higher for distance measures such as D_A and D_{ST} developed for classical markers than $(\delta\mu)^2$ and D_{SW} developed for microsatellite data in computer simulation (Takezaki and Nei 1996) and in the analysis of actual data (Takezaki and Nei 2008).

It should be noted that D_A distance appears to be more efficient in obtaining the correct tree topology for microsatellite data as well as for classical markers than other distance measures including D_{ST} (Takezaki and Nei 1996, 2008).

Please refer to Nei (1987) and Nei and Kumar (2000) for more details of the genetic distance measures.

7. Heterozygosity and G_{ST}

7.1 Heterozygosity

The heterozygosity of a locus (h) for a population is defined as

$$h = 1 - \sum_i^m x_i^2,$$

where m is the number of alleles for this locus, and x_i is the i -th allele of this locus. In

POPTREE, the heterozygosity is estimated by

$$\hat{h} = \frac{n}{n-1} (1 - \sum_i \hat{x}_i^2),$$

where n is the number of chromosomes examined. This is an unbiased estimator of h (Nei and Roychoudhury 1974). The average heterozygosity (H) over loci is estimated by

$$\hat{H} = \sum_j^r \hat{h}_j / r,$$

where r is the number of loci examined and h_j is the estimate of heterozygosity at the j -th

locus. The sampling error of H is estimated as

$$S(\hat{H}) = \sqrt{V(\hat{h})/r}$$

where $V(\hat{h})$ is the variance of \hat{h} and is given by

$$V(\hat{h}) = \sum_j^r (\hat{h}_j - \hat{H})^2 / (r - 1).$$

Please refer to chapter 8 [equations (8.3) – (8.8)] of Nei (1987).

7.2 G_{ST}

G_{ST} is a measure of gene differentiation among subdivided populations and called the coefficient of gene differentiation (Nei 1973). It is defined for multiple alleles and is equivalent to Wright's fixation index (F_{ST}) for two alleles.

Let us consider the case where a population is subdivided into s subpopulations. The expected heterozygosity within populations for a locus (h_S) is given by

$$h_S = 1 - \sum_k^s \sum_i x_{ki}^2 / s$$

where x_{ki} is the frequency of the i -th allele in the k -th subpopulation.

The expected heterozygosity (h_T) for the total population is

$$h_T = 1 - \sum_i \bar{x}_i^2$$

where $\bar{x}_i = \sum_k^s x_{ki} / s$. The fixation index F_{ST} can be defined as

$$F_{ST} = (h_T - h_S) / h_T.$$

h_S and h_T are estimated by the following formulae in POPTREE2.

$$\hat{h}_S = n_m (1 - \sum_i \bar{x}_i^2) / (n_m - 1), \text{ and}$$

$$\hat{h}_T = 1 - \sum_i \bar{x}_i^2 + \hat{h}_S / (n_m s),$$

where n_m is the harmonic mean of the number of chromosomes of subpopulations. These are

equations (8.31) and (8.32) in Nei (1987). G_{ST} for all loci is computed by the average of $G_{ST} = (\hat{h}_T - \hat{h}_S) / \hat{h}_T$ for each locus. The variance of G_{ST} is computed by the jackknife method.

For the theory of genetic variation in subdivided population, see chapter 8 in Nei (1987) and chapter 12 in Nei and Kumar (2000).

8. Displays of phylogenetic trees

The shape of the phylogenetic tree can be changed by clicking the icons at the second row of the “Phylogeny” window.

Icon 1: Newick format of the phylogenetic tree (text file) is saved. This file can be used for further change of the appearance of the tree by other programs such as MEGA 4 (Tamura et al. 2007) (<http://www.megasoftware.net/>). MEGA 4 has more options for the appearance of the tree.

Icon 2: Print the tree. The tree in the “Phylogeny” window is printed.

Icon 3: Copy the tree to the Clipboard. The tree can be copied to other applications such as PowerPoint and Word, after clicking this icon and pressing Ctrl+V in the other application.

Icon 4: Root. After placing the cursor at a certain branch, clicking this icon will give the root of the tree on the branch. This function is available only for the NJ tree. The position of the root is not given by the NJ method. By default the root of the NJ method in the “Phylogeny window” is calculated by the mid-point rooting method, in which the root is placed in the mid-point of the longest path of two taxa. This function is not available for the

UPGMA tree because the position of the root of the UPGMA tree is automatically given by the method.

Icon 5: Flip. After placing the cursor at a certain internal branch, clicking this icon will flip the two descendant clusters of the branch (like a mirror image).

Icon 6: Swap. After placing the cursor at a certain internal branch, clicking this icon will swap the two descendant clusters of the branch (vertical positions of the taxa within the cluster will remain the same).

Icon 7: Tree style (Traditional). Change the style of the tree to rectangular presentation.

Icon 8: Tree style (Radiation). Change the style of the tree to radial presentation.

Icon 9: Expand/Compress the tree in the horizontal direction.

Icon 10: Expand/Compress the tree in vertical direction.

Icon 11: Font of the taxon names can be changed.

Icon 12: Change the line width by point size.

9. References

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10. Author contact

Windows-interface of POPTREE2 is developed by Koichiro Tamura, Professor of Tokyo Metropolitan University, and a primary author of MEGA 4 (Molecular Evolutionary Genetics Analysis version 4), a software for evolutionary genetics analyses of DNA and protein sequences.

Masatoshi Nei is Evan Pugh Professor of the Department of Biology at Pennsylvania State University and Director of the Institute of Molecular Evolutionary Genetics. He has developed a number of statistical methods in the study of population genetics, molecular evolution and phylogenetics including D_A and D_{ST} distances, the neighbor-joining method, and G_{ST} computed in POPTREE2. He is also an author of MEGA and started development of

MEGA under his auspice. His webpage is <http://www.bio.psu.edu/People/Faculty/Nei/Lab/>.

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