

ESI SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW LECTURES

Summer Term 2011

The Erwin Schrödinger International Institute of Mathematical Physics (ESI) offers the following lectures held by guest speakers of Senior Research Fellows in residence during the summer term 2011. For more information and related literature please visit the ESI home page www.esi.ac.at.

1. **Single-crossover recombination and ancestral recombination trees**

Ute von Wangenheim (Universität Bielefeld)

Lecture: Wednesday, June 22 at 14:00 hrs

ESI, Erwin Schrödinger Lecture Hall

Abstract:

Modeling the dynamics of populations under recombination leads to a large coupled non-linear dynamical system that is notoriously difficult to treat. In my talk, I will present a model that describes recombination in an 'infinite' population with single crossovers only.

The common way to solve these systems relies on a certain nonlinear transformation from (gamete or haplotype) frequencies to suitable correlation functions. This provides an elegant solution in principle, but the price to be paid is that the coefficients of the transformation must be constructed via recursions that involve the parameters of the recombination model, so that an explicit solution of the dynamics cannot be stated.

I will describe a new approach to infer an explicit solution to the dynamics. To this end, I use the underlying stochastic process to trace recombination backwards in time, i.e. by backtracking the ancestry of the various independent segments each type is composed of. This results in binary tree structures, which can be used as a tool to formulate an explicit solution of the dynamics.

Joachim Schwermer
Scientific Director
ESI

The ESI Senior Research Fellow Programme is supported by the University of Vienna and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science & Research. The programme is coordinated by Prof. Joachim Schwermer, Fakultät für Mathematik, Universität Wien, Nordbergstraße 15, A-1090 Wien (Joachim.Schwermer@univie.ac.at)