

# Differential equations related to the Fleming-Viot model with jumps\*

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**Abstract:** *This short communication deals with the so-called jump-type Fleming-Viot process. It is shown that when the mutation operator satisfy certain conditions, the random measure of the process is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure in  $\mathbb{R}$ . This, in turn, allows us to represent the process as the solution of a stochastic partial differential equation. We extend thus the result of Konno & Shiga [9]. An application to population genetics is presented.*

**Keywords:** *Jump-type Fleming-Viot process, sample path property, absolute continuity, stochastic partial differential equation.*

## 1 Introduction

In population genetics, Fleming-Viot processes play a major role combining suitably, in a unique setting, the main evolutionary forces which change the allelic gene frequencies in a population such as, *mutation, natural selection and random genetic drift* (see, e.g., [6, 3, 5]). If  $S$  is the set of allelic genes for one locus of interest in a population, then the Fleming-Viot process models the evolution of gene frequencies in time, assuming values in the state space  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$ , which is the space of probability measures over  $S$ .

Along the same lines as in [9], we get a representation for this class of process by deriving a stochastic partial differential equation (SPDE) for the density of the random measure of the process. The main hindrance here is to deal with some *sample-path properties* for the jump-type Fleming-Viot process, which is tantamount to show that the state-space of the process, under some conditions, is contained in the set of absolute continuous measures with respect to the Lebesgue measure. Following Roelly-Coppoletta [12] and Konno & Shiga [9], we restrict our study to the one-dimensional type space case.

The framework of an SPDE representing a measure-valued stochastic process may be useful in giving some insights, mainly for applications, even if its formulation is more restrictive than the formulation of a martingale problem, for instance.<sup>1</sup> With respect to population genetics, it is notorious how many data is being collected in recent years, data that require theoretical models which could analyse them [14, 15], and the most disseminate approach (in any applied area) is still by the means of differential equations.

An outline of the paper follows. In Section 2 we recall the general definition of the jump-type Fleming-Viot process. By the means of a random time change which causes a mass change on the process, we obtain another jump-type measure-valued process in Section 3 that will aid us in proving Theorem 5.1. The establishment of the absolute continuity of the Fleming-Viot measure

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\*This work was partially supported by FAPEMIG CEX-712/08, UFSJ/PROPE 005/2008 and the Brazilian National Research Council-CNPq, under the Grants No. 141363/2007-0 and 302587/2004-7.

<sup>1</sup>Multiple modelling approaches to the same problem are not new in science, here we could think of the opposite approaches in quantum mechanics: wave mechanics and matrix mechanics; the former having an inestimable value for solving problems, while the latter being a true advance in understanding the microscopic world (John Gribbin, *Le chat de Schrödinger: physique quantique et réalité*, Flammarion, 1994.).

with respect to the Lebesgue measure on the real line is done in Section 4, from which we are able to write

$$Y(dx, t) = Y(x, t)dx. \quad (1)$$

In Section 5 we prove Theorem 5.1 that allow us to write the process as a SPDE with jumps, mainly we show the existence of a Gaussian white noise measure related to the continuous part of the martingale measure. We give an application to population genetics in Section 6.

## 2 Jump-type Fleming-Viot process

We start with our traditional setup. Let  $S$  be a one-dimensional metric space. Let  $C(S)$  be the Banach space of continuous functions with the norm of the supremum ( $\beta \in C(S), \|\beta\| = \sup_{x \in S} |\beta(x)|$ ). The set of Borel subsets of  $S$  will be denoted  $\mathcal{B}(S)$ , and the vector space of bounded measurable functions on  $S$ ,  $b\mathcal{B}(S)$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_R(S)$  be the space of probability measures and the space of finite Radon measures over  $\mathcal{B}(S)$ , respectively. For  $\beta \in b\mathcal{B}(S)$  and  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_1$  (or  $\mathcal{M}_R$ ) we denote  $\langle \beta, \mu \rangle = \int_S \beta(x)\mu(dx)$ . To  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_R(S)$  it is given the weak topology. Let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M}_1)$  denote the set of Borel subsets of  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$ . Define also  $b\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M}_1)$ , the vector space of bounded measurable functions on  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$ . And let  $\bar{\eta} = \frac{\eta}{\langle 1, \eta \rangle}$ , for  $\eta \in \mathcal{M}_R(S)$ .

Let  $\Omega := D([0, \infty[, \mathcal{M}_1(S))$  be the set of càdlàg<sup>2</sup> functions from  $[0, \infty[$  to  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$  equipped with the Skorokhod topology and  $Y_t : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_1(S)$  be the canonical process,  $Y_t(\omega) = \omega(t)$ . Let the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{F}$  be the set of Borel subsets  $\mathcal{B}(\Omega)$  and the filtration  $\{\mathcal{F}_t\}$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  be given by  $\mathcal{F}_t := \bigcap_{\epsilon > 0} \mathcal{F}_{t+\epsilon}^0$ , where  $\mathcal{F}_t^0 := \sigma(\{Y_u\} : 0 \leq u \leq t)$ , and  $\mathcal{F}_\infty := \bigvee_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{F}_n$ .

Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_1(S)$ ,  $a \geq 0$  and  $\nu(du)$  be a measure in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $\int_0^\infty (u \wedge u^2)\nu(du) < \infty$ . Fix also  $g : [0, \infty[ \rightarrow [0, \infty[$  a càdlàg function for which exists  $\tau \in ]0, \infty]$  such that  $g(t) > 0$  for  $t \in [0, \tau[$  and  $g(t) = 0$  for  $t \in [\tau, \infty[$ . We consider a linear operator  $\mathcal{L} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow b\mathcal{B}(S)$  which is the generator of a Feller semigroup  $P_t : C(S) \rightarrow C(S)$ .

The process  $\{\mathcal{P}_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{M}_1(S)\} \subset \mathcal{M}_1(\Omega)$  is a **jump-type Fleming-Viot process** if:

(FV1)  $\mathcal{P}_\mu[Y_0 = \mu] = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_\mu[Y_t = Y_{\tau-}, t \geq \tau] = 1$ ;

(FV2) for  $\beta \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ ,

$$\langle \beta, Y_t \rangle = \langle \beta, Y_0 \rangle + \int_0^t \langle \mathcal{L}\beta, Y_s \rangle \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} ds + M_t^c(\beta) + \int_0^t \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle \langle \beta, \bar{\eta} - Y_{s-} \rangle}{g(s^-) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} \tilde{N}(ds, d\eta), \quad (2)$$

is a càdlàg  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -semimartingale, where  $\{M^c(\beta)\}_{t \geq 0}$  is a continuous martingale with predictable quadratic variation given by

$$\langle\langle M^c(\beta) \rangle\rangle_t = a \int_0^t g(s)^{-1} \int_{x \in S} \int_{y \in S} \beta(x)\beta(y)Q(Y_s; dx \times dy) \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} ds \quad (3)$$

with  $Q(\mu; dx \times dy) = \delta_x(dy)\mu(dx) - \mu(dy)\mu(dx)$  and  $\tilde{N}$  is a discontinuous  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -martingale measure corresponding to a random point process  $N$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathcal{M}_R(S)$ , such that  $\hat{N}(t, B) = N(t, B) - \hat{N}(t, B)$ , where  $\hat{N}$  is the compensator of  $N$  given by

$$\hat{N}(ds, d\eta) = \left\{ \int_S \left[ \int_0^\infty \delta_{u\delta_x}(d\eta)\nu(du) \right] Y_s(dx) \right\} ds. \quad (4)$$

**Theorem 2.1 (Hiraba,2000)** *Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(S)$ . There exists a unique probability  $\mathcal{P}_\mu$  on  $\Omega$  satisfying the conditions **FV1** and **FV2** above.*

<sup>2</sup>Right-continuous with left limits.

*Proof:* See [7].

In population genetics, we interpret this process as follows. We consider  $S$  the space of allelic genes for one locus. The frequencies of these genes in a population is modelled by  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ . Mutation is represented by the operator  $\mathcal{L}$ , whose action may be seen as leading some kind of dynamic law over  $S$ . Random genetic drift is interpreted as composed of two terms: a continuous term given by  $M^c$  which represents the loss in the population genetic diversity due to random mating; and a discontinuous term, led by  $\widetilde{N}$ , due to abrupt changes suffered by the population. See [6, 2] for these interpretations and also [3, 5] for other factors that can be included in the model, such as, selection and gene conversion.

### 3 Random time change

The random time change performed here implies in a change of the mass of the process, thus originating a new measure-valued process which will be used to construct the jumping SPDE in Section 5.

Let  $Z_t$  satisfy the following stochastic differential equation<sup>3</sup>

$$dZ_t = \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(t)}} Z_t dB_t + cZ_t dt, \quad (5)$$

with  $Z_0 = 1$ , where  $B_t$  is a Brownian motion independent of  $Y_t$  (considered in an extension of  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P}_\mu)$ , if necessary), and  $c$  is a constant real number such that  $c > \frac{a}{2g(t)}$ , for  $0 < t < \tau$ . Thus  $Z_t$  is equal to:

$$Z_t = \exp \left[ \int_0^t \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} dB_s + ct - \int_0^t \frac{a}{2g(s)} ds \right]. \quad (6)$$

Define now the random function  $C_t : [0, \tau[ \rightarrow [0, \infty[$ , by  $C_t = \int_0^t Z_s ds$ , that may be viewed as a random time change [4] or an occupation measure [8] weighted by  $Z_s$ ,<sup>4</sup>. This random time change inspired by that of Shiga [13] became a technique for interchange between diffusions in  $\mathcal{M}_1(S)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_R(S)$  [9, 16].

An  $\mathcal{M}_R$ -valued process  $X_t$  can be defined by

$$X_t(dx) = Z_{C_t^{-1}} Y_{C_t^{-1}}(dx). \quad (7)$$

We notice that  $\langle 1, X_t \rangle = Z_{C_t^{-1}}$  is positive and continuous in  $t \geq 0$ . A direct result from this definitions is the next lemma.

**Lemma 3.1** *The random measure  $Y_t(dx)$  is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure  $\lambda(dx)$  for almost all  $t > 0$  if, and only if, also is  $X_t(dx)$ .*

Define also  $\widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_t \equiv \mathcal{F}_{C_t^{-1}}$ . From relation (7), we write  $\langle \beta, X_t \rangle = Z_{C_t^{-1}} \langle \beta, Y_{C_t^{-1}} \rangle$ , for  $\beta \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ , to which we apply Itô's formula to obtain

$$\langle \beta, X_t \rangle - \langle \beta, X_0 \rangle = \int_{]0,t]} \frac{\langle \mathcal{L}\beta, X_{s-} \rangle}{\langle 1, X_s \rangle} ds + \widetilde{M}_t(\beta) + c \int_{]0,t]} \frac{\langle \beta, X_{s-} \rangle}{\langle 1, X_s \rangle} ds. \quad (8)$$

<sup>3</sup>Note that the stochastic differential equation is chosen in order that its solution  $Z_t$  fits adequately in the proof of the Theorem 5.1.

<sup>4</sup>For each  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ , the weighted amount of time that  $Z_t$  occupies  $A$  during the interval  $[0, t]$  is  $C_t(A) = \int_0^t Z_s(A) ds$ .

where

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{M}_t(\beta) &= \int_{]0, C_t^{-1}] } Z_s dM_s^c(\beta) + \int_{]0, C_t^{-1}] } \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s^-)}} \langle \beta, Y_{s^-} \rangle Z_s dB_s \\ &\quad + \int_{]0, C_t^{-1}] } \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} Z_s \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle}{g(s^-) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \langle \beta, \bar{\eta} - Y_{s^-} \rangle \widetilde{N}(ds, d\eta) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

is an  $\widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_t$ -martingale.

## 4 Absolute continuity w.r.t. Lebesgue measure

We admit the following conditions about the semigroup  $P_t$  :

**Conditions :**

(A1)  $P_t$  admits a continuous density  $p_t(x, y)$  in  $(t, x, y) \in ]0, \infty[ \times S \times S$  with respect to the Lebesgue measure  $\lambda(dx)$  on  $S$ ,

(A2) there exists  $0 < b < 1$  such that for every  $T > 0$ ,  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \sup_{x, y \in S} p_t(x, y) t^b < \infty$ ,

(A3) there exist constants  $\delta > 0$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for every  $T > 0$  we have  $D_T > 0$  and for every  $x, y \in S$  and  $0 < h < 1$ ,

$$\int_0^t \int_S [p_{s+h}(z, x) - p_s(z, y)]^2 dz ds \leq D_T (|x - y|^\delta + h^\epsilon). \quad (10)$$

And now we may state the following result about the absolute continuity of the Fleming-Viot measure. The proof relies on the expressions for the *moments* of the process and will appear elsewhere.

**Theorem 4.1** *Suppose that the semigroup  $P_t$  satisfies the conditions (A1-A3). Then almost surely the random measure  $Y_t(dx)$  of the one-dimensional jump-type Fleming-Viot process is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure in  $\mathbb{R}$  for almost all  $t > 0$ .*

## 5 Jumping SPDE

With the result of the absolute continuity of  $Y_t$  in hand we may proceed to deduce a stochastic partial differential equation for the jump-type Fleming-Viot process. First, we recall the mathematical structure for an  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued Wiener process following [9]. The space of **Schwartz distributions**  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$  is the topological dual of  $\mathcal{S}(S)$ , the space of rapidly decreasing  $C^\infty$ -functions defined on  $S$ , equipped with the Schwartz topology. An  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued continuous stochastic process  $W_t$  defined on a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}_t, \mathcal{P})$  is called an  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued standard  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -Wiener process, if for every  $\zeta \in \mathcal{S}(S)$ ,  $W_t(\zeta)$  is a one-dimensional  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -Brownian motion with the diffusion constant  $\|\zeta\|_{L^2(S)}^2$ . The correspondent Gaussian random measure  $W(ds, dx)$  on  $[0, \infty[ \times S$  satisfies

$$W_t(\zeta) = \int_0^t \int_S \zeta(x) W(ds, dx), \text{ for every } \zeta \in \mathcal{S}(S). \quad (11)$$

**Theorem 5.1** *Suppose that the semigroup  $P_t$  satisfies the conditions (A1-A3). There exists an  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued standard Wiener process  $W_t$  defined on an extension of the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}_t, \mathcal{P}_\mu)$  such that  $P_\mu$  almost surely*

$$\begin{aligned} Y_t(x) &= Y_0(x) + \int_0^t \mathcal{L}^* Y_s(x) \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} ds + \int_0^t \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} \sqrt{Y_s(x)} \dot{W}_s(x) \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} ds \\ &\quad - \int_0^t \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} \int_{y \in S} Y_s(x) \sqrt{Y_s(y)} \dot{W}_s(y) dy \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle}{g(s^-) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \left[ \frac{\delta \bar{\eta}(x)}{\delta x} - Y_{s^-}(x) \right] \mathbf{I}_{[s < \tau]} \widetilde{N}(ds, d\eta). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

for every  $t \geq 0$  and  $\beta \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ .

*Proof:* We make use of the processes  $Z_t$ ,  $X_t$ , the martingale measure  $\widetilde{M}_t$  and their relation with  $Y_t$  presented in Section 3. Notice that by Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 3.1, the random measure  $X_t(dx)$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\lambda(dx)$ . Let the martingale measure  $\widetilde{M}^c(ds, dx)$  be related to  $\widetilde{M}_t^c(\beta)$  via

$$\int_0^t \int_S \beta(x) \widetilde{M}^c(ds, dx) = \widetilde{M}_t^c(\beta). \quad (13)$$

Consider an  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued standard  $\widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_t$ -Wiener process  $\widetilde{W}_t$  independent of  $X_t$  and define also another an  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued process  $\widehat{W}_t(\beta)$  by

$$\widehat{W}_t(\beta) = \int_0^t \int_S \frac{1}{\sqrt{X_s(x)}} \mathbf{I}_{[X_s(x) \neq 0]} \beta(x) \widetilde{M}^c(ds, dx) + \int_0^t \int_S \mathbf{I}_{[X_s(x) = 0]} \beta(x) \dot{\widehat{W}}_s(ds, dx) \quad (14)$$

defined thus in order to deal with  $X_t$  equal or not to zero. We may write this last relation as

$$\int_0^t \int_S \sqrt{X_s(x)} \beta(x) \dot{\widehat{W}}_s(x) ds dx = \int_0^t \int_S \beta(x) \widetilde{M}^c(ds, dx) = \widetilde{M}_t^c(\beta). \quad (15)$$

We obtain from equation (8) and (15) the following equation for  $\langle \beta, X_t \rangle$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \beta, X_t \rangle - \langle \beta, X_0 \rangle &= \int_{]0, t]} \left[ \frac{\langle \mathcal{L}\beta, X_{s^-} \rangle}{\langle 1, X_{s^-} \rangle} + c \frac{\langle \beta, X_{s^-} \rangle}{\langle 1, X_{s^-} \rangle} \right] ds + \int_0^t \int_S \sqrt{X_s(x)} \beta(x) \dot{\widehat{W}}_t(x) dt dx \\ &\quad + \int_{]0, C_t^{-1}] } \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} Z_s \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle}{g(s^-) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \langle \beta, \bar{\eta} - Y_{s^-} \rangle \widetilde{N}(ds, d\eta). \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Now, let a process  $W_t$  be given by

$$\langle \beta, W_t \rangle = \int_0^{C_t} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle 1, X_s \rangle}} \sqrt{\frac{g(C_s^{-1})}{a}} \langle \beta, d\widehat{W}_s \rangle. \quad (17)$$

In such way,  $W_t$  is an  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$ -valued standard Wiener process and

$$\sqrt{\frac{a}{g(t)}} d\langle \beta, W_t \rangle = \sqrt{Z_t} \langle \beta, d\widehat{W}_{C_t} \rangle. \quad (18)$$

Applying Itô's formula to  $\langle \beta, Y_t \rangle = \langle X_{C_t}, \beta \rangle Z_t^{-1}$  and using (18) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \beta, Y_t \rangle - \langle \beta, Y_0 \rangle &= - \int_{]0, t]} \langle \beta, Y_{s^-} \rangle \left[ \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} dB_s + cds \right] + \int_{]0, t]} \int_S \sqrt{Y_s(x)} \beta(x) \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} W_s(x) ds dx \\ &\quad + \int_{]0, t]} \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle \langle \beta, \bar{\eta} - Y_{s^-} \rangle}{g(s^-) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \widetilde{N}(ds, d\eta) + \int_{]0, t]} [\langle \mathcal{L}\beta, Y_s \rangle + c \langle \beta, Y_s \rangle] ds \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Note then that as  $Z_t = \langle 1, X_{C_t} \rangle$ , and using (16) with  $\beta(x) = 1$ , we have, by differentiating both members,

$$dB_t = \int_S \sqrt{Y_t} \dot{W}_t dt dx, \quad (20)$$

where we applied (18) again. Thus applying this last relation to (19) we can rewrite it as

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \beta, Y_t \rangle - \langle \beta, Y_0 \rangle &= - \int_{]0, t]} \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} \langle \beta, Y_{s^-} \rangle \int_S \sqrt{Y_t} \dot{W}_t dt dx + \int_{]0, t]} \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(s)}} \int_S \sqrt{Y_s(x)} \beta(x) W_s(x) ds dx \\ &\quad + \int_{]0, t]} \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle \langle \beta, \bar{\eta} - Y_{s^-} \rangle}{g(s^-) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \widetilde{N}(ds, d\eta) + \int_{]0, t]} \langle \mathcal{L}\beta, Y_s \rangle ds \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Bearing in mind that  $Y_t$  belongs to  $\mathcal{S}'(S)$  we get (12).

**q.e.d.**

**Remark 5.1** With respect to the equation (12), we note that it is a natural generalization of equation (0.6) of Konno & Shiga [9, p. 203], and we can obtain their equation by putting  $\nu = 0$  and  $g(s) = a$  for all  $0 \leq s \leq \tau$ . This shows the consistency of our generalization.

**Remark 5.2** In the sense of Schwartz distributions, the density  $Y_t(x)$  can be viewed as satisfying the following equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial Y_t(x)}{\partial t} = & \mathcal{L}^* Y_t(x) + \sqrt{\frac{a}{g(t)}} \int_{y \in S} \sqrt{Y_t(y)} [\delta_x(y) - Y_t(x)] \dot{W}_t(y) dy \\ & + \int_{\mathcal{M}_R(S)} \frac{\langle 1, \eta \rangle}{g(t) + \langle 1, \eta \rangle} \left[ \frac{\delta \bar{\eta}(x)}{\delta x} - Y_t(x) \right] \tilde{N}_t(\eta) d\eta. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

This equation differs from the equations commonly found in the literature [1, 11], since the jump part  $\tilde{N}(dt, d\eta)$  does not come from a Poisson point process.

## 6 An example from population genetics

Consider  $0 \leq t_0 \leq t < \tau$ . Now, let the **mean density of type  $x$  at time  $t$**  be given by

$$m(t, x) = E[Y(t, x)]. \quad (23)$$

So, for  $\beta \in D(\mathcal{L})$ ,

$$E[\langle \beta, Y_t \rangle] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \beta(x) m(t, x) dx. \quad (24)$$

Using (22), we can easily derive the following equation in the weak form:

$$\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}^* m(t, x). \quad (25)$$

Let, then,  $m_2(t, x_1, x_2)$  be the mean joint density of  $(x_1, x_2)$  at time  $t$ , given by

$$m_2(t, x_1, x_2) = E[Y(t, x_1)Y(t, x_2)]. \quad (26)$$

From the expression for the second moment of the process, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial m_2}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}_{x_1}^* m_2(t, x_1, x_2) + \mathcal{L}_{x_2}^* m_2(t, x_1, x_2) - 2\gamma_{2,2}^0(t) [m_2(t, x_1, x_2) - m(t, x_1)\delta_{x_1}(x_2)] \quad (27)$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_{x_i}^*$  is the adjoint operator of  $\mathcal{L}_{x_i}$  and  $\gamma_{2,2}^0(s) = \frac{a}{2g(s)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{u^2}{[g(s)+u]^2} \nu(du)$ .

Denoting by  $\xi = x_2 - x_1$  the difference between the types  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , we define the **mean density of types differing by  $\xi$**  as

$$I(t, \xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} m_2(t, x, x + \xi) dx \quad (28)$$

that satisfy the following equation

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = \mathcal{L}_\xi^* I(t, \xi) - 2\gamma_{2,2}^0(t) [I(t, \xi) - \delta_0(\xi)]. \quad (29)$$

We restrict our attention to the Ohta-Kimura ladder model [10] and put  $\mathcal{L} \equiv \frac{d^2}{dx^2}$ . Fleming & Viot [6] showed that, when there is no jump and there is homogeneity in time, for large times  $I(t, \xi)$  decays exponentially with  $\xi$  increasing. The complete solution of (29), however, exhibit a variety of patterns, depending on the initial conditions. The solution  $I(t, \xi)$  may be written as

$$I(t, \xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} I(t_0, \xi - x) \frac{e^{-x^2/4(t-t_0) - 2\gamma_{2,2}^0(t_0, t)}}{\sqrt{2(t-t_0)}} dx + \int_{t_0}^t \frac{e^{-\xi^2/4(t-s) - 2\gamma_{2,2}^0(s, t)}}{\sqrt{2(t-s)}} \frac{2\gamma_{2,2}^0(s)}{\sqrt{2\pi}} ds. \quad (30)$$

The analysis of this function is left to the reader.

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