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Genetic Similarity Promotes Cooperation

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Genetic Similarity Promotes Cooperation

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1 Week Ago

Translate: Ger->Eng Eng->Ger #1

Hersir

Hundhedensk

Herpra

„Friend of Germans”

Skadi Funding Member

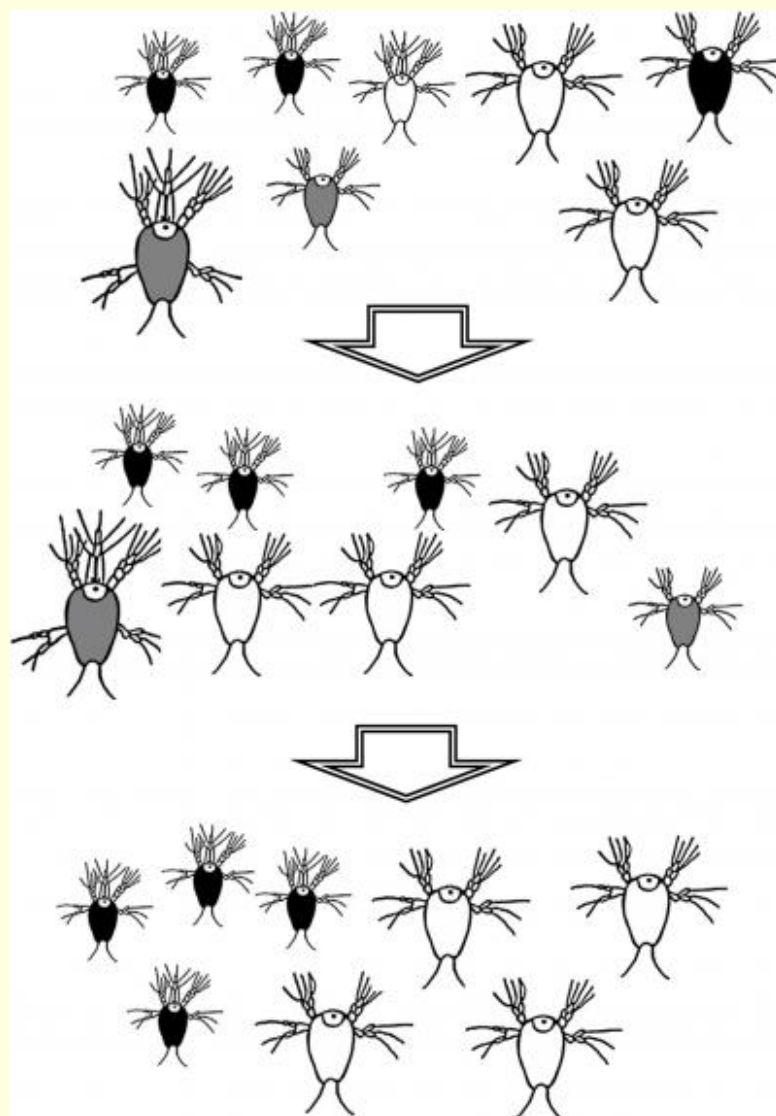
Genetic Similarity Promotes Cooperation

Quote:

In a dog-eat-dog world of ruthless competition and 'survival of the fittest,' new research from the University of Leicester reveals that individuals are genetically programmed to work together and cooperate with those who most resemble themselves.



Last Seen: 9 Hours Ago
Join Date: Apr 2007
Status: Available
Ethnicity: Håloëyg
Ancestry: Norway
Subrace: Nordid
Country: Norway 🇳🇴
Gender: Male ♂
Family: Single adult
Politics: National-Anarchist leanings
Posts: 5,383
Gallery: 234



This shows the similarity discrimination effect in a hypothetical population of microorganisms, starting with a diverse population containing two similar pairs at the tops. The similar pairs cooperate with each other and thus leave more offspring in the following generation.

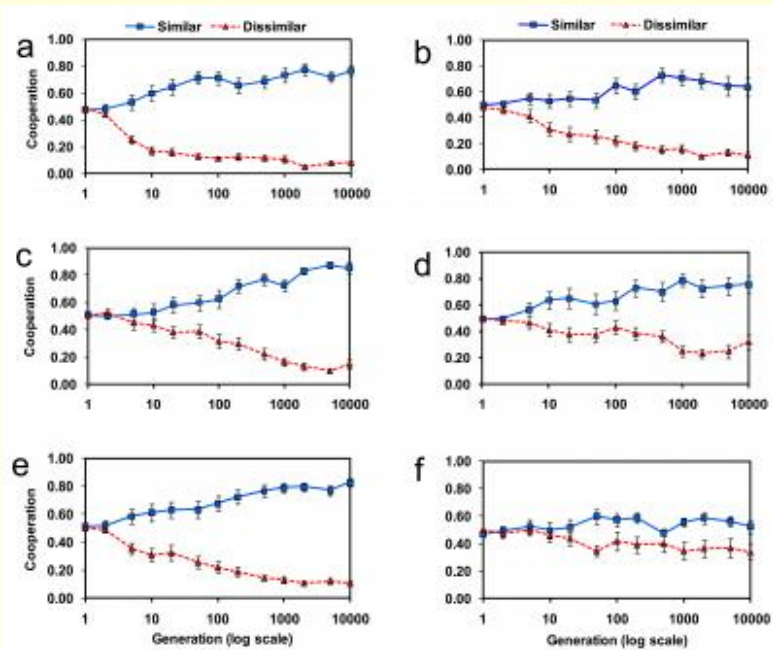
A tendency for similar individuals to cooperate selectively with one another, even if they are not close relatives, can evolve spontaneously in simple organisms. This may help to explain why cooperation is so widespread in nature, the study suggests.

Lead researcher Professor Andrew Colman, of the University's School of Psychology, said: "Cooperation has posed a major problem to evolutionary biologists since Darwin, because although cooperation and altruism abound in nature, Darwin's theory of natural selection is based on the "survival of the fittest". Our study has found a new mechanism of "similarity discrimination" that helps to solve this puzzle."

Professor Colman, Dr Lindsay Browning, and Dr Briony Pulford carried out the study, due to appear in the *Journal of Theoretical Biology*. The research, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, can explain why organisms tend to discriminate in favour of others who resemble themselves.

Using a combination of computer simulation and mathematical analysis, the researchers showed that similarity discrimination evolves quickly and powerfully in many types of social encounters. It evolves spontaneously in

populations of organisms who are merely programmed to behave either cooperatively or selfishly, initially at random, and can recognize others who are genetically similar to themselves.



This shows the average level of cooperation over 10,000 generations of evolution. The blue lines represent cooperation between similar pairs, and the red line cooperation between dissimilar pairs. Each of the six panels is a different strategic structure, starting with (a) Prisoner's Dilemma. Credit: University of Leicester

Similarity discrimination is more powerful and efficient than the "greenbeard effect", first suggested by the British biologist Bill Hamilton in 1964 and discovered recently in several species of micro-organisms and insects. The greenbeard effect relies on individuals displaying fixed trait (hence the term "green beard" suggested by Richard Dawkins in 1976) and cooperating selectively with others who also display the trait. The similarity discrimination effect does not depend on any fixed trait: individuals cooperate selectively with others who are genetically similar to themselves, whatever traits they may display.

Research has shown that the greenbeard effect can drive the evolution of cooperation, but only with difficulty and under restrictive conditions, including "viscous" populations of organisms that tend to stay in one place and mate locally with close relatives. The similarity discrimination effect evolves much more quickly and easily, even in freely mixing populations.

Professor Colman said: "We have discovered a new mechanism that helps to explain why cooperation is so common in nature, even between non-relatives. **It's tempting to think that it applies to forms of human discrimination such as in-group favouritism, racism, sexism and xenophobia, but it probably doesn't.** The similarity discrimination effect relies on tight genetic linkage between genes encoding for behaviour and traits that others use to judge genetic similarity. Most human traits are encoded by multiple genes, and parents' genes are shuffled before being passed on to children, so a genetic linkage could not be maintained for long. I think the effect is much more likely to be observed in simple organisms with simpler genes."

Provided by University of Leicester

Source <http://phys.org/news/2012-04-genetic...operation.html>

"It's tempting to think that it applies to forms of human discrimination such as in-group favouritism, racism, sexism and xenophobia, but it probably doesn't."

- "Yes, a careful career scientist of course has to state this, lest his name be associated with Politically Incorrect science."

"Come forth o children under the stars and take your fill of love, you shall be few and secret - And rule the many and the known"



The Following 10 Users Say Thank You to Hersir For This Useful Post:

[Elfriede](#), [Feyn](#), [Granraude](#), [GroeneWolf](#), [Hammer of Thor](#), [hdcn](#), [Huginn ok Muninn](#), [Neophyte](#), [renownedwolf](#), [Stormraaf](#)

1 Week Ago Translate: [Ger->Eng](#) [Eng->Ger](#) # 2

hdcn
Member

Last Seen: 2 Days Ago
Join Date: Apr 2012
Ethnicity: Anglo-American
Gender: Male
Politics: Nordacist; Breed the Overman
Religion: Freethought; Heathen
Posts: [45](#)
Gallery: 0



Many people in the scientific communities are annoyed by the fact that they can't openly express the implications of the evidence they gather, such as the reality of racialism. The fields of science are being constricted by people who think they know what life is about and force their ideals onto fields that just cannot agree with them. A new breed of religious intolerance hampering true scientific progress, or is it still the same organizations trying to slow true human progress?

The Following 5 Users Say Thank You to hdcn For This Useful Post:

[Hersir](#), [Huginn ok Muninn](#), [Neophyte](#), [renownedwolf](#), [velvet](#)

1 Week Ago Translate: [Ger->Eng](#) [Eng->Ger](#) # 3

GroeneWolf
Moderator
Herpra
„Friend of Germanics”
Skadi Funding Member

Quote:

It's tempting to think that it applies to forms of human discrimination such as in-group favouritism, racism, sexism and xenophobia, but it probably doesn't



Last Seen: 8 Hours Ago
Join Date: Aug 2007
Ethnicity: Dutch
Subrace: Don't know
Country: Netherlands 
State: Utrecht 
Gender: Male 
Age: 29
Family: Single adult
Politics: Pagan Conservative
Religion: Germanic Heathendom
Posts: 2,670
Gallery: 1




And everyone who are at least of average intelligence and is capable of critical thinking will realize that sentence does not make sense in relationship with the rest of the article. And most likely has only been made to keep these scientists research jobs secure. Or else they end up the same way as to so called London school of intelligence.

The sense of honor is of so fine and delicate a nature that it is only to be met with in minds which are naturally noble or cultivated by good examples and a refined education.
- Sir Richard Steele

The Following 3 Users Say Thank You to GroeneWolf For This Useful Post:
[Hammer of Thor](#), [Hersir](#), [Huginn ok Muninn](#)



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Genetic Similarity Theory	Ensittare	General Bio-Anthropology	0	Sunday, March 5th, 2006 01:42 PM
On the likely genetic similarity between Balts and Prussians	friedrich braun	General Anthropology	12	Friday, February 4th, 2005 12:38 PM

All times are GMT. The time now is 01:42 PM.

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