

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHAT IS A TWO-SEX POPULATION PROCESS?

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The recent letter of Gani and Tin (1984), like the early paper of Goodman (1953), uses the term 'two-sex' applied to a population process of two types of the special kind where reproduction is modelled as occurring only through one type of individual ('female'). Asmussen's (1980) review paper stressed a distinction of terminology by reserving the term 'two-sex' for processes where reproduction occurs via genuine sex interaction. Whereas Goodman's two-type process with an embedded one-type process is relatively tractable for closed-form computations, as Gani and Tin noted, the best that can be done for the simplest two-sex models involves limit theorems and approximations (see e.g. Asmussen and Hering (1983)).

References

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