Mendelian Genetics – Monohybrid cross

Genetics 371B Lecture 2

28 Sept. 1999

Interpreting Mendel's experiment



Conclusions:

I. Determinants are **particulate**

2. They occur in **pairs**; one member may be **dominant**

3. Determinants segregate randomly

into gametes

Prediction: The F2 "Purple" class consists of two subclasses:

Testing the prediction:

What Mendel did:

What we would do today (hindsight!):

Generality of Mendel's first law:

(Not just for pea plants!)

• Fruit fly (Drosophila melanogaster)

Normal (brown) body x black body

Mice

Agouti x Black

• Humans

Albinism

Pedigree analysis

- What are pedigrees?
- Why bother with them?

Constructing pedigrees

"The **inability** to smell methanethiol is a **recessive** trait in humans. Ashley, Perry, and Gus are three smelling children of Erin (a non-smeller) and Darren (a smeller). Perry's only child is a non-smeller boy. Construct a pedigree for this family, indicating the genotypes where possible."

To be continued...

Complications

- ♦ Expressivity
- ◇ Penetrance

Do all human traits show simple Mendelian inheritance?

Commonly used pedigree symbols







Parents and children (in order of birth)



Dizygotic (nonidentical) twins



Monozygotic (identical) twins



Sex unspecified

