

Gene Flow

- allele frequencies can change by **gene flow**, the transfer of alleles into or out of a population due to the movement of fertile individuals or their gametes.
 - because alleles are transferred between populations, gene flow tends to reduce the genetic differences between populations. In fact, it is extensive enough, gene flow can result in two population combining into a single population with a common gene pool.
- Gene flow can also transfer alleles that improve the ability of populations to adapt to local conditions
 - ex- gene flow has resulted in the worldwide spread of several insecticide - resistance alleles in the mosquito *Culex pipiens* , a vector of West Nile virus and other diseases and this allele frequency increased as a result of natural selection

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