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Rethinking the evolution of specialization: A model for the evolution of phenotypic heterogeneity

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Highlights

- Evolution of phenotypic heterogeneity is considered as an alternative to speciation.
- An ODE model is proposed and simulated to reproduce the adaptive dynamics.
- Directional selection toward PH competes with disruptive selection toward branching.
- PH is shown to evolve as long as the effect of mutation is sufficiently small.

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