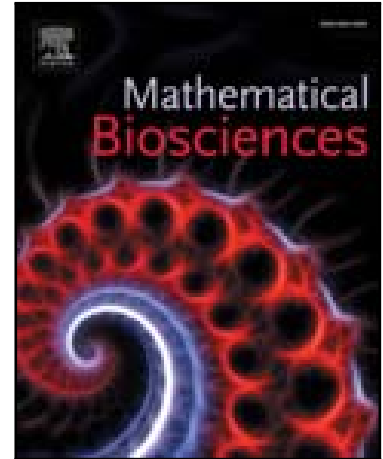


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Random walks on binary strings applied to the somatic hypermutation of B-cells

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## Highlights

- A simplified mathematical model of somatic hypermutations is proposed
- The N-dimensional hypercube reflects the state-space of B-cell traits
- The prescription of a mutational rule defines the graph structure
- Typical time-scales of state-space exploration are investigated; theoretical estimates are provided
- Our framework enables the study of affinity-dependent mutations, currently debated

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