

APPENDICES

Appendix A1. The β -distribution, $N_T(\beta) d\beta$

We derive the β -distribution, $N_T(\beta) d\beta$, from the θ -distribution, $N_T(\theta) d\theta$ (equation (6)) using the Jacobian $|d\theta/d\beta|$, as follows:

$$N_T(\beta) d\beta = N_T(\theta) d\theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} \right| d\beta \quad (A1)$$

$$N_T(\beta) d\beta = A \sin \theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} \right| d\beta \quad (A2)$$

It follows from equations (6)-(8) and (10) that:

$$\tan \theta = \sin \alpha \cot \beta \quad (A3)$$

Or: $\theta = \arctan(\sin \alpha \cot \beta) \quad (A4)$

Differentiating (A4) with respect to β gives:

$$\left| \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} \right| = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin^2 \beta + \sin^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta} \quad (A5)$$

On the other hand, it follows from (A3) that:

$$\sin \theta = \sqrt{\frac{\sin^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta}{\sin^2 \beta + \sin^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta}} \quad (A6)$$

Substituting (A5) and (A6) in (A2) gives:

$$N_T(\beta) d\beta = \frac{A \sin^2 \alpha \cos \beta}{[\sin^2 \beta + \sin^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta]^{3/2}} d\beta \quad (A7)$$

Appendix A2. The (g/b) -distribution, $N_T(g/b) d(g/b)$

We derive the (g/b) -distribution, $N_T(g/b) d(g/b)$, from the θ -distribution, $N_T(\theta) d\theta$ (equation (6)), as follows:

$$N_T(g/b) d(g/b) = A \sin \theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d(g/b)} \right| d(g/b) \quad (\text{A8})$$

It follows from equation (16) that:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\tan \alpha}{[(g/b)^2 - 1]^{1/2}} \quad (\text{A9})$$

and:
$$\theta = \arcsin \left[\frac{\tan \alpha}{[(g/b)^2 - 1]^{1/2}} \right] \quad (\text{A10})$$

Differentiating (A10) with respect to (g/b) gives:

$$\left| \frac{d\theta}{d(g/b)} \right| = \frac{(g/b) \tan \alpha}{[(g/b)^2 - 1 - \tan^2 \alpha]^{1/2} [(g/b)^2 - 1]} \quad (\text{A11})$$

Substituting (A9) and (A11) in (A8) gives:

$$N_T(g/b) d(g/b) = \frac{A (g/b) \tan^2 \alpha}{[(g/b)^2 - 1 - \tan^2 \alpha]^{1/2} [(g/b)^2 - 1]^{3/2}} d(g/b) \quad (\text{A12})$$

Appendix A3. The (h/a) -distribution, $N_T(h/a) d(h/a)$

The equations are more manageable if we first derive the (a/h) -distribution, $N_T(a/h) d(a/h)$, from the θ -distribution $N_T(\theta) d\theta$:

$$N_T(a/h) d(a/h) = A \sin \theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d(a/h)} \right| d(a/h) \quad (\text{A13})$$

It follows from equation (17) that:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{[(a/h)^2 - \sin^2 \alpha]^{1/2}}{\cos \alpha} \quad (\text{A14})$$

$$\text{and:} \quad \theta = \arcsin \left[\frac{[(a/h)^2 - \sin^2 \alpha]^{1/2}}{\cos \alpha} \right] \quad (\text{A15})$$

Differentiating (A15) with respect to (a/h) gives:

$$\left| \frac{d\theta}{d(a/h)} \right| = \frac{(a/h) / \cos \alpha}{[1 - (a/h)^2]^{1/2} [(a/h)^2 - \sin^2 \alpha] / \cos^2 \alpha]^{1/2}} \quad (\text{A16})$$

Substituting (A14) and (A16) in (A13) gives:

$$N_T(a/h) d(a/h) = \frac{A (a/h) / \cos \alpha}{[1 - (a/h)^2]^{1/2}} d(a/h) \quad (\text{A17})$$

To obtain $N_T(h/a) d(h/a)$, we note that:

$$N_T(h/a) d(h/a) = N_T(a/h) \left| \frac{d(h/a)}{d(a/h)} \right| d(a/h) \quad (\text{A18})$$

$$\text{with:} \quad (h/a) = \frac{1}{(a/h)} \quad (\text{A19})$$

$$\text{and:} \quad \left| \frac{d(h/a)}{d(a/h)} \right| = \frac{1}{(h/a)^2} \quad (\text{A20})$$

Substituting (A17), (A19) and (A20) in (A18) gives:

$$N_T(h/a) d(h/a) = \frac{A / \cos \alpha}{(h/a)^2 [(h/a)^2 - 1]^{1/2}} d(h/a) \quad (\text{A21})$$

Appendix A4. Exhumed tracks

For tracks exposed at the surface and etched due to surface etching (exhumed tracks), we have that (equation (7); main text):

$$N_E(\theta) d\theta = B d\theta \quad (\text{A22})$$

And:
$$N_E(\beta) d\beta = N_E(\theta) d\theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d\beta} \right| d\beta \quad (\text{A23})$$

$$N_E(g/b) d(g/b) = N_E(\theta) d\theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d(g/b)} \right| d(g/b) \quad (\text{A24})$$

$$N_E(a/h) d(a/h) = N_E(\theta) d\theta \left| \frac{d\theta}{d(a/h)} \right| d(a/h) \quad (\text{A25})$$

Substituting (A5) and (A22) in (A23) gives:

$$N_E(\beta) d\beta = \frac{B \sin \alpha}{\sin^2 \beta + \sin^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta} d\beta \quad (\text{A26})$$

Substituting (A11) and (A22) in (A24) gives:

$$N_E(g/b) d(g/b) = \frac{B (g/b) \tan \alpha}{[(g/b)^2 - 1] - \tan^2 \alpha}^{1/2} [(g/b)^2 - 1] d(g/b) \quad (\text{A27})$$

Substituting (A16), (A20) and (A22) in (A25) gives:

$$N_E(a/h) d(a/h) = \frac{B / (h/a) \cos^2 \alpha}{[(h/a)^2 - 1]^{1/2} [1 - (h/a)^2 \sin^2 \alpha]}^{1/2} d(a/h) \quad (\text{A28})$$