

Computational Systems Biology

Nicolas Le Novère

Computational Neurobiology group

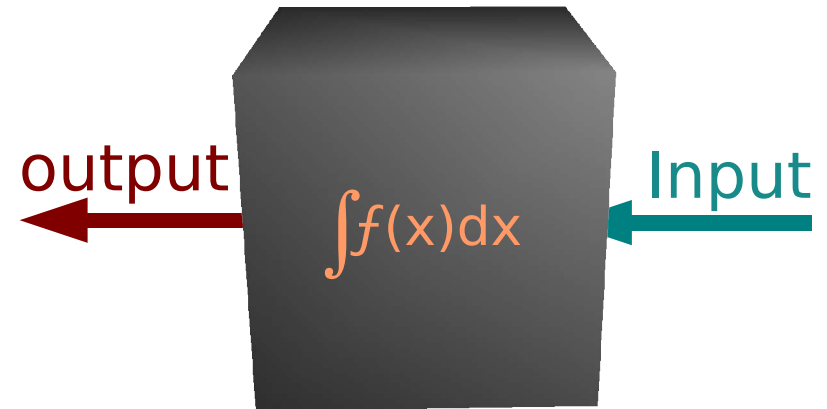
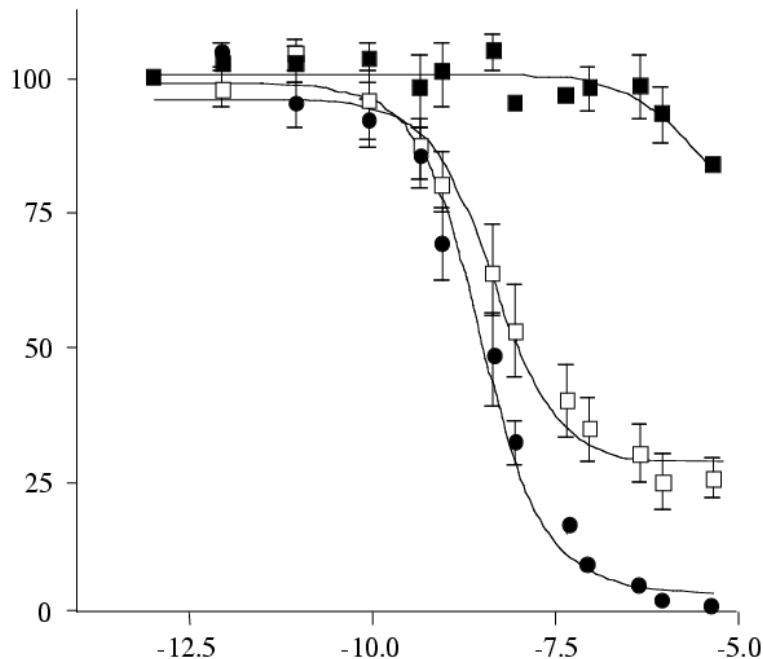
<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/compneur/>

Classical approaches in theoretical biology

(1)-The phenomenology

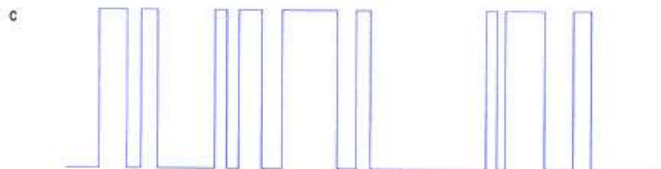
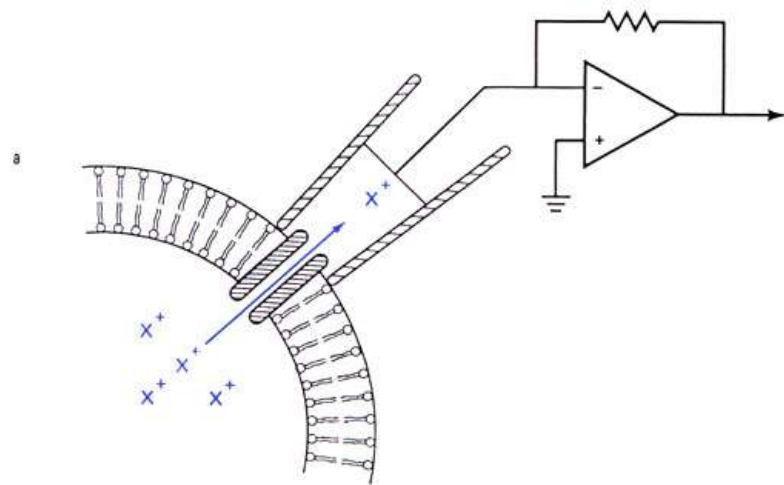
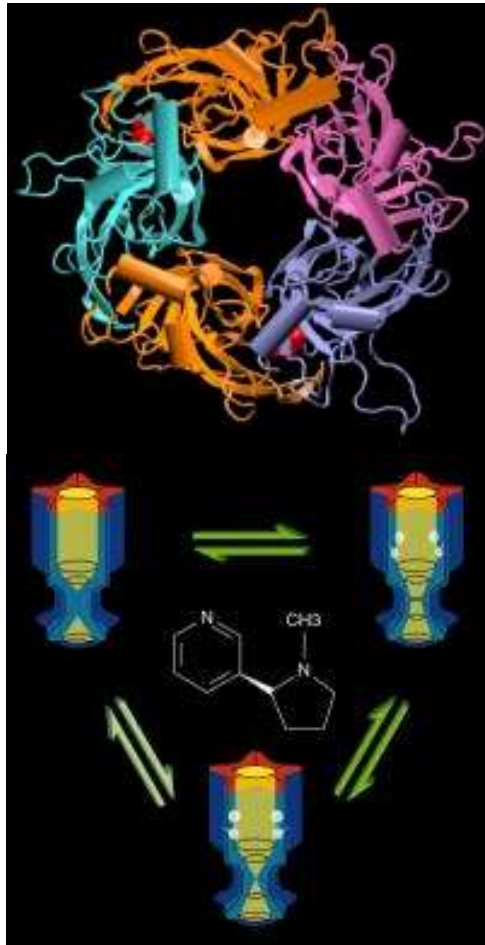
Snapshot of the system

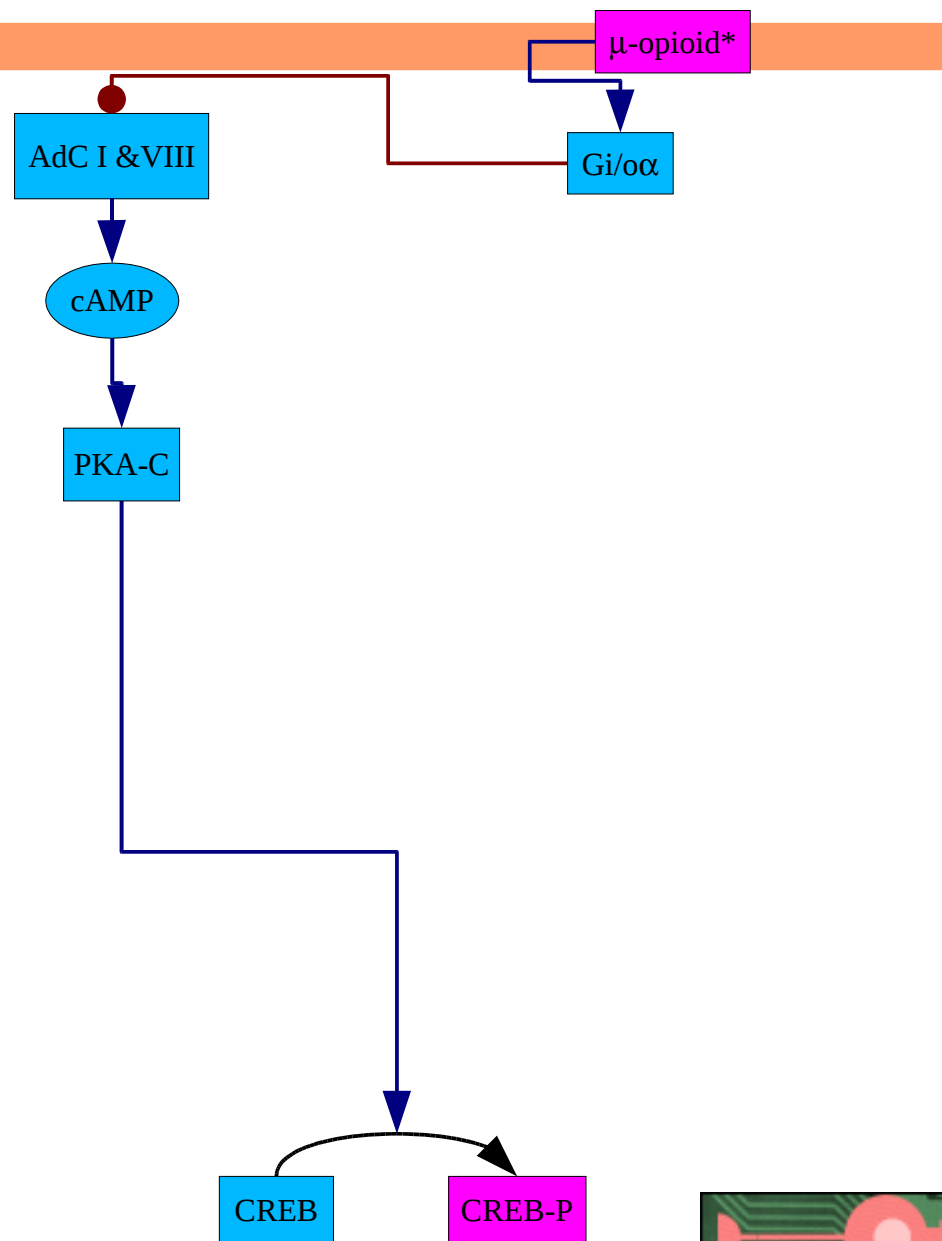
⇒ Abstraction

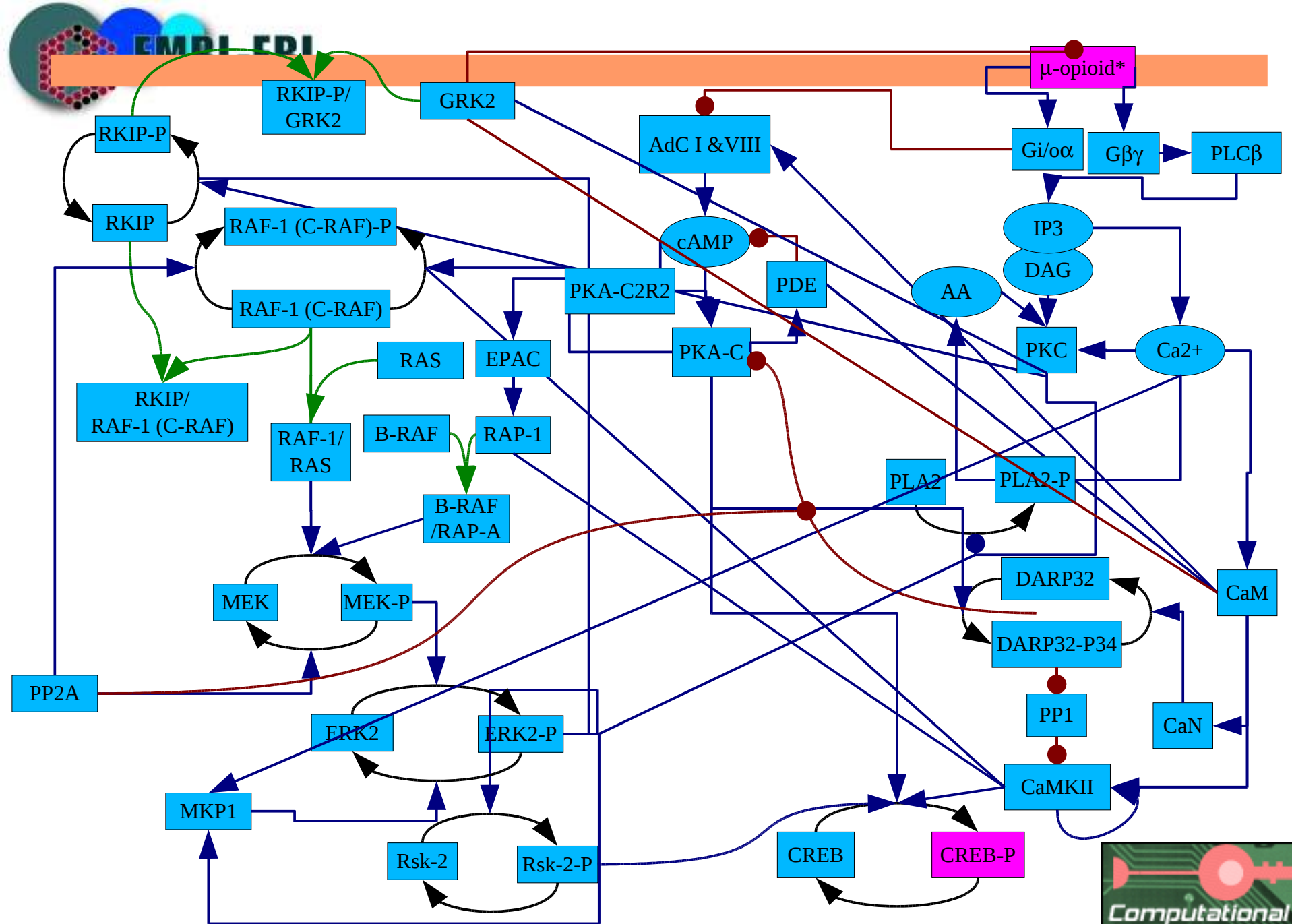


Classical approaches in theoretical biology

(2)-The reductionism

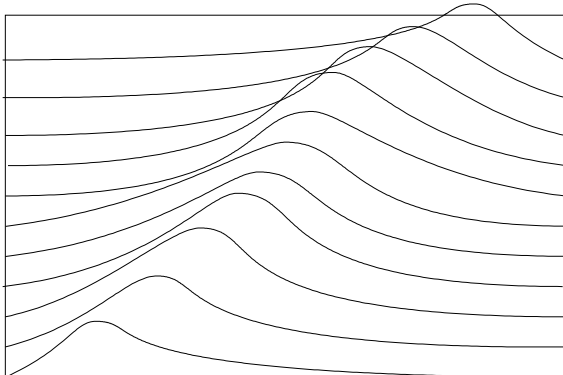




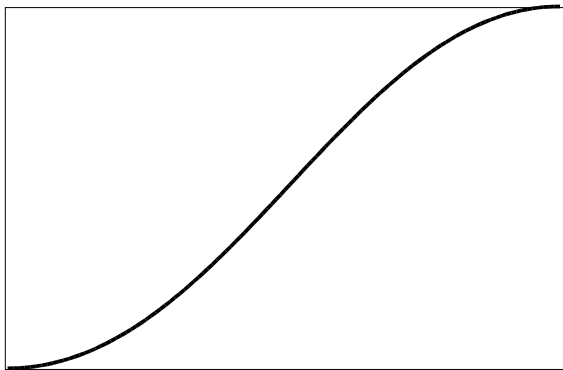


- ♦ Reconstruction of dynamic systems from the properties of their elementary building blocks
- ♦ Made possible by large-scale data production & improvements of computing power and technics
- ♦ Cybernetics properties are conserved across systems (control theory: feedback, feedforward, robustness...) Relationships between building blocks are more important than their elementary properties. The theoretical treatment is already available.
- ♦ A New Era:
Pre-molecular Biology was descriptive
Molecular Biology made Biology explicative
Systems Biology makes Biology predictive

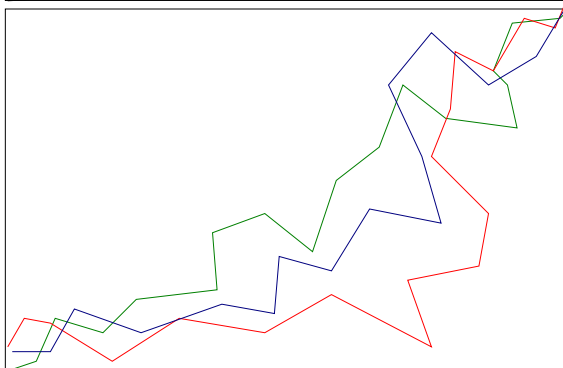
Different approaches



Grand Probability function: $P(X,t)$

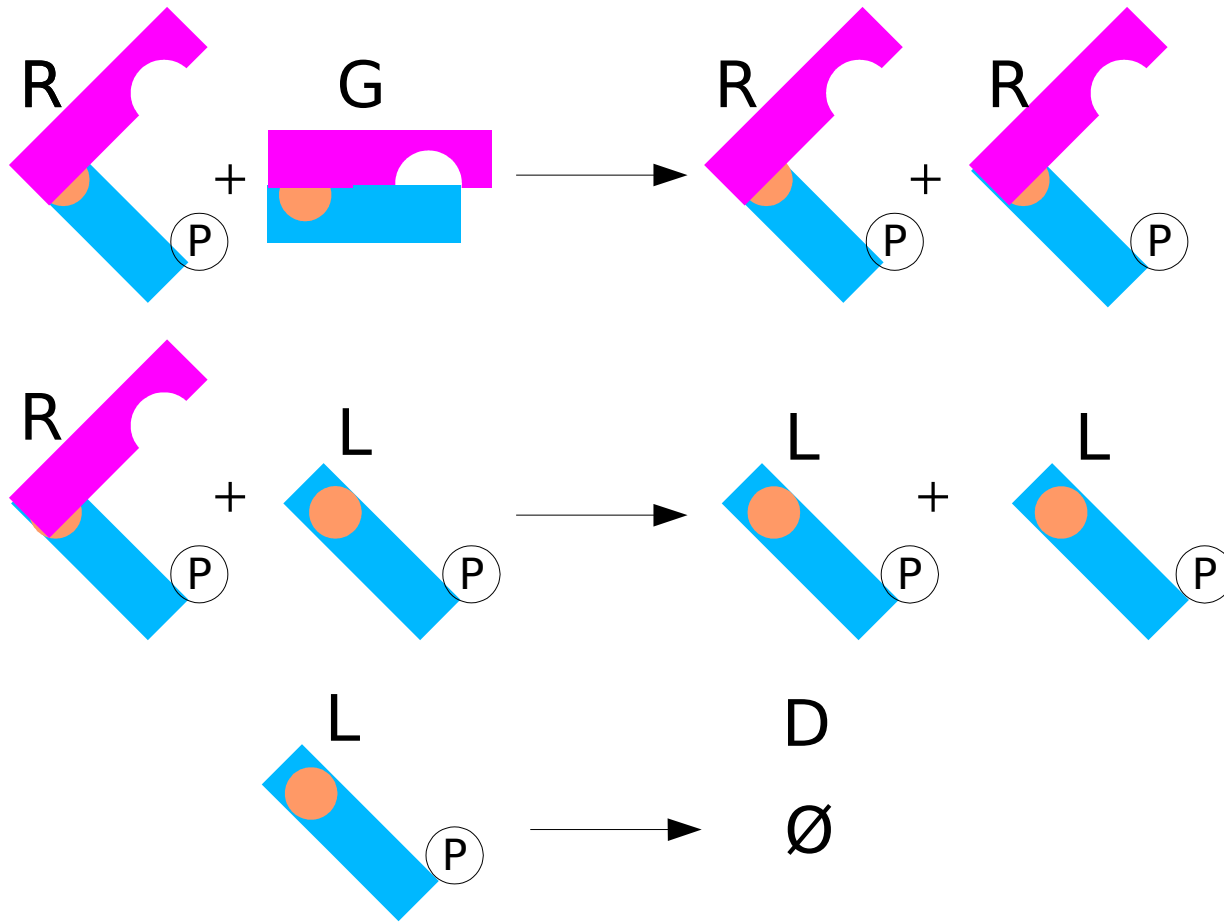


deterministic approach: $(X,t)=f(X',t-1)$

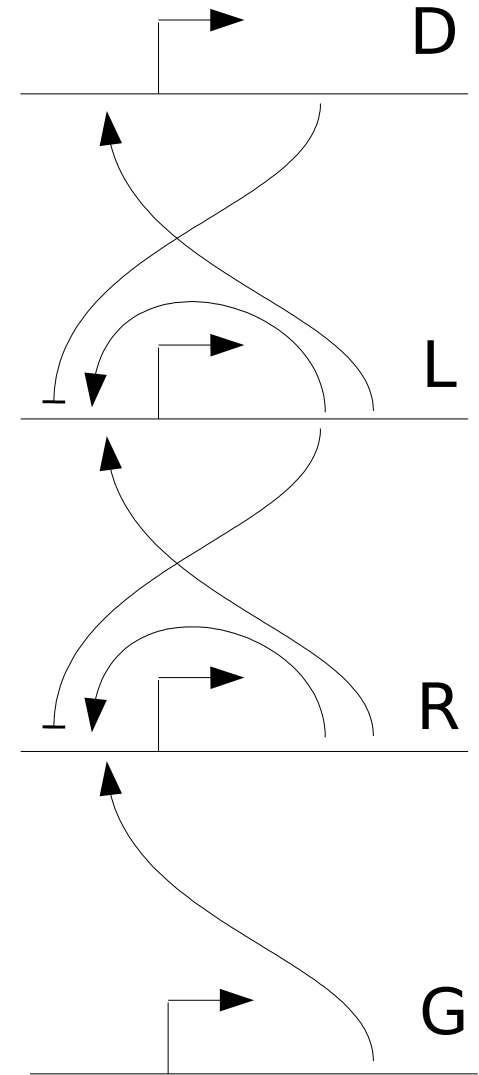
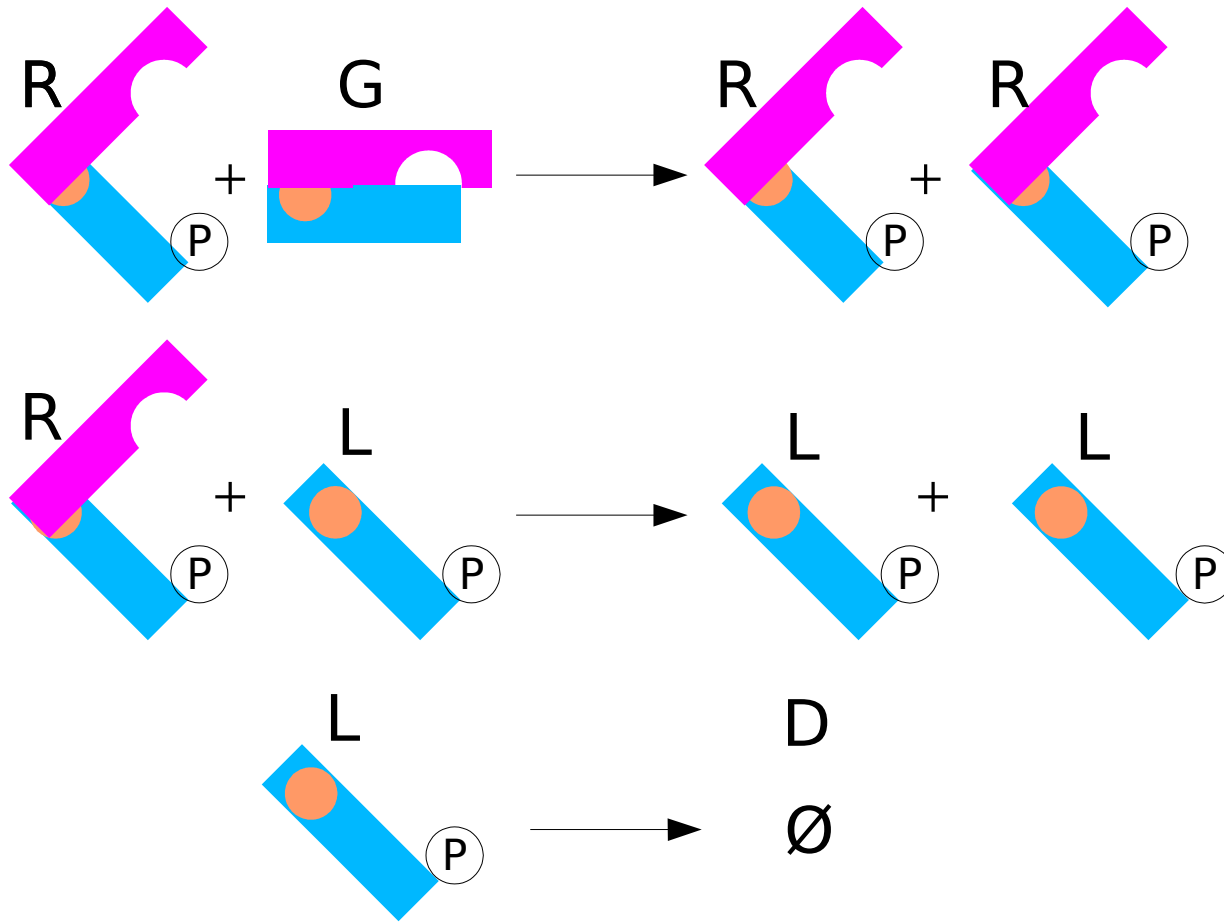


stochastic approach: $P(X,t)/(X',t-1)$

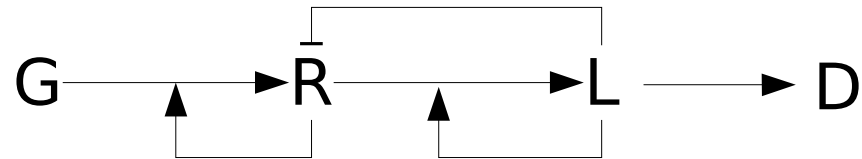
A simple oscillating system



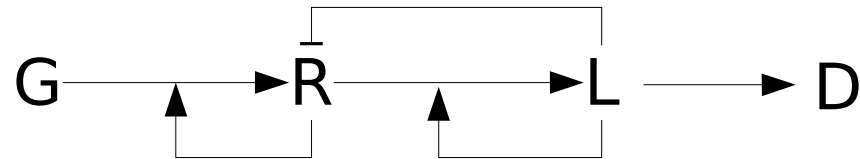
A simple oscillating system



A simple oscillating system



A simple oscillating system



Lotka, A.J. 1925. Elements of physical biology.
Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, M.D.

Volterra, V. 1926. "Fluctuations in the Abundance of a Species
Considered Mathematically," Nature 118, 558-560.

Predator-Prey model:
G = Grass
R = Rabbit (Snowshoe Hare)
L = Lynx
D = Death



ODE approach



$$d[R]/dt = k_1[G][R] - k_2[R][L]$$

$$d[L]/dt = k_2[R][L] - k_3[L]$$



$$d[R]/dt = k_1[G][R] - k_2[R][L]$$

$$d[L]/dt = k_2[R][L] - k_3[L]$$

- Euler

$$d[L]/dt \sim ([L]_{t+\Delta t} - [L]_t) / \Delta t = f([L], t)$$

$$[L]_{t+\Delta t} = [L]_t + f([L], t) \times \Delta t$$

- 4th order Runge-kutta

$$[L]_{t+\Delta t} = [L]_t + \Delta t \times (F_1 + 2F_2 + 2F_3 + F_4) / 6$$

$$\text{with } F_1 = f([L], t)$$

$$F_2 = f([L]_t + \Delta t/2 \times F_1, t + \Delta t/2)$$

$$F_3 = f([L]_t + \Delta t/2 \times F_2, t + \Delta t/2)$$

$$F_4 = f([L]_t + \Delta t \times F_3, t + \Delta t)$$

course EMBL PhD stu - Lotka-Volterra - penOffice.org 1.1.2

Set up the simulation

Initial amount	Reaction rates
A	k1
1000	2500
X	k2
1000	2500
Y	k3
1000	5000

simulation parameters

volume: 1e-21

duration: 0.01

tslice: 2e-07

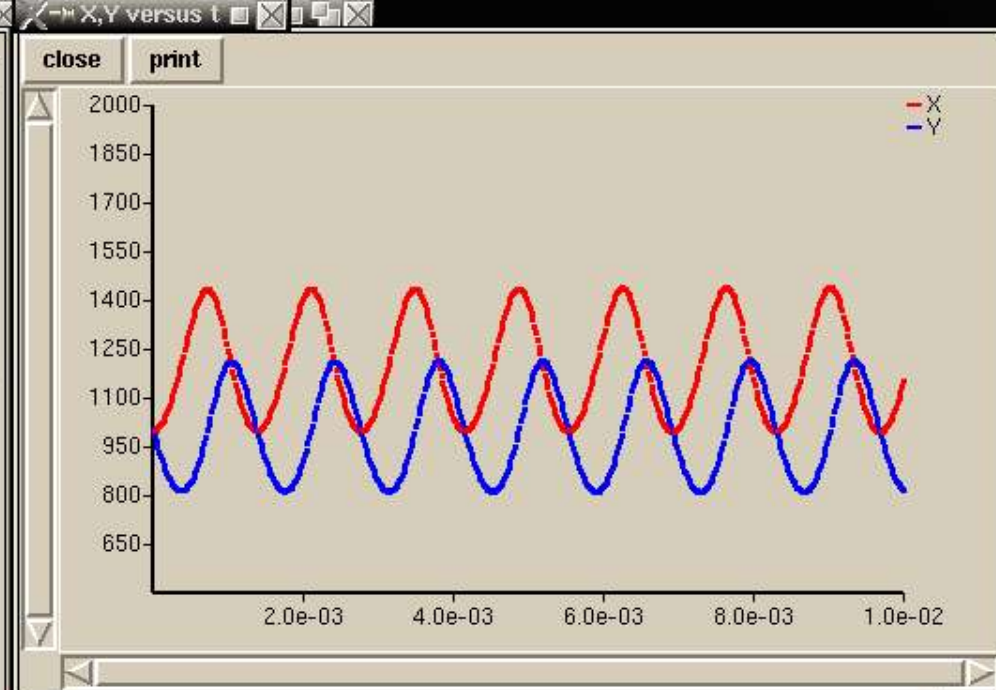
print ratio: 100

minimum Y: 500

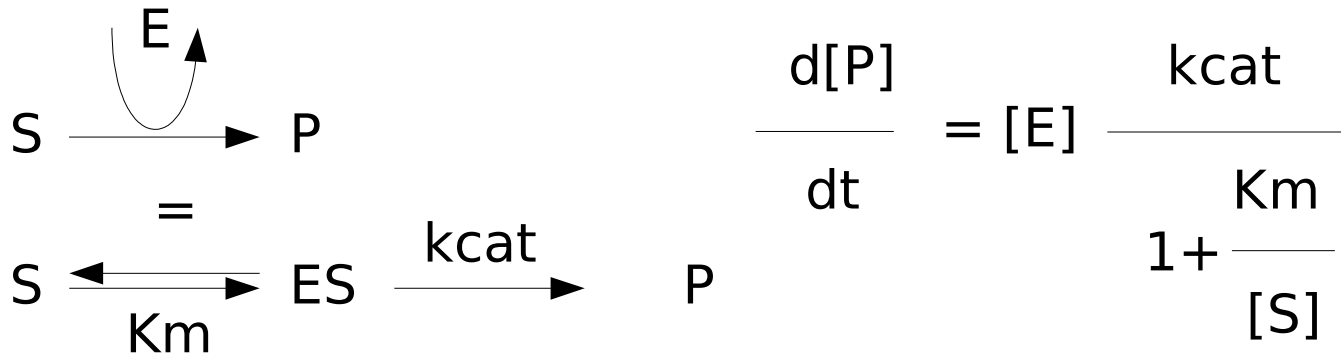
maximum Y: 2000

X,Y Vs. t X Vs. Y quit

61907204817 909,587
32061062129 925,743
11260436363 942,871
85364872356 960,858
42400482635 979,567
72989042221 998,845
70742486964 1018,51
32600074412 1038,38
59085690863 1058,24
54464906139 1077,86
26785507117 1097,01
87791261214 1115,45
52706183032 1132,94
39894960534 1149,25
70413615763 1164,16
67472028226 1177,46
5583579724 1188,990
61198419411 1198,57
09555566251 1206,11
26611373472 1211,51
37242444397 1214,72
65039337051 1215,74
31938412293 1214,59
57949857734 1211,31
60981168893 1206,01
56749892412 1198,78
58775331726 1189,77
78436287316 1179,11
2508067696 1166,990
06172853547 1153,58
27465335043 1139,01
93183188145 1123,51
06211187578 1107,25
68275873955 1090,40
80116577022 1073,13
41641237114 1055,59
520643758658 1037,93
100258092033 1020,306255555
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508239715574 985,648620602465
488616246921 968,846780723847
74943774868 952,534303934187
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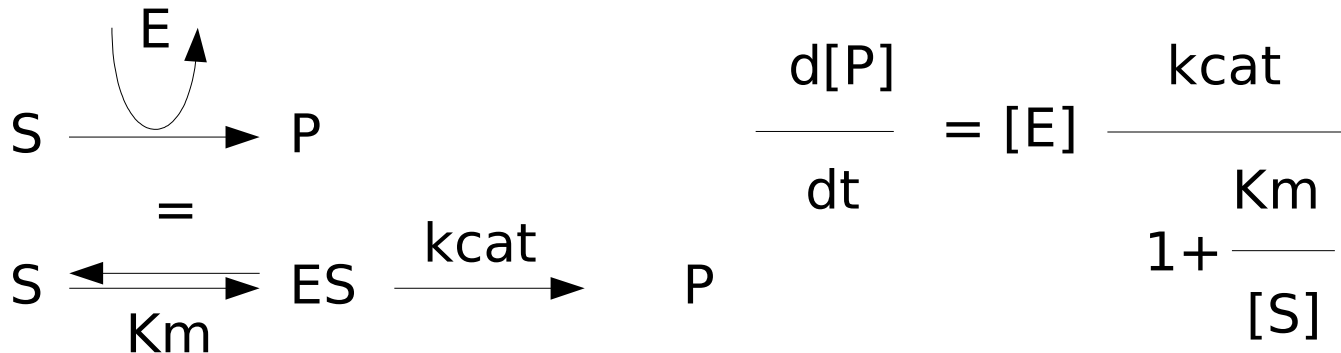
Beyond Mass Action Law



Leonor Michaelis, Maud Menten (1913).

Die Kinetik der Intertinwirkung, Biochem. Z. 49:333-369.

Beyond Mass Action Law

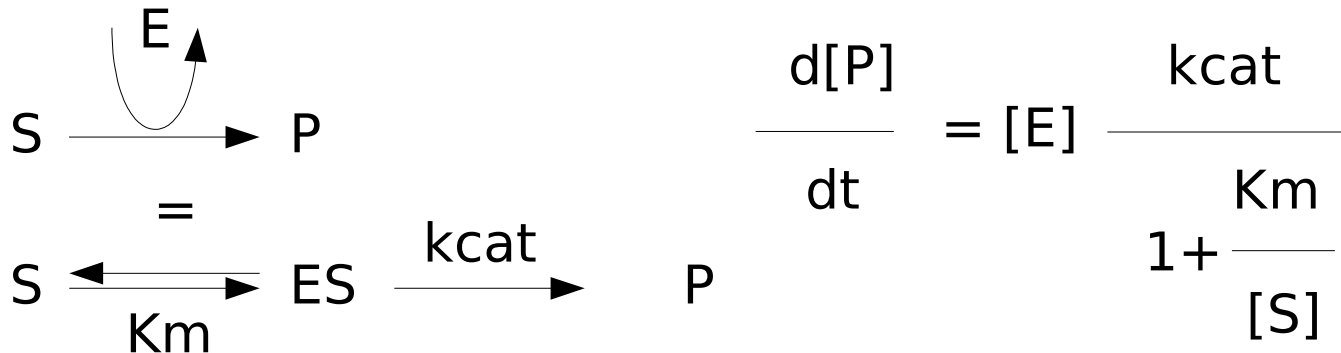


Leonor Michaelis, Maud Menten (1913).

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- Allosteric regulations (J Monod, J Wyman, JP Changeux 1965, DE Koshland, G Nemethy, D Filmer 1966)

Beyond Mass Action Law



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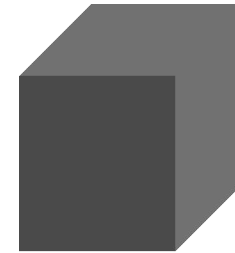
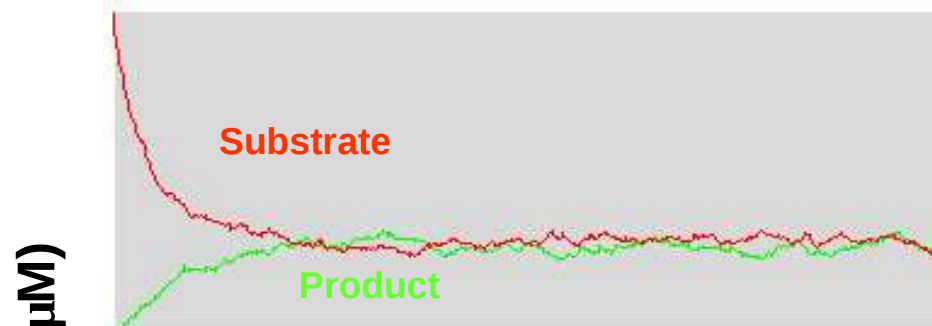
Die Kinetik der Intertinwirkung, Biochem. Z. 49:333-369.

- Allosteric regulations (J Monod, J Wyman, JP Changeux 1965, DE Koshland, G Nemethy, D Filmer 1966)
- Metabolic Control Analysis (H Kacser, JA Burns 1973)
- Biochemical Systems Theory (M Savageau 1969)
- Stoichiometric Network Analysis (R Heinrich, SM Rapoport, TA Rapoport 1997)
- Logical representations (R Thomas 1973)
- Petri Net (VN Reddy, ML Mavrovouniotis, MN Liebman)
- etc.

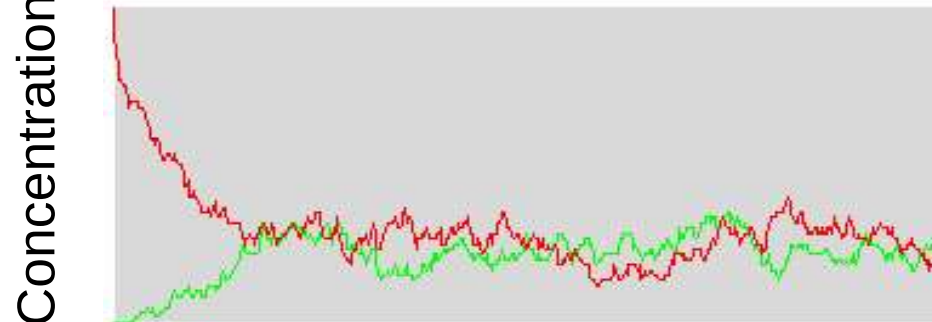
Continuous, deterministic models can't cope with:

1. Protein complexes with many states
2. Sensitivity to a very small number of molecules
3. Spatial heterogeneity

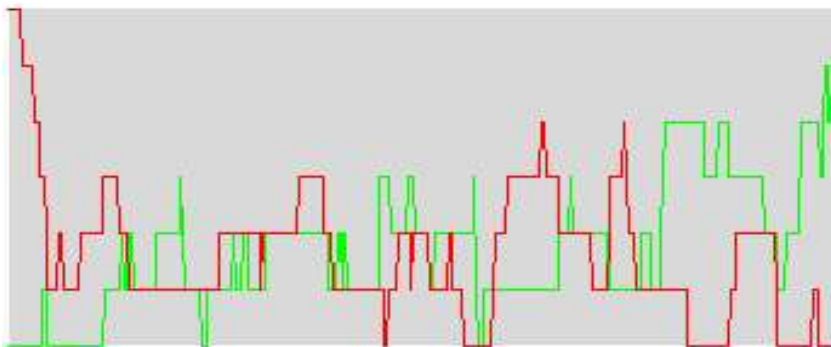
On small numbers



10^{-15} litres



10^{-16} litres

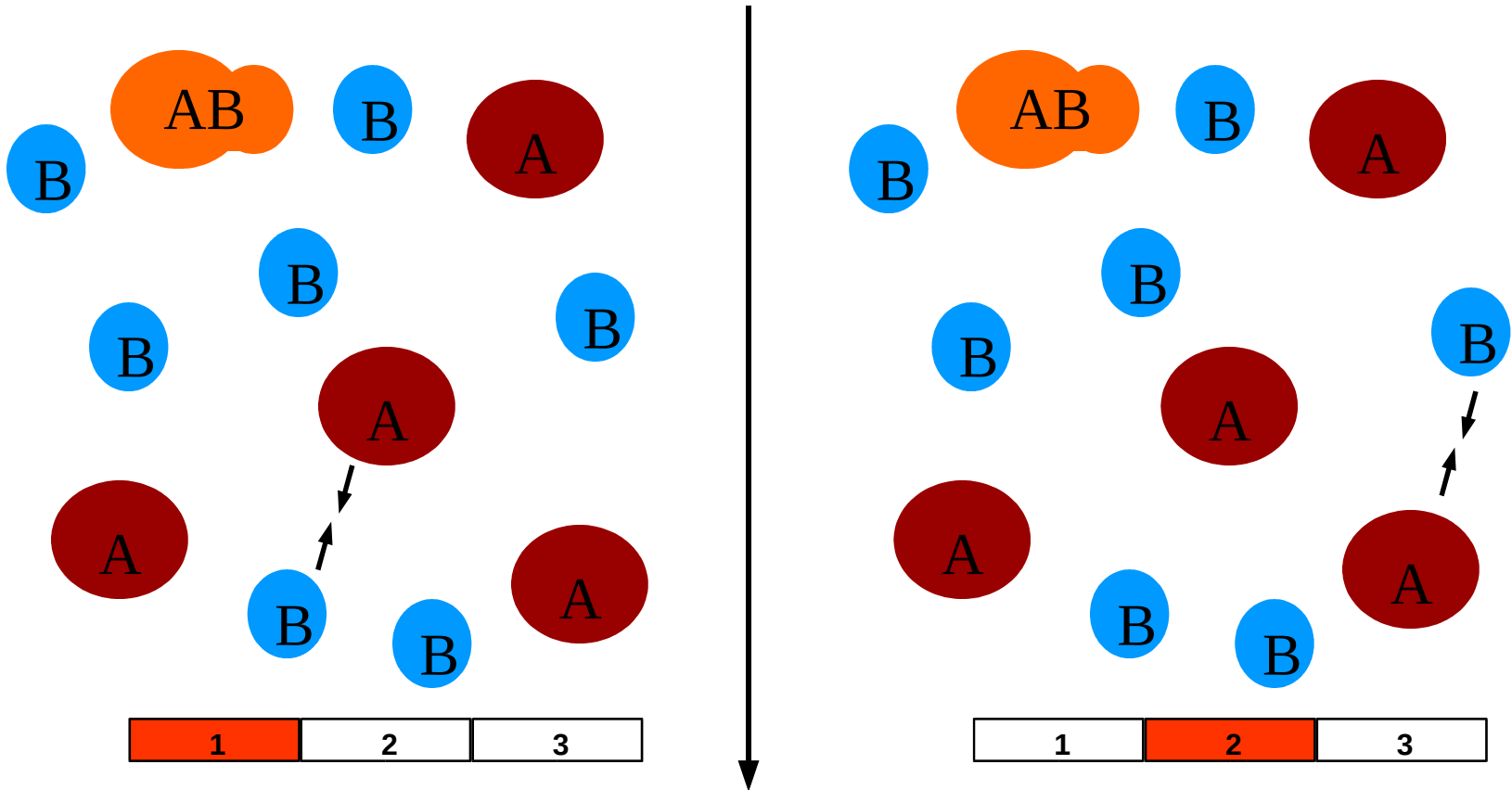


10^{-17} litres

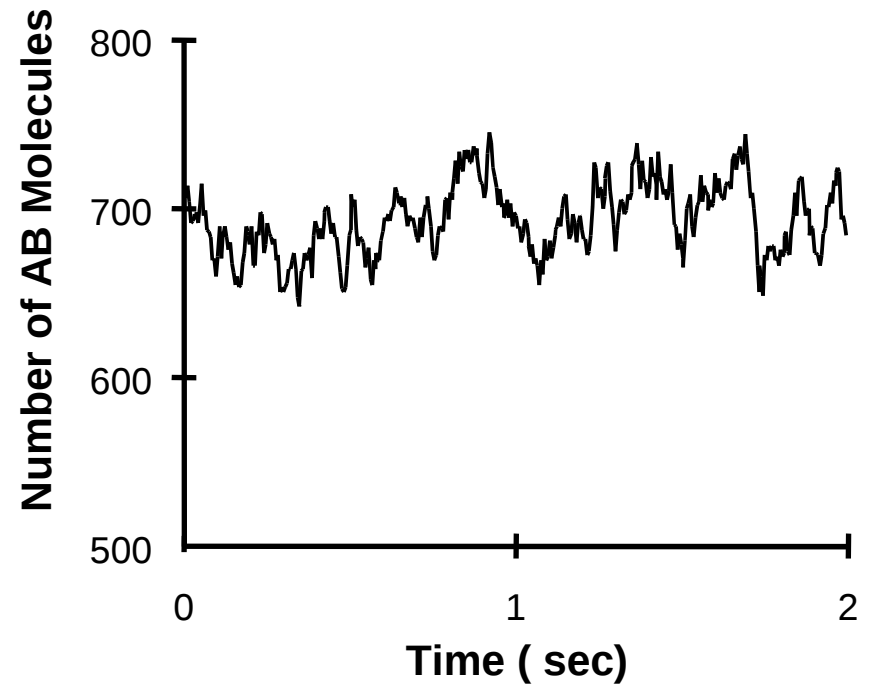
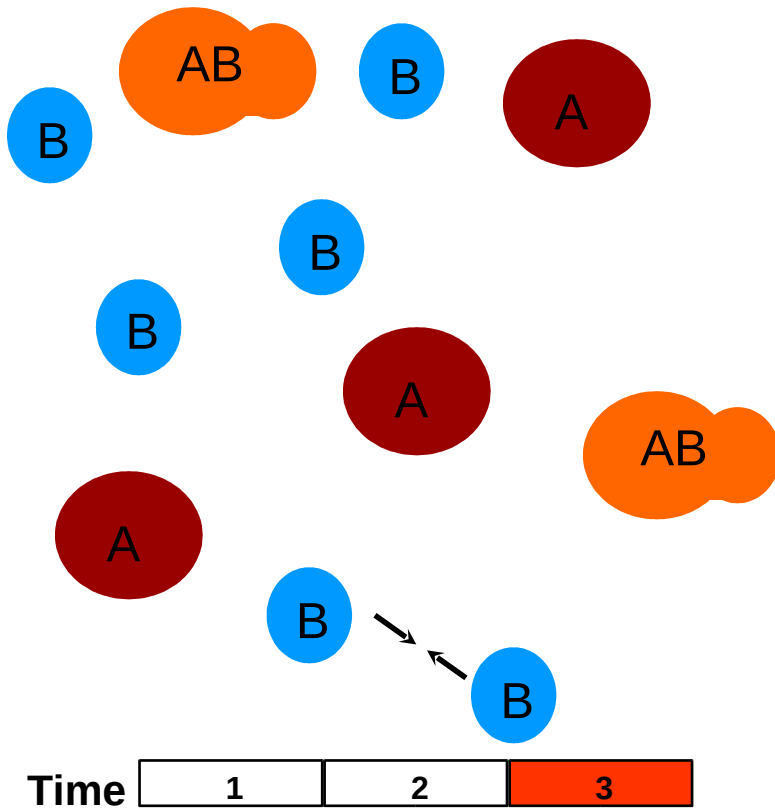
Number of calcium ions in a dendritic spine = 3-5

- ◆ Stochastic master equation (McQuarrie 1964)
 - ~ grand probability function. Generally intractable
- ◆ Gillespie method (Gillespie 1976)
 - Reaction-based stochastic algorithm. No representation of individual particles. Fast!
- ◆ StochSim (Morton-Firth *et al.* 1998) and other Monte-Carlo methods
 - Molecule-based stochastic algorithm. individual particles are represented. Slow ...

StochSim algorithm



StochSim algorithm



Kinetic constant to probability

$$d[R]/dt = k_1[G][R]$$

$$P_1 = \frac{k_1 n(n+n_0)\Delta t}{2VN_A}$$

$$d[L]/dt = -k_3[L]$$

$$P_3 = \frac{k_3 n(n+n_0)\Delta t}{n_0}$$

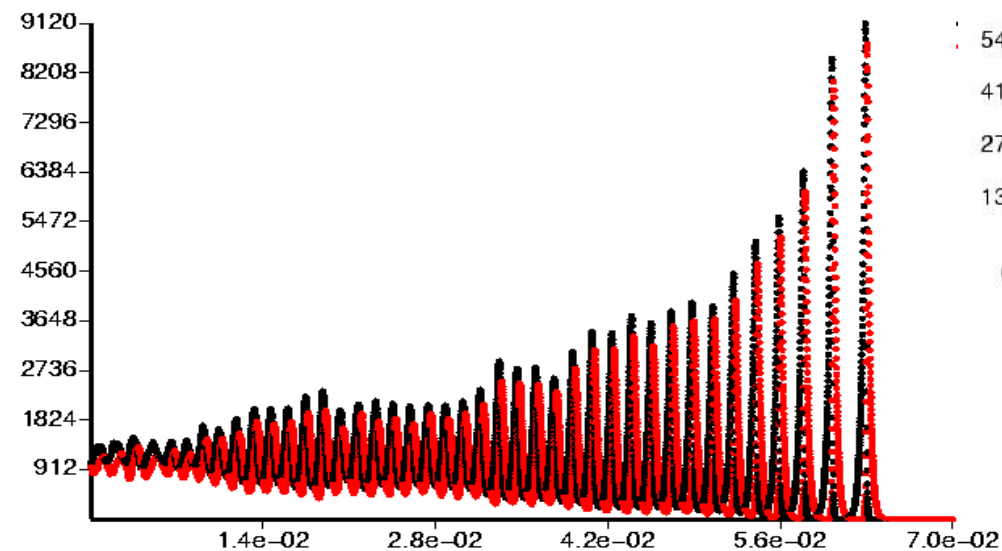
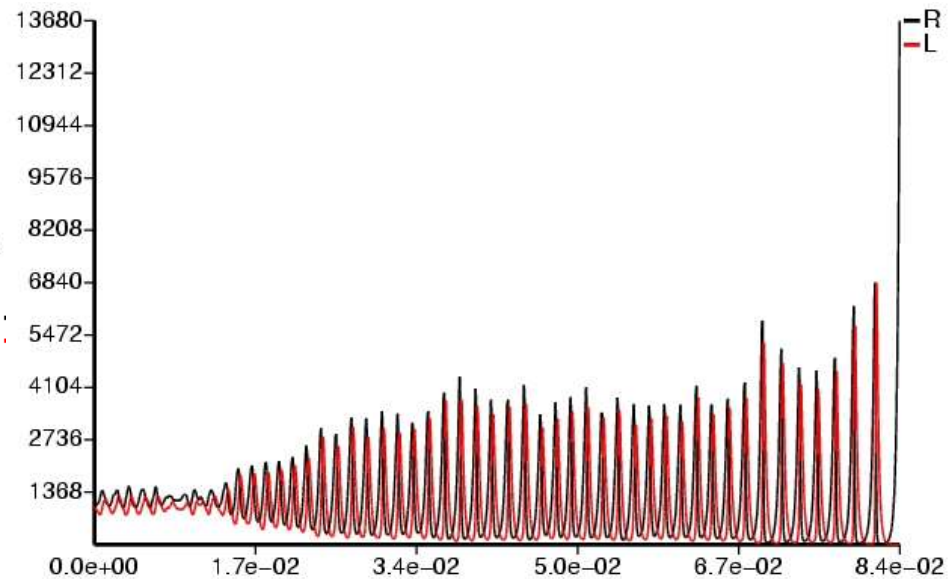
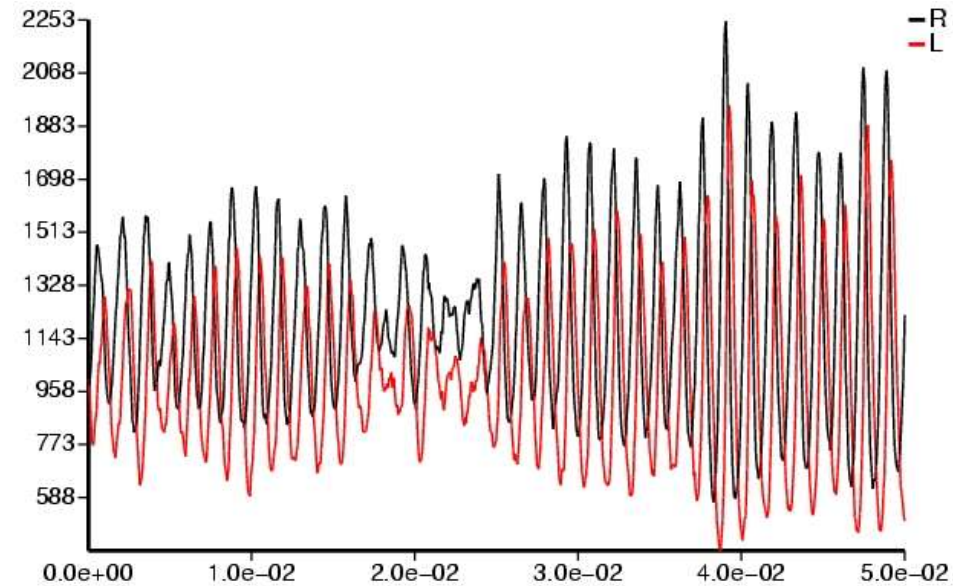
n : # molecules in the system

n_0 : # pseudomolecules in the system

V : volume of the system

N_A : Avogadro constant

pathological situations



control

File Units Tools Options Graphs Help

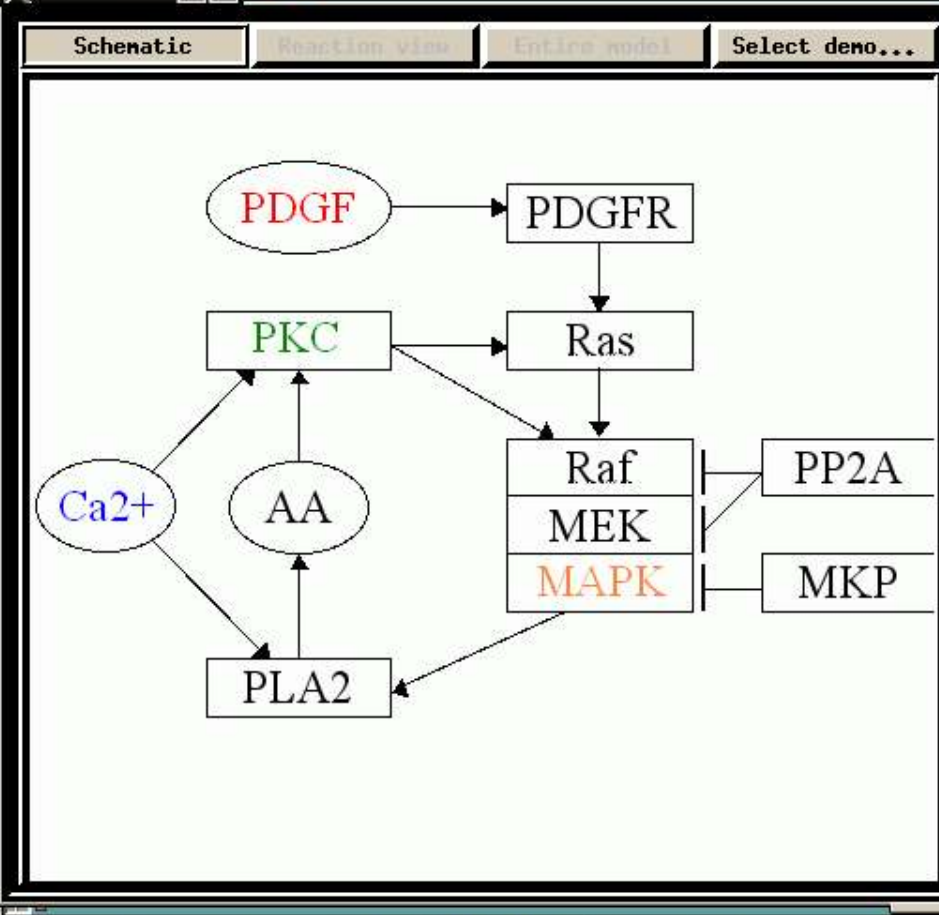
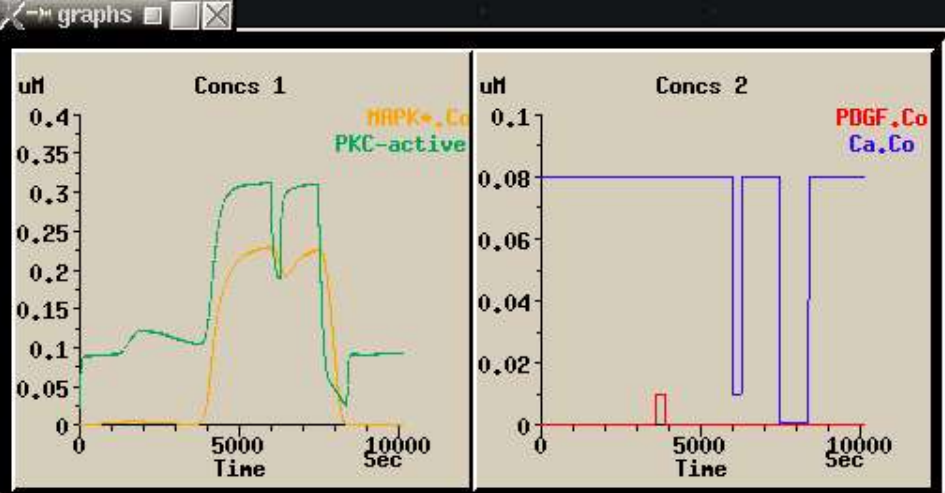
start (variable dt) Start stimulus Stop Reset

Runtime (sec) 10200 dt = 0.005 Current time 10196

kenz1 kreact kenz kch transport stim xtab group plink unlin error Duplicate

version = 0, fixcoords = 1

edit



comment

Selecting model: 03_MAPK_PKC_bistable_feedback

t=0 Starting simulation, stimulus is at baseline.

t=600 System settles to baseline.

t=900 Applying subthreshold stimulus of 0.12 nM PDGF.

t=1200 Terminating PDGF stimulus

t=1800 System returning to basal activity

t=3600 Applying strong stimulus of 0.01 uM PDGF.

t=3900 Terminating PDGF stimulus

t=4500 System settles to upper stable state

t=6000 Applying subthreshold inhib stimulus by reducing Ca to 10 nM

t=6300 Terminating inhib stimulus

t=6900 System recovers its activity

t=7500 Applying long, strong inhib stimulus by reducing Ca to 1 nM

t=8400 Terminating inhib stimulus

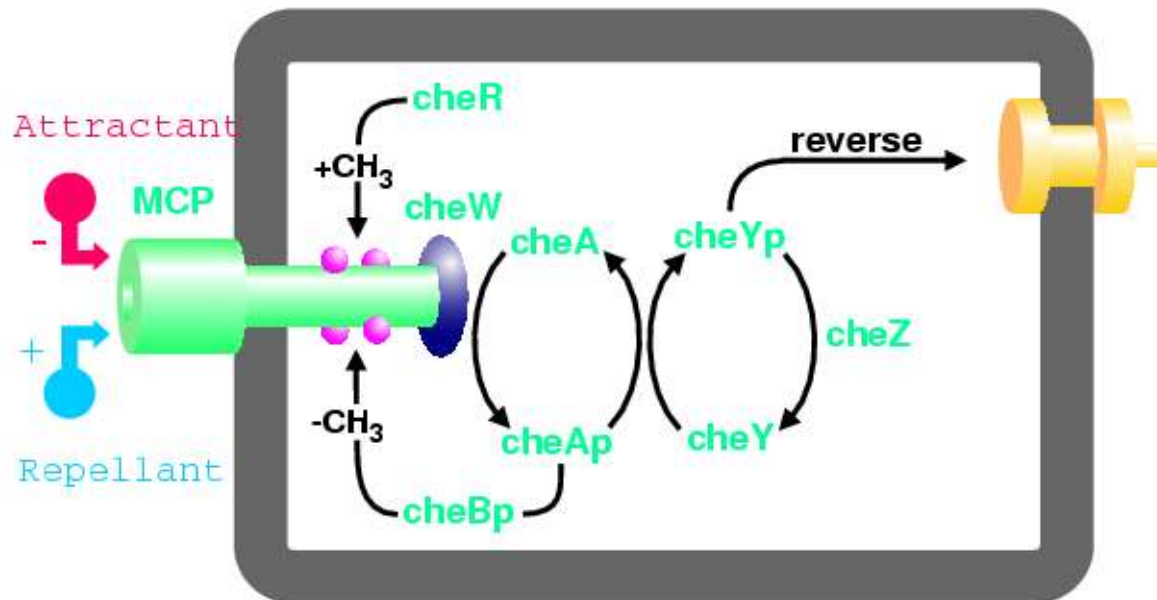
t=10200 System returns to lower stable state.

Very often, parameters are unknown or uncertain. If sets of input and output are known, one can launch an exploration of a whole range of parameter values by an iterative process. Many algorithms are available:

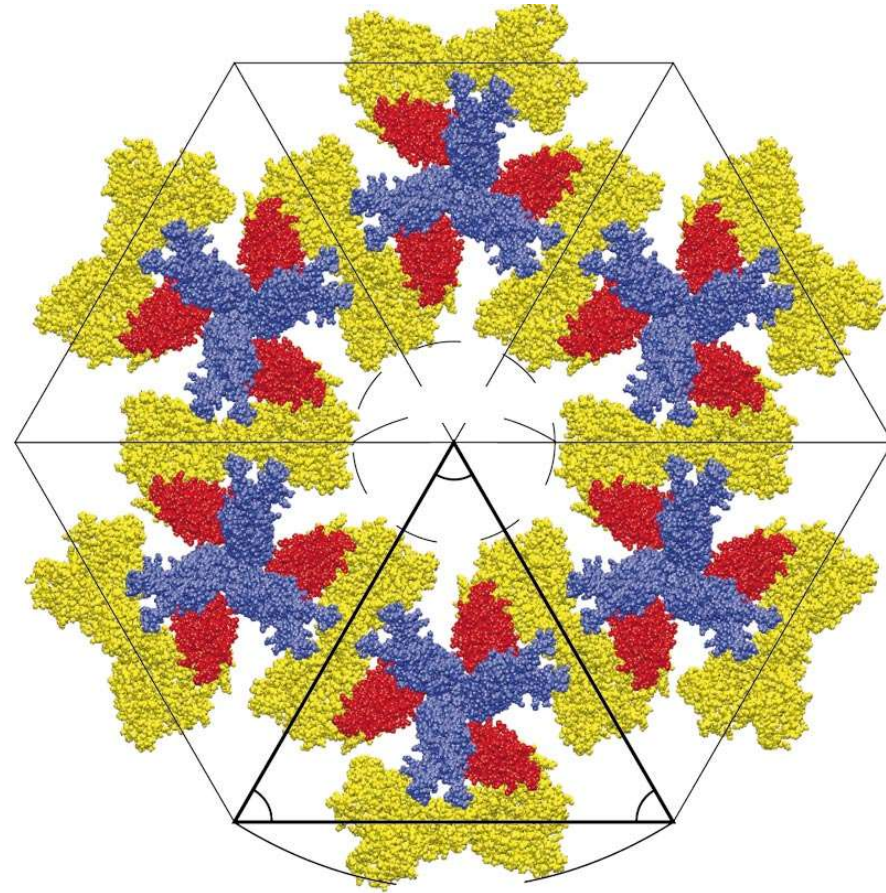
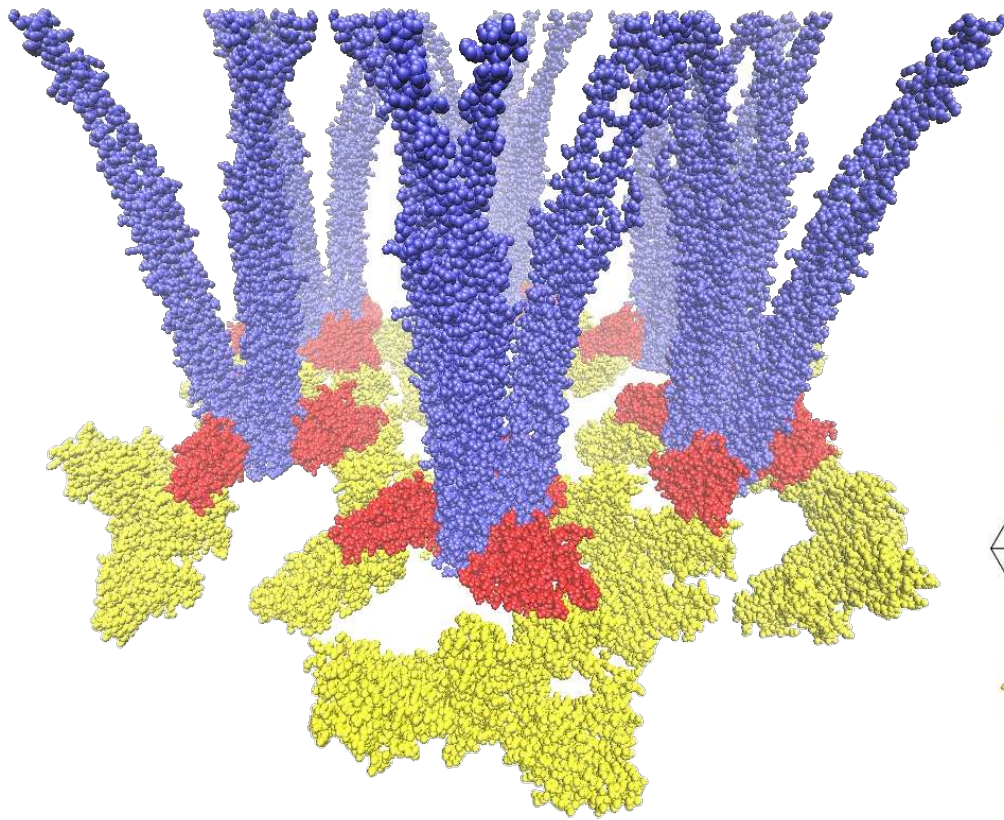
- evolutionary algorithms (e.g. Genetic Algorithms)
- stochastic algorithms (e.g. Simulated Annealing)
- gradient-descent methods (based on derivatives)
- direct search methods (e.g. amoeba algorithm)
- etc.

One possibly need thousands of iterations, that is a demanding computation, even for limited models. However, since the iterations are represent independent simulations, distributed or parallel computing are possible.

Bacterial chemotaxis

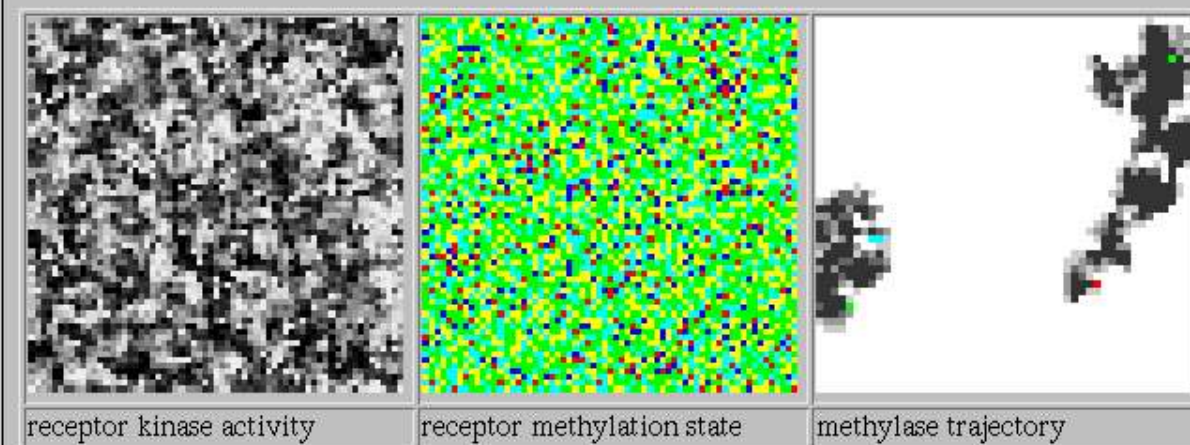


Bacterial chemotaxis





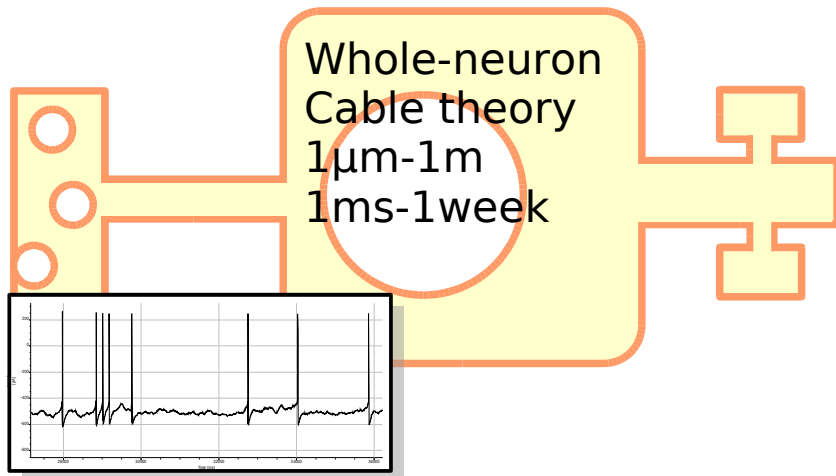
Modelisation of a lattice of chemotactic receptors



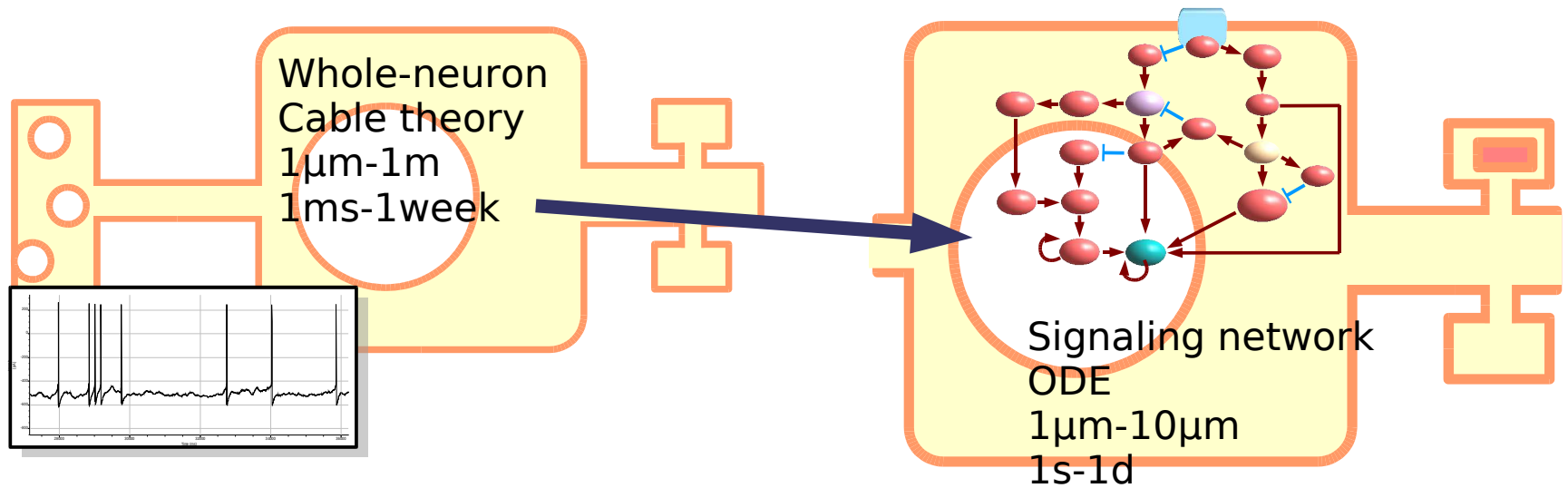
[Nicolas Le Novère](#)

Last modified: Fri Oct 15 20:56:17 BST 2004

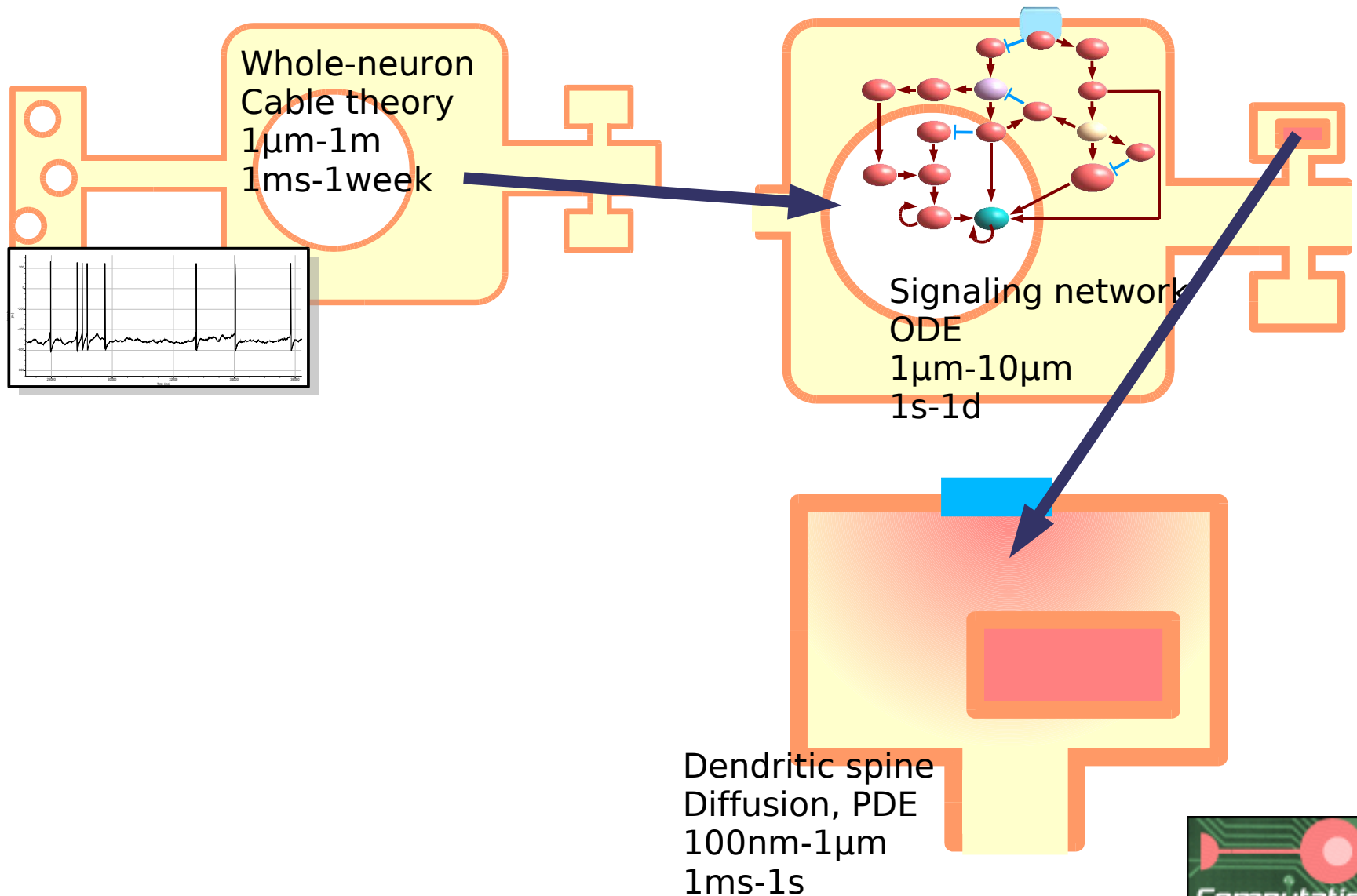
Modular multi-scales multi-algorithms program



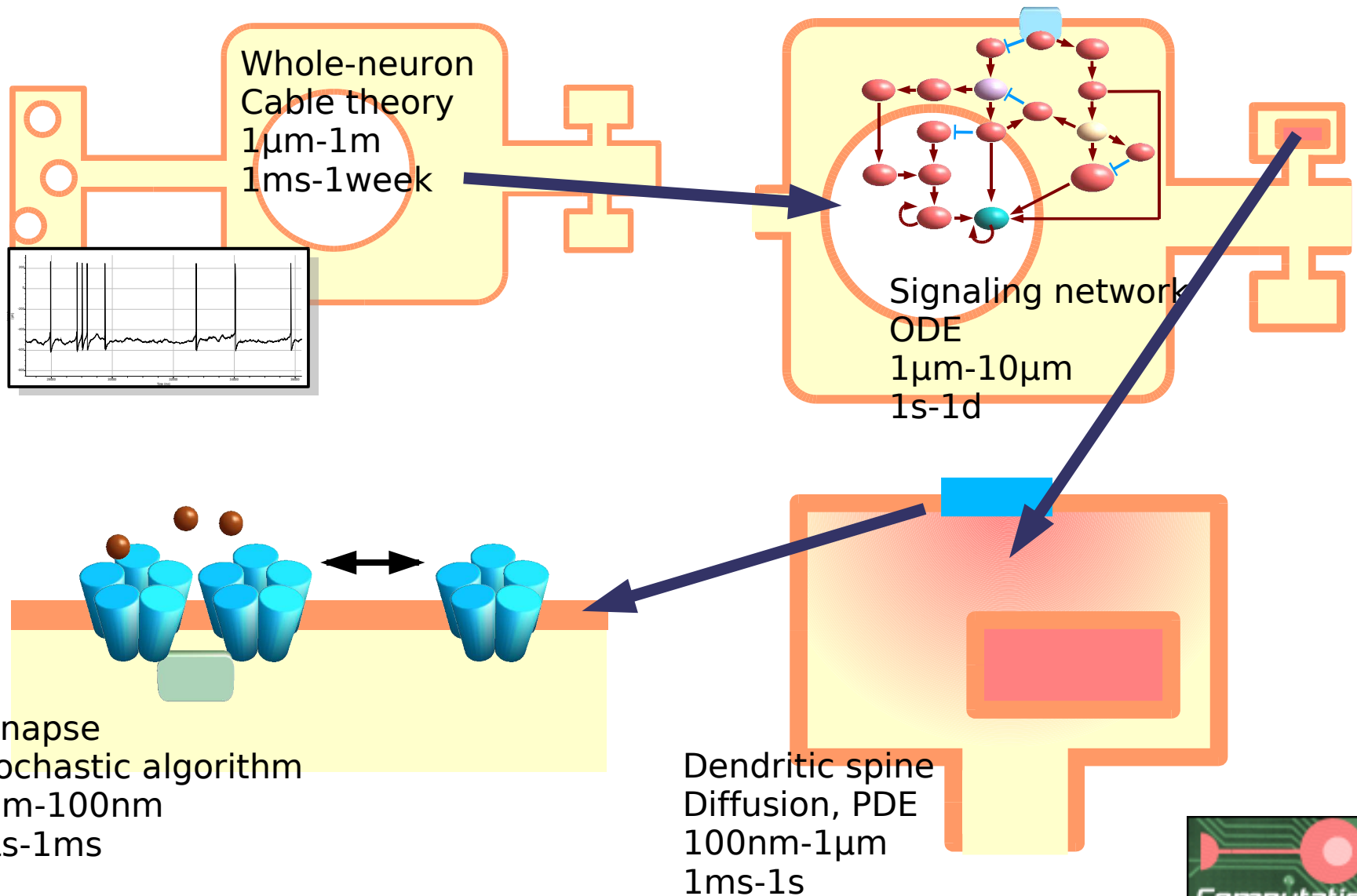
Modular multi-scales multi-algorithms program



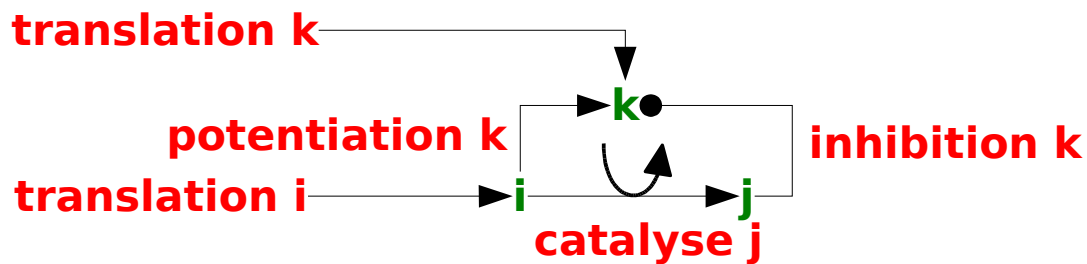
Modular multi-scales multi-algorithms program



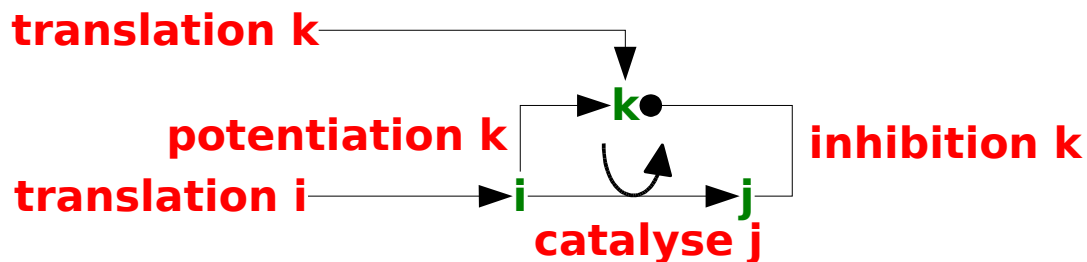
Modular multi-scales multi-algorithms program



E-Cell System 3 (Kouichi Takahashi) shared mem, hyper-threading



E-Cell System 3 (Kouichi Takahashi) shared mem, hyper-threading

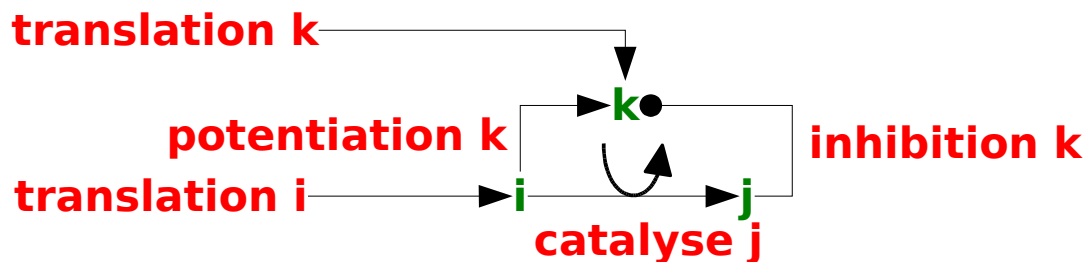


variable j

variable i

variable k

E-Cell System 3 (Kouichi Takahashi) shared mem, hyper-threading



catalyse j
(ExpressionFluxProcess)

inhibition k
(MassActionFluxProcess)

potentiation k
(MassActionFluxProcess)

translation i
(GillespieProcess)

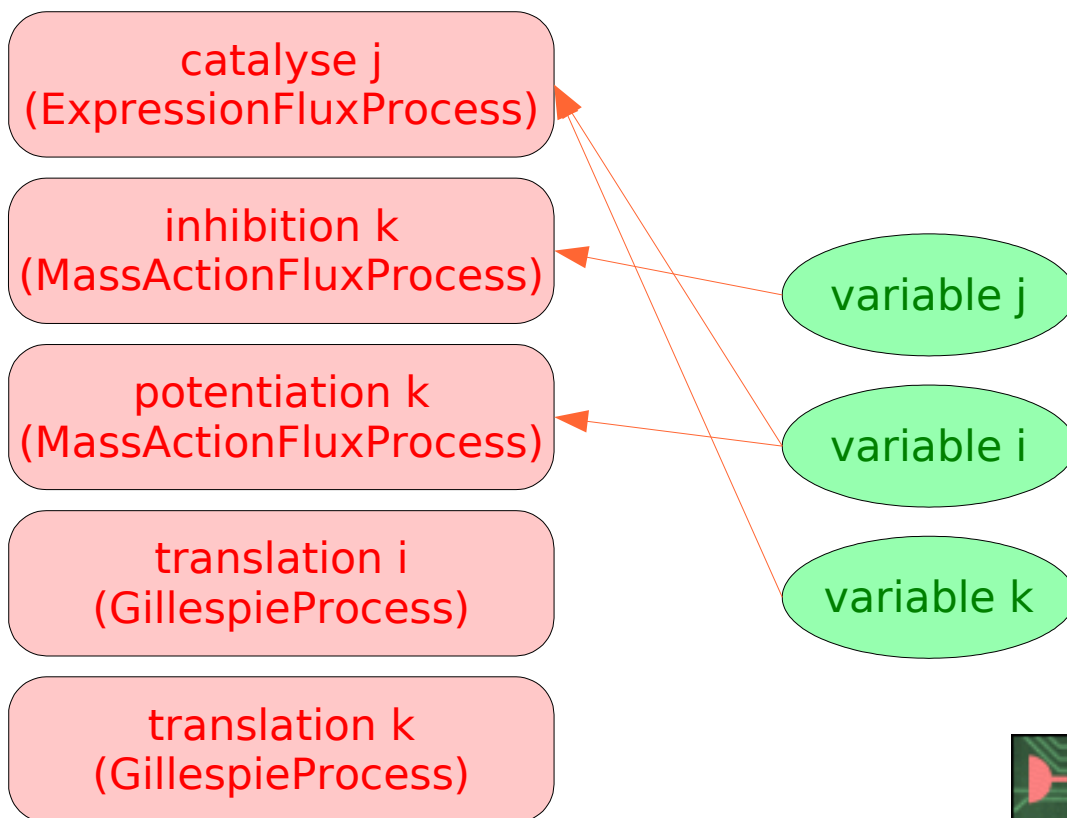
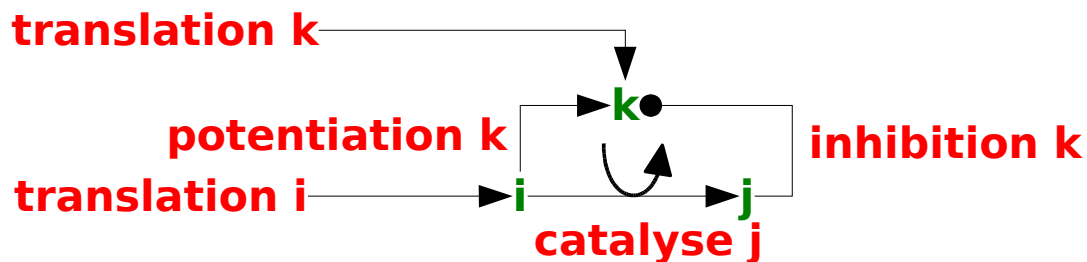
translation k
(GillespieProcess)

variable j

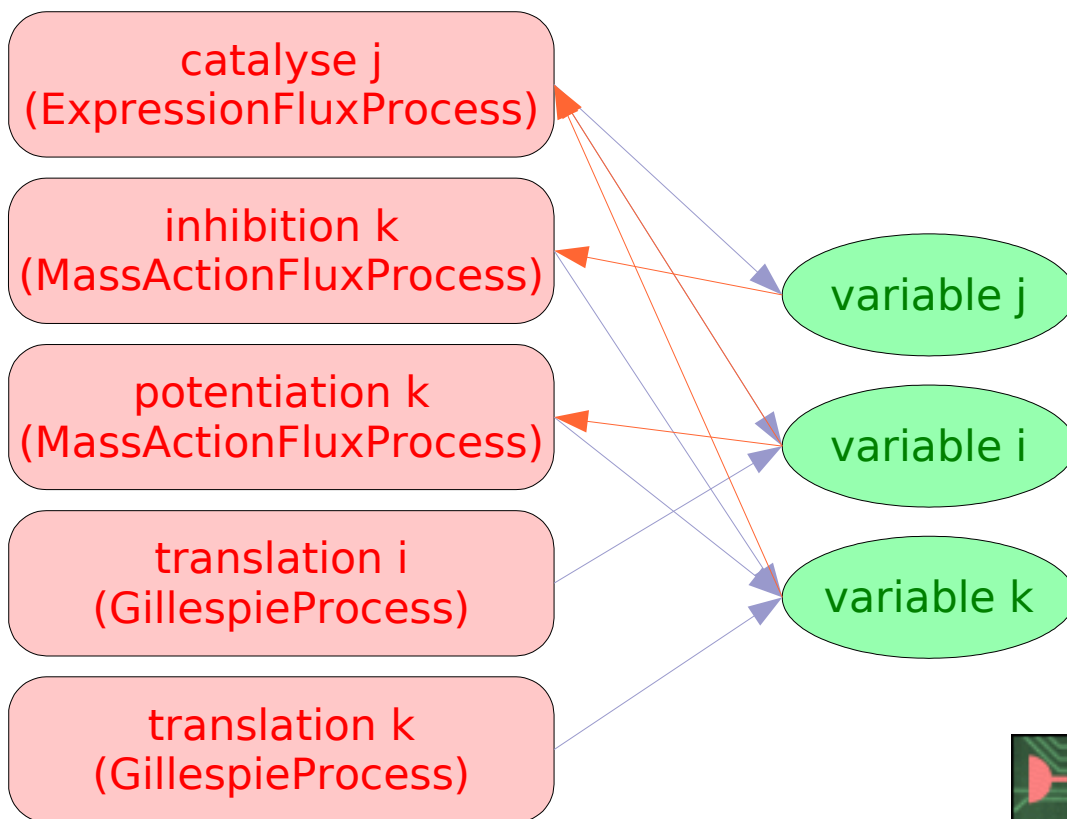
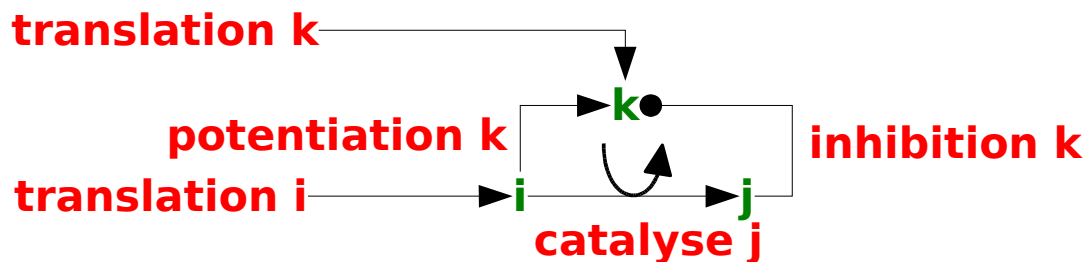
variable i

variable k

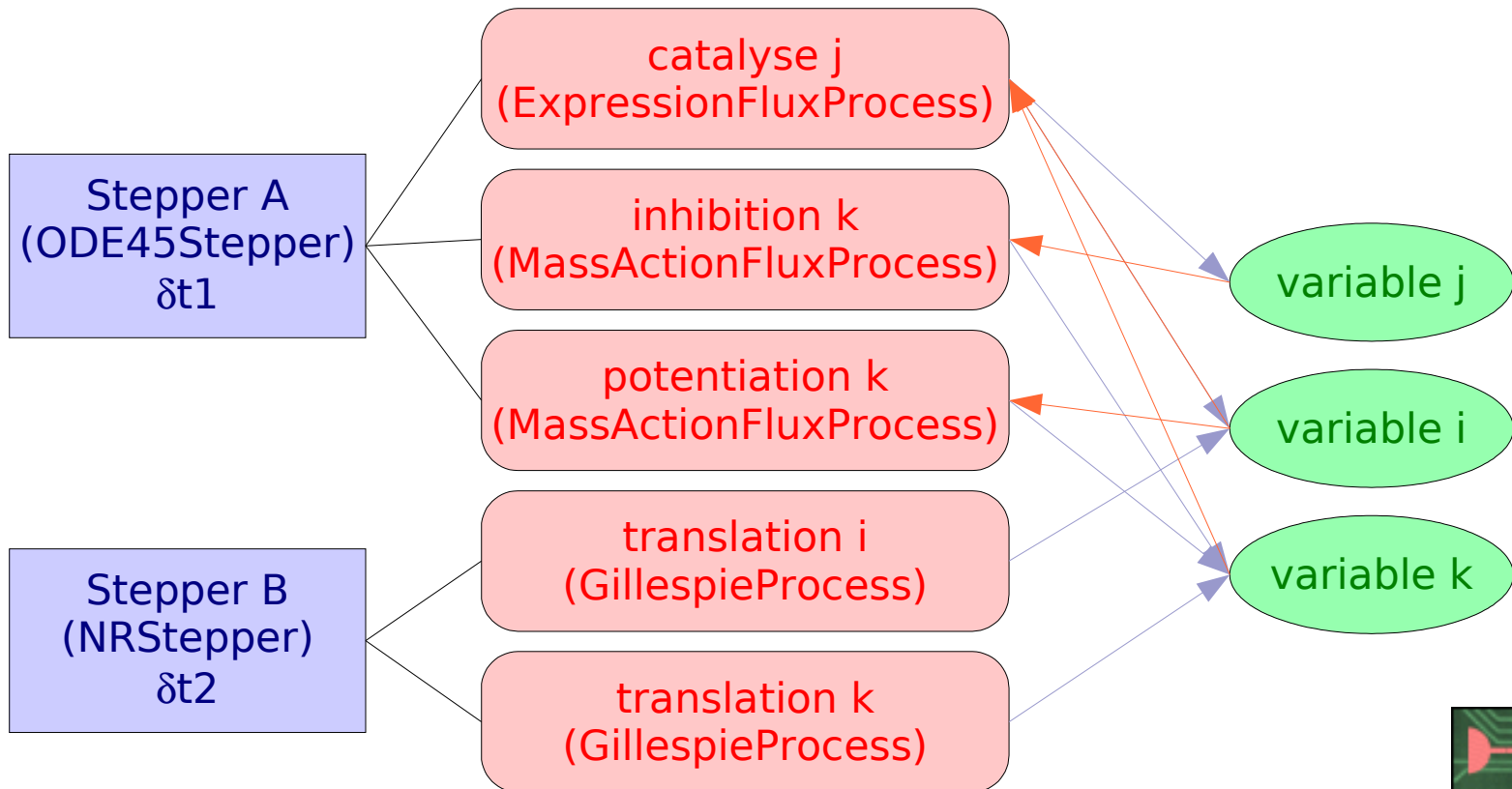
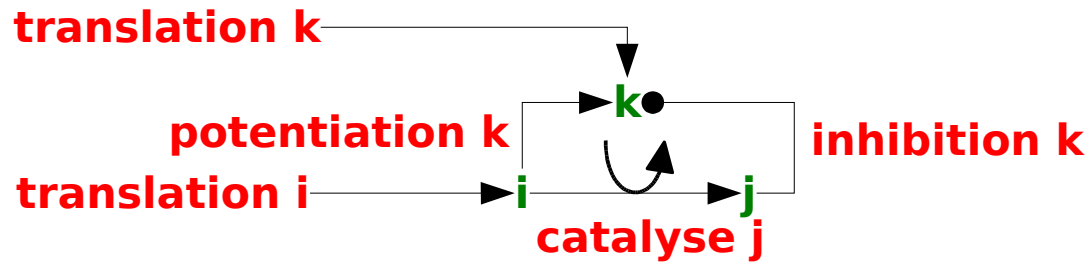
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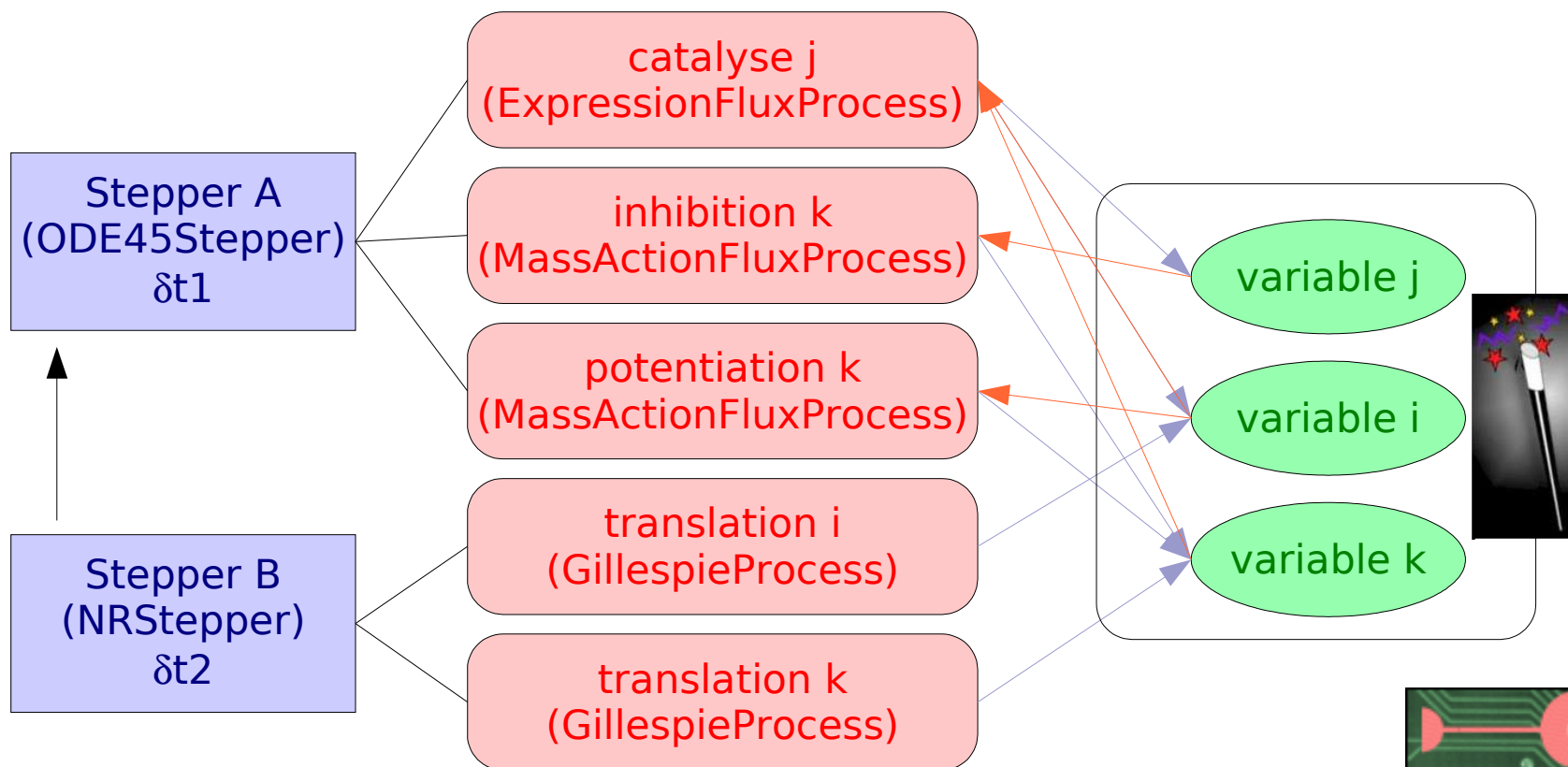
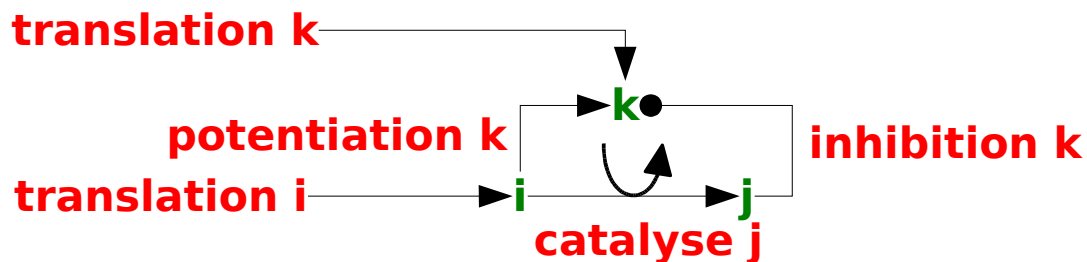


E-Cell System 3 (Kouichi Takahashi) shared mem, hyper-threading

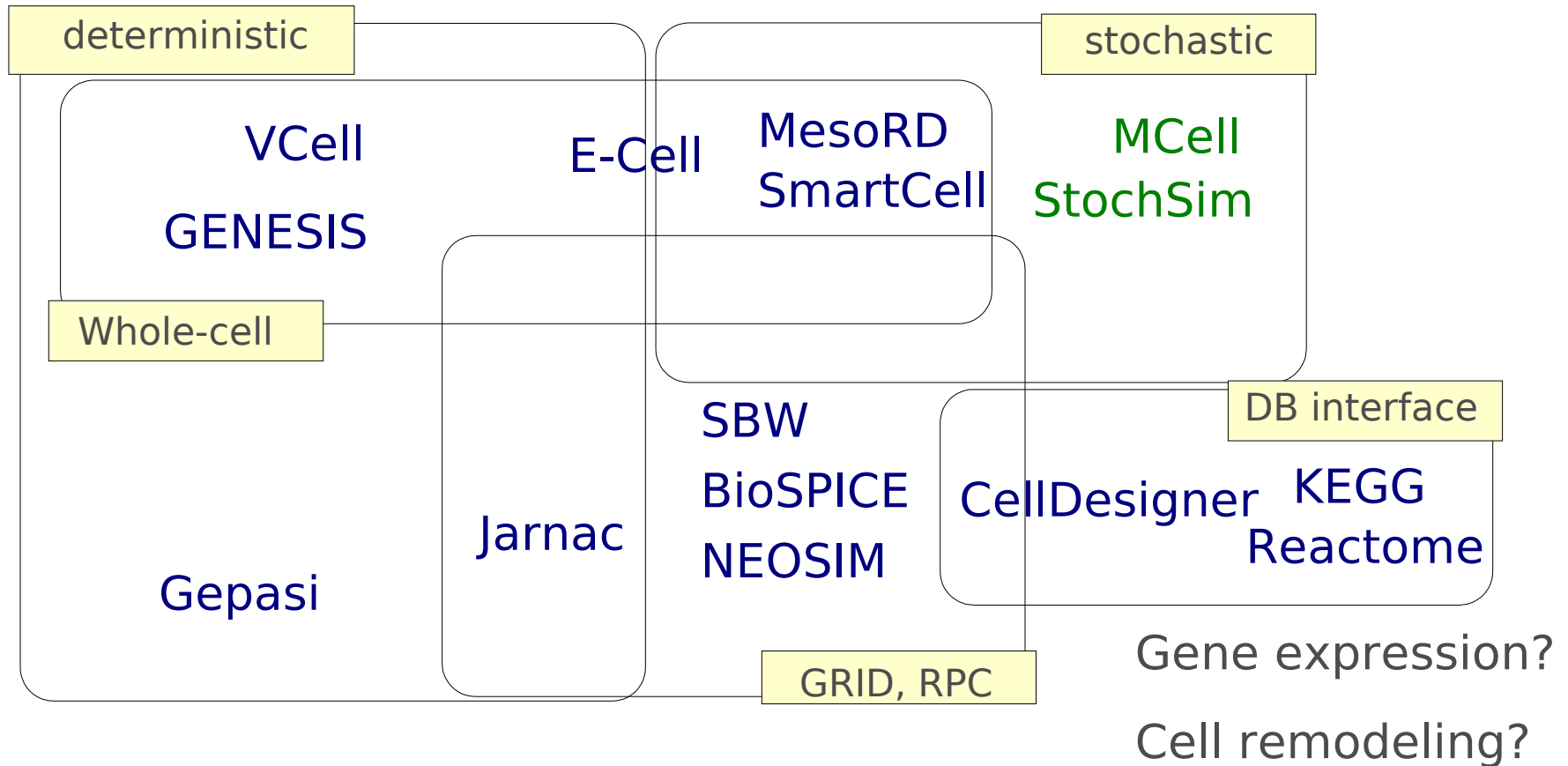


E-Cell System 3 (Kouichi Takahashi)

shared mem, hyper-threading



The collaborative approach



All these programs speak SBML
(Systems Biology Markup Language)



SBML Systems Biology Markup Language

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A Tool-Neutral Exchange Format

The Systems Biology Markup Language (SBML) is a computer-readable format for representing **models of biochemical reaction networks**. SBML is applicable to metabolic networks, cell-signaling pathways, regulatory networks, and many others.

Internationally Supported and Widely Used

SBML has been evolving since mid-2000 through the efforts of an international group of software developers and users. Today, SBML is **supported by over 60 software systems**, including the following (where '*' indicates SBML support in development):

BALSA	Cellerator	JDesigner	Modesto	SClpath
BASIS	Cellware	JigCell	Molecuizer	Sigmoid*
BioCharon	COPASI	JSIM	MOMA*	SigPath
biocyc2SBML	Cytoscape	JWS*	Monod	SigTran
BioGrid	DBsolve	Karyote*	NetBuilder	Simpathica
BioNetGen	Dizzy	KEGG2SBML	PathArt	SimWiz
Bio Sketch Pad	E-CELL	Kinsolver*	PathScout	StochSim
Dashboard	ecellJ	libSBML	PaVESy	STOCKS
BioSpreadsheet	ESS	LION Target Engine	PathwayBuilder	Trelis
BioUML	FluxAnalyzer	MathSBML	ProcessDB*	Virtual Cell
BSTLab	Gepasi	MesoRD	PySCeS*	VLX Suite
CADLIVE	INSILICO discovery	MetaboLogica	SBMLToolbox	WinSCAMP
CellDesigner	Jarnac	MMT2	SBW	

A Free and Open Language

Advances in biotechnology are leading to larger, more complex models. The systems biology community needs information standards if models are to be shared, evaluated and developed cooperatively. SBML's widespread adoption **offers many benefits**:

- Enabling the use of multiple tools without rewriting models for each tool
- Enabling models to be shared and published in a form other researchers can use even in a different software environment
- Ensuring the survival of models (and the intellectual effort put into them) beyond the lifetime of the software used to create them

Does Your Software Support SBML?

LibSBML 2.2.0 Released!

(October 6, 2004) A new version of libSBML is now available. It's full of new features, including support for Lisp and Perl.

[read more](#)

MathSBML 2.4.0 Released!

(September 24, 2004) A new version of MathSBML is now available. It adds new features and support for even more SBML and MathML constructs.

[read more](#)

SBMLToolbox 1.0 Released!

(September 21, 2004) SBMLToolbox lets you work with SBML models in MATLAB. It provides functions for reading and writing SBML, converting and manipulating models, and more.

[read more](#)

Forum meeting in October!

(September 10, 2004) The next **SBML Forum** meeting will be October 14-15, right after IC SB 2004 in Heidelberg, Germany.

[read more](#)

Announcement: MesoRD

(September 9, 2004) MesoRD is a stochastic simulator of reactions and diffusions in space. It implements a new simulation method and supports SBML.

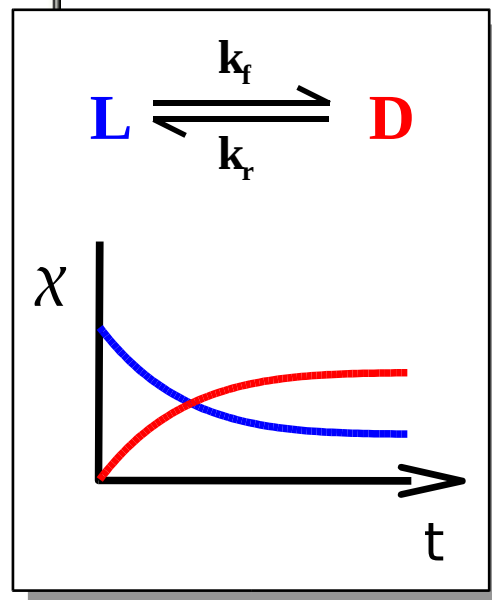
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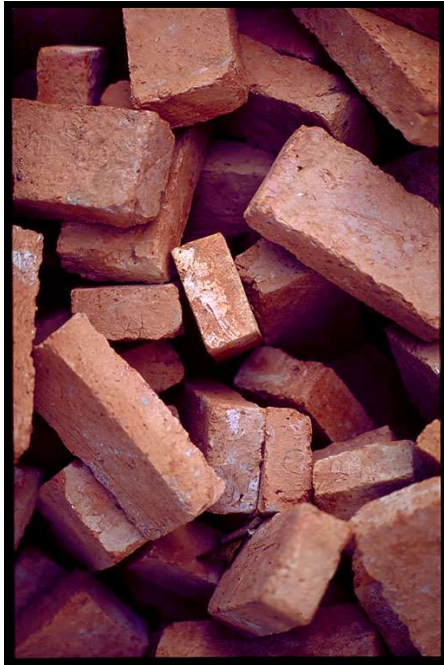
```
Source of: file:///home/lenov/MEETINGS/CourseEMBL/LynDies.xml - Mozilla
File Edit View Help

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<sbml xmlns="http://www.sbml.org/sbml/level1" level="1" version="2">
  <model name="LotkaVolterra">
    <listOfCompartments>
      <compartment volume="1e-021" name="comp1" />
    </listOfCompartments>
    <listOfSpecies>
      <species compartment="comp1" initialAmount="0" name="D" units="mole" />
      <species compartment="comp1" initialAmount="1.7e-21" name="L" units="mole" />
    </listOfSpecies>
    <listOfReactions>
      <reaction name="_2">
        <listOfReactants>
          <speciesReference species="L" />
        </listOfReactants>
        <listOfProducts>
          <speciesReference species="D" />
        </listOfProducts>
        <kineticLaw formula="(kf * L - kr * D) * comp1">
          <listOfParameters>
            <parameter value="5000" name="kf" />
            <parameter value="0" name="kr" />
          </listOfParameters>
        </kineticLaw>
        <notes>
          <body xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
            <p>Lynx dies</p>
          </body>
        </notes>
      </reaction>
    </listOfReactions>
  </model>
</sbml>
```

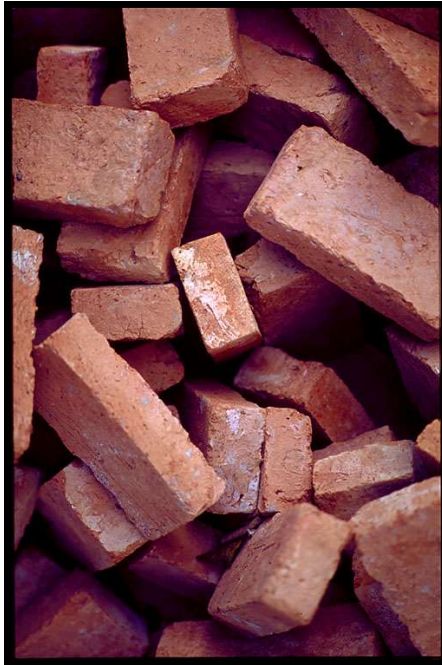
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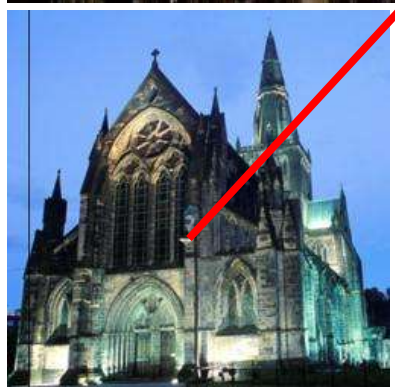
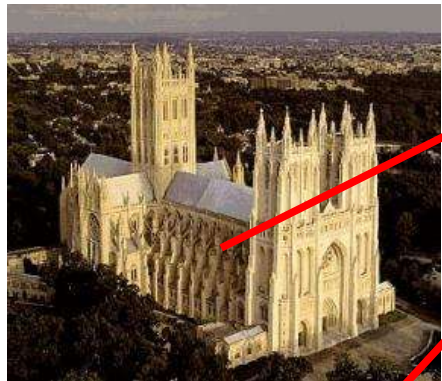
Cellular Neurobiology today



Cellular Neurobiology today



Cellular Neurobiology today



**In Computational Systems Biology
the bottleneck is often the data,
not the tool**