

Coarse-graining stochastic biochemical reaction networks in the adiabatic limit

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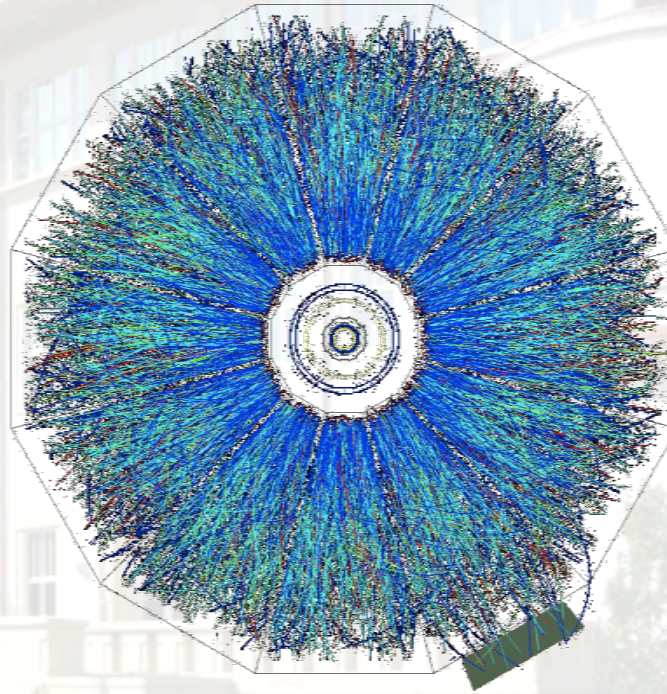
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Hairballs aren't unique to biology



Wikipedia RHIC event image



My prejudices

- Large hairballs of interaction networks are scary and hard to interpret
- Need coarse-grained models – but need rigorous methods to decide what matters and what doesn't
- There is no reason to solve an approximate problem exactly
- Need approximate methods for coarse-graining – need to find small parameters with the most bang for the buck



Goals

- Is functionally equivalent coarse-graining possible on long temporal/spatial scales?
- Can we build faster simulation tools based on coarse-grained systems?
- Do interesting phenomena emerge due to coarse-graining?



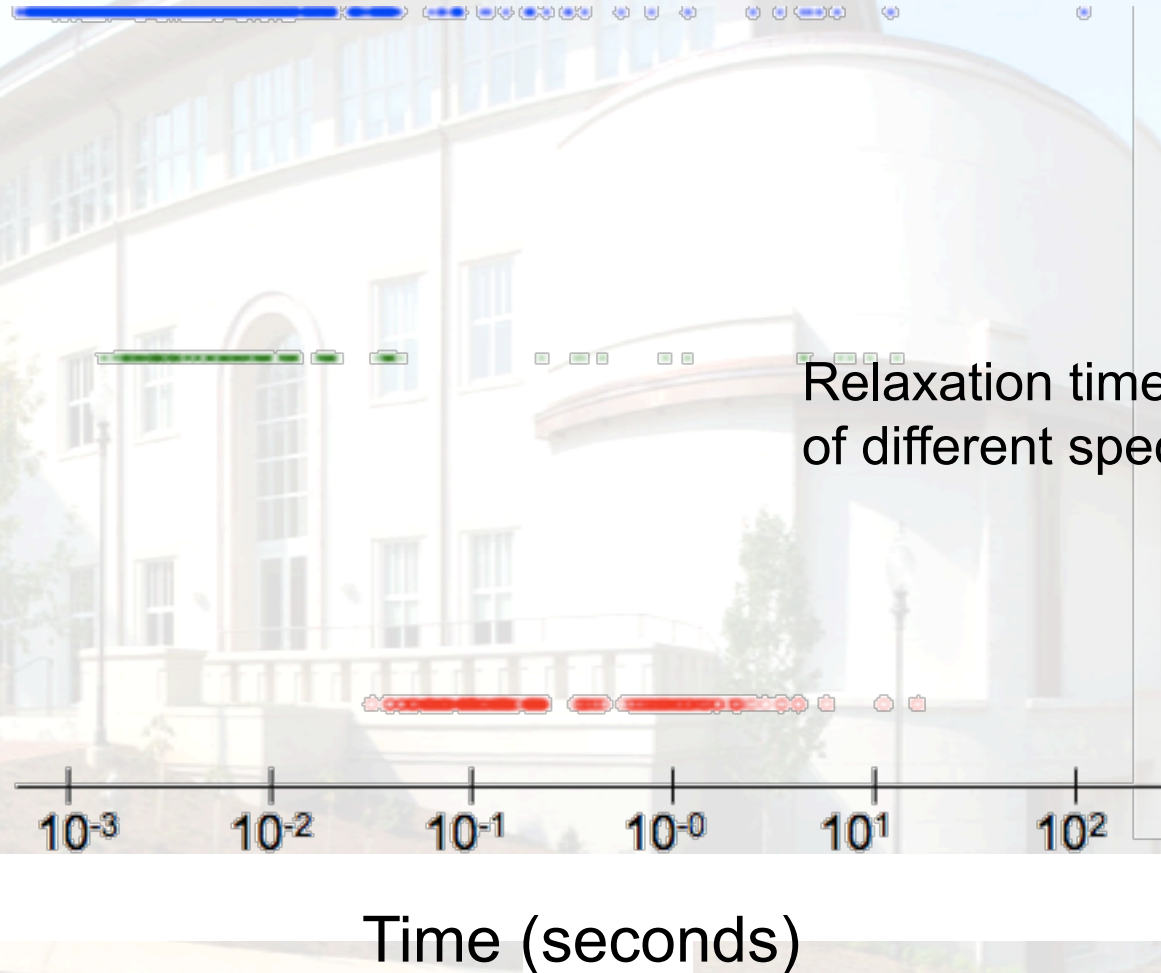
Small parameter in biochemical networks

FcεRI (trimer)
2954 states

FcεRI (dimer)
354 states

EGFR
356 states

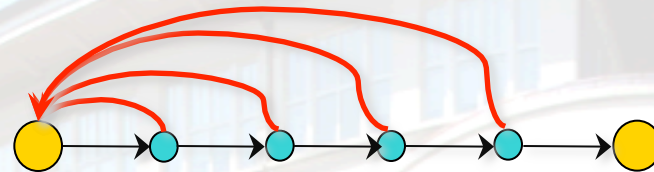
Relaxation time scales
of different species



Faeder et al.



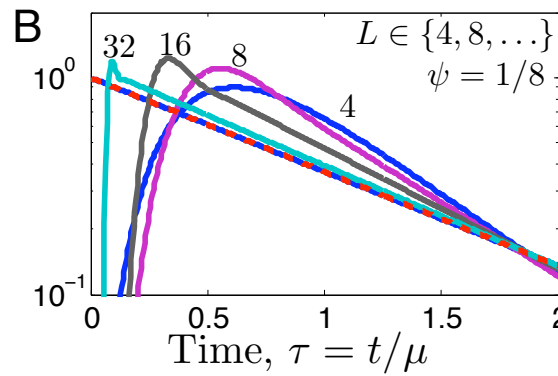
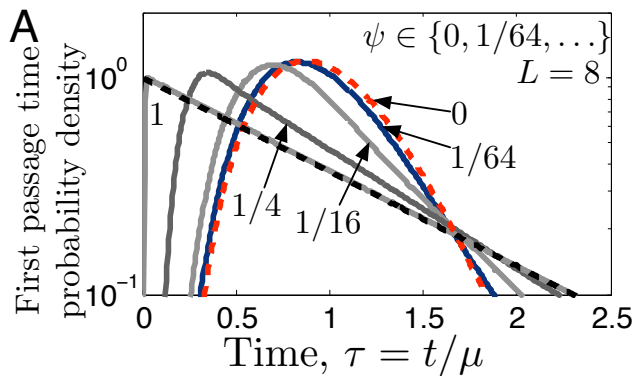
Example of time scales separation: Kinetic proofreading



k forward

γ proofreading

$$\psi = \gamma/k$$



Bel, Munsky, 2009-10

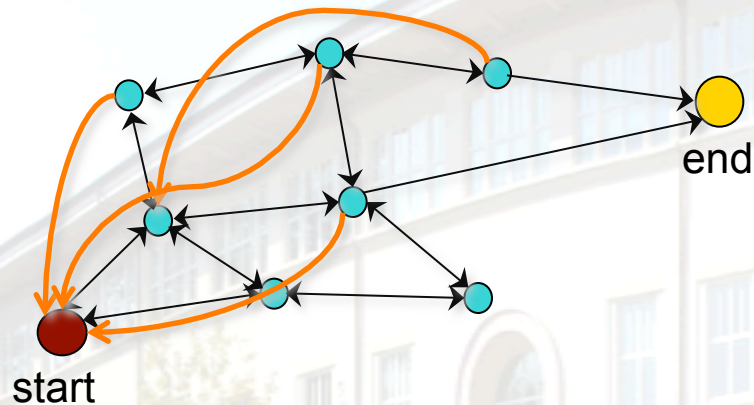


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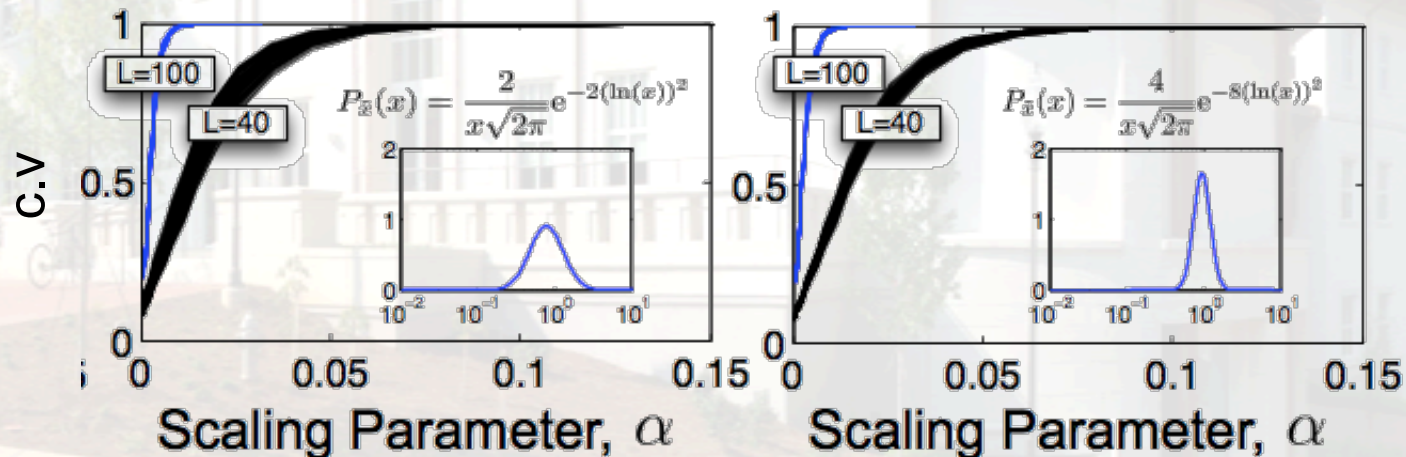
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Examples of time scales separation: Random networks



α – relative strength of “shortcuts”
Similar to ligand dissociation

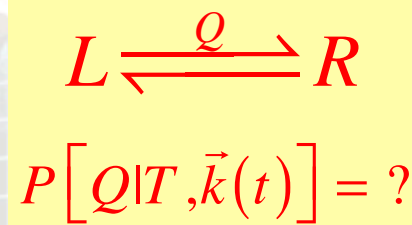


Bel, Munsky, *PB, JCP*, 2009-10

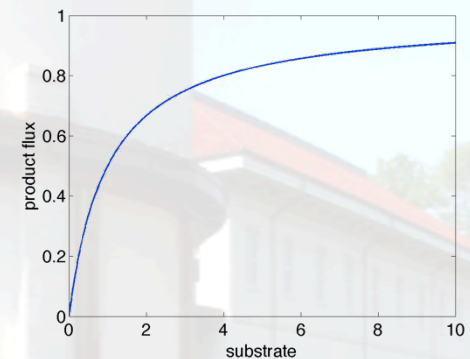


The simplest coarse-grainable system with time scale separation

- A Michaelis-Menten enzyme



Left-Right particle flux $\xrightarrow{\quad} k_\mu \gg \frac{d \log k_\mu}{dt}$



- How do we coarse-grain these systems?
- Separation of relaxation time scales = different concentration scales

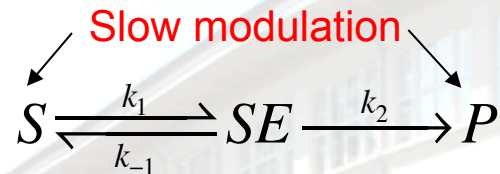


Some notes

- Need to get rid of internal degrees of freedom, not simulate them with a different protocol
- Approximation needs to work at the knee of MM curve, not only at the (easier) linear and the saturated limits
- Approximation needs to work when rates change with time
- Want a substantial speed-up in terms of Langevin or tau-leaping like approach, not simulate reaction by reaction. But nonetheless want to have arbitrary moments of reactions approximately correct.
- What are the long-time, large-current probabilities?



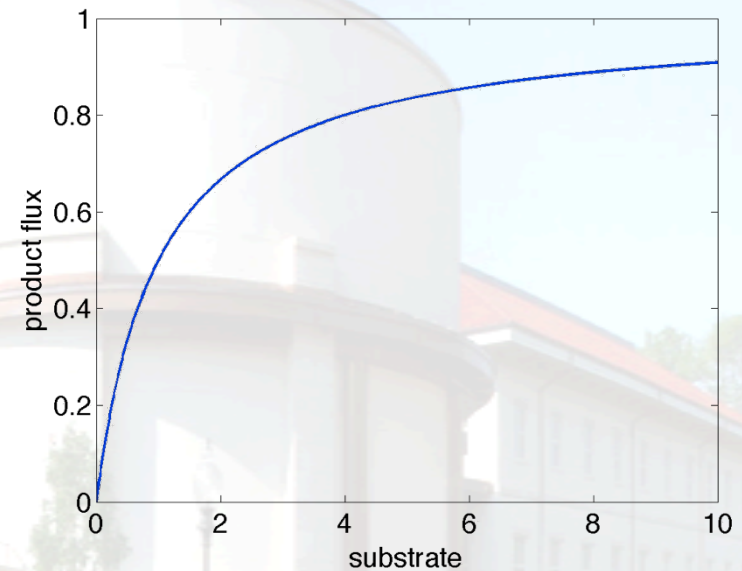
Adiabaticity in the deterministic case



$$\frac{d[SE]}{dt} = k_1[E] - (k_{-1} + k_2)[SE] = 0$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{k_1 k_2}{k_2 + k_{-1} + k_1} = J_{cl}$$

- Adiabatic approximation
 - Many enzyme turnovers for small (fractional) change in $[P]$, $[S]$
- How to do the same with fluctuations?



Let's do the algebra: MGF approach



$$\frac{dP_n^E}{dt} = -(k_1 s + k_{-2} p) P_n^E + k_{-1} P_n^{ES} + k_2 P_{n-1}^{ES}$$

$$\frac{dP_n^{ES}}{dt} = -(k_{-1} + k_2) P_n^{ES} + k_1 s P_n^E + k_{-2} p P_{n+1}^{ES}$$

$$|G\rangle = \{G^E, G^{ES}\} = \sum_n e^{i\chi n} \{P_n^E, P_n^{ES}\}$$

$$G = \langle \mathbf{1} | G \rangle = G^E + G^{ES}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \log G}{\partial (i\chi)} \right|_{\chi=0} = \bar{J}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \log G}{\partial (i\chi)^2} \right|_{\chi=0} = \sigma^2$$

...

$$\frac{d|G\rangle}{dt} = H|G\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 + k_{-2} & -k_{-1} - k_2 e^{i\chi} \\ -k_1 - k_{-2} e^{-i\chi} & k_{-1} + k_2 \end{bmatrix} |G\rangle$$

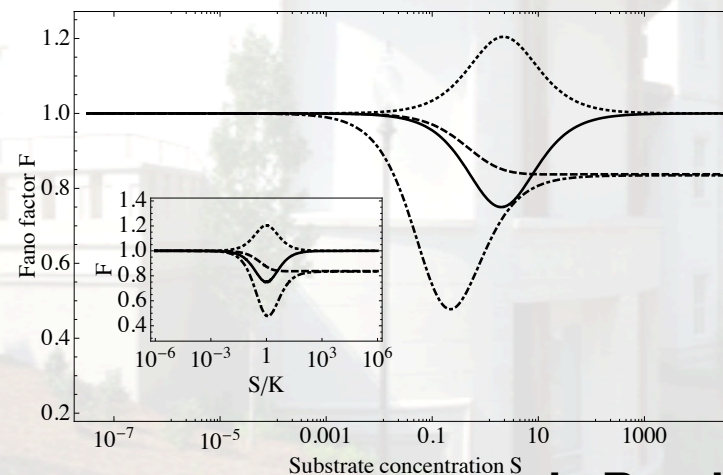
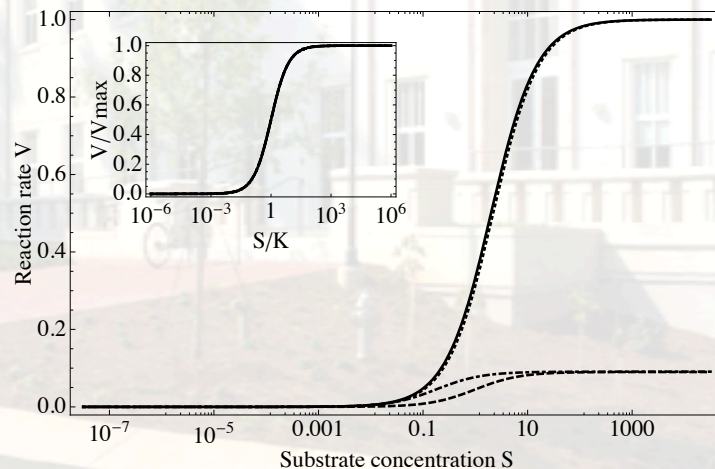
A simple form: introduce counting fields

de Ronde et al, 2009



Results: can find the *coarse-grained CGF*

- For large t , solving this system of linear ODEs is equivalent to finding the largest real part eigenvalue.
- Treating χ as small, can use perturbation theory; e.g., two orders give first two cumulants. Sometimes can find $S=\log G$ completely.
- Easy to do for more complex reactions, e.g., allowing to disambiguate some reaction schemes from mesoscopic fluctuations data.



de Ronde et al, 2009

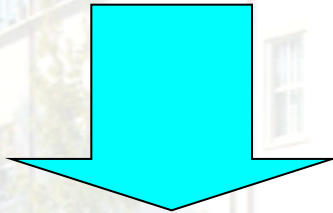


Fast simulations of coarse-grained reactions

$$\frac{dp(L,R,N)}{dt} = \sum_i k_{i, \text{other} \rightarrow p} p(\text{other}) - \sum_i k_{i, p \rightarrow \text{other}} p$$

Chemical master equation

$R \rightarrow R \pm 1$ at random time t Monte-Carlo 4-reaction Gillespie SSA algorithm



Large copy number

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \frac{k_1 k_2 - k_{-1} k_{-2}}{\sum k} + \text{geom} + \eta$$

$$\langle \eta(0) \eta(t) \rangle = \text{correct} \times \delta(t) \quad [\text{or use more cumulants}]$$

1-reaction coarse “Langevin”

Simulating near-Gaussian η with known higher cumulants is doable

Sinitsyn et al., 2009



Generating non-Gaussian noises

- Assumptions needed when using higher order cumulants
- Gram-Charlier expansion

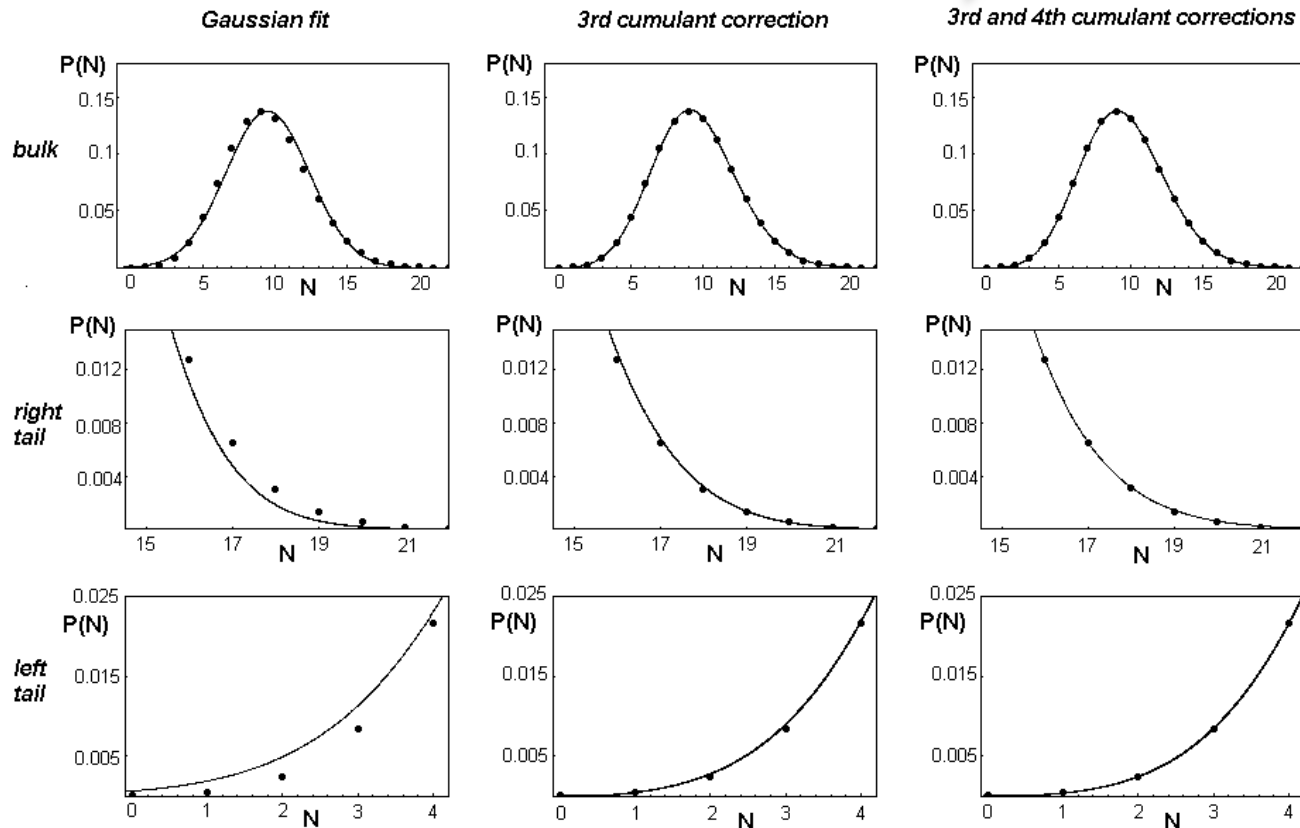
$$P(J | c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots) = N(J | c_1, c_2) \left(1 + \frac{c_3 (y^3 - y)}{6c_2^{3/2}} + \frac{c_4 (y^4 - 6y^2 + 3)}{24c_2^2} + \frac{c_5^2 (y^6 - 15y^4 + 45y^2 - 15)}{72c_2^3} + \dots \right)$$

$$y = \frac{J - c_1}{\sqrt{c_2}}$$

- Higher order terms progressively smaller since $c_n \sim dt \gg 1$
- Importance or rejection sampling from this near-gaussian distribution



Examples of simulations

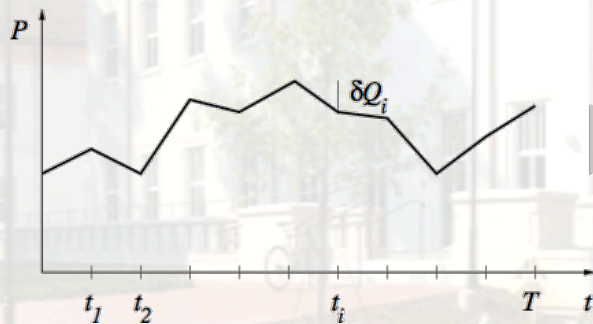
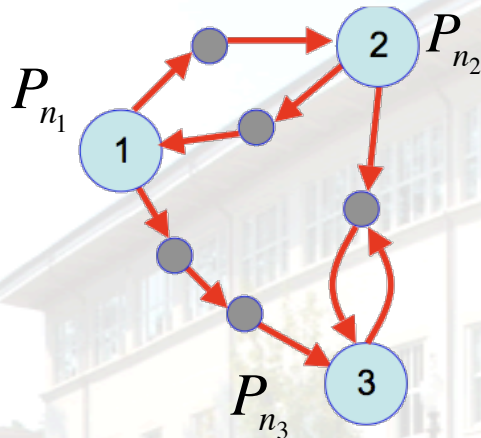


10^4 speed-up compared to Gillespie



How to deal with larger networks?

Stochastic path integral



- Probability of δn_i particles created at node i over time δt is conditional all on n_j , which are also probabilistic, P_{n_j}
- If δt is small, each n_i is almost constant over δt .
- Overall future state probability is convolution of conditional probabilities with current state probabilities.
- Convolution of probabilities – addition of CGFs (integration in the limit of small n_i)
- Conservation laws couple n_i at different times, and overall CGF is

$$S(\chi, T) = \log G = \int_0^T dt \left[\sum_{\mu} i \chi_{\mu} \dot{N}_{\mu} + \sum_{\mu < \nu} H_{\mu\nu} \right] + O\left(\frac{\text{fast}}{\text{slow}}\right)$$

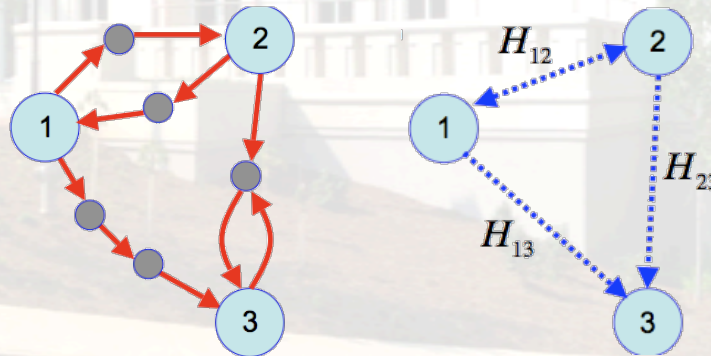


Cont'd

- Extra adiabaticity enforced by saddle point equations

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \chi_\mu} S(\chi, T) = 0; \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \chi_\mu} \sum_v H_{\mu v} = -i\dot{N}_\mu \approx 0$$

- But what to do if $n_i \sim 1$ and small δt cannot be chosen?
 - Solve for the CGF of entire pathway involving this node as for MM before
 - Small n ensures that the perturbation theory is solvable



Concluding thoughts

- Approximate rigorous coarse-graining is possible in adiabatic limit using MGF techniques
- Simulations in coarse-grained models are many orders of magnitude faster
- Universal properties may emerge



Hopes for the future (Any takers?)

- Simulations
 - Build the ability to simulate non-Poisson nearly-Langevin variables into software packages
 - Build a library of coarse-grained models of various network motifs
 - Build tools to automatically coarse-grain models using the library
- Explore possible dynamics with RBMs
 - What is the set of all possible dynamics that appear with high probability in (semi-)random RBMs?
 - Which rules affect dynamics on long time scales and which don't?
 - For large rule sets, how likely are the dynamics to simplify or become universal? (see, e.g., proofreading or sloppy models)



The q-bio conference

- Bridging together quantitative experiments, theory, modeling
- Santa Fe, NM, Aug 8-12, 2012





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