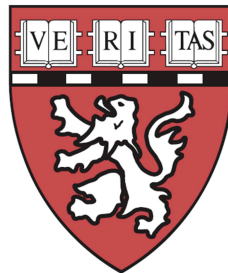


Exploring Apoptosis Signaling Using an Executable Rules-based Approach

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The battle ahead...

SUMMARY STATEMENT
(Privileged Communication)

***Release Date:* 03/23/2012**

Approach: 5

Weaknesses

There is no literature evidence that rule-based modeling, which has been developed for almost a decade now, provides any real benefits over other mechanistic modeling approaches.

Outline

Biology of extrinsic apoptosis

- Alternate mechanisms of Bcl-2 biology
- Challenges modeling alternative topologies

Motivation for executable models

Executable biological models

Modularity, expandability, shareability, transparency

Exploring mechanism hypotheses

- Instantiating model topologies
- Exploring topologies
- Beyond topologies (simulation, calibration)

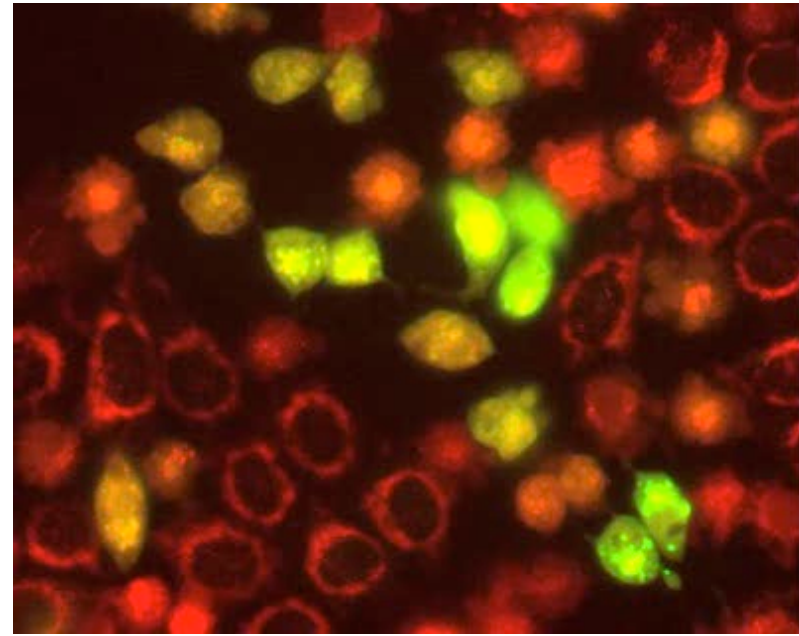
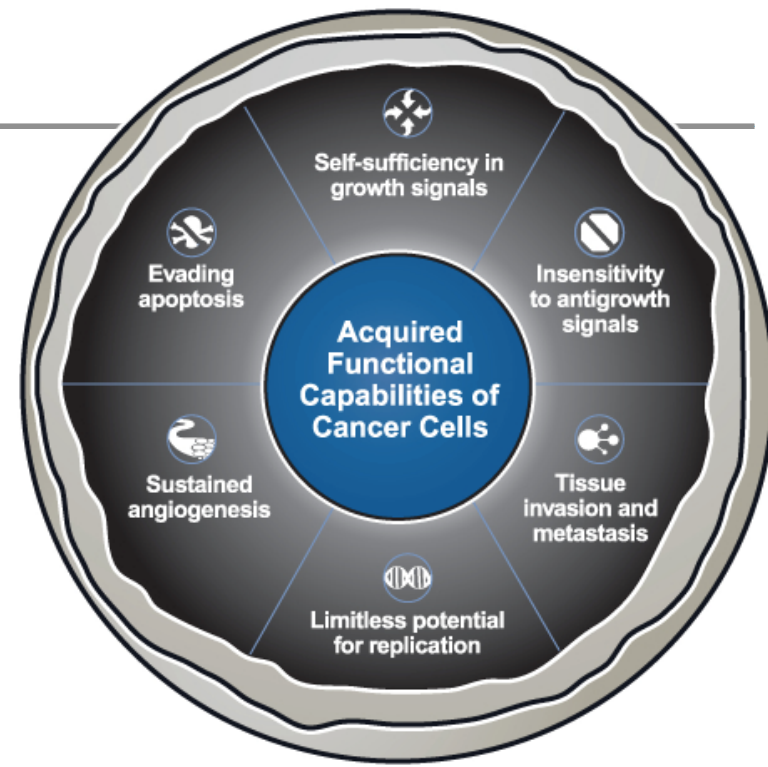
Ongoing + Future work

- Model sensitivity to topologies
- Bringing molecular simulation to bio modeling

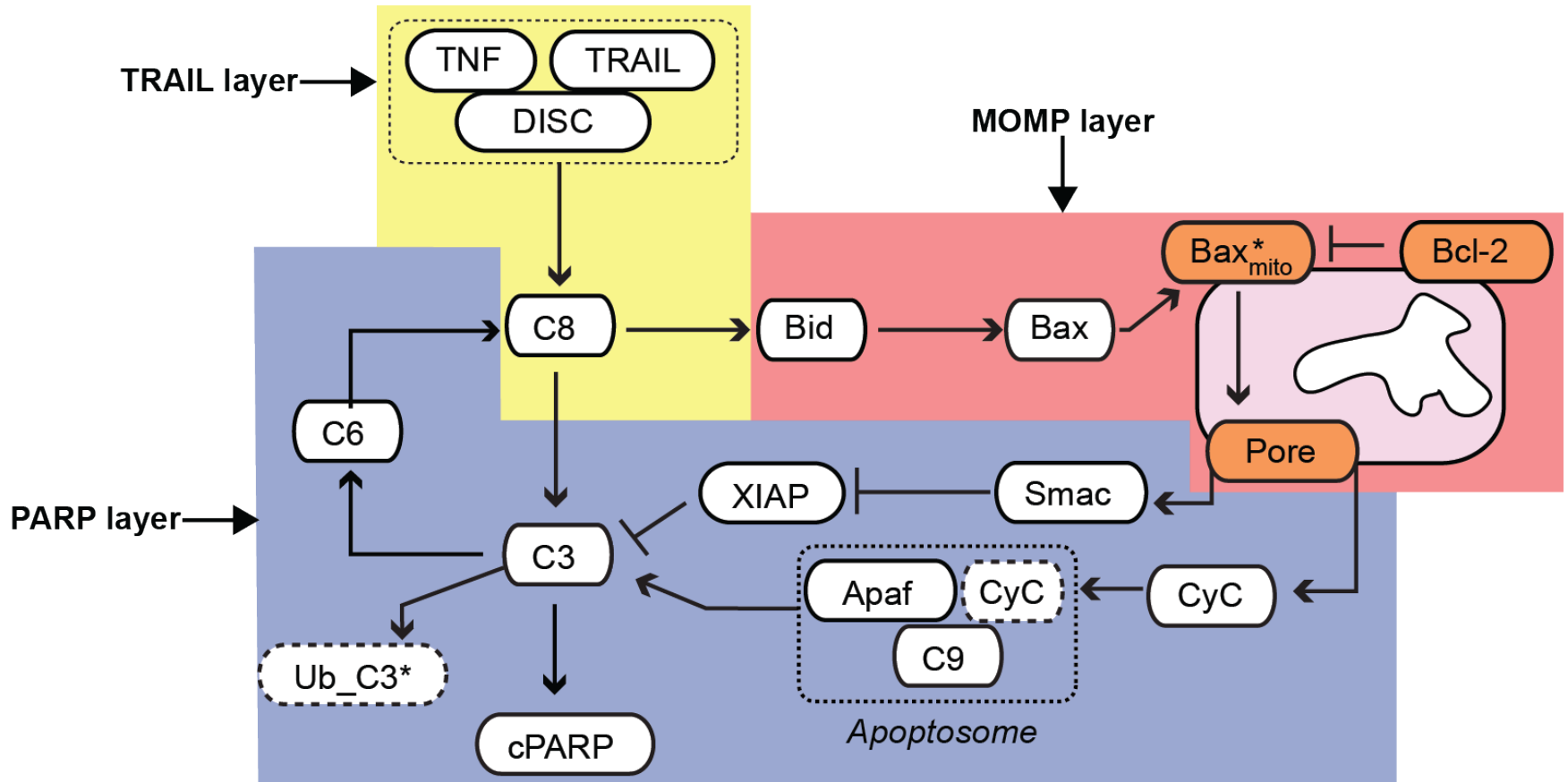
Apoptosis

Apoptosis in cancer

- Programmed cell death is necessary to maintain balance in healthy tissue.
- Self-destruction and removal of cell material.
- Apoptosis activation possible strategy for cancer treatment.
- Tightly regulated by the interactions among members of Bcl-2 protein family.
- Almost all cancer cells evade apoptosis.
- Focus on extrinsic apoptosis.



Extrinsic apoptosis



TRAIL layer: Ligand binding to IC activation

MOMP layer: Bid activation to pore assembly

PARP layer: Cytochrome C release to PARP cleavage

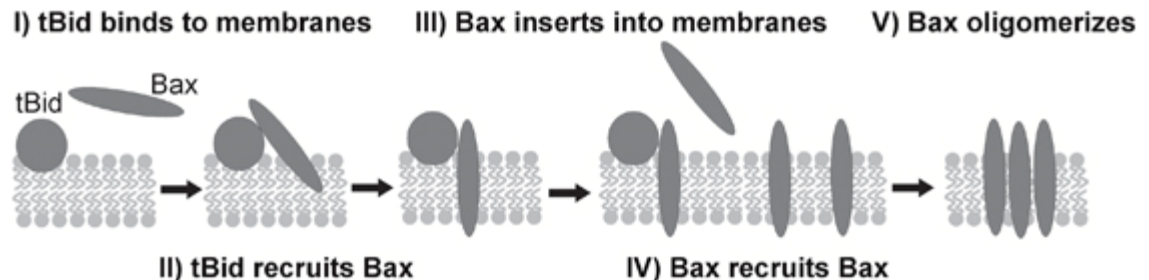
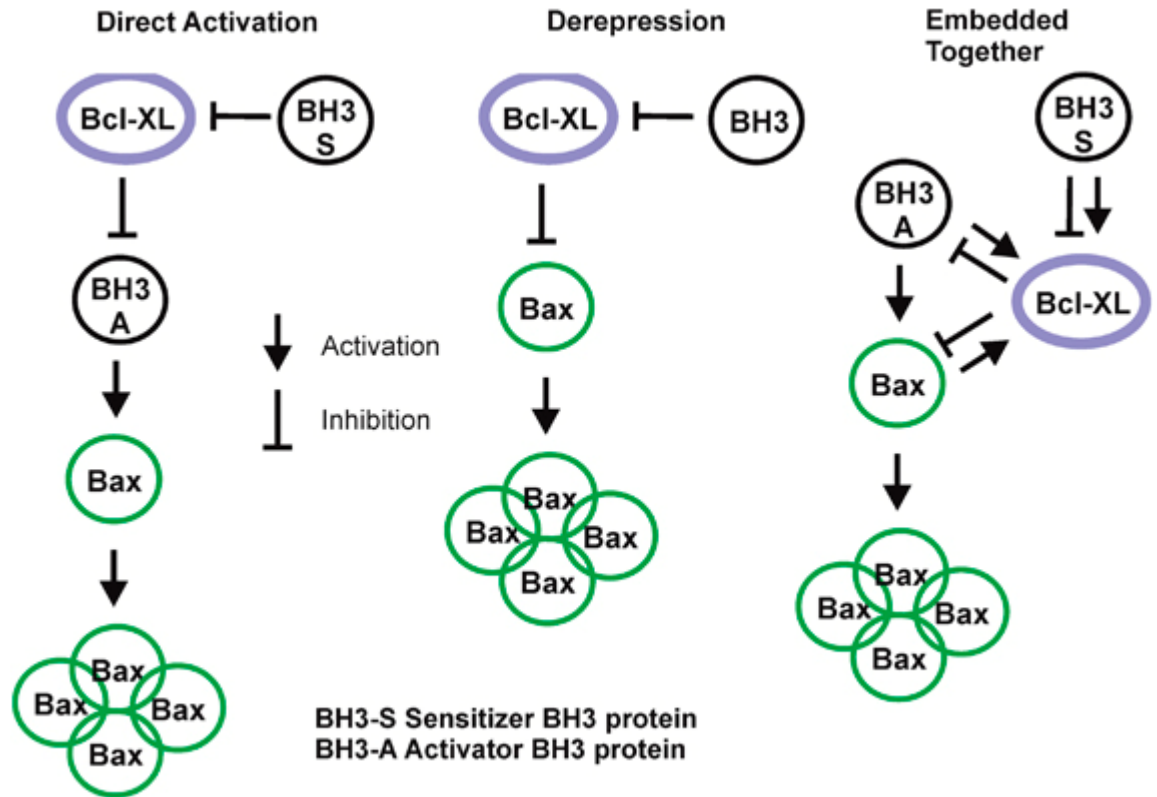
Bid to MOMP mechanisms

MOMP is the commitment step in apoptosis.

Alternative hypotheses difficult to prove/disprove.

Diagrams represent many chemical interactions.

Can we use kinetic modeling to distinguish differences between hypotheses?



Bcl-2 Family of Proteins

Interactions are further complicated by affinities.

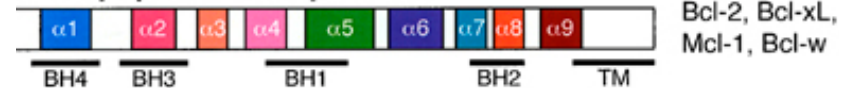
Different interactions in different proposed models.

Bax vs. Bak?

Activators (PUMA?)

Role of Sensitizers?

Anti-apoptotic Bcl-2 proteins

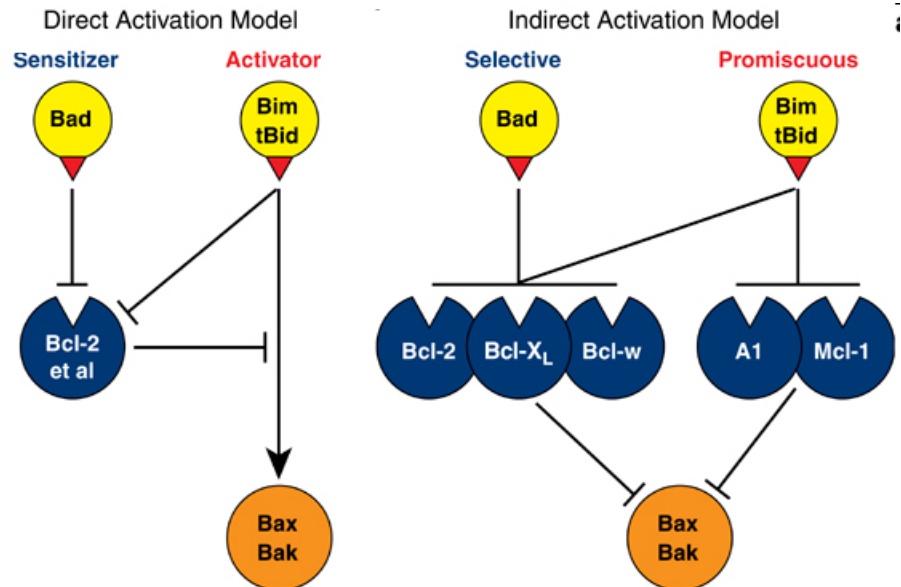
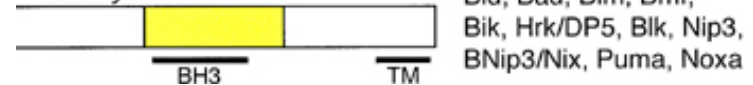


Pro-apoptotic Bcl-2 proteins

'pro-apoptotic multidomain'

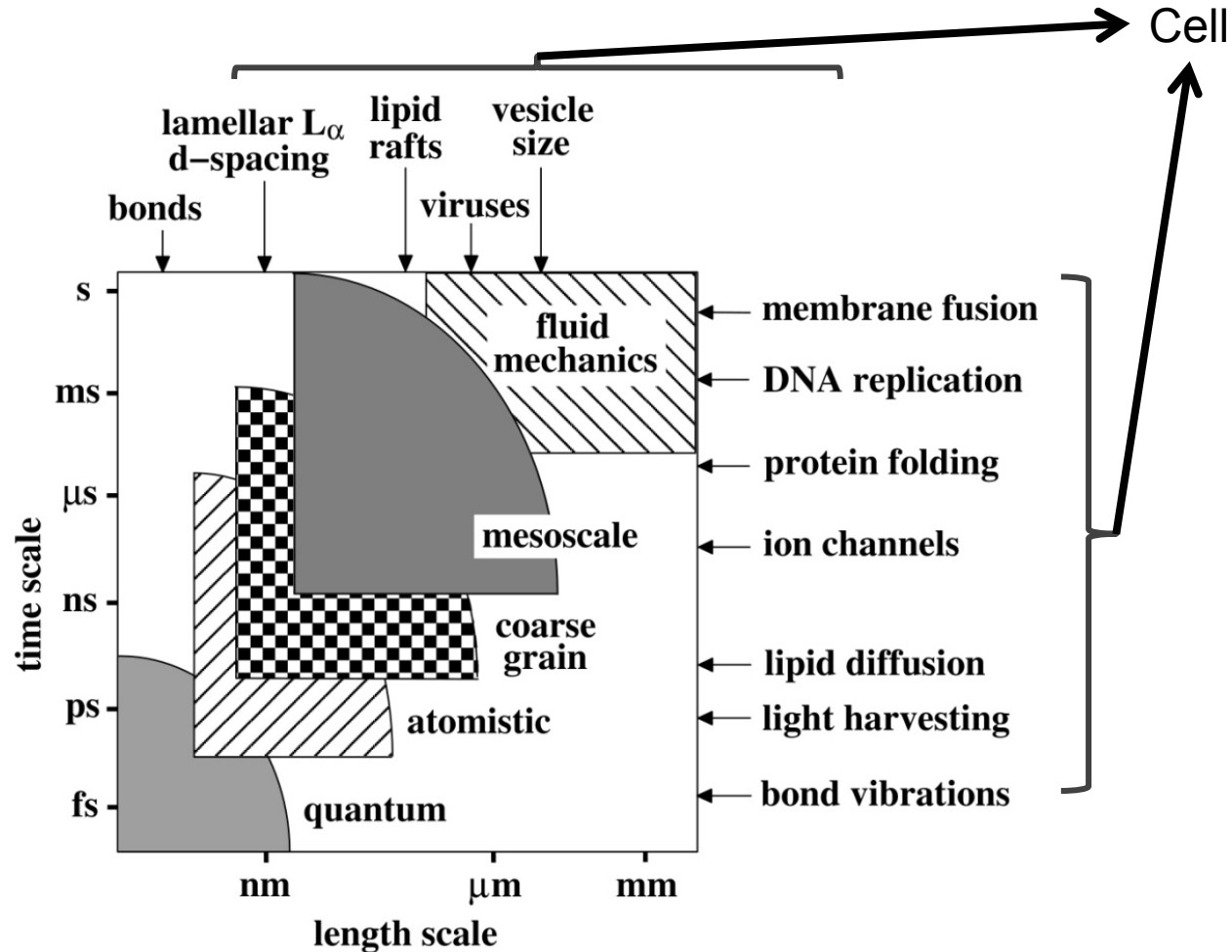


'BH3-only'



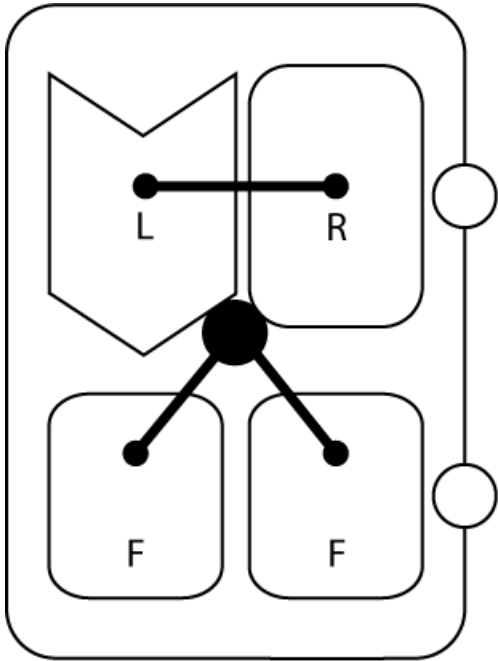
Modeling challenge

Crossing multiple spatiotemporal scales



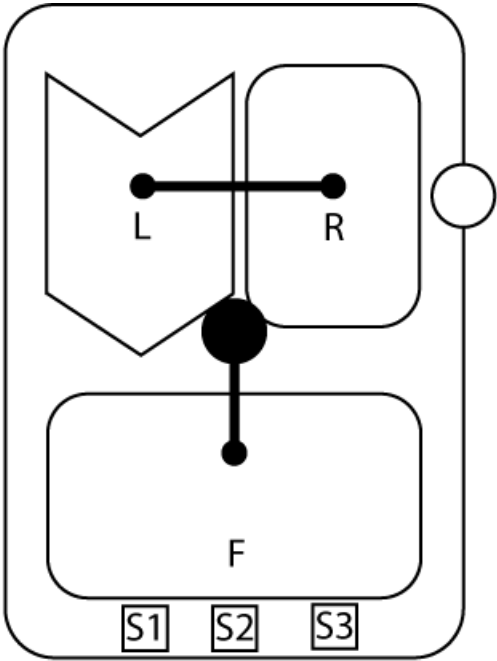
Cell is heterogeneous across spatiotemporal scales

Multiple ways to represent reality



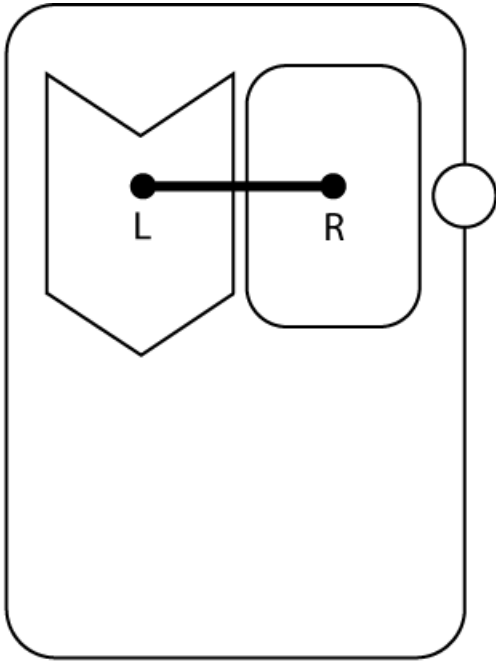
	DISC	MODEL
SPECS	4	13
RXNS	3	22

Fusseneger
(2000)



	DISC	MODEL
SPECS	6	41
RXNS	5	32

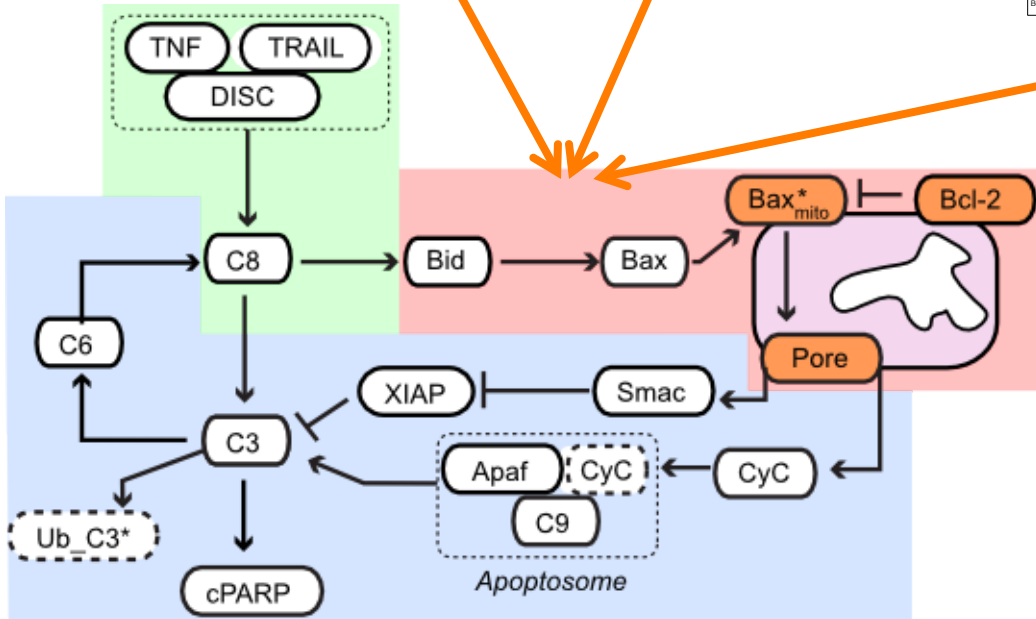
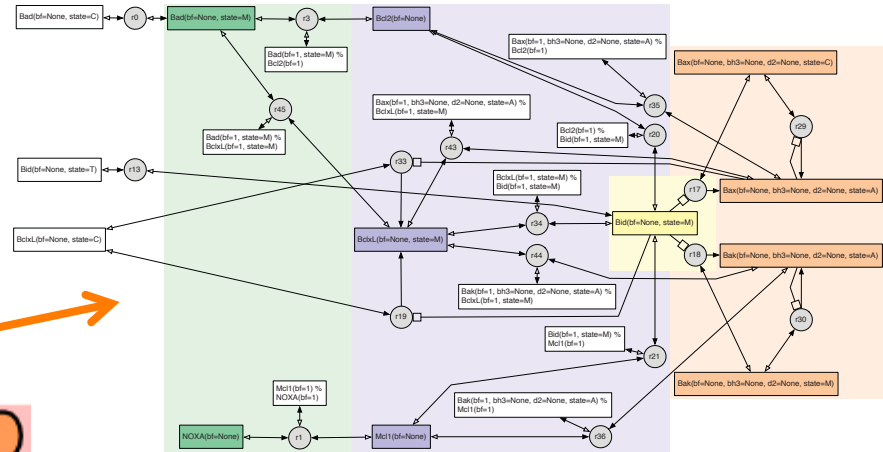
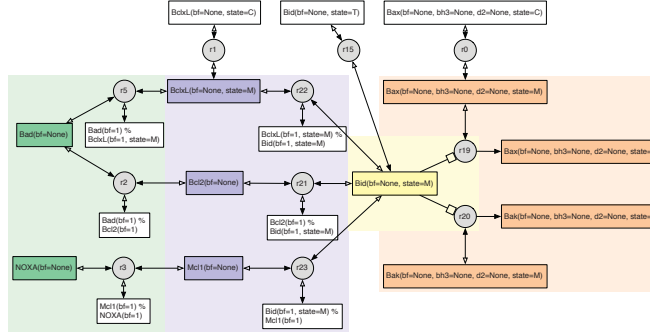
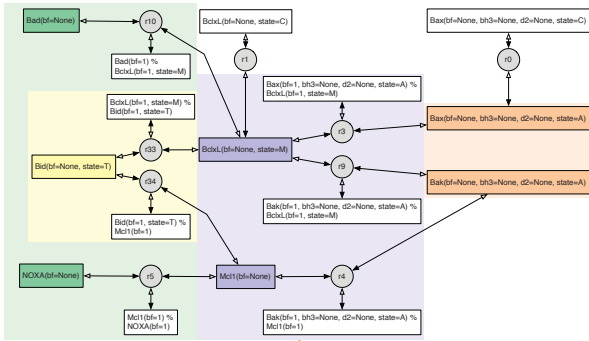
Bentele
(2004)



	DISC	MODEL
SPECS	2	58
RXNS	1	28

Albeck
(2008)

Representing biology knowledge



Combinatorics issues arise quickly



...

$$d\text{Bax}/dt = \dots$$

$$d\text{Bax}_2/dt = \dots$$

$$d\text{Bax}_4/dt = \dots$$

$$d\text{Bcl-2}/dt = \dots$$

$$d\text{Bax:Bcl-2}/dt = \dots$$

Source of Combinatorial Complexity:

Oligomerization

Phosphorylation

Ubiquitination

Molecular Machines

...

CANNOT edit this by hand...

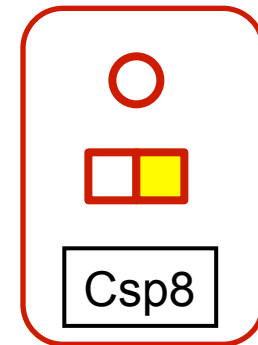
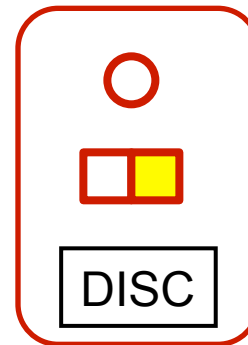
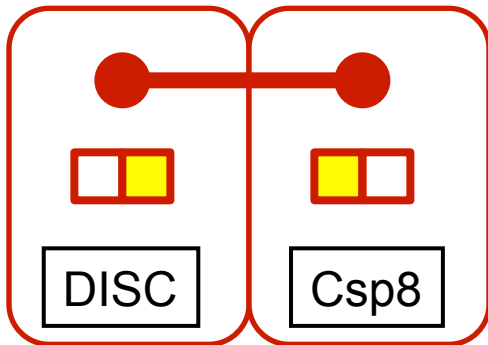
Challenges to study topology

- Traditional modelling approaches:
 - Prescriptive and database-driven.
 - Do not allow direct model exploration/manipulation.
 - Difficult to explore multiple topologies systematically.
- Also want knowledge annotation (not today, please ask if interested)
 - Model:
 - Tracking
 - Revision
 - Sharing
 - Ontology + Wiki based model tracking approaches.

The rules “language”

$\text{DISC:Csp8} \rightarrow \text{DISC} + \text{Csp8}^*$

```
Rule('Csp8_Activation',  
    DISC(b=1, state='A') % Csp8(b=1, state='I') >  
    DISC(b=None, state='A') + Csp8(b=None, state='A')  
    KDISCCSP8C)
```



Syntactic complexity increases w problem size

Initial Conditions

Keyword	Parameter Name	Value	
	Parameter('TRAIL_0',	3000)	# molecules/cell original: 3000
	Parameter('DReceptor_0',	200)	# molecules/cell
	Parameter('Csp8_0',	2E4)	# molecules/cell
	Parameter('Csp3_0',	1E4)	# molecules/cell
	Parameter('Csp6_0',	1E4)	# molecules/cell
	Parameter('Csp9_0',	1E5)	# molecules/cell

Reaction Rates

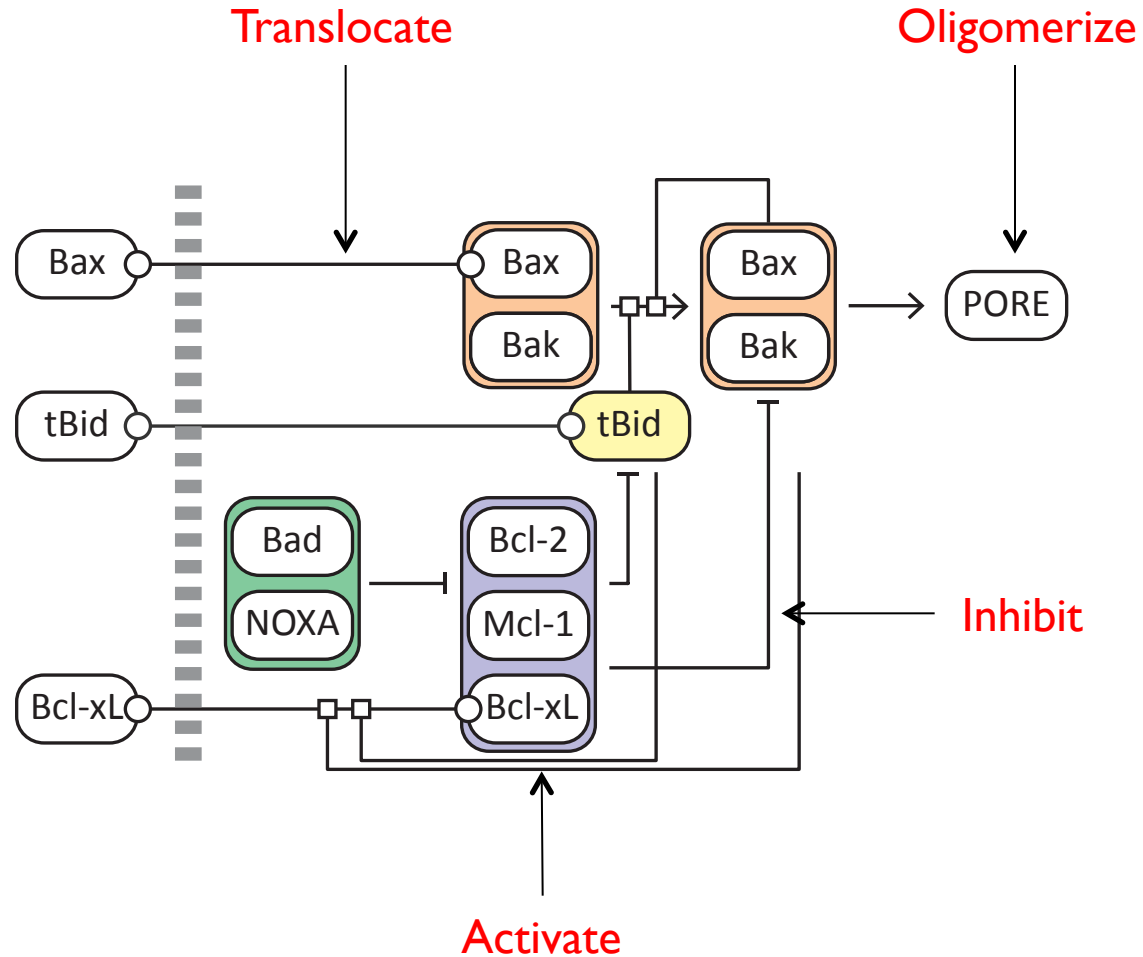
Parameter('KBIDCCSP8R',	3.0E-8)	# (#/cell)^-1 sec^-1
Parameter('KBIDCCSP8R',	1.0E-3)	# sec^-1
Parameter('KBIDCCSP8C',	1.0)	# sec^-1
Parameter('KBIDCBAXCF',	4.5E-8)	# (#/cell)^-1 sec^-1

Rules

```

egfr(Y1148~pY) + Shc(PTB,Y317~Y)    <-> egfr(Y1148~pY!1).Shc(PTB!1,Y317~Y)    kp13,km13
egfr(Y1148~pY) + Shc(PTB,Y317~pY)    <-> egfr(Y1148~pY!1).Shc(PTB!1,Y317~pY)    kp15,km15
egfr(Y1148~pY) + Shc(PTB,Y317~pY!1).Grb2(SH2!1,SH3)    <-> \
    egfr(Y1148~pY!2).Shc(PTB!2,Y317~pY!1).Grb2(SH2!1,SH3)    kp18,km18
egfr(Y1148~pY) + Shc(PTB,Y317~pY!1).Grb2(SH2!1,SH3!3).Sos(dom!3)    <-> \
    egfr(Y1148~pY!2).Shc(PTB!2,Y317~pY!1).Grb2(SH2!1,SH3!3).Sos(dom!3)    kp20,km20
    
```

Want to express “actions”



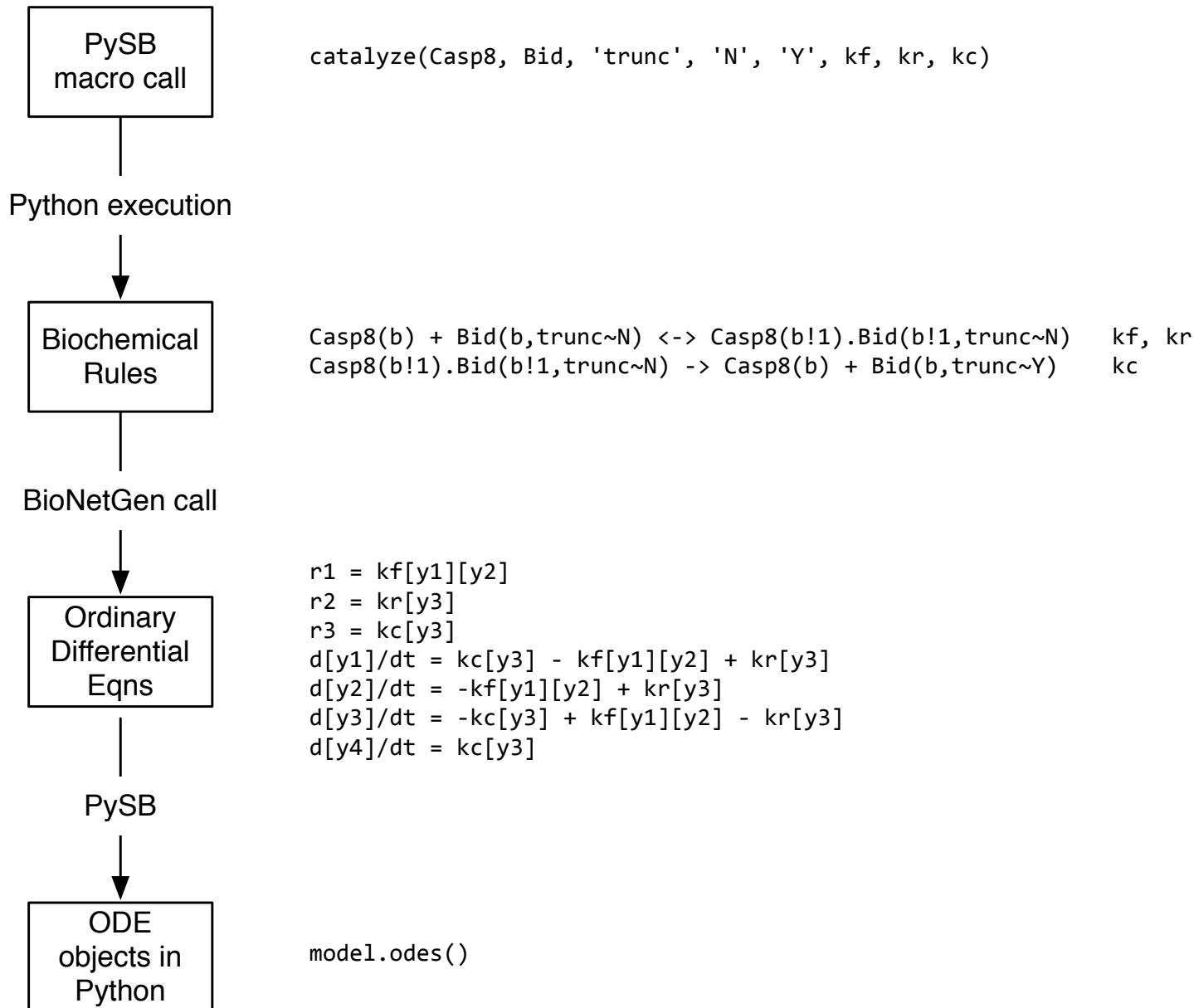
Logic operations implied by each action.

Executable modeling

pySB – executable model approach

- Key goal: write biological knowledge.
 - Avoid long lists of parameters/formalisms.
 - Enumerating math by hand is cumbersome.
 - Transparency of a model is essential (sharing, revising).
 - Make expanding models routine.
 - Leave the chemical and mathematical procedures to the computer.
-
- Build an environment where model exploration is allowed.
 - Build platform where multiple tools can be used (i.e. not just Matlab).
 - Open source, Python language

Biochemical functions in Python



Defining simple functions

```
def catalyze(enz, sub, prod, kf, kr, kc):
    """2-step catalytic process"""
    r1_name = 'bind_%s_%s' % (sub.name, enz.name)
    r2_name = 'produce_%s_via_%s' % (prod.name, enz.name)
    E = enz(b=None)
    S = sub(b=None)
    ES = enz(b=1) * sub(b=1)
    P = prod(b=None)
    Rule(r1_name, E + S <> ES, kf, kr)
    Rule(r2_name, ES >> E + P, kc)

def catalyze_convert(s1, s2, p, kf, kr, kc):
    """2-step catalytic-type process, but the "catalyst" is effectively consumed"""
    r1_name = 'bind_%s_%s' % (s1.name, s2.name)
    r2_name = 'produce_%s' % p.name
    A = s1(b=None)
    B = s2(b=None)
    AB = s1(b=1) * s2(b=1)
    C = p(b=None)
    Rule(r1_name, A + B <> AB, kf, kr)
    Rule(r2_name, AB >> C, kc)

def inhibit(targ, inh, kf, kr):
    """inhibition by complexation/sequestration"""
    r_name = 'inhibit_%s_by_%s' % (targ.name, inh.name)
    T = targ(b=None)
    I = inh(b=None)
    TI = targ(b=1) * inh(b=1)
    Rule(r_name, T + I <> TI, kf, kr)
```

- Functions allow us to generalize chemical/biological/physical patterns
- Patterns abstracted to function
- Functions can be reused

Using functions

```
# L + pR <--> L:pR --> DISC
Parameter('kf1', 4e-07)
Parameter('kr1', 1e-03)
Parameter('kc1', 1e-05)
catalyze_convert(L, pR, DISC, kf1, kr1, kc1)

# flip + DISC <--> flip:DISC
Parameter('kf2', 1e-06)
Parameter('kr2', 1e-03)
inhibit(DISC, flip, kf2, kr2)

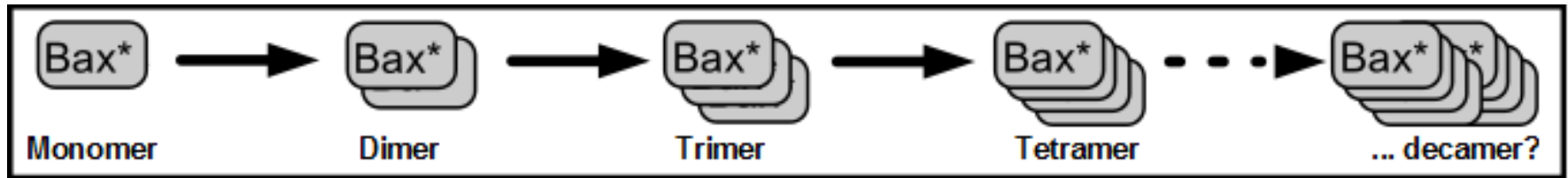
# pC8 + DISC <--> DISC:pC8 --> C8 + DISC
Parameter('kf3', 1e-06)
Parameter('kr3', 1e-03)
Parameter('kc3', 1e+00)
catalyze(DISC, pC8, C8, kf3, kr3, kc3)

# C8 + BAR <--> BAR:C8
Parameter('kf4', 1e-06)
Parameter('kr4', 1e-03)
inhibit(BAR, C8, kf4, kr4)

# pC3 + C8 <--> pC3:C8 --> C3 + C8
Parameter('kf5', 1e-07)
Parameter('kr5', 1e-03)
Parameter('kc5', 1e+00)
catalyze(C8, pC3, C3, kf5, kr5, kc5)
```

- We write what we mean
- Easy to revise
- Annotate/Track

Higher level complexity: oligomerization



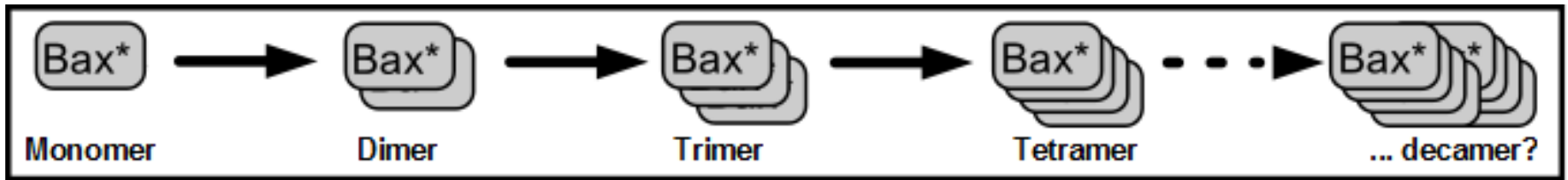
Make model functional rather than prescriptive:

```
def pore_assembly(Subunit, size, rates):  
    for poresize in range(2, size + 1):  
        basepore = pore_species(Subunit, 1)  
        addunit = pore_species(Subunit, i-1)  
        newpore = pore_species(Subunit, i)  
        rules.append(Rule('%s_pore_assembly_%d'  
                           % (Subunit.monomer.name, poresize),  
                           basepore + addunit <> newpore, *rates))  
    return rules
```

Call for rule generation:

```
pore_assembly(Bax(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAX_PORE'])
```


pore_assembly() execution



BNG Rules for Bax/Bak tetramer generation

```
Bax(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) + Bax(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) <-> Bax(bf,bh3!1,d2,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3,d2!1,state~A) kbaxdimf, kbaxdimr
Bax(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) + Bax(bf,bh3!1,d2,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3,d2!1,state~A) <->
(MatchOnce)Bax(bf,bh3!1,d2!2,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!2,d2!3,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!3,d2!1,state~A) kbaxtrimf, kbaxtrimr
Bax(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) + (MatchOnce)Bax(bf,bh3!1,d2!2,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!2,d2!3,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!3,d2!1,state~A) <->
(MatchOnce)Bax(bf,bh3!1,d2!2,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!2,d2!3,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!3,d2!4,state~A).Bax(bf,bh3!4,d2!1,state~A)
kbaxtetf, kbaxtettr
Bak(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) + Bak(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) <-> Bak(bf,bh3!1,d2,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3,d2!1,state~A) kbakdimf, kbakdimr
Bak(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) + Bak(bf,bh3!1,d2,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3,d2!1,state~A) <->
(MatchOnce)Bak(bf,bh3!1,d2!2,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!2,d2!3,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!3,d2!1,state~A) kbaktrimf, kbaktrimr
Bak(bf,bh3,d2,state~A) + (MatchOnce)Bak(bf,bh3!1,d2!2,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!2,d2!3,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!3,d2!1,state~A) <->
(MatchOnce)Bak(bf,bh3!1,d2!2,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!2,d2!3,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!3,d2!4,state~A).Bak(bf,bh3!4,d2!1,state~A)
kbaktetf, kbaktetr
```

~45 BNG rules (one shown)

Equations...

```
S7: kbidbakr*s46 - kbidbakf*s41*s7
S9: bakbcdlr*s61 + baxbcdlr*s59 + kbadbcdlr*s25 + kbcdlCbcdlMr*s23 + knoxabcd2r*s26 - kbcdlCbcdlMr*s9 - bakbcdlr*s53*s9 - baxbcdlr*s52*s9 -
kbadbcdlr*s11*s9 - knoxabcd2f*s12*s9
S10: bakmcl1r*s63 + knoxamcl1r*s27 - bakmcl1f*s10*s53 - knoxamcl1f*s10*s12
S13: 0.25*kbakcytoCmCr*s70 + 0.25*kbakcytoCmCr*s68 - 0.25*kbakcytoCmCr*s13*s67 - 0.25*kbakcytoCmCr*s13*s66
S14: 0.25*kbaksmacCAr*s71 + 0.25*kbaksmacCAr*s69 - 0.25*kbaksmacCAf*s14*s67 - 0.25*kbaksmacCAf*s14*s66
S23: bakbcdlr*s62 + baxbcdlr*s60 + kbadbcdlr*s30 + kbcdlCbcdlMr*s9 + knoxabcd2r*s31 - kbcdlCbcdlMr*s23 - bakbcdlr*s23*s53 - baxbcdlr*s23*s52 -
kbadbcdlr*s11*s23 - knoxabcd2f*s12*s23
S41: kbidCbcdlMr*s39 + kbidbakr*s46 + kbidbakf*s41 + kbidbaxc*s45 + kbidbaxr*s45 + kbidbcd2r*s47 + kbidbcd2r*s46 - kbidCbcdlMr*s41 - kbidbakf*s41*s7 -
kbidbaxf*s21*s41 - kbidbcd2f*s22*s41 - kbidbcd2f*s41*s8
S46: -kbidbakr*s46 - kbidbakf*s46 + kbidbakf*s41*s7
S53: bakbcdlr*s61 + bakbcdlr*s62 + bakmcl1r*s63 + kbaktetr*s67 + kbaktrimr*s65 + kbidbakr*s46 + 2*kbakdimr*s56 - bakbcdlr*s23*s53 - bakbcdlr*s53*s9 -
```

~150 ODEs (9 shown)

Higher level complexity: interaction families



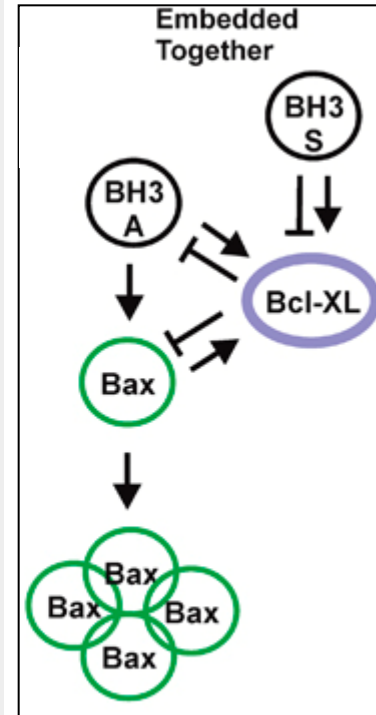
```
def simple_bind(name(opt), sub1, sub2, kf, kr):  
    rule_name="complex_formation_"+sub1.name+sub2.name  
    A = sub1(site=None)  
    B = sub2(site=None)  
    AB = sub1(site=1) % sub2(site=1)  
    return Rule(rule_name, A + B <> AB, kf, kf)
```

```
def simple_bind_table(table, paramlist):  
    rules = []  
    reactants0 = table(first-row)  
    reactants1 = table(first-column)  
    interactions = table(rest-row, rest-column)  
    for pair(i,j) in interactions:  
        if intrxn[i,j] is True:  
            kf = paramlist[i,j]  
            kr = paramlist[i,j]  
            rule_name = "complex_" + i.name + j.name  
            rules.append(simple_bind(rule_name, i, j, kf, kr))  
    return rules
```

Inhibitor/sensitizer tables

```
# MOMP Inhibition
simple_bind_table([[
                                Bcl2, BclxL, Mcl1],
[
                                {}, {}, {}],
[Bid, {'state':'M'}, True, False, False],
[Bax, {'state':'A'}, True, True, False],
[Bak, {'state':'A'}, False, True, True]],
kd['BID_BAX_BAK_inh'], model)

# Bcl-2 Sensitizers
simple_bind_table([[
                                Bcl2, BclxL, Mcl1],
[
                                {}, {}, {}],
[Bad, {}, True, True, False],
[NOXA, {}, False, True, True]],
kd['BCLs_sens'], model)
```

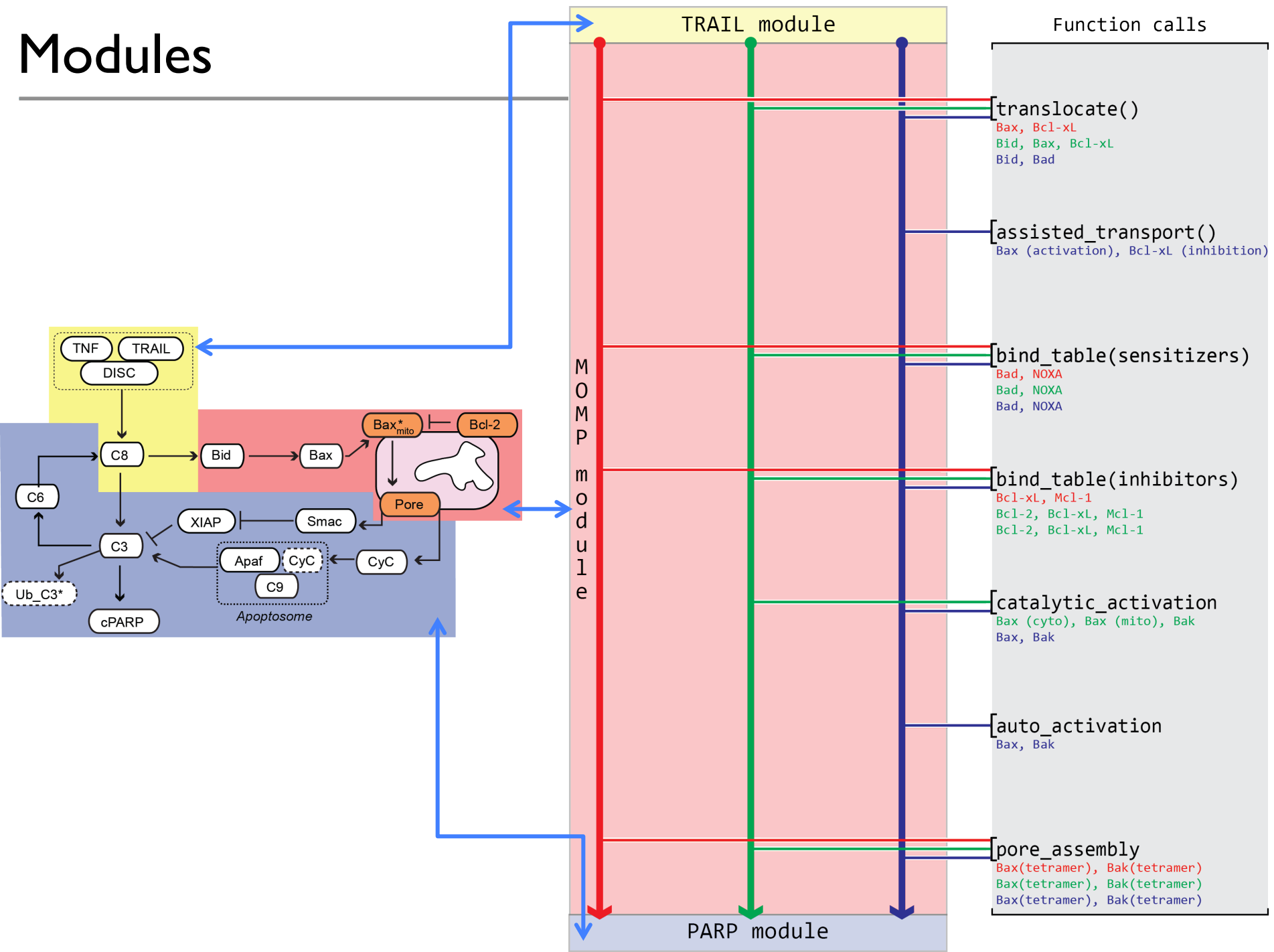


15 potential interactions shown

~50 total potential interactions in MOMP mechanisms

Exploring apoptosis biology

Modules



Indirect topology code

```
from earm_indirect_mem_parms import parameter_dict as kd
import earm_1_0modules

1 translocate('Bax_to_mem', Bax, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbaxtf, kbaxtr)
2 translocate('Bclxl_to_mem', Bclxl, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbclxlt, kbclxltr)
3 pore_assembly(Bax(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAX_PORE'])
4 pore_assembly(Bak(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAK_PORE'])
5 inhib_table([[
    [
        {'state': 'M'}, {}],
    [Bid, {'state': 'T'}, True, True],
    [Bax, {'state': 'A'}, True, False],
    [Bak, {'state': 'A'}, True, True],
    kd['BID_BAX_BAK_inh'], model)
6 sensi_table([[
    [
        {'state': 'M'}, {}],
    [Bad, {}, True, False],
    [NOXA, {}, True, True],
    kd['BCLs_sens'], model)
 earm_1_0modules.rec_to_bid(model, kd)
 earm_1_0modules.pore_to_parp(model, kd)
```

6 lines of function calls

Reusable modules / parameters called from main program
(actual python code)

Direct topology code

```
from earm_direct_mem_parms import parameter_dict as kd
import earm_1_0modules

1 translocate('Bid_to_mem', Bid, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbidtf, kbidtr)
2 translocate('Bax_to_mem', Bax, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbaxtf, kbaxtr)
3 translocate('Bclxl_to_mem', Bclxl, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbclxlt, kbclxltr)
4 activate(Bid(state = 'T'), Bax(state = 'M'), Bax(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BIDt_BAX'])
5 activate(Bid(state = 'M'), Bax(state = 'M'), Bax(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BIDm_BAX'])
6 activate(Bid(state = 'T'), Bak(state = 'M'), Bak(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BIDt_BAK'])
7 pore_assembly(Bax(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAX_PORE'])
8 pore_assembly(Bak(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAK_PORE'])
9 inhib_table([[
    Bcl2, BclxL, Mcl1],
    [
        {}, {'state': 'M'}, {}],
    [Bid, {'state': 'M'}, True, True, False]],
    kd['BID_BAX_BAK_inh'], model)
10 sensi_table([[
    Bcl2, BclxL, Mcl1],
    [
        {}, {'state': 'M'}, {}],
    [Bad, {}, True, True, False],
    [NOXA, {}, False, True, True]],
    kd['BCLs_sens'], model)

 earm_1_0modules.rec_to_bid(model, kd)
 earm_1_0modules.pore_to_parp(model, kd)
```

10 lines of function calls

Reusable modules / parameters called from main program
(actual python code)

Embedded topology code

```
from earm_2_0_parms import parameter_dict as kd
import earm_1_0modules

1 translocate('Bid_to_mem', Bid, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbidtf, kbidtr)
2 translocate('Bad_to_mem', Bid, state = 'T', state = 'M'), kbadtf, kbadtr)
3 activate(Bid(state = 'M'), Bax(state='C'), Bax(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BID_BAX'])
4 activate(Bid(state = 'M'), Bak(state='M'), Bak(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BID_BAK'])
5 activate(Bax(state = 'A'), Bax(state='C'), Bax(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BAX_BAX'])
6 activate(Bak(state = 'A'), Bak(state='M'), Bak(bf = None, state = 'A'), kd['BAK_BAK'])
7 pore_assembly(Bax(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAX_PORE'])
8 pore_assembly(Bak(bf=None, state='A'), 4, kd['BAK_PORE'])
9 activemod(Bid(state='M'), BclxL(state='C'), Bid(bf=1, state='M')%BclxL(bf=1, state='M'), kd['Bid_BclxL_RA'])
10 activemod(Bax(state='A'), BclxL(state='C'), Bax(bf=1, state='A')%BclxL(bf=1, state='M'), kd['Bax_BclxL_RA'])
11 inhib_table([ [ Bcl2, BclxL, Mcl1],
[ {}, {'state': 'M'}, {}], #STATES
[ Bid, {'state': 'M'}, True, True, False],
[ Bax, {'state': 'A'}, True, True, False],
[ Bak, {'state': 'A'}, False, True, True]],
kd['BID_BAX_BAK_inh'], model)
11 sensi_table([[ Bcl2, BclxL, Mcl1],
[ {}, {'state': 'M'}, {}], #STATES
[ Bad, {'state': 'M'}, True, True, False],
[ NOXA, {}, False, True, True]],
kd['BCLs_sens'], model)

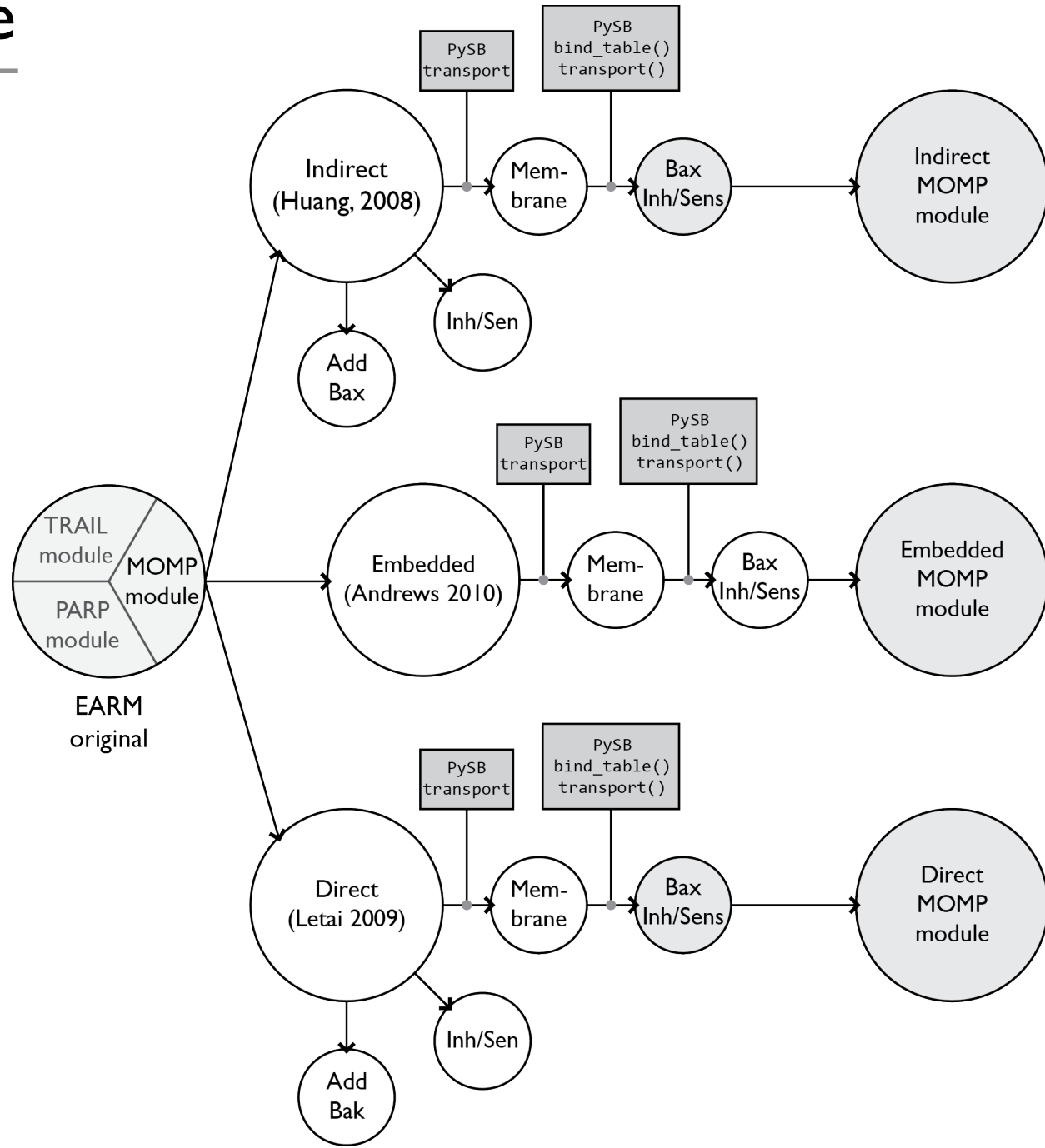
 earm_1_0modules.rec_to_bid(model, kd)
 earm_1_0modules.pore_to_parp(model, kd)
```

12 lines of function calls

Reusable modules / parameters called from main program
(actual python code)

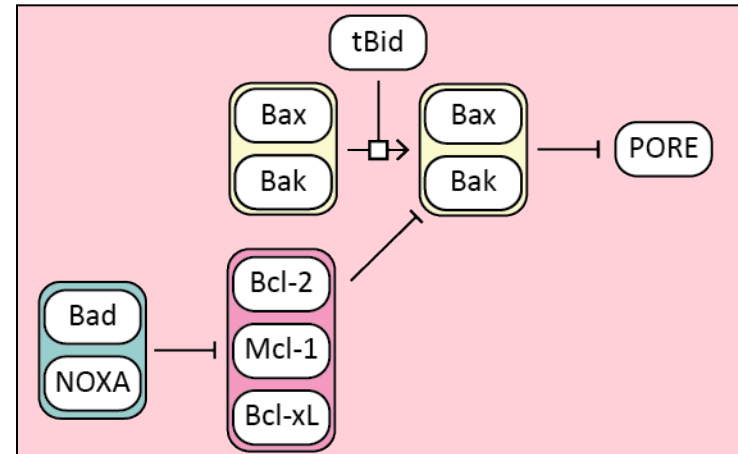
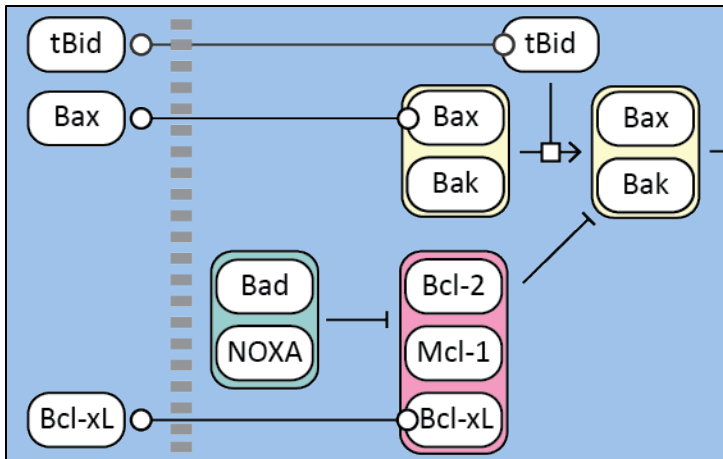
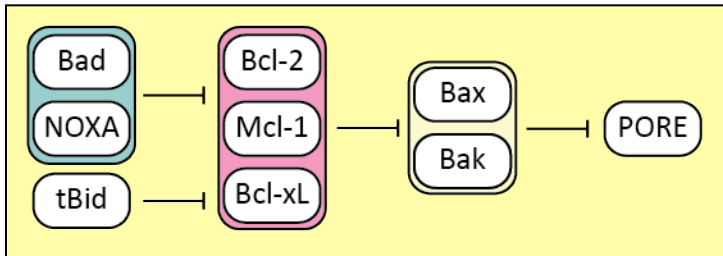
Expand + explore

- Explore model biochemistry.
- Update/correct previous models.
- Generate model topologies for numerical testing.



PySB generated models

Attribute \ Model	PySB statements	BNG-Rules	Species/ODEs	Reactions	Parameters	Non-zero Initial
Indirect	6	51	81	128	108	20
Direct	10	56	72	95	116	20
Embedded	12	65	197	659	137	21



Cross platform access

PySB Model

```
# Instantiate the model
Model()

Monomer('tBid', ['b'])
Monomer('Bax', ['b', 'state'], {'state': ['I', 'A']})

two_step_mod(tBid(b=None), Bax(b=None, state='I'),
              Bax(b=None, state='A'), site='b')
Rule('Bax_inactivation',
      Bax(b=None, state='A') >> Bax(b=None, state='I'),
      Parameter('k_rev', 1e-1))

# Set the initial conditions
Initial(tBid(b=None), Parameter('tBid_0', 1000))
Initial(Bax(b=None, state='I'), Parameter('Bax_0', 1000))

# Model output: activated Bax
Observe('aBax', Bax(state='A'))
```

```
# Run simulation and calibrate
output= odesolve(model, 20000)
annealout = annlodesolve(model...)
```

Sundials/CVODE Integrators

```
# Solve for st. state aBax using SymPy
cons_eqns = parse_expr('s0 + s1 ...')
solve(model.odes + cons_eqns, s5)
```

SymPy

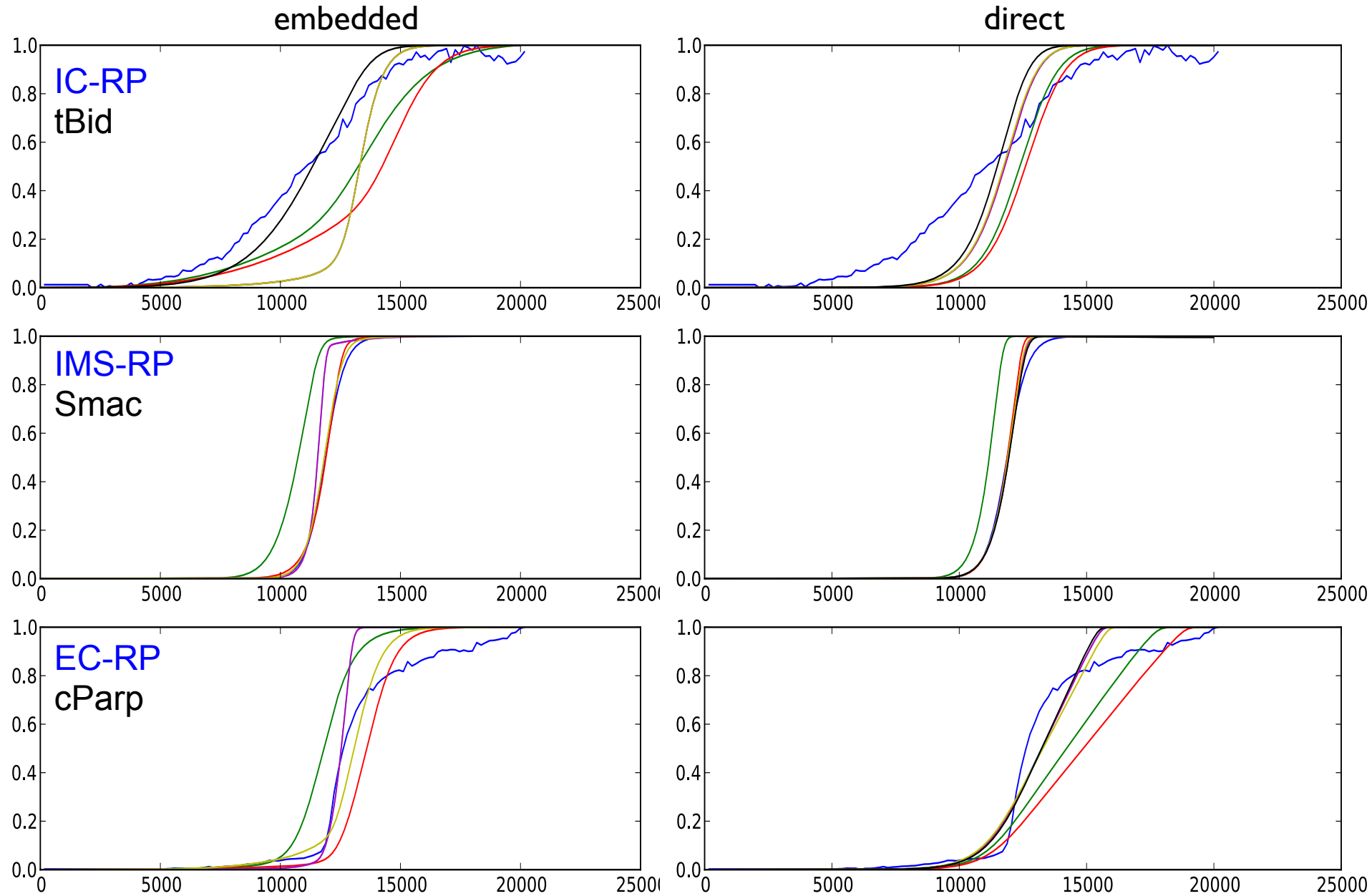
```
# Run a deterministic ODE simulation
det_time = linspace(0, tmax, numpoints)
det_data = odesolve(model, det_time)
```

BNG,

```
# Run a stochastic simulation using kappa
stoch_data = kappa.get_kasim_data(model,
                                  time=tmax, points=numpoints)
```

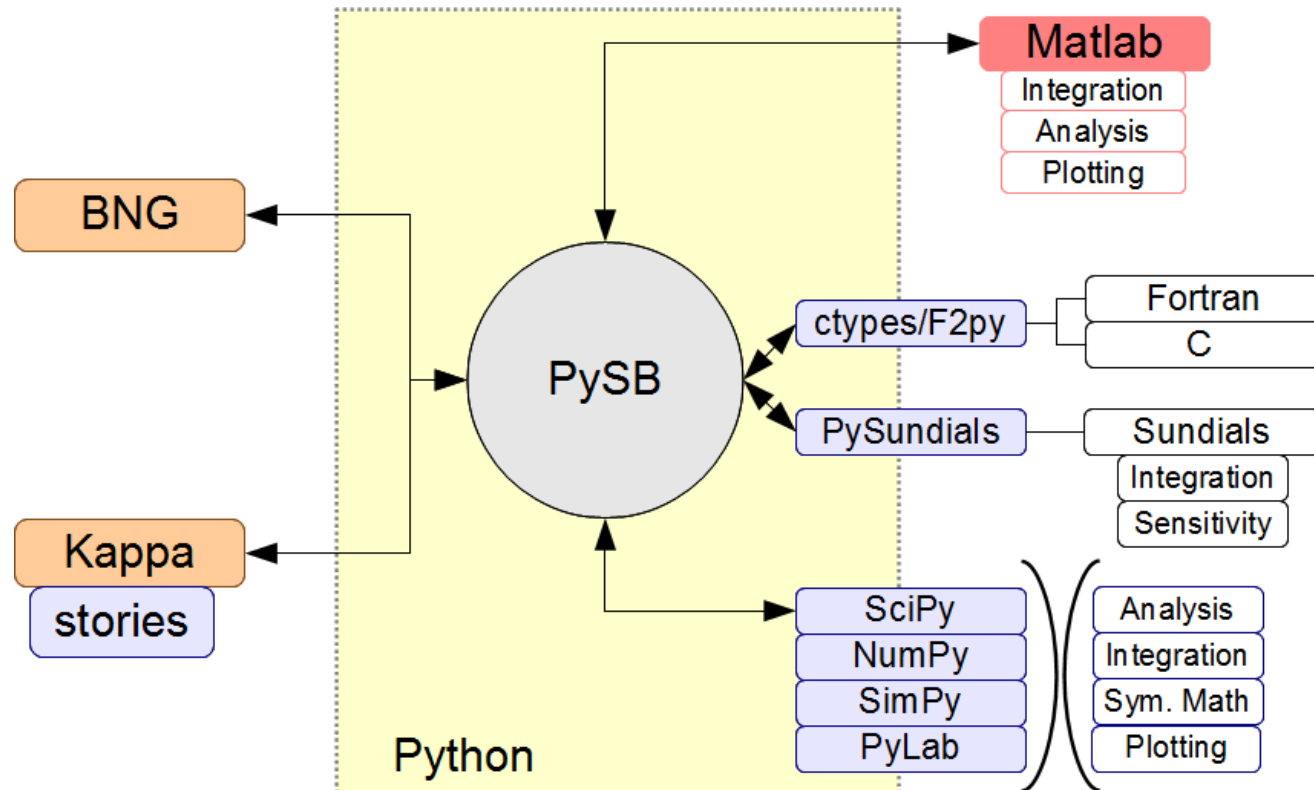
Kappa
Stochastic
Simulator

Calibration: SciPy, PySundials, BNG, Pylab, SymPy...



Summary

- Discerning among topologies in a systematic manner: develop metrics to compare models.
- Exploit modularity further among different cell lines.
- Transparency, reuse, revise, share models online.
- Integration with existing and new technologies.
- Interactive/ systematic hypothesis testing.



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Coming this Fall:



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