Mini-Project in Mathematical and Computational Modeling

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland

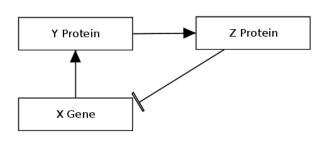
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Introduction

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The Model

Part A - One-Cell Model



(a) One-Cell Model

The gene mRNA X codes for protein Y which, in turn, activates transcriptional inhibitor Z. The resulting model behaves as a three-variable oscillator.

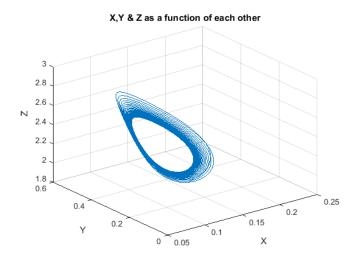
$$\begin{split} \frac{\delta X}{\delta t} &= v_1 \frac{K_1^n}{K_1^n + Z^n} - v_2 \frac{X}{K_2 + X} \\ \frac{\delta Y}{\delta t} &= k_3 X - v_4 \frac{Y}{K_4 + Y} \\ \frac{\delta Z}{\delta t} &= k_5 Y - v_6 \frac{Z}{K_6 + Z} \end{split}$$

translation rate of X v_1 degradation rate of X v_2 degradation rate of Y v_4 degradation rate of Z v_6 transcription rate of X k_3 transcription rate of Z k_5

Michaelis constant of X K_1

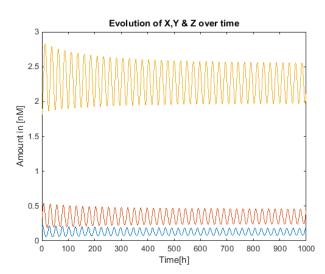
Michaelis constant of Y K_4

 K_6 Michaelis constant of Z



(a) Trajectories

The limit cycle is reached as the variations of X(t), Y(t) and Z(t) become fixed: The trajectories converge, non-lineary (the ellipse (where the blue stripes accumulate)



(b) Frequency spectrum

The amplitude of the three variations stabilize after a few distance between similar trajectories aren't regular) towards an hundred hours. The signal are not in phase but have the same, regular, frequencies.

Figure 3:

Trajectories of X(t), Y(t) and Z(t) with initial conditions: $X_0=0.16,\,Y_0=0.33,\,Z_0=1.8$ [nM] We observe on both graphs that Z(t) has the bigger amplitude of variation whereas X(t) and Y(t) have small amplitudes. Additionally, the convergence towards a single loop in (a) indicate that the frequencies of the signals are equal; this is illustrated as well in (b)

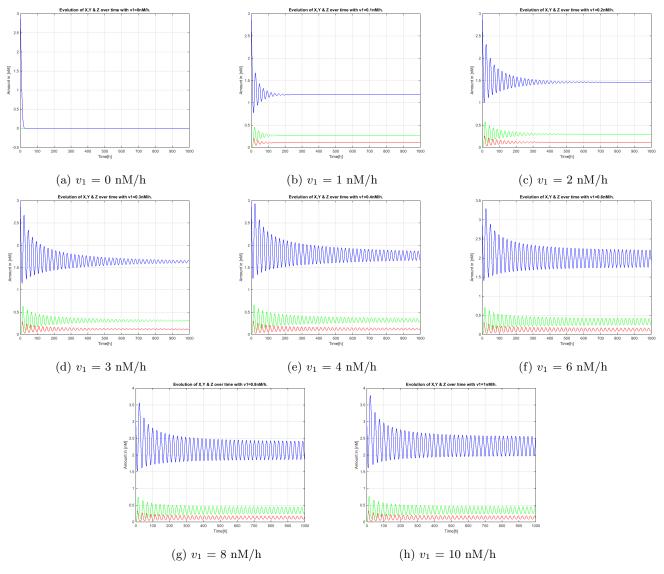


Figure 4: X(t), Y(t) and Z(t) with initial conditions $X_0 = 0.16$, $Y_0 = 0.33$, $Z_0 = 1.8$ [nM] The first signal to fade is Y(t) and its oscillatory stability predicts stability of the system. We also observe that the signals converge towards null or the limit cycle in a non-linear fashion. At the opposite, it is rather difficult to predict the threshold value of v_1 using those plots?

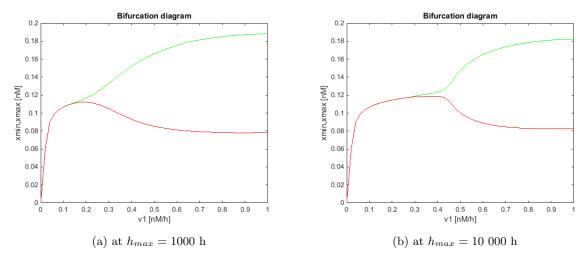


Figure 5: Bifurcation Diagram: X_{min} and X_{max} plotted at time intervals [9/10; 1] of h_{max} A limit cycle might be reached when $X_{min} \neq X_{max}$. However, the system needs to be run for enough time for the cycle to be reached, as the (a) suggests. (b) illustrates the non-linear convergence of the system; also the threshold for v_1 seems to be around 4.5

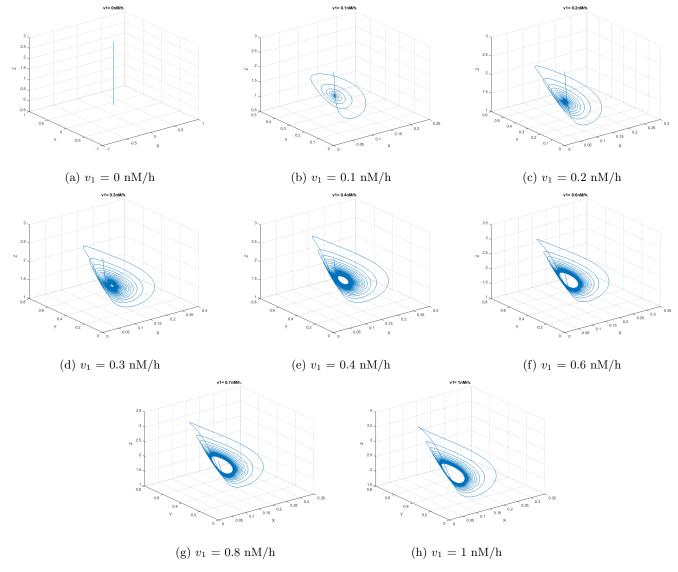


Figure 6: Trajectories when varying v_1 with initial conditions $X_0 = 0.16$, $Y_0 = 0.33$, $Z_0 = 1.8$ [nM] v_1 has to reach a certain value for X(t) to be able to compensate its inhibition by Z(t) and therefore for the system to reach a limit cycle. We observe that this value is slightly greater than 4 nM/h, as the trajectories still converge to null in (e); there is an 'eye', even though it is smaller than in (f) and (g), since the timescale is not big enough to let the system dissipate completely.

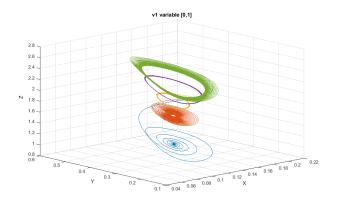
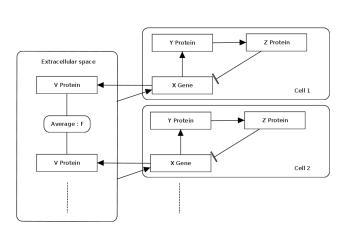


Figure 7: Superimposed trajectories at late timepoints with initial conditions $X_0 = 0.16$, $Y_0 = 0.33$, $Z_0 = 1.8$ [nM] and $v_1 = 0.1/0.3/0.5/0.7/0.9$ nM/h. We observe here that Z(t) tends to reach greater concentration stability with increasing v_1 .

Part B - Multiple Cells Model



(a) Multiple Cells Model

The gene X codes for protein Y which, in turn, activates transcriptional inhibitor Z. In addition, gene X activates a positive feedback loop through the mean concentration of extracellular protein V

$$\begin{split} \frac{\delta X}{\delta t} &= v_1 \frac{K_1^n}{K_1^n + Z^n} - v_2 \frac{X}{K_2 + X} + v_c \frac{KF}{K_c + KF} \\ \frac{\delta Y}{\delta t} &= k_3 X - v_4 \frac{Y}{K_4 + Y} \\ \frac{\delta Z}{\delta t} &= k_5 Y - v_6 \frac{Z}{K_6 + Z} \\ \frac{\delta V_i}{\delta t} &= k_7 X_i - v_8 \frac{V_i}{K_8 + V_i} \\ \end{split}$$
 where $F = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N V_i$

K

 v_1 translation rate of X v_2 degradation rate of X v_4 degradation rate of Y v_6 degradation rate of Z v_8 degradation rate of X v_8 transcription rate of X

 k_1 transcription rate of X K_1 Michaelis constant of X K_4 Michaelis constant of Y K_6 Michaelis constant of Z K_8 Michaelis constant of Y

 K_c Michaelis constant of X by F v_c Activation rate of X by F

Coupling Constant

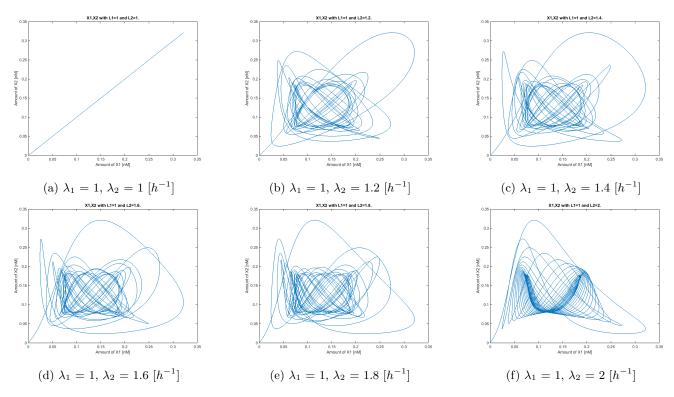


Figure 10: X_1 and X_2 trajectories with varying λ_i in a two-cells Model Figure (a), the control, makes perfect sense since the two cells have the same period, hence the exact same signal. With unequal periods, the limit cycles of both cells aren't in phase and form these '8' patterns. The box that appears represent the variation of X_1 and X_2 and therefore directly gives us their minimal and maximal values.

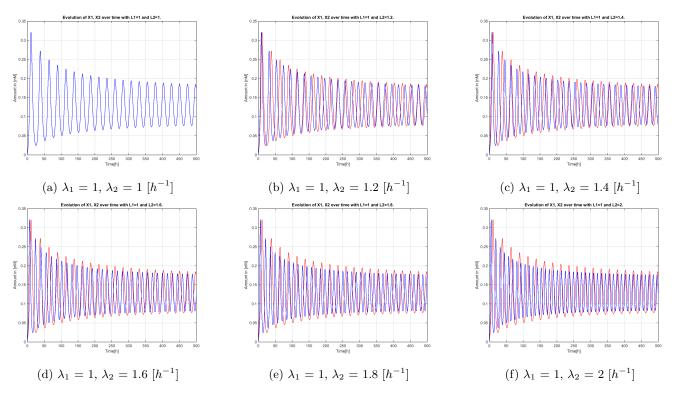


Figure 11: $X_1(t)$ and $X_2(t)$ trajectories in a two-cells Model We observe that

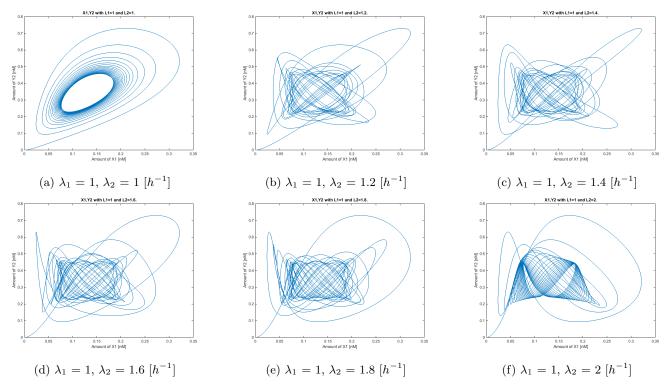


Figure 12: X_1 and Y_2 trajectories

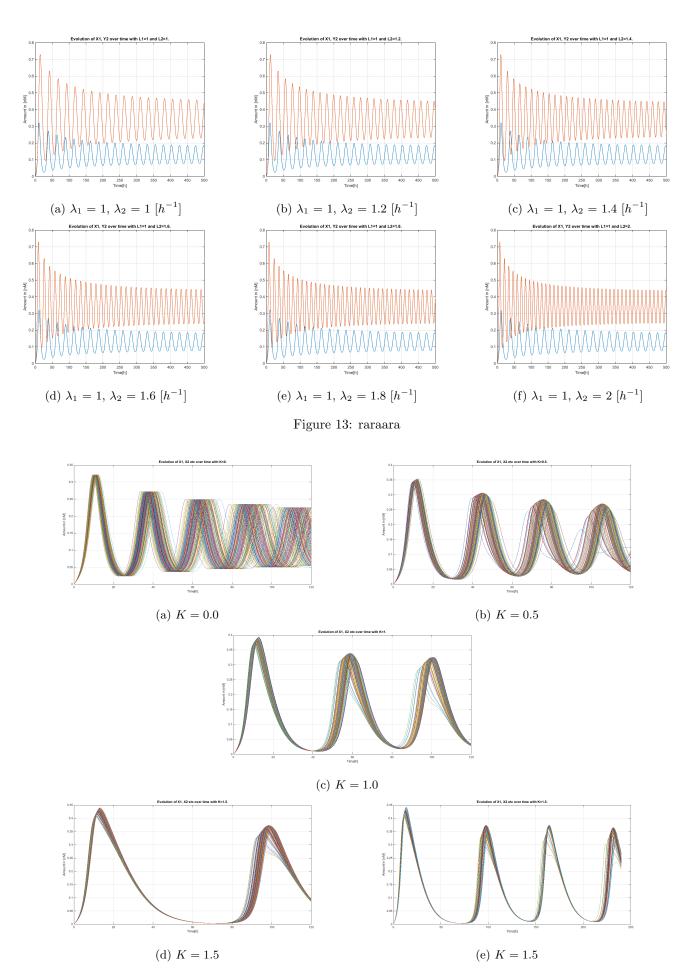
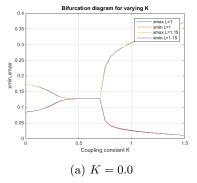
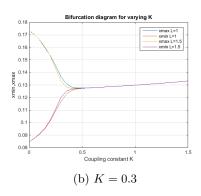


Figure 14: raraara





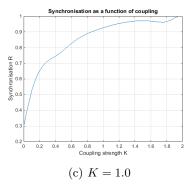


Figure 15: raraara