

Time: 50 min
Name:

Quiz: BT612 Systems Biology

Marks: 10

Roll No.

Instructions: Write the answers briefly, but you must show all the relevant steps in the calculations/derivations. Use conventional mathematical symbols/notations. No marks will be given for a partially correct answer. Marks will be deducted for irrelevant calculations/derivations.

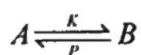
Q1. What is the number of possible steady states for the following system of ODEs? Find these steady states and characterize their stability. In this ODE, r is the last digit of your roll number. If the last digit of your roll number is 0, then $r = 1$. Examples: If your roll number is 240103027, then $r = 7$ and if your roll number is 240103020, then $r = 1$. [4]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x^4 + x^3 + rx, \text{ for } x \geq 0, r \geq 1$$

Q2. Nutrient-dependent microbial growth is modelled using the following system of ODEs. Draw the nullclines and mark the steady states on the nullcline plot. Here, $\mu = (2 + r)$. r is the last digit of your roll number. Examples: If your roll number is 240103027, then $r = 7$ and if your roll number is 240103020, then $r = 0$. [4]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{\mu s}{1+s} x - x; \quad \frac{ds}{dt} = (s_0 - s) - \frac{\mu s}{1+s} x, \text{ for } x \geq 0, s \geq 0, s_0 > s, \mu \geq 2 \text{ and } s_0 > \frac{1}{\mu - 1}$$

Q3. The following reversible reaction is regulated by two enzymes, K and P. Both the enzymes follow the Michaelis-Menten kinetics. Under what conditions would this reaction system work like an ultra-sensitive ON-OFF switch? [2]



----- Write the answers from here -----

Q1. $\frac{dx}{dt} = x^4 + x^3 + rx, \quad x \geq 0, r \geq 1$

At steady state, $dx/dt = 0$.

$\therefore x = 0$ ----- (1)
 $x^3 + x^2 + r = 0$ ----- (2)

For $r \geq 1$, Eq (2) does not have any solution such that $x \geq 0$. You can test that either by using the "sign change rule" or by ~~using~~ drawing $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + r$.



Q1. \therefore For $x \gg 0$, $r \gg 1$, the only possible steady state is $x^* = 0$. (X) Ans

$$f(x) = x^4 + x^3 + rx$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dx} f(x) = 4x^3 + 3x^2 + r$$

$$\therefore \text{At } x^* = 0,$$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dx} f(x) \right|_{x^*=0} = r > 0 \quad [\text{as } r \gg 1]$$

\therefore The steady state at $x=0$ is unstable (X) Ans

Q2. $\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{\mu s}{1+s} x - x$ (1)

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = (s_0 - s) - \frac{\mu s}{1+s} x$$
 (2)

$$x \gg 0, \quad s \gg 0, \quad s_0 > s, \quad \mu > 2, \quad s_0 > \frac{1}{\mu-1}$$

(X) x -nullclines:

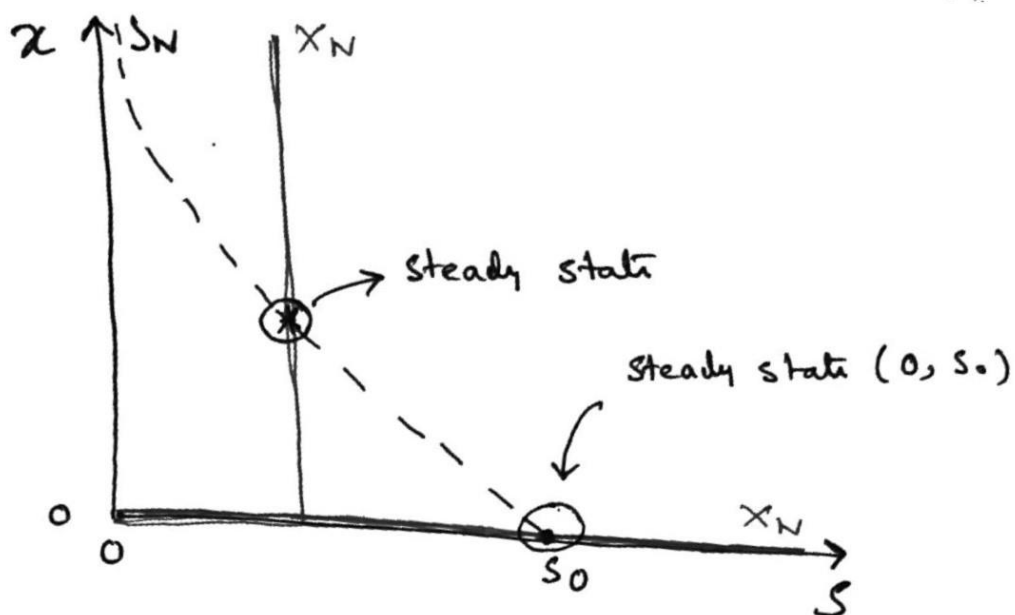
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad s = \left(\frac{1}{\mu-1} \right)$$

(X) s -nullclines:

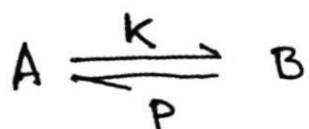
$$\frac{ds}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{(s_0 - s)(1+s)}{\mu s}$$

Note for: s nullcline $\Rightarrow x=0$ when $s=s_0$. x undefined when $s=0$. So there is an asymptote.

Q2



Q3.



To capture the behavior of this system, we use the following ODE:

$$\frac{dB}{dt} = \frac{k_{31} K (A_T - B)}{K_{M1} + (A_T - B)} - \frac{k_{32} P B}{K_{M2} + B}$$

Here, $A_T = A + B = \text{constant}$.

It can be shown that the steady state value of B will have a sharp sigmoid behavior with varying K if $\frac{K_{M1}}{A_T} \ll 1$

and $\frac{K_{M2}}{A_T} \ll 1$. This is called saturated

region. Under this condition, this system will work as an ultra-sensitive ON-OFF switch.

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Q1. What is the number of possible steady states for the following system of ODEs? Find these steady states and characterize their stability. In this ODE, p is the last digit of your roll number. If the last digit of your roll number is 0, then $p = 1$. Examples: If your roll number is 240103027, then $p = 7$ and if your roll number is 240103020, then $p = 1$. [4]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = px + x^2 + x^4, \text{ for } x \geq 0, p \geq 1$$

Q2. A bacterial quorum sensing system is modelled using the following system of ODEs. Draw the nullclines of this system and mark the steady states on the nullcline plot. Here, r is the last digit of your roll number. If the last digit of your roll number is 0, then $r = 1$. Examples: If your roll number is 240103027, then $r = 7$ and if your roll number is 240103020, then $r = 1$. [4]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} - rx, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = (1-y)y - yx, \text{ for } x \geq 0, y \geq 0, r \geq 1$$

Q3. The following system of ODEs is used to model a network motif. What type of network motif is this? Represent this motif diagrammatically. [2]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{k_1}{a+z^3} - d_1x, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = k_2x - d_2y, \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = k_3 \frac{y}{b+y} - d_3z, \text{ for } x, y, z \geq 0$$

----- Write answers from here -----

Q1. $\frac{dx}{dt} = px + x^2 + x^4, \quad x \geq 0, p \geq 1$

At steady state, $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0,$

$\therefore x = 0$ ----- ①

$x^3 + x + p = 0$ ----- ②

Eq ② does not have any solution for $x \geq 0$.
This could be checked using the "sign change rule"
or by plotting $f(x) = x^3 + x + p$.



Q1.

$$f(x) = px + x^2 + x^4$$

(5)

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dx} f(x) = p + 2x + 4x^3$$

\therefore At steady state $x^* = 0$,

$$\left. \frac{d}{dx} f(x) \right|_{x^*=0} = p > 0 \quad [\text{as } p > 1]$$

\therefore For $x > 0$, $p > 1$, the ODE has only one steady state at $x = 0$ and it is unstable.

(X)

Ans.

Q2.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} - rx \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = (1-y)y - yx \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$x > 0, \quad y > 0, \quad r > 1$$

⊗ X-nullclines,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$x = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-4r^2}}{2r} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

As $r > 1$, Eq (4) does not have real solution.

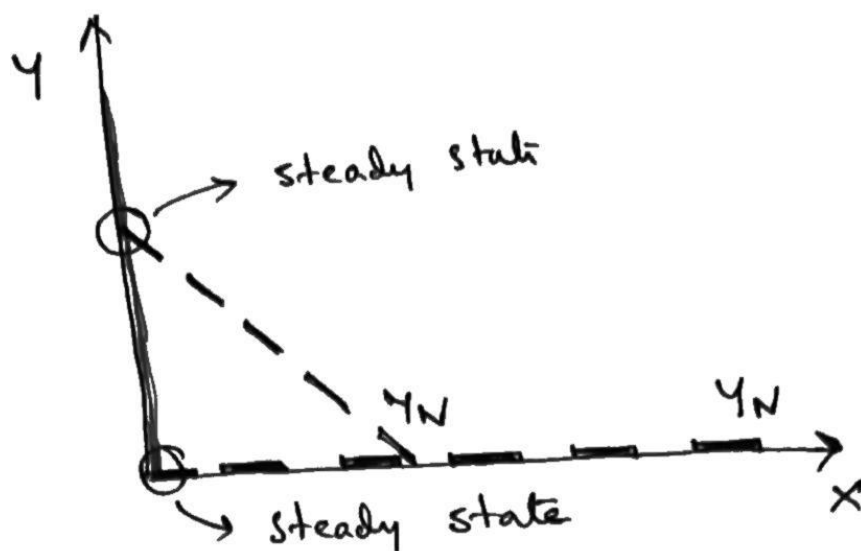
⊗ Y-nullclines,

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow y = 0, \\ y = 1-x,$$

→

Q2.

(6)



Q3.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{k_1}{a+z^3} - d_1x$$

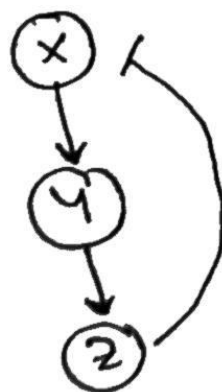
Inhibition

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{k_2x}{b+y} - d_2y$$

Activation / Induction

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = k_3 \frac{y}{b+y} - d_3z$$

Activation / Induction



Negative Feedback

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$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} - rx, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = (1-y)y - yx, \quad \text{for } x \geq 0, y \geq 0, r \geq 1$$

* See page 5

Q2. The following system of ODEs is used to model a network motif. What type of network motif is this? Represent this motif diagrammatically. [2]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{k_1}{a+z^3} + k_2 \frac{y}{b+y} - d_1 x, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = k_3 w - d_2 y, \quad \frac{dz}{dt} = k_4 \frac{w}{b+w} - d_3 z, \quad \frac{dw}{dt} = k_w - d_4 w, \quad \text{for } x, y, z, w \geq 0$$

Q3. What is the number of possible steady states for the following system of ODEs? Find these steady states and characterize their stability. In this ODE, q is the last digit of your roll number. If the last digit of your roll number is 0, then $q = 1$. Examples: If your roll number is 240103027, then $q = 7$ and if your roll number is 240103020, then $q = 1$. [4]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = qx + x^3 + x^4, \quad \text{for } x \geq 0, q \geq 1$$

* See page 1

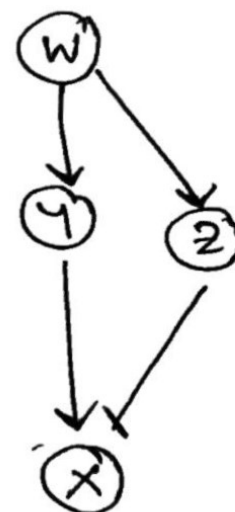
Write answers from here

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \underbrace{\frac{k_1}{a+z^3}}_{\text{Inhibition}} + \underbrace{k_2 \frac{y}{b+y}}_{\text{Induction}} - d_1 x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \underbrace{k_3 w}_{\text{Induction}} - d_2 y$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \underbrace{k_4 \frac{w}{b+w}}_{\text{Induction}} - d_3 z$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = \underbrace{k_w}_{\text{Constant}} - d_4 w$$



Incoherent Feed forward.

Time: 50 min
Roll No.

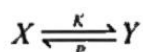
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Q1. The following reversible reaction is regulated by two enzymes, K and P. Both the enzymes follow the Michaelis-Menten kinetics. Under what conditions would this reaction system work like an ultra-sensitive ON-OFF switch? [2]



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$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x^4 + x^2 + qx, \text{ for } x \geq 0, q \geq 1$$

⊗ See page (4)

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⊗ See page (2)

----- Write answers from here -----