

# Assignment week 2

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## Introduction

Corticosteroids are adrenal cortex hormones. There are two groups where the corticosteroids can be divided in: Glucocorticoids and Mineralocorticoids. The corticosteroids are used in the treatments against several diseases related to skin and allergies because they act on for example the nasal passage epithelial cells and on the T Lymphocytes. The cell membrane of these cells is composed of glucocorticoid dissolving lipids. The glucocorticoid crosses the cell membrane and is roaming in the cytoplasm. It will bind eventually to a GR (glucocorticoid receptor). When these two complexes are bound together by a ligand binding, the GR complex gets activated by binding to AP-1. This inhibits the response to chemical messengers like inflammatory cytokines. The complex could also move towards the nucleus. There the complex will bind to glucocorticoid response elements on the DNA and thereby control protein production. It deregulates pro-inflammatory cytokine productions and up-regulates anti-inflammatory protein production.

## The Model

### About the model

The model gives the expression of glucocorticoid receptors, where down-regulation occurs due to the presence of corticosterone. The drug contains the hormone corticosterone. These hormones are presented to the cell, go inside the cell and eventually bind to the glucocorticoid receptor in the cell's DNA and reduce the chance of an inflammatory reaction. MDL is the drug. mRNAR is the receptor. The greater the D concentration, the more DR(N) there will be. This will lower ks\_RM because less will be transcribed, because the complex has bonded to the glucocorticoid in the DNA. However, kd\_RM will get greater because the concentration of GR mRNA will get bigger and these two will stay in balance.

### Functions

$$\frac{dmRNA_R}{dt} = k_{s\_Rm} \left( 1 - \frac{DR(N)}{IC_{50\_Rm} + DR(N)} \right) - k_{d\_Rm} * mRNA_R$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = k_{s\_R} * mRNA_R + R_f * k_{re} * DR(N) - k_{on} * D * R - k_{d\_R} * R$$

$$\frac{dDR}{dt} = k_{on} * D * R - k_{\tau} * DR$$

$$\frac{dDRN(N)}{dt} = k_{\tau} * DR - k_{re} * DR(N)$$

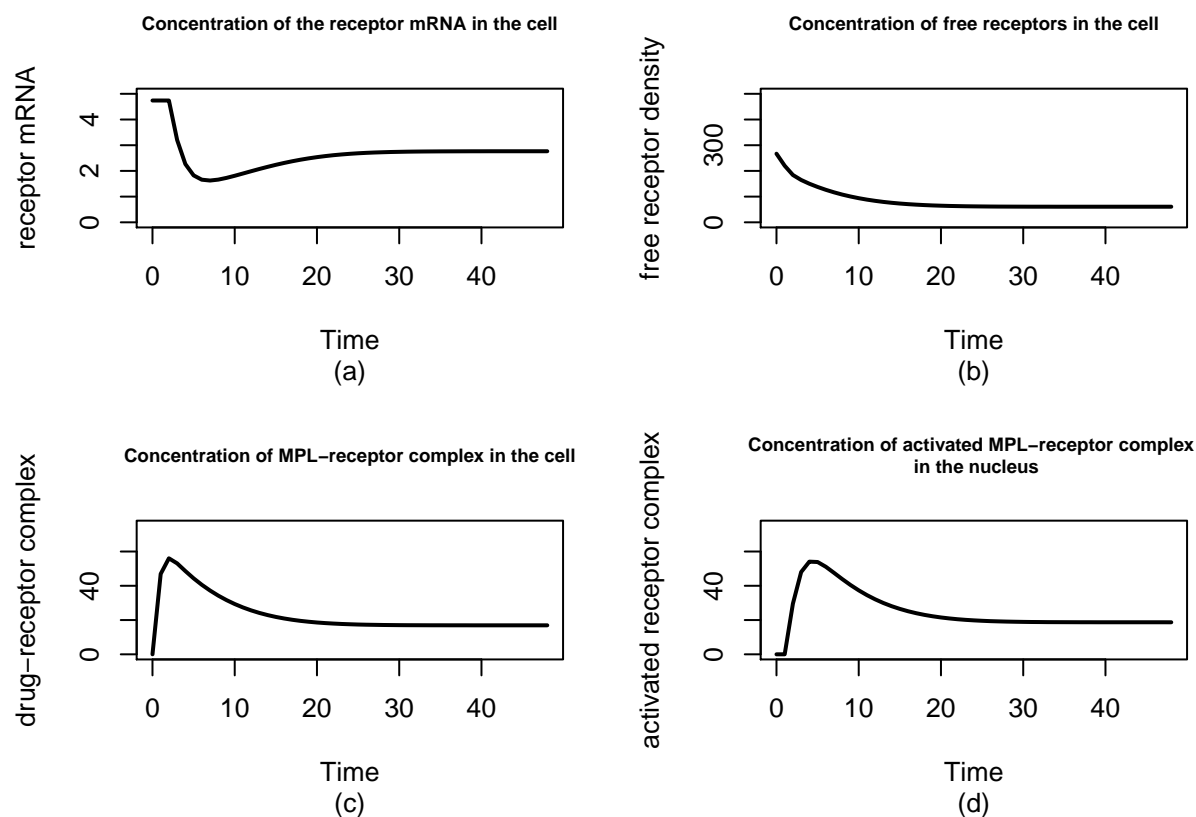


Figure 1: Graphs showing the concentration of receptors in the cell during a 48 hour time period

## Results

In figure 1a, the concentration of receptor mRNA in the cell is shown. This graph is a declining graph meaning that the concentration of the receptors decreases. This is caused by the activation of these receptors. And after a while the concentration increases, meaning that the concentration of receptor mRNA increases until it reaches an equilibrium. This increase is due to the loss of activated receptor in the nucleus.

As shown in figure 1b, the concentration of free receptors decreases in the cell, this is because almost all the glucocorticoid receptor binds with glucocorticoid that enters the cell. Eventually this graph reaches it equilibrium nearing zero. This is because of the down-regulation of their own receptors.

Figure 1c, and figure 1d have the same course, this is because they have a correlation. Figure 1c shows the drug-receptor complex in the cell itself and figure 1d shows the activated receptor complex. This last complex moves to the nucleus of the cell, meaning that the graph in figure 1d has a slight move to the right. This is because it takes some time for an activated receptor complex to move to the nucleus of the cell.

## Bibliografie

1. Meijssing, Sebastiaan H. et al. The Ligand Binding Domain Controls Glucocorticoid Receptor Dynamics Independent of Ligand Release Molecular and Cellular Biology 27.7 (2007): 2442 2451. PMC. Web. 18 May 2018.

## Attachments

```
# Rick Venema
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#####
# Libs #
#####
library(deSolve)

#####
# functions #
#####

# Define the parameters
parameters <- c(kd_Rm = 0.612, ks_Rm = 2.90, ks_r = 3.22,
               kd_R = 0.0572, D=53.409, k_on= 0.00329, IC50_Rm = 26.2,
               k_t = 0.63, k_re = 0.57, Rf = 0.49)

# Define the model function
volume <- function(t, y, parms){
  with(as.list(c(y, parms)), {
    dmRNA.R_dt <- ks_Rm * (1- (DR_N/ (IC50_Rm + DR_N))) - kd_Rm * mRNA.R
    dR_dt <- ks_r * mRNA.R + Rf * k_re * DR_N - k_on * D * R - kd_R * R
    dDR_dt <- k_on * D * R - k_t * DR
    dDR_N_dt <- k_t * DR - k_re * DR_N
    return(list(c(dmRNA.R_dt, dR_dt, dDR_N_dt, dDR_dt)))
  }
)
}

# Define the state
state <- c(mRNA.R = 4.74, R = 267, DR_N = 0, DR = 0)

# Define time sequence you want to run the model
times <- seq(0, 48, by = 1)

# Run simulation using continuous approach
out <- ode(times = times, y = state, parms = parameters, func = volume, method = "euler")
```