

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Thermodynamically Consistent Model Calibration in Chemical Kinetics

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Thermodynamic Constraints

Finite set of thermodynamic conditions

We show that, if the Wegscheider conditions are satisfied for $M_2 = M_0 - M_1$ basis vectors $\{\mathbf{b}^{(i)}, i = 1, 2, \dots, M_2\}$ of the null space of \mathbb{S}_0 , where M_0 is the total number of (reversible) reactions in a closed biochemical reaction system with stoichiometry matrix \mathbb{S}_0 and $M_1 = \text{rank}(\mathbb{S}_0)$, then they will also be satisfied for all $\mathbf{b} \in \text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$.

Note that, for any $\mathbf{b} \in \text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$, we have that

$$\mathbf{b} = \sum_{i=1}^{M_2} a_i \mathbf{b}^{(i)},$$

for some scalar coefficients $a_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, M_2$. As a consequence, and from Equations (5) and (6) in the Main Text, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \prod_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} \left(\frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \right)^{b_m} &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m \ln \frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m z_m \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{M_2} a_i b_m^{(i)} \right] z_m \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{i=1}^{M_2} a_i \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m^{(i)} z_m \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{M_2} a_i \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m^{(i)} \ln \frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{M_2} a_i \ln \prod_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} \left(\frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \right)^{b_m^{(i)}} \\
&= 0,
\end{aligned}$$

for every $\mathbf{b} = \{b_m, m \in \mathcal{M}_0\} \in \text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$, since the Wegscheider conditions are assumed to be satisfied by the basis vectors $\{\mathbf{b}^{(i)}, i = 1, 2, \dots, M_2\}$ of the null space of \mathbb{S}_0 . This shows that the Wegscheider conditions are also satisfied for every $\mathbf{b} \in \text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$.

Analytic form of stoichiometric basis

We can rearrange the columns and rows of the stoichiometry matrix \mathbb{S}_0 (by appropriately relabeling the molecular species and reactions) so that the first M_1 columns are linearly independent, whereas, the remaining M_2 columns linearly dependent on the first columns. In this case, we can write the $N_0 \times M_0$ stoichiometry matrix \mathbb{S}_0 in the following block matrix form:

$$\mathbb{S}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{S}_{11} & \mathbb{S}_{12} \\ \mathbb{S}_{21} & \mathbb{S}_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

where \mathbb{S}_{11} is an *invertible* $M_1 \times M_1$ matrix, whereas, \mathbb{S}_{12} , \mathbb{S}_{21} , and \mathbb{S}_{22} are $M_1 \times M_2$, $(N_0 - M_1) \times M_1$, and $(N_0 - M_1) \times M_2$ matrices, respectively. It is a well-known fact [1] that the general solution of $\mathbb{S}_0 \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ is given by $\mathbf{b}' = -\mathbb{S}_{11}^{-1} \mathbb{S}_{12} \mathbf{b}''$, for an arbitrary \mathbf{b}'' , where \mathbf{b}' , \mathbf{b}'' are $M_1 \times 1$ and $M_2 \times 1$ vectors, respectively, such that

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b}' \\ \mathbf{b}'' \end{bmatrix}.$$

This implies that the columns of matrix

$$\mathbb{B}_0 := \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbb{S}_{11}^{-1} \mathbb{S}_{12} \\ \mathbb{I} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (\text{S.1})$$

where \mathbb{I} is the $M_2 \times M_2$ identity matrix, form a basis for the null space of \mathbb{S}_0 . As a consequence of this result and the fact that the Wegscheider conditions are satisfied so long as they are satisfied by a set of basis

vectors of $\text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$, we can conclude that the Wegscheider conditions, given by Equation (6) in the Main Text, are equivalent to the following conditions [2]:

$$\varrho_{2m'} - \varrho_{2m'-1} + \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_1} [\mathbb{S}_{11}^{-1} \mathbb{S}_{12}]_{m,m'} (\varrho_{2m-1} - \varrho_{2m}) = 0, \quad \text{for every } m' \in \mathcal{M}_2, \quad (\text{S.2})$$

where $\mathcal{M}_1 = \{1, 2, \dots, M_1\}$, $\mathcal{M}_2 = \{M_1 + 1, M_1 + 2, \dots, M_0\}$, $\varrho_{2m-1} = \ln r_{2m-1}$, $\varrho_{2m} = \ln r_{2m}$, and $[\mathbb{S}_{11}^{-1} \mathbb{S}_{12}]_{m,m'}$ is the element of the m^{th} row and the m'^{th} column of matrix $\mathbb{S}_{11}^{-1} \mathbb{S}_{12}$. Equation (S.2) implies that the log-rate constants of a closed biochemical reaction system must satisfy the linear constraints given by Equation (9) in the Main Text, where \mathbb{W} is an appropriately constructed [by means of (S.2)] $M_2 \times J$ matrix.

Flux constraints and entropy production

If \mathbf{b} is a vector in the null space of the stoichiometry matrix \mathbb{S}_0 of the closed subsystem of an open biochemical reaction system, and $\phi_m^+(t, \mathbf{k})$, $\phi_m^-(t, \mathbf{k})$ are respectively the forward and reverse fluxes of the m^{th} reaction at time t , given by

$$\phi_m^+(t, \mathbf{k}) = f_m[\mathbf{x}(t), \boldsymbol{\pi}] r_{2m-1} \prod_{n \in \mathcal{N}_0} [x_n(t)]^{\nu_{nm}} \quad \text{and} \quad \phi_m^-(t, \mathbf{k}) = f[\mathbf{x}(t), \boldsymbol{\pi}] r_{2m} \prod_{n \in \mathcal{N}_0} [x_n(t)]^{\nu'_{nm}},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m \ln \frac{\phi_m^+(t, \mathbf{k})}{\phi_m^-(t, \mathbf{k})} &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m \ln \left[\frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \prod_{n \in \mathcal{N}_0} [x_n(t)]^{-s_{nm}} \right] \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} b_m \ln \frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} + \ln \prod_{n \in \mathcal{N}_0} [x_n(t)]^{-\sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} s_{nm} b_m} \\ &= \ln \prod_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} \left(\frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \right)^{b_m} \\ &= 0, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, M_2, \quad t \in \mathcal{T}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S.3})$$

where b_m is the m^{th} element of \mathbf{b} . Equation (S.3) is due to the Wegscheider conditions, given by Equation (6) in the Main Text, and the fact that $\mathbb{S}_0 \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$. This result shows that the fluxes of a biochemical reaction system must be constrained by Equation (15) in the Main Text.

It can be shown that a biochemical reaction system is governed by the following balance equations [3]:

$$\frac{dS(t)}{dt} = \sigma(t) - \frac{h(t)}{T} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dG(t)}{dt} = f(t) - T\sigma(t), \quad (\text{S.4})$$

where $S(t)$ is the entropy of the system at time t , $G(t)$ is the free energy stored in the system at time t , $\sigma(t)$ is the entropy production rate, $h(t)$ is the heat dissipation rate, $f(t)$ is the chemical motive force, and T is the temperature. The entropy production rate is given by

$$\sigma(t) = AVk_B \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{in}} \cup \mathcal{M}_{\text{ex}}^{(r)}} [\phi_m^+(t, \mathbf{k}) - \phi_m^-(t, \mathbf{k})] \ln \frac{\phi_m^+(t, \mathbf{k})}{\phi_m^-(t, \mathbf{k})}, \quad (\text{S.5})$$

where A is the Avogadro number, V is the system volume, k_B is the Boltzmann constant, \mathcal{M}_{in} is the set of all *internal* (and necessarily reversible) reactions, $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ex}}^{(r)}$ is the set of all *exchange* reversible reactions, and $\phi_m^+(t, \mathbf{k})$, $\phi_m^-(t, \mathbf{k})$ are the forward and reverse fluxes of the m^{th} reaction. A reaction is internal if it involves only dynamic species as reactants and products, or dynamic and clamped species but for which a clamped species is both reactant and product of the reaction with equal stoichiometry (i.e., it is a catalyst). A reaction is an exchange reaction if its occurrence involves the consumption or production of a clamped molecular species. Note that occurrence of such a reaction requires that an equal number of molecules of the clamped species are transferred in or out of the system through its boundary in order to make sure that their concentrations remain constant.

It is not difficult to see that the set \mathcal{M}_0 of all reactions in the closed reaction subsystem, obtained by the technique discussed in the Main Text, equals to $\mathcal{M}_{\text{in}} \cup \mathcal{M}_{\text{ex}}^{(r)}$. As a consequence, (S.3) and (S.5) imply that the entropy production rate of an open biochemical reaction system at chemical equilibrium in which the net fluxes of all reactions in \mathcal{M}_0 equal to b_m , for $m \in \mathcal{M}_0$, where $\mathbf{b} \in \text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$, is given by

$$\sigma(\mathbf{b}) = AVk_B \ln \prod_{m \in \mathcal{M}_0} \left(\frac{r_{2m-1}}{r_{2m}} \right)^{b_m}, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{b} \in \text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0),$$

which shows Equation (7) in the Main Text.

The second law of thermodynamics postulates that an increase in the entropy of a biochemical reaction system must always be larger than the heat absorbed by the system divided by the temperature. This implies that

$$\frac{dS(t)}{dt} \geq -\frac{h(t)}{T}, \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

This inequality, together with (S.4), implies that

$$\sigma(t) \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0, \quad (\text{S.6})$$

which is already guaranteed by (S.5), as well as

$$\frac{dG(t)}{dt} \leq f(t), \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

At chemical equilibrium, (S.4) and (S.6) imply that

$$0 \leq T\bar{\sigma} = \bar{h} = \bar{f},$$

where $\bar{\sigma}$, \bar{h} , and \bar{f} are the steady-state entropy production rate, heat dissipation rate, and chemical motive force, respectively. Equality holds if and only if the system is at thermodynamic equilibrium (i.e., at a state of chemical equilibrium in which the steady-state entropy production rate, heat dissipation rate, and chemical motive force are all equal to zero). Clearly, the Wegscheider conditions, given by Equation (6) in the Main Text, imply that the entropy production rate $\sigma(\mathbf{b})$ must be zero (i.e., the system must be at thermodynamic equilibrium). As a consequence, the chemical motive force $f(\mathbf{b})$ and the heat dissipation rate $h(\mathbf{b})$ must be zero as well.

EGF/ERK Signaling Cascade

The EGF/ERK signaling cascade model we use in this paper has been suggested by Schoeberl *et. al.* [4] and can be found in the publicly available BioModels database [5]. This model consists of three compartments (extracellular space, cytoplasm, and endosomal volume), 100 molecular species, and 125 biochemical reactions.

The proposed TCMC method requires that we manually find the closed subsystem of a biochemical reaction system by following the rules discussed in the Main Text. To determine the closed subsystem associated with the EGF/ERK signaling cascade model, we first need to remove all 42 reactions summarized in Table S1 for the stated reasons. Then, we must allow the concentration of the only clamped molecular species in the system, namely EGF, to fluctuate freely as a function of time. In this and subsequent tables, we employ the labeling for the reactions and the associated kinetic parameters used in the original publication [4]. The remaining 83 reactions compose the closed reaction set \mathcal{M}_0 . Moreover, the 93 molecular species associated with the reactions in \mathcal{M}_0 make up the set \mathcal{N}_0 . Now, we can construct the 93×83 stoichiometry matrix \mathbb{S}_0 of the closed subsystem by including only the reactions in \mathcal{M}_0 and the species in \mathcal{N}_0 . It turns out that the dimension of $\text{null}(\mathbb{S}_0)$ is $d = 18$. This implies that the closed EGF/ERK subsystem contains 18 independent reaction cycles, associated with the columns of matrix \mathbb{B}_0 given

by (S.1), and that the rate constants are constrained by 18 independent Wegscheider conditions. We depict the reactions associated with each independent cycle in Table S.2. In this table, we also depict the entropy production rates of the independent reaction cycles associated with the published Schoeberl model, given by Equation (7) in the Main Text.

An attractive feature of TCMC is its ability to incorporate linear non-thermodynamic constraints into estimation alongside the thermodynamic constraints imposed by the Wegscheider conditions. In Table S3, we mark with boldface the kinetic parameters whose values have been constrained in the original Schoeberl model. These 167 equality constraints arise, for example, when two reactions are identical but occur in different compartments,¹ or when a reaction is irreversible. For ease of TCMC implementation, we assume that certain reactions in the Schoeberl model that do not depend on any kinetic parameters are characterized by two (dimensionless) rate constants whose values are set equal to zero. In Table S3, we also summarize the estimated kinetic parameter values resulting from TCMC alongside their published values. For clarity, we have rounded the estimated values, although the accompanying SBML file provides the full values.

We should make a note here about units. In the BioModels database (and hence in the software accompanying this document), molecular concentrations are measured in units of *molecules*, which implies rate constants with units of $1/\text{minutes}$ or $1/(\text{molecules} \times \text{minutes})$ for monomolecular and bimolecular reactions, respectively. In the Main Text, however, we consider a standard approach in which the concentration of molecular species is measured in mol/m^3 . Therefore, the rate constants in the Main Text have units of $1/\text{minutes}$ or $1/(\text{mol} \times \text{minutes})$ for monomolecular and bimolecular reactions, respectively. Conversion between the two cases is straightforward, since molecular numbers can be converted to concentrations by dividing the former by AV , where A is the Avogadro number and V is the system volume. Note that the system volume considered in the BioModels database for the EGF/ERK model is $V = 1\text{pL} = 10^{-15} \text{ m}^3$.

¹The validity of this assumption may be questionable, since kinetic parameters may depend on the compartmental volume. However, the assumption conveniently reduces the complexity of parameter estimation.

Table S1. Reactions that must be removed from the EGF/ERK signaling cascade model in order to obtain a closed subsystem.

reaction	reason for removal
v5	irreversible reaction
v7	irreversible reaction
v9	irreversible reaction
v13	irreversible reaction
v15	irreversible reaction
v19	GDP turns into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v21	GDP turns into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v27	GDP turns into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v31	GDP turns into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v36	irreversible reaction
v43	irreversible reaction
v45	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v47	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v49	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v51	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v53	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v55	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v57	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v59	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v60	irreversible reaction
v61	irreversible reaction
v62	irreversible reaction
v66	GDP turned into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v68	GDP turned into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v74	GDP turned into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v78	GDP turned into GTP with no phosphate source (simplified reaction mechanism)
v85	irreversible reaction
v87	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v89	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v91	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v93	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v95	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v97	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)

Table S1. Continued.

reaction	reason for removal
v99	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v101	irreversible reaction and phosphate is left unbalanced (simplified reaction mechanism)
v107	irreversible reaction
v110	irreversible reaction
v113	irreversible reaction
v116	irreversible reaction
v119	irreversible reaction
v122	irreversible reaction
v125	irreversible reaction

Table S2. Independent reaction cycles in the EGF/ERK signaling cascade model. The entropy production rates σ , associated with the published model, are measured in J/(K · min).

Cycle	Reactions	σ
1	v16, v17, v34, v35	-3.58×10^{-14}
2	v16, v17, v24, v25, v32, v33, v34, v37	-7.63×10^{-15}
3	v16, v17, v25, v32, v33, v34, v38, v39	-7.63×10^{-15}
4	v16, v17, v33, v34, v38, v40	$+5.80 \times 10^{-15}$
5	v16, v17, v24, v25, v34, v41	$+9.99 \times 10^{-15}$
6	v22, v23, v24, v25, v32, v69, v70, v71, v72, v79	0
7	v16, v17, v34, v63, v64, v80	0
8	v16, v17, v22, v23, v24, v25, v32, v33, v34, v69, v70, v81	-7.63×10^{-15}
9	v16, v17, v22, v23, v24, v25, v32, v33, v34, v38, v69, v70, v71, v82	-7.63×10^{-15}
10	v16, v17, v34, v71, v72, v83	$+9.99 \times 10^{-15}$
11	v22, v69, v102, v103	0
12	v22, v23, v69, v70, v102, v104	0
13	v16, v17, v63, v64, v102, v105	0
14	v16, v17, v18, v63, v64, v65, v102, v108	0
15	v22, v23, v24, v69, v70, v71, v102, v114	0
16	v22, v23, v24, v25, v69, v70, v71, v72, v102, v117	0
17	v22, v23, v24, v25, v26, v69, v70, v71, v72, v73, v102, v120	0
18	v16, v17, v20, v22, v23, v24, v25, v30, v63, v64, v67, v69, v70, v71, v72, v77, v111, v123	0

Table S3. Published and thermodynamically consistent estimated values of the kinetic parameters associated with the EGF/ERK signaling cascade model. Bold faces indicate non-thermodynamically constrained parameters.

parameter	published value	TCMC value	units
k1	3.00×10^{-3}	2.37×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr1	2.28×10^{-1}	1.15×10^{-1}	1/min
k2	1.00×10^{-3}	0.48×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr2	6	0.51	1/min
k3	60	31.72	1/min
kr3	6.00×10^{-1}	22.21×10^{-1}	1/min
k4	1.038×10^{-5}	3.05×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr4	9.96×10^{-2}	12.31×10^{-2}	1/min
k5	0	0	—
kr5	0	0	—
k6	3.00×10^{-3}	0.41×10^{-3}	1/min
kr6	3.00×10^{-1}	2.94×10^{-1}	1/min
k7	3×10^{-3}	3.01×10^{-3}	1/min
kr7	0	0	1/min
k8	1.00×10^{-4}	5.17×10^{-4}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr8	12	0.91	1/min
k9	k7	k7	1/min
kr9	0	0	1/min
k10	3.25581	3804	1/(molecules \times min)
kr10	0.66	172	1/min
k11	k2	k2	1/(molecules \times min)
kr11	kr2	kr2	1/min
k12	k3	k3	1/min
kr12	kr3	kr3	1/min
k13	130.2	0.46	molecules/min
kr13	0	0	1/min
k14	1.00×10^{-4}	6.37×10^{-7}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr14	12	197	1/min
k15	60×10^4	4.65×10^4	1/min
kr15	0	0	1/min
k16	1.00×10^{-3}	0.40×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr16	16.5	0.45	1/min
k17	1.00×10^{-3}	0.31×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr17	3.6	2.52	1/min
k18	1.5×10^{-3}	4.46×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr18	78	11.14	1/min
k19	30	350	1/min
kr19	1.00×10^{-5}	0.58×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
k20	2.10×10^{-4}	0.52×10^{-4}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr20	24	12.82	1/min

Table S3. Continued.

parameter	published value	TCMC value	units
k21	1.38	0.47	1/min
kr21	2.2×10^{-5}	1.71×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
k22	2.10×10^{-3}	0.14×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr22	6	0.62	1/min
k23	360	420	1/min
kr23	36	17.39	1/min
k24	1.00×10^{-3}	7.18×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr24	33	563	1/min
k25	1.00×10^{-3}	0.69×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr25	1.284	1.22	1/min
k26	k18	k18	1/(molecules \times min)
kr26	kr18	kr18	1/min
k27	k19	k19	1/min
kr27	kr19	kr19	1/(molecules \times min)
k28	1.00×10^{-4}	0.098×10^{-4}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr28	3.18×10^{-1}	9.68×10^{-1}	1/min
k29	60	931	1/min
kr29	7.00×10^{-5}	10.96×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
k30	k20	k20	1/(molecules \times min)
kr30	kr20	kr20	1/min
k31	k21	k21	1/min
kr31	kr21	kr21	1/(molecules \times min)
k32	6	14.19	1/min
kr32	2.40×10^{-5}	5.55×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
k33	12	10.96	1/min
kr33	2.10×10^{-3}	0.017×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
k34	1.8	0.25	1/min
kr34	4.50×10^{-4}	1.28×10^{-4}	1/(molecules \times min)
k35	0.09	1.84	1/min
kr35	4.50×10^{-4}	3.87×10^{-4}	1/(molecules \times min)
Km36	2.00×10^{14}	7.72×10^{14}	molecules
Vm36	61200	615	molecules/min
k37	18	29.35	1/min
kr37	9.00×10^{-5}	0.55×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
k38	k24	k24	1/(molecules \times min)
kr38	kr24	kr24	1/min
k39	k37	k37	1/min
kr39	kr37	kr37	1/(molecules \times min)
k40	3.00×10^{-3}	0.074×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr40	3.84	2.75	1/min
k41	3.00×10^{-3}	1.52×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr41	2.574	44.60	1/min

Table S3. Continued.

parameter	published value	TCMC value	units
k42	7.10×10^{-3}	9.69×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr42	12	1.87	1/min
k43	60	51.61	1/min
kr43	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k44	1.11×10^{-3}	1.41×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr44	1.0998	0.599	1/min
k45	210	6340	1/min
kr45	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k46	k44	k44	1/(molecules \times min)
kr46	kr44	kr44	1/min
k47	174	1632	1/min
kr47	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k48	1.43×10^{-3}	0.69×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr48	48	1489	1/min
k49	3.48	10.73	1/min
kr49	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k50	2.50×10^{-5}	54.64×10^{-5}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr50	30	9.95	1/min
k51	k49	k49	1/min
kr51	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k52	5.34×10^{-3}	3.83×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr52	1.98	19.85	1/min
k53	960	62182	1/min
kr53	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k54	k52	k52	1/(molecules \times min)
kr54	kr52	kr52	1/min
k55	342	1120	1/min
kr55	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k56	1.45×10^{-3}	4.70×10^{-3}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr56	36	1.23	1/min
k57	16.20	19.75	1/min
kr57	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k58	5.00×10^{-4}	1.71×10^{-4}	1/(molecules \times min)
kr58	30	0.114	1/min
k59	18	6.41	1/min
kr59	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k60	4.00×10^{-2}	8.69×10^{-2}	1/min
kr60	0	0	1/min
k61	10.02×10^{-3}	6.50×10^{-3}	1/min
kr61	0	0	1/min
k62	k60	k60	1/min
kr62	0	0	1/min

Table S3. Continued.

parameter	published value	TCMC value	units
k63	k16	k16	1/(molecules \times min)
kr63	kr16	kr16	1/min
k64	k17	k17	1/(molecules \times min)
kr64	kr17	kr17	1/min
k65	k18	k18	1/(molecules \times min)
kr65	kr18	kr18	1/min
k66	k19	k19	1/min
kr66	kr19	kr19	1/(molecules \times min)
k67	k20	k20	1/(molecules \times min)
kr67	kr20	kr20	1/min
k68	k21	k21	1/min
kr68	kr21	kr21	1/(molecules \times min)
k69	k22	k22	1/(molecules \times min)
kr69	kr22	kr22	1/min
k70	k23	k23	1/min
kr70	kr23	kr23	1/min
k71	k24	k24	1/(molecules \times min)
kr71	kr24	kr24	1/min
k72	k25	k25	1/(molecules \times min)
kr72	kr25	kr25	1/min
k73	k18	k18	1/(molecules \times min)
kr73	kr18	kr18	1/min
k74	k19	k19	1/min
kr74	kr19	kr19	1/(molecules \times min)
k75	k28	k28	1/(molecules \times min)
kr75	kr28	kr28	1/min
k76	k29	k29	1/min
kr76	kr29	kr29	1/(molecules \times min)
k77	k20	k20	1/(molecules \times min)
kr77	kr20	kr20	1/min
k78	k21	k21	1/min
kr78	kr21	kr21	1/(molecules \times min)
k79	k32	k32	1/min
kr79	kr32	kr32	1/(molecules \times min)
k80	k34	k34	1/min
kr80	kr34	kr34	1/(molecules \times min)
k81	k37	k37	1/min
kr81	kr37	kr37	1/(molecules \times min)
k82	k37	k37	1/min
kr82	kr37	kr37	1/(molecules \times min)
k83	k41	k41	1/(molecules \times min)
kr83	kr41	kr41	1/min

Table S3. Continued.

parameter	published value	TCMC value	units
k84	k42	k42	1/(molecules \times min)
kr84	kr42	kr42	1/min
k85	k43	k43	1/min
kr85	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k86	k44	k44	1/(molecules \times min)
kr86	kr44	kr44	1/min
k87	k45	k45	1/min
kr87	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k88	k44	k44	1/(molecules \times min)
kr88	kr44	kr44	1/min
k89	k47	k47	1/min
kr89	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k90	k48	k48	1/(molecules \times min)
kr90	kr48	kr48	1/min
k91	k49	k49	1/min
kr91	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k92	k50	k50	1/(molecules \times min)
kr92	kr50	kr50	1/min
k93	k49	k49	1/min
kr93	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k94	k52	k52	1/(molecules \times min)
kr94	kr52	kr52	1/min
k95	k53	k53	1/min
kr95	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k96	k52	k52	1/(molecules \times min)
kr96	kr52	kr52	1/min
k97	k53	k53	1/min
kr97	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k98	k56	k56	1/(molecules \times min)
kr98	kr56	kr56	1/min
k99	k57	k57	1/min
kr99	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k100	k58	k58	1/(molecules \times min)
kr100	kr58	kr58	1/min
k101	k59	k59	1/min
kr101	0	0	1/(molecules \times min)
k102	k6	k6	1/min
kr102	kr6	kr6	1/min
k103	k6	k6	1/min
kr103	kr6	kr6	1/min
k104	k6	k6	1/min
kr104	kr6	kr6	1/min

Table S3. Continued.

parameter	published value	TCMC value	units
k105	k6	k6	1/min
kr105	kr6	kr6	1/min
k106	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr106	kr4	kr4	1/min
k107	0	0	—
kr107	0	0	—
k108	k6	k6	1/min
kr108	kr6	kr6	1/min
k109	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr109	kr4	kr4	1/min
k110	0	0	—
kr110	0	0	—
k111	k6	k6	1/min
kr111	kr6	kr6	1/min
k112	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr112	kr4	kr4	1/min
k113	0	0	—
kr113	0	0	—
k114	k6	k6	1/min
kr114	kr6	kr6	1/min
k115	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr115	kr4	kr4	1/min
k116	0	0	—
kr116	0	0	—
k117	k6	k6	1/min
kr117	kr6	kr6	1/min
k118	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr118	kr4	kr4	1/min
k119	0	0	—
kr119	0	0	—
k120	k6	k6	1/min
kr120	kr6	kr6	1/min
k121	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr121	kr4	kr4	1/min
k122	0	0	—
kr122	0	0	—
k123	k6	k6	1/min
kr123	kr6	kr6	1/min
k124	k4	k4	1/(molecules \times min)
kr124	kr4	kr4	1/min
k125	0	0	—
kr125	0	0	—

Simulated Annealing

Simulated annealing (SA) algorithms come in many varieties; for an introduction, see [6]. Here, we present the specific algorithm we use in the EGF/ERK signaling cascade example. This algorithm employs a geometrically decaying annealing schedule and uses a zero-mean multivariate Gaussian proposal distribution.

Initialization

1. Set an initial value λ for the annealing schedule and a value for its decay rate $0 < \delta < 1$. We use $\lambda = 2 \times 10^{12}$ and $\delta = 0.97$.
2. Set an initial value for the standard deviation φ of the Gaussian proposal distribution and a value for its decay rate $0 < \gamma < 1$. We use $\varphi = 1.5$ and $\gamma = 0.996$.
3. Set the total allowable number S of cost function evaluations and the number of iterations U for each annealing update. We use $S = 100,000$ and $U = 50$.
4. Form matrix \mathbb{A} and vector \mathbf{c} and find a particular solution $\boldsymbol{\kappa}_0$ of $\mathbb{A}\boldsymbol{\kappa}_0 = \mathbf{c}$ that is closest, in the least-squares sense, among all other solutions to the published parameter values. Set $\mathbf{v}(1) = 0$, and calculate the initial cost $c(1) = C_0(\mathbf{v}(1) \mid \mathbf{y}) = C(\boldsymbol{\kappa}_0 \mid \mathbf{y})$.

Iteration

For $s = 1, 2, \dots, S$:

5. If U iterations have passed since the last update of the annealing schedule, set $\lambda = \delta\lambda$ and $\varphi = \gamma\varphi$.
6. Given the current value $\mathbf{v}(s)$, randomly draw a new proposed value $\mathbf{v}'(s)$ from a multivariate Gaussian distribution with mean $\mathbf{v}(s)$ and covariance matrix $\varphi^2\mathbb{I}$, where \mathbb{I} is the identity matrix.
7. Calculate the cost $c'(s) = C_0(\mathbf{v}'(s) \mid \mathbf{y}) = C(\boldsymbol{\kappa}_0 + \mathbb{B}\mathbf{v}'(s) \mid \mathbf{y})$.
8. If $c'(s) < c(s)$, then set $\mathbf{v}(s+1) = \mathbf{v}'(s)$ and $c(s+1) = c'(s)$. Otherwise, calculate $p = \exp\{-[c'(s) - c(s)]/\lambda\}$ and set $\mathbf{v}(s+1) = \mathbf{v}'(s)$, $c(s+1) = c'(s)$ with probability p , or $\mathbf{v}(s+1) = \mathbf{v}(s)$, $c(s+1) = c(s)$ with probability $1 - p$.

Estimation

9. Choose as the final estimated value $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ of \mathbf{v} the point associated with the minimum cost among all calculated cost values $\{c(1), c(2), \dots, c(S)\}$, and set $\hat{\boldsymbol{\kappa}} = \boldsymbol{\kappa}_0 + \mathbb{B}\hat{\mathbf{v}}$.

There are many possible choices for the annealing schedule and the proposal distribution. However, the ones used in this paper (namely the geometrically decaying annealing schedule and the i.i.d. Gaussian

proposal distribution with geometrically decaying standard deviation) are common choices [6].

A geometrically decaying annealing schedule ensures that, at early iterations, the algorithm is allowed to explore the parameter space even if the cost function increases, whereas, the geometric decay reduces the probability that a proposed point with higher cost than the current estimate will be accepted. Furthermore, as iterations progress and the parameter estimates improve, the proposal distribution we use in this paper provides, with high probability, points that are closer to the current estimate (and, therefore, more likely to be descent estimates themselves). Finally, Step 9 makes sense, since it chooses the best parameter estimate encountered during the SA iterations.

Additional Results

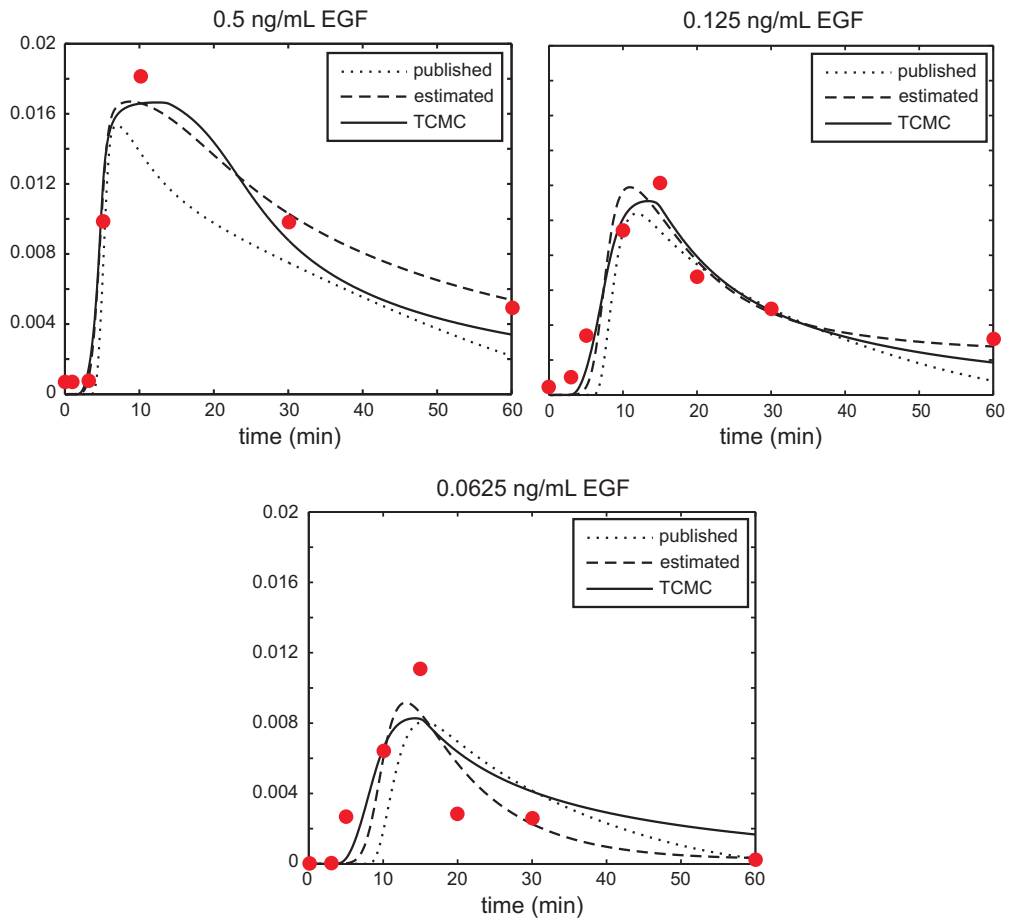


Figure S.1: ERK-PP concentration dynamics, measured in mol/m^3 , under three different input EGF concentrations. These dynamics are in addition to the ones depicted in Figure 1 of the Main Text. The red circles indicate densitometric data obtained from Schoeberl *et al.* [4].

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