

# Modelisation des reseaux biologiques

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Travaux diriges ---> projet computationnel, **scilab**

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Cours

Modalites : examen (70%), projet (30%)

Useful references :

**Mathematical models in biology, Edelstein-Keshet, SIAM classics 2004**

**Systems Biology in practice, Klipp, Herwig et al , Wiley 2005**

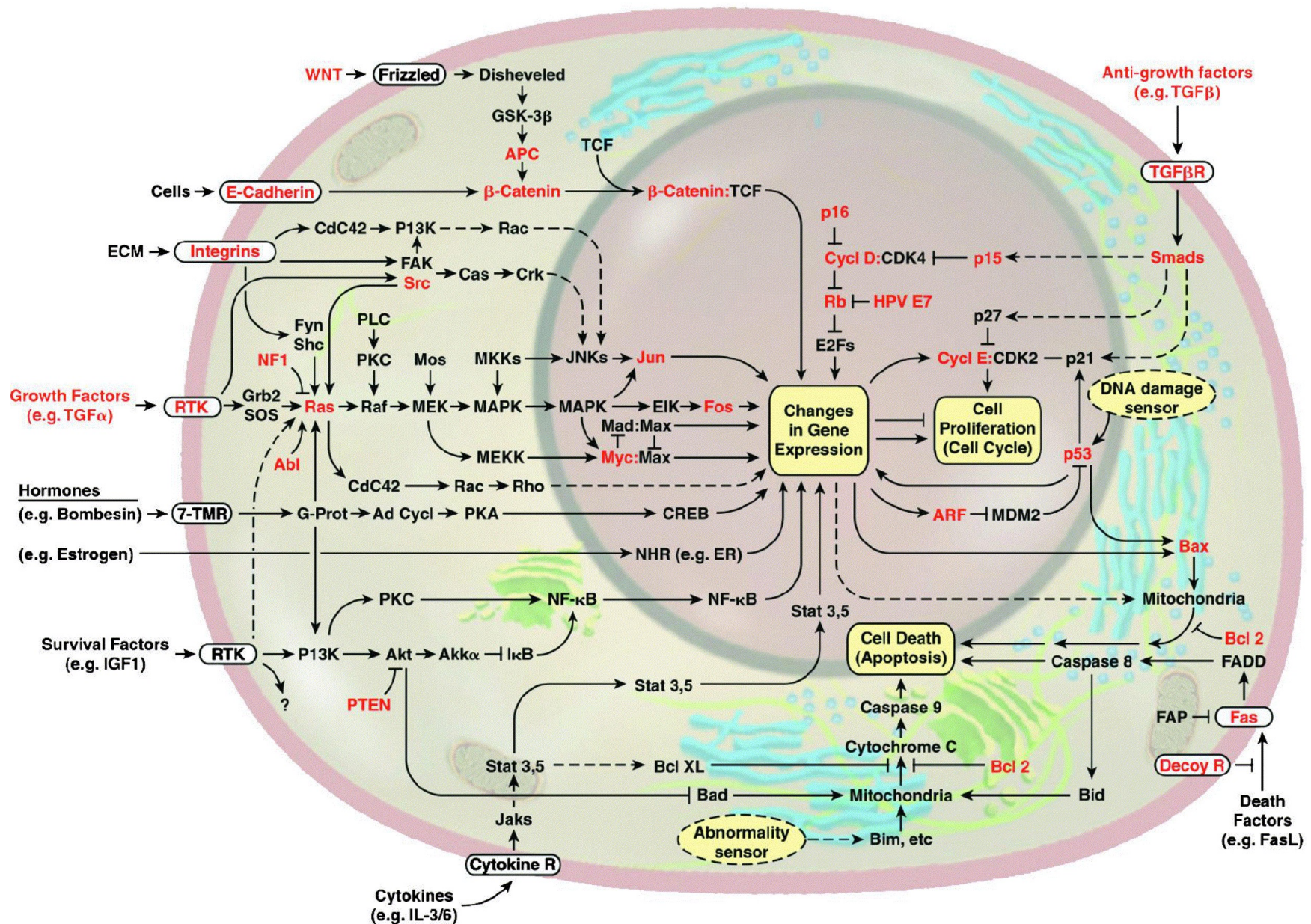
H. de Jong and D. Thieffry. Modelisation, analyse et simulation des reseaux genetiques. Medecine/Sciences, 18:492-502, 2002.

L. Segel. Modeling dynamic phenomena in molecular and cellular biology. Cambridge University Press, New York, 1984.

S.I. Rubinow. Introduction to Mathematical Biology.

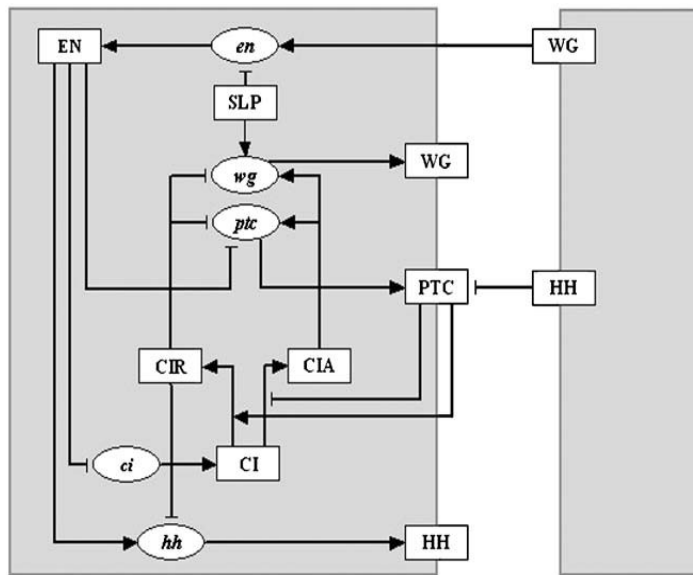
E.D. Sontag. Lecture notes in mathematical biology  
<http://www.math.rutgers.edu/sontag/613.html>.

# Cell and cellular signalling

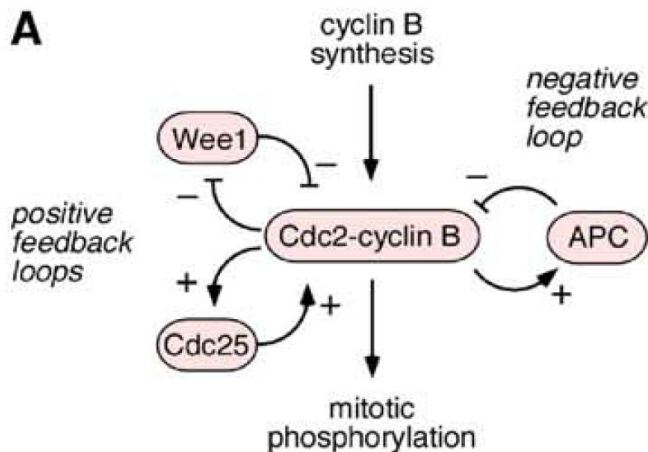


# Examples of biological systems and data

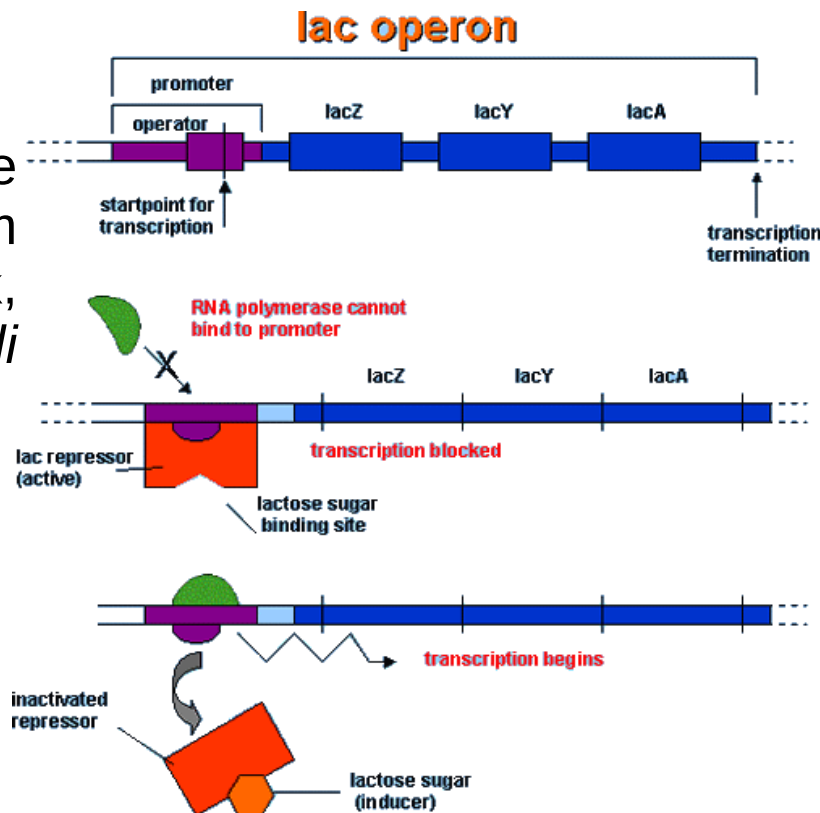
# Pattern formation, fly embryo



# Cell cycle oscillator, eukaryotes



Lactose  
metabolism  
network,  
*E. coli*



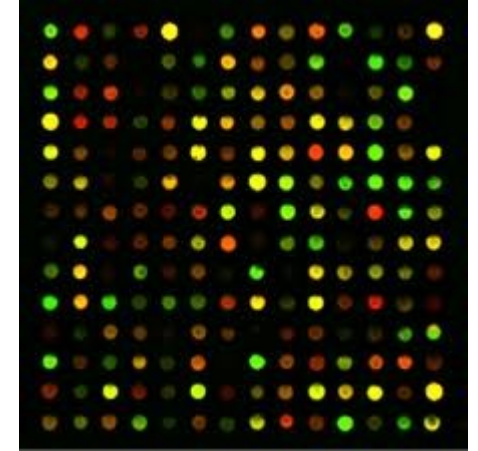


# Experimental data available

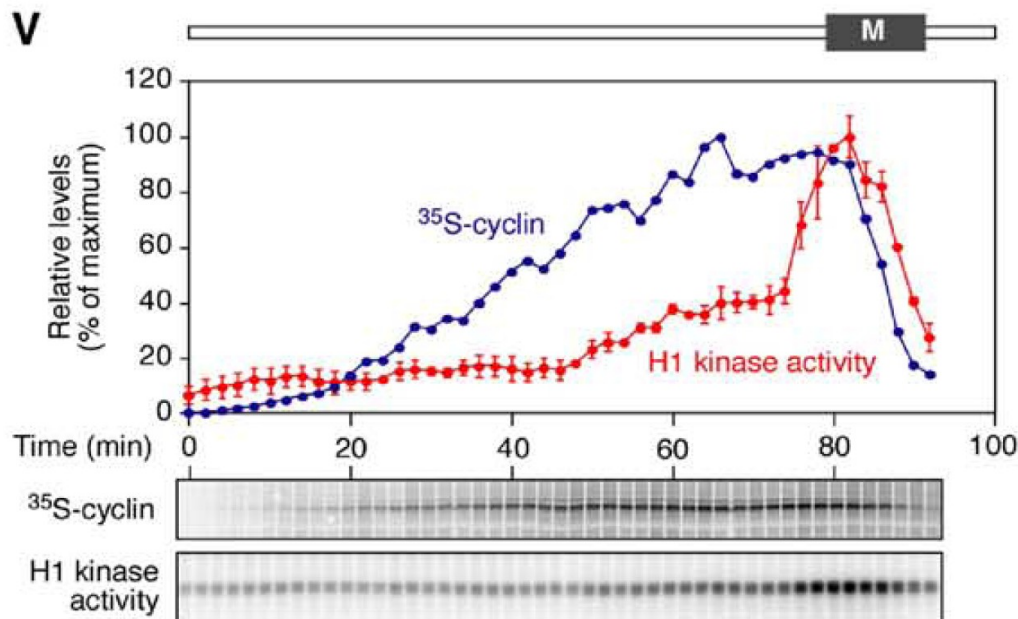
Expression  
of gene  
*wingless*,  
fly embryo  
(dark: highly  
expressed)



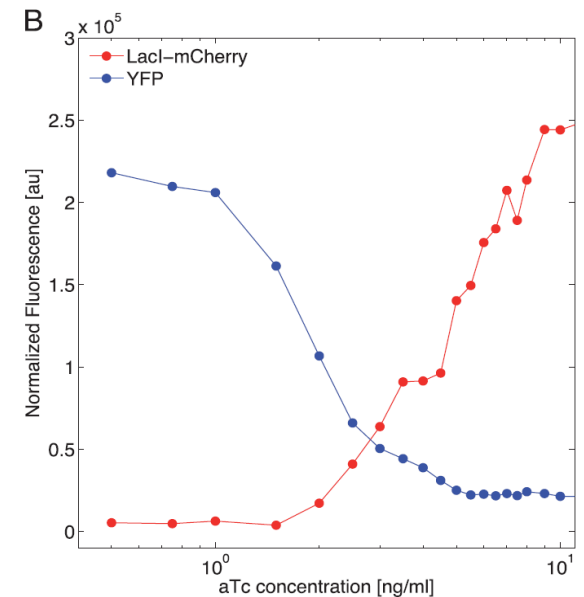
Microarray  
relative changes  
(red: expression  
increased)



Cdc2, cyclin B,  
Pomerening et al. Cell 2005



Lac gene expression,  
Brewster et al. Cell 2014



# Construct a model : why ?

1. **Not all molecules can be measured simultaneously**
2. **Understand the underlying mechanisms of the system and its dynamics or behavior along time:**
  - dose-response curves, steady states, oscillations
  - numerically, by computer simulations,
  - or by “pencil and paper” to be sure (prove mathematically) that some (desired or) dynamical behavior does happen
3. **Predict the response of a system to given stimuli**
4. **Control, regulate or act on the system:**
  - add a certain quantity of a ligand
  - schedule a therapeutic treatment
5. **Which quantities to model?**
  - concentrations – protein, messenger RNA
  - quantities you can measure – through GFP, western blots, micro-arrays,...
  - interactions – how the different proteins affect each other

# Mathematical analysis

**System of equations:** with  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{cases} \frac{dx_1}{dt} = f_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} = f_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \\ \dots \\ \frac{dx_N}{dt} = f_N(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) \end{cases}$$

**Solutions for a given initial condition:**

a vector function  $x(t)$  satisfying  $\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$ ,  $x(0) = x_0$

**Equilibrium points (or steady states):**  $f(\bar{x}) = 0$

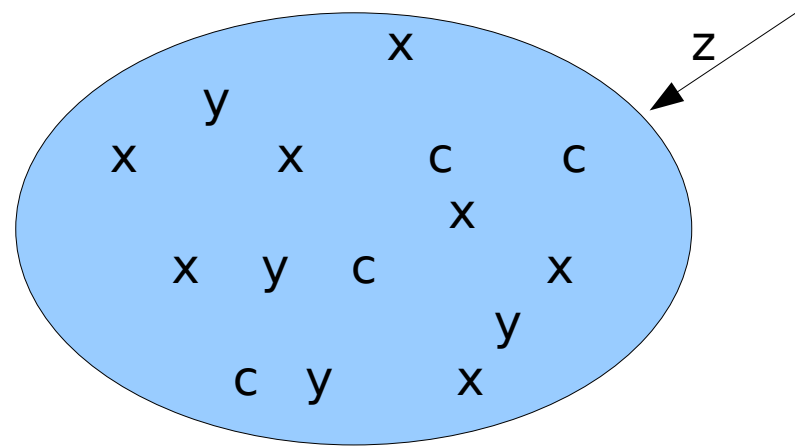
**Questions:** stability of equilibrium points, oscillatory behaviour, ...

# Some hypotheses:

- homogeneously distributed molecules
- a sufficiently large number of molecules

**Molecules  
of type X, Y**

**Combine/bind  
to generate C**

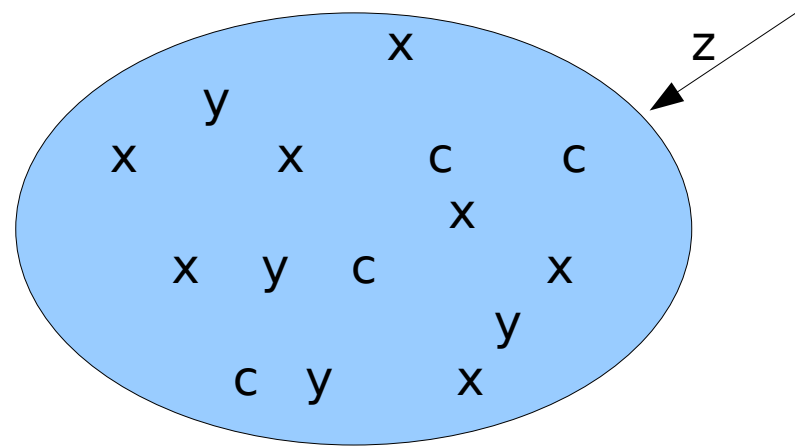




# Some hypotheses:

- homogeneously distributed molecules
- a sufficiently large number of molecules

**Concentration  
of molecules  
of type X**

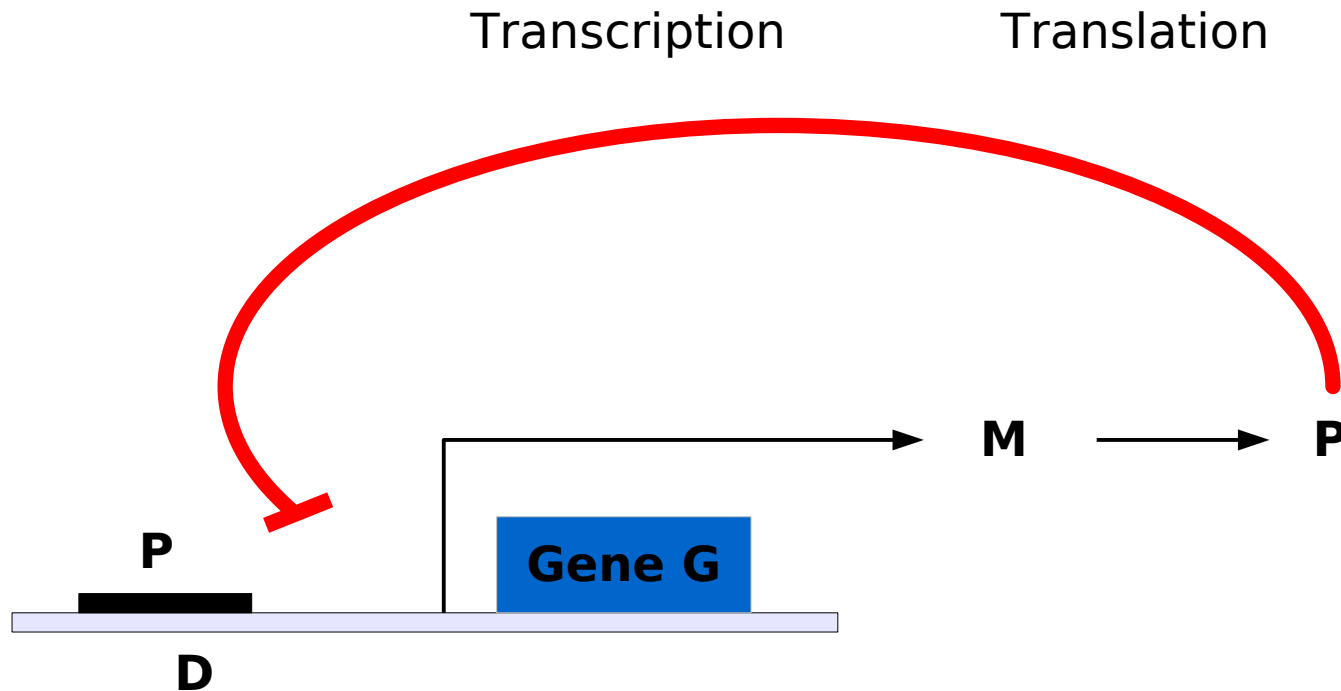


Describe by a  
**continuous  
ordinary  
differential  
equation**  
(ODE)

rate of change = production – degradation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y, c, z) - g(x, y, c, z)$$

# Example : an auto-repressed gene

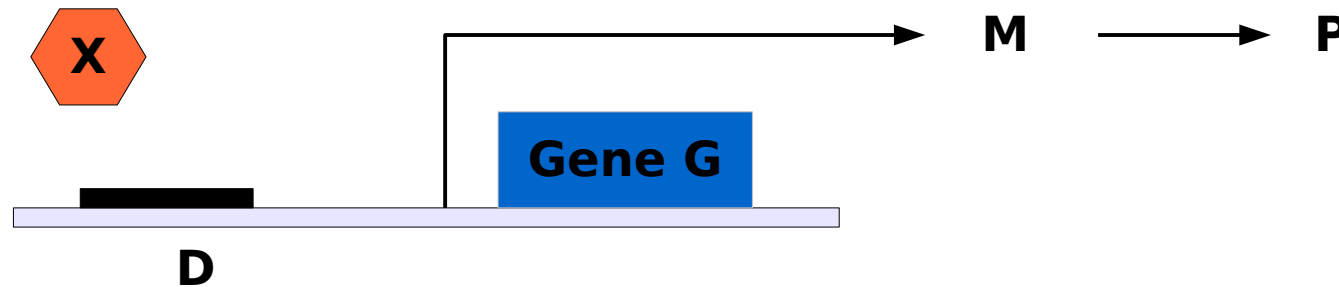


# Genetic networks: transcription and translation

Complex formation  
(TF + promoter)

Transcription

Translation

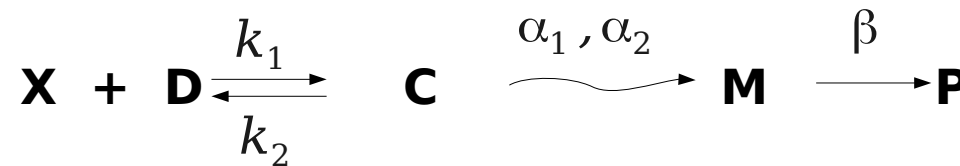
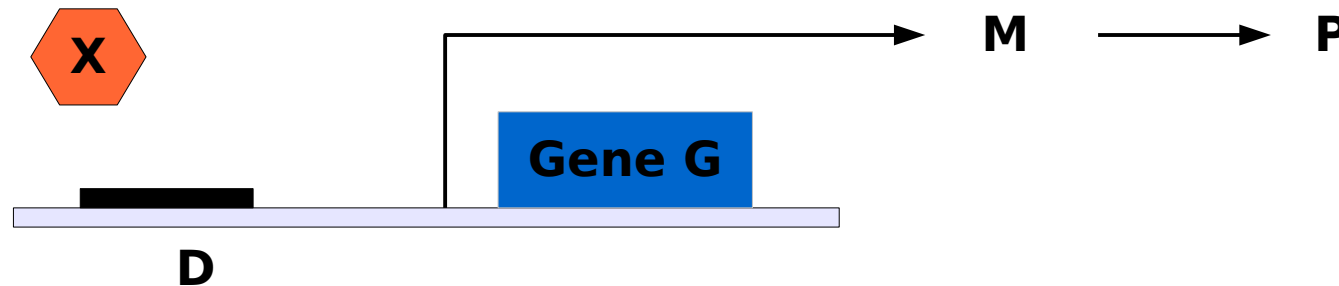


# Genetic networks: transcription and translation

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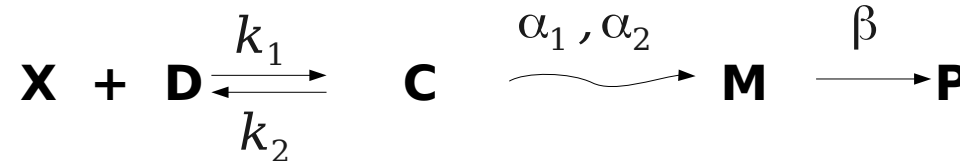
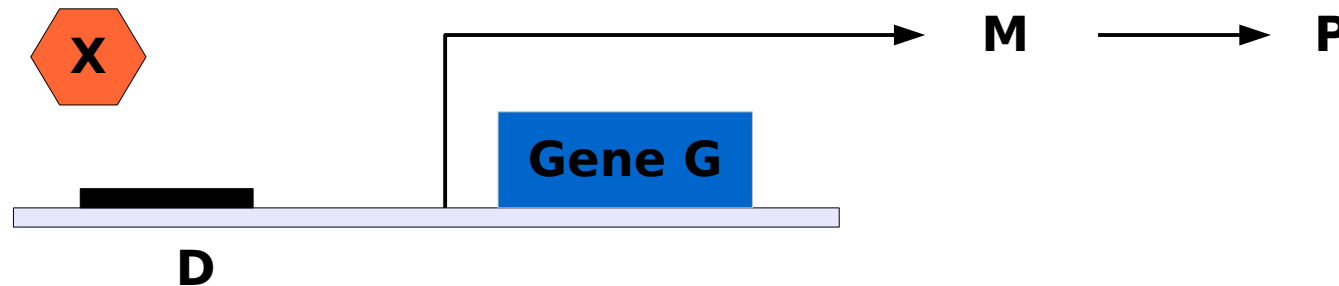
A basic  
Mathematical  
model

# Genetic networks: transcription and translation

Complex formation  
(TF + promoter)

Transcription

Translation



A basic  
Mathematical  
model

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = -k_1 X D + k_2 C$$

$$\frac{dD}{dt} = -k_1 X D + k_2 C$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = k_1 X D - k_2 C$$

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \alpha_1 C + \alpha_2 D - \gamma_M M$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \beta M - \gamma_P P$$

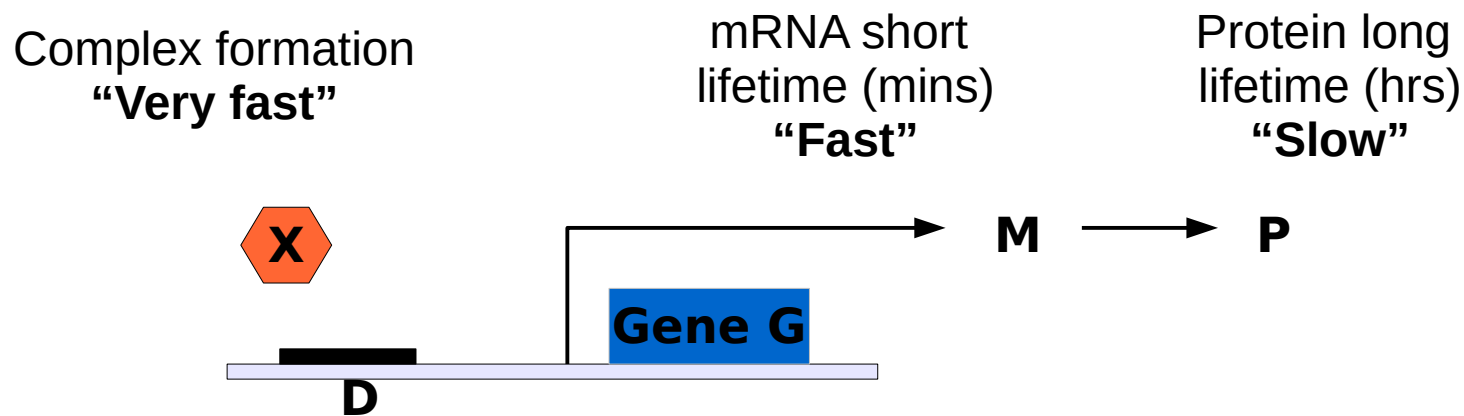
# Model reduction and simplification

1. **Conservation laws:**  $X$ ,  $D$  or  $C$  are not “consumed” during transcription/translation

$$X + C = X_{total}$$

$$D + C = D_{total}$$

2. **Three Timescales** for biological processes





Binding interactions are fast compared with transcription, translation:

$$\frac{dC}{dt} \approx 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad k_1 D X - k_2 C = 0$$

Total [D] (bound+free DNA) is constant:

$$D_T = D + C \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad D = D_T - C$$

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Substitute into the [C] equation:

$$k_1 (D_T - C) X - k_2 C = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k_1 D_T X - (k_2 + k_1 X) C = 0$$

Solve with respect to [C] to obtain:

$$k_1 D_T X - (k_2 + k_1 X) C = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow C = k_1 D_T \frac{X}{k_2 + k_1 X} = D_T \frac{X}{\frac{k_2}{k_1} + X}$$

**Michaelis-Menten equation**

If ***n molecules of X*** are involved in binding D:

$$\frac{dC}{dt} \approx 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad k_1 X^n D - k_2 C = 0$$

$$D_T = D + C \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad D = D_T - C$$

Obtain the **Hill equation**:

$$\Rightarrow \quad C = D_T \frac{X^n}{\frac{k_2}{k_1} + X^n} \equiv \boxed{D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n}}$$

*n* is called the Hill exponent

The system of 5 variables is reduced to 2 variables:

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \alpha_1 \textcolor{blue}{C} + \alpha_2 \textcolor{red}{D} - \gamma_M M$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \beta M - \gamma_P P$$

With:

$$\textcolor{blue}{C} = D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n}$$

$$\textcolor{red}{D} = D_T - C = D_T - D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n} = D_T \frac{k_X^n}{k_X^n + X^n}$$

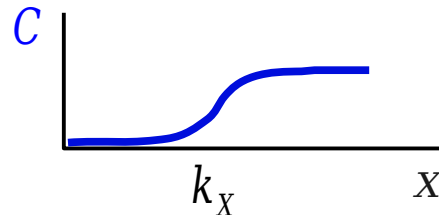
The system of 5 variables is reduced to 2 variables:

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \alpha_1 C + \alpha_2 D - \gamma_M M$$

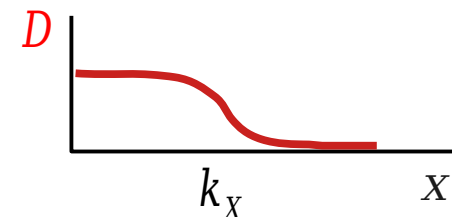
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \beta M - \gamma_P P$$

With:

$$C = D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n}$$

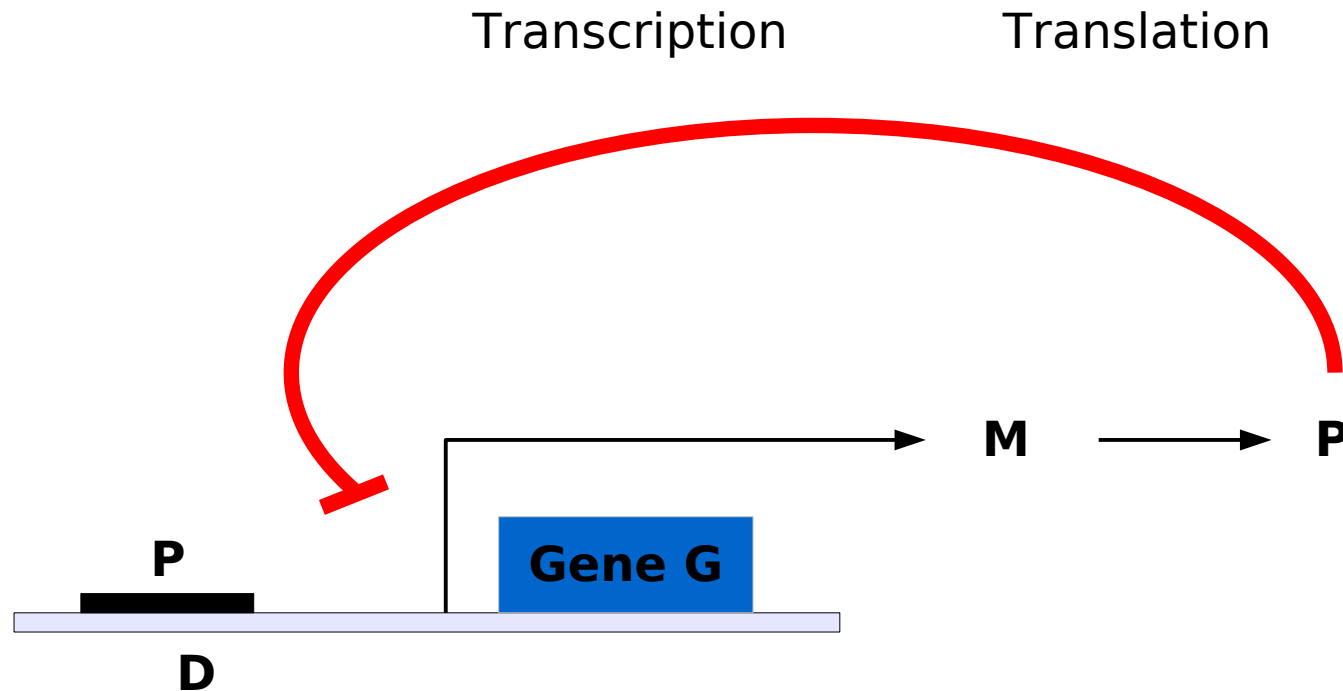


$$D = D_T - C = D_T - D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n} = D_T \frac{k_X^n}{k_X^n + X^n}$$





# Example : an auto-repressed gene



In the case of a **repression**

TRANSCRIPTION is proportional to the amount of FREE PROMOTER, **D**

**System equations? Equilibria ?**



# Model reduction, continued

Timescales: lifetime(mRNA) < lifetime(protein)

so the **mRNA dynamics is faster** than the protein dynamics:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dM}{dt} &= 0 & \Leftrightarrow & \alpha_1 C + \alpha_2 D - \gamma_M M = 0 \\ \frac{dP}{dt} &= \beta M - \gamma_P P\end{aligned}$$

## Model reduction, continued

Obtain the following expression for  $M$ :

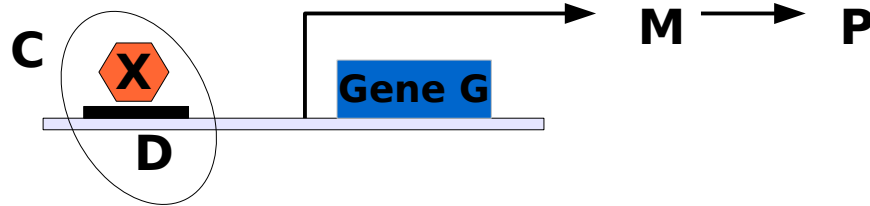
$$M = \frac{\alpha_1}{\gamma_M} D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n} + \frac{\alpha_2}{\gamma_M} D_T \frac{k_X^n}{k_X^n + X^n}$$

Finally, substitute this expression into  $P$  equation:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \beta \frac{\alpha_1}{\gamma_M} D_T \frac{X^n}{k_X^n + X^n} + \beta \frac{\alpha_2}{\gamma_M} D_T \frac{k_X^n}{k_X^n + X^n} - \gamma_p P$$

# Modeling **activation**

**X is an activator**  
(helps promote transcription)

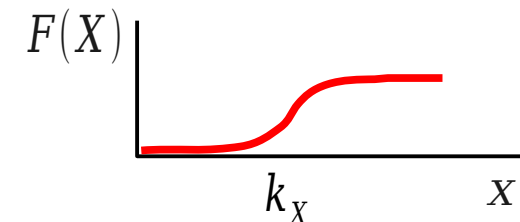


Bound **complex C strongly** contributes to **protein production**:  $\alpha_1 \gg \alpha_2$

Rename parameters:  $\beta_1 = \frac{\alpha_1}{\gamma_M} D_T$

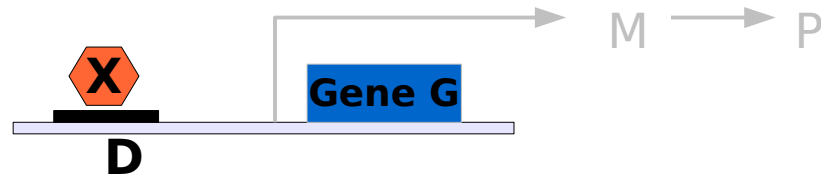
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \beta_0 + \left( \beta_1 \frac{X^n}{X^n + k_X^n} \right) - \gamma_P P$$

**Synthesis of protein is**  
*Increasingly proportional*  
**to amount of X**



# Modeling **repression**

**X is an inhibitor**  
(represses transcription)

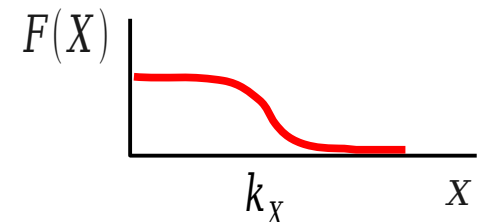


Unbound **sites D strongly** contribute to **protein production**:  $\alpha_1 \ll \alpha_2$

Rename parameters:  $\beta_2 = \frac{\alpha_2}{\gamma_M} D_T$

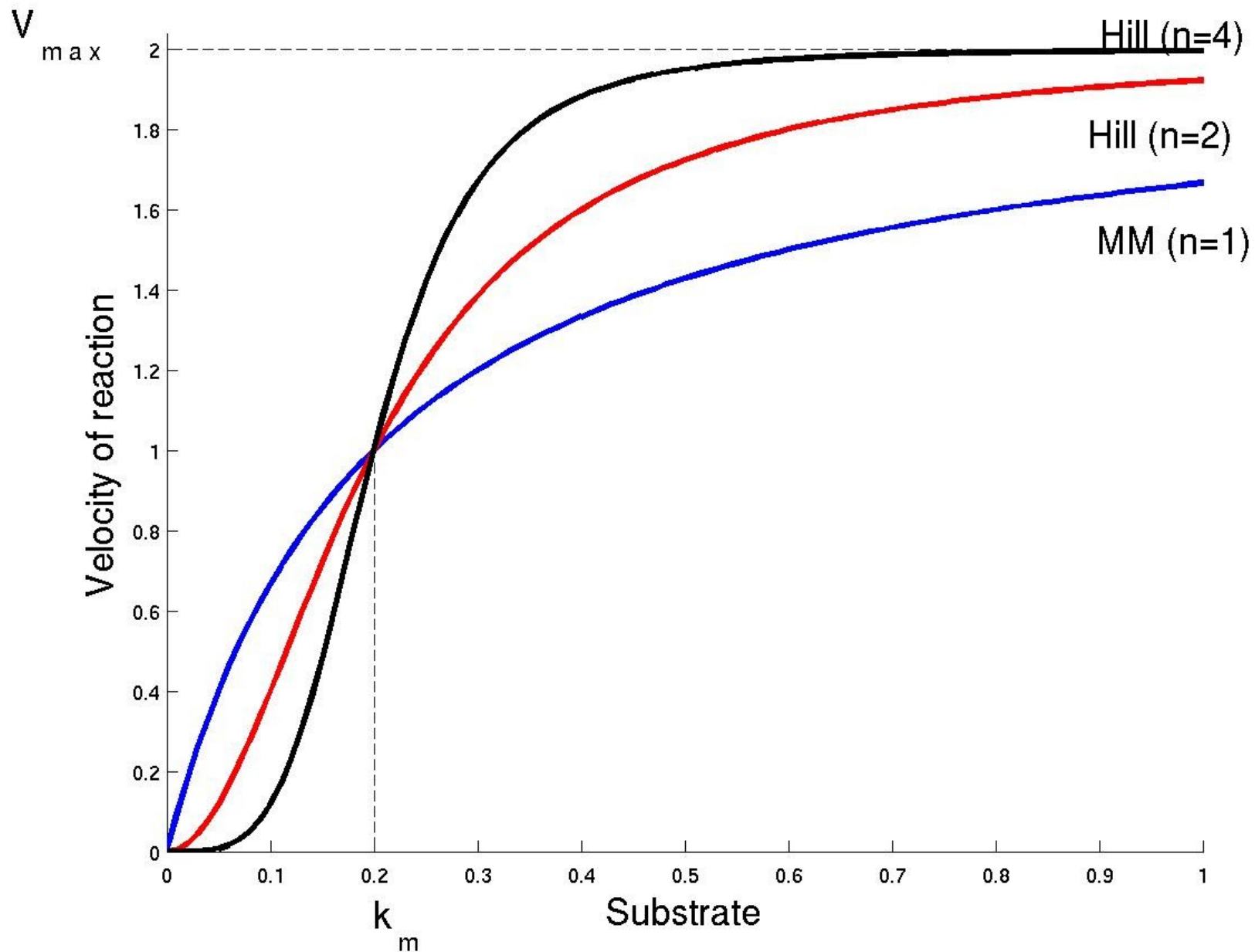
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \beta_0 + \left( \beta_2 \frac{k_X^n}{X^n + k_X^n} \right) - \gamma_P P$$

**Synthesis of protein is**  
*decreasingly proportional*  
**to amount of X**

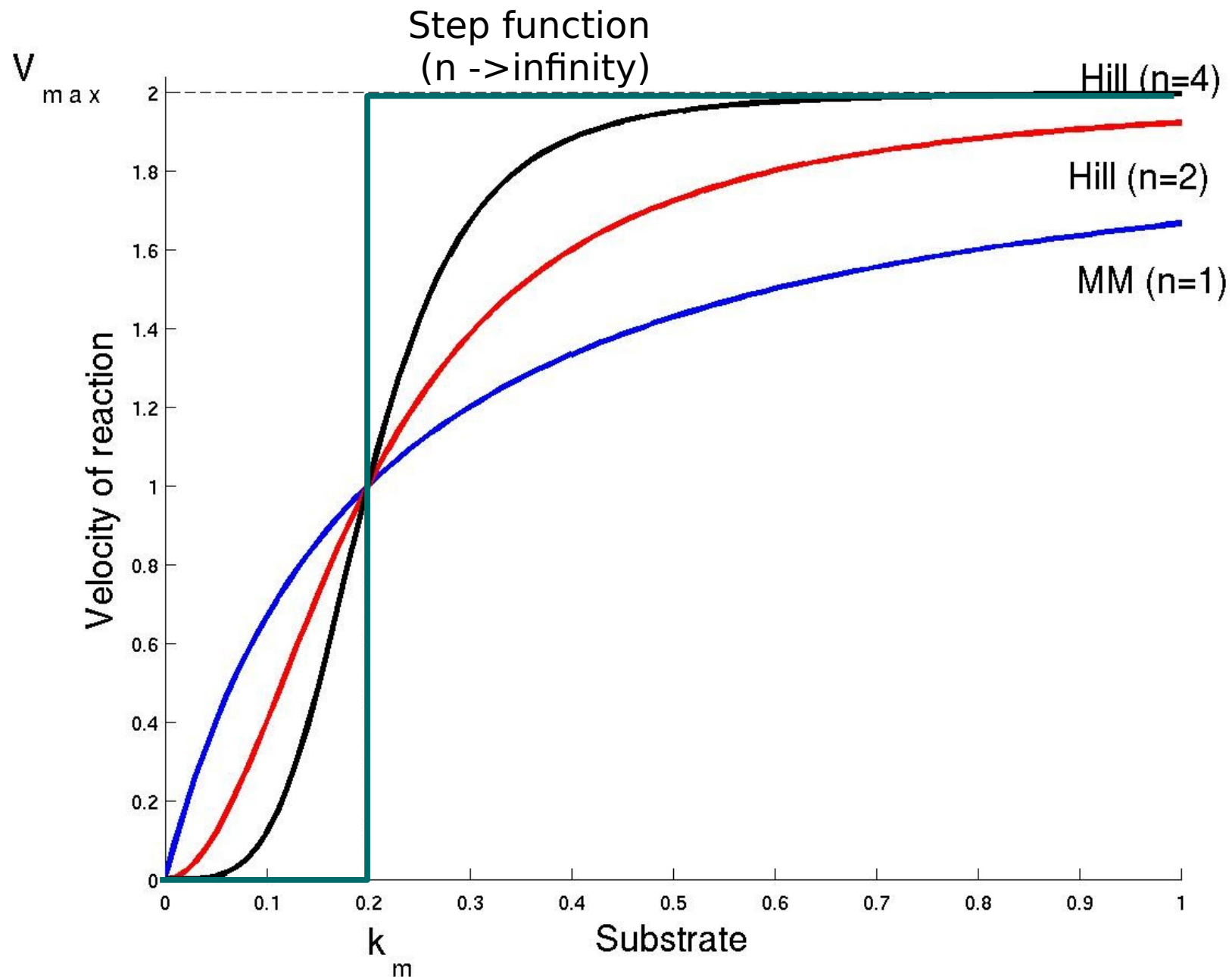




# Michaelis-Menten and Hill functions



# Michaelis-Menten and Hill functions



# Evidence for sigmoidal functions $F(X)$

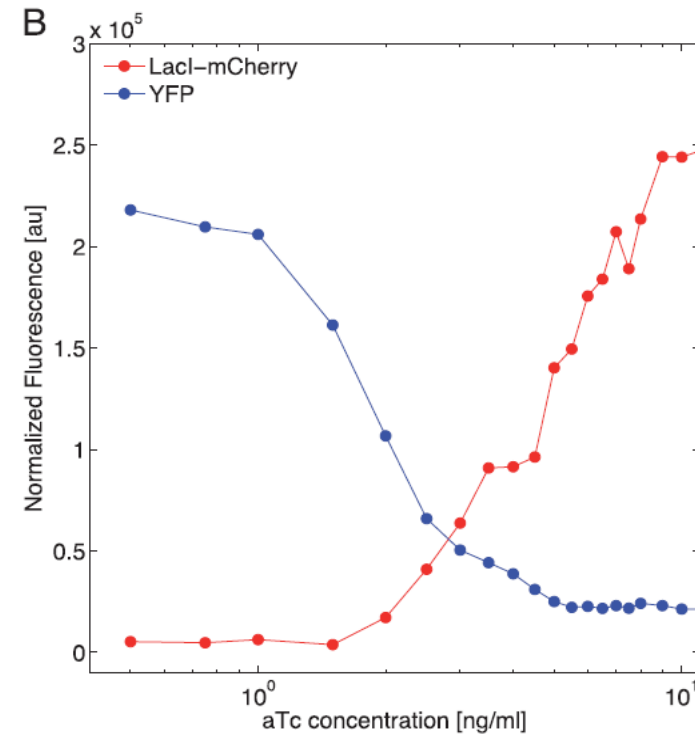
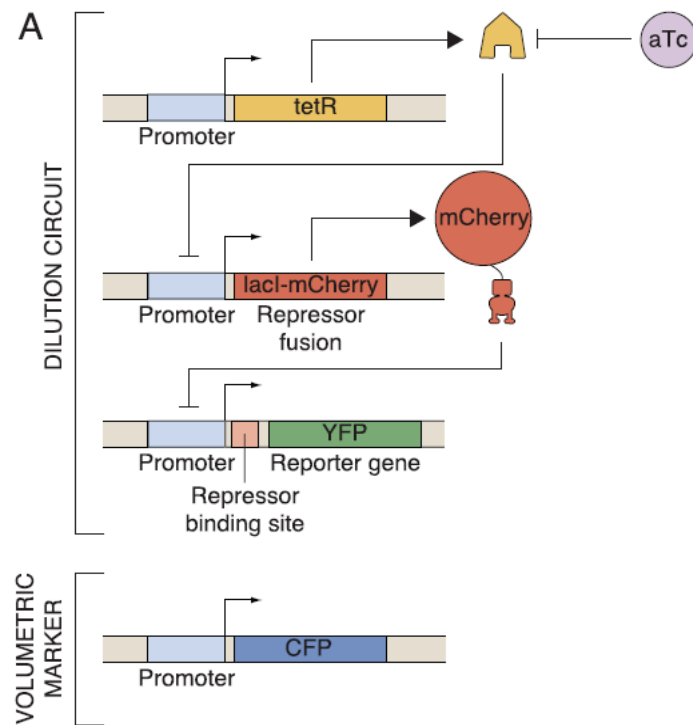
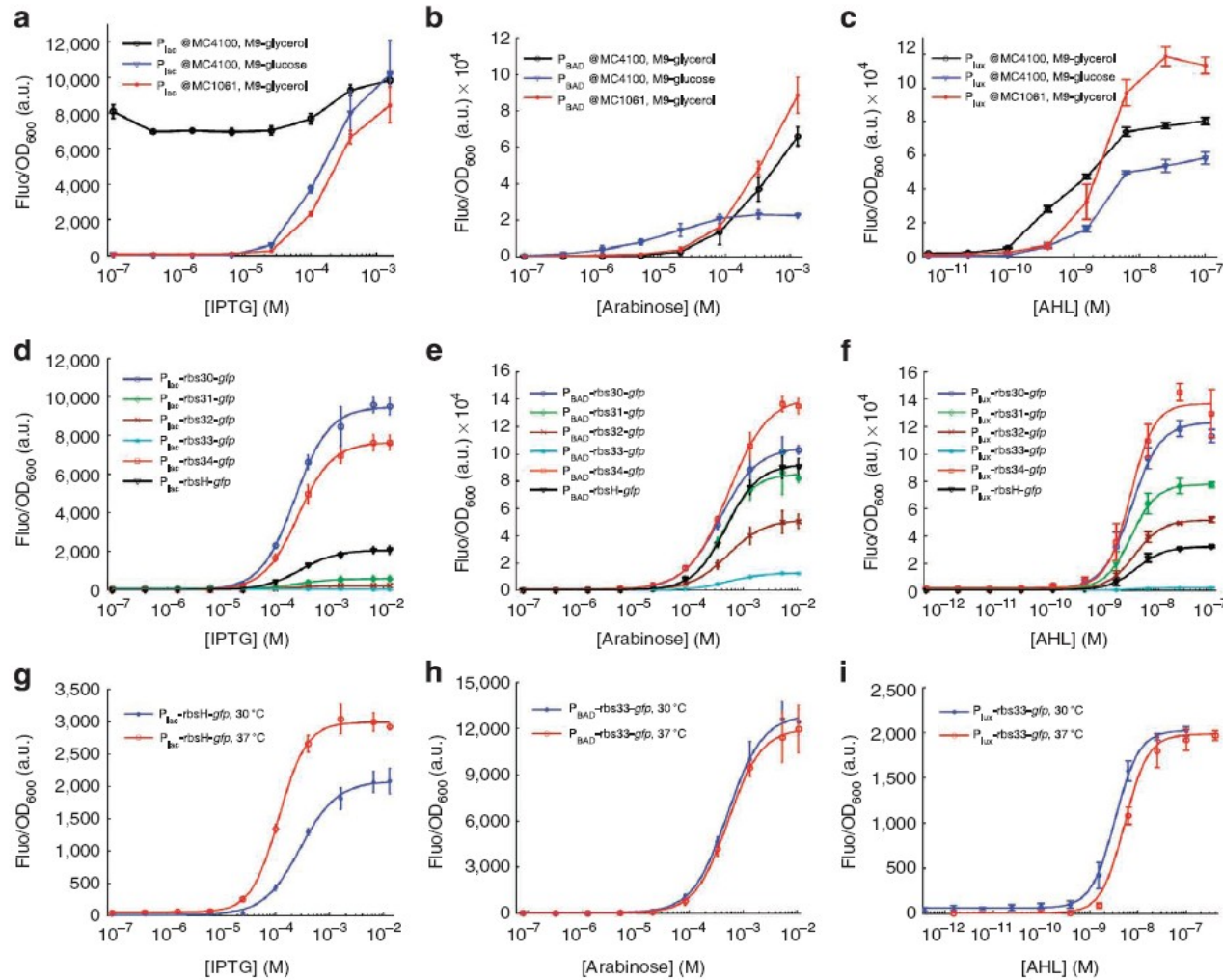


Figure from: Brewster et al. Cell 156 (2014)

# Evidence for sigmoidal functions $F(X)$



# Systèmes aux equations différentielles

## SOLUTIONS NUMERIQUES avec SCILAB

Telecharger et installer Scilab :

[www.scilab.org](http://www.scilab.org)

Telecharger un exemple :

[www-sop.inria.fr/members/Madalena.Chaves/teaching](http://www-sop.inria.fr/members/Madalena.Chaves/teaching)

# Ecrire un code en Scilab : basiques

## Definitions:

Equations,

Autres  
fonctions

## Partie Principale:

Commandes  
pour la  
Resolution,  
Visualisation,  
Analyse,  
etc

```
//Creer fichier texte, eg. : mon_systeme.sci
```

```
function [v] = circuit_rhs(t,x,pr)
```

```
.....
```

```
endfunction
```

```
function r = autre(x,s,n)
```

```
.....
```

```
endfunction
```

```
//Partie principale
```

```
.....
```

```
x1=ode(.....);
```

```
plot(.....);
```

```
.....
```



//Definition du systeme d'equations differentielles, au debut fichier

**function** [v] = auto\_repressor\_rhs(t,x,pr)

//t: instant de temps

//x: variables d'etat

//pr: parametres du systeme; reprendre depuis la definition

//Renommer les parametres et les variables

alpha = pr(1);

beta = pr(2);

kP = pr(3);

gM = pr(4);

gP = pr(5);

n = pr(6);

M=x(1);

P=x(2);

//Initialisation du vecteur des derivees

v = [];

v(1) = alpha\*(kP^n) / (kP^n + P^n) - gM \* M;

v(2) = beta\*M - gP \* P;

**endfunction;**

//Partie principale

//Definition de parametres; vecteur de parametres;

//BIEN RESPECTER L'ORDRE DE DEFINITION DE pr

alpha = 3.1; beta = 2.3;

kP = 10;

gM = 0.1; gP = 0.01;

n = 2;

par = [alpha,beta,kP,gM,gP,n];

//Definition de condition(s) initiale(s),

//instant initial et vecteur de temps de simulation

x0 = [10;1];

t0 = 0;

dt = 0.05;

tvec = t0:dt:30;

//Commande de resolution du systeme d'equations differentielles

//methodes numeriques disponibles: "rk", "stiff",...

sol=**ode**("stiff",x0,t0,tvec, **list**(auto\_repressor\_rhs,par) );

//Faire le graphe de la solution au cour du temps, dans la figure 1

//Options: couleur (r=red, b=blue,k=black,...), forme de ligne (-,--,,:,-.)

**figure**(1);

**plot**(tvec,sol(1,:), 'b-',tvec,sol(2,:), 'r-');