# Constraint-based Modeling of Cellular Networks

Exercise 7 – Flux coupling

01. 12. 2022

## From fractional LP to LP

```
\max_{v} (\min) \frac{v_i}{v_j}
s.t.
Nv = 0
\forall i, 1 \le i \le n, 0 \le v_i \le v_i^{max}
```

```
\begin{aligned} \max_{v'} & (\min) \, v_i{'} \\ \text{s.t.} \\ & Nv' = 0 \\ & \forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n, 0 \leq v_i' \leq v_i^{max}. \, t \\ & v_j' = 1 \end{aligned}
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No more *v* variable here!

Q: How are v and v' related? How can we go back to v after solving the LP?

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$$\max_{v'} (\min) v_i'$$
s.t.
$$Nv' = 0$$

$$\forall i, 1 \le i \le n, 0 \le v_i' \le v_i^{max} t$$

$$v_j' = 1$$

#### No more *v* variable here!

Q: How are 
$$v$$
 and  $v'$  related?  
How can we go back to v after solving the LP?

$$v = \frac{1}{t}v'$$

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What is the dimension of the variable vector x when implementing the LP problem above?

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General form of LP:

\max_{x} (\min) c^{T} x

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Ax \leq b

= b

b \leq x \leq ub
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x = \begin{bmatrix} v'_{1} \\ \vdots \\ v'_{n} \\ t \end{bmatrix}
we have n+1 variables
```

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## What does having n+1 variables in x mean for matrix A?

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#### n+1 columns

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} [N_{m \times n}] & \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} v'_1 \\ \vdots \\ v'_n \\ t \end{bmatrix}$$

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How can we rewrite the equation such that we can implement it? Variables on left side and constants on right-hand side.

$$\forall i, 1 \le i \le n, 0 \le v_i' \le v_i^{max} t$$

$$v_i' - v_i^{max} t \le 0$$

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$$Nv' = 0$$

$$\forall i, 1 \le i \le n, 0 \le v_i' \le v_i^{max} t$$

$$v_j' = 1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_{n \times n} & \begin{bmatrix} -v_1^{max} \\ -v_2^{max} \\ \vdots \\ -v_n^{max} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} v'_1 \\ \vdots \\ v'_n \\ t \end{bmatrix} \leq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Classifying reaction coupling

There are five possibilities

- 1.  $0 \le \frac{v_i}{v_j} \le c$  for some constant c > 0 directional coupling  $i \to j$
- 2.  $c_1 \le \frac{v_i}{v_j} \le c_2$  for some constant  $c_1 > 0$  and  $c_2 > 0$ ,  $c_1 \ne c_2$  partial coupling  $i \leftrightarrow j$
- 3.  $\frac{v_i}{v_i} = c$  for some constant c > 0 full coupling  $i \Leftrightarrow j$
- 4.  $c \le \frac{v_j}{v_i}$  for some constant c > 0, without an upper bound directional coupling  $i \to j$
- 5.  $0 \le \frac{v_i}{v_i}$  without an upper bound **uncoupled**

We cannot solve unbounded problems.

The ratio  $\frac{v_i}{v_j}$  will be at the upper bound defined from the system!