

## SBML Model Report

# Model name: “Cursons2015 - Regulation of ERK-MAPK signaling in human epidermis”



May 17, 2018

## 1 General Overview

This is a document in SBML Level 2 Version 4 format. This model was created by the following three authors: Kun Yang<sup>1</sup>, Rahuman Sheriff<sup>2</sup> and Emma Louise Fairbanks<sup>3</sup> at June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017 at 9:52 a. m. and last time modified at November second 2017 at 11:35 a. m. Table 1 shows an overview of the quantities of all components of this model.

Table 1: Number of components in this model, which are described in the following sections.

Element	Quantity	Element	Quantity
compartment types	0	compartments	2
species types	0	species	7
events	5	constraints	0
reactions	0	function definitions	0
global parameters	25	unit definitions	2
rules	13	initial assignments	0

## Model Notes

Cursons2015 - Regulation of ERK-MAPK signaling in human epidermis Model comparing the abundance of phosphorylated MAPK signalling proteins and calcium signalling in the epidermis.

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This model is described in the article:[Regulation of ERK-MAPK signaling in human epidermis](#). Cursons J, Gao J, Hurley DG, Print CG, Dunbar PR, Jacobs MD, Crampin EJ. *BMC Syst Biol* 2015; 9: 41

#### Abstract:

The skin is largely comprised of keratinocytes within the interfollicular epidermis. Over approximately two weeks these cells differentiate and traverse the thickness of the skin. The stage of differentiation is therefore reflected in the positions of cells within the tissue, providing a convenient axis along which to study the signaling events that occur in situ during keratinocyte terminal differentiation, over this extended two-week timescale. The canonical ERK-MAPK signaling cascade (Raf-1, MEK-1/2 and ERK-1/2) has been implicated in controlling diverse cellular behaviors, including proliferation and differentiation. While the molecular interactions involved in signal transduction through this cascade have been well characterized in cell culture experiments, our understanding of how this sequence of events unfolds to determine cell fate within a homeostatic tissue environment has not been fully characterized. We measured the abundance of total and phosphorylated ERK-MAPK signaling proteins within interfollicular keratinocytes in transverse cross-sections of human epidermis using immunofluorescence microscopy. To investigate these data we developed a mathematical model of the signaling cascade using a normalized-Hill differential equation formalism. These data show coordinated variation in the abundance of phosphorylated ERK-MAPK components across the epidermis. Statistical analysis of these data shows that associations between phosphorylated ERK-MAPK components which correspond to canonical molecular interactions are dependent upon spatial position within the epidermis. The model demonstrates that the spatial profile of activation for ERK-MAPK signaling components across the epidermis may be maintained in a cell-autonomous fashion by an underlying spatial gradient in calcium signaling. Our data demonstrate an extended phosphoprotein profile of ERK-MAPK signaling cascade components across the epidermis in situ, and statistical associations in these data indicate canonical ERK-MAPK interactions underlie this spatial profile of ERK-MAPK activation. Using mathematical modelling we have demonstrated that spatially varying calcium signaling components across the epidermis may be sufficient to maintain the spatial profile of ERK-MAPK signaling cascade components in a cell-autonomous manner. These findings may have significant implications for the wide range of cancer drugs which therapeutically target ERK-MAPK signaling components.

This model is hosted on [BioModels Database](#) and identified by: [BIOMD0000000659](#).

To cite BioModels Database, please use: [Chelliah V et al. BioModels: ten-year anniversary. Nucl. Acids Res. 2015, 43\(Database issue\):D542-8.](#)

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## 2 Unit Definitions

This is an overview of six unit definitions of which four are predefined by SBML and not mentioned in the model.

## 2.1 Unit `substance`

**Name** `substance`

**Definition** `mmol`

## 2.2 Unit `unit_0`

**Name** `1`

**Definition** `dimensionless0`

## 2.3 Unit `volume`

**Notes** Litre is the predefined SBML unit for `volume`.

**Definition** `l`

## 2.4 Unit `area`

**Notes** Square metre is the predefined SBML unit for `area` since SBML Level 2 Version 1.

**Definition** `m2`

## 2.5 Unit `length`

**Notes** Metre is the predefined SBML unit for `length` since SBML Level 2 Version 1.

**Definition** `m`

## 2.6 Unit `time`

**Notes** Second is the predefined SBML unit for `time`.

**Definition** `s`

# 3 Compartments

This model contains two compartments.

Table 2: Properties of all compartments.

Id	Name	SBO	Spatial Dimensions	Size	Unit	Constant	Outside
c	cytoplasm		3	1	litre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
n	nucleus		3	0.5	l	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

### 3.1 Compartment $c$

This is a three dimensional compartment with a constant size of one litre.

**Name** cytoplasm

### 3.2 Compartment $n$

This is a three dimensional compartment with a constant size of 0.5 litre.

**Name** nucleus

## 4 Species

This model contains seven species. The boundary condition of seven of these species is set to `true` so that these species' amount cannot be changed by any reaction. Section 8 provides further details and the derived rates of change of each species.

Table 3: Properties of each species.

Id	Name	Compartment	Derived Unit	Constant	Boundary Condi- tion
pRaf_cyto	Rafc	c	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
pMEK_cyto	MEKc	c	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
pERK_cyto	ERKc	c	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
pMEK_nuc	MEKn	n	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
pERK_nuc	ERKn	n	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ca	Ca	c	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CaM_memb	CaM	c	$\text{mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## 5 Parameters

This model contains 25 global parameters.

Table 4: Properties of each parameter.

Id	Name	SBO	Value	Unit	Constant
numTissuePos	Tissue_Pos		0.500	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numCytoToNucVolRatio	CytoToNucVolRatio		2.357	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
numCaInputBaseline	Ca_Baseline		0.754	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numCaInputAmp	Ca_Amp		0.092	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numCaInputBaseline	CaM_Baseline		0.363	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numCaInputAmp	CaM_Amp		0.485	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillCoeff	Hill_Coeff		1.400	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillWeight	Hill_Weight		1.000	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillMax	Hill_Max		1.000	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillTau	Hill_Tau		1.000	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillEC50	Hill_EC50		0.500	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numMEKCytoToNuc	MEK_CtoN		0.050	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numMEKNucToCyto	MEK_NtoC		0.500	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numERKCytoToNuc	ERK_CtoN		0.010	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numERKNucToCyto	ERK_NtoC		0.010	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillBeta	Hill_Beta		2.560	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
numHillK	Hill_K		1.370	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
funcHillCaToRaf	Hill_CaToRaf		0.783	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
funcHillCaMToRaf	Hill_CaMToRaf		0.747	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
funcHillERKToRaf	Hill_ERKToRaf		0.162	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
funcHillRafToMEK	Hill_RafToMEK		0.502	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
funcHillMEKToERKCyto	Hill_MEKToERKCyto		0.820	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
funcHillMEKToERKNuc	Hill_MEKToERKNuc		0.388	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
funcHillERKToERKNuc	Hill_ERKToERKNuc		0.162	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>
numTotalRafInputs	TotalRafInputs		0.000	dimensionless <sup>0</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 6 Rules

This is an overview of 13 rules.

### 6.1 Rule `numCytoToNucVolRatio`

Rule `numCytoToNucVolRatio` is an assignment rule for parameter `numCytoToNucVolRatio`:

$$\text{numCytoToNucVolRatio} = 2 + 5 \cdot \frac{\text{numTissuePos}}{7} \quad (1)$$

### 6.2 Rule `funcHillCaToRaf`

Rule `funcHillCaToRaf` is an assignment rule for parameter `funcHillCaToRaf`:

$$\text{funcHillCaToRaf} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{Ca}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{Ca}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (2)$$

### 6.3 Rule `funcHillCaMToRaf`

Rule `funcHillCaMToRaf` is an assignment rule for parameter `funcHillCaMToRaf`:

$$\text{funcHillCaMToRaf} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{CaM\_memb}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{CaM\_memb}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (3)$$

### 6.4 Rule `funcHillERKToRaf`

Rule `funcHillERKToRaf` is an assignment rule for parameter `funcHillERKToRaf`:

$$\text{funcHillERKToRaf} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{pERK\_nuc}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{pERK\_nuc}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (4)$$

### 6.5 Rule `funcHillRafToMEK`

Rule `funcHillRafToMEK` is an assignment rule for parameter `funcHillRafToMEK`:

$$\text{funcHillRafToMEK} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{pRaf\_cyto}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{pRaf\_cyto}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (5)$$

### 6.6 Rule `funcHillMEKToERKCyto`

Rule `funcHillMEKToERKCyto` is an assignment rule for parameter `funcHillMEKToERKCyto`:

$$\text{funcHillMEKToERKCyto} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{pMEK\_cyto}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{pMEK\_cyto}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (6)$$

### 6.7 Rule `funcHillMEKToERKNuc`

Rule `funcHillMEKToERKNuc` is an assignment rule for parameter `funcHillMEKToERKNuc`:

$$\text{funcHillMEKToERKNuc} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{pMEK\_nuc}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{pMEK\_nuc}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (7)$$

### 6.8 Rule funcHillERKToERKNuc

Rule funcHillERKToERKNuc is an assignment rule for parameter funcHillERKToERKNuc:

$$\text{funcHillERKToERKNuc} = \frac{\text{numHillWeight} \cdot \text{numHillBeta} \cdot [\text{pERK\_nuc}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}}{\text{numHillK}^{\text{numHillCoeff}} + [\text{pERK\_nuc}]^{\text{numHillCoeff}}} \quad (8)$$

### 6.9 Rule pRaf\_cyto

Rule pRaf\_cyto is a rate rule for species pRaf\_cyto:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{pRaf\_cyto} = \frac{1}{\text{numHillTau}} \cdot (\text{numTotalRafInputs} \cdot \text{numHillMax} - [\text{pRaf\_cyto}]) \quad (9)$$

### 6.10 Rule pMEK\_cyto

Rule pMEK\_cyto is a rate rule for species pMEK\_cyto:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \text{pMEK\_cyto} = \frac{1}{\text{numHillTau}} \cdot & \left( \text{funcHillRafToMEK} \cdot \text{numHillMax} - [\text{pMEK\_cyto}] \right. \\ & - \text{numMEKCytoToNucParam} \cdot [\text{pMEK\_cyto}] + \frac{1}{\text{numCytoToNucVolRatio}} \\ & \left. \cdot \text{numMEKNucToCytoParam} \cdot [\text{pMEK\_nuc}] \right) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

### 6.11 Rule pERK\_cyto

Rule pERK\_cyto is a rate rule for species pERK\_cyto:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \text{pERK\_cyto} = \frac{1}{\text{numHillTau}} \cdot & \left( \text{funcHillMEKToERKCyto} \cdot \text{numHillMax} - [\text{pERK\_cyto}] \right. \\ & - \text{numERKCytoToNucParam} \cdot [\text{pERK\_cyto}] + \frac{1}{\text{numCytoToNucVolRatio}} \\ & \left. \cdot \text{numERKNucToCytoParam} \cdot [\text{pERK\_nuc}] \right) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

### 6.12 Rule pMEK\_nuc

Rule pMEK\_nuc is a rate rule for species pMEK\_nuc:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \text{pMEK\_nuc} = \frac{1}{\text{numHillTau}} \cdot & ([\text{pMEK\_nuc}] - \text{numMEKNucToCytoParam} \cdot [\text{pMEK\_nuc}] \\ & + \text{numCytoToNucVolRatio} \cdot \text{numMEKCytoToNucParam} \cdot [\text{pMEK\_cyto}]) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$



### 6.13 Rule `pERK_nuc`

Rule `pERK_nuc` is a rate rule for species `pERK_nuc`:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}pERK\_nuc = & \frac{1}{numHillTau} \cdot ((funcHillMEKToERKNuc - funcHillERKToERKNuc) \\ & \cdot numHillMax - [pERK\_nuc] - numERKCytoToNucParam \cdot [pERK\_nuc] \\ & + numCytoToNucVolRatio \cdot numERKNucToCytoParam \cdot [pERK\_cyto]) \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

## 7 Events

This is an overview of five events. Each event is initiated whenever its trigger condition switches from `false` to `true`. A delay function postpones the effects of an event to a later time point. At the time of execution, an event can assign values to species, parameters or compartments if these are not set to constant.

### 7.1 Event `Position_0`

**Name** `Position 0`

**Trigger condition**

$$numTissuePos \geq 0 \quad (14)$$

**Delay**

$$0 \quad (15)$$

**Assignments**

$$Ca = numCaInputBaseline + numCaInputAmp \cdot \frac{numTissuePos}{5} \quad (16)$$

$$CaM\_memb = numCaMInputBaseline + numCaMInputAmp \cdot \frac{numTissuePos + 1}{2} \quad (17)$$

### 7.2 Event `Position_1`

**Name** `Position 1`

**Trigger condition**

$$numTissuePos \geq 1 \quad (18)$$

**Delay**

$$0 \quad (19)$$

**Assignment**

$$CaM\_memb = numCaMInputBaseline + numCaMInputAmp \cdot \exp(1 - numTissuePos) \quad (20)$$

### 7.3 Event `Position_5`

**Name** `Position_5`

**Trigger condition**

$$\text{numTissuePos} \geq 5 \quad (21)$$

**Delay**

$$0 \quad (22)$$

**Assignments**

$$\text{Ca} = \text{numCaInputBaseline} + \text{numCaInputAmp} \cdot \frac{7 - \text{numTissuePos}}{2} \quad (23)$$

$$\text{CaM\_memb} = 0 \quad (24)$$

### 7.4 Event `Total_Rafc_input_less_than_0`

**Name** `Total Rafc input less than 0`

**Trigger condition**

$$\text{funcHillCaToRaf} - \text{funcHillCaMToRaf} - \text{funcHillERKToRaf} \leq 0 \quad (25)$$

**Delay**

$$0 \quad (26)$$

**Assignment**

$$\text{numTotalRafInputs} = 0 \quad (27)$$

### 7.5 Event `Total_Raf_input_greater_than_0`

**Name** `Total Raf input greater than 0`

**Trigger condition**

$$\text{funcHillCaToRaf} - \text{funcHillCaMToRaf} - \text{funcHillERKToRaf} > 0 \quad (28)$$

**Delay**

$$0 \quad (29)$$

**Assignment**

$$\text{numTotalRafInputs} = \text{funcHillCaToRaf} - \text{funcHillCaMToRaf} - \text{funcHillERKToRaf} \quad (30)$$

## 8 Derived Rate Equations

When interpreted as an ordinary differential equation framework, this model implies the following set of equations for the rates of change of each species.

### 8.1 Species `pRaf_cyto`

**Name** Rafc

**Initial concentration**  $0.5 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in rule** `pRaf_cyto`

One rule determines the species' quantity.

### 8.2 Species `pMEK_cyto`

**Name** MEKc

**Initial concentration**  $0.8 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in rule** `pMEK_cyto`

One rule determines the species' quantity.

### 8.3 Species `pERK_cyto`

**Name** ERKc

**Initial concentration**  $0.7 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in rule** `pERK_cyto`

One rule determines the species' quantity.

### 8.4 Species `pMEK_nuc`

**Name** MEKn

**Initial concentration**  $0.4 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in rule** `pMEK_nuc`

One rule determines the species' quantity.

### 8.5 Species `pERK_nuc`

**Name** ERKn

**Initial concentration**  $0.2 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in rule** `pERK_nuc`

One rule determines the species' quantity.

## 8.6 Species Ca

**Name** Ca

**Initial concentration**  $0.7632 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in events** [Position\\_0](#), [Position\\_5](#)

two events influence the species' quantity.

## 8.7 Species CaM\_memb

**Name** CaM

**Initial concentration**  $0.72675 \text{ mmol} \cdot \text{l}^{-1}$

**Involved in events** [Position\\_0](#), [Position\\_1](#), [Position\\_5](#)

three events influence the species' quantity.

SBML2<sup>AT</sup>EX was developed by Andreas Dräger<sup>a</sup>, Hannes Planatscher<sup>a</sup>, Dieudonné M Wouamba<sup>a</sup>, Adrian Schröder<sup>a</sup>, Michael Hucka<sup>b</sup>, Lukas Endler<sup>c</sup>, Martin Golebiewski<sup>d</sup> and Andreas Zell<sup>a</sup>. Please see <http://www.ra.cs.uni-tuebingen.de/software/SBML2LaTeX> for more information.

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