

Figure 1: Schematic of the Urea cycle.

# Solution 1 (a)

### ■ Table 1 Metabolite ID

#	Metabolite	Symbol	#	Metabolite	Symbol		
M.1	Arginine (arg)	$C_6H_{14}N_4O_2$	M.10	ATP	$C_{10}H_{16}N_5O_{13}P_3$		
M.2	Ornithine (orn)	$C_5H_{12}N_2O_2$	M.11	AMP	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>7</sub> P		
M.3	Urea (u)	CH <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	M.12	Diphosphate (PPi)	H <sub>4</sub> PO <sub>7</sub>		
M.4	Carbamoyl	CH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> P	M.13	Orthophosphate	H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>		
	Phosphate (camp)						
M.5	L-aspartate (asp)	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>4</sub>	M.14	NADPH	$C_{21}H_{30}N_7O_{17}P_3$		
M.6	Citrulline (cit)	$C_6H_{13}N_3O_3$	M.15	NADP	$C_{21}H_{29}N_7O_{17}P_3$		
M.7	Arginine succinate	$C_{10}H_{18}N_4O_6$	M.16	Oxygen	$O_2$		
	(arg_s)						
M.8	Fumarate (fum)	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	M.17	Nitric Oxide	NO		
M.9	Water	H <sub>2</sub> O	M.18	H+	Н		

• Reactions involved in the urea cycle (Source: <u>KEGG</u>)

#### E.C. 6.3.4.5

$$C_4H_7NO_4 + C_6H_{13}N_3O_3 + C_{10}H_{16}N_5O_{13}P_3 ===> C_{10}H_{18}N_4O_6 + C_{10}H_{14}N_5O_7P + H_4PO_7$$
  
 $asp + cit + ATP ===> arg_s + AMP + PPi$ 

# E.C. 4.3.2.1

$$C_{10}H_{18}N_4O_6 ===> C_6H_{14}N_4O_2 + C_4H_4O_4$$
  
 $arg_s ===> arg + fum$ 

#### E.C. 3.5.3.1

$$C_6H_{14}N_4O_2 + H_2O ===> C_5H_{12}N_2O_2 + CH_4N_2O$$
  
Arg + water ==> orn + urea

## E.C. 2.1.3.3

$$C_5H_{12}N_2O_2 + CH_4NO_5P ===> C_6H_{13}N_3O_3 + H_3PO_4$$
 orn + camp ===> cit + orthophosphate

## E.C. 1.14.13.39

$$2 \ C_6 H_{14} N_4 O_2 + 3 \ C_{21} H_{30} N_7 O_{17} P_3 + 3 \ H^+ + 4 \ O_2 <===> 2 \ C_6 H_{13} N_3 O_3 + 2 \ NO + 3 \ C_{21} H_{29} N_7 O_{17} P_3 \\ + 4 \ H_2 O \\ 2^* Arg + 3^* NADPH + 3^* H + 4^* oxygen <==> 2^* cit + 2^* NO + 3^* NADP + 4^* H_2 O$$

## ■ Table 2 Reaction ID

#	Reaction	#	Reaction
$\mathbf{v}_1$	<i>e.c.6.3.4.5</i> asp>arg_s	<b>b</b> <sub>5</sub>	[]>ATP
$\mathbf{v}_2$	e.c.4.3.2.1 arg_s>arg	b <sub>6</sub>	AMP>[]
<b>v</b> <sub>3</sub>	e.c.3.5.3.1 arg>orn	b <sub>7</sub>	PPi>[]
<b>V</b> 4	e.c.2.1.3.3 orn>cit	$b_8$	H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> >[]
$\mathbf{v}_5$	e.c.1.14.13.39 arg>cit	<b>b</b> <sub>9</sub>	[]<>H <sub>2</sub> O
$\mathbf{v}_6$	rev. v <sub>5</sub> <i>e.c.1.14.13.39</i> cit>arg	b <sub>10</sub>	NADPH<>[]
$b_1$	[]>camp	b <sub>11</sub>	H<>[]
$b_2$	[]>asp	$b_{12}$	NADP<>[]
b <sub>3</sub>	fum>[]	b <sub>13</sub>	NO<>[]
b <sub>4</sub>	u>[]	b <sub>14</sub>	O <sub>2</sub> <>[]

# (answer) Table 3 Stoichiometric Matrix, S

	$\mathbf{v}_1$	$\mathbf{v}_2$	<b>v</b> <sub>3</sub>	<b>V</b> 4	<b>v</b> <sub>5</sub>	<b>v</b> <sub>6</sub>	$\mathbf{b}_1$	$\mathbf{b}_2$	<b>b</b> <sub>3</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>4</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>5</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>6</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>7</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>8</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>9</sub>	<b>b</b> <sub>10</sub>	$b_{11}$	$b_{12}$	$b_{13}$	<b>b</b> <sub>14</sub>
M.1	0	1	-1	0	-2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.2	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
М.3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.4	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.5	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.6	-1	0	0	1	2	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.7	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.8	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
М.9	0	0	-1	0	4	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
M.10	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.14	0	0	0	0	-3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0
M.15	0	0	0	0	3	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
M.16	0	0	0	0	-4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1
M.17	0	0	0	0	2	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
M.18	0	0	0	0	-3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0

(Convention for  $v_5$  reversibility has been assumed to be: citrulline ===> arginine)

#### Solution 1 (b)

Table 4 Atom Matrix, A

	M.1	M.2	м.з	М.4	M.5	М.6	M.7	М.8	М.9	M.10	M.11	M.12	M.13	M.14	M.15	M.16	M.17	M.18
С	6	5	1	1	4	6	10	4	0	10	10	0	0	21	21	0	0	0
H	14	12	4	4	7	13	18	4	2	16	14	4	3	30	29	0	0	1
N	4	2	2	1	1	3	4	0	0	5	5	0	0	7	7	0	1	0
0	2	2	1	5	4	3	6	4	1	13	7	7	4	17	17	2	1	0
P	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	1	3	3	0	0	0

I have used the atom matrix for this part and the **epsilon = A\*S** matrix can be generated by running the ("**S\_and\_epsillon\_generator.jl**") file.

in julia console run include("a,b S\_and\_epsillon\_generator.jl")

This will generate "atom\_matrix.csv" and "epsilon.txt" files.

If the urea cycle reconstruction is elementally balanced, all components of the epsilon matrix should be zero, which is true in this case. (view "epsilon.txt")

## Solution 1 (c)

The code for solving the FBA problem is given in "c run.jl"

• Upper bounds for the fluxes were calculated using:

$$v_{max,i} = k_{cat,i} \times E \times \prod_{i=1}^{m} \frac{C_i}{K_m + C_i}$$

• K<sub>m</sub> values and metabolite concentration, C<sub>i</sub> were obtained from Park et al Nat Chem Biol 12:482-9, 2016 and used to calculate:

For these values, the following order of preference was followed:

Homo sapiens > Mus musculus > other organism

Data for S. cerevisiae was used for the enzyme E.C.2.1.3.3

• in julia console run include("c run.jl")

*Note*: I have assumed the metabolites involved in reaction  $v_5$  can be exchanged through the boundary (so there is a net positive flux in arg ==> cit direction [Table5]).

Deactivate lines 25, 26 and activate lines 29 and 30 in the "c run.jl" file to see optimum fluxes with **no boundary exchange of reaction v\_5 metabolites** (in this case flux  $v_5 = v_6 = 0.0$  mmol/gDW.hr to maximize urea)

(answer) Table 5 Optimum fluxes for maximum urea production

Flux ID	Reaction	LB	UB	Optimum value (mmol/gdW.hr)
$v_1$	<i>e.c.6.3.4.5</i> asp>arg_s	0	$v_{\text{max}1}$	1.242
$v_2$	e.c.4.3.2.1 arg_s>arg	0	v <sub>max2</sub>	1.242
v <sub>3</sub>	e.c.3.5.3.1 arg>orn	0	v <sub>max3</sub>	1.271095
V <sub>4</sub>	<i>e.c.2.1.3.3</i> orn>cit	0	V <sub>max4</sub>	1.271095
<b>V</b> 5	e.c.1.14.13.39 arg>cit	0	V <sub>max5</sub>	0.478652
v <sub>6</sub>	rev. v <sub>5</sub> <i>e.c.1.14.13.39</i> cit>arg	0	V <sub>max6</sub>	0.4932
$b_1$	[]>camp	0	10	1.271095
$b_2$	[]>asp	0	10	1.242
<b>b</b> <sub>3</sub>	fum>[]	0	10	1.242
<b>b</b> <sub>4</sub>	u>[]	0	10	1.271095
<b>b</b> <sub>5</sub>	[]>ATP	0	10	1.242
<b>b</b> <sub>6</sub>	AMP>[]	0	10	1.242
<b>b</b> <sub>7</sub>	PPi>[]	0	10	1.242
<b>b</b> <sub>8</sub>	H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> >[]	0	10	1.271095
<b>b</b> <sub>9</sub>	[]<>H <sub>2</sub> O	-10	10	1.329286
b <sub>10</sub>	NADPH<>[]	-10	10	0.043643
b <sub>11</sub>	H<>[]	-10	10	0.043643
b <sub>12</sub>	NADP<>[]	-10	10	0.043643
b <sub>13</sub>	NO<>[]	-10	10	0.029095
b <sub>14</sub>	O <sub>2</sub> <>[]	-10	10	0.05819