404018

May 2021

Part A

Considering the equation system

$$x_1 \xrightarrow{\lambda_1} x_1 + b \qquad x_2 \xrightarrow{\lambda_2 x_1} x_2 + 1$$

$$x_1 \xrightarrow{\beta_1 x_1} x_1 - 1 \qquad x_2 \xrightarrow{\beta_2 x_2} x_2 - 1$$

$$(1)$$

The CME would be as follows:

$$\frac{dP(x_1, x_2)}{dt} = \underbrace{\lambda_1 P(x_1 - b, x_2) - \lambda_1 P(x_1, x_2)}_{\text{Synthesis of } x_1} + \underbrace{\beta_1(x_1 + 1) P(x_1 + 1, x_2) - \beta_1 x_1 P(x_1, x_2)}_{\text{Degradation of } x_1} + \underbrace{\lambda_2 x_1 P(x_1, x_2 - 1) - \lambda_2 x_1 P(x_1, x_2)}_{\text{Synthesis of } x_2} + \underbrace{\beta_2(x_2 + 1) P(x_1, x_2 + 1) - \beta_2 x_2 P(x_1, x_2)}_{\text{Degradation of } x_2} \tag{2}$$

Part B

Using the method of exponents we can find H:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{3}$$

As $M_{ij} = \frac{H_{ij}}{\tau_i}$ then we can find M:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tau_1} & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\tau_2} & \frac{1}{\tau_2} \end{bmatrix} \tag{4}$$

Next we need to calculate the average step size for x_1 in order to calculate D. Using the definition of step size:

$$\langle s_x \rangle = \sum_{k} |\delta_k| \frac{|\delta_k| \langle r_k(x) \rangle}{\sum_{l} |\delta_l| \langle r_l(x) \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{b^2 \lambda_1 + 1^2 \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}{b \lambda_1 + 1 \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{b^2 \lambda_1 + \langle x_1 \rangle \frac{1}{\tau_1}}{b \lambda_1 + \langle x_1 \rangle \frac{1}{\tau_1}}$$

$$= \frac{b^2 \lambda_1 \tau_1 + \langle x_1 \rangle}{b \lambda_1 \tau_1 + \langle x_1 \rangle}$$
(5)

We can calculate the relationship between λ_1 and lifetimes using the equation for the change in abundance of x_1 and assuming stationarity:

$$\frac{d\langle x_1 \rangle}{dt} = \langle R_1^+ \rangle - \langle R_1^- \rangle
= b\lambda_1 - \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle$$
(6)

Setting $\frac{d\langle x_1 \rangle}{dt} = 0$ and using the equivalence $\beta_1 = \frac{1}{\tau_1}$

$$0 = b\lambda_1 - \frac{1}{\tau_1} \langle x_1 \rangle$$

$$b\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{\tau_1} \langle x_1 \rangle$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{b} \frac{1}{\tau_1} \langle x_1 \rangle$$
(7)

Substituting this into the equation for $\langle x_1 \rangle$ we get:

$$\langle s_1 \rangle = \frac{b^2 \lambda_1 \tau_1 + \langle x_1 \rangle}{b \lambda_1 \tau_1 + \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{b^2 \tau_1 \frac{1}{b} \frac{1}{\tau_1} \langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_1 \rangle}{b \tau_1 \frac{1}{b} \frac{1}{\tau_1} \langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{b \langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_1 \rangle}{\langle x_1 \rangle + \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{\langle x_1 \rangle (1 + b)}{2 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{(1 + b)}{2}$$
(8)

We can plug this into the equation for $D_{ii} = \frac{2}{\tau_i} \frac{\langle s_i \rangle}{\langle x_i \rangle}$, considering that the average step size for x_2 is 1. We can also consider the off diagonal elements of D to be zero as there are no equations requiring or producing both x_1 and x_2 . This gives D:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tau_1} \frac{1+b}{\langle x_1 \rangle} & 0\\ 0 & \frac{2}{\tau_2} \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle} \end{bmatrix}$$
 (9)

Next we can calculate η using the relationship $M\eta + (M\eta)^T = D$:

$$M\eta = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tau_{1}} & 0\\ -\frac{1}{\tau_{2}} & \frac{1}{\tau_{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \eta_{11} & \eta_{12}\\ \eta_{21} & \eta_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\eta_{11}}{\tau_{1}} & \frac{\eta_{12}}{\tau_{1}}\\ \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{11} + \eta_{21}) & \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{12} + \eta_{22}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M\eta + (M\eta)^{T} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\eta_{11}}{\tau_{1}} & \frac{\eta_{12}}{\tau_{1}}\\ \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{11} + \eta_{21}) & \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{12} + \eta_{22}) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\eta_{11}}{\tau_{1}} & \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{11} + \eta_{21})\\ \frac{\eta_{12}}{\tau_{1}} & \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{12} + \eta_{22}) \end{bmatrix} = D$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2\eta_{11}}{\tau_{1}} & \frac{\eta_{12}}{\tau_{1}} + \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{11} + \eta_{21})\\ \frac{\eta_{12}}{\tau_{1}} + \frac{1}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{11} + \eta_{21}) & \frac{2}{\tau_{2}}(-\eta_{12} + \eta_{22}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\tau_{1}} \frac{1+b}{\langle x_{1} \rangle} & 0\\ 0 & \frac{2}{\tau_{2}} \frac{1}{\langle x_{2} \rangle} \end{bmatrix}$$

We know that $\eta_{21} = \eta_{12}$ so we can now write 3 simultaneous equations:

$$\frac{2\eta_{11}}{\tau_1} = \frac{1}{\tau_1} \frac{1+b}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \implies \eta_{11} = \frac{1+b}{2} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$0 = \frac{\eta_{12}}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2} (-\eta_{11} + \eta_{12}) \implies \eta_{12} = \frac{\eta_{11}\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$$

$$\frac{2}{\tau_2} (-\eta_{12} + \eta_{22}) = \frac{2}{\tau_2} \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle} \implies \eta_{22} = \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle} + \eta_{12}$$
(11)

Having solved η_{11} in terms of abundance and lifetimes we can now substitute into the other equations:

$$\eta_{12} = \frac{1+b}{2} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}
\eta_{22} = \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle} + \frac{1+b}{2} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$$
(12)

Is your statement exact or approx - should be exact as these are linear equations?

Part C

We can first consider the case where b = 1:

$$\eta_{11} = \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{=1} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$\eta_{12} = \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{=1} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$$

$$\eta_{22} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle}}_{=1} + \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{=1} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$$
(13)

In this case $\eta_{11} = \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}$ and therefore will be at the level of the poisson noise for this system. When $\tau_1 >> \tau_2$, $\eta_{22} \approx \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle} + \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}$ but when $\tau_1 << \tau_2$, $\eta_{22} \approx \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle}$. Therefore we can see here that in the case of a non-bursting mRNA a long-lived protein and shortlived mRNA minimises variability in the protein level. This is unsurprising as a longlived protein will have slower fluctuations and therefore is likely to have a lower variability.

We can now consider the case where b > 1:

$$\eta_{11} = \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{\text{large}} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$\eta_{12} = \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{\text{large}} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$$

$$\eta_{22} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle}}_{\text{large}} + \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{\text{large}} \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle} \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$$
(14)

We can see that for η_{11} increasing b i.e. mRNA being produced in bursts will increase η_{11} , and the only way for the cell to reduce normalised variance for x_1 is by increasing $\langle x_1 \rangle$ - in this way variation will be proportionally smaller making the normalised variance smaller.

We can now consider η_{22} . In the case where $\tau_1 \ll \tau_2$ (a shortlived mRNA but longlived protein) $\frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}$ will be small, which will minimise the impact of $\langle x_1 \rangle$ on η_{22} :

$$\eta_{22} = \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle} + \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{\text{large}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}}_{\text{2}} \underbrace{\frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}}_{\approx 0} \tag{15}$$

However if $\tau_1 >> \tau_2 \longrightarrow \frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2} \approx 1$ we would expect that $\langle x_1 \rangle > \langle x_2 \rangle$ as the lifetime is much longer, so for the same or a similar rate of production x_2 will be degraded more quickly.

$$\eta_{22} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle}}_{> \frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}} + \underbrace{\frac{1+b}{2}}_{\text{large}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{\langle x_1 \rangle}}_{< \frac{1}{\langle x_2 \rangle}} \underbrace{\frac{\tau_1}{\tau_1 + \tau_2}}_{\approx 1} \tag{16}$$

We can see again that a with b > 1 η_{22} can be minimised by having a longlived protein and shortlived mRNA. This makes sense as this will minimise noise propagation...

Part D

We can use the definition for step size to calculate the average step size:

$$\langle s_1 \rangle = \sum_k |\delta_k| \frac{|\delta_k| \langle r_k(x) \rangle}{\sum_l |\delta_l| \langle r_l(x) \rangle} \tag{17}$$

Average step size for production

We can first calculate the denominator of this equation:

$$\sum_{l} |\delta_{l}| \langle r_{l}(x) \rangle = 1 \times 0.6\lambda_{1} + 2 \times 0.3\lambda_{1} + 3 \times 0.1\lambda_{1}$$

$$= 1.5\lambda_{1}$$
(18)

We can now consider the whole equation:

$$\langle s_1^+ \rangle = \sum_k |\delta_k| \frac{|\delta_k| \langle r_k(x) \rangle}{\sum_l |\delta_l| \langle r_l(x) \rangle}$$

$$= \sum_k |\delta_k| \frac{|\delta_k| \langle r_k(x) \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{1^2 \times 0.6\lambda_1 + 2^2 \times 0.3\lambda_1 + 3^2 \times 0.1\lambda_1}{1.5\lambda_1}$$

$$= \frac{0.6\lambda_1 + 1.2\lambda_1 + 0.9\lambda_1}{1.5\lambda_1}$$

$$= \frac{2.7\lambda_1}{1.5\lambda_1}$$

$$= 1.8$$
(19)

Total average step size

We can first calculate the denominator of this equation:

$$\sum_{l} |\delta_{l}| \langle r_{l}(x) \rangle = 1 \times 0.6\lambda_{1} + 2 \times 0.3\lambda_{1} + 3 \times 0.1\lambda_{1} + \beta_{1} \langle x_{1} \rangle$$

$$= 1.5\lambda_{1} + \beta_{1} \langle x_{1} \rangle$$
(20)

We can now consider the whole equation:

$$\langle s_1 \rangle = \sum_{k} |\delta_k| \frac{|\delta_k| \langle r_k(x) \rangle}{\sum_{l} |\delta_l| \langle r_l(x) \rangle}$$

$$= \sum_{k} |\delta_k| \frac{|\delta_k| \langle r_k(x) \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{1^2 \times 0.6\lambda_1 + 2^2 \times 0.3\lambda_1 + 3^2 \times 0.1\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{0.6\lambda_1 + 1.2\lambda_1 + 0.9\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{2.7\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{2.7\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$
(21)

If we consider this system to be at stationarity we can solve using the equation for change in $\langle x_1 \rangle$ and setting this to be zero:

$$\frac{d\langle x_1 \rangle}{dt} = \langle \mathbf{R}_1^+ \rangle - \langle \mathbf{R}_1^- \rangle
= 1 \times 0.6\lambda_1 + 2 \times 0.3\lambda_1 + 3 \times 0.1\lambda_1 - \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle
= 1.5\lambda_1 - \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle$$
(22)

At stationarity:

$$0 = 1.5\lambda_1 - \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle$$

$$\beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle = 1.5\lambda_1$$
(23)

Substituting in to the equation for step size:

$$\langle s_1 \rangle = \frac{2.7\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}{1.5\lambda_1 + \beta_1 \langle x_1 \rangle}$$

$$= \frac{2.7\lambda_1 + 1.5\lambda_1}{1.5\lambda_1 + 1.5\lambda_1}$$

$$= \frac{4.2\lambda_1}{3\lambda_1}$$

$$= 1.4$$
(24)

Part E

I ran the Gillespie algorithm using the following code:

```
# Make a function to return bits and set amount of time in each state
simulate_gillespie2 <- function(lambda, beta, p, cycles = 10000) {</pre>
    # Set up some storage
    states <- data.frame(x = rep(0, times = 1e+05))</pre>
    x <- 0
    xs <- data.frame(x = rep(NA, times = cycles), time = rep(NA, times = cycles))
    for (i in 1:cycles) {
        # Choose wait time
        time <- wait_time(lambda + beta * x)</pre>
        # Choose reaction
        rxn <- choose_reaction(c(lambda, beta * x))</pre>
        # Update time in state prior to change
        if (i %in% 1000:cycles) {
             # Only save after stationarity
             states$x[x] \leftarrow states$x[x] + time
        xs$x[i] \leftarrow x
        if (i == 1) {
             xs$time[i] <- time</pre>
        } else {
```

```
## Error in ggplot(gs3[[1]]): object 'gs3' not found
## Error in ggplot(gs2[[1]]): object 'gs2' not found
## Error in ggplot(gs3[[2]]): object 'gs3' not found
## Error in ggplot(gs2[[2]]): object 'gs2' not found
## Error in arrangeGrob(...): object 'a' not found
```

Figure 1: Histograms of state and blah

```
xs$time[i] <- xs$time[i - 1] + time
}

switch(rxn, `1` = {
    x <- x + rgeom(p) + 1
}, `2` = {
    if (x != 0) {
        x <- x - 1
    }
})

# Update time in state after change
states$x[x] <- states$x[x] + time

return(list(xs, states))
}</pre>
```

Running this with p = 0.1 and p = 0.5 I generated the following histograms and plots of states of x:

```
## Error in wait_time(lambda + beta * x): could not find function "wait_time"
## Error in wait_time(lambda + beta * x): could not find function "wait_time"
```