



Modeling I: ODEs and Hill Functions

Section 1: ODEs, Law of mass action and the central dogma

by Alejandro Vignoni (vignoni@isa.upv.es)

An iGEM Engineering Committee Webinar Webinar 2, May 25th, 2021









Today Webinar's Topics

- ▲ Section 1: ODEs, the law of mass action, and the central dogma (~15 min)
- △ Section 2: Derivation of a Hill function from the law of mass action (~15 min)
- A Section 3: Hill function examples and intuitions: effects of parameters on activators, repressors, hybrid promoters, using a Matlab exploration package. (<10min)
- △ Q&A (at the end of each 15 minutes block, total 15 min)

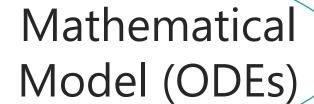


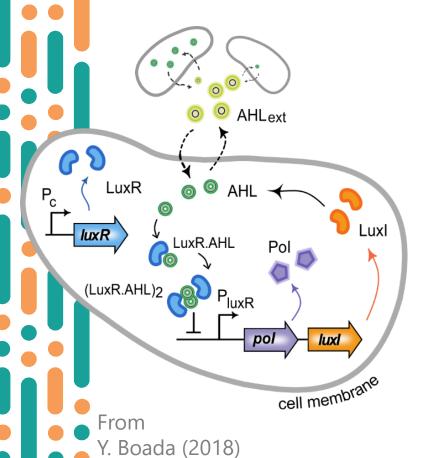
Types of models





Biochemical Reactions





$$\begin{array}{c} \overset{C_{R}}{\longrightarrow} mR \\ gPI \xrightarrow{k_{e_{I}}} gPI + mPI \\ mR \xrightarrow{P_{R}} mR + R \\ mPI \xrightarrow{P_{I}} mPI + PI \\ I \xrightarrow{k_{A}} A + I \\ R + A \xrightarrow{k_{-1}/k_{d1}} (R \cdot A) \\ 2(R \cdot A) \xrightarrow{k_{-2}/k_{d2}} (R \cdot A)_{2} \\ gPI + (R \cdot A)_{2} \xrightarrow{k_{lux}/k_{dlux}} gPI \cdot (R \cdot A)_{2} \\ gPI \cdot (R \cdot A)_{2} \xrightarrow{\alpha k_{e_{I}}} gPI \cdot (R \cdot A)_{2} + mPI \\ A \xrightarrow{D} A_{ext} \\ mPI \xrightarrow{dm_{I}} \emptyset \\ mR \xrightarrow{dm_{R}} \emptyset \\ PI \xrightarrow{d_{I}} \emptyset \\ A \xrightarrow{d_{A}} \emptyset \\ A \xrightarrow{d_{A}} \emptyset \end{array}$$

$$\begin{split} &\dot{n}_{1}^{i} = \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{e_{I}}} n_{7}^{i} + \alpha \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{e_{I}}} n_{8}^{i} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{m_{I}}} n_{1}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{2}^{i} = \mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{R}} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{m_{R}}} n_{2}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{3}^{i} = \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{I}} n_{1}^{i} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{I}} n_{3}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{4}^{i} = \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{R}} n_{2}^{i} + \mathbf{k}_{-1} n_{5}^{i} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{R}} n_{4}^{i} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_{-1}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{d1}}} n_{9}^{i} n_{4}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{5}^{i} = 2\mathbf{k}_{-2} n_{6}^{i} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{-1}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{d1}}} n_{9}^{i} n_{4}^{i} + \left(-\mathbf{k}_{-1} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{RA}} - 2 \frac{\mathbf{k}_{-2}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{d2}}} n_{5}^{i} \right) n_{5}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{6}^{i} = \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{lux}} n_{8}^{i} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{-2}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{d2}}} n_{5}^{i}^{2} + \left(-\mathbf{k}_{-2} - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{RA}_{2}} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{lux}}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{dlux}}} n_{7}^{i} \right) n_{6}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{7}^{i} = \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{lux}} n_{8}^{i} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{lux}}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{dlux}}} n_{6}^{i} n_{7}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{8}^{i} = -\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{lux}} n_{8}^{i} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{lux}}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{dlux}}} n_{6}^{i} n_{7}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{9}^{i} = \mathbf{D} \left(\mathbf{V}_{c} n_{10} - n_{9}^{i} \right) - \left(\frac{\mathbf{k}_{-1}}{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{d1}}} n_{4}^{i} + \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{A}} \right) n_{9}^{i} + \mathbf{k}_{-1} n_{5}^{i} + \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{A}} n_{3}^{i} \\ &\dot{n}_{10} = \mathbf{D} \left(-N \mathbf{V}_{c} n_{10} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} n_{9}^{i} \right) - \mathbf{d}_{\mathrm{A_{e}}} n_{10} \end{aligned}$$



But what is an Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE)?



These are equations with variables and their derivatives

If we have any function (the typical one):

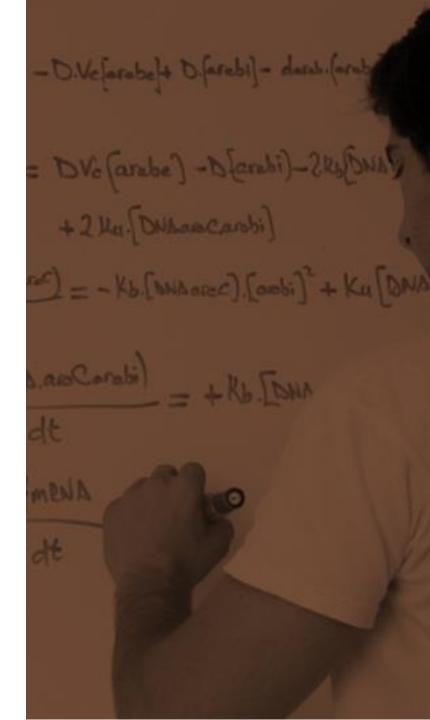
$$y = f(t)$$
 (y only depends on the variable t, but we could have $y = f(t, x_1, x_2, ... x_n)$)

Do you remember the definition of the derivative of a function?

$$\dot{y} = \frac{df(t)}{dt} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(t+h) - f(t)}{h}$$
 (we can havehigher order derivatives y ", y "", y (n))



But they can be very challenging and difficult!!





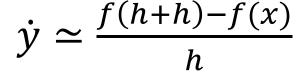
Finding a solution...



Analytically: solving for the unknown...



A Numerically: in an approximate way.





(with an h very small)



Why do we use them?



Differential equations describe biological behaviour, physical laws, human activities, and much more....





$$\left(-rac{\partial V}{\partial t}-rac{1}{2}\sigma^2S^2rac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2}
ight)\Delta t=r\left(-V+Srac{\partial V}{\partial S}
ight)\Delta t$$

$$rV= \; rac{\partial V}{\partial t} + rac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S^2 rac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2} + r S rac{\partial V}{\partial S} \; .$$

And the set of equations that describe a system or a phenomenon... is known as ODE model



Software for Ordinary Differential Equations



(ODEs) solving



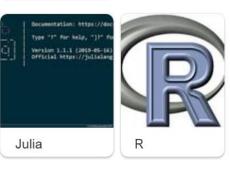








- •MATLAB, a technical computing application (MATrix LABoratory) FREE LICENSE WITH IGEM
- •Maxima, an open-source computer algebra system.
- •COPASI, a free software package for the integration and analysis of ODEs.
- •GNU Octave, a high-level language, primarily intended for numerical computations.
- •Scilab, an open source application for numerical computation.
- •Maple, a proprietary application for symbolic calculations.
- •Mathematica, a proprietary application primarily intended for symbolic calculations.
- •Julia (programming language), a high-level language primarily intended for numerical computations.
- •SageMath, an open-source application that uses a Python-like syntax with a wide range of capabilities spanning several branches of mathematics.
- •SciPy, a Python package that includes an ODE integration module.
- •GNU R, an open source computational environment primarily intended for statistics, which includes packages for ODE solving.





Let us begin this Journey from:



Biochemical Reactions



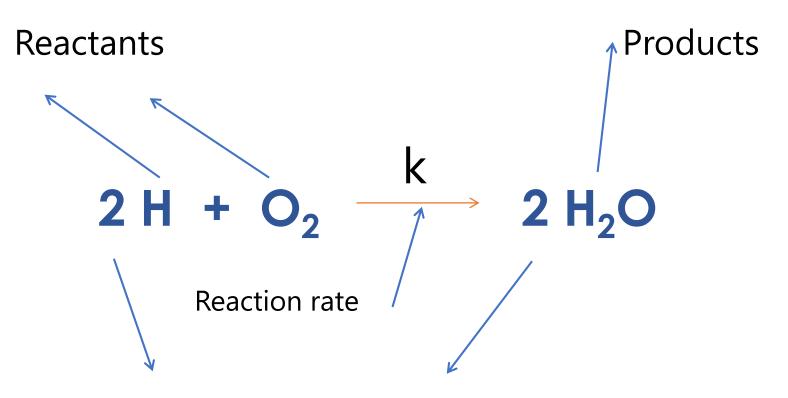
Mathematical Model (ODEs)



Reminder: Law of mass action and kinetic equations



Example: Reaction of Water



Stoichiometric coefficients





Reaction of Water – Kinetics of H_2

$$2 H_2 + O_2 \xrightarrow{K} 2 H_2 O$$

Rate of change of [H]

Decrease

$$[\dot{H}_2] = -2k[H_2]^2[O_2]$$

Stoichiometric coefficient of $[H_2]$ times the reaction rate k

product of the concentrations of the reactants ($[H_2] \times [H_2] \times [O_2] = [H_2]^2 [O_2]$)





Reaction of Water – Kinetics of O₂

$$2 H_2 + O_2 \xrightarrow{K} 2 H_2 O$$

Rate of change of $[O_2]$

Decrease

$$[\dot{O}_2] = -k[H_2]^2[O_2]$$

Stoichiometric coefficient of $[O_2]$ times the reaction rate k

product of the concentrations of the reactants ($[H_2] \times [H_2] \times [O_2] = [H_2]^2 [O_2]$)





Reaction of Water – Kinetics of O₂

Rate of change of
$$[H_2O]$$

$$2 H_2 + O_2 \xrightarrow{K} 2 H_2O$$

Increase

$$[H_2 O] = +2k[H_2]^2[O_2]$$

Stoichiometric coefficient of $[H_2O]$ times the reaction rate k

product of the concentrations of the reactants ($[H_2] \times [H_2] \times [O_2] = [H_2]^2 [O_2]$)





Reaction of Water – Kinetics

$$2 H_{2} + O_{2} \xrightarrow{k} 2 H_{2}O$$

$$[\dot{H}_{2}] = -2k[H_{2}]^{2}[O_{2}]$$

$$[\dot{O}_{2}] = -k[H_{2}]^{2}[O_{2}]$$

$$[\dot{H}_{2}O] = 2k[H_{2}]^{2}[O_{2}]$$



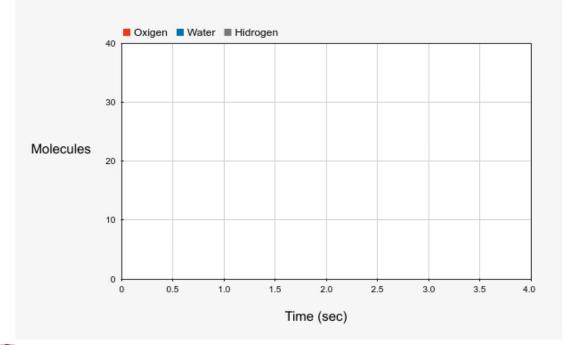
Reaction of Water - Kinetics

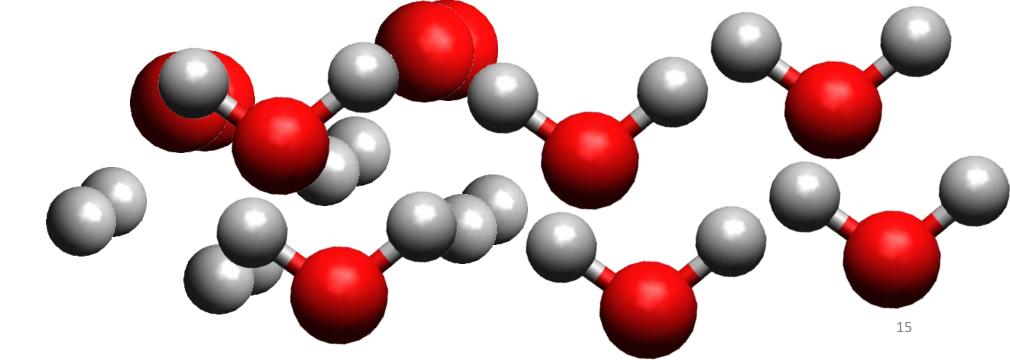
$$2 H_{2} + O_{2} \xrightarrow{k} 2 H_{2}O$$

$$[\dot{H}_{2}] = -2k[H_{2}]^{2}[O_{2}]$$

$$[\dot{O}_{2}] = -k[H_{2}]^{2}[O_{2}]$$

$$[\dot{H}_{2}O] = 2k[H_{2}]^{2}[O_{2}]$$

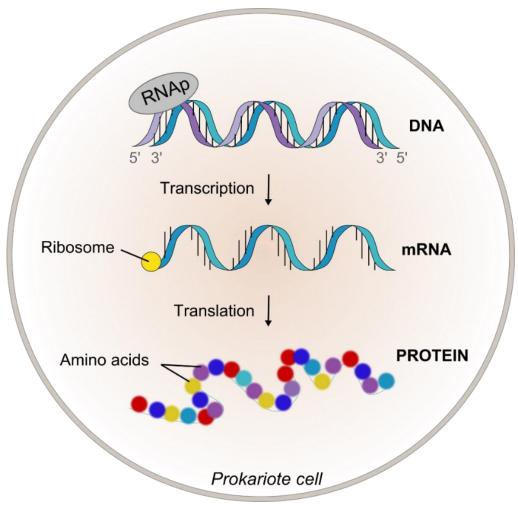






The central dogma of molecular biology





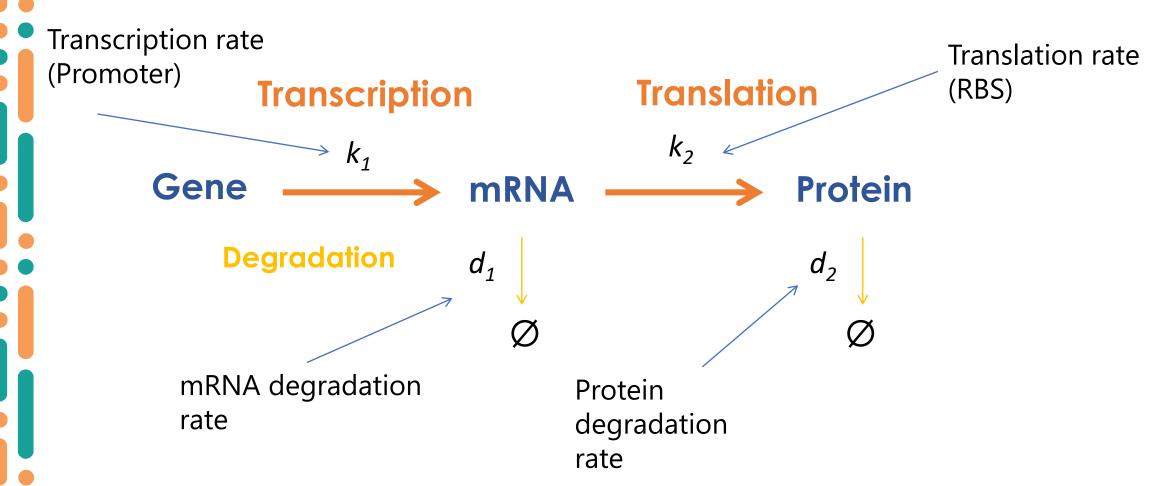
Transcription of DNA by RNA polymerase

Translation of mRNA by Ribosomes

From Y. Boada (2018)

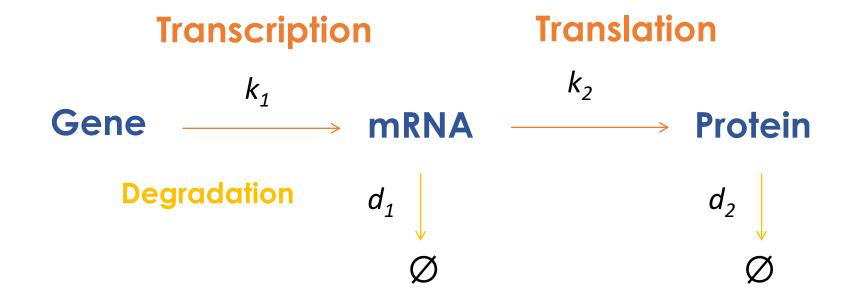






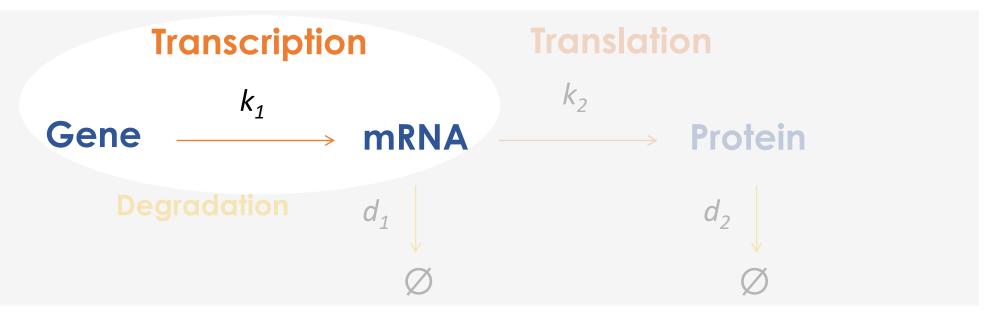








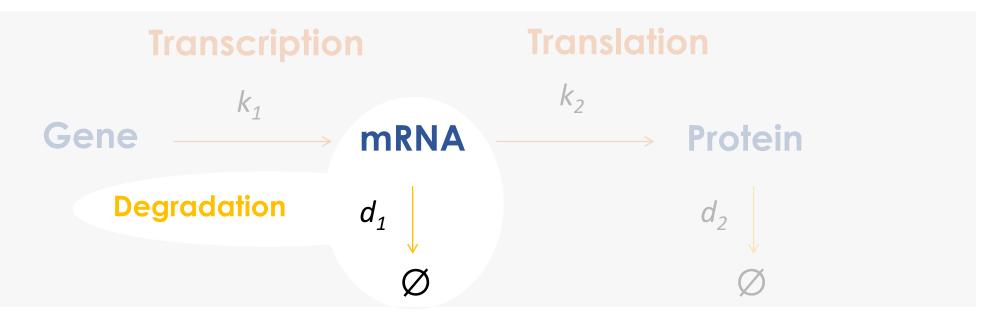




$$[mRNA] = k_1[Gene]$$



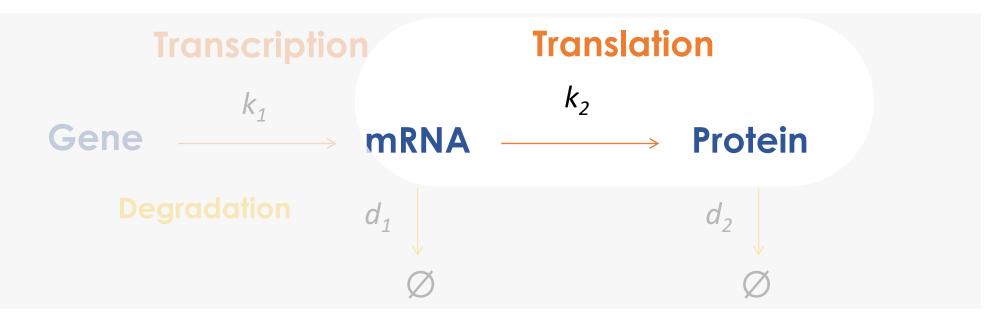




$$[mRNA] = k_1[Gene] - d_1[mRNA]$$



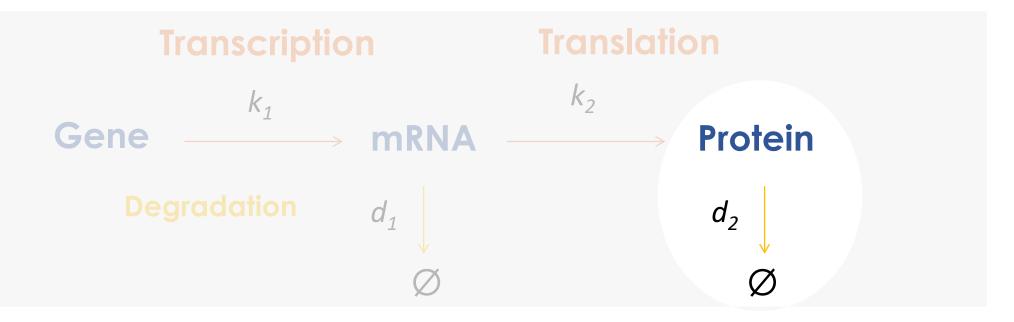




$$[m\dot{R}NA] = k_1[Gene] - d_1[mRNA]$$
$$[Protein] = k_2[mRNA]$$



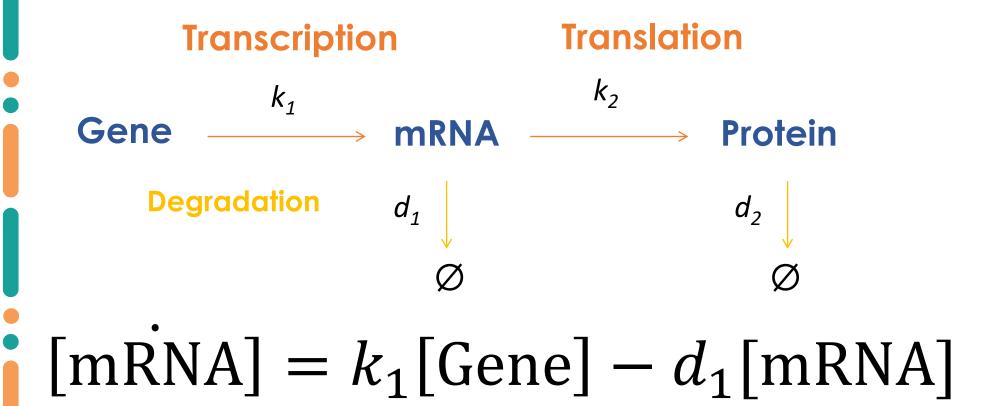




$$[m\dot{R}NA] = k_1[Gene] - d_1[mRNA]$$
$$[Protein] = k_2[mRNA] - d_2[Protein]$$







[Protein] =
$$k_2$$
[mRNA] - d_2 [Protein]



A

Constitutive gene expression - Remarks

$$[m\dot{R}NA] = k_1[Gene] - d_1[mRNA]$$

[Protein] =
$$k_2$$
[mRNA] - d_2 [Protein]

- [Gene] is considered a constant value and depends on: the Origin of Replication and the Plasmid Copy Number where the Gene is cloned.
- We are conidering:
 - RNA polymerase and Ribosomes are in sufficiently enough amount so that they are not limiting the kinetics.
 - Binding/Unbinding processes are much faster than transcription and translation.





Modeling I: ODEs and Hill Functions

Section 2: Derivation of the Hill Function

by Alejandro Vignoni (vignoni@isa.upv.es)

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△ Section 1: ODEs, the law of mass action, and the central dogma (~15 min)

A Section 2: Derivation of a Hill function from the law of mass action (15 min)

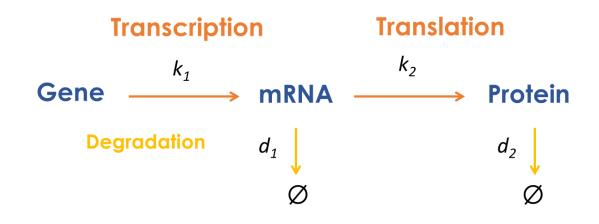
A Section 3: Hill function examples and intuitions: effects of parameters on activators, repressors, hybrid promoters, using a Matlab exploration package. (15min)

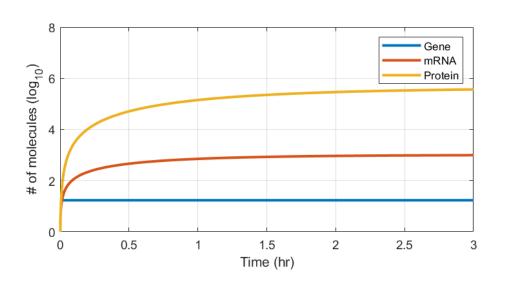
△ Q&A – (at the end of each 15 minutes block, total 15 min)



Remember: Constitutive gene expression







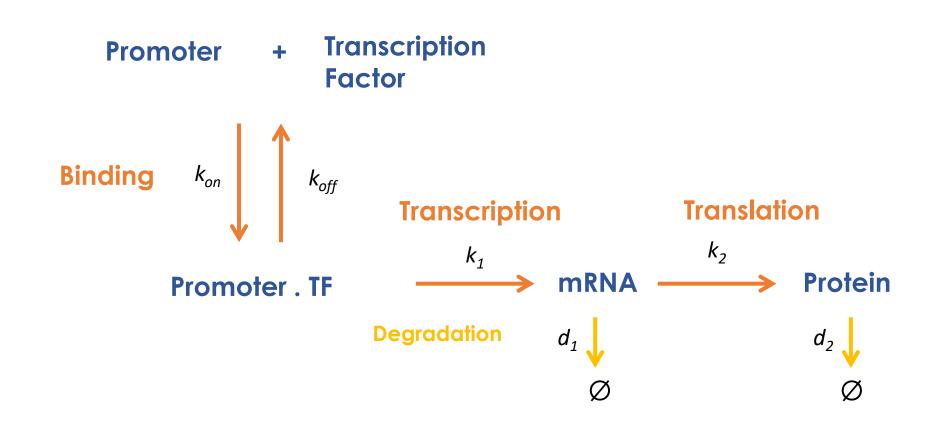
$$[mRNA] = k_1[Gene] - d_1[mRNA]$$

 $[Protein] = k_2[mRNA] - d_2[Protein]$



Gene expression regulation by Transcription Factors (TF)

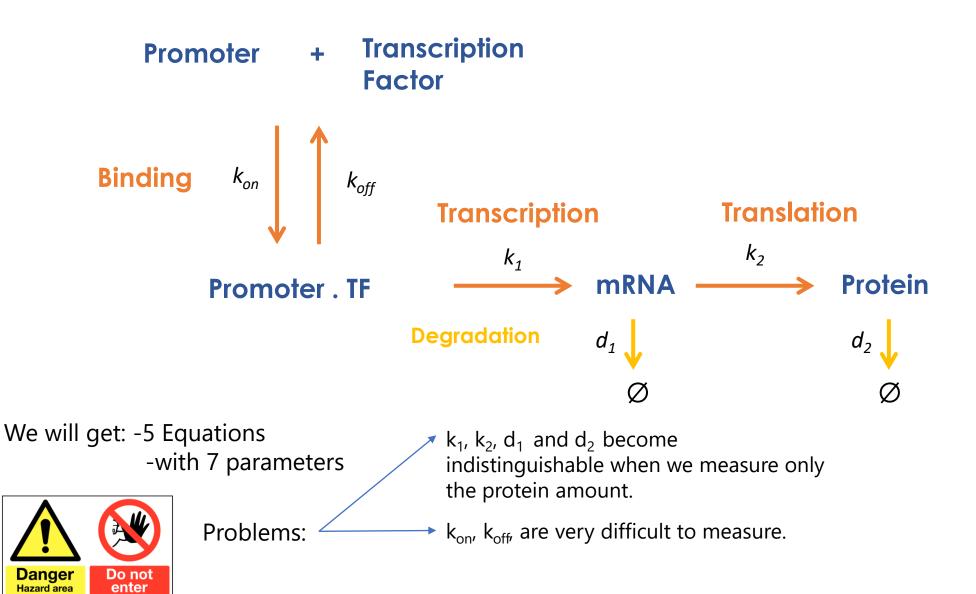






Gene expression regulation by Transcription Factors (TF)











tein

Promoter + Transcription

We want to approximate and simplify the problem and obtain a model easier to relate with experimental data:

- 1. We will obtain all the equations.
- 2. Approximate and reduce them.

We will



the protein amount.

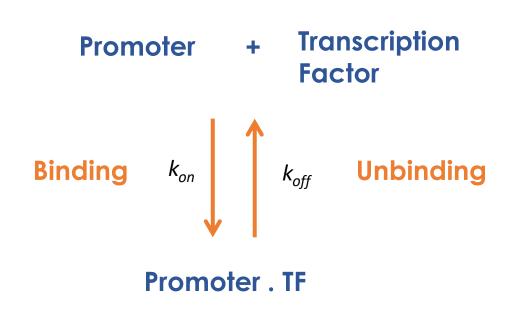
Problems: \leftarrow k_{on} , k_{off} are very difficult to measure.

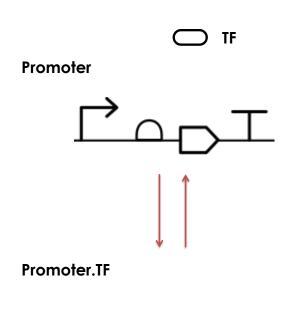


Gene expression regulation by Transcription Factors (TF)



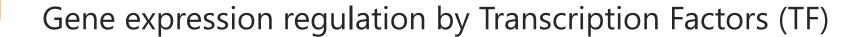
Part I: Getting the model





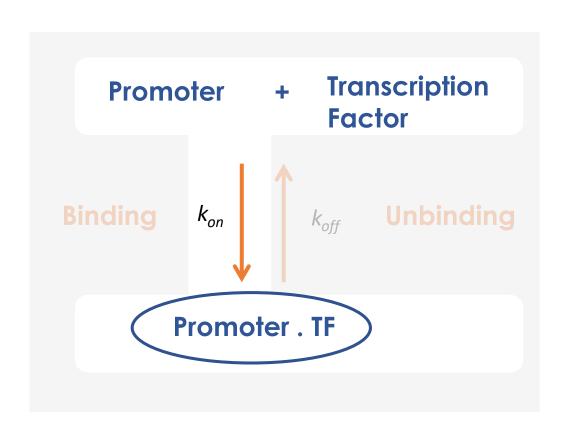






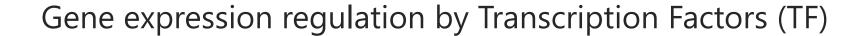


Part I: Getting the model



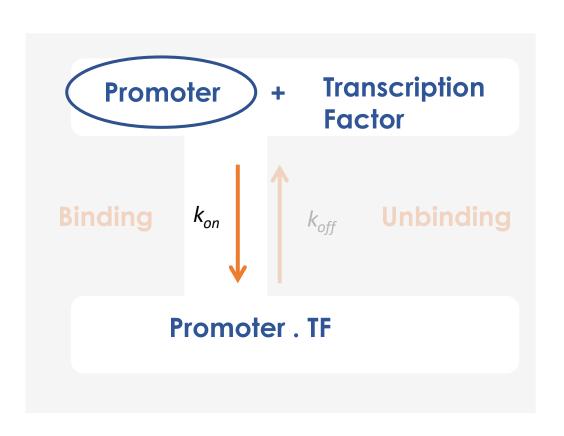
 $[Prom. TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF]$







Part I: Getting the model



$$[Prom. TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$

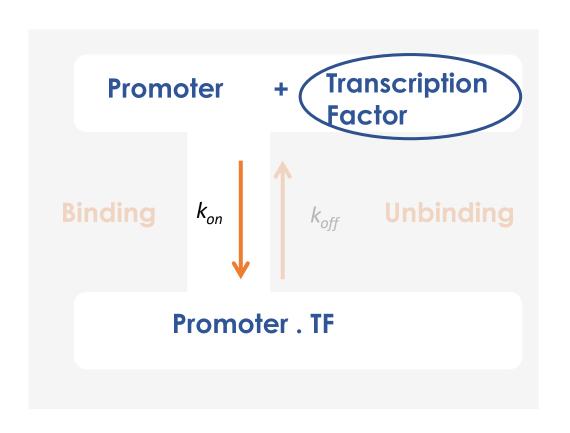
$$[Prom] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$







Part I: Getting the model



$$[Prom. TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$

$$[Prom] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$

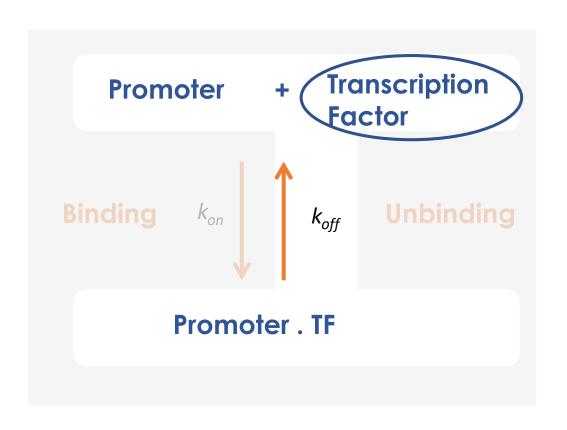
$$[\dot{T}F] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$



Gene expression regulation by Transcription Factors (TF)



Part I: Getting the model



$$[Prom. TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$

$$[Prom] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$

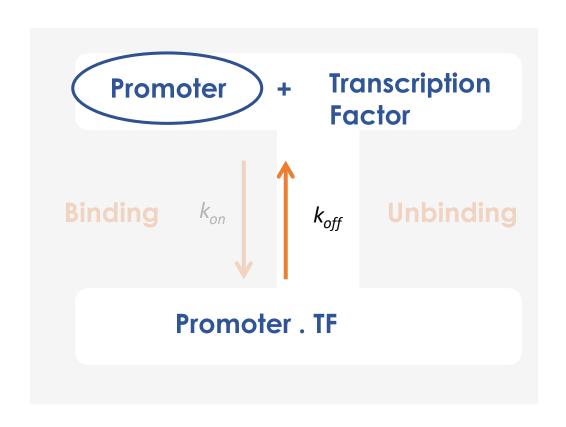
$$\begin{split} [\ddot{\text{TF}}] &= -k_{on} \, [\text{Prom}] [\text{TF}] \\ &+ k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \end{split}$$







Part I: Getting the model



$$[Prom. TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF]$$

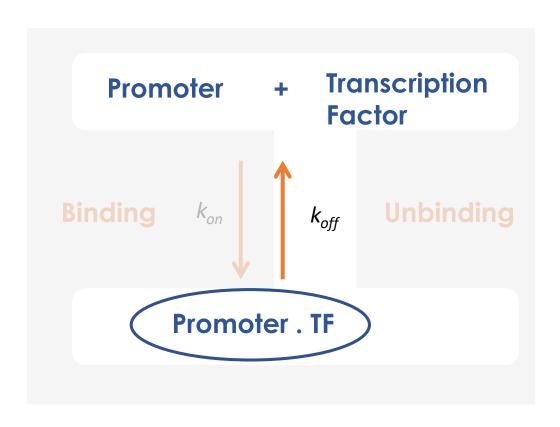
$$[Prom] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF] + k_{off} [Prom. TF]$$

$$[TF] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF] + k_{off} [Prom. TF]$$





Part I: Getting the model



$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Prom.TF}] &= k_{on} \, [\text{Prom}] [\text{TF}] \\ &- k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \end{aligned}$$

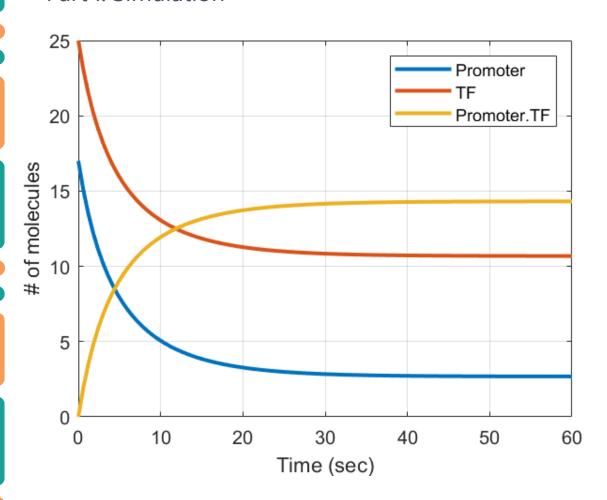
$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Prom}] &= -k_{on} \, [\text{Prom}] [\text{TF}] \\ &+ k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \end{aligned}$$

$$[TF] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF] + k_{off} [Prom. TF]$$





Part I: Simulation



$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Prom.TF}] &= k_{on} \, [\text{Prom}] [\text{TF}] \\ &- k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Prom}] &= -k_{on} \, [\text{Prom}] [\text{TF}] \\ &+ k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \end{aligned}$$

$$[TF] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF] + k_{off} [Prom. TF]$$

Starting with:

17 Promoters (Plasmid copy number)

25 molecules of Transcription Factor (TF)

$$k_{on} = 0.5 \text{ molecules}^{-1} \text{ min}^{-1}$$

$$k_{off} = 1 \text{ min}^{-1}$$



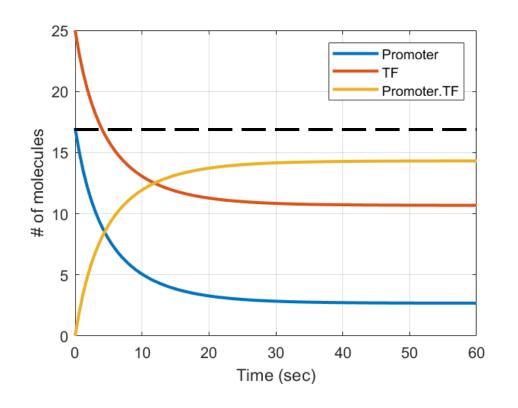






Part II: Model reduction

$$\begin{aligned} [\text{Prom}] &= -k_{on} \ [\text{Prom}][\text{TF}] + k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \\ & [\dot{\text{TF}}] &= -k_{on} \ [\text{Prom}][\text{TF}] + k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \\ \\ [\text{Prom.TF}] &= k_{on} \ [\text{Prom}][\text{TF}] - k_{off} [\text{Prom.TF}] \end{aligned}$$



Remarks

- A First two equations are equal (Blue and red)!
- △ The sum of the first one and the third one is identically zero (Blue and yellow)!
- △ We can use this fact (promoter invariance) to simplify the equations and reduce the model.









Part II: Model reduction

Promoter invariance (constant Plasmid Copy Number)

$$[Prom] = -k_{on} [Prom][TF] + k_{off} [Prom.TF]$$

$$[Prom.TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF] - k_{off} [Prom.TF]$$

$$[Prom. TF] + [Prom] = 0$$

Integrating this...

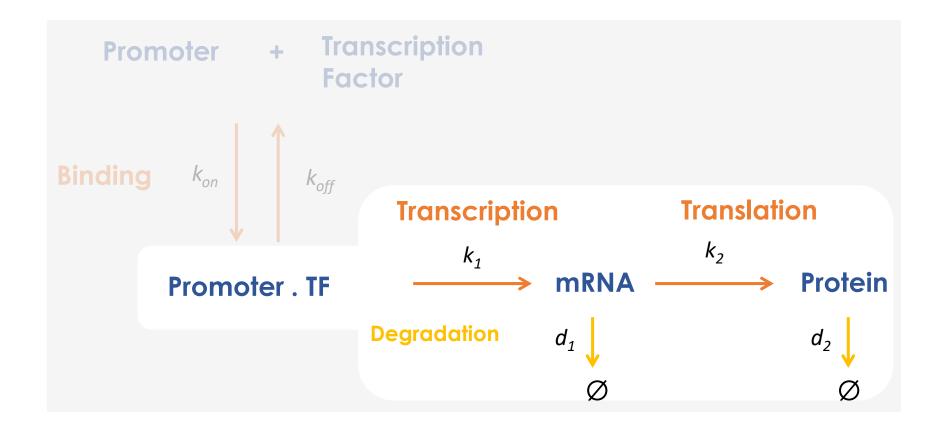
$$[Prom.TF] + [Prom] = C_N$$
 Plasmid Copy Number

$$[Prom] = C_N - [Prom.TF]$$
 Save this one, we will use it later.





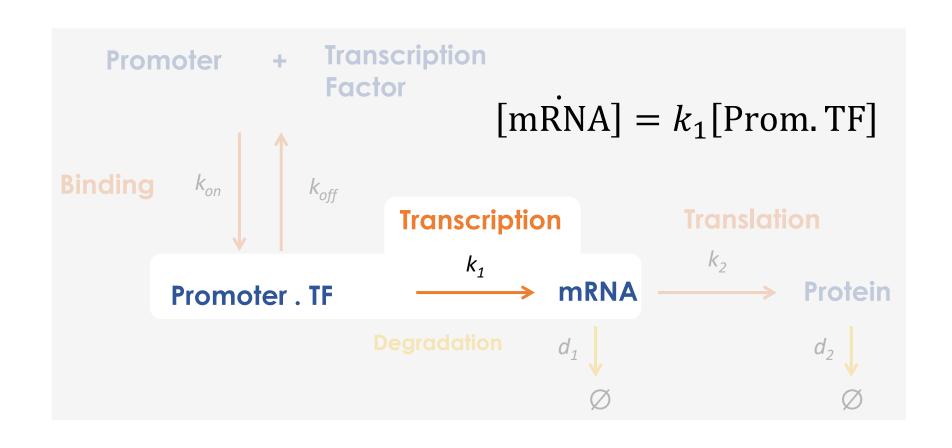
Part I: Getting the Model







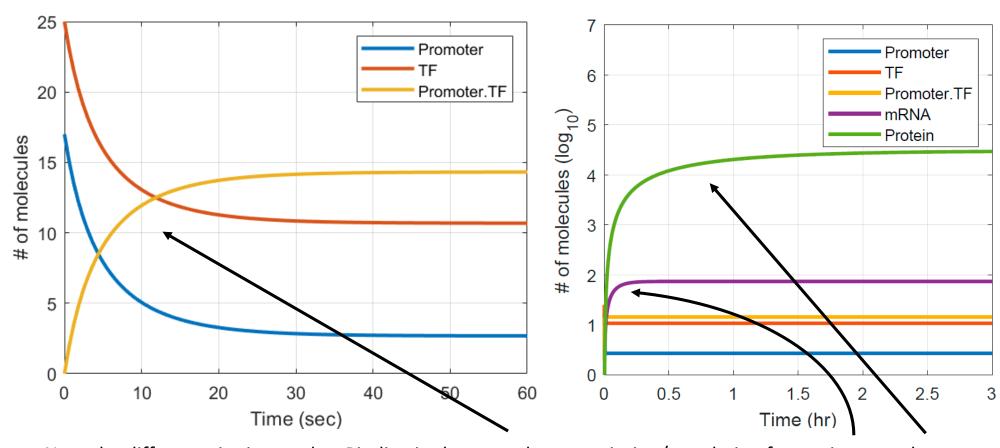
Part I: Getting the Model







Part I: Simulation



Note the difference in time scales: Binding in the seconds, transcription/translation from minutes to hours.







Part II: Model reduction

Fast Transcription Factor – Promoter binding

[Prom. TF] ≈ 0

Because of the difference in time scales: Binding in the seconds, transcription/translation from minutes to hours; we can say that TF rapidly binds to the promoter and this reaction reaches equilibrium very fast. This is called Quasy Steady State Approximation (QSSA).

$$[Prom. TF] = k_{on} [Prom][TF] - k_{off}[Prom. TF]$$

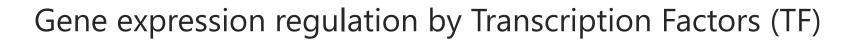
$$0 = k_{on} [Prom][TF] - k_{off}[Prom.TF]$$

From invariance (previous slide)

$$[Prom] = C_N - [Prom. TF]$$

Using these two, we will derive the Hill function







Part II: Model reduction

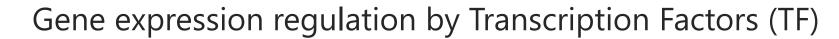
Replacing the free promoter equation into the TF bound Promoter one:

$$[Prom] = C_N - [Prom.TF]$$

$$0 = k_{on} [Prom][TF] - k_{off}[Prom.TF]$$

$$0 = k_{on} (C_N - [Prom.TF])[TF] - k_{off}[Prom.TF]$$







Part II: Model reduction

Solving for the TF bound Promoter:

$$k_{on} (C_N - [Prom.TF])[TF] = k_{off}[Prom.TF]$$

$$k_{on}$$
 [TF] $C_N - k_{on}$ [TF][Prom. TF] = k_{off} [Prom. TF]

$$k_{on}$$
 [TF] $C_N = k_{on}$ [TF][Prom. TF] + k_{off} [Prom. TF]

A bit of algebra...

$$k_{on} [TF]C_N = (k_{on} [TF] + k_{off}) [Prom. TF]$$

[Prom. TF] =
$$C_N \frac{k_{on}[TF]}{k_{on}[TF] + k_{off}} = C_N \frac{[TF]}{\frac{k_{off}}{k_{on}} + [TF]} = C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]}$$





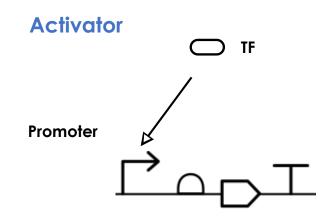


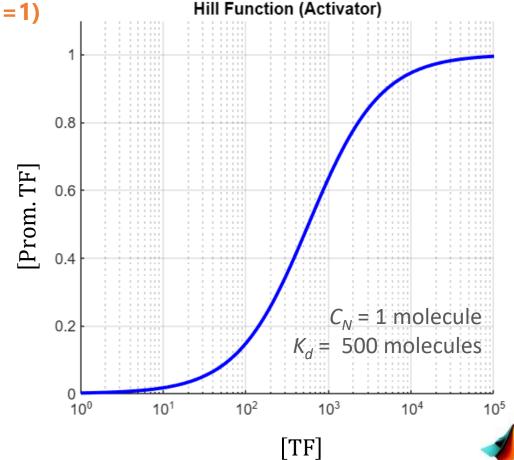
MATLAB

Part II: Model reduction

We get the Hill function (with Hill coefficient n=1)

[Prom. TF] =
$$C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]}$$



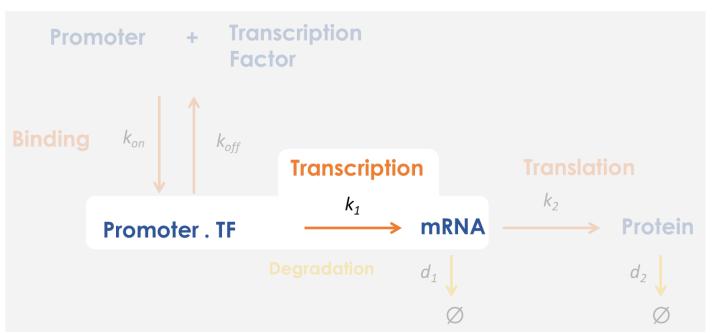








Part II: Model reduction



$$[m\dot{R}NA] = k_1[Prom.TF]$$

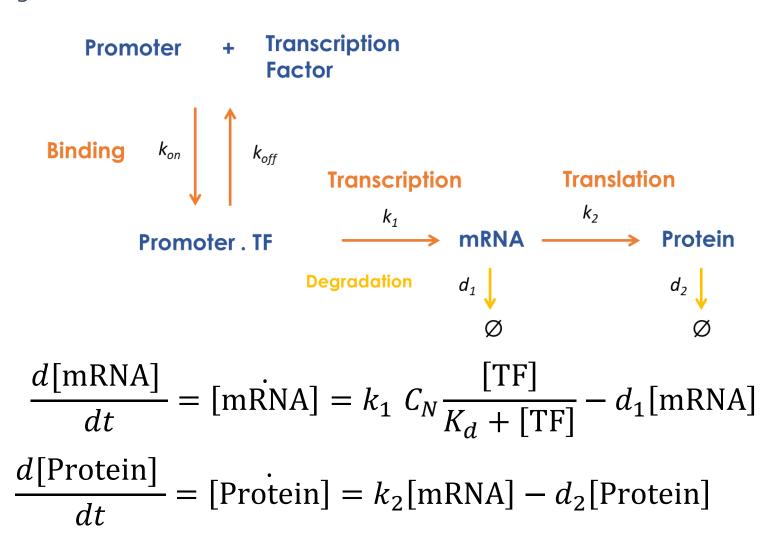
[Prom. TF] =
$$C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]}$$

The complete equation for the mRNA

$$[mRNA] = k_1 C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]} - d_1[mRNA]$$



Part I: Getting the Model



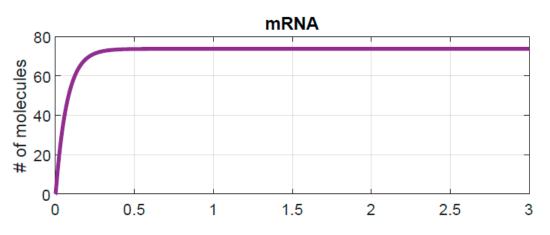


Ger

Gene expression regulation by Transcription Factors (TF)

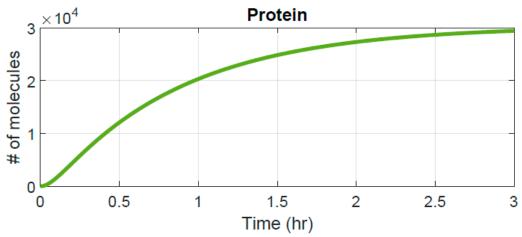


Part I: Simulation



$$[\overrightarrow{mRNA}] = k_1 C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]} - d_1[\overrightarrow{mRNA}]$$

$$[Protein] = k_2[mRNA] - d_2[Protein]$$



Parameters:

CN = 17 molecules (Plasmid copy number)

Kd = 2 molecules

TF = 25 molecules (Transcription Factor)

The other parameters same than constitutive

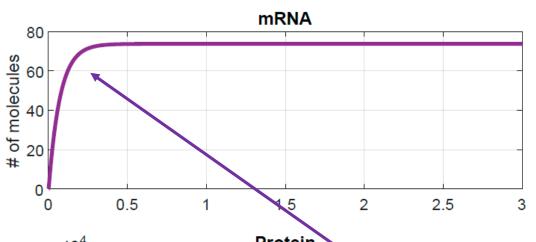






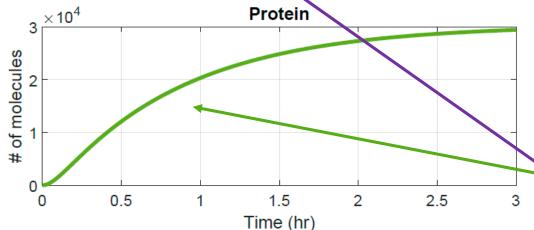


Part I: Simulation



$$[\overrightarrow{mRNA}] = k_1 C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]} - d_1[\overrightarrow{mRNA}]$$

$$[Protein] = k_2[mRNA] - d_2[Protein]$$



Parameters:

CN = 17 molecules (Plasmid copy number)

Kd = 2 molecules

TF = 25 molecules (Transcription Factor)

The other parameters same than constitutive

Note the difference in time scales: transcription (mRNA) in minutes, translation (Protein) hours.









Now, as mRNA is much faster than Protein production... we use the same trick than before (QSSA):

$$[mRNA] \approx 0$$

$$0 = k_1 C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]} - d_1[mRNA] \longrightarrow [mRNA] = \frac{k_1}{d_1} C_N \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]}$$

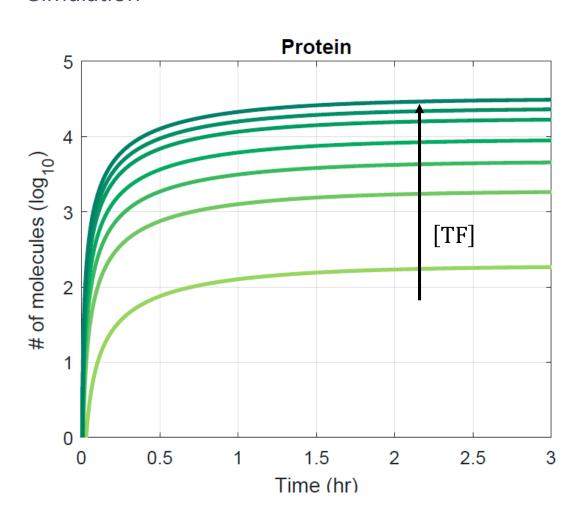
$$\frac{d[\text{Protein}]}{dt} = [\text{Protein}] = \alpha \frac{[\text{TF}]}{K_d + [\text{TF}]} - d_2[\text{Protein}]$$

$$\alpha = k_2 \frac{k_1}{d_1} C_N$$





Simulation



$$[Protein] = \alpha \frac{[TF]}{K_d + [TF]} - d_2[Protein]$$

$$\alpha = k_2 \frac{k_1}{d_1} C_N$$

With:

 $\alpha = 720 \text{ molecules min}^{-1}$

 $K_d = 2$ molecules

 $d_2 = 0.02 \text{ min}^{-1}$

(this means 34 min of doubling time)

[TF]: from 0.1 molecule to 25 molecules of Transcription Factor





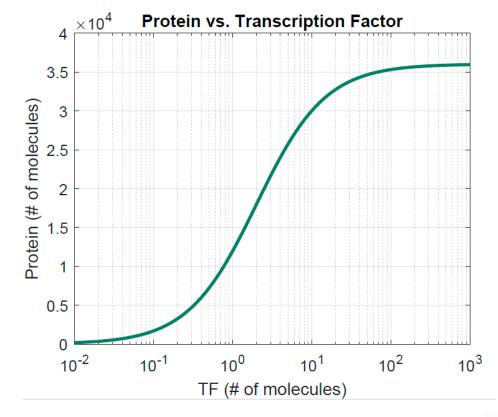


Now, if we want the steady state we can use the same trick (QSSA) that we used before (equilibrium expression of protein, data at the end of the experiment)

[Protein] ≈ 0

[Protein] =
$$\frac{\alpha}{d_2} \frac{[\text{TF}]}{K_d + [\text{TF}]}$$

$$\alpha = k_2 \frac{k_1}{d_1} C_N$$









Modeling I: ODEs and Hill Functions

Section 3: Hill function examples and intuitions

by Alejandro Vignoni (vignoni@isa.upv.es)

An iGEM Engineering Committee Webinar Webinar 2, May 25th, 2021









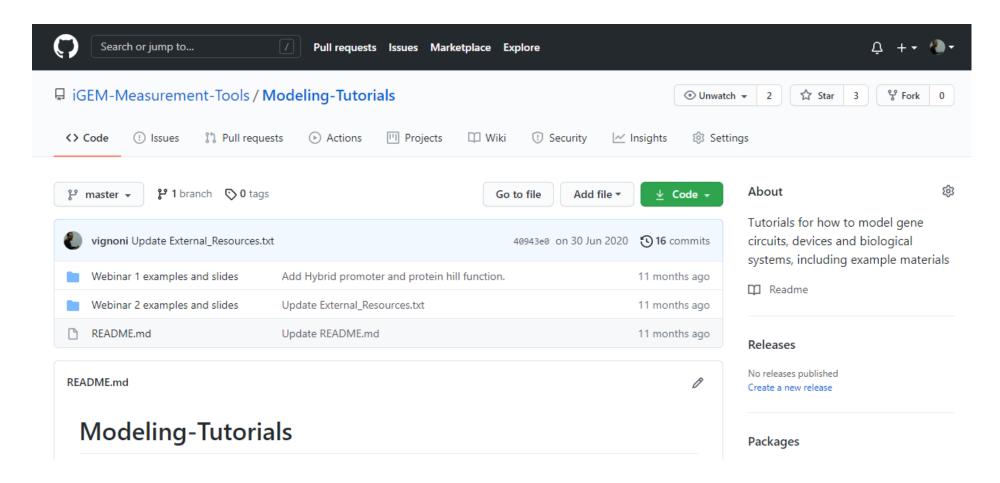
Today Webinar's Topics

- △ Section 1: ODEs, the law of mass action, and the central dogma (~15 min)
- A Section 2: Derivation of a Hill function from the law of mass action (15 min)
- A Section 3: Hill function examples and intuitions: effects of parameters on activators, repressors, hybrid promoters, using a Matlab exploration package. (15min)
- △ Q&A (at the end of each 15 minutes block, total 15 min)





Matlab exploration packages and resources:

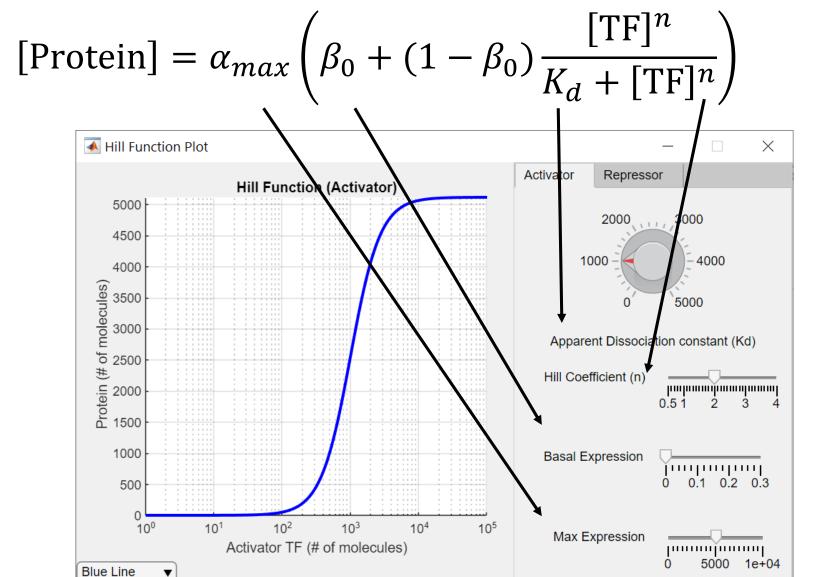


https://github.com/iGEM-Measurement-Tools/Modeling-Tutorials





Activator



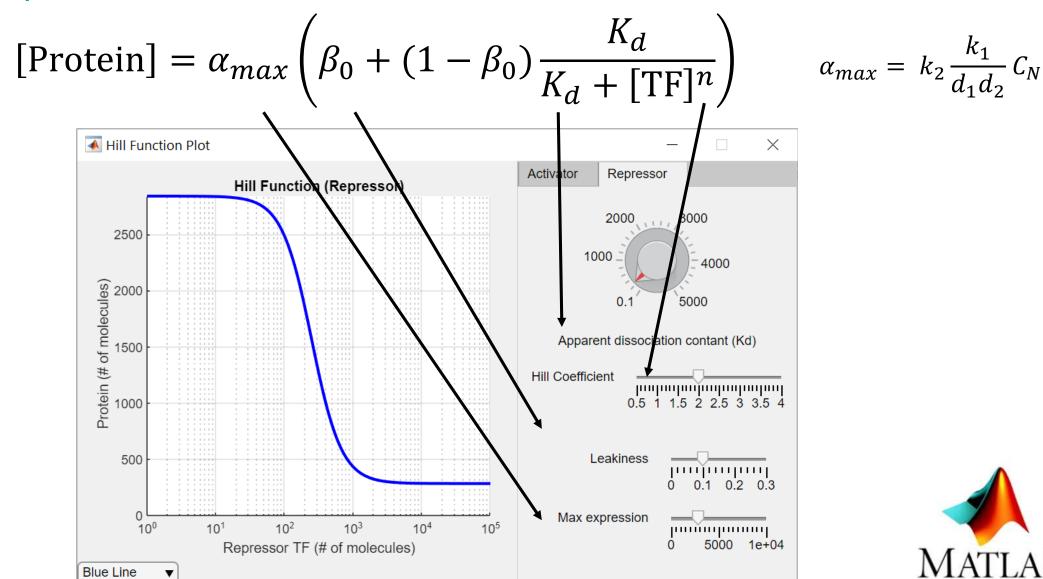
$$\alpha_{max} = k_2 \frac{k_1}{d_1 d_2} C_N$$







Repressor





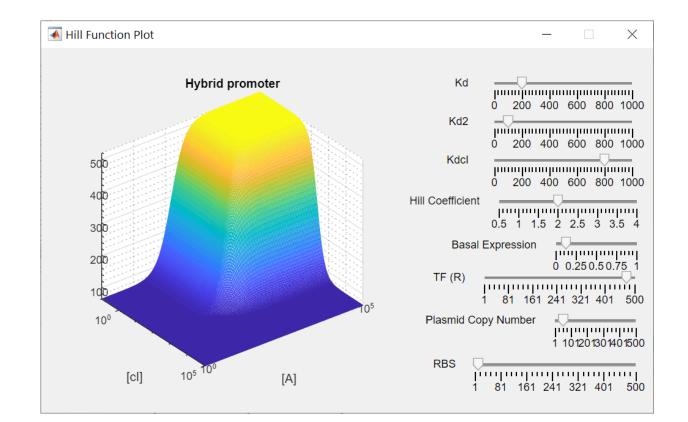






Hybrid promoter

$$[Protein] = \alpha_{max} \left(\beta_0 + (1 - \beta_0) \frac{\frac{1}{k_{dlux}} \left(\frac{[R][A]}{k_{d2}C_N} \right)}{1 + \frac{1}{k_{dlux}} \left(\frac{[R][A]}{k_{d2}C_N} \right)^2} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[cI]^2}{k_{dcI}C_N}} \right)$$







Follow-up questions?





- After the seminar, ask us questions over on StackExchange!
- Bring your biology questions to: https://biology.stackexchange.com/
- Bioinformatics questions may be better on: https://bioinformatics.stackexchange.com/
- Get help with the websites at: <u>https://2021.igem.org/Engineering/StackExchange</u> and on slack in #stackexchange
- or contact me by email (vignoni@isa.upv.es)

Next modeling webinar -> Webinar 5:

Modeling circuits with ODEs and experimental data, stay tuned!

Go check out the Engineering Hub! https://2021.igem.org/Engineering

Thank You & Have an Exceptional Year of iGEM!