Software Tool Article

cy3sabiork: A Cytoscape app for visualizing kinetic data from SABIO-RK

*Matthias König¹\**

1Humboldt-University Berlin, Institute for Theoretical Biology, Invalidenstraße 43, 10115 Berlin, Germany

\*Corresponding author: konigmatt@googlemail.com

# Abstract

Kinetic data of biochemical reactions are essential for the creation of kinetic models of biochemical networks. SABIO-RK is a curated database for kinetic data of biochemical reactions and their related information. The data ca

Web interface and web service

SBML

A seamless integration with the SABIO-RK web services is provided which allows direct queries from within Cytoscape.

Alternatively advanced queries can be performed on the SABIO-RK web page and the results be exported as SBML which then is imported using cy3sabiork.

Cy3sabiork is a Cytoscape 3 app for the visualization of kinetic data from

Cy3sabiork reads kinetic information in the Systems Biology Markup Language (SBML) format.

This visualization method allows for easy comparison of kinetic data, visual inspection of the elements involved in the kinetic record and simple access to the annotation information of the kinetic record.

# Keywords

Data display, Graphical user interfaces, Web service, SABIO-RK, kinetic parameters, SBML

# Introduction

One of the main challenges for the modeling of biochemical systems is the availability of reliable information on the individual reaction steps and their kinetics from the literature. This information includes kinetic parameters with their rate equations as well as detailed descriptions of how these were determined {Wittig2014}.

SABIO-RK is a manually curated database storing comprehensive information about biochemical reactions and their kinetic properties, with data manually extracted from the literature and directly submitted from lab experiments {Wittig2012, Wittig2014}. Available information comprises kinetic parameters with their corresponding rate equations, kinetic law and parameter types and experimental conditions under which the kinetic data were determined. In addition, information about the biochemical reactions and pathways including their reaction participants, cellular location and the catalyzing enzyme are recorded {Wittig2012}.

The information in SABIO-RK is structured in datasets, so called database entries, which can be accessed either through the web-based user interface (<http://sabio.h-its.org/>) or via web services (<http://sabiork.h-its.org/sabioRestWebServices>). Both interfaces support the export of the data in the Systems Biology Markup Language (SBML), a free and open interchange format for computer models of biological processes {Hucka2003}.

SBML can be annotated based on Minimum Information Required for the Annotation of Models (MIRIAM; {Laibe2007}), a set of controlled vocabularies in systems biology.

## Semantic annotations & Knowledge Integration

“Especially for computational modelling and computer assisted exchange of knowledge, a definition of standard data exchange formats and a common language are essential [20]. Therefore, the use of existing ontologies and controlled vocabularies for all reaction participants (e.g. small chemical compounds and proteins), as well as for kinetic rate laws, parameters, units, etc., is essential.” {Wittig2014}

The annotation information in form of RDF-based MIRIAM annotations and XML based SABIO-RK annotations of the kinetic records are made accessible. Hyperlinks to annotated online resources are provided, i.e. via SABIO-RK internal identifiers and.identifiers from external databases ChEBI {deMatos2010}, UniProtKB {UniProtConsortium2011}, Pubmed, or KEGG {Kanehisa2010}. In this way, information from a wide range of resources and databases is integrated with the graph visualization of the kinetic records. This allows for instance direct access to the publication from which the kinetic information was retrieved or the Protein for which the kinetic information was measured.

## P*roblem and* solution. What is new?

Despite the importance of kinetic information for modelling there is no easy way to visualize the kinetic information from kinetic records in SABIO-RK. There is currently no visualization tool enabling the visualization of kinetic records from SABIO-RK. Therefore, we developed the Cytoscape app cy3sabiork, that takes advantage of the web service and SBML export from SABIO-RK for importing and displaying graphs of the kinetic records in Cytoscape.

Cy3sabiork provides access to the following information of SABIO-RK database entries via the graph structure and annotations of nodes: (I) reaction details, enzyme and organism; (II) Kinetic law, formula, parameters; (III) Experimental conditions; (IV) Source

The annotation information and semantic layer accessible to the user and linking these data to additional web resources.

We applied cy3sabiork for the search of kinetic parameters for the galactose metabolism in Human liver.

# **Methods**

## Implementation

Cy3sabiork was written in Java as an OSGi bundle. The CyActivator adds a cy3sabiork tab with specific functionality to the Cytoscape “Results Panel”. SABIO-RK data is retrieved via the SABIO-RK web interface or programmatically using HTTP requests to the REST web services. SBML is used as exchange format which is imported using a Cytoscape Task created by the LoadNetworkFileTaskFactory. CyNetworks and CyNetworkViews for the imported kinetic data are created by a CyNetworkReader registered for SBML files provided by cy3sbml {Koenig2012}. The SBML CyNetworkReader was extended for cy3sabiork to support the SABIO-RK specific annotations and data.

## Operation

Visualizing kinetic records data with cy3sabiork consists of two steps:

(I) Searching kinetic records for visualization via either the web services in the cy3sabiork panel (**Figure 1**) or via the SABIO-RK web interface

“The web-based user interfaces enable the user to search for reactions and their kinetics by specifying characteristics of the reactions. It offers the creation of complex queries by specifying reactions by their participants (substrates, products, inhibitors, activators etc.) or identifiers (KEGG or SABIO-RK reaction identifiers and KEGG, SABIO-RK, ChEBI or PubChem(7) compound identifiers), pathways, enzymes, UniProt identifiers, organisms, tissues or cellular locations, kinetic parameters, environmental conditions or literature sources (Figure 1).” {Wittig2012}

Various search criteria are selectable to search for biochemical reactions and their kinetics. Beside a free text search, complex and detailed queries can be executed in the advanced search. This may include the combination of several search criteria [e.g. reaction participants (substrates, products, inhibitors, activators etc.), pathways, enzymes, organisms, tissues or cellular locations, kinetic parameters, environmental conditions or literature Sources].” {Wittig2014}

“Search criteria now include the search for organism taxonomy based on NCBI {Sayers2012}, compound classification based on ChEBI ontology {deMatos2010} and tissue ontology based on BRENDA tissue ontology (BTO) {Gremse2011}” {Wittig 2012}

(II) Loading the kinetic records in SBML format in Cytoscape. In case of searching

All annotation information is available via the cy3sbml panel, providing direct links to additional resources for the kinetic law.

# Use Cases

cy3sabiork was used in model construction of a kinetic model of galactose metabolism of the human liver (<https://github.com/matthiaskoenig/multiscale-galactose>). The typical workflow with example queries for kinetic data for the galactokinase (EC:2.7.1.6, UniProtKB:P51570), the first step of galactose metabolization in the liver are shown in **Figure 1**. The corresponding SBML of the query is provided in **Supplementary File S1**. In the example the SABIO-RK kinetic record 14792 is retrieved.

The more complex query retrieving all wildtype kinetic records for the galactose metabolism in homo sapiens is shown in **Figure 2**, with the resulting graph depicted in **Figure 3**.

As part of the model building publications with kinetic information not yet included in SABIO-RK were included in the database via the SABIO-RK curation service.

# Conclusion

cy3sabiork provides the means for visual analysis and inspection of kinetic data from SABIO-RK. Hereby, the integration of kinetic data with computational models of biochemical reactions is supported. The availability of direct links to the SABIO-RK database and ontology annotations of the kinetic records provide additional knowledge integration.

# Data and software availability

cy3sabiork is freely available from the Cytoscape app store <http://apps.cytoscape.org/apps/cy3sabiork>. The code is open source under GNU General Public License, version 3 (GPL-3.0) license available at <https://github.com/matthiaskoenig/cy3sabiork>.

# Author contributions

MK developed the app and wrote the manuscript. We thank the SABIO-RK team, the SBML community, and Cytoscape community for their support and help. A special thanks to the curation team of SABIO-RK including additional kinetic data in the database based on provided publications.

# Competing interests

No competing interests.

# **Grant information**

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# **Supplementary material**

Supplementary File S1: SBML for query <http://sabiork.h-its.org/sabioRestWebServices/kineticLaws/14792> (see Figure 1)

Supplementary File S2: SBML for query <http://sabiork.h-its.org/kineticLawEntry.jsp?viewData=true&kinlawid=14792> (see Figure 2 and Figure 3)

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# Figures

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| cy3sabiork-Figure1.png |
| **Figure 1**. Overview of cy3sabiork workflow. **A**) Workflow diagram. Kinetic data from SABIO-RK is retrieved via the web services or the web interface. The entries are encoded in SBML, which is read and the CyNetworks for the entries are generated. **B**) Overview of kinetic data for a single SABIO-RK entry. In the example the data for entry 14792 is displayed available from <http://sabiork.h-its.org/kineticLawEntry.jsp?viewData=true&kinlawid=14792>. **C**) cy3sabiork information for entry 14792 retrieved with the web service query <http://sabiork.h-its.org/sabioRestWebServices/kineticLaws/14792> (the corresponging SBML of the query is available as **Supplementary File 1**): [1] Resulting species-reaction-modifier graph. The galacokinase enzyme catalyzes the conversion of D-Galactose + ATP → α-D-Galactose 1-phosphate + ADP. Selecting nodes in the graph provides access to the annotation information and links to databases. ; [2] kinetic graph having additional nodes for the KineticLaw, Parameters and Localization; [3] After selecting the Kinetic Law in the kinetic graph the kinetic law information is displayed in the Results Panel. [4] MIRIAM annotations with respective links to databases, in this case for the selected KineticLaw; [5] Additional annotations with database links. |

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| webservice_GUI.pngtable_GUI.png |
| **Figure 2**. cy3sabiork GUI for web service queries. A) Query GUI. Queries are performed from the query GUI. B) Kinetic entry GUI. The resulting kinetic data retrived via the web service call are displayed. After clicking okay the kinetic data is imported. |

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| SABIOmdl08Jun2016039_galactose_metabolism.png |
| **Figure 3**. Graph of SABIO-RK kinetic records for the Human galactose metabolism, consisting of 47 entries (query 2016-06-08, Organism=”homo sapiens” & Pathway=”galactose metabolism” & wildtype=True, SBML for query available as **Supplement S2**). Three clusters can be seen, depending on the localization of the reported protein. The lysosomal reactions are non-canonical reactions in the galactose pathway.  sabiork.h-its.org/sabioRestWebServices/searchKineticLaws/sbml?q=Pathway:"galactose metabolism" AND Organism:"homo sapiens" |

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