
Simulation of an exclusive genetic switch

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Simulation part of Homework 2.3

set parameters

I used the default parameter set as in Figure 3, but leave α_0 flexible (the value depends on k).

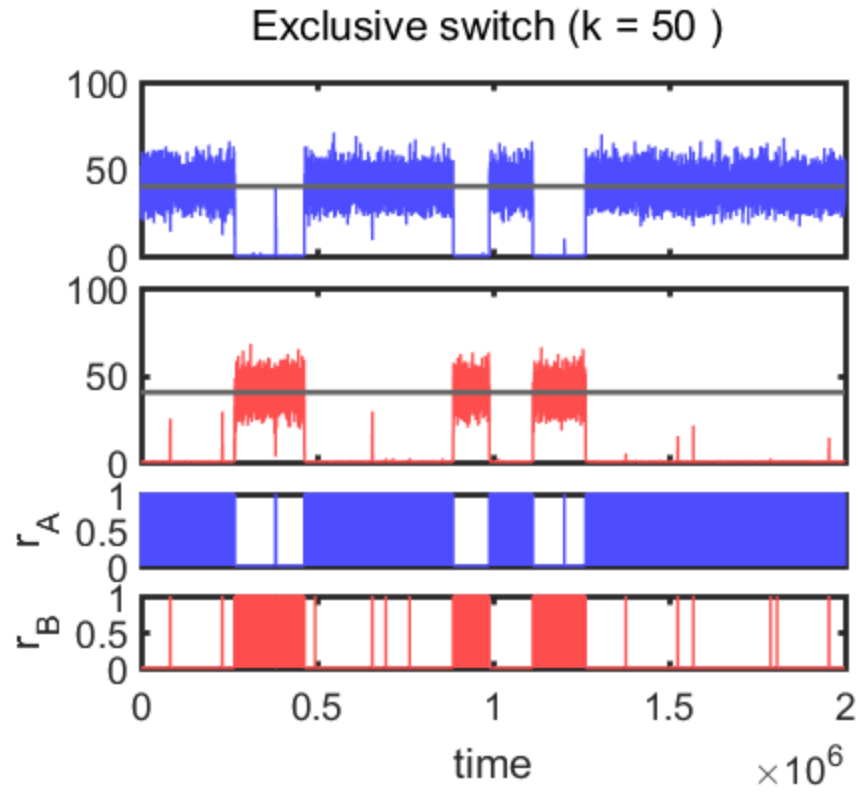
```
clear; clc
global k gA gB dA dB alpha0 alpha1
gA = 0.2;      gB = 0.2;
dA = 0.005;   dB = 0.005;
alpha1 = 0.01;
% initial value, as in the text
X0 = [gA/dA, 0, 0 0];      % [A B rA rB]
rng(1) % set seed
```

Simulations

I used the Gillespie method to simulate the system with $k = 50$, $k = 1$, $k = 0.05$, and $k = 0.005$.

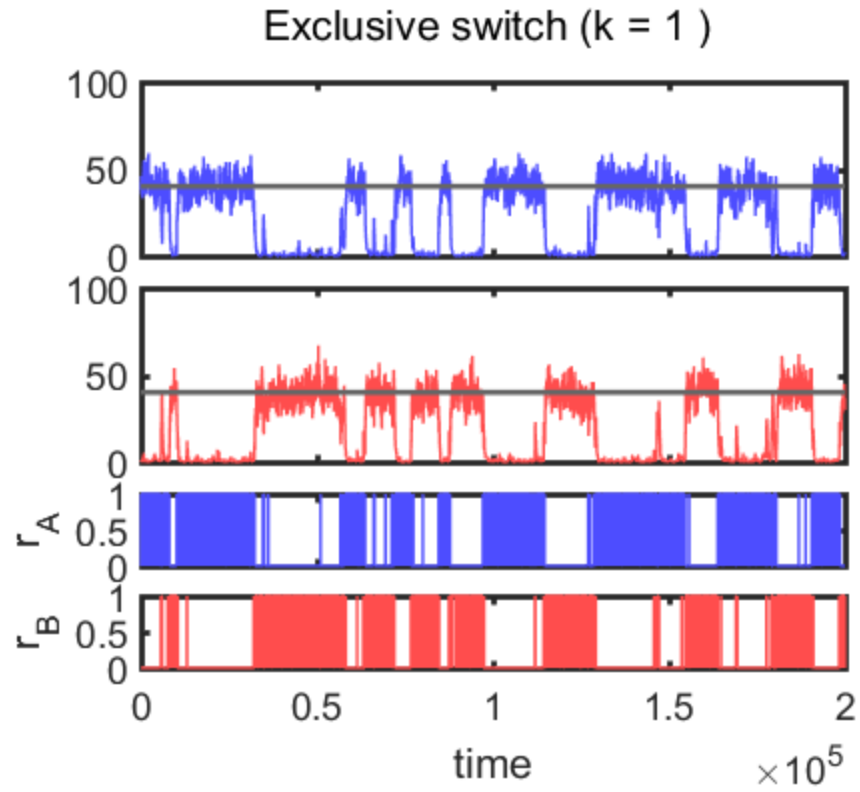
k = 50

```
k = 50;
alpha0 = alpha1*k;
tlim = 2e6;
% Simulation:
[t, x] = switchGillespie(X0, tlim);
% Plotting the results: The plotting scripts are saved in a separate
m-file
script_plot_switchGillespie
```



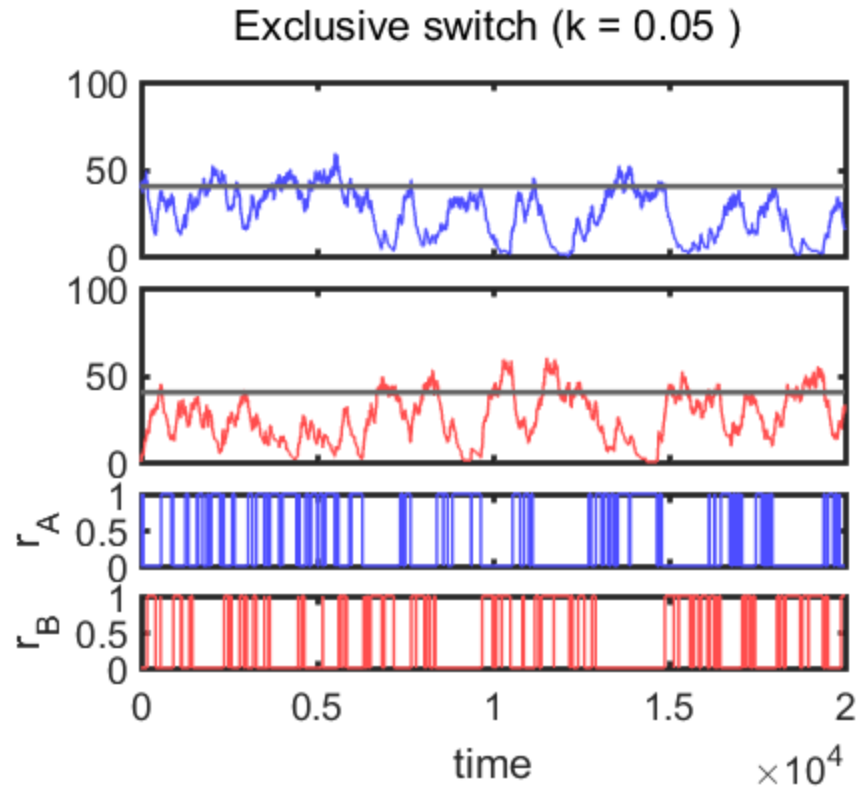
k = 1

```
k = 1;  
alpha0 = alpha1*k;  
tlim = 2e5;  
% simulation  
[t, x] = switchGillespie(X0, tlim);  
% plotting the results  
script_plot_switchGillespie
```



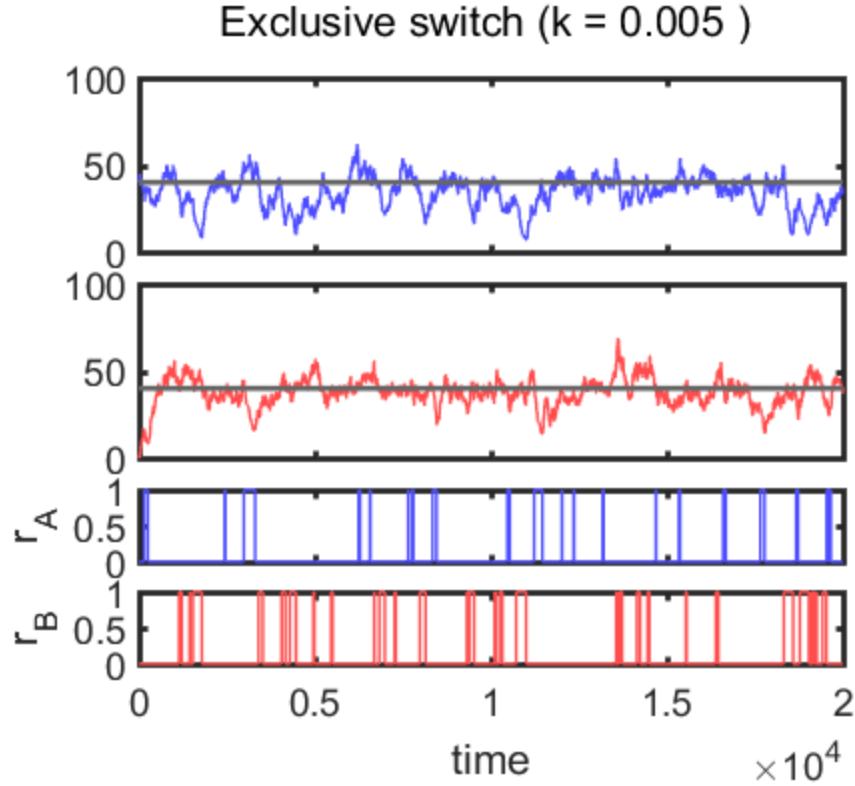
k = 0.05

```
k = 0.05;  
alpha0 = alpha1*k;  
tlim = 2e4;  
% simulation  
[t, x] = switchGillespie(X0, tlim);  
% plotting the results  
script_plot_switchGillespie
```



k = 0.005

```
k = 0.005;  
alpha0 = alpha1*k;  
tlim = 2e4;  
% simulation  
[t, x] = switchGillespie(X0, tlim);  
% plotting the results  
script_plot_switchGillespie
```



Synopsis

(Note that the time scales (x-axes) are different in the four plots.)

The switching time between the two states increased with increasing k (increasing α_0 , the binding rate).

With larger k ($k = 50$ and $k = 1$) and N_A and N_B reach the "carrying capacity" (g/d , the gray lines) between the switches, and the exclusive binding site was occupied most of the time ($r_A = 1$ or $r_B = 1$).

With small k ($k = 0.05$ and $k = 0.005$), N_A and N_B both fluctuate about the the carrying capacity, the switches is much more frequent and thus not obvious on the plots. The exclusive binding site was not occupied for a lot of times points ($r_A = r_B = 0$), thats when the fluctuatuation of N_A and N_B seem unrelated.

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