

# Modeling and Simulation in Computational Systems Biology

# Lecture 1: Ordinary Differential Equations and the Applications in Modeling



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- General Introduction for ODEs
- Modeling with ODEs

# A Chemically Reacting System



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- Molecules of N chemical species  $S_1, \ldots, S_N$ 
  - In a Volume  $\,\,\Omega$ , at temperature

• Different conformation or excitation levels are considered different species if they behave differently



• *M* elemental reaction channels  $R_1, \ldots, R_M$ 

• Each  $R_j$  describes a single instantaneous physical event which changes the population of at least one species. For example,

$$A \rightarrow S_i$$
,  
or  $S_i \rightarrow$  something else,  
or  $S_i + S_j \rightarrow$  something else.



For each species, assign a state variable, which describes its concentration or population.



Basic Deterministic Assumption:

The state change is proportional to the state of the reactants and time

$$\Delta X_1(t) = -kX_1(t)X_2(t)\Delta t$$

$$X'_{1}(t) = -kX_{1}(t)X_{2}(t)$$



Many scientific applications result in the following system of equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(t,x)$$

**Example: Newton's Motion Law**  $F = m\ddot{x}$ 

which is called ordinary differential equations (ODEs).

Two types:

- Initial value problem (IVP)
- Boundary value problem (BVP)

# **Analytic Solution**



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There are a few types of ODEs for which we are able to obtain analytic solution and analyze their properties.

• Equation with separable variables

$$y' = f(x)g(y) \implies \int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int f(x)dx + C$$

– example

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$$y' = \lambda y$$

Total differential equations

$$P(x,y) + Q(x,y)y' = 0$$

– example

$$y' = \lambda y$$

# When we cannot find analytic solution

- Existence
  - Continuous function
- Uniqueness
  - Lipschitz condition

$$\left\|f(t,y) - f(t,z)\right\| \le L \left\|y - z\right\|$$

- Equilibrium State
- Stability
  - Example: linear system
  - Lyapunov function

$$y' = Ay$$







# **Numerical Solution**



- Multistep Methods
  - Euler method
  - Adams method
  - BDF method

- Runge-Kutta Methods
  - Explicit RK
  - Implicit RK

### **Softwares for Numerical Solution**



- DASSL (BDF method)
- CVODE (BDF method)
- RADAU5 (RK method)
- MATLAB functions



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• Degradation



This process can be modeled as

$$S \xrightarrow{k} \emptyset$$

which can be further formulated into reaction rate equations (RREs)

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -kx$$



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Isomerization



 $S_1 \xrightarrow{k} S_2$ 

which can be further formulated into RREs

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -kx_1$$
$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = kx_1$$



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Reversible Isomerization



which can be further formulated into RREs

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -k_1 x_1 + k_{-1} x_2$$
$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = k_1 x_1 - k_{-1} x_2$$

# **Channel Gating Mechanisms**



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Open

# AChR: Proposed gating mechanism (Unwin, 1995)



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Closed



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• Dimerization (Bi-molecular Reaction)



This process can be modeled as

$$S_1 + S_2 \xrightarrow{k} S_3$$

which can be further formulated into RREs

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -kx_1x_2$$
$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -kx_1x_2$$
$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = kx_1x_2$$

## **Bi-molecular Reaction**







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Reversible Dimerization



This process can be modeled as

$$S_1 + S_2 \xrightarrow[k_{-1}]{k_1} S_3$$

which can be further formulated into RRE

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -k_1 x_1 x_2 + k_{-1} x_3$$
$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -k_1 x_1 x_2 + k_{-1} x_3$$
$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = k_1 x_1 x_2 - k_{-1} x_3$$

# **Example of a Simple System**



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Each icon represents a chemical species. Each arrow represents a chemical reaction that occurs at a certain rate.

For each species, we can write a rate equation, for example: d[Cyclin]/dt = synthesis – degradation – binding + dissociation



#### 1. Synthesis

$$X(t) = [\text{cyclin}]$$
$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k_1, \quad X(0) = X_0$$
$$X(t) = X_0 + k_1 t$$

Estimate  $k_1$  from the "red" data:





### 2. Degradation

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = -k_2 X, \quad X(0) = X_0$$

 $X(t) = X_0 e^{-k_2 t}$ 

$$X(t_{1/2}) = \frac{1}{2} X_0 = X_0 e^{-k_2 t_{1/2}} = \frac{1}{e^{k_2 t_{1/2}}} X_0$$

2 = 
$$e^{k_2 t_{1/2}}$$
, or  $t_{1/2} = \frac{\ln 2}{k_2} \cong \frac{0.7}{k_2}$ 

Estimate k<sub>2</sub> from the "blue" and "green" data above. How can it be that cyclin has different half-lives in different phases of the cell cycle?



#### 3. Dimerization

$$X(t) = [\text{cyclin}], C(t) = [\text{Cdc2}], M(t) = [\text{dimer}],$$
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = k_3 C(t) X(t) = k_3 (C_0 - M) (X_0 - M), M(0) = 0$$

$$M(t) = \frac{C_0 X_0 (1 - e^{-\alpha t})}{C_0 - X_0 e^{-\alpha t}}, \text{ where } \alpha = k_3 (C_0 - X_0)$$

Estimate  $k_3$  from the data below, given that  $C_0 = 100$  nM.





#### 4. Synthesis and Degradation

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k_1 - k_2 X, \ X(0) = 0,$$

$$X(t) = \frac{k_1}{k_2} \left( 1 - e^{-k_2 t} \right)$$

Note: as 
$$t \to \infty$$
,  $X(t) \to \frac{k_1}{k_2}$  (stable steady state)

From your previous estimates of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , estimate the steady state concentrations of cyclin in interphase and late anaphase (end of mitosis).

Phase	$k_1$	$k_2$	$X_{\rm ss}$
Interphase			
Anaphase			



- General Introduction for ODEs
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#### **Malthus Model**



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# **Thomas Malthus**

## An Essay on the Principle of Population

An Essay on the Principle of Population, as it Affects the Future Improvement of Society with Remarks on the Speculations of Mr. Godwin, M. Condorcet, and Other Writers.

LONDON, PRINTED FOR J. JOHNSON, IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD, 1798.

"I SAID that population, when unchecked, increased in a geometrical ratio, and subsistence for man in an arithmetical ratio. "

---- Thomas Malthus

#### Malthus Model:

<u>Assumption</u>: the reproduction rate is proportional to the size of the population

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP, \ k =$$
growth rate per capita

Solution:  $P(t) = P(0)e^{kt}$ 

k > 0: exponential growth, k < 0: exponential decay

C, S, E

The reproduction rate is proportional to the population

 $P(t + \Delta t) = P(t) + kP(t)\Delta t$ 

Solve it we have

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{k(t-t_0)}$$

The population in the United States in year 1790 is  $3.9 \times 10^6$  .

The correspondingpopulation in year1800 is $5.3 \times 10^6$ 

# With a data fitting, we obtain:

 $P(t) = 3.9 \times 10^6 e^{0.0307(t-1790)}$ 





 Developed by Belgian mathematician Pierre Verhulst (1838) in 1838

• The rate of population increase may be limited, i.e., it may depend on population density

$$P(t + \Delta t) = P(t) + k(P(t))\Delta t$$

where

$$k(P(t)) = k_0 \left(1 - \frac{P(t)}{P_m}\right) P(t)$$

The solution is

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{k_0(t-t_0)} \frac{P_m}{P_0 e^{k_0(t-t_0)} + (P_m - P_0)} = \frac{P_m}{1 + (\frac{P_m}{P_0} - 1)e^{-k_0(t-t_0)}}$$

#### **Logistic Population Model**



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Model and Data: the population of the United States

The solution of the Logistic model

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{k_0(t-t_0)} \frac{P_m}{P_0 e^{k_0(t-t_0)} + (P_m - P_0)} = \frac{P_m}{1 + (\frac{P_m}{P_0} - 1)e^{-k_0(t-t_0)}}$$

#### With a data fitting

$$P_m = 197 \times 10^6$$
,  $k_0 = 0.03134$ 



Let the population of two species be x(t) and y(t), and they compete in the same environment. If there is no competition, the population of X will satisfy

$$\dot{x}(t) = r_1 x(t) (1 - \frac{x}{N_1})$$

With the competition,

$$\dot{x}(t) = r_1 x(t) (1 - \frac{x + \alpha y}{N_1})$$

For another species, there is a similar equation

$$\dot{y}(t) = r_2 y(t) (1 - \frac{y + \beta x}{N_2})$$

The physical meaning of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  can be understood as:

$$\alpha = \frac{\text{the resource each X species consume}}{\text{the resource each Y species consume}}$$

Thus we have

$$\alpha\beta = 1$$



State Dynamics Plot: state vs time,

Phase Plot: the state space, use arrow to represent the tangent vector

The phase plot reveals the geometric property of a dynamic system represented by a pair of ODEs.





Example: from different initial value, the trajectory follow the direction of the arrows and reaches to its equilibrium state



**State Dynamics Plot vs Phase Plot** 



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However, a slight change of parameters make a big difference in phase plot and lead to a different conclusion

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = 0.1x(1 - \frac{x + y}{100}) \\ \dot{y}(t) = 0.1y(1 - \frac{x + y}{90}) \end{cases}$$

#### **State Dynamics Plot vs Phase Plot**



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A direct analysis through the phase plot

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = r_1 x \left(1 - \frac{x + \alpha y}{N_1}\right) \\ \dot{y}(t) = r_2 y \left(1 - \frac{\beta x + y}{N_2}\right) \end{cases}$$

The sign of the derivatives are decided by two values

 $N_1 - (x + \alpha y)$  and  $\alpha N_2 - (x + \alpha y)$ 

- If  $N_1 > \alpha N_2$ , X species will win.
- If  $N_1 < \alpha N_2$ , Y species will win.





- Lotka-Volterra Model
- The simplest model of predator-prey interactions developed independently by Lotka (1925) and Volterra (1926)
- Ancona's observation on Shark's population during world war I.







#### **Assumption:**

• The predator species is totally dependent on a single prey species as its only food supply,

• The prey species has an unlimited food supply, and there is no threat to the prey other than the specific predator.

Let X represent the prey and Y represent the predator, without the predator, the Malthus model can be applied

$$x = ax$$

However, because of the predator, r has to be modified

$$\dot{x} = (a - by)x$$

For the predator, the situation is just the opposite.

$$\dot{y} = (-c + dx)y$$

Thus we get the ODEs for this model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = (a - by)x\\ \dot{y} = (-c + dx)y \end{cases}$$

#### **Phase Plot Analysis**



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$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = (a - by)x\\ \dot{y} = (-c + dx)y \end{cases}$$

#### There are two corresponding equilibrium points:

(0,0) **or**  $(\frac{c}{d},\frac{a}{b})$ 



#### **Matlab Simulation Result**



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Based on example:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = (1 - 0.2y)x \\ \dot{y} = (-3 + 0.4x)y \end{cases}$$







The solution of the LV predator-prey model is

$$x = \frac{c}{d}, \quad y = \frac{a}{b}$$

where

- *a* : the natural reproduction rate for the prey
- b: the killing rate because of the predator
- c: the natural death rate for the predator
- d: the reproduction rate because of the prey

Question: Why the shark ratio increases during world war I?

#### **Parameter Analysis**



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$$x^* = \frac{c}{d}, \quad y^* = \frac{a}{b}$$

When fishing is introduced in the model, their effect will be increase the death rate of the predator and decrease the reproduction rate for the prey. Thus

$$c \rightarrow c + e, \quad a \rightarrow a - e$$





- S: Susceptible
- I: Infected
- **R:** Recovered/Removed

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\beta S(t)I(t)$$
$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \beta S(t)I(t) - \gamma I(t)$$
$$\frac{dR}{dt} = -\gamma I(t)$$

S(t)+I(t)+R(t)=N = the total population

## **SIR Model**



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From the original model, we have

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = -\beta S(t)I(t)$$
$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \beta S(t)I(t) - \gamma I(t) = [\beta S(t) - \gamma]I(t)$$

Note that this type of equations is similar to what we've seen before.