



Introduction to System biology



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Outline of the Lectures

1. **Introduction** to Systems Biology

- Basic Principles

2. **Modeling** of biochemical reactions

- Deterministic Models
- Stochastic Models

3. Biological **Networks**

- Types, Goal, Graph of biological networks

4. **Application** of Biological Systems

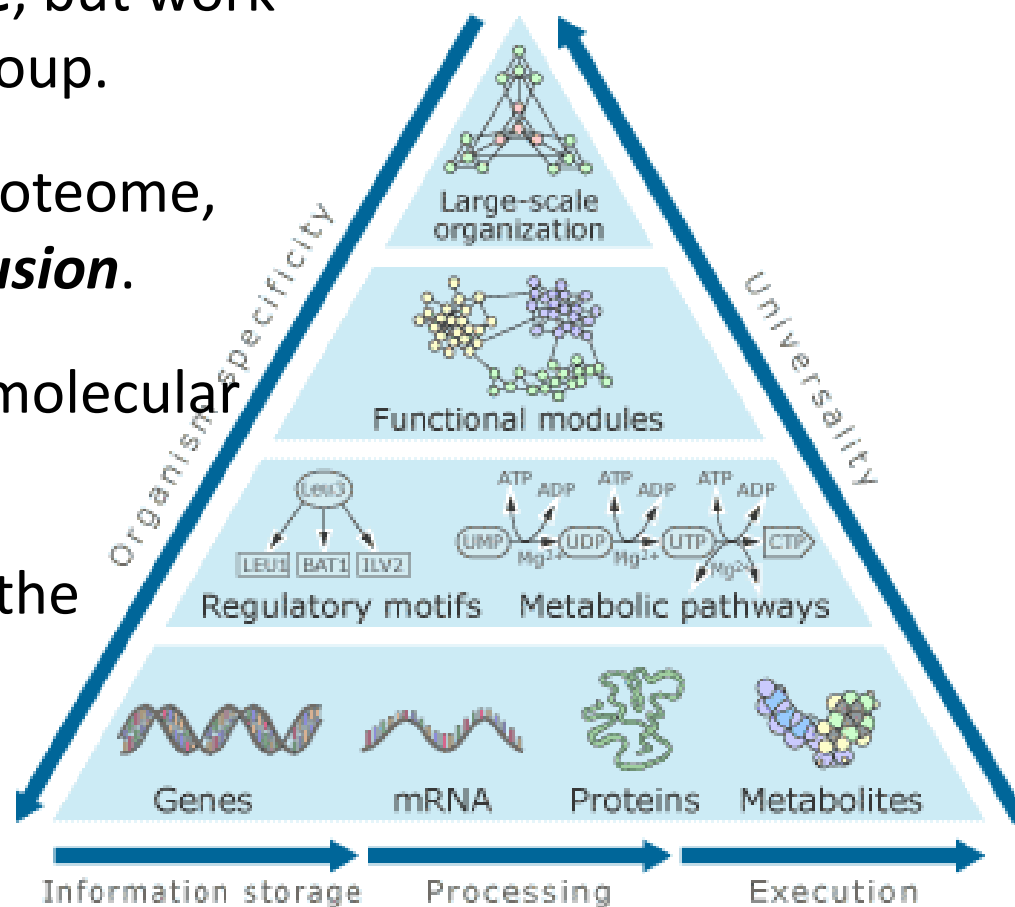


What is a system biology?



Why system biology?

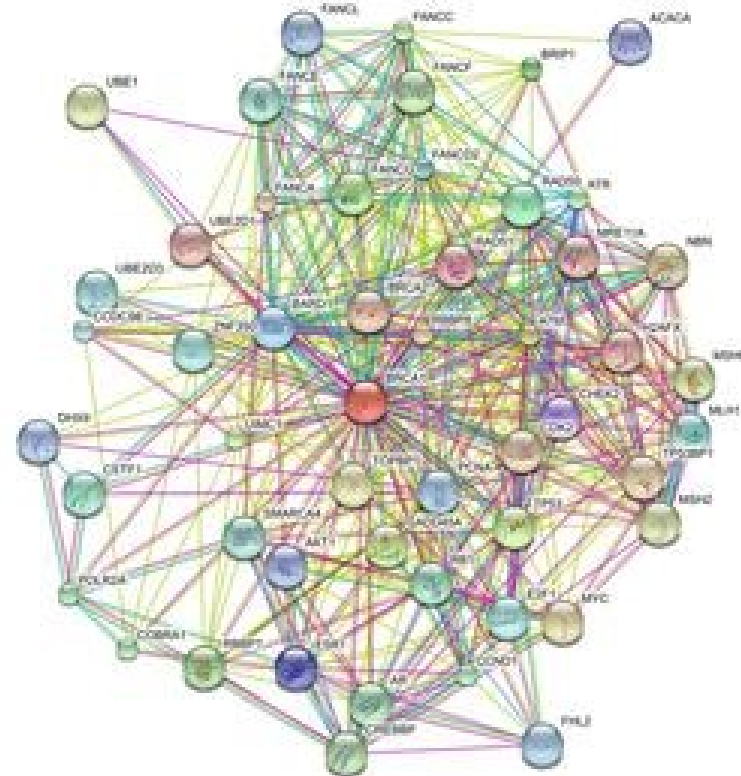
- **No single gene works alone**, but work as a group, and between group.
- Genome, Transcriptome, proteome, ect. ***require systemic conclusion***.
- **to increase knowledge** in (molecular and cell) biology
- **Prediction** the response of the system





What is system biology?

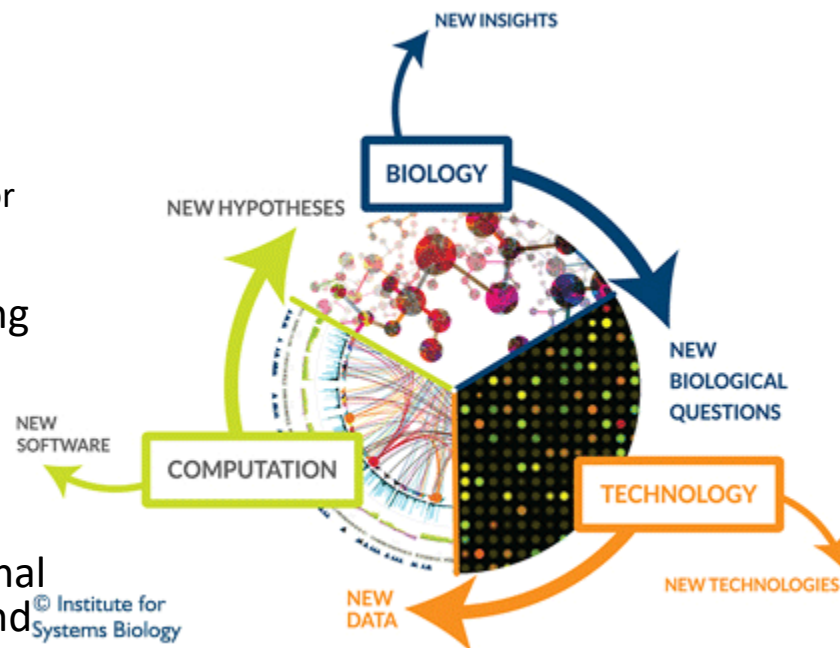
- a **whole-istic approach** to understanding biology
- to **understand biological systems** as a system or in simpler words
- **Present** basic **structure and dynamics properties** of model
- underpinning **inter- and intra-cellular dynamical** networks
- **cellular and organismal function**, rather than the characteristics of isolated parts of a cell or organism.





Definition of system biology

- Complex network of biologically relevant entities.
 - But consider in many scales: Whole body, organ, system, cell, organelle, ecosystem
 - Time scale e.g. period of response to adrenaline or year(s)
- the computational and mathematical modeling of complex biological systems.
- the integration of experimental and computational research
- monitoring the gene, protein, and informational pathway responses; integrating these data; and ultimately, formulating mathematical models that describe the structure of the system and its response to individual perturbations.
- also known as Systeomics





System biology workflow

Data

- Bottom up, from individual exp.
- Top down, from high through put exp.

Model

- Dynamic linkage or relationship
- Time course, concentration dependence

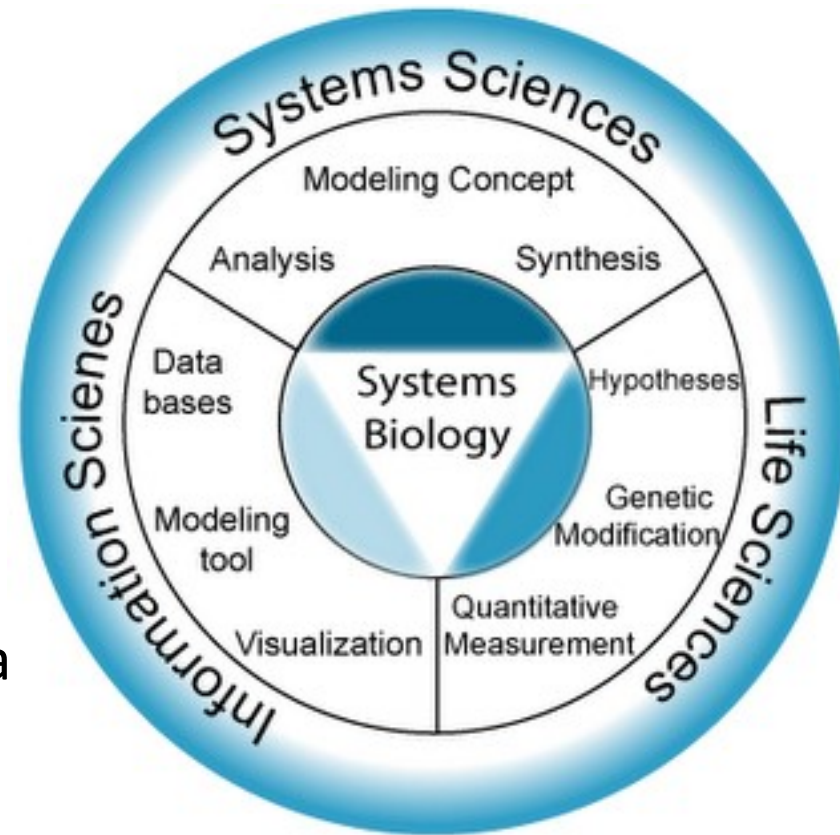
Network

- Combined models
- Cell or organ or organism



Main Related Disciplines

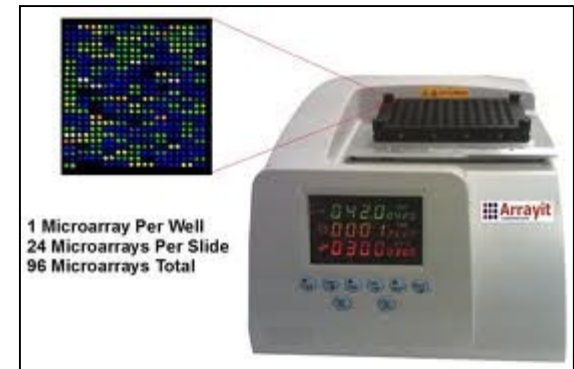
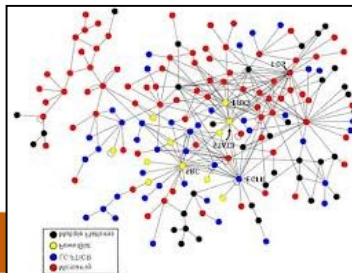
- (molecular) Biology
- Biotechnology
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Physics and Chemistry
- Information Science
- Engineering (Biomedical, Chemical, Computer, Systems & Control, Electronic)
- ...





Two approaches to gain data

1. **Bottom-up** (integrating independent experimental data into a conclusive representation of a network), or
 2. **Top-down approaches** (uses high-throughput data from DNA micro-array and other new measurement technologies).
- Then, integrating computational and theoretical methods with experimental efforts





Foundations of system biology

- New experimental **techniques** in genomics and proteomics
- Classical mathematical **modeling** of biological processes
- **Computer** power for simulation of complex systems
 - Storage and retrieval capability in large databases and data mining techniques
 - Internet as the medium for the widespread availability from multiple sources of knowledge



Goals of system biology

1. **Models** to reveal mechanisms causing alternated phenotypes and invent novel therapies and drugs
2. **Predictive tools** to design cells with desired properties cheaply and reliably (Health, biotechnology, industry, agriculture)
3. **Individualized and predictive medicine**
4. **GMOs** e.g.: biodegradable bacteria, biosynthetic fuel bacteria





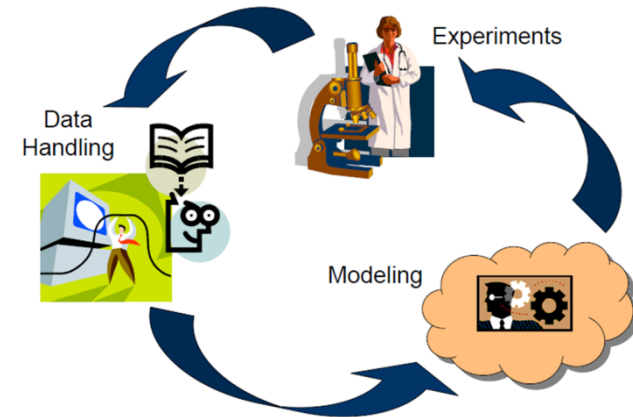
What is a Model?

- It depends on whom you ask...
 - Geneticist: the mouse model of certain study
 - Chemist: a reaction model, described by dots (for metabolites) and arrows (for reactions)
- **Abstract representation of objects** (enzyme, protein, gene) or processes (reaction, regulation) that explains features of these objects or processes (basic structure and dynamic properties)



Model Development

1. **Formulation** of the problem
2. Available **knowledge**
3. Selection of **model structure**
4. **Robustness/Sensitivity** analysis
 - Test the dependence of the system behavior on changes of the parameters
5. Experimental tests
6. Assessment of the agreement and divergences between experimental results and model behavior
7. Iterative refinement of the hypotheses (and of the model)





Model Organisms

Organism	Number of chromosomes (haploid genome)	Genome size (base pairs; genes)
<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> (prokaryote)	1 circular chromosome	$580 \cdot 10^3$ bp; 480 genes
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (prokaryote)	1 circular chromosome	$4.6 \cdot 10^6$ bp; 4,290 genes
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (budding yeast; eukaryote)	16 chromosomes	$12.5 \cdot 10^6$ bp; 6,186 genes
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> (flowering plant; eukaryote)	5 chromosomes	$100 \cdot 10^6$ bp; ~25,000 genes
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> (fruit fly, eukaryote)	4 chromosomes	$180 \cdot 10^6$ bp; ~14,000 genes
<i>Mus musculus</i> (mouse, eukaryote)	20 chromosomes	$2.5 \cdot 10^9$ bp; ~30,000 genes
<i>Homo sapiens</i> (human, eukaryote)	23 chromosomes	$2.9 \cdot 10^9$; ~30,000 genes



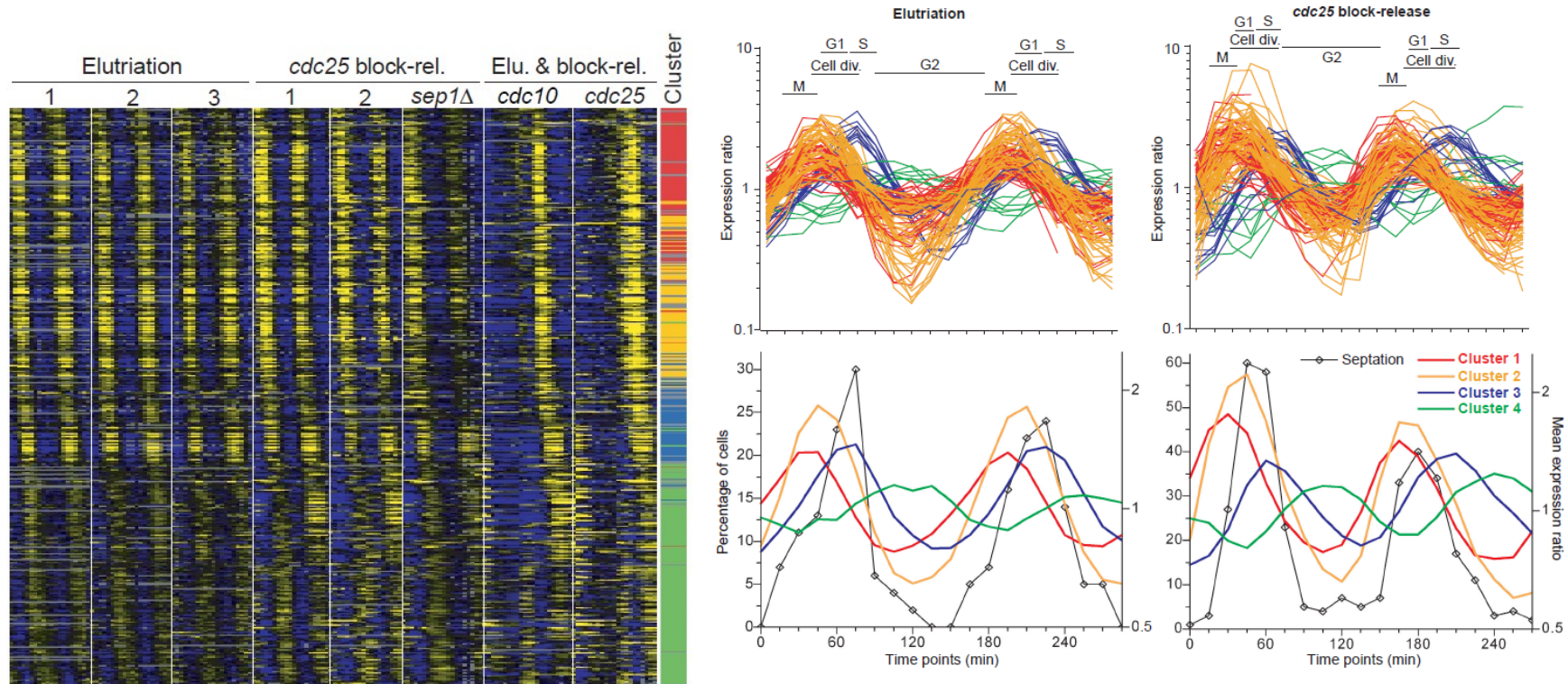
Getting Experimental Data

- How to get quantitative data out of experiments designed to give qualitative answers
- Gel Electrophoresis
- Hybridization and Blotting
- Yeast Two-Hybrid (Y2H)
- Probes Hybridization
- Mass Spectrometry
- RNA Interference (RNAi)
- DNA Microarrays, Protein Microarrays, Proteomics (Topdown)



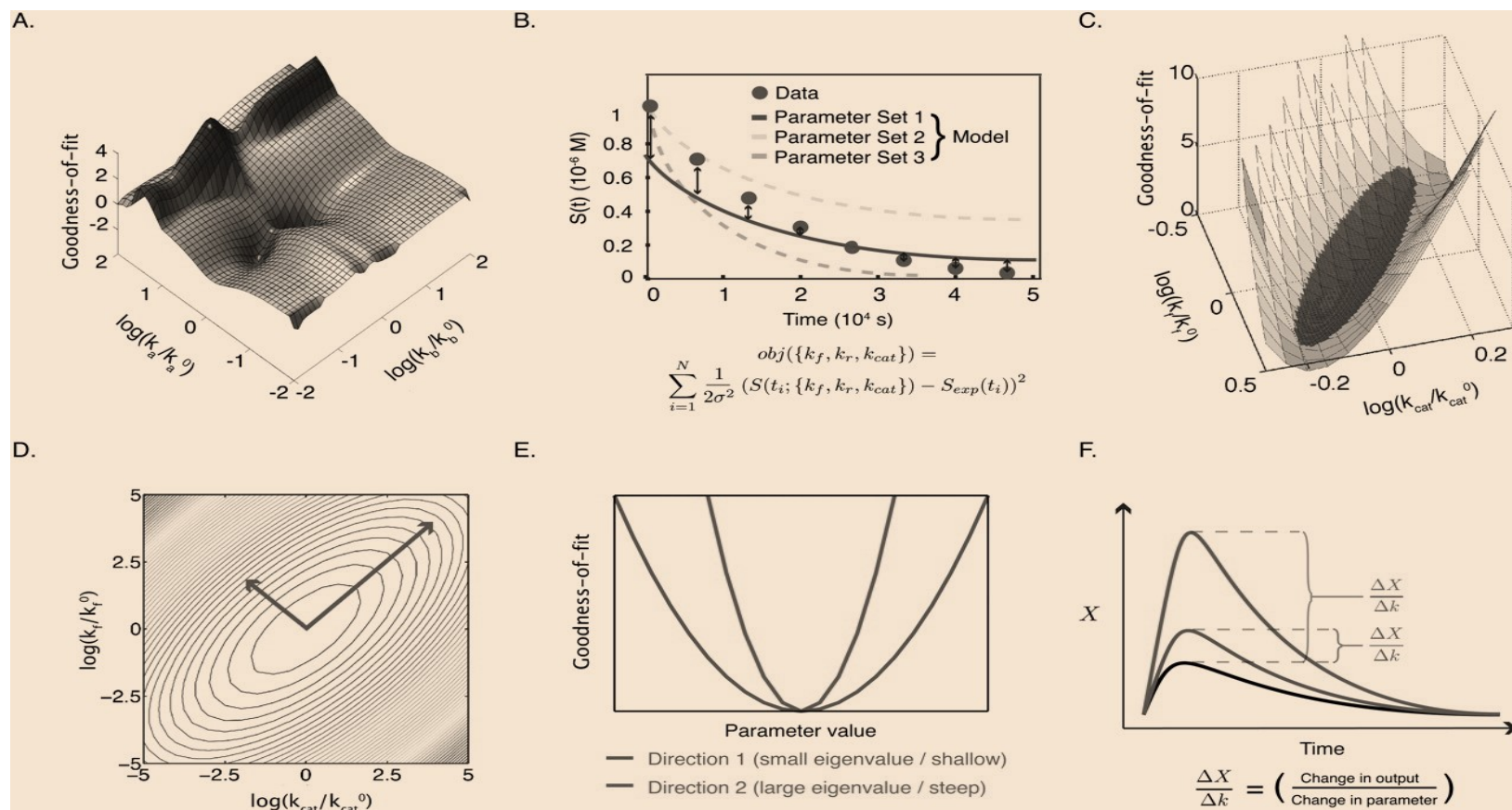
Time-Course Experimental Data

- Microarrays enable to derive time-course experimental data, with a desired sampling time





Modeling biochemical reactions



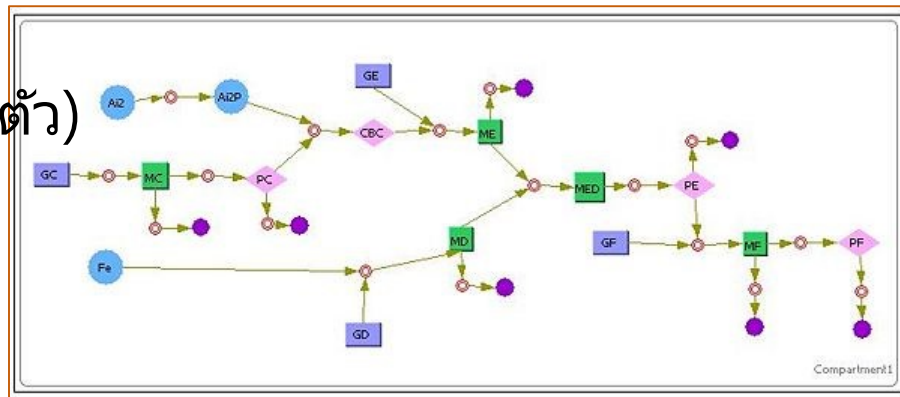
Chen W W et al. Genes Dev. 2010;24:1861-1875



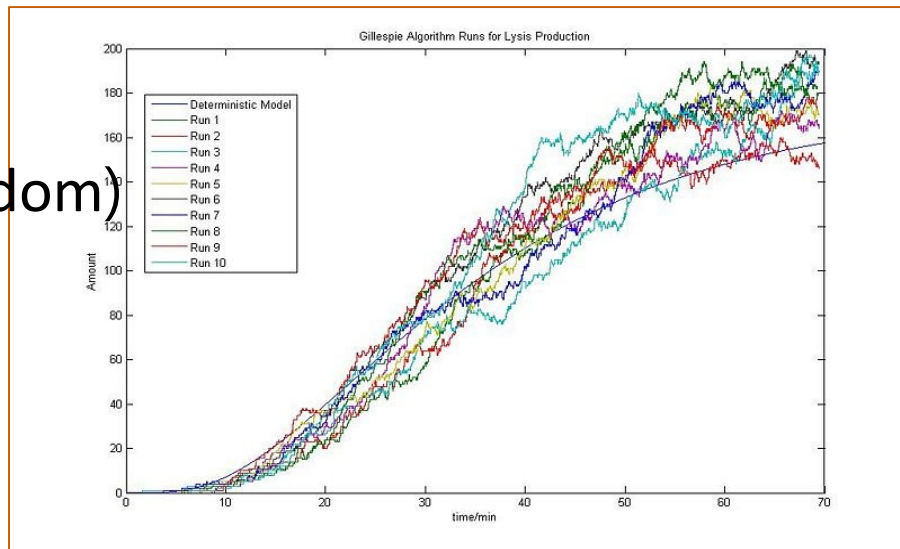
Modeling of biochemical reactions

1. Deterministic models (แบบตายตัว)

- Michaelis–Menten model
- Regulation of enzymatic reactions
- The Quasi–Steady–State Approximation
- Allosteric reaction



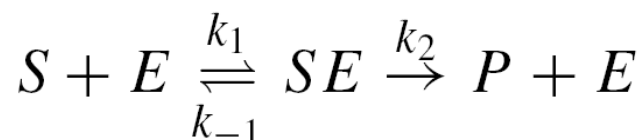
2. Stochastic models (แบบสุ่ม random)





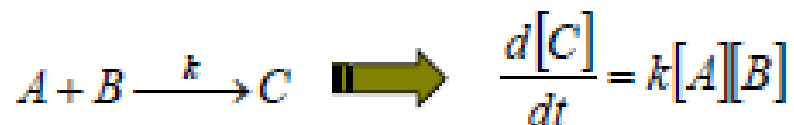
Michaelis-Menten Model

- The basic model of enzymatic reaction was proposed by Michaelis and Menten in 1913



L. Michaelis (1875-1949)

- The law of mass action (LMA) states that the reaction rate is proportional to the product of the concentrations of the reactants



M. Menten (1879-1960)



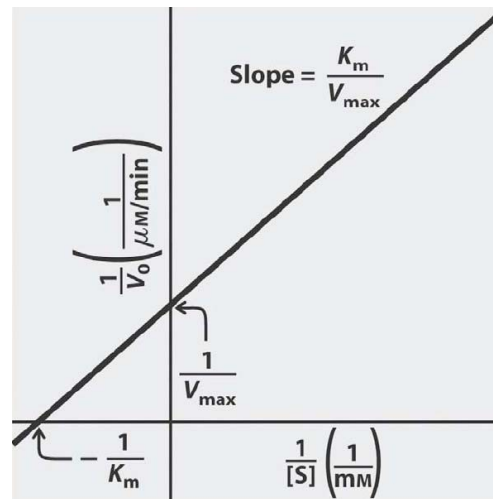
Regulation of Enzymatic Reactions

Lineweaver–Burk Plot

- The L–B plot (or double reciprocal) is a common tool in biochemistry analysis of enzyme kinetics
- It is easily derived by inverting the equation of S in the M–M model
- It is very useful because it enables linear regression of experimental data

$$\frac{1}{V_0} = \frac{K_m + [S]}{V_{\max} [S]}$$

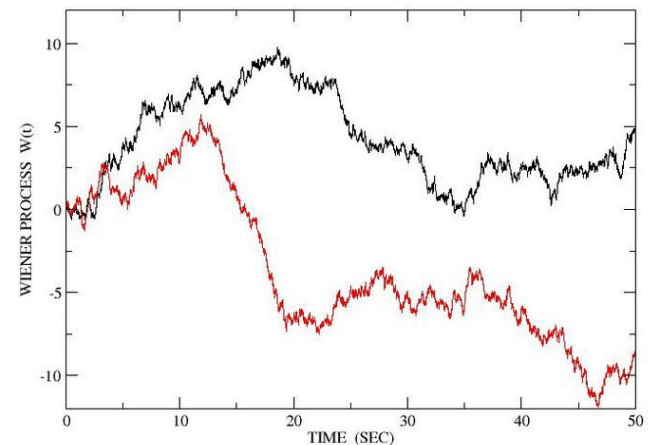
$$\frac{1}{V_0} = \frac{K_m}{V_{\max} [S]} + \frac{1}{V_{\max}}$$





Stochastic models

- The models considered so far are deterministic, i.e. given the initial conditions (the state at t_0) *and the exogenous signals perturbing the model*, the response is univocally determined
- A stochastic model, on the contrary, involves random variables, therefore its behavior cannot be predicted *a priori*, *although it can be statistically characterized*
- The figure shows two realization of the same stochastic process, starting from the same initial condition



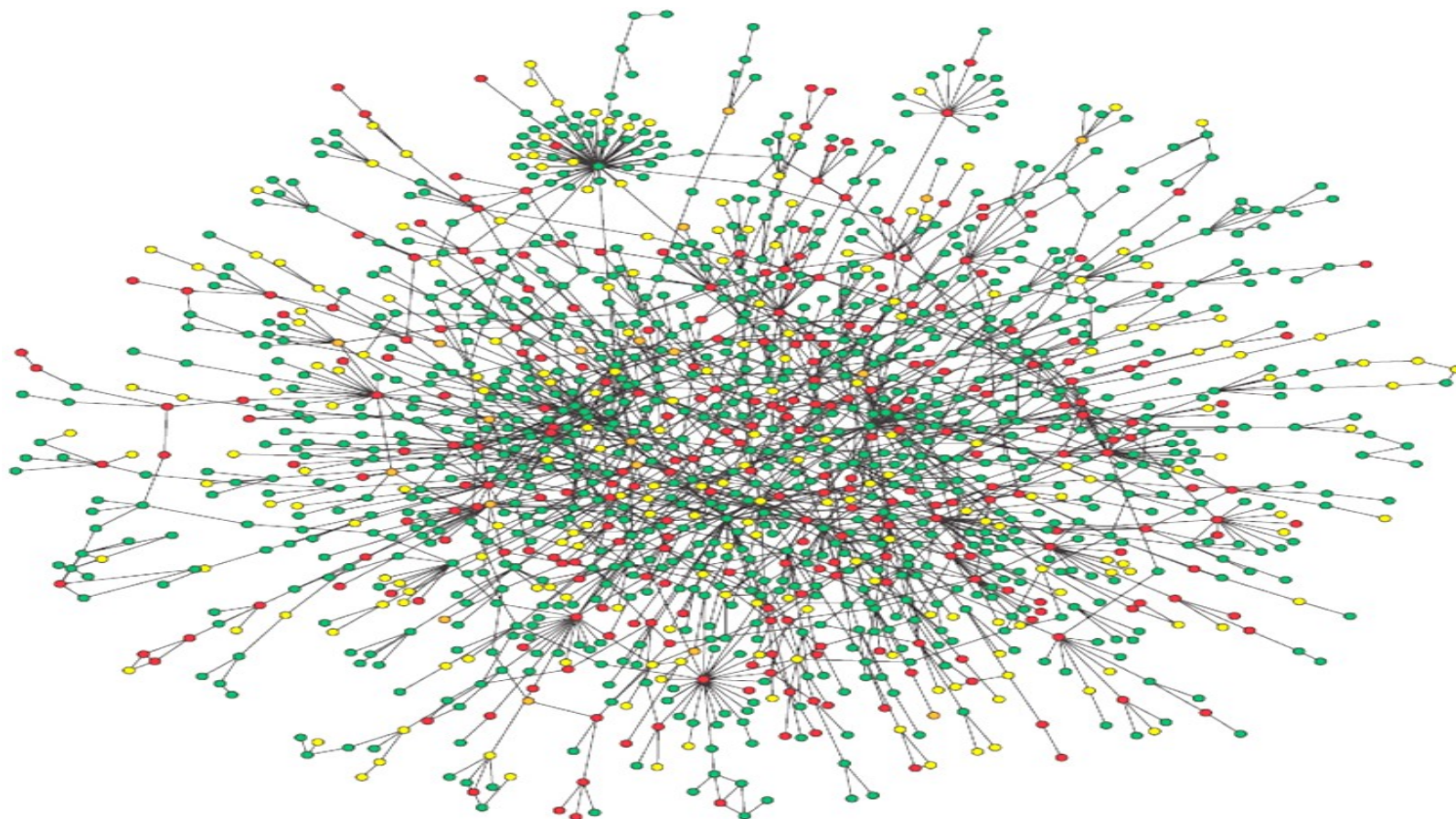


Biological Systems are Stochastic

- Every molecular reaction can be described only in terms of its **probability** of occurrence
- Diffusion of molecules is a realization of a random walk process (**Brownian motion**)
- So, why deterministic model are so widespread?
 - A **large number of molecules**, therefore the average effect is well described through deterministic equations
- When is it necessary to use stochastic models/simulations?
 - When the mechanism to be described is based on the interaction of **few molecules**, or we want to simulate the functioning of a **little pool of cells**



Biological Networks





Outline

- Type of biological networks
- Goal
- Graph
- metabolic networks
- gene regulatory networks



Types of Biological Network

- distinguished at the molecular level
 - Gene regulatory
 - Metabolic
 - Signal transduction
 - Protein–protein interaction
- different description levels, e.g.
 - Immunological
 - Ecological
- Here we will focus exclusively on molecular processes that take place within the cell



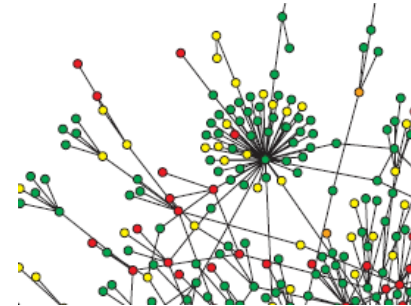
Goals of network

- A major challenge to construct network of the complex macromolecular interactions at the gene, metabolite and protein levels
 - reasonable
 - accuracy
- Once identified, the network model can be used to
 - simulate the process it represents
 - predict the features of its dynamical behavior
 - extrapolate cellular phenotypes



Graphs of Biological Networks

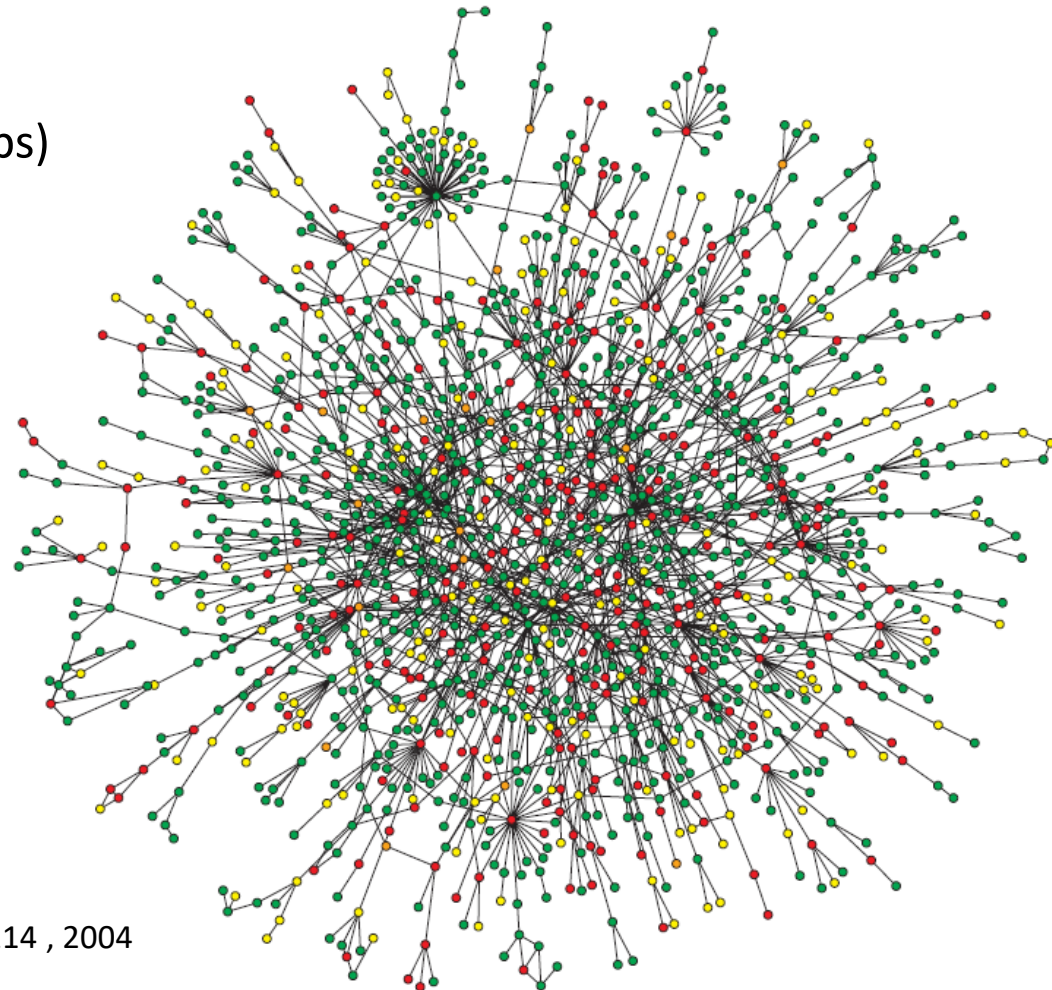
- Depending on the kind of biological network, the edges and nodes of the graph have different meaning
- Metabolic network
 - nodes: metabolic product, edge: a reaction transforming A into B
- Transcriptional regulation network (protein–DNA)
 - nodes: genes and proteins, edge: a TF regulates a gene
- Protein – protein network
 - nodes: proteins, edge: interaction between proteins
- Gene regulatory networks (functional association network)
 - nodes: genes, edge: expressions of A and B are correlated





P–P Interaction Network in Yeast

- This network is based on yeast two–hybrid experiments
- Few highly connected nodes (hubs) hold the network together
- The color of a node indicates the phenotypic effect deriving from removing the corresponding protein
 - red: lethal
 - green: non-lethal
 - orange: slow growth
 - yellow: unknown



Barabasi et al, Nature Review Genetics 101(5), 101–114 , 2004



Metabolic model

Metabolic reactions can be divided in two categories

- Catabolic reactions: breakdown of complex compounds to get energy and building blocks
- Anabolic reactions: assembling of the compounds used by the cellular mechanisms



Metabolic Network in Yeast

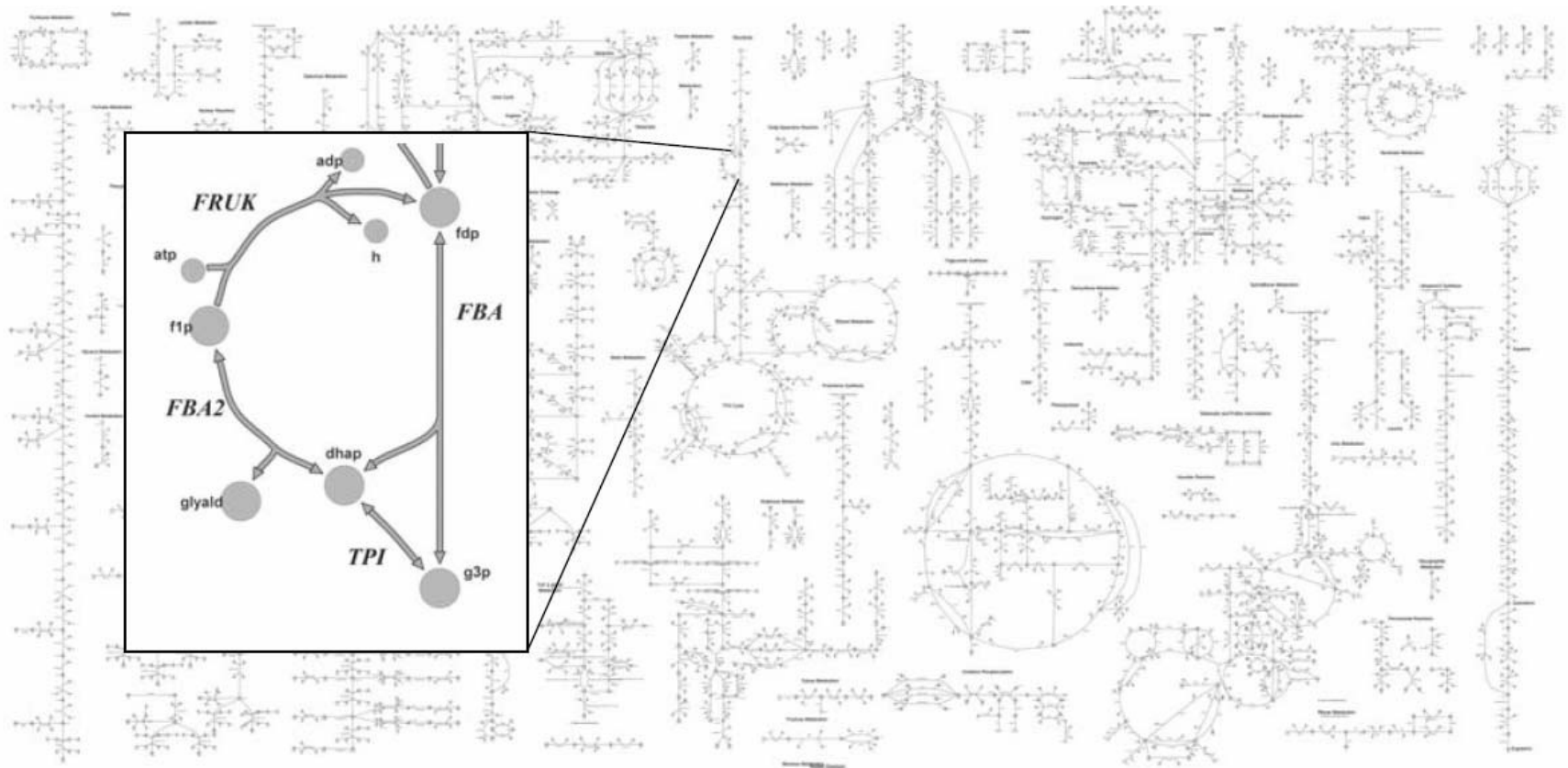


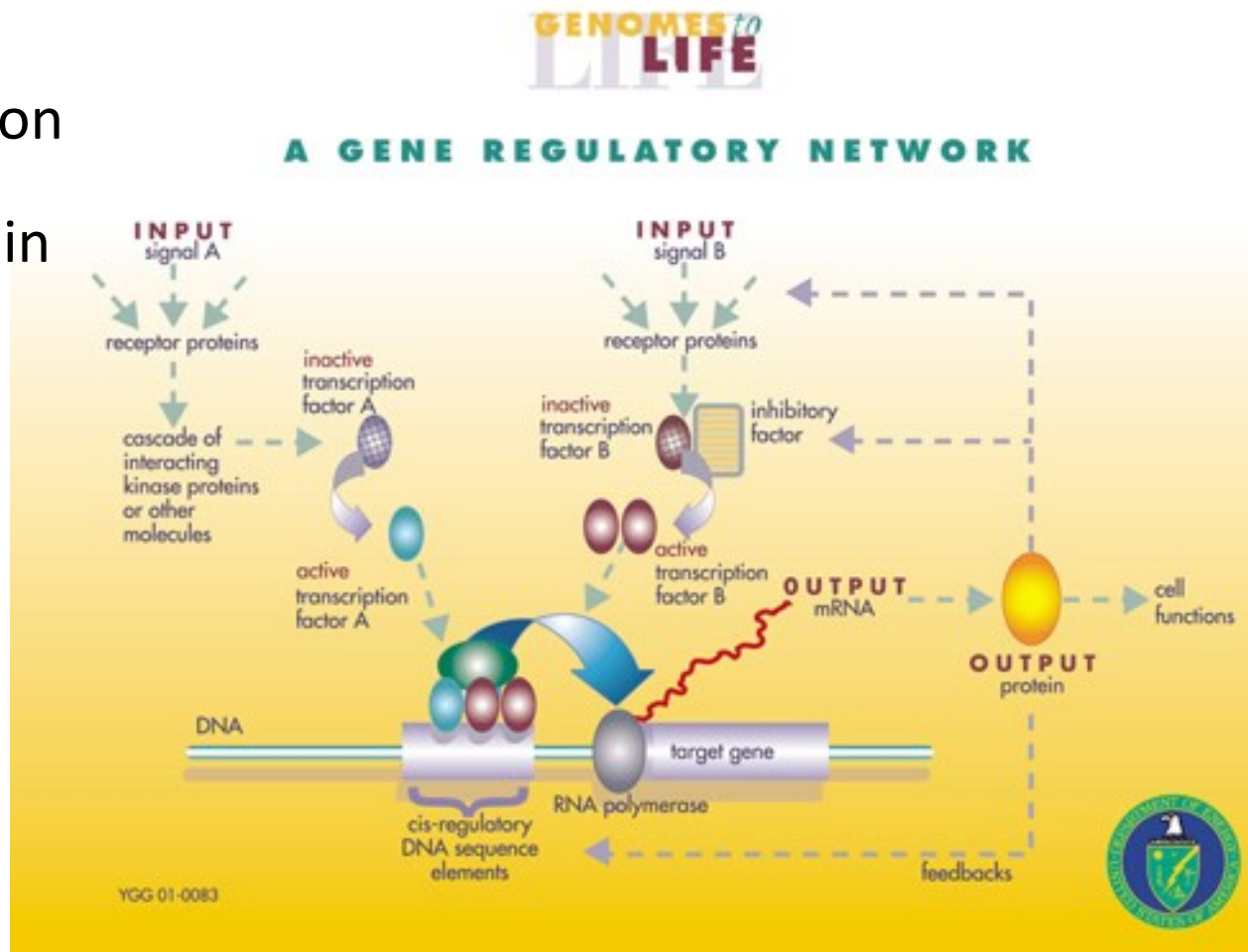
Figure 3.4: Graphical depiction of metabolic reaction networks. This map represents the metabolic network in yeast. Courtesy of Natalie Duarte; see <http://systemsbiology.ucsd.edu> for more details.

Palsson, *Systems Biology: Properties of Reconstructed Networks*, 2006



Gene regulation

- Signal/ ligand
- Signal transduction
- Regulatory protein
- Operator
- Expression of target gene





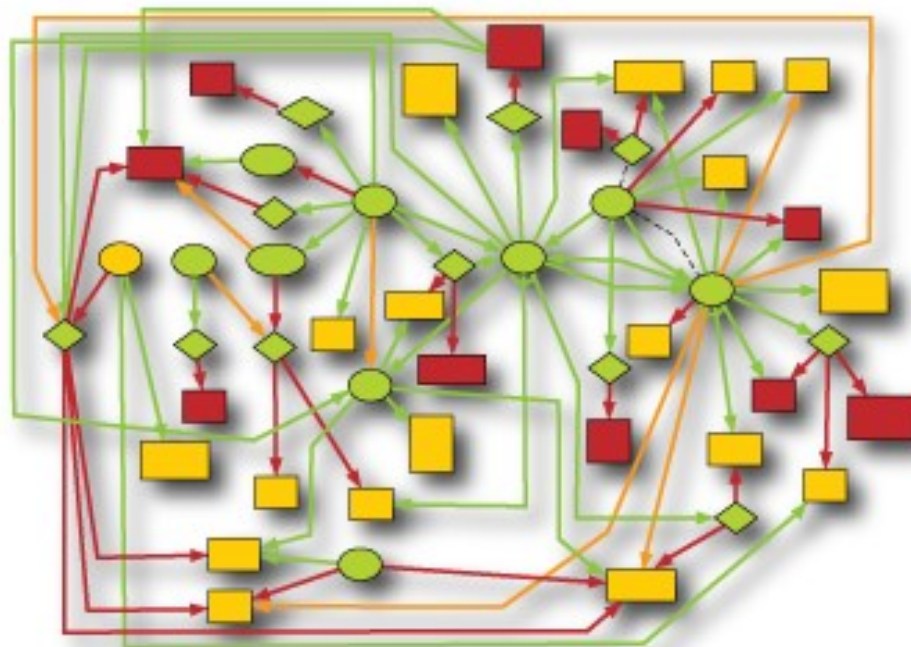
Gene regulatory networks

- Proteins and ligands bind to specific promoter(s) of the gene(s)
- The gene(s) may encode enzyme of a cascade regulator (signal transduction pathway)
- Regulation in many level:
 - Transcription: initial, extension, termination
 - Translation: microRNA, ribosome binding ability
 - protein modification: glycosilation
- involve interactions between DNA, RNA, proteins and other molecules
- the edges of the corresponding graph do not represent chemical interactions, but functional influences of one gene on the other



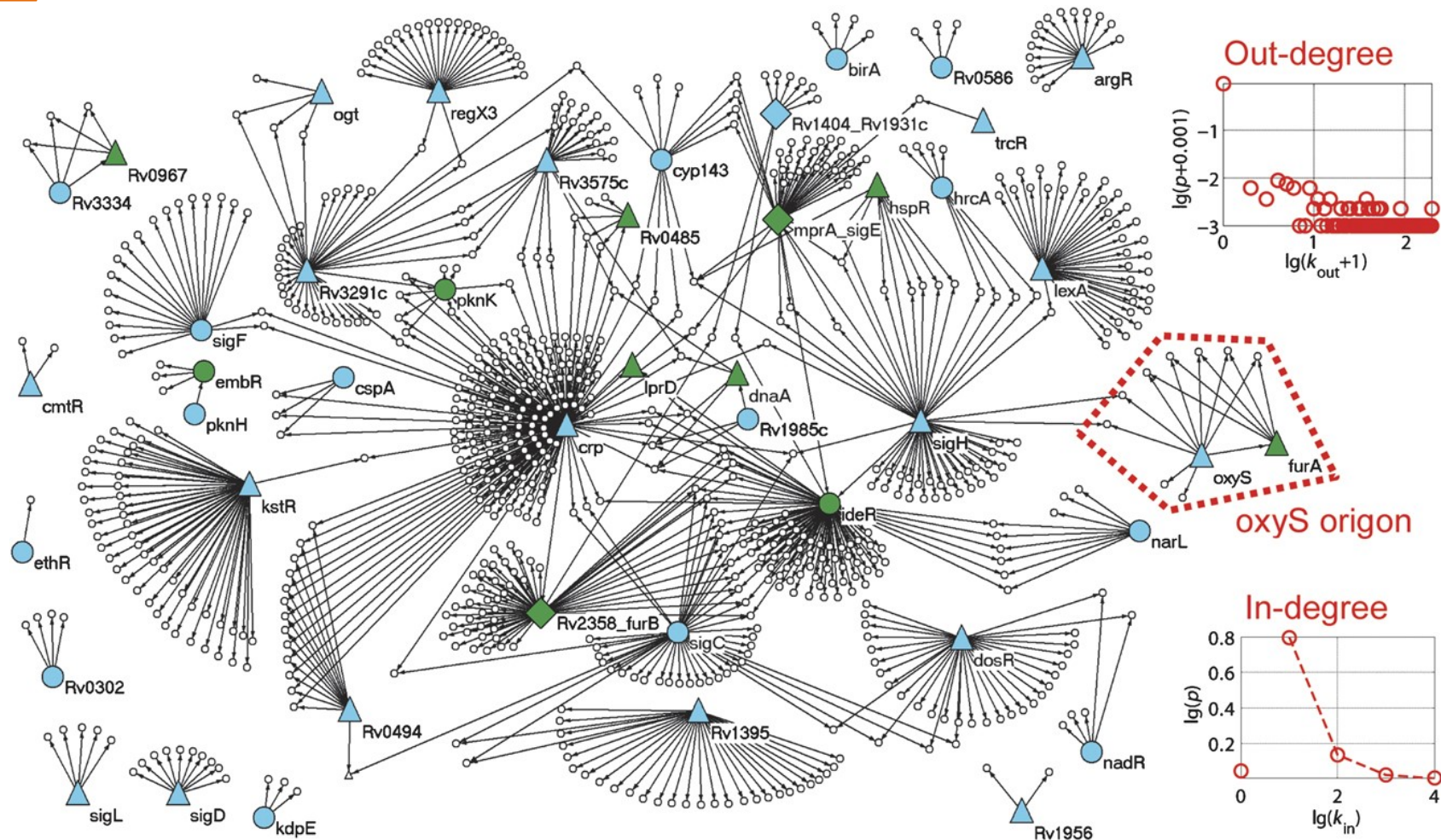
Regulatory genomics

- very similar genomes, but due to variations in the gene regulation cause different phenotype.
- discovering cis-regulatory elements or DNA motifs in large genomes cause complex network





M. tuberculosis gene regulatory network during growth arrest

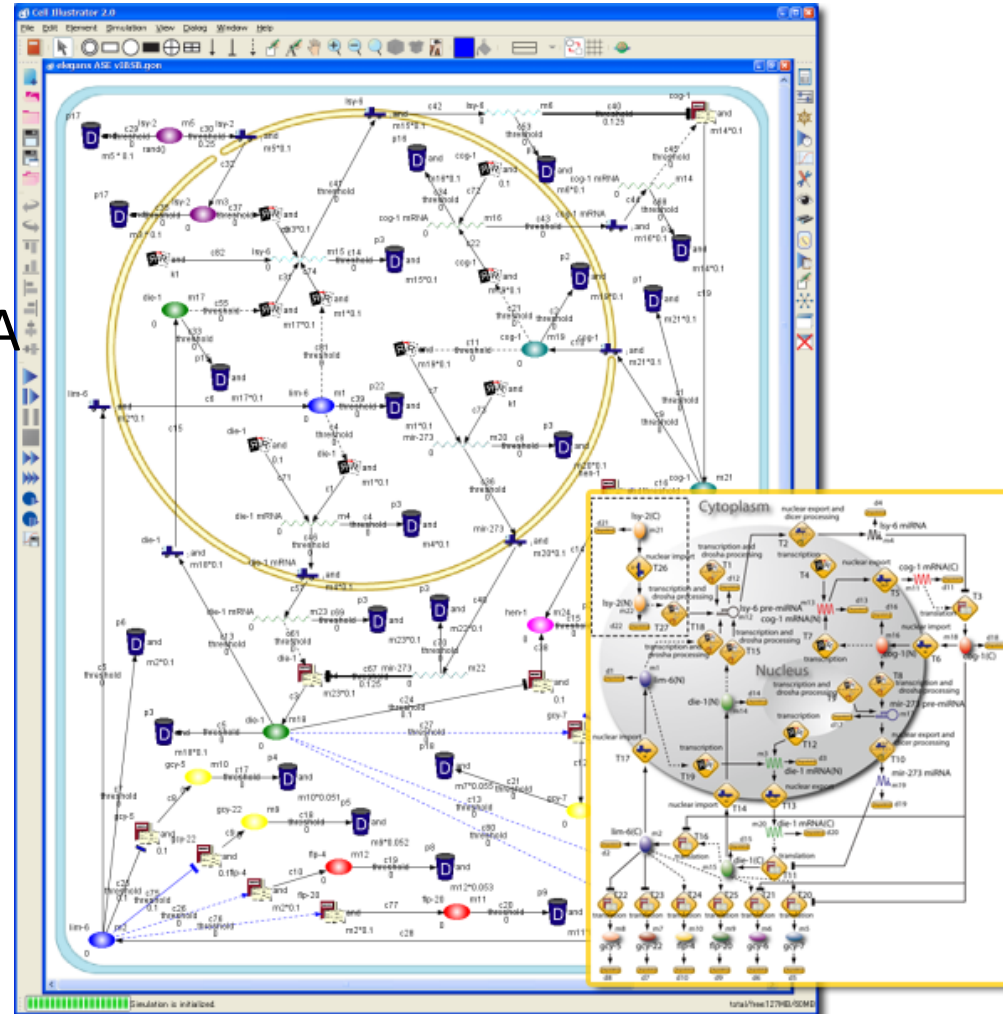


Gábor Balázsi, Allison P Heath, Lanbo Shi & Maria L Gennaro



MicroRNA in gene regulatory networks

- 70 mer short RNA transcribed from genome in nucleolus
- 20-24 mer of mature miRNA
- Suppress translation of target gene






Model available

- <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/services/systems>


www.ebi.ac.uk/services/systems

Systems


Popular services




IntAct Molecular Interaction Database
A freely available, curated database of molecular interactions.




Reactome pathways database
A manually curated, peer-reviewed database of biomolecular pathways.



BioModels database
A repository of peer-reviewed, published, computational models.



MetaboLights: Metabolomics archive and reference database
A cross-species, cross-application, open-access, open-submission archive and reference database for metabolomics.





Systems Biology Ontologies
Controlled vocabularies and ontologies for problems in systems biology.



BioModel database

- <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/biomodels-main/publmodels>

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BIOMD0000000222 - Singh2006_TCA_Ecoli_glucose

- <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/biomodels-main/BIOMD0000000222>

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Model Overview Math Physical entities Parameters Curation

Reference Publication

Publication ID: [16887020](#)
Singh VK, Ghosh I.
Kinetic modeling of tricarboxylic acid cycle and glyoxylate bypass in Mycobacterium tuberculosis, and its application to assessment of drug targets.
Theor Biol Med Model 2006; 3: 27
Bioinformatics Centre, University of Pune, Pune-411007, India. vivek@bioinfo.ernet.in [\[more\]](#)

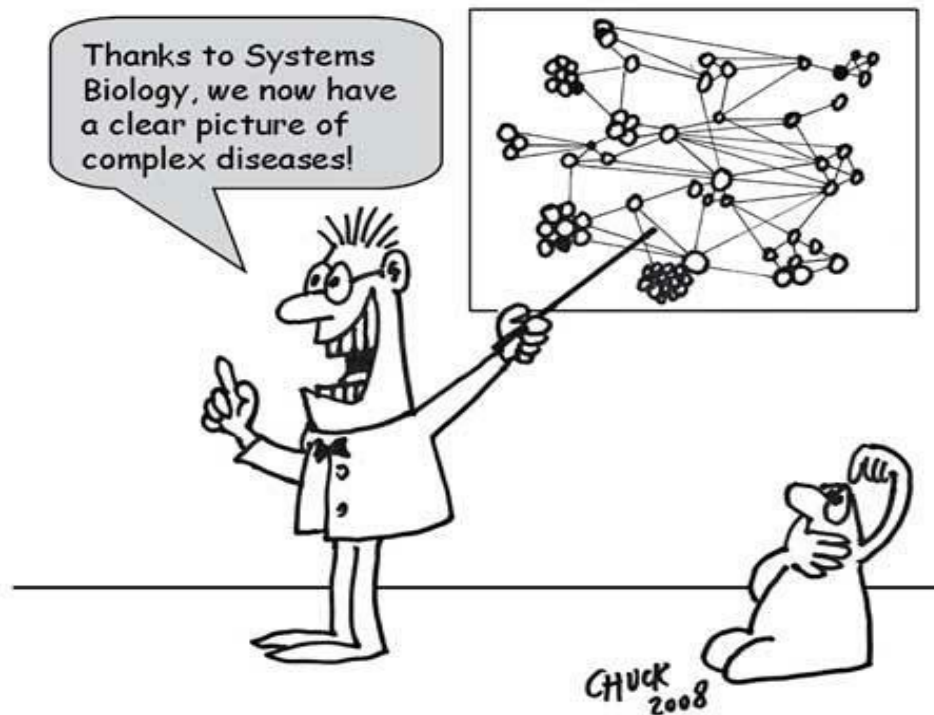
Model

Original Model: BIOMD0000000222.origin	bqbiol.isVersionOf	KEGG Pathway Citrate cycle (TCA cycle)
Submitter: Indira Ghosh	bqbiol.hasVersion	Gene Ontology tricarboxylic acid cycle Gene Ontology glyoxylate cycle
Submission ID: MODEL8583955822	set #1 bqbiol.isHomologTo	Reactome REACT_1785

BIOMD0000000222....xml [Show all](#)



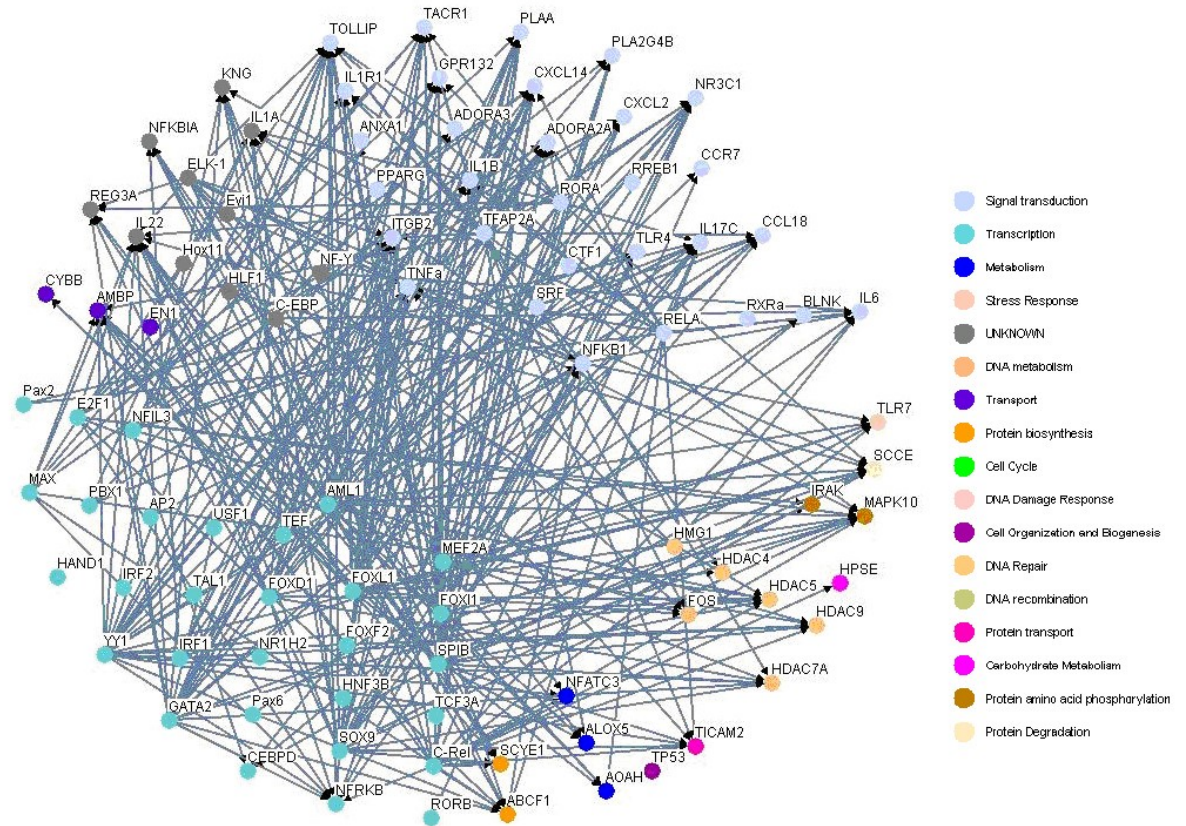
Application of system biology





Immune System

- The inflammatory transcriptional gene network in immune system with LPS

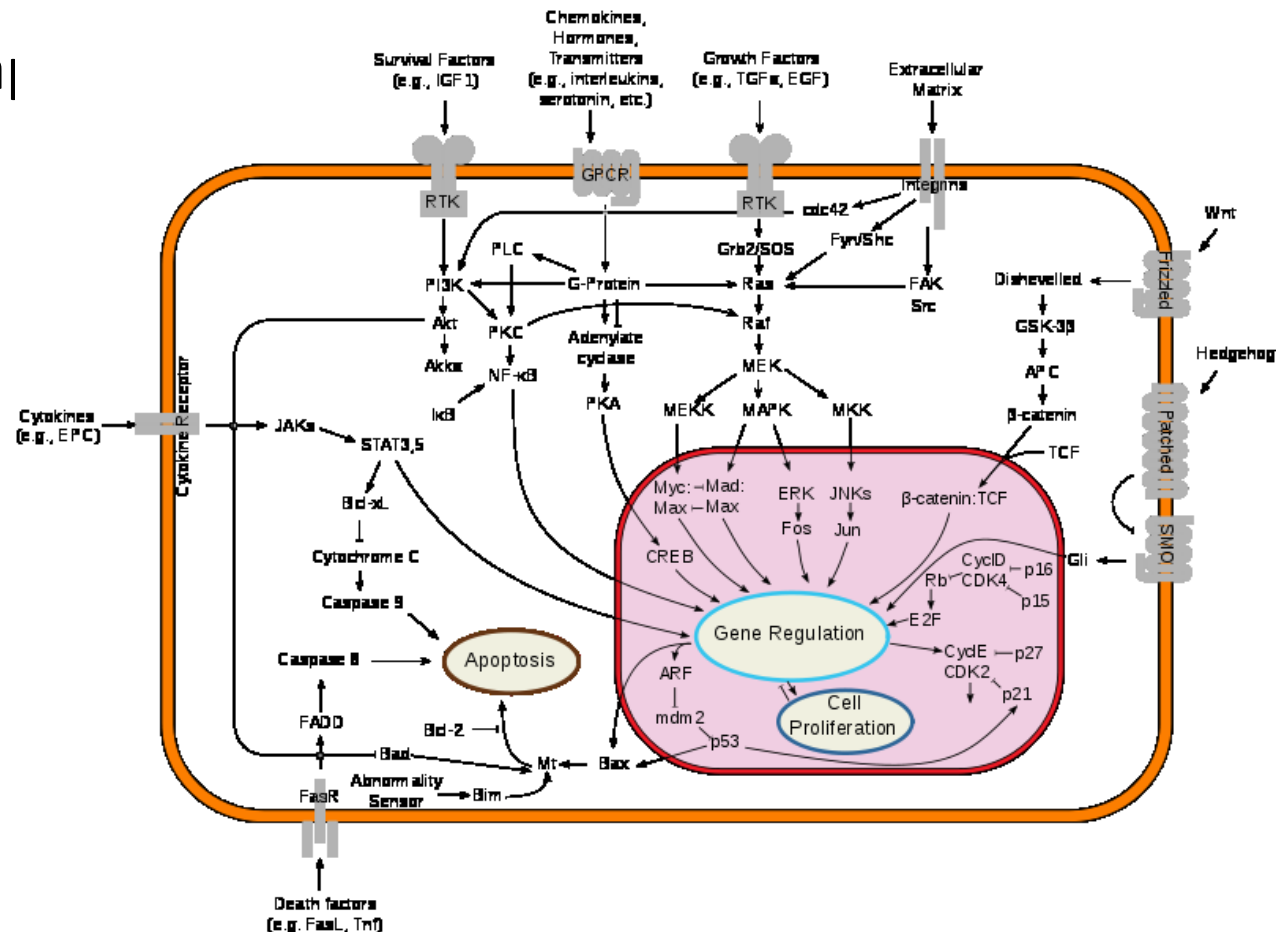


Chen *et al.* *BMC Medical Genomics* 2008 1:46 doi:10.1186/1755-8794-1-46



signal transduction pathway

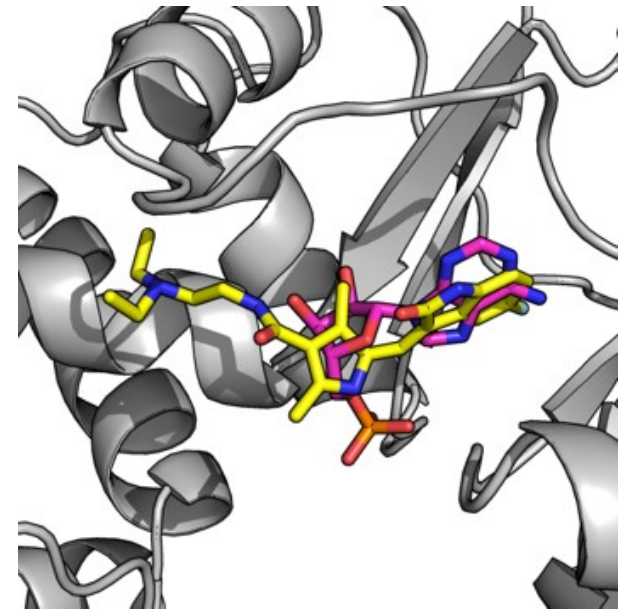
- Cross talk as a network
- Fine tuning in adaptation





Drug discovery

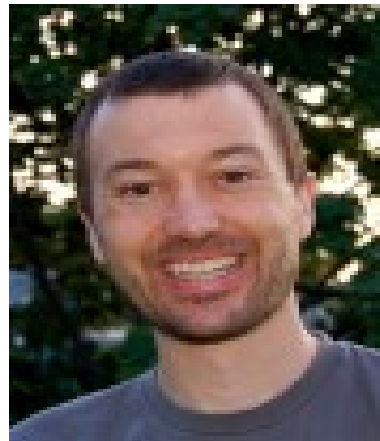
- Identify drug target
- To inhibit growth of cell (host /pathogen)
- Discovery of new targeted drug
- *In silico* drug studies
- predicting biological responses in different disease condition





Reengineering bact. Metabolic pathway

- To create new function
 - Bio-fuel synthesis
 - Bio-degradable spp.



David Savage Ph.D.

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Why systems biology:
Synthetic biology aims to
reengineer bacterial

metabolism pathways to create new
functions (such as making fossil fuel
alternatives, medicines or other interesting
molecules), but understanding
metabolism enough to engineer it requires
a systems approach.

<https://sysbio.med.harvard.edu>



<http://virtualrat.org/>

- The Virtual Physiological Rat
- to simulate the integrated cardiovascular function
- to build validated computer models that account for genetic variation across rat strains and physiological response to environment (i.e., diet).
- to predict the physiological characteristics of not yet realized genetic combinations,

The Virtual Physiological Rat Project

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Welcome to The Virtual Physiological Rat Project



The Virtual Physiological Rat Project aims to simulate the integrated cardiovascular function of the rat to build validated computer models that account for genetic variation across rat strains and physiological response to environment (i.e., diet). In addition, new strains of genetically engineered rats are being developed with the ultimate goal of using computer models to predict the physiological response of these realized genetic combinations, derive those combinations in the lab, and then use them in the lab.

[Cardiovascular Dynamics](#)

Associated Models and Data



[Heart](#)

Associated Models and Data



[Kidney](#)

Associated Models and Data

[Metabolism and Transport](#)

Associated Models and Data



[Whole-Body Function](#)

Associated Models and Data



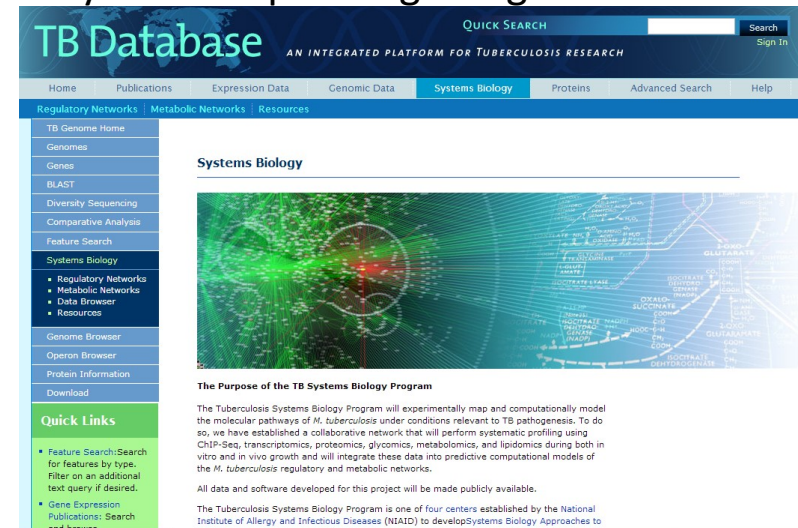
[Novel](#)

Associated Models and Data



<http://genome.tbdb.org/annotation/genome/tbdb/SysBioHome.html>

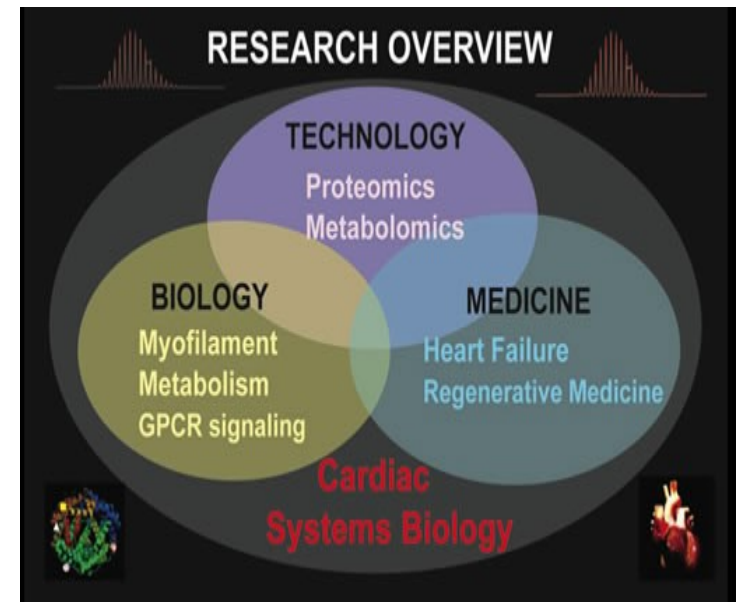
- **TB Systems Biology Program**
- experimentally map and computationally model the molecular pathways of *M. tuberculosis* under conditions relevant to TB pathogenesis.
- established a collaborative network that will perform systematic profiling using
 - ChIP-Seq,
 - transcriptomics,
 - proteomics,
 - glycomics,
 - metabolomics, and
 - lipidomics
 - during both in vitro and in vivo growth and
- will integrate these data into predictive computational models
- regulatory and metabolic networks





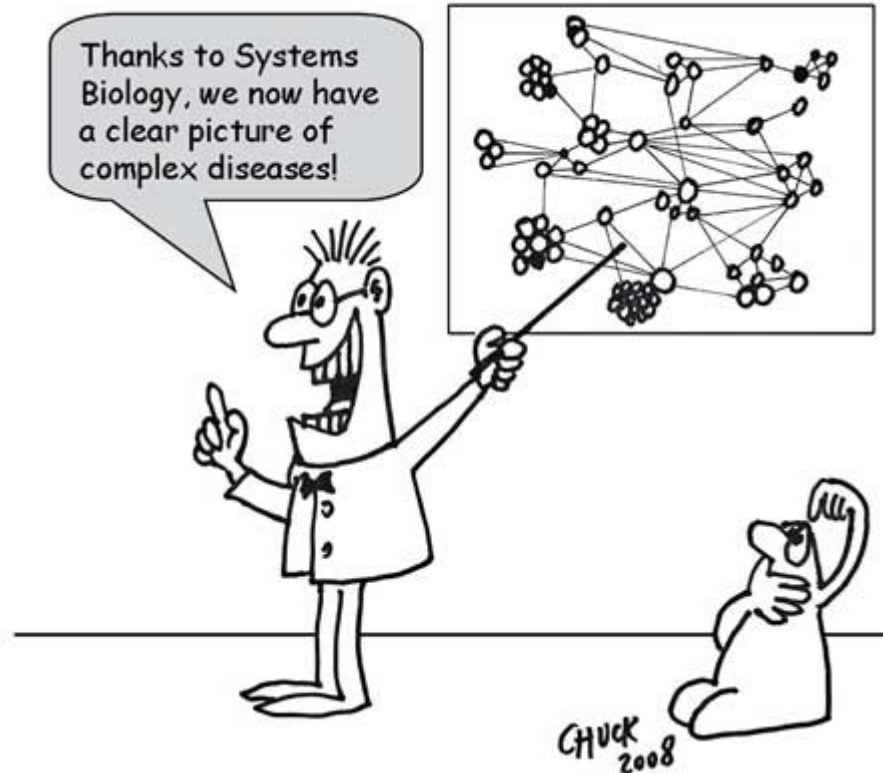
Medicine

- Pathogenesis of disease
- Treatment
- prevention





Q&A





Reference

- Dr. Carlo Cosentino, School of Computer and Biomedical Engineering, Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine, Università degli Studi Magna Graecia, Catanzaro, Italy, <http://bioingegneria.unicz.it/~cosentino>
- Wikipedia.org, google.com



- The final exam questions comprise questions from:
- 1.Dr.Sakawrat Khanthawong (SK) 10 points, (10 MCQs)
- 2.Dr.Surasakdi Wongrattanacheewin 20 points, (4+1 MEQs) 4 of DNA and amino acid sequence analysis and 1 of Comparative genomics
- 3.Dr.Yaovaluck Chamkramol (YC) 10 points, (1 MEQ) Microarray analysis
- 4.Dr.Sorujisiri Charoensudjai (SC) 10 points, (5 MEQs) Structural genomics
- 5.Dr.Wises Namwat (WN) 10 points, (6 MEQs; System biology)
- 6.Dr.Umaporn Yordpratum (UY) 10 points, (5 McQs+3 MEQs)GWAS
- Total 70 points (25 % of total points in the course)
- No questions from , Dr.Virphong, Dr.Wichittra, Dr.Kiattichai,
- MCQ: multiple choice question
- MEQ: multiple Essay question