## Molecules as Automata Representing Biochemical Systems as Collectives of Interacting Automata

## Luca Cardelli

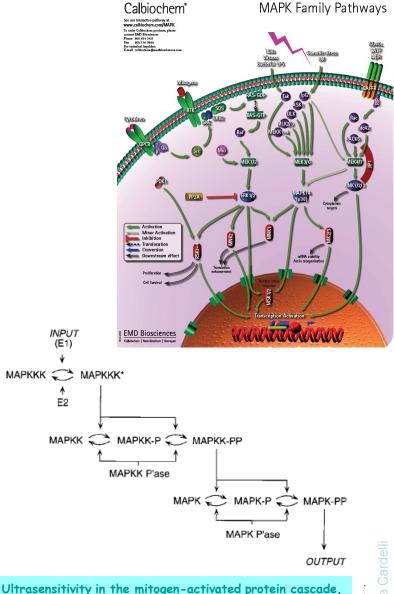
**Microsoft Research** 

Linz, 2007-11-08

http://LucaCardelli.name

### **Cells Compute**

- No survival without computation!
  - Finding food
  - Avoiding predators
- How do they compute?
  - Unusual computational paradigms.
  - Proteins: do they work like electronic circuits? or process algebra?
  - Genes: what kind of software is that?
- Signaling networks
  - Clearly "information processing"
  - They are "just chemistry": molecule interactions
  - But what are their principles and algorithms?
- Complex, higher-order interactions
  - MAPKKK = MAP Kinase Kinase Kinase: that which operates on that which operates on that which operates on protein.



Chi-Ying F. Huang and James E. Ferrell, Jr., 1996, Proc.

Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 93, 10078-10083.

## **Stochastic Collectives**

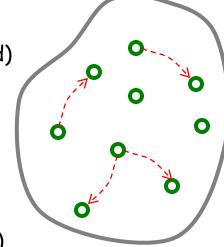
## **Stochastic Collectives**

### • "Collective":

- A large set of interacting finite state automata:
  - Not quite language automata ("large set")
  - Not quite cellular automata ("interacting" but not on a grid)
  - Not quite process algebra ("collective behavior")
  - Cf. multi-agent systems and swarm intelligence

### "Stochastic":

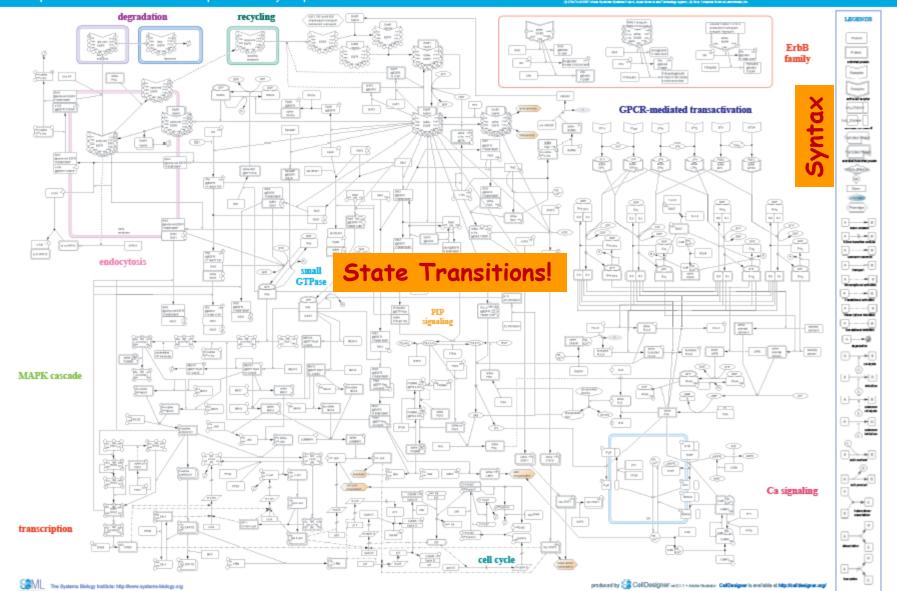
- Interactions have *rates* 
  - Not quite discrete (hundreds or thousands of components)
  - Not quite continuous (non-trivial stochastic effects)
  - Not quite hybrid (no "switching" between regimes)
- Very much like biochemistry
  - Which is a large set of stochastically interacting molecules/proteins
  - Are proteins finite state and subject to automata-like transitions?
    - Let's say they are, at least because:
    - Much of the knowledge being accumulated in Systems Biology is described as state transition diagrams [Kitano].



### Towards <u>Systems Biology</u>

#### Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Pathway Map

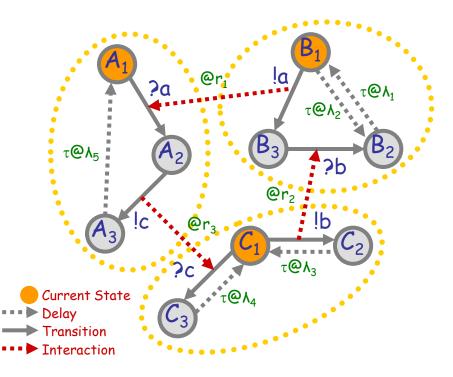
Kanase Orda (17), Yukiko Malinaoka (4, Hinasid Kitano (17)) () Ta by an ining takat, (2) generat languagi languagi patentak,



## Compositionality (NOT!)

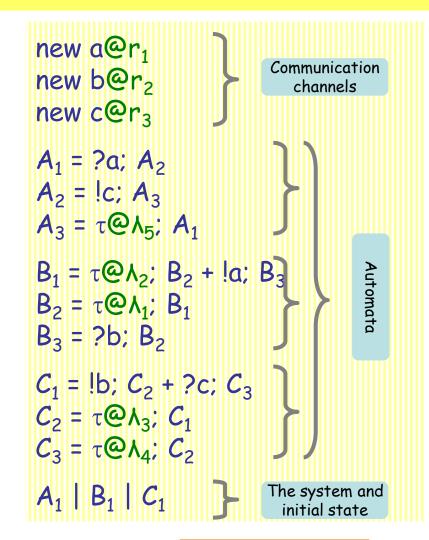
	Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I	J	к	L
1		oplied Scienc w.expasy.ch/c		al Pathways V	Wall Chart							
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7										资料		
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### Interacting Automata



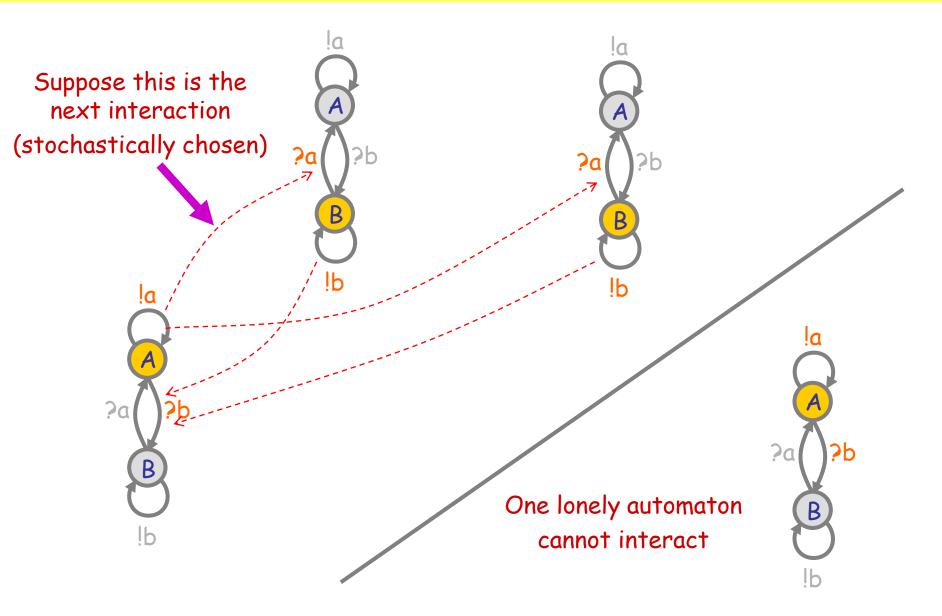
Communicating automata: a graphical FSA-like notation for "finite state restriction-free  $\pi$ -calculus processes". Interacting automata do not even exchange values on communication.

The stochastic version has *rates* on communications, and delays.

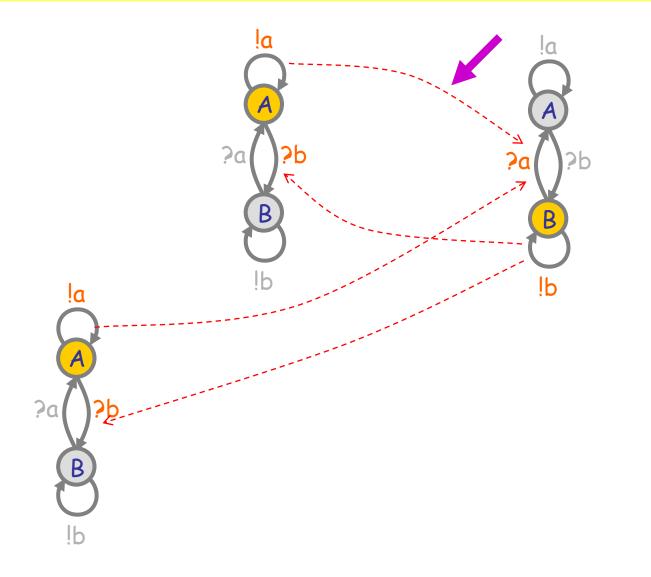


"Finite state" means: no composition or restriction inside recursion. Analyzable by standard Markovian techniques, by first computing the "product automaton" to obtain the underlying finite Markov transition system. [Buchholz] *Interactions* have rates. Actions DO NOT have rates.

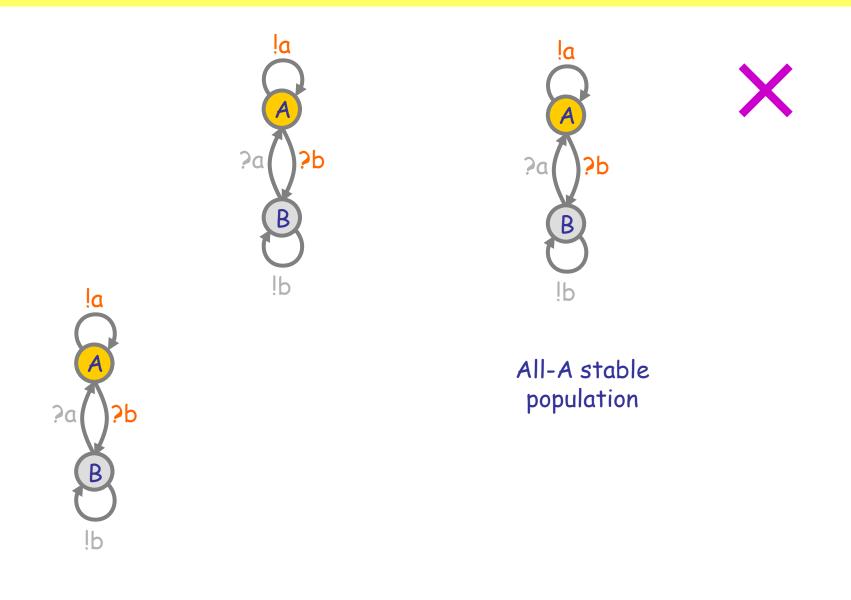
### Interactions in a Population



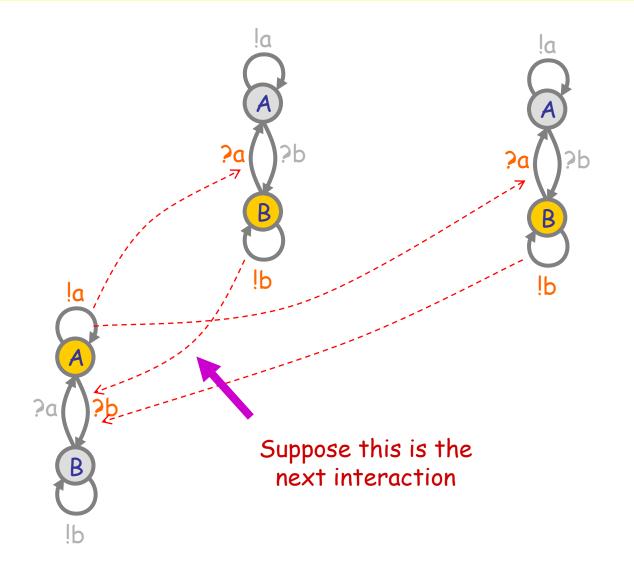
### Interactions in a Population



### Interactions in a Population

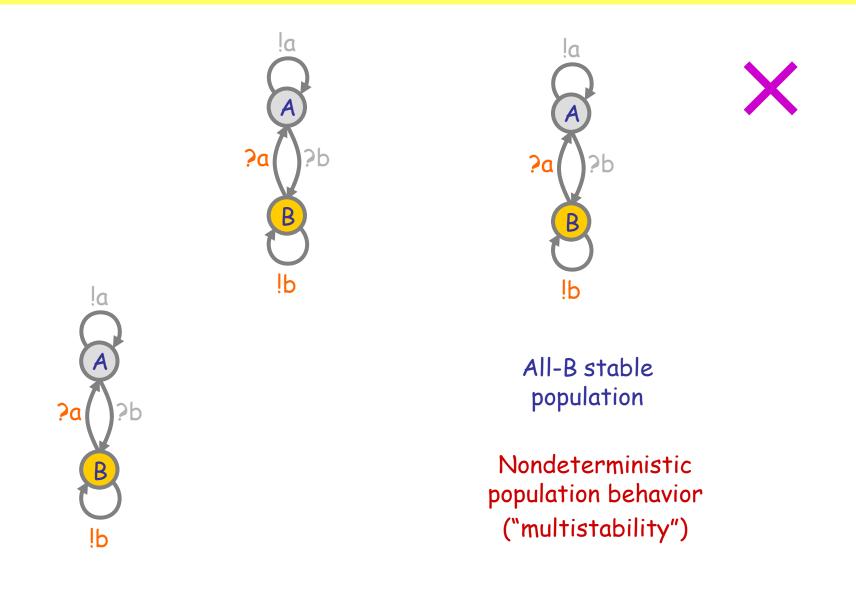


### Interactions in a Population (2)

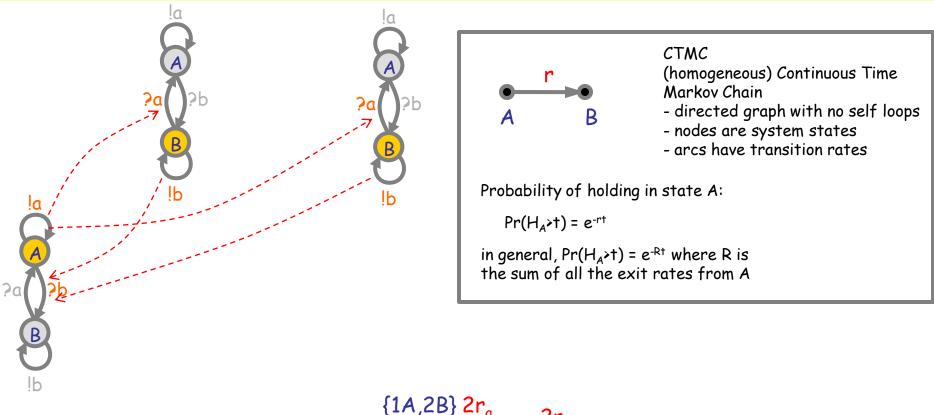


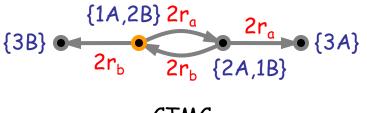
Luca Cardell

### Interactions in a Population (2)



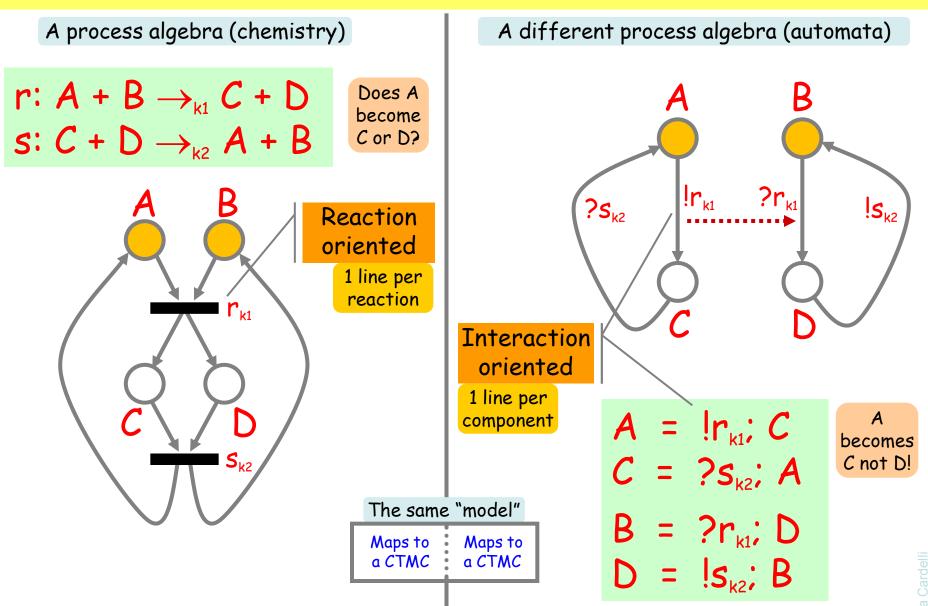
### **CTMC** Semantics





CTMC

### Chemistry vs. Automata

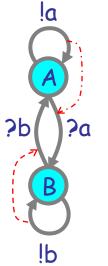


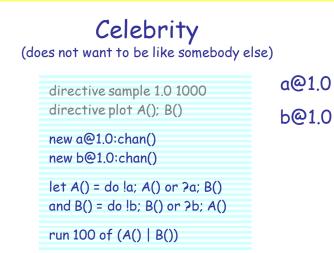
A Petri-Net-like representation. Precise and dynamic A c but not modular, scalable, or maintainable. dyn

A compositional graphical representation (precise, dynamic *and* modular) and the corresponding calculus.

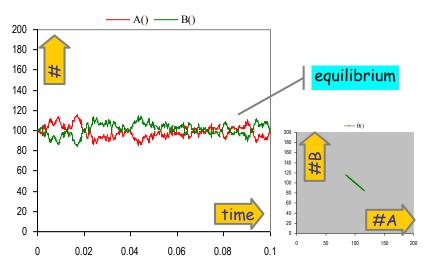
## **Groupies and Celebrities**

### **Groupies and Celebrities**

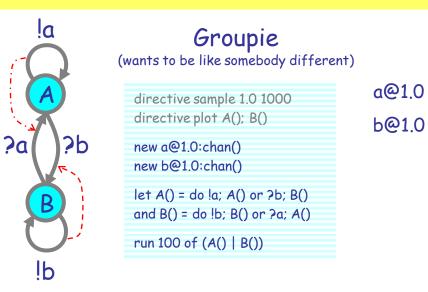




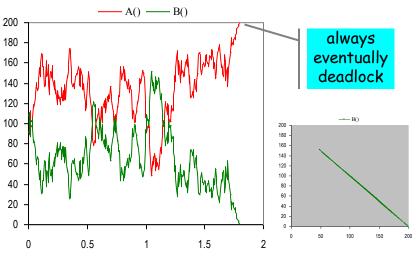
#### A stochastic collective of celebrities:



Stable because as soon as a A finds itself in the majority, it is more likely to find somebody in the same state, and hence change, so the majority is weakened.



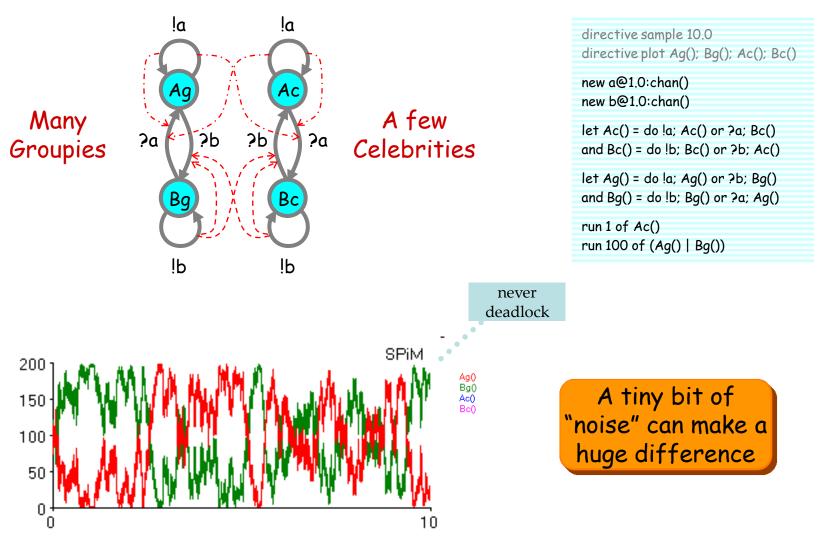
#### A stochastic collective of groupies:



Unstable because within an A majority, an A has difficulty finding a B to emulate, but the few B's have plenty of A's to emulate, so the majority may switch to B. Leads to deadlock when everybody is in the same state and there is nobody different to emulate.

## **Both Together**

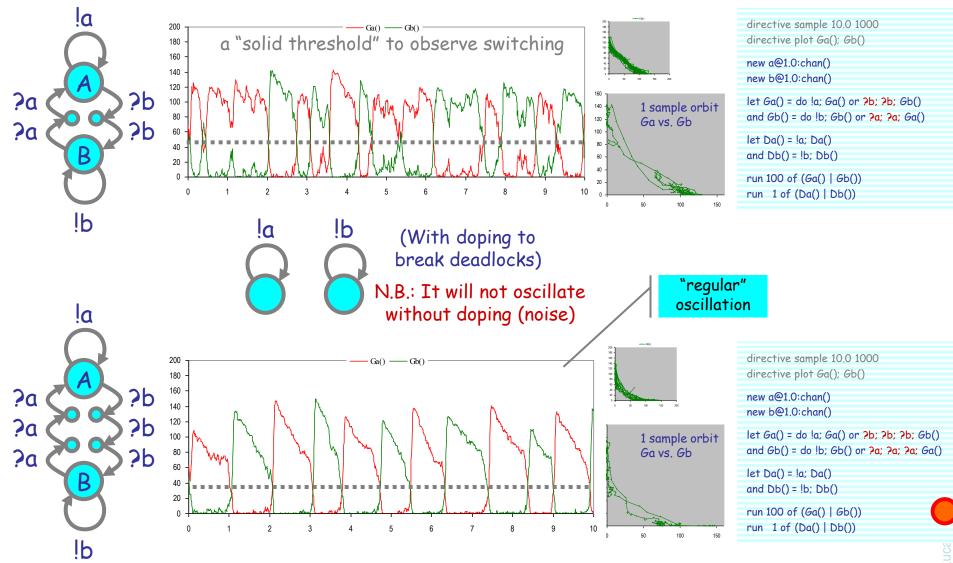
A way to break the deadlocks: Groupies with just a few Celebrities



#### Regularity can arise not far from chaos

### Hysteric Groupies

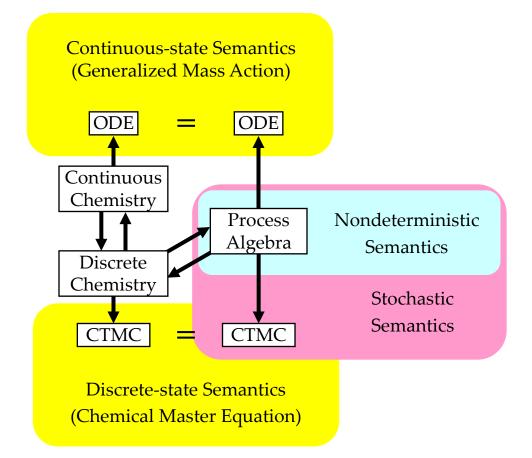
We can get more regular behavior from groupies if they "need more convincing", or "hysteresis" (history-dependence), to switch states.



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# Semantics of Collective Behavior

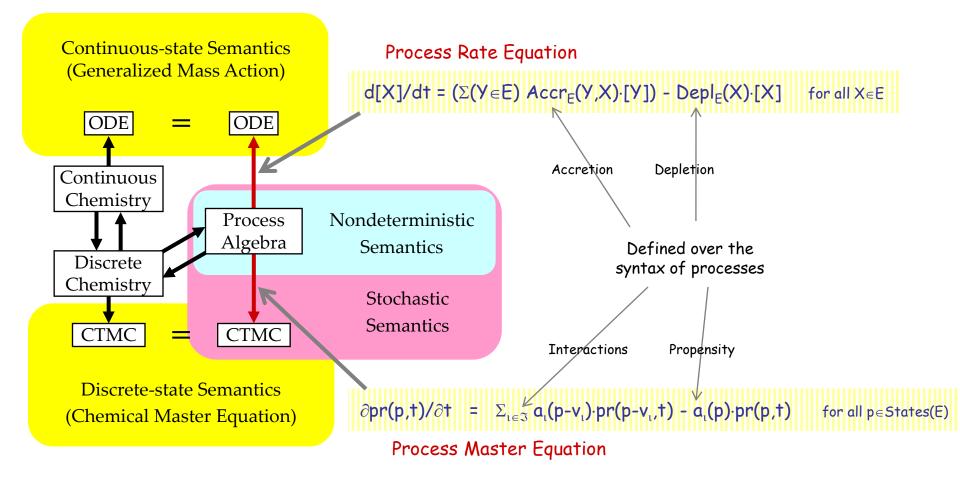
### The Two Semantic Sides of Chemistry



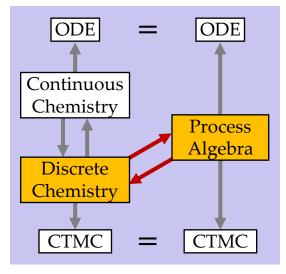
These diagrams commute via appropriate maps.

L. Cardelli: "On Process Rate Semantics" (TCS) L. Cardelli: "A Process Algebra Master Equation" (QEST'07)

### Quantitative Process Semantics



# Stochastic Processes & Discrete Chemistry



### **Chemical Reactions**

$$A \longrightarrow^{r} B_{1} + \dots + B_{n} \quad (n \ge 0)$$

$$A_{1} + A_{2} \longrightarrow^{r} B_{1} + \dots + B_{n} \quad (n \ge 0)$$

$$A + A \longrightarrow^{r} B_{1} + \dots + B_{n} \quad (n \ge 0)$$

Unary Reactiond[A]/dt = -r[A]Exponential DecayHetero Reaction $d[A_i]/dt = -r[A_1][A_2]$ Mass Action LawHomeo Reaction $d[A]/dt = -2r[A]^2$ Mass Action Law(assuming  $A \neq B_i \neq A_j$  for all i,j)

#### No other reactions!

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#### The chemical Langevin equation

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Genuinely *trimolecular* reactions do not physically occur in dilute fluids with any appreciable frequency. *Apparently* trimolecular reactions in a fluid are usually the combined result of two bimolecular reactions and one monomolecular reaction, and involve an additional short-lived species.

#### **Chapter IV: Chemical Kinetics** [David A. Reckhow, CEE 572 Course]

... reactions may be either elementary or nonelementary. <u>Elementary reactions</u> are those reactions that occur exactly as they are written, without any intermediate steps. These reactions almost always involve just one or two reactants. ... <u>Non-elementary</u> <u>reactions</u> involve a series of two or more elementary reactions. Many complex environmental reactions are non-elementary. In general, reactions with an overall reaction order greater than two, or reactions with some non-integer reaction order are non-elementary.

### THE COLLISION THEORY OF REACTION RATES

www.chemguide.co.uk

The chances of all this happening if your reaction needed a collision involving more than 2 particles are remote. All three (or more) particles would have to arrive at exactly the same point in space at the same time, with everything lined up exactly right, and having enough energy to react. That's not likely to happen very often!

> *Reactions* have rates. Molecules *do not* have rates.

```
Trimolecular reactions:

A + B + C \rightarrow^{r} D

the measured "r" is an (imperfect)

aggregate of e.g.:

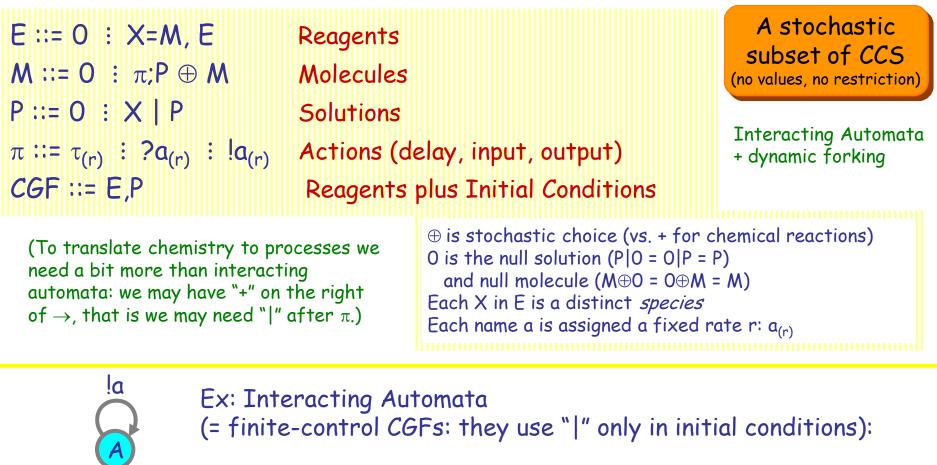
A + B \leftrightarrow AB

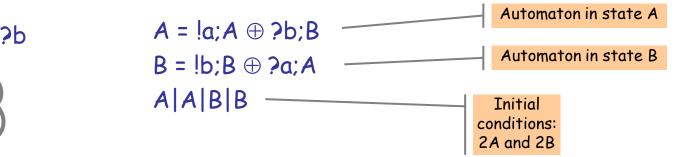
AB + C \rightarrow D
```

Enzymatic reactions: S \_ E y P

the "r" is given by Michaelis-Menten (approximated steady-state) laws:  $E + S \leftrightarrow ES$  $ES \rightarrow P + E$ 

### Chemical Ground Form (CGF)



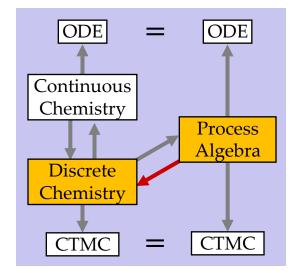


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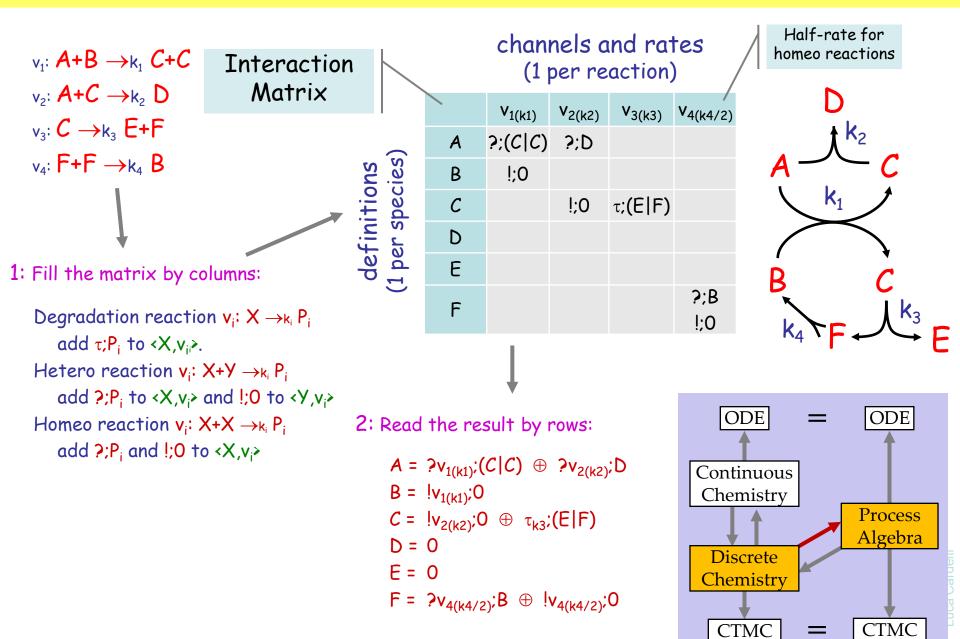
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## From Reagents to Reactions (by example)

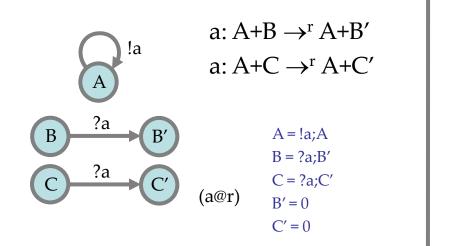
Interacting Automata	<ul> <li>Discrete</li> <li>Chemistry</li> </ul>
initial states A   A     A	initial quantities #A <sub>0</sub>
A @r A'	A <b>→</b> r A'
A ?a A' B !a B' B'	A+B→ <sup>r</sup> A'+B'
?a A !a A' @r A"	A+A→ <sup>2</sup> r A'+A″

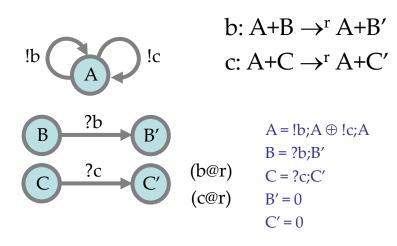


## From Reactions to Reagents (by example)



### **Entangled vs Detangled**





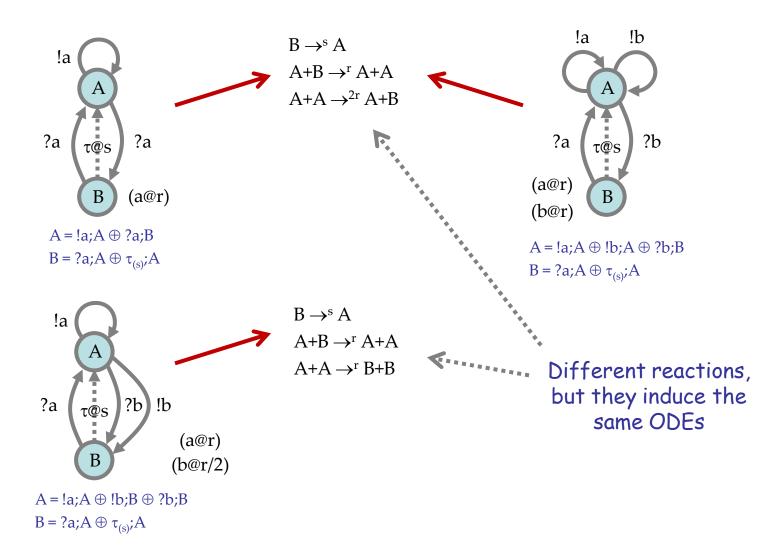
Entangled: Two reactions on one channel Detangled: Two reactions on two separate channels

We need a semantics of automata that identifies automata that have the "same chemistry". No process algebra equivalence is like this!

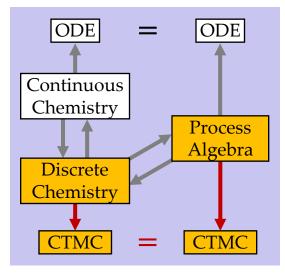
Detangled processes are in simple correspondence with chemistry.

### Same Semantics

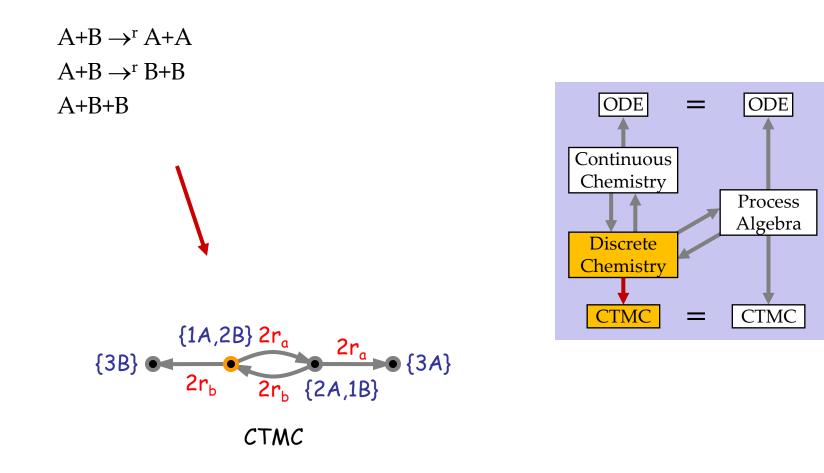
Could chemistry itself be that semantics? No: different sets of reactions can have the same behavior!



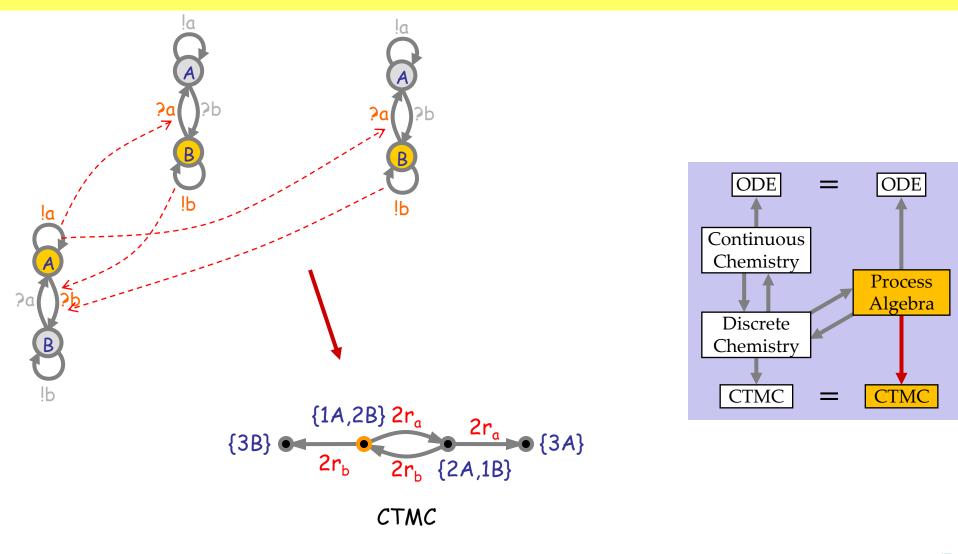
# Discrete-State Semantics



### **Discrete Semantics of Reactions**

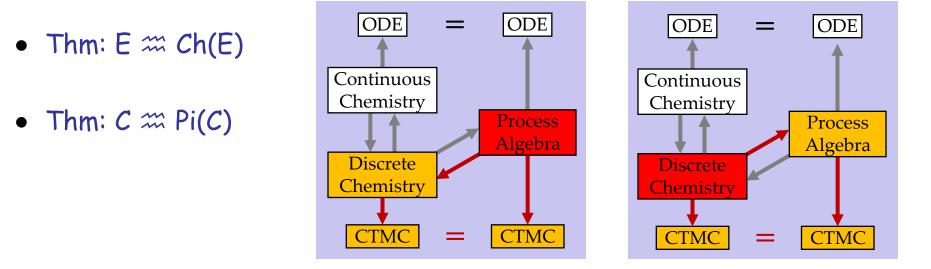


### **Discrete Semantics of Reagents**



### Discrete State Equivalence

• Def: *m* is equivalent CTMC's (isomorphic graphs with same rates).



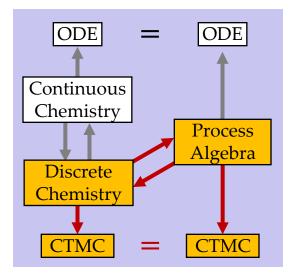
- For each E there is an E'  $\approx$  E that is detangled (E' = Pi(Ch(E)))

### Process Algebra = Discrete Chemistry

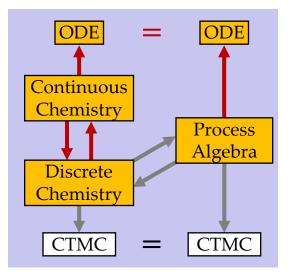
This is enough to establish that the process algebra is really faithful to the chemistry.

But CTMC are not the "ultimate semantics" because there are still questions of when two different CTMCs are actually equivalent (e.g. "lumping").

The "ultimate semantics" of chemistry is the *Chemical Master Equation* (derivable from the Chapman-Kolmogorov equation of the CTMC).



## Continuous-State Semantics (short version)



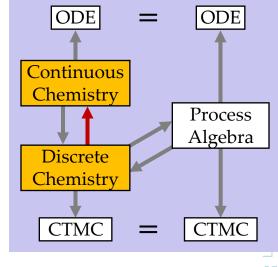
### The Gillespie<sup>(?)</sup> Conversion

Discrete Chemistry	Continuous Chemistry	$\gamma = N_A V$	:M <sup>-1</sup>
initial quantities #A <sub>0</sub>	initial concentration [A] <sub>0</sub>	with $[A]_0 = #$	Α <sub>0</sub> /γ
A ⊶• <sup>r</sup> A'	$A \to^k A'$	with <mark>k = r</mark>	:S <sup>-1</sup>
A+B→ <sup>r</sup> A'+B'	$A+B \rightarrow^k A'+B'$	with k = rγ	:M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
A+A <b>→</b> r A'+A″	$A+A \rightarrow^k A'+A''$	with $k = r\gamma/2$	:M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>

V = interaction volume N<sub>A</sub> = Avogadro's number

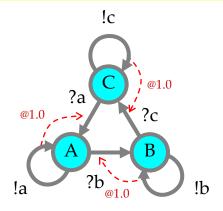
Think  $\gamma = 1$ i.e. V = 1/N<sub>A</sub>

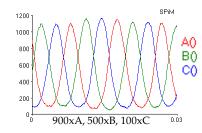
 $M = mol \cdot L^{-1}$ molarity (concentration)



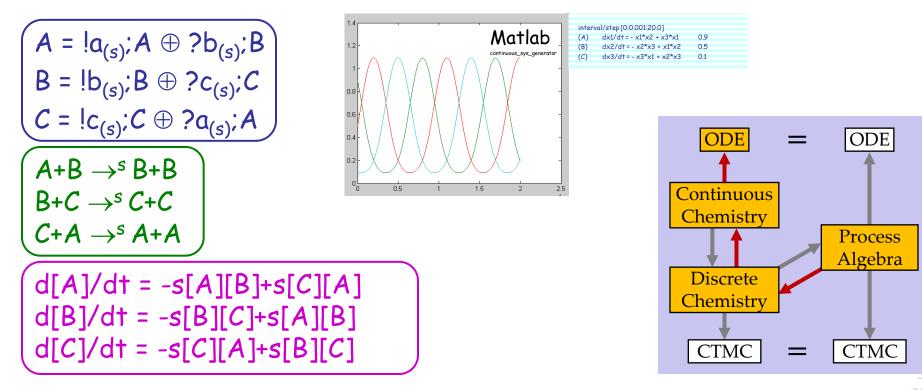
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### From Processes to ODEs via Chemistry!





directive sample 0.03 1000 directive plot A(); B(); C()
new a@1.0:chan new b@1.0:chan new c@1.0:chan let A() = do !a;A() or ?b; B() and B() = do !b;B() or ?c; C() and C() = do !c;C() or ?a; A()
run (900 of A()   500 of B()   100 of C())



# **Processes Rate Equation**

### Process Rate Equation for Reagents E in volume $\gamma$ d[X]/dt = ( $\Sigma(Y \in E) Accr_E(Y,X) \cdot [Y]$ ) - Depl<sub>E</sub>(X) \cdot [X] for all X \in E

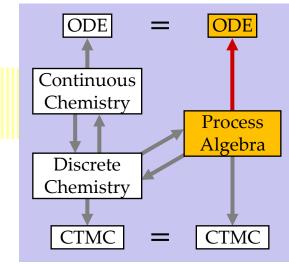
"The change in process concentration (!!) for X at time t is: the sum over all possible (kinds of) processes Y of: the concentration at time t of Y times the accretion from Y to X minus the concentration at time t of X times the depletion of X to some other Y"

 $\text{Depl}_{\text{E}}(X) =$ 

 $\Sigma(i: E.X.i=\tau_{(r)};P) r +$   $\Sigma(i: E.X.i=?a_{(r)};P) r\gamma \cdot OutsOn_{E}(a) +$  $\Sigma(i: E.X.i=!a_{(r)};P) r\gamma \cdot InsOn_{E}(a)$ 

#### Accr<sub>E</sub>(Y, X) = $\Sigma$ (i: E.Y.i= $\tau_{(r)}$ ;P) #X(P)·r + $\Sigma$ (i: E.Y.i=? $a_{(r)}$ ;P) #X(P)·r $\gamma$ ·OutsOn<sub>E</sub>(a) + $\Sigma$ (i: E.Y.i=! $a_{(r)}$ ;P) #X(P)·r $\gamma$ ·InsOn<sub>E</sub>(a)

 $InsOn_{E}(a) = \Sigma(Y \in E) \#\{Y.i \mid E.Y.i=?a_{(r)};P\} \cdot [Y]$ OutsOn\_E(a) =  $\Sigma(Y \in E) \#\{Y.i \mid E.Y.i=!a_{(r)};P\} \cdot [Y]$ 



$$X = \tau_{(r)}; 0 \longrightarrow d[X]/dt = -r[X]$$

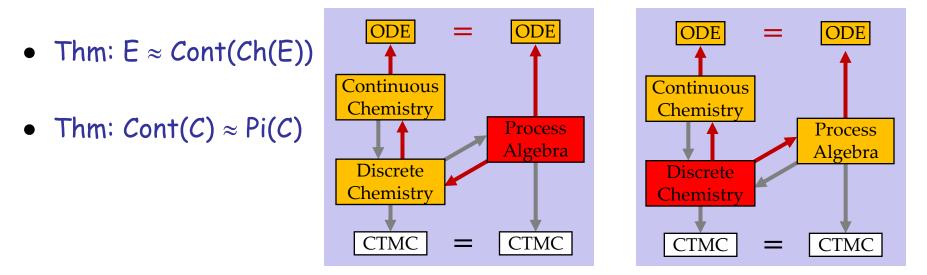
$$X = ?a_{(r)};0 \qquad d[X]/dt = -r\gamma[X][Y]$$
$$d[Y]/dt = -r\gamma[X][Y]$$

$$X = ?a_{(r)}; 0 \longrightarrow d[X]/dt = -2r\gamma[X]^{2}$$

$$\oplus |a_{(r)}; 0$$

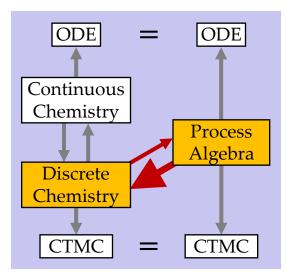
## Continuous State Equivalence

• Def:  $\approx$  is equivalence of polynomials over the field of reals.

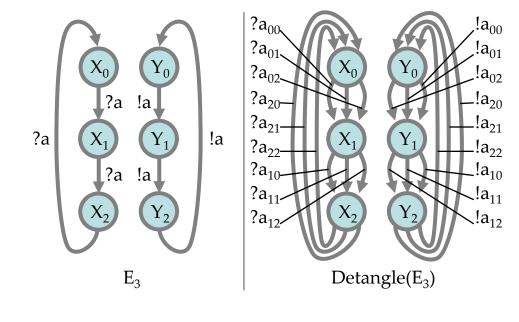


- For each E there is an E'  $\approx$  E that is detangled (E' = Pi(Ch(E)))
- For each E in automata form there is an an  $E' \approx E$  that is detangled and in automata form (E' = Detangle(E)).

# Model Compactness



## Entangled vs detangled



(closely related to  $Pi(Ch(E_3))$ )

# n<sup>2</sup> Scaling Problems

- E<sub>n</sub> has 2n variables (nodes) and 2n terms (arcs). -  $Ch(E_n)$  has 2n species and n<sup>2</sup> reactions.
- The stoichiometric matrix has size  $2n \cdot n^2 = 2n^3$ .
- The ODEs have 2n variables and  $2n(n+n) = 4n^2$  terms (number of variables times number of accretions plus depletions when sums are distributed)

StoichiometricMatrix(Ch(E3))									
	<b>a</b> <sub>00</sub>	<b>a</b> <sub>01</sub>	<b>a</b> <sub>02</sub>	<b>a</b> <sub>10</sub>	a <sub>11</sub>	<b>a</b> <sub>12</sub>	<b>a</b> <sub>20</sub>	a <sub>21</sub>	a <sub>22</sub>
X <sub>0</sub>	-1	-1	-1				+1	+1	+1
$X_1$	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	-1			
<b>X</b> <sub>2</sub>				+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	-1
Y <sub>0</sub>	-1		+1	-1		+1	-1		+1
У <sub>1</sub>	+1	-1		+1	-1		+1	-1	
<b>Y</b> <sub>2</sub>		+1	-1		+1	-1		+1	-1

#### $ODE(E_3)$

 $E_3$ 

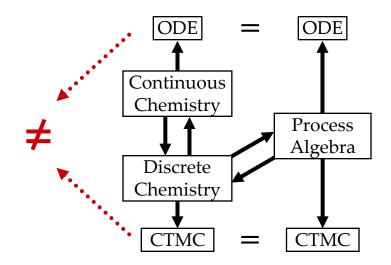
**Y**<sub>1</sub> =

 $d[X_0]/dt = -r[X_0][Y_0] - r[X_0][Y_1] - r[X_0][Y_2] + r[X_2][Y_0] + r[X_2][Y_1] + r[X_2][Y_2]$  $d[X_1]/dt = -r[X_1][Y_0] - r[X_1][Y_1] - r[X_1][Y_2] + r[X_0][Y_0] + r[X_0][Y_1] + r[X_0][Y_2]$  $d[X_2]/dt = -r[X_2][Y_0] - r[X_2][Y_1] - r[X_2][Y_2] + r[X_1][Y_0] + r[X_1][Y_1] + r[X_1][Y_2]$  $d[Y_0]/dt = -r[X_0][Y_0] - r[X_1][Y_0] - r[X_2][Y_0] + r[X_0][Y_2] + r[X_1][Y_2] + r[X_2][Y_2]$  $d[Y_1]/dt = -r[X_0][Y_1] - r[X_1][Y_1] - r[X_2][Y_1] + r[X_0][Y_0] + r[X_1][Y_0] + r[X_2][Y_0]$  $d[Y_2]/dt = -r[X_0][Y_2] - r[X_1][Y_2] - r[X_2][Y_2] + r[X_0][Y_1] + r[X_1][Y_1] + r[X_2][Y_1]$ 

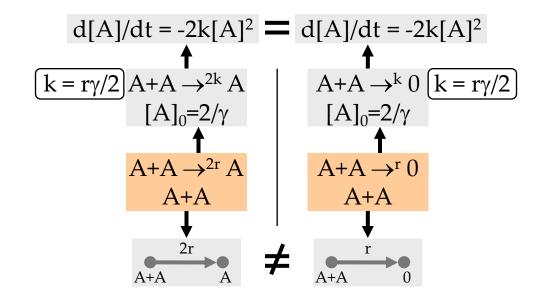


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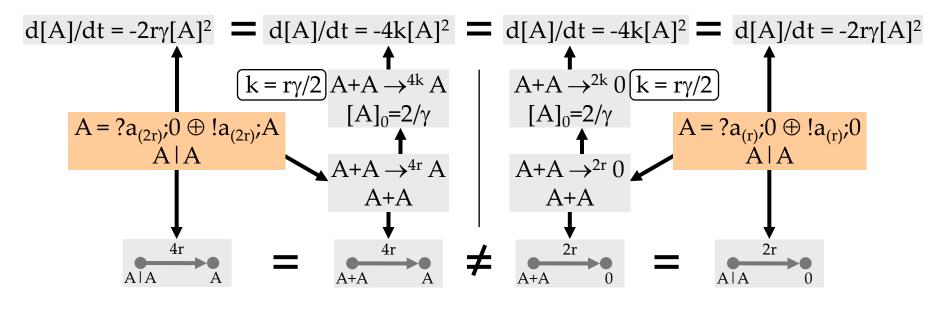
# GMA ≠ CME

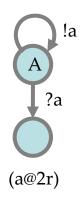


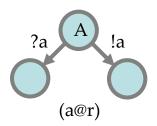
#### $A+A \rightarrow^{2r} A =? A+A \rightarrow^{r} 0$



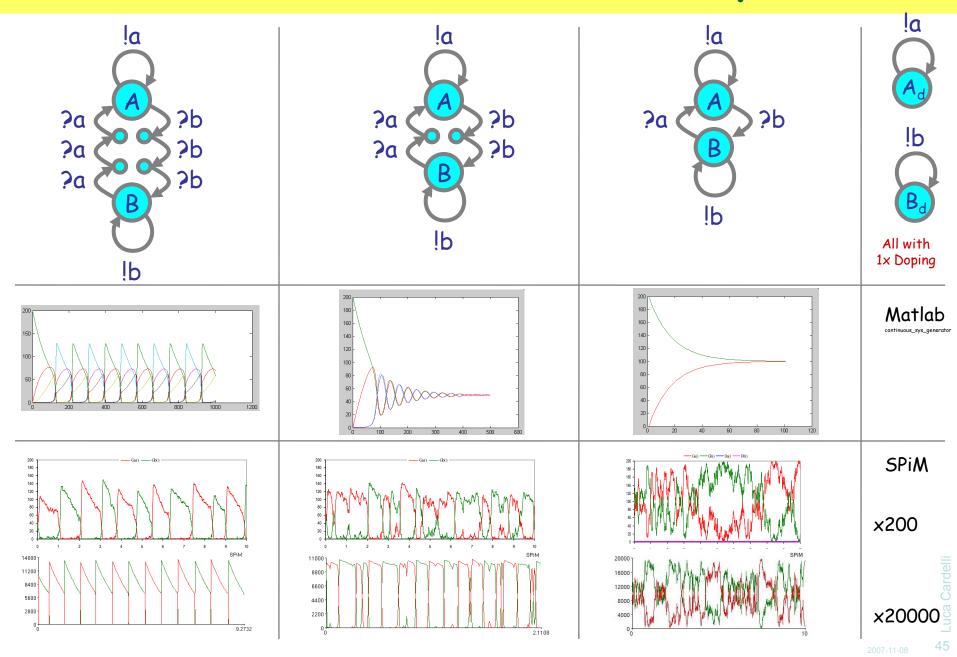
### ... as Automata





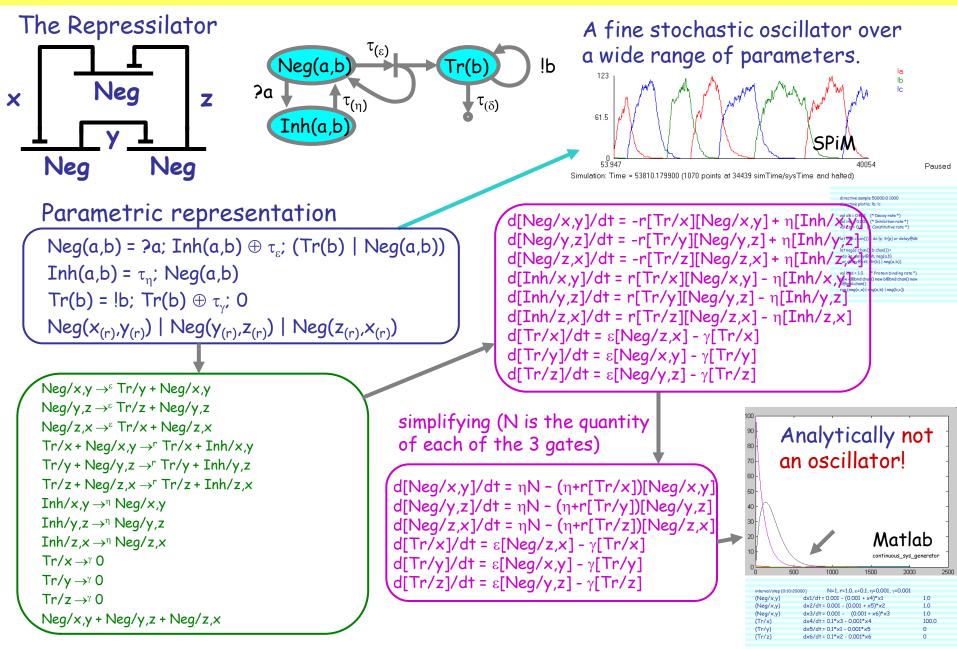


## Continuous vs. Discrete Groupies



# And Yet It Moves

R.Blossey, L.Cardelli, A.Phillips: Compositionality, Stochasticity and Cooperativity in Dynamic Models of Gene Regulation (HFSP Journal)



# Conclusions

## Conclusions

- Compositional models
  - Accurate (at the "appropriate" abstraction level).
  - Manageable (so we can scale them up by composition).
  - Executable (stochastic simulation).
- Analysis techniques
  - Mathematical techniques: Markov theory, Chemical Master Equation, and Rate Equation
  - Computing techniques: Abstraction and Refinement, Model Checking, Causality Analysis.
- Many lines of extensions
  - Parametric processes for model factorization
  - Polyautomata for Bio-Chemistry: complexation and polymerization
  - Ultimately, rich process-algebra based modeling languages.
- Quantitative techniques
  - Important in the "real sciences".