

Discovery through Observation

The Scientific Method ~ 1638







Discovery through Collaboration

The Scientific Method ~ 2000's



1 protein = 30 people / 30 years Humans have >250,000 proteins 🛞



Discovery through Automation



Garland, Jr., Theodore. "The Scientific Method as an Ongoing Process". U C Riverside.

The Inner Loop

- A model is refined by testing a (fixed) protocols against a systems
- A *protocol* is refined by testing a (fixed) *model* against a *systems*
- Today: publication does not accurately reflect execution
 - Model: poorly-maintained matlab script
 - Protocol: poorly-described manual steps in the lab
 - System: poorly-characterized and hardly "resettable"
 - ⇒ Crisis in biology: experiments are done once and are hard to reproduce http://www.nature.com/news/reproducibility-1.17552



The Inner Loop



Lifecycle

- Management:
- Performance evaluation/optimization: of model+protocol+system combined
 - version control, equipment monitoring, data storage

The Inner Loop

Chemical Reaction Networks Tomorrow, automation ٠ **Falsification** • Model: unambiguous (mathematical) description (CompBio) Nodes Model standardized (engineered) parts and procedures (SynthBio) • Protocol: **System** characterized (biological) organism and foundries (SysBio) • System: Verification **Protocol** • Verification: simulation / analysis / model checking / theorem proving Arcs **Observation** Observation: lab automation Falsification: statistical inference / model reduction **DNA Nanotechnology** Synthetic Biology Lifecycle • Performance evaluation/optimization: of model+protocol+system combined version control, equipment monitoring, data storage • Management:

Why are chemical reactions interesting? $X + Y \rightarrow^r Z + W$

- A fundamental model of kinetics in the natural sciences
- A fundamental mathematical structure, rediscovered in many forms
 - Vector Addition Systems, Petri Nets, Bounded Context-Free Languages, Population Protocols, ...
- A description of mechanism rather than just behavior
 - A way of describing and comparing biochemical algorithms
 - Enabling addition analysis techniques, e.g. evolution of mechanism through unchanging behavior
- A programming language (coded up in the genome) by which living things manage the processing of matter and information

Also, a formal language we can implement with real (DNA) molecules

- ANY collection of abstract chemical reactions can be implemented with specially designed DNA molecules, with accurate kinetics (up to time scaling).
- A situation where we can "systematically compile" (synthesize) a model, run an (automated) protocol, and observe (sequence) the results in a closed loop.

DNA as a universal substrate for chemical kinetics

David Soloveichik, Georg Seelig, and Erik Winfree PNAS March 23, 2010 107 (12) 5393-5398; https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.0909380107















DNA Implementation of the Approximate Majority Algoithm

 $\begin{array}{l} X + Y \rightarrow 2B \\ B + X \rightarrow 2X \\ B + Y \rightarrow 2Y \end{array}$

nature nanotechnology

Programmable chemical controllers made from DNA

Yuan-Jyue Chen, Neil Dalchau, Niranjan Srinivas, Andrew Phillips, Luca Cardelli, David Soloveichik 🟁 & Georg Seelig 🏁





Experimental-Protocol Languages for Chemical Reaction Networks

Automating "the whole thing"

- Protocols: sets of steps to direct lab machinery (or people)
 - Published (possibly) in specialized journals. With varying accuracy.
- Models: sets of equations to predict the results of lab experiments
 - Published (possibly) in Auxiliary Online Materials. With lots of typos.
- Protocols know nothing about models
 - What hypothesis is the protocol trying to test? It is not written in the protocol.
- Models know nothing about protocols
 - What lab conditions are being used to test the model? It is not written in the model.
- While presumably talking about the same system
 - Through the experiment.
- Reproducibility crisis
 - Experiments are hard to reproduce.
 - Even models are hard to reproduce!
- Similar to a classical problem in C.S.
 - Documentation (model) gets out of step from code (protocol) if their integration is not automated.



A Protocol For DNA gate assembly and activation in vitro 2 3 Sample ()2* 3* Gate_B 1* 4* Output Mix Protocol steps Dispense (liquid handing) Equilibrate 2 Dispose Input₁ p_1 p_2 t₁ 3 Input₂ 3 2 p₃ 1* 2* 3* 4* Gate ₽₄ t₂ 17

A Model

A Chemical Reaction Network, provided explicitly or (in this case) generated from a higher-level description of the initial strands, according to the DNA strand displacement rules

$$\frac{2}{1*} \frac{3}{2*} \frac{4*}{3*} + \frac{2}{1} \frac{3}{2} \frac{60,0003}{1*} \frac{2}{2*} \frac{3}{3*} \frac{4}{4*}$$

$$\frac{2}{1*} \frac{3}{2*} \frac{4}{3*} + \frac{1}{12} \frac{2}{2} \frac{0,0003}{1126} \frac{1}{1*} \frac{2}{2*} \frac{3}{3*} \frac{4}{4*}$$

$$\frac{1}{1*} \frac{2}{2*} \frac{3}{3*} \frac{4}{4*} + \frac{3}{4} \frac{0,0003}{1126} \frac{1}{1*} \frac{2}{2*} \frac{3}{3*} \frac{4}{4*} + \frac{2}{2} \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\frac{2}{1*} \frac{3}{2*} \frac{4}{3*} + \frac{3}{4} \frac{0,0003}{1126} \frac{2}{1*} \frac{3}{2*} \frac{4}{3*} + \frac{2}{4*}$$

$$\frac{2}{1*} \frac{3}{2*} \frac{4}{3*} + \frac{3}{4*} + \frac{3}{2} \frac{0,0003}{1126} \frac{1}{1*} \frac{2}{2*} \frac{3}{3*} \frac{4}{4*} + \frac{2}{2} \frac{3}{4}$$



Language Semantics (deterministic)

The deterministic case is a warm-up exercise, but simple to explain Each program denotes a final state <concentrations, volume, temperature>

 $[\![P]\!]^{
ho}$ is the final state produced by a protocol $\ P$ for a fixed CRN $\ {\cal C} = ({\cal A}, {\cal R})$:

$$\begin{split} \|x\|^{\rho} &= \rho(x) \\ \|x_{0}, V, T\|^{\rho} &= (x_{0}, V, T) \\ \|Mix(P_{1}, P_{2})\|^{\rho} &= \\ let(x_{0}^{1}, V_{1}, T_{1}) &= \|P_{1}\|^{\rho} \\ let(x_{0}^{2}, V_{2}, T_{2}) &= \|P_{2}\|^{\rho} \\ let(x_{0}^{2}, V_{2}, T_{2}) &= \|P_{2}\|^{\rho} \\ (\frac{x_{0}^{1}V_{1} + x_{0}^{2}V_{2}}{V_{1} + V_{2}}, V_{1} + V_{2}, \frac{T_{1}V_{1} + T_{2}V_{2}}{V_{1} + V_{2}}) \\ \|letx &= P_{1} in P_{2}\|^{\rho} \\ let(x_{0}, V, T) &= \|P_{1}\|^{\rho} \\ let(x_{0},$$

Language Semantics (stochastic)

Dispense has a volume uncertainty. *Equilibrate* has a time uncertainty. Reactions have rate uncertainty.

Each program now represents a Hybrid System with stochastic jumps between deterministic evolutions:



Which in turn denotes a Piecewise Deterministic Markov Process (PDMP)

Stochastic Analysis

- We can ask: what is the probability of a certain outcome given uncertainties in *both the protocol and the model*?
- Conversely: which parameters of *both the protocol and the model* best fit the observed result?



1500 executions including protocol uncertainty due timing and pipetting errors (red).

1500 executions including only model uncertainty about rates of the CRN (yellow).

1500 executions including both sources of uncertainty (blue).

We may estimate by Statistic Model Checking, e.g. the probability that Output will fall in a certain range, given distributions over uncertain model and protocol parameters.

Kaemika

• A prototype language for chemical models & protocols



Android app:
 Search "Kaemika" in the Play Store
 https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.kaemika.Kaemika

Describing a Model

- Species and reactions
 - $\cdot\,$ Are characterized by a initial values and rates

• Kinetics

Assume a model of matter (deterministic of stochastic) e.g. for simulations

Programming abstractions

 \cdot Help assemble large models as compositions of modules





Writing Models Compositionally

- Functional-monadic approach
 - Functions take data as parameters and produce data as results
 - Networks take data as parameters and produce effects as results
 - Data is numbers, species, functions, networks, flows, etc.
 - Effects are species creation, reaction definitions, and sample handling
 - A program execution produces both a final *result* and a sequence of *effects*

• (Temporal) Flows

- Flows are functions of time (mostly real-valued)
- \cdot Can be assembled programmatically (as a data structure)
- Can be used as *rates* (leading to programmable kinetics)
- Can be *observed* at specific times (leading to protocol observations)
- Can be *plotted* over time (leading to chart series and legends)



```
Ex: Ring Oscillator
Then connect two such chains in a loop
to produce a dampened ring oscillator
network RingOscillator(species a b, number n) {
    Erlang(a,b,n/2)
    Erlang(b,a,n/2)
}
Initialize some species and activate the oscillator
species a @ 1 M
species b @ 0 M
RingOscillator(a, b, 10)
Simulate the reactions and produce a plot
Multiple 'c' species are distinguished by a suffix
equilibrate for 20
```



Describing a Protocol

- Samples (e.g. test tubes)
 - $\cdot\,$ Are characterized by a volume and a temperature
 - Contain a specified set of species
 - $\cdot\,$ Evolve according to reactions that operates on those species
- Operations (e.g. liquid handling)
 - Accept and produce samples
 - Accepted samples are used up (they can only be operated-on once)

Samples (and their volume)

- Samples contain concentrations of species, acted over by reactions.
- Each sample has a fixed volume and a fixed temperature through its evolution.
- Sample concentrations are in units of M = mol/L.
- The default implicit sample is called the 'vessel' {1 mL, 20 C}

Create a new empty sample 's' with given volume and temperature: <pre>sample s {1mL, 20C}</pre>	The amount can also be given in grams (if molar mass is specified) and the resulting concentration is then <u>relative to sample volume</u> .
Declare two new species, but do not initialize them: they can be used in several samples:	<pre>sample t {1mL, 20C} species {NaCl#58.44}</pre>
<pre>species {a, b}</pre>	amount NaCl @ 8g in t
Initialize the amount of 'a' in 's' at '1' (M), similarly for 'b'.	
amount a @ 1 M in s amount b @ 2 M in s	30

Samples (and their temperature)

```
Declare a new temperature-dependant reaction
(it can operate in any sample
where all its species initialized).
```

a + b -> {2, 5} c

```
'2' is collision frequency,
'5' (J*mol^-1) is activation energy
(default is '{1, 0}')
```

```
In each sample, the reaction rate is then
dependent on the sample temperature 'T' via
the activation energy and the gas constant 'R'
by Arrhenius' formula: 2*e^{-5/(R*T)}
```

```
Samples (and their evolution)
```

```
The sample 's' evolves
according to the relevant reactions
resulting in a new sample 's1' after time '3'.
```

```
equilibrate s1 := s for 3
```

- Sample 's' can no longer be used after this: it has been consumed.
- Sample 's1' has the same volume and temperature as 's'.

```
• Sample 's1' contains the same species as 's' in usually altered amounts.
```

```
'equilibrate s := s for 3'
reuses the old name for the new sample.
```

```
'equilibrate s for 3' is an abbreviation
for 'equilibrate s := s for 3'.
```

Samples (and their operations)

Mix two samples into one

mix A := B with C

Split a sample into two

split B,C := A by 0.5

Transfer a sample to a new volume, temperature

transfer $A{1L, 20C} := B$

Let a sample evolve

equilibrate A := B for 3

Throw away a sample

dispose C

These are based on our paper, but now these are *effects*, not algebraic operation. So they are used like imperative statements (":=") rather than expression.

Experimental Biological Protocols with Formal Semantics

Alessandro Abate², Luca Cardelli^{1,2}, Marta Kwiatkowska², Luca Laurenti², and Boyan Yordanov¹

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Flows

- Flows are a powerful facility for representing time series, they can appear in rate expressions, in report (plotting) expressions, and in protocol observation.
- A flow is a closed expression (essentially a data structure) representing a value v(t,s) at a time t≥0 in sample s (or a distribution of values if LNA is active).
- I.e. a flow denotes a function $\lambda(t,s) v(t,s)$.

time	λ(t,s) t	
3.5	λ(t,s) 3.5	
kelvin	$\lambda(t,s)$ temperature(s)	
a (a species)	$\lambda(t,s) a(t,s)$	concentration of a in the sample
$op(f_1,\ldots,f_2)$	$\lambda(t,s) op(f_1(t,s),,f_2(t,s))$	e.g.: sin(time+1), 2*a - 3*b
$cond(f_1, f_2, f_3)$	λ (t,s) if f ₁ (t,s) then f ₂ (t,s) else f ₃ (t	t,s) conditional flows, e.g. cond(a <b, a,="" b)<="" th=""></b,>
poisson(f)	λ(t,s) poisson(f(t,s))	mean and variance equal to f(t,s)
$cov(f_1, f_2)$	$\lambda(t,s) \operatorname{cov}(f_1(t,s),f_2(t,s))$	covariance of any two linear combinations of species
∂f	$\partial_t(\lambda(t,s) f(t,s))$	first time deriviative (based on the mass action equations)

Observations

observe(f, s)	observe a flow f in sample s (at the "current" time)
observe(kelvin,s)	temperature of s
observe(volume,s)	volume of s (L)
observe(a,s)	concentration of a in s (mol/L)
observe((a-b)^2,s)	combined observations
observe(time,s)	e.g., observe the endtime of a simulation
observe(var(a),s)	observe noise (requires LNA active)
observe(∂a,s)	time derivative of a's concentration

Conditional protocol execution

if (observe(a, s) > 3.5) then ... else ... If the concentration of a in sample s > 3.5 ... (typically tested at a time *between* equilibrates)

Protocol optimization

- argmin(objectiveFunction, initialGuess, tolerance)
 where objectiveFunction = fun(parameters) ... observe((objective outcome)^2, s) ...
 Compute an error that depends on a choice of parameters,
- for the gradient descent minimization of an objective function



Ex: Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS)

species {NaCl#58.44, KCl#74.5513, NA2HPO4#141.96, KH2PO4#136.086} report NaCl, KCl, NA2HPO4, KH2PO4

function MakePBS() { define

sample PBS {800mL, 20C} amount NaCl @ 8g in PBS amount KCl @ 0.2g in PBS amount NA2HPO4 @ 1.44g in PBS amount KH2PO4 @ 0.24g in PBS

sample topup {200mL, 20C} mix PBS with topup yield Autoclave(PBS, 20*60)

}

}

function Autoclave(sample PBS, number t) { define // increase temperature, preserve volume: transfer hot { observe(volume,PBS)L, 121C } := PBS // bake equilibrate hot for t // decrease temperature, preserve volume: transfer PBS { observe(volume.hot)L. 20C } := hot yield PBS

```
sample PBS = MakePBS()
```

CSH Cold Spring Harbor Protocols

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(1) Recipe

Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS)

Reagent	Amount	Final	Amount to add	Final
	to add (for c	oncentration	n (for 10×	concentration
	$1 \times$	(1×)	stock)	(10×)
	solution)			
NaCl	8 g	137 mm	80 g	1.37 M
KCI	0.2 g	2.7 mM	2 g	27 mM
Na ₂ HPO ₄	1.44 g	10 mM	14.4 g	100 mM
KH ₂ PO ₄	0.24 g	1.8 mM	2.4 g	18 mM
If necessary,	PBS may be s	upplementee	d with the follow	wing:
CaCl ₂ • 2H ₂ O	0.133 g	1 mM	1.33 g	10 mM
MgCl ₂ •6H ₂ O	0.10 g	0.5 mм	1.0 g	5 mM
PBS can be m	ade as a 1×1	solution or a	s a 10× stock.	To prepare 1
L of either 1>	$\cos 10 \times PBS$,	dissolve the	e reagents listed	l above in 800
mL of H ₂ O. A	djust the pH	to 7.4 (or 7.	2, if required) <mark>v</mark>	vith HCl, and
then add H ₂ C	to 1 L. Disp	ense the soli	ution into alique	ots and
sterilize then	n b <mark>y</mark> autoclavi	ing for 20 m	in at 15 psi (1.0)5 kg/cm ²) on
liquid cycle o	r hv filter ste	rilization St	ore PRS at room	temperature

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http://cshprotocols.cshlp.org/content/2006/1/pdb.rec8247

```
Ex: Serial Dilution
```

```
network SerialDilution(number count, sample s, network f) {
    if count > 0 then
        sample solvent {9*observe(volume,s) L, observe(kelvin,s) K}
        mix s with solvent
        split s, dilution := s by 0.1
        f(dilution)
        SerialDilution(count-1, s, f)
    end
```

```
}
```

initial sample to be diluted:

```
sample init {1mL, 25C}
species A @ 1M in init
species B @ 1M in init
A + B ->{20} A
A -> #
```

```
apply this network to each dilution;
note that this invokes a simulation
each time in each solution
```

```
network test(sample s) {
    equilibrate s for 10
    dispose s
}
```

```
dilute 4 times
```

SerialDilution(4, init, test)

Prepare a series of increasingly diluted solutions and apply a network f to each (f can add species and reactions to the solutions)

```
RESULT:
sample init {1mL, 298.2K} {A = 1M, B = 1M}
sample s2 {1mL, 298.2K} {A = 100mM, B = 100mM}
sample s4 {1mL, 298.2K} {A = 10mM, B = 10mM}
sample s7 {1mL, 298.2K} {A = 1mM, B = 1mM}
sample s10 {1mL, 298.2K} {A = 100uM, B = 100uM}
```

Extracting both Model and Protocol



Extracting both Model and Protocol



Conclusions



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