Noises and dynamics in cells: Mathematical modeling in systems biology

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Webinar Philippine Genome Center May 23, 2016





Where am I?



Academia Sinica is located to the East of Taipei City





Institute of Chemistry Academia Sinica

My research interests

- Electron and energy transfer problems.
 - In quantum chemistry.
 - With an application to photosynthesis.
 - most of our application are in Materials.
- Dynamical modeling in Biology.

Hierarchy in Biology

A multi-cellular organism

Organs

Tissues

Cells

A lot of work in Chemistry and Biology aim to understand the structure and function at molecular level. On the other hand, "systems" level of understanding based on molecular studies have started to emerge.

Organelles

Molecules

Building units

Proteins, DNAs, Lipids, Glycoses

Amino Acids Nirogenous Bases

We are interested in

- Dynamic Description of Biological systems.
 - What is really going on in a living system?
 - How the desired outputs are generated.
 - What may be the factors that contribute to the special properties of such dynamics.
 - ..

In the framework of biological observations



refinement through systematic, successive perturbations. The pathway of interest is per-

T. Ideker et al. Annu. Rev. Genomics Hum. Genet. (2001)



Elowitz, 2002

Dynamics in stochastic biological processes — "noisy cells"

Gene expression is "noisy"

active

Gene transitions randomly between active and inactive states

Science 309, 2010-2013 (2009) Science 304, 1811-1814 (2004)



Cell to cell variability in a population

two genes (cfp, -green; yfp, -red) controlled by identical promoters, integrated at the same locus on homologous chromosomes.

Today's talk includes

- 1. Theoretical Development for fluctuation and dynamics in a cell.
- 2. An account for gene expression noises.-for computer simulation.
- 3. An application project in C. elegans development.

Genes express in bursts. The production is noisy.





P. Choi, L. Cai, K. Frieda and X. S. Xie Science 322, 442-446 (2008)

Brownian motion

Coordinate of the particle



Each
 step is:
 A random
 "kick" from
 the solvent

Coordinate of the particle

Brownian motion vs. a noisy cell

Coordinate of the particle Number of molecules (B)



Each
 step is:
 A random
 "kick" from
 the solvent
 A chemical
 reaction

Coordinate of the particle Number of molecules (A)

Measurment of cells' response in an oscillatory purturbation

REPORTS

The Frequency Dependence of Osmo-Adaptation in Saccharomyces cerevisiae

Jerome T. Mettetal,¹ Dale Muzzey,^{1,2} Carlos Gómez-Uribe,^{1,3} Alexander van Oudenaarden¹⁺



Metabolic gene regulation in a dynamically changing environment

Matthew R. Bennett^{1,2}*, Wyming Lee Pang¹*†, Natalie A. Ostroff¹, Bridget L. Baumgartner¹, Sujata Nayak¹, Lev S. Tsimring¹ & Jeff Hasty^{1,2}



Figure 1 Design and implementation of the microfluidic platform developed for our study. a, Conceptual design of the imaging chamber. The chamber is coupled to the switch output channel by means of multiple

"Spectroscopy" for a cell?

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Linear response function

Time domain

The linear response relationship is: $O(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{t} \chi(t - t')I(t')dt'$ I(t): Time-dependent perturbation O(t): observed output Eg. I(t) = electric field O(t) = polarization in a material $\chi(t) = \text{electric susceptibility},$ or dielectric constant.

or dielectric constant.

Frequency domain

The linear response relationship is: $O(\omega) = \chi(\omega)I(\omega)$ $I(\omega)$: Freq.-dependent perturbation $O(\omega)$: observed output Eg. $I(\omega)$ = electric field $O(\omega)$ = polarization in a material $\chi(\omega)$ = electric susceptibility, or dielectric constant.

or dielectric constant.

Linear Response theory in cells? Possibility of Fluctuation-Dissipation theorem? Is it possible to adapt the previously developed theories/equations (in mechanics)?



"Dynamic" version of Fluctuation-Dissipation Theorem exists



"Dissipation": back to steady state



Can be simulated directly. Can we "predict" it with FDT (i.e. with correlation function)?

Derivation for FDT

- Suppose a perturbation is applied at t=0: (I.e. increase or decrease the particle number in a reaction system) $\Delta \mu$
- Gaussian probability distribution assumed.
- The time-dependent change in the averaged x(t) is: $\langle \Delta x_j(t) \rangle = \langle x_j(t) - \mu_j \rangle = \int (x_j - \mu_j) P(\mathbf{x}, t) d\mathbf{x}$

Dynamic Fluctuation-Dissipation Theorem for biochemical kinetics

$$\bar{x}(t) - \mu_0 = \frac{\Delta\mu}{\Sigma^2} \langle \delta x(0) \delta x(t) \rangle$$

where x(t) = the particle number for the observed species

- $\mu_0 =$ equilibrium average for x
- $\Sigma^2 =$ equilibirum variance for x
- $\delta x(t) = \text{instantaneous fluctuation for } x$
- LHS: How x(t) comes back to the equilibrium, after a perturbation. A non-equilibrium quantity.
- RHS: The correlation function is the characteristic of fluctuation in x(t). An equilibrium quantity.
- <u>A linear response theory</u> is provided.
- Can be generalized to multiple component systems.



Predict the response after a perturbation.

"Spectroscopy" for a cell?

Represillator: a model with intrinsic oscillation



- A "resonance" is seen with periodic perturbation.
- Probing oscillators in a cell.



Spectroscopy for molecules







"Spectroscopy" for a cell?





- Time scale separation?
 Not quite. Observable oscillation are mostly in 10⁰-10³ minutes.
- Relaxation (and dilution due to cell div.), also in 10¹-10³ minutes.

Summary

- FDT it is possible use correlation functions to compose the response function.
- To predict response from fluctuation, linear response is necessary.
- There is a limited range for linear response.
- (data not shown) It is possible to construct the response function for missing component situation.
- Limited data sampling is not a big problem either.

Genes express in bursts. The production is noisy.





P. Choi, L. Cai, K. Frieda and X. S. Xie Science 322, 442-446 (2008)

Genes express in bursts. The production is noisy.



The distribution of protein expressed



- Number of people in front of you ~ Poisson distribution.
 (Number of bursts)
- Time each person spend ~ exponential distribution (Sunney Xie's result: burst size distribution).
- Total waiting time (total protein produced) distribution?

Figure from:

http://chaaidaani.wordpress.com/2012/05/02/good-mannered-when-abroad-bad-mannered-in-pakistan/

Langevin's equation

Protein burst model •dm/dt = $k_m - \gamma_m m$ •dp/dt = $k_p m - \gamma_p p$

A Gaussian random number

$$p(t + \tau) = p(t) + \left[k_p m\tau + (k_p m\tau)^{1/2} N(0, 1)\right] - \left[\gamma_p p\tau + (\gamma_p p\tau)^{1/2} N(0, 1)\right]$$

Regular reaction channels: Poisson statistics

Langevin's equation, without having to model *m* (=mRNA)

Burst channel $p(t + \tau) = p(t) + \sum_{i=1}^{n_e} x_i \qquad \Rightarrow \mu_p + \sigma_p N(0, 1)$ $- \left[\gamma_p p \tau + (\gamma_p p \tau)^{1/2} N(0, 1) \right]$ Non-burst, "normal" channels

How many protein is produced in time τ ?



- in time τ , on the avg, $a\tau$ bursts.
- Total: $a\tau b$ protein on the average.
- What is the variance of this total # of protein?

Some Basics

- Protein burst model
 - $dm/dt = k_m \gamma_m m$
 - $dp/dt = k_p m \gamma_p p$
- mRNA degrades fast: $\gamma_m >> \gamma_p$
- mRNA production is slow: k_m << k_p
- 1 mRNA \approx 1 burst protein production.

Polyribosome

 multiple ribosomes assembled along a single mRNA, synthesizing proteins from the same mRNA at the same time.

http://www.slideshare.net/aftonchase/27-28-105-fa13-transcription-and-translation-skel

- Protein burst model
 - $dm/dt = k_m \gamma_m m$
 - $dp/dt = k_p m \gamma_p p$

Some Basics

- Protein production rate = $k_p m = k_p k_m / \gamma_m$ = $k_m (k_p / \gamma_m)$
- a = k_m
- $b = k_p / \gamma_m$
- each mRNA produces k_p/γ_m protein. This # is exp. in distribution.



 multiple ribosomes assembled along a single mRNA, synthesizing proteins from the same mRNA at the same time.

http://www.slideshare.net/aftonchase/27-28-105-fa13-transcription-and-translation-skel

How many protein is produced in time τ ?



- in time τ , on the avg, $a\tau$ bursts.
- Total: $a\tau b$ protein on the average. $a\tau b$
- What is the variance of this total # of protein? $2a\tau b^2$

Langevin's equation can be formulated **Burst channel** $p(t + \tau) = p(t) + \left(a\tau b_p + (a\tau b_p (2b_p + 1))^{1/2} N(0, 1)\right)$ $-\left(\gamma_p p\tau + \left(\gamma_p p\tau\right)^{1/2} N(0,1)\right),\,$

Non-burst, "normal" channels

The noise of a bursting gene production is $\sqrt{2}$ times the no-burst (1 copy at a time) noise.



Yan and Hsu, J. Chem. Phys. 2013





Collaboration project with NTU 吳益群教 授

Noises in the development of worms (C. elegans)



Surendhar Reddy + Yi-Chen Chen 陳奕丞

The timing of gonad turn (unc5 expression) is tightly



I: UNC-5

netrin: guidance cue **UNC-5:** a netrin receptor

Genes Dev. 14, 2486-2500 (2000) *Development* 127, 585-594 (2000)

Is noise buffered by the gene regulation network?

Phenotype: Dorsal turn timing (and shape) %

GENOTYPE		WIL	DTYP	E	PRECOCIOUS	RETARDED
blmp-1(s71)		(7		93	0
lin-29(n546)			100		0	0
lin-29(RNAi)	Is there a noise	-	100		0	0
<i>dre-1(dh99)</i> filteri	ing mechanism	?	100		0	0
daf-12(rh61rh411)			100		0	0
lin-29(n546);dre-1(dh99)			0		0	100
lin-29(n546);daf-12(rh61rh42	11)		0		0	97
dre-1(dh99);daf-12(rh61rh411	1)		0		0	98
blmp-1(s71);daf-12(rh61rh41	1)	ſ	43		47	10
blmp-1(s71);lin-29(RNAi)		J	30	Lost	of "noise-filtering	" function?
blmp-1(RNAi);lin-29(n546);	dre-1(dh99)		22	2000	43	35
blmp-1(s71);dre-1(dh99);daf-	12(rh61rh411)	l	12		73	15

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We built a model that generates almost all experimental mutant phenotypes.



Node	Regu	latory	Logic
	0	j	0

lin-29	<i>lin-29</i> *= not <i>lin-42</i> and not <i>blmp-1</i>
blmp-1	<i>blmp-1</i> *= (<i>lin-42</i> and not <i>lin-29</i> and not <i>daf-12</i>) or <i>blmp-1</i>
unc-5	<i>unc5</i> * = (<i>lin-29</i> or <i>daf-12</i>) and not <i>blmp-1</i>

Interlinked FFL filters upstream noises



Adding noise in simulation

- Langevin's equation: Noise can be easily added and removed.
- All genes have "intrinsic" noises the Gaussian noise in their production and degradation.
 - Production: burst noise considered.
- Regulated genes have propagated noise.
- Other noises (not considered) Global noise.



Fano Factor (FF) =Variance/Mean

Results from 1000 randomly selected parameter sets that can produce wild type phenotype.



Another set of IFFL



All noise added & propagated





Is noise buffered by the gene regulation network?

Phenotype: Dorsal turn timing (and shape) %

GENOTYPE	WILD TYPE	PRECOCIOUS	RETARDED
blmp-1(s71)	7	93	0
lin-29(n546)	100	0	0
lin-29(RNAi)	100	0	0
dre-1(dh99)	100	0	0
daf-12(rh61rh411)	100	0	0
lin-29(n546);dre-1(dh99)	0	0	100
lin-29(n546);daf-12(rh61rh411)	0	0	97
dre-1(dh99);daf-12(rh61rh411)	0	0	98
blmp-1(s71);daf-12(rh61rh411)	43	47	10
blmp-1(s71);lin-29(RNAi)	30	54	16
blmp-1(RNAi);lin-29(n546);dre-1(dh99)	22	43	35
blmp-1(s71);dre-1(dh99);daf-12(rh61rh411)	12	73	15

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WT and Mutant behavior





How shall we determine phenotype?





Stochastic unc-5 expression

Accumulated unc-5 signal

Time pass threshold



Is noise buffered by the gene regulation network?

Phenotype: Dorsal turn timing (and shape) %

GENOTYPE	WILD TYPE	PRECOCIOUS	RETARDED
blmp-1(s71)	7	93	0
lin-29(n546)	100	0	0
lin-29(RNAi)	100	0	0
dre-1(dh99)	100	0	0
daf-12(rh61rh411)	100	0	0
lin-29(n546);dre-1(dh99)	0	0	100
lin-29(n546);daf-12(rh61rh411)	0	0	97
dre-1(dh99);daf-12(rh61rh411)	0	0	98
blmp-1(s71);daf-12(rh61rh411)	43	47	10
blmp-1(s71);lin-29(RNAi)	30	54	16
blmp-1(RNAi);lin-29(n546);dre-1(dh99)	22	43	35
blmp-1(s71);dre-1(dh99);daf-12(rh61rh411)	12	73	15

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Simulating phenotypes

Wild type

blmp-1 daf-12



Comput helps us



how







blmp1;daf12 - Unc5 Protein SS



WT-Unc5 SS with4H Integ&DTC turn at1430



blmp1;daf12-Unc5 SS with4H Integ&DTC turn at1430



Phenotype diversity

- Most previous work: gene expression noises
 ⇒diverse phenotypes.
- Our result does not support such a link.
 - unc5 expression uncertainty does not directly correlate with DTC turning phenotypes.
- It is [Dynamics + noises]
 - WT: stay low. Even with noisy expression phenotype remains uniform.
 - mutant: unc5 expression goes up and down.

Many thanks to...





 Excellent collaborators and students.

