Dynamical Modeling in Biology: a semiotic perspective

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Introduction

- To describe feelings, we have poetry, music, painting, ...
- To describe qualitative concepts, we have natural languages
- To describe quantitative and abstract concepts, we have mathematics
- To study a phenomena requires an adequate language

Dynamical Phenomenon: objects change state in time



- Physics describes natural phenomena by mathematical laws
- The laws of Physics are validated by quantitative measures
- The experimentally validated laws are mathematical models of the phenomena
- The mathematical modeling of phenomena requires quantitative measures



Biological Phenomena are multi-scale, dynamical and, in many cases, measurable

animation



Ecological System











The life cycle of the malaria parasite



Digestive System



Neuron

The key unit of living beings for electric signal processing



- Nobel Prize in Medicine 1963: Hodgkin -Huxley
- discoveries concerning the ionic mechanisms involved in excitation and inhibition of nerve cell membrane
- presented a mathematical model describing the dynamics of the action potential



The equation derived from the circuit is:

$$C \frac{dVm}{dt} = g_1(E_1 - V_m) + g_{Na}(E_{Na^-} - V_m) + g_{K}(E_{K} - V_m)$$

Where g_l is constant and g_{Na} and g_K are time and voltage dependent. represented by:

$$g_{\text{Na}} = \overline{G}_{\text{Na}} m(t)^{3} h(t)$$
$$g_{\text{K}} = \overline{G}_{\text{K}} n(t)^{4}$$

animation

Molecular Biology

Knowledge evolution in genetics

COOH - CH - (CH₂)₂ - COOH NH Enzyme Gene argA is NAcetylgiutamate synthase Acetylglutamate COOH - CH - (CH₂)₂ - COOH CH3-C-NH argB i NAcetylglutamate kinase Acetylglutamyl phosphate $COOH - CH - (CH_2)_2 - C - O - (P)$ CH₂ = C = NH NAcetylglutemylphosphate Acetylglutamate semialdehyde $COOH = CH = (CH_2)_2 = C = H$ argD > NAcetylomithine transaminase Acetylomithine $COOH - CH - (CH_2)_3 = NH_2$

- Fundamental laws apply for all kinds of organisms
- Dynamical phenomena: protein and DNA interaction, gene networks, pathways
- Measurable variables: expression, protein signal, concentrations in biochemical reactions

Dynamical System

Graphical Interpretation

State Transition Graph

 $\phi_{t} \Leftrightarrow \{\phi_{xi} : L^{mN} \to L^{nN} \}$ $\phi_{x1}(\mathbf{u}_{1}) = \mathbf{x}_{2}$ $\phi_{t,j} \Leftrightarrow \{\phi_{xi,j} : L^{mN} \to L \}$

Example - architecture

Graph representing the transition function components $(\phi_{t,j})$ states association

Example - dynamics

$$\mathbf{x}_{1}[t] = 0$$
and
$$\left[\left((\mathbf{x}_{3}[t] = 1 \text{ or } \mathbf{x}_{3}[t-1] = 1 \text{ or } \mathbf{x}_{3}[t-2] = 1 \right) \text{ and} \right]$$

$$\left[\left((\mathbf{x}_{3}[t] = 1 \text{ or } \mathbf{x}_{4}[t-1] = 1 \text{ or } \mathbf{x}_{4}[t-2] = 1 \right) \right)$$
or
$$\left(\mathbf{x}_{4}[t] = \mathbf{x}_{3}[t-1] = \mathbf{x}_{3}[t-2] = \mathbf{x}_{3}[t-3] = \mathbf{x}_{3}[t-4] = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{4}[t] = \mathbf{x}_{4}[t-1] = \mathbf{x}_{4}[t-2] = \mathbf{x}_{4}[t-3] = \mathbf{x}_{4}[t-4] = 0 \right)$$

X

Example - simulation

System Families

Independent Subsystems

 If the system architecture has more than one connected component, it is composed of independent subsystems

Replication

• Crucial systems may be replicated for safety

Example 1: Liquid Level System

Feedback Control System

Transient Response Characteristics

AB-Controlability

Let A and B be subsets of possible states
A LDS is AB-controlable if, for every a∈ A and b∈ B, there is a path in the transition graph from a to b.

System AB-Controlable

N-Robustness

A state r is N-robust if there is an unconditional path in the transition graph from every x such that d(r,x) ≤ N.

Robust and no Robust States

System identification

u and **y are random processes**

Stochastic Linear Problem

- Model Structure y(t) = ay(t-1) + bu(t-1) + e(t)
- Given: $\{u(1), y(1)\}, \{u(2), y(2)\}, \dots, \{u(N), y(N)\}$
- To determine: *a* and *b*
- Prediction $\hat{y}(t) = ay(t-1) + bu(t-1)$

• Prediction Error

$$y(t) - \hat{y}(t) = y(t) - ay(t-1) - bu(t-1)$$

Cost Function

$$J(a,b) = \sum_{t=2}^{N} \{y(t) - ay(t-1) - bu(t-1)\}^{2}$$

• Results

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{a} \\ \hat{b} \end{pmatrix} = (\Phi^T \Phi)^{-1} \Phi^T \begin{pmatrix} y(2) \\ y(3) \\ \cdots \\ y(N) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} y(1) & u(1) \\ y(2) & u(2) \\ \cdots \\ y(N-1) & u(N-1) \end{pmatrix}$$

for y(t) = ay(t-1) + bu(t-1) + e(t)

Genetic Network Design

microarray

Hypothesis: the system is fault tolerant, that is, there is more than one system doing the same task.

System Sampling

 $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 - 11 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 11 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 11 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -11 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -11 \end{bmatrix}$

each line comes from one gene clustering

Cell Cycle Modeling

animation

Interphase

Mitosis

Cell Cycle Modeling

Robust Operational States

Knock out

SYSTEM BEHAVIOUR WITH FP = Period 2 Oscilator

Discussion

- Dynamical systems is an adequate language to express biological phenomena
- To discuss individual gene functionality does not make sense
- Gene functionality is the action of a set of genes working in concert, the genetic networks
- Challenge: design dynamical systems that mimic genetic networks
- In the future, functional data basis will store dynamical models. The research challenge will be to improve and integrate them.

Objected oriented database

Pi : analytical and mining procedures (kernel parallel)

GRID Computer - DCC-IME-USP

