

My Journey Through Computational Biology

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Senior Statistician
FNLCR/NIH/DMS/BRMi

ABCS “Meet and Greet”
4 June 2021

Once upon a time in Siberia...

Novosibirsk

...but let's focus on science.





The Purifier

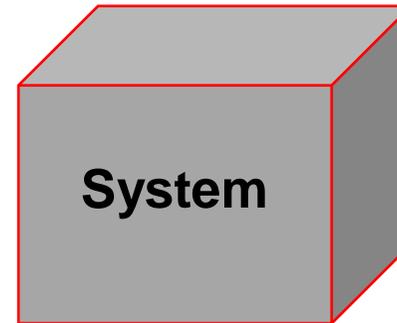
“We all began as something else...”
(*The Chronicles of Riddick*)



The Purifier

“We all began as something else...”
(*The Chronicles of Riddick*)

Mathematics of system stability

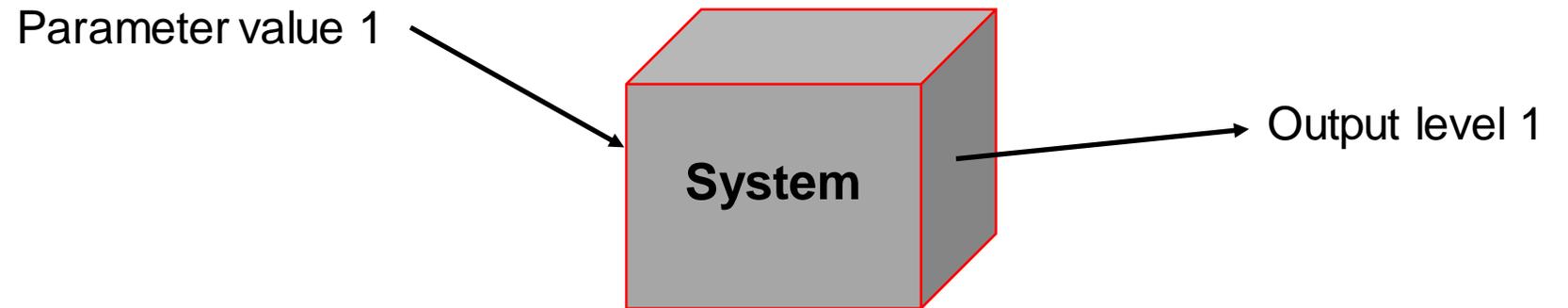




The Purifier

“We all began as something else...”
(*The Chronicles of Riddick*)

Mathematics of system stability

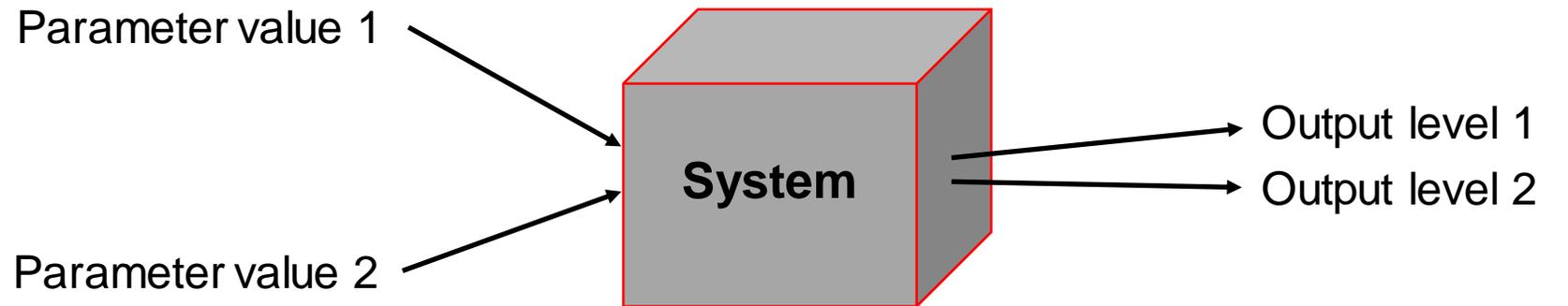




The Purifier

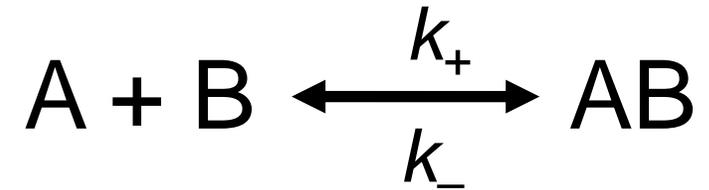
“We all began as something else...”
(*The Chronicles of Riddick*)

Mathematics of system stability



How can we quantify/predict stability?

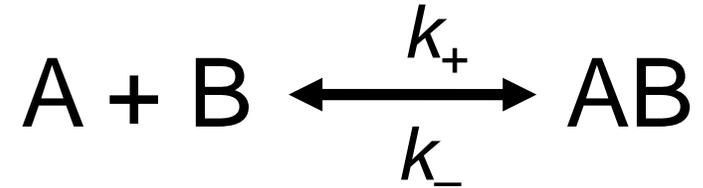
Stability, chemical kinetics, and Markov chains



Parameters

- initial concentrations (“Type 1”)
- rate constants k_+ , k_- (“Type 2”)

Stability, chemical kinetics, and Markov chains

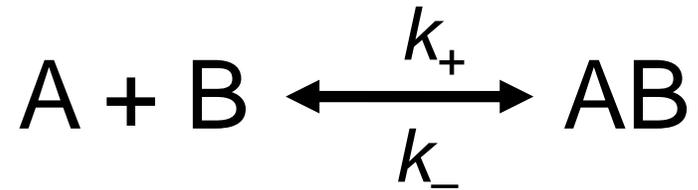


Parameters

- initial concentrations (“Type 1”)
- rate constants k_+ , k_- (“Type 2”)



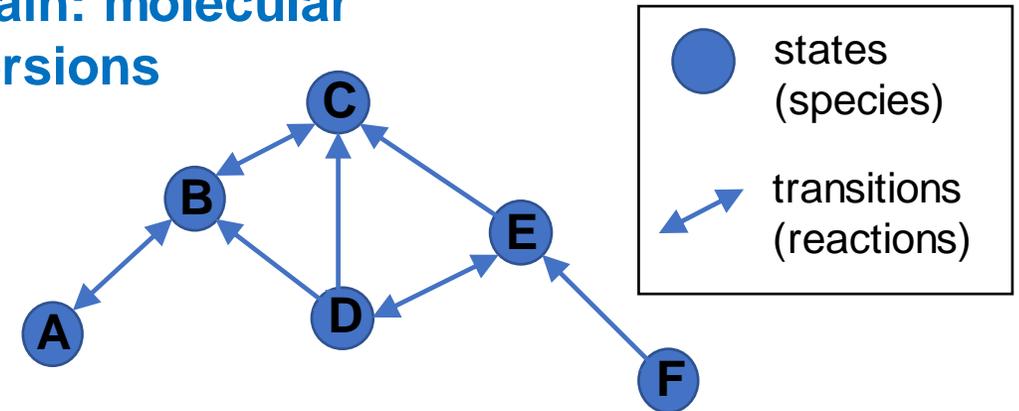
Stability, chemical kinetics, and Markov chains



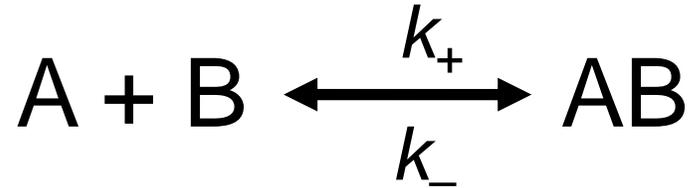
Parameters

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Markov chain: molecular interconversions



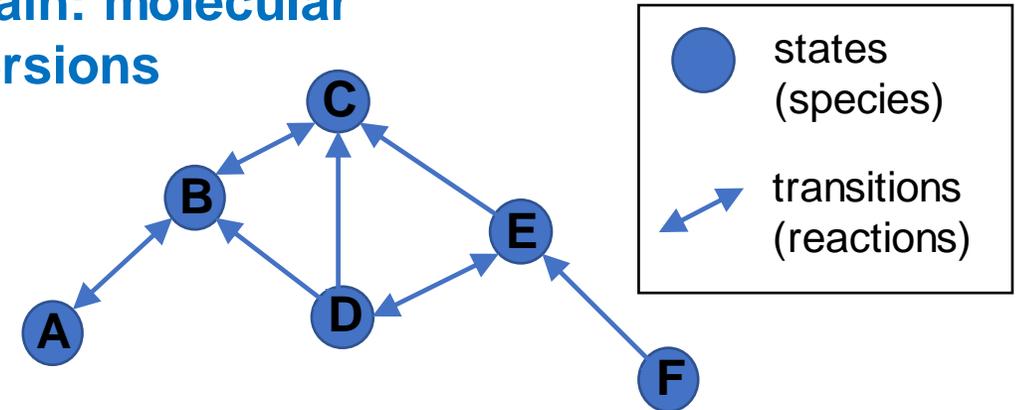
Stability, chemical kinetics, and Markov chains



Parameters

- initial concentrations (“Type 1”)
- rate constants k_+ , k_- (“Type 2”)

Markov chain: molecular interconversions



$$\mathbf{Q} = (q_{ij})$$

transition rate matrix (rate constants)

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = (p_i(t))$$

state probability vector

$$d\mathbf{p}(t) / dt = \mathbf{p}(t)\mathbf{Q}$$

governing equation

(Kolmogorov **differential** equation)



Recent applications of the theory

Stat Comput (2016) 26:29–47
DOI 10.1007/s11222-014-9521-x



Noisy Monte Carlo: with approximate tr

P. Alquier · N. Friel · R. Everi

Bernoulli 24(4A), 2018, 2610–
<https://doi.org/10.3150/17-BEJ>

Perturbation th via Wasserstein

DANIEL RUDOLF¹ and N

Statistics and Computing
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11222-018-9817-3>

Informed sub-sampling MCMC: a datasets

Florian Maire^{1,2} · Nial Friel^{1,2} · Pierre Alquier³

Received: 26 June 2017 / Accepted: 4 June 2018
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Abstract

This paper introduces a framework for speeding up

Statistics and algorithms

Received

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Abstract Monte Carlo algorithm
distribution π by simulating a Ma
kernel P such that π is invariant
are many situations for which it
ble to draw from the transition ke
is the case with massive datasets
expensive to calculate the likelih
for intractable likelihood models a
Gibbs random fields, such as those

Perturbation theory for Markov c
probabilities of Markov chains ar
ful and flexible bounds on the dis
them satisfies a Wasserstein ergod
mate Markov chain Monte Carlo (C
based on Lyapunov functions, we
assumptions. In an autoregressive
ory by showing quantitative estim
Metropolis–Hastings and stochasti

Keywords: big data; Markov chain

Recent applications of the theory

JOURNAL OF MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS 54, 032203 (2013)



Perturbation bounds for quantum Markov processes and their fi

Oleg Sze
Department

(Received 2

We investi
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respect to
[<http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4958481>]

I. INTRODUCTIO

Quantum Ma
quantum statistica
evolution of some
as a quantum Ma

Artificial quantum

Quantum physics

temperature of a
quantum bath th
state $\frac{e^{-H/T}}{\text{Tr}(e^{-H/T})}$ wit
algorithm. For a
an engineered th
thermodynamica
we discuss how a

DOI: [10.1103/Ph](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.116.020502)

I. INTR

PRL 116, 020502 (2016)

PHYSICAL REVIEW

Renormalizing Entanglen

Stephan Waeldchen,¹ Janina Gertis,¹ Earl
*Center for Complex Quantum Systems, Freie
ent of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sh*
(Received 2 May 2015; publishe

Entanglement distillation refers to the task of transformi
fewer highly entangled ones. It is a core ingredient in qua
transmit entanglement over arbitrary distances in order to
Usually, it is assumed that the initial entangled pairs are ide
uncorrelated with each other, an assumption that might r
generation process involving memory channels. Here, we i
ment distillation in the presence of natural correlations aris
bring together ideas from condensed-matter physics—ideas f
and operators—with those of local entanglement manipul
correction. We identify meaningful parameter regions for

Recent applications of the theory

J Stat Phys (2016) 162:312–333
DOI 10.1007/s10955-015-1409-4

Response Operators for Markov Process in State Space: Radius of Convergence and Response Theory for Axiom A Systems

Valerio Lucarini^{1,2}

Received: 8 July 2015 / Accepted: 24 October 2015 / Published online: 2015
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Abstract Using straightforward linear algebra we study the impact of small perturbations to finite state Markov processes for studying empirically constructed—e.g. from time series or of model simulations—finite state approximation. We present results concerning the convergence of the statistical approximation of the full asymptotic dynamics on the state space.

Rough parameter dependence in climate variability: the role of Ruelle-Pollicott resonances

Mickaël David Chekroun, J. David Neelin, Dmitri Kondrashov, James C. McWilliams

Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences and Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

Contributed by James C. McWilliams, November 22, 2013 (sent for review August 9, 2013)

Despite the importance of uncertainties encountered in climate model simulations, the fundamental mechanisms at the origin of long-term model statistics remain unclear. These patterns, while evanescent in the atmosphere and oceans exhibit characteristic frequencies across a wide range of time scales from intraseasonal through interdecadal.

Based on modern spectral theory of chaotic and dissipative dynamical systems, the associated low-frequency variability may be formulated in terms of Ruelle-Pollicott (RP) resonances. RP resonances encode information on the nonlinear dynamics of the system, and an approach for estimating them—as filtered through an observable of the system—is proposed. This approach relies on an appropriate Markov representation of the dynamics associated with a given observable. It is shown that, within this representation, the spectral gap—defined as the distance between the subdominant RP resonance and the unit circle—plays a major role in the roughness of parameter dependences. The model statistics are the most sensitive for the smallest spectral gaps; such small gaps turn out to correspond to regimes where the low-frequency variability is more pronounced, whereas autocorrelations decay more

statistics (and of local extrema) hold in the absence of stochastic systems, but it is still a challenge to find an interval over which mixing properties. Certain (e.g., quadratic) or other many highly local variables may occur a

To help us understand this problem in a theoretical context, spectral theory of dynamical systems is illustrated on an ensemble of intermediate complexity models of coupled partial differential equations of different degrees of nonlinearity. The power spectrum to Ruelle-Pollicott (RP) resonances is shown to be useful for

Climate science

PNAS

PNAS

Recent applications of the theory

J Stat Phys (2016) 162:312–333
DOI 10.1007/s10955-015-1409-4

Response
State Space
Response

Valerio Lucar

Biology??

- Molecular dynamics simulations
- Ion channels
- General biochemical kinetics
- ...

Received: 8 July 2015 / Accepted: 24 October 2015 / Published online: 2015
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Abstract Using straightforward linear algebra we study the impact of small perturbations to finite state Markov chains for studying empirically constructed—e.g. from time series or model simulations—finite state approximation results concerning the convergence of the statistical approximation of the full asymptotic dynamics on the S

dependence in climate -Pollicott resonance

..., Dmitri Kondrashov, James C. McWilliams
and Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0ET, UK
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encountered in climate systems at the origin of stochasticity remain unclear. In the atmosphere and oceans exhibit patterns, while evolutionary frequencies across a range of scales through interdecadal and dissipative

statistics (and of local maxima) hold in the absence of stochastic systems, (11), but it is still a challenge to find an interval over which mixing properties. Certain (e.g., quadratic) or other many highly local variables interval—to occur a

dynamical systems, the associated low-frequency variability may be formulated in terms of Ruelle-Pollicott (RP) resonances. RP resonances encode information on the nonlinear dynamics of the system, and an approach for estimating them—as filtered through an observable of the system—is proposed. This approach relies on an appropriate Markov representation of the dynamics associated with a given observable. It is shown that, within this representation, the spectral gap—defined as the distance between the subdominant RP resonance and the unit circle—plays a major role in the roughness of parameter dependences. The model statistics are the most sensitive for the smallest spectral gaps; such small gaps turn out to correspond to regimes where the low-frequency variability is more pronounced, whereas autocorrelations decay more

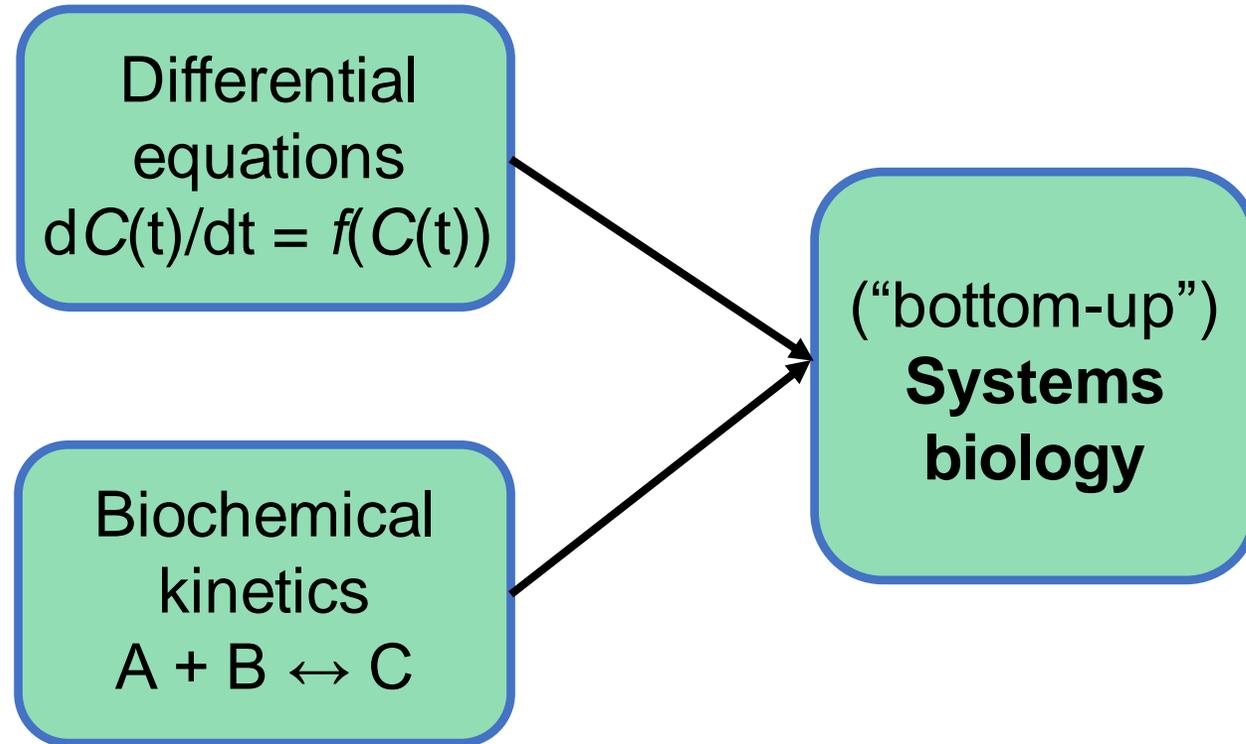
To help us understand this problem in a theoretical context, the spectral theory of dynamical systems is illustrated on an example of intermediate complexity of coupled partial differential equations of different degrees of freedom in different regimes. The power spectrum of the Ruelle-Pollicott (RP) resonance is shown to be useful for

Next chapter: systems biology

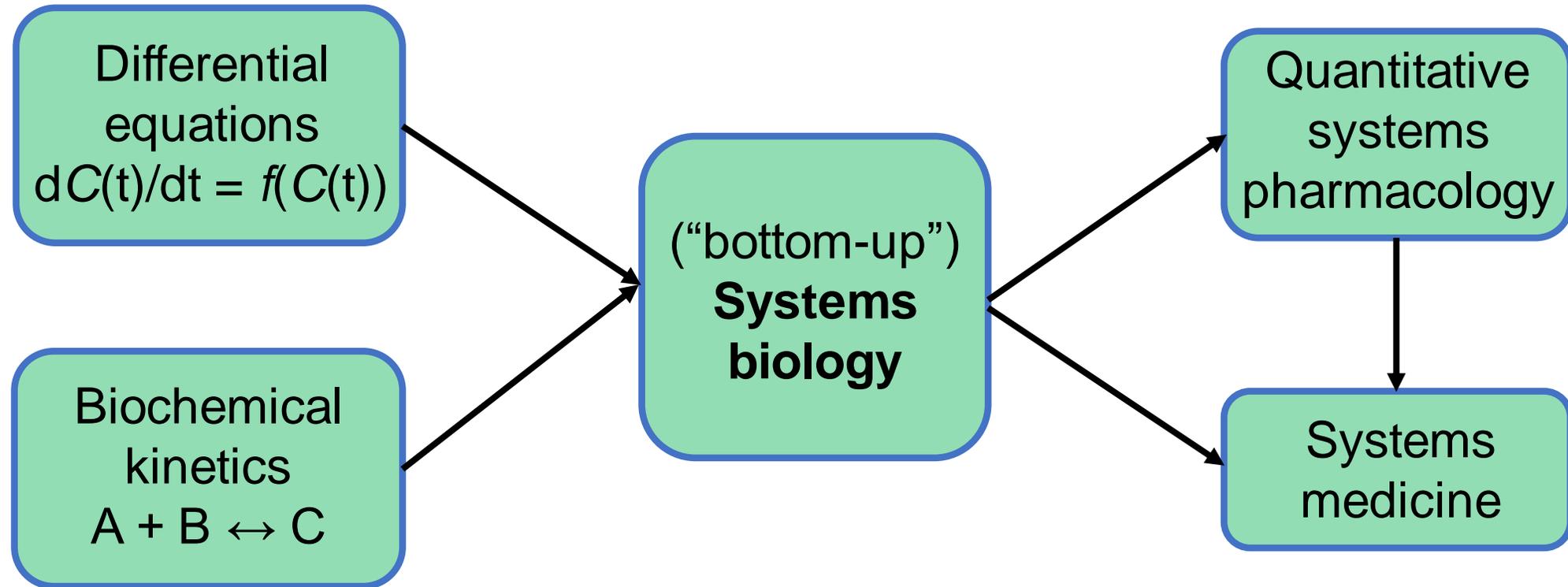
Differential
equations
 $dC(t)/dt = f(C(t))$

Biochemical
kinetics
 $A + B \leftrightarrow C$

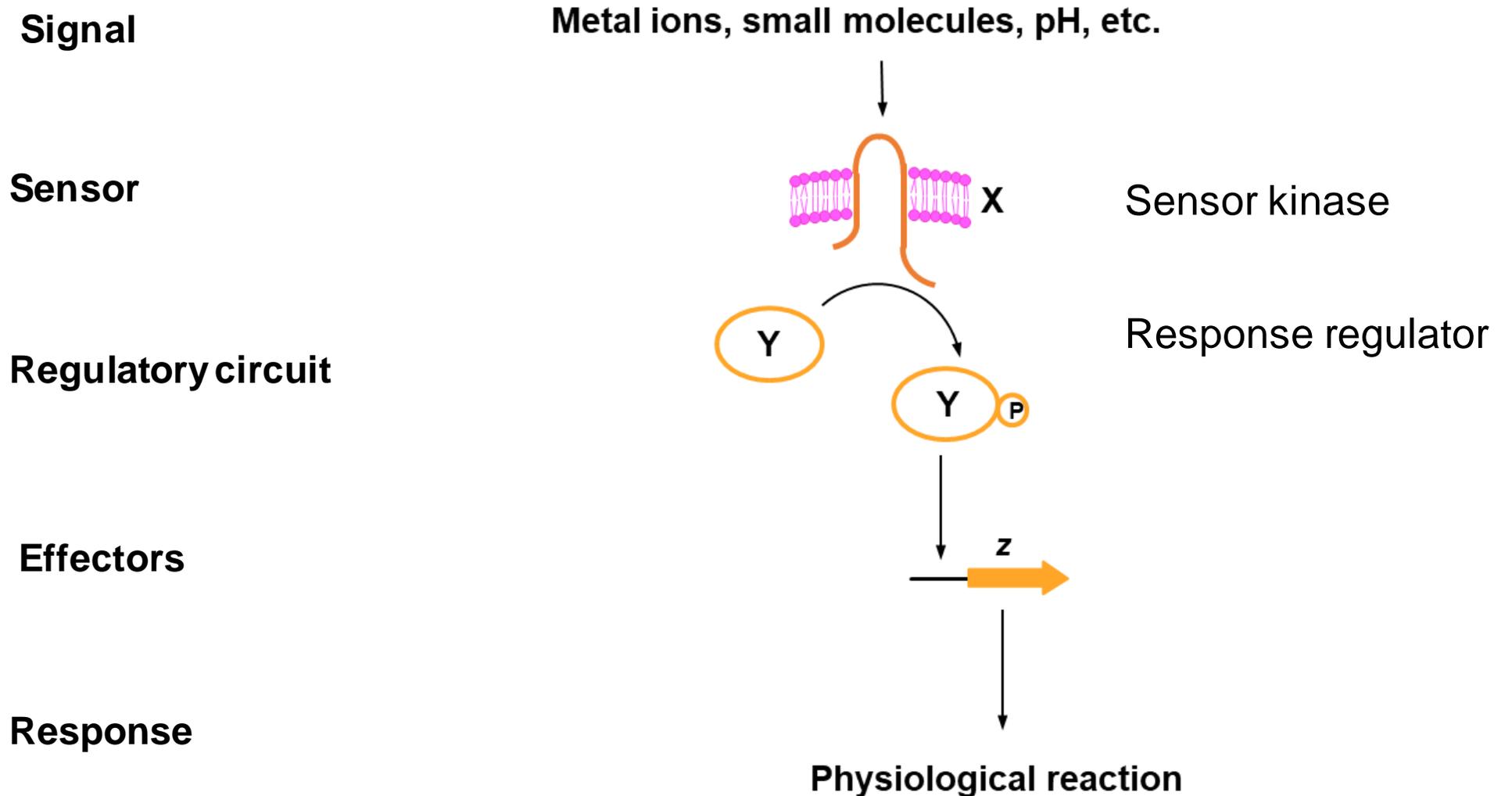
Next chapter: systems biology



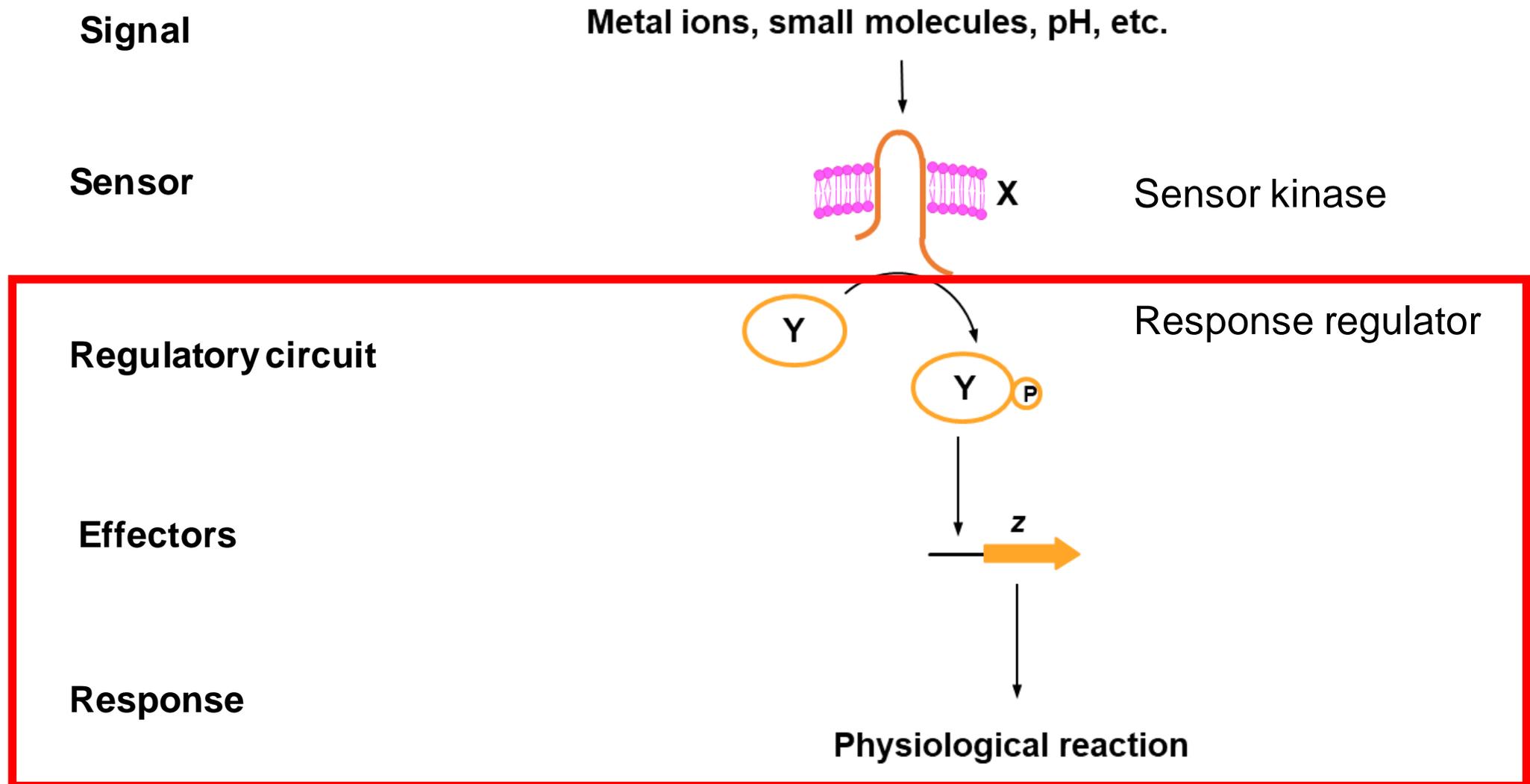
Next chapter: systems biology



Bacterial signal transduction: two-component systems

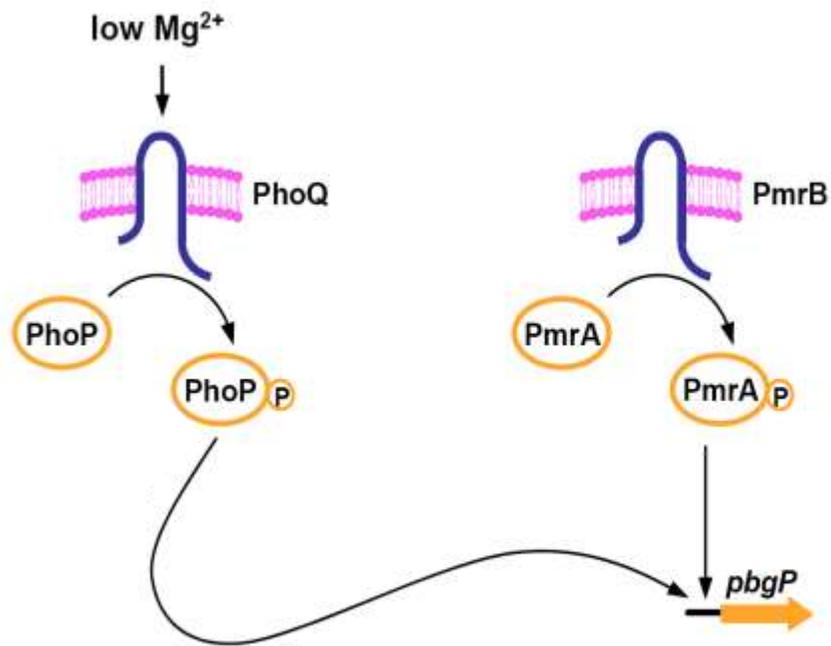


Bacterial signal transduction: two-component systems



Different species of enteric bacteria use distinct architectures to activate *pbgP* by low Mg^{2+}

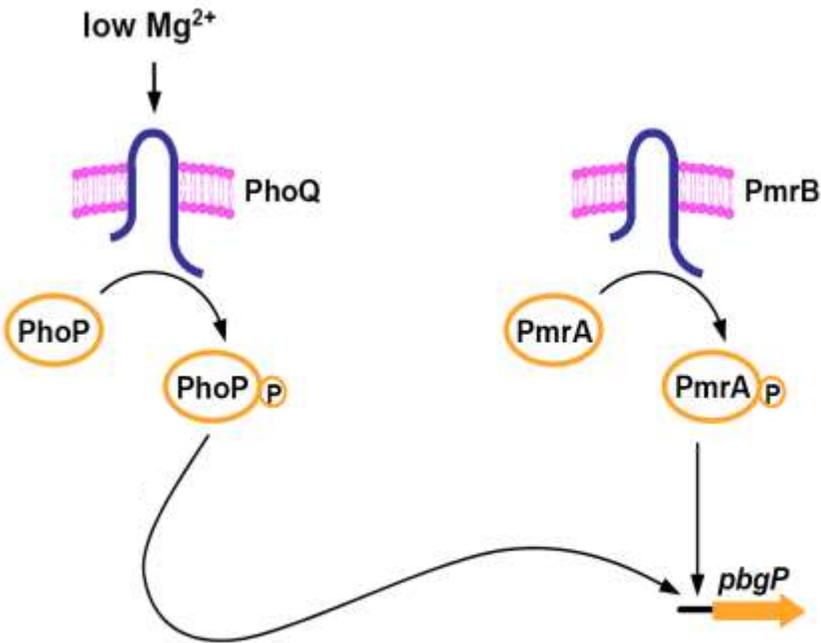
Direct pathway *Yersinia pestis*



Different species of enteric bacteria use distinct architectures to activate *pbgP* by low Mg^{2+}

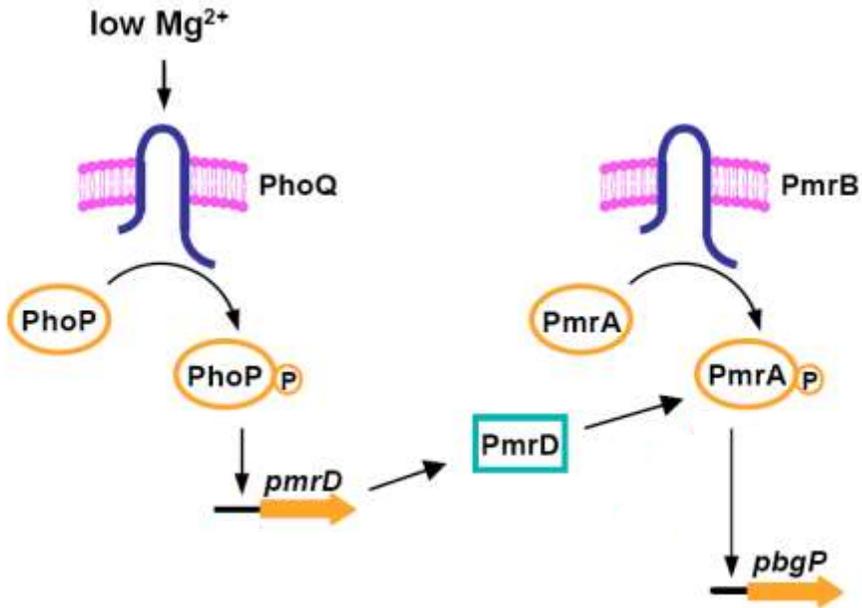
Direct pathway

Yersinia pestis



Connector-mediated pathway

Salmonella enterica



Different species of enteric bacteria use distinct architectures to activate *pbgP* by low Mg^{2+}

Direct pathway

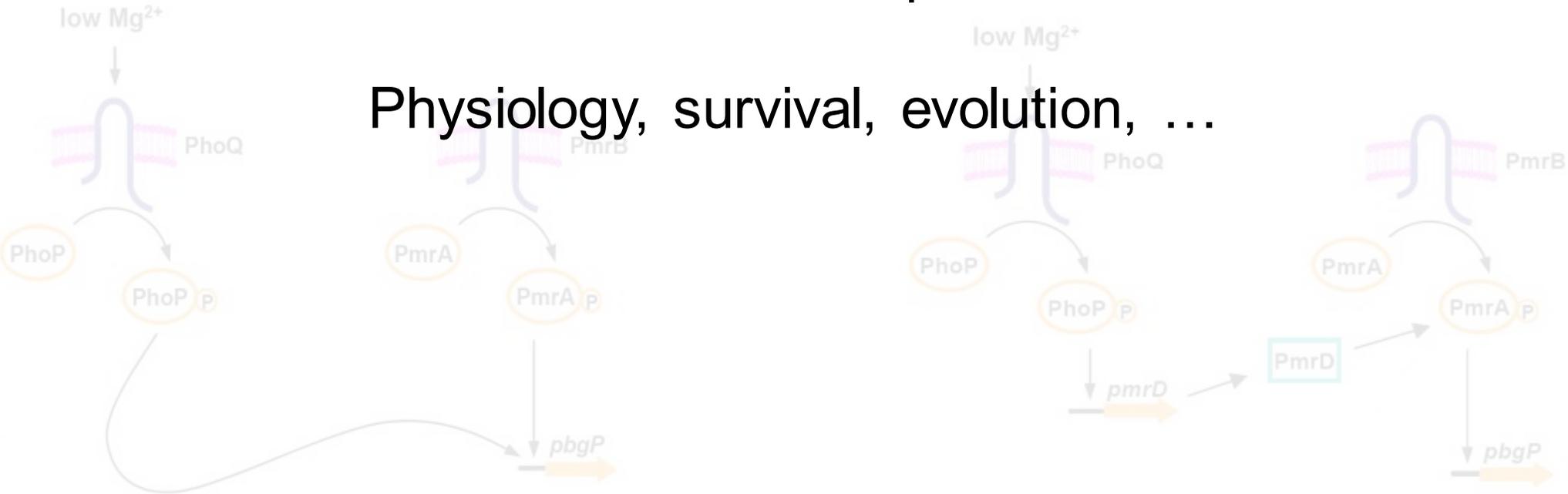
Yersinia pestis

Connector-mediated pathway

Salmonella enterica

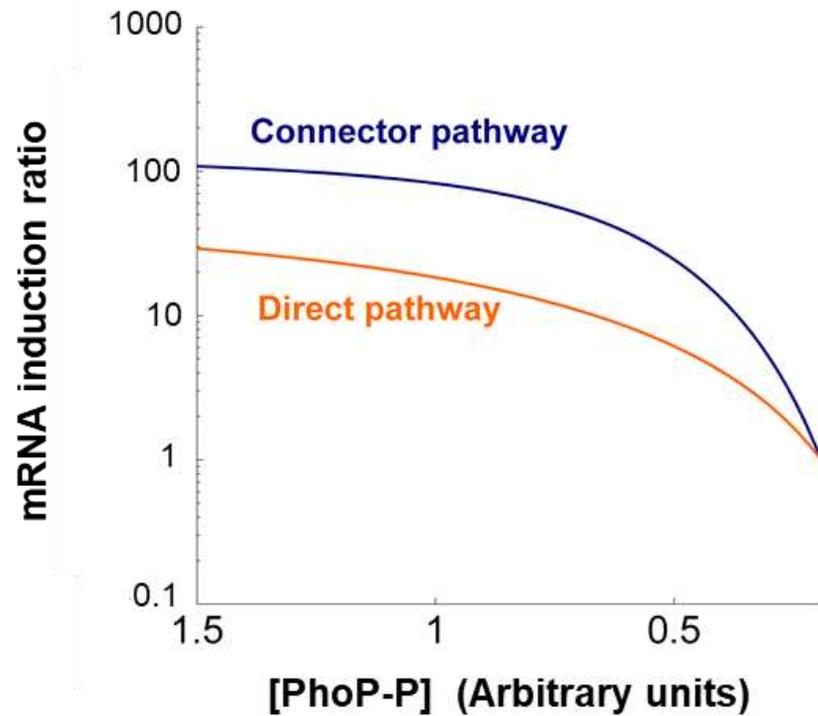
What are the functional implications of this?

Physiology, survival, evolution, ...



Connector-mediated pathway promotes signal amplification

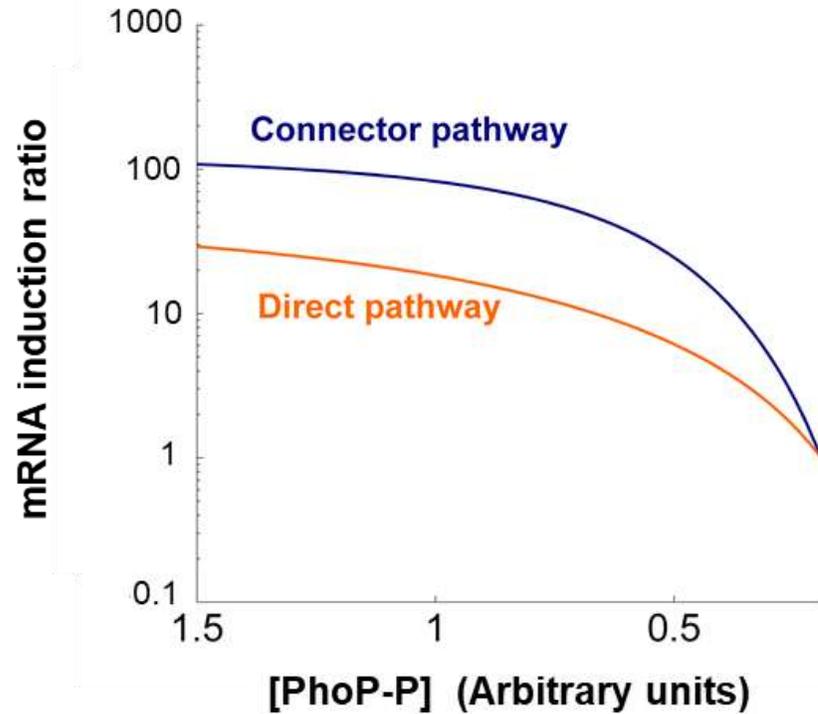
Computation



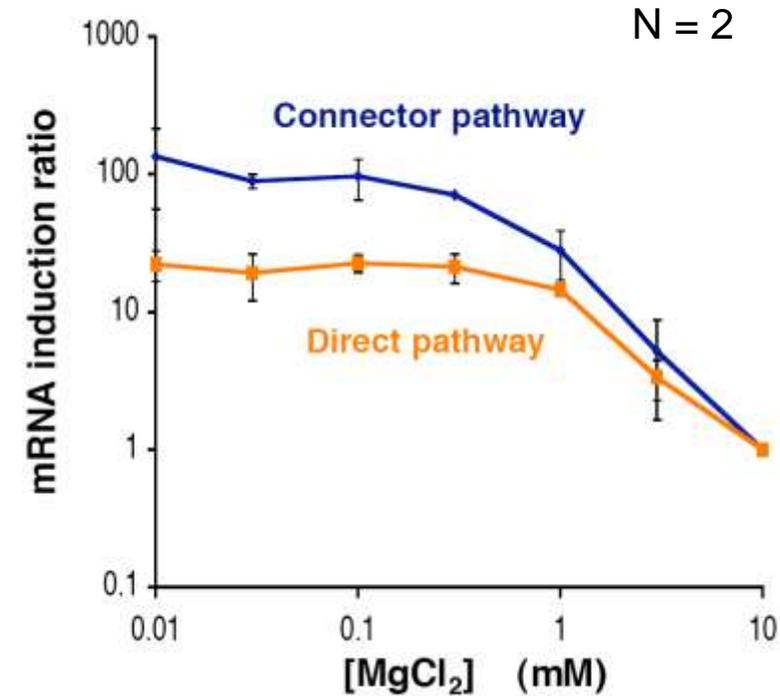
Induction ratio = mRNA level (inducing conditions) / mRNA level (repressing conditions)

Connector-mediated pathway promotes signal amplification

Computation



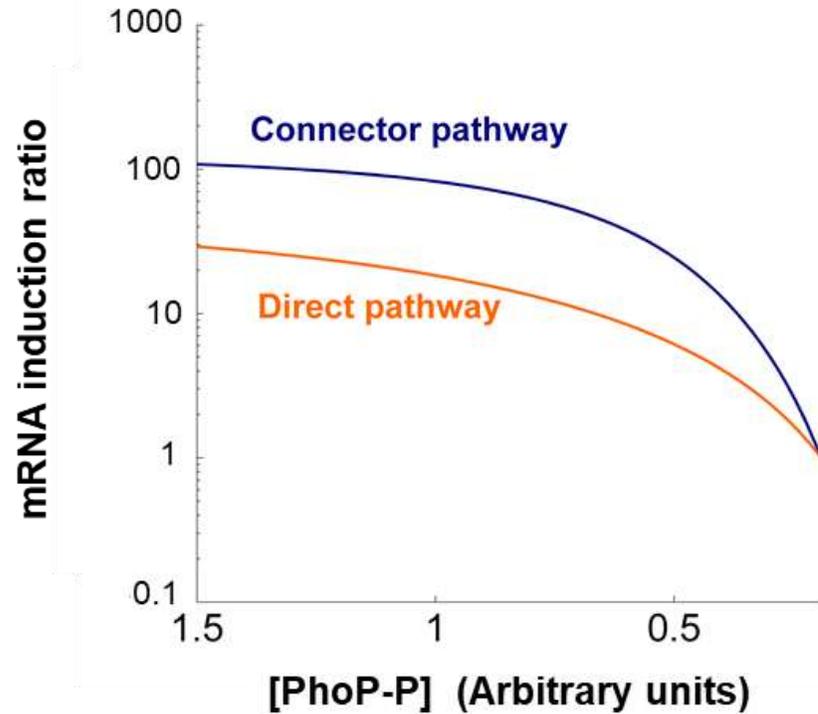
Experiment



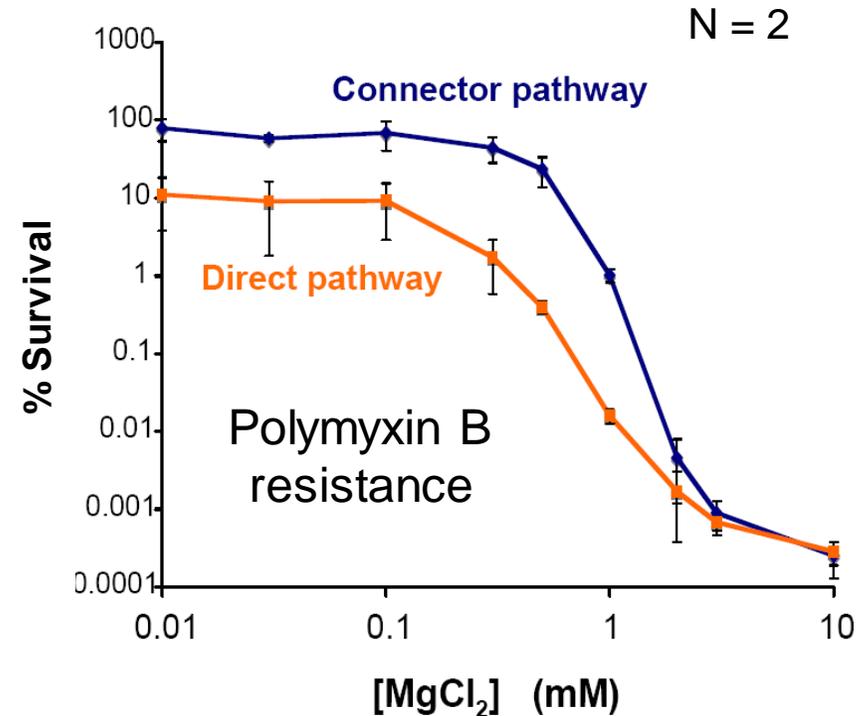
Induction ratio = mRNA level (inducing conditions) / mRNA level (repressing conditions)

Connector-mediated pathway promotes signal amplification

Computation



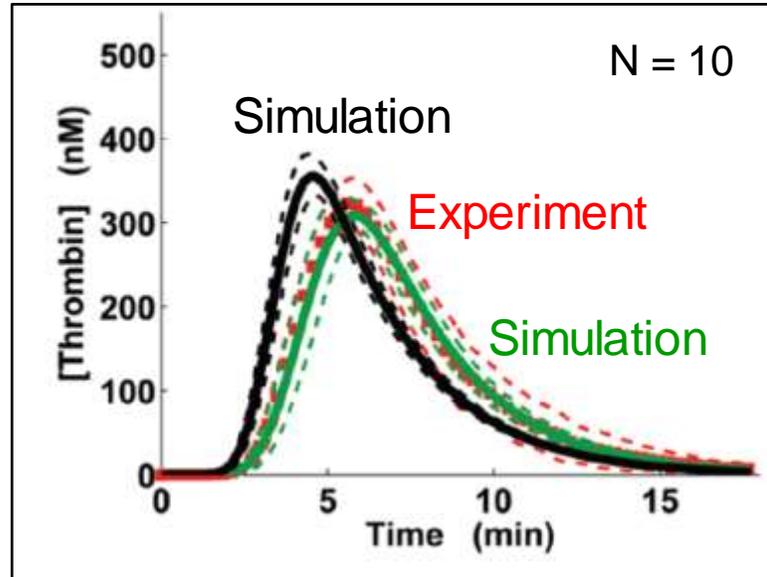
Experiment



Induction ratio = mRNA level (inducing conditions) / mRNA level (repressing conditions)

Thrombin generation in blood plasma

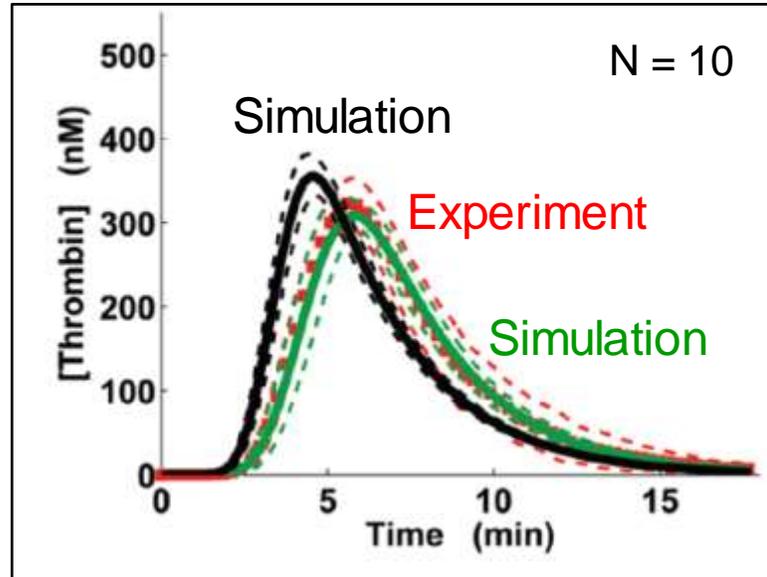
Normal plasma



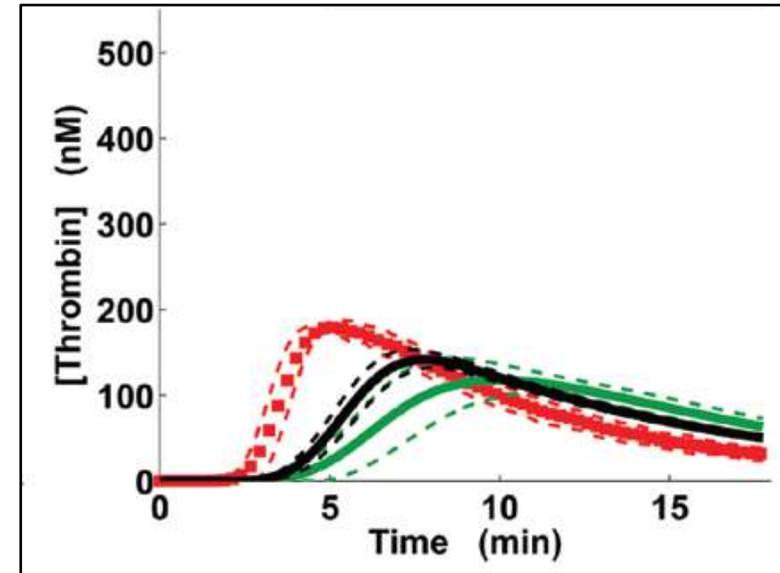
prothrombin \rightarrow thrombin $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{fibrinogen} \\ \text{fibrin} \rightarrow \text{blood clot} \end{array} \right.$

Thrombin generation in blood plasma

Normal plasma



3-fold dilution

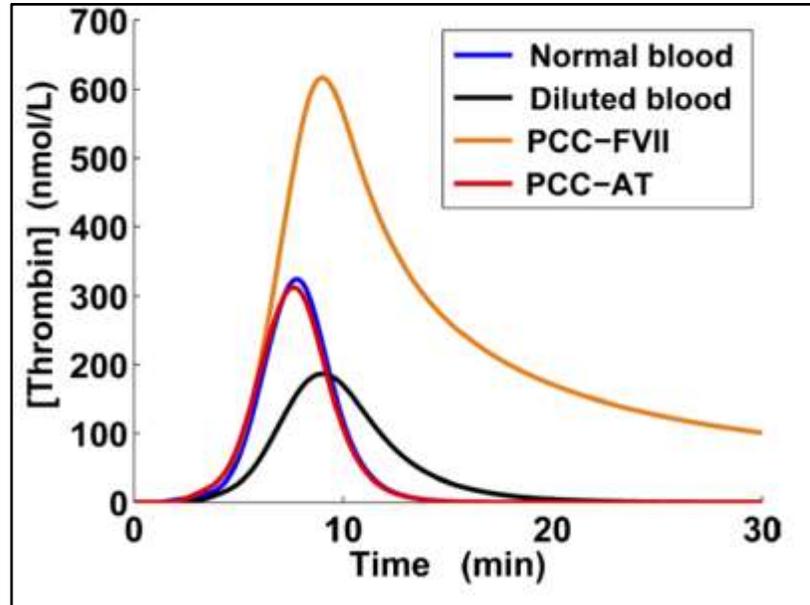


Dilution reduces peak height

prothrombin \rightarrow thrombin $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{fibrinogen} \\ \text{fibrin} \rightarrow \text{blood clot} \end{array} \right.$

Restoring reduced thrombin generation in plasma

Simulations*



PCC-FVII = FII + FIX + FX + FVII

strong procoagulants

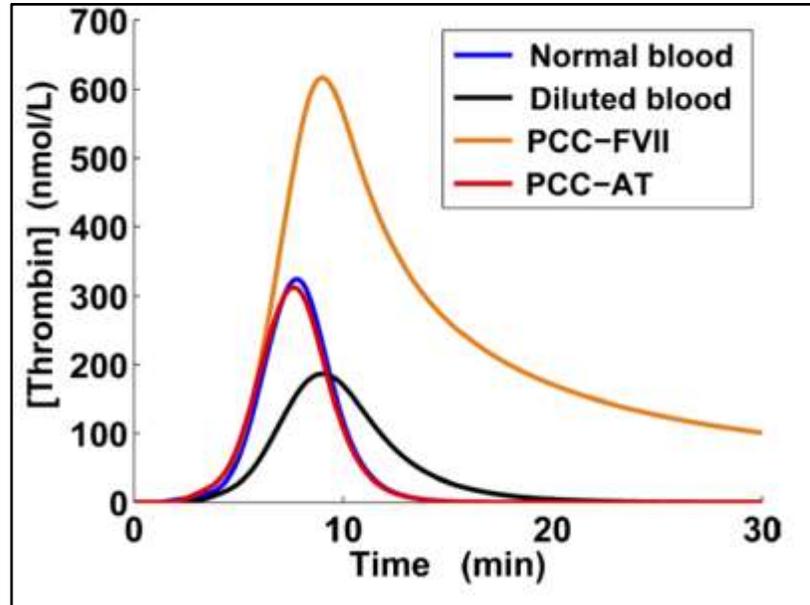
PCC-AT = FII + FIX + FX + antithrombin

procoagulants + anticoagulant

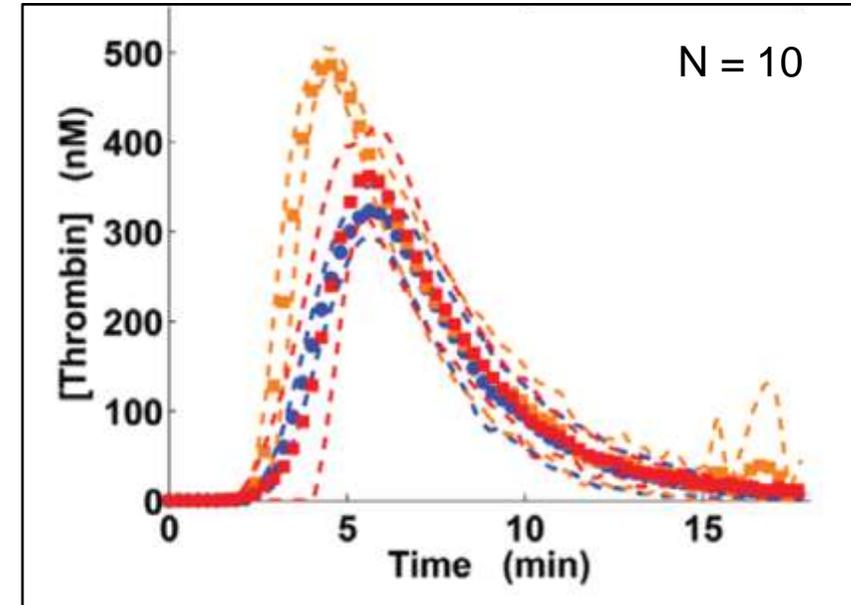
*Mitrophanov et al., *J Trauma* (2012)

Restoring reduced thrombin generation in plasma

Simulations*



Experimental data**



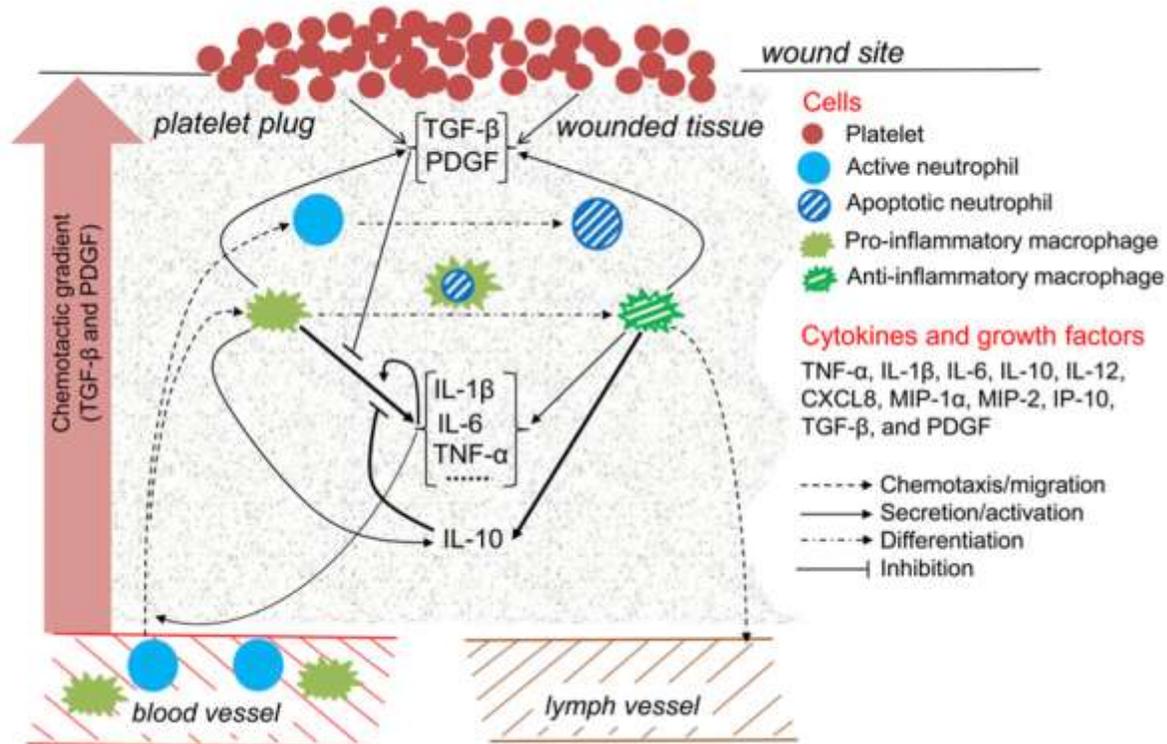
PCC-FVII = FII + FIX + FX + FVII
PCC-AT = FII + FIX + FX + antithrombin

strong procoagulants
procoagulants + anticoagulant

*Mitrophanov et al., *J Trauma* (2012)

**Mitrophanov et al., *Anesth Analg* (2016)

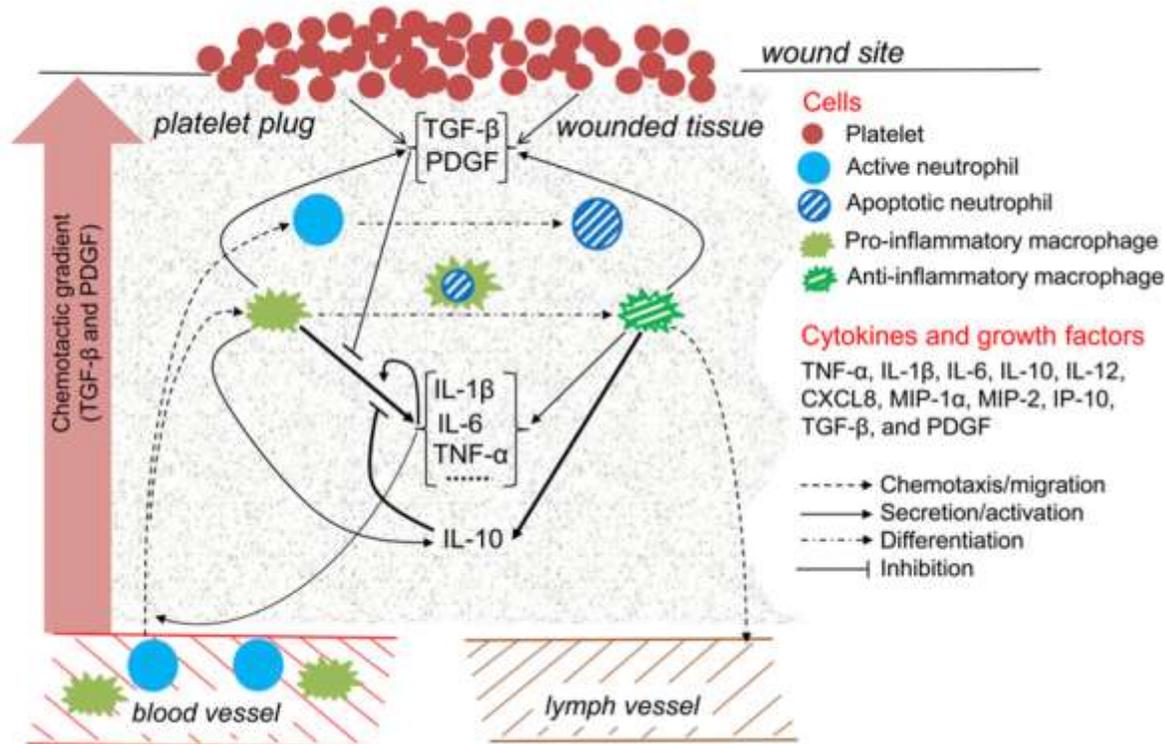
Wound-healing research



Nagaraja et al., *J Immunol* (2014)

- Inflammation
- Proliferation
- Angiogenesis

Wound-healing research



Nagaraja et al., *J Immunol* (2014)

1000s of model simulations

Predicted **biomarkers** and **drug targets**
(e.g., for chronic inflammation)

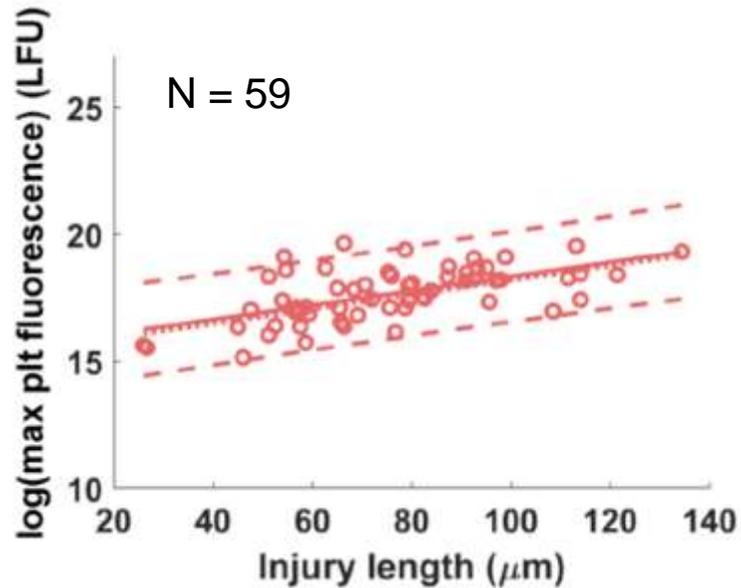
Some findings

- Inflammation
- Proliferation
- Angiogenesis

- **IL-6** as biomarker of chronic inflammation
- Unique influence of **TGF-β** throughout wound healing

From systems biology to (biomedical) data science

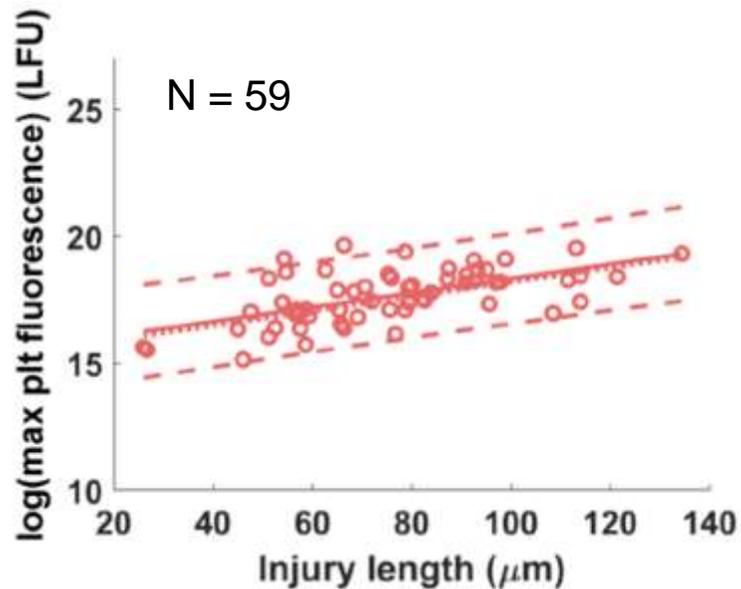
NOT just a simple regression!



- Statistical model selection
- Variable selection

From systems biology to (biomedical) data science

NOT just a simple regression!



My data science:

The knowledge and understanding of robust patterns and relationships between variables in data sets.

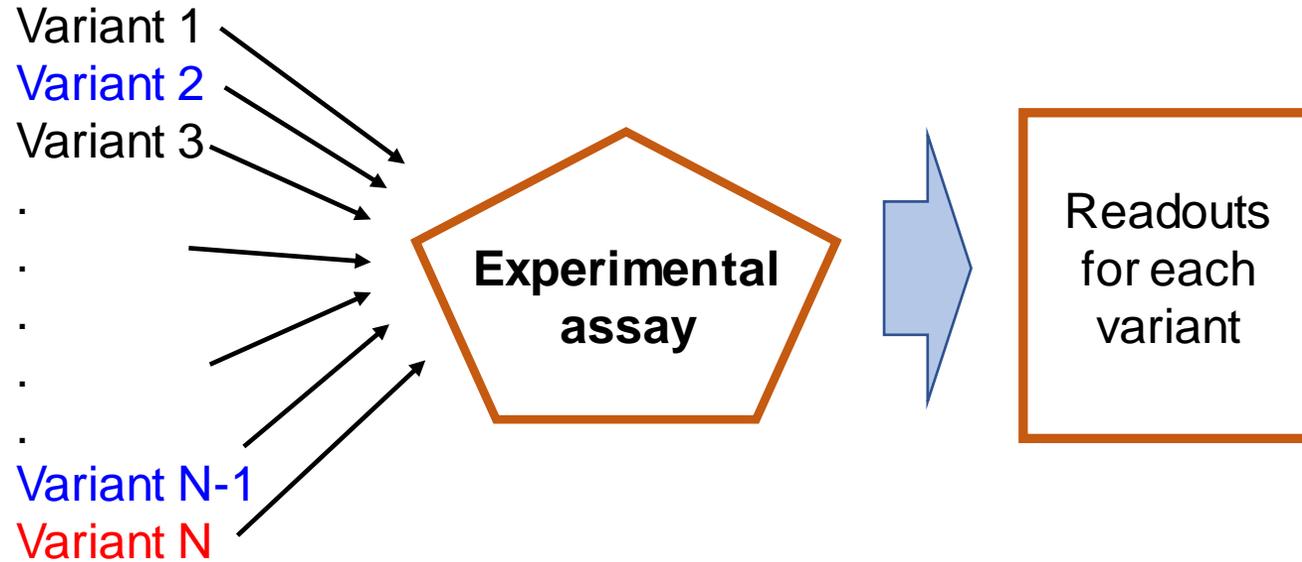
- Statistical model selection
- Variable selection

Current work

Mutation pathogenicity annotation in BRCA2-oncogene variants

Current work

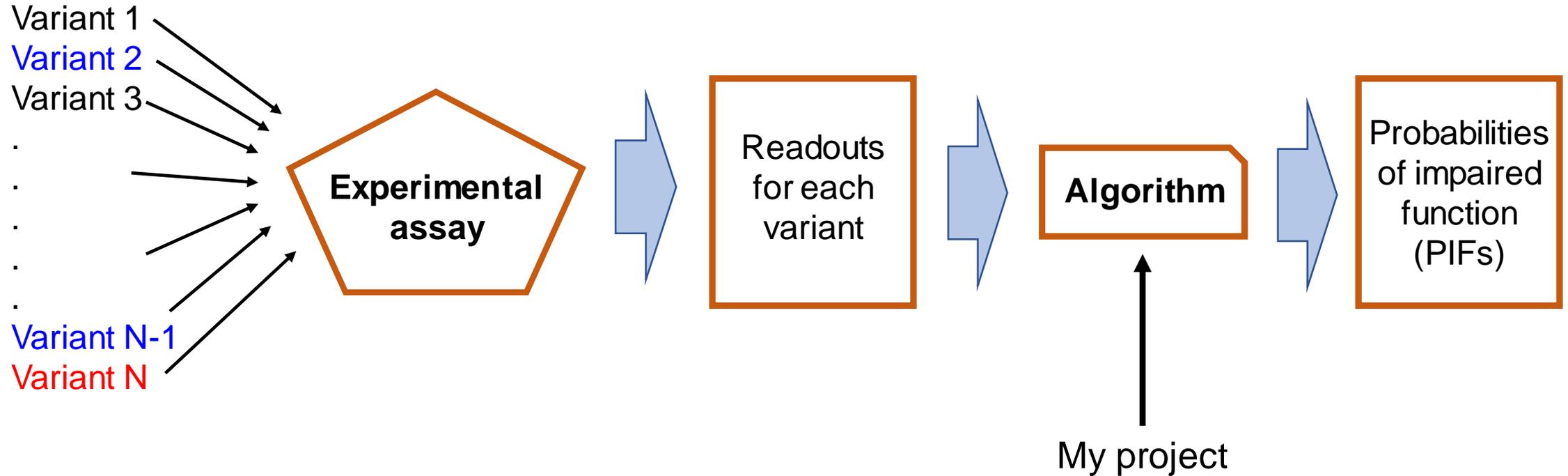
Mutation pathogenicity annotation in BRCA2-oncogene variants



Red: pathogenic variant
Blue: neutral variant
Black: status unknown

Current work

Mutation pathogenicity annotation in BRCA2-oncogene variants

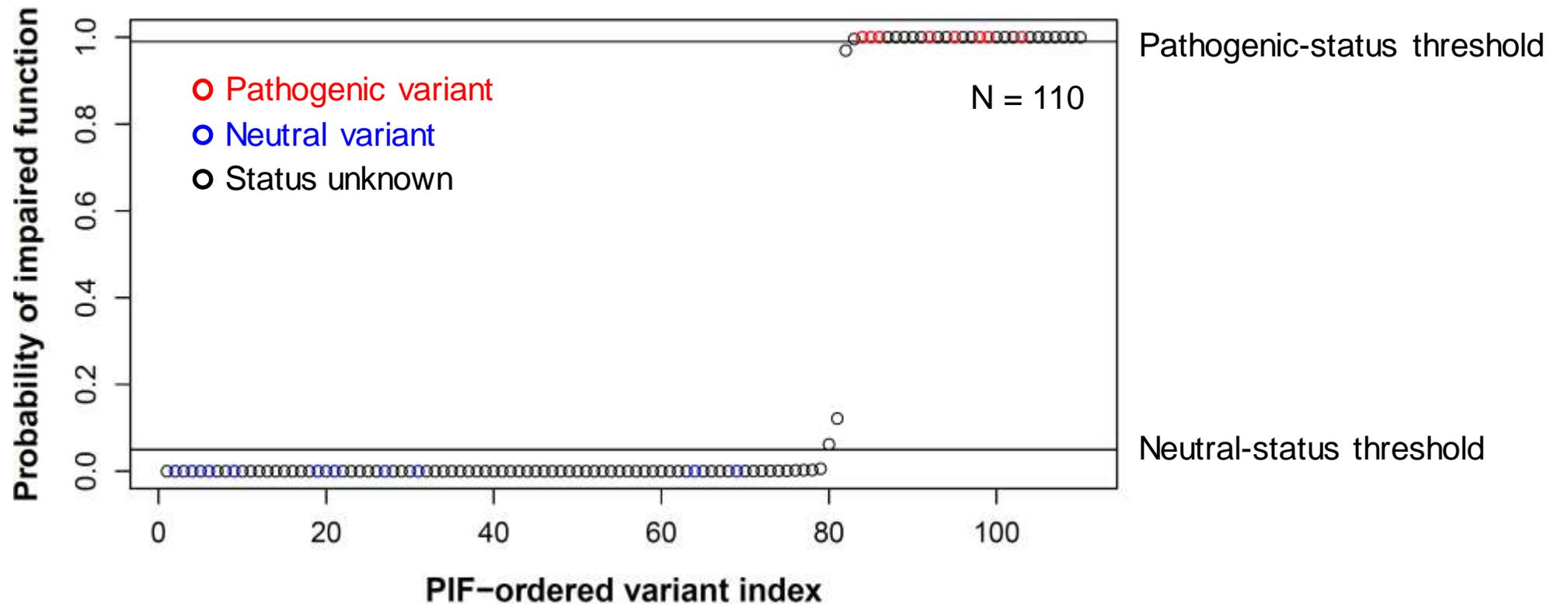


Red: pathogenic variant
Blue: neutral variant
Black: status unknown

Current work

Mutation pathogenicity annotation in BRCA2-oncogene variants

Approach: statistical mixture modeling; semi-supervised learning



THANKS!!!