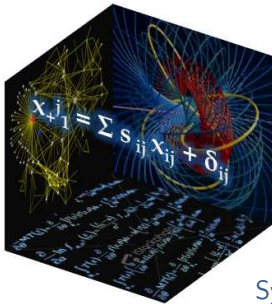




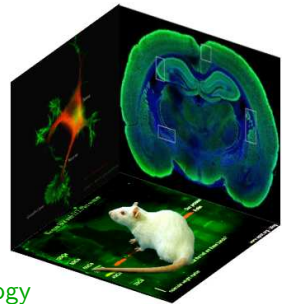
# Parameter Estimation for Kinetic Reaction Networks in Systems Biology



Dirk Fey

Industrial Control Centre, EEE

20 January 2009

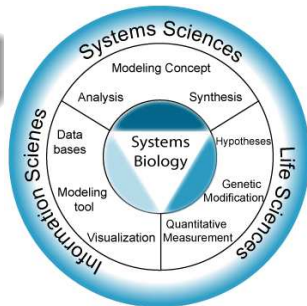


Systems Theory for **Systems Biology**

# Systems Biology Concept

Quantitative, dynamical & spatial Biology  
 ⇒ mathematical modelling

- Main Components
  - Quantitative, dynamical experiments
  - Modelling
  - Model analysis
  - Experiment design
- Integrative Approach: Life sciences, natural sciences, math, engineering



[www.sysbio.de](http://www.sysbio.de)

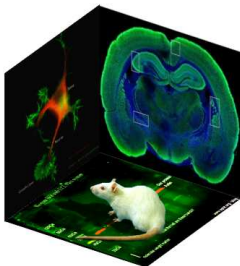
**Goal:** Better understanding of complex biological systems

**Main bottleneck:** Experimental quantification

**Part I:**

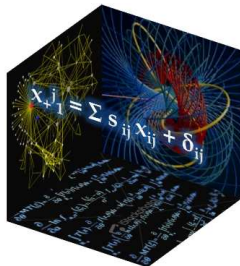
## Modelling rat behaviour

- ① Water maze experiment
- ② Random walk model
- ③ Conclusions

**Part II:**

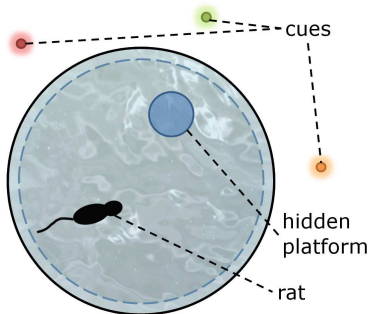
## Parameter estimation with observer

- ① Problem statement
- ② Method outline
- ③ Conclusions



# Part I: Modelling rat behaviour

## Morris water maze: Study spatial learning and memory



### One procedure:

- Rat swims in pool & tries to find the hidden platform.
- **Training**  $\Rightarrow$  **memory**  $\curvearrowright$  study
- Performance

### Different experiments

- Brain regions, neurological pathways
- Disorders, e.g. trauma, Alzheimer, ...
- Drugs, genes & proteins

# Introduction to the Morris water maze

## Morris water maze: Study spatial learning and memory

### Literature: performance only

- Escape latencies
- Time in different areas
- No detailed dynamics

(Loading movie)

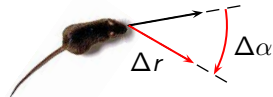
### This project: dynamic Model

- Search strategies
- Learning protocols
- ⇒ Deeper understanding!

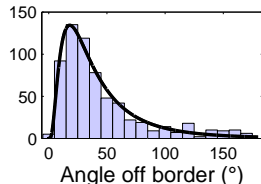
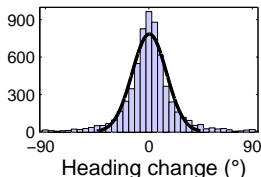
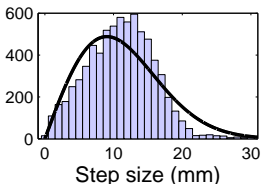
by Jean-Etienne Poirrier,  
University of Liège, Belgium

# Dynamic model of rat behaviour

Modified random walk model of rat:

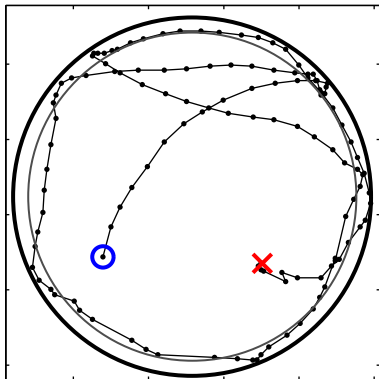
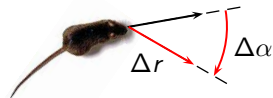


Domain	Process	Variable	Distribution
Border	Move forward	Step size	Rayleigh
	Leave border	Likelihood	Constant
		Angle off border	Lognormal
Interior	Move forward	Step size	Rayleigh
	Turn	Heading change	Normal (mean dep. on prev. change)

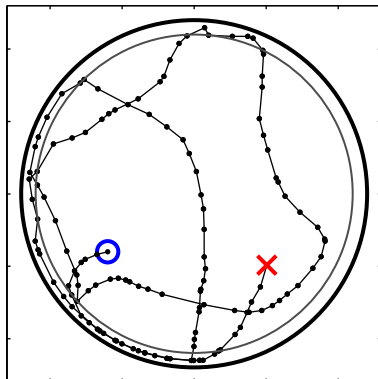


# Dynamic model of rat behaviour

Modified random walk model of rat:



Laboratory rat

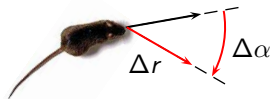


Computational model

# Summary rat model & outlook

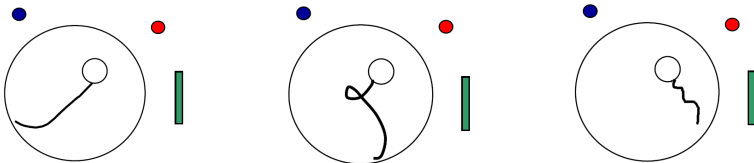
Current model:

- Explains rat movements with random walk



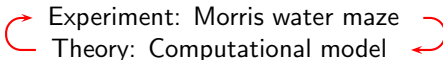
Further model development:

- Search strategies (Approach & stability, turning, scanning)



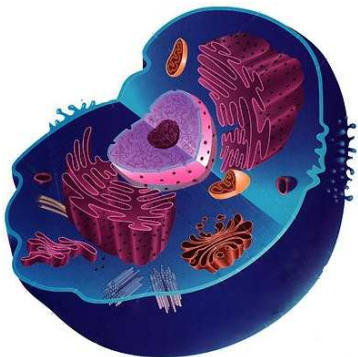
- Learning protocols (Random vs. determined, mental map)

Understand spatial learning and memory





## Part II: Molecular systems biology



“Biology: Life on Earth” ed.5  
by Gerald & Teresa Audesirk  
Prentice-Hall Inc. 1999

A cell does

- Take in & break down nutrients
- Receive & process signals (e.g. hormones)
- Read and run the genetic code

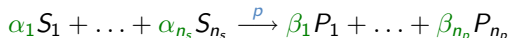
Interaction of molecular components

- Channels, enzymes, ...
- Receptors, kinases, ...
- Transcription factors, ...

Modelled as systems of  
biochemical reactions

# Reaction kinetic model

Reaction kinetic model:



## Dynamic model of biology

- Ordinary differential equations:

$$\dot{c} = Nv(c, p)$$

- Reaction kinetics:

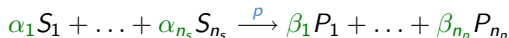
$$v_i = V_i \prod \frac{c_j^{v_{ij}}}{K_B^{n_{ij}} + c_j^{n_{ij}}}$$

Given: structure

Unknown: reaction constants

# Reaction kinetic model

Reaction kinetic model:



## Dynamic model of biology

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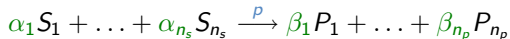
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Given: **structure**

**Unknown:** reaction constants

# The challenge

## Systems biology needs

- Accurate and reliable parameter estimation methods

### Technical systems

- High degree of freedom for excitation
- Quasi continuous data
- Linearised and/or discretised
- **Accurate methods**

### Biological systems

- Limited excitation: often step or pulse
- Sparse & noisy data
- Nonlinear, but special: monotone, positive, ...
- **Heuristic methods**

## Systems theory for systems biology?

- Exploit biology specific property

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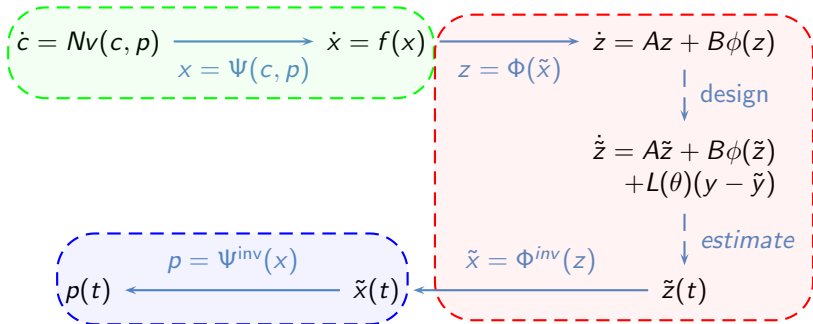
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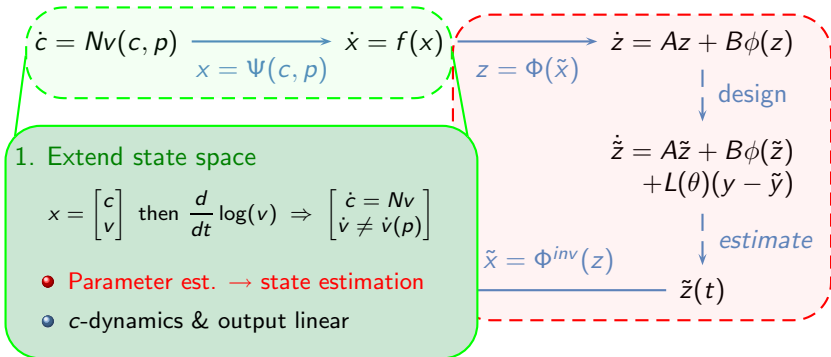
# Parameter estimation method

1. **Extend state space**  $\implies$  parameter independent form
2. **Design observer**  $\implies$  state estimate of extended trajectory
3. **Determine parameters** based on above state estimate



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## 2. Observer: Dynamic system estimating $x$

**Problem:** Observability map

$$\Phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & \cdots & y_1^{(r_1)} & \cdots & y_m^{(r_m)} \end{bmatrix}$$

singular outside manifold  $\mathcal{M} : \{x | \dot{p} = 0\}$

**Solution:** Special observers

- 1. **Lie algebraic methods**
  - Transform  $z = \Phi(x)$  & global inversion of  $\Phi$
- 2. **Dissipative methods**
  - Avoids transformation with  $\Phi \Rightarrow$  LMI design

$$\dot{z} = Az + B\phi(z)$$

$$z = \Phi(\tilde{x})$$

design

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\tilde{z}} &= A\tilde{z} + B\phi(\tilde{z}) \\ &+ L(\theta)(y - \tilde{y}) \end{aligned}$$

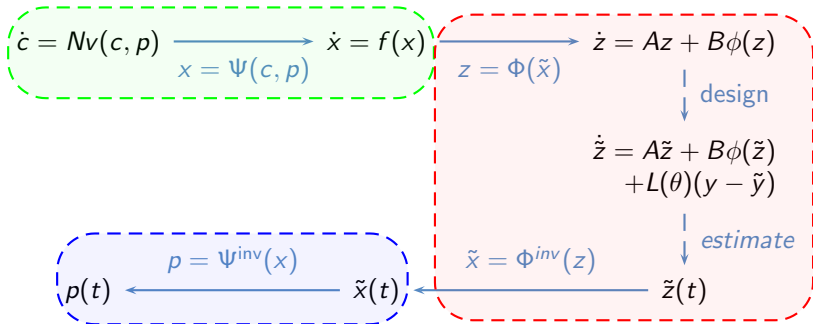
estimate

$$\tilde{x} = \Phi^{inv}(z)$$

$$\tilde{z}(t)$$

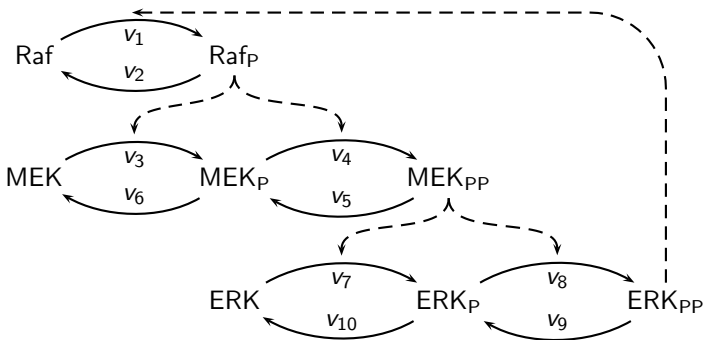
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## Example: MAP kinase model

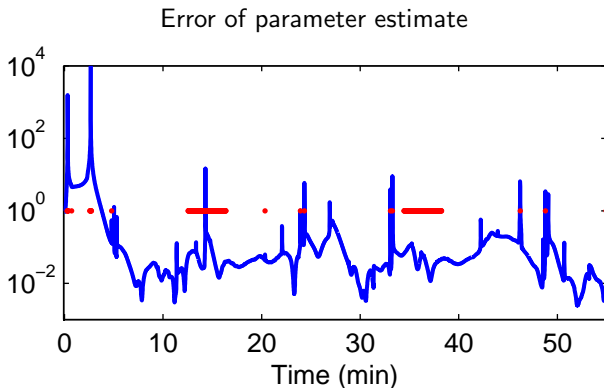
- Important module in signal transduction  
cell growth & differentiation, cell cycle, apoptosis, ... → cancer
- 8 species, 10 reactions, 21 parameters  $\Rightarrow$  29 extended states



[Kholodenko, EurJBiochem 267:1583–1588, 2000]

## Example: MAP Kinase results

- Accurate parameter estimation: convergence into an  $\epsilon$ -ball
- **Avoid:** error peaks where poorly observable (we know where)



# Conclusions & Outlook

## Advantage

- Optimal & unique solution guaranteed
- Identifiability = observability

## Disadvantage

- Dense time course data needed

## Challenges

- Noise sensitive  $\implies$  pre-filtering
- Continuous measurement  $\implies$  interpolation

## Conclusion

- Uses structural information
- Exploits particular nonlinearity of biological systems

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# Thanks



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Industrial Control Centre, EEE  
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**Otto-von-Guericke Univ.**  
Magdeburg, Germany



**Seán Commins**

B.Sc., Ph. D., Senior Lecturer  
Department of Psychology  
**National Univ. of Ireland**  
Maynooth, Co. Kildare

[www.personal.strath.ac.uk/dirk.fey](http://www.personal.strath.ac.uk/dirk.fey)

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- [2] D. Fey, R. Findeisen, and E. Bullinger. "Parameter estimation in kinetic reaction models using nonlinear observers is facilitated by model extensions". In *17th IFAC World Congress, Seoul, Korea*, pages 313–318, 2008.
- [3] D. Fey, R. Findeisen, and E. Bullinger. "Identification of biochemical reaction networks using a parameter-free coordinate system". In P. A. Iglesias and B. Ingalls, editors, *Control-Theoretic Approaches in Systems Biology*, pages 293–310. MIT press, 2009. in print.
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