

# Molecules as Automata

Representing Biochemical Systems  
as Collectives of Interacting Automata

**Luca Cardelli**

Microsoft Research

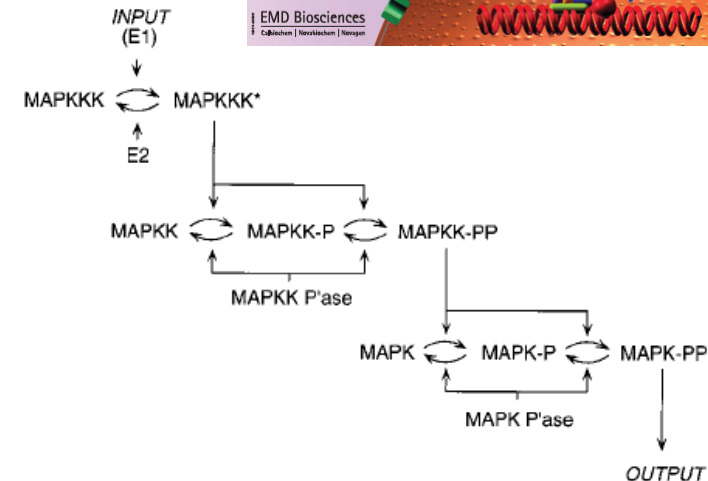
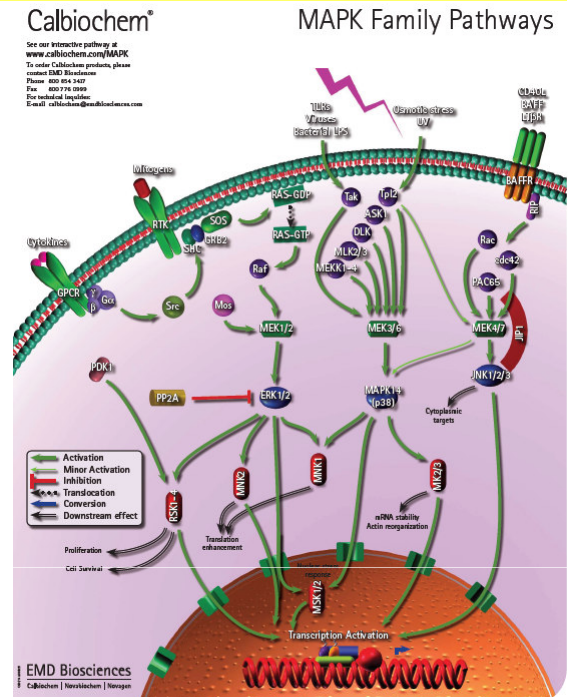
Open Lectures for PhD Students in Computer Science  
Warsaw 2009-03-12..13

<http://lucacardelli.name>

# Macro-Molecules as Interacting Automata

# Cells Compute

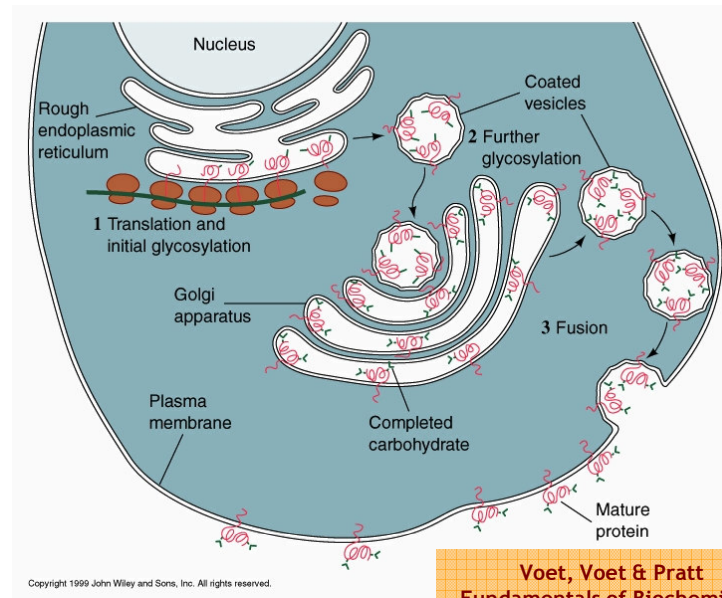
- No survival without computation!
  - Finding food
  - Avoiding predators
- How do they compute?
  - Unusual computational paradigms.
  - Proteins: do they work like electronic circuits?
  - Genes: what kind of software is that?
- Signaling networks
  - Clearly “information processing”
  - They are “just chemistry”: molecule interactions
  - But what are their principles and algorithms?
- Complex, higher-order interactions
  - MAPKKK = MAP Kinase Kinase Kinase: that which operates on that which operates on that which operates on protein.
- General models of biological computation
  - What are the appropriate ones?



[Ultrasensitivity in the mitogen-activated protein cascade](#), Chi-Ying F. Huang and James E. Ferrell, Jr., 1996, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 93, 10078-10083.

# Biological “Algorithms”

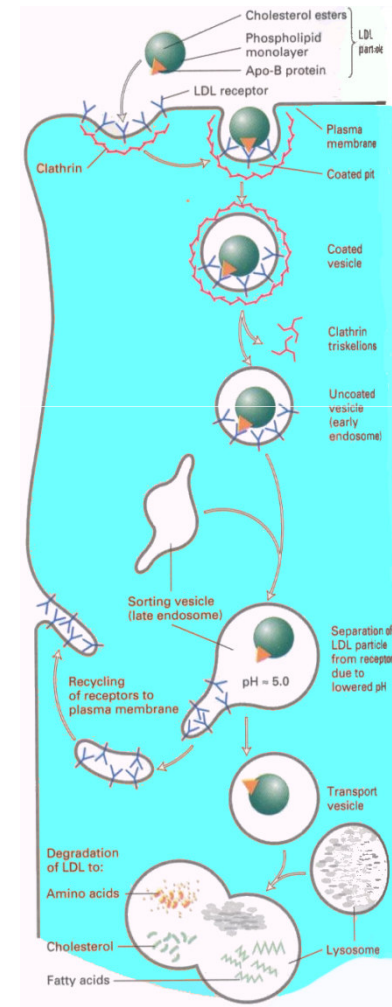
## Protein Production and Secretion



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Voet, Voet & Pratt  
Fundamentals of Biochemistry  
Wiley 1999. Ch10 Fig 10-22.

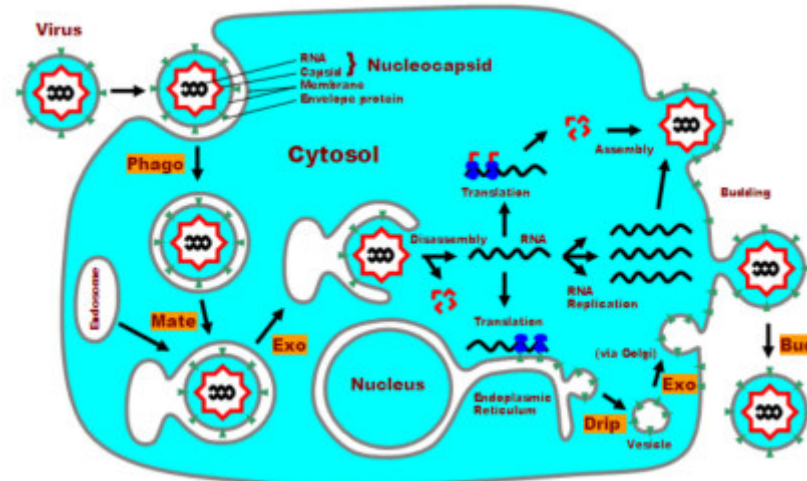
## LDL-Cholesterol Degradation



H.Lodish et al.  
Molecular Cell Biology.  
fourth Edition p. 730.

Luca Cardelli

## Viral Replication

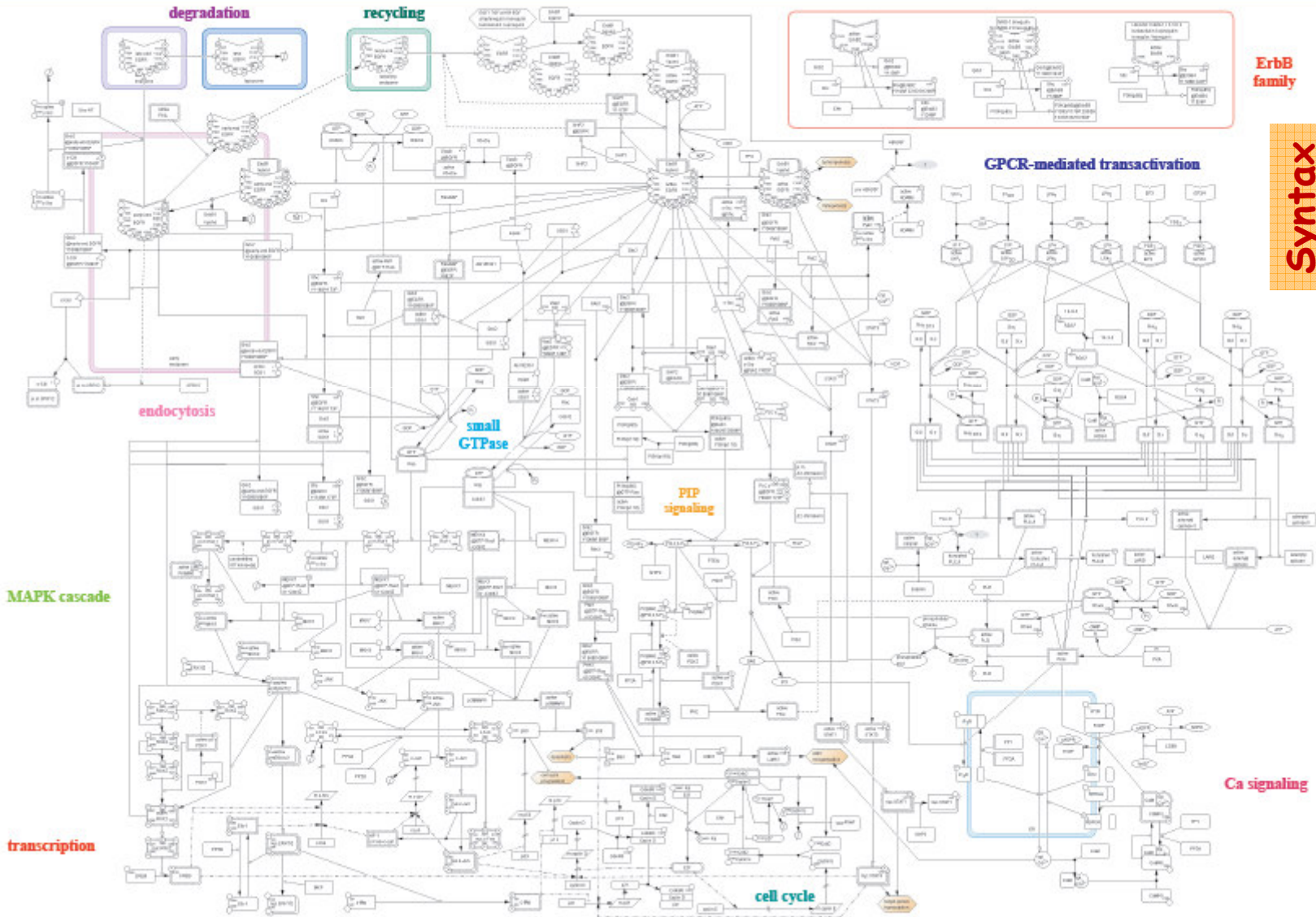


Adapted from: B. Alberts et al.  
Molecular Biology of the Cell  
third edition p.279.

# Discrete State Transitions

Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor Pathway Map

Karwan Othman (1,2), Yulia Matusenko (2), Hilda Klano (1,2)  
 (1) The Norwegian School of Management BI, (2) Department of Informatics Science and Learning, Oslo University  
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LEGENDS

	Protein
	Phosphorylated protein
	Protein with bound ligand
	Small GTPase
	G-protein coupled receptor
	Inhibitory interaction
	Activatory interaction
	Catalytic interaction
	Transcription factor
	Cell cycle
	Calcium signaling
	Transcription
	Degradation
	Recycling
	Endocytosis

ErbB family

Syntax

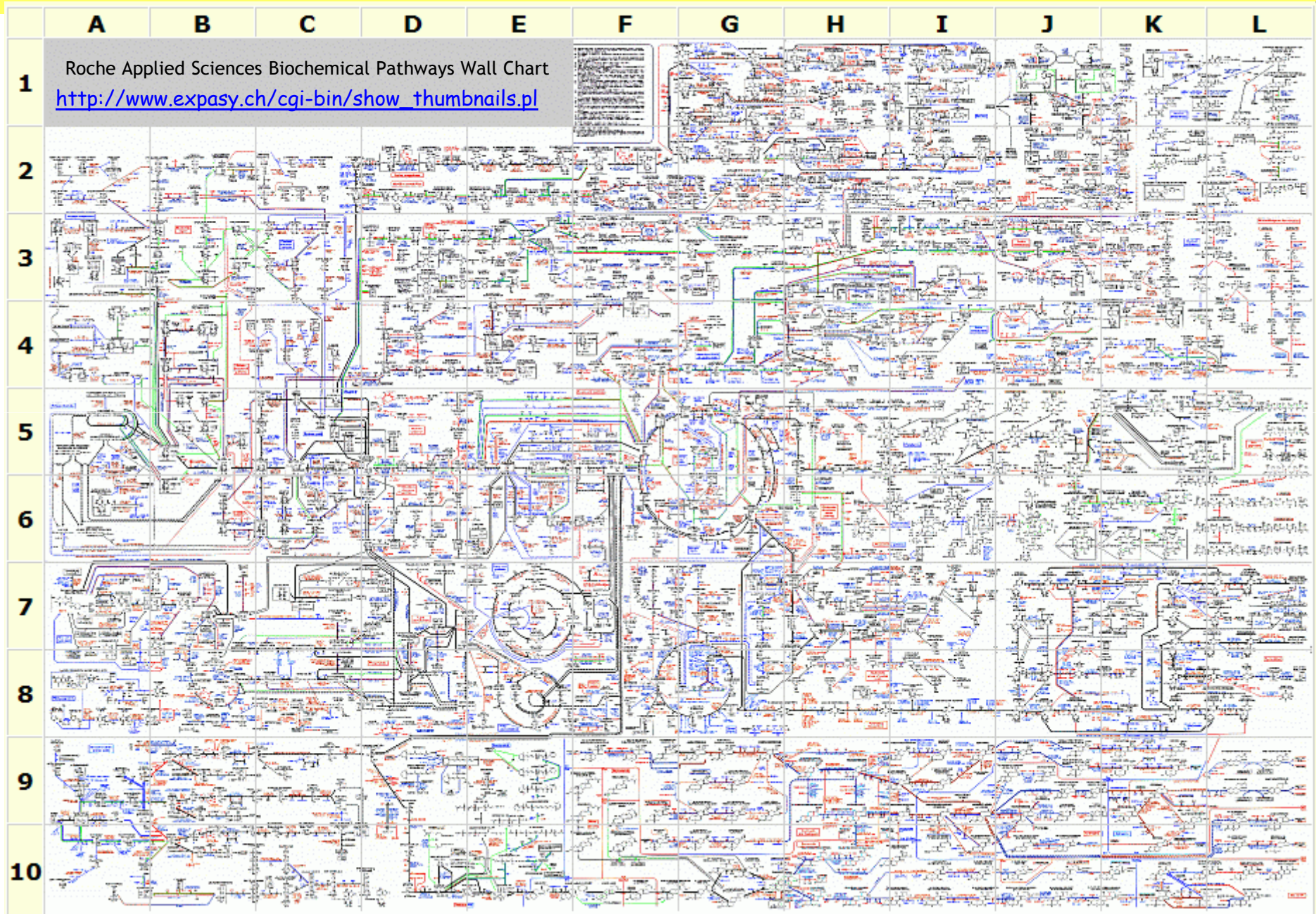
MAPK cascade

transcription

cell cycle

Ca signaling

# Compositionality (NOT!)



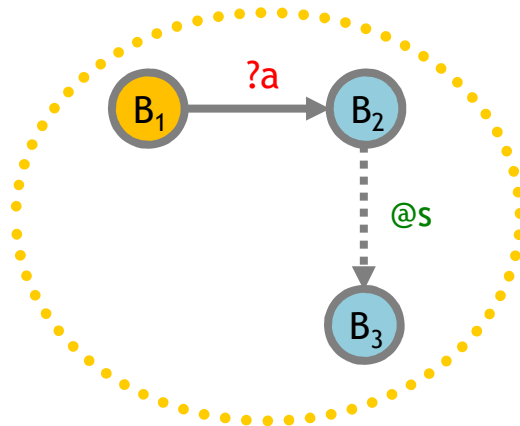
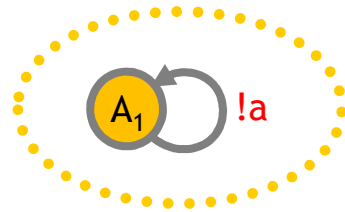
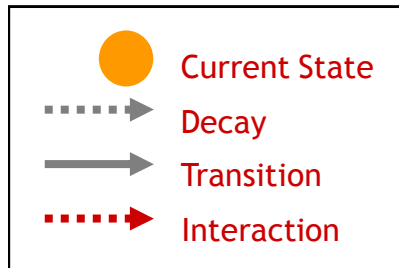
# Process Algebra

[Hoare, Milner, Pnueli, etc.]

- Reactive systems (living organisms, computer networks, operating systems, ...)
  - Math is based on *entities that react/interact with their environment* (“*processes*”), not on *functions* from domains to codomains.
- Concurrent
  - **Events** (reactions/interactions) happen concurrently and asynchronously, not sequentially like in function composition.
- Stochastic
  - Or probabilistic, or nondeterministic, but is never about deterministic system evolution.
- Stateful
  - Each concurrent activity (“process”) maintains its own local state, as opposed to stateless functions from inputs to outputs.
- Discrete
  - Evolution through **discrete transitions** between **discrete states**, not incremental changes of continuous quantities.
- Kinetics of interaction
  - An “**interaction**” is anything that moves a system from one state to another.

# Interacting Automata

Legend



$A_1$  is a *state*

$a$  is a *channel* i.e. a named *interaction interface* (e.g. a surface patch)

$?, !$  indicate any *complementarity* of interaction (e.g. charge)

$?a, !a$  indicate *complementary actions*,

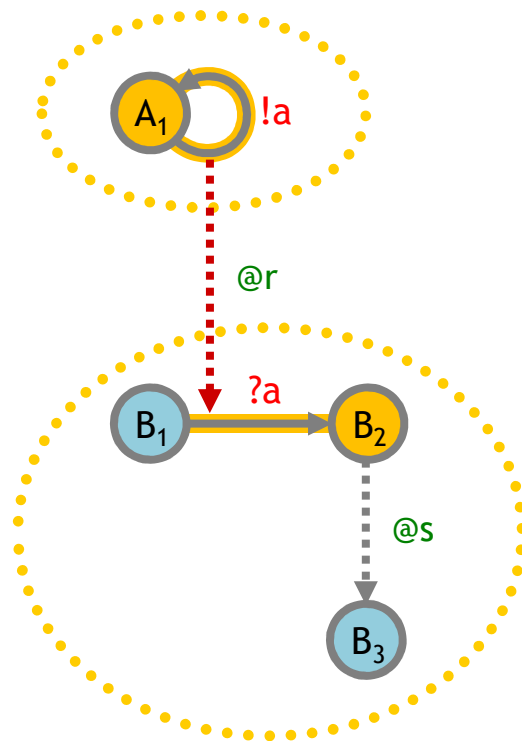
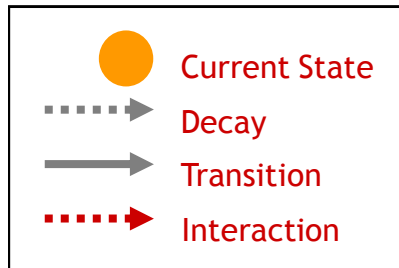
$@r, @s$  are rates

***Kinetic laws:***



# Interacting Automata

Legend



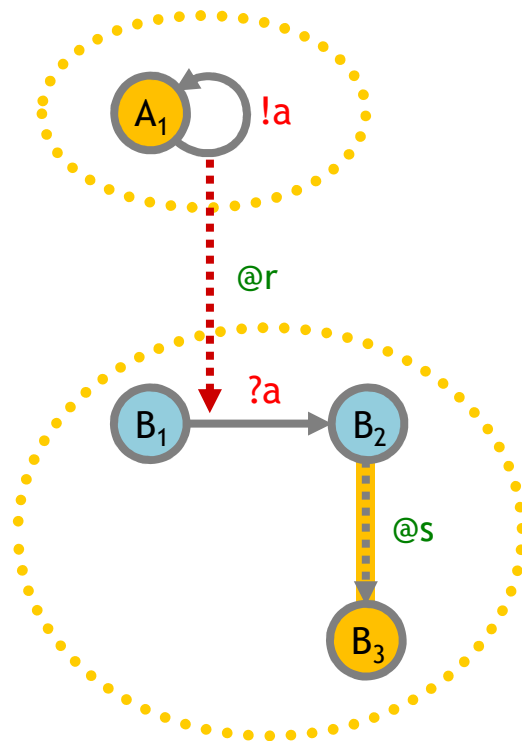
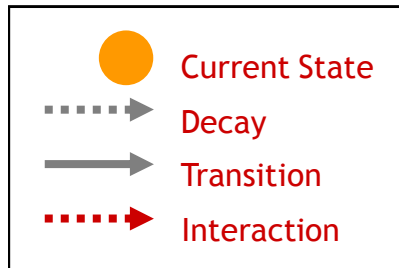
- $A_1$  is a *state*
- $a$  is a *channel* i.e. a named *interaction interface* (e.g. a surface patch)
- $?, !$  indicate any *complementarity* of interaction (e.g. charge, shape)
- $?a, !a$  indicate *complementary actions*, joined by an interaction arrow - - - - ->
- $@r, @s$  are rates

**Kinetic laws:**

**Two complementary actions may result in an interaction.**

# Interacting Automata

Legend



$A_1$  is a *state*

$a$  is a *channel* i.e. a named *interaction interface* (e.g. a surface patch)

$?, !$  indicate any *complementarity* of interaction (e.g. charge)

$?a, !a$  indicate *complementary actions*, joined by an interaction arrow ⋯→

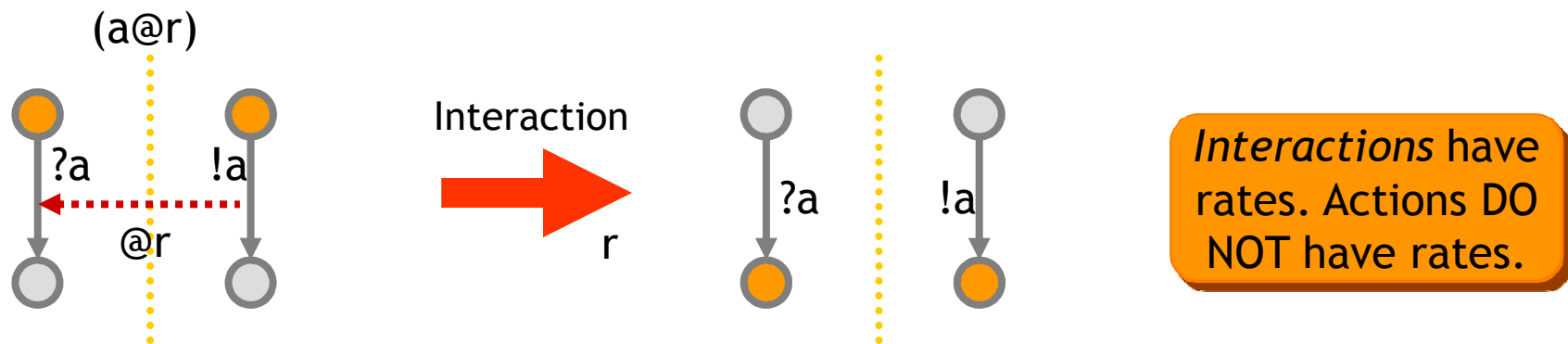
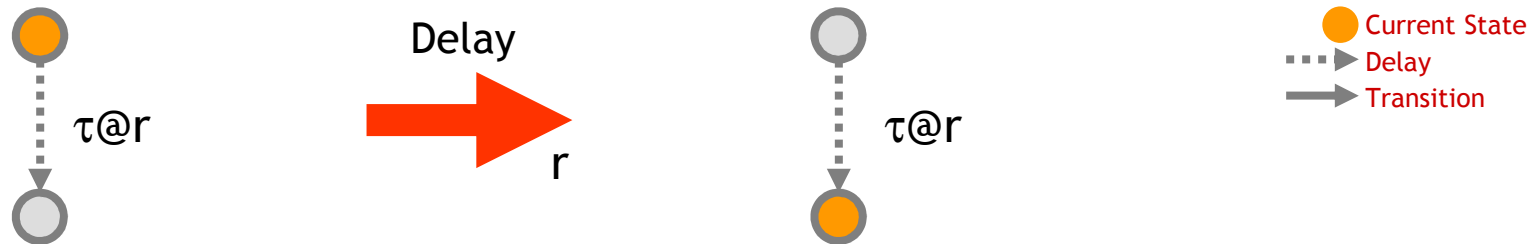
$@r, @s$  are rates

**Kinetic laws:**

**Two complementary actions may result in an interaction.**

**A decay may happen spontaneously.**

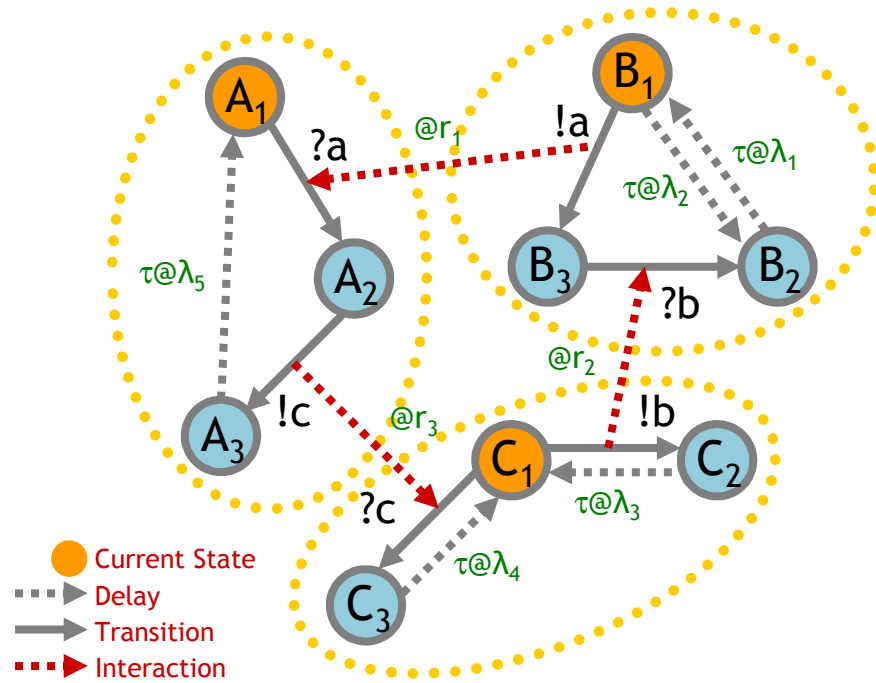
# Interacting Automata Transition Rules



**Q: What kind of mass behavior can this produce?**

(We need to understand that if want to understand biochemical systems.)

# Interacting Automata



Interactions have rates. Actions DO NOT have rates.

*The equivalent process algebra model*

new a@r<sub>1</sub>  
 new b@r<sub>2</sub>  
 new c@r<sub>3</sub>

Communication channels

A<sub>1</sub> = ?a; A<sub>2</sub>  
 A<sub>2</sub> = !c; A<sub>3</sub>  
 A<sub>3</sub> = τ@λ<sub>5</sub>; A<sub>1</sub>

B<sub>1</sub> = τ@λ<sub>2</sub>; B<sub>2</sub> + !a; B<sub>3</sub>  
 B<sub>2</sub> = τ@λ<sub>1</sub>; B<sub>1</sub>  
 B<sub>3</sub> = ?b; B<sub>2</sub>

C<sub>1</sub> = !b; C<sub>2</sub> + ?c; C<sub>3</sub>  
 C<sub>2</sub> = τ@λ<sub>3</sub>; C<sub>1</sub>  
 C<sub>3</sub> = τ@λ<sub>4</sub>; C<sub>2</sub>

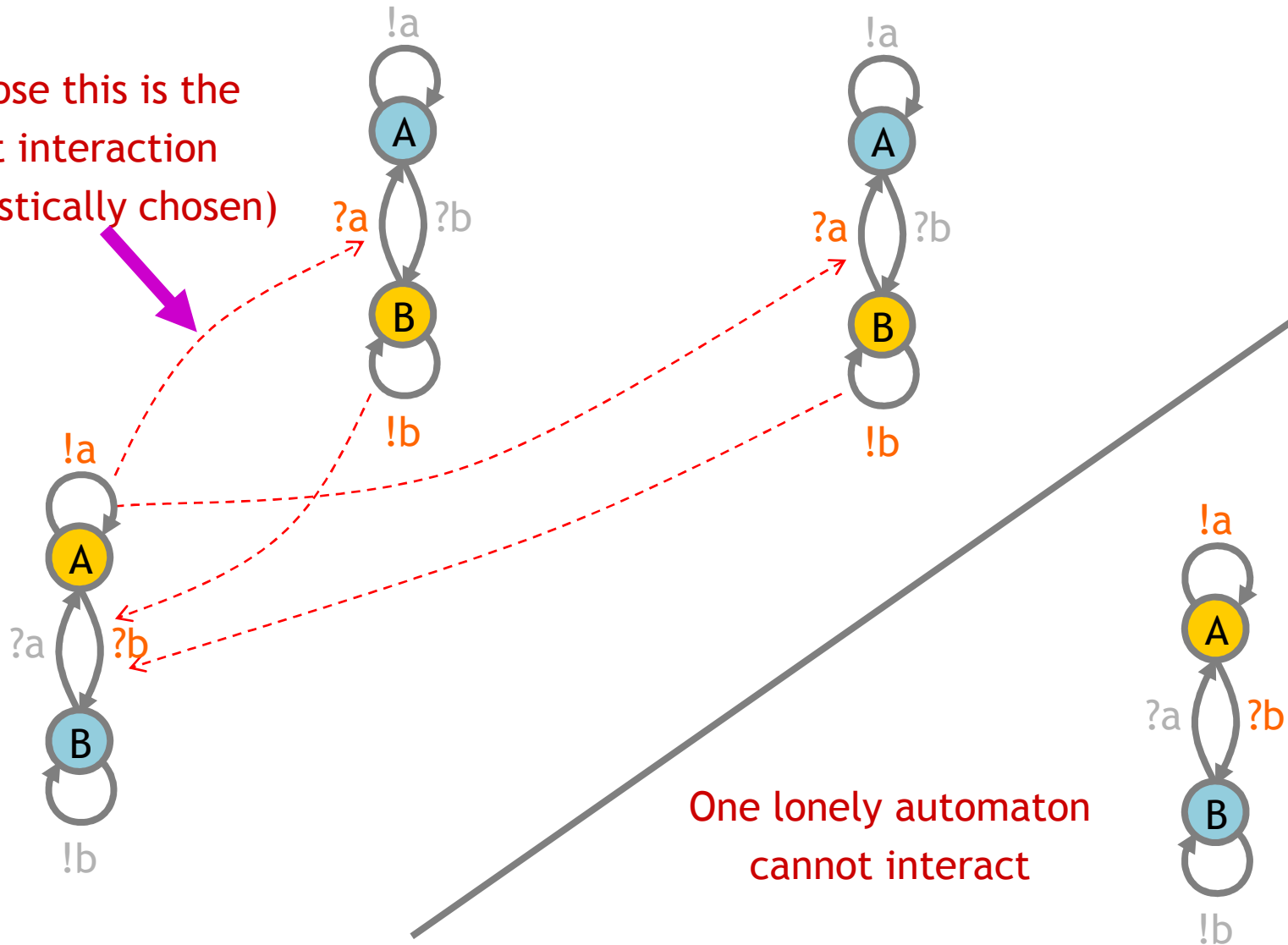
Automata

A<sub>1</sub> | B<sub>1</sub> | C<sub>1</sub>

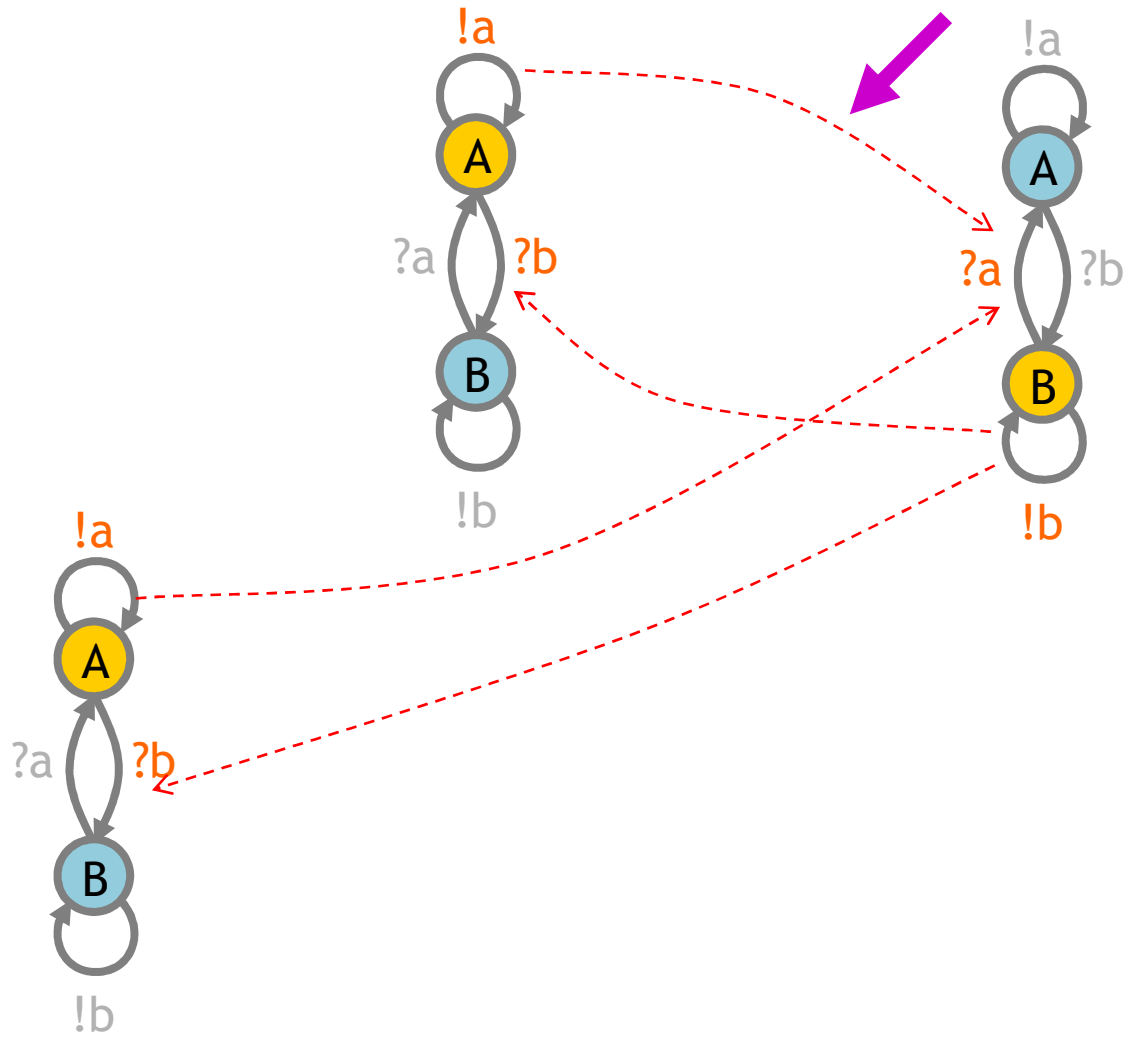
The system and initial state

# Interactions in a Population

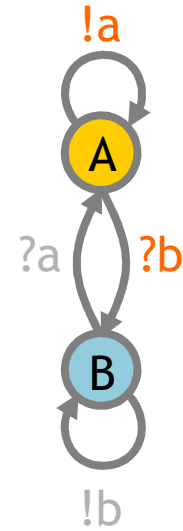
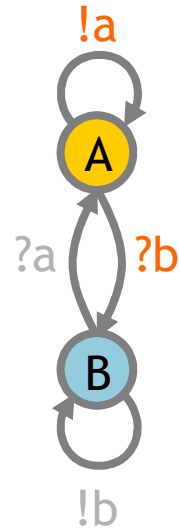
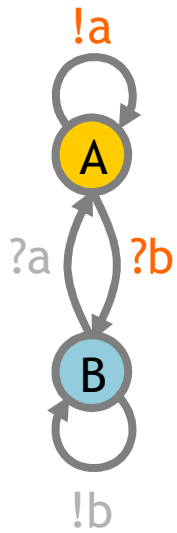
Suppose this is the next interaction (stochastically chosen)



# Interactions in a Population

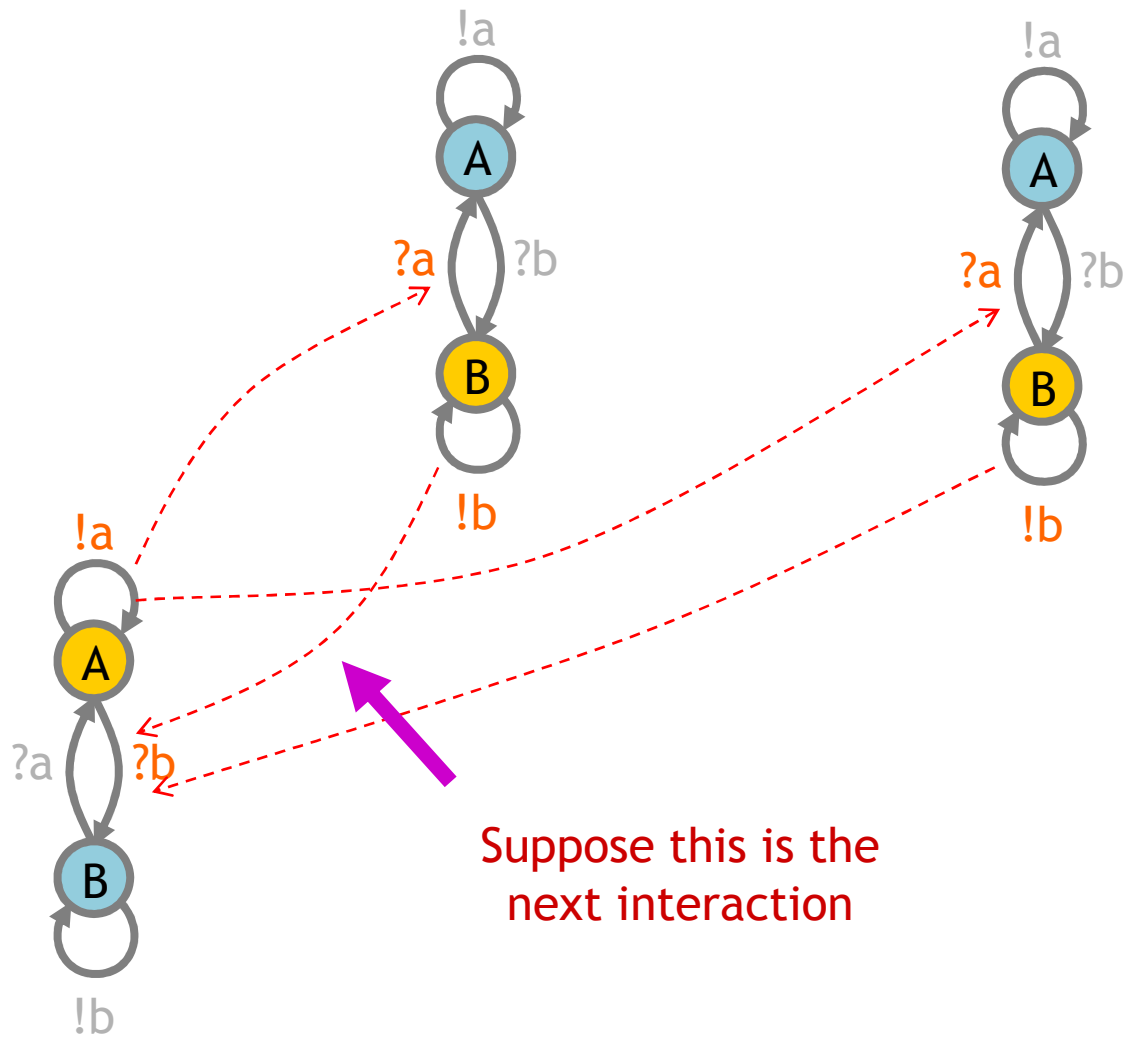


# Interactions in a Population



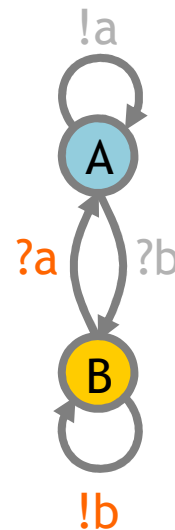
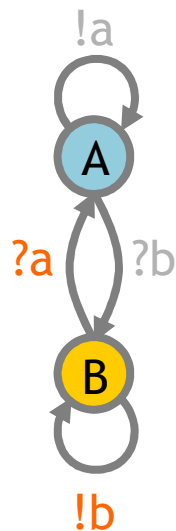
All-A stable  
population

# Interactions in a Population (2)





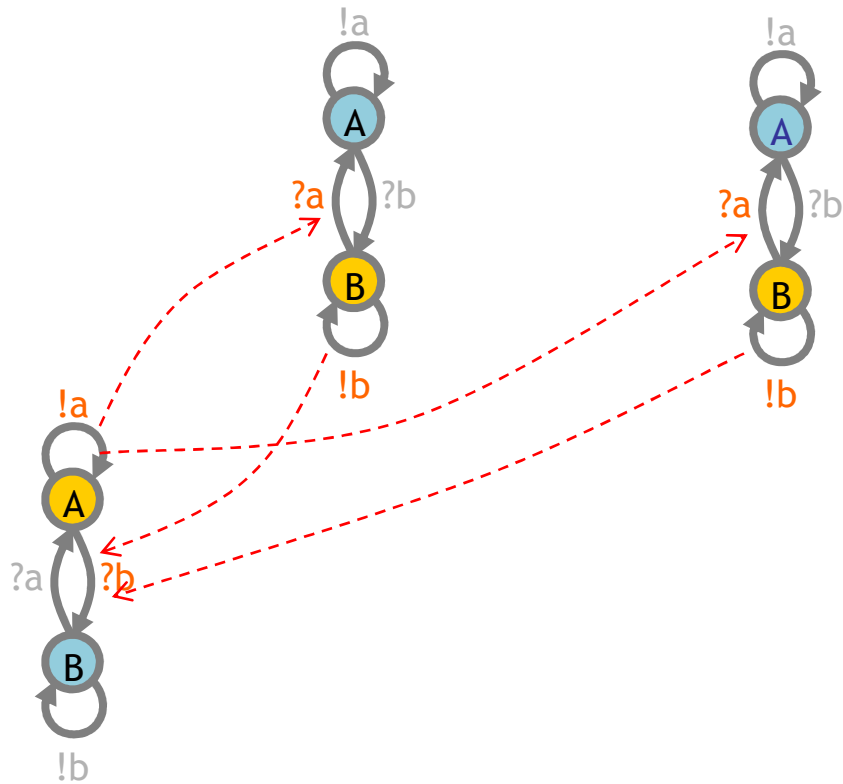
# Interactions in a Population (2)



All-B stable  
population

Nondeterministic  
population behavior  
("multistability")

# CTMC Semantics



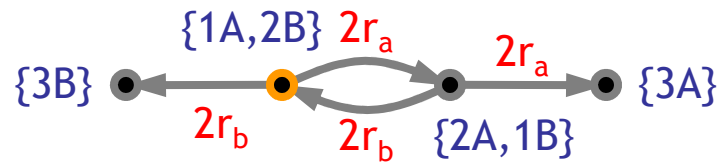
CTMC  
(homogeneous) Continuous Time Markov Chain

- directed graph with no self loops
- nodes are system states
- arcs have transition rates

Probability of holding in state A:

$$\Pr(H_A > t) = e^{-rt}$$

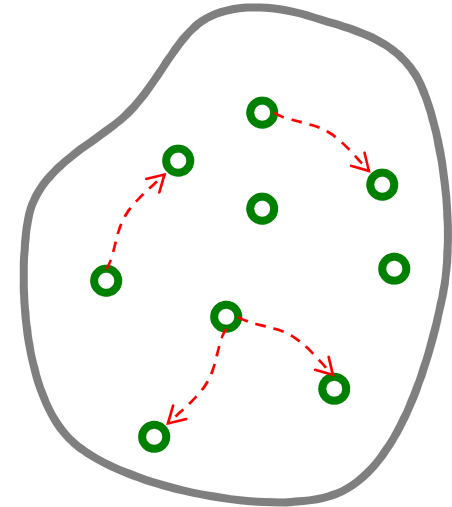
in general,  $\Pr(H_A > t) = e^{-Rt}$  where R is the sum of all the exit rates from A



CTMC

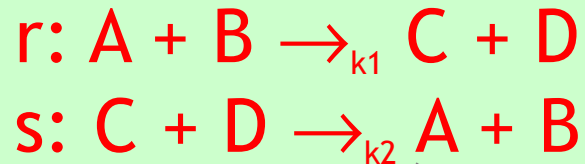
# Stochastic Collectives

- “Collective”:
  - A large set of interacting finite state automata:
    - Not quite **language automata** (“large set”)
    - Not quite **cellular automata** (“interacting” but not on a grid)
    - Not quite **process algebra** (“collective behavior”)
    - Cf. **multi-agent systems** and **swarm intelligence**
- “Stochastic”:
  - Interactions have *rates*
    - Not quite **discrete** (hundreds or thousands of components)
    - Not quite **continuous** (non-trivial stochastic effects)
    - Not quite **hybrid** (no “switching” between regimes)
- Very much like **biochemistry**
  - Which is a large set of stochastically interacting molecules/proteins
  - Are proteins **finite state** and subject to automata-like **transitions**?
    - Let’s say they are, at least because:
    - Much of the knowledge being accumulated in Systems Biology is described as state transition diagrams [Kitano].

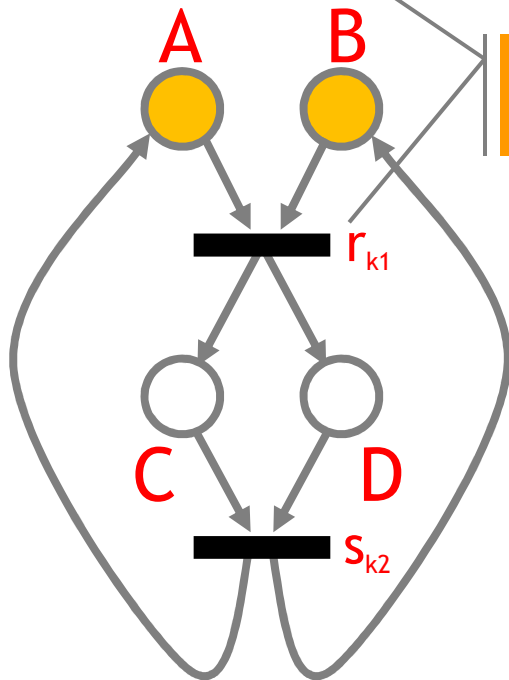


# Chemistry vs. Automata

Says what "A" does.



Does A become C or D?

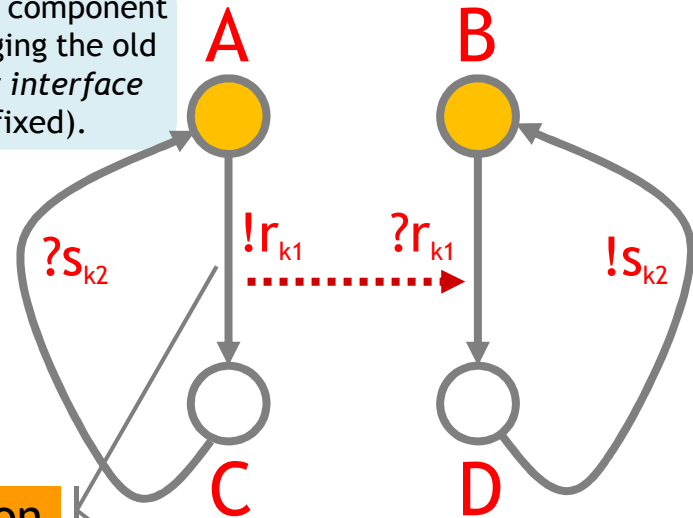


Reaction oriented

1 line per reaction

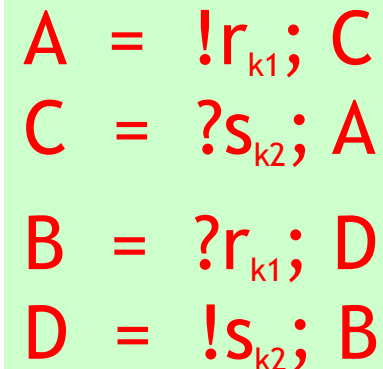
Says what "A" is.

Can add a new component without changing the old ones (if their *interface* remains fixed).



Interaction oriented

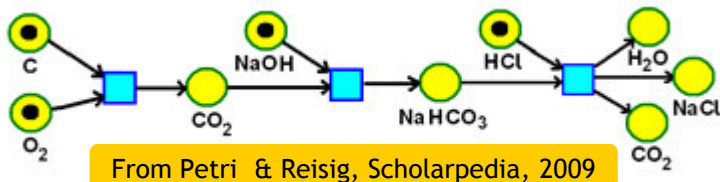
1 line per component



A becomes C not D!

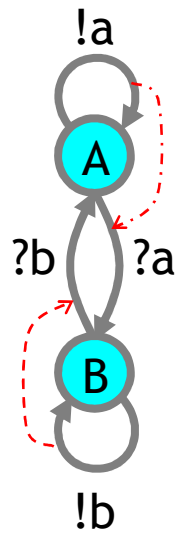
The same "state space"

CTMC



# Groupies and Celebrities

# Groupies and Celebrities



## Celebrity

(does not want to be like somebody else)

```
directive sample 1.0 1000
directive plot A(); B()
```

```
new a@1.0:chan()
new b@1.0:chan()
```

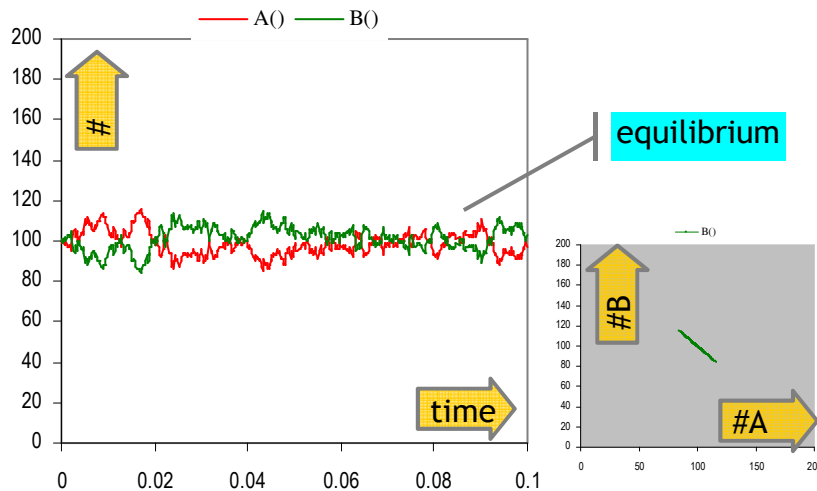
```
let A() = do !a; A() or ?a; B()
and B() = do !b; B() or ?b; A()
```

```
run 100 of (A() | B())
```

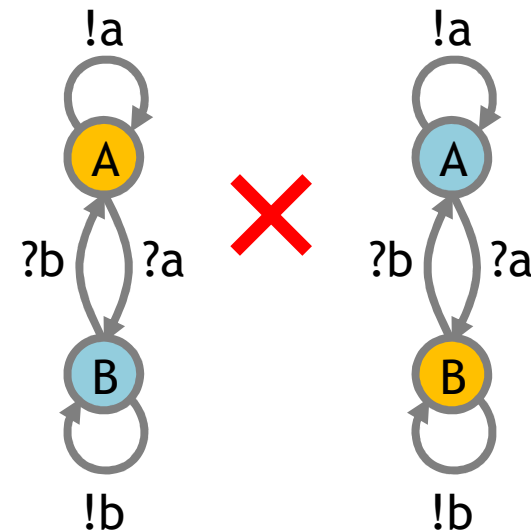
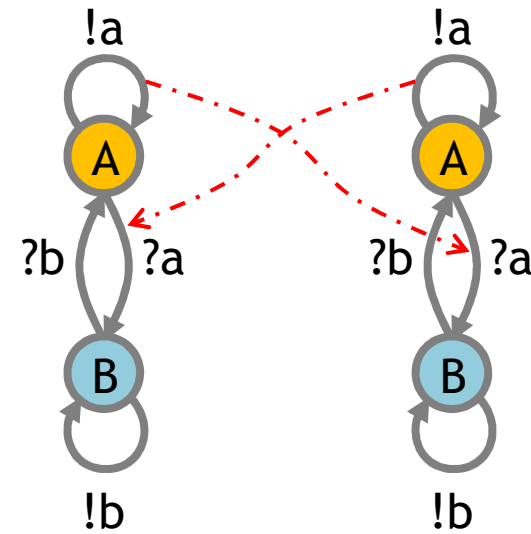
a@1.0

b@1.0

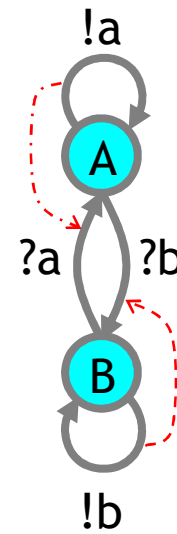
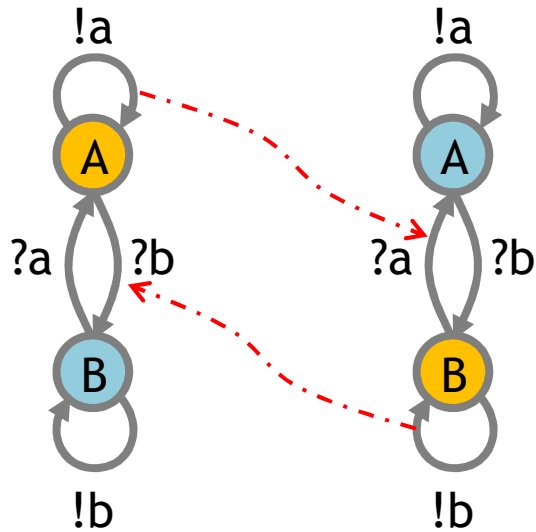
A stochastic collective of celebrities:



Stable because as soon as a A finds itself in the majority, it is more likely to find somebody in the same state, and hence change, so the majority is weakened.



# Groupies and Celebrities



## Groupie

(wants to be like somebody different)

```
directive sample 1.0 1000
```

```
directive plot A(); B()
```

```
new a@1.0:chan()
```

```
new b@1.0:chan()
```

```
let A() = do !a; A() or ?b; B()
```

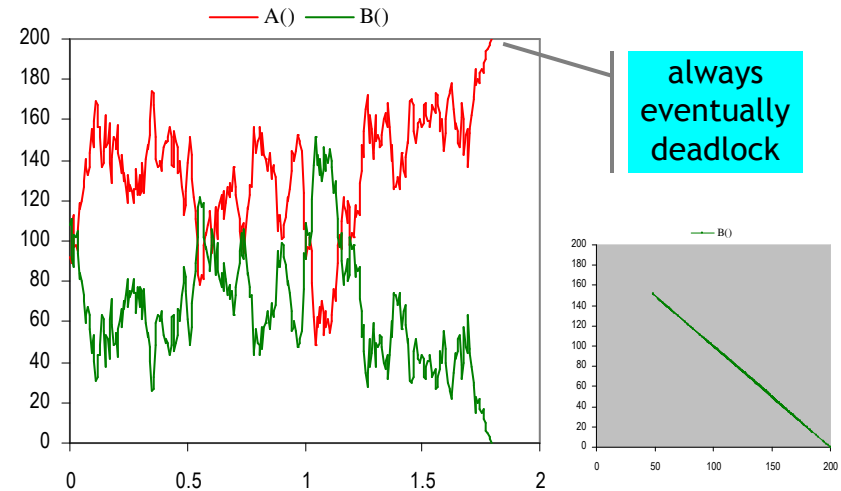
```
and B() = do !b; B() or ?a; A()
```

```
run 100 of (A() | B())
```

a@1.0

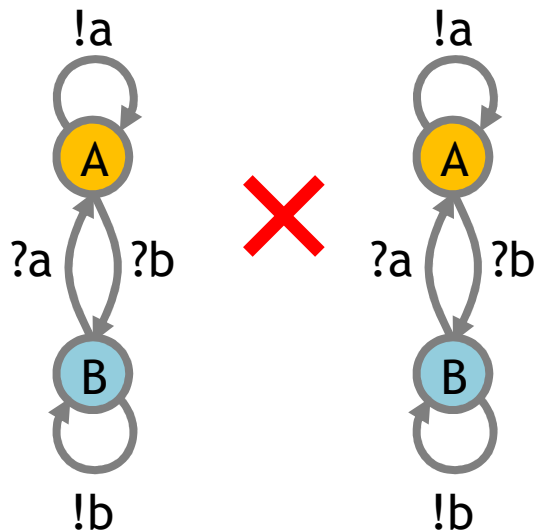
b@1.0

A stochastic collective of groupies:



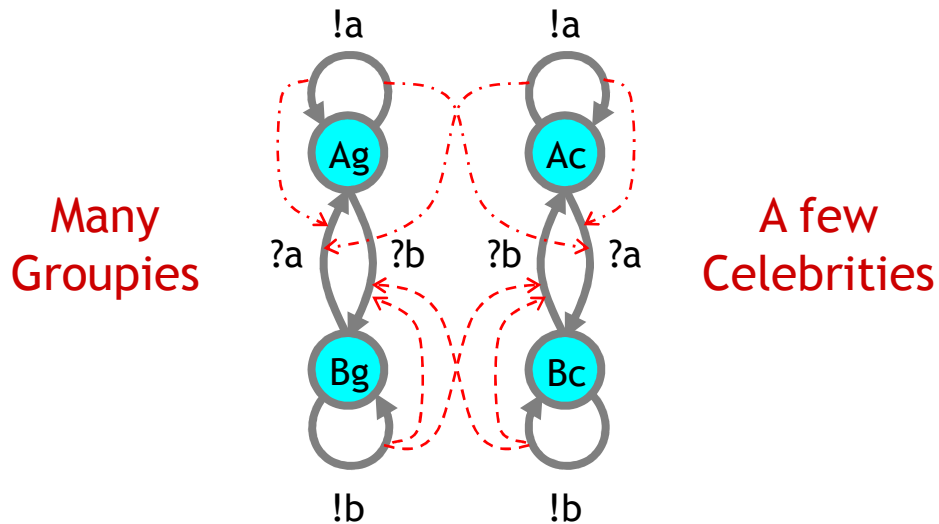
always eventually deadlock

Unstable because within an A majority, an A has difficulty finding a B to emulate, but the few B's have plenty of A's to emulate, so the majority may switch to B. Leads to deadlock when everybody is in the same state and there is nobody different to emulate.



# Both Together

A way to break the deadlocks: Groupies with just a few Celebrities



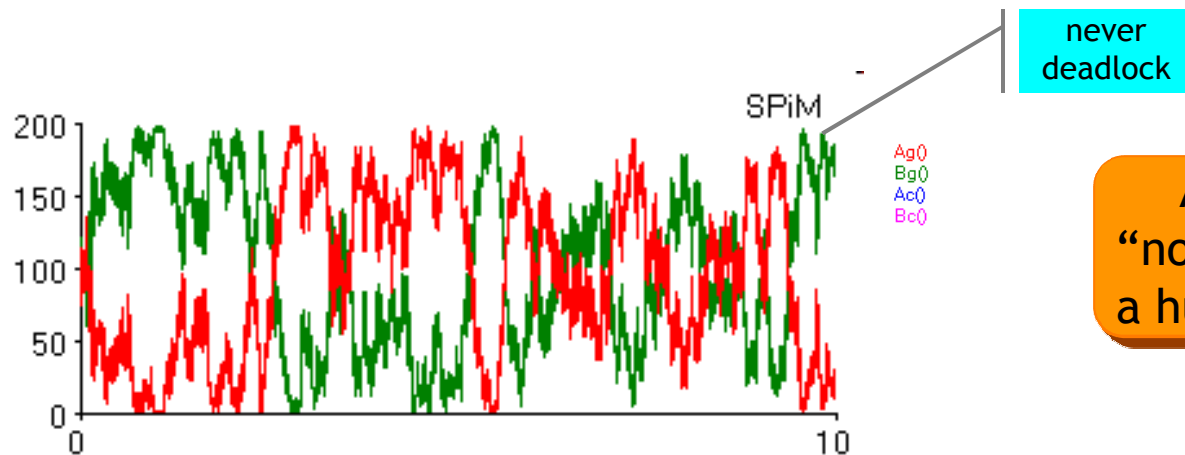
```
directive sample 10.0
directive plot Ag(); Bg(); Ac(); Bc()

new a@1.0:chan()
new b@1.0:chan()

let Ac() = do !a; Ac() or ?a; Bc()
and Bc() = do !b; Bc() or ?b; Ac()

let Ag() = do !a; Ag() or ?b; Bg()
and Bg() = do !b; Bg() or ?a; Ag()

run 1 of Ac()
run 100 of (Ag() | Bg())
```

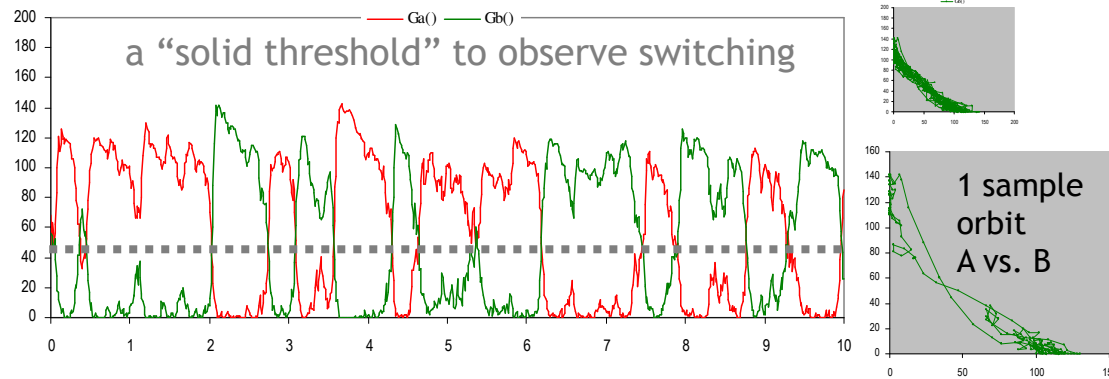
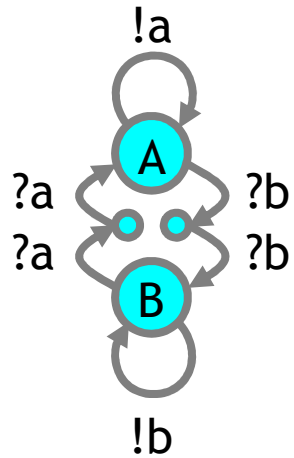


A tiny bit of “noise” can make a huge difference



# Hysteric Groupies

We can get more regular behavior from groupies if they “need more convincing”, or “**hysteresis**” (history-dependence), to switch states.



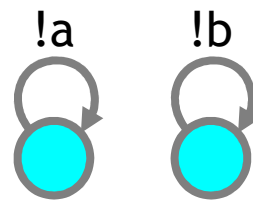
```
directive sample 10.0 1000
directive plot Ga(); Gb()

new a@1.0:chan()
new b@1.0:chan()

let Ga() = do !a; Ga() or ?b; ?b; Gb()
and Gb() = do !b; Gb() or ?a; ?a; Ga()

let Da() = !a; Da()
and Db() = !b; Db()

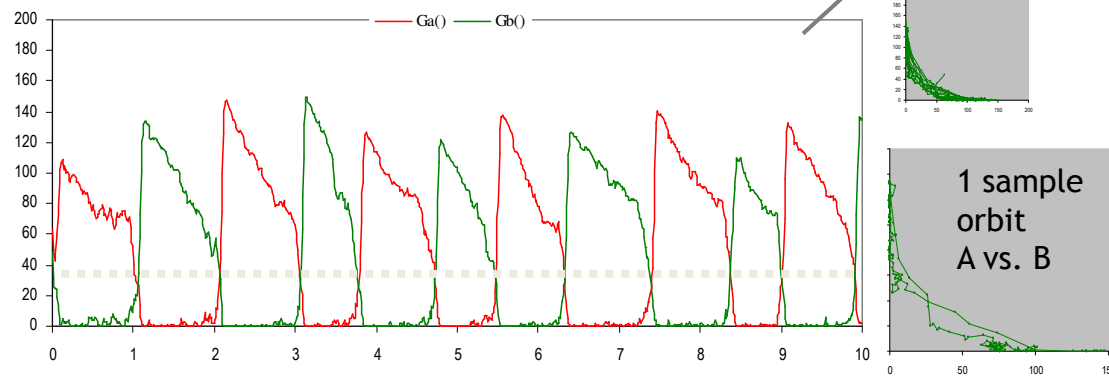
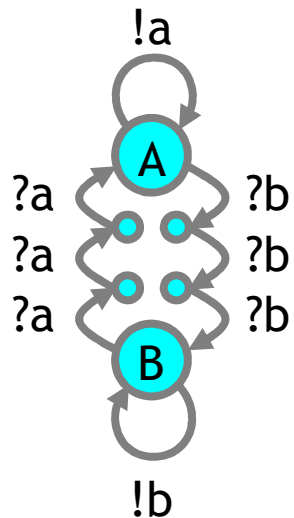
run 100 of (Ga() | Gb())
run 1 of (Da() | Db())
```



(With doping to break deadlocks)

N.B.: It will not oscillate without doping (noise)

“regular” oscillation



```
directive sample 10.0 1000
directive plot Ga(); Gb()

new a@1.0:chan()
new b@1.0:chan()

let Ga() = do !a; Ga() or ?b; ?b; ?b; Gb()
and Gb() = do !b; Gb() or ?a; ?a; ?a; Ga()

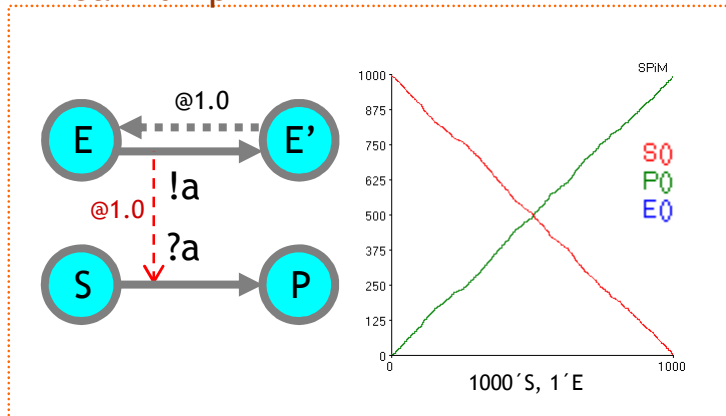
let Da() = !a; Da()
and Db() = !b; Db()

run 100 of (Ga() | Gb())
run 1 of (Da() | Db())
```

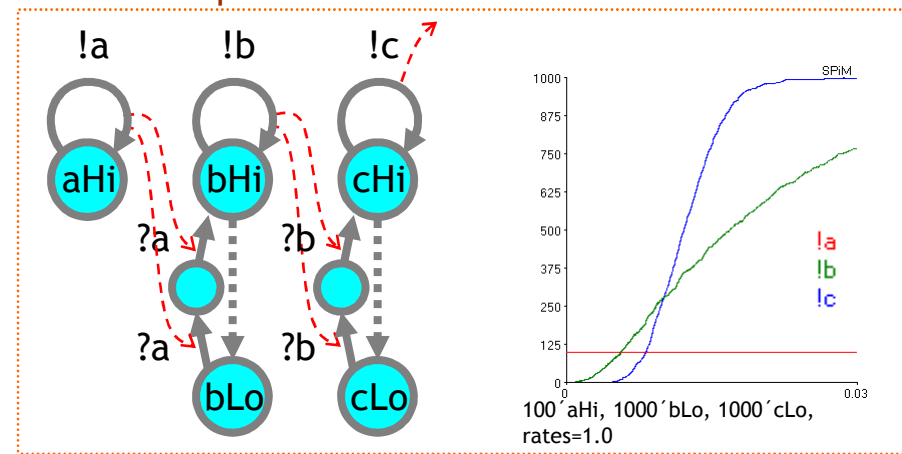
# Devices

# Some Devices

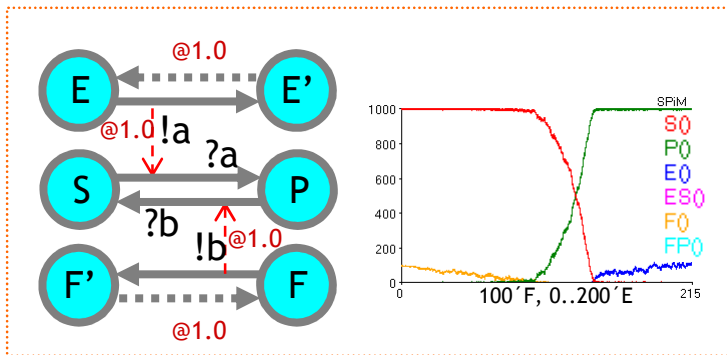
## Linear Pump



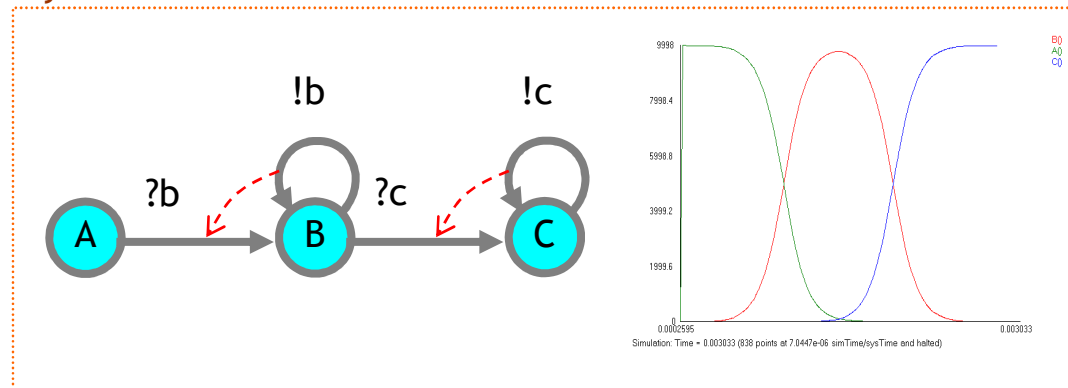
## Cascade Amplifier



## Ultrasensitive Switch

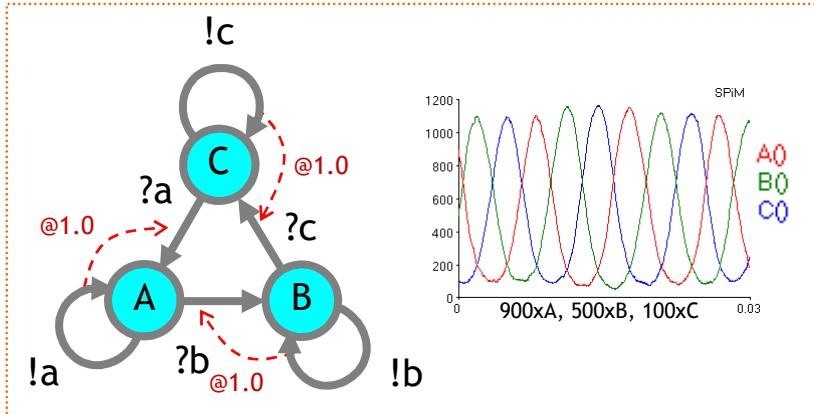


## Symmetric Wave Generator

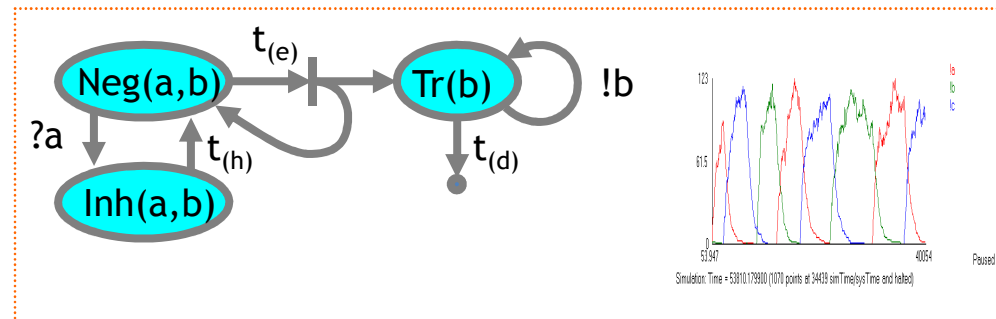


# More Devices

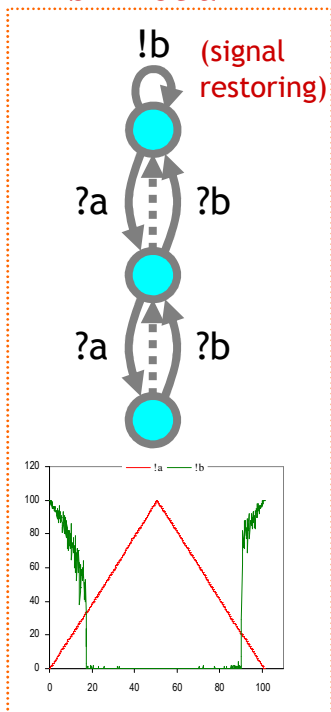
## Oscillator



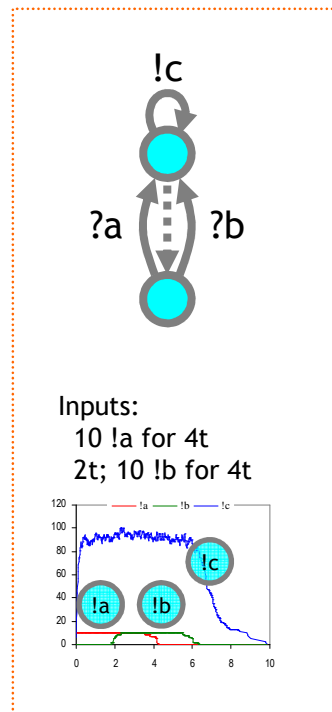
## Repressilator (1 of 3 similar gates)



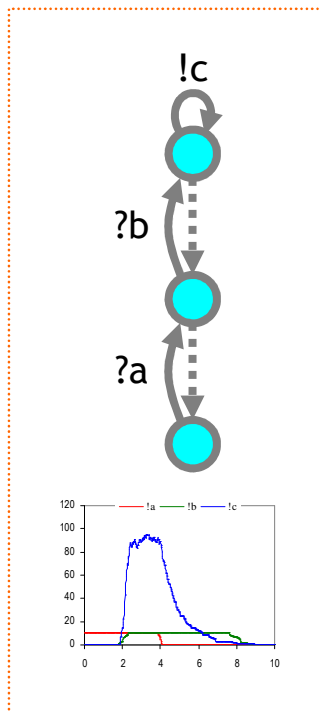
## $b = \text{not } a$



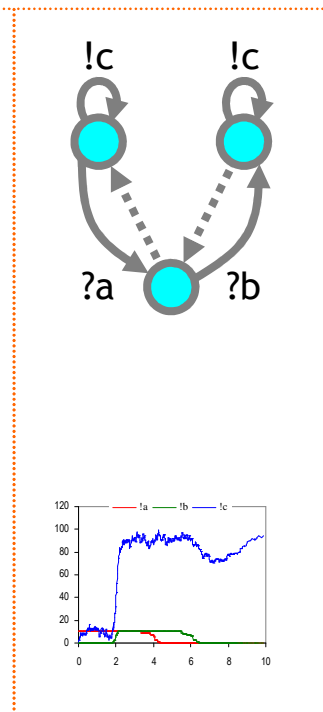
## $c = a \text{ or } b$



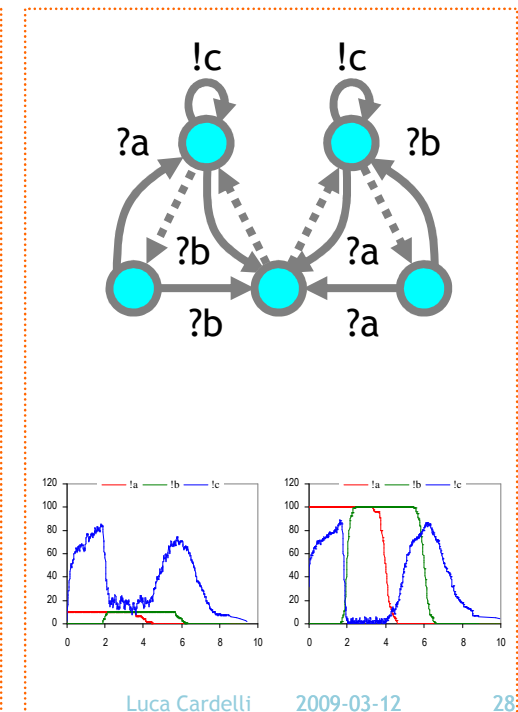
## $c = a \text{ and } b$



## $c = a \text{ imply } b$

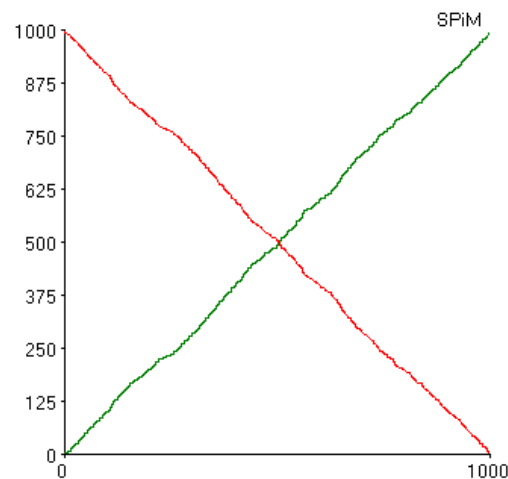


## $c = a \text{ xor } b$

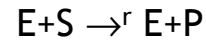
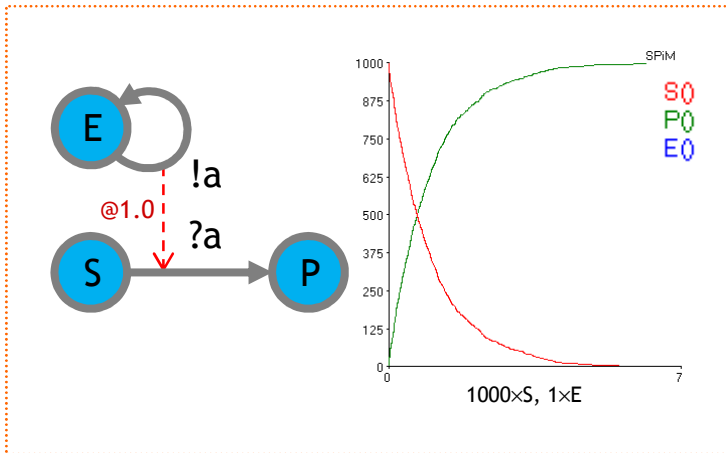


# Design Exercise: Making Lines

Build me a population like this:



# Second-order and Zero-order Regime



```
directive sample 1000.0
directive plot S(); P(); E()
```

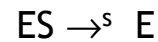
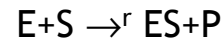
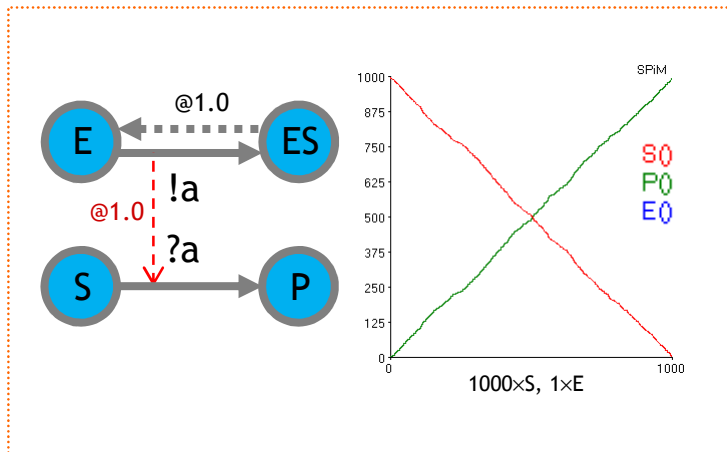
```
new a@1.0:chan()
```

```
let E() = !a; E()
and S() = ?a; P()
and P() = ()
```

```
run (1 of E() | 1000 of S())
```

Second-Order Regime

$$d[S]/dt = -r[E][S]$$



```
directive sample 1000.0
directive plot S(); P(); E()
```

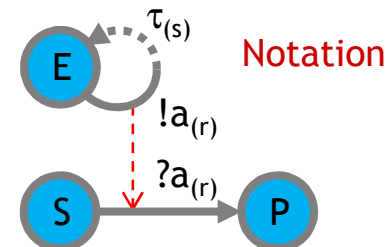
```
new a@1.0:chan()
```

```
let E() = !a; delay@1.0; E()
and S() = ?a; P()
and P() = ()
```

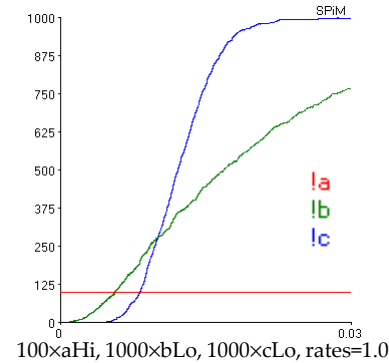
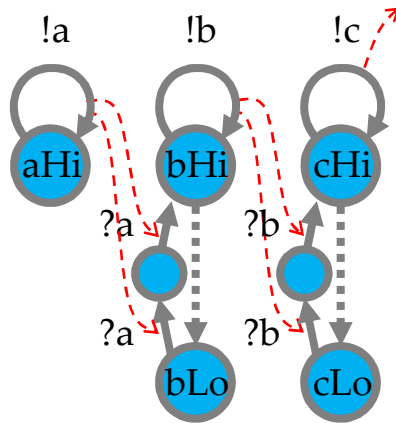
```
run (1 of E() | 1000 of S())
```

Zero-Order Regime

$$d[S]/dt \cong -1 \quad (\text{by assuming } d[ES]/dt = 0)$$



# Cascades



Second-Order Regime cascade:  
a signal amplifier (MAPK)  
 $a_{Hi} > 0 \Rightarrow c_{Hi} = \max$

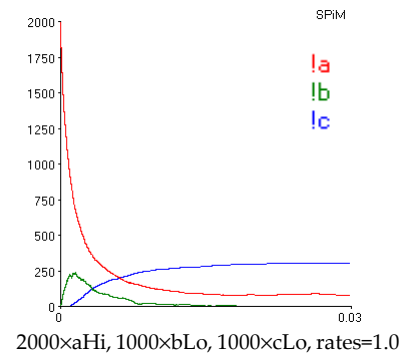
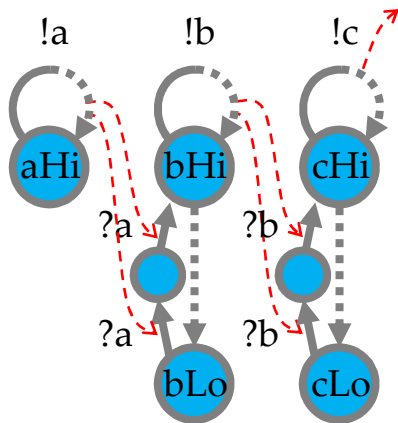
```
directive sample 0.03
directive plot !a: !b: !c

new a@1.0:chan new b@1.0:chan new c@1.0:chan

let Amp_hi(a:chan, b:chan) =
do !b: Amp_hi(a,b) or delay@1.0: Amp_lo(a,b)
and Amp_lo(a:chan, b:chan) =
?a: ?a: Amp_hi(a,b)

run 1000 of (Amp_lo(a,b) | Amp_lo(b,c))

let A() = !a: A()
run 100 of A()
```



Zero-Order Regime cascade:  
a signal *divider*!  
 $a_{Hi} = \max \Rightarrow c_{Hi} = 1/3 \max$

```
directive sample 0.03
directive plot !a: !b: !c

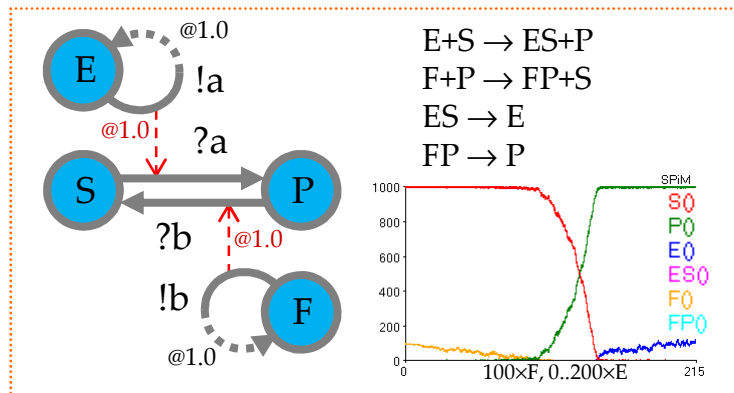
new a@1.0:chan new b@1.0:chan new c@1.0:chan

let Amp_hi(a:chan, b:chan) =
do !b: delay@1.0: Amp_hi(a,b) or delay@1.0: Amp_lo(a,b)
and Amp_lo(a:chan, b:chan) =
?a: ?a: Amp_hi(a,b)

run 1000 of (Amp_lo(a,b) | Amp_lo(b,c))

let A() = !a: delay@1.0: A()
run 2000 of A()
```

# Ultrasensitivity



```

directive sample 215.0
directive plot S(); P(); E(); ES(); F(); FP()

new a@1.0:chan() new b@1.0:chan()

let S() = ?a; P()
and P() = ?b; S()

let E() = !a; delay@1.0; E()
and F() = !b; delay@1.0; F()

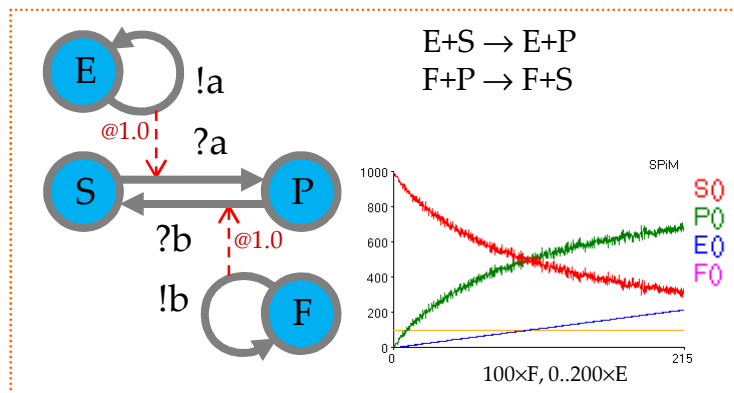
run 1000 of S()

let clock(t:float, tick:chan) = (* sends a tick every t time *)
(val ti = 1/100.0 val d = 1.0/ti (* by 100-step erlang timers *))
let step(n:int) = if n<=0 then !tick: clock(t,tick) else delay@d: step(n-1)
run step(100)

let Sig(p:proc(), tick:chan) = (p() | ?tick: Sig(p,tick))
let raising(p:proc(), t:float) =
(new tick:chan run (clock(t,tick) | Sig(p,tick)))

run 100 of F()
run raising(E,1.0)
    
```

Zero-Order Regime  
A small E-F imbalance causes a much larger S-P switch.



```

directive sample 215.0 1000
directive plot S(); P(); E(); F()

new a@1.0:chan() new b@1.0:chan()

let S() = ?a; P()
and P() = ?b; S()

let E() = !a; E()
and F() = !b; F()

run 1000 of S()

let clock(t:float, tick:chan) = (* sends a tick every t time *)
(val ti = 1/100.0 val d = 1.0/ti (* by 100-step erlang timers *))
let step(n:int) = if n<=0 then !tick: clock(t,tick) else delay@d: step(n-1)
run step(100)

let Sig(p:proc(), tick:chan) = (p() | ?tick: Sig(p,tick))
let raising(p:proc(), t:float) =
(new tick:chan run (clock(t,tick) | Sig(p,tick)))

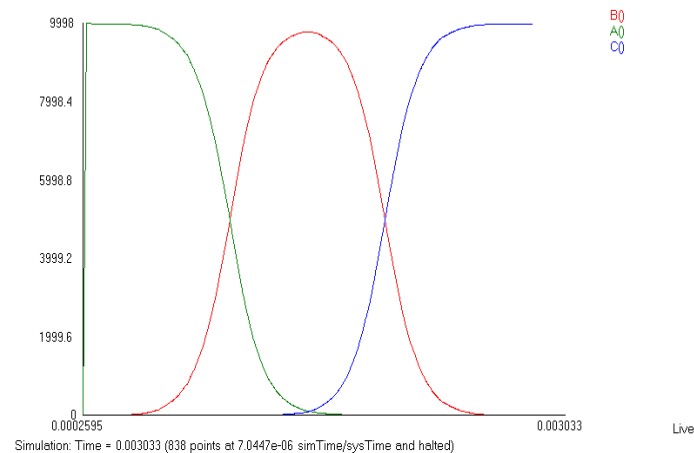
run 100 of F()
run raising(E,1.0)
    
```

Second-Order Regime

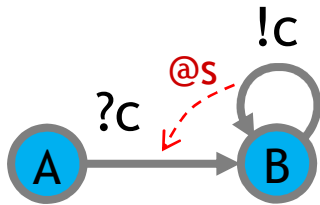


# Design Exercise: Making Waves

Build me a population like this:



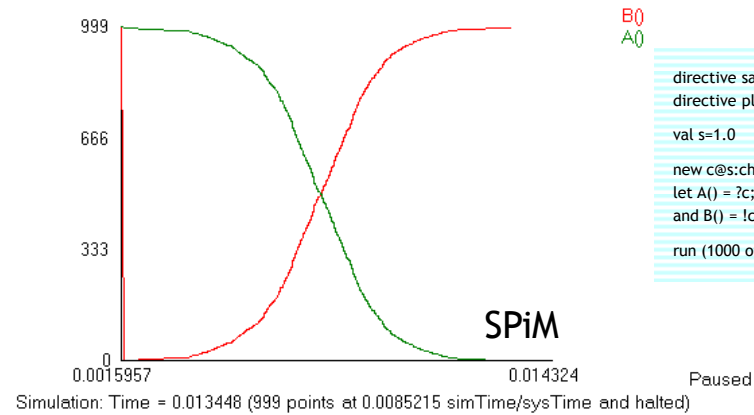
# Nonlinear Transition (NLT)



$A = ?c_{(s)};B$   
 $B = !c_{(s)};B$

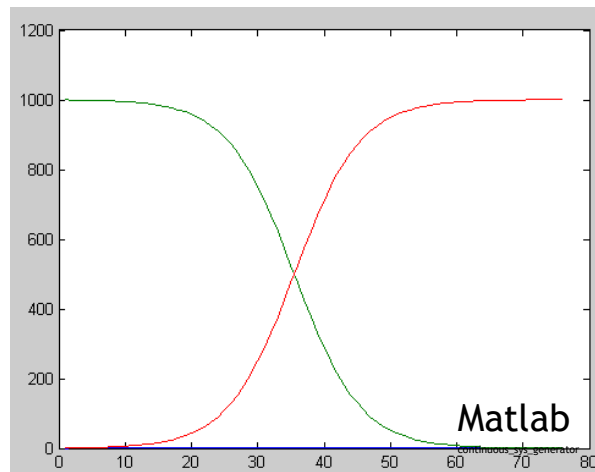
$A+B \xrightarrow{s} B+B$

$d[A]/dt = -s[A][B]$   
 $d[B]/dt = s[A][B]$



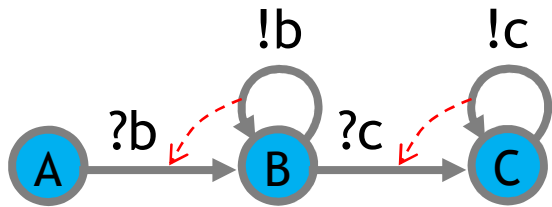
```
B()
A()
directive sample 0.02 1000
directive plot B(); A()
val s=1.0
new c@s:chan
let A() = ?c; B()
and B() = !c;B()
run (1000 of A() | 1 of B())
```

N.B.: needs at least 1 B to “get started”.



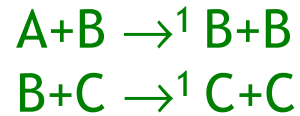
```
interval/step [0:0.001:0.0]
(A) dx1/dt = - x1*x2 1000.0
(B) dx2/dt = x1*x2 1.0
```

# Two NLTs: Bell Shape



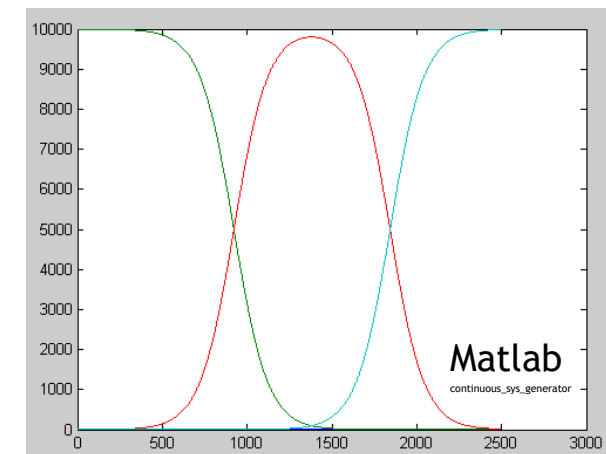
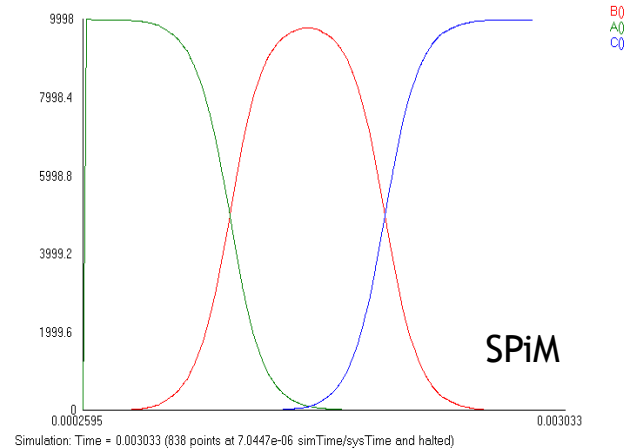
$$d[B]/dt = [B]([A]-[C])$$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= ?b_{(1)}; B \\ B &= !b_{(1)}; B \oplus ?c_{(1)}; C \\ C &= !c_{(1)}; C \end{aligned}$$



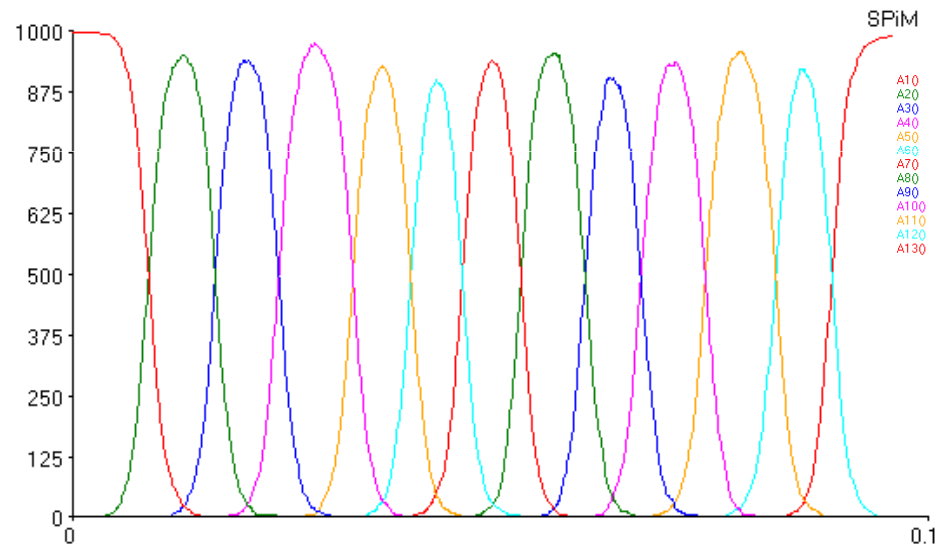
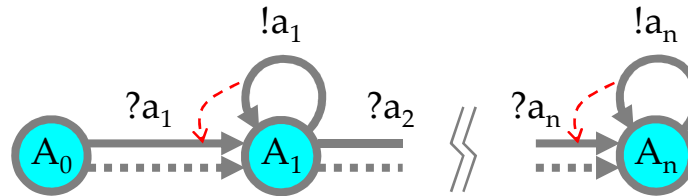
$$\begin{aligned} d[A]/dt &= -[A][B] \\ d[B]/dt &= [A][B]-[B][C] \\ d[C]/dt &= [B][C] \end{aligned}$$

```
directive sample 0.0025 1000
directive plot B(); A(); C()
new b@1.0:chan new c@1.0:chan
let A() = ?b; B()
and B() = do !b;B() or ?c; C()
and C() = !c;C()
run ((10000 of A()) | B() | C())
```



```
interval/step [0:0.000001:0.0025]
(A) dx1/dt = -x1*x2 10000.0
(B) dx2/dt = x1*x2 - x2*x3 1.0
(C) dx3/dt = x2*x3 1.0
```

# NLTs in Series: Soliton Propagation



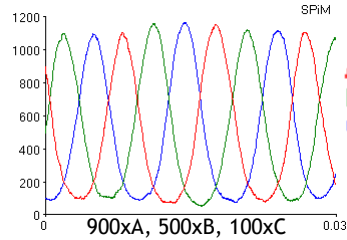
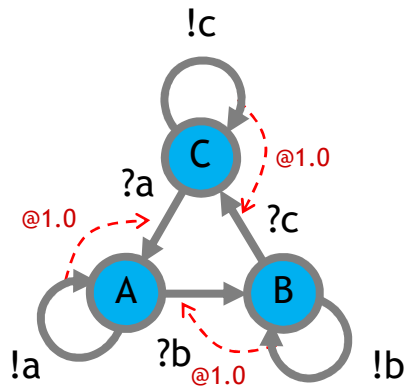
```
directive sample 0.1 1000
directive plot A1(): A2(): A3(): A4(): A5(): A6(): A7(): A8():
A9(): A10(): A11(): A12(): A13()
```

```
val r=1.0 val s=1.0
```

```
new a2@s:chan new a3@s:chan new a4@s:chan
new a5@s:chan new a6@s:chan new a7@s:chan
new a8@s:chan new a9@s:chan new a10@s:chan
new a11@s:chan new a12@s:chan new a13@s:chan
let A1() = do delay@r:A2() or ?a2; A2()
and A2() = do la2:A2() or delay@r:A3() or ?a3; A3()
and A3() = do la3:A3() or delay@r:A4() or ?a4; A4()
and A4() = do la4:A4() or delay@r:A5() or ?a5; A5()
and A5() = do la5:A5() or delay@r:A6() or ?a6; A6()
and A6() = do la6:A6() or delay@r:A7() or ?a7; A7()
and A7() = do la7:A7() or delay@r:A8() or ?a8; A8()
and A8() = do la8:A8() or delay@r:A9() or ?a9; A9()
and A9() = do la9:A9() or delay@r:A10() or ?a10; A10()
and A10() = do la10:A10() or delay@r:A11() or ?a11; A11()
and A11() = do la11:A11() or delay@r:A12() or ?a12; A12()
and A12() = do la12:A12() or delay@r:A13() or ?a13; A13()
and A13() = la13:A13()
```

```
run 1000 of A1()
```

# NLT in a Cycle: Oscillator (unstable)



```
directive sample 0.03 1000
directive plot A(); B(); C()
```

```
new a@1.0:chan new b@1.0:chan new
c@1.0:chan
```

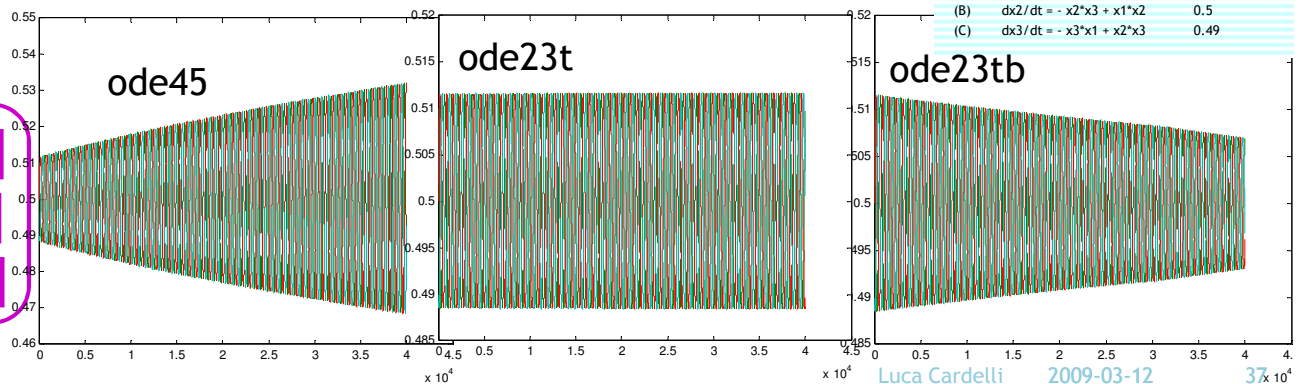
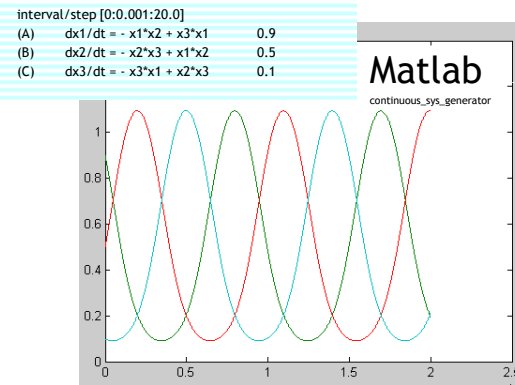
```
let A() = do !a;A() or ?b; B()
and B() = do !b;B() or ?c; C()
and C() = do !c;C() or ?a; A()
```

```
run (900 of A() | 500 of B() | 100 of C())
```

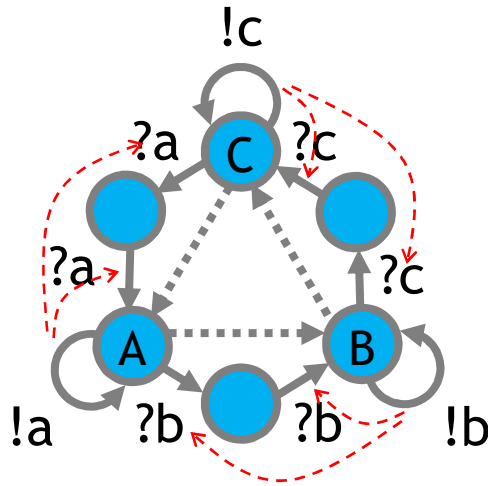
$A = !a_{(s)}; A \oplus ?b_{(s)}; B$   
 $B = !b_{(s)}; B \oplus ?c_{(s)}; C$   
 $C = !c_{(s)}; C \oplus ?a_{(s)}; A$

$A+B \rightarrow^s B+B$   
 $B+C \rightarrow^s C+C$   
 $C+A \rightarrow^s A+A$

$d[A]/dt = -s[A][B] + s[C][A]$   
 $d[B]/dt = -s[B][C] + s[A][B]$   
 $d[C]/dt = -s[C][A] + s[B][C]$



# Oscillator (stable)



```
directive sample 0.1 1000
directive plot A1(); A2(); A3()

val r=1.0 val s=1.0

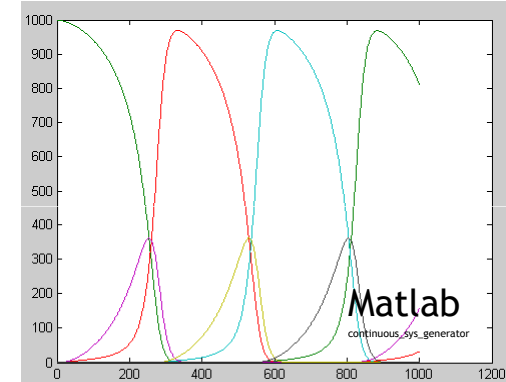
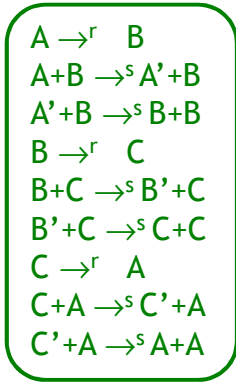
new a1@s:chan new a2@s:chan new a3@s:chan
let A1() = do !a1;A1() or delay@r;A2() or ?a2; ?a2; A2()
and A2() = do !a2;A2() or delay@r;A3() or ?a3; ?a3; A3()
and A3() = do !a3;A3() or delay@r;A1() or ?a1; ?a1; A1()

run 1000 of A1()
```

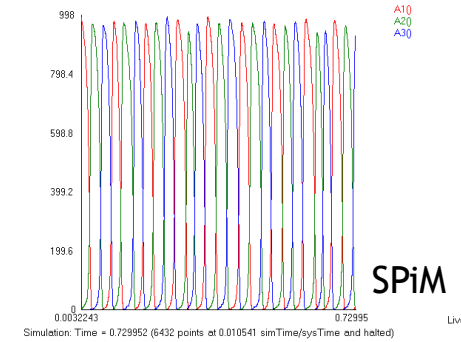
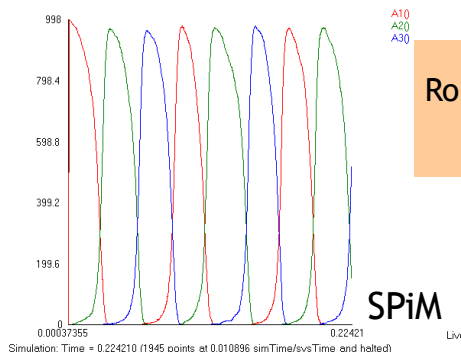
N.B. this does not deadlock!

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= !a_{(s)};A \oplus \tau_r;B \oplus ?b_{(s)};A' \\
 A' &= ?b_{(s)};B \\
 B &= !b_{(s)};B \oplus \tau_r;C \oplus ?c_{(s)};B' \\
 B' &= ?c_{(s)};C \\
 C &= !c_{(s)};C \oplus \tau_r;A \oplus ?a_{(s)};C' \\
 C' &= ?a_{(s)};A
 \end{aligned}$$

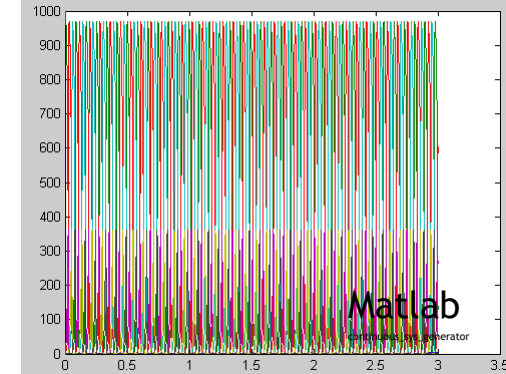
Sustained Deterministic Oscillation



Robust Stochastic Oscillation



$$\begin{aligned}
 d[A]/dt &= -r[A]-s[A][B]+r[C]+s[C'] [A] \\
 d[B]/dt &= -r[B]-s[B][C]+r[A]+s[A'] [B] \\
 d[C]/dt &= -r[C]-s[C][A]+r[B]+s[B'] [C] \\
 d[A']/dt &= -s[A'] [B] + s[A][B] \\
 d[B']/dt &= -s[B'] [C] + s[B][C] \\
 d[C']/dt &= -s[C'] [A] + s[C][A]
 \end{aligned}$$



```
interval/step [0:0.0001:0.1]
(A) dx1/dt = -x1 - x1*x2 - x3 + x6*x1 1000.0
(B) dx2/dt = -x2 - x2*x3 - x1 + x4*x2 0.0
(C) dx3/dt = -x3 - x3*x1 + x2 + x5*x3 0.0
(A') dx4/dt = -x4*x2 - x1*x2 0.0
(B') dx5/dt = -x5*x3 + x2*x3 0.0
(C') dx6/dt = -x6*x1 + x3*x1 0.0
```

# Semantics of Collective Behavior

# “Micromodels”: Continuous Time Markov Chains

- The underlying semantics of stochastic  $\pi$ -calculus (and stochastic interacting automata). Well established in many ways.
  - Automata with rates on transitions.
- “The” correct semantics for chemistry, executable.
  - Gillespie stochastic simulation algorithm
- Lots of advantages
  - Compositional, compact, mechanistic, etc.
- But do not give a good sense of “collective” properties.
  - Yes one can do simulation.
  - Yes one can do program analysis.
  - Yes one can perhaps do modelchecking.
  - But somewhat lacking in “analytical properties” and “predictive power”.



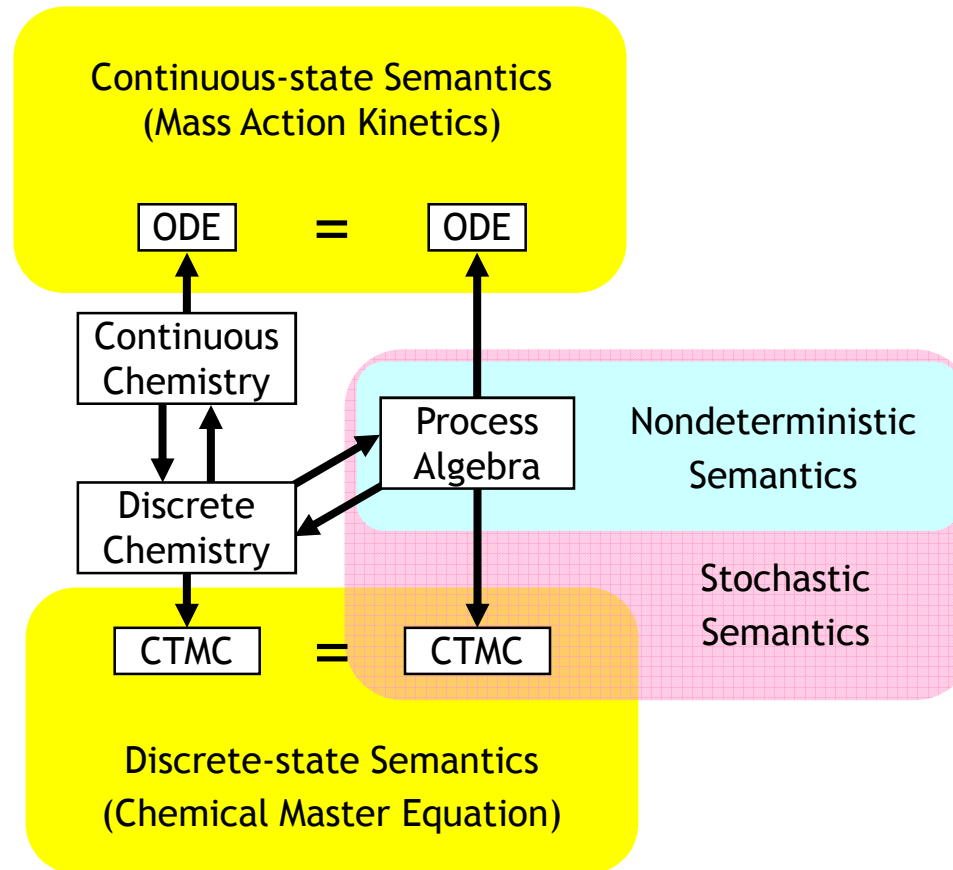
# “Macromodels”: Ordinary Differential Equations

- The classical semantics of collective behavior.
  - E.g. kinetic theory of gasses.
  - They always ask: “How does your automata model relate to the 75 ODE models in the literature?”
- Going from processes/automata to ODEs directly:
  - *In principle*: just write down the **Rate Equation**:
    - Let  $[S]$  be the “number of processes in state  $S$ ” as a function of time.
    - Define for each state  $S$ :  
$$d[S]/dt = (\text{rate of change of the number of processes in state } S)$$

Cumulative rate of transitions from any state  $S'$  to state  $S$ , times  $[S']$ ,  
minus cumulative rate of transitions from  $S$  to any state  $S''$ , times  $[S]$ .
  - Fairly intuitive (rate = inflow minus outflow)
- Going to ODEs indirectly through chemistry
  - If we first convert processes to chemical reactions, then we can convert to ODEs by standard means!



# The Two Semantic Sides of Chemistry

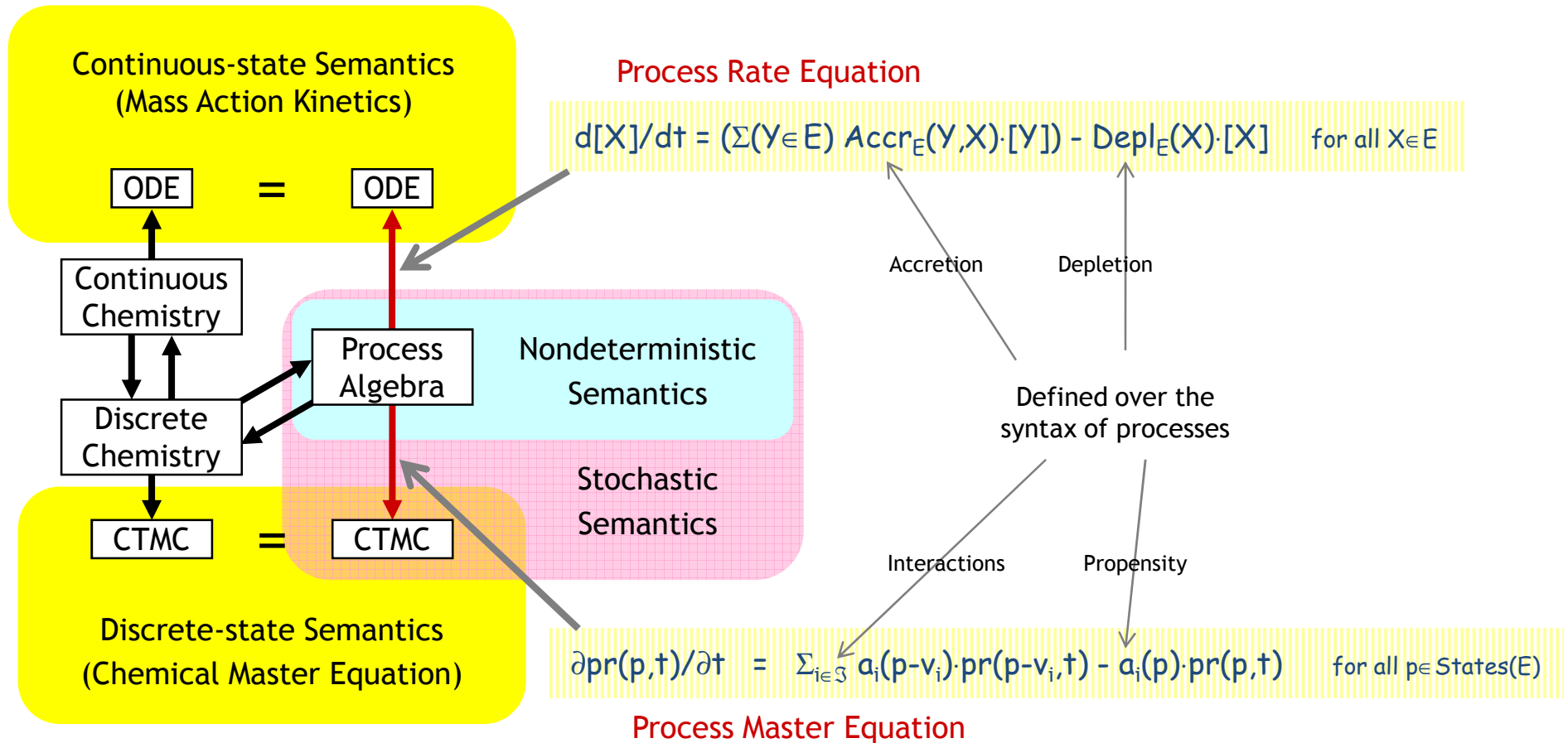


These diagrams commute via appropriate maps.

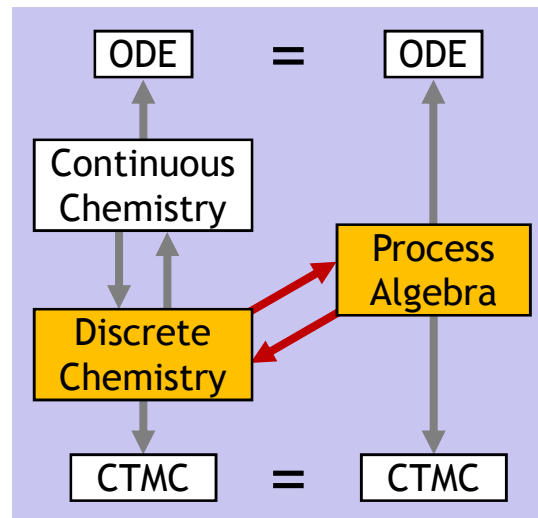
L. Cardelli: “On Process Rate Semantics” (TCS)

L. Cardelli: “A Process Algebra Master Equation” (QEST’07)

# Quantitative Process Semantics



# Stochastic Processes & Discrete Chemistry



# Chemical Reactions (FSRN)

$A \xrightarrow{r} B_1 + \dots + B_n \quad (n \geq 0)$	Unary Reaction	$d[A]/dt = -r[A]$	Exponential Decay
$A_1 + A_2 \xrightarrow{r} B_1 + \dots + B_n \quad (n \geq 0)$	Hetero Reaction	$d[A_i]/dt = -r[A_1][A_2]$	Mass Action Law
$A + A \xrightarrow{r} B_1 + \dots + B_n \quad (n \geq 0)$	Homeo Reaction	$d[A]/dt = -2r[A]^2$	Mass Action Law

(assuming  $A \neq B_i \neq A_j$  for all  $i, j$ )

No other reactions!

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VOLUME 113, NUMBER 1

## The chemical Langevin equation

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Genuinely *trimolecular* reactions do not physically occur in dilute fluids with any appreciable frequency. *Apparently* trimolecular reactions in a fluid are usually the combined result of two bimolecular reactions and one monomolecular reaction, and involve an additional short-lived species.

## Chapter IV: Chemical Kinetics

[David A. Reckhow, CEE 572 Course]

... reactions may be either elementary or non-elementary. Elementary reactions are those reactions that occur exactly as they are written, without any intermediate steps. These reactions **almost always involve just one or two reactants**. ... Non-elementary reactions involve a series of two or more elementary reactions. Many complex environmental reactions are non-elementary. In general, **reactions with an overall reaction order greater than two, or reactions with some non-integer reaction order are non-elementary**.

## THE COLLISION THEORY OF REACTION RATES [www.chemguide.co.uk](http://www.chemguide.co.uk)

**The chances of all this happening if your reaction needed a collision involving more than 2 particles are remote.** All three (or more) particles would have to arrive at exactly the same point in space at the same time, with everything lined up exactly right, and having enough energy to react. That's not likely to happen very often!

Trimolecular reactions:



the measured "r" is an (imperfect) aggregate of e.g.:



Enzymatic reactions:



the "r" is given by Michaelis-Menten (approximated steady-state) laws:



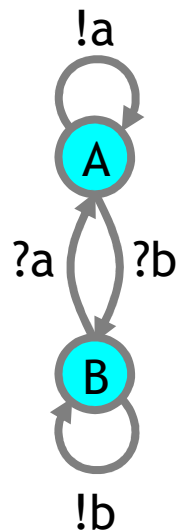
# Chemical Ground Form (CGF)

$E ::= 0 \mid X=M, E$	Reagents
$M ::= 0 \mid \pi;P \oplus M$	Molecules
$P ::= 0 \mid X \mid P$	Solutions
$\pi ::= \tau_{(r)} \mid ?a_{(r)} \mid !a_{(r)}$	Actions (delay, input, output)
$CGF ::= E, P$	Reagents plus Initial Conditions

A stochastic subset of CCS  
(no values, no restriction)

(To translate chemistry to processes we need a bit more than interacting automata: we may have “+” on the right of  $\rightarrow$ , that is we may need “|” after  $\pi$ .)

$\oplus$  is stochastic choice (vs. + for chemical reactions)  
 $0$  is the null solution ( $P \mid 0 = 0 \mid P = P$ )  
 and null molecule ( $M \oplus 0 = 0 \oplus M = M$ )  
 Each  $X$  in  $E$  is a distinct *species*  
 Each name  $a$  is assigned a fixed rate  $r$ :  $a_{(r)}$



Ex: Interacting Automata

(= finite-control CGFs: they use “|” only in initial conditions):

$A = !a;A \oplus ?b;B$

$B = !b;B \oplus ?a;A$

$A \mid A \mid B \mid B$

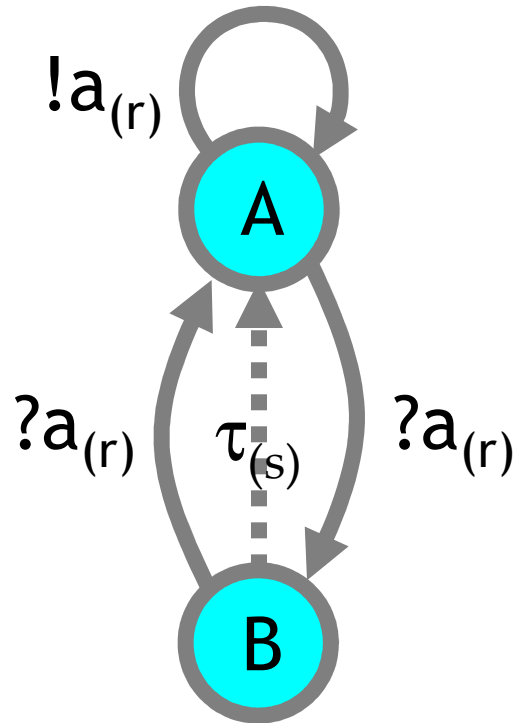
Automaton in state A

Automaton in state B

Initial conditions:  
2A and 2B

# From CGF to Chemistry

# From CGF to Chemistry (by example)

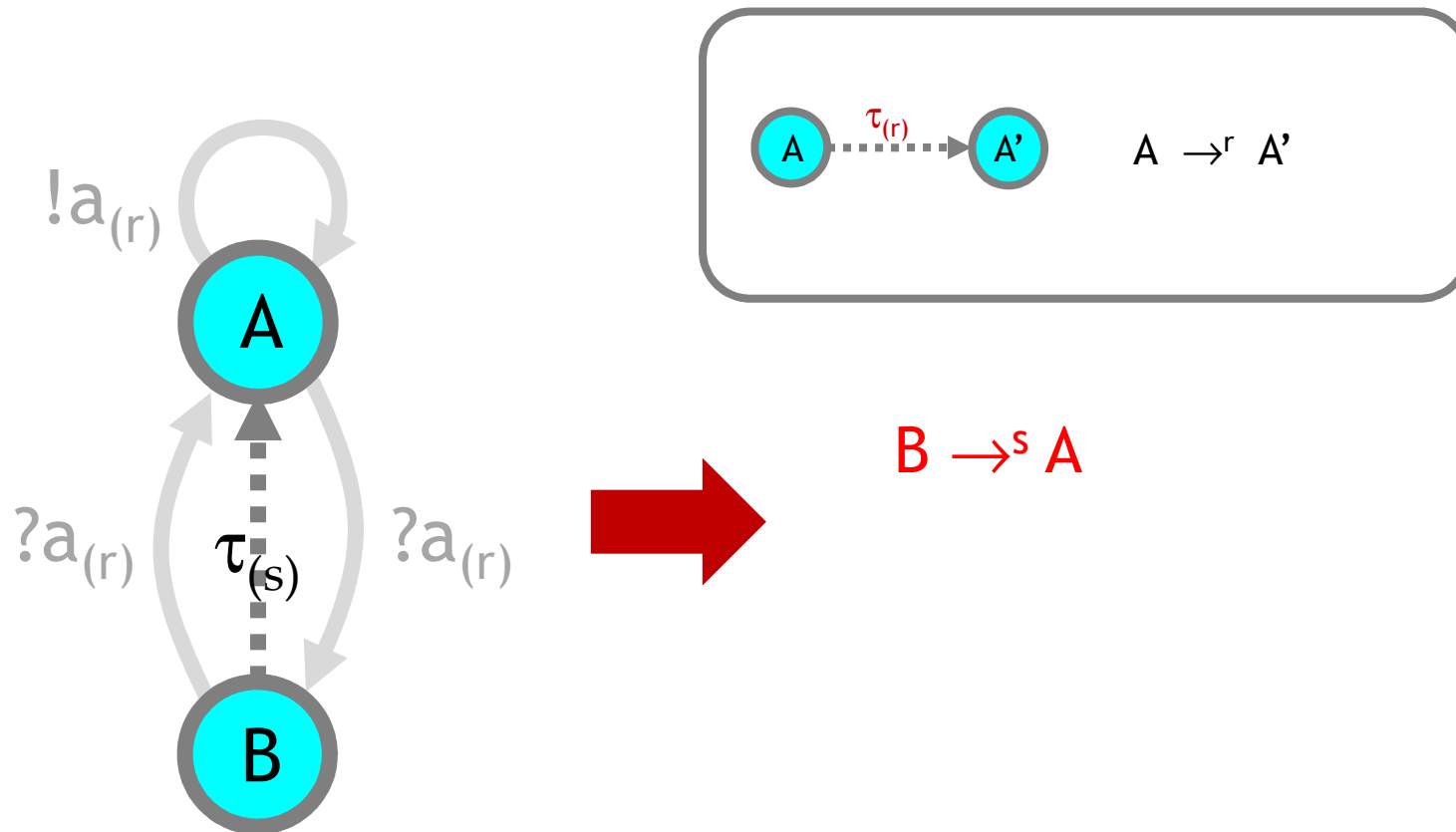


$$A = !a_{(r)};A \oplus ?a_{(r)};B$$

$$B = ?a_{(r)};A \oplus \tau_{(s)};A$$



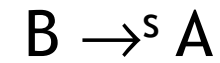
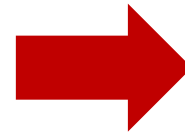
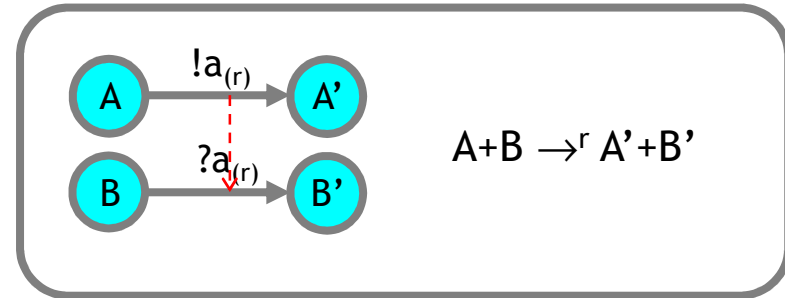
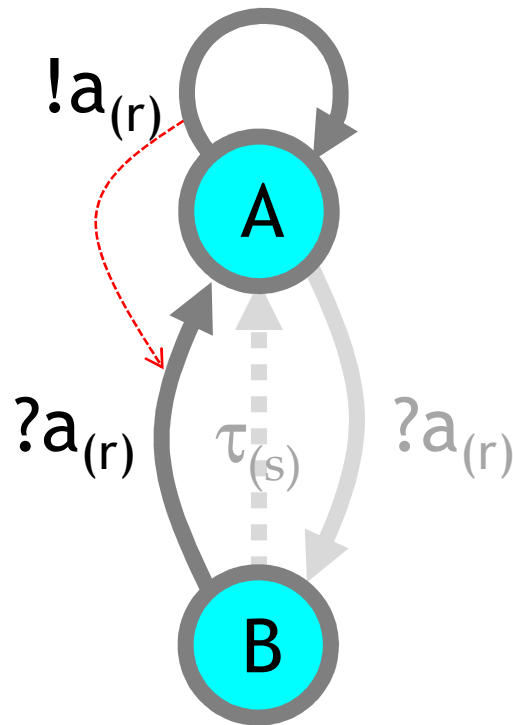
# From CGF to Chemistry (by example)



$$A = !a;A \oplus ?a;B$$

$$B = ?a;A \oplus \tau_{(s)};A$$

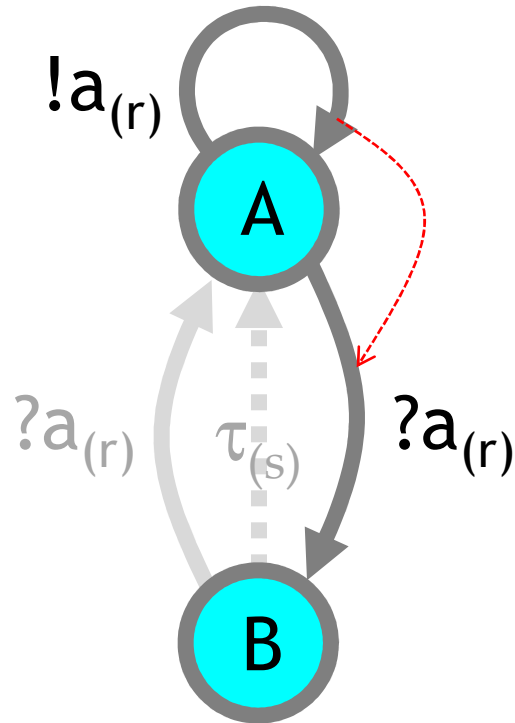
# From CGF to Chemistry (by example)



$$A = !a;A \oplus ?a;B$$

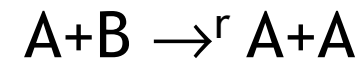
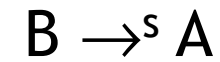
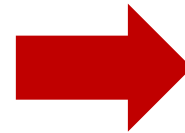
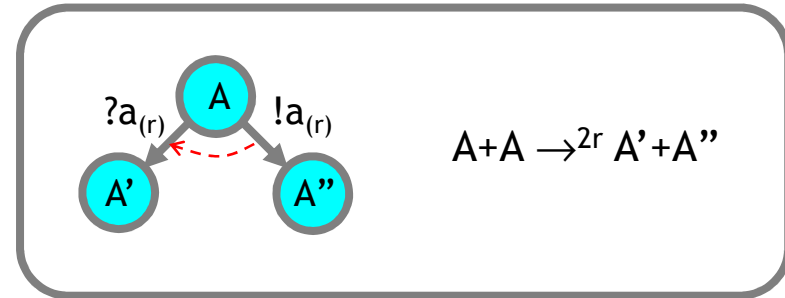
$$B = ?a;A \oplus \tau_{(s)};A$$

# From CGF to Chemistry (by example)




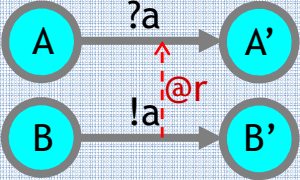
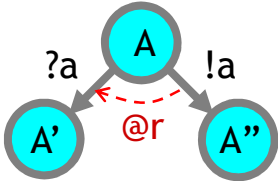
$$A = !a;A \oplus ?a;B$$

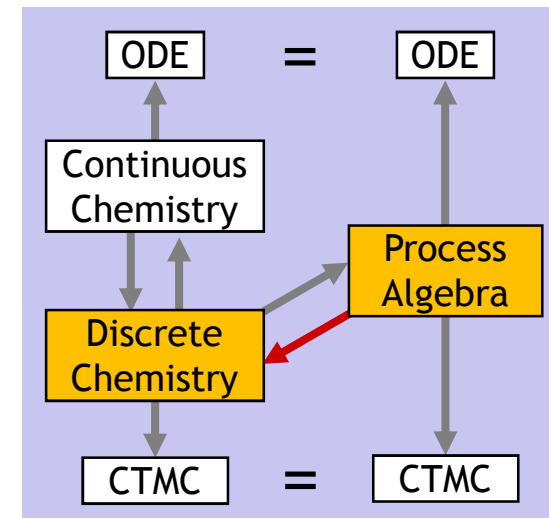
$$B = ?a;A \oplus \tau_{(s)};A$$



Double rate for homeo reactions

# From CGF to Chemistry (by example)

Interacting Automata	Discrete Chemistry
initial states A   A   ...   A	initial quantities $\#A_0$
	$A \xrightarrow{r} A'$
	$A+B \xrightarrow{r} A'+B'$
	$A+A \xrightarrow{2r} A'+A''$



# From CGF to Chemistry: Ch(E)

$E ::= 0 \mid X=M, E$	Reagents
$M ::= 0 \mid \pi; P \oplus M$	Molecules
$P ::= 0 \mid X \mid P$	Solutions
$\pi ::= \tau_{(r)} \mid ?a_{(r)} \mid !a_{(r)}$	Interactions (delay, input, output)
$CGF ::= E, P$	Reagents plus Initial Conditions

$E.X.i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{the } i\text{-th } \text{\AA}\text{-summand of the molecule } M \text{ associated with the } X \text{ reagent of } E$

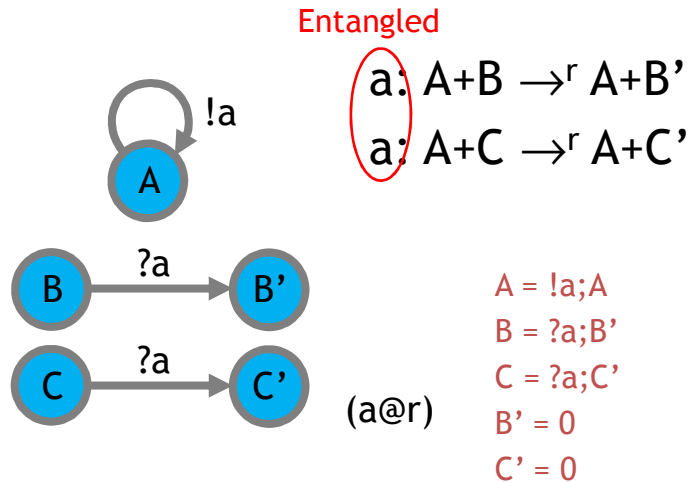
Chemical reactions for  $E, P$ : (N.B.:  $\langle \dots \rangle$  are reaction tags to obtain multiplicity of reactions, and  $P$  is  $P$  with all the  $|$  changed to  $+$ )

$Ch(E) :=$   
 $\{ \langle X.i \rangle : X \rightarrow^r P \mid s.t. E.X.i = \tau_{(r)}; P \} \cup$   
 $\{ \langle X.i, Y.j \rangle : X + Y \rightarrow^r P + Q \mid s.t. X \neq Y, E.X.i = ?a_{(r)}; P, E.Y.j = !a_{(r)}; Q \} \cup$   
 $\{ \langle X.i, X.j \rangle : X + X \rightarrow^{2r} P + Q \mid s.t. E.X.i = ?a_{(r)}; P, E.X.j = !a_{(r)}; Q \}$

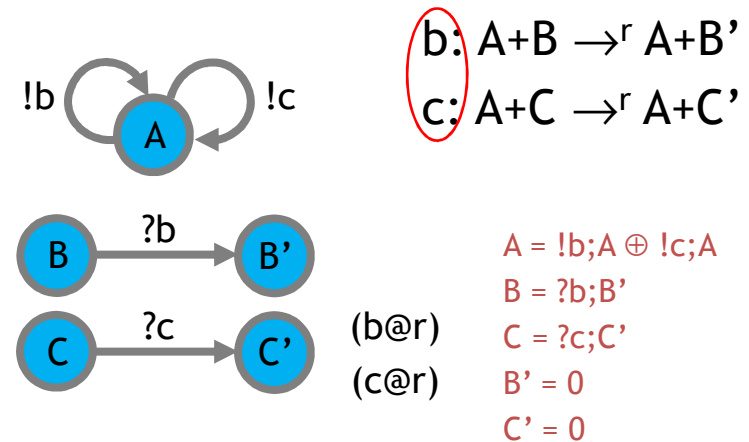
Initial conditions for  $P$ :

$Ch(P) := P$

# Entangled vs Detangled



Entangled: Two reactions  
on one channel



Detangled: Two reactions  
on two separate  
channels

We need a semantics of automata that identifies automata that have the “same chemistry”.

No traditional process algebra equivalence is like this!

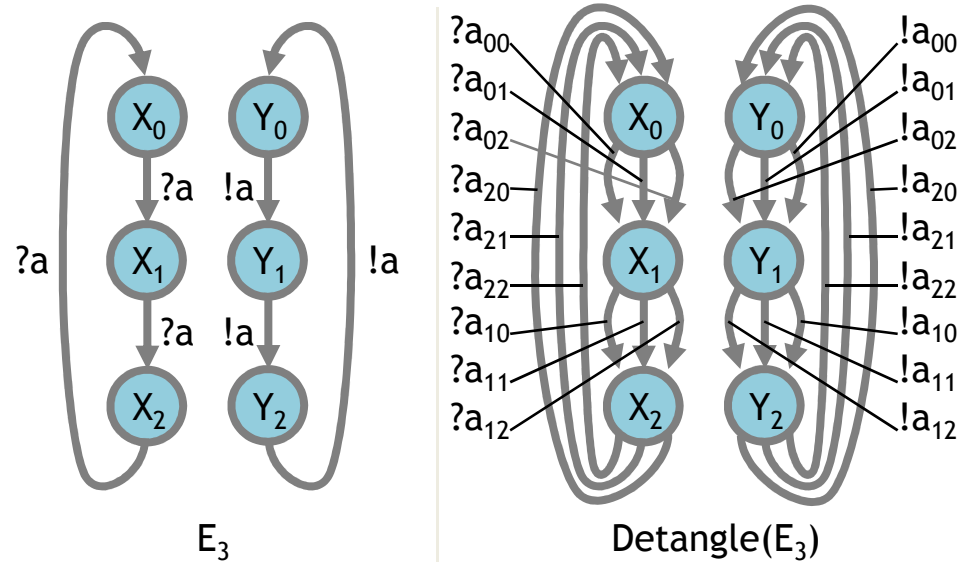
Entangled automata lead to more compact models than in chemistry.

Detangled automata are in simple correspondence with chemistry.

# Some Syntactic Properties

- $C$  and  $\text{Ch}(\text{Pi}(C))$  have the same reactions
  - (and their reaction labels are in bijection)
- **Def:**  $E$  is **detangled** if each channel appears once as  $?a$  and once as  $!a$ .
- If  $C$  is a system of chemical reactions then  $\text{Pi}(C)$  is detangled.
  - (hence chemical reactions embed into a subclass of CGFs)
- Hence for any  $E$ , we have that  $\text{Pi}(\text{Ch}(E))$  is detangled.
  - ( $E$  and  $\text{Pi}(\text{Ch}(E))$  are “equivalent” CGFs, but that has to be shown later)
- **Def:**  $E, P$  is **automata form** if “|” occurs only (other than “|0”) in  $P$ .
- **Def:** **Detangle**( $E$ ) is defined from  $\text{Pi}(\text{Ch}(E))$  by replacing any occurrence pairs  $?a_{(r)};(X|Y|0)$  and  $!a_{(r)};0$  with  $?a_{(r)};(X|0)$  and  $!a_{(r)};(Y|0)$ .
- If  $E$  is in automata form then  $\text{Detangle}(E)$  is (detangled and) in automata form
  - (but  $\text{Pi}(\text{Ch}(E))$  may not be)

# Entangled vs detangled



(closely related to  $\text{Pi}(\text{Ch}(E_3))$ )



# Chemical Parametric Form (CPF)

$E ::= 0 \ : \ X(\mathbf{p})=M, E$

$M ::= 0 \ : \ \pi; P \oplus M$

$P ::= 0 \ : \ X(\mathbf{p}) \mid P$

$\pi ::= \tau_{(r)} \ : \ ?a_{(r)}(\mathbf{p}) \ : \ !a_{(r)}(\mathbf{p})$

$CPF ::= E, P$

Reagents

Molecules

Solutions

Actions

with initial conditions

Not bounded-state systems.

Not finite-control systems.

But still **finite-species** systems.

$\oplus$  is stochastic choice (vs. + for chemical reactions)

0 is the null solution ( $P \mid 0 = 0 \mid P = P$ )

and null molecule ( $M \oplus 0 = 0 \oplus M = M$ )

Each  $X$  in  $E$  is a distinct *species*

$\mathbf{p}$  are vectors of names

$\mathbf{p}$  are vectors of distinct names when in **binding position**

Each free name  $a$  in  $E$  is assigned a fixed rate  $r$ :  $a_{(r)}$

A translation from CPF to CGF exists  
(expanding all possible instantiation of  
parameters from the initial conditions)

An incremental translation algorithm exists  
(expanding on demand from initial conditions)

Example:

$\text{Neg}(a,b) = ?a; \text{Inh}(a,b) \oplus \tau_e; (\text{Tr}(b) \mid \text{Neg}(a,b))$

$\text{Inh}(a,b) = \tau_h; \text{Neg}(a,b)$

$\text{Tr}(b) = !b; \text{Tr}(b) \oplus \tau_d; 0$

$\text{Neg}(x,x)$

# CPF to CGF: Handling Parameters

Consider first the CPF subset with no communication (pure ?a, !a).

## Grounding (replace parameters with constants)

where  $X/p$  is a name in bijection with  $\langle X, p \rangle$   
(each  $X/p$  is seen as a separate *species*)

$$\begin{aligned} /(\pi_1; P_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \pi_n; P_n) &=_{\text{def}} \pi_1; / (P_1) \oplus \dots \oplus \pi_n; / (P_n) \\ / (X_1(p_1) \mid \dots \mid X_n(p_n)) &=_{\text{def}} X_1/p_1 \mid \dots \mid X_n/p_n \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E &::= X_1(p_1)=M_1, \dots, X_n(p_n)=M_n \\ M &::= \pi_1; P_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \pi_n; P_n \\ P &::= X_1(p_1) \mid \dots \mid X_n(p_n) \\ \pi &::= \tau_r \quad ?a \quad !a \end{aligned}$$

Let  $N$  be the set of free names occurring in  $E$ .

$E_G$  is the **Parametric Explosion** of  $E$  (still a **finite species system**)  
computed by replacing parameters with **all** combinations of free names in  $E$

$$\begin{aligned} E_G &:= \{(X/q = / (M\{p \leftarrow q\})) \text{ s.t. } (X(p) = M) \in E \text{ and } q \in N^{\#P}\} \\ P_G &:= / P \quad (\text{simply ground the given initial conditions once}) \end{aligned}$$

$E_G$  is a CGF! To obtain the chemical reactions  $\text{Ch}_p(E)$ , just compute  $\text{Ch}_G(E_G)$

$$\text{Ch}_p(E) = \text{Ch}_G(E_G)$$

# CPF to CGF: Handling Communication

**Grounding** (replace parameters with constants)

just one main change: now also convert each input parameter into a ground choice of all possible inputs

$N$  is the set of free names in  $E, P$

$\#p$  is the length of  $p$

$n/p$  is a name in bijection with  $\langle n, p \rangle$

$X/p$  is a name in bijection with  $\langle X, p \rangle$

(each  $X/p$  is seen as a separate *species*)

$$E ::= X_1(p_1)=M_1, \dots, X_n(p_n)=M_n$$

$$M ::= \pi_1; P_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \pi_n; P_n$$

$$P ::= X_1(p_1) \mid \dots \mid X_n(p_n)$$

$$\pi ::= \tau_r \quad ?a(p) \quad !a(p)$$

$$/N(\tau_r; P) = \tau_r; /N(P)$$

$$/N(!a_{(r)}(p); P) = !a/p_{(r)}; /N(P)$$

$$/N(?a_{(r)}(p); P) = \oplus_{(q \in N^{\#p})} \text{of } ?a/q_{(r)}; /N(P\{p \leftarrow q\})$$

$$/N(\pi_1; P_1 \oplus \dots \oplus \pi_n; P_n) = /N(\pi_1; P_1) \oplus \dots \oplus /N(\pi_n; P_n)$$

$$/N(X_1(p_1) \mid \dots \mid X_n(p_n)) = X_1/p_1 \mid \dots \mid X_n/p_n$$

$E_G$  is again the **Parametric Explosion** of  $E$

$$E_G := \{(X/q = /N(M\{p \leftarrow q\})) \text{ s.t. } (X(p) = M) \in E \text{ and } q \in N^{\#p}\}$$

$$P_G := /N(P) \quad (\text{simply ground the given initial conditions once})$$

$$\text{Ch}(E) = \text{Ch}_G(E_G) \quad E_G \text{ is again a CGF!}$$

# CPF to CGF Translation. Ex: Neg(x,x)

E =

Neg(a,b) = ?a; Inh(a,b)  $\oplus$   $\tau_e$ ; (Tr(b) | Neg(a,b))  
 Inh(a,b) =  $\tau_h$ ; Neg(a,b)  
 Tr(b) = !b; Tr(b)  $\oplus$   $\tau_d$ ; 0  
 Neg(x,x)

----- initialization -----

$E_c := \{ \text{Neg}/x,x = ?x; \text{Inh}/x,x \oplus \tau_e; (\text{Tr}/x | \text{Neg}/x,x) \}$

----- iteration 1 -----

$C := \{ \text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^e \text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x \}$

$E_c := \{ \text{Neg}/x,x = ?x; \text{Inh}/x,x \oplus \tau_e; (\text{Tr}/x | \text{Neg}/x,x) \}$   
 $\text{Tr}/x = !x; \text{Tr}/x \oplus \tau_d; 0 \}$

----- iteration 2 -----

$C := \{ \text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^e \text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x \}$   
 $\text{Tr}/x \rightarrow^d 0$

$\text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^{\rho(x)} \text{Tr}/x + \text{Inh}/x,x \}$

$E_c := \{ \text{Neg}/x,x = ?x; \text{Inh}/x,x \oplus \tau_e; (\text{Tr}/x | \text{Neg}/x,x) \}$   
 $\text{Tr}/x = !x; \text{Tr}/x \oplus \tau_d; 0$   
 $\text{Inh}/x,x = \tau_h; \text{Neg}/x,x \}$

----- iteration 3 -----

$C := \{ \text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^e \text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x \}$

$\text{Tr}/x \rightarrow^d 0$

$\text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^{\rho(x)} \text{Tr}/x + \text{Inh}/x,x$

$\text{Inh}/x,x \rightarrow^h \text{Neg}/x,x \}$

$E_c :=$  no change

----- termination -----

$\text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^e \text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x$

$\text{Tr}/x \rightarrow^d 0$

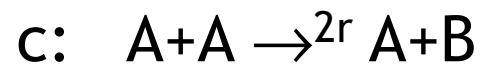
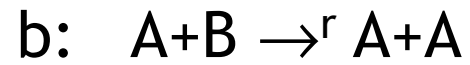
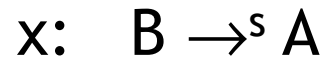
$\text{Tr}/x + \text{Neg}/x,x \rightarrow^{\rho(x)} \text{Tr}/x + \text{Inh}/x,x$

$\text{Inh}/x,x \rightarrow^h \text{Neg}/x,x$

$\text{Neg}/x,x$

# From Chemistry to CGF

# From Chemistry to CGF (by example)

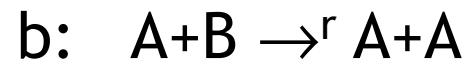


Unique reaction names

	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$	Reactions names
A				
B				Half-rate for homeo reactions

Species

# From Chemistry to CGF (by example)

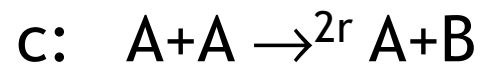
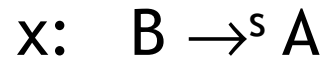


	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$
A			
B	$\tau;A$		

1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \rightarrow^{k_i} P_i$   
add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_{ij} \rangle$ .

# From FSRN to CGF (by example)



	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$
A		?:A A	
B	$\tau;A$	!;0	

1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

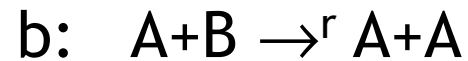
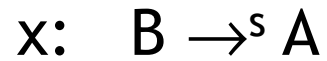
add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_{ij} \rangle$ .

Hetero reaction  $v_i: X+Y \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $?:P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle Y, v_i \rangle$



# From FSRN to CGF (by example)



	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$
A		?;A A	?;A B !;0
B	$\tau$ ;A	!;0	

1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$ .

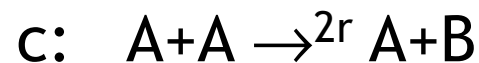
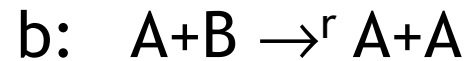
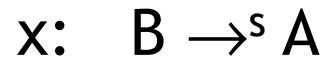
Hetero reaction  $v_i: X+Y \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $?;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle Y, v_i \rangle$

Homeo reaction  $v_i: X+X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $?;P_i$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$

# From FSRN to CGF (by example)



	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$
A		?;A A	?;A B !;0
B	$\tau$ ;A	!;0	

1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$ .

Hetero reaction  $v_i: X+Y \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $?;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle Y, v_i \rangle$

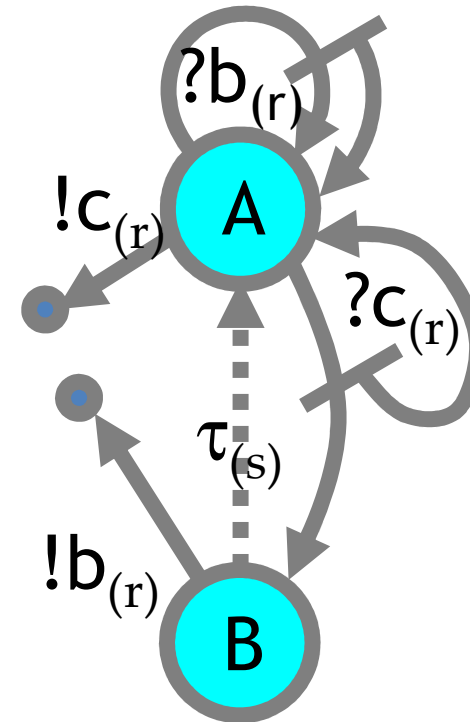
Homeo reaction  $v_i: X+X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $?;P_i$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$

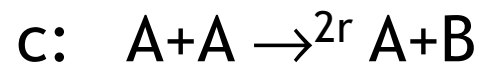
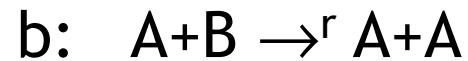
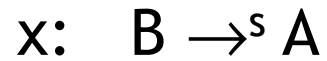
2: Read the result by rows:

$$A = ?b_{(r)};(A|A) \oplus ?c_{(r)};(A|B) \oplus !c_{(r)};0$$

$$B = \tau_{(s)};A \oplus !b_{(r)};0$$



# From FSRN to CGF (by example)



	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$
A		?;A	?;A B !;0
B	$\tau$ ;A	!;A	

## 1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$ .

Hetero reaction  $v_i: X+Y \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add ?;P<sub>i</sub> to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$  and !;0 to  $\langle Y, v_i \rangle$

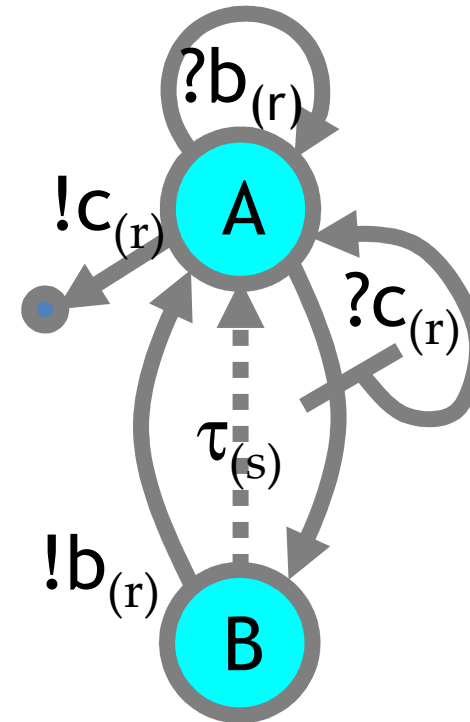
Homeo reaction  $v_i: X+X \xrightarrow{k_i} P_i$

add ?;P<sub>i</sub> and !;0 to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$

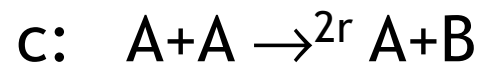
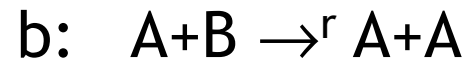
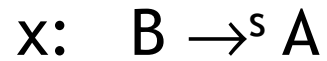
## 2: Read the result by rows:

$$A = ?b_{(r)};A \oplus ?c_{(r)};(A|B) \oplus !c_{(r)};0$$

$$B = \tau_{(s)};A \oplus !b_{(r)};A$$



# From FSRN to CGF (by example)



	$x_{(s)}$	$b_{(r)}$	$c_{(r)}$
A		?;A	?;B !;A
B	$\tau$ ;A	!;A	

1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \rightarrow k_i P_i$   
 add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_{ij} \rangle$ .

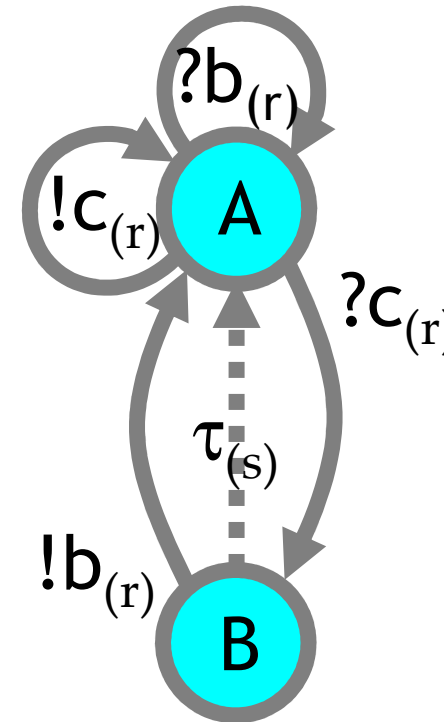
Hetero reaction  $v_i: X+Y \rightarrow k_i P_i$   
 add ?;P<sub>i</sub> to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$  and !;0 to  $\langle Y, v_i \rangle$

Homeo reaction  $v_i: X+X \rightarrow k_i P_i$   
 add ?;P<sub>i</sub> and !;0 to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$

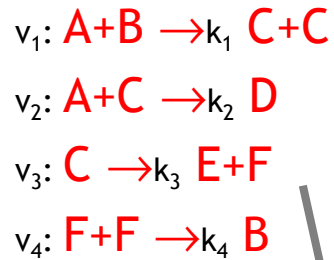
2: Read the result by rows:

$$A = ?b_{(r)};A \oplus ?c_{(r)};B \oplus !c_{(r)};A$$

$$B = \tau_{(s)};A \oplus !b_{(r)};A$$



# From Chemistry to Automata (by example)



Interaction Matrix

channels and rates  
(1 per reaction)

Half-rate for homeo reactions

	$V_1(k_1)$	$V_2(k_2)$	$V_3(k_3)$	$V_4(k_4/2)$
A	?;(C C)	?;D		
B	!;0			
C		!;0	$\tau$ ;(E F)	
D				
E				
F				?;B !;0

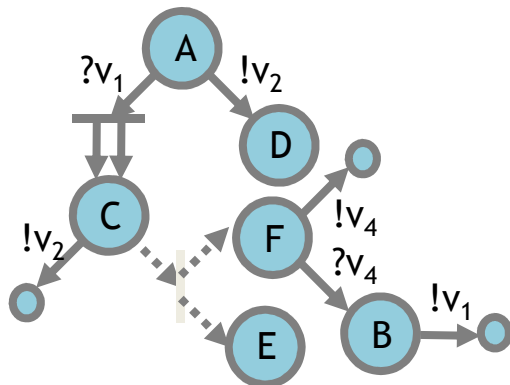
definitions  
(1 per species)

1: Fill the matrix by columns:

Degradation reaction  $v_i: X \rightarrow k_i P_i$   
add  $\tau;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$ .

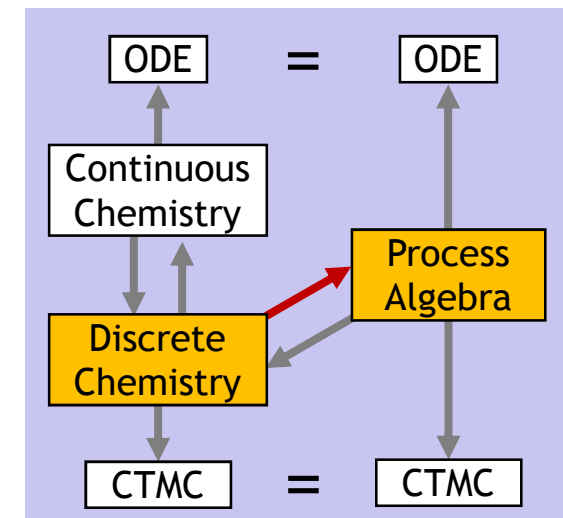
Hetero reaction  $v_i: X+Y \rightarrow k_i P_i$   
add  $?;P_i$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle Y, v_i \rangle$

Homeo reaction  $v_i: X+X \rightarrow k_i P_i$   
add  $?;P_i$  and  $!;0$  to  $\langle X, v_i \rangle$



2: Read the result by rows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= ?v_{1(k_1)};(C|C) \oplus ?v_{2(k_2)};D \\
 B &= !v_{1(k_1)};0 \\
 C &= !v_{2(k_2)};0 \oplus \tau_{k_3};(E|F) \\
 D &= 0 \\
 E &= 0 \\
 F &= ?v_{4(k_4/2)};B \oplus !v_{4(k_4/2)};0
 \end{aligned}$$



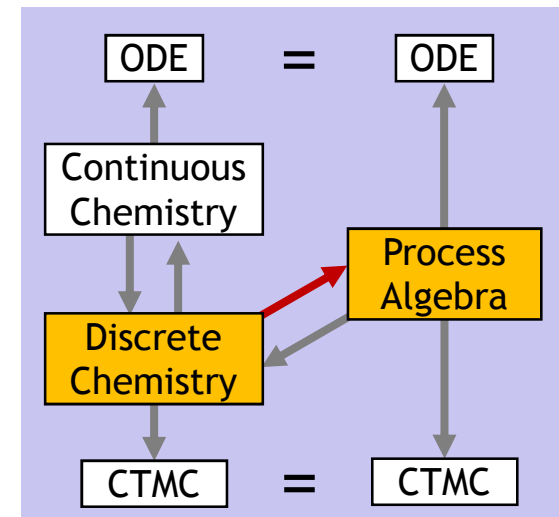
# From Chemistry to CGF: $\text{Pi}(\mathbf{C})$

$v: X \xrightarrow{r} Y_1 + \dots + Y_n + 0$  Unary Reaction

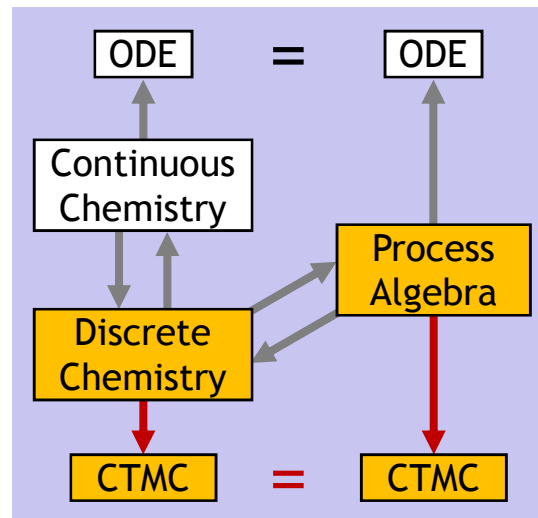
$v: X_1 + X_2 \xrightarrow{r} Y_1 + \dots + Y_n + 0$  Binary Reaction

From uniquely-labeled ( $v:$ ) chemical reactions  $\mathbf{C}$  to a CGF  $\text{Pi}(\mathbf{C})$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pi}(\mathbf{C}) = \{ & (X = \oplus((v: X \xrightarrow{k} P) \in \mathbf{C}) \text{ of } (\tau_{(k)}; P) & \oplus \\ & \oplus((v: X+Y \xrightarrow{k} P) \in \mathbf{C} \text{ and } Y \neq X) \text{ of } (?v_{(k)}; P) & \oplus \\ & \oplus((v: Y+X \xrightarrow{k} P) \in \mathbf{C} \text{ and } Y \neq X) \text{ of } (!v_{(k)}; 0) & \oplus \\ & \oplus((v: X+X \xrightarrow{k} P) \in \mathbf{C}) \text{ of } (?v_{(k/2)}; P \oplus !v_{(k/2)}; 0) & ) \\ & s.t. X \text{ is a species in } \mathbf{C} \} \end{aligned}$$

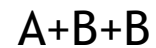
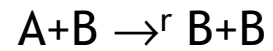
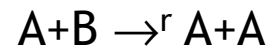


# Discrete-State Semantics

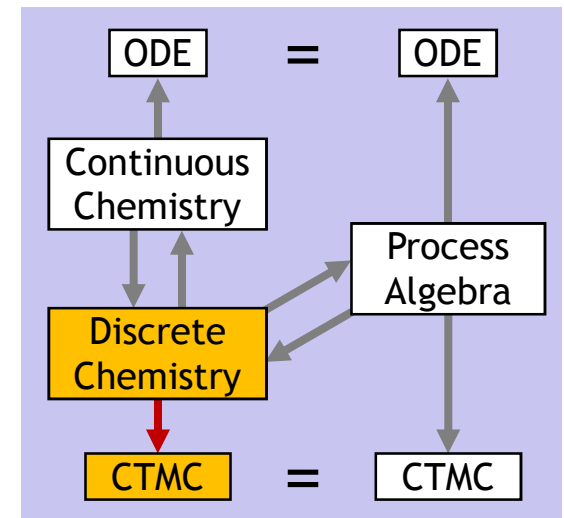
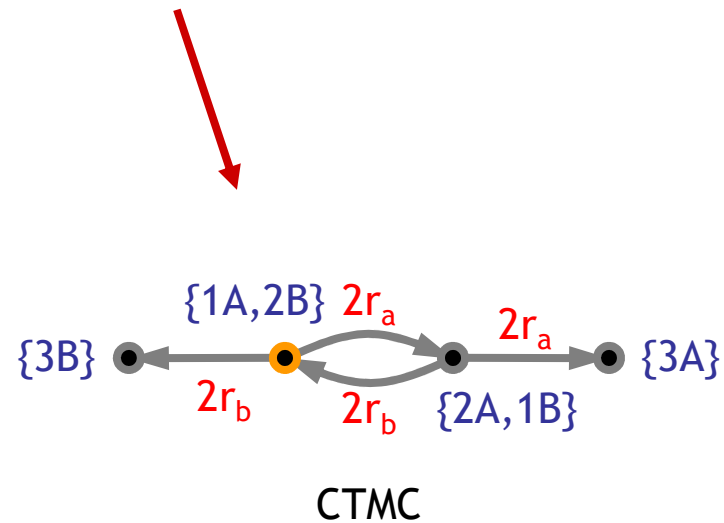


# Discrete Semantics of Reactions

Syntax:

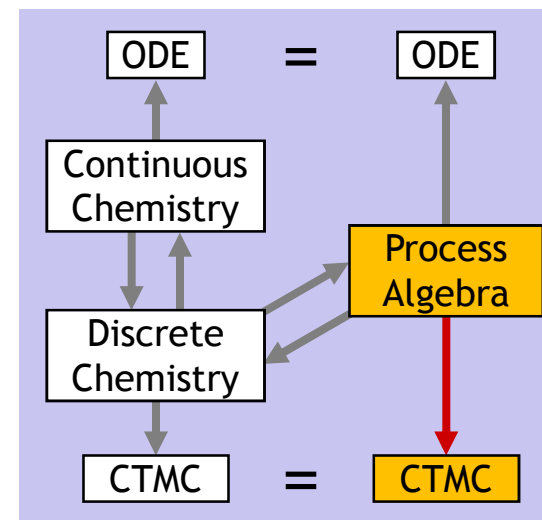
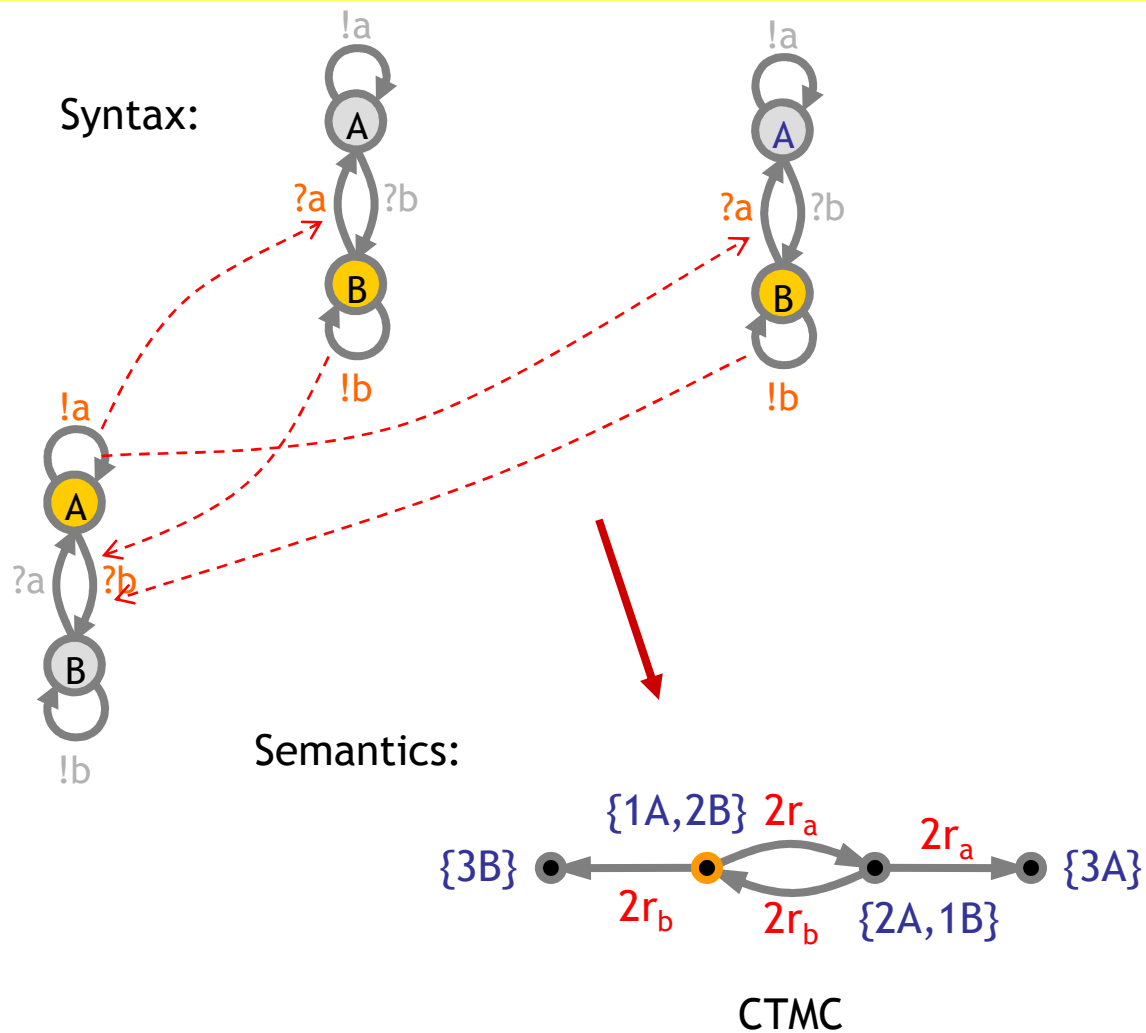


Semantics:





# Discrete Semantics of Reagents

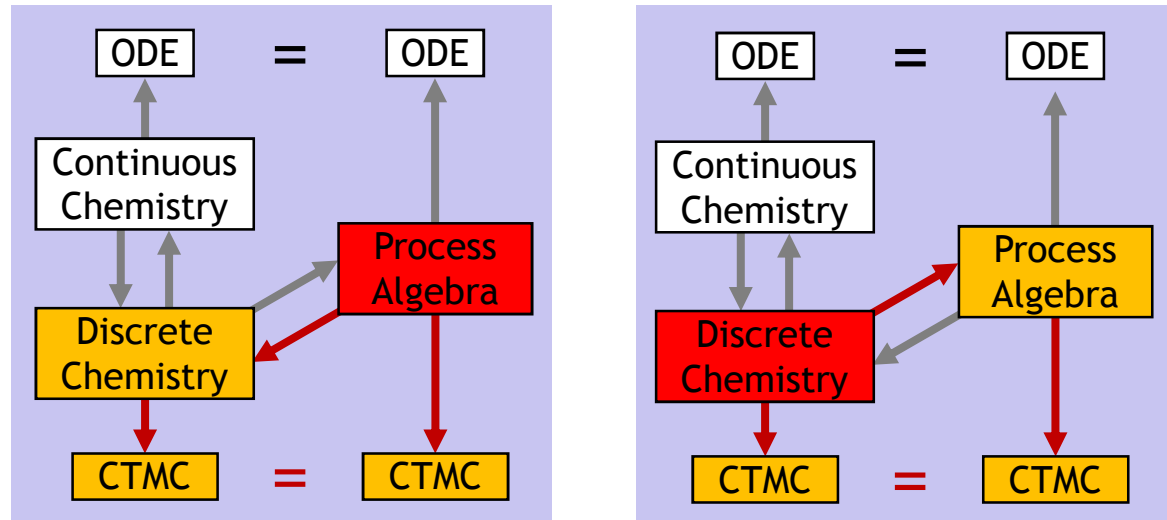


# Discrete State Equivalence

- Def:  $\approx$  is equivalent CTMC's (isomorphic graphs with same rates).

- Thm:  $E \approx \text{Ch}(E)$

- Thm:  $C \approx \text{Pi}(C)$



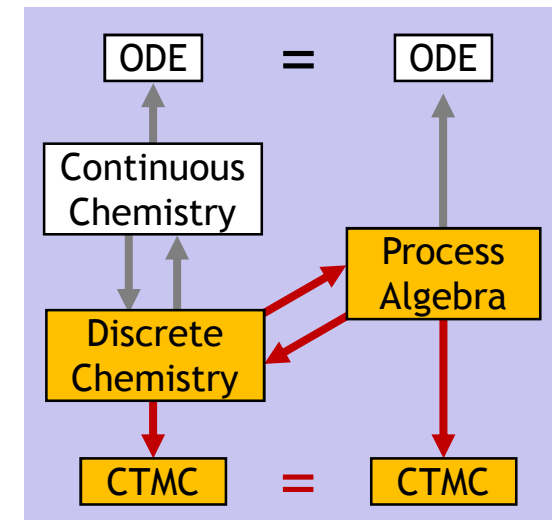
- For each  $E$  there is an  $E' \approx E$  that is detangled ( $E' = \text{Pi}(\text{Ch}(E))$ )
- For each  $E$  in automata form there is an  $E' \approx E$  that is detangled and in automata form ( $E' = \text{Detangle}(E)$ ).

# Interacting Automata = Discrete Chemistry

This is enough to establish that the process algebra is really faithful to the chemistry.

But CTMC are not the “ultimate semantics” because there are still questions of when two different CTMCs are actually equivalent (e.g. “lumping”).

The “ultimate semantics” of chemistry is the *Chemical Master Equation* (derivable from the Chapman-Kolmogorov equation of the CTMC).



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Q?