

CDC'09 Preconference Workshop on  
Biomolecular Circuit Analysis and Design  
December 15, 2009

# Passivity-Based Analysis of Biochemical Reaction Networks

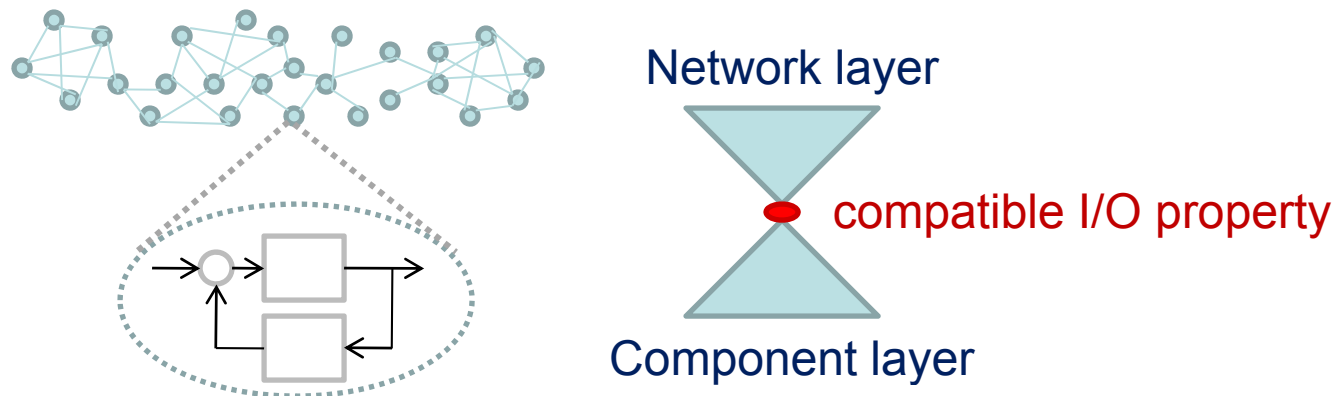
**Murat Arcak**  
**UC Berkeley**

Divide the stability analysis into two layers:

**1) Network layer:** Represent components with I/O properties, such as passivity, as abstractions of their detailed dynamic models.

Determine which I/O properties are compatible with the network structure:

(Moylan and Hill, 1978), (Vidyasagar, 1981), (Megretski & Rantzer, 1997)

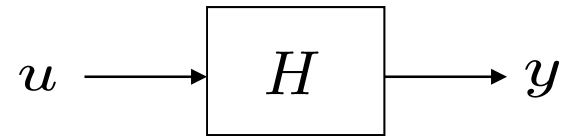


**2) Component layer:** Verify the relevant I/O properties without relying on further knowledge of the network.

## Outline:

- Overview of Passivity
- Secant Criterion for Cyclic Networks
- From Cyclic to Other Network Structures
- Extension to Reaction-Diffusion Systems
- From Stability to Synchronization

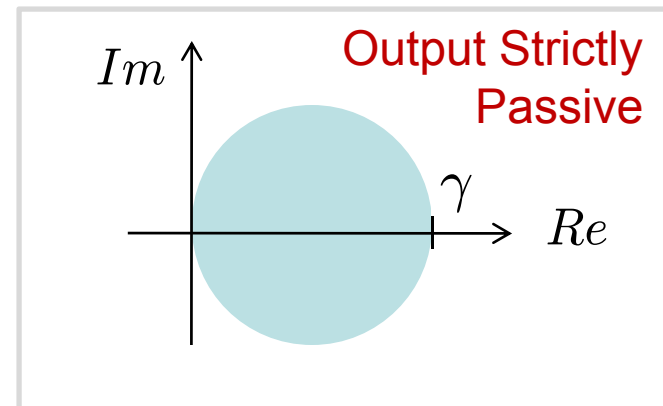
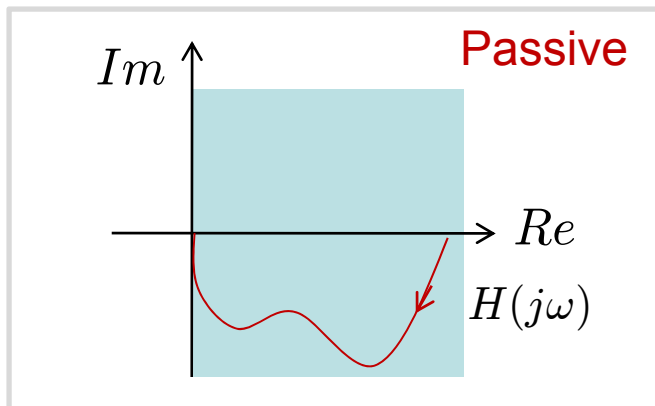
## Overview of Passivity



The dynamic system  $H$  is called *passive* if it admits a “storage function”

$$S(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \dot{S} \leq u^T y. \quad \text{Output strictly passive if } \dot{S} \leq \gamma u^T y - \|y\|^2$$

**Example:** Stable LTI systems with phase restrictions:



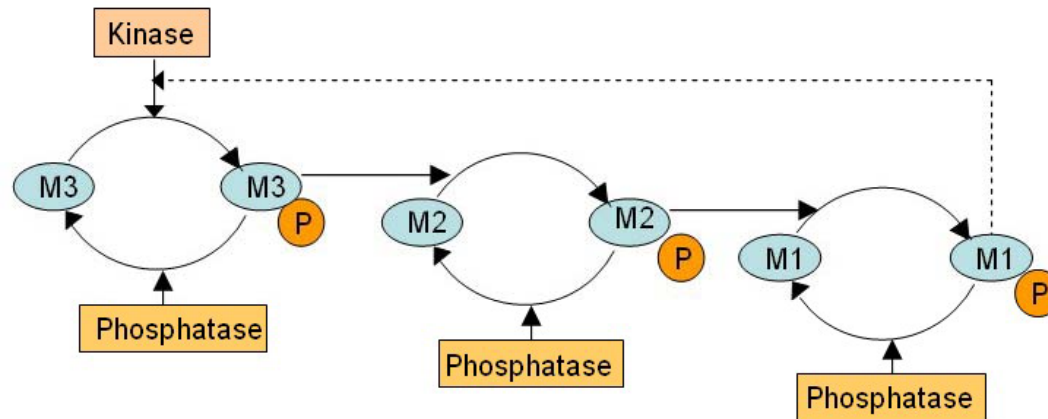
**Example:** The Euler-Lagrange system:

$$M(q)\ddot{q} + C(q, \dot{q})\dot{q} + \frac{dP}{dq} = \tau$$

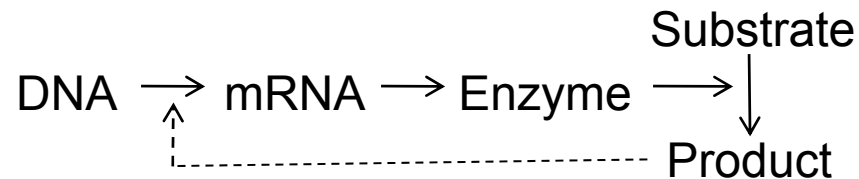
is passive with  $u = \tau$ ,  $y = \dot{q}$ ,  $S(q, \dot{q}) = \frac{1}{2}\dot{q}^T M(q)\dot{q} + P(q)$

## Cyclic Biochemical Reaction Networks

**Cellular Signaling:** Kholodenko (2000, 2006); Shvartsman *et al.* (2001)

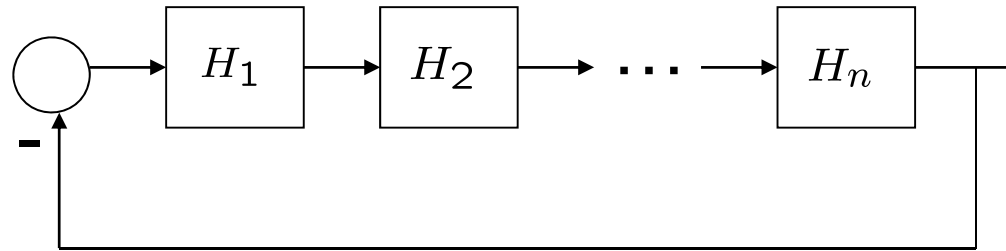


**Gene Regulation:** Jacob & Monod ('61), Goodwin ('65), Elowitz & Leibler (2000)



**Metabolic Pathways:** Morales ('67), Dibrov *et al.* ('82), Stephanopoulos *et al.* ('98)

**Secant Criterion for Local Stability:** (Tyson & Othmer, 1978; Thron, 1991)



The cyclic interconnection of linear blocks  $H_i : \tau_i \dot{y}_i = -y_i + \gamma_i u_i$  is asymptotically stable if:

$$\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_n < \sec(\pi/n)^n \quad \text{--- (secant)}$$

**Extension to Nonlinear Blocks via Passivity:** (Arcak and Sontag, 2006)

If each block  $u_i \longrightarrow \boxed{H_i} \longrightarrow y_i$  is output strictly passive:

$$\dot{S}_i \leq -\|y_i\|^2 + \gamma_i u_i^T y_i$$

with pos. def.  $S_i$  and if (secant) holds then global stability with Lyap. function:

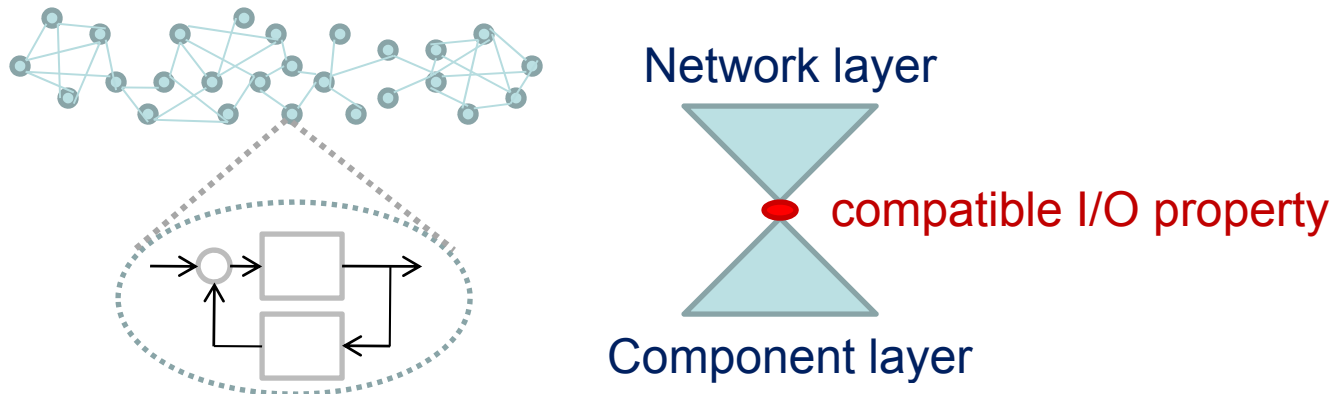
$$V = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i S_i$$

This approach divides analysis/design procedures into two layers:

- ✓ **1) Network layer:** Represent components with I/O properties, such as passivity, as abstractions of their detailed dynamic models.

Determine which I/O properties are compatible with network structure:

(Moylan and Hill, 1978), (Vidyasagar, 1981), (Megretski & Rantzer, 1997)



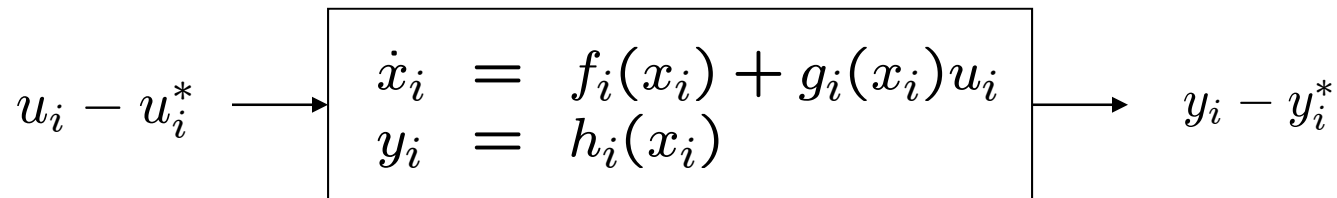
- ➔ **2) Component layer:** Verify or assign the relevant I/O properties without relying on further knowledge of the network.

## Component Analysis of the Cyclic Reaction Network:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= f_1(x_1) - g_1(x_1)h_n(x_n) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= f_2(x_2) + g_2(x_2)h_1(x_1) \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{x}_n &= f_n(x_n) + g_n(x_n)h_{n-1}(x_{n-1})\end{aligned}$$

$h_i(\cdot)$  : increasing functions

**Task:** Verify that each subsystem  $H_i$  :



is output strictly passive relative to fixed point  $x_i^*$  and calculate gain  $\gamma_i$

**Challenge:** The network fixed point  $x^*$  and consequently  $u_i^*$  and  $y_i^*$  depend on all other components and are highly uncertain



## Equilibrium-Independent Passivity (Hines, Arcak and Packard, 2009)

Suppose the system:  $\dot{x} = f(x, u) \quad y = h(x, u)$  is such that, for every  $u^* \in \mathcal{U}$  there exists unique  $x^*$  satisfying  $f(x^*, u^*) = 0$

**Definition:** The system is **equilibrium-independent passive** if for every  $u^* \in \mathcal{U}$  there exists storage function  $S_{u^*}(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \neq x^*$  satisfying:

$$\nabla_x S_{u^*} f(x, u) \leq (u - u^*)^T (y - y^*) - \frac{1}{\gamma} \|y - y^*\|^2 \quad \text{EIP}(\gamma)$$

**Necessary & sufficient conditions for EIP of scalar input-affine systems:**

$$\dot{x} = f(x) + g(x)u \quad y = h(x) \quad g(x) \neq 0$$

1)  $\text{sign}(g(x))h(x)$  is a strictly increasing function

2) The steady-state map  $y^* = k_y(u^*)$  satisfies:

$$0 \leq k'_y(u^*) \leq \gamma \quad \forall u^* \in \mathcal{U}$$

$$S_{u^*}(x) =$$

$$\int_{x^*}^x \frac{h(\sigma) - h(x^*)}{g(\sigma)} d\sigma$$

## Equilibrium-Independent Passivity (Hines, Arcak and Packard, 2009)

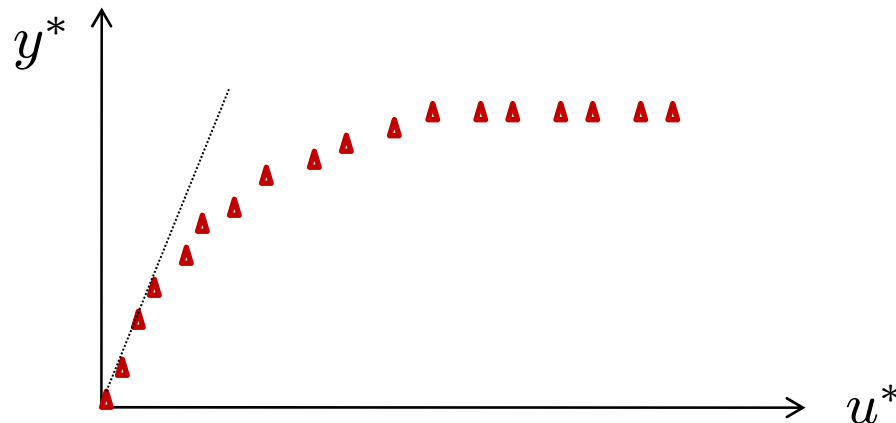
Suppose the system:  $\dot{x} = f(x, u)$   $y = h(x, u)$  is such that, for every  $u^* \in \mathcal{U}$  there exists unique  $x^*$  satisfying  $f(x^*, u^*) = 0$

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**Necessary & sufficient conditions for EIP of scalar input-affine systems:**

$$0 \leq k'_y(u^*) \leq \gamma \quad \forall u^* \in \mathcal{U}$$



## Example: MAPK Cascade with Inhibitory Feedback

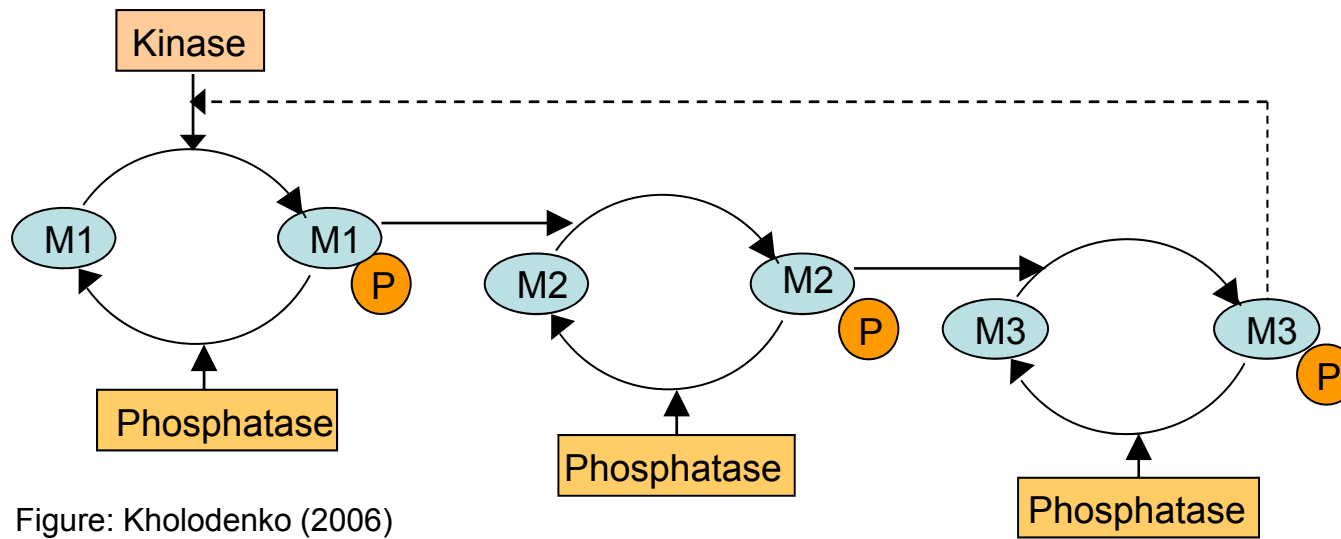


Figure: Kholodenko (2006)

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= -\frac{b_1 x_1}{c_1 + x_1} + \frac{d_1(1 - x_1)}{e_1 + (1 - x_1)} \frac{\mu}{1 + kx_3} \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -\frac{b_2 x_2}{c_2 + x_2} + \frac{d_2(1 - x_2)}{e_2 + (1 - x_2)} x_1 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= -\frac{b_3 x_3}{c_3 + x_3} + \frac{d_3(1 - x_3)}{e_3 + (1 - x_3)} x_2.\end{aligned}$$

**Shvartsman *et al.* (2001):**

$$b_1 = e_1 = c_1 = b_2 = 0.1$$

$$c_2 = e_2 = c_3 = e_3 = 0.01$$

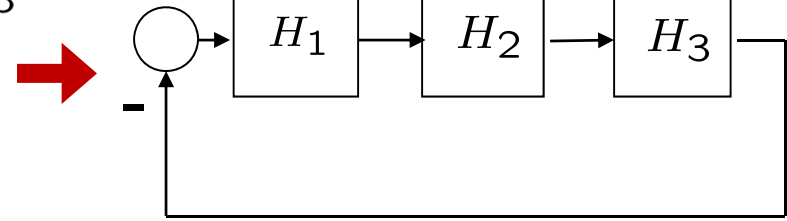
$$d_1 = d_2 = d_3 = 1$$

$$b_3 = 0.5 \quad \mu = 0.3$$

- Secant estimate for global asymptotic stability:  $k \leq 4.35$
- Small-gain estimate:  $k \leq 3.9$  Bifurcation at:  $k = 5.1$

## Example: MAPK Cascade with Inhibitory Feedback

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<b>H1:</b>	$f_1(x_1) = -\frac{b_1 x_1}{c_1 + x_1}$	$g_1(x_1) = \frac{d_1(1 - x_1)}{e_1 + (1 - x_1)}$	$h_1(x_1) = x_1$
<b>H2:</b>	$f_2(x_2) = -\frac{b_2 x_2}{c_2 + x_2}$	$g_2(x_2) = \frac{d_2(1 - x_2)}{e_2 + (1 - x_2)}$	$h_2(x_2) = x_2$
<b>H3:</b>	$f_3(x_3) = -\frac{b_3 x_3}{c_3 + x_3}$	$g_3(x_3) = \frac{d_3(1 - x_3)}{e_3 + (1 - x_3)}$	$h_3(x_2) = -\frac{\mu}{1 + kx_3}$

To estimate  $\gamma_i$ , solve for  $k_{y_i}(\cdot)$  from:

$$f_i(x_i^*) + g_i(x_i^*)u_* = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x_i^* = k_{x_i}(u^*)$$

$$y_i^* = k_{y_i}(u^*) = h_i(k_{x_i}(u^*))$$

and obtain an upper bound on the slope. Secant criterion:  $\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_3 < 8$

## Local vs. Global Secant Criteria

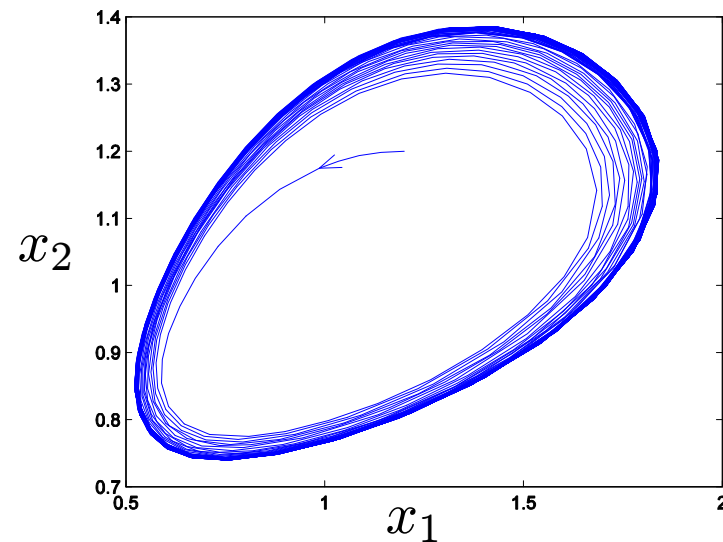
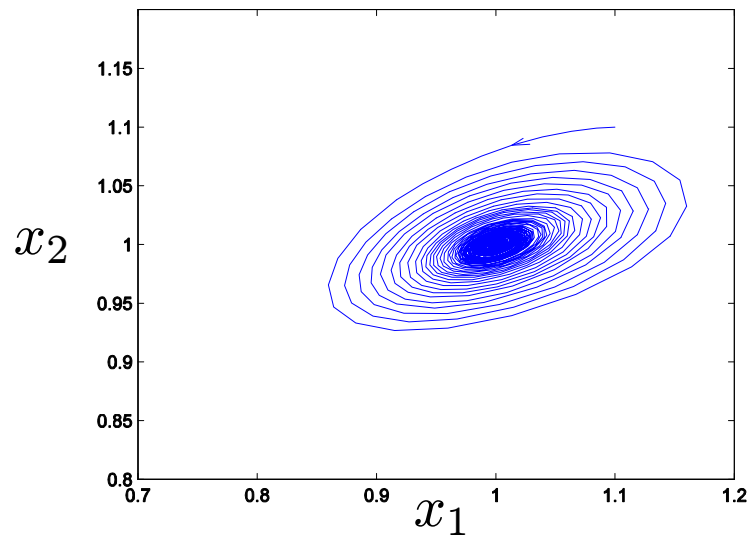
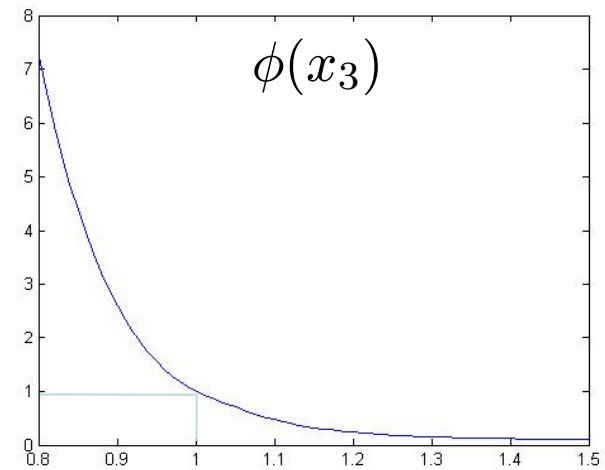
Local secant criterion does not rule out the possibility of periodic orbits.

**Example:**

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 + \phi(x_3) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 + x_1 \\ \dot{x}_3 &= -x_3 + x_2\end{aligned}$$

Because  $\phi'(1) = 7.5 < 8$  local secant criterion guarantees asymptotic stability of  $x^* = (1, 1, 1)$

An attractive limit cycle exists in addition to  $x^*$ :



## From Cyclic to Other Network Structures

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_i &= f_i(x_i) + g_i(x_i)u_i \\ y_i &= h_i(x_i)\end{aligned} \quad u = Ky$$

**(Arcak and Sontag, 2008):** Suppose each subsystem is EIP(  $\gamma_i$  ) and a fixed point  $x^*$  exists for the network. Then  $x^*$  is asymptotically stable if

$$E = K - \text{diag} \left\{ \frac{1}{\gamma_1}, \dots, \frac{1}{\gamma_n} \right\}$$

is diagonally stable ; that is,  $E^T D + D E < 0$  for some diagonal  $D > 0$

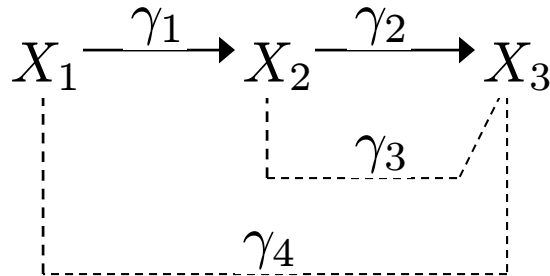
### Cyclic Structure as a Special Case:

$$E_{cyclic} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/\gamma_1 & 0 & \dots & -1 \\ 1 & -1/\gamma_2 & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & -1/\gamma_n \end{bmatrix}$$

is diagonally stable if and only if  $\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_n < \sec(\pi/n)^n$

## Example: MAPK Network Topologies in PC-12 Cells (Santos *et al.*, 2007)

$X_1$  : Raf-1     $X_2$  : Mek1/2     $X_3$  : Erk1/2

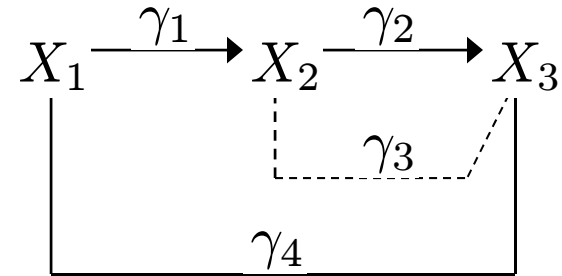


(a) When activated with epidermal growth factors (EGFs)

$$E_a = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\gamma_1} & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_2} & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_4} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Lemma:**  $E_a$  is diagonally stable iff:

$$\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_4 < 8$$

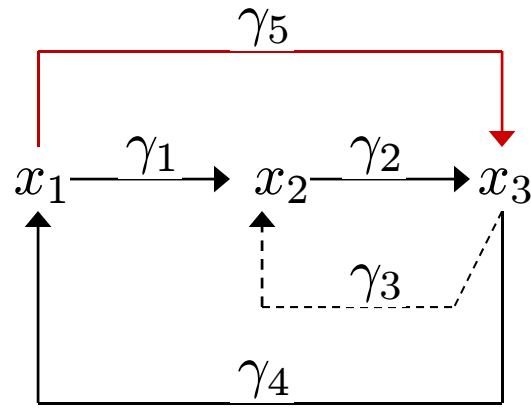


(b) When activated with neuronal growth factors (NGFs)

$$E_b = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\gamma_1} & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_2} & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_4} \end{bmatrix}$$

$E_b$  is diagonally stable iff:

$$\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_4 < 1$$



(c) Increased connectivity from Raf-1 to Erk1/2 when NGF activation observed over a longer period of time

$$E_c = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\gamma_1} & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_2} & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_3} & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_4} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_5} \end{bmatrix}$$

Principal submatrix obtained by deleting row-3 and column-3 diagonally stable iff:

$$\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_4 + \gamma_4 \gamma_5 < 1$$

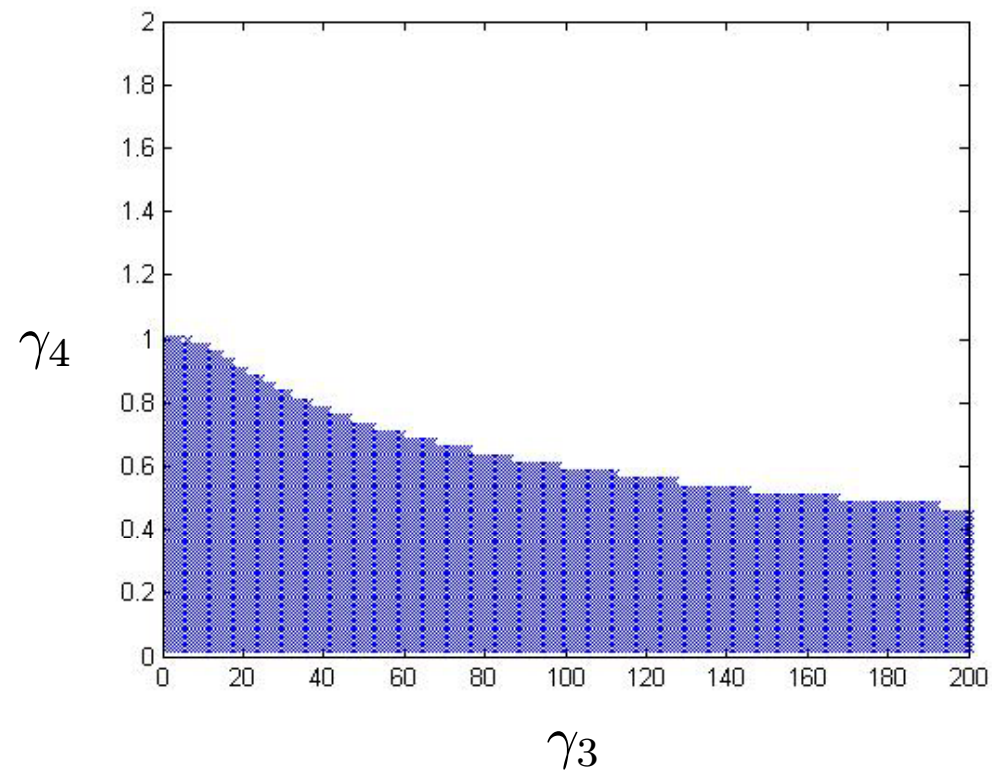
➔ necessary (but not sufficient) condition for diagonal stability of  $E_c$



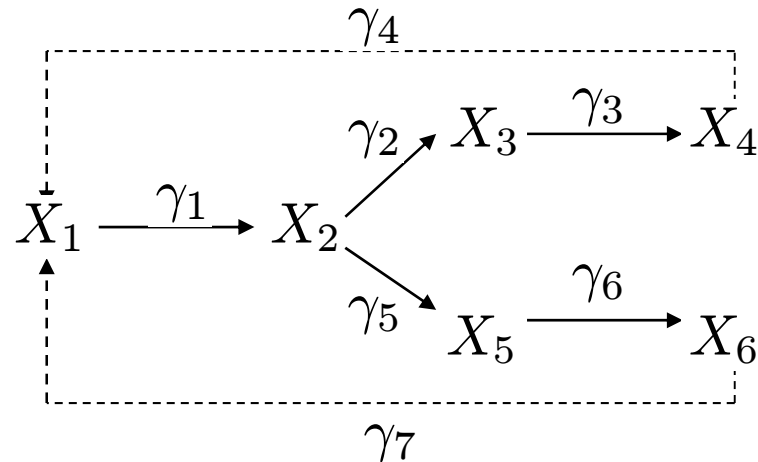
Exact diagonal stability region (determined numerically) in  $(\gamma_3, \gamma_4)$ -plane:

$$\gamma_1 = 1$$

$$\gamma_2 = \gamma_5 = 0.5$$



## Example: Branched Pathways with Feedback Inhibition



**Lemma:** The matrix

$$E = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\gamma_1} & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_4} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_5} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{1}{\gamma_7} \end{bmatrix}$$

is diagonally stable if and only if:

$$\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \gamma_3 \gamma_4 + \gamma_1 \gamma_5 \gamma_6 \gamma_7 < \sec(\pi/4)^4 = 4$$

## Extension to Reaction-Diffusion Systems

$$\dot{x} = f(x) \quad x \in R^n \quad (\text{R})$$

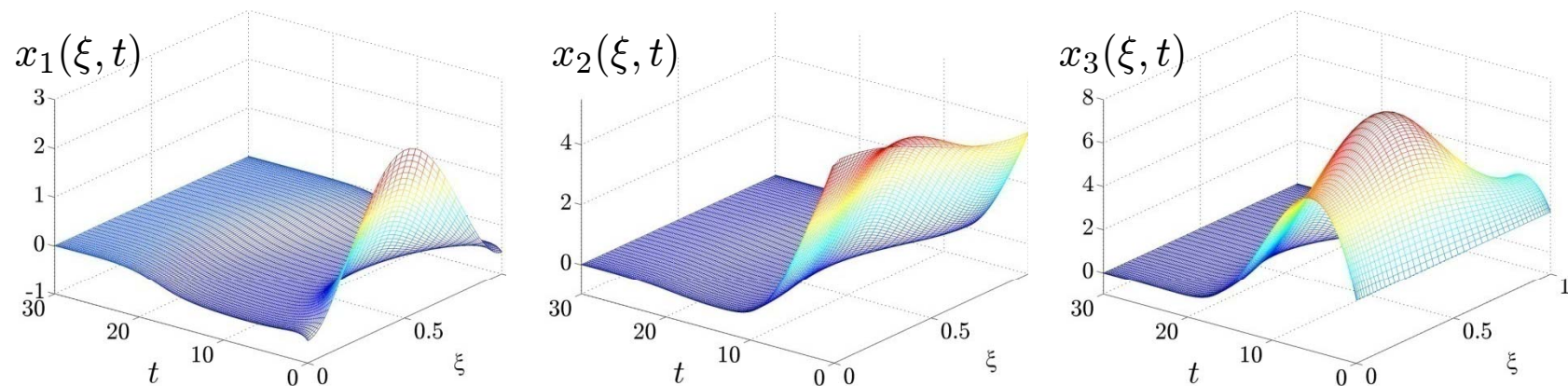
$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = f(x) + \mathcal{D} \nabla^2 x \quad \text{on domain } \Omega \text{ with Neumann boundary condition } (\text{RD})$$

**Diffusion-Driven Instability (Turing, 1952):** Stability of  $x^*$  in (R) does not imply stability of the uniform steady-state  $x(\xi) \equiv x^*$  in (RD).

**(Jovanovic, Arcak, Sontag, 2008; Wang 2008):**

The diagonal stability test for (R) decomposed into EIP subsystems guarantees (upon mild technical conditions) global stability for uniform steady-state in (RD).

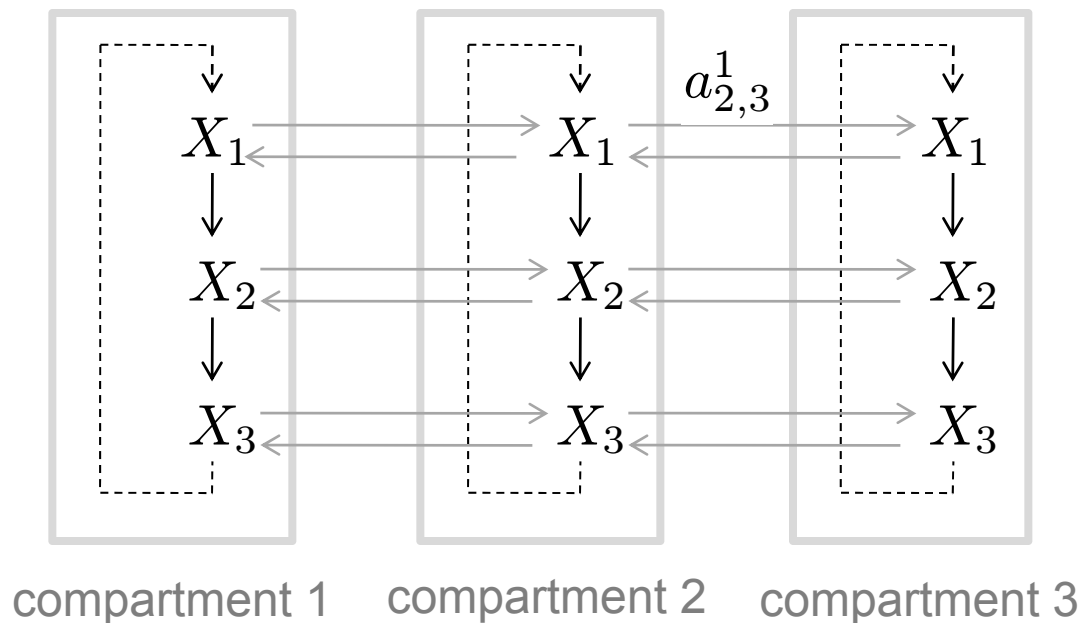
**MAPK Cascade Example with Diffusion:**



## From Stability to Synchronization

Species  $i$  in compartment  $k$ :

$$\dot{x}_{i,k} = \underbrace{f_i(x_{i,k}) + g_i(x_{i,k})u_{i,k}}_{\text{identical model in each compartment}} + \sum_{j \neq k} \underbrace{a_{j,k}^i (x_{i,j} - x_{i,k})}_{\text{diffusive coupling btw compartments}}$$



Diffusion graph for species  $i$   
represented with Laplacian:

$$L_{j,k}^i = \begin{cases} \sum_{p \neq j} a_{j,p}^i & j = k \\ -a_{j,k}^i & j \neq k \end{cases}$$

Algebraic connectivity:

$$\lambda_i = \min_{\substack{\|z\|=1 \\ z \perp \mathbf{1}_n}} \frac{z^T L_i z}{z^T z}$$

**(Scardovi, Arcak and Sontag, 2009):** Replace EIP with “co-coercivity” and modify the dissipativity matrix as:

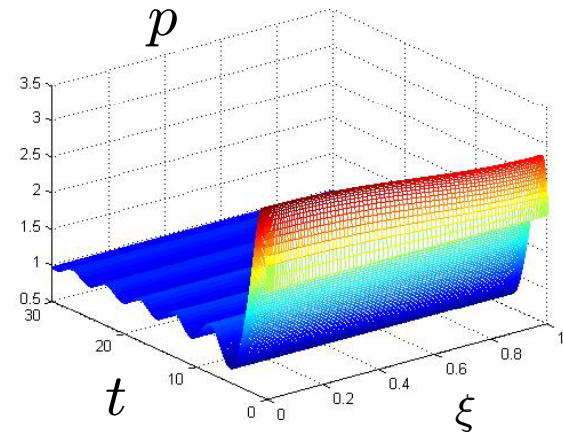
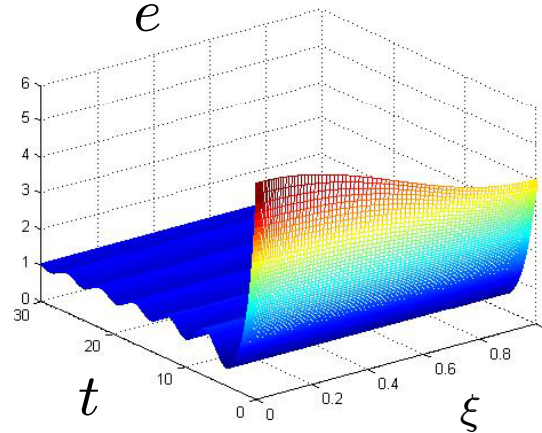
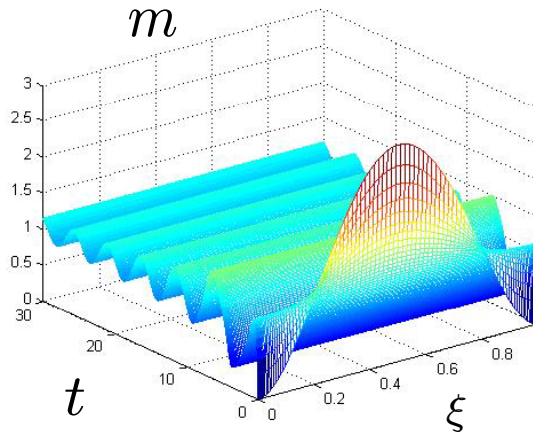
$$E_{\text{sync}} = E - \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$$

If  $E_{\text{sync}}$  is diagonally stable then  $x_{i,k}(t) - x_{i,j}(t) \rightarrow 0$  for each species  $i$

**Example:** For cyclic coupling,  $E_{\text{sync}}$  is diagonally stable if and only if:

$$\frac{\gamma_1}{1+\gamma_1\lambda_1} \cdots \frac{\gamma_n}{1+\gamma_n\lambda_n} < \sec(\pi/n)^n$$

**Goodwin Oscillator with Diffusion:**



## Conclusions

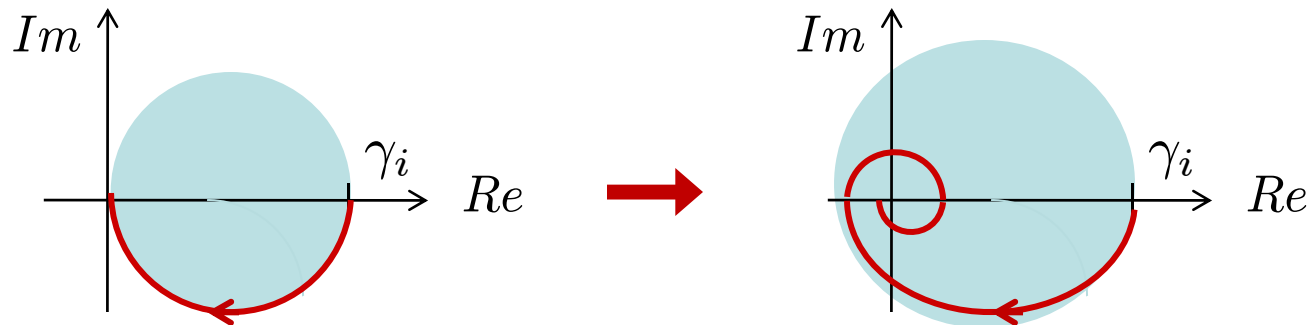
Passivity approach used to extend the classical secant criterion:

- From local, linear models to nonlinear models;
- From cyclic networks to general interconnection structures.

Modified criteria developed for stability and synchronization in the presence of diffusion.

### Remaining problems:

- Verifying EIP for higher order blocks.
- Accounting for time delays:



## Papers Discussed in this Talk

M. Arcak and E.D. Sontag. Diagonal stability of a class of cyclic systems and its connection with the secant criterion. *Automatica*, September 2006.

M. Jovanovic, M. Arcak and E.D. Sontag. A passivity-based approach to stability of spatially distributed systems with a cyclic interconnection structure. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control and IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems (Joint Special Issue on Systems Biology)*, January 2008.

M. Arcak and E.D. Sontag. A passivity-based stability criterion for a class of biochemical reaction networks. *Mathematical Biosciences and Engineering*, January 2008.

L. Scardovi, M. Arcak and E.D. Sontag. Synchronization of interconnected systems with an input/output approach. To appear in *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 2009.

G. Hines, M. Arcak and A. Packard. Equilibrium-independent passivity: A new definition and implications. Submitted.