

# Type Inference for Ratio Control Multiset-Based Systems

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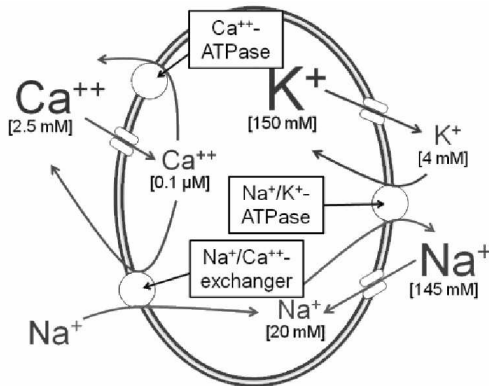
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- All known producer-consumer models are extensions of the standard theory of predator-prey interactions described by Lotka and Volterra.
- Recently, in order to model more faithfully the interactions in such systems, the Lotka-Volterra model was extended with **ratio-dependent interactions**.
- However, these models are usually described by differential equations and **do not explicitly track the quantities** neither in the producer/consumer nor in the environment.

# Introduction

- **Multiset-based formalisms** are motivated by quantitative evolutions of various systems.
- In many biological systems a reaction takes place only if certain **ratios between given thresholds** are fulfilled (e.g, in sodium/potassium pump and ratio-dependent predator-prey systems).



- The sodium-potassium exchange pump that is a transmembrane transport protein that establishes and maintains the **appropriate internal concentrations** of sodium and potassium ions in cells.
- Under certain conditions,  $Na^+$  and  $Ca^{++}$  ions enter the cells because of the higher concentration outside the cell, while  $K^+$  ions exit the cell due to the higher concentration inside the cell.
- Several multiset rewriting systems are used to describe the dynamics of such systems which involve **parallelism and concurrent access to resources**.
- **Petri nets** and **membrane systems** represent good examples of multiset-based formalisms.

- Inspired by the functioning of these systems, we provide a discrete approach and a **quantitative (multiset-based) type system** involving a ratio control of the resources.
- The type checking and type inference algorithms basically will browse the systems and rules, and check or collect the type information for each rule independently.
- The **membrane systems** represent a formalism that has compartments enclosed by membranes, floating objects, proteins associated with the internal and external surfaces of the membranes, and built-in proteins (the pump) that transport and process chemical substances.
- The intent is to **avoid errors** in the definition of the formal model used to model biologic processes.

# A Multiset Model of Membranes

- We work with **terms** built by means of a membrane constructor  $\langle - \mid - \rangle$ , using a set  $O$  of objects. The syntax of terms  $st \in ST$  is

$$st ::= u \mid \langle v \mid st \rangle \mid st \ st$$

- A **pattern**  $P$  is a term that may include variables from a set  $V$ :

$$P ::= st \mid \langle v \ y \mid P \ X \rangle \mid P \ P.$$

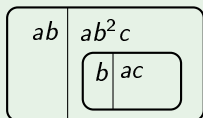
- A **rewriting rule**  $r$  is a pair of patterns  $(P_1, P_2)$ , denoted by

$$P_1 \rightarrow P_2,$$

where  $P_1 \neq \epsilon$  and  $\text{Var}(P_1) \subseteq \text{Var}(P_2)$ . A rewriting rule  $P_1 \rightarrow P_2$  states that a term  $P_1\sigma$  can be transformed into the term  $P_2\sigma$ , for some **instantiation function**  $\sigma$ .

## Example

Consider the depicted hierarchical nested system  $\langle ab \mid ab^2c \langle b \mid ac \rangle \rangle$  with two levels having two evolution rewriting rules  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . Some examples of the notions defined above are given on the right part of the picture.



$$r_1 : aX \rightarrow acX$$

$$r_2 : aX \rightarrow ab^2X$$

Terms:  $\langle ab \mid ab^2c \langle b \mid ac \rangle \rangle$  and  $ab^2c$

Patterns:  $\langle y \mid aX \langle b \mid ac \rangle \rangle$  and  $aX$

Instantiation:  $\sigma(X) = b^2c$ ,  $\sigma(y) = ab$

Rewriting rule  $r_1 : aX \rightarrow acX$

Rewriting rule  $r_2 : aX \rightarrow ab^2X$



# A Multiset Model of Membranes

- The infinite set  $\mathcal{C}$  of **contexts** (ranged over by  $C$ ) is given by:

$$C ::= \square \mid C \ st \mid \langle v \mid C \rangle.$$

- $C_1[st]$  denotes the term obtained by replacing  $\square$  with  $st$  in  $C_1$ .
- Given a membrane system with integral proteins and a set of rewriting rules  $R$ , the **reduction semantics** of the system is the least transition relation  $\rightarrow$  satisfying the following rule:

$$\frac{P_1 \rightarrow P_2 \in R \quad P_1\sigma \neq \epsilon \quad \sigma \in \Sigma \quad C \in \mathcal{C}}{C[P_1\sigma] \rightarrow C[P_2\sigma]}.$$

$\rightarrow^*$  denotes the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$ .

# A Multiset Model of Membranes

## Example

- Given all these definitions, the functioning of the Na/K pump can be now described by means of the following rules:

$$r_1 : \langle E_1 x \mid Na^3 X \rangle \rightarrow \langle E_1 Na^3 x \mid X \rangle$$

$$r_2 : \langle E_1 Na^3 x \mid ATP X \rangle \rightarrow \langle E_1^P Na^3 x \mid ADP X \rangle$$

$$r_3 : \langle E_1^P Na^3 x \mid X \rangle \rightarrow \langle E_2^P x \mid X \rangle Na^3$$

$$r_4 : \langle E_2^P x \mid ; X \rangle K^2 \rightarrow \langle E_2^P K^2 x \mid X \rangle$$

$$r_5 : \langle E_2^P K^2 x \mid X \rangle \rightarrow \langle E_1 K^2 x \mid P_i X \rangle$$

$$r_6 : \langle E_1 K^2 x \mid X \rangle \rightarrow \langle E_1 x \mid K^2 X \rangle$$

- if we have an initial membrane  $\langle E_1 \mid ATP^3 Na^8 K^2 \rangle Na^9 K^5$  by applying twice the above rules we reach a system  $\langle E_1 \mid ATP ADP^2 P_i^2 Na^2 K^6 \rangle Na^{15} K^1$ .
- So the system keeps sending Na outside the cell and K inside regardless of any known ratio thresholds (by lab experiments).
- But this is not how a biological cell works!

# Ratio-based Type System Over Multisets

- Type theory has been used in biological formalisms in order to transfer the complexity of biological properties from evolution rules to types (e.g., CLS by Dezani).
- The syntax of types is simple, easy to understand and use, and these aspects make types ideal for expressing general constraints.
- The behaviour of typed terms can be controlled by a type system in order to avoid **unwanted behaviours**.
- According to [Kennedy,1986], the evolution of a healthy cell ensures that **the ratio** between objects (e.g.,  $Na^+/K^+$ ) of a cell is **kept between certain values**.
- We investigate the application of type systems to the previously defined model.

# Ratio-based Type System Over Multisets

- Each object  $a$  in  $O$  is classified with an element of  $T$  (set of **basic types**);  $\Gamma$  denotes this classification.
- For each ordered pair of basic types  $(t_1, t_2)$ , the existence of one function is assumed:  $\mathit{min} : T \times T \rightarrow (0, \infty) \cup \{\diamond\}$ .
- We consider that the maximum ratio between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , denoted by  $\mathit{max}(t_1, t_2)$  could be determined using the relation  $\mathit{min}(t_1, t_2) \cdot \mathit{max}(t_2, t_1) = 1$ . Giving this relation in what follows we use only the  $\mathit{min}$  function.
- $\mathit{min}(t_1, t_2) = \diamond$  means that this function is undefined for the pair of types  $(t_1, t_2)$ . Biologically speaking, the ratio between the types  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  is either **unknown**, or can be **ignored**.

We consider only **local properties**: the objects influence each other only if

- they are present inside the same membrane;
- they are on sibling membranes;
- one is present inside and the other is on the membrane;
- one is present outside and the other is on the membrane.

## Definition (Consistent Basic Types)

A system using a set of basic types  $T$  and the function  $min$  is **consistent** if:

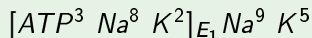
- 1  $\forall t_1, t_2 \in T, min(t_1, t_2) \neq \diamond$  iff  $min(t_2, t_1) \neq \diamond$ ;
- 2  $\forall t_1, t_2 \in T$  if  $min(t_1, t_2) \neq \diamond$ , then  $min(t_1, t_2) \leq 1/min(t_2, t_1)$ .

## Example

- Let us assume a consistent system, the function:

$$\min(t_1, t_2) = \begin{cases} 0.6 & \text{if } t_1 = t_{Na} \text{ and } t_2 = t_K \\ 0.25 & \text{if } t_1 = t_K \text{ and } t_2 = t_{Na} \\ \diamond & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and the previous set of rules, the well-formed term



is rewritten in a well-formed term



- Another rule cannot be applied because we would obtain terms that are **not well-formed**.

# Conclusion

- In order to model more faithfully the interactions in producer-consumer systems, the Lotka-Volterra model was extended with **ratio-dependent interactions**.
- In particular the sodium/potassium pump extrudes sodium ions in exchange for potassium ions only if the ratios of these elements are between certain **lower and upper bounds**.
- To properly cope with such constraints, we introduce a **ratio-based type system** over multisets.
- We proved that if a system is well-typed and an evolution rule is applied, then the obtained system is also well-typed.
- We provided a type inference algorithm for deducing the type of each term in the multiset framework, and prove the soundness and completeness results for this type inference.

Thank you!