

BMTH311: Assignment #5

Required Reading.

- Read §7.1, 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.3.3, 7.5

To be turned in February 16th, at the start of class.

1. Consider the ideas which went into deriving Equations 7.1 in the text. Suppose a complementary strand of RNA (called antisense RNA) can reversibly bind to mRNA. Suppose also that the cell can produce enzymes which degrade mRNA. Remove the term $-\delta_m m(t)$ from the model and replace it by incorporating both of these ideas into a revised version of Equations 7.1. If E_T is the total enzyme concentration, show that there is a minimum required value of E_T for this system to equilibrate and make a hand sketch of the equilibrium value of m versus E_T .
2. In class, we made some claims about the switching behavior of the lambda phage model. Try to verify these claims by simulating the system using the parameters given in the text. Begin with δ_r representing low stress and allow the system to equilibrate. Then use a step function to simulate a DNA damage event and allow the system to equilibrate. Finally, use a step function to simulate the return to a low stress state and allow the system to equilibrate. Produce plots which support the claims made in class and in the text.
3. Textbook, 7.8.11, page 302. Also, run a simulation to support your ideas from part b).
4. Using only OR, AND, and NOT gates, design a genetic circuit which outputs a response only when exactly one (and not more than one) of its two input signals is present. Develop a differential equation model and run a simulation to support your idea.