

## Finite dynamical systems: Computational algebra preliminaries

Reverse engineering: Start with experimental data and build a model. "Discover" the network through experiments & observations.

Typically, there is insufficient data to uniquely infer a gene regulatory network (GRN) model.

Model selection is needed - select biologically feasible or likely ones.

Example: Input states  $\vec{s}_1, \dots, \vec{s}_m \in \mathbb{F}^n$  where  $\mathbb{F} = \{0, 1\}$

Output states  $\vec{t}_1, \dots, \vec{t}_m \in \mathbb{F}^n$

That is,  $F(\vec{s}_i) = (f_1(\vec{s}_i), f_2(\vec{s}_i), \dots, f_n(\vec{s}_i))$

$$\vec{s}_1 = (s_{11}, s_{12}, \dots, s_{1n})$$

$$\downarrow F$$
$$\vec{t}_1 = (t_{11}, t_{12}, \dots, t_{1n})$$

$$\vec{s}_2 = (s_{21}, \dots, s_{2n}) \quad \dots \quad \vec{s}_m = (s_{m1}, \dots, s_{mn})$$

$$\downarrow F$$
$$\vec{t}_2 = (t_{21}, \dots, t_{2n}) \quad \dots \quad \vec{t}_m = (t_{m1}, \dots, t_{mn})$$

This is just a few transitions in the phase space (size  $2^n$ ).

Goal: Recover the actual functions  $F = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$  and the wiring diagram.

(2)

Framework:

Def: A finite dynamical system (FDS) is a function

$$F = (f_1, \dots, f_n): S^n \rightarrow S^n \text{ where each } f_i: S^n \rightarrow S \text{ is a local function, and } |S| < \infty.$$

Theorem: If  $S = \mathbb{F}$ , a finite field (e.g.,  $\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_3, \mathbb{Z}_p$ , etc.), then

any function  $f_i: \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  is a polynomial in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

If  $S = \mathbb{F}$ , we call an FDS a polynomial dynamical system (PDS).

Ex: Let  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Z}_3 = \{0, 1, 2\}$  and  $F = (f_1, f_2): \mathbb{F}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^2$  be a PDS

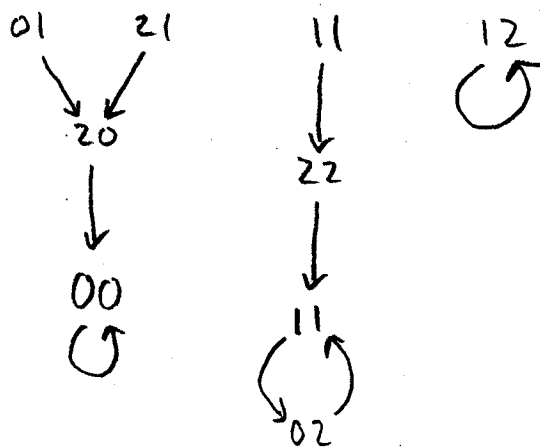
with local functions  $f_1 = f_1(x_1, x_2) = 2x_2$

$$f_2 = f_2(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_1^2$$

wiring diagram



phase space (size  $|\mathbb{F}|^2 = 9$ )



We'll need multivariate polynomial division

Recall: (single variable) polynomial division is well-defined.

$$a(x) = q(x) b(x) + r(x)$$

$$x^4 - 3x^3 - x^2 + 2 = (x^2 - 5x + 10)(x^2 + 2x - 1) + (-25x - 12)$$

↑ quotient
↑ remainder

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 - 5x + 10 \\
 \hline
 x^2 + 2x - 1 \overline{) x^4 - 3x^3 - x^2 + 0x + 2} \\
 \underline{x^4 + 2x^3 - x^2} \phantom{+ 0x + 2} \\
 -5x^3 + 0x^2 + 0x \phantom{+ 2} \\
 \underline{-5x^3 - 10x^2 + 5x} \phantom{+ 2} \\
 10x^2 - 5x + 2 \\
 \underline{10x^2 + 20x - 10} \\
 \text{"remainder"} \quad \underline{-25x - 12}
 \end{array}$$

This works because there is a total ordering on monomials:

$$\dots > x^{m+1} > x^m > \dots > x^2 > x > 1$$

Multivariate polynomial division isn't well-defined (yet).

Example:  $f = x^2$ ,  $g = x^2 + xy^2$ . Divide  $f$  by  $g$ :

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1 \\
 \hline
 x^2 + xy^2 \overline{) x^2 + 0xy^2} \\
 \underline{x^2 + xy^2} \\
 -xy^2
 \end{array}$$

vs.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 0 \\
 \hline
 xy^2 + x^2 \overline{) 0xy^2 + x^2} \\
 \underline{0xy^2 + 0x^2} \\
 x^2
 \end{array}$$

so  $x^2 = 1(x^2 + xy^2) + (-xy^2)$

vs.  $x^2 = 0(xy^2 + x^2) + x^2$

$f(x,y) = 1 \cdot g(x,y) + (-xy^2)$

vs.  $f(x,y) = 0 \cdot g(x,y) + (-xy^2)$ .

4

We need to define an ordering on the set of monomials.

(e.g., which comes "first":  $x^2yz$ ,  $xy^3z$ , or  $xyz^2$ ?)

Let  $K$  be a field (e.g.,  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ ).

$K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is a polynomial ring (set of all multivariate polynomials in variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .)

A polynomial  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is a sum of monomials  $x^\alpha = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n}$ ,

where  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ :

Need: A total ordering on monomials, i.e., for every pair

$x^\alpha \neq x^\beta$ , exactly one of these must be true:

$$x^\alpha < x^\beta, \quad x^\alpha = x^\beta, \quad x^\alpha > x^\beta.$$

Def: A monomial ordering on  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is any relation  $>$

on  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{\wedge} := \{(a_1, \dots, a_n) : a_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}$  satisfying:

1.  $>$  is a total ordering on  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{\wedge}$

2. If  $\alpha > \beta$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{\wedge}$ , then  $\alpha + \tau > \beta + \tau$ .

3.  $>$  is a well-ordering on  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{\wedge}$ , i.e., every nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{\wedge}$  has a smallest element.

Examples: let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ ,  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$ .

(1) lexicographic (lex) "dictionary order"  $\alpha >_{\text{lex}} \beta$  if

the left-most non-zero entry of  $\alpha - \beta$  is positive.

(2) graded lexicographic (grlex) "total degree first; breaks ties with lex"

$\alpha >_{\text{grlex}} \beta$  if  $|\alpha| > |\beta|$  (that is,  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i > \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i$ ), or

$|\alpha| = |\beta|$  and  $\alpha >_{\text{lex}} \beta$ .

(3) graded reverse lexicographic (grevlex):  $\alpha >_{\text{grevlex}} \beta$  if  $|\alpha| > |\beta|$ ,

or  $|\alpha| = |\beta|$  and the right-most non-zero entry of  $\alpha - \beta$  is negative.

Examples:

• For all 3 of these orders,

$$(1, 0, \dots, 0) > (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0) > \dots > (0, \dots, 0, 1)$$

$$x_1 > x_2 > \dots > x_n$$

•  $x^2 >_{\text{lex}} xy^2 >_{\text{lex}} y^2$ , since  $(2, 0) >_{\text{lex}} (1, 3) >_{\text{lex}} (0, 2)$ .

•  $y^2z <_{\text{grlex}} xz^2$  but  $y^2z >_{\text{grevlex}} xz^2$  [(0, 2, 1) vs. (1, 0, 2)].

•  $x^5yz >_{\text{grlex}} x^4y^2z^2$  and  $x^5yz >_{\text{grevlex}} x^4y^2z^2$  [(5, 1, 1) vs. (4, 1, 2)].

(6)

Even with a monomial order, there are problems with multivariate polynomial division.

Ideal membership problem: Given  $f$ , and  $f_1, \dots, f_m$ , are there polynomials  $h_1, \dots, h_m$  such that  $f = h_1 f_1 + \dots + h_m f_m$ ?

Compare to "subspace membership problem" Given  $v \in V$  and basis  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ , are there constants  $a_1, \dots, a_m \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $v = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_m v_m$ ?

Def: Let  $K$  be a field. The set

$$I = \langle f_1, \dots, f_m \rangle = \{h_1 f_1 + \dots + h_m f_m : h_i \in K[x_1, \dots, x_n]\}$$

is called an ideal in  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , generated by  $f_1, \dots, f_m$ .

Question, reformulated: Is  $f$  in  $I$ ?

Answers

- The order in which  $f$  is divided by the  $f_i$ 's affects the remainder.
- A nonzero remainder does not imply  $f \notin I$ .
- The generating set is not unique, nor is its size. (Unlike subspaces in linear algebra!)

Examples (of annoyances)

- Order matters: let  $f = x^2y + xy^2 + y^2$ ,  $f_1 = xy - 1$ ,  $f_2 = y^2 - 1$

Use lex with  $x > y$ , divide  $f_1$  into  $f$ , then  $f_2$ :

Result:  $x^2y + xy^2 + y^2 = (x+y) \cdot (xy-1) + 1 \cdot (y^2-1) + x+y+1$

$$f = h_1 f_1 + h_2 f_2 + r$$

Instead, if we divide  $f_2$  into  $f$  and then  $f_1$ :

Result:  $x^2y + xy^2 + y^2 = (x+1) \cdot (y^2-1) + x(xy-1) + 2x+1$

$$f = h_1 f_1 + h_2 f_2 + r$$

- nonzero remainders: let  $f = xy^2 - x$ ,  $f_1 = xy + 1$ ,  $f_2 = y^2 - 1$ .

Dividing  $f$  by  $f_1$  then  $f_2$  yields

$$xy^2 - x = y \cdot (xy + 1) + 0 \cdot (y^2 - 1) + (-x - y)$$

$$f = h_1 f_1 + h_2 f_2 + r$$

Dividing  $f$  by  $f_2$  then  $f_1$  yields

$$xy^2 - x = x \cdot (y^2 - 1) + 0 \cdot (xy + 1) + 0$$

$$f = h_1 f_1 + h_2 f_2 \Rightarrow f \in \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle.$$

8

- Size of minimal generating sets.

In  $\mathbb{R}[x, y]$ , the ideal  $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle x+xy, y+xy, x^2, y^2 \rangle$  (Exercise)

Fortunately, it is possible to choose a "special basis" that avoids these annoyances.

Theorem An ideal  $I$  in  $K[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  has a special generating set  $\{g_1, \dots, g_t\}$  such that the remainder of polynomial division of  $f$  by  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  (in any order) is zero iff  $f \in \langle f_1, \dots, f_m \rangle$

Such a generating set is called a Gröbner basis.

Def: Given a polynomial  $f$  and ordering  $>$ , the leading monomial of  $f$ , denoted  $\text{in}_>(f)$ , is the monomial ordered first by  $>$  (assume monic).

Def: The initial ideal of  $I$ , is the set

$$\text{in}_>(I) := \langle \text{in}_>(f) : f \in I \rangle.$$

Def: A finite subset  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq I$  is a Gröbner basis w.r.t.  $>$  if

$$\boxed{\text{in}_>(I) = \langle \text{in}_>(g) : g \in \mathcal{G} \rangle}$$



(9)

Example: Use grlex, let  $x > y$ , and

$$f_1 = x^3 - 2xy$$

$$f_2 = x^2y - 2y^2 + x.$$

The ideal  $I = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle \subseteq K[x, y]$ .

$\text{in}_>(f_1) = x^3$ ,  $\text{in}_>(f_2) = x^2y$ , so  $\langle x^3, x^2y \rangle \subseteq \text{in}_>(I)$ .

But  $\text{in}_>(I)$  contains more!

$$\begin{aligned} x f_2 - y f_1 &= x(x^2y - 2y^2 + x) - y(x^3 - 2xy) \\ &= x^3y - 2xy^2 + x^2 - x^3y - 2xy^2 \\ &= x^2 \in I. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $\text{in}_>(x^2) = x^2 \Rightarrow x^2 \in \text{in}_>(I)$ , but  $x^2 \notin \langle x^3, x^2y \rangle$ .

So  $\{f_1, f_2\}$  is not a Gröbner basis for  $I$ !

Using Sage, we get that the following is a GB:

$$\{x^3 - 2xy, x^2y - 2y^2 + x, x^2, xy, y^2 - \frac{1}{2}x\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \text{in}_>(I) &= \langle x^3, x^2y, x^2, xy, y^2 \rangle \\ &= \langle x^2, xy, y^2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The monomials in  $I$  that are not in  $\text{in}_>(I)$  are called standard monomials.