

# A systems approach to biology

SB200

Lecture 5

30 September 2008

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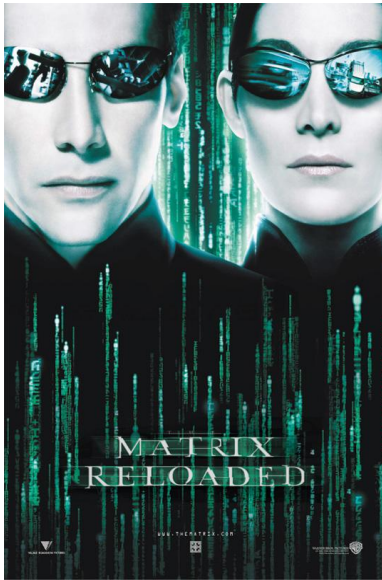
# Recap of Lecture 4

## matrix exponential

$$\exp(A) = 1 + A + A^2/2 + \dots + A^k/k! + \dots$$

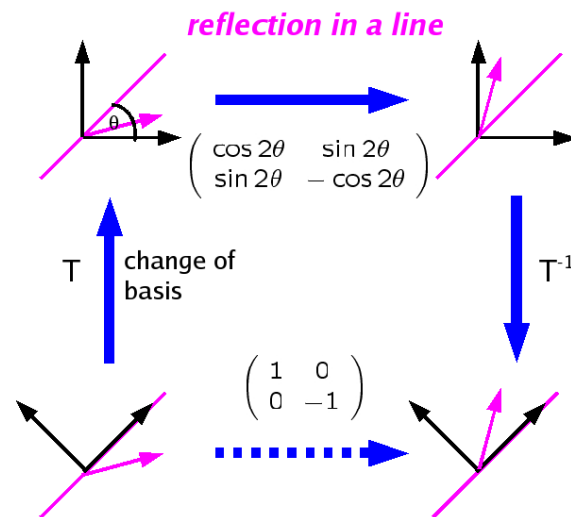
$$dx/dt = Ax$$

$$x(t) = \exp(At)x_0$$



## linear transformations

*similarity*  
 $B = T^{-1}AT$



## normal forms

$$\Delta > 0 \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta < 0 \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta = 0 \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c & -d \\ d & c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a + c & -(b + d) \\ b + d & a + c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(a + ib) + (c + id) = (a + c) + i(b + d)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} * \begin{pmatrix} c & -d \\ d & c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ac - bd & -(ad + bc) \\ ad + bc & ac - bd \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(a + ib) * (c + id) = (ac - bd) + i(ad + bc)$$

$$\exp \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\exp(a + ib) = \exp(a) \exp(ib) = \exp(a)(\cos(b) + i \sin(b))$$

$$\exp \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} = \exp(a) \begin{pmatrix} \cos(b) & -\sin(b) \\ \sin(b) & \cos(b) \end{pmatrix}$$

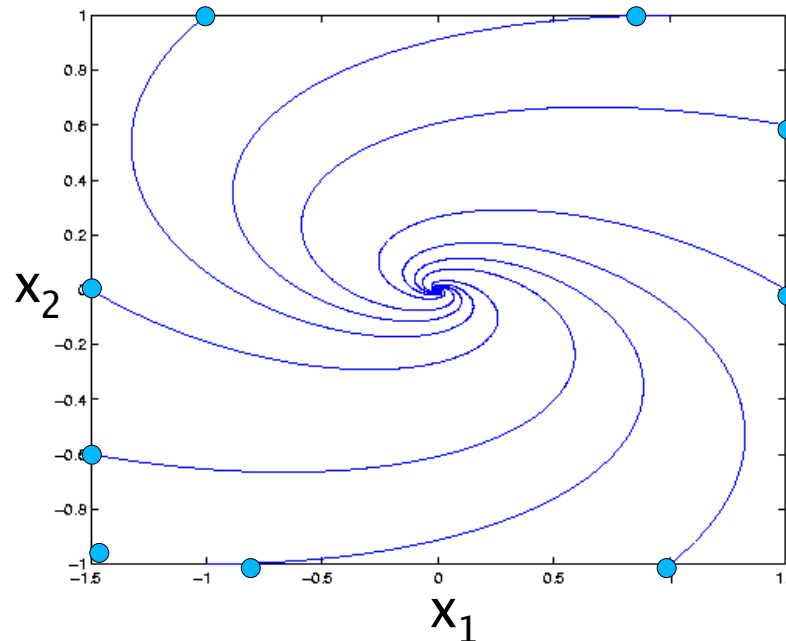
complex case    disc < 0    complex eigenvalues

$$\exp \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} = \exp(a) \begin{pmatrix} \cos b & -\sin b \\ \sin b & \cos b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{eigenvalues} = a \pm i b$$

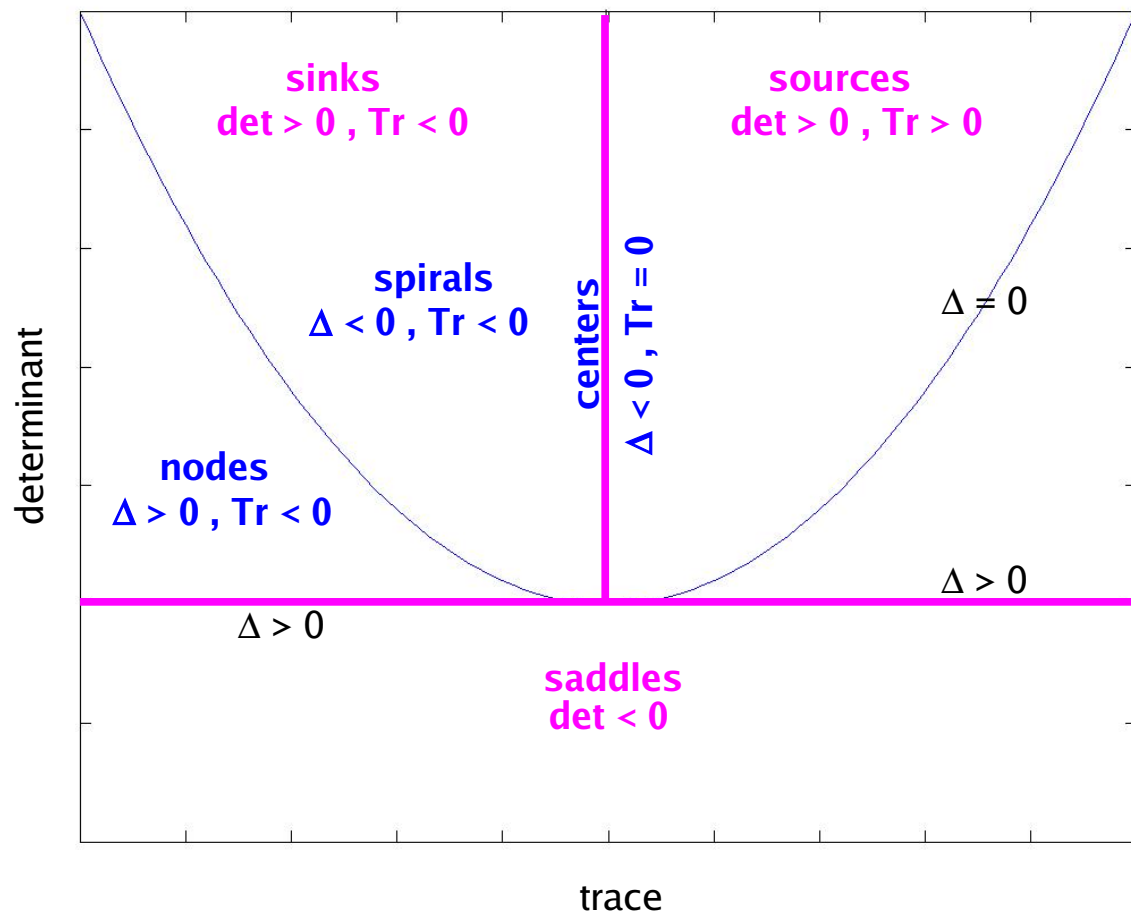
$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & -5 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Tr = -3    det = 7    disc = -19  
eigenvalues =  $-1.5 \pm 2.18 i$



**stable spiral**

*Complex eigenvalues imply (damped) oscillation, with frequency given by the imaginary part of the eigenvalue*



awkward case 1    disc = 0

$$\exp \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \exp a & b \exp a \\ 0 & \exp a \end{pmatrix}$$

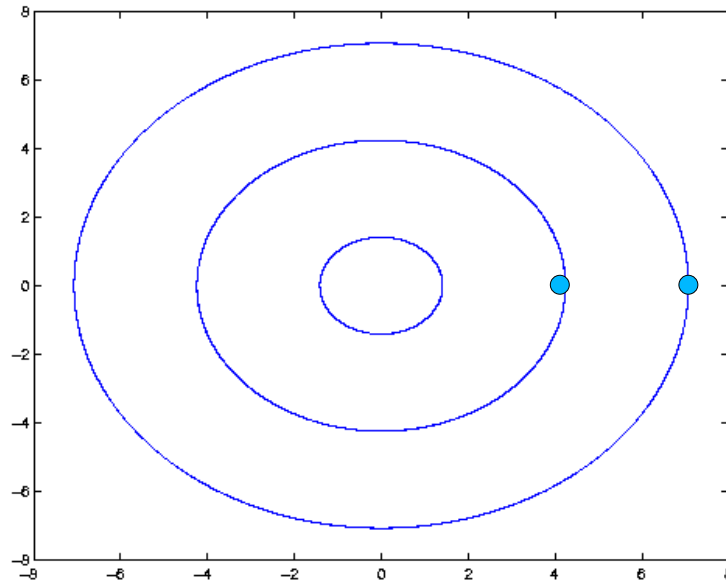
*non-generic (degenerate) case*

*cant make up its mind whether to be a node or a spiral*

awkward case 2    disc < 0, Tr A = 0

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Tr = 0    det = 6    disc = -24  
eigenvalues =  $\pm 2.45 i$



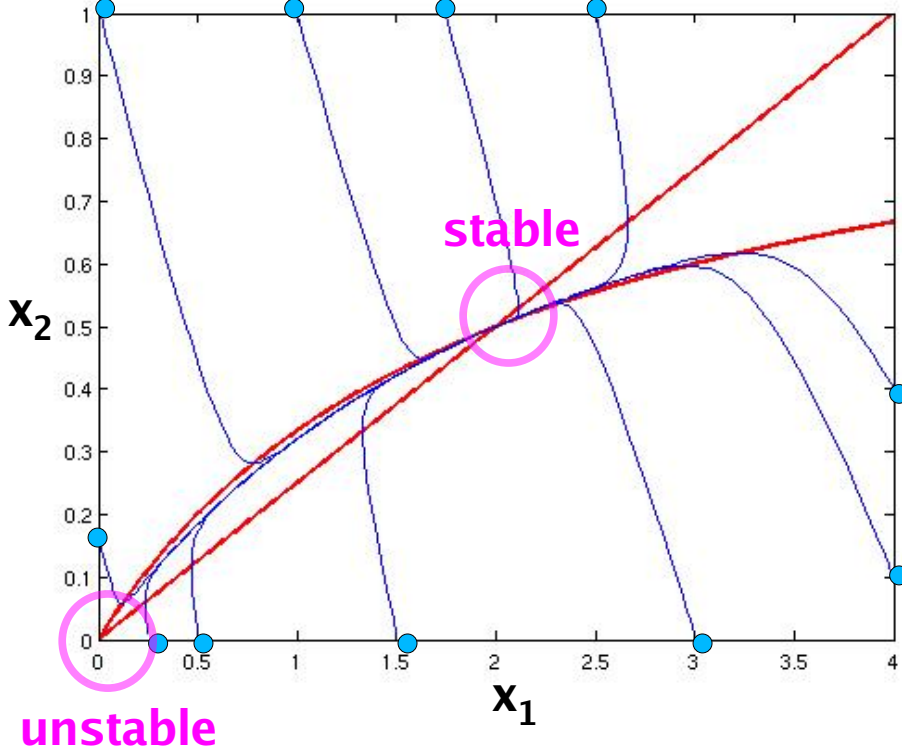
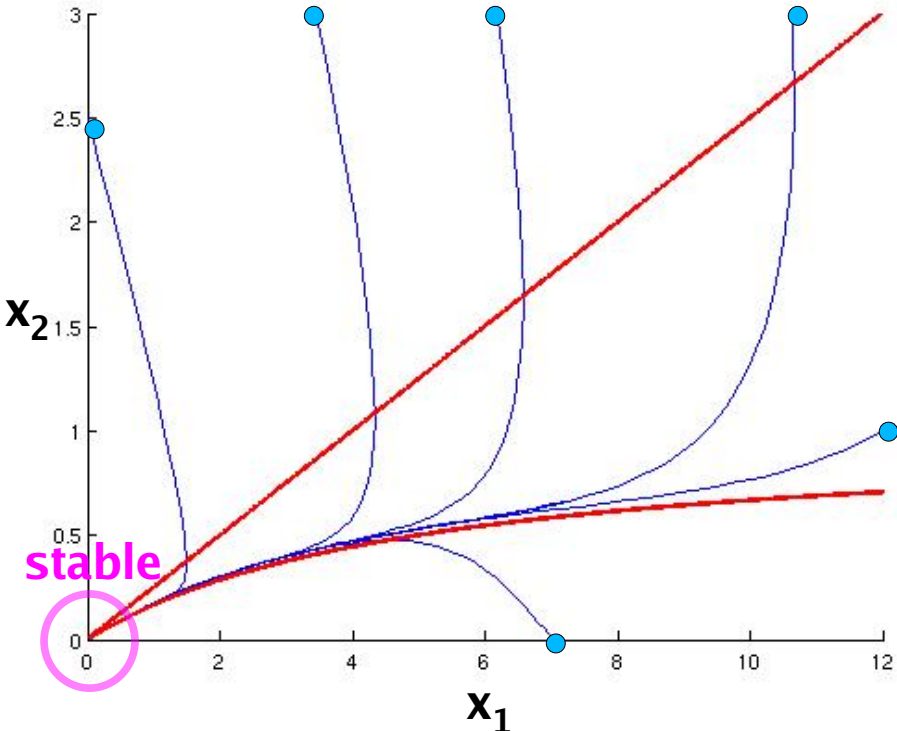
center

*cant make up its mind whether to be stable or unstable*

**robust oscillations require nonlinearity**



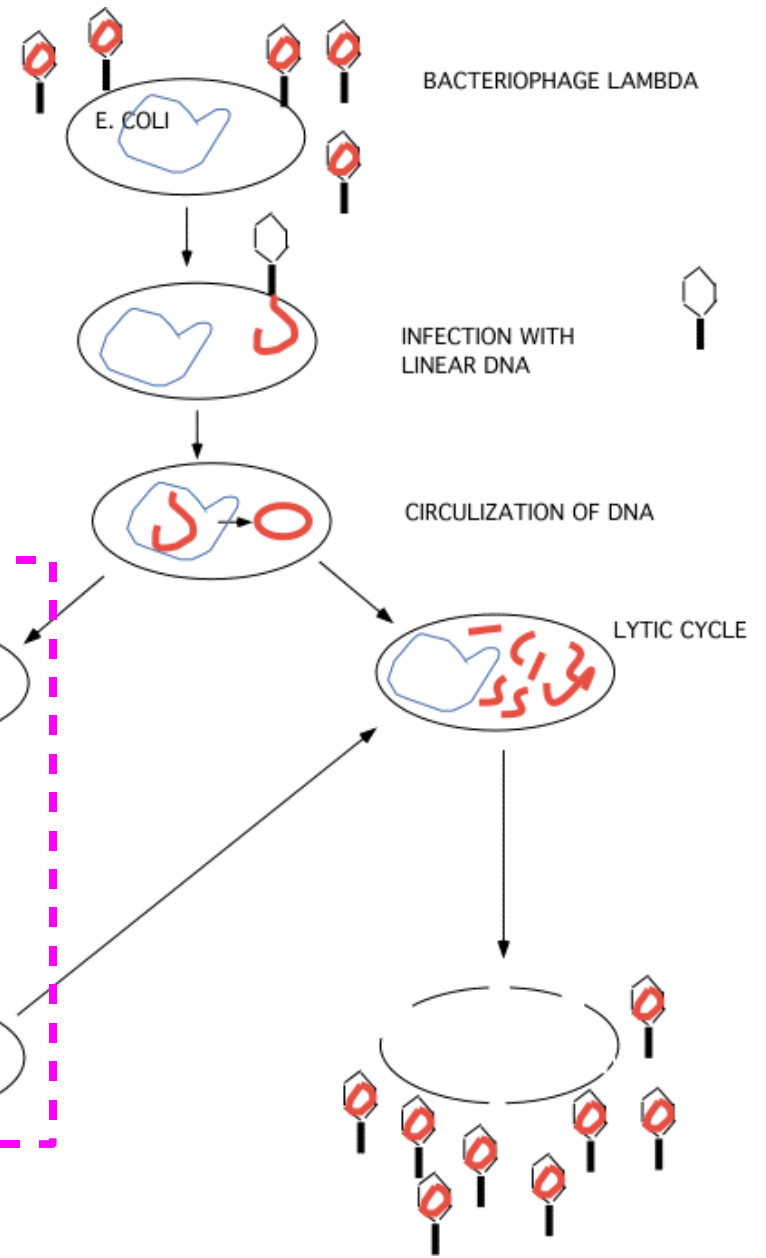
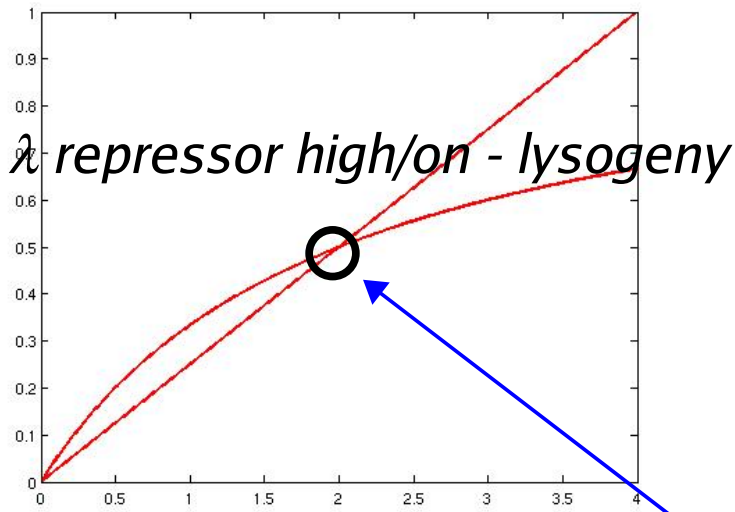
# BACK TO PHAGE LAMBDA



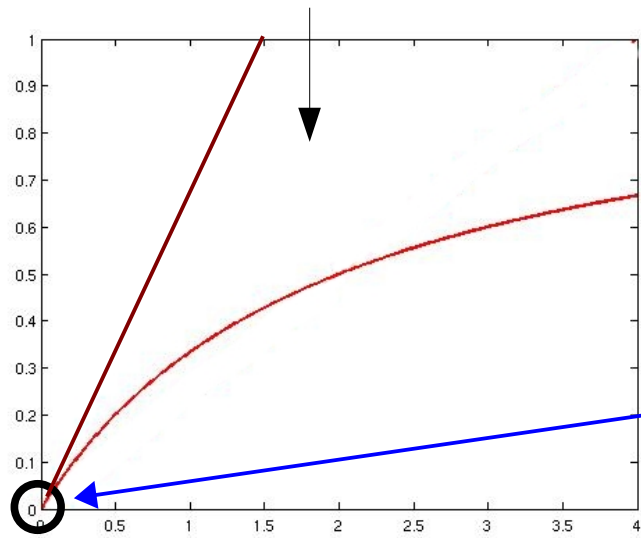
$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \lambda x_2 - ax_1$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{\alpha x_1}{k + x_1} - bx_2$$

*does this model capture the biology?*

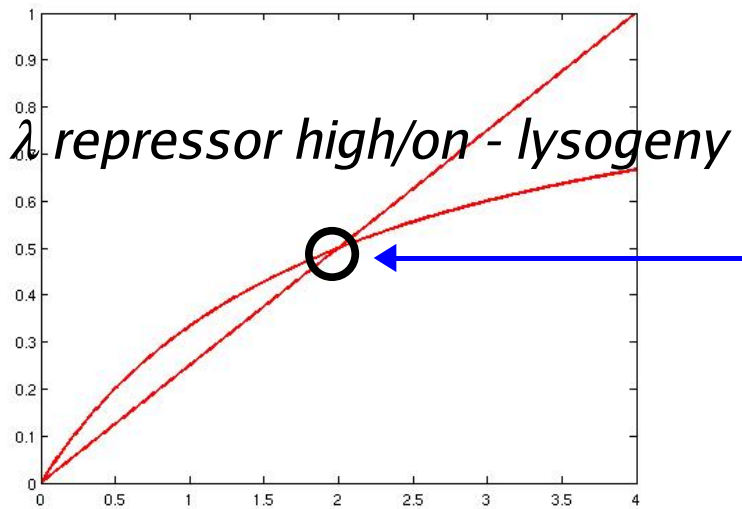
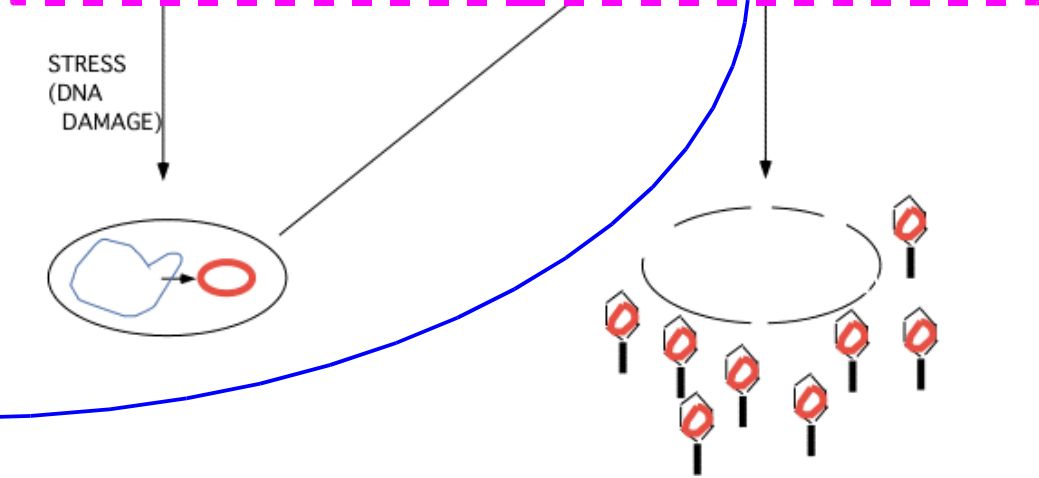
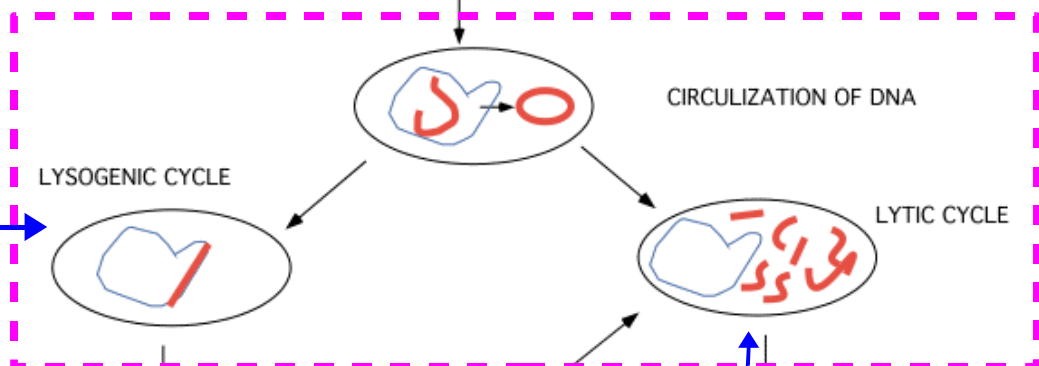
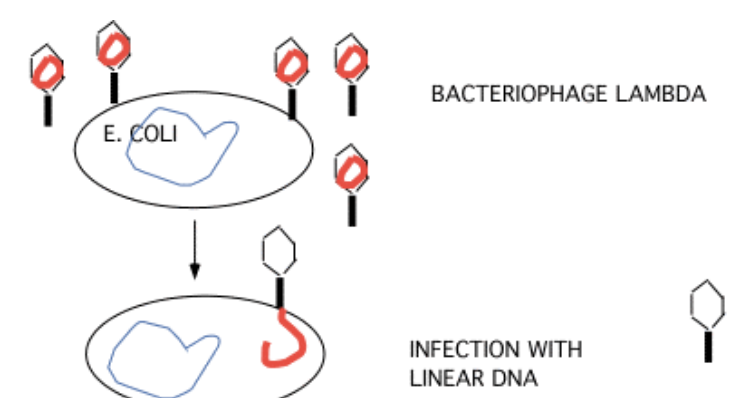


*increased degradation of  $\lambda$*

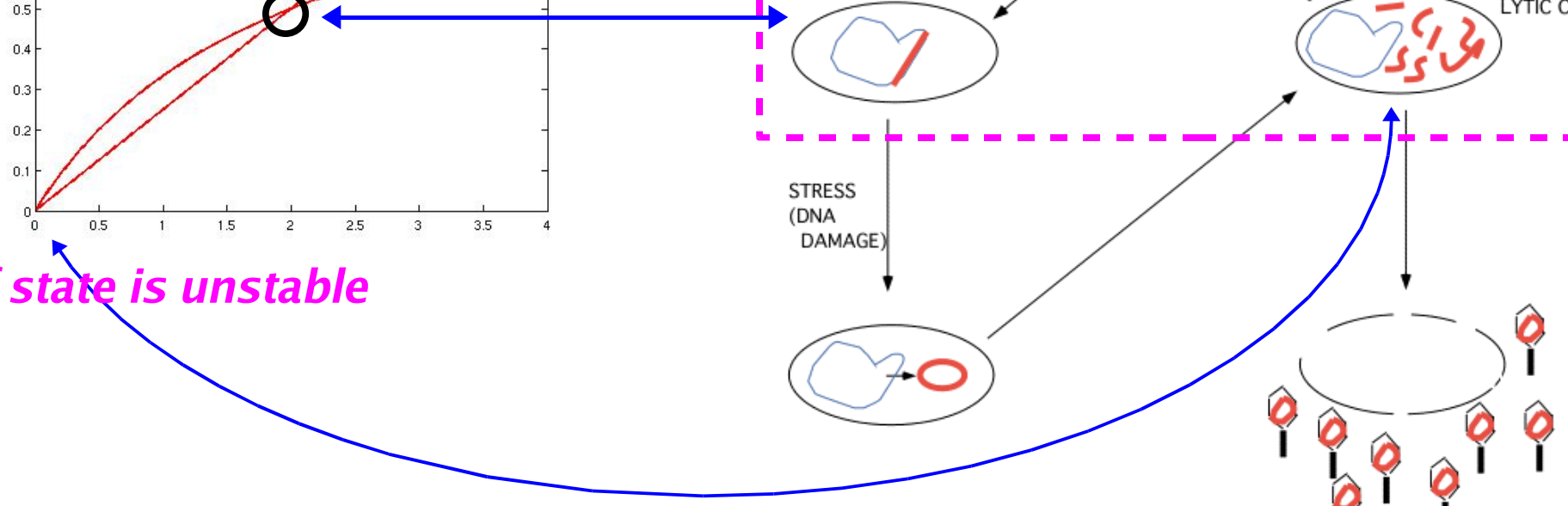


$\lambda$  repressor off - lysis

*switch is sluggish, not sharp*



*off state is unstable*



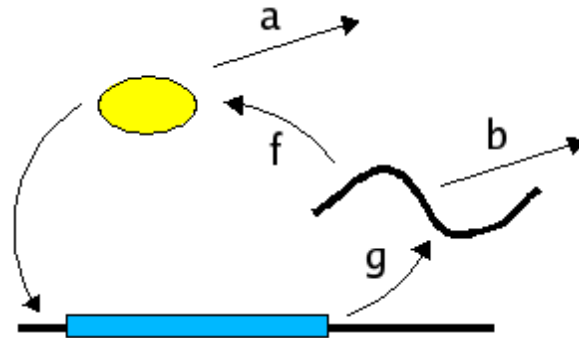
**how could the design be changed**

***to make the switch sharper***

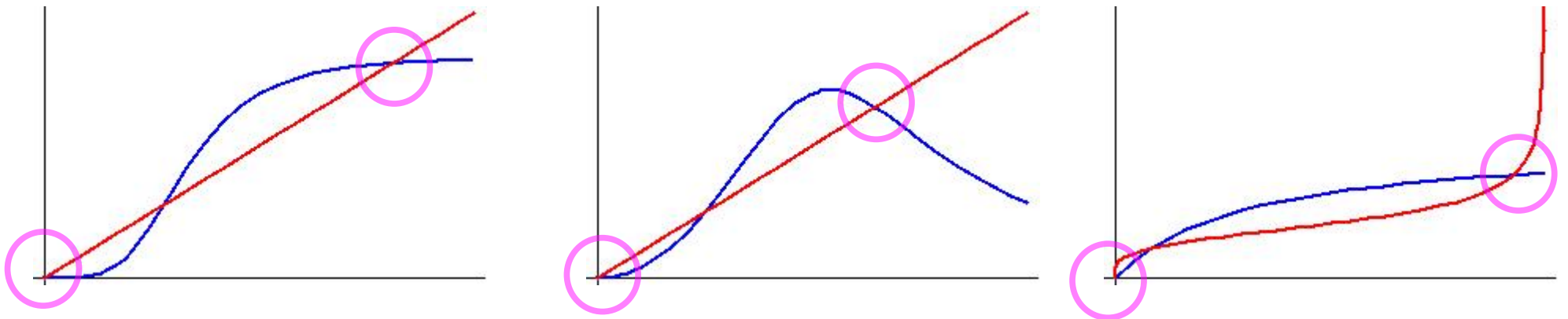
**and/or**

***the off-state stable?***

use the same basic design as before

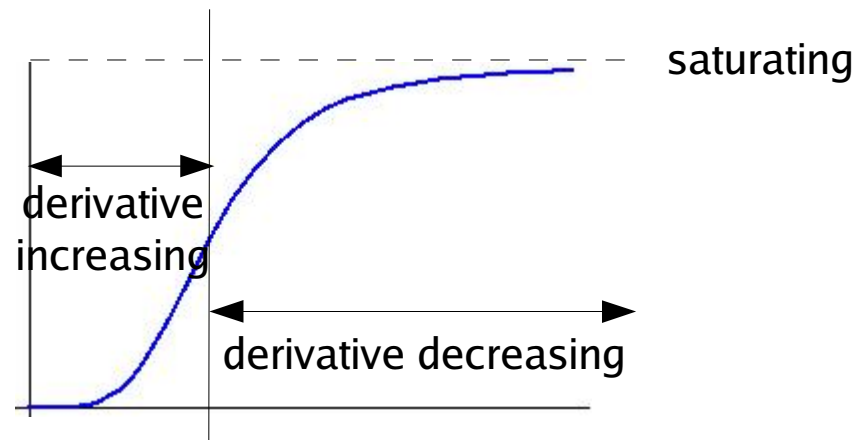


but re-design  $f$  or  $g$  to bend the nullcline(s)



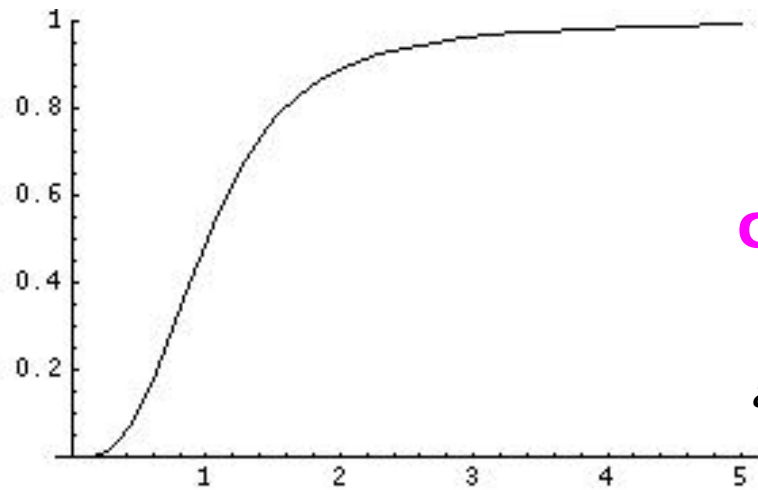
creating **two stable nodes**  
separated by an unstable **saddle**

a **sigmoidal** dose-response curve

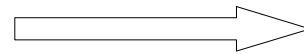


**sigmoidal** = S-shaped

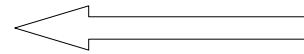
**sigmoidal curves correspond to**



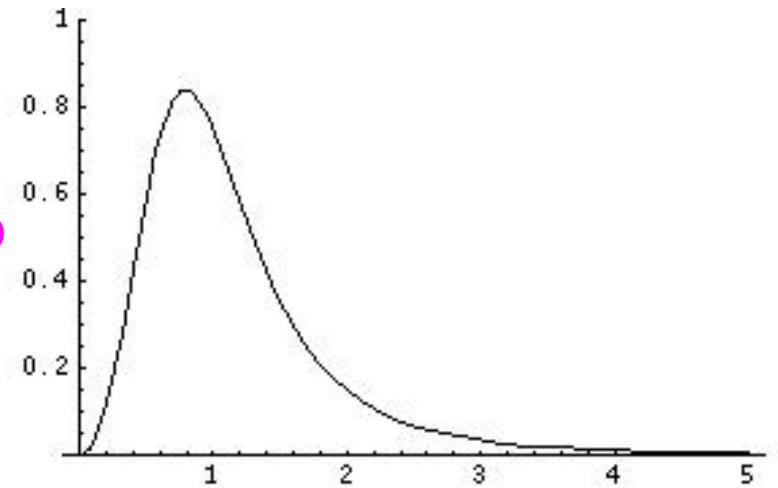
*differentiation*



**correspond to**



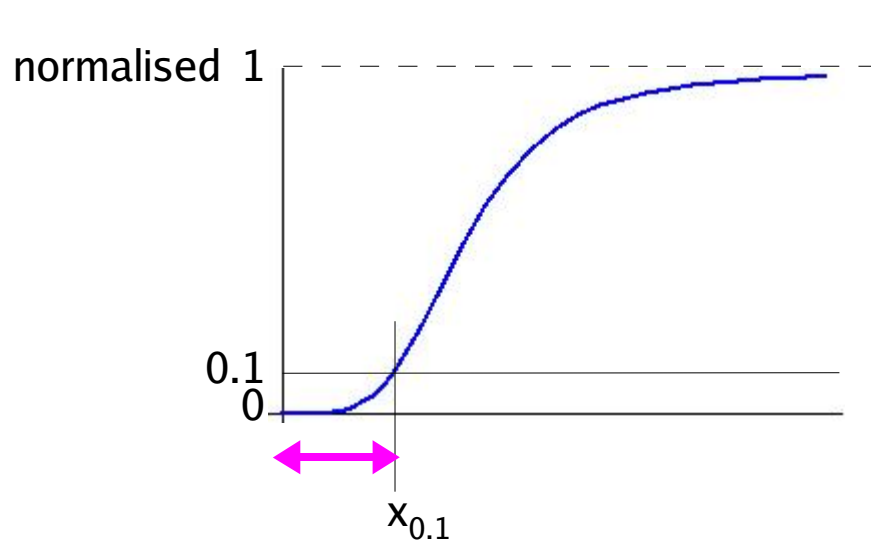
*area under the curve  
(integration)*



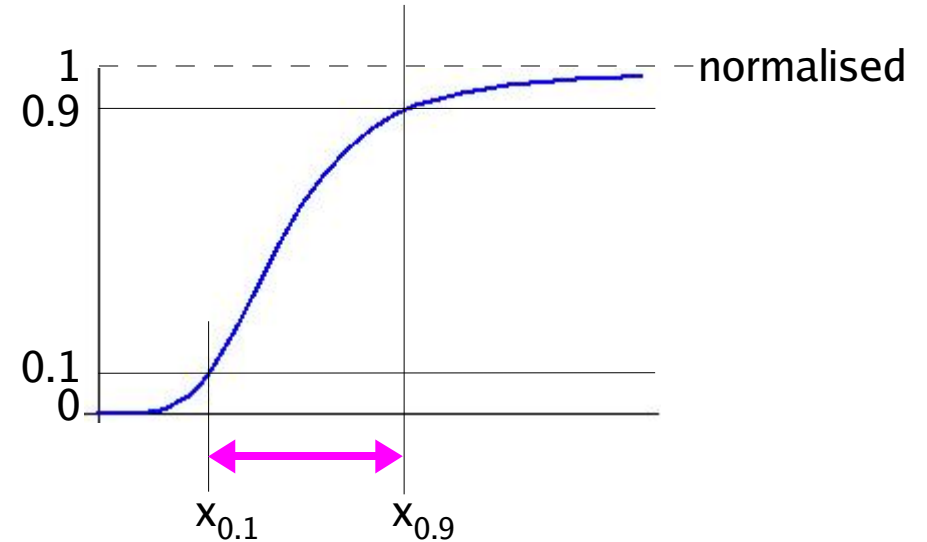
**unimodal probability distributions**



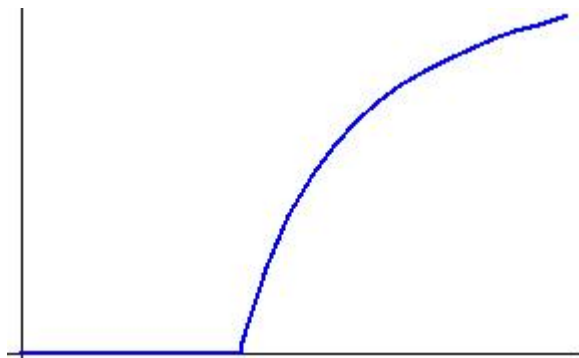
# sigmoidal curves have two independent features



they create a **threshold**  
good **threshold** = high  $x_{0.1}$



they **switch** from low to high  
good **switch** = low  $(x_{0.9} - x_{0.1})$



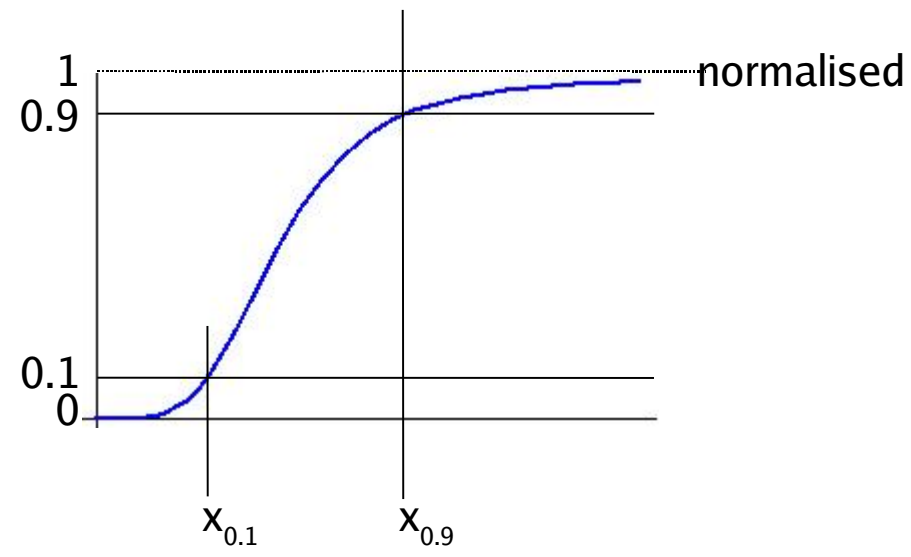
good **threshold**, poor switch



good **switch**, poor threshold

# different measures of “switching-ness”

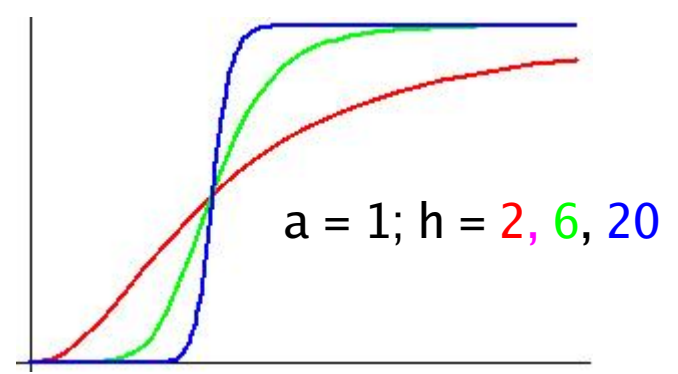
**ultrasensitivity** - a small change in dose causes a large change in response  
 Goldbeter & Koshland, PNAS 78:6840-4 1981



$\frac{x_{0.9}}{x_{0.1}}$  - **COOPERATIVITY INDEX**

CI = 81 for the standard hyperbolic curve

**ultrasensitive** - if CI < 81



$\frac{x^h}{a^h + x^h}$

**HILL COEFFICIENT**

CI =  $81^{1/h}$

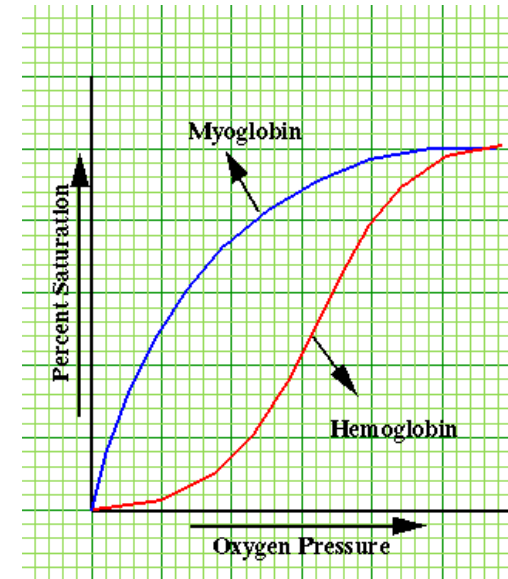
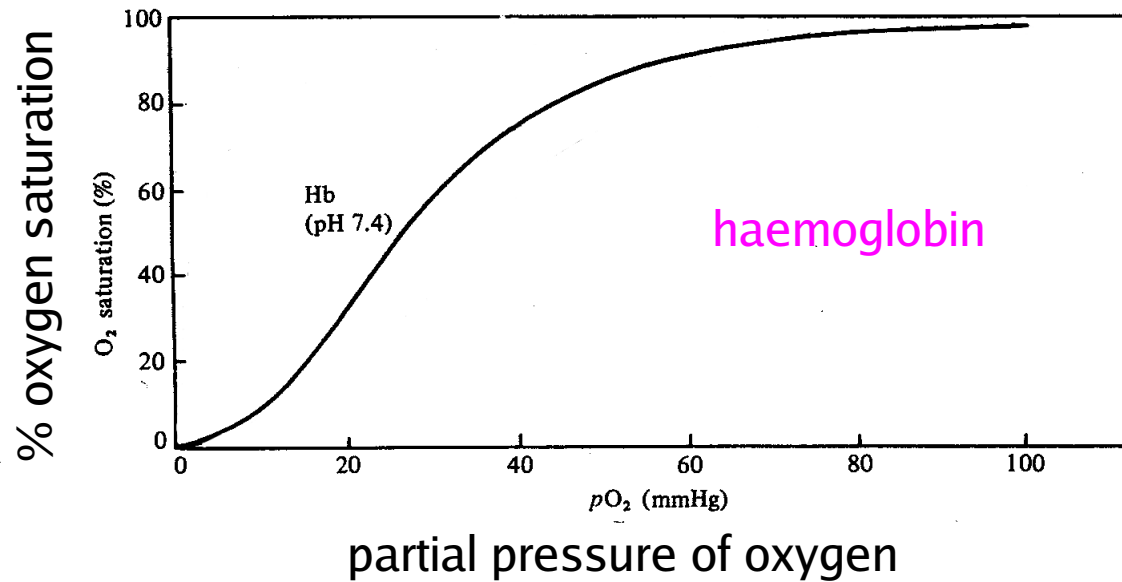
*Johan will tell you about another measure in his lectures*

cooperativity

*one interaction (eg: a binding event) changes the effect of a subsequent interaction*

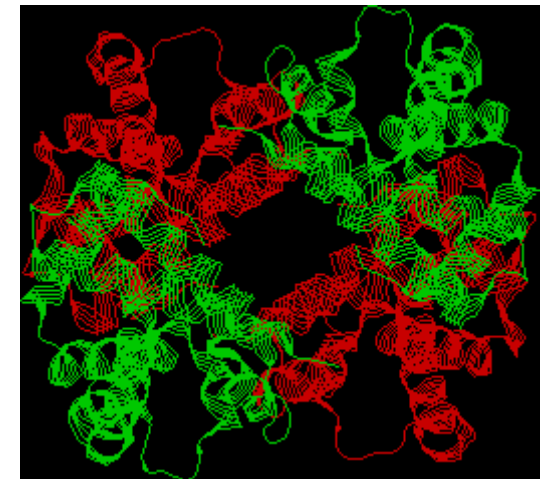
an important mechanism for creating sigmoidal dose-responses

# cooperativity in oxygen binding to haemoglobin



Christian Bohr, Boris Hasselbach & August Krogh,  
Skand. Arch. Physiol., 16:401-12, 1904

Haemoglobin cooperativity is based on **allostery**





August Krogh  
Nobel in Physiology  
1920

Teacher/student

Christian Bohr

Father/son



Niels Bohr  
Nobel in Physics  
1922

Teacher/student

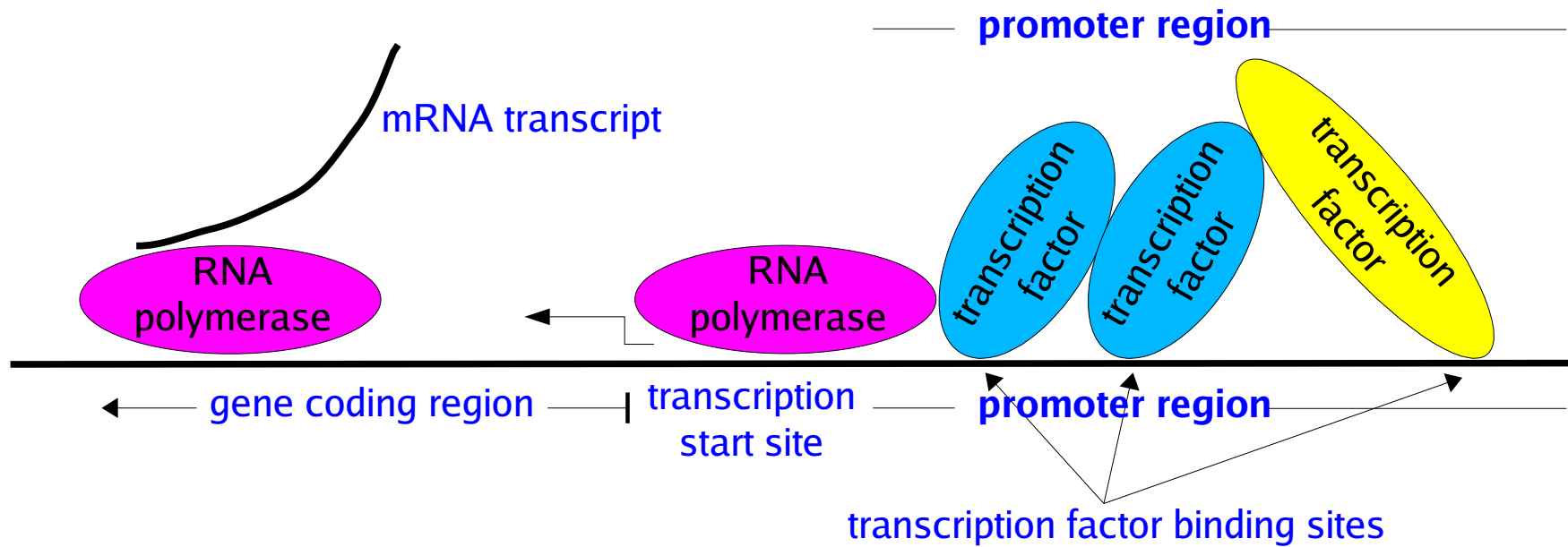


Max Delbrück  
Nobel in Physiology  
1969

**haemoglobin creates cooperativity through  
ALLOSTERY**

**phage lambda creates cooperativity through  
PROMOTER STRUCTURE**

# gene expression depends on promoter structure



# proteins

amino acids

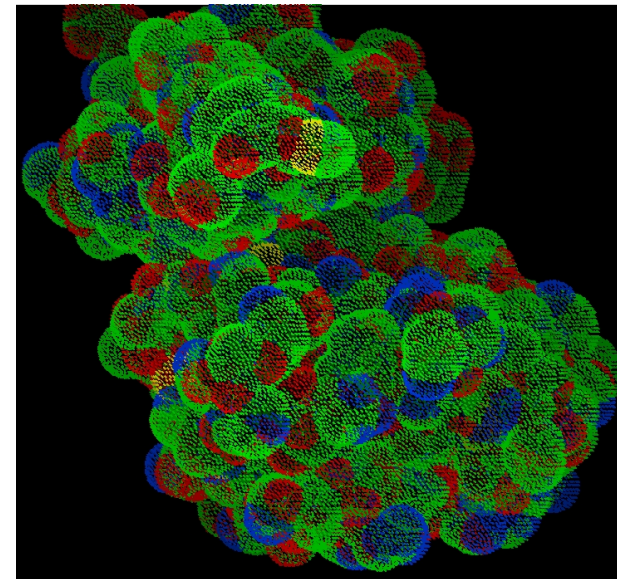
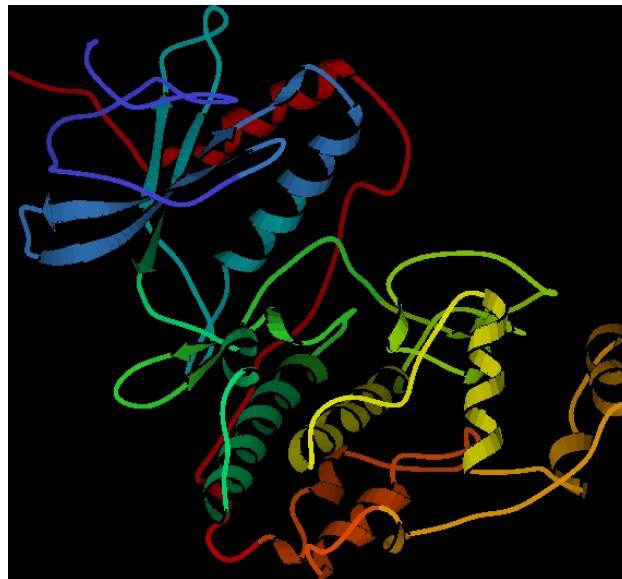
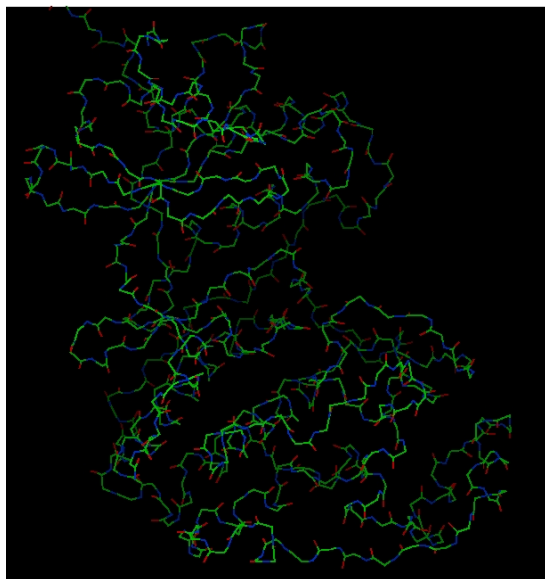
A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, Y

primary sequence

```
AAAAAAGAGP EMVRGQVFDV GPRYTNLSYI GEGAYGMVCS AYDNVNKVRV AIKKISPFEH  
QTYCQRTLRE IKILLRFRHE NIIGINDIIR APTIEQMKDV YIVQDLMETD LYKLLKTQHL  
SNDHICYFLY QILRGLKYIH SANVLHRDLK PSNLLLNTTC DLKICDFGLA RVADPDHDHT  
GFLTEYVATR WYRAPEIMLN SKGYTKSIDI WSVGCI AEM LSNRPIFGK HYLDQLNHIL  
GILGSPSQED LNCIINLKR NYLLSLPHKN KVPWNRLFPN ADSKALDLLD KMLTFNPHKR  
IEVEQAL AHP YLEQYYDPSD EPIAEAPFKF DMELDDL PKE KLKELIFEET ARFQPGYRS
```

**Erk2 – Extracellular signal Regulated Kinase** SwissProt P28482

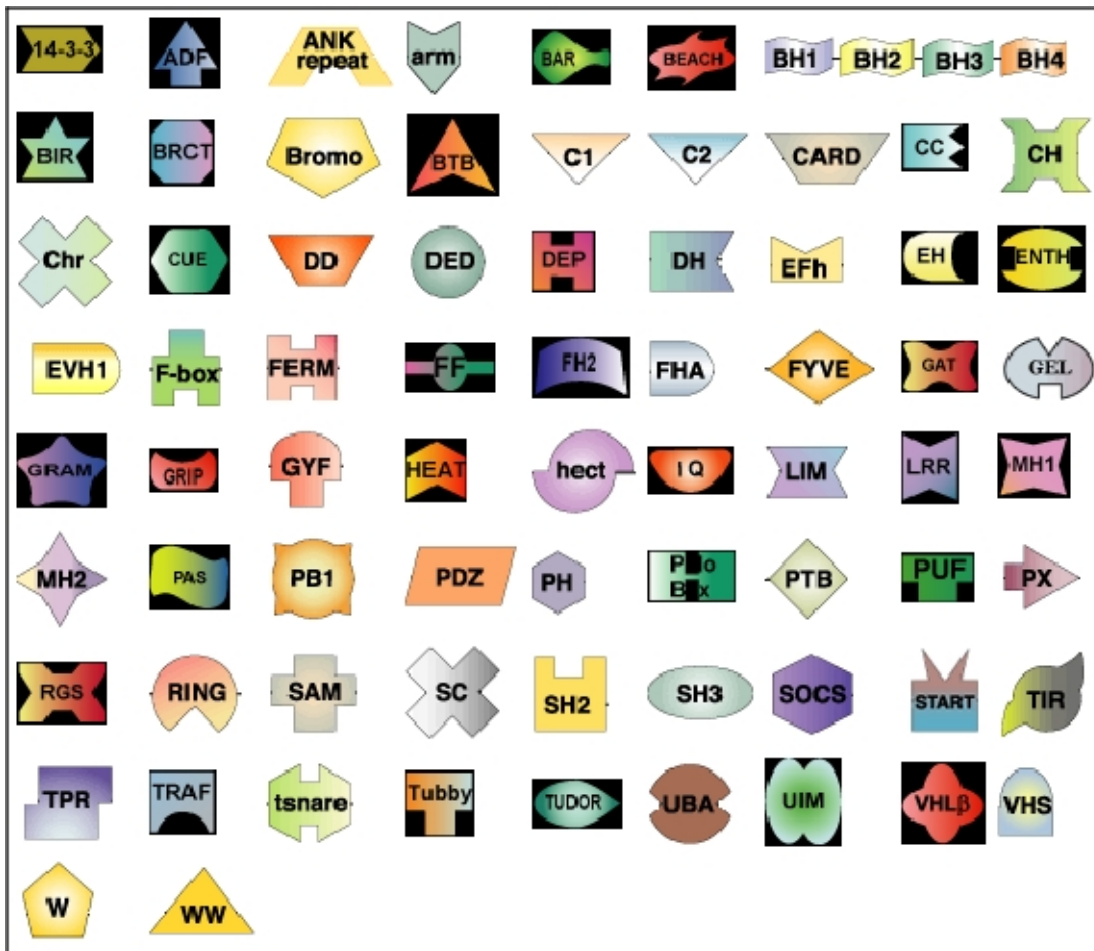
secondary structure –  $\alpha$  helices and  $\beta$  sheets





# proteins

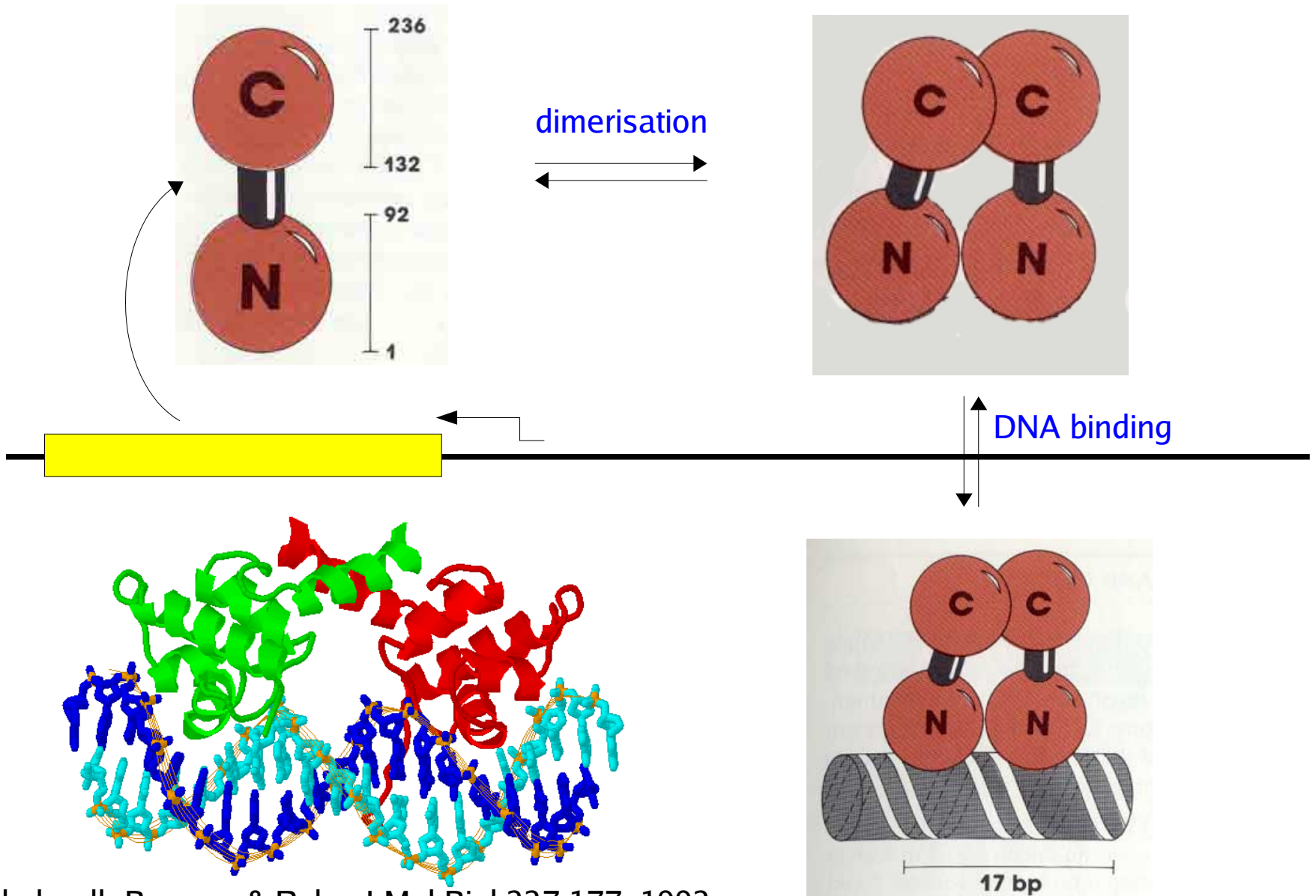
tertiary structure -> motifs



Tony Pawson's lab

<http://pawsonlab.mshri.on.ca/>

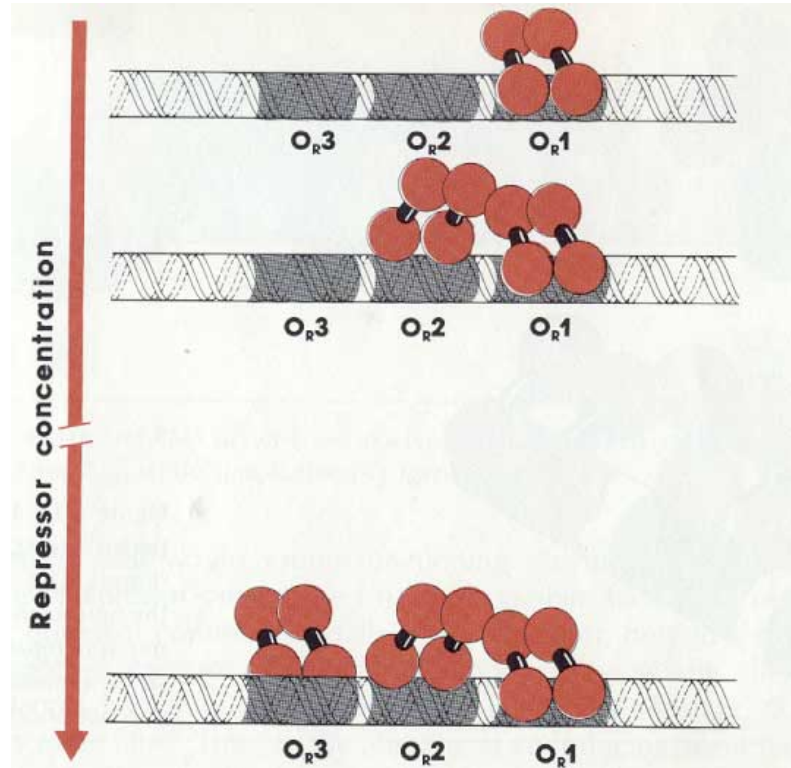
# lambda repressor – dimerisation and DNA binding



1lmb.pdb Beamer & Pabo J Mol Biol 227:177, 1992

# lambda repressor – binding to operator region

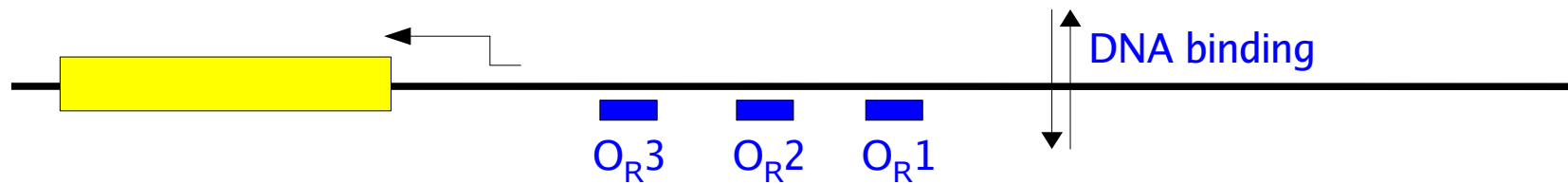
cooperative binding of repressor dimer to  $O_{R1}$  and  $O_{R2}$



*repressor transcribed at low basal rate*

*~11x increase in repressor transcription*

*repressor transcription turned off*

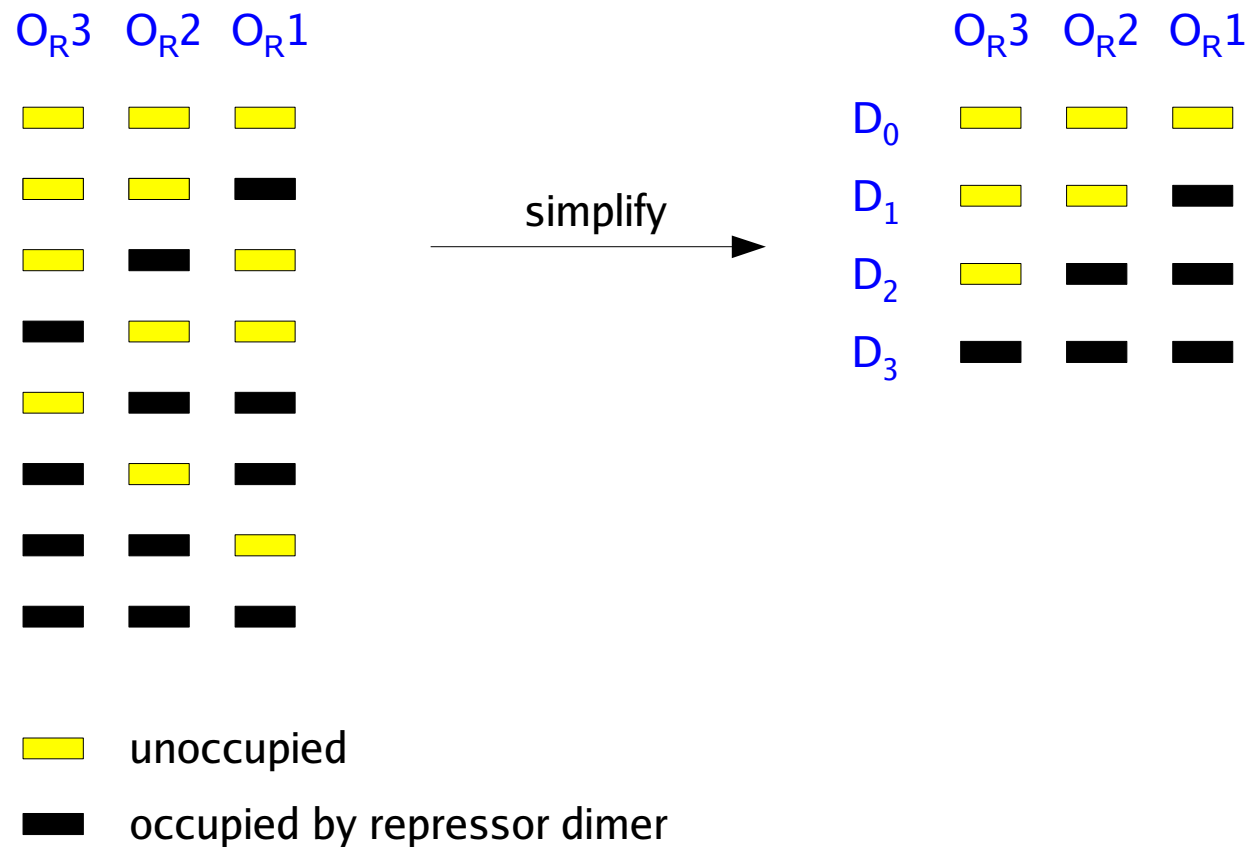


# calculating the rate of repressor expression

## Shea-Ackers model

Ackers, Johnson & Shea, PNAS 79:1129-33 1982

a general statistical mechanical model for transcription factor binding



*calculate the probabilities of finding repressor bound to DNA in each state ( $D_0$ ,  $D_1$ ,  $D_2$ ,  $D_3$ )*

*calculate the rate of gene transcription as an average over this probability distribution*