

# **Systems Biology with R**

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# Outline

- A. Basic R programming (demo)
- B. Basic concepts for ODE and biological kinetics
- C. Introduction to SBML and R packages for systems biology
- D. Case study

# A. Basic R programming

*Demo 1*

## B. Basic concepts for ODE and biological kinetics

1. Euler's Method
2. Runge-Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> Order Method
3. R package: odesolve
4. Exercise

# 1. Euler's Method



Leonhard Paul Euler ( April 15, 1707 – September 18 1783) was a pioneering Swiss mathematician and physicist, who spent most of his life in Russia and Germany. He published more papers than any other mathematician of his time.

# Euler's Method

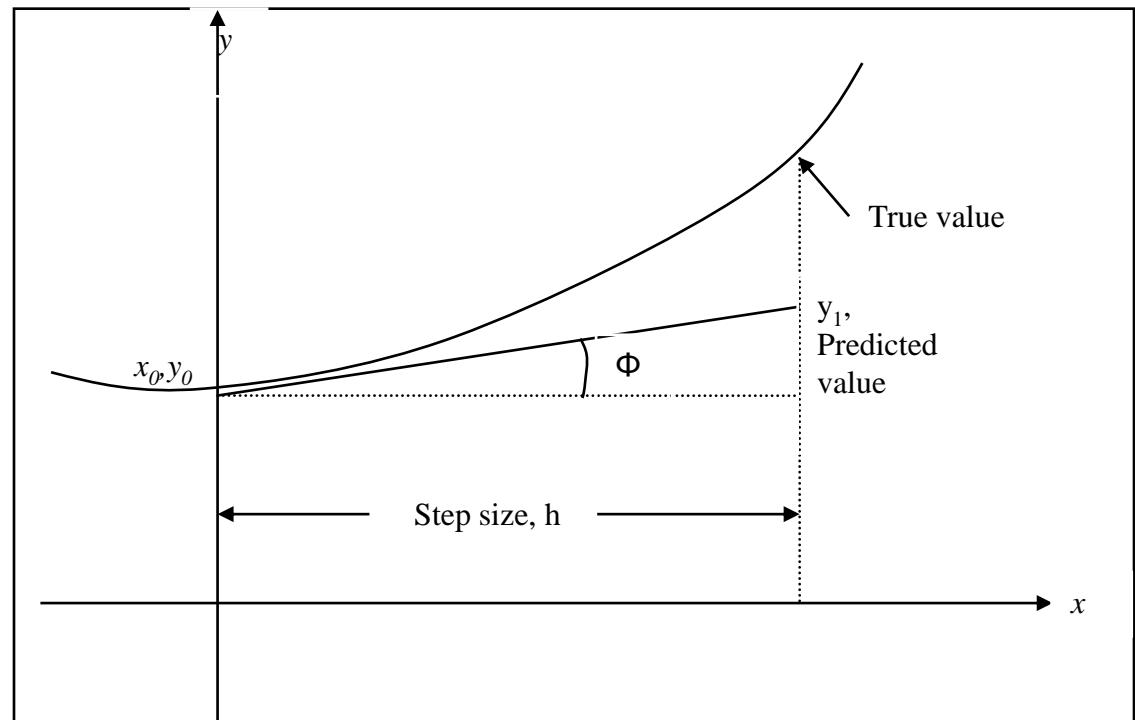
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y), y(0) = y_0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Slope} &= \frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0} \\ &= f(x_0, y_0)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}y_1 &= y_0 + f(x_0, y_0)(x_1 - x_0) \\ &= y_0 + f(x_0, y_0)h\end{aligned}$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + f(x_i, y_i)h$$

$$h = x_{i+1} - x_i$$



Graphical interpretation of the first step of Euler's method

# How to write ODE

How does one write a first order differential equation in the form of

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$$

## Example

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 1.3e^{-x}, y(0) = 5 \text{ is rewritten as } \frac{dy}{dx} = 1.3e^{-x} - 2y, y(0) = 5$$

In this case

$$f(x, y) = 1.3e^{-x} - 2y$$

# Errors in Euler's Method

Euler's method has large errors.

This can be illustrated using Taylor series.

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{dy}{dx}\Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i) + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2}\Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3}\Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i)^3 + \dots$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + f(x_i, y_i)(x_{i+1} - x_i) + \frac{1}{2!} f'(x_i, y_i)(x_{i+1} - x_i)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} f''(x_i, y_i)(x_{i+1} - x_i)^3 + \dots$$

As you can see the first two terms of the Taylor series

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + f(x_i, y_i)h \quad \text{are the Euler's method.}$$

The true error in the approximation is given by

$$E_t = \frac{f'(x_i, y_i)}{2!} h^2 + \frac{f''(x_i, y_i)}{3!} h^3 + \dots$$

$$E_t \propto h^2$$

## 2. Runge-Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> Order Method



MARTIN WILHELM KUTTA  
1867-1944

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y), y(0) = y_0$$

The 4<sup>th</sup> order method is given by

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h$$

$$k_1 = f(x_i, y_i)$$

$$k_2 = f\left(x_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}k_1 h\right)$$

$$k_3 = f\left(x_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}k_2 h\right)$$

$$k_4 = f(x_i + h, y_i + k_3 h)$$

# Precision of the 4<sup>th</sup> order R-K Method (Theorem)

Assume that  $y = y(t)$  is the solution to the I.V.P.  $y' = f(t, y)$  with  $y(t_0) = y_0$ . If  $y(t) \in C^2[t_0, b]$  and  $((t_k, y_k))_{k=0}^m$  is the sequence of approximations generated by the Runge-Kutta method of order 4, then at each step, the local truncation error is of the order  $O(h^5)$ , and the overall global truncation error  $e_k$  is of the order

$$|e_k| = |y(t_k) - y_k| = O(h^4), \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots, m.$$

The error at the right end of the interval is called the final global error

$$E(y(b), h) = |y(b) - y_m| = O(h^4).$$

### 3. R package: odesolve

- **odesolve: Solvers for Ordinary Differential Equations**
- This package provides an interface for the ODE solver lsoda.
- ODEs are expressed as R functions or as compiled code.
  - **lsoda** Solve System of ODE (ordinary differential equation)s.

# R function: lsode

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y), y(0) = y_0$$

$dx/dt = 8x$  from  $t = 1$  to  $t = 8$  with initial condition  $x(1) = 5$

- `lsoda(y, times, func, parms, rtol, atol, tcrit=NULL, jacfunc=NULL, verbose=FALSE, dllname=NULL, hmin=0, hmax=Inf)`
  - `y`: the initial values for the ode system.
  - `times`: times at which explicit estimates for `y` are desired. The first value in `times` must be the initial time.
  - `func`: the user-supplied function that computes the values of the derivatives in the ode system (the *model definition*) at time `t`. it must be called as: `yprime = func(t, y, parms)`.

# R function: lsode

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y), y(0) = y_0$$

$dx/dt = 8x$  from  $t = 1$  to  $t = 8$  with initial condition  $x(1) = 5$

- `lsoda(y, times, func, parms, rtol, atol, tcrit=NULL, jacfunc=NULL, verbose=FALSE, dllname=NULL, hmin=0, hmax=Inf)`
  - `parms`: any parameters used in `func` that should be modifiable without rewriting the function.
  - `rtol`: relative error tolerance, either a scalar or an array as long as `y`.
  - `atol`: absolute error tolerance, either a scalar or an array as long as `y`.

# Practice makes perfect



## 4. Exercise

1. Numerically solve ODE  $dx/dt = 8x$  from  $t = 1$  to  $t = 8$  with initial condition  $x(1) = 5$
2. Numerically solve system of ODEs  
 $dw/dt = 8w,$   
 $dz/dt = 3w + 7z$   
from  $t = 1$  to  $t = 8$  with initial conditions  
 $w(1) = 5, z(1) = 6.5$   
  
(Ex. 3~5 skipped)

# Steps for coding

- First implement function: `return a list, multiple variables`
- Then do `y=lsoda(y0, t, f, NA)`
  - The first column of `y`, namely `y[,1]` contains the time values;
  - the second , third ...columns `y[,2], y[,3]...` contains the corresponding function values: `multiple variables`
  - Here we have two ODEs, in systems biology it could be 100s to 1000s of ODEs.

# Steps for coding

- First implement function: `return a list, multiple variables`
- Then do `y=lsoda(y0, t, f, NA)`
  - The first column of `y`, namely `y[,1]` contains the time values;
  - the second , third ...columns `y[,2], y[,3]...` contains the corresponding function values: `multiple variables`

```
f = function(t, x, parms) {  
  return(list(8*x))  
}
```

```
# Then to obtain solution values  
# at times 1; 1.1; 1.2; : : : ; 7. 9; 8.
```

```
library(odesolve)  
t<-seq(1,8,0.1);  
y=lsoda(5, t, f,NA)
```

## C. Introduction to SBML and R packages for systems biology

- What is SBML

A machine-readable format for representing computational models in systems biology

- Expressed in XML using an XML Schema
- Intended for software tools—not for humans (Although it is text-based and therefore readable)

Intended to be a tool-neutral exchange language for software applications in systems biology

- Simply an enabling technology

- R packages for systems biology: SBMLR

# Why SBML?

- Modeling, simulation & analysis are critical
  - Huge volumes of data
  - Many disparate findings
- Rapid rate of software tool development
  - Roles: data filtering, model creation, model simulation
  - Many groups are creating many tools
    - Different packages have different niche strengths reflecting expertise & preferences of the group
    - Strengths are often complementary to those of other packages

# Complementary Strengths of Tools

	Tool 1	Tool 2	Tool 3	Tool 4	Tool 5	Tool 6	Tool 7
Multistate reactions/stochastic						■	
Reaction/Diffusion		■					
Optimization	■	■			■		
Bifurcation analysis		■					
Visualization of networks					■		
Handle large systems			■			■	■

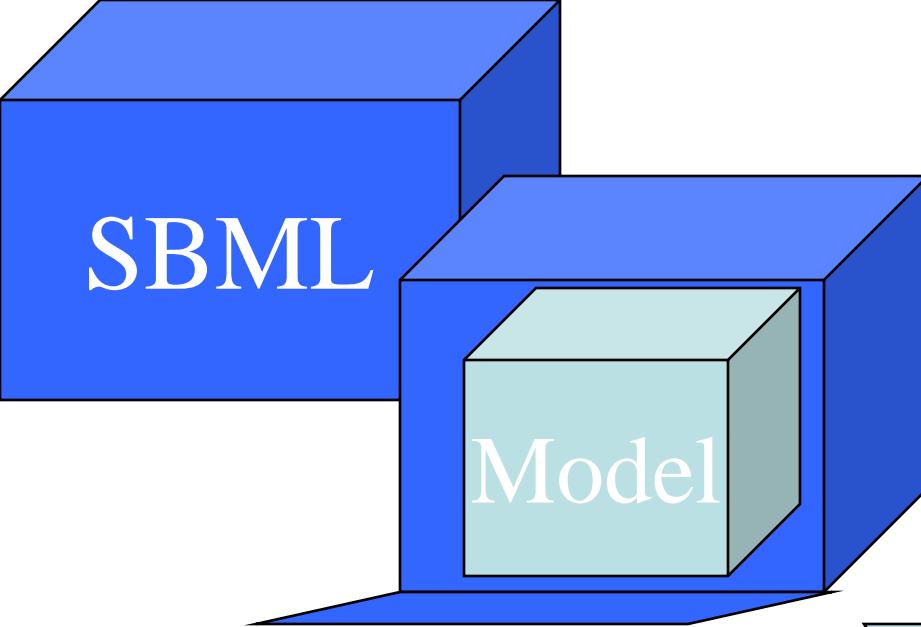
# Goal & Approach

- Systems Biology Workbench goal: **to provide software infrastructure that**
  - Enables sharing of simulation/analysis software & models
  - Enables collaboration between software developers
- Two-pronged approach:
  - Develop a common model exchange language
    - **SBML: Systems Biology Markup Language**
  - Develop an environment that enables tools to interact
    - **SBW: Systems Biology Workbench**

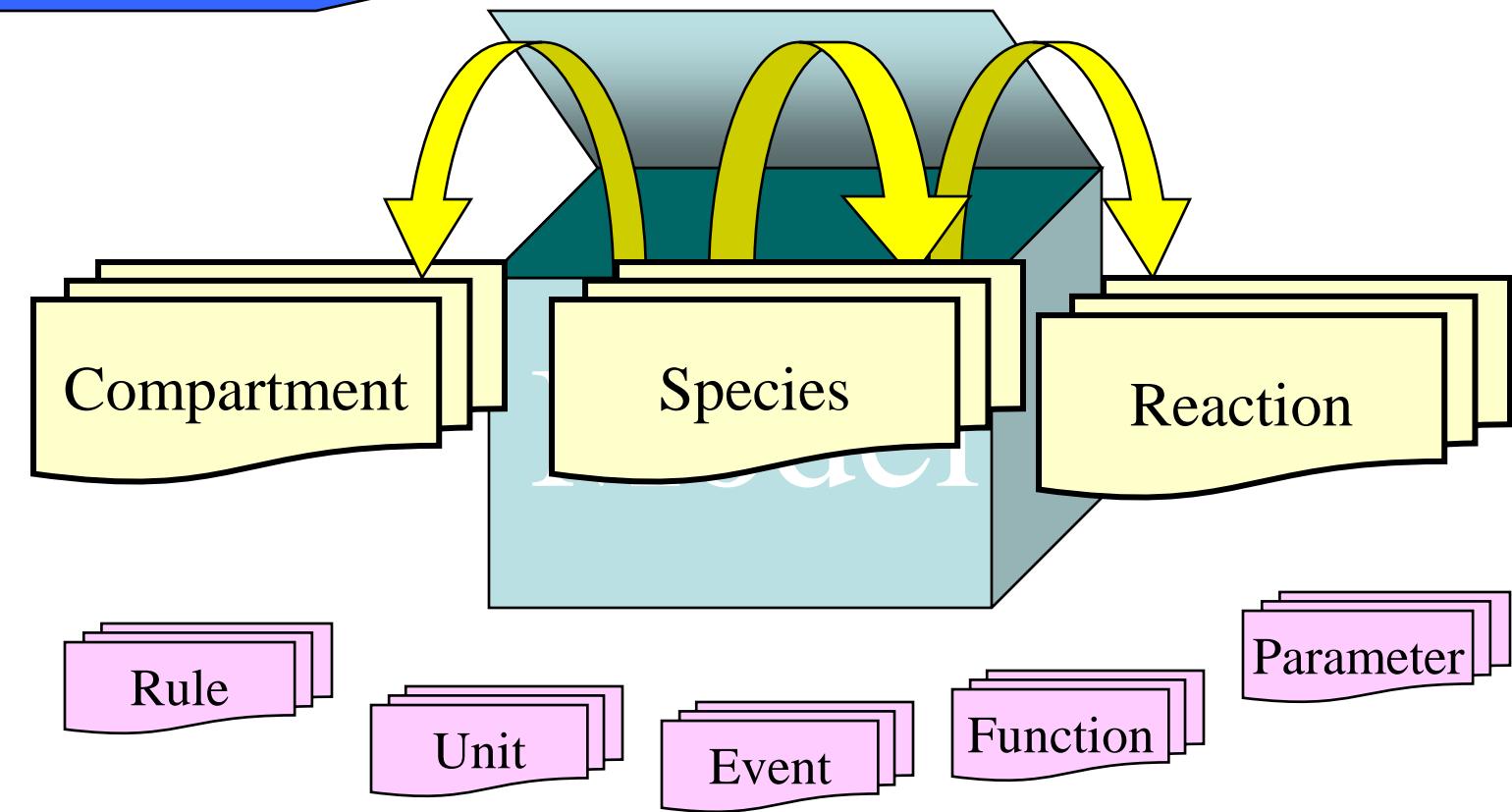
# Structure of Models Expressed in SBML

## Reaction networks described by list of components:

- Beginning of SBML model definition
  - List of function definitions (new in Level 2)
  - List of unit definitions
  - List of compartments
  - List of species
  - List of parameters
  - List of rules
  - List of reactions
  - List of events (new in Level 2)
- End of SBML model definition



**SBML Wrapper Contains  
One Model**



# Compartment List

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sbml xmlns = "http://www.sbml.org/sbml/level1" level = "1" version = "1">
  <model name = "ATitle">
    <listOfCompartments>
    </listOfCompartments>
    <listOfSpecies>
    </listOfSpecies>
    <listOfReactions>
    </listOfReactions>
  </model>
</sbml>
```

# Species List

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sbml xmlns = "http://www.sbml.org/sbml/level1" level = "1" version =
"1">
  <model name = "ATitle">
    <listOfCompartments>
    </listOfCompartments>
    <listOfSpecies>
    </listOfSpecies>
    <listOfReactions>
    </listOfReactions>
  </model>
</sbml>
```

# Reaction List

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<sbml xmlns = "http://www.sbml.org/sbml/level1" level = "1" version =
"1">
  <model name = "ATitle">
    <listOfCompartments>
      </listOfCompartments>
    <listOfSpecies>
      </listOfSpecies>
    <b><listOfReactions></listOfReactions></b>
    </model>
  </sbml>
```

# Reactions in Close-up

## <listOfReactions>

```
<reaction id="R01">
  <listOfReactants>
    <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
  <listOfReactants>
  <listOfProducts>
    <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
  </listOfProducts>
  <listOfModifiers>
    <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
  </listOfModifiers>
  <kineticLaw>
    <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
      <apply>
        <times/>
        <ci> k1 </ci>
        <ci> X0 </ci>
        <ci> M1 </ci>
      </apply>
    </math>
    <listOfParameters>
      <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
    </listOfParameters>
  </kineticLaw>
  </reaction>
```

## </listOfReactions>

# Reaction Wrapper

```
<listOfReactions>

<reaction id="R01">
    <listOfReactants>
        <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
    <listOfReactants>
    <listOfProducts>
        <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
    </listOfProducts>
    <listOfModifiers>
        <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers>
    <kineticLaw>
        <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
            <apply>
                <times/>
                <ci> k1 </ci>
                <ci> X0 </ci>
                <ci> M1 </ci>
            </apply>
        </math>
        <listOfParameters>
            <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
        </listOfParameters>
    </kineticLaw>
</reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# Reactants

```
<listOfReactions>
  <reaction id="R01">
    <b><listOfReactants></listOfReactants></b>
      <b><speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/></b>
    <b><listOfReactants></listOfReactants></b>
    <listOfProducts>
      <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
    </listOfProducts>
    <listOfModifiers>
      <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers>
    <kineticLaw>
      <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
        <apply>
          <times/>
          <ci> k1 </ci>
          <ci> X0 </ci>
          <ci> M1 </ci>
        </apply>
      </math>
      <listOfParameters>
        <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
      </listOfParameters>
    </kineticLaw>
  </reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# Products

```
<listOfReactions>
  <reaction id="R01">
    <listOfReactants>
      <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
    <listOfReactants>
      <b><listOfProducts>
        <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
      </listOfProducts></b>
    <listOfModifiers>
      <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers>
    <kineticLaw>
      <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
        <apply>
          <times/>
          <ci> k1 </ci>
          <ci> X0 </ci>
          <ci> M1 </ci>
        </apply>
      </math>
      <listOfParameters>
        <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
      </listOfParameters>
    </kineticLaw>
  </reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# Modifiers

```
<listOfReactions>
  <reaction id="R01">
    <listOfReactants>
      <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
    <listOfReactants>
    <listOfProducts>
      <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
    </listOfProducts>
    <b><listOfModifiers>
      <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers></b>
    <kineticLaw>
      <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
        <apply>
          <times/>
          <ci> k1 </ci>
          <ci> X0 </ci>
          <ci> M1 </ci>
        </apply>
      </math>
      <listOfParameters>
        <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
      </listOfParameters>
    </kineticLaw>
  </reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# Kinetic Law

```
<listOfReactions>
  <reaction id="R01">
    <listOfReactants>
      <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
    <listOfReactants>
    <listOfProducts>
      <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
    </listOfProducts>
    <listOfModifiers>
      <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers>
```

## <kineticLaw>

```
  <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
    <apply>
      <times/>
      <ci> k1 </ci>
      <ci> X0 </ci>
      <ci> M1 </ci>
    </apply>
  </math>
  <listOfParameters>
    <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
  </listOfParameters>
```

## </kineticLaw>

```
  </reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# MathML Describes Equation (Level 2)

```
<listOfReactions>
  <reaction id="R01">
    <listOfReactants>
      <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
    <listOfReactants>
    <listOfProducts>
      <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
    </listOfProducts>
    <listOfModifiers>
      <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers>
    <kineticLaw>
      <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
        <apply>
          <times/>
          <ci> k1 </ci>
          <ci> X0 </ci>
          <ci> M1 </ci>
        </apply>
      </math>
      <listOfParameters>
        <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
      </listOfParameters>
    </kineticLaw>
  </reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# Parameters Used in Equation

```
<listOfReactions>
  <reaction id="R01">
    <listOfReactants>
      <speciesReference species="X0" stoichiometry="1"/>
    <listOfReactants>
    <listOfProducts>
      <speciesReference species="S1" stoichiometry="1"/>
    </listOfProducts>
    <listOfModifiers>
      <modifierSpeciesReference species="M1"/>
    </listOfModifiers>
    <kineticLaw>
      <math xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1998/Math/MathML">
        <apply>
          <times/>
          <ci> k1 </ci>
          <ci> X0 </ci>
          <ci> M1 </ci>
        </apply>
      </math>
    <listOfParameters>
      <parameter id="k1" value="0"/>
    </listOfParameters>
  </kineticLaw>
  </reaction>
</listOfReactions>
```

# Notes and Annotations

- Notes
  - Enclosed in <notes> ... </notes> tags
  - To be read by humans (e.g. comments)
- Annotations
  - Enclosed in <annotation> ... </annotation> tags
  - To be read by machines (e.g. tool-specific information)

# Some Common Themes

- SBML is useful as a common exchange format for transferring computational biochemical reaction models between software tools
  - It is an intermediate, common-denominator format
  - Therefore, it may not capture everything that every tool can represent—the transformation may be lossy
    - (But: tools can add their own annotations)
- It is *not* suited for representing experimental data
- It is *not* suited for representing numerical results
- It is *not* suited to be a database format for molecular databases

# R packages for systems biology: SBMLR

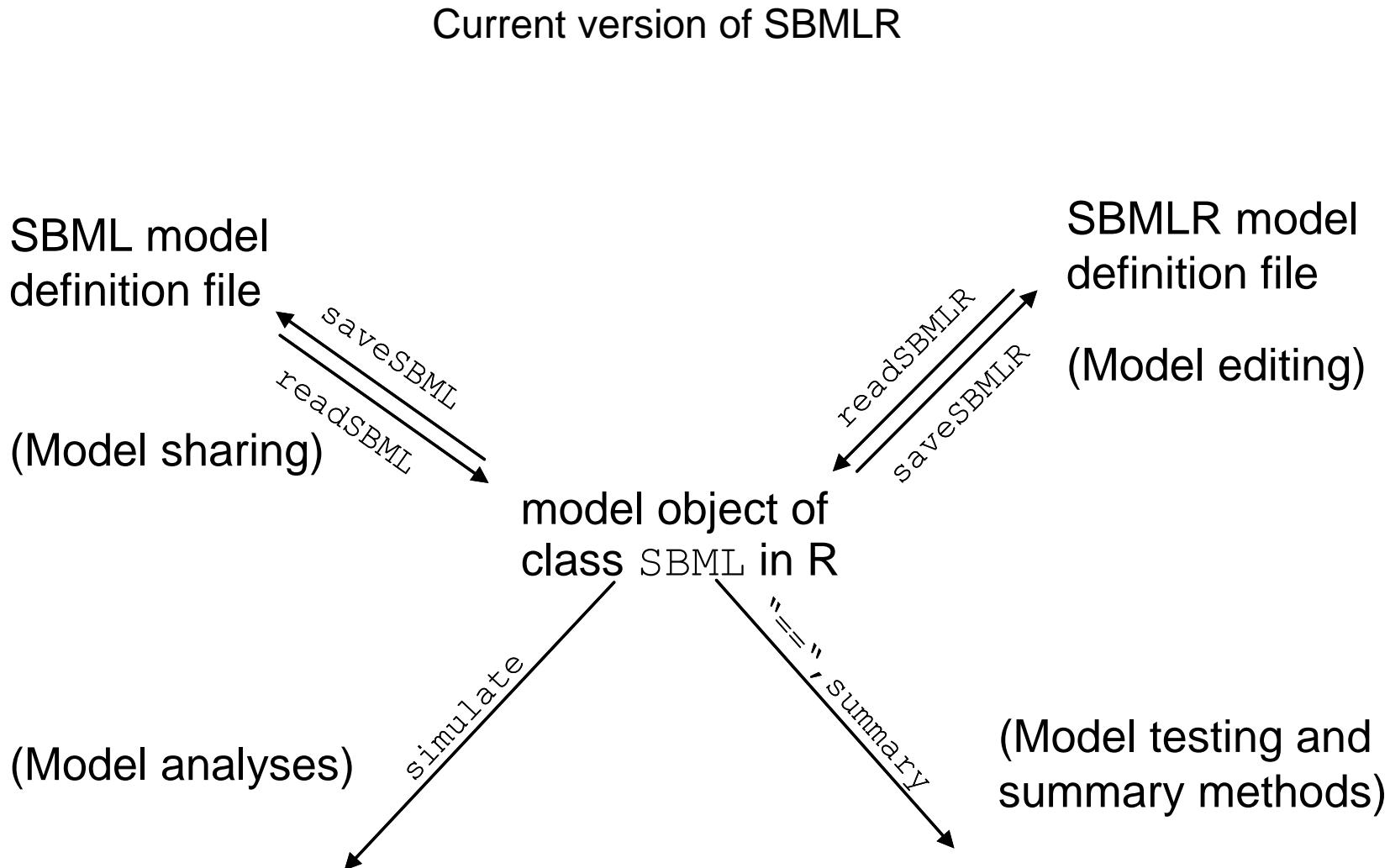
## Quick Intro to SBMLR

Tom Radivoyevitch

March 30, 2012

## Introduction

*SBMLR* reads SBML files to and from an SBML-like R list of lists core object of class SBML, and it reads and writes these core objects into R text files that are well structured and light weight for editing. It also facilitates model simulations and model summaries.



# D. Case study

## Mathematical models of purine metabolism in man

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Ci Martí i Franques, 1, 08028 Barcelona, Catalunya, Spain

<sup>b</sup> Department of Biometry and Epidemiology, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston,  
SC 29425-2503, USA

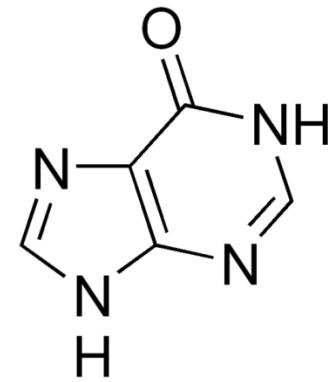
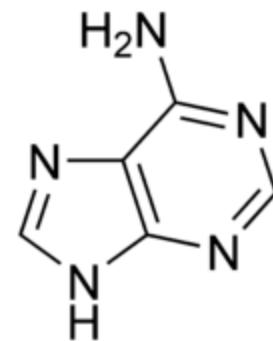
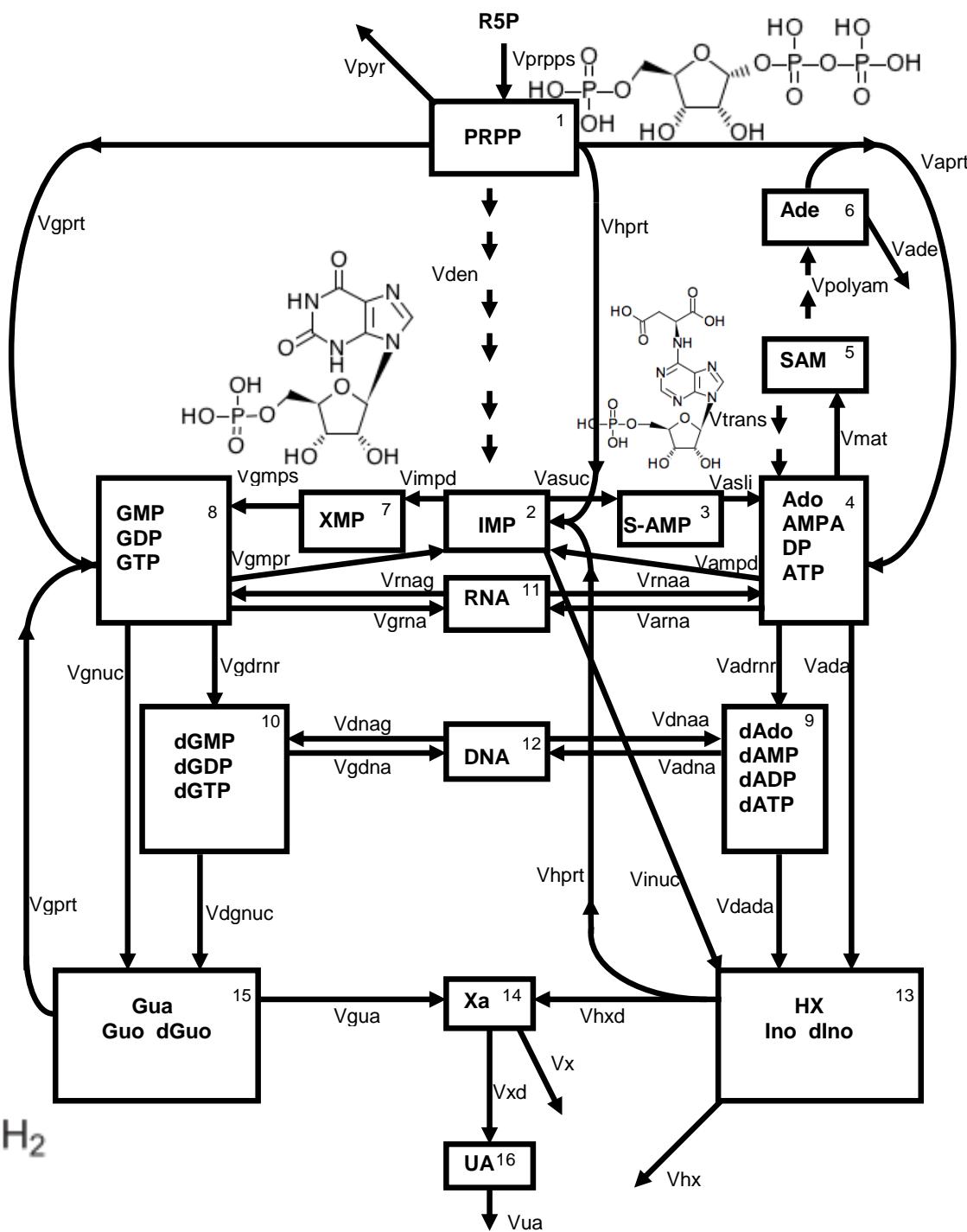
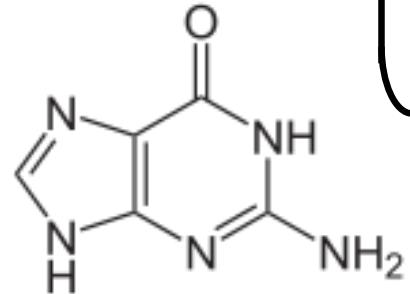
<sup>c</sup> Departament de Ciències Mèdiques Bàsiques, Facultat de Medicina, Universitat de Lleida,  
25198 Lleida, Catalunya, Spain

Received 27 November 1996; received in revised form 2 February 1998

## Abbreviations

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Metabolite</i>	<i>Variable</i>
PRPP	Phosphoribosylpyrophosphate	$X_1$
IMP	Inosine monophosphate	$X_2$
S-AMP	Adenylosuccinate	$X_3$
Ado	Adenosine	
AMP	Adenosine monophosphate	$X_4$
ADP	Adenosine diphosphate	
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate	
SAM	S-adenosyl-L-methionine	$X_5$
Ade	Adenine	$X_6$
XMP	Xanthosine monophosphate	$X_7$
GMP	Guanosine monophosphate	
GDP	Guanosine diphosphate	$X_8$
GTP	Guanosine triphosphate	
dAdo	Deoxyadenosine	
dAMP	Deoxyadenosine monophosphate	$X_9$
dADP	Deoxyadenosine diphosphate	
dATP	Deoxyadenosine triphosphate	

dGMP	Deoxyguanosine monophosphate	$X_{10}$
dGDP	Deoxyguanosine diphosphate	
dGTP	Deoxyguanosine triphosphate	
RNA	Ribonucleic acid	$X_{11}$
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid	$X_{12}$
HX	Hypoxanthine	
Ino	Inosine	$X_{13}$
dIno	Deoxyinosine	
Xa	Xanthine	$X_{14}$
Gua	Guanine	
Guo	Guanosine	$X_{15}$
dGuo	Deoxyguanosine	
UA	Uric acid	$X_{16}$
R5P	Ribose-5-phosphate	$X_{17}$
Pi	Phosphate	$X_{18}$



# Demo 3

## R3a-curtoNatural.r

### Curto.xml:

It cannot be run directly by R, but  
SBMLR can transfer ...

```
curto=readSBML("curto.xml")
curtoR=readSBMLR("curto.r")
curto==curtoR
```

(R3b-runCurto.r)

