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# Time delays in stochastic systems

Jacek Miękisz Institute of Applied Mathematics University of Warsaw

# Why time delays may cause oscillations?

#### Example

$$x(t) \in \{-m, -m+1, ..., 0, ...m-1, m\}$$
 t=0,1,...



let us introduce a time delay 0 < au < m

$$x(t+1) = \begin{cases} x(t)+1 & if \ x(t-\tau) < 0, \\ x(t)-1 & if \ x(t-\tau) > 0, \\ x(t) & if \ x(t-\tau) = 0. \end{cases} \text{ initial conditions}$$

there appears an asymptotically stable cycle of amplitude  $~~\tau$  and period  $~~4\tau\,{+}\,2$ 

## Let us introduce stochastic perturbations

$$x(t+1) = \begin{cases} x(t) + 1 & if \ x(t-\tau) < 0, \\ x(t) - 1 & if \ x(t-\tau) > 0, \\ x(t) & if \ x(t-\tau) = 0. \end{cases} \text{ with probability 1 - } \epsilon$$

$$x(t+1) = x(t)$$
 with probability  $\varepsilon$ 

we obtained a simple stochastic model with a time delay



m = 20 T = 9

 $\epsilon = 0.1$ 

The state of our system is now the history of states

we get an ergodic Markov Chain

with the stationary state  $~~\mu_{\epsilon}~$  and the space state  $~\Omega$ 

#### Definition

 $x \in \Omega$  is stochastically stable if  $\lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \mu_{\epsilon} (x) > 0$  (=1)

**Theorem** (JM and Sergiusz Wesołowski, Dyn Games and Appl, 2011)

 $\lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \mu_{\epsilon}$  (cycle) = 1

## Random walk on Z with time delays

(Ohira, Milton, Yamane, Phys. Rev. 1995, 2000)

 $X(t) \in \mathbb{Z}$  P(t) – probability of the walker to go to the right

$$P(t) = \begin{cases} p & if \ X(t-\tau) > 0, \\ 0.5 & if \ X(t-\tau) = 0, \\ 1-p & if \ X(t-\tau) < 0. \end{cases} \qquad \mathsf{p} < 0.5$$

$$\sigma(\tau) \sim (0.59 - 1.18p)\tau + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}(1 - 2p)}$$

Probability of moves towards the origin depend on the position of the walker

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t} = -\beta x(t-\tau) + \xi_t \qquad \text{Langevin equation}$$

 $dx = -\beta x(t - \tau)dt + dW$  Ito equation

$$Var(x) = \frac{1 + \sin\beta\tau}{2\beta\cos\beta\tau}$$
 (Kuchler, Mensch, Stoch. Rep, 1992)

for small time delays

$$Var(x) = \frac{1}{2\beta}(1+\beta\tau)$$

Non-markovian systems

Master, Fokker-Planck, Langevin/Ito equations with time delays

see for example Guillouzic, L'Heurex, Longtin, Phys. Rev. E, 1999

# How to model time delays

Example: Population dynamics of evolutionary games



A and B are two possible behaviors, fenotypes or strategies of each individual

# Deterministic replicator dynamics



 $p_A(t)$  – number of individuals playing A at a time t  $p_B(t)$  – number of individuals playing B at a time t

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \frac{p_A(t)}{p_A(t) + p_B(t)} \\ U_A &= ax + b(1-x) \\ U_B &= cx + d(1-x) \\ U_{av} &= xU_A + (1-x)U_B \end{aligned}$$
 Now we propose 
$$p_A(t+\epsilon) = (1-\epsilon)p_A(t) + \epsilon p_A(t)U_A(t)$$

$$p_{A}(t+\epsilon) = (1-\epsilon)p_{A}(t) + \epsilon p_{A}(t)U_{A}(t)$$
$$p_{B}(t+\epsilon) = (1-\epsilon)p_{B}(t) + \epsilon p_{B}(t)U_{B}(t)$$

 $p(t+\varepsilon) = (1-\varepsilon)p(t) + \varepsilon p(t)U_{av}(t)$ 

$$x(t+\epsilon) - x(t) = \epsilon \frac{x(t)[U_A(t) - U_{av}(t)]}{1 - \epsilon + \epsilon U_{av}(t)}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(U_A - U_{av}) = x(1 - x)(U_A - U_B)$$

$$dx/dt = x(1-x)(U_A - U_B)$$

## Hawk-Dove



mixed Nash equilibrium is asymptotically stable

# Time delay $\rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow x^* \leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow$

#### social-type delay

We assume that individuals at time t replicate due to average payoffs obtain by their strategies at time t-T for some delay T>0.

We propose

$$\begin{split} p_i(t+\epsilon) &= (1-\epsilon)p_i(t) + \epsilon p_i(t)U_i(t-\tau); \ i = A, B \\ p(t+\epsilon) &= (1-\epsilon)p(t) + \epsilon p(t)U'_{av}(t-\tau) \\ U'_{av}(t-\tau) &= x(t)U_A(t-\tau) + (1-x(t))U_B(t-\tau) \\ x(t+\epsilon) - x(t) &= \epsilon \frac{x(t)[U_A(t-\tau) - U'_{av}(t-\tau)]}{1-\epsilon + \epsilon U'_{av}(t-\tau)} \\ x(t+\epsilon) - x(t) &= -\epsilon x(t)(1-x(t))[x(t-\tau) - x^*] \frac{\delta}{1-\epsilon + \epsilon U'_{av}(t-\tau)} \\ \delta &= c-a+b-d \end{split}$$

The corresponding replicator dynamics in the continuous time reads

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = x(t)[U_A(t-\tau) - U'_{av}(t-\tau)]$$

and can be also written as

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = x(t)(1-x(t))[U_A(t-\tau) - U_B(t-\tau)] = -\delta x(t)(1-x(t))(x(t-\tau) - x^*)$$

Theorem (Jan Alboszta and JM, J. Theor. Biol. 231: 175-179, 2004)

 $x^*$  is asymptotically stable if  $\tau$  is sufficiently small  $x^*$  is unstable for large  $\tau$ 

#### biological-type time delay

We assume that individuals are born  $\tau$  units of time after their parents played and received payoffs.

We propose

$$p_{i}(t+\epsilon) = (1-\epsilon)p_{i}(t) + \epsilon p_{i}(t-\tau)U_{i}(t-\tau); \quad i = A, B$$

$$p(t+\epsilon) = (1-\epsilon)p(t) + \epsilon p(t)\left[\frac{x(t)p_{A}(t-\tau)}{x(t-\tau)}U_{A}(t-\tau) + \frac{(1-x(t))p_{B}(t-\tau)}{p_{B}(t)}U_{B}(t-\tau)\right]$$

$$x(t+\epsilon) - x(t) = \epsilon \frac{x(t-\tau)U_{A}(t-\tau) - x(t)U_{av}(t-\tau)}{(1-\epsilon)\frac{p(t)}{p(t-\tau)} + \epsilon U_{av}(t-\tau)}$$

Theorem (JA and JM, JTB 2004)

 $x^*$  is asymptotically stable for any time delay  $\tau$ 



## Macroscopic level, deterministic approach



$$\rho_r - density of mRNA$$

$$\rho_p - density of protein$$

$$\frac{d\rho_r}{dt} = k_r - \gamma_r \rho_r$$
 in the stationary state we have 
$$\frac{d\rho_p}{dt} = k_p \rho_r - \gamma_p \rho_p$$
 
$$\rho_r = \frac{k_r}{\gamma_r} \quad \rho_p = \frac{k_r k_p}{\gamma_r \gamma_p}$$

What is responsible for oscillations in biological systems ??

# Time delays

Biochemical reactions take certain time to finish after initiation

- Examples: average transcription speed 20 nucleotides/s
  - average translation speed 2 codons/s

the average length of human gene - 55 000 nucleotides, 2750 seconds to transcribe

the average length of the coding region - 2700 nucleotides, 450 seconds to translate

### Delay-induced stochastic oscillations in gene regulation

Bratsun et al. in PNAS 102: 14593 (2005)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{delayed degradation} \\ \text{DNA} & \longrightarrow & \text{protein} & \longrightarrow & \emptyset \\ \\ \frac{d\rho_r}{dt} = k_r - \gamma \rho_r (t - \tau) \end{array}$ 

Let us note that if  $\tau > \frac{\pi}{2\gamma_r}$ , then oscillations occur – Hopf bifurcation

It is assumed implicitly that a molecule which is on a path of a delayed degradation can take part in another delayed degradation.

#### A molecule can die many times

Problem: negative solutions

Delayed degradation does not cause osccilations JM, J. Poleszczuk, M.Bodnar, U.Foryś, BMB 2011

#### consuming reactions

nonconsuming reactions

Let us assume that degradation is a consuming reaction

 $\frac{dx}{dt} = k - \gamma x(t) \qquad \qquad x - \text{ active molecules}$  $\frac{dy}{dt} = k - \gamma x(t - \tau) \qquad \qquad y - \text{ observed molecules}$ 

We can easily solve this system of differential equations and obtain

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} y(t) = \frac{k}{\gamma} (1 + \tau \gamma) = \langle x \rangle (1 + \tau \gamma)$$

Stochastic model (x and y denote now number of molecules):  $< y > = < x > (1 + \gamma \tau)$  var (y) = <y>

### Combined effects of time delays and stochasticity

Example: Three-player evolutionary games, (JM, Michał Matuszak, 2014)

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} A & B & & A & B \\ A & a & 0 & & 0 & 0 \\ U = & & & & \\ B & 0 & b & & b & c \end{array}$$

 $p_A(t)$  – number of individuals playing A at a time t  $p_B(t)$  – number of individuals playing B at a time t

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \frac{p_A(t)}{p_A(t) + p_B(t)} \\ f_A &= ax^2, \ f_B &= 2bx(1-x) + c(1-x)^2, \\ \frac{dx}{dt} &= x(1-x)(f_A - f_B). \end{aligned}$$

1

 $X_3$ 

## Stochastic dynamics of finite unstructured populations

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 $Z_3$ 

- n # of individuals
- $z_t$  # of individuals playing A at time t
- $\Omega = \{0, \dots, n\}$  state space

### selection

$$z_{t+1} = \begin{cases} z_t + 1 & if \ f_A(z_t) > f_B(z_t), \\ z_t - 1 & if \ f_A(z_t) < f_B(z_t), \\ z_t & if \ f_A(z_t) = f_B(z_t), \end{cases} \xrightarrow{0} \xrightarrow{10} \xrightarrow{22} z_1 \xrightarrow{2} z_2$$

## mutation

each individual may mutate and switch to the other strategy with a probability  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$ 

$$\lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \mu_{\epsilon} (z_1) = 1$$



1. Deterministic model without time delays

**Bassins of attraction** 

2. Deterministic model with time delays Cycles  $z_{t+1} = \begin{cases} z_t + 1 & \text{if } f_A(z_{t-\tau}) > f_B(z_{t-\tau}), \\ z_t - 1 & \text{if } f_A(z_{t-\tau}) < f_B(z_{t-\tau}), \\ z_t & \text{if } f_A(z_{t-\tau}) = f_B(z_{t-\tau}), \end{cases}$ 

#### 3. Stochastic model without time delays

Stochasic stability of the interior equilibrium z<sub>1</sub>

#### 4. Stochastic model with a time delay

Stochasic stability of the boundary equilibrium z<sub>3</sub>

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