
Brane Calculi

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Mobile Calculi Course

BRICS, University of Aarhus

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Motivation

Biological Systems

- Imprecise descriptions
- Complex...

Need to be formalized.

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In particular, membranes have their own dynamics.

- Motivation
- Design

Previous work:

P-System: mismatch with reality

BioSpy: calculate with molecules

BioAmbients: calculate with molecules, add membranes

Brane Calculi: calculate *on* membranes

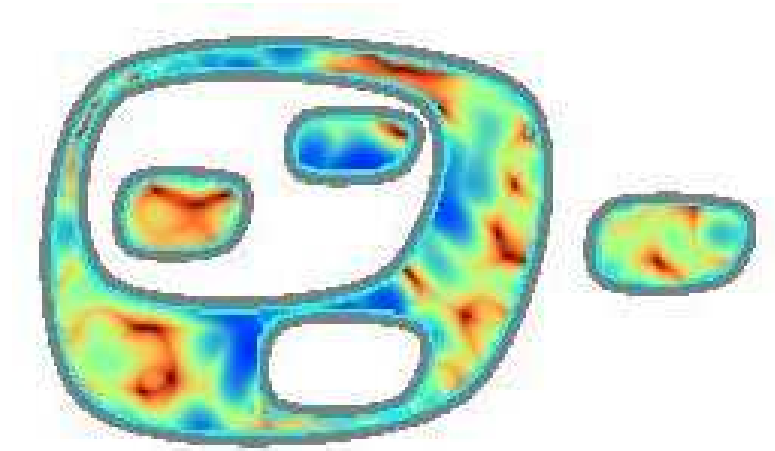
The Papers

*Bitonal Membrane Systems,
Interactions of Biological Membranes*
Luca Cardelli

*Brane Calculi,
Interactions of Biological Membranes*
Luca Cardelli

Membrane Systems

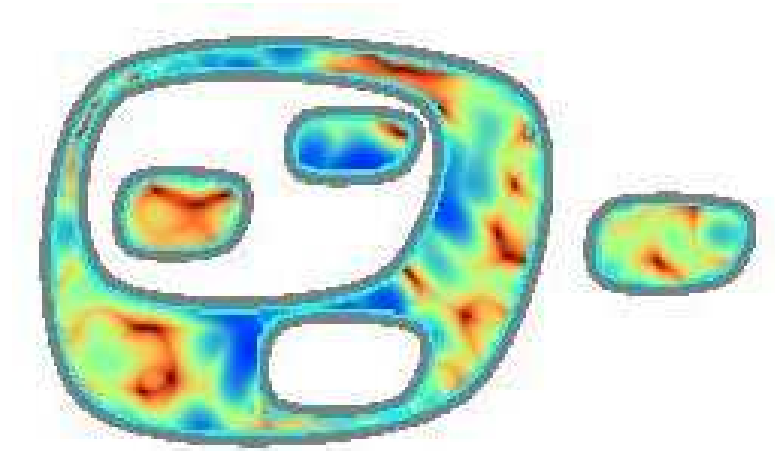
Finite set of simple, closed and smooth curves



Membrane Systems

Finite set of simple, closed and smooth curves

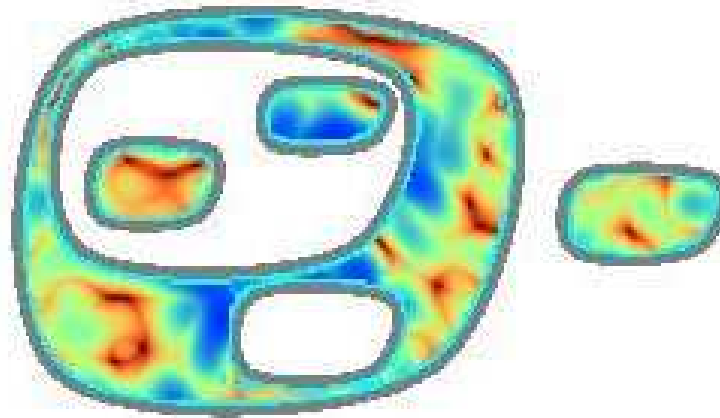
Alternated Orientation: Bitonality



Membrane Systems

Finite set of simple, closed and smooth curves

Alternated Orientation: Bitonality



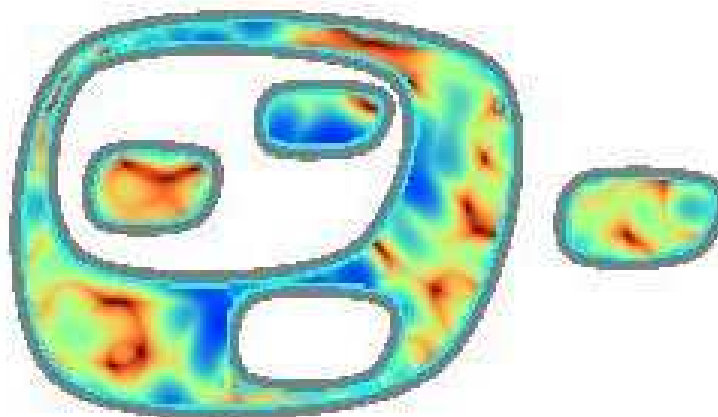
Reactions: (Instantaneous) transformations bitonality-preserving
“locally”



Membrane Systems

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Alternated Orientation: Bitonality

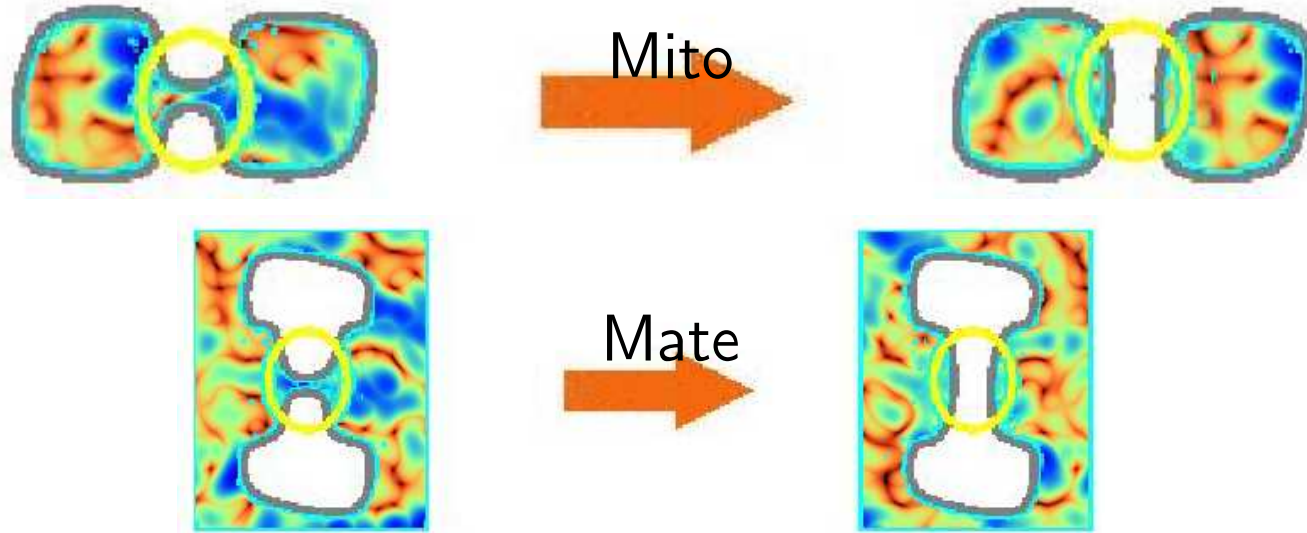


Reactions: (Instantaneous) transformations bitonality-preserving
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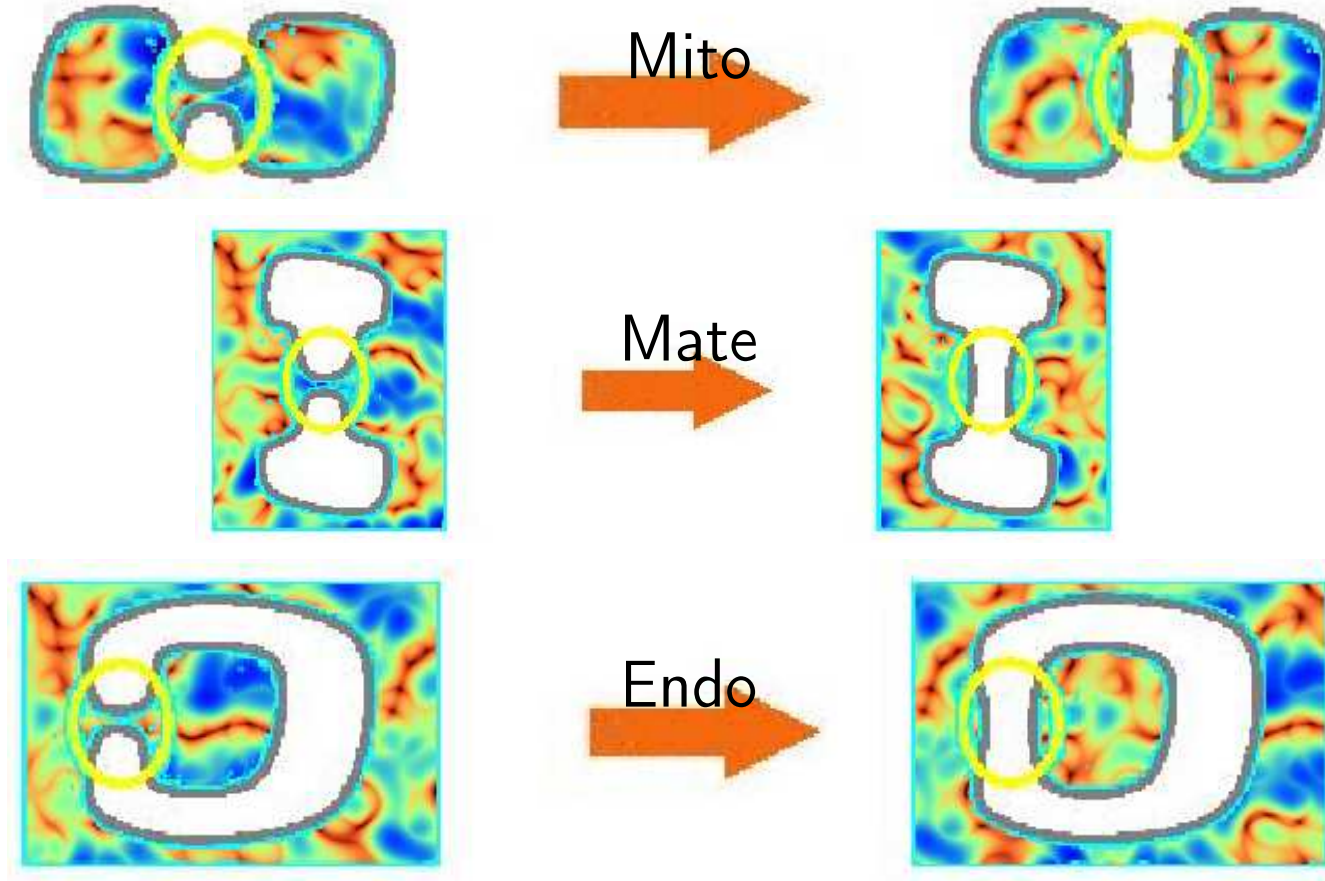


Some bio-reactions are atonal, but abs-atonality is mostly
unrealistic. Hence, ruled-out.

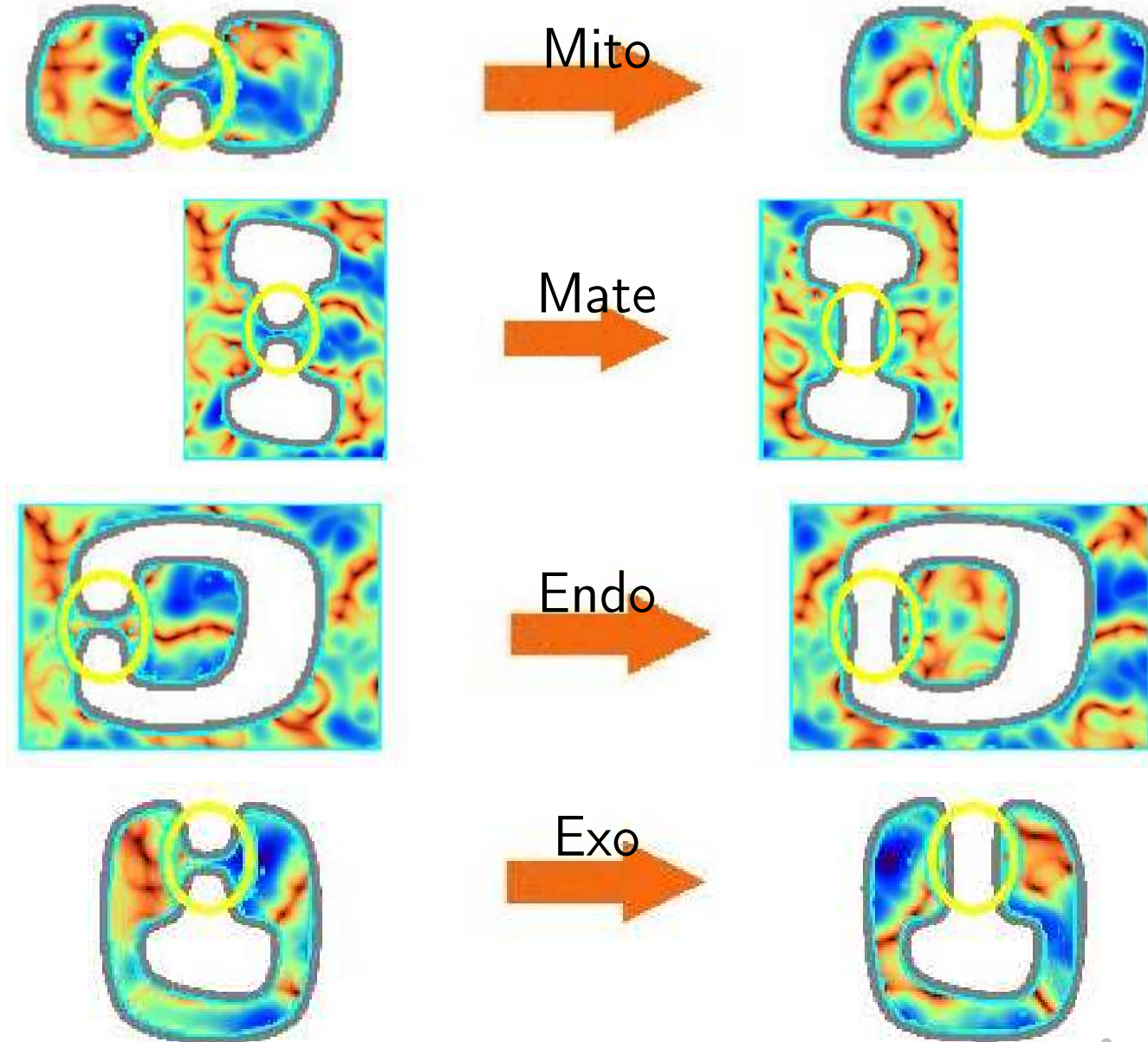
Membrane Reactions



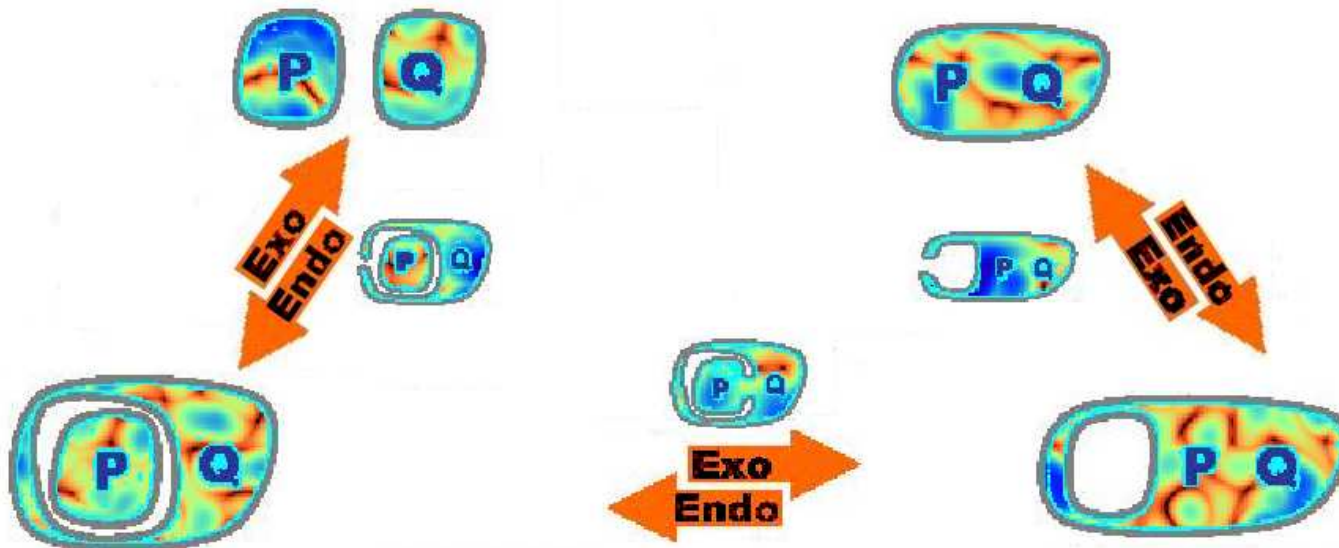
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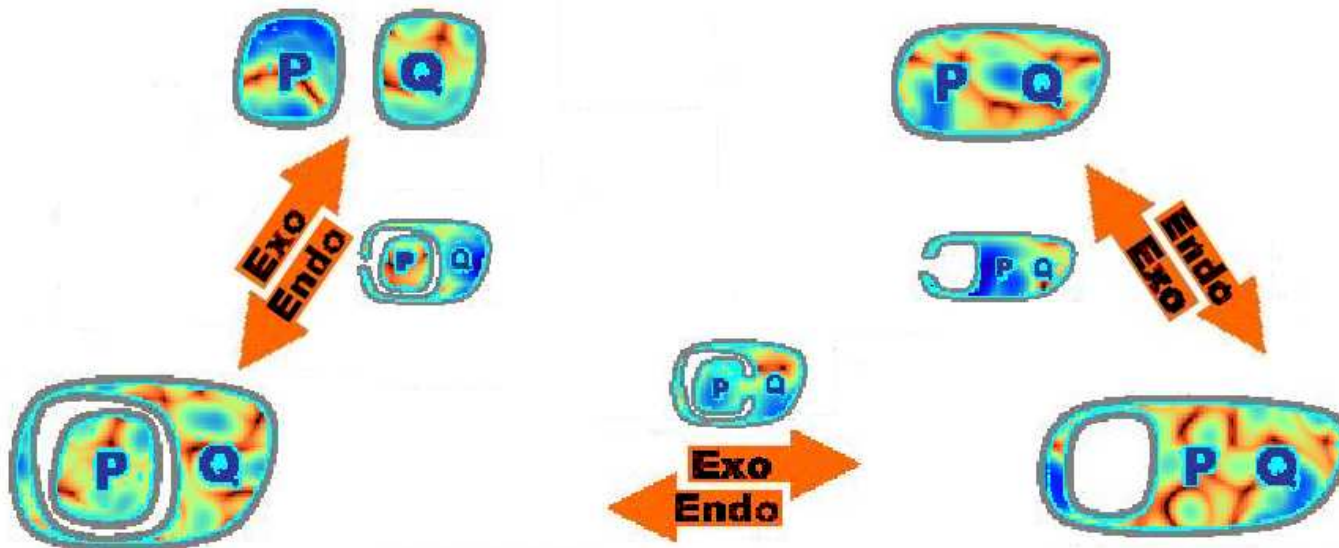
Membrane Reactions



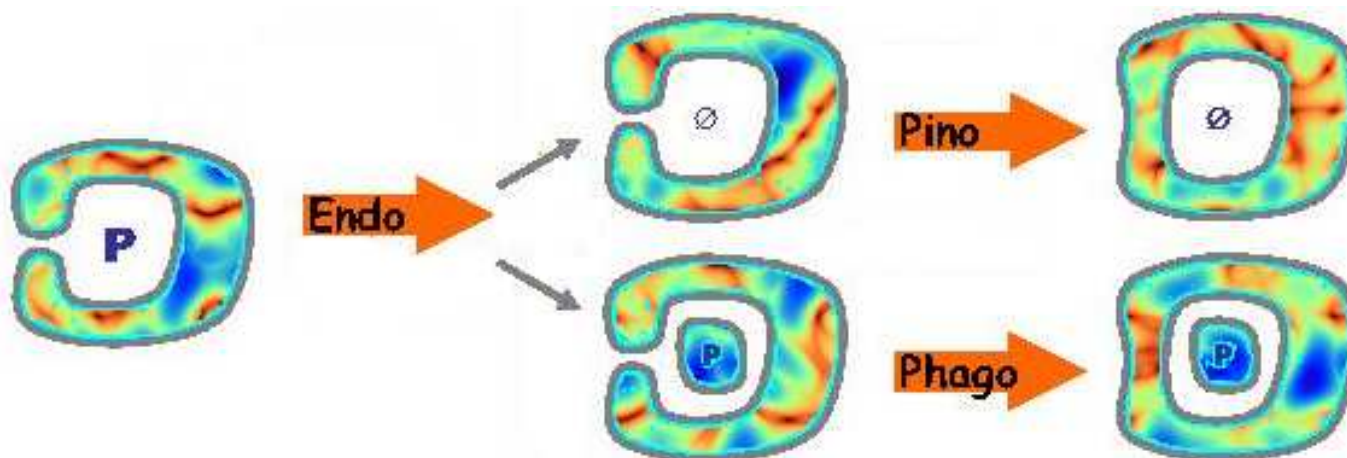
$\{\text{Endo}, \text{Exo}\}$ is complete



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Moreover, Endo is splitted:



The Leap to Abstraction

Endo is not spontaneous, but regulated by membranes (i.e. its embedded proteins)

A Formalization:

- Actions “on” membranes, not “inside”.
- Action/co-action interaction style.

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Endo is not spontaneous, but regulated by membranes (i.e. its embedded proteins)

A Formalization:

- Actions “on” membranes, not “inside”.
- Action/co-action interaction style.
- A calculus of membrane reactions.

Syntax

Systems $P, Q ::= \diamond \mid P \circ Q \mid !P \mid \sigma(|P|)$

Branes $\sigma, \tau ::= 0 \mid \sigma|\tau \mid !\sigma \mid a.\sigma$

Actions $a, b ::=$

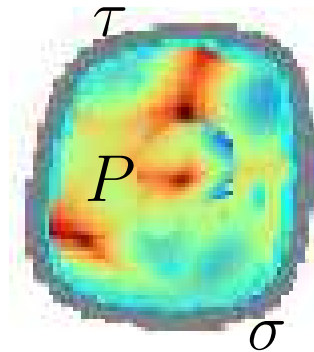
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$\tau|\sigma(|P|)$



Brane with σ, τ and contents P

Congruence \equiv , Reactions \rightarrow

(P, \circ, \diamond) comutative monoid

$(\sigma, |, 0)$ comutative monoid

the usual...

$$\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{P \circ R \rightarrow Q \circ R}$$

$$\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{\sigma(|P|) \rightarrow \sigma(|Q|)}$$

$$\frac{P \equiv P' \quad P' \rightarrow Q' \quad Q' \equiv Q}{P \rightarrow Q}$$

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$$\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{P \circ R \rightarrow Q \circ R}$$

$$\frac{P \rightarrow Q}{\sigma(|P|) \rightarrow \sigma(|Q|)}$$

plus the effect of actions

$$\frac{P \equiv P' \quad P' \rightarrow Q' \quad Q' \equiv Q}{P \rightarrow Q}$$

Actions

Actions $a, b ::= \triangleright_n \mid \overset{\perp}{n}\triangleright(\sigma) \mid \triangleleft_n \mid \triangleleft_n^{\perp} \mid \odot(\sigma)$

Phago:

$$\triangleright_n . \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid P \circ \overset{\perp}{n}\triangleright(\rho) . \tau \mid \tau_0 \mid Q \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau_0 \mid \rho \mid \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid P \circ Q$$

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Phago:

$$\triangleright_n . \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid (P) \circ \overset{\perp}{\triangleright}_n(\rho) . \tau \mid \tau_0 \mid (Q) \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau_0 \mid (\rho \mid (\sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid (P))) \circ Q$$

Exo:

$$\triangleleft_n^\perp . \tau \mid \tau_0 \mid (\triangleleft_n . \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid (P) \circ Q) \rightarrow P \circ \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid \tau \mid \tau_0 \mid (Q)$$

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$$\triangleright_n . \sigma \mid \sigma_0(|P|) \circ \overset{\perp}{n}\triangleright(\rho) . \tau \mid \tau_0(|Q|) \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau_0(|\rho(|\sigma \mid \sigma_0(|P|))|) \circ Q$$

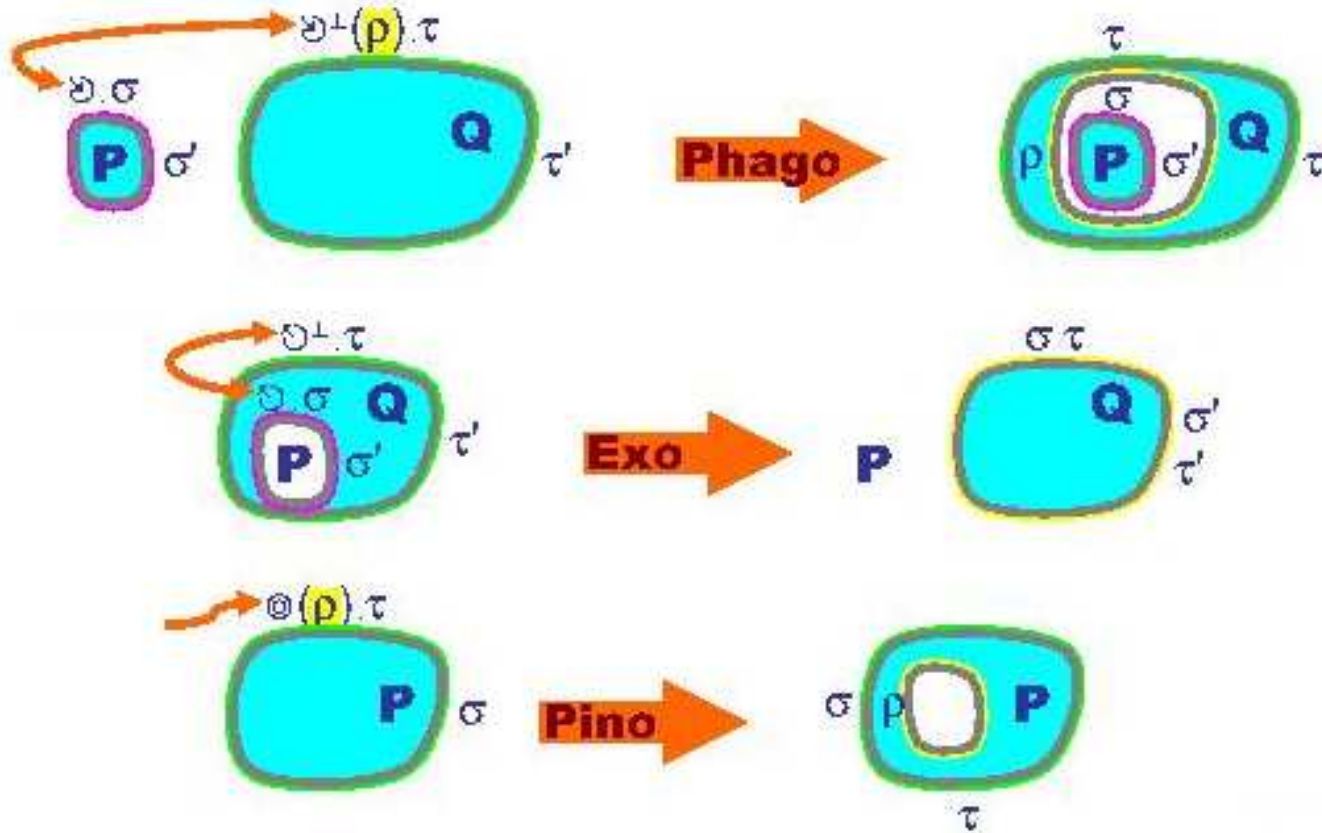
Exo:

$$\triangleleft_n^{\perp} . \tau \mid \tau_0(|\triangleleft_n . \sigma \mid \sigma_0(|P|) \circ Q|) \rightarrow P \circ \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid \tau \mid \tau_0(|Q|)$$

Pino:

$$\odot(\rho) . \sigma \mid \sigma_0(|P|) \rightarrow \sigma \mid \sigma_0(|\rho(|\diamond|) \circ P|)$$

Actions Depicted



Example: Mate



Proposition:

$$\sigma_0 | \text{mate}_n . \sigma(|P\rangle) \circ \tau_0 | \text{mate}_n^\perp . \tau(|Q\rangle) \rightarrow^* \sigma_0 | \sigma | \tau_0 | \tau(|P \circ Q\rangle)$$

Example: Mate



$$mate_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \triangleright_n \cdot \triangleleft_{n'} \cdot \sigma$$

$$mate_n^\perp \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \triangleleft_n \triangleright (\triangleleft_{n'}^\perp \cdot \triangleleft_{n''}) \cdot \triangleleft_{n''}^\perp \cdot \tau$$

Proposition:

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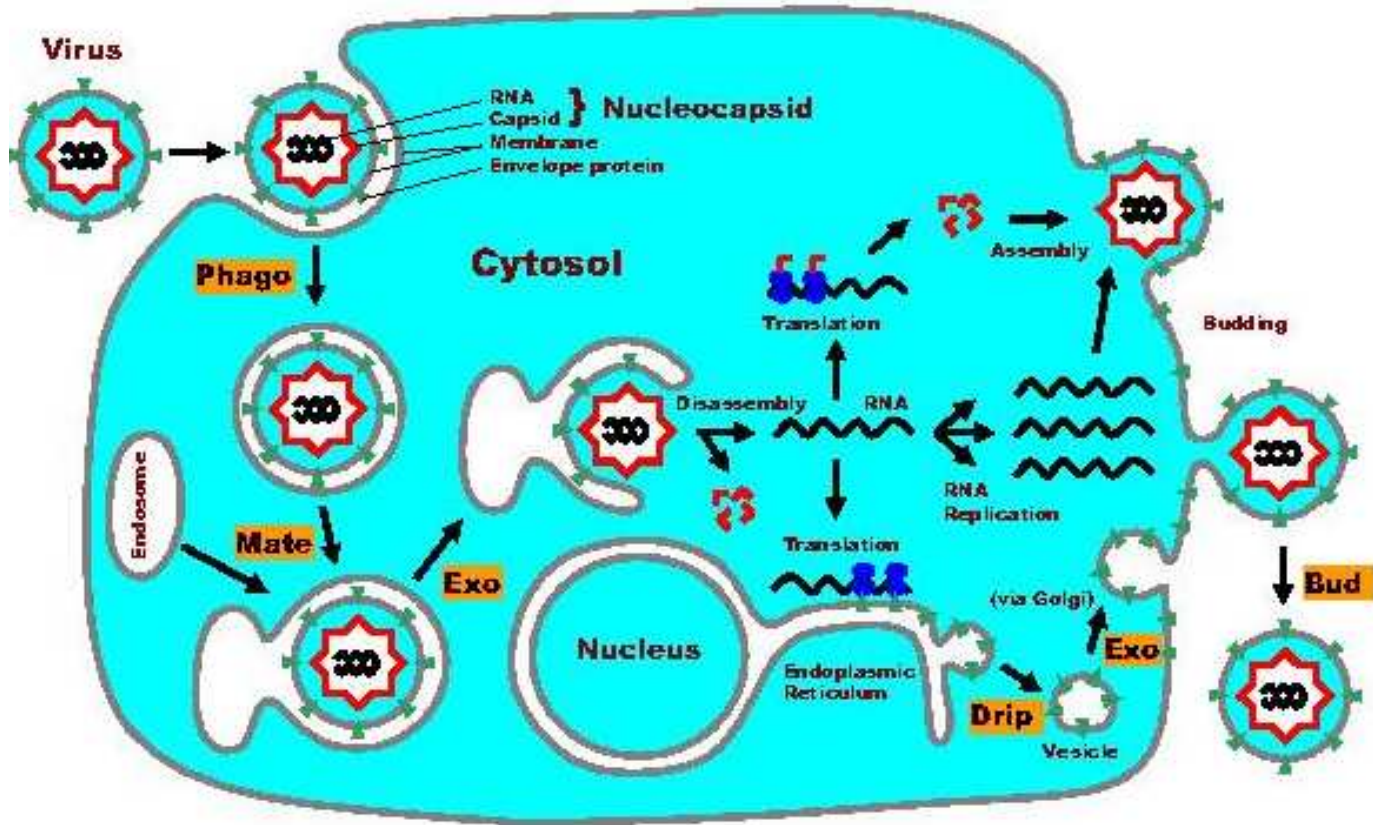
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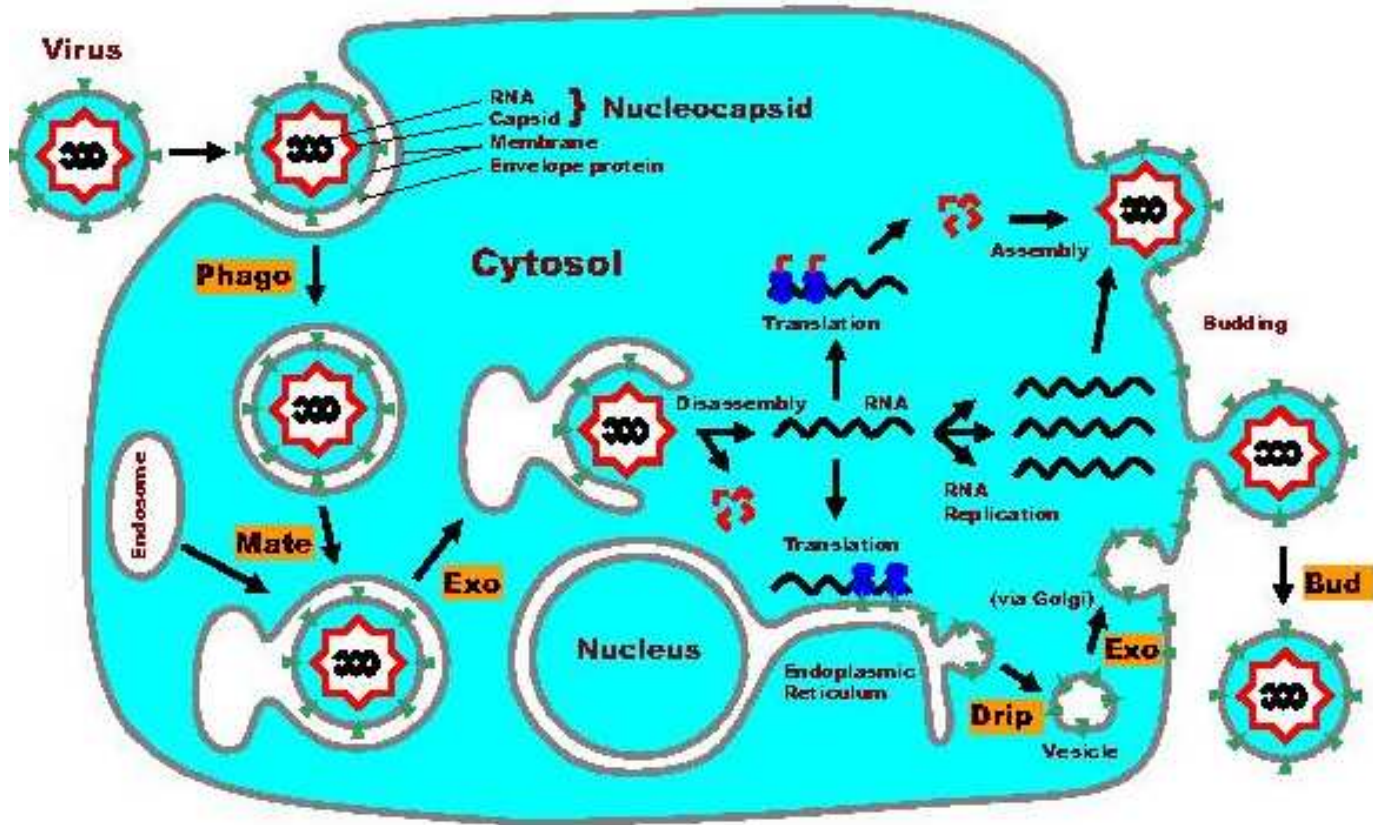
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Homework: Drip (Mito with 0), Bud (Mito with 1)

Example: Viral Reproduction



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Almost... molecules are needed

Nice, but...

Nice, but... what kind of calculus is this?

- Purely combinatorial communication could be added...

$a, b ::=$

$\dots o2o_n \mid o2o_n^\perp(m) \mid s2s_n \mid s2s_n^\perp(m) \mid p2c_n \mid p2c_n^\perp(m)$

assuming $\tau\{l \leftarrow m\}$

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- No equivalence
- Biologically meaningful?

Comparative Exercise: Security Applications

Ambients in the air...Pure and Safe

