How to derive deterministic approximations from the stochastic model of enzyme kinetics?

João Luiz de Oliveira Madeira

#### SAMBa Cohort 8

#### Joint work with Fernando Antonelli (Unifesp – Brazil)



Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council









#### Aims

- . To introduce the idea of "convergence" of
- stochastic interacting particle systems to
- ODEs
- Apply this concept to a model with multiple time scales which is crucial to
- mathematical biology
  Rigorous math is FUN...
- · AND useful!



#### The Biology of Enzymatic Reactions





# Scaling Limits of the Stochastic Model





- To introduce the idea of "convergence" of
  - stochastic interacting particle systems to ODEs
- Apply this concept to a model with multiple time scales which is crucial to mathematical biology
- Rigorous math is FUN...
- AND useful!



#### The Biology of Enzymatic Reactions



### The Biology of Enzymatic Reactions

- Enzymes are proteins that accelerate the conversion of other molecules, but they
  - themselves are not changed by the reaction  $\rightarrow$  basic biological catalysts



- Enzymatic reactions are ubiquitous in biological systems
- Basic model in biochemical networks

#### The Michaelis-Menten Kinetics

- Reaction:  $S \rightarrow P$
- Law of Mass Action:

V = k[S]

- The kinetics of enzymatic reactions does not follow the law of mass action
- The Michaelis-Menten Kinetics:

$$V([S]) = \frac{V_{\max} \cdot [S]}{K_M + [S]}$$



#### (Michaelis and Menten 1913, Keener 2009)

#### Constructing the Model(s)



How to construct a model which explains and reproduces the observed behaviour?

### Modelling

Quasi-Steady State Deterministic Approximation (QSSA)



Stochastic Interacting Particle System

#### Quasi-Steady State Deterministic Approximation



• Substrate (s(t)), product (p(t)), enzyme (e(t)) and complex (c(t)) are  $C^1$  functions from

$$[0, \infty) \text{ to } \mathbb{R}_{+}$$

$$e(t) = e(0) - c(t)$$

$$\frac{dc}{dt}(t) = k_{1}s(t)e(t) - (k_{2} + k_{3})c(t) \approx 0$$

$$\frac{dp}{dt}(t) = k_{3}c(t) \Rightarrow \frac{dp}{dt}(t) = \frac{k_{1}e(0)s(t)}{(k_{2} + k_{3}) + s(t)} \equiv \frac{V_{max}s(t)}{K_{M} + s(t)}$$

$$\frac{ds}{dt}(t) = -k_{1}s(t)e(t) + k_{2}c(t) = -\frac{k_{1}e(0)s(t)}{(k_{2} + k_{3}) + s(t)}$$

(Briggs and Haldane 1925)

#### The QSSA Approach



- 1. Good fit to the data (when a large number of substrate molecules is considered)
- 2. Simple, but a meaningful, explanation



1. It is difficult to make the argument rigorous  $\frac{dc}{dt}(t) = k_1 s(t) e(t) - (k_2 + k_3) c(t) \approx 0$ 

e(t) = e(0) - c(t)

It does not fit the data well for low number of molecules



#### Stochastic Interacting Particle System



- We model our system as a continuous-time Markov chain
- Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be a scaling parameter
- $(X^{N}(t))_{t\geq 0} = (X_{1}^{N}(t), X_{2}^{N}(t), X_{3}^{N}(t), X_{4}^{N}(t))_{t\geq 0}$  which is a jump process in  $(\mathbb{N}_{0})^{4}$ :  $\circ X_{1}^{N}(0) = Ns_{0}$  and  $X_{2}^{N}(0) = Np_{0}$   $\circ$  For all  $t \geq 0, X_{3}^{N}(t) + X_{4}^{N}(t) \equiv m > 0$  $\circ \hat{k}_{2} = Nk_{2}$  and  $\hat{k}_{3} = Nk_{3}$

(Darden 1979)

#### Stochastic Interacting Particle System



• Given a state  $(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \in (\mathbb{N}_0)^4$ :

 $(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \rightarrow (\xi_1 - 1, \xi_2, \xi_3 - 1, \xi_4 + 1)$  with rate  $k_1\xi_1\xi_3$  $(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \rightarrow (\xi_1 + 1, \xi_2, \xi_3 + 1, \xi_4 - 1)$  with rate N $k_2\xi_4$  $(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \rightarrow (\xi_1, \xi_2 + 1, \xi_3 + 1, \xi_4 - 1)$  with rate N $k_3\xi_4$ 

(Darden 1979)

## The Stochastic Interacting Particle System Approach





- 1. Good fit to the data
- The description of the model is simple and precise, and it does not require any approximation



1. It is difficult to analyse

#### Scaling Limits of the Stochastic Model



Are the models "compatible" to each other in some sense?

How to decide which one to use?

#### The Scaling Limit



• Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be a scaling parameter

•  $(X^{N}(t))_{t\geq 0} = (X_{1}^{N}(t), X_{2}^{N}(t), X_{3}^{N}(t), X_{4}^{N}(t))_{t\geq 0}$  which is a jump process in  $(\mathbb{N}_{0})^{4}$ :  $\circ X_{1}^{N}(0) = Ns_{0} \text{ and } X_{2}^{N}(0) = Np_{0}$   $\circ \text{ For all } t \geq 0, X_{3}^{N}(t) + X_{4}^{N}(t) \equiv m > 0$   $\circ \hat{k}_{2} = Nk_{2} \text{ and } \hat{k}_{3} = Nk_{3}$  $f(X^{N}(t)) \equiv (x^{N}(t)) = (x_{1}^{N}(t), x_{2}^{N}(t))$ 

(Darden 1979)

#### The Scaling Limit



• Given a state 
$$(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = \left(\frac{\xi_1}{N}, \frac{\xi_2}{N}, \xi_3, \xi_4\right) \in (\mathbb{R}_+)^4$$
:

$$(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3}, \xi_{4}) \to \left(\zeta_{1} - \frac{1}{N}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3} - 1, \xi_{4} + 1\right) \text{ with rate } Nk_{1}\zeta_{1}\xi_{3}$$
$$(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3}, \xi_{4}) \to \left(\zeta_{1} + \frac{1}{N}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3} + 1, \xi_{4} - 1\right) \text{ with rate } Nk_{2}\xi_{4}$$
$$(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3}, \xi_{4}) \to \left(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2} + \frac{1}{N}, \xi_{3} + 1, \xi_{4} - 1\right) \text{ with rate } Nk_{3}\xi_{4}$$

## "Empirical" Evidence of Convergence



(Kang et al. 2019)

#### Weak Convergence of Probability Measures

- Let (*E*, *d*) be a complete and separable metric space
- Let  $(\mu_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of Borel probability measures on E
- Consider a sequence of random variables  $(X_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$ , each of them taking values on E, such that the law of  $X_N$  is given by  $\mu_N$
- Consider a random variable X, also taking values on E, with associated law  $\mu$
- **Definition:** We say  $(X_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges weakly to X if for any bounded and continuous function  $f: E \to \mathbb{R}$ :

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \mathbb{E}_{\mu_N}[f(X_N)] = \mathbb{E}_{\mu}[f(X)]$$

### Weak Convergence in the Space of Càdlàg Functions

QSSA model 
$$\begin{cases} \frac{ds}{dt}(t) = -\frac{k_1 e(0) s(t)}{(k_2 + k_3) + s(t)} \\ \frac{dp}{dt}(t) = \frac{k_1 e(0) s(t)}{(k_2 + k_3) + s(t)} \\ s(0) = s_0 \text{ and } p(0) = p_0 \end{cases} \text{ Markov Chain } (X^N(t))_{t \ge 0} = (X_1^N(t), X_2^N(t), X_3^N(t), X_4^N(t))_{t \ge 0} \end{cases}$$

• Fix 
$$T > 0$$

• For each  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , consider the random variable  $x_N = (x_N(t))_{0 \le t \le T} = \left(\frac{X_1^N(t)}{N}, \frac{X_2^N(t)}{N}\right)_{0 \le t \le T}$ 

- Our limiting "random" variable is the unique solution to the ODE  $x = (s(t), p(t))_{0 \le t \le T}$
- We consider *E* as the space of càdlàg functions from [0, T] to  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :  $\mathcal{D}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^2)$
- We say a function is càdlàg if it is right-continuous with left limits

#### Weak Convergence in the Space of Càdlàg Functions

- We can define a topology in  $\mathcal{D}([0,T],\mathbb{R}^2)$  which is called the **Skorokhod** topology
- The usual strategy to prove convergence is:
  - 1. To show that any subsequence of  $(\mu_N)_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$  has a weakly convergent subsequence
  - 2. To prove that every subsequential limit has the same law (or is the same càdlàg function)
- The study of this approach is beyond the scope of this talk

• To prove that 
$$(f(X^N(t)))_{0 \le t \le T} = \left(\frac{X_1^N(t)}{N}, \frac{X_2^N(t)}{N}\right)_{0 \le t \le T} \Rightarrow \left(x(t)\right)_{0 \le t \le T} = \left(s(t), p(t)\right)_{0 \le t \le T}$$
, it is

enough to prove that, for  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ :

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \mathbb{P}\left[\left\{\sup_{0 \le t \le T} \left| |x_N(t) - x(t)| \right|_{\infty} > \epsilon\right\}\right] = 0$$

## Computing the "action" of the Generator on the Slow Variables



• Given a state  $(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = (\frac{\xi_1}{N}, \frac{\xi_2}{N}, \xi_3, \xi_4) \in (\mathbb{R}_+)^4$ , we compute the impact of the dynamics on f:

Transition	Rate	Difference
$(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \rightarrow (\zeta_1 - \frac{1}{N}, \zeta_2, \xi_3 - 1, \xi_4 + 1)$	$\mathrm{N}k_1\zeta_1\xi_3$	$\left(-\frac{1}{N},0\right)$
$(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \rightarrow (\zeta_1 + \frac{1}{N}, \zeta_2, \xi_3 + 1, \xi_4 - 1)$	$\mathrm{N}k_{2}\xi_{4}$	$\left(+\frac{1}{N},0\right)$
$(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) \rightarrow (\zeta_1, \zeta_2 + \frac{1}{N}, \xi_3 + 1, \xi_4 - 1)$	$\mathrm{N}k_{3}\xi_{4}$	$\left(0,+\frac{1}{N}\right)$

Drift Vector:  $\gamma_f(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = (-k_1\zeta_1\xi_3 + k_2\xi_4, k_3\xi_4)$ 

#### The Martingale Problem



• We can describe the dynamics of the process  $(f(X^N(t)))_{0 \le t \le T} = \left(\frac{X_1^N(t)}{N}, \frac{X_2^N(t)}{N}\right)_{0 \le t \le T}$  by:

$$f(X^{N}(t)) = f(X^{N}(0)) + M^{N}(t) + \int_{0}^{t} \gamma_{f}(X^{N}(\tau)) d\tau \longrightarrow \text{Stochastic Process}$$

• The process  $(M_N(t))_{t\geq 0}$  indicates the fluctuations of the system, and it is a martingale

#### (Very) Brief Review of Martingales - I

- Consider a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$
- A filtration  $(\mathcal{F}_t)_{t\geq 0}$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  can be thought as a family of  $\sigma$ algebras indexed by time such that  $s \leq t \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}_s \subseteq \mathcal{F}_t$
- For a more practical point of view, we can think about  $\mathcal{F}_t$  as the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the events that happened until time t
- A Martingale  $(M(t))_{t\geq 0}$  is a process such that:  $\checkmark M(t)$  is  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -measurable and  $\mathbb{E}[|M(t)|] < \infty, \forall t \geq 0$  $\checkmark \mathbb{E}[M(t)|\mathcal{F}_s] = M(s), \forall 0 \leq s \leq t$
- Intuition: the amount of money a player wins in a fair game, Brownian motion

#### (Very) Brief Review of Martingales – II

- There are really nice estimates regarding martingales
- A particular case of the optional stopping theorem says that:

 $\mathbb{E}[M(t)] = \mathbb{E}[M(0)], \forall t \ge 0$ 

• For example, Doob's L2 Inequality shows that:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\sup_{0 \le t \le T} \left| |M^{N}(t)| \right|_{2}\right] \lesssim \mathbb{E}\left[ \left| |M^{N}(t)| \right|_{2}^{2} \right]$$

#### An Exponential Martingale Estimate

• It is possible to construct an exponential martingale based on our Markov process and verify that (see Darling and Norris 2008):

**Lemma:** For  $\epsilon > 0$  sufficiently small, for all  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\left\{\sup_{0\leq t\leq T}\left||M^{N}(t)|\right|_{\infty}\geq\epsilon\right\}\right]\leq4\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2A_{f}T}\right),$$

where:

 $A_{f} = \frac{em\left(k_{1}\left(s_{0} + \frac{m}{N}\right) + (k_{2} \lor k_{3})\right)}{N}$   $K_{1}^{N}(0) = Ns_{0} \text{ and } X_{2}^{N}(0) = Np_{0}$ For all  $t \ge 0, X_{3}^{N}(t) + X_{4}^{N}(t) \equiv m > 0$   $\widehat{k}_{2} = Nk_{2} \text{ and } \widehat{k}_{3} = Nk_{3}$ 



#### Rewriting our Problem



$$f(X^{N}(t)) = f(X^{N}(0)) + M^{N}(t) + \int_{0}^{t} \gamma_{f}(X^{N}(\tau))d\tau \longrightarrow \text{Stochastic Process}$$
$$(s(t), p(t)) = (s_{0}, p_{0}) + \int_{0}^{t} b(s(\tau), p(\tau))d\tau \longrightarrow \text{ODE}$$

$$b(s(\tau), p(\tau)) = \left(-\frac{mk_3 s(\tau)}{\frac{k_2 + k_3}{k_1} + s(\tau)}, \frac{mk_3 s(\tau)}{\frac{k_2 + k_3}{k_1} + s(\tau)}\right) \qquad \gamma_f \left(X^N(\tau)\right) = \left(-k_1 \frac{X_1^N(\tau)}{N} X_3^N(\tau) + k_2 X_4^N(\tau), k_3 X_4^N(\tau)\right)$$

#### The Problem of the Fast Variables



• Given a state 
$$(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = \left(\frac{\xi_1}{N}, \frac{\xi_2}{N}, \xi_3, \xi_4\right) \in (\mathbb{R}_+)^4$$
:

$$(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3}, \xi_{4}) \rightarrow \left(\zeta_{1} - \frac{1}{N}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3} - 1, \xi_{4} + 1\right) \text{ with rate } Nk_{1}\zeta_{1}\xi_{3}$$
$$(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3}, \xi_{4}) \rightarrow \left(\zeta_{1} + \frac{1}{N}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3} + 1, \xi_{4} - 1\right) \text{ with rate } Nk_{2}\xi_{4}$$
$$(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2}, \xi_{3}, \xi_{4}) \rightarrow \left(\zeta_{1}, \zeta_{2} + \frac{1}{N}, \xi_{3} + 1, \xi_{4} - 1\right) \text{ with rate } Nk_{3}\xi_{4}$$

The number of molecules of enzyme and complex oscillates too fast when  $N \rightarrow \infty$ 

No convergence can occur

We still can make some nice estimates about the integral of the path

#### Dealing with the Fast variables

• We now consider the process 
$$\left(g(X^N(t))\right)_{t\geq 0}$$
, given by  $g(X^N(t)) = \left(\frac{X_3^N(t)}{N}, \frac{X_4^N(t)}{N}\right)$ 

• The drift vector is now 
$$\gamma_g(X^N(t)) = \left(-k_1 \frac{X_1^N(t)}{N} X_3^N(t) + X_4^N(t)(k_2 + k_3), k_1 \frac{X_1^N(t)}{N} X_3^N(t) - X_4^N(t)(k_2 + k_3)\right)$$

• We can again write a martingale 
$$(L^N(t))_{t\geq 0}$$
 associated to g:

$$g(X^{N}(t)) = g(X^{N}(0)) + L^{N}(t) + \int_{0}^{t} \gamma_{g}(X^{N}(\tau))d\tau$$
$$\sup_{0 \le t \le T} \left| \left| \int_{0}^{t} \gamma_{g}(X^{N}(\tau))d\tau \right| \right|_{\infty} \le \frac{m}{N} + \sup_{0 \le t \le T} \left| |L^{N}(t)| \right|$$

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\left\{\sup_{0\leq t\leq T}\left||L^{N}(t)|\right|_{\infty}\geq\epsilon\right\}\right]\leq4\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2A_{g}T}\right)$$

$$A_g = \frac{em\left(k_1\left(s_0 + \frac{m}{N}\right) + (k_2 + k_3)\right)}{N}.$$



## Finishing this (Finally)



$$f(X^{N}(t)) = f(X^{N}(0)) + M^{N}(t) + \int_{0}^{t} \gamma_{f}(X^{N}(\tau))d\tau \longrightarrow \text{Stochastic Process}$$

$$(s(t), p(t)) = (s_{0}, p_{0}) + \int_{0}^{t} b(s(\tau), p(\tau))d\tau \longrightarrow \text{ODE}$$

$$b(s(\tau), p(\tau)) = \left(-\frac{mk_{3}s(\tau)}{\frac{k_{2} + k_{3}}{k_{1}} + s(\tau)}, \frac{mk_{3}s(\tau)}{\frac{k_{2} + k_{3}}{k_{1}} + s(\tau)}\right) \qquad \gamma_{f}(X^{N}(\tau)) = \left(-k_{1}\frac{X_{1}^{N}(\tau)}{N}X_{3}^{N}(\tau) + k_{2}X_{4}^{N}(\tau), k_{3}X_{4}^{N}(\tau)\right)$$

 $f(t) \leq C + D \int_0^t f(s) ds, \quad \forall 0 \leq t \leq T \Rightarrow f(T) \leq C e^{DT}$ 

Aim: To apply Gronwall's lemma

### Finishing this (Finally)

$$\begin{split} \sup_{0 \le \tau \le t} \left| \left| f\left( X^{N}(\tau) \right) - \left( s(\tau), p(\tau) \right) \right| \right|_{\infty} \le \left| \left| f\left( X^{N}(0) \right) - \left( s_{0}, p_{0} \right) \right| \right|_{\infty} + \sup_{0 \le \tau \le t} \left| \left| M^{N}(\tau) \right| \right|_{\infty} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{k_{1}k_{3}m}{k_{2} + k_{3}} \int_{0}^{t} \sup_{0 \le r \le \tau} \left| \left| f(X^{N}(r)) - \left( s(r), p(r) \right) \right| \right|_{\infty} d\tau \right. \\ \left. + \sup_{0 \le \tau \le t} \left| \left| \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{(k_{1}s(r) + k_{2})}{(k_{1}s(r) + k_{2} + k_{3})} \gamma_{g}(X^{N}(r)) dr \right| \right|_{\infty} \right. \end{split}$$

Second Mean Value Theorem for Integrals: Let  $h, w: [0, T] \to \mathbb{R}$  such that h is monotonic and w is Lebesgue integrable. Then there exists  $c \in [0, T]$  such that

$$\int_{0}^{T} h(t)w(t)dt = h(0+)\int_{0}^{T} w(t)dt + h(T-)\int_{0}^{T} w(t)dt$$

### The Final Theorem (Finally)

Theorem: For the initial conditions,

 $X_1^N(0) = Ns_0$  and  $X_2^N(0) = Np_0$ 

For all  $t \ge 0$ ,  $X_3^N(t) + X_4^N(t) \equiv m > 0$ 

$$\widehat{k}_2 = Nk_2$$
 and  $\widehat{k}_3 = Nk_3$ 

and taking  $f(X^N(t)) = \left(\frac{X_1^N(t)}{N}, \frac{X_2^N(t)}{N}\right)$ , we have, for all T > 0, that:

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\left\{\sup_{0\leq t\leq T}\left|\left|f\left(X^{N}(t)\right)-\left(s(t),p(t)\right)\right|\right|_{\infty}>C_{N,\epsilon}e^{DT}\right\}\right]\leq 4\left[\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2A_{f}T}\right)+\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^{2}}{2A_{g}T}\right)\right],$$

Where

$$C_{N,\epsilon} = \epsilon + 3 \frac{(k_1 s_0 + k_2)}{k_2 + k_3} \left(\frac{m}{N} + \epsilon\right) \qquad A_f = \frac{em\left(k_1\left(s_0 + \frac{m}{N}\right) + (k_2 \vee k_3)\right)}{N} \qquad \frac{ds}{dt}(t) = -\frac{k_1 ms(t)}{(k_2 + k_3) + s(t)}$$
$$D = \frac{k_1 k_3 m}{k_2 + k_3} \qquad A_g = \frac{em\left(k_1\left(s_0 + \frac{m}{N}\right) + (k_2 + k_3)\right)}{N} \qquad \frac{dp}{dt}(t) = \frac{k_1 ms(t)}{(k_2 + k_3) + s(t)}$$

## Conclusion



#### **Conclusion and Future Work**

- Markov chains may converge to continuous dynamical systems under some appropriate scaling
- There are many different techniques to do so
- This is possible even when the system presents multiple time scales



#### Thank you for your attention!!

