

Ultra Energy-Efficient Systems in Biology, Engineering and Medicine

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Analog Circuits and Biological Systems Group

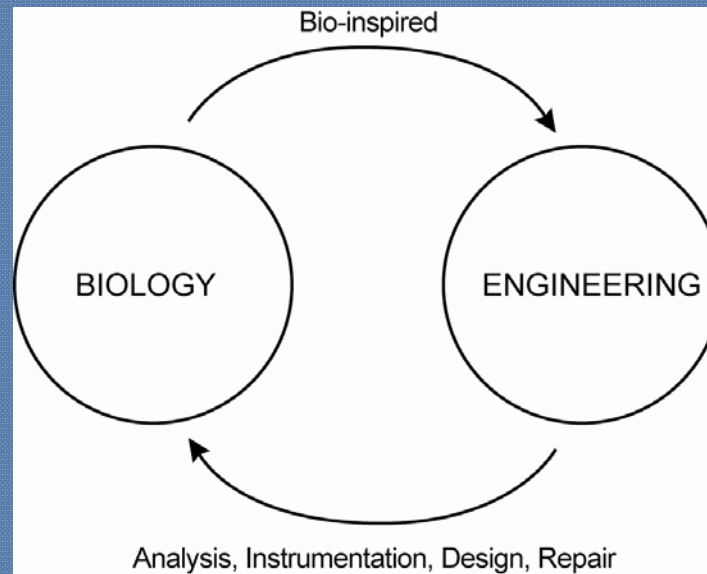
<http://www.rle.mit.edu/acbs/>

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

EPFL, Lausanne
1st October 2013

The Big Picture of my Talk

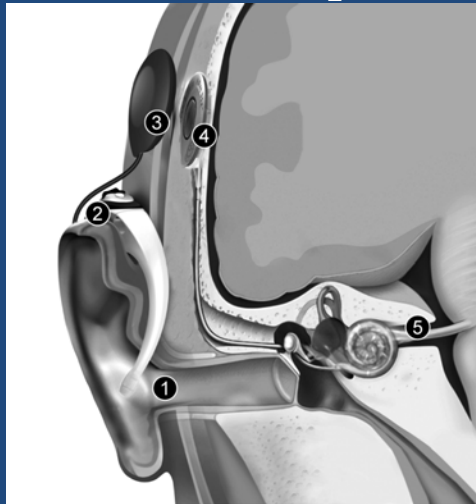
1. Ultra-low-power medical implants.
2. Glucose-powered energy-harvesting medical implants.
3. Highly efficient synthetic DNA-Protein circuits in living cells.
 - 1) Interfacing with the electrochemical nervous system;
 - 2) Electrochemical energy generation;
 - 3) Mapping chemical to electrical circuits and vice versa



Cochlea-Inspired Asynchronous Interleaved Sampling (AIS) Cochlear-Implant Processor

Can improve power AND performance by an order of magnitude.

Cochlear Implant



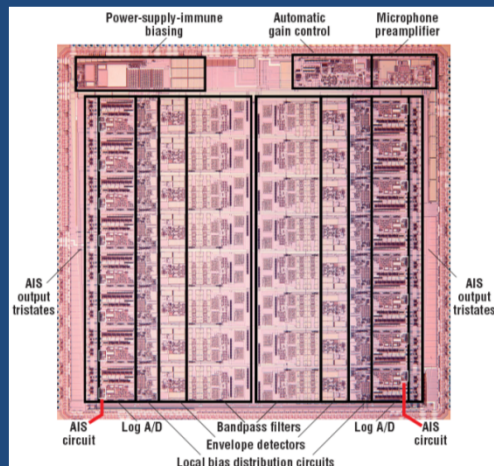
Original



Envelope Only (CIS)



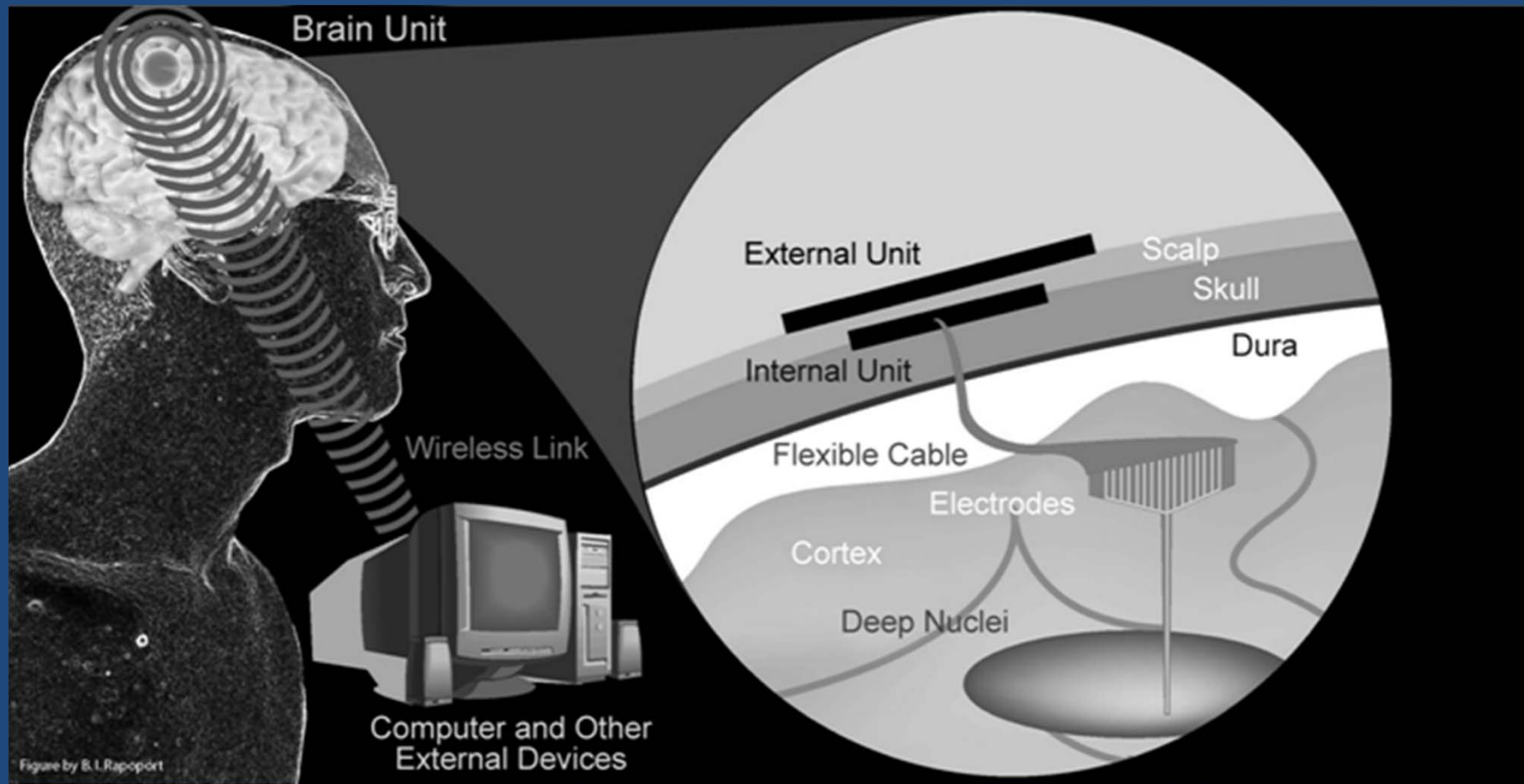
AIS Cochlear-Implant Processor



AIS (Envelope + Phase)



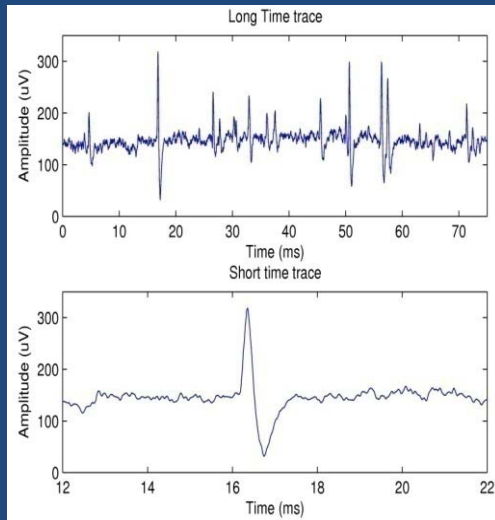
Brain-Machine Interfaces (BMIs) of the Future



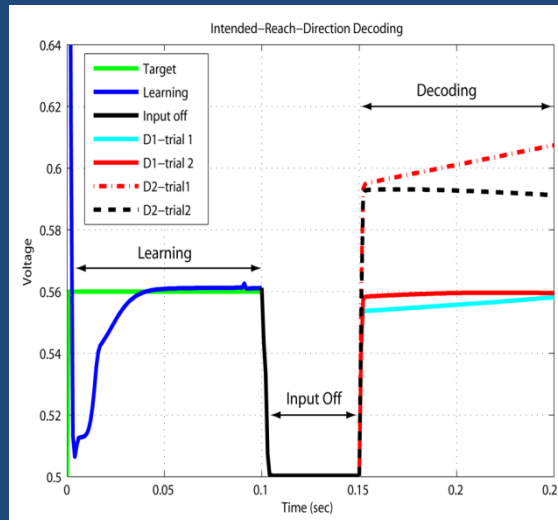
Sarpeshkar, Rahul. *Ultra Low Power Bioelectronics*, CUP, © 2010.

Applications in Paralysis, Parkinson's Disease, Epilepsy, Blindness, Stroke,

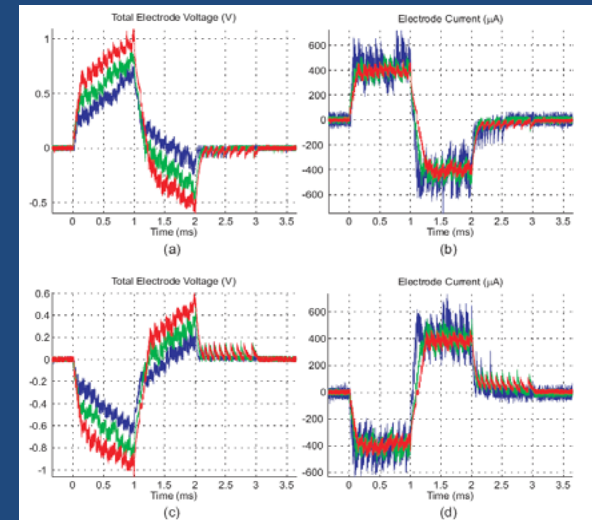
Circuits for Ultra-Energy-Efficient BMI's



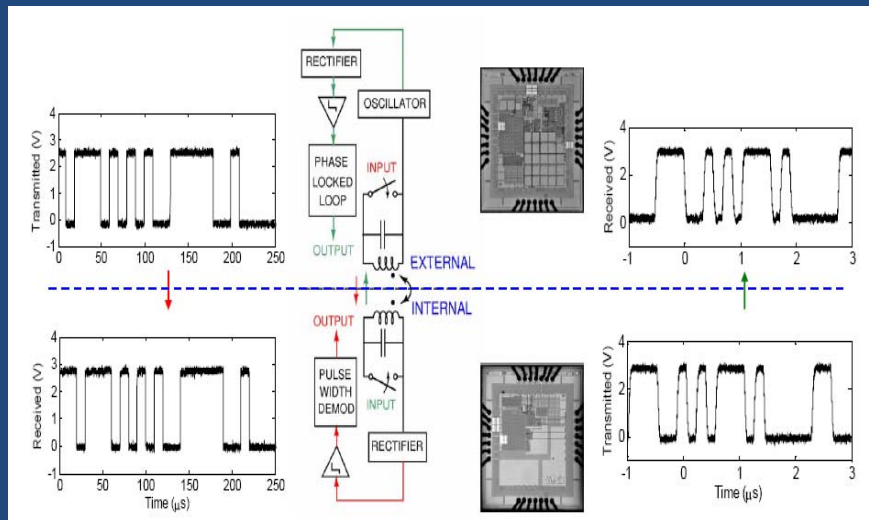
Adaptive Micropower Neural Amplifier



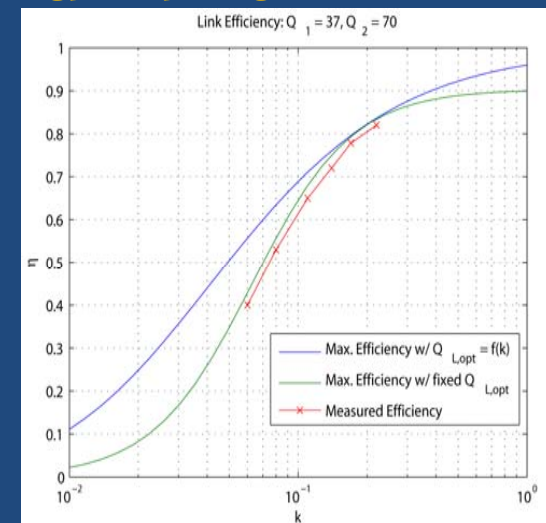
Micropower Neural Decoder



Ultra-energy-efficient 'adiabatic' energy-recycling neural stimulator



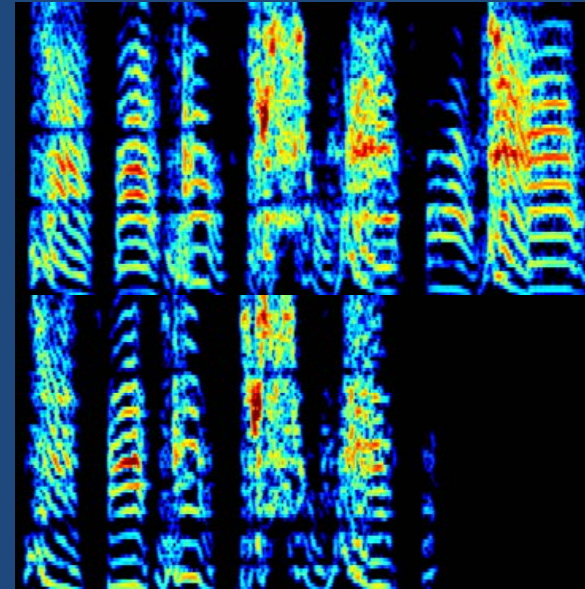
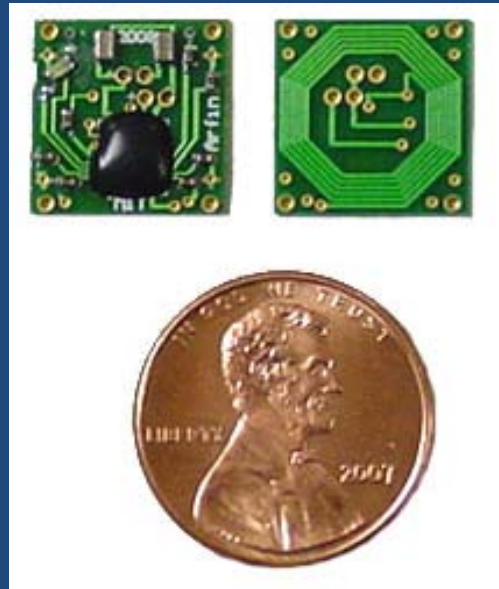
1 nJ/bit Impedance-Modulation Wireless Telemetry System



Optimally Efficient Wireless Recharger

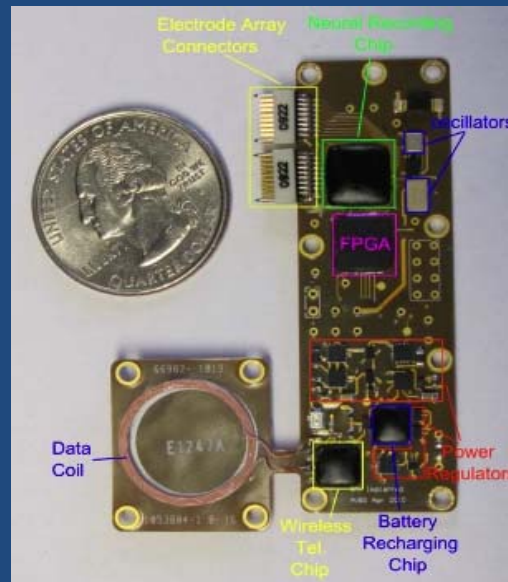
In-vivo testing of Systems

Wireless Neural Stimulation

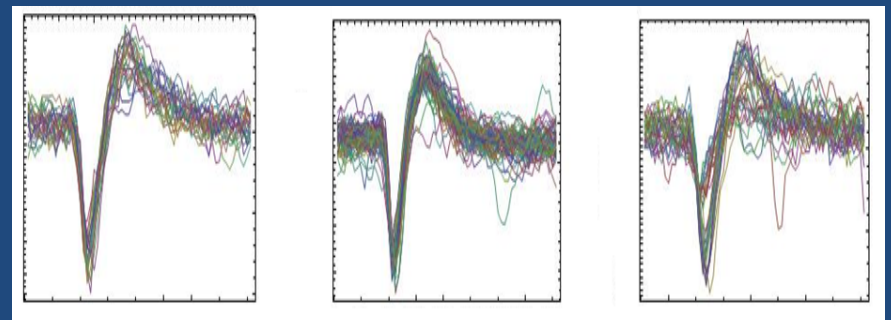


Bird Song Data

Wireless Neural Recording



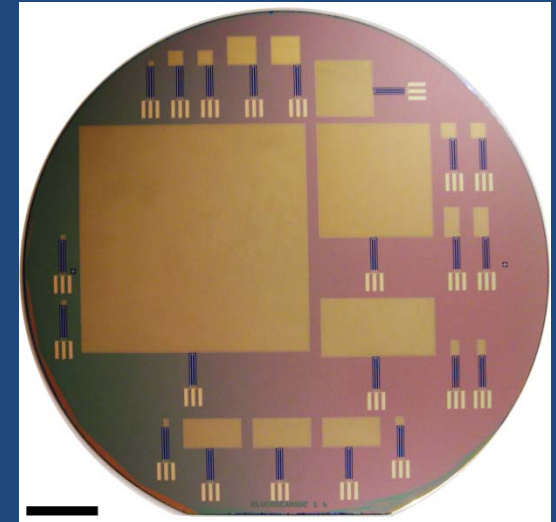
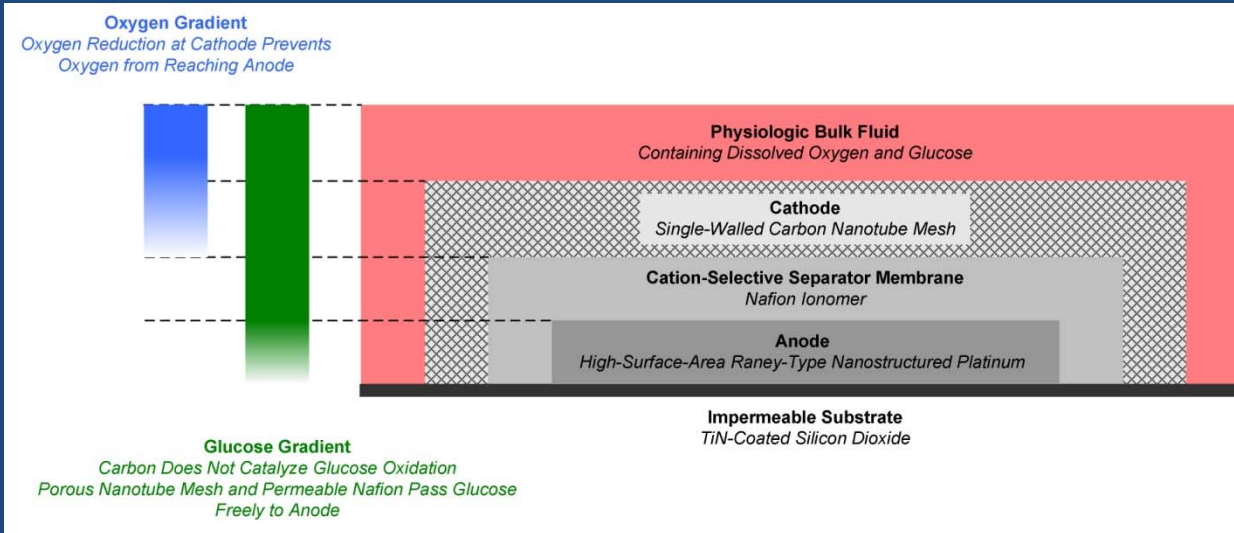
Amplitude



1ms

Monkey Action Potential Data

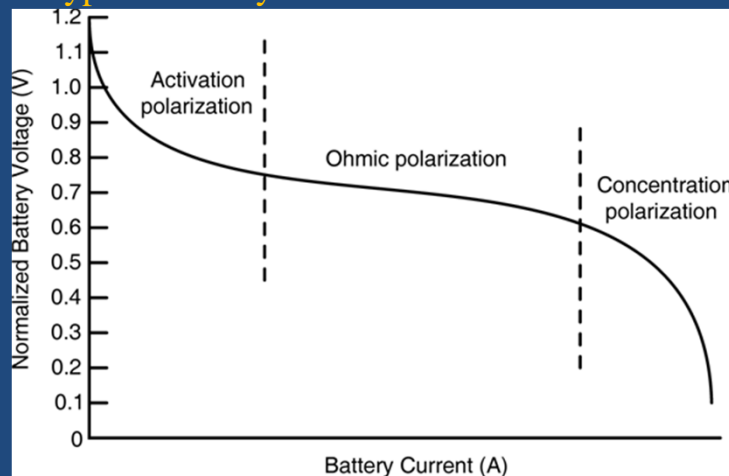
The Future of Biomedical Implants: Energy-Harvesting Glucose Fuel Cell



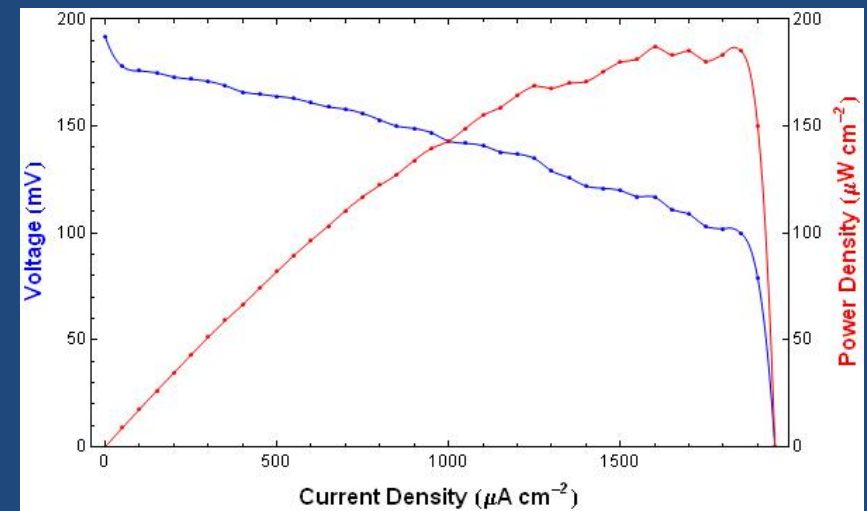
CMOS-Compatible
Fabrication

Powered by Glucose in Physiologic Fluids

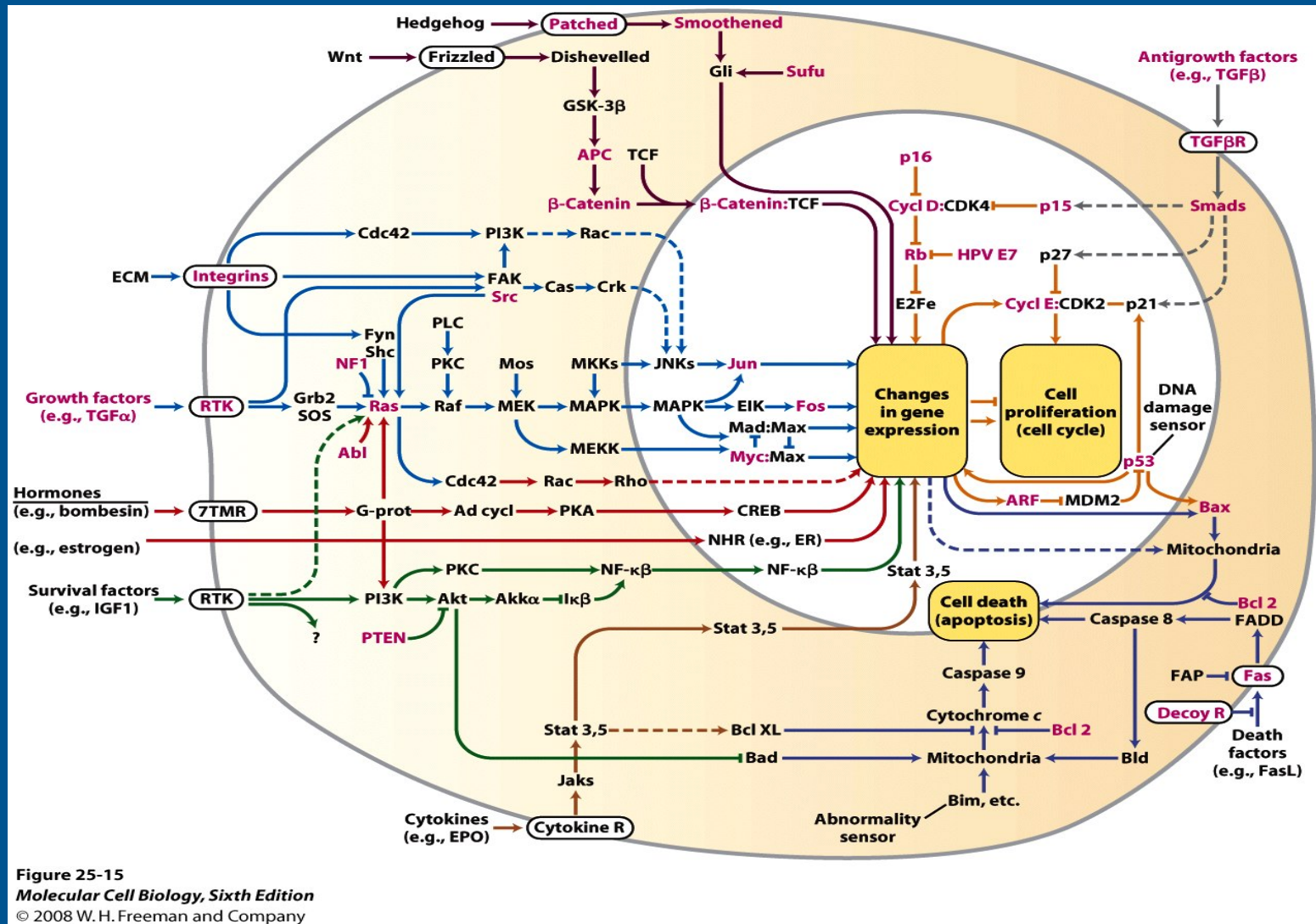
Typical Battery or Fuel Cell Characteristics



Glucose Fuel Cell Characteristics



Cells are 'Mixed-Signal Nanotechnology Supercomputers' that compute directly with molecules



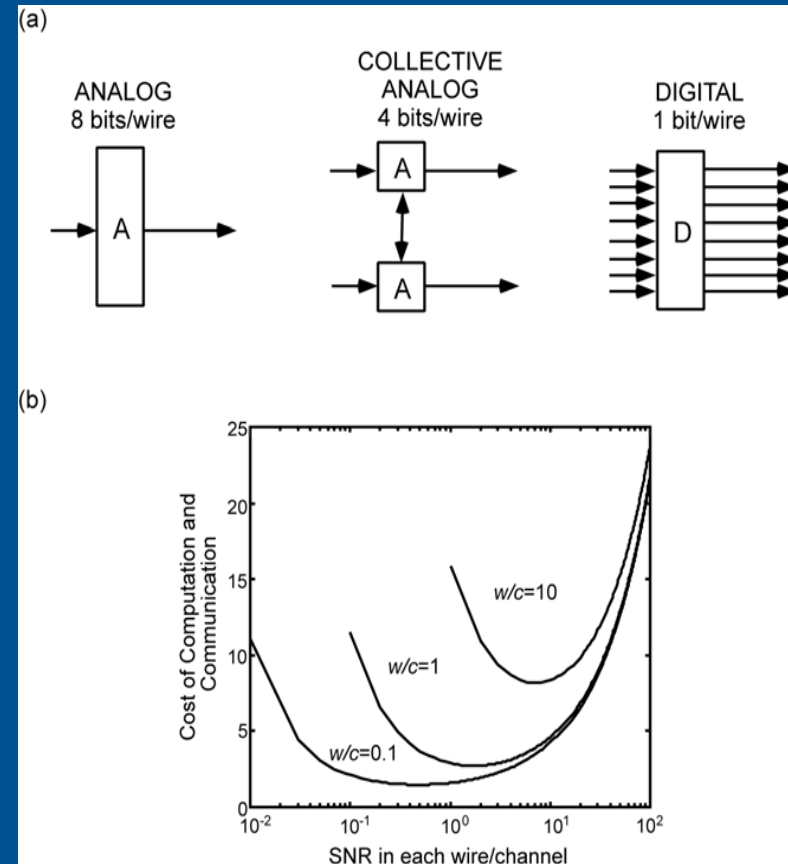
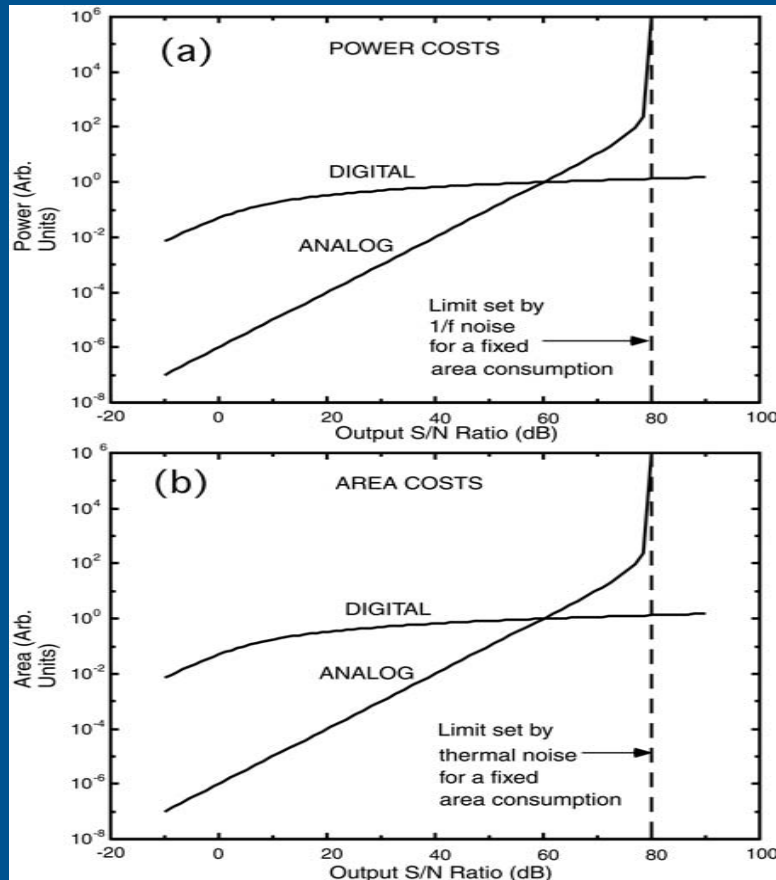
ANALOG

1. Compute on a **continuous set** of numbers, e.g., $[0,1]$, graded protein production from low to a maximum level.
2. **The basis functions** for computation arise from the **physics and chemistry of the computing devices** such that the amount of **computation squeezed out of a single genetic, RNA, or protein circuit is high**.
3. One wire or channel can represent **many bits** of information.
4. Computation is **sensitive to the parameters** of the molecular circuits.
5. **Noise is due to thermal fluctuations** in molecular devices.
6. **Signal is not restored** at each stage of the computation.
7. **Robust at final and decisive outputs**

DIGITAL

1. Compute on a **discrete set**, e.g., $\{0,1\}$, protein produced at a maximum level or not present at all.
2. **The basis functions** for computation arise from the **mathematics of Boolean logic** such that the amount of **computation squeezed out of a single genetic, RNA, or protein circuit is low**.
3. One wire or channel always represents **one bit** of information.
4. Computation is **less sensitive to the parameters** of the molecular circuits.
5. **Noise is due to round off error and temporal aliasing**.
6. **Signal is restored** at each stage of the computation
7. **Robust in every device and signal**

Analog Versus Digital: The Genius of Biology

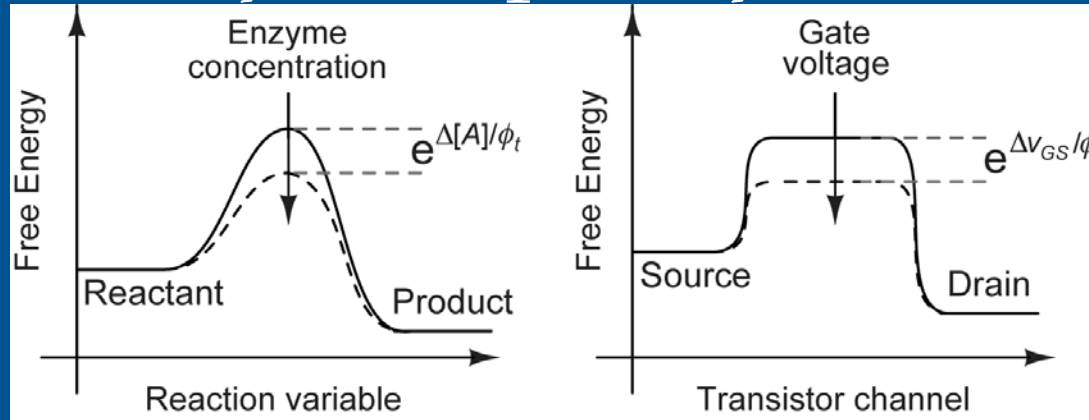


The relatively low-precision environment of cells makes analog computation efficient

Biology uses collective analog computation to achieve incredible efficiency.

R. Sarpeshkar, *Ultra Low Power Bioelectronics*, CUP, 2010

Cytomorphic Systems

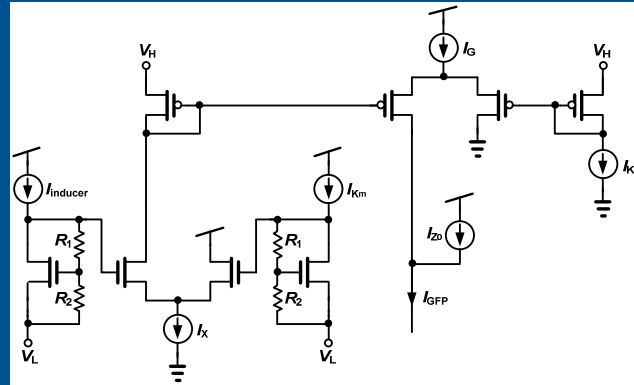
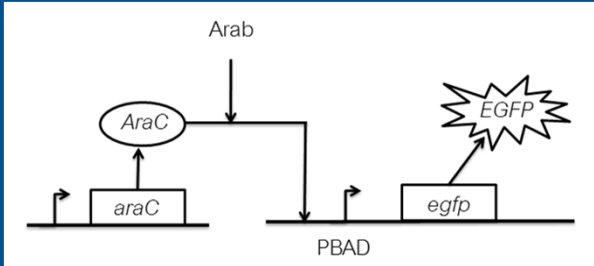


Chemistry	Electronics
Molecular flux	Electron flow (current)
Chemical potential	Electronic potential (voltage)
Enzyme potential exponentially controlling reaction rate	Gate voltage exponentially controlling current level
Flux balance analysis	Kirchhoff's current law (KCL)
Thermodynamic energy balance	Kirchhoff's voltage law (KVL)
Stochastics of molecular shot noise	Stochastics of Poisson shot noise

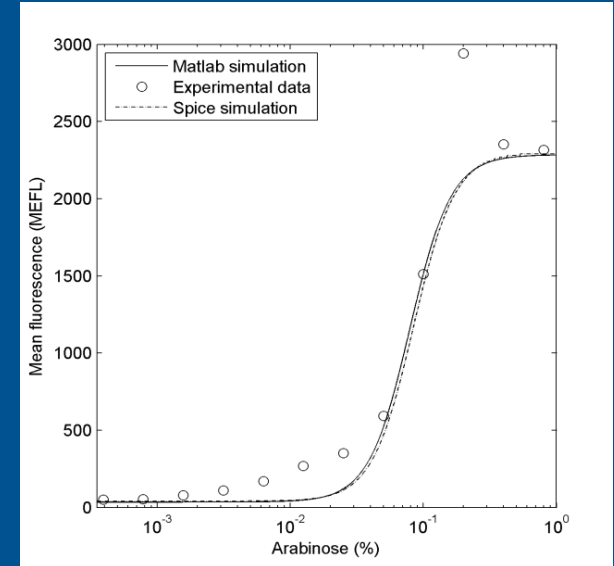
$$\text{Log(molecular concentration)} + \text{Energy} = \text{Log(current)} + \text{Voltage} \\ = \text{Electrochemical Potential}$$

Experimental Data from *E. coli*

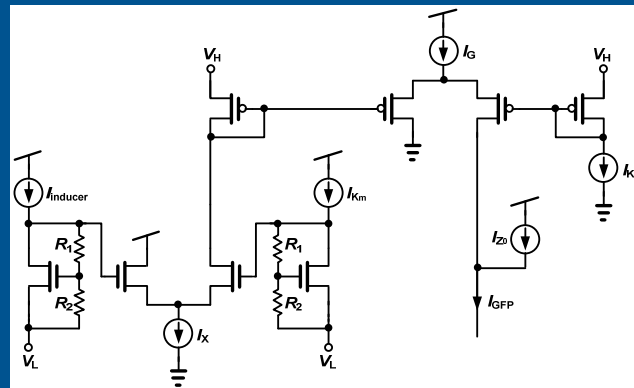
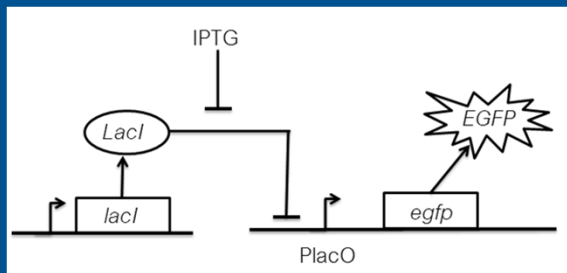
ACTIVATOR



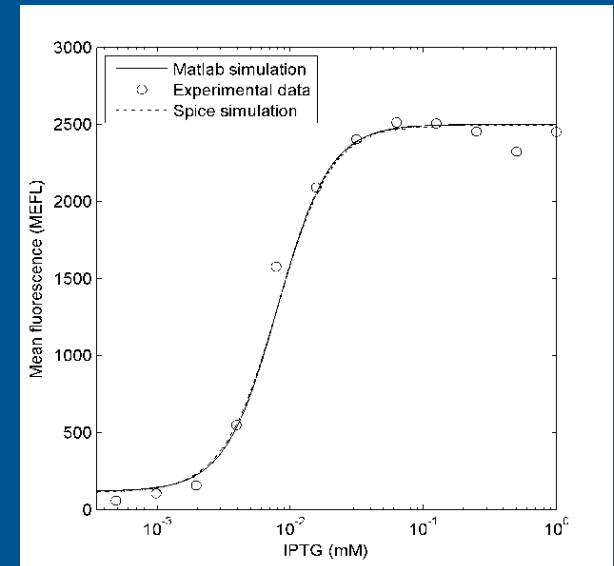
$$I_{GFP} = \frac{I_G}{1 + \frac{I_{K_d}}{I_X} \left(1 + \left(\frac{1}{I_{inducer} / I_{K_m}} \right)^m \right)} + I_{Z_0},$$



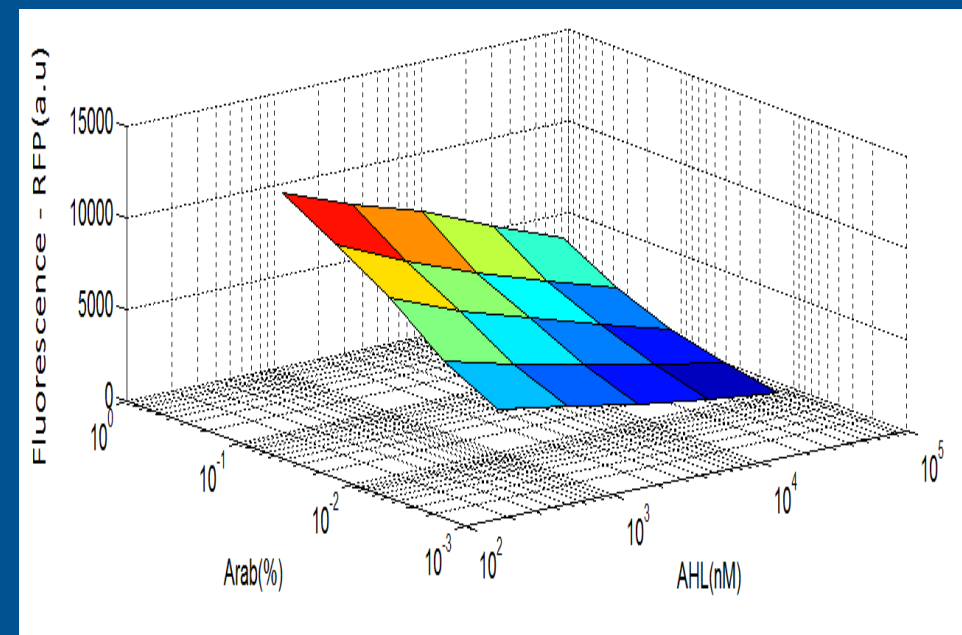
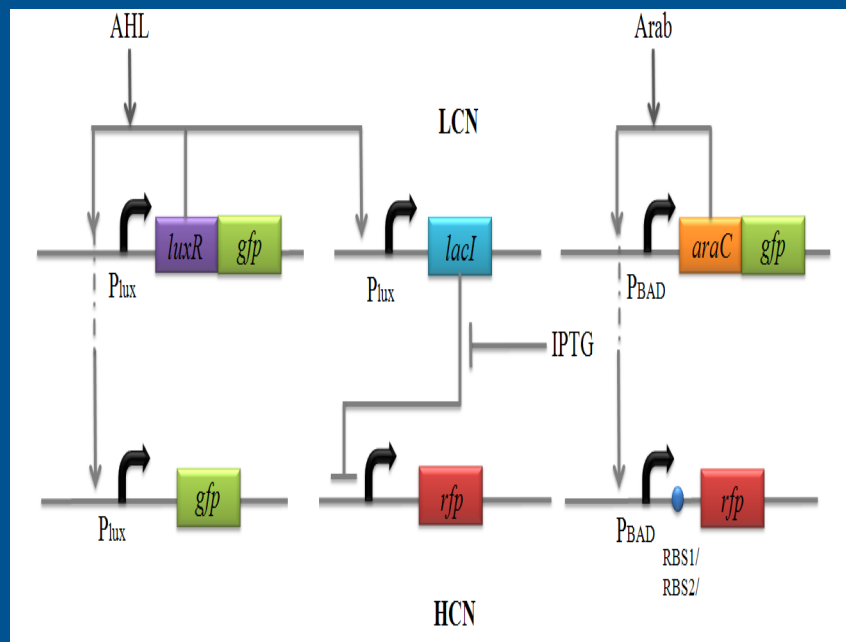
REPRESSOR



$$I_{GFP} = \frac{I_G}{1 + \frac{I_X / I_{K_d}}{1 + \left(I_{inducer} / I_{K_m} \right)^m}} + I_{Z_0},$$

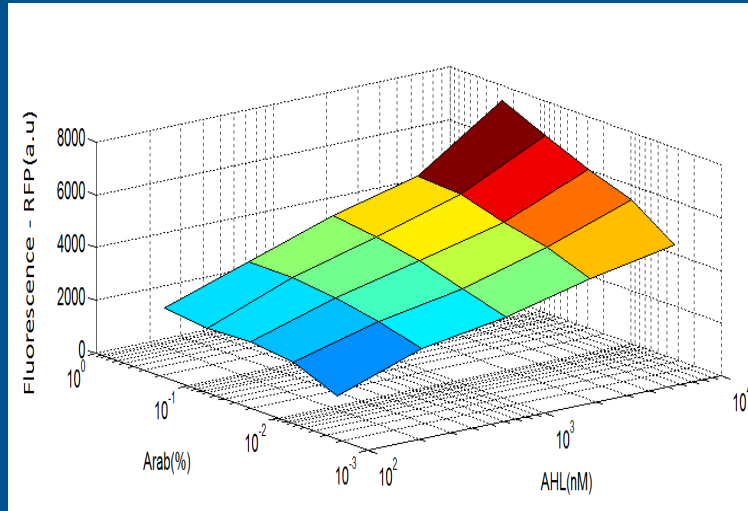


PF-Shunt, KCL, and Repression: Log-Linear Subtraction

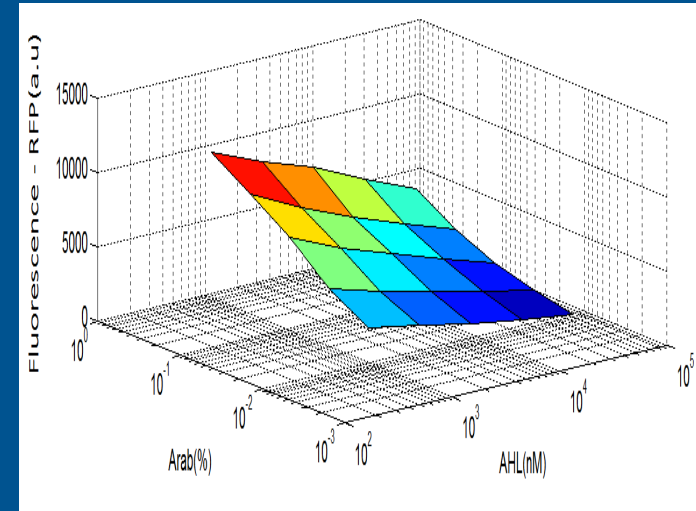


Daniel et al, NATURE, doi:10.1038/nature12148, May 2013

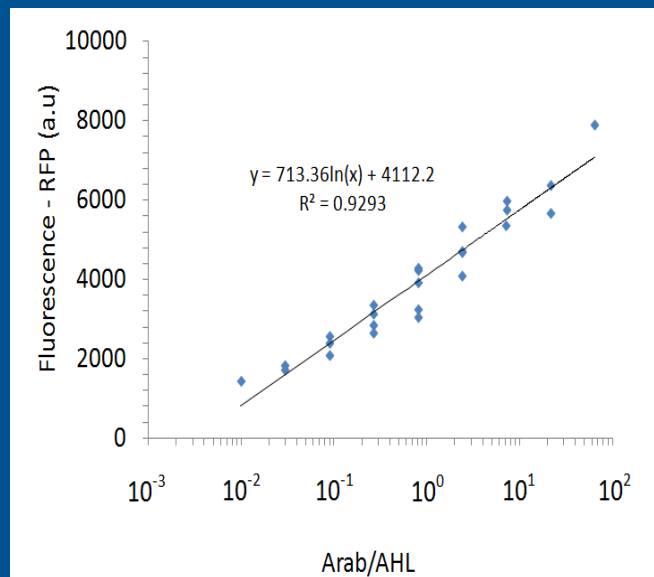
Synthetic Analog Computation in Bacteria



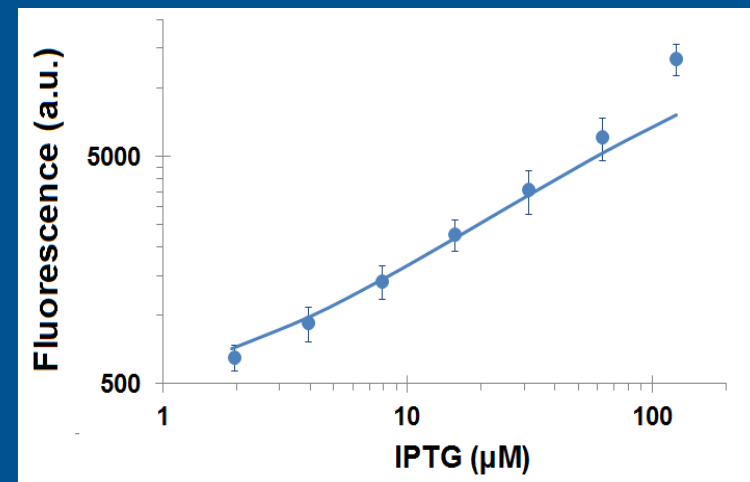
Addition



Subtraction

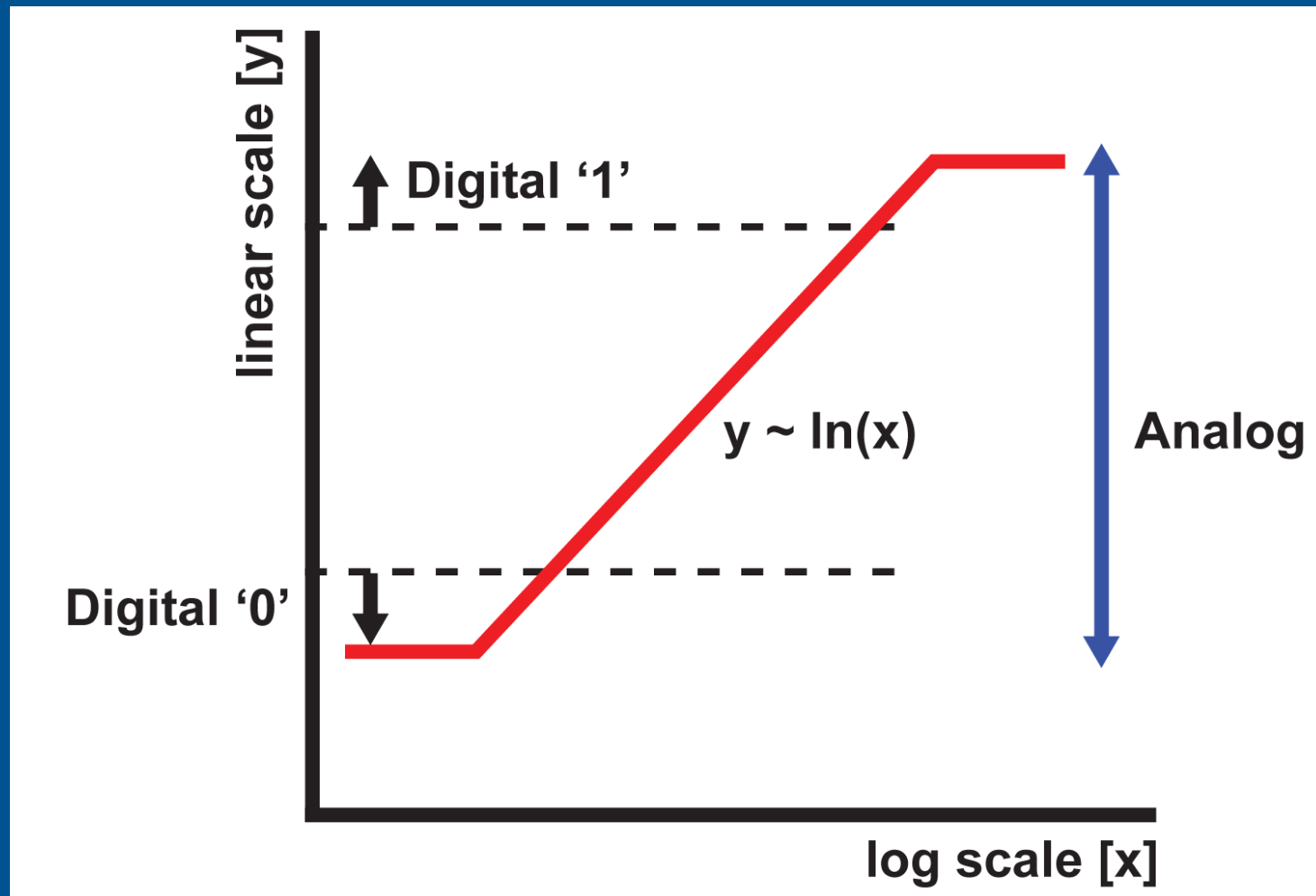


Division

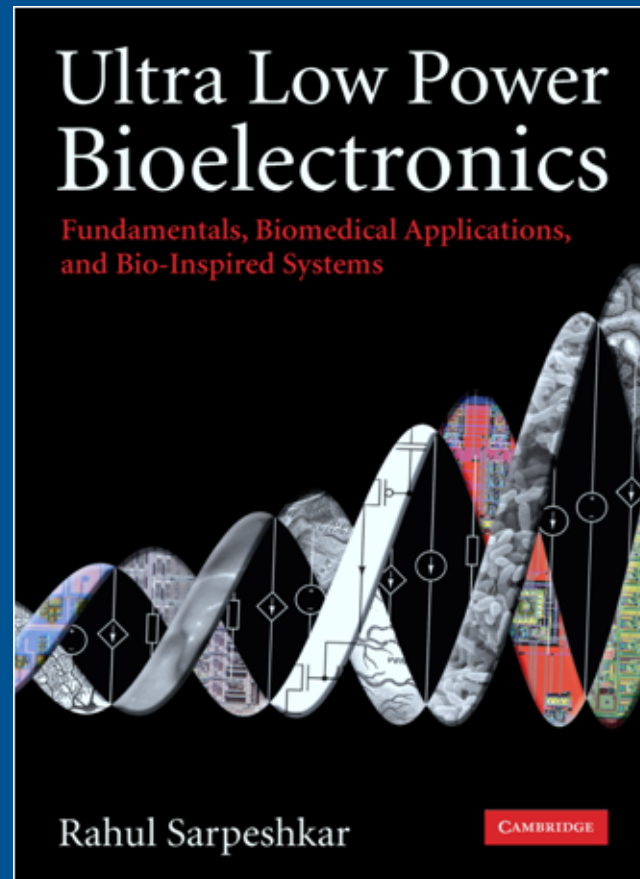


Square Roots & Power Laws

Analog Circuits Include Digital Circuits as a Special Case



An Analog Circuits Approach to Biology



Chapter 24, 'Cytomorphic Electronics: Cell-inspired Electronics for Systems and Synthetic Biology'

Daniel et al, Synthetic Analog Computation in Living Cells, NATURE, doi:10.1038/nature12148, May 2013

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