



MUTATIONS AND MOTILITY

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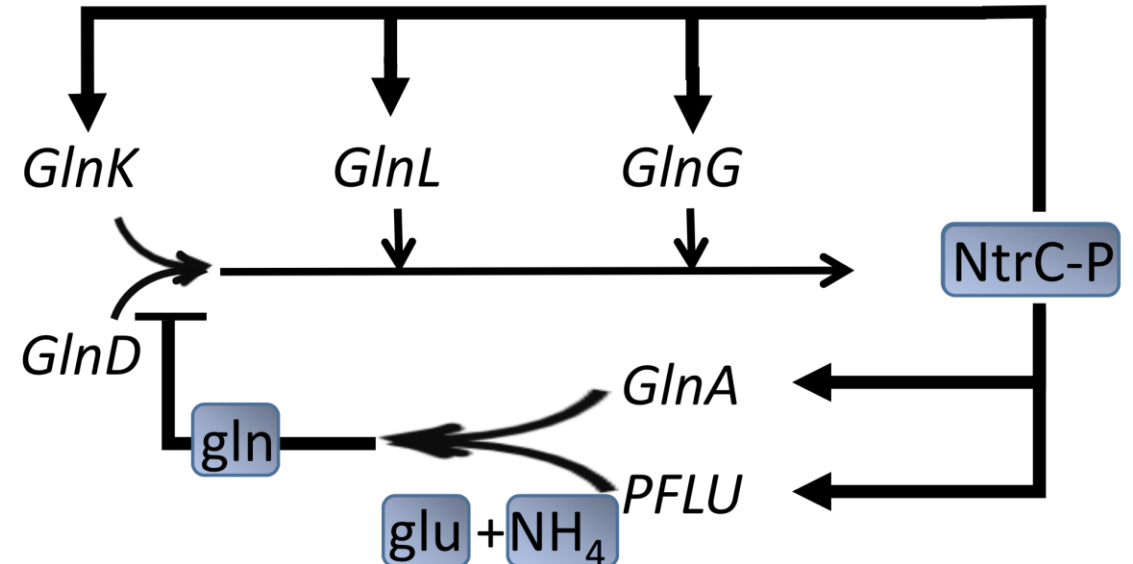
THE PROBLEM

The problem:

- Random mutations occur in genes that encode proteins.
- Certain mutations can cause cells to become motile.
- **Can be dangerous (can lead to cancer metastasis etc.).**

Our Aim:

- What is the likelihood of any given gene achieving a mutation which turns on motility?



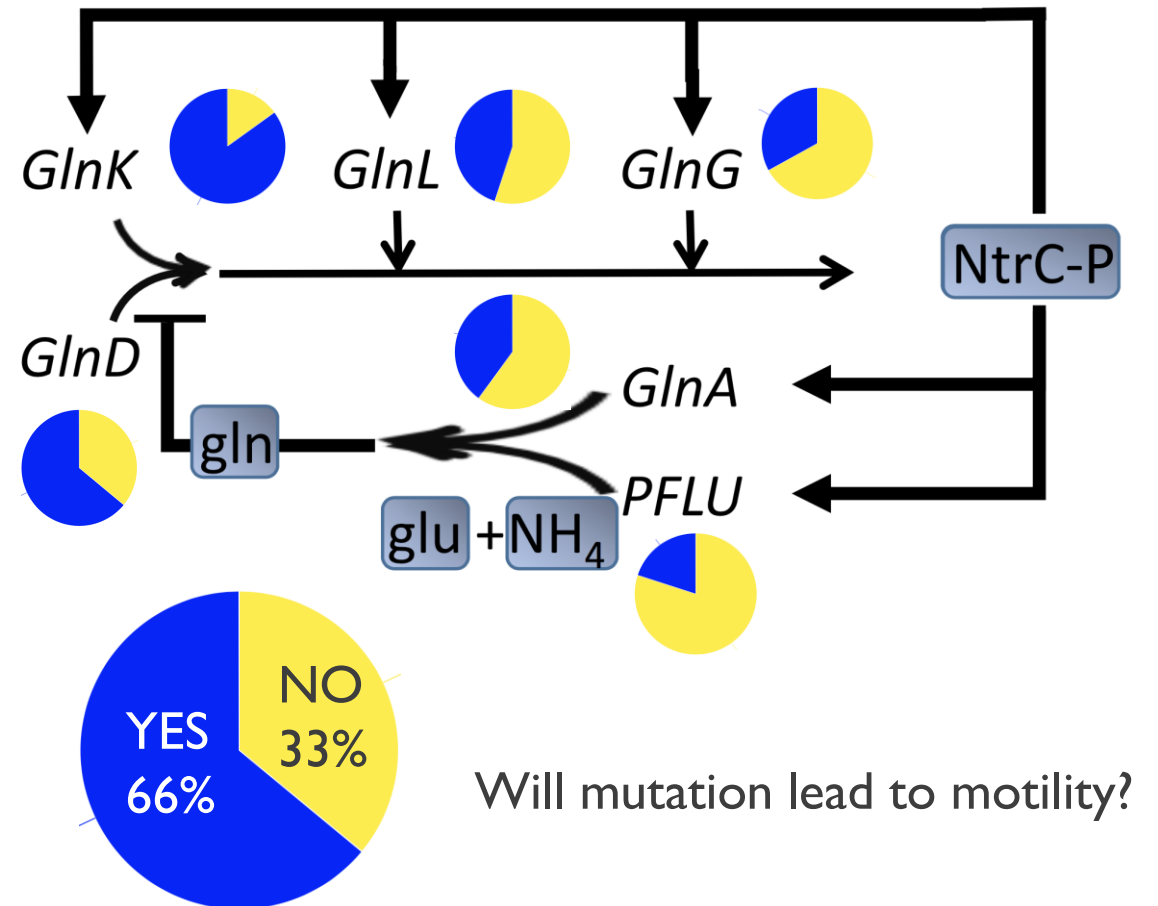
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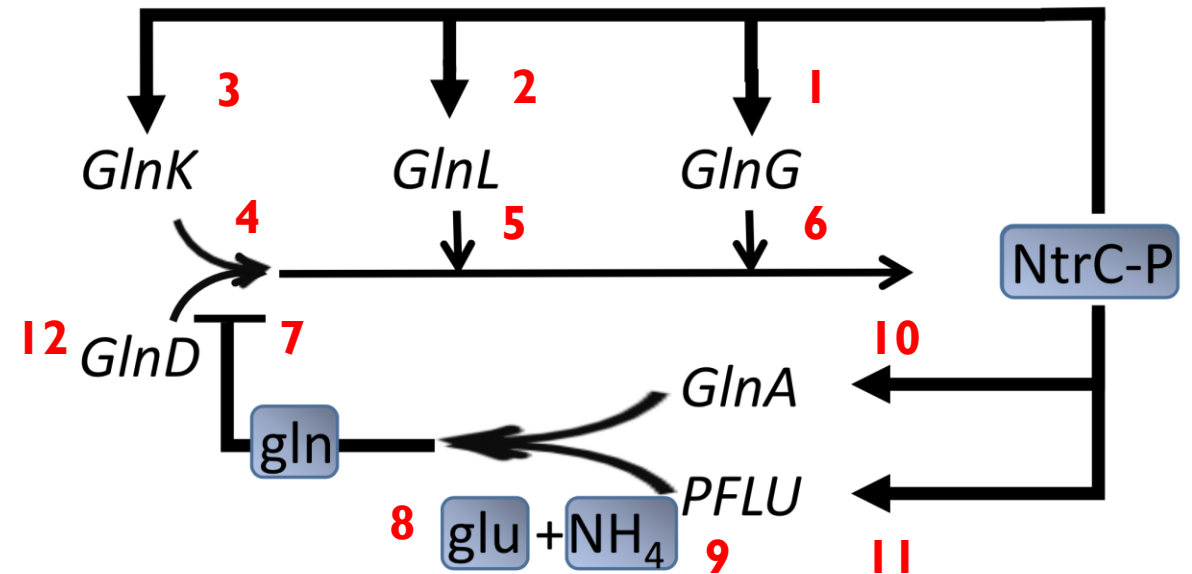
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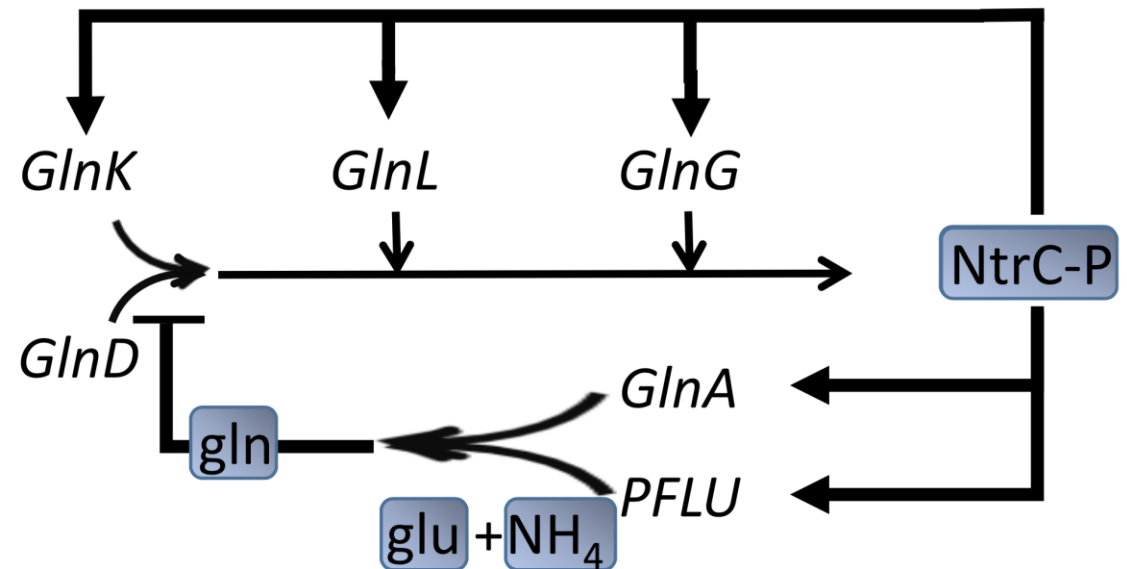
ODE MODEL

1	NtrC-P	→	NtrC-P + GlnG
2	NtrC-P	→	NtrC-P + GlnL
3	NtrC-P	→	NtrC-P + GlnK
4	GlnD + GlnK	→	C1
5	C1 + GlnL	→	C2
6	C2 + GlnG	→	NtrC-P
7	gln + GlnD	→	∅
8	glu + NH ₄ + GlnA	→	gln + GlnA
9	PFLU	→	glu + NH ₄ + PFLU
10	NtrC-P	→	GlnA + NtrC-P
11	NtrC-P	→	PFLU + NtrC-P
12	∅	→	GlnD



MODELLING ASSUMPTIONS

- Direct reactions from NtrC-P modelled using Michelis-Mentin, other reactions modelled using law of mass-action.
- All Stoichiometric numbers in reactions are 1.
- No environmental changes/effects.
- Amount of gene is a proxy for gene expression.

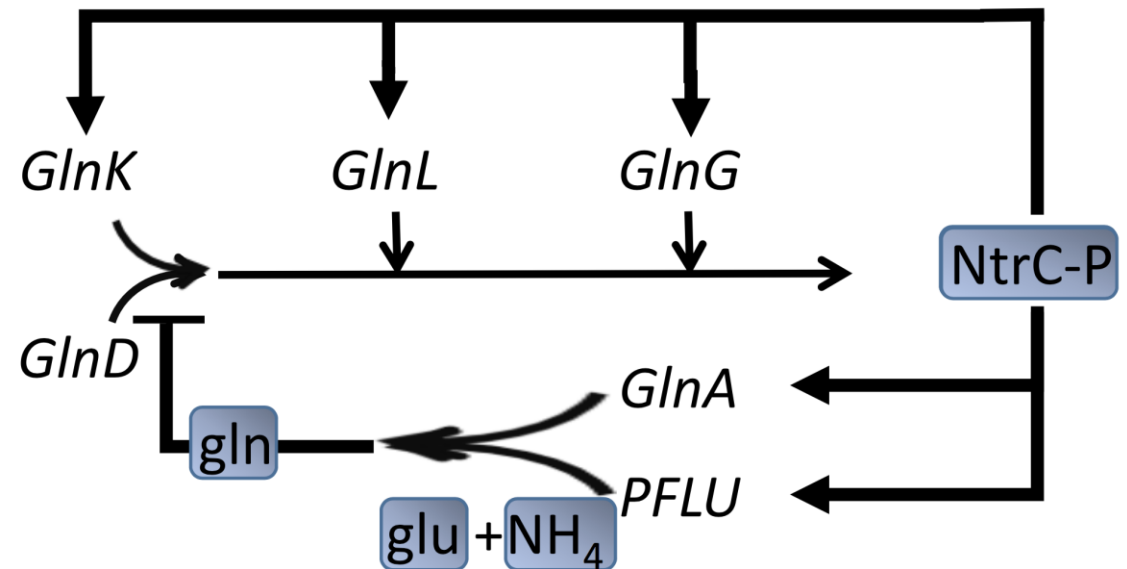


ODE MODEL

Following Rau et al. (2014), reaction dynamics are modelled by the system

$$\dot{x} = ZBv(x) + Zv_b(x),$$

- Z is the complex stoichiometric matrix.
- B is the incidence matrix.
- $v(x)$ is vector of reaction rates.
- $Zv_b(x)$ is term modelling environmental inputs (flux of substrate etc.). We will ignore for now.



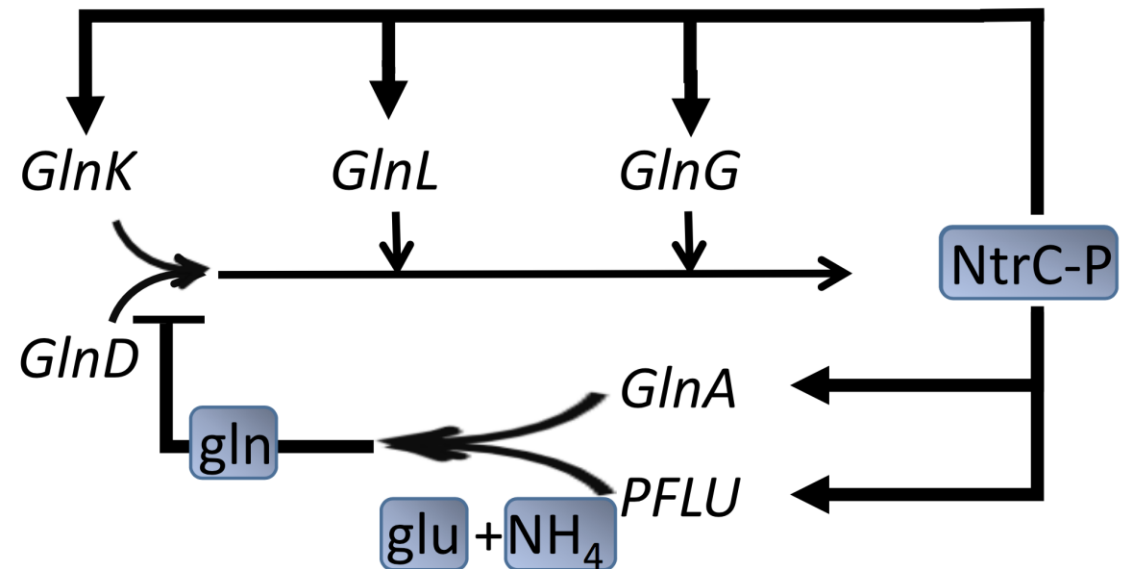
STEADY STATES BEFORE AND AFTER MUTATION

Consider mutation which removes need for GlnK + GlnD complex in production.

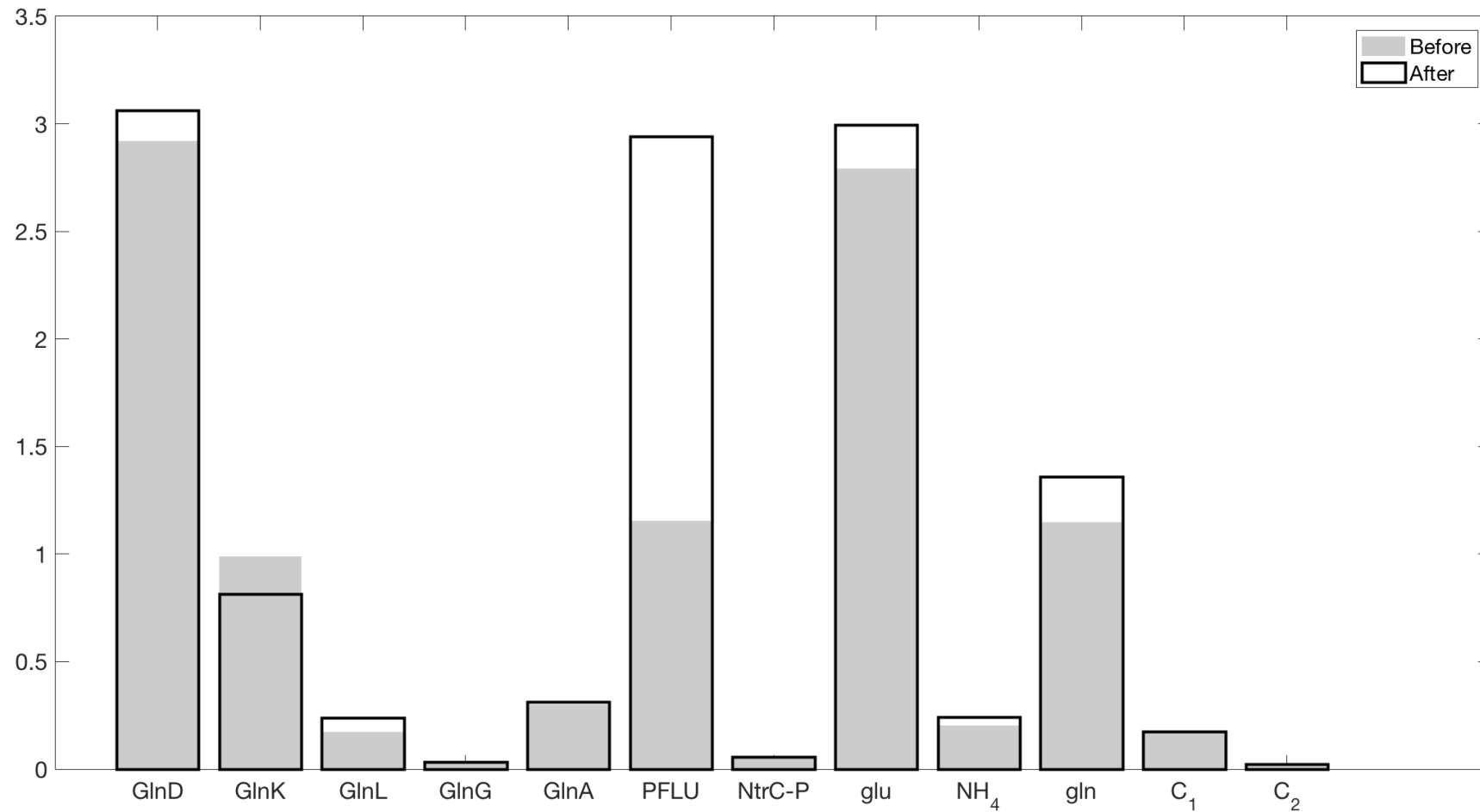
For steady state, solve

$$0 = ZBv(x).$$

- Employ Newton-type solver in MATLAB (e.g. fsolve).



STEADY STATES BEFORE AND AFTER MUTATION

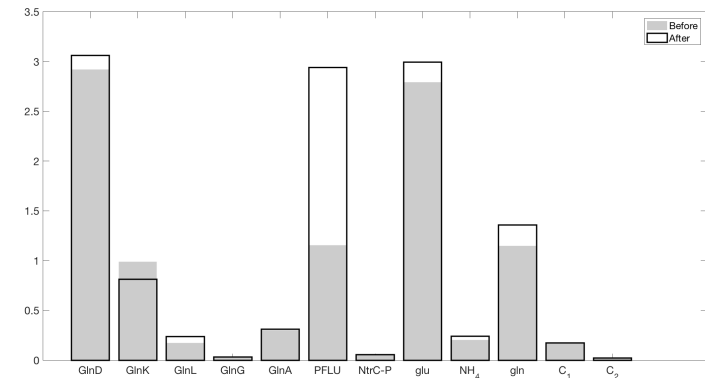
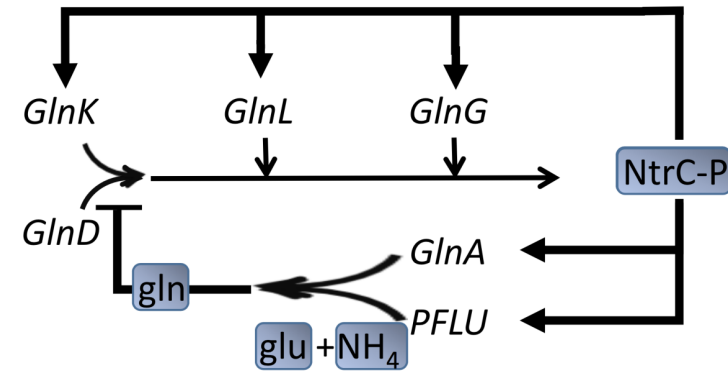


WHY ISN'T STEADY STATES APPROACH IDEAL?

For steady state, solve

$$0 = ZBv(x).$$

- Employ Newton-type solver in MATLAB (e.g. fsolve).
- fsolve picks up nearest zero to our initial guess... Not necessarily the one we want.
- Biological stability not the same as mathematical stability.
- Spike in NtrC-P production is not necessarily a stable process.



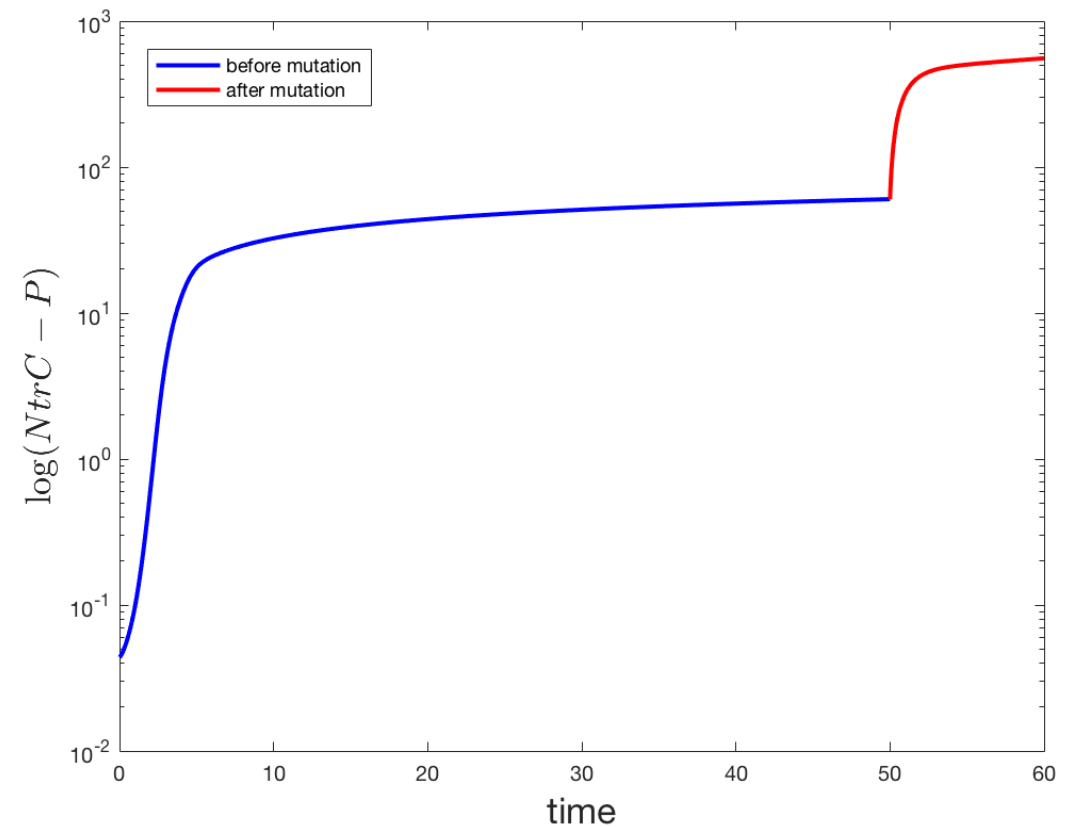
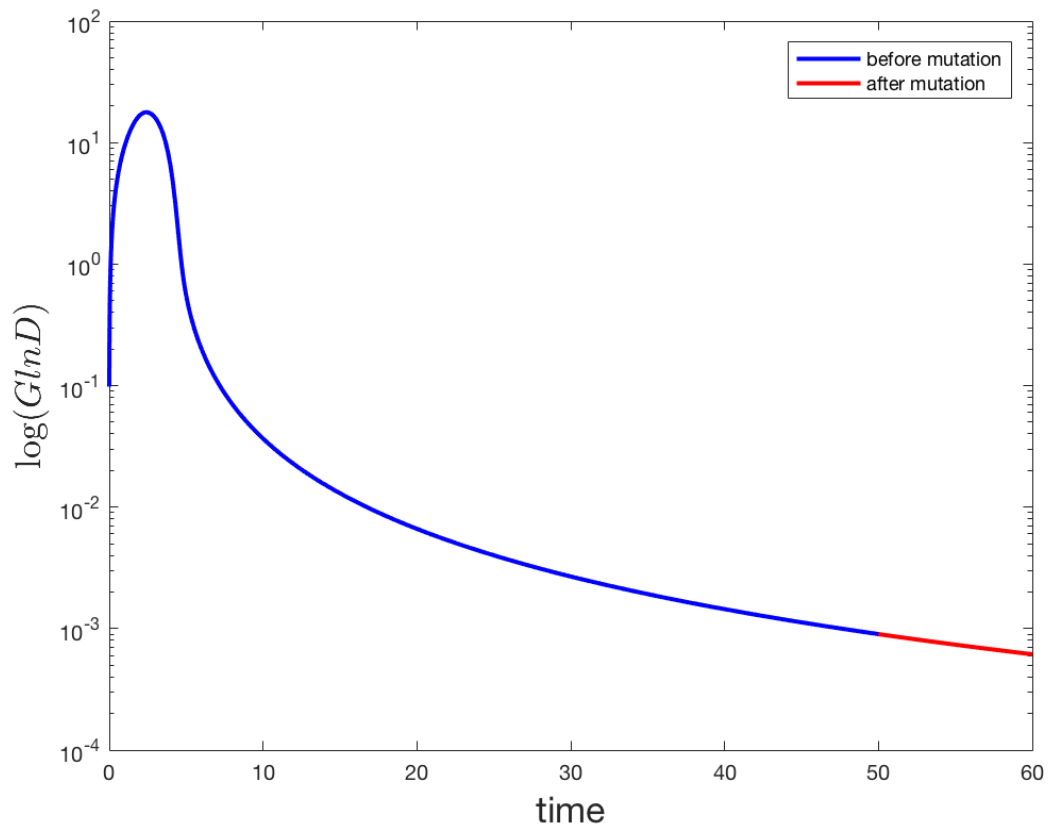
SOLVING DYNAMICAL MODEL

Instead, solve the dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = ZBv(x)$$

- Employ some MATLAB ODE solver (ODE15 etc).

GROWTH FROM MUTATION

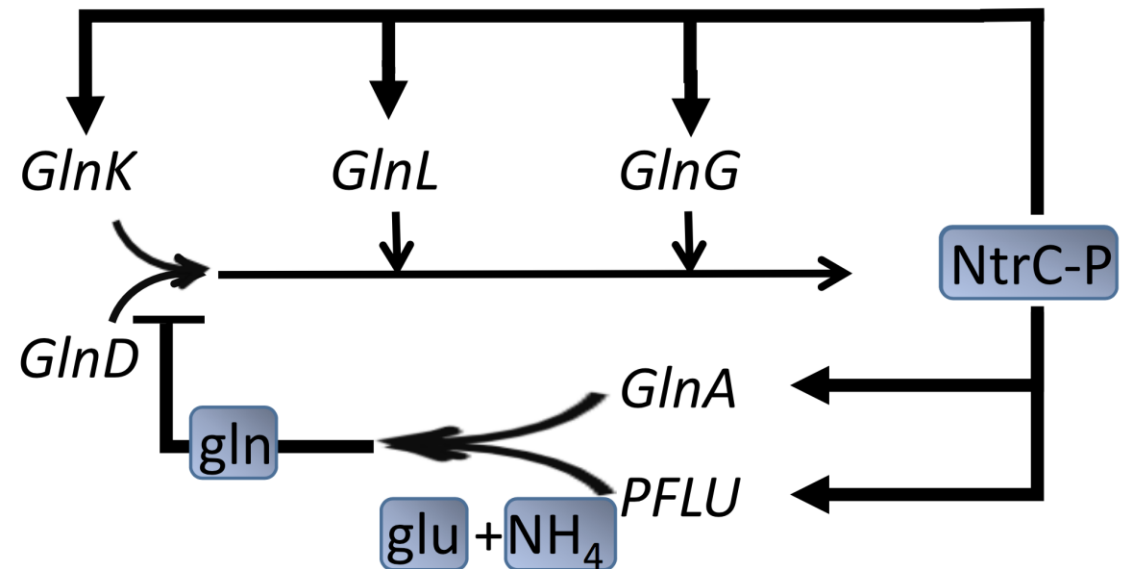


POSSIBLE EXTENSIONS

- Following Rau et al. (2014), include environmental factors with $Zv_b(x)$ term on the RHS of ODE

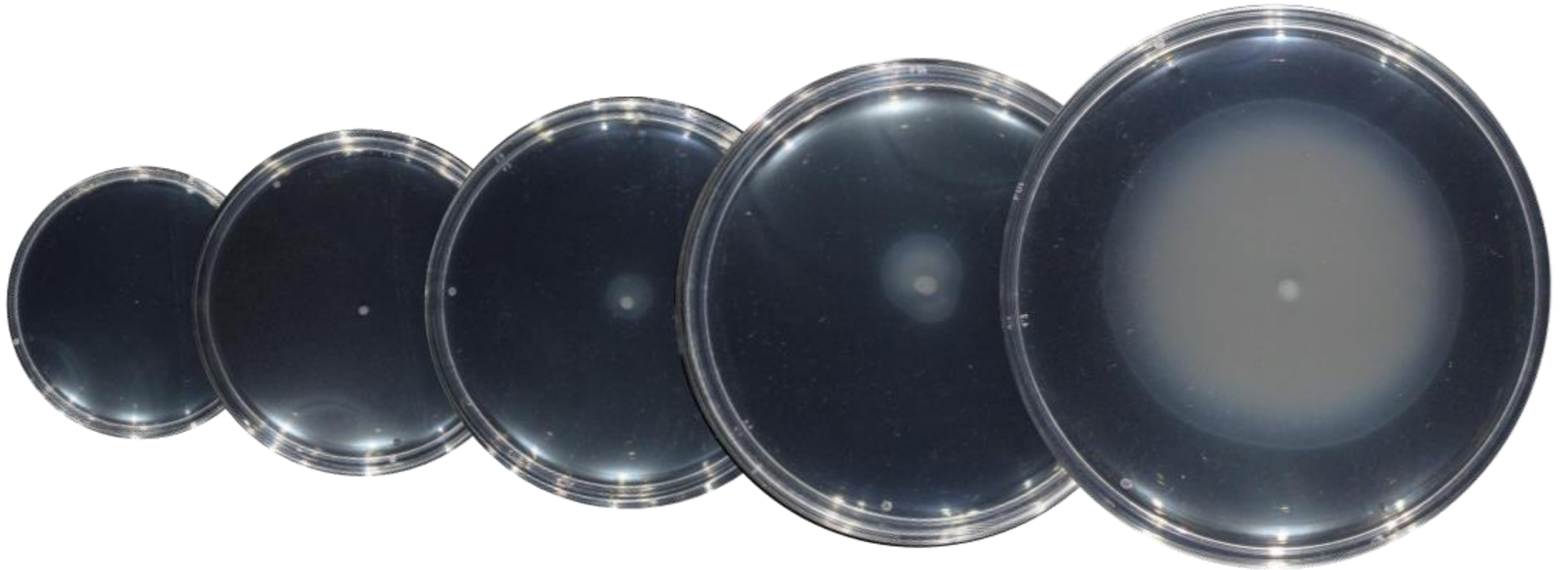
$$\dot{x} = ZB(x)v(x) + Zv_b(x).$$

- This can model fluxes of
- Explore different mutations. Do these mutations lead to higher NtrC-P?



AGENT-BASED MODELLING

- Want to model the proliferation and mutation of the bacteria in the petri dish.



THE MODEL

Submitted to *Bulletin of Mathematical Biology*

Travelling waves in hybrid chemotaxis models

Benjamin Franz · Chuan Xue · Kevin J.
Painter · Radek Erban

THE MODEL – VELOCITY JUMP PROCESS

- Choose $\theta \sim \text{Unif}(0, 2\pi)$ and jump a distance $v\Delta t$ in that direction, i.e.

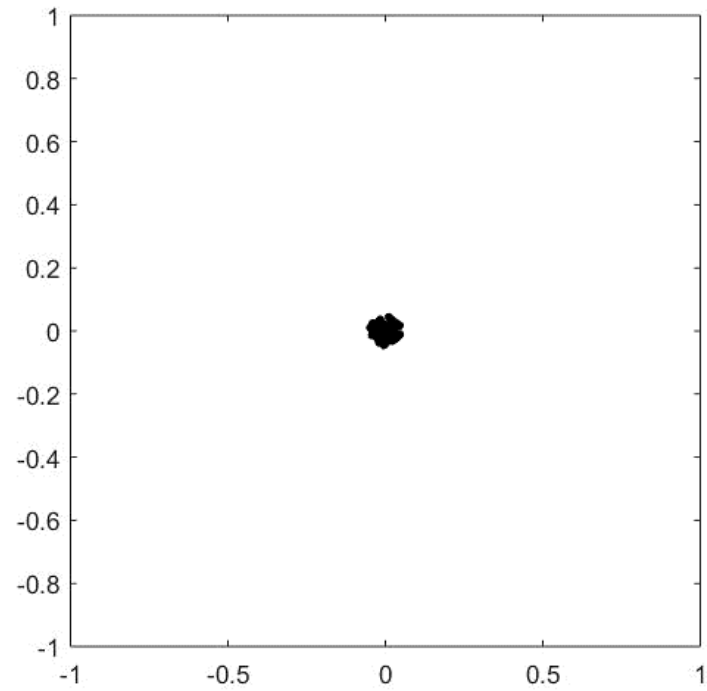
$$X_i(t + \Delta t) = X_i(t) + v\Delta t \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) \end{pmatrix}.$$

THE MODEL - MUTATIONS

- The mutations are done through a series of reactions. Let I, S, F denote the immobile, slow and fast moving bacteria. Then:



THE RESULTS



FUTURE STEPS

- Add the hybridisation from Franz *et al.* (2013):

$$S(x, t) = -\alpha_I \sum_{i=1}^{N_I} \delta(x - I_i(t)) - \alpha_S \sum_{j=1}^{N_S} \delta(x - S_j(t)) - \alpha_F \sum_{k=1}^{N_F} \delta(x - F_k(t)).$$

- Add in volume exclusion.