

# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects

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Computing with Biomolecules  
August 27th, 2008  
Vienna, Austria

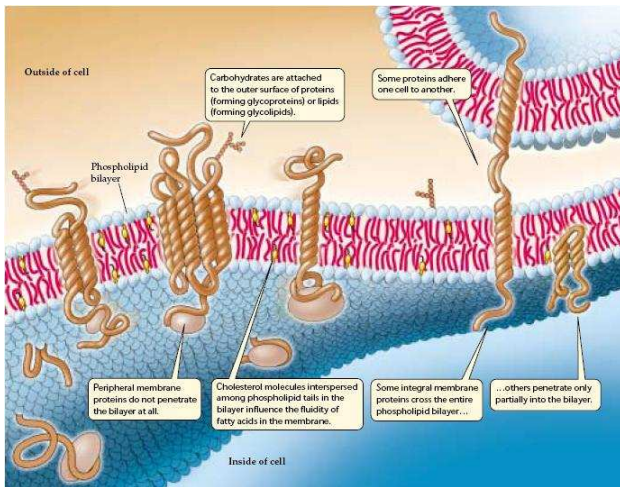
# Outline

- 1 Membrane Systems with Surface Objects
  - Decision Problems
  - Operational Semantics
- 2 PEP Calculus Without Replication
- 3 Encoding PEP into Membranes with Surface Objects
- 4 Global vs. Local Rules
- 5 Conclusion

# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects

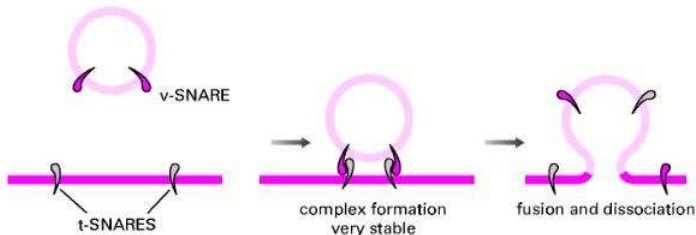
- Some work was done previously trying to relate membrane systems and brane calculus [4, 5, 7, 9].
- Inspired by brane calculus, a model of the membrane system having objects attached to the membranes has been introduced in [8].
- In [3], a class of membrane systems containing both free floating objects and objects attached to membranes have been proposed.
- In this paper we are continuing this research line, and simulate a variant of brane calculus by using membrane systems with surface objects.

# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects



**The Fluid Mosaic Model:** The general molecular structure of biological membranes is a continuous phospholipid bilayer in which proteins are embedded.

# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects



## Membrane Fusion

- Is the process by which a vesicle membrane incorporates its components into the target membrane;
- First, the vesicle and the target membrane mutually identify each other;
- Then, proteins from both membranes interact with one another to form stable complexes and bring the two membranes into close apposition, resulting in the docking of the vesicle to the target membrane.
- Finally, considerable energy is supplied to force the membranes to fuse.

# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects

## Definition

A membrane system with surface objects (MSO) and  $n$  membranes is a construct

$$\Pi = (A, \mu, u_1, \dots, u_n, R)$$

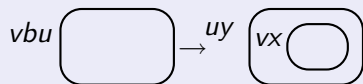
where:

- 1  $A$  is an alphabet (finite, non-empty) of proteins;
- 2  $\mu$  is a membrane structure with  $n \geq 2$  membranes;
- 3  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  are multisets of proteins; the skin membrane is labelled with 1 and  $u_1 = \lambda$ ;
- 4  $R$  is a finite set of rules of the following forms:

# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects

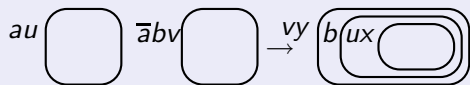
$[ ]_{vbu} \rightarrow_m [[ ]_{vx}]_{uy}$ , where  $b \in A, u, x, y \in A^*, v \in A^+$

pino



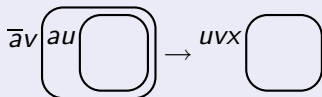
$[ ]_{au} [ ]_{\bar{a}bv} \rightarrow_m [[[ ]_{ux}]_b]_{vy}$ , where  $a, \bar{a} \in A, u, v, x, y \in A^*$

phago



$[[ ]_{au}]_{\bar{a}v} \rightarrow_m [ ]_{uvx}$ , where  $a, \bar{a} \in A, u, v, x \in A^*$

exo



# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects

## Decision Problems

- $A(\Pi)$  denotes the finite alphabet of the system  $\Pi$ ;
- a marking  $w$  represent a distribution of the multiset of objects  $w$  over the structure  $\mu$  of  $\Pi$ ;
- if we consider a multiset of objects  $w$  containing all the objects present in the system at a certain moment, then the following proposition holds.

### Proposition

*It is decidable whether  $w$  is a reachable marking of  $\Pi$ , for any MSO system  $\Pi$  and any multiset  $w$  of objects over  $A(\Pi)$ .*



# Membrane Systems with Surface Objects

## Operational Semantics

### Syntax of MSO

*Systems*  $M, N ::= M N \mid [M]_u$  membranes with surface objects  
*Multisets*  $u, v ::= \lambda \mid a \mid \bar{a} \mid uv$  multisets of objects where  $a, \bar{a} \in A$

### Structural Congruence of MSO

$$M N \equiv_m N M$$

$$M (N P) \equiv_m (M N) P$$

$$uv \equiv_m vu$$

$$u(vw) \equiv_m (uv)w$$

$$\lambda u \equiv_m u$$

$$M \equiv_m N \text{ implies } M P \equiv_m N P$$

$$M \equiv_m N \text{ and } u \equiv_m v \text{ implies } [M]_u \equiv_m [N]_v$$

$$u \equiv_m v \text{ implies } uw \equiv_m vw$$

### Reductions of MSO

$$P \rightarrow_m Q \text{ implies } P R \rightarrow_m Q R$$

$$P \rightarrow_m Q \text{ implies } [P]_u \rightarrow_m [Q]_u$$

$$P \equiv_m P' \text{ and } P' \rightarrow_m Q' \text{ and } Q' \equiv_m Q \text{ implies } P \rightarrow_m Q$$

Par

Mem

Struct

# PEP Calculus Without Replication

## Syntax of PEP

<i>Systems</i>	$P, Q ::= \diamond \mid P \circ Q \mid \sigma(P)$	nests of membranes
<i>Branes</i>	$\sigma, \tau ::= O \mid \sigma \mid \tau \mid a.\sigma$	combinations of actions
<i>Actions</i>	$a, b ::= n \searrow \mid \bar{n} \searrow(\sigma) \mid n \swarrow \mid \bar{n} \swarrow \mid pino(\sigma)$	phago $\searrow$ , exo $\swarrow$

## Structural Congruence of PEP

$P \circ Q \equiv_b Q \circ P$	$\sigma \mid \tau \equiv_b \tau \mid \sigma$
$P \circ (Q \circ R) \equiv_b (P \circ Q) \circ R$	$\sigma \mid (\tau \mid \rho) \equiv_b (\sigma \mid \tau) \mid \rho$
$P \circ \diamond \equiv_b P \quad 0(\diamond) \equiv_b \diamond$	$\sigma \mid o \equiv_b \sigma$
$P \equiv_b Q$ implies $P \circ R \equiv_b Q \circ R$	$\sigma \equiv_b \tau$ implies $\sigma \mid \rho \equiv_b \tau \mid \rho$
$P \equiv_b Q$ and $\sigma \equiv_b \tau$ implies $\sigma(P) \equiv_b \tau(Q)$	$\sigma \equiv_b \tau$ implies $a.\sigma \equiv_b a.\tau$

## Reductions of PEP

$pino(\rho).\sigma \mid \sigma_0(P) \rightarrow_b \sigma \mid \sigma_0(\rho(\diamond) \circ P)$	Pino
$\bar{n} \searrow.\tau \mid \tau_0(n \swarrow.\sigma \mid \sigma_0(P) \circ Q) \rightarrow_b P \circ \sigma \mid \sigma_0 \mid \tau \mid \tau_0(Q)$	Exo
$n \swarrow.\sigma \mid \sigma_0(P) \circ \bar{n} \searrow(\rho).\tau \mid \tau_0(Q) \rightarrow_b \tau \mid \tau_0(\rho(\sigma \mid \sigma_0(P))) \circ Q$	Phago
$P \rightarrow_b Q$ implies $P \circ R \rightarrow_b Q \circ R$	Par
$P \rightarrow_b Q$ implies $\sigma(P) \rightarrow_b \sigma(Q)$	Mem
$P \equiv_b P'$ and $P' \rightarrow_b Q'$ and $Q' \equiv_b Q$ implies $P \rightarrow_b Q$	Struct

# Encoding PEP into Membranes with Surface Objects

## Definition

A translation  $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{T}(P) = \begin{cases} [\mathcal{T}(P)]_{\mathcal{S}(\sigma)} & \text{if } \sigma(P) \\ \mathcal{T}(Q) \mathcal{T}(R) & \text{if } P = Q | R \end{cases}$$

where  $\mathcal{S} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow A$  is defined as:

$$\mathcal{S}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma = n \searrow \text{ or } \sigma = n \swarrow \text{ or } \sigma = \bar{n} \swarrow \\ \bar{n} \searrow \mathcal{S}(\rho) & \text{if } \sigma = \bar{n} \searrow (\rho) \\ \text{pino } \mathcal{S}(\rho) & \text{if } \sigma = \text{pino}(\rho) \\ \mathcal{S}(a) \mathcal{S}(\rho) & \text{if } \sigma = a.\rho \\ \mathcal{S}(\tau) \mathcal{S}(\rho) & \text{if } \sigma = \tau | \rho \end{cases}$$

## Rules of MSO

$$\begin{aligned} [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(n \searrow \sigma | \sigma_0)} [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(\bar{n} \searrow (\rho).\tau | \tau_0)} &\rightarrow_m [ [ [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(\sigma | \sigma_0)} ]_{\mathcal{S}(\rho)} ]_{\mathcal{S}(\tau | \tau_0)} \\ [ [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(n \swarrow \sigma | \sigma_0)} ]_{\mathcal{S}(\bar{n} \swarrow \tau | \tau_0)} &\rightarrow_m [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(\sigma | \sigma_0 | \tau | \tau_0)} \\ [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(\text{pino}(\rho).\sigma | \sigma_0)} &\rightarrow_m [ [ ]_{\mathcal{S}(\rho)} ]_{\mathcal{S}(\sigma | \sigma_0)} \end{aligned}$$

# Encoding PEP into Membranes with Surface Objects

## Proposition

*If  $P$  is a PEP system and  $M = \mathcal{T}(P)$  is a membrane system with surface objects, then there exists  $N$  such that  $M \equiv_m N$  and  $N = \mathcal{T}(Q)$ , whenever  $P \equiv_b Q$ .*

## Proposition

*If  $P$  is a PEP system and  $M = \mathcal{T}(P)$  is a membrane system with surface objects, then there exists  $Q$  such that  $N = \mathcal{T}(Q)$  whenever  $M \equiv_m N$ .*

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*If  $P$  is a PEP system and  $M = \mathcal{T}(P)$  is a membrane system with surface objects, then there exists  $N$  such that  $M \rightarrow_m N$  and  $N = \mathcal{T}(Q)$ , whenever  $P \rightarrow_b Q$ .*

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# Global vs. Local Rules

## Example

### Global Rules

Consider the membrane system

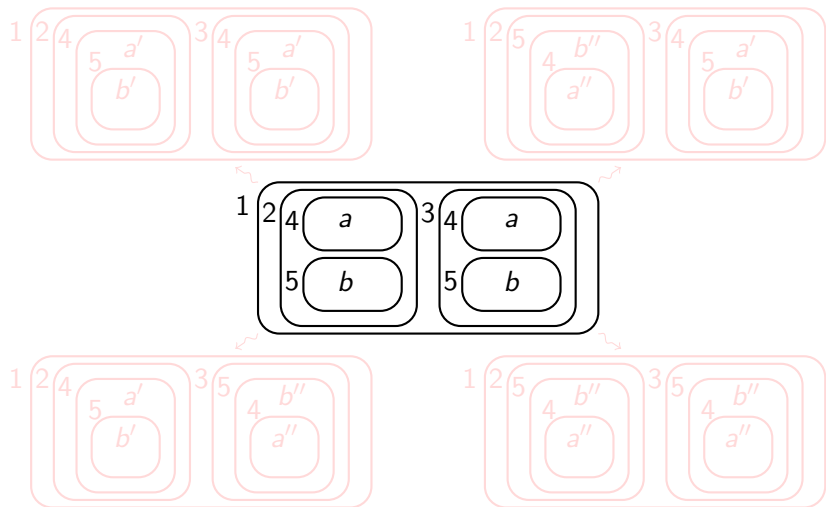
$$[[[a]_4[b]_5]_2[[a]_4[b]_5]_3]_1$$

with the set of rules

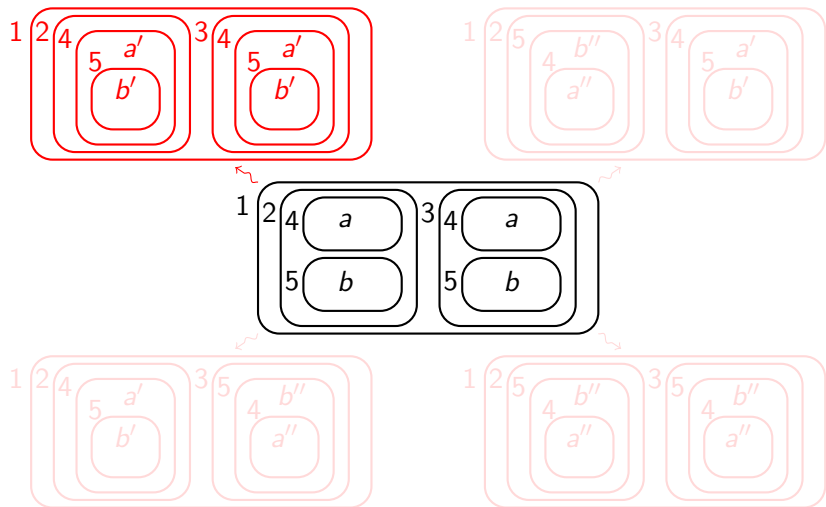
$$R = \{[a]_4[b]_5 \rightarrow [a'[b']_5]_4, [a]_4[b]_5 \rightarrow [b''[a'']_4]_5\}$$

If we let this system evolve then we have the following possible configurations:

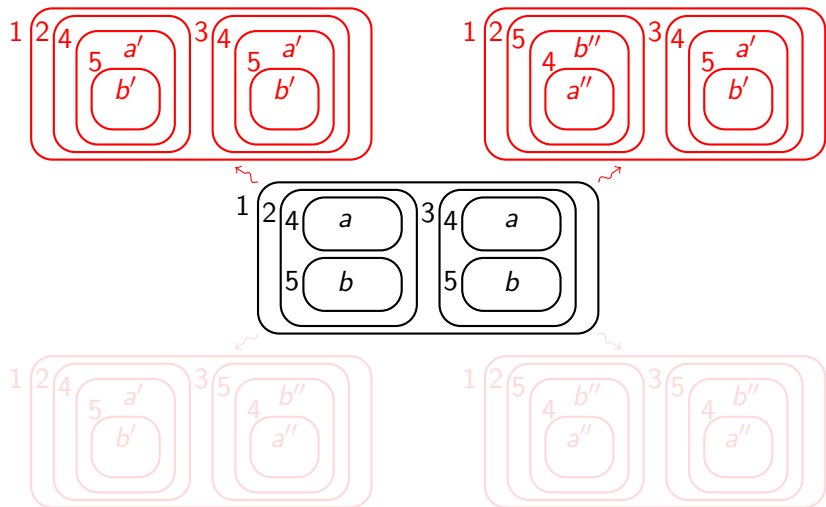
# Example



# Example

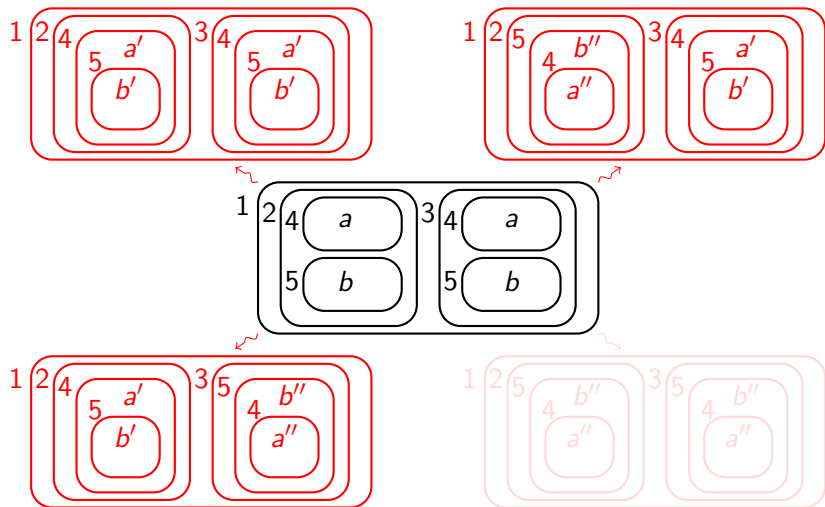


# Example

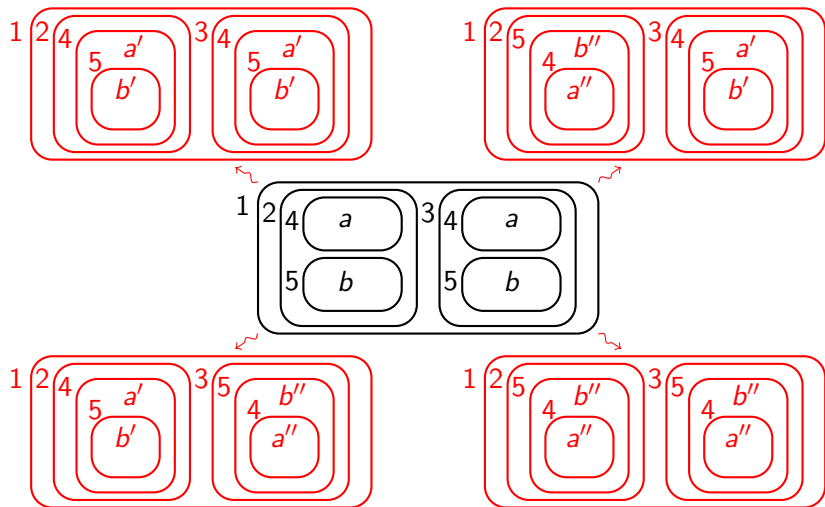




# Example



# Example



# Global vs. Local Rules

## Example

### Local Rules

Consider the membrane system

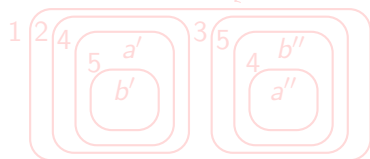
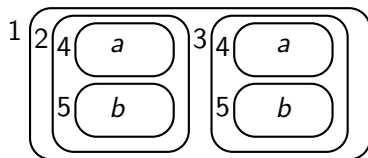
$$[[[a]_4[b]_5]_2[[a]_4[b]_5]_3]_1$$

with the set of rules

$$R_1 = \{[a]_4[b]_5 \rightarrow [a'[b']_5]_4\}, R_2 = \{[a]_4[b]_5 \rightarrow [b''[a'']_4]_5\}$$

If we let this system evolve we obtain only the solution:

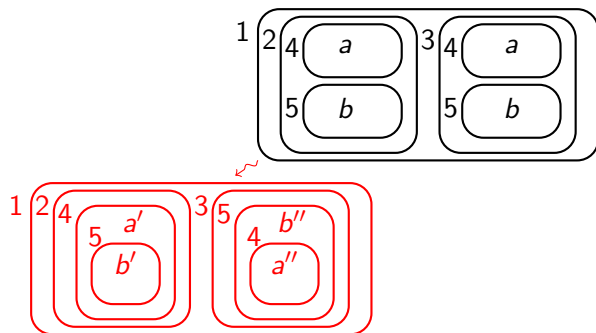
## Example



### Global vs. Local Rules

By these two examples we want to show that by using local sets of rules we may control better the evolution of a membrane system.

## Example



### Global vs. Local Rules

By these two examples we want to show that by using local sets of rules we may control better the evolution of a membrane system.

# Conclusion

- We introduced in this paper a new set of rules for membrane systems with surface objects in which we use objects and co-object during the evolution. A novel aspect is given by co-objects.
- We show that PEP calculus without replication can be translated into this new class of membrane systems with objects and co-objects. In this way the new class of membranes with surface objects gets the whole computational power of the PEP fragment of the brane calculus.
- We opened the discussion on distributing the global multiset of rules into local sets of rules. The equivalence between the global and the localized system remains an open problem.